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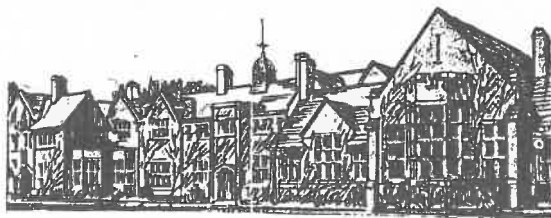
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KIRKHAMIAN 1995 - 1996

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August

Public examination results were published and it was pleasing to see that 99% of our 84 examination entrants attained five or more GCSE 'pass' grades. Added to that was an overall subject pass rate of 95% and the fact that 70% of all the grades awarded were either A*, A or B. The average number of GCSE passes per pupil, at 8.3, was by far the highest ever achieved by the School.

Our Upper Sixth Formers also had good reason to be pleased and proud of their 'A'-Level results, which helped the vast majority secure places at universities of their choice. They achieved the highest number of top grades (A, B, C) the School has ever known, and an overall subject pass rate of 86%.



The Sixth Form Centre

September

School re-opened, having been transformed during the summer holidays. The first phase of the School Development provided the following facilities:

- a new Sixth Form Centre;
- a new Computer Room;
- a new Lodge, which presently houses Design Technology and quarters for our Maintenance / Caretaking team;
- a second Art Room;
- two new classrooms, added to the Wareing buildings;
- a relocated and refurbished Geography suite;
- refurbished Music Rooms;
- a new Groundsman's store.

Towards the end of the month, the German exchange party arrived to experience life in the English school system. Outings were also arranged to York and the Lake District.

Speech Day was held and the official opening of the Sixth Form Centre took place. Our guest of honour was Mr. Richard Evans, Chief Executive of British Aerospace.

October

Two Kirkham Grammar School teams competed with outstanding success in the English Schools' Modern Biathlon Championships. In the Junior Girls' event, Jenna Rees excelled in winning the individual title, and with Nicola Hendy third and Katie Threlfall fifth, our girls comfortably won the team event. In the Intermediate Boys' event, David Rees won the run and finished second overall. With the able support of Philip Hendy and Gareth Rees, our boys also won the team event, making it two national titles.

A very successful and enjoyable hockey tour of Holland took place during the October half-term involving fifty of our girls.



The New Hall on Speech Day



The Opening of the Sixth Form Centre

A record number of our girls were selected for Lancashire Schools' hockey squads and at regional level Ayse Ince and Jane Kirby were selected to represent the North of England in the Under 16 age group.

County representative honours also confirmed the strength of KGS rugby. Alex Sanderson was chosen to captain Lancashire U16 XV, a side which also included Deri Hughes and Matthew Roberts. Patrick Sanderson captained the county U18 squad in which he also had the support of KGS team mates Chris Holbrook and Chris Jones.



KGS County Rugby Players

November

In November we welcomed four talented Kiwis on the Wairarapa Exchange. Renata Matthews, Hamish Gawith, Charmaine Robertson and Karen Brooks joined us and dovetailed well into our first teams and quickly made their mark.

The CCF Annual Inspection took place in November and went extremely well. We were pleased to welcome Lt. Col. Charles Hookey as our Reviewing Officer, especially as he is a parent of one of the first year pupils!

December

The School play, *"The Importance of Being Earnest"* was seen by full houses and enjoyed by all in the audience. It was put on by the Sixth Form members of the School Dramatic Society to mark the opening of their new Centre.

Thirty five of our pupils successfully completed LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts) Examinations this term. High honours were achieved by Tupele Dorgu and Michelle Carter who were awarded silver and bronze medals respectively for Senior Acting.

Those involved with music at KGS had a busy term. A lunch-time series of concerts by instrumentalists, singers and the School Orchestra culminated in the Carol Service and Carol Concert at the end of term. George Brockbank (treble) and Paul Allen (bass) sang with the Northern Cathedral Singers. George, together with John Holland, passed the Bishop's Chorister Examination in November, a tough exam for young singers including, as it does, both practical and written elements. Thirteen year-old Samuel Smith came second in the Under 18 Woodwind Section at the Freckleton Music Festival, another splendid achievement.

January

Academic success came to Catherine Fleming when she was awarded a place at Exeter College, Oxford to read French.

The Entrance examinations were held and on the strength of these the following awards were made:

11+ SCHOLARS/EXHIBITIONERS:

Timothy Guest	- MUSIC
Miranda Hill	- ACADEMIC
Carl Hodgkinson	- ACADEMIC
Travis Peters	- ACADEMIC / MUSIC
Jonathan Roberts	- MUSIC
Hannah Smith	- MUSIC
Andrew Tomlinson	- ACADEMIC

BURSARIES:

Bradley Hamilton
Rebecca Sie
Shaun Swarbrick

February

The finals of the House Music Competition were held and we were pleased to welcome, once again, Mr. Frank Salter, Preston Opera's Musical Director, as our adjudicator.

Following a visit by the local representative of Help the Aged, a sponsored aerobics session was held in the New Hall. Most of the first three years participated and raised £1,200 for that charity.



Help the Aged Aerobic Session

March

During half-term, the CCF's Adventurous Training Camp was held in the Lake District. A full training programme was undertaken and despite problems with snowbound roads, cadets were able to climb, walk, mountain-bike, orienteer, swim and experience the usual problems with cross-country navigation in the point-to-point exercise.

During March, we held our Founders' Day Service in St. Michael's Church and welcomed Dr. William Davies, the former principal of Cliff Methodist College in Sheffield.

The Spring Concert featured many memorable individual instrumental and vocal performances, the orchestra, the girls' choir and a moving rendition of Haydn's St. Nicholas Mass.

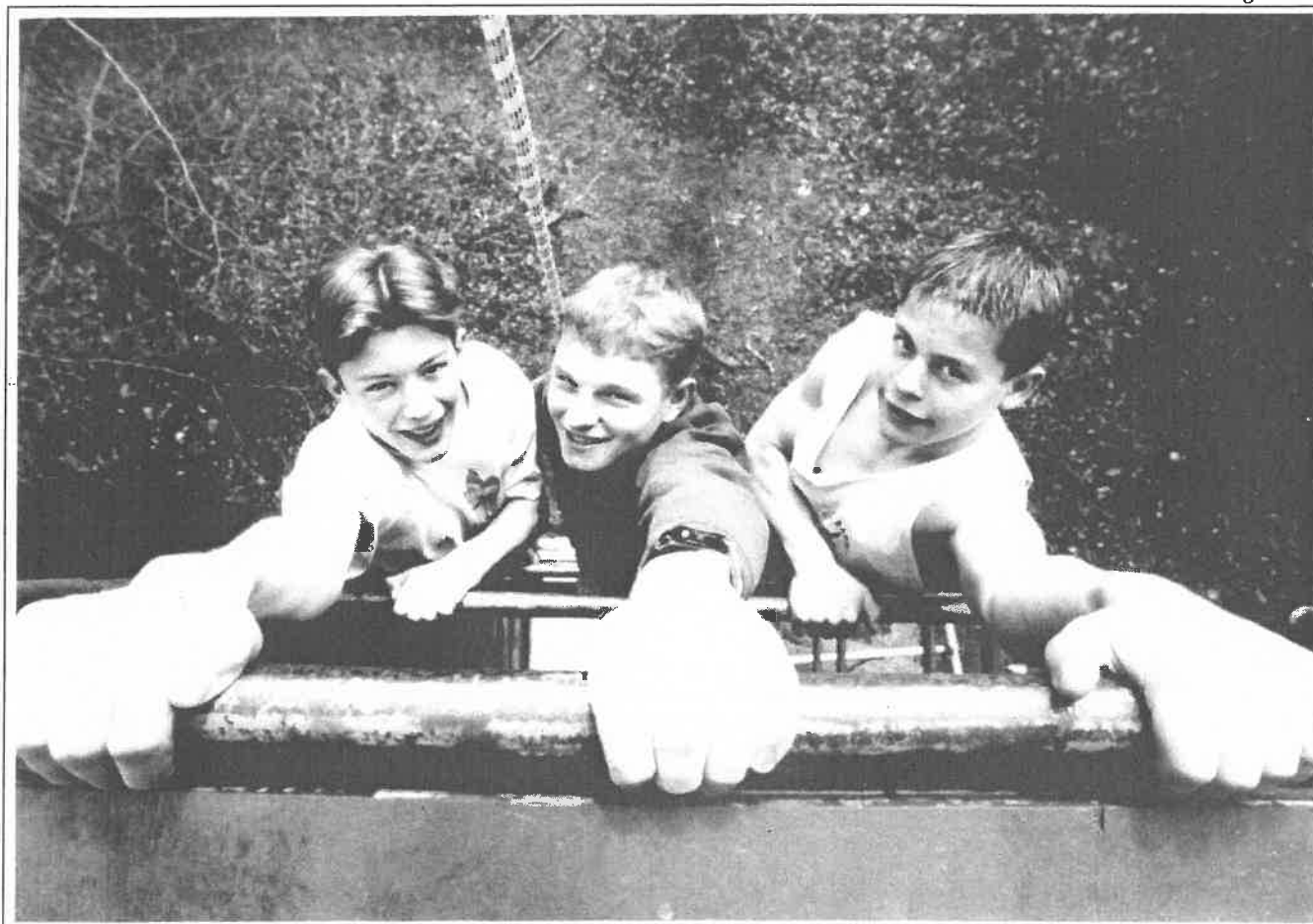
On the sporting front, Patrick Sanderson was selected for the North of England Under 18 rugby team. The outstanding success of the rugby season, however, was Alex Sanderson's selection as Vice Captain and pack leader of the England Schools' U16 side. Alex played for England as blind side flanker in their match against Wales at Twickenham in March.

In the Under 12 age group of the North West Triathlon, Katie Threlfall emerged a clear winner and was also presented with a special award for being the age group's outstanding marksman.

For the first time in the School's history, KGS entered a team in the North of England Schools' Rockclimbing Championships at the indoor climbing wall in Marple, near Stockport. As might be expected with such a wide catchment area, the standard was extremely high, but Tom Johnson, competing in the U17 event, produced an outstanding performance to finish fourth and Stuart Melling went one better to finish third in the same age group. Andrew Cairns also performed well in the U19 competition and that ensured that, of the twenty or so schools competing, Kirkham Grammar School won third prize in the overall competition, finishing just behind the team from Manchester Grammar School.

As the Easter Holidays began, a party of 52 pupils set off for Italy on the annual ski trip, 72 pupils headed to Paris on the French trip and 20 cadets of the RAF section of the cadet force went to RAF Camp at Honington in Suffolk.

The KGS Rock Climbing Team



April

The centrepiece of the many inter-house competitions this term was the annual School Sports' Afternoon and we were privileged to have as our guest of honour and prize presenter Paula Thomas, former Captain of the Great Britain Womens' Athletics Team. The outstanding individual athlete was second former Warren Marginson, who broke no less than three school records. His time of 12.28 secs. in the 100 metres broke a record which had stood since 1958.

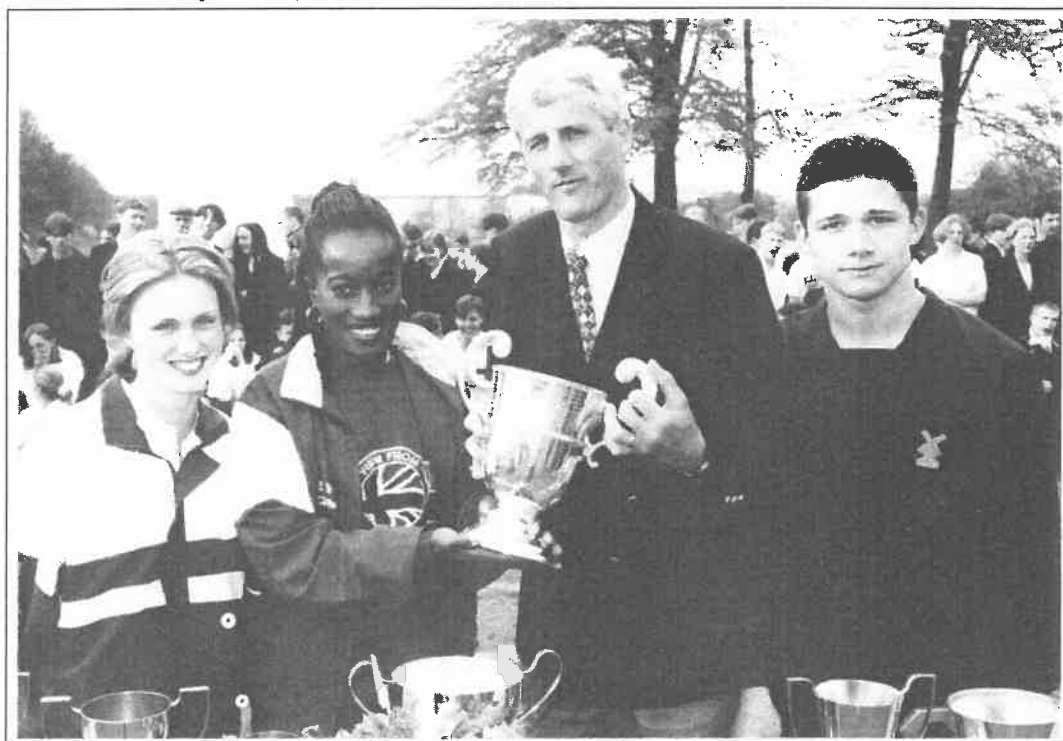
Victor and Victrix Ludorum winners were:-
Junior - Warren Marginson & Clare Stockdale;
Intermediate - Richard Wilson & Rebecca Kay;
Senior - Keith Quigley & Ruth Blackburn/Tupele Dorgu.

Katie Threlfall continued her success in Triathlon, winning the youth section of the British Modern Triathlon Championships held at Milton Keynes to become British Champion at the age of 12.

Katie Threlfall, triathlon champion



Presentation at Sports Day



May

Further sporting success came in the Lancashire Schools' Golf Championships, when Gary Jones posted the best gross score of the tournament in a field of 48 players with a score of 76 (71 net), and Claudine Beaver won the Under 15's Lancashire Schools' Championship with a net score of 75.

As we approached half-term, the May Ball attracted a dazzling array of 150 Sixth Formers and Staff and was one of the most successful functions of its kind the School has had. There was dancing to a disco and blues band in the marquee and dining to the accompaniment of a superb jazz band in the Old Hall.

Using the same marquee on the evening following the Leavers' Ball, the Friends inaugural May Ball attracted 170 parents and friends who enjoyed themselves hugely. The Friends' Committee are to be congratulated on launching another successful function.

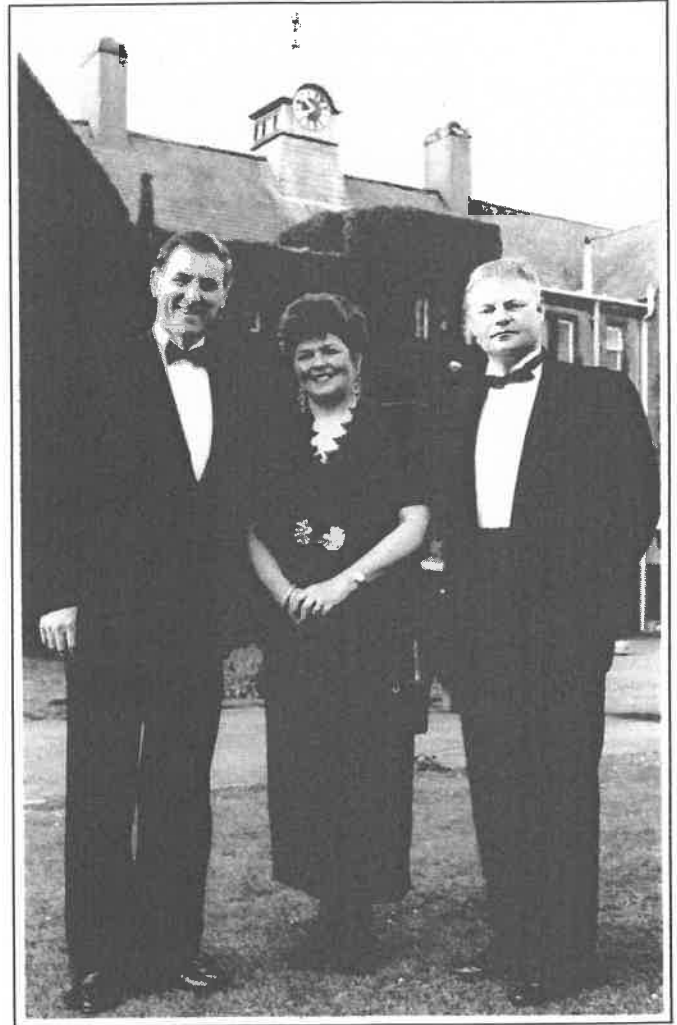
KGS Sixth Form Drama students achieved some outstanding results in the LAMDA awards. Helen Bailey and Annabel Wire were awarded Bronze Medals, Michelle Carter a Silver and Tupele Dorgu achieved the coveted Gold Award with Honours.

June

The Lower Sixth Young Enterprise team, *Excalibur*, performed creditably in the Fylde Schools' Young Enterprise Competition and were rewarded for their efforts by winning the trophy for the best company report, a first for KGS.

Gillian Harrison, Annabel Wire, Jonathan Carpenter and Robert Porteous set off for eight weeks in New Zealand on the Wairarapa sporting exchange.

On Sunday 23 June, 65 cadets, accompanied by some brave parents and staff, took part in a 50 kilometre yomp along the Lancaster canal with the aim of raising money for a school climbing wall. The vast majority, full of typical KGS grit and determination, completed this gruelling and blistering ordeal, organised by Flt. Lt. Taylor.



The Friends' Summer Ball

Members of the Young Enterprise Company, Excalibur



July

We were delighted to hear that Michelle Mann had won the English Junior Women's Cross Country title and had earned selection for the World Cross Country Championships in South Africa. We wish her well.

The School was delighted to receive public recognition from Fylde Borough Council in appreciation of the design of the new Lodge and Sixth Form Centre. KGS won the premier award in the Conservation and Listed Buildings' category, and it is fitting that our architect, John Rowe, an old boy of the School, was also honoured.

As the term ended, twenty first and second year pupils and staff left on an adventure-packed activity holiday to the South of France during the first week of the Summer vacation. The CCF with 70 cadets also set off for its annual camp, held this year at Warcop.

But the end of the school year also brought with it some goodbyes. Mr. David Walls finally retired from our staff this summer, having taught at KGS for more than twenty years, many of them as Head of History and British Government and Politics. Mr. Walls will be remembered by all for his quiet enthusiasm for his subject and his complete professionalism which inspired so many KGS pupils and won the admiration of his colleagues.

We are also sorry to say good-bye to Mrs. Helen Byrne, who leaves us to bring up her young family, Mr. Geoffrey Woodhead, who has temporarily helped hold the fort in our Art Department and Miss Alison Butterworth, who leaves us to look after Girls' Games at Barnard Castle School.

From the secretarial staff, Mrs. Hazel Leeson, Headmaster's secretary and registrar, decided to retire after twenty three years. I am sure we all wish her a happy and fulfilling retirement with her husband, Paul, and her family.

We thank them all for their contribution to the success of our school.

And, of course, we should not forget our upper sixth and fifth form leavers. We wish them well in their future and hope that they find success and happiness.

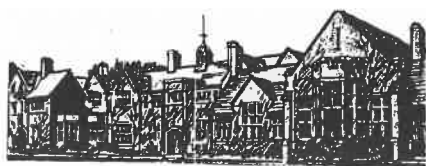
No summary of a school year will ever be complete - there are many events and successes which, because of time and space constraints, are not included here. This brief resume of events, however, shows that 1995-96 has been another busy and successful year in the life of KGS. And so now for the summer holidays...

Marc Antony

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Report From The Headmaster

The following are extracts from the Headmaster's speech at Speech Day.

We have good reason to recall the events of the past year, for it has been one of the most remarkable and memorable years in Kirkham Grammar School's long history. It is a privilege for me to be the Headmaster of such a successful and rapidly developing school and I hope you will share with me a sense of satisfaction as I review the past twelve months.

I am very pleased to be able to report that the School Roll is full for the second consecutive year, with over 540 in the Senior School and approaching 200 in the Junior School. There are one or two spaces in our growing Boarding House owing to late withdrawals. Recruitment at 6th Form level has been stronger than ever before, with a record number enrolling in the Lower Sixth. This is a marvellous way to launch our new Sixth Form Centre. I would like to thank all our parents for showing such faith in the School and its future.

We can all take great pride in the School's examination results this year. The GCSE results were spectacularly good, and by far the best Kirkham Grammar School has ever achieved. These are remarkable results for a school which is far less selective than many. At Advanced Level, our results were rather better than expected. This was pleasing for us and rewarding for our students, the great majority of whom progress to their first choice universities.

This school year has also been remarkable in that we have been able to increase the size and range of our staff at a time when sadly many schools are faced with staff cuts.

To add to the strength of our staff, the Governors gave me permission to appoint Mr. John Callister to teach Physics, Electronics and Technology. We are fortunate to attract the services of such an accomplished teacher with a double first class honours degree in Electronics and Computing. Mr. Callister started his career in University research, followed this by 15 years' experience as an electronics engineer in the R.A.F. and has much to bring to Kirkham Grammar School.

We have been equally fortunate in our appointment of Dr. Jacqueline Stanbury to introduce Psychology onto the Sixth Form curriculum. Dr. Stanbury is already an experienced teacher of Psychology and was the Senior Tutor of Sixth Formers at the Blackpool & Fylde College.

We also welcome Ms. Christina Bird to our English & Drama Department. She comes to us from a girls' grammar school in Folkestone, with experience also of teaching in a large comprehensive school.

A school community the size of Kirkham cannot escape its share of tragedy, I am afraid, and we were all horrified to hear of the death of Mr. Roy Fishwick, our cleaning supervisor, who also looked after the security of our premises. Mr. Fishwick died suddenly of a heart attack. His widow, Anne, worked as Assistant Matron in the Boarding House and both she and Roy quickly became strongly attached to Kirkham Grammar School and very much part of our family here. I found their support invaluable. Nothing was ever too much trouble for them and we miss Roy very much indeed.

This school year has been memorable for the amount and quality of development. The new Sixth Form Centre, our new Lodge, the second Art Room, additional classrooms and the acquisition of a further 11 acres of land for playing fields are of particular significance, I feel, and I would like to say a special word of thanks to Mr. Paul Smith, our Development Manager and Boarding House Master, for all his hard work over the summer co-ordinating and overseeing an enormous development project, and running the School Appeal.

The single development with the potential to bring the most far reaching benefits to the School this year has been the unique partnership forged between British Aerospace and Kirkham Grammar School. Never have I come across a company with such a positive commitment to education as British Aerospace. The work the company is doing in setting up networks of schools and centres of excellence for science and technology is innovative, immensely exciting and of much greater national significance than is presently understood. It is an immense privilege for Kirkham Grammar School to be the only independent school in the county to be chosen as a Centre of Excellence.

I am deeply appreciative of the efforts and support of my Board of Governors over what has been for all of us a very demanding year. The amount of work many of our Governors put in behind the scenes, without any recognition, is responsible in no small way for the success the School currently enjoys.

This year has also been remarkable for both the quality and quantity of school music. A new school concert programme has greatly increased our output of music. There have been some fifteen school concerts open to the public throughout the year and the same number are scheduled for next year. There have been some noteworthy individual successes, none more so

than Paul Allen's selection as a member of both the Northern Cathedral Singers and the Royal School of Church Music.

This year has also seen a resurgence of School Drama, with a splendid production of Arthur Miller's play "The Crucible" and the launch of a new venture, a Junior Drama Festival. Under the tutelage of Mrs. Carole Johnson many of our pupils study for the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Awards. This year, for the first time in the School's history, a member of our Upper Sixth Form, Ranvir Singh, won the Academy's top award for acting, a gold medal.

We are extremely fortunate at Kirkham Grammar School to have an Art department which produces work of high quality so consistently, both at examination level, where the results have again been outstanding, and for display about the school. The provision of a second Art Room, long overdue, is one of the most significant and important developments to take place this year.

The past year has seen some truly remarkable successes on the sports field. In terms of team performance, pride of place must go to our girls' first Hockey XI. Unbeaten for two years, they emerged as Lancashire County Champions, went on to win the North West and North of England Schools' Championships to take a well earned place in the finals of the English Schools' Hockey Championships.

The success of K.G.S. hockey spread across the world to New Zealand this year, where our exchange students, Ruth Blackburn and Nicky McKay, both played for Wairarapa College team which won the New Zealand Schools' Hockey Championships. In fact, Nicky scored the winning goal in the final.

School rugby looks set to revive past glories after a promising season in which our 1st XV and U15 teams were particularly impressive. This year's Captain of Rugby, Patrick Sanderson, captained Lancashire, played regularly for the North of England and was selected for an England 'A' Team which played a New Zealand touring team. Richard Wareing was also selected for the North U18 team as a prop, and Jonathan Carpenter and Mark Ledsham were selected to play for the North of England at U16 level.

School cricket was given a boost this year by an improved square and the installation of cricket nets in the New Hall. The first XI responded well with some good victories and some fine individual performances.

KGS athletes have enjoyed another very successful season, producing no less than five Senior County Champions. Of these Alastair Ward and Richard

Wareing went on to compete for Lancashire in the England Schools' Athletics Championships in the 100 metres and shot putt respectively, but I am sure they would be the first to acknowledge that the star athlete of the year has been Michelle Mann. Few schools can boast a full international among their numbers. Michelle was selected for the England Junior Women's team to compete in the World Cross Country Championships. She followed this by slicing 13 seconds off the Lancashire Schools' 1500 metres record and represented Lancashire in the final of the English Schools 1500 metres. Michelle also proved herself to be the true scholar/athlete by attaining two Grade A's and two Grade B's at 'A' Level.

KGS swimmers have grown accustomed to success and did not disappoint this year, winning eight of their ten matches. They were helped by some outstanding individual performances by Michelle Harrison who achieved national qualifying times in no less than six events for this year's English Schools' Championships, where she represented the North West.

It is impossible to overstate the importance to a school of a flourishing house system. Some 26 Inter-House competitions have been held this year and I would like to thank all our House Masters, their House Captains and helpers for the valuable work they put in, week in, week out, over the whole school year.

Equally, the School Combined Cadet Force, through its practical encouragement of leadership, teamwork, discipline and outdoor pursuits, plays an important part in the curriculum of Kirkham Grammar School. I would like to thank Colonel Sayer and all his staff for their great contribution, especially this year Mrs. Rosemary Greaves, who has just retired as officer commanding the RAF Section after 12 years' service in the Force. I am grateful to her successor, Mr. Richard Taylor, for agreeing to take command.

There are many important features of life at KGS which play a part in the whole education experience - the work of the careers department, clubs and societies, the work of the School Charity Committee and the General School Council, community service, work experience, Young Enterprise and so on.

We are fortunate to have the support of the Friends of Kirkham Grammar School, who have had a very successful year fund-raising and assisting with school functions. Through the efforts of their Chairman, Mr. Mark Drennan, and his hard working Committee, the Friends have provided money for costly portable staging, a new carpet, books and a CD-ROM for the Senior School Library, equipment for the Infant Section of the Junior School and software for computers there, in addition to items requested by school subject

departments. The Friends do a marvellous job for the School, we are much indebted to them.

This year sees the 75th Anniversary of the Old Kirkhamians' Association, and it will be marked by a Reunion Dinner at the School. We are determined to provide our former pupils with a better service in future and, to that end, the School Development Office has succeeded in contacting some 1500 Old Kirkhamians previously lost to the School.

I cannot let this occasion pass without expressing my gratitude for the contribution of our Deputy Heads; Ms. Harris for her innovative work in Personal, Social and Health Education and the quality of care she brings to her relationships with pupils, staff and parents. In Mr. Paul Stockdale, I am fortunate to have the support of an outstanding Deputy Head with whom I have always found it a pleasure and privilege to work.

So the engine room of Kirkham Grammar School is full of talent, energy and drive, and I am delighted by the way the whole School - pupils, staff, parents and governors - has pulled together as one to achieve the remarkable results and the development we have witnessed this year.

The success has been tangible, but how much more important for the well-being of our society are those intangible qualities? In an age when the pendulum of personal and social behaviour has swung strongly in the direction of personal freedom and individual rights, I hope that schools like ours are doing sufficient to redress the balance by imparting ideals such as responsibility, duty, accountability and leadership.

In the workplace of the 21st Century, I suggest to you that our young people will need a developed sense of responsibility and leadership skills, equally as much as, if not more than, paper qualifications.

I am confident that we shall continue to provide these at Kirkham Grammar School and that all who enter will profit from their education here, in accordance with the School motto:

"INGREDERE UT PROFICIAS"

B. Stacey
Headmaster





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Report from the President of the Old Kirkhamians' Association

Another year, another president. "Tempus fugit". As a scholarship boy, which is possibly my only claim to fame, it was decreed that in September, 1947 Kirkham Grammar School was to be my seat of learning. With some sporting success but little else, I left somewhat relieved in 1952. What I did not realise at the time was the grounding received at KGS, thanks to some wonderful and understanding masters, would stand me in good stead for the forthcoming years. I am currently General Manager of a medium sized company in Blackburn, Lancashire. That is enough about me so to more important matters.

The executive is currently trying to compile a "Who's Who" of Old Kirkhamians, both very old and not so old. As a result of the recent survey, we are making slow but sure progress. However, it still needs you all to provide the information you can on yourselves and your contemporaries.

The President and the executive are your representatives. You, the members, are the association and if you feel that anything reasonable needs doing, please contact the School and let us know.

Last year's numbers at the dinner were encouraging. I believe that it is a good idea to keep it at the School, thereby giving former pupils the opportunity to look around and re-acquaint themselves with familiar and not so familiar surroundings. Many new tasteful alterations have been completed at the School in recent times.

The dinner this year is again at School on Saturday, September 14th and the Friends of KGS have kindly agreed to do the bar once more. In our time of need, they are a "friend" indeed. Please come along, meet friends of yesteryear and in doing so support the Old Kirkhamians.

Finally, a vote of thanks to the Head Master and his loyal staff who have done a superb job in taking the school from strength to strength.

Donald Allison
President 1995/96

Old Kirkhamians News

Annual Reunion Dinner, 1996

The Annual Reunion Dinner is again to be held in School on Saturday, September 14th 1996. Depending on numbers, we hope this year to hold the Dinner in the Old School Hall. We have reduced the ticket prices this year to £15.50. Dress is optional, although most attending wear Black Tie.

As usual the dinner will be preceded by the Annual General Meeting, which will be held in the School Library at 6.45pm. Last year's dinner was very enjoyable and successful, with approximately 120 people attending. Please make a note in your diary now.

Membership

The membership of the Old Kirkhamians' Association, we are pleased to say, is growing. This and the change in the membership system for school leavers has increased the funds available to the Association significantly. Under the new scheme for school leavers, they make a prepayment to the Association to cover the cost of membership for the initial years after they leave Kirkham Grammar School. It is the Committee's intention to use part of the increased revenue to improve communications with Old Kirkhamians. If you have any views, please let us know. Furthermore, if you have any news which you consider would interest other Old Kirkhamians for future newsletters, please let me know.

At the moment we are circulating information to all Old Kirkhamians (members or not) who are on the School database. Unfortunately, due to costs of photocopying and postage this cannot continue indefinitely. If you are not a member of the Old Kirkhamians' Association, please join now.

Southern Reunion Dinner, 1997

A date for your diary!! The Southern Reunion Dinner is to be held at St. Edmund Hall, Oxford on Saturday, April 12th 1997. If you are interested in attending, please let the Secretary know. Further details will be forwarded later in the year.

Who's Who

Many of you will have seen the "Who's Who" form and may have completed and returned it to School. It is proposed to produce a booklet in September 1996.

Cricket

P:2 W:2 L:0

Under Keith Aitchison, (selector, coach and captain), the OKA Cricket team have had a victorious summer.

v. Staff XI The OKA Cricket team performed well against a Staff XI who were hit by injuries, including one during the game. After restricting the staff to 121 off 20 overs, Ian Aitchison (71 not out) and Alistair Cooke saw the OKA home with 5 overs and 8 wickets to spare.

v. School XI The OKA won this match by 26 runs after batting first. Evans (20), Dr. Hall (20), Butterworth (17) and Montgomery (16) all scored useful runs whilst the School's leading wicket taker was Hopton, with 5 for 29. Defending a small total with an "inexperienced" bowling attack, the OKA surprised the School with stunning catches from Evans and Butterworth who both also bowled well with figures of 4 for 14 and 2 for 21 respectively. Tomlinson opening the bowling bowled economically, conceding only 21 runs in 9 overs.

Degree Results

Helen Allison	1st Class Hons.
Heather Burns	2-2 (Chemistry) at Hull
Andrew Butterworth	2-1 at Keele
Daniel Cook	2-1 at Keele
Robert Fletcher	2-1 (Chemical Physics) at Sheffield
Karen Hood	2-1 (Chemical Physics) at Sheffield
Anna Fryer	2-2 (Sports Psychology) at Birmingham
Louise Green	2-1 (History) at Durham
Andrew Proctor	2-1 at Keele
Ben Stuttard	2-1 (Earth Sciences)
Michael Summers	1st Class Hons. (Modern Languages) at Salford
Karen Whittle	2-1 (German/Italian), Exeter

If you have any news of Old Kirkhamians or yourself you would like including in future newsletters, please let us know.

News of Old Kirkhamians

We have been asked if we can try and trace the following former pupils:

Mr. P. Hickman (1942 - 1948)
Mr. B. Beardsworth (1950 - 1958)

If you have any information of the whereabouts of the above or other details, please let the Secretary know.

Old Kirkhamian Ties

The new style Old Kirkhamian ties are available from the School Shop, together with other items of KGS clothing and merchandise.

450th Anniversary Celebration

A committee has been formed from the Friends of KGS, The Old Kirkhamians, Staff and the Governors to plan the School's 450th Anniversary celebrations in 1999. To date the following suggestions and proposals have been made:

- Concert and firework display, May 1999
- Open Weekend, July 1999
 - Friday - Drinks reunion for former pupils
 - Saturday - Open Afternoon
 - Saturday pm - Summer Ball
 - Sunday - Commemorative service
- Christmas Ball at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool - Saturday, 4th December 1999
- Annual Reunion Dinner of OKA to be held on the evening of Speech Day, September 1999.
- Annual Southern Reunion Dinner of OKA may be moved to the Drapers Hall, London, April 1999.

If you have any information that you think may be of interest to other Old Kirkhamians, please let me know. Similarly, if you have any ideas or suggestions of how the Association can improve its service to the membership, please let me know.

G. M. Benstead

Hon. Secretary

Old Kirkhamians Association

Michelle Mann

In 1992, Michelle Mann won the Senior Schools', Lancashire Schools' and Fylde Coast 800 metres races. In that same year she was selected to represent Lancashire in the England Schools' Cross Country Championships. In the Spring of 1994, running for Lancashire in the Inter Counties Cross Country Championships, Michelle Mann finished 13th out of the 450 leading runners from England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. She also represented Lancashire in the English Schools' Cross Country Championships.

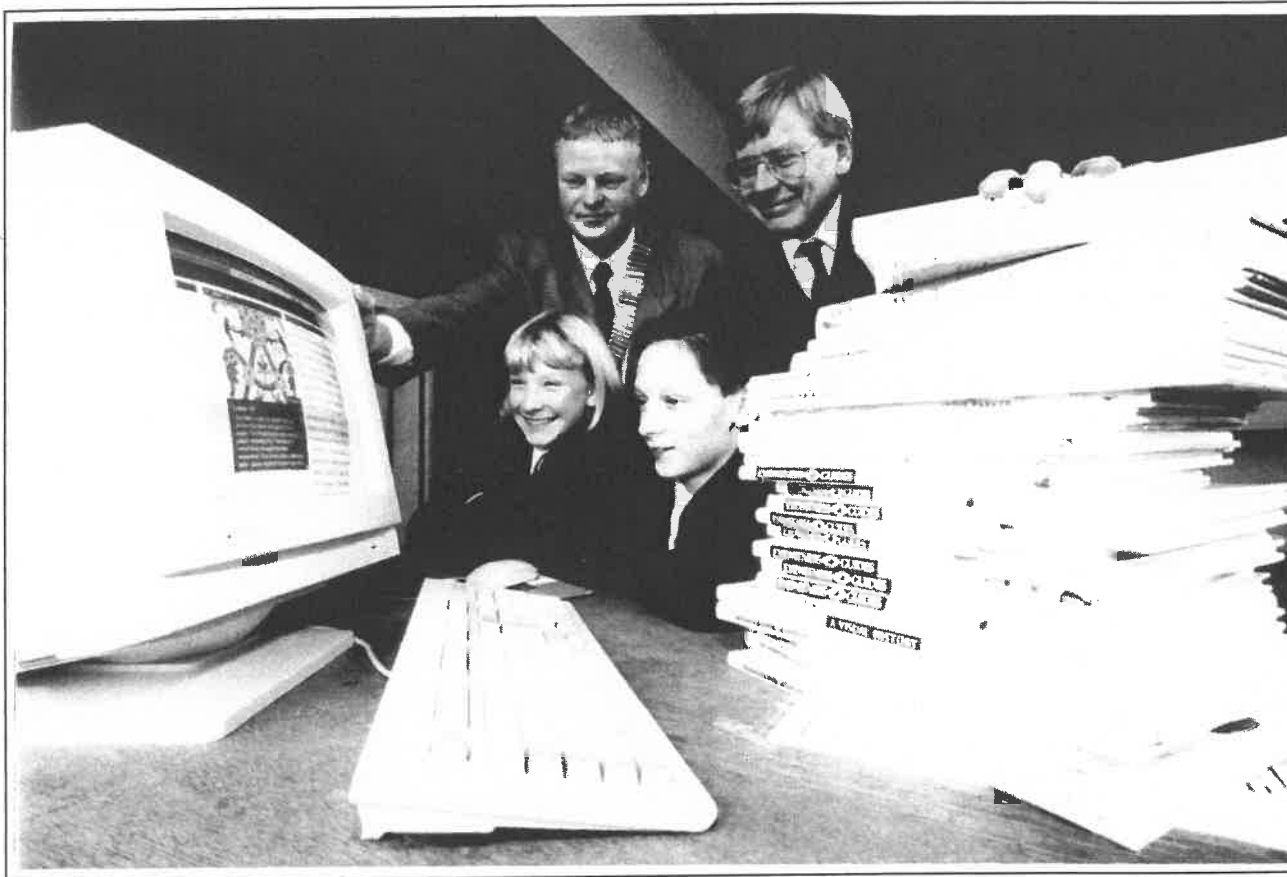
In August 1994, Michelle won her first international vest for athletics and competed in the 1500 metres for Great Britain Juniors against Italy and the Czech Republic in Verona.

In March 1995, Michelle won the North of England Women's Under 20 Cross Country title. An outstanding season followed, with Michelle representing the full England Junior Ladies' Team with distinction on several occasions. In the summer of 1995, Michelle Mann broke the Lancashire Schools' 1500 metres record and earned selection for the English Schools' Championships.

Michelle Mann left Kirkham Grammar School in July 1995 to study Law at Lancaster University. In March, 1996 she won the British Junior Women's Cross Country Championships. This outstanding sporting achievement has earned Michelle a place in the England Under 20 team to compete in the World Cross Country Championships in Stellenbosch, South Africa. Such full international honours are rare, even at a school with the sporting reputation of KGS.

Destination Of Sixth Form Leavers, 1995

NAME	INSTITUTION	COURSE
Joanne K ALLISON	Hull University	History
L Kiri ASHWORTH		Art Foundation Course
Paul J BANKS	Leeds University	Microbiology
Shelley L BARNES	University of Central Lancashire	Tourism and Languages
Claire L BAXTER	Keele University	Physics and Mathematics
Gary H BENSON	Bath University	Electrical Engineering
Victoria I BEST	De Montfort University	Business and Management
Caroline E BRADLEY	Newcastle University	Maths and French
James M COVENTRY	Manchester University	Physics
Rachael E CUTHBERTSON	Sheffield University	Biology
Daniel M DAVIES	University of Derby	Combined Studies
Andrew J DOLPHIN	University of Central Lancashire	HND Building
Catherine A DYE	Durham University	Mathematics
Leigh P ELLIOTT	University of Huddersfield	History
Sally E EVANS	Goldsmiths College, London	Sociology
Vikki J EYRE	Sheffield Hallam University	Management
Tamsin L FLETCHER	Myerscough College	Diploma in Small Animal Care
Rebecca J GARDNER	Lancaster University	French and English
Simon J GREEN	University College, London	Biology
P Christian GUISE	Blackpool & Fylde College	Art Foundation Course
Damian GUY	Bath University	Electrical Engineering
Mark G M GREY	De Montfort University	Design Management
Emma L GYLES	Nottingham Trent University	Public Relations
Suzanne E HILTON	Barnsley College	HND Travel, Tourism & Leisure



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Charity Report

Autumn, 1995

Action Aid	£360
Teenage Cancer	£150
Oxfam	£450
Crisis	£500
Trinity Hospice	£100
British Legion Poppy Appeal	£150

Spring, 1996

Soup Kitchen	£150
Help the Aged	£1500
Windmill Trust	£200
Calvert Trust	£200

Summer, 1996

Friends of Chernobyl	£520
Trinity Hospice	£120
Christian Aid	£150

Total = £4,550

As we can see from the above list, many charities - local, national and international - have received donations this year and I would like to thank all who have given so generously and so regularly throughout the year. As always, the Friday collection remains the backbone of our sharing, although there has been a variety of other events this year - ranging from non-uniform days to sponsored bike rides, from street and door to door collections to sponsored aerobic sessions.

We have been pleased to welcome visiting speakers from Oxfam, Crisis, Help the Aged and the Kirkham and Wesham Friends of the Children of Chernobyl. It was good to see that the school responded so well to the appeals made by our guests - all of them were helpful in enabling us to understand better the problems they were attempting to address and proved to be very moving also.

There have been many acts of kindness and generosity over the year, but some of the most touching memories will arise from the day we spent with the twenty or so children from Chernobyl. Having contributed towards the cost of flying the children to



Pupils receiving a certificate for the School's contribution to Trinity Hospice

Britain for a month's holiday, we agreed to spend a day with them. I was delighted with the way in which those of our pupils who were acting as hosts responded, everyone of them showing a genuine caring and understanding. I would like to thank them all - they were excellent representatives for KGS, demonstrating qualities which mark them out as fine individuals.

Later in the same term, we were invited to take part in the Fylde Coast "Change for Charity" collection, in which the first two years were asked to bring in remaining loose change from previous foreign holidays. Many families were very generous and the proceeds, which were considerable, have gone towards a special children's wing at Trinity Hospice. In connection with this, we were asked to send representatives to a *Radio Wave* Breakfast Show special, and those who braved the early morning cold deserve our thanks.

But we have been represented well at many other charity events and presentations and all who have given their time and energy should be thanked, and particularly Nicholas Hopton, who has always been dependable and hardworking and whose efforts are much valued.

However, we should remember that what happens in school is only the tip of the iceberg. Many of our pupils are involved outside school in various ways and at various levels in charitable work. Last summer two of our pupils spent six weeks of their summer holiday in Peru, working with a medical/educational support group and at Easter one of our pupils spent three weeks in Morocco. Others have been involved in fund raising events for many causes, whilst others have given freely of their time every week to help and serve others in their local community. It is a privilege to have learned how widespread among our pupils a sense of service actually is. Much work goes on quietly week in, week out. It is not for me to thank or to praise those involved, for such work is done willingly and out of a sense of service. When we accept that we share a common humanity, we begin to accept that we share a responsibility towards each other. May we be led into a deeper understanding of each other's needs and into a greater willingness to share with our wider family.





Drama

The Importance Of Being Earnest

On the 30th November and 1st December, the Kirkham Grammar School Dramatic Society performed "The Importance of Being Earnest" to two capacity audiences. The cast's utter commitment during a gruelling rehearsal schedule eventually paid off, to everyone's relief, not least Mrs. Jones', who was reputedly close to suicide in the final disastrous rehearsals! Fortunately, as the saying goes, "it was all right on the night". In fact, it was a very enjoyable evening of merriment and mirth, an evening when tears of laughter flowed!

The fated love affair between the "limping" Jack Worthing, played by an injured Philip Reeves (who took the cries of "break a leg" a little too seriously!) and the divine Gwendoline Fairfax, played by Nicky McKay, made for very enjoyable viewing. The slightly less mature affections between Algernon Moncrieff, played by a very "inventive" Ben Davies, and the dizzy Cecily Cardew, played by Liz Horn, were hilarious to watch. The part of Lady Bracknell was played frighteningly well by an umbrella-wielding Michelle Carter and the relationship between the prim Miss Prism, Esther Parkinson, and our resident Vicar, Nicholas Hopton, playing the fumbling Canon Chasuble, seemed a match made in heaven!

However, the night would not have been complete without its assorted array of manservants, butlers and maids. James Cuthbertson playing Merriman was transformed into a character more at home on the set of "The Munsters"! Paul Allen's piano-playing character, Lane, and Tupele Dorgu's singing role as Polly added an entertaining element of music and song to the performance. Thanks and praise must also be given to those working behind the scenes without whom the evening could not have been the incredible success it was. Louise Mulhearn must be mentioned for her costume designs, Ben Swindlehurst for his help with the set and also Jonny Carpenter, Fiona Darroch, Rebecca Fryer and Miss Bird, and all those involved with front of house duties. A special mention for the stage manager, Rebecca Eastham, whose dedication and commitment was greatly appreciated. Lastly, but by no means least, Mrs. Jones and Mr. Clark must be commended for their faith and dedication. Hopefully, next year's production will be just as successful!

The cast of "The Importance of Being Earnest"



Junior Drama

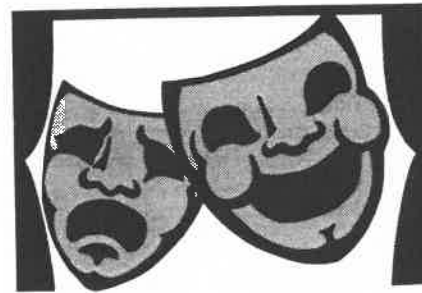
The end of March saw the second annual Junior Drama Festival in the Old Hall with over one hundred First and Second Year pupils involved in six one-act plays - well over half of each year group!

2Z opened up with the *Over-commercialized Radio Programme* which gave new meaning to the phrase 'radio ham' and this was quickly followed by *The Lonely Girl* from **2Y**, a play scripted entirely by themselves during their school drama classes on the theme of bullying and survival and it provided a sobering interlude before the satirical mayhem which was *King Chicken* from **2X**. There were some notable performances here from stars of the future as Dr. Livingstone narrowly avoided a roasting and the hen-pecked Tarzan literally got in a stew!

After the interval the audience experienced the best that this kind of festival has to offer: coarse acting *par excellence* as **3X** sat very uncomfortably *On Top of The World* trying to mix the dramatic tension of *Towering Inferno* with an unconscious pastiche of *Naked Gun*. The suffering was intense, as much for those who knew their words and cues and the audience saw a celebration of crisis management as an art form. With barely a moment to relax we were thrown into the glitz of *Baywatch* and *Blind Date* and the gore of *Casualty*

from **3Z**. This was scripted and choreographed entirely by the group who proved they could not only lap it up, but lampoon it as well! Finally, **3Y** closed the show with the uproarious shambles that was *A Good Knight's Work*, pun unintended but much appreciated by an audience which relished the fine line between the rigor mortis of fear and the paralysis of corpse.

We are told by the career's service that school drama is the best preparation for the world of work and well this was proved at the Festival. All have learned the value of personal preparation, discipline, reliability and teamwork and also how to manage a crisis and think on the feet. Yes, many died on the night but they will rise again in senior school productions as we saw so convincingly in *The Importance of Being Earnest* but some of us in the audience died, too, laughing!



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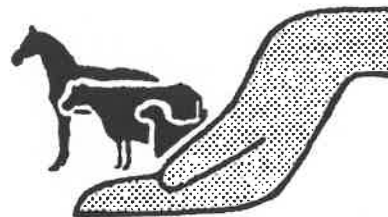
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Music

The Music Society has enjoyed another busy but successful year. The carol concerts were much enjoyed by everyone, and as well as the traditional carols, the special choir gave a fine performance of 'St. Christmas' by William Matthias - an interesting carol which produced mixed comments from the choir! The special choir was also joined by the main choir to sing at St. Michael's Church for our annual Carol Service.

At the Spring Concert, as well as many fine solo performances, the choir performed Haydn's "St. Nicholas Mass" with treble solos from Chris Carter, John Holland, Gareth Jones, Simon Whiteside, Phillip Parkinson, Jonathan Wilson and George Brockbank; alto solos from Michelle Carter and Tupele Dorgu; tenor solos from John Woods and Nicholas Bennett; and bass solos from Paul Allen and Andrew Hill.

At the Founders' Day Service, the choirs main item was Vaughn Williams' "Let all the world in every corner sing" - a modern setting of the traditional hymn, also very difficult to sing!

Sadly, the summer term saw many prominent voices and long standing senior members leave our choirs, so after some reshuffling, the new special choir gave its first performance at the Summer Concert, with some particularly promising voices in the third and fourth year.

The Girls' Choir, also performing at the carol concerts, Carol Service and Spring Concert, welcomed new members in readiness for the Summer Concert. (Our thanks to Gillian Smith and Joanne Crook for volunteering to be Gnomes!)

The orchestra, now thirty strong, is flourishing, especially since the recent addition of the timpani. As

well as performing at all of the concerts, the orchestra also accompanied the C.C.F. on Inspection Day - thanks to Anthony Rawlins for playing the general salute.

Our three external concerts this year from the St. Leonard's Gilbert and Sullivan Society, the Robert Bamber Singers, and the London Chamber Trio saw a disappointing attendance and hopefully the coming year's programme will be better supported.

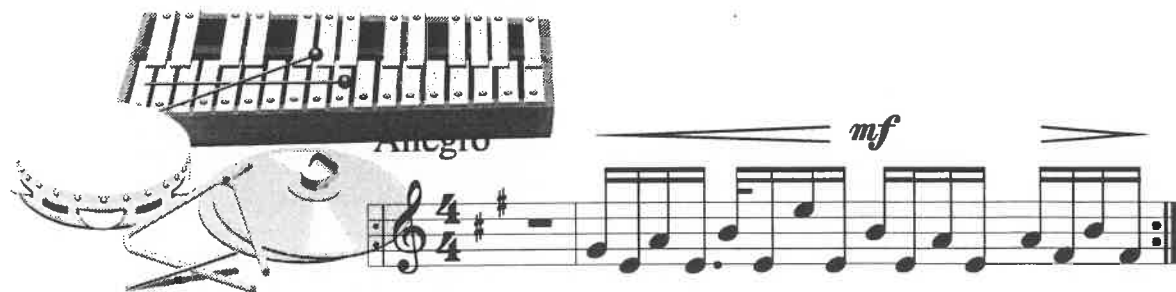
The lunch-time concerts this year have been particularly popular, the highlights being Phillip Reeves' rendition of 'Wonderwall', the Kirkham House Girls' powerful version of "I will survive" (thanks to Rebecca Eastham) and some outstanding performances by our music scholars.

The House Music competition once again welcomed Mr. Frank Salter to adjudicate, and the Rosemary Greaves Music Prize was awarded to Haidee McGregor for her superb mastery of Liszt's "Hungarian Rhapsody". The overall competition was won by Kirkham House, and there were also high scoring solos from Phillip Fairhurst, Felicity Guest, Sarah Mears and Sam Smith.

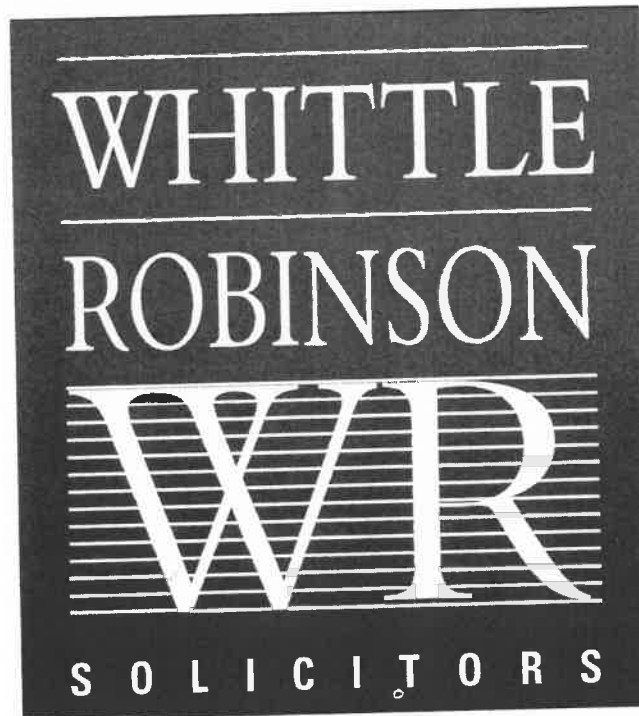
The year closed on a 'high note' with the very enjoyable summer concert, and the music society can look forward to an equally challenging coming year.

Many thanks to Mr. Catterall and Mr. Ashmore for their continued time, support and encouragement, and to all who contributed to the music of the school.

Michelle Carter
Secretary of the Music Society



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Army - Adventurous Training

During the February half term, two contingents set out on an annual Adventurous Training Camp, in the shadow of the majestic Blencathra mountains. The thirty of us who went prepared well in advance (i.e. stocking up on chocolate biscuits!) for this action packed week of fun, frolics and (jolly?) hard work. This camp is for he (or she, of course!) who dares.

We were quickly into the first day of activities which were rotated through the three sections. These activities were mounting biking, mountain walking and climbing, swimming, and orienteering. The walkers returned with aching feet, the bikers with aching bums and the climbers came back with aching ... everything! However, after a good(ish) hearty meal of tinned steak and kidney pudding, all was forgotten. When the kitchen clean ups and the briefings for the next day were completed, rest and sleep were definitely needed!

The next two days came and went quickly (they say time flies when you're having fun!), with every section completing three full days of activities with a smile and relatively no injuries.

On the fourth day came the Point to Point exercise. This was perhaps the most demanding of the

week's activities but probably the most enjoyable for me. It involved a walk, run or sprint to Thirlmere, a swim across Thirlmere and an abseil down Helvellyn. All because Col. Sayer loves Milk Tray! Each section completed this day's activity with an extremely realistic first aid car accident scenario set up by the staff. This alarmed many passing walkers by its authenticity, although Col. Sayer tried to explain the situation as they ran off to phone the mountain rescue team!!

That night, Major Scott prepared another really wonderful meal (yum, yum) and the presentations of best section and orienteering team were awarded. After the presentations and tidy up, the legendary games night began. We all opted to sleep rather late that night due to unforeseen circumstances. After a quick and thorough clean up we packed up and set on our way back to (sunny) Lancashire.

It is now left for me to offer thanks on behalf of the contingent to all staff who made the week so memorable and enjoyable, but mostly to Major Scott for his chilli concoctions and to Colonel Sayer for all his hard work in the organisation of such a terrific week. Thanks.

Richard Tomlinson

P.S. The 6th form lads say "Nice pyjamas, Miss Butterworth!"





Cadets involved in various exercises for the CCF



RAF Easter Camp - Honington

Fourteen cadets and three staff from KGS attended an 8-day military camp at Royal Air Force Honington, Bury St. Edmunds. RAF Honington is the home to the Royal Air Force Regiment, a highly trained regiment of soldiers who are responsible for the defence and protection of the RAF's most up-to-date fighter aircraft in any theatre - be it peace or wartime. Therefore, the contents and instruction of the 8-day camp were of the highest calibre and extremely demanding.

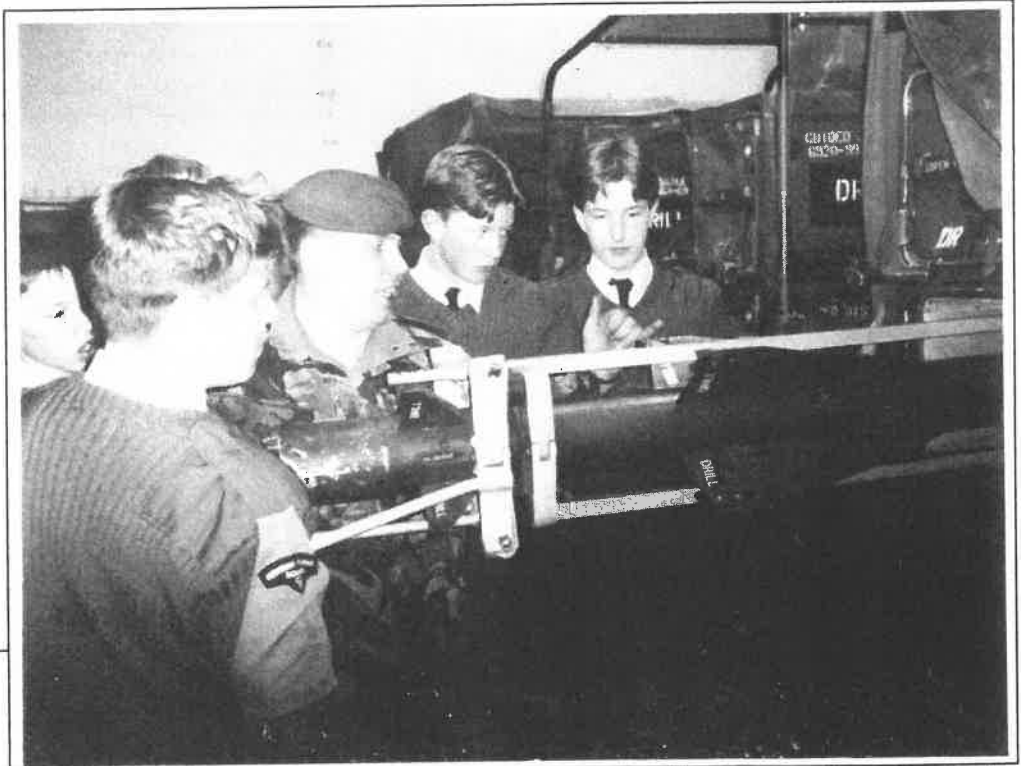
The cadets were given instruction in camouflage; survival in hostile terrain; shelter and bivvi building; night navigation, which included a full night exercise incorporating section attacks; weapon training and firing with the most up-to-date military hardware, including the ground to air Rapier missile unit; and comprehensive training in first aid and resuscitation.

To complement the above, the cadets were given one and a half days' flying on

a one-to-one basis, which included a flight in a Search and Rescue Sea King Helicopter; plus a visit to U.S.A.F. Mildenhall, to assess the capability of the American Air Force.

Cadet C. Stewart was awarded the Best Cadet, and Cadet A. Perfetti was the only cadet to achieve his Marksman qualification out of the whole Contingent. Overall the 8-day camp was very exciting and thoroughly enjoyable. The cadets gained so much valuable knowledge from a camp of this nature and it was an excellent introduction to any possible military career.

R. Taylor



Cadets watching a live Rapier (ground-to-air) missile being loaded



Cadets taking part in exercises

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WHAT IS REQUIRED TO GET A SHOT AT AN ARMY SCHOLARSHIP?

Interviews are held in the Spring and Autumn for boys and girls. The purpose is to discover whether applicants have the potential to become Army Officers. At the time of their application, students must be between 16 and 16 years 6 months, and must have, or be expecting, at least five high grade GCSEs, including English Language, Maths and a science or foreign language.

The majority go to university before their year at Sandhurst.

Another Way

Welbeck is an exclusive, residential, 6th form college in the Nottinghamshire countryside, run by the Army. The curriculum is designed to equip male and female students for careers as officers in the technical corps.

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On completion of 'A' Levels, students go on to complete a degree course, the majority at Shrivenham, the Royal Military College of Science, although some may compete for places at a civil university. Subsequently they train for one year at Sandhurst.

Two other ways to a university degree.

If your son or daughter aims to get a degree and wishes to become a Regular Army Officer, he or she can try for an Undergraduate Cadetship. The requirements are demanding but successful applicants get a probationary commission and their tuition paid, plus up to £10,771 pa.

When they finish their degree course they go on to an Officers' training course at Sandhurst to confirm their commission.

On the other hand, if your son or daughter wishes to commit themselves to 3 years' commissioned service, he or she could apply for a Bursary. This amounts to £1,500 a year, is tax free, and additional to any education authority grants.

It is intended to help people who want careers as Army Officers to complete their degree courses. Applicants have to meet the challenge of the Army's three-day Officer Selection Board.

On graduation, bursars also do the one year Officer Training Course at Sandhurst, on completion of which they can take up either a 3 year Short Service Commission or a Regular Commission.

Can we help you?

Write to: Schools Liaison Officer,
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Tell him your son or daughter's date of birth, school and academic qualifications, and we will clarify and expand on what we have to offer.

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THE REQUIREMENTS FOR AN UNDERGRADUATE CADETSHIP.

The applicant must be over 17 and intend to graduate before 25; be at, or have been promised a place at, a university, polytechnic or college of higher education; be able to pass the Army's 3-day officer Selection Board and be willing to serve at least 5 years as an Officer (after the course at Sandhurst).



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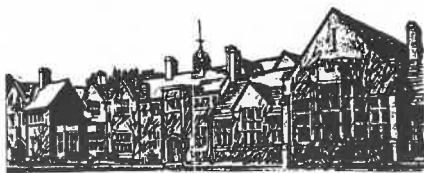
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Paris, 1996

"C'est un beau jour en été; le soleil brille et les oiseaux chantent dans les arbres..." Actually, it was about midnight on Wednesday, 11th April when a group of 70 KGS pupils and 7 staff boarded two coaches and set off for Paris. If you want to know any more about the journey, read any other school holiday report.

The purpose of the holiday was to give everyone a taste of Paris and that was certainly achieved: it was utterly predictable and most enjoyable and rewarding. We went to the top of the Eiffel Tower to be amazed by the views of this magnificent city; various groups visited Notre Dame, the Pompidou Centre, Les Halles, the Lafayette complex, and the Louvre. Of course, the art of Picasso, Matisse, Braque and the modern architecture of the glass pyramid were much appreciated - nearly as much as the many ice-creams and croque-monsieurs which were consumed.

Versailles was viewed in a record 25 minutes: an impressive palace to be savoured, perhaps at a later date. In keeping with the see-as-much-as-you-can nature of the trip, an afternoon was spent seeing France in miniature, a sort of Lilliputian model tour of France. The staff seemed to enjoy this, showing off their apparent knowledge of France.

A boat trip on the Seine around the Ile de la Cité provided excellent views of many of the architectural splendours of Paris and much historical knowledge could be gained from the commentary - if one stopped gossiping for a while. Further culture was greedily devoured on the Champs Elysées where there was a major sculptural exhibition including the works of Miro and Hepworth. The fourth year boys were particularly enthralled but had to be dragged off to the Virgin Megastore before a final cultural snack at the Arc de Triomphe, which provided wonderful views of the city.

Nightlife too was sampled: a visit to the hostelry in Damaris provided contact with the locals and Montmartre at night was most exciting, if a little risqué. The walk through the Pigalle was educational for those who did not avert their eyes and the atmosphere in the church of Sacre Coeur was chastening in contrast. Once again the views - this time at night - were compelling. The drink in the cafe in Montmartre was memorable and so typically Parisian.

And now for some in-jokes. Ignore this, if you didn't go on the trip. Will SKF ever forget her visit to the local hostelry? Why did AD and IR. keep bursting into uncontrollable laughter? What has Richard Tomlinson got against unisex toilets? Will Gillian

Harrison ever find an artist who can capture her beauty? Did Mark Whitley's red rose work? What will Verity wear tonight? Does Alex Carter buy his clothes at the same shop as Rupert the Bear? Are you sure that they were women, Martha? Does anybody dare to upset Damien? What did BFT do with all those oranges? Can the fourth year boys speak - English, never mind French? Is there a KGS Old Boy in every part of the globe? Where did TJB get those shorts? Does ARL think he's Platini? Has Eric Le Clerc run out of wine? Does the coach driver know any more short-cuts?

Finally, thanks to Mr. Long for organising a most enjoyable and relaxed trip so effectively and his team for their assistance: definitely one to remember. Au revoir.

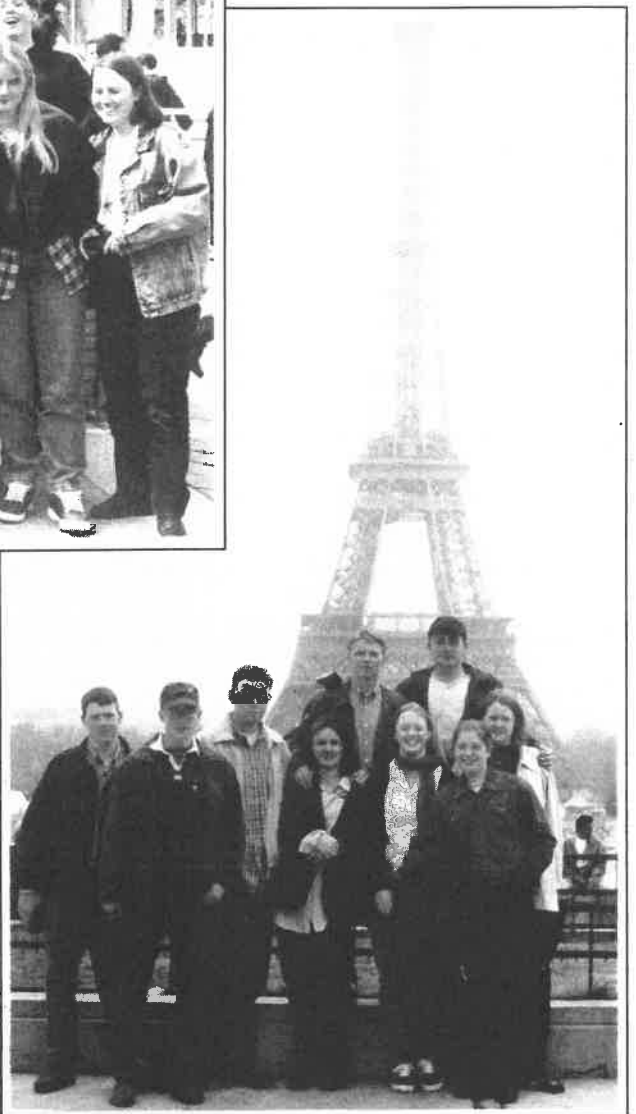
Toulouse La Trousers



A couple of wandering street performers who kept us entertained



The Fourth Form about to go insane on a bateau-mouche



*The Third Form on the Champs Elysees.
The most expensive bottle of coke in the world*



*The Sixth Form get an
eyeful of Paris*

1996 Ski Trip To Aprica - Italy

Flying from Gatwick airport at 6am is not a pleasant experience, neither is awakening to aeroplane food: a plastic breakfast eaten with similar utensils. However, moaning apart, the journey was far quicker than last year's 30 hour trek to Tonale by coach.

However, we did reach our destination of Aprica just after lunch-time, even though there did not seem to be a coach for us at Milan airport. The sky was clear - and so were the mountains. "Where's the snow?... Where do we ski?" was the desperate cry. In fact at 1200 metres in the valley there was no snow - yet!

the perfect piste, decided to take a short cut down the mountain and perform a James Bond leap over a 30 foot drop, leaving one ski in the catch netting, landing on her head in the only soft snow in a rock field, and then began to laugh about it! Was this hysteria or just a birthday trick? Later in the week, accompanied by Chloe, she had to have a 'piggy-back' from our party leader to get down the mountain. Our other author left a full imprint of herself on an off-piste rock while the Melling brothers were charging about like kamikaze lunatics, followed by Scotty and Smithy.

Back in the safety of the resort it started to snow... and snow... and snow. "It's coming down in



Doc. Hall shows how to do it

The hotel was very friendly, clean and comfortable and after settling in, fitting skis and boots "Of course you're not meant to walk in them... they're skiing boots!!", we then discovered the town.

Lessons began at 9am next morning and, after the initial test, we were allocated to groups of differing ability. After an indifferent packed lunch on the slope, we ventured forth for some guided free-skiing with IMS, The Doc. and "Cool Dude Stu" (our rep.). The absolute beginners remained on the lower slopes with the rest of the staff.

Over the next six days, this 'free-skiing' did cause the occasional problem and near heart failure for Mr. Scott. Rachel (Heidi Skiovercliff), not content with

really big lumps!!" The next day was a very steep learning curve, not only for the beginners, but for those who had never skied in feathers before. People pay the earth to be dropped out of helicopters to ski in spring-powder snow. It was heaven: or was it hell? Bodies were strewn everywhere. Matt Roberts tried to roll the piste flat; Lucy Preston and Kerry Ellis skied into the trees and Sarah Elliot thought she could enter the Winter Olympics after only two lessons!

In the evenings, smoothie Stu. our southern rep. (where did he get his sense of dress? - obviously not from Doc. Hall) organised various events. Silly games in the hotel bar, quizzes and bingo (really gerd prizes, yah!), pizza night and discos at the Snowball Club, so good some went twice, as we could not believe the

hip-hop Italians doing their wiggle dancing - hysterical! It was amazing where we got our energy from after a tiring day.

At the end of the week, after the ski test, medals were presented and several more comical awards were made. In our appreciation we gave the teachers a few bottles of special bubbly and the staff presented Mr. Scott with some new Bolle sunglasses to replace his "Jack Duckworth's" he had broken.

After many laughs, much dancing in the Snowball and the odd drink or two, it was unfortunately time to return to the mundane sanity of home. However, an escape from the various different shapes of pasta for every first course will not be missed along with bread that lacerates your mouth! In the early morning we boarded the bus for the airport, bruised, battered but better skiers. Some had even found romance, others had lost a ticket. "We will have to leave Miss Walsh behind!". We had also gained a passport!! But the best of all... we had a packed lunch for the journey home.

All was resolved and we returned slightly saddened, but a little excited, as now was the time to look forward to 1997. Foppolo beware, KGS Ski Soc. are on their way!!

Heidi & Lill.
aka Toni & Rachel

German Exchange, 1995-1996

The annual Exchange visit began in September with the arrival of our German guests to spend ten days in Kirkham. As usual, they experienced all the pleasures of life in an English school, including for them the unusual experience of school after lunch. Two 'official' outings were arranged to York and the Lake District. The latter visit was not quite as picturesque as in previous years, because after the driest summers and an otherwise fine ten days, we had incessant rain which, whilst soaking us through, did nothing to dampen the spirits.

The return part of the exchange took place in February, rather earlier than in previous years, and it was a nervous party which assembled at Manchester Airport equipped for winter weather. They were not to be disappointed, for during our stay in Germany it snowed virtually every single day. However, in contrast to snow in England, little fuss was made and roads, even side streets, were promptly cleared by early morning and there was very little disruption.

We had a very busy time apart from attending school - lessons beginning at 7.50am. There was an official reception by the Burgermeister of Linden and several excursions were arranged. There was ice-skating one morning in the nearby town of Diez, followed by a cultural afternoon - a tour of the marvellous cathedral of Limburg, with comments in interesting English by our guide - a nun. A further cultural aspect was our day spent in Frankfurt, the state's largest city, where we visited the studios of the Hessische Rundfunk, one of Germany's largest broadcasting complexes, followed by a tour of the Museum of Modern Art and many an eye-brow was raised at some of the exhibits. Finally there was a visit to see "Who's afraid of Virginia Woolf" performed by a very talented amateur American group.

Of course there is much more than culture involved in an exchange visit. Many excursions were arranged privately to such things as football and basket-ball matches. Shopping was high on the agenda of any town visited, particularly Frankfurt, and the pupils experienced the delights of *Fasching*, the period leading up to Lent which is celebrated by parties, shows, carnivals and concerts. In fact, a *Fasching* disco was arranged by the pupils in celebration of the exchange.

During our stay the pupils had a project - to produce a newspaper and below are printed some extracts from the *Kirkham Linden Express* on various points of interest.

On School

"The main difference is that there is no afternoon school - great. But we had to get up very early."

"The rules are much more lenient and they don't have to wear a uniform."

"There is not a lot of litter or graffiti."

On Television

"Because of satellite and cable, there are a lot more channels to watch."

"Families in Germany don't seem to depend on T.V. as much as English families do."

"Quite a few of the programmes are similar to those in England. You can watch 'Gottschalks Haus Party', the equivalent of 'Noel's House Party'."

On Food

"Food is different from English food in many ways. They have lots of different types of sausage which I found delicious."

"There are lots of kinds of bread."

"They eat large amounts of food at every meal"

"At first it is hard to get into German food, but when you have tried it, most of it is OK."

Geography Field Course - Scarborough

On Tuesday, 23rd April, the intrepid explorers (22 lower sixth geography students) set forth from the relative safety of school to the outer limits of an unknown county: Yorkshire - the far east coast - to the town of Scarborough. En route (after breakfast at a service station somewhere on the M62), we stopped at Kirkham. This time Kirkham Abbey in North Yorkshire. We finally arrived at The Raffles Hotel in the centre of the town by lunch-time. No time to eat, Mr. Scott had booked a tour of the castle and harbour area, along with an interesting trip around the Millennium Exhibition (which is not unlike Yorvik, but concerns the history and growth of Scarborough).

We returned to the hotel after cockles and mussels (or ice cream and chips for some!) in time for wash and change and the evening meal. There's no rest for L6 students, as Mr. Scott started a two hour introductory work session and preparation for the next day. Whilst relaxing in the hotel bar afterwards, he did reiterate that this "was not a holiday!"

The next day we completed a town survey, then a village study on the Thursday. That evening, Catherine enjoyed the card games that were developing with the boys, others tried 'Liar Dice' while Ben and Tommo discovered the delights of bar work, some even found a nearby pool table but discovered that the moon rose early in Scarborough. By 9.30pm, malnutrition had set in and there was a mass call out for pizzas or chips. Erica was slightly miffed as hers did not really appear as a full deal!

Friday was the Heritage Day. As 'Culture Vultures', we headed west to York and visited Clifford's Tower (a Lancastrian had helped them out!), the York Story Heritage Centre and the very interesting Castle Museum. Lunch was taken on the banks of the River Ouse watching the ducks and pigeons.

Saturday saw the beginning of physical fieldwork. Gillian (or was it Geraldine?) had an eventful encounter with a worm which *crawled(?)* down her back and decided to commit suicide. In an attempt to retrieve the offensive, squashed animal, Gillian displayed a little more than necessary, not knowing that people were standing enjoying the pleasant views in the North Yorkshire Moors National Park! Again data collation and preparation was covered at night, but as we had worked hard, and it was the weekend, Mr. Scott allowed a brief visit to a local hostelry in the countryside for a few games of pool, followed by more chips on the way back.

Sunday was spent studying the Yorkshire coastline. No signs of Sue Earle, but plenty of coastal geomorphology from Scarborough to Bridlington.

Sewage was also discovered on Tommo's car after Dynarod cleared a blocked loo! By Monday, fatigue was setting in and Mr. Scott toned down the rural transect of Farndale in the North Yorkshire Moors. Biff and Tommo decided to herd some sheep off the road and back into the field. Richard, being a farmer, should have realised that young lambs do strange things when they are picked up and threatened; one of them felt the need to empty its bladder all over its captor! However, we still visited Ryedale Folk Museum and also Pickering Castle, before heading back to Scarborough, very tired but probably more knowledgeable and certainly more appreciative of the interest and beauty of that strange county across the Pennines.

On the return journey, further fieldwork was undertaken, again in York. We walked the walls, visited the King's Manor, the Minster and Chapter House and walked some of the old medieval streets. All in all, a thoroughly enjoyable and informative week. Thanks must go to Mr. Scott for his organisation and local knowledge, to Mr. Harrison for the drinks he bought us and to Miss Butterworth. Thanks must also go to Kath and her staff, 'Beryl' and Dot, to the blow up doll, to Catherine's crabs which had nocturnal wanderings, despite severed legs. Finally, where did Bob's bed get to on the last night?

L6 Geographers

We invest in the community because we're part of it.

NatWest believes that we cannot stand apart from the community around us.

So we have a long term and consistent programme of community support, which involves working closely with community organisations – providing more than just financial support.

We believe that the well being of the community in which we operate benefits everyone.

 **NatWest**
More than just a bank

National Westminster Bank Plc. (Telephone) calls may be monitored/recorded for staff training.

Holland Hockey Tour 1995

On the 21st October, a party of 41 girls plus staff and others set off on an arduous journey. We boarded the overnight ferry and soon arrived in Holland.

Sunday: On arrival at the Hotel de Roode Pelikaan, we relaxed and prepared for the forthcoming karaoke evening. At the beginning of the night, most were a bit embarrassed, but after a fine example set by the fifth form, most inhibitions were lost and a great evening was had by all.

Monday: Our afternoon excursion took us to the Marl Caves in Valkenburg. We tootled underground in a little train and saw sculptures and paintings. A few nearly had little accidents when the lights were turned off amid the cold, dark enclosures. That night we faced our first Dutch opponents - Merssen - coming away with victory; while the fourth form took on an unexpected amateur Japanese side. Ah well... the fifth year led by example, defeating Merssen with an excellent team performance.

Tuesday: That morning we took the opportunity to go shopping in town. I was gearing up to go tobogganing later. Our second match at HOD Hockey Club was the toughest of all. Emotions were high. The U15's earned a draw whilst the U16's gained a fine win.

Wednesday: We travelled to Maastricht to absorb culture... and shops. Fully satisfied with our purchases, we faced the might of Concordia. The U14's drew, U15's had a narrow defeat and the U16's were victorious. In celebration of a set of good results, the third and fourth years danced the night away back in Valkenburg and the fifth years enjoyed a team night out.

Thursday: After a day of travelling, we settled into our new hotel, ate, then set off on a night time trip to the Eiffel Tower. The more adventurous of us faced the strong winds at the summit and experienced a magnificent view.

Friday: At last, the day had come, Eurodisney here we come. We went into the magical land and ran off in various directions - to the shops, rides, shows, and more. I went straight to Sleeping Beauty's Palace. We all queued up for the rides at some stage, and most lined up to see Mickey Mouse in the parade.

So, all that is left to say is 'thanks' to everyone who made this great trip possible, and especially Mrs. Glover who organised the tour and gave everyone many happy memories.

M. Newell

3rd Year Hockey Captain

DAVID and SUSAN
~ BROCKBANK ~

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Lytham, Lancs.

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THE EAGLE

He sits,
Small and weak,
Not wise like the owl,
Or brave like the lion,
But soft and meek.

He looks out across the landscape bathed in light,
The timeless mountains towering over the sun-kissed
glassy waters of the lake.

And then
He spreads his powerful wings,
And in a flash of feathered lightning,
He casts himself into the air.

The wind rustles through his feathers,
And he climbs effortlessly towards the cotton-wool clouds.
He looks down at the familiar landscape
As it fades into a blur of green.

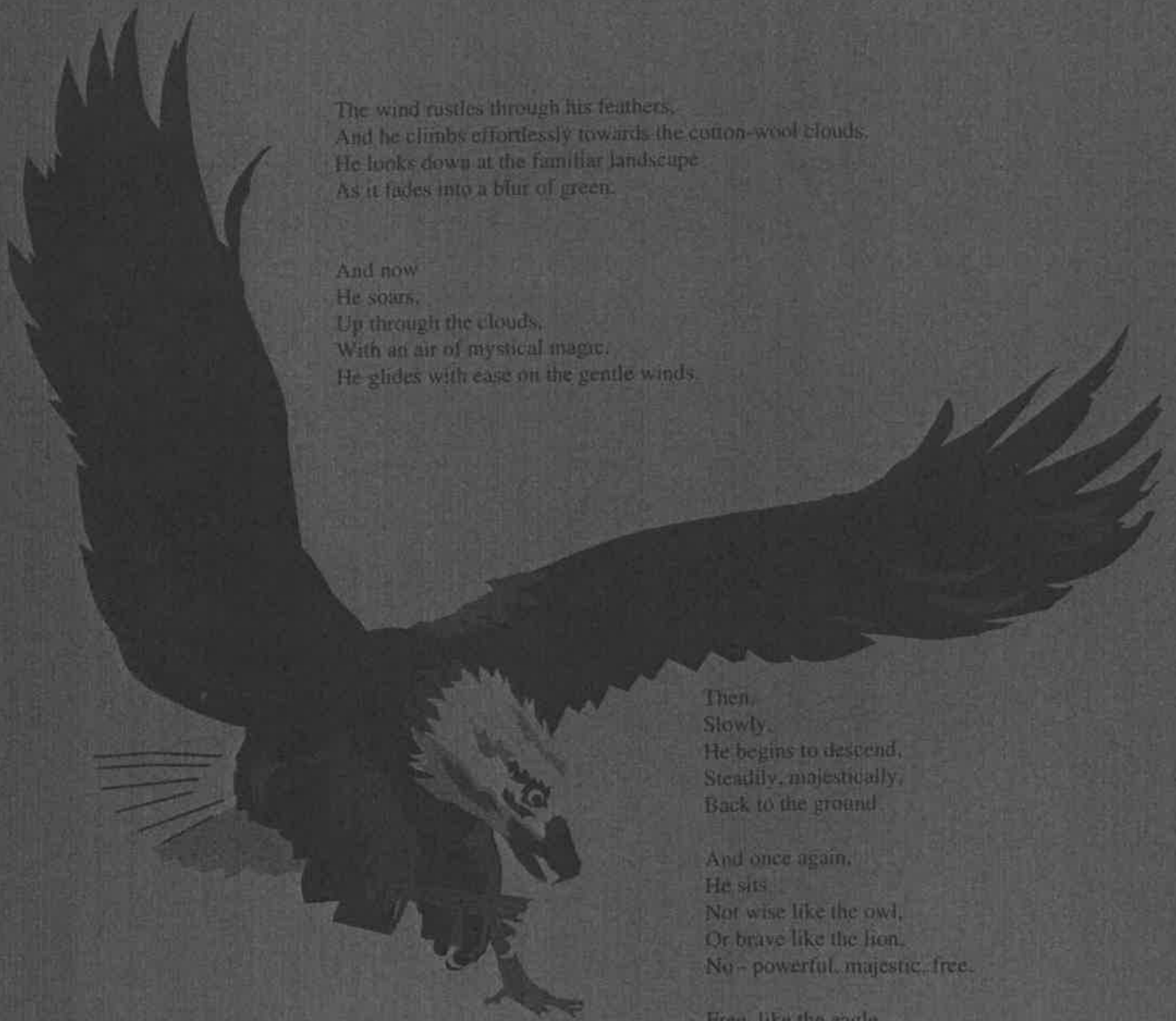
And now
He soars,
Up through the clouds,
With an air of mystical magic,
He glides with ease on the gentle winds.

Then,
Slowly,
He begins to descend,
Steadily, majestically,
Back to the ground.

And once again,
He sits
Not wise like the owl,
Or brave like the lion,
No - powerful, majestic, free.

Free, like the eagle.

Michael Strickland, 3Z



THE SPIDER

A strange nobility, proud as a lord,
And yet with night
The dark shadow of death?
Doesn't he stalk?
Why not?
He stalks, doesn't he?
Searching, screeching,
Silently, sly,
Brittle but tough,
Tough but brittle,
They can't prey enough
Eight leg magic,
They move in unison,
Soft as the black of the willow trees,
Soft as the black that the man now sees,
Clicking, clapping,
Climbing with claws,
The chatter seems to crack some case.
But why?
Of course,
The white spirals may fall.

Moving again,
Clicking, climbing
The rope is fixed
But what can it be?
A safety net for the poor old soul?
Think not, my tiny, helpless friend,
For now I know
The trap is set.
The night blends in.
The buzz is viewed.
Three eyes stare:
Glasslike,
Unbroken by warmth,
Cold is the way in which his glare
Frightens,
The warmth
Now here,
The hot sticky breath,
The meat and the flesh,
Stagnant yet pungent,
Living
What can they be?
What may they be?
What will they be?
The jaws now thrash,
They hunt, they view, they open wide.
Eight leg magic
They move in unison,
Delicate in approach
They are tittering now,
The leaves on the trees
The birds and the bees,
But who sees the murderer.

The grim reaper of death,
The undertaker, who is
Bounding, tightening, securing
White in a bundle of threads?
For the coffin is ready,
The burial awaits.
The buzz is trapped,
Stored away,
Bound in a bundle of threads.

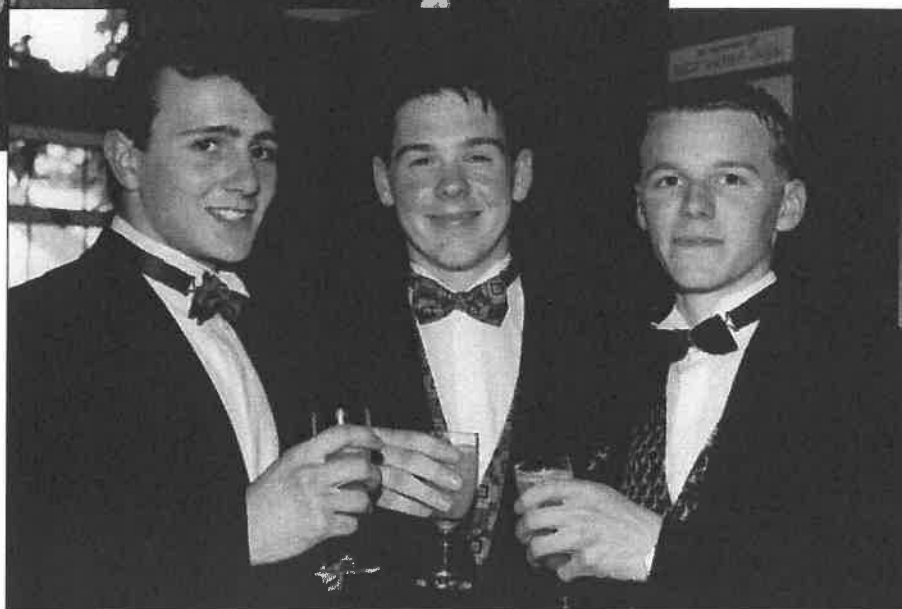
But still the dark, the death and the dim
Are ravished,
Ill,
With discontent
Bound in himself,
Caught in his web,
Trapped in himself,
Unable to repent.
He himself may
Like his ways,
Or maybe not?
How do we know?

But why should we blame,
The man of the house?
Or even,
Why should we care?



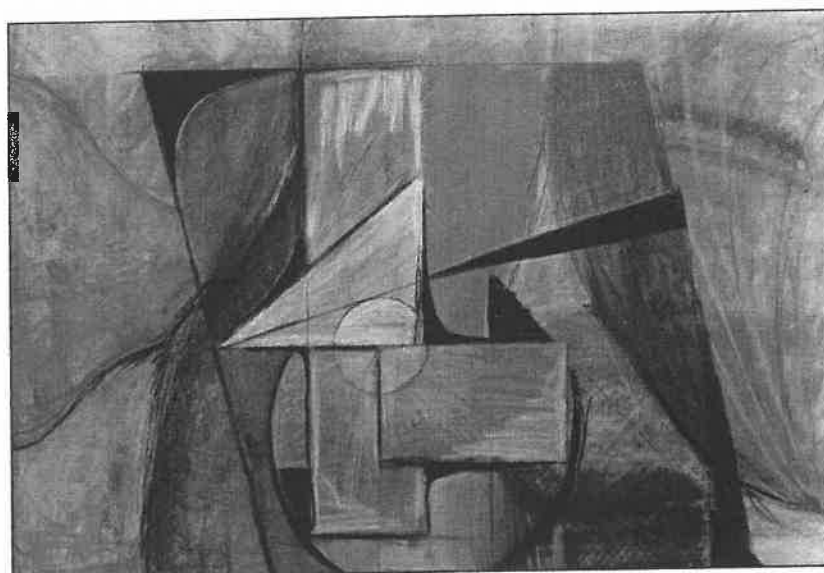
Benjamin Hale, 32

SIXTH FORM LEAVERS BALL



Photographs courtesy of
Barry Friar, Photographer

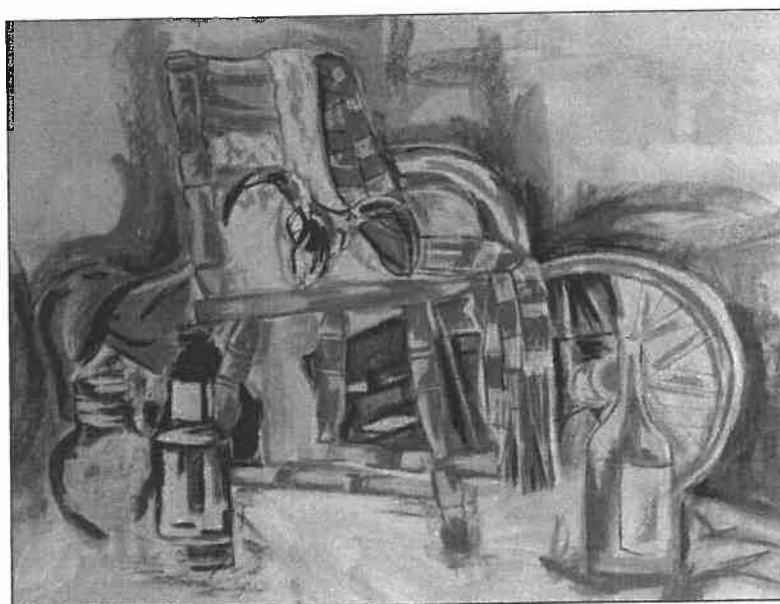
SENIOR ART WORK



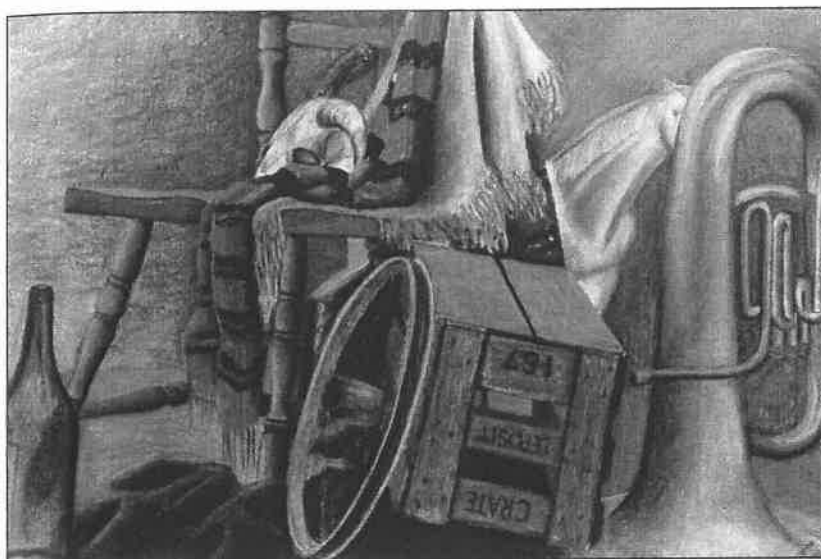
R. Chester



P. James



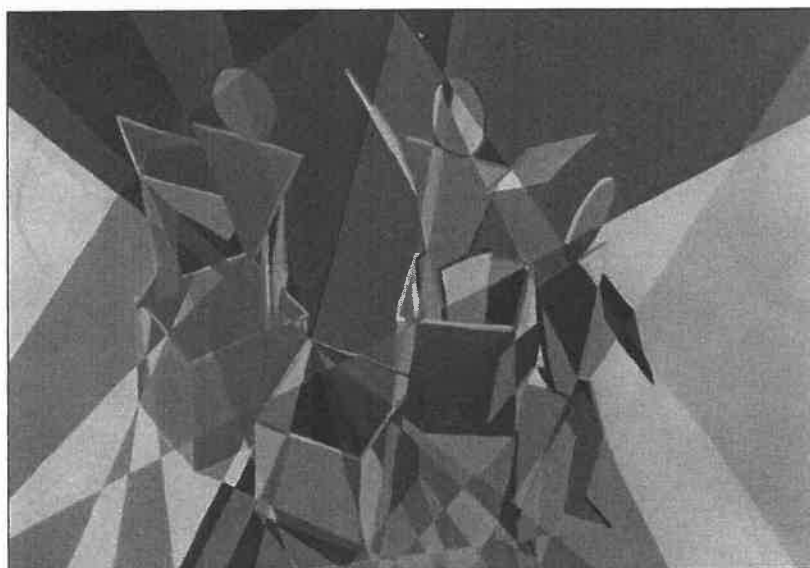
D. Nand



B. Bancroft



C. Scott



V. Ratcliffe



J. Wareing

SPORTING SUCCESSES



Alex Sanderson representing
England against Wales at
Twickenham



Junior School U11 Hockey
team – North of England
Champions

APRIL SHOWERS

Jessica opened the door with a heavy sigh of relief. Finally, her homework was finished! She could smell the fresh, clean air after being cooped up inside for so long on such a glorious April afternoon. All she needed now was a long walk to clear her head.

Logging across the drive, gravel crunching beneath her trainers, she called to her dog, Sandy. Sandy, a roly poly golden labrador given to Jessica on her eleventh birthday, ambled out of his kennel, his leash in his mouth. He was obviously hoping to see some rabbits for which he had an inexplicable passion. As Jessica bent down to clip the lead onto his collar, a gust of wind ruffled her short hair annoyingly.



Once out on the public footpath across the common, Sandy almost dragged Jessica towards a small wood off the side of the path. The wood seemed thick and the trees almost blocked out the sky, but Jessica was encouraged by a gleam of dappled sunlight shining through the branches of a horse chestnut tree and the sight of a sharply meandering track through the trees.

She strode boldly into the wood, Sandy now trotting obediently at her heel. Last autumn's half decomposed leaves crackled dully under her feet. She looked at the variety of trees around her, mainly horse chestnuts, but with a few elms and birches. The new buds had only just begun to push their bright heads out of the bare branches of the towering trees but the floor was a carpet of uneven greens. The leaves gave way to moss covered ground which was spongy from last night's heavy rainfall. At intervals clumps of daffodils were nodding their graceful heads in the breeze.

Presently, Jessica entered a shaded clearing surrounded by elm trees with blue tits singing in the branches. There was a small pond lying stagnant in the centre of the glade. Its surface was covered by algae and an empty beer can seemed out of place floating aimlessly around the water.

Looping Sandy's lead around a low branch, Jessica gazed around. At least an hour had passed since she had left the house and the hazy sunshine was beginning to fade. The soft breeze caressed her cheek like a softly stroking hand. Glancing at Sandy, she saw that he had fallen asleep, which was not surprising after all the exercise.

She sank down on a twisted spider's web of roots protruding oddly from the soil, leaning her head against the tree trunk. The rough, lichen-covered bark rubbed against her scalp. Tiny insects buzzed in front of her face and she idly swatted them away. It seemed as if the dim sunlight was trying to send her to sleep, and she was so very tired!

"Ow!" Jessica woke with a jolt and a sharp exclamation as her head hit the hard ground. Slowly she opened her eyes and the full force of the setting sun hit her in the face. She surveyed her position through half closed eyes, realising that she had slipped down the slightly sloping bank in her sleep. Her trainers were very close to the water which was shimmering through a misty red and orange sheen in the sunset.

Jessica struggled up to a sitting position and, running her hand through her short blonde hair, was not surprised to find fragments of lichen and bark tangled in it. She suddenly felt very cold. The day was growing older and there was a sharp chill in the wind. How long had she slept? A sharply aching feeling in her stomach reminded her that it must be dinner time at least!

Rising, she pulled her denim jacket more tightly around herself. The sky was beginning to darken. She must get home soon or she would lose her way in the woods. Feeling for Sandy's lead on the branch, she hurriedly snatched it up, but there was no dog on the end! Where was Sandy? He must have slipped his lead. Jessica felt the icy sensation of panic wash over her.

She called to him for a few minutes, but he did not respond. Jessica pictured him lying injured or dying on this cold evening. Sinking to the ground she put her head in her hands and began to cry, realising that she was completely lost and would have had to rely upon Sandy to guide her out again. Drawing her knees up to her chin, she huddled against the tree trunk. What had Sandy done to deserve this? It was all her fault!

The trees surrounding the clearing seemed to be closing in on her: their branches stretched to form a gnarled and twisted canopy above her head. Resolutely standing up, Jessica looked around. She had to find her way home, even if Sandy was missing. Thinking she had seen a familiar path, she stumbled down it. Twigs crackled at her feet and she kept tripping over fallen branches, but she was determined to find her way out and hopefully to discover Sandy on the way.

Jessica struggled on for another few minutes. Storm clouds appeared on the darkening horizon, and it began to rain. 'April showers?' thought Jessica. 'No - more like a full blown storm!' Cropping branches reached out to claw at her face and hair. The rough wind chilled her to the bone and her hair was matted to her face by the driving rain.

Suddenly she fell over something and crashed to the ground. Moving her foot she discovered painfully that her ankle was twisted. She ran her hands over the

object that she had tripped over. It was hard and heavy, and when she dragged herself round to face it, she saw that it was a signpost. Peering closely at the faded print, she could see that it gave directions to Samson's Lane, which was very close to her own home. She sighed with relief. How silly she had been! In ten minutes she would be home with a cup of hot chocolate in her hands. With a twinge of conscience she remembered Sandy, but even this did not dampen her lifted spirits. He would probably be back in his kennel chomping 'Pedigree Chum' by now.

Jessica hobbled onwards with renewed vigour and soon the wood opened up onto Samson's Lane. There was a gentle grassy slope leading down to the road. It was pitted with rabbit holes and Jessica had to walk very carefully to avoid trapping her foot.

Suddenly, Sandy bounded towards her and dropped something at her feet. Jessica grimaced distastefully. It was a dead rabbit! 'Sandy can be really disgusting sometimes' thought Jessica, feeling sorry for the rabbit.

She began to walk home, Sandy following at a distance with the rabbit in his mouth. The rain pattering on Jessica's cheeks was becoming less noticeable and soon it faded away to nothing. Glancing back towards the wood, it seem much less menacing than before, just a clump of trees off the side of Samson's Lane.

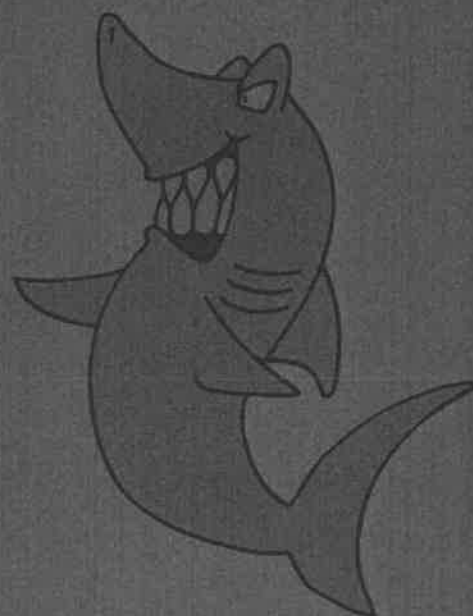
When they reached the front porch Sandy dropped the rabbit on the welcome mat. He shook himself as only dogs can do when they are wet through. Jessica laughed out loud as she experienced a different kind of April Shower!

Felicity Guest, 3X

THE SHARK

She dances through the waters,
Gracefully flowing with the sea's haunting melody.
Her skin slippery, soft as a rose petal,
Gliding effortlessly through the crystal water.
Her razor sharp pearls hidden by a sinister smile.
A predator lurking in a tranquil sea.
Her rhythm is cut short as she snaps at her prey,
Thrashing about in an excited frenzy.
Water swirling, body twisting and turning.
Then all is calm as the satisfied vision slides away.
Beautiful yet deadly.

Tracy Thornley, 3Z

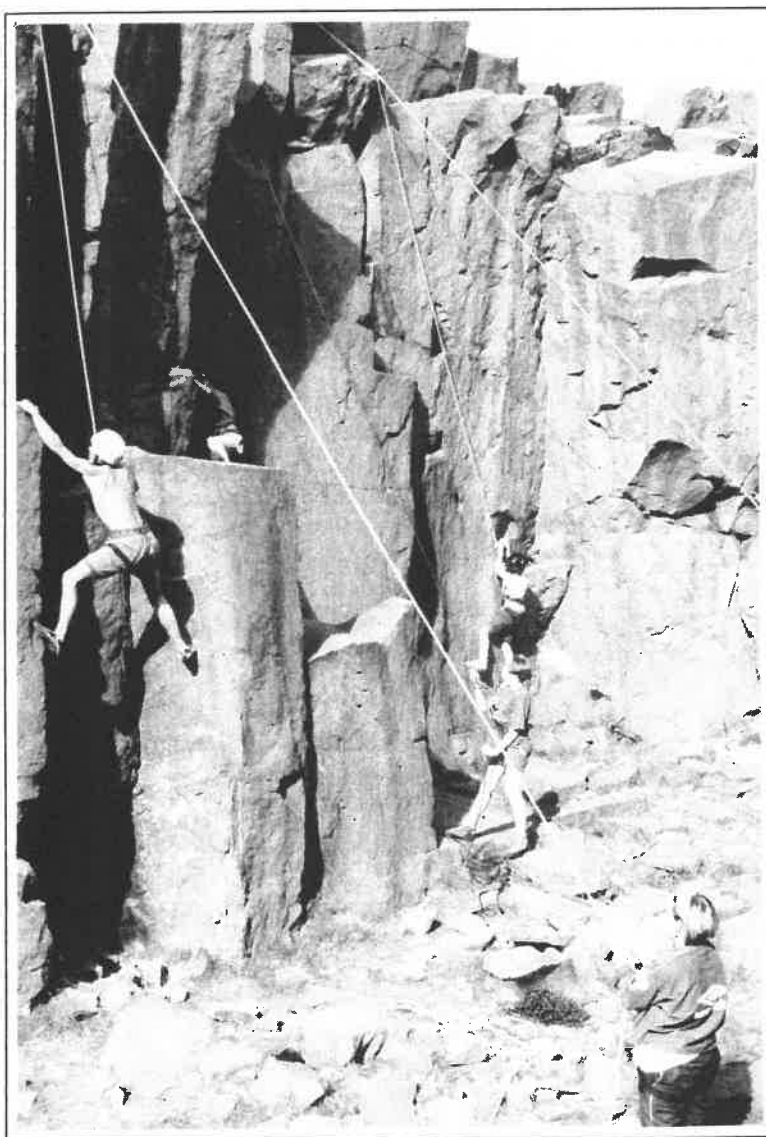




KGS Climbing Club

Twelve months ago, a small group of rock climbers from KGS began meeting and going climbing together. This small, unofficial group slowly grew as others learned of its existence until we became an official school society in January. Since then, under the supervision of Mr. Gaddes, a group of between 6 and 15 pupils have been going rock climbing every week.

The club received a great boost when it entered the North of England Schools' Climbing Competition which was held at the giant indoor climbing wall at Marple near Stockport. The standard was very high, but Stuart Melling, Thomas Johnson and Andrew Cairns showed that they could compete with the best and the school team was placed third in the overall team competition.



But the club is not just for climbers such as these. Most of those who join the club have not climbed at all before, but it is a sport in which a determined approach can lead to rapid progress. Sonia Thomas' early ascent of a 5a route shows great promise, as do the standards already reached by Richard Wilson and Rebecca Kay.

During the summer months, the club goes to places all over Lancashire to go climbing on real rock, and during the winter we go to indoor synthetic climbing walls. We now have the use of a school minibus, which enables us to travel to different places and experience climbing on many different types of rock. Much of our equipment is kindly lent to us by the CCF, as well as by individual members of the club.

We take climbers of all abilities and show them how to climb and how all of the equipment works. Many of us who had never been climbing before, and had our first experience of it with the club, are now members of the society with our own equipment, showing others in turn how to climb. The club has visited many quarries, rock faces and indoor walls in places as diverse as Anglezarck, the Lake District and Lancaster University.

We have decided to raise money in order to purchase and install a climbing wall for the School's use. Many fund raising ideas are currently being considered, with one of them, a "Yomp", having already been undertaken, with many CCF members being sponsored to complete a 50km hike. We are very grateful for the support of the CCF and especially to Mr. Taylor for organising the highly successful 50km *Yomp*.

Mark Devine
Secretary



KGS Sixth Form

When we returned to School in September, the new Sixth Form Centre, boasting the added facilities of a superb study area, toilets, seminar room and spacious office for the Head of Sixth Form, was open.

A well motivated Sixth Form Committee (pooled from both years) has had an understandably hard task in organising and managing resources within the centre and I am very grateful to them. Meetings this year have been well attended and enthusiasm very high.

After settling in, our first major task was to organise a Sixth Form Christmas Party. This aimed to mix the two year groups which traditionally had been separated in the old common room. The party, held in a marquee, was an overwhelming success and probably the first of many to come. A special mention must go to Toni Cairns whose efforts are greatly appreciated and to Mr. & Mrs. J. Whewell who hosted our party with initial apprehension but great contentment afterwards.

During October, the Sixth Form accepted eager delivery of a "multilingual" Cadbury vending machine, run by myself and Nicolas Bennett, and more recently a Coca Cola drinks machine. Both these complement an exceptional kitchen area and have no doubt increased the morale of the centre and have added to the facilities offered. These strive together with other features such as computer aided university selection means in the Seminar room to make the centre even more self-contained, and provide a source of funds for future ventures.

The Sixth Form Committee offers students a chance to experience professional business meetings and participate, on behalf of Sixth Formers, in decision making on operations within the centre. Together with the able advice and management of the Head of Sixth Form, Mr. A.R. Long, facilities offered by KGS to Sixth Formers must be among the highest in the area and make KGS an excellent choice for future 'A'-Level students.

E. Oldfield

President of Sixth Form Committee 95/96

KGS Ornithologists

This year has proved itself the most memorable so far for KGO, revisiting old haunts and venturing to exciting new destinations. The year began significantly with our first trip to Bridlington Bay and an RSPB offshore *Shearwater Cruise*. A stiff north east breeze turned the voyage into a roller coaster with the odd rediscovered lunch but those who could stay upright were rewarded with fine views of *black tern*, *great skua*, *sooty shearwater* and a fine *pomarine skua* with resplendent 'spoons'. After this splendid start to the year we returned to Martin Mere, Crossens Marsh and a new venue - Mere Sands Wood, where the birdwatchers were rewarded with an aerial display from a hungry *merlin* and naturalists were delighted with close views of a *red squirrel* (sadly disappearing from the area) in the car park.

The New Year began with our customary visit to Hest Bank on a phenomenal Spring tide which saw a raft of scaup just off the promenade at Morecambe and several negligent locals having to wade ashore across the treacherous saltmarsh as they were quickly cut off. One of our most exciting ventures was a late February weekend near Caerlaverock on the Solway Coast, home to vast numbers of *whooper swans* and *barnacle geese*. Whilst these were indeed impressive, nothing surpassed the excellent sightings of hen harriers and the stunning close views of a *short-eared owl* and a *peregrine* which perched beside the hide for over forty minutes. The landscape here is indeed wild and beautiful.

A late Summer heralded, perhaps, our most exciting term with three fieldtrips planned. To national delight, the Riggindale *eagles* hatched their first chick for three years, a few days after we had visited the eyrie on another fantastic sunny day in early May and whilst we failed to glimpse the vagrant *purple heron* at Leighton Moss, the club saw its first pied *flycatcher* in the oakwoods of Mardale which was an acceptable substitute.

Within the month we were on our Annual Expedition to the Hebridean Isle of Mull. Half-term was not noted for its balmy weather but this proved no inhibition. As is typical of the West Highland coast, we experienced all seasons in the week with locals claiming that some days were just like Christmas Day! However, we ventured to remote Coll on a stunning Bank Holiday Monday with crystal clear views of Skye, Rhum and Tiree and although almost washed out on two other days, we had excellent views of *great northern diver*, *red throated diver* and *sea eagles* along with a host of Highland regulars - notably *buzzards*. The highlight of the trip had to be the day spent on Staffa, Lunga and Iona: Staffa for its formidable Fingal's Cave; Lunga for its 'hands on' *puffins*, *guillemots*, *shags* and *razorbills*.

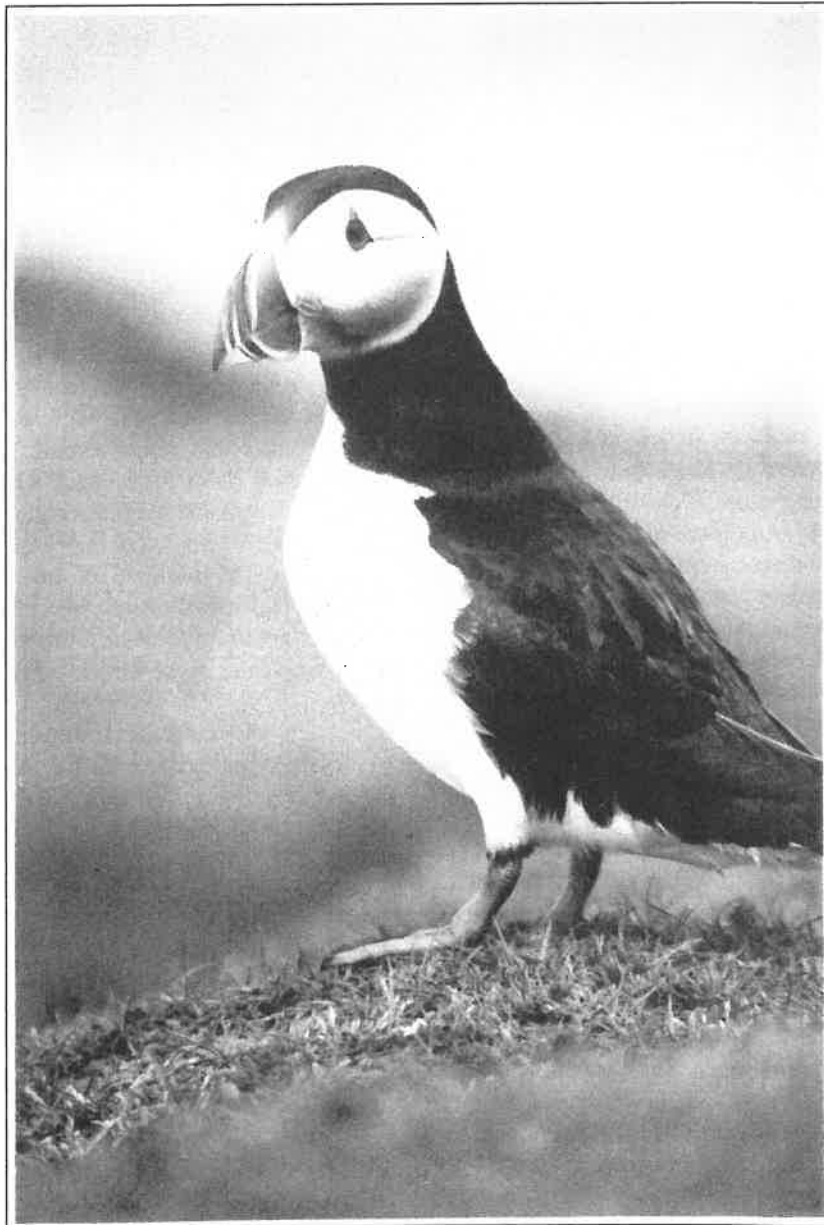
and Iona for its elusive but exciting *corncrake* which had to be stalked with all the patient finesse of an Attenborough. This was a true 'expedition', characterised by an exhausted crew who crashed out on bunk, bus or beach and who were prepared, in gale or squall, to wade through eight rivers to be rewarded with stunning views of Britain's rarest and largest bird of prey - oh yes, even birdwatching is for bravehearts.

So to our final fieldtrip to Bempton Cliffs with its myriad of seabirds and most spectacular *gannetry* which we watched vertiginously from above and then below on the RSPB Puffin Cruise which took us within a few feet of the towering chalk cliffs. This has been a splendid year and highly memorable for those privileged to participate. There is no need to be an armchair naturalist with all this on the doorstep!

KGS Ski Society

With the growing interest in skiing and the increased popularity in the school ski trip, it was decided to try to form a Skiing Society. After an inaugural meeting, we ventured forth to Ski Rossendale, one of the longest dry ski slopes in the country and a successful day was had by all. Even Wizzer had mastered the art of turning by the end of the session. It is hoped to repeat this type of activity early next term and possibly hold more meetings so we would be eligible for a GSC grant which would supplement the cost of visits.

A closer venue may be the dry slope at Pendle Hill which would make an evening trip possible. Meetings will be open to all: we may hold slide or video presentations at lunch-times, so KGS Ski Society could soon be on the piste.



**1995-96 Inter House Competitions**

Junior Academic Trophy	Kirkham
Music	Kirkham
Debating	Fylde
Drama	Preston
Chess	Kirkham
Shooting	Preston
Swimming	Kirkham
Hockey	Junior: Fylde
	Senior: Fylde
Netball	Junior: Preston
	Senior: Fylde
Rounders	Junior: Kirkham
Tennis	Junior: Preston
	Intermediate: Preston
	Senior: Kirkham

Rugby	Junior: Fylde
	Intermediate: Kirkham
	Senior: School
Cricket	Junior: Fylde
	Senior: Fylde
Cross Country	Junior Boys: Preston
	Junior Girls: Kirkham
	Intermediate Boys: Kirkham
	Intermediate Girls: Preston
	Senior Boys: Preston
	Senior Girls: Preston
Athletics	Preston
Interhouse Cup	Preston

Fylde House

House Master: Mr. I. Scott

House Captains: M. Yeung / N. McKay

In the Autumn term we scored a convincing win over Kirkham House in the semi-final of the debating competition. Thanks must go to Edward Oldfield and Nicholas Bennett for their hard work. Further success came in the senior netball competition, when we beat Preston in a close semi-final and then Kirkham in a very exciting final. Sadly, our efforts in the house swimming and shooting left us trailing other houses.

The Spring term was short but busy, with various competitions taking place. The first event was the music competition. We came second to Kirkham in this, being beaten only by their sheer volume of auditions entered. However, we came out on top in the finals, when Haidee MacGregor and Andrew Hills both scored very highly, with Haidee winning the competition with her performance. Much credit must go to Becky Rhodes who took up the challenge of organising this event.

Next was the house play reading competition. We scored an excellent 105 points out of 110, but unfortunately Preston House pipped us by one point. Many thanks must go to Sarah Whewell and Rachel Chester for organising our entry into this event and the cast who starred in it.

We had mixed success in the sports competitions this term. In the rugby sevens, a superb performance from our junior team won us the junior sevens title. Likewise, an excellent performance from our junior girls enabled us to beat Preston in the hockey final and come second in the netball competition.

Our senior girls played Preston in the senior hockey final, and came out victorious, with the winning goal being scored by Gill Harrison.

The debate final took place towards the end of term against Preston. Nicholas Bennett and Edward Oldfield not only managed to beat Preston with their well researched and structured arguments, but also managed to provide some light-hearted entertainment.

The summer term started with a disappointing result for Fylde in the athletics. However, the cricket competition was a big success, with Fylde winning both the junior and senior events. Thanks to Peter Whittle and Paul Scott for helping with the organisation in the junior event and playing very well in the senior event.

In junior and intermediate tennis, we let ourselves down, losing to Kirkham in the semi-finals in both events. We went some way to redeeming ourselves in the senior event where we were runners-up.

I would like to finish by thanking Mr. Scott for his help and advice, all the members of the House who competed or helped organise events, and all the members of staff in Fylde House.

M. Yeung

Preston House

House Master: Mr. A. Trenhaile
House Captains: R. Blackburn / P. Allen

The year started on a winning note with Andrew Cairns and the shooting team winning convincingly. Later in the term, the swimming competition saw a creditable second place. Thanks must go to Louise Collinge for her motivation and organisation.

In the girls' events, there was much enthusiasm and determination, which helped a senior hockey team reach the final and with a very admirable performance they lost in a very close match to a strong Fylde side. The junior hockey team were equally unlucky. Gemma Swift and her team held a strong Fylde side to a draw in the final only to be defeated by those dreaded penalty flicks. A week later revenge was sweet, when the junior netball team took on Fylde in the final and returned victorious. Well done to Claudine Beaver who held the team together brilliantly.

The boys events, however, were not as successful. Although the junior boys came second in the rugby competition, the intermediate and senior boys had to settle for third.

On a better note, our success in the cross country was maintained this year, with wins in the junior boys, intermediate girls, senior girls and senior boys. Individual winners of the events were Warren Marginson in the junior boys, Claire Stockdale in the junior girls, Ruth Blackburn was the winner of the senior girls and Stuart Melling of the senior boys.

For me, the highlight of the year was the sight of the athletics cup adorned with blue ribbons for the fourth year running. Individual mentions must go to winners of the victor and victrix ludorum trophies, of which Preston won four out of the available six. Warren Marginson broke several records on the way to the junior boys' trophy. Claire Stockdale convincingly won the junior girls' trophy. The senior girls' victrix was shared between two Preston members - Tupele Dorgu and Ruth Blackburn. Keith Quigley won the boys' trophy.

Louise Mulhearn must be congratulated on the organisation of the house play reading, in which she and others provided a stunning performance to win the competition. Our debating team of Liz Horn and Tupele Dorgu reached the final. In the chess competition, we came a creditable second. Special mention must go to Damien Atkinson for both his organisation and playing skills. In the music competition we came third. Thanks must go to Paul Allen for organising the difficult event and Nicholas Hopton and Tupele Dorgu for outstanding performances in the final.

This year has seen Preston winning events and achieving several high placings in every area of the competitions. These results are not only due to the natural talent but also to the enthusiasm of the younger members, the commitment and the hard work of those in the senior end of the house and the organisation done by many sixth formers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Paul Allen for all his hard work and Mr. Trenhaile for his time and constant support. I would also like to thank all who have competed in and helped organise the various events. Your support was very much appreciated in what has been a very successful year for Preston House.

R. Blackburn

Kirkham House

House Master: Mr. A. Baines
House Captains: B. Hughes / N. Greensmith

The year started with the House shooting, in which Kirkham came second. Following this was the house debate where Kirkham House proposed that 'Vegetarianism is absurd'. Unfortunately, we lost on the casting vote. Thanks to Michelle Carter and Nick Middleton who argued their case well nevertheless. In the senior netball, Kirkham won the semi against School, but lost the final to a strong Fylde team. The final event for the Autumn term was the House swimming, which Kirkham won comfortably.

The Spring term began with a defeat in the junior house hockey on penalty flicks. Next was the senior cross country in which both the boys and girls came second. The major event for the Spring term, and a Kirkham house 'forte', was the house music. With 61 entries, 31 more than any other house, the result was never in doubt. Nine of those entries progressed to the final. We must thank Felicity Guest and Philip Fairhurst for their superb performances in the final and the efficient organisers Michelle Carter and Esther Parkinson. The intermediate boys' cross country brought Kirkham House another first place. Thanks to David Rees and Philip Hendy who obtained first and second place respectively. In the senior rugby 7's, we achieved a creditable second place. The intermediates went one better and won the competition, whereas the juniors came third. Following this was the junior house cross country, where the girls came first and the boys came second. Fylde beat us in the senior house hockey, but the spring term ended happily for Kirkham House when we won the chess competition.

House athletics dominated most of the summer term, and we achieved a superb second place behind a very strong Preston team. Special mention must be made

of Richard Wilson, who won the intermediate Victor Ludorum. The senior tennis followed and brought yet another resounding victory for Kirkham House. Our junior cricket team was unfortunately beaten by Fylde in the final. Captain Adam Watts, however, produced two superb performances. Success, however, came to our rounders team with a fine performance. The final event of the year saw both our junior and intermediate tennis teams win through to their respective finals, but both were beaten by Preston.

Our thanks to the retiring house captains, Bryn Hughes and Nicola Greensmith, and all the organisers of all the house events. We would also like to thank all the house staff for their support and encouragement, especially our House Master, Mr. Baines. We hope our recent success continues well into next year and beyond.

R. Eastham
P. Reeves

School House

House Master: Mr. P. B. Smith
House Captains: J. Allcock / D. Wilson

Before reviewing the events of the past year, I would like to point out once again that the results of each competition have most certainly reflected the strong team spirit ever present in the House. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the Sixth Form organisers, who, together with Mr. Smith, have provided the motivation behind many excellent performances.

The autumn term saw School House members competing in the shooting, senior netball and junior hockey, being placed fourth, third and third respectively. Kim Peake, Annabel Fowden and Annie Wire all deserve a special mention. In the Swimming Gala, Michelle Harrison was first in both the Butterfly and Individual Medley and Pat Sanderson first in the freestyle.

In the Music Festival, Sam Smith, Gareth Jones and Annabel Fowden performed at a high level and in the House debate, Dylan Wilson and Amy Preston were excellent in both content and presentation.

Simon Yeung organised the chess team once again and gained a worthy second place, as did the intermediate rugby seven's team who came so close to defeating Kirkham and winning overall. Richard Wire (captain), Andy Blackley, Ringo Wu and Lester Short were outstanding.

The senior sevens proved very worthy winners and so they should, with one full international, three North of England and two county players in the side. Watch out - it could be even better next year!

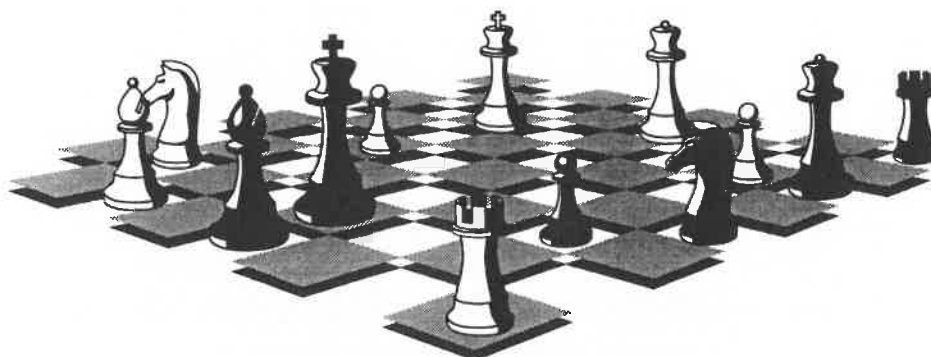
The summer term began with a third place overall in the athletics. Individual winners included Rebecca Kay, Kim Peake, Annabel Fowden, Liam White, Laura Ford, Rachel McGlary, and team captain Mark Ledsham.

The junior cricket team were third, following an excellent display by Simon Dixon (captain), Andrew Sharrock and Danny Gee. The senior team, ably captained by Dylan Wilson, were second, Chris Jones and Pat Sanderson being top scorers. School House were third in the senior tennis. The rounders team, ably led by Kim Peake, finished a close second to Kirkham in the final, having already beaten Preston House quite convincingly.

Simon Dixon took charge of the junior and intermediate tennis teams, but once again we were beaten into third place in both competitions by very strong opposition from Preston.

Well done to all House members who took part, and let's hope for a more successful year in 96/97.

J. Allcock



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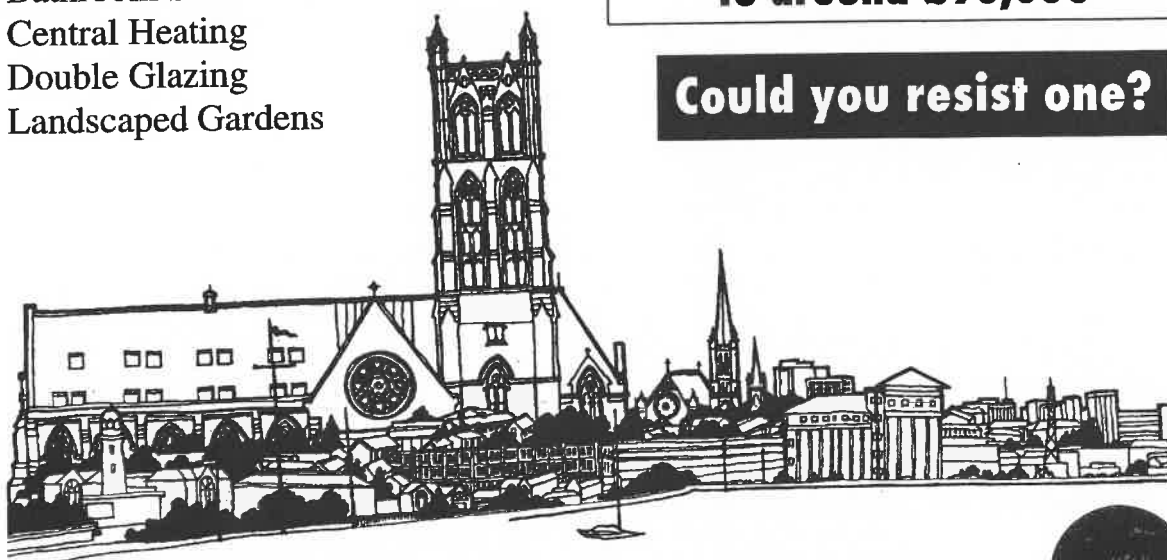
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Rugby

1st XV

P:15 W:11 L:4 D:0 F:327 A:106

For several years the season 1995-96 was viewed with trepidation, as it was expected that the team would be exceptionally young, being based on Lower Sixth Formers and Fifth Years. Consequently, the side took longer to settle than usual and it was only in November that the team started to form an identity and play as a cohesive unit.

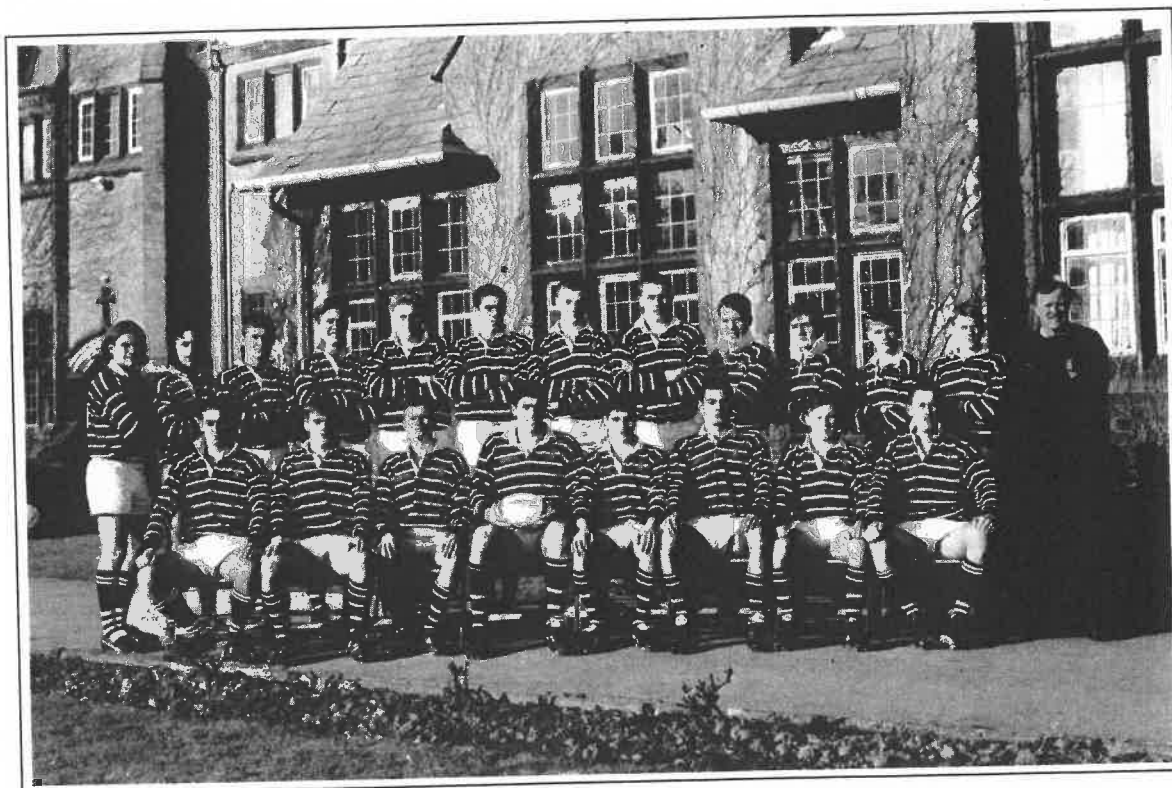
Three games were lost early in the season and, although the opposition was good, KGS lacked concentration under pressure and the ability to finish off scoring opportunities. Nevertheless, the raw potential of the side was evident. I feel the turning point of the season came with the away victory against Lancaster R.G.S, always a powerful side. In this game the team played with determination and self control for the first time and although the match was very close, the players could see for themselves the benefits of increased self discipline and determination allied to individual and team skills.

The only remaining defeat between October 16th and the end of the season was against King's, Macclesfield. KGS gave one of its best performances in many ways, but threw away many points and missed an opportunity.

The season was ended prematurely by the return of wintry conditions when the matches against Hutton G.S. and Arnold were cancelled. Nevertheless, the final match was an outstanding win at Stonyhurst College, for which the team was featured in *"Rugby World"*. KGS pulled off an excellent win with a try by Ben Bancroft on the stroke of full time. Ben captained his year side through many difficult years in the junior age groups with great fortitude and for him to end his school rugby career on such a high note was a fitting climax. Others who had soldiered on with similar determination and who played in the match were Dylan Wilson and Alex Beaumont.

The scrum was expected to be suspect, but the conversion of Deri Hughes to prop was a great success and I feel he was desperately unlucky not to be selected for the North. Jonathan Carpenter and Mark Ledsham who played for the North Under 16 last season developed as the season progressed, which meant the scrum was more than a match for most sides. The line-out achieved more than anticipated, with Andrew Kelso being one of the most improved players. At times the pack rucked and mauled well, but I hope the pack will be more consistently dynamic next year. The back row possessed much talent, with Patrick Sanderson being prominent, Alex Sanderson developing in leaps and bounds, Chris Jones showing he has potential, while Ben Bancroft was a fine ball winner on the ground.

The 1st XV



The three-quarters developed into a very efficient unit, defending well and getting over the gain line in attack, but I hope they will be more clinical in finishing next season. Dylan Wilson was a decision maker at scrum half, but Richard Tomlinson showed promise when deputising. Chris Holbrook showed potential at fly half, while Alex Beaumont was rock steady in attack and defence in the centre. Philip Law has shown his usual strength on the wing, Robert Porteous showed his potential at centre, wing or full back, while Keith Quigley showed exciting running skills and kicked well in his first year in the team. Hamish Gawith and Renata Matthews from Wairarapa College fitted into the side excellently and were a credit to their school in every way.

The outstanding individual achievement was by Alex Sanderson who played for England under 16 group v Wales at Twickenham in front of 20,000 spectators. He was selected as pack leader and vice captain and had an outstanding performance in a 15-3 victory. At the time of writing he has been selected to play against Portugal. His elder brother, Patrick, played for the North, which is a fine achievement, although he was disappointed, quite naturally, at not being selected for England again.

I wish to thank captain Patrick Sanderson for his unflagging enthusiasm and dominant leadership, vice-captain Dylan Wilson for his enthusiasm and astute leadership of the backs and Ben Davies for his organisation as rugby club secretary.

Next season will see many players returning. I hope the lessons learned this season are not forgotten and that next season starts off where this one left off.

Honours

England 16 Group	A. Sanderson
North 18 Group	P.H. Sanderson
North 16 Group	A. Sanderson
Lancashire 18 Group	C.D. Holbrook
	C.M. Jones
	M.S. Ledsham
	R. Porteous
	P.H. Sanderson
Lancashire 17 Group	J.D. Carpenter
Tour to South Africa	M.S. Ledsham
	P.H. Sanderson
Lancashire 16 Group	D.G. Hughes
	M.J. Roberts
	A. Sanderson

Colours

Full Colours	P.H. Sanderson
	A. Sanderson
	D.M. Wilson
Half Colours	A. Beaumont
	B. Bancroft
	J.D. Carpenter
	D.G. Hughes
	C.M. Jones
	M.S. Ledsham
	R. Porteous
	K. Quigley
	A. Kelso

B. Gornall



2nd XV

P:13 W:6 D:1 L:6 F:209 A:214

It is pleasing to report another improvement in the fortunes of the second team. At times the team played some superb rugby, with the forwards supporting each other and making the ball available early, while the backs handled the ball slickly and ran with pace. However, in the same game, it was equally likely that none of the above would happen and the team would play mediocre rugby. The classic example of this was probably at Cowley, where, having conceded three early tries, the team fought back to get within five points of the opposition before conceding several more tries. It also happened against King Edward's, but this time the good outweighed the mediocre and a pleasing victory was secured, thanks to two excellent tries from deep in our own half.

Undoubtedly the best seventy minutes of rugby of the whole season was played against King's Macclesfield. It was a day when everyone was switched on and the victory was emphatic. Few teams would have lived with the second fifteen on that day.

For excitement the games against Rossall and Manchester would take some beating. We twice led Rossall by ten points, with Jonny Hutchings somehow managing to run seventy five metres to score an interception try before Rossall pulled the deficit back and snatched victory in the last minute. Against Manchester, the game flowed from end to end and any result was possible right up to the final whistle. In the end a fourteen all draw was probably the right result.

The last game of the season will not only be remembered for the strength of the opposition, but also for the 'tackle' Ben Davies put in on Stonyhurst's South African debutant.

The tries were shared amongst fifteen players, with the individual highlights being Alex Sanderson's four at Penrith and Paul James' hat-trick against King's Macclesfield. Philip Reeves held the kicking responsibilities until his injury in the victory at Cheadle Hulme, where he dropped a goal with what turned out to be a fractured ankle. James Gee took over the kicking duties for the rest of the season and just pipped Philip to the leading points scoring position, thanks to two conversions in the penultimate match against Manchester.

R. Browning



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Under 15 XV

P:21 W:16 L:5 D:0 F:505 A:249

The U15 XV have had an outstanding season. Numerous teams learned to their cost that it is unwise to underestimate a back row that consists of Rees, Blackley and Wu. If, on rare occasions, the opposition managed to penetrate the back row, then Wilson and Hill would hunt their prey with ferocity. Their reliability and effectiveness in defence is immeasurable. The half backs of Johnson, Worsley and Wire performed admirably. They were instrumental in linking up the back division. Worsley and Wire displayed great vision. They are both talented. I would like to make a special mention of Tom Johnson and Richard Mason, the scrum half and hooker. Mason was born to be a hooker! His determination, tenacity and aggression in the scrum and around the field of play were quite extraordinary. Johnson has turned out to be an exceptional No. 9. His vision and communication helped us to succeed in many matches.

The first fixture against Morecambe H.S. was won by over 50 points. Cowley was the big test. We won a highly charged game 16-12, with outstanding performances from Perfetti and Mathews, two unsung heroes who never once let the side down.

We went away to Ermysteads and won 20-12 against a good side and then the following Saturday thrashed King Edward VII 27-8. The team was truly magnificent that day. I was impressed with Hanney and Redmayne. They were very much stalwarts of the team.

Our defeat against Wirral G.S. is one that will stay in my memory for a long time. After eighteen minutes we were 17 points ahead, but the side then became complacent - perhaps over-confident. We lost 24-17, which brought us right back down to earth.

After Wirral, we went on to put 60 points against Rossall and 72 against Kirkbie Kendal. We were back in the fast lane. We travelled to Manchester G.S. I was apprehensive, after all Manchester had beaten us in the Daily Mail Cup comfortably. But we were gaining in confidence and stature. We won 28-25. But what really made my day was the fact that Stewart was beginning to display his true potential. He took the Manchester defence apart with his pulsating runs.

In March we went on tour to Newcastle. It was a tour which was enjoyed by all. We beat Newcastle R.G.S. comfortably on Saturday, but lost to King's School, Tynemouth on Sunday. Ross Melling had an exceptional game against King's School. Every

The U15 XV

successful side has quality in depth. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Brownlow, Houseman, Meloy, Miles, Jones x2, White x2, for they have all played their part and have been instrumental in the team's success.

The final game of the season was perhaps the most memorable one, against Arnold at home. We won 12-5. The team was truly magnificent in every department. The front 5 fought like the Welsh Guards at Rourke's Drift. The half backs played as though they had 50 years' experience and Liam White scored an outstanding try. What a game to finish off the season.

Barry Edgar deserves much praise for all his time, effort and patience in helping me coach the boys. David Rees, the Captain, has been a great ambassador both on and off the field of play. I would like to take this opportunity to wish them all every success in their quest for 1st XV rugby next season.

R. Taylor

Under 14 'A' XV

P:18 W:12 L:6 F:640 A:191

I have enjoyed coaching a number of junior sides at Kirkham, but none so talented as this team. Early in the year the team relied heavily on the leadership of Adam Watts as well as the running of Philip Hendy, but as the season progressed a platform for attacking back play was being laid up front by the pack leadership of Paul Johnson. When we played and defeated Wirral G.S., we were playing a fifteen man game, the front row of Paul Johnson, Roger Anderton and John Boyle were solid and fearless scrummagers who were all willing to contribute in loose play. William Roberts and Lester Short developed into excellent back row forwards.

We continued to progress with good wins over Cheadle Hulme, St. Edward's, Liverpool and Rossall, playing attractive and controlled rugby. Although we lost against Lancaster R.G.S., we played with passion and nearly gained a surprise victory. This match proved the defensive ability of the full-back Gareth Rees.

The most impressive victory of the season was gained on tour at Afon Taf High School in South Wales. Players such as James Cross, Richard Redmayne and Sam Wright had developed and rose to the occasion. Eventually a fine 19-7 victory was achieved.

Due to poor weather conditions, the U14's were restricted to only a handful of games after Christmas, but this did include a defeat by Stonyhurst College in a very competitive game and a magnificent 47-5 victory over Arnold School, with Philip Hendy scoring five tries.

The season was memorable for the fine number of wins and for the attitude of the players wanting to improve. At last, Alex Carter, Gareth Eves and John Pearson were achieving what was required and were now realising the benefit of all their hard training. It is important to state that twenty-nine boys represented the U14 'A' team at different times this season, and that the competition for places keeps everyone on their toes.

Finally, I would like to thank all the parents for their support at home games and our sponsors of the season, Lancashire Asphalt Limited.

Under 14 'B' XV

P:4 W:3 L:1

One of the reasons the 'A' XV improved so much is that the 'B' XV have been active this season. Jonathan Peel had led the side with enthusiasm and has been well supported by Johnnie Brannigan, Ryan Appleyard, Andrew Davies, Robin Gemmell and Tom Russell to achieve good victories over Garstang High School and Stonyhurst U14 'B'.

A. E. Trenhaile

Under 13 XV

The under 13 team had a very good start to the season, defeating Morecambe H.S., with Michael Lau scoring four tries. The next three games highlighted the team's defensive weaknesses. This was worked on during the training sessions. A very close game against Lancaster R.G.S. reflected the amount of work the boys had done, especially the forwards, who were ably led by Tom Dawson. The new year saw defeats in tough matches against Manchester G.S. and King's, Macclesfield, but the team showed its potential in two excellent wins against Rossall and Kirkbie Kendal.

The team finished on a high note, with a magnificent win against the previously unbeaten touring side, Two Mile Ash from Milton Keynes. They also reached the final of the local King Edward's Sevens Tournament at Lytham. On the way K.G.S. defeated Hutton G.S., Merchant Taylors' and Warbreck H.S. to finish top of the qualifying group. A magnificent win over King Edward's, Lytham in the semi-final took its toll on the boys and they were narrowly defeated in the final by last year's winners, Stockport G.S.

I would like to thank the team for their enthusiasm and effort throughout this season and to wish them good luck for the future.

Dr. A. Rollins

Under 12 XV

'A' Team - P:17 W:14 D:1 L:2 F:450 A:110

'B' Team - P:9 W:2 D:0 L:7 F:61 A:194

It only took two games lessons and a few more practices to realise that we had an A team to rival any U12 XV ever seen at Kirkham. We have always produced strong and technically good forwards and this year was no exception, but with the added bonus of a back division who had pace, flair, good defence and, most unusual for this age group, could read the game.

By Christmas, the A team had played nine and won nine, scoring over 300 points. Victories were gained over St. Anselm's, Wirral Grammar School, Cheadle Hulme, Lancaster Royal Grammar School (first time by a K.G.S U12 XV), St. Edward's College, King's Macclesfield and Rossall.

The second term began with a win over the undefeated Manchester Grammar School, but the team over the Christmas break seemed to have lost a little of their cohesion and the backs a little of their confidence to play a wide expansive game. This resulted in two defeats, by St. Mary's Hall and King Edward VII.

We have gained victories over Two Mile Ash High School (on tour from Buckinghamshire), Morecambe High School, Hutton Grammar School and

gained a well-deserved draw, seven points each, against Cowley High School. There is no doubt that they were the strongest side that we had played and basically ran us ragged for the first forty minutes. We were never in the game and were very lucky to keep the score down to seven points. But the next fifteen minutes saw the finest display of totally committed 15 man running rugby from a K.G.S. U12 XV I have ever seen. It was dazzling and exciting to watch, as I am sure the supporters' club on the touchline will remember. If only we could play like that for fifty minutes every week!

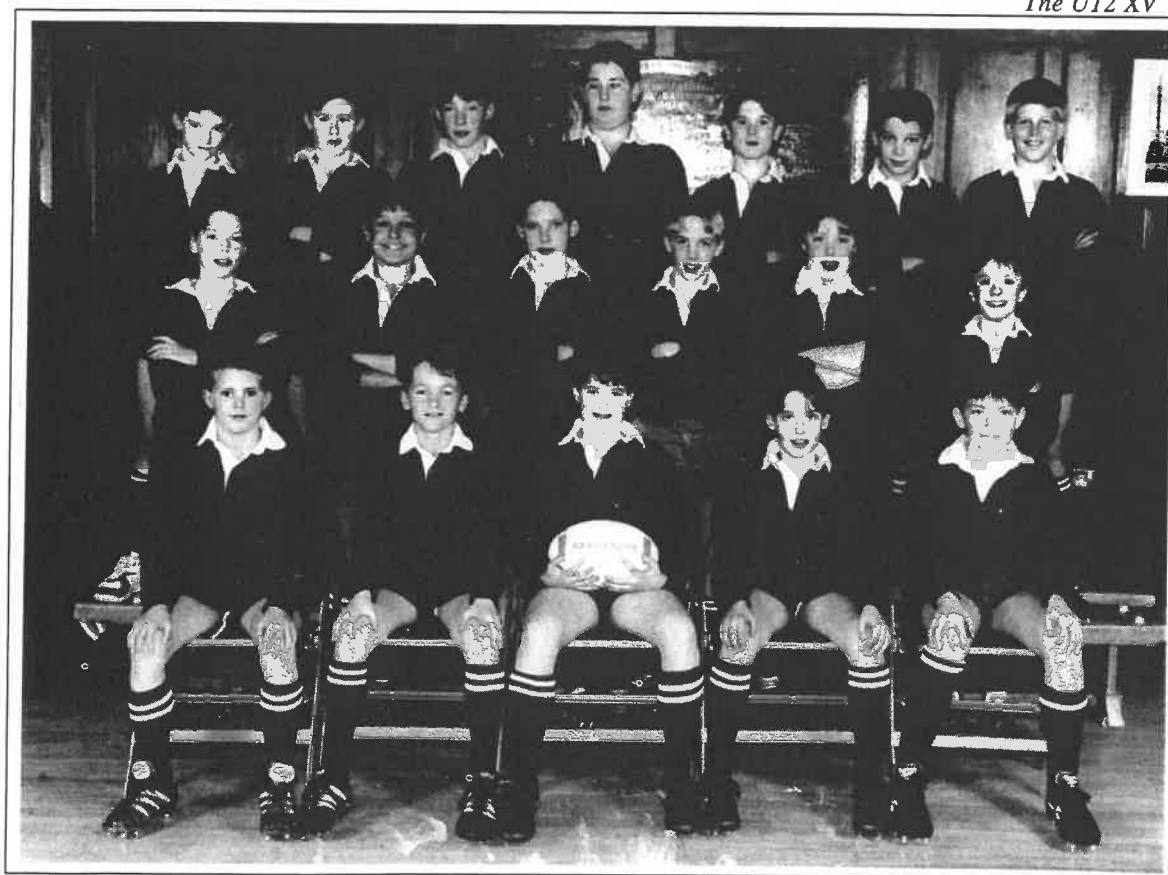
It would perhaps be wrong to single out individuals from the team as the whole side has played so well, but Leeming, Fox and McNamee have been outstanding.

The B team have not fared quite as well, but have been a credit to the school. Newell, Brierley and Peet have developed especially well throughout the season, but Walker is my tip for the future.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. Holland on behalf of all the squad for the endless hours of coaching throughout the year. He is one of the major reasons why we have been so successful. Finally, may I thank our parents for their constant support.

P. Smith

The U12 XV



Rugby Sevens

The sevens teams show great promise and it is hoped that even greater success and enjoyment can be gained next season as players develop their techniques.

Special thanks must be made to Mr. Trenhaile, Mr. Browning and Dr. Rollins. Thanks are warmly expressed to Mr. Lyndsay for his support at the tournaments and to Dr. Hall.

Seniors

The first tournament was the Fylde British Aerospace 7's, which started off well with wins against Giggleswick, Adams G.S. and Hampton G.S., one of the pre-tournament favourites. Sunday performances were inconsistent, with an excellent performance against Widnes College but poor performances against St. Joseph's College, Ipswich and King Edward's Lytham in the quarter finals:

The team performed well at the Oxford 7's to reach the final, beating Trent College and Haberdashers Aske in the semi-final.

A second 7 entered the prestigious Birkenhead 7's and in enjoying themselves did not let the School down.

Under 16's

At the Hereford 7's the team reached the final. It was no disgrace to lose to the very powerful Hawthorne H.S. in the final.

At the Oxford 7's, the team played some magnificent rugby to qualify from their group by beating Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Bristol, King Edward's, Birmingham and the mighty Millfield 19-5. Coopers Coburn were beaten in the quarter but the semi-final was lost narrowly to the eventual winners King Edward's, Camp Hill. Special mention must be given to Keith Quigley for a succession of outstanding performances.

Under 14's

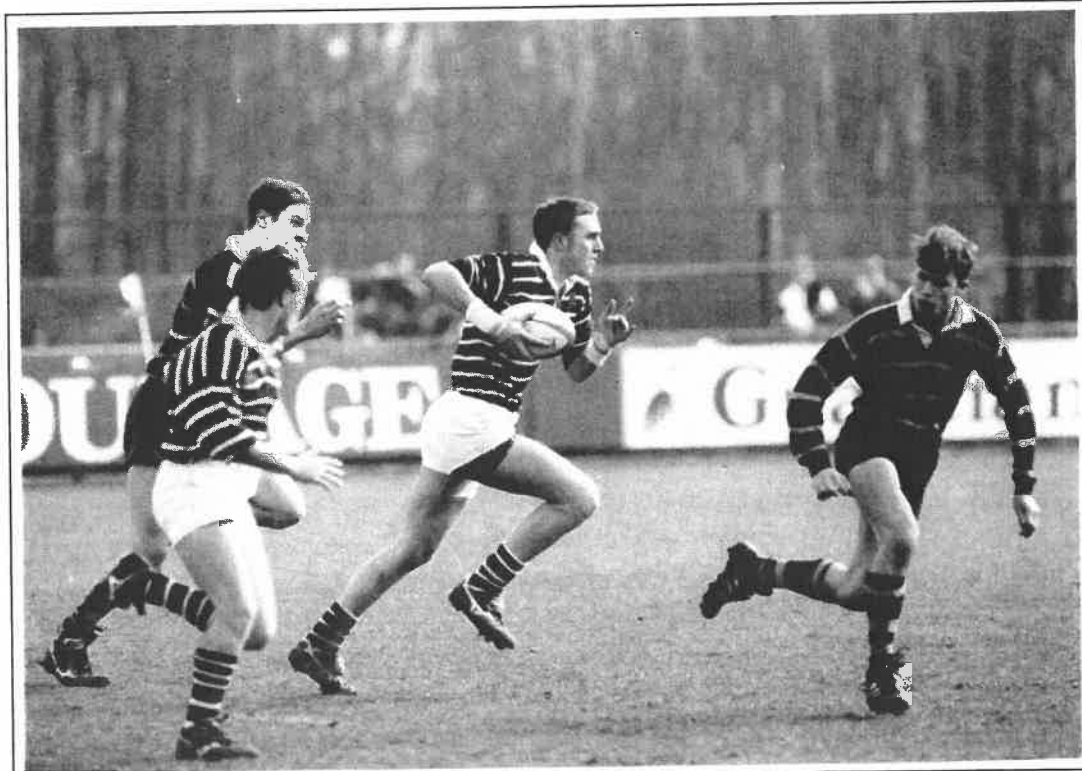
The team reached the quarter finals of the Hereford 7's, beating Bishopston H.S. (Swansea) and Aylesbury School (Hereford). This was a most promising display from a talented squad with only limited training.

Under 13's

The team was the most successful of the local schools, reaching the final of the tournament at King Edward, Lytham, losing a close final to Stockport G.S.

B. Gornall

The Senior Team at the British Aerospace Tournament



Cricket**1st XI**

With the appointment of Bruce Craven, a former student of KGS and a qualified cricket coach, to coach the first eleven and with the nucleus of last year's team returning, the 1996 season was eagerly awaited. Certainly the work done pre-season in the indoor nets indicated that the side was full of potential. However, up to the last fortnight of term only one fixture was completed. This was against an Arnold side playing their seventh game and playing with confidence. To have the last Arnold pair at the wicket, still requiring fifteen runs could be considered an excellent result.

When the second game was finally played, it was the all day game at the small ground of Batley. Batley amassed 244 runs and then reduced KGS to 26 for 4. However, Chris B Jones, firstly with Johnny Reeh in a stand of 90, then with Matthew Roberts and finally with Phillip Watkinson, saw KGS safely to a draw. Jones rode his luck, being dropped four times (the first occasion before he had scored), to reach 94 not out, had Batley declared earlier, he could have been the first KGS batsman for over twenty years to score a century.

The following day against Ormskirk, the boot was on the other foot. The KGS total was built around a fine fifty by Johnny Reeh, but in hindsight, the declaration came too late. Having dismissed eight Ormskirk batsmen, with Matthew Roberts taking 4 for 18, the last two wickets could not be taken. A few more overs might have made all the difference.

The Old Boys, as in the past, proved to be a stumbling block. Having restricted them to 108 in thirty overs thanks to good bowling by Nicholas Hopton (5 for 29), the batsmen lost their way, got themselves out and fell twenty six runs short of the target. Johnny Hutchings top scored with 25. The same nearly happened against the Staff. Chasing a modest score of 97, due mainly to coach Craven, the school struggled. Johnny Reeh was the saviour of the side with his half century.

The season almost finished as it started. The weather caused the cancellation of the Habergham game, but the sandy conditions at Lytham allowed the match against King Edward's to be played after a night and morning of heavy rain. Playing on a Batley sized pitch, with strong winds making the ball difficult to control (according to Chris M Jones!), King Edward's reached a total of 188 for 3 off thirty overs. In reply, Peter Whittle scored the century which had eluded Chris B Jones at Batley, and, ironically, it was Chris B Jones who shared in the match winning partnership. It was a wonderful way to end the season and congratulations should go to Peter Whittle on his outstanding innings.

All in all, it was disappointing to have played less than half the normal number of fixtures. The attitude of the players, despite the disappointments, was in the main very positive, and this was due in no small measure to Bruce Craven's expertise, enthusiasm and guidance. If the players have taken note of his advice, then they will surely become better players individually and will gel together to become a better team next season.

On the field, Johnny Hutchings, despite his limited experience, led the side enthusiastically, was willing to listen and consequently his captaincy improved with every match. Generally, as batsmen, the players applied themselves well and improved towards the end of the season. The notable individual innings have already been mentioned, but others also chipped in. Matthew Roberts was probably the pick of the bowlers, bowling a good line and length after initial problems against Arnold and he could be a force to be reckoned with in the future if he continues to develop as he has done over this season. His attitude has been exemplary. Peter Whittle, Chris M Jones and Nicholas Hopton provided useful support at varying times throughout the season.

Hopefully next season will be a full season. With the majority of players available again, it is to be hoped that the team will finally fulfil its potential.

Awards

Half-colours - Matthew Roberts

R. Browning

Under 15 XI

The season started off with promise and expectation and the U15's displayed their usual high spirits and were once again bubbling with enthusiasm. Under the watchful eye of their specialist coach, Peter Méloy, the team soon began to show their natural talents.

Unfortunately, within five days of the start of the summer term, the clouds opened and stayed opened for almost three weeks. We eventually opened our account against King Edward VII and gave an excellent display of bowling. Unfortunately, fielding was not quite of our usual high standard and the opposition won a closely fought match by 18 runs.

The match of the season, however, had to be against our local rivals, Arnold. A tremendous battle ensued: Kirkham required only two runs to win off the last five balls, but then the middle wicket soared into the air and a great victory was snatched from our hands. Nevertheless, the boys had a tale or two to tell!

R. Taylor

Under 14 XI

The U14's managed to play only 3 games: bad weather forced the cancellation of the rest of the fixtures. KGS bowled and fielded very well at King Edward's, but our batting let us down and we lost the match. Conversely, at Hutton, it was the bowling which was disappointing. Our batsmen made 111 but Hutton overtook it with 3 balls to spare. Our batting at Arnold went to pieces. It was only thanks to T. Russell that a barely respectable score of 71 was achieved, a score which Arnold had little difficulty in beating.

Despite the statistics, this team is talented. Given more games, the results should improve next year.

M. P. Melling

Under 13 XI

The first match at King Edward VII, Lytham was a promising start to the season with a good bowling performance from Nicholas Cross. The next game against Hutton was another defeat and showed the lack of match practice, due to the inclement weather during May. Paul Ashton, the captain, and Andrew Sharrocks were the pick of the batsmen. The local rivals, Arnold, provided stiff opposition. Kirkham showed an improved performance, but lost after a very good overall performance with bat and ball from Richard Wigglesworth.

A. B. Rollins

Under 12 XI

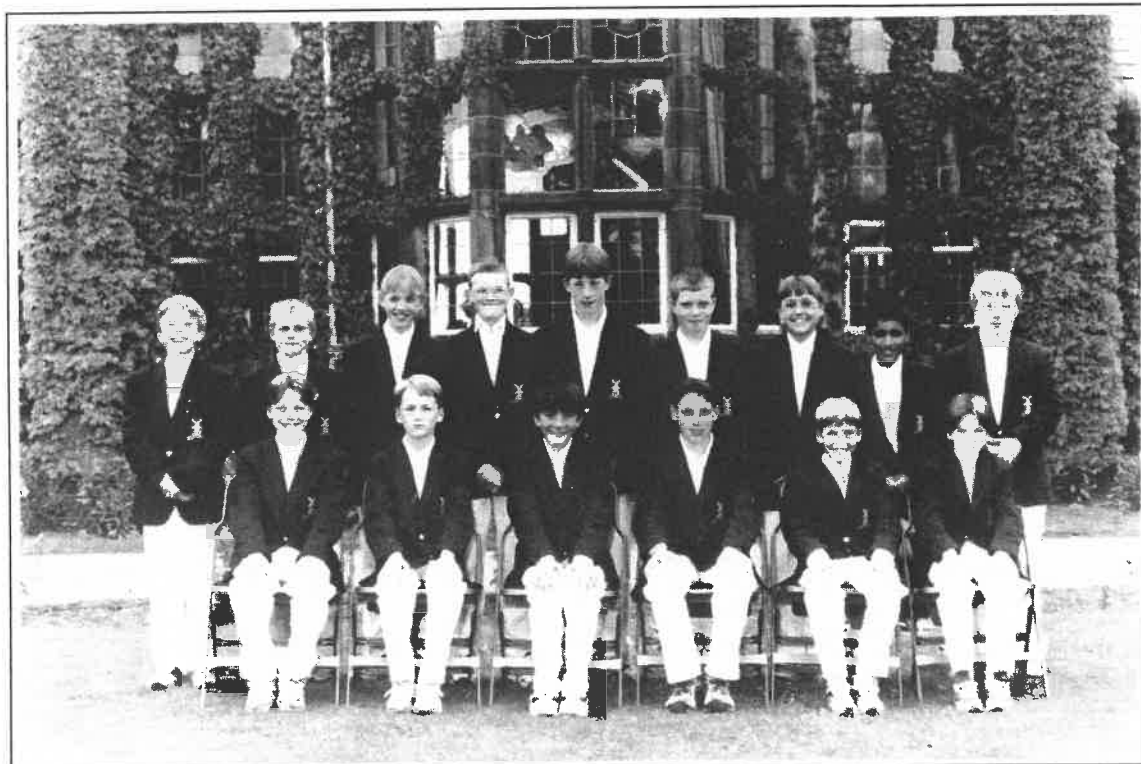
Some encouraging signs in terms of future potential. Adam Parker, the outstanding member of the team, could develop into a very useful cricketer. He is an enterprising left-hand batsman and a promising left-arm fast bowler.

The team lost narrowly to Ripley St. Thomas by one run, but produced an improved performance to defeat Arnold by 22 runs. Against Hutton, KGS scored 88 for 2 (Parker 58 not out), but Hutton made 89 for 8 with two balls left. In the game against King Edward, King Edward's were 78 for 8, but were let off the hook and reached 128 for 9. KGS were 88 all out (Parker 38).

Adam Parker, Paul McNamee, George Leeming and Jonathan Swift all made useful contributions with the bat. Parker, McNamee, Livesey and Smith all had good bowling spells. Luke Newell kept wicket very well. The fielding left a great deal to be desired. This area of the game will need to be much improved next year.

T. J. Bruce

Under 12 XI Cricket team



Athletics

Senior

The senior team was the least experienced for many years with very few athletes selected from the upper sixth form! Although little success was gained from the point of view of victories, the team was enthusiastically led by Mark Ledsham and trained and performed with enthusiasm. Athletes performed increasingly well but only one of the five teams competed against in school fixtures was defeated. I feel the team will perform better in future.

Adam Baines won all races he entered in the 110m hurdles at school level while John Woods threw the javelin well and Mark Ledsham ran well in the 400 metres. Stuart Melling showed promise as a middle distance runner as did James Cuthbertson in the shot.

<u>Senior Schools' Championship 4th</u>		
Adam Baines	100m Hurdles	1st

Under 17

The team possesses many fine athletes and has met with much success in its school career to date. All school matches were won except for a narrow defeat by Ampleforth when a freak series of injuries led to a narrow defeat.

Athletes who performed with distinction were Keith Quigley in the 400 metres, 100 metres hurdles and triple jump, Kevin Turner in the sprints, Deri Hughes in the discus, Chris Lyndsay in the high jump and Ben Hanney in the middle distance events.

<u>Lancashire Championships:</u>		
Deri Hughes	Discus	3rd
Keith Quigley	Triple Jump	4th
Chris Lyndsay	High Jump	4th
Neil Allen	Javelin	7th



Under 16

Without a shadow of a doubt, this was the most improved team. After a reasonable season last year, the fitness gained by the team over the rugby season carried over to the summer to maintain the development of the performers involved. All school matches were won and an excellent performance at the Senior Schools' Championships led to KGS gaining a fine second place.

Richard Wilson performed well in the hurdles, Tom Johnson in the javelin, David Rees in the middle distance events, Simon Matthews in the shot, Richard Wire in the long jump and triple jump, Chris Stewart in the discus, Arren Perfetti in the 1500 metres and Liam White in the high jump.

<u>Lancashire U17 Championships</u>		
David Rees	800 metres	5th

<u>Senior Schools' Championships 2nd</u>		
David Rees	800 metres	1st

Under 15

The team won all its school matches with some excellent performances and narrowly lost the Senior Schools' Championships to a very powerful Lancaster side. Gareth Rees performed very well in the 80 metre hurdles and triple jump, Sam Smith in the sprints and middle distance, William Roberts in the shot, James Cross in the javelin, Philip Hendy in the middle distance events, John Kirby in the high jump and captain Adam Watts in the discus and 400 metres.

<u>Lancashire Championships:</u>		
Adam Watts	Discus	1st
Gareth Rees	80m Hurdles	1st
Philip Hendy	800 metres	4th
John Kirby	High Jump	6th
William Roberts	Shot	7th

<u>Senior Schools' Championships 2nd</u>		
Philip Hendy	1500 metres	1st
Gareth Rees	80m hurdles	1st

Overall U15 & U14 Championships - Joint First

Under 14

The team was unlucky because some school matches were cancelled but the only one staged was won. This was a shame, especially as there are many fine athletes in this year. The talent was evident in the championships as can be seen below. Outstanding was Warren Marginson in the 200 and 400 metres. In the 400 metres he won the Senior Schools' under 16 event - a feat I have not seen before - and won the Lancashire Schools' U15 Championships. He also broke two old school records on Sports' Day. Other notable performances were Michael Lau in the sprints, Graham Dawson in the discus and javelin, Andrew Langley in the middle distance events and Andrew Clark in the high jump.

Lancashire U15 Championships

Warren Marginson	400 metres	1st
Michael Lau	100 metres	5th

Senior Schools' Championships

Warren Marginson	200 metres	1st
Warren Marginson	400 metres	1st
Graham Dawson	Javelin	1st

Under 13

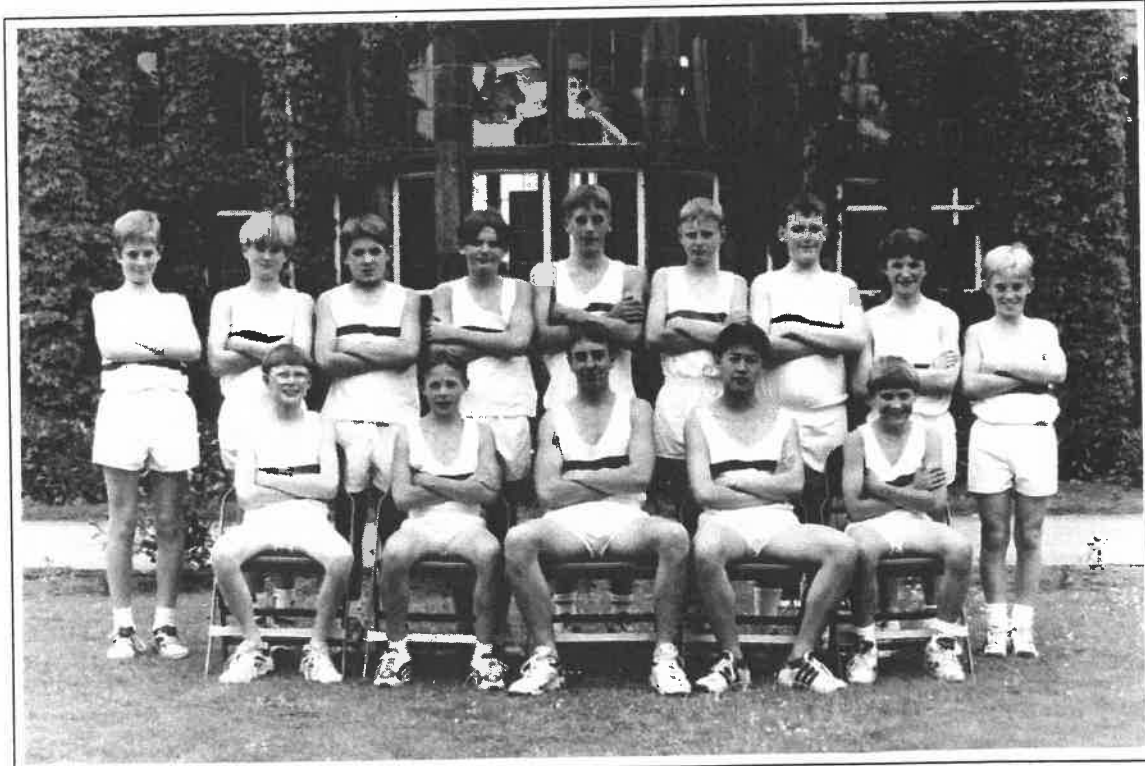
As with the Under 14's, all school matches were cancelled except one which was won. The team shows much talent, with outstanding performances from George Leeming in all events and Adam Parker in the hurdles, triple jump and middle distance events. These two represented the Under 14's when they won the Senior Schools' Championships.

Jonathan Swift performed particularly well in the sprints while others who did well were Paul McNamee, James Holmes, Patrick Lewis, Marshall Hargreaves, Scott Williams, Tom Hookey, Luke Newall, Carl Lions and Gary Livesey.

B. Gornall



Under 14 Athletics Team



Tennis

As the tennis season approached hopes and enthusiasm were high among all the squads. However, 1996, like many years before it, turned into a season of disappointments and what might have been. I fear that until more time can be found for the game within the school, we are condemned to a position of also-rans alongside our closest rivals.

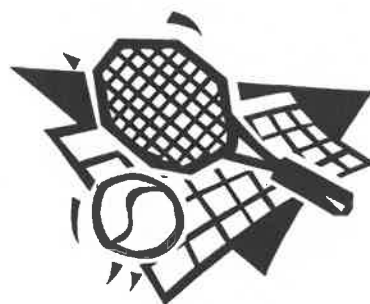
The Seniors started well, although the lack of commitment shown by one or two of the most able tennis players in the school was disappointing. Ben Bancroft and John Woods as a first pair provided sterling service as always, and it was pleasing to see Victoria Ratcliffe guesting for the first team in the absence of a girls' match. Good humour and a never say die attitude - even in the face of mortal wounds - characterised the side.

The Under 15's approached their matches with their usual gusto and enthusiasm and scored good wins against Carr Hill and Lytham St. Annes. Arnold, however, proved too strong for us and so we narrowly missed out on winning the local league. Simon Dixon particularly deserves mention for his successes this year, remaining unbeaten in both singles and doubles matches.

The Under 13's are perhaps the most talented squad, with Richard Wigglesworth and Adam Parker both very talented and stylish players. Others in the team have fought hard and we gained pleasing victories over Lytham St. Annes and Broughton. However, we failed once again against Arnold, despite several close matches and so surrendered the league to them.

I would like to thank all players who have competed in matches this year. We have been close to success many times but have lacked understanding of the significance of particular points and games in matches. This can only be remedied by practice and I would urge all who have been members of our squads this year to play as much tennis as they can so that next summer may be a different story.

I. Rushton



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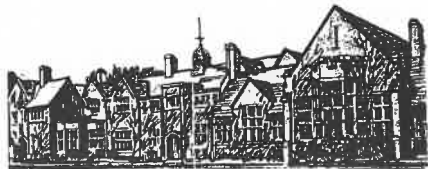
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Hockey

1st XI

P:32 W:28 L:2 D:2

Having lost eight of the previous year's team, it was an outstanding achievement to win 28 of the 32 matches played, drawing 2 and losing 2. We also retained the Lancashire Under 19's trophy for the third year running. Congratulations girls, a true reward for hard work, a good team spirit and at times brilliant individual play. We had overwhelming wins over Ormskirk and Bradford G.S., but equally rewarding were wins over Wakefield G.S. and Queen Mary's.

Our captain, Nicky McKay, led the side by example and treated the spectators to some of the most dazzling skills you could ever wish to see on a hockey pitch. She scored 85 of the 130 goals the team scored and at all times was a credit to Kirkham Grammar School. Vice Captain, Ruth Blackburn, also had an outstanding season at centre half, where she covered every blade of astro-turf and still had time to score 15 goals as well. Both Nicky and Ruth helped Wairarapa College win the New Zealand National Championship and Nicky was even selected to play for the New Zealand schools team, a great achievement.

It is a wonderful feeling for a coach to watch young players develop into outstanding 1st XI players. We were fortunate to have two good goalkeepers in Chloe Scott and Lyndsay Hilton and it was always a difficult decision when we had to leave one of them out of the team. Lisa Backhouse was able to make the sweeper position her own with a string of wholehearted performances and a useful contribution of ten goals from short corners. Our other defenders, Jane Sannegadu, Catherine Williamson and Ayse Ince, gave many outstanding displays and much of the success of our team was due to the solid and reliable performances of this trio. Well done, girls.

Onto the forwards now, where Rebecca Rhodes, Jane Kirby, Annabel Wire and Gillian Harison provided the support for Nicky. Becky provided us with some memorable moments on the right wing. Jane became our youngest player to play regular first team hockey and once she had settled down, she showed us what an outstanding player she will become and scored eight goals as well. Both Gill and Annie had virus problems at important times of the season and it was only in the last few games when Gill was back to full fitness that we saw what an exciting left winger she is. Annie gave the team the reliable influence that is so much needed at left inner and she has the ability to be a greater influence on our team next season.

1st XI Hockey Team



Our thanks also to the New Zealanders, Karen Brooks and Charmaine Robinson and to our younger players Charlotte Bancroft, Dawn Blackburn and Sonia Thomas for filling in so capably whenever they got the opportunity.

A big thank you to our regular supporters Richard Blackburn, Melanie and the 'boy friends'. Finally, our 1st XI play as a team and our coaching staff are also a wonderful team. My sincere thanks to Jane Taylor and Tim Miller for their support in all weathers. Kirkham Grammar School can be very proud of the results we have again achieved.

A. Blackburn

2nd XI

Although this school has an outstanding first team, our second team, with the help of Mr. Miller, also enjoyed a successful season. Most matches were won. Teams like Stockport requested re-matches after being beaten, only to be defeated again. Captain Debbie Nand took the team to many venues and was an excellent example to her younger players and proved a capable leader and motivator.

Thanks must go to all the players for their enthusiasm and dedication. Excellent team spirit was maintained throughout the season. Thanks must also go to Mrs. Taylor for assisting Mr. Miller.

We appreciate the time and energy given by the KGS staff. The future 2nd XI's at KGS need Mr. Miller - may we wish him a speedy recovery and every success for season '96-'97.

M. Martinez

U16 XI

The U16's compete as a team in only two recognised competitions: The U16 BAe National Schools' Championship and the U16 Lancashire President's Cup, although they all play at senior level on a regular basis with our 1st and 2nd XI's.

The county round of the BAe Championship was played in October. Kirkham overcame Clitheroe R.G.S 1-0, Queen Mary 1-0 and drew with Ripley St. Thomas 0-0. As section winners, we met Arnold, but with a depleted team. Despite a spirited performance, we were well beaten 3-0.

We turned our focus to the President's Cup competition - a competition open to any school in

Lancashire and one we have won in recent years. The team over the season dealt with Penwortham Priory in the first round, Westholme in the quarter finals and a very strong Ripley St. Thomas team in the semi-final. We were delighted to reach the cup final for the third time in four years, but disappointed to discover Arnold were our opponents. Arnold beat us 2-0, but not before we showed some K.G.S. pride and passion. The faces of our girls registered real disappointment - I felt for them - it mattered so much. But for the captain, Dawn Blackburn, and her team, there will be another day. They are a talented side who show an energy, enthusiasm and commitment for the game. Chloe Scott, Martine Martinez, Charlotte Bancroft, Kirsten Chatwin and Hannah Newell will form a nucleus of strong players next year and I wish them well. I must not forget to mention Celine Hodge, Rebecca Kay and Helen Scott who as youngsters played their part in the final and Jane Kirby, whose influence was clear.

I wish them all a successful senior career in the coming seasons.

J.E. Taylor

U15 XI

The Under 15 team began the season with the loss of one of their key players to the 1st XI squad. This meant the team had to adapt quickly to a new formation and new positions, which they did extremely well. From this moment onwards, the team went from strength to strength and within the first three weeks they managed to draw with Arnold - who they had always previously lost to.

The team won the majority of their matches with only a couple of silly defeats. After the Christmas break, the team had very few matches, many being cancelled due to bad weather! With little recent game practice, the U15 team went into the Lancashire Tournament and reached the final against Arnold. The team had really put all their effort into previous matches and were beaten in sudden death penalty flicks, which was very unfortunate as they really deserved to win. I think nerves got the better of them!

Overall, the team had an excellent season and all squad members improved and matured throughout. I must say a special thank you to Celine Hodge, who captained the team throughout the season and set an excellent example to all. Also congratulations to the many girls who represented Lancashire, I shall miss them all next year and wish them all the best in the senior squad and in the future.

A. Butterworth

U14 XI

P:21 W:12 L:3 D:6

With the general squad already established from the previous season, the U14 XI began a new era with a new coach and new goals.

The season began with a decisive victory over Kirby Kendal, although we had many faults that needed to be worked on. The team was fairly tentative in their tackles and more work was needed in the passing department. The next few games saw us meet our equals in two successive no score draws with Canon Slade and Ripley St. Thomas.

Intensive training in preparation for the Arnold match was unfortunately lost on us. However, it was not all in vain when we met mighty opposition on foreign shores. Our trip to Holland is an excursion never to be forgotten.

With the experience gained there, we faced more opposition back home and achieved two impressive victories over Blackpool District and Giggleswick, before losing in a disappointing match against Hulme. However, much work on meeting the ball corrected our mistakes and allowed us to achieve a draw with a strong Bradford side. This was followed up with an extremely good win over the formidable Altrincham a few weeks later. Further arduous training sessions led us to superb victories over Rossall, Lancaster and Queen Mary.

On behalf of all the girls in the squad, I would like to thank Miss Russell for her help in our training and Mrs. Glover who has worked very hard to improve our standard of play and to motivate us on some of the colder, rainier, windier and earlier Saturday mornings!

M. Newell (Captain)

U12 XI

The U12 hockey squad have been a joy to look after and coach this term. I was aware that a number of girls, although new to our school, were not new to the game of hockey. Others had no hockey experience at all - but bags of interest and enthusiasm. Together, they have formed a hockey squad of over eighteen keen players - they have all worked hard, been desperate to win a team place and enjoyed great success. For me and Miss Butterworth, our problem has not been to try to motivate them, but how to contain their boundless energy and answer the incessant stream of questions every time we meet.

'A' Team

The girls in this team all deserve a special mention for they have each played their part in the success they have enjoyed this season.

Danielle Hanley has proved a 'find' as a goalkeeper. She has mobility, can read the game and is happy to use both feet, a real prospect. Rachel Sissons has been a really dependable sweeper - talented is the opposition that has beaten her this year. Katie Threlfall, Ellie Cairns and Jane Meloy have been truly effective in midfield. They have the ability to stop any forwards and then deliver excellent passes to our forwards. Jane and Ellie have proved themselves as goal scorers, too!

Vicky Peters, Amy Twambley and Vicky Wilson are emerging as fine prospects for the future. They are so dangerous as forwards because all three of them are desperate to bury the ball in the back of the net. Out and out goal scorers are hard to find, but as they proved at the Arnold Centenary Tournament, goal scoring wins matches. As a team these girls have swept aside every hockey school on our fixture list. Their goal tally runs to well over 60 goals - formidable at this level!

'B' Team

We are indeed fortunate to have a very able 'B' team in the first year. Many of them will find themselves playing in the 'A' team as the girls progress to eleven-a-side. More experienced players like Katie Severns, Nicola Hendy, Jenna Rees, Rosemary Ward and goalkeeper Lucy Swindlehurst have given real stability in the team and scored many goals. They have been comfortably aided and abetted by a group of others who are anxious to prove themselves. They are too numerous to mention, but no less valued for that.

I look forward to the U12's squad continued enthusiasm and development.

J. Taylor



U12's Hockey 'A' Team



Netball**Under 15**

P:21 W:18 L:3 D:0

The U15's have had a very successful four years of netball at Kirkham Grammar School. They have won the Blackpool Schools' Netball League and the Blackpool Schools' Netball Championships for two years running.

Their skills and their understanding of the game have improved considerably and they have played a very high standard of netball indeed.

Their enthusiasm for the game and their eagerness to do well led to them entering the Penwortham Ladies' Netball League. Although they did not win a game against these experienced teams, they certainly improved their speed of play, matured as

players and used this experience to help them retain the Championships.

Their netball career comes to an end after this season, therefore I would like to say very well done and thank you for the time and effort that they have all given over the last four years. They have been an absolute credit to Kirkham Grammar School, a pleasure to coach and I have thoroughly enjoyed every minute. My thanks go to Lucy Russell (Captain), Lucy Peters, Nicola Turner, Anna Tomlinson, Melanie Spinks, Rebecca Kay, Jane Kirby and super sub. Helen Scott.

Finally, I would like to thank the parents who have supported over the last four years. A special thank you must go to Mrs. S. Tomlinson, who has provided transport at a moment's notice on many occasions!

J. Glover

U15 Netball Team



Under 14

P:14 W:11 L:3 D:0

The third year netballers have had a very good season indeed. They have listened carefully and have been eager to improve their standard of play. Their skills and their understanding of the game have improved considerably, and they have learned and developed systems of play which have proved to be very successful.

They are a terrific bunch of girls and I have thoroughly enjoyed coaching them. They have great potential and I look forward to coaching them again next season. Well done, girls!

J. Glover

Under 12

The first year netballers had a very slow start to the season, losing most of the friendly games that they played. However, we battled on and set our sights on the Blackpool Schools' Netball Championships.

On Friday, 1st March we played Arnold. The 'A' team played superbly and won 7-5. The 'B' team started slowly and although they lost, they played very well indeed. At the tournament, the 'A' team won their section convincingly, defeating Fleetwood, Lytham, Carr Hill and Hodgson. In the quarter finals, they defeated St Aidans 9-1. Unfortunately, in the semi-finals we lost to St Bedes 5-4, and were very unlucky to do so.

The 'B' team also won their section, defeating St. Aidan's, Millfield and Greenlands and Fleetwood in the quarter-finals. Again we played very well in the semi-finals, but lost 3-1 to Queen Mary after extra time.

The girls were an absolute credit to Kirkham Grammar School, they played an excellent standard of netball and both myself and Ms. Harris are very proud of them. They have an excellent netballing future ahead of them!

J. Glover

Tennis

Security alert! Figures moving about on the school's astro turf at dawn on Friday mornings. What was going on? Those who spotted us were not hallucinating. Yes, the figures were KGS pupils and PE staff looking lively and being energetic before the school day even began! The "Early Bird" tennis group, as we were called, embarked on an eight week course to improve our understanding and appreciation of the game of tennis under the expert guidance of David Shaw, a local tennis professional and principal coach of the Welsh National Tennis Team. I am sure the parents who brought their daughters to school from far and wide will be pleased to note the course was a great success; we all learned a good deal and enjoyed the sessions.

This short course has been just one of the activities we have undertaken in our endeavour to develop tennis at KGS, and is one we would hope to repeat next year. We have also played far more tennis matches after school and on Saturday mornings and once again actively supported the work of the LTA by entering tennis leagues and hosting three county tennis tournaments. I feel our results have seen a real improvement this year and by producing teams across all age groups we have seen greater pupil participation, interest and enthusiasm for the sport. I am indebted to the female PE staff, Kate Russell and Pauline Walsh for their time and energy and to David Shaw who has broadened our horizons when it comes to mastering the wonderful game of tennis.

Senior Team

P:6 W:3 D:2 L:1

Under the captaincy of Vicky Ratcliffe, the senior team managed to squeeze in six matches at the beginning of the summer term before study leave began. I appreciate that exam pressure is great at this time and I hope the girls enjoyed the opportunity to have a game of tennis and relieve some stress by hitting a ball - to some good effect! Their results do show an improvement on previous years.

Our wins against Lancaster and St. Edward's, Liverpool were convincing; most pleasing were vastly improved results against Arnold and Westholme - we drew with both schools. Thanks, Vicky, for chasing round and keeping the girls informed of their commitments and being a fine example.

U 15 Tennis

P:12 W:8 D:0 L:4

What an improvement this is for a team that lost every match they played last year. Despite a lack of self belief, the girls in this team have made real progress and I am proud of the way they have stuck to their task and responded to my constant urging (some would say 'nagging'). Anna Tomlinson has undoubtedly played a key role in the team's winning performances for she is an able player. In doubles matches she has been ably assisted by Hannah Proffitt who, with a more penetrating serve, could be a match for any opposition. Hannah clearly enjoys the game and should make a fine player. Mentally, Jane Kirby and Rebecca Kay are somewhat frail on court. Flying in the face of any tactical approach, Jane prefers Rebecca to keep her company at the back of the court - she feels lonely otherwise - and Rebecca is totally amazed when her play at the net is effective and wins games. What a challenge for any coach! Whatever their impression, I believe they have made good progress and as two natural games players, I hope they will keep playing next year. Sarah Lumsden and Lucy Preston have a little more faith in their ability. Both girls are stylish players and have worked hard to improve their mobility around the court. Well done to all the team - keep up the good work!

U14 Tennis

P:7 W:6 D:1 L:0

The Under 14's have had a very good season indeed, winning six out of their seven matches. The girls have been eager to improve their standard of play throughout the term. They have listened carefully to all of the coaching advice given and their standard of play has undoubtedly improved.

Congratulations must go to Kym Peake, Vanessa Walker, Annabel Fowden, Martha Newell, Emily Rhodes, Amy Wareing, Alice Green, Michaela Johnson, Sam Cheadle, Hannah Smith and Claudine Beaver for their achievements this season. They have been a pleasure to coach.

J. Glover

U13 Tennis

P:10 W:9 L:1

This term has seen the under 13's succeeding in both the league and local competitions. Overall, the girls have shown a great deal of commitment and enthusiasm throughout the term in a sport which is not their forte. Excellent performances from both Phillippa Leeming and Emma Johnson in all stages of competition, supported by some strong play from Ruth Burns and Naomi Holmes ensured that the team has had nine wins out of their ten matches. Their skills helped them progress to the semi-finals of the league competition and proved that the right attitude can overcome those schools who have a far better tennis record than our own. The other members of the second year squad have also proved to be just as successful in competing against other schools and indicates the level of potential for future years.

U12 Tennis

P:7 W:7

The U12 tennis team has had an excellent season, remaining unbeaten throughout. Although new to tennis at the school this year, the team can boast a talented group of girls. They are proving themselves to be competent players, beating teams such as Queen Mary's and Arnold convincingly. The team's second seeds (Jane Meloy and Rachel Sissons) have played extremely well, without losing a single match, even when against top seeds.

There have been some excellent performances by all pupils and they have conducted themselves in a professional manner throughout - they are a credit to the school. I am sure that next season they will be a team who move from strength to strength, and who will be difficult to beat! Good luck.

J. Taylor





U14 Tennis Team

Athletics

Athletics this term has been secondary to tennis and we have competed in far fewer competitions. Even so, the girls' efforts this term deserve public recognition. They have trained, given their best and have been a credit to Kirkham Grammar School.

Congratulations to our first year girls who turned in an excellent all round team performance to beat our nearest rivals, Arnold, by 16 points. Every girl made her own determined contribution and they thoroughly deserved to lift our first athletics trophy at this level. Individual Fylde Coast Champions are:

Nicola Hendy	800 metres
Victoria Peters	80 metres hurdles
Gemma Swift	100 metres
Katie Severns	
Danielle Hanley	4 x 100m Relay
Katie Threlfall	
Jenna Rees	



Although only three girls made the first position on the rostrum, we had a very pleasing number of girls who earned places in the final of their events; we had seven runners-up and a number of personal bests. The Fylde Coast Championships are extremely competitive - a show piece for school girl athletics, and the Kirkham Grammar School teams were a credit to our school and PE staff.

The results this season are very good indeed, given our small numbers. Great credit should be given to every girl who has been chosen for an athletics match, for not only has she tried her best in competition, she has also conducted herself in the most sportsman-like way.

Results:

Senior Schools' Athletics Championships

U15	1st
U14	2nd

Senior School Champions

Gemma Swift	U15	100 metres
Kim Peake	U15	200 metres & javelin
Ruth Burns	U15	800 metres
Clare Stockdale	U15	1500 metres
Annabel Fowden	U15	High Jump
Victoria Peters	U14	100 metres
Katie Threlfall	U14	200 metres
Victoria Wilson	U14	800 metres
Nicola Hendy	U14	1500 metres

Fylde Coast Track & Field Championships

U17	5th / 15
U15	5th / 15
U14	9th / 15
U13	1st / 15

YOUNG KIRKHAMIAN



1996

HOCKEY

This season has seen the U11 hockey team go from strength to strength. In March we hosted the AJIS Hockey Tournament and there were 20 teams coming from independent schools throughout the North of England.

In the group matches, our girls managed to win all their games comfortably, not conceding a goal, with Fiona Morgan, Sarah Kellet and Yvette Brindle managing to score nine goals between them. In the semi-final against Merchants' we scored a 1-0 victory. The final was against SGJS. There was a tense atmosphere and the match ended in a 0-0 result. This meant KGJS and SGJS were declared the winners, KGJS have now held the trophy for 3 years.

On the 24th March, the girls took part in the North of England Counties final. The competition was very stiff. Mowden Hall represented Northumberland, Bradford Grammar represented Yorkshire, Stockport GJS represented Cheshire and we represented Lancashire. The girls played superbly and became the North of England Champions, which meant they would go through to the National Hockey Finals at Cannock on May 19th.

Competition was fierce, with a high level of skill being required from each member of the team. The captain, Lorna Sissons, who has played magnificently throughout the season, led her team to victory in the first match against Beeston Hall who were representing the East of England. During this match the England selection committee commented on her distribution of the ball and could not believe she was only 9 years old. The second match was against Emscote Lawn School, representing the Midlands. This match was extremely fast, resulting in many shots on goal - Mandy Hill, our goalkeeper, who had managed to concede very few goals this season, played outstandingly. Unfortunately we lost 1-0. The third match was against St. Andrew's School, representing the South, who were the current holders. This game was again fiercely fought. A special mention must be made of Danielle Grundy and Katie Gough who were very determined in their midfield positions, but St. Andrew's managed a breakaway goal, the score resulting in a 1-0 defeat. The final match was against Richard Pate, the west of England champions. This game we won 2-1. Both goals were scored by Sarah Kellett.

The standard of play the girls produced was something that all the staff and parents could be proud of. Third position was a magnificent achievement.

RUGBY

During the autumn term, the U11 and U10 teams had 100% success, beating teams from Rossall, Puis X, Liverpool College, St. Anselm's College and Merchant Taylor's School.

The second half of the season again saw some excellent results, culminating in the AJIS Rugby Tournament at Merchant Taylor's, Crosby. Wins against St. Edward's College (33-7), King's, Chester (21-0), Merchant Taylor's (28-0) and Liverpool College (33-0) meant they qualified for the semi-final, where they beat St. Anselm's 28-0. In the final, they played well to beat St. Mary's, Crosby 21-7. Tournament try scorers were Richard Westerman 7, Stuart Blackburn 6, James Worral 4, John Townsend 2, Jack Ward 2 and James Cooper, Michael Duckworth, Tom Lancashire and Oliver Twambley. It was fitting that every member of the squad scored a try. It was a deserved victorious end to a hard, but highly successful season.



By Hannah Spacey

SWIMMING

In October, a group of U9, U10 and U11 swimmers travelled to QUEGS, Blackburn. There were splendid individual wins for Stephen Johnson in the U10 butterfly, for Meg Duncan in the U11 breaststroke and two wins for Richard Westerman in the U11 butterfly and the individual medley.

Later in the same month, four boys competed in the AJIS Boys Swimming Gala at Bolton School. Stuart Blackburn, Stephen Johnson, James Leeming and Richard Westerman did well to reach their respective finals. James Leeming came first in the U10 freestyle and Richard Westerman won the U11 butterfly in a new record of 17.47 seconds.

NETBALL

The 'A' team have had a mixed season, winning 2 and losing 2 games. In the AJIS tournament held at Stockport Grammar Junior School, the girls performed well in dismal conditions - coming 5th overall out of 22 schools. Hannah Spacey, the captain, has led her team with enthusiasm and determination all season and Danielle, as Vice Captain, scored many goals, shooting particularly well during the course of the tournament.

ATHLETICS

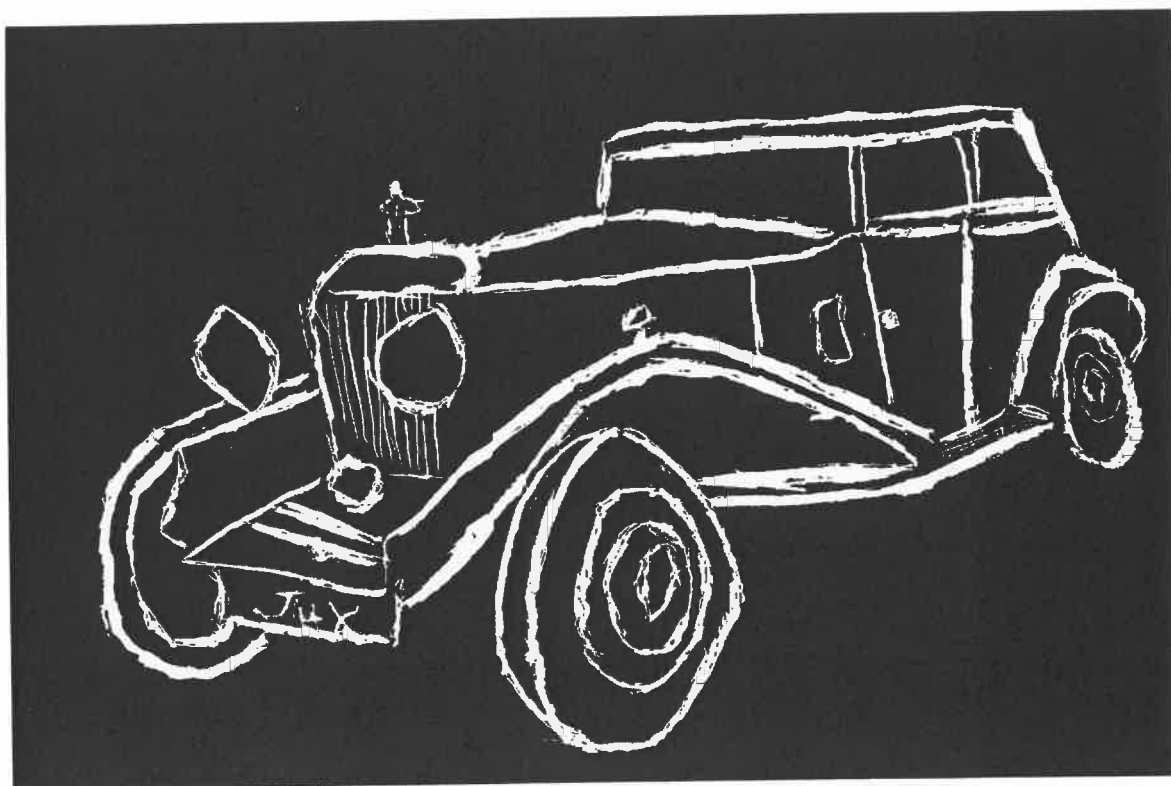
Throughout the summer term, Monday nights have been spent improving track and field skills at the Athletics Club. It has involved up to 40 athletes from J2 to J4 and the level of progress will be tested in the athletics match v The Grange on July 4th.

The athletic capabilities of all infant and junior pupils were demonstrated on both Sports Days. At the Junior Sports Day, the combined elements of competitiveness and sporting behaviour made for a very enjoyable event. Given this, it was not surprising that the final result was very close. Clifton House won from Colborne House by just three points!

Despite the temporary delay of two days, due to indifferent weather, the Infant Sports Day went ahead after the Junior Sports Day. It was pleasing to see young athletes revel in the different challenges posed by the events.

TENNIS

For the first time this year, KGJS entered two individuals in the AJIS Championships at Birkenhead in June. Jack Ward and Stephen Johnson found the competition strong, however they performed with credit considering they were competing against players a year older than they are.



"Vintage Car" by Steven Watkin, J4X

"The Trolls" come to Kirkham!

Preparation for the production began as early as January! Rehearsal plans, music, speech workshops were all organised and information was given out so that people could decide whether to audition or not!

First came the singing audition... who really wanted to sing solo? After lots of singing, speaking and a few drama clubs, the cast was chosen and 58 children were selected to be in the musical. Mrs. Taylor and Mr. Thomas started a Drama Club on Thursdays after school and Wednesdays were spent learning the songs with Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Kirk and also help from Mrs. Knowles.

At Easter, rehearsals 'tripled' and every day there was either a lunch-time rehearsal or an after school practice. There were words and scripts everywhere! Miss Friar and Mrs. Green were busy collecting and sewing costumes. Miss Ashton was busy making props and Mr. Edgar was frantically sorting through millions of tins of paint saying "I'm sure I had a pink yesterday, I need to finish this scenery!". Mr. Milner was organising the microphones and lights ... it was busy, busy, busy!!!

Finally, the dress rehearsal arrived - Monday, 1st July. It had been much easier in the Junior School Hall, but now we were adapting to a proper stage in the Multi-Purpose Hall in the Senior School - could we do it?

And 'go on' it did - Tuesday, 2nd and Wednesday, 3rd July. We were very proud of the tremendous hard work put in by everyone. "The Trolls" was not just a huge success - it was good fun as well!!

The School Ensemble

The school ensemble has played many songs in the last few years. Last Christmas we played 'Christmas Cracker' and for our prize-giving evening this year, we will play 'Last of the Summer Wine' and 'When I'm Sixty Four'.

There are seven people playing the clarinet, five people playing the flute, four playing the violin, eleven people playing the keyboards, two people playing the xylophone, two people playing the glockenspiel, one person playing the percussion instruments, one person playing the drum kit, two people playing the tubular bells, two people playing cornet trumpets and one person playing the saxophone in the ensemble. Altogether that amounts to forty musicians. Our conductress is Mrs. Taylor who plays the piano in practice, but Mrs. Kirk plays when we perform properly.

Police Horses Lancer & Hadrian

On Tuesday, 25th June, police horse Lancer and police horse Hadrian came to our school. Policeman Peter Wilkinson and Policelady Anne Beardsley came with them to show us the work that the horses do. They explained the different parts of the horse's body. They told us how the police horses went to football matches to calm the fans down and to move them out of the way.

They showed us the horses walking, trotting and cantering. It was a very interesting demonstration.

Lloyd Stafford, 12



Horse by Luke Primmer

**SIGHTS AND SOUNDS
OF BONFIRE NIGHT**

On dangerous November the fifth
The sparkling bonfires are lit,
With a snap, crackle and pop the
fireworks go off,
Leaving trails of coughing smoke
On dangerous November the fifth

The fireworks are screaming,
The bonfire is exploding,
And the children laughing,
On dangerous November the fifth

The catherine wheel is turning,
The sparklers are burning,
And the light is fading,
On dangerous November the fifth.

The hotdogs are greasy,
And so are the chips,
The dogs are howling
The cats are meowing,
On dangerous November the fifth.

The bonfire has burned out,
The fireworks have gone,
The children have left,
The hotdog have been sold.

And all this happened on
dangerous November the fifth.

Carl Hodgkinson, J4Y

Halloween is yet to come,
And a great scare for some,
Little witches are having dreams,
Liking to hear a child's screams,
Over and over tales have been told,
When midnight comes, curses hold,
Every halloween ghosts come out,
Even when the night is over, they're still out and about
Never forget about the witches and devils or the curses and their tales.

Katie Gough, J4X

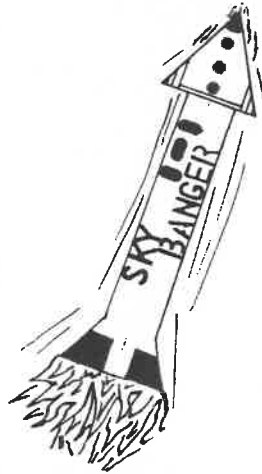
FRIENDS

Friends are helpful,
Reliable and true.
If you're in trouble,
Everyone knows what to do.
Never be horrible,
Do what they say,
So you'll always be friends, every day.

Nick English, J2

Fun is what friends are for,
Running round to knock at my door.
Inviting me to go and play,
Every fine, sunny Saturday.
Never to cry and fall out,
Dancing, laughing all about,
Singing merry songs.

Elizabeth Walker, J2



NOISE

The sound of a door left open to creak,
The noise from a mouse "squeak",
Cars going in a rush,
Listen to the wind go whoosh,
Hear the birds sing and squawk,
In the background hear people talk.

Listen to a person whistle,
The sound the wind making leaves rustle,
The sound of a snake hiss,
Some sounds you couldn't miss.
The sound of someone tutting,
The sound of scissors cutting.

The scream of someone very scared,
The sound of paper being teared.
The sound of a clock ticking round,
The cheers of a football crowd,
The sounds from a hospital where people go for care
Sound, sound is everywhere.

Yvette Brindle, J4X

HALLOWEEN



STORM

Clouds changing from clear
white to coal black.
Rain starts falling like water from
a shower.
The wet rain falling to the
luscious green grass.
Suddenly, flashes of lightning
start appearing in the death like sky.
Then, loud, deafening booming
sounds can be heard.
White flakes appear in the dark sky,
creating a deep velvet carpet.
Then, another flash of lighting comes.
The wind howls like a
wolf with rage.
Still roaring like an engine,
It carries on,
Destroying trees.
The sound of a jet soaring
through the sky.
Slowly, the lightning dies away,
The sound of the thunder fades slowly away.
Snow melts into more rain.
Wind decreases to a slight breeze.
Rain disappears to nowhere.
Sky brightens by the sun.

Daniel Coyle, J4Y

WINDY DAYS

When the wind blows you can fly a kite,
I can see the world beyond,
North, South, East or West.
Diving into the sky.
You trip as you run,
Diving, diving into the sky,
And running across the grass,
You run, run as fast as you can.

Ted Romney, 13

ON RAINY DAYS

On a rainy day
I wear my wellies
in the puddles.
And I go splash
with my brother.

Natalie Kumeta, 11

THE STORM

Lightning arched across the sky, illuminating it in great sheets,
scarring the ground, destroying the trees in a glimpse.
While the wind flew across the sky, howling like a wolf.
Smashing rain into the ground mercilessly, puffing harder and harder at the rain.
Then came the thunder, crashing into the air, almost as if it was a drum
roll, proclaiming the coming of the mighty storm.
Then, the rain came, swooshing across the sky, pattering into the ground
lightly, then, when the howling wind picked up, it splashed, unrelentingly into
the sodden ground.
Then, abruptly, it all stopped. Everything, except the chirping birds, was
silent. The sun came up, and the storm's riot ceased.
Suddenly the black clouds drifted over the sun, and it started again. But
this time it was different.
The snow came down in a huge white blanket. Smooth as silk in some
places, yet crunchy like autumn leaves in others.
It was freezing cold, and also blinding when the sun glinted off it. It was
so firm it looked as though it would never melt.
However, in a few days, the sun would come up, slowly melting the snow
away, leaving no traces of there ever being a storm, but, eventually the thunder
and lighting, the wind and rain, and the snow, will come back.
The storm will return!

Andrew Tomlinson, J4Y

THE SEVEN STAGES OF WOMEN

All the world's a stage,
You live and die.
At first, you're a weakling,
Sucking on a dummy,
Then a school girl, ~
Laughing, playing, dancing,
A student puzzled and scared.
Next walking down the aisle,
Then you have a weakling yourself,
Next you're a boss,
Shouting and sipping coffee,
Then a granny,
Knitting in her chair,
And her hearing has long,
Gone away.

Charlotte Robinson, J3X

THE RAIN FOREST

In the tropics there are places,
Where the trees are very dense.
Every year they're getting smaller,
Felled by people with no sense.
Save the rain forest!

David Roffey, J3Y

Standing in the thick forest,
Look up, listen.
Can you see the monkeys swinging from the trees?
Can you hear the humming birds in the distance?
Touch the beautiful trees,
This is their home,
And has been for millions of years.
How can you destroy the rain forest?

Leanne Sharples, J3Y

MY GRAN

My gran is good at
Cooking hot pot,
Every time we visit her,
That's what we eat.
She never burns food
Or gets into a mood.

My gran is very special.
At the end of her visits,
She always gives us two pounds,
One off her, one off Grandpa.

My gran goes on holiday to Switzerland,
She's been there dozens of times.
When she gets back she always
Sends some Swiss chocolate to my mum.

My gran is very kind,
And never too fussy.

Mandy Hill, J4X



M.M.J.'s

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