





# CHRONICLE

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## PRIZES 1995

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## NICHOLAS J R HOLLIDAY

Nick was born in Leamington Spa on the 11th March 1966. Although he was, according to his mother, a fairly unadventurous child, the family as a whole travelled extensively: by the time that he was 14 he had visited Russia, Canada and had twice been to America.

It was at Oundle, though, that he found a direction and a passion that was to shape and fill his life and lead him to the four corners of the planet. A group of boys began to develop to whom the challenges of the outdoors became increasingly attractive. Under the tutelage of the housemaster and mountaineer, Jonathon Lee, they gained the skills and experience required to accomplish some impressive ascents. Nick was a founder member of this group, which soon became known as The Lost Valley Mountaineering Association, named after a valley in Glencoe. In the summer of 1983 they had their first Alpine season, climbing the Aiguille d'Argentiere and the Aiguille du Tour in the Chamonix area. The following year the same group travelled to the Hindu Kush region of Pakistan and Nick climbed an unclimbed peak of about 18000 feet. He enjoyed the ascent so much that he decided that he would not mind if he never climbed another mountain. 'The view and atmosphere at the top was incredible - colossal yet peaceful, desolate but beautiful. I was so happy to be there.' Equally as striking to Nick was his first glimpse of life in a different culture. It was an interest that was to endure and a focus for his ever developing humanity and sense of justice.

Shortly after this expedition Nick left Oundle and, following another season in the Alps, began a degree at Bristol University; his choice of subject, Geography, seemed inevitable.

At some stage during his first year one of the members of The Lost Valley M.A. proposed a motorcycle trip from Caracas in Venezuela to La Paz in Bolivia. Although only one of the members had ever been on a motorbike before, the idea was adopted and the preparations began. The eight-man expedition left Caracas in July 1986 and completed the 4000 mile journey through Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia. Nick found time to climb Chimborazo, which at 20700 feet, is the highest mountain in Ecuador, and also made an unsuccessful attempt on Huayna Potosi in Bolivia.

In 1987 Nick climbed the North Spur of the Aiguille du Chardonnet and then embarked on a cycle ride from Alexandria along the length of The Nile. This was his first visit to Africa. It left him with a desire to return and, on completing his degree in 1988, he set off from his home in Leamington Spa on a motorbike, bound for Nairobi. Nick was accompanied by a university friend and together they rode across the Sahara Desert, through

central Africa and arrived in Kenya some seven months later. It was an undertaking that summed up the man completely. An imaginative and adventurous challenge, a commitment and endurance that showed his remarkable physical and mental toughness and a modesty at the end of it all.

In September 1989 Nick began a Post Graduate Certificate of Education. He and his friend Andy Collins visited the Alps again the following January to attempt the North Face of Les Courtes. This was a considerable step up - a hard, steep face in winter, and it turned into an epic. At the end of the first day, they were unable to find a site at which to rest so they were forced to carry on throughout most of the night. The climbing was extremely difficult, much of it on steep, iron-hard ice. For much of the time, a mistake by either would have been fatal for both. Eventually they were able to bivouac just below the summit and complete the climb the next day. Nick regarded this as his best alpine achievement. Later that year they made an unsuccessful attempt on the North Face of the Eiger before travelling to Siberia to assist with the running of an Oundle mountaineering trip.

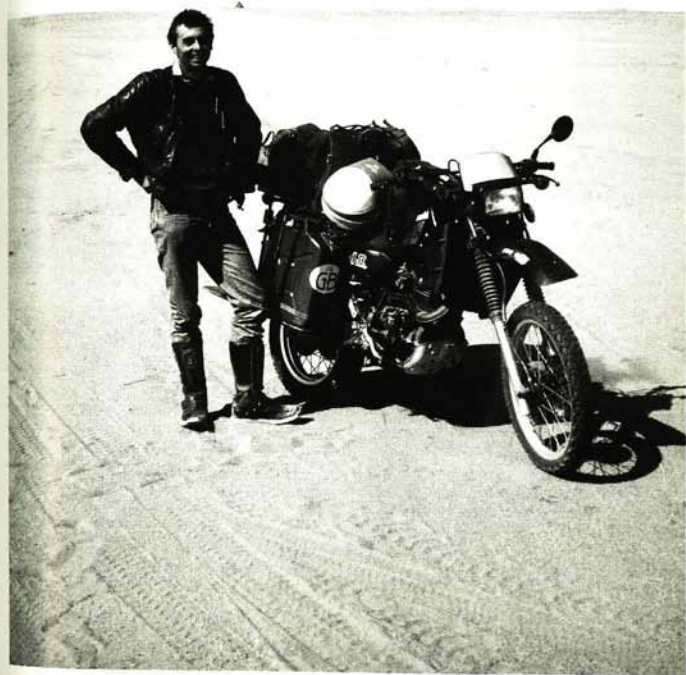
Nick joined the staff of King Edward's in September 1990 and soon became involved in outdoor education, taking many trips to Scotland, including a return to the Lost Valley, Glencoe. He was a regular supporter of the Leadership Project and Removes' Study Week, bringing to both a vast experience and enormous good humour.

Though he continued to climb in Britain, particularly in Scotland in the winter, his summers became devoted to lengthy tours of developing nations. He revisited Pakistan and the Chitral region in 1991. The following year he travelled in India and visited the troubled state of Kashmir. In Srinagar there was frequent gunfire and he woke one morning to discover that thirty people had been killed during the night. He went to Vietnam in 1994 with the intention of cycling from Ho Chi Minh City to Saigon. In the end he completed the journey by public transport. Nick was impressed by the friendliness of the people and by their resilience, considering the trauma of their recent history. Finally, this year, he realised a long term ambition, to lead his own team, this time on an expedition to Peru and Bolivia. They trekked to Machu Picchu, The Lost City of the Incas, and climbed Bolivia's highest mountain, Huayna Potosi.

In September The Lost Valley Mountaineering Association held a reunion weekend in Yorkshire. On October 4th Nick fell from a climbing wall in Birmingham. He was fatally injured and died three days later.

Ian Connor







There are few in school whose lives have not in some way been influenced for the better by contact with Nick as a teacher, colleague or friend. The Prayers of Thanksgiving in his funeral service paid tribute to a remarkable young man whose talents and personality were respected and deeply appreciated by so many who now share the same sense of loss. Nick, I think, would have been mildly astonished at all of this since he was a self-effacing man who did not realise how special he was to staff and students alike.

It was always good to be in his company; he communicated a sense of stability, equilibrium and dependability. He had a positive and optimistic outlook on everything. His life was full of plans, schemes and dreams of new adventures but he always had time to care for others and many of us will remember special personal kindnesses. His concern for others seemed as instinctive and natural as his love of wild places.

Only a few days earlier Nick had led his final field trip driving the minibus to Malham and introducing his

students to the wonders of limestone scenery. The autumn sunlight memorably illuminated the recesses of Gordale Scar. On Saturday he took a party to the summit of High Street in the Lake District to experience glaciated scenery at first hand and on Sunday afternoon he celebrated the end of another satisfying expedition with a ride on the ageing roller coaster on Morecombe promenade. Geography was a subject to be lived and enjoyed and there can be few boys who have not been influenced by his enthusiasm in over thirty field trips in which he had taken part.

Nick's appointment in 1990 to his first teaching post after a degree and PGCE at Bristol gave us a colleague with an intriguing background. Here was someone who had climbed in remote areas of the Hindu Kush, who had motorcycled from Leamington Spa to Nairobi and who seemed to embody the best traditions of his subject. Meeting him gave few clues to these achievements since he rarely mentioned them. Within a few months he had immersed himself in teaching,

helping with sports teams, organising field trips, assisting with the CCF, arranging climbing trips and in due course co-ordinating outdoor activities. He loved every minute of it.

His pupils appreciated him. In Nick they found a teacher and a friend who took a personal interest in them, who was concerned to see the good in everyone and to think the best of them. Letters from former students pay tribute to his gifts as a teacher. "All my memories of him are of a relaxed, fun loving man with a wonderful gift and love of teaching, surpassed only by his enthusiasm for his subject." "Some of the most enjoyable moments I spent at KES were in Nick's lessons. He had an unspoken ability to relax everyone. He put up with our appalling sense of humour, joining in and often improving on it. We all respected him because he respected us."

Professionally he contributed an enormous amount to the department. He arrived early and left late constantly improving and developing his teaching resources. He enthusiastically led the way in the use of computers,

writing new programmes, storing fieldwork data and experimenting with I.T. as an integral part of his teaching. Many A level students will remember Nick as a superb teacher of physical geography inspiring many to pursue the subject at university. It will be a surprise to some that he had specialised in human geography winning a faculty prize for a dissertation in political geography. This gives a hint of his very deep interest in the study of developing countries which has helped to shape our teaching in the lower and middle school. Some boys in the Removes have already benefited from a course on India which Nick developed only a few months ago. His work shows a sensitivity to and subtle appreciation of different ways of living which must have enabled many boys to travel abroad with an open mind and an open heart.

He was perhaps most at home though on field trips working with boys on river studies or measuring coastal

landforms in March with the North Sea waves crashing in the background. Wherever he was, no matter what the conditions were like he was a delightful companion.

Nick's prodigious output of resources had almost forced him to abandon Room 48 as his work base and to take up residence in the new research rooms. Amongst his many piles of paper he left a superb collection of teaching resources, notes from his schooldays, an account of his travels to Bolivia and Peru this summer, photographs of trips and expeditions, and maps which give the promise of trips as yet unplanned.

One day he would have left us to enjoy the challenge of running his own department. His death leaves a gap in our professional and personal lives but he would not want us to be sad. He had little time for solemnity. Instead we have wonderful memories to inspire us. He was an outstanding teacher.

*J A Cumberland  
Head of Geography*

## Prayers of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks for the life and example of Nick Holliday

*We give thanks*

for his joy in life, and his eagerness to rise to challenge

*We give thanks*

for his sense of the glory and wonder of the created world

*We give thanks*

for his integrity, and his strong sense of justice and fairness

*We give thanks*

for his life filled with achievement, and his modesty concerning it

*We give thanks*

for his kindness, generosity, and gentleness of spirit

*We give thanks*

for his love for his family and friends, and his care for his pupils

*We give thanks*

# EDITORIAL

Since I have been at KES the school has expanded and changed immensely and many new features and facilities have been added to it. In the same way "The Chronicle" has grown recently to become the glossy, literary masterpiece it is today.

It has consistently improved upon its predecessors and so I think I can safely proclaim this one to be the best ever. Hopefully "The Chronicle" now gives an unbiased reflection of all the activities and events that have taken place at KES over the past year, as well as highlighting the many opportunities to be found here.

Reading past editorials the amount of praise lavished on the masters in charge of "The Chronicle" is always noticeable. I discovered the reason for this soon after my appointment as editor. Simply, with Mr Burns and Miss Tudor's cajoling, encouragement and despotic leadership, this magazine would not be half as good as it is. Their contribution has been immeasurable, as has that of the people at the Resources Centre, who have again transformed our Waynetta Slob-esque deluge of articles into a Helen Christensen of a magazine.

It only remains for me to wish good luck to my successor and to hope that next year's issue is even better.

Dan Begbie-Clench  
Editor

## 'His Master's Voice ...'

You may have wondered how Chronicle is produced. I often have. When the magazine arrives, and I marvel at just how glossy and professional it looks - considering the shape it was in only a few months before - it reminds me of other school activities, such as the senior and junior plays, and the music department's concerts, where a not inconsiderable team of committed people has worked long hours quite unnoticed by the majority of the school, to produce something special and memorable. At times I find myself just as awed by how much sheer effort has been put into a school event as I am by the quality of the performance. Chronicle, on the one hand, has a proportionately small workforce, a band of divisions boys numbering no more than fifteen or so. They have worked with dedication, professionalism and enthusiasm to chase people up and to assemble the material. And yet, on the other hand, the whole school has helped in assembling the contents of Chronicle's pages, for who writes Chronicle but King Edward's boys? (Indeed, you yourself may have been eagerly flicking through the sections to find your report and to check that we have spelt your name right.) As such, all of you can help or hinder the smooth running of the magazine, for the quality of Chronicle depends greatly on how you contribute to it. Clear, legible, word-processed articles keep us sweet; articles that spell boys' names correctly so we don't have to fumble through the blue book are manna from heaven to us; and we sell our grandmothers for articles that come in by the deadline. Better still, if someone proffered us an article on disk, we would probably try to barter Vince House in return.

The quality of the school's contribution to its annual magazine directly affects the most important people in the production of Chronicle, the long-suffering staff of the Resources Centre. Incurably cheerful, they are the ones who have to cope with everyone's mistakes and shortcomings, and the inexcusable articles submitted that don't comply with the above standards. They shouldn't have to cope with such things. It is for them I ask you to be prompt and efficient in your dealings with Chronicle, and it is to them that I offer my deepest gratitude for their invaluable help and efficiency.

A final word about professionalism. The most striking thing about this year's edition is the remarkably original and eye-catching layout of several sections, executed with much flair by Robert Clayburn and Diarmid Mackenzie. I hope their work this year will be a source of inspiration to future budding graphic designers; if so, Chronicle can only flourish. To Bradley Spencer and Marie-Claire Garfield, who helped and encouraged Robert and Diarmid, as ever, my thanks.

INTRO

DUCE

U WILL WORK

THOUGH A BREAK

**HELLO**S

career  
starts here.



## ROSEMARY CHAPMAN

Chemistry



C: Could you tell us what you did before coming to KE?

RC: I did a Chemistry degree at Oxford University and I went to work in industry for a year. I taught at Haberdashers' Aske's for a number of years and now I'm here.

C: What is KE like compared to where you were taught and where you have taught?

RC: There seem to be better facilities here. The buildings and classrooms are in a better condition. One of the things I've noticed about the school is the actual character of the buildings.

C: Do you ever feel constrained in your teaching by the syllabus or the facilities?

RC: I think the syllabus involves covering a large amount of material which is very difficult. There is pressure to get through work so there

may not be the chance to go through things which would be interesting to develop, so the answer is yes. In terms of the necessary safety aspects, the actual types of practical you can do are becoming less varied.

C: Do you have any ambitions within the field of teaching?

RC: My ambition is that one day I will run a department, but that's for the future. At the moment I'm happy teaching at KE.

C: You do have a First Aid option in General Studies for the Sixth Form: would you like to see this kind of thing introduced into the full timetable?

RC: Yes, I think it's important for all boys from the Shells upwards to be taught how to deal with an accident. It teaches them the implications of the treatment that they might decide to carry out.

C: What interests do you have outside of school?

RC: I'm quite keen on lifesaving and swimming. I like watching cricket and walking at the weekends. I've started taking more of an interest in plays and the culture of the local area.

C: Mrs Chapman, thank you very much

## JOHN EVANS

Physics



C: Could you tell us about your life so far?

JE: I went to Bristol University to do a BSc Chemistry degree, which was very enjoyable. I did a Masters there also and I then had the opportunity to do a PhD in Canada. I had a wonderful time doing that there as well as playing a lot of sport. Since then I've taught at schools in London and the Midlands.

C: Having taught on both sides of the state and private divide, what differences occur to you?

JE: The differences are very extreme. The resources need to be improved to come up to the sort of standard found at KE. I find that the students in the state sector are more willing to take on work by themselves - students here seem a little overdirected and too reliant on instructions. With the Sixth Form I've noticed that because they have a goal, they tend to do more autonomous work.

C: Do you feel that students should study a wider range of topics instead of being confined to the three subjects at 'A' level?

JE: The syllabuses seem to be heading towards a more European approach, where there is greater background of topics. This would probably introduce more people to the wonders of science, but then the background of the students might not be sufficient for university, and four year degrees might be necessary.

C: You do a lot of computing - should boys be made to study it more in this age of growing technology?

JE: That's one of the reasons I actually came to work here because that needed to be done. Since I've been here I've written about twenty simulations for the science department as a way of helping assessed practicals. In state schools there is an Information Technology curriculum where students have to use computers as part of their course.



C: What are the most important things in your life?

JE: My family is very important to me. A lot of people say you should live for your work and I derive a lot of satisfaction from doing a job well. I enjoy sport and since I'm too old to play I concern myself with the refereeing side, which I enjoy

tremendously. I see wonderful examples of play and good sportsmanship in both football and rugby. I referee North Midlands rugby and also school fixtures, as well as soccer on a Sunday.

C: What other hobbies do you keep up out of school?

JE: I read an awful lot of science fiction and science-based articles. I also collect stamps. When I'm bored I do some educational computing, which keeps me occupied. I used to grow lots of rare plants, but I don't have the time now.

C: Dr Evans, than you very much.

## REVEREND DUNCAN RAYNOR

*Chaplain*



C: You've been here before haven't you? What have you done since then?

DR: I came here in the Upper Middles, but unfortunately for you my name is not listed anywhere in the Detention Book. I did a classics degree at Oxford. My college then paid for me to do a theology degree. After training I spent three years in a parish and during that time I went into schools and worked with young people. I then spent six years teaching at Alderbrook School in Solihull.

C: Would you have come to teach here if you hadn't been here as a pupil?

DR: The fact that I knew the school was definitely an incentive, but I found the job attractive because it combined the two things which I had experience of - teaching and chaplaincy.

C: The School's religious spectrum has changed dramatically recently - is there a call for providing facilities for worship for groups other than Christians?

DR: You're right about the change, and there is a need to be fairer and to provide facilities for people of different traditions. I think it's probably more important, as Reverend Weaver agreed and started, to see people getting together to understand and to learn from each other, rather than separating into little ghettos. There's certainly a need to appreciate what other religions stand for.

C: Which other religions have an appeal to you which you don't find in Christianity?

DR: There are certain attractions to a number of faiths. Intellectually, I'm attracted to some of the things Hinduism stands for because there is an immense richness within that tradition of story and varying ritual and relatively little conviction that everyone else is wrong and that it's the only true religion. Certain types of religious traditions can be too exclusive and elitist. The Eastern traditions that take spiritual discipline more seriously than many Western people are attractive in a certain respect. This takes us back to the point of there being things to learn from other religions.

C: Where should the church stand on contentious issues such as homosexuality?

DR: For a start I don't think the Church should take one position. The issue is not black and white but grey, so as soon as you take up a doctrinaire position you fail to do justice to the issue. I would like to see the Church standing for faithfulness and stability in relationships, whatever their nature, and against promiscuity and people using each other. I think that's a far more important issue.

C: Is there a case for toleration in allowing some of the more extreme religions to gain in power or do people have a right to practise whatever they please?

DR: If pushed I'd go for the toleration angle because I feel everyone has a right to their beliefs. I don't feel they have a right to use them as a stick to beat other people with. To make everyone else conform to a specific interpretation of your faith is very dangerous, although the aim of improving society is a laudable one.

C: Well, that's enough highbrow religious talk - could you tell us finally what you do apart from your duties as Chaplain?

DR: I like to get out and onto the hills and go fellwalking because it does me good mentally and spiritually. I swim a lot and have helped in swimming matches. It's no secret that I'm also a big Star Trek fan. I have a young family to bring up. I read a lot, mostly non-fiction history and travel literature - escapist stuff.

C: Reverend Raynor, thank you very much.

## SARAH WARREN

*Librarian*



are a lot of classics in it, there needs to be more it as well and it's difficult to decide what type of fiction to introduce.

C: *Is there a case for pupils reading modern, perhaps less highbrow, authors instead of the classic novels?*

SW: The classics do have their relevance and I don't want to belittle them. However, I think that as long as people are reading, it doesn't matter what they want to read, although I can't really decide whether to let authors such as Stephen King into the library yet.

C: *Do you do a lot of reading outside school?*

SW: Yes. I read a lot of poetry, but it depends on what mood I'm in - I can read things like Jackie Collins if I'm on holiday. I don't have any great pastimes apart from reading and the Arts - I enjoy going to the theatre, ballet and cinema - and I'm certainly not sporty.

C: *Miss Warren, thank you very much.*

## JILL WRIGHT

*Chemistry*

C: *What did you do to become the school's librarian?*

SW: I went to Bristol University and did a geography degree and then worked in Oxford for three years as a librarian. I went to Manchester last year to do my postgraduate librarian training.

C: *Was it the nature of the job that made you take up a librarian's work, or do you just like books a lot?*

SW: (Laughs) It's the job - I like everything to be really organised and I like working with people. I'd hate to be in a library where I wasn't going to see people every day.

C: *Do you see the school library as a good alternative to public ones?*

SW: I would hope people see it in that way, but I don't think that they do. I don't even know if people use the public libraries any more, although they have more resources than us, such as videos.

C: *There seems to be far more research than fictional books here.*

SW: Yes, that's definitely a problem that's got to be sorted out. The fiction section needs updating. Although there

C: *Could you tell us a little about what you did before coming to KES?*

JW: I was educated in Bedford before doing a BSc in chemistry at Edinburgh University. I did some research for two years after my degree into gelatin used in photographic film and then I became a teacher.

C: *Is it difficult balancing the roles of being the Chief Master's wife and a teacher simultaneously?*

JW: I enjoy being a member of the Common Room and my status doesn't seem to affect that. I don't think the pupils afford me any more respect because of it either!

C: *Do you find teaching at KES any different to other places where you have taught?*

JW: I think the pace of the teaching and work here is quicker, and I enjoy that. The facilities are certainly more than adequate for the nature of the work. I found teaching difficult and constrained at some schools because of the safety aspect of chemistry.

C: *Do you ever get annoyed at living on-site and not being able to just leave school behind?*

JW: I'm used to it. I have lived on-site since 1971 so it doesn't really bother me anymore. I also only teach part-time and so I am able to escape from school-life easily.

C: *Do you still have any ambitions within the field of teaching?*

JW: No, I have enjoyed teaching and the professional contact it has enabled me to have. I have brought up three sons so that has filled up a great deal of my career.

C: *What interests do you keep up outside of school?*

JW: I go to concerts regularly as well as reading a lot.

C: *Have you a pipe-dream which you would like to achieve?*

JW: I visited Nigeria in April which was exciting and very enjoyable. I would like to return to Africa and also explore India. I have many African and Indian friends whom I have met through teaching and I would love to catch up with them.

C: *Mrs Wright, thank you very much.*



DEDICATED

TEACHER

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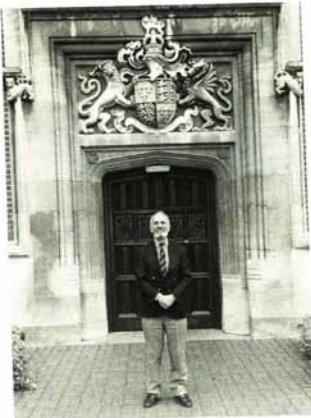
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# DEREK BENSON

When Derek Benson first crossed the threshold of the School in September 1947 at the height of the Age of Austerity it was to begin a virtually unbroken association with the school which has lasted until the present day.

As a pupil here for six years Derek won all the glittering prizes in a generation when the school often appeared to be peopled by Olympians. Away from the formal achievements of academic and examination success he rose to the highest ranks of the CCF, established himself as PT leader and developed into a dashing and free-scoring wing three-quarter in the School XV. However, cricket was always to be his first love. From 1950 onwards he played continuously for the 1st XI, during which in the words of the School Chronicle, his youthful exuberance was evident in all departments. He was Captain of Cricket in 1953 when his XI included in Ossie Wheatley and Alan Smith two future County Captains and senior administrators of the game. It is also a matter of considerable pride to Derek that he and his son Richard are, as far as we know, the only father and son to have captained the XI albeit separated by 28 years. In September 1952 Derek was appointed Captain of the School and having won a place at Trinity Hall in his final year, left King Edward's in July 1953 to fulfil his National Service with the Royal Artillery and the Airborne Division.

In 1958 after three years reading Natural Sciences at Cambridge Derek began his teaching career at Bishops Stortford College where he was an Assistant House Master. Four years later the then Chief Master Ronald Lunt made



him an offer he couldn't refuse to return to King Edward's to teach Chemistry under the watchful eye of J.B. (Bernie) Guy. He has been here ever since.

Derek Benson has been a schoolmaster of rare distinction, a classroom teacher who has always been prepared to involve himself in the life of the School with an enthusiasm and commitment wholly uncharacteristic of the mean spirited times in which we live. As well as initiating generations of scientists into the mysteries of Chemistry at every level, Derek has revelled in the many opportunities which the School provides for sport and for service.

For 22 seasons from 1965 he was Master in charge of cricket, handing over to younger blood only when an untimely hip operation made it difficult for him to be as involved as he would have wished. The steady stream of outstanding cricketers passing from the school into university and club cricket

during this period provided eloquent testimony to his coaching and inspirational skills. His own playing career was largely confined to Harborne where he captained the Sunday side and served at times as both Secretary and Chairman of the Club. The many opportunities for greater involvement at this level inevitably played second fiddle to his commitments at school, although he remembers with affection the first century he made for Harborne at the tender age of 38 and against the Old Edwardians Cricket Club at that!

If cricket takes pride of place in Derek's lexicon of life his contribution to the School CCF has not lagged far behind. He joined the Army Section in 1962 before earning his rings as a naval officer some time later. In 1979 he took over from Bill Traynor as Commanding Officer. Under his command the

CCF entered into a period of considerably expansion with increased numbers enrolling in the Middle School and eventually the phoenix like reappearance of an Air Force section and shooting teams. Whilst visiting officers and dignitaries were continually impressed by the high standards of turn out and drill achieved by the corps, they were equally gratified by the hospitality dispensed in the Orderly Room and by the cordiality of their welcome. Largely under Derek's benign influence the CCF Headquarters and the Science Common Room became the two great bastions of civilised living within the School.

Derek Benson is a man of enormous charm, and cultivation a 'very part, gentle Knight'! In another age he might have effortlessly become an outstanding diplomat or colonial administrator such are his powers of quiet but shrewd persuasion. However, as anyone who has taken part in a CCF inspection will



towards zero on 14th July 1995, it was reassuring to know that Derek's long association with the school is far from over. In truth Derek is neither of the shy nor of the retiring sort. We wish him and his wife Cynthia every success and good fortune in the adventures which lie ahead.

*D J Buttress*

## NEIL GUTTERIDGE



Neil Gutteridge came to KES from KEGS Aston in 1968, already with a formidable reputation as an effective rugby coach. Resplendent in obligatory Barbour jacket and green wellingtons he soon gave the under 14XV the benefit of his considerable knowledge and expertise (a severe neck injury had brought a premature end to a promising career in the first class game - so he told me-), and it was clear to all that here was a rare phenomenon, a member of the front row union (along with GA and KDP) who could demonstrate and talk at the same time! It was only a matter of time before he became master i/c rugby and 1st XV coach, two very demanding jobs which

attest, underneath the unflappable exterior and cheerful bonhomie lies a steely resolve that things should be done properly and according to the book and that the highest of standards deserve to be pursued on all occasions.

A friendly hospitable and sociable man, Derek is as much at home in the local snug as he is in the Officers' Mess. A lover of all things Indian - his curries are justly famous - of red wine, philately, and good music, he has thrown himself enthusiastically into a range of activities so diverse as to lead to instant disorientation for anyone less efficient, versatile or committed. A purveyor of the trombone, performer in Gilbert and Sullivan and School Choirs, Housemaster of Evans House, Chairman of the Common Room, School representative for the Old Edwardians, Examiner for a myriad of Examination Boards and thus arbiter of destinies across the globe, a blood donor on no fewer than 156 occasions, Derek has gone about all his businesses with cheerfulness, boyish enthusiasm and good humour.

When in the 17th century the first Earl of Shaftesbury quit his office as Lord Chancellor to lead the opposition of Charles II he remarked 'I am laying down the gown and taking up the sword'. Now after his appointment to succeed Graham Underhill as School Registrar, Derek is laying down his test tube and taking up his computer. As the Benson countdown clock, yet another product of the electronic wizardry of the Science Common Room moved



he did extremely well. The current high standard of rugby at KES, and the large number of boys playing the game, are both directly attributable to his considerable effort, enthusiasm and sound administration. He masterminded and led the immensely successful World Tour in 1993, and would have done the same again for the 1995 South Africa Tour had promotion not whisked him away.

Coaching rugby was not his only strength though, and during each summer he produced very successful

minor and junior athletics teams, adopting the novel approach of selecting the boys first and then finding events for them to do afterwards! Neil was also an effective form master and maths teacher, though above all, and perhaps most importantly, he was an excellent P.E. teacher. His lessons were energetic, eager and good-humoured, and the boys enjoyed them. He had a noticeably good rapport with most of his pupils, and as the giver of highly appropriate nicknames "Reg" generally had their willing support and response. A basic and, when required,

caustic sense of humour was a great help too.

In the time honoured passage, Uppingham's gain is our loss. Mind you, we no longer have to watch the never-ending parade of Cotton Traders leisure clothing, suffer the trials and tribulations of a failed punter at Cheltenham Gold Cup Week or listen to him explain to all and sundry, and at great length, on Monday what went wrong with the XV on the previous Saturday. Not that the latter happened very often!

S8

## MARTIN CROPPER

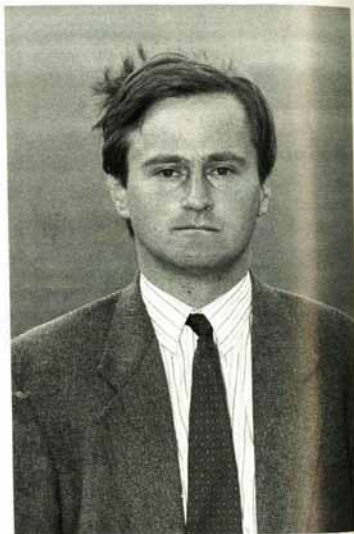
When Martin Cropper left Queen's College, Oxford with a very good maths degree he made a choice between teaching and accountancy, and joined the financial world. Fortunately for King Edward's after qualifying as a Chartered Accountant he again considered teaching, and joined the Maths Department in 1992. His considerable ability as a teacher was immediately apparent, his academic skills being coupled with a love of sport and music enabling him to bring out the best in his pupils in many areas.

After a year of teaching he bravely volunteered to be one of the first students to take part in a new in-service teacher training course. While battling with the many teething problems of such a course he still gave the fullest attention to his teaching, his pastoral duties as a form master, and a very successful U15 tennis team.

As a mathematician he was greatly respected by his colleagues and able to communicate insight and enjoyment of the subject to his pupils. While being able to teach to the highest levels, he also thought carefully about the problems of understanding of the younger or weaker pupil, and was able to draw on his knowledge of the business world to place maths in clear contexts. His lessons will be remembered by many for years to come, not least for his sense of humour.

Martin left KES to join Westminster School, who have gained a fine teacher.

APT





## ERIC CHAUSSSENDE

### French Assistant



C: Could you tell us about your background in France?

EC: I come from a small town called Bellegarde between Lyon and Geneva. I'm a teacher of French, Latin and Greek at a school there.

C: Why did you come to England?

EC: My fiancée obtained an exchange teaching post here and I didn't want to let her come on her own. I also wanted a new experience and to improve my English.

C: Do you prefer the English or French style of teaching?

EC: That's a good question - both have good and bad points. In England you start and finish school later and have forty minute periods to maximise the pupils' attention. However, I don't think English schools place enough emphasis on history.

C: Why is History so important?

EC: If you don't know the history of your country and the world you are not well-informed. History is important for a democracy and England is a democracy, a good democracy!

C: Do the stereotypes of English life still exist? Were you surprised by life on this side of the channel?

EC: They still exist in Europe but I believe the English have a lot of their own stereotypes. I think you have to take them lightly. When a Frenchman comes to England it does not conform at all to

the expectations. But I think it's sad when people take stereotypes seriously and think that all the French wear berets and carry baguettes. Nothing much surprised me about life in England, but what is very likeable is the politeness, tolerance and originality of the English.

C: What ambitions do you hope to achieve when you return to France?

EC: I've been a teacher for 10 years and want to continue that. I'd like to live in the Valence region of France and return to England as often as possible so I don't lose all I've learnt.

C: Your job allows you a lot of free time so how do you use it?

EC: I go to town a lot, to the library and browse around record shops. I've been to watch Aston Villa a few times and I've been to Twickenham with Mr Philips, which was a great experience. I have an eclectic taste in music - I like pop, rock and Acid Jazz, such as Galliano. I love reading David Lodge and Ruth Rendell's books, although my favourite author is Céline.

C: M. Chausse, thank you very much.

## ANJA MÜLLER

### German Assistant

C: Could you tell us about what you did before you came to England?

AM: I come from a village near the port of Bremen in the north of Germany. After doing my A levels I worked at a shipping agency for two-and-a-half years. I then came and worked in England as an au-pair. I'm in the middle of my degree which I'm taking at university near Frankfurt.

C: What sort of career do you wish to pursue?

AM: Well, taking a degree in Germany takes a long time, but I hope to become a teacher at a grammar school in Germany when I've finished. I want to teach German and English.

C: In England we occasionally hear that our standard of education is much lower than the rest of Europe's - have you noticed this?

AM: I only know this school so it's difficult to say, but sometimes I've noticed that people have problems in understanding basic elements of grammar like pronouns and prepositions, even if they're doing English A level. I think in England more attention is paid to creative things than to grammar.

C: Does anything about England strike you as different from Germany?

AM: I think people in England are more laid back. Germans seem to live to the rules more whilst the English wait and don't worry as much. The people here are also very friendly, which I like.

C: Most Europeans seem to have a bad view of Birmingham, - were you worried about coming here?

AM: The first time I came to Birmingham I was quite apprehensive because it's in the Black Country and is very industrialised. After I'd lived here for a

while I decided it was better than its reputation - there has been so much effort to improve the city, but I must say it lacks atmosphere, especially in the summer, because you can't really sit out at cafés at night like you can in London.

C: What are the most important things to you in life?

AM: Happiness! - well, I mean I want to maintain a certain standard of living and I want to enjoy the things I do. I hope I'll be able to see a bit of the world as well.

C: Which is your favourite part of England?

AM: I like Stratford because I love the theatre, but I also love Devon and Cornwall. I'm going to Scotland for Easter which will be a dream come true, because it's so pretty.

C: Frä. Müller, thank you very much.

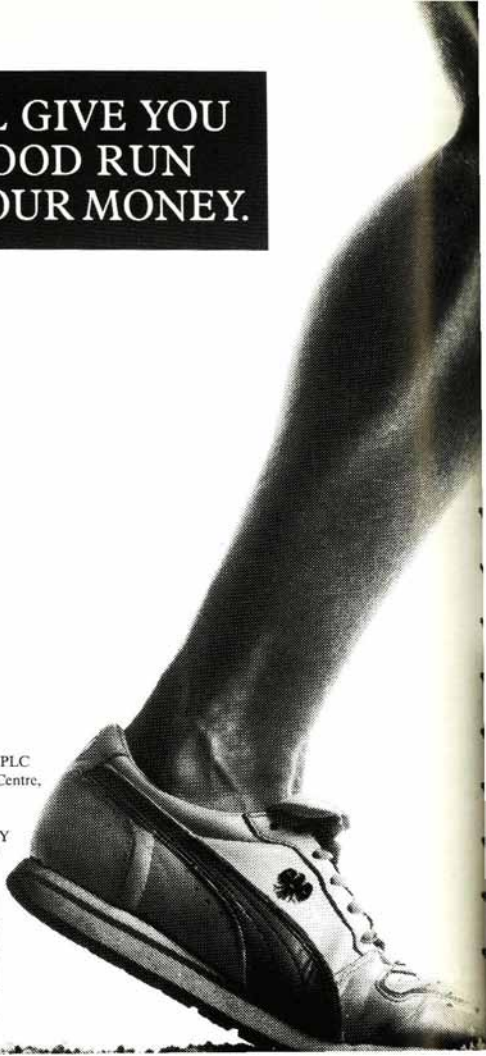
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# Features

# CoMBined CaDEt army sEcTION



"This year's high intake were an unusually gifted band of men."

THE AUTUMN term carried on from where we left off last year with an enjoyable and eventful CCF central camp on the Cornwall coast at Penhale. The camp had prepared several of the new intake of Connolly cadets for the rigours of CCF life, but the first test of their commitment (stupidity?) was the expeditions weekend which greeted them in September. The trip provided the usual few hours of sleep, general personal hygiene problems, and numerous cases of the now infamous "Swynnerton hair", but fortunately, the weather was unusually kind and the new recruits received a vital introduction to the pleasures of the years in CCF that are ahead of them.

As the year progressed, it became evident that this year's high intake were an unusually gifted band of men, especially when it came to ganging up on the poor NCO who had to instruct them. However, Sergeants Padore and Kakoulis were ably assisted by the muscle of Cpls. Aning, Caldicott and Flowers amongst others in disciplining this enthusiastic (unruly ... more like) platoon.

The military skills team led by Sergeant Sawers were placed highly in the Cadet Military Skills competition held at Swynnerton. They showed excellent levels of organisation and discipline, for which much of the credit must go to Sergeant Jip Paper of the local Cadet Training Team whose additional training for the competition was much appreciated.

The return visit to Swynnerton, the third time in less than six months for some, was, if anything, even more successful than before, with the new cadets now well grounded in their skills, and several NCO's saying that it was the best camp they had been on so far.

The Easter camp to the Fusiliers' base at Chester was well attended, especially by the younger cadets, and well administered by Cpls. Armitage, Chinnadurai and Gwyther. The boys, both young and old all learnt a great deal during their week there, while still managing to have a highly enjoyable time.



# FORCE

The year ended with the usual finale of Annual Inspection in May. The event was well attended by parents and staff alike, and the climax of the evening, a reconstruction of the battle of Mirbat (fortunately without the hundreds of casualties) was eventful, to say the least! Congratulations to to all award winners, and especially to L Cpl. David Clark winner of the Slim baton.

This year's parade rounded off not only this year's activities, but also the role of Commander Benson as head of CCF. Over the years, Cmdr. Benson has worked ceaselessly, both as a cadet himself and as an officer, to make the CCF as successful and rewarding as possible, and our debt to him is immense. He will be sadly missed.

Thanks must also go to Messrs. Campbell, Chamberlain, Collins, Davies Holliday and Connor, now head of the CCF. Without their dedication, none of what we do would have been possible. Finally we wish Cmdr. Benson many years of happiness, we cannot thank him enough.

*Cpl. Matthew Robertson*



“The military skills team showed excellent levels of organisation and discipline.”

## naval section

In 1995, there was one question facing the Royal Naval Section. Could there be life after Bucklitch? The replacement for this great man would either be a mathematician or a Scotsman. Things were not looking good.

However, with enthusiasm usually unheard of in naval circles, the section survived. An expedition to Lake Bala for a sailing weekend was pronounced a huge success, whilst all the cadets profited from a visit to one of the Navy's fast patrol boats, HMS Exploit. Fruitful trips were also undertaken to KES' parent establishment, HMS Dolphin, to whose officers we are very grateful for their assistance throughout the year. During the Easter holidays, several cadets went on courses too numerous to mention here, honing their skills in areas from rifle marksmanship to scuba diving.

This year, the members of the Cadre excelled, all passing out to become NCO's next year. Meanwhile, an unusually large recruitment of Basic Wing cadets were trained to the peak of their physical and

mental capabilities by an elite fighting unit, whose true identity is still in doubt.

The Annual Inspection in front of Brigadier Weller passed off smoothly. Following the parade, rumour circulated that the navy had been complemented on their marching, but such sensationalism was quickly quashed. Marsters and Impey won the best cadet awards, whilst Peet starred as the casualty in the Navy's trouncing of the Army in the stretcher race final.

I must thank Lts Stead and Everest and S/Lt Tudor for their continued and tireless work they put into the CCF. However, the greatest debt of gratitude is to our retiring Commanding Officer. Commander Benson has been involved with KES CCF for over thirty years, and it is his skill and commitment that has helped the CCF to grow. It is not glib exaggeration to say that, without him, the CCF would have been very much the poorer. Our good wishes go with him, as we wish him and his wife a long and happy retirement.

*I Brown*







# Royal air Force Section

This year has seen a small increase in the number of cadets in the RAF section, and while it is pleasing to see such interest among the boys in school, it has placed a strain upon limited resources.

The section is still commanded by Flt. Lt. J C S Burns, who received his promotion this year. Assisting him are Flg. Off. J P Davies, also promoted this year and who runs the range for the CCF, and Plt. Off. T A McMullan.

In addition to the officers, the NCO's have also risen through the ranks, and as a young section, the RAF has not always been provided with experienced, able cadets in the senior ranks. However, this year we have been fortunate in having a very capable senior NCO in James Godwin, who was promoted to the rank of Flt. Sg. assisted by David Stockton and James Rodger, the section has been run smoothly. Lower down Chris Downham, Mark Whitehouse and Nasar Ahmad were promoted to the rank of Corporal, and it is to them that we shall look in the next two years!

Our new intake of Upper Middles faced up to the rigorous demands of the academic side of the RAF with apparent ease this year, and they all achieved their Proficiency Part 1 exam. Cadet Alistair Downes is to be congratulated on being selected as the 'RAF Cadet of the Year' for his overall approach and commitment to the section.

Nearly all the fourth year cadets passed their Proficiency Part 2 exam, which requires a fairly detailed knowledge of RAF aircraft operations, including propulsion, navigation, flight planning, electronics and aircraft recognition.

**"Every cadet has had the opportunity to fly at least once during the year ... some cadets have even flown aerobatics."**

Every cadet has had the opportunity to fly at least once during the year. These occasions at RAF Shawbury are very pleasurable for the cadets (and Officers), especially as the RAF pilots are happy to let those who have flown before take control of the Chipmunks. Some cadets have even flown aerobatics! The new practice of going flying at half-term rather than on Friday afternoon, has proved a success, giving us more time and enabling us to avoid crippling M6 rush hour traffic.

There has also been opportunity to go gliding at RAF Cosford during the year. Here, opportunities are fewer (only about 20 flights per year for our section), but all have been taken up and enjoyed immensely, and the plush, side-by-side seater Grab Viking gliders are a refreshing change from the noisy, ageing (but still very reliable!) Chipmunks.

**"The accuracy with which TAM computed trajectory, speed, angle of deflection, and for all I know shopping days to Christmas, ... would have put to shame the sophisticated laser guidance system of any aircraft on the station ..."**





This year's summer camp was at RAF Marham, a front-line operation reconnaissance Tornado base. 14 Cadets accompanied Flt. Lt. Burns and Plt. Off. McMullan for a week packed full of activities designed to have one exhausted by mid-morning. We all owe a great deal of thanks to 'Gibbo', (Flt. Lt. T Gibson), the ACLO at RAF Marham who laid on this superb programme. Highlights surely included sitting in a Tornado GR1A, ambushing each other during the night exercise, handling various weapons, flying watching the Jaguars take off from Coltishall, raft-racing and gasping at Flt. Lt. 'Roberto Baggio' Burns' consummate football skills.

The primary purpose of the CCF is to equip boys with leadership skills and the ability to work within a team. These skills are honed through activities of a very diverse nature and those who have committed themselves enthusiastically to the RAF section have in turn received a lot of benefit from it.

Thanks are due to our liaison staff, Flt. Sgt. Peter Ward and Flt. Lt. Jeremy Walsh, to the officers at school and to the NCO's.

TAM

**"The primary purpose of the CCF is to equip boys with leadership skills and the ability to work within a team."**

One must not forget another sinister event at RAF Marham: the incident that saw TAM run over a very large rat on the perimeter track. The rat kept its head (in a manner of speaking) by slowing down in front of the approaching vehicle, no doubt intending that the wheels should pass either side and the chassis harmlessly overhead. TAM's defence that he swerved to avoid the rodent (so in fact running it down) could not stand up, as indeed neither could the rat afterwards. The accuracy with which TAM computed trajectory, speed, angle of deflection, and for all I know shopping days to Christmas, to bring his wheel to bear on the surprised creature, would have put to shame the sophisticated laser guidance system of any aircraft on the station you care to mention.

JCSB



Photographs Top left - Russell Downing in the pilot seat of a Tornado.  
Middle - Tornado GR1A (reconnaissance) of No 11 (AC) Squadron RAF Marham  
Below - Nasar Ahmad and the raft-race team.

# interview with The Chief Master

MANY more people have heard of the fact that there is a Chairman of HMC than know what it means, or even what is the HMC. So I am pleased to have been asked to write in the Chronicle about it.

But what is the HMC? The Headmasters' Conference is an association of 240 heads of Independent Schools, originally formed to meet the threat to the Endowed Schools posed by the Taunton Commission set up by the Government to look into their affairs in the 1860's. It is the oldest association of heads in the world. There are criteria for membership, which state a minimum proportion of the school to be in the Sixth Form and a minimum standard of achievement at A Level. In recent times the numbers of day pupils in its schools have increased, they are now a high proportion of the total and the number of coeducational schools in it has increased - 75% of member schools are now 'coed'.

The Chairman is elected by a full postal ballot of all the members of HMC. Martin Rogers, my predecessor, was the first Chairman elected in this way. Before then, a name used to 'emerge' in traditional fashion. In modern times it is unusual for one school to supply two Chairmen within a decade, though in the 1940's and 1950's one person did it for two years running. Cary Gilson,

when Chief Master, was Chairman three times earlier in the century 1922, 1928 and 1929. His predecessor, Vardy, invited the HMC to meet here in 1872 for its third meeting and Robson Fisher, in retirement, was its Secretary. So we have been closely involved virtually since it began in 1869!

The HMC has an annual meeting once a year in the Autumn - famously depicted in the film 'Clockwise', starring John Cleese, which was in part shot here in Big School. It was wrong in one respect: it made the Annual Meeting the Chairman's first commitment: his 'year' begins in January and ends in December. The HMC is divided into seven divisions covering the whole of the UK and Southern Ireland. The Divisions meet each term and the central committee on which all are represented meets twice a term. There are also sub-committees and working parties that meet when required - the Chairman goes to as many of all these meetings as he can, as well as the central committee meeting of the other Heads Associations, both maintained and Independent. A lot of meetings! The list of the HMC sub-committees indicates most of its main concerns: Academic Policy, Professional Development, Sports, Assisted Places (jointly with the Girls' Schools Association) and Inspection (we have just organised our own system of

inspection with help from Ofsted). It runs courses for new heads and courses for those about to retire! And many other things besides. I've set up working parties to report on Science 14-19, Drugs Education and there is a new committee this year that reports on University Application and Entry. We will also look at the impact in future of technology on coursework and examinations. As you can see, we are busy.

I've attended a wonderful annual Conference of the Secondary Heads Association which culminated in Gillian Shephard's announcement of her inviting Sir Ron Dearing to report on the 16-19 curriculum. That was very pleasing. The six main associations recently found they have a broad consensus of opinion on that issue. We signed a joint declaration on it and that was the trigger to the Minister to act. It was particularly pleasing that the HMC was among the first bodies invited to meet him and when we met he clearly knew our submission's contents in detail. Now decision taking is so centralised concerted action and statements of policy and opinion are more than ever needed. They seem to be proving effective.

But I was asked to write about what it feels like to be Chairman of HMC. Well, firstly you are very much involved in the national scene; 6% of all pupils and 25% of all A-level candidates are in Independent Schools. I have been to Westminster to meet all the three major parties and their education spokesmen have all come to our Committee. In a year when they are formulating their policy on Education that has been highly interesting and has involved a lot of consultations. I've enjoyed that contact and the insight into actual policy making greatly.

Because of the quality of its member

Schools the Chairman of HMC is often expected to act as spokesman for Independent Schools, so there is also a lot of contact with the media. Education is certainly high on the list of their preoccupations and rightly so. I have been asked to appear on Radio Five in a programme that runs from midnight to 2.00 am - but I had another engagement! I have also sometimes to comment on the latest scandals, wherever they may be and sometimes however minor. Success in these cases can be in not being quoted! I have spoken at innumerable conferences and meetings - one that was very poorly attended was with the Conservative Backbenchers' Education Committee in the Houses of Parliament while Virginia Bottomley was speaking on London hospital closures in the House of Commons!

We all began the year with high hopes, convinced that within a term, we would have developed from mere schoolboys to high flying business tycoons. However, as the Autumn Term progressed, we found that things might not be as simple as we had first thought. Not that we were short of ideas. Over the first few weeks we considered projects as diverse as running a film club, organising a lottery in school, co-ordinating a series of parties on various special occasions, printing T-shirts, and

What have I enjoyed most? Meeting a lot of people, many old friends and being involved in national affairs. Those mainly - and the travel round the country too, if the trains run on time. People's interest in KES, the Foundation and the HMC has been gratifying too. What have I missed? Being closely involved every day with the normal things a school does, though I hope I have kept on top of all important matters thanks to excellent work by all who back me up, not least my long suffering secretary and thanks to my mobile phone. I've missed watching School matches too. There has

evening designing an innovative new tent-peg. Our biggest problem was gaining the school's approval for events on the site, especially as such activities have in the past been organised entirely for the benefit of charity. After a term in which it seemed every one of our ideas had come to nothing, we were very disillusioned, and when we began again in the spring with ideas for products marketable outside of school, overall, we lacked the commitment to implement these plans.

In the end, one of the two companies made it to the regional YE presentations,

been little or no leisure, in holiday or term - though things break in July and early August - but the interest more than compensates.

I hope I have said enough to catch the flavour of a unique honour for myself and for the School. It is a privilege and I'm grateful for having been given the opportunity it represents.

Hugh Wright, Chief Master

## YOUNG Enterprise

where we sat and watched while two KE Five Ways companies presented their extremely successful ideas, before going up on stage to explain exactly how we had managed to work for a year, and yet achieve nothing. This presentation was, however, one of the highlights of the year, with everyone putting in a big effort for our final action as a company.

All in all, it was a year in which we achieved little, but actually learnt a lot.

Diarmid Mackenzie

## PERSONAL SERVICE group

This year, we take a look at PSG with a more personal context - a helper's eye view.

This year has been second at Triverton Road Junior and Infant School, in Selly Oak. I work with a class in Year five, which consists of about twenty five eight to nine year olds.

My role in the class is partway between the teacher and pupils so I usually move from group to group and give people a hand where it's needed. As the Friday afternoons on which I visit Triverton Road tend to be set aside for non-academic work, I often help out with art work of various sorts. This term

my class have been studying and copying the style of Van Gogh, and have also produced small pieces of needlework. I also hear readers, which I enjoy especially and helped out with ideas for the classes main project on Birmingham's canals.

Getting out of school on Friday afternoons is a welcome break at the end of the week, and being in a totally different environment, albeit still a

learning one, is something I look forward to as Friday approaches. The richly multi-ethnic nature of the class I help teach has also provided me with something of an education, too: we have large (and messy!) parties at Diwali and Eid as well as at Christmas.

All in all, my PSG placement has been interesting, challenging (just what is the best way of building a working scale model of a canal lock gate out of Lego bricks?) and very rewarding. It provides opportunities which few other activities within the context of school do: I thoroughly enjoy it.

M C Nicholls

# Family fun evening

# ANDREW'S COPY PICE

The annual Parents Association Family Fun Evening was once again a great success due to the enthusiasm and enterprising ideas of the Divisions. Despite the absence of the Sixths, the evening was of true quality and by far the most enjoyable event on the Parents Association's calendar of activities.

As proceedings kicked off, the various sporting events proved the most attractive to the hordes of young Shells and Rems striving to beat their fathers (and mothers). The fathers and sons cricket match, cunningly umpired by Montague, Robertson, Lloyd and Purdon started off as a serious encounter, but after half an hour, degenerated into a mass of youngsters arguing about who was going to bat next. Mrs Anderson turned out to be the safest pair of hands on the field, positioned gingerly behind the stumps.

Chambers and Watts organised a goal-shooting competition, Caldicott and McDermott magnificently controlled over-zealous parents on the golfing event, and Ullathorne being the imposing figure he is, stood for no nonsense in the hotly-contested welly-wanging competition.

For the more energetic, the pillow-fighting (Shergold and the Shady Okanta) provided an outlet for pent-up aggression, and the coconut-shy required a mixture of skill and power - unfortunately not shown by it's organisers, Tipper and Blaikley.

If these events did not appeal to some, other more serene activities such as the bouncy castle and swimming pool were available as well as the intriguing 'secret box' (Owen and Hiscock). All in all the evening was 'out of the top drawer' to quite a certain famous member of the school.

Thanks are due to Mr Chamberlain and Mr Gunning for helping to oversee the organisation of the evening and congratulations to the Divisions on a superb success. We look forward to next year's Family Fun Evening.

Dan Montague



# CONSERVATION

It has been another good year for the Conservation option. A useful amount of work has been done, in many different areas, and we have been able to publicise our activities in an open day. Due to the increase in numbers, we can no longer set off in one group to concentrate on a particular activity, as we have done for the last two years, but have to split up and work on several projects at the same time. This has allowed us to tackle different problems

simultaneously, albeit more slowly. Nevertheless, notable progress has been made this year.

The pond, for example, has been landscaped: a hedge, trees and marsh-plants have been planted, and Ben Henley's birdtable has been installed. All members of the option have been involved in this work, but the contribution of Mark Weaver and Oliver Nicolson has been particularly outstanding. On a more mundane level, the pond has had to be cleared of litter, and this has been done by the fifths on a regular basis. Coupled

with the general improvement in the facilities in the Environmental Studies Centre, this has meant that the school has acquired an additional, and very valuable,





# Camp SITE WARDEN'S REPORT



moss and the hut is very comfortable. There is very little water leakage indeed.

The cam site itself has been used on several occasions by various scout groups. The paths in the wood have been cleared of brambles. It is therefore possible to walk the length and breadths of the coppice.

May we thank Mr Russell for all the time that he has given to us. We are very grateful for this indeed because we enjoy going to Andrew's Coppice so much.

*Owain Thomas, Arman Rahman, Williams Critchlow and Bob.*

This year we have attempted to coppice a small area of woodland. This is where the land is cleared of shrubbery, leaving only trees and grass. Much bracken has to be cleared in this process as well as young sycamore seedlings.

We have cultivated the hedge of the perimeter of the coppice. This involved trimming the existing hedge and planting trees in the gaps. The hedge is now very neat and tidy.

The coppice hut has recently been renovated. New guttering has been attached and it has been repainted. The roof has been removed of



## NEWS

biological resource. Studies have already been made of the plants and animals present in the area, and these should form part of an interesting record in a few years' time.

Conservationists have also taken part in

some of the more traditional activities of the option, such as path-making and vegetation clearance. The path has been laid so that it runs from the main gate to the West Woods northwards, and is now over three hundred yards in length. A large patch of rhododendron has been cleared, and the branches have been burnt so that new growth is prevented. In addition, we have attempted to slow down the spread of Japanese knotweed and skunk cabbage in the Southern

March. However, the extent of skunk cabbage invasion, and the difficulties of removing it, mean that herbicide will have to be used instead.

Perhaps the highlight of the year for Conservation was the open day in May. This followed a talk by Mr Lampard at the Parents' Association meeting in October, in which the Biology Department made a presentation. About forty parents, pupils and staff attended, and were given a guided tour of the reserve and shown the work of the Conservation and Field Studies groups, as well as seeing the woods at the time of year when the bluebells are in flower.

It remains for me to thank Mr Lampard for continuing to run this very worthwhile option with such much enthusiasm. This has been the last year for the original "band of four" who have been with the option since its first week, and the other Sixths. It is for us, sadly, no more that Wednesday afternoons will be spent in the peace of the West Woods, destroying plants or knocking pegs into the ground, but newer recruits are willing to carry on the work. The option is flourishing.

*Simon Norman*



# Leadership Weekends

The Leadership Weekends are one of the Divisions' best kept secrets. Because of the nature of the weekends, participants have to swear not to reveal anything about the exercises to any non-participants. This has three effects: Firstly, it means that non-one taking part has any idea what is going to

happen next, which adds to the enjoyment, and makes the whole exercise worthwhile. Secondly, it means that everyone who didn't take part finds it hard to understand exactly what is so enjoyable about the weekends, and thirdly, it makes this report a lot harder to write.

This year's four weekends included both one of the hottest days of the year, and one of the coldest days, but given the proximity of the centre to the Welsh border, unpredictable weather was always on the cards. The Bredwardine Lodge Centre provided basic accommodation, along with extremely friendly hosts, who made us feel very welcome throughout the weekend.

Generally, the mix of three schools worked: everyone seemed to get on well, and being put into a team with people you'd never met before and made to do certain things (sorry, but I can't go into any more detail) was a very good way of breaking the ice, and getting to know the others.

I have not spoken to anyone who did not enjoy the weekend and I am sure that everyone would like to thank Mr Roll, and all the other teachers from the various foundation schools who helped to make the weekend possible.

Finally, to anyone who still doesn't know quite what a Leadership weekend is, the only way to find out is to go on one. You won't regret it.

Diarmid Mackenzie

This has been a highly productive year for "The Idler". We produced six issues in the Autumn and Spring terms, achieved a reputation for top-quality journalism, and were even mentioned in the end-of-term assembly at Christmas. The success is a tribute to the hard work and dedication of our team of writers, computer operators and - above all - our editor, Miss Bond. Her enthusiasm, vision and wit have in no small way contributed to the continued vitality of the newspaper.

After taking office in June 1994, Miss Bond instigated a number of changes which, although somewhat resented at first, have now been fully accepted; these included a review of content, the design of a new format and the adoption of fairer working conditions. The paper is now divided into sections, such as "features", "reviews" and "sport", so that the variety of writing in an issue is balanced. Some features have appeared regularly, such as the film, album and book choice, and on the sporting front, the three regular columns were Amit Nayyar's "Cricket with Amit", Ed Rigby's "Rigby on Rugby" and Gareth Weetman's miniscule "Villa Corner."

I shall now summarise the main features of each issue. In September, James Woodroffe wrote about the perennial question of whether football should be introduced as a school sport, he and Richard Field interviewed Mr Wright, and Ed Rigby wrote an epic tale about the rugby teams trip to Cheltenham.

October saw a special issue dedicated to the writing talent of Dan Begbie-Clench, including his reviews of "Pulp Fiction", Radio One and "A Clockwork Orange." Sajid Waraich wrote at length about Northern Ireland, Gareth Weetman did some political stuff, and Ben Henley and myself tried to be humorous (he was and I wasn't).

November was a large issue, which was originally planned as an entry to the "Daily Telegraph's" school newspaper competition, but in the end we didn't enter this year. It was notable for James Picardo's controversial piece entitled "Foundation and Empire", in which he questioned the importance of the KE Foundation. There was also an article by Ben Henley, criticising the National Lottery, and the memorable message "Buy a Ticket - Kill a Beggar!"

December's issue, which Mr Wright described as the best yet, included a debate on whether Myra Hindley should be released, some more politics from Gareth, Conservation News, Ben Henley's satire about the Turin Shroud, Ed Rigby's poem and Dan BC's extended piece on East Timor.

The February issue resulted in a wholly unusual spectacle - people actually queuing up outside Room 160 awaiting the arrival of freshly-photocopied "Idlers." The reason for this interest was the inclusion of a page and a half of Valentine's Day messages, which are always very popular. Besides the messages were Nishchay Chandra's "Drugs in Athletics", Richard Fields "Balti Towers", a review of "Pirates of Penzance" and "Rigby's Final Word on Rugby."

By March, the team was working to an established format, so we got the issue out quickly. "Child Out of Time", "Hearts and Minds" and "Just A Minute" were reviewed. James Picardo and Ben Henley also wrote about a small survey they had made of attitudes to the monarchy.

So there you are - a year at "The Idler". The tiger goes from strength to strength.

Simon Norman

# THE IDLER



The festival once again produced some excellent basketball games, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who participated. The standard of competition was high with three of the teams having reached the 'last sixteen' of the nations. These were: St Columbus School, Churston Grammar School and the KES side. King Edwards School, Lichfield also took part against whom we had previously played during the season, and as ever KES entered a B-team.

A total of ten games were fitted in over the weekend. The KES B side displayed their typical enthusiasm and fighting spirit, but the side was very young consisting of the U15 side, strengthened by some U16 players. So the team suffered from a lack of height, and the precision shooting that comes from those extra couple of years work of lunchtime shooting practices, and did not manage to win a game. But the team did play well together and put in some excellent performances, in particular from H Kuraishi and M Sheldon which promises much potential for the future of KES basketball.

The A team played well during the festival and beat KE Lichfield 97-54. Disappointingly the A's lost to St Columbus, having previously beaten them during the season. But the team rallied in the final game of the festival against our old rivals, last years' national champions Churston Grammar School, who KES hosted for the weekend. The match was played in good competitive spirit and KES won 83-57.

The weekend was enjoyed by all and thanks must go to the parents for hosting the players and to Mr Roper for coaching the B team, and also to Mr Birch for organising the festival and coaching the A team.

J A Edwards

# EAST bASKETBALL FESTIVAL

## Junior schools

## challenge

This year's team faced the daunting prospect of following in the footsteps of the outstandingly successful teams of the past three years, who had all been not only Regional Champions, but also National Runners-up. The team was captained by George Simms, a veteran of last year's side, and he was joined by three new faces: Joshua Goodman, Qasim Shah and Edward Wood. Hopes, then, were high.

The first round paired us against King Edward's School, Stratford. It was a strange match. Our opponents were far sharper on the starter questions, but struggled to answer their bonus questions, which we were able to steal from them. The winning margin of 200 points was therefore a shade flattering!

However, the quarter-final saw us hit our best form against the increasingly formidable King's School, Warwick, the team we had defeated narrowly in last year's Regional Final. George was superb, and answered brilliantly on the

starter questions in the face of intense competition from our talented opponents. As last year, we emerged victorious by only the slenderest of margins.

Our semi-final brought us against King's Worcester. A splendid all-round effort enabled us to defeat what was essentially a one-man team, and so far the fourth year running we had reached the National Final, where we faced our old rivals, RGS Worcester.

In what was a curiously lack-lustre performance, we never got to grips with the starter questions and were constantly being beaten to the buzzer. RGS had a definite edge, and so, despite a brave last burst in the closing minutes, KES never really looked like winners. It was a disappointing defeat because we never

got into our stride and were made to look quite ordinary. Our grip on the Regional Championship had at last been lost.

Nonetheless, George proved himself to be a player of the highest standard, and can look forward to a career in the senior team. Joshua revealed plenty of potential, and with greater speed on the buzzer will be formidable. Qasim has an excellent knowledge, especially on the Second World War, and Edward proved especially effective in the bonus rounds. So this has been a learning year, and I hope that all the team enjoyed their experience, with their appetites whetted for more competition in the future!

EJM

"Our opponents were far sharper on the starter questions, but struggled to answer their bonus questions, which we were able to steal from them."

On the 17th of March the chaos that is Comic Relief rained once more upon King Edward's, and we did indeed all get wet. This year's festivities were masterminded by Ben Griffin, who was ably assisted by a committee of Divisions and Sixths who had nothing better to do with their lunch hours, and Mrs Durman, who proved particularly useful in the photocopying department. It took some time for the ball to get rolling, but soon all of the school were getting involved with their usual gusto for the funny, ridiculous or abjectly embarrassing. In fact some were so eager to get in on the act that they got the date entirely wrong, and events abounded in the week before the actual event. A joint teachers and pupils game of 'Just a minute' took place, as did a charity football match. The events which took place on the day are too numerous to report in full, and I apologise in advance to anyone whom I fail to mention. I love you really. (err. Ed) Once again the Gym was

# Comic RELIEF

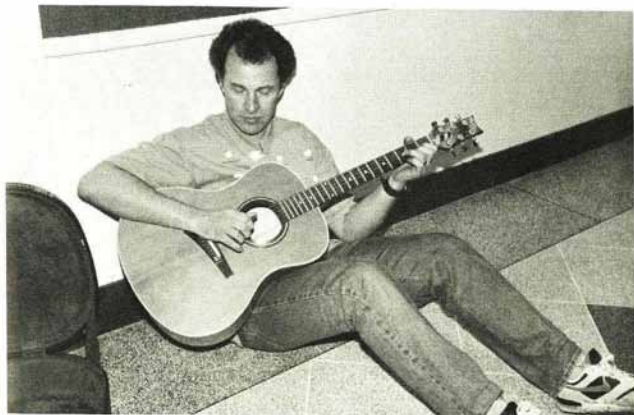


invaded by grown men hurling themselves, or each other for that matter, at rubber walls, and on this occasion it was not the P.E. staff on a particularly vigorous fitness test, but the recurrence of that perennial favourite, the Bouncy Castle; a large number of boys appeared with hair in interesting colours, courtesy of the resident hairsprayers; even the teachers got in on the act, with Miss Tudor courageously being pelted with wet sponges, Mr Mason having a bucket of custard emptied on his head, and a small group of the common room élite abseiling down from the roof in a way which put even the S.A.S. to shame. As Chris Parsons would no doubt have said: "Wibble". Thanks must go predominantly to Ben for his organisational skills, but also to all those people who made the day happen. Incidentally we made over £1,800, smashing the previous record of £1,500.

Neil Robertson



“ ... The Gym  
was invaded  
by grown men  
hurling  
each other ... ”



1994-5 has been a vintage year for one Division Economics set. The combined brainpower of 'Div A' has resulted in endless awards, honours and accolades.

The set became known on the competition circuit as "Timmy's Wise Men" - an amalgamation between the name of our illustrious teacher and the not quite so illustrious Chancellor's crack team of thinkers.

The side fared quite superbly in the first competition of the year - sponsored by the Financial Times it tested knowledge and understanding of the London Stock Exchange and its workings.

How were we to choose a group of shares though? Were we to believe the tips so faithfully printed in the FT and other such publications, or should we plot a set of shares' prices over a period time and choose them on recent performances? Or, should we rely on our city instincts (largely guesswork) and generate our portfolio using luck? In practice, we used a mixture of all three methods.

The plan paid off, as we reached the regional finals in an outstanding third place. Unfortunately, the "go for broke" tactics we employed here didn't yield similar results. £1000 and a London Final had been lost.

The "Forecast '95" competition was held later in the year and asked us to predict what value economic indicators would be at in twelve months time. Having recently received the results, I am proud to announce that the team achieved an admirable 8th out of 126 schools beating not only other institutions but our own teachers.

Timmy's Wise Men were:

Alistair Caldicott, James Woodroffe, Dan Montague, John McDermott, Philip Bennett-Britton, Simon Heath, Stephen Preston, Imran Shaikh (lesser developed scandinavian countries specialist), Michael Green, Michael Pataro, and of course Tim Mason.

James Woodroffe

## SHOOT'S CHALLENGE

"This will be our year" declared Mr Milton back in September. After so many years of trying, the fruit of the Tree of Optimism was still sweet to the taste, but not without reason. The new team - Mark Lewis, James Picardo, Patrick Finglass and Henry Pertinex - was one of the strongest ones we had fielded, and our early results bore this out. Our first match, against Handsworth Girls' School, was a steamroller affair, with us gaining over a thousand points - a very rare achievement. A further victory against King Henry VIII, Coventry showed that we were in with a chance.

Indeed, throughout our matches our biggest enemy was also our greatest friend - namely James Picardo! James' play was quite outstanding: his incredible speed on the buzzer and sheer mountain of knowledge made him a player in the David Wake category. However, he sometimes over-

reached himself and buzzed in too early, which was particularly frustrating when one of us knew the answer and were beaten by James' speed. The result was a match which had a score largely determined according to James' current skill level. This is not to denigrate the achievements of the other three players. Mark had his speciality in sporting trivia, but also managed to keep the game afloat during the "Picardo-Penil" moments. He and James were definitely the buzzer-men of the team. This left Patrick Finglass in charge of the bonus questions (of which there are three for each starter), a duty which he discharged in a typically reliable manner. The history, classics and - in the absence of a proper musicologist - music questions fell to him (and, I think, I got my traditional 'Who drove all the snakes out of Ireland' and 'Which Radio 4 programme has recently been moved to an earlier time-slot?' questions which seem to crop up every year). This leaves Henry Pertinex, a rising star who earned well his spurs in the presence of his elders. His wide variety of knowledge confirms that the future, if not the present, is in safe hands.

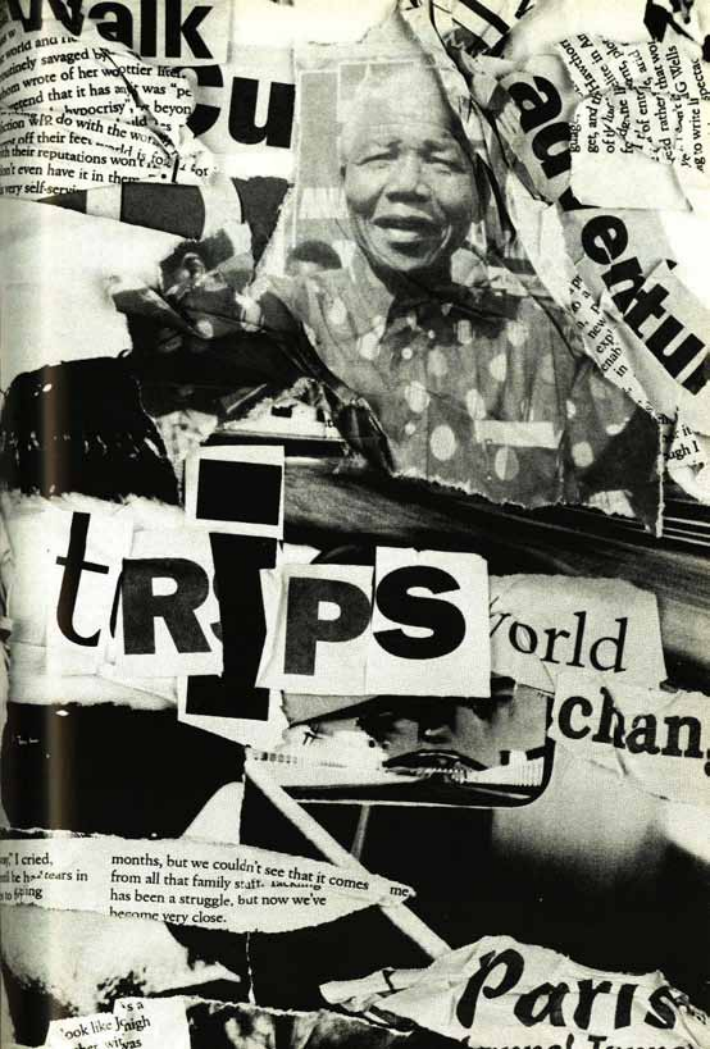
I digress. The Regional Final was against King Edward's School, Stratford, against whom we won a safe victory. I think our success had a good deal to do

with the psychology of the game. Most other teams consist of Serious Young Men, but our two sixth-formers always found something to laugh about between questions. These opponents in particular found this very strange indeed.

Now the rot set in. The national organiser gave us two 'inter-regional' rounds to play before the finals themselves. Although we crushed Notts High School, a game against RGS Worcester ended in defeat; but defeat against what was a better side. The finish was quite nerve-racking, as we were desperately clawing back a seemingly insurmountable lead. All rested on the final question. At the words, 'Whose theory of geometry... (figurately) leapt in, and prepared myself to win a famous victory. Alas and alack the other side got there first, and Euclid no doubt shared my anger high above. We had lost.

Whom shall I thank? I have eulogised Mr Milton in ages past (I have been playing this game since 1990) as we have been pipped at the post and beaten at the final fence. It is once again our loss that we did not bring him back the trophy he so richly deserves. Next year, perhaps...?

Patrick Finglass



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# St Mark's dALLas ExchAnGE 1995

Reading previous Chronicle reports on the KES/St Mark's exchange I was gratified to find that my group was not the first to appear at the Flight Link terminal in Aston at ridiculous hours in the morning. No, in fact, my group was just one of many dazed groups of KES travellers to venture off to lands unknown before breakfast. On arrival at the Terminal, the Dallas Posse (as we became known, primarily because we couldn't think of anything better) were whisked off on a soul destroying seventeen-hour trip to Texas, via Gatwick and Washington. Mr Andronov and Maeve, his wife, were used to the trip, but the Posse could barely keep their eyes open. Our group consisted of a smaller number than previous years, with only three pupils - Richard Crabtree, Geoffrey Greenwood and myself making the journey. At the

end of our journey, a lengthy immigration check followed, and even then we were not free. In the luggage area I took a photograph of the group together in the States for the first time, and I was approached by a plain-clothes security officer who asked me to stop. Obviously, I was a Russian spy.

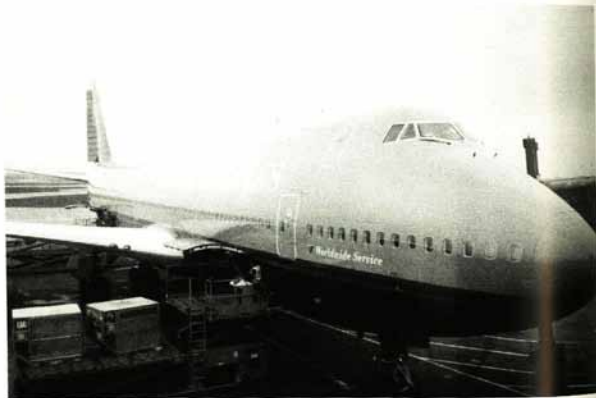
It was dark in Dallas when we arrived. The exhausted group dumped their suit cases on the pavement and stood shivering (wasn't America supposed to be hot?) waiting for our lift. The American exchange organiser, Mrs Lawrence, was not late and we were soon cruising along an Interstate towards St Mark's. On arrival we were met by our exchange partners and driven to our homes for the next fortnight. We were not disappointed. Eugene, my exchange partner, had a house that could easily be called a mansion

in the UK. Eugene did not think it was very big. But then, Eugene did not think his television was very big either. The screen was about the size of my bookcase.

The three days that followed were spent, on the most part, relaxing, except for Richard who thought it would be a good idea if he stayed awake for three days running. It wasn't. Settling in with Eugene was quite difficult, because I was afraid to touch anything in case I broke it. I didn't have enough money to replace anything Eugene owned. I was leaning on a table on my second day when Eugene drawled, "No, Ed, don't sit on that. It's made from \$10,000 redwood." Oh.

After our period of relaxation the group met in the dining hall of St Mark's. Mr Andronov decided it would be a good idea if we went on some trips. We thought sleep was a more practical option. However, we ended up going anyway, and were quite glad by the end of it. The Posse went on several trips, including one to a fight between the Dallas Stars and an away team (although an ice hockey match did break out at one point), and another to the Sixth Floor museum, where JFK was alleged to have been shot by Lee Harvey Oswald. Unfortunately, the Americans looking after the place did not seem to be tuned into to GA's sense of

"Eugene did not think his television was very big either"





humour (if it is possible to be, which we are still trying to determine). When asked if we wanted a walkman with a taped tour of the museum, Mr Andronov replied that he would like five in German. In the lift, the group turned on the cassette players to be awarded with the message, "Guten tag". The unfortunate GA then had to explain to the people at the desk that he had been joking, and really wanted them in English. "Oh," they said.

Another trip involved a visit to one of Mr figby's friends in Oklahoma, a radio amateur. This was before the bombing, by the way. The highlight of this was on the return journey when Mr Andronov decided to stop at a 'gas station'. And then decided to drive away without paying. It was an accident really. Mr A thought Moeve had paid and vice-versa, but it was amusing for all (except the embarrassed adults concerned) when a fat attendant jogged up to us yelling the immortal words, "Hey, buddy, you haven't paid for that gas yet!" It was actually quite fortunate he caught us up, though, as also filling up at the station

were two donut eating State Troopers, complete with sports cars.

The stay was much enhanced by a trip to the country dwelling of one of GA's American friends who happened to own two All Terrain Vehicles, which the Posse crashed and rolled with incredible frequency over the next hours, and also a trip to a lake house, where we stayed the night. Mr Andronov spent many happy hours in the dead of night pointing out star constellations to the group through a telescope.

The final outing before the return trip was to the Mesquite Rodeo. This was brilliant. A live band rattled off country music to accompany a wonderful assortment of cowboys falling off practically anything rideable. The only let down was Richard, who dragged along his new girlfriend Katie, and between them they made me buy them practically all of the food on offer. I did not like Katie - she kept stealing my baseball cap and running off with it, presumably because hers was dire.

Back to the previous Chronicle reports,

it seems that the majority of these exchanges have been accompanied by wonderful weather ... and tornado warnings. We were not disappointed, and can even claim to be better off than the previous trips - there was actually a tornado off to the south of us, and it brought really awful weather for one of the day trips to the mall. It was fun.

And that's about it, really. There is a lot more to tell about the exchange, but obviously space is limited. The best way to find out about the Dallas Exchange is to go on it. It is the most amazing month imaginable - the place really is just like the movies.

All that remains is to thank Mr Andronov and Moeve for giving us the opportunity to experience an exchange with the States, our exchange partners for putting up with us, and Mrs Lawrence for organising things back on "the Mainland". The exchange was a once-in-a-lifetime and I would advise anyone who can to go. You won't regret it. (Even if Mr Andronov forces you to eat Mexican food.)

Ed Benwell

In the Casino of Monte Carlo fortunes are lost and won each day. In a coach on a windswept moor in North Yorkshire, I won thirteen pence. This gives a good idea of the breathtaking excitement involved in parts of the Divisions Geography field trip.

Starting on the Wednesday morning we crawled into school, loaded the coach and sat back, ready to be thrilled by the sights and sounds of the quaternary environment. However this was to be delayed, because first we had to look at the morphology of Ripon and Thirsk and perform the ritual questionnaires on locals. After a mixture of random abuse, extreme confusion, old ladies' life stories and questions like "weren't you here last year?" we settled down to a somewhat more selective group of young women.

From there we moved on to our delightful hotel, with excellent food, accommodation, stuffed animal heads and a rather bizarre line in converted railway carriages used as rooms.

The week took in a variety of human and physical landscapes. Mr Chamberlain's human geography day took us from the bleak Easington Colliery, home to weird and wonderful supermarket chains, to the bright lights of Durham for lunch and answering odd questions and finally on to the picturesque Consett.

The physical days were no less varied, visiting various cliffs and beaches for football and arriving back at the hotel an hour late. The other physical day was spent measuring streams, where the conditions made writing notes difficult, and for the other set digging soil pits, which they really enjoyed.

The last day involved a whistle stop tour of industrial locations with our guide Mr Cumberland, a transect through Middlesbrough and a visit to Skinningrove. Skinningrove rivalled Easington Colliery for best kept town in the North; it certainly had character, with only one shop, (straight from the 1960's and



# Divisions **geoGRAPHY** FIELD Trip to north **Yorkshire**



appearing to exist to sell knitting patterns), and the sight of pigeon lofts on the valley sides. Sadly our schedule meant we had only twenty minutes there, but the local youth bade us a fond farewell.

The evening work was well taught by Dr Higgitt and Messrs. Cumberland, Holliday, Chamberlain and Everest, under the eye of the ever helpful Liz.

Apart from thanking the teachers involved, a number of boys helped keep us amused: Mat and Damian with their skateboarding prowess, Andy for sharing his dream of being a farmer, and Wulstan for patiently explaining, for an hour, how a plane we saw really was staying stationary in the air.

Ben Sheriff



# ToO much WeNlock

## Shell T CAmping trip

The coach came at last. Mr McMullan's booming voice hovered over Shell T's sweating brows "Get ANY luggage at all!" We did, and eventually were allowed to board the coach.

The coach had a musty-dry smell. Shell T's eyes bounced happily along the rows of seats and each and every one us allotted ourselves a place. The hour had come. The time was here. Now we were to put aside all doubts and face hell with a devil-may-care attitude. Shells Summer Camp was on.

"The scenery is actually quite pleasant" commented Mr McMullan, trying to break the racket. The driver cast his eyes with guilt in TM's general direction. The situation became clear. "This ain't no technological breakdown. Oh no. This is the road to hell." And, as TM commented, "We're going the wrong way."

We arrived at the barn 30 minutes late, remembering Mr Dewar's enjoyment when he told us "There's a top RIGHT at the end of the field."



Then Miss Tudor arrived, only 2 hours late ('Excuse me, I was working' - Miss T). Everyone was impressed, including Mr McMullan, Mr Mason and a giggly six-year-old Stuart Mason.

The food was very welcome. It brought that "warm glow" of ramshackle pleasure available only at camp. As usual, I managed to get someone else to do my washing up.



The night-walk was pretty good as was terrifying the little Mason with Mr McMullan's ghost stories. Miss Tudor told us she could only watch twenty minutes of "The Exorcist" before she started crying, and denounced Ouija boards when we found ourselves in a real ghost story. Mr McMullan reported we were lost. Again.

When we got home (notice I call it home) we played 'Twister'. I collapsed on the fifth one, little Mason whipped everyone at it. Miss Tudor collapsed. Mr Mason collapsed. Mr McMullan gave us a hopeless talk about not walking around until 6 am. Nobody listened.

In the morning, Mr McMullan decided to put on a garish purple shirt and woke everybody up by showing it to their sleeping eyes. The day progressed with a walk up the Wrekin and a Simply Red song on the coach back home (a new home you'll notice). With bags pulling on our shoulders, we progressed, like robots, to bed.

*Jos Lavery*

# Italy Trip

After months of meticulous planning on the part of Mr Lambie, almost down to how much air each member of the party would require throughout the trip, the joint Geoclassicalinguist trip to Italy set off at 12.30 on the 1st of April. The pecking order on the coach was soon firmly established, with myself and Ben Griffin laying a firm claim to the only two seats on the coach with any decent amount of legroom, a claim which we maintained through the trip despite firm pressure from some ambitious fourth years. Since we were to spend a large amount of time on the coach over the next 14 days this proved an almost invaluable possession.

The first four days were spent almost entirely travelling, since all things considered it is a very long way from Birmingham to Southern Italy. We stopped once (day two) in Switzerland for an Alpine walk and a game of football, once (day three) at Assisi to see the tomb of St Francis and once (day four) in Rome, before we finally reached our destination of Paestum, a small town on the west coast of Italy around an hour's drive south of Napoli.



“a most relaxing experience”



Since we had been travelling for so long, we then proceeded not to use the coach at all the following day, spending the entirety of it in Paestum, which just happened to be one of the three best sites in the world for Greek temples. That was not by the way a typing error; I did mean Greek and not Roman, since Paestum was a Greek colony which was later taken over by the Romans. The morning was therefore spent admiring these temples and accompanying ruins, and the afternoon was spent relaxing on the beach.

Day six was my personal favourite, since we spent it in Pompeii, the star of the first year Latin course and the projects of many aspiring Shells. For aficionados the ruins here hold many treasures, but even for the complete non scholar they hold a sense of awe. There is something deeply profound about walking along a street built nearly 2000 years ago with the original buildings towering (yes they do go above head height, and sometimes even into two storeys) to the sides of you. The amphitheatre at Pompeii, although not on the same scale as the Colosseum was for me somehow more impressive, since the Colosseum is perhaps too big to take in.



Day seven took us to another amphitheatre, this time in Pozzuoli. Although this is not as complete above ground as the Pompeian one, it has a much more impressive set of underground caverns, where originally were housed the wild animals. This was then followed by a visit to a geothermal pool in

Averno, a most relaxing experience, and as a special treat a meal in a real restaurant. In the afternoon we proceeded to Cumae, a ruined Graeco-Roman city where we discovered such delights as the Sibyl's cave (although Basil did not seem to be around) and Agrippa's tunnel (built to facilitate the clandestine movement of troops and supplies during the war between Octavius and Pompeius).

Saturday 8th (coincidentally day eight) was spent climbing Vesuvius with a guide who seemed to have learnt his English by watching Dick van Dyke in *Mary Poppins*. Since this was really the only day on which cloud cover could possibly affect our photographs, this was of course the only day when we had low lying clouds. This didn't however detract too much from the experience, giving it a somewhat more mysterious quality. Once we had returned to something more akin to sea level, we visited a sumptuous villa in Oplontis which may have belonged to the mistress of Nero, Poppaea.

Sunday (day nine) was split into two halves. The first half was spent at the Museo

destroyed by Vesuvius' eruption in 79 AD. Although smaller and less famous than Pompeii, Herculaneum is no less impressive than its more illustrious counterpart. Some of the sites here are almost breathtaking in the detail which has been preserved. Since this was our last night in Paestum, much time and money was spent in the local arcade by certain senior boys attempting, in one case rather successfully, to play a ridiculous game called 'Revolution X'.

Day ten was when we finally said goodbye to Paestum and set off with a song in our hearts for Solfatara, a semi-active crater volcano, which emits sulphur fumes, and has boiling pools of mud, creating an uncanny resemblance to a 'Doctor Who' set, only with Sylvester McCoy. In the afternoon, we went to Hadrian's villa in Tivoli, and this site was truly amazing. The villa itself occupies a huge area, and contains a hundred metre long fish pond, a swimming pool, and its own personal temples. In the evening we arrived at Aqua Sparta, where we had the ceremonial 'giving of the presents' to the members of staff et al., and much hilarity was had by all.

The next three days were spent entirely travelling, with a stop once more in Switzerland for another Alpine walk, this time to the village of Chironico, where we were bought the corner shop's year's supply of ice cream in around 5 minutes. We finally made the English channel at around 3 o'clock in the morning on the 13th, and luckily we were all able to enjoy a full English breakfast to the accompaniment of the ship rolling alarmingly from side to side. We arrived at school roughly 2 hours earlier than planned due to catching an earlier crossing, and everyone went home and slept for a week.

Grateful thanks must go to Mr Lambie for his phenomenal powers of organisation, and to Miss Tudor without whom we would never have been able to pronounce the names of the icecreams. Thanks also to all the other teachers involved (Mr Stone, Mr Evans, Mr Cumberland and Dr Higgitt) and also to the drivers Nigel and Dave, and to Tony, Nigel's girl friend, who kept us supplied with drinks at sensible prices throughout the trip.

Neil Robertson  
Graham Ball

“for aficionados  
the ruins here  
hold many  
treasures,  
but even for  
the complete  
non scholar  
they hold  
a sense of awe”

Nazionale in Napoli, which houses some of the best finds from Pompeii and Herculaneum. It was of course much too big to even contemplate seeing everything, and so we were forced to concentrate on only small areas. The afternoon was spent in Herculaneum, the other well known town

# Leadership Weekend

In the spring of this year, a number of boys from the Divisions and our counterparts from the girls' school and Five Ways embarked on one of three "Leadership Weekends" under the guidance of Mr Roll. Not knowing what to expect, a bunch of fresh-faced teenagers turned up at Brewardine Lodge, Hay-on-Wye, ready to face any challenge... except, of course, the first one we were to meet. The details thereof cannot be revealed for fear of spoiling the fun for next year's contenders, other than to say it relieved us rather abruptly of our inhibitions (but then, so did the pub). During the course of weekend we learnt to overcome a variety of shortcomings, from an inability to read maps to a basic human need for oxygen on long runs through the hot sun. All that remains to be said is a big thank you to all of the teachers facilitating a marvellous weekend, especially Mr Roll, without whom it would not have been possible. Oh, and of course, my team won.

Ben Jones

# Four this geography

It was 7.40 on the morning of June 22nd when 40 dishevelled but colourfully dressed geography students gathered in Geography room A. Outside the sun was blazing down and thoughts seemed to be more on who had brought the cricket bat than GCSE fieldwork. However at 7.50 when Mr Cumberland arrived, sporting the classic panama hat, any visions of a mock test match were soon dismissed and all thoughts immediately switched to geography.

After setting off at 8.30, and having dropped groups off at Betws-y-coed, Llanwrst and Conwy the coach arrived at Llandudno at 12.00, slightly earlier than anticipated.

My group was based at Llanwrst, a small market town 20 miles south of Llandudno. After coming from Birmingham, Britain's second city, we were slightly set back by the size of the town. After familiarising ourselves with Llanwrst we set about data collection. As there weren't many people about this took the form of photos and map making; but it was extremely valuable.

After a good day's work each group were picked up at certain posts and taken back to the Lledr Valley Youth Hostel. Hopes were slightly dashed when we learnt that there were no tennis courts or gym facilities, but a playing field across the road proved ample. In fact, once the sheep were herded away some interesting football matches were played. However before relaxing, we all did some important follow up work on the day's activities and briefly planned the next day's diary.

The 23rd was again blisteringly hot, but the groups found this only helped their data collection. With some groups visiting more than four places, it seemed as though nothing could hold back the KE boys.

After another hard day's work we returned to the youth hostel where many boys took a well deserved rest. However, after we had eaten it was back to work, assessing the new data collected.

We woke up early on Saturday morning, so as to clear our rooms and still leave on time. However, there was more to be done than expected, due to the previous night's restlessness.

Saturday the first of April, half past eight in the morning. To most of us the morning after the night before. Regardless, heavy-lidded and barely functioning, we set off for a two o'clock ferry from Dover. The journey on the whole was uneventful, most people choosing to lie back with their personal stereos on, eyes shut and mouths agape, but Mr Argust kept a fortunate few of us amused with his Daily Telegraph cryptic crossword puzzle.

Several hours and even more appalling April Fool's Day jokes later, we arrived at the Chateau Hermitages in Blondeques. The accommodation here was adequate and had a certain primitive charm, but the culinary offerings failed to meet most people's high standards. Yet the meatballs we were served for dinner made a profound impression on us and proved to be an endless source of amusement for all.

The night passed and morning arrived, as expected. Adam Mickelthwaite our star soloist in the Aratunyan Trumpet Concerto, discovered the lighting system in the men's bathroom did not work, and a tragic shaving incident ensued. Ready to take on a new day, we set off for our final destination, Lyon. The tension slowly mounted as we came closer to the first all-important meeting between us and the French families we were due to stay with.

Arriving at the Collège St Marc, most of us realised that our worries were completely unfounded, as our French hosts, who kindly offered to put us up for the next few days, welcomed us all warmly. Even so, most of us were far too worn out after our tiring journey to engage in any sort of French conversation and chose to have an early night.

Once again, morning arrived, somewhat unsurprisingly, and Monday was under way. No rehearsals or concerts were planned for this day, only a tour of Vieux Lyon. Split into three groups our tour-guides took us round Lyon's famous landmarks, such as the Fourvière. The rest of our day was kept free with our French hosts.

Tuesday was the day of our first rehearsals and concert. The rehearsals, basically a run through of our

LYON

Nevertheless our relentless determination spurred on by inspiration Messrs. Hutton and McMullan was more than a match for such a task!

After an adequate breakfast we managed to arrive in Ulandudno by 11.30 where most people immediately headed for the library. For a couple of hours we all worked hard and after a quick visit to Burger King we all gathered at the coach point.

At 1.15 we left Ulandudno and North Wales, and journeyed home. After numerous

games of cards and even more heated discussion we neared Birmingham, finally arriving at 3.45. From here each went their separate ways, but all united by a GCSE geography field trip!

Thanks must of course go to Messrs Cumberland, Chamberlain, McMullan (with his amazing roundabout theory) and Hutton for accompanying us over the 3 days, and making this important trip possible.

Stephen Spence



programme, passed fairly smoothly, our only problem being the somewhat echoey acoustics of the Chapel we were to play in.

Our programme consisted of three Hungarian Dances by Brahms, a short selection of lively folk tunes, the Aratunyan trumpet concerto, superbly played by the eminently talented Adam Mickelthwaite, and the magnificent second symphony of Rachmaninov, a passionate piece exhibiting Rachmaninov at his peak. The orchestra's performance, although excellent, was only a hint at the standards to be finally reached.

Wednesday. The basic pattern of the day was similar to that of Tuesday with the addition of an optional visit to the Musée de la Resistance or the Musée de la Civilisation gallo-romaine, my own choice being the former. This museum was most interesting and informative, although unfortunately depressing.

Our last full day in Lyon ended with a magnificent concert. Brilliantly conducted by Peter Bridle, the man who kindled the orchestra's collective fire for the Rachmaninov, the performances were excellent. Adam Mickelthwaite played with a precocious sensitivity accompanied by a flawless technique; undeniably his finest performance yet. The Rachmaninov was full of delightful moments, including a wonderfully warm solo on the clarinet by Eleanor Mason in the third movement. The orchestra's flame burnt its brightest as all played the symphony for the last time.

Thursday morning was a time of mixed emotions for everyone. Leaving both Lyon and The Rachmaninov behind, we went on our way, happy at the prospect of returning home. The journey back was altogether warmer than the journey there, many new friendships having been formed, and was altogether more bearable. The accommodation was a definite improvement on the Chateau Hermitages but, after the heights of the previous evening one could not help but think of it as an anticlimax. Once again, the orchestra enjoyed a successful trip and it was a great experience for us all.

Alex Kakoullis

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## Welcome to the Big House

The Divisions Biology Field Trip. Five fun-filled days in Abergavenny. With the two school administrators and the school recorder on the trip an atmosphere of scholarly restraint was to be expected. Our briefing on the Monday gave this the lie. The news that we were to share the centre with forty-five Dorset girls was met with the cry of "Two girls each", and the only question asked was "How much is the pool table?" Monday's work was studying plants colonising spoil tips and a fruitless search for Mr Rigby's mobile phone aerial. The evening's work and the 'meat' were both worrying, and the only thing that stopped us being depressed at not being let out was having survived Mr Porter's driving. The last thing most of us heard was the sound of Dorset farm girls calling for 'Jhaan' Aning late into the night.

## Taylor Cracks

Driving to Tuesday's work we passed a sign reading "Llanfoist welcomes careful drivers", at which one back seat driver called, "Turn around Mr Porter". The morning's work was to do transects of plant cover across moorland in beautiful sunlight. Then it rained. In scenes of genuine surrealism, Bob Taylor bounded about the moor in his Monty Python handkerchief hat, shorts and an umbrella, and Mr Rigby kept on crying "Randomise yourselves over there!". The second site of the day was a bog where we were told to jump up and down so that we could see it shake. Four endangered species later, we went back up a very steep hill and

# escape From

returned to the centre for dinner. We were to be allowed out after dinner, but only after two hours of work and passing a test on plant identification. After copying Saikat's answers we were thus free to see the sights. A thrilling evening followed of looking at cattle markets and running after a trolley in a car park. Considering the excitement that we all had, the attitude of some of the Dorset lasses really took the proverbial.

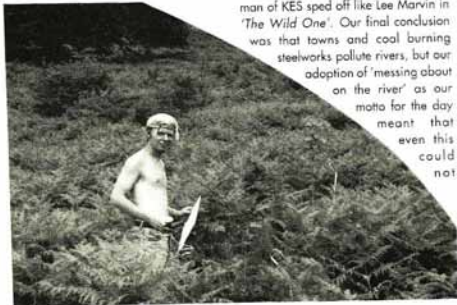
## Down the River

Wednesday morning was the worst so far and came complete with warnings of Weils disease and the issuing of cheese and pickle sandwiches to everyone who disliked pickles. Mr Porter revealed his plans for a dream holiday, which involved birds from Russia and Thailand. Scrambling along river banks in search of unidentifiable insects kept us entertained until the discovery of cold Cornish pasties in our lunches. While sorting out our equipment some students started to stare at a local who looked a lot like Mr Andronov. This turned out to be because he was indeed the dread head of science come to "visit relatives"/check up on us. His sudden appearance reminded us of the confinement of school and there was some relief as the hard man of KES sped off like Lee Marvin in 'The Wild One'. Our final conclusion was that towns and coal burning steelworks pollute rivers, but our adoption of 'messing about on the river' as our motto for the day meant that even this could not

save us from a loud talking to (and being described as "the worst group yet"). Discouraged from going into the town, we sat about outside in an impromptu karaoke session. Rapid phone calls from the neighbouring nunnery stopped our rendition of 'Easy', and so we were moved onto a patch of grass round the other side of the building. Unfortunately Jemma Starr was unable to find 'Jhaan', and in her grief she threw a marigold full of water over us and did it again as soon as we sat down. Great fun.

## Tensions mount between the screws and the men

Individual projects beckoned on Thursday morning, and the hard work we put in the night before we left us all well prepared for a day of examining plant-eating insects, comparing grazed and ungrazed land or looking at life in streams. Fitness levels were called into question among some rugby players as we trudged up a thirty degree slope to look at leaves. Data collected, we settled down to completing a farmer's dam. Realising the comic potential in the floating leaves we soon moved from a dam to a cunning water trap. The discovery of a fish in the small pooled led to our minor extension to the bank catching Mr Rigby and Stan Reeve, each losing a foot to the stream. Mrs Matthews then used her radio to call up Mr Porter to tell him about our fish. His cry of "Splendid!" rang in our ears as he rushed down the slope to Mr Rigby's directions, stepped towards the water and landed with both feet firmly on the stream bed. Returning to the centre we found the girls very excited at their upcoming release. Joining them after dinner we found that they were in a tired and emotional state after their week of hard labour. A very enjoyable night out followed, in which Mo Ashfaq married Sharon Stone look-alike Pip, Katy (Queen of the Beadies) tried to climb out of her window backwards to talk to people, Bob Taylor found a twig, and





# Colditz

Mavi kissed the most sporting individual in the centre (who was not only the first woman to break the men's Olympic weightlifting record, but also is a prospective front-row forward for the British Lions). Mo confirmed his reputation as KE's Barry White by attempting to get foot-and-mouth disease off nine cow girls who were all more interested in talking to

old Welsh guardsmen. As the girls dragged themselves up the stairs to their rooms the terror of Friday's individual project presentations crept up on us, leaving some lying awake in fear in their rooms.



## Riot!!

Friday brought us a choice. We could either return to the fun and sun of our valley project sites or spend the morning in the library working. The purpose of the day was to get our projects to a fit state for a five minute presentation in the evening. Some of us were handicapped in this by the battery in the blue minibus dying, and this provided an opportunity for the 'dream-weight' front row partnership of Sheriff, Addison and Santra to practise scrummaging pushing the minibus backwards and forwards. After some final data creation and preparation the presentations

started. They ranged from the dire to Saikat's, but the winning talk was by 'Mad' Bob. He celebrated this famous victory in his handkerchief, giving us a little dance and a victory speech of "Vote for me Herr Wilhelm". The teachers were shocked to receive a bottle each for their troubles and became dewey-eyed at this unique occurrence. Our final evening saw some very confused scenes, as Ejaz lost all his chips, (half of the chip shop staff insisting it was still open as the other half locked the door, pulled down the blinds and said there was no food left), the TV kept on switching between 'The Dirty Dozen' and Newsnight; and Steve Maung mysteriously found his contact lenses in their case.

## Paroled for bad behaviour

Saturday was an anti-climax at the end of the trip that was both educational and enjoyable, though not always at the same time. Breakages were hidden, the group photo taken. There was a short stop at a service station where Leon was heart-broken at being unable to find a copy of 'More', and then surprisingly quickly we were home.

Thanks to Mr Rigby, Mr Porter and Mrs Matthews for putting up with us, to the staff of Ty'r Morwydd for all their efforts, to the girls of Parkstone for making the trip so unforgettable, and to the residents of Abergavenny who must be mad to let us come back each year.

Benjamin Sheriff, Leon Francis and Saikat Santra



The first geography trip of the year, and the cold, dark, dank look the day had to it when we arrived at KES suggested that the wet weather kit that we had all forgotten to bring part of would be needed. Our set got the bad minibus of course, and we were so tightly packed that almost all of the luggage had to go up in Dr Higgitt's car. After filling up

and not understanding what was going on. We saw a lot of limestone scenery, including the spectacular Malham Cove that we were unable to video, because having had us carry a camera up hill and down very steep dale Mr Everest found out that he

fascinating fact that rain makes things wet (in particular jeans).

The follow up work in the evening was as ever

# forest of bowland

the minibus with the obligatory ranging poles we set off for the joys of the Forest of Bowland. This was the "physical" field trip and as such involved a lot of standing in streams

had left the film behind. However he managed to get hold of a film later in the day and his renowned "THIS is Goredale" speech brought back many memories when we watched the film. We greatly enjoyed looking at the glacial erratics (that are well worth a visit) and learned a good deal from the investigation of stream characteristics, including the

well prepared by Dr Higgitt, and the Liverpudlian cook was a good bloke. The best parts of the trip were probably the village we stopped in for some food after the very wet river work (that did a fine line in sausage rolls) and the ongoing argument between Chinna and everyone else over whether there really was an uncut version of "The Goonies" with the octopus in. Good time had by all blah blah blah, and it's just a shame that there was so much follow up work.

# europäische



One sunny July afternoon, four KES students arrived at a small hotel in the countryside of Bad Saarow just outside Berlin and began to realise exactly what the 'Europäisches Jugendtreffen' was all about. There was no sign of the intense work schedule or strict Jesuit monks that a communications breakdown had somehow brought us all to envisage.

In their place were twenty-one fun-loving students from a spectrum of European countries from Scotland to Sweden and from Italy to the Ukraine, with whom we had quickly made friends and were mellowing out with over some beers as if we had known each other all our lives.

On awakening the following day, we began to realise that the heavy mosquito presence might become more than a minor irritation, with bitten areas often beginning to swell to unusual proportions.

Eoin Parker was the first to experience this, his temporarily mutated hand earning him the nickname 'Baby Hand'. Daily group meetings were held to help break the ice and enlighten us to each other's own countries whilst helping us with our German.

The stereotypical tall blond swedish girls, who seemed determined to get up early and go jogging or swim in icy fjords, soon became our good friends. Simon Heath and Emma Larsson had in fact become extra especially good friends, but given our beautifully romantic lakeside surroundings, who could blame them?

After five days in Bad Saarow, the group migrated to a large, yet cramped youth hostel in the heart of Berlin, which would be the base for our remaining week. The intensive tour of historic sites was educational and interesting, but paled in comparison to our day trip to 'Wannsee', an enormous beach on a lake. Giles Horwitch-Smith burned quite badly, his silly straw hat obviously affording him no protection. Giles subsequently won the 'tomato' award for his skin's uniquely British erubescence. Congratulations.



“twenty one  
fun-loving  
students  
from a  
spectrum  
of european  
countries  
from Scotland  
to the  
Ukraine”

No trip to Berlin would be complete without a visit to the Hard Rock Café, which in turn would not be complete without expensive beer and appalling music. Demian Flowers was not amused although his disappointment was compensated for by his 'star buy' of a garish Ralph Lauren shirt at under two pounds during a shopping trip the following day.

It was the characters we met that made our holiday. There was Dima the Ukrainian, who loved to dance the Charleston and sing opera. There was Rafaella, the harmless yet sex-starved middle aged Italian lady who insisted she was only twenty-four.

But special mention should go to Mark Whitty, the bearded Scotsman from Wales who, although he shared our tastes for culture and etiquette, repeatedly insisted on bursting into song on underground trains accompanied by Eoin Parker's special rave dancing.

Thank yous to Alfred Paulus and Frau Hodgkin for organising the unforgettable two weeks for us, and thanks too to our new found European friends (although they probably won't read this).

Demian Flowers

# Jugendtreff

1995

On the 1st of April 1995 at 2:30 in the morning, a group of seventeen fourth years, two fifth years, one division, two masters (EJM and TAM) and several tired-looking parents assembled on the parade ground. But this was no April Fool's joke. They were the hardy adventurers, off to far-away places and untold delights ... (well possibly.)

We set off on an uneventful trip to Heathrow, and a plane journey without too many problems. That was, until we actually got to Prague, where officials seemed to want to take our group passport away from us - a trend which was common throughout the trip. With that sorted out we found our driver, and discovered that he did not speak English, French, German or Spanish - the four languages (almost) fluently spoken by at least one member of our party. Not to be dismayed we overcame linguistic difficulties, and found our hotel - or rather, our block of flats. The Hotel Kupa is not internationally renowned for its accommodation, but it sufficed.

The centre of Prague, a mere half hour metro journey away, we explored the next day, and we found some rather splendid buildings, including several churches and towers as well as cheap souvenir shops and several McDonalds!

On the third day we travelled to Budapest, and discovered that our second hotel had very good accommodation, if slightly dubious cabaret music in the restaurant.

In the evening we travelled into Budapest on the metro, meeting one or two interesting locals - the Hungarians certainly are a diverse lot. The outcome of this trip was a dazzling display of 'Budapest by Night', seeing the many great buildings and bridges lit by floodlights, guided around the city by Mr McMullan.

The following day was spent entirely in Budapest - a marvellous city, with some wonderful buildings on the banks of the Danube, some nice cafes, too many illegal money changers and, you've guessed it, several McDonalds. The views from the war memorial placed atop the cliff overlooking the river and the city were very impressive and well worth the climb.

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EASTERN

On the fifth day we travelled to Vienna, and went to our Youth Hostel. Sounds easy, doesn't it? However we had the added difficulty of not knowing where it was, and consequently trying to navigate a driver who only spoke Czech and Russian around a foreign city having gained directions from a different Youth Hostel on the wrong side of the city. As such we arrived slightly later than planned. The evening was spent at the Volksprater - a famous

BARDONECCHIA  
Or

BUST

On the evening of Friday 17th February the KES Ski-Club met for its 1995 session. Destination: Bardonecchia, Italy. With 38 members it was the largest ski-group King Edward's has seen since Mr Worthington invented skiing in 1954.

The 24-hour coach journey flew by in just the same way Mr Tomlinson doesn't, but St Andre (Papadomou) came to the rescue posing as the Game Boy King. Upon arrival at the hotel we were pleasantly surprised to find the hotel had twin on-site building sites at no extra cost! Luckily our schedule ensured we were not disturbed by these.

Our first day on the slopes was blessed with excellent weather and excellent skiing. However, cautious glances were exchanged as the advanced intermediate group was introduced to its ski maestro: 'Bomba'. He claimed his 'explosive personality' earned him his nickname but experience



"ski  
through  
a cloud  
and you  
can ski  
anywhere"

fun fair in Vienna, and the site of the Big Wheel as seen in the films "The Third Man" and "The Living Daylights". This giant wheel, 65 metres high, was built in 1896/7 but rebuilt in 1946.

The next day was spent in Vienna, seeing the sights, and buying the odd souvenir. Vienna has some incredible palaces and churches, not to mention its cafes - extremely expensive but

extremely nice. Again, the presence of a certain fast-food restaurant was evident. In the evening a lively table-tennis competition was held - which I didn't win, but like most of the beer we came across, I'm not bitter!!

On the final full day we returned to Prague, and in the evening sampled a sweet, dark 'pivo' (lager) brewed on site at 'U Fleku' for hundreds of years.

This could be described as a cross between stout and pilsner, but had a distinctive character and a good flavour.

The journey back was reasonably problem-free, and we arrived back - tired but satisfied - on the afternoon of the 8th.

Many thanks must go to Mr McMullan and Mr Milton for their hard work in running this trip so well.

*Charles Ullathorne*

**tRiP**

"But this was no April Fool's joke. They were the hardy adventurers, off to far-away places and untold delights ... (well possibly.)"

**1995**



lead us to believe it's just because he tries to kill his pupils.

With the weather as good as it was the snow deteriorated after just a couple of days. Every cloud has a silver lining and the bad snow meant that we were forced to ski in other parts of the resort

in search of the perfect piste. In Badonecchia this can only be a good thing as there is a great diversity in the skiing to be done ranging from leisurely to vertical (a.k.a. flat on our face). When you were standing on your own two skis a stunning view was never far away.

Wednesday brought the cloud that was hung on the side of the mountain. Skiing blind was the order of the day as blizzard conditions reduced visibility to about three metres. Despite (perhaps because of) the danger this proved to be great fun as well as a great learning experience (ski through a cloud and you can ski anywhere).

With the snow replenished and the sun back doing what it does best, Thursday took the advanced intermediate group to Jafferau and the best skiing of the week. Fresh snow, huge jumps and vast, empty slopes

made the whole week doubly worthwhile.

A fairly full evening activities programme had been organised including football and table-tennis tournaments, swimming, bowling and a games evening.

The whole week was very enjoyable with very few idle moments. Supervised free skiing was a welcome addition to lunch times and was possible only with the teachers' dedication to letting the boys have a good time (or did they just want to ski without the instructors showing them up?) Either way thanks must go to Mr Worthington and his heavies for organising the whole thing and giving up their half-term to go skiing.

Hang on a minute ...

*Burak Alpar*

**KE S**  
**Sk i**  
**t r i P**

# CORsICA



We soon settled into the continental environment and were pleasantly surprised when we discover that among the campsite's facilities was a swimming pool. Regrettably we only spent one night in Porticcio, before spending a couple of days exploring the capital. The appearance of Ajaccio was one of a classic French Mediterranean resort with palm trees and street cafés. There are numerous memorials to commemorate Corsica's most famous export: Napoleon. We visited the Place de Gaulle, the Citadel and the Maison Bonaparte to mention just a few sites.

The next settlement that we visited was Porto. Porto is a small town nestled in between the mountains and the sea. It is divided into two parts, with Marine de Porto being located on the coast, one kilometre from the town centre. Sadly, we only stayed in Porto for one night before having to continue our journey north along the coastline.

The town is famous for being a popular destination with artists, verified by the presence of a couple of people with their canvases on the beach.

Our next stop was Calvi. This is where the heart of the tourism industry in Corsica is located. Therefore the town's nightlife is the best on the whole island. We stayed in Calvi for four days, which was enjoyable because it gave us the chance to really explore and become familiar with the whole town.

Corsica, to the average person in this country, is very much an unknown quantity. It is far less frequently visited than its more renowned neighbours, such as the Balearic Isles. It is to the credit of the inhabitants of this elegant isle that its diverse, yet phenomenal beauty has been kept unspoilt, despite being popular with visitors from nearby France and Italy.

The first glimpse we had of the island was from the aeroplane as we circled for the final time, preparing for our descent. Our first impression was of an island nearly completely covered with trees. On arriving in Ajaccio, the capital, we discovered that no matter how much planning goes into a trip like this, unexpected problems are a certainty. After walking for an hour from the airport we realised that we had been misinformed about the location, indeed even the existence, of a campsite in the capital. As it was getting late, we had no option other than to catch a taxi to a campsite in Porticcio, a few kilometres south of Ajaccio.

## hAYwArd

## Summer





It was a noticeable feature of the town that it had developed around the Citadel. We did get the chance to look around the Citadel, even though it has been partly taken over by the French Army. On one early morning we set out on an excursion to the Notre Dame de la Serra. This was approximately six kilometres up the hill from the town centre. Once we had reached it, we spent a couple of hours enjoying the cool sea breeze. Andy's favourite feature of Calvi was the sandy beach that went on for miles.

The last main settlement that we visited was Bastia. It is the industrial zone of the island. This is therefore where most Corsicans work. There were many differences between Bastia and both Ajaccio and Calvi. Bastia showed a completely different view of Corsica; probably more distinctly Corsican. The settlements that we had visited earlier had all been heavily dependent upon tourism to generate

"Our first impression was of an island nearly completely covered with trees."



## Travel SCHOLARship

income, and therefore were giving an impression that the tourist industry dictated. This was not true of Bastia, which displays its own character. To the north of Bastia is Cap Corse. This corner of Corsica is famous for wine growing and market gardening.

In total we spent fourteen nights in Corsica, all under canvas. We walked, cycled and caught buses and a train on our journey around the island. As a matter of interest, our flight home was delayed by seven hours, but we did catch the same plane as Roger Utley, the former England rugby coach.

Writing this report about our journey has brought back many fond memories, and we would like to take this chance to thank the school and the selection committee for making this wonderful experience possible. Hopefully we have given you an insight into our journey around the isle of Corsica. It is truly a beautiful island, but don't just take our word for it, why not go there yourself?

*Phil Bennett-Britton and  
Andy Owen*



"There are numerous memorials to commemorate Corsica's most famous export: Napoleon."



# WATER sports trip

By 12 o'clock on a Sunday morning in mid July 45 boys and their minders were on the road to the South

of France. The "luxury coach" was a bonus as it was brand new and had a fully operational T.V. and video. The crossing from Dover to Calais provided us with another diversion in the guise of a coach load of scouse grrlles (but these weren't just any Liver-grrls these were Convent Girls and they were going on a PGC holiday to the South of France). Messrs. Hamer and Kuraishi took a shine to a couple of the lassies but sadly the feelings weren't returned, or rather they were but unopened! Three service stations later the situation hadn't changed but we had arrived.

The surrounding countryside was full of swamps and stagnant lagoon-like bogs, not a beach in sight. As we arrived at our camp



site violent screams could be heard from the back of the coach "Where's the indoor pool?" and "Where's the jacuzzi?" (we think Hockley has high expectations of life!) Staggering off the coach we caught the unmistakable sounds of the Dime Bar / Armadillo advert being sung. The very next impression gained came with the

introduction to us of our "Groupies" Ray and Lottie. Ray diverted our attention by teaching us how to greet a female but as this involved Michael Jackson hip swings and an uncannily incomprehensible Mancunian accent it is not worth repeating here as it loses so much in translation. Actually training Ray to speak was to be more challenging than anything else we were to encounter.

We were taken down to the beach - this was "Tan City" and we spent the time soaking up the sun, sea, sand and just about everything else on the beach. The inevitable swim helped Ben Hobbs realise that he hadn't done all of his packing. Activities began in earnest with windsurfing after lunch. A doddle for most people except Chris Padmore who was changing venue from Hyeres to the Moroccan coastal plains. The question has to be asked, "Is it really necessary to try to inflate rigid plastic windsurfer boards?" (Everyone did it so carefully and no-one thought they may be being duped.)

The days were filled with other such activities including waterskiing, sailing (who was teaching who Mr. Jubb?); wave canoeing which was a laugh especially sliding off the jetty in the canoe; riding the Banana (or willy riding either way you flew off the same speed); Long Boat sailing which ended up with Pirate King Ed Smith taking one of the boat's fuel lines after a long water fight (the lack of wind ensured that the return journey was a slow 'mal de mer' inducing one); and a day of snorkelling. This was quite an event as we went to an island on a glass bottomed boat and managed to upset one or two beach bums with our invasion. A nice island with plenty to look at. The day at Aqualand was good fun too but there wasn't so much to look at there, unless you take the sight of Mr Campbell plummeting down water shutes creating tidal waves wherever he went as something to look at. He wasn't the only one to grimace as he descended the freefall called 'Niagara'.

We were warned before the holiday that plenty of unscream would be needed and everybody seemed to take notice of this advice except Tony 'Red' Hodson. From day one the lobster could be heard to squeal in pain until late into the night.

The highlight of the day was for many boys (Mr Lambie in swimming trunks?) the evening activities and disco. These were all arranged by our unnaturally happy PGC Staff and included weird games that made everyone look totally stupid such as go-karting with the granny driver Smith and the mad-hatter Barry (plough through a barrier like that again and you'll never pass your test!). An evening of bowling saw Mike Purdon score an unbelievable 150 and was far better than the karaoke talent show (or was it Miss paradise?) that we missed. These events were always followed by the usual disco mania, boys on one side, girls on the other and the ever hopeful Sharkey Kuraishi in the middle. Everybody seemed to strut their stuff, so to speak.

The dreaded talent show did materialise on the last night but not without a few hours of panic and practice. The classic Beatles ballad "Help" was put together in a sort of fashion and Armun Rahman played guitar to save the day. On an altogether different scale 6 budding bodies threw themselves into a rendition of Take That's "Sure"; if they haven't told you about it yet you are, in the immortal words of Ray "unlucky", or are you? The PGL Staff did their bit too, ranging from a talking orange to Lottie having cold custard shoved in all sorts of places. These were unusual folk.

The week was a resounding success; even with its odd moments and peculiar people we still didn't want to go home at the end of the week. Many thanks must go to the staff: Messrs. Campbell, Lambie, Stone and Weaver for running such a great trip and to Mr Spencer for organising it.

Alisdair Jubb, Richard Hockley, Paul Atefi and Ben Levine

# Reviews

trick

is to keep breathing  
dramatised and directed by michael boyd  
inspired from the novel by jonica galloway

jennifer black  
meg fraser  
jane masfiorane  
wileen mcallum  
neve mcintosh  
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# THE p; Rates Of

This year's musical "The Pirates of Penzance" started with a move unprecedented in recent history. The Stage Crew actually managed to finish the set on time! Compared to last year when they were working until 10.00pm on the Sunday, it seemed to bode well for the play. Unfortunately though, the musical was overcast halfway through its run by the unfortunate and sudden hospitalisation of the director. Luckily though, Mrs Herbert was returned to us in good health with the knowledge of a play well done.

The cast gave a very highly motivated performance, with even the male chorus (who played the pirates themselves) giving an energetic, pleasurable display. The girls chorus was even better, capturing the essence of giggling, frivolous, status-conscious femininity perfectly (no offence). The lead actors also came over very well with the pirate king played in a suitably grand manner by Leon Francis. Fred was played by Adam Micklethwaite (without the trumpet) in an honest and earnest way, and was thoroughly convincing as a duty stricken young Victorian. Mythila Vamadevan amazed us with a display of 'high-note-singing' when she played Mabel, and Liz Dicker played Ruth in a suitably 'direct' manner. The role of Major-general Stanley was played by Andrew Macpherson,

"the pirate king played in a suitably grand manner ..."



# PENZANCE

who managed to get through the words of 'I-am-the-very-model-of-a-modern-Major-general' without a single mistake (I didn't notice any, anyway) for four nights running!

The comedy highlight of the play was undoubtedly the policemen. Gareth Weetman played this bemoustached policeman in a suitably 'Winsor Davies-ish' fashion, all bluster and dropped aitches. The sixth formers playing the police were hilariously eccentric, but a lot of credit must go to Mr Argust for finding the Latin version of 'A policeman's lot is not a happy one', which provided us with a lot of laughs.

There were a couple of low points during the run, only one of which was the cast's fault. First, the opening night audience was a bit tough, and didn't

"The sixth formers playing the police were hilariously eccentric ..."



laugh very much, which was a bit unnerving. The second flat note was when someone stuck the lottery numbers up on the stage after the interval on Saturday night. Fortunately I don't think anyone noticed.

All-in-all though, the play went very well, and I think everybody involved enjoyed it immensely. Congratulations to Mrs Herbert, Mr Stone, Mr Argust, the cast, etc. And, of course, the Stage Crew (you would be surprised how many people forget us).

Ross Lawlor





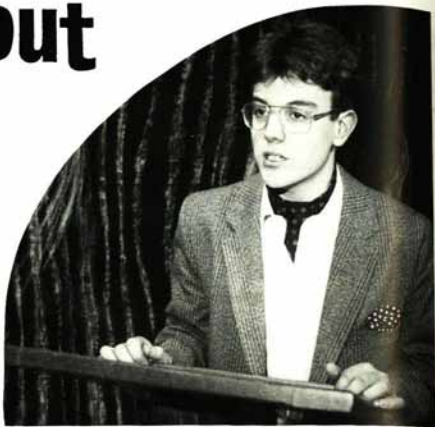
# Child out

# OF

# TIME

This year's junior play, another Milton/Bond creation, was a break from the duo's usual style, (well, it was different from last year's play, anyway).

The play was written on quite a 'dark' theme, though it avoided (thankfully) the type of long, introspective insights which can be common in this kind of story. 'Child out of Time' is your basic ghost-befriends-boy cum time-travel cum eternal-struggle-between-the-forces-of-good-and-evil story, and the blend made



"... your basic ghost-befriends-boy cum time-travel cum eternal-struggle-between-the-forces-of-good-and-evil story ...."



an entertaining and interesting mix. The story also didn't end with just a simple happy ending either, but with good winning only the temporary battle.

As much as the plot and the dialogue, the backstage made the atmosphere of the play convincing (the crew isn't often mentioned in reviews, so I'm putting them in here for a change). The lighting was smoothly executed, and the scene changes were also smooth and efficient, even if they were a trifle long. The costuming was also very effective, especially during the seventies scene. Especially striking was the extreme wideness of Ben Sharp's flares.

The acting was very good, John Grainger giving a convincingly confused and depressed performance as Peter (the hero).

The character of Nightmare, was played by Saul Howard, in a maliciously cheerful and (if you'll pardon the 'Star Trek' expression)



quite Q-like way. Ben Sharp played the character of George, the Ufologist, in a very Fortean manner, and Niall (the ghost boy) was played expansively by Nathaniel Coleman. The villagers (too many to mention here without boring

the rest of your mind away) were also all very good in their roles. During the first night performance, there was a point during the play where a line was said "All teachers want are empty headed morons" (to teach), with which Mr Dewar,

who sitting in front of me, seemed to agree.

The play was very good, all-in-all and with its 'open' ending, here's hoping for the sequel next year.

Ross Lawlor

## Q<sup>U</sup>OTE<sup>R</sup> COUNTRY

Fresh from designing last year's Senior Dramatical Society performance of 'Antigone', Matt Lloyd decided to go for something a little more ambitious, and so we were presented with the year's first performance, a production of Julian Mitchell's play 'Another Country', that was not only designed, but produced and directed by Matt as well!

While some might question the decision to invest so much time in an activity like this during your final A-level year, Matt and his cast and crew gave

us an extremely good performance.

The play is set in a 1930's minor public school, and is about the misfortune that befalls one of the older pupils, who is homosexual. James Picardo was very good in the lead of Guy Bennett, whilst Ben Henley was also very convincing in the role of his friend Tommy Judd, the Marxist intellectual. The rest of the almost entirely sixth-form cast were equally as good in their roles, with Mr Milton (on the other side of the director's chair from normal) giving us a taste of his acting talents as a middle-aged intellectual.

Whilst a serious play, that doesn't have a happy ending where everything is made right again, there was a comedy highpoint in the extraordinary dream sequence dance in which James Picardo and three of his antagonists at the school performed the strangest dance to an old jazz record, prancing about totally deadpan.

The play was a total success, showing Matt Lloyd's considerable talents as a director, and it is just a pity that KES Drama won't have them at its disposal in '96.

# SYNDICATE play

The syndicate play is, traditionally, a rather rushed affair put together in the few weeks following the 'A' level exams. However, a remarkable amount is achieved in this short period - perhaps this has something to do with the stakes involved. For success, there is an irrepressible supply of adoring, and drunk, fans ("I thought you were soooooo funny! (giggle)") at the party afterwards, and a brief, but oh so sweet social deification. For failure there awaits social execution, the pains of which will be relived in a thousand horrific, sweaty flashbacks in years to come.

The chosen play this year was Georges Feydeau's 'A Flea In Her Ear' - a French farce. However, with the cast not wishing to prance about in black and white speaking foreign tongues and holding up subtitle cards, the directors (Tamsin Bookey and Nazma Alam) wisely chose to use the John Mortimer translation. Broadly speaking, 'A Flea In Her Ear' is your standard farce, with bed-hopping, mistaken identities (Adam Micklethwaite played two parts), and furtive goings on at a hotel of disrepute forming the majority of the contrived plot. Mysteriously touted as a play produced by a group of complete newcomers, it still managed to gather together (nearly) all the dramatic heavyweights of the KES and KEHS combined sixth forms; some virgins of the KE stage also were included, and made this production their first, and last, appearance. With a pair of highly motivated, keen and talented directors pulling them by the ears, and a partially experienced but keen backstage crew slapping them on the (proverbial) buttocks, the cast steadily got it together. As rehearsals proceeded, and cast members became more concerned with their lack of knowledge of their lines, they moved from the common room to the girls' school stage, whilst the crew constructed a somewhat risqué set, adorned with (brutally realistic) naked

## A FLEA In HER EAR

ladies, and featuring the now famous, retracting bed.

Before anyone knew what was going on, it was the day before the night. The set was hastily cobbled together, and huge weights were precariously balanced on the back in a vain attempt to overcome the effects of the rake of the stage. Meanwhile, Nazma and Tamsin were physically beating their cast members into learning their lines, notably James Picardo, for he is king of all things disorganised and slightly scatty. The dress rehearsal came and went before anyone (except the directors) realised how important it was (although it went pretty well, and the set looked good), and then it was the night. Desperate calls of "Clean pants, please mum" echoed around the school as

certain members of the cast undertook last ditch attempts to learn their parts, whilst those who knew theirs just sat down, grinning uncontrollably and glowing with a sense of deep satisfaction.

The first act went well, with plenty of laughs where there should have been, and only a couple where there shouldn't. Everyone got their lines out pretty much correctly, and there was only one alarming jump of the script, although it was two pages long. Act two then followed on as slickly as God intended. It is set in the Hotel Coq Sportif, and is where the majority of the farcical activity is centred. There is much running around, everyone jumping into everyone else's beds, and everyone coming to blows with everyone else.

However, despite being the most complex and confusing part of the play, it was not the major worry on Nazma and Tamsin's mind. No, that special spot was reserved for the show-down. This was the clash between the two actors most keen to show off their comic prowess - Burak Alpar and Gareth Weetman. Both famed for their improvised comic meanderings, they were out for the ultimate prize - the biggest unscripted laugh of the night. This state of affairs slowly built up during act two, a little throwaway line here, another there, until the two were placed alone, onstage, together. This was not the scene of a slight diversion from the script, it was more of a ring road around it. Burak fired the opening shot with a monologue about his toy gun, Gareth retorted with some witty remark or another; Burak replied, the audience was in hysterics, and ... and ... and it degraded into a comic scrap onstage, as all improvisations have a habit of doing in school drama. But, the audience loved them ... maybe they could share the crown? Unfortunately, there was one factor they had not counted on being funnier.

# ANTIGONE

Than both of them. Put together. It was the set; it wobbled, creaked, shook and fell apart with such perfect comic timing, feeding lines to the like of Gareth. The retractable bed collided with the wall almost bringing it down, the door swung open at inopportune moments, just as the pace was slowing down. In short, it was comic genius at work.

Act three saw the return of relative sanity to the play, the actors finally returning to the convention of actually following the script. The plot came to a climax, and everyone finally realised that Adam was, in fact, two different people - an astounding feat of acting prowess, executed flawlessly by Mr Micklethwaite. Speaking of which, I should really congratulate all the cast on a truly triumphant job. There were memorable performances from everyone, notably Hannah Williams, proving she is just as comfortable front stage as back, Hadley Coull as the oversexed love god with a speech impediment, and Jessica O'Brien, Naomi Grimley, Jo George, Rishi Das Gupta, and Ben Griffin in their senior KE debuts. There was also great acting from the regulars of the school stage - James Picardo, Alex Kakoulis, Janine Moylan, Amit Nayyar and of course Gareth and Burak. After the slightly corny ending, it was time for the obligatory post play luvviodom. Thankfully, it was deficient in the back-slapping and crocodile tears department. Thanks to 'Garth Wetman' for making the speech, and classically mispronouncing the directors' names. Huge thanks also the backstage, makeup, costume, stage crew, lighting and prop people, especially Matt 'Lovey' Lloyd for organising all the backstage stuff. In all, Nazma and Tamsin put together an excellent production in so short a period of time that most professional directors would have soiled their Calvin Kleins at the thought. A great time was had by all and the play was thoroughly enjoyed by the (mostly) receptive audience - surely this production will stand firm and proud with no sign or wilting for many years to come in the memories of those involved, and those who watched.

Dan Pearce

Intimacy, powerful emotions and imagination - these were the hallmarks of October's performance, in English, of the Greek tragedy "Antigone" which was put on in Big School by a travelling company called "The Actors of Dionysus".

A sell-out audience of 120, including classicists and a smattering of thespians, watched and thoroughly enjoyed the play, one of the leading examples of its genre. It was written by Sophocles in around 441 B.C. and still retains its emotive appeal today. The sympathetic translation used also helped the anguish of the leading characters to reach the audience.

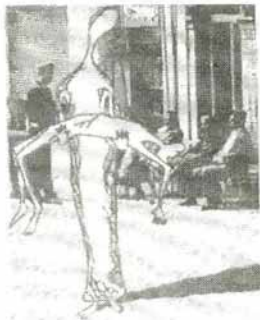
The story takes place in the city of Thebes and centres around the young woman Antigone - a member of the cursed family of Oedipus - who defies the edict of the tyrant king Creon to bury her brother Polynices, slain in his attempt to seize the city. In doing so Antigone makes the decision to obey the laws of the gods, which decree that the dead must be given proper burial, in preference to those laid down by man: for this, she must pay with her life. This conflict between spiritual and temporal authority forms a major theme in much of Sophocles' work, and is one which has resounded down the subsequent millennia.

The performance we saw was staged on the floor of Big School, with semi-circular tiers of seating raised around it, in the manner of the ancient Greek theatres in which the play would first have been seen. As well as authenticity, this added a degree of intimacy which a production on the raised stage would not have achieved. Consequently, the audience was drawn more into the action of the play, which helped to convey the turbulent emotions it contained. The costumes were convincing and simple, although not uniquely of the period - while Antigone's attire was in keeping with the era the play was set in, that of the chorus was more modern. Reactions to this anachronism were mixed: while some, myself included, felt that it highlighted the chorus' role as contemporary citizens offering their thoughts on the events of the play, others saw it as a distraction. This aside, the production was very well thought out, making good use of the limited space available, and enjoying a high standard of acting throughout.

We have come to expect such standards from the group, who came together in 1992, and have visited several schools and dramatic festivals with their acclaimed productions of Greek plays: we have already seen their "Hippolytus" and "Electra". They are loosely styled around the touring companies of Ancient Greece which were also named after Dionysus, the patron god of the theatre.

Actors and audience adjourned to the dining hall afterwards for refreshments and a raffle which Mr Worthington won ("Was this a 'Put up job'?). Thanks are due to JES for a marvellous evening's entertainment.

Matthew Nicholls



# THE shells CLASSICAL PLAY

It can be said with some justification that this year's Shells' Classical Play Competition was the most original, if not the best, instalment of this event that there has been for over five years. Organised with vigour and enthusiasm by Peter Shortall, secretary to the Junior Classical Society, we were treated to a lunchtime of considerable entertainment by the Shells. Once again, we were pleased to welcome the artist and authority on the Etruscans Mr Al Tracer as part of the judging panel.

When silence had finally been established in the dressing room, the audience were treated to Shell B's offering, "Heracles gets the Golden Apples", presented in the form of a television programme with sport commentary. There were some good costumes (Zeus in a Santa hat and Athena as a biochemist) and a satirical impersonation of Mr Stone, but the plot was occasionally unclear. Next to go were Shell D with "The SOS card", which provided some interesting anachronisms (Caecilious' Pompeian laptop computer and card machine foremost among them). Even references to farmyard animals and a convincing portrayal of a drunken magistrate failed to save this play, particularly when Thor (not a classical character) was somehow brought into the plot.

This was followed by Shell E's "The Judgement of Paris", an engaging romp through Greek mythology involving the

## COMPETITION

marriage of Peleus (an "awful wedded husband") and Thetis, and the "Miss Olympus" competition, from which Paris was awarded a date in Frinton-on-Sea with Helen of Troy. Several lines were clearly forgotten, but the presentation was good. Next came Shell H with "Miss Marple in Pompeii", a play which, in a less good year for the competition, would have had a very strong chance

**"... the most original,  
if not the best,  
instalment of this  
event that there has  
been for over five years"**

of success. The sketch centred around Miss Marple's investigation of the death of Caecilious, and highlights included a violin duet, good costumes (particularly a sundial watch) and an amusing script which featured a



policeman intoning "Salve, salve, salve".

The final play was "Perseus and Medusa", by Shell T. The presentation was hugely original, with the narrative taking the form of a rap, performed by a very well trained chorus. The plot was limited, but allowed for amusing costumes, the Medusa hat being one of the most memorable.

When all the plays had been performed, the panel was called upon to cast their votes. Scores for each sketch were then presented in a format resembling that used for ice-skating. Shell B, who have dominated the competition for the last three years, were relegated to third place, just one point behind Shell H, while first prize went to Shell T with a substantial lead of nine points, and an incredible total score of 83. Hopefully next year's competition will prove equally enjoyable.

L. Houghton





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# CHRISTMAS CONCERT

This traditional seasonal favourite was, as ever, held in Birmingham Town Hall and featured the usual mix of bands, choirs and orchestras. Of particular note was KEHS Senior Choir performing Britten's Ceremony of Carols with harpist Robert Johnston, a repeat of the performance given at St George's Church, Edgbaston nine days previously. The Concert Band performed the evergreen favourite, "Liberty Bell" amongst other items, and the Junior Choir performed two traditional carols skilfully arranged by Sophie Fox and

Amy Matthews from the third year at KEHS.

In the second half, the focus switched to the Symphony Orchestra who performed Suppé's Light Cavalry Overture with much panache, and Beethoven's Romance in F major for violin and orchestra with soloist Jenny Graham. As ever, the concert closed with seasonal cheer comprising the all time classics, the 'Twelve Days of Christmas', 'Jingle Bells', audience carols and, of course, 'Sleigh Ride.'

## KES/KEHS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

This year the concert began with possibly the most melodramatic opening ever to grace the Town Hall. The lights dimmed in a cinematic fashion, and, just as we were expecting the opening credits to roll the voices of the Senior Choir could be heard in the distance. As the lights began to rise they filed onto the stage, still singing merrily, giving a rendition of Britten's Ceremony of Carols which was skilfully accompanied on the harp by, as ever, Robert Johnston. Mr Sill then proceeded to give his traditional welcome speech, which was followed by two pieces by Concert Band and two traditional carols from the Junior choir. Next, in keeping with the general dramatic feel of the evening, Mrs Herbert gave a reading from Hardy on the comparative merits of string and woodwind bands as seen through the eyes of an 18th century string group. Even this was not safe from the artistic talents of Mr Argus who managed to fit some off stage singing from his choir into the middle of Mrs Herbert's monologue. The Brass Band (Concert Band's brass section and a 'few others' in the words of Mr Sill himself) then

played Falla's Ritual Fire Dance, Senior Choir sang a traditional English song, and to finish the first half Concert Band played Coronation Scot and Liberty Bell. (For those of you still in suspense as to the answer to Mr Sill's quiz, it was the theme tune and Monty Python's Flying Circus). For their encore Concert Band proved what some of us have suspected for quite some time: they can play just as well without Mr Sill actually being there.

The second half was kicked off by Symphony Orchestra playing Three Hungarian Dances by Brahms which was splendid. This was followed by a rendition of The Twelve Days of Christmas and Jingle Bells which involved both Choirs and the Orchestra, in the true spirit of Christmas concerts past. After a brief interlude during which there was great movement of people in a downwards direction (i.e. from the choir's seating to that of the orchestra), Symphony Orchestra launched into Beethoven's Romance in F major for violin and orchestra. This was superbly played by both the orchestra and the lead violinist Jennifer Graham, who completely

deserved the tumultuous applause she received. Normally, featuring largely in these concerts are the Audience carols, but this year we only got one. Mr Sill tried to fob this off with stories of time shortage, but Mr Bridle had the courage to explain the real reasons for this exclusion. The fact is that we, as an audience just don't seem to be good enough for them. In short we are letting the side down. After listening to this year's rendition of the old favourite 'O Come, All ye Faithful' I can quite see his point. The official programme stated that the next piece, the Light Cavalry Overture by Franz von Suppé would be the last, but I didn't believe it myself. However, since I left in extreme embarrassment shortly after the audience carol, I can only presume that the audience were treated to that rarest of pieces 'Sleigh Ride', and the grand finale was, surprise, surprise. 'We wish you a Merry Christmas'. Once more the music fraternity has produced an excellent concert, with both voices and instruments in fine form. Ten out of ten for the performers, two out of ten for the audience.

N Robertson



# CHORAL CONCERTS

The Choral Society Concert was held on 25th November in KEHS Hall, the work to be performed being Handel's masterpiece, 'Messiah', conducted by Nigel Argus. A performance of considerable flair was given, thanks to Mr Argus's thorough training of the choir to his exacting standards and an orchestra of considerable versatility. The concert attracted widespread support and the work of all was rewarded with rapturous applause.

The Evensong Choir was run by Dominic Hamilton and contributed to several events during the year, the first of which was the Founder's Day Evensong, held before the ceremony. The small chamber choir, consisting of experienced singers from both schools performed admirably, and again at the Leavers' Service on 18th May.

Other choral events this year included the traditional Advent Carol Service held at St George's, Edgbaston, a Chapel Choir Evensong at Lichfield Cathedral on 29th March and a concert of music by Gabriel Fauré, again at St George's Church. This featured the 'Requiem', the Cantique de Jean Racine and several short pieces sung by KEHS Senior Choir, accompanied by John Prior, organ.

A new departure this year was the inaugural McNaughton Masterclass,

provided out of the generosity of parents of a family with strong musical connections with the school, which featured the renowned trumpeter, Crispian Steele-Perkins. His illuminating afternoon masterclass with five trumpeters in a packed Concert Hall was followed by an entertaining evening concert featuring historic instruments and much virtuosity.

Lunchtime Recitals have been generally successful this year, despite numerous clashes with other school events.

Two unusual events in the calendar were the organ recital given by the school organists, Dominic Hamilton and Oliver Nicolson, who demonstrated the versatility of both the Big School instrument and their own playing, and the Chamber Music recital which featured some of the groups which meet regularly at the school.

# ORCHESTRAL CONCERT AND VISIT

The programme for this year's concert was ambitious and the success with which the Symphony Orchestra carried it off pays tribute to the skill of its conductor, Peter Bridle and the months of rehearsal put in by the players. The symphony was Rachmaninov's Second, and the concerto for trumpet by Alexander Arutunian, with soloist Adam Micklethwaite. The concert on 19th March was a tremendous achievement, and the orchestra then took the programme to Lyon during the Easter Holidays, to King Edward's twin school Le College St. Marc on a week's visit. Two concerts were received rapturously by our French hosts, being held in the vast Chapelle du Lycée St Marc and in the crypt of the Basilique de Fourvière. The orchestra also made a successful recording of the Symphony on their return.

The year's events concluded after the break for exams with the Syndicate and

Summer Concerts. The Syndicate Concert was, as ever, a tremendous success, the theme being 'A Brief History of Music', its relevance being to the ending of an era in the Music Department with the semi-retirement of the Director of Music Gordon Sill. The concert featured Albinoni's 'Adagio' for organ and strings, with soloist Oliver Nicolson and conducted by Dominic Hamilton, the world première of Adam Micklethwaite's Serenade for Soprano and Orchestra and an amusingly reworded version of the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah, conducted at short notice by Gordon Sill. The Summer Concerts on 11th July, took place in the Town Hall in hot, sultry weather and featured Concert Band and Wind Band in the first half, with modern American music sung by the Choral Society. The second half took on a 'Last Night of the Proms' feel, with Wood's 'Sea Songs',

Parry's 'Jerusalem' and Elgar's 'Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1'.

The Music Dossers provided as ever, a major part of the organisation backbone of the Department, leaving the staff to provide the infamous 'veneer of inefficiency.' Despite the banning of females from the Music School premises, some good times have been had, mainly outside school hours. A recent innovation, provided at great expense, was the provision of three new padded chairs for senior dossers. Thanks must go to Chris Parsons for all his sterling work as Harold Smith Music Librarian and the other dossers for being generally useful. Next year will see the sad loss of several senior dossers, who will undoubtedly be greatly missed: but, life goes on.



# SUMMER CONCERT

And so to the end of another year of wonderful concerts and recitals, and what better way to celebrate than with the summer concert? A collective performance from all the orchestras, bands and choirs which KES can offer.

It was Mr Sill who arrived on the Town Hall stage dressed in rather strange Arabian headgear to announce the obligatory mistake in the evening's programme, and to introduce Mr Bryan Allen, conductor of the Concert Band, who turned in enjoyable performances of "Caravan" by Duke Ellington and "Suite No. 1" in E flat by Gustav Holst (the Intermezzo of which was very enjoyable).



It was then the turn of the Choral Society, who performed a beautiful arrangement of "Love Walked in" by Gershwin and in keeping with the mood of the evening, a series of light jazz spirituals including "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot."

The Wind Band, despite being the first orchestra I've ever seen who asked to start again, played an enjoyable suite entitled "The Gold West" and were followed by the Senior Choir who, although formed only a short while before the concert, sung their three songs wonderfully.

To finish the first half off, the Concert Band and the Wind Band joined together to perform "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" and what could have ended up as a cacophony was actually rather good.

For the patriots in the audience, the second half must have looked appetising,

but for the rest of us it looked rather intimidating. A whole series of traditionally British songs including "Jerusalem", "Pomp and Circumstance" and "Land of Hope and Glory" at first scared me to death, but when played with the skill of the Symphony Orchestra and the Concert Orchestra it was a wonderful reminder that despite their connotations these pieces of music are beautifully evocative and emotive.

At the end of the evening we were all reassured that Mr Sill was not retiring, and all reminded how lucky we were to have him, Mr Bridle, Mr Argus and all of the music staff who enable King Edward's concerts to be of such a pleasingly high standard.

Rory Natkiel

# LUNCHTIME RECITALS

Given the veritable plethora of other activities laid on in the long Thursday lunchtime, it is often surprising that anyone actually turns up to the lunchtime recitals. However, a core of die hard drossers and associates from both schools, often augmented by a large parent contingent, make sure that these performances receive the large audiences which they so richly deserve. The quality in depth that the combined music department possesses never ceases to amaze, and we seem to have great soloists in all areas.

Since in such a short space I have scarcely enough time to do justice to even one of these glorious moments in musical history I shall apologise in advance to anyone whose recital I accidentally omit. You were all brilliant, but I just don't have the room. Personally I blame cuts to the editorial team.

I am now going to commit the heinous sin of giving a personal point of view, and give my own highlights of the year's recitals. Firstly there was Abby Parker's rendition of the Shostakovich romances, which left even a hard nosed journalist such as myself struggling for words. Brilliant, brilliant and brilliant again. This was accompanied by Adam Micklethwaite who does things with a humble trumpet which seem to elevate it above being merely an instrument. Russel Hargreaves gave an oboe recital of great individuality, and Alex Makepeace's horn playing is matched only by his ego (only kidding Alex).

This review of the recitals cannot possibly pass without mention of Peter Bridle's invaluable aid on the piano. He seems to work even harder than the performers themselves on occasion, and provides a perfect background against which their talents can be displayed.

Long may the quality of these recitals continue.

N Robertson



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# Words

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# Short Story

*Five hundred and six thousand.*

*Five hundred and six thousand, five hundred.*

*Five hundred and seven thousand.*

Soon he would be finished with these little five hundred wads, Roger Tenbury thought to himself. Finished forever. He grinned at the idea.

This was what they did at banks, he supposed; hoarded and counted other people's money. "My money!" Roger announced to the little room in which he sat. It was his money, after all, even though most of it was inherited, and the rest had been made through the prudent buying and selling of antiques. Over the years, this little room had become full with all manner of bizarres, ancient objets d'art and craftsmanship, not to mention his sizeable fortune.

Roger would never put money in a bank. Nobody in his family really knew why, but then, nobody in his family was close enough to be able to ask. If Roger had wanted them to know, he would have explained that he despised the order and perfection in banks. Money in a bank was money that existed to the rest of the world. It affected taxes and status. Money in Roger's private little room existed only to Roger. Money in the little room stayed there.

*Five hundred and sixty thousand.*

*Five hundred and eighty thousand.*

*Six hundred thousand.*

Of course it was not quite true to say that the money existed only to Roger. It existed to his two sons also, but only at the insistence of his wife, Mary, now seven years in the grave. She had made her husband promise during his more lucid years - this phrase made Roger giggle audibly as it crossed his mind - to divide his fortune between them in his will. Roger was now eighty and his link with lucidity was very tenuous indeed. This promise, however, he had clung to, although he was damned if his sons would actually receive any money.

*One million, three and twenty thousand.*

*One million, three and forty thousand.*

Jason, his youngest son, was a fool. An insufferable optimist and an incurable

romantic. Except for a loathing of organisation and authority, he had nothing in common with Roger. He saved and held on to money as a sieve holds water. Despite this he had a wife, a reflexologist or some other sort of middle aged hippy, and three children. Jason seemed content with life.

Roger snarled. Jason would hardly lift an eyebrow when he discovered the inheritance he was due had disappeared. Roger admired him as one would a worthy opponent. From birth, he had treated his sons like dirt. He had denied them love, attention, and most importantly, money. He knew that they knew his miserly mind, and would long for the day they would inherit his fortune and so be avenged. Roger kept these longings alive with his generous will until this final day; the day when he would pass on into the next world - and take his wealth with him!

*Two million, one hundred and eighty thousand*

*Two million, two hundred thousand.*

If Jason would not suffer, then David would surely make up for him. David, his eldest, was a jealous, angry and greedy character. With no particular skills, he had grown up to become a factory worker, filled with hatred for the world, himself, and most of all his father. Roger periodically received snippets of information about how, recently, David had quit, and was borrowing money off what few friends he had to pay the bills. He was confident he could pay them back because his father was very ill, and he stood to inherit a fortune when he died. These snippets were pearls to Roger's warped mind.

*Three million, six hundred and eighty-two thousand, nine hundred pounds.*

It was all there, neatly stacked upon the table. When you included the artifacts stored in this little room there was in excess of four million pounds, his entire possession. Roger lifted a hammer and broke a gas pipe open. "If I am to burn in Hell, then let my money burn with me!"

His own voice sounded strange over the rushing of gases around the pipe. He began to laugh, but his bellowing became shrieking as he choked. Wrapping a cloth over his face, he staggered to the door and locked it. The key he threw out

of the tiny slitted window. Even through the fabric the stench was overpowering. Surely the gas would have spread throughout the room by now. His skin stretched tight, tears streaming from his bulging red eyes, he fumbled for his box of matches. "Goodbye, cruel world!" he laughed sarcastically. His fingers struck a match.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Constable cut himself off in mid sentence and dropped his eyes as the Super entered the room.

"Still stinks in here, Frank."

"I know sir, they didn't break the door down until we got here. Kitchen hand cut the gas when he noticed a smell, but it seems they were all a little scared of this room."

"Scared?"

"He was a bit .... er ... funny, apparently. Rather strict and very mean."

The Super looked down at the corpse with its hands twisted around its enflamed throat, its face frozen in frustration and pain. Next to the figure lay a box of matches.

"Damp," volunteered the doctor, following his gaze. "My guess is he couldn't get any of them even to spark before he passed out. Bloody weird suicide. I mean, there's an absolute fortune laid out on that table. This guy was seriously potty."

"I was just saying that he probably wanted to purge himself for heaven, sir. A lot do, you know. Camels and needles and that sort of thing. Thank God he was still in right mind when he wrote his will."

The Super treated the Constable to a nod. "Next of kin?" he enquired.

"Two sons, David and Jason Tenbury, sir. The only beneficiaries."

"You'd better notify them, Frank. They'll want to get their hands on this money."

James Cunningham

## Grand Canyon, a sonnet

Close to the edge, feeling I could fall  
 A million miles into the abyss below;  
 The colours ever changing in the sunset's glow,  
 A thousands reds cross the Canyon's wall.  
 Amidst the splendour problems seem so small,  
 The hundred troubles which now fill my head  
 Dissolve into the winding river bed;  
 And so in awe of this great sight, I call.  
 I call to distant creatures of the air,  
 To soaring eagles as they swoop and dart;  
 I call and wait but there is nothing there,  
 The silence of the Canyon fills my heart.  
 There is no echo that will soothe my care.  
 The sun sets now, the colours drift apart.

*Alastair Natkiel*



### \*TEXTURES\*

Black and white photographs by Robert Clayburn and Diarmid Mackenzie

The effects of light and shade reveal the different surface qualities of objects in the natural and man-made environment. Patterns, shapes and contrasting features come into focus in close-up views and images of a more abstract nature are created.

M-CG

# YOU'RE

Ever erupting. Your laughter like an uncontrollable volcano.

Sad. As the effects of a volcano, sweeping down the side to the town.

Indecisive and changeable as the vortex,  
With your thoughts in a wild carnivorous frenzy,  
Swallowing everything. Or

Calm as a full-up dinner guest in front of the fire;  
And quiet as the single, silent minute.

Ponderable, as of the great enigmas, or, more often

Diving in, into an uncharted abyss, not thinking.

Innocent in the past, an acquitted person.

But now learning,

Learning the mechanics of life;

The different gears of human thinking

And the fuel of anger.

*Andrew Khodabukus*

# I'M

Him in the corner, the unnoticed one,  
Slow as an ambling bumble-bee, yet fast,  
like a cheetah!

Meandering, the bored artist's brush.

A bore? Maybe.

A serene river, happiest with the norm.

Sharp as the chef's knife; blunt as a used pencil,  
Varied as tomorrow's options.

A sightless visionary with blurred beliefs.

A withdrawn guardian,

A book, sometimes open, others closed.

Quick tempered, like a wasp,

Searching, finding, and crumbling ... to nothing.

Again.

*David Smith*

# ME

You're a skylark, you, head above the clouds  
Musically minded, a soft melody on a summer's day,  
Like an oboe reed  
Blown in the wind.

Hard worker, like an old steam train  
You love to run on the rails  
Impulsive, often, you go on the spur of the moment  
Doing what you do best, acting like you do;  
Living, Laughing, Playing.

But you always come back.

Wired up to a circuit board,  
Just another component in a complex array.

Satisfied, as long as you have something to do  
To work your brain,  
To keep you working.

Living, Laughing, Playing

*Matthew Carroll*



# PUPILS CURSE ON TEACHERS

May they stumble, age by age  
 Down an endless answer page,  
 Dawn and dusk, pile after pile,  
 Till their stomachs turn with bile,  
 At each and every mark they make,  
 May the pen turn and break,  
 And may their teeth within them rot,  
 And coffee cup be much too hot,  
 So each and every cup doth scald.  
 And then from worry they go bald.

And eventually quit the ground,  
 And so leave us to muck around.

*Chris Chapman*

## I'M

Often quiet, like a gentle breeze  
 Yet sometimes gale-force eight  
 Built like a modern standard lamp  
 "Wiry," said the nurse at birth  
 Athletic as a hunting panther  
 Agile like a thirsty humming bird.

Happy in the peaceful country  
 Or watching "Top Gear" or a grand prix  
 Adaptable as a lost chameleon  
 But as English as afternoon tea  
 Toured most of Europe, another travelled prawn  
 Atlas is falling to bits.

But like a Dormouse, happiest at home  
 A hard worker that works his hardest  
 But time and again thinks the worst of himself  
 Often fussy as an old professor  
 But friendly as a mug of tea  
 In front of the fire  
 After a cold evening's walk.

*Robert Cumberland*



### The Poem of the Green Knight - *The Joust*

Around the table at Camelot, Arthur and his Knights sat,  
Suddenly Arthur, sprang to his feet and said,  
"This boy who is to fight the knight will surely need practice,  
Which of you will leap up and grasp this offer to joust this fine warrior?"  
Lancelot leapt up and leaning on his chair said,  
"I accept this Joust on the field tomorrow."  
In the morn Gawain and his squire polished his armour,  
The elbow guards shone and twinkled like stars,  
His silver thigh plates shimmered in the early morning light,  
He picked up his long lance and let it lean on his latched thigh plates  
Gawain swung himself onto his horse  
He lined up on the left side of the long barrier, Lancelot in front of him;  
His gallant horse began galloping  
Gawain lowered his lance and let his eyes close ....

Michael Debney

## The Glass Castle

Sun shines  
 A glimmer of contentedness  
 Illuminating the blinds  
 Sun shines  
 From another place  
 Picking out the detail  
 On the dainty earth's face.

Learn how this sea of gold  
 Decides to wash,  
 To float in air forever.  
 Decides to wash  
 Across my heart string's tether,  
 And to turn around.  
 To catch the blades of grass  
 Which are nuzzled in the ground.

Watch as the dew conjures  
 The patterns of an eternal architect's plan  
 Watch as the dew conjures  
 A glass castle stretching on forever.

And the glass castle burns.

Light stretching,  
 Never ending stroke through a  
 Patterned spatter of ever flattered  
 Burning light.

Turning the night into an idea  
 Suspending our imaginations  
 tricking us with ever turn  
 and still the light burns

- a flicker, mistaken for a snowdrop

A mourning.  
 This morning is a time to banish our fear  
 To float, featherlike in a sea of glass,  
 To suspend our distended minds  
 For a second  
 - and it's all we need.

*Simon Rosenberg*

## The Ballad of Black Cat

His fur was made of charcoal,  
With emeralds for his eyes.  
He was the love of many a soul,  
But lacked his full nine lives.

One winter's eve he left his bed,  
And made straight for the door,  
"Where has he gone?" his owner said,  
While looking round the floor.

But gone was darling Black Cat  
Outside to hunt a meal.  
On one side of the road he sat,  
On the other side a squirrel.

He licked his lips and tensed himself,  
To dart across the road,  
But he was not to know the thing  
That sped towards him so.

They found his body in the dawn,  
In glistening fresh snow,  
His jet black body all o'er was torn,  
His emeralds did not show.

Everyone cried, everyone wept,  
Near his dish, near his bowl,  
Over his bed - where the cat slept,  
Everyone prayed for his soul.

He was buried the day after,  
Beneath the place he sat.  
No one heard a cry of laughter o'er  
The Ballad of Black Cat.

*John Hingley*

## Ballad of a Ballad

We were told to write a ballad,  
But what to do,  
I do not know,  
I have not got a clue.

1 lesson and 2 homeworks,  
Is there really time?  
Now what next?  
Will it ever rhyme?

2 verses finished,  
I'm stuck again,  
This page is so messy,  
Perhaps it's my brain.

3 verses finished,  
So much for the plot,  
Sentimentality,  
Has gone down the pot.

4 verses finished,  
It's easier now,  
I'm into the swing of it,  
I think I know how.

5 verses finished,  
I think it's enough,  
I've come to the end,  
Perhaps a bit rough.

*Ian Miller*





## The Dying Scent of Last Summer's Roses

The full moon shimmered,  
Like a candle in the shadowy gloom.  
Rays of light pierced  
The ghostly mist, which filled the room.

The light caught the silver lustre  
Of a smooth satin gown,  
The rustle of petticoat layers,  
Silently swishing up and down.

A footfall on the creaking stairway,  
So gentle, so fair.  
With the faint perfume of last summer's roses,  
Lingering in the midnight air.

I glanced in the mirror  
And behind me I see  
A face so translucent,  
Full of beauty.

I span around,  
But no-one I saw,  
Just a few dying rose petals,  
Scattered on the floor.

*Ben Davies*



## Spring

Spring is the key to Winter's lock on the Earth  
The soil nurses while the flowers give birth  
Birds, like lone pipers, trill out their shrill tune  
Tree branches erupt with buds and blooms  
New born lambs tumble like circus clowns.  
The grass, like a painter, changes her canvas from green to brown  
So, in marches Spring, like a carnival band  
Bringing colour and new life to this land.

*Marcus Haig*



## No Hope -

It is 6am yet already the lorries have been flowing in steady procession for two hours now. Every morning it is like this, up at four o'clock, quarter of an hour to gobble breakfast then jump into the car for the two hour slog down to Dover.

Around the entrance to the port is a wash with people. Most are locals; we line the steel fences; some hold high plaques, abound with opinion, their opinion, our opinion.

We stand united in contempt of the greed of the middle aged, middle class businessman with his middle aged paunch, his middle class wife, his middle class car, and his middle class life. We are united in a common sympathy for the young calves who endure such needless suffering. Young calves who possess feelings, to whom pain is as real as it is to us. Yet they are stacked, squashed up tight, for the love of money, forget their rights.

Blatant evidence of this animal cruelty drives slowly past before us. Legs hang out from both sides of the veal crates, wavering, searching for a foothold. One leg is motionless. He is already dead. Yet if only you knew what suffering that calf had been through already.

The lorry set off from Glasgow at midday yesterday. Carrying thirty calves in a crate with a design capacity of fifteen, the lorry spent the next seven hours driving down a mixture of A roads and bumpy B roads to avoid police checks between Glasgow and Newcastle.

At midnight the driver pulled into a trucker stop just south of Wycombe. He ate, napped, and was back on the road four hours later. It was now sixteen hours since these calves had been fed (and then only if they had been fed before departure); sixteen hours since some had had four feet on solid ground. As the driver set off for Dover again one young calf was already having severe difficulties breathing. By the time the lorry arrived in Dover he would be dead. Those motionless legs we see now belong to that calf who endured eighteen hours in a dark, damp, stuffy crate, unable to breathe. Eighteen

hours unable to breathe because he was crushed against the side of the crate by twenty calves who should have not been there.

Of course not all veal crates are like this. No! Many are worse. Young calves have been known to be forced to stand inches deep in their own dung for thirty hours whilst forty other calves fight for each other's space. In these conditions calves can get squeezed upwards and end half lying, half standing on top of the crowd. Calves arrive at Dover with broken legs and hoof rot, many physically sick.

And for these young calves the journey is yet young. Still there is a one and a half hour channel crossing in the lower holds of a ship climbing and diving enough to make most humans sick. After that the lucky ones will be driven for five or six hours to Holland or to farming regions north of Paris. Those calves who picked the long straw might face up to another four days drive down to Spain with or without food according to the whims of the driver. When they finally arrive at their destination it will not be long before they are slaughtered.

Every life ought to hold hope. For these calves there is but one hope; the hope that they might die early in the journey, before they reach their destination. In this light the calf to whom those motionless legs belong is lucky. He shall not have to endure the full suffering.

None of the locals likes to see this disgustingly inhumane sight drive past their windows every day. Sadly, for most, this is because they are uncomfortable living in a world where what they are trying to ignore and deny drives past to remind them about it every day.

Since February last year there have been daily protests. Over the past months I have met many people and made many friends. Each day I stand with these people in peaceful protest against the unimaginably inhumane conditions which young calves endure whilst being shipped overseas. Conditions which need not exist if only the calves were first slaughtered and then shipped as dead meat.

So why are these calves not transported abroad as dead meat? Surely all this suffering is unnecessary? To all these questions there is one simple answer; live

meat is money, and to the farmer and middle class businessman money is all important. Humane treatment will always come second.

On a few occasions we have blocked the entrance to the port when we saw the abnormally horrific conditions in one or two veal crates. Most drivers started shouting, some hurling venomous insults. On one occasion a crazed trucker, brandishing a baseball bat, jumped out of his truck and made for our group. The police restrained him.

The police have been very good to us. They have always intervened at the slightest sign of violence, though have not laid a finger or threat on any peaceful protesters. Always courteous and polite, they are often friendly and chatty, sometimes even sympathetic to our cause.

Unfortunately though, almost inevitably the media-coverage our protest receives has attracted many undesirables like vultures to a kill. Some revolting organisations have been using the coverage to milk the media, attracting attention with scenes of violence and racism. For these purposes they send loyal skinhead henchmen.

An incident from just three weeks ago is still crystal clear in my memory. A tall young man with spiked ginger hair and wearing a black ankle length duffel coat was standing around about. You can tell the joyriders (as we call them) a mile off. They linger on the edge of the group in two's periodically glancing at the police and hurling threats and racial insults at passers-by, sometimes following and harassing them. As soon as the TV cameras arrive they move to the front of the group to wave their slogans and yell opinionated rubbish at the cameras. Some just pick fights with whoever happens to be nearest them.

Today's man was different. He didn't glance around. Instead he fixed his stare on the passing lorries as if searching for some lorry in particular. Today's man was silent and still. Today's man mingled in almost as though he didn't want to be noticed. Believe me, it is extremely unusual for a joyrider not to want to attract attention. Some have been known to flash just to get on TV (where any shots of them have later been edited out).

Guiltily I concede that I sensed something was not quite right that morning, but joyriders had become a regularity almost taken for granted and I passed him off.

The next moment, out of the corner of my eye, I saw a black figure break into a run. Now he was running through the crowd clearing a path with a dagger in his outstretched right arm.

The dagger led him to the passenger door of a stationary lorry. The evil hatred that flowed from his eyes, his face, his whole person, as he wrenched open that door, shall haunt me for years to come. Police officers were closing on him fast. In one last desperate attempt he flung back the door and lunged forward, arm outstretched towards the trucker. As an officer caught the assailant's legs I heard

a cry that echoed and resounded through me. They pulled clear one assailant without a knife.

It is only eight o'clock and though for most the day is only just beginning, for the influx of veal trucks it has already ended. Unlike that calf in the veal crate, I shall be here tomorrow to fight again.

*Peter Eckley*



## A Pope, a Pict and a Spiritual Adviser

On a recent visit to a supermarket a number of things came to my notice about the place. Perhaps the first was the way that everything seemed to be in a different place, and the things I especially wished to buy no longer existed on the shelves. Thinking about this it seemed that the only possible theory for this was that the supermarket is a living being, which can move its internal parts around at will. Some may say that it is the staff who move

the stock, but when I asked where the required articles had been moved to they seemed not to know. A living being? I think so.

The supermarket keeps as slaves the supermarket trolley, which has branded on its handle the command that 'This trolley is not allowed outside the supermarket or designated trolley parks.' It is the supermarket itself that issues this command, as it is obvious that the natural

habitat of a trolley is in rivers and waterways, where those that have escaped are found. After all, have you ever actually seen someone throwing a trolley into a canal? Probably not, but if you have, this person was more than likely one of the rare Trolley Freedom Fighters. This is not important now, but it should be later.

Jasper was a man with a mission. And so was Barbara (well, a woman actually).



They had never met before and, as they came from totally different backgrounds and lived 657 miles apart, had very little chance of doing so. Except through one man, a certain Platinus Godfrey Pictson, friend to the parents of Jasper and of Barbara, and Spiritual Adviser to them both. In fact Platinus, he of the nicotine stained fingers and lager can in hand, was the one man who could reveal the true spiritual path of mankind to the world. However, if he was able to speak his advice, then people would no longer need to visit churches on a regular basis, only on special religious occasions: Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Easter and the birthdays of the Apostles.

When the Pope learned of this he called together all the major Christian leaders of the world and they decided what to do about this man, who could certainly put them out of a job. It was here that the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Pope formed an alliance to capture Platinus and put him where he could get to no man.

It was on a cold, wet Tuesday morning that Jasper and Barbara, they of the mission, met in a similarly cold and wet York station. They did so having learned of each other from the last few letters they received from Platinus when he was first in danger from the Religious leaders. He said that they were to rescue him, should anything happen. So Jasper and Barbara had arranged to meet in York station as it was roughly a midpoint between their home towns of Plymouth and Inverness respectively. Here they would formulate their plan of action.

Jasper descended from the crowded 0954 train and jogged through the rain to the Quicksnak cafe. Once inside he looked around to see if Barbara, of whom he had a photo, was there yet, but she was not, so he bought a coffee and English breakfast and found an empty seat facing the door. His longish black hair was soaking wet and as he brushed it off his forehead with his hand, the old man behind him suddenly found that his newspaper was rather wet. He looked up at the ceiling, and seeing no leak he carried on with the crossword.

Just as Jasper was mapping up the

remnants of his breakfast with a piece of fried bread the door opened. He watched as a large suitcase, followed by an only slightly smaller rucksack were pushed through the door. After these came a pristinely made up girl matching the one on his photograph. He rose from his seat and went over to help with her bags.

"Hello Barbara," said Jasper, "could I help you with your cases?"

"Jasper, is it?" replied Barbara. Jasper nodded. "Certainly. Take them over to where we're sitting and then get me a cup of tea."

"Of course, madam. Anything else you'd like? Manicure? Polish your shoes?" he replied sarcastically.

"Don't be silly. Get on with it, if we're going to have to stay together for a while we're going to have to get along. So you just wait it."

"Yes, madam," said Jasper to himself. He saw weeks of agony ahead.

He returned to the table, handed over the cup of tea and sat down.

"Thank you," said Barbara, "The way I see it there's only one course of action, we go to visit the Archbishop of Canterbury and find out where they've hidden Platinus."

"Um, just one small problem with that," Jasper pointed out, "he's not exactly going to say 'Oh, him. Yes, he's in a cell in the Vatican, number twelve I think' is he? A better idea would be to go to see his father, who might be able to help. And if we still aren't any nearer, then we can look round Canterbury's offices." Jasper was pleased with that last sentence, he should get less hassle from Barbara now.

"I suppose we might do that," she conceded. "Bring me my bags, we shall have to get tickets to Aberdeen."

On their arrival at Aberdeen station Barbara strode off towards the taxi rank leaving Jasper to struggle with the cases.

"Hurry up, Jasper, the nice taxi driver can't be waiting all day. I'm terribly sorry sir, he does make a fuss."

"Hrmmph," said the taxi driver.

"Right", panted Jasper, "To ... the ... Glencarron ... caves please."

"Hrmmhmmbl," was the reply.

The taxi drove up hills and down them again, round lochs, past lonely mountain farms and stopped next to a stream with

a small bridge made of cans and some planks across it.

"Rgmlnms," mumbled the driver, "Grfea."

"Thanks a lot, how much will that be?" asked Jasper

"Tefihy, hrmvbl."

"There you go," said Jasper handing the taxi driver a five pound note, "Keep the change."

As the taxi disappeared into the mist, Jasper lugged the cases over the bridge and towards a well hidden doorway in the hillside.

"Is this it? Well where does the man live then?" asked Barbara.

"Over there, in that cave. Look, there's a hatch to look through."

Barbara strolled over the doorway and pulled back the hatch. Jasper struggled over, saying "What do you see?"

"Well ... um ... actually there are several species of small furry animals gathered together in a cave and grooving with a Pict."

"You like Pink Floyd too?"

"Eh? No, that's what I can see."

"Oh. Should we knock then?" They knocked. The door opened and a small, slightly grubby, bearded man looked up at the two teenagers.

"What d'ye want?"

"We've come to ask about your son, Platinus," they chorused.

"Well I suppose ye can come in then. You lot," he addressed the animals, "awa' with ye."

"Same time tomorrow, Angus?" asked a dourmouse.

"Aye."

The two teenagers entered the cave with Angus and sat down on the floor, as it seemed that no chairs were available.

"Are you two trying to rescue Platinus then?" They nodded. Angus continued without looking round from the teapot. "Well, all I ken is that the Archbishop of Canterbury would keep people in his special cloisters in the hidden passageways under the cathedral."

"Do you know how we could get in there?" asked Barbara, inspecting the cup of tea she had been given.

"Well, it'll be tricky, very tricky, and put one foot wrong and you're doomed. First ye must summon the Liberated and

Integrated Trolleys of the Waterways, which will be able to get ye in there through the sewage system, but after that you'll be on yer own."

"Thank you very much sir, we'd better be on our way now hadn't we?" Barbara said putting down her untouched tea as Jasper drained his cup.

"Well."

"That's settled then. Thanks a lot for the information."

"Um, just one thing," said Jasper, "how do we summon these Trolleys, Angus?"

"Well, I think I could do that for ye."

"Thanks a lot."

They went outside the cave and stood next to the stream as Angus brought out what looked like a miniature cash register. He pressed the number three button and then the one with 'total' written upon it. There came the familiar 'ch-ching' of a cash register and the stream started to froth and bubble and out from the waters came three supermarket trolleys.

"Good day Angus," said one of the trolleys, "what is it that you require?"

"Well actually it's these young people who wish for your help."

"Certainly." The trolley turned to face Jasper. "Hop in, squire. And the young lady of course."

Jasper put their luggage in one of the trolleys and he and Barbara climbed into the other two.

"To the hidden cloisters under Canterbury cathedral please," he said.

"Of course. Please hold your breath as we go under."

And the trolleys began to descend into the waters and soon they were below the stream in a tunnel where the water came up to the wheelframe. The trolleys moved slowly at first, then their speed gradually built up until Jasper and Barbara's eyes were watering and the trolleys bounced dangerously off the small stones under the water. The earthy surroundings changed colour and grew lighter until they were in a stone tunnel and they started to slow down as there was less water around. They finally came to a halt at what seemed to be the end of the tunnel and Jasper and Barbara got out.

"Could you take the luggage somewhere for us?" asked Barbara.

"Certainly," came the voice of the trolley, "Where would that be?"

"51 Hawthorn Close, Newcastle"

"No problem, madam. See you again sometime maybe."

"I doubt it," Barbara whispered to herself.

Then the trolleys were gone, the rattle of their unpredictable wheels being the only sound in the tunnel. The two teenagers spied a ladder and Jasper went up first. At the top he pushed the cover off slightly and saw a large vaulted ceiling along a deserted corridor that seemed to go on for ever. Jasper pushed back the cover, climbed out and then helped Barbara out. They were about to set off down the corridor when they saw a huge shadow extend in front of them. They turned around to see a huge man with a long pointed nose and beady eyes.

"What do you two want in here?" said the man in a voice that could have given Hannibal Lecter cause to cringe in the corner of his cell.

"Er, well, um."

"Spit it out boy!"

"We are here to visit Platinus Pictson, sir." Said Jasper, feeling smaller than an electron.

"Are you indeed. Would you like me to show you where he is?"

"If you would be so kind," said Barbara sweetly.

They followed the man down dusty corridor after dusty corridor until they reached a heavy steel door.

"Give me the key NOW!" said Jasper as threateningly as he could manage.

"I've got a gun, see?"

"No, I don't. You appear to be hiding it in your pocket, which would indicate to me that perhaps it is merely your fingers, or perhaps a banana," replied the large man.

"Yes, probably," said Barbara, "but this is definitely a real pocket-sized crossbow." She pointed the item towards the large man's head. "Don't move. Jasper, get the key from the man."

Jasper detached the small selection of keys from the large man's belt and tried one in the door. It turned in the lock and the door opened. In the corner was what looked like a small sack.

"Platinus?" Jasper enquired. The sack unfolded to reveal that it was actually the man himself.

"Jasper, you have come. I see Barbara's up to her usual mischief outside. Perhaps you two should meet more often. Now, let's go."

"How exactly do we do that?" asked Jasper.

"Oh Dazza will show us the way, won't you? You have arranged for the press to be outside haven't you?"

"Of course," said the large man, "your rescue will be seen by the public, who will become aware of your great teachings."

"Shall we go then? I feel I owe you two an explanation." Platinus said to the teenagers.

As they wandered through the maze of the cloisters Platinus explained how he had actually gone to see the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury himself. They had agreed with his wondrous teachings and together they had decided that the best way for the world to become aware of Platinus' lessons was for him to be kidnapped by them and for him to be rescued by his respectful God-children. Then Platinus would forgive the Pope and Canterbury and make them heads of the new spirituality.

Barbara and Jasper then recounted their weird and wonderful tale. When asked if they hadn't thought that speaking trolleys was a bit odd they each were surprised to find out that the other was not as they were both members of S.I.T.I.W. (The Society for the Integration of Trolleys Into Waterways). What they did find odd however was that Platinus' father talked to small furry animals and got answers. Platinus said that it something to do with the air.

Finally they reached the main door, which Jasper and Barbara flung open and Platinus emerged to face a crowd of reporters and photographers. The two adventurers hugged each other and Platinus, then they all descended the steps into the paparazzi towards a stretch limousine waiting to take them to Platinus' house for tea and cakes.

Edmund Drake-Lee





SOMBRE LIGHT Charles Webb





*SPEED* Liam Maylann



*BIKE* Milan Thomas





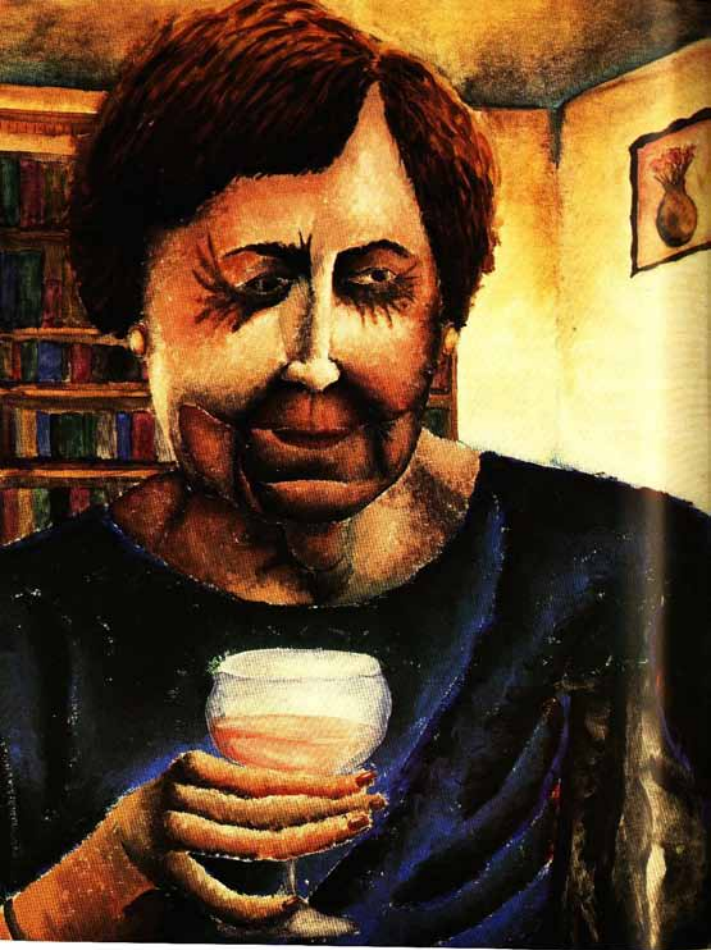
CANDLE LIGHT Chris Hooper



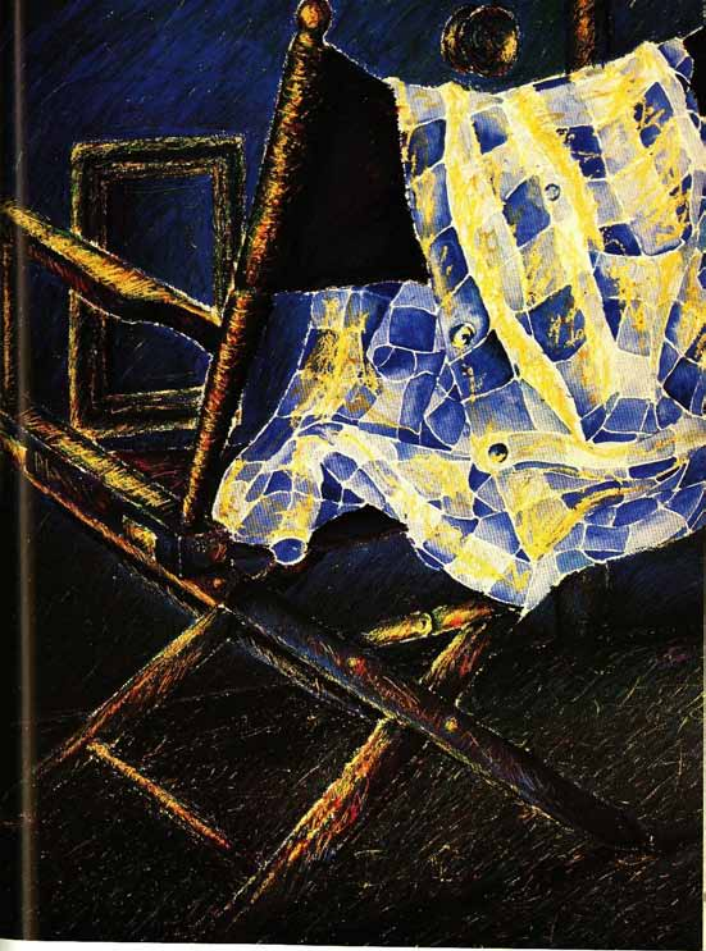
DAVID Martin Poyner



HOSPITAL Daniel Bramwich



GRANDMOTHER Michael Sheldon



CHAIR Charles Webb





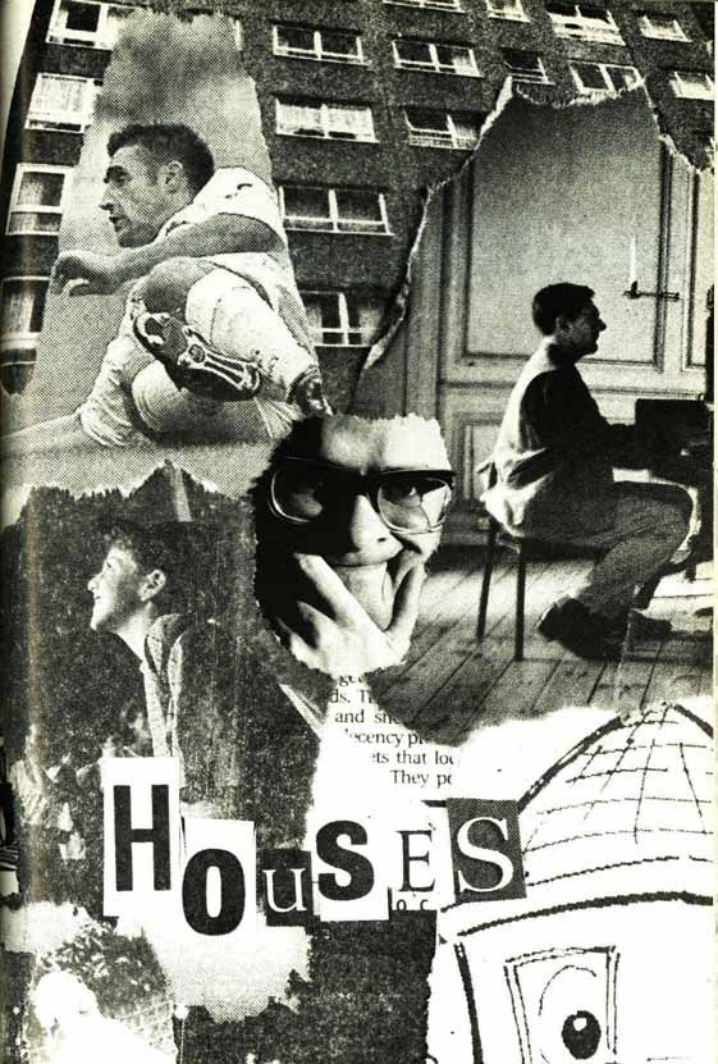
FIGURE RECLINING Andrew Jordan





RIACE WARRIOR Martin Poyner





# HOUSES

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*Gifford's triumphant Captain Rob Broomhead*

## GIFFORD

As one would expect from a House as superb as this, Gifford once more rose to the top of the Cock House. Rightfully restored to our now customary position of first, we swept all before us.

Lead by DNDC, the House was determined to make it three victories in four years, and indeed they did. Our first place in the House Challenge set the standard for the rest of the year. So, in what has recently become a very strong sport for Gifford, table-tennis(!), Montague and McDermott produced a breathtaking performance to win overall - such a valuable eight points! Having won the first two events in the Cock House, we

somewhat slipped up in music, finishing fourth despite the best efforts of Mitra and Owen in a packed Music Hall - still, it was very amusing to watch. Chess followed (sixth), and then hockey, where our House-Captain, Rob Broomhead, brought out the best in those limp-wristed players to finish an impressive first.

A creditable third in squash and sixth in Fives were backed up by first position in both badminton and basketball. Mr C called for an increased effort, particularly from those weaker age-groups, and the 'big push' seemed to work as Broomhead led the gymnastics team to an amazing, and for some, simply

unbelievable third place - previously unheard of as Gifford always have the least co-ordinated gymnasts, ever. But, we kept up the House tradition of doing badly in cross-country - Holden captaining his band of athletes into a lowly fifth position.

In spite of having a Scotsman (Tim Reid) captaining the rugby, we managed to finish first overall, again, and that trophy stayed where it has been for the last 5 years or so. The end of the spring term saw us in first position, 37 points ahead of Evans. So, things were looking good for Gifford.

However, the summer didn't prove to be too successful as we finished a disappointing fifth overall in cricket, despite having an England player in the senior XI. Athletics results were poor as the first four years failed to finish anything higher than seventh. The fifths and seniors pulled up our position to fourth - Sheldon (fifths) and Edwards (sixths) receiving individual awards for their efforts. We continued our good run (excuse the pun!) in athletics and swimming standards, finishing first in both and therefore winning standards overall. It seems that Mr C's intimidation tactics had some effect.

In the final event of the year, swimming, Gifford performed tremendously well. The juniors were placed first, and were well supported by the seniors and minors, both in second place. So, the swimming trophy remained in the Gifford cabinet for another year.

The main reason for our success this year was the "Gifford House spirit" - that undying love for the House. It was the willingness to put your reputation on the line by participating in events you've never done before that was the key to our victory (as I'm sure the Fives players will agree!)

All the results and performances mentioned above meant that we reclaimed what was rightfully ours "THE CUP"; for this, many congratulations to every member of Gifford. Graham Dunn prizes were awarded to Rob Broomhead, Mike Sheldon; and Chris Moriarty for impressive contributions to the House.

And finally, a huge CHEERS to the House tutors: RNL, JTB, JSL, M-CG and

our Housemaster, DNDC, without whom none of this would have been possible. Also, well done Rob - I'm sure you celebrated accordingly. Oh, and best of luck to Andy, Matt and Dan next year. Roll on House Drinking .....

Dan Montague

## HEATH

Heath had another successful year improving one position from their third place the previous July. However, once again we were unable to perform at the consistently high standard necessary throughout the year to take the Cock House.

The rather appalling start to the year's events had left us in eighth position at Christmas after coming last in hockey, chess and music. Our position in music was more than disappointing as the ability was present, but sadly due to 'unavoidable circumstances' our performance left a lot to be desired.

At this point in the year Mr Milton's enthusiasm and motivation skills were being tested to the limit, but the effort and commitment shown by him and every other member of the House to pull Heath off the bottom of the table to the impressive position of third at Easter left a lot of the House wondering exactly why we had started the year so dreadfully.

There were numerous highlights in the Spring term. The seniors had finished first in basketball even though only fielding one U19 school player, third in rugby and second in cross country. The juniors performed creditably in table tennis, but sadly not much else. The minors had shown great promise and this was rewarded by their respectable positions in basketball, rugby and cross-country. Heath finished second overall in both basketball and cross-country and third in rugby.

Success during the summer term for Heath has been a common occurrence, and this year was no exception. In athletics we were third overall after a mediocre performance in standards. Notable performances were made by Elliot Taylor who became the individual Shells athletics champion, and Matthew Benjamin, who



*Matthew Benjamin: force to be reckoned with in Heath*

became the Rems individual champion. In the fifths, Darreul Sewell won the 1500m and the 2000m steeplechase. In swimming we came fourth overall, thanks mainly to efforts by Dan Pearce, David Noonan and Kirk Bennett.

Our achievements in cricket exceeded those in both athletics and swimming. Whilst the seniors, fielding many school team players, could only manage sixth place after average performances in all three rounds, a talented minor team finished third, and the juniors won convincingly. This gave us an overall position of second.

At the end of the year there was the now traditional award ceremony minor of the year was Matthew Benjamin. The honour of junior of the year was won jointly by Jonathan Davies and Kirk Bennett. Finally, senior of the year was Phil Bennett-Britten.

Thanks must go to Ben Tier for captaining the House to another impressive second place, and to Mr Milton and all the other House tutors. As for this coming year: the future's bright, the future's yellow!

*Phil Bennett-Britten*



## VARDY

A good year for Vardy? It has certainly been a year plagued by injuries and absence. At times we were tempted to take up Burak Alpar's idea of private healthcare.

Despite this, all the Vardy teams have performed to the best of their ability and there have been notable successes.

Probably the most memorable of Vardy's performances was in House music. Burak Alpar's musicians and Ed Rigby in a dress were a Vardy spectacular not to be missed. If it had not been for an absence in round one, we would have done well.

With excellent results, marred by misfortune, putting us in fourth place at the start of summer, hopes of winning were fading fast but we battled on.

The greatest surprise of the summer was that we came fourth in senior cricket. This comes as a great shock after many years of bad luck, biased umpires, cheating opponents and a general failure to play well. In addition, a magnificent win in athletics and second place in swimming earned us third place in the Cock House, a position with which we are happy. We know that we are the number one House but don't feel ready to prove it yet. Maybe next year will show the world the true Vardy power.

Prospects for next year look good, despite the loss of a few talented sportsmen and a House tutor, Mr Gutteridge. I do not know who will replace him but he or she will have a hard time following such an exemplary record of service to Vardy.

Thanks must go to Mr Worthington, and the tutors for guiding Vardy through a very trying, and yet successful, year. Thanks to Burak Alpar for being such a witty and inspirational Vice-Captain. Finally thanks must also go to the entire House, for their effort and enthusiasm in all sports. Good luck to all next year.

*Paul Meredith*

## EVANS

It was in 1987 that Evans last tasted the success of winning the Cock House Trophy - but in the following seasons the "boyz in green" never really threatened to emulate that epic achievement. In fact you might be forgiven for thinking that we had resigned ourselves to a few more years in the "bargain basement" of the lower half. But 1994-95 was different. It started normally enough - Mr Benson as usual commenting that with a bit of effort we could easily do better this year. Quite what made us listen this year, I don't think even we know. Impressive results flooded in over the next 13 weeks - Evan's first ever victory in the House Challenge competition; a creditable third place in senior table tennis (not usually an Evans stronghold), runners-up places in hockey and chess and the result of the term - Alex Makepeace and Robert Gardiner turning out superb solo performances to seal first place in House music. All this left Mr Benson able to announce a final placing of first at Christmas to an Evans House as stunned as it was delighted.

But old habits die hard and familiar stories of "we didn't quite have enough players" started to become more and more common. Low placings in squash, bridge and cross-country started to spoil the Evans party a little. But there was still plenty to cheer. Well done minors - runners up in fives (a shame the senior pair failed to turn up to two matches!) A creditable fourth in gym was also achieved. Excellent campaigns from both the junior and minor rugby teams compensated for a spirited yet ultimately unsuccessful bid for the senior title. Captain Chris Timms led by example to gain second place in shooting - and another trophy on the table for overall basketball champions, sealed another good term for the House. Second place at Easter, and with the traditionally strong Evans summer ahead - things were looking good.

Unfortunately, the summer failed to live up to expectations and despite yet another victory in tennis where both seniors and minors won their respective competitions (Ian Cole and Richard Parton

as ever the dependable duo) and a good third place in heavily-weighted cricket, the year ended on a bit of an anticlimax with Evans finishing fourth - still, however, our best result since '87.

There was a tinge of sadness to the year though. Mr Benson announced that he was to end a long and proud association with the House as he retired from his post.

Evans members past and present will remember him as a caring man whose humour so often helped ease the pain of poor results. If ever there was a reason for having a House System - it is personified by DHB - and all I can say is that it has been a privilege to work for him. We all wish him and his wife the best for the future.

Under the leadership of his successor, Mr Tinley, I'm sure we can build on the success of this year and challenge for the top places next year. Watch out - the boyz in green are back in business.

*Saikat Santra*

## CARY GILSON

With the sight of a tearful Mr Russell holding the Cock House Cup aloft still etched in our minds, we began the new campaign to retain our title. Mr Russell started off the year trying to instil this new concept of winning, sadly lacking in recent years, into the Shells, commending to them such names as Goulding, Simons and Ellis, heroes of last year's triumph. Ed Padmore, the House captain, then gave an inspiring address on our new ideology of success, appealing to the senior part of the House to work together for New Cary Gilson.

However, hopes of repeating the Herculean efforts of 1994 were doomed to disappointment. When four choice hockey players were called away to interview on the same day, so that we slipped from a seeded second to fifth position, we knew this was not our year. The sterling efforts of Lloyd and Brindley were in vain. Elsewhere, Heinz and Shergold gave us another fifth position in rugby, whilst Ghosh, Mallela and Padmore contributed their all-round skills

in various areas. Lower down the house, Hodson, Thukral and Pitt have shown that the future is bright. Yet, despite these fine individual performances, our achievements were solid rather than sparkling.

As May approached, Mr Russell proclaimed how much work was to be done if we were to emulate the position of the previous year. There was only one means with which to do so. We would have to rectify our dismal showing in the athletics standards. However, the desire to fill in cards seemed to have fallen back to its traditional level of near to zero, with Mr Russell's command to go down to Eastern Road becoming more impassioned and pleading as weeks slipped by.

Our final position has not equalled the triumph of 1994, yet we should in no way feel ashamed. On behalf of the House, I thank the House Master and Tutors, as well as Ed Padmore and Matt Lloyd, for leading the House in the face of adversity. Kris Shergold and Demian Flowers, our new captain and vice-captain, will now take on the challenge of leading Cary Gilson to its former greatness. I wish them luck.

Ian Brown

## LEVETT

Following the second year on the trot of Levett coming seventh in the Cock House, it was decided that this would be the year for us to recover, to pick ourselves up out of the doldrums and to become again the great House that we once were.

Could it be done? The odds were in our favour. With a senior age group including Imran Shaikh, Richard McGuire, Andy Martin and the mighty Ross Yallup, a promising junior section and a fresh crop of Shells, we had every reason to be optimistic, and so we headed off to the chess competition.

In fine tradition, we started off with a bang, Patrick Finglass leading us to our customary win with victories over Jeune, Prince Lee and Evans.

The House Challenge competition brought similar success. Our team, captained by Oliver Nicolson, gave Vardy

and Heath a hammering (beating them both by margins over 250), only to lose out to Gifford at the final hurdle. Anyway, a first and second place in our first two events was excellent. Things were looking good.

And so on to the formidable combination of badminton, fives and squash, the indoor competitions. Unfortunately this proved to be the first weak link in the Levett chain, fifth in squash being the best result with the minors and juniors (coming third and first respectively) lifting a weak eighth place by the seniors.

The upper years fared only slightly better in the badminton competition, coming seventh. A romp to first place by the minors, inspired by the stunning performance of Chapman jr, failed to compensate for the seventh achieved by the juniors, and so sixth overall in the competition was all that could be managed. Along with an overall fives results of eighth, it could not be said that our run of success had continued.

Table tennis brought no more hopes to the Levett camp, as news came in of disqualification in the junior age group, as well as disappointing results of fifth and sixth from the senior and minor sections. There was, though, cause to be optimistic about the future as Andrew Robinson proved to be a master of the game.

However, amongst all the doom and gloom as the winter nights drew in, the music competition arrived with all its connotations of meticulous performances from the cultured members of the House, and a lot of shouting from the rest of us.

Indeed, Russell Hargreaves, Oliver Nicolson and Ian Kent provided a near perfect rendition of a Handel Oboe Concerto, only to be kept off the top spot by Evans, who scraped victory by the narrowest of margins.

Carrying on in the fine tradition of Ed Pugh's "Bohemian Rhapsody" and Adam Hasan's "Screamager", Andrew McKay decided that a spot of cross dressing and Carly Simon's "You're So Vain" was just what the doctor ordered for the House shout.

Congratulations to Imran Shaikh, Alistair Middleton and Andy himself who

eschewed all sense of public embarrassment in favour of dressing up as "ladies" in support of the Levett cause. If it hadn't been for some dodgy judging, we would have snatched 4 more points to come first overall, but were robbed of the gold by Evans, leaders from the first round.

The hockey competition proved to be a return to form, seventh overall was all that could be achieved. But we weren't doing as badly as it sounds - at Christmas we discovered we were sitting pretty at third in the Cock House standings, sneering down on former major powers such as Jeune and Heath. Could the spring term bring us more success? Could Levett start to dream of greatness again? Apparently not.

The problem seemed to be, as last year, that although on paper the seniors were strong, on the field of play they lacked coherence and consistency. With events weighted so that the senior results have more bearing on overall positions it was inevitable that Levett would come unstuck at one point or another.

The basketball competition, for example, should have produced at least a sixth place with a team containing competent players such as Nayyar and Allen, but two close losses and a drubbing by Evans produced eighth place.

"How we laughed" were the rather cruel words of Mr Birch when asked to summarise his and Mr Gunning's memory of our stunning body of men.

Even a sterling performance from the juniors who came fourth could not save us from eighth overall in basketball.

However, there was still hope. Yet to come was the jewel in Levett's crown, gymnastics. Spurred on by the inspiring vaults, leaps and flips of captain Imran Shaikh, the rest of the team ably supported his efforts enabling us to finally beat Evans and claim first place, our first overall victory since the House Challenge way back in September.

After last year's disappointment of coming seventh in Rugby, Levett seemed to finally realise that if a house is to win the Cock House, it has to perform in this competition. Okay, so the seniors came sixth, but the junior team were quite superb. In fact they were incredible,

thrashing every team out of sight in both the 15 and 7 a-side tournaments. Rising stars Jenkins, Flemons and James all contributed to the success of the team. How we cheered when the 50-5 victory over Prince Lee was stopped after only 20 minutes, how we whooped when Jenkins rushed up 4 tries against Evans. And who could forget Feetam's last-minute penalty in the 8-7 nail biter against Evans to win the 7's competition?

With the minors excellently bringing up the rear by achieving third place, Levett's fortunes were looking better with an excellent second place overall.

Bridge and cross country brought us both down towards earth with mediocre results of seventh and sixth, but going into the summer term we were still in with a chance. We'd slipped down to fifth in the overall championship placings, but anything could happen.

Into the summer term and cricket was upon us. Even the combined talents of Shaikh, McGuire and Martin could not save the seniors from a humbling seventh place, whilst the juniors put in an enthusiastic fourth. Their victory over Vardy in the first round has to go down as

one of the most convincing ever, Levett obtaining 198 in their 20 overs (A Natkiel scoring a marvellous 98 not out, Khera a majestic 74), and then proceeding to bowl Vardy out for a mere 40.

The real stars with the leather and willow, however, were the minors. Brilliant bowling from Cockerton (6-14 off 4 overs) and batting from Tawfik and Samrai saw off all opposition as the youngsters relatively steam-rollered their way to first place.

From here on, though, it was average performance, all the way. sixth in tennis and fifth in swimming would not be enough to keep us away from the bottom four places, and it was left to the athletes to try and move us up the table.

Although there were good individual performances from Flemons, Feetam, Ferdinand, Cockerton and Baker, the results of the different age groups were not really good enough to make anything other than the smallest of differences.

And so, in the end, a disappointing sixth place in the Cock House for Levett. But we can't forget the outstanding commitment, enthusiasm and effort put in by all members of the House. When

looking at the number of teams disqualified this year for not turning up, it is a credit to Levett's pupils that only one team was debarré for this reason.

I'm sure the whole House would want to thank Mr Phillips and his back-up team of Mr Roll, Mr Mason, Mr Hatton and Mr Cropper who put tremendous amounts of time and effort into getting us motivated, and organised, not an easy job I can assure you!

The last job of the year was to award the Levett trophy to a deserving Ross Yallup after his 7 years of dedicated service to the House, and to appoint Imran Shaikh as the new House captain. We also said a fond goodbye to Mr Cropper but look forward to welcoming Mr Goodlad back into the Levett fold after his 3 year absence.

So can Levett do it with Shaikhly at the helm? Is 1996 our year? We can only wait and see.

Rory Natkiel

## JEUNE



*Jeune earned a hard-fought second place in Bridge*

Following the rather disappointing place of sixth in the 93/94 championship, Jeune set out on their 94/95 campaign with great determination to better themselves and show everyone what a truly great House we actually were. This confident approach was not simply a work of fiction orchestrated by the House superiors but was actually a real hope and expectation. There was no doubt that we had the ability, with the House being led by one of the strongest sets of seniors that we've had in many years; it just remained to be seen whether we had the commitment and determination to carry it through.

Despite all our high hopes and aspirations we started the year on a far from satisfactory note. The indoor competitions resulted in eighth place for table-tennis and squash, sixth equal in badminton, and a more respectable second and third place in fives and

basketball respectively. The appalling results for the above were due to a player or several players not turning up for their games.

This lack of commitment to the House is wholly unacceptable and will not be tolerated in the year to come.

Other competitions in the first term were chess where we came a very respectable third place and hockey where we gained a hard fought sixth position.

On the non-sporting front we had the House Challenge and music competitions. Although ably led by the captain, Richard Butler our House challenge team had trouble adopting to this relatively new competition and could only manage sixth place. Similarly the music competition, a bone of contention for the last number of years was deemed fit for sixth place. Although musically competent and with possibly a larger backing chorus than any other House, we didn't have the corresponding numbers dressed in drag to lift ourselves into the higher realms of the top half.

We started the spring term with renewed hopes and confidence even after our disappointing start, for we still had our trump cards of rugby and bridge to play.

The rugby seemed to start well with a superb display by the seniors to clinch first place, after a hard fought battle against Gifford. This however was a false dawn as poor results lower down the school resulted in an overall seventh placing.

This result goes to show that you can do brilliantly in one age group but what is needed for success is a constant effort throughout the House.

Cross-country was a more promising result where we came third overall after an excellent first round. Bridge and gymnastics were encouraging, the House being placed second in both sports after some superb individual performances.

We went into the last term of the year in a dismal sixth place, though still with hope, even if not to win, then at least to drag ourselves into the top half.

The results for the summer gave a rather mixed bag. In tennis we achieved a respectable fourth position after some

superb performances in the juniors who came first.

Cricket was also strongly fought lower down the school with the minors achieving a second placing, beating the seniors who could only manage a humble fifth place.

Swimming was unfortunately another disaster, with poor organisation and teams not turning up resulting in an overall sixth place.

The athletics results however brought some more cheer to the summer term with many sterling performances. An overall effort was apparent in standards where we came second, a superb result for all those people who gave up their Thursday lunch hours for the House. With the seniors winning easily and very solid performances in the Removes we were expecting a high position. However after some very dismal performances in certain year groups our overall position was lowered to a not so great seventh place.

Well, after only a partly successful campaign *Jeune* are still dragging in the lower ranks of the Cock House table. It has been made clear over the year that we have plenty of talent within the House; what we are lacking however is motivation. House pride needs to be resurrected and the whole House to unite to fire ourselves back up to the top of the Cock House where we belong.

Tom Tipper

## PRINCE LEE

The 1994/95 'season' began in an unfamiliarly optimistic fashion for the Prince Lee House with the appointment of a new and enthusiastic Housemaster in the shape of Mr Connor. This, combined with the introduction of a new elite band of (believed) heavily sporty first years, led all concerned to hope that maybe this year would be different for the House cruelly described as "destined for eighth position on the grid" by many rival Houses.

However, the bubble was soon burst as business was back to normal within the first term when a string of poor performances in early competitions rooted

us to the lower half of the table. Despite this, respectable performances as a whole in the indoor competitions, the following term, including first place positions in fives and squash and a solid fourth in badminton (noted efforts going to the devastating form displayed by the senior pair of Amol Chitre and Andrew Hardman), meant that we were slowly climbing higher in the table.

The lifted spirits did not remain high for long though, as the dreaded 'team sports' soon took their toll on the House. With an overall position of seventh and eighth in basketball and rugby respectively, Prince Lee continued to slide down the Cock House table. However, acknowledgement should be made of the added commitment shown by certain members of the House towards these sports, often frowned upon as 'unfair' by many. True or not, the added enthusiasm made a change and a difference, particularly in the seniors where sparkling tries from Eoin Parker and Stuart Watts lifted the senior team to a position of seventh, a feat unachieved in the previous two years.

Come the summer, greater enthusiasm led to a more successful term as a whole for Prince Lee. With noted performances by Jon Goldman, Tom Manners and Sanjay Rupal in House Athletics and committed efforts by Matt Dodd and Joe Millington in standards, combining with a solid overall tennis result, things began to look brighter. However, team sports are clearly our downfall as shown by senior cricket all too well with a position of eighth being 'achieved'.

With a final position of eighth rather expectedly being announced by the close of the year the initial enthusiasm and drive felt by many in the House at the start had all too quickly returned to a state of depression. It seems that, despite the crucial individual performances of certain key sportsmen dotted throughout the House, the heavily orientated 'team sports' will always be our failing, yet commitment by most team members is increasingly present (which is more than can be said for the senior swimming team!). I have no doubt that next year will be different .... maybe.

Adam Hiscok



# COCK HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

SUMMER 1995

HOUSE	CHALLENGE	TABLE TENNIS	MUSIC	CHESS	HOCKEY	SQUASH	BADMINTON	FIVES	BASKETBALL	GYMNASTICS	BRIDGE	CROSS COUNTRY	RUGBY	SHOOTING	TENNIS	ATHLETICS	CRICKET	SWIMMING	TOTAL
GIFFORD	8	8	15	6	16	12	16	6	16 1/2	6	8	12	48	3	8	30	21	32	271 1/2
HEATH	6	7	3	2	2	8	12	9	21	3	6	21	36	2	2	36	42	18	236
VARDY	2	1 1/2	6	10	12	14	14	14	10 1/2	1	5	24	18	8	4	48	12	28	232
EVANS	4	5	24	14	14	4	8	9	24	4 1/2	3	3	24	7	16	6	33	12	214 1/2
CARY GILSON	1	6	12	8	8	8	2	2	10 1/2	4 1/2	4	15	30	6	14	18	48	18	215
LEVETT	7	1 1/2	21	16	4	8	5	4	3	8	2	9	42	5	6	12	33	24	210 1/2
JEUNE	3	3	9	12	6	2	5	12	16 1/2	7	7	18	12	4	10	42	21	8	197 1/2
PRINCE LEE	5	4	18	4	10	16	10	16	6	2	-	6	6	1	12	24	6	4	150





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# SOCIETIES

TUNES STEVE DUNN

## ANAGNOSTICS

Under the leadership of Luke Houghton and Alix Cotton Anagnostics has enjoyed a year of mixed, but generally successful, fortunes. The meetings began with a reading of Aristophanes' "The Poet and the Woman" in September, for which a number of notable Old Edwardians were recalled, and an outrageous time was had by all.

Other readings have included Aeschylus' "Agamemnon" (with numerous walk-off parts due to the snow),

"Philoctetes" by Sophocles (starring Ian Brown's feet) and a traditionally high proportion of Aristophanic comedy. The plays of Plautus have also featured more frequently than in previous years.

This year's awards for ridiculous overacting go to David "Sausage-seller" Hingley in "The Knights" and the perennial angry old man Russell Hargreaves in "Mostellaria". Hannah Fox and Anna Lister have performed a number of female

roles with skill and enthusiasm (two commodities often sadly lacking at this society) and Rebecca Hughes' rendition of the nurse in "Amphitryon" will be remembered as a classic.

Thanks to Messrs Owen, Stone and Lambie for their continuing support, to the Dining Hall Staff for the food (especially those little cakes with chocolate bits on the top) and finally to Alix, without whom nothing would have been done.

L Houghton



## ARES

This year has been a very good year for the Society, seeing many improvements to the school equipment as well as many new additions to the society from the UM's.

First, at the beginning of the year, several of the society's novice members finally took their full Radio Amateur's

examinations, and all passed. Then, more recently, several UM's joined our cause, and they are soon to take their novice licences.

Due to the brother of a certain member of the Physics staff losing his interest in the hobby, our station has gained several new and useful pieces of equipment,

which we hope to use to boost our capabilities in the near future.

Finally, ARES will be competing in a competition on Brown Clee Hill during the holidays and, if we succeed (which is doubtful) in winning an award, the school's radio station will firmly establish itself on a national scale.

Ed Benwell

## ART SOCIETY

Avid watchers of the various noticeboards around the school may well have noticed a distinct lack of advertisements for Art Society meetings of the last academic year. We apologize for this shortage profusely, but despite Mr Spencer's lavish promise that any meeting we do organise will be supplied with copious amounts of cake and biscuits, none of our plans for meetings have come to fruition.

Although there have been no meetings, the undercurrents of the Art Society have been bubbling away, and next year, the Art Society will be resurrected, and the production of Art Society posters will begin again.

Diarmid Mackenzie

## CHRISTIAN UNION

The CU has met regularly on a Wednesday lunchtime in the girls' school. Speakers have included Richard Frank, an old Edwardian, who has spoken to us on topical subjects. The society has developed a hard core of members and support from the Chaplain and the Parents' prayer meetings have been invaluable. Hopefully with God on our side the society can continue to blossom next year. Amen

Ben Dunnett

## JUNIOR CLASSICAL SOCIETY

It was my very great pleasure to be able to run the society for another year, and it proved to be a successful one. A packed-to-capacity Drama Studio provided an electric atmosphere for the Shell Play Competition, and all five plays were of an extremely high standard. The "ice-skating" style of marking was once again used, and the eventual winners were Shell T, who implemented live music, to the delight of the audience. A most enjoyable time was had by all, and it was a very exciting end to the term.

The quiz, in March was an equally exciting contest. The stakes were high - an inviting trio of Mars Bars waiting patiently on a nearby table - and, oh yes, Mr Evans' team had a title to defend. A fresh set of challengers filled the room with their enthusiasm, and a tense battle it proved to be. No team had a clear advantage initially, thus making it very difficult to make any sort of prognostications, but after eight gruelling rounds (culminating in a short version of Mr Evans' famous Word Game) SFO's team emerged as the victors. A most enlightening and exciting time was had by all; particularly for the team of SFO, who wasted no time in claiming their prizes (doubtlessly the primary source of the unprecedented levels of enthusiasm).

I have very much enjoyed my time as secretary of this society, and I give my best wishes to my successor for next year.

Peter Shortall

## JOINT DEBATING SOCIETY

The KES/KEHS Joint Debating Society has seen a fine year, with many debates throughout the year. They have embraced voting in favour of equality for homosexuals, and the motion that violent films damage society, a strong position against the RFU (in a well-debated but poorly attended meeting) and a final debate on the legalisation of all drugs (which has yet to be debated). While the debates have been irregular, and one or two poorly attended, the quality of the speeches prepared has been most impressive. It is to be hoped that the same standard of debate and mixture of liberal idealism and middle-of-the-road pragmatism on the part of the house will be continued next year.

B J Sheriff

## EURODRAMA

Eurodrama should really be renamed French drama, as despite the name, the society actually only represents France. Still, no matter, as there is a plethora of plays to choose from, which this year

included "Le Barbier de Seville" by Beaumarchais and "Le Mariage de Figaro" by the same author. The decidedly philosophical Sartre provided us with "Huis Clos" which contrasted completely with the bizarre comedy of Ionesco's "La Cantatrice Chauve". This was complemented by a performance by Birmingham University students of the same play in March in our Concert Hall.

Despite a relatively poor turn out amongst boys, the girls turned out in their droves to each meeting. I just hope next year's Divisions will attend in greater numbers than my year's, as at present the girls outnumber us by about 4:1.

Whatever, I must offer thanks to Mr Tomlinson for helping to organise the society so brilliantly this year. Thanks also to the people responsible for the decent chocolate cake we get sometimes. Next year the society comes under my control (well, sort of) and will continue to be as strong as ever. Vive la France!!

David Hingley

## ECONOMICS SOCIETY

The Economics Society rose phoenix-like from the ashes owing to renewed interest and there were a number of meetings organised this year. Of particular note there were visits by two MPs, namely the Conservative Warren Hawkesley and the Socialist Robin Corbett. Both were very interesting and informative speakers and there was a good turnout for their visits. The next meeting was a talk by Professor Julian Cooper on Political and Economic change in Russia. This meeting was done in alliance with the Parliamentary society however the turnout was disappointingly low. The final meeting of the year was in the wake of Nick Leeson's creative accountancy, as Paul Ruddock (an OE) gave a talk about life in the city and how Barings collapsed.

There were also a number of conferences that were attended by members of the economics classes during the year. There were conferences on the minimum wage debate, at which the head of the Low Pay Unit, Chris Pond,

was among the speakers. There was also one on the transformation in Eastern Europe and the country formerly known as the Soviet Union. There was then an Updates conference at the Town Hall, which was attended by a number of pupils from schools around Birmingham. The speakers at the conference included Arthur Scargill and Patrick Minford (one of the Chancellor's wise men). Whether the green shoots of the recovery of the economics society will continue next year is unknown, as the attendance records of the Divisions at the various meetings was poor.

John Trotman

## FELLWALKING

Yet again, this has been a good year for those of us with an appetite for walking, but who also enjoy the odd diversion en route. During October there was a trip for the Shells to the Berwyn Mountains, and the only really useful word to describe the conditions was "wet". Despite the atrocious weather, everybody enjoyed themselves and another group of people have hopefully been converted to the charms of fellwalking.

Twelve o'clock on the last day of Christmas term saw a mini bus full of boys setting out for Shropshire. Stopping at Hope Bowdler we walked up Hope Bowdler Hill. The ascent was complicated by certain members of the party trying to work out a way of wearing a Father Christmas Hat and a balaclava at the same time. This accomplished, we descended the other side and climbed the west slopes of Caer Caradoc. Having spent some time on the summit, we continued down the ridge, pausing only for smaller members of the party to squeeze through the gaps in a group of rocks. Reaching the base, we were forced to walk the last half mile to Church Stretton down a dark, steep-sided stream course, in order to avoid a large and apparently homicidal horse. After the customary tea break in Church Stretton we drove to Ludlow Youth Hostel, where the festive mood was continued by decorating the dormitories with balloons and tinsel.

On the following morning we set off

for the Radnor Forest where we embarked upon a long circular walk around the head of a valley. There was a strong wind blowing, but this did not spoil some marvellous moorland views. The return journey concluded the trip well, with many renditions of Christmas carols.

At the February half-term there was a trip to the Stiperstones, following the ridge past the many impressive rock formations. Also, at the end of the Summer Term, an expedition was made to the Ro Wen Youth Hostel in Snowdonia. Finally, I would like to thank Mr Cumberland, Mr Boardman, Dr Bridges and Mrs Chapman for giving up their time for us and putting up with our singing as well.

James Birch

## GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

The highlight of a somewhat quiet year in the society was the extremely successful "Geography Soc. Quiz Night", staged at the end of November in the Autumn Term.

The event was almost entirely organised and executed by Divisions with a little helpful guidance from DNCD and NRH. Various rounds were devised to tax the contestants' geographical knowledge, ranging from international flags and currencies to mountain heights and national landmarks.

With wine flowing freely and a little healthy competition, everyone had a superb evening, even the two A-level geography teams who both managed to finish in the bottom three.

Hopefully, next year we'll manage to stage more such events and receive as much support as we did this year.

Tom Tipper

## GRAPHIC UNIVERSE

Over the past three years, this society has become a firmly established feature of School life. The Graphic Universe continues to meet regularly in order to discuss the latest comic news, whilst the tradition of top quality, well-attended

talks has been maintained. As a result, Nick Bradley has become a more than accomplished public speaker! He will be taking over from Ben Griffin as secretary. Ben has been a tower of strength, always championing the cause of the more adult-orientated non-superhero titles, and constantly putting Nick's appreciation of Marvel comics to the test. He will be missed. However, in Nick Bradley, the Graphic Universe has probably its most enthusiastic leader yet, and his wide knowledge and tremendous commitment makes him an ideal figurehead.

As ever, the Friday afternoon option is a perfect way to end a busy school week. One and a half hours of absolutely silent, concentrated comic reading is guaranteed.

It is an option which is perhaps not always best understood by "outsiders", but it is undoubtedly an option where the boys are engaged and thoroughly involved. Many have come to appreciate the diversity, excitement and enjoyment offered by today's comics, and have come to recognise the depth of excellence and intelligence in this unique medium which still remains frustratingly misunderstood and derided. The Graphic Universe is the place where such misconceptions are put to rest.

The Graphic Universe is not just solely concerned with comics; exploring science-fiction in all media has become an increasing part of the society's attention. Indeed, so popular has "Star Trek" been that an offshoot of the Graphic Universe has been created - "The Star Trek Appreciation Society." The combined brainchild of David Hingley, Matthew Grady and Nick Bradley, this new society has flourished, and a full report can be found elsewhere in these pages.

Again this has been a hugely enjoyable year! The two cinema visits, to "Generations" and "Batman Forever" have been obvious highlights, and the now legendary end-of-term parties always ensure that a term ends on a high note. My thanks go to Ben - we wish him well - and to everyone who has ventured into the Graphic Universe this year. I hope that everyone has enjoyed the GU as much as I have!

EJM



## HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This has been a rather more relaxed year for the Historical Society after last year's frenetic activity, but the meetings which have been held have been of an exceptionally high standard. The year opened in October with a lively balloon debate discussing who had won the second World War. Hitler, Stalin and De Gaulle were all represented, and an impromptu performance as Churchill by a manic U.M., Matthew Wheeldon, added an element of surrealism to the proceedings. The debate was won by Matthew Nicholls as Stalin, after a close contest.

In November we were treated to a scholarly and perceptive talk entitled "Painted Propaganda", by Mrs C M Southworth. This explored the subtle political undertones of the famous Wilton Diptych, and was particularly revealing on painting techniques.

Perhaps the highlight of the year was a presentation given by the celebrated local historian and radio personality Carl Chinn on "Birmingham: The Great Working City". A copy of his book of the same name has been ordered for the school library. The talk explained the origins not just of Birmingham as an industrial centre, but also of the culture and institutions connected with it. The material was presented in an involving and enjoyable manner, with extensive use of slides, and was appreciated hugely by the audience of teachers and pupils alike.

Thanks must go to Mr Milton, who is particularly active in the running of the society, and to all those members of the school and Common Room whose contributions have meant that the Historical Society continues to thrive.

L Houghton

## LIGHTFOOT SOCIETY

Another year, another triumph for the Lightfoot Society. However, things got off to a shaky start when the scholarly poster campaign, advertising a talk on 'Ancient Minoan religion' drew an audience of rather less than one. Undeterred, we acted on Mr Worthington's suggestion of a more populist approach and the school was soon filled with posters emblazoned with the question, 'The Minotaur - MYTH OR METHODIST?' This drew a large crowd which heard a very entertaining talk by Stuart Handcock: the society itself was brought down the information super highway by the use of a slide machine.

Following in the same vein, a grinning skull heralded Patrick Finglass' talk on immortality, in November. About twenty people, including the Chaplain (there to make sure I didn't start hereticising, I was later told), attended a talk which was very well received. The second annual Christmas quiz - well on its way towards becoming an institution - attracted over fifty to watch or participate, with Mr Evans as question-master: a fact which had nothing to do with his team retaining their title of last year. The enthusiasm generated in the spectators was such that an unnamed master was prevented from falling asleep in the quiz for the second year running ..... (a fact which was edited out of last year's report!)

The crowds continued to flock, this time to Patrick Finglass' talk, entitled 'Women's Lib. in Ancient Greece. Perhaps the speaker was not the most eligible to speak on the topic, but he kept 'on the straight and narrow' without referring to more modern events.

The year's final term saw two more radical meetings. Stuart Handcock's talk on 'the hitherto enigmatic subject of Atlantis' proved very popular, with even some non-classicists being encouraged to attend. A careful academic dissertation of Plato's text, coupled with a few more light-hearted moments, revealed Atlantis' probable location as the island of Thera in the Aegean.

## INTERFAITH

As the third official year of Interfaith draws to a close, it is encouraging to have seen the interest in this quite essential society become more genuine and widespread within the two schools. Revived by Matt Price and Revd. Weaver back in late '92, Interfaith has provided the opportunity for people to be enriched by what they learn about other people's ways of life, from a number of religious, cultural and occasionally political angles, in an environment free of judgement and intolerance.

Two meetings' turnout has seen steady progress over the year, with more new faces each time alongside the regular Interfaithfuls, attending discussions ranging from the function of religion in today's society, entertainingly presented by Revd Raynor and Ben Henley, to the

moral implications of the Criminal Justice Act, with talks from Gareth Weetman and our very own Rachel Boyd. The most successful of this year though, would have to have been the talk from our external speakers, Dorothy Standing and Clive Saunders on their beliefs as Jehovah's Witnesses.

Thanks must go to this year's committee for all their input, especially Rachel Boyd for keeping Interfaith alive on the girls' side. Huge vaffuls of appreciation go out to Revd Raynor for his commitment to the society from his first day at KES. Left in the capable hands of Adnaan Ali, with Michael Bywaters and Niranjani Dey, Interfaith seems set to grow further still, in enhancing cultural and religious relations within the school.

Rasheed Rahman



To conclude the year, Patrick Finglass expounded a quite new theory on the origins of civilised society. In scenes similar to those of last year, hordes of Removes turned up and started waving banners with the words 'Patrick is the best' on them (no, really). The term and year were admirably rounded off in a talk which raised a good audience and several interesting points - even if Mr Worthington thought it was an end-of-year spoof.

I would like to thank all those who have helped to ensure the smooth running of the society over the past year, including SFO and SRH for the use of their rooms.

The society has a name for itself, and its meetings have proved popular among the lower years. It is reassuring that even Ancient History can draw crowds, and I can only hope that the coming school year will be as successful. *cras ingens iterabimus aequor vale!*

*Patrick Finglass*

## MATHS SOCIETY

The past year has seen a total of four Maths Society talks, and the attendances have gradually increased through the year to the point where we actually ran out of chairs in room 60 as the crowds gathered to hear Mr Tinley speak. The year began with a talk by Dr Bridges about computer geometry, which included demonstrations of several well known and not so well known results, and then moved in a completely different direction with a talk at the High School about maths teaching in Mexico. After a period of quiet, we reconvened at the High School for a computer modelling workshop, before Mr Tinley astounded us with his

knowledge of a little known group of numbers known as "nine-flips".

Next year, I hope that the society's popularity will continue to rise, especially among the fourth and fifth years. Generally the maths discussed is at a level which should be understandable to anyone with a firm grasp of maths at or above GCSE level.

Finally, I would like to thank Dr Tyrer, who is sadly leaving at the end of the autumn term, and has been the principal driving force behind the Maths Society for several years. I hope his replacement has as much enthusiasm and dedication as he has had, so that the Maths Society can continue to thrive.

*Diarmid Mackenzie*

This year we have managed to take readings from Stevenson screen almost every day. This has meant that each week we have been able to display a summary of the previous week's weather. The readings this year have provided some fascinating statistics: the mean dry bulb thermometer reading this year between January and July has been  $9.8^{\circ}\text{C}$ :  $2.2^{\circ}\text{C}$  higher than last year for the same period. The mean dry bulb reading was  $7.4^{\circ}\text{C}$ :  $1.1^{\circ}\text{C}$  higher than last year. This means that the air this year has been generally less humid than last year. The mean cloud cover this year has been almost 5 oktas, compared to 6 oktas last year between January and July. This means that the sky has been generally less cloudy than last year. Next year we hope to continue taking readings every day, and to continue producing weekly summary sheets.

*Owain Thomas*

## METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY



## MODERN LANGUAGES

Attendances this year have continued to be encouraging even though girls tended to outnumber "the lads", perhaps an incentive for any boys contemplating attending next year.

Talks have been on a variety of subjects from French "pop" music by the girl's school assistants to Dom Hamilton and Julian Latham's tour of Europe, playing organs.

Meetings alternated between boys' school and girls' school, giving rise to reluctance by many of "the lads" to make the perilous journey to the girls' AV room, a problem which increased when rumours were spread that the odd talk would be in French.

Thanks go to everyone who put effort into preparing their talks this year, and to Mr Tomlinson for his unceasing desire to publicise the meetings which he organised. I hope that future years hear talks of a high standard, and that the society continues to flourish.

Nick Jones

## PARLIAMENTARY SOCIETY

The Parliamentary Society only managed two meetings this year, one of them being in conjunction with the Economics Society, that being the visit of Professor Julian Cooper. The other meeting that the society had was a teacher's "Question Time" with Mr Buttress acting out the David Dimbleby role with frightening efficiency. The members of the panel included Mr McMullan, who it later transpired during one of his Big School talks was in fact standing in the Local Elections as a Conservative councillor. (He lost by the way.) The other members of the panel were the two giants of the economics department, in all but height, Mr Mason and Mrs Temperley. The panel was made up by Gareth Weetman who, in the mock Euro election lost the Conservative stronghold of KES Birmingham to the Labour party by a rather large majority. The questions were fired in from the floor but were well dealt with by the carefully selected panel.

John Trotman

## MUSIC SOCIETY

A hectic programme of nine lunchtime recitals on Thursdays incorporating a wide variety of musical genres and composers has been the backbone of this year's musical activity. Performers have included Jenny Graham, Abigail Parker, Adam Micklethwaite and Dominic Hamilton. Special thanks must go to Alex Makepeace, who has tirelessly accompanied many performers when required.

Choral society has enjoyed a busy year, performing Handel's Messiah and Faure's Requiem, in addition to their usual contributions to the school's major concerts.

These concerts have, as always, been thoroughly rehearsed, well attended and

very much enjoyed. The Christmas Concert involved a wide cross section of our school's performers and brought up the usual popular pieces. The Summer Concert contained such favourites from "The Last Night of the Proms" as "the Sea Songs", "Jerusalem" and "Land of Hope and Glory".

Perhaps the most successful event of the year, though was the Symphony Orchestra trip to Lyon, in which we played "Rachmaninov's 2nd Symphony", and which also featured Adam Micklethwaite Playing Aritunian "Trumpet Concerto".

Thanks to all the music staff, especially Mr Sill, who has now entered semi-retirement. His presence will always be remembered with fond memories.

## SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

The main aim of the society is to present science as relevant and meaningful to anyone and not simply to cater for those studying the sciences at A-Level. It is deeply saddening that there is such a stark divide between the arts and the sciences and I feel that we should try and break down this barrier by encouraging a more diverse membership of the society.

Great credit must go to last year's Scientific Society Committee for organising such a long and varied list of

talks. These have covered all three branches of the sciences, and have ranged from discussion of industrial processes and applications (such as Beer and a talk on chocolate that happily featured samples), to the extremely theoretical (as with the occasionally baffling "Sound of Music",) to the very popular demonstrations (in the fascinating "Superconductors" and "Son et Lumière").

Of all these talks, "Son et Lumière" is most worthy of further mention. It combined some explosive demonstrations



of interest to all (and particularly the many Shells who attended) with explanations of the theory for A-level students.

The other talk that stands out in my mind is "Superconductors". This was by

a researcher at the forefront of the field and included a demonstration of a superconductor used to make a magnet float along a track and a detailed explanation of how it works (full of electrons and holes, which I didn't quite understand).

Thanks to all the speakers who gave up their time to give the talks, to everyone who has attended our meetings and, of course, to the previous committee who worked so hard to get the leading lights in their fields to speak to the society.

BJS

## STAR TREK SOCIETY

Yes, that's right. We do have a society at school solely devoted to the appraisal of Star Trek. And before some of you scoff

(would you ever?) let me tell you that our society, created this year by myself and backed all the way to Vulcan and back by

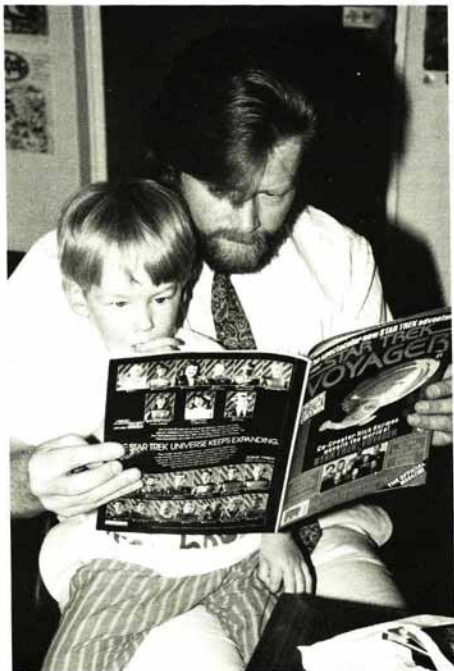
Mr Milton, attracts enough people to fill Room 160 to bursting point. So there.

The established parameters of space and time were first thwarted in October '94 when I gave a summary of Classic Trek (that's Kirk and Spock to the uninitiated) and Matthew Grady and Nick Bradley gave a rundown of 'The Next Generation.' The viewscreen has been engaged several times this year, with society members enjoying such delights as "Disaster", "Chain of Command", "City on the Edge of Forever" and the premiere of the first ever episode of the new series "Voyager".

Also this year there has been a Star Trek quiz when Messrs. Milton, Raynor, McMullan and Tinley ordered shields up and red alert for battle against Matthew Grady, Ross Lawlor, Nick Bradley and Ben Sharp with myself in the Captain's chair asking the questions. All was going so well for the teachers until the final round when their warp drives must have failed or something because they threw away a one point lead to lose by around thirty. Finally, an away team (or landing party, if you prefer) was organised to go and see "Star Trek: Generations" in February which was enthusiastically received (although not, I might controversially add, as good as "Star Trek VI").

Thanks this year must go to everyone mentioned in this report and also to Matthew Nicholls who designed one poster for us and to Russell Hargreaves for helping with the quiz. It is clear that next year the Society will continue to boldly go where no man (well, there is only one female member) has gone before. Live long and prosper.

Dave Hingley



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## ATHLETICS

We athletes are a hardy bunch. Year after year we willingly turn out on FA Cup Final day in order to compete for personal glory and the honour of the school without the slightest murmur of discontent ever being heard. Even the prospect of being the only people on the planet to miss the Rugby World Cup Final could not dampen the rampant enthusiasm of the team as we trotted out, with beaming smiles, to face Repton in what was undoubtedly a far more important and exciting confrontation. Of course, there may be some who may remember these occasions slightly differently, but, nevertheless credit must be given to everyone who turned up on the aforementioned days and indeed throughout what was a tremendous season, thus making largely redundant the captain's traditional yet dubious honour to having to deliver the excuses to Mr Birch.

The season got off to an encouraging start for KE with an overall second place in a match versus Repton, Loughborough and RGS Worcester. Although the initial scoring had placed the team far lower than this (and, indeed, managed to convince the senior team that they must be among the worst athletes in Britain), the result was soon rectified when Mr Birch pointed out to the hosts, Repton, that the 'K's on the score sheet stood for athletes from 'King Edward's' and not, as one might quite obviously suspect, for those from 'Loughborough Grammar School'. These he kindly explained, were denoted by the letter 'L'. This slight confusion apart, the meeting did give us our first insight into the athletes who would be doing the most damage to opposition egos this summer.

The senior age group this year consisted mainly of divisions who have been a particularly strong year throughout their time at the school. As usual Tom Tipper and Leon Francis scored well for the school in various events and these points were backed up by James Gwyther and Richard Field who could be relied upon for frequent maximum points in the 1500m. In a significant change to the tendency of previous seasons, where some fine athletes have decided to rest their

weary limbs and aching joints by seeing out their final years in the social cricket option, the team also benefited from Ben Dunnet's surprise decision to desert the XI in favour of athletics. His highly impressive victories over 400m and 800m (where James Barraclough frequently made it a KE one-two) displayed an air of invincibility not seen since James Hynes helped out in the 1500m. These best performances from the sixths came from 'wee' Tim Reid in the sprints and relay, 'bib' James Brough, who got close to 50m in the Javelin, 'Russian' Ross Yallup, whose discus throwing was compared to that of a Greek god after too many baltis (though effective nonetheless), and 'Jason' Jason Edwards who remained probably the only shot-putting high jumper to be successful in both events.

In the Inters the season started badly with a disappointing fourth place in the opening match. Any worries about the ability of the team were soon quashed, however, as their performances went from strength to strength, culminating in an excellent victory over Salihull. At the forefront of this improvement were undoubtedly Darreul Sewell and the captain Tom Manners. Darreul backed up impressive performances over 100m with long and triple jumps which were invariably long enough to have won the senior competition. His jump of over 13m was of National Entry Standard and he is an invaluable asset to the team. Tom Manners continued his form of recent years with victories by incredible margins in the hurdles, 100m and 400m. Once again he was selected for the West Midlands team over 400m hurdles. Other good performances came from England rugby star James Hynes in the shot putt and Discus, Mike Sheldon in the high jump and Ben Levine and Matthew Robertson who showed fine determination over the 800m and 1500m. Tony Hodson, Richard Cooper and Jonathan Goldman also picked up valuable points over the shorter distances.

The junior team was perhaps the most impressive of the age groups and could often be relied upon for convincing results which would give KE overall victory even if both Inter and Senior teams had lost narrowly. The most impressive

performances came perhaps from Matthew Benjamin in the sprints and long jump, whose speed, size and strength will surely leave its mark on the rugby scene in years to come and Barry Bahar in the discus and especially the shot putt, where he regularly demolished opposition a year older than himself. Fine performances also came from James Feetam in the 400m, Simon Gwyther, who always got the team off to a good start in the hurdles, and Ashley Pope and Kevin Modiri who formed a formidable partnership over 800m. Unfortunately (or perhaps fortunately) the sheer number of athletes who impressed at Junior level makes it impossible to mention them all but they can rest assured that their efforts did not go unappreciated.

The traditional Foundation Match provided perhaps the best opportunity to gauge the potential of the Shells who will be the future of KE athletics. Although the team finished fourth overall, with the competition proving too tough in most events, there was a good victory for Belshaw in the High Jump, while Fawcett, Chakraborty, Taylor and Cockerton all managed second place in their events.

The upshot of all of these personal achievements were combined team victories over Warwick, Repton, Loughborough, Wrekin, Rugby and all of the Foundation Schools. Undoubtedly the finest result, however, came when junior, intermediate and senior teams were all placed first in a match versus Oakham, Trent and Uppingham. Thus, a formidable list of scalps was collected as King Edward's yet again established themselves as a force to be reckoned with in athletics. Even a Salihull team, whose self belief borders on a form of personal worship, were taken all the way to the relay by KE for both individual age group and overall honours. Next year, with each of King Edward's strongest years at the top of their age groups and under the guidance of Tom Tipper, the team should be even stronger.

For their efforts last season, however, the athletes would like to thank all those without whose hard work, the chance to express their ability would not have been possible. Mr Knight, the groundsman, again did an incredible job in keeping the



track in superb condition, despite having to withstand two matches almost every week throughout the season. The dedication of Mrs Knight and friends in providing post-match refreshments also continues to be greatly appreciated (one suspects, in particular, by some of the throwers) as do the whiz-kid skills of Alex Makepeace whose computer know-how ensures that each result is precise to the final half point. Then, of course, there are the members of the PE staff (Messrs Gunning, Nightingale, Gutteridge and Campbell) and especially Mr Birch (the brains behind the team) who, although they must be sick of the sight of standards cards and change-over boxes by the third week of the season, manage to hide the fact quite well as they help tirelessly at games afternoons and matches alike. Indeed Mr Campbell's annual demonstration of how to throw the hammer during House competitions remains, for many, the highlight of their summer. As well as these 'pros' there is also an impressive yet worryingly large band of teachers who will willingly forego their Saturday afternoons to fine tune their skills in the arts of measuring, timekeeping and raking. To these stoic individuals (Messrs Dewar, Emery, Ford, Bridges, Boardman, Evans, Spencer etc.) the team is highly grateful.

The athletes season is occasionally considered to be somewhat of an anti-climax after the aggression and fierce competition of the rugby pitch. This season though, perhaps more than ever, a very strong competitive edge was maintained by the sheer arrogance of some (not all) of the visiting teams who have come to take the Eastern Road facilities for granted over recent years. Rivalries from the rugby season were renewed and there was definitely no love lost between senior teams especially. Such feelings made the many exciting finishes provided by the athletes throughout the season all the more thrilling for the teams involved. Indeed, everyone who competed at any level last year for KE deserves the utmost praise not only for the fact that the team was rarely outclassed and never disgraced in competition, but also for the excellent way in which the athletes conducted themselves both home and away, thus providing a much needed example to many of King Edward's opponents.

*Edward Rigby*



## BASKETBALL

### U19

#### P30 W25 L5

A successful and certainly an enjoyable season was had once again by the senior side, who went through the first half of the season undefeated, retained the Birmingham league and cup titles and once again rewrote the record books with a fifteenth consecutive appearance in the "last sixteen" of the English Schools Cup.

The season got off to a good start with a convincing 94-82 win over the old Edwardians, which contained the core of last year's side. This was followed by a 68-53 victory against a Birmingham Bullets Junior side. The team progressed steadily winning their games, in the Nationals and Birmingham league competitions.

In the second round of the Nationals KES trailed to North Bromsgrove HS by ten points at half time, but played outstandingly in the second half to win by twenty points. Again we met the same side in the West Midlands final of the English Schools Cup and won 157-101 on aggregate, thereby qualifying for the last sixteen round, which is the main focus of the season. The first half of the season ended with a game against an Old Edwardian side from as far back as '84, which proved competitive and very entertaining: at one point the two sides combined for seven consecutive three pointers. KES won the match 93-86.

The team had rapidly grown in confidence but the effects of injuries to several key players took its toll on the team. We lost our first game to the Bullets Juniors who had a little help from our very own coach and England international Dave Roper. In the last sixteen competition we face the European school, Ormford: unfortunately almost the entire team including Mr Birch was struck down by 'flu in the days before the match, several players leaving their sick beds in order to play. A clearly weakened side struggled early on to make the baskets and despite consistent scoring from Andy Purdon and a very determined effort from Chris Timms and excellent all round play from Sasi Mallela, the team lost by a single point. After this disappointing exit from the competition the team stumbled over its

next few games and lost to N. Bromsgrove HS in the West Midlands Cup. We soon put this bad form behind us and reached the final of the Birmingham Cup against Solihull Sixth Form College. We won this match 93-61 with the whole team contributing to the performance, and ending the regular season on a high note.

This season had many memorable highlights including playing the Bullets at the National Indoor Arena; and Sasi Mallela hitting the winning shot against St Columbus College in a tense 68-67 win. With a number of divisions in the team contributing well, next year's team hold much potential.

For a non timetabled sport KES basketball is remarkably successful. This success can be attributed to the dedication and commitment of the coaches. The outstanding record of fifteen consecutive appearances in the last sixteen of the English Schools Cup is a tribute to the effort Mr Birch puts into the team each year. Thanks must go to Mr Birch and Mr Roper for their time and coaching efforts throughout the year, which have enabled us to have such an enjoyable season.

Jason Edwards

### U16

#### P8 W5 L3

The U16 team for 1994-1995 was on paper a very good one, however we never quite managed to fulfil our potential. The Midlands is a very strong area in this age group, with the top two teams in the country both being a part of it. Hopes were high however and the feeling was that on our day we were a difficult team to beat.

We started off the season in the National Cup round robin. We were successful in our first three matches with a particularly good win over North Bromsgrove High School, where Mike Sheldon top scored, as he did for most of the season. The unfortunate large margins by which we lost, did not tell the whole story of the brave fight which we put up.

With the National Cup out of the way we could concentrate on the West Midlands Cup. The story was however remarkably similar to that of the National Cup, whereby we cruised through the first two rounds, only to be knocked out by

stronger opposition in the form of Trinity School, Warwick, despite Jamie Child top scoring on 22 points.

To salvage some pride we challenged the U15's, however the deficit of pride lost increased, as the game resulted in a narrow defeat in the absence of M Sheldon and B Stinton.

Mentions must go to A Treharne and J Allen for providing the substance of the team, and thanks also to Mr Birch for his help, and dedication in coaching the side.

Jamie Child

### U15

The season began with the same squad as the previous year (with the exception of Christian Padmore who left the team to focus on his rugby), determined to improve upon last season's achievements. The team was rich in talent and had an abundance of skill, notably the point guard position which was held by Jamie Walton who was ably assisted by Daniel Clark.

The first matches played were pool games in the National Cup which were all won comfortably by KES. The first real challenge that the team (whose confidence was increasing with every game) faced was in the regional semi-finals against a school with a traditionally strong U15 basketball side, De-Ferris of Burton. The match started tentatively with neither side managing to pull away. KES went into the half time break with a four point deficit, despite inspired play from "The Big Man," Michael Purdon, a large combined points total from the guards Jamie Walton and Richard Hockley and seemingly unstoppable penetration from Dave Broomhead. The second half was launched with a passionate come back and an eventual win for "The Blue Army." The match ended with M Purdon, D Broomhead and H Kuraishi each scoring points totals in the high twenties. A hard fought battle had been won on our home court, but how would the team fair in the second leg of semi's in Burton? We lost, narrowly, regardless of big games from Broomhead, Kuraishi, Purdon and Walton, but still progressed to the regional finals because of a higher points total over the two legs. Our campaign to reach the last eight in the National Cup was started in Acocks Green against Ninestiles

School, a team that consisted of an astounding 5 Birmingham Bullets players. The match was played with grit, determination and sheer passion, characteristics that are all synonymous among previous KES teams. KES played well but were eventually beaten by a more experienced and confident Ninestiles team. The second leg, played at home, proved to go the same way as the first had, resulting in a disheartening loss and a swift 'boot', out of the Cup.

After a couple of weeks of rest, the team were back, playing flowing, composed basketball and already looking ahead to the Birmingham Cup final which heralded another possible meeting against Ninestiles School. The pool games all resulted with resounding wins for KES, the most memorable against Handsworth Wood school, in which the team scored in excess of 100 points. Good performances in the game were had by L Halliwell, K Bennett, G Hamer, R Vickers and A Acquaye. The team advanced to the Birmingham Cup final, where we met the 4th best team in the country, Ninestiles. The first half of the match consisted of sterling defensive pressure by D Broomhead and M Purdon, magical passing by J Walton, cutting drives on the offensive end by H Kuraishi and clutch 3 point shooting courtesy of R Hackley. Going into half time both sides were tied at twenty two points, but the momentum was definitely in the favour of KES. A jubilant KES team strutted into the second half only to be devastated by a first five minute surge that created a lead that could not be caught for the rest of the match. The final score was 48-42 to Ninestiles.

Although the season ended with a disappointing loss, the team played extremely well and had a formidable second season under coach Mr Raper, who is moving to Nottingham at the end of this season to pursue his professional career as a basketball player. On behalf of the team I would like to thank him for his tireless effort and commitment to the team.

Thanks must also go to Mr Birch who coached us all season long and dedicated much of his time in helping us towards a National title to which we came so close. Perhaps next year?

H Kuraishi



Senior U19



U19 Junior Bullets



U15



## U14

### P7 W4 L3

After a disappointing first season, the U14 basketball side had yet to show its full capabilities. However, this season we were more confident, better prepared and had a new coach.

The first three matches were all involved in the National Cup. The first two matches were won comfortably. A Ali and A Majeবাদia scored most of the points due to excellent build up play by

R Thomas, C Maddison and A Gee. In the third match we put up a good performance but were out played and beaten by a strong KES Lichfield side.

We were also involved in the Midlands Cup, but were beaten in the first round by Trinity College, due to bad passing and shooting.

The team improved a lot during the season and we showed it in the later matches where we finally started to get

some organisation into our game. It was more controlled and more balanced than before.

I would like to thank everyone in the squad for their efforts. On the team's behalf I would especially like to thank our new coach Mr Roper for coaching us. I would also like to thank Mr Birch for his urgent advice throughout the whole season.

A Ali

## U13

When the first basketball practice took place in September 1994, the participants numbered somewhere in the region of 30. After a few weeks, the number of players gradually reduced to a fair sized squad of 15 or so.

Diligent practice took place during the brief period before the first match of the season. Against Turves Green, we played extremely well against a good side. A strong start gave us a good lead by half-

time, (24-12), and in the second half, the excellent shooting and rebounding of Marcus Haig (14 pts), and Matthew Reeve, ensured that we sailed to a comfortable victory. A narrow loss to Wheelers Lane was disappointing. Not even the 19 pts of J Cadogan, or the brilliant 'round-the-court' work of the team could save us from losing, 60-45. A loss to Lordswood also proved extremely frustrating, but spirits were kept high. A win of 34-27 against Woodrush helped the team to

regain some of its confidence, but a '3-way' match in which KES lost overall to Camp Hill and Wheelers Lane (again), didn't help.

During the course of the season J Cadogan scored 52 pts, and Marcus Haig 60 pts or so.

I would like to thank Mr Stead for all the time and effort he put into the U13 basketball team this year.

James Cadogan

## New Hampshire Colonials (USA) visit - Spring 95

The school's correspondence with this prestigious American basketball team continued this spring. The Colonials brought over a team of very young but very talented players from all over the state of New Hampshire. KES fielded an equally young yet not so talented team. Unfortunately, the result was a loss by approximately 30 points but the

performance did show signs of potential for the future. The senior players led by example and, after overcoming their initial nerves, the younger ones played a promising supporting role, with Mike Purdon showing particular skill.

Post-match proceedings occurred in various "traditional" Brummie establishments and once again, the senior players showed their experience. In this case however, the young players'

performances were not so impressive and the Americans were quite simply outclassed! A good time was had by all and the bond between the two groups was further strengthened.

Thanks must go to Mr Birch and also to all the boys and their families who helped to house the tourists during their brief but enjoyable stay at KES. We hope to see the Colonials again sometime soon.

Andrew Purdon



## SCHOOL CHESS



The 1994/95 season began with much enthusiasm and hope. Chess trials brought many new faces to the scene, and the abundance of players meant that teams had to be changed often, so as to give everybody experience in playing school chess.

High hopes for the 1st team in the league were dashed early on in the season with a narrow defeat to Arden.

The 2nd and 3rd teams were younger and less experienced than have been in previous years and this was unfortunately reflected in the results. Despite this, some marked improvements have been seen in individuals, including Nick Markou, Daniel Andrews and Joe Sturge, who made his way to board 1 of the 2nd team.

This year has seen much talent and enthusiasm coming through from the younger players in the 4th and Shell teams. The Shell team achieved 5-1 and 5½-½

wins over Queen Mary's and Great Barr respectively while losing narrowly to Bournville. Their only problem has been Arden to whom they came a praiseworthy 2nd in the quickplay competition and lost to in league.

Meanwhile the 4th team won an impressive 3 out of 3 matches but were probably prevented from the division title by bad weather and last minute cancellations.

One of the most impressive achievements this year was by the U14 team which won the Member's Trophy in a quickplay tournament, while being one player short.

Thanks must go to Mr Boardman who gave his weekend at short notice to take a team to the Marlwood Tournament, in Bristol.

Also many thanks to Mr McMullan, for helping to make things run as smoothly as they have done this year.

*A Rahman*

## BADMINTON

This was the first year that the school had entered a first team in competition for five years. However we were confident of having a successful season.

The team consisted of myself, Andrew Darby, Paul Meredith and Andrew Hardman.

After several rigorous training sessions we entered our first match against Solihull College, which we won 7-0, a very encouraging performance.

Our other group match was against Solihull School, who had a history of winning the competition. Here we played

extremely well and crushed them to a 7-0 defeat, with Andrew Darby having a very good single match.

This meant we had won our group. Next was a semi-final match against a Coventry side. Again a comfortable win of 6-1 put us in the finals against Trinity, which we were confident of winning.

Unfortunately, the fixture date on which the finals had to be played meant that we couldn't field a team, as people had family and work commitments.

My thanks to the whole team and especially Mr Ostrowicz without whom this could not have been possible.

*Robert Clayburn*

## CROSS COUNTRY

Despite the disbanding of the "dream team" (who were narrowly beaten into second place by Solihull last season), the option retained a hint of credibility by finishing in a reasonable position of 5th overall. We didn't expect to win, and duly didn't. The option was somewhat deprived of a number of potential runners by their own decision to avoid the harshest sport available and opt for a cushy life indoors somewhere. The camaraderie and team spirit remained at a high level; the good atmosphere helped to relieve the tension before the races.

Individually, the captain fittingly led the way with 3 wins, achieving a creditable 3rd position overall. James Gwyther, who went from strength to strength, finished a respectable 10th, with Russell Hargreaves ably supporting (the bar!) in 23rd position. The 'A' team managed good strength in depth, with Dan Pearce and Peter Madhill both performing well throughout. Dan Pearce should be congratulated on his reliability and strong contribution to the team in the last three seasons. The mysterious, never-present 'B' team lacked commitment, only fielding a team for half of the race. Michael Green's "sick notes" became a running (sorry!) joke; as did Tim Whitworth's fashion sense and his decision to shave his eyebrow!

The team saved its best performance until the West Midlands Schools Championships. A fine second place (for which we were bemusingly award bronze medals) was augmented by a fine win for J Gwyther and a third place for R Field.

The KES tradition of not getting changed in order to grab the best (and most) food flourished, and caused much amusement when visiting places like Solihull.

Thanks must go to the posse of markers, without whom there would be no home matches, the catering staff for the excellent teas, and the masters who provided much-needed support. Thanks to Mr Nightingale, the foundation of the option, Doc Bridges, the ever-enthusiastic "fell-runner" and Mr Stead, who proved to be a useful psychological weapon by not being there.

Hopefully, if the attractions of the pub aren't too great, next year will be equally productive.

*Richard Field*





THE XI

Batting totals for the season (qualification 100 runs)						
Name	Inns.	Runs Scored	Balls Faced	Not Out	Top	Average
M A Wagh+	21	1062	1215	1	145	53.10
A J Martin	12	212	272	4	47	26.50
A. P. Blaikley	22	473	918	2	84*	23.65
R J McGuire	19	267	631	4	37	17.80
A M Purdon	18	262	325	3	43*	17.47
B J Tier	21	264	517	5	43	16.50
A R Chitre	23	357	917	0	46	15.52
S-K Mallela	14	117	435	3	23	10.63

+ Captain

Total analysis for the season, (qualification 10 wickets)

Name	O	M	R	W	Av.	Runs per Over
M A Wagh +	242.5	74	515	40	12.9	2.13
J S Ross	223	36	787	34	23.1	3.53
J H Allen	67.4	1	317	13	24.4	4.73
A P Blaikley	181.3	20	735	29	25.3	4.06
S A McCrory	153	22	420	16	26.3	2.75
M A Robertson	73.3	5	393	10	39.3	5.38

+ Captain

Also played: R Bera, ACG Brindley,  
D J Cauldwell, M S Kazi,  
C W G Manley, S A McCrory,  
A D Treharne

19th April, home, lost by 7 wickets

KES 124 all out  
Warwickshire Association 125-3

26th April, away, won by 141 runs

KES 222-4  
KE Stourbridge 108 all out  
Blaikley 49, Wagh 145

29th April, away, match drawn

KES 174 all out  
Denstone College 107-5  
Chitre 41

3rd May, away, match drawn

King Henry VIII, Coventry 125 all out  
KES 116-7  
Ross 4-39

6th May, home, match drawn

KES 252-4  
Solihull School 173-6  
Wagh 110

10th May, home, lost by 26 runs

Malvern College 150-5  
KES 124 all out  
Martin 43

15th May, away, lost by 7 wickets

KES 164 all out  
Shrewsbury School 166-3  
Chitre 46

**20th May, home, won by 6 wickets**

Bablaque	111 all out
KES	113-4

**McCrory 6-33****27th May, home, match drawn**

RGS Worcester	189 all out
KES	

**10th June, home, match abandoned**

Eton College	262-3
KES	50-2

**17th June, home, match drawn**

Warwick School	204-6
KES	155-6

**Wagh 69****24th June, away, won by 50 runs**

KES	180 all out
King's Worcester	130 all out

**Wagh 4-28****25th June, away, match drawn**

Pocklington	200-7
KES	149-9

**Martin 47****28th June, home, won by 7 wickets**

Repton	169-6
KES	170-3

**Blakely 84\*****1st July, away, lost by 183 runs**

Trent College	243-9
KES	60 all out

**Wagh 4-53****5th July, home, lost by 175 runs**

St Peter's College	287 all out
KES	112-9

**Tier 43****6th July, home, match drawn**

MCC	241-5
KES	207-8

**Wagh 100****7th July, home, match tied**

Wolverhampton G.S.	171-7
KES	171-9

**Purdon 43\*, Wagh 5-13****8th July, home, won by 83 runs**

KES	211-6
Old Edwardians Association	128 all out

**Wagh 103****9th July, home, match drawn**

Kestrels	165-9
KES	155-8

**Treharne 4-8****10th July, home, match drawn**

Old Edwardians C.C.	267-3
KES	147-9

**Wagh 137****11th July, home, match abandoned**

Gentlemen of Worcester	94-8
KES	--

**12th July, home, match drawn**

Hereford Cathedral School	182 all out
KES	146-9

**Wagh 4-51****13th July, home, won by 3 wickets**

XL Club	206 all out
KES	207-7

**Wagh 83****14th July, home, won by 7 wickets**

KE Aston	100 all out
KES	100-3

**Blakely 71\*, Allen 6-50**

The XI achieved seven wins which was a respectable figure in view of how young it was coupled with the fact that by the fifth match we had lost three half colours whom I had expected to form the basis of the team attack.

In fact it was the batting which proved more unreliable and, although Andrew Martin made tremendous progress and there were also useful innings from Amal Chitre, Ben Tier, Alex Blakely and Andrew Purdon, it is certainly true that we relied too heavily on Mark Wagh. The bowlers generally stuck to their task well and give considerable hope for the future with six seamers and three spinners returning next year. In particular Jonathan Ross took his chance well and ended with a very commendable thirty-four wickets. Stephen McCrory, James Allen and Mark Wagh all took six wickets in a match and for the first time for a few seasons one felt that KES were capable of bowling sides out.

As is usually the case we played better towards the end of the term once GCSE and A levels were out of the way. Although we lost to very strong Trent and St Peter's sides (in the latter case without Mark Wagh) there were good performances against MCC, OEA, Gents of Worcester, XL Club and KE Aston, as well as a nail biting tie with Wolverhampton G.S. What was perhaps the most pleasing aspect was that most of the players seemed to have begun to accept that if they are to do justice to their talent it will require a dedicated approach to practice.

MDS

**Bowling Averages**

	Overs	M	Runs	W	Average
Tawfik	52	14	127	14	9.07
Bhogal	57.2	17	157	10	15.70
Treacy	85	20	287	18	15.94
Rahman	30	3	123	6	20.50
Cauldwell	38	4	156	5	31.20
Davis	5	0	37	1	37.00

**2nd XI**

The season began very well with victory over Worcester, with Alistair Treharne scoring 67 and Stephen McCrory taking 3 wickets. Defeat followed, due to a batting collapse against Coventry. KES only scored 153 and the visitors achieved victory comfortably. The best performance of the season was against Bablaque. We managed to bowl them out for 53 with Allen and Chambers taking three wickets each. The Bablaque total seemed a very easy target, though we made very hard work of it, losing 4 wickets to poor bowling. Good draws were achieved against Salihull, Warwick, and Denstone. It was a pity really as these draws could have been turned into victories, but our bowling lacked that cutting edge with McCrory and Bera being promoted to the 1st XI. There were admirable performances from Robertson, scoring his maiden 50 against Wolverhampton and Jamie Child who kept wicket superbly all season as well as hitting some good scores. Alistair Treharne had a superb season with the bat, and was rewarded with a 1st team call up at the end of the season. Allen, Akram and Robertson all bowled well.

Charles Chambers

**Batting Averages**

	Innings	Not out	Runs	H'st	Av
Treacy	8	4	217	53*	54.25
Cauldwell	8	1	220	51*	31.43
Kay	7	1	164	47	27.33
Bhogal	7	2	127	27	25.40
Benson	4	1	35	4	11.67
Lawther	6	2	26	7	6.50
Khan	4	1	22	12	7.33
Smith	2	0	8	5	4.00
Davis	2	0	5	5	4.00
Samrai	2	0	6	1	3.00
Tawfik	2	0	6	1	3.00
Rahman	2	2	4	4*	3.00

## U15 A XI

P8 W2 D4 L2

In terms of performances, this was an excellent season, though results did not do it justice.

The whole team batted well and this enabled us to achieve large totals. The pick of the batsmen was Cauldwell who was consistent in his batting and scored a brilliant 52 against Bablake. He was backed up with some sensible batting from Khan, in particular against Wolverhampton, when he made 48 not out.

A strength in our team was the depth of batting; even the bowlers scored runs as well as taking valuable wickets. Thukral, especially, executed the ball well and made a rapid 55 against Bablake.

Bhadri bowled with pace and took a well deserved 5 for 19 against Denstone, which clinched our first victory of the season. He batted with discipline and made a sensible 48 not out against Wolverhampton.

Bhadavria bowled well throughout the season and his crucial performance against Warwick when he took 4-29, eventually helped us to a good victory. Muralidhar bowled very consistently, yet he was not always rewarded with the wickets he deserved.

Forgiel-Jenkins kept well behind the stumps and took 12 catches during the season.

Thanks go to Mr Phillips and John Huband for their excellent coaching throughout the season.

*Samuel Mostafa.*

## U15 B XI

P5 W3 L2

The season got off to a poor start with the team losing to a strong Shrewsbury side by being bowled out for 74, and allowing our opponents to knock off the score with amazing ease.

Our next match showed a marked improvement in our all round game with RGS Worcester being bowled out for 95 with Jay Khan taking an inspirational 5-wicket haul. We reached the target without too much difficulty.

Warwick, at home, proved to be our best match of the season. The visitors scored 173 due to some careless bowling



U15 B XI

and haphazard fielding. A motivating team-talk by Mr Porter however soon got the ball rolling and after an opening partnership of 49 (Mehrali 28, Bookey 21), Christopher reached the twenties and man of the match Sandeep Sunkaraneni wrapped matters up with a superb and well deserved 56 not out.

A lesson was learnt at Trent College, as the team was perhaps over-confident. Due to a reshuffle in the line-up with the captain having to keep wicket for the A XI and a couple of other regulars missing, the team did not really perform to its potential. The match however belonged to Jonathan Christopher who struck 40 glorious runs and bagged 7 crucial wickets. Harris scored the second highest total with an inventive 19 runs. This was not enough however as the team was dismissed for 83, 12 short of the target.

Our last match of the season against Baverstock was almost played too casually with their below par side being allowed to score 107 runs in the 20 over match. We responded with four early dismissals but the steadiness of Shazad Mahmood, a late inclusion to the side (45 not out) and a sweet and thoroughly deserved 21 not out from Christopher Lawrenson saw us through with an over to spare.

Jonathan Christopher, Russell Downing, (with two 3 wicket spells to his credit), Harish Kapur and Owen Bryan-Williams bowled steadily and accurately throughout the season and were backed up well by some outstanding fielding from Lawrenson, Khan, Dave and Sunkaraneni. Daniel Clark kept well behind the stumps all season.

My thanks go to Mr Porter for his commitment to the team throughout the season. Well done to everyone for a very good season.

*T Mehrali*

## U14 XI

This season has had its ups and downs. We started the season well with a good winning draw against Denstone. Chasing a score of 170 we came very close with a tremendous 72 from William Webb. In our next match we were again extremely close to a win. We batted first and got 150. This was mainly due to a well deserved 88 from Alastair Natkiel. Unfortunately though we were not able to take the wicket of their last batsmen so they ended up 90 for 9.

The match against Bablake brought our only win in the declaration matches. Matthew Button's 5 wicket haul helped to dismiss the opposition for 150. William Webb (73\*) and Tim Owen (27\*) knocked the runs off with a superb 98 partnership.

Before losing to Bishop Vesey we had made good progress in the Lords Taverners Competition.

During the latter part of the season our performances were patchy culminating in a defeat in the final match against Trent College.

Finally I would like to say thank you to Mr Roll and Mr Huband for their expert coaching throughout the season. Without them our success would not have been possible.

*Robbie Newman*



U15 A XI



U14 XI

## U13 XI

P8 W6 L1 D1

This was a successful season for the under thirteen team. Nearly all of the matches were won, most with time and wickets to spare. In all matches the opposition batted first, either because they were put in or kindly allowed the captain to pursue his tactic of bowling sides out and knocking the runs. Only RGS Worcester, Old Swinford and Trent were not bowled out and only Trent bowled KES out. Although the tactic of batting second can be seen as a defensive one, it was not in this case. The reasoning was that it is often easier to win in 80 overs, which is what most of the matches were, by chasing rather than trying to get batsmen out whose only intention is to stay in. It was disappointing that when the chance of winning against Trent had gone, the side did not make a good effort at playing for the draw; an honourable result in the circumstances. However, it must be said in defence of the batsmen concerned that they were short of match practice, both because there are so few matches on the fixture list and because the early batsmen had usually scored the runs needed.

The bowling was spearheaded by Omar Tawfik who took 14 wickets at fewer than 10 a piece. He bowled at a lively pace and kept the ball up to the bat thus obtaining movement in the air. Edward Treacy was the stock bowler; he bowled most overs and took most wickets (18) but as the season progressed he tended to bowl too short. Gurjit Bhogal, bowling off-spin, was second in the averages with 10 wickets. At his best, he flighted the ball well and varied his deliveries well; he shows a lot of promise. Tawfik Rahman took 6 wickets without really looking as dangerous in the middle as in practices. With more confidence he could become a useful swing bowler. Richard Cauldwell, the captain, was the fastest bowler and looks to have the most potential. However, he often tried to bowl too fast, bowled too short and lost confidence in himself.

Edward Treacy and Richard Cauldwell were the leading run scorers. Edward was always reliable and often ended not out when the match was won.

Richard either scored heavily or not at all. He plays correctly and hits the ball hard and could be a very good all rounder in future years. Gurjit Bhogal proved to be a steady opening batsman and Richard Kay an aggressive middle order batsman, but he will need to improve his technique against better bowling. Russell Benson played a few good innings but had few opportunities. Nathan Lowther looked the part but never really got going.

The fielding was usually keen and few chances were spilled. Russell Benson, Nathan Lowther and Mark Davis all deserve mention for their efforts. Sandesh Samrai did a workmanlike job behind the stumps and Jonathan Roberts was an able deputy. Richard Cauldwell captained the side well and was prepared to listen to and act on advice regarding tactics.

This was a good team who played the game in a good competitive spirit. I certainly enjoyed coaching them and look forward to seeing several of them in the 1st XI in the not too distant future. Above all, I hope that they all continue to enjoy their cricket and play with the enthusiasm that they all showed this year.

TM

- v RGS Worcester: RGS 151-7 dec (Tawfik 3-16); KES 154-5 (Treacy 30, Kay 30, Bhogal 27)
- v Solihull: Solihull 96 (Tawfik 3-16, Bhogal 3-11); KES 97-2
- v Bablake: Bablake 136 (Treacy 4-43); KES 137-4 (Treacy 52\*, Kay 47)
- v Wolverhampton: Wolverhampton KES 122-9 (Cauldwell 47, Treacy 53\*)
- v Warwick: Warwick 139 (Treacy 4-41, Tawfik 3-34, Tawfik 4-24); KES 113-1 (Cauldwell 51\*, Bhogal 27, Treacy 26)
- v The King's School Worcester: KSW 107 (Treacy 3-24, Tawfik 4-24); KES 113-1 (Cauldwell 51\*, Bhogal 27, Treacy 26)
- v Old Swinford Hospital School: OSHS 139-5 dec; KES 142-5 (Cauldwell 30, Kay 29, Benson 29, Treacy 28\*)
- v Trent College: Trent 198-3 dec; KES 85 (Bhogal 38)

## U13 'B' XI

P4 W2 L2

The team played three matches against the 'A' XI's of local schools, and these resulted in two good wins (by 8 wks and 10 wks) and one defeat (by 30 runs). The other match, against Royal Grammar School, Worcester, was without doubt the most exciting, with RGS scoring 120 from their 20 overs and KES failing by 1 run to equal this score.

The bowling was almost entirely based on pace, and was often inaccurate, with too many wide balls bowled. The leading wicket-takers were Bucknall and Morris with 5 wickets each, while Smith batted very effectively, scoring 110 runs in the four matches. The fielding, though at times suffering from a lack of concentration, was generally very steady, and I would like to thank all those who played for the team for their effort and enthusiasm.

GAW

## U12 XI

P7 W3 L3 D1

At the end of a mixed season, which started and finished with a loss, I look back on all the good and the bad cricket which has been played.

We started with a loss at RGS Worcester also, who in truth were a bit of a one man team. As we let the opposition get a 205 run start we had dug ourselves into a hole we could not get out of. Their bowlers put the ball on the spot at pace and bowled us out for 95 with only Taylor getting into double figures by scoring 35.

The second match against Old Swinford Hospital School we won. We batted first and scored 147 in our 20 overs. We then proceeded to bowl out the opposition for 61. Notable performances came from Van More who scored 77 and from Jain, Wood and Panesar who all got two wickets each.

The third match against Solihull, a good all round team, was a hard one. We scored 132 in 26 overs for the loss of only 1 wicket.

Bablake were a weak batting side except for one big hitter scoring 70. They scored 148 in 40 overs in the KES innings so passed their score with eight overs still to go. The highlight of our batting



performance was a magnificent 68 from Padmore.

After an abandoned match against Wolverhampton GS and a defeat at Warwick mainly due to an abominable pitch we eagerly set out to play King's School Worcester. We duly destroyed them with Arthur Dyer scoring 70 and Ghoris clinching a hatrick with figures 4-170 ably supported by Peter Pears also with 4 wickets.

In our last match we played Trent College: unfortunately we lost, although our batting was one of the finest of the season. Arthur Dyer got 58 runs supported well by David Van Marle and Ian Moss. This gave us an eventual total of 203. In this game our fielding and bowling let us down with only Pears shining with a good performance of 6-53.

Overall it was an up and down season and I would like to thank Mr Lye for coaching us throughout the season.

Sam Sharpe

## U12 'B' XI

The U12B team have enjoyed an extremely successful season. The season started with a comfortable win over the traditionally strong RGS Worcester and then our only defeat against Solihull School. We then tied with Yardley and Queensbridge school in the league and overwhelmed Baverstock by 107 runs in a 20 over game! In the cup we beat Ninestiles by default and Queensbridge in the semi final and at the time of press are eagerly anticipating the final.

It has been policy to pick from a wide pool of players and so there have been many good performances. Particularly impressive have been on the batting side Wood, Grigg, Andrews and Sellman and on the bowling side Law, Cockerton, Alam, Ward and Thomson. Merali has kept wicket well and Ladbrooke captained extremely competently. The fielding has been excellent and I believe that the side has many players who could become A team players in the future. A particular thanks must go to Brendan Finglass for his efforts as scorer. I hope that the boys have enjoyed the games as much as I have.

SJT

U12 XI B



U13 XI A



U12 XI A



## HOCKEY STATISTICS SEASON 1994/1995

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals For	Goals Against
1st XI	21	11	5	5	32	22
2nd XI	17	8	6	3	44	17
3rd XI	9	4	2	3	16	14
U.16XI	15	10	4	1	53	16
U.15XI	16	13	2	1	41	17
U.15'B'XI	5	2	2	1	14	9
U.14 XI	14	10	0	4	48	10
U.14 'B' XI	2	1	0	1	0	6
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>111</b>

The season has been very successful with 61% of matches being won outright. Perhaps more importantly 90% of matches have been played on synthetic surfaces which has resulted in a more skilful and worthwhile exercise to resemble the modern game. Despite spirited displays by both the U16XI and the 1st XI both teams came second best in their respective Warwickshire finals. The 1st XI lost to Warwick by 1-0 and the U16XI to Olton HC by 3-0.

Perhaps the success story of the season has been performance of the U14 XI in their first year of hockey which was highlighted by winning the Bishop Walsh Tournament at Birmingham University, playing three matches without conceding a goal, the scores being 2-0 wins in every match.

### 1ST XI

P21 W11 L5 D5 F32 A22

1994/1995 was an indifferent season for King Edward's 1st XI. In September, hopes were high in anticipation of a successful season, however not everything went according to plan with some sloppy performances leading to unexpected losses and disappointing draws. The high point of the season was the team reaching the final in the regional stage of the National U18 competition. On the day, the team showed good spirit and determination but ultimately were outplayed by a well-drilled Warwick side. Throughout the season, notable parts were played by John Owens

(goalkeeper) who kept us in many games with some tremendous saves, and by Julian Soles who finished as the 1st XI's highest goalscorer by a good margin.

The following boys are awarded colours as from Easter 1995:

FULL COLOURS	HALF COLOURS
Julian SOLES	Elia TZIAMBASIS James SHERWOOD

### DIVISIONAL HONOURS

**Midlands U.16 Squad**  
Chris Lawrenson

**Midlands U.14 Squad**  
Sam Sharpe (Shell D)

### COUNTY HONOURS

**Warwickshire U.19 Squad**  
John Owens

**Warwickshire U.16 Squad**  
Tom Manners  
Chris Lawrenson  
Richard McGuire  
Adrian Brindley

**Warwickshire U.16 Squad**  
Daniel De Costa

Although this year's team was comprised mainly of V11th formers, some of the younger boys in the school managed to start some games for the 1st XI and with players such as John McDermott and Richard McGuire coming through, the future from hockey at King Edward's looks promising. Special thanks must go to Mr Lye for putting up with me and the rest of the lads for the year and for keeping the team running "relatively" smoothly.

Thanks and well done everyone,  
Rob Broomhead

### 2nd XI

P17 W8 L3 D6 F44 A17

The season started disappointingly owing to the team being unused to playing together. After a few matches things began to look up as the team got used to its strengths and weaknesses and pulled together.

Despite injuries and absences for various reasons we performed well through most of the season with guest appearances from both 3rd XI players and U16 XI players.

The strong defence led by John McDermott and Matt Hillyer helped the side tremendously as did the superb goal keeping abilities of Elia Tziambasis. Particular thanks to Mr Lye and Mr Roll for coaching the team and for organising and giving up time for matches.

William Cadbury

### 3rd XI

The Thirds of 1994 had left a hard act to follow. Without such giants as Ling and Dean, this youthful team looked as if it might wilt under the pressure of the record, set by last year's team, of winning more games than it lost.

The season started slowly with a weakened side losing to Warwick and drawing with Aston. Then, at half-time in the game with Newcastle, with us losing 1-0, our mentor and tactical guru, Mr Tinley decided to hold one of the legendary team talks. Nevertheless, we won 3-1. From this result, some momentum did come, as Aston, Solihull and Queen Mary's were despatched in quick

succession by the pace and finishing of Das and Barraclough. Marsland, Ali and Bera were shown to be the proverbial rock in defence, whilst Robertson performed well in midfield, until he was dropped to the 2nds for being too skilful.

However, a fortnight before Christmas, everything started to go horribly wrong. Two highly controversial decisions lost us our last pair of matches before the holidays, each by a morale-destroying one goal margin. The captain employed his usual charm and eloquence to persuade the referee of his failing eyesight, gaining, in the process, the worst disciplinary record of any member of the squad. Christmas only gave time for players to brood on what might have been and team spirit was not at its highest when in early January, we took on one of the teams who had so wronged us a month earlier. Despite this, one of the short corner plays finally worked as we came out justified winners, retaining the precious, positive record handed down by last year's team.

Thus the season came to a reasonably successful end. Our thanks must go to the indefatigable Mr Tinley, who has battled on with a smile, regardless of an obvious complete lack of talent in his side. As we are a young side, many of us will be back to do battle next season and improve on these results. We hope that, in the interim, the captain can find another pair of shorts and Mr Tinley can work out how to use the gearstick.

*I Brown*



*1st XI*



*2nd XI*



*3rd XI*

## U16 XI

P15 W10 L1 D4 F53 A16

The '94/95 season was another excellent one for the U16 Hockey Squad. The season started with more or less the same team as last year with wins against Malvern, Warwick, and Princethorpe, scoring four goals in each match and conceding just three. Then followed a rather disappointing two-all draw with Evesham; however, after Half Term we showed our true form beating them 2-0. Other matches in the Winter Term were easy victories against Loughborough, Solihull and Bishop Vesey. Just before the end of term we played the most important match of our school careers against Atherstone Adders in the first round of the U16 cup. This was what we had been asking for for two years, a bit of competition and a real incentive to win. In the end the match turned out to be rather easy, winning 5-1, but at least we were in the next round.

The second round, against Rugby, produced the most exciting match that we had ever played in and our preparation was very thorough. First we braved a training session at Olton in the rain and then headed off to Rugby. We got off to an excellent start, with Manners scoring in the first. We were on top for the first ten minutes, but Rugby came back, dominating soon after. Our defence hung on well, but inevitably Rugby equalised just before half time. Then within ten minutes after the restart Rugby were 3-1 up and it looked as if we were going to crumble. However, all the lads rallied together and with superb team spirit keeping us going, Manners pulled one back, with ten minutes to go. Spurred on by this we continued to push forward and eventually, with a couple of minutes left, Manners completed his hatrick and took the match to penalty flicks. By this time we were all on a high and the Rugby lads couldn't believe what had happened. Rugby took the first flick and Thomas saved. Brindley stepped up, and missed. Rugby scored: 0-1. I stepped up to set a captain's example and missed! Still 0-1. Then Thomas saved again. Manners equalised. Rugby hit the post. DeCosta stepped up and the ball just dribbled over the line: 2-1. Rugby's last penalty and

Thomas saved brilliantly. We had won. It was an amazing come back.

Still on a high from the previous match we put in our best performance of the season, beating Newcastle-Under-Lyme 10-0. The next Sunday was the day of the semis and final of the regional section. Unfortunately the week before the big day everyone in the team had missed at least a day due to illness and on the day, two were missing and about 50% were not totally fit.

In the semis we played a club side called Simba H.C. and reached a 4-0 lead by half time. In the second half we eased off and the final score was 4-1. Then came the final against a very strong Olton side containing all County players. By half-time we were 2-0 down, due to some unfortunate defensive errors. We battled on, remembering Rugby, but eventually lost 3-0. The scoreline however does not represent fairly another excellent performance, in which we created plenty of chances.

After the disappointment of that result the season continued with a well fought draw with Wrekin followed by another excellent performance against Macclesfield, who were the only team to beat us last year, drawing 1-1. I would like to thank Mr Chamberlain for running the team and Mr Lye for taking us when Mr Chamberlain was unavailable and also the parents for supporting us in the cup.

*Richard McGuire*

## U15 XI

P16 W13 D2 L1

The season started well with wins against Loughborough, 4-1, Warwick 4-0 and Princethorpe 7-2. A sterner test was to follow with the match against Solihull that was a close encounter from which the team emerged 1-0 winners. After the half-term recess local rivals Bishop Vesey were beaten 3-0 and a disappointing draw was achieved against a much improved Loughborough side 4-4! There then followed our only defeat of the season by 3-2 against a determined Five Ways side who included players with club 2nd XI experience. However, this result was to be

avenged later in the season. By this stage of the season the team had lost the services of Chris Lawrenson through injury and he was not to return until much later in the year. A 2-0 win against Evesham brought the Autumn term to a close.

The new year began well with three wins in a single week; Bishop Vesey 2-0, Q.M.G.S., 1-0 and K.E. Five Ways 1-0. The following week saw a tough match against Newcastle-under-Lyme, the only side to beat the team when playing at U.14 level the previous year. After an exciting match we finally came from behind to win 3-2, the highlight being a first time finish from Goutham Bhadri meeting a cross from the right wing and putting the ball half way up the net with the keeper stranded. This victory was followed with a 2-1 defeat of Bishop Walsh and a rather mediocre draw against K.E. Camp Hill. The season was now drawing to a close and the final match was an arranged fixture against Solihull. The original fixture had had to be postponed following monsoon conditions which flooded the Olton Astro turf and showed no sign of abating as we looked on from the comfort of the minibus. It was an exciting match that could have gone either way. After taking a first half lead this was extended with an excellently executed short corner routine which had been practised for the first time in the warm up session. Solihull came back very hard and redressed the deficit by scoring and then followed an onslaught to try and get the equaliser. However the defence held firm to secure a 2-1 win. Once again it had been a successful season in terms of results but also in the development of players. Bhadri, Dave, Kapur, Mehrali and goalkeeper, Khera, provided a resolute defence and effective support coming forward on numerous occasions. The wingers Christopher and Davies, ably supported by Thukral have provided good service for the centre forward Khan, who top scored with thirteen goals. The experienced midfield trio of Lloyd, Mytton and Lawrenson, when fit, has provided effective support as well as plenty of goals.

Our thanks must go to Mr Lye for the organisation and running of the team who helped make the season such a success.

*Oliver Mytton*



## U14 XI

P14 W10 L4 D0

The season started, after only a few training sessions, with an away match against Warwick. Here an inexperience showed and we were lucky to get away with good wins over Evesham (5-0), Five Ways (7-1) and Queen Mary's (5-0), marred only by a narrow defeat at the hands of Bishop Walsh.

After Christmas the season continued well with a close 3-2 win over Camp Hill, followed by another easy victory against Five Ways (6-0). Unfortunately, our next two matches were against the more difficult opposition of Newcastle-under-Lyme and Warwick. Both these matches were narrowly lost 2-1, yet could easily have been drawn. The results soon got better with more good wins over Queen Mary's, Loughborough, Solihull and Evesham again.

The highlight of our season, however, was the Bishop Walsh Tournament. Here we won all three matches 2-0, including a revenge win over Bishop Walsh, and duly won the competition. This was the first time KES had won the tournament in its six year history.

Finally, congratulations to all the players for a good season especially the midfield of William Webb, William Barber and Alistair Middleton who played well throughout and Richard Stuckey and Richard Barber in attack, the latter of whom scored a superb 18 goals in the season, including four hatricks. Also, a thank you should go to Mr Roll for coaching us, taking our matches and giving us inspirational half time team talks.

William Webb



U16 XI



U15 XI



U14 XI



## RUGBY 1ST XV

The 1st XV season was one which had been anticipated with much excitement as well as some uncertainty. Could a predominately lower sixth team compete with the other U18 teams? The playing record for the season answers this question P21, W16, L4 and D1. It was a very successful and eventful season which culminated in a place in the Daily Mail National Schools quarter final.

The season started with a pre-term tour to Gloucester which included a trial match against Monmouth who seemed to have a habit of picking their opponents up and dumping them down head first. However, the tour was valuable preparation and helped us win our first match on Saturday 10th September 31-8 against RGS Worcester. Tom Tipper and Ed Rigby, the two wingers, both ran in two tries each whilst the forwards dominated against a very large RGS pack.

The second game of the season was the one everyone wanted to win, against Solihull. James Marchant's marking of the Solihull outside centre was superb whilst Andy Owen's skill at outside centre was rewarded with a very good try. Leon Francis the pack leader, inspired the forwards throughout the season and came up with a crucial try against Solihull. We won the game 22-10.

The game against Camp Hill saw James Hynes score his first try for the 1st XV. James had a great season and was awarded an England cap. (He keeps reminding us that he is the largest player in the team for next year). Ross Yallup, a vital weight advantage in the pack, thundered over a try as we won 18-5.

The season continued with some great matches and in December all thoughts turned to the Bromsgrove match. The making of a match video and a large crowd intensified the atmosphere and the game turned out to be very close. An exchange of penalties kept the score ticking over and midway through the second half KES were winning 12-6. Another penalty made the score 15-6 and with 5 minutes to go Phil Bennett-Britton sealed the match with a great drop-goal: the ball came to him midway between the 22 and the 10 metre line and, with a casual look round,

he slotted the ball through the posts. It was a famous victory.

The forwards had a great season. The front row of Aning (Midlands player), Addison and Shergold held their own effectively whilst Adam Hiscock's basketball style line out takes secured ball for the backs. Adrian Lee's tackling was phenomenal whilst Hynes and Leon controlled the base of the scrum. Al Blaikely had a good season at scrum-half and intelligently used the back row to full effect.

The backs improved as the season went on in their penetration of other defences. Ed Rigby rode many tackles whilst Ian Cole (man of the match in the Bromsgrove match) took every high ball at full back. Phil and Andy developed into an exciting centre combination while Tom's pace should be effective next season. The strength and depth of the squad helped to maintain the high standard to which we performed.

It was a great season where we all learnt a lot about the game and hopefully, we will improve further still next season.

Unfortunately, we have to say "goodbye" to Mr Gutteridge. "Reg" has given a huge amount to KES rugby and has produced a series of good first XV's. We wish him all the best at his new post at Uppingham. Many thanks also to Mr Campbell for all the time and effort he put into this season as well as preparing for the South Africa Tour.

It was a good season of experience which we can hopefully put into practice next season.

Ben Dunnett

## 2nd XV

This was the best season that the 2nd XV have ever had, with 18 victories from 20 matches played.

We had a very strong team built around a solid but mobile pack. Miller and Mallela proved a formidable if somewhat violent force in the second-row, and the back-row delighted in running at opposition centres, often breaking through numerous tackles. They scored over 20 tries between them, with Brough scoring over half of those 20.

As this was their last season of school rugby, the sixths in the team wished to show their worth. Backed up by a handful

of Divs, the team gelled together well and, following a hard fought victory over RGS, the 2nd XV exploded against Solihull with a huge 42-8 winning margin. This was for the best performance of the year, with backs and forwards linking superbly.

Good results were recorded against KE Camp Hill, Denstone and a particularly hard fought match versus Uppingham. Our only loss was on a very wet pitch away to Loughborough. The team played well below themselves and despite our best attempts the scoreline read 10-18 against us. KE Aston bore the brunt of our anger the following week, and magnificent running in the backs, particularly from Fairclough, produced a well-deserved 31-0 victory.

Bromsgrove, the age-old enemy, proved to be too resilient, and their tough defence kept out drive after drive. A 6-6 draw seemed an unfair result. Sydney High School were included in our list of conquests, losing 15-5 to a very motivated KES side.

A victory over Bablake (46-6) was the last match for 9 of the 2nd XV, and it was a spectacle worth watching, with our exciting brand of open rugby being too much for the weak opposition.

So, the 2nd XV results read: P20, W18, D1, L1. A fine season if the truth be told. Thanks to Mr Campbell for moulding us into the most successful 2nd XV ever, and to Mr Mason for his excellent (cough, cough!) refereeing.

With 6 of last year's team returning next season, the 2nd XV look set to be even better. Good luck!

Dan Montague

## 3rd XV

P13 W9 D1 L3

The 3rd XV once again enjoyed a successful season and, again, scored victories over traditionally strong opponents. Many of the matches were closely-fought with the exception of Uppingham who spoilt an otherwise impressive defensive record.

The forwards was a fair amount of possession in set-pieces and open play where Kwesi Okanta-Ofori was a key figure. In the scrums he displayed all the suppleness of a limbo-dancer whilst at rucks and mauls he lurked efficiently on and (allegedly) beyond the off-side line.

Behind the scrum, Charlie Chambers directed operations quite skilfully until he was discovered by the 2nd XV who also, unforgivably, introduced Charlie Ullathorne to the indignities of high-speed, breathless rugby.

Victories over Solihull (29-0), Warwick (10-0) and Bromsgrove (10-6) were well-deserved, but the character shown by a numerically depleted side to defeat Ellesmere on their own soil was, in many

ways, the highlight of the season.

The majority of the side will still be around next season and should be able to build on this season's success.

LWE



1st XV



3rd XV

## U16 XV

P13 W9 D1 L3

pts for 205 points against 75

After our successes in the Daily Mail Cup the previous year and with this being our last season together, the team were both eager and determined to do well; and indeed, generally we managed to perform up to our potential.

We began our season with a crunch match against Solihull, and in a tight and extremely competitive match we managed to edge ahead in the later stages of the second half thanks to a break away try from A Shepherd who had only just recovered from a serious injury. This set us in our stride, and for our next four matches we dominated in all areas of the field. Excellent ball winning and retention from the likes of J Thomas and B Stinton in a superb pack meant that the backs could prove that they could score some very good tries, that often or not included some sound finishing from Ahmed or Kahn. Proof of the side's outstanding tackling ability can be seen as up to this point in our season, after five matches not one try had been scored against us, while we on the other hand had scored over fifteen tries.

It was only in the second half of the season that we encountered some serious problems: with the first being against Warwick. After having such a good season thus far we entered the match with a lot of confidence, which proved, in my view to be our downfall. On the day we were beaten fairly by an impressive and determined side. Directly after knock back however, we resumed our winning ways and comfortably defeated Loughborough by 26 points to 5, and then Nottingham after J Allen converted a try scored by M Sheldon, who was constantly in the thick of the action and who powered through 2 tackles before finally falling over the try line.

Unfortunately in our final 2 matches, which saw us side a much depleted team, with the loss of many key players such as Marchant in the centre we were narrowly defeated by Ellesmere and King Henry's. Nevertheless our season produced some fine rugby and saw us perform as a complete team, with some great performances from both the backs and forwards.

Of course this very successful season was only made possible thanks to the dedicated and coaching of Messrs. Birch and Campbell.

J Allen

## INDIVIDUAL HONOURS

### Greater Birmingham

J Allen, J Child, A Treharne,  
J Hynes, J Parker, J Thomas,  
M Sheldon, A Shepherd.

### North Midlands

J Allen, J Child,  
A Treharne, J Hynes

### England

J Hynes

## U15 XV

P17 W8 D1 L8

On the whole this was a very mixed season in which we enjoyed good fortunes in some parts and did poorly in others.

We started the season well with a good win away from home against a talented RGS Worcester side who had come as very strong opposition previously. The game started scrappily but the forwards dominated the loose play which gave the backs some time to move giving us a good platform to work off and gain two tries from Hodson and James.

Our second game of the season was against another solid side, Solihull. We won this quite convincingly at home with Vickers, Goldman and Mahmood all scoring tries and M Purdon scoring our first conversion of the season. The forwards again were seen to dominate the loose play and the backs made very few mistakes apart from running across the field rather than forwards at some stages of the game. We seemed to have started the season on a high note.

Our first defeat came against local arch rivals K E Camp Hill; we lost to two penalties because of a fading performance in the 2nd half. Flynn, James and Levine all had a good game.

On the next Saturday, 2nd October, we played away to Denstone College where we lost 5-14 with our only points

coming from a try from Hodson at fullback. On the 7th October we had perhaps our worst performance of the season against an impressive Uppingham side at Uppingham. We lost 5-32 and the defeat was put down to poor defence and a failure to clear our lines when in possession.

Three days after playing Uppingham we had our first Birmingham Cup game against KE Aston. We won in impressive style, winning 36-5. The backs were seen to have their best performance so far. Tries came from Vickers, Cauldwell, Mahmood, Halliwell and Godman and with Bryan Williams taking over conversion duty we were very pleased with our performance. A few days later we played Fairfax school and won very easily 51-0.

On the 15th October we played Kings Worcester and lost 12-17. On the 19th we played in the Birmingham Cup final against old rivals KE Camp Hill. We lost 0-9 and we regarded this as a very strong defensive performance having not conceded any tries against a very strong set of Camp Hill backs.

On the 5th November we lost to Warwick, 8-10 with Hodson scoring a try and Bryan-Williams scoring a penalty. Hodson again scored our only try the following week against Loughborough when we lost again, 8-15. On the 19th we played Aston for a second time and drew 10-10. We should have won easily but circumstances beyond our control cost us the game.

On the 26th November we got back to winning ways against Nottingham High School. We won 20-8 with Hodson, Goldman, Halliwell and Vickers all scoring tries. On the third of December we had our annually close game against Bromsgrove, away from home. We won 19-18 in poor weather conditions. Bryan-Williams clinched the game with a last minute conversion from a difficult angle.

After Bromsgrove we took on Ellesmere a previously unassailable team. We won 20-12 at home with good defence and good half-back play from Padmore and Bryan-Williams. Our penultimate game was against King Henry's of Coventry again away from home. We lost 0-22 and the performance was put down to poor tackling.

Our last game of the season was against Bablake at home. We won 15-9 with

Hodson, Mahmood and Vickers scoring the points. This was a good end to the season because it meant that we had won as many as we had lost. All players should be praised for their season's performance, with no particular players standing out as being in a league of their own. The season's top try scorer was Hodson on 8 tries with Mahmood, Vickers and Goldman close behind him on 7 tries each. Almost all of the 'A' team players gained Greater Birmingham Honours.

R Vickers

## U15 XV B

P10 W10 For 338 Against 29

We all started out this year with high hopes of our best season ever, after only one defeat in the previous year. However, a not-too-convincing win over RGS Worcester (25-12) showed we still had a lot of work to do to improve enough to win some of our harder matches later in the term.

Three weeks later, with a couple more victories under our belt, we found our form. A good team performance with plenty of hard hitting tackling resulted in a 49-5 win over Camp Hill, with only a break away try preventing a clean sheet. A week later we repeated the performance with a 42-0 win over Uppingham. Such scores were maintained for most of the season, due to the deadly combination of Halliwell and C Ball in the centres with Tang and Moynihan outside on the wings, an initial break through by either centre was often finished off by a try in the corner from our wingers. Our forwards including Bennett, Khan, Bushell and Walton (plus Dodd when he turned up!), showed both skill and determination in providing quick, clean ball. We dominated in the lineouts and scrums, and in open play our forwards rampaged, with blistering speed from Bennett and Critchlow leaving the defence in shreds.

Dan Clark (a new face in the team) playing scrum half guaranteed quick thinking and good decisions, both in defence and attack, as well as the occasional break away try. Dave Broomhead tried hard with his conversions all season, often slotting goals from the corner flag when we really needed him to.

Against Warwick however we realised

we could not play our normal expansive running game. They too were unbeaten so far, and they were a fitter stronger unit than us. We took an early 5-0 lead with a good try, only to immediately concede a penalty right in front of our posts.

One more try each in the second half and we were left hanging on to a narrow 10-8 lead. Desperate tackling from all the team kept Warwick from scoring, and a final flying tackle in the corner by Kirk Bennett prevented an almost certain last minute try. It was a match that we were lucky to win.

Our last match of the year was against

Ellesmere, the only team to beat us in the previous year. A thumping 59-0 thrashing closed the season victoriously, with most of the team scoring in one way or another (including some unorthodox conversion kickers!) A huge roar erupted as the full time whistle blew and we completed our first ever unbeaten season.

Great thanks must go to Mr Phillips and Mr Campbell for their unrelentless effort in training us, and to Mr Porter who coached us brilliantly on the field, providing us with guidance and encouragement throughout the year.

Stephen Ball



U16 XV



U15 XV



U15 B XV



## U14 XV

On the whole the year was successful and the U14's performed well on many occasions and often won with style. The results were generally good but some losses were either disappointing or unbelievably close. The forwards played a hard and fast game, the backs used their pace on the wing and tactical running to help the team score a good number of tries.

The team, however often lost by crucial last minute or quick start tries, mainly because of weak defence, caused by unreliable or bad tackling. The Loughborough and Bablake games were particularly frustrating in this respect. However if this could be improved there is no reason why the team shouldn't achieve great success.

Some of the teamwork and commitment in matches against extremely strong teams meant that no opponent, however good, could have an easy match!

Although the team sometimes lost these games it was not due to a lack of spirit or effort. Examples of the team's spirit were when we beat the strong KES Aston, and when we only lost to the unbeaten Bromsgrove by a small margin. The Ellesmere College match was an special thriller!

The year was good but, if the team improved its defence there is enough potential in the players to reverse every loss. S Rupal, L Hawkins, A Pope and A Williams all were selected for the county rugby team and also Craig Maddison and Christopher Flemons caught the eye all season. However the whole team played well and although you can pick out some names every match was played as a fifteen man effort.

I would like to thank our coach Mr Milton for spending his precious Saturdays watching hours of nailbiting and sometimes frustrating rugby and helping us to achieve another great year. Also thanks to Mr Gutteridge who has helped to train the team for the last three years and is leaving at the end of this year, their efforts have been appreciated.

Lawrence Hawkins

*Lawrence should not omit his own contribution. He has been an outstanding captain, showing determination and*

*absolute commitment. He is a very tenacious, courageous player. His diagnosis of the season is absolutely right this team has enormous character and even greater potential. We lost matches through terrible tackling and poor support but when everything worked, as against RGS Worcester and Solihull earlier in the season, the U14 XV looked very exciting indeed!*

EJM

## U13 XV A

P16 W13 DO L1

Points for 485 Points Against 64

The KES U13 'A' side for the '94-'95 season played some excellent rugby, won some extremely tough matches and amassed a great number of points.

Of particular merit were the team's performances against Bablake School and Warwick School, 19-15 and 24-0 wins respectively. Two other scorelines of note were the annihilations of Nottingham High School, (46-7) and KES Five Ways (53-0).

The side's only loss came in the final of The Greater Birmingham School's Cup, in which we went down to Camp Hill School by 20 points to 14.

Inside the team itself, the back row of flankers Mark Howes and Jonathan Pitt and no 8 Kevin Chung was particularly strong; with Chung and Pitt making explosive breaks from all over the field and Howes putting in some of the biggest and most spectacular tackles of the season, the KES back row was a force to be reckoned with.

Elsewhere in the scrum, second row Barry Bahar played with consistent commitment and energy throughout, and Mark Davis, a surprisingly skilful and speedy prop, added an extra dimension to the KES pack.

Scrum-half David Earl was instrumental in much of the team's attack and defence with his high quality kicking and his incisive running from rucks and mauls. David, as the team's conversion kicker, scored 95 points during the season.

Inside centre Richard Cauldwell made some of the most exciting breaks from the back division and played a big part in defence.

Outside centre-winger Matthew Benjamin scored a staggering 180 points during the season. Obviously a giant in

attack, his game has developed much from the sheer pace and power to be seen from him in his first year rugby.

And last but not least, Full-back Sandesh Samrai, whose calm composure under high balls and intelligent counter-attacking from deep in this KES half should not be overlooked.

I would like to thank Mr Stead and Mr Gutteridge for all the time and energy they expended while coaching and supporting the team and David Earl for his excellent set of Rugby Records.

James Rose

## U12 XV

The 94/95 U12 XV enjoyed a successful season, beating several schools by large margins and losing narrowly to a few.

Beginning in the latter half of the Autumn term, the first match, against Fairfax School, Sutton Coldfield, provided us with an easy victory, 58-0. Loughborough School proved much stronger opposition and constant rain made handling difficult but we hung on to win 5-0. The match against Nottingham High School ended in a draw, despite being camped in their 22 for most of the second half. Decisive victories over KE Five Ways, KE Aston and King Henry VIII followed. After a good win over Bablake School we lost a very physical encounter to Warwick 17-5 and a tight match 14-12 to Bishop Vesey's to end our unbeaten run. Several matches in the spring term were unfortunately cancelled owing to poor weather conditions, but we returned to our winning ways with a fine performance against KE Camp Hill, defeating them 36-0.

The team played with great commitment and determination throughout the season. Arthur Dyer (Fly Half) captained the side well all season. The principal try scorers were James Martin (Full Back) and Elliott Taylor (Left Wing). Consistently good performances came from James Grigg (Inside Centre), Ian Moss (Scrum Half), Peter Pears (Flanker) and the front row of Richard Rees, Matthew Ward and Richard Thomson.

The team would like to thank Mr Everest for the time and effort he has put into the side.



## U12B XV

Once again the U12B team proves to be too much for other teams. The combined pack weight of 65 stone outweighed other packs by over 20 stone. This just proved too much for other teams to handle. The pack made up 90% of the tries. We were undefeated in the season. The leading try scorer was Robert Alden scoring 16 tries.

The squad was:- Paul Tutt, Peter Mitchell, Rafit Bagha, Daniel Jackson, David Van-Marle, Nigel Chan, Robert Alden (c), Oliver Watkins, Richard Fawcett, Gerraint Tudor-Jones, Ben Felderhof, Andy Epps, Duncan Law, Elliot Taylor and James Bellshaw.

Earlier on in the year Chapman also played as flanker.

*Robert Alden and Peter Mitchell*



U12 B



U14



U13



U12A

## TENNIS

	Played	Won	Lost
1st VI	7	3	4
2nd VI	2	1	1
U15 VI	13	8	5
U13 VI	1	0	1

A season of mixed fortune in school fixtures with just over half the matches won. It was disappointing that so many matches were conceded by opponents after the season had begun as a number of schools found themselves unable to field one or more of their teams. Fortunately the competitions run by the British Schools LTA and sponsored by the Midland Bank provided an opportunity for many players to become involved in other competitive singles and doubles play.

SRH

### Senior Tennis

Although the 1st VI lost more matches than they won their results are more promising than they appear at first. With only Richard Parton (captain) in the Sixths in four of the 1st VI in the fourths or upper middles KES has had a relatively young side competing at senior level this year. Furthermore, three of the four matches lost were to very strong opposition. 0-9 to Repton School, 1-5 to Oxford University LTC and 3-6 to an invitation Old Edwardians team. Good wins were recorded against RGS Worcester, Nottingham H.S. and Malvern College.

The 1st IV had an excellent run in the Glanvill Cup (The Midland Bank/LTA National Schools Championships) with wins against Bishop Vesey's G.S. (5-0), Solihull (4-0), Longfield School (5-0) and Groby College (3-1) in rounds 1-4 respectively, losing only four sets out of a total of thirty-nine played. They were very unlucky to be seeded to meet Repton School (eventual runners-up nationally) in the round prior to the National Finals and lost 1-5.

We again entered three teams in the Midland Bank/LTA Senior Students Competition (for players over 15 years of age). KES A and KES C qualified for the summer term knockout competition by

winning their respective local area leagues played during the winter and spring. The A team, weakened by injury and illness, lost to Tudor Grange in the second round. The C team was disappointed to lose their first round match having already beaten other schools' first teams in their local league.

### Under 15 tennis

The Under 15 squad, splendidly captained by Martin Lloyd, had a very busy season with an unprecedented total of 35 matches played overall.

The U15 VI proved to be a very successful team despite the loss of their top four players to the 1st VI.

Of the three teams entered for the Midland Bank/LTA under 15 competition KES A and KES C won their respective groups in the local area league and with play offs to decide which goes through (as Birmingham representatives) to the West Midlands regional knockout rounds in the autumn term.

KES became Warwickshire under 14 champions when our A team (William Barker, Richard Barker, Richard Stuckey and Andrew Gee) won the Warwickshire Schools LTA U14 boys pairs tournament. Our B team put in a strong and determined performance to reach the semi-finals in the same competition.

In the Thomas Bowl competition (for U15 players) at the Public Schools LTA Championships the KES A pair, Bali Muralidhar and William Barker, reached the quarter-finals while the B pair, Richard Barker and Richard Stuckey, were knocked out in an earlier round by the eventual winners.

For the second year the Under 15 squad has enjoyed and appreciated the time and encouragement that Mr Cropper has so generously given. He will be very much missed next year after his move to Westminster School.

SRH

### Under 15 Tennis

The Under 15 squad has had an extremely busy and enjoyable season, playing 35 matches at a mixture of A, B, and C team levels, and winning 27 of them. Most importantly the enthusiasm

shown by the whole squad, and the excellent spirit in which all the matches have been played, have been of the highest order. The Upper Middle year group must be as strong as any in recent memory, both in terms of ability and numbers wishing to play, and this points to a rosy future for tennis in the school.

The season has included matches in three separate competitions. In the Midland Bank tournament, the summer term has seen matches played in the local leagues, and we entered three teams. The A team will progress to the regional rounds next term as Birmingham champions, and the B and C teams were also highly successful with each losing only one match, in each case to our A team!

In the Public Schools LTA tournament held at Eton College, we entered two pairs. The first pair won three matches before being eliminated in the quarter finals, while the other pair lost to the eventual winners in a very close three set match.

We also entered two teams for the Warwickshire Schools LTA tournament. The A team became the first King Edward's team to win the tournament, doing so without losing a set in any of their 6 matches, while the B team reached the semi finals before being beaten by the A team.

Matches were also played at friendly level against eight schools, with up to 12 players involved in each match. These gave a chance to all members of the squad to play as much competitive tennis as possible, and saw many well-fought matches.

M J Cropper

### Under 13 Tennis

The Under 13 squad has shown tremendous enthusiasm this season. For the first time three teams have been entered into the Midland Bank competition; all have been successful in their fixtures. The C team has been particularly keen; they have shown excellent team spirit, and as the season progressed greater confidence. Daniel Jackson is to be commended in particular for his dedication and considerable improvement. Next term will see a play off between the A and C teams

colleges, and even a few young men and women have been awarded the first prize.

The same has been done for the young men and women of the United States, and the same has been done for the young men and women of the United States, and the same has been done for the young men and women of the United States.

## SHOOTING

There is a shooting range at the college, and the same has been done for the young men and women of the United States, and the same has been done for the young men and women of the United States.

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## SQUASH

### 1st V P9 W3 L6

The First V had a mixed season this year. Starting with an unfortunate home loss to Warwick School and then repeating the feat away at Solihull was not the start to the year that Mr Loram had hoped for. Having received a bye to the second round of the national SRA competition we were hopeful as ever, although Repton School soon put a stop to our advances by fielding an extremely strong team and thrashing us.

However it wasn't all bad. In November we beat Bablake 4-1 and in February we beat Bishop Vesey in a match that contained many excellent performances, notably Chetan Modi's against a very strong opposition player.

Despite a slight lack of success for the team as a whole, there were many impressive individual performances. Both Ravi Thukral and Bali Muralidhar (usually U15 players) performed well against Solihull School and Mark Endall also showed great improvement throughout the year.

The season came to an orgasmic climax (almost) with the annual match against the Common Room. Despite an impressive performance from Omair Ahmed we somehow managed to lose 4-1. I put this down to the fact that the 1st V's courageous captain (me) was unavailable for that match, but I'm not sure that the rest of the team would agree!

Thanks must go to Mr Loram, Mr Tinley and Mr Tomlinson for their time and

encouragement. I'd also like to personally thank the whole team for being willing to play and also for playing with astounding enthusiasm, despite their obvious lack of talent ....

*Ben Gleeson*

### U15

This season consisted of only one fixture due to the fact that only a few schools play U15 squash, this was against Trent College where we narrowly lost 3-2.

Despite this, the squad regularly practised and hope to play more fixtures next year. The team consisted of Bal Muralidhar, Karndeeep Khara, Ravi Thukral, Martin Lloyd, Sam Mostafa and Kirk Bennet. Thanks must go to Mr Tinley and Mr Loram for coaching and their time given throughout the season.

*R Thukral*



## SWIMMING AND WATERPOLO

The swimming team has performed extremely well once again this year, proving too strong for most opposition. They did, however, lose two matches, against Loughborough and RGS Worcester.

Ben Darbyshire has had yet another excellent year, clocking 26.78 for 50m Butterfly, not only a school record but one of the fastest times ever achieved by a schoolboy. The current Rems team is looking increasingly tough to beat and should do well in the National Relays.

A major event this year was KES entering a team in the National Water Polo Competition for the first time. We played superbly considering our lack of experience and qualified for the National stages of the event finishing 2nd in the Midlands Pool. Unfortunately we went out in Manchester despite beating Bradford. The boys were defeated by Manchester Grammar and Haberdashers School.



JCH

## THE WALKING OPTION

Amidst the dazzling array of tempting sports activities offered to do on Wednesday afternoons, there is one that stands out from the rest. This option, walking, is by no means an easy way out of doing exercise, as the techniques, taught to us by Mr Cumberland, are every bit as taxing as a game of rugby. Upon joining, you are quickly introduced to such mind boggling concepts as speedwalking, synchronised walking, local "self-guided" walking and "find your own way back", and you are even taught how to compensate your walking technique to take into account the spin of the earth.

It is truly a privilege to be a part of this option as there is no other activity that encompasses relaxation and exhilaration in such a satisfying way. Both physical excellence is required, bearing in mind the demanding deadlines you have to keep to, and mental alertness, to avoid getting lost. Having been dropped off in the minibus (which is rather worse for wear following a small incident with a

ballard), it requires intelligence and a good deal of stamina to return back to school.

The walking option is definitely not for the faint hearted, as excitement can reach fever pitch when there is a "mystery" walk. The thrill of not knowing where you are or where you are going is, to me, unparalleled in any other activity, and it requires quick thinking if you are not to become hopelessly lost.

Examples of the many varied and invigorating walks undertaken by the group include excursions to the Lickey hills and Romsley, and I will never forget the excitement of our sojourn in Bartley Reservoir.

The combination of scenery, exercise and sarcastic conversation all comes together to form a unique experience which is held in the highest regard by all those lucky enough to participate in it. I would unreservedly recommend it to anybody.

Alex Mendes Da Costa & Francis Wood

## SAILING

This year the sailing team was outstandingly successful, winning all of its three matches. The fast King Edwards team was too much for the teams put forward by Magdalen College School, Solihull School and Cheltenham and proved to be so superior that neither Solihull nor Cheltenham managed to win a single race against us. This years great success must undoubtedly be put down to the superb captain and the fact that Alasdair Jubb managed to come first in nearly every race. Many thanks must go to Mr McIlwaine for arranging the matches and for his support and encouragement.

James Howarth





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