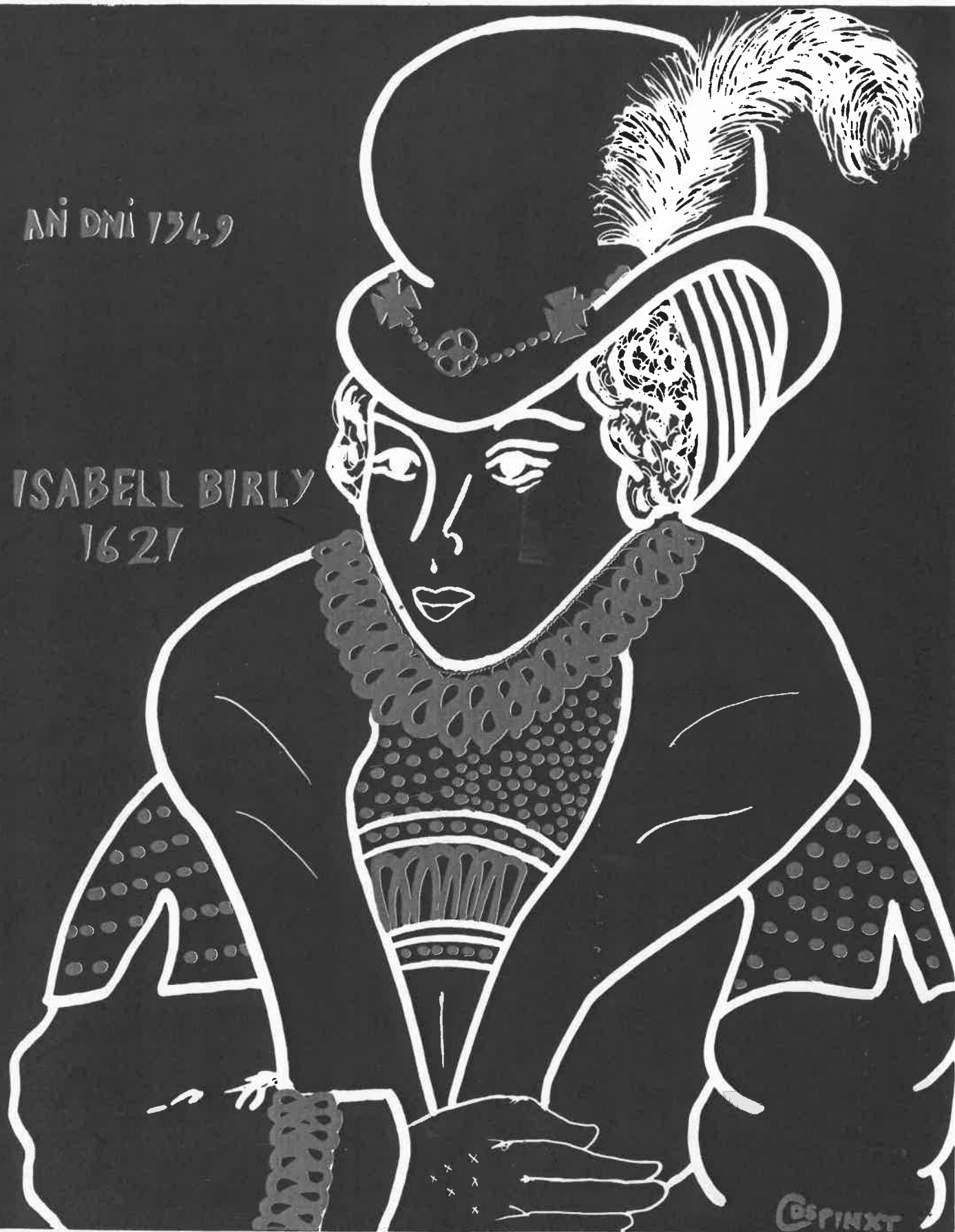


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KIRKHAMIAN 1983

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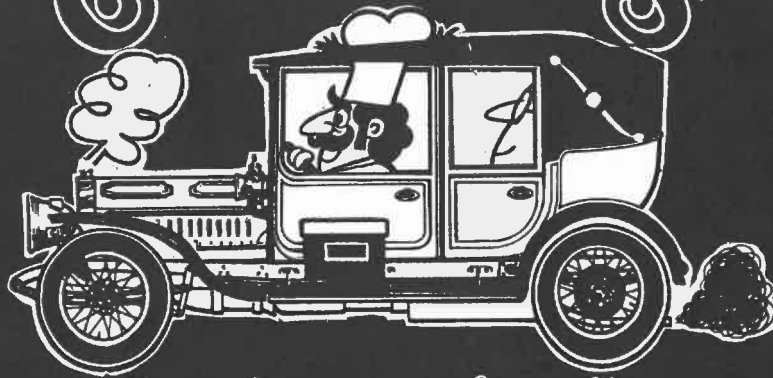
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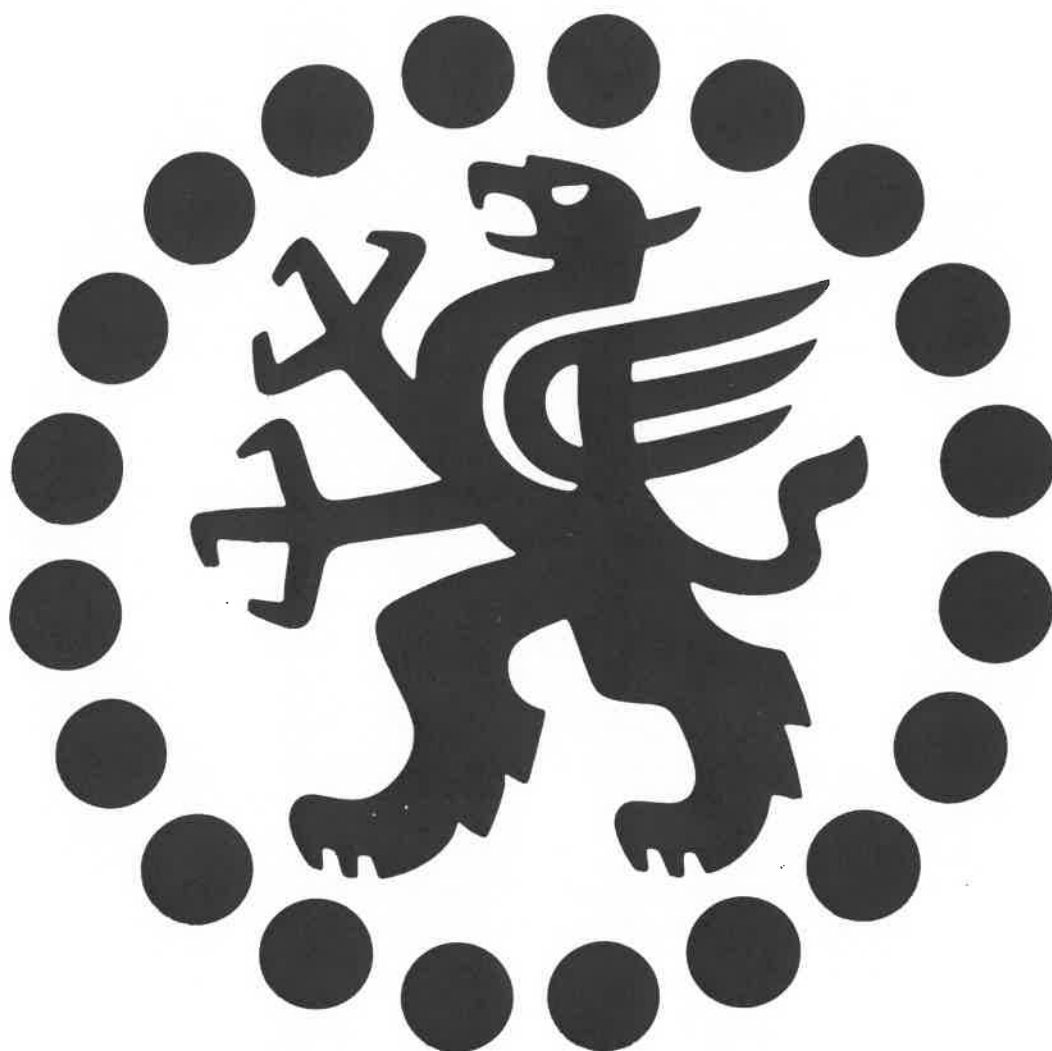
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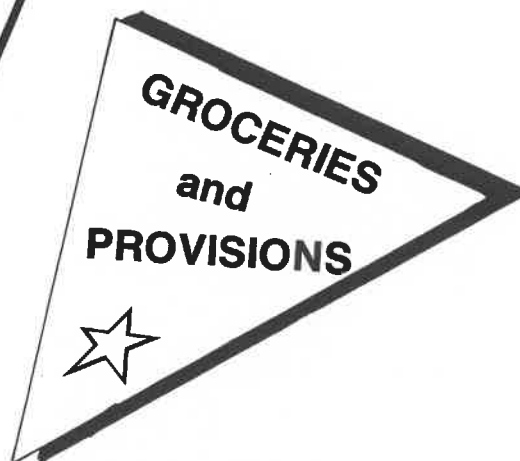
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Editorial

Chairman: Mr. A. R. Long
Editor: Peter Selwyn-Smith
Committee: Neil Percy, Nick Ross, Simon Sumner, Diane Clifford, Sarah Goldthorp, Gary Organ, Richard Vaughan, Andrew Mackintosh, Nicola Garner, Nicola Nice.
Co-opted Members: Mrs. A. G. Boll, Mrs. S. Piggott, Mr. R. Porter.

Perhaps the most significant change you will notice in this year's *Kirkhamian* is the increase in school trips reported upon. This is due both to the actual number of trips and to the fact that we have decided to include the Easter Holidays of 1983 in the Magazine. We hope this will give the Magazine a greater relevance to those reading it. Many thanks, of course, to all the Committee who have given up much of their free time to bring what we hope will be an enjoyable magazine.

Peter Selwyn-Smith
(Editor)

News from the Governors

As I write this article, election fever is in the air and there is great speculation about Mrs. Thatcher calling a general election in June. If the Prime Minister opts for such an early date we will know the result before these words are printed, and even if her Government goes to full term the result will be known before publication of the subsequent *Kirkhamian*. Whenever the election, and whether we like it or not, independent schools have become a party political issue which from certain quarters puts our future under threat and the issue is urgent.

The main threat is that a left wing dominated Labour Party, if returned to power, intends to end independent education in this country. The removal of your right to choose the style of education you want for your child and your right to choose to spend your money on a proper and lawful activity. Although the SDP also does not favour independent schools it has recently been persuaded to retreat from a policy of intending to end their charitable status.

You should by now be aware of the North West Lancashire regional Committee of the Independent Schools Action Committee (ISAC) which has been set up to represent twelve schools in this area in the fight to secure their long term future. Its purpose is to try to persuade the Labour Party, by all means at its disposal, that the policy they intend to pursue is an affront to established human rights accepted and practised by all free countries of the world, and is also (as shown by recent Public Opinion polls) opposed by a majority of the British electorate. It also intends to emphasise the contribution that independent schools do and should be able to make, in conjunction with the maintained sector, to the educational, cultural and social life of the country.

K. G. S. is strongly represented on the regional committee in that the Chairman, Mr. P. J. Hosker, is a Governor and parent of our school. He needs a variety of expertise to help the Committee in its endeavours and I hope he will be well supported by the talents of other K. G. S. parents and friends. Quite separately from ISAC, it is vital that each individual takes up the responsibility of being an ambassador for the school within their normal daily contacts and speaks persuasively on these issues as and when the opportunity arises.

The whole campaign, including the work of the ISAC groups, is being financed by the ISIS Association which I urge you to join. £5 pa covers joint membership for

husband and wife (see Bursar at school for details) and you receive helpful, timely information for your subscription as well as aiding the campaign. Some months ago, the membership of the Association from K. G. S. was equivalent to only about 10% of present parents.

The situation within the school is very encouraging. There has again been a small growth in pupil numbers including boarders but it has been necessary to refuse increasing numbers of children because their age group is full. Our pupils have all demonstrated good academic ability and throughout their school career they manifest a kaleidoscope of interests and achievements.

Small building projects continue and I am pleased that the school "building experts" have been able to put to good use the sectional structure that has been hampering activity on the quad. This will provide functional extra rooms and give some flexibility in the use of space over the next few years as some internal changes are contemplated. Incorporated in this scheme is the removal of a problem that has irritated many parents for a long time: the Governors expect that uniform and essential stationery will be able to be supplied from school. A further small extension to the girls' boarding wing has been devised and we hope it can be made available for 1984.

I am pleased to say publicly through the pages of the *Kirkhamian* a big thank you to my fellow Governors who freely give their expertise for the management of school affairs with great enthusiasm and thoroughness which often means long meetings and late nights. The burden of the last five years of establishing the additional buildings and facilities required to become co-educational and to have three forms of entry has slackened but their effort has not, because it is now possible to take a more balanced overview of all the activities in school. After very careful consideration, an additional teaching post has been created, from September 1983, to strengthen the core subjects and the growth of the experience of Computing within the school.

A thank you too to all the teaching, administrative and service staff. Their conscientious contribution to their different duties and their whole-hearted involvement in the variety of extra-curricular activities, about which we read on other pages of this magazine, keeps the school pulsing with energy and provides every pupil the opportunity to develop individual talent. The positive attitude in all our undertakings creates the great character of our school which is attractive to so many parents.

The Friends have continued their excellent efforts and their full programme of assorted events must have appealed to everybody at some time during the year. Valerie and I have very much enjoyed the Barn Dances and we welcomed the opportunity they have given us to meet some of the parents. Thank you, Friends, for the happy meetings and the significant financial results which materialise from your numerous social events.

The Governors are trying to increase the accessibility of our school through the provision of more scholarships and bursaries. We are grateful to the Old Kirkhamians who have contributed a bursary from the beginning of this session. The Governors are actively seeking further sources of financial support for individual pupils.

In summary, be alert to external political dangers and play your part in the "fight for freedom". Internally, the school is continuing to make progress stimulated by good personal relationships. Thanks for every contribution that has been made.

Peter Laws
(Chairman of the Governors)

The School Year

Highlights from the School Calendar 1982-83

Fri, 21st May – C.C.F. Inspection by Col. J. Martlew, O.B.E.

Fri, 28th May – Founders' Day Service. Preacher, the Ven. Kenneth Gibbons, Archdeacon of Lancaster. Sports Day. Principal Guest, Peter Beavan, Old Boy, Former European Junior 400 m Champion.

Sat, 10th July – Open Day.

Fri, 24th Sept – Speech Day. Guest Speaker, the Right Reverend Stewart Cross, Bishop of Blackburn.

Fri, 10th Dec – Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at St. Michael's Church.

These events, when the School is in the public eye, represent only a small part of life at K.G.S. The 1982-83 School Year has been busier than ever, with a wealth of activity going on in all areas of school life. The 1983 Easter Holidays saw no fewer than five different parties of pupils taking part in trips to a variety of destinations at home and abroad, all of which were thoroughly successful, and are reported on in a later section of this magazine.

The year has also seen notable successes by K.G.S. pupils in the academic, sporting and musical spheres, reflecting the variety and depth of talent which we endeavour to foster.

Foremost amongst our academic successes, we are pleased to report the following successes in the Oxford University Entrance Examinations:

Fiona J. Dickson – Entrance to Worcester College, Oxford, to read Chemistry.

Jonathan Milburn – Entrance to Lincoln College, Oxford, to read Politics, Philosophy and Economics.

Fiona Dickson has the distinction of being our first female Oxbridge entrant, and it is hoped that she will be the first of many K.G.S. girls to achieve such academic success.

Other notable academic awards include those of Giles Hewitt and Robert Gibson, who have been awarded sponsorships from British Aerospace, and Martin Tucker, who has been sponsored by the R.A.F. for the duration of his Sixth Form Studies.

On the sports field, there have been outstanding performances from teams and individuals in several activities. Roger Cook was selected to play for the Lancashire U16 XV at rugby, whilst highlights of a successful athletics season included a repeat of last year's "double", with K.G.S. first in both the Senior and U16 groups in the Senior Schools Championships, and the breaking of a seventeen-year-old record for the High Jump in the Fylde Coast Championships by Simon Heath in the U14 group. In swimming, the 4 x 50 m Relay Team of David Barnes, Stephen Swift, Philip Halstead and Ian Davies won the Lancashire U15 Championship in a new record time. Philip Halstead is also showing considerable promise as a golfer, and was recently selected to play for the Lancashire U18 Team.

The consistent excellence of music at K.G.S. has this year been rewarded with a number of honours. David Shakespeare successfully auditioned for the Northern Cathedral Singers for the 1983 Season, and in addition he has been invited by the Royal School of Church Music to sing in York Minster for a fortnight during August. This is a great honour: singers for this choir of 25 boys and men are selected from churches throughout the British Isles. The fortnight at the Minster will include two BBC broadcasts.

Five other members of the School Choir, Stephen Licence, Richard Lowe, Andrew Shaw, Derek Swinn and Neil Whitehead, gained the Diocesan Provost's Chorister Award for excellent work as choristers during the past four years. Another musical success was that of James Hardiker, who gained his Grade VIII Piano Examination.

Staff Changes

After the large influx of new staff in 1981, staff changes this year have been minimal. Mr. S. J. Turner left us at Christmas to take up a post as Head of Geography at Knutsford High School. In his three years at K.G.S., he made a valuable contribution to many areas of school life. Quite apart from his enthusiastic teaching of Geography at every level, Steve was also a valuable member of the C.C.F., a dedicated coach of the 2nd XV Rugby Team and the 1st XI Cricket Team, as well as a general promoter of cricket throughout the School. The sound of his dulcet Merseyside tones will be much missed on the rugby field, the cricket nets, the parade ground, and even in Room 10! We wish him and Mrs. Turner the very best in their future careers.

His place was taken for the Spring Term by Mr. David T. Sutton, who, although only with us for a short time, dedicated much of his spare time to rugby coaching, where his experience was of great value. He now leaves to take up a permanent post in his native Ireland, and takes with him the very best wishes of all at K.G.S.

His replacement is Mr. Graeme P. L. Willatt, who comes to us after teaching experience at Foremarke, the Preparatory School for Repton and at Heversham Grammar School. He was educated at Repton and St. Catharine's College, Cambridge, before taking a P.G.C.E. at Nottingham University. He has already become well involved in the C.C.F., and we hope that his stay with us will be a long and profitable one.

Amongst our ancillary staff, we said goodbye in July to Mr. D. Weston, who retired as caretaker after 10 years' service. We wish him a happy retirement, and welcome as his successor Mr. W. Hindmoor. We also welcome Mrs. G. Bray as our new Matron, and thank Mrs. Summerlee, who once again filled that post with dedication prior to Mrs. Bray's arrival.

The School is therefore in a happy and healthy state, and we can all look forward with confidence to another busy year. In conclusion, I should like to express my thanks to all who have contributed to the production of this magazine, which we hope will provide some insight into life at K.G.S. In particular, I should like to thank Mr. Gill for the efforts which he put into the Magazine during his four years in charge, and for his help and advice in the production of this year's issue.

A. R. Long

Cover designed by Diane Clifford

Isabell Birley brought a gift of £30 to the School in 1621, and is now remembered as a benefactor of the School. The event is depicted in a tapestry which hangs in the School Hall.

O-level and A-level Results, 1982

The following candidates were successful in the G. C. E. "A" level examinations 1982 in the numbers of subjects shown below:

6 Subjects:

B. J. Watson

5 Subjects:

J. T. Curtis, S. J. Stokes

4 Subjects:

A. H. Bridge, D. K. Brook, J. P. W. Brown, B. N. Calam, S. J. Chrispin, B. G. Dunstan, G. R. Eastham, B. M. Goodridge, C. D. Grime, R. I. Haynes, B. Macfarlane, J. Milburn, G. Morgan, A. P. Seabury, A. M. Scott, P. W. Smith, T. N. Stokes, P. S. Taylor

3 Subjects:

R. M. Boyes, I. H. Collinge, L. W. Christopher, C. B. L. Malings, G. W. McIlraith, R. G. H. Parkin, N. Parkinson, I. C. Porter, S. D. Reardon, P. A. Rhodes, S. T. Richards, S. R. Vipond

2 Subjects:

J. H. Budd, J. L. Craig, S. P. Gill, R. T. Hargreaves, I. R. Kirk, J. R. Longson, C. S. Robinson

1 Subject:

R. J. V. Cartwright, C. G. Pinnell

Lower VI (passes in 1 subject)

I. F. Campbell, S. R. Dewsnap, F. J. Dixon, R. T. Gibson, G. E. S. Hewitt, N. D. Kitchen, R. C. Robinson

The following candidates were successful in the G. C. E. "O" level examinations 1982 in the numbers of subjects shown below:

10 Subjects: (Grade "C" or above)

K. G. Hardwick, A. K. Hickey, R. C. McDonald, N. Ross, E. J. Waite, M. Wheatley

9 Subjects:

A. M. Adams, A. J. Davies, D. Kerry, N. Percy, A. R. Perry, J. N. Rowe, R. G. Turner, J. D. P. Webster, S. R. Wood

8 Subjects:

J. M. Bennett, M. P. Butterworth, L. D. Copson, S. A. Fielding, A. D. Fotheringham, D. A. Littleton, C. Milburn, G. D. Notman, P. K. Selwyn-Smith, S. C. Sumner, H. O. Wells, D. C. Watkinson, C. W. Williams

7 Subjects:

R. A. E. Baldwin, H. N. Bolton, S. P. Carruthers, C. J. Collett, J. P. Dovey, P. N. Goodridge, J. A. Gregson, M. J. Hamilton, A. S. Hewertson, T. M. Mears, M. C. Snape, K. D. Ward

6 Subjects:

S. A. Bates, D. Brookes, A. H. Butler, I. R. Chadwick, P. S. Davis, D. Fare, C. J. Kay, D. J. Kirkham, R. Platt, D. H. Phillips, J. C. Sharman, R. Ward

5 Subjects:

D. Clifford, K. G. Critchley, P. M. Farrer, G. M. Gregson, S. Q. Mellor-Clark, G. H. Watson, R. B. Watson, N. D. Woodward

4 Subjects:

D. G. Bowen, D. J. Brook, P. A. Catterall, S. L. Forster, B. Houtris, L. A. Knowles, K. J. Stewart, D. R. Wilkins

3 Subjects:

J. Aspinall, K. J. Cottam, G. H. Eccles, G. W. Nixon, A. W. Traviss, J. Williams

2 Subjects and below:

A. J. Atkinson, J. M. Braithwaite, R. K. Cornah, R. T. Jobson, R. J. Lloyd

From The Old Kirkhamians' Association

President 1982-83

J. Montgomery

Secretary:

E. Waite
49 Blackpool Road North
St. Annes-on-Sea
FY8 3DF
Tel: 723494

Treasurer:

D. O. Slack
34 Coulston Road
Lancaster
LA1 3AE
Tel: 68889

Six months into the job of Secretary of the Old Kirkhamians, I am still learning the ropes and feeling very much the new boy. Even so I have already realised that one of my main priorities is to draw more members from the younger generation into the Association. An infusion of young ideas and attitudes is essential if we are to flourish and function as a real back-up to the School.

We have a programme of events throughout the year which offers the opportunity to meet in pleasant circumstances.

The year opens with the Annual Dinner, an event which has in the past been of necessity gentlemen only. Now we welcome with open arms (metaphorically speaking!) some of our new lady members. We can offer them a good meal, interesting speakers, and the opportunity to catch up on news of old friends and new acquaintances. A number of staff are regular attenders and this is a chance to get to know them in a very different light. It can be quite enlightening to hear anecdotes of your year, form or perhaps even yourself from the staffroom viewpoint.

The Southern Dinner is held at Oxford each Spring, and there, some of our more distant members meet for a convivial weekend. The number of Northern "regulars" who make the trek Southwards is proof of the spirit of the occasion.

The Annual Dinner Dance is an event when the other, or should I say better halves of Old Kirkhamians can also be involved in a pleasant social evening, which is definitely enhanced by the quantity of good food served and the lack of speeches which follow it!

As usual the Association will have a stall at Open Day proclaiming its existence and interest in the School, though this year the Committee is preparing something different, so be on guard.

The Cheese and Wine evening is a new venture, held for the first time in 1982. Sixth form School leavers are invited as guests of the Association to meet members, staff and Friends of the School. It is an informal evening marking a farewell to the School and a welcome to membership of the Association.

The committee is anxious not only to promote the interests of its members but also to be of practical use to the School. As one Service to our future members we have suggested that we may talk to the Sixth Form Society on the problems and technique of being interviewed, whether for University or for jobs, today both highly competitive situations.

We are always open to your suggestions for ways in which we can both help you, and make our programme of events more interesting. Above all we would like to see more of you coming into the Association and helping us to keep the Old Kirkhamians fit and well.

Eric Waite

From the Friends of Kirkham Grammar School

To those of you who may be reading this magazine for the first time, may I say a few words of introduction? The Friends Committee is formed from staff and parents who feel that they may be able to contribute to the well-being of the school by helping to organise various fund-raising functions throughout the School Year.

I am pleased to say that this last year we have had a much greater number of people wishing to serve on the Committee – obviously a healthy sign for any organisation which is engaged in voluntary work. The last year has also been a most ambitious one for the Friends. We have taken upon ourselves to fill an extra large 'shopping basket' from a list produced by the Headmaster and his staff at the beginning of the year amounting to more than £2,500 worth of 'extras' requested by the various departments of the school.

In order to meet these requests the Friends have introduced several new school activities which I am pleased to report have so far been very successful, both socially and as fund-raising events. These have included a Fur and Fashion Evening and a Food and Flowers Demonstration. At the time of writing the latter has not yet taken place, but the demand for tickets has exceeded the supply which is limited to the capacity of the School Hall. The Annual Barn Dance held in February, known as 'The Fred Kent Fling', was again an outstanding success in every respect. The happy party atmosphere was created, of course, by Fred Kent himself – a most able 'Choreographer' in the circumstances! The Jumble Sales,

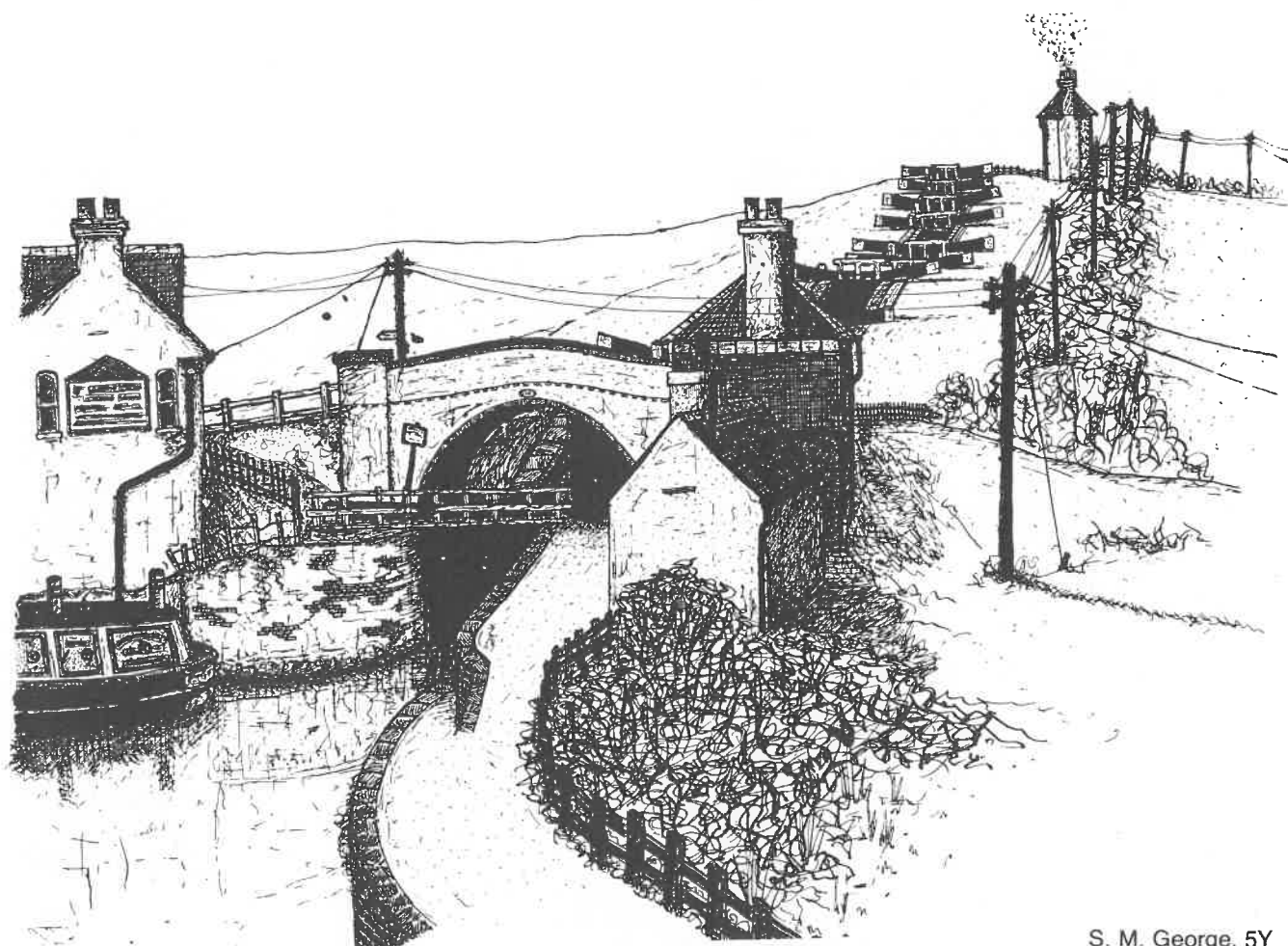
Bric-a-Brac Auction, Uniform Markets/Coffee Mornings have all helped to increase our income and it is hoped by the end of Summer Term, after the Junior Disco and other events, to at least fill the Headmaster's 'shopping basket'.

My sincere thanks go to all those parents who responded to my letter sent early in January asking for a donation towards our raffle prizes. The list is growing steadily and to date there are more than thirty contributors.

The success of any function does depend a lot on the parents. Any event depends upon their support, their enthusiasm and their willingness to participate in the various activities which the Committee provides during the year. After all, not only the school, but our sons and daughters are the benefactors and I am sure we all have their welfare at heart. The Committee could thus regard themselves as a working team, with the remainder of the Friends/Parents forming a much larger team. We all have a part to play in the activities. My personal hopes are that NONE of us should let the team down. May I therefore, look forward to seeing many more parents at the forthcoming functions where you will be warmly welcomed.

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to thank all who have supported us at the events mentioned above. Again, on a personal note, my sincere thanks also to the very hard working Committee, especially the Secretary, Treasurer and Social Sub-Committee Members.

H. E. White, C.Eng., M.I.Mech.E.
(Chairman)



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K.G.S. AT LARGE

From Tonale . . . to . . . Santa Caterina. Skiing 1982 and 1983

It was with a certain amount of trepidation that the 1983 group of budding Franz Klammers "fired off" towards Italy; trepidation, because despite the fact that the Hotel Dolomiti in Tonale was hardly luxurious – "modest" was the word used in the brochure to describe the hotel, though many other adjectives were used during our stay and many of them more applicable, and the food was not exactly "haute cuisine" – the vast majority of the 20 strong party had a most enjoyable time. The skiing and the snow were excellent, the evenings entertaining and hotel staff and skiing instructors verging on the lunatic. We were fortunate enough to have few injuries and everybody threw themselves into the ski-ing with gusto – with the exception of Tracy Rogers who threw herself at the ground at every opportunity only to receive a severe beating from her skiing instructor. Space forbids a lengthy report on the activities of the week but such was the suitability of the resort, particularly for beginners, that we intend returning to Tonale in 1984, albeit to a different hotel. One doubts whether Nick Barton will forget the combined powers of I.M.S. and S.J.T. in belabouring him about the head with a spoon; Martin Tucker's vast knowledge of the R.A.F. and the 3-engined Lancaster Bomber did not stop him from receiving a severe drenching; (silly fellows should have realised that the pair of them have been playing tricks on innocents for years in hundreds of rugby clubs) Michael Snape appearing in a mini-skirt and Lee Copson wearing Samantha Marfleet's jeans, muttering something about "drag" lifts, were sights which few people will want to remember but most will find hard to forget. Perhaps it is significant that both have since left for other educational establishments; Andrea Fish's decision to walk through a glass door before opening it left us all somewhat bemused. Despite looking somewhat dashing in light blue, the black run left R.J.W. completely terrified and convinced everyone that Mark Craven is round the twist as he came down it twice – and still didn't impress Lisa Green. The lunacy of the bar staff was confirmed when, having forced "racing bicycles" on the guests despite requests for "capucinos", they left the guests in charge of the bar and refused to accept payment. Stuart Robson still has Deborah Clarkson's clawmarks in his arm to remind him of her panic on the 'plane when she informed the whole complement of passengers, "We're going to hit the mountain", and we believe that she's still waiting for a letter from the Italian boy who winked at her. Steve Turner still can't believe that he can't ski and had to leave at Christmas in order to avoid a second week of ignominy and disgrace at Santa Caterina – which was where we began . . .

. . . it was with memories of a highly successful week, during which we are pleased to report, the whole party was complimented by an outsider on how we had conducted ourselves, that a party of approximately 70 set off for Italy in April 1983 – well, it would have been 70, except that Mr. Scott, suffering from an excess of senility, decided not to turn up. He obviously feels that Sunday is a day of rest, and refused to believe at 00.15 hours on Sunday morning that he had 15 minutes to drive from Scarborough to Kirkham, pack, make his "butties" and be on the coach for 00.30 hours. He eventually caught up with us, looking rather sheepish, at 5.30 a.m. at Watford Gap (or is it Hole?).

The journey itself was exhausting; those who had not flown before were somewhat apprehensive, but were soon reassured by the veterans of jet-set travel, that they need only worry about being hi-jacked, sabotaged, pressure-loss, the plane crashing, electric storms, turbulence etc., etc. Attempts to get any sleep during the journey were usually foiled by the music of Duran Duran, Tears for Fears and Spandau Ballet competing with that of AC/DC and Queen blasting out from the innumerable cassette players or by Doctor Hall's attempts to turn every bus, plane and airport into a discotheque. The wit of Doc Wat was somewhat drowned by the cacophony.

After the drizzle of Luton, we landed at Milan-Malpensa to dull weather and another long coach journey before arriving at the "Tre Signori" Hotel in Santa Caterina. After some concern on the journey up to the village, we were relieved to see that the snowline started at the hotel itself. The rooms, to say the least, were small and crowded, though comparisons to The Black Hole of Calcutta were perhaps a little exaggerated; the food in the hotel was very good, if one's imagination extended beyond beans and chips, though some people seem to think that the latter is the staple diet of the world, and felt it odd that one ought to be asked to eat lasagne or veal in Italy. Breakfast was, of course, continental and the rolls occasionally left people with severe lacerations of the mouth!

We were extremely fortunate with the weather: after the dullness on arrival we awoke (or were woken either by a far-too-cheerful Dr. Summers or an equally bright Ma'am Piggott) to bright sunshine and, of the six days spent in Santa Caterina, only half a day was cloudy; the rest of the time was spent skiing in brilliant sunshine. However, despite Dr. Summers' constant warnings and experiences in the Cairngorms, some people insisted on ignoring him and seem determined to contract the infamous snow-blindness. Mrs. Summers' Optrex was frequently called upon to save the day. On the evening of the first day, during which we encountered a number of bare patches on the slopes, there could be heard the ominous dripping of melting snow but once again we were fortunate enough to have a good snowfall during the night.



For our ski lessons, we were divided into groups according to our lack of ability, and those who had skied before went up to the top of the drag lift (obviously named after Mr. Watson). For two hours every morning, we practised manoeuvres including such minor details as how to stop. Although our instructors didn't speak much English, we were able to understand them by sign language, demonstrations and shouts of "Kamikazi" and "Disastro". The senior group of beginners consisting of fifth and sixth formers decided to confuse the issue further by insisting that they were all called John or Jean or Johnny; the second day they were all Mark or Marco; the third day the instructor twigged and took them on a black run . . .

Possibly because the slopes were a little more difficult than at Tonale, progress, particularly by beginners was very quick indeed and, after only a couple of days, many had little fear of the red run down to the hotel. Anyway, who wanted to walk back up to the hotel from the chairlift? Injuries, touch wood, were once again few and far between — Emma Whitworth was unlucky enough to miss 1½ days skiing, although this could have been longer without Dr. Hall's magnificent physiotherapy and ice-pack treatment. Afternoons were spent attempting to put into practice what was learnt in the mornings, and beginners had the opportunity for further instruction under the expert and patient guidance of Mr. Scott and Dr. Summers.

The evenings were spent in the local cafés, bars and discotheques, the most popular being the one with the loudest English music and lots of chips, run by a certain Milly Leerer (Mille Lire!) who proved much more friendly than the rather sour-faced barmaid at the hotel. The latter's replacement later in the week, the chef, increased the popularity of the hotel bar by constantly shouting "Fire it back" in between bemoaning the fate of the Italian Lire. Attempts by some members of the group to corner the market in "Grappa" (an unfriendly Italian aviation fuel) and by others to create another wine mountain were soon foiled by Doc Hall's vigilance. One evening, the staff decided to invade the discotheque, their excuse being to keep an eye on us but really because they didn't want to miss anything. It almost appeared that they were having a bet on who could make the biggest fool of themselves. The winner was undoubtedly Doc "E.T." (Extra Tiny) Hall. He seemed to think that he was a budding Michael Jackson intent upon showing the 2nd Year Heavy Metal Brigade how it should be done. However, hardly anyone noticed him amongst all the feet and he kept complaining of being trodden on. Later, Mr. Scott arrived in a moth-eaten old flat-cap. Always a trendsetter, old Spot. Even Mrs. Piggott, whose birthday Matthew Mears seemed determined on celebrating every night, decided to join in the fun, binoculars and bugging devices slung hastily around her neck. The locals looked on in amazement as Messrs. Hall, Scott and Watson then performed some ancient Alpine Skiing/Dancing ritual curiously named "Me Job's Burned Down". (It is believed that Rachel Mears can explain this rather obscure title). This ritual consisted of a five-part movement including such notorious steps as "The Brucellosis", "The Slalom", "The Shoosh" and "Craven's Corner". Unfortunately, the inventor of the first of these steps was unavailable to perform owing to sleeping sickness. The locals shook their heads and retired. We look forward to the day when the staff retire — which can't be far off.

Needless to say, the week passed all too quickly and by Saturday many of us were tanned brown while the less

fortunate were lobster-coloured; all those who had been wearing goggles resembled demented pandas; David Lee's blue ski-suit had turned a nice shade of scarlet due to a high altitude nose-bleed; Mrs. S. P.'s leg was black, blue and purple because of a particularly unfriendly rock and Frank Gray's leather jacket was looking distinctly worse for wear. Only Doc. Wat. thought that he had retained his impeccable appearance and continued to ignore Julian Youll's comments that he resembled not Jean-Claud Killy but a Smurf.

On Saturday the slalom race took place which was won in no uncertain fashion by Louise "Chipmunk" Mendlesohn who was undoubtedly the star skier of the group. The only real competition for Louise was provided by Linda Roberts who decided to ignore the slalom poles, judging that the quickest way down was the way she'd come up — on the ski-tow path, much to the dismay of those coming up the tow. Linda would have been disqualified, but couldn't be found and was last seen heading towards Bormio, the next resort, at high speed. In true competitive K.G.S. style, we swept the medals board in each group and special mention must be made of Louise Mendlesohn who gained "Best Skier of the Week" Award, and Paul Seed who won "The Most Improved Beginner" Award. Everyone received gold, silver or bronze standards for the week's skiing and all were pleased to do so with the exception of Dr. "Did you see that Parallel Turn" Hall who left in high dudgeon when he discovered he'd been awarded the same bronze award as Mr. "The views more pleasant at ground level" Bruce.

On Sunday morning we reluctantly packed our bags and set off for Milan airport, much to the distress of a group of girls from another school when they discovered that Smurf "Romeo" Davis could not decide which one to say goodbye to. Sharyn "Crazy Horse" Rhodes was in a similar position and had obviously decided that, this year, breaking hearts was preferable to breaking up ski-schools at which she'd proved so expert in Tonale. On the way back we stopped at the Lake resort of Como which was hardly enthralling — mainly because the majority of us were looking wistfully back at the ski-slopes — the main entertainment being to watch a middle-aged poser on roller skates (no, not a member of staff) jumping over flower beds.

At the airport, after much confusion at the duty-free shop which was to have repercussions later at British Customs for T.J.B. and I.M.S., we boarded the plane for what can only be described as "chat up the stewardess time". The idea seemed to be that the male members of staff would be as awkward as possible to see who could gain the most attention. Mr. Scott tipped his hat at a rakish angle but she ignored him. Doc. Hall's charm and winning smile put her off completely, so Mr. Watson, despite his age, won by paying for his "orange juice" with a Barclaycard, having spent all his money on cigarettes.

And so back to England and K.G.S., reluctantly (especially for Richard Clifford who found it hard to tear himself away from Redditch where we had to deposit the other school party) but having thoroughly enjoyed the holiday. Everyone would like to thank all the teachers who accompanied us, and especially Dr. Summers who, assisted by Mr. Watson, made all the arrangements. We hope they all enjoyed it as much as we did.

Elizabeth Green (3Y) and Jonathan Lee (5Z)
in Santa Caterina
Fiona Dickson (Pre) and Samantha Marfleet (4Y)
in Tonale

Brittany – Easter 1983

Ribby Road is a cheerless place at 3.30 on a cold April morning, but at K.G.S. spirits were high as Messrs. Gill, Clarkson and Rushton, Mrs. Greaves and Mrs. R. Gill endeavoured to board a party of 36 pupils onto a coach at the start of our visit to the Keravel Holiday Village in Erdevén. This is situated in the south of Brittany, one of the provinces of France being studied by the Sixth Form as part of their A-level French course.

However, away from such lofty considerations, the battle for the back seat was won with considerable ease by the fifth form though surrendered to a jubilant sixth form somewhere near Birmingham. At Weymouth we boarded the ferry with apprehension – two hours later our worst fears were realized as the weather deteriorated and the seas turned rough. Soon we were all worse for wear, not least the seasoned veterans of previous trips, both Sixth Form and Staff leaving Mrs. Gill to assume the role of Florence Nightingale below deck. The journey from Cherbourg to our destination, via Mont St. Michel and Rennes, was distinctly less eventful and we were able to complete the entire trip within the same day.

On the first morning some of us were rudely awakened by sprays of ice-cold deodorant on bare backs, administered by Mr. Rushton. The method of waking us changed daily with his mood of the moment. After a continental breakfast we spent the time finding our bearings around our temporary home, which proved to be very comfortable. Our accommodation consisted of purpose-built modern chalets with all mod cons., attractively laid out and not far from the sea.

The afternoon was spent in nearby Vannes, where the fifth and sixth formers were allowed to make their own way whilst the junior members were escorted in small groups around the rather attractive medieval parts of the City. The evening's entertainment was a disco. After five attempts one of our first-year girls managed to make contact by phone with England. The message to Mother was "The food is yuk!" – but not all of us thought so!

The early hours of next morning found Mr. Clarkson and Mr. Rushton searching for a spider which had made its home under Mr. Clarkson's bed. The spider was christened "Jacques". Poor Jacques was to meet an untimely end next night from a heavy-footed pupil. The majority of the party spent the morning playing football with the locals, and the front-line attack of Jobson, Ward and Littleton proved impressive, helping the score along to 20-0 before Ward and Littleton deserted and the French *enfants* received support from their teachers.

The afternoon journey, punctuated by readings from the RMC diaries (Samuel Pepys – but doesn't see von R.), took us to the busy industrial port of Lorient. Sadly the "chantier naval" promised by our courier, Kate, turned out to be the Breton equivalent of Bill's Boatyard. But good fortune was to hand when we found the city centre to contain a funfair where the younger members made straight for the dodgems and candy floss (or *barbe à papa* as it is known to the locals). This they followed with a visit to an Ice-Cream Parlour where they proudly ordered "*une glace simple, s'il vous plaît*"; needless to say this proved more successful than Jobbo's efforts to buy a "bottle of matches".

By Saturday we were feeling very much at home and spirits were high in spite of the inclement weather. We went to Carnac to view a prehistoric Museum and Tumulus – named after St. Michel, the patron saint of Chris Kay's pyjamas. In the afternoon we ventured further out, to Quiberon. Dramatic views of the Côte Sauvage at high tide made a memorable impression upon us. Kevin, our coach driver was complimented for his skill at manoeuvring the

coach through almost any gap and managing to escape Mr. Rushton's almost successful attempt at putting the coach on a car-ferry, and soon we were able to alight and sample on a grand scale the range of flavoured *crêpes*, or pancakes, which are the speciality of this region.

Sunday started with a service in Mr. Clarkson's room – a quiet time to pause and collect one's thoughts. Then, off again, this time to Quimper and Concarneau for the day where we wondered around a typical French market full of the smells and sounds of France. We toured the ramparts and shopped for souvenirs before returning to the camp after a thoroughly enjoyable visit. An early evening turned into a late one when fourteen people crammed into Mr. Clarkson and Mr. Rushton's chalet for "tea and biscuits". Mrs. Greaves was found to be "in her element", which she used to provide a continuous supply of hot drinks for the rest of the evening.

After Monday breakfast we went to a famous open market at Auray. This was our last full day and we spent the evening talking and laughing together. Prizes were awarded to distinguished members of the group – no names(!) except for our driver Kevin who joined enthusiastically in all our activities.

Packing completed, we said our "Au revoirs" and left at 9 a.m. for the long trek home, which ended at K.G.S. at 5.15 a.m. We had all had a wonderful holiday and felt sad to be parting.

Our thanks go to Mr. Clarkson, Mr. Rushton, Mrs. Greaves and Mrs. Gill, who contributed so much to our holiday. Special thanks go to Mr. Gill who made it all possible.

Ann Noden, 3Z, Neill Richards, 5Y,
and Kevin Ward, L6A

KGS – Gesamtschule Linden Pupil Exchange – Easter 1983

On a dull Sunday afternoon, a small group of apprehensive pupils gathered at Preston station ready to participate in the first ever exchange visit from Kirkham Grammar School. They were to spend ten days with families of pupils at the Gesamtschule Linden, a small town situated about 50 kilometres from Frankfurt in Hessen, West Germany. It was to be a long journey by train and boat lasting over twenty hours, the high spot of which was a meeting with two young Irish Guardsmen on the train from Ostend to Cologne returning (late) from leave in the United Kingdom. These young men entertained us with stories of army life, ranging from guard duty at Windsor Castle to escorting nuclear missiles in Germany.

On arrival at Giessen, the nearest large town to Linden, the excited, nervous, exhausted group was met by the host families and whisked off to get acquainted with them and the village before having a very early night. The next week was spent with the families, school not yet having started, and many outings were arranged, for example to Frankfurt (the Zoo, airport and cathedral), Wetzlar, Marburg and Weilburg, many of these towns possessing impressive castles and interesting half-timbered houses typical of the region. Giessen, the local town, is approximately the size of Preston. It has a University of about 17,000 students and the town was visited several times for shopping.

Undoubtedly, the highlight of the first week was the visit to the border with East Germany. It was a bitterly cold, grey day with snow in the air as we drove along a motorway which abruptly came to a halt at a barrier. There we were met by a car from the *Bundesgrenzschutzpolizei* (Border Police) which escorted the coach around the barrier to the border itself. The border is a lonely and frightening sight with its booby-trapped wire fence, tank-traps, searchlights, concrete bunkers and observation towers. As a policeman armed with a machine-gun stood watch, a sergeant told us something of the history of the border. It was an eerie feeling as we were looking at the border, to know that we ourselves were under observation from East German troops in the towers. This was emphasised later from a second vantage point at a narrow river, where of course, the bridge had been destroyed. There in front of a village, totally fenced in, the East German guards in their tower could clearly be seen watching us. This visit certainly opened the eyes of the party to the particular problems of the two German states. After lunch at the police barracks – another strange experience to be sitting down to eat beside armed policemen – we drove to Kassel where we visited the *Herkules* – a huge statue of Hercules – above the town which is the focal point of a huge country park, and the town itself.

Another high-spot of the first week was a morning spent in school doing sport in the massive sports hall and handicrafts in the craft room – clay modelling and enamel decorations for necklaces, all of which were brought home as souvenirs. To round off the day, there was an enjoyable party at the home of one of the host families.

The following week brought the beginning of term and, horror of horrors, lessons beginning at 7.50 a.m. which meant very early rising for most students. However, school was over by 1.00 p.m., leaving afternoons free and on these afternoons there was a visit to a reconstructed Roman fortress at Saalburg followed by a visit to the Hessen Park, where a whole village has been reconstructed from old houses from all over the region. The final afternoon was spent at a barbecue given by the local mayor where, after a short speech of welcome, food and games occupied a pleasantly warm afternoon.

Another long journey home was to follow, but this was broken at Cologne where we had the opportunity to visit the magnificent Gothic cathedral, 700 years in the building – a truly marvellous sight.

These are some of the highlights of the visit, but there is much more to exchange visits than sight-seeing trips. What else is there to learn? What impressions are to be gained from life in another country?

All the pupils from England had clear impressions of German homes. The ones they lived in seemed to be quite luxurious, many having balconies and cellars. They were all struck by the number of plants in each household and the delight in gardening taken by most German families. Everyone was very friendly and hospitable and the English pupils could not fail to be impressed by the extreme politeness, as everyone was greeted each day with a "*Guten Morgen*" and a handshake. They were not impressed by German television, which was found to be dull, with little choice and with many imported series such as "*Minder*" and "*Dallas*". German food was voted to be good on the whole (although this did not stop a search for a McDonalds in every town visited), everyone thought there was not too great a difference between German and English food – raw ham and *sauerkraut* were named as foods least liked.

As part of the time was spent in school, there was a great deal to be learned about education in Germany. The hours worked of course are very different from those in England, school being in the mornings only. There is a break between each lesson and no school meals. The one thing that all pupils commented on was the casual approach to learning.

The staff wore casual clothes and there was no school uniform (apart from jeans and training shoes or clogs) for the pupils. There was casual behaviour in class with pupils chewing gum, eating, drinking and in some class, knitting. The English pupils were immensely surprised that there could be any learning in such an atmosphere with staff having seemingly no authority – in certain subjects, the pupils in Germany were behind their English counterparts. Sport was enjoyed as was the early finish to school, but the English group remained unconvinced as to which system was better.

The pupils from England got to know a great deal about life and customs in another country. One pupil was a guest at a wedding which was very different to weddings here, and another pupil visited the ninety-year old great-grandmother of her partner, who habitually wore the regional dress.

The main purpose of the visit of course was to improve the German of the pupils and in this respect it was certainly successful, for after an initial shyness, all pupils did practise their language and all have improved in their knowledge. Apart from its educational value, the trip was very successful in that many firm friendships have been established (there was a tearful leave-taking at Giessen station) and everyone is looking forward to the return visit in August.

B. F. Taylor

The 1983 1st XV Tour to Narbonne

Although this year's 1st XV rugby tour was again an enjoyable and in most ways successful one, it should be stressed that the whole thing came very close to being a non-event on the school calendar. With only a matter of three or four days to departure time, Mr. Gornall and Mr. Smith, along with Roger Cook, were ill and a couple of players were still recovering from injuries.

Speedy recoveries, probably induced by the thought of 10 days "away from it all", were made by all except Roger Cook, who was sadly too ill to go with us. Therefore, it was a party of 3 teachers, 18 players and 1 photographer/player that set off from School at Noon on Thursday the 7th of April, the destination being the *Maison des Jeunes et de la Culture* in Narbonne.

The 24 hour journey down to the South of France by luxury coach was uneventful yet it was learned that Mr. Gornall, not a man noted for fashionable, trend-setting clothing, was not too keen with the wearing of "bobby-dazzlers" (leg warmers) by some of the players, as the French were likely to get a wrong (or maybe correct) impression of the persons concerned and therefore probably of the whole touring party.

We arrived at Narbonne at 12.30 p.m. and almost immediately we had a training session to rid us of fatigue brought on by the journey. Afterwards, a reception was held back at the *Maison*, during which we were warmly welcomed to Narbonne. The rest of the day was left free for exploration of the Town.

Saturday was our first match day. We were to have spent the morning on the beach, but unfortunately, the coach broke down and the morning was spent at our opponents' ground instead. Here special thanks must be given to Mel, one of our drivers, who was kind enough to go all the way back to London to get a part to fix the coach.

That afternoon, our match against Sigeian kicked off and almost immediately we learned that all our opponents seemed to be on the pitch for, was to gain a few English scalps. The team played good, open rugby, when allowed to, and won the match deservedly 21-3. Unfortunately, the Kirkham team were under severe provocation and some ugly

scenes towards the end of the game, caused entirely by the French, led to the referee having to finish the game early before the situation became out of control. After the excitement of the match, a reception was held for us in the Town Hall, with a bit more order than the game.

During the evening, most of us visited the trophy room at Narbonne R.F.C., whilst celebrating our victory.

Sunday was a free day with the main events being a Championship qualifying match and a womens' rugby match, which provided us with a fair share of entertainment and a "do they change shirts at full time?", comment from one of our party.

On Monday we had a morning coaching session and the afternoon was spent looking round the old and new parts of Carcassonne, a picturesque town not far from Narbonne.

On Tuesday morning, there was yet another coaching session, but thankfully our last of the tour, to prepare us for our hardest game of the season against the Lycée Jean Moulin for French Champions. To be accepted at the school, everyone must be an excellent rugby player and so it was no surprise to find that they had not been beaten for 3 years and were the best school side in France, which left us with a daunting task of trying to stop their undefeated run that afternoon. We were defeated 0-38 by a greatly superior team who played open, running rugby at a phenomenal pace – even their prop could out-pace our fastest player. It was however, a great honour even to be asked to play such a fine team and a great deal was learnt from our opponents. Another great honour was the fact that the match was covered by French National television and some of the game was shown throughout the country on Wednesday evening.

On Wednesday morning, we visited a vineyard and the afternoon saw us play our last match of the tour against Narbonne, whom we were gratefully assured would not be of the same standard as our previous day's opponents. We were eventually very unlucky to lose 13-14, in what was a very close game.

On Thursday, our final day in Narbonne, the weather lived up to our expectations and we spent a very relaxing afternoon sun-bathing on the beach with the temperature round about 70°F, but the locals, in their fur coats, didn't quite seem to feel the heat as much as us.

On Friday, we set off back to England. Another long coach journey was broken up by a short stop in Paris, during which, a very interesting time was spent in the area of the Arc de Triomphe—but all too soon, our visit to Paris was over and we had arrived back at school. The 1st XV Rugby Tour was over for another year.

A special mention should now be given to Gary Bretherick, who, despite being given a lot of "stick" during the tour, contributed outstandingly both on and off the pitch and was subsequently voted by the rest of the players as Man of the Tour. I would also like to thank on behalf of the rest of the players, Mr. Gornall, Mr. Smith, Mr. Browning, Mel and Dave our coach drivers, the players, parents and everyone else who contributed to the organisation of what was a very enjoyable tour. To quote a certain member of staff "C'était formidable".

Stuart McIntyre, 5Y

Diary – U. 15 Rugby Tour to the Isle of Man

Friday

We arrived at Heysham to catch the ferry for Douglas, after rather an eventful bus journey. We had a calm crossing and soon settled into our very pleasant hotel.

Saturday

After breakfast we all went into town and did a bit of shopping. We arrived at King Williams late in the morning and were entertained for lunch. Our match was early in the afternoon and although we were beaten 12-4, we played very well against the best rugby team on the island. Unfortunately Craven was injured and was out of action for the following match.

Following the match we were invited to make use of their swimming pool and this we thoroughly enjoyed.

Sunday

We had a free day so we had a training session in the morning, skated in the afternoon and then had a free evening!

Monday

We played our second match against Douglas High School and won 32-0. After the match we had lunch at the school.

In the afternoon we went to a new sports centre called Summerland. We played 5-a-side football and badminton, then we relaxed in the sauna.

Tuesday

We all had a very long lie in after the night before and later on in the morning we had an island tour.

In the afternoon we played basketball at Douglas High School. Unfortunately we were well and truly beaten.

In the evening we went to the cave disco, where we handsome Lancashire lads made a hit with the girls, much to the dismay of the local lads who obligingly escorted us back to our hotel!

On behalf of the team, I would like to thank Mr. Smith, Dr. Hall and Mr. Watson for arranging, and accompanying us on our tour, and hope that they enjoyed it as much as we did.

David Whitworth, 4Z

U12 Rugby Tour to London

We set off on our tour after lunch on Thursday, 17th March in two mini-buses driven by Doc Hall and Mr. Smith (shock, horror!). The journey was not too bad, although we were rather squashed because of all the luggage, but we kept ourselves happy playing electronic games, and surprisingly we did arrive safely at our hotel.

There followed three busy days of walking, visiting museums – Natural History and Science, shopping – Harrods of course, ice-skating, swimming, getting off tube trains at the wrong stop (Mr. Smith's fault), eating – Kentucky Fried Chicken (not popular), Wimpy Bar (better), Fish and Chip Shop (good), MacDonald's (great), oh and two games of rugby.

Our first match was on Friday afternoon at Eltham College. We did not play too well in the First Half as we were still feeling tired from the night before, and the score at half-time was 8-0. However, we did play a bit better during the Second Half, and the final score was 16-4 with Jones scoring a try from a new penalty move that we had been practising.

Our second match was on Sunday morning against St. Joseph's. We played much better in this game, but it was spoilt by bad refereeing. The final score was 26-4, but we deserved a better result. Ribchester scored our only try.

We were extremely tired when we arrived back at school at 6.30 pm on Sunday, but we had all had a very enjoyable trip. Our thanks go to Doc Hall and Mr. Smith for a great time (except the driving!).

James Musson, 1Z

Netball Tournament – Ostend – October 1982

A group of 2nd year girls, accompanied by Mrs. Black and Mrs. Gault, attended a Netball Tournament at Ostend during the Autumn Half-Term Holiday. Here are some extracts from a diary kept by the girls:

Monday: Set off for Belgium at Midnight – what a nice coach! We were told to go to the back, and later realised the reason: at Liverpool, a group of boys joined us. Mrs. Black told us that they would be staying at the same place. Set off for Dover, and got some sleep on the way. Following an uneventful ferry crossing, we reached Calais at about 12.45 p.m., and set off for Belgium. We arrived at the hotel at 3.30, and were given our rooms in twos. After unpacking, most went for a quick look around Ostend before returning to the hotel.

Tuesday: We woke up tired after a long journey the day before. A hard morning of Netball training lay ahead of us. Our coaches were called Kath and Ingrid, and we were split into two groups, one with each coach. The training was very strenuous, but valuable. In the evening, there was a disco for all those staying at the hotel.

Wednesday: Another day spent on training and practice, ready for the Tournament.

Thursday: The day of the Tournament, with great excitement at breakfast. We were hurried onto the coach to go to the Sports Centre. The Tournament was a great success: Five teams took part, three from Sion Hill School, Birmingham, and two from K.G.S. The teams all played each other once. Our First Team won their matches 9-0, 10-0, 11-0 and 5-3. The Second Team won two, 6-3 and 6-1, drew one 3-3, and lost only to their own First Team, 0-10.

After such a successful tournament, we all enjoyed a relaxing afternoon at the fair at Meli Park.

In the evening, the Presentation Ceremony was held at the Town Hall. As First Team Captain, Sharon Lee collected the Cup for coming first in the Tournament, and everyone from K.G.S. was proud of our team.

Friday: The trip back home was tiring but uneventful, except for a traffic jam on the motorway. We had to go via Liverpool to drop off the party of boys, and eventually returned to Kirkham at 10.00 p.m., where our parents were waiting to meet us.

Many thanks to Mrs. Black and Mrs. Gault for putting up with us for a week!

The 1983 Geography Field Course

Yet again the destination for the Lower Sixth Geography Field Course was Scarborough, our venue, the Prince of Wales Hotel. The party included eleven students and two staff, Mr. Scott and Mr. Sutton.

After snow on the journey, the afternoon of the first day was highlighted by a miserably wet tour of the town of Scarborough, led by our very own personal guide to the area, chief scout Scott. This was followed by our first taste of evening study which lasted from about 7.30 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.

Wednesday was the first full workday of the course during which everybody was assigned a particular village to study in depth. For this purpose, the eleven pupils were split into groups each being given one of four villages: Cayton, Seamer, East and West Ayton and Scalby, the latter having its half-day closing on that particular day, which did create obvious problems for that group.

Thursday was the day of the urban transect, in which information-seeking students were let loose on the unsuspecting public in the central business district of Scarborough. It was a day for shoppers to avoid, with tape measures blocking shop entrances, clinometers flashing freely, and innocent people being followed by clipboard-carrying, kagouled figures seeking information.

Questionnaires were an essential part of the day's work, receiving mixed responses from various people, "Sorry luv, I must rush", or "I'm not answering one of those b—— things", "It's the third this week", or "Are you from the Council?"

Friday saw our first visit into the wild and rugged North Yorkshire countryside, for it was the day of the river survey. Wellies and waders were the order of the day, but still many managed to return to the hotel, wet and cold. The main problem which people encountered was the fact that they forgot how high their footwear was and tended to explore areas of the River Derwent which were several inches deeper.

On Saturday morning, KGS entered a sponsored mini-bus push. The new starter motor failed, and after several circuits of the block, we set out to accomplish our coastal study. Not one of the most favourable studies, but all the same very interesting and enjoyable, with some trying to conquer the East Face of Filey Brigg, others emulating King Canute or even trying to race the waves back to the shore and Diane filling her waders with a surging wave whilst bent over taking a reading, the moral being never turn your back on the North Sea. Our resident investigator indicated his detecting skills by discovering a real, live, working blow hole at Flamborough. Well done Eddie Shoestring!

Saturday night was our one night off, with the exception of a certain Mr. J. M. Bennett, who offered his services as the DJ in the Casablanca Night Club, for over forties. Sunday saw us up at the crack of dawn to make preparations for our farm and land use studies. Unfortunately there was no farmhouse breakfast, just plenty of hard work to keep us going.

Monday, the day of the rural transect, was a cold and windy day, just the weather to be stranded high on the North Yorkshire Moors aiming for Farndale. Many sought refuge from the bitter wind and snow by lying down in the heather, whilst others gained their "z's" in barns. An early finish was called for and our trusty sherpas led us to the Rydale Folk Museum in Hutton-le-Hole. Monday night was a night for celebrations; it was our final night of work, Mr. Scott's birthday, and sadly, Mr. Sutton's last night with us. We all went to bed very early to prepare ourselves for our journey home!

We must conclude by thanking Mr. Scott and Mr. Sutton for a most enjoyable, interesting and informative, yet exhausting field trip, and our best wishes go to Mr. Sutton in his new appointment.

Diane Clifford, L6A
Richard Turner, L6A

Ice-Skating Escapades

The evening started with all of 3Z piling onto a luxury coach, which got all of two and a quarter miles, then had a puncture.

After about 20 minutes, the new coach arrived and we only missed a few minutes' skating.

The main problem, was that when the trip was booked, nobody had realised it was February the 14th – St. Valentine's Day.

Once one had battled one's way to the ice, the problem of avoiding the people who could skate arose.

Mike Nelson overcame this problem by sitting at the side and stuffing himself with Cr  m Eggs.

Johnathon "Hami" Higginson spent most of his time flat on his back, and always brought some other poor, unsuspecting person down with him.

Simon Heath took to the ice like a duck to water, only considerably more dangerously. Anyone in his path was promptly demolished, whilst Matthew "E.T." Pateman went speeding around the rink and accidentally hit a large six foot six fellow in the face. On the next lap, "E.T." was going even faster . . . and then the large fellow administered a blow to "E.T.'s" bonce. With the famous "E.T." scream, Pateman shot off, into and over a wooden crash barrier, but, as in the film, "E.T." lives on!

Other skaters to note were Nicola Nice, Nicola Garner, Craig McIntyre, Mike Bailey, Nick Hamer, and, according to himself, Julian Wilkinson.

Finally, on behalf of myself, and all those who went, I would like to thank Mr. Long and his wife, for making it all possible.

Shaun Wilson, 3Z

Skating with a Difference

It was Thursday, 10th February when a party of K.G.S. pupils, led by none other than Mr. Smith and Mr. Watson, left school at 6.30 pm on an old dilapidated Fylde Borough bus. Our destination was Bolton Rollerskating Centre where many undiscovered talents were about to be revealed.

We arrived after the uncomfortable journey, and went to our respective changing rooms. After getting rollerskates, we waited at the side of the rink to laugh and mock at our teachers.

Now for the moment we had all been waiting for: dare Mr. Watson and Mr. Smith, the "skating wonders of the year," pluck up enough courage to venture into the human whirlwind of skaters. YES! Was it actually Mr. Watson whom we saw cavorting like a duck on an icy pond? As soon as he found his feet (which were on the end of his legs) he was engulfed by a swarming mass of youths and he disappeared from the view of Mr. Smith. Anxiety crept into his "Redford" eyes, but he kept his cool. Could he reach his fellow comrade in time. He slowly took out a packet of cigars, and a box of matches. Casually spinning one of his rollerskate wheels he lit a match and took a long smooth draw from the cigar.

For the first time he took a confident step onto the rink. Everybody from K.G.S. stared in amazement at the "macho-man," who was skating straight towards Mr. Watson. Nobody dared to get in his way, so he soon reached Mr. Watson who was still cavorting. Then a reassuring voice was heard saying, "Don't worry, Richard, I'm here now."

As they reached the side Mr. Watson, after his ordeal, declared that it was time to go, despite the unwilling cries from the K.G.S. crowd.

Helen Wignall, 4Z
Susan Russell, 4Z

Biology Field Course '82

For the past six years, members of the Science Teaching Staff from Lancaster and Morecambe College of Further Education, have organised and executed field courses in Marine and Littoral (Shore) Ecology. These are based at the Knott End Sailing Centre (at Poulton) which is situated opposite the entrance to Fleetwood Docks on the East bank of the Wyre Estuary

This year, the group of Upper 6th biologists who attended the course were I. Bellingham, A. Bracegirdle, A. Dale, D. Gillibrand, Miss R. Heyes and C. Whiteside. These six students had an enjoyable and very instructive week from Monday 11th to Friday 15th, October. A brief history of the week is as follows:

Monday: Start at 2.00 p.m. with foray along the Wyre Estuary – aim, classification.

Tuesday: One group went trawling in Morecambe Bay, whilst the remainder water-tested the Wyre (all shrimps caught were eaten).

Wednesday: Remainder went trawling whilst the rest caught up on laboratory work (once again, all shrimps eaten).

Thursday: Survey of mud flats made (accompanied by day trippers Mr. A. R. Baines, Miss K. Bateson and Miss D. Hurton), when it was discovered that the shrimps were full of mercury and radioactive waste from Windscale!

Friday: Last day, cleaned up Centre (not because of shrimps!), home at 2.00 p.m.

Andrew Bracegirdle, U6Sc.

Franklow '82

The JMB "A-O" (Alternative Ordinary) Syllabus in Human Biology has been taught at K.G.S. since September 1981. In May 1982, the first field expedition of this still esoteric academic group was held. This was to the North West Water Authority Franklow Treatment Plant at Catterall near Garstang during their "open weekend" on Friday-Saturday, 21st-22nd May.

Amongst the facilities shown to visitors during tours of the plant, were special displays and exhibitions designed to show the Authority's work in the collection, processing and distribution of water in the region, which meant, we were told, dealing with more than one million gallons of water each minute. (A good proportion of this seemed to fall during that afternoon too!).

The K.G.S. pupils who made the visit were Karen Bateson, Rosemary Heyes, Dawn Hurton, Ian Bellingham and Christopher Whiteside. The girls were delighted to be pictured patronising the plant's water "bar", whilst the boys were similarly f  ted watching demonstrations of sonic equipment used for tracking migrating fish, and riding in a small "hovercraft" dinghy used to navigate local waterways. Also of particular interest to us all was the model aircraft used to carry a camera which could take pictures by remote control as the plane was flown, directed from the ground, over an area to be surveyed for future pipe-laying.

Karen Bateson, U6M
Rosemary Heyes (Pre.)

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MUSIC AND DRAMA

Drama at K.G.S. Theatre Visits

In the Winter Term of 1982 no fewer than five theatre visits were organised – and (for the most part) carried out fairly successfully.

On November 10th a minibus full of sixth-formers saw the Royal Shakespeare Company's "King Lear" at Stratford with Michael Gainton in the title role and Antony Sheer as the Fool – a quirky production, in an odd mixture of styles, interesting particularly to those whose first experience of Stratford it was. As we pushed the minibus (which had failed to start) along the road past the theatre at half past ten that night, we discussed (heatedly) other possible interpretations of the play.

Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" was performed by the National Theatre Company at the Liverpool Empire during November. This was too good an opportunity to miss, and several members of staff, sixth and fifth-formers were fortunate to see a memorable evening's theatre with Judi Dench as a most impressive (if young) Lady Bracknell.

"Hamlet" is one of the books set for this year's Lower Sixth, most of whom saw Jonathan Miller's production at the Picadilly Theatre, London, on November 27th. Unfortunately, we were perhaps not in the best state of mind to really enjoy the performance: the train had stopped just outside Warrington – for some very good reason, we were informed – and it stayed stopped for so long that most of us arrived, after running up and down escalators, running for tubes, and running along Shaftsbury Avenue, with literally seconds to spare before the play began.

More Shakespeare at Stratford on December 9th – and more problems with transport. The minibus developed a puncture not far down the M6, and complications, too technical (and too boring) to go into here, meant that this time we were half an hour late for "Macbeth".

From what we saw of it, it seemed a good production. Bob Peck, as Macbeth was unfortunate enough to get his gauntlet entangled with Lady Macbeth's hair, but recovered gamely; the witches were considered "too attractive" by some members of our party; but the sword fights were popular.

Finally, and completely without incident, we saw "Much Ado About Nothing" at Stratford on December 16th. Like "Macbeth" a set book for the Upper Sixth, this comedy is not often performed, and rarely as well as in this production by the RSC, directed by Terry Hands. Derek Jacobi and Sinead Cusack were Benedick and Beatrice in a marvellously delicate version of the play.

Our thanks to Mrs. Boll and Mr. Roberts for the organisation, and to Mr. Watson for his stoical driving of the minibus.

Christopher Swift (Pre.)

Taking Steps

"Right, who wants to go to a play?", asked a rather dishevelled looking English teacher. No answer came from the motley bunch of pupils sitting under his gaze. "Well, you tight-fisted bunch of disreputables...", "I'll go sir!", interrupted someone, "and me", "and me". The "and me's" were coming thick and fast by now like an indefatigable tidal wave swamping the now flustered teacher. "What about Wednesday?". "No sir, rugby". "Well, er, Friday the 8th?" "No sir, going out". Ten minutes later a date was finally arranged for Thursday the 10th of March. The volunteers were definitely wanting to get into the good books of our illustrious English teacher, Mr. Watson.

It was a cold night, and by 6.15 p.m., a grand total of three people had gathered outside the KGS "death buggy" with Mr. Watson, Kirkham's answer to Sheridan Morley. By 7.00 p.m., the last of the people had arrived, the string holding the back axle of the minibus had been checked and tightened and we were off. Half an hour later, we reached the car park by Preston Bus Station. The engine purred like a dying cat, the lights changed to green, and the cat promptly died. Interesting phrases floated about the minibus as the boys alighted and began to push and soon, the cat sprang back to life, leaving the boys behind as Mr. Watson refused to stop, for fear of the engine dying again. The next task was a major reconstruction of the minibus roof, now six inches lower after a close encounter with the car park roof. That finished with, we were unleashed on Preston society, and were soon all seated in the theatre, crisp bags crunching, waiting with eager anticipation for the play to begin.

The play, a farce, was extremely funny, although the ending left us somewhat confused. Having assembled outside the minibus, we set off home. Along the motorway, cries of "let's stop for some chips", were met with "no, not enough time", from the driver's seat. We finally made it back to school, and a group piled into Mr. Watson's excuse for a car, which luckily made it into Kirkham, where we all bought some chips. All the boarders were taken back to join in the School House pupils' tradition – the 11.15 feast.

This, then, was what happened when part of the Fourth Year was unleashed on the art world, and 4Y and others would like to thank Mr. Watson for a most enjoyable evening.

Andrew Mackintosh, 4Y

Cards on the Table

Last November, fourteen pupils from 3Y went with Mr. Watson to see "Cards on the Table" by Agatha Christie. We met in the foyer of the Grand Theatre, Blackpool at 7.00 p.m., and after emptying the tuck-shop of its stock, we went to the balcony and sat down, after a debate of where to sit, and next to whom.

By the time we had all seen the large lady in the tight mermaid-dress, through the three pairs of theatre-glasses which we had between us, the first person had been murdered. It was the host of the dinner-party, and everybody thought that he was asleep; fortunately, one of the guests was a detective, so he took care of the interviews to find the murderer.

When we had all found our way back to our seats again after the interval, some of us had forgotten the plot, so we listened intently to the second-half of the play; constantly changing our minds as to "Whodunnit?"

Three murders later, the detective trapped the murderer into confessing; he did this by getting a policeman, dressed as a window-cleaner, to claim that he saw the gentleman murdering the fourth victim; the gentleman then panicked and walked into the trap.

After all the actors and actresses had bowed, and left the stage, we descended into the foyer, where we talked about the play. Gradually, members of our party dissembled into awaiting cars, and one disappeared into the nearest "home of the hamburger".

As the last parents arrived, we departed, having had a lovely time. We would all like to thank Mr. Watson for his time, and we hope that he will take us again.

Jeanette Hutchinson, 3Y

"The Doctor and the Devils" **July 14th, 15th 1982**

The Dramatic Society's production in 1982 broke new ground in three directions: there was one play in which both juniors and seniors acted, the play was serious demanding considerable emotional power from the principal actors and, emulating the professional theatre, there was a bar in the interval. All three innovations proved successful.

The play chosen, "The Doctor and the Devils" by Dylan Thomas, follows the lives of Burke and Hare, the infamous body-snatchers of Edinburgh, from their first dealings with anatomists to their final degeneration into murderers. It also shows the effect that the moral dilemmas involved in such scientific research had upon doctors. The principal characters, Dr. Knox, Burke and Hare thus had very demanding roles since they had to portray a wide range of complex emotions; Chris Swift, Andrew Bridge and Nick Bernie showed real talent in their interpretations of these parts and they were ably supported by Julie Budd, Sarah Goldthorp, Maria Fish, Justine Mackey, Mark Linington, Andrew Hewertson, Peter Selwyn-Smith, Danny Phillips, Chris Malings, Bruce Macfarlane and Stephen Clay. An equally large number of juniors provided an extremely enthusiastic group of Edinburgh street-urchins: they obviously relished being positively encouraged to be savage.

The Society thanks all those who helped with the production: Mr. Porter and those in the Art Department who designed and painted the set, Kevin Ward who made the props, Andrew Traviss and Simon Dewsnap who supervised sound and lighting, and everyone else who helped us in less obvious but much appreciated ways.

Our next productions are "The Real Inspector Hound" by Tom Stoppard and "Villa on Venus" by Kenneth Lillington. Performances on Thursday 7th and Friday 8th, July at 7.30. We rely on your support.

Peter Selwyn-Smith, L6A

Musical Activities at K.G.S.

Another busy year for the Music Society started with the Founders' Day service at St. Michael's Parish Church in May. The Full School Choir led the School and guests in congregational hymns, and sang anthems including "Cantate Domino" by Pitoni, and "O Thou The Central Orb" by Wood. For the first time the School's Speech Day was held in the Church with music provided by the Choir. A small orchestra entertained guests at Open Day with popular pieces, and the end of the Winter Term saw the staging of the successful Carol Concert. The Special Choir and the Girls' Choir sang seasonal songs with readings from the English Department. The visiting adjudicator heard the usual high standard of music in the annual Inter-House Music Competition, the items ranging from a group playing Emerson, Lake and Palmer music to a Byrd "Pavane" on the trombone. The winner, by a comfortable margin, was again Lytham House. Some items from the competition were chosen to appear in the Easter Concert, which raised over £200 for the General School Committee. The School Orchestra, the junior choirs, the Girls' Choir, the full School Choir and over 15 solo and small group performers entertained two capacity audiences in a presentation of the School's musical activities.

Conceived to give budding performers a platform and experience, and also to entertain audiences, the two lunchtime concerts – one junior, one senior – were a completely new idea and took place for the first time in the Autumn. They were received and attended well, and they will become a regular part of the musical calendar. After much rumination, and to the delight of Mrs. Greaves, Mr. Catterall decided to break the psychological barrier and allow girls into the School Choir, previously open only to boys. The Alto section, which had been weakened by the departure of several seniors, is now strengthened by fourth year girls (only four at present, but at least a start).

There is simply not enough room to list all musical activities at the school. With over 150 pupils involved, music as an extra-curricular activity is in as healthy a state as ever.

James Hardiker, U6M
(Secretary of the Music Society)

"THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND" by TOM STOPPARD and

"VILLA ON VENUS"
by KENNETH LILLINGTON

Thursday and Friday 7th and 8th July, 1983
at 7.30 in the School Hall

*Opposite: Two scenes from
"The Doctor and the Devils"
Photographs by M. Hamilton, L6Sc.*

*Overleaf: Music at K.G.S.
Photographs by kind permission of the
Lancashire Evening Post*





C.C.F. SECTION

General Report

The year has been fairly successful for the Army Section, initial performances in the Weapon Training and Drill and Turnout tests, for 4th and 5th year cadets respectively, were disappointing but after this unusually complacent start to the year the pass rate has improved to its highest for many years.

At present the activities for most Thursday afternoons include foot and rifle drill, shooting, the "modern well-equipped assault course" (that was the obligatory humorous comment), abseiling, fieldcraft and orienteering.

The contingent has entered teams for a number of small bore shooting competitions and a county full-bore competition. We have also been fortunate in obtaining places on a number of courses, for example UKLF and leadership training, for which competition is extremely fierce. The Army Section is now beginning to take advantage of places on training weekends with the 4th Btn Q.L.R. (TA) and it is hoped that these weekends will become a regular part of training activities.

Finally Messrs. Butterworth, Sayer, Scott, Gill and Mrs. Piggott deserve thanks for their hard work throughout the year as does Mr. Turner who has left the School and is a great loss to the contingent. 40 Cadet Training Team also deserve sincere thanks for their regular cadre and drill training sessions and for conducting the Assessment Tests with great efficiency.

D. Sarti, C.S.M.

Summer Camp – Monmouth

This year's annual camp was held at Vauxhall Camp, Monmouth. The contingent had three luxury self-catering chalets, army style, in the camp, the remainder of which was occupied for a few days by a company of the Royal Signals.

The week was organised on a split time basis, three days were spent in the hills by each section, and three days in the nearby training area. Activities in the hills included climbing, abseiling and walking. Mention must be made here of the organisation and physical efforts of Dr. Summers, Mr. Walls, Mr. Clarkson and Steve "Rock" Hudson, who were responsible for running this half of the week.

Activities in the training area included a river crossing, enlivened by the Scott-Turner disappearing minefield, an orienteering course and the climax of the week, the night exercise. This started at 10.00 am with camouflage and concealment practice and continued with a reconnaissance patrol which led up to "operation Miss Piggy" at night. Messrs Turner and Scott must be mentioned for the tireless enthusiasm which they showed for this strenuous exercise.

The final night in camp was marked by the entire camp being placed on alert because of the IRA bomb attack in London. A patrol had to be mounted all night and the sight of Cadets Cross and Nixon, armed with rifles, chasing two perfectly innocent Welsh farmers down a country lane had a number of instructors doubled up with laughter. Mr. Sayer deserves a mention for his 24-hour guard duty as do the Monmouth Constabulary for drinking all our coffee.

Last but not least Mrs. Piggott, Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Butterworth must be thanked for their assistance throughout the week.

D. Sarti, C.S.M.

Thirlmere – 1983

The School's contingent of 17 budding sherpas eventually arrived at the luxury camp site on Costa Thirlmere after Sgt. Hodges and C.S.M. Sarti had been maliciously misdirected by a local yokel.

Enthusiasm was high on the first evening when we received a practical demonstration in the highly esoteric art of erecting a 160 lb. tent (army cadets for the use of). The climate was a little temperate at night and it was to prove a little too much for the less hardy cadets to have to break the ice on the water containers before washing; especially when Sgt. Lowe was observed sneaking into the toilet block with a cauldron of piping hot water. It is suspected that a number of cadets decided smelling was more healthy than freezing.

On day 2 the intrepid party scaled Skiddaw in search of virgin snow on which to practise ice axe braking. Sgt. Leeson failed in his attempt to commit Hari-Kiri by thrusting an ice axe through his leg and as we were passing the local hospital on the way to the "chippy" it was decided to drop him off for treatment.

The next day saw cadets climbing on and throwing themselves from cliffs under the watchful eyes of the instructors. At one point the abseil was interrupted by a second party who insisted on climbing below us. Sgt. Lowe spoke a few words to them in what sounded like French which he later translated as:

"You really are very silly boys and should go away before you meet with an accident."

The remainder of the week consisted of small parties of cadets running up and down the nearby Fells attempting to get lost. We were introduced to the nicities of map and compass work, climbing techniques and the delicate Chinese art of the burpee.

On the final day, Sgt. Leeson, Cpl. Lewis and L/Cpl. Hardwick led their groups on the final exercise which took in all of the week's activities. This consisted of a hike of 12, 14 or 16 kilometres (depending on which group's calculations you believe) interrupted by kit checks, boshia building and the erecting of tents without pegs. A highly enjoyable day was had by all, especially the instructors and myself who viewed the first hour's proceedings through binoculars.

A number of the week's activities are worthy of note, firstly the intense interest that developed in a local hedgehog. Secondly the attempt by Section One to prove that they could clean the toilets, fill the water containers, make the

sandwiches and wash up at the same time and finally Sgt. Hodges' early morning exercise routines, which were interesting to say the least, and Sgt. Lowe's obsession with litter which resulted in the entire party performing hundreds of pressups and burpees in the area around Thirlmere.

Finally Capt. Sayer's doubtful entrepreneurial skill is worth mentioning as he successfully obtained an autobelayer (cost: £9) from Sgt. Hodges in return for his Optimus Stove (cost: £30).

It only remains to thank L/Col. Butterworth and Capt. Sayer for their efficient organisation and Haute Cuisine cooking, and Sgt. P. Hodges and Sgt. R. Lowe of 40 CTT for their expert instruction, and to congratulate Sgt. Leeson and Section 3 on winning the final competition.

D.Sarti, C.S.M.

R.A.F. Easter Camp – 1982

April 1982 saw an intrepid party of thirteen cadets, led by Squadron Leader G. S. Cheesbrough, Flying Officer D. Walls, Sgt. Ainley and Cpls. Bracegirdle, Gillibrand, Tucker and Whiteside, setting off on another Easter camp. Venue: R.A.F. Cosford.

On arrival at R.A.F. Cosford, we met up with contingents from William Ellis G.S., Edinburgh Academy and Kingston G.S. After unpacking our things, we were given an introductory lecture by the Camp Commandant, which was accompanied by a film show. After a very refreshing meal, we then had a camp familiarisation exercise, which was "eventful," but nevertheless, two of our N.C.O's were the first two back at the end of the exercise.

Following a "quiet" Wednesday night, Thursday was a very busy day, all the cadets and N.C.O's were randomly placed into four flights, and then shown round the station, and all the training facilities. During Thursday, and all the rest of the week, cadets periodically travelled to nearby R.A.F. Shorebury, where they received at least 30 minutes' flying, in Chipmunks.

When the Flying party from Thursday returned to Cosford, one of our cadets was found to have been shorn of his crowning glory by the station barber, along with several other cadets from the other schools.

During the rest of the week, there were many other exercises, many of which were also inter-flight competitions. These were: Map-reading, Swimming, Five-a-side-football, and the night exercise, which was very interesting, with numerous cadets running all over the nearby gliding airfield, with barrels, planks, and duckboards, none of them knowing where to put them, or why they had picked them up in the first place!

Other exercises provided were: A Wreken walk, which was described as gentle, but all the cadets unanimously decided that the meaning of the word had been slightly misunderstood by one or both parties concerned. Nevertheless, once everybody had recovered, it was decided that it was thoroughly enjoyed by all. There was also an outdoor P.T. session courtesy of F./O. Walls, which, unfortunately was scheduled on an extremely cold day.

In the inter-school drill competition, we finished second to an immaculate Kingston drill squad, however, Kingston G.S. had so many cadets at the camp, that they were able to enter two drill squads. During the drill competition, Cadet Vaughan was judged to be the smartest cadet, which was very pleasing indeed.

We proved to be quite good amidst stiff competition when it came to the shooting, where we all shot 15 rounds with an S.L.R., most of which hit either our own targets or other peoples'.

All the above activities, coupled with copious amounts of good food, made the 1982 Easter camp, very enjoyable, and our thanks must go to Squadron Leader Cheesbrough and Flying Officer Walls for their organisation and help throughout the week.

Cpl. C Whiteside

R.A.F. Easter Camp – 1983

On 13th April, 1983, 6 Cadets and 3 N.C.O's made the long 9 hour journey to R.A.F. St. Mawgan, near Newquay in Cornwall. On arrival at Newquay railway station, there was a slight delay, due to the transport (M.T.) being somewhat late arriving.

Having finally arrived at St. Mawgan, the first camp visit was made immediately to the canteen, where those cadets who had been on camp before were re-acquainted with R.A.F. food.

It was on Thursday when the camp programme started in earnest, with camp visits to A.T.C., the fire section, the simulator and Nimrod flight line. There was a quiz in the evening, which lasted about 1 hour, and then the rest of the evening was free, where we were allowed into the Atlantic club, to consume non-alcoholic beverages only – of course!

Friday saw more station visits and the taking of the camp photograph. There was, however, a growing apprehension as the day wore on, since it had been decided to hold the night exercise on the Friday evening between 8 and 12 o'clock. At 7 o'clock we were taken to a small room, where Sgt. Jones of the R.A.F. regiment liberally applied camouflage cream to our faces. When this solemn task was completed, we all thought of auditioning for the "Black and White Minstrel Show". The night exercise passed uneventfully, even though several things should have happened!

Saturday – a day of rest! After the night exercise debrief, there was a quick visit to the assault course, an orienteering exercise, and to round off the day there was a Gym evening where both Sqn./Ldr. Cheesbrough and P/O. Gill excelled themselves.

Sunday was spent in the capable hands of Sgt. Jones and Cpl. Wilson of the R.A.F. Regiment. In the morning we did S.L.R. rifle drill during which we had to strip and reassemble the rifle. P/O. Gill also stripped and showed her working parts to Sgt. Jones who was pleased with the dexterity with which she achieved this feat. After lunch we shot 30 rounds on the range, in between lots of double-marching which had all concerned (except Sgt. Jones, of course) lying all over the floor, totally exhausted. Sunday evening was spent at a local 10-pin bowling alley, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. P/O. Gill had a slight fight with one of the bowls, resulting in the bowl heading for the pins and P/O. Gill heading for the floor.

Monday was a quiet day spent with F/Sgt. Thomson; viewing films, Sqn./Ldr. Cheesbrough, shooting .303 rifles and the Padre, with "Padre's hour".

We were taken to Goonhilly Down on Tuesday, which is a satellite tracking station. On the way, we had to experience the R.A.F. packed lunch, which had been prepared by other cadets the evening before, and they had forgotten to wrap the "sandwiches". In the afternoon, we were taken to an aircraft museum. After tea, we all went to the administration block where we thanked all those who organised the camp, and then all went, once again to the Atlantic Club. During the evening several presentations were made by one of the senior cadets from one of the other schools. Three of these awards, NAAFS plates, went to our school. These were, the prize for "The Most Religious and Angelic Cadet on Camp" which went to Cpl. Swift, "The Biggest Boozer on Camp" which went to Cadet Ward, and the third wishes to remain anonymous.

Wednesday was spent travelling home, and back from the week of glorious Newquay sunshine, to the Lancashire rain.

During the week, all cadets had a half hour chipmunk flight, including P./O. Gill, and 6 cadets had Nimrod flights.

Thanks must go to Sqn./Ldr. Cheesbrough, and to P./O. Gill for her invaluable support, and also to the School Captain, Cpl. Swift for his spiritual contribution, which all helped to make this camp the best for some time.

Cpl. Whiteside
Cdt. Waite

Easter Camp – R.A.F. Laarbruch – Germany

Last Easter, four R.A.F. cadets – Sgts. Ainley and Gillibrand, Cpl. Bracegirdle, and myself set off for a week at R. A.F. Laarbruch, a front-line operational air base near the Dutch border, in Germany.

Our holiday started on Preston station, the first set-back being the train which was twenty-five minutes late and which was jam-packed with Scottish tourists. After walking the full length of the train we managed to find a compartment and get some sleep. Our 4.09 a.m. train from Preston arrived on time in London Euston at 7.55 a.m. We lost no time in getting to Luton station for the trains were on time and after a taxi ride we arrived at Luton airport two hours before our flight, BY393A to R.A.F. Wildenrath, was due to depart.

After a pleasant flight we arrived in Germany at 2.00 p.m. but still we still had an hour's coach journey to R.A.F. Laarbruch, our host station for the week.

On arrival we had tea, unpacked, and went to be briefed on the procedure for our visit. The evening was left free and the two parties from the North, our party and Tadcaster Grammar, found that the evening would be best spent in bed.

The first day on the camp proved to be the most tiring. We got up at six o'clock and had to walk about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile to the Junior Rates Mess: this practice became easier as the week went on. It had said on the programme that the emphasis was going to be on off-camp visits, this was very true, as we only spent the last two days of the week on the station itself.

The first outside visit of the week was to the "Evoluo", a building resembling a flying saucer on legs which was packed with electronic devices designed to teach. This alien building is situated in the town of Eindhoven in Holland. Apart from the "Evoluo" the town is associated with the Philips "simply years ahead" company.

Thursday night was exercise night, when we got a chance to "play soldiers", but as the night drew on we found that the R.A.F. Police dressed in green, were not here to play and being stood on and pushed around became a reality. In situations like these K.G.S. stick together but somehow A. Bracegirdle got himself shot (condolences to his family) and we never saw him again. During an ambush by 4 policemen the remaining three of us got caught. Shot in the leg and badly bleeding, I limped into prison followed closely by my two colleagues. Escape plans were drawn up and when we caught the guard off guard we sneaked away into the dark. The police had the superior weapons consisting of SLR's and blanks, smoke bombs and smoke flares, while we had to make do with temperamental pieces of wood which proved to be our downfall. The exercise finished with an attack on the two lonely cadets who were searching a captured policeman (who kept assuring me that nothing was going to happen). Shots from an SLR and a smoke bomb finally finished myself and an accomplice off. The evening finished with a large meal in the Mess at 10.30 p.m.

Friday was spent discovering local German towns and Saturday was spent again in Holland in the towns of Nijmegen and Arnhem, the latter being the place of the famous bridge that the British and Allied forces were so unsuccessful at crossing. The museum in Arnhem proved to be very interesting, for it contained many of the original reports about the unsuccessful assault and some relics from the last war.

We found that the best way to spend the evenings was to take advantage of the free bus service laid on from the camp to local towns, one of which was called Goch. The German people were only too pleased to get to know us and we found that we were only too welcome at the local discos.

Sunday was the day that we had the option of going gliding but was sadly cancelled due to the weather so we went to a war museum at Overloon in Holland which was open air and contained British and German tanks, and small boats.

Monday and Tuesday were spent on camp and it was not until the end of the week that we saw some places of work on the camp. The camp is very big and this is made worse by the number of trees that are planted in every available space. We spent a morning at the range shooting SLR's and A. Bracegirdle and myself gained cadet marksman awards. We also saw the two squadrons on the base, one is a Jaguar Squadron and the other a Buccaneer Squadron. Our knowledge of each type of aircraft is now furthered as we know everything from the taking of pictures to the mechanisms to do with the missiles.

Thanks must go to Sqn./Ldr. Cheesbrough who unfortunately did not accompany us on the trip but who was invaluable in the finalisation of last-minute details.

Sgt. A. W. Traviss



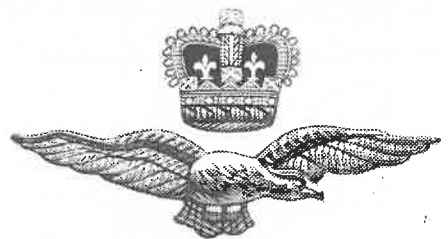
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RAF Officer

Acrostic Poems

January's when the snow melts,
And Christmas trees are dismantled.
Now the dark and cold nights linger
Under the snow-covered branches,
A street-lamp lights our way.
Robins chirp upon the branches,
You watch them year by year.

Carolynn Greenhalgh, IX

February is here:
Eating pancakes and all that.
Birds are on the piers,
Red Foxes come out to make
Unearthly noises at night.
Aconites and snowdrops flower.
Rainy February filldyke,
Year's beginning forerunner of spring.

Jochan Robinson, IX

Many ploughs I have seen,
A lot of birds behind.
Rippling up the field they go,
Crying, shrieking and squawking,
Hungry for grubs and worms.

Nicholas Read, IX

Maybe the days are getting warmer.
And I thought I saw the field being ploughed.
Really are the crocuses coming out?
Can the daffodils be showing?
Hurrah, spring is here at last!

Laurence Singleton, IX

April fools, to catch you unaware,
Pretty flowers growing,
Running water flowing down the streams,
Insects come alive,
Lovely bright and beautiful sunny days.

Joanne Moyes, IX

June is the month of sunshine
Unique blossom fine as fine,
Never a glimpse of cloud to be found
Every day sound as sound.

Julian Ward, IX

Dark and gloomy days.
Early mornings are misty,
Clouds are cold and grey,
Earth is hard with frost.
Mountains are capped white,
Bright berries are growing.
Evergreens are glossy,
Red skies are glowing.

Claire Farnhill, IX

Autumn

All the leaves fall
Under the gray sky.
Trees look dead and bold.
Up in the sky birds cry.
Misty dark are the nights,
Nuts and berries appear.

Julie Collinson, IX

Summer

Sunshine warm and bright.
Up in the sky it's blue.
Mostly warm, clear nights,
Merry pigeons coo.
Every bird is in flight.
Rivers are cool and low.

Julie Collinson, IX

See the nights going gradually darker,
Every day it gets colder and colder,
Put all the jumpers on,
The winter is near.
Every day the sun goes silently away.
Meanwhile, leaves fall onto the ground,
But the last butterflies hover around.
Even now there are squirrels collecting nuts for winter
Remember winter isn't far away.

Paul Ribchester, IX

Moving House

It's all a question of attitudes. When solving a problem, some people puzzle over a conventional solution for hours, whereas some people come along, turn the problem upside-down, so to speak, and solve it immediately. Mr. Hanger was such a man.

John Ezekiel Hanger (known as Zeke, because of his palpable lust for eccentricity — he found John boring) was a good American citizen. He had paid American taxes all his life, and felt he was entitled to some security in his old age. Thus, he was understandably aggrieved when two men called at his door, and gave him a month's notice to quit his house. When pressed further, they announced that they were speaking on behalf of his landlord, a Mr. Trubelstein. Now, Zeke wasn't aware that he had a landlord — his house was his house, so he thought — but he was reluctant to appear an old fool, so he acquiesced gracefully, and glowered inwardly.

Zeke had been in the army during the war, and wasn't going to give up his world without a fight. He rang up his friend Tom Barlow, who, though now also retired, had been a successful lawyer, and explained his case.

Tom had smiled at the grievances pouring out of the receiver, and an immoral part of him had been very amused to find the problem-solver stumped. However, amiable loyalty reassured itself, and he had resolved to research his friend's predicament.

Problem-solver? Oh, yes. As I have said, Zeke had been in the army during the war, and as a matter of fact, Tom and Zeke had served together, as armourers. Zeke, younger than him, and smooth-faced, had had quite a reputation as a "memory-man", and dilemma-resolver. One incident had stuck in Tom's memory since then, indelibly printed by its capability to dumbfound. Tom had been working on assembling the large 5,000 lb bombs, which had been flaying Germany into submission. Part of this job involved placing a fuse-ring over a fusing tube, and locking them tight. One day there was a mistake. One of the fuse-rings had been badly machined — not an uncommon occurrence, but Tom had been in a hurry. Instead of checking its size on the gauge, he had jammed it rapidly over the fusing tube. Much to his mortification, it had stuck, halfway down. If it could not be moved, both expensive components would be ruined. He had tugged at it, and worried at it with pliers, but it had jammed tighter, and refused to budge. Tom had been on the verge of panic, when along came Zeke.

He had taken one look at the problem, had not tried to pull the ring off, but had jammed it in a vice, tapped the end of the tube with a copper hammer, and watched the tube fly out of the ring.

Back in the present day, Tom smiled, and bent himself to his task. He had looked through files, and talked to several colleagues, before he spoke to Zeke, three days later.

It seemed that Zeke's house was in rather a peculiar position. A century back, the colonel, on whose ranch the town now stood, had granted to a freed negro, a hundred year lease on a plot of land, to build a house. Mr. Trubelstein was the colonel's heir, and Zeke owned the negro's house. As all this had happened a hundred and two years ago, Mr. Trubelstein was quite within his rights in calling in the lease. He did not, however, own the house.

Mr. Trubelstein himself was in rather an awkward position. Although he presented an outward facade of a tough, crew-cut, "go-getting" businessman who frequently "go-got", he was really the harassed husband of a ferocious female who scared him terribly. This awesome creature had rounded on him one day, and demanded a place for her newly-widowed mother to live. Returning to his office in a fearful fluster, his eye had lit upon Zeke's file. Aha! Problem solved!

Zeke, meanwhile, puzzled over his problem late into the night. Trubelstein owned the land, did not own the house. Zeke owned a plot at the far end of town. Aha! Problem solved! A smile lit his grizzled, grey-stubbled face.

Exactly a week later, Mr. Trubelstein, (and wife, which made it worse) was treated to the spectacle of an entire house being uprooted by crane and carried, lock, stock and barrel, downtown on a very wide trailer.

Like I said, it's all a question of attitude!

Mr. Trubelstein's dear wife never let him hear the last of this, which, had Zeke known, he would have thought punishment enough.

John Howells, 5Y

The Extraction

"Well, that one will have to come out," said the dentist. I lay there and my whole life flashed before my eyes; my mind took that one simple statement, and drew all the worst possible implications from it.

"Do you want gas or an injection?" the dentist asked. My mind was in turmoil; I hadn't yet composed myself after the last sweeping statement, what should I say?

"Gas, please," I gulped out. The thought of having to sit there, fully conscious, and watch him introduce some extractive instrument into my mouth was too much to bear.

His secretary presented me with a red card saying "Gas Appointment" in bold black type; the other words faded into obscurity and this short phrase echoed about in my head. Why did the card have to be in red? Perhaps it was some indication of what my future ordeal would be like.

For the rest of that day reason constantly tried to overcome my imagination but was constantly beaten back by memories of newspaper articles about people reduced to mindless vegetables due to oxygen being missing from the gas mixture. I eventually got to the stage when I was wondering what it would be like to be a mindless vegetable.

These thoughts were the skeleton in my cupboard for the next two weeks, and I was obsessed by them.

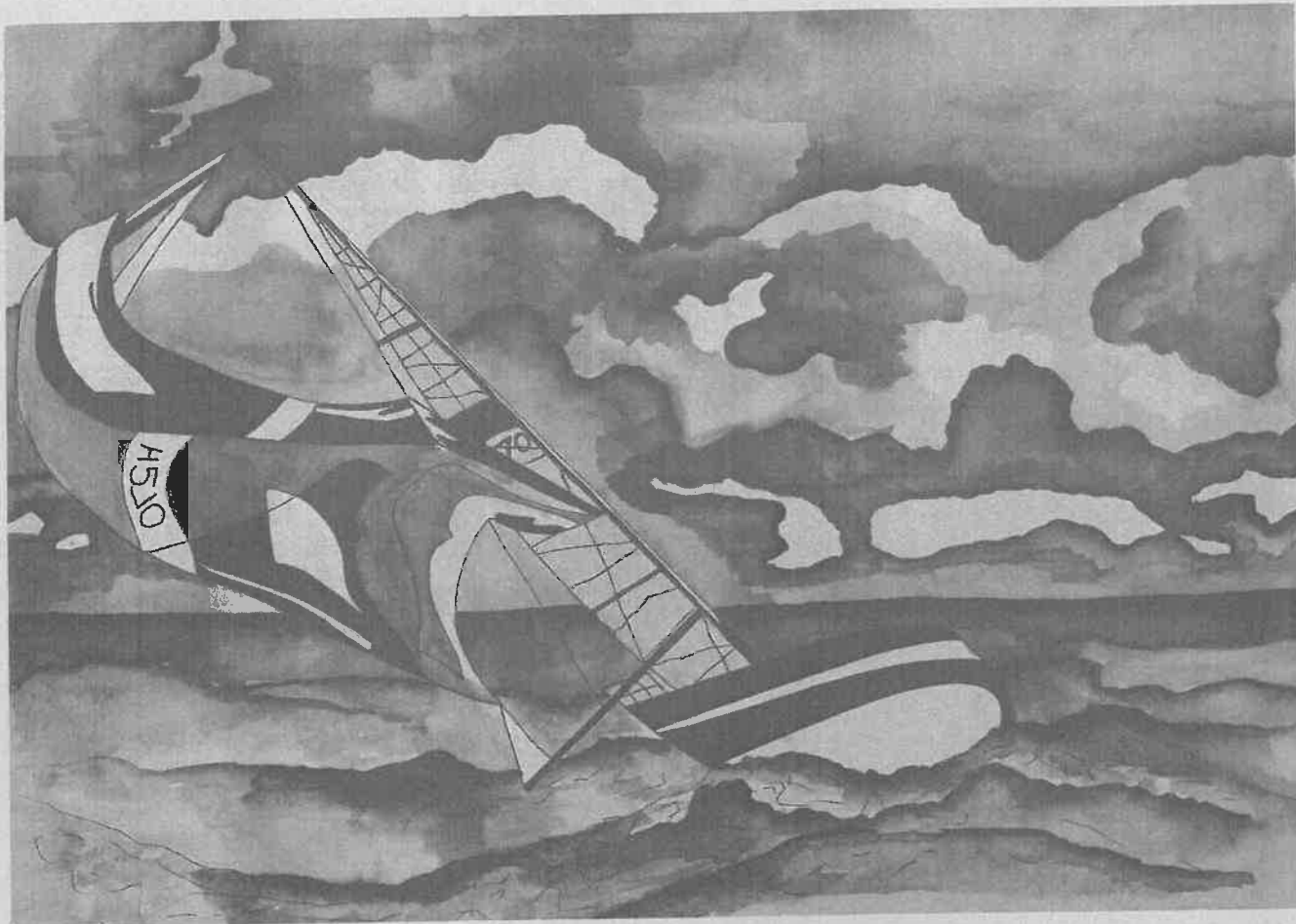
The actual day of the extraction arrived and I was in a state of nervous anticipation which reached its awful climax when I entered the waiting room. There was another man who was going to suffer the same fate as I and I was glad that I was going first. After what seemed to be the longest five minutes of my life, the nurse came to collect me. I felt like an animal going for slaughter: she was treating me like one of a long line of components on a conveyor-belt.

"Can I take your watch?" she said. This made me feel like a corpse in a mortuary. "Oh, God! It's not that bad is it!" I exclaimed. She looked at me as if I had just come forth with some dreadful blasphemy.

I walked in, sat on the chair and almost immediately my face was covered by a gas mask. The antiseptic smell of the gas was overwhelming; I could feel the gas spreading throughout my lungs like some malignant parasite.

I woke, or half-woke, to find a large cotton wool swab filling my mouth, and after a few minutes recovering I was back to normal. Through this I learnt that one of the most frightening things is the power of the human mind!

Charles Sloane, 5X



N. D. Macdonald, 5X

The Sea

*Quietly lapping,
Softly playing,
Gently shushing
As it slides over the pebbles beneath,
A sleepy sea
Stretches out over the sandy beach
And then lazily ripples away.
A friend indeed.*

*Monstrous madman,
Kicking high in the air,
Clawing at the scowling sky,
Biting at the cliff face,
Hammering at the jetty,
Furiously lashing the coast line,
An angry sea rants and raves.
A enemy to be feared.*

Karl Turner, 4Z

The Seaside

*Wild waves crashing
Shape the land
Breaking sandstone
Into sand.*

*Seagulls gliding
In the sky
Teaching young ones
How to fly.*

*Old folks dozing
In the sun
Young folks playing,
Having fun.*

Caroline Gaunt, 1Z

The Sun

*Hanging in the sky,
Watching you scurry about.
There I sit and sigh,
Thinking when will I go out?
What a lonely sun am I.*

Sarah de Maine, 1X

An Occasion on which I was forced to do something which I dislike doing

It isn't always this difficult to put pen to paper and write something. Usually I find it quite easy. For instance, if I want to reply to an advertisement, all I do is take out my pen and paper, and "Bingo!", the letter writes itself. The words just flow naturally — "Dear Sir", and so forth.

But, when faced with an essay to write on a Thursday night, the situation seems to change a little. Here I sit, pen in hands, paper before me, and do the words flow naturally? Does the essay write itself? Of course not! Instead, my mind is seized with that blankness which only manifests itself when you actually need to think. Thus I sit at my desk, leaning on its cool and shiny, plastic surface, marooned in the island of light cast by my reading lamp, trying to think of something to write about. Meanwhile, the clock ticks round, bringing Kenny Everett and that documentary about macho paratrooping types closer, and making it phenomenally difficult to think of anything relevant to English essays in general, and this one in particular.

The great classical writers never had this trouble. They just sat down, took out their quill and manuscript, and then "Hamlet" or "David Copperfield" or "I, Robot" just flooded out onto the paper. Of course, Shakespeare, and Dickens and all that crew, they all had their tame Muse, leaning over their shoulders, and tickling up their quills. There is no Muse of long essays from English "O" level past papers. No, I'll revise that. There is nothing of the effete Athenian youth, or whimsical poet, or beautiful maiden strumming gently on a lyre about this Muse.

No! This Muse is an obese, working class, male Muse, wearing string vest and sensible shoes, rapping out popular ditties on the spoons or comb and paper. He sits on high in his ivory folding deckchair, inspiring his devotees to fresh heights of monotony, opening up fresh vistas of the mundane With an effort I bring my concentration back to the noble labour which lies before me.

Let's concentrate now. Two titles or a short story . . . and something else.

No, no, the short story is definitely out! I don't think my innate fictional genius has clocked on today. So, that leaves an essay about something I dislike doing. My present predicament springs easily to mind for some reason. Perhaps I could write a witty little piece about English homework. Full of scholarly jokes, the sort of thing people like Frank Muir write for the Sunday Supplements.

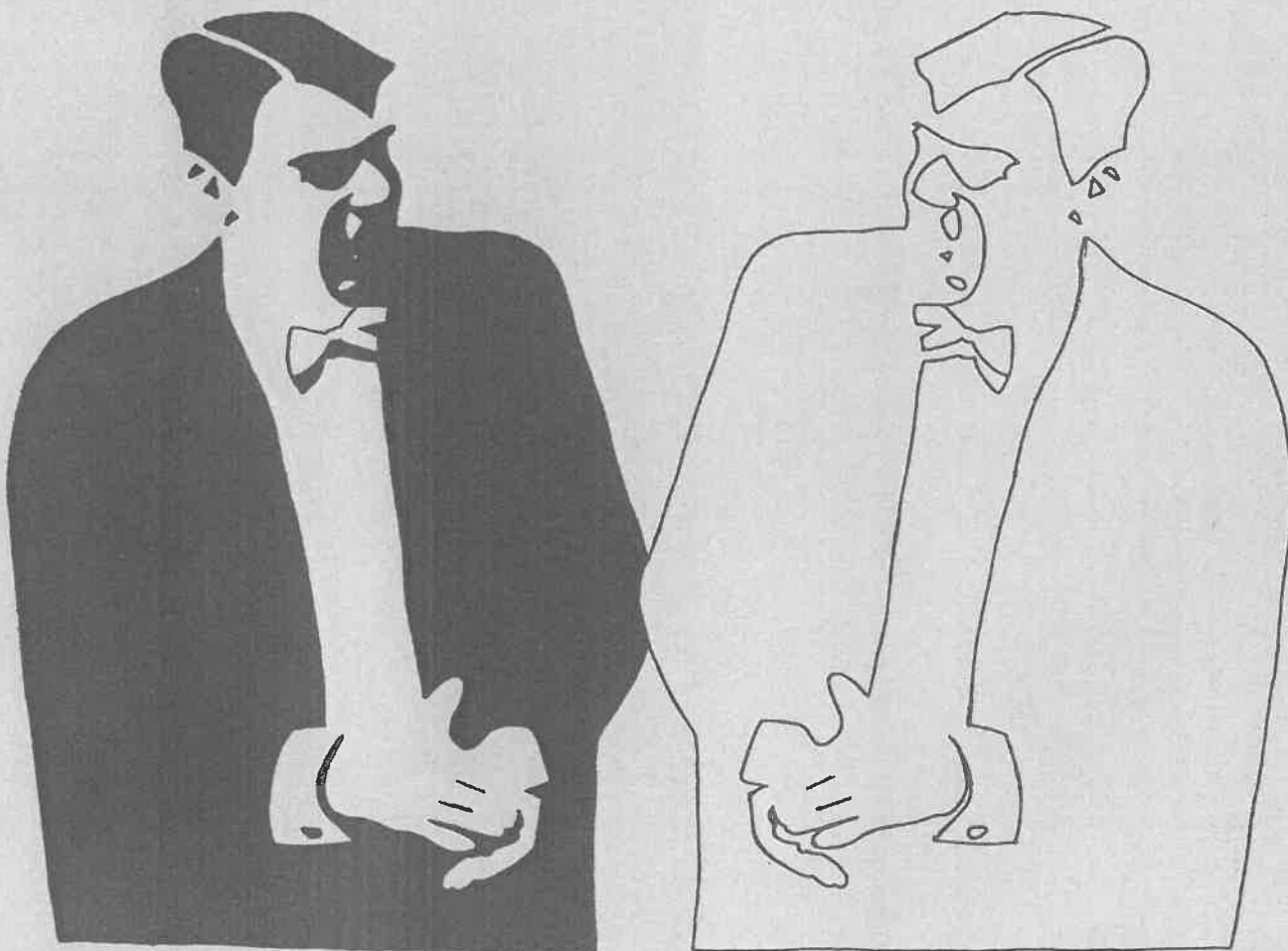
Or perhaps I could Aha! That English essay seems to have written itself. Long live the obese, working-class Muse!
John Howells, 5X

Impressions of a New Boy

Kirkham, set in fields of green;
Copses, ponds and winding stream.

Proud, old building, creeper clad;
Welcome sight to this new lad.
Russet glow in Autumn light,
Cool and green in Summer bright.

Proud tradition carried through
From past, present — future too.
Christopher Holden, 4X



G. J. Irwin, 5Y

Spring

The sun is shining,
It's bright and gay,
The birds are singing,
And here is May.
Take off your coat,
And take off your hat,
Today is too warm to go out like that.
There's a spring in my step,
And Spring's in the air,
I am walking along with never a care.
I look to the sky and what do I see?
Two dirty big rain clouds just heading for me.
By the time I reach home,
I look like a drip.
I take off my clothes with a stiff upper lip.
The rain is still pouring,
I cannot think why,
When I woke up this morning,
There was such a blue sky.

Sherylne Harley, 1X

A Fish

Slowly swimming along the stream
All is quiet and peaceful,
Lurking lowly in the weeds,
Munching on the food he caught,
Open-eyed and wary:
No fisherman is good enough to catch him.
Trout jumping for air, making a splash,
Rising up for food and flies, as a man watches.
On to the fisherman's fly. He struggles.
Under goes the net and out comes the fish.
The trout gasps for air, then the man
Knocks out his life.

Jonathan Colgan, 2Z

The Cricket Match

It's eleven o'clock
On the village green,
Two batsmen step out,
Aggressive and mean.
The bowler paces his run up,
Twenty-three paces in all,
And then he steps up
To bowl the hard, red ball.
He releases the ball:
It heads straight for the wicket,
The fielders close in —
This is brilliant cricket.
The umpire watches
With keen, blue eyes,
The batsman misses
But gets a leg-bye.
The batsman gets ready,
Adjusting his hat,
The ball hits his pads,
There's a shout of, "Howzat!"
The sad batsman
To the pavilion goes,
Even through his helmet,
His great dejection shows.
The cricket goes on
Until half past four,
Then the match ends —
An exciting draw!

Neil Calland, 4Y

Wrong?

It was dark, the moon was high,
And there it stood so coldly.
I first looked out for passers by,
Then advanced towards it boldly.

Half way there I hesitated,
Wondering what to do.
Then I went towards a window,
Picked up a stone, and threw,

The sound of glass filled me with fright,
As I ran into the trees.
Some people walked right past me,
And I began to sneeze.

"The culprit's here!", one man said,
And then they disagreed,
"He's over here," another said,
"He's hiding in the trees".

I ran and ran, but soon they caught me,
Whilst running through a wood.
Oh why, Oh why did I do this?
I knew it wasn't good.

The only reason I'd done this,
I thought before I ran,
Was to prove to all my school mates
I had become a man.

Steven Clarke, 3Z

The Village at Night

It was a clear, starlit night in the small country village. The lights of the houses arranged around the small village green had all been extinguished one by one, like a myriad fireflies with a mysterious fatal malady, and the only reflections in the dark water of the village pond came from the stars and full moon.

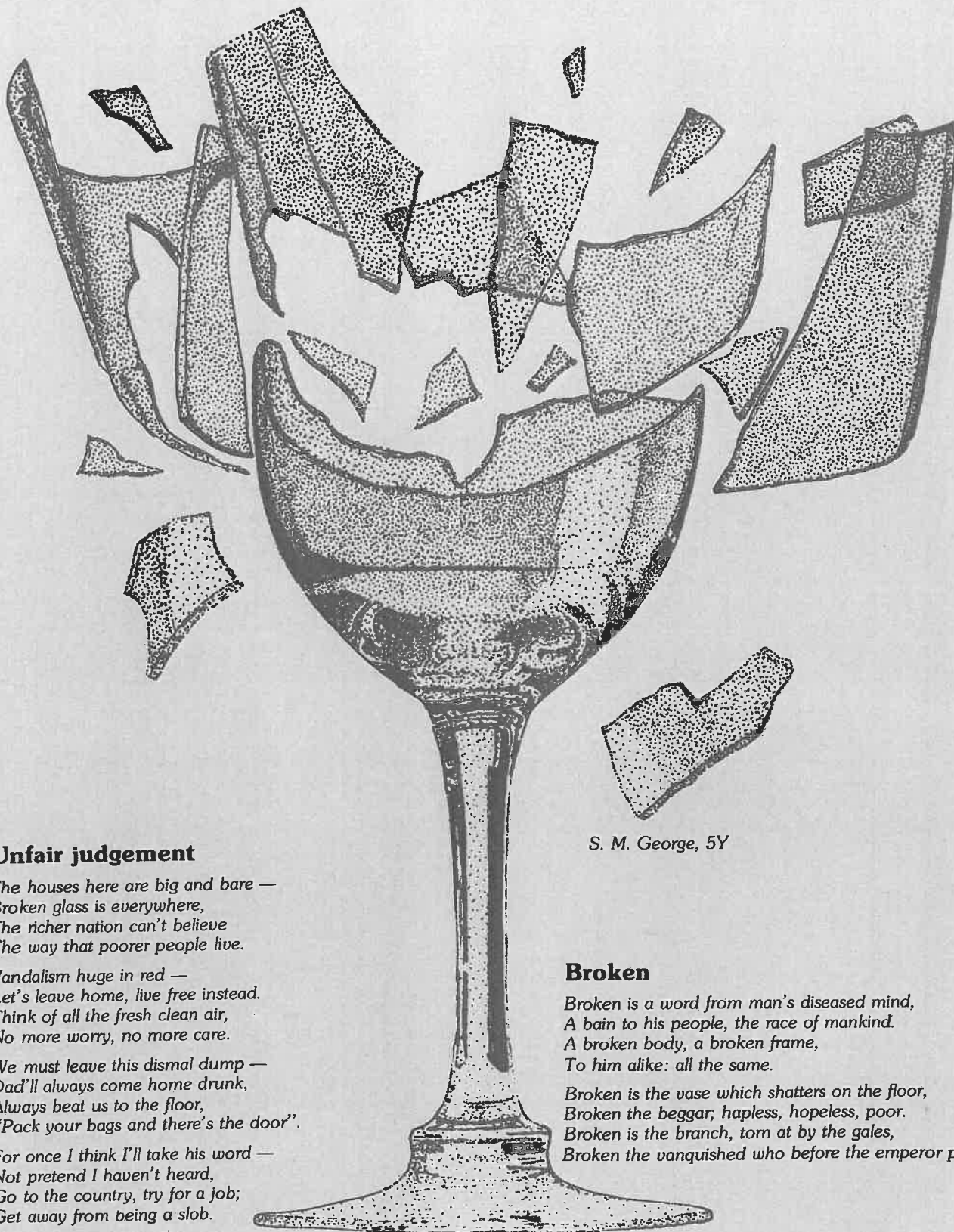
There was no noise, and almost no movement. An old man wearing a duffle-coat sat at a bench next to the dark depths of the pond, watching and musing. He saw a lone seagull fly over and obscure the moon momentarily, and as the autumn cold bit into his fragile, arthritic bones, he wished that he was unfettered like the gull, and unshackled, free to go where he wished.

Suddenly the church clock struck eleven, and from the pub came a stream of merry chatter, as the slightly inebriated drinkers reached their cars and drove away. Another man silently left his house, and, with wire snares and nets under his arm, he reached the fields, and slipped over the gate. Treading inaudibly in the shadows of the hedge, he reached his first target, set the lethal trap, and then moved on. After setting a dozen or so traps he returned home. At dawn he was back, collecting his spoils, which brightened his dinner table on the next Sunday.

Meanwhile, another dark figure left another house. This time however, it was the gamekeeper leaving the lodge, shotgun under his arm, off to check his pheasants. He crunched across the fields, which were fast becoming frosty and made sure that there were no rats or foxes to trouble his broods. His game birds were becoming fatter and stronger. In September they were to be part of the shoot, to which the local dignitaries would be invited.

A solitary duck made one obvious quack of displeasure at its position, moved slightly, tucked its head under its wing and fell asleep. The old man had reached his cottage, the game keeper his lodge and the poacher his house; all the lights were out, and the village was at last, at rest — until the next day broke.

Derek Hurton, 4Y



Unfair judgement

*The houses here are big and bare —
Broken glass is everywhere,
The richer nation can't believe
The way that poorer people live.*

*Vandalism huge in red —
Let's leave home, live free instead.
Think of all the fresh clean air,
No more worry, no more care.*

*We must leave this dismal dump —
Dad'll always come home drunk,
Always beat us to the floor,
"Pack your bags and there's the door".*

*For once I think I'll take his word —
Not pretend I haven't heard,
Go to the country, try for a job;
Get away from being a slob.*

*Maybe there I'll get a chance —
Never people at a glance
Saying, "Oh I got quite a scare
Seeing that lout over there."*

*... They don't think it hurts me though,
But I'm "that lout", I should know.*

Fiona Smith, 22

S. M. George, 5Y

Broken

*Broken is a word from man's diseased mind,
A bane to his people, the race of mankind.
A broken body, a broken frame,
To him alike: all the same.*

*Broken is the vase which shatters on the floor,
Broken the beggar, hapless, hopeless, poor.
Broken is the branch, torn at by the gales,
Broken the vanquished who before the emperor pales.*

*Broken is the heart which for a lover mourns,
Broken is the soul: wandering, lost, forlorn.
Broken the hull caught on the ocean's swell.*

*But the children of God will soon be consigned to Hell —
The biggest tragedy is saved till last,
Broken is the Earth in the nuclear blast
And man can lay his mind to rest,
His body gripped in death's caress.*

Simon Wood, L6Sc

Research

At last he took his eye from the telescope lens. Switching off the power he turned to his colleague, "I tell you, there is no life in space. We are the only ones who exist".

"No! There must be other life, the universe is so big", replied his colleague.

"Consider this, we have spent billions searching, probing, and no life has been found, and that is my last word on the matter".

With that he curled his tentacle round the umbrella and shuffled off into the green sunset.

P. Grossman, 2Z

The Monster

Longest grasses, leafy trees,
Deepest jungle, nobody sees,
Bulbous eyes, hairy frame,
Living beings can never tame.

Rugged mountains, angry waves,
Deserted shoreline, darkest caves,
Giant footsteps, glistening sand,
Humans frightened from the land.

Oppressive sunshine, stifling air,
Shrieking sea-birds, near beastly lair,
Razored claws, menacing jaw,
Crushes life with powerful paw.

Fated island, scattered bones,
Crashing timber, murderous tones,
Muscle arms, towerer height,
Destroys everything in its sight.

Helen Gamble, 2Z

The Monster

The mysterious, moony, monstrous Minotaur
Lived in the murky, muddy marsh
His horrible, horns horrified humans.
His horrific, huge hands strangled humans.
The moony, monstrous Minotaur ate King Minos.
His enormous, evergreen eyes were as big as eggs.
His tusky, tough teeth ate through tigers.
His fluffy, furry, felt skin kept all his fleas in,
And who knows, he still might be alive in the murky,
muddy marsh.

Susan Lansom, 2Z

My Bag

My old bag is full of stuff:
Football boots and grandad's snuff.
It's full of comics, books and paper,
And even bits of mouldy wafer.
There are rotten apples and tomatoes,
There are slimy snails and rusty nails,
And old bones and toothless combs.
You'll find smelly soap and frayed rope,
And rusty tins and prickly pins.
I wouldn't feel in it if I were you -
You might put your fingers in sticky glue!

Neil Phillipson, 1Y

Dressage

Beaky was carefully combing her Lady Di hairstyle in front of the cloakroom mirror when her friend Craula came in. Beaky wrinkled her long nose and exclaimed:

"Where did you get that awful, cheap perfume, Craula?"

Craula didn't answer. She just blushed and looked miserable.

"Mummy only buys me the best", bragged Beaky. "She has marvellous taste, and I take after her, of course. Don't you agree?"

"Yes, Beaky", muttered her friend.

"Indeed, I have a fantastic colour sense. Look at this lilac eyeshadow. It complements my lilac leg-warmers and, of course, my yellow eye-liner matches my yellow tank-top".

"Oh yes, my dear Beaky, you really did look fantastic on Saturday in that gear, and especially those new tight jeans".

"Yes, they're so tight that I can't even sit down in them, and I have to lie down to zip them up, but a girl has to suffer to be fashionable. What you look like really is more important than how you feel".

"Of course, Beaky. I couldn't agree more", whimpered Craula, "and I do like those new fashion shoes you have with the pointed toes. What a pity the heel came off when you were marching round the quad in C.C.F. last Thursday".

"But I can't stand around all day advising you on your perfume. We'll be late for class", said Beaky.

The two girls made for the corridor where their lockers were. Beaky was lecturing her friend on the advantages of horse-riding as they ran along.

"At the stables, one meets a completely different class of person", she went on remorselessly.

"With a different class of perfume", shouted a passing boy.

"Merde du cheval", laughed his mate.

"Did someone make a noise?", Beaky cried petulantly. She began to cry.

"Oh don't Beaky", her friend simpered. "Your mascara's dripping off your chin".

"I don't wear make-up yet", growled Beaky, "because I'm too young, but at a ripe old age of fifteen I will really slap it on".

"Sorry, Beaky", whispered Craula.

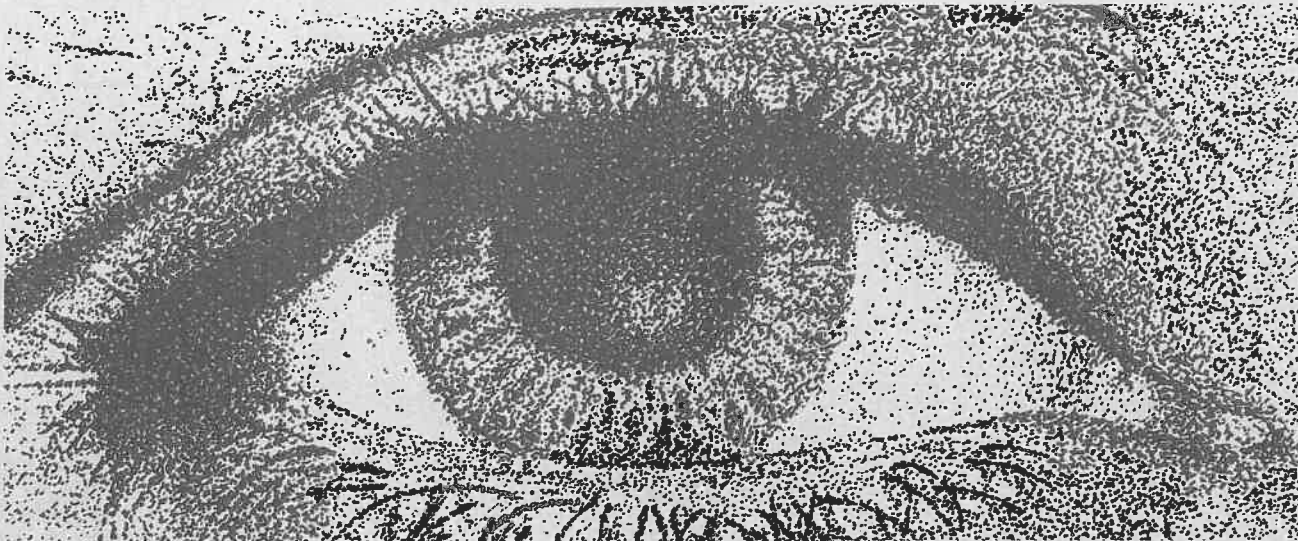
"I hate these people. They're all so dreadfully common", she sobbed. "Mummy's right about this school. She's always complaining".

Just at that moment a small boy arrived and started getting books out of his locker.

"Hey, you", snapped Beaky as she booted his bag down the corridor, "get out of my way." She turned to her friend and said savagely, "If only I had a horsewhip".

Yes, she certainly was the horsey type; from her aquiline nose to her bulbous rump, from her sleek black mane to her bouts of petulance and her whinnying voice she was every inch a horse.

Julie Billsborough, 4Y



R. Vaughan, 5X

I am a Fire

*I am a single ember in a cooling grate,
But, I'm fed with wood and paper.
I flare up consuming the food
Which has been so generously given.
But they want a reward,
A protective glow, that warms their hands.*

*A glow that drives away their fears,
And occupies their imagination.
They need my light,
That reddish glow,
That they connect with home.
I dance, flaring and flickering for their benefit,
Displaying the amber of my centre.
They are not content, they want greater feats,
Again my greed is fulfilled.
I perform my dazzling display.
I have a full audience,
Even the neighbours come to remark on me.
The child is captivated.
"Oh, look at the fairy palace, there! oh it's gone!"
"Don't trouble me, I'm thinking", replies the parent,
Not wanting to admit his fascination.
They sit there whilst I leap and flash before them,
Then they're gone, I'm alone.
I twist and turn, laughing to myself.
I'm high, then low, I'm wide, then I'm thin,
I'm awake and they're asleep.
I could live forever, but I need them,
I'm hungry, I'm tired
I can't jump and leap as high as before,
My strength is going.
Before I flared, now I can only glow
And then with a final spurt I've gone.*

Ann Noden, 3Z

The Countryside In Winter

*A pretty formation of frost had settled on the windows,
a spider's web glistened as the sunlight caught on the bits of
ice stuck on the delicate threads. The trees, starved of all their
leaves were decorated with snow and frost. All around,
everything was covered with a white blanket. Evergreen trees
in the distance stood out, their leaves and branches showered
with a thin layer of crisp snow. Icicles hung from the eaves of
the houses. The setting sun's misty glow reflected off the
snow.*

Clare Hardman, 1Z

A Winter Scene

*The snow fell as if someone
Had burst a feather pillow
And it came to rest upon
The grass, like a sheet of silk,
Pure and white without a flaw.
The wind rustled in the trees
Occasionally stirring some of the crystal
Flakes, sending them fluttering
To the ground,
Silently.
Slowly, significantly
Through the gusts of snow, I saw
A narrow, on such a narrow shaft
Of sunlight moving gently across the
Snow-studded scene. It became wider,
Deeper, full of strength it moved
Across the garden.
But, then, as suddenly as it came,
It was gone.*

Lorraine Anderson, 4Y

The Old Man

*The old man sitting on the park bench, laboriously picked
up his newspaper. He sighed and carefully shook it straight.
He started to read, his face close to the paper, as he peered at
the small print. His brow wrinkled up with concern for those
who were unfortunate enough to reach the headlines because
of a bad car crash. He re-read each section so as not to miss
any important points and to while away the long hours of his
lonely day. He spent most mornings like this, slowly turning
each page with his old, stiff fingers and even ponderously
wading through the advertisements. He reached the section
about sport at the end, and smiled pensively as he
remembered his youth.*

Anne Baron, 4Y

Fireworks

*The fuming fire flashed and fizzled furiously,
As bangers burst about the blazing barn,
The Guy glowed golden in the gleaming gateway,
And Catherine Wheels whirled wildly in the wind.*

*Roman candles cascaded colour cloudwards,
And tacky toffee tasted like toasted treacle.
Roaring rockets rose round rubbled roads
While sparklers spluttered in soft and silver sand.*

Helen Gamble, 2Z



Any Captions?

A prize of a record token, donated by Mr. P. Smith, will be awarded to the member of the School who produces the most original and humorous captions to these two photographs.

Entries to Mr. Long, or any member of the Magazine Committee by 9th September, 1983.

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EVERY SUNDAY

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

The General School Committee

For those unfamiliar with the General School Committee (G.S.C.), it is perhaps best described as a committee of school society secretaries, form representatives and house captains, which meets twice every term to discuss the non-academic involvement of pupils in the school. Mr. Gamble acts as Chairman, and there is also a small number of staff on the Committee.

It has been a busy year for the G.S.C. with six regular meetings and one extraordinary meeting. The main business of the regular meetings, and the cause of the extraordinary meeting, was the proposal for constitutional changes. The last major alterations to the Constitution and Rules of the G.S.C. took place in 1976. However, in the Summer Term of 1982 it was proposed that, in order to save time and effort, the G.S.C. subscription of £1.00 per pupil/per annum should be added to fees, rather than be collected by Form Officials at the beginning of the School Year. The original proposal was that the amount of the subscription would be decided by the Governors, based on a recommendation from the G.S.C. To a great many pupils this was unacceptable as it removed their fundamental power to determine their own finances. Many long debates failed to resolve the issue, and even the calling of an extraordinary meeting (an unusual measure) saw no change in the attitudes of the two divisions within the G.S.C. The eventual vote on the amendments led to the proposals being defeated by 22 votes to 9.

With the beginning of a new school year the situation which had existed at the end of the Summer had changed slightly, but significantly. Firstly, the amendments were re-introduced, but the vital issue of the size of the subscription was to be decided by the G.S.C. itself. Secondly, the Governors had agreed to pay for the funding of the Games Sub-Committee, which was originally paid for by the G.S.C.

The eventual result of long discussions on the Games Sub-Committee, and the amendments, was the deletion of the former from the Constitution, and the passing of the latter by 29 votes to 10 with 4 abstentions. This effectively gave the G.S.C. an added sum for the use of societies, as the Games Sub-Committee used to absorb three-fifths of the G.S.C.'s income.

Apart from the main business of the amendments to the Constitution and Rules of the G.S.C., several minor points were settled. A proposal by a fourth year pupil led to a non-uniform day in the Summer Term to raise funds for the School Project and charity. The Music Society received a grant of £200 from the G.S.C. in order to repair various instruments and to buy sheet music.

Many annual appointments were made in the G.S.C., all of which are being fulfilled most adequately. R. T. Gibson (Prefect) was elected as Co-treasurer, S. R. Dewsnap (Prefect), M. J. Parker (Prefect) and S. Clay (Prefect) were all elected onto the General Purposes Sub-Committee. P. K. Selwyn-Smith and E. J. Waite, both of the Lower Sixth, were elected as auditors for the Summer of 1983.

As Mr. Gamble pointed out, at the end of the one extraordinary meeting, the Committee frequently exercised the high amount of democracy to which it was entitled. The veto to which the Headmaster, as ex-officio President, is entitled, was never used.

C. J. Swift
(General Secretary, G.S.C.)

Astronomical Society

Chairman: Mrs. K. Bagley
Secretary: C. S. Sloane
Treasurer: A. D. Proctor

It has once again been a highly successful year for The Astronomical Society, with the usual Thursday Lunchtime meetings and an ever-increasing number of out of school meetings.

The Summer Term started with a talk by C. S. Sloane on "Features of the Summer Sky". This type of talk is given at the start of each term and is proving very popular. The Committee was also pleased to see two excellent talks given by junior members. "Black Holes" by M. Howells and "Jupiter Probes" by C. J. Dodenhoff.

Our Open Day Exhibition was the biggest and best yet, with many models, slides, telescopes, etc. Open day was the publishing day for "Cygnus", a free magazine produced by the Society; this proved to be a great success and we hope to produce more in the future. I would like to thank S. R. Dewsnap and A. D. Proctor for all their hard work which made Open Day such a success.

The Summer Holidays proved to be extremely active for the Society, with numerous meetings held. On July 20th, the Society joined forces with The Preston and District Astronomical Society, and scaled the south face of Beacon Fell to observe a partial solar eclipse. Fortunately, the weather was kind to us, so everyone who went had a good view of the eclipse using two celestron telescopes. The secretary took some photographs of the event which were shown at a later meeting. The rest of the meetings were held in late July and early August, over a number of nights at the Secretary's house. Members who attended were treated to a superb "celestial firework display" from the Aquarid and Persid meteor showers. Simon Dewsnap and Andrew Wright made some excellent observations which were sent to the British Meteor Society.

The Society was active throughout the Winter Term with the usual videos, Library days (where the Society's books are lent to members) and talks. The undoubted highlight of the Winter Term was a talk given by Mr. K. Robinson, F.R.A.S. on "The History of Local Observatories". This was probably one of the best talks the Society has ever heard and everyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves. After the talk the Secretary presented Mr. Robinson with a pen as a token of our appreciation.

After the Mock exams, the Society was once again active. There had been several Friday night viewing evenings during the Winter Term but, predictably, it was cloudy! Fortunately, we were treated to clear skies at the first viewing evening in the Spring Term, so we were able to observe many galaxies, starclusters and nebulae using the Secretary's 6 inch Telescope.

The Spring Term saw some excellent talks by J. Howells, S. Dewsnap, M. Howells and C. Sloane on subjects ranging from "Interstellar Travel" to "Relativity". The Society has also started a sunspot observing programme using the Society's telescope.

I would like to thank the Chairman, Mrs. Bagley, for all her hard work and time. Finally, I must thank all the members of the Upper Sixth who are leaving this year; especially Simon Dewsnap and Christopher Swift who have worked so hard to get the Society into its present form.

C. S. Sloane, 5X

Bridge Club

Chairman: Mr. I. Rushton
Secretary: S. R. Dewsnap
Treasurer: R. A. Eckton

Unfortunately, this year there has been a decline in the level of Bridge played in the school. Meetings held on Tuesday lunchtimes have tended to be of interest to the Upper Sixth only.

However, it is pleasing to report that for the first time, the School has been able to enter a team in the Lancashire Schools' Bridge League. Although the team has been eager in playing the matches, its comparative inexperience has resulted in a few heavy defeats, although we have acquitted ourselves well in other matches. Our spirits remain high for the remaining matches, and, with a good run of results, we could still manage to win the League at our first attempt.

Finally, I must thank Mr. Rushton for his time and effort in helping to arrange matches, and, together with C. Whiteside, for providing transport to away matches.

S. R. Dewsnap (Pre.)

Chess Club

Chairman: Mr. I. Rushton
Secretary: S. Forster
Treasurer: M. Linnington

Although the Chess Club has been holding practices every Monday lunchtime, the Society has not been able to raise a team of sufficient standard to enter the Blackpool and Fylde Chess League this year. We have, however, some promising juniors who, with the aid of our new chess computer, we hope will have improved enough for us to field a team next year.

The computer was bought on a £90 grant from the G.S.C., and will help improve the standard of play of all in the Society.

Finally, thanks must go to Mr. Rushton for giving his time to run the practices and for his efforts in organising matches.

S. Forster, 5X

Electronics Society

Chairman: Mr. L. A. Redman
Secretary: A. E. Uttley
Treasurer: D. N. Gillibrand

During the Spring Term, the membership of the Society has increased, especially since the purchase of two electronics kits. These enable many different circuits to be assembled quickly without soldering. Sixteen circuits can be constructed with the basic electronics kit, and twenty-five projects can be constructed with the micro-electronics kit.

Circuits that can be constructed include a parking light, an intercom and a "Wailing Siren".

Two burglar alarms and a "Heads and Tails" game have been constructed separately from the kits by members of the Society.

There are now usually between ten and twenty people attending the Society and I hope that the membership continues to increase.

A. E. Uttley, U6Sc.

Fell-Walking Society

Chairman: Dr. B. M. Summers
Secretary: A. W. Traviss
Treasurer: C. J. Kay

The first walk of the new academic year of 1982 was on Sunday, 19th September to Malham in Yorkshire. The party of eighteen, including some new members, ascended Gordale Scar. The weather was mixed; the day started off being dull, changing to sunshine and later to rain. The aptly named formation of rocks proved to be the highlight of the day.

On Sunday, 17th October, a mixed party of students and parents walked the Society favourite, namely the Fairfield Horseshoe in the Lake District. Unfortunately, the weather was at its worst and from the beginning to the end of the walk, we had every condition possible. Driving rain towards the end of the walk, dampened spirits and the mini-bus was a welcome sight.

A walk planned for Sunday, 15th November unfortunately had to be cancelled due to lack of support. The Society is not getting a great deal of support from the junior years of the school, but it is hoped that this trend will change as the weather becomes better.

The third walk of the term was on Sunday, 12th December to Pen-y-Ghent in Yorkshire. On this occasion, the mini-bus was not available and so we had to rely on parents for transport. A small party of ten ascended Pen-y-Ghent, one of the summits of the Pennine Way, in rather miserable weather conditions; this is, however, not untypical of this peak, for every time the Society has been there, they have had a good soaking.

The weather seems to delight in producing its worst and the ascent of Bowfell was no exception. A steady drizzle and thick mist was the rule of the day and the stop for lunch was very brief. However, as the day progressed, the weather changed from drizzle to a brilliant sunshine.

The most memorable walk of the Spring Term was on Sunday, 13th February, to the summit of Helvellyn ascending from Wythburn, on the opposite side to Striding Edge. This particular route is not one of the most popular ones and this was a new experience even for the older members. The weather conditions, for a change, were ideal, a good layer of snow and brilliant sunshine. We climbed up to Nethermost Pike, on the right-hand side of Helvellyn, where some of the more adventurous members took to "Poly-Bagging" during a stop for lunch. The idea of the sport is to find yourself a plastic bag and throw yourself down the side of the hill. Apart from the fun side of this sport, there is also a practical use. With the aid of an ice-axe, one can learn how to arrest a fall on snow, the plastic bag merely speeds up the process and makes it harder. As the day passed, the mist fell and visibility was down to a minimum. When the party reached the summit of Helvellyn, they found that they had risen above the cloud level and the spectacular view of Striding Edge above the clouds cannot be described. On the slopes above Grizedale Tarn, we held the annual "Poly-Bagging" events. It was found that it was possible to get six persons on one bag, but the end product after the downhill slalom has to be seen to be believed, the tangled mass of bodies was only inches off going in the Tarn. Conclusion for the day, simply great!

It only remains for me to thank our financial "brain" Christopher Kay, Dr. Summers, Mr. Taylor, and the parents who provided transport and accompanied us on walks on many occasions. Without them, the Fell-Walking Society could not function.

A. W. Traviss, L6A

Natural History Society

Chairman: Mr. A. R. Baines
Secretary: C. Whiteside
Treasurer: J. Howells

The past year has been very eventful for the Society in general. The membership has increased slightly due to interest shown by new, junior members of the school mainly, which is very encouraging for the future.

The Summer Term events of 1982 were typical in that there were no formal meetings at all, due to external and internal examinations. However, it was decided by the newly-elected committee that, instead of a total shutdown of all activities, members could, if they so desired, meet in Room 17 and carry out their own projects on a Tuesday lunchtime. This proved quite successful, with two very good projects being carried out. Thus J. Howells and G. Irwin together assembled a rabbits' skeleton, whilst M. Howells carried out a project on "Pond life". Both these projects were exhibited at Open day, as well as the Society's livestock, which consisted at that time of gerbils, locusts, *Xenopus* toads, and tropical fish.

In the Winter Term, regular fortnightly meetings resumed. Talks were given by our Chairman, who talked on the subject of "Being a Naturalist", J. Howells, who talked about the question "Was Darwin wrong?" and M. Howells who talked about "Pond life". Films shown during the Winter Term were: "Mosquitoes and the Tourist", "Recycling waste", and "The Honey Bee", which were all quite well attended. The Society also showed a video entitled "Dinosaurs" – our first meeting in 21A!

At the time of writing this report, the Society's Spring Term programme is well under way, with talks having been given by J. Howells on the subject of "Dreams" and by M. Howells on "Pond life 2". The Society has also showed a film entitled "Water Birds". Talks yet to come this term are: "A Photographic Safari", by Mr. West, and a film entitled "Winter Wilderness" – and so back to Summer term-time projects!

Finally, thanks must go to our Chairman and Committee for all their hard work, to the Geography Department, who kindly let us use the film projector, and of course to all the Society's members for their support throughout the past year.

C. Whiteside, U6Sc.

Environmental Samplers

It is more years than some of us care to remember, since the area between Rooms 14-16 and the C.C.F. Administration Block was a grassy patch accommodating, within clean white surround, a number of meteorological instruments. Readings of these were religiously taken, recorded on specially printed forms and displayed for the general information of the School on the notice board "beneath the arches".

Today, our young enthusiasts seem to pay but scant attention to their environment and to its vagaries however localised. Although subjected to the national "weather forecast" from the media, their spare time here in this connection seems to be spent gazing at the stars at one extreme or looking for the in/out day notice at another!

For either reason, they may have missed the B.N.F.L. "tacky lampshade" type environmental sampler. Once stationed on top of the Canteen roof, the K.G.S. specimen now stands by the transformer adjacent to the Staff Car Park. This "sampler" actually belongs to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. It is made of lint-free cloth (trade name "TEZ"), and airborne particulate matter becomes trapped in the fibre. The sampler is neither "tacky" nor, as can be seen from the pedestrian entry/exit path, is it too "lampshade-like"!

The cloth is changed monthly by "men from the Ministry" from Cop Lane, Penwortham, and fabric is then sent to the Fisheries Research Laboratory at Lowestoft, where it is incinerated and the radioactive content assessed. Whether you look now or not, your safety from radiation hazards is being carefully monitored.

A. R. Baines



M. Bullock, 5X

Film Society

Chairman: Mr. R. J. Watson
Secretary: R. G. Lewis
Treasurer: S. R. Dewsnap

This year saw the video producers taking a firm grip on the business of the silver-screen industry all around the world, and KGS Film Society was to be no exception. Membership fell and the numbers turning up on the night was also reduced. However, after some financial wrangling with the film distributors, Mr. R. J. Watson and R. G. Lewis were able to secure a full compliment of eight films.

The season began with a screening of "Convoy", a comedy about a group of American Truckers causing havoc as they cross the U.S.A. This was followed up by the "tomato sauce brigade" giving their all in "Escape from New York", "The Dogs of War" and the more subtle approach of Clint Eastwood in "The Enforcer".

"Escape to Victory" supplied an all star cast including Michael Caine, Bobby Moore and Pele; the film pleased both football and motion picture fans alike. The connoisseurs of comedy were catered for by "Life of Brian" and "Animal House", both of which were shown to large audiences.

The Film Society would not be the same without a James Bond film and this year's episode was "For Your Eyes Only".

Many thanks go to all officials concerned with the running of the Society, especially Messrs. Watson, Clarkson, Scott and Rushton. Good luck to those who are taking over the running of the Society and may they get as much enjoyment out of it as we have.

R. G. Lewis (Pre.)

Geographical Society

Chairman: Mr. I. M. Scott
Secretary: R. A. Eckton
Treasurer: M. J. Parker

The Society passed through a brief period of inactivity during the summer of 1982, but things have come to life since September. Thanks to the help of Mr. Scott, who has given up many of his lunchtimes, no less than eight films have been shown during the Winter and Spring Terms. These have been of a British regional and an energy theme. Some examples of these films are "The Welsh Marches" and "FLAGS under the North Sea". The films have never been watched by large numbers, but it is hoped that the regular number of fifth-formers who attend will secure the future of the Society for several years at least.

R. A. Eckton (Pre.)

Sixth Form Society

The Sixth Form Society, which usually meets every Friday afternoon is organised by Mr. West, who must not only be thanked for handling the administration of the society, but also for his creation of a both informative and entertaining programme. The Sixth Form have seen five films in all this year, including: the mystical "If"; the rather disturbing film "Lenny" and "One Word of Truth" about Alexander Solzhenitsyn. There have also been several talks, covering a variety of topics, such as, "Forensic Science" by Dr. Wood; a talk on the relatively new Red Rose Radio; and a light-hearted look at defence by an RAF Demonstration Team. Towards the end of term members of staff have participated in the programme. Firstly, in "Question Time", involving Mr. Jackman, Mrs. Boll, Mr. Baines and Mr. West. More recently the Sixth Form have been treated to a behind the scenes look at Mr. West's proposed rise to power. As can be seen the Sixth Form have enjoyed a highly varied year, and thanks must go once again to all staff concerned.

M. Linnington, U6A

Scientific Society

Chairman: Dr. B. M. Summers
Secretary: S. Clay
Treasurer: Fiona J. Dickson

The Society has remained fairly dormant this year, due to a lack of interest from the School. In the Summer Term, at Open Day, Dr. Summers had dug out an experiment to produce the pungent, self-igniting smoke rings of Phosgene. There was many a complaint for a whole week afterwards about "that 'orrible fishy smell'".

Three films were shown in the Winter Term. They concentrated on the subject of oil and were directed to Sixth Form Chemists and Geographers. Although the attendance for these films was low, the audience found them both enjoyable and informative. A couple of visits were arranged, to BNFL at Salwick and to ICI at Thornton, but the respective managements could not cater for our Society until the Summer.

Many thanks go to Dr. Summers, who persevered and helped wherever he could.

S. Clay (Pre.)

Subbuteo Society

Chairman: Mr. A. P. West
Secretary: C. Akers
Treasurer: D. S. Hurton

This school year has been very successful for the Subbuteo Society, with an influx of new members, and a resurgence of interest in the game from older members of the school. One league competition has been completed, and a second is under way. A cup competition is also proposed for the Summer Term. The first league competition was won by C. Akers, with N. Barton in second place, and the second league competition will probably also be won by C. Akers. Mr. West was easily beaten in the first league, but in the second, he discovered that a seven-man defence is not impenetrable, and that more than one man in attack helps to score goals more frequently!

Total outlay amounts to £11.45, with prize money and the cost of a new board yet to come. When we have the new board in use, it will be possible to play six matches in each of two evenings (Monday and Thursday) each week. The exams next term will mean that this league will have to be completed soon, and the Cup Competition started. Many thanks must go to Mr. West for his assistance.

D. Hurton, 4Y

Wargaming Society

Chairmen: Mr. R. M. Clarkson, Mr. R. J. Watson
Secretary: J. Howells
Treasurer: M. J. Green

This has been a successful year for the Society, with 12 wargames completed at the time of writing.

Regrettably, the customary annual trip to the "Northern Militaire" exhibition had to be cancelled, due to a combination of circumstances.

However, in compensation for this disappointment, the Society has purchased a shiny new wargame entitled "Elric" (based on the book of the same name by Michael Moorcock) and a number of scenic items.

Thanks must go to the English Department for the loan of the Library on Saturdays, and to Messrs. Clarkson and Watson for their unflagging interest and support.

J. Howells, 5Y

K.G.S. and the Micros

Over the last year, computing at K.G.S. has come a long way. At the time of going to press last year, the school was just getting used to the Research Machines Limited (RML) 380 Z Computer. However, problems were clearly arising. The trouble was that this machine was very complex for the novice. Although there is no doubt as to the excellence of the 380 Z, most beginners are unable to grasp the intricacies of storing the programs and information that they use on floppy disk, and this means that any work done is lost when the machine is switched off. As a result, by the end of the school year, there were only two programmers using the 380 Z to any great extent, they were S. R. Dewsnup and A. R. Perry. However, since then, a number of Fourth Form pupils have made rapid strides in learning the required techniques.

The beginning of the academic year 1982-83, brought two very welcome surprises. These surprises took the form of two Commodore Pets. The Pet is a desk top micro-computer which, although it is small in terms of memory, has no complications from having to use disk drives, and so once it has been switched on, programming can be started. These new machines have had an amazing popularity with pupils from years one to four. Room 19, which has been turned into the Computer Room, was always full at Morning Break and in the Lunch Hour.

The increased popularity of computing at K.G.S. necessitated the formation of a Computer Society with a Committee of experienced programmers who can give help and advice to novices. By Christmas 1982, it was seen that many pupils were copying games programs out of computer

magazines, and after a lot of discussions by the Committee it was felt that this should be discouraged because it was not developing pupils' own programming skills. The New Year brought with it another problem for discussion. This time the trouble was caused by overcrowding in the Computer Room. This was resolved by controlling the number of pupils in the room at any one time. Using a rota system it was felt that no one person could dominate either machine, and everyone would have a fair crack of the whip.

Several school departments, especially the Geography Department, have bought their own programs to use on the 380 Z as teaching aids and other departments and societies have approached our two senior members to design for them many and varying programs. In the not too distant future, it is hoped that the interested fourth year pupils will be able to make use of the knowledge passed to them from above and will also be writing programs for the benefit of other societies.

Certainly, computing at K.G.S. would not be where it is today without the help of the members of staff in the Maths Department and the careful guidance of Mr. R. J. Browning, to whom all the programmers are grateful.

S. R. Dewsnup (Pre.)

(Sec. Computer Soc.)

A road safety program devised by A. R. Perry and Mr. L. A. Redman which gained national publicity in the Institute of Road Safety Officers journal 'INROADS'.

Pictured, left to right, are A. R. Perry, Mr. L. A. Redman and Mr. R. J. Browning.



Photograph by kind permission of the Lancashire Evening Post

Library Report 1982-83

Although there have been no great innovations in the Library this year, development and expansion have continued. Several hundred books have again been added and thanks to a generous donation from the Friends, several hundred more will have been added before the beginning of next year. The onerous task of maintaining those books already in the library continues apace.

The wide selection of magazines and newspapers appears to be justifying the considerable expense as they are being widely read.

The day-to-day supervision of the library at lunch-times has been reliably carried out, as was the library check by the following librarians and I would like to thank them, on behalf of the school, for their assistance: G. Ainley, I. Bellingham, N. Bernie, I. Campbell, S. Dewsnap, R. Gibson, D. Gillibrand, D. Hurton, R. Lewis, A. Ross, D. Rosser, D. Sarti and various other members of the Sixth Form who have stood in on occasions. I would particularly like to thank Neil Kitchen who proved to be a great help during the library check and ensured that all librarians fulfilled their duties with great efficiency and reliability.

R. J. Watson

K.G.S. Moneymakers

In October, a group of Lower Sixth students volunteered to participate in an economics game called "Stockpiler". They were Peter Goodridge, Ralph Platt, Simon Sumner and Rowland Ward.

Given a list of companies and a hypothetical £50,000, we invested the cash in several companies, a list of which was submitted to Williams and Glyn's Bank, the organisers of the game. We were allowed to change our investments every month on a given date, and by March 8th, the final decision day, we had made a "profit" of £12,000. Unfortunately, some teams from other schools had made greater profits, but K.G.S. finished a creditable fifth out of fifteen teams.

In November, another syndicate of K.G.S. economists, consisting of Peter Selwyn-Smith, Alan Fotheringham, Darran Brook and Rebecca Walls, entered a similar competition run by the Midland Bank. Imaginary shares to the value of £100,000 were bought in several companies, and our team made a promising start, reaching third place in the Fylde. Perhaps it is an indication of how volatile the Stock Exchange is; perhaps we made the wrong decisions while others made the right ones, but we were thirteenth after the next assessment. Faced with Social Security, unspeakable poverty and a penniless future, we made a final stand and came out overall in eighth place out of thirteen with £103,576.

P. Goodridge, L6M

Charity Committee Report 1982-83

While in monetary terms this has been a very similar year to 1981-2, there has, however, been a greater diversity in the way in which that money has been collected.

In the Summer Term of 1982 the Committee organised a sponsored walk, in conjunction with UNICEF, to raise money for providing drinking water for Third World countries. The walk was in Grizedale Forest and, while effectively raising £60 for UNICEF, was thoroughly enjoyed by all those who took part. Our most sincere thanks must go to Mr. Rushton for organising the walk.

In the Winter Term of 1982 the senior girls created some veritable masterpieces of puff-pastry and flans which they sold (like hot cakes?) to raise money for charity. Other amounts were raised from the sale of programmes for the Masters versus Prefects football, the Carol Concert and the non-uniform day.

I would like to thank all the Charity Committee and pupils for raising the weekly sums which comprise our regular income, but most of all I would like to thank Mr. Clarkson for co-ordinating all the work of the Committee.

Accounts 1982-83

Receipts for the twelve months to March 1983 totalled £1055.36.

Payments for the same period were:

April - Leprosy Mission - £90.00

May - British Legion - £15.00

June - Polish Relief Fund - £30.00

S. Atlantic Fund - £40.00

July - Elizabeth Garret Anderson Hospital - £40.00

August - UNICEF - £140.00

November - RNLI - £75.00

British Legion - £14.40

December - BBC Children in Need Appeal - £25.00

January - Shelter - £50.00

Spastics Society - £20.00

National Association for Mental Health - £60.00

Total - £704.40

C. J. Swift (Pre.)

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and

"VILLA ON VENUS"

by KENNETH LILLINGTON

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HOUSE SECTION

Inter-House Competitions 1982-3

	Winners	Runners-up
<i>Summer Term 1982</i>		
Cricket (Junior)	Fylde	School
Cricket (Senior)	Fylde	School
Athletics	School	Preston
Athletics (Standards)	School	Kirkham
Swimming (Standards)	Kirkham	Preston
Tennis (Junior)	Preston	Fylde
Tennis (Senior)	School	Fylde
Rounders (Junior Girls)	Preston	Lytham
Chess	Ashton	Fylde
Work Cup	Kirkham	Preston
<i>Winter Term 1982</i>		
Play Reading	School	—
Gymnastics (Junior Girls)	Preston	Fylde
Netball (Junior Girls)	Preston	Kirkham
<i>Spring Term 1983</i>		
Rugby (Junior)	Preston	Fylde
Rugby (Senior)	School	Lytham
Music	Lytham	School
Swimming	School	Fylde
Hockey (Junior Girls)	School	Kirkham
Cross Country (Junior Girls)	Preston	School
Cross Country (Junior Boys)	School	Ashton
Cross Country (Intermediate)	Kirkham	School
Cross Country (Senior)	School	Fylde
Shooting	Lytham	Ashton
Debating	Kirkham	School
Chess	Preston	Lytham

T. Jackman

Ashton House

House Master: Mr. G. S. Cheesbrough
House Captain: A. P. Bracegirdle

The beginning of the 1982-83 School Year was not very auspicious for Ashton House. The first competition was an inter-house debate against Fylde House, the team of M. Linnington and A. P. Bracegirdle proposing the motion "This House believes that the Falklands invasion by Britain was an unnecessary show of force". The House team was beaten by the Fylde team, an embarrassing result as our House had defeated Fylde in the Final last year.

The junior girls were given their chance to achieve success in the Gymnastics Competition in October and the Junior Girls Netball in November. In the Gymnastics Competition, Magdalen Heyes executed an involved demonstration, which sadly, was only able to bring Ashton, 5th equal with School House. In the Netball, however, the team played well, beating Kirkham House, but only drawing against Lytham House. Notable performances were given by Elizabeth Green and Amanda Clarkson.

The boys were not as successful in the Rugby – the Junior Team were knocked out in the First Round against Kirkham House, the team finding it an uphill struggle having had a try disallowed in the 1st minute. The Seniors conceded the game in the Semi-Final, having a team of only 10 men, following a bye in the First Round.

The Spring Term began with the Play-Reading; the Ashton play "St. Joan", by Bernard Shaw, was organised by M. Linnington with good general performances put forward by all concerned, but it failed to be placed.

The House Music Competition in March saw very good performances by all houses, so that our score of 77 out of 100 was only able to bring 4th equal, in spite of a very good piano solo by Elizabeth Green.

The performance in the Swimming was not as good, the House coming a disappointing 6th place, despite a good all-round performance under the guidance of M. Hamilton.

In the Shooting, an excellent all-round performance, under the guidance of J. Fletcher resulted in Ashton coming a very close second to Lytham House.

The boys' Cross Country teams achieved good results, with the Seniors fourth, the Intermediates third and the Juniors second in their respective competitions. The girls' team was, however, rather less successful.

The House Chess Team has been performing very well so far, being placed in a strong position at the half-way stage of the Competition, but it has yet to be seen if we shall repeat last year's win of the Competition.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all the organisers of house events, especially Rosemary Heyes, the vice-captain, and Mr. Cheesbrough for all their help in organising and running our entries in this year's competitions.

A. P. Bracegirdle, U6Sc.

Fylde House

House Master: Dr. B. M. Summers
House Captain: N. A. Barton

Last summer saw a magnificent victory for the second consecutive year in the Senior House Cricket. We defeated Lytham and Ashton (with a notable 19 by C. Stewart) on the way to the Final, where a close contest against School ended with our retention of the Trophy.

The Junior Cricket was not quite as successful, but there is still plenty of time to improve, and in the girls' Rounders Competition, our team donned their Fylde green army jerseys only to be knocked out in the First Round.

We gained a creditable 3rd place on Sports Day, our first places coming from Laura Sylvester, Sean Wilkinson (2), Steven Chrispin (2), Shaun Wilson, Lisa Green, David Barnes and our junior boys and intermediate girls both won their respective relays.

Our Senior Rugby Team could not quite match up to the Cricket performance in the Summer and crashed out of the first round of the Rugby Competition, thanks to a 43-0 thrashing by Preston. However, the side (consisting mainly of non-rugby players) deserves credit for a spirited fight, especially R. Jobson. S. Wilson and S. Wilkinson sparkled in the Junior Rugby but the team reached the Final to be beaten in an exciting contest.

Of a less physical nature was the Play-Reading Competition. A lengthy production of "Even Less Legal" did not, however, result in success for the House, despite some inspiring role-playing by the de R. Carroll twins.

Our debating duo of G. Bretherick and G. Gregson saw off Ashton in the First Round of the House Debating, but failure to produce a team against School unfortunately did little for our chances.

Linda Morgan and Laura Sylvester led our team in the Netball Competition. We managed to beat Preston, the eventual winners, in a group match, but failed to qualify for the Final after losing narrowly to School.

Little Linda Roberts gave an impressive display in the Gymnastics and gained a splendid second place behind Preston.

The recently-completed Chess Competition also ended in Preston beating us into second place. A good result, however, and credit goes to the team and its captain, D. Watkinson.

In the Junior and Intermediate levels of the Cross-Country Competition, the House failed to gain notable positions despite an excellent run by D. Barnes who beat the rest of the field by 3 minutes in the Intermediate event. S. Robson ran well for the juniors and, having come second behind Sean Hickey, I helped the House to an overall second place in the Senior race, School securing first place.

School also beat us in the Swimming Competition, but it was a very narrow win for them and D. Kirkham and D. Barnes both swam superbly.

We finished fourth equal in the Music Competition with a brilliant clarinet solo played by Linda Morgan, but many thanks also go to R. Jobson, D. Kirkham and J. Lee.

Less favourable results came in the Girls' Hockey Competition and the House Shooting Contest. The girls as usual fought hard in their matches, and it was only some poor shooting on my part which prevented the impressive marksmanship of G. Ainley and J. Lee from gaining a higher overall position.

There is much hope for the future and I hope that all those talented members of the House will make the best use of their talents, whether it be for Fylde House or not.

N. J. F. Barton, U6M

Kirkham House

House Master: Mr. A. R. Baines
House Captain: N. D. Kitchen

The Spring Term 1983 has not been one of our best for winning trophies and does not give a true reflection on the amount of effort that has been put in by the very competitive House membership.

The Summer Term 1982 did not begin well for the House either. The Junior Cricket team lost in the first round to Lytham House and this was the same in the Senior Competition with the House losing to School despite S. Robinson and M. Herrington excelling themselves.

The inclusion of two girls in the Junior Tennis team was something new for the House, but unfortunately neither they nor the rest of the team could defeat a strong Fylde House team. In the Senior Tennis, we were narrowly overcome by Fylde, yet again!

Our lowest point in the Summer Term, was Sports Day, where we could only achieve 6th – the bottom – place.

The Summer Term was finally capped by two victories, one in the Work Cup (which we led throughout the year) and the other in the Swimming Points Competition.

An inspiring win against Ashton House in the Chess Competition set the Winter Term 1982 in motion. This win was followed by a defeat by School House, partly due to a misunderstanding over age limits on the "Junior" boards.

Michaela Parkinson was the House representative in the 1981-82 Gym Competition held over from the Summer Term '82 and though performing most enthusiastically unfortunately was unable to achieve a 1st place but finally finished a creditable 3rd.

In the Preliminary Round of the Senior Rugby, we were outplayed by a strong Lytham House by 28-4. With Simon Robinson captaining the team for most of the match, we played with a great deal of determination but were unable to apply the proper finishing touches when and where necessary. Notable performances came from D Lowcock, M. Herrington and especially D. Marsden.

Ashton House were Kirkham's victims of the First Round of the Junior Rugby by a score of 24-4. However, in the next round, we were beaten by 40-4 by a good Preston House side. Credit must go to A. Greening, L. Fenton and C. Holden for holding the side together and also to all the first years who participated.

In the Debating Competition, our formidable team of C. Swift and D. Hurton convincingly defeated Preston House in the First Round. An excellent speech from the floor by R. Moyes of the 1st year, edged our speakers into the Final against the School House side.

For the third year running, the girls found themselves in the Final of the Netball Competition, easily dismissing Lytham 9-3 and Ashton 11-3 on the way. In the Final, the team narrowly lost to Preston House, 6-4. Excellent performances came from Helen Greening and the captain, Gail Hull who scored the majority of our goals.

In the Play Reading, we chose to give a rendition of "Oh What a Lovely War" in which the "singing" was greatly appreciated by the adjudicator but was not enough to achieve first place. We claim second at least!

A well-rehearsed choir, and a euphonium solo by J. Woodruff scored well in the Music Competition but along with our other two items, was only enough to achieve 3rd place.

In past years, the Swimming Competition has been a battle of ability between ourselves and School House. However, this year due to many of our strong swimmers having left for pastures new, we could only manage 4th place with School again taking the honours. A notable individual performance came from Gail Hull who excelled herself in her events.

Since the Girls' Hockey began, a win or even a goal from Kirkham has been unheard of. This year, under the influence and guidance of A. Traviss and J. Collins, Kirkham's "lasses" fought their way into the Final, overcoming the challenges of Fylde and Ashton on the way. The Final against School turned out to be a nail-biter with Kirkham withstanding intense pressure until the last second when School scored. Although narrowly losing, the team was a credit to the House, with Gail Hull outstanding in defence.

Not for some time has Kirkham House been blessed with a good Senior Cross-Country team, and this year proved to be no exception. Despite numerous training "runs" from the canteen to the Sixth Form Unit, we only achieved 5th place with M. Butterworth holding the team together in coming 5th overall.

Three points was the margin by which Kirkham beat School in the intermediate Cross-Country to give Kirkham House their first trophy of the year. All our runners ran true to form with C. Lees, D. Lowcock and P. Cross coming 2nd, 3rd and 4th respectively.

To conclude this report, I would like to thank all of those who have participated this year, the staff and especially my fellow Sixth formers, for their patience and enthusiasm throughout the last two terms.

N. Kitchen (Pre.)

Lytham House

House Master: Mr. B. F. Taylor
House Captain: M. P. Tucker

This year, Lytham House has had increasing success as the year progressed, starting off dismally at the beginning of the year, and slowly but surely improving towards the end with some excellent results in a wide spectrum of events.

Last summer saw Lytham House not living up to expectations, with both the Senior and Junior Tennis and Cricket Teams, being knocked out early on in their Competitions, despite the teams being very high-spirited. Sports Day, which was definitely not Lytham's Day, went off with the House having no real success. Also during the Summer Term, both the Chess and Work Cups avoided us.

What would otherwise have been a totally disastrous term was saved by one event, that of the Junior Girls' Rounders Competition in which our team lost narrowly to Preston House in the Final.

The Winter Term saw the departure of Mr. S. J. Turner. On behalf of the House, I would like to wish him the best of luck in the future.

The Winter Term also saw Lytham House emerging from its depression. There was a minor setback at the beginning of the Term with the Junior Rugby Team losing in the First Round to Fylde House, which was immediately reprieved by the Senior Rugby Team, who in an inspired match, defeated Kirkham House by 26-4, with excellent performances from G. Rowlandson, N. Williams and all the 4th years who played. Lytham House got a bye through to the next round, due to Preston House being unable to raise a team. Lytham House thus reached the Senior House Rugby Final for the first time since I can remember. Then to the dismay of all, we were unable to play the Final due to numerous injuries to members of the House Rugby Team, thus letting School House win the trophy again by default. The term also saw Lytham House lose the Debating in the First Round.

The Spring Term saw Lytham House becoming easy victors of the Music Competition, our first cup. The items included; The House Choir, a trombone solo played by M. Lewis, a piano solo played by J. Hardiker, and E. Waite, Tracy Rogers, J. Hardiker and J. Webster in a Baroque quartet. A measure of the success of the House was that all the items except the choir were chosen to appear in the Easter concert. Special thanks must go to J. Hardiker and E. Waite for producing what proved to be a first-rate programme by Lytham House.

Unfortunately, this was followed by a defeat in the Play-Reading Competition, which was disappointing due to the time and effort put into it by those involved.

Two weeks later came the Shooting Competition which Lytham House took by storm, finishing outright winners, being a clear 25 points ahead of second placed Ashton House.

Good performances were produced by the whole team, especially from N. Williams, D. Gillibrand and myself, who achieved the highest individual score in the whole competition!

In the Winter and Spring Terms, the Junior Girls competed in the Gym, Netball and Hockey Competitions, but unfortunately, did not have any real success in any of these competitions.

The Cross-Country Competition was predictably disastrous for Lytham House, the team being disqualified when one Sixth-former foolishly cut the course. The Swimming Competition saw more success, with fine individual wins by A. Smith, S. Halstead and Sharyn Rhodes. The Chess Team has played well this term and finished the Competition in second place.

In conclusion, I must thank all the staff and Sixth-formers who have given up their spare time to organise the various events of the past year, and all the competitors who gave their best for the House.

M. P. Tucker (Pre.)

Preston House

House Master: Mr. T. Jackman
House Captain: S. R. Dewsnap

With many good team and individual performances in many events both sporting and non-sporting over the last year, Preston has been well placed in most competitions and has certainly won its fair share of trophies.

Before giving you the results of the House Competitions, I think I should mention the academic success of one of last year's Sixth Formers, Jon Milburn. Jon stayed on to take seventh term Oxbridge examinations in November of last year, and I am pleased to report that he has gained entry to Lincoln College, Oxford to read Philosophy, Politics and Economics.

On the sporting field last summer, Preston saw some excellent results. In the Junior Tennis, the team came up against School in the Semi-Final and successfully dispatched them in a close match. Following this, a victory in the Final against Fylde brought Preston a well-deserved trophy.

The girls also gave Preston a taste of victory in the Rounders Competition and at the same time showed everyone else how rounders should be played. The girls won both their matches against Lytham and Kirkham with whom the House had been drawn, and then went on to win the Final on the same day while our opponents were fresh having qualified the previous day.

On Sports Day, the tide of good fortune turned against us, and although in the lead for most of the afternoon, this margin was whittled away due to key competitors being injured. By the end of the day, we were relying on several victories in the relays which did not materialise, and so we were forced into second place by only a few points. A similar fate befell our Junior Cricket players, who were defeated in the First Round against Ashton. The Senior Team was, however, knocked out by a strong School House team in the First Round by a mere 2 runs. In the less active field of Chess, our players did not seem to be able to master any strategy and came fifth.

The Winter Term brought mixed fortunes in the House Rugby. The Senior XV, although lacking the power of Andrew Pearson and Richard Turner for their first match, stormed to a 53-0 victory against Fylde. Excellent performances came from Roger Lewis, Jon Milburn, Robert Gibson and Giles Hewitt. With the team back to full strength for the semi-final, Preston had the misfortune of being drawn against the might of School. After a valiant performance in which several players had to leave the field through injury, we lost 26-3.

The boys stormed to a 54-4 victory against Kirkham in the Junior Rugby and will meet School in the Final at the end of the Spring Term.

Another trophy was brought to the House thanks to the superb performance of Ashley Fallon in the Girls' Gym Competition. Ashley was the clear victor after giving an accurate and skilful display in each test.

In the Girls' Netball Competition, Preston was drawn in the same group as Fylde and School (last year's winners) whom we beat and so met Kirkham in the Final. In a close match, the girls' showed the skill that was so much lacking last year. The final score was 8-6 in our favour.

In the more orally active field of debating, we were somewhat less successful. The duo of Jon Milburn and Simon Dewsnup fought their way to a win in the first round, but as Jon left in November he was replaced by Chris Kay. The new team fell prey to the more experienced Kirkham team in the Semi-Final.

An extract from George Bernard Shaw's "The Devil's Disciple", was performed in this year's Play Reading Competition. Although we were well organised by Nick Bernie, School House prevailed on the day. Ill fortune struck again in the House Music Competition in which we were relegated to last place as one of our performers was unable to play on the day. Our position did not reflect the hard work put in by the other musicians.

In the Swimming, all the competitors gave their best performances, and special note must be made of M. Heald who set a new record in the Junior Boys' Individual Medley. At the final reckoning, we were placed third with 111 points.

The girls were somewhat less successful in the Hockey than the Netball, losing to School in their group on goal difference.

I must finally thank all those who have taken part in events over the last year and my colleagues in the Sixth Form who have organised many of the events.

S. R. Dewsnup (Pre.)

The sports scene also saw the regaining of the Swimming Cup by a 17 points margin over Fylde. There were 14 firsts (including 5 in the relays) and seven seconds in the gala with two firsts each for Nick Hamer and Sarah Goldthorp. It was an excellent team effort and congratulations must go to all. The Junior Girls' Hockey saw another victory and the 1-0 win over Kirkham in the Final did not reflect the team's superiority with good performances in all departments notably from Katie Hickey and Michelle Simpson.

Finally on the sports scene, we also had our share of success in the Cross-Country. The Intermediates ran Kirkham a close second with Robin Crisall 5th, Paul Davies 6th and Torben Wills 7th.

The best performance, however, came from the Seniors who broke the record of totalling only 35 points in winning with Sean Hickey 1st, Ian Duckworth 3rd, Adrian Hickey 4th, Steven Clay 6th, Darran Brook 8th and Andy Davies 13th. Mention must also be made of Dennis Wheatley who, although he did not score, came a creditable 17th.

Off the field, we came our habitual second place behind a very well organised Lytham House in the Music Competition. The House choir singing "Consider Yourself" and Matthew Mears performing "Toccata" represented us in the Easter concert. The House Play-Reading group performed most convincingly to win the Cup with their interpretation of "The Coming of the Kings" under the temperamental, hard-to-please directorship of P. K. Selwyn-Smith.

I would also like to wish Marshal Parker and P. K. Selwyn-Smith all the best in the forthcoming Debating Final. Congratulations and thanks must go to everyone who has taken part in any aspect of the House and its functions. It has been one of the most successful years yet and I hope the House will continue to monopolise as many cups as we have done recently.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for helping me to run the House, in and out of school, with special thanks to the Sixth-Formers and especially Steve Clay, Marsh Parker, Chris McCreadie and Ian Duckworth. Last but not least, I must thank our very own R.M.C. without whom I feel sure there would not be the pride and commitment that there so obviously is. Thanks to everyone and keep up the good work in the coming year.

S. Taylor (Pre.)

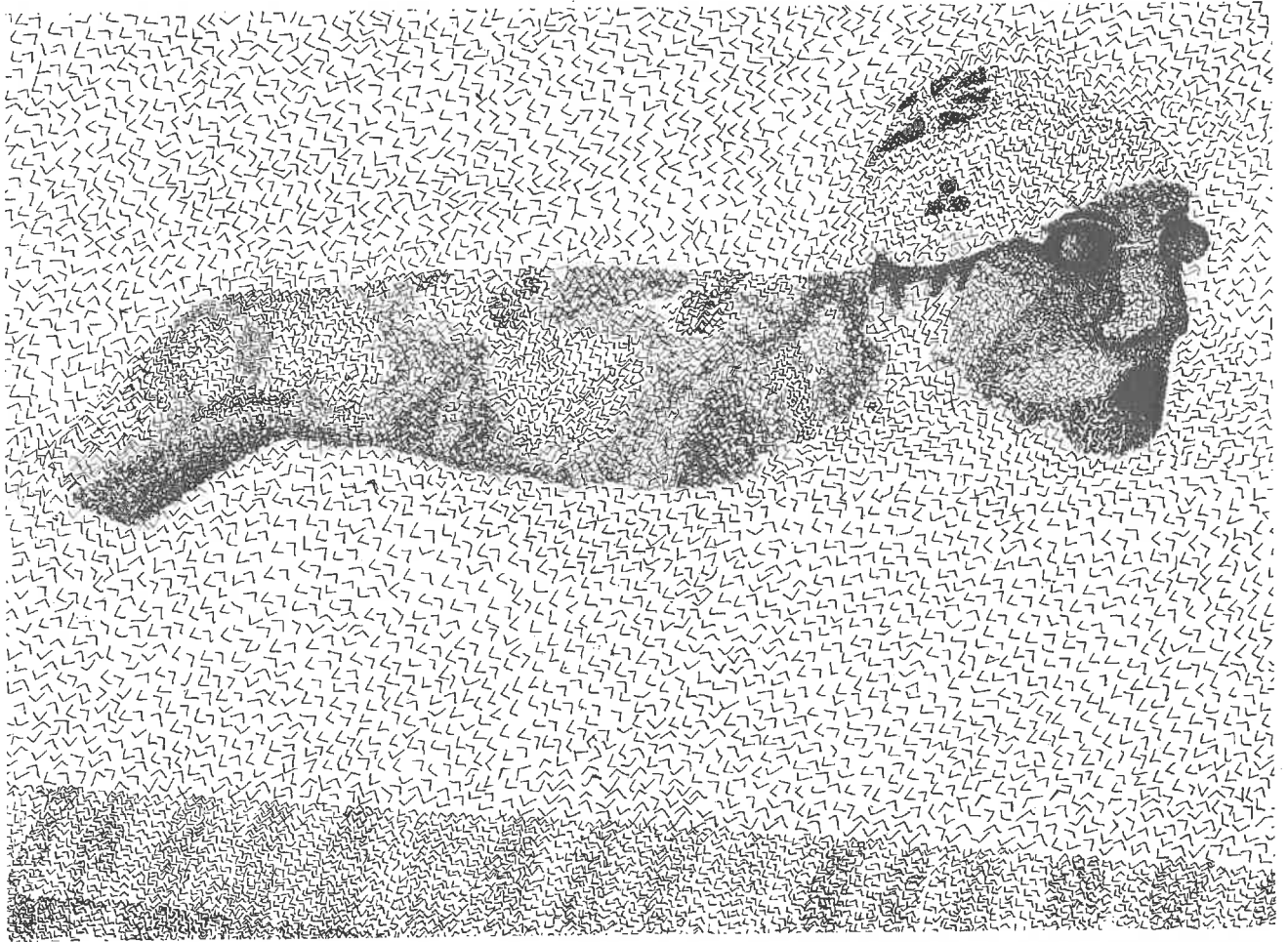
School House

House Master: Mr. R. M. Clarkson
House Captain: S. Taylor

The Summer Term, 1982, was an eventful one for the House. As well as winning the Athletics Standards, we regained the Athletics Cup on Sports Day and also the Senior Tennis Cup. We hope to repeat our dominance of these cups this Summer under the strong leadership of Sean "Seb" Hickey and Ian "Bjorn" Duckworth. We also finished runners-up in both Cricket Cups and hope to go one better this year.

The beginning of the academic year, 1983, saw a School House determined to continue its interest in the Inter-House Competitions. A strong Senior Rugby XV played well to overcome a spirited Preston side 30-3 in the semi-finals under terrible conditions. We were then very disappointed to be awarded the Final without a game as Lytham claimed a lack of manpower. This is the third year running the House has won the Senior Rugby and once again, we hope to repeat this next year. In the Junior Cup, we were forced to field two of our smaller fourth years due to a lack of Junior boys in the House. The result was a 22-17 defeat against a strong Fylde XV in an exciting, hard-fought game with all performing well, particularly M. Kelly and D. Carter.





D. Barnes, 5Y



Photograph by Marshal Parker (Pre.)

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K.G.S. SPORTS

Athletics Report 1982

Under-13

v. K. E. Lytham	Won
v. Arnold	Won
v. Lancaster R.G.S.	Lost
v. Lord Lawson, Newcastle	Won
v. Carnforth H.S.	Won
v. Heysham H.S.	Won

The team has started its athletics career well. The athletes have been enthusiastic and performed well in all matches, being rather unlucky to lose the one match which they did lose. Ian Knott looks a promising hurdler, Michael Kelly a promising middle distance athlete, while Ronnie Hart, Paul Seed, Philip Ryan, Ewan Butt, Noel Naylor, Anthony Bagshaw, Jamie Brammer, Lee Carruthers, Anthony Smith, Christopher Kelly and Mark Yates have all performed well.

Under-14

v. K. E. Lytham	Won
v. Arnold	Lost

Fylde Coast Championships 3rd

Winners:— High Jump: Simon Heath 1.59m **Record**
100m and 200m: Shaun Wilson
Relay: (David Dixon, David Lee, Michael Bailey, Shaun Wilson)

Senior Schools Championships 1st

Winners:— High Jump: Simon Heath
100m and 200m: Shaun Wilson
Hurdles: Nicholas Hamer
Relay: (David Dixon, David Lee, Michael Bailey, Shaun Wilson)

The team started the season on a poor note when the promise of the first year seemed to have evaporated but after Half Term, increased training resulted in the side improving to such an extent that the U14 age group in the Senior Schools Championships was won.

A notable achievement came from Shaun Wilson in the 100m and 200m who achieved the double in both championships, but the outstanding performance came from Simon Heath who broke a 17 year old record in the Fylde Coast Championships, with a high jump performance of 1.59m. Other athletes who performed well were Christopher Doddenhoff, Francis Gray, Stephen Licence and Andrew McCausland.

Under-15

v. Arnold	Won
v. Rossall	Lost

Fylde Coast Championships 3rd

Winner:— Shot: Iain Whyham

Senior Schools Championships 4th

Winner:— Shot: Iain Whyham

After a great improvement last year and a good start to their season, the performances disappointingly tailed off. It seems many of the athletes were unaware that with maturing years comes an increased need for determination and physical fitness. Natural talent alone will not suffice if the athlete has not trained properly, and if technique and fitness poor. Exceptions have been Simon Musson, Mark Craven and Iain Whyham. Musson has developed well as a hurdler, Craven has started to perform well as a discus thrower and Whyham won the shot in both championships. David Whitworth is a natural athlete while Michael Welsh, Andrew Goddard, Craig Seed, Robin Crisall, Derek Hurton, Mark Livesey, Ralston Ferguson and Richard Cuttle all performed well on occasions.

Under-16

v. St. Mary's H.S.	Won
v. Rossall	Won
v. K. E. VII Lytham U16/U17	Lost

Senior Schools Championship 1st

Winners:— High Jump: Graham Ingham
Discus: Glen Fleetwood
Shot: Roger Cook

After the disappointing form of the previous year, it has been pleasing to note the dramatic improvement in performances, climaxing in victory in the Senior Schools Championship, due in no small part to the increased level of fitness and more positive mental attitude instilled by Mr. Smith during the Rugby season. The team was unbeaten against teams of equivalent age.

The Captain Graham Ingham, who was able to motivate his team, was a fine high jumper and runner and, coupled with the emergence of Timothy Gilmore as a high jumper, the team has become very strong in this department. David Barnes emerged as a most promising middle distance runner: an U16, he won the Fylde Coast U17 1500m title and he was 4th in the Lancashire Schools U17 1500m. With improved basic speed he must challenge strongly for the County title next year. Glen Fleetwood and Mark Herrington developed into excellent discus throwers and either could challenge for county honours next year. Paul Reid developed into one of the best hurdlers in the county, Mark Preston regained some of his old sprinting speed and Peter Cross, Stephen Swift, Stuart McIntyre, Richard Robinson, Mark Mort and Andrew Richmond all performed well.

Under-17

v. Lancaster R.G.S	Lost
v. Rossall	Lost
v. Bolton	Won
v. Arnold	Won
v. St. Edwards Coll.	Lost

Fylde Coast Championships 1st

Winners:— 1500m: David Barnes
Discus: Adrian Hickey
Shot: Kevin Stewart
Relay: John Bennett, Andrew Rhodes, Alan Fotheringham, Richard Turner

Lancashire Championships

Discus: Adrian Hickey, 1st
Triple Jump: Andrew Rhodes, 2nd
1500m: David Barnes, 4th

The season was slow to get into full swing, as strong opposition interspersed with 'O' level revision made life difficult. However, it must be appreciated that the teams beating K.G.S. were very strong and a true measure of the talent in the team was seen when the team walked away with the Fylde Coast Championship despite the Pole Vault and Hammer being included in the programme and two competitions being allowed per event, thus giving us a big disadvantage, as we have poor training facilities (if any) for these events.

Adrian Hickey won the Lancashire Schools Discus title and his fine throw gained Lancashire victory over Cumbria, West Yorkshire, Merseyside and Manchester in the last event of the day. John Bennett won his 400m heat at these championships, only to be disqualified for stepping out of his lane while in the finishing straight, a highly controversial decision whose repercussions reverberated round Lancashire Schools athletics for months. It was a pity that Richard Turner could not compete in the Hurdles as he was a potential champion, but it is hoped that next year he will be pushing hard for the Lancashire senior title with Chris McCreadie. Alan Fotheringham, John Sharman, Lee Knowles, Darran Brook, George Critchley, Paul Davies and the new 400m find Darren Thornton, all performed well on most occasions.

Seniors

v. Arnold	Won
v. St. Mary's H.S.	Won
v. Rossall	Lost
v. Bolton	Won
v. K. E. VII Lytham	Won
v. Arnold	Won
v. St. Edwards Coll.	Lost

Fylde Coast Championships 3rd

Winners:— 800m and 1500m: Sean Hickey
Long Jump: Chris Grime
Discus: Andrew Pearson

Senior Schools Championships 1st

Winners:— 100m: Stephen Chrispin
Steeplechase and 1500m: Sean Hickey

Lancashire Championships

Discus: Andrew Pearson, 2nd
Long Jump: Chris Grime, 2nd
Hurdles: Chris McCreadie, 3rd
800m: Sean Hickey, 2nd
100m: Stephen Chrispin, 4th

This has been a most successful and enjoyable season both for athletes and coach. The spirit of the team engendered by the Captain, Stephen Chrispin, Gary McIlraith and Chris Grime made the whole season extremely enjoyable for all concerned. Yet despite all their success the season should have been better but for unfortunate circumstances.

Five school matches were won out of 7, the Senior Schools Championships was won again, indeed the Senior/U16 double of last year was repeated. To be the first school to achieve this feat last year was marvellous, to repeat the feat, unbelievable. Yet the Fylde Coast Championship would have been won if we had fielded a full side and if Stephen Chrispin had not been injured, leaving a frustrating feeling regarding these Championships.

At the Lancashire Championships, the athletes did quite well but Chris McCreadie was beaten in the Hurdles by someone he had beaten three times already, Sean Hickey was beaten "on the dip" despite carrying an injury in the 1500m, and Stephen Chrispin was still carrying his old hamstring pull and with the additional handicap of a spiked calf in the Semi-Final, could only manage fourth in the Final.

Many other athletes performed well in a successful team, notably Trevor Allan, Robert Gibson, Paul Richardson, Philip Judge, Simon Robinson, Martin Tucker, Giles Ainley, Duncan Gillibrand and, last but not least, the self-effacing Gareth Morgan, who tried not to show he had talent, but revealed it fully on Sports Day when he won the Senior Victor Ludorum.

B. Gornall

Cricket Reports

1st XI

P	W	D	L
12	1	5	6

1982 was a very disappointing season for the 1st XI, with only one success in the twelve fixtures but while results left something to be desired, the team played with much spirit and enthusiasm.

The side was captained by Ian Haynes who was the most successful player, finishing at the top of the batting and bowling averages. It frequently fell on his shoulders to bowl the bulk of the overs and while his line and length were a little erratic in the early season, he settled down to play a major role as a strike bowler and as a useful middle order batsman in the latter half.

Probably the biggest weakness was the inconsistency in the batting. The only success of the season was Ian Duckworth's 58 n.o. against Hutton G.S., and all too often, batsmen lost their wickets with careless strokes after they had played themselves in. Jon Milburn opened the innings all season but unfortunately his stroke play did not develop as we had hoped and his weakness on and around leg stump was frequently his undoing. Nevertheless, he kept wicket competently and readily offered the captain the benefit of his undoubted intellect. Brook, Bretherick and Chrispin were batsmen with ability, but unfortunately, they did not realise their potential with big scores.

The defection of Steven Chrispin to the athletics arena was probably the greatest loss to the bowling strength for, when he played in the second half of the season, the attack looked much better balanced. Porter and Calam bowled tightly, despite the former's great difficulty in keeping his hair out of his eyes, and they deserved more success.

The only win of the season was against Baines Grammar School when the batsmen finally contrived to play to the best of their ability in the same match and after declaring at 177 for 5 (Bretherick 44), Baines were bowled out for 141 (Haynes 5-42).

The shortcomings of the side were highlighted most vividly in the game against the Staff XI, when, as a result of good luck and good fortune, the Staff were dismissed for the meagre total of 63 (S. J. Chrispin 7-25), but the 1st XI crumbled and were bowled out for 61, on a pitch which was drying and which Mr. Veevers would call "sporty". However, the side always gave of their best and it was nice to see their enthusiasm throughout the whole of the cricket week.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Veevers for his sterling efforts on the square and all members of Staff who have helped with the coaching and umpiring in 1982.

Colours were awarded to: I. Haynes, J. Milburn and D. Brook.

Half Colours were awarded to: G. Bretherick, I. Porter and N. Calam.

S. J. Turner

1st XI Averages – 1982

Bowling

	Overs	Mdns.	Runs	Wkts.	Average
Haynes	150.3	38	392	25	15.68
Chrispin	77.3	21	244	17	14.35
Porter	71	20	162	12	13.5
Calam	40	7	138	7	19.7
Seabury	31	7	124	5	24.8
Bowen	13	2	37	5	7.4

Batting

	Inns.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Average
Haynes	11	3	38	198	24.7
Bretherick	11	2	44	169	18.7
Chrispin	7	0	36	129	18.1
Duckworth	10	2	58	141	17.6
Brook	12	1	38 n.o.	107	9.7
Milburn	12	0	24	104	8.6

U15 XI

Victories were recorded against Balshaw's and Camforth, the latter in very wet conditions. Creditable draws were obtained against Hutton and King Edward's, Lytham; in both cases, we batted second and were given fewer overs at the crease. The match at home to King Edward's was a real cliff-hanger which saw us four runs short with our last pair at the wicket after a brave attempt to get the runs required. Our one defeat came in our first match, at Baines, where a ninth-wicket stand of 23 kept the margin of defeat to a respectable 35 runs.

The team played cricket with much enthusiasm and no little skill. Shaw was a capable captain whose prowess with the bat often gave the side a solid start. His opening partner was Brewer, a steady left-hander. Hull developed into a fine pace bowler but his batting sometimes suffered from a lack of discipline. The Taaffe twins made valuable contributions with bat and ball, whilst Wills and Boyd performed well as support bowlers.

The fielding was of a generally high standard and Rawcliffe was an alert slip fielder (as well as being a free-scoring batsman). There was a pool of players competing for the remaining places in the team. As several of these "hopefuls" turned up regularly for net practice, attempts were made to give as many of them as possible a chance to play for the school. The following also played: Plummer, Sharpless, Reed, Richmond, Calland and Green.
A. P. West

U14 XI

This was a most disappointing season with all matches ending in defeat, many of them by wide margins. The team never played to the potential shown in net practice, forgetting the most elementary points of getting into line when batting, and bowling to a line and length. The weakest area was in batting because the batsmen never scored enough runs to give the bowlers a chance, although the performance of the latter left something to be desired. However, some players, particularly Craven, Mackintosh and Goddard, did show enough promise to suggest that the team will improve in the future.

B. F. Taylor

U12 XI

The team played well against Baines G.S. and K.E.S., Lytham, but were defeated by Fulwood H.S. and totally outclassed by Clitheroe R.G.S. It was disappointing that two matches were not played because of the failure of other schools to fulfil their fixture commitments:

S. Wincott captained the side satisfactorily, but did not bat as well as expected, although he bowled quite well in two matches. C. Kelly and M. Yates showed considerable promise as all-rounders, with Kelly taking seven wickets against Clitheroe R.G.S. and Yates batting outstandingly against K.E.S., Lytham. Naylor bowled well on occasions and A. Todd hit the ball solidly against K.E.S., Lytham. The fielding was of variable standard, but the players were enthusiastic and thoroughly enjoyed their cricket.

The following played: A. Butterworth, L. Carruthers, C. Kelly, M. Kelly, I. Knott, N. Naylor, P. Seed, A. Smith, S. G. Smith, S. N. Smith, A. Todd, S. Wincott and M. Yates.
N. W. Gamble

Staff XI

Although school teams did not have a particularly distinguished playing record during the 1982 season, the Staff XI salvaged some pride on the K.G.S. square by succeeding in all but one of their fixtures. Wins were achieved over the staffs of Clitheroe R.G.S., St. Mary's H.S., Runshaw College, Fylde R.U.F.C., Broughton Choir, Kirkham Round Table and the School. Defeat was suffered only at the hands of Q.E.G.S. staff.

Such good results reflected much credit on S.J.T., whose enthusiastic captaincy and playing skill made such a positive impact on K.G.S. cricket over three summers. There was some good slow left arm bowling by R.P., his endeavours were often aided by the effective pelican technique of B.F.T. behind the wicket. R.J.W. and I.M.S. had their moments at the crease, the former striking the season's most memorable shot – an imperious cover drive against Clitheroe which Dexter in his pomp would have been proud of. The School were annihilated by 2 runs and the hundred per cent record was only surrendered because the Q.E.G.S. number seven produced an uncouth sloggers innings instead of getting into line and playing straight. No wonder English cricket is in a parlous state when schoolmasters set such a poor example of cross-batted technique to their pupils!

N. W. Gamble

Badminton

Badminton at K.G.S. has really got back on its feet again this year. With the building of badminton courts at the Ribby Hall complex, it was decided to use those instead of the two at school which are difficult to play on due to low beams or slippery surfaces:

There is an organised tournament which is making good but slow progress and many enthusiasts have entered.

We have entered competitions in the Fylde at the Under-16 and Under-19 levels and there are a lot of good players to look out for in the future.

I would like to thank Mr. I. Rushton for his enthusiasm and willingness to help us. Also thanks must go to Musson, Robinson, Plummer, Lowcock and Webster for their endeavour and to Gilmore, Sharpe and B. Taaffe for entertaining us with their unusual standard and approach.
K. G. Critchley, L6A

Hockey 1st XI

P	W	D	L	F	A
8	5	1	2	19	9

This season has been a successful one for K.G.S. The team recovered well after two unlucky and close defeats at the beginning of the season against Darwen Vale and a fine Arnold side, and has remained unbeaten in its last six games. The cancellation of five fixtures due to bad weather has prevented K.G.S. from winning more games.

The team has continued to improve throughout the season and achieved significant victories over Hutton (twice). The highlight of the season was a well-deserved 2-1 win over King Edward's.

Marshal Parker's brilliant goalkeeping has given the defence of Nigel Williams, Dave Sarti and the ever-enthusiastic Ian Glenholme, the confidence to clear their lines well in later games. The ball distribution of the midfield players, Giles Hewitt, Kevin Hardwick and Neil Percy has been consistently good. The team's overall performance has hinged primarily on the play of the forwards. At times the forward attacks through individuals have been weak and unrewarding, but when they have linked well and have had the sense to use the wingers, Andy Traviss and Dave Kerry, they have looked an impressive striking unit, particularly in the team's 6-0 victory over Blackpool Collegiate. Vice-Captain Ian Duckworth and Roger Lewis have been the outstanding forwards scoring three and eight goals respectively.

The whole team's thanks go to the multi-talented umpire, coach and chauffeur, Mr. Sayer. Under captain Kevin Hardwick, K.G.S. offers good prospects for another successful season next year.

Giles Hewitt (Pre.)
(Captain)



Harriers Report

This season has been the most successful the Harriers have enjoyed for many years. We lost the first match to a very strong Hutton side but then went on to record five consecutive victories. The wins over Arnold (twice) and St. Mary's, Birkenhead were not entirely unexpected as the large margins of victory bore out. The victory over Rossall, however, could not have been anticipated by even the most enthusiastic of optimists. The victory was the result of an excellent team effort, and to rub salt into Rossall's wounds – always an enjoyable experience – we completed the "double" later in the season. This is the first time this has been achieved on official records.

We suffered a temporary lapse, losing to Lancaster R.G.S. before winning the Fylde Coast Championships. Excellent performances were recorded by S. Hickey, 1st; I. Duckworth, 3rd; N. Barton, 4th; A. Hickey, 5th; M. Butterworth, 7th; D. Barnes and C. Lees were placed 2nd and 7th respectively in the U17 event. The U15 team was placed 4th and the U14 team 2nd. Both competitions consisted of fourteen schools, which augurs well for the future.

The Harriers then lost to Bury before finishing 2nd in a triangular match between ourselves, Hutton and St. Mary's. The highlight of the year came in the Senior Schools, formerly the Inter-Grammar, when we were placed 2nd out of the eight schools competing. The result was all the more surprising as we lost by just one point to Hutton, who had previously beaten us out of sight. We avenged all other previous defeats in determined style barring the one inflicted by Bury G.S. Individual efforts were again outstanding with S. Hickey winning the championship, I. Duckworth placed 5th, D. Barnes 14th, N. Barton 21st, M. Butterworth 26th, C. Lees 33rd and P. Cross 34th.

The season closed with Kirkham placed 13th in the Dennison Cross-Country Relays out of the best schools in the North of England. S. Hickey clocking the fastest individual time of the eighty-four competitors.

The team has reaped just reward for its efforts and thanks must go to Dr. Hall for the time-consuming practices and enthusiasm. If the team continues to improve as it has done, the Harriers will reach even greater heights next year.

S. F. Hickey, U6M
(Captain)

Tennis

	P	W	L	D
1st Team	18	14	4	0
2nd Team	6	4	2	0

1982 was a good year for both tennis teams. The 1st team lost only four matches to strong opposition from Hutton (2), King Edward's and Stoneyhurst. The team played consistently all season with the three pairs being very evenly matched. There were a number of convincing wins over Rossall (2), Arnold, Q.E.G.S. and Queen Mary's, in which Bridge and Duckworth dropped the only set in an 8-1 victory over the girls from Lytham. There were a number of close matches which resulted in K.G.S. victories with the third pair of I. Collinge and R. Hargreaves saving the day on a number of occasions.

The second team had a good season with promising performances from all the players. There were convincing wins over Arnold (9-0), Blackpool Collegiate and Queen Mary's 1st team. There would have been a good win over Hutton but lack of concentration, for a number of reasons, caused S. Clay and S. Longson to lose the final set 5-7 to two girls!!!!

Teams were entered in the Lancashire Schools U15 and U13 Competitions for both boys and girls. A good spirit was shown by all teams, although their matches resulted in defeat. However, their efforts will be rewarded in future years if they continue to work hard at improving their game. Certainly no one could criticise their efforts, even though they lost. Finally, I would like to thank Dr. Summers for his help and support.

I. D. Duckworth, G6

Netball

The U12 team have played 11 matches, winning 8, and losing 3. They are now beginning to work together as a team, and at times are producing some good, open play, although they still have lapses in concentration where panic appears to set in, and all their good intentions go away. Fortunately, these lapses are growing less frequent and the team is progressing well.

The U13 team have played 15 matches, winning 12, drawing 1 and losing 2. They have worked very well together for most of the term, scoring 18 goals against Broughton H.S. and 19 against St. Cuthbert Mayne H.S. With this very good record, it is a pity that towards the end of the season, one or two players have suffered a marked lack of team spirit which has affected the whole team. I hope that this will be remedied in the very near future, and that the team will be able to regain its former excellence.

The U14 team have played 19 matches, winning 8, losing 7 and drawing 4. Throughout the year they have worked to improve their team skills, and every game is played with enthusiasm.

In the Preston and District League, they have played hard throughout a long and difficult season, where most of their matches have had to be played away.

With their renewed enthusiasm and improved team skills, they should do well next season.

N. A. Black

Girls' Hockey

	P	W	D	L
U15 Team	10	3	2	5
Junior Team	6	5	0	1

The U15 team started the season with 15 fixtures on their list, but adverse weather conditions took their toll, reducing the number of matches played to 10.

There were some positional changes, Isabel Leesen moving out of goal to the forward line, with the 'keeper's position being shared by Laura Connell and Helen Wignall. Perhaps the most spirited display of the season – and the one in which the team took greatest pleasure – was against Arnold, whom we held to a 1-1 draw at Blackpool. However, on the return match at K.G.S. we went down 3-0 to Arnold, so our moment of glory was short-lived.

The season was one of mixed fortunes for the U15's, but some of the stalwarts of the team have shown improvement over the season, and it is hoped that this will continue next year as part of the Senior Team.

For the Junior Team, drawn from U14 and U13 players, this has been a most heartening season. They won 5 of their 6 fixtures, losing only to Heversham G.S., and played enthusiastically on their few outings. However, there are still some wrinkles to be ironed out in the overall attitude to team spirit and discipline.

For both Junior and U15 teams, practices have been reduced to one full session a week, in the hope that, by turning out some 30 players each week, we should be able to pick two teams from a strong nucleus. Whereas in the past, we have often fielded under-strength teams because of limited numbers – and therefore limited choice – we are reaching the stage where numbers of girls wishing to represent K.G.S. in sport is such that a place in a team will have to be earned, and inclusion in a team will depend upon ability, effort and commitment.

I. C. Gault



Photograph by Jonathan Lee, 5Z

Junior Girls' Hockey Team, 1982-83

Back Row: G. Hull, M. Simpson, K. Hickey, S. Lee, A. Fallon, N. Garner.

Front Row: J. Mackey, E. Green, R. Higginson, E. Whitworth, J. Hutchinson, N. Nice.

Rounders '82

The U14 Rounders team played 7, won 2, drew 2 and lost 3 of their matches.

The team, though having the skill, was still lacking in conviction and the will to win. Their performance was very disappointing throughout the term, and their general attitude usually provided them with a second opponent.

Their skilful and enthusiastic captain was their only asset, but total reliance on her abilities is not the way to win matches. Perhaps imitation of her enthusiasm, in addition to being the sincerest form of flattery, may also prove to be the key to success in the future.

The U13 team played 7 matches, winning 4 and losing 3. After a good start to the season, with victories over Broughton, Parklands and Fulwood High Schools, they lost their next two matches, but after a number of position changes, they again won convincingly against Elmslie School.

The U12 team performed extremely well, winning 6 of their 7 matches, and scoring 13 rounders against Broughton High School and 9 rounders against Fulwood High School in consecutive games. Every member of the team contributed to their success by working hard and playing with the conviction and determination necessary to win.

In the Blackpool Junior Rounders Tournament, the U12 team won against Palatine High School, by 3 rounders to $\frac{1}{2}$ a rounder, Millfield School by 2 rounders to 0 and Highfield High School by 4 rounders to 1. They lost in a duel against Carr Hill High School by $\frac{1}{2}$ a rounder to $3\frac{1}{2}$ rounders, but they qualified easily for the semi-finals.

Here they again met Palatine High School, to whom they lost, after a very close fought match, by 3 rounders to 2, and they eventually finished the Tournament in 3rd place.

N. A. Black

Swimming Report

Boys:	P	W	D	L
	16	12	0	4

Girls:	P	W	D	L
	7	5	0	2

This has been the first year that K.G.S. has been able to develop a full swimming fixture list, and as can be seen from the above results, it has been a most successful venture. Opposition has always been very strong, and the teams have done extremely well to gain victories over Hutton G.S., Bolton, Rossall, St. Edwards, De La Salle, Anfield Comprehensive, Blackpool Collegiate, etc., all of whom have their own pools.

The U12's have swum well all year losing only once to Lancaster. Heald and the Whiteside brothers have gained many 1st places between them. The U13's have shown depth in their side with Halstead, M. Smith and Jackson particularly strong, while the U14's have had success with Hamer being unbeaten and Lee and Heath never far behind. The U15's, although not so talented, have shown a particular strength of character in never letting the team down when under pressure. The Seniors, although mainly at the lower end of their age group, have swum well all season. All of them have trained hard and consequently achieved fine results especially in the freestyle relay in which they remain undefeated. D. Kirkham, the captain, has always set the standards for the youngsters to follow.

Our year began in May '82 with the Senior Schools Swimming Gala at Fleetwood. The Intermediate Boys were 2nd overall with Barnes setting two new records in the freestyle and butterfly. The freestyle Relay Team also set a new record, breaking the old one by five seconds. The Intermediate Girls were 3rd with S. Goldthorp gaining two 1st's and setting a new record in the freestyle. The Junior Girls were 3rd and Junior boys 5th. However, it was in the Lancashire Schools' Championships that we produced our finest ever performance and the highlight of the year. Barnes was 1st in the 100m freestyle in a new championship time, and the 4 x 50m freestyle Relay Team of Halstead, Swift, Davies and Barnes were also 1st in a new record time. This really was an incredible achievement for K.G.S. as we were swimming against districts and not schools. The same team was placed 2nd in both the freestyle and medley relays in the English Schools' Championships.

The Inter-House Gala was once again won by School House with Fylde a very close second. Again the overall standard has risen with new records set by D. Kirkham (2), D. Barnes (2), S. Swift (1), M. Heald (1) and the School House relay team.

The squad now looks forward to competing in all the major championships in the Summer Term.

P. Smith

Rugby Reports

1st XV

Captain: D. A. Pearson

P	W	L	F	A
22	13	9	240	176

This season saw a welcome return to form by the 1st XV with the team proving itself a match for any school in the North West, arguably the toughest school rugby circuit in the country. After a hesitant start to the season, the team developed steadily until it was a small step away from being an outstanding side.

Pre-season training went well, with all concerned determined to put last season's misery behind them, but it seemed that the run of luck would never flow our way. In the last non-contact practice before the first game, two players including the captain were injured, then the coach journey to the game was slow resulting in the team arriving late and not fully prepared, and two injuries to players occurred in the first match against a very powerful Ermysteds side thus starting the season off poorly. The run of bad luck concerning injuries alas continued all season, selection never being made from a full complement of players.

However, the team showed itself to possess character and battled on, its reward being the turning point of the season, the victory over K.E. VII Lytham. The team generally developed steadily from then on with notable victories at St. Edward's College, Liverpool for the first time, against Arnold by 25 points to 0 and the first defeat of Stoneyhurst College for eight years. It was hoped that the season would end on a triumphant note with tangible success for those who value material reward, but unavailability of players meant narrow defeats in the Waterloo Cup and Preston Rugby Festival, although the team battled hard against strong opposition. Hopes were high for success in the Fylde 7's, but a weakened side showed little aptitude for the 7's game and for the first time, did not qualify for the knock-out stages of the tournament.

Eight of the nine defeats were in matches which could have been won if luck had gone our way, the exception being the Hutton match, where a weakened pack was taken apart. The prestigious matches against Cowley, West Park, Lancaster R.G.S. and Wirrall, were all exciting and although resulting in defeat, could very easily have ended in victory. I feel that the development of the side was retarded by a lack of confidence after last season's performances which took a long while to overcome, the frustration of injuries and the tendency of the side to press the "self-destruct" button and give away penalties when under pressure. The saddest injury was the worsening of the back problem of Andrew Rhodes resulting in retirement. Andrew had been playing well in the early part of the season which made his loss even more keenly felt.

A feature of the season was the change in emphasis in the style of play from a tight forward game to a more expansive game, involving all fifteen players wherever possible. This was brought about by the emergence of new players as the season progressed and experienced players moving position. Two experienced players who changed position were Christopher McCreadie and Steven Clay, both players of county standard, but who moved position after the county trials were over for the benefit of the side. New players to emerge from the Under-15 XV were Graham Ingham, Mark Preston and Roger Cook, the latter playing well enough at back to be selected for the County Under-16 XV. Robin Parker in his first season at school, quickly established himself as a 1st XV member, while Angus Leeson played as if this was his third in the 1st XV not his first. His play was a constant source of inspiration and example to others of the commitment which must be shown at all times.

Established players who developed were Adrian Hickey, Richard Turner, Gary Bretherick, Martin Tucker, Alan Fotheringham and Andrew Rhodes. Hickey and Turner in particular were an example to all players by their attitude and application of skill. Other experienced players who all contributed to the team effort over the season were Simon Robinson, Philip Judge, Trevor Allan and Simon Taylor, who in his first season played all matches and scored 86 points, so being the highest points scorer.

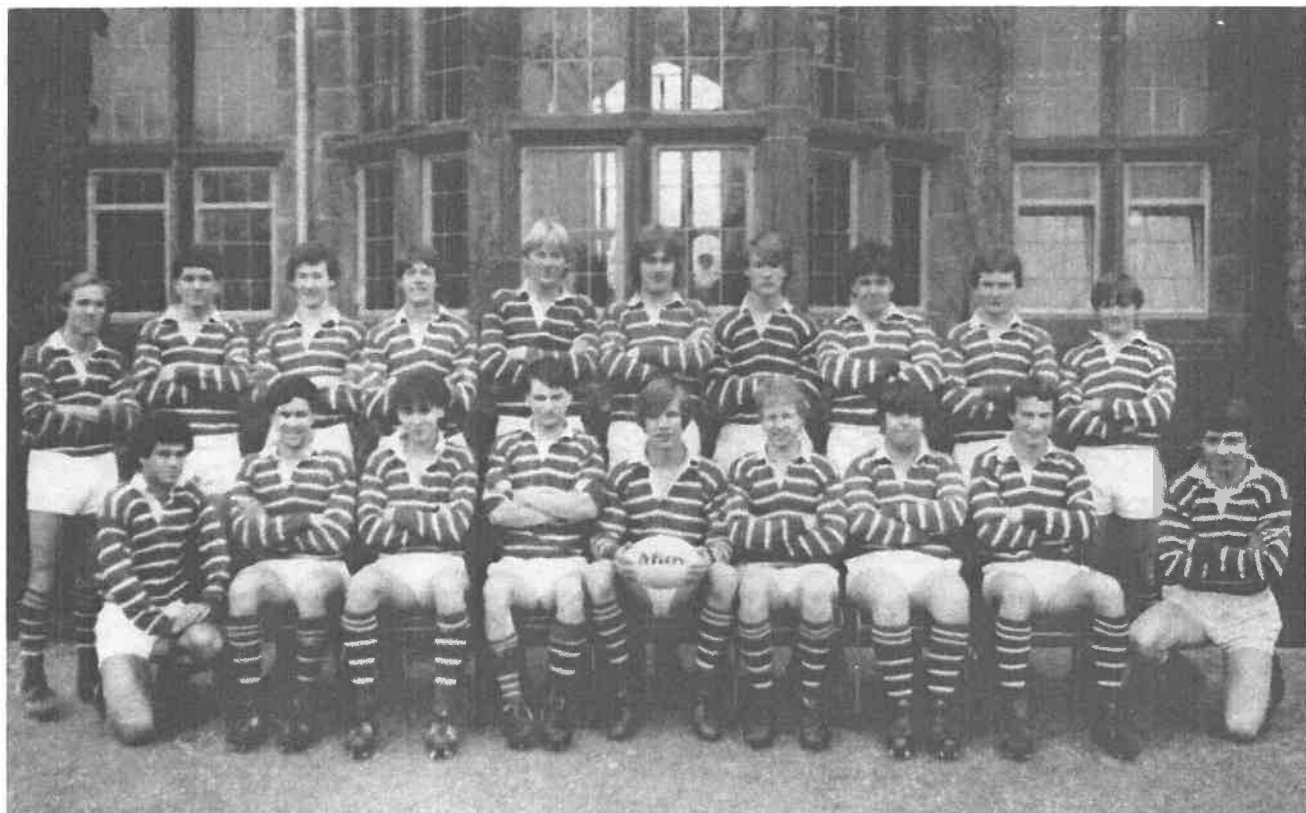
The team played well under the captaincy of Andrew Pearson who was an example to all players, both in performance and leadership. He played as if 2 stones heavier and 3 inches taller than his physique suggested he would play and lifted the game of others.

It is encouraging to see how many players of the team intend returning next season and with the promise of young players pursuing hard for regular places, it bodes well for the future. Paul Reid, Mark Herrington, Stuart McIntyre, Andrew Davies, Andrew Richmond and Darren Mackey have all played well for the 1st XV and are the leading examples of the talent pouring forward towards the 1st XV.

New awards of Full Colours were made to: Andrew Pearson, Angus Leeson, Chris McCreadie, Stephen Clay and Richard Turner.

New awards of Half Colours were made to: Gary Bretherick, Adrian Hickey, Martin Tucker, Roger Cook and Graham Ingham.

B. Gornall



Photograph by Jonathan Lee, 5Z

1st XV 1982-83

Back Row: T. Allan, S. Taylor, P. Reid, G. Ingham, A. Rhodes, R. Cook, J. Bennett, S. Robinson, R. Parker, M. Preston.

Front Row: S. Clay, A. Fotheringham, R. Turner, C. McCreadie, A. Pearson (Capt.), A. Leeson, G. Bretherick, M. Tucker, A. Hickey.

2nd XV

P	W	L
18	8	10

The season has been characterised by good games against stiff opposition and runaway victories against weak opposition. Against the best opposition, the pack has played well and usually dominated their opponents, but the threequarters have been inexperienced and lacking in confidence, therefore not utilising well-won possession to full advantage despite much promise being shown by Paul Reid and Andrew Richmond when playing in the 1st XV.

Gavin Rowlandson has played steadily and led the side by example, while other back row forwards like Andrew Davies. Stuart McIntyre and Darren Mackay, who paused in the 2nd XV while on his meteoric rise to the 1st XV, have played to 1st XV quality. Peter Selwyn-Smith, Simon Fielding, John Plummer and Mark Herrington are all promising players who played well all year.

In the threequarters, Ian Davies, Stephen Swift and Richard Robinson have played well in addition to the players mentioned above. Stephen Carruthers and John Sharman show talent but must develop pace over the summer.

B. Gornall

3rd XV

The less said about the results of the 3rd XV the better, having not recorded a single win, as regular fixtures were not available and many of last year's U15 XV were playing in the higher echelons. However, a good team spirit existed, with skipper Phillips ably leading the side by example, which unfortunately, due to injuries, often consisted of the weaker brethren drafted in at the last moment.

Even so, the one constructive element about this team is that it is a very good breeding ground for future 1st and 2nd teams and during the season, many players made this transition to the senior sides. Thornton, Mackey, Calland and R. Robinson have all improved tremendously and showed great potential for future years, along with a number of players who will naturally form the main body of next year's squads for the 1st and 2nd teams, such as Darley, Watkinson, Boyd, Swift and Hull.

I. M. Scott



Photograph by Marshal Parker (Pre.)

U15 XV

P	W	D	L	F	A
23	11	1	11	306	342

1982-83 proved to be the U15's best overall record so far. Pre-season training began during the last week of the Summer break, and proved extremely worthwhile. The team gained decisive wins over Ermysteds, Morecambe, Ripley and Heysham, but lost heavily to Harefield and Cowley. It was not until after the Autumn half-term that the team started to play entertaining, attacking 15-man rugby. We had always been strong up front especially in the back row, but with a new added confidence in the backs, we really started to go places as a team. Victories were gained over Lancaster, St. Edward's and St. Mary's. The latter two we had never previously beaten. In the Spring Term, we lost to West Park, King William's, Kings Macclesfield and Arnold, but proved worthy opponents when beating Kendal G.S., Stoneyhurst, Douglas H.S., Balshaws and drawing with Manchester G.S.

The team as a whole have developed extremely well throughout the season especially in the backs. Towards the end of the season against Arnold, Balshaws and King's Macc, they really showed just what true talent they all possessed. Three boys gained representative honours this year. Robson, Welsh and Whitworth all played for North Lancashire, with Whitworth captaining the side well throughout the year. Other members of the team who have shown promise for the future are Seed, who has had an outstanding season at full back, Tracey, Craven, Turner, Goddard and Crisall. On a more personal note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our many loyal supporters this year, especially Mr. A. Whitworth who was very helpful at the start of the year when I was unable to referee through injury.

P. Smith

U14 XV

P	W	D	L	F	A
21	11	3	7	501	150

As the record indicates several games were won by very convincing margins, but probably the best performances were in the victories against Wade Deacon (14-9), West Park (12-4) and Kings Macclesfield (22-0). Four of the defeats were before Christmas by four points or less and in each case players were missing from key positions, so they could quite easily have been four victories.

Wilkinson led the team well from centre and he formed an excellent partnership with Heath, the leading scorer with 185 points. Wilson's speed on the wing proved a match winner on several occasions and he ended up with twenty-two tries, one less than Heath.

The pack often had to play against formidable opposition, but it had the technique to out-ruck and maul much larger opponents. Lee, though missing several games through injury, used his size and strength to great advantage and contributed twenty tries. Bailey was an outstanding back row player and covered a lot of ground.

However, everyone made their own contribution to a season which, with a bit more luck, could have produced an outstanding record. The recent acquisition of Bamber in the forwards should strengthen the pack and it is hoped that in the future the team will fulfil its true potential.

R. J. Browning

U13 XV

P	W	D	L	F	A
19	5	0	14	158	517

A disappointing season after quite an encouraging start. It is a relatively small side and on several occasions the opposition were much stronger and physically bigger. They need to work at improving their teamwork and basic technical skills. The side was disrupted by injuries and the fact that key players at times failed to show the required dedication and determination. There were signs towards the end of the season that several players could improve and develop their game next year.

T. J. Bruce

U12 XV

P	W	D	L	F	A
15	10	0	5	292	146

The season has been a very successful one for perhaps the best U12 XV for several years. At times the rugby played by this side has been quite breathtaking and many teams have been beaten "out of sight", yet in defeat the team has never been dominated.

The season began with an excellent performance in the annual Fylde R.F.C. 10-a-side Tournament, where the side proved to be the team of the competition playing open, attractive but aggressive rugby to lift the trophy for the first time, from sixteen schools taking part. It was at this stage that we got a "taste" of the parental support to come, with the "Kirkham Entourage" numbering at least ten cars and completely taking over Fylde R.F.C.

The 15-a-side campaign began with a close-fought win over old rivals King Edward VII School, which proved to be a spring-board to an inspired Winter Term which included six victories from seven games, the only reversal being at Lancaster R.G.S. a match which was lost in the first 15 minutes. An indication of the type of rugby being played during that period comes from the fact that of 176 points scored only four conversions were kicked. The post-Christmas period was less successful with the team suffering four defeats, two in London (which are reported elsewhere) and the other two being at West Park, in very dubious circumstances, and in a very tight game at Manchester where a draw would have been a fair result. However, several excellent victories were recorded, the most notable being at Kings Macclesfield where the team destroyed a very strong home side 32-0, in what was probably the best performance of the season.

The overall record is therefore impressive, as it should be. The team is very well balanced, the forwards are strong, aggressive, fairly well disciplined but lacking a little mobility and the backs are fast, talented and very penetrating going forward, their weakness lies in defensive play, which will have to be remedied next season.

Finally a word about the support. The parents have had a fine season, beginning loud and vociferous and maintaining good form throughout a long Winter Term, returning from the Christmas Break refreshed and calling many new tunes. The aggressive style has been maintained both home and away, consequently a 100% record has been achieved, for which I thank them.

A. C. Hall

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