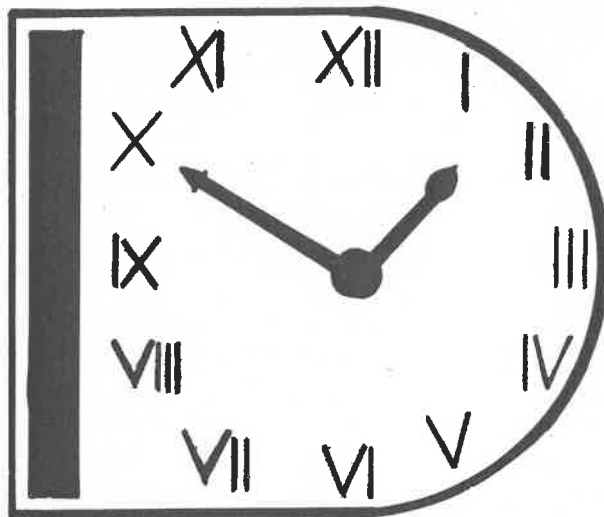


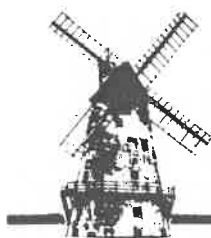
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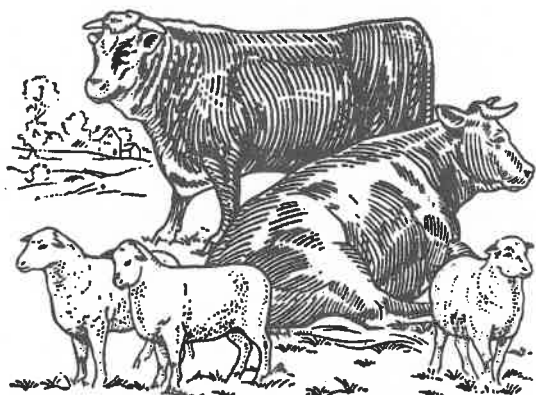
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The Kirkhamian

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Editor: Richard Vaughan
Committee Members: Sarah Goldthorp, Andrew Mackintosh, Samantha Marfleet, Nicola Garner, Nicola Nice, Jeannette Hutchinson, Shaun Wilson.
Co-opted Members: Mrs. A. G. Boll, Mrs. S. Piggott, Mr. R. Porter.

"Ah, Richard! Hang on a minute."

A strangely familiar voice hailed me from somewhere within the general hubbub behind me.

"Have you got anything for me?"

"What?" I thought, and in turning round I could only conclude that I'd been instantaneously and inexplicably spirited to Lewis Carroll's Wonderland, for there hovering in front of me was a large set of dentures quite definitely moulded into the shape of a Cheshire-Cat grin. Slowly the rest of the owner's head and shoulders (please no shampoo jokes, the Chairman's already a little tetchy about his hair) came into focus – my contact lenses were sliding back into place. Hang on, I'd know those glasses and that musk à la garlic aftershave anywhere – oh no, it's the Chairman!

Hopping expectantly from one foot to the other the jovial, young (well youngish) linguist continued his attempt at communication.

"Je sais how busy du bist aber avez-vous got the Editorial and les autres articles?"

"Er, I'm still writing them Sir." I replied, trying to look pleased to see him. Well, roughly translated for those of you not accustomed to dealing with teachers – "Ah, yes, well, I've been thinking long and hard about putting pen to paper, sir, honestly I have!"

Thankfully the fast talk wasn't needed as, after a swift glance over his shoulder, the good old chairman departed post-haste with a "I'll catch you later. I've got to dash . . ." A close call indeed.

Racing home at 4 o'clock I swiftly ransacked the house searching for last year's "Bumper", "action-packed" issue of the "Kirkhamian" from which I could pirate some reports. "Bumper" and "action-packed"? Well compared to the recently resurrected "Argus" the "Kirkhamian" is a model of sobriety (and quite right too!).

Naturally the "Kirkhamian" evokes different responses from its many classes of reader. From the most prestigious of Governors and Old Kirkhamians right down to the smallest stripling of a first year, all must find something of special significance within its covers, whether it be an individual contribution in the Creative Section or the latest in the News from the Governors. Over the years there has of course been the occasional complaint. However, nothing that Mrs. Piggott and the "boys" (and "girls") from the C.C.F., weren't able to deal with.

Yet still the magazine lacked that extra touch of panache. The reports could be slightly more imaginative, the layout a touch more inspiring all without really affecting the content. The Committee could of course (if it dare) alter reports, but somehow I don't see their poetic licence extending as far as transforming "Despite the U16 E team

playing well they were defeated by a superior opposition . . ." into "Never stood a cat in hell's chance but they went down fighting . . .".

Armed with the odd hastily put together report and a few ideas, I returned the following day to ask the Committee's opinion. The Chairman kicked-off with his usual "This year I can really get down to the job in hand . . .". I presented thoughts and waited for the inevitable vote of no confidence. Instead heads were nodding and comments were forthcoming.

"More articles about girls," came from two members freshly returned from a "Despite playing well . . ." hockey match which accounted for their strange attire. "... girls get a really poor deal in the sports reports" they chorused still waving their sticks and grinding their studs.

"Headings could be livened up," suggested the Chairman. "There must be some budding cartoonists somewhere in the school."

And so the meeting went on. Well without giving too much away read on. Judge for yourself whether this year's Committee (a fine bunch of upstanding lads and lasses really) took note of the suggestions and whether they have succeeded in striking a balance between those articles intended to inform as opposed to those with a heavier bias towards entertainment.

The Committee is indeed indebted to all those who have supported the "Kirkhamian" this year with either articles or advertisements, for without such support the magazine would cease to be.

Finally, on behalf of all this year's leavers, I would like to wish the School continuing prosperity as it enters a new era in its history. With the exodus of the present Upper Sixth, K.G.S. will finally become fully independent, with no County pupils on its roll.

Now for those "bumper," "action-packed" reports . . .

Richard Vaughan (Pre)
(Editor)

K.G.S. NEWS

1984–85 has been a busy year for all involved with K.G.S. There have been changes on the Governing Body and of Deputy Headmaster; the retirement of one of our longest-serving members of staff; innovations and developments in the Curriculum; and further developments of facilities for both boarding and day pupils. Yet through all these changes, the essential features of our School life remain unchanged. The pages of this magazine feature the usual mixture of academic success, outstanding achievements in the fields of sport, music and drama, school trips both at home and abroad and societies involving anything from a handful of enthusiastic pupils to dozens of willing participants. The C.C.F. still has pupils marching, running, crawling and yelling on Thursday afternoons; the house competitions still involve a majority of the school's members in keen contest both sporting and academic; the Friends of K.G.S. and the Old Kirkhamians still provide their much-valued contributions to the life of the school; and every Summer, the "Kirkhamian" still faithfully records all these and many other aspects of school life. It is hoped that these opening "news" pages of the magazine will bring together all that has happened in the past school year, both for those involved in the life of the School and for those who have an interest in it.

News from the Governors

The new Chairman of Governors of K.G.S. is Mr. Peter Hosker, whose first annual report appears in this section.

Peter was born in May 1940. The family lived at Leyland, and his late father was the Works Director of Leyland Motors. He passed the 11 + and was offered a place at Kirkham Grammar School as a Boarder.

At Kirkham, 1951-1958, Peter spent much time on the playing fields, with a regular place in both the 1st XV and the 1st XI. However, his greatest success came in athletics, and he recalls particularly when, as Captain of the Athletic Team he led K.G.S. to victory in the Fylde Inter-School Sports in 1958. His event was the High Hurdles, and he still holds the School record for the event.

In the academic field, Peter obtained modest success at 'O' Level and 'A' Level, and in 1958 he went up to Manchester University to read Law. University life gave scope for Peter to continue in athletics, but tragically this was halted, when, after returning from an Athletics Tour of Holland and Germany, he was involved in a car accident and suffered a serious leg injury. Peter left University in 1961 with an Honours Degree in Law.

Three years were spent as an Articled Clerk, working for a Manchester firm of Solicitors, and in 1964, Peter passed the Solicitors Finals Examination and shortly thereafter was admitted as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court. Returning to Preston, he joined his present firm, Napthens, in 1964, and has recently become the Senior Partner. His specialisation in Company Law at University has been developed to enable him to spend most of his time as a Commercial Lawyer.

Peter was married in 1965 to Julie, and she had played a very important part in his life and career. They have two children, Joanne, 17, and Richard, 16. Joanne is in the Sixth Form at K.G.S. studying for her 'A' Levels this year. The family home is in Goosnargh.

An active Rotarian, Peter was the founder President of his Rotary Club and is currently a District Officer. Peter

owes much to the Community in which he lives and practises, and he is able to repay some of that debt through Rotary.

Since leaving K.G.S. in 1958, Peter has kept up his association with the School, initially through the Old Boys Association, of which he became President in 1974/75. In the early 1970's, the Old Kirkhamians nominated Peter as a Governor, and he has served continuously from that time. He was appointed Chairman of Governors early this year, and is determined to ensure that the School builds on its past successes and continues to develop and go forward as a leading Co-Educational Independent School. Peter is also Chairman of I.S.A.C., the Independent Schools Action Committee, for North West Lancashire. I.S.A.C.'s aim is to promote the cause of independent education.

When time permits, Peter remains an active sportsman, participating in tennis, golf and horse riding.

In conclusion, Peter pays tribute to two men who have had much influence on his education and sporting activities, his old Headmaster, the late Denis Norwood, and the evergreen K.G.S. Sports Master Sidney Crane.

Chairman's Report

Mr. Peter Laws retired as Chairman of the Governors earlier this year after eight years of loyal and dedicated service to the School. His tenure of office has covered a period of major changes for the School, particularly the transition to Independence and Co-Education. A Christian belief, academic expertise, and attention to detail have been the hallmarks of Mr. Laws' Chairmanship. These qualities will not be lost as Mr. Laws has kindly agreed to continue to serve the School as a Governor.

I am honoured to take over as the new Chairman.

During the year, Mr. Mike Smith has retired from the Governing Body, after eleven years of service. A well earned promotion in his Bank, which has involved him in moving house, prevents Mr. Smith from continuing as a Governor. His financial skills will be particularly missed.

Kirkham is now well established as a leading Co-Educational Independent School, and from that firm base, major development of the School can be approached with confidence. The Governors have resolved to build a Multi-Purpose Hall with a projected cost of £500,000. Basic uses will include School Assembly for the whole School, teaching, music concerts and dramatic productions, possible use by the community for a variety of purposes and indoor sports activities including basketball, badminton, volleyball and other recreational activities. It is proposed to begin fund raising later this year, and to start building next year.

This marks the beginning of an exciting new period of development, and to ensure that the School goes forward on well defined lines, the Governors have just completed their work on a Five Year Corporate Plan, which sets forth our aims and objectives, and the educational financial and general policies for their attainment. The continuing and primary aim and objective is to produce "complete" people equipped not only for their working careers but also for life. This will be achieved by providing an education leading to high academic standards, so that pupils are encouraged to extend themselves to achieve the best results of which they are capable, thereby enabling them to acquire the qualifications necessary for entry to higher education or for the careers they wish to follow. Outside the classroom pupils will be introduced to as wide a range of cultural, sporting, and creative activities as possible, encouraging them to participate fully in those activities in which they develop an interest and for which they show aptitude.



Mr. Peter Hosker, new
Chairman of Governors

The substantial work of transferring the Chemistry Laboratory from Room 16 to the Norwood Block will begin shortly, and is scheduled for completion before the 23rd August 1985; the conversion of the "Cabbage Patch" into usable Playing Fields is now in its final stage; and a new layout has been prepared for the Pavilion, which will enable the P.E. Department to make far greater use of this facility, and the drawings are with builders for costing.

The Boarding House has continued to grow and now incorporates Fenton House, representing first class boarding accommodation for nine senior girls. We continue to be grateful to the resident staff for their care and attention.

The Friends, as always, have played an important rôle in helping the School in many ways. In particular, their gift of the Projection TV is superb. We are grateful to them for this and for all their efforts.

One of our Governors, Mr. Richard Spencer, has kindly donated funds to set up the Spencer Prize for Music, and he is to be thanked. Another of our Governors, Professor Barbara Rowbotham, generously donated her considerable musical talents in the February production of her Musical Evening and she is also to be thanked.

My colleagues on the Governing Body continue to devote much of their time and expertise to the affairs of the School, and I would like to say how much their work is appreciated.

I wish to place on record the thanks of the Governors to the Headmaster and all of the School's staff who have discharged their duties with so much credit to themselves and benefit to the School.

P. J. Hosker

Curriculum Changes

Recent public debate about education has highlighted the ever-changing nature of the school curriculum. Even the most traditional of schools must respond to change in the outside world by modifying the range of subjects offered to pupils. This year has seen three new developments in the K.G.S. Curriculum: the introduction of Craft, Design and Technology (C.D.T.), Drama and Dance.

Craft, Design and Technology

Craft, Design and Technology is a subject which has grown over the last 10 years out of all comparison with carpentry and metalwork.

"Technology is the purposeful use of man's knowledge of materials, sources of energy and natural phenomena". It is more than the academic study of materials, rather, it is the positive and practical application of those things in the service of man. The interaction of technology and society is one of ends and means; society chooses certain ends for which science and technology provides the means.

Ultimately, Technology may be divided into various areas. For example, thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, materials science and theory of structures. Technology is an inescapable part of life and for our children more so. More and more it will be met in home and factory, town and country, university and government. Therefore we must foster an understanding of technology and encourage a creative attitude to it. The need is to discover, and develop to the full, inventive ability and bring personal satisfaction to many who would otherwise be denied it.

The subject is new to K.G.S. and will take some time to build up. At present all the 2nd years use plastics and wood to create, on a problem-solving basis. The 3rd years delve into structures, stress and strain, both theoretically and practically, and it is offered as an 'O' level.

Here are the thoughts of some second year pupils after a term's work at C.D.T.

"The work you do could be useful later on".

Alex Parmley, 2Z

"In C.D.T. you design what you are going to create".

David Wilson, 2Z

"C.D.T. proves that girls can also design objects".

Kathryn Hart, 2Y

"The room is always cold and dirty".

Andrew Bentham, 2X

"I like making things".

Andrew Fellows, 2Y

"Whilst it is always a great thrill to complete a project and show off the results, the benefits of being able to carry out repairs around the house, makes the C.D.T. student popular with one's family".

Stuart Kenward, 2Y

A. M. Hill

Drama

Drama as part of the school curriculum is new to K.G.S., although it has, of course, for many years been part of the extra-curricular programme. The annual school play is a traditional part of the Summer Term Calendar. At present, drama is studied by the second years only; it is hoped that it will become part of the curriculum in other years as the subject develops. Impressions of drama lessons are perhaps best left to the pupils themselves:

"Drama is one of my favourite subjects. It has helped me a lot with my speech and given me confidence when I am reading aloud in class. We have only just started Drama this year.

It is my opinion that every school should do this subject, and that every form should do it. Drama has helped me in writing down my feelings because it stirs my imagination."

Joanne Gornall, 2Y

"I think drama is an excellent subject, as it improves speech, co-ordination and concentration, as well as helping pupils learn how to control their feelings and express them. Imagination plays a large part in drama, and I like these exercises best. One thing I don't like is having to act out a scene while the rest of the class are watching. I also feel a little strange when performing the warm-up exercises. Drama lessons always seem short, but time always flies when you're enjoying yourself. Drama also helps people to work together and get to know each other. Overall it is a very good addition to the school timetable, and I hope it is here to stay."

Thomas Connolly, 2Y

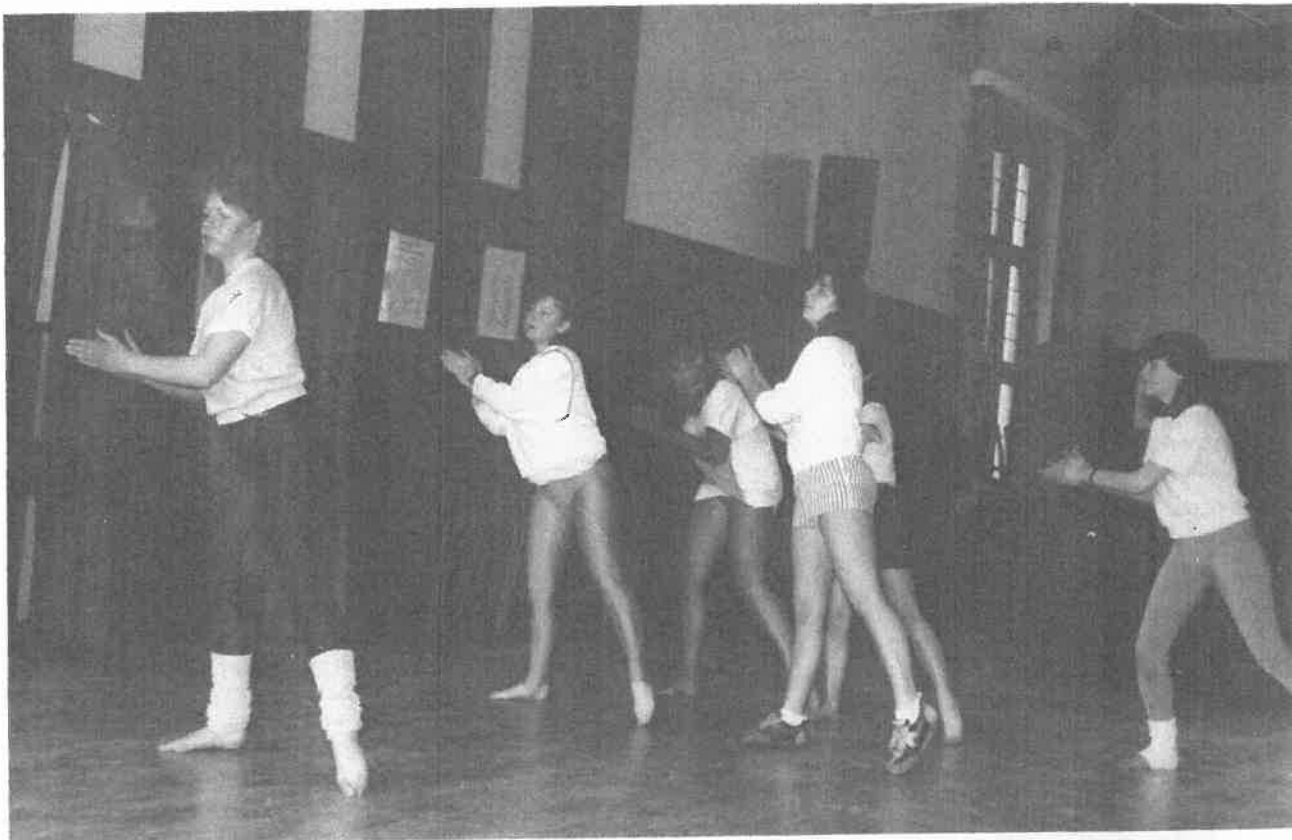
"One term of our drama work was spent producing a play about a circus.

We prepared our play in easy stages. We had no script but every week we acted out part of the story as different scenes. The most enjoyable part was the circus scene because everyone had something to do in this. We became jugglers, acrobats, tight rope walkers, clowns and musicians – and even lion tamers (with chairs!). In the final week, we put the whole play together – and complimented ourselves on its success!

We learnt a great deal from this drama work. As the weeks progressed, we found it easier to act out our parts because we became more confident. We found out how important it was to speak up clearly and use actions as well as words so that everyone could follow the story. Although we found it quite difficult at first to create the right atmosphere in the circus scene, with practice this became the easiest part to act because we all just decided to enjoy ourselves. We agreed that our play was a great success!"

Christopher Turner, 2Y

Y. E. Jones



*A new activity on Wednesday afternoon games
(1st XV players are not eligible for this option)*

Dance

In September 1984 fourteen girls chose to follow a course in Modern Educational Dance. Every Wednesday afternoon, dressed in leotards and tracksuits, they take over the School Hall, learning to dance and to choreograph to music ranging from Queen's "Another One Bites The Dust" to Holst's "Planets Suite".

The girls have been on several theatre outings to see the Ballet Classique de Paris staging "The Nutcracker", The London City Ballet's "Romeo and Juliet", and Ballet Rambert's "Let's Face The Music". In addition, two guest teachers have given the girls lessons in Contemporary Dance and Classical Ballet.

Y. E. Jones

The Birley Lecture, 1984

The Summer Term of 1984 saw the institution of what it is hoped will become an annual feature of the Sixth Form Society's programme, the Birley Lecture. We were pleased to welcome Professor David Marquand of the University of Salford to deliver this lecture, and the subject for the afternoon was the Common Market. After some introductory historical detail about the Community, and in particular Britain's membership, Professor Marquand took a pro-European stand and tried to give a view of the situation as it is commonly perceived in continental Europe. The conclusion drawn was that Britain was far from blameless in the problems she experienced in the E.E.C., and that it was Britain's apparent lack of commitment to the Community rather than the attitude of other members which tended to cause disagreements.

The lecture was not intended to present a wholly unbiased analysis of the situation, but in challenging ideas which have largely come to be accepted without question in Britain it helped in the formulation of a more objective view, and provided food for thought in subsequent discussion groups.

Andrew Wright, (Pre.)

Sporting Honours

1984-85 has been a year of outstanding achievement in sport at K.G.S., most notably in **rugby**, where the **1st XV** side finally won the coveted All-England Rugby Festival at Preston Grasshoppers, and the captain, **Mark Preston**, was selected to represent the England U18 XV after a series of outstanding performances at school and county level. This is the highest honour which a schoolboy can obtain, and reflects great credit not only upon Mark himself, but also upon Mr. Gornall and other members of the Games Department who have coached him. Indeed, these were not the School's only successes at rugby last season: **the U16 XV** won the North-West Schools' Prudential Trophy and a £200 kit voucher for the School; **Roger Cook** represented Lancashire at U18 level; **Matthew Hindle**, **David Lee** and **Sean Wilkinson** represented the County at U16 level; and **Kirk Wilkinson**, **Paul Gornall**, **Nick Sinclair** and **Anthony Bagshaw** played for the North Lancashire U15 side, Wilkinson captaining the side.

Our **athletes** once again performed with distinction: **the Senior Boys' Team** won the **Senior Schools' Championship** for the fourth year in succession and the **Fylde Coast Championship** for the second year in succession. **Adrian Hickey** was **Lancashire Shot and Discus Champion**.

Other minority sports have also brought considerable success to members of the School. **The Senior Boys' Swimming Team** won the **Senior Schools Swimming Championships**, whilst in badminton, two first year girls have taken all the honours this year. **Megan Vipond** won the U12 singles event in the **Blackpool and Distict Championships** with classmate **Sheridan Piggott** the runner-up. The two girls then combined to win the doubles event. In **Squash**, **Jeremy Francis** has played for Lancashire at U14 level, whilst **Philip Halstead** has again played **golf** for the County Team.

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Music Report

Of all the many Clubs and Societies which K.G.S. fosters, the largest, most active and publicly prominent must be the Music Society. It is extremely encouraging to witness the continuing popularity of the many musical activities open to all pupils. Such activities range from pseudo-angelic soprano solos to the more vociferous rock groups reputed to lurk deep within the bowels of School House and the Vth Form Unit. This year, membership tops the 170 mark – probably an all time record!

The first of the Society's many engagements, the C.C.F. General Inspection, saw the Guard of Honour stamping its feet in time to the reverberations of the "Royal Air Force March Past" which floated across the front lawn from the general direction of the sun-drenched orchestra. The performance was particularly appropriate as it turned out to be an R.A.F. inspecting officer!

First in the public's gaze was the Full Choir whose turn it was to "laud and magnify" the School Founders' hallowed names. The choir heartily displayed their harmonious dexterity at the Founders' Day Service as they made St. Michael's echo to the strains of "Praise the Lord O my soul" by John Rutter.

Towards the end of the Summer Term several members of the orchestra were once again in action in the guise of the Tea-garden Orchestra. Visitors to the school, whilst indulging in refreshments and the Summer sun, were gently serenaded by the ensemble playing such favourites as "Cavatina" and "Spanish Eyes".

The Society's last engagement before the Summer recess was to help the Dramatic Society by providing a few bars of plainsong for a brief scene. Members of the Madrigal Group readily turned up to the performances as indeed they did to the last-night knees-up!

Mid-October heralded the school's Speech Day at which the Guest of Honour, Mr. C. Vickerman, M.A., was skilfully entertained by Linda Morgan and David Shakespeare.

After a rather shaky start to rehearsals, mainly due to the shortage of experienced senior members in the choir, Mr. Catterall's flamboyant "It'll be all right on the night . . . I hope" attitude paid off at the Carol Concert. Credit for two such successful evenings is also due to Mrs. Greaves whose perseverance with the Girls' Choir bore fruit as the girls ambitiously, if somewhat tentatively, broke into the realms of three part harmony. Included in the usual Yuletide offerings was a spirited trombone medley of Christmas songs played by Mark Lewis. Thanks must also go to Mrs. Boll for her organisation of the frequently witty readings and to Mr. Porter for his organisation of the festive decor.

The Winter Term drew to an end with the Choir singing at the Carol Service later followed by a small group of choristers visiting Wesham Park Hospital to bring a little cheer to its elderly patients.

The Spring Term once again brought with it the staging of the House Music Competition. This year's contest, kindly adjudicated by Professor Barbara Rowbotham, saw Fylde House finally triumph after many years. After the competition, five items were included in the Easter Concert Programme.

The Easter Concert was opened as usual by the Orchestra, this year playing two movements from "Suite" in C Major by Roman followed by the "Finale" from Beethoven's 5th. The Madrigal Group then sang "Cantate Domino" by Pitoni as well as "Strange Adventure" by Sullivan, the former being a sentimental request from the senior members soon to be with us no more – No they're leaving in July! The rest of the first half comprised the

House items, several solo items and finally the Junior Choir singing "Hip! Hip! Horatio" by Michael Hurd.

After the interlude the whole of the second half was taken up by the Full Choir singing "Gloria" by Vivaldi. At the end, Mr. Catterall began to feel uneasy, for his customary bottle of sherry, the usual token of appreciation from the choir, was not forthcoming. Had they forgotten? Were they teasing him or just being tight-fisted after the Chancellor's budget? Soon all became clear as the School Captain called upon the Headmaster to award Mr. Catterall School Honours for Music. Not only had the Choir found a convenient way to wean him off his sherry, but also a polite way of making sure that he had at last one decent tie!

Other outstanding members of the Society this year who received Honours awards were Monique White (the first lady to hold this award) and Karl Turner.

Finally the Music and Orchestra Society as it is formally known, would like to express its deep appreciation of the selfless dedication of Mr. Catterall and Mrs. Greaves.

R. J. Vaughan, (Pre.)
(Secretary)

Musical Honours

Once again, the musical excellence of the school has received outside recognition. **Linda Morgan** gained the **Florence Purdy Memorial Prize** for achieving the highest marks in Grade VII and VIII examinations in the Preston area. She passed the Grade VII Violin examination with distinction. **Daniel and William Carroll** received the first and second awards for the highest marks in the Fleetwood area Grade V Piano examinations. **Angus McEwan**, **Christopher Turner** and **Neil Taylor** gained places in the **Northern Cathedral Singers** for the 1984-85 Season, and Angus gained the prestigious **St. Nicholas Award** for boy choristers, the highest national award for boys of his age.

Associated Board Examination Results, 1984-85

Summer Term, 1984

Grade I	Kathryn Hart	Piano	Pass
Grade II	Ruth Parmley	Piano	Pass
	Sandra Fountain	Piano	Merit
	Gaye Littlefair	Violin	Pass
Grade III	Rebecca Higginson	Clarinet	Pass
	Roger Sackfield	Clarinet	Pass
	Victoria Kellett	Flute	Merit
Grade IV	Jethro Smith	Trumpet	Pass
Grade V	Mark Lewis	Trombone	Merit
	Michael Lees	Trumpet	Pass

Winter Term, 1984

Grade III	Simon Smith	Clarinet	Pass
Grade IV	Monique White	Clarinet	Pass

Spring Term, 1985

Grade III	Sandra Fountain	Piano	Pass
	Marcus Potter	Clarinet	Pass
Grade IV	Esther Phillips	Flute	Pass
	Sarah-Jane Heath	Flute	Pass
	Claire Farnhill	Flute	Pass

School Play, 1985

On the 9th and 10th July, the Dramatic Society presented Marlowe's "Doctor Faustus" to an appreciative audience in the School Hall. In many ways this was their most ambitious project in recent years – the Elizabethan diction and blank verse combining with a rambling and not always coherent plot to make the play something of a challenge for modern audiences – but they succeeded, by judicious cutting and rearrangement of the text, and by concentrating on the splendidly theatrical aspects of the piece, in producing a most enjoyable evening's entertainment.

Particular credit for this must go to the actors who played the two major roles: Jonathan Waite as Faustus, nicely catching the arrogance of the overreaching scholar, and Andrew Hewertson, whose chilling Mephistophilis was often genuinely frightening.

Rebecca Walls as the Chorus, and Justine Mackey and Sarah Goldthorp as Good and Bad Angel respectively, made the most of their rather passive roles as observers and commentators on Faustus's career.

With the above exceptions, most of the cast played three or four different parts, necessitating some at times hair-raisingly quick changes (of both costume and manner): an extreme instance was Peter Selwyn-Smith who doubled as Lucifer and the Pope, while Joanne Hosker gave us a rather demure Helen of Troy to offset her appropriately salacious Lust.

Philip Reed, Mark Wheatley, John Howells, Mark Howells, Neil Richards and George Critchley succeeded in making Marlowe's scenes of comic relief more amusing than is often the case; Christian Benson, Charles Sloane, Peter Goodridge, Fiona Smith, Kathryn Gladstone, Helen Gamble and Peter Walmsley all portrayed convincingly a variety of minor characters. Finally, Andrew Brown and David Wilson as devils, behind grinning skull-masks, popped up more or less unexpectedly, but always effectively, throughout the proceedings.

The actors were fortunate enough to be helped by a back-stage team who provided a magnificent setting for their endeavours: Mr. Hill and Mr. Porter produced an aesthetically pleasing and functional set, greatly enhanced by the skilful lighting of Mr. Willatt and Michael Nelson. A welcome bonus for the audience came in the form of live incidental music performed by Mr. Catterall and members of the School Choir. Sound effects and stage management were in the capable hands of Kevin Ward, Derek Hurton, Paul Barnes and Andrew Mackintosh. Special thanks are also due to those who helped us out with costumes, in particular to the Royal Exchange Theatre Company of Manchester who lent us many of the costumes from their own production of the play. Finally, the Society wishes to express its appreciation to Mrs. Boll and Mr. Roberts for the time and trouble they devoted to the production.

This year we are presenting "Oh What A Lovely War" on July 8th, 9th and 10th. As usual, we rely on your support.



*Andrew Hewertson,
Jonathan Waite,
Kathryn Gladstone and
Mark Wheatley
in a scene from
"Doctor Faustus"*

Don't forget the 1985 production "Oh What a Lovely War" July 8th, 9th and 10th in the School Hall



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From the Friends of Kirkham Grammar School

President: Mr. P. Laws
Chairman: Mr. Barrie Reed
Treasurer: Mr. Norman Lees
Secretary: Mrs. Josie Gornall

The Chain of Office worn by the Chairman of the Friends is quite heavy now! This is because every Chairman who takes the Office adds his or her name by way of an inscribed metal bar. Over the years there have been many Chairmen, in fact, the first gentleman to have his name inscribed was Mr. T. L. Jenkins in 1953. This means that the Friends have been going strong for at least 32 years – quite a long time. Across this span of time the Friends have been associated with the School by their desire to help in any way they could, with a willingness to create both social and fund raising events which would then provide those items which might not otherwise have been available. The list of gifts is endless, and following on from last year's minibuses, you will see from the photograph below that this year we were able to provide an extraordinarily big television set.

Fund raising efforts require people to carry them out, and I am pleased to point out that despite the passing of the years, the willingness of people to contribute and help in their various ways has not slackened.

If you were one of the pupils who was directing our guests to an event, collecting glasses at a fashion show or manning one of our stalls at a Jumble Sale; if you were a Parent or a Friend who has provided a much-needed gift for a raffle or tombola; if you were a member of staff who

somehow volunteered 50 pairs of hands at a critical moment – we thank you.

The Friends cannot function without this sort of willingness.

The help and support given to us by Mr. and Mrs. Summerlee has been invaluable over the years, indeed the Deputy Head, Edward Mitchell, has very amply followed on where Neil Gamble left off. All of this support would be of no value if it was not for the Friends 'Think Tank' – the Committee of Friends. The Committee is a group of people who come together three or four times a term, to create the ideas and manage the arrangements for the events which are put on throughout the year. In every case, they aim to offer an event which is interesting and attractive, and importantly, one which will raise money. Over the past few years, we have had an evening with Harvey's Sherry (it went down quite well), we learnt how to deal with the British potato, and this year, British Meat introduced us to culinary delights which even rivalled Mrs. May. The fashion show put on recently by Speights of Preston was also highly successful and was indeed a sell-out.

For the remainder of this year our events are many and varied, with our autumn fashion show, cheese and wine evening, bingo and Christmas events. We are kept on the go all the time! As for keeping 'on the go' there are some dedicated ladies who ensure that "Popmobility" remains a tremendous success. Twice every week the gym vibrates to enthusiastic, energetic, but graceful movements from the people who are not only helping themselves, but also helping the Friends to help the School. To these and all our other helpers and supporters, my sincere thanks.

Barrie Reed
(Chairman)



*Mr. Barrie Reed
handing over the
Friends' gift of a
video projector to Mr. Mitchell*

Photograph by courtesy of Blackpool Gazette and Herald Ltd.



*K.G.S. buildings as only the oldest of Old Kirkhamians would remember them!
A photo taken just after the opening of the present buildings in 1910*

From The Old Kirkhamians' Association

President 1984-85
G. Tomlinson

Secretary:	Treasurer:
E. Waite	D. O. Slack
49 Blackpool Road North	34 Coulston Road
St. Annes-on-Sea	Lancaster
Lancs., FY8 3DF	LA1 3AE

Annual Dinner

Our 1984 Annual Dinner was held at K.G.S. for the first time in many years. By 6.30 p.m. the hall looked splendid, set up for 70 diners with white table linen and full silver service. Next door, a fully-equipped bar stood ready for the onslaught. The formal A.G.M. held in the library was quickly dealt with and those who attended were soon rejoining friends and renewing acquaintances in the bar. An excellent three course meal was to follow, produced as if by magic by Mrs. Swarbrick and a team of helpers. By now the atmosphere was definitely 'convivial' as certain of the younger members who attended let their hair down.

Looking through the list of those present it was interesting to see such confidence in their own longevity. Mr. Watson declared himself a member of staff "72-2050", and BG "1969-Death? or until we beat Cowley!"

The main speaker of the evening was Jim Stevenson (1948-56), now Education Secretary at the BBC, who managed to fit the visit in between trips to Berlin and Budapest. He not only reminded us about his days at Kirkham, but also gave us some thought-provoking ideas. The Headmaster, in his reply to the toast to the School, gave a rounded resumé of the School's activities for the past year. In conclusion and by way of a change, he decided to raise funds for the Association by auctioning several redundant canes. What an opportunity for ex-pupils to purchase a lasting memento of a lasting remembrance. It was interesting to see just who bid for them!

Those who are leaving school this year, please note in your diaries the 28th September, 1985. The committee decided to return again this year to K.G.S. as its venue for the Annual Dinner. Do come and join us and see the School and staff in a very different light, as well as meeting old friends and making new ones.

K.G.S. Staff XI v. O.K.A. XI

A fine team performance saw the Old Boys follow up their win against the School 1st XI in early June with victory against the K.G.S. Staff, in a very enjoyable game.

Despite the excesses of the O.K.A. Annual Dinner the previous evening, the early 1.00 p.m. start, and the initially cool and windy conditions, the Old Boys won the toss and made the athletic choice to field. Within the opening over the first staff wicket had fallen with only one run on the scoreboard. The early setback was overcome by some good batting from David Worth (19), Ian Scott (20) and Richard Browning (24). After Neil Gamble had been run out it was left to Bob Porter to display his artistry in adding nine runs in a last wicket stand with Brian Summers. The staff were finally dismissed for a total of 98.

John Renshaw and Gary Bretherick opened the O.K.A. innings and made a sound start before Gary was lbw to Bob Porter for 8 runs. Martin Lewis joined John at the wicket in a stand which lasted until after the tea break before being out for 23, John Renshaw 14. Chris Plaster found his batting form with some hard hitting and run scoring being partnered for brief appearances by other members of the team. With the arrival of John Montgomery at the wicket, Chris decided to accelerate his scoring and with some fine boundaries, led the Old Boys to a comfortable victory with an innings of 37 not out and a final score of 99 for 7 wickets.

Our thanks are again due to Dick Wilson as Captain, to Mrs. Gamble and her helpers for providing a fine tea and to the staff and their friends for the quality of the opposition.

Eric Waite

Robinson

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Robinson

Staff Changes

In July, 1984, we said farewell to Mr. Geoff. Cheesbrough, who retired after twenty-four years of loyal service to the School. His career is featured in a separate article in this magazine. At the same time, Mrs. Nicky Black also left, after five years in which she had performed the unenviable task of establishing girls' games at the School. The enthusiasm with which our girls now perform at all levels is a tribute to the contribution that she made to the School. She also introduced the highly successful coaching trips to the continent, from which our girls have twice returned triumphant.

At Christmas, 1984, our Deputy Headmaster, Mr. Neil Gamble, left to take up the prestigious post of Headmaster of King Edward School, Aston, near Birmingham. In his three and a half years at K.G.S., his professional expertise had a considerable impact upon school life, and he has left behind some lasting reforms. His energy and administrative ability will be a great asset to him in his new job, and his cricketering abilities will be sorely missed by the staff team and his Under Twelve side. His wife, Sue, also made a valuable contribution to the School during their time here: many staff remember with pleasure the excellent lunches which she produced on Entrance Exam Day!

We also said a final good-bye at Christmas to Mrs. Susan Gill, who, having tried for a term to combine the rôles of mother to twin daughters with Physics teaching at K.G.S., decided to devote herself to full-time motherhood! Whilst we all understand her decision, it must be said that Amy's and Gemma's gain is K.G.S.'s loss. She will be sadly missed, both in the Staffroom and in the Physics Laboratory, not to mention in the R.A.F. Section of the C.C.F., where her enthusiasm proved to be a great asset.

To all our leavers and their families, we send our very best wishes for the future, and they will always be welcome visitors at School.

The New School Year in September therefore brought some new faces to the School. In place of Mr. Cheesbrough, we welcomed Miss Pauline Walsh, a native of Salford and a graduate of Liverpool University, where she studied for both her mathematics and education degrees. As a resident member of School House, she has proved to be a valuable asset to the School, and she is already keenly involved in helping with girls' sport. Mrs. Black's place was taken by Mrs. Jane Taylor, who was born in Kendal and brought up in Morecambe. She trained in Physical Education at I.M. Marsh College, Liverpool, then taught at a girls' comprehensive in Manchester before becoming Head of Girls' P.E. at Bury Church High School. Following her move to K.G.S., she now lives in Fulwood, and has settled happily into her new job. A lengthy report on girls' games at the final assembly before Easter indicated that she means to challenge the might of boys' P.E. in this school before long!

The arrival of Drama on the School curriculum meant the appointment of an extra member of staff in the English Department in September. Mrs. Yvonne Jones joined us, after a teaching career which started in what was then Rhodesia in 1971, and has taken her more recently to Hodgson School in Poulton and Greenlands High School in Blackpool. Her enthusiasm for dance and drama has already made an impact upon school life; the sight of girls dressed in leotards dancing to contemporary music in the Hall on Wednesday afternoon games would no doubt raise eyebrows amongst many an Old Kirkhamian!

After Christmas, as well as welcoming Mr. Mitchell, who is introduced in a later article, we were also joined by Dr. Peter Durkin, who replaced Mrs. Gill in the Physics Department. Dr. Durkin was educated at St. Theodore's School in Burnley, then at Aston and Warwick Universities, before taking up a teaching post at Hodgson School in

Poulton. To him and all our newcomers, we wish a long and happy association with the School.

On the ancillary side of our staff, Mrs. Meg Hancock left her job as laboratory technician in the Summer, and has been replaced by Miss Cathy O'Reilly. The contribution of Mrs. Hancock, like that of other ancillary staff, is easily overlooked, but without them, the School would be unable to function. To all those who give so much more than the minimum in service of the School, we give our thanks.

The Makings of a Deputy Head

The most prominent of all staff changes this year has, of course, been the departure of Mr. Gamble and his replacement by Mr. Mitchell. A change of such a key Member of Staff as a Deputy Head is always a difficult transition for a school to make with most pupils facing the prospect with a great deal of trepidation. Have they merely swapped one tyrant for another; leapt out of the frying pan and into the fire; or have they finally found the soft option? Naturally such speculation has the K.G.S. grapevine humming as rumour and gossip abound. With the kind permission of Mr. Mitchell (indeed it was his idea) the "Kirkhamian" brings to you a world exclusive in-depth interview with K.G.S.'s new No. 2.

The time; one mild Friday afternoon late last term. The place; the Head's study (Mr. Mitchell was just trying the chair for size whilst the Boss was away!). The scene; the afternoon sun filtered through the ivy clad windows. Two intrepid "Kirkhamian" reporters, tea and biscuits to the left of them, piles of paper to the right of them, faced a relaxed Mr. Mitchell across the expanse of the Head's desk. Pens poised, the reporters explained their objectives and the interview began with a slightly strained voice enquiring,

"Could you give our readers some idea of your personal background and then lead on to your educational career?"

Without the need for further prompting Mr. Mitchell swiftly delved into his past.

"I'm a Yorkshireman and proud of it. I was educated in Leeds and after A-levels, gained entry to the University College of Swansea, which is a constituent College of the University of Wales. I was there for four years reading English Language and Literature and gained a 2nd class Honours degree. During my final year, I was invited to do research into Medieval Literature but I also began to think of a career in teaching and so I took a Post Graduate Certificate of Education, in which I achieved a distinction.

Immediately afterwards, I was offered a teaching post at William Hulme's Grammar School where I stayed for seven years, teaching English at all levels, producing numerous School Plays and eventually becoming a House Master. Then in 1977 I was appointed Head of English at Austin Friar's School, Carlisle, an independent school and a good place to gain experience of 'senior management'.

In 1980 I took over the English Department at Handsworth Grammar School, one of seven grammar schools in Birmingham and a similar institution to Mr. Gamble's new school, King Edward's, Aston.

Last year, after teaching three successful Oxbridge candidates, and spending four and a half years developing the department I felt it was time to apply for a Deputy Headship and here I am".

The reporters paused from their scribbling, beads of perspiration glistening on their brows as they admired the cartoons they had been doodling. It was then that they realised all was quiet.

"You've mentioned quite a lot of private schools", a word came from across the table, "has it been a conscious choice to apply to independent establishments?"



Mr. Edward Mitchell

"Yes". Phew, back to the biscuits and doodles.

"I've deliberately pursued a career in grammar schools; I began my career in a Direct Grant Grammar School. Moreover Handsworth G.S. is not independent. I like the caring and friendly atmosphere, as well as the academic environment and sporting prowess of such establishments, be they forced into independence or not. I like Kirkham; it's just about the right size of school for me".

"And what about your family?"

"Well I married comparatively late; at the age of 31. My wife is a graduate in German Language and Literature (Liverpool University); she's also a very high-powered tennis player. We have two children, Sarah (5) and Thomas (3)".

"What are your main interests?" The pace changed again as Mr. Mitchell broke new ground.

"At University, I was Cricket captain and I still play league cricket. I also used to play amateur football representing the University of Wales as an inside-forward. I like gardening; in fact I used to be quite an expert grower of carrots which we used to sell when we lived in Cumbria". He paused in contemplation. "More of a continuing hobby is Railway photography . . ."

"You mean like Mr. Crook?"

"Well not quite, I think Mr. Crook has a far wider interest than myself. I enjoy classical music and I used to be a member of the Hallé concerts society as well as being a keen theatre-goer".

"Do you play an instrument?"

"No, and I'm afraid it's too late for me to learn now". He sighed and continued in a more reflective tone of voice. "I would have liked to play the piano".

I think it's about time to liven things up a bit.

"With whom would you like most to be stuck in a lift?"

The question had its desired effect. It caught the passive Mr. Mitchell totally off guard. He sat there at a complete loss, half laughing, half protesting. Finally he spoke.

"Dr. Jonathan Miller!"

"Who?" the reporters chorused in bewilderment, and more to the point, "Why?"

"I seriously consider him to be about the most interesting personality in cultural life – a very lucid and intelligent speaker and I assume I'd be stuck in this lift for a long time!"

Yes, well that one slightly back fired. Why couldn't he have said something romantic like Jane (his wife) or adventurous like Miss World? A very tricky customer, this New Deputy Head. The reporters tried again.

"What's the most embarrassing thing that's ever happened to you?"

This one's got him. After a long pause, interrupted only by sniggers from across the table, a slightly blushing Mr. Mitchell confided in us.

"Well it was whilst I was at university, during Rag week and the girls . . ."

'In the interests of national security' and to maintain Mr. Mitchell's integrity the "Kirkhamian" is sadly unable to disclose the remainder of his reply.

"Have you got any brothers or sisters?"

"Yes, there is my sister who works as a lab. technician in the Biology Department of Leeds University".

"Is there anything that you've always wanted to do?"

"I've always wanted to visit Australia and New Zealand, possibly as a journalist covering a Test series".

"What do you want to do when you retire?"

Oh that's a long way off. I'm fairly young for a Deputy Head and I hope to stay at K.G.S. for a considerable time. As for retirement: I'd like to travel the world".

"What aspect(s) of your personality would you like to change?"

"Oh dear, sometimes I feel I'm a bit selfish. I'd like to think I could help people more. I'm a regular church goer and Christian in outlook but I regret not being a more socially helpful person. I wish I'd taken the opportunity of doing Voluntary Service Overseas. All my best friends were made at university where there was considerable 'socialising'. I wish I'd spent more time reading. Not that I've ever wasted much time professionally; as a young school master I used to do a lot of fell walking and camping especially in the Lake District".

"Is there any one aspect of the school you'd like to change?"

"Like most Members of Staff I'd like to see evolutionary rather than revolutionary changes in the school. It's very important for the facilities for the pupils to be developed, particularly for the VIth Form and especially now that we are in keen competition with other educational establishments which apparently offer superior facilities".

"What do you see, as a newcomer, as K.G.S.'s good points?"

"Well the character or personality of this school, which has a lot to do with the Headmaster's presence, provides a sense of well-being. The industry, common sense and caring attitude of the staff and the general good humour of the pupils is also apparent on first impression. People connected with Kirkham Grammar ought to be very proud".

"What aspect of your new job do you like most?"

"Difficult to put into words. I suppose being an "executive" and "administrator", being expected to make important decisions without higher approval. I appreciate the difference between being a Head of Department and a Deputy Head". (In other words he likes the power).

"What view of independent education do you have?"

"Having seen the restrictions and implications of life in a state grammar school I greatly prize the relative freedom in an independent school. Pupils here have little realisation of how lucky they are".

"What sort of school are you going to send your children to?"

"We'll wait and see!"

"On a more topical note do you know anything about the prospects of a new school hall?"

"Yes, a hall of sorts is at the discussion stage at the moment and really the sooner the move forward to building the better".

"Thank you very much Mr. Mitchell, you've been frank and honest with us and very kind in devoting some of your time to us".

With that the pen-weary reporters, doodles and all, beat a hasty retreat to the relative safety of the VIth Form Unit.

Richard Vaughan, (Pre.)
Sarah Goldthorp, (Pre.)

Mr. G. S. Cheesbrough (K.G.S. 1960–1984)

In September, 1960, five new masters joined the staff. One of them was Geoffrey S. Cheesbrough and he was the last of them to leave when he retired at the end of the Summer Term, 1984.

Like so many men of his age, his academic career at Durham University was interrupted by war service, and since he was a member of the University Air Squadron, it was natural that he should join the Royal Air Force. He did his training as a pilot in this country and in the U.S.A., and he flew over many parts of Europe until he made an involuntary landing in Italy. Following the traditions of the R.A.F. he managed to persuade a friendly farmer to help him to evade capture.

After his demobilization in 1946, he returned to Durham for a year, but then he went to work at Siemens Electric Lamp Company in Preston. After the war, because of the shortage of teachers, the Emergency Training Scheme through which former members of the forces could train to be teachers was set up, and Geoff took advantage of the scheme. It was at the Emergency Training College at Freckleton (on one of the many R.A.F. camps in the area) where he did his training. On qualifying as a teacher he then went to teach in Preston primary schools for seven years. After this he was in charge of the teaching of Mathematics in the Junior Technical School of the Harris Institute in Preston for three years. Because of the impending closure of this school as a result of general reorganisation in Preston, Geoff went to St. Katharine's College of Education in Liverpool to take the supplementary one year course for teachers of mathematics in secondary schools, and it was whilst he was taking this course that he was appointed to the staff of K.G.S.

As a result of his appointment, the Mathematics Department consisted of three masters who were all former members of the R.A.F. At that time it was generally expected that teachers in the school should have at least one subsidiary classroom subject and so for some years he was called upon to teach Geography and Physics in addition to assisting with Games. There were also vacancies for C.C.F. officers and he joined the R.A.F. Section, gradually, as the number of pupils in the school increased, more of his time was required for Mathematics, and in 1970 he took command of the R.A.F. Section, in the rank of Flight-Lieutenant. When he relinquished his command on his retirement he was Squadron- Leader, and he is still to be seen on Thursday afternoons helping the C.C.F.

For all but the last year of his time at K.G.S., when the number of houses was reduced to four, he was associated with Ashton House, taking over as Housemaster in 1977. He also served on the G.S.C. (please do not confuse the initials!) and acted as treasurer for the Dramatic Society, making sure that there was always enough money in the funds to cover the costs of productions.

Although there were many demands on his time, he was still able to maintain his interest in the game of rugby by his membership of Preston Grasshoppers R.F.C. and Barton Youth Club has much to thank him for as a result of many years of devoted service. Like so many of his age group on the staff of K.G.S. a caravan seemed to be an absolute necessity. After the C.C.F. summer camp, the Cheesbrough family would hitch their caravan to their car and set off to tour many countries on the continent, but some of the enjoyment of those holidays was apparently spoiled because he snored!

To Geoff and Madeline, we wish many happy years of retirement whilst they try to do the many things that they promised for themselves, but never found time to do.

T. Jackman



Charity Committee Report 1984-85

I am pleased to report that there have been some very generous contributions this year, and also a large amount of money was raised by other activities such as charity concerts, cake stalls and fancy-dress discos.

The charity concert proved to be a great success, with a variety of acts from all age groups, although the "Gothic Frogs" were the main attraction, nearly bringing the house down (if not due to the applause, then certainly due to the deafening noise they were making).

The two junior fancy-dress discos were great successes, raising £63 and £38 respectively. Thanks are due for Mark Herrington's expert disc-jockeying and Mr. Willatt's help. Thanks also to everyone else who helped organise and carry out these evenings.

The fifth year girls slaved over hot stoves in order to produce some delicious cakes and biscuits, which they sold one break, raising over £20.

I was very pleased to be able to hand over a cheque of £550 to Jason Taylor in the name of the School in aid of Friedrich's Ataxia, which was raised during the course of the Spring Term.

For the Summer Term, a non-uniform day is planned, along with another junior disco, which I hope will be as well attended as the previous two.

To finish, I would like to thank all the pupils and staff who raise the money each week, and also Mr. Clarkson for all his help.

Louise Mendelsohn, LVIM

Accounts – Summer Term 1984 to Spring Term 1985

Summer Term 1984

Save the Children Fund	£ 60.00
Christian Aid	£ 80.00
R.A.F. Benevolent Fund	£ 5.00
R.N.L.I.	£ 60.00
Society for the Blind	£ 50.00

Winter Term 1984

Christian Aid	£103.00
Pear Tree House	£ 10.00
Dr. Barnado's	£ 63.00
British Legion	£ 14.40
Friedrich's Ataxia	£550.00
Unicef	£ 74.50
Ethiopia Famine Relief	£120.00
Wesham Hospital	£ 25.00
Abbeystead Disaster Appeal	£120.00

Spring Term 1985

Society for the Blind	£ 50.00
Cancer Research	£ 45.00
Leprosy Mission	£ 45.00
Multiple Sclerosis	£ 30.00



*Louise Mendelsohn handing
over a cheque for £550 to
Jason Taylor for
research into Friedrich's Ataxia*

*Photograph by courtesy of
Blackpool Gazette and Herald Ltd.*

Academic News

We offer our congratulations this year to **Rebecca Wallis**, who gained a place at Lincoln College, Oxford, to read Politics, Philosophy and Economics, and **Andrew Wright**, who gained a place at Exeter College, Oxford, to read French and German. For the second successive year, one of our pupils has been awarded a Berkeley-Lowe Entrance Scholarship at the University of Dundee: this year's recipient was **Greg Irwin**. Another prestigious academic success was that of **Richard Vaughan**, who has been awarded a valuable sponsorship for his university studies by Unilever.

Quite apart from these outstanding academic successes, credit is due to all those who worked hard for success, however great or small, at 'O' or 'A' level. The following pupils obtained 'A' levels at Grade 'E' or above in the Summer 1984 Examinations in the following number of subjects:

5 Subjects:

Perry, A. R., Turner, R. G.

4 Subjects:

Adams, A. M., Baldwin, R. A. E., Brook, D. J., Butterworth, M. P., Carruthers, S. P., Dovey, J. P., Dunnagan, G. K., Goodridge, P. W., Hardwick, K. G., Hickey, A. K., Kay, C. J., Kerry, D., Kirkham, D. J., McDonald, R. C., Mears, T. M., Milburn, C., Notman, G. D., Percy, N., Ross, N., Selwyn-Smith, P. K., Sharman, J. C., Waite, E. J., Walls, R., Watkinson, D. C., Webster, J. D. P., Wheatley, M., Wood, S. R.

3 Subjects:

Forster, S. L., Fotheringham, A. D., Hamilton, M. J., Phillips, D. H., Sumner, S. C., Taylor, S. J., Williams, C. W.

2 Subjects:

Bennett, J. M., Brookes, D., Butler, A. H., Fielding, S. A., Hewertson, A. S., Leeson, P. A., Littleton, D. A., Mellor-Clark, S. Q., Moss, Z. N., Platt, R., Rowe, J. N., Traviss, A. W., Ward, K. D., Wells, A. D.

1 Subject:

Clifford, D. S., Davies, A. J., Gliozzi, C. M., Gregson, G. M., Turner, S. A., Ward, R., Woodward, N. D.

The following Lower Sixth pupils passed in one subject, taken a year early:

Howells, J., McDonald, N. D., Vaughan, R. J.

The following pupils obtained 'O' levels at Grade 'C' or above in the Summer 1984 Examinations in the following number of subjects:

10 Subjects:

Barnes, P. S., Hardman, C. G., Hardman, P. M., Hurton, D. S., Turner, K. S.

9 Subjects:

Atkinson, S. J., Billsborough, J. Y., Brown, D. M., Calland, N., Goddard, A. R., Russell, S. C., Sorrentino, M. A. V., Thompson, C. M., White, M. E.

8 Subjects:

Baron, A., Butler, S. J., Daniels, E. S., Holden, C. F., Mendelsohn, L., Musson, S. D., Thistlethwaite, C. J., Wignall, H. L.

7 Subjects:

Anderson, L. A., Cuttle, R. T., Dickson, H. C., Moss, K. L., Scholefield, S. G., Taylor, R. J.

6 Subjects:

Akers, C. M. B., Connell, L., Thistlethwaite, A., Tracey, N. P., Woods, N. J.

5 Subjects:

Birtwistle, I., Davies, H. F., Mackintosh, A. S., Rogers, T. A.

4 Subjects:

Dawson, L. R., Fish, A. C., Marfleet, S. M., McDiarmid, K. I., Ralston, J., Rowe, A. D., Weare, S. H.

3 Subjects:

Clifford, R. A., Craven, J. M. B., Davies, P. E., Dickinson, J. L., Green, L. S., Noad, J. J., Taylor, R. B., Walsh, L. K.

2 Subjects:

Butterworth, I., Davis, P. R., Leeson, I. S., Marsden, P. J., Robson, S. R., Sorrentino, L. A., Swinn, C., Taylor, M. J., Whyham, I. C. I.

1 Subject:

Ashworth, A. R. D., Crisall, R. M., Dewhurst, J. R., Gillett, J. E., Livesey, M. K., Rankine, F. G., Spicer, J. N., Talbot, A. J., Trow, R. S., Whitworth, D. R. G.

"Speculate to Accumulate" (Economics Competitions in the Sixth Form)

This year the L6 Economics Department consisting of P. Barnes, D. Hurton, A. Mackintosh and J. Noad (the sleeping partner of the syndicate) entered three competitions – two involving stock market speculation and one computer simulation game entitled "Running the British Economy". In the latter, the 4 members of the set were playing against U6 groups all of which had had previous experience of the game. Despite this, K.G.S. still managed to come fifth out of a large field. We did not, however, do so well in the Midland Bank young investors' game where a long telephone argument over a computer mistake put us in the organisers' bad books. This was duly followed up by several hefty (and dubious) fines.

In the annual Stockpiler game, the group was more successful and some shrewd investment in the volatile markets of property and mining brought in some good returns. Despite a £2,000 fine over a photocopying mistake the group still finished in 6th position out of 13 schools.

It is hoped that in the future the Economics Department will purchase 'Running the British Economy' for the school computers which should lead to a better result in next year's competition.

P. Barnes, L6M

Other News

The School Year has, of course, included many other events and activities which are described elsewhere in this magazine. Founders Day, Sports Day, a highly-successful production of "Dr. Faustus" as the School Play, Open Day, Speech Day, the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, the Easter Concert; all events, involving large numbers of pupils and staff, on which the School displays its life and work to the public.

Thanks are due for the smooth running of the School to all Sixth Formers who have served as school officials, particularly in the task of collecting pupils' weekly charity contributions; to Andrew Wright, who has served as School Captain this year, and to the following, who have served as School Prefects: Richard Boyd, Deborah Clarkson, Roger Cook, Christopher Darley, Sarah Goldthorp, Susan Gregory, Joanne Hosker, John Howells, Stuart McIntyre, Rachael Porter, Mark Preston, Neill Richards, Andrew Richmond, Charles Sloane, Darren Thornton and Richard Vaughan.

In conclusion, a sad note: the whole school was deeply saddened and shocked by the sudden death in September of Diane Woods, a Fifth Year Boarder. A girl of highly original intelligence and wit, who contributed a perceptive essay on Berlin to last year's "Kirkhamian", Diane is sadly missed by both staff and fellow pupils. We extend our deepest sympathy to her family and friends.

A. R. Long

SCHOOL TRIPS 1984-85

Marine and Littoral Ecology Course – Knott End-on-Sea

On a suitably wet and windy October morning, the Upper Sixth Biology Set left K.G.S. to pay their annual visit to sunny Knott End. Robert Swarbrick skilfully managed to avoid paying the 12p toll over the River Wyre by a devious 40 mile detour, but any micky-taking was quickly subdued by the sight of the crate of Boddingtons he had brought with him for a birthday present.

We eventually arrived at about midday, and met John and Geoff (the course organisers) and four pupils from Queen Mary's School in Kirby Lonsdale, who were joining us on the course.

The first shock to greet us was that we had to do our own cooking, and we were split up into three groups accordingly. After lunch it was on with the wellies and we went for a merry stroll along the mudflats, carefully noting any species of interest pointed out by our tour guide, John.

After an "interesting" tea cooked by the "A" team, we had a lecture in the Sailing Centre's lab. where we received the first of a long list of handouts. Then we sprinted off along the sea wall to sample the local nightlife.



*Robin Hood
(alias John Howells)
and Alan-a-dale
(alias Charles Sloane)
confer in the lab.*

The following day we did a water sample of the river. This involved someone trailing off down a jetty, bucket in hand, every $\frac{1}{2}$ -an-hour from 6.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. The water thus collected was subjected to a variety of tests, as was water collected by Geoff and "volunteers" in the dinghy from various points up and down the river.

Half the group went trawling in the centre's 40ft. cabin cruiser, but were prevented from going far out to sea by dense fog. It was in this fog that the intrepid Geoff got lost, eventually ending up in Barrow!

At tea we were subjected to the amazing cooking of Jamie, who (amongst other things) made a pot of tea for 9 people with two tea-bags. After the evening's talk, we retired to the local Hostelry for Robert's birthday celebration, with the result that the male contingent felt "under the weather" the following morning, which was rather unfortunate for those who were going trawling.

The fog had cleared overnight, allowing the lucky trawlers to go right out to sea. It was here that John Howells demonstrated a remarkable capacity for throwing the

contents of his stomach several yards into the Irish Med., conclusive proof that Guinness isn't good for you.

This party also managed to catch a specimen of the only poisonous fish in British waters, the deadly Weaver fish. Meanwhile Geoff was out and about in the dinghy again, collecting mussels from beds along the banks of the Wyre in order to carry out a survey of pollution. Mussels are filter feeders and thus (also?) sieve pollutants from the water, which are then stored inside the shell. Culture plates of the macerated mussels revealed alarmingly copious growths of bacteria.

That night a remarkable phenomenon was observed when a migrating shore-crab managed to crawl into Robert's sleeping bag. The biologists were stumped as to how it had managed to climb the stairs. . . .

The following morning we awoke to a Force 9 gale shaking the cottage. We were rushed outside to batten down the boats to the quay, as they were in danger of being blown into the sea. We were then introduced to Bronwyn, an Australian botanist who was to conduct a shore survey that morning. Shortly, armed with quadrants and clipboards, we staggered off along the beach. Bronwyn stopped occasionally to enthuse about some barnacle or

other; we stood in a group and nodded respectfully as her words were carried away by the wind.

Then the fun began: it was quickly discovered that a thrown quadrant would travel up to 200 yards in the gale, thus soon the beach was teeming with frantic biologists chasing after hurtling wooden squares.

We spent the afternoon in the lab, collating results and drawing numerous graphs.

The evening talk was devoted to analysing these results, and was followed by the final trip to the now surprisingly prosperous pub.

The next morning was spent in tidying-up the sailing centre and releasing any specimens still alive. Finally the biologists left to wend their weary way home, after a week that had been both enjoyable and very hard work.

The students who went on the course would like to thank the organisers, John and Geoff and also Mr. Baines for his help with transport and supervision.

Greg Iwin, U6Sc/Mod.

Netball Coaching trip to Holland – 1984

After meeting our driver, Bob, we travelled to Dover to catch the early morning ferry; picking up another school on the way down. At Dover we boarded the ferry and set off for Holland. The journey was very rough and a lot of us were a bit the worse for wear. When we arrived at our destination we got back on the coach for another five hour journey. When we eventually found our way, having taken the long route to our hotel, we were exhausted. We took our luggage to our rooms, went down to the dining area for our meal, then went to our rooms and flopped into bed.

The next day we had to get up early. We went down for the breakfast, which was the same every day. It consisted of cheese, jam, marmalade, bread and a cup of tea. We then got on our coach which was to take us to the Sports Centre where we were to train. The centre was massive and very modern, with three courts. In the morning we all did a rigorous warm-up. We had a break in between this, and all bought drinks at the bar. In the afternoon, we were split up into our schools where we had separate coaching. Our coach was called Jenna. This separate coaching lasted half the afternoon, then some of us went to the nearby town. We came back for a typical English meal and a disco.

The next day we again went in the morning to the Centre, where we had a netball assault course, then we had the second afternoon off coaching, so we took a trip to the Hague – the capital of Holland. We went on a coach around the city, sight-seeing, but to Caroline a Policeman was far more interesting.

On the next day, we had a trip to Amsterdam, where we took a boat trip around the canals. We then went around the shops for about an hour. In the afternoon we had a Tournament at the Centre. Our school was split into an 'A' and 'B' team. The A-team won all their junior games and lost the senior games. When the Tournament was over, there was a presentation of the cup to the K.G.S. 'A' Team, winners of the Tournament.

When we got back Mrs. Black bought us all a bottle of coke which we put in the cup, to be passed round amongst us.

On the last day we had had to get up extra early to catch the ferry. We had all had an extremely late night.

The return Ferry trip was a little less rough and the journey back to K.G.S. went quickly. We arrived back at K.G.S. at about 2.00 in the morning following an incident on the journey when we all mistakenly rushed into a mens' bowling club in search of a ladies' loo!

Finally, we would all like to thank Mrs. Black and Miss Walsh for their hard work in organising our enjoyable trip.

Caroline Barnes, 2Y
Joanne Hollingworth, 2Y
Susan Swift, 2Y

U15 XV Jersey Tour, 1985

On Sunday, 17th February, Mr. Smith, Dr. Hall, and twenty-two lads climbed aboard a luxury coach bound for Manchester Airport and then Jersey.

We had a short coach journey from Jersey Airport to the capital, St. Helier and our hotel, the Metropole.

Our first match was on Monday, 18th February at 4.00 p.m. against Ampthill R.U.F.C. a touring side from London. This was quite a hard game which ended in us losing 24-6.

After the game we went for a short swim at De La Salle School.

The next afternoon was spent at Jersey Zoo.

We had our evening meal then six of us spent the evening in bed with flu, with doctors and nurses running

round us, stuffing us with tablets. Meanwhile, the rest were out on the town.

The next day the players who were not ill played against Quinevais School. With eight people still in bed, we only had fourteen fit players but still played very well, with the final score standing at 14-14.

That night Dr. Hall acted as Head Waiter, by serving the eight ill people with their dinner in bed.

By Thursday morning most of the people had recovered from flu, and were allowed out of bed by the doctor. (The proper doctor, not the small one!) Except for Kitt, who stopped complaining after he saw the blonde, blue eyed nurse! He was let out the following morning.

Friday's match saw the return of a much stronger team which beat De La Salle School 24-4, but unfortunately Black got carried off the pitch after trying to tackle the goalposts.

Just after dinner, we saw the return of the night nurse! You should have seen Mr. Smith's and Dr. Hall's faces, when they saw it was a male nurse, dressed in a pink tie and socks!

So for the final day in Jersey, we went on a trip round the whole island to see the sights. We visited various places of interest, such as Corbiere Lighthouse, an old army bunker where they stored live shell fish in large tanks ready for the market in the mornings.

Arriving back at the hotel, we had a champagne dinner and presented Mr. Smith with an engraved tankard, for all the hard work he had put into the tour, on behalf of the U15 squad. We also presented Dr. Hall with a packet of razors and a can of shaving foam for the hairy mess on his face. (We have noticed he has made good use of them!)

Saturday night ended in a big party and a disco downstairs in the hotel.

On Sunday morning there were a few empty places at the breakfast table due to the late party on Saturday night! Just after lunch we got on the coach to the Airport and by 7.00 p.m. we were all at home.

I would like to thank Mr. Smith and Dr. Hall for all their hard work that was put in before and during the Tour. And on behalf of all the Squad, special thanks go to Mr. and Mrs. Smith and all the parents who helped raise the money for a great tour.

Kirk Wilkinson, 4Z

U12 XV Rugby Tour to London

A party of nineteen highly tuned rugby players and two brave teachers left school at 9.25 on Thursday morning to flex their muscles in the capital. The first stop was the garage to feed the two mini-buses in which we travelled, and the second stop was to feed ourselves and every visible arcade machine at Watford Gap services.

We arrived in London at 4.20 p.m., stretched our legs in Holland Park before unpacking and then invading the local Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant to satisfy our hunger.

Suitably topped up we took the underground to the bright lights of Leicester Square where we were special guests at the world film premiere of "Morons" along with Mel Smith, Lenny Henry, Janet Street-Porter, Jillian Duxbury and Samantha Fox, (we were not sure why they were famous but Dr. Hall and Mr. Smith seemed to know), Jimmy Nail and several other mega stars. Each team member received a balloon with the word "Moron" written on, we thought they were great and Dr. Hall just said "appropriate". The premiere was hard to follow and our team returned to the hostel and to bed.

We were instructed not to even breathe before 8.00 a.m. but most of us were awakened before 6.30 by the aroma of Mr Smith's protruding size twelve feet.

Our first match was at 11.00 a.m. against St. Thomas More School, Eltham and this produced a convincing 40-0 victory with great performance by the forwards and three tries from Stephen Buckley. After the match we returned to the hostel for a quick change and then it was off to the Natural History and Science Museums (very educational). In the evening we went to the Pizza Inn where we had a lovely meal.

The second match on Saturday was against one of London's strongest rugby schools, St. Joseph's Academy, Blackheath. The match was very hard and the score stood at 10-10 with very little time to go, when Darren Woodridge tried, and scored, his first ever drop goal, to give us the victory we deserved by 13-10. Dr. Hall said that it was the first time his under twelve team had beaten St. Joseph's.

The afternoon was spent exploring Harrods and in the evening we went ice skating at Queen's Club. We all had a great time but Mr. Smith and Dr. Hall did not take to the ice, Mr. Smith said he was too old and Dr. Hall agreed with him. After skating we ate and then returned to the hostel exhausted.

On Sunday morning we had a real treat as we went to the famous Rosslyn Park Rugby Club to watch Mark Preston of K.G.S. 1st XV play for England. We took over the stand and when Mark scored a try the noise caused three heart attacks and two bouts of deafness amongst the older members. After the match we travelled home and arrived at school at 7.01, just one minute late. Three cheers for Dr. Hall and Mr. Smith.

Jeremy Smith, 1X

The Lower 6th Geography Field Trip to Scarborough

The Lower Sixth Field Trip to Scarborough was, as expected, a great success, and everyone enjoyed themselves, despite having to work very hard, often past 9 o'clock in the evening. On the Wednesday the village survey took place, in which one group went to interview the Vicar of Seamer, only to find that he had died a few weeks earlier. Undaunted, this group continued to the School, where the Headmaster persuaded them to buy a copy of his book on the history of the village.

The next day was the day of the urban survey, and several shop owners were surprised by the sight of sixth formers running the length of their shops unrolling tape measures as they went. Friday was remarkable only for very heavy rain which accompanied the river survey.

The best weather of the week was on Saturday, the coastal day, which meant everyone's wet clothes dried out quickly. It was on Saturday that "Eugene" Thistlethwaite fell out of the back door of the moving minibus, to everyone's amusement. The farm and land use survey on Sunday gave us an insight into the nature of the local farmers, who were very helpful, until the E.E.C. was mentioned!

By the time that Monday came around, with the upland survey, the party was tired, but we were sorry to leave for home after such an enjoyable week, which would not have taken place had it not been for Messrs. Scott and Willatt, (known in the trade as the B.S. Brothers).

Derek Hurton, L6M
Paul Barnes, L6M

Measuring the waves on Scarborough Sea Front



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Austria 1985

1.00 a.m., Friday, 12th April. After a slightly delayed start Captain Beefy and his band of brave and excited travellers embarked on their adventures to the Austrian Tyrol. On arriving at Dover we were told that the ferry would be delayed and Herr Taylor decided to take the ferry to Calais instead of to Zeebrugge. The crossing was fairly smooth and we arrived in Koblenz for an overnight stop. Continuing the next day along the Rhine Valley Mr. Taylor impressed us with his knowledge of the area and its castles. The Austrian border produced a sample of Robert Swarbrick's innocent ignorance when he was found trying to locate the town of "Douane" on the map. He also wondered if they accepted sterling.

We reached Angath on Saturday evening where we enjoyed an excellent example of Austrian cuisine, namely "wurst" and chips. That night saw Lorraine "I couldn't say no" Anderson dancing to the Austrian blues as there was a wedding reception at the hotel, with the bride and groom and many of the guests in traditional dress.

The first morning, spent recovering from our long and arduous journey, was enlivened by a brass band procession through the village as the youngsters celebrated their first communion in the church next door to the hotel. It preceded our afternoon excursion to the largest lake in Austria, Lake Achensee. Unfortunately it had been much reduced by dry weather, but still presented a wonderful sight against the snow-capped mountains. Again the night was spent in the hotel.

Monday was filled with the sights and sounds of Salzburg (where "The Sound of Music" was filmed). We rode up to the castle on a vernacular (no, it's funicular, Robert!) railway where the view was spectacular. Two members of the party managed to get lost going down the hill.

Next morning Quasimodo's bell ringing workout woke us up at six o'clock in readiness for our outing to Oberammergau. Here we were given a guided tour of the Passion Play Theatre. The guide told us many interesting facts about the play and its history and a group of us sang on the stage to illustrate the wonderful acoustics of the theatre, before going backstage to see the colourful costumes and props. Oberammergau is also noted for its wood carvings and there were many of these on view in the souvenir

shops. We then continued onto Garmisch Partenkirchen, the Olympic Village, where we saw the now dry ski jumps and the arena. The walk up to the top was well worth it for the breathtaking views. After an exhausting day out we returned to the hotel where the cabaret for the evening was the sixth form lads singing "Captain Beefy and his Band".

Wednesday was the day where the party found out that, contrary to popular belief, the Austrian economy is not run solely on the sale of cuckoo clocks; the highpoint (or maybe lowpoint) of the trip was the visit to the salt mines. On donning the latest line in Polish P.O.W. uniforms our fearless party braved trains, exceedingly hot slides, river boats and funiculars (all underground) in order to receive a small salt pot at the end. Afterwards we had a hair raising coach ride to visit the headquarters in Bavaria of Hitler and his senior staff. That night we had P.O.W. food as well. This was classed as "sliced masochism" by the seniors and "orrible cold meat" by the lower years.

Our last full day was spent shopping and seeing the sights of Innsbruck. Unfortunately most of the sixth form only managed to see the structural masterpiece of a MacDonalds' hamburger. That night saw the presentation of the Angath '85 awards, with numerous awards to both pupils and teachers. At this point we would have liked to dedicate a paragraph to the non-existent night life, but the editors decided this would be a waste of space.

The next morning we left Austria and its "Himalayas". The coach was remarkably quiet but whether this was in sadness or due to the night before we are unsure. This time, after our overnight stay in Koblenz, we departed from Zeebrugge and arrived in Dover. We then continued on to Birmingham where we said goodbye to the best drivers K.G.S. has ever seen, Brian and Eric. 2.00 a.m. on Sunday morning signalled the arrival back at K.G.S.

Thanks must go to Mr. Gill for his French lessons during the trip, "Doctor" Gault who helped us through all ills, Mr. Rushton who kept us all entertained (we are also eagerly awaiting the publication of his book, "1001 Things To Do With Shaving Foam"). Lastly but not least special thanks must go to Mr. and Mrs. Taylor for the smooth running of a truly "Excellent" trip.

Barry Russell, U6M
Neill Richards, Pre
Susan Russell, L6A
Lorraine Anderson, L6A



The whole party dressed up for a trip down the Salt mine

Skiing 1985 – Solynieve, Sierra Nevada, Spain

Skiing in Spain? 50 miles from Malaga? In mid-April? Impossible! These comments from disbelievers appeared to have some foundation when we arrived at Granada Airport in hot sunshine at lunchtime on 12th April, especially when the courier pointed out the tobacco drying in the sunshine. The party of 48 had had a fairly uneventful journey: setting off from Kirkham at 11 p.m.; failing to get any sleep on the coach, except for Mrs. Piggott who remained alert throughout the motorway journey and decided to snooze through the sights of London and even missed Marks & Spencers on Oxford Street; being told that Petersen probably wouldn't be allowed back into Britain because of his Australian passport; receiving a non-stop geographical lecture from I.M.S. which completely ruined the beautiful views from the plane; ignoring a potted history of Andalucia from the courier as the coach started to climb the 7000ft. in to the Sierra Nevada, we anticipated the beauties of the ski resort.

Arrival in Solynieve did little to allay fears that the resounding success of the three previous years was about to be severely dented: the village was bathed in blistering heat but bore little resemblance to the villages of the Dolomites experienced in recent years; not a bit quaint Alpine architecture, but, perched on a slag-heap, a plethora of gaudy, garish concrete and corrugated steel blocks designed, according to our courier, by a Spaniard of dubious sexual preferences. Pink and green stripes in a ski resort? And where's the snow? "It's there. Honest!" insisted an agitated courier as the bleary-eyed staff began to prepare their various verbal assaults and the party squinted into the blazing sun up a dusty mountainside. There was a hint of white at the top of the cable car but...

We had been informed 24 hours previously that the apartments which we had booked in February 1984 had been flooded and therefore we had been moved to the Hotel Telecabina at the last minute. As we descended into this Black Hole of Calcutta, there were distinct looks of gloom on the faces of the exhausted and sleepless party. The hotel, and I use the word loosely, appeared to consist of little more than a single corridor with some 20 rooms off it. The rooms were limited in space – comparisons with the Tube at rush-hour are not inappropriate – but the most unfortunate aspect was that the windows – skylights would be more accurate – were sealed. More gloom and despondency: there was a sign saying "bar and lounge" but the door seemed permanently closed. Further despondency and gloom; another school was arriving that night to share our corridor with us. The staff rushed round reassuring the party, tearing up postcards which read "I want to go home", and saying that everything would seem better after a good night's rest. They didn't seem very convinced themselves. Matters were not improved when the other school group arrived at 11 p.m., woke up the K.G.S. party and then went out to return again at 12.30 a.m. Sarah Goldthorp had words; Mrs. Piggott had words; R. J. W. had words: all threatened varying degrees of violence until silence ensued and amicable relations were established for the rest of the week.

One could hardly believe at this stage that just 24 hours later everyone would be ignoring the "modest" accommodation and having a thoroughly enjoyable time. The skiing and après-ski more than made up for the initially disappointing hotel and the rather ordinary food. What is Spanish food anyway? After all, the cable car is three yards from the corridor. And who wants to swing a cat round in a room? By the end of the week Amanda Clarkson found her room so delightful that she decided to lock herself in the shower for half-an-hour.

The skiing was also different from that previously experienced; after a gondola ride from our hotel of some fifteen minutes we discovered that there was plenty of snow at about 10,000ft., many lifts and a wide variety of pistes. It was, difficult to ski in the morning up until about 10.30 as the runs were distinctly icy, though this seemed to deter few of the K.G.S. skiers, with the exception of R.J.W. who fell on the ice on the first morning and was never again seen up the mountain before 11 a.m. The skiing instruction was less well structured than we were used to though some groups were more fortunate than others: René, a South American ski instructor who served "lumumbas" and "cerveza" with a certain panache at his bar in the square, was friendly and helpful; Carlos, a former Spanish ski champion and his assistant/translator, Henríqué, guided the senior (in age) group to an improvement of technique, over some hairy jumps, down some icy black runs, and into their bar on the final evening for some champagne; others seemed to reflect the Spanish attitude of "manyana" and were casual in their attitudes to instruction and particularly time-keeping. This could also be seen in the fact that ski-lifts which had been damaged for some time were left in a state of disrepair. Such was I.M.S.'s disgust with the Spanish attitude that he was driven to praising Italian efficiency! However, many people overcame these problems by swapping groups until they found one which suited them, and progress was made by all, and the whole party bombed about happily for a week, with the single exception of Jochan Robinson who fell over on the first day and spent the rest of the week trying to get up.

Most of the party were fortunate enough to ski into a large bowl-shaped area called La Laguna where the Spanish instructors took them over a variety of terrains and jumps where the soundest advice was "Don't look down"; Mrs. Piggott did, regretted it but still came back for more;



Phil Bamber, 5Y

Dr. Summers ignored everything and went at 100 m.p.h. everywhere and as a result made several closer studies of the chemical composition of snow; the sixth form boys, no doubt led by old boys, Stuart Robson and Philip Marsden, went wherever they felt like and managed to ski down to the hotel despite the fact that there was no snow; Richard Clifford maintains that he skied La Laguna in the morning but failed to remember anything about it after a heavy fall. It was gratifying to see beginners coping with difficult slopes with quickly acquired snowplough techniques and the third year boys led by the fearless Piggott, Sharpless and Ralston dashing off to horrific-looking mogul fields. Although, on occasions, the extent of Spanish instruction appeared to be "Follow me" it seemed remarkably efficient and certificates of varying degrees of achievement were awarded at the end of the week.

Accidents, fortunately, were few: the sun, not the snow, was the most dangerous aspect when, despite maximum protection cream, several people blistered after the first day and had to be treated for second degree burns, though all continued to ski, their faces covered rather like Mexican bandits; Kirsten Bell suffered a twisted knee which limited only her cavorting on the dance floor; R. J. W. was seen limping later in the week though no-one had seen him fall on the slopes; Sharon Lee, unable to bear the food any longer, stabbed herself with an eating utensil and required several stitches, much to the delight of would-be nurse, Amanda Clarkson; R. J. B., deciding that he had no use for skis, attempted to do the one-man luge down a 300 yard ice wall on his back, front and side, reached the bottom and laughed but, having been informed of the sheer horror of his fall by the ashen faces of B. M. S. and I. M. S., decided to return to bed for the afternoon; Rebecca Wilkinson, in pursuit of the "Mad Bomber", Rachel Rainford, decided that the only way to catch her was to go straight through a pole and severely bruised her ribs; Stuart Robson dislocated his collar bone attempting a triple salko on skis. Fortunately, these last two accidents occurred on the final afternoon, so nobody's holiday was spoiled.

Despite our initial impression of the village of Solynieve, it was discovered that those somewhat unappealing buildings contained some delightful bars-cum-discotheques and that the little plaza outside the hotel was very pleasant to sit in during the late afternoon. The normal course of events was to descend from the ski slopes by cable car and have a refreshing drink in the Square, which was still bathed in hot sunlight, until 7 p.m. when it was time for dinner. The evenings were spent in various bars and discotheques: "Don Paco's" proved popular when a discotheque was held there on the Saturday night, our first real evening at Solynieve, when any doubts about whether people were going to enjoy themselves were quickly dispelled. The K. G. S. party, while having a great deal of fun, behaved (almost) impeccably and showed that they could be trusted, though were always under the eagle eyes of the staff, so much so that it was difficult to get the latter off the dance floor: R. J. W.'s attempts to be "a cool dude" were greeted with hoots of derision and comments that the dance floor seemed to be sagging beneath him; I. M. S. proved to be the star of an evening at the Nevasur Hotel where he showed his age by jiving with a lady of considerable size while being applauded by not only the K. G. S. party but the rest of the English groups in Solynieve as well; R. J. B., it was felt, should stick to snooker. It was at the Nevasur that the fourth year girls discovered that they had a distinct advantage over a group of girls from Birmingham, who because of their Black Country accents could not be understood by the boys from Tonbridge; our sixth form girls, Maria and Andrea Fish and Sarah Goldthorp overcame any language difficulties they may have had with the Spaniards and managed to persuade a variety of locals to provide them with drinks and pizzas throughout the week: game, set and match to the K. G. S. girls.

Wednesday was both Mrs. Piggott's birthday and a fancy dress night which proved to be a rare combination. Mrs. P. was presented with various gifts from the different groups in the party which she promptly and generously shared out and then attempted to blow out an unrevealable number of candles on her birthday cake. This proved difficult: the devious Dr. Summers had provided re-ignitable candles and hence the task proved impossible. Undeterred the indefatigable S. P. donned a Madame Butterfly outfit, which provided much "mirth", and proceeded to dance and "bermp" her way through the rest of the evening in a way which belied her age. The highly entertaining fancy dress evening was held at Don Paco's where David Whitworth won a prize dressed as "A St. Trinian's girl with nothing to do on a Saturday Night" complete with blouse, gymslip and - this is more like it for a K. G. S. 1st XV forward - Doc. Martin boyyer boots. The fourth year girls, in night attire, showed that it wasn't just their accents that were superior to the attributes of the Birmingham girls, the third year boys just looked grotesque, while the junior girls, having changed their fashion garments so many time already that day, didn't have the energy to change again. I. M. S.'s "bird-brain" hat proved so popular that he was offered £10 for it and R. J. B.'s "Norman Wisdom with Athlete's Foot" was beyond anybody's comprehension. Again, the K. G. S. party showed themselves to be just as adept at dancing as at skiing, their energy seeming inexhaustible, with the exception of Joanne Lowther who was found fast asleep in a corner of the bar while the disco blasted out to the tune of 400 decibels.

Another popular disco-bar was the El Chimenea, which possessed an open fire, a large video screen showing previous days' and evenings' entertainments and a pool table which Dr. Summers, much to his delight, managed to jam so that it was free for the evening. It was here that Greg Irwin and Simon Phillipson showed their ability to cope with the local "cerveza" and that the bar in their room was merely an optical illusion; David Whitworth illustrated that he couldn't cope with Stuart Robson's capacity and the night air; certain junior members discovered that they couldn't cope with anything.

The trip, into unknown territory, proved hugely enjoyable and successful. Thanks are once again due to: Dr. Summers for his organisation during the course of the year and on the holiday itself - we hope he will wear his pullover, its bright orange colour should help us to spot him in the numerous snowdrifts which he will no doubt bury himself in next year; to Messrs. Watson, Scott and Browning for their assistance, particularly the latter's patience with the bank; to Mrs. Piggott and the way she coped with the Spanish Medical system; and to Mrs. Summers and her skill with the needle.

Next year - back to Tonale!

Franz Klammer (retired)

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Capital Punishment

Capital punishment is the death penalty for a criminal if he commits a certain crime. China, Iran and South Africa all have the death penalty for some crimes as do thirty-eight of the states of America. It may be administered by hanging, the firing squad, a lethal injection or the electric chair, in America. It is given to criminals who commit certain violent crimes. There are strong arguments for and against capital punishment and at a debate in the House of Commons last year it was decided to reject a proposal to reintroduce the death penalty in England though in America, eighty-four per cent of the population support the death penalty.

People who believe that capital punishment should be continued say that it is the best crime deterrent, because people will not try to kill someone else if they fear that they may be killed themselves. Supporters also say that it is an appropriate punishment for people who commit violent crimes. They say that people who commit violent crimes should be killed because they are mentally and emotionally sick and if they are released from prison, will only kill again, as in the example of the recent case of a rapist who was released from prison and carried out a death threat on a woman. People say that a victim of a violent crime suffers physical pain and so the criminal should die or suffer physical pain — the 'eye for an eye' principle. They also say that capital punishment is a humane type of punishment to inflict on a criminal. They say that many criminals would rather die than spend the rest of their lives in prison.

People who do not believe that capital punishment should be continued say that as a deterrent, it does not work; it does not work in the United States of America, where the crime rate is much higher than that of England, where fifteen hundred people are waiting to get the death sentence and where five people have suffered the death sentence already this year. There is also the chance that a person may be killed for a crime he did not commit, for example, I think it was the Crippen case, many years ago, when the husband of one of Crippen's victims was hung for the murder of his wife. It is barbaric to give someone the death sentence because all we are really doing is killing them out of revenge for a crime they have committed. When someone is given the death penalty, he is only being murdered.

I do not agree with capital punishment because there is too much risk involved — the accused may not have committed the crime. It is also morally wrong to kill someone, even if he has killed someone else because it is still plain murder. Besides, who are we to decide whether someone should live or die?

David Shakespeare, 4Y

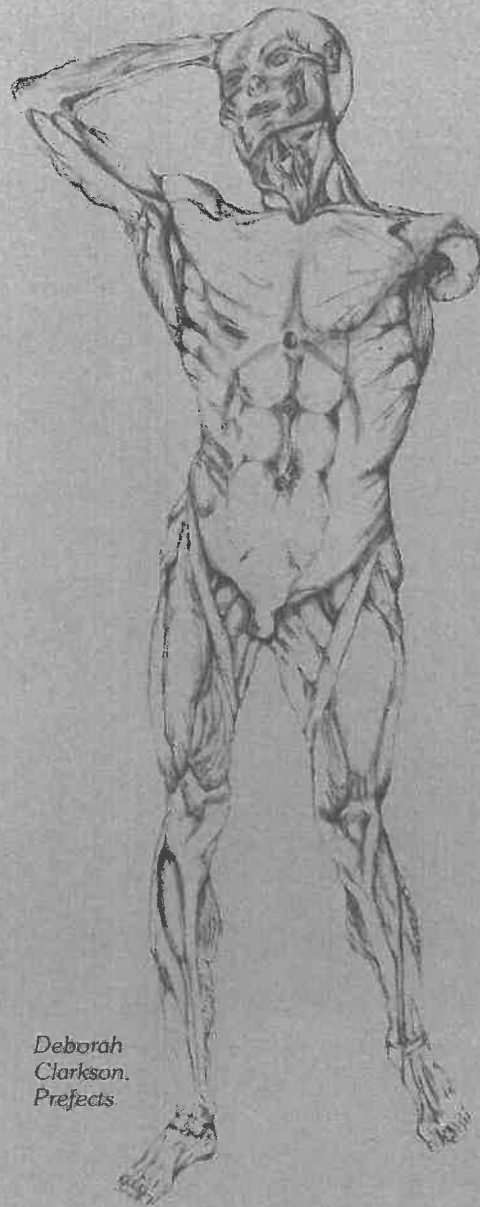
Famine

As I eat my dinner,
They all get thinner,
And I sometimes wonder why:
As I eat my toast
And drink my tea
It makes me want to cry.

It isn't fair
To stop and stare,
They cannot help their looks;
Their frightened eyes
And bony limbs
Look dreadful in the books.

As I'm tucked up in my snug, warm bed,
I think of them out there,
Of how they think
Of food and drink,
Which we have got to spare.
If only we could show them,
If only we could share,
If only we could make them see
That some of us do care.

Katie Hamer, 12



Deborah
Clarkson.
Prefects

The Deaf Person's Wish

The popping of balloons,
The squeak of next door's gate,
Are some of the things,
That I used to hate.
But now I just wish,
I wish I could hear,
The mad, raging sea,
Against the pier.

The song of a nightingale,
The buzz of a bee,
The gurgling of the cistern,
Right next to me,
Are just some of the things,
In my memory;
Just some of the things,
I miss dreadfully.

The crunch of leaves in autumn,
The swish of swaying trees,
The gentle, soft poppies,
Moving in the breeze,
Are some of the things,
I wish I could hear,
Just misery, more misery,
Year upon year.

Anne Fletcher, 1X

Kingfisher

Swerve and swoop,
Flash of silver,
Rainbow brightness,
Shafts of sunlight,
Wriggle and squirm,
Iridescent gleam,
Glinting eyes,
Babbling stream.
Gulp and guzzle,
Extinguished colour,
Vicious beak,
Watchful eye,
Still water,
Peaceful forest,
Clear pools,
Golden sky.

Claire Farnhill, 3X

Fog

In the country

The fog slowly crept up the hill, letting its breath into every hole or gap through the branches, licking the bushes, swirling and twirling everywhere. The eerie silence and the coldness was devastating. A shiver ran up my spine: it was as though someone was following me, but I could not see behind. It formed like wisps of cotton wool then thickened up to puffs of cotton wool, and then it formed a great, white blanket over the fields. At the end of the day, the blanket lifted slowly, and it was gone.

In the town

The fog was here; it coiled round the gates; it curled round the chimneys: it swirled up the garden paths. The white mist was closing in; it strangled the flowers and it froze the trees. It didn't make one sound. Then came a peasouper fog: it was thick and yellow. It was still and quiet all day: the noises muffled by the fog. Nobody could see; it was dark all the time. All the traffic crawled to a halt. My clothes were filthy at the end of the day. I looked like a chimney sweep. At the end of the day the peasouper fog slowly and gradually went.

Sarah-Jane Heath, 2X

Cat

She lay there on the grass.
Body rigid, tail straight, her claws extended,
Waiting, waiting for her prey to move.
Her fur shone in the brilliant sunlight,
Like jewels in a crown,
And her eyes flashed like beacons.
A movement — so slight — came from the flower bed.
Like lightning the majestic cat pounced
Upon a terrified and unsuspecting mouse,
Killing him with a lash of her brilliant white claws.
I stared at her with admiration;
She began to groom herself,
But paused — looked up — and realised my presence.
Like a shot, she was off,
Bounding across the garden,
Her long tail flying like a flag in the wind.
"No, no!" I cried. "Don't go!"
But all in vain, for she was gone.
So fast that I had not even time to blink.
Leaving me alone in the garden,
A dead mouse at my feet.

Alasdair Gilmour, 2Z

A Rainy Day

One autumn day, the television broke down, and not wanting to start my homework, I began to gaze lazily out of the living room window. I was first made aware of the weather by the sound of driven rain lashing against the window pane. Gradually the sky grew darkly menacing, and soon was as black as night. I could see the clouds on the horizon rushing along with such ease that they appeared to be like weightless feathers.

Suddenly the sky became illuminated by a flash of silver sheet-lightning. Seconds later a rumbling noise, like an approaching train, exploded into a crack of thunder. By now the rain was so heavy that large puddles were quickly forming and beginning to flow downhill, joining to form miniature torrents. These new rivers carried fallen leaves, tossing them about like boats on a stormy sea. The young trees in the garden leaned crazily as though about to sweep the grass clean.

The end of the storm was heralded by a sudden calm as the rain eased to a gentle trickle. I could now see water dripping from the tree leaves like hundreds of leaking taps. Within minutes starlings and sparrows were bathing in the deep, refreshing puddles.

Alex Giles, 2Z

Hedgehog

I, while taking washing in, noticed a movement and rustling of leaves.
I edged over with great caution.
Suddenly the leaves burst into rapid motion and I, coward that I was, stepped back in fright as out from the leaves wriggled a spiked, dark hedgehog.
The hedgehog scuttled towards the garden fence, but stopped half way and sniffed about.
It turned around as if sensing my presence, and slowly crept back to the security of its nest of leaves.
After a while, more shuffling was heard from the leaves, and out of them popped a shiny black nose, followed by the prickly body.
Scuttling to and fro the hedgehog seemed to be showing off to me, but not for long: off he scampered through a large gap in the fence, abandoning his leaves.

Rachel Salt, 2Z

The Dartmoor

There he is in the darkness,
Gallop over the hills and moors,
Swiftly his hooves cover the grassland,
With power he jumps the stone wall.
Whinnying with great excitement,
There he is, wild and free!
No reins to hold him,
No saddle on his back,
Just him alone in the darkness.
This is homeland,
Where he should be.

Jessica Dickson, 2Z

Trapped

The small speedboat hurtled across the Loch with the waves crashing into its underside like bricks. The lovely, sparkling, but not so warm Scottish sun had risen high already, making the many waves glisten like diamonds. The evil mountains climbed steeply on all sides, making us feel small and insignificant. We could not tell whether they were on the mainland or on islands.

Stuart, three years older than I, was in charge of the boat, and was looking rather worried at that moment. Martin, his plump younger brother was listening to the Oban coastguard on his new portable two-way radio. Martin and I were the same age. Martin was munching a packet of crisps, whilst I was musing about the trip we had just set out on.

I looked at the map. "This is strange," I thought, for according to the map we should have then been within sight of the sea. Instead, we seemed to be running parallel to the sea, towards more islands. It was then that I perceived why Stuart's face was so worried.

Suddenly Martin gave a loud shout, as if he was just being kidnapped. I was so startled that I dropped the map overboard; I saw it being carried away by the cause of Martin's shout, which was a seal. His shout had frightened it away.

There now followed a moment of chaos, with everyone blaming each other for what had just happened.

When everyone had calmed down, we agreed that we should turn around and go back until we came to the place where we should have gone left.

In practice it was not so easy, because the tide was against us, and we did not get very far because the engine was not very powerful. It was as if the waters had a special reason for not letting us turn back.

"I think we'd better moor at this island for a rest and maybe to explore," said Stuart.

An hour later, three boys, sprawled out on the golden beach like corpses, did not notice their boat glide away, because they were fast asleep.

At least that is what I think happened, because I was not watching, of course.

When we woke up, a biting wind was sweeping across the island. We looked at each other in utter dismay when we found the boat had gone. There was no sign at all of civilisation and it was too far to swim to the mainland even if any of us could have defeated the cold.

The puffins lined the cliff tops like soldiers, and seemed to own the island.

We had set out to find shelter, with me in the lead, when after about half a minute, I stumbled into a hole and to my horror, I found myself falling, down and down, like a shooting star.

Suddenly I landed with a large "plop" in some murky water. I felt myself begin to sink, and started reaching aimlessly for the sides of what I knew must be a well. Finally I noticed a rusty old ladder. I grabbed hold of it and hauled myself up, until I came to an opening in the side. I crawled into it, knowing the ladder would not hold out for me while I climbed to the top.

"Hey, where are you!" I heard Stuart cry. "This isn't funny." I yelled as loudly as I could in reply, but nobody heard.

I then decided to see if the opening led anywhere. I snapped on my small pocket torch and, seeing a passage, crawled along it.

After going ahead for two minutes, I heard a rumbling, as if a train was trundling along behind me. When I looked, I saw that the passage had caved in.

By now I was feeling hungry, thirsty and tired and lonely. A little further down the passage, my heart leapt because in front was a man-made passage with steps going up one way and down the other.

I was not very curious at the time. I just followed the steps up. They came to a big, solid, oak door. The door was locked. I crumpled to the ground in disappointment. I banged on it and shouted, but nobody heard.

I sat down and thought. Where does the passage lead? Of course! The mainland!

I did not bother to think why it was there. I could leave the others, because they had the radio, I thought. With renewed enthusiasm, I set off down the passage.

My throat felt like charred wood, which was still smouldering, but I carried on. I blundered along the passage, and tripped over. My torch smashed; I had to keep on going, though.

After at least an hour, I heard my feet crunching over something strange. Even close examination did not tell me what it was.

I carried on, until I crashed into another door, locked like the other. I was well and truly trapped. I did not think anyone would ever find me. I sank to the ground, trembling with cold and fear.

I was awoken, later, by voices of excited children and parents. I heard a key turn in the lock. I jumped up, bewildered; I had the same emotion as those at the other side of the door.

I pushed past them and ran along the passage. It widened, and came to a car park. I breathed the wonderful sweet air and drank water out of a little stream. I noticed a sign saying "Gold Mining Museum" and another which said "Mines open to public".

With the words "Thank goodness," I fell asleep.

The next day I was back at the hotel with Stuart and Martin, discussing our adventures.

Timothy Roberts, 2X



Justine Mackey, 5X

In the Good Old Days

"Honestly, the youth of today and the things they get up to. It's disgusting", moaned Lizzy's grandma, pushing away her copy of the 'Daily Mirror'. "All this crime and violence going on, someone should do something about it. Sometimes, Lizzy, I really feel afraid of being mugged or having my cottage broken into."

"Why not take up self-defence, grandma? Then if you are attacked, you can knock the thief over his head with your handbag!" said Lizzy, lightheartedly, far more concerned with reading her star signs in the centre of her 'Just Seventeen' magazine than listening to her aged, fragile grandma.

"Lizzy, dear, could you please just pop along to the shop and buy me a couple of darning needles? Your father needs his socks mended again".

"Oh, don't bother. I'll buy him a new pair for Christmas," murmured Lizzy only half listening.

"No, dear. I want to mend them. It'll give me something to do whilst your mother is out at her fencing class".

At this moment, Lizzy picked up interest.

"Fencing Class? You mean with Mr. Renalds?" enquired Lizzy.

"Yes of course, dear, who else?"

"I think I will just pop out to the shops after all to buy myself a new outfit. Perhaps then I might impress Mr. Renalds".

"Oh, how could you think such awful things Elizabeth?" asked Grandma disappointedly. "He is a married man."

"Quite easily," muttered Lizzy with a cheeky, little smile appearing on her face.

"Oh, yes, that reminds me," recollected Gran, "you had a phone call this afternoon from someone called Fri-Fri-Frizz, I think it was."

"Umm, what did she want?" inquired Lizzy.

"Nothing important. Just something about a Ham concert"

"You mean a "Wham!" concert, and not important you say! This is a chance of a lifetime. Cor! George Michael jumping all over the stage. I'll have to ring her back. Hey, Gran, lend me ten pence will you? Our phone's out of order — the dog chewed up the wire yesterday."

"Holy Mother Mary, ten pence just for one phone call! In the good old days one could buy a whole week's groceries with that, that was when we weren't on rations of course, then we could buy a tin of . . ."

"Sorry to interrupt, grandma. We are not living in 1940. This is 1985 you know," Lizzy broke in.

"Too right it is. My, how things have changed. It's disgusting to see young girls roaming the streets with those vulgar tight trousers which reveal everything. If my daughter had dressed like that I'd have spanked her bottom!"

"Oh, Gran, you're so old-fashioned. People don't wear crimplene dresses, flares or platform shoes anymore," but it was too late, for Lizzy had put her size 8½'s straight into it.

"And what might I ask is wrong with crimplene dresses?" asked her grandma, seeming rather offended. Lizzy hadn't noticed that her gran's new frock was of the finest camel brown and pea-green crimplene variety.

"Oh, nothing is wrong with crimplene, grandma. In fact it is rather —" Lizzy hastily searched for the appropriate words — "Um, trendy."

Before she could cause any more damage, Lizzy opened the door ready to leave, but as she did so she noticed her grandma's disapproving scowl land at her feet.

"What do you think those distasteful objects are on your feet?"

"Shoes."

"Don't be cheeky. Take them off at once, you look like someone off a street-corner . . ."

Hurriedly Lizzy left, and closed the door.

Katherine Hetherington, 4Y

Summer Climb

I left the cottage early that day and began to ascend the mountain track with my rucksack pulling at my shoulders. The air was humid and dusty. Grasshoppers played their melancholy notes and jumped clear as I reached the sheep trail leading to the mountain's summit. Dead bracken crunched under my feet; the dry grass rustled; the sun's golden rays scorched everything, crinkling the tree's leaves and making each pebble like a miniature stove, hot enough to poach an egg on. Ahead of me I recognised the sheer sheet of rock that was faintly visible from the cottage window. Taking a slight detour to the left it would not be as difficult to climb, as the rock had crumbled away to make precarious footholds. This detour lasted for about quarter of a mile.

Along the way delicate butterflies settled on wild pansies and foxgloves, yellow rattle and the hardy ragwort. Many insects buzzed annoyingly about my face and an occasional, horsefly managed to intrude through my bracken-beater, and bite me, its ugly body settling quietly and softly on my bare arms or neck.

At last I heard the sound I had been waiting for. A foamy stream trickled down the rock making a tingling harp-like sound. When I reached the summit I would find a massive waterfall, the constant source of water to feed these ever-moving streams. After a quiet rest and my lunch, I commenced the climb up the rock face.

It was a tricky climb; every now and again a rock would give way and I would lose my footing, clinging to the rock like a snail. The only plants around me now were tangly bunches of grass and soft mosses in the damper places. I made it to the overhanging top ledge and just managed to haul myself onto the grassy track above.

Shielding my eyes, I could just make out a white strip on the next set of rocks ahead of me. The summit and waterfall were near.

I reached the rocks, and had a dangerous climb ahead of me, past the fall's rushing waters, to a beacon telling me that I was at the highest point of the whole mountain.

The view was magnificent, and oh how different everything seemed! There was the castle, its flag waving triumphantly as if to tell people how many sieges it had survived, but now it could have been a child's toy. The tiny hamlet with just one shop was in sight; its stonework church had a towering steeple which peeped shyly from behind a forest. Sheep in the fields below were like snowflakes: small, remote, going wherever fancy took them; and the track which I had followed was a winding, sandy footpath.

The waterfall which I was now sitting by, foamed and crashed onto the rockbed below — it was a cascade of fountain water, a snow shower, a lovely weeping willow, a beautiful sight. From dashing onto the rocks it became rivulets and streams, silver pieces from Nature's rich hands, rolling quietly down the mountainside in the sunlight, the soft, refreshing sunlight.

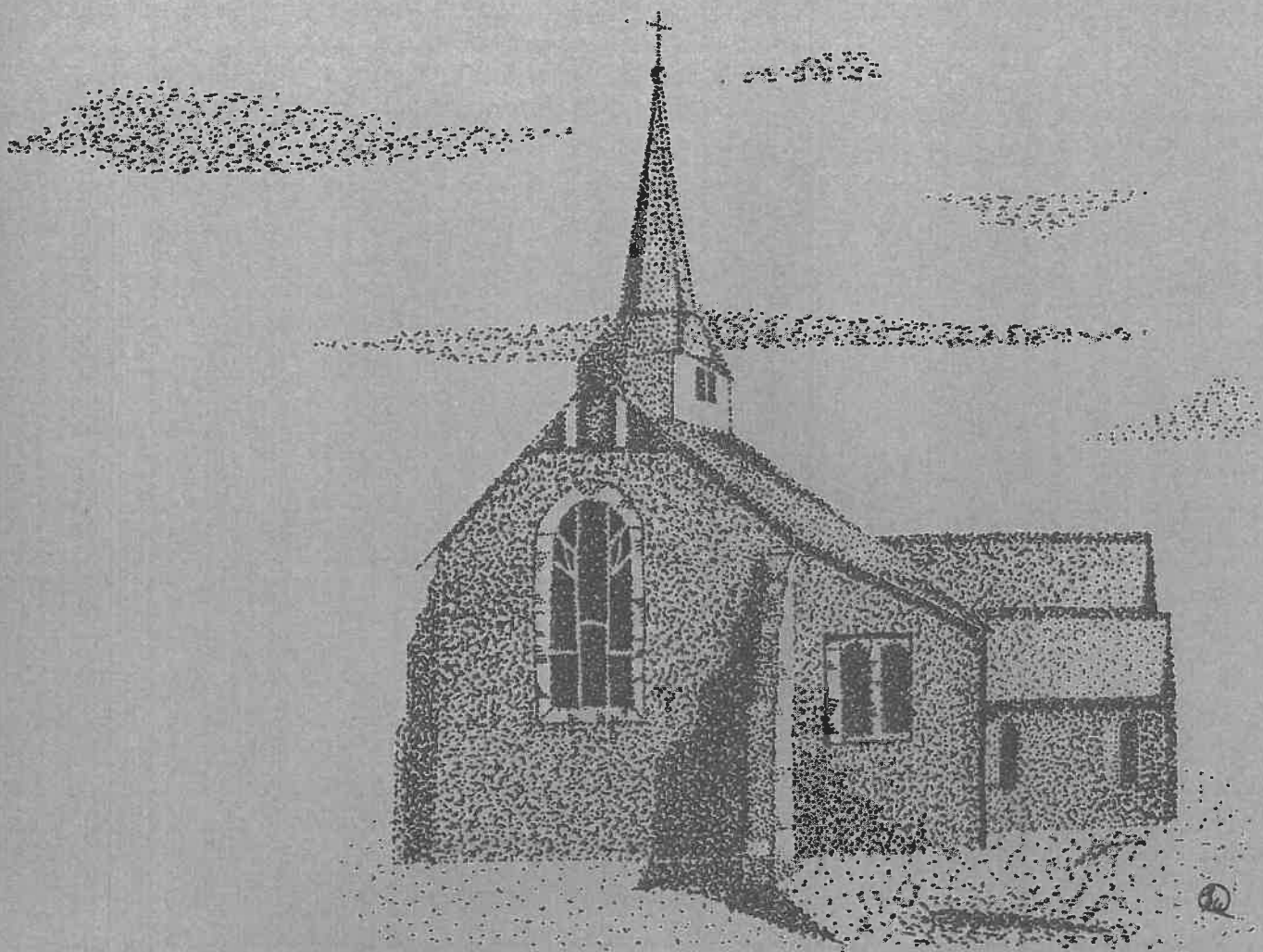
Caroline Powell, 2X

The life of a Candle

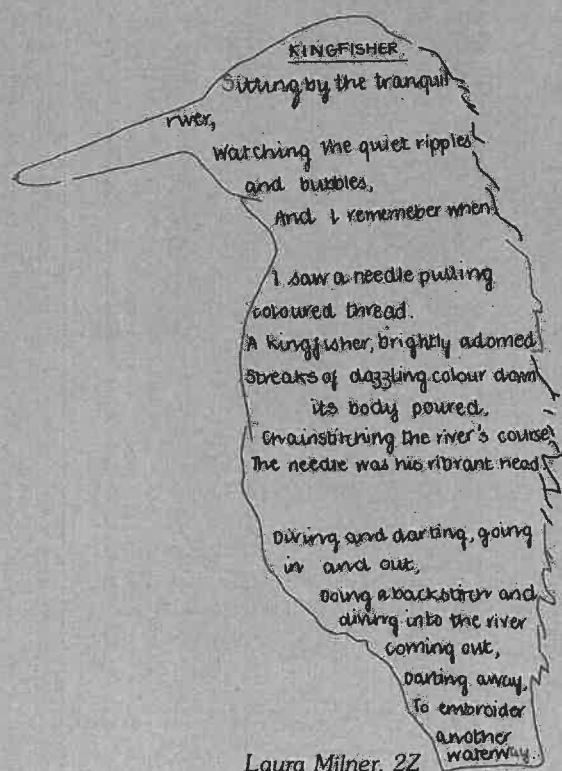
The candle standing to attention, like a soldier on parade, waits in its holder to burst into life. A match is struck, and the candle is lit. The candle flame dances in the dark of the night, as the heat from its flame can be felt all around. Slowly the candle diminishes, sending trickles of wax down the sides, like those of a mountain stream.

Suddenly the flame is extinguished by the melted wax and all that is left is a gnarled mass, lying in a heap in its holder. The candle is dead and the aroma of smoke fills the atmosphere of the darkened night.

Christopher Kenward, 2X



Sean Wilkinson, 5X



Laura Milner, 2Z

The Christmas Tree

The Christmas tree stands in the corner of the shop waiting to be bought. Somebody comes and buys it and takes it home. It is put up; children scuttling like mad March hares trying to help.

The night comes; the Christmas tree is decorated. The lights shine brightly, showing the branches. The prickles hang off, ready to fall onto the floor. The tinsel glitters with the light shining on it. The star on the top stands out, showing it is the big Christmas star. The tree is standing in a pot of soil; motionless. The presents are gathered around the pot ready for the children to open on Christmas Day.

The day comes; the tree is glittering; the children run to get the presents from beneath the tree. The celebration of the birth of Christ has come. The star on the top of the tree seems to stand out more than ever; the angels on the branches look as if they are singing for the birth of Christ. All the figures seem to be alive; the tinsel, lights and the star shines more brightly than before: the day has come.

Rejoice, Christ has been born!

David Whittingham, 2X

Trapped

I am Jack Rabbit, so called because since childhood I have been a very fast runner, and my mother used to say that I was so swift it would have been more appropriate for me to actually be a jack-rabbit; thus my name is a joke somewhat, but in the story which I will now relate to you, my speedy running did not help me very much.

Being a small wild rabbit of England, with a dear wife, it was a happy time last summer when, under the bushes, there was an abundance of juicy blackberries, sloeberies and windfallen apples as we were both fond of the wines and beverages which can be made from those fruits. It was at this time that I had an extremely lucky escape from, at that time, one of my most dreaded enemies.

It was not a very hot day, I remember, but there was that common stillness in the air which, in summer, meant thunder and probably a downpour of rain.

"Jack," I heard, Jenny called, "Where are you?" I hopped into the earthy kitchen of our burrow where there was the penetrating smell of sloe gin which I loved, "Would you go and fetch me some more berries, Bunny?" she asked affectionately.

"Of course, Jenny - back soon!"

I hurried into the open, knowing that she would need enough berries to last until the sun had dried the coming rain, knowing only too well that many a cauldron of sloe gin had been spoilt from the result of having soft, rainwashed berries with all their best juices drained away - a firm fruit was needed to make Jenny's special beverage.

Above me the thunder rolled faintly and it was approaching quickly. I saw that many sloeberies had fallen from a bush ahead. Jumping over the foxgloves, I gathered as many berries as I could in my front paws, standing in a tiring position on my hind legs. As fast as was possible, I ran back to the burrow, stopping as I must to gather the berries I had dropped. Depositing the berries on the burrow floor, I rushed back towards the bush panting like a dog, but before I arrived the heavens burst and rain came down in torrents. The only thing to do was to shelter in a nearby hole.

After a long while the rain ceased, I debated whether to go and collect some sloeberies, but they would be soft, and knowing that I had been away from the burrow a long while, I knew Jenny would be worried, thus I took the decision, though dangerous, of passing through Foxey Wood, a short cut.

Entering the sheltered mossy wood there was no sign of any foxes. To any stranger this was a feather-ferned and secluded spot, and for that one moment I was under the spell too, but I returned to reality, catching the faint odour of fox which stood my hackle hairs on end. In between bounds I listened warily for the rustle of leaves in the distance, meaning that a predatory fox or human even was looking for a rabbit to eat at dinner time. I left off doing this after a while as I heard nothing except the crackling of leaves as I lolloped on my way.

I was almost out of the wood when I froze with terror, for the stench of fox was near, and I knew from instinct that there would be no escape if I moved a whisker. It was like waiting for the gin to mature. I waited to see if the fox had spotted me; it had, and was advancing. I knew from the strong smell that this fox was a vixen and yes, I was now one hundred percent sure she had seen me and was approaching to kill, so I now knew, for Jenny, that I should try and escape. Taking to my hind legs and paws, I ran, ran - I ran out of the wood towards home, but by the hedge in the next field she caught me. There was no hope now for me. Slobbering greedily, the great vixen's eyes glared; even in the sunlight they shone evilly. I closed my eyes, still cringing as her immense mouth opened and those great canines proceeded to grip my neck. I felt her jump as a resounding bang filled the air. Her hold relaxed and as I dared to look round she fell stiffly to the ground.



Elizabeth Green, 5Y

There was a breaking of twigs in the hedge where a human held a shotgun. It was news throughout the warrens near my burrow that poultry had been taken from the nearby farmer's cabins, and the vixen now was blamed and shot. I trusted that human, who smiled at me before I ran home to my burrow. I don't think he enjoyed killing the wildlife, but I raced to my burrow like a bullet, just in case. I reached my dwelling place shivering with the terror of my narrow escape from the fox.

"Humans aren't really that bad," I managed to praise our enemies to Jenny, who thought that I was really ailing, and made me drink herb tea and then go to sleep, which, after my lucky escape, wasn't difficult at all.

Caroline Powell, 2X

Theseus and The Minotaur

Over the last few years, Athens had been threatened by the nuclear superiority of the Island of Minos. The argument started when President Theseus forgot to invite King Minos to a birthday party. At last, a compromise had been reached. Theseus was on his way over to Minos in his luxury yacht, with his attendants, to spend the night at Minos's palace.

President Theseus looked at his watch. "Bang on time, what!" he said, watching carefully as his luxury yacht pulled into Minos's harbour. He climbed out of the yacht and into a waiting taxi. "To the palace, and make it quick, what!" He felt around for his pipe, put it in his mouth and lit it, blowing smoke-rings out of the window — one of his favourite hobbies.

An hour later, the taxi pulled up beside a small alley. A broken signpost fixed loosely on the wall was the only means of direction. It read — "Palace this way". Theseus thanked the driver and walked down the alley. He came to a big oak door which opened easily. Behind the door were two passages leading in opposite directions. Above the passages were two signposts. They read "To the Labyrinth" and "To the Palace". Theseus turned down "To the Palace" after a few seconds of puzzled thought about the other sign. A half-hour's walk brought him to the fabled underground palace of Minos, where he was greeted with a fanfare of electric guitars and shown to the hall. This vast room was made of marble and was decorated with priceless paintings. At the far end of the room, huddled in an electric wheel-chair, was a small man, King Minos. "Hello old chap — Jolly good show, eh what?" beamed Theseus.

"Hi there, Theseus, I haven't seen you for a while — how you doing?"

"Oh fine thanks, old bean! Listen, where's this jolly old Minotaur chap I've heard so much about?"

"You'll see him tomorrow. In fact, I've arranged for you to, er, feed him for me." The king chuckled at this, and after a further polite conversation, the butler was called in to show Theseus to his room.

At about midnight, Theseus was rudely awakened by a loud bumping noise.

The Endless Story

The telephone rang in a small office, about a third of the way up a Manhattan skyscraper. It was dark outside. A small clock on the wall read seven o'clock — even though it was ten. A voice from the back room shouted, "All right, all right! I'm coming!"

A man of medium build, about five foot eight, stepped through, accidentally knocking a stapler off the desk. He picked up the phone. A voice said: "Hello. Is that Peter's Eighteen-Hour Pizzas?"

"What? This is John W. Wilson, Private Investigator", said John W. Wilson, Private Investigator.

"Boring, boring!" thought David, as he turned off yet another detective film. His mother walked in and said, "Have you finished your story for the school magazine yet, David?"

"Nearly," he said.

"Let's hear it then."

David began, "The telephone rang in a small office, about a third of the way up a Manhattan skyscraper."

Christian Reddy, 12

JULY 8th, 9th and 10th
OH WHAT A LOVELY WAR
7.30 p.m. SCHOOL HALL

"Ssh! It's only me," came a mysterious voice.

"Who's me, eh what?" Theseus sat up with a start.

"Ariadne, King Minos's daughter. I've come to warn you."

"About what?"

"My father is going to throw you to the minotaur tomorrow. You must kill it and leave this island before daybreak — I've brought these for you."

Ariadne handed Theseus a woolly sweater and a Ladybird book on knitting.

"Take these into the maze with you; they will help you kill the Minotaur."

A few minutes later, Theseus was standing under the signpost that read "To the Labyrinth".

"Goodbye, old bean — jolly decent of you to tell me, what!"

Soon Theseus was in the labyrinth, a honeycomb of long winding passages, each one old and crumbling. Theseus began unravelling the woolly sweater, leaving a trail so that he could retrace his steps after he had completed his task. At last, he reached a huge room at the heart of the labyrinth. In the centre, emitting an almost human grunting noise stood a man, with the head of a bull.

Theseus knew that this must be the Minotaur. He unravelled the rest of the sweater and, with a few strategic arm-strokes he had the roaring monster caught fast in a net of wool.

With a cry of "Tally-ho!" he flipped to page 15 of his Ladybird book on knitting and sprang into action.

Soon, the monster was just visible in the many strands of wool that Theseus had knitted into a sort of strait-jacket. It had suffocated the Minotaur long before he finished knitting, but Theseus didn't like leaving a job unfinished.

Suddenly, Theseus realized he had used up all the wool, and had none left to retrace his steps.

"Oh dear!"

Alasdair Gilmour, 22

Oh Brother!

My brother is a nuisance,
My brother is a pest,
But when we are by Mum and Dad,
He always acts his best!

He's really mad on football,
He practises on me,
And if he's not complaining,
He's watching the TV.

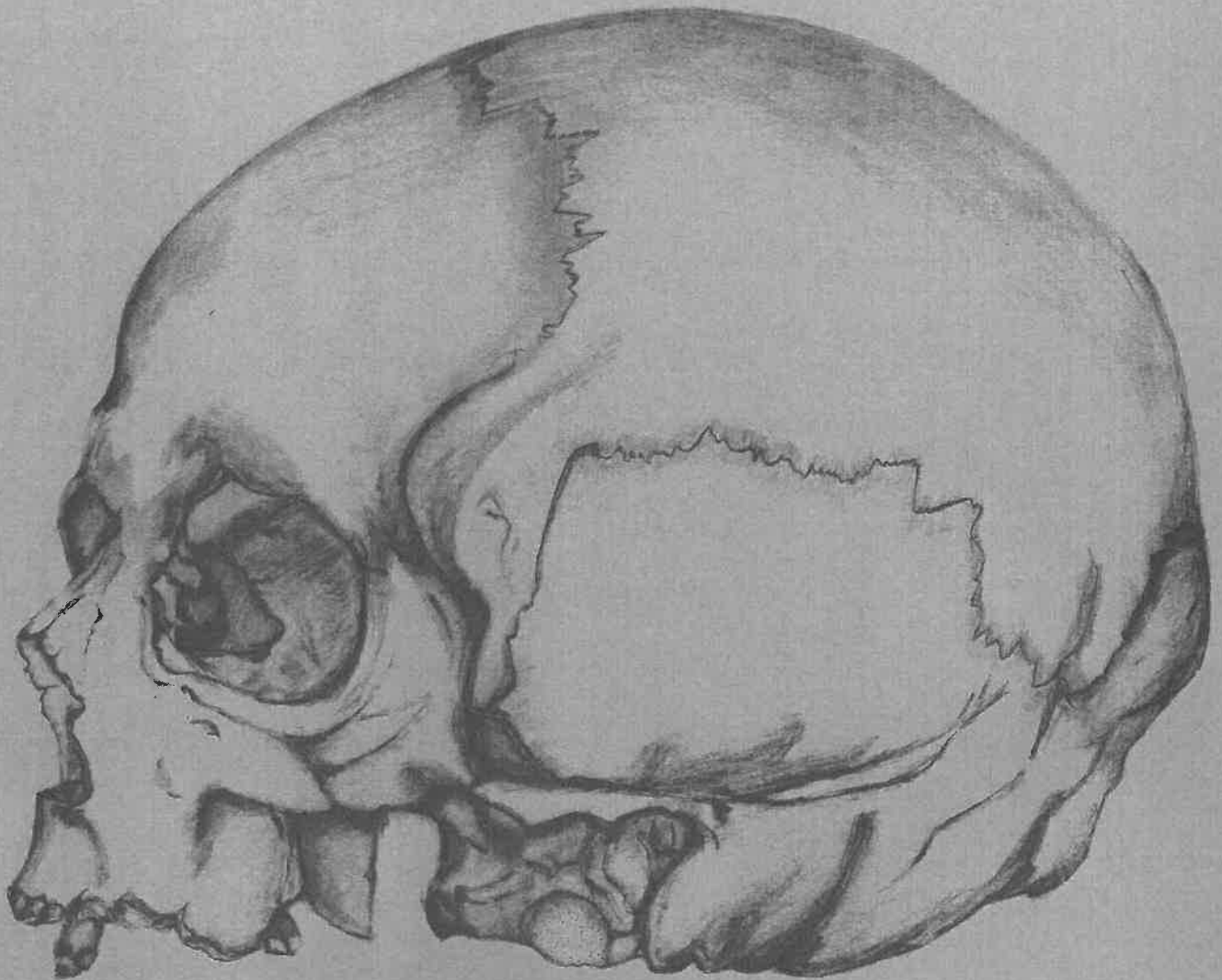
He sometimes is a nuisance,
He sometimes is a pest,
But comparing him to other boys,
He always turns out best!

Anne Fletcher, 1X

Candle

The candle is lit; it flickers in the breeze, giving off a golden warmth. The wax slowly trickles down the tall, slender, neck of the candle. Slowly, slowly, it diminishes in size: its golden flame being checked as it gives off less and less heat. The halo gradually gets smaller until it dies. All that is left is a hardened mound of dried wax.

Christopher Dolphin, 2X



Deborah Clarkson, Prefects

The Sailing of Beowulf to Denmark

The Sea-knife sliced through the sea:
 Along the whale-road it went,
 Swaying about on the sea.
 Sea-devils sprang from the surge,
 And surrounded Sea-knife,
 Cutter of the crests of the waves.
 Then the boat-workers must surely have died.
 But up sprang Beowulf from Sea-knife's hold,
 With Hrunting his sword. Hrothgar,
 The brave warrior, was with them that day,
 And with a war-scream he sprang,
 Set about the sea-devils of the deep,
 And slew them all.

Peter Wells, 22

The Battle

The warriors came onto the battlefield,
 Each one armed with a weapon.
 Then the battle began.
 A loud sound arose as the warriors' shouts were heard,
 And their weapons clashed against each other.
 The warrior who stood out from the rest was called the
 'Mighty One'.
 He rode on a black horse,
 And was dressed in black himself.
 Cries of agony were heard,
 As some of the warriors were struck down, dead.
 Then all became silent.
 It was clear which side had been triumphant:
 The side of the 'Mighty One'.

Susan Penney, 22

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SPORTS REPORTS

Cricket Reports 1984

1st XI

P	W	D	L
15	2	4	9

As the results indicate, a disappointing season for the 1st XI, but there were some good individual performances. Caps were awarded to Graham Hull, with four fifties, and as the season progressed he could always be relied upon with the bat. Robin Jobson also gained a cap for an excellent 96, and he also produced some good bowling figures, his best being 6 for 36. However, the full XI never really "got it together" and for a team with much experience and individual ability, they very rarely showed their true potential.

There was some good bowling by Milburn who, though occasionally off line, did get pace and lift, even off the very good wickets, and by Hull, who with a more positive attitude and determination could get wickets, even up the hill. They were ably aided by Jobson as first change, who always picked up wickets with his little away swingers. Rawcliffe too gained valuable wickets with his clever off-spin and should have been bowled more, earlier in the season.

The batting was often disastrous. Never did we find a reliable opening partnership. If Littleton moved his feet he could play very straight, but was often tempted to "fish" outside off stump. John Plummer could usually stay there, in his own inimitable style, but only Hull showed confidence at the wicket. Although others did have the occasional innings of reasonable scores, very few realised the importance of staying at the crease to gain runs.

The fielding greatly improved during the season and mention must be made of Steve Carruthers who, after an uncertain start, captained the side very well under difficult conditions and gained in confidence throughout the summer. Shaw kept wicket ably and took twelve catches, and in the outfield, Brian Taaffe took ten.

The best performance came rather late in the season against a strong, if not ageing, Staff XI. Perhaps next year we should open with this fixture! On the whole a good team spirit was exhibited, which is as important as winning matches and I enjoyed umpiring many close games that could have gone either way. Finally, many thanks must go to R.J.B. for his admin., to the Ladies for their much appreciated teas and of course to Gordon, our Groundsman, for his hard work on the square and the excellent wickets he produced throughout the season, even though our batsmen did not always do them justice.

Full Colours were awarded to: Steve Carruthers, Robin Jobson, Chris Milburn, Graham Hull.

Half Colours were awarded to: David Littleton.

I. M. Scott

1st XI Averages 1984

BATTING	Innings	Not Out	Highest Score	Runs	Av.
Hull	15	1	64	382	27.3
Jobson	13	1	96	188	15.7
Milburn	11	6	28	63	12.6
Littleton	12	0	46	146	12.2
Plummer	12	0	24	101	8.4
Rawcliffe	14	5	17	70	7.8
Taaffe, B.	14	1	26	92	7.1
Taaffe, D.	10	2	18	52	6.5
Carruthers	11	2	16	54	6.0
Shaw	13	0	19	53	4.1

All other batsmen less than 10 innings but:-

Parker	5	1	53 n.o.	107	21.4
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BOWLING

	Overs	Maidens	Wkts.	Runs	Av.	Best Perf.
Hull	160	39	33	450	13.6	5 for 23
Jobson	95.3	15	28	405	14.5	6 for 36
Milburn	156.4	36	25	490	19.6	4 for 20
Rawcliffe	44	4	8	210	26.25	3 for 11
Taaffe, D.	16	3	3	40	13.3	2 for 18
Carruthers	12	1	3	71	23.6	2 for 42

2nd XI

P	W	D	L
7	2	2	3

1984 proved to be a season of mixed fortunes. Three matches turned out to be very close indeed. We were beaten by Baines by two wickets, beat Q.E.G.S. by a mere three runs and drew with K.E.S., Lytham in a match which could have had any one of four results as the last over started. Cowley were beaten quite convincingly but unfortunately Hutton and Ormskirk beat us in similar fashion. The last match finished with K.G.S. hanging on for a draw against Clitheroe with the last pair at the wicket.

The major contributions with the bat were made by Hardman, Turner, Traviss, Sharpless and Littleton until his promotion to the First XI. Although Williams captured the most wickets, Akers was probably the best bowler. He took only eight wickets but certainly deserved more. Wills, Wells and Brook proved useful support bowlers and Ramm from the fourth year bowled well in the match at Clitheroe.

R. J. Browning

U15 XI

P	W	D	L
4	0	1	3

This was a frustrating as well as disappointing season. Several members of the team showed ability at some stage but, apart from the match against King Edward's, the team was unable to produce consistently good or satisfying performances. Perhaps talent was spread a little thinly but some of the more able cricketers did not treat net practice seriously enough. Only Wyper showed a real willingness to learn.

As far as the batting was concerned, McAusland had the best array of strokes but he tended not to move his feet into line and thus he did not realise his full potential. Wilkinson also possessed ability but he had little luck and was never able to settle in and make a decent score. Bailey had "a good eye for a ball" but sometimes his footwork let him down. Both he and Wyper showed plenty of enthusiasm which compensated for weaknesses in technique.

On the bowling side Ramm was by far the most accurate and accomplished bowler but he did not get the number of wickets that he deserved. Lee and Wilkinson both claimed several victims but were not always consistent in line and length. Dickson bowled quite well on occasions but not enough was seen of Williams as a left-arm spinner as this could have added greater variety to the bowling attack.

The fielding achieved quite a good standard and Pateman made a significant contribution to this by holding some difficult catches.

A. P. West

Athletics Report 1984

Seniors

Senior Schools Competition 1st

Fylde Coast Championship 1st

v. Arnold	Won
v. Rossall	Lost
v. Bolton	Won
v. K.E., Lytham	Won

Lancashire Championships

Shot and Discus	Adrian Hickey	1st
2000m Steeplechase	David Barnes	1st
High Jump	Tim Gilmore	3rd
Javelin	Darren Thornton	3rd
110m Hurdles	John Sharman	3rd
100m	Mark Preston	4th
400m	Andrew Richmond	6th

It is evident from the results that the team had a good season again, the only defeat coming at the hands of Rossall with this result in doubt until the end of the match. The team deserved its success following the leadership of Captain Adrian Hickey, training hard with a willing attitude and setting an example for juniors to emulate. The Senior Schools Championship was won for the fourth consecutive time, a feat which has only been performed twice since 1937, and the Senior Schools/Fylde Coast Championship double completed for the second consecutive year.

Adrian Hickey returned to form in the shot and discus, David Barnes ran excellently all season as well as gaining victory at the National Triathlon Championships, Mark Preston ran well in the sprints and showed conclusively that he is the fastest over 60 metres in Lancashire. If he joined the indoor athletics circuit over the boards he would have great success in the 60 metre dash. Roger Cook showed occasionally that he is as good as anyone in the county in the Shot while Andrew Richmond, Darren Thornton, Stephen Swift, Tim Gilmore and Chris Lees all performed well for the team. Richard Turner and John Sharman hurdled extremely well but it was a pity that neither was truly fit for the County Championship as they were capable of gaining the first two places.

Colours Awarded:

Full Colours: A. K. Hickey, R. G. Turner, D. M. Preston, D. A. Barnes.

Half Colours: A. D. Richmond, D. J. Thornton, J. C. Sharman, S. A. Swift.

Under 17

Fylde Coast Championship 3rd

v. Bolton	Won
v. Rossall	Lost

Lancashire Championships

Discus	Mark Craven	2nd
100m	Derek Hurton	5th
Shot	Iain Whyham	6th

This was a short season because of the early onset of 'O' level examinations but rather a disappointing season also. Excellent athletes like Derek Hurton, Andrew Goddard, Mark Craven and Iain Whyham always performed well but too many of the team performed below the standard of which they were capable.

Derek Hurton scored double in the 200m and 100m at the Fylde Coast Championships while Mark Craven did well to gain second place in the County Championships.

Under 16

v. Rossall	Won
v. Arnold	Lost
v. K.E., Lytham	Lost
v. Arnold	Won
v. Lancaster R.G.S.	Lost

Senior Schools Championship 4th

This was a disappointing season because the team did not live up to its potential. Many of the squad returned from a strenuous two week rugby tour around Europe and some time was required before normal zest was recovered. David Lee, an excellent all rounder, missed all season through injury and Shaun Wilson took a while to recover from injury while others were lethargic and never seriously buckled down to training other than that set for them.

Sean Wilkinson was unbeaten in the javelin event in school matches and gained third place in the Lancashire U17 Championship and has the potential to be a fine thrower. Simon Heath performed well in the triple and long jump but did not high jump well by his standards because of an illogical lack of confidence. By the end of the season Shaun Wilson was returning to fitness while Julian Wilkinson tried hard and improved greatly as a runner and pole vaulter. Nick Hamer was a jack of all trades and performed creditably in many events and it is to be hoped he becomes master of one or two in the future.

Under 15

v. Rossall	Tied
v. Arnold	Won
v. Lancaster R.G.S.	Lost

Senior Schools Championship 6th

The team performed with the spirit and willingness to be involved that is identified with this group of boys and although losing to Lancaster heavily, beat Arnold and tied with Rossall so achieved a measure of success. Simon Black, Jamie Brammer, Mark Bagshaw, Mark Yates, Andrew Shaw, Ian Knott and Jonathan Colgan all gained first places in one or more athletics matches.

Under 14

v. Arnold	Won
v. Lancaster R.G.S.	Lost

Senior Schools Championship 2nd

There was a disappointingly low number of matches held for the team owing to opponents' cancellations and the postponement of the Fylde Coast Championship heats to the middle of examinations, making it impossible for the team to enter. At the Senior Schools Championship some athletes were below par but nevertheless the competition should have been won but for the absence of Adam Ralston and an unfortunate injury to Paul Whiteside who was favourite to perform the 100m-200m double. They say that every cloud has a silver lining, however, and the sight of huge Paul Ribchester, the replacement, scorching down the final straight to lead the relay team to victory will be remembered by K.G.S. staff who saw it. Andrew Jones also performed outstandingly, being our only individual winner at the Senior Schools competition, and Michael Rawcliffe and Mark Whiteside were in the winning relay team. Others who performed particularly well all season were Andrew Johnson, Philip Sharpless, Richard O'Neil and Adam Ralston, who broke the school high jump record.

Under 13

v. Arnold	Won
v. Lancaster R.G.S.	Tied

The season was planned to start after Half Term but again, cancellation by opponents meant fewer fixtures than intended. The team looks full of talent with pace and power. The outstanding athlete was David Whittingham who although an U12 looks to be a promising hurdler and sprinter. Others who won events for the team were Philip Baines, Bruce Craven, John Black, Christopher McCann, Christopher Dolphin and Damian Hatton. Others who showed promise were Matthew Stuttard, David Doughty, Christopher Fountain, Jeremy Francis, Jonathan Collinson, Thomas Connolly, Christopher Turner and Philip Higginson.

B. Gornall

Tennis 1984

	P	W	L	D
1st Team	16	12	3	1
2nd Team	3	0	3	0

The season started well with 8-1 victories over Queen Mary's and Arnold, but we ran into very stiff competition when playing Q.E.G.S., Blackburn. The team narrowly lost a close-fought match with 4 sets being lost which, if won, would have meant a K.G.S. victory. The only other defeats were to Stonyhurst and to K.E.S., Lytham on their grass courts. This latter defeat was avenged when they came to Kirkham. A good performance was given by all members of the team with Robin Parker (Captain) and Richard Boyd as 1st pair, David Kirkham and Simon Taylor/John Webster as 2nd pair being ably backed up by a 3rd pair drawn from Greg Irwin, Jonathan Lee and Kevin Hardwick. The 2nd team gave other boys a chance to play tennis for the school in an enthusiastic manner, albeit unsuccessfully.

Four pairs of boys were entered in the Lancashire U19 Doubles Competition and all pairs reached the Quarter-Finals, with Simon Taylor and David Kirkham reaching the Semi-Finals only to lose 6-4 (incidentally to a pair from Lancaster Royal Grammar School whom they had beaten the previous week in a school match). Two pairs of girls entered their competition, encountering strong opposition.

Both boys and girls took part in Lancashire U13 and U15 league competitions where they showed their enthusiasm, but were often defeated by strong teams. The school entered pairs in the Lancashire U15 Doubles Competition where good tennis was played by all – Simon Heath and Paul Doughty reaching the Semi-Finals of the Boys' Competition. Elizabeth Green and Helen McLoughlin won two of their three matches but failed to make further progress. In the Lancashire U13 Singles Competition, Linda Morgan and Esther Phillips won three of their four qualifying matches, being unlucky to not to reach the Elimination Round. Jeremy Francis reached the Semi-Finals of the Boys' Competition even though a 1st year.

A sign for the future was the use of the school courts by the Grass Roots, Tennis Coaching Scheme and those members of the school who took part should be looking forward to better tennis in 1985. Thanks to Bruce Garner for coming to those sessions.

Many thanks must go to Dr. Summers, Mr. Rushton and Mrs. Greaves for their organisation and support of all the tennis teams.

R. J. Parker, U6A

Girls' Rounders

The warm dry summer provided all rounders players with excellent playing conditions and the K.G.S. teams earned some fine results.

The first and third year teams represented the school at the Blackpool Schools' Rounders tournaments and U15's and U13's were entered in the local rounders league.

Although the teams failed to reach the latter stages of the tournaments, the U15 girls finished runners-up in the league whilst the younger team finished a creditable third place.

J. E. Taylor

Badminton

Interest seems to have increased greatly in badminton this year, particularly among the juniors, who provide many members of the club. The Friday evening sessions at Ribby Hall continue to be well attended, and Tuesday lunchtime sessions in the gym have attracted an increasing number.

During the season, several competitions have been held and most of the members of the club have taken part in at least one of these competitions, and have shown great enthusiasm.

In the area qualifying competition for the Lancashire finals, our boys met with little success, with the exception of Simon Musson, who lost narrowly in his semi-final match. Our girls, however, did very well, and Sheridan Piggott and Megan Vipond were the two area representatives for the singles, and the representatives in the doubles also. In the Lancashire finals, held at Skelmersdale, both girls played very well, and although not qualifying for the Final, finished third in the doubles event.

In the Blackpool and District Championships we again met with mixed success. Tim Brammer and Stuart Sharpless played well to reach the semi-finals of their singles events before losing, as did Fiona Gilmore and Claire Farnhill in the girls' event. Once again, however, Sheridan Piggott and Megan Vipond dominated the U12 event, with Megan eventually winning the singles event, while Sheridan was runner-up, and the two then combined to win the doubles event. A remarkable achievement when we remember that it is 17 years since K.G.S. last provided a finalist in these championships.

We hope that the interest and enthusiasm that has been shown during the year will continue and that we will achieve even greater success. Finally, I would like to thank Mr. Hill for his help in coaching our junior members, particularly on Tuesday lunchtimes, and Mr. Rushton for his hard work and efforts in arranging matches, ensuring entry to competitions and for his time on Friday evenings after school.

Simon Musson, L. VI. Sc.

Squash

K.G.S. has been sending members of the 5th and 6th forms to play squash at Ribby Hall for two years now, but it is only recently that we have organised a squash team.

We arranged two matches against Arnold School. The first was played at St. Annes Lawn Tennis and Squash Club. Although we had an enthusiastic team, we lacked the experience needed to beat an opposition of that calibre, and we lost 1-4, Jonathan Lee being the only K.G.S. winner. The team was S. Musson, J. Lee, M. Sorrentino, C. Akers and A. Thistlethwaite.

The return match was played at Ribby Hall. We made a small change to our team, and decided to field the K.G.S. "secret weapon" – Jeremy Francis of 2X. He played the Arnold number one – a six foot, sixth former. His win did not come as much of a surprise, as Jeremy was number two U12 in Britain, and is currently number two U14 in Lancashire when he is not yet 13. The match was won 4-2, the team being J. Francis, S. Musson, J. Lee, M. Sorrentino, R. Clifford and C. Hardman (plus Mr. Browning who even beat his Arnold counterpart!)

I feel sure that as time progresses, the overall standard of the Squash Team will improve.

M. Sorrentino, L. VI. Sc.

U14 XI

The Under 14 cricket team did not have a successful season, losing all six games. On the other hand, winning is not important if the game is played in the correct spirit and the squad remained cheerful and optimistic throughout.

The inability to score runs was the problem, although Wincott, making 39 n.o. and 32 in the last two matches, suggests that with more practice earlier in the season, higher scores could have been achieved.

The bowlers worked hard, Butterworth being the most consistent although Clarke took 4 for 16 on one occasion. Performance in the field was generally good, with Brennand taking a number of catches and Bagshaw an excellent fielder in all positions.

Not a good season in terms of victories, but an enjoyable one for all concerned.

G. P. Willatt

U13 XI

Not the most impressive of records but with a little more luck and better management two of their five defeats could have been victories.

In the match against Q.E.G.S. one run was required from the last four balls of the innings for victory but it could not be contrived and the team lost, and similarly against Fulwood H.S. a winning position was thrown away by the later batsmen.

Throughout the season the team has bowled and fielded well and played with great spirit, all that is required is a win to start the ball rolling.

A. C. Hall

U12 XI

P	W	L	Tied
5	3	1	1

After being outclassed in the first match against Q.E.G.S., Blackburn, the team developed very well, beating Baines S., Hutton G.S. and K.E.S., Lytham, and finishing on the same score as St. Mary's in a limited over game with fewer wickets lost.

Black and Giles were a sound opening pair and they were ably supported by Craven, the captain, Francis and Baines. Fountain bowled left arm fast, backed up by Giles, Whittingham and the developing off spin of Craven.

Excellent individual performances were achieved by Fountain, who took 5 wickets against St. Mary's, Giles with 5 wickets and 26 runs against Hutton G.S., Francis and Baines with 33 and 24 runs respectively in a run chase against St. Mary's, and Craven who made 37 not out against Baines S. and played a superb captain's innings of 30 not out to win the game against K.E.S., Lytham.

The introduction of limited over cricket led to greater keenness in the field – Bamber took 4 good catches and Collinson kept wicket well – and some exciting finishes. The batsmen learned to run between the wickets and the experience of failing to secure a straight forward win against St. Mary's H.S. led to an exciting last ball victory through a bye to the wicket keeper against K.E.S., Lytham.

The side showed much promise for the future, their team spirit was excellent and the sun shone during most of their games.

N. W. Gamble

Girls' Games Winter Season 1984/85

Browsing through archive material available it comes to light that the boys of Kirkham Grammar School have been playing Rugby for sixty years. Over six decades the school has built up a reputation for producing consistently competitive, successful sides and this year, as in the past, has groomed players for county and national honours.

The girls P.E. programme here is very much in its infancy and because of its tender age it is easy to overlook the contribution made by the girls to the overall sporting reputation that K.G.S. enjoys.

This academic year sees girls represented in all years. It was a handful of the fairer sex who entered the sixth form in 1979 who first brought the whispering breezes of change to K.G.S. and they have been followed (with increasing numbers in the subsequent years) so that now they are quite rightly regarded as an integral part of the life of the school.

So what of their sporting activities? This winter the girls have fielded representative sides for Hockey, Netball, Cross-Country and Swimming.

Senior Girls Hockey

It is fair to say that our hockey has still a considerable way to go. Queen Mary and Arnold are not as yet filled with trepidation at the thought of taking on K.G.S. 1st XI though having said this there has been a vast improvement in basic skills and understanding of team play.

The first XI record of:

P	W	D	L
10	2	1	7

does not really reflect the effort they have put into their matches. Unluckily too the team has been the victim of a variety of unforeseen circumstances and poor weather conditions which resulted in the cancellation of five matches.

But the team does have its strengths. The girls can produce rousing songs on mini-bus journeys complemented by a host of 'family' jokes, they are adept at avoiding the collection of match fees and show real mastery when cleaning the refreshments table. There have been breakthroughs this season also: the carboard cut-out of Rachel Mears in goal which let in so many fine shots all season was, after Xmas, replaced by the real thing. A confident goalkeeper as we all know makes such a difference to the defence and Rachel deserves praise, after the 'breath of life' she made some stunning saves in the last few matches. Nicola Nice, after four months of trying to sort out her left and right, finally mastered the right hand dodge and earned a team place for at least half a season by scoring a memorable goal against Queen Mary. Helen Wignall was seen to sprint at top speed, but alas it was to catch the ten past four bus which was leaving school without her.

But humour to one side, the team does deserve a special mention for their endeavour and in particular Sarah Goldthorp who played well throughout the season and shouldered her responsibilities as 1st XI captain with cheery willingness and competence.

We look forward to a successful season next year and seek to maintain the impetus generated in these last months.

Junior Hockey

	P	W	L	D
U15	5	2	3	0
U14	5	3	2	0
U13	2	1	0	1

The U15 hockey team players have experienced something of a vacuum this season, falling as they do between the busy enthusiasm of the U14 age group and the more regular demanding games of the Senior Girls. Although their game can improve still further, the team has made progress and is not without talent. Real improvement has been shown by Karen Campbell, Sharon Lee and Amanda Clarkson and for real endeavour on match days, Ruth Parmley and Emma Whitworth deserve credit.

The U14 and U13 teams have shown great promise this season. Whilst they have had few matches and are relatively inexperienced, both teams scored notable wins over Arnold. The U14's managed to find the goal nine times against Dallam School and in spite of their lack of senior match play, represented the school at the Blackpool Schools' Tournament where only Queen Mary and Arnold managed to defeat us.

Next season our aim must be to match the "Division One" opposition – they may still win but should have to try much harder.

Netball

The school has honoured a heavy netball fixture list this season. The U16 and U15 teams were involved in the schools' netball league before Christmas and in the New Year as the U15 continued, the U16 team was replaced by the U14 team who took on their own set of league matches. All these, together with many friendly fixtures played on evenings after school plus Saturday morning matches have kept many girls busy.

The Results are as follows:

	P	W	L	D
U16	10	2	8	0
U15	14	4	9	0
U14	12	7	4	1
U13	7	2	4	1
U12 'A'	6	4	1	1
U12 'B'	4	0	3	1

The results of the U16 and U15 teams were disappointing. A lack of talent was not the reason for this, rather an unwillingness to devote time to worthwhile practice and the rather half-hearted attitude to the playing of matches when the competition proved difficult.

Happily the lower half of the school kept our reputation and results record more respectable.

The U14 team are to be congratulated for the effort they have made and the improvement they have shown throughout the season. Members of staff from at least two other schools in the area have drawn my attention to their improved play and echo my sentiments that they deserve success next year.

The U13 team had mixed fortunes but gave a good account of themselves at the Blackpool Schools' Tournament where they reached the Quarter-Finals.

The U12 'A' team matched their accomplishments two weeks later in their tournament. Both the U12 'A' and the U12 'B' teams have shown great promise and a willingness to work hard in order to succeed.

Cross-Country

Cross-country finds its way into the P.E. programme only when poor weather conditions prevent us from participating in the major games.

Nevertheless, K.G.S. was represented in the area cross-country championships at all age groups. Teams were made up of able 'volunteers' who trained hard in the deep freeze of January. The U14 team, who seem to be emerging as the year of sporting superstars, were the most successful group, finishing third and receiving certificates for their efforts.

J. E. Taylor

Swimming Report 1984/85

Boys:	P	W	D	L
	11	7	0	4

Girls:	P	W	D	L
	7	5	0	2

This has been another successful season, especially for the girls, with many good victories over Hutton G.S., Rossall, Deyes H.S., Bolton and Fulwood.

The Girls' Team has been strengthened greatly this year with the addition of Katy Hamer and Joanne Hosker to the squad. Once again, Sarah Goldthorp has been outstanding, with Alison Holden, Sharyn Rhodes, Nicola Garner and Laura Sylvester all swimming well.

In the Boys' U12 Team, Cowburn and Woodridge have swum well, as have Collinson, Bagshaw and Gilmour in the U13's. Phillipson in the U14's has been outstanding as have Jackson, Halstead and Bagshaw in the U15's. The Seniors once again have been our main strength. David Kirkham the 83/84 Captain was a big loss to the squad, but luckily the addition of Nick Hamer from the U15's was a great success. Barnes, Swift and Halstead have, as usual, all set high standards for the Juniors to follow. The freestyle relay team still remains unbeaten in school matches.

In the Senior Schools Championships, the Junior Boys' Team were second and the Junior Girls', third overall, with good individual performances by Paul Whiteside, Neil Phillipson and Alison Holden. The Intermediate Boys' were also third overall, with Nick Hamer achieving two fine wins in the freestyle and butterfly. The Intermediate Girls' were fourth.

The Senior Girls were third, with Sarah Goldthorp gaining two first places in both the breaststroke and freestyle. The Senior Boys' Team were placed first overall. David Barnes was first in the freestyle and Stephen Swift, first in the butterfly and of course the freestyle team relay were first in a new record time. Hamer and Swift both represented the district side in the Lancashire Championships as did Sarah Goldthorp. The Senior Boys' relay team was also second in the English Schools' Team Championships.

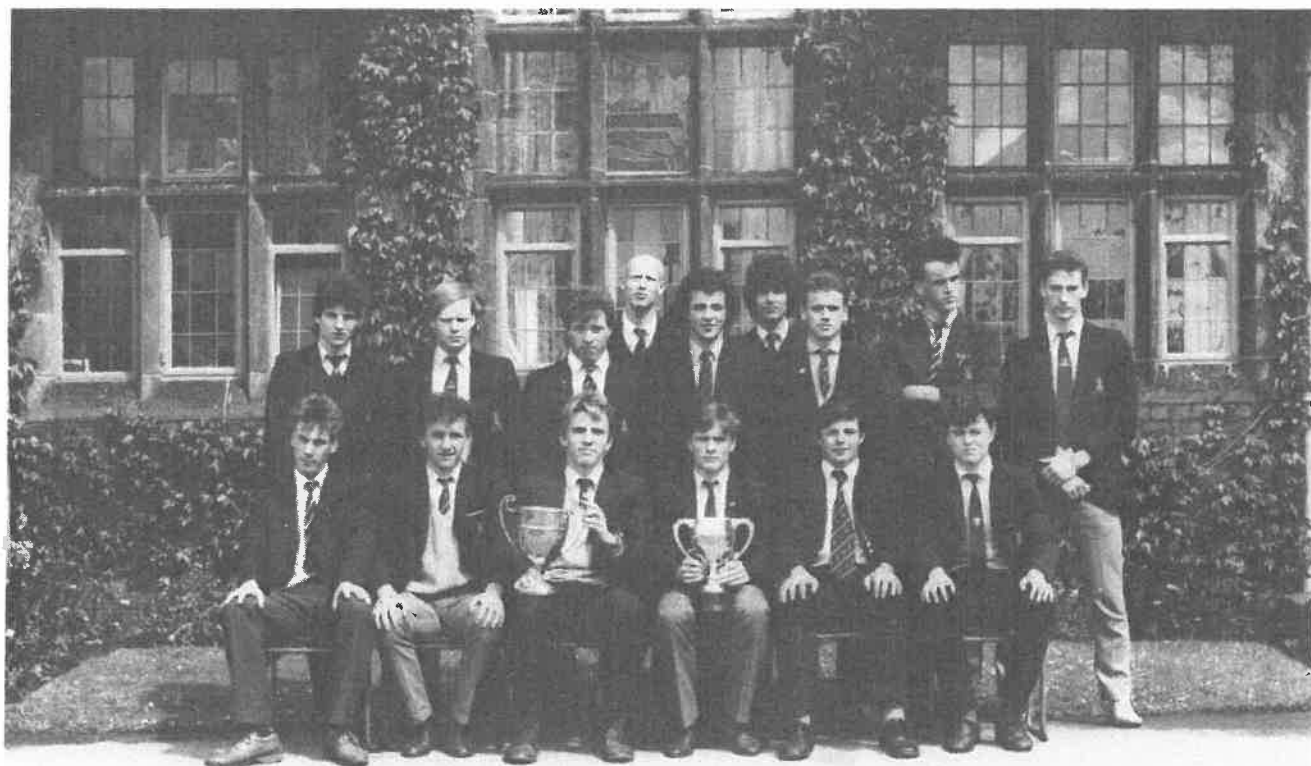
The Inter-House Gala was again won by School House. Thirteen new records were set by Alison Holden (2), Neil Phillipson, Ian Davies, Jonathan Collinson, Andrew Jackson, Sarah Goldthorp, Katy Hamer (2), Nick Hamer, Steve Swift, School House Senior Boys' medley relay team and Kirkham House Intermediate Boys' freestyle relay team.

Colours Awarded:—

Full Colours: David Kirkham, David Barnes, Stephen Swift, Sarah Goldthorp.

Half Colours: Ian Davies, Phillip Halstead.

P. Smith



STOP PRESS: Summer Term 1984: K. G. S. wins Senior Schools Athletics Championship for 5th consecutive year (a feat never achieved in the history of the Competition since it started in 1937) and the Senior Schools Swimming Championship for the 2nd consecutive year. Pictured are members of the victorious teams.

Back Row: Stephen Swift, Mark Mort, Mark Herrington, Graham Ingham, Darren Thornton, Andrew Richmond, Philip Halstead, Tim Gilmore, Paul Reid

Front Row: Chris Lees, Sean Wilkinson, Dave Barnes, Mark Preston, Ian Davies, Nick Hamer

K. G. S.'s rugby playing brothers: Stuart and Craig McIntyre, Sean and Kirk Wilkinson, Paul and Mark Whiteside

Photograph by courtesy of Blackpool Gazette and Herald Ltd.



Rugby Reports

1st XV

Captain: D. M. Preston
Vice-Captain: A. K. Hickey
Secretary: D. S. Hurton

P	W	L	F	A
19	12	7	332	204

It was hoped that this season the team would be the most successful for many years because although there were few Lower Sixth Form rugby players returning to school there was talent in the Upper Sixth and Fifth forms. The talent of the 5th formers was shown early on in the season when they won the North West Schools' Prudential Under 16 Trophy and a £200 kit voucher for the school. For the first time, an experiment of taking the team for pre-season training to the Yorkshire Dales was tried as it was felt that in previous seasons the team was under-prepared tactically, technically and physiologically for the standard of rugby which was being aimed at. This had led to below par performances in early season matches and injuries. Fit players rarely get injured and recover quickly when they do. Another reason for taking the players away was to integrate new players into the team and develop team spirit. This venture proved a success on all counts and it is intended to repeat the venture in future seasons.

The second match of the season against a strong Harefield H.S. produced an excellent performance but then the team lost its way against Cowley, King Edward VII Lytham and Hutton G.S. through a strange combination of incorrect tactics, missed kicks, strange refereeing decisions, injuries and even the late arrival of transportation. After a 'lack-lustre' performance against Lancaster R.G.S. the season looked like developing into an unnecessarily mediocre one unless something radical was done, but after a reappraisal of attitudes a great improvement was seen against Dallam with a further improvement against Rossall – which resulted in their unbeaten record being taken on their return to our fixture list. It was in giving performances like those against Harefield, Rossall, St. Edward's College, St. George's College, Buenos Aires and Ermystedts that the team performed nearest to its best. After the Christmas break performances were inconsistent for various reasons such as unavailability (St. Mary's, Sidcup), unfortunate timing of fixture (Stonyhurst) or carelessness (Kings, Macclesfield), although some players found it hard to motivate themselves to play to their potential every game. The team also suffered through lack of a reliable goal kicker because although K.G.S. averaged more than 3 tries per game only 43% of tries were converted and considerably less than one penalty kicked per game on average. This had the effect of firstly being the difference between winning and losing on occasions like the Hutton match and secondly not giving the team the boost to morale which a successful penalty kick gives at crucial times.

I wrote in last year's "Kirkhamian" that, to win the All-England Rugby Festival at Preston "a full squad of players peaking together and remaining free of injury will be necessary. The three factors have not occurred simultaneously but will occur soon". It was hoped K.G.S. would get its share of luck this year and that the team could and would play to its potential for a succession of matches and justify my belief that the playing record did not reflect the potential of the side. This proved to be the case and for once a full team was taken to Preston with the team realising what had to be done to achieve success and being determined to do so. Friday's group matches, although played in appalling conditions, were all won, but the first of the 'winners' group matches on Saturday was drawn, which meant that the remaining 2 group matches on Saturday had to be won by scoring more tries than the other team in contention for a Semi-Final place. The Final Saturday

match started badly when K.G.S. conceded their first points after 6 matches through an interception try, but the side rallied and scored 4 tries, thus qualifying for Sunday's Semi-Final against the Leys School, Cambridge, the press's favourite to win the tournament.

There was a marvellous atmosphere on the Sunday for the Semi-Final and Finals, with many pupils, staff and governors roaring encouragement for the School Team. In the Semi-Final, K.G.S. conceded an early penalty and had to fight hard to defend against further attacks, but rallied well in the second-half to score a try by Adrian Hickey from a penalty move and won 4-3 despite my exhortation for the side to kick the easily kickable penalty!

In the Final against previous winners St. Brendan's, Bristol, K.G.S. dominated the first half, but only had a try by David Lee converted by Mark Herrington to show for all the pressure. St. Brendan's rallied for a few minutes in the second half but skipper Mark Preston scorched over in the corner to secure a 10-0 victory amid scenes of great excitement. At last the potential of the side had been realised as a result of hard training and determination with every member of the squad plus some outside the squad playing their part, showing yet again "you get out what you put in".

During the season Mark Preston developed into an international class player. He had to struggle to obtain a place in the Lancashire final yet in every game played was outstanding including the England final trial where he scored 3 tries. He finally played for England Schools' Under 18 XV against Scotland at Fylde and Wales in Cardiff, the highest honour any schoolboy can gain in rugby. Roger Cook played for Lancashire Schools Under 18 XV again this season, if surprisingly for only 2 games, whilst Sean Wilkinson, Matt Hindle and David Lee all represented Lancashire Schools Under 16 XV.

Other outstanding performers during the season were Julian Youll, Robin Parker, Andrew Richmond, who could have played representative rugby, David Whitworth and Adrian Hickey while Stuart McIntyre was an example to all players with his unfailingly good-natured commitment despite being in and out of the team as he has been for the last 3 seasons.

All-England Festival Results

Group Matches Friday

v. Q.E.G.S. Wakefield	WON	6-0
v. Richard Hale, Hertford	WON	12-0
v. Sale G.S.	WON	8-0

"Winners" Group Matches Saturday

v. Cardinal Heenan, Liverpool	DRAWN	0-0
v. Warwick	WON	10-0
v. Stockport G.S.	WON	18-8

Sunday

Semi-Final v. The Leys, Cambridge	WON	4-3
Final v. St. Brendan's, Bristol	WON	10-0

Scorers – David Lee, 1 try; Mark Preston, 1 try; Mark Herrington, 1 conversion.

Team: John Calland, Simon Heath, Andrew Richmond, Sean Wilkinson, Paul Reid, Mark Preston (Capt.), Matt Hindle, Julian Youll, Mark Herrington, Nick Tracey, Roger Cook, Mark Craven, David Whitworth, Adrian Hickey, David Lee.

Colours:

Half Colours: J. Calland, M. Craven, S. Heath, M. Herrington, M. Hindle, D. Hurton, D. Lee, S. McIntyre, P. Reid, D. Thornton, N. Tracey, S. Wilkinson.

Full Colours: Re-award: R. Cook, M. Preston.

New award: R. Parker, A. Richmond, D. Whitworth, J. Youll.

B. Gornall



The victorious team at the All-England Festival

Back Row: Julian Youll, Mark Craven, John Calland, Mark Preston (Captain), Andrew Richmond, Sean Wilkinson, Paul Reid, Nick Tracey

Front Row: Matt Hindle, Dave Whitworth, Mark Herrington, Adrian Hickey, Dave Lee, Roger Cook, Simon Heath

Photograph by courtesy of Peter G. Reed, Photographer, of Penwortham

2nd XV

P	W	L	F	A
16	9	7	363	135

Despite the problems which are inherent to all second string sides, the 2nd XV have managed to achieve that difficult task of remaining a team of great spirit in its own right while providing the necessary backup to the 1st XV. This has been largely due to Darren Thornton's inspiring and unselfish captaincy which led to his being awarded half-colours – a feat rarely, if ever, accomplished by a second team player.

The team achieved victories of 30 points or more against Morecambe H.S. (40-3), Marple Hall (66-0), Dallam School, Heversham (45-0), Manchester G.S. (38-4), St. Mary's, Blackpool (58-0) and Arnold (31-0). In these games, the forwards dominated completely and the backs' ability to finish meant that the opposition were crushed. Closer victories were gained over Harefield H.S., Wilmslow (19-0), St. Edward's, Liverpool (17-10) and, perhaps the only game in which the team had fortune on their side, Errymsted's Skipton (12-10). However, probably the most exciting and close-fought games were those which were lost and, unfortunately, those which the team most wanted to win: Cowley (0-20) which was much closer than the score suggests; Hutton (4-14); King Edward's, Lytham (16-27); Lancaster R.G.S. (7-17); Rossall (0-4); King's, Macclesfield (4-12) and Stonyhurst College (6-14). As can be seen from the scores, these were all very close games and in all of them the team showed great spirit, determination and courage and most could have been won with a little more luck. What was pleasing was the fact that, although the team were disappointed in defeat, they were never despondent and always bounced back the following week.

The team's real strength and experience lay in its backs where Graham Hull played in a variety of positions and was always a reliable place-kicker, scoring some 87 points during the season. Stephen Swift and Andrew Goddard were strong runners and tacklers in the centre and often outplayed their opposite numbers. On the wing, John Calland was developing very nicely until he was transformed into an even better full-back for the 1st XV, and Simon Phillipson proved to be a winger of deceptive pace and strength, bursting through many tackles during the course of the season. Karl Turner directed matters with increasing confidence and tactical awareness from stand-off and his commitment was a fine example to others. Richard Robinson, at scrum-half at the beginning and end of the season showed experience, determination and a will to win which often rubbed off on other players, and in the middle part of the season, Matthew Hindle grew in confidence which showed in his later performances for the 1st XV.

A young pack, often made up largely of fifth formers, was encouraged, cajoled and inspired by the redoubtable Darren Thornton, who often urged them to play above themselves and they responded in fine fashion. The back row was usually superior to the opposition and Thornton was invariably first to the breakdown. Mark Craven was a tower of strength at No. 8 until he was converted to 2nd row in preparation for 1st XV honours. When this occurred Michael Bailey showed that he has the ability to be an excellent player and took over the No. 8 position with some distinction. When Stuart McIntyre occasionally joined the 2nd XV from 1st XV duties, the back row was a truly

formidable force. The front row, though hardly the bulkiest of trios, never allowed the opposition to dominate them and always fought hard against stronger opposition, rarely giving ground and often gaining the upper hand. John Wyper, after Julian Youll had been acquired by the 1st XV, quickly learned the skills of loosehead prop and proved a fiery competitor; Craig McIntyre made up for what he lacked in size with speed and aggression; Paul Barnes worked hard at tight-head and showed his unselfish attitude by playing wherever he was asked to and often shared the second row with Phil Bamber until Neil Calland showed his promise in this position. The latter two young players made great progress during the season, developing the techniques, aggression and fire necessary to the second row.

It was also pleasing to see those players who normally performed for the 1st XV: Stuart McIntyre, Simon Heath, David Whitworth, Robin Parker and Mark Mort fit so easily into the 2nd XV and contribute fully when asked to do so; and finally, those who, while not winning a regular place, contributed to a successful season by turning out on occasions: Ian Birtwistle, Richard Boyd, Alan Cookson, Nick Hamer, Martin Williams and Jason Wells.

R. J. Watson

U16/3rd XV

Although over a dozen fixtures were made for this team, only seven were actually completed due to inclement weather or the inability of our opposition to raise a team or even because one school came to play us on a different date to that in the calendar!

The results do not indicate any possible threat to the England selectors, only having won two games, drawn one and lost four. However, mention must be made of the superb win over Cowley showing that the St. Helens school is not the all-conquering, invincible opposition as once thought. Similarly, with the inclusion of 1st and 2nd team U16 players, K.G.S. managed to win the Blackpool Prudential Rugby Tournament and a £200 kit voucher for the School.

Our other win came against Wellfield High School and the draw against Belshaws was literally with their last kick of the match. The losses came mainly from schools with greater numbers to choose from, or who played a regular team at this level. Our perennial problem has been the number of players "lost" to other teams either because of injury or even their ability, and by the end of the season many of the 3rd XV were playing for the 2nd XV or even subs for the 1st team.

However, many thanks to Julian Wilkinson for captaining the side under difficult conditions and to all the players too numerous to mention, and I hope they continue to enjoy their rugby in the higher echelons next year.

I. M. Scott

U15 XV

P	W	D	L	F	A
20	4	1	15	137	402

The U15's would not appear to have had a particularly successful season when looking at the above results, however it is said that there is a 'story' behind every door, and they are no exception. Last year, the team only won one game and scored only 71 points, conceding 599 points. This year, not only have they won four and drawn one, but have also managed to turn most of last year's "cricket scores" into narrow defeats, and really they could have won several more matches.

This year has not been all about winning or losing, but about a squad of 22 boys, most of them comparatively small, giving 100% effort in every respect and thoroughly enjoying participating in the game of rugby football. As the season progressed, the standard of rugby increased considerably as did the level of team fitness, which really was second to none. It is interesting to note how in many matches in which they were being well beaten, they came back to score a try or tries in the last five minutes of the game, through sheer determination and courage. This was most evident in the match against St. Edward's, who won 23-8, having beaten us 58-0 the previous year, and also against the Quinevais School against whom they gained a 14-14 draw with a depleted team through illness. On tour in Jersey, they all really raised their game, and achieved an excellent victory over De la Salle College, 21-4.

Throughout the season, the team has been superbly led by Kirk Wilkinson who has always set very high standards for the rest to follow. It is very unusual to find a captain at this level of rugby who is so capable, which I am sure has played a major part in the general attitude of the team on and off the pitch. Other players who have had an outstanding season are; Simon Black, Phillip Ryan, Tony Brennand and Simon Smith. Other players who have developed particularly well are Jason Darley, Sean Kelly, Ben Wileman and Sean Lansom. Tony Smith and "Hamburger" Wincott have kicked well. Half way through the season, Nick Sinclair joined the squad in the back row, and quickly made the position of open side flanker his own.

Four boys from the squad, Kirk Wilkinson, Paul Gornall, Nick Sinclair and Tony Bagshaw were picked to represent North Lancashire U15's. Kirk Wilkinson captained the side and was outstanding as was Nick Sinclair.

This may not have been my most successful season as a rugby coach, but I can honestly say that it has been my most enjoyable. To have a squad of players who give their all in every situation, be it game or training, is surely every coach's dream. In this respect, the U15's could never be faulted. When they grow, the world had better watch out!

Finally, it would not be right to end this report without saying something about the excellent support given by the parents throughout the season. I would like to thank very much the Lansom and Carruthers families for their help with the rugby tour, and of course Roy Wilkinson for his constant encouragement from the touchlines, post match appraisals of the refereeing and the many letters that he has written to the Head, the Chairman of Governors and the R.F.U. concerning the poor standard of coaching his son has received whilst in my charge.

P. Smith

U14 XV

P	W	D	L
17	8	0	9

The above record shows that the U14's have had a poor season compared to the 1983-84 season.

For most of the season, we have not had a settled side: many key players have had injuries, keeping them out of the game for a number of weeks. One good effect from this has been that some boys got to play in the U14 side having not played for the school team before, and they showed that they were capable of playing at this level of rugby.

I have no wish to single out any particular individuals for special praise or criticism, I would just like to thank all the members of the squad for their efforts during the season.

I. J. Partington

U13 XV

P	W	L	F	A
17	7	10	196	226

At the beginning of the season the team did not play with a great deal of cohesion and only one of the first five matches was won. The last match of this run was against Hutton, who had been easily beaten the previous season. The team, expecting another easy win, played appallingly and were convincingly beaten. However, this result seemed to stir them up and in the run up to Christmas some very good rugby was played, resulting in five more wins out of seven matches.

With the bad weather after Christmas causing the cancellation of a number of games, the first three played were against much larger and quicker opposition. Although they fought well, all three were lost. The penultimate game at Ermysted's should have been won, but the second poor display of the season snatched defeat from the jaws of victory. However, the season ended on a bright note with a good win at Wellfield.

With a squad of twenty plus, the team was changed from week to week without noticeably weakening it. Numerous coaches of opposition teams were impressed by the way the forwards played together as a unit and also in the way in which the backs handled the ball and were prepared to try different moves. It is to be hoped that the general all-round improvement produced during the season will be continued in the years to come.

R. J. Browning

U12 XV

	P	W	D	L	F	A
'A' Team	12	7	0	5	153	169
'B' Team	2	1	0	1	24	30

The season started on a very busy weekend in early November with a 22-0 victory over Marple Hall on the Saturday and the annual Fylde R.F.C. 10-a-side competition on Sunday. Two teams were entered, both played with great spirit the 'B' team winning one of four very close, group matches and the 'A' team qualifying for the final with a 100% record, with convincing victories over Blackpool Collegiate, Hutton G.S., Arnold and King Edward VII Schools. The close and thrilling final was lost 6-14 to Rossall School, but moral victory was Kirkham's as the Rossall boys had played rugby for three years to the Kirkham boys' seven weeks.

The team therefore recommenced the 15-a-side campaign with justified confidence only to have it badly dented by a 4-54 defeat at the hands of a superb Lancaster R.G.S. side. A lesser set of boys might have let their heads drop, but this was not the case and gradually over the following few matches, confidence and technique were restored, until in the first match of the New Year, Manchester G.S. were defeated 26-0 in very convincing style. The rest of the season showed mixed results from very close matches but nothing less than 100% effort was ever given by the boys.

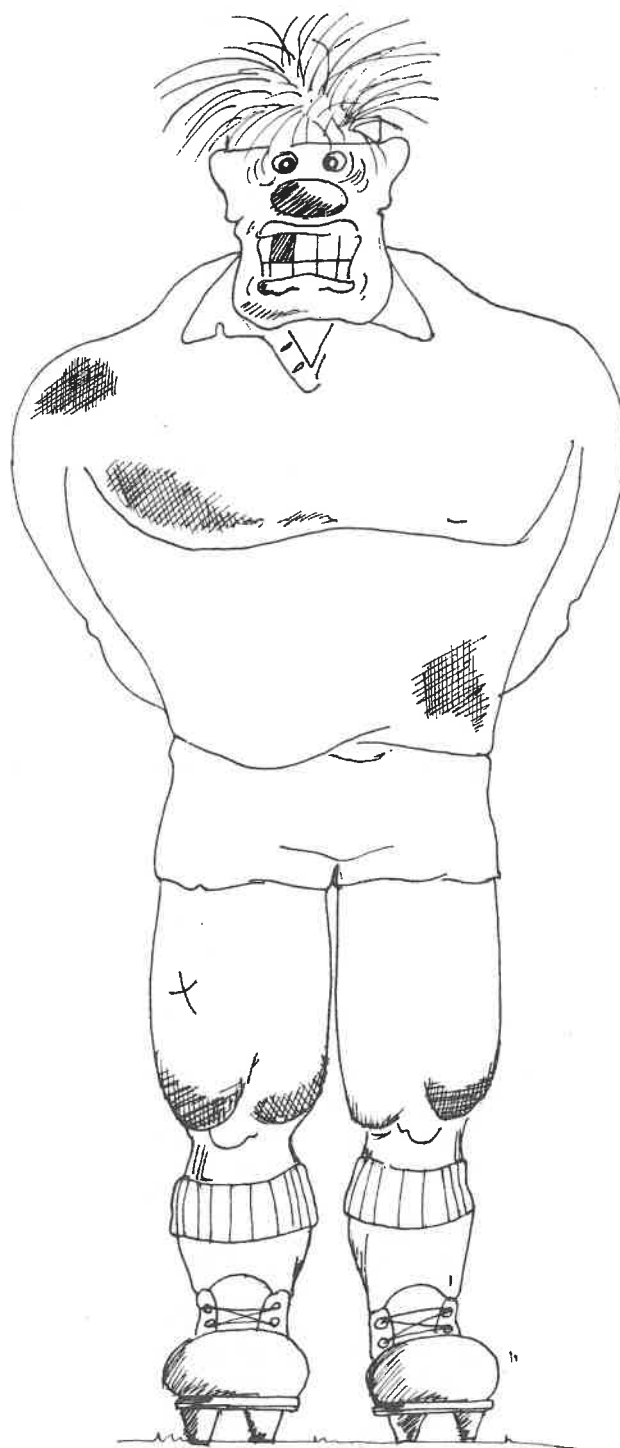
The highlight of the season was the short tour of London in March, a full report of which has been penned by Jem Smith and appears elsewhere in this magazine. However, I must say that the team saved the best performances of the season for the tour. The forwards completely dominated both of the larger packs against which they played in the set play and in the loose, producing a display of rucking the likes of which I have never seen from boys of this age. This produced good clean ball for the backs which was ably

used in both matches producing a 40-0 victory over St. Thomas More School, Eltham, and the first ever victory by 13-10 over St. Joseph's Academy, Blackheath.

The success of the London tour was a fitting climax to the season for a team who have trained and played hard all year and developed into a side who can compete with confidence with most teams next season.

Finally I would like to express my gratitude to the parents of the boys for the wonderful support they have given to the team this season, home and away and in all weathers. It is much appreciated.

A. C. Hall



Phil Bamber, 5Y

JB



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C.C.F.

Army Section

It has been another successful year for the Army Section, the Fourth Year cadets proving themselves competent in the Weapon Training, although their ability in the Map and Compass work was not really up to the same standard.

With Major Sayer now well and truly in charge he has developed a full range of Thursday afternoon activities including: drill, shooting, abseiling, raft-building, orienteering and of course the "modern superbly equipped assault course". (The obligatory statement.)

John Wyper has brought the Contingent a great honour by obtaining a place on the U.K.L.F. leadership training course, for which competition is very fierce.

Finally, thanks must go to Messrs. Sayer, Scott, Willatt, Gill, Partington, Summers and of course Mrs. Piggott for their hard work throughout the year. The final mention must go to Rev. R. M. Clarkson for his amazing punctuality on Field Day.

A. Richmond, C.S.M.

R.A.F. Section

The twilight of an era had come for the R.A.F. Section this year, or so we thought, for our most illustrious and somewhat enigmatic c/o, Squadron-Leader Cheesbrough had retired from the staff of K.G.S. But had he been demobbed? Oh no . . . in true Biggles fashion our self-styled hero wings his way over the horizon to mystify and amuse our junior cadets when duty calls; ever ready to help out whenever and wherever he's needed.

Also in the front line of the officer changes we would like to extend a hearty welcome to Pilot-Officer Greaves who replaced a much-liked and sadly-missed Pilot-Officer Gill.

Despite these major upheavals in the higher echelons of authority, this year's corps of N.C.O.'s have performed admirably in co-ordinating a full and active programme. This has seen a greater move towards a truly combined

Cadet Force with the R.A.F. Section parading with the Army Section as well as the fourth years undergoing a year of common training with them. As part of our commitment to this, two senior N.C.O.'s were volunteered, I mean volunteered to be seconded to the Army Section.

Meanwhile the remaining four N.C.O.'s, Sergeant Sloane, Corporals Sharpless, Howells and myself have persevered in trying to educate the Fifth Year for their R.A.F. Part Two and Part Three proficiency exams in areas such as airframes, principles of flight, engines, navigation and weather.

However it has not all been hard classroom graft (which for some reason seems to be more popular in Winter whilst the Army Section is still drilling in the rain). Lectures have been interspersed with videos, aircraft recognition, drill and Field Day activities such as station visits, flying, shooting and enjoying a pleasant stroll across Darwen Moor with map and compass followed by a leisurely sport of orienteering through woodland (although it was supposed to be a race!).

For the more adventurous there were the Easter Camp and gliding courses which saw Sergeant Vaughan last Easter being winched aloft in a high-winged, open cockpitted, 35 year old, fly by a wing and a prayer, spruce 'n' canvas construction that the R.A.F. delighted in calling a T21 glider. Good luck to those going this time – you don't get a parachute you know!

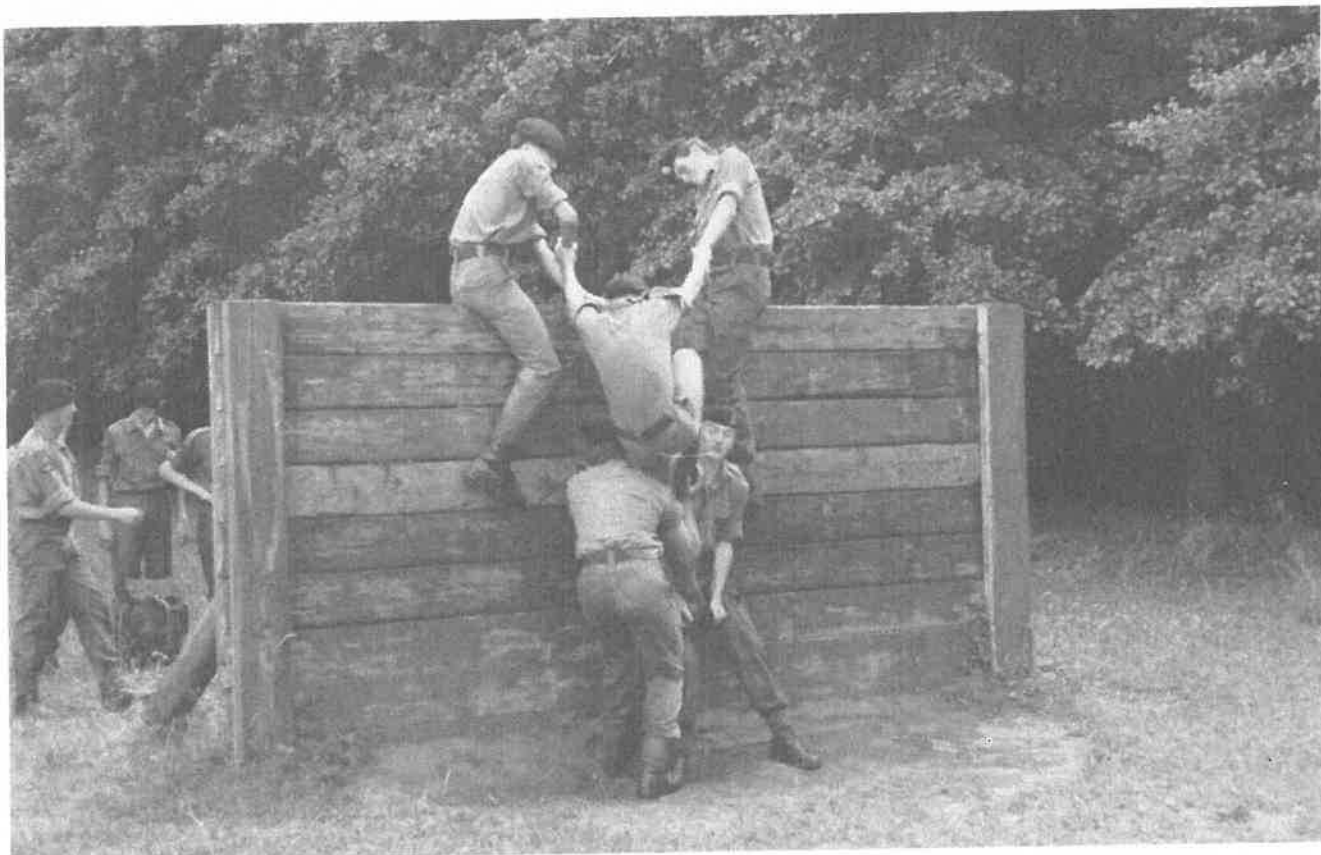
Overall the general turnout of the cadets has greatly improved which should result in an excellent General Inspection next term. It must also be said that although the girls in the section have never been 100 per cent enthusiastic in this somewhat male-orientated activity their attitude in most cases has been commendable. Indeed of the late I've seen them marching better than most of the boys!

Thanks must once again go to Flight-Officer Walls and all the other officers and N.C.O.'s for all their efforts in organising the section.

Sergeant R. J. Vaughan



On the Assault Course at Monmouth



On the Assault Course at Monmouth

C.C.F. Camp – Monmouth 1984

In early July, sixty cadets and eleven officers set off en route for Monmouth. We were to spend six nights there and a further night under canvas in the Brecon Beacons. We were divided into four sections and each section had to tackle a different activity every day.

A day was spent at an army rifle-range at Chepstow, firing .303 rifles. Initiative exercises on another day consisted of getting ammunition boxes across rivers in the morning and transporting telegraph poles around a very wet assault course in the afternoon – cheered on, of course, by a certain F.W.S.! A third day was spent orienteering. To set the record straight, it must be pointed out here and now that there is absolutely no truth whatsoever in the rumour that a certain Sergeant Selwyn-Smith found it difficult to work out bearings! Somebody must have moved the markers! Another day, we were taken into the Brecon Beacons in a four-tonner. Here group activities consisted of canoeing, climbing and abseiling. A meal of 'compo' rations preceded our night under canvas and provided the energy for an early morning ascent of Pen-y-Fan. After a fourteen mile hike, the drive back to camp was a welcome relief.

The highlight of the week for every group was undoubtedly the I.M.S./G.P.L.W. Magpie sixteen hour exercise. This started at 9.0 a.m. and went on until 1.0 a.m. the following morning. Each cadet was issued with a rifle on the strict understanding – "Wherever you go – it goes!" After we had cammed ourselves up, courtesy of Max Factor, we spent the morning doing battle drills, and mock attacks

on the 'enemy'. Lunch consisted of more exquisite compositions, cadets bargaining and bartering with each other to get what they thought was the best meal possible. Strange to say, there seemed to be a superfluity of AB biscuits so there were offered to friendly sheep grazing nearby. In the afternoon, we made mock attacks using blank rounds and went on several 'recces' in preparation for the real thing that evening. After the evening meal, sections prepared themselves for battle by sticking branches into pockets of camouflage jackets and trousers and finally set off with sharp-eyed scouts in the lead and walking 'trees' in the rear. The object of the exercise was to capture an ammunition box from a small hut and carry it back to the first R.V. Shouts of "Fix! Fix!" echoed across the Welsh hills when it became generally known that Mrs. Piggott had, albeit unwittingly, carried the box for Livesey's group.

During the week R.M.C., that keen sportsman, decided to organise a football competition using F.W.S.'s light green 'vertical' ball – 'vertical' because, when kicked, it didn't go 'along' it went 'up'. In the final, Baldwin's section beat Rowe's section 6–2. That evening – our last at camp – the section which won overall (Baldwin's) was presented with trophies (mugs) and Monmouth Camp 1984 came to a close.

Our thanks go to all officers for putting so much time and effort into making the camp so enjoyable for us all. Many of us have never experienced a week like it in our entire lives! Roll on Warcop '85!

Corporal K. S. Turner



Field Day, March 1985. On the "Krypton Factor" Assault Course

Langdales 1985

Adventurous training began in the February half-term when twenty cadets travelled with Land Rovers, trailers, a mini bus and a Sherpa van to the National Trust campsite in the Langdales.

The afternoon was spent pitching tents: three large ones, for drying, cooking and storage, and then our own. After the uninvited difficulty of bending tent pegs in solid ice, Major Eugene Viscount Clappersgate solved the problem by purchasing all the six-inch nails available in Ambleside. After the evening meal and briefing for the next day, we became acquainted with the Sticklebarn. This was a small pub, providing us with drinks (non-alcoholic of course!), darts, a pool table, a juke box, space invader machines and a much-appreciated warm fire.

Each day started with the duty section cooking the breakfast, which consisted of lumpy porridge and bacon grill, and the usual rendering of "Morning has Broken". Providing that Mrs. Piggott got her morning cup of tea, we would be given our lunch; cheese or jam "butties", with the occasional oatmeal block, or even pilchards.

The days' activities varied from some rather strenuous fell-walking, as well as attempting to scree-run, to climbing and abseiling, which included some "very difficult" and "severe" climbs. Thanks must go to three of the cadet training team who gave us their invaluable help.

An orienteering course was set up (not very difficult unless you couldn't find Loughrigg Fell, but very picturesque), and an afternoon in Ambleside provided another days' events.

Unfortunately, the British weather lived up to its reputation, with a temperature of -13°C being recorded. After staying fine until Tuesday, it then decided to snow, causing chaos for the cooks and duty section who were washing up. Although we were unable to do much snow and ice work, a few ice axes still managed to get broken! Also, the point to point exercise had to be moved forward a day, on account of the weather.

Our sleeping quarters were reasonably comfortable; getting a good night's sleep was another matter. T. Gilmore's snoring, S. Atkinson's 101 jokes and C. Thistlethwaite's digestive system had a lot to answer for!

As regards the transport, I hope that next year, the trailer is suitably attached to the Landrover so that when leaving the camp, the trailer does not remain behind in the middle of the road!

Finally, it only remains for me to thank Major Saylor, Captain Scott (chief cook), Lieutenants Willatt and Piggott and Dr. Summers, without whom the camp would not have been possible.

Corporal M. White

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SOCIETY REPORTS

Auto Society

Chairman: Mrs. R. F. Greaves
Secretary: S. Smith/A. Shaw
Treasurer: R. Sackfield

Following the re-opening of the Auto Society at the start of the Winter Term 1983, it has been yet again a successful year. This is doubtless because of the overwhelming response from the lower years, making the year run very smoothly.

The meetings have been held on Wednesday lunchtimes, unlike last year, when they were held on Monday lunchtimes. With this change many of the junior pupils have been able to join the Society, when previously they were involved in Choir. 1984 saw the retirement of Siôn Smith from the post of Secretary to the Society, and at the end of the Winter Term, Andrew Shaw took over the position.

The talks held during the year were all very interesting, and well appreciated, I would like to thank all the members involved in the talks for the outstanding amount of effort that was clearly put into them.

Videos of "Top Gear" and "Automania" were also shown, proving more popular than originally thought.

The plans for the Summer Term are already being arranged: A purchase of a car, and a large Open Day display being only two of the many ideas.

Last, but not at all least, the committee would like to thank Mrs. Greaves, and all the members for their much appreciated support, and hard work, without which the Society would cease to exist.

A. Shaw, 4Z

Astronomical Society

Chairman: Mrs. K. Bagley
Secretary: D. Shakespeare
Treasurer: R. Debicki

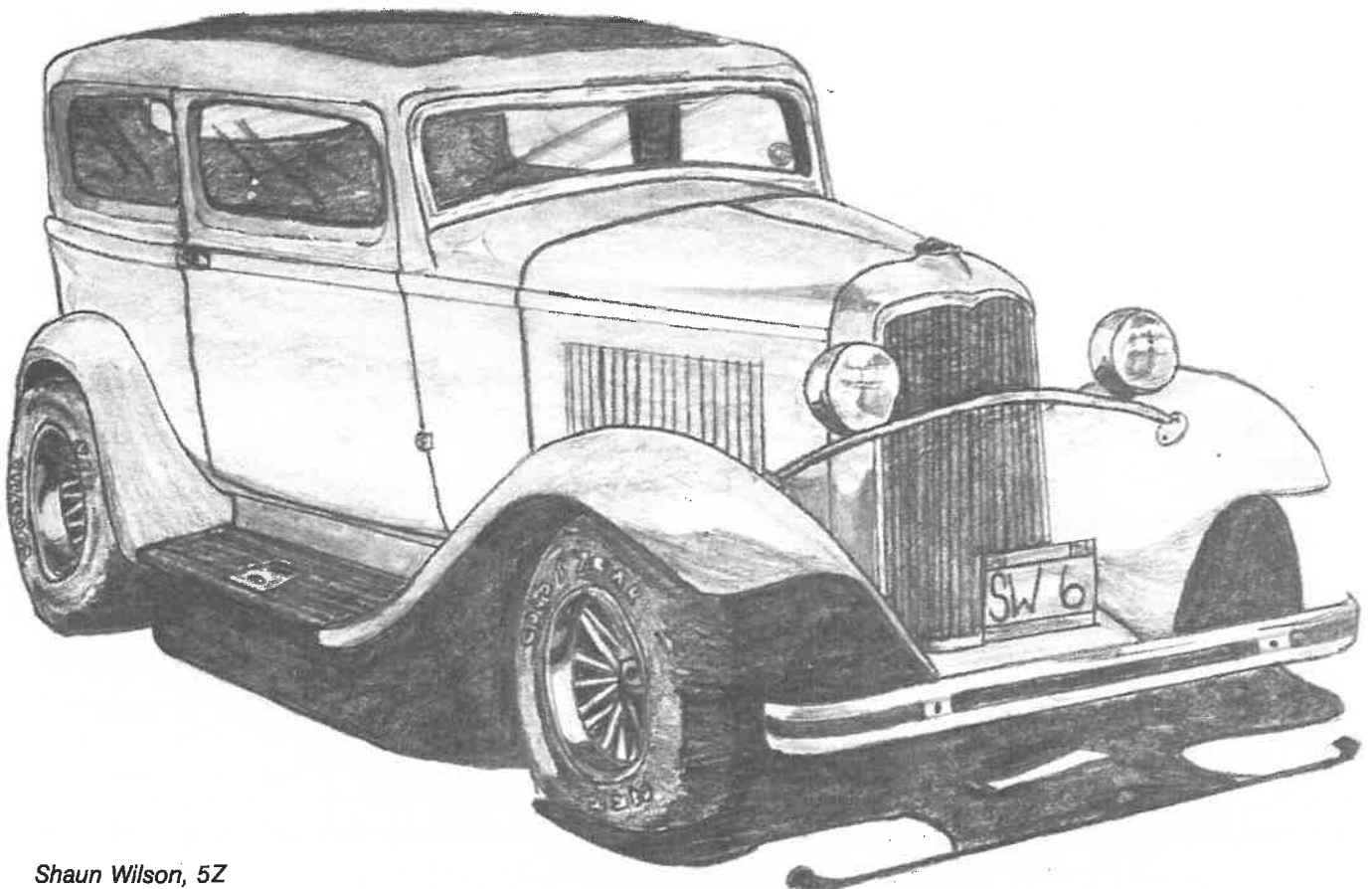
This year has been a reasonably busy one for the Society. Last summer, there was another successful Open Day, with a whole room devoted to the Society's posters, star maps and equipment, and the production of our annual journal "Cygnus". Sun spotting also took place outside the room and this attracted many people.

In the Autumn Term of last year we gained a few new members in the first year, who have continued to attend meetings regularly. We also held several viewing evenings.

In the Spring Term of this year, the Society continued steadily with its once fortnightly meetings. In addition, one viewing evening was held. The Society also purchased a computer disc, which runs on the BBC microcomputer and catalogues and draws a map of the stars in the sky. This will be used in conjunction with viewing evenings.

I would like to thank all those who have given talks in the past year. These have included:- The Viking Mars Mission, The Sun, Galileo, The Planets, Computers and Astronomy, and many others. I would also like to thank those Upper Sixth formers, who are leaving this year, who have kept the Society going for several years and given much help and advice to the younger members. Now, the responsibility for running the Society falls heavily on the middle school members. Our thanks must also go to our Chairman, Mrs. Bagley, and all the members of the Committee for all their hard work this year.

D. Shakespeare, 4Y



Shaun Wilson, 5Z

Bridge Club

Chairman: Mr. I. Rushton
Secretary: R. Vaughan
Treasurer: C. Hardman

The Bridge Club seems to have a small but devoted following, and although numbers have declined somewhat since last year, great enjoyment has been provided by the regular meetings we have held. Once again, I would like to appeal to members of the lower school to come along to our meetings and join in – this is not intended to be an exclusive society for the Sixth Form.

Finally may I thank Mr. Rushton for the time he has given to organise and run the Society, and for the enjoyment he has provided with his highly personal style of play.

R. Vaughan, (Pre.)

Chess Club

Chairman: Mr. I. Rushton
Secretary: S. Musson
Treasurer: R. Boyd

Meetings continue to be held on Monday lunchtimes, and, whilst "friendly" matches continue to be played, which draw members from a small but devoted band of enthusiasts, the main activity for the Winter and Spring terms remains the House Chess Competition. Some matches of a very high standard have been played – it seems we have some very talented chess players at K.G.S., even if they do tend to be somewhat temperamental. However, the house chess matches have now all been completed, and once again Fylde House are winners, thanks mainly to their junior players, W. Carroll, D. Carroll and A. Stevenson and also S. Musson who have remained unbeaten in six matches – a very good achievement.

We hope that interest will continue next year, and remind everybody that membership is open to all.

Finally may I thank Mr. Rushton for his hard work in arranging the House Chess Competition, and for the time he has devoted to the Chess Club.

S. Musson, LVISc.

Computer Society

Chairman: Mr. R. J. Browning
Secretary: A. Mackintosh

As ever, interest in the Society seems to be growing and even the original members have not lost their interest.

The Society, via the Computer Department, has received four new BBC model "B" computers, 4 monitors (3 "green" screens and 1 colour) and a disk drive, all of which attracted further members to the Society.

As expected, a forthcoming trip to a computer exhibition seems to have been received very well and the Society may go to the London Micro Users Exhibition in May.

Many thanks must go to Mr. Browning who has constantly helped the Society in both supervisory and expansionary rôles.

A. Mackintosh, LVIM

Electronics Society

Chairman: Mr. L. A. Redman
Secretary: A. Mackintosh
Treasurer: C. Holden

Due to the number of fifth years who left last year, the Society began the year with a membership consisting of around a dozen 1st and 2nd years. These small numbers meant that existing equipment could cope adequately.

However, as the term progressed, interest in the Society was rekindled and the numbers grew to about 15–20 members each meeting. This led to the purchase of new electronic kits in order to allow all members access during lunchtimes.

Thanks must go to Mr. L. A. Redman and Dr. P. Durkin for their invaluable help during the year.

A. Mackintosh, LVIM

Geographical Society

Chairman: Mr. I. M. Scott
Secretary: C. S. Sloane
Treasurer: D. Rawcliffe

The Society was largely inactive during the Winter Term, although one notable exception was a trip to the Inglebrough Show Cave and Gaping Gill in Yorkshire. Fortunately, the weather was kind to us and after our very entertaining tour of the show cave (our guide being a one-legged stalwart, complete with a typical Yorkshire sense of humour), we trekked the few miles to peer down into the dark, cold depths of Gaping Gill Hole, pausing once for a fossil finding competition. Thanks must go to Mr. Willatt for heaving himself out of his sick bed to kindly drive the minibus.

Other Society activities included a selection of videos and occasional talks by members.

Finally, thanks must go to the Geography Department for their continuing support of the Society.

C. S. Sloane, (Pre.)

Natural History Society

Chairman: Mr. A. R. Baines
Secretary: J. Howells
Treasurer: M. J. Green

This has been a very active year for the Society, with a programme of talks by both Society members and members of staff. Amongst the latter were Mr. Sayer's talk on "Swabs" and Mr. Baines' talk on "Being a Naturalist".

The programme also included several films – "Bear Country", "A Desert Community", "Seashore Ecology", and "Mysteries of the Deep"; although the latter was not shown due to an untimely projector explosion (Secretary not liable).

Additionally, Society members have participated in a number of informal and extra-curricular activities – junior members have pursued their own interests: the brothers Carroll have refurbished the school fish tank; whilst members of the Sixth Form have attended three lectures entitled "Beauty is only Skin Deep", given by Dr. N. Gaze; "Death in Suspicious Circumstances" given by the Pathology staff of Blackpool Victoria Hospital; and "Things That Go Rot in the Night", given by Dr. G. Morton of Lancashire Polytechnic.

Finally, all thanks are due to our Chairman, Mr. A. R. Baines, and to all members of the Society who have assisted or given talks.

J. Howells, (Pre.)

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FRIDAY
SATURDAY

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KRAFT
10 IN A BOX

ICE CREAM
4 LITRE DAIRY
2 LITRE VANILLA
1 LITRE
FLAVOURED
LOLLIES

Fell-Walking Society

Chairman: Dr. B. M. Summers
Secretary: J. J. Bill
Treasurer: C. England

The first walk of the new school year took place on Sunday, 23rd September, when a party of 26 left K.G.S. for the village of Coniston. The walk went up Coniston Old Man where the party had lunch in fine sunshine, fully appreciating the good views. The afternoon was spent walking along the top of Dow Crag before descending to the Walna Scar track – an old pack horse route – to return to the minibuses.

On October 14th we set out to climb Helvellyn from Patterdale. A group of 19 started out in good spirits and fine weather, having travelled up in pouring rain. Hard work in the morning took us up to the start of Striding Edge where we had lunch. At this point mist started to come down and some members were feeling the strain, therefore one group descended to Red Tarn while the larger group continued up to the summit of Helvellyn over rather slippery rocks. The descent via Swirral Edge was quite easy and eventually both groups met up in Glenridding for the return home – very thankful to have avoided the rain.

A small party journeyed to Langdale on November 18th to do a "classic walk" – according to Wainwright. From the car park we went up Stickle Ghyll to Stickle Tarn, then an exciting ascent was made up Pavey Ark using Jake's Rake – a very steep scramble. Good views were enjoyed from the top before continuing over Harrison Stickle and Pike o'Stickle – the Langdale Pikes. A fine descent was made down a scree run to the valley of Mickledon and then the walk was completed along the valley path.

1985 has not been a good year so far! Bad weather has dogged our footsteps. On January 27th we went to Kentmere, to attempt the Kentmere Horseshoe. We set out in fine weather, with a bad forecast for the afternoon weather. The walk up to the ridge was rather slippery – over icy patches where streams were frozen over and hard-packed, old snow. As we continued along the ridge, the snow arrived! Even though we all had ice axes and were prepared for bad weather, the conditions were dreadful. We had to retreat the way we had come. A wise decision – by the time we reached the vehicles, 6" of snow had fallen and even the ride home proved quite exciting! This Sunday caught many other people out and the Rescue Teams were busy. It certainly proves that you must take the weather seriously and obtain accurate weather forecasts, and then take the necessary equipment to safeguard your expedition.

Our walk on March 3rd started from Hartsop in Patterdale. It was an attempt to walk up High Street where there is an old Roman Road. On our way up, the weather deteriorated from light rain to heavy rain, to sleet and eventually to snow, driven by a high wind! A change in walk was necessary and so we walked along Satura Crag to Angle Tarn where we ate a hasty, rather wet lunch. The descent to the valley was down a very steep grass slope which was a bit "hairy"! Not a good day for a walk but a day to test out the quality of your water proof clothing!

So far the number of people on the walks has fallen from the large numbers in September to a small nucleus of hardy souls. It is to be hoped that the settled weather in Spring and Summer will bring more people out to enjoy a day in the hills.

J. J. Bill, 5Y



Photographic Society

Chairman: Mr. R. Porter
Secretary: M. Lees
Treasurer: R. Moyes

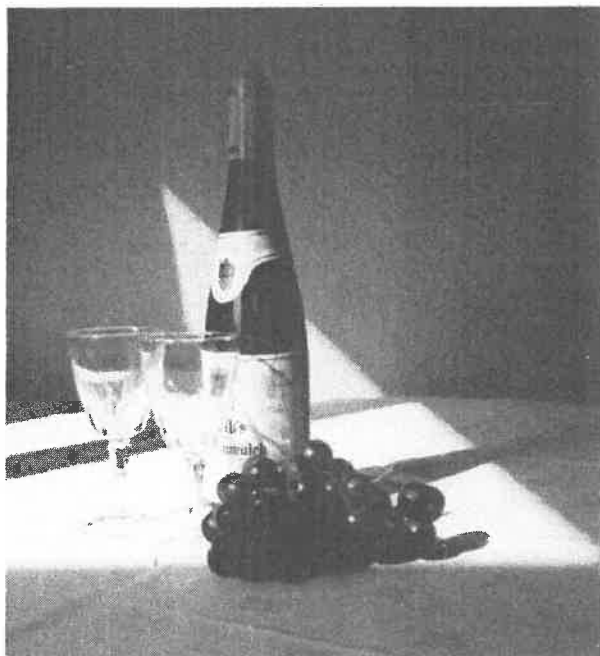
Last term the Society bought a new enlarger for the Dark Room. This now enables us to print colour films.

Since the beginning of the Spring Term, the Society has been giving talks on how to develop and print films using the new enlarger.

The Society has many new members especially from the first year, who regularly attend our Tuesday lunchtime meetings. Next term, all our members should have the knowledge of how to use the school camera and how to develop and print the films that they take.

Many thanks to last year's Secretary and Treasurer, J. Lee and C. Sloane, who still support the Society, also to C. Darley who helps to give talks, and to Mr. Porter who is behind us all the way.

M. Lees, 3Z



Scientific Society

Chairman: Dr. B. M. Summers
Secretary: A. D. Proctor
Treasurer: R. J. Vaughan

This year has seen the revival of the Scientific Society, after a number of years of relative inactivity.

In October, the Society organised a sixth form trip to the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (U.K.A.E.A.) laboratories at Springfields. After a short journey from school and getting through the Alcatraz-style security arrangements, we proceeded to a rather elegant conference room. Here, we were given a comprehensive lecture, incorporating a slide show, about the research carried out at the works. At this point we were split into two groups and proceeded to visit the various laboratories including: Fluidics, Creep, Fatigue and Metrology labs. At each place we were given an explanatory tour with relevant demonstrations. Finally, the party returned to the original conference room for tea, biscuits and a general discussion. The afternoon was enjoyed by all who went, and of course the Society is extremely grateful for the time that the staff at the U.K.A.E.A. gave up to make our trip most enjoyable. Also our thanks go to Dr. Summers who did the driving.

Throughout the rest of the year many weekly meetings have been held at which the Society presented a comprehensive spectrum of scientific topics. These have included areas of Ultrasonics, the origin of the configuration of the Periodic Table, Forensic Science, Crystals, Information Technology and Nuclear Physics. These meetings have been attended by a number of people, although we have not been able to compete against some of the more popular school activities. Apart from this it has been quite an encouraging year for the Scientific Society.

A. D. Proctor, U6Sc.

Subbuteo Society

Chairman: Mr. A. P. West
Secretary: J. St. J. Baron
Treasurer: D. M. Bamford

This has been an extremely successful year for the Subbuteo Society, with the interest and attendance throughout the lower half of the school gradually increasing through the year.

At the start of the year, attendance at the Society, which was then meeting at 4 o'clock on Tuesday and Thursday, was not what the Society wanted, so it was decided to change meeting-time to Wednesday and Friday at 1.15 p.m., with the added extra of a priority lunch pass!

This doubled the attendance at the Society, which pleased both the Chairman and myself, but as the attendance was still only 8 or 9 (excluding the Chairman, the Treasurer and I), it was decided to purchase some new equipment, as we had a fair amount of money in the Society account.

So an astropitch, 2 sets of goals and a set of 3 balls were purchased, at a total cost of £12. This served a double purpose, as there were not enough pitches before the purchase. This boosted the attendance to 16, where it has stayed till the end of this term.

Thanks must go to Mr. West for his consistent support throughout the year.

J. St. J. Baron, 3Y

Wargames Society

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

This has been an active year for the Society, and has seen the usual complement of wargames and other activities. Amongst the latter was the annual trip to the "Northern Militaire" exhibition in Oldham. Thanks are due to Mr. Willatt for sacrificing his weekend to drive the Minibus.

This year has also seen the purchase of the large board game "Vietnam 1965-75", an excellent study of the tactics and strategy of the Vietnam War.

Finally, it remains for me to wish the Society, and its new Secretary, A. D. Mackintosh, all the best for the coming year.

J. Howells, (Pre.)

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HOUSE REPORTS

Inter-House Competitions 1984-5

<i>Summer Term 1984</i>	<i>Winners</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Junior Cricket	School	Fylde
Senior Cricket	Kirkham	Fylde
Junior Tennis	School	Kirkham
Senior Tennis	{ School Fylde	
Athletics	School	Fylde
Junior Rounders	Kirkham	Fylde
Senior Rounders	Preston	School
<i>Winter Term 1984</i>		
Junior Netball	Kirkham	Fylde
Senior Netball	Preston	School
Play Reading	School	—
Senior Rugby	School	Preston
<i>Spring Term 1985</i>		
Chess	Fylde	Kirkham
Junior Rugby	Fylde	Kirkham
Shooting	Kirkham	School
Music	Fylde	Kirkham
Junior Hockey	School	Fylde
Senior Hockey	Preston	School
Junior Girls Cross-Country	School	Preston
Junior Boys Cross-Country	Fylde	Preston
Inter. Boys Cross-Country	Preston	School
Senior Girls Cross-Country	School	Preston
Senior Boys Cross-Country	Kirkham	Preston
Swimming	School	Kirkham

T. Jackman

Fylde House

House Master: Dr. B. M. Summers
House Captain: R. J. Vaughan

Once again Fylde House proved its worth as an enthusiastic, if not always mighty, force to be reckoned with in both the volatile mêlée of the sporting arena and the scholarly cloisters of this fine old academic institution.

Last Summer heralded the beginning of this success with Fylde yet again strolling away with the Work Cup. Praise must also go to our Senior Tennis Team who served their way to a commendable 6-6 draw against the previously dominant School House Team. Unfortunately our cricketers were runners-up in both the Senior and Junior sections. However a fantastic team effort by all the athletes in the House saw Fylde, a previous non-entity in athletics coming a creditable second, again to the might of School House.

The Winter Term saw our invincible Chess Team setting out in its long crusade to claim the Chess Trophy for yet another year. As for the Junior Rugby Team, they were irrepressible, thrashing Preston by a mammoth 45-0 before defeating Kirkham in the Final to the tune of 18-0. However, the Senior Team found itself up against the formidable might of M. Preston and Preston House. Although losing 45-0 the team refused to resign itself to defeat, once even coming within a few feet of a try!

The House is indebted to Sue Gregory, the only U6 girl in Fylde, upon whose shoulders has rested the responsibility of organising the Girls' events.

Last Summer saw the Junior Girls reach the Rounders Final by one point only to be crushed by Kirkham by 4-10. Again in the Netball they stormed into the Final, beating School by 22-5 but to no avail for Kirkham snatched a surprise victory by a mere one point (9-10). After a hard-fought Semi-Final in the Hockey (which went to penalties, the deciding penalty being scored by Esther Phillips) the Juniors were unfortunately beaten by only 0-1 in the Final against School.

The end of the Winter Term saw a spirited thesbian contribution from the Captain and Vice-Captain as they led a cast of Cockney down and out "lads" in the Play Reading. With a little more rehearsal the production could have swept the floor. However, despite a marvellous type-cast performance by Neill Richards not one Oscar nomination was forthcoming.

The Spring brought with it the most active term with an outstanding win in the Junior Boys Cross-Country with B. Craven second and J. Francis 3rd, an individual second place for D. Barnes in the Senior Boys' race, a first place for R. Stevenson and second for S. Wilkinson in the Intermediate Boys' event, and an individual third place for S. Demaine in the Junior Girls' event. The Music competition then saw a resounding triumph for Fylde's musicians and choristers. Three of the items were chosen to take part in the Easter Concert.

Not so outstanding was the Shooting. We were supposed to be crack shots but failed dismally. As for the Swimming, suffice it to say that our hopes sank with our position when we were disqualified from one race, finally ending in third place a mere one point off second.

To end on a high note our battle-hardened Debating Team of N. Richards and J. "Clive James" Buckley, after convincingly defeating Preston in the Semi-Finals are now poised to engage School in the Final.

Finally I would like to thank my Vice-Captain N. Richards, my right-hand woman Sue Gregory and all the Vith Form members of the House who have helped to organise teams, practices and fixtures. Also on behalf of Fylde House I would like to welcome Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Taylor and Mr. Hill, all of whom have added a new dimension to the House. Last but not least our thanks must go to the ever-jovial Dr. Summers for his continuing patience and support of us all.

R. J. Vaughan, (Pre.)

Kirkham House

House Master: Mr. A. R. Baines
House Captain: C. S. Sloane

The last school year has seen a vast improvement over the previous year in all of Kirkham's performances, with an increased number of first and especially second places.

The Summer Term '84 saw an excellent effort by our Senior Cricket Team, who, against tough opposition, went on to win the competition beating Fylde in the Final, outstanding performances coming from Hull, Plummer and Sharpless. After a disappointing performance in the Senior Tennis, Kirkham managed a second place in the Junior competition, being defeated 7-2 by a strong School House team.

Sports Day saw only a third place for Kirkham but this was soon forgotten when we won the Junior Girls' Rounders, 3½-3 against Fylde House. In the Senior Competition, we lost 3-0 to School House in the Semi-Final.

The first event of the Winter Term was the Semi-Final of the Debating Competition; Kirkham proposed the motion that, "All Foreigners are Rotters". Despite an excellent speech by J. Howells, School House carried the day and went on to the Final.

After a humiliating defeat, 62-0 against School in the Senior Rugby, we had our revenge in the Junior Competition, beating them 4-0. The strong Fylde team, however, proved to be too much and we lost the Final 14-0. Our only victory in the Winter Term was in the Junior Netball when, after beating Preston 11-4, we beat Fylde 10-9 in a close-fought Final.

The Spring Term saw the completion of the Chess Competition, in which we gained second place, mainly due to the Juniors, Moyes, Debicki, Clunie and Baines, who all played well. Kirkham had another good win after a superb team performance in the Senior Cross-Country, D. Hurton coming first and C. Lees third. Although we did not do as well in the other Cross-Country races, mention must go to P. Sharpless for winning the Junior Boys and N. Spicer and M. White for good performances in the Senior Girls' Competition.

The Swimming Gala saw another second place for Kirkham, with good efforts from S. Phillipson and A. Holden who both gained new records.

It is to be hoped that next year a little more effort will turn some of those second places into victories.

Finally I would like to thank all the sixth form event organisers, House Staff and especially Mr. Baines for all their efforts and support for the House throughout the year.

C. S. Sloane, (Pre.)

Preston House

House Master: Mr. B. F. Taylor
House Captain: D. M. Preston

Overall, Preston House has had a relatively successful year, winning many trophies and only finishing 4th in one event. The Senior Girls again were the biggest success but all the other participants did not lack any effort when competing.

During the Summer Term, the House only won one trophy which was the Senior Girls' Rounders, in which we beat School House in the Final 3-0. The Junior Girls' Rounders Team were unfortunate to lose to Fylde 6½-5½ in the Semi-Final. The Boys lost both the Cricket and the Tennis, the Senior Cricket Semi-Final being very close, with Preston House only losing by 1 run. In the Inter-House Athletics, Preston House finished 4th but this was mainly due to a number of injuries to key athletes.

The Winter Term proved to be much more successful, with the House winning 4 trophies and finishing runners-up in another 4 events. The Senior Girls retained both the Hockey Trophy and the Netball Trophy by beating School House 1-0 and 10-3 in both Finals respectively. The other successes were the Intermediate Boys in the Cross-Country events. In the Senior Rugby, Preston defeated Fylde in the Semi-Final, but in the Final were beaten by School who were by far the strongest team in the competition. The Senior Boys also finished runners-up in the Cross-Country, where there were good performances from D. Whitworth and S. McIntyre. The Senior Girls also finished runners-up in the Cross-Country where all the girls gave of their best, particularly Mandy Clarkson and Joanne Hosker. The Junior Girls could not capture the success of the Seniors, losing to Kirkham in the Semi-Final of Netball and School in the Semi-Final of the Hockey but they redeemed themselves by finishing runners-up in the Cross-Country. Due to lack of swimming ability in the House, Preston finished 4th in the Swimming Gala but in the Debating, Play-Reading and Music competitions, the House finished 3rd. The House also finished 3rd in the Shooting where S. McIntyre scored 40 out of a possible 55 and was the top marksman of the competition.

Finally, I would like to thank all members of the Sixth Form who have helped organise all the teams needed for the competitions, particularly J. Hosker and D. Clarkson who organised all the teams for the Girls' events. I would also like to thank all competitors who participated for giving up their time and effort and also the teachers who gave their assistance when it was required.

M. Preston, (Pre.)

School House

House Master: Mr. R. M. Clarkson
House Captain: D. J. Thornton

The beginning of the School Year was a very sad one. This was because of the sudden death of Diane Woods, whose wit and charm were known throughout the House. The pupils of the House generously donated money for a memorial which we hope to place in the House.

In the Summer Term of 1984, we retained the Athletics Trophy but the Senior Tennis Trophy was shared with Fylde. The Juniors were unfortunate as they lost in the first round of the Tennis Competition. Again we were unfortunate to lose the Cricket in the first round against Kirkham.

The Winter and Spring terms have been quite successful for the House. The Senior Rugby XV won the competition for the fifth consecutive time, defeating Kirkham 62-0 in the first round and Preston in the Final, 32-0. There were some very commendable performances throughout the team, but the one which stood out the most was by A. Bagshaw who scored once in both matches – he was the youngest player in the team. The leadership of A. Richmond was of a high quality and led to an easy victory. The Junior Boys gave a spirited performance and were unlucky to draw 6-6 with Kirkham, but over a lunchtime replay, which was five minutes each way, they lost 4-0. Yet again some fine leadership qualities were shown, this time by P. Ribchester.

The Junior Hockey team showed that they were an unbeatable force, beating Preston 2-0 in the first round and Fylde 1-0 in the Final. The Senior Team unfortunately lost to Preston in the Final.

In the Senior Girls' Cross-Country we were first. The event was won by a very pleasing effort by K. Campbell, and good performances also came from S. Goldthorp, L. Mendelsohn and R. Parmley. Again the Junior Girls' had an unbeatable team, with five out of the eight runners coming in the top six, the winner being S. Fountain.

It was disappointing to see that both the Senior and Junior Boys did not have the "get up and go" on the day. I would like to thank T. Wills for his time and effort in organising both the Boys' and Girls' teams.

In the Shooting Competition we were beaten by Kirkham with just 3 points separating first and second place.

In the Music Competition we were placed fourth, but the commitment by the House was first class. I would like to thank J. Youll for helping me to organise the musical items.

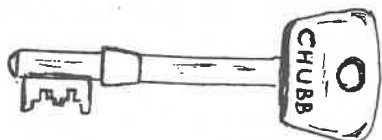
We took to the water like fish in the Swimming Gala and showed that we were a force to be reckoned with. We won the Competition with 160 points, 46 points from our closest rivals.

Many records were broken, two by K. Hamer; one each by S. Goldthorp, S. Swift, N. Hamer and I. Davies.

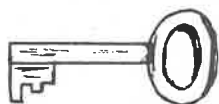
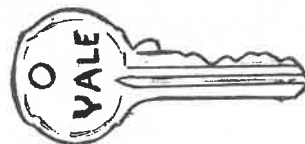
"Snow White Special" added some humour to the Play-Reading Competition, especially when T. Brennan decided to sit on the Christmas Tree instead of his allocated seat. The commitment by organisers S. Goldthorp and T. Wills was very pleasing, and the same goes to all who participated in the play. Our overall position was first.

Finally, my thanks go to all who contribute to the smooth running of the House: Mr. Summerlee, Mrs. Summerlee, Matron, Mr. Willatt, Mr. Crook, Miss Walsh and Mr. Clarkson.

D. J. Thornton, (Pre.)



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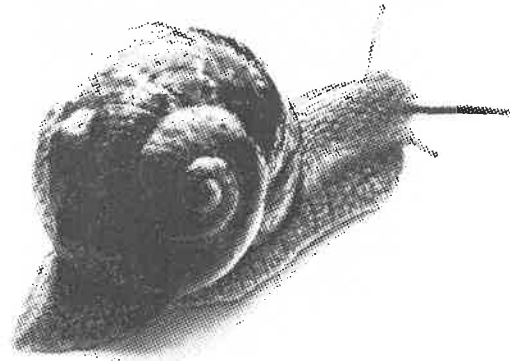
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