

SUMMER  
TERM  
1997

# KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL

HEADMASTER'S LETTER TO PARENTS

## OUTSTANDING SPORTING SUCCESS BRINGS K.G.S. NATIONAL RECOGNITION

**In an era when sport commands more media attention than ever before, Kirkham Grammar School's prominence as one of the country's leading sporting schools has greatly enhanced its reputation nationwide.**

The quality of rugby played by our 1st XV in the England Schools' Rugby Cup Final at Twickenham caught the eye of the RUFC and earned the players a Mayoral Reception in recognition of the significance of their achievements for our area. Alex Sanderson and David Giles won full international caps representing an England U.18 rugby team which achieved the 'Grand Slam'. Both have earned the honour of an England tour to Australia this summer.

K.G.S. U.13 and U.11 hockey teams contested the National Finals as Champions of the North. Our U.11



*Katy Parker gives Kris Akabusi her autograph!*

team emerged as National Champions, a truly outstanding achievement, and our U.13's finished as close runners-up. No other school has had two teams in

the finals and the way our girls played and conducted themselves caught the eye at Cannock.

The singular achievement of the term, however, belongs to twelve-year old table tennis star, Katy Parker, who broke all records by becoming the youngest full international in any sport, when selected for England's Women's Team. After figuring on the front page of *The Times*, Katy was the star of a "Record Breakers" television programme filmed on Sports Day in the company of Kris Akabusi.

The extent of the publicity gained by these sporting successes became apparent when a complete stranger walked into school with a copy of the *Times of Zambia* which featured a photograph of KGS rugby team! Two boarders from Zambia have enrolled for the coming academic year!



*Alex Sanderson and David Giles selected for England U.18 rugby group tour of Australia*



*Under 13 Hockey Team - Runners up of National Mini-Hockey Championships*

# SCHOOL EXCURSIONS & ACTIVITIES

## FRENCH TRIP

The annual trip to France in the Easter Holidays was an outstanding success. Blessed with exceptionally warm Spring weather, the party of 66 pupils led by Mr Long had a marvellous time, exploring the Alsace area of Eastern France, and also spent a day in Germany. Thanks go to Mr Rushton, Mrs Devine, Mrs Ainsworth, Mr Duncan, Mrs Fletcher and especially to School Captain, Ben Davies, who stepped in as an adult helper at 12 hours' notice replacing a sick member of staff. Next year's trip to Ernée in Brittany is already fully booked and Mr Long has several names down for the 1999 visit to Paris!



*Pedal Power on the Gérardmer, The Vosges, Alsace*

## SOUTH AFRICAN U.18 RUGBY TOUR



*The Kirkham Grammar School South African Rugby Tour Squad*

This will be an invigorating tour with much challenging rugby to be played. The South Africans have read about the strength of Kirkham rugby and they will be prepared to give our team the severest test. We shall miss the talents of Alex Sanderson and David Giles, but we are delighted that they have been selected to tour Australia with the England 18 group squad.

### ***The Tour Itinerary is as follows:-***

Tuesday, 15th July:	Depart
Thursday, 17th July:	v Westerford H.S.
Monday, 21st July:	v Outeniqua H.S., George
Wednesday, 23rd July:	v Paul Saver H.S., Kareedown
Friday, 25th July:	v Framesby H.S., Port Elizabeth
Monday, 28th July:	v Waterkloof H.S., Pretoria
Saturday, 2nd August:	v Monument H.S., Krugersdorp
Monday, 4th August:	Coaching Day in a township
Tuesday, 5th August:	v Northern Transvaal Development XV

The last match of this punishing schedule is against players from a socially disadvantaged background and will be played at the International Ground in Pretoria called Loftus Versfeld.

## LONDON TRIP

A party of second and third year pupils visited Drapers' Hall in London on the last Thursday of term on a trip which invariably proves to be a memorable experience for all involved. After a tour of Drapers' Hall and a formal lunch in the Court Dining Room, the pupils are taken on Mr Long's Legendary "London in an afternoon" tour on foot and by Underground.

## LOWER SIXTH GEOGRAPHY FIELD COURSE

The first week of the summer term saw the Lower Sixth Geographers, Mr Harrison and Mr Scott venture forth into distant Yorkshire for a week in sunny Scarborough. This annual trip is both informative and essential, as it is now examined in an external modular test, which was held in May, and contributes 16% of the final Advanced level grade and assesses the students' ability in practical skills.

This very busy week consisted of a variety of human and physical geography exercises: from looking at villages and towns to rivers and coasts. It even had a day and a half studying the Heritage Industry of York.

## SKI TRIP EASTER 1997

During the Easter break a party of over 50 pupils and staff visited Tonale, high in the Italian Dolomites, for the annual K.G.S. Ski Trip. Four of the party joined us a day later as they were appearing at Twickenham in the Daily Mail Cup Final.

A superb time was had by all; even poor Nicola Hendy, who survived the skiing but had a collision with her brother on the 'bum-boarding' night! Fortunately the plaster is now off and she is fully recovered and seeking revenge!

With excellent weather, the snow just about lasted all week at the village level, but it was noticed that some of the

older members of the party were content to sunbathe on the last afternoon! High on the Presena glacier at over 3000m the conditions were still perfect and better skiers were reluctant to leave.

Planning is already well underway for a January trip in 1998. It looks as though it could be Les Arcs in France; a magnificent ski area with over 150km of pistes, a 7km black run with a 2000m descent (the longest in Europe) and the famous 'Flying Kilometre' where Olympic speed skiing was held in the Albertville Olympics. Unfortunately all the places have already been booked for this trip.

## K.G.S. MOCK ELECTION



*The Kirkham Grammar School 'Election' Candidates*

On May 1st K.G.S. held its own General Election. For the previous fortnight, campaigns had been in full swing. There were posters, rallies and a Question Time debate. Just like the real thing, there were personal attacks, underhand tactics and sleaze allegations! In the end the slickest campaign paid off: the UK Independent Party (Owain Evans) won; Conservatives (Rajesh Kanda) were a close 2nd; Labour (Hannah Newell) 3rd; Liberal Democrats (Sheree Halliwell) 4th.

## YOUNG ENTERPRISE

'Twister' gave a reasonable account of themselves in the final presentation. However, if they had taken the time to prepare properly they could have done much better. Fourteen of the company passed the 'Young Enterprise' Exam and Lisa Helin and Graham Nash were both awarded 'Credits'.

The Company made an overall profit of some £230 and is now in the process of repaying its shareholders.

## SIXTH FORM



*The Sixth Formers Leaver's Ball*

This term we say goodbye to a truly exceptional Upper Sixth year group who have contributed in so many ways to school life over their years with us. Wherever you look among these seventy young people, there is an abundance of talent and character, be it academic, sporting, cultural or social. I would like to thank Mr Long and the Sixth Form Committee for organising a memorable Leavers' Ball at the end of May, an event whose special atmosphere was greatly enjoyed by the many staff who joined them in a well-deserved final fling before the exams began. We now wish them every success when 'A' level results come out in August.

Their successors in the Lower Sixth, meanwhile, are having a busy time preparing their university applications. Group visits have taken place to Oxford and Cambridge for those who aspire to entry to those centres of excellence, and a large party visited Birmingham to sample the Open Day of a typical "civic" university.

## CAREERS

As an experiment for the first time this year, a "Careers Day" has been arranged for the Fourth Year in the last week of term; this concentrates into a single day, all the careers' talks delivered by specialists, arranged by CareerLink. We are grateful to Mrs Michelle Edwin from CareerLink for her work in organising this event and to Mr Long and Mr Melling for their input from the School side. Managerial changes at CareerLink mean that Mrs Edwin will no longer be involved in day to day work in schools although she will retain her strong links with our Careers Department in her new role. We thank Michelle for her excellent, supportive work with our pupils over the years and we look forward to working with her successors, Mrs Anne McHenry and Mrs Amanda Blanchard.

# CLUBS & SOCIETIES

## SCHOOL MUSIC

There was music to suit all tastes at the final concert of the 1996/97 season held recently in the New Hall when no fewer than ninety young musicians took the stage. The many virtuoso individual performances were complemented by excellent orchestral and choral items in a concert high on quality and full of enjoyment for a large, enthralled audience of music lovers.

Congratulations to all who took part and our thanks to Mr John Catterall, Director of Music and his Assistant, Mr Sean Ashmore for producing, rehearsing and directing such a feast of good music.

This was the final concert at K.G.S. for Michelle Carter who leaves at the end of the term. Michelle has given some outstanding performances over the past seven years and during her time in the Sixth Form has given tremendous encouragement to many younger singers and instrumentalists. Her recent award of 'Honorary Music Scholar' is richly deserved.

During the summer break, several pupils in the School Orchestra and Choir will be on tour with other musical groups. Gareth Jones will be travelling to Belgium and Holland, Peter Benson and John Holland to France, and Jak Berry to America. We wish them well.

## RAF CAMP 1997

12 RAF cadets and two members of staff travelled over the Easter break to R.A.F. St. Athen in South Wales for the annual R.A.F. camp with cadets from many other schools. R.A.F. St. Athen is the Royal Air Forces largest aircraft repair and maintenance base and the cadets had the opportunity to take part in work experience including repairing front-line aircraft, assisting the R.A.F. Police Dog teams and joining an R.A.F. Fire and Rescue Team. The Cadets also had the opportunity to fly, taking part in night exercises and getting involved in a wide range of sporting and social activities.

## ROCK CLIMBING CLUB



The Summer Term offers the club the opportunity of climbing on real rock and this was grasped enthusiastically - too enthusiastically for some who failed to appreciate the character-building delights of cold fingers and damp rock on one particularly windswept day early in the season at Anglezarke Quarry! Visits were made to the established favourite venues of Wilton Quarry, Stanworth and a new limestone crag at Farleton near Carnforth was explored and found to be an excellent crag but suffering somewhat from polish due to overuse.

Those who climbed this term were the usual mix of experienced climbers (three of whom can now competently lead climbs) and those completely new to the sport such as David Darroch who has made a promising start.

The club is looking forward with great anticipation to the construction of a climbing wall in the Multi-Purpose Hall. Sunday 22nd June saw the second sponsored "Yomp" along the Lancaster Canal to raise funds for this project and the club is very grateful for the support of the C.C.F. and especially to Flt. Lt. Taylor for organising the Yomp once again.

## K.G. ORNITHOLOGISTS

A small party of ornithologists enjoyed a week's bird watching on the Balearic Island of Mallorca during the Easter Vacation.

As the party arrived at the hotel in Cala San Vicente, members were greeted by a scops owl and this presaged an exciting trip. The geology and climate of the island revealed stark contrasts with towering mountains and cliffs, vast wetlands and citrus groves, shivering cold and simmering heat. On three occasions the party rose before dawn to visit the Albufera Marsh (the fourth largest in the Mediterranean) where there were some exotic wetland species including the purple gallinule (an enormous bright-blue moor hen), great white egret, night heron and numerous ospreys and marsh harriers. Elsewhere they encountered obscure larks, buntings, warblers and terns which were short-toed, moustached, spectacled, fan-tailed or whiskered and even a rare swallow which was red-rumped! For many the birds of prey were the most spectacular with stunning sightings of peregrines, booted eagles and local specialities like the Eleanor's falcon and vultures (griffon, black and Egyptian).

This was an exhilarating expedition which the party enjoyed, despite being deprived of confectionery, junk food, pulp TV, computer games, swimming and sunbathing. A staggering 113 species were seen and all were convinced that a return visit to Southern Europe was essential.

On 7th May the ornithologists visited Riggindale and once again the party was blessed with superb sunshine. The walk from the head of Haweswater was sublime with pristine views of goosander and a resplendent male redstart. While waiting for the golden eagles to change over on the eyrie, a vagrant red kite was spotted and then the party was entertained by a spectacular aerial display as the male eagle chased and harried, first a peregrine and then a flock of ravens.

Later, in the hanging oak woods of Mardale, there were clear views of pied flycatcher and wood warbler whilst the afternoon found Leighton Moss full of black terns in summer plumage, booming bitterns, a pair of bearded reedlings nesting right beside a hide and three impressive red deer stags wallowing in shallows. A tremendous 69 species were seen in what must be the most unlikely combination of bird watching habitats. Mr Clark would like to thank a patient and tireless party!

## COMBINED CADET FORCE

By the time of publication, the C.C.F. will have had their summer field day at Holcombe. It will be a joint RAF/Army venture and it is hoped that the inter-section rivalry will produce some good performances on the river crossing and the Krypton Factor Assault Course!

Congratulations to Captain S. Crowther on winning the Adult Trophy at the Cadet Skill at Arms meeting and to our very young and inexperienced team on a creditable performance in the Cadet Competitions.

The C.C.F. Yomp will, hopefully have raised the final amount to pay for the climbing wall and we all look forward to Summer Camp in Cultybraggan where some 65 cadets and 10 adults (including some loyal old Kirkhamians) will be troubled by the Scottish midge for a week!

## INTER-HOUSE EVENTS

The success of the School 1st XV squad last term in the Daily Mail Rugby Cup caused the postponement of the Inter-House senior rugby competition. The Summer Term, therefore, started uncharacteristically with this postponed event. The eventual clear winners were School House who won all their matches with Preston in second, Kirkham third and Fylde collected the 'Wooden Spoon'.

The Inter-House Athletics Championships were enhanced this year by the presence of Olympian Kris Akabusi and the production team of 'Record Breakers' who filmed in school all day. Kris Akabusi was kind enough to open the sports in racey style and present two special 'Record Breakers' prizes to the outstanding male and female performances of the day. Two school records were broken by Amy Wareing, who smashed the Intermediate Girls Discus record by a full three metres with a throw of 26.44 metres, and by Sheree Halliwell who convincingly beat the Senior Girls' long jump record with a distance of 4.94 metres.

### *The Victor and Victrix Ludorum winners were as follows:*

#### **Victor Ludorum:**

Junior Boys' -	George Leeming and Adam Parker
Intermediate Boys' -	Gareth Rees
Senior Boys' -	Adam Baines

#### **Victrix Ludorum:**

Junior Girls' -	Victoria Wilson
Intermediate Girls' -	Ruth Burns and Clare Stockdale
Senior Girls' -	Sheree Halliwell

The trophies and certificates were presented by Peter Warden, ex Olympic hurdler and UK National Athletics Coach.

The team competition resulted in an overwhelming fourth successive victory for Preston House from School, with Kirkham and Fylde respectively completing the places.

The Senior Cricket semi finals produced wins for Fylde over Kirkham by 23 runs and Preston over School by seven wickets. Eventually Fylde won the final by 22 runs. In no small measure this was due to Peter Whittle's fine innings of 72 not out for the winners.

At time of writing the finalists in the Junior Cricket event have been decided and Kirkham will meet Fylde, having defeated Preston and School respectively. This final, the Junior Girls Rounders competition and all the Inter-House tennis events are scheduled to be played in the last week of term.

With internal examinations and summer term marks for years 1-3 now nearly completed, the Junior Academic Trophy result is almost ready. This has been a very closely fought contest over the whole of the academic year with never more than five points separating the leading three houses: Fylde, Kirkham and Preston.

The destination of the Whitby Cup for the Champion House overall is not yet clear with six events still to be declared. To date Preston have eight first places, Kirkham and School six each and Fylde two 'firsts', but "there is many a slip between cup and lip"!

Many thanks to all House Masters, Captains, helpers and competitors for an enthralling year of Inter-House competition which has involved so many of our pupils.



*Adam Baines is presented with the Senior Boys' Victor Ludorum Trophy by Peter Warden, Ex Olympic Hurdler and UK Athletics Coach.*

## SPORT

## BOYS' GAMES

### **1ST XI CRICKET**

**PLAYED : 5 WON : 3 LOST : 2**

The 1st XI is beginning to perform well as a team with excellent performances from Matthew Leyden, Peter Whittle, Jonathan Reeh and Nicholas Hopton. The first two games of the season were lost as a settled side and batting/bowling combinations were explored over the last three games against Barrow Sixth Form, Arnold and Batley G.S. The early preparation has been richly rewarded by three excellent victories against good opposition. The highlight of the season so far has been the superb team effort against Arnold (A) when the team combined batting/bowling/fielding performances to defeat a strong local rival school.

### **U15 XI CRICKET**

Due to inclement weather and the commitments of other schools to work experience and examinations, only 2 fixtures have been played to date. One saw a defeat by Hutton G.S. by 8 wickets. KGS scoring 73-4 from 20 overs and Hutton scoring 76-2 from 17 overs. A much closer result was the defeat by Arnold School by 3 runs. This was an excellent match against a team with County players in it. Arnold scored 91-8. KGS in reply reached 88-6 before collapsing to 88 all out! Excellent batting by Andrew Davies 25 and Adam Watts 41, saw KGS close to a winning until the team managed to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory!

### **U14 XI CRICKET**

The U14's have not had the best of luck as far as the weather is concerned. Three out of the four matches have been called off due to inclement weather. The matches are being rearranged for future dates. The match which went ahead against King Edward's was a close affair with KGS unfortunately going down to a defeat. We started well, putting the home side into bat, and Richard Wigglesworth taking a wicket with the first ball. Nick Cross also bowled with speed and accuracy, with Richard finishing 3 wickets from 4 overs for 14 runs. King Edward's achieved a score of 100 for 9 off 20 overs and kept the KGS score down to 60 off 20 overs to win the game.

### **U13 XI CRICKET**

The U13 cricket team are a keen and enthusiastic side who, on their day, could equal any junior side. The squad is made up of eighteen players which makes competition for places extremely healthy. George Brockbank, this year's captain, has performed admirably and also proved to be an excellent administrator. The opening batsmen, Parker and McNamee, continue to keep both the umpire and coach on their toes! The highlight of this season has been the performance of the bowling and fielding. J Swift and G Leeming, and the competent displays of wicket keeper, L Newell, have all played their part in some very encouraging team performances.

### **U12 XI CRICKET**

The team has been led by Matthew Hopton, who has proved to be the most astute and knowledgeable captain for some time. Matthew has bowled exceptionally well and has been well supported by Alastair Griffiths and Bradley Hamilton in particular. The fielding has been competent and Michael Duckworth has kept wicket promisingly. However, the batting has been very fragile. Poor batting technique led to defeat against King Edward's and Hutton. Hopton's sound batting display against Ripley was the main factor contributing to the team's convincing an 8 wicket win. The team has a core of promising cricketers who should be able to improve their technique in the years to come.

## RUGBY

### Officials for 1997/98 Season:

Captain of Rugby:	Alex Sanderson
1st XV Vice-Captain:	Deri Hughes
Secretary:	Andrew Blackley

The annual senior rugby squad training camp will be held at Sedburgh from 26th - 29th August.

Congratulations to Tom Dawson who was selected to represent North Lancashire in a County tournament on 21st April.

## ATHLETICS

### Team Results:

Seniors (6th Form)	beat Hutton & Arnold
U17 (5th)	beat Hutton & Arnold
U16 (4th)	beat Hutton
U15 (3rd)	lost to Hutton
U14 (2nd)	beat Hutton & King Edward
U13 (1st)	lost to Hutton beat King Edward

### County Standards Achieved:

Adam Parker	Hurdles	12.66 sec.
George Leeming	Long Jump	5m 14cm
Warren Marginson	400m	55.06 sec.
Phil Hendy	800m	2.07 sec.
Gareth Rees	400m Hurdles	58.9 sec.
Richard Wire	100m	11.9 sec.
Liam White	High Jump	1m 70cm

### Lancashire Champions:

	Warren Marginson	400m	
	George Leeming	Long Jump	
	Gareth Rees	400m Hurdles	
Also	Adam Baines	Senior Long Jump	- 2nd Place
	Richard Wire	Inter 100	- 3rd Place

### Northern Champions:

Warren Marginson	Junior 800m
Gareth Rees	Inter 400m

**English Schools Selections:** Congratulations to Gareth Rees who has been selected to compete for Lancashire in the Intermediate 400m hurdles event.

**Footnote:** George Leeming so far unbeaten in 100m, 400m and Long Jump.

## GIRLS' GAMES - HOCKEY

KGS U13 hockey team completed an outstanding season this term. They remain unbeaten in the midweek and weekend school fixtures. They won the Budge 7-a-side Memorial Tournament and in the 'Coq Sportif' National 7-a-side competition they were convincing winners at both the Lancashire and Northern Finals.

The team went on to compete in the National Finals at Cannock Hockey Club on May 18th. On that day the England selectors were watching our girls closely and it may be that nerves got the better of them, for there is no doubt that K.G.S. could have won the competition; a point the team made well by comfortably beating the eventual winners, Portishead in their final match.

Throughout the tournament the girls were a great credit to KGS, and we are very proud of their outstanding achievements this season. They finished as National Runners Up - only one goal away from winning the tournament!

Congratulations to the following girls: Jane Meloy (Captain), Danielle Hanley, Katie Threlfall, Katie Severns, Rachel Sissons, Amy Twambley, Eleanor Cairns, Vicky Wilson, Vicky Peters and Hannah Spacey.

We would like to thank the parents who have supported our U13 team on and off the pitch throughout the season. Special thanks to Mr Peters, Mr Threlfall and Mr Twambley, who sponsored the hockey kit for the National Finals - the appearance of our players was the cause of much favourable comment.

Special congratulations to Rachel Sissons, Hannah Spacey and Amy Twambley, the first Kirkham Girls ever to be selected in this age group to attend the England Hockey Development Centre this summer.

## SWIMMING 1997

The swimming squad competes on a tough circuit which includes Bolton School (Former National Water Polo Champions), Stonyhurst, Arnold, Hutton and LRGS.

The squad has completed eight fixtures over the year with notable successes against Arnold, Bolton School, Hutton and Stonyhurst College. The junior teams are a particularly strong unit losing very few heats. They are proving to be a formidable side providing a solid foundation for the future of swimming at KGS. The following 1st formers have played a key part this year taking into account the size and depth of the overall squad: M Duncan, F Morgan, S Kellet, D Perfetti, M Kirkham, R Westerman, S Swarbrick, M Gregg, and S Blackburn.

The intermediate squad (3rd & 4th years) have come up against tough opposition. However, the girls who regularly compete against boys' schools, deserve much praise and if it wasn't for the tenacity and determination of N Furber, E Rhodes, K Westerman, A Wareing and F Guest the intermediate teams would have found the going very tough indeed.

The senior teams (5th & 6th form) are very much the core of the squad. Irrespective of GCSE and A-level commitments, they regularly turn up for the early morning training sessions and never fail to give 100% in competitive matches. The two captains, David Rees and Louise Oades deserve acknowledgement for this achievement.

Finally, a word of thanks must go to Paul Scott and John Smith (U6th) who leave KGS this summer. They have competed in every swimming match and gala on behalf of the school for the past seven years. Their loyalty and enthusiasm has been a credit to them and an excellent example to others. Best wishes to both of them.

## TENNIS

Once again the girls have thoroughly enjoyed the early morning sessions with David Shaw. Thirty girls have regularly attended the sessions and their standards of play have certainly improved. (We are the only school in the area to run such sessions).

The tennis teams have played against ten schools this season and have performed very well indeed.

The U13's have lost only one match  
The U14's have only lost two matches  
The U15's remain unbeaten

(In the league the U13's and U15's won two out of three of their league games and were unlucky not to qualify for the final stages of the competition.)  
The U12's have had a very promising start, winning three out of three matches - their future looks very bright indeed!

The Senior teams have had a mixed set of results, winning three and losing three matches.

## ATHLETICS

The girls have had a very good athletics season so far. The U13's have won three out of three matches, defeating Arnold, Queen Mary and Lytham and winning the Fylde Schools' Championships. They also competed in the TSB National Championships. The girls did superbly in the County round and qualified for the Northern Finals at Stretford Athletics Stadium. The girls competed against very strong club athletes and found the competition extremely tough. However, we put everything into the competition and actually beat our County total by twenty four points. Danielle Hanley won the discus with a personal best of 22m 60cm. Jane Meloy was runner up. Vicky Wilson was second in the javelin with a personal best of 21m 73cm. Amy Twambley and Katie Severns also ran P.B.'s on the track.

The U14's have come closer to victory this season than ever before.

The U15's have enjoyed very good victories over Queen Mary and Lytham, and were very unfortunate to lose by one point to Arnold.

The U12's have had a super start defeating Queen Mary and Lytham.

The girls have worked very hard this term and have been fortunate to experience a breadth of

first class coaching. Sid Sampey has worked superbly with P.E. staff and in addition to his regular top quality training sessions he has also run specialist high jump, discus, javelin and shot coaching sessions. We have also enjoyed the expert coaching of Mr Graham Knight, the Great Britain National Hurdles Event Coach. Our team hurdlers benefited greatly from his two and a half hour coaching clinic. In addition to this Mr Bruce Craven, ex Great Britain javelin thrower has also run a javelin coaching clinic.

We mixed the athletics groups this summer for the first time - what a great success it has been! The girls and boys have worked superbly together, encouraging, assisting and at times competing against each other. The coaching staff have certainly been fully utilised this term and both the athletes and non-athletes have thoroughly enjoyed it.

No less than twenty two girls have achieved personal bests!

Eight girls represented South Fylde in the Lancashire Schools' Championships.

Amy Wareing was 2nd in the discus; Kim Peake was 4th in the discus; Sheree Haliwell was 3rd in the Long Jump; Clare Stockdale was 4th in the 800m.

## SCHOOL CAPTAIN AND VICE CAPTAIN 1997/98

The 1997/98 Captain of School is Haidee MacGregor. The role of Captain involves overall responsibility for the performance of prefect duties. She will have opportunities for public speaking at functions such as Speech Day and Founders' Day and will also perform duties in school assembly, taking the lessons at the beginning and end of each term, supervising assembly readers. As Captain of the School she is Secretary to the General School's Council which is responsible for the School's clubs and societies and will represent the School at functions, eg the installation of the Mayor of Fylde. She will chair meetings of the Prefects and will assist in 'fronting' the School at events such as Open Days. Haidee entered Kirkham Grammar at the age of 10 in 1990. Music scholarships were introduced in 1991

and Haidee was our first music scholar and has played a major role in the School Orchestra, regularly playing the piano and flute in concerts and at other functions.

The School's Vice-Captain is Alex Sanderson. The Vice-Captain's role is to assist Haidee in her duties. Alex Sanderson is a very talented sportsman who was Vice Captain of England U.16 Rugby team v. Portugal last year and has been selected for the England 18 group tour of Australia this summer.

Both Haidee and Alex have been selected for these important roles because of their obvious leadership qualities and Martine Martinez has taken on the demanding role of Captain of the Boarding House.



Captain of School, Haidee MacGregor and Vice Captain Alex Sanderson

*A watercolour painting of Kirkham Grammar School has been produced by Head of Art and Old Kirkhamian Simon Gardiner. 500 limited edition mounted and framed prints (23" x 18") are now available at £20.00 - all proceeds towards the South African Rugby Tour. A sample is on display in the entrance hall. To purchase your print please send a cheque for £20 payable to "KGS South Africa Fund" to Mr R.J. Brouning at the School. (marked "KGS print" on reverse) Your print should be collected from the School Office.*

## TECHNOLOGY

Four fourth year pupils, Lester Short, Michael Strickland, Alistair Kipling and Samuel Wright recently undertook a project under the Manufacturing by Design Initiative sponsored by British Aerospace and the CBI. Their brief was to design and manufacture a model of a nose wheel undercarriage for an aircraft and to present the design at the Northern celebration at Warton Aerodrome. The team was selected to re-present their project at the National celebration at Rover in Warwick during the first week of the summer holidays.

The department has recently taken delivery of the first of a new batch of computers to increase the computer aided engineering capability. One of these machines is equipped with video conferencing facilities which allows the department to link with other schools and to share programs, ideas and teachers!

British Aerospace have assisted the School through their JETS (Joining Employees To Schools) scheme. Old Kirkhamians have helped with project work on a regular basis, as well as acting as project managers for the British Aerospace/Kirkham Grammar School work experience exchanges.

A small group of Sixth Form students studying physics and design and technology were invited to attend the British Aerospace Loughborough University Systems Department Open Day. They were taken from Warton to Loughborough, and had the chance to see the British Aerospace sponsored department and academic courses in action. Workshops and lectures were held throughout the day to promote not only the Systems Department, but the importance of the British engineering industry and its future role to the success of the country.

## CHARITIES

Three main charities have been supported this term - The British Heart Foundation, Christian Aid and the Kirkham Friends of Chernobyl. Collections were taken before half-term to coincide with Christian Aid Week and a total of £150 was raised. After half-term, our fund raising concentrated on the visit of the children from Chernobyl and our guest speaker in assembly gave us a clear account of the background to the disaster and of the appalling consequences of the tragedy. A non-uniform day was held to sponsor one of the children and the whole group of Russian children were taken to Camelot Theme Park for the day, accompanied by a group of helpful and reliable fourth formers.

## STAFFING: FAREWELL ... AND WELCOME

I am sure we would all wish to congratulate Mr Paul Stockdale on his well deserved Headship of Ballards College, an independent school in Hampshire. It grieves me to see him go and I would like to record my grateful thanks to Mr Stockdale for all his efforts and support over the past six hectic years. He has made an invaluable contribution to the success of the School and he will be sorely missed by the whole school community. I would like to say, above all else, that Paul Stockdale is one of the finest human beings I have ever had the pleasure of working with and I know that these sentiments will be echoed by all who know him well.

Our congratulations also to Mrs Yvonne Jones on her promotion to Head of English and Drama at St. Anne's School, Windermere. Mrs Jones has done much to establish Drama as an integral part of the curriculum at Kirkham Grammar School and been responsible for many demanding and memorable school productions. Her professionalism and meticulous attention to detail, both in the classroom and on the stage, will long be remembered.

Miss Jane Weekley leaves us to relocate to Oxfordshire and her departure deprives us of a first class mathematician, skilled in information technology, and an all-round school teacher, who has made a broad contribution to the life of the school through her work with the CCF and in the Boarding House. Miss Weekley has the talent to go far in the profession and we wish her well.

In the short time she has been with us, Ms Christina Bird has made her mark as a skilled and dedicated classroom practitioner, widely admired by her pupils and staff colleagues. She will be remembered for the sheer quality of her work in English and Drama and we wish her well on her return to Westholme, her old school.

In Mr Brian Marshall, we lose a popular, cheerful teacher who has had the breadth of expertise to teach English, History, Religious Studies and Classics during his seven years at Kirkham Grammar School. Such flexibility is a rare and valuable asset to a school and we are grateful to Mr Marshall for his extensive contribution to our curriculum and his ability to regale us all with a good story.

Miss Kath O'Reilly, our Senior Laboratory Technician, has departed to work in computers after nine years service at Kirkham Grammar School. Her unseen work on the School Health and Safety Committee and behind the scenes in the science laboratories and preparation rooms has born a significance, easy to discount, but of great importance to the safe functioning of the school. We thank her and wish her well. In her place we welcome Mrs Karen Jefferies.

From an immensely strong field of candidates, I have appointed Mr John Wood as the School's next Deputy Headmaster. Mr Wood is presently Head of Mathematics and a member of the Senior Management Team at Nottingham High School, one of the country's top schools. Excellent academic results at King George V Grammar School, Southport, won him a place to read Mathematics at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge University, where he took a very good Honours Degree. Mr Wood has been a driving force behind the academic success of Nottingham High School, which regularly commands a high position in the National League Tables. An all-round school master, he has also been active in outdoor pursuits, accompanied French and German exchanges, and coached and taken rugby, cricket, athletics and swimming teams. Mr Wood will add his proven strengths to the school from January 1998.

To help fill the gap vacated by Mr Stockdale, I have promoted our longest serving member of staff and a former Captain of Kirkham Grammar School, Mr Arthur Baines, to the post of Senior Master with effect from September 1997. Mr Baines will retain his role as Head of Science but relinquish his post of Head of Biology.

The latter responsibility will be taken up in September by Mrs Margaret Scott, who is presently on the staff of Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Blackburn. An experienced teacher, with a very good Honours Degree in Biology from Leicester University, Mrs Scott is well qualified to lead an important department, and her enthusiasm for outdoor pursuits will make her a valuable addition to Colonel Sayer's redoubtable 'Force'.

The growth of interest in quality drama and theatre studies at Kirkham has presented the opportunity to create a new post of Director of Drama and we are fortunate to have recruited the services of an experienced Head of Department in Mrs Pearl Holdsworth to take up this new challenge. Mrs Holdsworth took a good Honours Degree in English and Theatre Studies at Lancaster University and is presently Head of Expressive Arts and Theatre Studies at Our Lady's RC High School, Lancaster.

It is always a pleasure to welcome a parent on to the staff and we extend our best wishes to Mrs Deborah Rogerson, who joins a very strong Mathematics Department in September. Equipped with an Honours Degree in Mathematics from Lancaster University, Mrs Rogerson is also qualified to teach Information Technology and her experience in industry and local government, added to her teaching experience, will dovetail well with the school's progress in technology and industry links.

Mrs Karen Gibson, a good Honours graduate from Nottingham University with an interest in sport and outdoor pursuits, is a welcome addition to the English Department.

## SCHOOL MANAGEMENT

I have long felt that the pastoral provision at Kirkham Grammar School needed more input and I am grateful for the Governors' support in the creation of two new Middle Management posts: Head of Middle School (Years 4 & 5) and Head of Lower School (Years 1, 2 & 3) with effect from September 1997. Mr Richard Watson will become Head of Middle School and Mrs Anita Devine will be Head of Lower School. Each sector of the Senior School will then have a member of staff responsible for co-ordinating the work of form tutors in their pastoral provision and the promotion of academic standards.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

**Friday 19th September 11.15am**

**In the New Hall**

*Senior School Speech Day and Prize Giving*

**Saturday 20th September 7.15pm**

**In the Old Hall**

*Old Kirkhamians' Association Annual General Meeting in the Library followed by the Northern Reunion Dinner*

**Tuesday 22nd September 7.30pm**

**In the Old Hall**

*Friends of Kirkham Grammar School Annual General Meeting*

**Monday 6th October 1.15pm**

**In the Old Hall**

*Lunchtime Concert Recital by Haidee MacGregor*

**Friday 10th October**

**In the Old Hall**

*Friends of Kirkham Grammar School New Parents' Welcome Evening*

**Monday 10th November 7-9pm**

**In the New Hall**

*Senior School Open Evening*

**Saturday 15th November**

**At The De Vere Hotel, Blackpool**

*Friends of Kirkham Grammar School Winter Ball*

**Friday 5th December 4-6pm**

**In the New Hall**

*Friends of Kirkham Grammar School Christmas Fair*

**Tuesday 9th December 7.30pm**

**In the New Hall**

*Christmas Concert*

**Tuesday 16th December 2.30pm**

**St. Michael's Church, Kirkham**

*Carol Service*

Kirkham Grammar School  
a member of the



**BRITISH AEROSPACE  
SCHOOLS NETWORK**

## FRIENDS OF KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL



*Chairman of the Friends, Ros Ince with guests at the Summer Ball*

As we come to the end of this academic year I would like to express my sincere thanks to all parents, friends, teachers and committee members who have given their time, help, support and generous donations which have gone towards making our events socially enjoyable and helping raise a little extra money along the way for the benefit of all our children.

The Summer Ball was only attended by 110 people, which was a little disappointing for all the hard work undertaken by Committee Members. It was, however, a resounding success socially, developing into quite a party atmosphere which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended; an event certainly not to be missed in the future. £550 was raised at the Summer Ball which will be accumulated in order to purchase a much needed School minibus.

This year £2000 has been given to the Junior School software project, £1000 towards the climbing wall, £368 to purchase a lapel microphone, £250 to provide a printer for the Senior School Library, £500 respectively towards sponsorship for the hockey and rugby tours and £250 sponsorship for a pupil to join an expedition with the British School's Exploring Society. Table tops have been made and jointly purchased (£1300) for use at various school events and £120 has provided the floral tribute to the school entrance hall over the year.

Dates for your diary include: - The Friends of Kirkham Grammar School Annual General Meeting on 22nd September, the New Parents' Welcome Evening on 10th October, the Winter Ball on 15th November and the Christmas Fair on 5th December. Further details of these will be given in my September newsletter. I hope you all have a very enjoyable summer.

*Ros Ince (Chairman)*