

The Strathallian

2017-2018



STRATHALLAN
Opportunities for *all* to excel





The Strathallian

2017-2018



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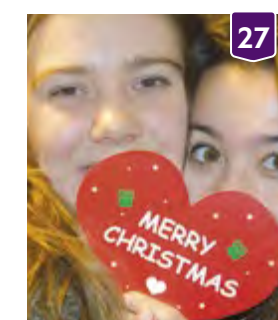
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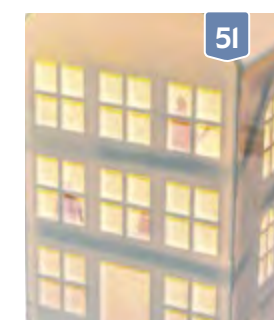
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...we will forever feel the way we have always done while walking across the causeway each day: a feeling of confidence in ourselves, belief in those around us and knowledge that, as long as we aimed for the stars, we would at least hit the rooftops...



Captains of School

So, the new school year of 2018/19 is now well and truly under way and it is hard to believe that we are not going back with you all.

It is not all doom and gloom though - we are both loving university life and are so happy to have made it at last into the elite 'Strathallian' club consisting of so many people that have given so much to the school over many years. Furthermore, although we will always miss the school and everything that came with being part of it, we are so glad to have access still to all the news and, of course, we will come back to visit. Undoubtedly, we will forever feel the way we have always done while walking across the causeway each day: a feeling of confidence in ourselves, belief in those around us and knowledge that, as long as we aimed for the stars, we would at least hit the rooftops.

This is the essence of Strathallan's own motto *labor omnia vincit* - the Latin version of 'no pain no gain'. As such, it is with pride that we can both look back on this school year, one which has been difficult for many of us, whether that meant public exams, overcoming your fears or even meeting new people and trying new things. We can do this because, despite all of our struggles, we have risen above them and achieved great feats, evidence for which need only be ascertained by flicking through the pages of this magazine: from the classroom to the sports field, from the exam

hall to the concert hall, we have all achieved together. As nostalgic as we may feel, we can thankfully be confident that some things will never change: *I Vow to Thee My Country* will always be the favourite hymn, Mr Fleming will never miss a Sports Day (nor a chance to wear his navy shorts) and Woodlands will forever reign as the best House (secondly only, perhaps, to Nicol).

Glasgow has the slogan 'People make Glasgow' at the moment and the same rings true here. People make Strathallan. To a great extent our outstanding facilities, our magnificent marketing campaigns and our picturesque setting mean nothing when compared to you - the staff, pupils and parents. You are the school. You are our school; you are the school of thousands of Strathallians going back for over a century; you are the reason why Strathallan will be here in another hundred years' time.

Clearly, community has been the guiding light of our time at school but remember that community wouldn't exist without the effort put in by every single one of its members as individuals providing support for each other. So, take advantage of your time at school: don't be afraid to try things that challenge you, don't be afraid to be yourself and remember to be happy being you - because we are so happy to have been Strathallians alongside all of you.

Johnny Boyd, UVI Nicol
Jenny McGuire, UVI Woodlands



Headmaster

I make no apology for beginning this report with a reference to our chief purpose as a school, the achievement of excellent academic outcomes. Over all, exam results were gratifying last year, with improved A/A level results up to 43% and A*-B grades up to 75%. Whilst not records these were nonetheless impressive given the favourable value added scores too. Highers were the best since 2004 with a third of Highers candidates achieving an A grade and two thirds achieving As and Bs.*

When we look at the results combined, through UCAS points, our average equated to AAB at A level - the grades for selective university entry. AS Results last year, the last of these exams, matched the previous year which is a very good sign for our current UVI. GCSE results were again good with 9/A*/A grades at 42% and a strong pass rate at well over 90%. I congratulate all the pupils and staff involved.

Entry to higher education remains strong, with Edinburgh leading the pack with eleven students last year gaining places - an excellent tally when you realise there are over 41,000 applicants for only 4,000 places. Scottish universities continue to be popular with our pupils and some of the better English universities too. Russell group universities feature strongly, as I would expect, with a small but significant entry to international universities too. This year's Upper Sixth are well placed to continue this success.

Strathallan is an all-round school and it is the model which I believe provides the best education for our pupils. The years from childhood through adolescence to young adulthood are a preparation for adult life and the world beyond the school gates. This, of course, includes qualifications and the skills and knowledge that accompany them. But it must include too those elements of education that are not so easily measured but which we instinctively know are important alongside results. Bright, engaged children flourish and excel in a range of areas which change and develop as they do. Academic excellence is enhanced by extra-curricular activity when a healthy balance is achieved. And much has been achieved this year in tandem with demanding academic work.

Community Service has been enjoyed and appreciated through both the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and volunteering activities. Learning through service to others who live in very different circumstances has been both rewarding, challenging and beneficial for our pupils.

Charity work has been varied and generously supported with thousands raised for Alzheimer's, the homeless at Christmas, Cancer Research, Water Aid and Health in Mind.

Kenya fundraising is evident regularly and I was pleased that the Lower Sixth Trip took place at Easter and that last summer's postponed trip is able to go ahead this summer. I congratulate Mr Barnes, staff and pupils who work tirelessly towards this worthwhile and impactful experience for both our pupils and the Kenyan school children they work with.

Music is flourishing with new Director of Music Mr Matt Gooch. Ensembles new and old continue to practise, prepare and perform to dazzling effect. Regular recitals for a few musicians at a time do wonders for confidence and focus; fun music is spreading interest and increasing engagement with staff as well as pupils and we have enjoyed much music in Chapel in congregational singing as well as in performed pieces. Head Master's music in the autumn was stunning; House music a triumph; carol concerts here, in Edinburgh and in London were hugely enjoyed and appreciated; the variety show was dominated by musical performances and won by our own rapper Mena Oweh AKA Moose Morales, but there was also a terrific magic routine from Ethan Wivell in Riley; Remembrance music was also poignant and helped bring solemnity and reflection to our service of commemoration. Music in Riley goes from strength to strength too and Riley musicians regularly perform in Riley Chapel; Riley informal concerts feature all the Riley pupils and Riley Divisional music earlier this term was as much fun for the audience to listen to as it was for the Riley pupils to perform in their fancy dress. The School also continues to sing fantastically well.

Associated board music exams have been taken at all age groups and at all levels and all passed; Perform in Perth featured many of our pupils and saw certificates and commendations and class winners aplenty. National recognition through the national Youth Orchestra of Scotland for four pupils and three recognised for singing in the National Boys Choir of Scotland was exceptional. Blair Davie's Diploma from the London College of Music was outstanding. It has been breath-taking, moving and in some performances just plain good fun to listen to our musicians of all ages and ability and more importantly to see their progress unfold over the year. How much our musicians develop is testament to the quality of teaching and opportunity they have and I am grateful to the music department for their dedicated hard work.



Our performing arts pupils this year have also been exceptional. Acting in the school is strong and we laughed our way through the brilliant production of *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Musical theatre produced some astonishing performances of maturity, depth and quality from boys and girls alike - *Singin' in the Rain* was funny and impressive and toe-tappingly good. Comedic timing, tap dancing and carefully choreographed slapstick were joyful. To see pupils from 3rd Form to UVI performing together, learning and having fun at the same time is a hugely important educational experience and we should always remember this when we read about cuts to State music programmes. We will be helping neighbouring primary schools from next year with their music and performing arts as a result. Acting medals, LAMDA exams and certificates and five diplomas in Music Theatre Performance demonstrate the depth and range of our pupils' ability, passion and commitment and the ambition of their coaches, teachers and directors in drama, dance, speaking and singing. The Burns Supper was hugely entertaining too - and if you want to see how a Haggis should be addressed or how *To a Louse* should be performed, speak to the Bursar and Mrs McFarlane - two of the best recitals I've ever seen.

Piping and drumming have continued to go from strength to strength. Mr Muirhead has just continued to go, usually to play for HRH. In fairness though, the advent of three pipe bands this year and additional practice times being found, piping really is going from strength to strength and I congratulate Mr Muirhead and all the staff involved for the ongoing and rapid improvements and growing popularity of piping generally and with girls in particular. Those pipers who performed in the CCF massed pipes and drums on the esplanade of Edinburgh castle did a fine job representing the school and the CCF. The new role of Headmaster's piper has helped spread leadership in piping and we are now used to a trio of pipers every Wednesday and Friday morning piping the school to Chapel and assembly. Robbie McIsaac and Ben Muir won the Grade One British Pipe Band Championships as part of the ScottishPower Pipe band. This is an open event in the premier class in pipe band competitions and congratulations go to both.

The CCF Biennial inspection took place in the Summer term and the Contingent was congratulated for the work

undertaken, the drills on show and the performance of the pupils. The inspecting officer was Colonel Duncan Forbes, a member of Freeland house who left Strath in '95 and who is now the Commanding officer of RM Condor just north of Dundee. He has hosted our Marines for training at Condor and this is just one example of Strathallians helping the pupils through their expertise and experience, for which we are grateful. The Royal Navy section goes from

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strength to strength under the leadership of Mr Newham and the Army section has been typically busy and kept on task by its officers and NCOs. The annual CCF dinner was a splendid affair organised by Mr Gallier - it was good to see the Pighill's room set up like an officer's mess for formal dining and the pupils learned a great deal from it. I congratulate Mr Streatfeild-James on leading the CCF but more importantly for ensuring we are now GDPR ready.

DofE remains popular and I regularly hand out badges and certificates in assembly - fifty-five so far this year. Mr Drover works hard with his colleagues to ensure the award scheme works as it should and that the experiences are meaningful and valuable. Sport is simply too voluminous to mention in its entirety, but I would like to make some key observations and highlight a few performances for what they show about the school this year.

Let me start with some statistics on participation. From Riley up to Fifth Form, this year, like last year, has seen 100% participation in sport representing the school. Over 90% of the Sixth Form have done likewise and this is an improvement. This is why we are able to play in the top rugby conference for example, putting out more teams than schools twice and three times our size. That's our ethos right there in a nutshell. If we then look to Scottish and GB representation, it was at 10% last year and is 10% this year again over fifteen disciplines. Regional and district representation would swell this percentage further. Proportionately, I am not sure if there is another school

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expertise to ensure we get it right.
Their contribution is essential.*

which could match this. This is seriously impressive and a perusal of the programme notes will underline the range this includes. There is real strength in depth and it is from Riley to Sixth Form.

Sport at Strath is where, like the other areas already highlighted, pupils learn about themselves and others and they develop their sporting abilities through tough fixtures and dedication. Strath does not import its results but grows them. Potential is identified and nurtured, drawn out and brought to realisation. Take the U15B boys' Hockey team, undefeated this year. Or the 3rd XV - also undefeated. That is school sport at its best and it is hugely important to note that these teams had to learn to win from perhaps inauspicious starts when younger. The lessons learned here are hugely valuable and stay with you - teamwork, co-operation, commitment, perseverance and skill - and all of this is absolutely transferable into the classroom.

While we note the performance of teams and their development, so too do we see regularly outstanding individual performances often as part of a team as well as in individual disciplines. Take the example of School Captain Jenny McGuire - currently the only girl in Scotland to hold three national finalist medals for indoor hockey as a runner- up this year and last and as a winner in 2016. Or Carrie Mack, who has represented the school on forty-seven occasions this year across four sports - more than anyone else. And what about Johnny Boyd's second place in the boys' 800m? He didn't win but he didn't give up and he was pleased for the winner. Or Euan Nicol, the Captain of the 1st XI, who steered his side to a thumping win against Glenalmond at home having seen a collapse of the team's batting the week before. 107 not out was Euan's first Century for the 1st XI - it took its time but when it came it was in fine style and played a key role in a famous victory.

There are so many examples of this kind of effort, dedication, sportsmanship and attitude. These are all educational values and sport is a great catalyst for these to be learned and developed.

Then there is the agony and the ecstasy of sport to consider. The agony of the girls' National indoor hockey final - our third in a row - where leading in the final against Watson's the girls were taken to a penalty shootout when Watson's equalised in the last play of extra time. Losing the shootout was gutting. So close and yet so far. Those girls coming back next year will have added experience, added grit and added determination. I was hugely impressed with you all, both in play and in defeat. You are a credit to the school.

Then the ecstasy. Winning the U18 Schools Cup in Rugby was one such moment. What a term's rugby. I am so glad that I started in September and not January! I did invite Mr Thompson to both the final and the dinner last term to celebrate the first win in the cup for the school. Sadly, he couldn't make these occasions but he did follow the match on twitter. If the final was about getting the job done against a side our team had put 80 points on earlier in the term, the three matches leading up to the final were all finals

in themselves, against Stewart's Melville, Merchiston and then, in an epic semi-final, winning away to Watson's. The Watson's game was the best schoolboy game of rugby I have seen in 24 years of coaching and involvement in the game at school level. And not just because we won. Watson's were magnificent. Strath wanted it more and that hunger was bred over years. Of the starting line-up, eleven joined Strath in Riley or 3rd Form.

Ollie Smith, Cameron Henderson and Murphy Walker have all been given stage three contracts with the SRU. And this comes on the back of having representation at every level of Scottish rugby by current or former pupils from U16 level to the National team this year, with Murphy Walker selected for the U20 Six Nations side last term, Cameron Henderson being chosen as the coaches player of the U18 undefeated Scotland side in the Six Nations festival last term, and Murphy Walker also called up this term for the U20 World Cup squad. All of this is hugely impressive and I give my congratulations to all involved.

My sporting moment of the year of course was a moment in the last 20 minutes of the semi-final in the Cup against Watson's. 3-0 down, and facing a Watson's lineout about 17 metres from the try line, Cam Henderson stole the ball from the put-in and scooped it back. Murphy Walker ended up with it and ran straight. He ran, and ran and ran. All seventeen-and-a-half stone of him was eventually brought down by two Watsons backs but not until he'd covered at pace over half the pitch. It was the turning point of the match. The team lifted itself to a man, and in the next fifteen minutes ran in three converted tries without answer to clinch a brilliant victory. This was for me a spectacular example of leadership under pressure. In that moment I believe the match was won, and thus the final - the single best piece of leadership in sport I've seen for years.

None of this happens by accident of course and many people go into making a Strathallan year a success.

My first thanks go to the Governors who give generously and freely of their time and expertise to ensure we get it right. Their contribution is essential. Thank you too for the tremendous welcome you have given me and my family - it has been hugely appreciated.

To all our parents, thank you for helping to make Strath a better place through your support, whether it is on the touchline, watching a concert, ensuring homework is done, washing kit, sewing on labels, being a taxi driver, supporting trips and being proud of your children when they do their best. I firmly believe that a genuine partnership between parents and school is essential for the effective education of children so thank you too for your helpful input and feedback and most importantly your trust.

To all the Teaching and Support staff, thank you for your dedication and the care you show for our pupils. The affection and regard in which your pupils hold you is clear. And thank you in particular to the Bursar and his team for the work that is undertaken to make all of this possible.

*Our job as teachers is to invest in each child
and by so doing, raise each one to distinction.
What we will not change is as important as
what we will change.*

For some of this year's staff, however, this is also their last Speech Day. David Billing leaves after nine years as Housemaster of Nicol and as an English teacher, rugby and hockey coach. While David will be proud of his cup run to the final with the U16s in 2015, he is most proud I am sure of his Nicol boys and he has contributed hugely over the years to the success of the House and the boys in his care. David leaves to take up the deputy headship of Rugby School in Bangkok and annoyingly but understandably he is taking Mrs Billing with him - so we will lose her from the History department. Donna has made her own significant contribution in her time at the school and will be much missed too. Julie Summersgill leaves after twenty-eight years to retire. Teaching junior science, Julie also developed our equestrian activities at Strath which are currently enjoying significant success and I am pleased to say she will keep this connection going next year. Sandra Fleming also retires after twenty-one years teaching Maths in the junior years. A former House parent in Thornbank with her husband John, Sandra has been heavily involved in sport. We wish our retirees well. Lacey Davies leaves as Head of Art to take up the significant post of Director of Art at Headington School in Oxford after six years at the helm and she takes with her our gratitude for her significant work in the Art department here. Fraser Burnett leaves after five years teaching IJJ and joins Watson's in September - we wish him well - except perhaps in sport! And Vicente García Lopez leaves this week as a temporary teacher of art - we thank him for his significant contribution in a relatively short time.

I would also like to thank School Authority - the captains and vice captains of school and the heads of Houses. You have been exemplary and a great support to me in my first year. I've worked closely with school prefects for eleven years in three schools - and you are as a group the best of the bunch. I will miss you next year - your successors have very big shoes to fill - especially Murphy's.

Lisa and James as Vice Captains of School have been the most dependable prefects as deputies I can recall. You have done a sterling job and I have been hugely impressed by your contributions to the school.

Our School Captains, Johnny and Jenny, have taken their roles seriously this year and both have been proactive and shown genuine care and concerns for their peers. That's the job of course. But more than this they've both genuinely led by example and have made a significant contribution in their own right over their years at Strath. Their thoughtfulness has been of great help to me this year. They also make me laugh, usually without meaning to. Thank you both.

I also would like to thank the senior Management Team and my PA Sharon Forsyth for their hard work in this transition year. They have been unstinting in their support as we have made significant changes to how we do things.

And special mention must go to Rev Wiley. Chapel is a fun place, I enjoy it hugely. I laugh a lot and often find myself moved by the services, often unexpectedly. Jonny Wylie is a deeply caring, kind and insightful Chaplain; he is trusted by



the pupils and sought out by them to chat and talk through issues. His warmth and compassion and his clarity of thought are great assets.

Two final 'thank yous' remain. The first is to Kay Linton, for letting us have so much of Richard's time; the second is to Caroline, for moving home with me to come to Strath and for allowing me to be in the office quite so much this year. I won't make a habit of thanking you every year, but a transition year is always busy for a Head and his Chairman and I am grateful to you both for your support and stoicism!

The school is in good heart and has made significant progress this year in making changes for the better fulfilment of its purpose. The school roll remains healthy and further steps to increase investment in the school are under way. Good staff appointments have been made and news steps to increase our effectiveness in and out of the classroom for the benefit of pupils' progress have begun. While there may be difficulties ahead for all independent schools, Strathallan is well placed to meet these challenges and is confident about doing so. A busy year educationally has been a busy year for internal changes too in how we do things. We have achieved a lot. There is more to come however as we sharpen up academically, invest in our pastoral care, improve our facilities and seek to be ambitious for our school and our pupils. There are therefore exciting years ahead of us.

And while we may change much, there will be key things we won't change, the things our Founder Harry Riley would expect to see if he could visit today - our inclusive approach, our recognition of the worth in every pupil and their equal value to our school. Our job as teachers is to invest in each child and by so doing, raise each one to distinction. What we will not change is as important as what we will change.

ML

Salvete

Surname	Forename (Firstname)	Preferred Name	Initials	Boarding House	Enrolment Date
Akinje	Michael	Michael	M A	Riley	04/09/2017
Bayford	Aimee	Aimee	A J K	Riley	29/10/2017
Bayford	Cameron	Cameron	C D T	Riley	29/10/2017
Beal	Joshua	Joshua	J S J	Freeland	04/09/2017
Beedie	Kyle	Kyle	K W M	Simpson	04/09/2017
Berry	Digby	Digby	D G	Nicol	04/09/2017
Biermann	Lisa	Lisa	L J M	Thornbank	04/09/2017
Blanche	Keresi	Keres	K T F	Woodlands	04/09/2017
Brodie	Jack	Jack	J C	Riley	04/09/2017
Brodie	Stanley	Stan	S D	Riley	04/09/2017
Brooke	Arthur	Arthur	A G B	Freeland	04/09/2017
Buchanan	Kira	Kira	K I	Woodlands	04/09/2017
Buttery	William	William	W M	Freeland	06/05/2018
Campbell	Archie	Archie	A R	Riley	04/09/2017
Campbell	Isla	Isla	I M E	Riley	08/01/2018
Campbell	Niamh	Niamh	N E F	Riley	08/01/2018
Carasiov	Alexandr	Alexandr	A I	Simpson	04/09/2017
Carrascosa	Silvia	Silvia	S	Riley	08/01/2018
Chapman	Sophie	Sophie	S R A	Glenbrae	04/09/2017
Chen	Jin Yu	Clare	J	Woodlands	04/09/2017
Chen	Junlin	Jessica	J	Glenbrae	04/09/2017
Chen	Kun Hin	Roger	K	Simpson	04/09/2017
Clunas	Greg	Greg	G A	Ruthven	04/09/2017
Crane	Thomas	Thomas	T O	Freeland	04/09/2017
Croze	Myla	Myla	M C	Riley	04/09/2017
Cuthill	Sophie-Jessica	Sophie	S	Riley	04/09/2017
Cuthill	William	William	W J A	Riley	04/09/2017
Davie	Struan	Struan	S G W	Freeland	04/09/2017
Denison-Pender	Frederick	Freddie	F J	Nicol	04/09/2017
Di Cintio Tiffney	Isabella	Isabella	I R D C	Riley	04/09/2017
Di Cintio Tiffney	Natalie	Natalie	N G	Riley	17/04/2018
Diachuk	Artem	Artem	A	Freeland	04/09/2017
England	Amelia	Amelia	A A	Woodlands	04/09/2017
Estrada Gonzalez	Blanca	Blanca	B	Woodlands	04/09/2017
Evans	Jacy	Jacy	J M	Thornbank	04/09/2017
Evans	Molly	Molly	M C	Thornbank	04/09/2017
Fadinger	Franz	Franz	F L	Simpson	04/09/2017
Fairweather	John	John	J A P	Ruthven	04/09/2017
Fleming	Iona	Iona	I K	Thornbank	04/09/2017
Fletcher-Pyle	Alexis	Alexis	A	Woodlands	04/09/2017
Forrest-Smith	Jemima	Jemima	J S C	Glenbrae	04/09/2017
Forrest-Smith	Melissa	Melissa	M H S	Woodlands	04/09/2017
Gibson	Angus	Angus	A R	Riley	04/09/2017
Gilmour	Charlotte	Charlotte	C M	Thornbank	04/09/2017
Grant	Ross	Ross	R J	Freeland	04/09/2017
Granville-Ross	Finn	Finn	F A	Nicol	04/09/2017
Greenlees	Finlay	Finlay	F W	Riley	04/09/2017
Gudkov	Iaroslav	Iaroslav	I E	Nicol	04/09/2017
Hamill	Miriam	Minnie	M M	Riley	04/09/2017
Harrier	Murdo	Murdo	M A B	Riley	04/06/2018
Helin	Max	Max	M L M	Freeland	04/09/2017
Henderson	Abbie	Abbie	A M	Glenbrae	04/09/2017
Hoad	Kalle	Kalle	K	Simpson	04/09/2017
Jones	Finn	Finn	F M	Riley	04/09/2017
Keating	Ava	Ava	A J M	Woodlands	04/09/2017
Kidd	Sheona	Sheona	S A	Glenbrae	04/09/2017
Knechtli	Angus	Angus	A A C	Freeland	04/09/2017

Surname	Forename (Firstname)	Preferred Name	Initials	Boarding House	Enrolment Date
Kobileva	Sofiia	Sofiia	S	Glenbrae	17/04/2018
Kung	Ching Lam	Sarah	C	Thornbank	04/09/2017
Lauder	James	James	J A H	Simpson	04/09/2017
Lauder	William	Will	W N	Simpson	04/09/2017
LaVallee	Noah	Noah	N M S	Nicol	17/04/2018
LaVallee	Reuben	Reuben	R A M	Riley	17/04/2018
Law	Qiao	Woody	Q	Nicol	04/09/2017
Liu	Xinyue	Xinyue	X	Glenbrae	04/09/2017
Macfarlane	Bertie	Bertie	B M J	Riley	04/09/2017
Mackenzie	Blair	Blair	B I	Nicol	04/09/2017
Mackenzie	Suzy	Suzy	S O	Woodlands	04/09/2017
Mackinnon-Belcher	Bowes	Bowes	B E	Glenbrae	04/09/2017
McConnell	Lilyan	Lilyan	L S	Glenbrae	04/09/2017
McGrath	Lewis	Lewis	L A M	Riley	17/04/2018
McLaren	Lois	Lois	L F	Riley	04/09/2017
Melville	Flora	Flora	F F	Thornbank	04/09/2017
Mickel	Derek	Derek	D C M	Riley	04/09/2017
Mickel	Zac	Zac	Z B M	Riley	04/09/2017
Moody	Eric	Eric	E A	Riley	04/09/2017
Moody	James	Magnus	J M	Simpson	04/09/2017
Morris	Jon	Jonny	J J	Nicol	04/09/2017
Moss	Angus	Angus	A T	Simpson	04/09/2017
Murray	Erin	Erin	E S	Woodlands	08/01/2018
Murray John	Edward	Edward	E I	Freeland	04/09/2017
Newell	Thomas	Tom	T B	Riley	04/09/2017
Ng	Ping Wah	Fabian	P F	Riley	08/01/2018
Novak	Blaz	Blaz	B	Nicol	04/09/2017
Oweh	Mine	Mine	M T	Woodlands	04/09/2017
Pearson	Emily	Emily	E G	Riley	04/09/2017
Pearson	Thomas	Tom	T R	Riley	04/09/2017
Piper	Ruairidh	Ruairidh	R J G	Riley	04/09/2017
Queen	Hamish	Hamish	H S	Riley	04/09/2017
Ross	Alistair	Alistair	A C L	Riley	08/01/2018
Salters	Rob	Rob	R H	Nicol	04/09/2017
Saludes Douglas	Nicolas	Nico	N F	Ruthven	04/09/2017
Sampson	Georgia	Georgia	G A F	Thornbank	04/09/2017
Sands	Gregor	Gregor	G R	Simpson	04/09/2017
Serafinceanu	Adina	Adina	A	Thornbank	04/09/2017
Shang	Mingkun	George	M	Ruthven	04/09/2017
Smith	Eilidh	Eilidh	E L	Thornbank	04/09/2017
Smith	Ralston	Roli	R L	Nicol	04/09/2017
Smithson	Isobel	Isobel	I	Glenbrae	04/09/2017
Stewart	Mark	Mark	M J	Nicol	12/09/2017
Tavernor	Kayden	Kayden	K C	Riley	23/04/2018
Traill	Dax	Dax	D W	Simpson	04/09/2017
Troup	Isla	Isla	I A	Riley	04/09/2017
Tse	Lok Hin	Terry	L	Nicol	04/09/2017
Tuzova	Alina	Alina	A	Glenbrae	04/09/2017
Tuzova	Darya	Dasha	D	Glenbrae	04/09/2017
Wang	Yinghuai	Thomas	Y T	Ruthven	08/01/2018
Whitaker	Jennifer	Jenny	J H	Thornbank	04/09/2017
Wu	Tongyu	Alan	T	Ruthven	04/09/2017
Xue	Jing Feng	Jason	J	Freeland	04/09/2017
Young	Calum	Calum	C J	Ruthven	04/09/2017
Zdravkovic	Mateja	Mateja	M	Nicol	04/09/2017
Zhou	Jiangle	Mary	J	Thornbank	04/09/2017
Zhou	Yu	Joy	Y	Woodlands	04/09/2017

Speech Day



Another sunny Perthshire day brought with it another Strathallan Speech Day. Students and their families gathered from all corners for our annual coming-together, many familiar faces floating around, teachers, former students and parents for some of whom it was their very first Speech Day.

The familiar buzz among the students about the strawberry tarts and how long each speech would last replicated itself once again as people began to pour into the marquee.

This particular year was one to remember, the speeches began with an address from the Chair of the Board of Governors and was followed by a rather more lachrymose Headmaster's address than we might perhaps be used to from the incumbency of Mr Thompson. It seems that Mr Lauder is rather more up-front with his emotions; either that or the close bond formed over countless jokes between him and Johnny Boyd had finally reached its culmination and that had only occurred to him during this speech. As referred to endlessly throughout the year, the victory of the 1st XV and their new title of 'Scottish Champions' was awaited either extremely eagerly or with a sigh of resignation from those who had heard it perhaps a few too many times in school assemblies. Regardless of this, they were duly lauded as to be expected, and also as most would argue, as they deserved.

Johnny Boyd and Jenny McGuire powered through all of their ongoing A-level revision to produce a speech whose comic quality I will leave you to decide upon, but which was nevertheless one to remember, keeping both the students amused and the parents happy that there had been so many goings-on that brought the school together on several occasions for various reasons.

The guest speaker, Mr Andrew Nicol, delivered what was generally deemed one of the more interesting (and appropriately-timed) speeches made throughout the years. He likened life's successive episodes to chapters in a book

and pointed out that the leavers were well on their way to opening up a whole new one which they should relish for they are in a good position to achieve a prosperous future. Being a former student, he very much shared in the Strath experience and reminisced about his time here as one of the best foundations any young person could have, with enough sports analogies and inspirational focal points to keep the whole audience happy; his speech went down very well.

Following the speeches, the pipe band rolled out for another quintessentially Scottish performance enjoyed in particular by the parents, the more so since they hadn't had the unique pleasure of listening to the less-than-subtle wake-up call to sleepy students before Chapel every Wednesday. The guests and students alike flocked into the refreshment tent for a light lunch and drinks before scattering either to watch the concert, introduce themselves or reunite with one another, contribute to the endless stream of photos being taken by almost everyone; the younger students taking every opportunity to ask their parents when they would be able to get away and finally start their holiday.

This event can provoke mixed emotions, for some it is a joyous occasion because they are finally free of school (prep time and uniform being amongst the aspects least missed by leavers), for the summer or indeed, forever. For others, it is rather more solemn as they are leaving behind the place in which so many memories were made and so many friendships formed. For the leavers in particular, leaving the shelter of Strath was a momentous occasion deserving of such ceremony as I'm sure there is no other place quite like it.

Cid Lewis-lettington
LVI Woodlands



As another busy year ends, it is perhaps symbolic that Unforgettable was a top ten song last year. For it was indeed another unforgettable year blending fun, laughter and hard work in Riley. This resulted in an impressive list of achievements by the pupils, which I will try to curtail to just a few highlights.

Riley

As one would expect, the year was not without challenges but in true Strathallan fashion, the children and staff came together to create the warm and homely place that is Riley and it is wonderful to sit and reflect on the achievements and successes all the pupils in Riley House have had, both in and out of the classroom.

The year started with our inaugural afternoon tea party where we welcomed the new members of our community to an afternoon of team building, in surprisingly good weather, and where everyone got the opportunity to meet each other in a relaxed and informal setting.

Landmark closely followed, the highlight of the Riley calendar, where all pupils came off timetable to enjoy a day of fun and frolics and which gave everyone a chance to get to know everyone else a little bit better. Other off-site visits included the Deer Centre at Cupar, a re-enactment of Bannockburn and Form 2 camp in Badaguish, Aviemore where pupils experienced wow balls, gorge walking, walking in trees, team building activities, mountain biking and bush craft. We also thoroughly enjoyed our fish suppers of an evening, as well as the scary stories about Ossian told by Mr Barnes.

As Hallowe'en drew frighteningly close, we were most grateful to Mrs Gibson for transforming Riley into a scary hollow full of ghosts, ghouls, and cackling skeletons. The party itself was ably organised by some of our senior pupils who had great fun demonstrating to the Rileyites how to dook for apples and snatch a doughnut from a string. As always, the fancy dress parade and the Mummy competition presented them with a most difficult choice as there were so many blood-curdling creatures around! Other Riley events included the Christmas disco, Riley curriculum days which this year were based around the

themes of colour and France. Madame Crane's macaroons at break were to die for... could this be the reason we had so many staff in Riley that day? We also had World Book Day and an extremely entertaining visit from author Jonathan Meres who has written the series The World of Norm. On Quiz night, the Riley Common Room was packed with parents and children, and brains were buzzing trying to answer the questions collated by Mr Burnett. We all had great fun, so a big thank you to all the parents who gave up a quiet night in front of the telly in order to make this event a success.

Our Divisional events are a wonderful opportunity for the pupils to discover their strengths, work together and show off their talents. No more so than during the Divisional Plays, where the pupils have to write a script, organise rehearsals, produce costumes and props with limited resources and perform in front of a packed theatre. Parents, friends, staff and pupils were treated to a very varied and entertaining programme with some stunning performances in each division. In the end, Scooby Doo (and the Silly School Scare) narrowly defeated The Seven Dwarves, The Little Mermaid and even The Lion King.

A similarly huge amount of effort went into Divisional Music, where every Division presents a solo, an ensemble and a choir. And again, the audience was struck by the sheer talent and zest of our pupils. Whether it be the saxophone, piano, drums or the trumpet, our soloists did their divisions proud. While the Balmanno choir felt sorry for themselves and declared it A Hard Knock Life Dron decided to Blame it on the Boogie and Dupplin gave up altogether - What do I know? Glenearn went for a "slightly disturbing" (quote Headmaster) Dancing Queen which, if not the most melodic, certainly was the most exuberant, and possibly therefore, the winner.

The Reading Competition encouraged the pupils to take up this endangered activity, and it is great to see how much our pupils still

love a good book. Supported in their choices by our most able and enthusiastic librarian, Mr Amdurer, some of our pupils reached an incredible word count of over two million words, being tested on their understanding of what they had read.

The sporting events bring out the fighter in even the gentlest souls, so Sports Day, Football, Rugby, Cricket, Swimming, Netball, Hockey and even the Tug o'War saw everybody give their best in the pool, on the track, field and the Paddock.

Music continues to flourish under the guidance of Mr Gooch, our new Director of Music, and his fantastic team and they have once again achieved amazing standards with all pupils. The Musical Showcase, the Riley Musical Showcase, Informal concerts, Piping competitions, Brass and String discovery mornings, to name but a few, not only ensure that all pupils have an opportunity to perform but also demonstrates that we continue to have a most vibrant music department.

Sport remains a very important part of life in Riley, with the past twelve months witnessing team and individual successes in sports ranging from rugby to tennis, athletics to swimming, with highlights including Tayside and Midlands swimming championships, clay pigeon championships, accolades in both tennis and canoeing and three great ski days organised by Ms Wardlaw. What impresses me most about sport in Riley has to be our efforts to embody the very best qualities of fair play and sportsmanship, so I offer all pupils my congratulations on being excellent ambassadors for the House ethos.

It has also been a wonderful year for our charities committee, who through our first Riley Ramble, Christmas Jumper Day and Valentines Disco have raised a huge amount of money for Kenya and Children in Need. Drama has once again played an important part in the life of Riley, ably led by Mrs MacFarlane



who once again managed to achieve the most amazing Perform in Perth and LAMDA results. However, huge congratulations must go to all of Riley House for their fantastic rendition of Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits; a superb end to what has been a wonderful year.

I would just like to close by saying farewell to those members of staff who moved on during the year. Josh Silk-Jones and Sophy McRae, our gap students from Australia, left at Christmas and also left a big hole! However, their shoes were soon filled by Jack Clements and Emily Giraud. We also said good bye to Mr Fraser Burnett who was with us for three years as the IJJ teacher and we wish him well in all his endeavours. I would also like to thank Sarah Townsend for her contribution as Riley matron this year and wish her all the best in her new job. Good luck also to the Form 2 children as they continue their journey in the senior part of the school. I wish them all the best and know they will rise to the challenges ahead of them. Finally, my grateful thanks to the wonderful team of Riley staff who have worked so hard this year. Equally to all our parents, who continually give us their full support, and of course my biggest thanks go to all the Riley pupils themselves who make each day unique and full of joy.

EL



Freeland

An inspirational run in the Scottish Cup semi-final by our Head of House will be a lasting memory of the 2017-18 school year. Murphy Walker's determination to overcome pain and adversity set a fine example but it didn't tell us everything about him.



Davie and Ben continued to go from strength to strength as Stop the Rain continued to develop its profile on the modern music scene.

Freeland celebrated the success of a number of boys in their chosen sports. Murphy Walker and Ollie Smith represented Scotland in Rugby while Atholl Pettinger and Campbell Hay enjoyed success at Great Britain level in Equestrian Vaulting and Triathlon respectively. Tom Evans was named in the Scottish All Stars basketball team and Tom Rampton spent a lot of time in the Austrian Alps, knocking on the door of British Team representation. The win by our senior 4 x 400 relay team was a highlight of Sports Day.

The year finished with some impressive exam performances and Norris Wong achieving the honour of Dux of School.

An understanding and caring approach to their role from Diane and her house staff and strong support from a great team of House Tutors have ensured that Freeland continues to be a great place to live.

BAH



Nicol

Throughout 2017 and 2018 Nicol House has enjoyed its usual successes again, academically, in the sporting arena and in the arts. This has been down to the House ethos (inclusivity, respect and honesty) as well as a great attitude possessed by all the boys in the House for whatever task lay ahead of them, big or small.



For the senior inter-House debating Johnny Boyd and Ossie Smith won the trophy again. Johnny winning the best speaker for three years in a row definitely says something about his ability to talk. This also meant Nicol collected the debating trophy for the eighth year in a row. In the Academic Challenge we did particularly well winning the competition yet again, our team of Johnny Boyd, Jack O'Brien, Ossie Smith and Mateja Zdravkovic bringing the trophy home.

This year Nicol has once again shown its dominance in all House events. We won rugby (through the leadership and side-stepping of Jack O'Brien), clay pigeon, athletics standards,

Sports Day, junior House cricket and the mile challenge. Sadly, we didn't win tug of war unlike last year to take home 'the treble'. This may have been down to the absence of Cairn Ramsey (but what was he actually here for anyway?). Throughout all the achievements it's great to see Nicol thrive and get everyone involved either in House teams or through supporting others.

In Nicol we will always aim to be the best, no matter how difficult the task is. Whether it is an individual or a collective effort we will always aim high and if we don't get the results we aimed for we will have known that we always tried our best ("if you get knocked down, you get back up" :- Rocky Balboa). Throughout the last two terms the whole House has been working extremely hard especially the boys with public exams. The rest of the House has had a clear understanding of what everyone has gone through and thus



they have gained a genuine understanding of how important our exams are. I hope that everyone will get the results that they are looking for... but remember you are the only one who can judge if you have put in enough work. Mr Billing, tutors and parents will be expecting, so no pressure!

Our successes can only come with the support of others and all the work that is done behind the scenes is crucial. All the staff in the school deserve recognition and we should thank them for everything they have done. Our domestic staff Davina, Caroline, Carol and Debbie have made the House look its best day in day out. Without them the House and the boys wouldn't be the same. Our tutors Mr Dick, Mr Drover, Mr Bergin and Mr Banda have all been a massive help to us throughout the year.

All the best to Mr Bergin who will be taking over Mr Billing's role as Housemaster and to Mr Robertson who will be taking over from Mr Banda. Good luck to Campbell Carracher as head of House

next year, Ruairidh Clark as deputy and to all the other prefects. I'm sure we are leaving the House in good hands and Nicol will still grow and strive to be the best at everything they do.

Huge congratulations go to Mr Banda and to his new wife Sophie in the summer; the boys will miss him living in House. On a sadder note Mr and Mrs Billing have been with the House for nine years but are now leaving Nicol to go to Thailand with Arthur, Opal and Talla to start a new life. On behalf of all the boys that have gone through Nicol with the Billings, I'd like to personally pass on our thanks for everything you have done. No matter how big or small the task has been, you've always been there. You will always have a place in the hearts and minds of the Nicol boys.

Hamish G White



It has been a busy but exciting beginning to the year in Ruthven House this year. Congratulations are in order for Alvan Sit and Drew Doherty. Alvan attained full academic colours and Drew half. This was based on Alvan's AS exams and Drew's GCSEs. Drew also has to be commended for earning House half colours for his unquestioned commitment to the House.

Ruthven



Marcus Wylie gained full colours for music and Parn Law got half. In sport Greg Clunas was rewarded for his contribution to the 1st XV rugby team who became Scottish Schools champions, gaining half sporting colours. Calum McKeown and Cameron Henderson were also part of the team and both received full colours.

We have welcomed many new pupils into the House this year. They have all fitted in extremely well and adapted very quickly to the daily demands of the Strathallan life. I believe that they are all happy to be in Ruthven and they have jumped at the opportunity to represent the House in inter-House competitions such as cross-country, basketball and rugby. Everyone in House thoroughly enjoyed the Ruthven Ceilidh. We invited Woodlands and enjoyed Scottish country dancing and a fantastic spread of

food. Mr Henderson's excellent address to the haggis and a performance from Ruthven's very own James the Giant and the Peach, a band consisting of James McCaig, Cameron Henderson and Greg Clunas, were particular highlights of the evening. At the end of the first term the whole House headed out to an Indian restaurant in Perth. All in fancy dress the House Christmas party is definitely a highlight of the year. After a great meal we returned to Ruthven for a quiz that was all organised and run by Harry Stewart. Marcus Wylie triumphed in the iconic Ruthven table tennis competition against Kyle Fleming.

We have had a very successful start in terms of inter-House competitions. The junior House basketball team became champions, the campaign culminating in an extremely close final with Nicol.

There were outstanding contributions from George Shang, Alan Wu, Angus Turnbull, Duncan Webb and Alex White. The boys played very well as a team and we hope they can continue this success in the years

to come. We had a very successful inter House cross-country. Over thirty runners ran for the House and we had many other volunteers vying to compete in the team. This was a day of individual excellence. Calum Tod took first place in the junior race, which was a huge achievement as he was competing with runners in the year above him. Joe Higinbottom was first in school and second overall in the intermediate section. Special mentions for effort must go to George Ratcliffe, Jonathan Wong, Conor Campbell and John Fairweather. The boys produced a very good showing in inter-House Swimming. The team came a close second behind Simpson; this was a brilliant performance collectively. Outstanding contributions for this event included, Jonathan Wong who recorded impressive times in his individual events. In addition, a special mention must go to Calum Young, Oliver Spalding, and Oboe Chu all of whom played an essential part in Ruthven's success.

The new Third Formers further proved just how well they had fitted in by coming second



in inter-House rugby. This was a very good result and the team played very well together. We fielded fairly young teams in both the senior House hockey and rugby. In Both events we finished third but it is looking good for the future years based upon the number of Fifth Form and Lower Sixth used in each team. It is also worth considering that we were without the injured Cameron Henderson and James McCaig who, as Scotland players, would both have added something to our rugby team.

Oliver Spalding and Ben Morrison teamed very effectively to make it to the junior House debating final but unfortunately just came up short. Similarly for the senior House debating Aidan Fuge and Calum Young made the final but narrowly missed out on winning the event. Unfortunately, Calum Young missed the event due to illness but Drew Doherty stepped in. Aidan went on to represent the school in the final of The Donald Dewar Memorial Debate Tournament. This is a national competition and the final was contested in the Scottish parliament. His debating skills were clear for all in attendance to witness and the pair were

unlucky not to be named in the top three schools on the night. However, they did go up against some very tough competition from other schools around the country.

Ruthven continued its long tradition of winning the inter-House tug- of-war competition. We have won the competition more than any other House and this year was no different with the team of Cameron Henderson, Greg Clunas, Liam Ferguson, Ozzy Hamzeh, Nico Saludes, Duncan Webb, Angus Turnbull and Boris Shafraan breezing past Simpson in the semi-final and Nicol in the final.

We had a very strong House Music campaign, which culminated in a 3rd place finish and top Boys' House. Our soloist, Parn Law, excelled on the piano and our ensemble was fantastic, Marcus Wylie, James McCaig, Dominic Slaven, Calum Tod, Drew Doherty, Henry Lapslie, Charlie Webster, Oliver Spalding, George Culley and Alistair Jeynes-Ellis performing an outstanding rendition of Star Girl by McFly. The whole House must be commended for a great House choir song. We sang Keep Your

Head Up by Ben Howard. Our choir was the only one to perform without a backing track we instead opted to use our own talented musicians Drew Doherty, Peeter Mirlieb and Alex White which made us the clear winners of the Strathallan House Music Quaich for the best accompanists. Marcus Wylie and James McCaig did a fantastic job in organising the House for the event and they were both rewarded with full House colours for their efforts.

At Sports Day this year both Joe Higginbottom and Calum Tod excelled. Calum became Junior Victor Ludorum. This is a hugely impressive achievement and hopefully Calum can maintain this high level of achievement in future years. Joe won the intermediate 400m, 800m and came third in the intermediate long jump, which was a fantastic achievement both personally and for the House. There was further success in the senior 400m final where James McCaig easily crossed the line in first position.

Kyle Fleming

Having finished my 5th and final year in Simpson House it is easy to see how the House has always kept a warm welcoming atmosphere to all pupils while still being a fun and exciting place to live. There is and has always been lots of diversity in Simpson from sport to music to academics, which has improved the House and its achievements.

Simpson

As always the boys have excelled both in their own individual sports as well as the very important inter-House competitions. It is always promising to see individuals excelling with many reaching the first team level, district level and even national Scottish level for some like **Struan Griffiths in Hockey and Rowan Laird in Equestrianism**. On the inter-House level the year started strong with **Simpson reclaiming both the Swimming Standards and the inter-House Swimming Gala maintaining our history of strong swimmers**. We also won the junior and senior Outdoor Hockey competitions, in recent years always a strong point for the House.

In addition to these Simpson also claimed the inter-House Football after two very tight games both going to penalty shoot-outs, the senior inter-House Cricket, intermediate Cross Country and inter-House Tennis. As well as these victories we came joint first in arguably the most competitive sport of them all, Athletics, with strong performances from all the year groups. After all the victories and hard work that went into this year the whole House can be proud of their accomplishments and I hope we can look forward to even better results years to come.

Music is also very important to the whole House. Unfortunately we were once again disappointed even after three superb performances including Yellow Submarine by the Beatles accompanied by an actual yellow submarine (Are you sure about this, Iain? Ed) and an appearance from a gorilla playing the drum part from In the Air Tonight. Despite the unaccountable loss the pupils within the House have achieved a lot this year, many improving their

talents on their respective instruments; many of these attaining better grades as well as diplomas during the year. Members of Simpson House have also had amazing experiences and success in live performances both in school with shows like The Strathallan Musical Showcase and the school musical Singin' in the Rain as well as public performances such as the Pipe Band performing at Hampden Park during a Scotland game. We did also manage to make Mr Muirhead happy by winning the inter-House Piping and Drumming competition for the second year in a row so at least there is one Strathallan School music prize to show for all of our efforts.

None of this success however would be possible without the help from all the members of staff that are involved with Simpson. I would like to thank all the staff for lending advice and a helping hand to anyone who needed it. I know the work done sometimes goes un-thanked but it is never unappreciated. I would also like to especially thank all of the tutors who throughout the years have kept all members of Simpson House on track and on top of everything we do. In particular Mr Muirhead the in-House tutor who is always there to give advice and help to anyone who needs it (unless they approach him in a Celtic jersey).

Finally I would like to thank Mr and Mrs Batterham for dealing with us for these five years. It has been an amazing experience, most of the achievements and memories that all of us have enjoyed would not have been possible without all the hard work that you have invested in us. Thanks to all the Upper 6th prefects who have made this year so fun and memorable. The success of the House would not have been possible without the help that all of you have given and thank you for making this last year so enjoyable for the whole House. I would also like to wish Dax and the new team of prefects the best of luck in the coming year.

Iain Robertson



Thornbank

Yet again, a superb year at school with many exciting and positive events taking place. However, the year just would not be the same without being in Thornbank where the House has been filled with so much positivity, happiness and excitement. This year brought a couple of important introductions to the House helping bring us all even closer together, and allowing us more chance to voice our thoughts and feelings no matter our year or position.



The first introduction was the new family system. The House was divided into four families throughout all year groups each with an UVI or two as its head. The aim of this was to allow people of each year to interact with others in a way that they may not have done before. Personalities were combined that may not normally have been and it became evident that this was one big happy House where people were able to interact together no matter what.

One of the most exciting things about the families were their names, which the UVI chose. We had lengthy discussions about the names and what they should represent. In the end we decided to opt for women in history we found to be inspirational and whom we felt more people should be aware of. The women chosen were: Rosa Parks, Marie Curie, Malala Yousafzai and Emmeline Pankhurst. We chose these women based on their morals and their achievements, guiding principles which we believe that all the members of the House should stand by; to fight for equality whilst standing up for beliefs; to work hard to make new discoveries in all aspects of life; to strive to be the best that you can be. These families allowed an easy way for integration within the year groups while they bonded over seasonal parties (usually involving copious amounts of chocolates and snacks to get us riled up for the games) - the Halloween party that was kept very tidy, the Christmas party where each year performed for the rest of the House and the UVI made a music video of The Jackson Five's I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus, and finally the Easter party where far too much sugar was consumed.

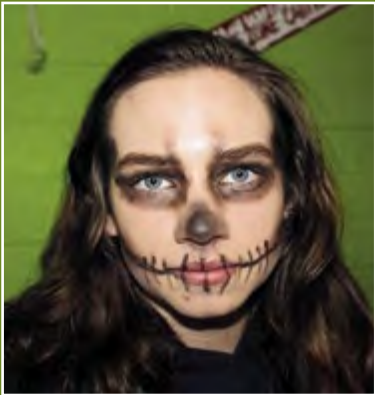
Possibly the highlight of the year for Thornbank regarding success was the

annual House music competition where this year it was clear due to Tanya Stephen's musical genius, we truly did dominate the stage. Rehearsals of Michael Jackson's Man in the Mirror began early in the first term for the House choir. Following this, the ensemble performed a mash-up of Lean on Me and Stand by Me, and finally Jenny began working on Sam Smith's Lay Me Down. The hard work put in truly did pay off, as we won four out of the possible five categories; Jenny winning solo, Tanya and I winning best conductors (likely due to our fantastic costumes and acting talents), our best choir with our thrilling dance moves, and you could say we beat it by winning the competition overall.

Another introduction to Thornbank this year was "Monday morning inspiration/motivation". Each Monday a member of the House would give a quick chat to the House in roll call about a topic that they felt would motivate or inspire the House, or occasionally just something funny or a topic to get everyone thinking. A particular favourite of mine being Charlotte (UVI) saying "never stop sharpening the pencil", encouraging the House to work hard to achieve their personal best. Many touched on exam stress and others on confidence within yourself. If I were to go back now I'd remark on the positivity of really embracing everything about yourself and being unapologetically yourself, and not conforming to ideas that you may not truly believe in.

A true privilege it has been this year being the 29th Head of House, and I'd like to wish everyone the best time in school possible and to keep Thornbank close to you as it will be a large part of your life forever. It will give you some of the most memorable times, good or bad, where the proximity of the people around you pulls you through all challenges and the opportunities that come your way.

Amy Keir





Woodlands



It is hard to comprehend that after five years I can no longer call Woodlands House my home. However, I can safely say on behalf of all the Upper Sixth leavers that it will always hold a special place in our hearts. While we may not miss Mr McKinney's attempt at 'jokes' first thing on a Monday morning or the constant nagging from Margaret every Tuesday to tidy our sinks, these are just two examples of the shared memories that we will look back on with great affection.

On joining Woodlands in 3rd Form the first thing I was told was, "If you like to eat, you've found the right place". It's fair to say that year on year this has proved to be the case. We Woodlanders will always find any excuse to stuff our faces, from tutor innings and bingo evenings to chocolate night when more food invariably ends up on faces rather than in stomachs.

At the start of this year we decided to put our talents in the kitchen to good use and raised over £200 in our Macmillan Cancer Trust Bake Sale. More fund-raising was undertaken by a group of Sixth Form girls in support of the Kenya schools project. It was great to see everybody in the House get behind them and take pride in their efforts. This year it wasn't uncommon to enter the foyer and trip over a ball of string as Margaret took it upon herself to teach a group of girls the skills behind knitting. By the end of the year, they were able to produce baby bonnets for the Neonatal Unit at Ninewells Hospital, Dundee. For me, their desire to make a difference, however small, sums up the spirit which the House embodies.

To kick off the year, and most likely terrify our new 3rd Form, we had House Music; our ensemble performing Forget You, our choir singing I've had the time of my life and finishing off with our amazingly talented soloist Ella England. We were clearly robbed when placed second over all, but - ever positive - we emerged with our new motto, "First the worst - second the best". A special mention to Shannon Pook and Ava Keating for their daring attempt at the iconic Dirty Dancing lift - that moment alone should have won it for us - no question.

Our competitive drive led to success in a number of other inter-House competitions this year. Our Juniors were indestructible in netball, hockey and basketball and our seniors won the rounders with ease. However, our biggest triumph was winning Sports Day overall for the second year running. While we may have missed out narrowly on a few

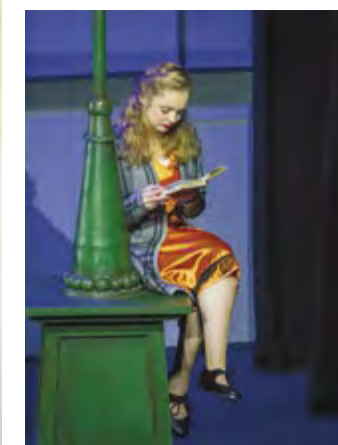
other trophies, I think everyone will agree that the Woodlands girls are the winners for enthusiasm, always showing the biggest turn-out for support, covering ourselves with questionable red lipstick and more importantly having the most fun and easily the biggest grins on our faces, no matter the outcome.

While the girls in House see themselves as a team, they are always keen to support individual successes. A significant number of Woodlanders represented the school at a high level in sport, Jenny McGuire as Captain of Hockey and me as Captain of Tennis. We also racked up many achievements outside school; Lois Garland on the athletics track, Shannon Pook in several Ladies Golf events and Ella England, Flora Wilson, Brook Walker, Sophia Henderson, Millie Wilson and Amelia England in the Equestrian world. In addition, it was tremendous to see so many Woodlanders perform well in a range of Midlands hockey teams.

Of course, Woodlands simply wouldn't be the same without Margaret, everyone's second mother. She will be greatly missed by the leavers, not least for her much-needed hugs and her birthday cupcakes. Our thanks are also due to Mary, Ishbel and Ferlyth for ensuring the smooth running of the House. Another big thank you goes to our House tutors. We wish the best of luck to Miss Jassim and Mrs Davies as they move south and thank you to Mr Lopez for his work in Woodlands. We also say goodbye to Mrs Fleming, hoping that she will enjoy a happy retirement. Last but by no means least, our grateful thanks to Mr McKinney. His relaxed but caring approach has allowed us to negotiate the challenges in our final year without too much hysteria. His calming influence, approachability and advice have helped us enormously. We wish him well for next year and hope that Ada is as excited as we are to meet her new sibling.

Finally, I would like to wish the best of luck to Captain of School, Cid Lewis-Lettington, Head of House, Izzy Folan and to all of the new Upper 6th. I know they will take the best care of the girls in the coming year.

Caitlin Donald



Glenbrae

The autumn term was a busy one in Glenbrae with swimming standards, inter-House swimming, inter-House hockey and the House Music competition as well as many informal music performances, the school play rehearsals and performances and finally Head Master's Music at Perth Concert Hall.



In addition, there were the many birthday, Halloween, Guy Fawkes and Christmas celebrations along the way keeping us further entertained. Harriot Clarke, as Head of House, was a leading influence in ensuring that the various events went smoothly and were orchestrated well; telling Miss Wilson what to buy and for when! Hallowe'en saw a mixture of dressing up, traditional games, including dooking for apples (with the added flour dunk for fun and good photographs) together with some piñatas, bingo and wrapping of 'mummies'.

Pizza was the menu of choice for the Christmas party and with enough to last the entire last week of term we set about tackling this whilst watching the very amusing and well-put-together Christmas performances. III Form always do great tutor impressions (dangerous after just a few months), IV Form always do a great nativity and V Form contributed an excellent sing-song. LVI were very entertaining with their interpretation of 'The UVI' and the UVI video performance (if we do say so ourselves) was hysterical.

Kimmy Muir ably co-ordinated the sporting commitments this term and was a positive influence in drumming up both competitors and supporters for each event (often wearing the customary purple face paint). Anna Clark's enthusiastic steer on the House music competition saw the House choir

perform Connie Bailey Rae's Put Your Records On, Shannah Goddard sang Coldplay's The Scientist and the ensemble played Don't Dream It's Over by Crowded House. We were proud to watch each and every Glenbrae girl perform on stage and enjoyed celebrating all we had accomplished over the previous few weeks. A lot of hard work, time and motivation is needed to make it through these performances but thankfully everyone pulled together to ensure a positive stage presence from all.

Milly Nesom was a leading figure on the charities committee and seemed to spend most of December tying labels to candy canes as part of the Christmas fundraising as well as leading the House in a couple of charity events. We were proud to be raising money for various school charities and supporting Milly in her endeavours.

With the prelim examinations taking place in January there was much to be done this term including preparations for the Glenbrae VI Form Dinner. All Glenbrae VI Form girls and their dates, together with House tutors and other members of staff enjoyed a three-course dinner and in the David Pighills room. With Third Former Maddie playing the harp to welcome our guests, then third formers Cameron and Ayo singing between courses and finally some table quizzes and speeches it was a fun and busy night for all. We have to thank Head of House Harriot for orchestrating the evening, negotiating with catering and estates on menu and venue, organising the quizzes and even painting and preparing the table decorations. She will be a tough act to follow.

This term saw a very closely contested inter-House netball tournament and we were gutted to lose in the final moments but delighted to see Deputy Head of School and netball captain Lisa Walker leading the team throughout. The school musical was outstanding and it was great to see our fellow UVI Anna Clark performing on stage with Poppy working tirelessly backstage.

The House seemed very quiet this term as many of this year's UVI were sitting Highers, which finished at half term. Thankfully, we came back intermittently to ensure that there was always a team present for the many different sporting events that took place over the last few weeks, including the Tug-of-War, athletics standards, mile challenge, Sports Day, and inter-House tennis and rounders. We were proud to see Shannah as captain of Athletics and Mrs Goddard presenting trophies to this year's winners. There were lots of BBQ events this term, the lovely and warm weather definitely helped us to enjoy these and to discover our love of halloumi burgers! We were less impressed with the warm weather when studying as we watched everyone else outside enjoying themselves each evening as we tried to keep working.

As the outgoing UVI our particularly highlight were Speech Day and the Summer Ball and we would like to thank Deputy Head of House Rachel for her huge input into the Ball night preparations. This was a great night for us as students and for our parents and a great way to celebrate the end of our time at Strathallan. Thank you, Rachel; we know you are definitely off to study the right course at university!

This year has seen many tutor group outings and innings and we thank our individual tutors greatly for the efforts that they have made towards this. There have been many pizza nights, ice cream socials, baking and even personal statement writing.



We have had Holly and Jorden on exchange in Australia and New Zealand (and the excitement of Kirsty and Charlie visiting us in return). After successful applications Romy went to Kenya over the Easter break and currently Teagan, Anna C, Anna P, Harriet and Michelle are over there working with the orphanage and schools. Anna C was also selected for the Holocaust Memorial Trusts 'Lessons from Auschwitz' Program, which included visiting both Auschwitz 1 and Auschwitz II Birkenau in Poland. Many of our younger Glenbrae girls went ski-ing in France during the spring half term, touring the geological features of Iceland at Easter and finally Jorden is off to the Festival Interceltique de Lorient with the Pipe Band later this summer. Add to that a whole host of tutor outings, subject field days and Sunday outings and we have certainly been kept busy.

As always, we want to extend a huge thank you to Lynn, Linda, Amanda and Ann for helping us to keep going with tuck shop, keeping our rooms organised, sorting our uniforms and just being extra adults to talk to when needed. The UVI wish Jorden and Maria and the other House monitors the best of luck as they venture into UVI and leading Glenbrae next year. They have both been excellent role models to the younger girls in House and we know they will tackle the challenges their roles will present, but with good humour and a bit of fun along the way.

Glenbrae UVI.



The Chaplain



A life in the day of the Strathallan Chaplain

From the sublime to the ridiculous....

The world of the Chaplain at Strathallan continues to surprise some, perhaps inspire a few and often cause amusement to many. I have thoroughly enjoyed, this year, a deepening relationship with many of the pupils and staff and feel in many ways that I have been at Strathallan for many years.

The big set-piece events are often seen as the centrepiece of Chaplaincy at the school and this year there have been many highlights; at Remembrance with a new idea to engage all pupils in their own solemn act of remembrance by ‘planting’ their British Legion plastic poppies in the shape of a cross outside chapel to create an evocative field of red flowers blowing in the wind; at Christmas a re-engagement with the local community to expand our Carol Services to the local area beyond the school; four weddings have been conducted in the school this past year and with all the colour and excitement and memories that past pupils bring back to the Chapel they have individually all been special events; a range of external speakers have added a new voice on a Wednesday morning including a memorable talk from Sally Magnusson but also including other speakers from

the charity sector and a sprinkling of local clergy along with the occasional School Chaplain from elsewhere in Scotland; a new relationship with Kilgraston has involved a swap of senior pupils to preside over a Chapel Service ‘up the road’ in the neighbouring School; and of course there has been a continuation of the fun and laughter on a regular Wednesday morning with a personal highlight the shaving of a pupil’s head during a talk on Samson (all for charity of course!)

Some of these may be sublime, some may be faintly ridiculous but all have endeavoured to speak to the hearts of Strathallan pupils on a range of issues in many different ways.

However, it is the quieter work of Chaplaincy that is often hidden or in the shadows that has grown most in this past year. Building a relationship with staff and pupils is bearing fruit in conversations, meetings and prayer. The Big Questions group on a Tuesday evening has grown unexpectedly with Sixth Form boys particularly enjoying the challenge of discussing relevant, often controversial and sometimes highly theological or philosophical topics in the Chaplain’s office - eating all my biscuits and drinking all my coffee at the same time! With Mr. Banda in charge the Christian Union continues to meet on Thursday evening in the comfort of his new wee house. The new ‘Secret Coffee Club’ has emerged with a small group meeting at a ‘special’ time to chat and sample wonderful coffee from around the world. The Chapel continues to be a place of meeting for many pupils - particularly younger groups of friends from across the Houses looking for a safe place to relax, chill out and perhaps arrange a ‘walk’!

Whether in big public events or small private moments I believe that the work of Chaplaincy has been at the heart of Strathallan this past year - underpinning the values of the School and binding everyone together with shared experience. God is alive and well at Strathallan whether that is a presence at historic and important moments of School life or in private moments of grief, confusion, confession, distress, anger, joy or celebration. It is those private moments that I will perhaps treasure the most - individuals with the trust to open their hearts and lives to a stranger - but perhaps the key lesson for me is that I am no longer a stranger - and to now feel such a big (!) part of this community and School has been a humbling and massively rewarding experience.

JW

Judith Ralston

After a week enduring the “Beast from the East” Strathallan 6th Form were presented with a very apt lecture from BBC Scotland’s weather presenter Judith Ralston giving a riveting talk on her life experience and how she progressed from being an operatic prodigy to principal weather presenter.

Judith spoke honestly on her life and how her future was turned on its head due to vocal injury after years of training, causing her career to halt despite her prospects. She described her perseverance through this hard time that eventually allowed her to become the first non-meteorologist weather presenter for the BBC in Scotland and the drive and determination that this required, demonstrating that when things don’t pan out it doesn’t need to be the end as she stumbled upon her love of the weather. Her achievements within the industry were truly inspirational as she spoke honestly of the hardships faced by women in media and, in particular, at the BBC. In the time of the #timesup and #metoo movements on social media, she placed hope in her daughters’ generation that the workplace will become a more kind, considerate and equal place without the pay gap.

It was truly remarkable to hear such an open discussion of the issues facing women today as well as the hope for the achievements that can be made. Finally, Judith summed up all she has learned and the vital lessons in life: that we should all be kind to everyone and not give up when things don’t turn out right. The lessons we learn in school, be that in the classroom, the music department or even on the sports field, will inevitably come as a helping hand in wherever our futures may take us.

I would like to thank Mr Vallot for once again organising an intellectual and inspiring lecture, as well as Scott Moncreiff for funding this event and finally, Judith for her truly insightful talk.

Anna Clark,
UVI Glenbrae

Lectures

Karyn McCluskey

Karyn McCluskey is credited with bringing gangland conflict to an end in Glasgow. She headed the Violence Reduction Unit created as a result of her own 2004 report to Strathclyde Police; a model now being used by police forces across the country. She is currently a non-executive director of the Scottish Professional Football League and chief executive of Community Justice Scotland.

Karyn used a real-life example of how society, circumstances, peer pressure and deprivation can lead to an individual following a life of

crime and violence. Violence that led to a 15-year-old stabbing and killing a complete stranger on a busy street in Glasgow. Her opening question was:

“Who would put this 15-year-old in prison and throw away the key?” The majority suggested they would.

What she unveiled as to the life circumstances that brought this lad to where he was on that fatal night was both harrowing, shocking and enlightening. That this could happen in a modern, civilised society left the audience stunned.

By the end the majority were less judgemental.

PMV

Suzanne Zeedyk

Dr Suzanne Zeedyk visited the school on Monday and spoke to the whole of the VI Form. She is a Child and Developmental psychologist and honorary lecturer at University of Dundee and now runs her own company.

Suzanne spoke to the pupils about attachment, specifically to their mobile phones, and how there is a biological basis for the stress and angst that people feel when parted from them, in much the same way as babies show stress when parted from their primary carer.

The lecture was interactive and pupils had to describe their feeling when they are parted

from their phones and or when their phone battery ran out.

Suzanne described the reward pathway in the brain and how that linked into the “Teddy” and “Sabre-toothed Tiger” (rest/relax & fight/flight) responses we all show when circumstances require. These hormonally controlled responses are what cause the stress we feel when we lose our phones or we don’t get a response to a text.

Q&A at the end were many and varied, including one that asked if our mobile phones were a modern equivalent of the addiction to tobacco.

PMV

Robert Reid

Listening to a very enjoyable and thought-provoking talk by 2001 World Rally Champion Robert Reid was a very enlightening experience. He recounted how a passion for this sport, which started whilst Mr Reid was a pupil at Strathallan, led to him making a very successful career of his interest, a move all the more fascinating to me since it is one which I want to emulate.

For those who hadn’t even heard of rallying, it still gave them a new perspective on how to approach anything whether it be sporting or academic; you learn both from your mistakes and from your success because *Labor Omnia Vincit*.

Ruaridh Clark
LVI Nicol

Speech & Drama



This has been a year when, once again, our pupils have been showered in Honours and Distinctions. For example, they excelled in the Speech and Drama classes in Perform in Perth, which sees entries from pupils in schools all over the county.

Five pupils achieved Honours (90%+) marks: Johnny Boyd for Bible Reading; Annie Webster for Prepared Reading; Chloe McMichael for Verse Speaking; and Struan Davie and Morgan Patterson for reciting a poem by Perth poet, William Soutar, and Struan again for another by Robert Burns, for which he also won a trophy. Anna Moody won the Bible Reading Trophy for the second year in a row. She had two other wins as well. Isabella di Cintio-Tiffney won the William Soutar Tassie, a cup which, like the Bible and Burns Trophies, has been inscribed with the names of very many Strathallan pupils over the years.

There were firsts awarded in sixteen classes in all. Other winners were Michael Akinje, Isla Campbell, Beth Thornton, Isobel Beetschen and Alexander English.

The combined forces of 1J and 1JJ performed *The ABC* by Spike Milligan and *Fibaw in the Street* by Robert Garioch, which gave them a worthy first place in the Choral Verse Speaking.

When you do something well, then why not have another go at it! So 1J and 1JJ performed the two poems again in May for the LAMDA examiner and achieved an impressive 91%, resulting in a Distinction certificate for each one of the thirty of them!

Add to that thirty, the certificates for candidates in the solo and duo LAMDA

exams and we find that a total of seventy-six Distinctions were achieved by our pupils in the School year.

The top marks in Medal exams (Grades 6(Bronze), 7(Silver) and 8(Gold)) went to Rachel Foulsham and Maggie English in Gold Medal Speaking in Public, to Dylan Patterson and Anna Clark in Gold Medal Acting, and to Beth Thornton in Bronze Medal Acting. Silver Medal Distinctions in Acting went to Ella England, Darcy McDermott and Josh Mitchell. Bronze Medals in Acting were achieved by Ellie Nielsen, Bryony Barclay, Sheena McArthur and Jade Paterson. There were also Distinctions awarded in Speaking in Public (Bronze) with four Ruthven boys achieving medals: Alexander Bergin, Kyle Fleming, Marcus Wylie and Kieran Fowlie. Anna Nunan was awarded Distinction for Grade 6 Reading for Performance.

The pre-medal exams (grades Entry Level to 5) are taken in May. These were in Acting, Speaking in Public, Reading for Performance and the Speaking of Verse and Prose. Distinctions in more than one exam were achieved by Ben Morrison, Magnus Moody, Michael Akinje, Grace Akinje, Ethan Wivell, Chloe McMichael and Annie Webster. Others gaining Distinction were Alexander English, Isobel Beetschen, Ava Keating, Cameron Wright, Daisy Richards, Isabella di Cintio-Tiffney, Anna Moody, Alexis Fletcher-Pyle, Elvira Hamill, Louis Limburg, Melissa Forrest-Smith, Alexandra Ryabov, Jacy Evans, Sofia Fabregat-Kirchen, Alasdair Macdonald and Iona Fleming.

At the Perth Burns Club's Annual Schools' Festival, Morgan Paterson won the trophy for secondary pupils, aged under-15, with his recitation of *Saint Dod* by William Soutar.

IIMcF

Add to that thirty - the certificates for candidates in the solo and duo LAMDA exams - and we find that a total of seventy-six Distinctions were achieved by our pupils in the School year.

Music

Reminiscing on my first year as Director of Music at Strathallan I am amazed by the quality and quantity of opportunities where pupils were able to represent the school by performing or composing. It is such a show of the importance and strength of music to so many people across every year group in the school. It is astounding to think about the number of achievements from just one academic year, and instead of just listing them all I thought I would provide some statistics that I feel best demonstrate the commitment of the pupils and staff alike.

- 63% of Strathallan pupils were involved in concerts or regular rehearsals
- 8472 individual music lessons were delivered by our team of 21 visiting music teachers
- 86% of Riley pupils learnt at least one instrument
- 100% pass rate in performance exams with 41% of pupils gaining a distinction
- 62 concerts were performed at by pupils
- 14 pupils represented Scotland in national ensembles

The Autumn term saw a huge number of opportunities for pupils to perform in our regular series of informal concerts that take place on a Friday evening. With an average of ten performers, these are a snapshot of the wealth of talent and hard work that goes on in individual music lessons weekly. Real highlights for me were listening to performances from pupils in Riley alongside those of more experienced and seasoned UVI pupils. Before half term I was inaugurated into the tradition that is House Music. At this early stage in my time here I was invigorated to see the variety and wealth of talent from every house. From ‘cello solos, large instrumental ensembles to the House Choir. Entertainment was in abundance with good humour being at its core. Our adjudicator, Stuart Cassells, congratulated all performers on their confidence, reminding everyone present on the importance of creative arts in education. Congratulations to the overall winners; Woodlands House and their music rep. Tanya Stephen.



The Autumn term would never be complete without our traditional remembrance service and carol concerts. The school’s newly named Chamber Choir were out in force to represent the school at every formal service and every single one of them should be incredibly proud of each performance. Under the guidance of Head of Choir Anna Clark, we were able to cover some incredibly difficult repertoire with ease. Many thanks must also go to our Brass Ensemble who provided incidental music at these concerts and services under the leadership of Mr Tom Smith. The Musical Showcase at Perth Concert Hall underwent a slight revamp in content with the focus very much being on giving as many pupils as possible the opportunity to perform in such an incredible venue. With over two hundred pupils involved this was definitely the case with some inspiring performances and collaborations between a great number of different school ensembles. Highlights for me must include the Folk Band and Massed Pipes in addition to the School Choir joining forces with the Big Band. Parents and audience members were left in no doubt that this was truly the start of Christmas.

On the back of what was already an incredibly busy term the department, with other staff, took nearly forty pupils from the Wind Band and String Ensemble on tour to Germany. A suitably busy five days ensued with performances at Christmas markets and churches, interspersed with visits to tourist

sites around Cologne and Bonn. The pupils were very professional in their approach to some difficult performance venues but everyone had a very enjoyable time. Thanks must go to Mrs Howett and Mr Barnes who joined as honorary members of the Music department, and to the more senior pupils who helped look after our Riley pupils.

Aside from performing opportunities, we have been working hard on improving the school’s musical links with the community through outreach projects. It was with great pleasure that a number of musicians were able to team up with the great Ian White as part of the Inspiration Orchestra. This is a music therapy project that delivers music lessons to adults with both physical and mental disabilities. It is a project unique to Scotland, and every pupil was in agreement as to how special an opportunity it was to work regularly alongside such amazing individuals. This project culminated in three performances in St Matthew’s Church throughout the year where pupils were able to perform with patients playing music that varied from Classical medleys to Rock ‘n Roll singalongs. This is an area that the department is hoping to develop even more in future so, if you know of opportunities where our musicians can benefit others then please do get in touch. Projects such as this have gone hand in hand with taking pupils out of school regularly to watch professional performances from world famous musicians. The best case of this was taking all



of IJJ to a live-action performance by RSNO of Peter and the Wolf. This proved a great opportunity to bridge the gap of curriculum music with a performance of the highest standard.

Not every performance that goes on at Strathallan is open to the public or even open to every year group. Riley house have been fortunate to experience throughout the year a number of discovery mornings on which guest musicians, including a member of the Maxwell Quartet and American flautist Dr Shelly Binder, have demonstrated the versatility of their instrument and offered pupils the chance to ‘have a go’. This is just another example of how music truly is at the core of everything at Strathallan School.

The Spring term saw an eclectic calendar of performances ranging from the Folk Band performing at the Neil Gow Festival, the Variety Show and of course the Senior Musical of Singin’ in the Rain. Behind the scenes, in a darkened room we had ten senior pupils playing in the orchestra for what is an infamously difficult musical. Whenever I experience pupils playing in a near-professional level pit orchestra I am humbled and amazed by what they are achieving. We are all looking forward to hearing what is produced in the next musical; We Will Rock You.

The Summer term traditionally sees pupils change their focus to completing public

examinations, but here at Strathallan they somehow still find time to attend rehearsals for yet more concerts. Strathallian Day saw our Folk Band out in force to entertain the crowds in front of the school. With Blair Davie’s wisdom and leadership, this proved to be a gig of the highest quality and it was easy to forget that these were only school pupils. For the Senior school the year culminated in Headmaster’s Music in the school theatre. Amongst outstanding performances from our larger ensembles it was very important for me to be able to say thank you and goodbye to our UVI musicians who were leaving after a great number of years of dedication and support. So, big show pieces were interspersed with small duets and solos from departing pupils which proved an emotional end to a school career for pupils, parents and staff alike. To all those who have left; please do come back and join us at a concert soon. You are always welcome in the music family.

With the conclusion of Headmaster’s Music it was the chance for Riley pupils to truly shine; and shine they did. The new Riley Showcase was the perfect opportunity to properly demonstrate the incredible work that goes on weekly in the department. An eclectic programme also managed to showcase the 2nd Form pupils moving to the Senior School or further afield and my thanks must go to them as much as the UVI leavers. They have been more influential to their peers than they will ever realise.

It is astounding to think about the number of achievements from just one academic year...



Then, to round up the year, Riley boarded its flying carpet with an outstanding performance of Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits. With many pupils stepping up to take leading and solo roles for the first time it really was an amazing spectacle. Again, thanks must go to staff and senior pupils from outside the music department for their ongoing support, notably the director Mrs Howett.

It is hard to write about the achievements of such a large department without acknowledging some of the outstanding achievements of a great number of pupils in academic and performance exams that happen throughout the year. A 100% pass rate at all levels is an incredible achievement for any school and the fact that a great number of these are above grade 8 is simply outstanding. I also wish the best of luck to the UVI A level Music academics who all go on to pursue Music beyond school.

So many opportunities cannot possibly be offered without the support of parents and a large team of teachers who are often not publicly seen. Thank you to every single visiting music teacher for everything they do and especially for all the support I have been offered in my first year here at Strathallan. There are a great number of exciting plans in the pipeline and I can’t wait for the next year of music-making here at Strathallan School.

MG

Pipe Band



Now that our passports are safely back in the top drawer, we have the chance to reflect on what was the most exciting year in the Pipe Band's history. I would like to start by thanking the pupils in the band for their hard work over the past twelve months, the improvements are clear for everyone to see.

The academic year started in the traditional manner; learning new tunes and scores whilst preparing for the CCF Scottish Schools' Quartet and Trio Championships. Extra lunchtime practices in exchange for Mr Muirhead's 'pieces' (sandwiches) were negotiated as usual and the hard work was worthwhile. Strathallan's A Quartet placed third in a strong field and piped entries from World Championship-winning schools.

A highlight of the Strathallan calendar is Fun with Pipes and Drums for which, this year, we welcomed over seventy children from local prep schools and Riley. We had a great day, assisted by Strathallan's senior piper and drummers, learning new tunes and playing games. Thanks go to McCallum Bagpipes for sponsoring the event with piping and drumming-related prizes.

Throughout the year, we have been invited to Hampden Park to play at Scottish International Football Matches (You'd probably have a better game than the actual squad members, Craig. Ed). Representatives of the Scottish Football Association have repeatedly commented on the band's quality and professionalism, especially given the complexity of the requirements, for example, 'you will play at 19:00.30 for eleven minutes and twenty five seconds.'

Over thirty members of the Pipe Band were delighted to be involved in Strathallan School's Scottish Cup Final win over Glenalmond College. The sense of occasion was felt across the entire school, none more so than when, after the performance, every Pipe Band member dumped their pipes and drums in the dressing room and sprinted to the stands to watch the team prevail. Although we are well used to playing in large stadia, there is still something about marching out at Murrayfield which raises the hairs on the back of your neck.

At the Scottish School's Pipe Band Championships this year, Strathallan entered two pipe bands who both performed very well. In the 'Junior A Category', Strathallan placed fourth against strong competition. The 'Junior B Category' saw many debutants in their first pipe band contest. Given the inexperience in the ranks, top three placings in piping were most pleasing! Although we enjoy performing at events across the country, I am delighted with how the pupils prepare for traditional Pipe Band competitions. With busy schedules across the board at Strathallan, we continually punch above our weight in contests and I cannot thank the pupils enough for the dedication they show in the lead-up to major competitions.

Congratulations must go to members of the band who performed well at national level individually. Most notably Pipe Major Robbie MacIsaac on repeated competitive success and to Archie Macfarlane on being accepted in to the National Youth Pipe Band of Scotland. Pipe Sgt. Ben Muir continued the trend of Strathallan pipers studying at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland; one hundred percent of Strathallan applicants for the piping degree have been accepted on to the course.

Whilst an army of pipers and drummers created the biggest Strathallan Pipe Band in history at Speech Day, a small group of Third Form pipers accompanied Mr Muirhead to the Barbados Celtic Festival. Conor, Xander, Gregor and Oliver travelled to the Caribbean to take part in street parades and concerts. They attended schools across the island, including that of pop star Rhianna, and engaged in exciting cultural exchanges with other young people. The team were interviewed live on STV and featured in the documentary Scots in Paradise. The heat was intense, so the pipers wore kilts with short sleeved polo shirts rather than the traditional jacket and waistcoat. The trip confirmed the idea that, no matter where you travel in the world, people are excited at the prospect of hearing the Great Highland Bagpipes, proven by the large crowds enjoying our music on the boardwalk in Bridgetown.

From a relaxing Pipe Band tour in the Caribbean, to the busiest, most bizarre, but extremely rewarding twelve days imaginable. When we accepted the invitation to

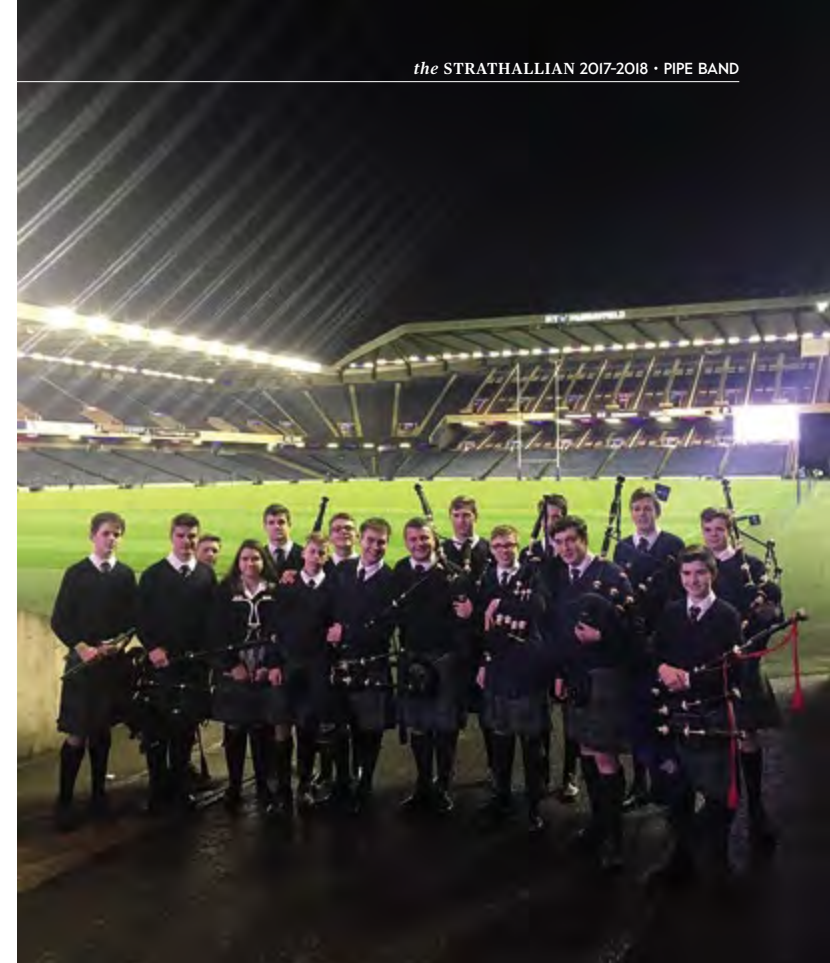


the Festival Interceltique de Lorient, few had an idea what exactly the trip would entail and after an exhausting twelve-hour rehearsal in thirty-five-degree heat on day one, not many wanted to find out! Little did we know that we were preparing for the largest traditional music festival in the world and performances in F.C. Lorient's packed football stadium in a military tattoo styled event. We played alongside the Ullapool and District Pipe Band in the festival's main event, Nuit Magique. A surprise highlight of the trip was the Grand Parade which took place on a Sunday morning. Bleary eyed from a late-night gig the night before, we were shocked at the numbers of spectators lining the streets of this small fishing town. An estimated seventy thousand people watched the parade which finished in the

busy football stadium. On reflection, the trip to the Festival Interceltique de Lorient was the experience of a lifetime for all concerned. The feedback from the festival organisers was hugely positive and they look forward to welcoming the band back in the future.

All in all, a busy but exciting year and I can only thank the pupils for the hard work they have put in to the Pipe Band. My thanks also go to Mr Armstrong and Mr Fleming for the support they have provided over the academic year. To the leavers, it has been a pleasure working with you all and I hope you continue to enjoy your piping and drumming as Strathallians.

CM



Ali Baba
AND THE
BONGO
BANDITS

Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits provided a pun-tastic, panto-esque romp through Old Baghdad.

Every child in 1st and 2nd Form had a part with lines to deliver and Year 5 and 6 were in every scene, dancing singing and becoming the intriguing living scenery of the bazaar.

Comic moments abounded led by an outstanding ensemble of game and talented 2nd Formers willing to ham up their parts. Senior pupils backstage and on sound and lighting were an integral part of this fun production which left the delighted audience groaning and grinning in equal measure.

CSS





the IMPORTANCE of BEING Earnest

I need not restate or re-emphasise at any length the contribution made by Oscar Wilde to bringing about a radical reassessment of social values, conventions and attitudes through the many modes of expression he chose throughout his tragically short career. Suffice it to say that, through a candid, moving and, above all, witty exposé of the mores of socially-divisive Victorian Britain, he set in motion a great movement of consciousness which gathered momentum during the 20th Century. *The Importance of Being Earnest*, a comic farce so well known for its memorable lines and jokes about handbags found in London railway terminals and situations so absurd, was indeed the next perfect challenge for our young theatre group.



The play amuses and entertains because of the mix of characters, subtly layered humour and the varied pace of action from scene to scene. Both Mrs McFarlane and Mrs Howett must be congratulated on account of their informed casting decisions and their insightful management of comic tension which carried itself with indefatigable force until the final curtain. An excellent set, consisting of an extended stage conveying the action much



closer to the audience, by Dr Salisbury and Oliver Beetschen (stage-managed in her final school production by Amy Keir) and period costumes organised by Mrs Streatfeild-James, effectively transported the audience to late-Victorian Britain. The cast worked together most harmoniously, complementing each other, yet showcasing individual talents. Lane (Joshua Mitchell) demanded the most deadpan of countenances and a matching diction which was delivered with fastidious polish. Merriman (Aidan Fuge) was a performance of intelligence and Cecily Cardew (Alexis Fletcher-Pyle) was convincing, confident and eloquent. Anna Moody (Miss Prism) performed her demanding role magnificently, as did Tanya Stephen (Rev. Canon Chasuble). Beth Thornton, increasing in confidence as an actor with every production, was praiseworthy as the Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax. In addition, there was some excellent singing by Sarah Mahon. Let us, of course, not forget the main roles: it was a fine evening for the Patterson brothers as the dandies: John Worthing (Dylan) and Algernon Moncrieff (Morgan). Their interaction on stage seemed effortless to the captivated audience and, with the addition of Lady Bracknell, a part perfectly made for Ella England, who brought so much to this wonderful character, the evening was complete. On reflection, no one stole the show, which is sometimes a sign of weakness in the acting or the need to cover up and over-compensate for insecurities. The effect, conversely, was one of unity and the evening's spectacle will endure for some time.

ESL



SINGIN' IN THE RAIN



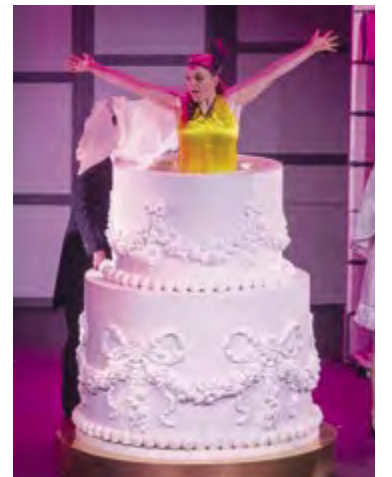
Singin' in the Rain is a cultural phenomenon. The title tune must be one of the best known from the musical theatre canon. For many people that might even be from having seen the hilarious Morecambe and Wise sketch of a long-suffering Eric getting soaked under a leaking gutter while Ernie dances through the puddles.

Based on the 1952 film, this is a fun show. It is set in an earlier decade, when technology for the first time allowed films to have a voice track to run with the images. With the success of *The Jazz Singer*, Hollywood studios were desperate to abandon the silent movies and produce talkies. Previously famous and worshipped silent movie actors could have their careers destroyed in a minute if they could not perform equally well vocally. And here we find the basis for the plot of *Singin' in the Rain*.

Packed with songs and dance, Strathallan's version sparkled from beginning to end as it told of how Monumental Pictures' drop-dead-gorgeous star, Don Lockwood (Blair Davie) and his friend, Cosmo Brown (Josh Mitchell) had to work out what to do about the fact that his movie partner, Lina Lamont's voice was rasping and grating, like fingernails on sandpaper, somewhat like her personality. And what an excellent job Maggie English made of that role. Don and Cosmo, under pressure from RF Simpson (Dylan Paterson), who runs the studio, alight on a plan - to have Lina mime the words while Kathy Selden, a beautiful singer (Ella England), sings them from behind a screen. Needless to say, it is not a simple solution because Lina still wants to have all the credit.

The story unfolds amid a plethora of solo and ensemble songs and dance. The cast, expertly trained by Mrs Kimberley Stewart, were masters of tap dancing skills, and joyfully tapped their way through a large number of routines. The soloists too revealed their energy and enthusiasm. Who could ever forget Josh's leaps and somersaults?

There was not a weak link in the production. The cast of Morgan Paterson, Aed Brennan, Joely Fuge, Anna Moody, Rhianna Mitchell, Bryony



Barclay, Ellie Nielsen, Anna Clark, Struan Davie (playing his brother's younger self), Robert Birse-Stewart and Fergus McKay, in their various roles, gave powerful support to the principals. And they too were backed by a strong ensemble cast.

It is, of course, a musical, and the band, made up largely of pupils, gave a thoroughly professional performance under the expert conductor's baton of Musical Director, Mr Neil Hamilton. Neil had begun rehearsals for *this* show somewhat more precipitately than usual after having failed to collect his Rent, but the innumerable hours that he spent with musicians and solo and choral singers alike paid off, as ever, spectacularly.

Mrs Streatfeild-James and Charlotte Donnelly (assisted by Eve Mackie) once again provided costumes that perfectly suited the era and style of the show. This was enhanced under the skilled fingers of the hair and make-up team.

As ever, we are indebted to former pupils. Mr Oli Beetchen left (temporarily!) his work as an architect in London and aided once again with

the lighting plot, in which he assisted Ellen McDonald. He also acted as technical adviser in the construction of the set which was designed by Mr Nicky Rintoul and built by the stage manager, Amy Keir, Dr Jim Salisbury, Workshop Manager, and the stage crew. Strathallian, Mr Sean Murray, an aircraft pilot for the rest of the year, took on the role of Assistant Director. Francis Yamamoto was film editor and Apex Acoustics provided sound. Mr Gerry Kennedy was dialect coach.

(A thank you also goes to Pitlochry Festival Theatre who had recently produced the show and kindly lent the School some props.)

But a HUGE thank you has to go to Director, Mrs Catherine Howett, who brought the show alive and showed the cast that everyone has to be performing all of the time. It is an ensemble show and if it is to sparkle, then that is everyone's responsibility. She had the audience leaving with the refrain in their heads, "Come on with the rain, there's a smile on my face." And indeed, everyone was smiling!

IlMcF



Art



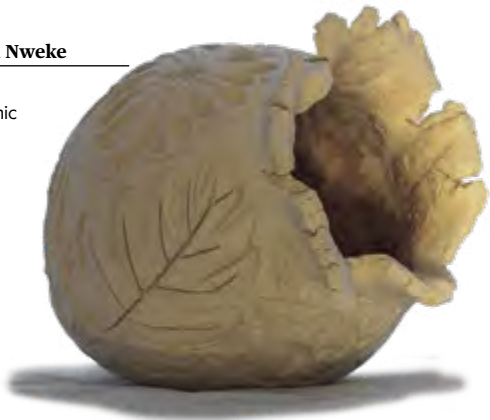
Form I
Group Project
Imagined City



Bronte Beveridge
Oil on board



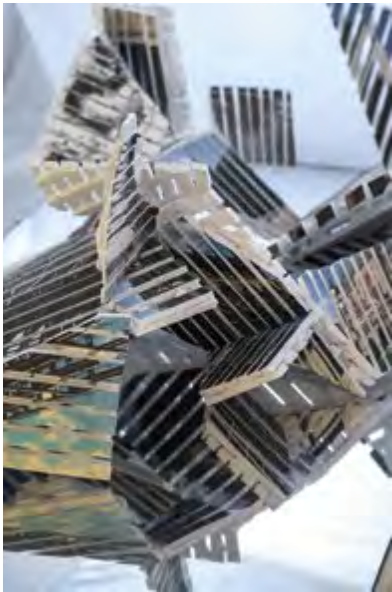
Muna Nweke
GCSE
Ceramic



Catriona Marsden
GCSE
Ceramic



Bronte Beveridge
GCSE
Printmaking
installation



Brook Walker
GCSE



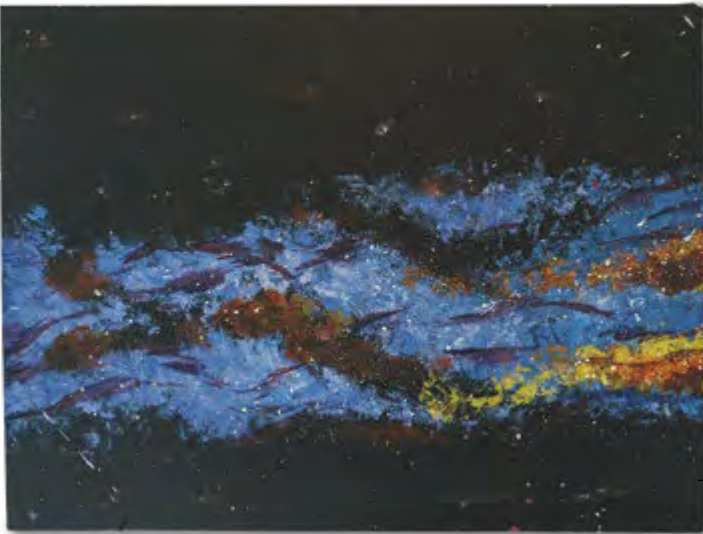
Alister Turnbull
GCSE



Harry Singh
A Level
Oil



Alister Turnbull
GCSE
Detail



Amy Keir
A Level



Amy Keir
A Level
Don't sit and wait



Flora Wilson
A Level



Sarah Kung
A Level



Kira Buchanan
A Level



Carrie Mack
A Level

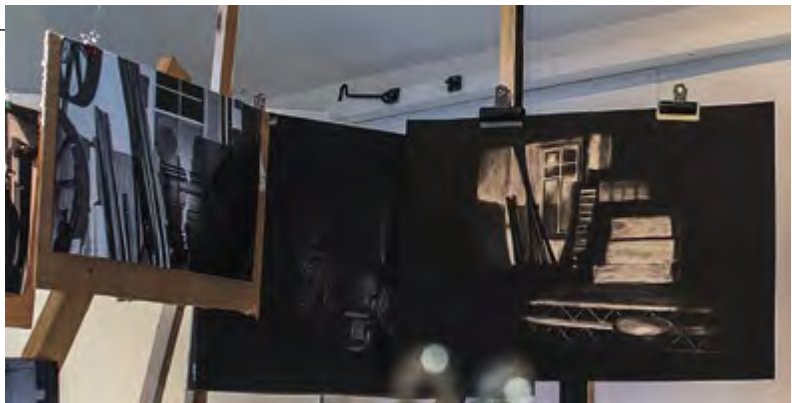


Carrie Mack
A Level



Amy Keir
A Level

Amy Keir
A Level



Form I
Group printing



Francis Yamamoto
GCSE

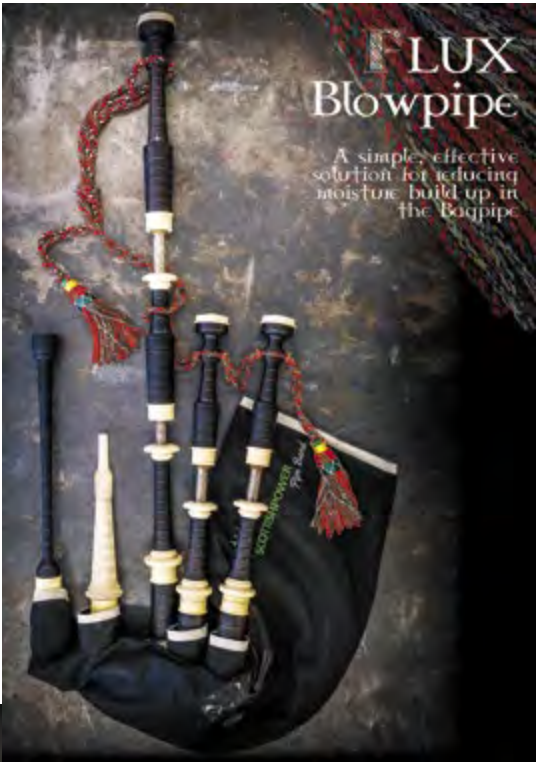


Design & Technology

Robbie MacIsaac

This year, Strathallan DT pupil Robbie MacIsaac entered his prototype product into the national *Technology Design and Innovation* awards run by the Manufacturing and Technology Association. Robbie was one of six finalists chosen from hundreds of entries from across the UK and was the only Scottish student to reach the finals. His design for a product that prevents moisture from building up inside a bagpipe won in his age category. In addition to this, Robbie had his product patented.

The images below have a code embedded that will allow you to see a video of Robbie describing and using his product. To access this media, download ZAPPAR and scan over the image.

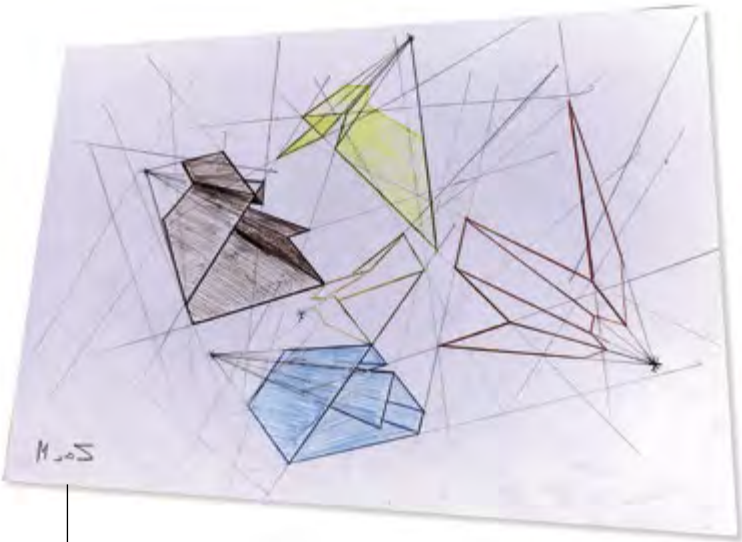


Product assembly



Product in use





IV Form
Design Sheet Example



IV Form
Mirror Project Example



Alexander Irvine-Fortescue
A Level
Space Enhancing Work Top



Demeter Kosa
GCSE
Lighting



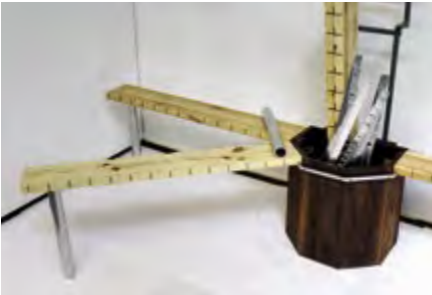
Abigail Hay
GCSE
Lighting



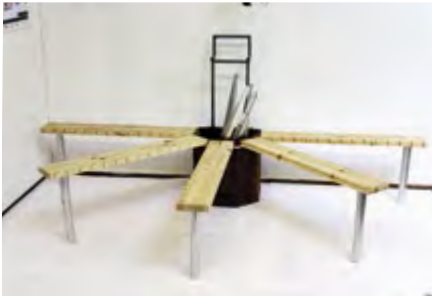
Calum Blanche
GCSE
Lighting



Andrew Couper
GCSE
Lighting

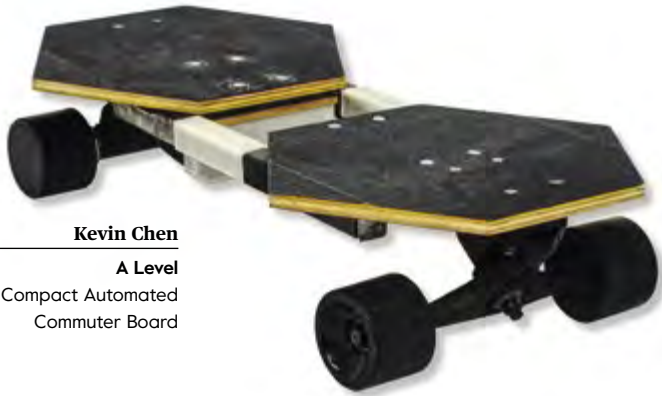


Amy Keir
A Level
Pop-up theatre staging





Kevin Chen
A Level
Compact Automated
Commuter Board



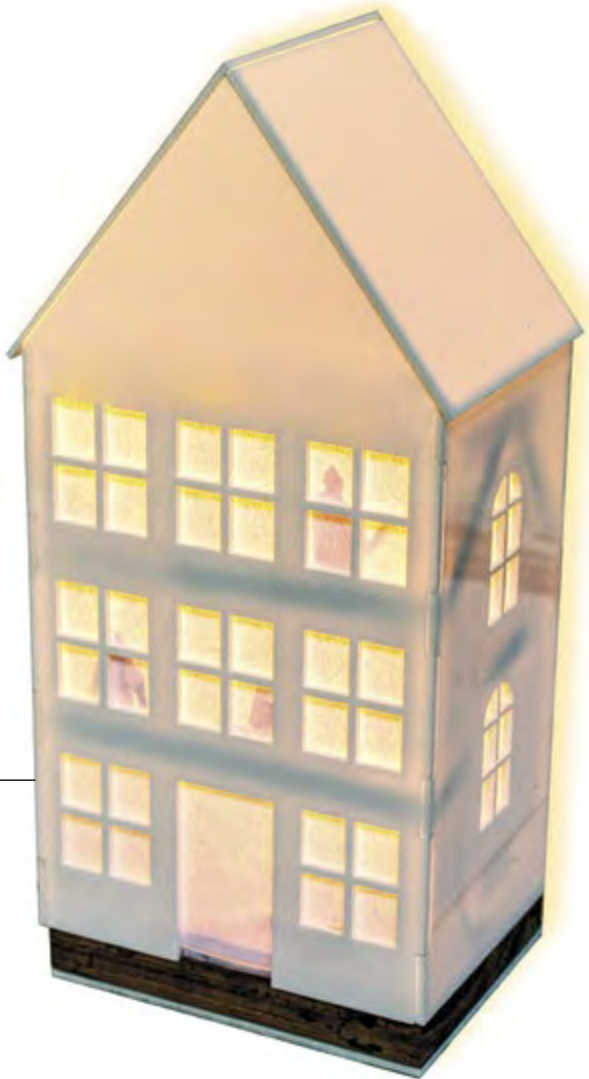
Lochlann Beveridge
A Level
Multi-Height Seating
for Nurseries



Euan Sutherland
A Level
Multi Purpose Tool Storage



Luthfi Adriananta
A Level
Emergency Evacuation
Solution



Mina Brennan
GCSE
Lighting



Kieran Fowlie
A Level
Tool Yo-Yo

Sport

Cricket

Strathallan 1st XI Cricket

With a fresh squad ranging from a variety of skilful youths to a couple of experienced members we started the campaign away at Loreto, skipper Euan Nicol winning the toss and electing to bat on what seemed to be a friendly batting wicket. Fergus Duncan and Euan Nicol opened the account with positivity, ticking along nicely until Fergus was run out, and a middle order collapse ensued. The tail-end, however, did a good job in securing vital runs; Euan top scoring with 60 not out and finishing on 135-7. The hosts also batted with intent and scored at a good rate until the bowling partnership of Fergus Duncan and Nicky Ireland picked up wickets at a good economy. The match came to a thrilling close as Loretto were unable to chase the total, Strathallan claiming the victory by three runs.

Next up was Dollar away where 20-20 was the format for the day. With Strathallan finishing at a below par 75-5 the hosts went into bat with aggression and composure securing the victory by eight wickets.

The first home match of the Strathallan cricket calendar was played on the lawn; a 45-over game against Glendalmond which was always going to be entertaining. The fine weather conditions and pristine surface meant that the Captain's decision to go in to bat first was an easy one. Hugh Stothart and Euan Nicol led the way hitting runs at a slow but steady rate. Until the departure of Hugh and the arrival of Fergus Duncan, the two batsmen looked to consolidate and so they did scoring with ease and keeping the score ticking along nicely. Euan was edging closer and closer to the century milestone and reaching it with a 4 he celebrated what was a great innings. Not content with that, the 2nd wicket partnership of Euan Nicol and Fergus Duncan was worth 214, Strathallan finishing on 229-2, Euan Nicol 107” and Fergus Duncan 83. Then the 1st XI backed up the batting performance with the ball, the openers Jamie Gibson and Jamie Killoh doing a great job of setting the standards for the bowlers. With the change of bowler Fergus Duncan looked to have great impact picking up 5-23 off his 9 overs and Nicky Ireland 3-39 off 9 thereby laying the foundations for a comprehensive win of 107 runs, the visitors ending on 122-10.

Forty Club was the next opponent at the lawn, the visitors batting first and finishing up on 200-7. A poor batting display from Strathallan saw us handing them the victory by 84 runs.

With the beginning of the second half term away we were up against a strong MCC side featuring Strathallian William Hardie .The MCC elected to bat and scored at a consistent high rate, although spinners Callum Grant and Fergus Duncan looked to cause an upset. The wicket proved to be spin friendly and we took full advantage of this in preventing them from scoring runs, Callum Grant finishing with 3-34 off his 8 overs and Fergus Duncan 5-49 off 18 overs. Nonetheless, a strong bowling attack looked to be costly for Strathallan causing us to be bowled out for 111 , though a stand-out performance with the bat was Finlay Laird scoring 53 not out.

Strathallan vs the Strathallians XI was next , Strathallan electing to bat. We scored at a steady rate and with Hugh Stothart (56) batting with intent it powered Strathallan to 126-6 off their 20 overs , but proved not to be enough as they reached the target with 6 wickets in hand. The notable bowling performance was Nial Monon 3-24.

Next was a match against George Watson's in a T20 , Strathallan bowling first and looking to be in a positive frame of mind with opening bowler Jamie Gibson bowling with real pace and looking too much for the visitors; Jamie claiming 4-19 and Fergus Duncan 3-9 off their 4 overs. George Watson's finished on 123-8 as Strathallan cruised to an 8 wicket win with Fergus Duncan top scoring with 47 not out and Ian Galloway's quick fire 42 not out.

The touring side St.Lawrence's College from Brisbane were the next opponent in a 30-over match, the guests scoring 190-10 and notable performances with the ball were Jamie Gibson 4-36, Fergus Duncan 3-19 and Nicky Ireland 3-28. Strathallan looked to go out with real aggression and confidence and to be successful. The high-scoring partnership of Ian Galloway and Fergus Duncan allowed Strathallan cruise to an 8 wicket win, Fergus Duncan ending on 78 not out and Ian Galloway 57 not out.

We next played Caledonia Highlanders in a 30-over match on the lawn. We won the toss and elected to bowl. Caledonia finished up on 194-10 with Nicky Ireland 4-55 and Fergus Duncan 3-16 doing most of the damage. However a poor show in batting made Strathallan finish on 121-10, a 73 run defeat.

It was time for the cricket tour to begin and the destination was Hymers College, the first opponent was Hymers themselves and Strathallan elected to bat first and ended up on 206-10 off their 50 overs, Fergus Duncan top scoring with 80. Strathallan bowled with control and consistency achieving a 49 run victory, with the partnership of Callum Grant and Fergus Duncan causing the impact, Callum grant 4-31 and Fergus Duncan 5-14.

Next up was Pocklington school, considered one of the hardest school opponents of the cricket season to face and rightly so. Strathallan finished up on 111 all out and Pocklington achieved a 7 wicket win, the only notable performance with the ball being Fergus Duncan 3-29.

The final match of the tour and season was against a strong Stewart's Melville team. Strathallan batting first seemed to be the right decision but looked to be costly as Strathallan were all out for a well below-par score of 103 , SMC chased down the total with ease to accelerate to a comprehensive win of 9 wickets.

Fergus Duncan
V Form Simpson

Senior Colts A

Played: 8 Won: 1 Lost: 7

On balance the results for the season do not reflect the true picture. We were too inconsistent early season, but made improvements both in the bowling and batting, making headway as the season drew to a close.

In our first outing against Loretto, the match went down to the very last ball to determine the outcome, and we lost by one wicket off the last ball. Against Dollar it was more one-sided, as we scored insufficient runs to challenge the dollar batsmen. The Fettes match was well-contested, with the opposition steadying their nerve to chase our total despite wickets tumbling late in the chase.

Glendalmond proved too strong on the day and chased our total with relative ease. The half-term break proved to be the respite that was needed, as on our return we played considerably better against Merchiston, but unfortunately failed to register our first win. George Watson's came to Perthshire and posted a very competitive total which appeared too much. Ben Lidderdale batted skilfully to register his first fifty of the campaign and got us very close to overcoming the target, but we ran out of overs. Buoyed by this performance, we travelled to Glendalmond for the return match, and secured our first and only win of the season by four wickets - Alex Clarke providing the necessary runs to get us over the line!

Our final match of the season was against the regional academy side, Caledonian Highlanders. Although we lost the match, Andy Stirrat realised his potential and scored a very well-crafted fifty. The run chase for the Highlanders was tough but they achieved the win with a couple of overs to spare.

So, congratulations to all those who represented the School for the A team, learning and improving their game as the season progressed. Personally, it has been a very encouraging season with many of the squad showing vast improvements in not only their own game, but also in their contribution to the team.

My final thanks, as always, go to those members of staff who support Senior Colts cricket at Strathallan. David Billing, Stuart Robertson and Paul Vallot have over many years made an invaluable contribution to the development of Strathallan Cricket teams and the players who represent the School. My gratitude goes to you all for your time,

effort and enthusiasm, and our good wishes go to David in his new venture overseas.

GSRR

2nd XI Cricket 2018

The 2nd XI season was a short yet enjoyable one for the boys. What it provided, in addition to the entertaining matches and spending time with a bunch of quite likeable characters on glorious sunny afternoons, was the much needed balance during exam time and the galvanising of inter-year group solidarity where a willingness to represent the school came to the fore.

The two most significant matches to speak of were against Loretto and, Glendalmond College. The team's outing against Loretto showed much promise in all areas of the game. Although George Culley and Robbie Loudon lost their wickets early on, the carefully built partnership of Adam Walker and Finlay Cleaver-Smith steadied the ship, before Finlay was caught on the boundary. Ozzy Hamzeh joined Adam in the middle and gave a good account of himself, batting defensively and with maturity, enabling Adam to push along the total, before succumbing after a respectable innings of 28. The remaining batsmen, Alasdair Munro, Ayrton de Cecco, Alamin Kudehinbu and Finlay Wiseman did their best and managed to progress the score to 78 all out. The performance of the Strathallan bowling attack was most encouraging and contained moments of considerable excitement: Alasdair Munro set the tone early on in the Loretto innings with a wicket and this was complemented by tidy performances from Adam Walker (1 for 11), Ozzy Hamzeh (2 for 19) and Finlay Cleaver-Smith, whose gentle medium-pacers with a bit of fortuitous “turn” brought an impressive 3 for 8 off only 2 overs.

The match against Glendalmond College started in a most positive manner with openers Ozzy Hamzeh and George Culley wearing down the Glendalmond attack. With their departure, it was up to the Captain, Ian Galloway, and Struan Robertson, to build an innings. Both demonstrated that they had a good eye for the ball, especially Ian, who played with confidence off the front and back foot (this characterised his future innings on the very short pitch at Merchiston later on in the season). Unfortunately, their cavalier approach was their downfall, but it was a pleasure to watch. Again, it was the willingness of the “occasionals” who made the cricket happen: Struthan Cameron,

Alamin Kudehinbu, Ross Walker, Dax Traill, Drew Doherty, Struan Robertson and Struan Milligan entered into the spirit, bringing much fun to the proceedings.

We look forward to next season.

ESL

Rugby



1st XV

This season has seen an incredible run of performances for the 1st XV with the majority of the team playing in their final year for the school. The leadership team for the season included Captain Murphy Walker, Vice- Captains Ollie Smith (Players' Player of the year), Cameron Henderson and James McCaig and Club Captain Hamish White. The leadership group drove standards at training by leading warm-ups and pushed younger players to develop and improve their skills which showed throughout the season.

The beginning of a successful season started at pre-season which began at Big Acre and moved down to Loughborough. This was a brilliant experience which involved both



1st and 2nd team players coming together enjoying rugby both on and off the field. The pre-season was finished off with a convincing 48-12 win over Oakham, the most celebrated score being a powerful driving maul by the 2nd XV replacements showing the high standard of rugby at Strathallan this year.

The Conference didn't get off to the best start losing away to George Watson's 7-17 and losing a player to injury for the rest of the season. The work ethic of all the players kept the team in the game but unfortunately was not able to reduce the deficit.

The first game on Big Acre was just the response needed to the preceding defeat, great handling from both forwards and backs allowing the team to link well and defeat Edinburgh Academy 50-3.

This performance was followed up by another impressive 60-3 win over St Columba's. Great work from the forwards putting pressure whilst in defence and creating good ball for the backs at set pieces allowed the backs to score some outstanding end-to-end tries.

The next fixture to follow would be one of the most competitive fixtures in the calendar, Merchiston away. It is safe to say that every player in the squad stood up to the challenge and impacted the game. The forward pack were dominant at scrum time and in defence as well as being effective. Great running from flanker Yannick Sutcliffe and centre Ollie Smith made sure the team were playing in the opposition half. The all-round performance was just enough to win a very important match 19-17.

After back-to-back performances the school turned out in numbers to watch the 1st

XV take on Glasgow Academy. The team didn't disappoint with wonderfully executed set-piece tries giving the crowd an exciting game to watch. The support boosted the confidence of the players and we eventually won the game 50-0.

Another fixture at home and another big support for the 1st XV was against Glenalmond. This friendly fixture reintroduced was a big occasion for both schools. Open play was the main source of tries and unselfish play executing 2 v 1s saw Strath play with real pace and give the spectators something to cheer about. The 1st XV won this fixture 80-10.

The cup run was back to being the main focus for the 1st XV with an away quarter final against Stewart's Melville doubling up as a Conference match. The important score came from scrum-half and most improved back of year Aedan Brennan who broke away from the scrum and fought his way to the line.

Next up was a semi-final against George Watson's under the lights at Myreside. Having already lost to Watson's at the start of the season Strath had a point to prove with the leadership team doing a brilliant job at keeping the team calm and focused on the job. The school once again supported the team amazingly well with coaches taking current pupils to Edinburgh and a number of Strathallians returning to watch the fixture. Captain Murphy Walker in a close first half picked up the ball from a ruck in his own 22 and set off stepping the fullback and breaking the winger's tackle before finally being brought to ground on the opposition 10-metre line. This was a massive turning point in the game and the noise of the



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supporters showed they knew it was too. At half-time the score was still 0-0 and at the start of the second half Watson's kicked a penalty to go 3-0 ahead. With the game so close the school weren't going to let the team lose and got behind the team and with fifteen minutes to go Calum McKeown broke the Watson's defence to link up with Alex Marsh who went in for the score. Strath went on to score another 14 points before the full-time whistle, winning the semi-final 21-3.

The final game of the year was, in addition, most of the players' last ever game for the school and it was made an even bigger occasion by being played on the big pitch at Murrayfield in the Scottish Schools cup final. The school have made the final only once before and once again turned out in numbers at the home of Scottish rugby to support the team. Because of the sheer size of the fixture there was a lot of talk and media off the pitch but the team remained focused on the game against Glenalmond and were able to prepare well making good use of the Wilson Hall during the week. With both schools excited for the fixture Glenalmond opened proceedings scoring an early try. With work to do Strathallan made sure that this was the only score they would concede. The 1st XV held the ball extremely well, the backs making use of the wide pitch stretching the Glenalmond defence and scoring some excellent team tries. The team's growing in confidence with every minute of the game produced some of the best rugby of the season and won us the Scottish cup for the first time in the school's history with a resounding 52-8.

A big thank you to our coaches this season Mr Kalman, Mr Banda and Mr Henderson for giving us a brilliant platform to play some really enjoyable and impressive rugby this year as well as all the help off the pitch. Also to all the pupils, parents and staff who came to watch the games this season as the support helped the team a lot. Good luck to all the players involved in rugby next year.

James McCaig
Upper VI Ruthven



U16A

The U16As had a rollercoaster season with success and disappointment in equal measure. Coached by Mr McGowan and Rev Wylie the season got off to a bad start with a heavy defeat at home to the eventual Scottish Schools champions George Watson's. This was backed up with another poor performance away at Edinburgh academy in a very winnable game which we lost 25-5, George Ratcliff scoring.

Knowing that improvement was needed and fast, a string of strong performances followed with good wins against QVS and Balfron, Strath exceeding 70 points on both occasions. The next game was a very important one. Drawn away to Lasswade high school in the cup our opposition came into the game with nothing to lose and were 7-0 up within 10 minutes.

We replied strongly with tries from Liam Ferguson and Peter Wallwork making the score 7-12 at half time. The game continued to fluctuate as Lasswade scored followed by another try by Wallwork. Lasswade then scored again making the score 19-17 with 5 minutes to go. Lasswade had a penalty on the 22 to win the game, the kick missed and we took the drop out quickly running the full length of the pitch for Cameron Paterson to score the winning try in the corner with the last play of the game. This was the most tense game of the season and we showed a lot of courage to come through with a win.

After the Lasswade game a tough home fixture against Merchiston was on the cards.

A poor first half saw strath I9-0 down at half time but we fired back in the second half and were level I9-I9 with 5 minutes to go. The kick-off came over and was collected by Merchiston who scored to win the game. This was very frustrating but one of our best games of the season against a very difficult opposition.

Next, three strong performances followed. A I7-43 win away against Fettes who had beaten us on the past three meetings was brilliant with a hat-trick of tries from Finn Frewen. This was followed by a 34-I7 win against Glenalmond with tries from Reece Wilson, Jamie Gibson and Liam Ferguson. Finally, Strath advanced comfortably into the quarter finals of the cup with a 43-5 win against QVS with tries from Harry Pitts, Cesc Saludes, Ferguson and Wallwork.

We were now left with three big games to finish the season and the possibility of more in the cup. First up was Stewart's Melville and with Paterson and Wilson out injured the backs were down. A 52-0 defeat followed a very poor defensive performance.

With two games left we knew we had to challenge our next opponents, Dollar.

Again, with backs out injured we looked to the pack to provide some tries and they did not disappoint with scores from Ferguson, Ratcliff and Callum Blanche. However, we were again defeated this time 5I-32.

The final game off the season was the cup quarter final against Edinburgh academy at home. Seeking revenge we went into the game thinking we could win and the game went right down to the line losing I7-I9 in the end. In summary a good overall season with lots to build on as the team progresses to the UI8's next year.

Peter Wallwork
V Form Simpson

UI5

This autumn term the UI5 As had a very mixed season with many positives and some areas in which we could improve. We had a good and focused pre-season and were looking forward to getting onto the pitch to prove a point.

Our first game was against George Watson's, we knew that this would be a tough match but this didn't knock our confidence. They were a very well-drilled side and despite the score we were in it for the majority of the game but they ran away with it at the end.

Our next game was against Edinburgh Academy. They were a very physical side and dominated up front, this led to some soft tries conceded by us. After a tough first half we were wanting to play in their territory but they had a couple of run-away tries. The final score was 50-2I to our opposition.

Next up we were away at Merchiston. They proved to be a very physical side with big ball carriers up the middle of the field. Despite heroic defence, they managed to suck us in and then got around us out wide. The final score was 38-5.

The first half term of our season didn't get off to the best of starts but we were wanting to prove a point against Fettes. This was a very close and tough game, the boys put everything into it and when the final whistle went Mr Tod and Mr Barnes could finally relax. The score was I2-5 to us.

After a well-earned break our next match was against Glenalmond. The conditions weren't great and this forced us to play up front where we dominated. We had a lot of possession and our backs enjoyed running into the spaces. The final score was a 24-5 victory.

After two wins in a row we were focused on keeping it going. Our next match was against Stewart's Melville, who we knew would be tough opponents. They got some well worked early tries. We were not able to catch them and this resulted in 36-I2 loss.

Up next we had Dollar. They were dominant in the pack and forced us wide. We edged ahead and tried to slow the game down but they got a late try and got a I7-I9 win in a high quality game.

Our last match was against Loretto and this gave some new players an opportunity to perform well. As a team we had to adapt to the conditions and changes in personnel but we created some excellent tries and kept them from scoring.

Over all this was a mixed season with plenty to improve on. Thanks to all our opponents and their coaches and to the match officials who made this season so enjoyable. We can't wait for next year where we hope to have a successful cup run and we have to give huge credit to Mr Tod and Mr Barnes who prepared us for our games. We are looking forward to the I6s and seeing where we can go.

Andy Stirratt
IV Form Nicol

Fourth Form (under I5) B

September to December 2017

First match of the season does not come any harder than George Watson's School, away. So it was in September 2017 that the under-I5 B Team travelled to Edinburgh under the guidance of coach Mr C Muirhead. The weather in Edinburgh was bright but blustery. Pitch was in good condition.

The good news was that we scored three tries and that Rory McKay converted two of them. I9 points against George Watson's in the first game – brilliant. Campbell Swaine scored an individual effort try from 40 yards out. Marc Nicol, playing with the forwards reached out an arm for about 2m after a scrum. Go, telescopic arms! Alex White, playing as an attacking overlapping full back did exactly that and ran in a try from 50m. The less good news was that they scored 4I points and so we came second. The team were well captained by the determined James Lonergan.

Our second match was home against Edinburgh Academy, another tough one. We were a bit weakened by Duke of Edinburgh weekend expeditions and illnesses in As meaning call-ups for some of the Bs but our new international pupils were well up to the task. Four Spaniards, one German and one Chinese pupil made sure that Edinburgh had to work hard for their eventual victory.

Alex White with a IOm break and Juan Miarnau-Pascal with a 3m shove scored our two tries and the reliable Rory McKay converted both. I4 points to Strathallan. Sadly, Edinburgh Academy ran in 43 points. Many tries were as a result of superior fitness, some because of our poor tackling. Edinburgh were a rough-edged but enthusiastic and eager side. There were few handshakes at the end.

Our third match, to complete the most difficult opening sequence ever, was against Merchiston Castle School away in. Mr Motivator, aka Mr Muirhead, took the team down to Auld Reekie and inspired them to a first half performance after which the scores were level at IO-IO. Manuel Pages-Balet and Rory McKay both scored tries in the deep corners which Rory was unable to convert.

The second half was a different story and the opposition's superior fitness and organisation began to tell, which, when coupled with our poor tackling, resulted in 36 points scored with no Strathallan reply. Ah well, at least it did not rain.

Our final match before half term was home to Fettes College. We played a green but quite muddy Leslie Hill 2 pitch that soon had the Fettes shirts looking all brown. It did not dampen their resolve though and they emerged worthy victors at I2-40.

The team was at full strength but, sadly, we lost our scrum half, Malcolm Inch to an unlucky injury after only five minutes and the resultant reorganisation put us on the back foot for about ten more in which time Fettes scored two converted tries. We mounted a spirited fightback and were rewarded with a Marc Nickl try, which Juan Pascual converted, just before the interval.

Fettes scored again immediately on the restart due to some very poor attempts at tackling by our team; it looked as though we were still on the half time break! George Nielson responded with a gutsy short-range try enabled by some excellent mauling from our pack. Sadly, after that a lack of fitness took over and as we were playing uphill the Fettes team seemed even faster. They simply ran round us and scored two further converted tries.

First up after the half term break were Erskine Stewart's Melville Schools. It was a cold but bright day on Leslie Hill 2, pitch green and soft but not squelchy and muddy. James Lonergan won the toss and elected to play downhill in the second half, a wise tactical move.

The first 5 minutes was quite even, both sides had early chances and the breakdowns were well contested. Their back line was better at getting organised and their first try came after a five-pass move-out along that well-organised line. ESMS converted the try, their kicker was very good, only missing one out of the seven conversion kicks, many of them from difficult angles. Captain James equalised after ten minutes with a solo effort fighting through their defence from twenty yards out. Too much of our play was solo efforts, too much of our running was not straight towards their line, too many times we got caught with the ball when we should have passed. ESMS played simple, mistake-free, rugby and ran in a further three tries in the first half to lead 5-26.

The second was better, it certainly did help playing downhill because they were fitter than we were. We scored two tries (Marc Nickl and Manuel Pages Balet) and limited the opposition to three. Our second half tries were better team efforts. We did have chances to score when awarded two penalties with five minutes remaining both 5m out from their line. We tried to bulldoze both through the front door and were kept out by some very good close-quarter defence. We lost I7 - 47 (three tries to seven)

Our pack was very good: Arthur McDonald, Tom Rampton, George Nielsen, and Marcus Cleaver- Smith all putting in brave and selfless performances making hard yards and winning ball. Team coordination and team communication were identified as the targets for improvement during next week's training.

The training worked. On A cold Remembrance Day the team defeated Dollar Academy 57-I2.



Sadly, Dollar could only produce a team of IO boys so we lent them five, and changed the five at half time to try and make an even match. We led 3I-7 at half time and even with the changes also dominated the second half. Man of the match was Manuel Pages Balet who scored a hat-trick of tries and added five conversions. Marcus Cleaver Smith and Campbell Swaine both scored two tries, and Fergus Snowie and Max Neumann one apiece. Skipper James Lonergan added a couple of impromptu drop goals.

An impressive all-round performance from all twenty boys who played.

A month later we discovered that this win against Dollar was not only the high point of the

season but also the last match. Loretto and HS Glasgow were unable to field uI5 B Teams and our final match against Robert Gordon's was cancelled because of frozen pitches.

Season Summary: Played 6, won I, for I29 points, against a few more.

Mr Muirhead and I look forward next year to working with same group of boys.

NPG

Riley Rugby
UI3A

The Riley UI3 rugby season had a mixed bag of results. However, results are not what drives the Riley rugby programme. We try to reinforce the 1stXvs mantra of hard work, humility and having fun. There is a desire to learn and reinforce the basics whilst encouraging a love of rugby. It was pleasing to see the boys make a significant improvement in their rugby skills and physical aptitude. I would like to wish the boys moving onto Third Form every success with their rugby and I am excited to oversee the progress of more junior pupils who played this year but will go on to lead their peers in the 2018-2019 season.

UI3A

vs Fettes College B team **W 9-6**
Conference Fixture vs George Watson's College **L 0-40**
Conference Fixture vs Edinburgh Academy **L 3-40**
vs Queen Victoria School **L 0-8**
Conference Fixture vs Merchiston Castle School **L 3-32**
vs Cargilfield School B **W 7-0**
Conference Fixture vs Stewart's Melville School **L 0-39**

Ardvreck 7s Competition

Conference Fixture vs Dollar Academy **L 0-48**
vs Craigclowan School **D 7-7**
vs The High School of Glasgow **Cancelled**
vs Robert Gordon's College **Cancelled**
vs Cargilfield School **L 3-28**
vs High School of Dundee **Cancelled**
vs Gordonstoun School **W 3-1**
(Touch Rugby fixture due to frozen pitches)

UI3B

vs Fettes College C team **W 24-12**
Conference Fixture vs George Watson's College **L 3-43**
Conference Fixture vs Edinburgh Academy **L 0-25**
Conference Fixture vs Merchiston Castle School C **L 8-40**
Conference Fixture vs Stewart's Melville School **L 3-40**

Conference Fixture vs Dollar Academy **L 0-24**
vs The High School of Glasgow **Cancelled**
vs Robert Gordon's College **Cancelled**
vs High School of Dundee **Cancelled**

UI2A

vs St Leonards School **W 22-9**
vs Queen Victoria School **L 3-7**
vs Lathallan School **W 15-12**
vs St Leonards School **W 33-3**
vs Cargilfield School **W 7-6**
vs Lathallan School **Cancelled**

MH-S

Football

This year was another successful year for the Strathallan football team, a talented mixture of many different nationalities who notched up an undefeated season winning against St Leonard's 3-1, Glenalmond 2-1 and Dollar Academy 3-2.

Unfortunately, the scheduled matches against Fettes College, Gordonstoun and Albyn School got cancelled because of bad weather with the result that the team failed to qualify for the cup. Nonetheless, the team is now even more motivated than before to progress in the cup competition and everybody is looking forward to another exciting football season. Thanks to Mr Banda and Mr Wiles (the Mourinho and Fergy of school football) for their efforts this year and thanks to all the boys who turned out in the blue and gold.

Franz Fadinger
LVI Simpson



The 1st XI boys had a frustrating start to their campaign with a loss to George Watson's College in the first round of the Scottish Cup. Having battled hard during the first half of the match it was tight but unfortunately early in the second half the opposition took advantage of some errors by the young Strathallan team – the game ending in a 6-2 loss. Later in the season, in the quarter final of the Scottish Plate, the team were unfortunately beaten on penalties after a spectacular 3-3 draw away to Aberdeen Grammar School. During this game the team were ahead on three occasions but opposition penalty corners were slick and proved to be our undoing.

In the regular season fixtures, again the team were subject to a frustrating start with losses against Robert Gordons College and Loretto, 4-1 and 6-1 respectively. However, this marked a watershed moment within the team and after much soul searching and vital learning the team bounced back to three consecutive wins. Most notably, a 3-1 victory away against a very strong Glenalmond College team – the pick of the goals coming from Struan Griffiths. The team showed true grit and determination to come out on top dominating in both defence and attack. Throughout this time, excellent leadership was shown by captain Iain Robertson

ensuring that the team were motivated and working to their fullest potential despite a run of disappointing results at the beginning of the season. Following the Glenalmond fixture the team had an excellent 5-1 win against touring side Regent House in which all five goals were scored by Torin Hamill – a brilliant individual performance. The season culminated in a match against the Strathallians which the school won 7-4 in a highly entertaining and high-scoring match. Due to inclement weather the season was significantly reduced to just seven matches which curtailed the upward trend within the team towards the end.

The team showed true grit and determination to come out on top dominating in both defence and attack

Thanks goes to team captain Iain Robertson for his timely motivational team talks as well as demonstrating excellent leadership skills off the pitch ensuring that players were fully prepared for matches.

SD





2nd XI

‘As temperatures plummet to as low as -15C, you could be forgiven for thinking that this is the coldest winter on record. However, the winter of 2017-18 is actually relatively mild compared to some that have come before.’ (The Week, March 2018)

Respectfully, the 2nd XI takes issue with the above assessment of a mild season. The season started promisingly for them with a win on the road in the opening fixture vs Robert Gordon's College. Unfortunately, it was hard to maintain any momentum with cancelled fixtures and impacted training. However, I was grateful for the Wilson Hall, which meant that pupils could play some hockey.

I would like to congratulate the players for their hard work, resilience and patience. To those that have now left the school I wish them every success and I hope they continue to play and enjoy hockey.

vs Robert Gordon's College **W 3-1**

vs Fettes College **Cancelled**

vs Gordonstoun School 1st XI **L 2-3**

vs Loretto School **D 2-2**

vs Glenalmond College **D 0-0**

vs Fettes College **Cancelled**

vs Gordonstoun School **Cancelled**

vs Glenalmond College **Cancelled**

vs Loretto School **D 1-1**

MH-S

Under 15 B

We only managed to play three matches in this season, adverse weather being the culprit, but won all of them and did not have a goal scored against us so it must count as a successful season.

The first was home to Gordonstoun, on the 27th of January. Weather was mild and dry, Ramsay Astro in good condition. Gordonstoun arrived changed at 1200, we provided practice balls, and centre pass was 1230. Few adult spectators. 25 mins each way.

Strathallan won 3-0, all 3 goals scored by James Lonergan.

First half was a cagey and nervous affair, both teams having had little match practice. Passes went astray, players clumped together. Strathallan looked strong in defence except when Gordonstoun broke surprisingly and swiftly from their own defence, whereupon we looked slow in comparison. Centre field was even to begin with. In the first half Strathallan had seven shots on goal, none successful, to Gordonstoun's equally unsuccessful one. We were slow and sluggish to pass and shoot.

The second half was a different story. Strathallan looked pacey and spread out and most passes were successful. Angus Carracher, Hugh Nichols and Ben Morrison were beginning to dominate midfield giving our forwards more freedom. Harry Hodge, Alastair Jeynes-Ellis and James Lonergan put together a series of short passes that saw James scoring twelve minutes into the second half.

Our defence of Marcus Cleaver-Smith, Ross Campbell-Mooney and Massimo De Pascalis was now rock solid. Alex White in goal was completely comfortable and in control. He thrice demonstrated a wicked right foot clearance. The midfield and forwards recreated the conditions of the first goal and James scored again twenty minutes into the half. The team repeated the formula twenty-two minutes into the half with James completing a fine hat trick.

Man of the match was Hugh Nichols, despite James' hat trick. Hugh covered an impressive amount of ground, created chances and made lots of key tackles. There were also good cameo performances from: Fergus Snowie, Arthur McDonald, Campbell Swaine, Nico Saludes Douglas, Santiago de Alba Font, George Nielsen, Duncan Webb and Blair Mackenzie.

The next match was home against Loretto, on the 30th. Weather was very cold and windy, Ramsay Astro in good condition. Loretto arrived changed but very early at about 1400. Warmed up on bottom astro then came up to us. They had one adult teacher and one youthful coach who also umpired, a squad of twenty, but no balls and no masks. Few adult spectators. 25 mins each way. Centre pass 1530.

Strathallan won 2-0, goals from James Lonergan and Hugh Nichols.

The first half almost went according to plan. We kept it tight at the back, midfield were aware of breakaways and we looked to score whenever we could. Two thirds of the

defence was solid: Massimo de Pascalis and Ross Campbell-Mooney. Having lost Marcus Cleaver Smith to the A Team (sounds like a film story) Duncan Webb, Arthur McDonald and George Nielsen shared the third defensive berth. All had good points and... less good points. The midfield and attack were working well but did not score. About six shots were on target and there were as many other opportunities to shoot but we were just too slow to shoot. No goals first half. During the half time interval the team were warned that Loretto looked hungrier for victory than we did. They were urged to stop worrying about being cold and run faster.

The second half was once again a different story. Strathallan looked pacey and spread out and most passes were successful. The midfield of Angus Carracher, Hugh Nichols, Harry Hodge and Ben Morrison were beginning to communicate with each other much more effectively. Passes were not sent to the opposition nor squirted in a "hit and hope" manner into the D. The attacking trio of Nico Saludes Douglas, Morgan Patterson and James Lonergan always looked dangerous but often appeared reluctant to shoot. Loretto were set on maintaining a six- man defence inside the D (So how did they look "hungrier for victory"? Asking for a friend. Ed). Thankfully at seven minutes into the second half we scrambled a goal through many Loretto legs. One goal tends to ease the nervousness and the team plays better. We did and soon scored the second.

Alex White in goal had another dependable, untroubled, solid game. His clearance kicks are getting faster and longer. Man of the match was again Hugh Nichols. Hugh covers a lot of ground and makes many terrier-like tackles - without fouling of course. Fergus Snowie showed that he still make a decent forward and Blair Mackenzie came hotfoot from basketball but was not needed.

The final match was against Glenalmond, also at home, on the 3rd of February. Weather was drizzly, cold and windy, Ramsay Astro in good condition. Glenalmond arrived changed at 1400, coaching staff treated to coffee, we provided some practice balls, they did have masks, centre pass was 14.31. Few adult spectators. 25 mins each way.

Strathallan won 4-0, should have been 8-0.

Injuries and sickness and absence forced a complete rework of our defence. Alistair Jeynes-Ellis started as the centre back key defender, flanked by George Nielsen and Arthur McDonald. Our Midfield dynamo set of Angus Carracher, Hugh Nichols, Nico Saludes Douglas and Ben Morrison was unchanged. As was the attacking trio:

Morgan Patterson, James Lonergan and Harry Hodge. Having urged the team to warm up properly and come out all guns blazing I was delighted when they did exactly that. Not sure that they are familiar with the expression "attack is the best form of defence" but that was how they played and our defence was untested throughout the first fifteen minutes. The Glenalmond goal was severely tested in this period but survived due to a combination of good reflex goalkeeping, our players' wanting too much time to take a shot, and Glenalmond's packing the defensive D. Swapping Nico into the attack and keeping Harry in midfield seemed a better balance and it eventually led to the first goal, scored by Harry, after twenty-two minutes. Glenalmond were growing more confident but swapping Arthur for Santiago de Alba Font strengthened the defence and snuffed any last minute attempt at our goal. Half time talk was "keep doing everything you are doing AND score more goals."

The second half was dominated by Strathallan. We passed well, we communicated well, we moved and found spaces. We scored after seven minutes, Nico muscling his way through a line of defenders in the D to score. The powerhouse known as Hugh Nichols forced his way forward and claimed a goal for himself after fourteen minutes. At the other end Alistair was still marshalling the troops well and Alex White made increasingly long and forceful clearance kicks. He was never seriously tested. Super-sub Fergus Snowie came on with three minutes remaining and forced an own goal which he is claiming as his own. I think not.

A pretty impressive all-round performance from a weakened team that started slowly but got better and better. It strikes me that no-one's place is secure because we now have players who are capable of doing well in positions that they were unaccustomed to playing in. Man of the match, for the third time in a row, was Hugh Nichols. If he stopping pushing the opposition and wore a proper mouth guard he could even become captain.

NPG

Riley Hockey

The beast from the east hit the Riley Boys hockey season with a vengeance. However, the boys trained hard throughout in the Wilson Hall and, less frequently, on the Astro. Results were disappointing for the UI3s. Nonetheless, I'm sure it will be one to remember for the UI3Bs who recorded a famous victory over the A team at the Strathallan 7s Tournament. There were some promising performances from the UI2s and I look forward to observing their continued progression next season.

UI3A

vs St Leonards School **Cancelled**

vs Belhaven Hill School **L 1-6**

vs Craigclowan School **Cancelled**

vs St Leonards School **L 1-3**

vs George Watson's College **Cancelled**

vs Cargilfield School **L 0-7**

UI3B

vs Belhaven Hill School **L 0-1**

vs Craigclowan School **Cancelled**

UI2A

vs Ardvreck School **W 3-2**

vs St Leonards School **Cancelled**

vs Belhavsen Hill School **L 0-2**

vs Cargilfield School **W 8-1**

Strathallan 7s Tournament

Well done to both our GKs, Strathallan B GK Lewis Dewar was outstanding in the match vs Strathallan A and the 'A' GK, Louis Limburg was named as GK of the Tournament.

UI3A

vs Ardvreck **L 0-1**

vs Fettes College **L 1-2**

vs Cargilfield **L 0-1**

vs Belhaven Hill **L 1-3**

vs Strathallan B **L 0-1**

UI3B

vs Craigclowan **L 0-6**

vs Loretto **L 0-5**

vs Belhaven **L 0-5**

vs Ardvreck **0-2 L**

vs Strathallan A **W 1-0**

MH-S

Hockey - Girls



1st XI

Our season got under way returning to School early for our pre-season training. We had been entered into the Bell Trophy Tournament which is the start of season Midland Ladies tournament that was being hosted at Strath. The players really enjoyed taking part, the 2nd team were third in their group and won the cross-over match before playing off for 5th/6th place. Our 1st team were second in their group and played Perthshire Ladies in the semi-final (2-0 W), then played Madras FP in the final. It was 0 - 0 at full time, then all square after the penalties. We eventually lost 2-3 on sudden death penalties. Not bad for a School team in an adult tournament.

Regular Fixtures

1st XI v RGC	4 - 1
1st XI v Glenalmond	3 - 2
1st XI v Dollar	1 - 4
1st XI v Loretto	2 - 1
1st XI v Kilgraston	1 - 1
1st XI v Morrisons	5 - 0
1st XV v Dean Close	2 - 6
1st XI v GWC	1 - 3

This was a young team this year with only Jenny, Amy and Anna as our U6 leaders but what a great job they did looking after the young players coming through. We lost a few players due to illness and injury but everyone really stuck together and it was great to see players developing throughout the season. Amy had a fantastic season in goal and we were sad to see Darcy going elsewhere although we wish her all the very best. She will always be a #blueandgold player in our eyes.

TOURNAMENTS

As far as tournaments go, it seemed to be the year of the semi-finals. The Independent Boarding Schools tournament took place in October. A loss and a win in the group stage, put us into the semi-final where we went down 0 - 1. In November we had the Midland Schools 1st XI tournament where again we reached the semi-final after a good win v HSD and a draw with Kilgraston.

In the Scottish Schools Cup, we had a convincing win v St Margaret's before we were knocked out by a strong High School of Glasgow team. In the Midland Schools KO Cup, a double by Jade Paterson and an outstanding performance by Cleo Miller helped us to a 4-2 win v Glenalmond.

However, it was another semi-final for the team that saw us going out of the competition.

At the end of the season, we did manage to get medals at the HSOG 7s tournament. Well done to Jenny, Izzy, Sarah, Cleo, Lisa, Flora W, Steph C & Amy W.

INDOOR REPORT

We played in the District tournament in December. We beat Kilgraston 8 - 5 in a fantastic team performance. Mention must be made of Amy Keir who was outstanding for us in goal. A draw against HSD was then enough for us to win the tournament securing a place in the National Indoor Finals at the end of January. It was great to have our Captain, Jenny back playing for the finals and what a start to the tournament she had, with a hat-trick in the first match.

National Indoor Finals

Pool Matches

Strathallan v GWC	4 - 4	W
Jenny McGuire x 3, Lisa Biermann		
Strathallan v HS of Glasgow	8 - 2	W
Lisa Biermann 4, Izzy Folan 3, Flora Hamill		

Semi Final v Craigholme	6 - 2	W
Lisa Biermann 2, Izzy Folan 2, Flora Hamill, Jenny McGuire		
Final v GWC	3 - 3	D
Lisa Biermann, Izzy Folan, Emilia Leue		

What a roller coaster of emotions we had on the day of the National Indoor Finals. We were 3 - 2 up with 30 seconds left on the clock in the Final. But so much can happen in that time. 30 seconds away from being National Champions. Well it was not to be, GWC scored the equaliser and it was down to penalties to decide who won. Unfortunately, we went down 2 - 1 with Jenny McGuire scoring her penalty. Jenny now has played in three National Indoor Finals, achieving one gold and two silver medals. Really quite impressive. The final was very close and everyone put absolutely everything into. A fantastic team effort.

We again played in the Midland Indoor ladies league and performed well. This was certainly good preparation for the national finals. We finished in third place.

Indoor League Results Table

Kinross HC	10 - 4	W
Monarchs	15 - 0	W
Dundee Wand 3	16 - 7	W
Grove Menzieshill	3 - 5	L
Dundee Wand 2	3 - 4	L

Huge congratulations to our Juniors who won the Midland Indoor Tournament in January. They played extremely well and it was impressive to see them win playing excellent hockey along the way. 8 - 0 v Kilgraston, 7 - 1 v High School of Dundee.

DISTRICT/NATIONAL HONOURS

Congratulations to the following on their representative selection

Midland U14

Ava Keating, Charlotte Gilmour and Iona Fleming

Midland U16

Steph Wright, Emilia Leue, Lisa Biermann, Steph Craig, Flora May Hamill, Georgia Glen

Midland U18

GOLD Darcy McDermott, Izzy Folan, Anna Penas

Midland Indoor

Izzy Folan, Lisa Biermann & Emilia Leue

National Performance Squad

Izzy Folan

PRESENTATIONS

At our end of season presentation, the following awards were made.

Outdoor player of the year

Lisa Biermann

Most improved outdoor player

Jade Paterson

Indoor player of the year

Emilia Leue

Most improved indoor player

Nicola McArthur

Top goal scorer

Lisa Biermann

Captain

Jenny McGuire

Vice-Captain

Anna Penas

Huge thanks to Mr Dick for his coaching, to Miss Sime for all her help and guidance, to our umpires, Mr Giles, Mr Watt and Mr Hamill and to the many parents who continue to come out to support us. All the very best to our new Captains, Nicola McArthur (outdoor) and Izzy Folan (indoor).

Jenny McGuire, Captain 2017/18

Anna Penas, Vice-Captain 2017/18

Junior Cup Squad

The Junior Cup squad is made up of the strongest players across 3rd and 4th Form.

It was a fun and successful season for the Junior Cup Squad. The team suffered an early exit in the Scottish Cup at the hands of George Watson's College. It was an excellent performance, which saw GWC score with two minutes remaining. The team went undefeated for the rest of the reason. Including away wins against Gordonstoun and Hutchesons' before defeating the High School of Dundee in the Scottish S3 plate final at Glasgow Green and wins against Morrison's Academy and Kilgraston before claiming the Junior Midlands Cup with a win over Dollar Academy.

I would like to wish the pupils moving onto senior school hockey every success and I am excited to see the continued progress of the remaining members and new members to the squad.

Player of the Season

Emilia Leue

Most improved player of the Season

Danielle Doherty





Scottish S3 Cup
v George Watson's College
Scottish S3 Plate Round 1
v Gordonstoun
Scottish S3 Plate Semi Final
v Hutchesons' GS
Scottish S3 Plate Final
v High School of Dundee
Midlands Cup Round 1
v Morrison's Academy
Midlands Cup Semi Final
v Kilgraston School
Midlands Cup Final
v Dollar Academy

MHS

UI5A

The UI5A squad provided an excellent opportunity for pupils to develop with regular training and fixtures. Results were a mixed bag, however there were some excellent performances and it was pleasing to see the girls enjoying their hockey.

v Robert Gordon's College
v Fettes College

L 0-1
W 7-0
W 1-0
W 1-0
W 3-1
W 3-0
W 2-0
v Queen Victoria School
v Glenalmond College
v St George's School for Girls
v Queen Victoria School
v Dollar Academy
v Loretto School
v George Watson's College
v Gordonstoun
v Mary Erskine School
v Morrison's Academy
v Kilgraston School
v High School of Dundee
v Hutchesons' Grammar School

MHS

UI5B

Highlights of the season were the 1 – 0 win v Loretto and the 5 – 0 win v Gordonstoun. We also had a great match v Dollar that finished 1 – 1. We improved a lot over the season and were really grateful to Mrs Fleming and Señorita de Celis for everything they did to help us. They made training fun and everyone worked hard throughout the season. All the very best to Mrs Fleming who

L 1-7
L 1-2

D 0-0
L 1-2
W 3-0
L 1-2
L 0-8
D 1-1
L 1-8
W 4-1
L 2-5
W 3-0
W 2-1
W 3-2
Cancelled

MHS

UI5B

finishes at Strath at the end of the year. The UI5B hockey team will miss you.

Saoirse O'Carroll-Batterham, Captain
IV Form Glenbrae

UI5C

In the Autumn term of 2017, with our large year group, we had an UI5C team who were made up of complete beginners. We played in two matches last term, our first being against Dollar who beat us 0-4, however with this being our first match together as a team and also being played on grass, which was a challenge to us all, we played exceptionally well and tried our hardest. Our second match was against Fettes who beat us narrowly by 0-2, this match was once again on grass and all the girls played fantastically once again and never once put in anything but 100% effort and tried their best. It was a great season for us, learning the sport and getting to know one another and seeing each other improve week by week.

Issy Smithson, Captain
IV Form Glenbrae

Cross Country and Athletics

Weather conditions are often a key ingredient of Strathallan Athletics reporting, but this year seems to have had the widest possible range of meteorological variation, with blizzards and gale-blown hail in the cross country season and an almost unprecedented period of hot dry weather (except, almost, for Sports Day) in the summer.

Good conditions meant that preparations for Scottish Schools Cross Country were fairly smooth. The home match/House cross country was typically hard-fought and enjoyable to watch, Nicol coming out on top in the boys' event and the girls' competition split three ways on placings, but won eventually on race points by Glenbrae. We had eight teams prepared for the Schools Cross Country, but heavy snow postponed the event and the second date coincided with other fixtures and the second lap of the school cold virus. We were therefore only able to put out six teams and some hardy individual runners.

The new course at Hopetoun is excellent but the conditions were as bad as I can remember in a cross country race, and any athlete who finished a race did exceptionally well. The wind was especially strong for the juniors and, combined with hail and sleet, made running very unpleasant. Huge credit must go to the two Riley teams who all finished their races.

The senior runners were not put off by the conditions. The A girls won the team event (Jenny McGuire, Alisa Lavrova, Cleo Miller and Flora Wilson), the A boys were second (Ru Clark, Yannick Sutcliffe, Angus Moss, Doug Stirrat), and the B boys, in what is probably the most competitive age group, were third (Joe Higginbottom, Andy Stirrat, Alex Bergin, Shay Finnermore-Crorkin). The B girls were just off the podium in fourth place.

The athletics season continues to be eaten away at by examinations. To ensure that we preserve as much high level competition as possible, we have two meets at Pitreavie which allow individuals to run against other schools, and a third event which is as close to a match as examination pressure allows. These races were well-attended and the racing was entertaining and very competitive. We are grateful to Merchiston, Fettes and Glenalmond for bringing athletes to these events and entering into the spirit of the occasion.

Sports Day produced some excellent races, with the sub 2.10 duel between Campbell Hay and Johnny Boyd in the 800 metres particularly memorable. The girls' event was



won by Woodlands and the boys', coming down to the last relay, was a draw between Nicol and Simpson.

We did not have many entries for Scottish Athletics this year. Sophie Wallwork was our best result with 7th and 5th in the 100 and 200 metres. In the summer she then became Scottish under 15 champion at 300 metres.

As ever, thank you to all coaches and the Monday night Standards team, and congratulations to MHS on another successful season.

DMH

Biathlon



Scottish Schools Championships

Congratulations to all pupils who took part in the Scottish Schools Biathlon In November 2017. We received two best team awards in UII and UI9 categories.

Under 10			
Michael Akinje	4th overall	3rd in Swim	4th in Run

Under 11 Boys	Best Team			GOLD
Derek Mickel	3rd overall	2nd in Swim	5th in Run	BRONZE
Ruaridh Piper	5th overall	7th in Swim	1st in Run	
Zac Mickel	7th overall	5th in Swim	7th in Run	

UI2 Boys			
Stan Brodie	8th overall	7th in Swim	8th in run
Alastair McDonald	9th overall	6th in Swim	9th in run

UI3 Girls			
Maisie Morgan	8th overall	7th in Swim	12th in run

UI7 Boys				
Campbell Hay	1st overall	1st in Swim	1st in run	GOLD

UI9 Boys	Best Team			GOLD
Jonathan Wong	1st overall	1st in Swim	2nd in run	GOLD
Alèx Cosano Bofill	2nd overall	4th in Swim	1st in run	SILVER
Sandy Aitken	3rd overall	3rd in Swim	3rd in run	BRONZE

British Schools Championships

After excellent performances at the Scottish Schools event, five pupils qualified for the British Championships at Crystal Palace, London. Five pupils and two staff made the journey down. Unfortunately, London was experiencing bad weather so not only was the run cancelled but so was the flight home. Sleeping overnight in the airport was a challenge and being booked on a flight home from Heathrow when we were at Gatwick was a bigger one. All remained positive throughout and huge credit goes to the pupils, who were amazing at looking after each other.

UI0 category: Michael Akinje was ranked 110th in Britain going into the competition and finished ranked 79th.

UI7 category: Campbell Hay finished in 5th Place and received a trophy

UI9 category: Jonathan Wong was 11th, Alèx Cosano Bofill 12th and Sandy Aitken 13th resulting in them receiving Silver Medals in the team event.

AS

Netball



Ist VII

This past year, the various netball teams at Strathallan have really shown some true talent coming up through the year groups. The Ist VII have made strong efforts to attend the Wednesday Perth League matches despite having busy schedules, showing the commitment and dedication the girls have for the sport. There has been a definite improvement in these games, seeing a lot more wins this year than we have in the past whilst using the matches as good training against other strong experienced teams, thereby allowing us to improve specific skills. Being pushed to work harder and learn these new skills wouldn't be possible if it weren't for the training that gets put in where we have been lucky to have Miss Laurie coaching us as well as putting the Wilson Hall facilities to good use.

The girls also managed to get through to the semi-finals of the Scottish Schools Netball Cup, ending up narrowly defeated by Strathaven Academy who went on to win the competition. We also hosted the Independent Schools Tournament this year where Strathallan remained unbeaten and became Independent Schools Champions. At the end of the season and in a highlight of the Strath Calendar, the Ist VII Netball team played the Ist XV Rugby team at Netball, where the girls maintained their winning streak to beat the boys in front of the crowd that came to both support and be entertained as the teams swapped their kits.

The team this year had several younger pupils join it as well as many individuals receiving half and full colours at the end of term for their commitment and talent. I have an immense amount of pride being able to captain the girls over this past year during which they have consistently made it an enthusiastic and incredibly enjoyable environment. I look forward to hearing the future success the netball team at Strathallan is sure to achieve with the large amount of talent coming up through the year groups.

Lisa Walker

Ist VII Captain
UVI Glenbrae

UI4A

The UI4A had a comfortable first couple of rounds in the Scottish Cup. In round three the team travelled away to Craigmount HS and faced a very organised and quick team. The girls were able to match Craigmount HS and they won the game in the last quarter through some accurate goal scoring from Arabella Robinson and Sophie Chapman (score 17-15).

Now in the Scottish Cup Quarter finals the team had a lengthy journey down to Douglas Ewart HS. The girls fought very hard and at times played some fantastic netball but they eventually went down 10-27. For the remainder of the season they continued to work hard and recorded a few more wins. The UI4B team had fewer fixtures throughout the season, yet they were able to maintain focus and stay motivated to improve their skills and team play. They had a notable win against Gordonstoun School and showed great team- work and determination.

CL



Equestrianism

Strathallan entered teams in a Scottish Schools equestrian competition for the first time in 2000. That year all the teams were eliminated but, in true Strathallan fashion, our riders left with cheery smiles and a steely determination to try again the following year. Eighteen years later the Strathallan results read quite differently and are testament to the talent and perseverance of all our riders. I am delighted to be able to report on a number of outstanding results ranging from winning schools competitions to achieving success in the most prestigious equestrian competitions in the country.

In October 2017 Strathallan hosted our annual team and individual Show jumping competition for schools and riding clubs. This popular event attracted over two hundred and twenty combinations battling it out for trophies and rosettes. A number of Strathallan riders competed and many had a really good time. Maia Fleming jumped excellent clear rounds in both the 70cm and 85cm classes to be placed second and third respectively (both classes had eighty competitors) and the senior team of Rowan Laird, Brook Walker, Amelia England and Millie Wilson won the 100cm class in great style. Millie also won the individual award for the fastest double clear, so two trophies were heading for the Strathallan trophy cabinet at the end of a long but very successful day.

At Fife Hunt Pony Club's Show jumping competition in January 2018 Strathallan teams gave superb performances to win the last two classes of the day (90cm and 100cm). In the 90cm class we only had two pupils, Brook Walker and Amelia England, each riding two ponies. They wowed us all by achieving fast clear rounds on both their ponies. The dynamic duo were delighted to win the class, including a large trophy. In the last class Brook and Amelia were joined by Rowan Laird and Millie Wilson and all rode brilliantly to win the class and a fabulous crystal bowl which was presented by Sue Cheape, DC of Fife Hunt Pony Club. Brook was awarded first places individually in both classes, Amelia being placed second in the latter.

The final schools' event of the year was the Kilgraston Scottish Schools' Equestrian Championships in April 2018. In recent years we have achieved some fantastic results at this event and this year was no exception. The senior Show jumping team of Flora Wilson, Brook Walker, Rowan Laird and

Amelia England stormed away with secure rounds which led them to win both the 90cm and 100cm team awards, including gaining sought-after qualification for the National NSEA Championships in Oct 2018. Brook Walker also qualified for three NSEA classes individually and won the coveted "Jenny Storar" trophy for the best Show jumping round at these Championships. The senior team achieved success in the Dressage section as well, coming a highly respectable second, and Ella England was placed second individually.

Key results in top level competitions in Scotland and beyond

Rowan Laird

Selected for the Scottish UI8 Eventing team for BE100 FEI CCI one star, for the second year – his team came fifth at the Championships.

Competed at Blair Castle International Horse Trials BE100 FEI CCI one star.

He was the youngest competitor and successfully completed the challenging course competing against International riders.

Brook Walker

Selected to ride in the Scottish UI8 Eventing team for BE100 FEI CCI one star.

Won "Leading Newcomer Show jumper" of the week (110cm class) at Blair

Castle International Horse Trials. On her second ride, placed 11th in the Scottish BE90 Championships and has qualified for Badminton BE90 Grassroots Championships in May 2019.

Amelia England

Won the Working Hunter Pony class at the Royal Highland Show and qualified for the Horse of the Year Show in Oct 2018. She represented Scotland in the Working Hunter Pony team which came third in the Summer Championships, winning her class.

At the Burghley Gold Cup (BSPS Summer Championships) she jumped clear to retain her lead under great pressure and become overall champion (there were 120 competitors aged 12-25).

Sophia Henderson

Achieved selection for the Scottish 100cm Show jumping team and competed at the British Show jumping Inter-Academy Championships. The Scottish team came second and she was awarded a silver medal.

Millie Wilson

Selected to ride for the Scottish Mounted Games team and rode in front of the Queen at the Royal Windsor Horse Show. She will

also compete for Scotland in an International in Ireland. She is a member of Strathearn Mounted Games team, which won at the Royal Highland Show and Blair Castle Horse Trials.

This team was awarded "Best Team in Scotland".

Won the 90cm cross country classes at Forgandenny and Strathearn Eventing.

Flora Wilson

Placed in the top 10 in several British Eventing classes throughout the year at BE90 and BE100.

Hugh Nichols

Competed at the BE90 Badminton Horse Trials Grassroots Championships.

Selected to ride for Strathearn Mounted Games team that won at the Royal

Highland Show and Blair Castle Horse Trials. This team was awarded "Best Team in Scotland".

Maia Fleming

Qualified for Blair Castle International Horse Trials Working Hunter class and came sixth in the Scottish Working Hunter finals. She won the Working Hunter class at the BSPS Scotland Finale Show and was placed third in the Heritage Gold Cup. She has also been placed in the top 3 in BE90 events.

Meghan Macdonald

Won the Pony Club Novice Dressage regional final and qualified for the Pony Club National Dressage Championships.

Ella England

Reserve Champion at Perth Show in the Working Hunter Pony Class.

Topaz Walker Won the Angus Pony Club annual points trophy. She has achieved numerous placings in British Show jumping events and was placed third in cross country at Strathearn Eventing.

I would like to extend a huge "Thank you" to all the riders and their parents. From my own experience, I know that competing in the equestrian world involves long hours of work both before and after the event and I am enormously grateful to "Team Strathallan" for all their support this year.

J.A.Summersgill

Equestrian Teams Coordinator



Canoe & Kayak

Going back to the summer; Anna, Magnus and Eric Moody and Ross and Laura Pottinger went on the annual Scottish Canoe Slalom summer camp to St Pierre de Boeuf, just south of Vienne in France then Ross and Laura carried on for a further week at Argenti re near Brian on.

These camps are run by the volunteer coaches for young Scottish slalom paddlers keen to hone their skills on whitewater whilst enjoying the hot sun of southern France. It is one of the highlights of the Scottish slalom year and this year was no exception with thirty-six paddlers, thirteen coaches and umpteen family members at the campsite.

During the 2018 slalom season, Laura Pottinger succeeded in being promoted to Division I in both women's kayak and Canadian singles and became Scottish J14 CIW champion and was

second in J14 kayak. Eric Moody won the Scottish Schools J10 kayak Championships and Magnus Moody won the J14 Canadian singles title. Alistair Ross is a newcomer to the club this year and has already been successful in being promoted to Division 3 in kayak. Ross and Laura Pottinger have been selected for the Central Region Canoe Slalom Performance B Squad and Magnus Moody has been selected for the Central Region Canoe Slalom Development Squad.

Strathallian Eilidh Gibson (Glenbrae 2013) became World Team Champion in CIW in 2017 and was 4th in the individual but has had to pull out of all racing this year due to injury. She is now back on the water and still aiming for selection to the GB senior team in 2019. Natasha Pottinger, (Thornbank 2017) is now ranked 20th in Britain in women's kayak and is training with the Scottish National Performance Squad.

Jane Gibson



Tennis

Girls' Tennis

This years' 1st IV girls' team comprising Jade Paterson, Nicola McArthur, Adrianna Gibson and Antonia Ludwig qualified for the English section of the British senior schools competition. We defeated George Watson's, Kilgraston and St. George's but were in turn defeated by Wakefield in a tie-break shoot-out narrowly missing out on the finals in Bolton. Our mixed team was successful in the same competition beating St. Peter's York to reach the finals in Bolton with a team of Lasse Bonn, Jade Paterson, Oriol Marfa and Nicola McArthur.

We were put in a tough pool which included the first seeds Canon Slade to whom we narrowly lost, next playing Millfield against whom we had two match points in a tight tie- break shoot-out, and who went on to be the eventual winners. Our last match was against Culford where we won in another tie-break shoot-out. Over all this was an amazing achievement where the team put in a great performance improving in every match.

In the Scottish Schools competition we reached the quarter finals where we lost to George Watson's, the eventual winners.

Our summer season saw the 1st VI girls undefeated and the 2nd and 3rd VI both finishing their season with only one loss each. The younger teams saw similar success throughout the year with U15 putting forward three teams who all saw wins against Loretto. The U15A team of Polina Krasitckaia, Cameron Wright, Stephanien Wright, Victoria Bey and Skye Lewis reached the regional finals where hard fought matches saw them finish in a well-deserved second place.

The U14A and B teams saw excellent wins against Glenalmond and Fettes as well as Loretto. Riley teams this year also saw good wins to Dollar Academy, St. George's and Kilgraston. This summer Riley competed in the annual St Leonard's tournament where Annie Webster and Silvia Carrascosa were crowned champions and also finished as runners-up in the tournament held at Morrison's Academy.

Jade Paterson
LVI Glenbrae

Nicola McArthur
LVI Thornbank

Boys' Tennis

The boys' first team adapted very well to losing a handful of great players from last year. The team won ten of their fifteen matches which included a very impressive victory away to Glenalmond (9-0) and home to Merchiston. (6-3). In the Granville Cup we reached the regional finals and unfortunately went down to a very strong Hall Cross Academy.

The 2nd VI had a mixed season over all winning two of their four matches. The two victories came against Glenalmond and Gordonstoun and were both emphatic.

The U15As had a very encouraging season winning nine of their eleven fixtures. The two defeats were both in the national and regional finals but every other fixture ended in victory. Hopefully these junior players will continue their development and help the senior teams next year.

Statistically the U14As had the best season out of any boys' tennis teams. They racked up a highly impressive 100% win record from their six matches, with this winning the Perth & District U14 league. As with the U15s I hope that the U14s can continue in this rich vein of form for the years to come.

There were also various individual successes for many of our junior players, representing at both district and county level. Most notably Alexander English who represented Tennis Scotland in the Four Nations Championships in September.

I would like to pass my thanks on to everyone who represented the school in tennis fixtures this year and especially to Tommy Ogilvie who has been on courts all the time working tirelessly to improve and develop young players and help them reach their full potential. Also a big thanks to Mr Watt and Miss Wardlaw who have both contributed hugely to all the teams whether that be coaching or driving players across the country to various clubs and schools. I have enjoyed being captain of Boys' tennis this year and I wish all the players and staff the best of luck for the new season.

Kyle Fleming
UVI Ruthven

Clays

This year has been another hectic one for everyone involved with clay pigeon, ranging from a junior team at the British championships to parents at Strathallian day. The year began with another excellent performance at the Scottish Schools Championship which where Strathallian not only won all the domestic trophies, but also the Open Competition against Millfield. This was a great result and allowed us to feel confident about our annual trip to the British Championships, hoping to go one better this year.

The dark evenings of November saw the new intake sit the Schools Safety course, a prerequisite for all members. The Academy continued to offer the opportunity for any 6th Former to have a one-on-one coaching session in order to fine tune their skills. Wednesday afternoons this year have been very eventful with a record number of members shooting regularly. These afternoons normally consist of a few light-hearted competitions followed by the 1st team coaching and helping the younger members of the squad. Tuesday and Friday evenings with Mr MacBain this term have been focused on introducing new pupils to clay shooting and allowing people to handle guns for the first time. This has mainly been targeted at 3rd and 4th Formers and latterly some Riley pupils.

March saw senior members attend under 21 Scotland selection shoots in order to compete at a National level at the world championships in early July. Strathallians Alasdair Lightbody and James Day were eventually selected for the three-man team and were very excited to have a chance to represent their county. The British schools championship was a specific highlight this year for the shooting academy in which 20+ members of the academy were involved. The 1st team again managed to equal last year's performance; that's now a hat-trick of 2nd place finishes. The girls' team ended up with a 4th while the B's finished with 5th. The C team along with the juniors learned from the experience and enjoyed the trip.

Craigclowan Parents PTA again enjoyed their evening out at the range where a competitive and fun evening was followed by a lovely curry and good chat. This was a great event and increased the interest in the sport. The now annual Prep schools shoot saw St Mary's Melrose win the team trophy.

Strathallian day this year was another event which increased interest in the sport and provided the opportunity for parents to test their ability. The school won the annual shoot against the OS. As the end of term approached, the Marketing Department



and clay club worked together to help Eddy Buchan run a junior competition at the Scone Game Fair by sponsoring the event and putting up a prize gun for the eventual winner.

All these successes and opportunities would not be possible without the dedication and determination of the pupils and the coaching staff. We as a team would like to show our appreciation to Paul Vallot for his organisation, Eddy Buchan for his one on one coaching and John MacBain for encouraging new members to join the academy.

Douglas Stirrat
UVI Nicol

Fencing



The fencing season starts in September and finishes in June, which is a lot of fencing! The early part of the year saw the fencers competing in Elgin and St Andrews in open competitions. Ariana Serafinceanu reached the last eight in both events, while Aidan Fuge picked up a Bronze Medal in St Andrews at the Saints Sabre Open. This was followed by the Scottish Open in October, with another last eight for Ariana and a last thirty-two for Aidan. Next came the Scottish Schools Individual championships, with good performances by Fergus McKay, Nephi Brown, Aidan and Ariana and then there was a little lull until January and the Stirling Sword. This is a mixed open event, drawing fencers from across the UK and Europe, with a team event one day and an individual event the next. After beating one student team from Scotland and another from France, the Strathallian team was defeated by a strong team from Manchester in the group stages; they won their first Direct Elimination fight and lost in the last eight to another French team.

Fencing is both a Games option for Seniors as well as an Activity. Prof Phil Carson

coaches the Senior Games session and this year the focus has been on using games to improve the understanding of the sport. This has been a lot of fun and has also seen a big improvement in individual fencing performance. The fencers have all worked on thinking about each point as having three aspects: the start of the fight in the middle and then either becoming the attacker if they win the middle, or the defender if they do not. Doing one thing at a time they have practised different scenarios in the middle as well as improving their attacking and defending.

Five Riley boys began fencing sabre in September, coming to both Activity sessions each week. They did their first competition in January, part of the Youth Development Series (YDS) of competitions. Ethan Wivell, Louis Limberg, Will Chaplin, Will Walker and Angus Knechtli all took part, scoring points and winning fights. Will and Angus returned for the next YDS competition and also took part in the British Youth Championships qualifying competition in February, along with Nephi and Ariana. All four of them qualified to represent Central Scotland at this huge competition in May.

Meanwhile Ariana continued her season competing at the open competitions, coming third at the Edinburgh Open, a fantastic achievement competing against students and adult fencers from across the UK and beyond.

May arrived and Ariana, Nephi, Will and Angus took the long road to the British Youth Championships in Sheffield. This had been the focus of so much of the training through the year and it was fantastic to see them taking on some tough opponents in their different age categories. Will and Angus fought in the boys' UI4 sabre, Nephi UI6 boys' sabre and Ariana in the girls' UI8 sabre. The headline result from the weekend was Ariana finishing sixth in her age group, but the boys scored some fantastic hits and won some great fights too.

Finally, to finish the season, Ariana, Aidan, Will and Angus took a much shorter road trip to the Scottish Youth Championships in Dunfermline. Unlike the BYC which has even age groups, the SYC is fought at UI3, UI5, UI7 and U20. Will came 3rd in the UI3 age category, losing 10-8 to the eventual winner in a fantastic fight. Due to where his birthday falls, Angus just falls in the UI5 age category and he gave a good account of himself against a number of older opponents and he too picked up a bronze medal. Aidan had a tough competition but followed the younger boys' lead and also came back with a bronze medal, as did Ariana in the U20 girls. These four bronze medals were a fantastic end to a great season

SF

Swim Team

The start of 2017 session began with our annual trip to Dundee for the Mildands UI6 Schools Swimming Championships where the boys' team of Donald Queen, Christopher Aitken, Oliver Spalding and Adam Morrice finished 4th. The girls team of Dani Doherty, Sarah Kung, Imogen McMichael and Grace Akinje also finished 4th. Individually Donald Queen finished 6th in the 100 freestyle.

TAYSIDE SCHOOLS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017

32 Strathallan swimmers travelled to Dundee to compete in the Tayside Schools Swimming Championships on Monday and Wednesday this week with some outstanding results both individually and in relay teams.

Strathallan was definitely amongst the top schools for performance and depth over the 2 days amassing a total of 37 medals.

Abigail Queen	Gold 17/19 relay, Silver 200 free, Bronze 100 fly.
Sandy Aitken	Gold 17/19 relay
Grace Akinje	Silver 13/14 200 free
Dylan Sommerville	Gold 17/19 relay, Gold 100 free, Gold 200 IM.
Jonathan Wong	Bronze 17/19 relay, Silver 100 free, Bronze 200 IM.
Oboe Chu	Gold 17/19 relay, Silver 200 free.
Kalle Hoad	Gold 17/19 relay, Bronze 200 free.
Campbell Hay	Bronze 17/19 relay, Silver 400 free.
Calum Young	Bronze 17/19 relay.
Cameron Taylor	Bronze 17/19 relay
Leah Smith	Gold 17/19 relay
Tiffany Chow	
Sheena McArthur	Gold 12 & U relay
Alexander English	
Hamish Queen	
Archie McMichael	
Michael Akinje	Silver 15/16 relay, Gold 100 free, Silver 200 free
Donald Queen	
Adam Morrice	Silver 15/16 relay
Oliver Spalding	
James Lauder	
Dani Doherty	Bronze 15/16 Relay
Sarah Kung	
Imogen McMichael	
Stephanie Craig	

As well as all the medals there were a lot of finalists in a wide range of events:

Alexander English, Stephanie Craig, Calum Young, Kalle Hoad, Oboe Chu, Sandy Aitken.

Strathallan had four out of six finalists in the 17/19 boys 100 free with another two swimmers 1st & 2nd reserve for the finals.

SCOTTISH SCHOOLS SWIMMING FINALS EAST KILBRIDE – JANUARY 2018

Dylan Sommerville qualified for the national Schools Finals in the 17/19 yr age group featuring in the boys 200 IM where he finished 4th and 100 free where he won the Bronze medal.

SCOTTISH SCHOOLS RELAY CHAMPIONSHIPS

In June 2018 a group of swimmers travelled to the Royal Commonwealth Pool Edinburgh to compete in the Scottish Schools relay championships. Competition was very tough this year and although we did not win any medals all the swimmers recorded excellent personal best times and were a credit to the school.

INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING EVENTS

Swimming Standards

Thornbank won girls swimming Standards convincingly and the boys event was again won by Simpson.

Inter-House swimming gala

Both the boys and girls inter-House swimming events are always full of very close exciting races; this year's event was no different. There were a number of very good personal best times recorded and many closely-contested events.

The results were as follows:

GIRLS	BOYS
1st Thornbank – 63	1st Simpson – 54
2nd Woodlands – 42	2nd Ruthven – 50
3rd Glenbrae – 35	3rd Nicol – 25
	4th Freeland – 23

RILEY SWIMMING

Riley v St Leonard's v Kilgraston

Eight girls travelled to St Leonards to compete in a triangular meet in June. It was an excellent match with both UII and UI3 teams winning overall. The UI3 girls had a clean sweep in all the events.

UII	
Emily Pearson	Gold – Medley relay, 25 fly, 100IM
Emily Sinclair	Gold – Medley relay
Mia Lalani	Gold – Medley relay, 25 backstroke
Natalie de Cintio Tiffney	Medley relay, 25 breastroke
UI3	
Grace Akinje	Gold – Medley and freestyle relays, 25 butterfly, 100 IM
Roz Queen	Gold- Medley and freestyle relays, 50 freestyle
Chloe McMichael	Gold – Medley and freestyle relays, 50 breastroke
Maisie Morgan	Gold – Meldey and Freestyle relays, 50 backstroke

RILEY INTER-DIV SWIMMING

This year's inter-div swimming event for Riley was as always a very exciting occasion with many very close and exciting races.

The overall results were as follows:

1st	Glennearn	91
2nd	Dron	67
3rd	Duplin	58
4th	Balmano	48

DISTRICT / NATIONAL EVENTS

Strathallan continues to create links with swimming clubs far and wide across the UK allowing swimmers to qualify for events as both National and District level. All top swimmers competed at District level with many then achieving qualifying times for Scottish National Open and Age-Group Championships.

Over all, 2017-18 was a year of development and progression with plenty to celebrate on the way through.

A huge thank you to Captains Abigail Queen and Sandy Aitken for their input over the year.

Well done to all swimmers involved throughout the year.

Elaine Johnston
Strathallan Swim Team Coach.



Badminton

Tomi Soyoye was Captain Fantastic in an action-packed Badminton season. Our best male player, Tomi led by example in games sessions with his determination to succeed, good humour and skilful gameplay.

Strathallan made Scottish Schools again this year by winning in Perth and Kinross Championships, with Echo Wang and partner Tanya Stephen in senior doubles. Most encouragingly for the future, Jemima Forrest-Smith won a number of hard-fought matches to come out top in the intermediate singles event. Other players worth watching were Melissa Forrest-Smith and Stan Brodie who both competed well in the junior events.

As a team, we played one inter-schools match against St Georges, losing by just one game.

Over all, many pupils enjoyed badminton and all made progress with their game this year. We are lucky to have the services of Mr Yeaman. He has added new drills and techniques to our team play and improved the badminton experience for all players whatever their level.

BC

Skiing



Ski Days

The “Beast from the East” allowed Glenshee to have one of its best ever seasons and Strathallan School were able to capitalise on this. Over three hundred pupils across five days were able to have ski or snowboard lessons and access to the slopes. Complete beginners to advanced skiers were able to enjoy a day out of school and pupils and staff had a lot of fun. The bluebird conditions allowed for some fantastic skiing, despite a few wipe-outs (mostly from the staff!)



The current Strathallan Ski team is very young and has lots of potential which was shown this year. They competed in several SSSA events across the year from UI2 to UI8 age categories.

Results:

SSSA Scottish Schools Dryslope Championships (Oct 17)

Boys UI8 Team	Girls UI8 Team
Placed 6th overall	Placed 11th overall
Tom Crockett 9th fastest individual	Iona Ross 12th fastest individual

SSSA Ski Cross Scottish National Finals (Nov 17)

The UI8 team finished 12th out of 20 teams. Maisie Morgan won the UI8 Girls Ski Cross Race with a fantastic time of 16.85secs.

Glenshee Primary Alpine Race (Mar 18)

Our Primary team ventured to Glenshee for their Alpine Race. Each skier had a good day and achieved some excellent times. The team came 4th out of twenty-one teams. Our highest placed individual was Alasdair MacDonald in 7th.

SSSA Summer Dual Slalom (Jun 18)

The UI8 team competed at the Summer Dual Slalom qualifying event for which the National Finals will be held later in the year. The team finished in 3rd place and have qualified for the National Finals.

AMW



Cycling

This year saw a new group of riders taking to the trails. The varied levels of skill and experience gave everyone the opportunity to learn new skills or build on pre-existing ability. With new trails appearing all the time Perthshire continues to offer some of the best technical riding in the country from steep rocky descents to greasy-rooted climbs. The changeable weather meant the challenge was constantly evolving and pupils demonstrated the ability to ride in a wide variety of conditions. While most of our riding takes place at Pitmedden and Kinnoull Hill we also had the opportunity to visit the excellent Comrie Croft on a few occasions.

JRN



Volleyball

Thanks to the work by U6 pupil Tomi Soyoye, we saw the introduction of our Volleyball team this year. They were an enthusiastic group who trained weekly with Ms Ambrose on a Wednesday evening and were determined to make a 1st volleyball team and even more determined to get that 1st team tracksuit.

Tomi was determined to get the team playing some matches so he did some research and entered us into the Perth recreational league. The players were extremely grateful to the staff who gave up their Sunday evenings to accompany the team to Bells SC. The league got under way with a tournament on the first night and spirits were high when they recorded two wins and a loss on that first outing. Then it was down to business: played ten league matches, won six and lost four which was pretty impressive for this developing group. Thanks to Tomi for all his hard work on getting this up and running. Well done to all players who clearly had fun, Oren caught the eye of a club who were keen to get him playing more next season and Amelie added the girl power to this talented group.

AS



Golf

A prolonged dry spell from the start of summer term and throughout May saw golfers of all abilities test themselves on Strathallan's manicured links. The course continues to prove a popular attraction from Riley to VI Form. Golf with friends is a good way to take a break from your worries when exams time looms.

The first Auchterarder fixture of 2018 was inter-House golf with the Simpson players Max Neumann, Rory Ottley and Finlay Laird coming in just ahead of Nicol and Ruthven. Next up were Fettes where our top six team players; Max, Rory, Rory Bayne, Juan Pascual, Jamie Killoh and Shannon Pook sneaked a win by a single match. Also at Auchterarder the school scratch competition was won by Max with a score of 83. Blair McKenzie ran out a comfortable winner in the school handicap competition with a net score of 58.

Slightly further afield at Aylth golf course Shannon won the Perth and Kinross Schools Championships and will go on to compete at Scottish Schools level.

In our final match of the season Max and Juan were invited to play a match at Bruntsfield links against former pupils Jamie Eadle and Michael Mackenzie. The format was 4 ball-better ball and after a very tight match Max and Juan lost on the penultimate hole.

My fellow golfing master David Yeaman brought enthusiasm and expertise again to golf this year. I thank him and our grounds staff for their continued contribution.

BC



CCF - Army



ARMY CAMP - JULY 2018

This summer's Central Army CCF Cadet Camp was at Warcop Training Area in picturesque Cumbria, close to the Lake District. The Camp is the highlight and pinnacle of the training year. Highlight because training at Camp is much better resourced than our routine regime at School and tends to be much more of an exciting, enjoyable challenge. Pinnacle because it usually involves the most advanced test of training that the cadets have done all year.

Given that Camp represents both this highlight and pinnacle our collective performance on Camp is therefore an acid test of our overall success for the year. We have notched up undoubted success in the quality of our training performance. During and after the exercises at Camp run by regular army staff unfamiliar with Strathallan I was regularly congratulated on the effectiveness of our organisation and the high level of our skills. Of the thirty recruits who attended all but three gained their Red Stars - The Army Proficiency Certificate, and all gained a British Heart Foundation "HeartStart" Certificate indicating prowess in emergency first aid procedures. Two of our Fifth Formers gained Gold Stars - The Advanced Proficiency Certificate, and the three Sixth Formers who came along all earned promotion to cadet sergeant. We sustained no injuries, had very few medical issues and absolutely no disciplinary problems. An excellent cohort.

The one disappointing aspect of our performance concerned the number of cadets attending Annual Camp. All cadets agree to do so but this year only thirty out of fifty Fourth Form cadet recruits actually came along for the roller coaster ride. The reasons for non-attendance were many and varied but the timing of Camp in being after the end of term is an adverse factor. Of the thirty-two eligible Fifth and Sixth senior cadets only eight volunteered to come along in a leadership role and then two of those dropped out at the last moment. It is excellent that the skill quality of our cadets at Camp is high but need now to do further work on the quantity attending Camp.

The Warcop Camp programme was most varied, including: training in buildings;

advanced first aid training; live full bore shooting; patrolling through dense woods; shooting at pop up targets; Section attack drills; a survival in the wilds briefing and day adventure training in the Lake District. If that sounds like a lot to fit in a week it was! It certainly felt like a lot to fit in a week to all the adults. Our young cadets proved to be self-reliant, resourceful, cheerful and determined. Even under constant haranguing about accommodation cleanliness and personal equipment organisation they remained positive. All of them improved their personal skills considerably throughout the week; all of them marched a little bit taller and straighter by the end of the week. All of them are better individuals, team members, and leaders, and the School will benefit from this next year.

We left for Camp in the morning of Saturday 30th June while the School was either still asleep or thinking about getting dressed for the Valedictory Service. The coach was one of the few still in service without air conditioning of any kind so because it was a warm day the 30-minute stop at Annandale motorway services to eat an early packed lunch was very welcome. After arriving at Warcop Training Centre, its double fence of barbed wire and armed guards making it look more like a prison than a holiday resort, we carried our kit across camp from the coach park and set about trying to make our allocated Nissen Hut accommodation look like home. Some cadets (Marc Nickl and Nico Saludes) never managed to do so, but others (Harry Hodge and Scott Couper) soon had everything squared away and organised and homely. Inevitably the girls were tidier and better organised than the boys. Whether this was due to Sarah Gardiner's leadership or the innate common sense of Sarah Kung and Katie Elliott I am not sure. Once settled in and changed into uniform Mr Lindsay and I conducted the cadets on a guided tour of the Camp whilst simultaneously trying to get them to march in step. That evening the cadets realised that one of the highlights of Camp is the excellent

food, of which there is no shortage once one gets to the front of the queue. Roast Beef, Yorkshire pudding and Strawberry Jelly (not all at the same time unless your name is Arthur McDonald) was a definite hit.

Sunday set the tone for the rest of the week. Reveille 06.30, Breakfast 07.00, room inspection 07.45 and on parade 08.15. Everyone made it, with just about all the right kit, and the personal spaces in the rooms were quite tidy. The day's training was split morning/afternoon between "Training in Woods and Forests" and "Survival Instruction". For the whole programme of Camp we were paired with a fledgling CCF Army Section from the newly established University Training Centre at Warrington in Cheshire. The UTC cadets, with broad Scouse accents (Scouse? Warrington? Shurely shome mishtake. Ed) and well-honed, street-wise, personal skills were certainly a contrast to the Strathallan cadets. I know that both sets learned from each other but no strong friendships grew. We had to attach one of our four Sections to UTC Warrington to make the cadet numbers balance between the two activities. Campbell Carracher's Section were for much of the week, the Section to be attached. They behaved splendidly and performed well. They were excellent all round ambassadors for the Strathallan cause. The Survival Instruction, given by a former 22 SAS expert, was judged to be interesting and enjoyable but not of so much use to most folk. The TIWAF exercise was educational but also physically and mentally challenging. Firstly the cadets had to understand the theory of how dense woods and forests altered weapon effects and hindered communication. Then it was onto a lengthy practical exercise involving firing blank rounds at a live human enemy hidden but mobile within the dark and deep forest. All the commanders found it hard to maintain control of a line of cadets advancing through thick woods, Ozzy Hamzeh as the junior Section commander doing really well. The cadets found that they had to listen

carefully and to pass on instructions (excellent life skills) whilst avoiding tripping over a tree root or falling into a muddy trench. Alex White and Kate Elliott were awarded cadets of the day for prowess in this exercise. Ben Lidderdale and Malcolm Inch never seemed to stop smiling. The cadets had to learn a new organisational language involving sweeps and cut off and assaults groups, some of them were heard to be shouting "LEFT DELTA TWENTY FIVE" in their sleep.

Monday's timings were the same but this group of cadets already impressed us by the way they coped with physically challenging days and early starts. The day's training was to be based upon tactics in built-up areas (FIBUA). Warcop Training area has some purpose built buildings to enable this and some old range buildings which were good to practice and train in. FIBUA is another physically demanding skill that calls for complete concentration of all concerned. A pair of cadets cannot ask their commander for help when it is their responsibility to clear a room. Grenade in, pause, shooter in firing at the corner, pause, check, deal with anything surprising, then shout "ROOM CLEAR" so the next pair can come and clear the next room. Easy to do in theory and even in practice on a PlayStation, but when you are in full uniform with helmet and rifle and have to climb real steps and open real doors with constant noise and smoke in the building it is very challenging. All our cadets did very well, Brooke McDermott and Harry Hodge gaining "Cadet-Of-The-Day" prizes. The Section Commanders had to maintain momentum and deal with the unexpected whenever it arose. There were various command styles: no nonsense, listen to me (Ozzy Hamzeh); laid back intellectual (Harry Singh); plain laid back (Alamin Kudehinbu); nurturing (Sarah Gardiner); and gung-ho with a sense of fun (Campbell Carracher). Working out what style suits best you and your team is an important facet of leadership training, and it holds good for life. For this training Strathallan and the UTC were

...some of them were heard to be shouting "LEFT DELTA TWENTY FIVE" in their sleep...



divided into two even platoons. A Warrington Instructor volunteered to command one platoon and our very own QMSI Tam Lindsay volunteered to command the other. He was awarded an operational military medal for his endeavours. The exercise scenario concerned rescuing the UK Foreign Secretary who had been taken hostage and was being held on the 2nd floor of a block of flats. Colonel SJ played the part of Boris Johnson with good humour and a great deal of patience. After a decent supper (sirloin steak, roast chicken, banoffee pie, and a gallon of juice) the cadets had an evening from me and the senior NCOs on how to become a ninja. All the cadets at camp now know but the secrets are carefully guarded and cannot be written down here.

Tuesday's two activities (once again split am and pm, and Strathallan once again reinforced UTC with a Section) were Watermanship together with a small arms exhibit and first aid training followed by an inter-Section casualty treatment competition. The small arms exhibit coupled with Watermanship turned out to be a fascinating lecture given by a Territorial Army Sergeant whose normal business is hiring specialist weapons to film crews. He has credits with Star Wars and 007 and many more. Many cadets took selfies with some of the weapons. I just hope that the selfies do not all appear on the same web site, it will make us look like a gang of armed criminals. The Watermanship activity was based on a small, twenty acre, lake on the training area and run by Royal Engineers. Firstly the cadets had familiarisation training with motorised army assault boats, involving man overboard drills aimed at getting as many cadets as possible wet. James Lonergan, Forbes Wilson and Fergus Snowie turned out to be more fish-like than human. Then the Royal Engineers guided the cadets into building a raft made of oil drums, planks and six bits of string. It was a timed competition to build the raft and then sail it across the lake and back, and then disassemble it. It is an activity we have done before at Warcop and it is always

a close completion thoroughly enjoyed by all concerned. Sarah Clegg-Butt and Flora May Hamill won prizes for competitiveness. Every cadet got wet. The first aid training was mostly a revision of the instruction ably provided by Captain Elena de Celis Lucas over the course of the year: DRS ABC together with CPR and shock and bandaging. All the cadets were tested by the First Aid team for Heartstart Proficiency Certificates and all passed. There was an explanation of heart disease coupled to a demonstration of the need for a healthy diet. In the demo the blood supply was magnificently played by Katie Elliott, the heart by Alex White and various organs by Charlie Robinson, George Nielsen and Hugh Nicols. All Sections performed well in the inter-Section casualty treatment competition but Zara Sutherland was judged to be the outstanding practical first aider and so helped 1 Section to win the prize. After supper in the evening the Cadets were treated to a session of close quarter drill by Mr Lindsay. He stopped the session after forty-five minutes because he reckoned the cadets were "just about average".

Wednesday's activities both involved shooting but were quite different. Shooting on a target range with live ammunition puts emphasis on safety and concentration of effort. Using live rounds that put real holes into real targets is quite scary at first for many cadets, but once their training kicks in they thoroughly enjoy it. After two practice serials the cadets have to put five rounds through a target in the smallest diameter circle. Thankfully all our cadets managed to hit the targets with all five rounds but some diameters of groups were quite large. Malcolm Inch and Katie Elliott managed exactly 100mm whereas Sarah Kung, Zara Sutherland and Ozzy Hamzeh were all under the 100mm at between 80mm and 90mm. The two winning snipers were Shelley Wong and Alex Clarke at below 60mm, first class shooting for first-timers. The other shooting activity was using blank rounds featuring a Special Forces close quarter battle patrol against radioactively-produced zombies - as



I have said, quite different from live target shooting lying down on a range. The zombie shoot was one of the more enjoyable sessions mainly because the former Special Forces instructor running the shoot was a real character. He combined telling war stories about hostage rescue with motivational team training and in between taught all cadets an effective close quarter engagement sequence of six shots that they will probably never forget. He also got them into group chanting and impersonating Ali G and wearing their caps back to front, I do so hope they all forget that stuff. The zombie shoot could not have been possible without volunteers to be made up as zombies. An officer from the UTC volunteered and the Strathallan zombie was played by Alamin Kudehinbu. He was scarily effective and authentic looking. Sarah Gardiner did very well in taking over Alamin's Section at short notice and was well supported by Ben Lidderdale as 2 Section i.c. Thanks to our prowess there are now fewer radioactive zombies in the Warcop area. Campbell Carracher and Harry Singh were zombie-hunting veterans from two years ago and did well to maintain the mystique. After supper Captain McGowan and Mr Lindsay led the cadets in a weapon-cleaning-by-numbers routine that in previous years has been a struggle. In line with this year's flavour: down on quantity but up on quality, the cadets were simply brilliant.

Thursday at Warcop was the Adventure Training Day. All the cadets travelled by coach to a campsite, near Pooley Bridge at the North end of Ullswater, run by an external training organisation where they were divided up into groups according to what activity the cadets had already elected to do. The choices were: Hill walking, Climbing, Ghyll Scrambling, Canoeing, Kayaking, Mountain Biking and Gorge Jumping. There was an excellent array of instructors and a huge store of equipment: bikes and wetsuits and boats and stuff. Every single one of our cadets got to do the activity they wished to do, in a small group with ample resources including food and drink. The Strathallan staff were superfluous to requirement except for an overwatch-be-available-if-we-have-trouble mode. Captain

Higginbottom went for a 30-mile run, the rest of us walked into the village for an ice cream and a coffee. Two hours later when Capt. H had returned we all went down to the local pub for lunch to celebrate our Contingent Commander's birthday. The smiles on the faces of the cadets when they returned told us the only story we needed to know. The widest smiles were from Juan Pascual, Ben Morrison, Blair MacKenzie and George Nielsen. After supper Mr Lindsay tried to wipe away the smiles with some more drill tuition, but sadly failed.

Friday was the hardest day, intellectually and physically, of the Camp. Exercise Warcop Wanderer is a platoon advance to contact exercise that tests the leadership ability of the corporals and sergeants and the fieldcraft prowess of all the cadets. The advance to contact route is very much uphill and not much down dale, several schools earlier in the week had had problems with the physicality of the route, not so Strathallan, we had no injuries and no "limp-offs" during the exercise. UTC Warrington were again on the exercise with us and were short of cadets so we lent them a Section, well commanded by Andrew Couper and Chris Aitken. The UTC Officer later reported that the Strathallan Section were undoubtedly the best-performing Section on his exercise. I followed this Section during one attack and was impressed by the way they kept going, knowing what their mission was, even though the exercise-directing staff had fallen down injured with a sprained ankle. Go Strath! Well done Alex Clarke and Fergus Snowie and Charlie Robinson. The Strathallan Platoon was commanded by Alamin Kudehinbu, ably supported by the fit Andrew Stirrat as Platoon Sergeant. Neither Alamin nor Andrew had any previous taste of command roles in the attack but both did very well and both enjoyed the experience. The Section Commanders, Harry Singh, Sarah Gardiner and Ozzy Hamzeh, really earned their pay (ha, they would have liked to have been paid!) that afternoon: they had to cajole and encourage cadets to run when tired and shoot when afraid and take cover when muscles and bones said stand up. Warcop Wanderer is a real test of a Contingent's worth

and we proved ourselves to be worthy that day. Arthur McDonald, Natasha Gardiner, Katie Elliott, Alex White and Forbes Wilson were awesome. Brooke McDermott, Blair McKenzie, Mark Nickl and Suzy MacKenzie smiled and smiled and smiled, I am not sure why. Cleaning the rifles that evening seemed to just fly by.

On returning from the exercise area, once rifles were cleaned, we held an award parade. Red Star Badges, Gold Star Badges and badges of rank for promotion. Everybody gained something. The contingent then marched round camp with red hackles glowing bright red in the sunshine. That evening was an all-school disco party. I still do not understand what all the fuss was about.

Central Camp is an exacting and exhausting examination of a contingent's all round ability. I was proud of our Strathallan cadets that week. For that week a year's worth of hassle on Wednesday afternoons seemed a fair price to pay for the compliments that flowed from regular army staff concerning our cadets. Despite the confidence of our cadets and the rise in ability of the Sixth Form corporals and sergeants nothing would have run as well as it has done this year were it not for the adults/teachers/officers. I am especially indebted to the following without whom training would have been less effective and certainly less fun. Captain Mark Higginbottom, adventure training and navigation guru and strangely wise, experienced G1/G4 sage with out of the box contributions. Capt Elena de Celis Lucas, fiery and passionate advocate of strict weapon handling and enthusiastic application of fieldcraft and first aid and always the best-dressed officer. Capt Iain McGowan with his Kiwi logic, sensible approach and determined-to-improve-everything attitude. WO2 (RQMS) Tam Lindsay, a near pensionable man who is able to do anything at any time and never look flustered, unless he deliberately wants to act so. Lt Col Adam Streatfeild-James, our Commanding Officer, who constantly fights the necessary paperwork war against officialdom and tries to alleviate our burdens whilst never bothering to moan about his.

NPG

CCF - RN Cadets

A very active year for the Navy Section that saw every cadet getting afloat. The range of opportunities was wide and the activities we undertook were highly varied with excellent participation levels.

Field Days

Two opportunities arose for the cadets to spend the day on HMS Archer, an Archer Class P2000 patrol boat. Here the cadets were welcomed by Lieutenant Charles Stevenson and his able crew who gave the pupils a rare experience of life on a Navy patrol boat. Despite some testing conditions the cadets all had the opportunity to take the helm, perform basic drills in the Firth of Forth and get to experience day-to-day life on an operational Navy Boat.

Junior Leadership

Eight Cadets joined Lt Newham to attend the Junior Leadership Course at HMS Caledonia, Rosyth. While the 6am drill on a frosty February morning proved character-building the pupils dug deep and rose to the Challenge, Charlotte Donnelly leading her section to victory in the drill competition. Various leadership scenarios and team-building challenges were performed over the weekend and the pupils demonstrated the ability to work well with pupils from other schools and to face new challenges.

Easter Sailing Camp – Mr Newham and six pupils chartered Scorchers V, a 38ft Sun Odyssey, from the Royal Navy Sailing Association. Under the watchful eye of the Skipper, Tom Shannon from QVS, the pupils got to grips with the beautiful 38ft yacht and spent an enjoyable five days on board. The voyage began at Faslane naval base and circumnavigated the Kyles of Bute, visiting Inverkip, Portavadie, Tarbert and the Holy Loch. All hands were put to work and the pupils quickly became proficient in the day-to-day running of the boat. Definite highlights of the trip were the swimming pool at Portavadie Marina, a fish supper in Tarbert and sharing a shipping channel with a Vanguard class submarine.

Camps and Courses – The Navy continue to offer a phenomenal range of courses and both cadets and staff made good use of these during their holidays. Charlotte went aboard HMS Raleigh for a week where she completed the senior leadership course - standing her in good stead to assume the role of Senior Cadet next Year. After completing her GCSEs Eve Gilmour spent a week sailing off the North West Coast of Scotland. Mr Newham and Charlotte both Completed alternate weeks on Rona II, a 69ft Oyster, completing the delivery of this vessel for the Tall Ship Race. Mr Newham also completed the RYA Yacht Master Coastal and Powerboat Instructor and will be delivering the Level 2 Award to cadets next year.

JRN



CCF - Marines

This has been a year of changes for the RM Section and also a year of development and preparation. For a variety of reasons we had very few Upper 6th pupils continue in the CCF and those who did dropped out very early on.

That presented some opportunities to the Lower 6th and I am very grateful to Ossie Smith, who took on the Colour Sergeant's role and to Henry Lapslie who supported him admirably throughout the year.

One of my main aims has been to give the cadets exposure to Regular Serving Marines at every opportunity. We are lucky that we have 45 Commando up the road and the support provided by X-Ray Company from that unit. There are also three Strathallians in the unit. Two are marines in X-Ray Company, Cameron Robertson and Will Schuneman, and the other is the Commanding Officer, Duncan Forbes. We have been able to do a great deal of training and this has included live firing on the ranges at Condor Barracks in Arbroath. The Cadets have also been able to use the Close Quarter Battle hangar that 45 Commando are developing on the airfield.

One disappointment was our inability to attend the Pringle Trophy due to a lack of numbers at the last minute. Sporting commitments for some of the cadets made them unavailable for the long trip to Exmouth. Despite that setback we have put things in place to make sure that we will take part in 2018 and give a good account of ourselves.

One highlight of the year was a visit from the RM Vis Team who came in to provide some training. This included some tactical lessons, as well as the physical training that commandos view as essential. The cadets had a fantastic time and really enjoyed the experience. Mixing with serving marines gives them the opportunity to ask questions and to get a feel of what service life is like.

Another interesting session was an RM Swim test lesson for which members of the Royal Marines Youth Team came in to give the cadets an experience of swimming with military kit



and a rifle. The session was run by our Royal Marines Youth Team instructor Sergeant Major 'Smudge' Smith. As a PTI he made the session both challenging and enjoyable.

Physical training also features heavily in our training programme and Lt Craig Wiles and I keep the cadets very busy. They have done circuits around the school, been running in Pitmedden Forest and have also completed a Score Orienteering course at Kinnoull Hill in Perth.

The RM Section does not have a camp like the Army Section but there are central camps run at Lymptone. Henry Lapslie and Ossie Smith went for the second camp which took place in the first week of July. Both did very well and Henry was voted top cadet for that week. Other Cadets have taken the opportunity to attend adventurous training courses. Cammy Taylor and Angus Moss attended a Power boat course at HMS Raleigh which is close to Plymouth but just over the border in Cornwall. Imogen McMichael has attended a number of flying courses at the Royal Navy Air Station, Yeovilton. She has really enjoyed the experience and now wears her wings on her cadet uniform which has resulted in a number of questions and other cadets wanting to emulate her.



Despite dealing with some drawbacks and frustrations the year has been a good one and I am confident that we will make a positive impact on the Pringle Trophy in 2018, with both capable and able leaders as well as fit and talented cadets. We will continue to maintain ties with regular commando units and give the cadets the best possible experience.

SRW

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

The Strathallan Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme had another strong year in 2018. In the past 12 months we had approved twenty-seven Bronze, four Silver and four Gold awards from Strathallan.



Gold recipients are very pleased to see their names on the Gold Honours board in the Strathallan dining hall, and we saw seven Gold receive their award at Holyrood Palace in July from Prince Phillip the Earl of Wessex. We are very pleased to see a continuation of diverse activities chosen by pupils.

We have participated in everything from knitting and cooking to learning how to referee and coach. Volunteers gave their time towards Scottish cultural and learning centres, while others became friends with seniors in the local community. The Physical section was not dominated by rugby, but rather saw participation and growth also in martial arts, fencing and athletics. Expeditions are always a key part of the award, and participants were very successful in completing Bronze, Silver and Gold expeditions in the Trossachs, Cairngorms, Pentlands and Lowther hills. We are eagerly anticipating our expedition to the Alps in July 2019 where we will complete a partial circuit of Mont Blanc.

SD



Real tennis

at Falkland Palace



Let's cut to the chase...

Sir Andy Murray is the master of the game of Lawn Tennis which has been in existence since about 1870, but, lurking in the shadows of our sporting narrative is a version of this game which can be traced back some 600 years. This is called Royal Tennis, Court Tennis or Real Tennis. The game has been played at Falkland Palace, Fife, since 1539 when the court was built for King James V. This court is the only example of an outdoor venue in the world and is the second oldest, coming a close second to La Bastide Clairence near Pau in the South West of France, from 1516.

It was, therefore, a real pleasure to be able to take our talented Strathallan tennis players (Archie Howell, Marcus McLaren, Alexander English, Adrianna Gibson, Ellen MacDonald and Annie Webster) during the summer term to the Palace on two occasions to learn about the game. Having established that the racquets were not even straight (and weighed

an absolute ton!), that the balls were not even round and flew like cannonballs, our players artfully adapted their lawn tennis skills to be able to negotiate the challenges of a real tennis court, by hitting balls off penthouse roofs and aiming deliberately at certain features on the court to win points. By the end of our practice sessions they had an understanding of the complex laws and were able to play proper games which contained some magnificent rests, the word, strangely enough, used to describe a "rally" between players.

On July 2nd, our players were invited to Falkland Palace where they took part in the Real Tennis Challenge, an event promoted by HRH, the Earl of Wessex, who is currently spending the year playing on every court in the world in order to raise awareness of the game amongst young people. The pupils were able to meet HRH and take part in some training workshops and mini games. Afterwards they were presented with a t-shirt and a certificate by HRH.

I would like to thank the pupils personally for making this such a fun experience and look forward to playing more tennis with them in the future.

ESL

By the end the pupils had an understanding of the complex laws and were able to play proper games which contained some magnificent rests, the word, strangely enough, used to describe a "rally" between players.



Prizewinners

Dux	Natasha Pottinger and Andrew Smith
The Smith Cup for Head Boy	Johnny Boyd
The Morley Quaich for Head Girl	Jenny McGuire
The Draper Cup for Deputy Head Boy	James McCaig
The Draper Cup for Deputy Head Girl	Lisa Walker
The Houston Prize for All Round Merit	Iain Robertson
The Scanlan Cup for Merit	Tiffany Chow
The Thomson Salver for Achievement	Shannah Goddard and Josh Philoptt
The John Fulton Memorial Prize for Overall Contribution	Johnny Boyd
The Buchanan Strathallian Prize	Hamish White
The Hayward Award for Citizenship	Archie Macfarlane
The Campbell Award for Best All Round Sportsman	Yanick Sutcliffe
The Campbell Award for Best All Round Sportswoman	Jenny McGuire
The William Tattersall Art Prize	Amy Keir
The David Bogie Prize for Economics	Kate Fawcett
The Lord Kincraig Prize for English	Lisa Walker
The University of Dundee English as an Additional Language Prize	Anna Penas
The Richard Moffat Prize for History	Johnny Boyd
The Robert Rankin Prize for Mathematics	Norris Wong
The Wilfred Hoare Senior Reading Prize	Johnny Boyd
The Gary Rogers Prize for Creative Writing	Anna Moody
The Patrick Grandison Prize for Strings	Bella Boyd
The William Pasfield Salver for Outstanding Contribution to Music	Blair Davie
The Robert Barr Memorial Prize for Music	Ben Muir
The Choir Prize	Marcus Wylie
The McMaster Quaich for Piping	Robbie MacIsaac
Strathallan Travelling Scholarship (Music)	Blair Davie
The Haviston Broadsword Prize	Poppy MacGeachy
Quaich CCF Prize (RM)	Ossie Smith
Royal Navy Section Prize	Kate Fawcett
The Rick Trophy Army Prize	Sandy Aitken

UVI FORM PRIZES	
UVI Art	Amy Keir
UVI Biology A Level	Jenny McGuire
UVI Human Biology	James McCaig
UVI Business Management	Nicky Ireland
UVI Business Studies	Ollie Smith
UVI Chemistry A Level	Johnny Boyd
UVI Chemistry Higher	Gregor Wright
UVI Classical Civilisation	Rachel Foulsham
UVI Latin	Johnny Boyd
UVI Computing	Blair Welsh
UVI Computing Science Higher	Gregor Wright
UVI Design and Technology A Level	Amy Keir
UVI Design and Technology Higher	Kimberley Muir
UVI Economics Higher	Kyle Fleming
UVI English Higher	Shannah Goddard
UVI French A Level	Johnny Boyd
UVI French Higher	Anna Penas
UVI Geography A Level	Aedan Brennan
UVI Geography Higher	Kyle Fleming
UVI History and Modern Studies	Harriet McGrath
UVI Mathematics Higher	Gregor Wright
UVI Music A Level	Lochlan Beveridge
UVI Physical Education Higher	Kyle Fleming
UVI Physics A Level	Alvan Sit
UVI Physics Higher	James McCaig
UVI RMPS Higher	Carrie Mack
UVI Spanish A Level	Ailsa MacGregor
UVI Spanish Higher	Michelle Macfarlane

LOWER SIXTH PRIZES	
LVI Art A Level	Ailsa Lavrova
LVI Biology A Level	Cleo Miller
LVI Biology Higher	Charlotte Bulkeley
LVI Business Management Higher	Georgina Waller
LVI Business Studies A Level	Kira Buchanan
LVI Chemistry A Level	Bella Boyd
LVI Chemistry Higher	Charlotte Bulkeley
LVI Classical Civilisation A Level	Sarah Mahon
LVI Latin	Bella Boyd
LVI Computing A Level	Aidan Fuge
LVI Design Technology A Level	Kira Buchanan
LVI Design Technology Higher	Robbie MacIsaac
LVI Economics A Level	Drew Doherty
LVI Economics Higher	Holly McLeod
LVI English	Sheena McArthur
LVI Extended Project Qualification	Anna Nunan
LVI French A Level	Cidalia Lewis-Lettington

LVI Geography A Level	Maggie English
LVI Geography Higher	Camreon Taylor
LVI German A Level	Henry Lapslie
LVI History A Level	Alamin Kudehinbu
LVI History and Modern Studies Higher	Struan Robertson
LVI Mathematics A Level	Mateja Zdravdovic
LVI Mathematics Higher	Charlotte Bulkeley
LVI Music A Level	Jennifer Whitaker
LVI Music Higher	Angus Moss
LVI Physical Education Higher	Rory Bayne
LVI Physics A Level	Mateja Zdravkovic
LVI Physics Higher	Cameron Taylor
LVI RMPS Higher	Jorden Crichton
LVI Spanish A Level	Ariana Serafinceanu

FIFTH FORM PRIZES	
V Form Art	Mina Brennan
V Form Biology	Debasien Magyar-Schenk
V Form Business Studies	Catriona Marden
V Form Chemistry	Douglas Berry
V Form Computing	Euan Hutcheson
V Form Design Technology	William Lauder
V Form English	William Lauder
V Form French	Francesc Saludes Douglas
V Form Geography	Douglas Berry
V Form German	Francis Yamamoto
V Form History	William Lauder
V Form Latin	William Lauder
V Form Mathematics	William Lauder
V Form Music	Muna Nweke
V Form Trilogy Sciences	William Lauder
V Form Physics	Douglas Berry
V Form PE	Finlay Cleaver-Smith
V Form Spanish	William Lauder

FOURTH FORM PRIZES	
IV Form Art	Sarah Kung
IV Form Biology	Tinley Dorje
IV Form Business Studies	Harvey de Pascalis
IV Form Chemistry	Rhianna Mitchell
IV Form Computing	Ben Morrison
IV Form Design & Technology	Jemima Macfarlane
IV Form English	Anna Moody
IV Form French	Suzy Mckenzie
IV Form Geography	Tinley Dorje
IV Form German	Anna Moody
IV Form History	Tinley Dorje
IV Form Latin	Natalia Young

IV Form Mathematics	Sarah Kung
IV Form Music	Madeleine Sayce
IV Form Trilogy Sciences	Sarah Kung
IV Form Physics	Marcus Cleaver-Smith
IV Form PE	Katie Elliott
IV Form Spanish	Rhianna Mitchell

THIRD FORM

	Conor Campbell
	Roli Smith
	Katharine Higginbottom
	Arabella Robinson
	Ayoninu Sobande

RILEY

Form 2 Set 1 Form Prize	Rosalind Queen
Form 2 Set 1 Effort Prize	Sophie Wallwork
Form 2 Set 2 Form Prize	Melissa Forrest-Smith
Form 2 Set 2 Effort Prize	Sofia Fabregat Kirchin
Form 2 Set 3 Form Prize	Andrew Paterson
Form 2 Set 3 Effort Prize	Struan Davie
Form 1 Form Prize	Alexander English
Form 1 Effort Prize	Sophie-Jessica Cuthill
IJ Form Prize	Mia Lalani
IJ Effort Prize	Derek Mickel
IJJ Form Prize	Michael Akinje
IJJ Effort Prize	Eric Moody
Boys' Drama	Ethan Wivell
Girls' Drama	Chloe McMichael
Boys' Music	Lewis Dewar
Girls' Music	Grace Akinje
Boys' Sport	
Girls' Sport	Sophie Wallwork

Staff Valete

David Billing

David Billing arrived at Strathallan in 2009, along with his wife Donna, to assume the role of Housemaster of Nicol House, having previously worked at Uppingham School and Ampleforth College. Whilst it was clear to see that Strathallan presented a different challenge, it appeared that fraternising with the rich and famous south of the border served as adequate preparation for this new venture. It was also clear to see from early on that his dulcet Welsh (really!?) tones and his boyish good looks would ensure he would soon be a big hit at 'Strath'.

Almost instantly, he seemed to take to life here like a duck to water in his role within the English department where he was a dedicated and encouraging teacher who expected the very best from all his pupils. Although rumour has it, that in actual fact, the shout of the English department was more akin to the shout about Baroness Emma Orczy's Scarlet Pimpernel character. Indeed, the cry 'We seek him here. We seek him there. We seek him everywhere!' was often heard echoing around the blue corridor as David was duty bound in Nicol House.

On the rugby pitch, he coached the 1st XV with distinction for a number of years and played a huge role in improving the standard of rugby at Strathallan. His motivational coaching and his rugby knowledge, developed during his time at Loughborough University, were key in producing some excellent results, as well as in developing some future rugby internationalists. However, it is arguable that his finest hour came when he took the U16 team to BT Murrayfield, where they eventually shared the trophy with George Watson's College.

As a cricket coach, he could be regularly seen by the nets donning the latest, most trendy cricket jumper whilst inspiring the next generation of Freddie Colemans. His enthusiasm and love of the game were infectious and he rarely missed a training session.

More recently in his tenure, he undertook what is generally seen as the thankless though, we gather, not actually unrewarded task of being the Director of Activities. He thrived in this role and approached it with his usual professionalism and dedication.

Whilst he made numerous positive contributions to life here at Strathallan, it is for his reign as Housemaster of Nicol that he will most fondly be remembered. From the distinct colour scheme to the pursuit of world domination, he well and truly put his stamp on the House. He never missed an inter-



House competition and his authoritarian style of leadership was the envy of others. He created an environment where the pupils were free to be themselves and played an instrumental role in the development of so many young men over the years due to his extreme professionalism and his nurturing spirit – he really had the boys' best interests at the heart of everything he did. His caring style always ensured he made time for long chats with the boys where he advised them on a range of topics from relationships and UCAS to his beloved Cardiff Blues; or was it the Ospreys? or the Scarlets!? We never quite came to terms with that one as he took his burning desire for victory to the lengths of supporting whichever team was winning at the time.

His time in Nicol will also be remembered for the arrival of Arthur and Opal to join Talla as extended members of the House family. Together with Donna, this extended family is one of the many reasons that Nicol House was such a special place. The family ethos and the values of respect, inclusivity and honesty are all down to David and his vision for the Boarding House.

He will be remembered for his trendy red trousers, his Welsh charm and his mischievous sense of humour. He will also be remembered as a top professional and an outstanding Housemaster who always went the extra mile for his boys.

Above all, I will remember David as a brilliant colleague and an even better friend. His wisdom has been invaluable and his passion for education admirable. His approach to school-mastering will be missed. I wish him, Donna and the family every success as they head for a new life in Thailand.

YKB

Donna Billing

Donna arrived at Strathallan, returning home north of the border, having taught previously at both Ampleforth and Uppingham with her husband, David. Initially joining the History department in a part-time capacity it was not long before she had gained promotion to Head of Department. This appointment welcomed in a new era for History at Strathallan and her legacy will be felt for many more years to come (and not just in her choice of lilac walls for the classrooms).

Donna's time in the History department saw uptake at exam level increase significantly and external results continue to improve. Extension opportunities developed and diversified and ranged from cinema nights and themed dinners to educational visits abroad including (in more recent years) trips to the WWI Battlefields and Munich. The department itself also evolved during her time at the helm and the progression to a

complete female line-up in 2014 was also complemented by a dog in every classroom corner (although queen Talla ruled supreme over all animals and staff in the Quad!).

David Barnes' praise for Donna as one of the most competent Heads of Departments and member of the teaching staff he has been fortunate to work with in his long career at Strathallan cannot be disputed. Donna is a meticulous planner – she loves a list! Until I was asked to write this I had forgotten about the stream of Sunday night emails and the clipboard she used in department meetings. With her professionalism also came fierce competitiveness. The weekly department break time game of UNO (accompanied by cake) was soon played in silence and staff members would retreat post defeat in a sugary lull wondering how she was always able to play one last 'wild' card when victory by another player seemed assured. I have it on good authority that a set of cards have made it to Thailand so I pity the staff and students who agree to play against her.

Perhaps this competitiveness rubbed off on her debating pupils, an activity that Donna oversaw for the majority of her time at Strath. Some competitors reached national finals, achieving great success, but many who attended debating were also nurtured in the art of public speaking and left with confidence in their own abilities no matter what level they were aiming to reach. She also played a significant role in Nicol House and was undoubtedly the keystone to Dave's ability to survive day to day. Donna fostered great relationships with all pupils whether this was within the classroom, debating environment or in her role as Nicol Senior Tutor. She became the mother figure within Nicol – a role that for her took on deeper significance after the arrival of her two children, Arthur and Opal. The boys became surrogate family to her children and the strong links that the Billings nurtured within the Boarding House have created lifelong friends for all those who passed through Nicol in nearly a decade of their being in charge.

Her appointment as Head of History at Rugby School, Thailand, will be a great asset to this new and developing school and together I am sure that Donna and Dave will be unstoppable with their new international careers. Donna became a friend to many on the staff as well as within the wider school and, together, everyone wishes her all the best for this new and exciting chapter in both her personal and professional life.

SAM



Sandra Fleming

Often in the summer term at Strathallan, thoughts turn to retirement gifts and the inevitable suggestions of clocks, sherry glasses or paintings are offered to reflect the sedentary, relaxed lifestyle the retiree has envisioned for themselves. Not so, Sandra! One of Strathallan's most enthusiastic, energetic and colourful teachers, she was presented with her own set of light-up shoes. No dull clocks for her, instead she will be a welcome one-woman disco at any event. Full of fun, with an infectious laugh that would light up any room – now literally – is how many will remember Sandra Fleming.

Sandra joined Strathallan in 1997, along with her husband John and her three children: Katie, Sarah and Tom. She began her school career in Riley, where she could be found teaching all manner of sports. Hockey, netball, athletics and softball were among some of the many that Sandra has taught to the pupils at Strathallan over the years; but the sport she will be most remembered for was rounders. Sandra brought rounders to Scotland! She put teams together comprising pupils from many different schools and created Scottish rounders. The girls competed in many International matches over the years, all organised and umpired by Sandra. On organising one such trip to England, she had a pupil come to ask her a couple of questions; Sandra had assumed this girl had come to seek her technical knowledge and expertise in the game. Alas, this was not the case, instead she was asked "What kind of plug point will I need for my hairdryer?" and "What is the time difference between here and England?" This

kept Sandra giggling throughout the whole weekend.

In January 2011, Sandra became Housemistress of Thornbank. She supported and steered many a Thornbank girl through those "challenging" teenage years, with kindness, understanding and a cup of tea. She had gift for knowing just what to say, and took pride in watching the girls thrive and become inspiring young adults. When she left Thornbank in the summer of 2011, she became part of Woodlands House as a tutor. With her characteristic cry of, "Right, come on, then" Sandra would launch forth into whatever was asked of her and no matter what the topic, cackles of laughter would inevitably follow. Her enthusiasm, energy and genuine nature encouraged her tutees to feel comfortable discussing difficult issues with her, and she was full of sensible advice and reassurance. Nothing daunted Sandra. Never one for the simple cinema trip, I know there will be many a Woodlands tutee that will have fond memories of playing rounders on the beach at St Andrew's followed by that all-important ice cream.

Sandra was also a classroom teacher. Qualified as a primary teacher, she helped often in Riley. I observed her once, fully engrossed in a Horrible Histories-themed lesson, where the children looked both horrified and amazed by her story-telling. She could also be found in the maths department, where she had a gift of explaining maths and even making it fun to for those who were less confident in the subject. As if that wasn't enough, she also taught in Learning Support; where pupils blossomed under her care and where she supported and encouraged them to succeed. Always patient and keen to build her pupils' confidence, Sandra was a creative, effective teacher who found resourceful and even occasionally chocolate-filled ways to develop her pupils maths skills.

Sandra's sense of fun and dedication saw her a welcome addition to any school trip. From Australia with the hockey team, to Kenya where she supported our pupils with the Strath Kenya project, to being eaten alive by midges on one of the famous 2nd Form Riley camps.

Sandra will be greatly missed by pupils and staff alike, that being said both the Bursar and the school bollards will breathe a sigh of relief now that she's gone :-). I wish her all the best as she spends her days continuing her Spanish, dusting off those walking boots and even participating in some choral singing. Sandra and her light-up shoes will always be welcome here at Strathallan!

CL



Julie Summersgill

Julie Summersgill and her immediate family arrived at Strathallan in August 1990 and took up residence in a small bungalow at the top of Thorneyshades Hill. Husband Paul came to teach Physics and get involved with outdoor pursuits and boarding life. The fact that he quickly became Head of Physics and stayed for 25 years during which time he was also Director of Studies and Timetable Manager is an indication of the measure of support that Julie provided. Julie's own priority in that 1990 summer was to be a mother to 4-month-old Helen. Julie had recently stopped teaching Chemistry to 11-18 year olds at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School in Blackburn and was very much looking forward to being a mother and housewife in the refreshing Perthshire environment.

The sabbatical and maternity leave did not last long. The unexpected death of Colin Addison prompted a re-allocation of teaching within the Sciences and Julie accepted an invitation to become a part-time teacher of Junior Science. Julie was quietly seduced by the magical allure of Strathallan and in a short time found herself as a Tutor in Thornbank and active supervisor for enthusiastic but non-expert pupils on many Glenshee skiing expeditions. After the creation of Glenbrae House Julie moved there as a much respected and beloved Tutor until she went part time in 2016.

Under Julie's enthusiastic influence and sharp professionalism the teaching of Junior Science became academically focussed, rigorously organised, more effectively integrated into the whole curriculum, and a whole lot more fun. She became the single full-time Junior Science teacher in 2000 and at one time was teaching thirty-two periods every week. Everyone I know that has ever spent time in the Science Department has been impressed by the time and effort that Julie put in to thoroughly prepare every lesson. The Summersgill family zoo/menagerie was often co-opted in to assist as live demonstrations and models. The white giant floppy eared rabbit was a perennial favourite. It is testament to Julie's inspired and motivational teaching that every edition of the Strathallian appears to include at least one picture of Riley pupils in awesome rapture during a Science Lesson.

Not content with being a full-time teacher and wife and mother to two daughters – Jenny was born in 1995 and was the happy catalyst for a family move to the larger house at the very foot of Thorneyshades hill outside which an eclectic collection of motor vehicles was assembled – Julie was the source for two extra-curricular initiatives. She founded the Chess Club and regularly took pupils to competitions all over the UK. The 5 o'clock on Monday afternoon Chess Club slot would see the Junior Science classroom transformed under the weight of green and white chequered playing mats and a huge variety of chess pieces. The "Horse's Head" Inter-House Chess trophy is secretly the one most coveted by all. A perusal of the School Calendar indicates that no-one has yet volunteered to take up the reins of the Chess Club. Julie's other initiative concerned taking up reins more closely. When daughter Helen got her dream 8th birthday present, a pony capable of dressage and show jumping, it was the start of a Summersgill family adventure that took Julie and Paul and Helen and Jenny, and horsebox and several ponies to competitions throughout the northern half of the UK. On the back of the family adventure Julie launched the Strathallan School Equestrian Club and Team. It was not an auspicious start; in the Scottish School Championships in 2000 the Strathallan School Team was eliminated in every event they had entered for. This caused Julie and her family and the core team and its supporters to increase their efforts and to sharpen their focus. Julie picks as one of the highlights of her 28-year Strathallan experience the day in the summer of 2007 when Strathallan won the Scottish School Equestrian Championships at the Gleneagles centre. Two silver trophies and a whole raft of various coloured rosettes, including quite a few for both Summersgill daughters.

Julie stoically recalls a low point at Strathallan as September 2002. Jenny, then aged 7, was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (ALL). ALL is the most common childhood cancer, although it can also occur in adults. ALL is a cancer of the blood and bone marrow that occurs when abnormal cells in a part of your body begin to grow out of control. In order to provide Jenny with effective care during two subsequent years of regular chemotherapy at Ninewells Hospital Julie had to decrease both teaching and tutoring commitments. There were times when a single visit was insufficient and Julie ended up living in the Hospital for weeks at a time. Julie recalls that the whole Strathallan School community was hugely and practically supportive. The welcome news is that Jenny completely recovered and by a happy coincidence is now back at Ninewells Hospital training to be a medical physicist.

Everyone who has known Julie remembers the warmth of the greeting, the genuine interest, the eager readiness to help and the professional intellect, all backed by true Yorkshire grit when it was needed. We hope to see Julie around School in the future as she continues to assist with the Equestrian Team. She also intends to use her home at Pitcairlie as a base from which she can: join

Paul in visiting every racecourse in the UK; get involved in voluntary support work at Ninewells; assist her mother pickling eggs; and set about improving a garden suffering from neglect. Strathallan owes Julie Summersgill an enormous debt and we all wish her every happiness in her chosen retirement pathways.

NPG

P.S.

(Some readers will recall an advertising campaign for the drink Pepsi Cola in the 80s that featured a rap artist reeling off a sharp sequence of two word descriptions of the drink. Great Tasting, Thirst Quenching, Lip Smacking, Cool Looking were four of the sequence that ended with the one word exclamation PEPSI! It was an effective ad that neatly summed up the object's qualities in an attractive and popular package. Given that most of my colleagues regard Julie Summersgill as a person with many qualities and since she most definitely is an attractive and popular package I engaged the rap artist, at considerable personal expense, to sum Julie up.)

Our Julie

*Beemer Driving, Smart Looking
Science Teaching, Biscuit Munching
Riley Schooling, Glasses Wearing
Paul Feeding, Chess Playing
Coffee Drinking, Rabbit Rearing
Clever Thinking, Horse Training
Julie!*

Fraser Burnett

Fraser first starting working at Strathallan as a Cricket coach in 2012. A talented cricketer and a well-qualified coach, his love of cricket was obvious and quickly rubbed off on pupils here at Strathallan. Fraser also coached girls' football, Riley hockey and athletics, as well as enjoying the occasional staff tennis and golf match.

He joined the Riley teaching staff as a year five teacher in 2015. Fraser's passionate, energetic and firm-but-fair style has made a significant impact on his pupils. This is made clear by Dougie G;

'Mr Burnett was a "quality" teacher and cricket player and will be missed very much by the whole of Riley. Although he was in Dupplin he was very sporty and enjoyed his cricket, perhaps a little too much. He led us to many victories in cricket and other sports and was always positive even if we weren't the best of players.'

The fond farewell afforded him by the young people of Riley on his leaving is testament to the positive influence he had on them.

We wish Fraser every success in his new post as a Primary Teacher at George Watson's College and good health and happiness to him, his partner Bernie and his son Hamish.

MH-S



Lacey Davies

Lacey's arrival at Strathallan in 2012 heralded a new era for the already flourishing art department. Under her headship, ambitious work in painting, sculpture and conceptual art was produced. Her aspirations for her new charges were evident and it wasn't long before the rewards and accolades came in, including a finalist in the prestigious Saatchi Art Portrait Competition

In Woodlands, Lacey's rapport with her tutees and contributions to the wellbeing of the house were a winning combination. Both here and in the staff common room, Lacey's culinary heritage was greatly appreciated. A talented cook, Lacey often supplemented social gatherings with a taste of the Carolinas.

Elsewhere, she lent her artistic talents to theatre. She and her team worked their set-painting magic to both plays and musicals but it was in the realms of theatre make-up that she made the biggest impression. From steampunk face painting on Into the Woods to tin men and lions on The Wizard of Oz, she built up a team of people to work on stage make-up, a legacy for which we are extremely grateful.

Meeting and marrying Rob – a wedding so stylish it featured in The New York Times – is almost certainly going to be one of Lacey's personal highlights of her time in Scotland. In 2016 it was topped by the arrival of Amelia and a whole new chapter opened up. During this time Lacey turned her sights south once again and has left us to take up the role of Director of Art at Headington School. We wish Lacey and her family every success and will miss her (not just because of the fudge at Christmas...)

CGH

Valete

Surname	Forename (Firstname)	Preferred Name	Initials	Leaving Date	Leaving Form
Adriananta	Luthfi	Luthfi	L H	01/07/2018	7S
Aghedo	Mary	Mary	M O	30/06/2018	4G
Aitken	Alexander	Sandy	A B	01/07/2018	7S
Arkell	Shannon	Shannon	S M	01/07/2018	7W
Beveridge	Lochlann	Lochlann	L G	01/07/2018	7F
Bey	Victoria	Victoria	V J E	30/06/2018	4T
Bonn	Lasse	Lasse	L	30/06/2018	5F
Boyd	John	Johnny	J G	01/07/2018	7N
Boyd	Sarah	Sarah	S A	14/12/2017	6T
Brennan	Aedan	Aed	A L	01/07/2018	7F
Brierton	Teagan	Teagan	T J	01/07/2018	7G
Burghoff	Leo	Leo	L C	30/06/2018	6F
Burns	Robert	Robert	R	01/07/2018	7F
Campbell-Mooney	Ross	Ross	R S	30/06/2018	4S
Carey	Rowan	Rowan	R E	01/07/2018	7N
Caro Perez	Julia	Julia	J	30/06/2018	3T
Chan	Fai Chit	Katrina	F	23/03/2018	6T
Chen	Chun Kit	Kevin	C	01/07/2018	7N
Chow	Sze Ying Tiffany	Tiffany	S	01/07/2018	7T
Clark	Anna	Anna	A H	01/07/2018	7G
Clark	Thomas	Tom	T W	01/07/2018	7S
Clarke	Harriot	Harriot	H	01/07/2018	7G
Cosano Bofill	Alex	Alex	A	01/07/2018	7N
Cotta	Amelie	Amelie	A M	23/03/2018	5T
Craw	Lachlan	Lachlan	L A J	01/07/2018	7F
Crockart	Thomas	Tom		01/07/2018	7S
Davids	Pelumi	Pelumi	P T	14/12/2017	4T
Davie	Blair	Blair	B W G	01/07/2018	7F
De Alba Font	Santiago	Santiago	S	30/06/2018	4R
Donald	Caitlin	Caitlin	C I H	01/07/2018	7W
Duncan	Jennifer	Jenny	J C	01/07/2018	7T
Eckart	Maja	Maja	M A M S	14/12/2017	5G
Evans	Tom	Tom	T G	01/07/2018	7F
Fabregat Kirchin	Sofia	Sofia	S	30/06/2018	2
Fawcett	Kate	Kate	K	01/07/2018	7W
Ferguson	James	James	J A A	01/07/2018	7R
Fleming	Kyle	Kyle	K A	01/07/2018	7R
Fotheringham	Angus	Gus		30/06/2018	5F
Foulsham	Rachel	Rachel	R Y	01/07/2018	7T
Fowlie	Kieran	Kieran	K	01/07/2018	7R
Fraser	Charlotte	Charlotte	C H	14/12/2017	6W
Fraser	Jamie	Jamie	J C	14/12/2017	3R
Frewen	Finn	Finn	F	14/12/2017	6S
Fricke	Konstantin	Konstantin	K J	30/06/2018	5F
Gamble	Hannah	Hannah	H L	30/06/2018	5W
Gao	Yue	Gloria	Y	30/06/2018	5W
Garland	Lois	Lois	L A	30/06/2018	5W
Goddard	Shannah	Shannah	S G	01/07/2018	7G
Grabs	Kirsty	Kirsty	K L	14/12/2017	6G
Hallifax	Euan	Euan		01/07/2018	7S
Hamilton	Rachel	Rachel	R A	01/07/2018	7G
Havard	Dewi	Dewi	D	01/07/2018	7N
Havard	Liam	Liam	L	01/07/2018	7N
Havard	Rhys	Rhys	R	01/07/2018	7N
Hay	Charlotte	Charlotte	C H	01/07/2018	7T
Henderson	Cameron	Cameron	C H	01/07/2018	7R
Ireland	Nicholas	Nicky	N R	01/07/2018	7F
Irvine-Fortescue	Alexander	Xander	A W	01/07/2018	7F
Irving	Morgan	Morgan	M J	01/07/2018	7S

Surname	Forename (Firstname)	Preferred Name	Initials	Leaving Date	Leaving Form
Ivanov	Vladimir	Vladimir	V E	01/07/2018	7S
Junquera Valdivia	Carlos	Carlos	C	30/06/2018	4N
Kamau	Kennedy	Kennedy	K	01/07/2018	7R
Karaulashvili	Avtandili	Avto	A	01/07/2018	7F
Keir	Amy	Amy	A	01/07/2018	7T
Knowles	Aimee	Aimee	A M	01/07/2018	7W
Laird	Finlay	Finlay	F B	01/07/2018	7S
Leissler	Anton	Anton	A B K	23/03/2018	5S
Leslie	Corina	Corina	C J	30/06/2018	5T
Leue	Emilia	Emilia	E A O H	30/06/2018	4G
Lewis	Skye	Skye	S L	31/08/2018	5G
Little	Thomas	Thomas	T J	23/03/2018	6N
Liu	Ziming	Dylan	Z	30/06/2018	5F
Lu	Yixin	Yixin	Y	01/07/2018	7R
Ludwig	Antonia	Antonia	A M A C	30/06/2018	5G
Macfarlane	Michelle	Michelle	M M	01/07/2018	7G
MacGeachy	Poppy	Poppy	P S	01/07/2018	7G
Macgregor	Ailsa	Ailsa		01/07/2018	7W
Mack	Caroline	Carrie	C S C	01/07/2018	7T
Marden	Angus	Angus		01/07/2018	7F
Marfa Barzano	Oriol	Oriol	O	30/06/2018	6S
Martinez Vazquez	Oscar	Oscar	O B	30/06/2018	4S
Masson	James	James	J N	01/07/2018	7R
Mayer	Hanna-Sophie	Hanna	H	22/03/2018	6T
McCaig	James	James	J S	01/07/2018	7R
McCorkindale	Ross	Ross	R M	01/07/2018	7N
McCracken	Lucy	Lucy	L	15/09/2017	6W
McCulloch	Katie	Katie	K M	14/12/2017	6W
McGrath	Harriet	Harriet	H M	01/07/2018	7G
McGuire	Jennifer	Jenny	J J	01/07/2018	7W
McInally	Maxwell	Max	M W	23/03/2018	5S
McKay	Fergus	Fergus	F G S	01/07/2018	7F
McKeown	Calum	Calum	C H	01/07/2018	7R
Miarnau Pascual	Juan	Juan	J	30/06/2018	4R
Milne	Emily	Emily	E J	14/12/2017	6W
Mirlieb	Peeter	Peeter	P	14/12/2017	6R
Moore	Megan	Megan	M	23/03/2018	5W
Muir	Ben	Ben	B W C	01/07/2018	7F
Muir	Kimberley	Kimberley	K L	01/07/2018	7G
Nesom	Emily	Milly	E E	01/07/2018	7G
Neumann	Max	Max	M K	30/06/2018	4S
Nicol	Euan	Euan	E G	01/07/2018	7S
Novel Casas	Blanca	Blanca	B	30/06/2018	4T
Novel Casas	Claudia	Claudia	C	30/06/2018	3T
Oberhaus	Laurenz	Laurenz	L S P	30/06/2018	4R
O'Brien	Jack	Jack	J C	01/07/2018	7N
Oweh	Mena	Mena	M E	01/07/2018	7W
Pages Balet	Manuel	Manuel	M	30/06/2018	4F
Patterson	Dylan	Dylan		01/07/2018	7N
Penas	Anna	Anna	A	01/07/2018	7G
Pettinger	Atholl	Atholl	A J	01/07/2018	7F
Petty	Anna	Anna	A J	23/03/2018	3T
Philpott	Joshua	Josh		01/07/2018	7N
Pitts	Harry	Harry	H D J	30/06/2018	5S
Podgornijs	Danila	Danila	D	30/06/2018	5R
Ramsay	Cairn	Cairn	C F	01/07/2018	7N
Robertson	Iain	Iain	I M N	01/07/2018	7S
Schmitt	Christian	Christian	C J	23/03/2018	6R
Schorn-Hoegnason	Ari	Ari	A	30/06/2018	5R

Surname	Forename (Firstname)	Preferred Name	Initials	Leaving Date	Leaving Form
Scott-Kemball	Sebastian	Sebastian	S A	11/04/2018	6N
Sears	Tyler	Tyler	T J M	01/07/2018	7R
Selter	Antonia	Antonia	A	30/06/2018	6T
Shafran	Boris	Boris	B	30/06/2018	3R
Shamakin	Andrey	Andrey	A	30/06/2018	5S
Sherrell	Matthew	Matthew	M L	20/10/2017	6F
Simington	Aleksandra	Sasha	A V	01/07/2018	7W
Sit	Alvan	Alvan	A	01/07/2018	7R
Slaven	Dominic	Dominic	D A	01/07/2018	7R
Smith	Oliver	Ollie	O J	01/07/2018	7F
Smith	Charlotte	Charlie	C R	23/03/2018	5G
Sobande	Ayomidipupo	Dips	A M	01/07/2018	7S
Sobande	Ayoninuoluwa	Ayoninu	A M	30/06/2018	3G
Sokoine	Sonia	Sonia	S N E	01/07/2018	7W
Sommerville	Dylan	Dylan	D A	30/06/2018	5S
Soyoye	Zechariah Oluwatomi	Tomi	Z	01/07/2018	7N
Stephen	Tanya	Tanya	T R	01/07/2018	7T
Stewart	Harry	Harry	H J	01/07/2018	7R
Stirrat	Douglas	Douglas	D W J	01/07/2018	7N
Stothart	Hugh	Hugh	H W D	30/06/2018	4N
Sturm	Lasse	Lasse	L	30/06/2018	6N
Sutcliffe	Yanick	Yanick	Y E	01/07/2018	7N
Sutherland	Euan	Euan	E S	01/07/2018	7R
Thomas	Erin	Erin	E A	30/06/2018	5G
Thompson	Kirsty	Kirsty	K J	18/10/2017	6G
Thoms	Sarah	Sarah	S E	31/08/2018	6T
Thomson	Sarah	Sarah	S M	02/02/2018	6G
Titho	Maximilian	Max	M	30/06/2018	5F
Turnbull	Lewis	Lewis	L J	01/07/2018	7N
Videlaine	Jean-Charles	Jean-Charles	J	30/06/2018	3R
Vipond	Angus	Angus	A N	01/07/2018	7S
Vlick	Maya	Maya	M I	14/12/2017	5W
von der Heydt	Philippa	Philippa	P	14/12/2017	4W
von Peter	August- Balthasar	Balthasar	A	30/06/2018	5N
Walker	Lisa	Lisa	L V	01/07/2018	7G
Walker	Murphy	Murphy		01/07/2018	7F
Wang	Liting	Liting	L	01/07/2018	7W
Webster	Lewis	Lewis	L	01/07/2018	7F
Welsh	Blair	Blair	B R I	01/07/2018	7S
Werhahn	Elias	Elias	E J K R	30/06/2018	3N
White	Hamish	Hamish		01/07/2018	7N
Wilson	Rhiana	Rhiana	R L	01/07/2018	7W
Wong	Lok Heng	Norris	L	01/07/2018	7F
Wright	Gregor	Gregor		01/07/2018	7R
Wylie	Marcus	Marcus	M J B	01/07/2018	7R
Yamamoto	Alexis	Alexis	A I	01/07/2018	7F

The Ball





Strathallan School
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