

Kirkham Grammar School

Headmaster's Letter to Parents

Summer 2004





This term has been dominated to a large extent by our building programme which has begun on schedule. Needless to say it has necessitated some creativity in retaining access to the remaining Wareing buildings but we are hopeful that upon our return in September it will be well underway and no longer appear like an enlarged meccano construction unit!

The term otherwise has been predominantly dedicated to examinations in this over-burdened assessment culture. All pupils in the senior part of the school have been in the midst of either preparation and revision or undertaking the exams themselves. The days of prolonged summer activities on sunny afternoons have rather changed over recent years. Nonetheless this has been a busy term in every sense of the word and our pupils have managed to participate, as usual, in a broad array of activities. This magazine once again portrays them in a variety of differing pursuits from sport to the artistic, to the adventurous and on to the charitable and community based activities.

Every summer term is tinged with sadness as valued colleagues depart the school. This year sees the retirement of three long serving members of staff whose combined time working at the school totals 76 years! In our Senior Master, Mr Sayer (pictured bottom right with Mrs Walker and Mrs Taylor at the Sixth Form Ball), Kirkham Grammar School has benefited from a man who has committed himself wholeheartedly to the life of the school. His indomitable spirit has proved the match for all eventualities and the review of his contribution to school life reads like a Newsletter in miniature such is its breadth. "Fred" will be sorely missed both by staff and pupils alike but he has our immense gratitude for all his dedication to the school.



Although Mrs Devine has not taught at Kirkham Grammar School for quite so long as Colonel Sayer, her contribution has been nonetheless immense. Both she and Colonel Sayer did much to help me upon my arrival at the school but most of all Mrs Devine has dedicated herself to

her pupils all of whom hold her in the highest regard. Her roles as both a Languages teacher and Head of Lower School were conducted with great professionalism but most of all with a genuine concern for the welfare of those in her care.

Mrs Fletcher (pictured top right) leaves us after some 17 years service to the Mathematics Department. Known as a teacher who is firm but fair, Mrs Fletcher has tutored numerous cohorts of Kirkhamians to success in the world of mathematics. Her role in examinations is one that was particularly onerous and one that she conducted with the dedicated professionalism that was her trademark. We wish her well upon her retirement.



The departure of Mrs Tabb (pictured right middle) will also leave a big gap for although she has not spent the length of time with us as have the other departees, her contribution to school life has nonetheless been felt by so many pupils. Her dedication to the PE department has been there for all to see and under her management the girls have seen the development of netball; unprecedented success on the hockey field and the tennis court alongside a growing breadth of opportunity for all our budding sportswomen. Her ability to administrate the department has laid firm foundations for her successor and Mrs Tabb leaves with the respect and gratitude of us all.

The departure of four colleagues has necessitated a dramatic change in our internal structures and these are detailed below to ensure everyone is fully informed of the new appointments made:

Senior Master	R J Watson
Director of Studies	A R Long
Head of Middle School	M A Whalley
Head of 3rd Year	Mrs B A Cassidy
Head of 2nd Year	S F Duncan
Head of 1st Year	Mrs K O'Flaherty
Housemaster of Fylde House	Mr P Reeves

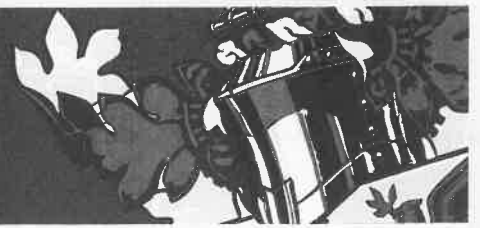
These appointments are largely self explanatory but in the case of Mr Long this is a new position dedicated to the management of monitoring of pupil progress and reporting to parents. Additionally, the appointment of Mr Reeves marks the retirement of Mr Scott as Housemaster for Fylde House. Mr Scott will now have more time to concentrate on his CCF role and leadership of the Geography department.

Not only does the end of year see the departure of a number of staff but also a full group of Upper Sixth pupils. This year's Upper Sixth has contributed an enormous amount to the School and leave with our very best wishes. We hope they will all feel able to visit us in the future and that they settle quickly into their new environment wherever that may be. I thank them all for their contribution to the school.

The year ends therefore with the usual tension surrounding the anticipation of results and the customary in-house activity that one associates with the end of term. The last three weeks of the Summer term become subsumed amongst a heady mixture of reports, exam marking, cricket matches, athletics events, field days, summer balls and a multiplicity of visits. This is so integral a part of this time of year, however, that one relishes the period before one embarks once again on the cycle of school life.



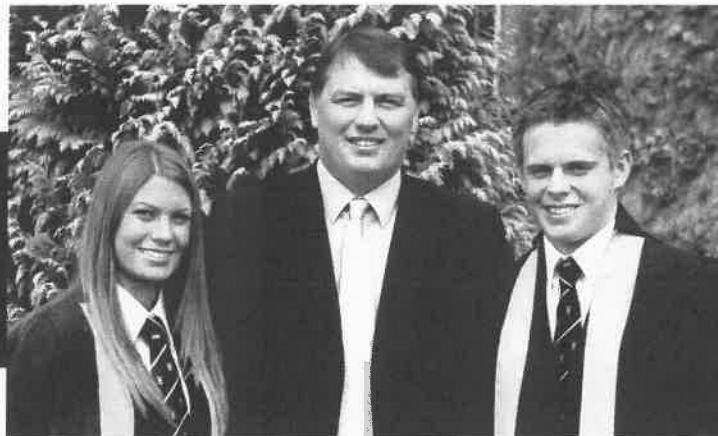
new BUILD



With planning permission granted for Phase I, building commenced during the Easter Holidays. One of the Wareing Buildings, which has served the School so well over recent years, was demolished to make way for the new Science Faculty and Classrooms Development.

Over recent weeks we have seen the steelwork arriving and at one point, when a large crane was situated in the middle of the site, lifting the huge girders and framework into place, some of the students were heard to say, "How will they get the crane out?" The building programme will continue throughout the summer months and if all goes to schedule the new facility will be finished and ready for use at the end of October.

There is still much to do in order to provide our students of today and tomorrow with the best facilities and technology available. Your generosity has helped provide the foundation for us to move on and your continued support, as ever, is greatly appreciated. Our fund raising efforts must continue, not only to provide bricks and mortar, but also to enable us to continue to give the Scholarships and Bursaries that so many of our students enjoy during their years at KGS. If you or your Company wish to make a donation, or sponsor our fund raising efforts in some way, I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you. Please contact me on 01772 684462 or email me at: cs.nicholson@kirkhamgrammar.co.uk



PREFECTS

2004-2005

Captains of School Lucy Martin & Nicholas Long with the Headmaster Mr D. Walker



Luke Dickinson



Rachel Maher



Lucy Martin



Nicholas Long



Kate Denham



Lauren Sanders



Charlotte Berry



Aja Hall



Leanne Bonney



Katie Edgar



Stephen Hatch



Emma Kendall



Daniel Fryer



Andrew Crook



Isobel Morley



Jamie Hill



Marcus Jackson



Sally Rotherham



Mellisa Swain





The major event of the term was the school hosting the Air Training Corps Wing Training Day on 9 May. Almost 500 cadets from all round the North-West competed in target shooting, drill, first-aid and many other events. The school RAF section entered a number of events under the dedicated eye of Flight Sergeant Richard Walker and managed to achieve excellent results in the drill and aircraft recognition competitions. Well done to all involved. The summer field day will once again involve flying at RAF Woodvale near Southport and our summer camp will begin on Sat 3 Jul at RAF Valley, Anglesey.

RAFsection

studentTEACHERS

Our three PGCE students from St Martin's College have left us, having spent the term honing their teaching skills in the Art, English and Geography Departments. Under the expert guidance of their mentors – Mr Gardiner, Mrs O'Flaherty and Mr Scott – they all successfully completed their PGCE year and now embark on their first year of full-time teaching. We were delighted to hear that Miss Kennedy (pictured bottom right - Art) and Miss Nolan (pictured bottom left - English) have accepted jobs in their respective home towns of Aberdeen and Blackburn. We hope that Miss Bennett (Geography) soon finds a suitable first post. As usual, we also played host to a number of PGCE applicants who came here to observe lessons in the History and RS Departments.



ROSEMERE CANCER FOUNDATION

The sun was shining brightly; effort and determination were oozing from all involved, the enjoyment was evidently clear and in the process lots of money was raised for a very important charity.

First off were the walkers; Kirkham Grammar School was represented by a large number of parents, staff and pupils all out to complete the sponsored walk around Moor Park. Three of our intrepid 6th formers, Harriet McNeela, Hayley Sinclair and Katie Marsden, took part tied together and managed the distance as a 4-legged being!

Next off the runners once again Kirkham Grammar School staff, parents and pupils were out in force with over thirty participants having a connection with the school. The Fun Run this year, had been advertised to all local running clubs and was an official 5km distance; there were past Commonwealth Games runners and a woman from Blackburn who was training for the Olympics! So we were not too disappointed with not gaining a top place this year, but we were very impressed by many of our students who took the increased competition in their stride and completed the course in outstanding fashion. Special mention must go to the following:

Max Fulford-Brown	(19.20)	14th
James Fletcher	(21.14)	40th
Alex Sprat	(21.19)	42nd
Benedict Fulford-Brown	(21.38)	45th
James Wigglesworth	(22.41)	58th
David Bradley	(22.51)	60th
Robert Thacker	(23.16)	63rd
Daniel Fryer	(23.39)	69th
Clark Tong	(23.40)	70th
Lee Ryan	(25.38)	87th
Nicholas Carroll	(25.51)	90th
Sam Hopkins on	(26.36)	101st
Andrew Hatch	(26.48)	105th

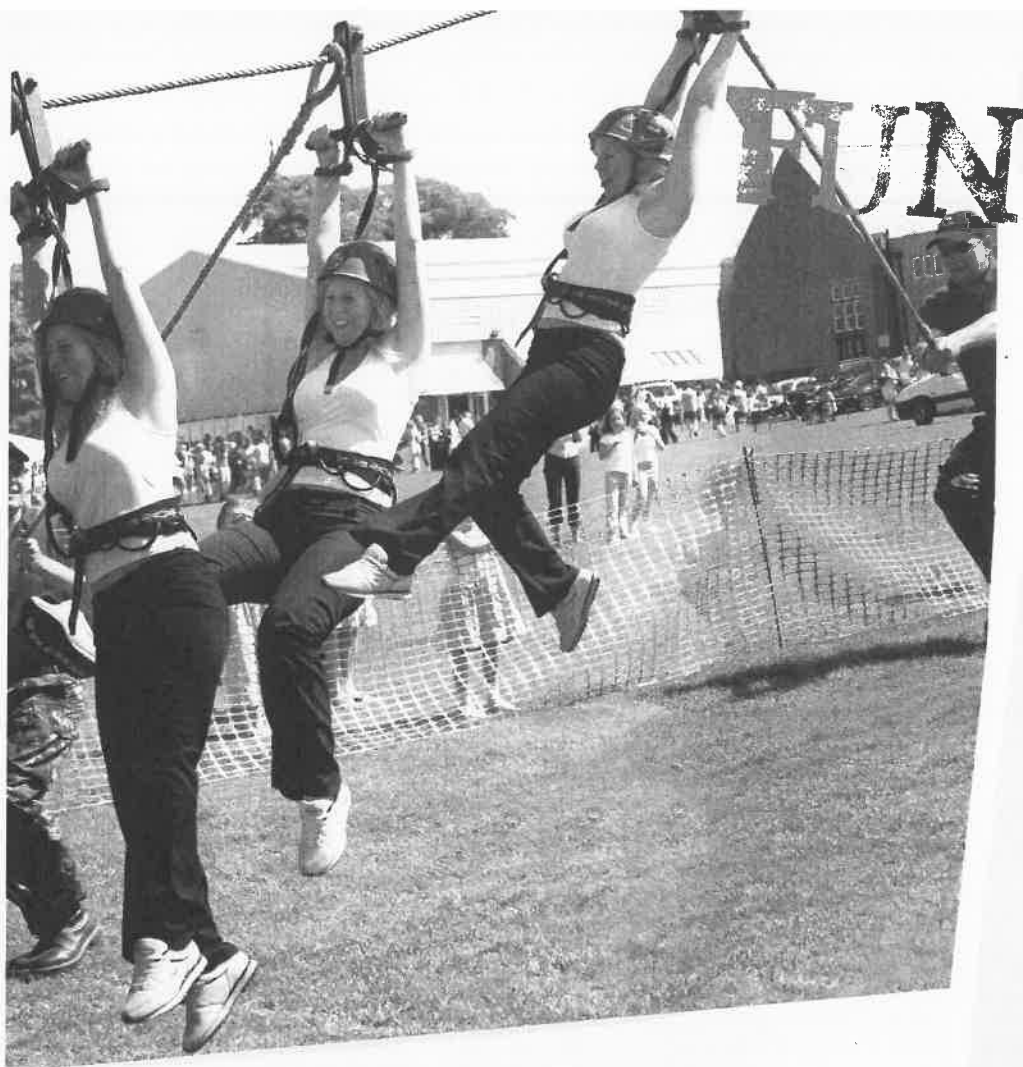
We must not forget that the event is a 'Fun Run' and those like Mr Taylor and myself were there for that. Many of the Kirkham Grammar School participants enjoyed their jog around the park, completing the course with as much effort and determination as those mentioned above, but having a little more time to encourage one another and to enjoy the support of the crowd. Deserved mention goes to the following who completed the course and were still smiling at the end:

Johnny Taylor, Sally Rotheram, Mr M Ryan, Robert Bradley, Morgan Shaw, Max Eaves, Caroline Desborough, Rachel Brown, Lizzie Poskett, Chloe Le-Saint, Nicholas Robertson, Bethan Watkins, Verity Taylor, Mr P Desborough, Mrs P Moore

A big thank you must go to Mrs Brown the School Bursar for all her encouragement and support, especially with looking after kit and supplying refreshments. The most wonderful thing to report is that this year, the effort of our students, staff and parents has raised nearly £1,000 for the Rosemere Cancer Foundation – THANK YOU.

Mrs A Sutcliffe





FUN DAY

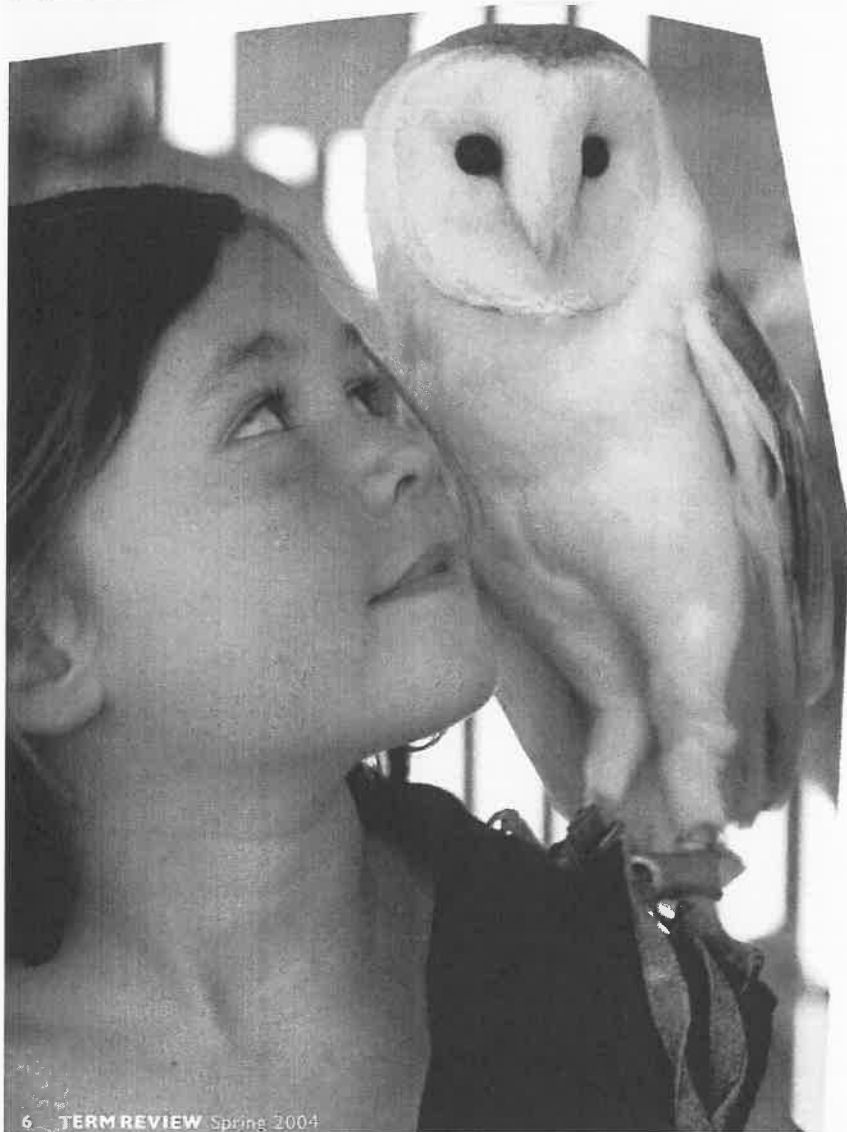
The apprehension standing in the queue; the fitting of the safety harness and the hope it won't fail; the climb up the tower above the school and the final instructions; the adrenalin is high and the heart pumping faster in your chest.

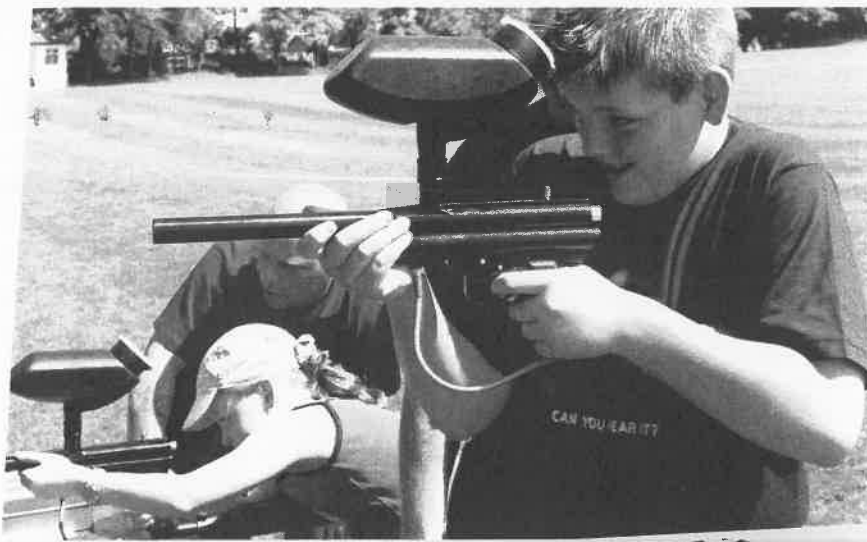
Wheeeeeeeeh! The decent is rapid but so exhilarating! Next year I might get the time to go on the Army's Zip Wire; but just watching the many people queuing and their faces afterwards proved it was the right decision to invite the Army back again to our annual Fun Day.

An estimated 800 people of all ages enjoyed the beautiful sunshine whilst involving themselves in the many attractions provided by the Friends and their many helpers. Grateful thanks go to both staff, pupils and parents. (We always need more helpers at these events so please consider giving an hour or two).

The new plant stall sold out, as did the cake stall and both the tombolas. All in all, a memorable day which raised approximately £2,500.

Robert Dunn,
Chairman,
Friends of Kirkham Grammar School.





U15 RUGBY tour



Kirkham Grammar School U15 XV embarked on an end of season tour to Italy during the recent Easter holidays as a reward to the squad for their hard work especially during the last season.

The team stayed in the beach resort of Lido di Jesolo approximately one hour away from Venice – which they visited on a day trip.

The team played four matches – against Parma Rugby, Cus Ferrara, Montebelluno Rugby and a touring party from Berlin Rugby Club. The team won all four games, amassing 259 points. Not a single point was scored against them.

An exciting end to the trip saw the squad visit the finals day of the FIRA U19 European Cup Play-offs where Kirkham was represented by two players in the England Squad – Glen Townson (Captain) and Adam Kwasnicki. Unfortunately they lost in the final 32-0.

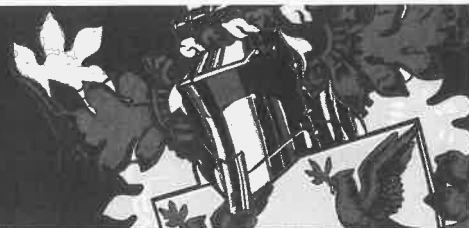
Mr M Whalley, Director of P.E. and Games commented "This was a a great way to finish the season. To go unbeaten on a Tour and not to concede a point illustrates the strength of this particular year group. Perhaps more importantly they are a really pleasant set of lads who were great company and a great credit to their families and the school".

For more details and pictures visit the U15 XV's website in the rugby section at:

<http://www.kirkhamgrammar.co.uk/rugby>



OLD KIRKHAMIANS' ASSOCIATION



Old Kirkhamians v Headmaster's XI Cricket Match

A splendid summer's evening was spent on the KGS cricket pitch; a keen and youthful Old Kirkhamians side (pictured right) won the toss and elected to bat first. The Headmaster's XI took to the field; Mr D Walker, led his select team of staff and pupils out to field.

Adam Parker and Alistair Griffiths put 50 on for the first wicket in double quick time, but the Old Kirkhamians were stopped in their tracks by a Harmison like spell of bowling by Rick Linley, 4 for 8. Thanks to Phil Watkinson, 19, and Andrew Butterworth, 10, the Old Kirkhamians battled their way to 94 for 7 off 20 overs.

In reply, the Headmaster's XI got off to a splendid start with Mr Porteous, 18, and M. Sutcliffe, 22, putting on 34 for the first wicket. Mr Painter carried on the good work finishing 26 not out. Mr Browning took a dodgy decision for LBW in his stride and Rick the Linley took 'man of the match' hitting the winning boundary in the last over. The final score 97 for 4.



Old Kirkhamians XI

Alistair Griffiths
Phillip Griffiths
Adam Parker
Bradley Hamilton
Paul Ashton
Phil Watkinson
Andrew Butterworth
Graham Miller
Richard Emery
Matt Stuttard
Richard Tomlinson

Headmaster's XI

Mr D Walker
Mr M Whalley
Mr H Porteous
Mr S Painter
Mr R Browning
Mr B Hall
Mr M Sutcliffe
Tim Hayes
Rick Linley
Jack Ward
Marcus Jackson

Southern Reunion Dinner

"Between the winding willow
To a city with spires:
It seemed the path of pilgrims
To the home of earth's desires"

Laurence Binyon (1869-1943)

For 'pilgrims' insert Old Kirkhamians, and replace 'earth's desires' with food and wine - in a nutshell the Southern Reunion Dinner at St Edmund Hall, Oxford!

The 'pilgrims' this year included some new faces with one Old Kirkhamian making the journey all the way from Des Moines, Iowa. And who could blame him with a menu like this:

Soupe aux Stilton et Céleri

Paupiette de Sole Beurre a la Maitre d'Hotel

Le Gigot d'Agneau en Croûte

Pommes Sautees

Chou-fleur Polonaise et Carottes au Beurre

Tarte au Citron et Coulis aux Fruits

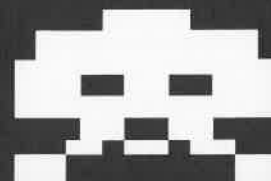
Fromage et biscuits

Café et Chocolats

Included with the dinner is a modest amount of wine but the Buttery bar in a corner of the quad is always available for those who arrive early and are in need of a thirst-quenching beverage. It's also available after dinner for those taking advantage of the bed and breakfast offer, in case they are in need of a nightcap (or two) before retiring.

The dinner is not restricted to past or present Oxbridge students but open to all Old Kirkhamians so if you fit that description, make a note in your diary for 9 April 2005.

SPACE INVADERS



CONCERT

In the late 1960's the world music scene witnessed the birth of 'Heavy' Rock music with the arrival of the guitar legend "Jimi Hendrix". Also in the late sixties bands like Led Zeppelin, Santana and Pink Floyd to mention but a few developed their own flavour of Rock. Over the next few decades guitar heroes have come and gone but all owe a great debt to the finger lickin' dexterity of Jimi. On Friday 8 October 2004 the Old Kirkhamians' Association presents an invasion of Rock music at KGS with two bands Old and New, the "Space Invaders Concert". First on we feature "Band X" a L6 band led by Alex Miller (5th year at the moment but will be in the L6 next term) who play numbers by 80's Rock Groups like Iron Maiden and White Snake. After the interval we feature our main band "Starfish" a top North West band led by Old Kirkhamian Rodger Cartright. Lead guitarist Rodger was recently a finalist in the national "Gibson Riffathon" where he was highly commended by Led Zeppelin's lead guitarist Jimmy Page. Starfish will play numbers by Jimi Hendrix, Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd, Santana and Cold Play to mention but a few.

The concert is open to pupils, staff, parents and Old Kirkhamians and tickets will go on sale in September. Information regarding the concert will be posted on the OKA website in due course so look out for the "Space Invader"

We are giving away a number of free tickets to those pupils that can tell us where the "Space Invader" logo features in this magazine and the school website. Entries by e-mail to spaceinvaders@kirkhamgrammar.co.uk by October 3 2004. All e-mails need to describe where the invaders are hidden.

www.kirkhamgrammar.co.uk/oka



UK Mathematics Challenges

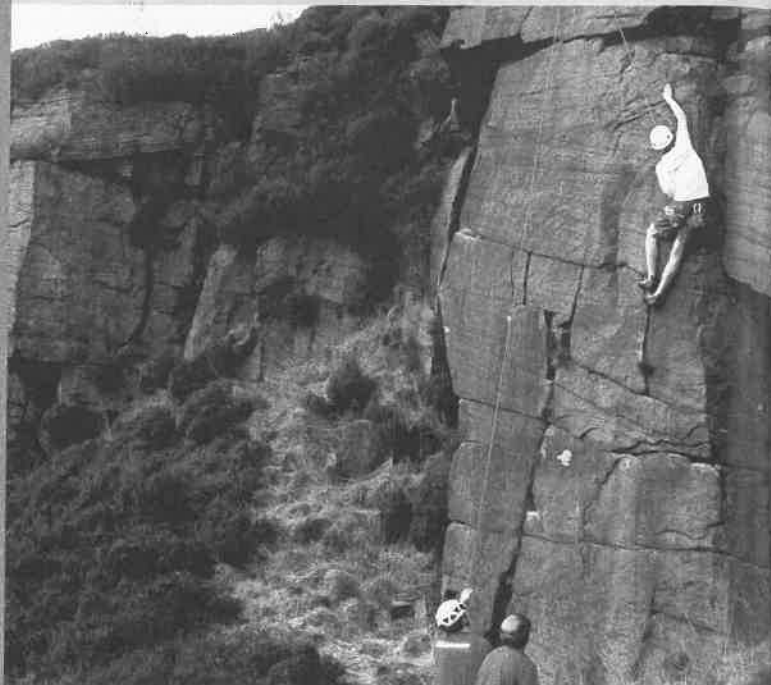
The UK Mathematics Challenges are national competitions aimed at the top of the ability range in mathematics. Getting a certificate of any kind puts you in the top 15% of mathematicians in the country; so getting a gold certificate is an outstanding achievement.

At the junior level we entered a number of our second year pupils and were pleased to get 19 awards, the majority silver but with three golds being won by Edward Askew, Michael Bennett and Thomas Fielding. Edward gained best in school and his mark was high enough to get him a place in the Junior Mathematics Olympiad this term, an achievement of which he and the school can be justly proud.

The Intermediate level challenge was taken by fourth and fifth years and we were pleased that thirty-six certificates were awarded including six gold, fourteen silver and sixteen bronze. Paul Taylor, Clark Tung, Tom Wardell, Joanne Box, Heather Reid and Luke Sanders gained gold certificates. Even more impressive was the fact that Paul, Clark and Joanne all performed well enough to be entered for the European round of the competition, an honour reserved for only the best in the country. Paul Taylor in particular performed well in this round gaining a certificate of merit.

In a world where mathematics is needed more and more yet the numbers studying it at university have declined worryingly it is good to know that KGS is producing and will continue to produce pupils of this calibre and that the subject is still flourishing.

CLIMBING CLUB



Excellent weather enabled the club to enjoy many visits to outdoor crags this term. Anglezarke, Wilton and Troy Quarry were the favourites but Denham and Round Barn Quarry were also visited. William Horton and David Spencer continued to progress impressively through the grades as did Matthew Gaddes and Peter Greaves. All four adapted successfully to the demands of climbing outdoors and so completed climbs of considerable difficulty. Amongst the younger members of the club Elena Gaddes climbed at the highest standard, she combined a determined approach with technical ability and so was regularly successful on routes graded up to 4c.

Sadly we say goodbye at the end of this term to Graham Hacking and to James Fletcher. Graham has achieved much since taking up climbing in the Sixth Form whilst James has been one of the most enthusiastic climbers in the club for as long as anyone can remember. James has also served the club well as Treasurer and as Secretary. He is a very talented climber, one of the best that the club has produced – and he is the undisputed "king of the dyno" a technique which involves jumping from one hold to the next.

At the end of the summer holidays the club has a trip planned to Eskdale in the Lake District, which will provide an opportunity to climb in a mountain setting and to experience climbing on granite for the first time.



A recent trip to Farmer Parr's Animal World was a great hit with Animal Ark club members. The farm is situated at the edge of Fleetwood and has diversified in order to supplement their income. We certainly did not feel that commercialism had compromised animal welfare; the animals had plenty of space and were kept in very clean conditions. In many cases such as the Canada geese goslings, they had been hand reared after being abandoned. The RSPCA often contact the farm to ask them to look after any

stray farm animals that would otherwise have to be destroyed. A mature bull which was found, one morning, in a back garden in Kirkham was caught by the RSPCA and taken to the farm. It is still there as the owner was never found!

Later this term, the Animal club are spending an afternoon at Blackpool Zoo and will listen to a presentation promoting awareness of the importance of conservation of endangered species.

Animal Club has benefited greatly over the last two years, from the help and inspiration of Nicola Townsend. We are sorry to lose her but also proud of her achievement in gaining a place to study Veterinary Medicine at Liverpool University. Perhaps when qualified, she'll continue to support Animal Club with free treatment!



Our last expedition took place over the Easter holidays in the depths of borrowdale near Keswick. Two Bronze and one Silver group completed a gruelling trek around the whole of Derwentwater and the rain held off till the last day!





KGS mean Business

There has been a full programme of enterprising events this term with representatives from industry imparting their experiences and knowledge for the benefit of our Sixth Form Business Studies students.

The programme began in March with Mr Eric Hemming (pictured above) spending the afternoon explaining how he successfully undertook the acquisition of Abbey Hospital Trust in 1997 before selling the business to Covenant Health Care in June 2002.

This provided a fascinating insight for all in attendance into the complex process involved in raising initial capital and managing the different stages of development and growth.

A month later we were also delighted to welcome Mrs Carolyn Thompson (pictured below with Jason Sannegadu and Alex Wilkinson) from Beaverbrooks in Lytham, an organisation recently voted the second best company to work for in The Times 100 Best Companies. Carolyn, in her role as HR Manager, explained the training, development and motivation principles adopted by the company, which contributed in many respects to the achievement of this prestigious award. This proved a lively and informative afternoon's presentation with students gaining a great deal of first hand experience from Carolyn.

Finally, Mr Chris Severight from the Oxford School of Learning delivered a full day — and evening — revision programme to both our Lower and Upper Sixth students. Chris worked extremely hard to help the lower sixth students better understand relevant topic areas within the pre-issued case study which is used in the Summer external examinations.

The finance and external influence subject matters were thoroughly reviewed and the programme ended at around 9:00 pm with the most die-hard of students tapping into the vast knowledge bank of this speaker.

Chris donates all of the course fees to the Dystonia Society. This is a little known ailment, and one of personal interest to Chris. It is a condition caused by the malfunction of the central nervous system, that causes involuntary sustained muscle spasms, which can also be extremely painful. It affects more than one in every 2,000 and receives precious little in way of research or support.

We would like to thank all our contributors for their valuable time and effort into bringing the business world into the classrooms of KGS.

Diary Dates

'A' Level results
10.00 am, Thursday, 19 August

GCSE results
10.00 am, Thursday, 26 August

1st Year Induction Day
8.45 am, Tuesday, 7 September

New School Year begins
8.45 pm, Wednesday, 8 September

Senior School Annual Prizegiving and Speech Day
7.15 for 7.30 pm, Thursday, 16 September
at the Guild Hall, Preston

Friends of KGS AGM
Tuesday, 21 September

Old Kirkhamians' Association AGM
Saturday, 9 October in the Old Hall
followed by
OKA Northern Reunion Dinner
in the Dining Hall

New Parents' Welcome Evening
Tuesday, 12 October

Open Afternoon for 11+ entry, September 2005
2.00-4.00 pm on Sunday, 17 October

Friends of KGS Winter Ball
7.30 pm on Saturday, 13 November
at Ribby Hall, Wrea Green

Open Evening
7.15 pm, Monday, 15 November
in the New Hall

Speech Day Holiday
Monday, 29 November

Friends of KGS Christmas Fair
Friday, 3 December (Provisional)

OKA Southern Reunion Dinner
Saturday, 9 April 2005



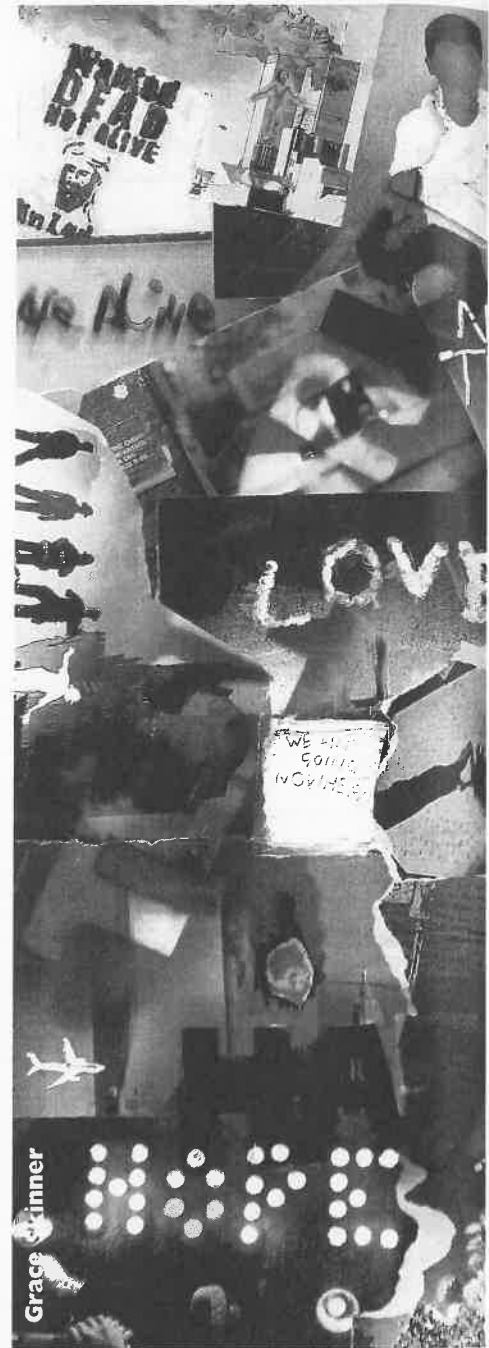
LIBRARY

The Library has been busy this term, with exam revision, class visits and project work. The new Creative Writing Club has made a start, under the leadership of Mr Sampey, ably assisted by Vicky Biggs. Its' working title has been changed to "The Scribblers' Club" and the first public performance is due to take place next term in the Old Hall. Refreshments will be provided and it is hoped that the Club will expand as a showcase for the great talent at KGS.

This summer has also seen our first full participation in the Carnegie Award. This annual award is given by librarians to the outstanding children's book of the year, as selected by an experienced panel of judges. Schools are encouraged to 'shadow' this judging and the six titles are being read and reviewed by a group of pupils from all years in the school. Some interesting views have been expressed!



Lucy Hargreave



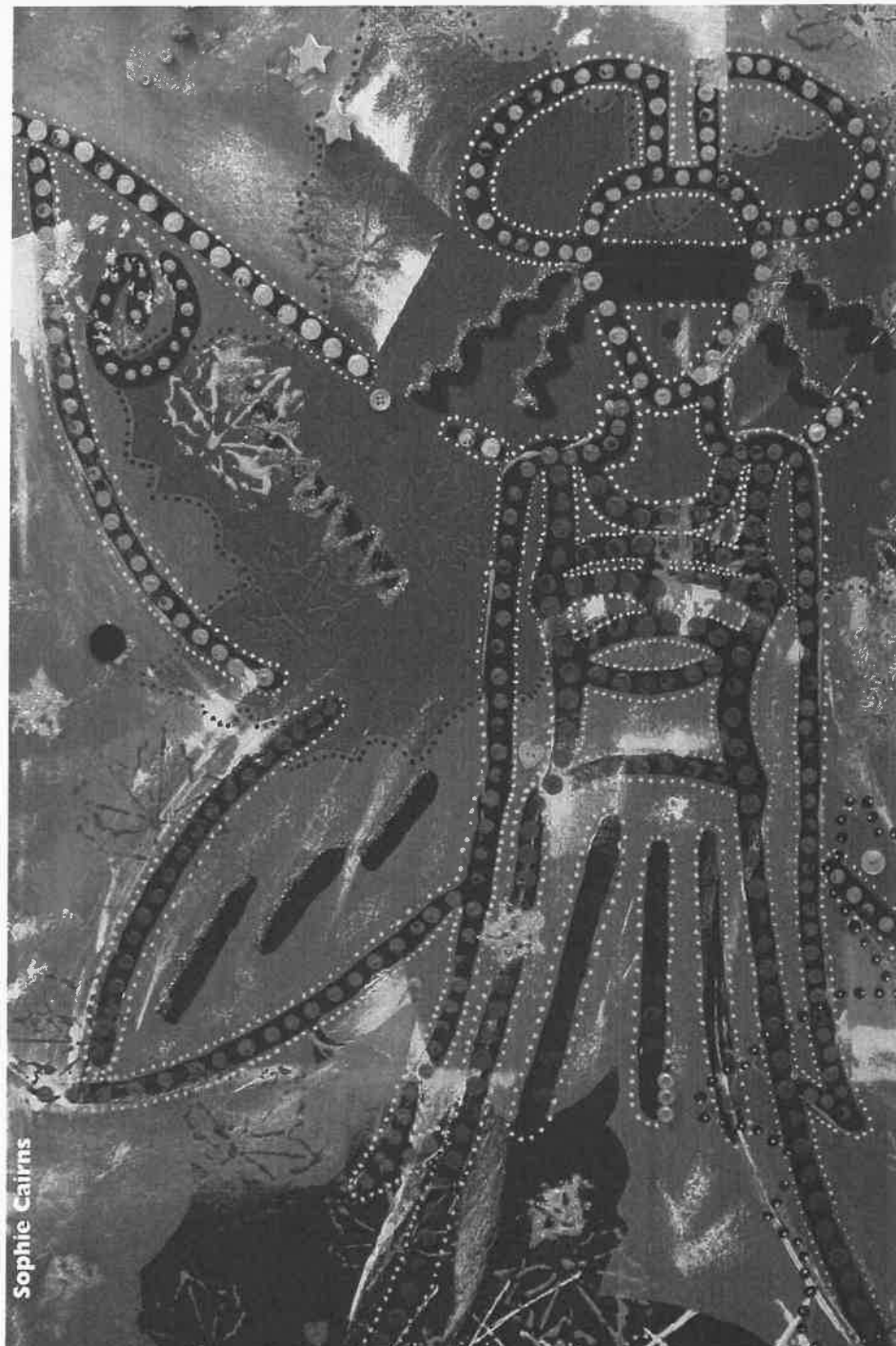
Grace Skinner



Kimi Poon



Ali Ibrahim



Sophie Cairns



Student teacher Miss Fiona Kennedy working with 2Y students creating a large scale Aboriginal art piece.



Grace Hobin

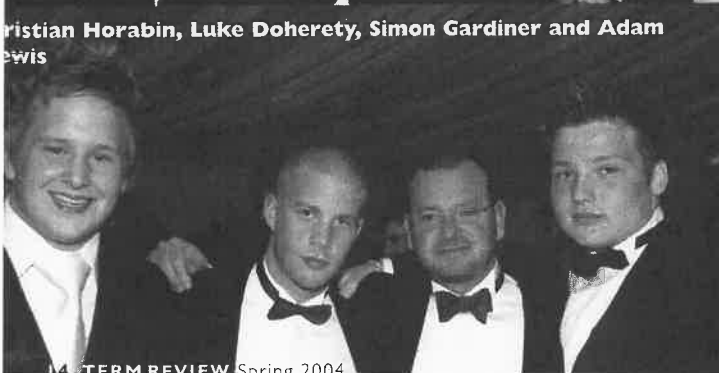




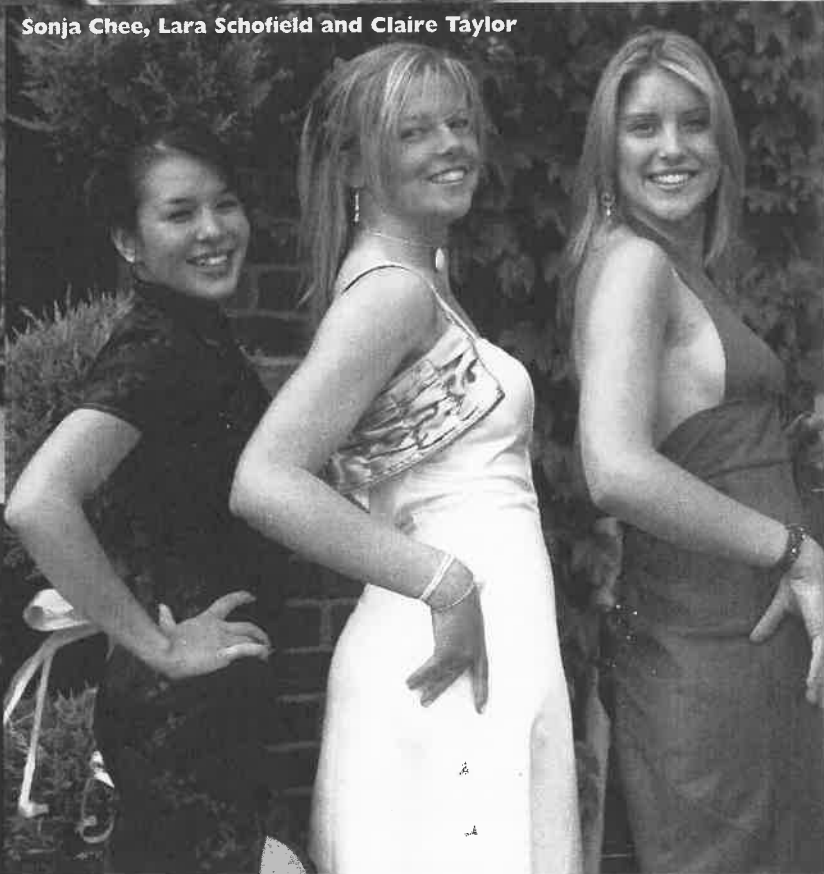
owena Robson and Linzi Nicholas



ck Ward, Edward Best, Adam Kwasnicki and Chris Gorman



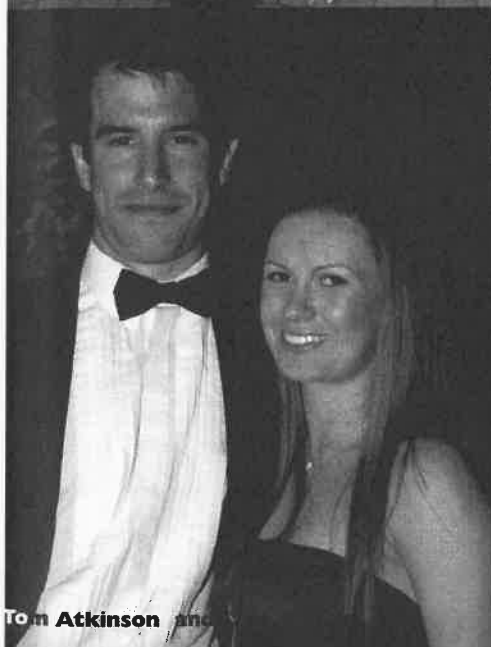
ristian Horabin, Luke Doherety, Simon Gardiner and Adam Lewis



Sonja Chee, Lara Schofield and Claire Taylor



Sixth Form Leavers Ball 2004



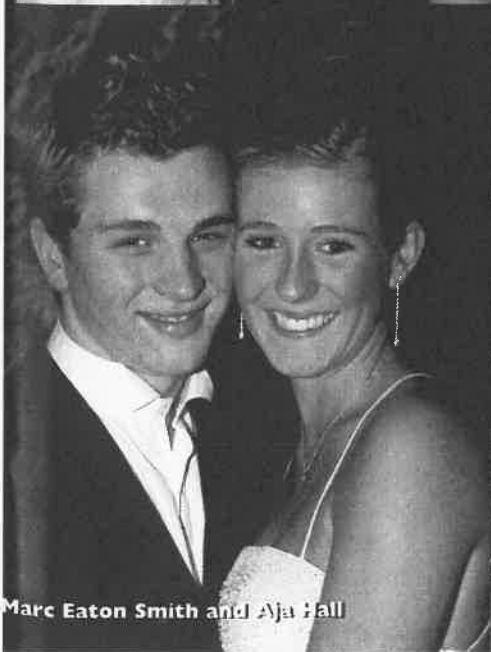
Tom Atkinson and



Glen Townsend and Luke Doherty



Andrew Stevens and Kristina Smith



Marc Eaton Smith and Aja Hall



Aja Hall, Laura Isaacs and Ruth Maher



Friends Summer Ball 2004

David Tinsley, Sam Tinsley, Phillip Hargreaves, Lorraine Hargreaves, Mark Keegan, Denis Lewis, Denise Docherty, Paul Docherty, Suzanne Clayton and Jonathan Clayton



Heather Hamilton and Suzanne Cheyne



Deborah Darwen, James McKnight and Susan McKnight





Mark and Nichola Bruce



Diane Evans



Diane Travis



Catherine Bell, Julie Thackray and Dana Gledhill



Chess Supremo

On Saturday (1st May) Thomas Fielding represented Kirkham Grammar at the regional finals (covering North Lancashire and West Cumbria) of the UK Chess Challenge 2004. The event was held at Hodgson High School in Poulton.

I am delighted to say that, despite some tough competition, Thomas won all six of his matches to become the Under 13s Chess 'Supremo' for our region and was presented with a trophy and a book.

The next round of the competition will be held at UMIST in Manchester on the 11th July.



Highfield Priory Year 6 Pupils visiting the Technology Centre on one of our tester days.

MUSIC

The start of the third term is always very busy with examination candidates completing compositions and preparing performances. Alongside these activities went preparations for the Spring Concert, which was enjoyed by an appreciative audience in the MPH on Thursday 13th May. The various school ensembles provided the structure of the concert, Concert Band opening the concert with the Beatles and the Orchestra closing it with a rousing performance of Chabrier's Marche Joyeuse. The Girls' Choir took us to Broadway, the String Group gave us music by Purcell, and the Choir performed part of Fauré's Requiem with Nic Long as a very capable baritone soloist. The winners of the House Music Festival had a second chance to shine as soloists in the Spring Concert. From the first year Maxine Galley played the piano most beautifully and Ben Lucas stunned the audience with his virtuoso drum kit performance. Jenny Patel (Mrs. Patel on the piano) ably performed Joplin on the xylophone and Stuart Harrison gave a masterly performance of the second movement of Grieg's Piano Sonata. The winner of the Music Festival, Amy Bleach, captivated the audience with her performance of the finale of Dvorak's Sonatina.

In the two weeks before half term Mr. Barratt and Mrs. Cassidy enjoyed hearing all the Music Scholars and Exhibitioners perform. They are joined by a further large number of very talented musicians who make up the musical life of KGS. Many are members of the Lancashire ensembles; others achieve excellent results in local Music Festivals. Michael Bennett recently sang a solo with the Lytham St. Annes Choral Society. One student of whom we are particularly proud is Isolyn Donaldson-Ellison who has been successful in gaining a place at the Royal Northern College of Music Junior School. We wish Isolyn all the very best as she attends the school at weekends from September.

Young ENTERPRISE

XVII's efforts throughout the year were rewarded at the Fylde Area Board competition, which took place in Fleetwood at the end of last term. At the competition, this year's Young Enterprise Company produced an eight minute presentation using a 'Match of the Day' theme, to summarise their company year. XVII received the trophy for best overall company in the Fylde, as well as awards for best company report and best customer focus.

The Company year has drawn to a close now due to members' commitments to their AS levels. We hope that all involved have enjoyed the Young Enterprise experience. We would like to thank the Company's business advisors, Paul Desborough and Robert Dunn, who have helped to make XVII such a success and also all staff and pupils at KGS who have supported the Company throughout the year.

Sarah Howe / Francine Lang

Young Writer of the year

Kirkham Rotary Club combined with Kirkham Grammar School to enter the Rotary Young Writers of the Year Competition for the first time ever. Three entries, the maximum permitted for any club/school partnership, were chosen from some forty essays submitted by Year 7 Grammar School pupils on the subject of how essential are mobile phones for first year secondary school pupils.

Heather Cara, Kirkham Grammar School, bagged fourth prize in this prestigious Young Writers Competition, to the delight of Club and School alike, and was rewarded with a Rotary Certificate of Achievement and a welcome gift token.

Pictured right is Mr Roger Kendrick President of Kirkham Rotary & Fylde presenting the Young Writer of the Year prize to Heather Cara.





Depth of Field.

The Camera relieves us of the burden of memory...
records in order to forget.

- John Berger

I have a confession to make — In many ways I find summer a difficult season. Philip Larkin understands: it was during the hot and sunny August of 1953 when he penned these words...

And I though summer-born
And summer loving, non the less
Am easier when the leaves are gone;
Too often summer days appear
Emblems of perfect happiness
I can't confront: I must await
A time less bold, less rich, less clear:
An autumn more appropriate.

Unfortunately this report cannot "await the autumn", so please bear with me as we look to make sense of the days of summer 2004 at Kirkham Grammar School.

It was the collective thoughts of the poet Tom Paulin during a summer stroll along the banks of the river Isis some five years ago which led to his writing the poem "Oxford". Within the poem he informs us how the word "camera" means "room" in Latin, adding that the word "Kamra" in Punjabi also means "room". Taking our lead from Tom we shall continue to look at the "photo-album" of our Summer Term's House events — a record of our "chamber plays" if you will.

You could be forgiven for thinking our Sports Day photos were in black and white, or certainly Colonel Sayers could, having co-officiated in 25 (this being regrettably his last) such occasions along with Mr. Smith. Mr. Smith would have continued this remarkable tradition but was sadly absent through illness this year. The long and proud history of the event was upheld with the involvement of literally hundreds of pupils. Taking their lead from the recent "Manchester Games" (Commonwealth Games 2002) both the organisational role carried out by Housemasters and the preparatory work performed by the Games Department has been staggering in its efficiency and attention to detail. Seb Coe has been informed!

The top athletes in each age group (listed) share the accolade "Victor Lorum / Victrix Lorum"

Junior Boys — David Marsden (Preston)
Junior Girls — Sam Shopland-Reed (School)
Intermediate Boys — Robert Sissons (Fylde)
Intermediate Girls — Jess Morris (School)
Senior Boys — Stephen Hatch (Fylde)
Senior Girls — Laura Martin (Preston)

Lenses, photographers and pupils all got splattered by the persistent showers this year. Still we have had dry conditions for over twenty years for Sports Day, so Colonel Sayer reminded us!

On to the "summer game" — I speak of course of cricket. I'm sure parents will be relieved to hear that although due to time restrictions we play a limited overs game, that we play in "whites" and with the traditional ball. No Pyjama game here at the Grammar! The late John Paul Getty discovered the joys of cricket some years ago whilst recuperating from a serious illness. When restored to health he went as far as to have his own cricket ground built in the stunning grounds of his 3000-acre estate in Buckinghamshire. I'm not sure if Mr. Smith has promised us a new ground when he returns to full health, but you never know! Well, new ground or not, I hope that the sound of leather on willow reached into the rooms of the Boarding House this summer and helped aid the recovery of our Housemaster, who as mentioned previously has been absent from his duties this term. You've been very much missed, and all wish you a speedy recovery.

The first Semi-Final of the Senior Cricket saw Kirkham play School House. The latter's score of 75, despite Peter Reeh's gallant 45, proved to be insufficient. School House, anchored by Captain Jack "Geoffrey Boycott" Ward's patient 30, proved more than able to meet the total. It is pleasing to record here that proceedings were played in the true spirit of the game — great banter between both sides allied with deep respect for opposing players. Many thanks here also to "Lancashire League Legend" Mr. Painter for standing in for the absent Mr. Smith. Mr. Painter had an early opportunity to exercise his authority when School House's Joel Unsworth came out to bat sporting a plaster cast on his leg! The umpire's finger pointed him firmly back to the pavilion. You'd have soon been out lbw Joel! Would you need a runner! Still, given the great Lancashire's recent performances with the bat, maybe they'd have given you a game! In the other Semi Final the unfancied Preston House, dare I say the "Derbyshire" of Senior Cricket, put in a marvellous performance. In all honesty the game should have been theirs. However, the loss of wickets at key stages cost them dear.

Changing "rooms" we now head over to the tennis courts and to the Senior Competition run by Mr. Reeves this year. I'm not sure the standard was quite Wimbledon, more the Swedish Open I'd say. Incidentally this is held annually in the charming picturesque seaside town of Bastad (meaning boat place) on Sweden's south west coast. I've spent many delightful summers in this magical "Skane" region — anyway, I digress!

Bad Seeds?! Well, School House's controversial tactic of placing Jack Ward and Liam Hanley as 2nd Seeds when the pair had been regarded as 1st Seeds in previous years certainly raised some eyebrows! The House were victorious against Kirkham, only proceeding to lose narrowly to Preston in the final.

The camera doesn't lie, and the pictures from all House events clearly show that this has been Preston House's year. They have finished well clear at the top of the standings and have broken Kirkham and School House's reign of the last few years. In fact it is Preston's (the House, not the football team!) first victory since 1997 — Sorry Craig Brown! Congratulations to Preston Housemaster Doc Rollins — "A very well done Sir" from all pupils, and indeed all staff!

Events still to come this Term — too late for print I'm afraid, include Junior Cricket, Girls Rounders, The Work Cup, and both Junior and Intermediate Tennis competitions.

In closing we turn again to Philip Larkin. When reflecting on the days of his life, some fourteen years after the summer of 1953, he writes:

Rather than words comes the thought of high windows:
The Sun-comprehending glass,
And beyond it, the deep blue air, that shows
Nothing, and is nowhere, and is endless.

And so whatever the truths of our various "photographs" it is perhaps beyond the "rooms" of our camera shots that we discover our true depth of field.

Wishing Colonel Sayer a long and happy retirement and Mr. Smith a full and prompt return to full health.

Enjoy your summer — see you in the autumn!

Simon Duncan (House Recorder)

SPORTS DAY

2004

Once again, despite some poor weather in the morning, the School was blessed with excellent weather for the Annual Sports Day. There were some fine performances both in the preliminary events – held before the day, and on the afternoon of the event. Just as impressive was the fact that all four houses were represented in all events – reflecting the enthusiasm of the participants and the hard work of the House Prefects and Staff in organising the teams.

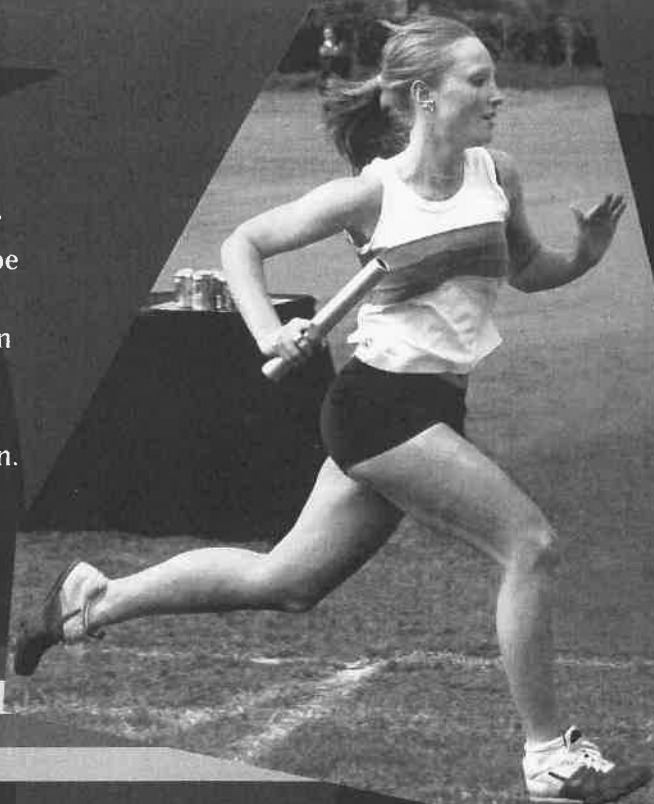
Overall Winners

Junior Girls' Victrix Ludorum	
Sam Shopland-Reed	School
Junior Boys' Victor Ludorum	
David Marsden	Preston
Inter Girls' Victrix Ludorum	
Jessica Morris	School
Inter Boys' Victor Ludorum	
Robert Sissons	Fylde
Senior Girls' Victrix Ludorum	
Laura Martin	Preston
Senior Boys' Victor Ludorum	
Stephen Hatch	Fylde





The 2004 Sports Day was Mr Sayer's last opportunity to be the official starter. In recognition of his dedication over the years he was also asked to be our Guest of Honour during the afternoon.



Swimming



A special mention must go to Greg Skinner, Boys' Swimming Captain 2002/03. Greg has competed for the school swimming for the past seven years and has won many personal best times, which I am sure will be held in the archives at Kirkham Grammar School for years to come. Greg is an outstanding fly and backstroke swimmer who, if my memory serves me correct was undefeated in the 1st to 4th years inclusive.

Greg also represented Preston Swimming Club, North Lancashire, and competed in the North of England Championships.

He has been an outstanding ambassador to the swimming fraternity at Kirkham Grammar School and will be sadly missed. I wish him every success in the future and congratulate him on the award of Full Colours.



School Shop

From week commencing 5 July to week commencing 29 August 2004:

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday - 9.30 to 4.30 pm
Closed for lunch - 12.30 to 1.30 pm

Week commencing 6 September:

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday - 8.30 to 4.30 pm
Closed for lunch - 12.30 to 1.30 pm
Thursday and Friday - 12.00 noon to 5.00 pm

England: "Bitter pill to swallow"

David Beckham and Darius Vassell missed from the squad as England lost the quarter-final of Euro 2004 on penalties.

Frank Lampard said England's players were "gutted" after their dramatic Euro 2004 penalty shoot-out exit against hosts Portugal.

And he led the complaints about referee Urs Meier's decision to disallow a last-minute "goal" from Portugal.

"We didn't play our best but we worked very hard in certain stages to get back into the game," he said.

Defender Terry fumed: "I certainly didn't commit a foul and I've no idea why it was disallowed.

"I didn't touch the keeper and neither did Sol. The referee wouldn't explain why he ruled it out and we're all totally mystified."

TV pundits Peter Reid, Ian Wright and Alan Hansen all agreed England had been cheated.

This item was included as at the time of writing I like the best of the nation expected England to go further and I had also drawn the logo (three lions) so thought I will still use it. Oh well to 2006 and the World Cup.



SOCIETY

www.kirkhamgrammar.co.uk/ski

Ski Trip 2005

It might seem strange to be talking about skiing a winter sport at the height of summer, but there is much to do in preparation for our 110 pupils who will be visiting the slopes of Europe next March. A letter has gone out thanking parents for the first securing deposit of £150. Also an appreciation to those parents that have returned the consent forms and filled in the on-line passport details and medical information. The next payment of £300 is now due with the final payment of £210 scheduled for 10 December 2004. If parents wish to settle earlier they may do so.

There are a number of consent forms still outstanding, along with the on-line form ("Ski Trip Essential Information") which needs returning that includes passport details, medical history, family doctor details, dietary needs and ski ability of pupils. I appreciate that some pupils do not have a personal passport and thus this form can be filled in at a latter date.

The information on the current trip can be found at:
www.kirkhamgrammar.co.uk/ski

The "Ski Trip Essential Information" form can be found in the right hand column on the 'Current Trip' page under the heading "contact us". This letter and the relevant consent forms can be found in the "Documents" section also in the right hand column.

On 10 November 2004 we will hold a Parents' Evening for both trips, bringing you up to date with the latest information. Ski Clobber, the ski hire people who offer good quality clothing for hire at low prices, will do a presentation and we will have a representative from WEPS eyewear, the goggles and sunglasses specialist, who have some special exclusive offers to KGS skiers.



girls' TENNIS

Despite the short length of this term, good weather has allowed us to play a great deal of tennis this season. Practices have been very well attended, especially at U12 level, often with over 30 girls attending. The David Shaw tennis sessions have been thoroughly enjoyed, and the girls have really appreciated David's help and support. We have had over 50 girls attending the sessions on Wednesday evenings, and over 30 girls attending the early morning pre-school sessions on Fridays. The girls have benefited greatly from the help of David, and have really enjoyed working with him. We look forward to his help once again next year.

The U13 and U15 league matches have been a joy to watch, and we must congratulate our U15s upon reaching the finals, which are due to be played next week. Our U13s have played against some excellent opposition, and only narrowly missed out on reaching the semi finals. The experience of playing against stronger opposition has been welcomed, and the girls have made pleasing progress throughout the season.

The U14 (Derrick Hill) Lancashire Cup competition proved to be a challenge this year, as we met an excellent team from Rivington in the second round. The match was drawn after the initial 4 rubbers, however, the result of the 4 tie break games saw Rivington through to the quarter final stage.

Unfortunately, due to a clash of sporting fixtures, our U15s and U19s were unable to take part in the Lancashire Tournaments this year. The U13 Girls Singles Tournament however, took place at K.G.S and our girls competed with determination against some excellent players and thoroughly enjoyed the event.

One of the hardest challenges this season has been arranging Saturday block fixtures against other schools. Many schools unfortunately let us down, and I have been very

disappointed with the enthusiasm shown towards weekend fixtures. Of the matches that we have played however, we have won all of them overall.

We were delighted this year to receive Wimbledon tickets from the schools ballot. A party of 12 attended the Tournament which demonstrated first class tennis.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the girls for a very enjoyable season, and congratulate them on the effort they have put into their practices and matches alike. I wish them all every success for next year.

Mrs Tabb

DAVID SHAW TENNIS COACHING (pictured above)

Another successful season has nearly passed with all the tennis coaching. We have again been very fortunate to complete all the courses thanks to the great weather. Yet again the pupils of KGS have excelled with their tennis skills and shown great commitment throughout all the sessions. Well done to all the pupils of KGS who attended the courses.

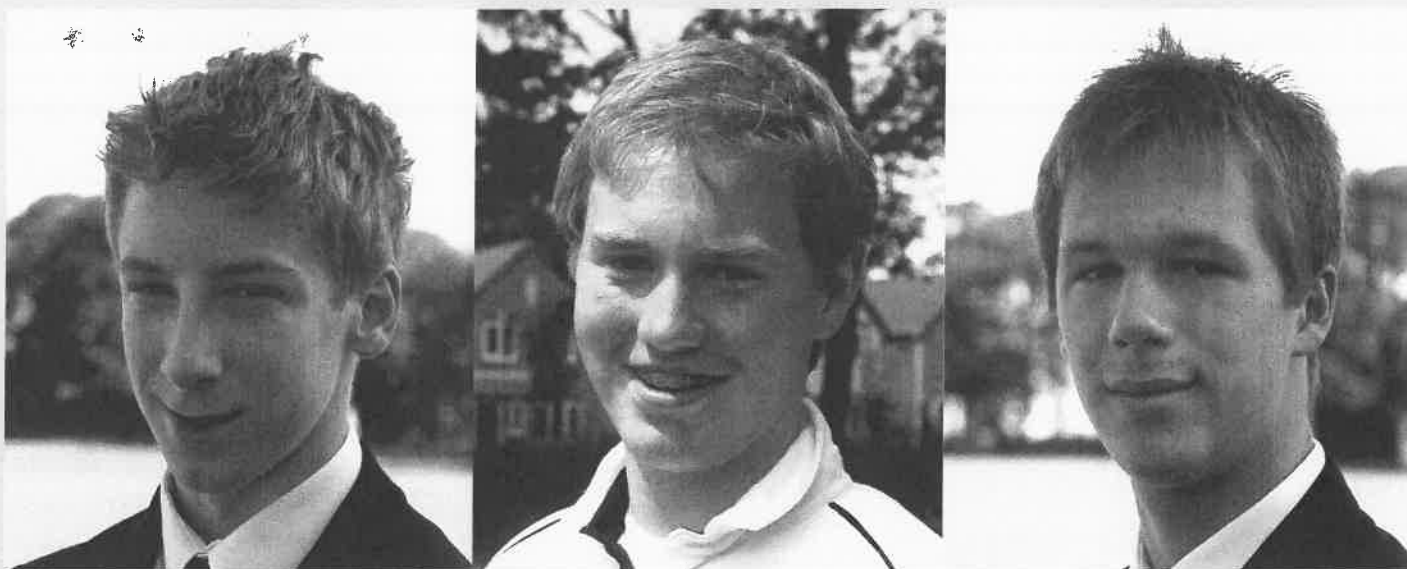
A special thank you to Mrs Tabb for all her hard work in organising the courses again.

Thank you.

David Shaw

Below the hockey squad set to go on tour to Cyprus this summer.





ATHLETICS

Many boys have made excellent progress this summer in Athletics. The good weather has in no doubt facilitated this progress when fixtures can go ahead and boys can practice in a comfortable environment.

Athletics for Senior pupils is fast becoming a rarity at School level. The 5th and 6th formers who competed at Salt Ayre against Lancaster Royal Grammar School and Arnold should be congratulated on their willingness to participate so early on in the term. Our four Junior age groups all competed well against Arnold. Only our second years failed to win their respective age group.

In the first round of the English Schools Track and Field Cup, held at Stanley Park (which Kirkham Grammar School staff co-incidentally organised) our Intermediate boys performed well enough to qualify for the regional 'B' final at Salt Ayre with a total of 384 points. Unfortunately, due to injuries sustained on the day, our Juniors underperformed and failed to make further progress.

At Salt Ayre, in the B final, amongst very strong opposition, the Inters performed admirably. There were some fine individual performances. At the time of press the final scores had not been issued. In a separate competition the 1st and 3rd year teams competed at Salt Ayre against nine other local schools from the Lancaster area. To finish 5th and 4th respectively was no disgrace at all. We eagerly await to see how our 2nd and 4th year teams get on in the equivalent competition in the last week of term.

Finally, we are delighted to announce that the School has three County Champions. As a result of competing in the Lancashire Schools at Stanley Park on Saturday 12 June, Max Eaves won the Pole Vault (Inter Boys), Darren Bell won the Discus (Inter Boys) and Matthew Davies won the 80m Hurdles (Junior Boys). All three are pictured above.

Other results very worthy of mention are:

Robert Sissons	2nd	U17 100m Hurdles
Jessica Morris	2nd	U17 Long Jump
Maddie Eaves	3rd	U17 Long Jump
Isolyn Donaldson-Ellison	4th	U17 100m
David Kos	2nd	Junior Boys' 80m Hurdles

Robert, Darren, Jessica, Maddie and Isolyn were all competing a year young in the U17 age group.

Emily Rayson also competed well in the Junior High Jump clearing 1.30m, but just failed to make the final pool. However, she again was competing a year young.

Both Max Eaves and Matthew Davies achieved the English Schools' Qualification Mark.

CRICKET OVERVIEW

Blessed with some good weather there have been plenty of opportunities for our boys to enjoy competition Cricket this summer. The addition of a new junior square has enabled the school to continue to develop a full challenging programme of fixtures.

A round up of the performances of the various age group teams reveals real potential in the lower school. Our U12 team has won the majority of their fixtures and made good progress in the Lancashire Cup. The U13 team has had rather more mixed results but remain keen and enthusiastic when they train and play. The U14 XI has performed well and there is a nucleus of a strong side. The U15 XI, often playing without Darren Bell and Robert Sissons who have moved up to the 1st XI, have coped admirably and several players have flourished as they have assumed increased responsibility.

The 1st XI, hindered often by injury and unavailability due to exams, has worked hard and despite some recent losses, show potential. Peter Reeh has done an excellent job as 1st XI Captain. The 1st XI team v the MCC is pictured below left with their scorers.

Well done to all those that have taken part in Cricket this Summer. Also a "thank you" should be extended to the Coaches who's enthusiasm and commitment should be applauded: Mr Painter, Mr Walker, Mr Lyon, Mr Taylor, Mr Duncan, Mr Porteous and Mr Browning.

Cricket Representative Honours:

Dean Bell	Lancashire U12 XI
Robert Sissons	Lancashire U15 XI

Please use the school website for the latest information/reports on all sports at KGS at:

www.kirkhamgrammar.co.uk/sport



D.R. Walker

D.R. Walker Headmaster



