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The Annual Magazine of King Edward's School, Birmingham

# CHRONICLE

## 2003



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# CHRONICLE

## THE EDITORIAL TEAM

Hellos	<i>Alex Vakil</i>
Goodbyes	<i>Alex Vakil</i>
Features	<i>Joe Speight</i>
Drama	<i>Sareet Shah</i>
Music	<i>Giles Urwin</i>
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Houses	<i>Ravi Gogna</i>
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Banners	<i>Alex Martin</i> <i>Jonathan Chan</i> <i>Rob Hill</i>
Staff	<i>Tom Hosty</i>

## THANKS

I should like to begin by congratulating this year's editorial team. They have been the best with whom I have yet had the pleasure of working: well-motivated, cheerful and independent, they have taken full responsibility for their sections from the first day and have seen them through to completion with impressively little fuss and bother. Very well done, gentlemen, I salute you all.

Thanks must go, as always, to the Resources Centre staff for turning the editors' layouts into finished pages and arranging for the actual printing of the magazine you hold. This is the first *Chronicle* for many years which has not been put together largely by Diane Smith, who left the Resources Centre this year: I cannot let the moment go by without recording my debt, and that of several previous editors of the magazine, to that lady's good-humoured expertise. Sincere thanks, though, to Fred and Sandra for carrying on the good work.

I should like to thank Bradley Spencer for the *Pictures* section, the section banners and the cover, and also various colleagues in the Modern Languages and Classics departments for their assistance with items written in languages other than English. Special thanks, as always, go to Chris Boardman, who took many of the photographs.

Finally, as always, I thank everyone in the school who wrote for this *Chronicle*. There were a few disappointments: for the first time in ages, two House reports came in too late for actual inclusion in the magazine, and several other items only just slipped under the door as it closed. But *Chronicle* remains what it was set up to be: not merely a school magazine but a further instalment in the unfolding history of King Edward's School, a compendious record of much of what goes on here. Well done all of you for your additions to that record.

TFPH



# hellos

## Debbie MacMillan - Chemistry

*Chronicle: What have you done with your life before coming to KES?*

**Miss MacMillan:** After I left Edinburgh University with my chemistry degree, I went to Durham University to start my PhD I was studying there for three years before I came here.

*Tell us about your PhD project.*

My PhD is about Nuclear Magnetic Resonance of solids like adamantane and urea-alkane complexes; looking predominantly at proton, carbon and fluorine spectra.

*What are your first impressions of KES?*

I didn't really come to KES with any expectations; I'd never actually heard of the school, having been brought up in Scotland. Here, the boys are generally well behaved but, obviously, with it being an all-boys school, there is the occasional disorderly moment. The atmosphere is quite variable between the years, with the older boys being much more studious and stressful. Overall, however, I'm enjoying my time here.

*What do you think about the extra curricular activities on offer to the boys and teachers at KES?*

There seems to be a very broad range available and all



talents and interests seem catered for.

There is a lot of music, and the few productions that I've seen so far have been of an extremely high standard.

There are many different societies that the boys can go to, so that a good balance between work and activities can be achieved.

I hear that the summer drags numerous teachers out to the tennis courts, so I shall probably give that a go if I'm not too busy. I think that it's always nice when the teachers get involved as well.

*What do you get up to in your spare time?*

Since starting work I haven't really had much spare time. However I like to walk, be outdoors and I really like to be by the sea: Birmingham is a bit too busy for me. Coming from Scotland, I've been trying to travel and see a bit of England, which I don't know very well. Also I am hoping to start to play golf in the summer.

*Have you any plans for the future?*

I think that my plans are to continue teaching and to enjoy teaching as much as I've done so far. I want to encourage the boys and help them feel really comfortable with chemistry at KES. In the short term, I'm hoping to finish my PhD I have no long-term plans at the moment, but I hope to stay here for a few years.

*Miss MacMillan, thank you very much*



## Lynn Seamark - Art (part time)

*Chronicle: Could you tell us a little about your childhood?*

Miss Seamark: I was born and grew up in Luton, a funny old place with not a lot going on. I didn't look back when I left for college! What I did not realise or appreciate at the time was how multicultural the comprehensive which I attended was. I feel privileged to have benefited from that mix of experiences and it is something I really notice when I look back.

*Where else have you taught?*

Only at Small Heath school, which was obviously very different. I found that it was a very tight-knit community, which I liked, but it had a catchment area which was not as mixed as I would like it to be in a perfect world. I feel that it is very beneficial for pupils to grow up interacting with, and discovering more about, a mixture of cultures.

*What were your first impressions of KES?*

I was immediately made to feel very welcome by all the staff, not just by those in the Art department. Sadly, this does not happen at all schools. I think it was very special that so many people took the time to go out of their way and accept me into the school community.

*Why did you choose Art, and why do you think those considering taking it should do so?*

I think that there is a fundamental need in everyone to be in some way creative, whether they're creating art or appreciating it. Some people do not realise just how much art surrounds us all the time. It's not just about museums and art galleries. It is an essential part of life whether it is in a science textbook, on a football strip, in a film or in the home. I also feel that for a rounded education it is vital to develop both the academic and artistic sides of pupils.

*Do you think KES achieves a good balance between the two?*

Due to the options system in place here, it is easier for pupils to take Art in balance with their more academic subjects than I have seen at some schools.



*What would you say to people who claim that Art is an easy subject?*

They obviously haven't seen just how much time and effort is required of all those taking it! It isn't all about sitting down with a paintbrush; the history and theory of art are now taught at all levels, making it a more academic subject as well.

*What do you do in your free time?*

Unsurprisingly, art features prominently here. I have a studio in my garage, in which I like to do ceramics, the area of art in which I trained, as well as some painting. I read a lot, especially novels by Stephen King and Tolkien, and I like going to the gym. The other passion in my life, other than art, is my cats. I have six already and would be prepared to take on more if I saw one in distress.

*Finally, are you going to disappear after one year like a number of part-time teachers before you?*

That is, unfortunately, not up to me. I would certainly stay if I were offered an extension to the one year contract I have at present. It all depends on the numbers taking Art at GCSE and A level.

*Miss Seamark, thank you very much.*

## Stephen Parker - Modern Languages

*Chronicle: Could you tell us a little about your life before you came to KES?*

**Mr Parker:** I was born in Bradford and came to Birmingham University to study French. I also studied psychology and Italian. I've taught in several schools in Birmingham: in Sutton Coldfield, Erdington and Yardley. I retired early and took a job at St George's, which was the first time I'd taught at an independent school. I taught there for five years. I was thinking about stopping teaching altogether when I heard of the job at KES and was lucky enough to be appointed.

*What made you change your mind about retirement?*

Lots of different things, really. My three daughters were all educated at KEHS and I've always had a great affection for both schools, although I knew the Girls' School much better. As my daughters were involved in musical and theatrical productions, I felt I knew a little bit about the boys' school, but that I'd like to know more. Also, I'd reached the stage in my life where I wanted to carry on learning, which is something that I think does happen to people when they get into their fifties. I enjoy learning and I enjoy the experience of teaching intelligent young people who will make me carry on learning things as well. I enjoy the feeling of being kept on my toes.

*Why did you initially decide to go into teaching?*

French was one of the few things I was good at at school: I don't know why, but I just took to French and thoroughly enjoyed it all the time. The same goes for the other languages I've learnt, but French more so than any other. The reason I wanted to come into teaching was very simple: I wanted to pass on my love of French to other people. I enjoy explaining things and it gives me a buzz when people understand things that they haven't previously understood.

*What are your impressions of life at KES? And what would you change, if anything, about the school, if you could?*

It's even better than I thought it would be! There's nothing that I would change.



*What are your interests outside school?*

I'm very interested in music and I like anything to do with the outdoors, especially cycling. I enjoy reading, theatre and, obviously, languages.

*Would you say you have enough time to travel in France?*

Yes and no. I'd like to be able to travel more and I'd like to be able to travel more in school time than I'm able to do. One of the drawbacks of being a teacher is that you can only travel during school holidays: that can be a bit of a nuisance.

*Mr Parker, thank you very much*



## Helen McGarr - Modern Languages

*Chronicle: Miss McGarr, to kick things off, could you possibly give us a brief insight into your life prior to King Edward's.*

**Miss McGarr:** I've always loved studying languages. I mainly concentrated on French and Spanish but I also did a bit of German and Portuguese as well. I'm a Birmingham girl and went to school nearby, in Hollywood. I then ventured North, where I did a Joint Honours degree in French and Spanish at Leeds University. I came back to Birmingham for my PGCE, having spent a year in Spain as a language assistant and a term at a French University as well.

*Have you always fancied yourself as a teacher?*

When I was younger I had no plans to go into the profession. Both my parents were teachers so I always had the ambition to do something different. But I ended up here, which is quite fortunate. I really couldn't imagine doing anything else, to be honest. I had some excellent teachers at school who really inspired me and it was while I was at university that I realised my ambition was to do the same for other young people.

*Why did you decide on King Edward's?*

They were in the process of looking for newly qualified teachers at university. My tutor just suggested it to me one day and here I am. Having worked at a couple of other schools, I had formed the opinion that I wanted to work with pupils who wanted to learn, and that I wanted to work in a challenging environment.

*What were your first impressions of the school?*

I was extremely impressed on my first visit. I simply didn't realise that you could have a school with so many resources and so much going on for the pupil. Needless to say, I was very keen to start work here. It's true to say that there is an ethos at the school that you just don't find anywhere else.

*Do you have any long term ambitions?*

Well, we all have pipe dreams. However, for now I want to spend many a year in the classroom, because I do love it, and I want to gain more experience in the field. In the long term, having been to a language school in France, I would like to see myself running one in the future. The man behind that school subsequently made a lot of money out of it, not that that is my motive, of course!



*I'm sure that you have a life outside teaching. What do you like to get up to?*

Yes, teachers do have lives as well. Teaching is taking up a lot of my free time at the moment. However, I bought a house last year, so I'm in the process of renovation at the moment. I do my best to go to the gym, but I really don't go as often as I would like. Many of my friends from Leeds have jobs in London, so I end up going down sometimes to visit. I do try to get out and do something fun and different during the weekend rather than staying at home. I also like good food and nice restaurants.

*From your limited experience of the school, is there anything that you would like to see changed?*

Not especially. I would ask the impossible: for example, I.T facilities in all the classrooms, with white boards.

*I assume you're talking about the famous "interactive whiteboards."*

Absolutely. I would really like all the toys of a Modern Languages teacher, such as daily link ups with France and Spain. Yes, I would ask for the impossible!

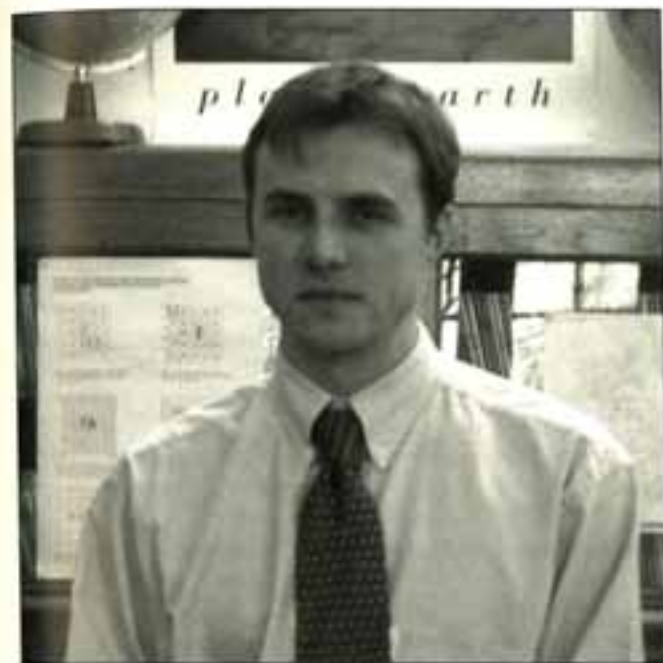
*Miss McGarr, thank you very much*



## Matthew Albrighton - Geography

*Chronicle: Could you tell us a little about your life before you came to KES?*

**Mr Albrighton:** I was at University in Cambridge, and at school at Warwick before that, so I'm fairly local. After Cambridge I went to work in Bristol at an accountancy firm, Price Waterhouse Coopers, for 6 months. Then London for between 18 months and 2 years in an advertising agency, working on the media buying and planning for Vodafone, Marks and Spencer and ITN. That was quite good fun, getting involved with the glamorous side of life. The main reason for



doing accounting was to give me time to find my feet: although I knew I wanted to go into teaching, I wanted some time to think about things. Quite a few people had left university with a job already sorted but I didn't want to do that, so I went to Bristol with a friend and earned enough money to have a good time - I would recommend it to anybody.

*Why did you decide to move to teaching - what was wrong with advertising?*

Quality of life, essentially. Advertising was a great laugh but it did burn the candle at both ends. We worked very hard and enjoyed it a great deal: but, as I said, I already knew I wanted to go into teaching. In London my lifestyle was working from 8 o'clock in the morning until often 10 or 11 o'clock at night and then even contemplating going out after that! Nothing was left in my life except for work and a little bit of social life, but even that was to do with advertising. I'd lost

my fitness and lost touch with all of my friends. So I decided to leave London and get back to what I really wanted to do. Although I work hard now, I can fit things in better.

*What are your interests outside school?*

Generally, sport. I like running, and play football on and off as well as the odd game of rugby, though that's few and far between, unfortunately. I also play in a band. What I found in the City was that people's social lives had become preoccupied with money and being able to drive a BMW - I got quite fat, really!

*How have you found teaching? Is it different from your expectations?*

I left school about ten years ago and I'm amazed at how much emphasis there is now on examinations. So much is focused on the exams at the end of the year, which disappoints me - but it's not this school, it's the system. I had a Lower Sixth year when we could relax: we had more time to play sport and discover other things. In terms of coming here, I feel comfortable because of the way life works. There are lots of extra curricular activities: that's why I applied here. My training year was spent at Great Barr School and College High School, which are very different from here. I had really, really good fun but it was dogged by paperwork.

*How does KES compare with your old school, Warwick?*

They are similar, but KES's achievement generally is much higher, which is a great challenge for me. It is difficult for me to compare because I left ten years ago. I know that when we came up to the big city we were intimidated by the 'city boys'. And it was always a hard game of rugby, I remember that!

*Mr Albrighton, thank you very much.*

## Craig Storey - School Senior Instructor/Outdoor Activities



*Chronicle: What can you tell us about your past?*

**Mr Storey:** I was brought up in Kendal in Cumbria and joined the Army at the age of sixteen in 1976. I went straight to the Guards Depot at Pirbright in Surrey and on passing out from there was posted to Germany to join the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards. After two years, I was posted back to Chelsea Barracks in London, doing Public Duties at Buckingham Palace and trooping the colour. I was promoted shortly after this and served as an instructor teaching recruits back at the Guards Depot, where I had started.

*What brings you to King Edward's?*

Leaving the Army, I wanted to do something outdoors and also work with young people. What I found in the Army is that when you progress, your job becomes more and more desk bound: King Edwards gave me a way to do military and adventurous training. So when this job was advertised, I filled the criteria and here I am.

*Apart from being the school's SSI, what else do you do here?*

My main other job here is to coordinate the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme and I also help on all the school Outdoor Activity trips. The SSI duties keep me quite busy though: planning trips mainly, which involves a lot of paperwork.

*Where do you see yourself in ten years' time?*

In this job, there aren't really any promotion prospects. But in the medium term, I see myself right here.

*What do you like to do in your free time?*

I've got a young family, so I like to spend as much time with them as possible. I also do a lot of DIY and gardening.

*From your limited experience of the school, is there anything you would like to see changed?*

I think that from my point of view, I would like to see more of the time devoted to Outdoor Activities.

*And finally, are Sergeant Majors really as strict as the stereotype?*

It depends. If you're in an infantry unit, with 600 soldiers running around, it definitely pays to be stricter. But if you're in a small unit, you can probably be a bit more relaxed in your approach to discipline.

*And where would you fit on that spectrum?*

I would say I'm laid back but I can shout if I need to.

*Mr Storey, thank you very much.*



## Sigi Shuster - Spanish Assistant

*Chronicle: Puedes decirnos algo sobre tu vida antes de venir aquí a Inglaterra por favor?*

Sigi: Soy de Argentina. Estudié para maestra jardinera por tres años y trabajé dos años en un jardín de infantes con niños entre dos y cinco años. La gente cree que mi vida es muy interesante porque en el dos mil iba a venir para dos meses solamente a hacer un curso de inglés como tu puedes hacer un curso de español. Tomé el examen de 'first certificate' y luego debería haber vuelto a Argentina porque estaba anotada en la facultad para estudiar de psicología allí. Fui a Londres porque quise hacer un curso de inglés y me quedé. Me quedé más tiempo y más tiempo, hasta que me anoté en la facultad en Birmingham sin pensar mucho!

*¿Ahora estás en la Universidad de Birmingham, no?*

Sí, estudio psicología y estoy en mi último año.

*¿Y qué piensas sobre King Edward's, y más concretamente, los estudiantes aquí?*

Me gusta mucho el colegio y el sistema y como yo fui a un colegio privado es parecido el ambiente, es muy divertido. Es interesante porque los estudiantes saben hablar muy bien español y son muy amables.

*¿Y los profesores?*

También no conozco a demasiados pero en general a los que conozco son muy amables.

*¿Te gusta Birmingham?*

Sí, como vivía en Londres y Londres es muy grande y hay demasiadas cosas para hacer prefiero Birmingham. Me gusta visitar ahora Londres. Birmingham es más tranquilo y es lindo.

*¿Qué sueles hacer cuando tienes el tiempo libre, como pasatiempos?*

Me gusta viajar - suelo ir a Londres o a un lugar en el campo porque en Argentina no estoy acostumbrada, y salgo mucho con mis amigos. Desde que estoy en Inglaterra bebo más cerveza y el clericó, que es una bebida argentina con vino blanco y frutas, muy dulce. De vez en cuando voy a bailar salsa y me gusta mucho caminar. Pero nada más, soy bastante tranquila.



*¿Que piensa la gente española sobre Inglaterra y los ingleses?*

No soy española pero creo que hay muchos españoles en Inglaterra y por lo tanto imagino que le gustan la cultura y la gente aquí.

*¿Cuál es tu hombre ideal?*

Debe ser gracioso y de buen humor y tranquilo pero que le gusta hacer muchas cosas. Es acomodadizo.

*¿Estas soltero?*

Sí, no soy casada pero tengo un novio.

*¿Qué música te gusta?*

Me gusta Bon Jovi y música rock y música no de ahora, como Bruce Springsteen.

*¿Tienes algunos planes para el futuro?*

Sí, bastantes. Por ejemplo, tengo planeado estudiar un profesorado para tener un título para enseñar español. El año que viene no sé si lo voy a hacer en Birmingham o en España y luego tengo ganas de hacer un curso de terapia para atender pacientes.

*Sigi, thank you very much.*



## Christophe Truglio - French Assistant

*Chronicle: Christophe, pour commencer, pouvez-vous me faire un résumé de ce que vous avez fait dans votre vie jusqu'à présent?*

**Christophe:** Je viens de Nice, une ville ensoleillée dans le sud de la France, où je suis né et où j'ai toujours vécu d'ailleurs. J'ai étudié l'anglais et la littérature moderne à l'université, et en toute logique j'ai fini par m'intéresser à la littérature anglaise. Après une licence en anglais, je suis en ce moment en train de préparer une maîtrise sur le théâtre anglais contemporain des années 1990.

*Quelle est votre opinion du lycée Edward six?*

D'après ce que j'en ai vu, c'est un très bon lycée et je suis assez impressionné par le niveau des élèves, la qualité de l'enseignement et le lycée en général. Les professeurs sont très sympathiques et les élèves sont charmants, naturellement. C'est parfait pour travailler dans de bonnes conditions!

*Vous avez d'autres intérêts?*

J'adore le cinéma et j'essaie d'y aller le plus souvent possible, les films d'auteur me passionnent tout particulièrement. Sinon, j'aime beaucoup lire, et la littérature moderne et classique reste un de mes centres d'intérêt privilégiés. Quand j'ai le temps, et que je ne suis pas trop paresseux, j'essaie de faire un peu de sport pour rester en forme: de la natation, ou même simplement de la marche.



*Quels sont vos futurs projets?*

Pour l'instant, mon avenir est assez flou. Je ne sais pas vraiment ce que je voudrais faire plus tard. A l'heure actuelle, je préfère profiter de ma liberté en toute tranquillité, sans trop me soucier de mon avenir... j'ai le temps pour ça!

*Vous voudriez devenir professeur peut-être?*

Oui, pour moi l'enseignement reste une possibilité, pourquoi pas? J'ai, malgré tout, l'impression que le métier de professeur est parfois difficile et exigeant, je ne sais pas encore si je suis prêt à affronter cela... J'aimerais bien travailler dans la communication, si j'ai le choix plus tard.

*Aimeriez-vous voir des changements dans l'école?*

Absolument pas. Je n'ai pas du tout à me plaindre de ma condition à l'intérieur de l'établissement.

*Je sais que vous venez de Nice, vous aimez Birmingham?*

J'aime beaucoup ma vie à Birmingham. C'est une ville avec beaucoup de choses à faire et à voir. Je viens d'une ville en France qui n'est pas très grande, et donc pour moi Birmingham est vraiment différente, j'ai l'impression d'être plus libre et de découvrir de nouvelles expériences chaque jour.

*Christophe, merci beaucoup*

## Nicole Pointecker - German Assistant

*Chronicle: Was haben Sie in Ihrem Leben vor KES gemacht?*

Nicole: Ich habe in Salzburg studiert. Ich habe eine pädagogische Akademie besucht, um Volksschullehrerin zu werden und ich habe im Juni meine Abschlußprüfung gemacht.

*Warum möchten Sie in England lehren?*

Ich finde die englische Sprache sehr interessant. Ich möchte natürlich auch mein Englisch etwas verbessern und es ist auch eine Herausforderung in einem anderen Land zu leben.

*Was machen Sie in Ihrer Freizeit?*

Ich treibe sehr gerne Sport, und ins besondere mache den Kampfsport Aikido einmal pro Woche. Ich laufe und schwimme sehr gerne und fahre gern Ski und wanderne. Ich reise sehr gerne und ich war schon in vielen Ländern und ich tanze sehr gerne zu Rock - und Popmusik.

*Arbeiten Sie lieber mit den Mädchen oder den Jungen?*

Das ist schwer zu sagen. Sie sind sehr unterschiedlich. Ich arbeite mit beiden gerne, auch ist die Arbeit sehr

unterschiedlich. Mit den Jungen arbeite ich etwas anderes als mit den Mädchen. Beides ist sehr interessant. Es macht viel Spaß.

*Wie hast sich Ihre Meinung über die Engländer geändert seit Sie nach England gekommen sind?*

Früher dachte ich, daß alle Engländer Fish und Chips essen und kein Gemüse kennen, unsportlich und sehr reserviert sind. Ich habe herausgefunden, daß sie sehr freundlich, hilfsbereit und sportlich sind und man findet hier in Birmingham sehr gutes Essen, besonders Baltis.

*Was erhoffen Sie sich für die Zukunft?*

Ich möchte gerne als Volksschullehrerin arbeiten, weil ich dafür meine Ausbildung gemacht habe. Vielleicht auch Englisch als Fremdsprache in der Volksschule unterrichten. Zur Zeit ist das sehr populär. Ich würde vielleicht auch gerne eine Weltreise machen, bevor ich 30 bin.

*Nicole, vielen danke*







## Rosie Temperley - Economics

In 1987, when the then Industrial Fellow, Jack Jenkins, left for greener pastures with Barclays Bank, there was no one to take over his half-timetable of Economics teaching. So Rosie Temperley, the mother of a boy in the school, came to 'help out'. Rosie has been 'helping out' for more than 16 years.

Rosie is a good economist, well read in the subject and capable of inspiring the brightest students. As a teacher she has set high standards and always been willing to help out individuals who have found the subject difficult, or perhaps not worked throughout the course. She has given up countless hours of her own time to give individual help to boys; there are many Old Edwardians who owe their good A-level grade in the subject to her. In the days of 'Extra Studies' when we offered the old AS course, she frequently inspired bright boys to take the full A-level and gave up her time to give them extra teaching to help them gain a good grade.

It is a testament to her devotion both to the subject and to her teaching of it that I first met Rosie before I started teaching at King Edward's. She frequently attended meetings of the Economics Association in Birmingham and attended the annual conference during the Easter holidays. Only a small proportion of full time teachers make this effort; it is virtually unheard-of for a part-time teacher to do so.

However, it has not only been in the classroom that Rosie has made her mark. In her younger days she was an excellent tennis player. Back problems have prevented her playing in recent years but for several years she helped Sandra Higgitt with school tennis teams and drove the school minibus to fixtures. She has also been the part-timers' representative on the Common Room Salaries Committee, where she has ensured that the part-time staff have had a fair deal.

When I joined the school Rosie supported me in introducing Business Studies A-level and for the first



few years helped to teach the accounts section of this course. She also had clear ideas about how the Economics course should be taught and for several years we broadly followed her ideas. Unfortunately, the new AS/A2 system made changes necessary; Rosie has not really enjoyed the new course and is critical both of the modular style of exams and of the opportunity for re-sitting. She is also critical of anything that she sees as 'dumbing down' of the subject.

That the last few years of her career at King Edward's have been less enjoyable is to be regretted and Rosie is pleased to be retiring. She will enjoy her garden, grandchild, pop-up books and the many business trips with David, her husband. I am sure that everyone at King Edward's wishes them both a long and happy retirement.

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## Richard Lonsdale - Classics



Richard Lonsdale was a pupil of Bolton School and studied Classics (with Tennis) at Brasenose College, Oxford. He took his PGCE at Cambridge but did most of his teaching practice at KEHS. Once he had tasted the intellectual delights of Birmingham he was hooked and, after a year at King's College School, Wimbledon, Richard arrived at KES in September 2000 as a newly qualified teacher. He leaves us three years later as an experienced schoolmaster in order to take up his new position as Head of Classics at Shrewsbury High School for Girls.

Richard has made a unique contribution during his relatively short time with us. He has emerged as a gentle and likeable teacher, well respected by colleagues and pupils, who has been a source of friendly advice and firm encouragement. He has been responsible for many excellent grades in Latin and Greek at GCSE and A-level, as well as producing some equally impressive results in the internal school examinations. He has become a respected form master and has also taught History to the Shells. As a talented tennis player himself, he has made a valuable contribution to School tennis and has organised several school teams. He has maintained a valued place in the Staff cricket team. He has coped well with the demands of long-distance commuting, marriage to Laura and the recent birth of his son, Theo.

Richard has proved to be an excellent classroom technician, who has used an exceptionally wide range of visual aids to enhance his lessons. He will certainly be remembered for his major input into the audio-visual awareness of the Classics Department – the drawn curtains, the dimmed lights, the flickering screen and the hushed silence of the pupils as another item is played from his vast video collection in G1, renamed Screen One in his honour. His relationship with the audio-visual equipment that graced his room was deeply moving and sincere. Richard never believed that a video was something just for the end of term. The video show played an integral part in his special approach to teaching and learning.

I am very grateful for the support that Richard has given us over the past three years, both inside the classroom and on many school visits. I am delighted that he has been appointed to continue the tradition of Classics at Shrewsbury High School, just a short distance from his home. I am sorry that he is leaving us but I am delighted that he will be taking something of King Edward's School to Shrewsbury, as one of the youngest Heads of Department to be appointed. Well done, Richard, on your early promotion! Come back and visit us sometime! Floreat Salopia! Floreat Video!

SFO

## John Herbert - English



John Herbert is leaving us rather sooner than we might have expected or hoped. He first appeared at KES in the academic year 1999-2000, teaching part-time while working on his PhD thesis at Birmingham University. The epic tussle with the thesis has continued unabated ever since, while John has moved on to a full-time post teaching English (his main subject), History and Rugby. He has taken on responsibilities left and right: as an Upper Middle Form Tutor and Tutor for Gifford; as a regular star of Big School assemblies; acting in *Never Mind the Cheers and Hooring*; as an intensely active part of the school's Rugby establishment. Just as it seemed that he was firmly embedded in the structure, he applied for and was offered, at a remarkably early age for such a weighty position, the post of Head of English at Christ's Hospital. This is a real coup for him, and a real loss for us.

John chooses to be defined as an English teacher first and foremost, and he has certainly contributed generously to that area of School life. His academic ambition for his pupils has been impressive: I was initially sceptical about the idea of a UM class studying *A Room With A View*, but John convinced me that I was wrong to be so. At the other end of the spectrum, he has done innovative and up-to-the-minute work themed around advertising, leading his classes to devise publicity campaigns for fictitious products and record video advertising "pitches". His rapport with the boys he teaches has been impressive: he is deservedly

popular, and held by some in a sort of awe.

One of the things about him that has always impressed me has been his readiness to give more than was asked for, and his impact on KES has not been limited to the English classroom, important place though that be. His contribution to Rugby has been immense: all the way from coaching the U14As (I am assured that nobody involved will easily forget his fitness sessions, nicknamed "Herbie's House of Pain") to putting time and expertise into the Greater Birmingham U16 squad and the 1st XI. He has helped to organise and lead tours both to South Africa and to New Zealand and Fiji.

On these tours he was valued particularly for his enthusiasm as a public speaker. This latter fact will not surprise anyone who remembers his Big School addresses, certainly among the best and most entertaining of their era. He is a fine raconteur with a sense of timing that professional comics might envy. His *Hello* interview in the 2000 *Chronicle* offered a characteristically self-deprecating explanation for his choice of profession: "I became bored and I needed the money". In fact, John comes from a teaching background and his ambition for as long as I have known him has been to move up the profession in the direction of what Monty Python calls "supreme executive power". The post at Christ's Hospital is surely a big step in the right direction. Everyone at KES wishes him well as he faces the challenges and opportunities of his new position.

TFPH



## Derek Everest - Second Master and Geography

Derek Everest, like the mountain, is an Olympian figure. He has taught at King Edward's for 39 years, and served under five Chief Masters: 5000 boys have passed through his hands. A consummate schoolmaster with outstanding management skills, Derek has always been totally dedicated to King Edward's. But it all started somewhat inauspiciously, when Derek refused Ronald Lunt's offer of accommodation at Oakfield Road in 1964. Canon Lunt (Chief Master 1952-1974) wrote: "I am sorry that you propose to live at home in Coventry and travel each day. The life of a schoolmaster is not the life of an office wallah. It does seem to me most desirable that a young man in your position should not be governed by trains to and from Coventry. In particular, a man in the PE department, who has rather less corrections to tackle than other men, should be prepared to put in time irrespective of train departures."

It appears that, when interviewed for the PE post, Derek did not know that he was going to be asked to teach Geography. Nor indeed did the then Head of Geography, Bill Whalley! So his first 24 years were spent as a full time specialist in PE, 15 of those years as Head of Department, and as a teacher of Geography. His basic philosophy has always been that the development of physical skills is a discrete discipline in no sense inferior to the academic disciplines of the school. He led the Department by example and was a skilful and sympathetic teacher.

Derek is an outstanding all round sportsman - a fine cricketer, dashing in hockey, soccer, gymnastics, swimming and latterly wind-surfing and cycling.

Above all he has excelled at Rugby, playing for Coventry and Moseley when they were amongst the best clubs in the country.

An outstandingly talented fly half, he enjoyed an Indian summer with Moseley, where he was often selected for the team ahead of the then English fly-half. During this time he was energetically canvassed by The Birmingham Post for promotion to the England XV. Derek's picture appeared in the paper even when he had not played.



*Everest at Everest, May 1990*

This phenomenon reached its apogee with a match report of a particularly fine win for Moseley over one of the top sides in the country, which carried just one photograph with the caption: "Derek Everest: who was unavailable to play because of work commitments on Saturday." If Derek had had the negotiating power of David Beckham's management the image rights income from The Birmingham Post alone would have far exceeded his salary as a teacher.

Derek was a 'player's player', in that he played for the team rather than himself. His ball handling was outstanding, and despite his relative lack of size he kicked the rugby ball immense distances off either foot. In 1972 Stuart Birch (Derek's successor as Head of PE) played flanker for the Old Edwardians in their last ever first-class fixture, against Moseley and Derek. It was a wet and miserable evening under floodlights at The Reddings. Derek bet Stuart £1 (you could do a lot with that in 1972) that Stuart would not lay a hand on him during the whole match. Foolishly, Stuart accepted. Approaching half-time, a line-out on the halfway produced a wretched pass to Derek that bounced several times behind him. "Got him!" thought Stuart, but in typical fashion Derek not only picked the bar of soap up cleanly, but sold Stuart a huge dummy and then kicked a drop goal, left-footed, from inside his own half! Not a fluke, but typical of his outstanding rugby skills.

Derek 'retired' from playing to be in charge of rugby and coach the 1st XV. He did this for 21 years, and even after that coached junior teams. He was no advocate of 'Coarse Rugby' or the 'If it's on the ground and it moves, kick it; it might be the ball' school. He expected teams to be skilful and mobile and above all fair and sportsmanlike. He took great delight in the



*Derek in action in the County Final, North Midlands vs Midlands, 2nd February 1976*



success of his teams and of individuals, such as Ian Metcalfe. Above all he delighted in seeing 39 years' worth of Shells develop into rugby players. All this, however, was done at a price. Derek was, and still is, a great worrier. As a coach, he would get increasingly agitated as the week progressed; neurotic by Friday, he was a basket case on Saturday, Bromsgrove match day. But as all coaches and managers know, it goes with the job. Derek survived.

In 1988 he was translated to the Senior Management Team, first as Under Master, and then as Second Master. He possesses highly developed management skills and is brilliantly well organised. He kept his ear close to the ground and was highly receptive to new ideas, particularly in the field of school administration and computerisation. He was a dedicated member of the team but always responsive to the needs of colleagues. His importance to three Chief Masters has been similar to that of a member of Mrs Thatcher's Cabinet (Lord Young of Graffham) of whom she said: "My other ministers bring me problems; he brings me solutions".

So he is Mr Fixit, never flustered. Or nearly never? Four or five years ago Derek (as Safety Officer) and Rob Symonds (as Chairman of the Safety Committee) came in after the end of the Summer Term to carry out some risk assessment. All went well until they were looking in the audio-visual room area. The latch of an audio-visual room closed behind them and they were trapped on top of the roof. There was virtually no one in school and they did not have a mobile telephone. After about 15 minutes of discussion all the options for escape had been ruled out. In spite of his mountaineering/Everest pretensions, Derek declined



Derek at the school which he has graced with his presence for 29 years

to 'go over the top' and climb down to the England Garden. They eventually managed to attract a cleaner, who rescued them. Rob's version is that despite Derek's background and CCF 'sang froid' it was Derek who had the panic attack and started burbling. Needless to say, this was one risk assessment which was rapidly acted on. The doors were altered to avoid trapping people in the future.

For Derek, life at King Edward's has been shared with his wife Pat. She has been a constant source of encouragement and support despite being a 'Rugby widow' at times and having home life disrupted by management crises necessitating Derek's presence at school during anti-social hours. They share a great satisfaction that son Jeremy was educated at King Edward's, and that his title has recently changed to Doctor Jeremy Everest. There was a possibility of the establishment of an Everest dynasty when Jeremy taught in the Geography Department for a time; but it was not to be. The British Geological Survey got in first.

In 1964 Canon Lunt admonished Derek as follows: "If you are going to go forward in the profession you really should consider giving during term time your full service to your school. This may be possible living in Coventry, provided that you do not become too punctual a clock-watcher." However, Derek is the least likely nominee for the post of 'clock-watcher' in the annals of the teaching profession, and indeed his contribution to the school is such that he has had to be replaced by two people. His departure leaves a yawning hole in the life of the school: in the Senior Management Team; in the PE Department; on the sports field; in the CCF Naval Section; in the Geography Department; on field trips in Health and Safety; in Senior Management Meetings on Wednesday early evenings; and as female impersonator on Red Nose Days.

We all thank Derek for being such a splendid chap, and hope that he and Pat enjoy retirement, at least until King Edward's needs Derek again next Summer Term.



The eagerly fought match between the Common Room and the XI, 1971. Stuart Birch is umpiring.



## Combined Cadet Force

### Commanding Officer's Overview

Since there is much detail in the various reports from Sections and individuals, I propose to keep this brief and deal with the most important aspects from my point of view. No doubt I'll miss out someone or something, but with any luck they'll get mentioned elsewhere...

#### Recruitment:

I am delighted that this year, for the first time, we have recruited almost equal numbers to all three sections. As a result we are on the way to being a better-balanced CCF. Overall numbers are holding steady at between 160 and 170, which is highly respectable; the RAF Section has expanded to rival the Army in numbers, and the Navy is fast catching up.

#### Team Achievements:

And it is not just a numbers game. Much has happened this year to bring credit on our CCF. At the Brigade March & Shoot, WO2 Steve Cumberland led the Army team to a very impressive route march time and a faultless inspection, securing the position of top CCF before the shooting scores were added. Sadly the shooting let the team down a little. Better luck next year! The RAF secured Regional shields in First Aid and Physical Challenge, and third place overall, just missing a place in the National ground training competition final. Never mind, there's always next year! And as I write, the RN Section have a team competing in the Portsmouth Regatta for the first time in years. Good luck to them! Finally, the Army Section are to be congratulated on their competition performance at Summer Camp, coming well within the top ten out of over 60 CCFs in all three camp competitions at Wathgill: Drill, Orienteering, and March & Shoot.

#### Individual Achievements:

C/Sgt Michael Gardiner	HQ LAND	Cadet Leadership Course
C/Sgt Emir Battaloglu	HQ LAND	Cadet Leadership Course
C/Sgt Alex Vakil	HQ LAND	Cadet Leadership Course
Cdt Harry Joseph	CTC Primley	Cadet Leadership Course
L/S Anish Patel	CTC Primley	Cadet Leadership Course
F/Sgt Vikram Balachandrar	RAF Stafford	Air Cadet Leadership Course
Cdt Harry Joseph	ACF/CCF PT	Leaders Qualification
Sgt Gopal Rao	Royal Engineers	Look at Life Course
L/S Charlie Cruickshanks	RN	First Aid at Work Qualification
Cdt Matthew Riddell		Air Cadet Gliding Scholarship
Cdt Tom Devias		Air Cadet Gliding Scholarship
Cdt Nick Jackson		Air Cadet Gliding Scholarship
Sgt Dave Squires		Air Cadet Gliding Scholarship
F/Sgt Vikram Balachandrar		Air Cadet Gliding Scholarship
F/Sgt Chris Guest	RN	Flying Scholarship
F/Sgt Joe Osborne	RAF	Flying Scholarship

So please note, all you younger cadets, all this and more is available to you too!

#### Adventurous Training:

AT has benefited greatly from the expertise and enthusiasm of WO1 Storey, in his first full year with the CCF. Cadets from all three sections enjoyed a week of varied activities at Easter, based at Fremington Camp in Devon, and expeditions have taken place to



**Welcome:**

To Lieutenant R J Leaver as the new Officer in Charge, Royal Naval Section; and to Sub-Lieutenant D J Ash, who is joining the Section and bringing us the benefit of his sailing and diving experience.

**Farewell:**

To Sub-Lieutenant C M L Tudor, after nine years in the RN Section, latterly as Officer in Charge; we wish her well in her new ventures on Friday afternoons. And finally, many thanks to Lieutenant D C Everest on his retirement from KES. Not least of his achievements are the 36 years he spent with the Royal Naval Section, giving generation after generation of cadets the chance to do things they could never have experienced otherwise.

He will be remembered by cadets and officers alike with great affection and respect.

**Thank you:**

To all the Officers, Instructors, and senior NCOs for their care, enthusiasm, and dedication; and to all members of the CCF for their enthusiasm.

DHR

Snowdonia and the Brecon Beacons. A kayaking week in Scotland is planned for the Autumn half-term, and Duke of Edinburgh activities continue apace. We have plenty of Bronzes and Silvers on the sleeves by now, and we eagerly await the first Gold to finish before leaving school! Another new venture is the RN Section's SCUBA course, to be reported next time.

### Summer Camp: Frimley Park Cadet Leadership Course

It was in April, with exams rapidly approaching, that I realised my summer was going to be dull if I didn't do something about filling gaps quickly. Fortunately the Army has an answer for almost everything, and relief of potential boredom is certainly no exception. Something caught my eye in the Gild Hall: a huge poster, with pictures of people doing a lot of Army-like activities, involving a lot of water. However, it looked like fun, so I filled out the forms, fully expecting rejection of my application to what is apparently the best Cadet Leadership Course in the country, staged at Frimley Park. Imagine my surprise then, when I received details of the course, and my joining instructions for what would be one of the best weeks of my life.

On the Monday we had an introduction to the world of leadership. Bright and early our Platoon Officer arrived and gave us a briefing on the day, before leaving us with a time and place to meet. A quick ride out to a nearby training ground and we were set up for lessons in map reading (the aim of the first two days being to bring us all to the same level) followed by an orienteering competition. In the evening was Round One of the Intersection Sports Competition, including a boat race in the lake, tug-of-war and volleyball. And of course, giant urns of squash: one of the main emphases was on keeping dehydration to a minimum,

so water bottles were carried at all times and, where possible, drink provided. Daily temperatures regularly approached 30°C.

Tuesday's activities were solely leadership-based, with a log run and assault course to tackle at six thirty (after breakfast) and command tasks (each with a different member of the section in charge) lasting all day. The evening brought on the final round of the Sports Competition, with Platoon 6 coming respectably somewhere in the middle.

The final day and a half were by far the most exciting: starting in the field, we jumped off the Bedfords to the sound of gunfire and rushed in teams, with backpacks and kit all packed, to where our Platoon Officer was waiting, dressed as a native of who-knows-where. There followed about thirty seconds, in which he said something about a grid reference, before the shooting started again, and we had to make a run for it. Escape and Evasion is fun but it's extremely difficult, especially when teams of Gurkhas are your enemy.

Friday morning was to test us to the limit, but also provide us with a great time. After building a raft (who says the Sea Cadet Corps has no place in society?) we crossed a river successfully, managing to pull Platoon Officer Hall into the river where he hung on for his life and landed on our bank completely soaked but



smiling. There followed a short march down to the beach. We waded into the water and clambered aboard Gemini assault boats, which took us smartly off to the opposite side of an absolutely huge lake, where we performed an assault on the enemy position before returning to Frimley. All this before breakfast! The rest of the day was rather more relaxed and culminated in a barbecue with beer for those that paid, and a karaoke competition which resulted in some amusing talents being revealed.

As if that wasn't enough to occupy my time this summer, I also attended the Army's Physical Training Instructor course, which quite frankly was pure madness on my part. However, as with Frimley, if you're looking for something interesting, with a qualification at the end of it and a change of scenery with new people, then go for it! (By the way, I am now allowed to teach cadets physical fitness lessons. Watch out Conolly!)

*Harry Joseph*

## Leadership Training

A change of venue for this, the annual Cadre leadership training weekend, saw the tranquillity of North Wales preferred to the usual Dartmoor National Park. Under the command of the newly appointed Sergeant Major Storey, we headed for our headquarters, Capel Curig Army training centre. With Punjabi MC on full blast, we arrived in the town with a trace of daylight remaining, and just enough time for the group to settle into their accommodation for the two nights, a billet complete with the traditional Army fixtures of hard mattresses and cold metal bunks. Despite these features, the accommodation proved comfortable enough and certainly beat sleeping under canvas. After a complete dinner, as plentiful as in any Army base, the group, under the instruction of Mr Storey and three men from the cadet training team, headed out for a night navigation exercise, which allowed us to realise how bad at navigation we actually were. Neil Curtis, with a night vision scope, found the exercise slightly easier than the rest of us.

The next day was the main trek of the expedition and two groups, once again under instruction, headed for their respective start points. One group started at HQ and the remaining cadets were taken to the other side of the mountain. The beautiful Welsh sunshine combined with the ice of the previous night, so a crystal clear day of walking was our reward.

Our group made tracks from HQ and walked along the main road, reconnoitring the local public houses. Each member of the group had his chance to shine as far as navigation goes and some interesting routes were taken. Highlights included Mr Storey's ingenious way of removing cramp and an unnamed person's inadvertently leading us into hillbilly country, causing a moment of uneasy apprehension amongst the group. Thanks to constant

short wave communication between the groups, we were able to check each other's progress. In the end, both groups ended up back at the minibus. Back at HQ, a typically substantial Army meal was taken before heading off for an evening of climbing at a nearby centre, where the more nimble cadets shone.

Rising early, we had ample time for breakfast and to sweep and mop our billet. All packed up and the accommodation spick and span, the group, now divided into five equal teams, headed for the final session of the weekend, a series of command tasks and navigational exercises designed to test our progress thus far. The victorious team received, ironically, a guide to mountain navigation.

All the section would like to extend thanks to Sergeant Major Storey for his success in organising his first Cadre training weekend and to Flight Lieutenant McMullan, without whom the bus journeys would not have been half as entertaining.

*Lance Corporal Alex Vakil*





## Royal Air Force

The RAF this year maintained a section size of around seventy cadets, making it the largest section in the King Edward's School CCF. This year, twenty-four cadets joined in the Fourth Form and all have gained from the experiences they had. Many had their first air experience flights in Grob Tutors or cadet gliders, and all have shot on the school range. Drill instruction, proficiency teaching and command task training have given all the cadets a sound platform upon which they can expand their CCF skills in the years ahead.

The Fifth form had around twenty cadets this year, and all were keen to further their training in the CCF and specialise in the skills they particularly enjoyed. Some Fifth year cadets exploited the opportunity to further their flying experience and thus gained considerable skills in flying and aerobatics, whilst three completed gliding scholarships in Viking gliders. Some cadets enhanced their marksmanship skills and obtained marksman badges on camp. Two Divisions also won gliding scholarships and F. Sgt Joe Osborne won a prestigious flying scholarship. Cpl Vikram Balachandrar is to be congratulated on successfully completing the prestigious Air Cadet Leadership Course at RAF Stafford.

This year, Cadre was twinned with the Navy section and was successful in training all the Division cadets to become cadet instructors. They each developed their own unique styles of leadership and showed themselves to be capable of handling such a large section next year.

Friday afternoons provided the foundation for this year's training and involved RAF cadet proficiency teaching with an emphasis on teamwork and communication. It was however the two Expedition Weekends that allowed the cadets to put all of their training into practice and to undertake extremely involved and intensive weekends of activities. The first weekend was at RAF Weybourne in September. This meant the newly joined Fourth year cadets were given an immediate and somewhat extreme dose of RAF life. They all took it in their stride and reacted superbly to the exhausting succession of exercises, with only one ration pack for sustenance!

The second Expedition Weekend was at Nesscliff, an Army training area in Shropshire. This was the first time the RAF section has visited Nesscliff and allowed us to take the entire section. The weekend proved to be an immense success, with all of

the cadets participating in shooting, training exercises, night exercises and abseiling. The weekend was a culmination of the skills of all the cadets and was made possible by the large team of 6th form SNCO's that helped to plan and run the weekend along with the officers. There were also two enjoyable week long camps this year, one at RAF Northolt at Easter and one at RAF Halton over the summer.

This year the RAF section also competed in the Western Area CCF (RAF) competition at RAF Stafford in November. This also proved to be a success: we finished fourth overall and won the first-aid and fitness test competitions. One of the highlights of the year however was winning the KES Intersection CCF competition in December. It was the first time the RAF section had won and all the RAF cadets used their training and skills superbly to take the title.

All of the year's training concluded with the Annual General Inspection in May, where the RAF section provided an excellent weapons drill display along with first aid and command task demonstrations. There was also a flight simulator demonstration. The inspecting officer was Captain Luke van Beek of the Royal Navy. It is difficult to express the enormous benefits we as cadets gain from even one year out of the four in the RAF section we are to have. This year was no exception and the flying experience, CCF camps, shooting and Expedition Weekends were all thoroughly rewarding and unique in what they give us. All of this is only made possible by the RAF officers of the CCF, and many thanks must go to Sqd Ldr Raynor, Flt Lt McMullan, Flg Off. Smith and Plt Off. Evans. Thanks must also go to Ms While for her invaluable help on the Expedition Weekends.

*CWO Rakesh Chauhan*





## RAF Northolt Easter Camp

This was a diverse camp, with cadets from Edinburgh, Belfast, Newcastle Under Lyme, and probably some other places I've forgotten. Five KES RAF cadets trundled off in that reliable old minibus to RAF Northolt. Dumping my bags on my bed in the traditional RAF cadet lodgings and greeting my roommates, I seized the largest available locker and unpacked. A delicious dinner followed, and then to my bed, which actually folded around me into a cocoon; very cosy, if backbreaking. I was lucky enough to find a place aboard the disco-bus, so-called for its cunning little blue lights in the ceiling. This was the DADDY of all minibuses, and had cost extortionate amounts of money. But our driver managed to drive at least a mile with the hand brake on, while regaling us with tales of cadets getting out and pushing the vehicle to

safety on the motorway. The ensuing smoke and stink led to a new name for the bus: "disco inferno".

Our first venture was to the Hillingdon Outdoor Activities Centre, where we changed into wetsuits before venturing out on the water in kayaks. Then water polo, followed by some messing about and having fun. Next up was the raft-building competition. Given eight poles and six barrels, we had to construct a cunning craft to transport ourselves across the reservoir with all speed. As I'm sure you can imagine, this involved much floating away of random raft parts and desperate holding together of rafts with any free appendages.

Amongst the other highlights of the camp were the section visits. First was a visit to the Royal Flight, 32 Squadron. A gentle perusal of the museum and some light refreshment at the coffee-bar ensued. As we boarded the coach for the next visit we were casually warned that we might get slightly damp. After a swift change of clothes we entered the domain of the fire section. One hour and at least 50,000 tonnes of water later, we dragged our drenched bodies onto the kind coach driver's vehicle for a second clothing change.

On the Saturday we went to RAF Benson to fly. Most cadets experienced the thrill of aerobatics for half an hour. After dinner at 1800 we prepared for the night exercise. Each flight was assigned an area. The aim was to uncover and keep the four glow rods and one ammo box hidden in that area. Once this was achieved each flight could then approach other flights and "obtain" their glow rods, using, as the Sergeant put it, "substantial physical contact".

Later in the camp we returned to RAF Benson to shoot. All KES cadets achieved very high scores, but only two qualified to make an attempt at the RAF marksman test. This involved firing ten shots into an A5 sheet from a distance of twenty-five metres in thirty seconds. None, however, achieved this high standard. In fact, the only cadet on the camp to manage this was a Flight Sergeant from another school. I did, however, earn the privilege of an enjoyable flight in a Merlin EH101 helicopter - at one point the floor was almost vertical, the side door in front of me was open and I gazed down at the ground as it rushed past at almost two hundred miles per hour.

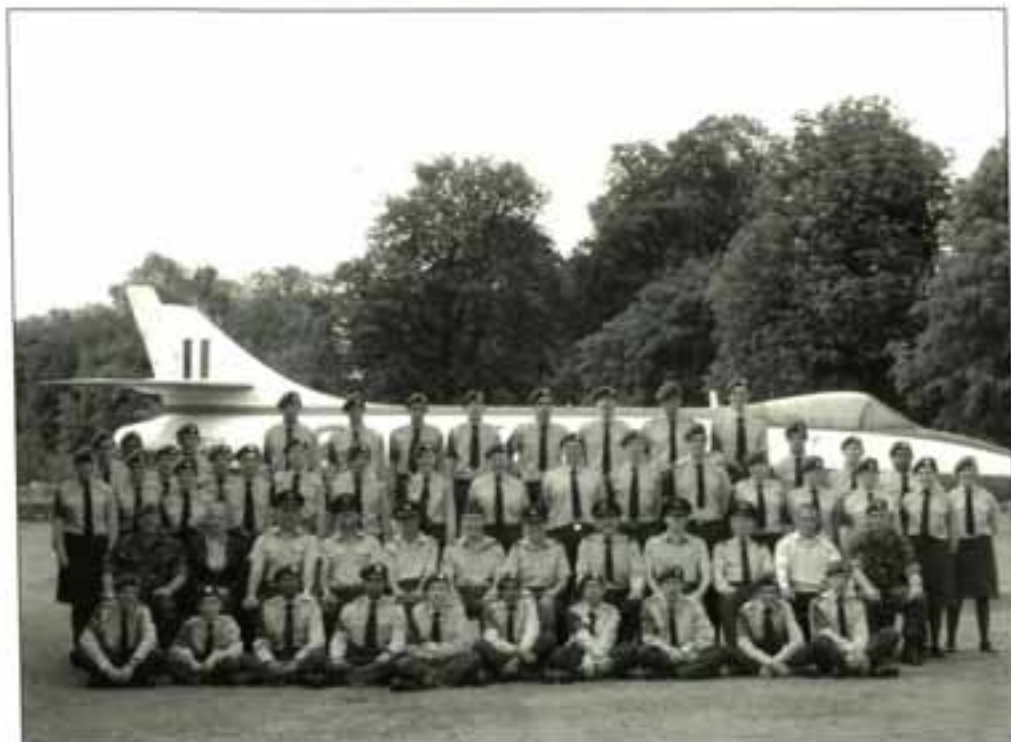
Exhausted after an action-packed week, we journeyed home thoroughly satisfied with a great camp.

*Cdt Dominic Corbett*





## Halton Camp



The time was upon us for another Summer Camp at one of the UK's RAF bases. This year we were off to RAF Halton. When we arrived we had to take our belongings to our rooms (which weren't of the best quality), in which we would be sleeping for the next 7 nights. After tea, we were divided into 3 flights with Flight Sergeant Hakeem as senior cadet. The first activity was a FAMEX (Familiarisation Exercise), which allows us to get to know where everything is on the base. This was a mixed camp, so, as you can imagine, the Fourth Year boys had their eyes on some of the young ladies.

After breakfast on the next day we were taken to Kermode Hall where we were given the welcome brief by the base Air Cadet Liaison Officer. Later we were taken to the Duxford Museum, which turned out to be a bit of a laugh. The Duxford Museum is dedicated to Aircraft used in Civil Aviation, in the Royal Air Force (RAF) and in the United States Air Force (USAF). Unsurprisingly, the USAF has the most spectacular hangar. Aircraft in this hangar include a B-52, a Blackbird and many more. Outside was an F-15, which was quite a sight. There was also a memorial to all those servicemen from the USAF and the RAF shot down in World War II. An image of a plane on a pane of glass represents each person shot down. On each pane there are about one hundred images. To my surprise there were just about as many panes lined up all the way around the outside of the hangar. In another hangar could be found the prototype of Concorde.

Later that evening cadets had the opportunity to gain a swimming certificate at Beginner, Intermediate or Advanced level at the swimming pool, which was

sited on the base. This was a challenge for everyone, as we didn't know whether we could complete the necessary criteria for the qualification. Fortunately everyone passed and we were given our certificates at the end of the camp.

On the second night the dreaded NITEX (Night Exercise) was upon us. This is the most-looked-forward-to event on camp but usually ends up being the most depressing part of camp (with the exception of drill) because it is so badly thought out. This was no exception. The activities we were expected to do did not involve everyone. Out of 12 in each flight, only about 3 were actually needed, because we

had to do first aid and cooking in the cold. Whoopee!

On day four we were on the range, firing the cadet version of the SA-80, the L98. Some people on camp managed to achieve shooting badges, but not many. Four of us were supposedly going to RAF Benson to have a flight in the RAF's newly manufactured Merlin Helicopter. However to our disbelief, the aircraft had gone U/S (Unserviceable) that very morning, so that idea went out the window very quickly. A handful of other cadets had the opportunity to go microlight flying in the afternoon. Those who didn't go microlight flying got the chance to use the Small Arms Training Range. Everyone looked forward to this because it is something that not many people get the chance to do very often.

Immediately after breakfast on our penultimate day was the Interflight drill competition. When all three flights had completed the drill routine, we were taken to RAF Uxbridge, where there is an underground bunker where all of the main Aerodromes were operated from during World War II. In the evening we had an end of camp presentation. James Waddell's flight had won the overall Interflight competition. Congratulations to him and those under his command.

Next day it all came to an end. On the journey back we were in for a surprise. We drove right under the drop zone into which many troops were being dropped from the back of a Hercules. It was a spectacular sight and not one that you can see every day. So again we come to the end of an enjoyable and activity-filled RAF Summer Camp.

*Cdt Matthew Rickell*



## RAF Air Cadet Leadership Course

Our section was again offered a place this year on this heavily oversubscribed course, and I was the lucky one chosen by Flt Lt McMullan to fill it. Having read about Richard Bradish's exploits from the previous year, I was left wondering when Mr McMullan would get round to showing me the course video. In the end, there was no need: the joining instructions I received were more than sufficient to cover any queries I had: "The course is designed to bring you into contact with fresh air, ropes and timber."

Things got even better once I reached the kit list, which somehow managed to squeeze everything you could possibly need on an Arctic exploration onto a single A4 page. I eventually decided to stagger my trip to the CCF stores over three successive weeks so as not to burden Mr Storey too much with sudden kit demands.

The main feature of the course was the command tasks. Not your average Friday afternoon barrel-and-plank-across-the-shark-infested-custard exercise, but instead variations on a tripod-building theme. No, I'm being a little unfair - there was more variety than that, and some of the tasks proved to be quite enjoyable. There was, in addition, an assortment of other team-building and leadership exercises.

However, the point of the course isn't to be some kind of "leader factory" - it is designed to bring out the qualities that you already have. I know that it has given me much more confidence in my abilities, and I have accrued much in the way of leadership skills.

*Flt Sgt Vikram Balachandrar*

## RAF Gliding Scholarship 2003

During the Summer Half Term I was fortunate to be accepted on an RAF Gliding scholarship at 633 VGS RAF Cosford. This was to be a ten day course to teach us how to fly the Vigilant motor glider. There were twelve of us on this course and we all arrived early on the Sunday morning, when we were introduced to our barracks. It turned out that the only time we would be spending there would be to sleep. We were up at 5:30am every morning for a nice plastic breakfast at the canteen before we headed out to the airfield. We spent the whole day at the airfield until around 6:00pm, when we had to clean every aircraft from nose to tail.

During each day we concentrated on lessons. They start with basic straight and level flight, leading up to exercise 14, our solo circuit flight. Two of our company were seasoned flyers, one with a pilot parent and the other with a large amount of hours in the USA. They finished the course in a few days but the rest of us took a bit longer. I am happy to say that, of the remaining number, I was the first to fly my solo circuit.

The course flew by and we had to go our separate ways, proudly wearing our silver wings as we trudged back to the civilian life where all of us were in the middle of exams. It was an enjoyable experience and one I highly recommend. I came away not only with my wings but with a group of new friends as well.

*Sgt David Squires*

## Royal Navy

During 2003 the RN section of the CCF has gone from strength to strength, and the cadets are enjoying a wider range of activities than ever before. This year a record number of nine joined the ranks, and the good news is that an even greater number are expected next year.

Our Friday afternoon sessions consisted of PLTs (practical leadership tasks), weapons training, range firing, escape and evasion, orienteering, life guarding and sailing or kayaking at a local reservoir.

During 2003 there have been two expeditions. The first was to Lake Bala in Wales for watersports and team building: sailing, windsurfing, mountain biking, kayaking and raft building were all on offer. The second was to HMS Bristol in Portsmouth.

After Christmas all sections worked at perfecting their marching and displays for the Annual General Inspection. This year a Captain in the Royal Navy was the highest-ranking officer at the inspection. We were truly honoured to have him inspect both our squads, and to offer valuable advice on how shiny our shoes weren't.

Certain keen sailors and naval cadets (Oliver Carter and David Woods) have attended extra camps and

courses to gain awards. They sadly missed the Marines' Arduous Training due to a change of dates, but there is always next year lads! A more popular course was the Summer Camp, where cadets built upon the basic naval skills learnt on Friday afternoons and further developed their water skills. It was good to see both Oliver Scanlan (ex-Lead-Cadet, helping with the activities) and Mr Benson (an ex Contingent Commander, being thanked by the RN CCF for his services) in Dartmouth during the camp.

The Royal Navy Cadet awards were presented to Jack Jeffries in the Fourth year and David Woods in the Fifth Year, whilst Anish Patel in the Divisions and Jonathan Gray in the Sixth Form received NCO awards. None of the cadets would have been able to enjoy these experiences without the dedicated support of Miss Tudor, who left the RN section at the end of the year. Special thanks must also go to Mr Everest, who has been at the heart of the RN section at KES for many years and sadly retired at the end of this one. He has put huge amounts of selfless effort into the section. Both will be sorely missed, but have promised to keep in touch.

*Sam Brooke*

## Royal Navy Expeditions Weekend

We left KES on Friday lunchtime, embarking on the long and tedious coach journey to Portsmouth. Over-estimating the keenness of the RN section led to there being plenty of room to spread out on the coach, though! We boarded HMS Bristol at dusk and were briefed about safety on board before having our first Mess Inspection by Rev. Raynor. Let us just say he decided that the Fourths needed more practice! Our long journey and the early curfew on board HMS Bristol left little time for evening activities, but afforded us a good night's sleep before an early start on Saturday.



Saturday was the highlight of the trip: the Royal Navy provided us with two motor launches, instructors, compasses, and a wide variety of seemingly incomprehensible charts. Luckily, Mr Everest's navigation lessons earlier in the year paid off, and all the cadets managed to navigate (with varying degrees of accuracy and safety) to the Isle of Wight. We stopped for a relaxed lunch, during which Giles Urwin dismally failed to find the chip shop about which he had been talking all morning, and then embarked upon a return journey where there was a fair amount of relaxation, some even fitting in a spot of sunbathing.

After the now-mandatory football match, the only item left on the itinerary was a visit to the submarine museum in Gosport. It was amazing to see one of the earliest submarines used by the Royal Navy, and another which has only recently been decommissioned; a real insight into life on board and the cramped conditions the sailors must endure. Following a swift spell of souvenir shopping, and a slightly longer spell in the caf, we boarded the coach for a bit of a sleep on the return journey.

All that remains is to say a huge thank you to Miss Tudor, Mr Everest, Rev. Raynor and Miss Leaver for making the expedition possible and for their continued commitment to the CCF.

*Anish Patel*

## CCF in Action





## Friday Leadership

KESFL had another very successful year of increasing numbers and expectations. The option that only a few years ago was a Cinderella has now grown into an established part of school life. The focus on pupil skills and responsibilities may seem to make it a rather odd success story, but the ingenuity of the Sixth Formers and patient support of the staff have made the weekly afternoons enjoyable, rewarding and challenging. The attraction of outside interest and sponsorship from PricewaterhouseCoopers and IBM has added further to the option, as it can call upon expertise from outside education to supplement the existing good practice.

KESFL now numbers over 130 permanent members and is a regular contributor to the Upper Middles rota. The option is heavily over subscribed and popular with pupils and parents alike.

The new Sixth Form under the leadership of Ed Sandison, Joe Speight, Rob Hollyhead, Harry Hecht and Olly Fawcett have started strongly, with a number of innovations and classy new kit making them not only leaders in the general sense but also leaders of fashion. They are building upon the fine efforts of the team led by Chris Hedges for 2002-2003, who themselves introduced new features to the option, most notably the Awards ceremony. In addition, their PricewaterhouseCoopers video was outstanding in its production (thanks to Alex Martin) and creativity: congratulations to all involved. Thanks to all of the leaders of 2002/2003.

Finally, thank you to the teaching staff who give of their time generously and with unfailing good humour in a demanding role. Certainly I know how fortunate I am in being supported by such professionalism.

DNDC



### Sixth Form

As bewildered Upper Middles we were faced with our first taste (but not our last) of barrels and planks, water guns, games with the infamous twist, bizarre scenarios (some of them quite worrying) and catapults. As bewildered Sixth Formers we were faced with teaching over 100 pupils each week, experiencing all of the above and much, much more, including The Shelter, cracking codes, increasingly bizarre scenarios, cracking more codes and lots of the frenetic activity required to solve problems, complete challenges and experience the true nature of Leadership.

As we look back at how we have developed there is, of course, a sense of pride in a job now complete. There were many frustrations (not enough rooms, for instance); some disasters; some missing people (where was The Hedge for the first week of his leadership of Leadership? The answer lies on a beach in Spain); much rushing about; a number of reprimands and hassles; but, more significantly, many laughs,

meetings in Solihull hostels, real achievements and a fantastic feedback from the pupils we have taught.

The Sixth Form have been a team of contrasting yet mainly complementary characters: the ruthless efficiency of Ed Graham; the saintly patience of Michael Fanner, style under pressure personified; the emergence of real teaching talent in Jon Adamson; the maverick yet effective populist mayhem of Chris Woo; the contribution of ideas, plans and incisive comment by, amongst others, Paul Reynolds, Simon Laight and Ben Oldham.

One other guy needs a special mention and that is our stylish, perceptive and at times charmingly chaotic leader, who retires having made a deep impression on the ladies of the IBM and PwC delegations and having led the largest ever Leadership option with much good humour, steel when it was needed and a real empathy for the pupils, fellow leaders and staff. To The Hedge there goes a great deal of thanks and appreciation for

completing this most difficult of challenges.

The Upper Middles have been recruited in larger than ever numbers: well done to Simon Laight's team; the Fourths and Fifts are full of emerging stars and the new Sixth Form look to be highly competent and already are ably and decisively led by Ed Sandison. KESFL continues to grow, to achieve and to develop. It gives Sixth Formers a real sense of responsibility, hands on experience and a sense of achievement perhaps less experienced elsewhere.

Congratulations to the Prize winners for the 2002-2003 year: Richard Sheehan, Lee Raji, Oliver Fawcett, Michael Fanner, Ed Graham, Chris Woo and Chris Hedges, the latter three becoming the first ever winners of School Leadership Prizes presented at Speech Day. Thanks too to everyone who helped organise the first Awards Ceremony to recognise achievements within the leadership family.

We would like to thank the staff, LMR, BMS, AED,

JPS, CW and DNDC, who work really hard to help us behind the scenes and offer tolerance, support and much banter. And we would like to thank each other and the younger pupils. Good luck to Ed's team next year and to the new recruit, DEM.

In years to come we can look back at Cone Mayhem, Cat and Mouse, One Love and the rest with huge pleasure, satisfaction and pride. Thank you for the opportunity to do this. We hope that we have done the option proud.

And finally:

To lead people, walk beside them.

As for the best leaders, the people notice their existence.

The next best, the people honour and praise.

The next, the people fear;

And the next, the people hate.

But when the best leaders' work is done the people say:

We did it ourselves!

*The Leadership Hierarchy 2002-2003*

## PwC Conference

The school is fortunate in having a unique partnership with PricewaterhouseCoopers, in particular the Graduate Recruitment team in London. The 2003 conference was the third to be sponsored by PwC and KES is most grateful for the continued support.

In the morning the Conference challenged the Divisions pupils to respond to various tasks including the design, marketing, financial planning and production of a product within a competitive environment. There was also an opportunity to boost the individual companies' profits via investment decisions.

The afternoon kicked off with a video produced and developed by the Sixth Form Leadership group. The video set up a scenario of dastardly deeds and set off a fast and furious activity involving a whole range of problems and challenges, with a focus on team work, delegation and problem solving.

The afternoon finished with a montage of the out takes of the video filming and the announcement of the winning team. Prizes donated by PwC were much appreciated.

Thank you to the Divisions for throwing themselves so enthusiastically into the day; to the many staff who helped supervise the activities; to DCE for helping with the logistics; to the Leadership group (especially Chris Hedges) for giving up their time so willingly; and thank you for the tolerance of the rest of the school whilst the Conference was going on. Finally, thanks again to PwC. The current Sixths are already planning the next Conference and the video is promised to be better than ever!

DNDC

## Leadership Weekend

Four competing schools from the King Edward's Foundation, KES, KEHS, Camp Hill and Aston, arrived at Dunfield House, in the outskirts of Herefordshire. Mr Roll, or Mr Lawson as he became known, gave the group an initial briefing: teams for the weekend were assigned and the format of the weekend was explained. For the benefit of other groups going on this fantastic trip in the future, the details in this report are deliberately vague, so as not literally to give the game away. However, I can say that a usual leadership task, consisting of Octons, a mute builder and sniggering Leadership staff, was undertaken, and won on this occasion by team 3, the cockiest team of the weekend, who considered themselves favourites for the overall win.

A feature of the weekend was the two trips to the local (well within 12 kilometres) pub, where thirty-odd pupils and staff were a welcome sight to the landlord and lady. The second night in particular turned out to be a special occasion, as it was Mr Roll's Birthday. He was blissfully unaware that the group had contracted the help of a few pub locals to aid in a rendition of Happy Birthday, which was well received.

Saturday morning began with a brisk 6.30 jog up the road. Despite the early hour, the route wasn't what you would call challenging. A large signpost saying *King Edward's this way*, made it clear to all but team 4, who managed to head in the opposite direction. Back towards the pub, coincidentally.

Saturday morning activities consisted of an orienteering exercise and various command tasks, once again in the assigned mixed teams. The orienteering exercise proved quite challenging for all



involved. One particular performance to note was the orienteering ability of James Elms, who managed to set his watch 45 minutes slow (or so he said). Returning to base, various stories about killer sheep, scary farmers and lost shoes were traded, before the other section of the day: the command task and kayaking. Certain valuable leadership skills were picked up by all. For example, a certain member of the KEHS party discovered that a Star of David has six, not five, points and all groups soon realised that balancing a team of four on a single crate really isn't practical.

Next morning, a carefully selected group of 6 organised the large group exercise for the day, the briefing was given and we were split into 3 teams. Canoeing, walking and running followed and the best time, of 2 hours 9 minutes, was an all-time record.



breaking the previous record by 6 minutes.

There was still the undecided business of the winning team to be decided. The group was taken to a specific grid square. A short quiz of the area allowed the final clue to be taken and solved. In the end, team 1 was victorious. Packed up at the centre and a roast lunch enjoyed by all, the group headed home, the bus slightly more quiet than usual.

Thanks must go to all the staff present but especially our two representatives: Miss Leaver and Mr Roll. The latter member deserves particular mention for his organisation of the weekend.

*Alex Vakil*



## Work Experience

The KES curriculum could never be accused of being narrow; its breadth is illustrated here by examples from our Work Experience programme. All Fifth Form students undertake weeklong placements at a variety of companies, either in Birmingham or further afield. These serve as excellent introductions to working life - and what a contrast to the previous months of academic toil they are! Students arrange

their own placements; therefore they should (in theory) find work in a field of potential interest. If the placement serves to push the student away from a particular career path he had been considering, then it has still served a very effective purpose! A vast majority of boys, however, find their experiences challenging, enjoyable and, ultimately, extremely rewarding.

*AED*

## Politics and Civil Service

I really wanted to find a placement that would interest me, and applied in three different fields: to the BBC, to a legal Chambers in Birmingham and, optimistically, to my MP, Lynne Jones. Surprisingly she replied within days and, after merely asking to see an example of a written argument, agreed that I could come down to London with her for a week.

When I arrived I was given a whistle stop tour of New Palace Yard and Portcullis House, my home for the week. From there via wood panelled lifts I was taken to the office on the top floor where I met Sue and

Ingrid, Lynne's researchers. The week passed in a daze of networking and trips through the inner courts and corridors of the Palace. I met numerous MPs and ministers as well as writing letters to, among others, the Chinese Ambassador. I know that I don't want to become a politician now, but perhaps the Civil Service is more appealing now that I have seen their work first hand.

*Jamie Sunderland*

## Investment Banking

After much hard work (and thanks to a friend's contact) I received not one but three offers of work experience; at Tan and Co, NatWest, and UBS Warburg. I decided that in the one week I would go to all three, experiencing all aspects of finance, accountancy, banking, and investment. I was looking forward to this week; all the hours of writing letters and CVs to employers had finally paid off.

I started off with two days at Tan and Co and two days at NatWest, both in Birmingham, before travelling down to London for the big one, UBS Warburg. When we walked in to UBS, we were given security passes and i/d cards. Security was immense; I was genuinely shocked. It was a very well structured placement. We were given a schedule, i.e. who to see, and when and where to see them. I was rapidly able to learn plenty about Investment Banking. That lunch time, Mr Khoo (Head of Global Equities, and on a seven figure salary!) treated us to a very expensive lunch.

Overall I thoroughly enjoyed the week, and benefited much from it.

*Adam Gatrad*



## Journalism

Journalism placements are desirable things in the world of work experience, and as such they can be very hard to acquire, unless your nice Uncle Rupert gives you a way in. After several abortive attempts, I was accepted by the Bromsgrove Standard. I turned up for my first day fully expecting to spend the entire week making coffee and doing photocopying. I was pleasantly surprised: not only did I get to produce an awful lot of material (twenty-four articles, by the end of the week), but some of it even got printed.

Gradually, as I worked my way from bingo nights at the Victoria Club to truancy sweeps at a nearby school, I learnt the ropes. Despite my inexperience, the staff at the Standard were very helpful and friendly, and had the kindness not to laugh in my face at my more spectacular failures. I tried all sorts of things as well as writing, including making up headlines for the paper's website and accompanying a photographer for a day. The placement was useful, interesting and entertaining, letting me learn new skills and meet new people simultaneously. If you're fond of words and not scared of other human beings, give journalism a try.

*Matthew Hosty*

## Senior Debating

I find it hard to characterise a season such as this one. Was it an out and out success? I'm not really sure how to describe it, rendering this opening slightly pointless. However, in debating, it's not what you say, it's how much structure you have. And this introduction sets up my report quite nicely.

Although I have abjectly failed to define the season, I am qualified to say that it was a busy one. Early on in the year, our Mace team succeeded to the dizzying heights of Round One and decided that to climb any higher would be showing off. The Joint Debating society enjoyed a vibrant and compact season. Being one of the most prominent members of that society, I am proud to have taken part in the most impressive (and only) debate of that season. Finally, after much of the season had passed, six of our more talented put themselves forward for England trials. Three trialled and Samir Deger-Sen reached the last eight for the second year running. Among the year's successes, was our moderate success in the Cambridge Union competition. We entered a total of three pairs. All our teams, Somanka Deb and Shan Hassam of the C team, Alex Vakil and Matthew Siddons of the B team, and the A team, who will get plenty of mentioning later, got

through to the second round or further. This serves to show the breadth of debating talent which we have at KES.

If getting several teams through to the second round showed the breadth, then the first team's progress to the Finals showed the depth. Unfortunately, David Tite chose a family ski holiday in the Austrian Alps over a weekend with a bunch of debaters. Luckily, Alex Vakil was on hand to save Samir Deger-Sen from loneliness. Together, they battled through to 12th place, which, considering they faced twenty of Britain's finest pairings, is fairly respectable.

In March, we sent two teams to the Durham Union competition. Both teams strove ferociously for success and achieved a respectable 10th place for the As. David Tite and Samir Deger-Sen were joint fourth Best Speakers, and the B team placed about thirtieth. Durham remains the debating social event of the year but will never be regarded here as a truly major tournament (unless of course we somehow win it).

At this point in the season, there had been no outright victory for the Senior squad. Logically, if we couldn't win a respectable competition, we'd find one



we could. This happened to be the newly created Birmingham Union competition. With only fifteen teams participating (even though some were highly regarded), the odds of a KES team in the finals, especially with three of the fifteen being ours, were high. Birmingham proved to be the training ground for our newly developed Fourth year team of Seb Heaven, Richard Lau and Richard McDonnell. The young team performed well and finished in a creditable position considering their youth.

It was more or less a guarantee that the KES A team, composed of Samir Deger-Sen, Matthew Siddons and Somanka Deb, would reach the Finals. It was much less certain that KES B would do the same. The rookie, otherwise known as the overwhelming Oliver Carter, proved himself more than able to cope with the format and opposition arguments. He even coped when our captain, Shan Hassam, copied down 'This House would penalise polygamy', instead of 'This House would legalise polygamy', which left us in a bit of a mess at the start of the debate. But they made the final. The prospect of an all-KES final no doubt made Mr Stacey's evening. The debate itself was a carbon copy of the debate we had had in Mr Stacey's classroom the week before, but was still good fun. KES A won and Samir Deger-Sen was Best Speaker.

A tournament which is held in very high regard is the Oxford Union Competition. David Tite and Samir Deger-Sen succeeded here in 2001-2002 and naturally they were aiming to repeat that success. The team convincingly shot through four rounds, followed closely by the rest of the KES debating crew, and banked enough points to reach the semi-finals, in which they faced tough competition in a debate on sex offenders. In the final, they were genuinely impressive and fully deserved to win. However, George Heriot's School deserved it more, so KES were runners up! This competition had been attended by a record number of schools, which made it a notable achievement and was, for us, the season's crowning glory.

What of the future? Obviously the large influx of fresh young debaters means Mr Stacey will have more time to mess around with their minds and hone them into elite talents for the future. It is true that we are saying goodbye to three of our Senior stars. We will miss the sheer brilliance of the fast-talking Samir Deger-Sen, the style of the smooth Somanka Deb and the comic genius of Shan Hassam. However, many of last year's Senior squad still remain and maybe we'll win Durham yet.

Debating is thriving and spreading like a virus through the corridors of KES. This outbreak can only be traced back to the contagious Miss Leaver and the infectious Mr Stacey. Miss Leaver has worked from the bottom up to attract and develop a large mass of potential stars. Finally, Mr Stacey deserves our thanks for his sheer hard work, devotion and dedication to the Senior squad. The infection is growing in potency and hopefully all our teams will do some serious damage next year.

James Waddell

## BMI Debating

A few months older, but sadly unimproved in any respect, Tom Johnson and I returned to the fray of Birmingham Midland Institute debating, the competition in which we had reached the final and then been ignominiously placed fourth last year. We were not overly optimistic, as the judging in BMI debates is notoriously prone to bias, and our posh accents and affected mannerisms can sometimes alienate the adjudicators (please, try to restrain your disbelief).

Still, hope springs, etc, and we prepared carefully for our first motion: this, by a curious quirk of fate, was *This House believes that foreign policy should be conducted through diplomacy rather than war*, and we were opposing. Those of you with long memories may recall that our second round motion in the last competition was *This House believes that diplomacy is better than war*, and we had been proposing, so it was a rather confusing switch of perspective. Nonetheless, we fought hard against our old point of view, now being proposed by Malvern Girls' College (their seconder rejoiced in the name of Ottoline Scriven, I kid thee not), and triumphed by a reasonable margin.

The second round saw us crossing verbal swords with Five Ways, over the weighty issue of *This House believes that the law delivers justice*; we were opposing again, and were thus faced with the entertaining task of rubbishing the entire British legal system. We adopted a new tactic: Tom used his seven minutes to lay out all our firm, factual, well-researched arguments, and then I went off into a five-minute ramble on the more abstract points of the motion, which included arguing that the law was specifically designed to prevent justice from being carried out. Whether this makes sense or not, it successfully blindsided the adjudicators, and we got through. This put us in the semi-final, debating *This House believes that the government is out of touch with the people* with Wolverhampton Girls' High School, and opposing yet again. We were somewhat disadvantaged, as the debate took place only a few days after the massive anti-war march in London, which Tony Blair appeared not to have noticed. Still, Tom evened things up in our favour by seducing the proposition just before kick-off ('Can I have your names? It's alright, I'm not going to ask for your phone numbers'), and we actually managed to convince people that the government knew exactly what was going on. On to the finals!

After three political motions, it was almost a relief to end up with *This House believes that human beings should be able to live for ever*, except that we were (surprise, surprise) opposing, and convincing a room full of people that it's in their best interests to die is never easy. Preparation was frantic and went by all too fast. On the night of the competition, things were going badly before we even left school, as I got taken to task by Mr Andronov for impersonating a monkey in



Science Room 1, and Tom still hadn't actually written his speech. Undeterred, we applied our customary tactic: Tom Gradground the hapless proposition with the weighty mallet of fact, leaving them lightly tenderized and vulnerable to my most freeform flight of philosophical fancy yet. It had marginally less factual content than the average Daily Sport front page, and involved quotes from Aristotle, Nicholas Rowe (who?) and Hamlet. When we'd finished this double-whammy, the adjudicators staggered out looking confused, and then came back in a few minutes later and announced we'd won. Delighted, we carried off the trophy and drove away cackling. I also gained a pretty silver hammer, which is most useful for smiting intruders, as it weighs about three tons.

It'd be nice to pretend that this victory was entirely due to our natural wit, charm and eloquence, but it wasn't, of course. Without Miss Leaver's determination and skilful coaching, plus her many cunning motivational techniques (er, *Angel* videos), we would have tripped comically over the proverbial first hurdle and fallen prone, waving our limbs feebly and emitting pitiful squeaking noises. Words can't express our gratitude, Miss L, but then, you know what we're like with words.

Matthew Hosty

## Young People's Parliament

The aims of the YPP State/Independent School Project were twofold:

*to promote links between schools in the Birmingham area  
to show off the fancy new facilities at Millennium Point.*

It achieved both of these with only limited success, however. The King Edward's delegation took part in six sessions, spread throughout 2001-02, on various topics of importance to the modern teenager, ranging from human rights to systems of local government. Also present were delegations from KEHS, EHS, Bordesley Green Girls' School, Cockshut Hill Technology College and Hamstead Hall, the idea being that the independent and state sectors should be equally represented. Certainly an extremely worthy idea, but a few problems prevented it from being quite as effective as it might have been.

The Millennium Point facilities are undeniably impressive. The room used for the plenary (i.e. involving everyone) sessions would double nicely as the headquarters of the Galactic Council in some sci-fi flick: it has a central lectern with in-built computer, a large projector screen on the back wall, surround sound, and tiered rows of seating. Each seat has its own miniature voting console, with three buttons allowing the user to vote on issues presented on the big screen, a microphone for addressing the floor and a Call button for announcing one's desire to speak. Pressing the latter lights up a corresponding icon on a seating plan at the lectern, so that whoever is chairing the meeting can instantly see who wants to have their

say. Phil Grierson, the man in charge of the YPP project who chaired most of the discussions, used this set-up to great effect, starting each session with some quiz questions on the main screen, the results of which revealed our knowledge (or ignorance) of the forthcoming topic. Sadly, not every aspect ran so smoothly. The microphones, in particular, caused havoc: after the first few speakers failed to get any amplification at all, every comment became prefaced by a nervous "Can you hear me alright?" It's amazing how fragile a teenager's concentration is, and all it took was some unfortunate's microphone suddenly to switch on half-way through their serious opinion for most of the room to dissolve in laughter, upon which the comment was as good as lost.

The bridges between schools proved disappointingly weak, too. During a discussion about ways pupils could make their opinions known to teachers (other than the much-loved and traditional brick through the staff room window), a girl from one of the comprehensives replied to a point made by one of our boys, opining that "Your teachers probably don't listen to you cause you go to a posh school." This was met angrily by the KE delegations, and a full-scale verbal war was only just prevented by the timely intervention of Phil. The comment, while depressingly narrow-minded, served as a reminder of the way we are perceived by many local comprehensives, and of the kind of prejudice we need to work hard to dispel. Admittedly, the presence of delegations from both KES and KEHS may not have helped put our fellow parliamentarians at their collective ease, as we arrived on the same coaches and generally behaved as if we belonged to a single school, but so great was the awkwardness that it extended into the smaller discussions as well, making sensible conversations within groups of about five very difficult.

It would be utterly unfair to damn the project as a failure. It was often interesting and informative, and provided some genuinely worthwhile exercises, such as when we were given the chance to question Steve McCabe, Labour MP for Hall Green (in true political style, he managed to reveal more by his evasions than by his answers). It was also a lot of fun at times; never has my imagination been so taxed as when my group was challenged with producing an A-Z list of human rights, and Z ended up as "Zzzzz: the essential human right to peaceful, uninterrupted sleep." David Wheatley and I even got to impress some KEHS girls with our knowledge of famous quotes, and the final part of the final meeting involved, um, watching an IMAX movie about the International Space Station (very cool, although alarming, particularly when a rocket takes off and bits of flying debris bounce off one's eyeballs with a gentle plink). Indeed, I would recommend the whole experience to any future IVths, if it is repeated, and I would extend hearty thanks to all the staff involved, particularly to our very own Mr Milton. Everyone concerned did their best to promote co-operation between the various schools. It would be idiocy, however, to pretend that the project was



flawless. Targets for next year: Millennium Point to get their microphones working properly, and us not to be instantly tarred with the posh school brush by our contemporaries. If both of those can be managed, we'll be that much closer to achieving the aims outlined above. Here's hoping.

*Matthew Hosty*

## University Destinations

From 1996-1999 either Oxford or Cambridge was the top university destination for King Edward's boys. Since the arrival of the 21st century (and the advent of fees) Birmingham has headed the list, except for 2002, when it shared the lead with Oxford, and this summer, when Kings College London just beat Birmingham for the top slot - 13 boys going to Kings and 12 to Birmingham. Leeds and Bristol too have been consistently popular, both taking an average of 8 boys a year (except for 2002 when only 2 boys went to Leeds). The top 6 destinations over the eight years 1996-2003 are Oxford, Cambridge and Birmingham, followed by Bristol, Durham and Nottingham.

### *Degree Course Choices*

Medicine has been the top choice for all eight years (1997 set a record with no less than 27 boys leaving to read the subject). Engineering (of all sorts) has been consistently in the top five until this year, when it dropped to seventh. An interesting trend has been the rise of other vocationally related courses; only two boys left to read Business Studies/Management in 1996, three in 1997, one only in 1998 and 1999; but an average of 8 per year have done so since 2000. Similarly Computer related courses have grown from 2 in 1997 to an average of 6 a year from 00-03. Law vacillates from a low of 3 in 1997 to eleven in 1998, down to four in 2000 but rising again to ten in 2001 (and eight in 2003). Maths was in the top five choices from 1996-1999 and peaked at 14 candidates in 2000. It has now fallen back to just over two for the past three years. Geography remains a popular choice, averaging 9 boys a year deciding to read it at university. History averages just over six a year. English and Modern Languages hold their own with English averaging over three a year and Modern Languages four. The choice to read individual sciences (or Natural Sciences) has become gradually less common since 1996, possibly as many of those doing science A-levels go into Medicine and, to a lesser extent, Dentistry. However, against the trend, seven boys left to read Biology or a biologically related subject this summer.

A subject that has become more popular in recent years is Philosophy, either as a single subject or as joint honours (possibly due to the introduction of Religious Studies at A level, which includes philosophy of religion and ethics). Most years there will be one or two boys who choose to read such subjects as History of Art, Archaeology, Classics, Theology, Music and

Veterinary Science. Other newer degree choices include Actuarial Sciences, Transport, African Studies, Sports Science and Materials Science.

A-level applicants now have a very wide range of degree subjects from which to choose. The different choices each year usually number up to thirty.

*Careers Department*

## Senior Challenge

As captain Ruari Kerr was in his final year at the school, and Shane Murray and Richard Lau were eligible for Junior status for the last time, next year's team will retain only a quarter of this season's line-up. The eagerness to put on a good final showing spurred the team on to a memorable season, and finally returned the national title to KES after a long absence.

The campaign began with the regional heat, a manic, twelve-team affair conducted by Mr Milton with ruthless efficiency. In defiance of Mr Milton's selection, KES C qualified from the group stage while the B team were held back following a narrow defeat by KE Five Ways. KES A, meanwhile, won in a suspiciously easy group to set up an incestuous semi-final against the C team. This proved to be a close match, but the first team fortunately avoided an embarrassing defeat by their own reserves to reach the regional final. Shrewsbury School turned out to be far less of a challenge than KES C, and the A team coasted through to the regional title and to the national finals. Meanwhile, the Cs crowned an impressive evening with victory in the play-off against Five Ways, placing them third overall in the West Midlands region.

The national final, at Uppingham School, presented more of a challenge. A quarter-final victory against Sherborne set up a difficult semi-final against a quick and knowledgeable team from Westminster. In spite of the apparently inexhaustible capacity of the opponents' captain for historical trivia, fast buzzing and a strong showing by the two Juniors helped KES to build up an early lead that eventually proved unassailable.

So far, so good. However, this would not be the first time that a KES team had reached a national final only to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory. Fortunately, the opposing finalists from George Heriot's, Edinburgh were not as dangerous as feared, and KES were able to rack up thirty correct answers before the other team reached the buzzer. From this start, the team raced away to a winning score of over 1000 points, almost unheard of at this stage of the competition.

The national title is a great swan-song for departing members, particularly Ruari Kerr, whom we hope to see on University Challenge during his time at Cambridge. Thanks must go to Mr Milton for organising the team, and to all those devoted followers who have provided lifts, refreshments and support throughout the year.

*David Tite*



## Junior Challenge

The KES Junior Schools' Challenge teams had a lot to live up to this year as their senior counterparts won the national competition. Last year, the Juniors lost in the regional finals and the question was: could they do better this time?

We won our two group games against Bablake A and last year's winners, King's Worcester. Unfortunately, the KES B team lost both of its first round matches so would take no further part. We started poorly but pulled through after some quick buzzing in from all the team and so were again in the regional final, against a Bablake B team who were considerably better than their A team. Again we had a terrible start, but pulled it back and both teams were neck and neck for most of the match until we broke away just at the end.

Two weeks later, we were at Monmouth school to play an inter-regional match against a Cardiff school, St Teilos. This match was definitely harder than the previous ones and it was a close game the whole time, KES just scraping through 490-370.

So we were through to the national finals, this year held at Aldwickbury School in Harpenden. We were in the second round of matches and so watched an extremely convincing Manchester Grammar School breeze past St Colman's College by about 750 points. Then it was our turn. We were up against Torquay Boys' Grammar School, and this time managed to stay ahead the whole time and eventually won. After lunch we were matched against the formidable Manchester Grammar School in what was for me the most exciting match we played. This was the best we played all term and we were extremely close to winning. We pulled back amazingly quickly in the final minutes but fate was not on our side: we lost 700-810.

Well done to everyone in both teams and thanks to Miss Bubb for helping and supporting us throughout the term.

*Alisdair Morgan*

## Engineering Education Scheme

The Engineering Education Scheme, one of the more elite Friday Afternoon Activities, is a somewhat unknown quantity to most boys and teachers. It is designed for aspiring engineers in the Divisions, who are studying Maths at AS-level.

This year's team of Matthew Davis, Alex Pavlaki, Obaid Choudry, Adedayo Titiloye and Scott Ferguson were the tenth team from KES to take part in the scheme. Mr Lloyd has guided them all, and his unrelenting commitment, inspiration and knowledge were invaluable. He also had the ability to turn moments of utter adversity into hilarity with his words of wit.

The aim of the scheme each year is to solve a real-life engineering problem. Thus, a company and a problem are essential. Unfortunately in September we did not have one. "Don't worry, it always takes a while," Mr Lloyd assured us. And so we waited. September passed, then October. November came and went and still we didn't have a project. Indeed it was only a couple of weeks before the residential that we were finally allocated a company, the University of Birmingham, and given our brief: Design a method of measuring the moment of inertia of a car around the yaw axis. The team were bemused, and worryingly, despite Mr Lloyd's experience, so was he.

So, after months of waiting for a project, we had to spend a few hours discussing the problem with our supervisor. Dr Wheeler (our supervisor) explained what a moment of inertia is. Apparently, it is a measure of the distribution of mass around an axis, and without going into much detail (I couldn't if you wanted me to!) it affects cars' handling. This is especially important to sports car manufacturers. Suddenly it all seemed much more interesting.

We headed to the four-day residential at the University of Birmingham with little idea of what to expect. It turns out that there are already a number of feasible methods employed by different motoring companies to measure the moment of inertia of a car. However, most of these involve facilities owned by large companies and stationed overseas, leaving small British companies with no facilities to use. And so, the University of Birmingham hopes to build a rig, not only to hire out to car companies, but also to test its own Formula Student racecar. The plan for our project now became clear: to prototype different methods for measuring the moment of inertia, in order to produce an efficient design for the University to work with. Clearly we could not build a full-scale rig, and so a model car was provided and the Physics department kindly lent us some weights, which we used to take measurements.

The residential was enjoyable and productive, and by the end, we were already taking measurements using the first prototype. Thus began months of building prototypes, taking measurements, drawing graphs, refining the prototype, taking more measurements, more graphs. And so, eventually, we had not one but two working prototypes, and lots of measurements and graphs. However, there was now only a week to go before the Easter holiday, and the dissertation length report was far from finished. The threat that we would need to come in during the Easter holiday to finish the report did spur us on, but no amount of frantic work could avoid the necessity of coming in for a few days over the holiday. Indeed, it was only the day before the projects were due to be handed to the assessors that ours was completed!

We returned from the Easter holidays refreshed. However, clearly we had spent too much time refreshing ourselves, and the presentations, which people had promised to write over the holiday, did not



appear. There was only a week to go before Presentation Day at the NEC, and our display stand was not yet complete. Indeed it was only the morning before the presentation day, that we were finally able to run through our routine. However, that short practice paid off, and our assessors were very complimentary, commenting on how much time we must have spent practicing the presentation.

Our display stand was a big success. The bright colours we painted the rig to attract the crowds went down well, although some people were put off by the lack of the free chocolates being offered by

other schools, such as KEHS, who had been working with Cadbury. Looking back, despite everything it was one of the most rewarding and enjoyable challenges of my school career. I would recommend it to any budding engineers who think they can give the commitment and hard work required. Thanks must go to Mr Lloyd, our supervisor Dr Wheele, and the University of Birmingham for providing us with a project at the last moment. The EES is nationally acclaimed and thoroughly worthwhile.

*Matthew Davis*



## Historical Re-enactment

The first event of the academic year, in September, was at Cosmeston Mediaeval Village in Wales. The distances involved in this expedition were such that we required overnight accommodation: this was graciously provided by Mr Davies' mother, who lives in the area. Sadly, only four of us could go, due to the Davies' maternal home having a limited number of bedrooms, but this did enable us to take all four of our war machines. The organisers were very impressed, and are planning to invite us back next year, for which we are considering taking the whole group and sleeping under canvas.

November saw us as historical colour for an evening banquet at the Botanical Gardens. Basically, this meant standing around at the beginning with polearms as some sort of honour guard, and then providing diversion and entertainment. The crowd of businessmen and footballers didn't seem overly interested: they looked up curiously when Tamsin was dragged screaming round the dining room by two burly men and put in the stocks, but most of them didn't appear to notice when, halfway through the meal, Davies Senior and Junior attempted to kill each other as loudly as possible. And while I'm sure other scribes throughout history have had to undergo less-than-favourable conditions, I imagine few of them have had to work in a choking fug of stale cigarette smoke.

In March, things got even odder, as we went to the University of Central England to participate in a teacher training day on behalf of the Midlands History Forum. The idea was to pass on information on the Tudor Military Renaissance, which our disciples could

then teach to their own students at A-Level. Mr Davies felt the best way to do this was to dress them up in basecoats and helmets and drill them. We'd been hoping to put them in formation and then fire on them with blackpowder weapons, but all pyrotechnics and loud bangs were strictly forbidden on grounds of the current international climate. Sadly, the teachers didn't really enter into the spirit of the thing, clearly feeling that it was some bizarre nightmare that they would soon wake up from. Poor show, chaps.



The finale of the year was our TV debut. To mark the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Shrewsbury, an episode of *Battlefield Detectives* was being filmed. This required ranks of photogenic archers, and so we naturally got invited. Running down a steep hill in woollen trousers, in the full baking glare of the



noonday sun, yelling hoarse battle-cries and trying not to fall over is really very liberating. The resulting programme hopefully went out in September this year. If you saw it, remember the guys in coloured jackets at the very back of the charge, looking ferocious but suspiciously unarmed? That was us.

We're out there, we're determined and we're getting steadily better-known across the country. Whats more, we're having an enormous amount of fun in the process. Resistance is futile.

*Matthew Hosty*

## Cot Fund

It's been an exhausting year, but once again we have surpassed ourselves and raised a record total: £10,649.30. All of this is thanks to your effort in setting up events and, just as importantly, contributing your cash. I would personally like to thank everyone who worked on the Teacher Talent Contest, including, but not limited to, Karaan Sabherwal, Saqib Bhatti, Dr Daniel, and everyone who plucked up the courage to perform. Other events this year have included the Comic Relief non-uniform day (who could forget that ape?), sponsored reading by Rem B, and hundreds of other smaller events which helped us toward the total.

This year has been a year dominated by news of the suffering of people beyond our borders, which is reflected in our choices of charities. The money raised has been allocated to numerous charitable organisations over the year, including:

### *Internationally*

The Red Cross:

Helping those in desperate need both here and abroad.



WWF:

Protecting endangered species across the globe.

FROGS:

Friends Of Gambian Schools, providing the basic requirements of Gambian Schoolchildren.

Food for Somalia:

Saving people from famine.

### *Nationally*

Cancer Research UK: Continually searching for ways to limit the effects of, and cure, cancer.

### *Locally*

Freshwindscale centre: Offering support for those with life-threatening and life-limiting illnesses



Thanks for your support and let's make next year another bumper year!

*Thomas Carneright*





# drama

## Shells Classical Play Competition

On a Friday afternoon most sensible people would steer clear of a Concert Hall packed full of excitable Shells: the little chaps are usually keen to get home and, in such vast numbers, can prove very loud indeed. One might, however, make an exception when the Shells Classical Play Competition is being staged. Somehow this bizarre tradition has evolved from a simple excuse for the Shells not to do any work during Latin lessons into one of the more highly anticipated events of the school calendar. Having organised the contest and been on the judicial panel for the last few years, I've learned that the secret of its success lies in its utter unpredictability. If there's one thing you can expect, it's the unexpected. And fake breasts. Probably.

Kicking off proceedings on 24th of January in the Concert Hall was our ever-confident host Jamie Hinds, who, complete with bow tie, wasted no time in introducing us to the first entry. Shell B took to the stage like a duck to water with their entry *Feeling Under the Weather*. The story revolved around Hades trying to kill people because they were living for far too long; his solution was to unleash a terrible plague upon the world. The highlight of the play, however, was Mr Lambie unexpectedly booming "Dime bar! Where?" from the back of the Concert Hall for no apparent reason. Expect the unexpected. Indeed, I quite enjoyed Shell D's entry, *The Leakiest Wink*. The plot (and I use the term as loosely as ever) involved Anne Robinson being sent to Hades. With Anne in Hell, George W. Bush took over her role on *The Weakest Link* - with contestants including Saddam Hussein and the Taliban. The play bizarrely ended with Osama bin Laden

repeatedly screaming "I need curry!" and all the contestants voting for George W. Bush as the Weakest Link.

Most people look forward to Mr Owen's entries and, in its favour, Shell R's *Bush Goes to Hell* began really well with a superb violin introduction and a stunningly well-crafted Cerberus costume. George W. Bush choking on a pretzel and killing an alien cult at the end were moments of hilarity.

Shell S's contribution, *007: Live Twice if You're Lucky*, was far better than I'd expected. Award for the most spectacular prop must go to them for the use of an electric wheelchair! But as Bond informed us, there was no ejector seat for this particular gadget. All in all



"Welcome to Hell..."

this was high-quality nonsense and a great laugh to watch.

Bringing up the rear were Shell T with *Family Misfortunes*, a spoof of the Bruce Forsyth gameshow. It began with a long musical introduction, after which we met the gameshow contestants. The eventual winners included Ozzy Osbourne and Hitler, with none of Osbourne's more common verbal mannerisms being imitated, thankfully. A realistic impersonation of Miss Tudor was also a highlight.

The judges announced a romping victory for Shell B, who scored 46 points out of a possible 50, after which the Shells swiftly flooded out of the Concert Hall in a rush to get cleaned up and catch buses. I'd like to thank them, their teachers, the other judges and also Jamie Hinds for being kind enough to compere the event.

Scott Hancock



## Junior Play - Pinnochia

The word *Pinnochia* has certain connotations. Images of slightly dated Disney films tend to dance before one's vision, along with magical crickets, wishing stars and endearing inner themes of Hard Work and Love, of which Disney is evidently especially fond. Though the picture painted on the programme of this production was not reassuring, the play turned out to include mercifully few of the aforementioned. Instead, the audience was treated to a rollercoaster of a performance involving a highway robbery, unicyclists, token English policemen and whales!

Given the time they had and the male actors they had access to (four), the cast and crew headed by Mr Davies and Miss Asher created an experience that was seldom less than enjoyable. Nose-growing and themes of deceit were scarce, and the cricket made but one appearance (even then it was a fairy in disguise, so that was okay). *Pinnochia* did want to become a real girl, this being the only apparent parallel with the Disney production, but it was really only a vague distraction from all the fun she was having doing things like turning into a donkey and jumping through hoops. Now that's entertainment.

One of the most endearing aspects of the production, and one which is possibly to be expected from any production with Mr Davies at the helm, was the level of audience participation. This varied from the standard dialogue with on-stage characters ("He's behind you," etc), to participation in musical numbers (best kept quiet about), to simulating going to sleep at

the end of the first half and waking up at the start of the second. At every stage, the actors heckled uncooperative members of the audience and led the way.

It's worth recognising some of the onstage talent: Callum McKenzie-Ward played the part of *Pinnochia*'s slightly manic yet loveable father in a quite inimitable style, and liaised with the audience extremely well. His leading lady, Isabel Durbin, seemed capable not only of remembering vast chunks of lines but of accompanying them with infinite circus tricks, dances and so forth. Other noteworthy contributions were from the worryingly innuendo-ridden detectives (Hannah Burn and Helen Watkinson), the magical and ballet-tastic fairy, Imogen Brooke, and the Fox, Alannah Foster, who at one point expertly adlibbed the accidental destruction of her ears.





Equally impressive were the backstage contributions of Jamie Doe, who made sweet boardroom music throughout at roughly two weeks notice, and Mr Boardman, who provided wild and exotic makeup for almost everyone in the cast. Pinnochia was the very embodiment of a ridiculous and, dare I say it, rip-roaring adventure that pushed suspension of disbelief several miles beyond the limit and was all the better for it. The cast and crew have achieved something they can all be proud of, though those involved with the utterly ludicrous chase scenes are probably the ones who should be the most satisfied.

Will Tattershill



## Never Mind the Cheers or Hooting

The tenacious amongst you will know that it's not all over until the fat lady sings, and will therefore have ensured attendance at the final event marking the school's 450th Anniversary celebrations. What was the *piece de resistance* of these celebrations? The fantastic Symphony Hall concert? The brilliant Ball or the celebrity cricket match? No. A clue to this final burst of celebration may be found in the words of King Edward's School Song, "*Never mind the Cheers or Hooting*", which provided the title for a review that delighted its audience.

Our School Song continues, "*Keep your head and play the game*". In such a King Edward's tradition, various members of staff, ably supported by pupils, sallied forth to bathe bravely in the limelight for this once and only celebratory event. Casting reputations aside, those brave thespians usually engaged in the art of teaching displayed previously hidden talents in a series of sketches loosely themed around the idea of school and schooling. The review began with the

formidable Canon Lunt, portrayed by Mr Lambie, and ended with the Living History team, who clawed their way from Room 161 to dash through the key events in King Edward's School's history; a ten-minute portrayal of four hundred and fifty years of which even the Reduced Shakespeare Company would be proud!

Mrs Southworth displayed true talent in the form of Joyce Grenfell at the Nativity Play. To organise an invisible class is in total contrast to the real challenge of handling the onslaught of the Fourths on Thursday afternoons, but Mrs Southworth proved shinningly fit for the task. As for Mr Herbert, he finally lost control and murdered a pupil, the previously unmentioned hapless son of Dr Smith. No, not another docu-soap but an interpretation of Rowan Atkinson's *Fatal Beating*. Surely KES parents would demonstrate greater self-control?

The youngest performers, from the Junior Dramatic Club, showed themselves admirably suited for their *Just William* sketch. True to form, the Science

Common Room kept sex at the forefront of education with Mr Rigby proving that it is not only radios which brighten up his life.

Mr and Mrs Benson gave portrayals of times past, bursting with emotion as were Arif Tamboo and Tom Smith in the *Blood Brothers* excerpt. It was left to the Intermediate Drama Society to show the talents of the giggly girls from our sister school, and to Mrs Gardiner and Dr Galloway to demonstrate that giggling has to make way for gossip. Mr Simpson displayed his romantic side, whilst the most memorable performance of the evening was surely given by Mr Davies, who appeared disarmingly comfortable in his role as James Bond's enemy, the psychotic villain, Blofeld.

As always, credit for KES dramatic performances must include Mrs Herbert, Mr Sendor and their team, who enabled an evening of sketches which provoked thought alongside roaring laughter.

Joshua Fisher

#### The Cast

Master of Ceremonies  
**Mr Edward Milton**

#### Presents

Canon Lamb	Phillip Lambie
Nativity Play	Carol Southworth
Just William	Junior Dramatic Club
Blood Brothers	Senior Dramatic Society
Just an Ordinary School	Intermediate Drama Club
Adrian Mole	Intermediate Drama Club
Fatal Beating	John Herbert & Howard Smith
40 Years On	Elaine Benson & The Living History Team

#### INTERVAL

No Gossip	Gill Galloway & Gwyneth Gardiner
A Day in the Death of Jon Egg	John Herbert
Medical School	The Science Common Room
This Week's Film	Gill Galloway & Richard Simpson
The Miner	Derek Benson
The Spy Who Taught Me	KES Staff
1552-2002 - the Best Bits	The Living History Team

## Senior Play - South Pacific

Another September, but end-of-holiday blues were soon expelled by the appearance of notices advertising the auditions for this year's Senior Production, *South Pacific*. And so began the twice-weekly after-school rehearsals in which Mr Monks ambitiously aimed to train the cast's vocal chords, whilst Mrs Herbert tried (sometimes fruitfully) to pass on some of her dramatic expertise to those playing the lead roles.

Meanwhile, Big School and the boys' Drama Studio were hives of activity each Friday afternoon as members of the Stage Crew from both schools set to work on the enormous task of, well, making it! The set had to be designed, worked out, constructed, rethought out, painted and perfected. The lighting rig needed assembling, cueing and programming. And every cast member needed to have a costume hired and assigned. Time flew quickly and all of a sudden it was the week before, and then the week of, the production. The enormous task was only completed on the Sunday preceding the first night, after a full weekend of non-stop, dedicated hard work.

The cast, under the supervision of Mrs Herbert's appointed stage managers (Anna *Princess-of-Darkness* Newman and Katie *The-Nice-One* Reid), eventually put on four stunning performances, alternating a number of the main parts between pairs of actors on different nights, as has been standard practice in recent years. The lead roles were played by Alex Barnfield, Tom Pile, Nicky Scanlan and Gini Godwin.

The performances became funnier and more outrageous as the week progressed, with commendable

camp sailor performances from Richard Bradish and Taylor Meanwell, superb ad-libbing from Ben Lister, and unbridled audience amusement at Michael Quirke's comment on "someone of your [Giles Urwin's] athletic ability." Rumour has it that a handful of the male cast even managed to insert the word "badger" into their lines with some frequency and imagination. Scripted humour was present too, if you were listening carefully enough. Bloody Mary, superbly portrayed by Maureen Finglass and Nadine Johnson, captivated the audience's attention with beautifully naive lines such as, "Philladellia girl? Wha' tha' mean? No saxy?!", and when Tom Smith appeared on stage dressed in grass skirt and coconut bikini, it was reckoned that the only thing to distinguish him from the hoards of female nurses decorating the production was that he was lucky enough to be fondled by Stewpot!

It was a terrible shame when it was all over, and I can't wait until next year. *South Pacific* was yet another triumph for the Drama and Music departments, proving beyond reasonable doubt that there is nothing like a dame! Special thanks must go to Mr Sendor for all his technical expertise (and random knowledge), to Mr Barry for his choreography (which allowed a bunch of sailors to slap their knees), to Mr Evans for operating the sound (and to Paul Freeman-Powell for fixing it when he couldn't get it to work), and to the KEVI-TV team from the Girls' School for producing the spectacular DVD of the production.

Paul Freeman-Powell





### South Pacific



### Syndicate Play - *Sweet Charity*

Whilst the tendency for some may be to party hard after the dreaded A-levels, to sleep long and generally avoid school and revel in their new-found freedom, a healthily large group of the upper Sixth from both schools decided instead to spend all their waking hours in the same place they'd spent the last few weeks longing to leave. The Syndicate Play *Sweet Charity* proved to be a most remarkable feat, as the Sixth formers had little over a week to rehearse scripts and musical numbers, choreograph, design/build the set and organise sound and lighting before the performance. Compare that to the Senior Productions,

which typically take place in February or March having begun preparations in September (or before) and you'll see just how mammoth a task that is!

Temptation to compromise was ignored, however, and the audience was treated to a wonderfully light-hearted and sometimes downright hilarious production. Ben Lister's superb ad-libbing brought an uproar of applause and laughter: for those of you who were there, just remember, "I'm in a very bad mood because my brother Monty was tragically killed in a terrible elevator accident earlier today," and you'll be chuckling until dawn! Charlotte Skouby played the

part of a girl fed up with men and vowing never to trust them again; however she was unable to resist the charms of either Tom Pile or Alex Barnfield, who played the two lead male roles. All three acted excellently; the school will miss their gusto sorely. The audience were equally taken aback by Chris Guest's outstanding performance as Daddy Brubeck in the Rhythm of Life church.

It was a very entertaining show, and as I watched from behind my sound desk I was struck by the professionalism which was the result of so much hard work. Everyone knew exactly what to do, and knew that if they didn't, they'd get a kicking from the directors, Anna Newman and Becky Bridge, a fear which ensured that (mostly) everything went (almost) entirely according to plan. The orchestra, led by Dave Badger, sounded good, and the Stage Crew (under stage manager Janki Rajpura) produced a superb set which was manipulated with apparent ease through a series of slick and well-rehearsed scene changes.

Finally, thanks must go to Mrs Herbert and Mr Sendor for their support, as well as to both Music departments and the KEHS porters.

Paul Freeman-Powell

## Syndicate Play



**Tuesday 8th July 7.30 p.m.**  
**KEHS School Hall**  
**All Tickets £4.00**

(Tickets available from LOTH Common Room)

## Stage Crew Report

Even though the first production of the academic year wasn't until February, work began in September on the enormous task of transforming Big School from a school hall into an exotic island brimming with sexual tension. The set for *South Pacific* was designed by veteran stage crewer Hannah Proops and immortalised by a "special making-of documentary". And what a brilliant, colourful set it was! The sandy beach oozed sunshine while the palm tree and expertly-designed leaves offered much-needed shade to the red-blooded sailor boys. Although many long-serving members of the Crew had left the previous summer, promising talent had joined, in the form of younger members of the Boys' School as well as new recruits from the lower sixth at KEHS.

Due to the multifarious nature of the option (officially known as Practical Theatre but no-one ever calls it that!) there are many different areas to be worked on in order to produce a particular show. These areas vary according to what kind of show is being put on. After the initial delegation of tasks in the areas of costumes, publicity, set design/construction, lighting, props and stage management, everyone scatters like bees from a hive to work on their own particular area. Essential help and advice, along with irreverence of the highest order, come courtesy of Mr Sendor, without whom none of the school productions would be possible.

As soon as the Senior Production was over, all

attentions were focused on the next two productions. *Take A Break*, this year's dance production at KEHS, required the skilful painting of a backdrop, as well as the setting up of painstakingly difficult lighting sequences which have to be performed live and in time with both the music and dancing! Soon afterwards the KES Drama Studio became host for Mr Davies' Junior Play, *Pinocchio* (yes a female boy!); the set and lighting rig fell into place just in time for the opening night.

Stage Crew's final commission arrived at the very end of the Summer Term in the form of the Syndicate Play, *Sweet Charity*. This time, whilst revelling in a post A-level haze, there was just *one week* to build the set, rig the lights and organise sound-effects and vocal amplification for what proved to be a highly successful show. It was a wonderful way for the many leavers to say goodbye to the school.

At the end of this hectic year I can sit back and look at the three years I've been in Stage Crew and honestly say I'm greatly looking forward to my fourth and final year of service in what is truly a most varied and interesting option, extending far beyond just Friday afternoons and fuelled on performance evenings by pure adrenaline. Fond memories of *South Pacific* remind me of the great sense of achievement gained from putting on such a show. A shame it was over, really!

Paul Freeman-Powell





# music

**Peter Bridle MBE**



Never was an honour more richly deserved than Peter Bridle's MBE, which was announced in the New Years Honours List 2003. Peter joined KES in 1976 and his conducting of the school's Symphony Orchestra is legendary; under Peter's direction it must surely rank as one of the finest school orchestras in the country. But it is not only our two schools which have cause to

celebrate: since 1985 Peter has also conducted the Birmingham Schools Symphony Orchestra. We, and the whole of Birmingham, are fortunate to have enjoyed Peter's distinguished services for the last 25 years. Long may he continue!

*Roger Dancey*

## Christmas Concert 2002

Christmas again: time to head for the Adrian Boulton Hall to listen to the various musical ensembles and choirs of both schools performing a variety of aurally pleasing treats. Well, actually, that's not the whole story. A huge number of pupils from both schools give up valuable time, sometimes several times a week for several weeks, to attend orchestra/band/choir rehearsals, with results which can really be remarked upon.

The first half of each concert featured a selection of the schools' musical groups under the trusted batons of Messrs Monks, Evans, and Argust, joined, remarkably, by one of the pupils, Freddie Thomas. Freddie led the Senior Swing Ensemble in a superb performance of Sonny Rollins' *St Thomas* which must have left the music staff fearing for their jobs!

Mr Evans led the Junior Swing Band's offerings, which were very well received by the audience. Other treats included Concert Band's performances of *In Town Tonight* and the delightfully light-hearted *Christmas Swing-a-long* conducted by Mr Argust, who never did notice that half the percussion section was making it up on the spot! Also featured were the Wind and Brass Bands, led by Monks and Evans respectively. For me, the real gem of either first half was the joint Choral Society, whose rendition of the *Canterbury Carol* certainly made sure I was in the Christmas spirit.

We in the bass section added ho ho hos during the singing of *Jingle Bells*. I felt warm inside as Mr Monks mouthed "bravo", just before the audience began their rapturous applause.

And then came the second half. After an interval in which the stage was set to make way for Symphony Orchestra, the audience was treated to music from *Coppelia*, by Delibes, followed by Saint-Saens' *Allegro Appassionata*. Under the baton of Peter Bridle, the orchestra performed with amazing might, gusto and beautiful accuracy. As is customary on these occasions, the evening was rounded off with a Christmassy encore comprising *Sleigh Ride* and *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*, for which members of the Orchestra dressed up in the traditional Santa Claus hats, some

with flashing LEDs, and the percussionists even wore antlers! These amused the audience when they threatened to fall off while we were playing.

It was another delightful end to an Autumn term, and the Music Departments demonstrated superbly the extent of talent which exists at our two schools. I'm sure many more such concerts will be enjoyed for years to come.

Paul Freeman-Powell



KES Choir knocking down to rehearsal...

## Carol Service - Advent 2002

Birmingham Cathedral was the scene for this year's festivities. The pews were packed, but whether this was due to the Choir's presence or the freezing weather is debatable. The large crowd sent nervousness rippling through the choir because the absence of several singers, who had become caught in heavy traffic, had left us sorely diminished. However, the full body of singers was present and ready at the start of the service, and worship was able to commence without a hitch.

In the absence of Rev. Raynor the service was taken by Joe Osborne's father, Archdeacon Hayward Osbourne. As well as some of Mr Evans's well-chosen seasonal anthems, the congregation was treated to some Christmas favourites, including *Once in Royal David's City*, featuring a delectable treble solo from Daniel King. Audience participation was, as usual, encouraged, but it was (as mentioned before) very cold outside.

Vikram Balachandrar



An angelic looking KES Choir in Birmingham Cathedral



## Choral and Orchestral Concert 2003

With not only the prospect of the elite of the Symphony Orchestra performing, but also perhaps the most ambitious and exciting piece performed by the combined schools' Choral Society to date, it seemed as though the Music departments of both schools had contrived what was to be another excellent school concert.

The concert began with a symphony by Boyce performed by the Chamber Orchestra conducted by Mr Bridle. This was followed by an equally excellent *Capriol Suite* by Warlock, which was flowing and contrasted excellently with the faster Boyce symphony. The orchestra was meticulous in the execution of a complex yet magnificent assortment of pieces. Needless to say, Mr Bridle conducted with the panache of which only he is capable.

The second half of the concert consisted of one of the greatest works of choral music of all time. The *Carmina Burana* incorporates a whole range of different timbres, from the smooth and graceful *'Blanziflor et Helena'* to the brash and percussive tones of the unforgettable *'Fortuna Imperatrix Mundi'* and *'In Taberna'*. *Carmina Burana* is a collection of Medieval Latin and German poems and songs compiled by Orff

to form a coherent yet at times a morally questionable piece of choral work. "When we are in the tavern, we do not think about mortality, but get right down to gambling, which always raises a sweat." Rowdy lyrics, I think you'd agree.

The brilliant performance really reflected the amount of work that the Choral Society had put in to it as it simply overflowed with vivacity. The professionally-sung solos were awesome. The orchestra performed magnificently and the impact of a full orchestra and choir packed onto the Adrian Boulton Hall stage was unbelievable.

Full credit for the concert however must go to all members of the Music staff who put their hearts and souls into the production; Mr Monks, Mr Argus and Mr Evans for their boundless patience in rehearsing the choir, and also Mr Bridle and Mr Evans who accompanied many of the rehearsals.

As my bank of superlatives starts to run thin I would like to add that the Choral Society has been great fun all year and I hope to see many new recruits as soon as possible, so that we can continue to produce such high quality music as we have this year.

Andrew Caddy

## Orchestral Concert 2003



David Badger, enthusiastic soloist

Plenty of rehearsal had gone into the preparation of Symphony Orchestra for this concert, as both pieces promised to be among the most adventurous that the orchestra had played over the past few years. The excited audience packed into the Adrian Boulton Hall awaited Mr Peter Bridle's emergence to begin proceedings in impressive style.

In breathtaking fashion, the orchestra set about the opening *Allegro* of Dvorak's *Symphony No.8 in G*, its refreshing melodies creating a vibrant opening. With the *Adagio*, they brought a haunting atmosphere to the evening. The *Allegro Grazioso* led swiftly into the memorable *Allegro Ma Non Troppo*. Symphony Orchestra handed the stage over to Concert Orchestra, who played a selection of dramatic arrangements, culminating in the vibrant *Entrance of the Sinfar* which left the audience in great anticipation for the second half.

The elegance of Hummel's writing perfectly complemented the skill with which David Badger played the *Trumpet Concerto*, and all of the movements showed the versatility both of the composer and of the players. The lightning paced finish was greeted by a rapturous round of applause from a delighted crowd, who no doubt wished to thank the orchestra for the whole concert. I'm sure the orchestra wished to thank David Badger for his time and effort in preparing his challenging solo, and Mr Bridle for rehearsing the ensembles so completely.

Tom Bradish

## Orchestral Residential Weekend

Continuing the tradition of short articles which outline the brilliant fun which Symphony Orchestra had at Cleobury Mortimer, despite all of the playing we had to do, I would just like to thank all involved for making it run seamlessly and for keeping everyone entertained. The high points - waking up to find the orchestra the wrong way round thanks to late night seat-moving; the legendary Barn Dance - far outweighed the freezing weather and the uncompromisingly large number of rehearsals. We can only hope it's as good next year.

*David Hingley*



## Lunchtime Recitals 2002/3

The Lunchtime Recitals still stand as some of the most popular events in the musical year: they are a chance for relatives and pupils alike to see pupils of the school performing a repertoire of the highest order at one of the most convenient times of day.

The first recital of the year was an innovation, as previously no vocal recitals had been staged: from the newest trebles up to the small chamber choir, the level of showmanship was very high and as there is to be another vocal recital next year, it is obvious that it was a success. The second recital was an opportunity for some of the schools' up and coming junior musicians to perform, and they did not disappoint, putting on a dazzling display of precocious talent. The first proper recital of the year fell to Rachel Gilman and Michael Gardiner, playing piano and cello respectively, and the pair played a stunning set of pieces, their technical difficulty matched only by their beauty when performed so well.

David Badger and Freddy Thomas, old hands at such performances, gave the first recital of the Spring Term on trumpet and whichever instrument Freddy had chosen to play that day. The mix of classical and jazz was exciting, and the skill of the duo was memorable. Maureen Finglass, with her violin, was perfectly complemented in the next recital by James Ellis' skills on the piano. The range of styles encompassed the romantic, the classical, the hauntingly melodic and to finish, some boogie woogie. This eclectic mixture made it one of the best attended recitals of the year.

The Chamber Music recital featured many of the schools' most prestigious talents combining their musicality to give the audience an aural feast of a

lunchtime, and one which was talked about for weeks afterwards. Another recital for young players rounded off the year in style, impressing all who attended with how little we have to worry about the future of music in the school. Thanks must go to the performers for putting in such time and effort in their preparations, but also to their teachers and the Music staff at school for organising one of our popular traditions.

*James Ellis*



*Freddy Thomas a musician for all seasons...*



## Vocal and Instrumental Evenings 2002/3

For the past few years, these evenings have been an immensely popular addition to the school musical calendar, being an opportunity for young and older players alike to perform for relatives in an informal context, and for parents to liaise.

The first of the year was the Vocal, Guitar and Drum-kit evening and a full KES Concert Hall greatly enjoyed performances of all styles and levels of competence. For all of the instrumentalists it offered valuable experience in coping with the pressures of playing before a crowd.

The String evening was also a night of contrasting pieces, with polished performances from the youngest violinists and the oldest mainstays of the Symphony Orchestra. Later in the same Spring Term was the Wind and Brass evening, a suitably noisy affair, but with no less style and flair than the others. The final evening, held in the Summer Term, was for keyboard players, and the performers made full use of the excellent grand piano in the Concert Hall, in combination with the excellent acoustics, to bring the year of instrumental evenings to a spellbinding close.

Giles Urwin



Jack: "I'll only play if you ask me nicely."

## Summer Concert 2003

In a setting so grand as Symphony Hall, a performance on anything less than a royal scale would have been inadequate. Tickets had sold like hotcakes and anyone who had been in on rehearsals knew that the music had been practised until all but the hardest were exhausted. Even among the players there was an excited fervour about the surprises in store.

The opening music from Brass Band set the stage with a rousing *Olympic Fanfare* accompanied by fabulously powerful percussion. Their second piece, *Kraken*, was no less potent, and Mr Evans, conducting, injected his characteristic expressive power. Mr Argust came out to his usual rapturous applause and lightened the mood with a cheerful pair of tunes. This varied opening left the audience in no doubt that the remaining music would take their breath away.

King Edward's concerts are always packed with contrasting music to suit all tastes and this programme was a great example, ranging from the catchy and well known *Sgt Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band* to the explosive *Music for the Royal Fireworks* by Handel. Wind Band preserved their reputation for catchy numbers professionally rendered with *Cabaret* and the Lennon & McCartney number. Next came the angelic lyricism of the KEHS Senior Choir, providing a sterling performance of two spirituals, the solo by Felicity Murphy standing out for sheer clarity and vibrance.

Concert Band played with their usual passion after our two jazz groups. The Junior Swing Band sang out



The Summer Concert is a chance for all groups to put their hard practice in the test



*Mercy, Mercy, Mercy* and *Louie, Louie* in great style. The new Jazz Ensemble unit scored the first of Freddy Thomas's triumphs of the evening with his arrangement of Thelonius Monk's *Bemsha Swing*. Some musical purists may have bristled at the inclusion of the decks alongside traditional blues material, but the seamless ease with which the music flowed should have acted to dispel any such protest. Composer, arranger and performer Freddy Thomas astounded all with his talent and the relaxed manner in which he performed so tremendously.

The interval marked a change in style and the second half appealed to anyone who appreciates power and electricity in their music. From the man in row Z of the Grand Tier to the man turning the organist's pages, all felt dwarfed by the first words of *Zadok The Priest*, sung by the Choral Society with overwhelming power and precision. This power carried through into the equally majestic *Wie Lieblich Sind Deine Wohnungen*, which echoed through the Symphony Hall. KES Choir then sang the well known music of Vivaldi's *Gloria* with their usual might.

The two remaining pieces were definitely a case of the best saved until the end. Freddy Thomas walked onto the stage as only Freddy could, relaxed and

carrying no music, before launching into *Rhapsody in Blue* by Gershwin, undoubtedly one of the most technically difficult piano solos ever written. Gershwin boasted when he first wrote it that most men would need four hands to play it! Freddy didn't, nor did Freddy need any extra creativity on top of what he injected into the music's veins. His performance was nothing less than genius: he and the Symphony Orchestra, plus additional saxes, left us open-mouthed. Special mention should go to Tom Johnson, who performed the terribly exposed saxophone intro exceedingly well. The standing ovation at the end lasted so long that Freddy came back to the stage three times: fitting tribute to the musical masterpiece. A tremendous finale was needed to prevent an anti-climax. *Music for the Royal Fireworks* was played with stirring conviction and an unwavering grandeur fitting well with the end of such a fantastic concert. There was no anti-climax: in fact, a finale came that shook the Hall when batteries of concealed fireworks sparked into life, adding an almost unreal power to the finish.

As always, no concert could go on without Mr Evans, Mr Argust, Mr Monks, and Mr Bridle. The last-named must also receive special congratulation for his recent award of an MBE for his services to music.

Tom Cadigan



Back of look to Concert Orchestra, for they are truly the future of our school's music.





### A Faded Light

A solemn face, gliding silently across the pitch-black street,  
 The scars of many sorrowful and painful years  
 Showing clearly on a broken heart,  
 Shattered by disappointment and deceit.  
 The numerous wrinkles as if a spider's silk web were the  
     man's face,  
 The stressful eyes that once glinted with happiness.  
 Now however the flame has been extinguished from his life,  
 All that is shown now is grief and distress.  
 A beautiful mind, once surging with energy and ideas,  
 Now lies senseless in its hollow case.  
 The stooped walk of the old man, so crooked and bent  
 That one may wonder if an invisible lump of lead were laid  
     in his chest.  
 His light silvery hair wafting in the cold bitter breeze.  
 The wind biting at the face with such fury,  
 That it seems that thousands of razor sharp knives were  
     slashing madly at the exposed skin.  
 The blank expression,  
 As light as the pale moon,  
 Staring up into the wonders of eternity...

*Mansoor Clarke, Shell D*

## The Julian Parks Memorial Prize for Poetry

### Condors

High Cordillera.  
A young couple scavenging for carrion.  
But how majestic the Peruvian Air Force,  
Bold black and white tribal markings  
Glistening pin-clear in the rarefied Andean air.  
Feared by some, worshipped by many,  
Inspiration for a million woven wall-hangings.  
White heads, reddish eyes and naked, pink-grey reptilian necks,  
Flexing and craning to feed their squawking offspring.  
That awesome twelve foot wingspan glides them in lazy circles  
On the strong warm updrafts,  
Steeplingly high above the canyon  
And the miniature white torrent that is the Rio Colca,  
Gushing like gravel-strewn lace  
Five thousand heart-stopping feet below.

### Fighter Plane

The steel hornet of the sky  
Buzzes busily  
But only stings when stung into action,  
Digging the dogfights and flipping furiously,  
Cartwheeling and somersaulting  
Like an acrobat.  
Its streamlined pinions hover  
Endlessly over Lilliput-land  
With its toy-sized cars and ships.  
When it grows up, it is wide-bodied and super-smooth,  
Protecting piles of passengers in its metal maw.  
Faster than the sun, it puts a girdle round the earth  
In (20 hours and) 40 minutes.  
Cosy and comforting for most,  
One day in many-towered New York,  
Two changed the face of history.

*Roly Grant, Shell B*



### La Routine Journalière d'un Cinquième

Le matin je me lève à six heures et demie. Je prends le petit déjeuner à sept heures. Pour le petit déjeuner, je prends des céréales et du jus d'orange. Je quitte la maison à huit heures moins vingt avec ma mère. Je prends l'autobus à huit heures moins cinq. Je rencontre mes copains à huit heures et demie, et je joue au foot pendant une heure avec eux. Au collège, je déteste les maths parce que c'est très difficile pour moi. J'aime l'anglais et le français parce qu'ils ne sont pas difficiles. Je prends le déjeuner à une heure: je prends seulement un hot dog et des frites, avec du lait. Je quitte le collège à quatre heures dix, et le soir je joue sur l'ordinateur après avoir fait mes devoirs. Je regarde aussi la télé: les Simpsons! Ah oui! J'adore les Simpsons. Je me couche à neuf heures et quart. Entre huit heures et neuf heures, je me repose.

*Mark Davies, Rem R*

### Of the Six Million

The air is heavy with the stench of death.  
Now dead, an awful place is this I see;  
Rancour and torture build up on your flesh;  
Silenced by time, still you feel it with me.  
You close your eyes and see them all around  
And you move forward, still there, but daunted.  
The living crouch, with the dead, on the ground;  
Mentally scarred, their lives are now haunted.  
You breathe in deeply, the horror you feel  
Is not just now, but the present and past.  
You're walking on murdered. And it is real.  
You will die with this, the feeling will last.  
It can happen again; I look and see  
All the evil that shares this world with me.

*Robin Joseph, UMH*

## Micate, micate

Micate, micate parva stella,  
quam contemplor quid es.  
supra terram tam alta,  
similis adamas in caelo,  
micate, micate parva stella,  
quam contemplor quid es.

*Mr. Lonsdale's Divisions Latin Set*

Glossary: *micate* - twinkle, *adamas* - diamond

Translation of a traditional nursery rhyme

## El medio ambiente

Vivo en Edgbaston en los suburbios de Birmingham. Birmingham no tiene problemas muy graves con la contaminación pero en el campo circundante, hay un problema con la basura. Por ejemplo hay muchas latas de coca cola y los paquetes de patatas. Los ecologistas que se interesan por la observación de las aves no regresan porque los aves se desaparecen a causa de la contaminación ambiental.

¿Pero qué hago para el medio ambiente?

Bien, en mi casa, creemos en utilizar todo dos veces. Por ejemplo los periódicos de ayer serán el papel higiénico de mañana. También utilizamos el agua de baño para lavar los platos. Nuestro coche tiene un catalizador y usa gasolina sin plomo. También, creo que no se debe usar demasiado el coche. Con mi familia reciclamos las latas y las botellas. Me preocupa por el mundo por mis niños y me gustaría hacer algo para mejorar el medio ambiente pero soy un don nadie. El mundo ha muerto ya. Creo que en el futuro, el mundo estará más caliente y el nivel del mar subirá. También en el futuro, unos animales morirán y unas especies en peligro de extinción llegarán a estar extinguidas. Cuando era pequeño, jugaba en el campo. Ahora el campo está contaminado y no quiero jugar más allí. Esto es la maldición de la avaricia humana.

*Tom Bradish, VT*



## McSporrock's Delight

### The Curse of Sage Brey

The North wind was howling out of the deep black seas, hurling thick clinging salt spray against the rounded walls of the old disused lighthouse. The rain-lashed walls stood stubbornly against the torture. Thick white paint, cracked and peeling, held reservoirs of water against the cold granite blocks. The rain and brine eventually found their way into the base of the lighthouse, reluctantly dribbling into well-worn grooves and crevices, then meandering off the Scottish rock on their way back down to their parent sea. The old glass dome peered down gloomily on the bedraggled village of Sage Brey. Sparse clusters of highland heather, determinedly holding on to the thin top soil, covered the short distance between the crest on which the lighthouse stood and the valley below.

At the top of the old stone staircase, in a room just below the ageing dome, Angus McSporrock stood in the gathering gloom under the low ceiling, peering through the thick glass of a small window. Although less than 50 years old, he already bore a craggy face, his hair cropped short, dry and almost white. Standing erect, his tall wiry six-foot frame swayed gently from side to side, his eyes fixed in concentration on a point somewhere in the North Sea. His left arm, clothed in a thick tweed coat well past its prime, suddenly reached up to a switch. He pressed a large green button and listened intently. Somewhere deep in the base of the lighthouse, an old diesel generator spluttered into life, producing a dull, lifeless thump-thump-thump gently vibrating through the old stonework. Several dim bulbs lit up throughout the building and McSporrock moved purposefully towards the old black phone in gleeful anticipation. As sure as haggis is Scottish, the phone rattled into a fit of rings. McSporrock grabbed the phone and held it to his ear without uttering a word.

A shrill, angry woman's voice erupted out of the ancient earpiece, causing McSporrock's face to split into a toothy grin.

"Damn you, McSporrock! Will you never listen to me? How many times have I told you about M-Power's cheap electricity deals and how little it would cost to install?"

The young trim figure of the Highland Electricity sales girl twisted around on her mobile chair, staring through smart double-glazed UPVC windows up the hill at the foreboding lighthouse and listened to the curse of Sage Brey, the old thumping generator.

"Aye," said McSporrock, "I dare say you have - but why would I want to go to all of the bother of changing my beloved generator for some new-fangled wires and lights?"

"Because," replied the girl, in a sweet, soothing tone, "if you don't, half the residents of Sage Brey will be marching up the hill to smash the bloody generator into a thousand pieces and then bury you under it!"

"Aye," said McSporrock, "I dare say - goodbye!"

The sales girl flicked a strand of hair, that had caught on her voice-mike, to the side of her face.

"One day, one glorious day I will sell him a new electricity supply."

"Aye," said her boss from behind her. "Was that a pig flying past the window, then?"

*Adam Townsend, Rem B*

## Goodbye Lenin

Der Film „Goodbye Lenin“ behandelt das Ende der DDR und die Probleme einer Familie, deren Vater in den Westen geflüchtet war.

Es ist 1989, und es gibt öffentliche Entrüstung und Demonstrationen. Die Mutter, eine idealistische Kommunistin, hatte einen Herzanfall, als ihr Sohn kurz vor dem Mauerfall verhaftet wurde, und sie lag im Koma für acht Monate. Sie ist nach dem Mauerfall aufgewacht, aber sie wußte nichts über die deutsche Vereinigung und ihre Kinder konnten ihr das nicht sagen, weil sie durch den Schock einen Herzanfall haben würde.

Deshalb baute der Sohn die DDR in ihrem Zimmer auf aber er hatte große Schwierigkeiten alte DDR Produkte zu finden, denn die Supermärkte verkaufen plötzlich nur west-deutsche Waren. Sie machen sogar neue DDR Nachrichten und das ist ziemlich komisch. Diese „hausgemachten“ Nachrichten-Filme zeigen eine neue idealistische DDR – so wie es sich die Mutter gewünscht hätte.

Der Film war gut, weil er die Unterschiede zwischen dem alten und neuen Deutschland zeigt und auch zeigt er wie schnell sich alles in der ehemaligen DDR geändert hat und wie schwierig die Umstellung für manche DDR Bürger war.

Dieser Film ist ein großer Erfolg – nicht nur in Deutschland sondern auch im Ausland. Wir würden diesen Film wirklich sehr empfehlen.

*Daniel Martin und Vikram Balachandar, Divisions*

Glossary: *behandelt* - is about, *der Herzanfall* - heart attack, *die Vereinigung* - unification, *der Unterschied* - difference, *der Erfolg* - success



## And So It Ends

I am sitting in Big School facing the same direction as a hundred other people, doing the same thing as a hundred other people. Rows of heads are bowed to exam desks laid out in neat rows and columns. Across the country, thousands more people are doing the same thing. Heads down, pens up, I wonder vaguely if the whole resits scam could have been organised by the stationers, who have certainly had a very sweet deal out of it. The clock's big hand ticks round another minute closer to the deadline. Both I and the teacher who is eyeing me suspiciously know that I should get back to work and stop stretching. But I always relish the opportunity to see people utterly absorbed in something. At the cinema I often find myself turning round to examine the people mesmerised by the picture, lined up behind me like the terracotta army. Here, they're lined up in front of me. I love being a T. There's more suspense on results day, but it has its plusses. Hundreds of heads bow down. I realise that I'm the only ginger person in the room. History, Maths and Classical Civilisation must not attract those of a fiery hue. I wonder vaguely if subject speciality is genetic.

Had I been consciously autobiographical at that moment I would probably have ended up introspecting about the treatment I have received as a result of my hair colour. Children, of course, will single out anyone who is different from usual and pursue them ruthlessly - that I can understand. Children are insecure and it helps them. Looking back, it sort of makes sense. At least I'm a respectable height. It could have been worse. It's the adults who make fun of it that I have never understood - some of the teachers, even. Offhand I can think of four who have either attracted my attention by yelling 'Oy, Ginger' or made a quip about it when I've said something dumb. It sounds minor and it probably is, but it is actually quite offensive sometimes, certainly if you're eleven. If you're from an ethnic minority and someone insults you because of it, everyone else will tell them what a prat they are, and they'll shut up. Being Ginger doesn't seem to have people so fired somehow.

Was that accident of the chromosome (neither of my parents are Ginger) responsible for the harder time I had lower down the school? Possibly. That and the fact that I was a drooling nerd. I shudder to recollect myself aged 14. It is not a pretty sight, mentally and physically. It's tempting to blame my broken household for the fact that I was a cretin, but deep down I know that it's just something 14 year olds go through. I had it worse than some people, which I suppose was lucky in a way again. I could have had spots. Imagine the consequences.

I find myself thinking, in a vague way, of all my various form teachers over the years. Can I relate my mental growth directly to these people? My mood swings, my developing interest in popular music (as I leave the school I'm about as good at the guitar as I was at the cello when I joined - a nice little parabola of failure), my sustained interest in Star Trek, Computers, and all things nerdy? Quite possibly - but do I also have my friends to blame? I've had a lot. Now I've grown up I freely confess there's no-one in my year whom I actively dislike. Some have been nicer to me than others, but I haven't exactly got a 100% perfect friend record myself, so who am I to start talking?

Outside, it begins to rain, heavily. The lights make everything look washed out. The wind picks up outside and seems to rush around Big School in a whirlwind, dopplering from left to right. Is it significant that my school career corresponds almost exactly with Tony Blair's career as head of state? The rain is banging on the window nearest to me very loudly now. Everything should be examined in its proper social context. Does that include me? Am I solely the product of my environment? If I am, how did I manage to stop drinking? A leaf brushes past the window. It was quite large. I see the top popped off Big School like a Pringles tube, the wind howling in and tearing at the desks. Would we keep our heads down and write, or would we push aside our colleagues of seven years to get to the door?

I twirl my pen and think about what a great Bulletin Board article this will make. Ah, the

Bulletin Board. The happiest moments of my school career? I know what Dr Hosty would say to that. He would give one of his polite little "That's not funny" laughs and then say something incredibly tactful which would sound like a compliment at the time but later, analysed thoroughly, would transpire to be a flash and original insult. But maybe deep down he'd be touched. For better or for worse, it's certainly true that over the years I've enjoyed nothing more consistently than doing Journalism of a Friday afternoon. So what, I'm a nerd, I wonder vaguely if the CCF and Leadership guys have been as personally fulfilled as me. I only wrote two or three genuinely good articles but I was definitely improving towards the end there. In spite of the fact that my early articles were diabolical, I enjoyed the early years more than the later ones - there were fewer people and the Cartland Room had not yet been plastic-chairified, so the thing felt more exclusive. These days I seem to be the only one writing for the Bulletin Board, along with a group of remarkably talented (if occasionally apocryphal) Fourths and good old Ozair from the Divisions, who'll be filling my role as resident cynic I have no doubt, as everyone else struggles to produce newsletters in the Computer Lab. How I hate the Computer Lab. It just doesn't have the atmosphere for creative writing. The Cartland Room and the things it represents are slowly giving way to computers on every desk, bright shades of Blue and Green Plastic are replacing wood panelling and leather. Business Buzzwords are moving into the School so that we can become more acquainted with this modern world. I can do it, but I don't have to like it.

A clap of thunder. The storm is surely at its peak now. I look at the exam paper again, compose an answer in my head. Writing always was the only thing I had any talent at. More to the point, I've always enjoyed it - even editing the *Words* bit of the *Chronicle*, a job to which I measured up not at all well, had its moments, when I didn't think too hard about the people who were only doing it so they could add something to their UCAS form.

Ah, UCAS. The Holy Grail of our Education

system. Sitting in the three hour exam (sorry - two one and a half hour exams) for which I've been preparing since, well, my last one (five months), I can't help but wonder if it's all worth it. Sure, I want to get into university, but when someone asked me *why* the other day I didn't actually have any answer for him that convinced me even a little bit. Goodness knows what he thought. Despite the school's apparent emphasis on the extracurricular, have I really been working the last seven years to do well in the exam I'm sitting in now? If I have, why am I writing Bulletin Board articles in my head instead of doing it? If I haven't, then what have I been doing? I have some vague memories about Junior Plays, some of them better than others. I was quite good, or thought I was, back then. What happened to all of that? Was one reprimand from a teacher finally hacked off with my utter cynicism really enough to put me off drama permanently?

I think of Gazelles writing exams in the savannah. Maybe I'm just too cynical generally to proceed with things like that. My articles would certainly back up that one. Secondary School, I realise, hasn't made me less confused about life, it's just made me change the questions I'm now asking myself. I'm now fully in possession of all the facts about Diodes, Puberty and Corinthian Columns, but somehow I still feel, in a certain way, lacking. What exactly do I want out of life? I cannot answer that question. What exactly does life want out of me? Again, blank. Fundamentals of the universe aside, have the memories I've been going over in the last thirty seconds (that's all this has taken, of course - our brains move faster than our pens) contributed to making me a better person? Quite possibly. But almost anything would have made me a better person than I was at 14.

I realise I'm going round in circles. The wind has died down a little. I like to complain - who doesn't? - but somehow I can't think of a reason to right now. The Gazelles are doing the exam papers much better than anyone in here. I pull myself back together. I pick up my pen and begin to write.

Will Tattersdill, History VI





**"Dirty Water"**

James HARTILL (6th)

Anthony Collins Solicitors Prize at  
The "Wrong" Exhibition, April 2003



**"Moon Flower" etching**  
David HINGLEY (6th)



**"Spectral Light" etching**  
Saman ZIAIE (6th)





**"Mechanical Forms"**  
 Jack DONELAN (Remove)  
 Lino Print



**"Mechanical Forms"**  
 Mark LLOYD (Remove)  
 Lino Print





"Autobiography" Paul SHELLEY (5th) Mixed Media





**"Mined Engraving"**

Gareth LLOYD (4th)

Anthony Collins Solicitors Prize at  
The "Wrong" Exhibition, April 2003



**"Reflection"**

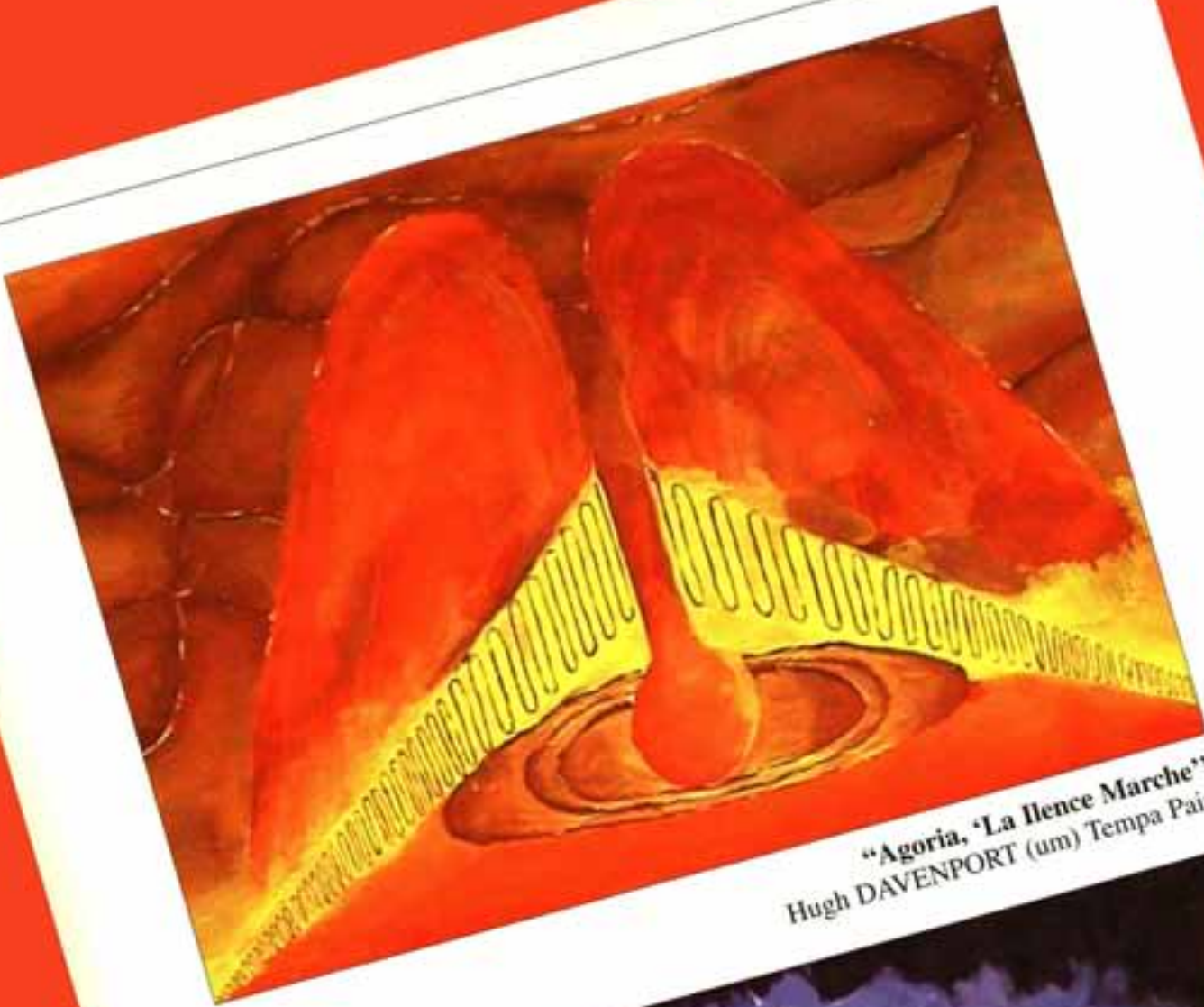
Richard THEBRIDGE (5th)

Mixed Media

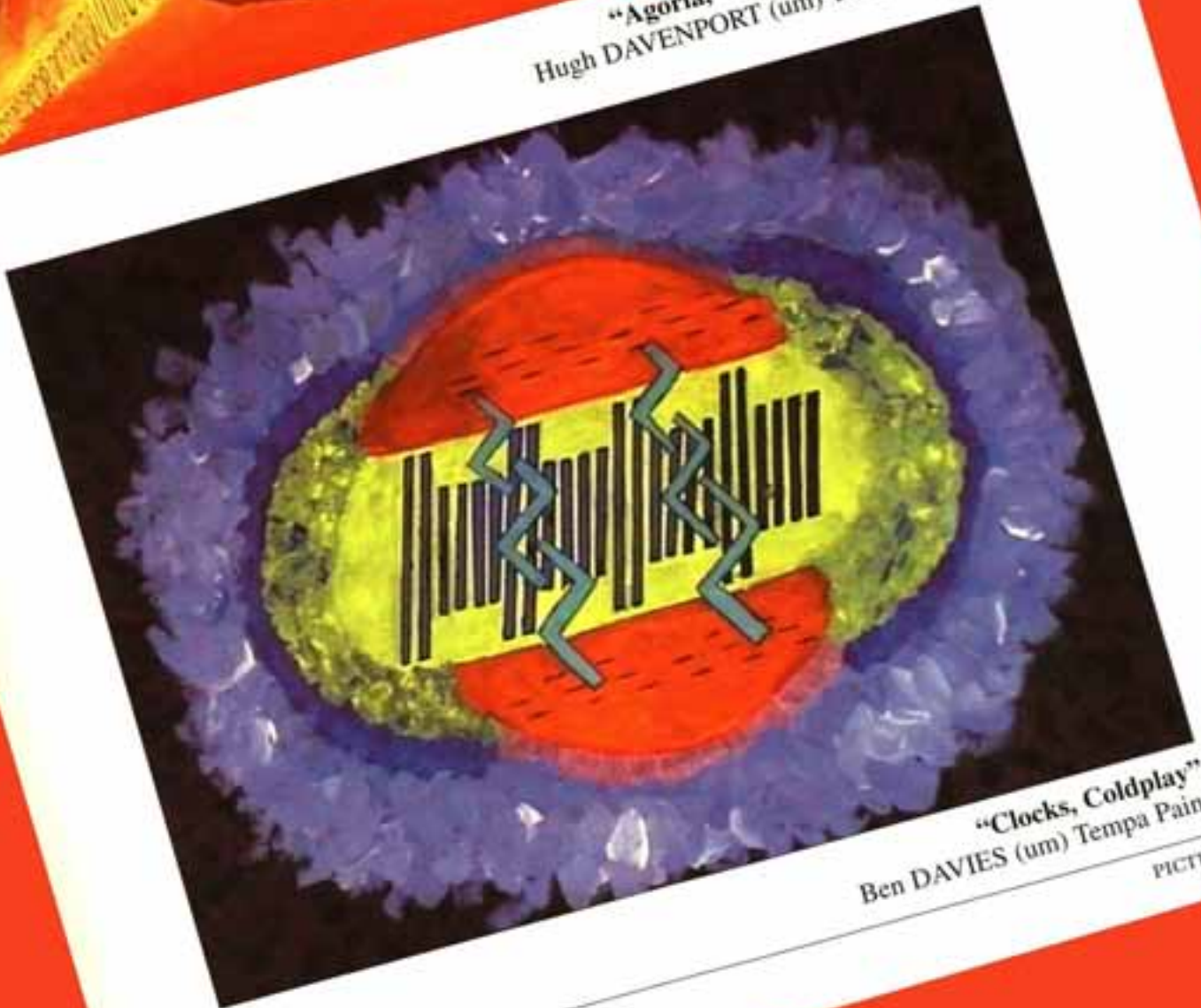


**"Still Life"** Kasun WITANA (6th) Oil on canvas





**"Agoria, 'La Ilence Marche'"**  
Hugh DAVENPORT (um) Tempa Paint



**"Clocks, Coldplay"**  
Ben DAVIES (um) Tempa Paint





**"Still Life"**

Joseph HUGHES (Shell)  
(Tempra + Pen)



**"Self Portrait - Fauve Style"**

Phil NEALE (Remove)  
(Tempra Paint)





## Art Trip to Madrid

We spent our first evening in Madrid exploring the city to see what culinary delights it had to offer. Some of us opted for traditional Spanish cuisine, while some, daunted by this prospect, found some more familiar places; still others got lost and wandered around hoping to remember how they'd got there.

No one, next morning, could have got lost on the way to our first gallery, the Reina Sophia, which was a stone's throw from our hotel. We spent a few hours there, taking in an enormous collection of 20th Century art which brings together modern works from many sources. We were all impressed with the Picasso,

Dali and Miro paintings, among others the gallery had to offer. In particular, the iconic *Guernica*, a moral and political masterpiece surrounded by large groups of impressed tourists, will forever remain engraved in our minds.

Having drawn all we could from the museum, we travelled to Madrid's famous Prado, which held an equally impressive collection, including such great Spanish artists as Velasquez and Goya. This huge collection of both traditional and contemporary art kept us busy for some time.

After a night's sleep we woke early, too early for most, and visited the Fundacin Juan March before a long trek to the Thyssen Bornemisza, whose collection complements both the Prado and the Reina Sophia. Full of Impressionists, Expressionists and other 20th century paintings, it was an enlightening experience. In the evening we were given a taste of Spanish pop music with a live concert in the jam-packed Plaza Mayor.

At the end of it all, we left Spain exhausted but fulfilled. The trip was a great opportunity to eat good food and see some even better art. Thanks must go to Mr Spencer and to Mr and Mrs Andronov for making it all possible.

Nicholas Orme and  
Alex Martin



## Your Future in Europe - Paris Conference 2003

The unsociable hour of 8 a.m. on January 31st saw the start of a trip to Paris which will be remembered more for the difficulties of the journey than for the picturesque Parisian scenery. 80 representatives from KES and KEHS boarded what would prove to be the only Eurostar train to leave London that day, owing to severe weather conditions.

Many hours late, we arrived at the Gare du Nord. Here, despite Mr Ash's repeated warnings regarding pickpockets, it was he who in fact came closest to losing his bag: disaster was only prevented by the quick thinking of Nilesch Shah. Dinner was swiftly devoured before we embarked on the final leg of the journey, by Metro to Gallieni, the station furthest east of Paris. Thanks in part to a Metro strike, we did not reach our hotel until 11.30, where, despite the long and tedious day's travel, a few late night games of pool were enjoyed.

Next day's journey to the conference on the other side of the city was bedevilled by further delays owing to the strike. The image that remains indelibly marked on our minds is that of Mr Ash's desperate attempt to board a train despite the doors closing in his face, forcing him to resort to running after it, shouting something which was thankfully inaudible. Unable to catch a train at all for the final stage of the journey, we were forced to walk to the modern chrome conference centre. Here the beating music made us feel more as if we were at a concert than a conference. Nevertheless, we were ushered into our seats just in time for the start of proceedings.

Kate Sanderson, who presented the conference, introduced the first speaker, who gave a fascinating talk on Britain's role in Europe. Next came former Irish Prime Minister John Bruton, who concentrated on the

Euro. The excitement was too much for Mr Mason, who was witnessed dozing off for a second or two, doubtless exhausted by the journey. The next two talks were given by P.Y. Gerbeau, the saviour of the Millennium Dome, who proved to be entertaining, and Krishnan Guru-Murthy of Channel 4, who enlightened us as to the dismal state of French music. The day concluded with Question Time, including two students talking about Study in Europe schemes.

With the excitement of the conference behind us, our number split between the Latin quarter and the tranquillity of the River Seine. The latter group experienced not only the breathtaking sights of Paris, but also the wind and drizzle that had plagued us from the beginning of the trip. The hardcore group of boaters then made the cross-city journey to the Latin quarter to rendezvous with the rest of the group. Mr Mason's fluent French ensured that Metro tickets were purchased with ease. The only problem was that, after madly rushing underground, we were led to the incorrect platform. A quick dash back up the stairs and then down the next stairwell allowed us to discover that the tickets which Mr Mason had so expertly purchased were now invalid. Only barrier jumping allowed us to catch the train. The remaining time in the Latin quarter passed with few problems.

A suitably late night followed by a correspondingly late morning found us all packed up and wondering where the time had gone. We made our way back to the Gare du Nord, where the Eurostar, bizarrely prompt, enabled us to arrive back at New Street on time.

Thanks must go to the staff present and especially Mr Mason and Mr Ash, without whom the Metro journeys would not have been nearly so entertaining.

*Alex Vakil*

## Shells' Caving and Hill-walking Trip

Many people have questioned why I would choose to spend a weekend down a hole in the middle of a field in Yorkshire with 25 other Shells, rather than planted on the sofa. Hopefully I will be able to answer them by describing some of my experiences during the trip.

We travelled on a Friday afternoon up the M6 to the Ingleton Youth Hostel, arriving rather belatedly. The next morning we were prepared for the famous Waterfalls Walk with a large fried breakfast. Among the many highlights of this walk, the one that stands out is having the chance to climb along a small rock face in order to sit behind a massive waterfall and peer out at the wonderful scenery.

Better was to come in the afternoon, when we put

on sopping wet boiler suits, Wellington boots and helmets with torches. We set off down a gaping black hole and within minutes our boots were filled with water. Along the way we had to cope with some small vertical drops and the odd tight squeeze.

On Sunday the challenge was the Goredale Scar walk, which involved climbing between two waterfalls and crossing a limestone pavement, eventually to reach Malham Cove. After descending to the bottom of a high cliff, we were forced to wade back to the minibus through a bitterly cold river.

Before this trip I was unaware of how many different activities you can squeeze into one weekend but, now that I have dried and thawed out, it was great fun.

*Andrew Halton*



## Senior Caving Expedition to the Vercors

It was on a bright and sunny day at the end of August that a jovial group of intrepid cavers arrived at Birmingham International Airport in readiness for a flight into the unknown. With all the usual clichés covered it was not long before we settled down on our two hour flight to Geneva. Nominally a trip to expand our experience of the caving world, the expedition was drastically redefined on the flight out, primarily by the sixth formers, as one where we might partake of as many local delicacies as possible. The Vercors region is situated in the French *département* of Rhone-Alps, famed for its red wines and blue cheeses, and thus the order of each day was already taking shape: from one sort of cave into quite a different sort of cave.

Our tents are best described as the mansions of the camping world, and we could only be impressed by the fantastic scenery all around the camp site; a perfect setting then for a truly memorable trip. For the duration of the week we were split into two groups, the Fourth years and the older boys finding mutual benefits in avoiding each other. We were joined by our caving instructors from Yorkshire, Tom Redfern and Simon McCabe, plus Mr Boardman and Mr Rees, who kindly drove the hire cars that delivered us to the caves. It was during these journeys from campsite to cave that we became acquainted with the delights of French music, notably in the form of that most execrable station Radio Scoop. With a play list of no more than four songs, three of which were sung by the same artist, advert breaks that lasted for half-hours at a time and no discernible presenter, it soon became the house favourite.

We were all proficient at SRT, a method for abseiling and climbing ropes, from previous caving trips, and so a number of systems were open to us of both horizontal and vertical varieties. The highlights of each extreme were the mammoth Grotte de Gournier with its clear-flowing stream passage, reached after rowing across an underwater lake and several hours of boulder scrambling; and the Scialet Fumant on the Herbouilly Pasture, with six vertical pitches to abseil down. This was caving on an altogether larger scale than that which we had experienced in the familiar Yorkshire systems. I'm sure moments such as the tight rift entrance and first pitch of Scialet Gavet, as well as the 30 metre abseil down through the ivy-covered rock face out of the muddy Grotte des Gauloises, will be ingrained into the memories of all those who completed them.

The final day was to be something quite special. The culmination of our week, this was to be the first exploration that we planned, rigged, completed and de-rigged all by ourselves, with supervision from our instructors. That was the plan until the heavens opened the night before, pouring seven inches of rainwater onto the Vercors in little over 10 hours. Spectacular lightning strikes kept us awake most of the night, and for the first time during the week our huge tents felt a little less comfortable than they had seemed previously. The next morning we found that power cuts had meant our lamps were not recharged, and consequently we couldn't go caving. Much more importantly, we later found that the fridge was also offline, and our beer was warm.

The day was not to be a complete washout, however, as it was decided that we should head up into the mass of grey cloud and visit the Resistance Museum, a sombre concrete bunker built into the very rock itself in memory of the Vercors *maquis*. A more solemn end to the trip than we had envisaged, but memorable in a very different way.

Many thanks must go to CDB and PAR, who did the driving and supplied a plethora of actress-bishop jokes; all the pupils who made the trip so entertaining, notably Richard Bradish with his pithy humour; and of course Tom Redfern and Simon McCabe who were at hand to ensure our safety.

Yuddi Gershon



Now where do we go?

## Divisions' Geography Field Trip

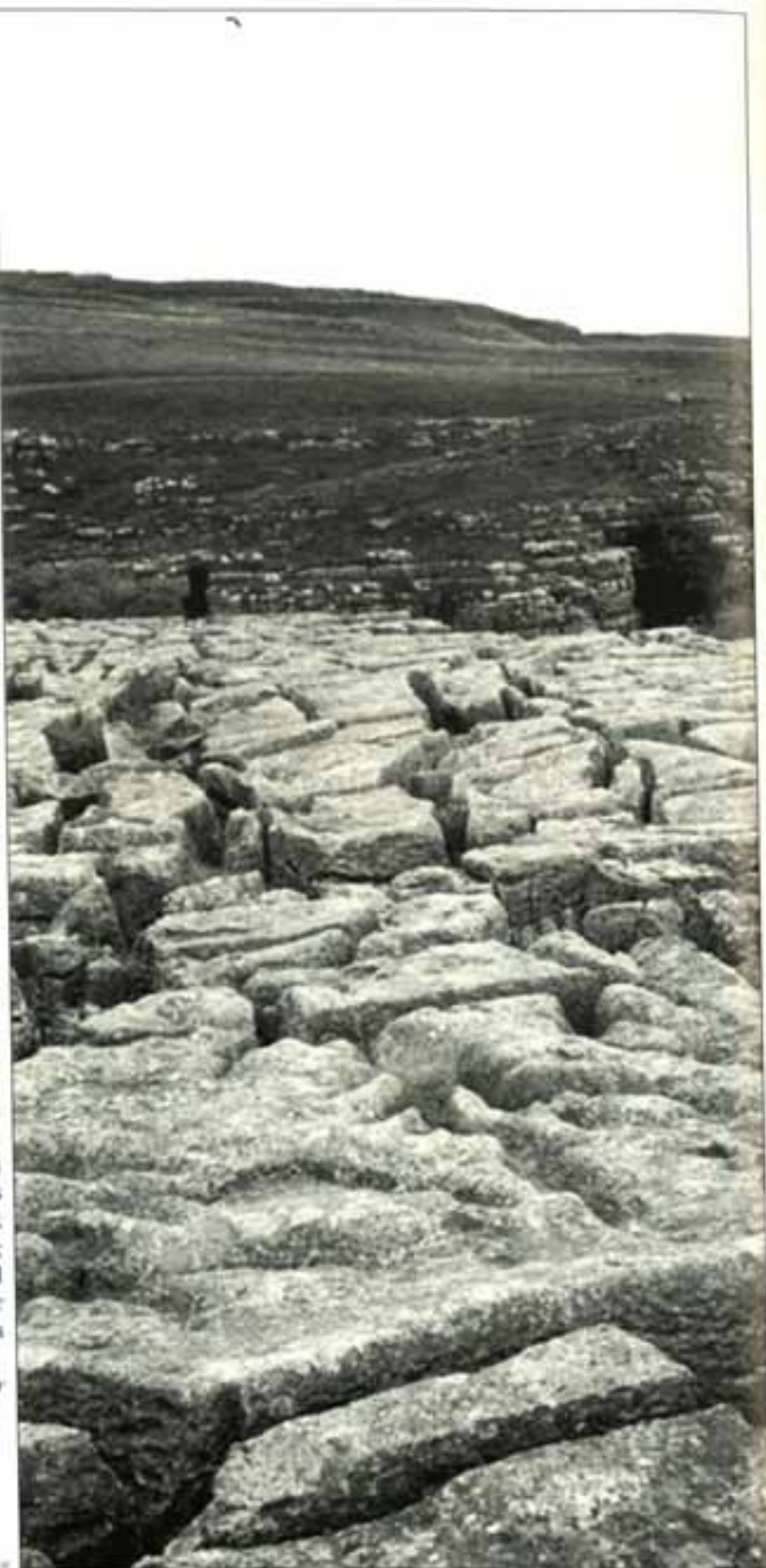
If the study of AS Geography is 'The first prize in the lottery of life' (JAC), a field study visit to the north-west, seaside resort of Morecambe must rank as a consolation prize.

This picturesque region was the location for our AS coursework project. The town's heyday as a Victorian seaside resort is somewhat removed from the scene today. Beaches and arcades remain but are no longer frequented by fashionable society. Where once stood the bustling, grand, art-deco Midland Hotel, there now lies the abandoned shell of the Grade I listed building, somewhat symbolic of Morecambe itself. One began to see how Morecambe had provided inspiration for the comic talents of Victoria Wood and Eric Morecambe, the better half of the famous comic duo.

In previous years, groups have been accommodated in Bed and Breakfast establishments near to a Morecambe night club where it was uncertain whether the '60s Night' referred to the musical genre or the age of the revellers. This year saw KES geographers staying in a delightful sea view hotel far from temptation or disturbance; a pleasant departure from tradition.

Our geographical task was to study urban models and to investigate how residential quality changed with distance from the town centre. Our fieldwork also involved a study of settlement evolution in the village of Overton, which lies on a secluded drumlin. And the educational joys were not merely restricted to human geography. Moving from the concrete slabs of Morecambe we travelled on to the limestone pavements of Malham Cove. This spectacular natural phenomenon provided the basis for a fascinating day's study of physical geography. From sink holes to resurgences, scars to dry valleys; the power of weathering and natural forces provided a plethora of exhibits for the budding geographer. A fitting end to a fantastic field trip.

*Joshua Fisher*



*The limestone pavements at Malham Cove*



## Fourths' Geography Field Trip



As I sit down to write this report I breathe a sigh of relief. The exams are over and the summer holidays are near. The long awaited Geography field trip passed successfully (but not without event) and now the arduous task of writing a four thousand-word project has befallen the fourth year students. Luckily, under the guidance of the sage Mr Albrighton, we are well equipped to face the work.

The group set off for Bangor having placed (nay hurled) our belongings into the coach. The teachers unfortunate enough to be given the job of supervising the students were Mr Albrighton (a genius when it came to physical geography), Mr Cumberland (a specialist at maintaining discipline), Mr Lambie (not much of a geographer but a whiz with the Latin language), and finally Miss Jones (a graduate from the mighty Cambridge).

From the moment we arrived, the groups were off to a flying start. My group was dropped off in Llanberis along with Mr Lambie. We got to work immediately, scouring the street in an attempt to take in as much geography as possible. Richard Sheehan and I, aside from detailing land use in the town, carried out vehicle counts throughout the day. Our data was a little distorted, however, as an old man on a bicycle seemed to derive great amusement from continually going up and down the main street.

Elsewhere in Llanberis Samuel Brooke and Tarsem Madhar put into practice their most natural of talents - talking. Throughout Thursday afternoon they interviewed over 30 trades people and residents. The aim of all the research is to discover whether tourism has had a positive impact on Llanberis. As I write this report I am unable to confirm either way but I have my suspicions.

The time went quickly and before I knew it we were pulling into the driveway of our luxurious accommodation at Bangor University. Each room had a bed, a table and an en-suite bathroom. The field behind the accommodation block, combined with a shiny new football, provided ample entertainment in the evenings. However it was not all fun and games. There was serious geography to be done. This was accepted by the students and completed in one-hour-long sessions each night. The food was fantastic and bounteous, the work less so. Lights went out at eleven, providing enough sleeping time for everyone to be back on their feet the next morning, fit and raring to go. The days passed quickly but efficiently and when Saturday lunchtime came everybody was sad to wave Bangor goodbye. Thanks to the teachers for a successful, enjoyable, educational and well organized trip.

*Robert Condie*

## Upper Middles' Geography Field Trip

We made an early departure from KES in the morning and set off for our first stop of the day, Cardingmill Valley on the Long Mynd. Once there we studied the features of an upper river course and the surrounding landscape, including how humans use the land - mainly grazing sheep, which made interested spectators to our valley side surveying. Our next destination was Church Stretton, a small town at the base of the Long Mynd. In small groups we carried out research into various topics, such as the effects of

tourism (if there was any at all) on the town. The chip shop thought that Christmas had come early as we all treated ourselves to a well earned late lunch! Our final stop on the way home was a point by the River Severn at Bridgnorth, where we looked at the characteristics of a river in its middle course, and the effect it has on its surroundings. We set off back home for KES having had a very enjoyable (if very tiring) day!

*Jack Davenport*

## Duke of Edinburgh: Bronze Assessed Expedition

The 30-mile trip with a 12-kilo bag on your back seemed more daunting than ever as we stepped off the bus at Church Stretton. The weather would not make it any easier at all. We did not know it at the time but, bar two brief periods, it would rain non stop for the entire day.

It wasn't long before we encountered problems. After just a few kilometres people were starting to get blisters, though luckily we were much better prepared this time than we had been on our training expedition. The weather was slowly getting worse and it wouldn't be long before the rain became almost unbearable. To make matters worse there was a steep climb we needed to complete before the heavens opened. This gave us about an hour to achieve what would normally take double that. We failed dismally. When we got about half way, the rain became extremely heavy and we had to seek refuge under a few trees until it eased off and we were able to continue. Despite this early set back we arrived at the campsite in good time, and set up the tent in the half-hour of sunshine that we got. Fortunately we managed to get inside with just a few seconds to spare, although it wasn't until much later that we were able to cook. The night, although mostly dry, brought an icy wind with it, which froze the things we left outside.

The morning was at first dry but as we got going the rain once more became heavier and the gales stronger. Luckily by the end of the morning it had brightened up, giving us a very pleasant final leg. Overall I enjoyed the trip and would seriously recommend the Bronze Award to Upper Middles.

*Richard Edwards*





## Shell D Camping Trip

On arrival at the Kibblestone site we were all shown by Mr Boardman how to put up our tents: I was very lucky in that he chose our group to demonstrate on, putting our tent up for us. It was, therefore, flawless. Next came dinner, which we had to cook for ourselves on a small portable stove. We ate some very good chilli con carne, which everyone tasted, teachers included. We had to wash up our stove before we could go out and explore. A few hours later we had a huge water fight, which was eventually stopped by rain.

After dark, it was impossible to get to sleep as everyone kept getting out of their tents to explore and wake others up. It was loads of fun because the teachers, who could see our torch beams from where they were sleeping, kept coming after us to send us back to our tents. Eventually everybody settled down to sleep. I think my group was the last to go to sleep as we played cards until 2:30 in the morning.

The next morning, after a breakfast of burnt bacon sandwiches, we were given an activity schedule and off we went. Not, however, without incident, as the police arrived to deal with some cows that had escaped from a nearby field. The day's activities included archery, rifle shooting, abseiling, a particularly muddy assault course and orienteering.

I found these activities mentally and physically challenging, but always very good fun. My favourite was either rifle shooting or the slimy assault course. Everybody returned in the evening, thoroughly drained, to eat another sumptuous meal, this time chicken curry with rice, cooked by Gaurav Mehta.



*It didn't say anything about this on the letter.*

In the evening we were all able to toast marshmallows and sausages over the roaring flames of a huge campfire in the woods. Everybody enjoyed this experience, especially the rousing campfire song we sang, which had been composed by members of the form. It was rather rude, but very funny. That night, everybody went to sleep much earlier.

The next day there were a few more activities after which, in a quieter atmosphere, everybody took down their tents and waited for the coaches to arrive back. Some people were happy to be going home. Others, like me, were left wanting to stay longer.

*Mark Heath*

## Removes' Activity Week

Arriving in Wales we were immediately taken on our first visit, to Aber Falls. After a long uphill walk we were treated to some beautiful views and also our lunches, which we ate next to the amazing waterfall. Afterwards we continued on to the Youth Hostel, which was really comfortable despite the somewhat doubtful food.

The following morning the form was split into two groups to climb Mount Snowdon: the faster group was accompanied by a guide nicknamed Gandalf and the other one by the helpful Annette. The first group had five hours of walking up Snowdon and back to the hostel, whereas the slower one was driven for the final part of the journey. Arun Kumar sustained a sprained ankle, yet managed to complete this walk with only the help of a hiking stick.

We were able to relax on the next day as we were doing water sports on Lake Bala. Our time there was spent raft building, canoeing and windsurfing. On the morning of the third day the form was again split in two, swapping at midmorning between the beach and the 'Ropeworks'. This word covered a number of activities, including a zip line, a leap of faith and an assault course, during all of which our safety was guaranteed by our being attached to a rope. In the



afternoon we went to the Llechwedd slate mines, which a helpful guide led us around, answering all of our questions very well.

The trip was rounded off with a form pool tournament on the last night and a speech of thanks to the hostel manager, Paul. On the way home the next day we stopped to visit Conwy Castle, which proved to be both entertaining and informative thanks to the funny guide who gave us a tour. This was a great trip and I would like to thank all three teachers who gave up their time to come with us: Miss Bubbs, Mr Albrighton and Mr Evans.

*Rahul Kumar*

## Peru Expedition

After arriving in Peru we travelled north to a small village called Nugaluccho. This beautiful little settlement was to be our home for five days. In that time we built an adobe house for a live-in teacher at the school.

Months previously, the locals had made large mud cuboids to act as bricks, and now they were dry they could be put together. These adobe bricks were heavier than they looked and, in the sweltering heat, the team had to corner the edges with machetes, move them to the building site and put them into place before using wet mud to fix the bricks together.

We met some great people here: Don Antonio, the mayor; Pedrico; and Coke-man, a builder who made us promise to e-mail him. We travelled away from the incredible beauty of the village on more incredibly uncomfortable buses to Rica Playa (or rich beach) near the coastal town of Tumbes.

Our training weekends walking in Britain, during the worst storms the country had seen for decades, had failed to prepare us for walking in Rica Playa. We hadn't really known what it would be like to walk with the baking sun above us on sandy paths at 30°C in the shade.

During this short trek Kapil Sahnan fell ill, and this, together with the midges and mosquitoes, shook the team a bit. However, a solid day's recuperation in hammocks at Jose's (our guide's) house, and voluminous amounts of insect repellent, allowed us to get back to full strength.

Moving from Tumbes to Huaraz, a large mountain town at 3100m, was a bit of a shock. It was freezing cold and the altitude made you breathless after even the least exertion. However, it was here that the trip was to come to a climax. Not only were we entering the last phase, but this was what we'd been looking forward to for months. We had arrived in the Andes.

After buying copious amounts of food, we set out for a few acclimatisation treks. Despite two members of the team suffering from acute mountain sickness and the whole team being slightly under the weather,

we climbed 600m over tough terrain (and up a waterfall) to reach a huge lake, Laguna Churup, at 4400m. Here, the snow-capped peaks towering over us raised our spirits.

Back to Huaraz for a good night's sleep, then we left on the next day to start the big five-day trek which would, with luck, see us beat the School altitude record. Though the walk started well, and we traversed the 4750m Punta Union high pass on schedule, we encountered problems on the downhill.

Acute Mountain Sickness and diarrhoea had hit Rakesh Chauhan, and, although we'd all had these problems at some time, his condition was a cause for concern. On the morning of the third day, our leader decided we should get off the mountainside as quickly as possible. We completed, in 6 hours straight, what had been scheduled to take 12 hours over two days: over 30 km.

Rakesh got to a hospital and, after two nights, was well enough to complain about Peruvian TV. It was this incident which demonstrated that we were a team. We had all worked hard through a physical and mental ordeal, and now we could joke about it. Lots of pats on the back, rounds of poker and T-shirt signings later, we were on the way home.

My thanks to the team for an experience I'll never forget, and to Stan Lampard and Davie, our leader from the company World Challenge, for ensuring our safety. Viva Peru!

*Gopal Rao*

## Ski Trip to Canada

We arrived at Heathrow at 6 a.m., pausing only to satisfy the Army security checks which encircled the airport and convince them that Mr Tinley really was a member of our party. Air Canada took us to Toronto, where we caught our connecting flight to Montreal after some tense moments when a member of the party managed to mislay his passport and wallet. It was extremely cold when we reached our glorious accommodation at the Comfort Inn. We had our first dining experience at Moe's, which provided us with the opportunity to meet our tour rep, Max. "Hello, my name is Max, still Max, always Max" (in a French accent).

Back at the Comfort Inn the older members of the party were pleased to see signs of female life, but before acquaintances could be made we were ushered to our rooms. Waking early next day, we beat the rush at the ski hire shop. The daily bus journey took us through the beautiful scenery surrounding the resort, with Mount Tremblant in the background. We arrived at the slopes wearing what appeared to be full protective body armour to combat the minus 30°C temperatures. Finally we met our instructors, who had been given the unenviable task of trying to control us for five days.



The skiing itself was excellent: the resort provided us with expansive slopes and well-defined, well-groomed pistes as well as picturesque views. Queues were short and the snow fresh: this was the best skiing experience that I have ever had. The only drawback was the arctic conditions we encountered, although it did warm up to about minus 9°C by the end of the week! Everyone's skiing improved at a heartening rate, even that of Mrs Durman, who is the only person I know to have fallen off a chair lift on flat terrain! It was with tears in our eyes that we said farewell to the instructors.

The après-ski activities around Tremblant included bowling and swimming, and were most enjoyable. Our best evening was spent accompanying to dinner a group from a girls' school. We followed this up with bowling, allowing budding Casanovas in the group to get better acquainted with their new friends.

Our stay in Tremblant was especially pleasurable thanks to the lovely hotel receptionists, who showed us typical Canadian hospitality, and the not-so-friendly night security guard, who kept us out of trouble! Alas, we had to move on to pastures new, Niagara Falls being our next destination. Following the visit we spent a great evening eating dinner overlooking the falls and then returned to the hotel, where we discovered that the girls' school from Tremblant had followed us. It must have been our magnetic personalities!

The next morning saw a bus journey to Toronto, where we visited North America's largest shopping mall and the CN Tower, which was amazing. Dinner at another mall signalled that the end of the holiday had arrived, so we made our way to the airport for our flight back to England.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of staff for making the Ski Trip 2003 to



Mount Tremblant

Canada one of the best experiences of my life. I'm sure that this is a view shared by all those who took part. It is with sadness that I must bid my last KES ski trip farewell, and I hope that Austria 2004 will be as successful and as enjoyable.

*Dave Conway*

## Climbing Weekend in Hathersage

The crag which we went to is the largest in Britain, stretching for miles along the top of a valley. On arrival, our instructors gave us a safety briefing about keeping our helmets on at all times; then they and Mr Storey started to rig up some routes on the crag. When the routes were ready we were split into two groups. All of the routes were difficult to climb, but the hardest required you to put your fingers into a crack in the rock, lean back on them, and walk up. Another climb in that area was a giant crack, which you had to go into and manoeuvre up to the top of.

The next day, after having breakfast and tidying the hostel in which we were staying, we joined up with our instructors in an abandoned quarry. We spent the morning climbing here and getting bitten by ants and midges. In the afternoon we moved to a disused railway bridge, which had a 35 metre drop beside a river. After the instructors had told us about safety on the bridge and how to abseil, we queued up and waited for our turn to go down. About 10 metres down, the wall finished and you went down the rest of the way without a wall to go walking down on. After spending about 2 hours on the bridge we packed up and left for home.

*Tom McDonnell*



## Snowshoeing Trip, Pyrenees 2003

To begin with, we would spend most of each day snowshoeing, then return in the evening to the small yet exciting town of Luz St Sauveur. The first few days followed this routine until we were ready for the big thing: the two-day expedition.

Our third day was very memorable. Our group leader, Julian, led us on a short walk into a woodland valley. It was extremely beautiful and white: I felt almost guilty about leaving our marks upon the smooth, crisp snow. We found a clearing and spent most of the day there, lazing about and making slides in the snow.

But the two-day expedition was the highlight of the trip for me. The walk up to the refuge was only about five miles, but, owing to the weather conditions, the avalanche warnings and the steep uphill slope, it took us almost the whole day to complete. It was enjoyable, though it was certainly the longest, toughest challenge yet.

In the few remaining hours of daylight after reaching the refuge, we dug a huge snow cave to sleep in for the night. Of course, not everyone slept in the

cave because of the comfort issue: but thanks to the insulating properties of snow, those in the cave were actually warmer than those in the (rather draughty) refuge!

Our journey down on the next day was a lot faster than the ascent, and we were all tired but triumphant when we reached the bottom. That night we celebrated by having flan-eating and apple-bobbing contests in the 3-by-4-metre space we called our kitchen!

On the last day Julian decided to test us on the skills we had learnt. First came a written test on avalanches and how to use a transceiver, then a practical test on identifying different animal tracks. Then, last of all: a snow sculpture contest. There were quite a few entries worthy of the prize but the winning entry was a heart-warming model, by Chris Wallace, of his dog.

This trip was one of the best I've been on and I would recommend it to anyone, whether it's their first or fortieth time in the tennis-racquet-like footwear that are snowshoes.

*Michael Scoins*



## KES Rugby Tour to New Zealand and Fiji, 2003

Arrival in Auckland at five in the morning allowed us to see the sunrise from the top of Mount Eden before exploring the city. Two days later, the teams were in action against Sacred Heart College, an Auckland Premiership Schools side.

Our anxiety in taking the pitch after only two training sessions was exacerbated by a fearsome Haka, the traditional Maori war-dance, performed by the opposition. This was one of three performed in matches against us, a fantastic thing to see and very motivational! Both games unfortunately ended in defeat, though the First Team's half hour of being in the lead was encouraging.

After passing through the sulphur-ridden town of Rotorua, where we encountered a traditional Maori show (with Vidu Shanmugarajah as our chief), we moved on to Palmerston North, a rural town further south. The majority of players were billeted on farms and took the chance to do some quad biking, motor biking and even hunting. The games against Palmerston North Boys' School provided two more losses, though the First Team led at half time, only to squander their lead in the second half.

Our next port of call was the windswept, rainy capital, Wellington. Here we played Upper Hutt College: a team full of giants, mainly from the Pacific Islands. In two tight contests both KES teams lost by five points. From here the South Island and the extreme sports capital of the world, Queenstown, beckoned. A day stuffed with helicopter rides, white water rafting, and, for some, bungee jumping, was capped off by karaoke at a pub.

The following day brought an eerily sleepy coach journey to Christchurch and our next billets at St Bede's; this was to be our first scalp! Despite a Second Team loss, the First Team ground out a 7-5 win! This was our last game in New Zealand and to leave the



*The Rugby Boat*

country which plays "the hardest schoolboy rugby in the world" (RWJ) with a win filled the team with confidence for going to Fiji.

Nadi, Fiji's capital, provided a vast contrast between our luxury resort and the poor surrounding area. Our game against Nadi Muslim School was an eye-opener, both culturally and socially. Children flocked from miles around at the prospect of a makeshift game of rugby on the touchline, to collect autographs, and, of course, free kit.

The game itself was also a learning experience, as we saw the adventurous and expansive Fijian style of playing rugby. In the Second Team game a flamboyant Lee Raji try was the highlight of a narrowly lost game, but the First Team game provided our second win, 11-0. Afterwards we returned to the hotel, though our coach driver managed to take a large proportion of Nadi's power lines down in getting there!

Our penultimate evening was spent on the party island known as Beachcomber. After a heavy night of dancing on the sand and a contentious crab race (in which Hassan Bhatti won \$200) some took on jet skiing, snorkelling, scuba diving and even crazy golf. All this on an island which it only takes three minutes to walk around!

The final night in Fiji was spent devouring our end-of-tour barbeque, a true feast. Messrs Porter and Turner took the theme of colourful dress a bit far, as they, James Metcalfe and Robert Hollyhead donned sarongs.

The tour provided the chance for new friendships to be made and existing ones to be strengthened and we were all able to marvel at the love of rugby we found in New Zealand and Fiji, as well as at the scenery and the wealth of wildlife.

*Harry Hecht*



*The Haka*

## Junior Cycling Tour to Normandy

After an overnight ferry journey we arrived in Saint Malo, to begin the cycling immediately. A very flat ride brought us to our first hotel, and, after a few crêpes, we were all ready for some much-needed sleep.

The next morning we travelled to Mont St Michel, a village built on a hill. The church on the summit and streets radiating out and down made it look like Diagon Alley from *Harry Potter*.

From there we had a much hillier ride to the next hotel, near to which was an open-air swimming pool. Almost everyone took the opportunity to have a dip in the pool, or even in the nearby waterfall.

The next day was one of the hilliest of the trip. Many of us felt the heat and strain during this journey. When we finally arrived at our next hotel we didn't stay for long as, yet again, a swimming pool beckoned.

We were ready to remount our bikes again after a good night's sleep. This day's cycling brought us into some woods, which we were able to explore. There were other activities to be found there, such as crazy golf, feeding horses and being chased by dogs.

We headed for Bayeux the next morning. On the way we visited an American war cemetery and the German batteries which had been positioned there.

Finally, we arrived in Bayeux, where we visited the tapestry and had dinner.

The last day of cycling took us all the way down the coast back to Saint Malo, where we ate dinner and visited a fair, before returning home on the ferry after what had been truly an amazing holiday.

*Rory Leadbetter*



## Travel Scholarship to Prague



*Traditional Czech cuisine*

It would take too long to list all of the things that we did, so we have decided just to mention some of the highlights:

An extremely interesting day was spent in the Jewish Quarter (Josefov), an old ghetto in the top left corner of the Old Town (Staré Město). This quarter is filled with beautiful synagogues, now all converted into museums devoted to the history of the area. When reading this history one is filled with a sense of wonder that anyone survived the conditions imposed on the ghetto by the Nazis. Both of us were profoundly moved when we saw the pictures of, and drawings by, the small children in Terezin, the local concentration camp.

However, the main focus of our trip was galleries. Nineteenth and Twentieth Century art fills six enormous floors of Veletržní Palác and we loved all of it. Liam enjoyed the early Twentieth Century paintings, especially those by a Czech artist called František Kupka, who, along with Kandinsky, was an early exponent of abstract art in Europe.

In another gallery we were stalked by the curators around an exhibition of Twentieth Century German photography, which, as the leaflet said, "shows by way of example of selected photographs the transformation





of the image of the human body in Germany since the 1920s till today". It was often fascinating, sometimes funny (imagine a picture of two men sitting in a cluttered room, wearing nothing other than boxer shorts and Star Wars storm trooper masks).

Yet we did not simply go to exhibitions of modern art. In the Convent of St Agnes, we saw an array of Gothic art from all around the Czech Republic. Unfortunately Rik found this slightly oppressive, but we can now say that we have seen an incredible number of Madonnas and Pitas.

Pizza! Yes, we enjoyed fantastic pizzas too. It may seem odd that we so relished something that can easily be purchased here, but when you've only eaten hotdogs, dumplings and burgers for four days, you're very glad of a pizza.

The final piece of the cultural picture was a concert by Placebo. This, like the bars we visited, was an excellent way of mentally winding down after so much walking around the city, both getting between places and generally exploring.

We recommend taking the opportunity, when it arises, to apply for a travel scholarship.

*Rikhi Ubhi and Liam Mackay*

*Vita Gahubul*

## Divisions' French Trip to Loches



school. However, the visits to various Chateaux, including Leonardo da Vinci's, and a trip to Disneyland made some amends. The topics covered in the lessons were vastly different to those to be seen on the AS syllabus, ranging from police novels to pirates.

Our experience at the school, however, was eclipsed by the chance to become part of a French family for a week. We were all pleasantly surprised by the warm reception we received in Loches. Our evenings varied from discussing global issues with our host families to eating ice creams in the town centre. We also made great friends with many of the other people studying in Loches. In conclusion, I would strongly recommend that anyone studying AS level French should contemplate taking up this opportunity. The experience is one not to be missed.

*Omar Shafi*

The trip to Loches was one of the most pleasant and educational experiences of my life. The aim of the trip was to improve students' French whilst also providing an enjoyable holiday, and it certainly succeeded. I feel that the trip has made me a more independent and confident person as well; we were, for instance, expected to make our own travel arrangements. When we got to France we were immediately immersed in the local culture as we stayed with French families whilst attending the international language school in Loches.

The school itself was a mixed experience. The structure of the week was one of lessons in the mornings and activities in the afternoons. Some of the "fun activities" planned were actually a bit tedious, such as the "fun and amusing" team games on the first afternoon, but the staff were doing their best to accommodate the wide age range of pupils at the



*The Porte Royale in Loches*

## Divisions' Biology Field Trip 2003



*Exciting discoveries on the rocky shore*

If the prospect of four day's intensive Biology fieldwork sounds a little masochistic, allay your fears now. The trip that threatened to put us off Biology forever turned out to be both educational and enjoyable.

Our four-day biological extravaganza began with a trip to Gilfach Farm, an institution dedicated to preserving traditional organic farming methods. Our brief tour of the land introduced us to new insects, birds, wild strawberries and other weird and wonderful things, whilst at the visitors centres we reacquainted

ourselves with ice-cream. From here we then got back on the coach, and set off for our accommodation at Aberystwyth University.

If you haven't sampled the delights of student rooms at the University of Wales you probably shouldn't, and if you have, you probably should try and forget. The building was reminiscent of a prison, and the rooms little more than cells with desks, but the food was good, and a large common room combined with Astroturf football pitches meant we spent little time in our rooms anyway.

Our first day in Aberystwyth was spent on the rocky shore, carrying out transects and collecting specimens for later lab experiments. This proved much more enjoyable than we had imagined, and the incoming tide threatened to soak, and indeed succeeded in soaking, a large number of boys up to their waists. The afternoon revolved around lab experiments with specimens we had collected on the rocky shore, a particular favourite being crab racing, although the precise scientific value of such investigations was and still is unclear. Our second day involved more of the same, albeit on the shore at Borth instead. By now we had settled into the routine of work, and so completed our transects quickly, giving us a good hour or so to go crab hunting, with some success.

The third day was used to complete lab work, after which we had a brief rest in the town, and then returned to prepare ourselves for the final day and our return to Birmingham. After loading the coach the next morning, we visited the Dyfi estuary for more crab hunting, a sand dune transect and an amusing foray onto the treacherous mudflats, inevitably resulting in some rather unpleasant laundry.

The trip was a complete success, and the balance between work and play was achieved admirably. Many thanks go to all the teachers that accompanied us, especially DCR who organised what could be the last trip of its kind. It would be a great loss to A-level biologists if this were to prove our final excursion to Aberystwyth. But then again, maybe the crabs would enjoy the respite.

*Matthew Siddons*



## Parents' Association Travel Scholarship: Switzerland 2003

Taking on a country like Switzerland was quite a challenge, and, with a limited budget, definitely not a trip on which we could afford luxuries. We flew from Birmingham to Geneva on 1st August and were greeted by high temperatures and festivities. The Swiss were celebrating their national day. Initially we were shocked by the high food prices, but soon settled down to enjoy the celebrations.

The next day, we moved on to the next town on Lake Geneva, Lausanne. From the museum there we learned about the history of the settlement, but were frustrated by the lack of cash machines, despite Switzerland's fame for banking.

Then the walking started. From Lausanne we walked through rolling vineyards and small villages. The next day this scenery was replaced with mountain passes and the sound of Swiss cowbells. The only respite from the burning sun was a friendly chat (in French) with a lonely farmer, who offered us drinks and cake in his house on a mountaintop.

After a day of letting our feet recover, and an overnight stay in a picturesque village untouched by tourism, we carried on our mountainous exploits, ending up in the ski resort of Adelboden a couple of days later. From here we became true tourists for a few days, travelling by train to Brig, with its unusual three-towered palace, and then Lugano in Italian-speaking Switzerland. Lugano was, apart from the heat, quite a contrast to the rest of the country, reminding us of just what a multicultural country Switzerland is.

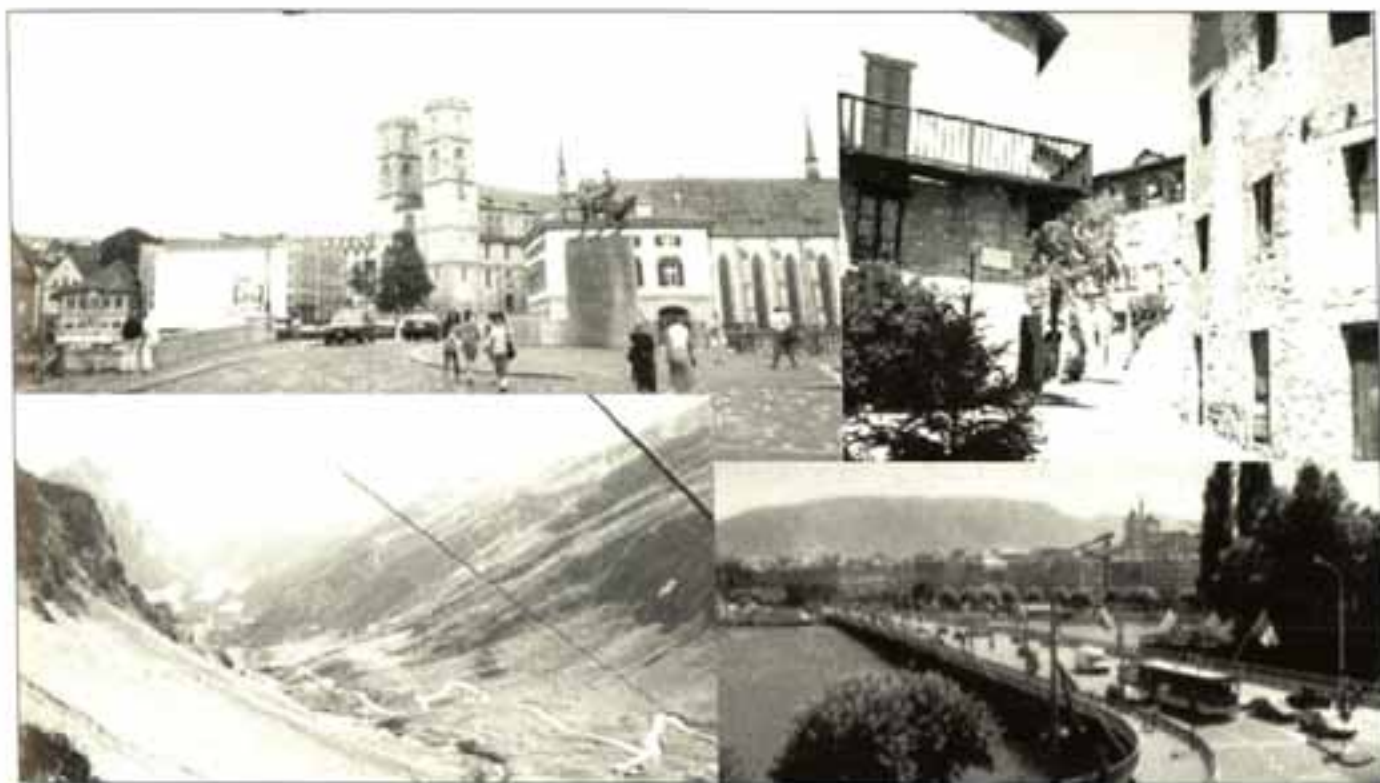
The final walk spanned two days and took us across an alpine plain over 2000m above sea level. From that altitude the views were unparalleled, and we saw some of the rarer animals, as well as plenty of marmots. The night during the walk was spent in a mountain hut with about 30 other guests and was an interesting experience: the shower was a rocky pool with a jet of ice-cold water spraying into it.

With all our walking over, it was time to take off our boots, relax and see the sights. First Zurich, with its bustling streets and many banks. Our first impression of Zurich was the station, which is built on an altogether different scale to anything we had seen before. With over 30 platforms, each 1/2km long, on various levels, just finding the exit was a challenge. Zurich itself was extremely busy for a city of only 400,000 inhabitants, but the churches and cathedrals were spectacular, and we spent a very interesting afternoon there exploring the Swiss National Museum.

Bern, the capital city, was, however, more relaxed. The long cobbled streets were beautiful, and the bear pits were something quite unique in all our travels. As it was our last night in Switzerland, we treated ourselves to a meal in a restaurant and sampled some of the local alcohol.

With our funds depleted, we returned to Geneva and reluctantly left Switzerland. Despite having spent two and a half weeks there we still hadn't even scratched the surface of all there was to experience in this wonderful country.

*Daniel Martin and Vikram Balachandrar*





## The Levett Spy

"So, gentlemen, this sheet is for you to fill out anonymously, offering me possible ideas of how to improve and spice up Levett life." As Mr Roll handed out the sheets, I already knew what my suggestion would be. When everyone had written down his thoughts, the Levett housemaster collected them up and began to discuss some of the points that had been made.

"Ah, yes. It would be good to mix up the different age groups within the house. Good point. Ah, this one is also a possibility: incorporating a triathlon option in the House." Sifting the brain children of the Levett upper school, he came to my sheet. "I recognise this handwriting. Let's see what Mr \*\*\*\*\* has to say."

Now, I never really was into the sporty beef thing, and have tricked the system somehow or another most years, meaning that I have never actually had to do anything for the House. "I think we need to spark some more rivalry between the Houses. What exactly do you mean by that, Mr \*\*\*\*\*?"

I explained how the mediocre mid-section of the Cock House table was clearly not being given enough incentive to beat the elite houses at the top. "I mean, I don't know ..... like, perhaps, we could spy on other Houses' meetings, to bring them down somehow for our own benefit....?" I suggested.

"Hah. OK then. Why don't you, instead of turning up to the House meeting next week, go to a Heath House meeting instead?!"

Fine. So I did.

My first non-Levett experience saw me in Heath's full House meeting. Somehow, not one person in the entire House noticed that I wasn't in Heath, despite my actually doing a House talk for them. Not the most inconspicuous thing to do, I know. But such was the allure of espionage that my missions continued, leading to the discovery of various tactics used by other Houses. We had the upper hand.

Owing to my rather haphazard approach to stealth the realisation that there was a spy about slowly became common knowledge. I discovered that other Houses had begun doing the same, sending their men away to gather information. By now, a sort of black market in information had been established, which I'm sure proved beneficial to many Houses. Towards the end of my spying career, I'd built an alliance with the spies of Evans, whom I persuaded to go to the home of Jeune's Captain and half-inch their Minutes book which dates back to the 1960s, in exchange for a couple of pints down the pub. I intend to make up a team and appoint a new Captain for the Information Gathering section of Levett before I leave the school. It is my dream that one day espionage will become a major underlying feature of the House system.

I end my little story with this message to Jeune: to get your Minutes back, you must agree to switch places with Levett should you come higher than us in the Cock House OR IN A COMPETITION OF OUR CHOICE.

*Tactical Espionage Commander \*\*\* \*\*\*\*\**

*Following this article, the Levett Spy was ambushed by those filthy Jeune-ies upon emerging from the shower. Our brave man lost the Minutes Book to an ambitious and ruthless attack but, in a stunning display of bravado, the half-naked hero managed to swipe a Prefect tie from his assailant, and has it to this day as a permanent monument to his courage.*

E.



## Heath

**FIVE TIMES CHAMPIONS.** What more does this report need to say? Once again Heath stormed to victory, this time by a massive 55.5 points. Was it expected? To be honest, yes but probably not by such a large margin.

Once again the atmosphere in the USCR on the last day was tense. We all gathered to hear tales of heroic acts and to cheer on even the slightest effort made by the smallest Shell for our House. Tom Pile (joint House Captain) made a stirring (drunken) speech which, whilst rambling and virtually incoherent, still prompted us to clap wildly. Our other House Captain, Chris Woo, looked on in that strong silent way that has made them such a winning team.

We talked of winter highlights: 1st place in House Shout (and yes, we did deserve it); 2nd in Senior Debating; 1st place in Minor Squash; 1st places in Remove and 4th Rugby; 2nd place in Shell Rugby and 1st place in Minor Basketball... The list was endless, and by now we were verging on hysteria, stamping our feet excitedly at our 7th place in House Challenge.

Summer excitement included 1st places for Minor and Junior water polo, with the Seniors 2nd. In swimming, the Minors scored an amazing 1st place with the Juniors and the Seniors both 2nd. The swimming cup was ours! The Minors had even managed to win us 1st place for Swimming Standards.

The athletics results proved just as inspiring. Obviously the House had been worn down by the continual nagging of their tutors and scored an incredible 1st place in Standards. Awesome - but I know we can do even better next year (CMLT). This success was in no small part due to Mr Simpson's amazing Standards Monitoring System; RHCS - we salute you! All tried hard in Athletics events, with Seniors and 4ths scoring 1st places, Rems, UM's and 5ths in 4th places and Shells a respectable 5th place.

There were awards and special mentions galore. In the Shells we praised Simon Worthington, James Buckley, Richard Sham & Olly Mitchell; a committed and enthusiastic bunch. *Shell of the Term* went to Jonathan Wagstaff for all his efforts whilst *Shell of the Year* went to Sam Scott, for Rugby & cricket.

The Rems have confirmed their position as a key year - very talented. *Remove of the Term* went to Jerome O'Neill for his athletics and general enthusiasm, with *Remove of the Year* awarded to George Hancock, superb in swimming and always reliable. *Minor of the Year* though went to Max Haig, for his talent in numerous events, superb attitude and unstoppable dedication. Mentions also to Jonathan Fox and Adrian Summerfield.

The Upper Middles had a good year achieving some good results and always being keen to do well. Special mentions to Matthew Morris, Amreet Kang and Alastair Mason, who was awarded *UM of the Term*.

*Upper Middle of the Year* went to Tim Spiller, thoroughly deserved for his contributions to Fives, Chess and Rugby.

It is hard to sum up the contribution made by the 4ths. They are an extremely gifted lot who have made a huge difference to Heath's success as they have stormed through the year, winning titles and breaking records. *Fourth of the Term* went to Ian Sheldrake - a modest, talented young man who has been consistent in his efforts for the House. *Fourth of the Year* was Kene Agwu for his contribution to House Shout and his winning charm. *Junior of the Year* was awarded to the amazing Miles Benjamin - what would we do without you? Mentions also go to Adam Carr, Jack Flaherty, Charlie Hall, Richard Roberts and Charlie Colman...a winning team.

The Seniors have also battled tirelessly throughout the year. In the Divisions, it is easy to take for granted the likes of Vikram Balachandar, Chris Bennett-Britton, Andrew Holmes, Jonathan Qureshi, Richard Pilsbury and Kabir Sondhi, who always turn out for Heath and give of their best. Similarly in the 5ths David Woods, Tom Cadigan, Tas Hussain, Anand Pandit and Joe Perini can always be relied upon to make an effort in all areas. *Senior of the Year* was ultimately awarded to Chris Woo: he worked extremely hard all year and was talented, committed and always helpful. Chris and Tom Pile made an excellent team as Captains and their contribution was invaluable. They, and the others (Jamie Hinds, Sam Overs, Ed Holmes, Imran Mian, Samir Deger-Sen, Michael Bintley, Eugene Daniel, Oliver Murphey) will be missed, genuinely missed. They were a great bunch full of real personalities, and House meetings will not be the same without them.

And so it was that we said our goodbyes at the end of yet another successful year, looking forward to even better things. Thanks as ever to the wonderful team of House Tutors, Mr Simpson, Mr Smith and Mr Stacey; and also to our lucky mascot, Mr Milton. Most of all thanks go to the Heath boys themselves who continue to amaze.

CMLT/MDS



*Make a name, Cary Gilson: this is the strategy of the victorious House!*

## Cary Gilson

*"Cary Gilson is good."*

The long-standing maxim of Cary Gilson house lingered briefly on the listless summer air, flitting this way and that in the swathes of sunlight like some azure coloured butterfly, before shuddering and spluttering and collapsing into the overwhelming sense of apathy that filled Geography Room A. It was that time of the year again. We could hear the cheering of the victorious Heath boys rising up from the USCR, sounds of revelry that were broken only by a disillusioned Will Taylor's disjointed, sober reproach, and the strangled sobs of Mr Russell as he surreptitiously wept into his handkerchief.

For the first time in years, following a spate of high performances in the Autumn Term, it seemed that we really had a chance of elevating ourselves off the bottom spot. Brain cells had been lost in the frenetic cerebral tussling of House Challenge, Chess and Debating, and backbones had been broken in House Gym, all for the Cary Gilson cause. Just imagine the uproar that filled the room at the formal House meeting of 2002 when it was announced that Cary Gilson had actually come 3rd! We could feel something stirring in the ancient, rusted machinery of King Edward's School; something indescribable and incredible that felt so wrong, and yet so damn right. Oh yes, we're good alright.

By the first meeting of the New Year, all the teams had been picked and, for once, everybody promised that they would turn up. In Senior House Rugby tremendous commitment and determination from everybody involved, coupled with Sonny Ram's enigmatic leadership, led to an inspirational victory over Heath, and then to an equally astounding one

over Levett, in which Vikas Katyal managed to burrow his way to the try line in sudden death, resulting in a final placing of 3rd position. Astounding also was Cary Gilson's performance of Louis Armstrong's *It's a Wonderful World* in House Music, for which Nick Parton blacked himself up and did his best impression of Armstrong's distinctive voice, judged to be worthy of another 3rd placing. Even in House Basketball we managed to field a full team, and, thanks mainly to the aerial acrobatics of Shalin Punn, came 5th. Unfortunately, the guts and passion of our Seniors were not

shared by many of the younger years, who seemed to have been infected by that pervasive Cary Gilson indifference that we were trying so hard to dispel.

This problem seemed to have spread by the Summer Term, where the laziness of the summer mornings complemented the laziness intrinsic to Cary Gilson House, and everybody started to follow Scott Handcock's insouciant example and sit back somewhat. Nevertheless, Ravi Tiwari captained the cricket team to 1st place, causing quite a stir in the following House meeting at the revelation that such a placing actually existed, and Dan Loyo-Mayo was instrumental in our success in House Tennis. However, House Athletics soon reared its leering head out of the haze of the impending heat wave, and the boys in sky blue, who had, up until now, been relying on sheer bloody-mindedness rather than any real athletic ability, fell at the first hurdle. Only the bionicity of Oliver Fawcett and Amer Shafi in the Seniors, and Joe Robinson in the 4ths (who won the prestigious Captains Cup), saved us from utter humiliation. Respect must also go out to Tom Smith for doing it the true Cary Gilson way, and managing to avoid almost every form of physical activity all year round.

Despite our final position, and the fact that no-one really cares, expectations are that Cary Gilson will do a lot better next year. Now, under the new guidance of Shalin Punn (captain), Olly Fawcett and Rikhi Ubh (Vices), as well as the confused rhetoric of Mr Russell, there may be a chance for Cary Gilson to once again storm the leadership tables like the Lost Boys of the Cock House that we are. Just remember:

*"Cary Gilson is (occasionally) good."*

Rikhi Ubh



## Levett

It would appear that the Great White Shark which is Levett forgot to pay the dentist a visit this year, such was the lack of bite in our attack. An overall 5th place was undermined by a multitude of 6th, 7th and 8th places in such sports as Athletics, Fives and Water Polo. This was a knock to a house whose mantra has always been centred upon effort and turning up (with skill and talent welcomed if present).

But among the myriad of mediocre results came the odd beacon of shining hope. A valiant 1st place in Junior Cross Country showed that all is not lost in the lower realms of the House. Indeed, the Shells capped this with a hugely impressive flawless victory in the Rugby. In the words of the Shell Rugby captain, "We outplayed all of our opponents." Well, honesty is always the best policy! To round off the good news, the Minors hit a 1st place in cricket, as did the ever-consistent Seniors, with the help of the School Cap and Chase Brothers, among others, in the upper echelons of the House.

In other year groups, the sometimes-questionable tactical play meant mid-table finishes in cricket and Rugby. The Swimming, a traditional Levett strength, was as good this year as ever, with a 2nd, 4th and 1st for Minors, Juniors and Seniors respectively. This translated into a 2nd overall, behind Heath, and was helped in no small part by the Tim Williams Tumble Turn. Our Water Polo, on the other hand, was not so successful. Another great effort from the Seniors (1st) was complemented by 6th and 7th places lower down, resulting in a 6th place overall.

And now our little reminiscence arrives at those most elegant of competitions: the racquet sports. In Tennis, the senior pairing did well but was overshadowed by some great team work by the second pair, resulting in a 4th overall. The Juniors and Minors stuck to "the practical Federer backhand but the accuracy was so bad that only a 7th place could be mustered." In Badminton, the always-dependable Don Le insisted that his mere presence every week merited a bonus point. However, he seems to have forgotten there was a competition going on, as he was unable to produce a final position. (Any answers on a postcard please). Finally, some spirited Squash was enough to gain a mid-table place. However, final mention must go to the House Challenge team. A great performance throughout secured a 2nd place, behind the Goliath that is Vardy. Mark Griffiths must get special mention, as it was his solitary correct answer of the entire competition, which won the team their semi-final.

Thanks must obviously go to LMR and his right-hand man, Joe Huxley, but also to the other staff (RJD,

TM, RJA, DEM). Special thanks this year, though, go to Cary Gilson and Prince Lee. These two Houses can always be relied upon to lay down firm foundations in the Cock House Table. We salute you. To conclude, "I flink we woz robbed," but under the ambitious guidance of James Patterson next year we should do very well indeed.

*Ravi Gogna*



*The man that is, was, and will be in Levett: Tim J. Cartwright*

## Prince Lee

There are important Questions in life: "Why are we here?", "What is our purpose?", "Is there a God?" and other philosophical biggies which have been pondered by the greatest intellects around for century upon century. What is truly remarkable about these questions, from a psychological perspective, is not the issues which they raise but how easily they can come to seem trivial to a mind bent on much less important matters. For example: right now I am contemplating neither the nature of existence nor the actuality of causality, but am focusing instead on the following maxim: "How do you write a House Report for the Chronicle when you've lost all the statistics sheets that Mr Porter so very nicely gave you?"

And the answer, of course, is that you bluff it from memory, and add a pretentious and space-consuming opening paragraph (see above). Seriously, however, my memories of Prince Lee, undiluted by the nuances of our statistics this year, are universally encouraging. In the whole of my seven long years at KES, the people at Prince Lee have been kind, generous with their time, and, most essentially given our traditional place in the Cock House, have seldom lacked a good solid sense of humour. So I'm delighted to report that this

year sees us finish in an uncustomarily high position of 6th place: a feat with which everyone deserves to be credited (particularly everyone in Gifford), but no-one more than Mr Porter, whose tireless and desperately naive enthusiasm was at times all that kept us going. Kudos also to James Hartill Fearless House Captain, and also to his noble deputies - Rakesh Chauhan, Ranjeet Sahni, James Ward and Patrick Toolan.

When I was a Shell I noticed that everyone in Prince Lee seemed to be saying that we were well set up to climb another few places on the table Next Year, and it's something they've said every year since. I have no wish to break this noble tradition, so it delights me to say that anyone looking at our results in Senior Table Tennis, 4ths Rugby, Fives and Minor Tennis (okay, so I've found the statistics now), or at the gap between us and 7th place at the end of this year (almost 30 points, 24 points higher than 2001-02), or at how good we were in the House Shout despite our actual position (ooh! bitter!) cannot but be encouraged for the year ahead.

I leave Prince Lee and head into a world which is colder, harder, less pink than the world I have come to know - but it has been a great honour to be Rugby captain (once), cross country marker (seven times), and, above all, press officer to the house that may not have all the points in the competitions, but certainly does have all the love. Guys, this one's for you.

A rendition of Russell Watson's *Where My Heart Will Take Me* follows.

Will Tattershill

## Gifford

This year, despite an array of talent on show throughout all our year groups, we came 7th overall in the House Competition. The problem was not a lack of talent, but more a combination of bad luck and very bad luck. In House Shout, for example, some would say that "we was robbed": Giles Urwin, et al, as Guns and Roses, gave a superb rendition of *Sweet Child Of Mine*: a runaway winner yet eventually decreed only joint first. And we have had some good performances this year, such as the Senior Hockey team wiping out all opposition for the top spot.

As in so many others years, the first term brought promise. The flexibility of Mr Lye's Gymnastics team earned plenty of points, and our Senior Basketball players were able to shoot some hoops, which placed them first overall. It's such a shame though that, despite all our keen sportsmen, we cannot conjure up the superior intellect to win events such as Chess, Debating and House Challenge. As many Gifford members will testify, these competitions are among our many nemeses and have been responsible for sinking even our most hard fought campaigns for the Cock House. Also, Alex Boyle is apparently the only person in the Senior years who can swim, but much credit must go to those who drowned for the cause.



The Gifford Collective looking pretty (but where's TAM?)



This year, it seemed, mothers had been forewarned about putting standards cards into washing machines. The ensuing flurry of blue cards meant that we harvested more Swimming Standards points than in some recent years. Shame about the Athletics standards though.

With Richard Bradish and Mr McMullan behind the Gifford wheel, it has been a relatively enjoyable year as the House rode the roller coaster of vicissitudes, from the dizzy heights at the top of the table to the lows at the bottom. But do not worry. Like Aston Villa, we can revive the glorious years. Once again, the purple tie will scare off our competitors (as in '96-98) and pride will be restored among the ranks. Be afraid, be very afraid: Gifford will have the Cock House Trophy in her cabinet very soon; perhaps sooner than you think.

*Alex Boyle*

## Vardy

"In 8th place this year, Cary Gilson. And in 7th place...." As Mr Worthington read out the final results for the Cock House Trophy Competition 2003, you could smell the anticipation in the air. Vardy's spirit in the Summer Term had been unquestionable: full turnouts to all events and a record high Standards total. All boys were now perched precariously on the edges of their chairs as Mr Worthington continued: "in 6th place, 5th place...". The tension was building; a small drop of perspiration could be seen on Nabil Shah's forehead. "In 4th place..." One by one the other Houses tumbled at our feet, leaving only Jeune and last year's champions Heath in our way. Our stomachs tightened. Could this finally be our year? Would we be leaving Big School as heroes? Mr Worthington cleared his throat, glanced around the hall and then continued, "In 3rd place... (Chris Tarrant style pause)... Vardy." To rub salt into our wounds, Jeune had beaten us by a mere 1.5 points. Our hearts sank. Groans of disillusion echoed around the hall: what more did we have to do? We had stumbled at the final hurdle once again.

Stories of tremendous battles, of acts of courage and devilish wit ensued (the majority of which came in Nabil's Senior Cricket report). Sound performances in swimming and tennis were acknowledged, and we were left wondering just how we had let it slip away. All year we had heard stories of Vardy success: David Tite and Matthew Siddons destroying the opposition in the House Challenge event; Mr Worthington's much loved Fives team once again victorious. With a 1st place at the end of the Autumn Term, it had seemed that this would

be our year. The Spring Term brought basketball, rugby and cross-country: once again Vardy performed admirably, with Tim Wallis leading his team of runners to an emphatic victory.

Performances in the Summer Term remained impressive, with Phil Satterthwaite dominating the throwing events in Athletics. The spirit and effort of the entire House throughout the year was superb and we should be proud of how we performed. I look forward to attacking next year's Cock House Competition and hopefully leading our House to the top of the podium. Motivation should not be an issue this year, as, with every step a Vardy man takes, he hears the rattling of "Second place is first loser" in his mind, and that is not something we will carry lightly. Beware, Heath!

*Ed Sandison*



*General Tinley rallying his troops once more*



*Jeune contemplate the way forward*

## House Shout 2003

This year's musical offerings from the eight Houses allowed expressions of creativity in a wide variety of musical genres and were a huge success for all involved, providing our valued entertainment. 2003 was the second year for the new venue, Big School, as well as for the highly popular change in regulations which has meant that entries are permitted to use amplified instruments. This has allowed much more freedom and increased audience.

As slides must be pinned onto Colford and Heath prior winners of the competition, the school was in no doubt that a huge was the just result, as both Houses' performances showed evidence of dedicated rehearsal producing some truly remarkable results.

Recommendations are also due to Taylor Meadwell for his part in Vardy's superb rendition of Michael Jackson's Thriller. Taylor, I didn't know you had it in you!

Many thanks must go to the judges for giving up their lunchtime. On behalf of the whole school I would like to express warm gratitude to Mr Phil Evans for all his hard work organising rehearsals and sound checks before the final event, as well as acting as the presenter, sound man on the day.

Once again, House Shout was popular and successful, may it live long and continue to raise lots of money (and smiles) for charitable causes.

Bob Duggan, Chair

## Cock House 2003

### FINAL RESULT

1.	Heath	507
2.	Jenne	451.5
3.	Vardy	450
4.	Evans	442.5
5.	Levett	440.5
6.	Prince Ler	416.5
7.	Gifford	387.5
8.	Cary Gilson	351.5

### Omissions

Reports were also submitted by Jenne and Evans, but were unfortunately received too late to be included in this column.





## Agora

Agora: the intellectual playground of academia, a refuge, if you will, for those above the physical realities of Rugby and Geography. True to our standards, this year Agora has studiously avoided the slightest indulgence in either of the aforementioned activities, preferring instead to revel in the acumen displayed by the year's speakers: Dr Rabbi Margaret Jacobi, who spoke on Freewill and Determinism; Dr Mainus C. Felderhof who expounded an original approach to the problem of evil; and Mr Ray Billington, directing (for a second time by popular demand) a discussion on Existentialism. Under the helm of Mrs Ostrawicz, Prince Regent and Commander of the Armies of the North Mike Bintley and Vice Junior Assistant Copy Boy Adam Ferner upheld the principles cherished previously by Dan Watkins and Edward Uff, their predecessors and role models. A successful year, in so far as a subjective term can be applied to a measurement of an ineffable temporal sequence, and one hopes that the traditions of King Edward's finest establishment will be upheld by next year's young pretenders.

*Adam Ferner and Mike Bintley*

## ARES

The Amateur Radio and Electronics Society has for some years now been safe in the knowledge that, with the Head of Science as its president and enjoying the ear of the Deputy Chief Master, also a licensed radio ham, we are easily the most influential society in the entire Science department. Alas, with Mr Rigby handing over the reins (cables?) of power both in the society and the Science department, the chances of getting that new computer we were after are becoming increasingly slim. However, despite Mr Rigby's wise move in allowing somebody else to take control of the

world of underground, gloss-black painted laboratories, we are not relinquishing control of our noticeboard. Hands off!

Despite the decreasing interest in Amateur Radio, we have managed to attain a startling 50% increase in membership in the last three years. We are also developing a new breed of younger boys, whom we are training to reject daylight in favour of the world beneath the Physics Prep Room. We firmly believe that we will soon be bigger than ever, challenging the CCF and Leadership options without the need to resort to the chocolate-cake-based bribery employed by some less reputable societies.

Highlights of this academic year included the recommencing of our license training programme, and a huge metal building being erected right in front of our main antenna! Until next year, this is GX4SKE signing off with the outside world, and going QRT

*Oliver Mitchell*

## Islamic Society

The Islamic Society has had a successful year under the joint leadership of Tariq Hussain and Talha Hakeem. Initiatives were taken to set up a small library in the Sports Hall common room, where society meetings take place daily, and guest speakers were invited to address a Muslim and non-Muslim audience. Also, the Society benefited from several new individual prayer mats being introduced. Not many boys attend Society meetings daily, but more people turn up on Fridays. During Ramadan the Society experienced its highest ever attendance, when on one Thursday lunchtime some sixty people came down to the Sports Hall to pray. Also during Ramadan, the Society held its annual *iftar* party, whereby Muslim boys gathered to break their fasts at sunset. The event was attended by boys from the school, Old Edwardians (including Dan Jackson, a recent convert to the faith) and also the Chief Master.

Ozair Ismail has now assumed responsibility as Head of Society; his deputies are Ali-Asghar Abedi and Majid Shah, who together hope to continue the good work of Tariq Hussain and Talha Hakeem, as well as developing links between the Islamic Society and other school clubs and societies.

*Ali-Asghar Abedi*

## Frontiers

Frontiers has given students a wide range of opportunities to discover a career path best for them. The Careers Room has proved extremely useful, especially for those in the older years of the school who are searching for information about putative careers or possible degree courses.

We have organised visits to Birmingham Crown Courts, and hosted a range of speakers from medical professors to the Unilever manager responsible for the Lynx adverts. We repeated the previous year's popular discussion group with three female lawyers. Still other guest speakers have included Kenneth Clarke, Doug Ellis and Digby Jones, currently the Director General of the CBI, all of whom have provided informative entertainment. This impressive record is largely owing to the sharp negotiation skills of the Frontiers team, led by Joe Speight, Chris Keogh and Jonathan Qureshi, but most of all to their chief, DNDC. For those of you wondering where all those university posters around the school have come from, the Frontiers Society is responsible for them. Also, Frontiers runs the Gap Year



Fair, work experience, and arranges careers conversations in conjunction with Mrs Billingham.

Finally, Jonny, Chris and Joe would like to thank everyone who helped with Frontiers over the past year, including Anish Patel, James Neale, Ali-Asghar Abedi, Harry Hecht, Simon Chase, Gorav Wali, James Paterson, Alex Vakil, Pindy Choudry and especially the man with the answers to everyone's career questions, Mr Chamberlain. We look forward to more big names joining the already prestigious roster of Frontiers speakers next year.

*Jonathan Qureshi, Chris Keogh, Joe Speight*

## Parliamentary & Politics Society

The society elected a committee at the first meeting of the year, in September. This committee, which consisted of three Sixths and three Divisions, drew up a list of events for the year. During the year, three Question Time style debates were held; the panels on the first two occasions were made up of staff and students. For the third debate the society invited Sheikh Arif Abdulhusein, who promoted the views of Muslims, to act as a member of the panel, alongside Reverend Raynor, George Readings (Amnesty International) and David Tite (Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament). This lively, wide-ranging debate focussed mainly on the aftermath of the war in Iraq and on Israeli-Palestinian issues, and attracted a large audience.

*Ali-Asghar Abedi*

## Geographical Society

With audacious plans for a veritable feast of geographical events during the year, the society dedicated to the art of Geography went about its business in a quietly efficient manner. Under the cool guidance of Mr Smith and his subordinates Patel and Huxley, there were some memorable moments. First, there was the renowned Magic Lantern Show, with Mr Smith showing that if it had not been for his skills as a super Geography teacher, then a career in busking with a recorder could surely have been his. Mr Lambie's presentation on his back garden contained, however, only tenuous geographical links.

Several other talks throughout the year were largely well attended by eager Geographers and cake eaters. Simon Laight and Vic Joannou lectured on the architecture of Prague and Barcelona, during which lecture Simon cunningly invented some new architectural genres. Joe Huxley and Rob Arnott talked about their Travel Scholarship adventures in Iceland. Perhaps most stimulating was the talk given by Professor Stuart Lane of Leeds University, who had been taught by Mr Cumberland at KES and had taught Messrs Smith, Duncombe and Albrighton at Cambridge. He gave a fascinating insight into how research Geographers are using complex computer modeling to improve the quality of flood protection and warning systems, innovations that are making a practical difference to peoples' lives.

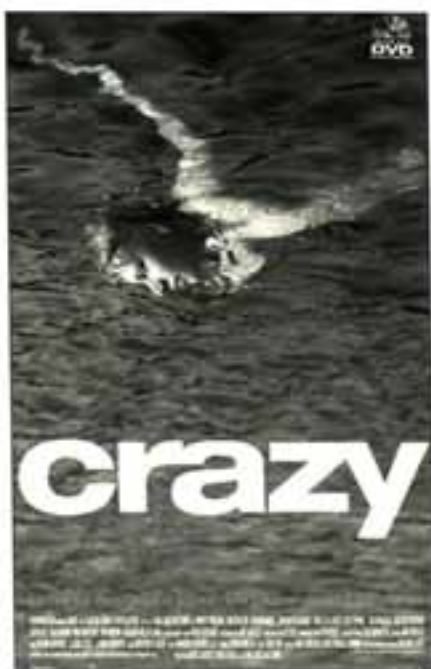
*Joe Huxley*



## German Film Society

If you are fed up with generic Hollywood films starring a grinning Tom Cruise or a bumbling Hugh Grant, why not try the German Film Society? You will be certain to find something that will interest you, whether or not you have any experience of the German language or foreign film. Most of the films we show are either dubbed or subtitled, and all of them open up new cinematic worlds.

*Die Grosse Weite Welt* (The Big Wide World), shown at the MAC was the first of this year's films. It is the fifth in a series of documentaries about life in Leipzig since the reunification of Germany: after the showing we met the director of the film and were able to



question him. *Die Blechtrommel* (The Tin Drum), based on a Gunter Grass novel, told the story of Oscar, who decided to stop growing on his third birthday. His noisy drum and piercing scream took us through the rise of Hitler and Nazi Germany.

*Lili Marlene* and *Die Ehe Der Maria Braun* (The Marriage Of Maria Braun) were two Fassbinder films which Mrs Hodgkin and her seven German set dwarves were particularly fond of, both allegories of German life in various time settings. It hasn't all been serious: *Manner* (Men), *Crazy*, and *Eddie's Bluff* were all German comedies we have been able to see.

I strongly recommend that you attend German Film Society at least once next year; it certainly gives you a different outlook on both Germany and film in general.

Tom Fray

## Encounters

It's been a great year, with lots of changes. We've had new leaders, new styles of meetings, a new venue, a new name and cake every week. A big thank you to Tom Mort and Susanna Rutledge, who led last year and handed over to Ben Collins and Alex Weston. Ben and Alex opted for the new name of Encounter for the Christian Union, together with a logo and a new venue in the Harold Smith Studio.

Speakers have come in from various churches in Birmingham and from the Stewards Trust. We have managed to munch our way through 39.6kg of cake, which seems to have been the main attraction for many of our new comers. We have had attendances in the high twenties at times, and provided a valued spiritual break in the middle of a long school day. Encounter has been, as the new name suggests, a great place to meet with God, discuss problems and worship Him. In the Easter term the Islamic Society and Encounter held a joint silent prayer vigil for the war in Iraq, to which over sixty people turned up. It was really encouraging to see such a multi-cultural school come together in prayer.

We would like to thank the Music Department for generously allowing us to use the Harold Smith Studio for the past year, and Rhodri Morgan and Tim Forrest for leading the worship. Good luck to Alex Toseland and Rhodri, who will be running Encounter next year: may God be with you in all that you do.

Ben Collins

## Amnesty International

This has been Amnesty's most active year so far. We have participated in campaigns about human rights abuses in dozens of countries around the world. We have since heard that in a number of these cases the victims have been released or have received better treatment thanks to international pressure. Another activity has been lobbying MPs from the Birmingham area, and Ken Clark when he visited KES, to work for tighter arms export controls and, more generally, to ensure that human rights remain at the heart of political debate.

One of the many campaigns we worked on this year was for *Sorrow and solidarity for human rights in Iraq*. Unfortunately, a banner bearing this slogan proved to be too controversial for the corridors of KES, and senior staff removed it. A number of Amnesty International posters encouraging better informed debate about whether to go to war in Iraq were taken down by members of the school.

For the first time we became involved in the school curriculum, when one of our members delivered a talk on Amnesty to a Fifth form RS set. This also served to encourage some Fifth formers to become involved. Unfortunately this did not last long, leaving us only with a loyal core of Divisions. Without greater interest lower down the school, next year could prove to be Amnesty's last at KES, but we hope to do more good work for human rights in the meanwhile.

George Readings

## Literary Society

Despite our meeting only twice, this year was, in the end, quite successful for the Literary Society: large numbers attended both meetings. Interest was, no doubt, at least partly generated by the suitably avant-garde posters promising chocolate cake to all, but mostly by what seemed to be a genuine enjoyment of literature in the upper years of the School. Our first meeting was a reading of Oscar Wilde's *The Ballad of Reading Gaol*, which sparked off a particularly lively debate about what can only be described as prison etiquette. Even more of a success was the end-of-year



Bring A Poem summer party, to which a huge number of people came, clutching their favourite poetry in clammy hands, and coaxed along by the promise of light refreshment. This fag-end success has, rather disturbingly, given us ideas: there will certainly be some joint meetings with KEHS again in the future, renewing an old link; and there is the possibility of a KES creative writing group.

Rikhi Ubhi and Liam Mackay, SLS

## Choral Society

After last year's successes with Mozart's *Requiem* and Handel's *The King Shall Rejoice*, we found ourselves under pressure this year to live up to expectations. With the baton in Mr Monks' charge for the second year, preparations were made for an extravaganza of a performance of Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*, at that highlight of the Choral Society year, the Choral and Orchestral Concert. For such an extensive project, dozens of impressionable youngsters (and some oldsters from the Common Room) had to be recruited, bringing the choir to its full Carl Orff magnificence of over 110 members!

Before you could say *semper crescis* we found ourselves in the thick of rehearsals. The demanding range of choral expertise required in *Carmina Burana*, from its dramatic sustained choruses to the vigorous chant-like passages, meant that progress was often slow. In December we took a break to prepare the beautiful *Coventry Carol* and *Sir Christemas*, amongst others, for the Christmas concert, but in the New Year it was back to Orff, and the concert was upon us worryingly soon. After desperate last minute rehearsals, the Choral Society and four guest soloists squeezed onto the Adrian Boult stage and accompanied by a specially formed 46 piece orchestra, gave the towering performance which the music demands.

For the rest of the year our numbers dropped slightly, but this did not deter the hardcore from giving a proud performance of Brahms' *Wie Liebhich Sind Deine Wohnungen* (I don't think anyone ever found out what that means) and, as a sequel to last year's *The King Shall Rejoice*, Handel's *Zadok the Priest*.

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in Choral Society this year, especially Mr Monks and the *Carmina Burana* orchestra. This year's programme will be remembered for many year's to come, I'm sure, and I hope Choral Society will continue to be the highlight of everyone's Tuesday lunchtimes.

Bert Osborn





## Rugby

### King Edward's School Rugby Club Season 2002 - 3

	Played	Won	Lost	Drew	For	Against
1st XV	21	15	6	0	624	214
2nd XV	17	12	5	0	496	133
3rd XV	9	4	5	0	191	166
U16 A XV	16	9	7	0	310	222
U15 A XV	16	9	7	0	243	233
U15 B XV	11	9	2	0	234	113
U14 A XV	14	3	11	0	188	394
U14 B XV	13	4	8	1	149	313
U13 A XV	10	8	2	0	274	86
U13 B XV	10	8	2	0	265	138
U13 C XV	1	0	1	0	0	24
U13 D XV	1	0	1	0	0	39
U12 A XV	10	5	5	0	111	102
U12 B XV	9	4	5	0	84	69
U12 C XV	6	4	1	1	149	52
U12 D XV	5	4	1	0	161	45
TOTAL	167	97	69	1	3042	2321

(A number of fixtures were cancelled due to weather).

### Team Honours

1st XV	Reached Round 5 of Daily Mail Cup
U16 XV	North Midlands Cup Winners
U15 A XV	Reached round 4 of Daily Mail Cup Losing finalist Greater Birmingham Cup
U14 A XV	Losing finalist Greater Birmingham Cup
U13 A XV	Winners Greater Birmingham Cup

### Individual Representative Honours

#### Under 18

Greater Birmingham	R Arnott, S Postle, G Evans, R Hollyhead, H Hecht, A Titiloye, T Pile
North Midlands	R Arnott, S Postle, G Evans, R Hollyhead, H Hecht
Midlands	R Arnott

#### Under 16

Greater Birmingham	J Metcalfe, C Rees, E Clarke, P Satterthwaite, R Thebridge, M George
North Midlands	J Metcalfe, C Rees, P Satterthwaite
Midlands	J Metcalfe, C Rees
England	J Metcalfe

#### Under 15

Greater Birmingham	M Benjamin, T Weaver, O Chan, S Heaven, J Jeffries, A Pal, I Sheldrake
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#### Under 14

Greater Birmingham	D Kennea, V Joannou, F Gardiner, Z Allen, M Dowd, M Jones, E Halpin
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### Individual Player Awards

#### 1st XV

Player of the year	James Hartill
Most improved player of the year	Chris Woo

#### 2nd XV

Player of the year	Chris Shipley
Most improved player of the year	Oliver Fawcett

**3rd XV**

<i>Player of the year</i>	Oliver Murphy	
<i>Most improved player of the year</i>	Ben Noble	
<i>Clubman of the year</i>	Stuart Postle Gareth Evans	
<i>Blazer badges</i>	Stuart Postle Rob Arnott	Gareth Evans
<i>Full Colours</i>	S Postle J Hartill R Hollyhead B Wright	J Huxley G Evans R Arnott J Vatish
<i>Half colours</i>	H Hecht T Pile S Laight C Woo J Metcalfe A Titiloye C Bennett-Britton M Fanner J Butler	D Le V Joannou S Cooke S Ram C Shipley O Murphy B Noble N Shah

**1st XV**

Allow me, if you will, to take you back to early September. There was a sudden change in the atmosphere, followed, almost immediately, by the creaking of a changing room door. Those at Solihull School with a shred of intelligence realised what was happening and they fled for their lives as everyone else cowered in terror. I do not blame them, for it was a truly awe inspiring sight. It was half past two and the most beautiful of annual phenomena was taking place: a KES 1st XV was being born.

A tear rolled down many a cheek that day, not least those of Robbie James, whose chest visibly swelled with emotion, which meant Mr Duncombe missed most of the game. However, only days before, questions had remained in Mr James' mind. Firstly, could his team of egos ever gel into a cohesive unit? The answer was, of course, if there's a better man for doing it than Mr James, I've never met him.

Secondly, could anyone ever match Andrew Gillespie's stirring rhetoric of last year? The answer: no one could match the great Gilly. Indeed, only two men combined together could even come close to the great man, so Mr James chose Gareth and me to captain the side. However, the final question in Mr James' mind was far more important than any other, and one that had baffled the entire team at pre-season training. Who was that guy who kept following us around? For a time it was thought he was Nadinay Ritigoy, then Riminay Niminoy, Hibahay Nimanoy, Scimanay Himinoy or even Jimary Stimastoi. Eventually everyone found out his real name was Adedayo Titiloye, our new winger, but we just called him Dave.

After these questions had been satisfactorily answered came the tedious business of playing Rugby.

For much of the season the side blazed a formidable trail, leaving in their wake broken teams. Possibly the best performance came against Warwick, where, inexplicably, I wasn't playing. Another notable victory came against Aston, who, despite our best efforts, managed to lose to us 32-22. Solihull, after claims that they were going to beat us by forty points (because they had won every match on their tour of Australia) succumbed to the better side. Nottingham saw possibly our most cruel performance, where we built up their ambitions and spirits by gifting them two tries within the first ten minutes, only to knock them down with a stunning comeback. But perhaps the sweetest moment of the season came against Camp Hill. I didn't think that anyone would ever be as excited as me at beating Camp Hill. However, James Metcalfe's dad, not only during the Camp Hill match but throughout the season, proved that the English language wasn't rich enough to describe the Rugby that we played, so he made up a whole language of his own.



*Rugby against Rugby in the mud at Rugby*

Of course there were a few defeats, one being against Bromsgrove. However, at least I have been able to write this report: most of the Bromsgrove team couldn't. Not wishing to dwell on defeats, I would like to mention the match where we snatched defeat from the jaws of victory against Hereford Cathedral School. This match gave us the moment where Mike Fanner against all odds, managed to hit Ade with a clearing kick, losing us the game and putting us out of the Daily Mail cup. This was, in hindsight, very funny, but certainly wasn't at the time. Rob Arnott had another extremely outstanding season, gaining Under-18 Midlands selection, whilst James Metcalfe performed equally well in being selected for the Under-18 England team.

I have always been proud to be part of the KES team and have played along with some others in the same team since the Shells. Fallen by the wayside are Tim Wallis, Freddy Thomas and Barat Nagraji but many still remain, all of whom I'm sure will do fantastically well in whatever profession they wish to pursue in the future; except maybe Mike Fanner, if he wants to be a





School Captain and 1st XV scrum half, Jon Husley, drives the KES forwards to the Bromsgrove line

Rugby player. Thanks must go to Mr James for coaching us throughout the season (and introducing the devastating Quinell) and to Mr Duncombe who taught the forwards to dread the words "quick lineout drill, lads". Finally, the entire first fifteen would like to wish Mr Everest well in his retirement.

*Stuart Postle and Gareth Evans*

## 2nd XV

*Saturday 7th September 2002  
Solihull School  
KES win 10-5*

This win gave the Rugby community just a taster of what they were about to experience. The next seven months proved to be one the finest displays of running 15-man Rugby the world will ever see. Just the two tries in this opening fixture, but it was all we needed. The following week we dominated possession and Ed Sandison, Dan Drew and Steve Cooke conspired to help us walk in seven tries against RGS Worcester. Two weeks passed before we took to the field again. Due to a Geography field trip we were forced to field an under-strength side containing numerous 5th years. Was this to prove a problem? Not with Charles Rees on the field. No, this Midlands Trialist proved to be the pick of the bunch, running in four of our ten tries against a lacklustre Leicester Grammar School.

Next up, Kings Worcester, traditionally a strong side. This year was no exception. They were a fairly well organised side but some interesting refereeing proved to be a bigger problem and because of this play deteriorated. Our first loss of the season, 12-14. Two weeks later normal service was resumed with a convincing 55-0 defeat of Camp Hill. This was the start of a good run for us. The following Wednesday Solihull 6th Form College were shown why at least seven of our team turned out on more than three occasions for the 1st XV. 38-5. As were Warwick (38-8) and Nottingham High School (15-5). The next game proved to be the

hardest of the year against an enormous, well-drilled Rugby School. We spent the game in defence, with the back row and Shalin Punn excelling themselves. Despite this we went down 19-0.

And so we reached the final weekend in November having won seven, lost two. Now it was time for Bromsgrove. We went into the game feeling confident and knowing that, on our day, we could beat anyone. Was it going to be our day? Well, it was, but we didn't need it to be because the opposition were poor. Right from the start we tore their defence to shreds and should have been five tries up by half time. But we weren't. We weren't clinical enough in our finishing so we led only 14-0. The opposition tightened up in the second half and we only managed to score once. However, this was enough. Bromsgrove were defeated 21-0.

In our last game before Christmas we played Adams Grammar School. To be blunt, a very poor performance and a loss, 8-3. Christmas came and went but the desire to get back on the pitch came and just kept on coming! All those weeks without physical contact were too much. Loughborough were next on the fixture list. They tended to like the off-the-ball aspect to the game and we let them get to us, though we gave as good as we got, whilst playing some good Rugby. We looked, and were, very penetrative, but only managed to cross the line once. Disappointing. The match finished scrappily with Loughborough coming out on top to win 7-5.

From then on we weren't troubled until the end of the season. QMGS Walsall offered little opposition (43-0, 7 tries). Bablake (17-14), Shrewsbury (39-0, 7 tries) and then Fairfax (69-0, 11 tries). The penultimate game of the season was against KE Aston. It was always going to be difficult against 16 men, and it was. We performed excellently but went down 19-17. And finally it was off to King Henry's Coventry: a patchy performance against decent opposition. The backs were sometimes careless but when they strung it together Ed Sandison led the penetration and it was nice to finish the season on a high with a 22-15 win.

And so the season ended. Don Le and Olly Fawcett topped the try count with 9 apiece, but it was a team effort and everybody got in on the act. All that remains for me to say is, "KDP, thank you and good luck for next season!"

*Chris Keogh*



2nd XV Most Improved Player of the Year, Olly Fawcett, sets off on a run

## 3rd XV

When one thinks about 3rd XV Rugby, the idea of a team with no quality, no skill, no passion, no movement, no try scorers and no victories springs to mind. This is totally wrong. The 3rds are the epitome of guts, determination, quality and sex appeal. Yes, the 3rds lay claim to be the sexiest team around and that's not only for the quality of their Rugby! Let's get down to the business end of things. We underachieved this season, partly due to the facts that we never fielded a full strength team and that nobody ever turned up to team practices on Thursday lunchtimes. The team was comparatively young and inexperienced, with Nabil Shah, Olly Murphy, Ben Noble, Jon Gadd and Mo Shamshuddin the only survivors from the previous season.

Each season's curtain raiser against Solihull is normally a good warm-up for the lads; a chance to bond together and play as a team for the first time. This year, we were beaten. We didn't have any organisation in the lineout, no one knew the offside rule and the team was littered with prima donnas: not a good start. We continued to lose games left, right and centre but let's give credit where it's due: we were never thrashed. We did finally win a game (I can't remember which one, but I'm sure we played really well and showed Mr Evans what a talented outfit we could be).

The highlights of the season were definitely the matches against Bromsgrove and Wolverhampton 1st XV. The Bromsgrove game was the first of the season where we had a sizeable crowd watching. The scene was set for a titanic struggle. Nabil Shah gave the all important "inches" speech, a speech that set alight the furnace in every player's stomach and the game started. Never in the history of the thirds has there been such a display of utter dominance and class as was shown against Bromsgrove. Most notably, Ben Noble's kicking and jinking, Ibrar Sultan's tackling and Emir Battaloglu's sheer, unadulterated aggression. It was an all round team performance, one that everyone should be proud of. It even convinced one of the spectators that we were the 1st XV! (No, not really, I made that part up, But we did play well).

It was only fitting that the 3rds played their final game at Eastern road. It marked the end of a long and tiring journey. Wolverhampton posed a huge physical threat and the forwards needed to be on top of their game. After weathering an early storm, the team grew in confidence and stature. Olly Murphy was rampant in the backs and Usman Mir was maniacal in the forwards. We went behind through a sloppy try but immediately replied with a try of sheer class. Leading by a conversion, we had resisted all of Wolverhampton's pressure until the last 3 minutes. But they scored, and all of a sudden fifteen heads dropped in anguish. But that wasn't to be the end. In true 3rds

spirit, the team scored with literally the last move of the match, Joe Speight obliging with his first touch of the game.

The season will be remembered for many reasons. It witnessed Mo Shamshuddin's first try in two years; the "inches" speech against Bromsgrove; and finally and most vividly, Nabil Shah's cries of "Stop playing like men, play like women!" Finally, thanks go to Mr Evans, who managed to keep his sanity and wits about him whilst everything was in chaos at his feet. A final quote, before I end, which epitomised 3rd XV Rugby throughout the season: "On this team, we fight for that inch."

*Nabil Shah*

## U16 XV

Under-16 Rugby often sees teams split up significantly, with individuals being asked to spread their talent elsewhere, as James Metcalfe illustrated in the 1st XV. The loss of key players meant that a tough season was imminent and a startling first game against Solihull School reinforced our fears as KES were destroyed in a defeat by over fifty points. We had to change our style of playing if this season was going to end with any victories to our name. Thanks to Mr Birch, these changes were made.

Victories did come our way, with great battles fought against rivals such as Warwick. However, the dominating aspect of the year came in the North Midlands Cup, a knockout competition stretching the entire season. After crushing schools such as Hereford Cathedral School and KE Aston, we found ourselves in the final with a most challenging opponent, Prince Henry's School. It was a blisteringly hot day at Worcester Rugby Club as KES arrived to find that kick-off was in less than twenty minutes. Even with the worst preparation, we took the field confident in our strength as a squad, and eventually, after a gruelling encounter with a strong, determined side, we were victorious.

The cup was the perfect close to the season for the Under 16s. However, special individual mentions must be made of the likes of Charlie Rees's efforts in the Midlands Schools trials, and James Metcalfe who, eventually, made it to the England Schools side, the highest level in this age group. Some individuals have also risen up from B-team squads to become regular, significant members of the starting XV. Finally, I would like to acknowledge the particularly excellent contributions of Olly Carter and Patrick Carslake, the powerhouse of the Under 16 scrum. Many thanks go to Mr Birch and Mr James whose inputs have helped in a successful season. However, most of all, thank you lads!

*Philip Satterthwaite*





Boshi



The victorious U16 XV

### U15A XV

On reflection the Under 15 team had a good season, despite it being one of mixed fortunes. We started our season promisingly with convincing victories over Solihull and RGS Worcester. The morale of the team was then dampened somewhat when narrow defeats by Leicester GS and King's Worcester followed. However, we subsequently regrouped and were able to produce a solid victory over Prince Henry's, Evesham in the first encounter of our Daily Mail Cup campaign, before surviving the next round of the cup after a try by Arpan Pal in the dying minutes which gave us the win by two points. Sadly, our campaign was brought to an end when, with a weakened side, we were knocked out in the fifth round. We also finished runners up in the Greater Birmingham tournament.

We performed well after the disappointment of our cup exit, to produce two stunning results against Rugby School and Loughborough GS, teams we haven't beaten before. Much credit must go to the pack, which made great improvements this year. Notable performances came from Jack Jeffries, Martyn Massop, Jack Flaherty, Tom Weaver, Ian Sheldrake and Joe Robinson. Jonny Dawkins and Owen Chan also played consistently well in their new positions.

Seven players were selected from our team for the Greater Birmingham squad, which shows our development not only as a team, but also as individuals. Much of the progress seen this year is due to the dedication of our coaches, Mr Porter and Mr Smith, whom I would like to thank, as well as the players themselves. I await next season with optimism as we make the transition into Senior Rugby.

*Miles Benjamin*

### U15B XV

Yet another successful season for the U15 B team, losing only two matches throughout the season. How was this possible? Despite having players out every week, or having Mr Porter stealing them, we did very well. This was due to match winning tries from Andrew Miller and Kene Agwu (centre and wing) who were always there to keep the game alive. A certain curly-haired individual (Alec Siddons) was very effective at fly-half, having a divine ability to catch my appalling passes. He was ably assisted by Charlie Hall who always had quick hands and mental awareness, despite the frequent Friday-night parties.

But I suppose Rugby isn't all about the glamour of the backs, when the ugliness of the forwards shines through. To be fair to the block-headed brutes they also played consistently well. Excellent performances came from Rob Shipley at prop and Mo Kanani in the second-row.

The long haired would-be pugilist, Mark Griffiths, was also hugely committed. Alex Blair was stunning all season, making tackles which often saved games or broke bones. Gunraj Pall was always in the thick of the action and led by example. I am grateful to them and the rest of the pack for all their hard work. Cheers and thanks for a great season, Mr T.

*Tom McLeod*

### U14A XV

Owing to a difficult couple of opening matches and an injury plagued team, the season did not begin as successfully as hoped. However, after much persistence and hard training and with lots of enthusiasm we gained our first victory in the third match against Leicester Grammar School. There were notable performances from David Kennea and Max

Dowd. There were some close matches, for example the one against Camp Hill which ended 7-5, along with some heavy defeats against much more skilled teams. But after the Christmas holidays things started to pick up, with a well deserved win against rivals KE Aston and another good win against Loughborough GS, 24-0. All in all most of the season was a disappointment, but there were some positive parts, including coming second in the Birmingham cup, when Zack Allen played notably well. Hopefully next year will be more successful. The whole team looks forward to it.

*Victor Ioannou*

## U14B XV

The U14B team had a very unlucky season, and the statistics don't do the team's hard work justice. There were good wins against King's School Worcester, Camp Hill, KES Aston and a nail biting draw against Bishop's Hereford - Ben Heap's kick to win the game missed by millimetres! Outstanding players were Dan Lavander, for his brilliant tackling; Jamie Scott who saved lots of tries; James Bowater, who was reliable at scrum half; Lawrence Vickers and Faizan Shah for being consistently good props; and Nick Oakley, for generally playing well on the wing. Thanks go to Mr Aydon for the coaching and support he gave.

*Ben Heap*

I thoroughly enjoyed coaching this team all season as they were enthusiastic win or lose, showing great team spirit and sportsmanship throughout. Good luck next season!

*RJA*



U14B XV

## U13A XV

The 2002-03 season, under the stewardship of Mr Stead, can only be described as an overwhelming success. Pre-season training brought about considerable squad and positional changes within the team, with Mr Stead determined to produce a more dynamic unit with greater creativity and power. It was

the lack of familiarity amongst the players which led to the loss of the opening game of the season to a distinctly average Solihull side, 22-12.

However, growing confidence and style saw a trio of comfortable victories over RGS Worcester (46-12), Leicester GS (45-12) and King's Worcester (14-8). The following game was against a superb Warwick school XV and despite probably the finest team performance of the season, it resulted in a narrow defeat, 15-14. It did show, however, the real grit and determination which the team continued to exhibit throughout the remainder of the season. The next fixtures were all won comfortably with victories over an unbeaten Fairfax (17-12), Adams Grammar School (43-0), Loughborough (31-5), Bishop's Hereford (14-0) and KE Aston (38-0). The season was topped off by a victory in the Greater Birmingham Cup, a one-afternoon-based tournament, which yielded victories over Fairfax, KE Aston, KE Five Ways and KE Camp Hill, in shortened matches.

This year saw the emergence of much potential within the squad, with some developing new skills while others honed theirs. Congratulations to all, and in particular to the top point scorers, Eren Battaloglu and Max Haig.

Also thanks must go to Mr Stead for providing us with not only the skills that enabled the victories, but also a belief in ourselves.

*Max Haig*

## U13B XV

This season proved to be a good one for the Under 13 B team, winning 8 matches and losing only 2. Both teams in our age group lost to Warwick, probably the best team on the schools circuit, but both played very well. We also lost to Loughborough, but on a better note we beat our rivals Solihull 24-7 in our first match. Our average total of points scored per game was 29.1 and our best win came against Fairfax, 48-0. Well done to all those who made their first appearances for the team, such as James Taft (who scored a try from the half way line) and well done to the whole team for what was a very enjoyable season.

*Luke Murphy*

## U12A XV

We had a tough season, mainly because a few of our players were inexperienced, although we did have some talent, which showed throughout the season. We won five out of ten games, which included fine wins over KE Camp Hill, KE Aston and King's Worcester. The majority of our defeats were by narrow margins but we learnt many lessons from those defeats. Many of our players improved swiftly thanks to good coaching and encouragement from Mr Emery. Hopefully next year we will have the courage and potential to be a first class team!

*Edward Bothwell*



I am sure that this year group has the potential to produce outstanding teams over the next few years and the boys have been very keen to learn. Ed Botha led by example on the field and is a particularly fine kicker. I wish them all every success.

*JRRE*

## U12B XV

We made a challenging start to our Rugby career, with much fun and determination on the field. For some of us it was the first time we had put on a pair of Rugby boots but under the excellent coaching and encouragement of Mr Lonsdale and Mr Emery we all pulled together and began to learn the mechanics of the game. We played nine games, winning four, beating King's Worcester, Loughborough Grammar school, King Edward's Aston and King Edward's Stratford. We strive to improve and look forward to next season's Rugby.

## U12C XV

After a poor start to the season the Under 12 C team sprung to life with a string of excellent results. Having lost to a very good Warwick side, we defeated KE Camp Hill, Bishop of Hereford school, KE Stratford and KE Aston, with great scrummaging, rucking and mauling from our forwards helping us to gain some convincing scores.

In our final game of the season we came up against a very well organised Solihull side and found it hard to break their line. Despite our determination to win, we found it very hard to score, though in the last seconds we scored an unconverted try to draw the match and finish our season on a high note. As we look forward to next year, many thanks must go to Mr Herbert who helped us to become the side we are.

*Nyma Sharifi*

## U12D XV

The U12 D XV had an excellent season, only losing one of our five matches to Warwick 20-10. Elsewhere we overcame KE Camp Hill (45-5), KE Stratford (49-0), KE Aston (37-5) and Solihull (20-15). The backs tackled well, saving a lot of tries, and our forwards ran through opposition defences with determination all season. Finally, my nomination for best refreshments goes to Warwick for their sausage, beans and chips!

*Jonathan Alford*

## Athletics

This season has been one of outstanding success for KE Athletics, although it may be some years before we repeat the 2000 feat of winning all 16 meetings. In fact, this year there were only 13 meetings (owing to the longer exam period and the late Easter), of which one was cancelled due to rain. Of the 12 meetings, we were victorious in eight, 2nd in three and 3rd in one. The reasons for our successes do not lie with talent alone. Perhaps even more important is the sustained enthusiasm and commitment of the whole Athletics squad. This is displayed by a willingness of team members to fill in for ill or injured team-mates, often in events unfamiliar to them.

At Senior level only six matches took place, of which we were triumphant in four. Our success was due to consistent performances by Chris Woo in both the long and triple jump, Don Le in the hurdles and Michael Fanner in the sprints. Other notable performances came from David Reece over the 400 metres and Oliver Fawcett at 1500 metres. The relay team (Michael Fanner, Rob Hollyhead, Adedayo Titiloye and Don Le) could always be relied upon to provide those vital extra points at the end of the match.

Lower down the school, at Intermediate level, the team enjoyed similar success. The efforts of Shafi, Rees, Woods and Benjamin guaranteed points on successive Saturdays. David Woods performed extremely well throughout the season and was rewarded by finishing first in the 1500 metres and fourth in the 1500 metres steeplechase at the West Midlands Schools Championships. Away from the track, Phil Satterthwaite came second in the javelin at the West Midlands Schools Championships, also an outstanding achievement.

In the Junior section the middle distance talent is strong, which bodes well for the future. Notable examples are Greg Duvall and Liam O'Brien in the Removes, both of whom broke school records at Under-14 level, over 1500 and 800 metres respectively. Furthermore, the performances of Alex Scouby (High Jump) and Jonathan Tipper (High Jump and Triple Jump) bring encouragement for the forthcoming years.

The future of KES athletics looks very promising. Combined, Seniors, Inters and Juniors often resulted in comfortable victories. Notable wins were the Junior and Senior Foundation matches and the Holden trophy. Once again the biggest meeting of the year, involving rivals Bromsgrove, Oakham, Repton, Uppingham and Trent, resulted in an overall victory for KES. Finally, I would like to thank all the teachers involved for giving up their Saturday afternoons to help with the running of the events: no small sacrifice! Once again Mr Birch deserves our gratitude for all the time, effort and inexhaustible enthusiasm that he brings to KES athletics each year.

*Chris Bennett-Britton*

## Basketball

### KES Basketball Results 2002-3

A somewhat disappointing season overall by our standards, with some teams (notably the potentially strong under 16s) failing in the early stages of cup competitions, and so having fewer matches than usual. The very young senior team has finished strongly, however, winning the West Midlands Under 19 Cup. As 10 of the squad return next year I have high hopes for 2003/4!

Philip Khalil-Marzouk & Jonathan Tipper have been selected for Greater Birmingham under 14s and Tipper has also made the Midlands team.

Amandeep Khaira, Tom McLeod & Richard Sheehan have been selected for Greater Birmingham Under 15s.

TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	HONOURS
U13	4	4	0	Enjoyed themselves.
U14	7	3	4	West Midlands finalists.
U15	14	4	10	Birmingham semi-finalists.
U16	7	4	3	
U19	22	11	11	Birmingham semi-finalists, West Midlands winners and also reached last 16 stage of England Schools' Cup.

SB



The victorious U19s



## U19

With a young team, this season was never going to be easy. However, our final achievements were quite memorable. The effort and attitude throughout the season were fantastic, whilst at times some of the basketball played was sublime.

Early season friendlies and Birmingham League games against some of the local Sixth Form Colleges proved to be extremely helpful in the long run, as they toughened us up and provided us with experience for both the England Schools and West Midlands tournaments. Nevertheless, such games were too physically demanding for our relatively small team (the size, strength and speed of some of the opposition were ridiculous) and the loss of our inspirational captain Jamie Vatis to injury saw our league position slip, meaning that we only just made the league playoffs. We were knocked out straight away by Solihull Sixth Form College.

The outcomes of the other competitions, however, were far more encouraging and it was in these games that we played our best basketball. The England Schools Championship saw us cruise through the early group stages without a loss and into the last sixteen in the country. Our opponents were Blue Coat School Liverpool, a team who had won this tournament at U15 level. The game was more of a tactical and tense affair rather than end to end excitement, with a lower score than our other games. However, Blue Coat's experience of such games proved to be the key element, as they ended up victorious by four points.

The main success of the season was the West Midlands Cup, a tournament which we had won at under 16 level. We progressed through the rounds with efficiency and class, setting up a semi-final with Worcester Sixth Form College. This was without doubt the season's best game, as we went up by twenty points in the first quarter and maintained that high level of play for the rest of the game. Excellent outside shooting by Jamie Vatis, Shalin Punn and James Dawkins and dominating inside play by Charlie Rees and David Brown took us into the final, which was set up to be a momentous occasion. The opponents, however, proved to lack any of the necessary skills to make the game exciting and we won the cup in what was a fairly routine match.

The best thing about the season (besides winning a cup) was the experience it provided for the coming year. Although we will lose two important veterans in Jamie Vatis and James Cooper, the main bulk of the team remains and this should leave us with extremely high expectations. The necessary thanks must go out to Mr Birch as we look forward to next year.

*Shalin Punn*

## U16

Having played well last year, the U16 team entered this season with high hopes. Turnout at initial practices was good and basketball was played with great intensity.

This year we played in two different competitions: the West Midlands and National competitions. In the National competition we faced Baverstock, whom we would play twice (home and away). Ross Chinn played excellently in the home fixture, shooting from way beyond the arc, but unfortunately we lost by two points overall and so did not qualify for the last stages of the cup. We met the same fate in the West Midlands cup, in a game that could and should have been won easily.

Despite the disappointing lack of silverware, we, as a squad, can look forward to joining the year above to make up the U19 squad. The season proved to be a great learning experience and we are all much better players for it. Special congratulations should go to Robert Hill and Ross Chinn who played in the U19 squad regularly this season. At the end of the season I was lucky enough to train with the England U17 team; a challenging yet fruitful experience. Thanks must go to Mr Birch for the time and effort he put in and of course for having to put up with us shouting and moaning on several minibus journeys.

*Charlie Rees*

## U15

This season's results on paper are not particularly satisfying but if you had the pleasure to see us play, you will know that the results are an unfair reflection on our performances.

Plagued by injury, lack of players and in some cases lack of interest, our squad was often depleted, meaning that we could not perform to our highest level. However, this should not inhibit praise that is due: Jonny Dawkins, a defensive demon, took up the essential role of preventing the opposition from doubling our score! Rich Sheehan's innate ability to put points on the board was consistent and often of the highest quality. Joe Robinson and Amandeep Khaira also played an integral part by adding height and points and copious quantities of checks, particularly when we met King Edward's Lichfield! Finally, Jonathan Tipper deserves his own mention. Playing for the year above may be intimidating for some, but Jonathan always played with his heart and confidence in the game and never looked inexperienced, maybe because he is three feet taller than me!

This leads me nicely on to the subject of potential. With the likes of Jonathan Tipper and Eren Battaloglu (two years below) coming through, then the Under-16 team next year could be very strong. With Richard Sheehan evolving in the game and developing a passion for it, then we could see the results of last year being reversed. Despite losing on several occasions, we were still successful. Three of our players (Richard Sheehan, Amandeep Khaira and I) all made it into the Birmingham Schools district side and we had notable victories against Thomas Telford and Plantsbrook.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr Mintoft for his two years of vital coaching. Even at times when we were awkward and unresponsive to work with, he put up with us and taught us all the fundamentals we know today.

*Tom McLeod*

## U14

The Under-14 basketball season started promisingly with many new faces turning up to trials and ultimately joining the squad. However, when the season began, this great start was met with some stiff competition from more experienced and confident opposition. After the first few games, we were sorry to lose Phil Khalil-Marzouk for most of the season due to a serious Rugby injury. Unfortunately, despite the greatest efforts from the rest of the team, the season dragged on, with loss after loss. However, a win near the end of the season lifted everyone's spirits after a flat year.

The team lacked confidence and most of all experience. Hopefully, over time, this can be altered and the overall talent and commitment of the team will be seen in victorious matches. It would be unfair for me to name any particular members of the squad as each and every person excelled in some aspect of the game. Being as most of the Under-14 squad take basketball seriously and practice in every spare moment they have, we are sure to have a promising start to next year's season.

*Jonathan Tipper*

## Chess

Under Alex Pavlaki's capable leadership, the School first team made excellent progress in the British Chess Federation knock out Cup, losing narrowly on the age rule against Nottingham High School in the regional semi final. As ever Ameet Ghazi's stunning play has been pivotal. Indeed Ameet provided the highlight of our Chess year by coming 16th in the World Junior Chess Championships (U16 division) held in Cyprus in November.

But it was among the younger players that there was the most encouraging resurgence. In the Shells and Removes the school is blessed with a considerable number of capable and keen players; Andrew Cowan, Luke Shipman and Shaaz Farid, among many others, held their own in older and more exalted company. But the most successful young player was Dani Malik, whose prowess was confirmed by his selection for the England U12 Team in a match in Finland last May.

KES entered two teams at U16 and U12 in the UK National Chess Team Championships held at Pontins Holiday Camp at Prestatyn, North Wales, in June.

Six two-hour rounds of competition are mentally and physically demanding and all our players had their good and not so good rounds. But happily we were able to sustain our enthusiasm. At U16, we were placed third, just pipped by Commonweal School and the awesome Magdalen College, Oxford. At U12, we did not expect to win many games. At first it seemed as though this would be the case, but better play on day two saw us into third place, a most creditable result.

I would like to give special mention to Richard Lau and Derek Ly, whose play exceeded expectation and rating, and contributed greatly to our success.

A splendid conclusion to what proved to be a much better season than might have been anticipated, and a good augury for 2003/4.

*RHCS*

## Tennis

2003 marked the end of an era. Not only were the first team saying goodbye to four of the 1st VI, including the spirited captain Tom Forest, but also to the master in charge, Mr Lonsdale.

Keen to impress in their final year, the 1st VI achieved impressive victories against RGS Worcester and Malvern and narrowly lost to extremely strong Repton and Nottingham sides. The most memorable match came against Shrewsbury School, fielding as ever a powerful and rather arrogant team. The match went down to the final set in the doubles, which ended with a tie-break. Tom Forest and Will Taylor played well in tandem, but were just unable to seal the victory, losing narrowly. It was however, an impressive performance by the whole team against a side who had lost only once in the season.

Lower down the school we had notable success in the U15s, with some good performances against local sides in the HSBC Cup Tournament and encouraging performances in the friendlies against Repton, Nottingham and Bromsgrove. Perhaps our most talented side was the U13s. With strength in depth, the future of School tennis looks to be in the good hands of 7 or 8 players of a good standard. Results were impressive in the HSBC Cup Tournament, which we only just failed to win, losing to Arthur Terry School 4 - 2.

2003 was a hugely enjoyable season and the boys should be proud of their achievements.

*RJL*



# Cricket

## AVERAGES 2003 Played 20 Won 10 Lost 6 Drawn 2 Cancelled 2

### BATTING (Qualification - 100 runs)

	Matches	Innings	Not Out	H. Score	Runs	Average
R.Tiwari	18	18	1	85	483	28.4
J.Neale	20	20	4	78*	450	28.1
S.Chase	13	13	3	100*	408	40.8
A.Holmes	15	15	5	66*	366	36.6
N.Chase	15	15	2	48	262	20.1
V.Katyal	19	19	6	37	167	12.8
A.Gatrad	19	10	0	72	151	15.1

### Also Played

N.Curtis	19	8	4	33	72	18
J.Paterson	18	6	2	23	60	15
H.Hecht	7	5	2	22	27	9
D.LoyoMayo	7	5	1	17	27	6.8
J.Botha	19	5	2	15	20	6.7
J.Huxley	1	1	1	14	14	n/a
H.Hussain	2	2	0	11	11	5.5
S.Patel	3	3	0	9	11	3.7
A.Vakil	19	6	2	4	10	2.5
D.Neale	1	1	0	0	0	0

### BOWLING (Qualification - 10 wickets)

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Best	Average
N.Chase	167.3	50	412	25	4-44	16.48
V.Katyal	110.5	11	376	20	3-30	18.80
J.Botha	83.2	16	224	19	4-6	11.79
J.Neale	97.3	22	256	19	3-12	13.47
A.Holmes	104.1	19	337	19	4-7	17.74
R.Tiwari	107	18	320	17	3-9	18.82

### Also Bowled

J.Paterson	90.4	10	327	8	2-19	40.88
N.Curtis	43	9	146	5	1-10	29.20
T.Yeo	17	6	45	4	2-2	11.25
S. Patel	12.1	0	73	3	2-23	24.33
H. Hussain	18	2	81	2	2-36	40.50
S. Chase	1	0	4	0	n/a	n/a
A. Gatrad	1	0	4	0	n/a	n/a

### CATCHES

A.Vakil	15
R.Tiwari	10
J. Neale	8
N. Chase	6
A. Gatrad	6
N. Curtis	6

### STUMPINGS

A. Vakil	8
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## Cricket XI 2002-03

## KES v SHREWSBURY SCHOOL

Saturday 3 May 2003  
At Shrewsbury (50 overs)

KES	38 for 4
Holmes	18

Match Abandoned

## KES v BABLAKE

Wednesday 7 May 2003  
At Eastern Road (35 overs)

KES	150 for 6
Holmes	58
N.Chase	32*
Garrad	31

BABLAKE 78 all out  
Chase 3-8  
Yeo 2-2  
Win by 74 runs

## KES v OLD SWINFORD HOSPITAL SCHOOL

Saturday 10 May 2003  
At Eastern Road (50 overs)

OLD SWINFORD	56 all out
Holmes	4-6
Tiwari	3-11

KES 50 for 3  
S. Chase 23\*  
Win by 7 wickets

## KES v MALVERN COLLEGE

Wednesday 14 May 2003  
At Malvern (35 overs)

MALVERN	171 all out
Katyal	3-30
Yeo	2-29

KES 108 all out  
Patterson 19\*  
Curtis 18  
Lost by 63 runs

## KES v SOLIHULL SCHOOL

Saturday 17 May 2003  
At Eastern Road (60/52 overs)

SOLIHULL	130 all out
N. Chase	4-40
Holmes	3-17

KES 23-1  
Match Abandoned

## KES v RGS WORCESTER

Saturday 24 May 2003  
Flagge Meadow (60/52 overs)

RGS	173 all out
Patterson	2-29
Tiwari	2-31
N. Chase	2-38

KES 177-2  
S. Chase 92\*  
Holmes 31\*  
Win by 8 wickets

## KES v WARWICK SCHOOL

Saturday 7 June 2003  
At Eastern Road (60/52 overs)

WARWICK	179 for 7
Botha	3-28

KES 130 all out  
N. Chase 44  
Lost by 49 runs

## KES v WOLVERHAMPTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Saturday 14 June 2003  
At Eastern Road (50 overs)

KES	196 for 7
Tiwari	78
Holmes	34

WOLVERHAMPTON 74 all out  
Holmes 4-7  
Katyal 2-3  
Patterson 2-19  
Win by 122 runs

## KES v KING'S SCHOOL, WORCESTER

Saturday 21 June 2003  
At Worcester (60/52 overs)

KES	217 for 8
Tiwari	85
Katyal	37
Neale	28
S. Chase	26

KING'S 169 for 8  
Holmes 4-40  
Neale 3-12  
Match Drawn

## KES v REPTON

Wednesday 25 June 2003  
At Eastern Road (35 overs)

KES	174 for 5
S. Chase	65
Neale	26

REPTON 139 for 4  
Neale 2-9  
Win by 34 runs

## KES v TRENT COLLEGE

Saturday 28 June 2003  
At Trent (50 overs)

KES	232 for 6
S. Chase	100*
Neale	55

TRENT 235 for 7  
N. Chase 3-21  
Neale 2-49  
Lost by 3 wickets

## KES v KESTRELS

Sunday 29 June  
At Eastern Road (40 overs)

KES	196 for 5
Holmes	66*
N. Chase	42
S. Chase	36
Curtis	33

KESTRELS 158 for 9  
N. Chase 2-24  
L. Roll 61  
Win by 38 runs

## KES v HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

Wednesday 2 July 2003  
At Eastern Road (50 overs)

HEREFORD	100 all out
Botha	4-6
Neale	2-14
Patterson	1-12

KES 101 for 5  
Neale 41\*  
Katyal 17  
Win by 5 wickets

## KES v MCC

Thursday 3 July 2003  
At Eastern Road

MCC	202 for 4
Holmes	1-50
N. Chase	1-67

KES 182 for 4  
N. Chase 45  
Neale 41  
Holmes 31\*  
Match Drawn

## KES v WESTMINSTER COLLEGE, ADELAIDE

Friday 4 July 2003  
At Eastern Road (50 overs)

KES	169 for 9
Tiwari	34
S. Chase	28
Holmes	27
Patterson	23*

WESTMINSTER 170 for 6  
Botha 2-28  
N. Chase 1-21  
Lost by 4 wickets

## KES v OLD EDWARDIANS' ASSOCIATION

Saturday 5 July 2003  
At Eastern Road (40 overs)

OEA	97 all out
N. Chase	2-18
Neale	2-16
Tiwari	2-17
Holmes	2-23

KES 99 for 3  
Holmes 31\*  
Tiwari 19  
Neale 16  
Win by 7 wickets

## KES v WELLINGTON COLLEGE

Monday 7 July 2003  
At Eastern Road

WELLINGTON	217 for 8
Katyal	2-40
Patterson	1-18

KES 165 all out  
Garrad 72  
Tiwari 58\*  
Lost by 52 runs

## KES v XL CLUB

Tuesday 8 July 2003  
At Eastern Road

XL CLUB	175 for 8 dec
Tiwari	3-9
N. Chase	2-30
Patel	2-33
Neale	1-30

KES 178 for 3  
Neale 78\*  
Tiwari 54  
Katyal 19\*  
Win by 7 wickets

## KES v NOTTINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL

Wednesday 9 July 2003  
At Nottingham (50 overs)

KES	199 all out
Neale	60
Tiwari	29
Herby	22
Loyo Mayo	17
Hussain	11

NOTTINGHAM 200 for 9  
Neale 3-22  
Hussain 2-36  
Katyal 1-27  
Tiwari 1-38  
Patterson 1-30  
Lost by 1 wicket

## KES v OLD EDWARDIAN CRICKET CLUB

Thursday 10 July 2003  
At Eastern Road (50 overs)

KES	140 for 9
Tiwari	52
N. Chase	28
Botha	15*
Neale	14
Garrad	14

OECC 95 all out  
Botha 3-18  
Katyal 2-17  
Neale 2-21  
Patel 1-0  
N. Chase 1-18  
Win by 45 runs



## The XI

The XI started with fairly low expectations this year, if truth be told. We were an inexperienced team, as the bulk of the side that broke the School record last year had left. However, the team performed exceptionally well, and did better than almost anyone expected, under the inspirational leadership of Ravi Tiwari. From the outset you could tell that there was going to be good team morale; and it showed both on and off the cricket pitch. The side managed 10 wins in total, and had it not been for 4 matches lost in the last over, then we could have equalled last year's record.

After a few training sessions during the Easter holiday we started the season with a trip away to Shrewsbury, where we got off to a poor start. Thankfully the rain came, at 38-4 after 25 overs, to save our blushes in a match that we surely would have lost. We bounced back immediately with two comprehensive victories versus Bablake and Oldswinford, winning by 70 runs and 7 wickets respectively. We then travelled to Malvern to play a strong, well-drilled outfit that promptly knocked us back down to earth with a crushing defeat that probably did us more of a favour than harm. We learned a lot of lessons that day!

The next fixture saw us kick off the second year of a local league contested by Warwick, Solihull, RGS Worcester, King's School Worcester and KES. We started off with an excellent performance against Solihull, but we couldn't cap it off with a victory before the rain came. The next performance in the tournament was to be our best of the season. We played RGS Worcester. At 140-4 the opposition looked in control but a superb comeback after lunch meant that we skittled them all out for just 174. In reply, the loss of an early wicket didn't help the cause but a second wicket stand of 97 between James Neale (24) and Simon Chase (92\*)

steadied things. Andy Holmes then came in and finished off the match with a quick-fire 31\* to win by 8 wickets with 7 overs to spare.

Our next opponents were probably the best we faced in the season. Even though Warwick were 52-6 at one stage, their batsmen kept playing their shots and made it to a competitive 179-7, with some poor bowling and fielding by us contributing to their resurgence. Only Nick Chase really got going in reply and contributed a defiant 44, but it was not enough: we crumbled to 130 all out. The four matches that followed saw some good individual performances by several people. Against Wolverhampton GS we won, Tiwari contributing 78 and Holmes picking up 4-7 off an 11 over stint. Next came King's School Worcester, where we got a winning draw thanks to another good innings from Tiwari (85) and Katyal (37). After that came Repton, a one-sided game that saw us romp home comfortably, Chase scoring 65. Trent College away proved too tough and this was to end our good run of form. Even though Chase scored our only century of the season and the team tried desperately in the field, Trent defeated us in the last over.

Then came the crunch match against the Kestrels, where Holmes scored 66\* and we set a tough total of 196-5 in 40 overs. We thought that we had the prize wicket of Mr Roll early on in the reply when Botha had him caught behind by Alex Vakil. However, after being given out by Doc Evans he was reinstated after Tiwari spoke to the batsman and swore that he never touched the ball! This decision nearly came back to haunt us as Roll went on to score 61 but, once he had been dismissed, the Kestrels collapsed to 157-9.

Victories against Hereford Cathedral and OEA, a composed draw versus the MCC, and losses to Westminster (the Australian touring side) and Wellington in the next 5 days meant displays of varying quality. Notable performances with the bat from Nick Chase saw him score 48 versus the MCC,

Neale scored 41\*, and Katyal weighed in with some useful 20s in 2 matches.

Particular mention must go to Adam Gatrad too, who scored a terrific 72 (his maiden half-century for the XI). Botha was the main performer with the ball during this period, picking up 8 wickets.

We finished with two more wins (versus the XL Club and Old Eds CC) and a loss against Nottingham HS. This meant a decent finish without some of our main performers. But it gave a chance for some of the younger boys in the 4ths and UMs to stake a



The XI



claim for future seasons; these included Sameer Patel, Hussnan Hussain, and Daniel Neale. A mention must also be made of Philip Neale, the young wicketkeeper who played even though still only in the Rems.

Overall, the team performed well. Even though the spin attack of Chase, Holmes, Katyal and Neale bowled the majority of the overs, they were well supported by the likes of Botha, Tiwari, Paterson and Curtis, who all opened the bowling during the season at one stage or another. I am pleased to say that all the top order batsmen had a good season and that over the course of the summer they all produced match winning innings.

Finally, thanks must go to both Mr Stead and Dave Collins. Much of the success achieved this season is down to their hard work with the team, both in the winter and summer. May I also thank Mavis and her assistants for the marvellous lunches and teas throughout the year. In addition we are grateful to Brian Goodall for his umpiring during the season. We appreciate all who came to support us, and we hope that next season will be even better as we retain all but one of the players from 2003.

*James Neale*

## 2nd XI

The 2nd XI has been renowned in recent years for having the best team spirit of all KES cricket sides: a collection of lads who enjoy playing cricket and a team who know how to have a laugh whilst taking the game seriously. The 2003 season was no exception. As we took the field on a cold, damp May afternoon for our first game, Vidu Shanmugarajah turned to me and reflected on the cultural diversity of our team: eight Asians, two White Europeans and a Mexican. It is true that our team had a rich mix of people, with nineteen individuals playing for the team at some time during the season.

Our record (played eight: won three, lost four, one abandoned) does not reflect how well we played as a team. Our first game was the only one where we were truly out-played, by a strong Shrewsbury side. A batting collapse led to our meagre total of 95 all out, though Neal Desai's 33 not out, Tabish Ahmed's 25 and Mohit Mandiratta's 6 overs, 2 wickets for 12 runs should be noted. However, we lost by 6 wickets.

Our second match, against Old Swinford, was a thrilling one. On a testing damp South Field wicket Dan Loyo-Mayo set the tone with a stunning 60 in a total of 138 for 6 in 35 overs. The opposition's innings started strongly, as no wicket was taken for the first 13 overs, but Harjit Bhogal balanced the match with a steady 7 overs 3 wickets for 26 runs. With Old Swinford only requiring 2.5 runs per over to win the game, and with 6 wickets in hand, our prospects of victory looked bleak. But at the most crucial time of the game, man of the match James Mann drove the second team bandwagon away from the jaws of defeat, taking the last five wickets for only eleven runs; KES won

by 5 runs.

For our next six games a former Warwickshire captain, Paul Reynolds, returned to the cricket option from his true love, skateboarding, and proved to be a pillar of the team, taking 5 catches and scoring 70 not out in a 379-run fiesta against King's School Worcester at Eastern Road. He was aided by Ben Noble (33 not out) in guiding us to a convincing six wicket win.

Another resounding win came against Wolverhampton G.S. where Neal Desai (12 overs, 3 wickets for 40 runs) and Obaid Choudhry (6 overs, 2 wickets for 20 runs) shone with the ball, before Joe Huxley scored 81 not out, winning us the game by eight wickets with 13 overs to spare.

The closest game of the season was against RGS Worcester. After Jamie Doe scored 31 in a total of 119, Mohit (8 overs, 2 wickets for 21 runs), Harjit (8 overs, 4 wickets for 22 runs) and Vidu (8 overs, 2 wickets for 22 runs) all bowled well to leave the opposition needing one run from the last 6 balls, with only 1 wicket remaining. After five dot balls they scored the vital run on the last ball of the game. In the final game of the season, against Trent College, Ben Noble starred with 49 not out and Vidu with 5 overs, 4 wickets for 17 runs. However, in yet another tight finish, the game was again lost in the last over by a wicket.

I thoroughly enjoyed the season, as I'm sure did the rest of the side. The banter between Sonny Ram (chief bookmaker), Ben Noble (official gossip queen), Obaid Choudhry (head fisherman), Mohit Mandiratta (Jon Tickle's number one fan) and Jamie Doe (longest hair) amongst others, was exceptional. Thanks must go to KDP and TFC for organising and umpiring, and to the substitute fielder at Warwick for catching out one of his own players at mid-wicket!

*Harry Hecla*

## 3rd XI

The 2002/2003 season proved difficult for the 3rd team. This was largely owing to the beautiful English weather... the rain! The end result was that only two games were played to completion, both lost by an inexperienced young team. Our bowling was quick promising and sometimes even accurate. Our batting however, lacked consistency and wickets were often thrown away. Even so, everyone had some good fun and this enthusiasm often showed with some exceptional fielding. A "thank you" must go Mr Evans who put much effort into organising and coaching the thirds. We all wish for a better season next year.

*Obaid Choudhry*

## U15

We entered the 2003 season with high hopes boasting four extremely talented Australians: Tom Murray, Tyson Yeo, Andrew Pyman and Simon Eales. We travelled to Shrewsbury full of confidence, looking



for our first victory. Unfortunately, the weather let us down and the game was cancelled after only half an hour of play. The following week we played Old Swinford at home without Tyson Yeo, who was making his debut for the 1st XI. It was a solid batting performance, with Tom Murray scoring a superb 58. A wonderful all round effort resulted in our first win of the season.

Regrettably this was to be our only victory of the summer. With rain washing out two of our eight games, our season was cut rather short. The Australians gave us some hope against RGS Worcester, both Tyson Yeo and Tom Murray playing well, but unfortunately, the rest of the team did not perform as well. We suffered further losses at the hands of Warwick, Wolverhampton, Trent College and Malvern, the last a game in which Malvern needed a six off the last ball, and got it.

Throughout the season there were some exceptional performances. Tom Murray scored 92 runs in just two games. Qasim Khattak was our leading run scorer with 102 runs, including a brilliant 59 against a tough Trent College bowling attack. Our bowling over the course of the season was of a reasonable standard. Sameer Patel led the way with 10 wickets, closely followed by Vishal Banerjee who took 8 wickets, bowling promising leg-breaks. Charlie Hall also did a



U13 XI

tidy job behind the stumps.

With further coaching and practice, we will enjoy more successes in the future. I would like to wish the team the best of luck for next year in the Seniors, with some players hopefully breaking into the 1st XI. Special thanks must go to all four of the Australians, who brought good humour with a mix of sledging to our team. Greater thanks go to our amazing scorer Richard Lau, whose statistical work is second to none. A special mention must go to Mr Roll for his time and patience in helping us to become better cricketers in the future.

Sameer Patel

## U14A XI

Coming off the back of a great last season, the team's expectations were very high, and we did get off to a great start by beating Shrewsbury in an extremely low scoring game. We batted first and got 98 on a wet and long outfield. We bowled tightly and well and kept the visitors to 91-9, with Daniel Neale, Rob Hall, Hussnan Hussain and Adhuv Prinja all chipping in with a few wickets. We then were away to RGS Worcester, which was always going to be a tough game. They began with 170 off 35 overs. We got off to a bad start but Lionel Virdee (49) and Daniel Neale (35) steadied the innings with a good partnership, until both were dismissed and we ended up 30 runs short with a couple of wickets in hand.

On a dull afternoon after school we played Park View in a cup 20-over game. We batted first and got 120 with Will Arnold making 32 not out and Joe Russell making a great 41 not out. We cruised to an easy win, bowling them out for 38, thanks to Neale (2-2), Hussain (3-10) and Hall (2-11).

Against Warwick, in our worst performance of the

year, we were bowled out for 89, only Hussain and Lavender making it into double figures. Warwick comfortably knocked off the feeble total with 9 wickets in hand, Prinja getting the only wicket. Wolverhampton then came to KES and after another quite poor performance we were bowled all out for 130 with Neale (22) and Arnold (15). Our good effort in the field wasn't quite enough and we lost in a tight finish, with Prinja and Hall picking up wickets.

We then travelled to King's Worcester, to whom we have never lost. We had quite a good start, with Hussain making 48, but soon collapsed and found ourselves at 97-7, whereupon a match-winning 27 from Daniel Lavender saved us and we made 140. With good, tight bowling we bowled them out for just over 100. Hall, Khan and Virdee (our 2 spinners) picking up wickets. David Canner also bowled well and accurately. A strong Trent College team came to play us on a glorious day but we were so busy enjoying the luxury of the sun that nobody was able to post a good score. We didn't trouble Trent, who soon knocked off



the runs despite Hussain and Khan getting wickets. Later on in the season we travelled to Malvern College with our B team. We bowled first and did quite well, with Hussain, Hall, Virdee getting a wicket each and Neale (4-16) keeping them down to a reasonable total. Owing to a rain-interrupted innings no one really got a start and we ended up losing miserably, Hussain making 20.

There were some positives in the season, though, as many of the players came on and two, Daniel Neale and Hussnan Hussain, made their 1st team debuts. I am sure we will perform a lot better next year.

*Daniel Neale*

## U14B XI

*Playing Record: 5 matches-2 wins, 3 defeats*

A regular attendance of up to thirty players at the weekly practices was a clear sign of the team's greatest strength - their enthusiasm for the game. It also gave the Selectorial Panel (the captain and myself) a problem of the right sort: who to leave out of the squad. In the event, a rotation system of sorts meant that a total of twenty players turned out for the team over the course of the season.

The weakest part of the team's performance was the batting; it lacked consistency and only one or two players had the ability or concentration to build an innings. The captain, James Burt, was easily the most consistent batsman, reaching double figures in each of his five innings and finishing with an impressive average of 41. The top score of the season was the 47 which Hamzah Sarwar made against King's School, Worcester. Others who occasionally batted well were Greg Arrand and Richard Johnstone.

Nirad Solanki was the most consistent wicket taker, with eight wickets at a cost of ten runs apiece. However, undoubtedly the most sensational spell was from Charles Morton, who, with an inspired performance, took seven wickets for 11 runs, including the top six batsmen. Charles' efforts enabled KES to stroll to victory by eight wickets. Others who took useful wickets were Hamzah Sarwar, Stuart Flaherty, Vishnu Aggarwal, Shrawan Patel, Ahmed Ali and Tayeb Shabir.

In his first season as wicket keeper, Greg Arrand tried hard and made a noticeable improvement. The fielding as a whole was competent and occasionally inspired, particularly from Aggarwal and Patel. James Burt learnt a lot as captain and showed increasing confidence in handling his bowlers and fielders. It was a very satisfactory season.

*GAW*

## U13 XI

This was a disappointing season, in which only two matches were won and five lost. The bowlers performed well; Daniel Christopher, Amaad Choudhry and Sarus Jain bowled tightly and the two spinners, Saqib and Nitin Saul, showed a lot of promise with some attacking bowling in contrasting styles. Kieran Iyer was the most consistent batsman, although others had moments of glory from time to time, as this report will show. The fielding was excellent on occasions but greater concentration throughout the two hours in the field is needed. The cup quarter-final in which the competitive edge kept everyone alert was our best fielding display.

The season started with a match against a Worcestershire county side; KES batted first, only managing 90 runs, although Kieran Iyer (18), Ali Sikander (18) and Nitin Saul (23 not out, with some lovely attacking strokes including two sixes) scored creditably. KES bowled well, especially Sarus Jain (1-4 in two overs), but Worcestershire won by 6 wickets.

Next we played Old Swinford, whom we bowled out for 97 in a 40 over match. The two spinners bowled well, Saqib taking four wickets and Nitin two. KES collapsed to 53 for 9 off 21 overs; our chances looked slim but, thanks to mature and sensible batting from number eleven Saqib (12 not out) and Kieran Iyer (42 not out), we won a thrilling game.

Following Rems Week, we lost to our rivals Warwick. Although Kieran (22) and Phil Neale (16) created a good partnership, the team only made 96, which was easily passed by the Warwick team despite Sarus Jain again bowling tightly and Phil Neale taking two catches and a stumping. Wolverhampton School also beat us, although Daniel Christopher (25) helped KES past 100 for the first time in the season. Daniel complemented his good batting performance by bowling very well and tightly. We then came up against a very strong King's Worcester side, who beat us despite our impressive score of 136 (Sedgwick 25, Arnold 18, Iyer 35, Sikander and Neale 12 each).

The final scheduled match was against Trent College. Phil Neale scored our first fifty in two years but his glory was stolen by a well-played 66 not out by Kieran Iyer. Karan Modi in his A team debut scored an impressive quick-fire thirty, including a lovely guided top edge for six, giving KES a defendable total of 174. Unfortunately, due to some dropped catches in the field, Trent knocked the runs off, although Phil Neale took a catch and three stumpings and Daniel Christopher bowled well, taking two wickets.

KES reached the quarter-finals of the Leslie Fellows County Cup due to forfeits by other teams. Kieran Iyer performed well again, scoring 27; Nitin Saul (18) and Modi (18) also batted well; but none could match the 47 not out scored by Pavan Grewal, who had struggled with the bat most of the year but shone when it counted! We went through to the final against Solihull



when our semi-final opponents had to concede the match.

The final of the Warwickshire County Cup was played in glorious weather on Friday 12th September at Solihull School. Solihull chose to bat first on a slow pitch with slow outfield, and were bowled out for 81 within their 35 overs. KES bowled well and fielded tightly: Phil Neale earned the man of the match award with four stumpings.

When KES batted there were a few alarms as two wickets were given away due to silly run-outs. However, generally, the batting was sensible and Solihull's score was passed for the loss of six wickets with almost 12 overs to spare. Victory was truly a team effort: everyone had made a contribution with either bat, ball or in the field. This triumph was a very satisfactory end to the cricket season and start to the new school year.

*Phil Neale and TM*



U12 XI

## U12 XI

Our season started by travelling to RGS Worcester. Our enthusiastic fathers, standing under the trees supporting us, sadly could not raise the game and we lost. Our immediate disappointment fuelled our determination to get onto winning ways. Two days later we travelled away, to take on Oldswinford. At the end of our innings Khanna put a quick 21 on the board, bringing the team to a respectable 121. We went out to field feeling optimistic and accurate bowling from Blunt in particular (3-17) ensured the team their first victory.

After the pleasures of our first win, we travelled to Warwick determined to put together a winning streak. On a poor wicket, excellent batting from Chris Duncan resulted in his top score of 25. Our fielding provided further entertainment: two spilt catches off Duncan's bowling and a throw from Greg Jones which almost took the head off Mr Lye, umpiring at square leg. However our bowling was good enough to make sure of another win.

In our next non cup match we faced Wolverhampton Grammar School on South Field. During our innings there were notable performances from Botha (54) and Grant (66 not out) which enabled us to post 203-2, our top score of the season. Our bowling was impressive with Sharma (4-7), Bunt (2-4) and Shanghavi (2-10) providing immense pleasure together with Gateley's stumpings.

One of the highlights of the season came against King's Worcester. Feelings were tense as we set off from KES knowing that King's had already beaten RGS only two weeks previously. Under the hot sun, early wickets put us under some pressure. However, Botha started the fight back with a quick fire 26. The resistance continued with Reilly holding his end up whilst Khanna played many extravagant shots. We

ended up with a competitive 163 all out. After tea our somewhat loose bowling put false hopes into the hearts of our opponents. Chris Duncan had other plans and, by bowling accurately, proceeded to 3-15. Worcester still looked confident, but Shanghavi's three-minute appearance to drop a catch and sustain injury helped to distract them. It also must have disrupted Grant's concentration as he missed a catch whilst viewing an adjacent game! It was time to tighten up, and tighten up we did. We bowled King's out for 142, earning another impressive victory for the U12As.

Our main goal of the season was the Calypso Cup. Having already beaten Great Barr, only 3 matches were between us and the final. We dismissed Fairfax and King's Heath with ease and overcame Bablake in a relatively close match to reach the final, where we faced an unbeaten Solihull side.

After losing the toss we were forced into bowling. A wicket off only the second ball of the match (caught Gateley bowled Jones) produced a dramatic start and this enhanced our confidence. Inspired bowling from Jones (3-6), Botha (4-5) and Shanghavi (1-6) helped reduce Solihull to 91 all out. Our confidence was maintained after our openers (Botha and Karim) saw off the opening bowlers, batting well. Later, after a strong partnership from Khanna and Gateley, Solihull bounced back by taking a couple of quick wickets in succession. However Chris Duncan and Charles Blunt looked as if they had heard the Chief Master when he asked for a bit of bat on ball as they smashed us to victory. The Calypso Cup was ours.

We had a wonderful season. We had fun as a team as well as playing some great cricket. On behalf of the team I would like to thank Mr Lye for all his hard work and effort throughout the season.

*Simon Gateley*

# Hockey

## 1st XI

To say that this season for the 1st XI was disastrous would be harsh, but not as far from the truth as one would like. In fairness, living up to the high standards of last year's 1st XI was always going to be difficult, and the season looked tough from the outset, following a 3-2 defeat by the Old Edwardians, usually used for pre-season target practice.

The team's morale certainly took a few knocks during the first matches, with a battling 2-1 defeat against Five Ways and a 5-2 hiding from arch rivals Solihull, not to mention being outclassed 4-1 by Newcastle-Under-Lyme and beaten 4-3 by a late winner from QMGS. We didn't fare much better in the Cup either, where we were beaten 1-3 by Lawrence Sheriff.

However, later in the season the team struck a vein of form, though admittedly against easier opposition. We handed out comprehensive thrashings of 7-1 to Camp Hill, 3-0 to King Henry's, 5-0 to Bishop Vesey's and 4-1 to King's Macclesfield. During this period, the only blot on the landscape was an unlucky 1-0 loss to Wrekin College. The season finished with a particularly bittersweet moment as we defeated King Henry's again by 3-2 in a bad tempered, physical encounter, which made the Astroturf look more like the Somme.

Despite the numerous defeats, certain players deserve special mentions. Tom Forrest worked tirelessly in midfield and always battled hard, despite his small stature; Sanjeev Panesar and Neil Curtis were always prepared

to get stuck in when it mattered; and Richard Bradish's timely tackles and brave defending were often pivotal. However, the *Player of the Season* award must go to Paul Reynolds, who not only scored one of the greatest goals ever witnessed by any KES team, but frequently put in sterling performances in his role as sweeper, with commanding defensive performances and driving attacking play. Finally, there were two county call-ups from the 1st team, with forward John Ashton and goalkeeper Kabir Sondhi being selected for the Warwickshire U16s and U18s respectively.

Kabir Sondhi



1st XI Hockey

## 2nd XI

After many training sessions in the pouring rain under the watchful eye of Mr Lye, this year's young and inexperienced 2nd XI was finally ready to take on the hockey world. Although we encountered a few mishaps along the way, we made steady progress throughout the season, with the likes of Adam Gatrad and John Ashton improving at the heart of the defence. Towards the end of the season, with the help of Mr Roll's inspirational half time talks, results began to go in our favour and we finally put a string of victories together.

Chris Hedges



2nd XI Hockey



### 3rd XI

This was another year of exceptional success for Tinley's Tigers (the Real Madrid of school Hockey). We almost achieved the distinction of beating every opponent at some point in the season, a record that would have been only justice for a team brimming full of talent.

During the season it became apparent that matches tended to be either closely fought affairs (sometimes literally) or easy victories (indeed, scores nearing double figures weren't rare occurrences). However, our most memorable games were against more skilful sides against whom, due to our team spirit and moments of sheer remarkable brilliance, we managed to sneak that crucial goal. Special mention here should go to Deadly Dave (David Conway), who always could be counted upon for a goal from whatever ridiculous angle, and of course to Nathan 'every skill in da book' Golding, a player with excellence sometimes beyond even the imagination and capabilities of SJT himself.

But the accomplishments of the 3rd XI were also due to the consistency of the midfielders (Crowson, Shah and Conway) who were always influential in winning a great deal of the ball, and the solid defence (Brooke, Shelley, Tiwari and Bradish). We had a man standing in the goal (Boyle), though he was often surplus to requirements, regularly going whole games without touching the ball.

As captain I would like to thank the squad, who always gave their all, and I hope that they enjoyed the season as much as I did. At this stage all that needs to be said is a huge thanks to Tinnars for organising the players into something resembling a Hockey team, and for ferrying us to and from away fixtures. Cheers, guys, for such an enjoyable time.

*Ravi Tiwari*



*3rd XI Hockey*

### 4th XI

This season has seen the 4th XI emerge as the best Hockey team in the school, conceding only 3 defeats all season and boasting an impressive goal scoring record. On top of this we have seen some bright talent for the future years: Tom Rutter is worthy of mention for his outstanding displays in central defence. It was the blend of fine young stallions mixed with the old warmongers that made this season so successful. For example, Mitesh Jalota became the top goalscorer in the school and captain Ed Freeman's control of all the games from the heart of midfield was masterful. Let us not forget the contribution of our coach Mr Rees, whose inspirational half-time team talks and match-winning tactics were so crucial in those times of need.

*Ed Freeman*



*4th XI Hockey*

## U15A

The U15As had a very successful season this year. With Mr Lye at the helm and Will Murphey as captain, the team went from strength to strength, eventually defeating our arch rivals Warwick on their home ground after a humiliating defeat by them early in the season, and securing a nail-biting 2-2 draw against Solihull. I enjoyed watching the team grow in spirit, character and skill as the season progressed, and many players emerged to prominence. Jon Botha shone once again through his commitment and solid tackling, as did Vivek Balachandar and Sanjay Patel. We found aggression and dubious tackling skills in our sweeper David Arnold, and top goal scorer Ollie Adams showed flashes of brilliance, scoring from all angles.

Thanks must go to everyone in the team for their hard work and their help in making the season so successful, and to Mr Lye for his support and devotion to the team.

*Will Murphey*



*U15A Hockey*

## U15B

The U15B team had an interesting season. We played eight, won four, drew one and lost three. Overall we played some good hockey, but we gave away some games which we could have won. Against Solihull we were 2-1 up until careless defending meant that they scored with only a few seconds remaining. However, towards the end of the season we realised that we couldn't win without putting plenty of effort in, and we won our last three games 2-0, 2-1 and 4-0.

Notable performances came from Vishal Banerjee, Amandeep Khaira, Mo Usman, Tom Burn and Nick Waddell, but the whole team often played well and the season was good fun. Special thanks must go to Mr Lye and Mr Stead, who coached us and took us to the away games. Thanks and well done also to everyone who took part in the games and practices.

*Tom Burn*



*U15B Hockey*

## U14A

The season began with some embarrassing defeats, such as the match against Queen Mary's Grammar School which we lost 7-0. However, we trained hard and later in the season beat Evesham 5-0 thanks to our two strikers, Hugh Davenport and Daniel Neale. We have battled hard in all of our matches but in some were very unlucky. This was particularly the case against Queen Mary's Grammar School for the second time, a match drawn in the last minute. Overall, the team has improved over the season. Special mention must go to Pascal French (who has played in numerous positions). Our goalies, Jack Davenport, Matt King and Charles Morton, have put in a great deal of effort as well.

*Simon Clapham*



*U14A Hockey*



## U14B

Our first season of Hockey was somewhat mixed. All our hard training over the Autumn and Spring Terms procured only a single victory this season, against Queen Mary's Walsall on a hard-fought Thursday night. Over the course of the season we also played Loughborough and Wolverhampton. Special mentions should go to Charles Morton, a goalkeeper of the highest calibre, and also Matthew While, a vital player in our win against Queen Mary's.

*Richard Johnstone*



*U14B Hockey*

## Fives

This year's squad contained a number of talented players but, largely owing to our inexperience, we failed to set the world on fire. It was a young squad, as almost half of the school's serious Fives players had left at the end of 2001-2002; only one Senior pair remained. The undeniable highlight of the season was the performance of the U16 1st pair of Harjit Bhogal and Hassan Bhatti, who progressed well through the national competition before being beaten by a very strong Shrewsbury side. My thanks must go to the staff for keeping Fives alive at school and to our new coach James, who has settled in well and has been a great help to everybody. Given another year of experience, KES's Fives teams will have the potential to rise from obscurity and become a force to be reckoned with.

*Neil Curtis*



## Cross Country



This season was another successful one for the Senior Cross-Country team. The option continues to grow, to the extent that many runners had to be left at

school for away fixtures, as there was not enough room in the mini-bus! Yet I am writing this report with a distinct feeling of déjà vu, because for the third season in a row we have finished 2nd in the Birmingham Schools' League. In fact, if you mention the word "Newcastle" to a member of the Cross-Country faithful he will probably break down in devastated rage! This year's was one of the closest fought contests in the history of the event, as after 11 league races Newcastle and KES went into the decisive Sutton Park race equal on points. However the gods were not smiling on the Cross-Country faithful and we came 2nd by eight places.

As captain I would have liked to say that I led the team from the front. Sadly for me, this was not the case. Thanks to David Woods the team approached every fixture in the knowledge that we already had first place secured. David won every league race he

ran in and in doing so became the first KES boy to win the overall individual league championship. He also represented the West Midlands in a year in which they won the National Competition. However, this was not a one-man show, with Ben Oldham and Vikram Balachander proving invaluable members of the A-team.

All that is left to be said is to thank Dr Bridges and Mr Stead for driving the mini-bus, and the team, for yet another year. Thanks also to Eugene, the team's iconic mascot, entertainer and C-team captain: those long journeys would not have been the same without your

array of impressions of members of staff.

The younger boys also had a successful season. Early in the year, Greg Divall led his Junior team to first place in the first round of the Schools Cup, and they narrowly missed out on qualifying for the final. Then, in the end of season Birmingham Championships, the Under-14s won, with Divall and Ajay Mohite first and second, and the Under-16s won, with David Woods finishing first. Divall represented the West Midlands, and was ranked second nationally in his age group.

*Tim Wallis*

## Golf

### Golf Team vs The Old Boys

We knew that it was going to be hard to emulate last year's emphatic 3-1 victory against the Old Edwardians. This year's team wasn't as strong as the previous year's, owing to the absence of Mr Roll and one or two Sixth formers. One must also acknowledge the massive blow of losing Tiger Tinley to the Old Edwardians to make up their numbers.

As the matches got under way, nerves seemed to be affecting some of the golfers' play. The first pair, Ed Graham and Luke Bell, made a confident start but soon lost their way, slumping to a 4&3 defeat. On the other hand a convincing win for Mr Dancey and James Neale meant that the competition as a whole was in the balance. After 9 holes we were down in all of the

other three matches. But Mr Tinley and his partner managed to lose by 1 hole, after being 4 up at the halfway stage. Very unselfish of him! There was particularly good play from James Mann, who drove the par 4, 16th hole. This meant that we were 2-1 up. But unfortunately we failed to pick up any points in the other matches, which involved Mr Everest (who will be on the other side next year) and Rob Hollyhead in one pair, and Nick Parton and Olly Cooper in the other.

A good standard of play was seen throughout and the competition was played in the best of spirits. Hopefully, next year we can take back the crown and also organise some fixtures against other schools.

*James Neale*

## Water Polo

Once again Water Polo has secured a position as the school's most successful sport. Following last year's defeat of King's Grantham in the Final of the U19 English Schools' National competition, the current batch of stars made their way to a local pool in Walsall for the 2003 Finals day. It was to be a day of mixed fortunes, ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous.

We were drawn against Trinity School, Croydon, the 2001 champions, in the semi-final. It was no surprise when the game turned out to be fairly close. However, KES prevailed 13-9 after a very impressive display in the first half, particularly from Ed Freeman and the ever-improving James Paterson. The play in the first half was so good that we could almost afford to fall asleep in the second half: but a degree of stoic defending was required and every player gave his all, including some youngsters blooded for future years.

In the Final we came up against a Bolton side, which boasted 8 international players, compared to our measly 3. We were wary of a huge defeat, as their U16 team had just won their Final 20-0 and their U19 team had won their semi 22-3 against last years runners-up. However, when the first goal went in from

Alex Boyle and a penalty from Ed Freeman (past the GB goalie!) rocked the goal back a couple of feet, it began to look like a close game. By the end of the first half, despite another great goal from Ed, it was 7-3 and, unfortunately, we didn't score again. Our lack of fitness was evident for everyone to see. The game ended 16-3 and KES came second in the country, which is a great feat for a team with no recognised Water Polo coach.

Also, this year saw the emergence of a few younger players, such as Ian Sheldrake and Miles Benjamin, who will probably be a feature of the U19 squad for years to come. If there were an award for most improved player, James Paterson would pick it up, as this year he has shown a great desire and drive for the game. With undoubtedly the best keeper in the game never to attend an England trial, an internationally recognised sporting star and the stoic heart of the team all leaving this year, perhaps the glory days of KES Water Polo are over for a spell. However, as Ed and Mitesh hand the reins over to James Paterson and Alex Boyle, I hope that swimming and Water Polo continue to flourish.

*Ed Freeman*





