

# Kirkham Grammar School

Headmaster's Letter to Parents

Summer 2007





## From the Headmaster

This term has been dominated by the demolition of the Wareing buildings (photos far right) and the commencement of our new twelve classroom development. The bulldozers arrived on cue on May 16 and the first blow was struck by KGS Governor John Waite. Mr Waite has been a member of the Governing Body for over 30 years and with his great engineering experience has played a key role in the development of the school facilities since the Multi Purpose Hall was constructed in 1990. This new development sees the completion of another phase in the school's evolution with the major upgrade in the teaching space that began with the science facilities. The school now boasts a full range of exciting interactive classrooms and I hope our staff and pupils will enjoy the opportunities these will bring to their learning environment. We will take occupation of six of these classrooms in September with the remaining work being completed by November. While there will be a degree of dislocation in the early weeks of next term we are confident that this will not impinge on the working of the school.

This will not be the only development over the summer as the Governors have made the much needed decision to re-surface the All Weather Pitch. We will have a new surface to match the Lawrence House Pavilion and I hope this will provide our hockey teams with a reliable platform where they can hone their skills for future success. Additionally a new All Weather Cricket Surface and nets have

been provided in conjunction with Wrea Green Cricket Club. This partnership has not only provided these excellent facilities but also wider community access which is so important for the school and its future. In another partnership, this time with the Friends of KGS, a replacement building will be provided for the Old Drama Studio – an eyesore if ever there was one! Over the summer the Friends will gain much needed storage for their many in-school activities and the school will gain a suitable venue for aerobic and weight training equipment used in the new P.E. Curriculum. The summer promises to be a busy time at school but this will mean an exciting set of new facilities in September.

Since the last Newsletter in February the school has received the outcome of the CSCI Inspection Report conducted in the Boarding House. The report reads wonderfully well with the school being adjudged excellent in every category. Great credit must go to Mr Smith and his team for this accolade. The report also reflects well on so many whole school issues such as Pastoral Care, Educational Visits, Health and Safety, Safer Recruitment and many more. The outcome provided a boost, therefore, for us all but must be seen as further evidence of the central role of boarding at KGS in helping to create the ethos which benefits our children. It is also pleasing to report that the boarders dining room and recreation facilities have been refurbished to bring them into line with other upgraded areas.



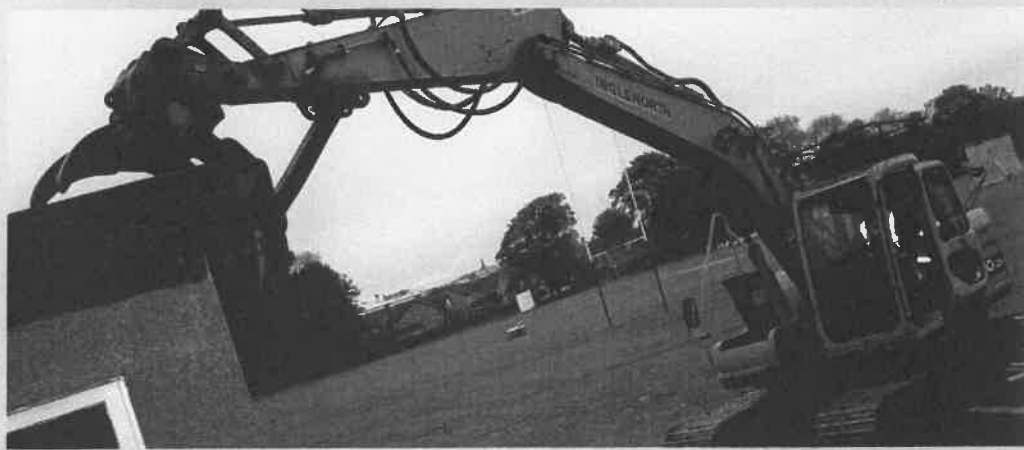
The end of each year is always marked with some farewells as colleagues leave us either in retirement or moving on to pastures new. This year has seen the retirement of Mr Brian Gornall (photo above) who has worked at KGS since 1969. Although Mr Gornall retired from full time teaching in 1997 he continued to coach the 1st XV. I could not conclude this article without paying tribute to the outstanding service "BG" has given to the school for so many years. Generations of Kirkhamians will remember him with affection and respect. In contrast to the 38 years connection just described, Mr Warren has been at KGS for just under two years. He has covered for maternity in Chemistry and then stepped in to take a part-time role in Physics. While this has been a relatively brief connection with the school I know that Mr Warren is highly regarded and thank him for his help over the two years. We also said farewell to Mrs Joanne Parkinson who has served us well in the surgery, responding to the needs of our pupils in the event



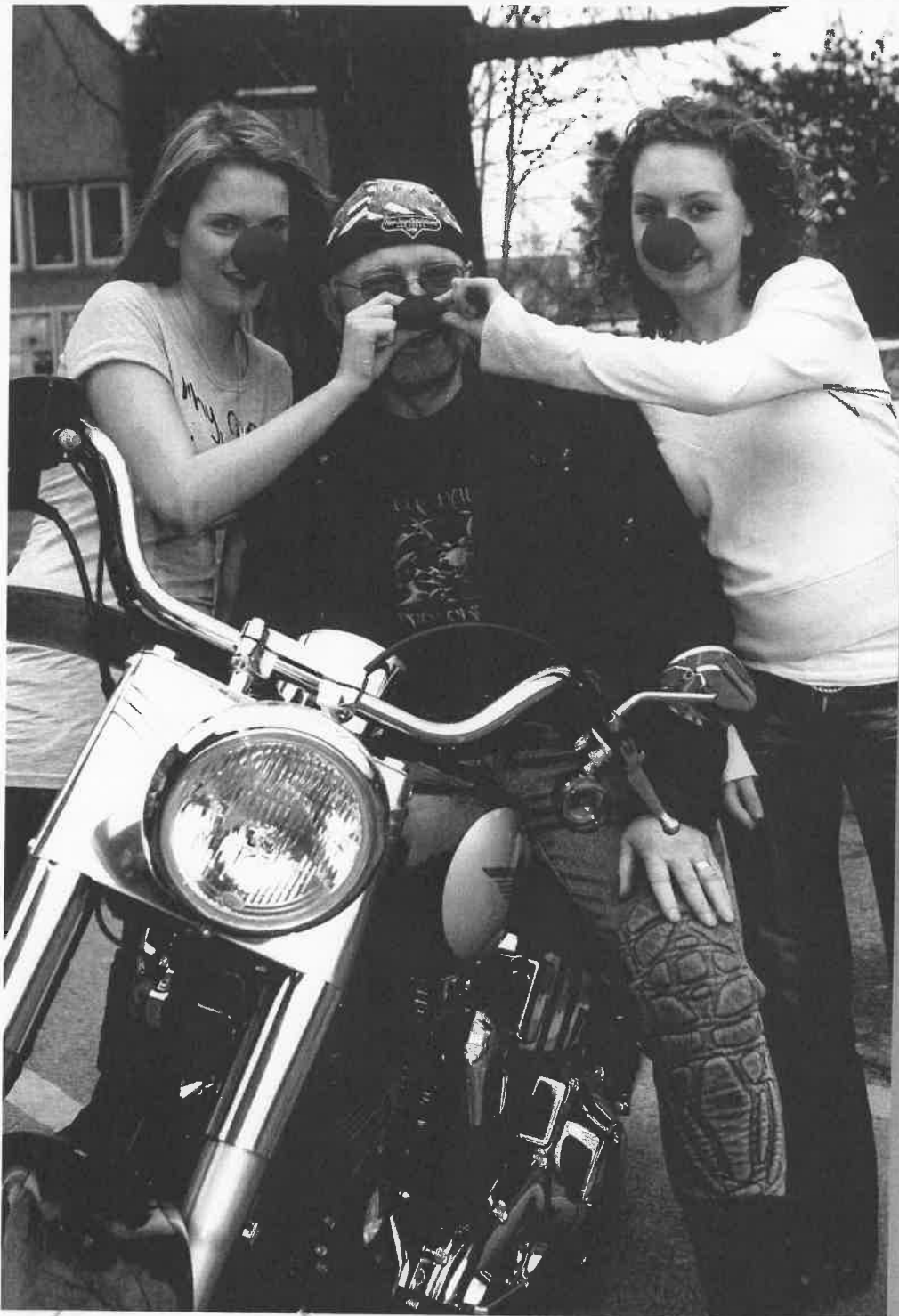
of illness or injury. We also look forward to Mrs Fyson's new arrival but will miss her next year as she takes her maternity leave.

Easter saw the arrival of Mrs Annette Roberts (photo right) who has joined us to replace Mrs Lesley Taylor as Headmistress of the Junior School. Mrs Taylor left us to take over Kettlewell C of E Primary School in the Dales after ten years as Headmistress. Her contribution to the Junior School from its inception has been inestimable and it was with great sadness that we said goodbye to Mrs Taylor. The show must go on, however, and we were delighted to welcome Mrs Annette Roberts who joined us from Rossall School. She is now well installed in school and has been seen receiving a discreet hug from some of the infants in the corridor so it is clear that the ethos of the school remains unchanged. I look forward to working with Mrs Roberts in taking the Foundation forward over coming years.

As the term draws to a close and this Newsletter is collated one inevitably reflects on all the activity that has taken place. The pages following document so much that our youngsters have achieved over past weeks and I believe that this has reached unprecedented levels. What is of note is the breadth and diversity of this work and the continued commitment of the staff helping to make this possible. I remain firmly convinced that the balance of clear emphasis on teaching and learning in the academic sphere with a broad array of high quality extra-curricular opportunities remain the best recipe for a successful school and I hope this magazine is evidence of that combination in operation.







## Face to Face

Head of Politics, Mr Melling, was fortunate enough to be invited to lunch with Leader of the Conservative Party and possible future Prime Minister, David Cameron. Mr Cameron was visiting the region and stopped off for lunch in Preston. Mr Melling was a guest of Lorraine Fullbrook, the Conservative Parliamentary candidate for South Ribble. Originally Mrs Fullbrook was due to attend a lesson to discuss Conservatism with an Upper 6th Politics group. But she had to cancel at the eleventh hour when her leader's visit was announced at short notice. Not that Mr Melling was too distraught when he received the invitation for lunch: 'I couldn't believe my luck. It was a rare opportunity to meet a real political heavyweight face-to-face and I enjoyed every minute of it. I really am indebted to Mrs Fullbrook for the invitation.'

## Top of the class

KGS celebrated an award from the Good Schools Guide last week as its Psychology Department was awarded the accolade of Best results overall and for girls in the A-level Psychology exams for 2006. This follows a similar award for Business Studies last year. Head of Department Mrs Jackie Stanbury was delighted with the certificate presented by Headmaster Mr Douglas Walker on behalf of the "Good Schools" organisation. The award includes assessment of all results and includes the comment "Many congratulations on the award which celebrates the excellence of the teaching at Kirkham Grammar School".

## Charity

At KGS we continue to be very active in raising money for various charities. Along with the rest of the nation the whole school used the non-uniform day to raise in excess of £1000 (Photo above).

Mrs Sue John received a cheque from the Apprentice Competition run by the Business Studies Department for £150 that went to Cystic Fibrosis (photo left). In addition Mrs John raised a further £400 from a "Walk with Llamas", which will also go to Cystic Fibrosis.



# OLD KIRKHAMIANs' ASSOCIATION

## Dates for the Diary

**Northern Reunion Dinner and AGM**  
Kirkham Grammar School  
6 October 2007

**OKA vs Wooden Spoon AA's Rugby Match**  
Kirkham Grammar School  
18 November 2007

**OKA Christmas Gathering**  
Grasshoppers Rugby Club  
23 December 2007

For details of Old Kirkhamian events please contact the Committee Secretary on 01772 684462 or visit the website.



## OKA Reunion Dinner

The 2007 Southern Reunion Dinner took place on 31 March in St Edmund Hall at the University of Oxford. This year on the Saturday afternoon, Rachael Horton (KGS 1996–2003) kindly accompanied a group of OKs on a "walk around Oxford". This was very well received and the committee hope to repeat this at subsequent Southern Dinners. The event provided an excellent opportunity to catch up on school news and to meet old friends.

## OKA Digs In

Kirkham Grammar School continues its investment in state of the art educational facilities as it starts to build a major new teaching centre comprising 12 classrooms. The new classrooms are the second phase of a major Development programme at the school and will feature full ICT multimedia teaching aids, providing access to laptops with wireless Internet facilities at the touch of a button.

Phase one of the science laboratories and classroom project was completed in November 2005.

Former Kirkhamian, John Waite, MBE, who has been closely involved in the redevelopment of the school, drove a bulldozer (picture below) to start the demolition of the old temporary classrooms. This continues school's investment in state of the art educational facilities as it started to build a major new teaching centre comprising 12 classrooms. See the Headmaster's section for more details.



## The Boarding House 2006 - 2007



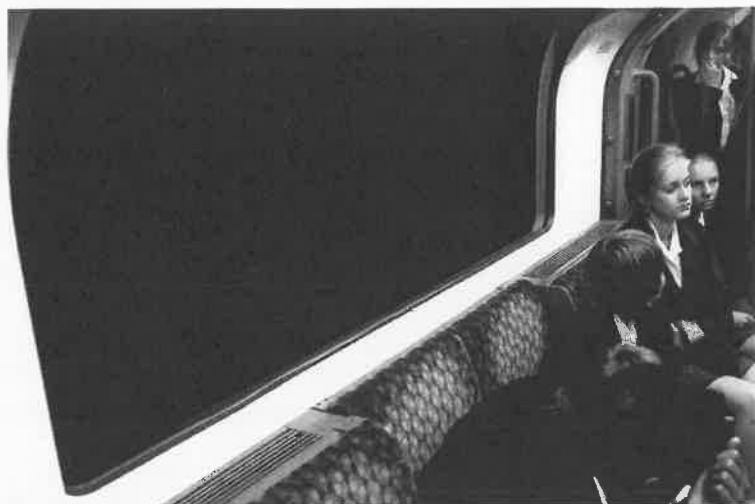


## Drapers keep an

One of the most popular and memorable regular school activities is the annual trip by Second Year pupils to the City of London, which has been led by Mr Long every year since the restoration of our links with the Worshipful Company of Drapers in 1987.

This year's visit took place, unusually, on a dull, cold and wet day at the end of June (traditionally it always seems to be one of the hottest days of the year), and Mr Long was joined by a record number of pupils – 75 – accompanied by eight members of the teaching and non-teaching staff.

With such a large party, it was necessary to travel down in two separate groups, so an advance party led by Mr Duncan and Mrs Long left early, and took in a visit to the British Museum, where a combination of Mrs Long's enthusiasm for classics and Mr Duncan's fondness for history brought pupils face-to-face with iconic exhibits such as the Elgin Marbles and the Rosetta Stone. They then took the underground and met up with the rest of the group in the City, outside the Bank of England, and walked to Drapers' Hall.







## Eye on Kirkham

As always, they were entertained to an excellent formal lunch in the splendid surroundings of the Court Dining Room, and after a formal welcome by the Clerk of the Company, Rear Admiral Alistair Ross, they were then taken on a tour of the Hall by Miss Penelope Fussell, the Company Archivist. This tour gives the pupils an insight into the workings of one of the ancient guild companies in the modern world, and in particular, a better understanding of their role in the life of Kirkham Grammar School.

After the formal part of the day, the pupils enjoyed some shopping in Covent Garden, a quick tour of Westminster on foot under the expert guidance of Mr Long, then a "flight" on the London Eye – just as the rain stopped and the sun came out.

A suitably exhausted party then made one last hair-raising trip on the Underground (it is quite a challenge keeping a party of 75 children together in the rush hour), and caught an evening train back to Lancashire.





# PREFECTS

## 2007-2008

Captains of School  
James Edgar & Rose Whitehead



Charlotte Baker



Ashley Parkinson



Ashley McKenna



David Kos



Richard De Carpentier



Tom Bowden



Joe Brown



Andrew Brown



Matthew Denham



Christopher Box



Ben Blackburn



Matthew Davies



Rachel Wareing



Suzanne Midgley



Jennifer Bowden



Soraya Dunn



Naomi Hodgkinson



Chelsea Jude



Jennifer Patel



Sophie Gallagher





## 112 Years @ Kirkham Grammar

For eight Upper Sixth pupils it is an end to an era as they close the chapter to their school days at KGS after a collective tally of 112 years. Georgina Fulford-Brown, Simon Hope, Robert Sissons, Frances Edwards, Kate Gledhill, Jemma Thackray, Sarah Cooper and Shelley Ambourne all started at KGS at the age of 4 in September 1993 at Kirkham Grammar Junior School.



**5th Year 2006 - 2007**





It has been another very busy time for KGS CCF. The term has seen the visits from the Schools' Careers Liaison Officers from all three services and many of our cadets are showing an interest in a career in the Royal Navy, Army or the RAF. As well as these visits, we had the Presentation Teams from both the RAF and the Army, both of which put on very polished displays which caught the attention of many of our junior cadets. (It could have also been the freebies that were given out!).

The culmination of the year for our senior NCOs was the Regimental Dinner that was organised in March. An excellent evening was had by all as we dined out our departing Senior NCOs with all the finery and regimental silverware and regalia we could borrow from the Duke of Lancaster's Regimental Museum and the local TA battalion. Our guest speaker was Lt Col (Retd) F.W. Sayer who recounted his days as CO of KGS and amused us all by identifying the amazing changes in all aspects of cadets: from what they used to wear to what they used to do, without the need for pages of risk assessments! Sqn Ldr Callister also managed to ridicule many of the Seniors in his usual, amusing way. However, they were allowed the right of reply and the RAF duo of F/Sgt Hingley and Sgt Bruton gave suitable riposte. Many thanks must go to Lt Janet Knight for all her hard work and the ladies of the catering staff for an excellent meal.

The spring term also saw another successful field day visit to Holcombe Moor Training Camp near Bury. This time for both the 4th year and 5th form cadets. Numerous activities were enjoyed by all who attended. There were several initiative exercises, some military formation tactics, an interesting 'close quarter battle run' and a very popular field cooking stand, where hot dogs went down very well with hungry cadets. The weather was once more very kind to us and everyone enjoyed a thoroughly exhausting day.

The end of term saw yet another visit from the Royal Navy. This time a Sea King air sea rescue helicopter from 771 Squadron dropped in and many of our cadets were given a guided tour of the aircraft and even allowed to sit in the 'driving seat'. The take off did cause a stir as the jet engines started up during our final assembly!

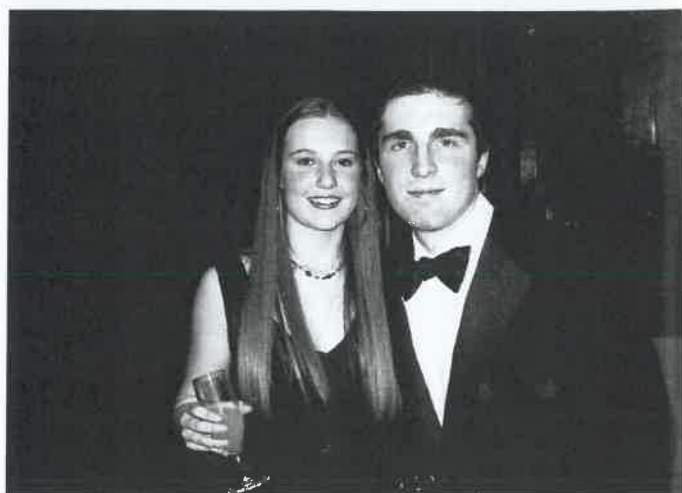
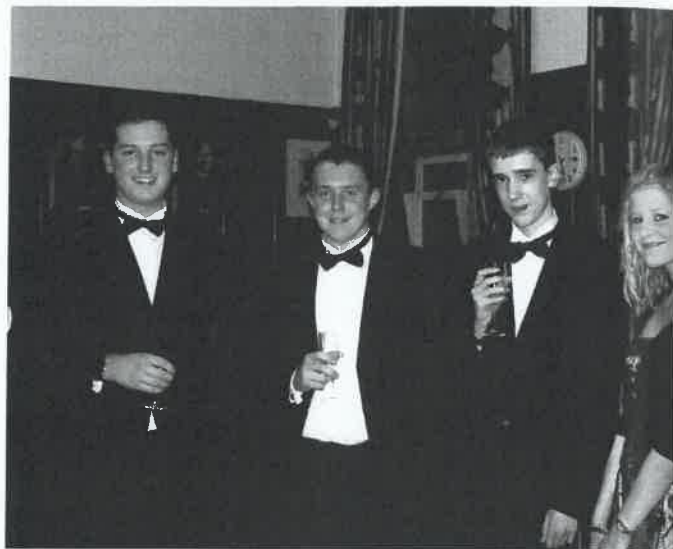
The first few days of the Easter holiday is always Adventurous Training at St John's in the Vale, Keswick. This year we were blessed with exceptionally good weather – sunshine all week and not a drop of rain! So, many fells were conquered and several kilometres covered, much to the surprise of some of our junior girls. The arduous nature of the exercises did come as a bit of a shock to the system, but they did enjoy it. However, the expedition, mapwork, navigation and mountain biking all add to their BTEC achievements, if they choose to follow that qualification in the 6th form. Many of our current L6th NCOs are well on their way to full certification with their BTEC award, which is worth 4 GCSE pass grades. Several more of the Upper 6th have completed this term.

We were very fortunate in gaining four places on the Army's Cadet Leadership Course at Nesscliffe. This camp is designed for Junior NCOs and Cpls Phil Berry, Jonathan Drake, Ben Blackburn and Ben Jones were all very lucky to be selected. The reports back on their performances were all very good and Phil Berry must be congratulated on gaining the highest category.

KGS was honoured on Sunday 13 May to host a visit by Air Commodore Gordon Moulds MBE RAF, Commandant of all RAF cadets. The Air Commodore visited the school to inspect the Cumbria and West Lancs Wing Training Day which the school has now hosted successfully for a number of years. Over 500 staff and cadets from ATC squadrons based all over the North West competed in a wide range of competitions including first-aid, drill, and aircraft recognition. The cadets of the RAF section of the school Combined Cadet Force also competed in a number of events.

Courses like these are an excellent opportunity for cadets to be tested and show their potential leadership qualities, especially if a service career is possible. On this note we must congratulate Old Kirkhamian, 2Lt Nick Bridges on his passing out from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. Nick has helped us out at school, on camps and field days for the last few years and we wish him all the best for the future with the Royal Tank Regiment. After a short tour in Germany, his unit is to be posted to Iraq.

At this moment we are looking towards the summer field day, which should be live firing for the 4th year cadets at Halton-on-Lune training camp. The culmination of the year should be our annual summer camp in July. This year we return to Wathgill in North Yorkshire, part of Catterick Garrison, an excellent camp with superb facilities, accommodation and training areas.





# Gold Strike!



Although throughout the winter term no expeditions are undertaken a great deal of work continues with the D of E Award. We have over 30 4th years signed up for the Bronze Award and they are all working hard on their skill, service and physical sections. A number have also been attending Expedition Training sessions, in preparation for our Summer trip to Snowdonia.

Many of our 5th year and 6th form are well on their way to completing their awards. We recently had confirmation that Rachel and Peter Greaves Bird

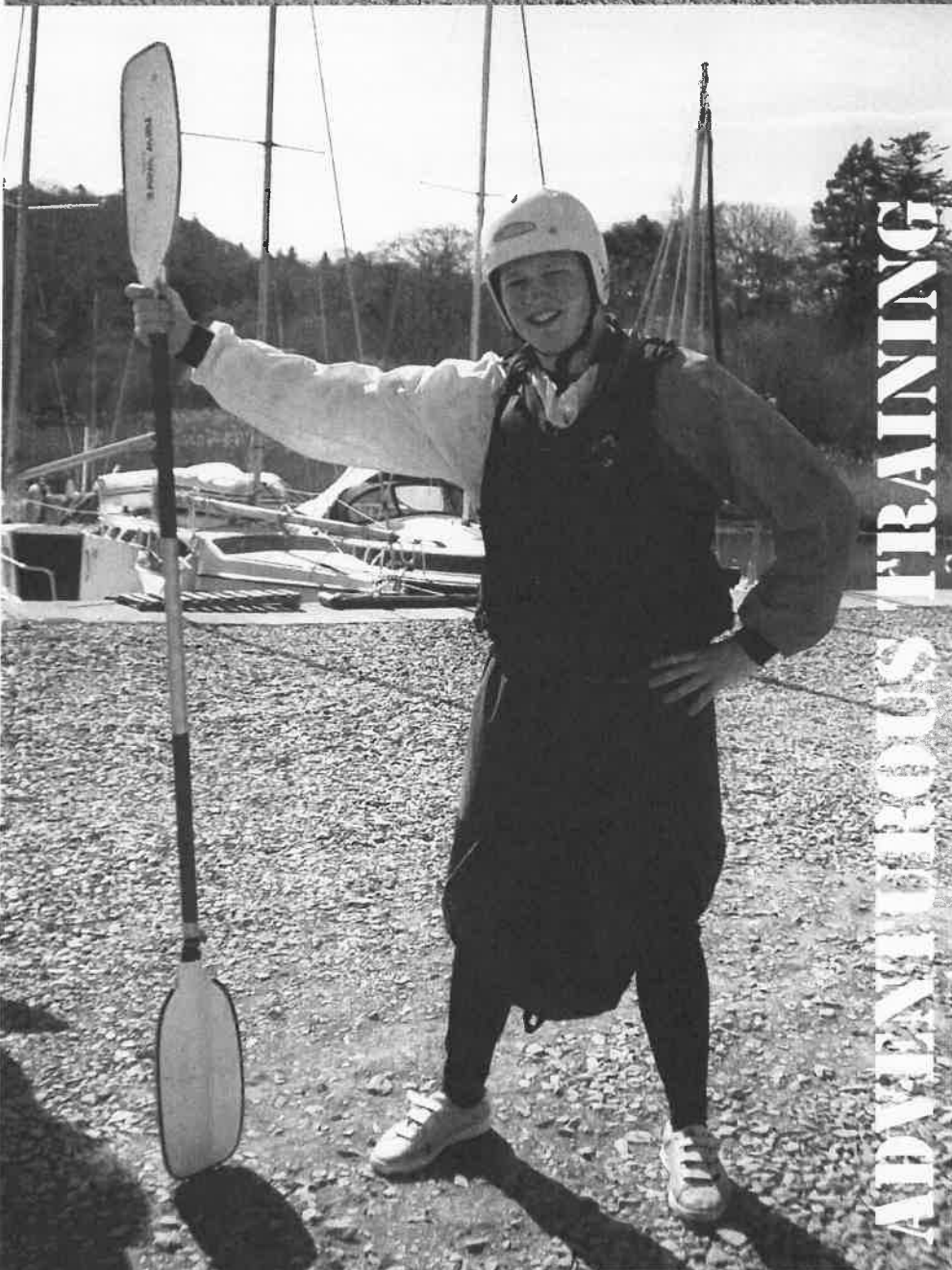


(photo above, typical walking gear!) have been successful in attaining their Gold Award. This is a great achievement that will be capped when they travel down to St. James's Palace to be presented their award and certificate by Prince Phillip.

Congratulations must also be expressed to the other students who have received awards since the last newsletter Grace Garlington, Lucy Knowles, Jade Mottley, Becca Lancaster and Daniel Crankshaw who have all received their Bronze Awards this term.

The trip to Snowdonia will incorporate a Gold group, Silver group and four Bronze groups, who will enjoy the scenery of North Wales. The Bronze and Silver groups will be based in the Betws-y-Coed area, whilst the Gold group have planned a route from Caernarfon to Conwy taking in such highlights as Devil's Kitchen, Capel Curig and Carnudd Llewelyn. We wish all the participants the best for their adventure.

Any student from 4th year upwards can sign up to the D of E Award, please see the school calendar for more information about meetings.





Art Club  
Chess Club  
Climbing Club  
Croquet Club  
Debating Society  
Duke of Edinburgh  
Drama Club  
Environmental Action Group  
Relaxation, Meditation and Stretching  
Greek Club  
Handicraft Society  
Magic Circle  
Music Society  
Law Society  
Quiz and Games Club  
Radio Wired Club  
Scribblers Club  
Shooting Club  
Sixth Form Discussion Group  
Volleyball Club  
Warhammer Club  
Writers in School  
Young Engineers

## Pupils Go Clubbing!

It's official. Clubbing at Kirkham Grammar School is on the increase, and it is being wholly endorsed by the Headmaster and his teaching and support staff.

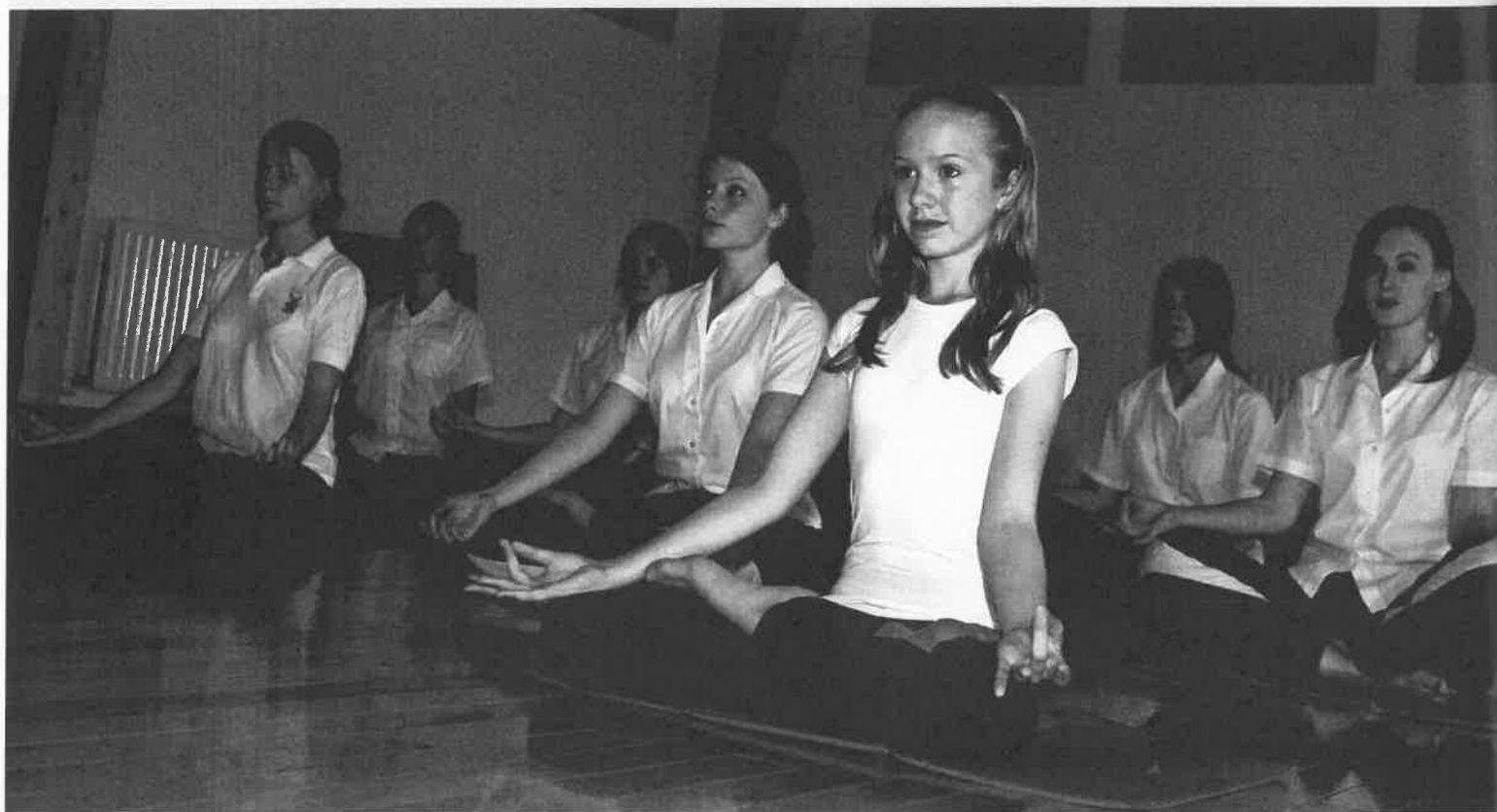
The school's aspiration to develop young people who will grow in self-confidence and self esteem, pursuing a breadth of interests and activities on the KGS campus, has received a boost in recent months. Members of the student body have led the development of a number of new clubs and societies, building on the firm foundation of extra curricular involvement that already exists.

As a prime example, members of the Lower School have orchestrated the arrival of Warhammer Club. In the art room on Tuesday lunchtimes there is a lively buzz as boys and girls can be seen enthusiastically painting model figures, creating battle ground boards and planning strategies as their armies prepare to do combat. It is all innocent fun but purists urge the need for caution: this hobby can quickly become a passion.

In contrast to the energy of battling troops, a group of 4th year girls with years of yoga experience, and a non-competitive outlook to exercise and well-being, have formed a club which issues an intriguing invitation to: "come and take part in the spirit of relaxation, meditation and stretching". The activity calls upon physical and mental control. It is different - almost spiritual - and surprisingly energising. Numbers this year have been small but the girls do see great merit in their initiative and I hope they will have more support next year.

This year we must applaud the students and supporting staff who have also spawned the Handicrafts Club (who could have predicted that knitting would make a return?) the Greek club, the Junior Art club, the Law Society, the Quiz and Games club. All the clubs and societies add to the large number of old favourites that run from year to year. Yet more like Sixth Form Film Society and 'Ablaze', a Christian Union group, are in the throes of preparation for launch in September.

At KGS the scope to add new clubs and societies is always there. Once again as the new academic year begins students will be invited to attend the Clubs and Societies Fair, and once again our youngsters will be challenged to present their interests and activities by forming new clubs, if the activities on offer fail to spark interest. Involvement beyond the classroom is hugely valuable and productive. Our aim to encourage our pupils to immerse themselves in the wider life of the school remains strong.





## Climbing Club

During spring the club visited climbing walls in Preston, Clitheroe and Lancaster as well as one memorable visit to the huge climbing complex in Kendal. This is the biggest wall in the area and it offers a huge variety of climbing. Joe Robinson led a route up the awesome main wall which was then seconded by Elena Gaddes. Plenty of excitement was also generated by the (usually successful) attempts to climb the giant stalactite which is a unique feature of this climbing wall.

The superb weather early in the summer term allowed climbing at all the major gritstone quarries which lie scattered across the hills south of Blackburn. Joe Leeming, a newcomer to the club, shows great promise because he manages to combine strength and technique. Michael Bennett and Maria Hindley also continue to improve and another new recruit, Stuart Spencer, also impressed by quickly making progress through the grades. Climbing outdoors gave Ed Askew and Richard Draper an opportunity to get to grips with real rock, after having done so well on synthetic climbing walls over the winter. They both made good progress, but it has to be said that they still do relatively better on overhanging routes, perhaps because these are reminiscent of the demanding routes of indoor walls. The term ended with us saying goodbye to the three officers of the club (Joe Robinson, Nicola Clough and Paul Taylor) who have done so much to make climbing an enjoyable and successful experience this year.



## Warhammer Club

The Warhammer Club, just like the Phoenix, has risen from the ashes and is now a popular club for many first years.

Every week we meet to paint models and practice gaming. We have managed to acquire two large gaming boards and many new modelling kits that were kindly donated by Games Workshop.

We are looking to establish a variety of large armies that will allow us to compete in competitions locally and hopefully nationally. With some excellent painters and experienced players we are starting to teach these skills to many newcomers. We look forward to a new intake of first years whom we can interest in Warhammer.



## YOUNG ENGINEERS

Pictured in front of a Royal Navy Sea Harrier are Peter Armstrong, Joe Douglass and Oliver Youngman at the Royal Navy Operation Enigma 2007 National Finals which were held on Thursday 29 March at HMS Sultan in Gosport.

The competition attracted entries from a large number of schools nationally of which 27 were selected for this year's National Final. This year's challenge required teams to design, build and remotely control a model amphibious vehicle that could negotiate both water and land and recover a missing 'satellite' that had fallen into hostile territory.

Teams had to make a five-minute presentation of their design to senior Royal Navy officers and were also judged on the quality of their final design, teamwork and corporate ID. Unfortunately, although the team's craft was working well at the start of the competition, it was beset by technical problems and the team was unable to complete a run of the course.





The second half of the Spring Term is dominated by the House Music Festival which this year attracted almost 500 individual entries. Auditions for the Festival took place over three days at the end of February and we are once again most grateful to Miss Dorothy Dickinson for assisting Mr Barratt in the marathon task of hearing all the auditions. From the initial 500 entrants, 25 soloists, 6 composers (a new class this year) and five vocal and instrumental ensembles were selected to go through to the Finals, which were adjudicated once more by Mr John Reeman. After giving a stunning performance of Chopin's Fantaisie Impromptu Alex Choy was declared the worthy winner, closely followed by Rose Whitehead (piano) and Jenny Patel (marimba). James Edgar and Ashley Parkinson won the Ensemble class, Ashley also winning the Composition class. The House Choir competition was won after a close battle by Kirkham House. The winners of the House Music Festival then went on to give a most enjoyable Gala Concert in the Old Hall at the end of March.

The Spring Concert held in the MPH on 10 May provided the opportunity for the school ensembles, Orchestra, Concert Band, String Group and Choir to shine alongside a group of talented soloists. The Spring Concert is also the opportunity for us to say our goodbyes and thanks to a number of Upper 6th Form musicians who have played a big part in KGS music over their time in school. It is also at this point that we give our thanks to Jemima Clarke, the excellent Music Secretary for 2006-7, as she passed on the role to Suzanne Midgley for 2007-8.

The regular series of Coffee Concerts, held on the last Friday of the month in the Old Hall, has continued. At the end of April the Upper 6th form musicians presented their A2 recital programmes and the May concert was given by 4th year GCSE musicians.

Our musicians have also been busy out of school, the String Group performing at Preston Guild Hall on 15th May prior to a Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra concert and the Concert Band taking part in the Kirkham and Rural Fylde Rotary Club's Summer Proms on 16th June. The Choir, as usual, took a central part in the school's Founders' Day service at St Michael's Church. Individually, many instrumentalists continue to play in the Lancashire Schools' ensembles as well as in various national ensembles.



# MUSIC





# GERMAN exchange2007





## RUN

On Bank Holiday Monday 7 May staff, students, KGS Parents and Old Kirkhamians, took part in the Rosemere Cancer Care 5 km Fun Run at Moor Park, Preston.

The weather was kind and all who took part completed the course and enjoyed the day. The event was not just for the elite runners; there were many who took on a real challenge to complete the 5km and they deserve to feel very proud of their achievement.

The first KGS female across the line was Lucy Knowles in a time of 26.02, slightly slower than last year, but this was due to her efforts motivating Mrs Sutcliffe around the first part of the course!

The sixth form boys impressed, with Alex Redshaw coming 18th in a time of 20.11, followed by Stuart Rowland, Chris Bamber, Daniel Crankshaw, Jonathan Knowles and Chris Ward, all with times under 26 minutes.

It was wonderful to catch up with a number of Old Kirkhamians; Rachel Brown, Marcus Jackson and Daniel Fryer enjoyed a joke with teacher Richard Taylor at the end of their run and promised to return next year to once again represent the KGS contingent.

Special mention must go Emma Jordan and Antonia Price who completed the course in fancy dress. Their pink hula girl outfits were impressive as was their time of 28 minutes.

As well as the Fun Run there was also a 2km sponsored walk, which sounds the easier option, unless of course you are dressed as the Village People and you dance and sing 'YMCA' for the duration. The chorus of 5th year girls, (Grace Garlington, Charlotte Jackson, Corin Heney, Caitlin McMillan and Misty Hammond), looked fantastic and put their heart and soul into the event.

Hopefully over £700 has been raised for the Rosemere Cancer Care Foundation by the efforts of those who took part.



## YOUNG WRITERS COMPETITION

Kirkham Grammar School has been awarded a prize for its contribution to the Young Writers of the Year Competition. This national competition involves the selection of outstanding poetry written by pupils for an annual publication. The school has had outstanding success in encouraging its students to produce material and a large number of poems have appeared regularly in the publication. Copies are available in the School Library. Mrs Yvonne Jones, who co-ordinates the entry, was very pleased to receive the award and plans to use the cheque for £250 to extend the book collection in the Library.

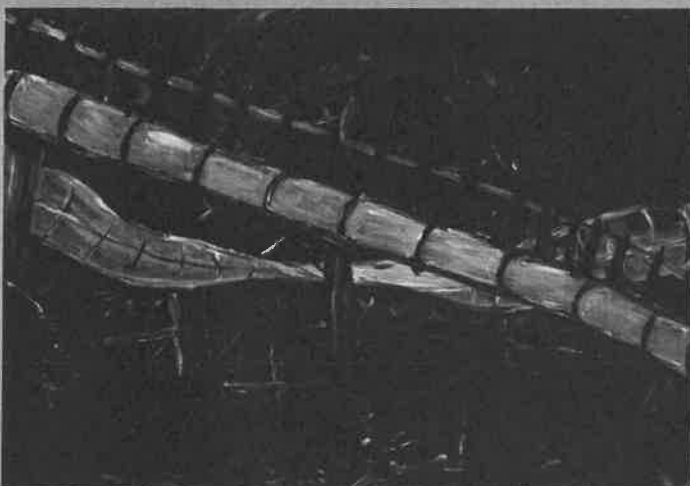
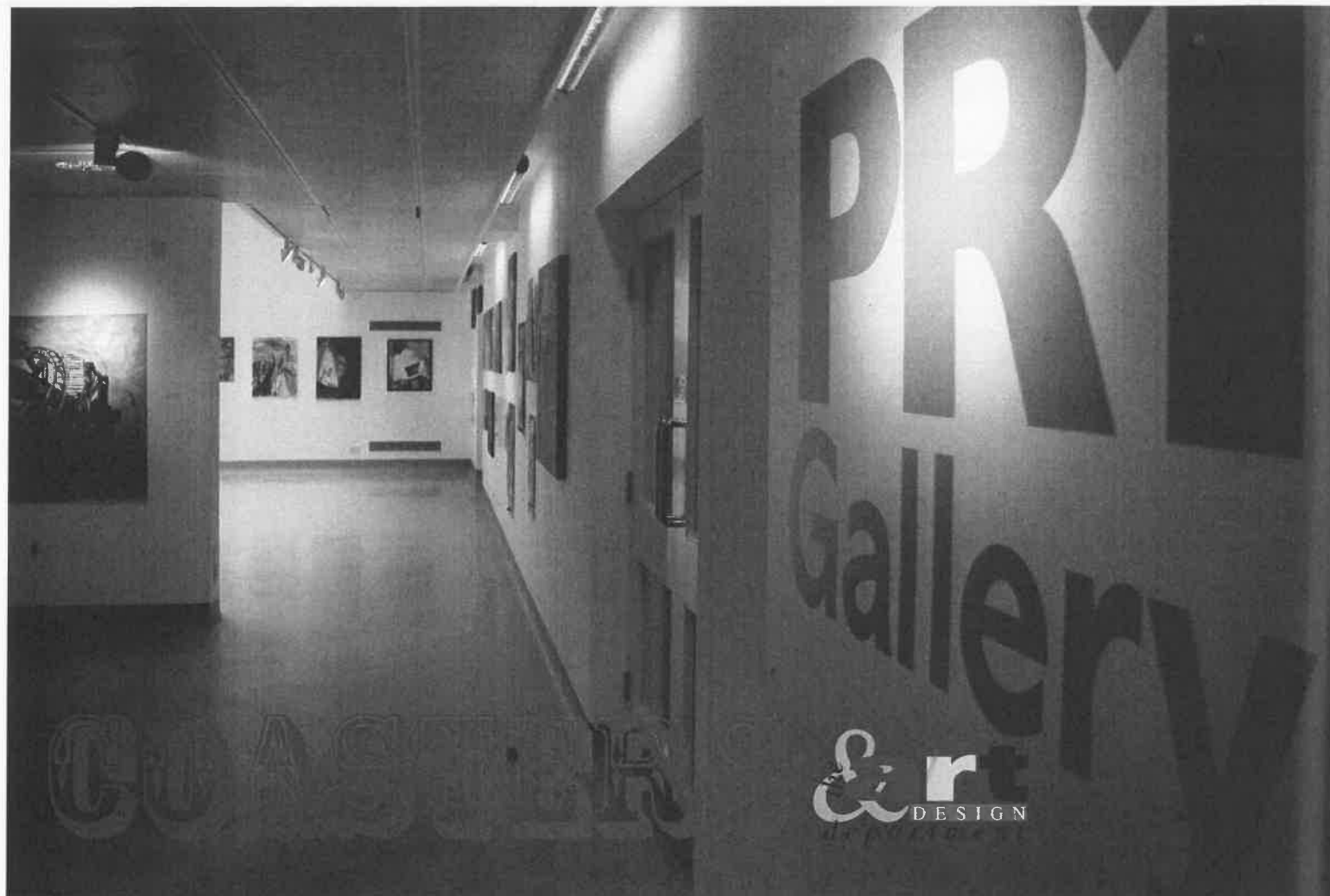
The award celebrates the fact the KGS was selected as one of the top sixteen schools nationally in providing poetry of sufficient quality to be published. Mrs Jones said "It is so nice that the pupils work receives recognition in this way and that this publication provides encouragement for their creative talents. I hope the funds gained can provide further inspiration for the coming year in the form of some interesting literature".

## LAMDA AWARDS

No less than fifty nine pupils attempted the assessments run by the Lamda Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts and they have achieved an outstanding level of success. Nine pupils gained a minimum of bronze award in the acting category while twelve gained distinctions in the speaking tests. A further thirty four pupils attained merit status.

These awards are testimony to the work of Mrs Heney in her tuition of nearly one hundred pupils pursuing these prestigious standards. There is no doubt they build confidence in public speaking and presentation and all the successful candidates deserve congratulations on their success.

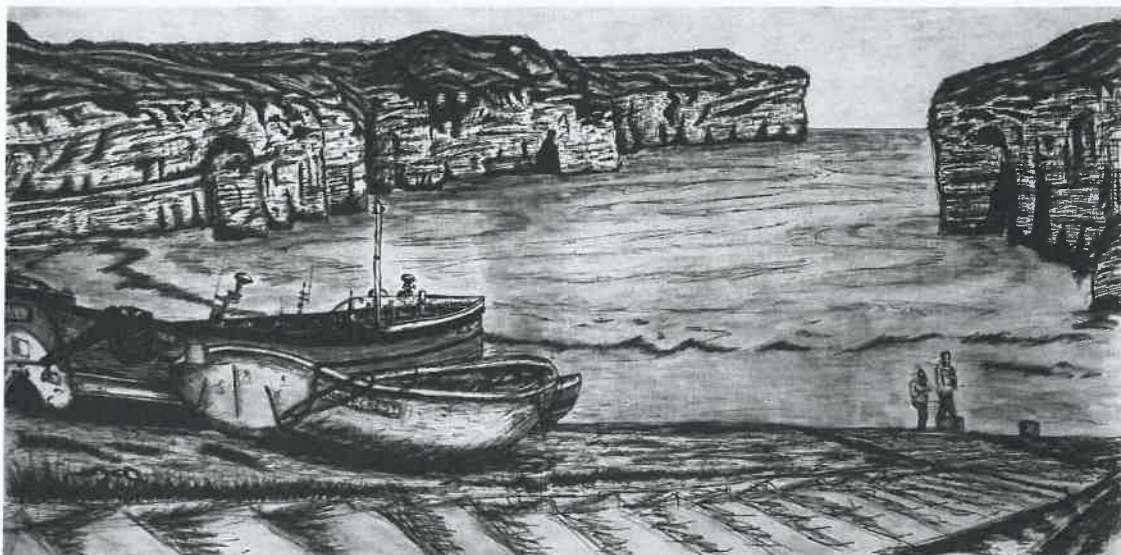




After many months of planning, sketching and painting it all came into focus when the work was hung on display in a gallery. The artists at Kirkham had their "Coasters" project work on display at the University of Central Lancashire's Gallery PR1. The work on exhibit marked the end of a journey for many pupils, but for some the catalyst for even bigger and better things.



# A Level Art 07







# Scarborough 07

Twenty sixth formers and four staff returned from a very active joint Art and Geography trip that saw them travel up and down the Yorkshire coast visiting Whitby, Robin Hood's Bay, Filey, Flamborough Head and the first seaside resort Scarborough.

## SmART move

Using Scarborough as a base a combined group of Lower and Upper Sixth artists sketched their way up and down the coast in preparation for their AS and A2 modules. Using various media the students produced work that was used to prepare for their exams back at school. This opportunity to work outside for three whole days was a real revelation for the U6 last year with their best work resulting from the experience. As a result, the work they created this year was even better, with the knock on effect of inspiring the L6 and generating a fantastic work ethic with students working late into the night.

There were many locations that they sketched with Robin Hood's Bay (photograph above) and the North Bay at Flamborough Head being the most popular locations. One interesting exercise was working from within the church grounds at the base of Scarborough Castle at dusk. The highlight was trying to draw with the light of iPods and mobile phones (below right photograph features time-lapse photograph).

Once back at school the sketchbooks were called upon to turn their experience into a painting. This year the U6 decided to attempt large-scale pieces to depict the landscapes that they had drawn from (see the Art Department's exhibitions page). The work that the sixth formers produced was varied in style and of the highest standard with the A Level Examiner selecting a number of students work to be used as examples of top grades. The work is on display in the School Dining Hall.

This experience showed that it was indeed a smart move to hook up with the Geographers on their field trip, as working outside was truly inspirational.







## Geographers get 'out and about'

Summer is always the time when KGS Geographers get 'out and about'. With the Upper 6th finishing their practical fieldwork, they decided to celebrate by designing a hoody to mark the event. Been there, done the work – got the hoody!

As last year, the summer term saw the annual exodus to Scarborough with the Lower 6th, accompanied again by the art students. We had an excellent week; weather perfect, scenery fantastic and company very enjoyable.

Messrs Brown and Calvert very ably solved the initial initiative exercise of packing ten burly blokes, all their kit, Ms Kelly and Mr Scott, into the minibus, with room to spare! The artists had similar problems with all their hair straighteners/curlers and fashion items! (There were more girls!)

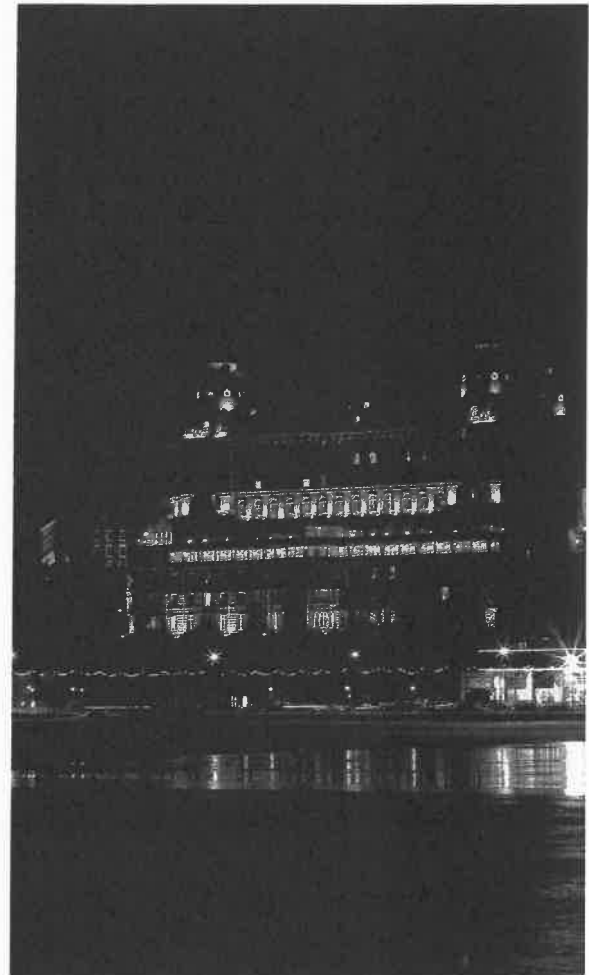
First stop was the 'Enlightened Industrialists' Utopian idea' of a settlement for his workers – Saltaire, where the geographers had a guided tour and the artists visited the Hockney Gallery. Then on to sunny Scarborough, where Oliver's Mount and the racing circuit was mastered. We checked in to the hotel and then it was out and about. Scarborough's castle and harbour introduced the history of the town and the sea front attractions of crustaceans were enjoyed by a select few. The rest preferred to gorge themselves on giant ice creams (photo below) from the Harbour Bar.

Three very full days followed. We undertook a wealth of data collection on the River Derwent; a very interesting historical tour of York and a coastal survey from Scarborough to Bridlington. All these topics prepared the students for their forthcoming AS level exams.

Not to be outdone by the Upper 6th geographers, the Lower 6th also had their own design of 'Geography hoody'. This may become a regular dress item to identify the Geographers from other departments!

Just before half term, the 4th year geographers set off on their GCSE fieldwork days. Whether in the Trough of Bowland or Kirkham, much data capture was undertaken and now the job of writing up the reports will begin over the summer break. This vital piece of coursework is very important to the students, as it constitutes 25% of their final GCSE grade.

The junior forms are also getting to grips with geography outside the classroom. The second year continue with their trip to Ingleton Falls and White Scar caves. This year the 1st year is combining with the history department, for a trip to Clitheroe and Skipton. We wait with anticipation for what can be arranged for the third year in future.



# THE APPRENTICE



All the Lower 6th and Upper 6th Business students have been glued to the TV screens every Wednesday night to see the latest episode of 'The Apprentice'. Heated discussions have often followed over the merits of the candidates as each week they faced Sir Alan Sugar to see who had been FIRED!

With more twists and turns than the Big Dipper Simon Ambrose was appointed the new apprentice.

Perhaps Alan Sugar should consult with our very own Business Studies Students as no less than eight of them (and Mrs Lang of course) picked out Simon Ambrose as the winner after watching just three episodes! All the students are looking forward to receiving their prize from the Headmaster before we break for the summer holidays.

The students who chose Katie as the potential winner, were shocked at her surprise decision to stand down in the penultimate episode, which just goes to show you should never judge a book by its cover.

Simon is the lovable character, the man remembered more for his incident with the trampoline legs than his outstanding performances in the tasks. But each week we saw the young man pull it off. Even his crazy punt on the wheelchair came through. So it's no surprise the candidate with the highest IQ in the series managed to slip into victory and become Sir Alan's third apprentice.

The ex-public school boy, with a double first from Cambridge, makes a change from Sir Alan's last two apprentices.

Simon's charm, clever ways, energy and enthusiasm are made for the property world. He might have designed a building that looked like an abstract bunch of bananas, but his performance in the presentation was outstanding. He held the floor.

For twelve weeks he played the fool, but as clever Simon says, 'If you know the story of Shakespeare's King Lear, the fool is the smartest of the lot'.



## Business Awareness Day

KGS was fortunate to have the valuable business input of Mr Tim Knowles- First Investment Ltd, Mrs Carolyn Thompson and Mr Jeremy Smith of Beaverbooks the Jewellers in St Annes.

The Business Awareness Day commenced with a presentation from Carolyn Thompson about the culture of Beaverbooks and how this helps them to operate a truly employee friendly environment contributing to them, consistently over the past 4 years, being awarded The Sunday Times 'Best Company to Work For' and Retail Employer of the Year, and for 2007 the FT voted them the number one company to work for in the UK and amongst the Top 10 companies in Europe.

Jeremy Smith, who is the Marketing Manager for Beaverbooks, brought the world of branding and marketing very much alive to the students, providing them with first hand examples of how their text book learning applies in a real working environment.

In the afternoon, we were pleased to welcome Mr Tim Knowles of First Investments Ltd to a questions and answers session, which mainly concentrated on entrepreneurship and the difficulties and rewards of running your own business. Mr Knowles was frank and honest with the students, who were enthusiastic to learn more about what makes a successful business and those aspects of operations that contribute to its continual survival and growth.

Our sincere thanks go to all participants on the day who added such value and were an inspiration to the upper and lower sixth groups.

## "CHAMELEON" SWEEP THE BOARD!

Last year in the Regional Young Enterprise Competition Kirkham gathered a clutch of trophies and the young directors of "Chameleon" knew there was a challenge on in matching their achievements.

The team had prepared well under the direction of Managing Director Christopher Box. Christopher was delighted with the work of his team recording "What has certainly been noticeable throughout the year has been the enthusiasm to succeed shown by all those involved". Nonetheless they set out for Fleetwood aware that they were the holders and keeping the trophies would be tough.

In the event they need not have worried for they swept the board again winning Best Report Trophy, Best Trade Stand and the Overall Trophy for Best Company. The team enjoyed a dream night and now proceed on to the Divisional Stage of the Competition. Hopefully their enterprising array of products and schemes will dazzle the judges once again at this next level.

Headmaster, Douglas Walker, registered his pleasure. "From the outset we knew they had a difficult task but from the moment they named the company as Chameleon - "adapting to your every need" - we knew they were switched on! They have taken calculated risks and these have come off.

In the North West finals the team gained another trophy for Administrative Performance. While they narrowly missed moving on to the next phase the company once again presented themselves well despite the fact that many were in the midst of their AS level examinations. Future years will have a lot to live up to!





## Helicopter Drops In



A Royal Navy Sea King Mk 5 arrived at KGS recently. The Search and Rescue aircraft swooped in and landed on the 1st XV field supported by its five crew from 771 Squadron based at Royal Navy Air Station Culdrose, Cornwall. Pupils and staff were able to look around the aircraft, speak to the crew about their work and they were given a presentation on life on and above the ocean waves and recent rescue missions.

The visit to the school was part of a three day venture by The Royal Navy with the helicopter going to five schools in the North West in all. It is part of an initiative to raise awareness of The Royal Navy and especially the Fleet Air Arm which provides search and rescue cover to large sections of the UK coastline 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, typically at 15 minutes' notice.

Most recently 771 Squadron was involved in the rescue of 26 sailors from cargo ship MSC Napoli, which was grounded off the coast of Devon in January.





# Diary Dates

## 'A' Level Results

10.00 am, Thursday, 16 August

## GCSE Results

10.00 am, Thursday, 23 August

## 1st Year Induction Day

8.45 am, Tuesday, 4 September

## New School Year begins

8.45 am, Wednesday, 5 September

## Senior School Annual Prizegiving and Speech Day at the Guild Hall, Preston

Thursday, 20 September — 7.15 for 7.30 pm

## Friends of KGS AGM

Monday, 24 September

## Old Kirkhamians' Association AGM & Northern Reunion Dinner

Saturday, 6 October

## New Parents Welcome Evening

Tuesday, 9 October

## Open Afternoon

Sunday, 14 October

## Open Evening

Monday, 12 November

## Friends of KGS Winter Ball at Ribby Hall, Wrea Green

17 November

## OKA vs Wooden Spoon AA's Rugby Match

Sunday, 18 November

## Friends of KGS Christmas Fair

Friday, 23 November

## "Young" OKA Reunion

at Preston Grasshoppers RFC

Sunday, 23 December

1999-2000	Helen Critchley
2000-2001	
2001-2002	Paul Fox/Sophie H
2002-2003	Rebecca Ridley
2003-2004	Jack Ward
2004-2005	Isobel Morley
2005-2006	Matthew Stanbury
2006-2007	Gordon Cheng
2007-2008	Sophie Gallagher



## Library

Within days of returning from the Spring half-term World Book Day was upon us. 2007 saw the 10th anniversary of this event and we celebrated with our customary day of storytelling. It was nice to welcome some 'new' readers this year; Mrs Sutcliffe, Mrs Fyson and Mrs Heyes joined our 'regular' team. The generosity of our pupils enabled us to send £150 to Book Aid International, a charity which supplies books to support education in the developing world.

The usual round of library-based lessons have taken place and it is good to see the pupils so at ease with the research process.

Our Easter Scribblers' recital was very popular with the audience of children, many of whom turned out to support their friends who were reading out their writing. Some excellent work was shared, giving inspiration to all who heard it.

The Quiz and Games Society is growing in popularity, although the fine weather means a reduction in attendance, as is only to be expected. The new games and puzzles have been appreciated; Disx is by far the most popular with keen competition between its' aficionados.

The website progress has been slower than planned because of the software upgrade which led to the inevitable 'glitches', but much of the material is now on-line and full credit must go to Danny Yu, who leaves KGS this summer to return to Hong Kong. His patience and creativity have been excellent and he will be much missed.

We were very fortunate to have a visit from Mrs Helena Pielichaty (photo right), an author whose books are published by Oxford University Press. She was extremely amusing and entertaining and the lower school pupils enjoyed her talks on the creative process — the Year 9 pupils produced some excellent work and everyone voted the day a great success.

We have again shadowed The Carnegie Award and the somewhat strange shortlist has produced some interesting discussion and debate. This year the pupils in the Junior School have been involved with the Kate Greenaway Award, which is given to illustrators. The six books were read aloud to all the pupils, who then each voted for their favourite after looking at them carefully. It has been a very enjoyable experience and I appreciated being able to meet all the children and their teachers. Mr Walker was able to join the Carnegie group for the final judging and witnessed some very lively debate: both schools have mirrored the views of other shadowing groups and have chosen "My swordhand is singing" by Marcus Sedgwick for the Carnegie Award and "Scoop" by Monty Molenski for the Kate Greenaway Award. The official judges have, however, chosen unexpected winners and their decisions have elicited gasps of disbelief from our pupils. The debates have been excellent and all the participants want to take part again next year — a sure sign of a successful formula!

Kirkham Grammar School welcomed a visitor from the USA on Friday. Mrs Audrey Ashworth (photo left with Mrs Copland in blue), who grew up on the Fylde, is the School Librarian at Shady Side Academy in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Shady Side is an independent school with an ethos and academic standard very similar to Kirkham Grammar. Her school has paid for Mrs Ashworth to visit schools in England in order to look at developments in school libraries and encourage contacts with other librarians. She was able to spend the afternoon with Mrs Carolyn Copland, School Librarian at Kirkham, and she spoke to some Year 9 pupils who were working in the library on a Religious Studies project. The visit was a great success and has provided an opportunity for future co-operation and the sharing of good ideas. Mrs Ashworth's husband, Dr Graham Ashworth, used to work at Blackpool Grammar School with Mrs Sylvia Fletcher, who then came to KGS to teach mathematics. It's a small world!



Mrs Copland





## KGS LADIES LUNCH CLUB

The KGS Ladies Lunch Club's first lunch was held in March. We raised £225 for the South African Rugby Tour and had a great afternoon in the process. The Lunch Club wasn't started as a fundraiser, it was started because I found that when my daughter started in the Senior School it became a lot harder to keep in touch with all the friends I had made when she was in the Junior School. This was a great solution and the fundraising a bonus.

After a successful first lunch I went on to organise one in May, which was held at the Dalmeny Hotel, St Annes. Again we had a lovely afternoon catching up with friends and raised £245 for the Senior School Hockey Department (the funds are raised within the cost of the lunch and there are no raffles). We have also had a theatre night seeing Pam Ann at the Grand in Blackpool, which was hilarious.

Anyone is welcome to the lunches or nights out, a few mums whose children are new to the Senior School have come and said it has been a great way to get to know other mums. Don't let the fact you don't know anyone put you off, we are a very friendly lot.

Contact details and details of lunches and nights out can be found on our website [www.kgsladies.org.uk](http://www.kgsladies.org.uk) and also the school website. The next lunch is 4 October at the Grand Hotel in St Annes at 12.00 pm.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next lunch.

Shirley Hope



## Revision Day

The Lower Sixth Business Studies students attended a voluntary revision day, during their study leave period. A full day's revision on the final topics of the AS examination papers were covered focusing on the economic data, production and people issues relating to an internet magazine. This proved a successful venture, with students participating in plenty of group work, exam technique practice and greater understanding of the case study scenario.

# UK MATHEMATICS CHALLENGES

## UK MATHEMATICS CHALLENGES

Kirkham Grammar School's Mathematics students have achieved considerable success in all levels of the UK Mathematics Challenges this year. Our A-level Mathematicians took the Senior Challenge back in November 2006, our fourth and fifth year students did the Intermediate Challenge in February this year and the most recent Junior Challenge taken by our second year students took place in April. UK Mathematics challenges are annual competitions entered only by the most able Mathematicians country-wide. The challenges consist of a one and a half hour multiple choice paper designed to promote mathematical thinking.

We are extremely proud of the following students who achieved awards:

### Senior Challenge

**Gold:** Paul Taylor (Best in School)  
Joe Robinson  
Alex Choy

### Intermediate Challenge

**Gold:** Michael Bennett (Best in School)  
Caitlin McMillan  
Robert Parr  
Jacob Hilton

### Junior Challenge

**Gold:** Jack Linley (Best in school)  
Joseph Walsh  
Ashley Bradshaw  
Emily Bourne  
Joseph Wareing

Jack Linley has also been selected to take part in the follow-up competition (Junior Mathematical Olympiad) on Tuesday, 12th June. We wish him every success in this.

## TEAM MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE

The following pupils: Charlotte Lucas  
Jack Linley  
Lucy Fielding  
Jack Rayson

represented Kirkham Grammar School on Tuesday, 1st May at the UK Team Mathematics Challenge, held at Arnold School.

The team participated in four different activities:

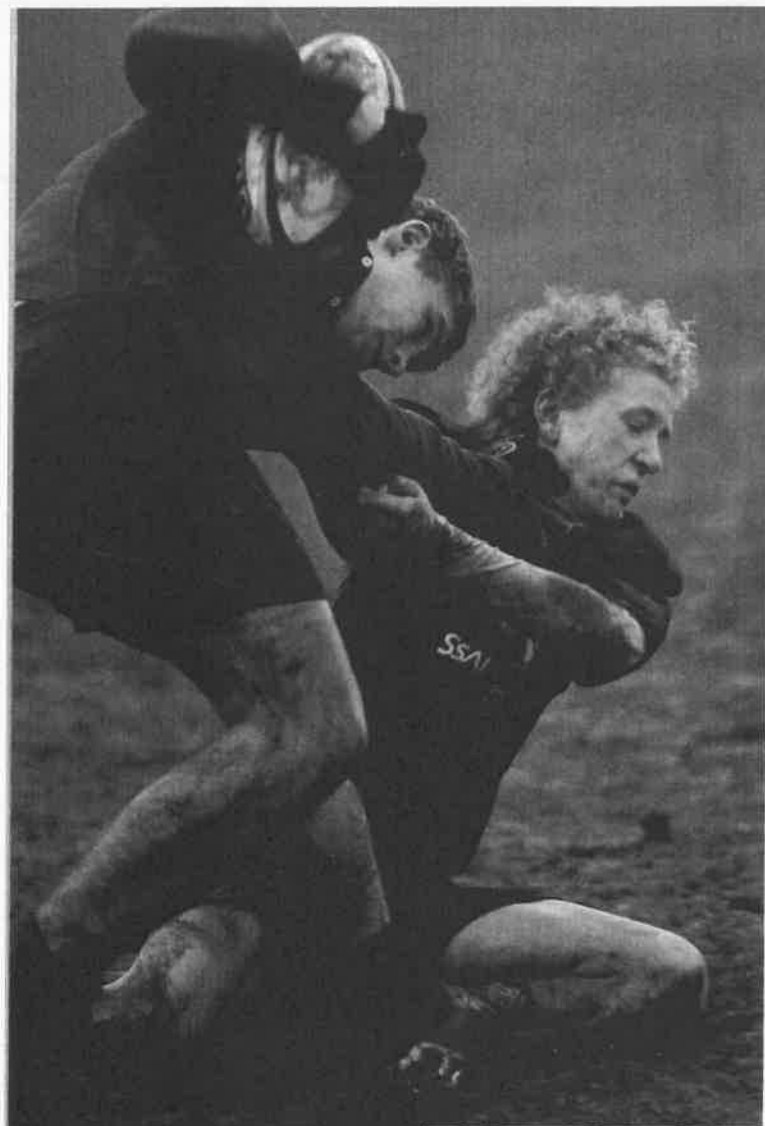
1. Group round - where they had to answer ten questions in 45 minutes as a team
2. Mathematical crossword - where two members of the team had the 'down' clues to solve and the other two had the 'across' clues
3. Head-to-head competition - involving pairs of each team to identify a secret rule linking a sequence of numbers
4. Relay race - two members of the team had to work quickly on a problem then pass it on to the other two members

Our team, accompanied by Miss Houghton, thoroughly enjoyed the day and they came 7th out of 23 schools. We look forward to participating in this event again next year.

Miss S R Howe  
Head of Mathematics

## SUMMER ACTIVITY CAMPS

David Shaw Tennis  
16 - 27 July 2007 (10 Days)  
Kings Sport  
30 July - 17 August 2007



## U14 Invitational Sevens Competition Richard J Wilson Trophy



GKS hosted their inaugural U14 Sevens Tournament which saw some exciting rugby held on two sites culminating in a fiercely contested final between the hosts and St David's, Llandudno. Ten schools competed for the Richard J Wilson Trophy which was presented in honour of GKS old boy and former 1st XV Captain Richard Wilson who was tragically killed in 2000. Two groups of five played each other initially and from the start Giggleswick, St David's, Sandbach and KGS themselves looked the teams to beat. However, Arnold was later to have a say in the overall standings. The afore mentioned sides went through to the main semi-finals with Audenshaw playing Standish High School in one Plate semi and Arnold playing West Hill from Manchester in the other semi-final. Both games were very close. Audenshaw winning 12-10 and Arnold winning 19-12. The Plate Final was a very close affair with Arnold coming away the winners by 14-10.

In the main competition the powerful St David's comprehensively dispatched Giggleswick 21-0 but the other semi-finalists, KGS and Sandbach battled out a tense game which went right to the wire when Joe Casson scored a fine break away try and then had to hang on as Sandbach rallied, KGS winning 19-12.

The final began with KGS mounting early pressure on the St David's line until a missed tackle allowed the muscular Jones to escape and score a 90 metre effort. KGS came back to score with Jake Hodgkinson putting the speedy Joe Casson away, but the Welsh School were not going to lie down and replied with two quick tries from their pace men. KGS tried to come back to no avail and St David's cut through a now tired KGS defence to record a 33-5 victory which was full deserved.

The winning trophies were present by Richard Wilson's father, Richard, to the delighted Captains of Arnold (Plate Winners) and St David's who will defend their title next year with relish.







## ITALY TOUR

The U15s returned from a successful and enjoyable week's tour of Northern Italy. The Federazione Italiana Rugby was founded in 1928 and joined the IRB in 1987 and the 6 nations in 2000. There are some 505 clubs and 15 provinces affiliated, with about 12,000 adult players, 21,000 teenage players and 400 pre-teen players involved.

The number of young players is increasing steadily and all rugby is organised on a club system. The teams that the boys played against are based on an U15 age group as of 1st January. The Italian Federation play to International Rugby Board regulations, which include lifting at U15 level.

Just prior to their final session they received their tour kit sponsored by WRT and DRS shop fitters and paused long enough to have a team photo with tour manager Dr A Rollins and Mr Lee Townsend, WRT Managing Director (photo left). For the seven day tour they were based at Jesolo RUFC just outside Venice, training and playing three games against local clubs. Their fixtures were scheduled for late afternoon, as players do not finish school until mid-afternoon. The Italian rugby was a new experience for the Kirkham boys as they were playing on firm grounds and were able to include lifting in the line-outs as the Italian Federation play to International Rugby Board regulations.

They boys played Piave di Soligio in the first match winning by 20-7. Try scorers included Chris Travis, Benedict Fulford-Brown and Chris Brown, with a conversion and penalty from Jamie Roper. The second match against Tarvisium (Treviso) was a tougher encounter on a very hard pitch but tries from Benedict Fulford-Brown and James Gardiner ensured a 10-5 victory. The third match in three days saw the boys playing their best rugby of the tour against a strong Calvisano side. Tries from Chris Travis and Benedict Fulford-Brown and a conversion by Jamie Roper were not quite enough as Calvisano came back strongly in the second half. At the end of the week the boys also enjoyed a cultural day around Venice and a day at Gardaland near to Lake Garda.

For some of the boys this was the first tour of the year as they were invited to join the touring side to South Africa. See the article regarding this tour.



# Accidental Death of an Anarchist

by Dario Fo

## Sixth Form Students' Satirical Success

Staging a political satire involving defenestration, police incompetence, government cover-up and political criticism is always a brave choice: staging such a play as part of an A-level Theatre Studies course seems almost foolhardy, but the Sixth Form students of Kirkham Grammar School have achieved a notable succes de scandale in their production of Dario Fo's *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*.

The bravura performance was created by the talented quartet of Tristan Brooke, Gordon Cheng, Oliver Fisher and Hazel Fox. Their directorial decision to rotate the roles of the play for each scene was both ambitious and effective: each had the opportunity to recraft the roles of the Maniac and the policemen in a way that reflected the obfuscation and the web of police lies that permeate the plot. A blend of the stylisation of *Commedia dell'Arte* and the vigour of farce, the result was a hilarious expose of the follies and deceptions of officialdom – a theme that has as much relevance today in Britain as it had in Italy in 1970.

The play entertained several audiences, including the whole of the Fourth Year at KGS – and the hilarity the performance elicited from these most critical of audiences is a real tribute to the actors' skill and professionalism. However, for the students concerned perhaps their most important audience was the panel of external judges from the examination board – their delight in the spectacle was shown by the award of full marks to all four students.

The play was a triumph for the directors and performers, a wonderful theatrical experience for all the audience and a testament of the strength of drama at KGS. It only remains to congratulate all four students:

Bravi! Bravissimi!





## Swashbuckling Duel

On March 15th all pupils from the First, Second and Third Years drew their swords, raised their muskets and filled their tankards in hot pursuit of the dashing D'Artagnan and the swashbuckling Three Musketeers.

As part of the new touring interactive French show for French learners in years 7 to 9, written by Adam Roberts for the award winning European Theatre Company, pupils were treated to an afternoon of swashbuckling adventure performed in French by a cast of French actors. Some lucky pupils were even given cameo roles as guards and allies of the crafty Cardinal Richelieu to thwart the efforts of D'Artagnan and the Musketeers.

In a drama of royalty, riches, disguise and surprise, pupils were invited into the prestigious court of Louis XIII, not only to dine and duel, but also to dance the night away at his celebrated masked ball.

The event was greatly appreciated by the audience of over 300 pupils, who enjoyed the chance to hear some familiar French phrases from the classroom being used in this classic tale.







# ski trip



It is reasonable to presume that on a ski trip, all we did was ski. However this was not the case for KGS's most recent excursion to Alpe d'Huez, France. This trip was a chance to make new friends, see new places, laugh more times than can be counted and gain new skills.

Each morning for the week we were mercilessly awakened at 7:00 sharp by one of the members of staff (including Mr Gardiner, Dr Hall, Mr Reeves, Mrs Benter, Mrs Cheyne and Mr Watson) hammering on our door. We had until 7:30 to get up and pull some salopettes and a t-shirt on. Although some people would argue that the skiing was the hardest part of the week, I believe that the initial thirty minutes of dragging yourself out of a warm bed was harder than anything that the piste could throw at you.

Once we were breakfasted and had applied sun cream until our faces shone we hit the slopes for two hours of intensive ski lessons. We were arranged into groups of beginners, intermediates and experts according to our past skiing experience and each group was taken off up various snow covered mountains by a red clad instructor. And so for two hours we zoomed about in the Alps learning how to snow plough, parallel turn, jump... and fall over spectacularly.

After our two hours had elapsed (and they did so with surprising swiftness) it was back to the hotel for lunch and one of the hotel's speciality- non alcoholic cocktails. Having been fed and watered we were then back on the snow for another two hour lesson.

At 3:15 we stumbled back into the hotel with aching legs and raced to our rooms - the winner having the trophy of first shower. Once we were washed and had put on some clean clothes we then had the remainder of the afternoon to do as we pleased. The options were; to go into town for the nicest crêpes you have ever tasted and the best sweet shop in the world; go to the hotel bar, have a drink and a game of pool/ table football; or simply stay in your room and relax.

Tea was at 7:30 and after the last of the dessert plates had been cleared away we were straight off to start our evening's activities. We did ice skating, karaoke, DVD night, bungee trampolining and a disco. But not all on the same evening. Once finished it was back to our rooms for an early night ready for the early get up the next morning.

There were many tired faces on the plane back to Manchester, however each also showed a sense of pride and achievement. For the trip, although tiring, produced many rewards, rewards that went beyond the shiny badges in people's pockets, rewards that would last each participant a life time. The rewards of friendship, discovering new talents and basically just having the time of your life.

Sarah Quarmby

Information regarding the 2008 trip can be found at:  
[www.kirkhamgrammar.co.uk/ski](http://www.kirkhamgrammar.co.uk/ski)  
 Dates, photos and general information about the resort are included.

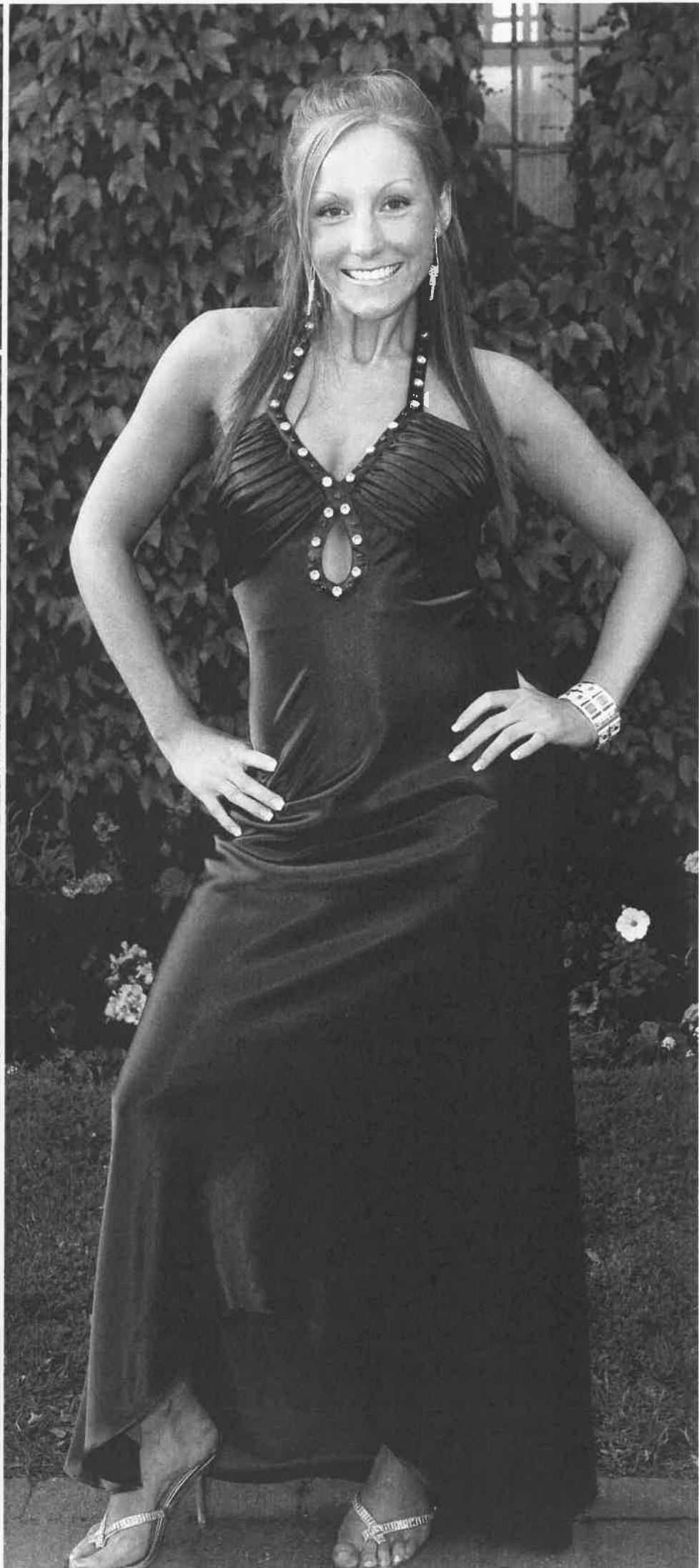
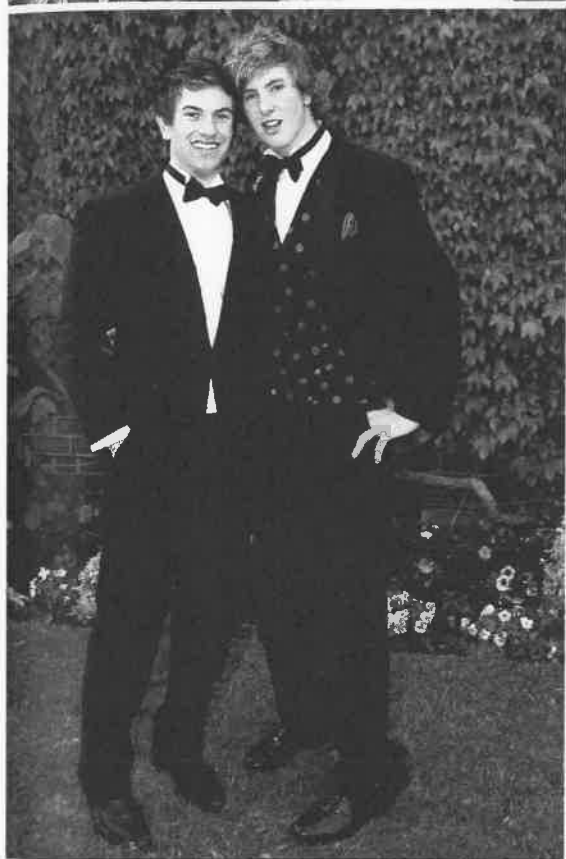


Sixth Form Leavers Ball 2007

Friday 23 May 2007

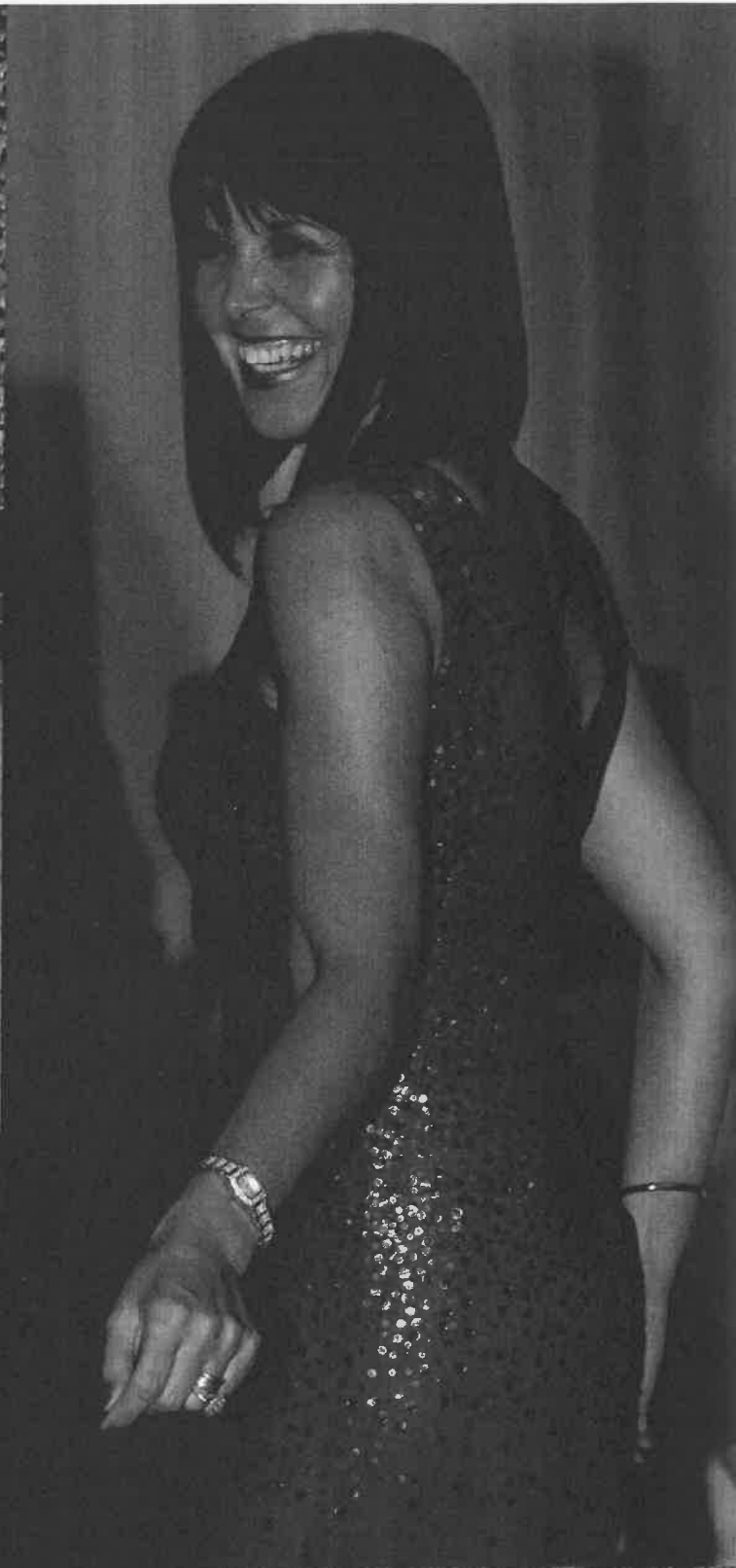






# Friends Summer Ball 2007









## Fairhaven Golf Day 2007

Kirkham Grammar School Rugby Fundraising Committee with the leadership of Lee Townsend (photo bottom right) hosted the school's first Golf Day on the 23rd May 2007 at Fairhaven Golf Club, Lytham.

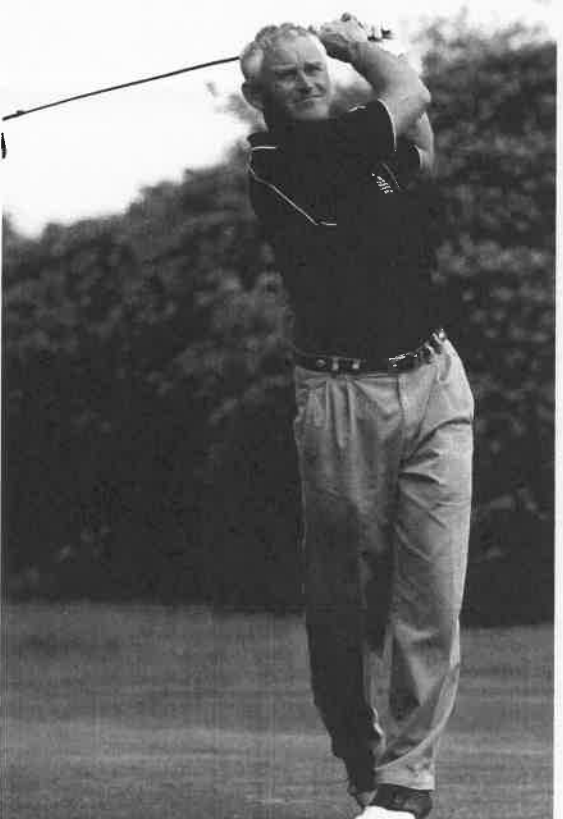
Founded in 1895 Fairhaven has played host to major professional tournaments, including hosting the Final Qualifying for 'The Open' Championship. Fairhaven has also welcomed numerous other major golfing events such as amateur international matches against Italy and Spain, the later seeing the debut of a young Sergio Garcia. Other Championships include the English Boys, English Mid Amateur and Lancashire County Championships and matches.

Recognised by the hierarchy of golf as one of the best courses in Northern England, Fairhaven the course was always going to test the players. As the teams started to arrive for bacon butties the weather forecast looked good. With a range of prizes on display, including four Rotary watches donated by Cole the Jeweller.

After a day's play the teams were unanimous in agreement that the course was "absolutely fantastic" especially with the weather being very kind. The evening meal and presentation capped a very enjoyable day's play with all teams wanting to compete again next year.

Companies and individuals are invited to enter a team of 4 in next year's competition with teams receiving a goody-bag, coffee and bacon butties on arrival, 18 holes of golf and a presentation dinner. There will be the usual prizes for winners/runners-up, nearest the pin and longest drive.

Anyone wanting more details contact the School Reception, 01772 684264.





## South Africa Rugby Tour 2007

After nearly two years fundraising the boys and staff are set to embark on a tour of a life-time. For the players it marks an opportunity to test themselves in another country and to realise how the game is played worldwide. The South African High Commissioner, Her Excellency Ms Lindiwe Mabuzza in her forward in the tour programme said that "this visit will be a unique opportunity to experience the beauty of our country, the warmth of its people and the vibrancy of our diverse cultures. It will be an opportunity for your players to test their skill and endurance in the game of rugby against well-trained and formidable opponents. Needless to say, matches against the host teams will be tightly contested, entertaining and hopefully generate considerable interest from spectators. However, as is always the case, it is the best team that will win".

Just as importantly it is also an opportunity to experience another culture and in this case the outstanding beauty of a country such as South Africa. To do this with one's school friends is a never to be forgotten experience. They will play hard and make the most of the experience making new friends who will enrich their lives in the future.

We must not forget that when the tour party sets forth in July they leave behind nearly two years of preparation. From the initial launch of the tour to the final preparations has been hard work for all concerned. Much of the work has centred around raising money in order to make the financial burden a little easier for the boys travelling on tour. Simply said, this tour would not have been possible without the planning and execution of fundraising activities born out of the work of Lee Townsend and his Fundraising Committee (photo right, 2nd from top). There is insufficient space here to list all the activities of the Fundraising Committee but the Grand Raffle, Auction Dinner featuring Phil Cool (photo top right) and the Golf Day stand out as the key moments in the fundraising campaign. In addition there were the smaller functions, although not big money spinners, but nevertheless worthy of mention as they often simply involved pupils, parents and staff getting stuck into car washes, manning stalls, hosting Halloween parties, bag packing – the list goes on. Our thanks go to all those that have been involved in the fundraising effort.

Finally, with respect to fundraising, thanks must extend to all those individuals, businesses and companies that have offered sponsorship to either individuals, or indeed to the party as a whole. Such valuable contributions have added to our fundraising efforts and made life much easier. These donations have not always been money, material donations ranging from playing shirts, ties, tracksuits have all helped the cause. A tour programme with forwards that feature Abdulla Shahid Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Malé - Republic of Maldives and the South African Football Captain Aaron Mokoena (photo bottom right) amongst others, is on sale and can be purchased from the school reception with all money going to the tour fund.

You can follow the tour's progress online at:  
[www.kirkhamgrammar.co.uk/southafrica](http://www.kirkhamgrammar.co.uk/southafrica)





## Friends

Well the summer holidays are upon us and I wish you all a relaxing time. The Friends of KGS have been busy raising money for the school over the last six months and would not be able to make generous donations to school without your help and support, so thank you to all parents who give their time, send in prizes, bake cakes and come along to the events we put on.

One of the highlights of this school year was the opening of the Lawrence House Pavilion and I was proud to represent the Friends at this and present a plaque for the Friends' Lounge in this new building in recognition of the donation of £30,000 we were able to contribute to this wonderful asset to the school. It has been so greatly admired by visitors, parents and pupils alike and I am sure will be a wonderful place for many people to escape to and enjoy a hot drink on the cold, wintry morning whilst various sporting activities are being held.

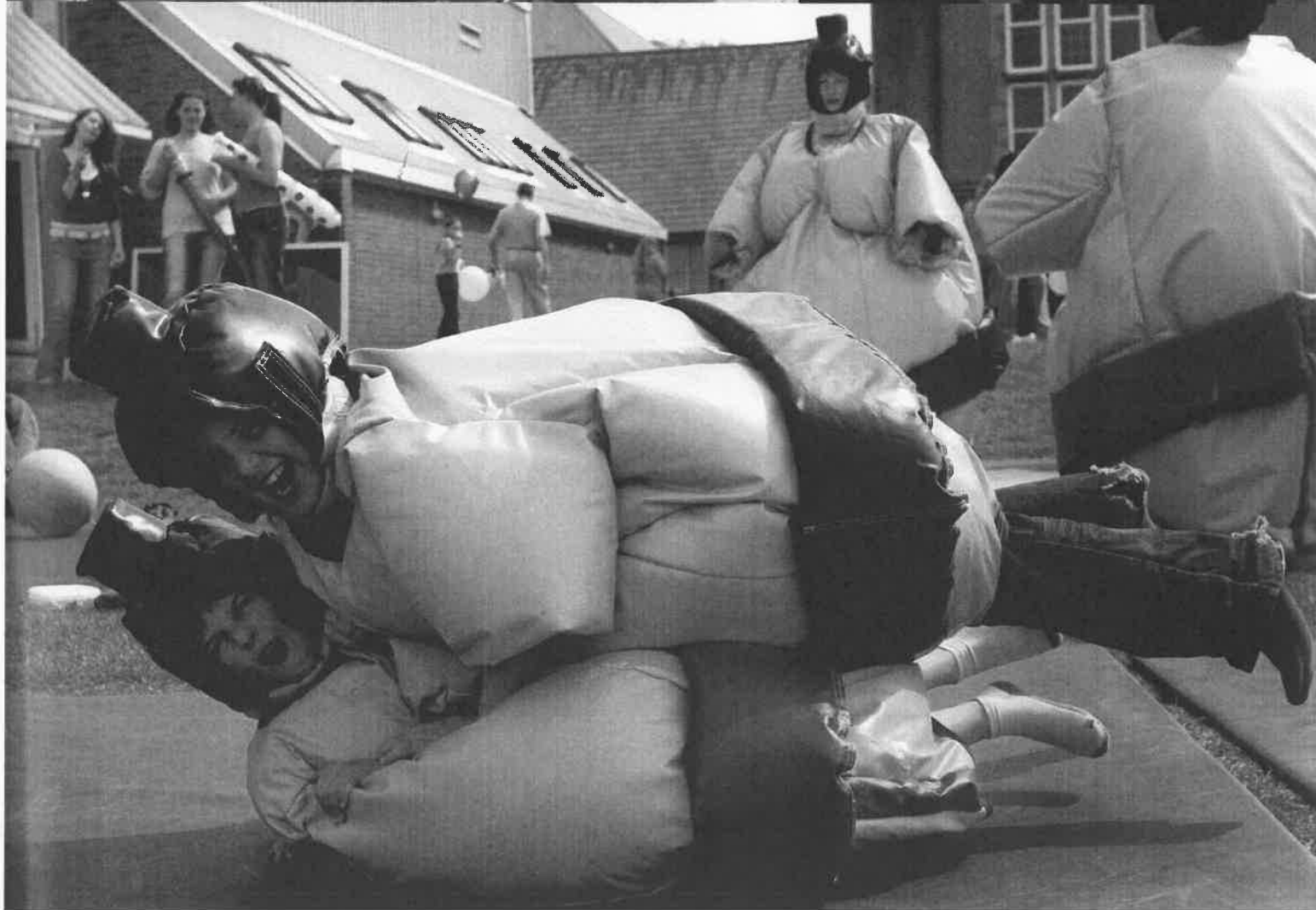
We were blessed with sunshine this year at our Fun Day in May and although we had many familiar stalls and attractions, I think the main event of the day must have been the TUG-OF-WAR CHALLENGE between the teachers and the rugby team. It was extremely close, with very determined faces on both teams but the younger element seemed to just have that little extra pulling power and were the very vocal winners. I am sure it is something to repeat again next year if we have any willing volunteers! We raised over £2,000 on the day. Thanks once again to all helpers that made the day a success.

The school year would not be complete without a mention of the Friends Summer Ball. We had sold out of tickets within weeks of them going on sale and just short of 400 joined us in the marquee on the school lawn for this prestigious event. This was such a wonderful evening and after a champagne reception there was a magnificent buffet provided by Ribby Hall and then we all partied the evening away in style. The Summer Ball had a small hard working committee who performed miracles and my thanks go to everyone for helping to make this such a memorable occasion.

As another school year ends pupils prepare to leave and new pupils start, we often lose experienced Friends off the committee so we are constantly looking for helpers to assist at fundraising events or even come and get involved in the life of the school through the Friends. Please do not hesitate to come along to the AGM in September. We really do make a difference to our school raising over £15,000 a year and enjoying ourselves in the process.

Lorraine Wareing  
Chairman Friends of Kirkham Grammar School







## Championship success for Kirkham's academy boys

Kirkham Grammar School's three budding football stars have ended a successful season in a blaze of glory, by playing a prominent part in Bolton Wanderers Reserve Team's winning the Barclay's Premiership Reserve League Northern Section.

Robert Sissons, Matthew Cassidy and Kevin Wolze have all featured strongly in the team's winning run, which saw them leapfrog rivals Manchester United and Manchester City to claim the League title on the last day of the season.

All three players have been combining their professional football careers at Bolton with part-time study at Kirkham Grammar, under a link between the club and the school which enables young players to maintain an academic career as a backup to their sporting career. The boys attend the school on two days of the week, studying for A-Levels alongside full-time students, whilst for the rest of the week, they are full-time professionals, based at the club's Euxton training complex.

Bolton Wanderers operate with one of the smallest squads in the Premiership, and as a result, the reserve team is made up mainly of youth players, with an average age of just 18. The youngsters stormed to the top of the League over the closing weeks of the

season, winning six consecutive games. The midfield partnership of Robert and Matthew has been seen many experts as the key to the side's success, whilst Kevin has also made a very strong impact: he scored the opening goal in their final day 3-1 victory over Newcastle United. After the victory, Matthew was named by the club's academy as their player of the year.

All three players have already been recognised at international Under 18 level: Robert for England, Matthew for the Republic of Ireland and Kevin for Germany. Kevin is at present playing for Germany in the UEFA European Under 17 Tournament in Belgium.

Meanwhile, they are all also busy revising for end-of-year exams at Kirkham, and continue to play their part in school life alongside their full time colleagues. Head of Sixth Form Adrian Long, who is a lifelong Wanderers supporter, and a regular at the Reebok Stadium, is proud to be helping his club to develop the next generation of talent: "all three boys have been an absolute credit to their club and their school. They have been utterly committed to academic success in their school work despite the many pressures of their football. We are very proud of them"



## Give a Triathlon a try

The annual St Annes Sprint Triathlon 2007 was bigger than ever this year with over 400 entries. Toby Townsend and Matthew Edgar (photo left) took part and clearly enjoyed the challenge. For next year you can have a try, so let Mr Taylor know and he will point you in the right direction. We could create a real community event for all ages (parents included).

Details can be found at:

<http://www.stannestriathlon.org.uk/>

# Invitation Hockey Tournament 2007



KGS once again hosted their prestigious U19 Invitation National Hockey Tournament. The weather was glorious, the spectators were in fine voice and an array of top class teams set foot on the KGS turf to compete for the prized trophy. The mighty Millfield School, Somerset, Rydal School the Welsh National Champions, The British Colleges Under 19s, Loughborough University and of course Kirkham Grammar School competed fiercely to win the title. All matches were eighteen minutes each way and the KGS girls were an absolute credit to the school, they drew 1-1 with Millfield, defeated Rydal 2-1, drew 0-0 after a very heated game with Loughborough and were really unlucky not to win after dominating much of the game. In their final game against the British Colleges team tired legs set in and the KGS team were very unfortunate to concede in the last minute of both halves to lose 2-0. KGS finished one point behind Millfield in third place, a very impressive result indeed! Jess Morris, the KGS forward, was voted and awarded player of the tournament by all the team coaches. Congratulations to Kate Gledhill Captain, Alex Bonney, Jemma Thackray, Lauren Aspden, Mel Smith, Becky Preskey, Georgina Fulford-Brown, Jess Morris, Jenny Bowden, Sam Shopland-Reed, Nicole Pike, Emma Fagan, Katie Gorman and Jade Mottley.



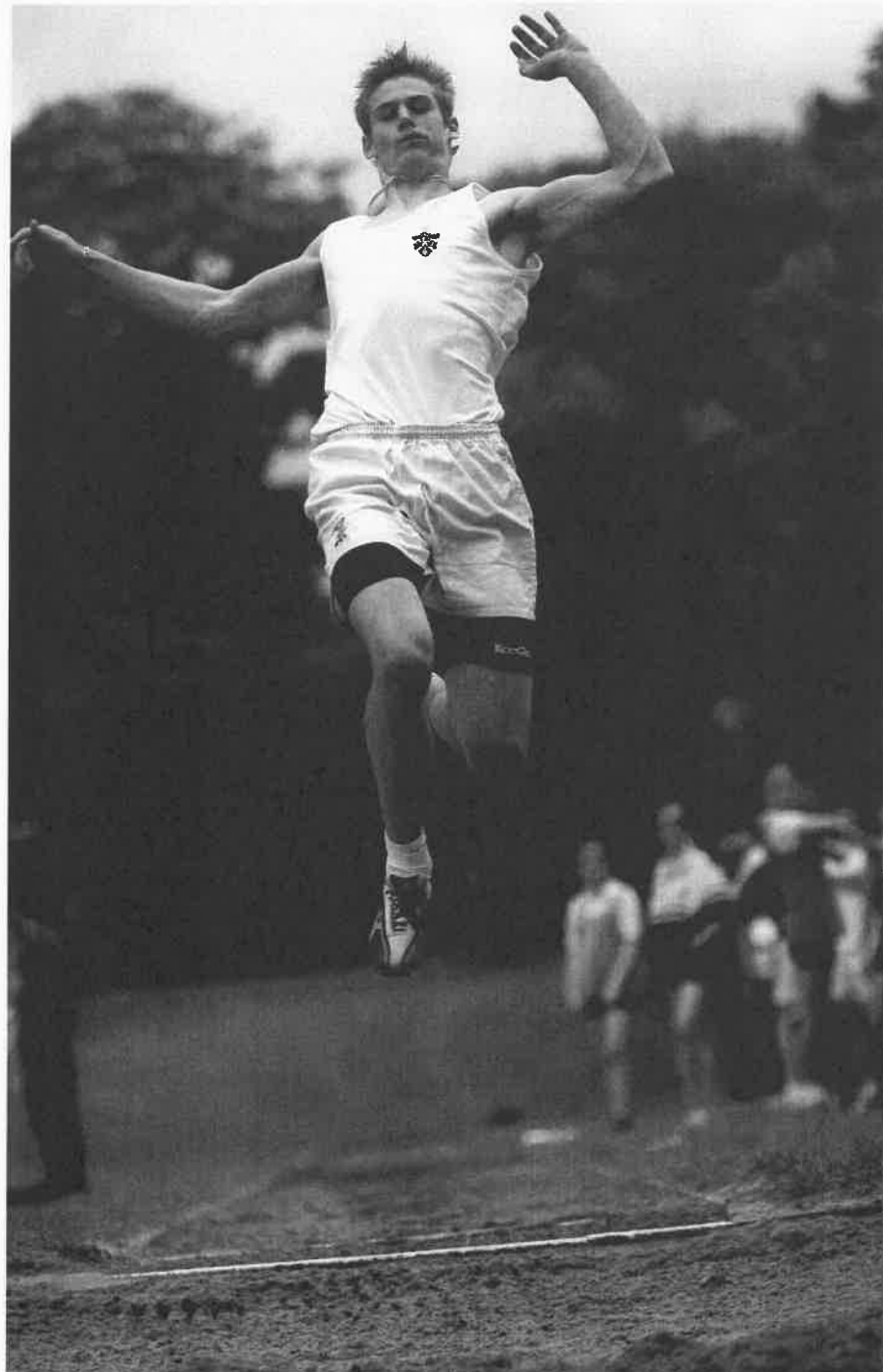


# SPORTSDAY 2007

This year's Sports Day at Kirkham Grammar School provided both an excellent spectacle and four new individual records. The weather was kind enough to allow the day to continue and over 200 athletes to compete; then just as the events finished the rain arrived.

Individually Rosie Gornall set a new record in the Intermediate Girls' Long Jump (4.75m), Sam Hall also set a new mark in the Junior Javelin (32.25m), Jenny Malings broke the record in the Junior Girls' Shot (7.90m) while Lamara Hill extended the Intermediate Girls' Shot Putt record to 9.02m. This record for Lamara added to her new record at the Lancashire Clubs Championships set the previous Saturday.

The day's sport was largely a competition between the houses within School and resulted in a victory for School House on the day with Vitrix and Victor Ludorum awards for Precious Nwaokomah, Hannah Pike, Christopher Brown, Lamara Hill, Tom Bowden and Jess Morris in their respective age groups. These excellent performances provided an outstanding afternoon for the spectators.





# SPORTS NEWS

"If you can dream – and not make dreams your master,  
If you can think – and not make thoughts your aim;  
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster  
And treat those two impostors just the same"

Kipling's words resonate when examining any sporting year for our youngsters who rightly dream of success and often achieve it; but it is more important that they learn how to deal with both victory and defeat in the same sporting manner. In these days when referees and umpires are denigrated it is vital that within our education system we uphold strong values of sportsmanship and while we must strive for victory, there must be no culture of blame in defeat.

Since the last newsletter all our teams have had ample opportunity to test their mettle and we are pleased that they have done so with pride, skill and in the correct manner. The end of the winter season saw many highlights with the Invitation Hockey Tournament (photo right) held at KGS for the third season. Our girls performed admirably only to lose their final game to British Colleges to deny them the chance of a first trophy in the tournament. Outstanding performances against Millfield, Loughborough students and Rydal Penrhos had, however, put them in a strong position in a very high quality competition. Elsewhere we were pleased to witness the success of the U13 and U14 (photo below centre) hockey teams in winning the County titles, with the U12 and U16 teams gaining runners-up medals. Not to be outdone, the U18 7s (photo right) boys gained a first success at the Christ College Brecon Sevens Competition running out winners in an exciting final against Millfield. Such a success was a great fillip to the squad who went on to the semi-finals at Birkenhead in a full Sevens season. In the junior ranks KGS hosted its first tournament at U14 level and achieved runners up spot to St David's Llandudno. These damp days of late March seem long ago in the midst of our summer activities but these achievements are worthy of special mention. Perhaps what is also worthy of note is the success of our B teams in hockey, netball and rugby and the continued competitiveness of our three volleyball teams. This was evident not only in regular fixtures but also in tournaments where they competed well against opposing 'A' squads but were victorious in the 'B' competitions as in the case of the U12 'B' hockey squad who won their inaugural tournament.

The summer, amidst the ever more encroaching mass of examinations, has seen sustained activity. To date our tennis squads have played a series of successful and competitive fixtures as have our cricketers. Perhaps most notably in the cricket arena was the recent series of victories against local rivals KEQMS Lytham. The new nets and all weather cricket surface will hopefully give further impetus to our cricketers. A new venture this year has been our entry for the Independent Schools Golf Association (ISGA) knock-out competition. Our squad progressed through the local and regional rounds to reach the National Final itself. Although we finished in twelfth position overall, this was a tremendous introduction and great credit to James Hall and his squad.

On the athletics track we have perhaps gained the greatest success. No less than twenty of our students represented their Area in the Lancashire Championships with six earning victories in their events. Two of these achieved National qualifying levels to ensure they will represent Lancashire in the England Schools Finals. Tom Bowden and Alex Fell gained this highest accolade. Additionally, however, four athletes from KGS were second in their County Final and a further four gained third place. A record haul! In other areas both girls and boys have achieved some outstanding results. Both girls' squads at 2nd and 4th year reached the ESAA Regional Finals in Manchester while the boys were victorious in the Vose Cup against all comers from the North Lancashire area.

Even as this article is written further competition is underway so no doubt there will be other achievements that do not make the press deadline. What, however, is just as important as the list of individual and team successes outlined, is the learning experiences gained by hundreds of our pupils in no less than 79 different sports teams run this year. Learning how to compete, how to deal with a pressure situation, how to contribute to a team and, of course, how to win and to lose in the correct manner.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Kirkham Grammar School,  
Ribby Road, Kirkham, Preston, Lancashire.  
PR4 2BH Tel: 01772 684264 Fax: 01772 672747  
e-mail: [info@kirkhamgrammar.co.uk](mailto:info@kirkhamgrammar.co.uk) web: [www.kirkhamgrammar.co.uk](http://www.kirkhamgrammar.co.uk)

Layout, Design & Photographs Simon Gardiner  
Editorial Fran James & Carolyn Copland  
Printing by Property World Publications

Photographs can be purchased from the School Office

**BAE SYSTEMS**  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS NETWORK