



The **Strathallian** 2012-2013



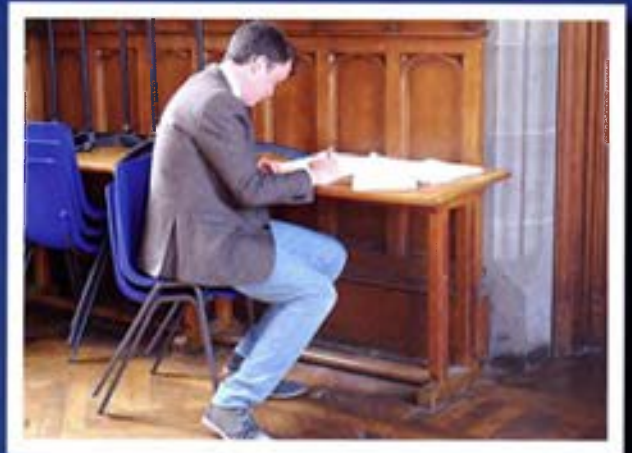
*Just as well it was *The Voice* we were auditioning for, I suppose.*



Surely Nicol haven't won again!



So this is what they meant by a career-trajectory.



*Well **somebody** has to write the School history.*



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“I know that in some ways I would be very different had I not come here...”

James Spalding Ruthven UVI

Captains of School

Launched from an absurdly powerful three-man slingshot, the balloon's trajectory could be followed over the dining-hall roof as a blur of red against a backdrop of clear blue sky.

Who knew a water balloon could smash through reinforced glass?

I certainly didn't. Despite his being a physics teacher, Simpson's Housemaster suffered a decided sense of humour failure and a stern talking-to about responsibility was the outcome. Things were not looking good for the following day's Captain of School interviews. But... apparently there really are opportunities for all to excel.

When I started at Strath in III Form I was doing boarding school the proper way, with the family based over 6000 km away in Oman. But despite the distance from parents and siblings never once was I homesick. This was largely due to how busy you are kept as a newly-arrived III Former, especially in the early weeks with numerous trips and excursions including the critically-acclaimed III Form retreat. My introduction to boarding school life brought with it the opportunity to try many sports and activities that I had never previously had the chance to have a go at. Before III Form I had no idea that I was rubbish at so many things; hockey, cricket, golf, judo, guitar and shooting are but a few examples. However the exciting thing for me was the ability to give all of these new things a try with all the necessary support to help me at each activity.

Moving up into IV Form all of a sudden things change. Having been at the bottom of the pile for a whole year there is now the unavoidable feeling of being a Strath veteran despite four years of school remaining. With the arrival of IV Form came my introduction to the CCF department, infamous for hunting and eliminating Taliban that have got lost and found themselves stuck up Scouts' Hill. A favourite memory of mine on one of these sorties is of newly-arrived Spaniard Quique Martinez heatedly questioning Tam (Head of the Army recruits section) as to where the vegetables were in the MoD rations that we had been issued.

Sooner or later V Form arrives and with it you are staring down the barrel of a year dominated by worries about the dreaded GCSEs. Despite the nervousness shrouding the prospect of the first "proper" exams, all the teaching staff have the fundamental experience and ability to take you every step of the way. Providing you put in your best efforts, they will ensure that you achieve to the best of your ability. But V Form is not all doom and gloom, the great thing about Strath is that there is time to breathe and relax in between the frenzy of activities that become the day-to-day norm; whether that is simply sitting back and watching a film or passing about a rugby

ball outside. I distinctly remember one particular study break during exam leave when Adam decided to unwind by climbing a tree, up which he became irretrievably stuck until, hours later, we managed to help him down. To quote him upon his return to earth: "Jeez, guys. Thanks! You really saved my bacon!".

Next stop is Lower VI Form, and with it comes the long awaited VI Form privileges, many of which centre upon access to the VI Form common room and the events and functions associated with it. This is another prime example of how in between the six days of study and games each week there is time for a bit of R&R, especially for VI Form who are really beginning to focus on what lies ahead after school and the exams that need conquered before then. A prominent feature of L VI for me was the introduction of the famous slip 'n' slide (again a product of constructive use of revision breaks). At about 2 metres wide by 40 long it was large enough to be seen by satellite and being made of industrial grade B&Q tarpaulin it was next to indestructible. When deployed down the intense gradient of "Dead Man's Drop" it was not unknown for Zander Fagerson to reach supersonic speeds provided enough fairly liquid was applied.

Finally Upper VI Form arrives with the start of the year heralding UCAS applications. Once again the support in this area is exceptional, with many members of staff who willingly take the time to read over personal statements and offer advice and suggestions where needed, which I found to be invaluable in the run-up to finalising my university application. The thing that everyone says about Upper VI is how fast it goes but I don't think that you can truly appreciate that until you come across the stark realisation that it is the end of the year and you have your final exams looming; leaving you questioning, "Where has the past year gone?". With the sudden comprehension that my time at Strath was rapidly approaching its conclusion, I began to feel the inevitable sentiments of nostalgia that come from having spent the last five years of my life here. Nonetheless, despite this the excitement and preparation for the years ahead leaves me excited for the future, and ready to move on from what has been my second home for so long.

There is absolutely no doubt that my time at Strathallan has had a profound impact on me as a person and I know that in some ways I would be very different had I not come here. I feel that the opportunities that I have taken throughout my time here have had a permanent impact on me that will resonate in a positive manner with me for years to come. It is a character-building society and although the boarding school aspect may not be for everyone, if it does work for you then it will lead to a great experience which you will never forget.

I wish the best of luck to the coming year's captains of school Charlie Mearns and Robyn Somerville and hope that they find the past year as educational as I have.

"Don't take life too seriously. You'll never escape it alive anyway."

"I realised that my time at Strathallan had, after five fantastic years, come to an end..."

Millie Galashan Woodlands UVI

Mr Kennedy's most recent email reminding me of the fast approaching Strathallian deadline, finally motivated me to sit down to compose my own rendition of the annual cheesy Head Girl's reflection on her time at Strathallan. Perhaps my reluctance to write this summary was because I realised it meant that my time at Strathallan had, after five fantastic years, come to an end. On the other hand, it could be due to the fact that since I had finished school, I no longer needed the ability to manage my time down to the hour as I did at Strathallan in order to juggle my various commitments, and had, as a result, become considerably less organised.

At times in Upper Sixth, as almost all Strathallians will understand, it was non-stop between sports commitments, my attempts at studying, roles in school plays, committee meetings and the, ahem, special lunchtime meetings with the headmaster. Nonetheless, although I did not have the most peaceful last year at Strath, I wouldn't have had it any other way. My advice, like that of anyone who has been involved in the various opportunities Strathallan has offered them is: try something new and get stuck in. Strathallan offers 'opportunities for all to excel' but it is up to you as students to take them. Looking back at my time in 3rd and 4th Form, before the pressures of public exams set in, I tried a lot of different things. I found some that I loved, other things that I didn't excel at (namely chapel choir much to the amusement of anyone who has heard me sing). But it is this mentality of trying whatever opportunities you are given which will really lead to experiencing Strath to the fullest extent.

Critical to building a community in which you can feel like you can take risks to try new things and realise your potential, is the staff. I would like to thank all of the teachers and coaches for all the support the leavers of 2013 have received; whether it be pastoral, academic or on the sports field. I would especially like to thank; the Tods for always keeping me sane, Señorita de Celis for reminding me at crucial points that School is not just for fun- we have to study sometimes too, and Mr Kennedy, who over the past five years has always listened, reassured and put up with me (yes, even when it's a week before the Strathallian goes to press I still haven't handed my article in).

As Claire Mendelson's mildly embarrassing, yet endearing, valedictory video showed; we have made ever-lasting memories and friendships here at Strathallan. Each year we grew up together learning invaluable lessons along the way, which we will take with us as we embark on our adult lives.

Thank you to our parents who enabled us to attend, the staff who got us through and the friends who made it unforgettable. To the present and future Upper Sixth; make the most of this last year - you wouldn't believe how quickly it flies by.



Headmaster's Report

This year's Speech Day referred to the importance of the Strathallan Community. The focus is on aiming to build and nurture all pupils.

We certainly celebrate success and I do not believe that this in itself undermines others. Everyone enjoys the success of others at Strathallan which is an important part of our community. The appearance of our Under Sixteen Rugby Team at Murrayfield supported by over four hundred pupils, House Music which features every pupil in the House Choirs, and the Variety Show in aid of the children's projects which we support in Kenya have all brought the school together in a very positive fashion. We were particularly pleased by the very positive report from Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland who inspected the school in an unannounced inspection. They emphasised the quality of relationships in the school; four categories were graded "excellent sector leading", reflecting the strength of the school community.

This year's examination results produced another strong performance at A Level and Higher. There was a suppression of results nationally in the former but we were again very close to the eighty per cent A*/B mark and large numbers of pupils gained the A*-B

grades required by Russell Group universities. From both our A Level and Higher programme a most pupils were successful in getting into their first choice universities and once again there was a real variety of course and choice of institution which reflects the diverse pupil body at Strathallan. At GCSE there was a particular pleasure with the best A* and A*/A which we have achieved. A number of candidates did very well to lift their standards in the final push before examinations. Academic work continues to be of primary importance. We welcome this year Sean Hamill as Deputy Head Academic; his remit is to look at all aspects of academic performance and to support Heads of Department in their continuing quest for the highest standards in all aspects of academic work.

We have a continued aim to challenge pupils beyond the classroom; there has been great success in Maths Challenges, in the Biology Olympiad, pupils reaching the Oxford University Schools Debating Finals and also in chess. This year all departments are introducing extension activities to fire the enthusiasm of pupils in the wider aspects of the academic work.

Beyond the classroom, six pupils played or sang in national choirs, orchestras or bands; a pupil gained a place at the Music Youth Theatre UK, and there were two Diplomas and four Grade 8 Awards in the LCM Music Theatre

“We were particularly pleased by the very positive report from Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland who inspected the school in an unannounced inspection...”

Examinations. An investment of £120,000 in sound equipment has supported our activities in the theatre. In sport thirty four pupils represented either Great Britain or Scotland in their chosen sport and thirty seven teams or individuals became national champions. Such success was achieved in the following sports: rugby, skiing, equestrian vaulting, dressage, mounted games, show jumping, tennis, swimming, hockey, canoeing, cycling, gymnastics, athletics, cricket, pentathlon, netball, clay pigeon shooting and fencing. In addition large numbers of school teams at various levels gave pupils the opportunity to compete in their chosen areas at an appropriate level. All aspects are important to us and it is good to see all pupils enjoying sport, music and drama. There has been a huge increase in membership of the CCF Contingents and involvement in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme with some ninety successful Bronze candidates and twenty two Gold Awards.

Charity work continues to be an important focus with sixteen pupils and three staff going to Kibera in Kenya in the summer holidays, and six other specific events focusing on different charities selected by the pupils.

This year we bade farewell to our longest serving member of staff. Generations of pupils have cause to thank Nick Du Boulay for his interest in their welfare and his expertise in all areas, cricket, rugby, Housemaster and tutor in Simpson, History and latterly Careers. I have described Nick as an old-fashioned schoolmaster and there is of course a major compliment in that. The same description applies to Richard Fitzsimmons who moved out of the classroom at Christmas and stayed with us for the last two terms to write a history of the school to celebrate the Centenary. In addition to being a teacher of History and Head of Department for the last ten years, Richard was in charge of cricket in an era which produced unbeaten seasons and a number of fine players including Scotland Full and A representatives. He was also residential tutor in Nicol for a long time and was a committed umpire and rugby coach. Louise Carroll was with us for slightly less time but was an outstanding schoolmistress who contributed in the boarding house and with particular expertise in hockey, in which she was an international performer. Equally adept with Boys First XI or Riley she established excellent basic skills for all her pupils. We are also very grateful to Mirella McInnes in Mathematics, Linda Donaldson in History and John Nolan in Modern Languages, who stepped in to support pupils over the last year on a temporary basis. Lauren Giles did an excellent job as a sports coach and classroom assistant in Riley and Olena Tantsiura's contribution in Woodlands and in support if the EAL pupils was much appreciated. This year saw the departure of four key members of the Support Staff - Val McKay oversaw significant development of the Library in challenging times as things moved to an increasingly electronic communication base. CJ, as

he is always known, has been Main Building Caretaker, Lets Manager and with his wife Pam as Domestic Services Manager, has helped us all in various aspects of our lives. I would also like to make particular mention of Russell Gardener, our electrician, who has been in post for twenty six years, has an encyclopaedic knowledge of the circuitry of the school and will certainly be very hard to replace.

As mentioned above, Sean Hamill joins us as Deputy Head Academic. Sean was previously Head of English at Dean Close School in Cheltenham. He also has Senior Management Experience, and brings experience of Independent Schools Inspection, has been Chairman of Governors of a Primary School, and has wide-ranging experience as a schoolmaster. He has a particular love of hockey and intends to balance his academic focus with some umpiring and coaching in that area. Sheldon Drover, who has worked in a range of international schools, joins us latterly from his native Canada as teacher of Mathematics. In addition to his subject expertise, Sheldon has been very involved in outdoor activities and brings experience of basketball. Hockey is Stephen Dick's particular sporting expertise. A graduate of Edinburgh University in Physical Education he joins us as a teacher of Physical Education from Culford School where he was a hockey professional; he moved into that role after a very successful time as a hockey player which included c150 caps for Scotland and Great Britain during which time he played at the Beijing Olympics. Louise Helyer did not confine herself to one sport and has represented Great Britain at Modern Pentathlon. She graduated from Bath before taking a PGDE at Edinburgh and has a year's teaching experience in Dundee after work also at Millfield School in Somerset. Ewan Lee worked at two schools in England before spending time in Austria teaching among other things English. He is a graduate of Aberdeen in French and German and enjoys a variety of sports. The Library will be under the care of Hannah Saks, who took a degree in Film and Media before moving on to Information and Library Studies at Robert Gordon University. Hannah has been working as Library Assistant at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland which has provided her with work experience with young pupils and archiving, both of which will be part of her remit at Strathallan. Sophie MacKay has degrees from London and Edinburgh and has spent some time teaching History in Kent before returning home to Scotland for this role. In addition to her subject specialism, she played at national level in Squash. We are also pleased to welcome Nino Jojua as our annual HMC Exchange Student from Georgia.

Strathallan begins its Centenary Year in very good heart, with over 550 pupils, record numbers in a variety of age groups and we look forward to celebrating the Centenary as we move on to our second hundred years.

BKT

Date of Birth	Surname	Forename (Firstname)	Preferred Name	Initials	Year Group (NC)	Boarding House	Admission Date
25/09/1996	Adamson	Jacob	Jacob	J M A	13	Ruthven	04/09/2013
22/08/1998	Adeboye	Nkechi	Nky	N D	11	Glenbrae	07/01/2013
08/10/1999	Aitken	Alexander	Sandy	A B	9	Simpson	04/09/2013
22/06/2001	Allen	Hamish	Hamish	H A	8	Riley	04/09/2013
22/03/2002	Barclay	Bryony	Bryony	B A	7	Riley	04/09/2013
05/04/1999	Barclay	Emilia	Emilia	E M	10	Thornbank	04/09/2013
04/08/1997	Bayov	Natalia	Tasha	N S	12	Glenbrae	04/09/2013
15/05/1997	Berbic	Ena	Ena	E	12	Thornbank	04/09/2013
28/01/2002	Berry	Douglas	Douglas	D C	7	Riley	04/09/2013
07/02/2000	Boyd	John	Johnny	J G	9	Nicol	04/09/2013
11/03/2000	Brennan	Aedan	Aed	A L	9	Freeland	04/09/2013
06/05/2000	Brierton	Teagan	Teagan	T J	9	Glenbrae	16/04/2013
30/01/1997	Brindley	Allen	Allen	A D	12	Nicol	04/09/2013
01/03/2000	Brown	Greig	Greig	G D	9	Simpson	04/09/2013
23/11/1996	Brunton	Tamsin	Tamsin	T C	12	Thornbank	04/09/2013
05/07/1996	Bulatovic	Luka	Luka	L	12	Nicol	04/09/2013
07/03/1999	Camino	Gonzalo	Gonzalo	G	10	Freeland	04/09/2013
19/04/2002	Campbell	Niamh	Niamh	N A	7	Riley	04/09/2013
21/05/1999	Chaichairncheep	Smitt	Safe	S	10	Nicol	07/01/2013
18/01/1998	Chan	Ngai Chit	Jimmy	N	10	Freeland	07/01/2013
03/07/1999	Chen	Chun Kit	Kevin	C	9	Nicol	04/09/2013
06/05/1999	Chow	Sze Ying	Tiffany	S	9	Thornbank	04/09/2013
07/10/1997	Chu	Kai Shing	Allen	K	10	Freeland	04/09/2013
27/04/2000	Clark	Anna	Anna	A H	9	Glenbrae	04/09/2013
01/01/2000	Clark	Thomas	Tom	T W	9	Simpson	04/09/2013
06/11/1999	Clarke	Harriot	Harriot	H	9	Glenbrae	04/09/2013
12/08/2001	Cleaver-Smith	Finlay	Finlay	F M	7	Riley	04/09/2013
14/10/2002	Cleaver-Smith	Marcus	Marcus	M I	6	Riley	04/09/2013
23/04/1997	Clegg-Butt	Hailey	Hailey	H T	12	Woodlands	04/09/2013
22/09/2000	Craw	Lachlan	Lachlan	L A J	9	Freeland	04/09/2013
02/03/1997	Cronan	Alexander	Alex	A A	12	Nicol	04/09/2013
14/01/1999	Del Cura Molina	Javier	Javier	J	10	Ruthven	04/09/2013
19/09/1995	Dietl	Anna-Maria	Anna-Maria	A C V	12	Woodlands	04/09/2013
14/02/1999	Dominguez Blanco	Jose	Jose	J	10	Simpson	04/09/2013
15/12/1997	Dorje	Pema	Pema	P Y	12	Woodlands	04/09/2013
28/08/2003	Dorje	Tinley	Tinley	T W	6	Riley	04/09/2013
29/04/1997	Drouven	Marie	Marie	M E	12	Glenbrae	04/09/2013
08/02/2000	Duncan	Jennifer	Jenny	J C	9	Thornbank	04/09/2013
09/12/1996	Fardy	Aldo	Aldo	A A	12	Freeland	04/09/2013
27/11/1999	Fleming	Kyle	Kyle	K A	9	Ruthven	04/09/2013
05/01/2003	Forbes	Thomas	Tom	T D	6	Riley	04/09/2013
01/01/2000	Foulsham	Rachel	Rachel	R Y	9	Thornbank	04/09/2013
06/07/2001	Fuge	Aidan	Aidan	A R	8	Riley	04/09/2013
09/02/2002	Gardiner	Sarah	Sarah	S	7	Riley	04/09/2013
18/04/2002	Gibson	Adrianna	Adrianna	A S	7	Riley	04/09/2013
08/03/1998	Grimm	Georg	Georg	G J	11	Ruthven	04/09/2013
09/07/1999	Haddow	Lucy	Lucy	L W	10	Thornbank	07/01/2013
18/11/2002	Hamill	Flora May	Flora May	F	6	Riley	04/09/2013
05/02/1999	Hamill	Leah	Leah	L G	10	Woodlands	04/09/2013
06/12/2000	Hamill	Torin	Torin	T G G	8	Riley	04/09/2013
08/09/1997	Haron	Neil	Neil	N	12	Simpson	04/09/2013
16/07/1997	Harris	Calum	Calum	C	12	Ruthven	04/09/2013
13/01/2000	Henderson	Cameron	Cameron	C H	9	Ruthven	04/09/2013
16/02/2002	Henderson	Sophia	Sophia	S H	7	Riley	04/09/2013
04/03/1997	Hennicke	Leonhard	Leo	L	12	Simpson	04/09/2013
12/06/1997	Herbert	Siobhan	Siobhan	S	12	Glenbrae	04/09/2013
14/09/2001	Higginbottom	Joseph	Joe	J T	8	Riley	04/09/2013
28/05/2002	Hutchison	Euan	Euan	E R	7	Riley	04/09/2013
11/11/1996	Hutt	Evie	Evie	E M	12	Glenbrae	04/09/2013

Date of Birth	Surname	Forename (Firstname)	Preferred Name	Initials	Year Group (NC)	Boarding House	Admission Date
04/10/2002	Inch	Malcolm	Malcolm	M W	6	Riley	04/09/2013
09/08/1997	Joyce-Davis	Harry	Harry	H J	12	Nicol	04/09/2013
16/10/1999	Ju	Yu Xuan	Bell	Y	9	Woodlands	04/09/2013
16/06/2000	Kamau	Kennedy	Kennedy	K	9	Ruthven	07/01/2013
25/02/1996	Katamadze	Elia	Elia	E	12	Simpson	04/09/2013
18/11/1998	Koskinas	Eleftherios	Lefteris	E	10	Ruthven	04/09/2013
28/08/1996	Kozhukhareno	Dmitry	Dima	D	12	Freeland	04/09/2013
03/01/1997	Legashvili	Alexander	Sandro	A	12	Ruthven	04/09/2013
29/03/2002	Leslie	Corina	Corina	C J	7	Riley	04/09/2013
03/02/1996	Low	Chen-E	Chen-E	C	12	Ruthven	04/09/2013
13/01/1999	Low	Jordan	Jordan	J P	10	Glenbrae	04/09/2013
26/09/2001	Macfarlane	Archie	Archie	A S D	7	Riley	04/09/2013
26/07/2001	Mackie	Eve	Eve	E F	8	Riley	04/09/2013
29/07/1997	McCafferty	Dominic	Dominic	D P	12	Simpson	04/09/2013
26/10/1999	McKay	Fergus	Fergus	F G S	9	Freeland	04/09/2013
21/09/1999	McKeown	Calum	Calum	C H	9	Ruthven	04/09/2013
03/03/1997	Mentiplay	Roddyne	Roddyne	R F	12	Nicol	04/09/2013
27/08/1999	Miles	Hamish	Hamish	H S	10	Simpson	04/09/2013
25/01/1999	Mirzakhmetova	Malika	Malika	M	10	Thornbank	04/09/2013
16/08/1997	Moll Von Der Wettern	Caspar	Caspar	C	12	Ruthven	04/09/2013
10/04/2000	O'Brien	Jack	Jack	J C	9	Nicol	04/09/2013
24/09/1997	O'Malley	Rhiann	Rhiann	R	12	Glenbrae	04/09/2013
05/05/2001	Paterson	Jade	Jade	J E F	8	Riley	04/09/2013
02/10/1997	Patterson	Adelaide	Adelaide	A	12	Woodlands	04/09/2013
02/05/2000	Penas	Anna	Anna	A	9	Glenbrae	04/09/2013
01/01/1999	Pitts	Imogen	Imogen	I L J	10	Thornbank	04/09/2013
04/07/2000	Pye	Myles	Myles	M F H	9	Nicol	04/09/2013
31/03/2001	Queen	Abigail	Abigail	A E	8	Riley	04/09/2013
18/04/1997	Robson	Alastair	Alastair	A L	11	Freeland	04/09/2013
27/01/2003	Ross	Iona	Iona	I C	6	Riley	04/09/2013
17/06/2000	Ross	Nicolle	Nicolle	N J	9	Woodlands	04/09/2013
10/01/1997	Salter	Dexter	Dexter	D	12	Simpson	04/09/2013
04/06/1997	Sanzharevsky	Glib	Glib	G	12	Nicol	04/09/2013
05/12/2001	Shekar	Dhriti	Dhriti	D	7	Riley	04/09/2013
07/08/1999	Simpson	Katie	Katie	K A	10	Woodlands	04/09/2013
03/04/1999	Slaven	Chantal	Chantal	C Y	10	Thornbank	4/09/2013
23/09/1999	Stewart	Harry	Harry	H J	9	Ruthven	04/09/2013
26/05/2000	Stirrat	Douglas	Douglas	D W J	9	Nicol	04/09/2013
10/03/1997	Sturm	Ole	Ole	O	12	Nicol	04/09/2013
03/08/1996	Sugden	Benjamin	Ben	BAC	12	Freeland	04/09/2013
04/04/2001	Taylor	Cameron	Cameron	C J C	8	Riley	04/09/2013
10/09/1999	Thomas	Megan	Megan	M M B	10	Woodlands	04/09/2013
28/02/1997	Thomas	Sirimon	Sirimon	S F B	12	Ruthven	04/09/2013
21/06/2001	Thornton	Beth	Beth	B M	8	Riley	04/09/2013
19/11/1997	Troup	James	Jamie	J M	12	Nicol	04/09/2013
22/01/1997	Tschirner	Sebastian	Sebastian	S	12	Freeland	04/09/2013
15/07/1999	Turnbull	Jack	Jack	J M	10	Nicol	04/09/2013
06/09/2000	Turnbull	Lewis	Lewis	L J	9	Nicol	04/09/2013
14/10/2001	Walker	Brook	Brook	B J	7	Riley	04/09/2013
01/01/1997	Walker	Kate	Kate	K L	12	Glenbrae	04/09/2013
06/10/2000	Waller	Georgina	Georgie	G G	2	Riley	16/04/2013
30/11/1995	Wang	Di	Neo	D	12	Simpson	04/09/2013
17/06/1997	Wang	Wenlu	Laura	W	12	Thornbank	04/09/2013
09/12/2000	Wilson	Flora	Flora	F R	8	Riley	04/09/2013
27/11/2000	Wright	James	James	J D	2	Riley	16/04/2013
02/03/1996	Zheng	Jiaqi	Annika	J	12	Woodlands	04/09/2013
23/10/1997	Zissler	Ethan	Ethan	E	12	Freeland	04/09/2013



Speech Day

As the white marquee was constructed, and an impressive number of obvious signs were set out, it was clear that Speech Day had come round again, and that it was finally half term.

As it approached 10 o'clock, teachers, pupils and parents filed onto the cricket pitch, and were ushered in by the smartly dressed Marine cadets. The traditional Scottish feel to the day, due to the overwhelming sight of different tartan designs was somewhat in contrast to the 'tropical weather' as one parent put it. This was possibly a slight exaggeration; nonetheless, the sunny start to the day had everyone in good spirits.

The Chairman of Governors opened the proceedings and Mr Thompson then talked of the numerous sporting, musical, dramatic and academic achievements by pupils and teachers alike. Despite the Headmaster's promise to place slightly less emphasis on the sporting achievements of the year, by the end of his speech we were all under no illusion as to where the Under 16s cup at Murrayfield should really have ended up. However, all were impressed by the sheer number of varied successes achieved by all. The Heads of school, Millie Galashan and James Spalding then came to speak, highlighting some of the most memorable moments in their school careers, within the theme of 'Alpha and Omega', the theme for their leavers' ball that same evening.

The presentation of prizes went smoothly, with only a few stumbles up the stairs, to be greeted by the welcoming handshake of Major General Andrew Mackay. It is safe to say that no one was sure of what to expect of the 'army man' who had been rumoured to be guest speaker that morning. However, he exceeded all expectations, with a motivating and heartfelt speech which recalled his time in Afghanistan. The captivating speech, conveying the importance of respect and self belief, gave everyone something to think about as the formal proceedings drew to a close. As ever, the day finished with a grand performance of the Strathallan Pipe band on the lawn, whilst the rest of us enjoyed the culinary delights of the justly-renowned speech day buffet.

Josie Dibnah LVI Thornbank







HOUSE REPORTS

Riley House

The Autumn term began with our new pupils' and parents' tea party on Wednesday, 5th September. We welcomed 41 new children to join our 45 'old' hands and by the Summer term we had 89 pupils in Riley - 45 boarders and 44 day pupils.

Once again our first Saturday of term there were no lessons in Riley as we headed off for four hours of fun at the Forest Theme Park, Landmark at Carrbridge near Aviemore. This bonding exercise proved to be a great day out with plenty of exciting activities for all to try in glorious weather.

Balmanno and Dron tended to battle it out for the comfy chairs...

Our activity programme which involved music, drama and sport proved popular with most of our children during the course of the year. Many were involved in Riley choir and orchestra and the 2nd Form Supergroup. Football, canoe club, table tennis and basketball were popular winter activities and orienteering, fit club and tennis lessons were the pick of the Summer term. Throughout there was always a drama club for LAMDA and a very popular musical theatre activity called Westenders run by the talented 6th Former Edward Lau.

Good progress was made by our sports teams during the year especially our U13A sides. Iain Robertson was selected as goalkeeper for the U15 Midlands hockey squad that won the inter-district finals in May and Caitlin Donald played hockey for the U14 Midlands side. In the Summer term both Euan Nicol and Finlay Laird scored centuries in cricket and were

presented with mementos at our own end of year Prize Giving.

At the end of the Autumn term we said goodbye and thank you to Mike Kourpanidis and Clancey O'Brien, our Gap Year students from Australia. They were replaced in January by Hugh Gillroy and Elisa Aitken also from the same part of the world.

The Spring term saw plenty of snow falling over the first three weeks and therefore we managed two ski days at Glenshee. Three quarters of the House took advantage of these midweek outings to the ski slopes which were great fun.

The Summer term started with a very cold and wet spell, not great for cricket, rounders and tennis but fortunately June proved to be a warm and dry month and more like Summer. We had an excellent 2nd Form Camp at Loch Morlich in the Cairngorms and we were blessed with a dry and sunny day for Speech Day and for Sports Day.

In the Divisional competition Balmanno and Dron tended to battle it out for the comfy chairs each term. The Divisional Shield, for all three terms this year went to Dron.

Other highlights during the year included ... non-uniform day for charity, Strathallan's Musical Showcase in the Perth Concert Hall, informal concerts in the Riley Common Room, Divisional Plays and Music Competitions, Halloween Party, Mother Goose at Perth Theatre, Scotland v New Zealand and Scotland v Ireland at Murrayfield, Walking with Dinosaurs at the SECC in Glasgow, Safe Taysiders, two Curriculum Days, Westenders' final concert, Strathallan and Family Day and the brilliant and colourful production of High School Musical II performed to parents and friends in the School Theatre before our Prize Giving on the last day of the Summer term.

Well done, Riley!

PWB





The following received prizes on Friday 28th June:

Academic - Best Form Orders Work Grade Totals

1JJ Zara Sutherland

1J Rowan Laird

1st Lauren Dundee
Amanda Linton
Sarah Cameron-Sutcliffe

2nd Ailsa Macgregor
Josh Philpott
Lochlann Beveridge
Morgan Irving
Shannah Goddard
Carrie Mack
Murphy Walker

Most Progress
Ruaridh Clark

Distinctions

Niall Dundee
George Culley
Jess McClure
Maggie English
Amy Keir
Hamish White
Rebecca Muir

Music

Ruaridh Clark & Sarah Campbell

Drama

Dylan Patterson & Jenny McGuire

Games

Euan Nicol & Caitlin Donald

Art

Alvan Sit & Rachel Hamilton

DT

Matthew Thomson
& Jess Donnelly

Reading Champions

Alamin Kudehinbu & Blair Welsh

Cups and Trophies

Div Plays: Glenearn

Chess Master: Alvan Sit

Div Music:

Best soloist Caitlin Donald

Best Div: Balmanno

Div Swimming:

The Simpson Cup Balmanno

Football - World Cup

Balmanno

Riley Sports' Day

Victrix Ludorum Caitlin Donald

Victor Ludorum Euan Sutherland

Mixed Doubles Tennis

Euan Nicol & Caitlin Donald

Equestrian Scottish Schools'

Junior Champion Ella England

Hewson Cup Iain Robertson
& Caitlin Donald

Divisional Shield

Dron



HOUSE REPORTS

Freeland House



Exciting wins in the Senior House Football and Junior House Cricket capped another successful year in Freeland. The very accomplished Josh Laird described winning the football as the highlight of his sporting career while confusion on the cricket scoreboard kept us on the edge of our seats until the final ball. In both instances we held our nerve under extreme pressure and celebrated long and hard after the event.

Winning silverware is not how we measure a successful year. With a new and determined Upper Sixth we saw a very positive mood within the House. Strong and caring leadership from Daniel Adams, Damir Khusaynov, Sandy Cook and a strong team of seniors ensured everybody was working with the same objectives and the good of the House at heart. Senior boys didn't only provide an excellent example to the other boys, they took the time to sit down and talk to them. They lived out the Freeland maxim that "the most important thing is how we treat each other".

The House music concert was our first corporate effort and our performance of Five's *Keep on Movin'* was fun if not fantastic. Matthew Turner impressed with his exceptional ability on the piano before Liam Kennedy, Scott Haldane and Sam Steele produced beautiful harmonies in front of Martin Marshall, Colin Gordon, Matthew in the ensemble in their winning rendition of Leonard Cohen's *Hallelujah*. As the winter closed in a win in the senior indoor hockey competition helped to warm our spirits. We ended the term with a Christmas party which included a quiz and some spectacular pillow fights and bungy races in the sports hall.

Good, if somewhat cold, weather greeted us for the cross-country in January. While many gave everything on the day, it was Callum Fletcher who stood out with a tremendous win in the senior race while other top performances came from Colin Gordon, Douglas Tait, Duncan Cook, Mark Cochrane, Martin Marshall and Michael Milford. Debating followed quickly with impressive efforts at the lectern from IK Erhahon, Stuart Cantlay, Harry Thomson, James Burdett and a place in the final for Sandy Cook and Cameron Jenkins. The warmer weather brought some strong individual performances

"we lived out the Freeland maxim that "the most important thing is how we treat each other..."



in athletics from Callum Fletcher, Colin Gordon, Duncan Cook, IK, Douglas Tait, John Ambrose and the junior 4 x 100m relay team. Freeland was again well represented in the triathlon by Matty Knowles, John Dew and IK in the intermediate relay, James Burdett, John Ambrose and Duncan Cook in the senior relay and Scott Haldane the only individual senior to take on this gigantic challenge.

We have been very fortunate to have been able to welcome to the House this year, as resident tutor, Mr Mike Joiner. He, along with all of the other tutors, has done a fantastic job in helping Freeland to be not just a House but a home. Diane, our much loved matron, has worked tirelessly on behalf of the boys, not just to ensure that their surroundings are attractive but to ensure that their emotional needs are nurtured. Her loyal band of House staff has ensured very high standards have been maintained throughout. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge loyal support of the Adams family over the years and in particular the leadership of both Daniel and Marcus.



BAH



Nicol House



And so another year ends for Nicol House. There has been stress, blood, sweat and tears (and a lot of laughs too). It has been a privilege to be the Head of House for Nicol this year. Every year we seem to grow in strength and togetherness as our friendships and our identity build, and this year was no exception. For the Upper Sixth, it has been a great place to be for our five years. We've got to know each other inside out and we have a great bunch of lads coming up in the years below who have made our time here really enjoyable too. We don't measure our success as a House with wins or honours - it is measured by friendships and the spirit that we generate in Nicol every day of every term, but it is worth pointing out that by the end of the summer term there weren't many trophies that didn't have our name on it and if any other House was to win one they would have to beat us first!

As usual in the Autumn term we met the challenge of House Music head on. This year we went with the well-known classic, Ricky Martin's *Livin La Vida Loca*. I have always thought that I was a great singer but for some reason I was hidden from the microphones for this performance; a real loss for the audience in my opinion. Because we have always been taught by Mr Billing to plan in advance and think ahead, we found ourselves singing slightly in front of the music too. I would like to say nobody noticed but when Grant Doig found the time to put in an extra line, we realised we were probably a bit out of time. Never mind, because our dance moves were epic and the girls loved it especially when we threw our ties at them. Our ensemble this year performed the Guns 'n' Roses classic *Paradise City*. Gavin Stewart our thirteen-year-old

“We don't measure our success as a House with wins or honours - it is measured by friendships and the spirit that we generate in Nicol every day of every term...”

prodigy who can do anything he chooses to, brilliantly, stole the show. Wearing his dog's red bandanna you really felt this wasn't Gav, but Axl Rose live on stage. The solo performance was James Cockburn on the electric guitar. James is known for being a touch laid-back but his stage presence was energising and uplifting (though not as energising as it will be next year when he has promised Mr Billing he will wear a full 'Kiss' costume). In Strath's *Strictly Got the XFactor so get me out of here* or whatever it was called (*close enough, Murdo. Ed*) Zander Fagerson (yes he is a 1st XV prop and he can sing), Charlie Mearns and Connor Ovenstone wowed their fans with a pitch perfect rendition of some very manly One Direction songs; Ben Addison-Scott, Will Schunemann and Gav Stewart wooed their fans with a version of *Kids* and Jamie Corbett and James Cockburn wahaaayed their fans with an awesome rap thing about hippos, or something. Corbett and Cockburn were gangsta and we can't wait to hear them in action again - the crowd loved them!

In sport this year, we seem to have provided not only the bulk of the 1st teams but also the large majority of the captains of sports too. In cricket, six of the regular 1st XI were Nicolites, including cricket captain Grant Doig and wicket keeper Charlie Mearns, as well as Kevin McAlister, Jack Waller, Will Dallas and Max Wallner. Grant, Charlie, Kevin, Jack and Will also represented the 1st XI hockey team too, as well as Alfonso Ramos who impressed in the latter stages of the Spring term. Grant and Charlie have been made vice-captains of hockey for next year. Connor Ovenstone was made captain of tennis a year early and he led a team that included school tennis championship runner-up Gavin Stewart, who is still only thirteen, remember! Angus Watson has been made captain of shooting. Zander Fagerson has been selected to be part of the Scotland U18 rugby squad and Charlie Mearns was voted players' player of the year in that sport. Matt



Fagerson captained the 4th Form rugby team and was awarded the school's most promising player trophy. Ewan Doig captained the Senior Colts cricket squad to a very successful season, scoring 70 odd against Fettes in the process. I captained the school's Football squad and apart from my penalty taking, was pretty good really, ably assisted by Nicolites Ali Al Asadi, Ralph Yu and Abe Fernandes. Fraser Buchan continued to break all kinds of skiing records (and his ankle) this year. His brother Scott and Lyle Ross have also been skiing all the time too, leaving us wondering why there is no House skiing competition for another year! So why does Nicol provide so many captains, we ask ourselves? Well, we think it is because we learn how to be good leaders and we know how to take responsibility and set a good example. And also because we are good at stuff too. In inter-House sport, we have won all kinds of competitions from athletics, House hockey, House golf, the mile challenge to House academic challenge, to mention just a few. We were proud of some individual performances too, like Safe Chaicharncheep's *victor ludorum* and Jonathon Dunn's golf title. House football remains a slightly sore subject and admittedly I may shoulder the blame for this one because for the second year in a row I missed a penalty to win it! Oh dear. Third time lucky next year, boys (*Maybe they'll get Gavin Stewart to take the spot-kicks, Murdo. Ed*). If you want to invite me back to take part in the penalty shoot-out, just give me a call. I'll be working hard at something, or maybe just on the sofa at home, talking to my dog. What I think is special about Nicol is the sense of belonging, the House spirit we generate. You can see this every day but most of all in inter-House competitions when virtually the whole House dons the red and yellow and comes to support. This means a lot to us.

We had our annual Nicol Summer BBQ and for the first time it stayed dry, in contrast to the other 'summer' events we have held over the years. It was great to see so many parents there and also really good to see the new Nicolites who will be coming up from Riley next year; James, Ruairidh, Dylan, Josh and Hamish. I am sure they will be great additions to the House and I would like to wish them a happy and fulfilling five years under the Nicol roof. At the BBQ Mr Billing announced the name of the new Head of House, Grant Doig. I am sure Grant will do an excellent job and I wish him, together with Ralph his deputy, lots of luck in their new roles. I would also like to congratulate Charlie Mearns and Connor Ovenstone who have been appointed as Head of School and Deputy Head of School respectively. It is great to see the Nicol boys secure these well-deserved positions. They will set an excellent example for the House to follow.

I would like to thank Davina and the rest of the domestic staff for looking after us. It can't have been easy to put up with Jamie Dinsmore's room for five years. Thanks to all the House tutors for helping in lots of different ways and to Mr Maclean for always having a smile on his face, apart from in the mornings when he sometimes looks a tad tired. Finally thanks to 'The Boss' AKA Mr Billing whose job can't be easy even though he seems to stay calm whatever happens (well, maybe not always) and to Mrs Billing and Talla for their home baking and waggy tail. I don't think the boys could ask for a better Housemaster than Mr Billing. He has supported me from day one and I know everyone else feels the same. The House seems to get better and better and the future is definitely bright red and yellow all the way!

Murdo MacIver





HOUSE REPORTS

Ruthven House

Five years have passed since I took my first tentative steps into 3rd Form Ruthven. Throughout this time, the House has developed beyond measure with each generation of "Ruthvenites" leaving their own unique mark on the House. The easy-going atmosphere, which comes so easily to Ruthven, makes it a very special place indeed where I was honoured to spend my final school year as Head of House.

The past year has seen Ruthven boys excelling in fields both familiar and new. For the second year running we won the Boys' Choir Prize at House Music, this time with our interpretation of *Do you hear the people sing?* from *Les Misérables*. In addition, our ensemble and solo performances by the Ruthven House a capella Group and Brendan Scott respectively, were lucky enough to be asked to repeat performances for the Headmaster's Musical Showcase later on in the year. Ruthven's musical prowess, uncovered only recently by the one and only Eddy Lau, has brought about an entirely new aspect to House life with the first ever In-House Music premiering in the summer term. Anyone who witnessed a Ruthven Choir before Edward's arrival will thank him greatly for the sake of their eardrums.

Ruthven has also seen great success on the sports field this year, with inter-House victories in Clay Pigeon Shooting, Cricket and Cross Country to mention but a few. Angus Robertson's '6' during inter-House cricket, which smashed a main building window, and James Spalding's dropped baton during the 4 by 100m race, are just a couple of the many highlights of an exciting sporting year. Individually, Ruthven boys also made their presence felt in a variety of different sports; Craig Rintoul representing the 1st XV as Club Captain as well as Athletics Captain, Toni He being 1st Basketball Captain and Connor Holborn Intermediate *victor ludorum*. What's more, our new House basketball hoop should stand us in good stead for next year's inter-House competition too!

With Ruthven boys being so involved in all the activities that the school has to offer, it's easy for us to forget about the people who make it all possible. The House staff; Charlotte, Julie, Kate and Anne not only facilitate the daily running of the House but they also seamlessly integrate with the boys and put up with our shenanigans with a smile – for the most part! Also, the in-House tutors who donate so much of their time and effort to making the House the laid back and enjoyable place it is today. And, last, but by no means least, Dr. D and Mr. Watt who really are the House's foundation. Living on campus, they devote themselves tirelessly and enthusiastically to the House, frequently going above and beyond the call of duty. We are all very grateful for that.

As Strathallan celebrates its Centenary Year, I'd like to wish the school, and Ruthven House, continued success in every domain. I know that I will miss many aspects of life there, and will always be proud to be a Strathallian.

Alex Bannerman





"I know that I will miss many aspects of life there, and will always be proud to be a Strathallian..."



HOUSE REPORTS

Simpson House





As I was driving along the M90 on a bright September morning, ready for pre-season rugby, it dawned on me how long I had been at Strathallan. Thoughts of the dreaded Saturday lessons and early morning bells came immediately to mind. Then I was faced with a bigger dread; me Cosmo Galashan Head of House. These feelings of fear and anxiety quickly faded away as I reached Forgandenny, parked and approached the front door of Simpson. Bombarded with a symphony of laughs, familiar voices and Smooth70s on the radio I felt that, as usual, it would all be taken in our stride.

Simpson is a second home for all of us. It is a family that I certainly wouldn't want to be a parent of, thank you Mr B, but I could not imagine not being a brother in it. I have spent a long time at Strathallan and my mind is bursting with memories, good and bad, but almost all of the fondest are of Simpson House and the characters I have met throughout my years there. I have made, as I am sure you all have, life-long friendships in this building and I wouldn't have changed a thing.

Whilst many relationships are forged through the vast amount of time spent with each other, I uphold that it is Simpson's house spirit and continued successes that act as the catalyst making them endure when we have left. As I stepped into the foyer in that first term looking at the overflowing trophy cabinets I was determined to keep it that way.

We started the year strongly with confident victories across all age ranges in the House Rugby Competitions. This of course was helped at senior level by our Scotland representatives; Cameron Fenton, George Horne, Jamie "what injured hamstring" Ritchie and Josh Henderson. I do not doubt that I will end up travelling to a different hemisphere in the future to see them play for the British and Irish Lions (free tickets, boys?).

More inter-House successes followed with strong performances in both the swimming pool and the sports hall. Swimming standards and the swimming gala conquests were followed by basketball and badminton successes. Of course having a Youth Olympic Gold medalist in the swim team always helps. Thank you

to Duncan Scott and the rest of an excellent swim squad. Simpson also flexed its cerebral muscles with a victory in the chess competition. Congratulations to Derek Lai and Harrison Tsui who represented Scotland in the National GigaFinal in Manchester.

House music remained elusive (phew! I can't imagine Simpson on the stage in Perth Concert Hall). Our angelic voices rang out loud (*definitely - Mr B*) and true (*at times - Mr B*) through our rendition of Queen's *Don't Stop Me Now*. Both the solo and ensemble comprised Script songs sung well by young George Lorimer.

The first term culminated in Simpson's now infamous Christmas meal out. The all-you-can-eat Indian buffet dwindled as Mr Gardiner and Jack Burton, ably accompanied by the other seventy hungry mouths, tore through plate after plate of curry and pakora. Inevitably, Mr Gardiner retained his undefeated crown after Jack failed to maintain both the pace and iron constitution required.

The year also saw a welcome House victory on the hockey pitches. The junior team won the trophy and the seniors were narrowly knocked out of the competition on flicks. We had accumulated a collection of silver wear over the year but as Summer approached it was time for the big one. Tug-O-War, no only kidding (although we did win that as well). As Sports Day approached I knew that we, as a house, were ready for it. That morning at roll call (*one of the few during the summer term you made it to on time, Cosmo - Mr B*) there was a positive buzz in the meeting. Congratulations to all of the athletes who performed to the levels expected and helped Simpson retain the coveted trophy. I am indebted to those that performed that my final inter-House memory is of all of us doing an UFFDA on big acre.

As I finish my time at Strathallan I think a big thank you to all of the house staff that every year help us pass seamlessly through school is merited. Especially to Linda, Quinny, Gaby and Michelle. Thank you also to the House tutors.

I also, on behalf of hundreds or maybe thousands of Simpsonites, wanted to say a warm grateful goodbye to N T H Du Boulay, Du Boules, who I am told survived a miraculous 117 terms at Strathallan (*and you thought you were there for too long Cosmo? - Mr B*).

Cosmo Galashan



“Thoughts of the dreaded Saturday lessons and early morning bells came immediately to mind. Then I was faced with a bigger dread: Me, Cosmo Galashan, Head of House...





HOUSE REPORTS

Thornbank House

Wow!

So, the last five years have gone by extremely quickly.

Briefly looking down the list of new pupils in Thornbank, two names caught my attention. Benz was going into 4th Form and Pim was going to start in the 6th Form. Thornbank was going to have its own luxury car and summer drink. From then on I knew it would be an amazing year.

This year the U6th, minus Mariam, kicked off the year with the usual buddy night where the 3rd Form and other new members of the House were welcomed into Thornbank House. Not long afterwards it was House Music where our House choir rocked away to *Crocodile Rock* and our House ensemble performed *Stand By Me*. It was one of the best House Musics I have ever taken part in, big thumbs up to Sévy for organising it!

The talented Pim in L6th was given a place in the National Youth Orchestra Scotland this year. She has been attending music camps in the summer and has already played in a concert this April at Greyfriars Kirk. Another member of our L6th has been given a place in the National Youth Choir. Caroline was given a place in the Choir this year and like Pim, she will be performing in various concerts throughout the year.

Finally Mariam returned and, with a huge sigh of relief, Thornbank could boast of another Halloween party. It got real messy in the common room where we were dunking for apples and covering our faces with flour to find a sweet. We turned the cosy cubby into a spooky ghost story telling room and with help of some 6th Form boys, the younger years were taken on a scary walk. Apparently their screams were heard from all around the school.

Strathallan's international committee hosted a dinner for all the international pupils who were allowed to bring a date. Looking at the table plan it was clear that the majority of people attending the dinner were from Thornbank.

This year has been a very successful sporting year for Thornbank. We won both junior and senior inter-House hockey and dominated at basketball setting a new school record. Following this we went on to win inter-House tennis and inter-House squash. Special mention goes to Hannah who organised teams for each of these events – getting most girls in the House to participate in athletics standards was never going to be easy but she did it. We have also had some individual sporting achievements. Megan has been selected to play in the Scotland U18 hockey team and Anni has had international success as she was selected to go on the EuroHockey Indoor Clubs finals in Switzerland in February. Three





Thornbank girls were part of the Strathallan tennis team who entered the British Senior Schools Tennis competition. Anni, Rachael and Vanessa all played in the finals in Bolton and came third over all, which out of the 300 teams that applied is an incredible achievement!

This year's House outing was to the cinema where we saw *Les Misérables*, definitely one of the longest movies I've ever seen but personally I loved it. Just after Easter we set off to Edinburgh to see the fantastic musical version of *Ghost*, which really surprised a few of us. It was a lovely evening. Credits go to Isla and Abbie in 3rd Form who unintentionally wore the exact same outfit in public.

At one of the 6th Form events in summer I was struggling to come up with an outfit starting with the letter "P" so I asked around the House to see if anyone had any ideas. I happened to ask Celine who said she had a parrot costume. At first I thought yes, finally I'll have something to wear. It was as soon as I entered the 6th Form centre that I realised maybe I could've settled for something a bit more subtle. What was I thinking? And of course Mr. Watt had his camera at hand so the next day when mama sent me a copy of the photo

I knew I wouldn't hear the end of it. This wasn't the only appearance it made throughout the year and now we are so grateful to Celine for owning a parrot costume - bet she never thought it would be so useful to have.

Following the accumulation of pizza and Chinese change, we decided to buy the whole House pizza as a reward for all the sporting achievements this year and seriously, I've never seen so much pizza eaten within 10 minutes.

The realisation of the end of school dawned on us when we asked the L6th to organise the Easter egg hunt. Olivia and Emily spent almost the whole budget just on chocolate but, nonetheless, everyone had a fabby time. Camilla was art rep this year and with her guidance and enthusiasm every kitchen was painted in a style of the girls' choice. The 3rd Form went for the most challenging design as they wanted to paint a whole wall with big puzzle pieces but after what seemed like endless painting the kitchen now looks great. Camilla has such a creative mind and some of the ideas she comes up with are insanely amazing and after her slight university panic I'm glad she got her offer to Newcasttle where I know she'll have an amazing time.

For me this year has been very special. I've learned so much about other people and it really amazes me how lovely and different every girl in the House is and really it's them who made being head of House such a marvellous experience. I wish all of them the best of luck in the future and hope to keep in touch with them.

Congratulations to Robyn on getting Head Girl this year, she thoroughly deserves it and I know she will do a great job. I am also so happy that Anni got Head of Thornbank for the next year and although she doesn't get the big room and will have to cope with a new member to the Stuart family - yes, the Stuarts are getting another dog (in my opinion it's healthy for Mrs. Stuart to share the adoration she currently only has for Turvy with another "child"), I hope she has just as good a year as I did and wish her all the best. I would like to thank all the tutors for supporting all the girls this year and hopefully with the addition of two new tutors, Thornbank will continue to be the kind and homely House that welcomed me when I arrived in 3rd Form.

Linda Gordon





HOUSE REPORTS



Woodlands House

Even before I arrived at Strathallan I was told that Woodlands House was renowned for being the friendliest and most supportive House there was, and this was proved right.

The Autumn term is always dominated by two big events in the Woodlands calendar – House music and the Big Quiz Night. House Music saw the choir “drilled” in true military fashion by Sacha to sing Little Mix’s *Wings*. Again true to Sacha’s style and vision we all looked amazing (*Oh, is that what it was? I see. Ed*) and sounded fantastic. Sacha went on to win the solo and Anna Younger worked with the ensemble to produce a great version of Ellie Goulding’s *The Writer* with Morgen Thomson coming to the fore in lead vocals. We were so proud of all that we had achieved and were delighted that the adjudicator agreed and we won.

The Woodlands Quiz night (a highlight for any Woodlander) brought plenty of fun, banter, and this year, the Super Mario cast complete with cars. The Incredibles battled the Power Rangers and the Madagascar Crew chowed down with some more Lions but the prizes and accolades ultimately went to the Geeky Greeks (who lived up to their names.).

Woodlands is a House of talent; we have demonstrated many an individual talent such as Horse Riding, Swimming and Skiing. We are all extremely proud to belong to such a talented House, nevertheless not only have the individuals succeeded so massively but Woodlands has always been a House of unity and I think we most certainly proved that in the

winning of this year’s tug-of-war, (as you can tell, a massive highlight of mine) not to mention the enthusiastic coaching from Mr Tod. Go Mr T! As well as our strength in the House being a massive attribute we also have stamina and speed; well done, girls, for winning this year’s Sports Day, thoroughly deserved, with a great big thank you to Olwyn Jenkins for sorting us all out. Woodlands really does know how to put in that full effort and major team spirit which makes us such a successful House, with many an inter-House competition won. It is great to look back and see the staggering amounts of perseverance, determination and talent that have gone into, not only sports, but music, drama and academic matters also.

This year’s play, *Comedy of Errors*, included four Woodlanders who all performed brilliantly, particularly Millie Galashan, who stepped up (even with an extremely busy time with being Captain of School) and gave us so much amusement. *Into the Woods* also featured many Woodlanders, whether behind the scenes giving us beautiful background music or giving us the show of a lifetime on stage – well done to you all. You made this year far more entertaining.

In this year’s House report there must be a single paragraph entirely devoted to our wonderful Janet. Janet very sadly (for us) left Woodlands House, during last year, to explore more of Britain’s scenery and re-discover her love of bird-watching. She was part of the Woodlands team and truly made our lives in the House far more caring and homely; the odd chocolate fix, a great honey, hot water and lemon to keep us going through the winter, and her spritely look on



“It is great to look back and see the staggering amounts of perseverance, determination and talent that have gone into not only sports but music, drama and academic matters...”



life in general added up altogether to make her such an amazing Matron. We have been missing you and continue to miss you.

However, Woodlands has been extremely delighted to welcome Margaret to the team this year. She really has done the most wonderful job, along with Dora (good old Dora), Mary and June who make our lives in the House far easier, happier... and cleaner. The tutors in the House have also been so incredibly supportive and seriously add to the cheerful, welcoming ethos of the House. Miss Carroll, one of our House tutors (for four years for the UVI), also left this year. All I can say is that I feel extremely sorry for the younger years. I bet Miss Carroll is unbelievably missed already.

Finally, of course, the Tods, the rock of Woodlands, who really are such admirable, leading figures to have and who direct the friendly, warm environment that Woodlands is known for. Their support and understanding for the Woodlanders is remarkable and has helped and guided our way through the years of School. They have helped make the saying that 'School years are the best years of your lives' come true.

Writing this I cannot help but think back over all the past five years of being in Woodlands House. Throughout my time in Woodlands I was introduced to many experiences that have now become my fondest memories. There are many things which make us unique; our Sunday Treats, which most definitely rescued my revision days, Buddy nights, a great excuse to stuff our faces with pizza, and the famous/'secret' Chocolate night - such an exposure (you will all understand when you get to Lower 6th). But I have to admit my favourite nights were those spent with our year in Mr and Mrs T's office eating crisps and chocolate and having a good old natter. Woodlands really is its own community within Strathallan - we are all proud to be Woodlanders.

Lucy Coleman





HOUSE REPORTS

Glenbrae House

Summarising a year in the hectic and ever-bustling Glenbrae is certainly a challenge, but the multiple achievements make it a pleasure to attempt the job. It is most definitely all down to the always-positive attitudes of the girls that make Glenbrae the wonderful place that it is.

As ever, the Glenbrae girls put up a spirited fight in all areas of endeavour, despite the odds often being against us in the more physically demanding events. Having said this, Glenbrae was the first girls' House in athletics standards (technically 5th place after all of the boys' Houses but that's irrelevant) and didn't come last in swimming standards; two achievements that I'm sure will go down in history in Glenbrae. I know the super-enthused sports representative Ellie Hall will put in an untiring effort to ensure all those with the least ability in sport will take part, as we've not always been the most keen. Glenbrae do, however, take pride in their unmatched devotion to supporting the House. I hope the frantic poster-making will continue next year and that Glenbrae will forever be recognised as the House with the best team spirit, no matter how crushing the inter-House basketball or tug-of-war losses are.

A highlight of the past year for Glenbrae House is certainly the tremendous effort put into the House Music Competition 2012. Our contingent Disney theme saw the House win the choir division of the competition with our rendition of Tarzan's *You'll Be in my Heart*. We undoubtedly took advantage of just how adorable the little Third Forms are (*Really? Ed*), and so we knew the judge would not be able to resist the impressive harmonies. Pippa Hay, Emmy Hall and Emma Burnett dominated the choir's front row with their powerful singing talents that are certainly greater than their sizes. However, the greatest efforts of all came from Andrina Dew and Katie

Rutherford who did a fantastic job at forcing break-time practices as well as being lead performers themselves.

Glenbrae further proved to be impressive in performing arts as well as charity fundraising in the event that was later named *Glenbrae Fun Day*. It was organised solely by the House's very own Upper 6th but the efforts of every member of Glenbrae made the day so memorable. Leading the entire event was Eilidh Gibson who wanted to raise money for the charity that has done so much to help her friend and next-door neighbour, Esme McIntyre, suffering from cancer for the second time. The Upper 6th and the rest of the House approached the event with great enthusiasm, baking hundreds of cakes and organising raffle prizes. Many people were even lucky enough to try the infamous Malteser cake from the Griffiths Household. Kitty Campbell and Harriet Smith must get a special mention for Kitty's efforts in encouraging nearly every teacher and the majority of the school's Upper 6th to buy at least one raffle ticket and Harriet's effort in organising all the marvellous prizes. The fantastic concert had many of the House performing, and I'm sure everyone's favourite performance was the Upper 6th's (S Club 11) rendition of *Bring it all Back* by S Club 7, which was performed with the utmost gusto. The day proved to be a great success, with many family members and friends visiting and offering generous donations and selling nearly every cake. Everybody enjoyed the raffle and the delicious barbecue at the end of the day and we managed to raise the amazing sum of £2,205.39, a fantastic achievement that will do a great deal to help teenage cancer sufferers. I personally cannot thank the girls and their families enough as I am in awe of their generosity and feel so proud and privileged to be a part of such a wonderful community.

Without a shadow of a doubt I know the 2013-2014 Glenbrae Head of House Jess

“Over all, this has been one of the greatest years of my life...

Brown will give her best efforts to support Glenbrae through what is sure to be another unforgettable year. If she does, however, let anything slip I know the small and feisty yet always reliable Deputy Jo Barrack will be first in line to lend a helping hand with whatever is necessary. Together I admire the pair for their aspirations and dedication to the tasks at hand as well as their superb abilities to listen to those around them. I know both girls have good heads on their shoulders that allow them to make the best decisions and appreciate the opportunities available to them and so I wish them all the best in the future.

Over all, this has been one of the greatest years of my life and I have been so honoured to represent Glenbrae as Head of House for the last year. I managed to overcome the daunting prospects of Chapel readings and lunch duty and surprisingly came through unscathed. I hope I managed to give Glenbrae House all that they wanted throughout the year but I couldn't have done it without the indomitable MacBain Team and my trusty sidekick Harriet Smith who all certainly make up for the qualities I lack and more. Harriet's ability to be so efficient and organised 24/7 mesmerises me and I couldn't have imagined anyone better for the job of Deputy Head of House 2012-2013.

Thank you for such a fantastic year, Glenbrae House, you're unlike any other.

Julia Wilson



From the Chaplain



“the school continues to raise an extraordinary amount for others in needy situations, often making a significant difference to individuals lives...”



This has been another lively and busy year at Strathallan, and it has included numerous activities in the Christian life of the school.

Wednesdays for Seniors, and Thursdays for Riley House, have seen our main weekly chapel services for all. Chapel is themed through each half term; topics we have looked at have included 'Starting out', looking at characters such as Moses and Joshua and how they trusted God, 'Courage', 'Ambition and Success', 'Remembering' and 'Dr. Luke's Casebook'. Sunday chapels have looked at 'On the mountain', 'Four Kings, Four Aces?' and 'Four men with a message'. The purpose behind these themes is that the Bible's message should be heard in a clear and coherent - and relevant - way. We have been able to welcome several guests to speak at chapel over the year, ministers and church leaders from the local area and also from organisations such as Scripture Union.

At Chapel we have marked important occasions in the year with special services for Remembrance and Christmas, and we have also continued to have a service in June particularly to remember our founder Harry Riley, including the laying of wreaths under the plaque dedicated to him in chapel, and on his grave in Forgandenny churchyard.

All the Upper VI leavers and their families gathered in chapel for their Valedictory Service in June - always a poignant occasion!

I am very grateful to RCAW and the Chapel Choir, along with GAB playing the impressively refurbished chapel organ, for leading the musical side of our services. I am also indebted to Sophie Burdett for her extremely efficient organising of Bible readers and to the UVI pupils who read for us through the year.

The Senior Christian Union, 'Explore', has continued to meet weekly to study the Bible together and pray (and eat cake!) and it has been a great encouragement to those who come. Any pupil in 3rd Form and above is very welcome to come along.

Our Christian ethos has continued to be shown especially, perhaps, through our giving to charity; the school continues to raise an extraordinary amount for others in needy situations, often making a significant difference to individuals lives, helping change for the better.

Pastoral care is something which continues to be a priority at Strathallan. As chaplain, alongside the House staff, I have been privileged to be involved with a number of families and individuals concerning pastoral issues, as well as family events over the year. If you would like further information about chapel services, the Christian Union, or you would like to talk through a pastoral matter, please do contact me at the school.

DFPR



Alec Lochore

Eventful' was how the 2012 Olympic Eventing Manager, Alec Lochore described his life in a talk he gave to the Sixth Form in early November.

Alec (Freeland '90) grew up in the equestrian world and was inspired by his mother who was the World Eventing Champion in 1969. He competed at the highest level at iconic events such as Badminton and Burgie international Horse Trials but chose to change tack (sic) and enter the world of equestrian event management following the outbreak of foot and mouth in 2001. Since then Alec has run and organised some of the largest eventing competitions in the UK.

The highlight of his career to date was his appointment as 2012 Olympic Eventing Manager. He recalled how he was standing in the middle of a field when he got the phone call and how 'pleasantly surprised' he was but it was not long before it dawned on him how enormous the task was going to be, broadcasting to over 700 million people worldwide.

Alec also described the challenges faced in not being able to dig into the ground and how the team came up with the unique solution of building the arena on stilts.

There was no doubt in anyone's mind how much work went into organising the Equestrian events let alone the whole Olympics. A phrase he repeated a number of times was, "For a sports competitor, winning is everything, but first you must lose a battle, or in some cases several, before you win the war".

Gareth Watt LVI Simpson



"Sally was brave enough to pass her Olympic gold medal around the theatre... yes that's right, the entire theatre..."

Sally Gunnell OBE

This year, Sally Gunnell OBE, the only woman to have held the European, World, Commonwealth and Olympic 400 metre hurdles titles at the same time, delivered the Scott-Moncrieff Lecture. Her down-to-earth personality made her lecture approachable and was enjoyed by all.

She spoke about the ups and downs of being a world class athlete and how that in order to reach your goals you must really push yourself, often stepping outside your comfort zone.

She also spoke fondly of her track rival, Sandra Farmer-Patrick and how they would compete against one another, pushing each other to the best of their abilities. In particular, she recalled when they both broke the world record at the 1993 World Championship in Stuttgart but Sally clinched the gold medal by a difference of 0.05 seconds. Sally was also brave enough to pass her Olympic gold medal around the theatre...yes that's right, the entire theatre. The sheer weight of it was surprising. Many took the opportunity to capture the moment of holding an actual gold medal via Instagram.

Sally also spent time in the afternoon with a group of twenty pupils for an Élite Athletes Workshop. She spoke more specifically about sport than at the lecture, focussing on factors such as nutrition, motivation and responding to setbacks that will affect your performance and help you clinch those extra few 'percentage points' to gain your ultimate goal.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Accountants Scott-Moncrieff for their continuing support, without which we would not have had the chance to listen to such a fantastic speaker.

Olwyn Jenkins UVI Woodlands

Speech and Drama



“Form 1JJ performed in the “Group Acting of a Poem” class. They won it, beating performances by older children and a group of adults, achieving a grading of “Excellent plus”...”



At Assembly, following the LAMDA exams in May, the Headmaster did not hand out a single Pass certificate.....!

On the other hand, he did distribute 51 Distinction and 13 Merit certificates! These were spread over the full range of LAMDA Performance and Communication exams.

Top marks were achieved by Gavin Stewart (Devising), Amber Paterson (The Speaking of Verse and Prose) and Lauren Dundee (Acting). Niall Dundee gained 3 Distinctions (Solo Acting, Group Acting and The Speaking of Verse and Prose).

Double Distinctions went to Caitlin Donald, Ian Macey, Fraser Robertson, Aimee Knowles, Becky Ward, Carrie Mack and Maggie English. Other high Distinction marks were achieved by Romaine McMillan, Emmy Hall, Dylan Patterson, Lucy Crabb, Forbes Wilson, Sophie Johnstone, Morgan Patterson, Zara Sutherland, Jonny Carswell, Bradley Clements, Ross McMillan, Lisa Garrett, Fraser Glasgow, Callum Hallifax, David Carswell, Izzy Spence, Iona Wilson, Amy Keir, Imogen Robertson-Barnett, Ella England, William Hardie, Ellen McDonald, Fergus Snowie, Lucy Orr, Alisa Lavrova, Ailsa MacGregor, Jenny

McGuire, Abigail Darby, Kitty Robson, Phoebe Ottley and Maggie Njeri.

Triple Distinction awards went to Frances Myatt in LAMDA exams in October. Through the years, having steadily worked her way up through the grades, taking several exams at a time, and covering the full range of options on the Communication and Performance syllabuses, she had reached Grade 8 level in Reading for Performance, The Speaking of Verse and Prose, and in Public Speaking – the last two awarding Gold Medals. In all three exams, Frances achieved over 80%.

Also achieving Gold Medals, with Distinction, this time for Acting, were Polina Konkina, Gaydelia Talipova and Millie Galashan. Silver, with Distinction, for Acting went to Sophie-Anne Ross and Katie Jones. Joe Docherty achieved Distinction, in Grade 6 Devising. High marks in Silver Medal acting went to Katharine Griffiths and Philippa Kemp.

In November, at The Perth Burns Club’s Annual Festival, Morgan Patterson won the Verse Speaking trophy for his age group, reciting *Supper*, by Perth poet, William Soutar.

At the Edinburgh Competition Festival, Form 1JJ performed Lewis Carroll’s poem, *The Walrus and the Carpenter* in the “Group Acting of a Poem”

class. They won it, beating performances by older children, and also a group of adults, and achieved a grading of “Excellent plus”.

The following week, a large number of pupils took part in *Perform in Perth*. They won all 3 of the verse speaking trophies: Lucy Orr (for the second time), the Robert Burns Cup; Ellen McDonald, the William Soutar Tassie; Isla Patterson, the Bible Reading Cup.

Other first places (in their respective age groups) went to Rosie Beech (Verse), Lauren Dundee (Acting); Morgan Patterson (Soutar poems); Niall Dundee (Burns poems and Acting); Caitlin Donald (Prepared Reading); Alisa Lavrova (Shakespeare); Maggie English (Public Speaking); Amber Patterson (Verse); Jenny McGuire (Soutar); Dylan Patterson (Acting).

Actor and Director, Ishbel McFarlane (Woodlands ‘04) has helped support the speech and drama programmes at the School, running a number of drama workshops for pupils. Riley pupils had a Theatre Skills Day in April. She has taken part in the Expressive Arts programme for Third Form and also worked with the pupils taking their LAMDA Gold Medal Acting exam in October, on the “Theatre Practitioner” part of the course.

IIMcF

the First Year of **The WestEnders**

Practice + Practice + Practice ...

+ Experience + Experience + Experience ...

= Professional



If a talented singer gets the practice and experience earlier, he will be a professional earlier; that's where the WestEnders comes in. Thanks to Mrs R-B's inspiration, I was able to create this Riley musical theatre club in September, 2012.

Autumn Term When We Grow Up

A group of talented singers, with the help of a crazy trainer, came together, rehearsed and had their debut in the Autumn Headmaster Concert in Perth Concert Hall. *Matilda* the musical was chosen to be the theme of the year so we sang the song *When I Grow Up* for the performance. With the help of the inspiring lyrics written by Tim Minchin, the lovely voices of the WestEnders brought tears to many people's eyes.

With two terms left, I decided to give them another chance to practise, to experience and to perform.

Spring Term and Summer Term The Concert of the Revolting Children

There are people who consider performing a solo on stage as akin to the labours of Hercules. "A concert may help." I thought. As a result, in aid of Comic Relief, the Concert of the Revolting Children took place in the Strathallan Theatre

on the evening of 18th June, 2013. Over the course of the rehearsals, the Revolting Children grew up and became better singers. We had joy and we had fun. We spent our time watching musical videos, rehearsing and watching the boys going bananas running around the room.

After having all the fun, we performed. Starting with all the WestEnders singing the classic *Don't Stop Believing*, we had Carrie Mack singing *What I Did For Love* (A Chorus Line), Zara Sutherland singing *Castle on a Cloud* (Les Misérables), Jenny McGuire singing *No One But You* (We Will Rock You), who was then joined by the girls ensemble singing *Tell Me It's Not True* (Blood Brothers). The concert continued. We welcomed on stage Niall Dundee singing *O, What a Beautiful Morning!* (Oklahoma!), Ella England singing *Popular* (Wicked) and Shanna Goddard singing *Tomorrow* (Annie). I had a little self-indulgent moment, singing *My House* (Matilda) before the whole group came back on stage with *Do You Hear The People Sing?* (Les Misérables). With the classic French colour lighting at the background, the show ended and I think everyone enjoyed the evening.

The WestEnders After all...

I couldn't make everyone the best singers in the world but to me, they are all stars. They all shone on stage. The year has gone past quickly. I wish them all the best in the future. I hope that those who want to be professionals

The WestEnders 2013

Trainer:	Ella England
Edward Lau	Maggie English
Members:	Shannah Goddard
Gabi Adams	Carrie Mack
Shannon Arkell	Ailsa Macgregor
Sarah Campbell	Jenny McGuire
Caitlin Donald	Arthur Morris
Lauren Dundee	Morgan Patterson
Niall Dundee	Zara Sutherland

will all end up on a West End stage; I hope they will remember me when they have their own concerts and will reserve me a ticket; I hope they will not forget this wonderful year; I hope they will put in their biography...

“Thanks to Strathallan and the WestEnders.”
(And perhaps... ‘with special thanks to Edward Lau!’ Muahaha.)

Edward Lau UVI Ruthven

Summer Headmaster's Music

HM Music 21st June, 2013

“Where, but Strathallan, would you find in a concert

music as diverse as Bach and Daft Punk?”, rhetorically enquired the Headmaster in his vote of thanks at the end of the summer Headmaster's Music concert.

And indeed the range of styles was huge: from Bacharach to Bach, from Fauré to folk music; from *Ave Maria* to Adele; from *The Magnificent Seven* to Mozart.

Music at Strathallan is constantly changing and developing. Innovations at this summer's concert included movements from Mozart concertos; Eilidh Gibson played the *Adagio* from the *Clarinet Concerto*, accompanied by the school orchestra, while Anna Younger and Martin Marshall performed the *Adagio* from the *Concerto for Flute and Harp*. The Boys' Choir, most of whom are in the First and Second Rugby Fifteens, and who had their inaugural performance singing carols in the Dining Hall at Christmas time, sang *I Believe I Can Fly* by R Kelly.

The improvement in singing performance has been among the most significant features of music at Strathallan in recent years, from soloists and choirs, and, once more, a variety of musical styles was on display, from folk, with the Chapel Choir's version of *The Londonderry Air*, to classical with the Choral Scholars' *Kyrie* from Fauré's *Messe Basse*; and in between, *Al shlosha d'varim* by Naplan from the Riley Choir and *Say a little prayer for you* by Bacharach from the Chamber Choir.

Katie Rutherford is a singer who is going on to university to study music. Her performance of Fauré's *Les Berceaux* convinced everyone in the audience that she has the potential for a great singing career. The beautifully-blended voices of Freya Ireland and Eilidh Ross in Franck's *Ave Maria* revealed two other young ladies, perfectly at ease on the stage, as was Ben Addison-Scott on the guitar with a *Bach Gavotte*.

Another innovation was provided by the folk group whose female vocalist, Freya Ireland, encouraged audience participation in the chorus of the traditional Irish folk-song, *Rattlin' Bog*. The folk group also broke new ground by performing a piece by one of its members, John Dew.

Two other new categories were introduced to the event, by the rock band, with *Get Lucky* by Daft Punk and, in contrast, *Toccata and Fugue in D Minor* by JS Bach, played on the organ by Matthew Turner. Matthew also accompanied, on



the keyboard, Isla Cameron on the recorder and Eilidh Ross on the cello in a *Handel Larghetto*.

One of our leavers this year is David Forrest whose skill in playing percussion instruments has greatly enriched musical life at Strathallan. His spectacular rendering on the xylophone of *Czardas* by Vittorio Monti brought tumultuous applause from the audience.

Popular music to which the audience feels like singing along always goes down well, as we saw when the flute group delighted us with the theme from *The Magnificent Seven* and the wind band brought us right up to date with an Adele selection.

And no concert at Strathallan would be complete without performances by the Pipe Corps and our excellent solo pipers, on this occasion, Harry Richards, with a traditional *Hornpipe* and *Jig*.

With a rousing rendering of *Skyfall*, sung by Andrina Dew, the concert came to an end. The whole event may have lasted two hours, but with such variety and such a high standard of performance, the time passed very quickly indeed.

IIMcF

Senior Music

I am frequently complimented each year on how wonderful our musicians sound at each respective performance throughout the year. As humbling and kind as this is, such compliments do not quell the occasional thoughts of wonder at exactly who will rise to the challenge and fill the departing boots of the star performers.

Truthfully, we have had an abundance of riches in the senior end of the school, with many genuinely excellent musicians who have departed from here and met with tremendous success in a much wider musical field. That we have been able to help them prepare for and achieve this is an honour that we, as teachers, are reminded of every day by our work in the classroom. However, it is not simply a case of coaching the pupils on how to read or play music or their instruments. Our opportunities to perform range from Riley pupils performing solos and ensembles to a mass horde (to a 9-year old!) of well over 120 parents, pupils and staff in the Riley Informal Concert series, to our pupils performing for nearly 1000 people in both the House Music Competition and Musical Showcase, to the intimacy of the Music Room and playing for 50 people in the Informal and Form Concert series and Solo Recitals. To cover this breadth of performance requires not only a huge amount of confidence in your ability, but also a relaxed approach to performance. Both of these are cultivated within individual music lessons and ensemble rehearsals. However, there has to be a modicum of talent from the individual to begin with.

There can be no doubt that we do have a large number of very talented children who attend the school; each termly newsletter carries numerous reports of just how talented they are, across the panoply of academia, sport and the arts. Converse to that, however, are the equally large number of people who say that they have little or no talent in any particular field. That is, until they actually try.

In our Informal concert series, pupils get the chance to play repertoire they have been working towards, to give a piece a trial-run before performing it for an exam or other musical event. Although many pupils took this opportunity, several undertook it for the first time. Alongside other usual suspects, debuts from pupils including Josh Philpott (Ri2) on trumpet, and Nora Dayab (4T) and Laura Haldane (5G) on piano, gave us all a broad taster of the talent within the school body.

In a similar vein, our Form concert series saw individual members of Form III & IV, V and VI demonstrate the strength and depth across their respective year groups, giving us a clear sense



of the ones to watch. The Form III & IV Concert featured, amongst many others, Sam Steele (3F) singing *The Impossible Dream*, Angus Lapslie (4R) on guitar performing the *Mango Walk*, Isla Gordon (4T) performing the first movement from Tartini's *Concertino No. 1*, as well as a performance of Bob Dylan's *Make you feel my love* by the whole GCSE Music class.

In the Form V Concert, with performances from old hands including the piping trio of Harry Richards (5R), Hermes Manos (5R) and Crawford Niven (5S), the audience were also treated to performances of exactly the same high standard from relatively inexperienced performers including Hannah Sangster (5T), with her rendition of Reade's *Summer* from *A Victorian Kitchen Garden*, Purcell's *Wher'er you walk*, sung by Johnny Rutherford (5R), Maschwitz & Sherwin's *When a nightingale sang in Berkeley Square*, performed by Megan Crawford (5G), and Noam Lederman's *DNA*, performed by Harry Young (5R).

The series ended with Form VI and their highly accomplished performances from a wide range of repertoire. Highlights included Pim Piamjariyakul (6T) performing Rachmaninov's *Vocalise* arranged for Violin, Colin Gordon's (6F) performance of Leo Brouwer's *Estudios sencillos* No. 6, David Forrest (7S) performing

at arrangement for xylophone of Monti's *Czardas*, Laura Glasgow's (7G) sensational and stylistic performance of Cy Coleman's *Hey big spender*, and the vocal trio of Jo Barrack (6G), Andrina Dew (7G) and Morgen Thomson (7W) performing Dana Rowe's *I wish I may* from *Witches of Eastwick*.

Amongst our already recognised and rewarded performers, our Music Scholars always begin the musical year and, although many are highly experienced performers, this is the first opportunity for new scholars to display their talent. In the forms of Pippa Hay (3G) and Emmy Hall (3G), their beginning at Strathallan was marked by their respective, superlative performances of Schubert's *Heidenröslein* and Sondheim's *I know things now* from *Into the Woods*.

The A-level Recital featured all of the A-level candidates performing their folios which were to be assessed as part of their AS or A2-level exam. Katie Rutherford (7G) prepared a 15-minute programme of works that ranged from Gluck's aria *O del mio amore* to Sondheim's *On the Steps of the Palace* from *Into the Woods*, whilst Rosie Beech (6W), Isla Cameron (6T), Brendan Scott (6R) and Caroline Seaman (6T) each prepared a 6-minute programme that included performances of *Art is calling for me*



“I believe that we should take great pride from our pupils’ achievements over the year...”

from Herbert’s *The Enchantress*, Barsanti’s *Sonata for Treble Recorder*, Quilter’s art song *O mistress mine* and *Una palomita blanca* by Rodrigo.

Equally a Composer’s Concert was held in the Music room to showcase pupils’ more creative musical talents. A large and intrigued audience were treated to a varied programme that included A-level, Higher and GCSE compositions including Katie Rutherford’s wildlife-inspired *African Safari*, David Forrest’s (7S) *Slides* for solo piano, Isla Cameron’s *Recorder Quartet*, Johnny Rutherford’s orchestral work, *La Folla*, Eilidh Ross’s (4G) song *Tha an la fuar*, Delphine Mahos’ (4G) *Piano Prelude No. 5*, Freya Ireland’s (4W) *El Pequeno* Trio, Jeffrey Lau’s (4S) *Piano Piece No. 2*, Isla Gordon’s (4W) *Clarinet Duet No. 1*, Nora Dayab’s *Forever* for solo piano, as well as John Dew’s (4F) ensemble *For the love of the dear, but only*, written specifically for his GCSE classmates.

Our biggest and most accomplished performances of the year, namely the Musical Showcase, Headmaster’s Music, the Senior Show production of *Sondheim’s Into the Woods*, all of which have been reviewed elsewhere, have served to confirm this bedrock of talent, and did not fail to deliver, once again, a few surprises in terms of who performed what!

I mentioned at the Musical Showcase, and it was repeated at the end of the year, that this year was also a year for innovation. The Musical Showcase in Perth Concert Hall, in keeping with our desire to encourage innovation in programming, was the springboard for 2 new and inclusive groups that have very quickly developed a reputation and, in the age of mass media, a following! We were all genuinely struck at the start of the second half by the sight and sound of 20 Senior Rugby-playing boys that comprised the Boys Choir singing *Flower of Scotland*, many of whom we had no idea were so musically talented! We also absolutely adored the dramatic execution that Riley’s *WestEnders*, led by Edward Lau (7R), performed in *When I grow up!*

In the Headmaster’s Music, the Boys Choir pulled an even bigger surprise out of their hats with their 3-part harmony arrangement of R Kelly’s *I believe I can fly*. In addition, the newly formed Rock Band gave their inaugural performance of Daft Punk’s *Get Lucky*.

Outside of the customary performances, several of our musicians were invited to perform at a formal dinner to launch the Strathallan Centenary. Diners were treated to a pared-down performance of *‘Feelin’ Good’*, by Brendan Scott (6R), supported by members of the Big Band, a rendition of Regina Spektor’s *‘The Call’*, sung by *Harmonic’s* Pippa Hay (3G), Freya Ireland (4W) and Eilidh Ross (4G), as well as Wrong Direction’s close-harmony arrangement of Ed Sheeran’s *‘Little things’*, sung by Murray McCallum (6R), Brendan Scott (6R), Zander Fagerson (7N), Connor Ovenstone (6N) and Charlie Means (6N).

Following the total refurbishment of the Chapel organ, and to mark the success of this work, Mr Bolton, Mr Beetschen and Matthew Turner (7F) joined me in performing a recital on the revised instrument to an especially appreciative audience. Highlights from the programme included a late 17th Century Masque arranged for 3 organists, Noel Rawsthorne’s *Hornpipe Humoresque*, expertly played by Mr Bolton, and a performance of Vierne’s great *Carillon de Westminster*, complete with the new bell stop! After the concert, many inquisitive members of the audience stayed to investigate the Organ loft and console for themselves.

The day following the Headmaster’s Music, we were kindly invited to perform a ‘Midsummer Medley’ concert at Kinross Parish Church. As seats for Headmaster’s Music are so hotly contested, this gave us a wonderful opportunity to perform again several items in this programme; particular highlights included David Forrest’s performance of *Czardas* on the xylophone, Katie Rutherford performing *Et*



resurrexit from Bach’s *Magnificat*, Franck’s *Ave Maria* sung in duet by Freya Ireland and Eilidh Ross, and Andrina Dew’s (7G) rendition of *Don’t Rain on My Parade*.

Several musicians also competed in the Perth Competition Festival this term with many gaining First certificates and places. Honours went to Ashley Purvis (6T) for winning the Flute (Advanced) class, David Forrest for winning the Xylophone (Advanced) class as well as the trophy for the most promising xylophone player, and to Ruaridh Clark (Ri 2) for winning the Xylophone and Timpani classes (Elementary) as well as the trophy for the most promising timpanist.

I sincerely hope that this report gives a true account of the sheer variety of Musical opportunity that was and, hopefully, shall continue to be found at Strathallan. And, despite all of this considerable talent throughout the school, I would like to take the opportunity to thank our leavers for their incredible contribution to the musical life of Strathallan over their time here: Sophie Burdett, Kitty Campbell, Megan Crawford, Sam Culham, Andrina Dew, Ina Drouven, Zander Fagerson, David Forrest, Eilidh Gibson, Stefan Hall, Pasha Konkina, Edward Lau, Ellie MacLeod, Hermes Manos, Orpheus Manos, Martin Marshall, Claire Mendelson, Ashley Purvis, Craig Rintoul, Katie Rutherford, Adam Shakor, Rinko Shen, Gaydelia Talipova, Sacha Taylor, Sevéline Thompson, Morgan Thomson, Callum Todd, Matthew Turner, Anna Younger and Eason Yuen. I am grateful also to the music department staff, the instrumental tutors, and especially to Heather Boyd, Fraser Christie, Cameron Drummond, Neil Hamilton, Anne Holland, Elaine McPherson, David Ross, Carole Sim-Sayce and Tom Smith for their support, encouragement and guidance to all the pupils as well as to me personally. With our Centenary and its festivities fast approaching, I believe that we should take great pride from our pupils’ achievements over the year, and look forward to next year with great anticipation!

RCAW

House Music

The keenly anticipated Annual House Music Competition of 2012 opened to a packed Sports Hall in October. This compilation showcases enterprise and team spirit just as much as musicality and creativity. All were tangibly displayed in a joyous evening of uplifting and life-affirming entertainment.

Simpson House opened the show with a vibrant and gutsy choral version of *Don't Stop Me Now*. The audience were well behind this performance even with slightly questionable dance moves (this was a feature, it transpired, of every House choir as the evening unfolded). But when the performance broke down into *Gangnam Style*, rapturous glee ensued. The ensemble, performing *The Man Who Can't Be Moved* showed great maturity in changing the mood, with a tight sound featuring some lovely soul and blues touches from vocalist George Lorimer. George continued to engage his audience with his haunting solo performance of another Script song. What an emotional journey for the audience and a great show opener from Simpson.

Woodland's entry to the stage in fatigues wowed the crowd from the outset and an assertive and slick presentation of *Wings* showed military-style co-ordination in choreography. The singing was as one voice with a fabulous forthright tone and excellent antiphonal harmony. The audience know what to expect from seasoned vocal soloist Sacha Taylor and she most certainly delivered with her performance of *Read All About It*. The Ensemble was a large and accomplished one in an arrangement by Anna Younger of *The Writer*. Woodlands had thrown down the gauntlet to all the girls' Houses but knowing looks around the hall showed that it was truly game on.

The boys of Freeland were prepared to meet Simpson's opening salvo with a House Choir that used the body of voices particularly well to deliver the fast words of *Keep on Movin'* with a pleasant tone. The audience clapped along and enjoyed the treat of basses and tenors singing in octaves. Matthew Turner had the unenviable task of translating *The Rustle of Spring* into a piano performance but he did, indeed, make the digital piano spring into life, playing impressively from memory. An amazed hush gripped the hall as the Ensemble began their rendition of *Hallelujah*. The three singers – Sam Steele, Liam Kennedy and Scott Haldane – were totally committed to this performance as were the accompanying instrumentalists. A wonderful sense of awe followed as the other boys Houses quietened in appreciation. Quite a feat!

Thornbank Ensemble took the stage undaunted, and their off beat clicks to introduce *Stand By Me*



had the crowd in an upbeat and mellow mood within bars. Isla Cameron presented a virtuoso performance of Monti's *Czardas* with hilarious change-over of recorders (each recorder with a different finger pattern) done with a flourish and sense of performance. The House Choir produced a loud sound, in a low register for girls, singing *Crocodile Rock*. By the time the hand jive had commenced on the na na na chorus, the cute factor and pitch had raised considerably and this concluded the tightly-rehearsed number in true Elton John style.

Nicol House, too, had decided to play for entertainment with a great presence in *Living' La Vida Loca*. This was full of carnival pizzazz down to the guys dressed as gals (again... boys' Houses, really?). Nicol Ensemble showed a good range of talent across the Forms in the House. 3rd Former, Gavin Stewart, engaged the audience and the entire ensemble showed a sense of enjoyment. Another masterclass in melt your face guitar technique was given by James Cockburn in his rocked up version of Pachelbel's *Canon*.

Glenbrae girls set a precedent, perhaps, with their decision to base all the competition categories around a Disney theme. Their ensemble version of *Kiss the Girl*, led by the charismatic Andi Dew, oozed with confidence and sway. Katie Rutherford's polished version of *Colours of the Wind* presented wonderful phrasing, with every word beautifully placed. The decision to close their performance with House Choir was a solid one. *You'll Be in My Heart* displayed the best harmony singing of the night

and showed why a conductor can really earn that baton, as Victoria Morrison-Low pulled back the entire choir.

And so to Ruthven, who swept all before them last year, with the inimitable Edward Lau at the helm. Their Ensemble was an (almost) *a capella* version of *I need a Dollar*, which really played to the strengths of this singing House. There was pin-drop silence as two of this talented ensemble stepped forward for the solo. Brendan Scott made everyone stop moving as he built up each verse of *Don't Look Back in Anger* to a moving climax sustained by Harry Young's accomplished guitar playing. The stage and mood was then set as the audience eagerly anticipated the Choir performance of *Can You Hear the People Sing?* This showcased convincing choreography and singing of a very high quality.

As the audience and all the Houses awaited the adjudication of Astmar Olafsson, there was yet again an uplifting sense of the life-affirming power of music to unite the young people with each other and with their audience. The Upper Sixth pupils in each House were rightly credited in the programme for their very impressive skills in pulling together such witty, moving and joyful performances. More importantly, this year, they showcased talent from every year group in their House. There were winners – but the sound of House common rooms bursting with song each evening in October served to remind who the winners truly were.

CASS



Pipe Band

Another year and another huge leap forward for piping and drumming at Strathallan. More and more of our young talented chanter players and pipers are feeding into the Pipe Band which has now split into two bands and outgrown its rehearsal space. Things look bright and Mr Ross and I are looking forward to next year immensely. We congratulate all of the band and individual players on their fantastic efforts this year and it's over to our Pipe Major Harry Richards to tell you what has been going on.

Pipe Major's Report

The Strathallan School Pipe Band has had a very successful season with great results in band and solo competitions.

Firstly a quartet of pipers travelled to Edinburgh to the Royal Scottish Piping Society to showcase our new set of tunes to a full house of very knowledgeable pipers. The quartet played a variety of tunes from the band's repertoire, including the new competition medley, which was given a warm, appreciative reception.

The band went on to focus its efforts on the Scottish Schools Pipe Band Competition. It is the only competition in which the whole band competes and we put in a very good performance of which all of the players and staff were very proud. This was the best result our band has had in many years, 4th place – just behind bands that regularly compete all over Scotland.

Following on from this great result, the band played at Speech Day to entertain Strathallan's guests, and we did exactly that with a very positive reaction from the crowd. The band



featured some of its newest members who had their first outing that day and who are now working hard to make themselves regular performers.

John Dew had an especially good day at the Scottish Schools competition where he won the intermediate solo piping competition; a great achievement.

During the summer holidays there were also many achievements outside the band. John Dew and I competed in the Pipe Idol competition during the Piping Live! Festival. This is a tremendous invitational event seeing a recital competition among sixteen of the world's best pipers under the age of 25. During the same festival Mr Drummond was competing in another prestigious competition, The Masters, where the best pipers from all around the world compete against each other. All of these players put in very good performances of which they and Strathallan can be very proud.

To finish the competitive summer season I travelled down to London for The Scottish Piping Society of London's annual competition. I was happy with how I played and succeeded in winning the under-18 March, Strathspey and Reel competition.

After school resumed it was clear that the band members had been hard at work, learning a variety of new tunes to play at competitions and performances in the coming year. The band has almost doubled in size with many new and young promising players working their ways through the ranks into the band.

All the members of the Strathallan Pipe Band are looking forward to next year to try to achieve another great set of results and to view our promising progression.

Pipe Major Harry Richards V Ruthven

Variety Show



On the 17th of February the school's musical talents amassed in the sports hall for Strath's Strictly Got The Talent Factor So Get Me Out Of Here... Shore held in aid of the Strathallan Kenya Project.

The night mimicked the format of Britain's Got Talent with a panel of four judges giving entertaining feedback to a wide range of acts from Riley all the way to upper sixth. Mr Henderson set the tone by appearing on stage looking effortlessly like Simon Cowell in a pair of high-waisted jeans and a precariously low cut top. He was joined by the elfin Mrs Howett, the Glaswegian Miss Laurie and special guest Paul McNeil who completed the panel. Mr MacLean emceed and the acts were introduced by head boy and girl James Spalding and Millie Galashan.

A diverse range of acts was enjoyed by parents and pupils alike, which was down to the hard work of the acts and the organisation by the Kenya team and Mr Hamilton. The acts included

Flight Of The Unicorns, *Wrong Direction* and Ella England who stole the show with her rendition of *Clown* by Emeli Sandé. She received high praise from the judges and was crowned overall winner of the show, wrapping up what was a memorable night for all who were involved.

The night was a resounding success in terms of the acts but also the £1600 generously donated by those who watched the show. This money will be used to pay for the schooling of twenty children at Mashimoni Squatter Primary School in Kibera for a year. It will also pay for their books, clothing, food and supplies during this time. This will improve the lives of children from one of the most impoverished areas in Africa which sixteen Lower sixth pupils visited in the summer. As a result of this we would like to thank each and every one of you who attended the event and made it the success that it was. The money raised will make a real difference and we could not have raised it without you!

James Cockburn, LVI Nicol



Musical Showcase



Once again Strathallan took over the Perth Concert Hall at the end of the Autumn Term for an evening showcasing the best of our musical talent. With all ages of the school represented and a rich variety of music being performed, the evening promised to be a true cross-section of musical ability at our school, with an exciting combination of soloists, small groups, bands, choirs and orchestras.

The performances were certainly not limited by any means to one section of the school, Riley House Orchestra taking the stage to play *Eye Level* with remarkable concentration and commitment, followed by the Riley Choirs focussed and precise rendition of *Festival Song* and *Viva la Vida*. Later in the concert the new Riley group run by Edward Lau, Westenders, brought us *When I grow up* from the recent West End musical *Matilda*, singing with assurance and conviction.

Vocal talent was certainly on offer during the evening. Sacha Taylor's performance of Sting's *Fields of Gold* was sung with excellent clear tone and pitch, capturing the spirit of the song beautifully. The Choral Scholars, the Chamber choir, and the Chapel choir began to put us in the Christmas mood with spirited performances of Britten's *Balulalow*, *We're walking in the air* and Gardner's *Tomorrow shall be my dancing day* this last sung with great energy and pace. There were some outstanding male group performances during the evening; the Ruthven house ensemble, with a moving performance of *I need a dollar* that was sung with poise and assurance. Perhaps the most memorable group performance of the night was from the newly formed Boys' Choir. With a group made up largely of the schools top rugby players one may have been forgiven for expecting a forceful, even belligerent, performance of *Flower of Scotland*, but to the surprise of many in the audience, the rendition began with an extremely poised and hushed first verse sung by a trio, building slowly to a peak through

the three verses, telling the story of the song tunelessly and with great feeling. Other excellent group performances came from Glenbrae House with their rendition of *You'll be in my heart*; this performance was remarkable as it involved the entire house, performing together extremely tunelessly, not only singing in harmony but even handling a key change with great accuracy and melodiousness. Brendan Scott, accompanied sensitively by Harry Young on guitar, gave us a very imaginative and thoughtfully musical performance of Noel Gallagher's *Don't look back in anger*.

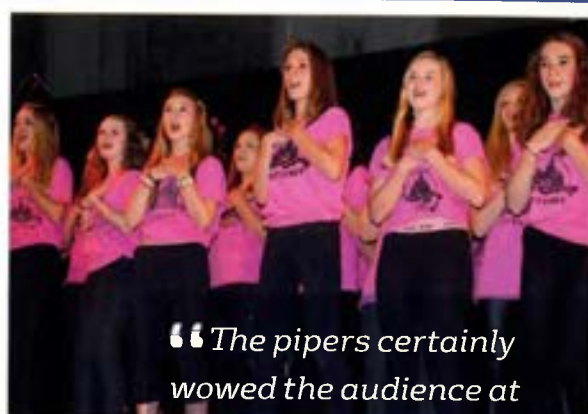
The evening also saw some remarkably skilful solo instrumental performances. Martin Marshall on the harp brought us an atmospheric and thoughtful performance of Renie's *Esquise*. Pianist Matthew Turner's playing of Sinding's *The Rustle of Spring* was extremely accomplished, with a range of dynamics and an expressiveness that was relaxed but assured; a notably mature performance. David Forrest similarly impressed with his energetic yet disciplined xylophone playing; his intense concentration mirrored in the faces of the audience, who rapturously applauded his excellent playing. There were also some notable instrumental group performances. The quartet making up the Flute group played *Flute cha-cha* by M. Walton with precision and pleasing dynamic variety. The Chamber orchestra and the Wind Band both also played with precision and conviction, the latter's *Lady Gaga Dance Mix* well received by the audience, many with feet tapping in accompaniment. One of the glories of Strathallan, our Pipe Band and Corps of Drums, gave us a rousing start with their performance at the beginning of the concert and continued to impress with their accurate and sensitive playing, showing a precision of harmony and timing, with some well-handled changes of tempo. With a passionate and well-delivered rendition of *Feelin' good* from the Big Band, with Andrina Dew on vocals, the concert drew to a close. It was a truly memorable evening, leaving no-one who was there in any doubt of the high quality, and great variety, of music-making at Strathallan.

DR



“his intense concentration mirrored in the faces of the audience, who rapturously applauded his excellent playing...”

Riley Music *Just Sing!*



“The pipers certainly wowed the audience at the last Informal Concert in May with a terrific set played with a tangible sense of aplomb...”

Thus exhorted the entirety of Riley House in their first Informal Concert billed as The Opening Ceremony of the Riley Musical Year - a homage to the recent London Games, a mere three weeks after the start of the session. The children were gie'in it laldy to Gary Barlow's acclaimed Commonwealth anthem *Sing*. This proved to be something of a harbinger for a theme which was to emerge over the session and indeed is the foundation upon which every child's musical life is based - just sing!

The session started, however, with the words of the last Strathallian article sounding as a call to arms... the right instrument for your child. A major recruitment drive was embarked upon to match each child to their instrument and by summer term the uptake of instrumental and voice lessons had soared to 90% of the house. Riley Orchestra shone in two major public performances - their first in Perth Concert Hall, playing *Eye Level* (the sweet theme tune from the 1970s TV series) and their second, playing *English Country Garden*, rather appropriately for a sun soaked Speech Day in May. Riley Orchestra charmed on both occasions as a reliable and entertaining outfit.

In Div Music Competition, the calibre of instrumental playing really came to the fore in the ensembles part of the competition. Each Division, comprising only around 20 children, presented a large and diverse ensemble. Sometimes this was intended to showcase a particular talent but in all cases it was the entire group which shone.

The Spring term sees all classes form class bands in which every member of the class plays or sings. This is the point at which able instrumentalists and vocalists can model their instrument, enjoyment and skill to their classmates and it is often this term which sees an uptake in instrumental trial lessons as a result. Pipers, chanters players and pipe band drummers face a

challenge here. Happily, Riley Pipes and Drums have thriven this year with a number of new young drummers and some significant progressions from chanter to pipes. The pipers certainly wowed the audience at the last Informal Concert in May with a terrific set played with discipline and a tangible sense of aplomb.

But what of singing? That first Informal Concert certainly made an impression, not only by the volume of the singing but also in the enthusiasm and inclusivity. It really did seem that every child in the House was belting it out. Every public performance thereafter featured songs - often with movement to help secure memorizing of lyrics and the structure of the piece (thus the chorus of *500 Miles* became known as fling and sing!). This approach produced a wide repertoire for the children and their audiences over the year including: Taio Cruz's *Dynamite*, *Gaelic mouth music*, *Total Eclipse of the Heart*, *An Austrian Went a Yodelling* and, of course, in an emerging tradition, The Leavers' Song for 2nd Form. These songs were rehearsed in small classes - five members in the case of 1JJ - and the amazement and awe which struck the faces of both children and audience at the huge wall of sound created when the entire house sang, was sheer delight.

Vocalists were very much to the fore this year with a crop of talented soloists. Ella England wowed audiences from the outset with her mature tone and she swept all before her in the Variety Show. Still in 1st Form, Ella added quality and personality to every concert in which she appeared. Also bursting into the limelight were new 2nd Formers Jenny McGuire, Sarah Campbell, Shannah Goddard and Rachel Hamilton. These girls excelled in Riley show as well as helping Riley Choir to its best year ever. Long-standing choir members and solo vocalists Dylan Patterson, Arthur Morris, Phoebe Clements, Carrie Mack and Tom Morris will be remembered fondly as they take their vocal talents to senior Houses. Multi-instrumentalists and all round good eggs, Caitlin Donald and Josh Philpott, captivated the audience in High School Musical 2 with first-class acting and singing. They may just have surprised friends who thought of them as a sax and trumpet players respectively.

Choir repertoire this year was as eclectic as ever and featured two-part singing throughout. The large forces of the choir meant that part singing without sacrificing tone and volume was not only possible but exceptionally preferable. The debut in Perth Concert Hall, performing *Festival Song* and *Viva La Vida* capitalised on the acoustics of a world-class venue. Only a few weeks later, with new repertoire under its belt, Riley Choir led the Christmas Service alongside the Third Form Choir. This was the second year of this venture and has proved worthy of becoming a new tradition, particularly as graduating Riley Choir members have so much to offer.

Choir per se gave way to Divisional Choirs in the New Year. What a heartening sound reverberated around the academic quad as classrooms heaved with song and dance during early-morning tutorial times! The turn of February half term saw another change of repertoire as showtime and Headmaster's Music approached. Indeed the show was decided upon by Riley Choir when a serendipitous sing-through of *What time is it? Summertime* (this in February remember), raised the roof so much that there was no other choice. The singing year for the choir ended on a challenging note with a moving performance of the Hebrew blessing *Al Shlosha D'Varim*. But that was the Friday in June before rehearsal week...

The vocal performances in the Riley show High School Musical 2 were quite simply outstanding. The sound coming off the stage was breathtaking - bursting with such joy and a sense of fulfilment, that the year of song felt as fully-realised and concluded as had the triumphant Olympic Closing Ceremony. Each child had found their voice, connected to it in brain and body, and when the occasion demanded, all each could do was.... just sing.

CASS



HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

II Summertime is finally here

There was great rejoicing in Riley when they heard that the annual end-of-session show was to be that popular, lively Disney musical, *High School Musical 2*. Summertime is finally here, the cast sang with enthusiasm, knowing that their bags were packed, ready for two lovely long months of summer holiday.

And, indeed, the whole show was a delightfully fun-filled, sparkling, colourful extravaganza, bubbling over with comedy, energy and enjoyment, which swept the audience along with a mixture of whole-cast numbers, ensemble pieces and solo performances.

It was a big show to put on. Great credit must go to Directors, Mrs Howett and Mr MacLean, Musical Director, Mrs Sim-Sayce, and Producer, Mrs Robertson-Barnett, for taking on a challenge at which they more than succeeded.

The soloists (from 1JJ to Form 2) gave fine performances which displayed a maturity that belied their years. Josh Philpott, Sarah Campbell, Ian Macey, Shannon Pook, Morgan Patterson, Jenny McGuire, Shanna Goddard, Dylan Patterson, Caitlin Donald, Arthur Morris and Niall Dundee - theirs will be faces we will see in performances many more times before they leave Strathallan.

There were also excellent performances from the Sharpettes and the Wildcats. And who needs Britain's Got Talent when we had our own talent show items provided by Fortune Komolafe (plate spinning), Kennedy Kamau (body popping), Nicky Ireland (bagpipes), Harriet McGrath (comic portraits), and Maggie English and Gabi Adams (mystery dance)?

Once again, credit has to be given to all those staff and pupils who work tirelessly behind the scenes to put the show on. Mrs Streatfeild-James - yet again - must have given up every waking moment to organise the colourful costumes which perfectly mirrored the vibrancy of the singing. Mrs Stewart was equal to the task of choreographing dance moves for the whole of Riley. Lighting gurus were Kyle Cooke and Brianna Fowlie. In charge of the stage were Dr Salisbury and Mr MacLean, ably assisted by those loyal Strathallians, Ollie Beetschen and Jamie Schofield, with the help of the stage crew, Kara Tripney, Edward Lau and Sarah Nicol.

Assistant Musical Director, Mr Hamilton, voice coaches, Miss Boyd and Mrs Beck, dialect coach, Mr Kennedy and Art Director, Ms Joy, helped to create a show that was a vocal and visual masterpiece.

IIMcF





*“we can see
in these young
actors glimmers of
spectacular futures
to come...”*





SENIOR DRAMA

The Comedy of Errors



And so, good gentles, to Ancient Ephesus where confusion abounds. Actually, it is 1920s Turkey, which is where Ephesus is, and life is changing fast; the country is becoming secularised, the fez is about to be banned and everywhere men and women are squeezing into uncomfortable Western dress.

The key with farce is the exposition. In Molière's theatre, for example, he restricted himself to the first two scenes of Act One – and there were five acts, let us not forget – and gave himself the rest of the play to let it work out. Here, Shakespeare sets us the conundrum and lets the rude mechanicals get on with it. Egeon has been found working illegally in Ephesus. He is discovered by the Duke and threatened with the chop. If I tell you that there was a shipwreck and that Egeon is there to find his lost twin sons and their slaves (also twins) and also that his lost wife and one of his twins (and his slave) had been rescued by one boat and he and the other twin (and his slave) by another (and also that this son has gone off [with his slave] to find his brother) and that Egeon has got one day to find both his sons or else, then you can be pretty sure that, come what may, Egeon's neck will be spared and he will be reunited with his sons and slaves and wife.

Egeon, played by a convincingly quaking *Alex McLeod*, approaches the Duke of Ephesus and was ever a man more

dismissed by a surly curl of the lip and raised eyebrow than he is by *Sandy Cook*? The Duke strides about a most beautiful set, complete with fountain and reeking with the heat and light of Asia Minor and, just as he leaves, Antipholus of Syracuse strides in. *Harry Young* in full Western dress, one of the coming men of the new Turkey, in his sharp suit, trilby perched uncomfortably on his head where he would far rather be wearing a fez, is berating his slave, Dromio, who is still wearing the old fashioned dress of the Ottoman Empire. *Nick*

Drummond-Hay takes his punishment unwillingly and, as he is chased from the stage, enter Antipholus of Ephesus and his Dromio – a swaggering *Jamie Dinsmore* and a significantly less swaggering *Gavin Stewart*. The key with Shakespearean language is to remember that it was the standard tongue of the common people, the groundlings munching on their hazelnuts and paying a day's wages for their entertainment – think about London theatre prices today. It is old, it sounds odd to our ears, but it is the language of the people, albeit rendered in iambic pentameter, and it must sound natural. And in *Gavin Stewart* we have a young actor who can speak the lines as if they were his mother tongue. This is a rare talent and one that we must surely watch for the future. This is not to gainsay the efforts of *Nick Drummond-Hay* who flings himself about the stage, ducking and diving to avoid the cuffs of his owner. The other actor who spoke the verse impeccably was *Rosie Beech* who played Luciana, the sister of Adriana, with utter confidence in herself and in the validity of what she was saying.

Of course, the play is all about mistaken identity, since there are two sets of twins, yet there is a darker element at work, that of master-servant relationships. Remember that the Dromios are the possessions of their masters – if you read that as *owner* and for slave read, let us say *car*, then you have a clearer notion of the interplay between them, for neither Dromio has anything like the respect you might expect for his owner and both Antipholuses are preening fools, completely overtaken by events.

This is early Shakespeare. It has flaws; the plot is deeply convoluted, the twists and turns are forced and yet there is that darkness which we find in later Shakespeare, that sensation that man can never escape his fate, that one is what one is. Similarly, we can see in these young actors glimmers of spectacular futures to come. I had a colleague who played Claudius in *Hamlet* at school: his Hamlet was Tom Stoppard. I wonder... I just wonder...

ALMD





into the Woods



I absolutely hate Musicals; generally, pompous, overbearing vehicles for performers who are long on looks and short on any discernible talent. Cats, Chess, Cheese, Chops, (whisper it) LES MIS; two hours of smilingly volunteering to watch paint dry, or golf, would be your reviewer's option. I realise I'm deliberately placing myself in a relatively small minority here, so I will readily admit to some chinks in what might otherwise be thought a burnished and impenetrable armour (or just pure cussedness. Thanks, PMV). I weep openly at *The Sound of Music*, rise from my seat and knock out some of my dance moves whenever *West Side Story* comes on, and grin like a particularly dentally-enhanced member of One Direction all the way through *Singin' in the Rain*. So why am I reviewing Strathallan's production of Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine's award-winning 1986 show, *Into the Woods*, the discerning reader might ask (Erm, you think anyone's reading this rubbish? Ed)? Very well, I'll try to explain.

The first reason is very simple: I have a personal interest, but more of that later. The second is actually much more complex and concerns flowers and Holy Scripture, a couple of my own particular delights. Before I address the bright, scented, alluring details of this production, nurtured into life by the sweat, and sheer determination of producers/directors John MacLean and Catherine Howett and Musical Director, Richard Walmsley, I want to take a quick look at how on earth a group of people who have one or two other irons in the fire- a full teaching timetable (ok, so we'll make an exception for the musicians, LOLZ), and a commitment both to academic and sporting demands on the part of our busy pupils- can manage to come together to create something which not only more than satisfied where questions of pure music and drama were concerned but also turned the volume up to eleven for every GIRFEC and Curriculum For Excellence Geek on the planet.

The fact is that the young people at Strathallan absolutely love the glorious inflorescence of their drama, their music, their performance, so that the seed-casting of their patient, long-suffering

but finally amply-rewarded teachers falls not upon barren ground but upon the most fertile and delectable tilth that anyone could wish for. Our pupils are constantly surrounded by superb examples of the combination of effort and talent's being rewarded with justified adulation; this was just such an example. OK, now I can do details, but where to begin? Thou hast anointed my head- my cup runneth over.

I know for a fact that I have never before been presented with such a panoply of complex talent and it's an immensely difficult task to pick out the details. This I will say, every single lead performance was distinguished by the commitment of the actors to presenting a really exciting, entertaining and, eventually, moving piece, and every single individual who occupied the stage for any length of time, from the flittering, and eventually misleadingly innocent Little Birds right through to the stars of the show were completely and utterly convincing.

Our attention is first grabbed by the Horse Chestnut of the musical's woodland garb, a whole-cast song-and-dance number and, as has been customary in recent years, Kimberley

“every single lead performance was distinguished by the commitment of the actors to presenting a really exciting, entertaining and, eventually, moving piece...”



Stewart, this time closely observed by the even more rapt and discerning audience of 7-month-old Robert, expertly marshalled her crew to make an immediate and showy impression upon the audience. Richard Walmsley's select musicians grabbed the auditorium instantly and, subtly, would never let go of us for the rest of the show; and I have to say, despite my better judgement, that Neil Hamilton's bass clarinet particularly tickled. The music expertly occupied that awkward area of never being merely a backdrop but, equally, never obtruding to the point of obscuring the main thing, the play.

And now to the players but, goodness me, where to begin? I do think that there was one absolutely outstanding performance, but it was run so close by so many others that it makes the reviewer's task a hideously unenviable one. Our narrator narrated beautifully and at no point did Katharine Griffiths need to break stride or sweat in order to produce a performance that did perfectly what it said on the tin. I'm not certain that all of Stephen Sondheim's songs entirely suited the effortlessly beautiful voice that Baker, Brendan Scott, possesses but this immensely talented young man occupied the stage fantastically well and revealed that he is more than 'merely' a singer. Baker's Wife, Andie Dew once again demonstrated the astonishing range of her talent as both an actress and a singer and made us genuinely feel her sense of fulfillment, not just at having Brendan as a husband.

'Two Princes' has a certain ring to it and these two were certainly a lark. Author Lapine has them bumbling about the stage variously in search of an unattainable ideal or tickling the fancy of just about any maiden who has the poor judgement to show her face. Scott Haldane's measuredly polite wooing of Rosie Beech's beautifully ethereal Rapunzel met the slightly cool outcome that it merited; Missy was never

going to have more than a lock or two raped. Sam (D'Arcy) Culham's hilarious portrayal of the gorgeously libidinous pursuer of, well, anyone in a skirt actually, was, after just a couple of appearances on stage, greeted with the kind of joy and laughter normally reserved for stand-up comics. This is a young man who knows how to work an audience, and with a singing voice of singular sweetness he has a lot to look forward to in drama (and probably in seduction; I'm given to understand that the young ladies of the make-up department were in something of a ferment).

Next we come to a Mysterious Man and here is where the reviewer has an avowal to make: I confess that I didn't know that Liam Kennedy had this much acting talent in him. Yes he can sing. Yes he can dance (really, are you sure? Ed) but goodness he can also occupy a stage to good effect. This was a splendid performance culminating in a really rather affecting father-and-son duet. Gavin Stewart and Sam Steele, consummate performers both, shared the honours as a suitably feckless but eventually (kind of) triumphant Giant-Killer Jack, Freya Ireland their angelic-voiced but long-suffering mother.

Could we have found a more unpleasant set of sisters than Megan Crawford, Laura Haldane and Elidh Ross? (yes, girls, yes, I mean, obviously! Ed) Only to be outdone in stage nastiness by a really scary Jessica Woodcock as Wicked Stepmother. Old stager Morgen Thomson easily pulled off a version of that well-known character Cinders' Ma with relative newcomer Will Schunemann in tow as her husband, while Emma Burnett made a surprisingly convincing Granny as a toothsome snack for Wolfie. Fraser Robertson's frisky Milky White was just as bovine as you could wish for and whilst Jemma Stewart is unlikely ever to be offered a job as an actual doornestward she worked her part (wo)manfully.

But the treats never end! Emmy Hall as a Roald Dahl-inspired take-no-nonsense Red Riding Hood was an inspired piece of casting and scenes began to revolve around this young actress and singer from the moment she came on stage. Even a Wolf as thigh-rubbingly ravenous as the ever-splendid Edward Lau was never going to be a match for the sort of firebrand who would, of course, leap fully re-formed from the belly of the beast. Witch, Jo Barrack, combined a quite delicious, dark and mischievously evil side with a beautifully observed streak of vulnerability whilst revealing a hitherto unsuspected talent for rap.

But of all the trees that are in the wood we know that the Holly bears the crown and for me this particular, glossy-leaved sylvan beauty was quite superbly, toweringly, effortlessly represented by Katie Rutherford as Cinderella. We all knew, since she has been a regular feature as both soloist and chorister at Strathallan, that Katie had a voice that could move graven images to weep salt tears, but who knew that she could also enrapture an audience with her sheer acting talent? This was a wonderful performance which, even in the presence of all the other undoubted greatness, was quite simply outstanding.

Put the whole package together and wrap it in the outrageously magnificent costumes provided by Kate and Olivia Streetfield-James, light it via Apex and Ollie Beetschen and Jamie Schofield and let the same young men loose on making it sound thoroughly professional and you have the kind of thing that Strathallan does simply brilliantly. No vanities in this bosky bonfire, just flaming talent.

EGK

Art



Lucy Coleman

A2 Coursework



Caitlin Beveridge

GCSE Coursework



Tomas Johnston

A2 Coursework



Séverine Thompson

A2 Coursework

Callum Todd

A2 Coursework



Andrina Drew

A2 Coursework



Nick Heaney

GCSE Coursework



Martin Lai

GCSE Coursework



Ella Coleman

A2 Coursework



Emma Morris

GCSE Coursework



Emma Morris

GCSE Exam



Philippa Kemp

AS Exam



Michael Chan

GCSE Coursework

1JJ

Masks & Performance
Project





Alexander Stokes

GCSE Coursework



Lorna Brown

GCSE Coursework



11

Music in Art Project



2nd Form

Impressionism Project





Sarah Nicol

AS Exam

Hannah Lochhead

AS Coursework



Holly Milne

AS Exam



Emily Barnes

AS Coursework



1st Form

Portraiture Project



Design & Technology



Adam Shakor

A2 Product Design



Agata Guz

A2 Product Design



Beatriz Dominguez Blanco

GCSE Resistant Materials



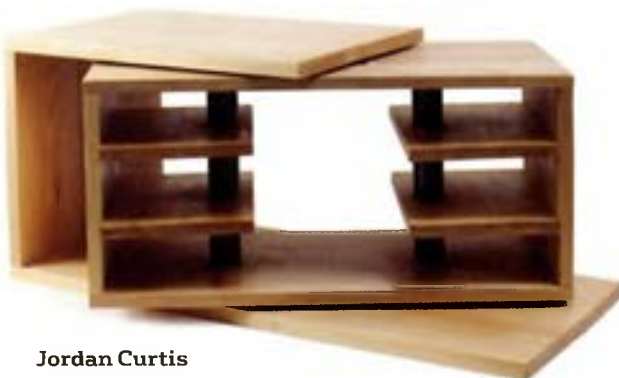
Scott Garvie

AS Product Design



Jessica Blanche

GCSE Resistant Materials



Jordan Curtis

AS Product Design



Ibrahim Mohammed

AS Product Design

Fraser Craw Harley
GCSE Resistant Materials



Findlay Kinloch
AS Product Design



Rory Wood
AS Product Design



Nikita Lavrov
GCSE Resistant Materials



Laura Haldane
GCSE Resistant Materials



Martin Marshall
A2 Product Design



Hanna Cheape

GCSE Resistant Materials



Megan Inch

GCSE Resistant Materials



James Darby

AS Product Design



Sophie Curran

AS Product Design



Alex Stokes

GCSE Resistant Materials



Kate Spalding

GCSE Resistant Materials



Riley 2nd Form

Wind Spinners



Riley 2nd Form

Pencil Holders



3rd Form

Flip Book Note Holders



Riley 2nd Form

Pencil Holders



Riley 2nd Form

Pencil Holders



Riley 2nd Form

Pencil Holders



Riley 2nd Form

Pencil Holders



Riley 2nd Form

Pencil Holders

Cricket



“Chasing a total of 182 for the win, our batting was solid, composed and determined...”

1st XI Cricket

With the departure of our talisman Captain from last year, bowler/batsman Nick Farrar, and a young side forming, there were questions as to how successful this season would be. Openers Sam Culham and Max Wallner led the way by each scoring over 400 runs for the season, while Jamie Ritchie made his role clear as the main strike bowler with best figures of 6-42. Although the weather behaved for the most part, the intervention of rain curtailed some matches and stopped play in a number of others.

The season got off to a good start with a win against the Edinburgh Academy. Electing to bowl first, we soon had the Academy 2 wickets down for not many runs, before a partnership went some way to repairing the early damage. Kevin McAlister (3-14) coming on to bowl first change proved too quick for the established batsmen and, with the assistance of wicketkeeper Charlie Mearns, managed to make the all-important breakthrough and reduce the opposition to 53-3. At this point the match turned and, with confidence high, we bowled out the remaining Academy batsmen on the stroke of lunch for 97. The batting chase was never in doubt with opener Max Wallner scoring a classy 37 to help secure a 6 wicket win.

Next came Fettes College, always opposition who have held the upper hand over us for the last few seasons. Determined to make amends, the game had to be reduced to a 25-over game because of early-morning rain. Choosing to bat first in windy, overcast conditions, opener Sam Culham set the tone with a brutal innings of 85 from 54 balls. Jack Waller continued the onslaught on the loss of Sam's wicket and with the assistance of the wind, smashed the ball over the boundary five times in his quickfire 43, helping to post a formidable total of 186-4.

The bowlers in reply were accurate and gave Fettes nothing to score from easily. With the job “nearly done”, it was the slower bowlers who benefited most from the ever-increasing run rate sought by Fettes. Young Third Former Will Hardie on his debut, picked up four wickets to add to his earlier contribution with the bat. Fettes were finally all out for 136 and a long-overdue win was secured.

After that result, confidence was high; possibly too high, however, as we went into a 20/20 Cup match against an underrated Dollar Academy side. Batting first we never really got going with wickets falling too frequently and no possibility of a match-changing partnership forming. With the help of 22 extras we managed to get to a below-par score of 121-6; a defendable score, if both the standard of bowling and fielding had been high. This, however, was not to be the case as we gifted Dollar 40 runs in extras alone in their reply. A disappointing exit from the Cup by way of an 8-wicket defeat.

On the back of this defeat we were determined to get the season back on track against the XL club. With the weather just about holding up we batted first, again the majority of the top order failing to make any impression. It was left to the middle order to bail us out with Dan Adams (47) and Charlie Mearns (61) putting on a hundred partnership in a short time. This allowed us to declare at 227-8, a competitive total. With this being a timed game, we knew what needed to be done – bowl them out for a victory. Impressive opening spells from both Angus Robertson (2-26) and Jamie Ritchie (3-25) reduced the XL Club to 31-3 and offered us the opportunity to consider bowling them out in time. However, the experience of the XL's batsmen came to the fore and with time running out they held out for the draw, denying us the chance to take the last 3 wickets.

We next played Stenhousemuir Cricket Club, a team featuring a South African professional, an Australian overseas amateur and our own coach Iain Philip. Batting first, our top three provided a great platform from which to post a good total. Sam Culham (80), Jack Waller (58) and Max Wallner (42) were impressive in making the batting look easy. The middle order, however, were unable to continue in the same vein and a score of 218-5 was disappointing. As we took to the field after tea, it was clear that early wickets were the key to putting our visitors under pressure. A century opening partnership undoubtedly dampened optimism, but on the retirement of Iain Philip, the course of the game changed. Bowlers, now with renewed hope, bowled in the right areas and with the back-up of great fielding, pegged the Stenhousemuir batsmen back and put the pressure on them. With wickets falling, a target of 10 was needed from the last over and when the penultimate ball failed to cross the boundary, the victory was secured.

With confidence high, we next hosted the MCC, a game that proved to be the highlight of the season. It started as is usual, with the MCC batting first. They started well and by lunch were murmuring of a declaration around 260! But a fired-up Jamie Ritchie had other ideas. Coming out after lunch, he bowled with a pace and aggression that changed the course of the game. In taking 6 wickets for 18 runs in 10 overs, a feat rarely achieved against any MCC team, Jamie was awarded with the “Spirit of Cricket” trophy and a deserved trip to Lords hosted by the MCC. Chasing a total of 182 for the win, our batting was solid, composed and determined. No one batsman scored heavily; instead it was a series of important partnerships which chipped away at the total, securing the win by 4 wickets. It was a very memorable match which the team can be proud of and, for Jamie, one which will remain with him for a long time.



In mid-June, we hosted Merchiston Castle School, a match which appeared threatened by the weather but which was able to be completed. We batted first and posted a competitive 213-7 with Grant Doig (54) anchoring the innings. Our bowling started well removing both openers early, but we were unable to capitalise on this as our fielding was poor. Dropped catches throughout the innings allowed partnerships to build and the once dominant position slowly slipped away from us. Despite the efforts of Angus Robertson (2-42), we couldn't take our chances and Merchiston hit the winning runs from the first ball of the final over with five wickets in hand.

The Glenalmond College match was delayed from a morning start and only finally got under way at 2pm. Our innings started well but, with wickets falling too often for any big partnerships to grow, it was left to Max Wallner (49) and Jack Waller (39) to get us to a defendable total of 168-7 from our 40 overs. After only a few overs, however, the rain resumed and the match had to be abandoned.

The last full first XI match of the season was against the Strathallians, a game which all the boys really look forward to. In a 35-over game opener Sam Culham (70) again got us off to a good start and, with the help of both Dan Adams and Kev McAlister, we managed to score 186-7. The Old Boys' run chase started well with an opening partnership of 50 but wickets from Jack Waller (2-26) and Max Wallner (2-31) made for a very tense finish. With 5 overs available and needing 33 runs, Jamie Ritchie produced two maiden overs which put the target beyond the Old Boys, who fell short by 5 runs.

On reflection, having played 13, won 7, lost 3 and drawn 3, our success over the last season can be attributed to the efforts, time and help provided by so many. Firstly, I would like to thank our caterers Sodexo and Henry Nairn for providing the lunches and BBQs for the matches. I would also like to say a big thank you to Nick Du Boulay on his retirement, for the years of advice and wisdom that he has imparted to so many Strathallians. He will be sorely missed and we hope he makes the occasional return to the nets next year. Also our thanks go to Fraser Burnett who helped with both the winter nets and fielding sessions. The biggest thanks of all go to both Graeme Robertson and to Iain Philip for their hard work and time spent coaching. Iain also works incredibly hard preparing the pitches for which we also thank him.

On behalf of the team I would like to thank all of the above and we look forward to next season.

Grant Doig (Captain)



2nd XI Cricket

This was a vintage year for the 2nd XI cricket team, maybe not an outstanding one but certainly an excellent one and the best for at least three years. Six matches were scheduled and although none was cancelled due to weather Loretto were unable to raise a team in mid May. Of the five matches played we won four and lost one. Much of the success of the team was due consistency: ten players played at least four matches. The team was ably skippered by Chris McCarthy.

The opening match comes very soon after the start of term and a lack of match practice showed in our batsmen as we struggled to 100 for 8 off 25 overs. Our bowling and fielding was much better, however, and a surprised opposition found themselves all out for 87 runs in the 23rd over. Chris McCarthy, Ross Buchanan, Finlay Stewart and Will Dallas all took wickets whilst James Burdett, John Ambrose,

Fraser Buchan and Cameron Jenkins all took fine catches. Merchiston was our only return fixture of the term and in Edinburgh it was a very different story. A stronger Merchiston team bowled us all for 49 and knocked up 50 runs in 10 overs. Cameron Jenkins was the only batsman to get into double figures and James Burdett the only bowler whose economy was better than 4 an over.

The energetic and capable fielding that this young (many V Formers) team showed in our first match was in evidence again in our second – away at Edinburgh Academy. After winning the toss and electing to bat we made 130 all out in 23 overs: better than against Merchiston but still not quite firing on all cylinders. Elliot Clements top scored with 25 not out. Our bowling and fielding were simply brilliant. All quick singles were saved and as their batsmen struggled to score boundaries our bowlers kept their nerve and took wickets: James Burdett 5 for 24 runs and Finlay



Stewart 3 for 16. They were all out for 82 and a notable victory had been notched up away at Edinburgh Academy.

Our third completed match was our best one, home against Fettes. The batsmen showed up and we made 131 for 6. Cameron Jenkins batting at number one made an impressive 35 and then proceeded to give the fielders catching practice. Curtis Taylor made 24 in quick time and 4 others got into double figures. Our fielding, bowling and catching were outstanding, real champagne cricket. Finlay Kettles and Curtis Taylor took the sort of amazing catches that make your own fingers tingle just watching them. There were three other good catches and John Ambrose as an aware keeper ran out two batsmen. Six of our bowlers took wickets, the pick being Jonny Rutherford's 2 for 12 And Monty Peeters' 1 for 9 off 6 overs – the epitome of tight bowling. Our last match, supposedly the season climax featuring Glenalmond at home was a surprisingly one-sided affair. We made 164 for 2 in 25 overs: Curtis Taylor 68, John Ambrose 39 and Finlay Kettles 38. Cammy Mack took 4 wickets, James Burdett and Ross Buchanan each 3 wickets as the opposition were skittled out in a little over 20 overs.

Season's awards:

Batting:

Highest score, highest total, highest average: Curtis Taylor.

Commended:

Jenkins, Clements, Ambrose.

Bowling:

Most overs and most wickets: James Burdett.
Best average: C Jenkins.

Commended: R Buchanan, C Mack.

NPG

Junior Colts 'A'

Played 5

Won 1 Lost 4

The 2012/2013 season proved to be a frustrating one for the Junior Colts 'A' team. They more often than not excelled in at least two of the three components of batting, bowling and fielding, yet were too inconsistent in producing a performance where they fulfilled their potential in all three.

With a number of games being lost to the weather and a number of call-ups to the 1st team it meant that momentum was often hard to come by. The season started on a cold afternoon against The Edinburgh Academy where some of our early-season rustiness with the bat was exploited by a well-disciplined Edinburgh bowling attack, resulting in a modest total being posted which was easily chased down.

The following week saw us travel down to Fettes on another cold afternoon, and having been put into bat we really showed just what we were capable of. A total of 150-6 was posted off 25 overs with notable contributions from Alex Waller (56), Lisle Halkett (39) and Tom Molnar (34). On a difficult pitch this most definitely looked like it could have been a winning total. However, as was too often the case, some disciplined bowling was backed up with some inconsistent fielding which in the end saw us lose off the last over.

A similar story followed the week after against Glenalmond where we posted a total of 160 off 25 overs and were unable to defend it despite some impressive bowling figures from Fraser Robertson and Will Hardie.

Lathallan were next up on a fine summer's day, with captain Will Hardie (not, on this occasion, playing for the first team) winning the toss and having no hesitation in batting first. The batsmen helped themselves to a big score of 185-3 off 25 overs with notable contributions from Will Hardie (76) and Alex Waller (43). Some very impressive bowling again from Fraser Robertson, Will Hardie and Cammy Griffiths saw the visitors bowled out for 55 and brought up our long-awaited first victory of the season.

Our final game of the season saw us up against George Watson's at home on the 1st team square. Having won the toss and elected to bat first, the loss of early wickets halted our progress. Cammy Griffiths dug in and scored an excellent 60, yet failed to find any long term support as batsmen would get in and then manage to get themselves out just as quickly. A modest total of 133 looked to be 30-40 runs light of a par score and proved to be the case as the visitors chased them down with 3 overs to spare.

On reflection these boys were a pleasure to coach and it can be said that despite the results, the team proved that they have plenty of talent and ability in each asset of batting, bowling and fielding. The challenge for this team is to find the consistency in performance in all three aspects of the game week in week out if they are to go on to fulfil that much promised potential.

MJJ

Senior Colts A

This season has been a real success for us right from the start.

We began strongly with a comfortable victory over Dollar Academy with John Dew scoring a very important 56 not out. After weeks of fielding practice we saw a massive improvement in our standards with a good win against Fettes. There were also good performances from Rhys Connah who bowled consistently well in windy conditions and Ewan Doig who scored 70.

Later into the season we had some more great victories, the highlight being a very convincing win against Merchiston, Oscar Mansfield and Rhys Connah proving lethal with the ball. Other commendable performances were from John Dew who scored 46 not out against George Watson's, captain Ewan Doig 35 not out against Fettes and some incredible catches and sixes from unlikely hero James Barrack.

Over all it was a great season and we would like to thank Mr Billing for being a great coach and investing a lot of his time and effort into making us as good as we possibly can be.

Ewan Doig and James Barrack
IV Form Nicol

Rugby

“The final say was with George Horne striking a beautiful drop goal to round the day off in style...”

1stXV

Strathallan 62 v Madras 17

8th September 2013

An extended 23 man squad visited St Andrews to take on Madras College in the season opener.

Strathallan settled quickly into their rhythm and within minutes George Horne was over the line for the first score. This was followed soon after with 2 tries from Murray McCallum, Daniel Adams and Charlie Mearns bringing the halftime score to 38-0.

Second half scores from Zander Fagerson, Charlie Beamish and Alex Bannerman finished off the day with the final score 62-17.

Madras Tournament

12th September 2013

Our annual trip to the Madras tournament played out in a similar fashion to the previous years where the Strathallan squad is given some game time to prepare them for the start of the season. Wins over Madras (24-0), Waid Academy (27-0) and Kinross High School (32-0) left Dundee High School and Strathallan to contest the final. With the game ending in a 0-0 draw a count-back on try count saw Dundee lift the trophy. Dundee would later visit Strathallan where this result would be overturned.

Strathallan 34 v Robert Gordon's College 24

15th September 2013

With Zander Fagerson joining the list of injured players this task would be even tougher. Josh Laird was the go to player in the centre and delivered a great performance with 3 tries. Murray McCallum and fellow forward Vova Sadovych got the other 2 scores, George Horne converting 3 and adding a penalty. Gordon's came back at the Strathallan team but by this time there was enough control to keep the team in front. Long-term injuries to Sadovych and Sam Culham now robbed the team of seven of the starting line-up.

Strathallan 28 v North Berwick 14

22nd September 2013

North Berwick always provide a tough test and with lots of front line players missing it was the turn of the understudies to step up to the plate. David Niven, James Cockburn, Cosmo Galashan and Declan O'Brien, having his first outing for the 1stXV, all contributed hugely to the match. With a penalty at 3-3 Josh Laird again showed the way to the line with a well-worked score. Two more penalties for the visitors left the score 9-8 in favour of the opposition. An individual piece of magic from Josh Laird resulted in one of the tries of the season finished by Charles Beamish. Charlie Mearns later showed his opposite number a clean set of heels to further increase the lead before an opportunist quick tap penalty by North Berwick rewarded them with a late try bringing the final score to 28-14.



Strathallan 31 v High School of Dundee 24

29th September 2013

With the memory of the recent Madras tournament the visit of the opposition had slightly more meaning. An early penalty converted by Horne set the tone for tries by McCallum, Beamish and Horne who added 3 more penalties in the first half. Dundee stayed in touch with some well struck penalties but the game was going away from them now.

Playing into the wind was a bit tougher for Strathallan and Dundee took advantage of a Strathallan side who seemed to have eased up. Two tries by Dundee brought them back into the match and the score finished at 31-24 in favour of the Strathallan team.

Strathallan 27 v Dollar 21

2nd October 2012

With a quick turnaround to play Dollar midweek the Strathallan players may have carried some fatigue into this match which, after a sluggish start and the home side looking very lively, seemed to be the case. Again the trusty boot of George Horne slotted a well-struck penalty which got the scoreboard started. Dollar responded with their own penalty before James Spalding followed with a try started with some trademark footwork by Josh Laird before an offload to Craig Rintoul saw him provide a well-timed pass to Spalding who crossed the line. Murray McCallum demonstrated how effective he is close in when he gathered a loose ball and thundered over for another try converted by Horne. Dollar responded with their own converted try, leaving the first half 17-10 to Strathallan.

Some poor defence in the second half around the breakdown allowed the Dollar forwards to gather momentum and tested the Strathallan team with another score coming for the opposition. With the scores getting ever closer and a couple of penalties by Dollar threatening to cause an upset it was down to the captain George Horne again to display a piece of individual brilliance chipping the Dollar defence to score and convert his own try. Full time 27-21

Strathallan 43 v Fettes 12

6th October 2013

Strathallan, still missing some key players, started off well against a very stuffy Fettes team. Zander Fagerson opened the account with a close-in score driving strongly over the line. Fettes showed they were up for a game and responded quickly with an unconverted try. With some strong work from the forwards and fast ball Craig Rintoul split the Fettes defence wide open and sped to the line. Horne then added another converted try to kept the pressure on.

In the second half tries from Charlie Mearns, Ross McDonald and David Niven left the day's work nearly complete. The final say was with George Horne striking a beautiful drop goal to round the day off in style. Final score 43-12

Strathallan 79 v Glenalmond 0

13th October 2013

The last game before half-term saw the visit of Glenalmond College. This was to be a real try-fest and a performance that is unlikely to be matched.

With a large crowd gathered the match sparked into life from the opening whistle. What followed



was a real team performance from Strathallan with 12 tries, 9 conversions a drop goal and no points conceded. Tries from Zander Fagerson, Murray McCallum, George Horne (4) cons (9) drop goal (1), Charlie Mearns (2) and Ross McDonald. The only down side to the match was the loss through injury of Charlie Mearns which would see his season end.

Strathallan 0 v Merchiston Castle School 15 3rd November 2013

The long break between the Glenalmond match and the visit of Merchiston was probably the difference in this fixture between the two sides. Merchiston had enjoyed the St Joseph's tournament over half-term as well as other matches in the lead-up to this game. Both teams demonstrated great attack and defence with the first points for the visitors coming from pressure that resulted in a penalty. At half time the Strathallan side knew they could get a result against their old adversaries and continued to give as good as they got. Again, though, one mistake by the Strathallan defence led to a try which was converted. Charles Beamish was then sent to the sin bin for 10mins and with us one man short Merchiston crossed the line for a try and successful

conversion. Time and time again the Strathallan team broke the line of defence but silly mistakes or a poor last pass would deny them any points. A hard-fought game in which the team could be proud of a strong performance.

Strathallan 7 v Edinburgh Academy 20 10th November 2013

After a huge performance against Merchiston the Strathallan team were looking to really put Edinburgh Academy to the test in this fixture. Not much was destined to go well, however, and the succession of penalties given away by Strathallan saw the Edinburgh Academy kicker take 12 points. A well-worked try by the Academy saw them move the ball wide to score an unconverted try. 17-0 at half time did not seem enough and with the strong wind now in their favour Strathallan set about the job of trying to win the game. But for every gain a penalty while gaining momentum towards the line would see them turned back. Only a late solo effort by George Horne, self-converted, provided some consolation. Edinburgh rounded off with, once again, a well struck penalty to finish 20-7.

Strathallan 38 v High School of Glasgow 0 24th November 2013-10-14

The match against High School Of Glasgow was again in danger of being lost to the weather, but a slight rise in the temperature made Big Acre playable. The cold weather did not hold the Strathallan team back and before long Ross McDonald was finishing off a sharp move out to the right scoring in the corner, with George Horne converting. Continuity of play proved difficult but a break by Josh Laird who, demonstrating his gymnastic skills after being tap-tackled, performed a lovely forward roll back onto his feet and fed the oncoming George Horne for the next try which he again converted.

The second half continued to be dominated by Strathallan; the hard tackling of James Spalding creating havoc among the opposition. A quick tap penalty by Jamie Ritchie allowed him to make ground before Murray McCallum appeared at his shoulder to take

a pop pass and crash over the line with a few opposition in tow. The last score was a fitting end for the big tight-head prop who was found free on the wing 22m from the try-line, just the right distance for him to gather some speed and finish athletically in the corner, George Horne rounding the day off with the conversion.

This was, on the whole, a very good season for the 1st XV ably led by George Horne (capt), Cameron Fenton (v.capt). With the success of the 1st XV and the U16 team this year, we can but look forward to another season where the 1st XV aims to develop into a team that the other major schools worry about and in which still more players can enjoy playing at representative levels. We look back on fond memories with our team mates this year and those of us leaving will be looking forward to see what is achieved in the seasons to follow. It has been a privilege to play with such a great bunch of lads and I hope we get the chance in years to come to meet and recall our days together both on and off the field of play.

Craig Rintoul
(Club Captain) Strathallan Rugby Football Club UVI Ruthven



U16 Rugby

In the last week in August 2011, the then newly-formed Strathallan U15 Rugby squad sat in the Freeland Common Room at the start of pre-season training and were asked 'what is it that you want to have achieved by the end of this two season team-building project?'. One player, who it turned out would Captain the team, immediately responded 'I want to run out onto the main pitch at Murrayfield in the National U16 Cup final'. Sixteen months later, along with his Strathallan U16 team mates, that is exactly what happened.

The U16 XV of season 2012-13 were the first Strathallan Team to make a National Rugby Cup Final and they worked very hard throughout two seasons to achieve this goal. There were a number of talented players in the squad, not least Josh Henderson, who captained the side and, after a number of set-backs, went on to play for Scotland in each of the U16 Internationals later that season. But perhaps the most richly rewarding aspect of the whole project was the somewhat old-fashioned yet simultaneously cutting-edge contemporary commitment of all squad members to hard work, honest self-evaluation and fraternity.

Evidently, the whole was greater than the sum of the parts, and lifelong memories are generated in such circumstances. Throughout the U16 season, the team came across many fine adversaries. The Dollar XV were an excellent unit and we barely prevailed. Edinburgh Academy away was, as ever, a significant challenge and a deeply satisfying victory. The team had some good fortune along the road to Murrayfield. Home draws in the quarter and semi-finals were a potential advantage but being drawn against Stewart's Melville and George Watson's, schools

with a somewhat larger pool of players from which to select, kept the Strathallan team honest. These were two magnificent encounters, which on another day may have seen a different result. But the Strathallan boys prevailed, learning more about themselves and gaining further respect for their opponents.

And so to Murrayfield on that late November evening. What a superb job the Scottish Rugby Union and Brewin Dolphin do of hosting the event. What amazing support the Strathallan Team received from the whole Strathallan Community along the way and on Finals Night. The Merchiston Castle School U16 team, who had beaten Strathallan in the regular school fixture, were the worthy victors by 10 points to 5. The Strathallan boys played with style and ambition, evidenced by the try scored on the left wing by the rampant Spanish second-rower Alfonso Ramos and the deft chip which seemed to have sent Calum Nicol in for a superb score, only to be deemed 'off side'. No lesser expert than Chris Paterson, Scotland's most capped player and record points scorer, went out of his way following the match to compliment the Strathallan boys on the manner of their play.

It was gratifying to read in the National Press the following day of 'Strathallan's adventurous and free-flowing approach to the game, with such exceptional levels of skill'. Without the support of the wider School Community, the team could not have progressed so far and the players wish this to be a matter of record.

In common with numerous activities, we use Rugby as a vehicle for personal development. What a superb vehicle it was and what development. 'So, we reach the end and then begin...'

DJB

U15 Bs

It was a very successful season for the U15 Bs team, although in the opening match we conceded early tries. Despite this setback we played to our strengths and won our first game 57-10 against Robert Gordon's College much to the delight of our band of supporters.

Our full-back, the ever horizontal James Boag made some fantastic solo tackles which without a doubt saved two certain try-scoring opportunities during this tough game. I think it's clear that without his 'do or die' attitude the score line in many of our games to follow would have looked very different.

From this point onwards we realised that we had potential as a team and began working as a unit reminiscent of Spartan warriors. This allowed us to pull through a testing match against Buckhaven in which we sealed a victory 49-0. The score, however is not indicative of how lengthy and physically tiring the match was, as they had a determined and exceptionally muscular pack several of whose members could easily have appeared in an advert for a well known truck company! A special mention has to go to Ali Burnett who was able to set up at least two tries with the help of his fellow second-row "cool hand" IK Erhahon.

After this match our team gained in confidence and we approached our next game with a previously unknown sense of purpose and excitement resulting in a cavalier but respectful form of rugby which took the score to 62-5 against the mighty Dollar Academy. We were also able to comfortably win 55-0 against Fettes College; one of the sweeter wins seeing as, in the past, they had asserted their difference in size and strength over us.

Nonetheless, our most competitive match of the season approached, against a seemingly very strong Glenalmond team. Undeterred by the thought, we approached the match with a keen sense of anticipation. At the half time mark we were 12-14 down, having quickly gone up 12-0, and our morale was wavering, but after

an inspirational team talk from our coach Dr D, we at last came through to win 47-19 much to the delight of the large crowd including a band of cheer leaders.

We then went on to be the only team to win against a very strong Merchiston opposition whose players resembled kitchen appliances in terms of their size, in our closest match, a long and brutal encounter that finished up at 37-5. It was at this point that we realised that we might have a chance of an unbeaten season, so the build up to our final match was a shaky and worrying wait. But on a cold December morning we beat the High School of Glasgow 39-7, and we achieved the coveted unbeaten season with 377 for Strathallan to only 51 against. The team captain Rory Morrison-Low was pivotal to this win as he made two spectacular solo-effort full pitch runs which led to 14 points on the board to us.

I would like to say a huge thanks to Dr D on behalf of the whole team for his infectious enthusiasm. I am certain that if we hadn't had him as our coach we would have never have pulled off this remarkable feat. In addition, a thank you to Mr Heaney for his encouragement and excellent refereeing. There have been many excellent performances ranging from the backs, most notably Archie Duncan (look at me move, chaps) and Adam Smith (is my hair ok guys?) and the solid pack deep in the engine-room with impressive shifts from Dylan McDermott (after he managed to find his way out of blue corridor), Ben "Dominos" Addison-Scott and Robbie "Tank" Brown. Finally a special mention has to go to James Clayton (the flying winger), who was our top try scorer with a huge 75 points (15 tries) over the line.

Clearly it has been a team built upon spirit and all members of the squad have played a crucial role in the successful season but time and space does not permit full accreditation. We look forward to another successful season in 2013!

Ben Addison-Scott
(Vice Captain) IV Form Nicol

Rory Morrison-Low
(Captain) IV Form Simpson



Football



“we had the best footballing side we have had at Strathallan for a number of years...”

Murdo MacIver
UVI Nicol

This season we had the best footballing side we have had at Strathallan for a number of years. Due to injuries, however, we did not manage to make it through the group stages of the tournament.

We started the season with a very impressive 5-0 thrashing of St Leonard's where George Horne scored a hat-trick and might have had a fourth if Duncan hadn't seen his name in lights and slotted it home from two yards. George did pick up the man of the match award for his troubles, however, and even Ando managed to get on the score-sheet.

Then came the Glenalmond match.... two penalty misses, one injury and a handful of chances missed but we won this game 3-2 in the end. It was unfortunate that in this game we lost George to injury, Connor was out injured playing rugby and Abe picked up an injury playing cupsies.

The next match was against Dollar who we thought were the group favourites. They beat us 4-0 but the scoreline did not do justice to the performance. It was evenly matched throughout with Dollar having more possession, but if we had taken our chances or made one or two fewer mistakes for the goals conceded it could have been a different story.

After the Dollar match we had a long break due to the weather which was to be expected at that time of the year. It was so severe that we couldn't really train on the pitch so it was all fitness work for two or three weeks. After the thaw it was back to business.

Things didn't get off to a classically good start since we under-performed badly in drawing with QVS 3-3 at home then went up north to play Robert Gordon's and again drew when we should have won. The final game of our season was against Gordonstoun at home. We lost this match 2-0, a disappointing end to a season which had started so well.

Reflecting on the whole season the back four of Ali, Rob, John and Will, were brilliant again and Duncan also filled in nicely when needed. The midfield was very solid throughout with Murdo and Ross in the engine-room and Ralph and Harry on the wings. Ando and Connor finished off the starting eleven with George and Abe out with injury. This all bodes well for next season as it was a young team with only a handful of UVI involved. Ross finished the year joint top scorer with George.

Murdo MacIver
UVI Nicol





Boys' hockey



“Our goal this season was to take a trophy...”

1XI

The 1XI hockey team this year did very well considering we were a young and developing team with players as young as 4th Form making frequent appearances for the side. Our goal this season was to take a trophy, unfortunately we did not succeed in this but came very close on two occasions in the Schools' Plate and the Scottish Cup, runners up in both.

The season started with the Scottish Cup qualifiers in which we came top of our group beating George Watson's 4-1, who later defeated us in the final 3-0 to win the Cup. During the cup we came up against the Edinburgh side, Inverleith, and quickly went 2-0 down but came back with a very quick three goals to put us back in front. Our defence including Dan Adams (Captain), Rory Wood, Gareth Watt and Jack Waller had

been given the job of securing the goal line and served the team well as we won 3-2, putting us in the final. Unfortunately, both matches were played on the same day, and after a long gap between games our team as a whole were not as able to perform as our fitness was not up to it.

The win at the group stages gave us a huge confidence boost as a team and kept our hopes up throughout the season, as we knew what we were capable of. The winter endured for a few weeks through the start of the spring term and we were unable to get much pitch-time before the Loretto friendly. Mild Musselburgh had had next to no snow and Loretto had already played several fixtures. The match was tight and we held a 1-1 score throughout the majority of the game on the strength of Kevin McAllister's goal. In the last few minutes of the game Loretto got another to seal the win. This was definitely a confidence-knocker but we took the positives out of the match and considered it a good result.

Next came our preliminary round in the Scottish School Cup/Plate. This was away against a George Watson's side who defeated us heavily, despite Dan Adams scoring

a surprising goal from a short corner. This led us into the Plate competition where we were drawn against Aberdeen Grammar school. The start of the match was very competitive and we ended the half at 1-0 Strathallan. The second half, however, was a different story as we managed to score 11 goals without concession. This match brought up players such as Cameron Griffiths and Jamie Miller from Fourth Form to play for the 1XI side for the very first time, both getting their names on the scorecard. Later in the tournament we had matches against Stewart's Melville, Balerno and Robert Gordon's. We won the last two and had a draw with Stewart's Melville which resulted in our losing the Plate on goal difference.

During the summer holidays both girls' and boys' hockey squads had a tour out to Belgium and Holland to play local clubs in the areas. The boys won three, lost one and drew another. To return from what are arguably two of the best hockey nations in the world with the loss of only one game was very promising. We began with a game against a local Belgian side and it was probably the most exciting game of the season for us as the score was 7-6 Strathallan

including great performances from Colin Gordon, Jack Burton and Cameron Griffiths to seal the win. Next we faced an excellent U19s club side after a day at the theme park. Unfortunately, we lost heavily but with a few injuries and our very own Ewan Campbell (Keeper) making an appearance in the second half as striker, not much else was expected! Our trip to Holland brought us up against a slightly younger club side. Charlie Mearns put in a solid performance, Rory Wood scored a great flick and we defeated them comfortably 4-1. Next came Rotterdam, one of the best club sides in the world at first team level. We were expecting a tough game and that's exactly what we got. A draw of 2-2 showed how well-matched the teams were. At the end of the first half we were at 1-0 but an astonishing goal from Jamie Corbett equalized. Our centre back and centre midland, Jack Waller and Grant Doig both had very strong performances and kept us in the game keep to a draw. Our final game was also Jack Burton's final game for Strathallan and the whole team wanted a win for him to end on a high. Everyone gave it their all and to avail as we won 12-0 with a couple great goals from Rory Barnes and Jack himself. This was a great way to end the tour as we had all enjoyed ourselves, each other's company and mainly, the results.

At the end of the School season we had a meal out to Grand Italia where we handed over awards to members of the team. Players' player of the year was awarded to Dan Adams. Coach's player of the season was awarded to Charles Beamish. Most improved player of the season was awarded to Alfonso Ramos who had started off in the 3rd XI. Finally, there was a special award for Jack Burton.

I would just like to thank, on behalf of the entire team, Mr Glass, Mr Giles and Miss Carroll for all the work they put in this season; as ever it is very much appreciated.

11 wins 3 draws and 4 losses

Ross Buchanan
1st Team Captain
LVI Ruthven



3rd XI

A decent season: played 5 won 2 drawn 1 lost 2, for 17 against 19. Only 2 out of 7 fixtures cancelled due to adverse conditions. The team was captained throughout the season by the experienced Chris McCarthy who was also the leading scorer with 8 goals.

Our opening match was at the seaside, away against Loretto. Loretto fielded a team that looked and played more like a rugby side than a hockey one. Strathallan refused to be physically intimidated and stroked the ball around in a most accomplished fashion for so early in the season. We won 5-1, all our goals coming from attacking moves in open play with the team showing real fitness and awareness. Loretto's only goal came from a well-worked short corner which James Eedle was disappointed not to have saved. A good all-round team performance with notable skilful touches from Joe Docherty.

Fettes at home on the Ramsay Astro was our second match.

The opening 27 minutes had no goals but featured fast and attacking play from both sides, the balance of pressure narrowly with Strathallan. Just before half time they scored a good goal that exposed some of our defensive coordination weakness. In the first 10 minutes of the second half they scored 3 very soft goals which our defensive team found embarrassing. Nevertheless we were then 4-0 down and it showed lots of determination and character to claw back 2 goals and much self respect. That game set the conditions for a fierce re-match on grass at Fettes in early March. We were without our magic utility player Cameron Jenkins but had gained two players from the 2nd XI following a decrease in that squad's size. Mark Cochrane added experience and finesse to our back four whilst Eason Yuen's performance in midfield was a classic street-fighting no-nonsense hockey style. Chris McCarthy scored twice and Cammy Mack once in a tight 3-3 draw that made us smile throughout the whole journey back.

The match against Glenalmond was a nail-biting 5-4 win. Nail-biting because we had gone 4-1 up before they earned a 4-4 draw. Captain Chris scored from a short corner with two minutes remaining to win the match. It was a fine all-round team performance but special mention deserves to be given to Curtis Taylor who volunteered to be our stand-in keeper and made several dramatic saves, and Cameron Jenkins who was literally all over the pitch playing his sweeping/link man/coordinating everywhere role. Our final match was a disappointed 6-2 loss against George Watson's at home. It was difficult to say exactly what went wrong but it was clear than in many players' heads the Easter holiday had already started.

Best Captain: Chris McCarthy, Best Converted Rugby Player Hermes Manos, Best Utility Cameron Jenkins, Best Midfielder James Burdett, Best Crosser into the D Elliot Clements, Best Super-sub Joe Docherty.

NPG

3rd Form A

The 3rd Form hockey team has had a mixed season. It kicked off (Surely bullied. Ed) with a great 4-2 win over Loretto followed by a 2-2 draw with Fettes which was disappointing as we were 2-0 up at half time.

Alex Waller, Gregor Ritchie and Will Hardie showed real determination at the back throughout the season and were a great defensive unit. At our next game, against Glenalmond, we put in our worst performance of the season. The highlight of this match was Gavin Stewart's strike to equalise before they scored in the final minutes. We came back quickly from this with two fantastic wins over Gordonstoun and George Watson's. Using the pace of Rory Arthur and Douglas Tait down the right hand side and Charlie Leslie's finishing skill, we won these games comfortably. Our final match of the season was against Loretto and, in my opinion, this was the team's best performance. Jamie Miller's control in the centre allowed us to play some great hockey against a strong side. This victory was made much easier by Bradley Clements' solid performance in Goal.

We could not have had such a great season without the coaching staff who have ensured our progression, as individuals and as a team, towards being more confident and better players. Thanks to all the boys who played and to Mr Giles and Mr Watt for such a great season!

Cammy Griffiths
III Form Simpson

Girls' hockey

1st XI

So, the season started, yet again, with the usual 'doggies', ice baths and early morning runs. Losing our famous three; Nicki Cochrane, Mhairi Bannerman and Euge Ramos, we knew that this year wasn't going to be an easy one. However, Rach and Lucy soon stepped up to the mark and led the team to a successful, fun and memorable season.

After the shock of the school routine's beginning, and when training was in full swing, the Madras tournament arrived. For the third year running, the girls managed to cope with the unusual conditions – grass – and we appeared back at school with the trophy yet again. We would just like to add that this was the first of Rachael's captain's speeches, which was amusing for players and spectators alike. With this victory in the bag, the season ahead looked very promising and so we knew that the expectations were high.

In the 1st XI midlands tournament it became apparent that we had two girls, Verena Woolf and Claudia Wand, who struggled with Miss Sime's 'hockey dialect'. Nonetheless, we were all very impressed with the way they coped with this and improved considerably throughout the season. Despite the cousins' matching finger injuries and playing in what felt like arctic conditions on the new Dundee High School pitches, we managed to regain the trophy.

We started off the knock-out cup with an encouraging win against Kilgraston followed shortly by the wins in the quarter and semi-finals against Dundee High School and Glenalmond. There was then a sudden sense of déjà vu within the team, as we were preparing ourselves for the final against Dollar for the fourth time running. Many thanks go to Mr Barnes for transferring the supporters to and from Kilgraston where the final was being held. Dollar had also brought a coach load of 6th Formers so the support from the Strath guys was very much appreciated. Not long into the first half of the game, Anni unfortunately got a nasty face injury and although we were all a bit shaken the team had to play on. Despite this, we showed



exactly why we were there and won comfortably 4-2. Special mention to Ella Coleman for her hat-trick.

Next came the Scottish Schools outdoor tournament, where we were to play the best schools in Scotland. We were definitely going in as the underdogs. We had, however, huge confidence and that was reflected in the first pool games that we played. Unfortunately, the final decision came from goal difference and we just missed out on the semi-final, although still drawing to the winners – George Watson's College.

Before we knew it the indoor season was upon us again, and every Tuesday night, we took two cars up to Dundee to play in the full women's Midland League (thank you, Mr Giles and Miss Sime). With most of the 6th Form burdened with the dreaded prelims, it wasn't always easy to get our best team out each week – one game we even had Miss Sime down on the team sheet just in case one of us got injured! The younger ones definitely proved they were good enough and we finished the league with a few wins. These games were great preparation matches for the

Midland Schools Indoor Tournament where we won very convincingly against Dollar, Kilgraston, Morrison's Academy and Dundee High School. From this we were put into the Scottish Indoor U18 Cup where, once again, we were faced with the best school teams in Scotland. We finished 2nd in our group, drawing 3-3 with George Watsons College and winning 5-2 against Robert Gordon's. In the semi-final we were up against the High School of Glasgow where, I think it is fair to say, we dominated and came out with a 7-2 victory. This was looking very hopeful for the final that we soon found out was against George Watson's with whom we had previously drawn 3-3. The final was played during half term when some of the players were unfortunately unavailable to play. We lost 2-7 but particular mention must go to the youngsters who stepped in and played very well.

To top off a fantastic season we had our annual hockey dinner where the following presentations were made: Player of the Year – Christina Farrar, Indoor Player of the Year – Anni Arthur, Most Improved Player of the Year – Raina Dalrymple and

Top Goal Scorer with 53 Goals – Rachael Campbell.

Of course we were also so proud to have the following people having district and national representation:

Also well done to Anni Arthur who was selected to go to the Club European Indoor Championships with Grove Menzieshill Hockey club.

Finally we would just like to say a HUGE thank you to Miss Sime for her continual support throughout the season. She is always there for us, through the ups and downs, to point us in the right direction and we really do appreciate it. Raina D also is especially very thankful for you giving up your shoes as at one of the tournaments she forgot her own astros! Mr Giles also deserves a thank you for ferrying us back and forth to Dundee every Tuesday and giving up some of his week-ends to come and umpire at the various tournaments. Without this, we wouldn't have won nearly as much as we did this season so THANK YOU!

Anni Arthur LVI Thornbank
Christina Farrar LVI Glenbrae

Midland U15

Raina Dalrymple, Capt
Rosalind Coutts
Isla Gordon
Abbie Lindsay
Pippa Wood

Midland U18

Anni Arthur
Rachael Campbell
Lucy Coleman
Christina Farrar
Laura Glasgow

Midland U16

Raina Dalrymple
Megan Inch
Abbie Lindsay
Nina Mearns
Emma Walker
Pippa Wood

Midland Indoor

Anni Arthur
Rachael Campbell
Christina Farrar
Laura Glasgow
Megan Inch
Claudia Wand

Scotland U16

Megan Inch

Scotland U18 Training Squad

Christina Farrar
Megan Inch

Scotland U18/Europeans

Megan Inch



2nd XI

After our first match and unfortunate loss against Robert Gordon's, the Girls Hockey 2nd XI went on to win the next three matches including our 6-0 victory against Queen Victoria School and then to beat George Watson's 1-0 for which we have to give credit to Emma Walker. I would say that was one of the highlights this season. Our match against our rivals Glenalmond definitely lifted spirits since we won 5-0. The season has not only consisted of seven wins in total but the enthusiasm and skill that each player has given amazes me and is something which shouldn't be left unacknowledged. Unfortunately, some of our matches were cancelled due to the bad weather but we still trained to improve our skills so, for next season, the seconds team will be as strong as ever. Thank you to Miss Carroll and Mr Glass for coaching us this year; it's been heaps of fun. With seven wins, two draws and two losses I would say the seconds had a successful hockey season and on behalf of the team I would like to wish Miss Carroll all the best with her new job. Good luck to everyone for the next hockey season!

Linda Gordon UVI Thornbank

3rd XI

The 3rd XI completed a good season, winning five out of the eight games that took place (three games were cancelled due to Scotland's wonderful weather!) We kicked off the season on a high, with Daisy Provan and Australia's finest, Courtney Dutton, leading us to a 2-1 victory over Robert Gordon's away in Aberdeen. We then had a small pickle for a couple of games, but proved that we were never down-hearted by beating old rivals Glenalmond 6-1; our other kangaroo, Steph Jones, scoring a hat-trick, Sarah Cheape popping in two others and Ellie Hall finishing them off. We were later beaten 2-0 by Queen Victoria School's 1st team, but put up a courageous fight, and then Steph Jones took us to a 1-0 victory over Dollar Academy. On one freezing day we bravely made the journey up to Gordonstoun, fighting the cold to beat them 5-0, 5th former Nicola Bell scoring her first goal for us amongst the regulars. We ended the season high as a kite, beating Loretto 10-0 away, in an icy but enjoyable match, taking risks that most definitely paid off. Sophie Curran, scored her first goal of the season, Julia Wilson and Steph Jones adding on another two apiece, and our 'princess of

the pitch' Sarah Cheape scoring an incredible five goals in her no-fuss fashion. On behalf of the team, we would like to thank Dr. Blackie and Mr. Robertson for their coaching, endless support and enthusiasm.

Sévy Thomson UVI Thornbank

Junior Hockey

The junior teams continue to go from strength to strength. The U15 team won the Midland Indoor and Outdoor tournaments. At the Outdoor tournament Raina Dalrymple was named as Player of the tournament, congratulations

to Raina on this achievement. The indoor team won all four matches to complete the double. Megan Inch led the U16 team to victory (6 - 0) against Kilgraston in the Midland U16 Cup final. This qualified the team for the National U16 Finals where they had one win, two draws and a loss. The future for senior hockey certainly looks bright. Thank you to all the coaches who were involved across the A and B teams.

AS



Athletics and Cross Country



“Of our seven teams, all were in the top ten schools...”

2013 was another successful and enjoyable year of cross country running. From the outset we realised that this was going to be a transition year, with many of our better runners finding themselves in different age groups, but after a successful House cross country, won by Ruthven, it was obvious that there was potential for some good teams.

After a warm-up match at Glenalmond and our home fixture, we travelled reasonably hopefully to Irvine for the Schools' cross country. Of our seven teams, all were in the top ten schools, with the Under 17 girls fifth, the Over 17 boys fourth (just), and the Under 17 boys winning a bronze medal in this very competitive age group.



The athletics term continued this vein of transition and steady improvement, with a number of matches squeezed into an increasingly small space before the start of the examination period.

We held two open meetings at Pitreavie track, to allow pupils to set and improve on best times and distances in optimum conditions. We also enjoyed successful matches against Fettes and Glenalmond, winning three of the four age groups, and Merchiston, where we came a close second. We were narrowly beaten by Dollar in a good new three-way fixture with them and QVS, and we ran out winners in a hard-fought match against QVS themselves.

At Scottish Schools Charles Beamish won a gold medal in the Over 17 boys' javelin, and Jamie Ritchie won bronze in the shot, in front of Murray McCallum in 4th.

DMH

Netball

This last year of netball has been a real success for the 1st team which saw Hannah Lockhead, Aimee Sangster, Hannah Sangster and Maia Magumba join the team. We've been involved in the Scottish Schools competition and the Independent Schools competition in Aberdeen which we went on to win. It was a tough tournament but the girls put their all into it and it was a day about which we could say that really good netball was played and, despite the odd injury, it was definitely a well-deserved win.

Our participation in the Scottish schools cup did not yield so much in the way of medals but it did see the 1st team travelling to Shetland to play an away game. The trip, including the prospect of a 12-hour ferry journey home, was not something we particularly looked forward to. Nonetheless, it ended up being a lot of fun despite the long journey and, although we were not successful in the game, the weekend was a lot of fun with a tour around the island and the purchase of many novelty hats. A rewarding trip and a good experience.

Our season on the whole has been quite good with the majority of our games played every Wednesday in Perth league in which we played consistently against strong teams. Each week saw the naming of a player of the match amongst those consistently mentioned were Lexi McLellan, Robyn Summerville and

Hannah Lockhead. I would like to thank everyone who took the time to play in these matches and especially those who helped on the umpiring weeks. A big thank you also must go to Miss Laurie who has been an excellent coach this season and has put up with all of our injuries, complaints and everything else that comes with having to manage a Girls' Netball team. Thanks also to Mrs. Tod who has given up a lot of her time to help us in coaching and with umpiring.

I would also like to mention the 2nd team, excellently captained by Siobhain Forbes, and their success throughout the season. They performed really well in the tournaments and, luckily for them, they didn't have to make the trek to Shetland that we did. Special mentions go to Caitlin Beveridge who won the 2nds' most improved player prize nominated by the team and to Lindsay Ross who won the player of the season.

Our annual Netball dinner was held at Vita and we had a great time. The team voted for a player of the season and a most improved player the former going to Anna Younger and the latter to Hannah Sangster. I would like to wish the best of luck to Lexi McLellan who was nominated as captain for the forthcoming season and I hope that the team will have a successful season to come.

Anna Younger UVI Woodlands

“We've been involved in the Scottish Schools competition and the Independent Schools competition in Aberdeen which we went on to win...”

Badminton

Due to several unfortunate incidents we only played three fixtures this season, one of which was only for the girls team, Ina Drouven, Jessica Brown, Brianna Fowlie, Syazirah Kuan and Rinko Shen.

This match against St. George's School was played at Strathallan and we achieved a glorious win undefeated 6 to 0 in the singles and 3 to 0 in the doubles, showing that preparation paid off. Continuing our training sessions and always trying to improve our techniques, we achieved another win against the stronger competitor Fettes, where we came first with an overall score of 10:8, 5:1 in the girls singles, 2:4 in the boys' singles and a draw of 3:3 in the mixed doubles. This time the boys' team was able to compete as well and were facing strong opponents, but fighting hard and performing at their best. For the boys playing in this match we had Ryan Kong, Kevin McAlister, Cyrus Ng, Chris McCarthy, Derek Lai and Sam Culham. Unfortunately we lost our second fixture against Fettes narrowly by 2 points. The girls' team with Hannah Macdonald as a replacement for Syazirah who wasn't able to play due to an injury, were excelling themselves winning all their matches and not leaving a chance for others to question their strength.

This year's inter-House Competition was both exciting and nerve-racking. Having the chance to win the glorious trophy Glenbrae House performed at their best and achieved their goal leaving Thornbank as a strong competitor in second place. In the boys' competition the winner was Simpson House captained by Ryan Kong closely followed by Nicol a strong opponent which in total delivered us an exciting series of matches.

In addition to the normal school commitments the Strathallan Badminton Club has also taken part in the Perth League which takes place at Bell's Sport Centre fortnightly. The adult league consists of six teams from the Perth & Kinross area, each providing four male and two female players. In addition to the consistent players Ryan Kong

“one of the most exciting and enjoyable games options...”

and Ina Drouven, several of the team members were given the chance to improve their tactics by playing matches of a very high standard not comparable with the normal school fixtures. Although our team was not able to achieve the best results, we improved our play continuously throughout the season and used the league to give as many people as possible a chance to compete in a proper adult setting with many players to look up to. As a result of our commitment we were also allowed to take part in the Campus Trophy Competition which was held in Perth and in which we only went down narrowly in the semi-final. We would like to say a special thank you to Sam Culham, Matt Turner, David Forrest, Jessica Brown, Derek Lai, and Brianna Fowlie who often spared their Wednesday nights to compete with us in this League.

It has been a great season and being captains of the team has been a great honour for both of us. We hope that this feeling was reflected not only by the team members but also by those who attended regularly badminton games sessions. We would also like to say thank you to Dr. Cooper who with inspirational motivation and new trainings ideas made badminton one of the most exciting and enjoyable games options.

Ryan Kong UVI Simpson

Ina Drouven UVI Glenbrae



Equestrianism

Kilgraston Scottish Schools Equestrian Championships 2013

On April 28th three equestrian teams took part in the annual Scottish Schools Championships at Gleneagles which involved over one hundred riders. Each team achieved great success: the Senior and Intermediate teams both won the "Team Showjumping" and Strathallan had individual winners in all three classes.

Senior Team

Emma Cheape (Captain), Connie Snowie, Annabel Wilson, Callum Fletcher

All riders completed secure rounds in the dressage, with Connie winning her arena. The excitement came next in the showjumping. Emma, Connie and Callum all rode fast double clears, enabling Strathallan to easily win the "Team Showjumping". Connie had a great day coming away with 2 sashes for winning both individual dressage, and individual dressage and showjumping combined. The team finished with a second place overall.

Intermediate Team

Jessica England (Captain), Charlotte Stephenson, Georgia Laird, Iona Wilson

Charlotte and Jessica completed impressive dressage tests but it was the showjumping that took

everyone's breath away. Each rider rode a fast double clear, with Iona achieving the fastest time of the day by 9 seconds with her blistering round. Charlotte finished with a third place for individual combined training, and the team finished third overall.

This was the last time Jessica was able to ride "Pebble Team Spirit" in a school team as this wonderful 6-year-old horse tragically suffered a fatal injury a few months later.

Iona must be congratulated on her spectacular win in the individual showjumping – it is not often that gasps of amazement are heard throughout the arena!

Junior Team

Ella England (Captain), Rowan Laird, Shannon Pook

Due to age constraints it is always a struggle for Strathallan to enter a team in the U-12 class. Consequently, it was a pleasure to be able to put a Riley team of three together.

Ella and Rowan both completed excellent dressage tests and double clear showjumping rounds. Ella went on to win the individual dressage and combined training awards for her arena, Rowan just missing out. Shannon supported them with great determination and they were delighted to be placed third in the "Team Dressage".

JAS

News from competitions in Scotland and beyond.

Emma Cheape

Selected for BYRDS U-25 Dressage squad. Won numerous dressage competitions, Arena events, and combined training competitions and is now competing at Open PC and Novice British Eventing.

Callum Fletcher

Won the British Championship pentathlon qualifier and came 4th at the British Championships. Came 5th in the National Triathlon Championships and 7th in the Ireland Home International Championships so he is short-listed for the British team going to Australia in 2014.

Gareth Watt

Won the U-25 BYRDS Home International Junior Medium dressage championships. Came first in all the competitions he entered in 2013 (Medium and Advanced Medium). He qualified for the Scottish Dressage championships in August and gained an award for highest placed U18 rider over the 3 days.

Connie Snowie

At the BSPS Summer Finale Show she won the "Best Rider" in the 14-18 class and was overall champion. She also won the Performance of the Year Championship. She qualified for the Show Hunter Pony final at the Horse of the Year Show in which she came 10th. In dressage she has won classes at Prelim and Novice.

Sarah Cheape

Selected for the Pony Club intermediate inter-branch showjumping and venting team. Qualified for the national trailblazers showjumping championships.

Annabel Wilson

Achieved top 10 places in BE100 eventing classes at Eden Valley, Burghie and Auchlishie.

Hanna Cheape

Selected for BYRDS and PC interbranch dressage and eventing teams. The dressage team came 3rd and qualified for the national championships.

Jessica England

In eventing placed 4th in a large competition at Hopetoun in the U18 BE100 class. Selected for PC interbranch dressage and eventing teams.

Charlotte Stephenson

Placed 9th in BE90 at Kirriemuir, and 3rd at Burghie where she qualified for the Scottish Championships regional final. Also placed 9th in BE100 U18 at Floors Castle.

Iona Wilson

Mounted Games: Selected for the Scottish team and competed at the Royal Windsor Horse Show. Competed in the winning Strathearn PC team at Blair Horse trials. The same team qualified for the Horse of the Year Show.

Georgia Laird

Selected for PC inter-branch showjumping team which qualified for the National Championships and won the team "Horsemanship" award. She won the 1.05m class at Fife Hunt PC show.

Lisa Garrett

Placed 2nd in the Novice team at PC inter-branch and qualified for the National Championships. She was 4th individual in Novice eventing. Placed 2nd in Gleneagles 90cm and won a trophy for the highest placed Strathearn PC member. Her score qualified her for the Knockhill Championships.

Ella England

Champion at Central Fife Working Hunter Pony championships in both the Intermediate and Open WHP classes. Selected for Strathearn inter-branch novice eventing team which came 4th. She qualified for the National dressage championships.

Rowan Laird

Won the Intermediate Working Hunter Pony championship at Fife Hunt PC Show. Selected to ride for novice PC inter-branch and won a 90cm class in British Show Jumping. Won the show jumping cup at Fife Hunt PC cup day, and 2nd in dressage.

Murphy and Logie Walker

Winners of the Milton trophy for Polo held at Scone Palace.

Atholl Pettinger

Equestrian Vaulting: Number One British Vaultier in the Male Child Individual Category.

JAS





“the Senior and Intermediate teams both won the “Team Showjumping” and Strathallan had individual winners in all three classes...”



Golf

This Year saw a more unorthodox approach to the golf season, with the highly competitive inter-House competition being played at the start of the season. Nicol House representatives Jonathon Dunn and Declan O' Brien lifted the trophy this year. Giving Nicol their second consecutive win.

Shortly after this fixture Cedrik Timmel and I were invited to play in the Wayfarers' competition on the highly prestigious "Old Course". It was a great experience which we shall remember for a long time. The Perth and Kinross schools' golf championship saw the first of the school matches and Safe Chaicharncheep took away the trophy for the best score of the day (70 Nett)

The inter-school matches had some interesting results this year, notably the matches against Beaconsfield. We Lost narrowly 2½" - 1½" away at Dunblane. At home, however, the results were reversed with Strathallan winning the day.

The School Championship took place this year on the North Inch

golf course in Perth. Brilliant weather saw the competition played out to the last hole where (new to the team) Robbie McDiarmid lifted the trophy by a narrow two strokes.

This year at Strathallan also saw both a match against the Strathallians and a Hickory Golf competition take place. The hickory saw a foundation of a "closest to the pin" competition with Jamie Eedle winning in its first year.

The Strathallians showed that age has no effect on the ability to play golf by winning all three matches; Robbie and I having the closest result playing out to the 17th green.

I would just like to say a few words thanking the staff for their efforts this year. In particular Dr Cooper and Mr Smith, who provided continual support and transport for the school. I would also like to thank Jamie Eedle for his assistance as vice-captain and commitment to the golf team.

Josh Martin LVI Ruthven



Glenbrae once again dominated in the second running of girls' inter-House golf. The skilful trio of Ina Drouven, Emma Morris and Francesca Blair played a measly 88 strokes amongst them over 6 holes of Strathallan's fair links.

Emma recorded the lowest score of the day, a mere 30 shots, achieving an amazing birdie at the tricky third hole. Woodlands (Annette Crorkin, Maggie Njeri and Mel Davy-Ericson) were second with 106 shots and Thornbank (Celine Skinner, Kirsty Muir and Kirsty Mack) third with 115. Special mention must be made of Mel and Kirsty Mack's excellent performances given they were abducted from athletics for the day and are total newcomers to the sport.

BC



“the competition played out to the last hole where Robbie McDiarmid lifted the trophy by a narrow two strokes...”



Canoeing



This year has been a great year for canoe slalom in Strathallan. We have achieved success at the highest level as well as developing a number of paddlers at the lower slalom divisions.

Top Strathallan paddler, Eilidh Gibson, not only competed for the GB Junior team but also for the Senior team at the World Cup final in Slovakia. Other top paddlers from Strathallan were Angus Gibson, Fraser Glasgow and Crawford Niven, who also performed well.

The club has been very strong over the year and there has been a good showing from some newcomers which bodes well for the 2014 season. Angus Gibson also competed at the Scottish Whitewater championships where he won the overall senior prize in Canadian Singles.

Some of the junior paddlers from the club went to the Scottish Canoe Association summer slalom training camp in the French Alps. On the trip were Fraser Glasgow, Angus Gibson, Natsha Pottinger and Sandy Fotheringham.

A number of the paddlers have gained promotion this year and they will train through the winter, in order to make further improvements next season. The winter series starts in December and this will maintain some slalom focus over the winter period.

At this stage it is important to thank those coaches who contribute so much to the development of our young paddlers. Jane and Gary Gibson continue to be the driving force behind the club. Both have competed in the World Senior championships this year and Jane came back with a Gold Medal. So we have a world champion coaching at our club which is fantastic. Paul Kelly also assists with the slalom and general coaching within the club and his contribution is really appreciated.

Summer results are:

Eilidh Gibson;
Canadian Singles Women.
Member of Scottish and British teams:

9th Junior European Champs France, 17th Junior Worlds Slovakia, 11th World Cup Finals Bratislava, Slovakia; 2nd Slovakian

National Championships, Ranked 4th in GB at end of 2013 season.

Scottish and Scottish Schools J18 Champion, 6th in British Senior National Championships.

Angus Gibson;
Canadian Singles Men. Member of Scottish team. 12th in British Senior National Championships, 17th British Open International, ranked second in Division 1 at end of season. Scottish J16 Champion

Crawford Niven;
Men's Kayak. Member of Scottish team. Promoted to top division in Britain (Premier). 2nd J18 Scottish Championships

Fraser Glasgow;
Member of Scottish team.
2nd Scottish J16 C1

SR



Ski-racing

“amazing results considering they were a very young team...”

This year the ski team have continued to turn heads both in school races and the rest of Europe, as a team and as individuals. As the school term started, so did our chance to ski at the Scottish Schools Dry Slopes Ski Championships where the Minor Boys Team (Lyle ROSS, 2nd place, Scott BUCHAN, 3rd, Tom CROCKART and Henry LAPSLIE) achieved 2nd place over all and the Senior Girls (Katie GUEST, placing 3rd, Kirsty GUEST, Amber GARVIE, Minor racing as a Senior, and Hope WHITELAW) grabbing the Team GOLD medal.

The Senior Boys (Christopher GUEST, James COCKBURN, Hamish JOHNSTON and Fraser BUCHAN) raced well but received no medal. Both teams, Senior Girls and Senior Boys were selected to take part in the British Championships taking place in Wales.

The snow-season kicked off in January, Tom CROCKART (13) and Lyle ROSS warmed up competing in Les Houches in the Anglo Scottish and British Ski Academy races with Tom finishing 2nd in his age group in the Slalom and 3rd in the Giant Slalom and Lyle winning a Bronze medal in his age group in the Slalom. Tom also finished 3rd U14 overall in the Giant Slalom at the B.S.A. Grand Prix. At the same event, Fraser BUCHAN's season started strongly as he placed 2nd U16 (and 2nd overall) in the Giant Slalom, as well as 2nd U16 (and 2nd overall) in both the Giant Slalom and Slalom event.

Still in January, the older boys were competing in the British School Boys International Races, in Meiringen, Switzerland, where they missed out on first place by less than a ski length in the final of the Dual Slalom and came 2nd School in the overall Championships. Individually in this competition the boys excelled, bringing in a Silver and a Bronze medal for Scott BUCHAN, an U14 Bronze medal for Lyle ROSS, and a Silver medal for Scott GARVIE, with Hamish Johnston contributing to the team's score. These were amazing results considering they were a very young team with only one Junior boy, the other boys still competing in the younger category.

Meanwhile, the girls, determined not to be upstaged by the boys,

were competing in at the equivalent Girls' event in Flaine, France, coming back to Scotland with several new titles to their names. As a team the girls came 1st British School in the Slalom, 2nd British School Overall, 2nd British Team Overall and 3rd British School in the Giant Slalom. These overall results clearly reflected the efforts of the individual; Kirsty GUEST was the U16 Giant Slalom Winner of the Ros Hepworth Cup, 4th Overall in the Giant Slalom, 2nd Overall combined, 2nd in the U16 Slalom, Ladies Ski Club Overall, Giant Slalom and Slalom Winner, Hope WHITELAW came 2nd Overall in the U18 Combined Unregistered and Katie came 2nd in the Overall U18 Slalom.

Chris GUEST remained on a high, emerging from 2 days racing at the Lecht in the Gordon Skiers Open Races as the overall fastest racer in the combined event. Chris mirrored this success at the Glenshee open races later on, early February.

February proved successful indeed, and busy to say the least, with Scott BUCHAN winning the U14 Welsh Alpine Slalom Championships in Champéry, Switzerland. He was 3rd in the Giant Slalom in the same competition whilst Kirsty GUEST grabbed the U16 Bronze medal.

Around the same time a mixed Strathallan Team (Jessica and Ella England, Eilidh ROSS and Angus MARDEN) was grabbing the Silver medal at the Schools Alpine Series Glenshee qualifier event.

Continuing with good form, Scott BUCHAN excelled at the Glenshee Winter Games by placing 3rd in the Giant and 2nd in the Slalom, thus winning the U14 combined event. In the same event, Chris GUEST was 2nd in the U16 boys and in the Overall Male event.

This was closely followed by the Minor Boys Team of Henry LAPSLIE, Angus MARDEN, Arthur MORRIS and Ruairidh CLARK coming 4th in the Scottish U14 Schools Championships at the Lecht.

At the Scottish Schools Senior Ski Championships (U18) at the Lecht, Strathallan achieved the ultimate success: Gold for both the Boys' and Girls' Teams and respective individual winners (Kirsty GUEST and Scott GARVIE);

Amber GARVIE coming 3rd, Hope Whitelaw 4th (Hope then rushed back to Perth to win the Cup Final with the 1st hockey team) and Jessica's strong run contributed to this outstanding achievement, whilst Chris GUEST coming 2nd Lyle ROSS 5th and Tom not far behind ensured the full mission was accomplished for the first time in the Schools' history.

Kirsty and Chris GUEST continued the winning streak as February came to an end competing in the Cairngorm Open Championship and both won respective male/female U16 Slalom and Giant Slalom and both were overall male and female winners of the Championships, adding another 2 trophies to the cabinet.

In March, at the Scottish Children's Championships on Cairngorm, Tom Crockart raced with conviction in his two Slalom runs, finishing respectively 2nd and 3rd, gaining enough points to finish 2nd U14 racer. In the U16 category, Chris GUEST was 3rd and 3rd in the overall event.

Shortly afterwards, the Inter-schools Ski Challenges in Les Houches was a much awaited event, with 90 schools taking part. Once again, the Strathallan team shone and threw and ended up sharing the enormous and much coveted Winner's Trophy with Danes Hill of Surrey. Contributing to this feat and scoring remarkably were Kirsty GUEST (2nd overall and 2nd U16 both in Slalom), Chris GUEST (3rd U16 in Slalom and in Giant Slalom and First boy overall), Scott BUCHAN (2nd U14 in GS, out of 95 racers) as well as Lyle ROSS (2nd U14 in Slalom), without forgetting Scott GARVIE, Amber GARVIE and Hamish JOHNSTON who did the team justice.

The British Championships in Méribel, France, were another hotly contested event where Scott BUCHAN placed 3rd in the U14 combined event.

Still in March and still in France, in Courchevel, at the Ecosse U14 events, Lyle ROSS placed 3rd whilst Kirsty GUEST placed 2nd U16 and overall in the Giant Slalom.

In April, at the Alpine Championships, Katie GUEST placed 2nd Scottish girl in the Giant Slalom. At the Lecht Open races as well as at the Cairngorm Open races, Chris

GUEST continued with strong form, placing 1st U16 and overall male winner

In June, on the dry slope, the stamina of our Team of Katie G., Kirsty G, Hope W, Chris G., Lyle R. and Scott B. at the Scottish Schools Dual Slalom, Midlothian Snowsports Centre, Hilled, did not go unnoticed, but this year we did not win.

Further to previous years' performance and a strong start of the season, Fraser BUCHAN was selected to represent GB on the International circuit but injury early in the season prevented him from competing through the majority of the winter. Nonetheless, his race profile is such that he has maintained credibility and gained a selection for both the Scottish and the GB U18 Team for the coming season.

Scott GARVIE has been selected to the Scottish Ski Cross Team. There is no age-banding but he generally races at junior level, which is under 21. He will train with the Scottish Alpine Ski Team in addition to specific Ski Cross training.

Scott BUCHAN has been re-selected for the G.B. U16 Team for the coming season as well as for the Scottish U16 Development Squad of the Scottish Alpine Ski Team, along with Amber GARVIE, who is one of only two girls also selected for the U16 Development Squad of the Scottish Alpine Ski Team.

Additionally, Ski Captain Katie GUEST, Chris GUEST and Kirsty GUEST have all been selected for the Scottish Alpine Team and Katie has also received a Bank of Scotland Sports Aid Award to assist with her skiing.

Every year we keep wondering whether such a range of outstanding results can continue to happen in one school, and sure enough, every year a similar spread of spectacular achievement is to be witnessed and celebrated. This is not solely due to how many capable ski-racers we have but it has a lot to do with how determined, how mentally and physically resilient each one is. Basic fitness is paramount to their success, and if they are able to sustain the strict training-regime imposed upon them, with a little luck, success follows.

Fabienne Thompson

Cycling

*Good. Bad.
Occasionally Ugly.*



So, cycling finally embraced all things 'downhill' in summer 2013, having finally taken full control of a cycling-dedicated van. I say 'full' control. 'Full' in the sense of being in the queue behind D of E (who GTA'd it for a trip to the countryside), Tom Lindsay (who packed most of a marquee into it) and someone un-named who fancied moving a barbecue around the premises.

But, what the heck, we managed a couple of trips to Deuchny trails up Kinnoul, familiar hunting-ground for Rory et al, and once made it over to Pitmedden where taxi-driver Mr Kennedy took his ancient Orange hardtail for a bumble up the fire-roads and averted his eyes while Zander and the boys did appalling things with full-sus monsters. "You should upgrade, Mr K. Upgrade.", Wood would intone wistfully whilst looking on pityingly at a bike that must have been a good, oooh, ten years old. Ancient, indeed, but even Zander had to acknowledge that the hopelessly un-hip v-brakes could effectively prevent even his formidable forward momentum.

The remarkable weather meant some rock-hard super-fast surfaces out there and the guys wasted no time in definitely making the most of them, Findlay bending his rear mech and Jordan coming within inches of getting (horror of horrors!) a scratch on his immaculate paintwork. Next time I see Louis disappear up Scoots I definitely alert Fire & Rescue.

Bring on the (probable) mud of 2014.

It's also true that other types of bike and riding exist, and Simpson V Former Mark McGuire has shown them who's boss as leader of the National 'Skinny Tyres' Youth U16 Series. He also became overall champion of the National Youth Road Race Series and, not content with that, on his Mountain Bike, Mark has had 2nd place in 2 Scottish races and a 6th finish in a British Race.

EGK

Boys' tennis

This was always going to be a year to build the team for the years ahead. With no UVI Formers in the 1st VI team, the top two places were taken by III Form boys. Douglas Tait and Gavin Stewart proved to be a formidable couple winning most of their matches. They were also Tayside U16 Boys' Doubles Champions.

We again competed in a variety of National competitions including the Glanvil Cup and Scottish Schools' Championships. In the Aegon U15 League our young team did very well beating Madras College 12-0 and Dollar Academy 8-4. We fared equally well against Linlithgow Tennis Club winning 10-2. However, against Merchiston in the semi-final we came against some tough opposition winning just four games in the entire match.

The dedicated tennis coaching programme continues to develop our players at all levels. They certainly benefit from the all-year-round programme and Tommy Ogilvie tends to get the best out of the players. This was clearly evident in the performance at the Mixed Doubles Tournament. The team managed to lift all but one trophy in the junior and senior competitions and we won the tournament as a whole. With three sections in each of the competitions our players did extremely well on the day. We also managed to win the Perth & District U14 League. Regular players in the competition included Gavin Stewart, Jack Stewart, Charlie Leslie, Rebecca Dye and Douglas Tait. This competition has proved to be a valuable experience for developing the younger players in the teams.

Connor Ovenstone captained the team most ably this year and will continue to captain the team in the year ahead. Regular team players included Javier Garcia, Jack Stewart, Gavin Stewart, Douglas Tait, Mark McGuire and Fraser Buchan.

Thanks to all players and particularly to Tommy for his continued support of our players and Academy programme.

AW



Results

Gordonstoun	Snrs	L	4-5
Fettes College	1st	W	8-1
	2nd	W	8-1
Merchiston	1st	L	6-3
Glenalmond	1st	L	4-5
	2nd	L	4-5
Stewart's Melville	1st	W	5-4

Perth & District U14 League	Won
Vs Crieff Tennis Club	10-2
Kinross Tennis Club	12-0
Perth Tennis Club	12-0
Blairstown Tennis Club	8-6
Scone Tennis Club	12-0
Darnhall Tennis Club	12-0



Girls' tennis

Girls Reach Three National Finals

In the **Aegon U15 National League**, Amber Paterson, Vanessa Stewart, Francesca Blair and Anni Arthur defeated Hutcheson's (6-0) in the Scotland Final to qualify for the next stage in Leeds. In the semi-final v St Peter's, York the girls played well and won 6-0 and the final v Bradford GS was over after the singles (4-0). This meant the team had qualified for the finals in Bolton in December where they finished in 3rd place.

In the **British Senior Schools Competition** we beat Kilgraston and George Watson's College in the Scottish rounds and then a victory against Durham Johnstone School meant another trip to the Bolton Arena for the National Finals. A win against Crossley Heath School and two losses down at the finals finished off an excellent run in this competition. Vanessa Stewart, Francesca Blair, Rachael Campbell and Anni Arthur were delighted to make it to the last 8.

In the **Aberdare Cup**, Francesca Blair, Rebecca Dye, Amber Paterson and Vanessa Stewart travelled to Sheffield in July to take part in the National Finals. After losing their opening match to the 2nd seed school they went into the consolation draw and ended up coming 4th out of the 8 teams in that draw. That means we finished 12th out of the 16 teams at the National Finals. This is a great achievement for the girls. With over three hundred teams from Britain entering at the start of the competition to finish 12th in Britain is a great achievement.

The seniors have had another outstanding year and it proved to be very competitive to get a place in the teams. Vanessa Stewart and Rachael Campbell were an impressive first couple, ably supported by Francesca Blair and Lexi McLellan. Rebecca Dye was a regular for the 1st team even although she was only in 3rd Form and it was great to see her improve and develop throughout the season. The junior teams improved a lot throughout the season and it is good to see so many talented young players



coming through. The U14s had good wins against Dollar, Loretto and Fettes whilst the U15 2nd VI were undefeated.

At the very start of the year Amber Paterson (U14) and Vanessa Stewart (U16) both won their respective Perth & District Singles Tournaments and then went on to achieve further success both locally and nationally.

Vanessa Stewart and Francesca Blair were awarded half colours for tennis in December 2012 for their commitment and achievements. The inter-House competition is always fiercely contested and this year was no different. Thornbank won both Junior and Senior Competitions. Vanessa Stewart played Rebecca Dye in the Final of the School Singles Tournament and went on to win the cup.



Scottish Schools Competition

After losing to George Heriot's in the Cup competition the 1st IV girls went on to win the Scottish Schools Consolation Final against Perth HS with a convincing 10-3 score.

Kilgraston Tournament

In the U14 group Lucy Haddow and Gemma Howard-Vyse qualified for the quarter-finals and eventually lost to Fettes 3-6.

In the U16 group Rebecca Dye and Isla Gordon won their group in style and then beat Kilgraston 6-2 in the quarter-finals. They then defeated High School of Dundee (6-4) in the semi-final but unfortunately lost the final to Dollar on a tie break. In the Senior section Christina Farrar and Hope Whitelaw stepped in at the last minute but competed extremely well. They won 13 games in the section before beating Glenalmond in the quarter-final (6-4) but then lost in the semi-final. Francesca Blair and Vanessa Stewart were on form - they did not drop a game in the section or quarter-final match. They then defeated Fettes in the semi-final (6-5) and went on to win the tournament in style defeating Glenalmond in the final (6-0). They won the U16 tournament last year and winning the senior event when they are still U16 is very impressive.

National Selection

Congratulations to Amber Paterson and Vanessa Stewart who were invited to play for a Scottish Schools Select team against a South African Schools team at St George's in Edinburgh.

Finally a huge thank you to Tommy Ogilvie for all his coaching throughout the year. He has pushed us on and our improvements are down to his work with us. Thanks to Mr Watt for accompanying the teams to Bolton and Sheffield and finally thanks to all the coaches, to the parents for all their support and also the catering staff for providing us with the match teas.

Jayne Thoms UVI Thornbank
Tennis Captain

School Fixtures

Senior Results

	1st VI	2nd VI	3rd VI	4th VI	5th VI
Fettes	7 - 2 W	4 - 5 L	3 - 6 L	8 - 1 W	7 - 2 W
Kilgraston	9 - 0 W	6 - 3 W	-----	-----	-----
Gordonstoun	12 - 0 W	-----	-----	-----	-----
Loretto	9 - 0 W	5 - 4 W	6 - 3 W	-----	-----
Dollar	6 - 3 W	7 - 2 W	3 - 6 L	-----	-----

Orienteering

The Orienteering club have continued to take part in local events. Those we have taken part in have been organised by the Tay or Forth Valley Clubs. Tay also organised an event in the grounds of Strathallan School. A number of us took part in an event at Glenalmond College which enabled us to see the full extent of their grounds.

A few of us attended an event at the Falkirk Wheel which was excellent, though we were a little late leaving because Lewis Collins became a little geographically embarrassed. One of the best events this year was at Kinnoull Hill in which a number of the pupils took part. Some pupils are now Orienteering beyond school and some competed at the Scottish 6 Days event, held in the Moray Firth this year. This event boasts 6000 competitors and is a excellent way for young runners to improve their navigation and running skills.

We will look to run further trips away this year and we will try to extend our running beyond the evening events in the summer term.

SR

Basketball

The basketball season looked like being a challenging one with very few players opting to play the sport as their first choice. This, in some ways, was a blessing as it forced us to look elsewhere for players. We were able to start developing players like Adam and Andrew Smith from the junior years while bolstering our ranks for cup matches with some of the new talent from the Rugby 1st XV. Natural sportsmen like George Horne, Josh Laird, Ross McDonald, Murray McCallum and Jamie Ritchie provided some spectacular if somewhat unorthodox play which was both entertaining and effective. The team was held together by Tony He's steady hand on the tiller. He was consistently our top scorer and a worthy captain and recipient of half colours.

The season proved to be a milestone in Strathallan Basketball with the introduction of a very capable and enthusiastic girls' team. They played two cup matches and proved competitive in both.

Boys 1st V defeated Viewforth 66-35

Boys 1st V defeated Glenrothes 52-37

BH



Fencing

Jonathan Blackburn (16+ boys' sabre), Kyle Cooke (U16 boys' sabre), Melissa Davy-Ericson (U16 girls' sabre) and Motoko Otomo (16+ girls' sabre) took part in the Scottish Schools Individual Championships in November. Fencing competitions usually start with one or two groups rounds (called poules) involving fights to 5, followed by a direct elimination or knockout stage.

After doing reasonably well in the first round of poules, and very well in the second round, Mel secured a place in the final, only to lose to Megan Gouw from Dunblane, whom she had beaten in the second round of poules. She was pleased to get her silver medal, but disappointed that she lost to someone she had beaten earlier in the day. Motoko fought well and also managed to secure a place in the final against Kate Daykin, who earlier this year fenced at the Cadet World Championships. Motoko was pleased to take some hits from her and the fight finished 15-5. After a good start in the poules, Jonathan Blackburn was knocked out in the first round of Direct Elimination (DE) fights. Kyle Cooke sailed through the seeding rounds and first DE fight. He found himself 8-3 down at the half-way break in the semi-final DE fight against Chris Pearson, but turned it around to win 15-14. He fought well in the final against Ross Manson from Linlithgow, but his opponent was a fraction faster and after a very even fight pulled ahead at the end to win 15-11.

The first round of the Youth Development Series took place during the October break, but we turned out for the second round which was held at the High School of Glasgow.

The boys fought two rounds of pools in the U12 and U14 competitions; the U16 were combined with the Over 16 and they fought a one round as a "poule unique", then onto the direct elimination stage. In the U12 competition, Gus Fotheringham used the poule fights to his advantage, working on his technique, and developing a really effective beat counter-attack which he used to score a lot of points, and he went on to use this effectively in the Direct Elimination

fights too, ultimately picking up a well deserved Bronze medal. In his first competition, Kieran Fowlie did well in the U14 age group, scoring some hits in the first round of poules, but getting more in the second and having found his feet was able to fight more effectively in his Direct Elimination fights. He was able to convert more of his knowledge into hits during these fights; winning enough to get him into the quarter finals, but finally lost the 3rd-4th play off (he still picked up a medal, though, as Bronze medals are awarded for both 3rd and 4th place).

In the mixed older age group, Peter Smoljanitski picked up a lot of valuable experience in his first competition, then when the age groups were separated, had to fight Jonathan Blackburn in a fight for first place. Jonathan's experience and technique won out against Peter's more energetic, physical approach, but it was a really interesting fight and great for Peter's first competition. In the U16 boys' sabre, Kyle won all of his Direct elimination fights, taking the final 15-11. Having level-pegged all the way to 11-11, Kyle moved up a gear to outclass rival Chris Pearson scoring the last four hits in quick succession. In the U12 boys' foil, Ozzy Hamzeh put in a good showing, with some tidy fights against more experienced opponents in the poules. He lost his Direct Elimination fights largely on the basis of his opponents' being more experienced. Sunday afternoon saw a very small entry to the ladies' sabre, and she was once again combined Under/Over 16 poules. This did give opportunities to try things out against different opponents and Motoko took the opportunity to practise compound attacks on her opponents with great success. Melissa fenced well, and was making good progress until she came against Megan Gouw in the final; though she was very determined, Megan had the edge again and forced Mel into second place.

Building on the successes before Christmas, the Strathallan fencers have continued to make their presence felt at the Youth Development Series competitions. At the third round in Dunfermline, Gus Fotheringham was second in the U14 boys sabre, while in the

U16 boys sabre, Kyle Cooke and Matthew Hyde took 1st and 2nd places respectively, while Peter Smoljanitski also picked up the gold in the over 16 boys sabre. In the fourth round competition at Dundee High School, Gus was third in the U14 event; while Kyle once more won the U16 competition, Orpheas Manos coming 3rd. In the U19 competition, Jonathan Blackburn won, pushing Peter into second place. In the girls sabre Motoko won all her fights to claim gold in the U19 competition.

The biggest challenge of the term came at the Scottish Schools Teams competition. Kyle Cooke, Jonathan Blackburn and Matthew Hyde (recently returned from injury) fought well in the seeding rounds and were seeded second. They were tested in the semi finals by Dunoon and fought through to win 45-37, only to be defeated in the final by Linlithgow Academy 45-41.

At the Scottish Championships, Matthew Hyde came second in the U17 boys sabre, beating Tom Hoffman from Dingwall 15-14 in the semi-finals. Although he concentrates on épée, Tom is a couple of years older than Matt and much more experienced: it was a tense and exciting fight. In the final Matt faced another older, more experienced opponent, this time one who did concentrate on sabre: Fraser Woodburn, an ex-pat Scot living in Truro, who had travelled all the way north to take part. Matt clearly had pushed himself for his semi-final fight and had peaked at this point, and was outperformed in the final. In the U17 girls' sabre, newcomer Eilidh Ross fenced extremely well. Although this was her first competition, she beat more experienced opponents who were concentrating on technique, by showing a much better understanding of the tactics of the game. In the afternoon in the U20 boys competition, Peter Smoljanitski, Hermes Manos and Orpheas Manos all scored hits and made a good showing in the poules, but were knocked out in the first round of Direct Elimination fights. Matthew Hyde and Kyle Cooke both won their DE fights; Matt faced Fraser again, this time in the semi-finals and the fight was much closer, but in the end both Matt and Kyle were defeated and

had to settle for joint 3rd place.

The final competition of the year was the 'Leon Paul' Junior Series event. This is a UK wide series but our fencers only took part in the Scottish leg. However it did bring some new opponents for them to face, including competitors from London, Wales and Jersey. After the first round, Orpheas Manos, James Gray, Arran Reid and Matt Hyde were all well-placed in the boys' event, but neither Orpheas nor James could sustain this in the Direct Elimination rounds, finishing 7th and 9th respectively. Arran, however, fenced exceptionally well and beat a number of extremely experienced opponents, eventually being defeated only by Matt in the final. In the U13 boys' sabre, Gus was 5th and Melissa dominated the girls' U15 event, also coming home with a gold medal.

As well as the competitions that we went to as a group, Matt Hyde was taking part in Cadet (U17) competitions. Over the season he gained sufficient ranking points in these events to be selected for the UK School Games, which takes place in early September.

Fencing takes place at various times. Some of the fencers take Fencing as a Games option on a Tuesday and a Thursday; others do it as an Activity which follows on after the Games session. Dr Ferguson is one of the coaches and for the first half of the year the group were also coached by James Macrae. After Easter, Phil Carson, Professor of the British Academy of Fencing took over as the lead coach and as well as the Games and Activity sessions, started evening sessions between tea and prep, bringing in some talented local fencers so that our fencers could gain valuable fighting experience.

SF

Sailing

@ Port Edgar
3°24'32"W,
55°59'35"N

If it were possible it would take around eight-and-a-half hours to sail from Strathallan to Port Edgar. Luckily we had Mr SJ who took us by minibus. So a big thank you from all of us who enjoyed the summer term Saturday afternoons down at Port Edgar Marina dingy sailing (I realise that you might take a dim view of the weather, Euan, but I fancy you mean 'dinghy' Ed).

Over the course of the term we had some great sails and others, not so great. This was all down to the varying wind and the weather but that is the attraction of sailing as no two days are the same. This changing weather allowed us to practise our skills from sailing rudderless when there is not much wind to having to reduce sail due to a challenging force 5 when it is a battle to stay upright. However, in perfect conditions we could use the spinnaker and enjoyed the exhilaration of pure speed.

Throughout the term we have stored up many memories ranging from running aground in mud, masts falling off and meeting the local wildlife (seals). Although some days were tiring we knew, at least, that there were hot showers and dry clothes back at the changing room and a minibus rather than an eight-and-a-half-hour sail back to Strath.

Euan Gray LVI Simpson

“it would take around eight-and-a-half hours to sail from Strathallan to Port Edgar. Luckily we had Mr SJ who took us by minibus...”



Yachting Competent Crew Course

The summer half-term was a very relaxing and fulfilling revision break for Nina and me. Through the Navy Section at our CCF we had signed up to attend a yachting course on the south coast. Our challenge was to sail from Dartmouth to Plymouth and back again in only a week – and it was definitely an action-packed seven days! Having endured a ten hour slow train from Scotland, we arrived in sunny Dartmouth where we were shown to our vessel and met

the six other cadets on the two yachts. We spent a night at the Dartmouth pontoon which enabled us to discover our 'sea legs'. On Monday we were up early and Nina and I joined yacht Unicorn for the day sail. We sailed out of the calm waters of Dartmouth and arrived in Brixham, on a slightly wet and dull day; all the crew were excited when we arrived at the luxurious Brixham harbour. Upon arrival we took up the new sport of crabbing – although unfortunately failed to catch any in the pouring rain.

Tuesday was a glorious day so we were all eager to set sail. We sailed

out of Brixham to our next port, Salcombe, also famous as the birth place of Jack Wills. Nina and I both had the opportunity to helm the boat and we became gradually more efficient and confident crew members. During our sail we saw seals and dolphins, which were amazing. Our sail on Wednesday was very exciting as we were told that we were doing a night sail into Plymouth that very night. We sailed to Newton Feris where we moored for the afternoon and then at dusk we set out towards Plymouth. Our sail into Plymouth was particularly eventful as a pursuing HMS Somerset definitely



“Our sail into Plymouth was particularly eventful as a pursuing HMS Somerset definitely challenged our helming abilities...”

challenged our helming abilities. We arrived in Plymouth at ten o'clock and had to get up early to do man overboard and general sailing exercises to practise our skills on Thursday. We returned to Newton Feris and the mood was sombre as everyone realised we had only one more day left. We had a long sail on Friday from Newton Feris to Dartmouth and the weather was glorious. On this last day we set our record speed of 8.7 knots in only 1.2 knots of wind and also went swimming in the sea after lunch – which was definitely refreshing. Upon arriving back at the Naval College in Dartmouth we

were treated to fish and chips as it was our final night.

Over all we both had a truly unforgettable and amazing experience. It was such a relaxing week and the sun shone for us all throughout our trip, we made lots of great friends that I am sure we will keep in touch with. Having successfully gained our Competent Crew qualification I am confident that we will attend another course in the hope that it will be as fabulous as this one!

Zoe Morris IV Form Glenbrae

Swim team

Strathallan swim team had another fantastic year of results in 2012-13. The training programme for swimmers continued to develop. Duncan Scott was the first swimmer from Strathallan to be selected into the Scottish Institute. The programme of competitions was busier than previously both locally, nationally and internationally which is testament to the amount of hard work put in by swimmers throughout the year.



MIDLAND SCHOOL SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Strathallan were represented in this event by Duncan Scott, Connor MacNeil, Johnny Rutherford and Alex Thoms. The event which is under 16 is always a fiercely contested and this year was no exception. The boys won GOLD in the 4 x 50 freestyle relay and Duncan Scott was in outstanding form winning GOLD in the boys 100 freestyle in a New Record and personal best time.

TAYSIDE SCHOOLS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

This event, the qualifier for Scottish Schools Finals took place in Dundee over 2 nights in November. Strathallan equipped themselves very well and finished with a vast number of medals and personal best times.

Gold Medals

15/16 Boys 200 Fly & 200 IM – Duncan Scott

15/16 Girls 100 Br – Julia Leng

17/19 Girls 100 & 200 Free – Abi Evans

17/19 Girls 4 x 50 Freestyle Relay

Silver Medals

15/16 Boys 200 Back – Connor MacNeil

13/14 Girls 100 Free – Georgia Taylor



17/19 Girls 100 Free – Eilidh Gibson

15/16 Boys 4 x 50 Freestyle Relay

13/14 Girls 4 x 50 Freestyle Relay

13/14 Boys 4 x 50 Freestyle Relay

Bronze Medals

17/19 Boys 100 & 200 free – Jordan Curtis

13/14 Girls 100 br – Georgia Taylor

15/16 Girls 4 x 50 Freestyle Relay

A great set of results and well done to all those who competed.

SCOTTISH SCHOOLS SWIMMING FINALS

Strathallan was represented by 4 swimmers at the national schools finals in January. Duncan Scott won Gold in 200 IM and Silver in 200 Fly, Connor MacNeil recorded a PB in 200 fly and Georgia Taylor finished 10th also in a personal best time and Abi Evans finished 5th.

WISE SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL

Duncan Scott gained his first International Cap representing Scotland at the Schools International in Sunderland in November where he performed very well and was an integral part of helping Scotland bring back 5 out of 6 trophies.

SCOTTISH SCHOOLS RELAY CHAMPIONSHIPS 2013

In June 25 swimmers travelled to the Royal Commonwealth Pool in Edinburgh to participate in the Scottish Schools relay finals. Strathallan reached finals in all but 2 of the events



and the 3rd Form boys, Safe Chaicharncheep, Jack Emslie, Ryan Curtis and Jimmy Chan won Gold in the freestyle event and were narrowly edged into Silver in the medley relay

OTHER SWIMMING EVENTS

Strathallan swimmers continued to compete at various club, district and national events under the banner of their local clubs. Particular mention to Lauren Dundee (Stirling), Ryan Curtis, Jordan Curtis (Kinross), Sarah Cameron-Sutcliffe (Perth), Connor MacNeil (REN 96) who all swam regularly around Scotland and recorded a massive number of personal best swims along the way.



Best Times and broke the British and Scottish Age-Group record in the 50 free.

In July Duncan gained his first British Cap swimming at the European Youth Olympics in Utrecht where his outstanding performances saw him win GOLD in the 200 IM, SILVER in the 400 IM and a further SILVER and BRONZE in relay events. Duncan also broke the British Age-Group record in the 100 free. This outstanding run continued in August when at the British Youth Championships in Sheffield, Duncan swam 6 events won 6 GOLDS and set a number of Scottish Age-Group and Junior records along the way. A very impressive season for Duncan.

RILEY SWIMMING

Swimming in Riley continues to develop and the match against

Craigclowan was a very exciting event, with many close races. Riley won 161.5 – 131.5.



On the same day the U13 girls competed in the Kilgraston Junior Invitational Meet. Lauren Dundee, Sarah Cameron-Sutcliffe, Shannah Goddard and Harriett McGrath were outstanding, winning all of the U13 events.

INTERHOUSE COMPETITIONS

SWIMMING STANDARDS 2012-13

Simpson once again dominated House Swimming Standards this year with an extremely convincing win.

1st	Simpson	351
2nd	Ruthven	335
3rd	Nicol	328
4th=	Woodlands	273
	Freeland	273
5th	Thornbank	250
6th	Glenbrae	228

INTERHOUSE SWIMMING GALA, MARCH 2013

The Inter house swimming event as always was extremely well contested and very competitive. This year there were 8 new records set. The final placing were:

Girls Championship

1st	Woodlands	68
2nd	Glenbrae	58
3rd	Thornbank	51

Boys Championship

1st	Simpson	96
2nd	Freeland	62
3rd	Ruthven	56
4th	Nicol	50

RILEY INTER-DIV SWIMMING 2013

Another fantastic event in the swimming calendar, with many close and exciting races.

The results were as follows:

1st	Balmano	92
2nd	Dron	72
3rd	Dupplin	71
4th	Glennearn	51

Congratulations to all swimmers who were part of an incredible year of swimming at Strathallan. Hard work and lots of pool hours paying off.

Elaine Johnston Swim Team Coach

Clay pigeon shooting



The year started with the usual rush to get back to training for the Scottish Championship, which takes place shortly after term starts. The club held yet more fantastic days throughout the year including having Millfield girls shooting at the range then being wined and dined in Perth at night. St George's ladies team was also welcomed for a day to use the well-equipped range which was thoroughly enjoyed on a wonderful summer's day.

Although the Scottish weather did not hold off for the Scottish Nationals, the whole squad managed to get their hands on some impressive results, the A team going down narrowly to Merchiston by a couple of clays. The B, Junior and Girls team all took the Trophy, a pleasing outcome.

The competition between the Strathallians and 1st VI was held during Strathallian day and, to the great delight of PMV, was won this year by the 1st by a close margin. The House competitions were won by the reigning champions Simpson and Glenbrae retained the girls' trophy for yet another year.

The moment that the whole squad trains hard for and looks forward to all year long came around once again, this year upping our game from last year with the A's getting a respectable 5th, B team getting a 6th and the girls achieving 3rd



place in the highly competitive field. The Squad were provided this year with yet more kit, with the new arrival of a shooting Gilet giving the school a proud name.

Many thanks go to Paul Vallot, John McBain, Neil Hamilton, and Ian MacGregor for their continued support.

We had the privilege of welcoming more than twenty Craigclowan parents to the range for a PTA shoot on a beautiful summer evening. The competition was friendly and everyone had a wonderful time. We finished with the prize-giving in the Wilf Hoare room where Strathallian provided a curry supper for all. The event was organised by Eddy Anderson (Freeland '91). Thanks to Eddy and we look forward to welcoming the PTA back next summer. Also thanks to Cammy Fenton's dad, Gary, for his help with this event and at the National Championship in April.

Angus Watson LVI Nicol



Army Section

The CCF was essentially started in 1857 when the Secretary of State for War wrote to the leading public schools seeking assistance in finding pupils who have both leadership qualities and an interest in the defence forces. In 1948, following a review of lessons learned about inter-service cooperation during World War II, the CCF was reorganised into its existing format encouraging pupils to develop powers of leadership by means of training to promote responsibility, self-reliance, resourcefulness, endurance and perseverance. There are currently 238 army sections in the CCF, all in leading independent schools. I am delighted to report that in the training year 2012-2013 an increased number of pupils at the leading public school known as Strathallan have demonstrated the qualities listed above. Most of our cadets will not serve as adults in our Defence Forces, but whatever path they take through life, learning to be more responsible, resourceful and persevering will make them better leaders of whatever team they are a part of. The leadership training programme also known as Strathallan School CCF Army Section has had another successful year.

September was very busy as we commenced Army Proficiency Certificate (APC) Training of 70 recruits. The additional 25 cadets compared to 2011 and the detailed structured syllabus of APC created more challenge for the instructors and Sixth Form NCOs. Before the end of the year every recruit's skill would be tested in six categories (drill, navigation, first aid, fieldcraft, weapons and military knowledge) and those reaching the required level would be awarded the cloth red star badge symbolizing completion of APC. The NCOs exhibited responsibility and resourcefulness by the bucket load. The recruits were organised into two platoons each of 3 sections of 11 or 12 cadets. The two platoon commanders, Olwyn Jenkins and Kirsty Muir, ran their own administrative processes and training programmes. These two senior cadets reached very high levels of achievement and I was delighted to present to them full colours later in the year.

Apart from recruit-training the main effort in the first part of the year is put together a team of cadets to compete against other army sections in the Scottish School Military Skills Competition. This tough competition took place in the exacting environment of Barry Buddon Training Area at the very end of September. Of

the team of 10 cadets only 3 had competed in previous competitions, and 4 of the team were 5th Formers. Thus the team had lots of energy and enthusiasm and ability but were a tad short of experience. The experience of Chris McCarthy, Callum Dodd and Sophie-Anne Ross showed particularly in their shooting ability and with their scores the team were runners up in the zeroing activity (getting the smallest diameter group size of shots on target) and beat all other CCFs in the falling plate target shooting match. Finlay Kinloch and Tabitha Roberston-Barnett also shot well with group sizes of 400mm. We were also runner up in the medical activity when the team had to deal with simulated traumatic injuries in a road traffic accident scenario; the cool heads and skilful hands of Aurélie Thompson, Kate Spalding and Gareth Watt coming to the fore. We were also runners up in the obstacle course activity where the fitness and perseverance of Cameron Jenkins and Fraser Craw-Harley were much in evidence. Throughout the competition the team were remarkably cheerful and positive, and most said they were determined to return next year and do better.

For much of the training year for the 5th Form cadets our emphasis is leadership training using a wide variety of command tasks: a typical scenario is that you have to lead a team, half of whose members are temporarily blinded, across a minefield to recover stolen radioactive material utilizing equipment such as very short planks, bits of rope and a rubber tyre. Sophie Burdett, Elsa Hofland, Angus Roberston and Siobhain Forbes became both adept and entertaining at providing the 5th Formers with SMEAC briefings and then guiding them through effective execution of the tasks. As usual, many different styles of leadership emerged: gung-ho and straight at 'em (Rob Muir and Matt Patterson), reserved and considered (Rosie Brown and Finlay Stewart), not really sure what I'm doing but we'll give it a go (Will Dallas and Jack Waller), thoughtful and determined (James Burdett and Hannah Sangster). All the cadets developed a greater understanding of the theory and practice of leading a team, something that will assist them in whatever their chosen field.

The 5th Formers were also, for the first time in many years, put through a series of tests to assess if they had reached the required skills levels for the award of the APC Advanced gold badge. Many passed the practical patrolling and command task activities but floundered on the written military knowledge test. Jonny Rutherford, Finlay Stewart and James Burdett were the stand-out candidates amongst those who passed first time. Elsa Hofland did a cracking job as the platoon training coordinator.

The new routine of recruit training was working well: each section underwent three different forms of training throughout a Wednesday afternoon, each lasting 30 minutes. As the year went on the NCOs took more and more responsibility for coordinating and executing the training. Dan Adams taught drill and military fitness, and was an effective organiser. Chris McCarthy and Callum Dodd assisted Señorita with weapon handling. Kirsty Muir ran the fieldcraft training and testing with a little assistance from Mrs Stuart. Olwyn Jenkins and Lt Roberston were superb at teaching and testing on first aid and casualty care. Sophie Burdett and Siobhain Forbes injected fun and enthusiasm into military knowledge training. As recruit section commanders Colin Gordon, Robbie MacDiarmid, Josh Johnstone and Euan Gray deserve praise for their commitment, leadership ability, resourcefulness and patience. By the end of the training year 50 out of the 70 recruits had earned their APC red star award. Fourteen of them passing all six tests first time with distinction: Adam Bush, Mel Davy-Ericson, Ewan Doig, Freya Ireland, Adam Smith, Rosalind Coutts, Sophie Adams, James Boag, Fabienne Roberston-Barnett, Isla Gordon, Ella McKay, Danielle Watt and Jessica Woodcock. Maybe they are the NCOs of the future.

The Army Dinner is a much-anticipated highlight of the year but it became clear that due to our increased numbers it was going to be difficult to organise and would necessitate closing the dining hall for normal dinner. The Contingent Commander therefore decided that if we were going to close the Hall then it should only be once so why not have a whole contingent CCF Dinner? That is indeed what happened on the 23rd of February. RSM Dan Adams was the lead coordinator with much support from Séverine Thompson and Lt Roberston. The 100 diners enjoyed Greek salad, fillet of Scottish beef, and (very) sticky toffee pudding. The Dinner is very much part of our training programme and attendance helps to develop poise, manners, the art of conversation, cutlery management and an appreciation of catering organisation. It is a formal but most enjoyable affair and ends up with impromptu speeches concerning recalled amusing events during training.

Sixty-six cadets came to CCF Central Camp at Warcop, very much the climax of the training year. There was a most varied programme including: raft-building, obstacle course, paint-ball team attack, a first aid exercise, climbing, kayaking, hill walking, ambush and counter ambush infantry training, firing on the dismounted close combat training range, map reading, drill and a platoon attack range. Once again our young cadets proved to be self-reliant, resourceful, cheerful and determined. Even under

“A typical scenario is that you have to lead a team, half of whose members are temporarily blinded, across a minefield to recover stolen radioactive material...”



constant haranguing about accommodation cleanliness and personal equipment organisation they remained positive. All of them improved their personal skills considerably throughout the week. Every cadet who went to Camp came back better organised, more capable, more robust, more effective as a team member, and better informed. All the cadets attended and passed a course in emergency life support and learned simple skills that could save lives. Aurélie Thompson once again led a team of cadets to victory in a casualty-treatment exercise. Will Schunemann proved himself to be an excellent rifle shot. Robbie MacDiarmid showed that he could construct a raft that actually floated. The 1 Platoon dream team set a record time for the obstacle course. Chris Guest showed ability in the navigation exercise. Andrew Young impressed all the Camp Instructors with his positive attitude and dress sense. Mel Davy-Ericson and Kelly Mackenzie won much praise for their performances as platoon commanders during the attack exercise, even though neither had any relevant experience. Fraser Buchan passed the advance mountain bike test. George Lorimer smiled, smiled, smiled, smiled and then smiled. Euan Gray showed that he could march. Stuart Cantlay showed scarily aggressive special forces ninja skills. Lachlan MacGregor, and many others, learned, eventually, how to put stuff into

a small rucksack and still have it all at the end of the day. Nobody learned how to clean a rifle correctly – according to Mr Lindsay. Our whole contingent learned about pride and style whilst marching around Camp, 3 abreast, shoulders square, backs straight, red hackles brightly resplendent in Tam O'Shanter's, accompanied by the bagpipes of John Dew & Cameron Hirst, as all other Schools stood with jealous eyes and watched us pass.

NPG

Royal Marines Section

This has been a year of rebuilding from very low numbers at its beginning. We have had a healthy influx of 5th Form Cadets which has bolstered our numbers and improved standards and competition. Infantry training has continued in preparation for the Pringle Trophy and we have also focused on fitness training, in order to improve the overall endurance of the cadets. We will focus on training all in the Royal Marines Contingent rather than just

the nine cadets who go to Lymptone for the highlight that is the Pringle Trophy competition. The team that went down this year worked extremely hard and were a credit to the school. Many of the cadets who went to Lymptone were in the 5th form, so we will have some experience to call upon next year.

The Cadets also get the chance to go to summer camp at Gairlochhead. Cpls Lewis Coutts and Alex Stokes attended the camp and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Alex won the annual race which takes place in Glen Nevis close to Britain's highest mountain. Lewis has written a separate article about his experiences on that two week exercise. Other Cadets have attended other courses this year. Cameron Robertson attended the Ocean Divers course in Plymouth and Angus Robertson was awarded a special flying scholarship with the Fleet Air Arm. Angus would like to follow a career in the Fleet Air Arm and the course he attended gives him an excellent insight into that part of the Armed Forces.

SR

“I don't know if you have ever eaten a raw onion, I have but I was so hungry that I didn't notice how horrible it tasted...” Lewis Coutts V Form Nicol

CCF Marines

Gairloch Camp

I don't know if you have ever eaten a raw onion, I have but I was so hungry that I didn't notice how horrible it tasted.

I ate this raw onion on the survival-ex at Garelochhead summer camp with the Royal Marines.

On the first day we had to get up at 5.30am to get into PT kit for our morning fitness session. There were 24 cadets, roughly a troop. We set off after the warm-up at a really quick pace covering a distance of about 2 miles and everyone thought this speed was only going to last until we reached the bottom of the hill but the fitness instructor, Barney, just kept on running! When we finally stopped at a small field we had to do various circuits of press ups, sprints, squat thrusts and sit-ups and if we didn't put maximum effort in we got made to repeat the circuits. On the way back we continued the same pace, even when we went uphill. I am proud to say Stokes and I were amongst the 8 out of 24 who did not lose our breakfast at the end of this hill run. This boosted our confidence quite a bit as everyone else was about 2ft taller than us!

We spent the next few days preparing for the three-day battle exercise. The first day involved going over the basic green skills. Most of the other cadets were far more proficient in weapons-handling than us and we also used the full version of the SABO with scopes and change

levers. The second day we did section attacks, CQB (close quarters battle). This was a lot of fun because we were allowed to use the fully automatic setting using blanks against wooden cut-out targets. The third day we received survival training from the Royal Marine Mountain Leaders. With the MLs we learned how to kill, skin and gut a rabbit. They also showed us loads of different ways to build fires and shelters. After this we loaded up into the trucks and were driven to the woods. On disembarking our Bergen and food were taken from us. We were only allowed the clothes we stood in (combat shirt, jacket, trousers, boots,) knife, water and survival tin.

In our groups of five our task was to build a shelter and start a fire. After this was done they gave us four dead rabbits to skin, gut and boil for supper. The stench of boiled rabbit, smoke and sweat stayed with us and in our dorm for days. Looking back it was good fun but I will be in no hurry to boil rabbit again. After we had eaten we then had to take turns watching the fire as it was our only source of heat and light. The Scottish hillside at night, even in summer, is Baltic. If everyone fell asleep at the same time the RMYT (who were monitoring us) threatened to pour a jerry can of water on our fire making the task of relighting it virtually impossible. Thankfully each watchman managed his turn. At sunrise we had to clean our kit, destroy our shelter and make it look as if we had never been there. We then returned to the grotto to hot showers and cooked breakfast.

On the fourth day we commenced the battle exercise and deployed from Faslane Naval Base in the Offshore Raiding Craft (orcs) which travelled at 40 knots. This was really spectacular since we saw one of the nuclear submarines being tugged into the base.

Today it was also my turn to be Section Commander for 2 Section. I was a bit nervous to begin with as we faced the challenge of our first troop attack which involved the 3 sections being led by a Troop Commander. 2 Section's challenge was to flank around the right side of the enemy and provide covering fire to the other two Sections which would be driving the enemy (i.e. Marines with towels on their heads) (Erm, am I reading this right, Lewis? Ed) out into the open. At this point it was quite chaotic because there were more enemies than previously thought and 1 Section and 3 Section were otherwise engaged. I made the decision to drive the enemy out of the woods into the open. I then led 2 Section up onto the crossroads and got them into an all-round defence. Next I sent a runner back to the Troop Commander saying that we had secured the crossroads and the way was clear for the time being.

We then patrolled along a stretch of road for approximately 8k and cleared 6 or 7 enemy positions. That evening we made camp in a pine forest, thick with midges. Even though we had midge nets, gloves and about an inch of insect repellent on every bit of exposed skin they still



managed to crawl into our boots and trousers and shirts and everywhere and everyone got covered in bites. It looked like we had the plague.

On day 2 of the Battle exercise me and the more eager members of the troop were tasked with performing a recce patrol. On this we scouted-out where we would ambush the enemy.

Later on towards dusk the Troop staged an ambush on an enemy vehicle which was very entertaining because we all got to empty a full magazine in about 2 seconds because weapons were on fully automatic.

When we made camp it was very dark, almost pitch black, and we were only allowed to use our sleeping bags and our roll mats for the night because a shelter would take too long to clear in the morning. We each had to do an hour watch duty to make sure we were not attacked in the night. It was very dark, I was very tired and half the time I could not tell if I was awake, dreaming or hallucinating as it was so dark and I could only see vague shapes. In the morning we did the last battle exercise which involved a troop raid on a house. For this raid we used the CQB tactics we'd learnt earlier in the week. It was a fun exercise because the Marines used thunder-flashes to simulate mortars and smoke grenades. There was one white phosphorous device let off which blanketed the entire valley!

This exercise marked the end of our military skills week.

We spent the rest of the day cleaning weapons, handing in all of our kit we didn't need any more

The adventure training week began with the Phil Guy Memorial Race. This is a 6.2 mile long run through rough terrain and in the spectacular location of Glen Nevis. The run involved fording a river and going across a wire bridge. The river was a relief because it was icy cold and it was a very hot day. Stokes and I did very well in this race. Stokes placed first time-wise and I placed fifth.

My second day of adventure training involved going kayaking in Loch Lomond. This was good because it was a lot more relaxing than the military skills week. The next day we went hiking up two of the Three Sisters which took all day but the view was fantastic. Afterwards we had dinner in the pub.

For our last day the RMYT tried to get us a tour of the nuclear submarine base but security checks would have taken about five hours so they decided against it. They still let us have a look at all the cool weapons they use though. After the tour we had a careers talk and then got to use the assault course. This was fun but tiring as it involved climbing over a 10ft wall, which was very daunting.

All in all the two weeks were tiring but it was a fantastic trip and it was well worth it and I would do it again and recommend the challenge to any RM cadets who are joining this year or who are currently RM cadets.

Lewis Coutts V Form Nicol

CCF Contingent Commander's Report

The past eighteen months have seen the Contingent expand from 130 cadets to over 200 and we have welcomed two additional staff members, Mr and Mrs Robertson.

In July this year 66 cadets, double our usual number, attended Army central camp at Warcop. The Royal Marines Troop start the new school year with nearly 30 cadets, the Royal Navy with 32 and the Army with 150. It has, in short, been a busy and successful year: ever more cadets are continuing into the VI Form as potential NCOs in all sections, more are choosing to attend the excellent courses offered by the Royal Navy in particular, more are joining us in the IV Form. Expansion brings its own challenges and we must be careful that our training and support keep pace with these changes, particularly at a time at which the Cadet side of the MoD is insisting on more accountability and expecting its personnel to deal with the same workload despite cuts in their numbers. I would like to thank the Senior Cadets for their efforts last year and as always, the colleagues who have directed, advised and supported them in making the Contingent a happy and effective one.

AS-J



Debating Society



“ Agree?
Feel insulted?
Want to have
your say?
Then perhaps
debating is for
you...”

A fan of Twilight? Hunger Games? Harry Potter? Not if ‘*This House*’ gets its way and puts ‘age certifications and restrictions on to books’. This was one of many arguments that raged throughout 2012-2013 in the atmospheric setting of the fiction library as the members of Strathallan debSoc met to challenge one another and themselves to some verbal duelling. And if you could not be trusted to read some fiction of your choosing then you could certainly not be allowed to watch any adverts as ‘*this House*’ successfully argued that ‘advertisements aimed at children under 16 should be banned’. Agree? Feel insulted? Want to have your say? Then perhaps debating is for you.

The school has many talented (and even quarrelsome) debaters, several competing at national level in 2012-2013. UVI pupils Frances Myatt and Kirsty Muir proved a formidable team as they argued their way straight to the finals of the Oxford University Union Schools’ Debating Competition in March. They also found themselves in the equally prestigious final of the Senior inter-House debating competition but were denied the spoils of victory (some Celebrations and the coveted inter-House Quaich) by Georgina Howell and Frances’ long-term debating partner, Millie Galashan of Woodlands House. James Cockburn of Nicol House, a relative newcomer to debating was awarded the best speaker prize for an engaging and convincing performance.

Sarah Hollingsworth and Izzy Spence of Glenbrae House were also newcomers to debating this year but they stormed into the regional final of the English Speaking Union against some seasoned opponents and the result very much hung on a knife-edge before sadly going against them. A very strong pairing indeed however, and now that they know their ‘Madam Chair’ from their ‘Mr Speaker, Sir’ and their ‘Points of information’ from their ‘supplementary’ there will be no stopping them.

Another impressive junior pairing this year was Adam Bush and Josh Sweeney who carried victory for Nicol in the Junior inter-House competition by arguing that mothers should not be made to stay at home to look after their children – women’s rights activists breathe easy. Adam also made a remarkable partner to the equally talented Lucy Crabb and the experience they have gained this year should serve them well as they move into the realms of senior competitions in the year ahead.

The society continues to act as a forum for pupils of all ages who may wish to gain confidence and experience of public speaking, learn about current affairs and events or just argue with one another. The Society welcomes all and looks forward to seeing new and familiar faces for another year of hotly-contested, staunchly-fought and at times outlandishly-thought-out arguments – *do Blackberries really lead to barbarism?* Come along and find out.

DB

Duke of Edinburgh



“Interspersing expeditions with voluntary work has been a feature of expedition at Strathallan over the past two years...”



The Duke of Edinburgh Award continues to grow at school. The highlight of the year was the number of current and former pupils who attended the Gold Award Presentation at Holyrood Palace. Prince Edward was present at the event and former Rugby International; Chris Paterson presented the awards to the successful Strathallan pupils.

The other major event of the year was the Sea Kayaking Gold expedition to British Columbia. One of the pupils has written a separate article on this expedition which saw the pupils undertake a variety of different activities. They were privileged to see Orca, Humpbacked Whale, Minke Whale and various other wildlife species in their natural habitat. The success of that expedition has resulted in the planning of a second which will take place in 2015.

Other expeditions have taken place at both Gold and Bronze level. The pupils have been involved in a variety of activities and tasks. Interspersing expeditions with voluntary work has been a feature of expedition at Strathallan over the past two years. As a school we have assisted the National Trust for Scotland, at Falkland Palace. We have also cleared unwanted plants from the Balmoral Estate.

Pupils have walked on the Lomond Hills, spent midsummer in the far north around Ullapool, walked in the Cairngorms and the hills of Kinloch Rannoch. The expeditions have provided a number of challenges not least the weather. The early expeditions in the Devon Valley resulted in the pupils experiencing snow and very low temperatures.

One of the expeditions at Easter had to be cancelled, due to low temperatures and wind chill. The aim over the coming year is to further develop the ability of pupils to complete expeditions using methods other than walking. We now have five open canoes and bike trailers which can be used to transport the camping equipment that the pupils carry.

This year the completion rates have increased significantly, especially at Bronze level. There are ninety further Bronze Awards to complete in the 5th Form. They have completed all of the sections but the paperwork needs to be concluded before the awards can be presented. This should be done by the Christmas holiday period and those pupils can then look to focus their efforts on the Gold Award once they reach the age of 16.

SR



Duke of Edinburgh trip

The gold Duke of Edinburgh expedition to British Columbia departed school at the early hour of four a.m. on the 29th of June. Nine members of the Lower Sixth were accompanied by three members of staff, Mr Robertson, Mr Stewart and Mrs Stewart. The group of twelve's tiredness was overcome by the collective feeling of excitement as we thought about the fifteen days that lay ahead of us. After five hours of driving and ten hours of flying the rather jet-lagged team arrived at Vancouver airport and stayed the night at The University of British Columbia which offered a comfortable change from the planes and trains we had been on all day.

The next morning we packed for a short overnight walking expedition in Garibaldi Nature Park. We set up camp at the edge of the stunning Lake Cheekamus where we got our first taste of the beautiful Canadian landscape, surrounded as we were by tall snow-peaked mountains and crystal clear waters all highlighted by the warm Canadian sunshine. This served as a warm-up for the fourteen days that were still to come as the group got used to cooking on camping stoves and the 'snugginess' of the shared tents at night. We also learned

that all of our clothes had to be hoisted up a tree at night so as not to attract bears (which were common in the area) to our campsite. With our minds settled by the thought of bears entering our tents at night we all slept well.

The next day the team packed into a bus and drove for an hour to Sun Wolf Lodges in the Squamish Valley. After a quick re-pack of our belongings into dry bags we squeezed into wetsuits and were driven to Elaho River where we were to white-water-raft for two days. As a result of the baking heat, the glaciers on the mountains were melting. This meant that the water levels were a lot higher than usual making for some very exciting rafting. The collective effort from the team to prevent the raft from flipping acted as excellent team-bonding and, luckily, no one fell in. The night was filled with guitar playing and singing around the campfire and gradually everyone retreated to their tents to sleep. But as the camp was drifting off to sleep a shriek was heard from Mr Stewart as what he thought was a 700 kilogram bear had landed on him. In fact the only slightly more sylph-like Mr Robertson had tripped and fallen onto his tent. Thankfully, nothing but the two gentlemen's pride was hurt.

The day of rafting was followed by a day of mountain-biking after which we were transported to Vancouver Island. Here we met Grahame and Tara who were to guide us on the two kayaking expeditions which represented our practice and full gold outings. Completion

of these would provide us with most of our D or E Gold qualification. The first, three-day practice expedition allowed us to explore the beautiful islands of the west coast of Canada. The sun shone every day and kayaks offered the ideal mode of transport to truly appreciate the stunning beaches and wildlife which constantly surrounded us. Grahame and Tara taught us about tides and how to paddle correctly. They also had seemingly endless knowledge of the area and wildlife which made our time on the water much more worthwhile. They were extremely kind and seemed to never grow tired of the group's singing, which the teachers will agree becomes tiresome very quickly.

This three-day expedition was followed by a welcome break in a Travelodge and a final five-day kayaking expedition. This explored the Johnstone Strait, an area known for its marine wildlife such as orca, minke whales and porpoise. The area truly lived up to its reputation. As the team paddled out of the bay on our first day of the expedition, an orca leapt out the water and sounded only 20 metres from our boats. Later that day a school of porpoise swam past our boats and that night, as we cooked our dinner, a humpback whale surfaced only ten metres from the beach. Each day of the expedition two different members of the team would be in charge of where we paddled, what time the team woke up and predicting the tides at different times during the day. This helped each member of the team develop invaluable skills such as effective leadership. In my opinion the trip was epitomised on day three of the expedition. After a hard day's paddling we arrived at an island called White Cliffs. No more than 200 metres long it provided one of the most breathtaking backdrops of the entire trip. Our team were the only inhabitants of the island that night. Being able to wake up, step out of your tent and be surrounded by clear waters, bald eagles and just a shadow of the main land on the horizon is an image that is impossible to forget.

I think the whole team will agree that the three members of staff who came on the trip deserve a massive thank you. Anyone who can put up with our singing for fifteen days, as they did, deserves a medal and I'm sure that they enjoyed the trip almost as much as we did. The entire team and I would also like to give particular thanks to Mr Robertson whose organisation and positive attitude allowed the trip to run as smoothly as it did. His ability to remain calm amongst a group of nine teenagers in a different continent was remarkable. I would also recommend that anyone given the opportunity to go on the trip take it; it is a truly life-changing experience.

James Cockburn LVI Nicol

Antibes

For weeks we had been practising our French in preparation for our school trip to the South of France. At last the day arrived and we gathered at school at and set off for the airport.

We arrived at Nice Airport in beautiful sunshine and took a short bus ride along the coast to Antibes, where our host families welcomed us. We split into our groups and headed to our various homes to enjoy our first French meal – délicieux!

There was an early start the next morning and we gathered for our first experience of French school. In our classes we were encouraged to get into the French mind-set and to communicate in French. Some of us found this harder than others and from time to time English was heard to be spoken, but at least with a very strong French accent! However, throughout the week it became easier to understand and talk in French.

Later, after a hard few hours at lessons, our tour guide treated us to a tour of Antibes, with its fountains and shops and magnificent Fort Carré. After an action-packed day, much to our excitement, Madame Crane and Mr Heaney (the group leaders) gave us our first taste of la plage where we all enjoyed swimming, sunbathing and

games by the sea. Most of us then headed back to our apartments for more fabulous French cuisine and lucky Becky Ward and Jemma Stewart went home to enjoy their villa and swimming pool! Gregor, however, decided to go clubbing by himself in Antibes (*Are you quite sure about this, Cammy? Hmm? Ed*).

Most mornings we worked on our French at school. Some mornings were free and we were able to explore Antibes. We also visited some very memorable places. One afternoon we travelled along the beautiful coastline to visit Eze, an historic village 1,400 metres above sea level. We wandered through the ancient streets, learning the history, trying out our French and eating ice cream. Another great trip was to Grasse where we visited the Fragonard Parfumerie and became experts in the art of perfume-making. After this more ice cream was needed. Another highlight of the trip was when we went to Nice to watch the Tour de France.

There could not have been a better way to finish the trip than the last night's party. As it was Jaypat's birthday Madame Crane had planned a special picnic on the beach for him, including birthday cake and where we all sang "Joyeux Anniversaire", which he really enjoyed! We also presented him with some new flip-flops which

he "would have preferred in black, but they will do". Then the "judge and Jury of the Strathallan court of Antibes", aka Mr Heaney, made his annual appearance where he accused the group of committing various heinous crimes. Among these Gavin was charged with being overly familiar with a statue and Caitlin of doing Miley Cyrus impressions.

The last day came too quickly and we left our homes for our final morning of French lessons. We were all very sad to leave. Not only was the trip hugely enjoyable and a fabulous chance to experience French life and school, it was an ideal way to improve our French. Madame Crane and Mr Heaney, always good fun and very enthusiastic, helped to make this trip such a success. We would like to thank them for spending some of their summer holiday with us.

Cammy Griffiths III Form Simpson

"We wandered through the ancient streets, learning the history, trying out our French and eating ice cream..."



“The beaches were by far the best part of Coll, they were stunning and we had them all to ourselves...”

We left Nicol House at the ridiculous hour of 4 am to arrive in Oban in time for our ferry.

Most of us intended to catch up some sleep on the 2 hour drive to the ferry terminal, but others, namely Finlay and James, decided that now was the best time to start pursuing their careers in music. They mostly sang "Is this the way to Amarillo" and "Surfing USA" and warbled their takes on these classics, pausing only to inhale, apparently oblivious to the annoyance they caused amongst their peers. Many, many, terrible renditions later we arrived in Oban, parked up at the ferry terminal and waited.

Then we got to Coll! We are not quite sure where Mr Billing thought up the idea of taking 15 boys to quite possibly the most barren island in the Hebrides, if not the whole of the British Isles, but we can safely agree that it was a very successful and enjoyable experience. When we arrived at our new 'home', after a bumpy ride (and realising that Coll had nothing on it other than some rocks and a few hundred sheep), we were met by a lovely lady named Pat who owned the field we were staying in. She lived in solitude with her two very intimidating rams, Mungo and Ian; the latter the shape and size of a small bear. Andrew Adam needed no prompting to be the first to go to 'inspect' him.

The beaches were by far the best part of Coll, they were stunning and we had them all to ourselves. We swam in the sea, which was absolutely baltic, and played tons of different games. We got back and set up our tents as Mr Billing and Mr Price began cooking some burgers for dinner on the barbecue. That first night there was torrential rain and gale force winds. Dylan McDermott had woken in the early hours of the morning in a puddle, freezing and with his sleeping bag soaked through. Afraid he was going to get hypothermia he got out his emergency survival kit. He broke the glow stick and wrapped himself up in the foil emergency blanket. I speak on everyone's behalf when I say I've never heard someone complain so much on a camping trip. We think it was just because he was missing his girlfriend.

The following day was a million miles away from the previous night. We were all greeted by sun and surf which was a bit strange to us coming from Perth! As we made our way to a nearby beach, James Barrack could be seen climbing huge boulders overlooking the sea, his makeshift cape blowing in the wind like the garment of some mad explorer. Our Australian exchange Max Wallner kept up a stream of comments about the different types of surf and commented on each wave as it broke. We got a game of American football on the go and Mr Billing was keen to show us he still



possessed the skill of a Welsh number 10 but it didn't seem to work in NFL and to his obvious annoyance Ewan Doig, Alistair Burnett and even Josh Sweeney were flawlessly dodging past him. Mr Price showed some incredible determination by dropping his shoulder into Jeffrey Lau (who weighs no more than one of Mr Price's legs), sending Jeff flying through the air towards Tiree. Five minutes later Mr Price snapped his hamstring, which wasn't funny at all.

The second night was more forgiving and a calm breeze settled over the field. Dylan decided to give the tent another go and managed to sleep even without the comfort of his foil blanket. We discovered that Pat had a shower we could use but unfortunately it was colder than the sea and there was a birds' nest in it, which made it less of a pleasant experience, but it explained the state of the floor. The next day was much like the previous one,... we spent the whole time at the beach! The sand-castle-building competition was very entertaining. Matt Fagerson and Pauric Batterham agreed to be buried up to their heads and allowed us to make very graphic sculptures around them which

were disturbingly detailed. Pauric's team were controversially victorious and won a bag of stale doughnuts.

Apart from the 20-year storm on our first night the weather on Coll was brilliant, the sun shone all day. We saw seals sun-bathing on the rocks, went crab fishing, ran up and down sand dunes, saw some castles, met an ex British Lion, ate like ravenous dogs, had no mobile reception (which was actually quite good), grew to love Uncle Ben, got a little bit burnt and found some nesting birds called shags. The trip was one of the best experiences and one all of us in Nicol 4th Form will have fond memories of for quite some time.

Will Schuneman and Josh Sweeney
IV Form Nicol

International Committee

The academic year 2012-2013 marked the inaugural year of the Strathallan International Committee. The Committee has been set up with three major aims in mind. Firstly to encourage and enable international students to contribute fully to the life of Strathallan. Also to celebrate a range of cultures and customs, for the benefit of the whole school community. And finally to recognise and meet the specific needs of international students at Strathallan School.

The Autumn term focused on forming our plan for the year and committee members also presented an assembly on the work of the committee and the relevance of the global context in the lives of all Strathallians. The work of the Spring term was targeted towards the International Dinner which was held on February 1st. It was a fantastic night organised to

celebrate both Chinese New Year and the international community of Strathallan as a whole. Tables were themed to represent the countries of some of our international students, Romania, Japan, Estonia and Brunei to name but a few. The tables were decorated with traditional Chinese New Year money envelopes and origami sculptures, and the menu was international in flavour including French, Chinese, Indian and Italian cuisine, quite a mouthful! Summer term activity focused on setting the committee up for the next year and identifying ways of nurturing new international students joining Strathallan in the Autumn. Plans are afoot for social events to aid this process and senior international students have written accounts of their experiences of Strathallan in order to help new pupils. The work of the committee will continue apace next year under the leadership of our International Committee prefect Motoko Otomo, it should be an exciting year.

International Committee 2012-2013

Freeland House

Liviu Neagu, Eason Yuen

Glenbrae House

Ina Drouven, Motoko Otomo

Nicol House

Cyrus Ng, Muhammad Azri

Ruthven House

Michael Chan, Kevin Gao

Simpson House

Peter Smoljanitski

Thornbank House

Pasha Konkina, Syazirah Kuan

Woodlands House

Millie Galashan,

Staff

BAH, TZ, RCWS

RCWS



Reels

“ the lively and well
attended reels
events...”



Burns Supper



At the Sixth Form Burns Supper, Chairman Mrs Irene McFarlane welcomed the guests to the annual celebration of the life and works of Scotland's most famous poet.

Piper, Angus Lapslie, piped in the haggis which was Addressed by the Bursar, Mr Anthony Glasgow, with tremendous energy and enthusiasm! Sandy Cook, who comes from a family of experienced Burns Supper speakers, provided an informative and humorous Immortal Memory. Jamie Dinsmore's Toast to the Lassies was well-researched and wittily delivered, to be ably matched in her reply by Katie Jones. Mrs Ingram-Forde toasted Strathallan, with a consideration of the influence of Burns, to which Sophie Burdett replied, reflecting on her time at the School, and relating that to the Bard's works

Songs of Burns were performed by the beautiful voices of Katie Rutherford (with accompaniments by Mr Geoff Bolton) and Caroline Seaman (unaccompanied). Linda Gordon gave the Vote of Thanks.

IIMcF



Rachael Gerrie (Woodlands '07) and the Meerkats

“I like that they all have their own personalities, both as individuals and as groups. Some groups are notoriously lazy and other groups get up much earlier than others and go down much later. They are also pretty entertaining especially when they start falling asleep at the burrow in the morning or evening and tumble over. It is really awesome being able to work with them in the wild and be able to observe their behaviour so closely...”

Rachael has been working on the **Kalahari Meerkat Research Project** since February this year as a **field assistant**.

What is your abiding memory of your time at Strathallan?

All the school trips. Good memories of trips to Germany and Spain as well as the biology trip to Isle of Cumbrae and geography trip to Tentsmuir Beach, both which gave me an idea of laboratory and field work which I wanted to continue to do.

What did you do when you left Strathallan?

I went on to study psychology at Northumbria University and then my Masters in evolutionary and behavioural ecology at the Cornwall Campus of Exeter University.

How did you become involved in the Meerkat research project?

The project is in its 20th year and some of my lecturers at Exeter had been volunteers themselves and recommended it as a great place to get field experience, so I applied through the website and then went for an interview at Cambridge University. When I found out I got the position I had a few months to get everything ready for a year away.

What is the purpose of the research?

The main focus of the research is to study the causes and consequences of cooperative breeding in meerkats. Meerkats live in social groups of 5 to 40 individuals where usually only the dominant female and male breed and subordinate individuals in the group help to raise the pups.

What is your typical day like?

At the moment we follow 15 different meerkat groups. We get up have breakfast, boil eggs for the meerkats and make our way out to one of the groups at sunrise so that we are at the burrow for the meerkats getting up. In summer this means getting up at 4am and 6:30am in winter.

When they get up they will spend some time sunning themselves and grooming each other. At the burrow we weigh all individuals in the group; they can be tempted onto the scales for a piece of hard boiled egg or drink of water. Once they have started foraging we follow them for three hours recording a variety of behavioural data. After 3 hours we then weigh them again.

We then head back to our farmhouse for some free time in the afternoon and to enter the data collected. We head back out in the afternoon to track the group (dominant females wear radio collars) and follow them collecting data until they return to their evening sleeping burrow and weigh them again before they go below.

Then its back to the farmhouse for a communal evening meal, free time and bed.

What do you like most about the meerkats?

I like that they all have their own personalities, both as individuals and as groups. Some groups are notoriously lazy and other groups get up much earlier than others and go down much later. They are also pretty entertaining especially when they start falling asleep at the burrow in the morning or evening and tumble over. It is really awesome being able to work with them in the wild and be able to observe their behaviour so closely.

Do you have a favourite?

I have a few favourites for different reasons. Fran the Wu-man who loves egg so will come straight to see you in the morning. Mayer who is more nervous but with more care and

patience can be persuaded on to the scales. Barbaloot who will jump on your shoulder at any opportunity to get a better vantage point. (Volunteers get the opportunity to name a litter of pups during their time here).

Is there any involvement with tv programmes?

We have film crews come out a couple of times a year filming for different nature programmes and documentaries such as BBCs Africa and most recently a new BBC nature series out next year. It is exciting to see and be a part of the whole process and to meet the teams behind them.

What are conditions like in the desert?

Very hot in the summer with temperatures up to 50 degrees but as low as -10 in the winter. Based on average annual rainfall, most years the area doesn't qualify as desert but it is very dry and sparse this year due to the current drought however there is still more vegetation around than I had expected.

At any one time there can be up to 30 people staying at the project, including around 10 meerkat volunteers, volunteers working with ground squirrels, molerats and various bird species as well as visiting academics. The majority of people being based at our farmhouse on the reserve. The farmhouse is basic, with communal kitchen and living spaces with running water and electricity, and 4 blocks of basic rooms.

What do you do to relax while you are in the desert?

There is a small old dam that we use as a pool, we project movies, play games, go for sundowners, go camping, walk or drive around the reserve see the other wildlife there is to see. We keep wildebeest, hartebeest, eland, springbok and gemsbok on the reserve but wildcats, caracals, jackals, aardvarks, monitor lizards and porcupines can also be seen as well as plenty of bird life.

What are the best and worst things about living in the desert?

The best things about living in the desert are being surrounded by all the different wildlife, the vast landscapes, the sunrises and sunsets and the stars at night unspoiled by light pollution. The worst thing is probably the sand, which is impossible to keep outside and the biting insects.

Do you get home often?

We get to take 3 weeks holiday during the year when you can go home but I spent mine in Cape Town, it was good to be by the sea after 6 months surrounded by desert and enjoy a few luxuries of civilisation.

Is there anything you miss about living in the UK?

I sometimes miss the rain! This year has seen one of the worst droughts in the history of the project, there have been little of the usual flowers and tall grasses growing and the meerkats have struggled as a result.

What would you like to do next?

Travel the world and be a part of more research projects, working with different species in different environments.



Strathallian Updates



Iain A G Moodie

(Freeland '68)

A recent get-together of Old Strathallians (specifically Freelanders) belatedly celebrating a significant birthday of Alan Wearmouth! The picture was taken at The Old Court House (famously aka the Royal Barge in the Bergerac TV series) in Jersey.

We enjoyed some wonderful hospitality from Alan, with Simon, Jamie, James and Colin making the trips from far afield to join Alan's celebrations. A great weekend of golf, the Lions win in Sydney and one or two drinks!

Back row L-R: Iain Moodie (F '68), Simon Hicks (F '67), Jamie Moffat (F '69). Front row L-R: James Pringle (F '69), Colin Wearmouth (F '64), Alan Wearmouth (F '69).

Suzannah Lockwood (née Harvey)



(Woodlands '00)

I got married on the 15th June to a wonderful man called George William Lockwood.

David Nicol

(Leburn '73)

David was appointed CEO of Brewin Dolphin in March this year and is still based in London.



Suleka Varma

(Woodlands '03)

It was only after I left school that I really discovered horse racing when I completed a week at Lucinda Russell's racehorse training yard near Kinross. In fact, I was joined on that week's work experience by Lauren Welstead, another old Strathallian.

I graduated from Durham University with a 2:1 in Classical Studies.

I immediately secured a place on the British Horseracing Authority Graduate Programme which included a fortnight based at the British Racing School in Newmarket learning about all aspects of the racing industry. This was followed by a 2-month placement as a journalist with the Racing Post. My time at the Racing Post was an incredible experience for me. My name was on the news list on day one to write a story and I was a published journalist by day two! The placement finished with me writing a double page feature which was published in the Racing Post and also the Daily Mirror.

On leaving the Racing Post, I returned to Lucinda Russell as 'Racing Secretary' meaning I had responsibility for the administration of all the staff and horses on the yard. I would also exercise two or three racehorses every morning.

From there I moved to the Arabian Racing Organisation as their Racing Manager, which gave me experience of most areas of racing administration from sponsorship and marketing, to operations and administration. The experience gained stood me in good stead to be accepted into the role of Trainee Clerk of the Course with The Jockey Club in October 2010.

I have now been a Clerk of the Course for nearly 4 years and am currently working at both Huntingdon and Warwick Racecourses. The role involves taking responsibility for all areas of the racecourse that are directly to do with the racing and the horses. So, that



includes responsibility for the management and compliance of the racing surface, the course's race planning and prizemoney distribution and also the running of the racedays themselves. I manage the medical and veterinary teams on racedays as well as the racecourse's groundstaff team, to ensure that racing runs smoothly, and when it doesn't, that any incidents are dealt with correctly.

I also assist in a similar role on occasion at other racecourses owned by The Jockey Club and have been involved at Newmarket and Cheltenham, as well as Aintree for the last three runnings of the Grand National.

Sophie Barton (Thornbank, 2005) has just been appointed Trainee Clerk of the Course at Sedgefield Racecourse, having spent time working as a groundsperson at Brighton and Fontwell Racecourses.

There are only about 45 full-time, qualified Clerks of the Course working across the UK's 60 racecourses at the moment and that one school should produce two is quite impressive.

David Stewart and Kirsty Aitken

(Nicol '03 & Thornbank '03)

David and Kirsty married on the 8th June 2012 at Mar Hall, just outside Glasgow on the River Clyde. They moved down to London in January of 2012 where David currently works for BP & Kirstie works for an Engine Oils Company. They have been in their new house in Surrey for around 6 months now and are enjoying the warmer summers and less harsh winters that they adapted to when they were in Aberdeen from 2007-2012.





Denisa Pacholska

(Glenbrae '11)

I am in my Junior Honours year of studying International Relations and Psychology at the University of St Andrews. I spent this summer in Washington DC where I was selected to represent Slovakia at George Mason University, interned with the National Taxpayers Union Foundation and worked for the Embassy of Slovakia in Washington DC.

I had the great privilege of meeting Hillary Clinton a few weeks ago.

Last week, I was elected to become a Student Ambassador for University of St Andrews. The Department of State in the US has selected me to represent the UK and Slovakia at a week-long conference in Moldova this October to learn about peace-building in Eastern Europe.

I have two years left at St Andrews and then hopefully I will be able to inform you that I've become a Slovak diplomat.

Jim Fraser

(Nicol '79)

After working for Heathcoat Fabric Ltd for 28 years I started my own business, JSP Textile Solutions, in January 2013 as a technical textile consultant. The aim of the business is to help companies or individuals develop their ideas, resource materials and production and introduce them to potential partners and get their product to market.

I'm currently working with two large multi-nationals, one is a major sports brand and the other is a large American personal care company. I'm also working with several smaller companies in the military and sports fields. I can also offer specialist technical fabrics from various European manufacturers. All contact details are on my website www.jspbiz.co.uk if anyone has an idea that they want to discuss.

Rufus Logan

(Simpson '84)

Still working in Scotland – as Director, BRE Scotland (Building Research Establishment). Business is now expanding its reach to lead BRE activities in Ireland and Hong Kong next!

Richard Graham

(Simpson '79)

I retired from the Metropolitan Police after 30 years and have moved back to St Fillans in Perthshire. To make the most of my return, I walked from Lands End to John O'Groats for charity and raised £15,000 for Motor Neurone Disease. I have seen a lot of several Old Strathallians since my return including John Paterson, Jonathan Christie and most importantly, Nick Du Boulay, my old housemaster, who I met in that social hub of B&Q in Perth!

Colin Williamson

(Nicol '01)

I represented Great Britain at 2 Rowing World Cup events over the Summer, and also won the Ladies Challenge Plate at Henley Royal Regatta, my third win at the event. I then decided to retire from competing, and have taken up the Role of Head of Rowing at Edinburgh University.

I also had the pleasure of attending the wedding of Strathallian and fellow Nicol House pupil Angus Speirs ('01). Also in attendance from Strathallian were Euan Aitkenhead and Oliver Lane (also Nicol '01) and Sabrina Flatman (Thornbank '01).

Andrew Dawson

(Simpson '47)

Andrew has recently published a book – "This Far-Off Wild Land: The Upper Missouri Letters of Andrew Dawson". This historical biography relates to his great-great uncle, Andrew Dawson (1820-1872) – the younger brother of his great-grandfather Ebenezer Dawson, senior. Andrew Dawson was the Last King of the Upper Missouri and through his initiative he turned the isolated trading post of Fort Benton into the commercial hub of the future State of Montana. Dawson County was created in his honour by an early State Governor. Fort Benton was 2,300 miles upriver from St. Louis where the Missouri joins the Mississippi, so one can well imagine the time taken to undertake such a journey annually as AD did for his last ten years on the Western Frontier. His story is a bit gruesome in places but life amongst warring Red Indians was always this way. Andrew feels, this story, which precedes Dances with Wolves by a generation, is far

more thrilling as AD narrowly missed being killed on at least three occasions! AD was born in Dalkeith, Midlothian (the home of the Dawson family for close on 200 years). He attended Dalkeith Grammar School, qualified as an accountant in Edinburgh, and set sail for America from Glasgow in 1844, then went up the long Missouri River in 1847 to live in isolated trading forts until he retired in 1864. He died in Dalkeith in 1872 aged 52. His letters are unique, in that little written material has survived from historic Fort Berthold, Fort Clark, Fort Union, and Fort Benton; and, his descriptive writings of intertribal warfare and life amongst Indian tribes is also fascinating to read verbatim. Andrew's elder brother, Hamish Dawson (1925-2007) Freeland 1942, rediscovered these historic family letters in 1976. His late father did not know these letters existed! So this was quite a find! Andrew and his two brothers all attended Strathallian, Hamish, the eldest, was a Scottish Rugby International with 22 caps to his credit. Andrew's book can be purchased from Amazon.



Jenny Wilson (née Hay)

(Thornbank '03)

I married Cameron Wilson (born and schooled in Glasgow but grew up in Ayrshire) at Inverkeilor Church and had the reception on my parents farm, Raesmill (near Inverkeilor, Arbroath) on Saturday, September 7th though we now both live in Wandsworth, London. I am a chef at the Modern Pantry and Cameron started a new job with Deutsche Bank in October.

I still play hockey, currently for "Battersea London Wayfarers".



Vicky McCaig (née McIntyre)

(Thornbank '98)

A crowd of us who left in 1998 had a reunion on Saturday 14th September, at the Living Room in Edinburgh. Organised by James Donald (Freeland) we gossiped and laughed over wine and old photographs into the wee, small hours. It really was fantastic to catch up with old friends from school, and it was agreed we won't leave it another 15 years to meet again! We're already talking about meeting up at Strathallian Day 2014, and bringing our families.



Bola Atta

(Woodlands '85)

I left Strath in 1985 and studied Economics at Sussex University, Brighton. Graduated from there in 1988 and moved to Paris for a year studying French at the Sorbonne and modelling part time. I

went on to the U.S.A and got an M.B.A from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

I relocated to Nigeria in 1992, got married in 1993 and have two children. I started my career in banking and I am now in publishing having been the editor-in-chief of the largest selling women's magazine in West Africa (TRUE LOVE magazine) for 6 years. I am now the Executive Producer of Africa's Next Top Model which will premier on the continent of Africa on November the 10th.

My brother Obafemi Ayantuga left Strath in 1983 and studied Biochemistry at Queen Mary College, London University. He proceeded to Oxford University in 1986 and received his PhD from there. He then went on to Cambridge University to study medicine and graduated from there in 1995. He is presently the Lead Hospitalist at Fairview Southdale Hospital in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA.

Grant Anderson

(Ruthven '89)

After 12 years from start-up at onlinegolf.co.uk I have moved on to set up The Brand Clubhouse. Launching online in autumn 2013 focused on offering exclusive golf brands in the UK and Europe along with many exclusive clearance deals from the leading brands. Still resident in Clavering near Saffron Walden so any Strathallians passing nearby or living nearby are always welcome for a round of golf nearby.

Nikki Cochrane

(Glenbrae '12)

Nicki Cochrane was named as Scotland U21 Player of the Year at the Scottish Hockey Dinner this year.

Angus Bethune

(Nicol '71)

I'm the current President of Inverness Riverside Rotary Club and would be delighted to welcome any visiting Strathallian Rotarians to our weekly meeting.

Nikolas and Rebecca Dalgetty

(Freeland '03 & Woodlands '07)

Nikolas graduated with a degree in Aeronautical Engineering and now works for Bristow Helicopters and is currently based in Aberdeen.

Rebecca graduated from Glasgow University with a BSc Honours Degree in Psychology last June and is now planning to do her Masters Degree while gaining some practical experience.





Brian McLean

(Freeland '71)

Running a marketing company in China. Along with my wife (Chinese) we have an apartment in Beijing and spent quite a lot of time there including the last Olympics – see attached photo with my youngest daughter Jojo (3).

My eldest daughter is marrying Leinster and Irish international lock Mike McCarthy next summer. They live in Dublin. I'm based in London near Kingston upon Thames.

I joined a small Strath reunion a few weeks ago organised by Iain Mclean in London and we met up with Ian 'Tich' Moodie (Freeland), Mike Reid, Jamie Burnett (Nicol) and Ali Hay (Ruthven) – all late sixties when there.

Victoria Reid

(Woodlands '08)

I am currently teaching in Dubai and planning on doing Mount Everest camp one next year :)

Margaret Jones (née Campbell-Low)

(Thornbank '93)

I am now married and living in Kuranda (near Cairns) Far North Queensland, Australia with my husband and 2 yr old daughter Willow. After travelling and working for many years all round Australia and abroad as a nurse I now specialise in prison nursing. Built a house and staying in one spot for a bit :)

Alan Keddle

(Simpson '92)

Alan and Katie Hall, wife of Governor Richard Hall, combined their expertise and knowledge of the property market to establish Perth Premier Properties in 2010. Alan was a keen sportsman at Strathallan and represented the School at many fixtures, especially on the rugby field. Katie Hall is also mother of present pupil Emmy (Fourth Form, Glenbrae) and former pupils Murray and Charlie. The company deals with all aspects of property management and Alan and Katie are really hands on in terms of building relationships with landlords, selecting excellent tenants and finding potential tenants the perfect property. Due to steady growth, they have recently employed additional staff and relocated to larger city centre premises so the team is better placed to take on new clients.



Flora Hay

(Glenbrae '12)

Flora, who is studying Medicine at Edinburgh, has just received a Gold Crest award for: Correlating the Presence/Absence of Dermo-Epidermal Junction and Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transition Markers with the Invasive Behaviour of Skin Cancer In Vitro and In Vivo.

Olivia Halvorsen

(Woodlands '05)

After graduating from Glasgow University with an MA (hons) in History of Art, Olivia started her career assisting photographers in Europe and the Middle East. Currently based in Edinburgh, after working full time in Dubai, Olivia has started OH! Weddings – a fine art wedding photography division of Olivia Halvorsen Photography. You can contact Olivia on olivia@oliviahalvorsenphotography.com





Peter Reynolds

(Simpson '64)

Earlier this month 5 Ruthven boys (from late '50s – early '60s) and their wives met up on the Isle of Arran for some happy reminiscing over a drink or two! Unfortunately one had a longstanding prior engagement and had to depart the island the next day, but the rest of us enjoyed some "good" golf, (the ladies found other enjoyable ways to relax!), excellent food, and island hospitality over the next couple of days.

Some had not met since school days! We are agreed that our next meeting should be sooner than 50 years hence!

The photo is of Pete Reynolds, Bill Pate, Russell Duncan and Alan Fleming – absent: Russell's brother Robbie – at Shiskine Golf Club.

Mark Pawson

(Leburn '87)

I've recently moved roles and am now Business Partner at the Bank of England, keeping Mark Carney in check!

The children are growing fast, Ben is now 6 and Max is 4.



Richard Williams

(Simpson '86)

All going extremely well and I have been able to get in touch with quite a few of my former friends on Facebook.

My son Matt has just been appointed Head Boy at Monkton Prep School, in Bath as well as being Captain for the 1st XV. Something must be passing down to him from my time at Strathallan, certainly not my rugby skills though!

We are all well and loving life. My daughter is in the midst of her GCSEs and absolutely loving school. I'm still travelling extensively, particularly down to Nairobi and it was fairly hard hitting

with the terrible events at the Westgate Mall – this is a place I ordinarily go to every day for meetings when I am in town. I'm also often down in Nicaragua being involved with impact projects regarding sustainable bamboo which is fascinating as well as being great fun. With such projects, helping to heal the land and creating jobs, providing medical care and education is also very fulfilling.

Alasdair Campbell

(Simpson '59)

This Strathallian celebrated his Golden Wedding on 5 Oct 13! Life in Bath continues to be enjoyed to the full.

Links with the School remain through the Turnbull family in Fife (Kingsbarns). In 1959, my cousin Ann married Ian Turnbull (former School Capt 1950) and had 3 sons (Mark, Scott & James) all of whom went to Strathallan (Nicol House). In their turn, the daughters of Mark (Nicola & Ailsa) attended Strathallan and now two of James's sons (Jack and Lewis) have started at the School!



Philip Laing

(Nicol '91)

Philip Laing, (Riley and Nicol – 1984 to 1990) was married in the North Church, Perth on 15 June 2013 to Raikhan Bazarbayeva. His brother James (Riley and Nicol – 1983 to 1989) was best man and John and Angus Bayne, also Nicol, were ushers. After studying philosophy at Trinity College, Cambridge he has been working as a lawyer in the oil and gas business, mainly based in Africa and Asia. He met Raikhan while living in Kazakhstan and they now live in London.



New appointment for David Dinsmore

Nicol '86

When asked if we could prepare an interview and question the Editor of the Sun, the most read paper in the UK it was safe to say we felt nervous and under pressure to take a professional approach to the matter. It was, however, highly successful and it was a pleasure to speak to David Dinsmore, a Strathallian, on his life at Strathallan, his subsequent career, and of course, congratulate him on his recent appointment as the Editor of The Sun newspaper.

We began by asking Mr Dinsmore about his time at Strathallan, and the highlights and memories that remain with him. Having attended Strathallan since Third Form, he had experienced every year of senior school life and believed it became better, and more fun as he finally entered Sixth Form. His particular highlights were "showing off" in the school productions and appreciation of the independence and confidence that resulted from his five years boarding in Nicol House.

On leaving Strathallan, Mr Dinsmore applied for and successfully obtained a place studying for a journalism degree at Napier University, beating 1,500 other applicants to the 30-place course.

Ironically, after a year, he decided instead to pursue a more hands-on approach in the journalism industry by working at local papers around Glasgow for three years and doing various reporting jobs, which all culminated in him beginning full time employment at News International, aged 22. When asked if university was an important step for young people to be taking Mr Dinsmore said, "It is a good buffer between school and employment and is part of a maturing phase", but he still believes that university isn't a necessity, it all depends on the career you wish to pursue.

The spark that ignited Mr Dinsmore's passion for journalism and media began aged 15, writing Rugby match reports and small articles for the School Magazine. However, with increasing experience within the media sector he "became more interested in the economic and commercial side of things". Even now, as the Editor he spends 30% of his time putting the paper together, and the rest of his time working as a manager.

In June 2013, David was appointed to the role of Editor of The Sun, following his previous employment as Editor of The Scottish Sun. When asked about the differences between the two he said that "It's the same views and techniques that need to be applied, just on a bigger stage". With The Sun being published seven days a week, and operating on a 24-hour time scale, Mr Dinsmore admits that it can be incredibly tiring and the work load can be daunting "trying to keep a level and steady ship", but he still very much enjoys the responsibilities he's faced with. A big change he is having to face is that "every time I open my mouth, it gets reported!". Mr Dinsmore believed that he would never be the editor, but "undoubtedly getting to know the business side of things has helped inform how I do this job".

Currently, there is a huge demand for employment within the Newspaper business, Mr Dinsmore said that when looking for new journalists and reporters he seeks two main attributes; hunger, and creativity, "willing(ness) to do anything, at any time, for any hours." "News is a need, not a want" and David strives to find creative and intriguing people who can find interesting and original articles on a daily basis. He believes that "that's where the real value is".

David wishes to leave the Strathallan student body with the advice of "always believing in yourself and never giving up. Life and careers aren't things to travel into blindly, you can find yourselves in periods of calm where things don't happen and suddenly they will take off again. As long you keep that ambition and keep on working, then ultimately you'll get your reward".

We would like to thank Mr Dinsmore for allowing us to speak with him and celebrate his success in this edition of the Strathallian and we wish him all the best for the future.

Sarah Nicol UVI Thornbank
Brendan Scott UVI Ruthven



Strathallians in the USA and Canada

Pupils arrive at Strathallan from all over the world, and when their time at School is over they scatter again. This year we have focused on Strathallians who have made the USA and Canada their home. We currently have details for 52 Strathallians in the USA and 36 in Canada, and would love to hear if any others have moved so we can keep our records up to date.

Yukon Territory

Northwest Territories

Nunavut

Joanna Clark
(Woodlands '92)
Vancouver

Phil Aitken
(Simpson '92)
British Columbia
I now live in Canada and have done so on and off for 15 years.

CANADA

Kevin McLean (Freeland '69) New York

I've lived in the US since the early seventies and was recently reacquainted with a long lost friend, Johnny Massoudi, who was at the school same time as myself. He'd visited me in New York twenty or so years ago when he lived in Texas. He now lives with his family in the San Francisco area and has prospered in real estate. I am sure he would like anyone who remembers him to know he is well. As for myself, I am happy to say I keep in touch with one or two old school friends in Scotland although I don't return that often. Great to read "The Strathallian" and see news of everyone. My brother Brian is more informed and has visited school many times and kept me up to date. I will make it back there someday.

Newfoundland & Labrador

British Columbia

Alberta

Manitoba

Saskatchewan

Ontario 19

Quebec

New Brunswick

Washington

Oregon

Montana

North Dakota

Minnesota

South Dakota

Wisconsin

Michigan

Toronto

New York

VT

Maine

Prince Edward Island

New Scotia

Idaho

Wyoming

Nebraska

Iowa

Illinois

Indiana

Ohio

West Virginia

Virginia

Pennsylvania

MD

DE

Nevada

Utah

Colorado

Kansas

Missouri

Kentucky

North Carolina

South Carolina

Kevin Sheal
(Simpson '87)
Pennsylvania

I've been in the US since 1996. Am married to Christine and have worked for SAP for the last 8 years. I was promoted to Director this year.

California

10

Arizona

3

New Mexico

Oklahoma

Arkansas

Tennessee

Alabama

Georgia

Mississippi

2

Neil McKee
(Nicol '84),
San Francisco Bay
I live in the San Francisco Bay Area.



Patrick Goodall (Nicol '60) Oregon

I am a long time resident of USA.

I was at Strath 1955-1960, School Vice Captain and Captain of Nicol House. I went to Cambridge 1961-64 (MA), Stanford (USA) 1966-70 (MD), Post Doctoral training 1970-74 (Stanford) and 1974-76 (University of Oregon) in Infectious Diseases.

In Practice in Portland Oregon 1976-2008 as Consultant in Infectious Diseases

Now retired and still living in Oregon.

Texas

6

Louisiana

Florida

Stephen Geddes (Nicol '87) Florida

Currently live in Tampa, FLA and work as Sr Claims Adjuster for a company that serves the US Military, USAA (USAA.com) (2009 to present).

When I left Strath, I moved to Winnipeg and completed my BA in History and Political Science. I then moved to Minneapolis, MN for a warmer climate (everything is relative).

I have held positions with National Car Rental as a Global Information Analyst and Head of Inventory for North America Operations. When I moved to Tampa, I worked as a Reservations Manager for Hilton Hotels call centre overseeing their Luxury Hotel Brands. Loving Florida lifestyle + climate. All the best to Strath and happy memories!

The Bahamas



John P Alexander

(Freeland '43) Florida

Five years at Strath from 1939 until 1943 gave me more than an academic education, it taught me independence and that, focus and fortitude, more than luck, resulted in some success. I was fortunate to be at Strath when Harry Riley was headmaster, and remember – with pride – the two much deserved canings he administered to me in his study, though I forget my transgression (probably smoking down at the “prison gates”). My best friends then were Gordon Marshall and William Hunter, Gordon being Rugby Captain when I played for the 1st XV. I was proud to be Freeland House Captain, and a factor on the 1st XI cricket team. Marshall, Hunter and I remained friends long after leaving Strath. Others I remember fondly include John Hall, Neil Stewart, Ebenezer Dawson, the brothers Milne, Richie Spence, the Loudon brothers, and several influential teachers like William Ward, and a man named Shaw. I also remember with some amusement a lad, somewhat strange even then, who never advanced beyond the Grub Room, named Gavin Vernon. Seems he became famous later in life, recovering the Stone of Scone from Westminster.

When I left Strath, I served in the Royal Marine Commandos, then after the war emigrated on my own to the United States, where I built my career as a journalist and corporate communications specialist. At every stage of my life and career, after I arrived lonely

and jobless in New York in February 1948, those five years at Strath gave me the courage and determination to not only survive, but succeed. I stayed in the U.S. and am now retired to Florida.

My fondest memories of Strath are too many to recount, but I remember – and I'm 87 now – the layout of the delightful house and grounds, the sewing ladies, the cloakroom where my locker was #116, the 'prison gates', the common room, where I won so many ping-pong games and dining room where we did prep every night. Also my early years in a Freeland dormitory room with large windows onto the cricket pitch and the 'wash corridor' in Simpson House. I also remember being 'slipped' for running or whistling in the corridors – 'Two of the heel, or four of the sole, Alex?' – then later, as a prefect, administering a few such punishments myself, though never with brutal force.

It boggles the mind that Strathallan now includes female pupils (in my time there were 200 raucous boys) and a much broader academic curriculum than the math, science and language of my days there.

No question about it, my years at Strath prepared me well for the life I subsequently led, and to this day remain both the happiest and most memorable among my 87 years. It makes me proud that a young John Alexander is pictured in 1st 15, 1st 11, and Prefect photos from 1942 or 1943 (likely the latter).

William Galloway

(Riley '60) Vancouver

I was only ever in Riley. Heard lots of bagpipes at Strath and my own son is now a world class piper. He competes with his band, the Dowco Triumph Street every year in Glasgow.

I'm in Vancouver, a lovely city with mountains and sea. I have a PhD from Queen's in Ontario and an honours degree from Saint Andrews. I met my Canadian wife at Saint Andrews. I am also a professional accountant and I lecture in accounting at night school while keeping my day job, also in accounting.

I wrote a book – “William Galloway, A Canadian Scotsman in Africa” which is the story of Granddad who went out to Ghana in about 1910. He was a builder and Achimota college was one of his works. Achimota is very much modelled on the British public school system. I haven't printed the book because with so many colour pictures it is expensive, but I do have it as a pdf file and hope to make it available as an e-book eventually.



David Stone

(Ruthven '97) Vancouver

After leaving Ruthven in 1997

I went to Glasgow Caledonian University to study Consumer & Management Studies. After finishing my degree I spent a year travelling Australia, spending most of my time in Apollo Bay on the Great Ocean Road before returning to work for Cult Clothing in Oxford.

In 2002 I then moved to Cheltenham where I joined with some friends to start the clothing company 'Superdry'. Over the next few years we travelled Europe to work at trade shows in London, Barcelona, Berlin, Florence, Paris and the Superdry brand exploded onto the scene (with a little help from a Mr David Beckham wearing Superdry).

With the rapid growth and success of Superdry the company was heavily invested in and I took the chance to go and live in Banff, Canada. Here I met my now Wife, Francine who is originally from Amherstburg, Ontario. I moved back to Cheltenham and Francine and I spent the next 2 years travelling to see each other until Francine finished studying nursing at University in Ontario and moved to the UK.

We both spent 3 years working alongside each other at Cheltenham General Hospital; I was working as a Hospital Portering Co ordinator.



In 2009 Francine and I got married at Eastwood Park, South Gloucestershire and Marcus Honig (Strathallan Alumni) was my best man. This was 2 weeks after Donald Matheson (Strathallan Alumni) married Kelley in Ireland and in those few weeks we caught up with many of our old friends from school.

In 2010 I was granted Permanent Residency to Canada and we moved to the amazing city of Vancouver. We have been here now just over 3 years. Francine is an Operating Room Nurse and I am a Supervisor at the Fairmont Waterfont Hotel.

Vancouver was a tough city to crack but I have always believed that the skills and values instilled in us at Strathallan set us up for life and it wasn't long before we found good jobs and a close group of friends. We have settled here well enjoying the active life Vancouver and Whistler has to offer.

I play football for 2 teams and still enjoy keeping up with a wide range of sports as I did at Strath.

Vancouver truly is beautiful with so much to offer and everyone should at least visit it once in their life.



Rahul Suri

(Ruthven '83) Toronto

Born in New Delhi, Rahul attended Strathallan from 1978 until 1983 when he went on to study at Cambridge (LL.M) before being called to the Ontario Bar. Rahul's move to Canada was prompted by employment opportunities and his career to date has included partner in a corporate law firm, investment banking and general management. For the past year, he has been running the Growth Markets business for the investment and corporate banking arm of Bank of Montreal.

Looking back on his career choices his advice to current pupils leaving Strathallan is the

same advice he was given; 'take your time in deciding on a career. Invest time in becoming truly self-aware and choose a career that matches you personal dreams/interests'.

Canada offers a terrific quality of life, with great food and wine and outstanding natural beauty. London is still a great draw, as are friends still in the UK and the odd visit to a UK pub!

While Rahul is based in Toronto, he travels to China, Hong Kong, India, Brazil, etc. He has three daughters; Tara (15), Alisha (13) and Ania (11) who are all thriving in Canada. Salina (15) spent a semester at a school in India and had a fantastic experience there; she's now back in Toronto.

Robert Jardine

(Freeland '08) Bermuda

Robert graduated from The University of St. Andrews in June 2012 with a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Applied Economics.

He is currently pursuing a career as an Actuary with Towers Watson and spent the first six months in their London and Epsom based offices and then

returned home to work in their Bermuda office. Additionally he has earned his ARM qualification in Risk Management. His work has taken him to Atlanta, Philadelphia and Chicago which have all been rewarding experiences.

Robert still enjoys running and taking time for the gym in between studying for exams!



James Bruce

(Ruthven '62) Ontario

Lives in Cobourg

Ontario and after 51 years of piping silence, played with the local pipe band this spring. He reports that Gortex bags, non cane drone reeds, tuning by electronic instrument, devises that prevent the drones from wailing at the end of a tune, and moisture control systems have all been a challenge. He is not sure if any of these items makes the pipes easier to play. They just seem to add a layer of complication and a yearning for Pipe Major Sinclair and his ability to ready a band in a few minutes using the old cane reeds and strands of hair pulled from pipers scalps.

Now how does Balmoral Highlanders go again.?

I have attached a photograph of the school pipe



band, I am the second from the right in the front row (with the black hair!). I am not sure of the exact date. I would imagine it would be 1961 or 1962. The banner on the pipes may be from the Scottish School championships held at Glasgow Academy the year prior to the taking of this photo. In which case it may be the Champions flag or that of a win in the senior competition by the school pipe major, Pipe Major McEwan. I defer this to a better authority!

Dave Ferguson

(Freeland '64) British Columbia

I have been in Canada for 45 years and am now retired following a career in banking and with the provincial government. Retired may be an inappropriate word as I am now an associate with a consulting firm focusing on the volunteer fire service with which I was involved for 27 years. I have also been a committed supporter of Muscular Dystrophy Canada for 30 years, raising funds and now sitting on the National Board of Directors. I am blessed to have six healthy and active grandchildren and particularly proud of my eldest grandson who has entered Shawnigan Lake School this year. Would be happy to hear from any Strathallians who live in, or visit, this part of the world or who share my interests.

Charities

Some of the best fundraising efforts made by Strathallan have come about through personal involvement by the pupils, either as a direct result of seeing the work of a charity first hand or as a result of being supported by a particular charity.

Jenny Summersgill (UVI Woodlands) came to the Charities Committee with a request to raise money for a local charity; TCCL Lodge in Perth. This charity supports children and families during treatment for Leukaemia. Jenny has first hand experience of the difference the charity can make and was keen to support the charity that had supported her and her family. Jenny put together a powerful presentation which was shown at the Interval during the House Music Competition. A collection taken at the end raised a total of £1500

Last summer Motoko Otomo (LVI Glenbrae) spent some time in The Children's Shelter of Cebu. This charity provides homes for orphaned, abandoned and surrendered children in the Philippines. The experience of working in the shelter brought her back to school determined to raise money and support the children she had got to know. Collections at the two Christmas Carol Services raised a total of £700.

Fancy Dress Non-Uniform Day, a regular feature of November at Strathallan, was in aid of the World Wide Fund for Nature. Pupils were encouraged to dress up as animals and pay £2 for the privilege. All shops in Perth quickly sold out of animal onesies as pupils bought them up. The school became a menagerie of different animals for the day with sharks going to lunch alongside zebra, giraffes and panda bears. A total of £800 was raised for the WWF.

Kilt and Rugby shirt day, held on St Andrew's Day, is another annual event for raising money for charity raising £185 for the Sandpiper Trust, a charity we support annually who do sterling work supplying defibrillators and emergency medical help in rural areas of Scotland.

The Musical Showcase was used to raise money for the School's Kenya Appeal, supporting pupils in the slums of Nairobi. The Kenya Appeal committee also organised the Variety Show in February.

In March Riley used their Informal Concert to raise money for Red Nose Day. Mrs Sim-Sayce and the pupils rose to the challenge and provided an entertaining concert with all the pupils sporting red noses. A collection at the end of the concert raised £120. With more money collected at the end of the Westenders' Concert we were able to send a cheque for £280 to this charity.



Obituaries

Alistair Meikle Pate

Ruthven '61
1943 - 2012

At school, Alistair was an outstanding sportsman, excelling at rugby, cricket and hockey. He represented the Scottish Schools at rugby against England in 1961. As a prize-winning student at Strathallan, he gained entry to Christ's College, Cambridge in 1961. Playing wing forward for Cambridge, he was very unlucky not to get a Blue.

On graduating with a B.A. in Economics in 1964, Alistair returned to Edinburgh and completed a C.A. degree with Graham, Smart and Annan. During his time in Edinburgh, he enjoyed playing rugby for Edinburgh Wanderers and Edinburgh.

During Alistair's academic career, he made many greatly valued life long friends.

Leaving Edinburgh, Alistair found employment with Air Products, for whom he worked for many years, both in South Africa and the UK. Before retiring, he worked in London as Finance Director of Calor Gas for five years.

After a long illness bravely borne, Alistair died at home in Pirbright, Surrey on 21st December, 2012 and is survived by his wife, Irene, daughter, Johanna, son, Michael and four grandchildren.

Bill Pate



“for at least twenty years Ben never missed the England v Scotland game at Twickenham...”

Ben E Marr CA

Freeland '49

Ben died in March of this year after several years fighting a heart condition.

His school career included being Captain of Freeland, Tennis Champion '49, 1st XV Rugby team where he was an outstanding Wing – proving invaluable in the Sevens.

After becoming a Scottish Chartered Accountant and serving two years in the Navy he went to work for ITV in London. He spent his entire business career with the Independent Television company and was on the Board of Directors.

He and his wife Angela lived in Bucks. He also leaves a son, Ben, a daughter Alison and four grandchildren.

Ben always had a large number of friends and from the time he left Strathallan he and four other members of the class of 1949 stayed in touch over the years and for at least twenty years never missed the England v Scotland game at Twickenham, arriving for the biannual reunion from wherever they were in the world.

“Alistair was an outstanding sportsman, excelling at rugby, cricket and hockey. As a prize-winning student at Strathallan, he gained entry to Christ's College, Cambridge in 1961...”

Deceased

Douglas A J Smith	Freeland '68	September 2004
Gordon S. Lowden	Nicol '44	November 2012
Alistair M. Pate	Ruthven '61	December 2012
Chris Marsland	Freeland '58	2013
Alastair Hickman	Simpson '01	March 2013
I. Lennie	Ruthven '92	January 2013
George Pate	Freeland '45	January 2013
Ben E Marr	Freeland '49	March 2013
Doug Hannah	Ruthven '58	May 2013
Walter Russell Linn	Nicol '58	May 2013

Prizewinners

The Smith Cup for Head Boy	James Spalding
The Morley Quaich for Head Girl	Millie Galashan
The Draper Cup for Deputy Head Boy	George Horne
The Draper Cup for Deputy Head Girl	Sophie Burdett
The Houston Prize for All Round Merit	Edward Lau
The Scanlan Cup for Merit	Sophie Burdett
The Thomson Salver for Achievement	Jenny Summersgill
The John Fulton Memorial Prize for Overall Contribution	Olwyn Jenkins
The Hayward Award for Citizenship	Ailsa Clifford
The Campbell Award for Best All Round Sportsman	George Horne
The Campbell Award for Best All Round Sportswoman	Rachael Campbell
Dux	Adeeb Naasan and Flora Hay (Joint)
The William Tattersall Art Prize	Callum Todd
The David Bogie Prize for Economics	Ina Drouven
The Lord Kincaid Prize for English	Frances Myatt
The University of Dundee English as an Additional Language Prize	Sun Ruizhe (Rena)
The Richard Moffat Prize for History	Harriet Smith
The Robert Rankin Prize for Mathematics	Edward Lau
The Wilfred Hoare Senior Reading Prize	Frances Myatt
The Gary Rogers Prize for Creative Writing	Gemma Howard-Vyse
The Patrick Grandison Prize for Strings	Edward Lau
The William Pasfield Salver for Music	Katie Rutherford
The Robert Barr Memorial Prize for Music	David Forrest
The Choir Prize	Sophie Burdett
The McMaster Quaich for Piping	Harry Richards
Strathallan Travelling Scholarship (Music)	Pim Piamjariyakul
Strathallan Travelling Scholarship (Modern Languages)	Katharine Griffiths
The Haviston Broadsword Prize	Daniel Adams
Quaich CCF Prize	Josh Martin
Royal Navy Section Prize	S��verine Thompson
The Rick Trophy Army Prize	Olwyn Jenkins
UVI Form Prizes	
UVI Art	Andrina Dew
UVI Biology A Level	Eilidh Gibson
UVI Business Management	George Horne
UVI Business Studies	Craig Rintoul
UVI Chemistry A Level	Sophie Burdett
UVI Computing	Bato-Bair Tsyrenov
UVI Design and Technology A Level	Adam Shakor
UVI Economics Higher	David Forrest
UVI English Higher	David Forrest
UVI French A Level	Ina Drouven
UVI French Higher	Amy Grant
UVI Geography A Level	Olwyn Jenkins
UVI Geography Higher	Rachael Campbell
UVI German A Level	Linda Gordon
UVI German Higher	Hannah Pitts
UVI History and Modern Studies	George Horne
UVI Human Biology	Adam Shakor
UVI Information Systems	Charles Beamish
UVI Latin	Frances Myatt
UVI Mathematics Higher	Murdo MacIver
UVI Music A Level	Katie Rutherford
UVI Music Higher	David Forrest
UVI Physical Education	George Horne
UVI Physics A Level	Edward Lau
UVI Physics Higher	katie Anne McIvor
UVI RMPS	Kirsty Muir
UVI Spanish A Level	Millie Galashan
Lower Sixth Prizes	
LVI Art AS	Hannah Lochhead
LVI Biology AS	Motoko Otomo
LVI Biology Higher	Anni Arthur

LVI Business Management Higher	Gregor Leighton
LVI Business Studies AS	Kara Tripney
LVI Chemistry AS	Motoko Otomo
LVI Chemistry Higher	Gregor Leighton
LVI Classical Civilisation AS	Motoko Otomo
LVI Computing AS	Greig Meiklem
LVI Computing Higher	Colin Gordon
LVI Design Technology AS	Rory Wood
LVI Design Technology Higher	Jamie Corbett
LVI Economics AS	Robbie MacDiarmid
LVI Economics Higher	Ross Buchanan
LVI English	Katharine Griffiths
LVI French AS	Josie Dibnah
LVI Geography AS	Connor Ovenstone
LVI Geography Higher	Anni Arthur
LVI German AS	Lisa Davidson
LVI German Higher	Josh Martin
LVI History AS	Josie Dibnah
LVI History Higher	Josh Martin
LVI Mathematics AS	Robbie MacDiarmid
LVI Mathematics Higher	Lynn (Runfei) Lin
LVI Music AS	Isla Cameron
LVI Music Higher	Colin Gordon
LVI Physical Education Higher	Anni Arthur
LVI Physics AS	Finlay Kettles
LVI RMPS Higher	Josh Martin
LVI Spanish AS	Scott Haldane
Young Enterprise	Holly McLean
Fifth Form Prizes	
Vth Form Art	Lorna Brown
Vth Form Biology	James Burdett
Vth Form Business Studies	Tony Tong
Vth Form Chemistry	Tony Tong
Vth Form Computing	Finlay Stewart
Vth Form Design Technology	James Burdett
Vth Form English	Emma Morris
Vth Form French	Emma Morris
Vth Form Geography	Emma Morris
Vth Form German	Nicholas Heaney
Vth Form History	Emma Morris
Vth Form Latin	Rosie Brown
Vth Form Mathematics	Tony Tong
Vth Form Music	Johnny Rutherford
Vth Form Physics	James Burdett
Vth Form PE	Kate Spalding
Vth Form Spanish	James Burdett
Fourth Form Prizes	
IVth Form Art	Melissa Davy-Ericsson
IVth Form Biology	Josh Sweeney
IVth Form Business Studies	Eleanor McKay
IVth Form Chemistry	Josh Sweeney
IVth Form Computing	Lucy Crabb
IVth Form Design & Technology	Melissa Davy-Ericsson
IVth Form English	Zoe Morris
IVth Form French	Pippa Wood
IVth Form Geography	Zoe Morris
IVth Form German	Pippa Wood
IVth Form History	Lucy Crabb
IVth Form Latin	Zoe Morris
IVth Form Mathematics	Zoe Morris
IVth Form Music	Delphine Mahos
IVth Form Physics	Zoe Morris
IVth Form PE	Rhys Connah
IVth Form Spanish	Adam Bush
Third Form	
Angus Lapslie	Jamie Miller
Andrew Smith	Emily Watt
Jaypat Piamjariyakul	

Staff Valette

Nick Du Boulay

On a cold January day some forty years ago an athletic young man with a happy, nay almost cherubic, smile arrived in frozen Forgandenny fresh from the frantic world of the London Stockmarket. Little did the poor innocent know that his sentence was to last well in excess of a hundred terms.

Nick, as an Old Harrovian, was no stranger to the world of the boarding school and just as well. It was not the 21st century Strathallan of carpets, computers and central heating. It was the early 1970s and Nick's sleeping accommodation was a cold, airless cell surrounded by dormitories of near-savages. He felt very much at home.

In recent years, because of his Careers commitment, NTHDuB has taught mainly the Third Form. For most of his teaching time he taught right across the board, happiest perhaps with the Sixth Form where his examination of the exploits of the Hellfire Club was properly appreciated. In fact, he was a very good historian from an outstanding department at Warwick and, in spite of an unstuffy approach, taught with careful preparation and thoroughness. Work was corrected and marked and orders and reports produced always on time. The same approach he has applied to Careers.

It was, however, as a Housemaster and Tutor that Nick made his greatest contribution and, I think, derived his greatest enjoyment. In the Simpson House Report of 1979 he wrote – "The House has had to face the traumatic experience of a new Housemaster. Fortunately the simultaneous arrival of a snooker table meant that most people were too busy to notice." The wording is revealing, showing that self-deprecatory modesty which is so much a part of him. In fact Nick's pastoral approach was much more serious than he liked to pretend. He thought deeply about the welfare and happiness of those in his House but would rather suffer an evening of highland country dancing than say so. He took a low-profile approach but missed very little, knowing when to intervene but also, just as important, when not to interfere. He expected commitment. Again, in his own words – "Ultimately a House is not about its stars, its individual and collective successes, but about the willingness of each and every member to pull his weight." He produced a House of great spirit and supported his successors with loyalty, wisdom and non-interference.

Nick was a talented sportsman in his own right. As a batsman he was a courageous and effective player of fast bowling, with an almost obsessive dislike of scoring in front of the wicket. As a Scrum Half he had a bullet-like



pass and a shoulder charge like that of an angry bison, qualities much appreciated in places as diverse as Football Lane and Venice where his skills were purchased exclusively for antipasti and vino rosso. Golf course, squash court, tennis court (on or off a bicycle) have all borne witness to his abilities and it is, of course, fitting that an Old Harrovian should have made an impression on professional football between the sticks as Nick did at a trial for Cardiff FC. More significantly, however, has been the help he has given to others, particularly in rugby and cricket. In rugby, either coaching his own side or individual scrum halves (failing only to persuade Edward Anderson he should be a flanker) he had great success. As a referee he was both fair and sympathetic (a great favourite on the Prep School circuit). As a cricket coach, after running successful junior sides, he worked on batsmen, having a particular genius for turning good players into excellent ones. As a 1st XI umpire he was simply the best on the circuit, combining good judgement and fairness with humour. The advice he gave to those in charge of the 1st XI was always worth listening to but never given unasked-for.

There is so much else that could be covered: Nick's alchemistic genius at mixing Pimms, Bloody Mary or Gluhwein; the unerring ability of his dogs to discover bins; his sartorial taste – the self-destructing suit from the Orient; his enigmatic statements; his destruction of furniture and fittings and others' destruction of gadgets of his.

I have gone on too long already but I make no apology. For some forty years Nick has been an integral part of Strathallan. Throughout that time, in good times and in bad, he has been the model of a true gentleman; polite and courteous, unselfish, loyal and kind. Above all there has been his utter integrity. Certainly not as young as he was; possibly not quite as athletic but, if you look carefully, there is still more than a vestige of the cherubic smile.

Robert Proctor



Valerie McKay

Valerie McKay came to Strathallan in 1998, leaving the post of Librarian in West Lothian College. Having also trained as a primary teacher, she was ideally placed to run a school library.

What would one want most from a school librarian? Most important, surely, would be a passion for books and the ability to transmit that passion to the pupils. Val certainly fulfilled that criterion. Whenever a pupil – or a teacher – approached her with an enquiry about a title, or an author, or a topic to be studied, she would do her very best to find suitable texts. She was always ahead of everyone else in knowing which books and trends were, or were going to be, popular. She involved our young people in following the latest book awards and in reading the short-listed texts, as well as encouraging them to take part in national competitions to write book reviews, a number of the entries achieving considerable success.

The library area and the corridor to the English Department were a constant, colourful source of interest with her ever-changing displays of themed texts and pupils' work.

As well as being librarian, Val, during her time at Strathallan, became qualified as a specialist teacher of pupils with specific learning difficulties and was thus a great source of help to the Support for Learning Department, in particular by supporting pupils' reading progress. She also worked with the PSD Department's programme of careers and study skills teaching.

Val's dedication to the task of promoting reading, her calm manner and her wry sense of humour will be greatly missed at Strathallan. We wish her a long and happy retirement in which she can enjoy her love of theatre – and also, of course, of reading.

IIMcF

A Kilted Ukrainian



“Before coming here I had never imagined that I would try to play golf either. I did draw the line at eating haggis though!”

Since 1996 more than 300 teachers from Eastern European countries have joined British independent schools for an academic year within the HMC project. It provides an opportunity to gain experience of the UK educational system, get to know the British way of life and to improve one's command of English. Once you have won access to the project in your country you will join a programme which includes lesson observation and teaching, assistance with pastoral duties and responsibilities in a Boarding House, and involvement in sport or other extra-curricular activities.

All this starts with an Orientation course at Cambridge University demonstrating the difference between the educational systems in your country and those in the United Kingdom. You will meet highly-

qualified professionals who provide useful tips for your future training experience, and have the chance to make new friends from other European countries. It was a great honour and pleasure for me to be a representative from the Ukraine and to have had this experience at Strathallan School in Scotland.

Scotland is a place of beautiful landscapes, daunting castles, ancient churches and spectacular rivers with imposing bridges

such as the road and railway bridges over the Firth of Forth. Legends of powerful Scots with their Kings and Knights suddenly become credible. The avenue of magnificent trees lining the drive into Strathallan gives you a feeling of style and longevity. I began to feel the meaning of the traditional hospitality of the Scottish clansmen as I was welcomed into the community, even if Miss Laurie's accent seemed impenetrable at the start (*Well, Olena, you see, the thing is... Ed*).

Teaching English as an Additional Language to some of the non-native speakers was a challenging experience. I was very lucky to have had Mrs Traude Ailingier as a Head of EAL Department. She, in a kind and helpful way, coaxed me into what was expected from both me and

my pupils. She was much more supportive than a mere line manager and became my mentor at Strathallan. Working under her guidance I acquired a lot of essential teaching and life skills.

Being a foreigner myself gave me the advantage of understanding the challenges that a different educational system and environment pose for foreigners far from home and their individual comfort zones. Working with small groups in a class enabled me to pay attention to each individual EAL pupil. I can compare them with gemstones, where each pupil was a bright element comprising one piece of a colourful picture. For my part, I learnt a great deal not only about the pupils' countries but their culture, interests and how they thought.

My responsibilities included a wide range of what happens in a boarding school; being involved in music, art, games, and not only having pastoral duties but acting as a big sister to many of the girls. I was delighted to find that Strathallan laid on all sorts of social events for the international community combining their own and British traditions. All these events helped me to develop my own skills and interests. A great number of different matches were played by the school teams during the year: hockey, cricket, badminton, basketball, netball and, the most exciting new game for me, rugby. Strathallan School even played in the Scottish Schools' Rugby final. Before coming here I had never imagined that I would try to play golf, either. I did draw the line at eating haggis though! Strathallan is a place where not only pupils can find any imaginable means of improvement - it is a place where there truly are "Opportunities for all to excel".

Being resident and working at Strathallan School was a new, unforgettable and life-changing experience. The HMC project is an eye-opening programme which I can recommend strongly. I have met a remarkable range of people from all over the world and hope that they will be my lifelong friends. This experience will remain in my heart and I will carry it all through my life.

Olena Tantsiura

Surname	Preferred Name	Initials	Boarding House	Enrolment Date	Leaving Date	Leaving Year Group	Surname	Preferred Name	Initials	Boarding House	Enrolment Date	Leaving Date	Leaving Year Group
Adams	Daniel	D T	Freeland	01/09/2005	29/06/2013	13	Grieve	Ross	R M	Freeland	05/09/2012	27/09/2013	10
Arnot	Sophie	S H	Woodlands	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13	Guest	Katie	K G G	Glenbrae	01/09/2010	29/06/2013	13
Bannerman	Alexander	A J	Ruthven	01/09/2006	29/06/2013	13	Guz	Agata	A	Glenbrae	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
Bauer	Alex	AD	Freeland	05/09/2012	29/06/2013	11	Hasanli	Valid	V	Ruthven	07/09/2011	20/08/2013	11
Beamish	Charles	C F C	Simpson	01/09/2007	29/06/2013	13	He	Yiliang	Y	Ruthven	01/09/2010	29/06/2013	13
Brazier	Seb	S A G	Nicol	01/09/2010	29/06/2013	11	Hofland	Elsa	E M	Thornbank	01/09/2010	29/06/2013	13
Brown	Cameron	C G	Simpson	10/01/2011	13/12/2012	9	Horne	George	G	Simpson	01/09/2009	29/06/2013	13
Brown	Fergus	F R	Ruthven	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13	Huang	Ying	Y	Nicol	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
Burdett	Sophie	S C	Woodlands	01/09/2006	29/06/2013	13	Iloro	Ovie	OR	Nicol	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
Burton	Jack	J	Simpson	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13	Irvine-Fortescue	Camilla	C J	Thornbank	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
Campbell	Kitty	C J D	Glenbrae	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13	Jenkins	Olwyn	O V	Woodlands	01/09/2006	29/06/2013	13
Campbell	Rachael	R C	Thornbank	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13	Johnston	Tomas	T W A	Freeland	06/01/2010	29/06/2013	13
Cheape	Emma	E C	Thornbank	01/09/2005	29/06/2013	13	Khusaynov	Damir	D	Freeland	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13
Cheape	Sarah	S G	Thornbank	01/09/2009	28/08/2013	13	Knowles	Christy	C F	Woodlands	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13
Clayton	Euan	E R L	Freeland	01/09/2010	29/06/2013	9	Kong	Chun Ho (Ryan)	C H	Simpson	16/02/2009	29/06/2013	13
Clayton	James	J A L	Simpson	01/09/2010	29/06/2013	10	Konkina	Polina (Pasha)	P	Thornbank	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13
Clayton	Sarah	S A L	Riley	01/09/2010	29/06/2013	7	Koutstaal	Roos	R J	Woodlands	05/09/2012	29/06/2013	9
Coleman	Ella	E F	Woodlands	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13	Kuan	Syazirah	S B	Thornbank	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
Coleman	Lucy	L C	Woodlands	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13	Kudehinbu	Mariam	M O	Thornbank	01/09/2007	29/06/2013	13
Cook	Sandy	A J	Freeland	01/09/2006	29/06/2013	13	Lai	Derek	D	Simpson	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
Crawford	Megan	M	Glenbrae	21/04/2009	29/06/2013	11	Lau	Edward	C H	Ruthven	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
Culham	Lily	L A	Woodlands	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13	Lavrov	Nikita	N	Simpson	01/09/2010	29/06/2013	11
Culham	Sam	S D	Ruthven	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13	Li	Lisa	Z	Glenbrae	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
Dallas	Will	W J	Nicol	01/09/2010	29/06/2013	11	Macdonald	Hannah	H B	Glenbrae	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
Dayab	Nora	N	Thornbank	05/09/2012	29/06/2013	10	MacGregor	Guy	G G M	Ruthven	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	9
Dew	Andrina	A S	Glenbrae	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13	MacGregor	Logan	L A M	Ruthven	01/09/2007	29/06/2013	11
Dimitrov	Stoyan	S	Ruthven	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13	MacIver	Murdo	M S	Nicol	01/09/2009	29/06/2013	13
Dinsmore	Jamie	J W J	Nicol	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13	MacLeod	Ellie	E K	Woodlands	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
Dodd	Calum	C M L	Nicol	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13	Magumba	Maia	M	Woodlands	01/09/2008	03/09/2013	11
Drouven	Ina	I M	Glenbrae	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13	Manos	Hermes	H	Ruthven	01/09/2009	29/06/2013	11
Erhahon	OG	O A	Thornbank	01/09/2010	29/06/2013	13	Manos	Orpheas	O	Ruthven	01/09/2009	29/06/2013	10
Fagerson	Zander	A J R	Nicol	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13	Marshall	Martin	M J	Freeland	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13
Ferguson	David	D R	Nicol	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13	McAlister	Kevin	K	Nicol	01/09/2007	29/06/2013	13
Ferguson	William	W M	Freeland	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13	McCarthy	Chris	C S	Nicol	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13
Fernandes	Abraham	A S	Nicol	09/01/2012	29/06/2013	13	McClure	Jess	J R	Riley	05/09/2012	29/06/2013	7
Fletcher	Callum	C	Freeland	01/09/2009	29/06/2013	13	McIvor	Katie Anne	K A	Woodlands	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
Forbes	Siobhain	S J	Thornbank	01/09/2004	29/06/2013	13	Mendelson	Claire	C L	Woodlands	01/09/2006	29/06/2013	13
Forn Canabate	Francesc	F	Ruthven	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	10	Middleton	Scott	S A	Ruthven	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
Forrest	David	D	Simpson	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13	Milford	Michael	M P K	Freeland	07/09/2005	29/06/2013	12
Galashan	Millie	C S E	Woodlands	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13	Morris	Arthur	A W	Riley	01/09/2010	29/06/2013	8
Galashan	Cosmo	C J F	Simpson	01/09/2006	29/06/2013	13	Morris	Tom	T S	Riley	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	6
Gibson	Eilidh	E C	Glenbrae	01/09/2007	29/06/2013	13	Muir	Kirsty	K	Thornbank	01/09/2009	29/06/2013	13
Glasgow	Laura	L S A	Glenbrae	01/09/2005	29/06/2013	13	Myatt	Frances	F R Y	Thornbank	01/09/2007	29/06/2013	13
Gloag	Antony	A I	Ruthven	01/09/2009	22/04/2013	12	Neagu	Liviu	I	Freeland	05/09/2012	29/06/2013	12
Gordon	Linda	L	Thornbank	01/09/2007	29/06/2013	13	Ng	Ho Tung (Cyrus)	H T	Nicol	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13
Grant	Amy	A A	Woodlands	01/09/2009	29/06/2013	13							
Greer	Hazel	H J	Thornbank	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	11							

Surname	Preferred Name	Initials	Boarding House	Enrolment Date	Leaving Date	Leaving Year Group
Niven	David	DG	Simpson	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
O'Brien	Declan	DR	Nicol	01/09/2010	29/06/2013	11
O'Shea	Beth	BJ	Woodlands	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	11
Peeters	Monty	MDF	Freeland	01/09/2007	29/06/2013	11
Pitts	Hannah	HKJ	Thornbank	01/09/2010	29/06/2013	13
Purvis	Ashley	A	Woodlands	01/09/2007	03/09/2013	12
Rintoul	Craig	C	Ruthven	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13
Rutherford	Katie	KFG	Glenbrae	09/01/2012	29/06/2013	13
Sadovych	Vova	V	Nicol	07/01/2008	29/06/2013	13
Shakor	Adam	A	Ruthven	01/09/2009	29/06/2013	13
Shen	Qian (Rinko)	Q	Glenbrae	01/09/2009	29/06/2013	13
Smith	Harriet	HRC	Glenbrae	01/09/2007	29/06/2013	13
Smoljanitski	Peter	PA	Simpson	05/09/2012	29/06/2013	12
Spalding	James	JA	Ruthven	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13
Summersgill	Jenny	JA	Woodlands	01/09/2005	29/06/2013	13
Sun	Rena	R	Glenbrae	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
Talipova	Gaydelia	G	Thornbank	01/09/2009	29/06/2013	13
Tang	Connie	Y	Thornbank	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
Taylor	Sacha	SM	Woodlands	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13
Thompson	Severine	SFG	Thornbank	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13
Thoms	Jayne	J	Thornbank	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13
Thomson	Morgen	MEG	Woodlands	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13
Todd	Callum	CW	Simpson	01/09/2010	29/06/2013	13
Tsyrenov	Bato-Bair	B	Simpson	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13
Turner	Matthew	MJ	Freeland	05/09/2012	29/06/2013	13
Wilson	Julia	JD	Glenbrae	07/09/2011	29/06/2013	13
Wolff	Verena	VJI	Glenbrae	05/09/2012	29/06/2013	12
Younger	Anna	AC	Woodlands	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13
Yuen	Ho Ka (Eason)	HK	Freeland	01/09/2009	29/06/2013	13
Zaczek	Mark	MD	Simpson	01/09/2008	29/06/2013	13

The Leavers' Ball





And you should have seen the one that got away.



No, Headmaster, I definitely haven't heard that one before.



On balance, PK, I preferred the shorts.



♪ 'O, my father was an Orrrrr...'

The Strathallian

2012-2013



Strathallan School

Forgandenny

Perth

PH2 9EG

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