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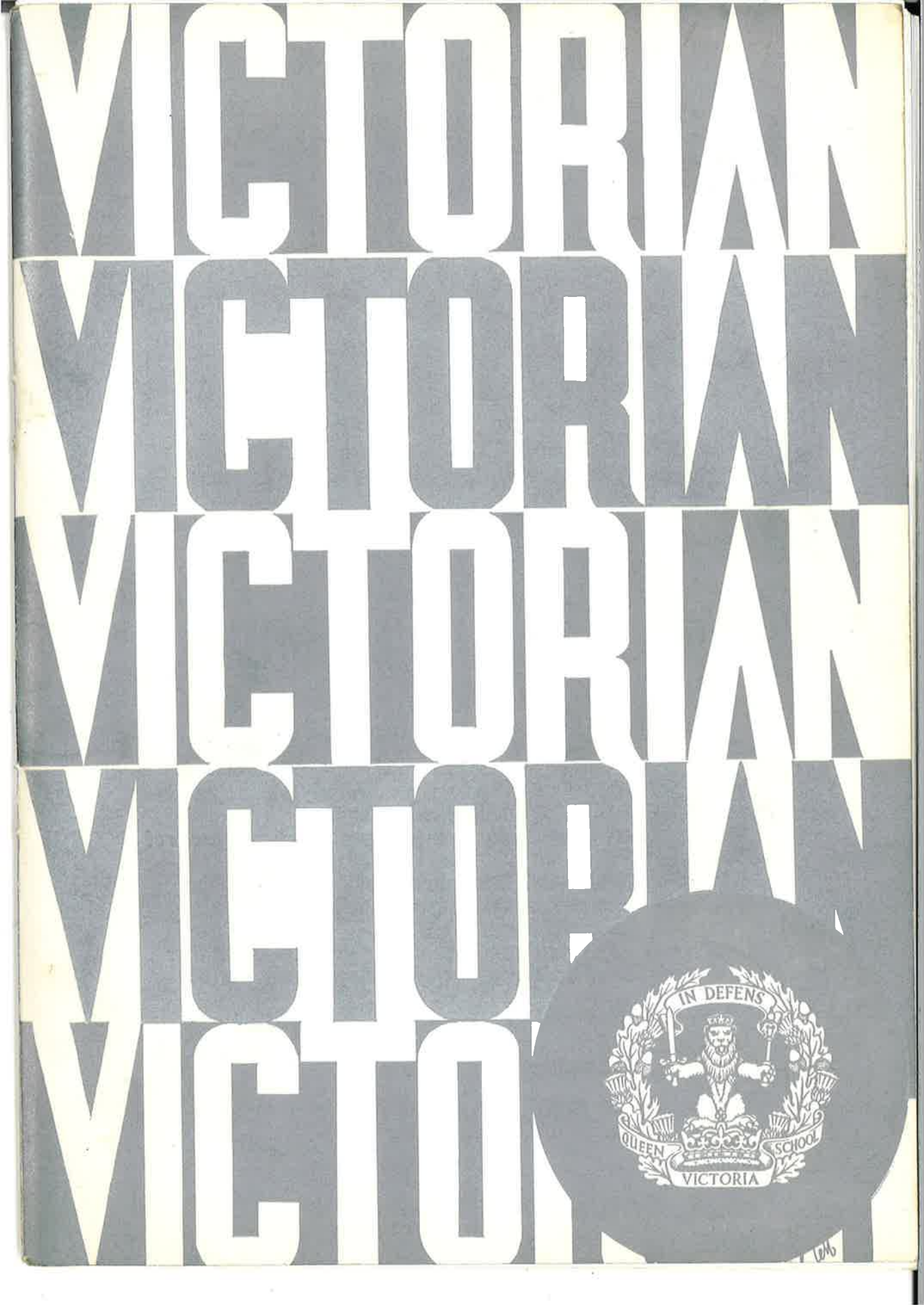
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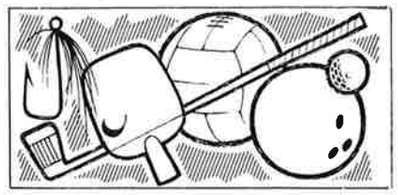

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Admission to the School is open to boys between the ages of 9½ and 12 at date of admission, who are the sons of serving or former *Scottish* Servicemen or Service women of the *regular* forces. Service in a Scottish Regiment qualifies, even if the parent is not of Scottish birth. The preferred age of entry is between 9½ and 10½. The sons of officers are only eligible if the father (or mother) has served at least four years in the ranks as a regular.

The educational policy is in conformity with the practice of Scottish schools, leading to Ordinary and Higher Grades of the Scottish Certificate of Education, though the School does not bind itself to keep a boy after he has reached the legal leaving age. Boys leave QVS bound for Universities, Colleges and commerce and industry in many areas. Every encouragement is given to boys who wish to enter the Services but no pressure is put on them to do so.

There are no fees, the cost of schooling being borne by the Treasury's Defence Vote, but parents have to provide Pocket Money, some clothing and a contribution to the Minibus Fund.

All inquiries and correspondence should be addressed to THE COMMANDANT, Queen Victoria School, Dunblane, Perthshire FK15 0JY.

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THE JOURNAL OF THE QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL

No. 91 JUNE 1977

# Commandant's Notes

*"Today we come to give thanks for the past and to seek God's blessing on us now. This School was built because many people had vision, faith and generosity. They saw the needs of boys in difficult circumstances, boys whose fathers had died or been wounded in the service of their country, and they wanted them through knowledge gained and activities shared to prepare to take their place in the world. If circumstances in many cases have changed the aim is still the same. The wellbeing and good name of the School depend on each individual seeking the finest possible development of body, mind and spirit. This School has always believed this can only be achieved on Christian foundations."*

With these words the School Chaplain opened the morning Service in the Memorial Chapel on Sunday, 13th March, 1977, when the Old Victorian Association attended their annual service as part of their O.V.A. Weekend. These words are appropriate also in this Her Majesty's Silver Jubilee year. She knows this School very well; last year at Murrayfield her eyes never left the Pipe Band when they were playing during the interval. One may feel that the foundation of Queen Victoria School and the continued dedication of all who live and work here to the ideals expressed in Mr Orrock's remarks above come very much within the spirit of the Silver Jubilee Appeal to the Nation. For our part we recognise the enormous good fortune we enjoy in this Realm in the devoted service and inspiring leadership of our Queen. Many who will read these Notes have travelled abroad, or may now live permanently in far away places. As they will know whatever criticisms may be made abroad of these Islands and of aspects of the British way of life, these are never of the Queen. She has been rapturously received in countries to which the whole concept of Monarchy is now alien, an astonishing tribute to her personally and to her role in our Nation's life.

It cannot be denied that this has been a difficult and at times a frustrating year. But in spite of rising costs and a marked fall in the standard of living of all who work here, the staff have remained loyal, cheerful, and uncomplaining. I should like to pay a real tribute to their understanding and patience which is seeing us through this most difficult period since the 1930s, not excluding the war years.

The boys continue to thrive and their standards of achievement and of behaviour to rise. Elsewhere in the magazine will be found details of our successes in and on various fields. I was particularly gratified by two responses, small perhaps in themselves but showing the spirit of the boys. A Sunday Chapel collection in April was three times the usual amount as a result of a few words about the work of Erskine Hospital and its continuing dependence on outside financial support. The other occasion was when a small party of boys went over to Edinburgh, to the Canongate Kirk, to act as ushers and to play the pipes at a concert on behalf of Whitefoord House. With his permission I quote from General Sir Derek Lang's letter of thanks afterwards:

*"Your party really did do us proud on Saturday. They couldn't have been more helpful in every way and contributed enormously to the success of the*

*day. I really can't think how we could have got along without them. As ever, their appearance and good manners brought praise from all quarters and I really would like you to tell them how grateful we all are for everything and the admirable spirit in which they did it."*

I began with a quotation from our Chaplain's address on O.V.A. Sunday and I will close with a quotation from Brigadier Lord Ballantrae's address in St John's Kirk, Perth, the 850th anniversary of that great Church, on Remembrance Day 1976:

*"An occasion like this morning's is one thing that encourages me. Our own presence here demonstrates certain things: an awareness, for instance, of our debt to the past and to our forefathers who, with all their shortcomings, at least sought to walk, though perhaps not always humbly, with their God. Our presence demonstrates also an awareness of our need of Almighty God, and the charity and grace of which He is the only source. And finally by coming here we put another stone on the cairn of our friends who were killed. The haunting question remains: have we 'done our stuff' in the thirty-one years since the war ended as well as they would have done it? For this past hour, we have been very close to those who have gone before us in the eight hundred and fifty years since the builders of this Church first pointed its steeple towards Heaven. I see in my mind's eye the long roll of our forefathers, until, out of the mists, just like this Church, my own generation comes into focus, and especially those who were killed. For them, as for those who went before them, the ultimate revelation has been made in the light that will one day reveal everything: And now may God Bless the Church Universal, and bring us all to the unity of Christ in truth; God save the Queen, and the Realm; and give us Peace, through Jesus Christ Our Lord."*

# Hobbies

### PHOTOGRAPHY

The year started as usual with the Annual General Meeting at which the following appointments were made: President, Craig Hendry; Secretary, David Gray; Treasurer, Iain Munro. Caleb Rutherford was later added to the committee as Darkroom Supervisor. This year we had fewer members than of recent and we had more experienced members than novices. During the Christmas term the novices were taught the basic techniques of Developing and Printing while the "older generation" lent a hand or went ahead with their own projects. During the Easter term we did a series of group projects, including Strobe Photography, Reversal Printing, Chemistry of Photography, etc. We also had some interesting lectures from Craig Hendry and Iain Munro. Towards the end of the year we discussed reforming the club on new lines next year.

Finally, on behalf of all club and committee members, I would like to thank Mr Paterson for all the time and effort he has put into the club. We could not have got along without him and his work is greatly appreciated.

D.I.G.

### ELECTRONICS

This year the club diverged from its usual routine by commencing a course in electronics from a book. The senior members instructed the novices while still learning themselves. This was found to be to the mutual advantage of both beginners and more experienced members. Although few complete projects were attempted the course meant that a much better insight to electronics was achieved. Many thanks to Mr Paterson for giving up his own time and organising the club.

K. Sinclair, IV

### CHESS

The hobby was again in operation this year although support from the "grass roots" was a bit thin. This was perhaps due to lack of advertisement among the younger boys. The chess ladder was very competitive, perhaps due to the lack of numbers.

### BRIDGE

This year there has been a large contingent of Bridge players in Haig. After last year's poor display at the Scottish Schools Bridge Competition we have been working to improve our position. To this end we held a Bridge match against Wallace High School, at home, both our teams winning by a fairly large margin.

### THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Last year we had 46 awards – 19 Bronze, 23 Silver and 4 Gold. The present state is that 41 boys are working for the award at the various stages.

### FIRST AID

We have only one class this year – the Junior First Aid Certificate. Our instructress, Mrs Eadie, from the Dunblane Red Cross Society, unfortunately was very ill just after the class started. Happily she is now well and has resumed taking the class which will be examined on 31st May, 1977.

### BAND

This year, perhaps more than many previous ones, has given ample opportunity for the youngest members to gain experience.



Our first of many engagements was on board the U.S.S. *John F. Kennedy,* anchored in the Firth of Forth in September and soon afterwards came the Japanese International at Murrayfield. After the Christmas holidays it was straight down to hard slog in preparation for the L.P. recording in March, which is due to be released this month. In the Easter term we had two further appearances at Murrayfield for the Irish and Welsh games in February and March.

This term has been packed with engagements because of the Queen's Silver Jubilee. We have played at Edinburgh Castle for the "Gathering of the Clans", at Stirling for the Queen's visit and at Meadowbank for the Pageant of Scottish Youth. These along with a few minor engagements at Glencorse, Doune Castle and Dunblane have given us one of our busiest years for a while, and we have even improved the already high playing standard.

E. Pitkeathly,
Boy Pipe Major

*1976 "It's a Knock Out" from Stirling, with the Q.V.S. Pipes and Drums. Kevin Henderson is interviewed by B.B.C's Mr Stuart Hall.*

### DRAMA

Once again Christmas has slipped away to become a memory and commercials for sunshine holidays dominate the television; yet a group of thirteen boys and two masters are already looking forward to the end of the Christmas term. Why? Well, who wouldn't be excited with the prospect of appearing in this year's school production! For two or three nights in December the School and the public will have a chance to see our production of *Murder in the Cathedral* by that famous 20th century playwright T. S. Eliot. The murder concerned is that of England's most famous martyr, Thomas Becket, who was killed on the altar steps of Canterbury Cathedral.

Instead of putting on this play in the School theatre, it will be held in the chapel to put over more convincingly the effect of being in Canterbury Cathedral.

Of course this is an ambitious project but we all share Mr Moffat's optimism in predicting the success of the play.

It will be a costume spectacle, and unlike previous plays will not be brought up to date (costume-wise).

As usual we place the cares and worries of production into the hands of Mr D. Moffat, who will again show us how skillful he is as a producer. I must also mention Mr B. Philip into whose capable hands we commend the organised chaos of stage management.

The cast is as follows – Becket, S. Dolan; Priests, R. MacKenzie, J. Smith, M. Fisher; Messenger, J. Robb; Tempters, D. Rogers, N. Campbell, M. Riddell, E. Wallace; Chorus, R. McDonald, M. Clay, W. McDowall, S. Deuchars.

Although this production is essentially set hundreds of years ago, it must be remembered that Christian Martyrdom is very much in evidence in the 1970s. One object of the play is to convey that fact. Need I mention Uganda, Rhodesia, South America?

Sean Dolan, Form 3

### BADMINTON

With the absence of Andrew Pearce, I had the problem of having to find another partner for the third time in as many years, and although Ian McGregor tried his hardest, we didn't quite hit it off, possibly due to the lack of practice, the only times being on the eve of a tournament. Despite this handicap we still managed to give my old enemies, Holder and Nicoll, a fright by taking them to three very close sets, in the defence of the Perthshire Schools over-16 doubles. In the singles of the same competition I beat Dick Holder for the first time in our nine meetings, but his partner Gordon got revenge by beating me in the final. The only other

tournament that Q.V. entered in force was the Schools open and the 2nd and 3rd year contingent took an early bath (I don't know why they enter these competitions, could be the girls in their short skirts!). Ian and I joined them after the 2nd round. From these competitions, one of the youngsters has emerged as one of the promising for some time, once we manage to drag him away from the squash courts. Andrew Cuthbertson did very well in Schools competition, well enough to be picked to play for the county under-14 side against their Edinburgh equivalents.

In Mr Scott's American doubles Christmas competition there was the usual joking and laughter right up to the final where Philip Ross and I had a hard fight against Paul Harrison and Graham Farquhar.

The School competition was practically a walk-over for Ian and myself. I don't want to give the impression of being a big head, as this domation was not really due to much skill on our part, but mostly to the fact that there is now a very small proportion of the School playing badminton. I don't think that this is due to the lack of interest in the sport generally, but mostly to lack incentive and not enough time is given to the sport in games periods. It's definitely not due to the "absence" of facilities and coaching given by Mr Scott and Mr Willman, indeed they do their best to make sure that there is always somebody representing the School in this particular sport at all levels, and I would like to thank them very sincerely for the time they have given, especially to me.

D. Hughson

### SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

Since January, 1976, Scottish Country Dancing has had an extremely busy year. There were the numerous fund-raising activities for our trip to Belgium in July, and some very impressive engagements, including performances at Cromlix House for a visiting Russian trade delegation, and at Scone Palace for the Crown Prince and Princess of Japan. Both were memorable occasions but surely the most memorable will be our trip to Belgium. Hard work was being put into this trip over a year and a half ago and eventually, last summer, we were able to go. Our party included eight boys and seven girls in the dancing team, and twelve members of the pipe band, which added even more strength to the programme.

Having taken the ferry from Dover to Zebrugge we spent the first week in the southern town of Charleroi. We paraded through the streets and performed in various places throughout the town. After Charleroi we headed for Schoten, our main destination, for the Folkdance Festival with other nationalities such as Turkish, Spanish, Rumanian, Russian, Flemish, Bolivian and a few others. We were guests, for that week, in the houses around the town and many lasting friendships were made. Apart from performing in the grounds of the castle we also paraded, once or twice, through the streets. On our free days we visited Antwerp, Brugge, and passed through Brussels, all of which proved very interesting. After leaving Schoten we spent one night in the small village of Kester, where we were accommodated, once more by the very friendly townsfolk. When we finally left there were many long faces and plenty to talk about for a long time. Through the hard work of everyone this trip was a success and we must thank everyone who was involved in any way for their hard work.

Since returning Mr Mortimer has retired and so neither he or his wife take our dancing anymore – on behalf of all the dancers we thank you both for the tremendous amount you have done for us and we wish you a happy retirement.

A. J. Millsop, V

### DEBATING SOCIETY

The Society again "netted" almost one hundred percent of Haig House, mainly due to the promise girls and dances. Obviously the risk of being exposed to some culture was worth taking if girls were to be the reward.

The year got off to a bang with a visit to an S.N.O. Concert in Edinburgh to hear Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. Everybody who went really enjoyed themselves, with "Status Quo" and "Queen" fanatics even letting out grunts of "It wasn't bad" and "Just passable I s'pose". It's not every day one hears such comments from such people.

Sean Dolan and myself then took part in an English Speaking Union public speaking competition which the School was entering for the first time. Of the 65 people who attended the debate at Wallace High School, 50 were from our own School and with such great support from "our" audience we got through to the next round. Entirely thanks to Stuart Rae we were able to have a member of the British Lepra Association up to the School, to give a great talk and film on the subject. This was then followed by another S.N.O. Concert and then the 2nd round of the E.S.U. competition. Amid great controversy we were knocked out of this competition. It remains to be seen whether the School will compete in it next year or not.

The debate and dance with Wallace High was a great success. We then had two distinguished men from the world of politics who gave us talks on racialism and Trade Unionism in Britain, stirring up a lot of audience participation in the process. We then had another debate and dance with Kilgraston and Strathallan. This time the majority of Haig did not sit around drinking Iron Bru all evening because we took all the seats out.



It was after this that the cultural side hit some hardest. We had a Q.V.S. version of Desert Island Discs, with two boys and two Masters on the panel, all into classical music – the pain on some peoples' faces was a pleasure to see. After another great S.N.O. Concert we had an internal battle to settle: "That the Prefectorial System is a legacy from the past that should be abolished forthwith." The debate was a bloody one with no holds barred, but highly entertaining. Both sides were debating for the first time, but truly excelled themselves, with the motion being carried by one vote.

Meanwhile in the *Scottish Daily Express* Debating Competition Dougal Watson and Mark Riddell performed brilliantly in two early rounds to earn a place in the regional final, where they were unlucky to meet the cream of Glasgow schools. After another debate and dance a lady from Oxfam gave a most moving talk and film. No-one left the hall unchanged by what they saw and heard. The Society finished with another S.N.O. concert.

All the credit for this very successful year goes to Mr Moffat. But all debaters, dishwashers, decorators, chairmovers, scroungers, cleaner-uppers-afterwards, etc., have my warmest thanks for all the help they have given to me.

Philip Ross, Chairman

# Obituary

**No. 2669 J. B. Forrester**

Died in Edinburgh during 1976. To his relatives we extend our deepest sympathy.

**No. 624 J. C. Kelt**

Died on 2nd June, 1976, aged 69, after a long and painful illness. Jim was the son of Nurse Kelt, who was the Q.V.S. Hospital Matron in the early 1920s. He was at the School from 1917 to 1925, attaining the rank of Monitor. After leaving, he entered the Council Offices in Falkirk, continuing his education at the Technical College, Glasgow, and the Royal Dick Veterinary College, Edinburgh, passing out in two, instead of the usual three, years. Moved to Dumfries in 1931, where he was married. Became Head of his Department in 1933, and on the outbreak of war in 1939, he was given charge of the A.R.P. and Rescue Squads. He was a volunteer for the Bomb Disposal Squad, until these duties were taken over by the Army. Working 18 hours a day, he was heavily involved in the air raids, in the West of Scotland. After the war, he became a Concessionaire. He became seriously ill in 1972, and never really enjoyed good health afterwards. He was able to fulfil his life ambition, which was to fish in Lake Taupo, New Zealand, in 1973. Fishing and ornithology were his great hobbies, which were enjoyed to the full, at his caravan in Betty Hill, Sutherlandshire. After his cremation in Carlisle, his ashes were taken to Betty Hill and cast on the River Naver he loved so well. Jim had been Chairman of the Edinburgh Branch of the O.V.A. for a number of years.

On a personal note, Alistair Bulloch states that he was Jim's batman as new Victorian in 1921. He was then six foot tall, and I was four feet two inches. I saw him then as a big man, and to me he always was.

Rest ye in peace Jim.

**No. 576 W. Learmonth**

Died in Edinburgh during 1976. Served with K.O.S.B. for 12 years. Later recalled for 1939/45 War, posted to 1st Airborne Division, took part in the Battle of Arnheim and was severely wounded. To his wife and family we offer our condolences.

**No. 827 F. Lonie**

Left Q.V.S. in 1925 and took up an Apprenticeship in the Building Industry. Called up for service with the R.A.F. in 1939, on demob returned to his civil occupation. Died in Edinburgh, 1976.

**No. 932 Lt-Col. (Q.M.) J. C. Nealon, M.B.E.**

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of Lt-Col. Johnny Nealon (Snowball to many Old Victorians) on 10th July, 1976. Johnny was born 19th May, 1912, and joined the School in September 1922. He played rugger, soccer and cricket for the School and became a Monitor. When trews were introduced for monitorial wear he failed to qualify for this sartorial honour on account of his lack of inches. Napoleon would also have been disqualified for the same reason.

Johnny left the School, aged 18 years in May 1930 and joined the Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment). He was intermittently a L/Cpl, until 1937 he became a Cpl. He served in Palestine 1937/38 and in Hong Kong in 1939 where he added a third stripe to those he already had. He went to Burma as a W.O. II in 1941 and saw action in the first Burma Campaign. He underwent special service in the Chin Hills from the end of the previous campaign in 1943, when he joined the first Chindit expedition, and was commissioned in 1943 whilst serving with the Kings Own Scottish Borderers. In May 1943 he was ambushed and captured by the Japanese. For two years he was imprisoned in the Rangoon Central Jail, but when in April 1945 a column of prisoners of war was being marched away from the advancing 14th Army he made a successful escape.

He changed his status from a combatant commission to Quartermaster in 1947. He served in Trieste, U.K., Germany, Korea, Egypt, Cyprus, Port Said and Berlin.

Johnny Nealon had a long military career which conferred so much honour and credit, not only to himself, but to his School.

It is timely here to quote in full the content of a letter from an Old Comrade who served with Lt-Col. Nealon during his career with the Royal Scots. The letter shows the courage and resolution and what went to make up that man "Johnny", beloved and admired by so many people.

"The following is a short resume of the Johnny Nealon I knew. Johnny Nealon went direct to the Royal Scots on leaving the School, where he served in the U.K. until joining the 2nd Bn in Hong Kong in 1938. He was for some time Cook Sergt in the Battn, but when war started in Burma he volunteered and left Hong Kong as W.O. II to join the Chindits expedition. He was commissioned in the field in the Kings Own Scottish Borderers and some time after he became a prisoner of war.

I recall his telling me a story about being a P.O.W. of the Japanese. Apparently when he and his group were captured, they suffered a great deal, through lack of a correct diet. During their period of suffering the Japanese decided to move the prisoners further away from the war zone. Johnny was so weak he could hardly walk, so his friend tied his hands to one of the elephants tails and was often dragged along the route. He often laughingly spoke of that particular period in his life, saying that the many indignities he suffered whilst being pulled along behind an elephant were worth it, as had lived and was kept amongst his friends. He smilingly admitted that he was lucky, his dress at that time was only a long shirt knotted between his legs.

I dare say he and his comrades had little to laugh or smile about at that time.

After the War on return from India he was posted to Glencorse, awaiting a further appointment, and during this period he met and married his wife Helen. He transferred back to the Royal Scots and joined the 2nd Bn in Trieste, meeting again many old friends and making many new ones, who were to remain with him many years. In 1960 he was awarded the M.B.E., and later took up a Retired Officers Appointment."

Everyone who came into contact with Johnny Nealon had great admiration for him both as a soldier and a man. He had a great sense of humour, personal charm and was a man of great courage.

To his wife Helen and family we offer our deepest sympathy.

Jack R. Cockburn, the writer of the letter, had two sons at the School, No. 2749 Iain and 2991 Kenneth.

Peter Taylor

### No. 420 Archibald Bennett Quinn

Died at Stobhill Hospital, Glasgow, on 9th April, 1977, aged 72 years.

Archie was one of seven brothers who passed through the School. On leaving, he was employed on the Railways. He served during the 1939/45 War with the Royal Artillery and was badly wounded in Holland. On leaving the Service, returned to his job with the railways until his eventual retirement.

To his relatives, we offer our deepest sympathy.

### No. 958 J. C. Scott

Enlisted into R.E. and served with 8th Army in France, Africa and Italy. Died at his home on 5th May, 1976.

### No. 309 R. H. Thomson

Died in Glasgow during 1976.

### No. 201 D. M. Watt

Enlisted as Boy Piper into the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Served during the 1914/18 War. On demob became a Miner at Millhall Colliery. Joined the Millhall Pipe Band, and was a member when they won the World Championships. Served during the 1939/45 War with the R.A.O.C. in North Africa. Rejoined the Millhall Colliery on demob. Died in Stirling on 27th January, 1977. To his wife and family we express our deepest sympathy.

### No. 944 J. Whyte

Served in the R.A. and later transferred to the R.E. Postal Service. Served during the 1939/45 War, on demob returned to his employment at the G.P.O., Edinburgh. He was greatly interested in Old Age Pensioners and was active on their behalf in Eastern Edinburgh.

Died in Edinburgh, 1976.

The following extract from *Eton College Chronicle* arrived too late for publication in the last *Victorian'*

### R.S.M. G. A. West, 1923-1975

George West came to Eton in May 1966. The son of an R.S.M. in the Scots Guards, he had been to the army school at Dunblane and had then joined his father's regiment. During his twenty-eight years he was Drill Sergeant and C.S.M. at the R.M.A. Sandhurst. An accomplished drummer and a good athlete, he ended his active career at R.H.Q. Eton was thus fortunate to have as R.S.M. a man of such wide experience. As one who had controlled an R.H.Q. he was able to run the C.C.F. office with effortless precision. Indeed, it was not long before the officer in charge of cadet affairs at the Ministry of Defence was regularly seeking his advice.



By dint of a few fortissimo utterances he was able to, year after year, achieve order from the shambles of the first recruit parade. Thereafter the hundred or so new cadets were shown, with the minimum of fuss and much characteristic humour, that drill could be fun. Yet there was great kindness behind the parade ground bark. Whenever a boy went into the Sergeant Major's office, often in some trepidation, he was invariably met with a friendly word. George West was a man with a shrewd understanding of people. He was never taken in by a boy's bluster, but always saw the real picture behind any prevarication.

Above all his presence in the orderly room made it a pleasant place. All who served with him found this, as did the many former members of the Corps who returned to see him. One always felt that the word crisis did not exist in his vocabulary.

Rushing into the office with an apparently insuperable problem, one was met with "och, don't worry" and that was the end of it. Transport turned up, schemes were typed on time, camps were impeccably organised, inspections and tattoos were splendidly supervised. We all loved him and shall miss him greatly. His widow Betty and daughter Lydia have our deepest sympathy. The Wests were a united family and although they had lived for some time with the likelihood of George having another heart attack, it was nevertheless a great shock to Betty and Lydia when it did happen.

They can perhaps draw comfort from the knowledge that George West served Eton well and that Eton will long remember him.

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## SCHOOL ARCHIVIST

### No. 807 John Bruce

Joined Army Technical School 1924 for training as a Fitter. Posted to R.E. Chatham 1928/31. Served in Ceylon 1932/35. Posted to School of A.A. Defence until joining A.R. in 1936. Rejoined 23rd August, 1939, served with B.E.F. at Dunkirk. Seconded to African Colonial Forces (Gold Coast Engineers – R.W.A.F.F.) in 1941. Served with 8th (Nigerian) Field Park Co. W.A.E. in Burma, W.O. Class II. Returned to U.K. 1945, served as Instructor in Field Engineering until discharge in July, 1953. Joined National Coal Board as Production Controller in Area Workshops in Co. Durham. Returned to Scotland and joined Rolls Royce on Production Control, as Scheduler and Planner in Engineering. Now retired.

The Register compiled by the present President and Hon. Secretary of the O.V.A., together with some research done by people at the School, has led to the compilation of the following lists. There are likely to be errors, sure to be omissions. Will any reader who can add or subtract information please be in touch with Major Campbell McQueen, 25 Laburnum Grove, Stirling, or The Archivist.

### Old Victorians who have obtained Degrees

| *No.* | *Name* | *Degree* |
|---|---|---|
| 400 | M. Shearer | M.A. Glasgow University 1924 |
| 512 | R. Bayne | M.A. St Andrews University |
| 1410 | W. R. Rennie | M.A. Edinburgh Univ. 1946; B.Sc. Econ.(Hons) Edinburgh Univ. 1948 |
| 1786 | R. F. W. Fisher | B.Sc. St Andrews Univ. |
| 1827 | A. P. Hume | L.T.C.L. (Music) 1972; F.T.C.L. (Music) 1976 |
| 1901 | J. F. Phillips | B.S.D. St Andrews University 1956 |
| 2319 | J. M. McArthur | M.A.(Hons) Edinburgh University 1964 |
| 2329 | P. R. Gibson | M.A.(Hons) St Andrews University 1965 |
| 2331 | W. A. Jones | M.A. St Andrews Univ. 1959; A.C.I.I. |
| 2341 | A. Tulleth | B.Sc. St Andrews Univ. 1959; M.Sc. St Andrews University 1962 |
| 2351 | J. Wilson | Diploma of Art 1960, Glasgow |
| 2355 | K. Gavigan | Diploma of Art 1960, Glasgow |
| 2453 | B. H. M. Fitzpatrick | B.Sc.(Hons) Edinburgh University |
| 2513 | D. McK. Aitcheson | B.A. |
| 2583 | A. A. Blackie | Diploma of Art 1960 Glasgow |
| 2588 | J. W. Wilkie | B.A. University of California 1971 |
| 2594 | T. D. Gavigan | Diploma of Art 1962 Dundee |
| 2612 | J. G. Kay | B.Sc.(Hons) Edinburgh University 1966 |
| 2654 | A. C. Whyte | B.Sc. St Andrews Univ. 1962; M.Sc. St Andrews University 1965 |
| 2692 | P. R. C. Finlay | M.A. St Andrews 1968 |
| 2693 | J. A. Ross | B.Sc.(Hons) Edinburgh University 1966 |
| 2724 | D. J. Watson | D.A. Dundee 1968 |
| 2737 | W. J. Scott | B.Eng. Liverpool Univ. |
| 2745 | J. Allan | B.Sc. Edinburgh 1969 |
| 2780 | A. J. Sinclair | |
| 2788 | S. J. Donaldson | B.Sc.(Hons) Newcastle on Tyne |
| 2795 | N. S. Donaldson | B.Sc.(Eng.) Hatfield College of Technology |

| *No.* | *Name* | *Degree* |
|---|---|---|
| 2829 | A. J. Warwood | M.A. Aberdeen Un. 1963 |
| 2849 | M. Hewgill | M.A., R.C.A. |
| 2871 | M. B. O'Connor | M.A. Dundee |
| 2903 | J. S. Grigor | M.A. Edinburgh |
| 2907 | J. Lee | M.A. Edinburgh |
| 2916 | A. W. Morrice | M.A. Edinburgh |
| 2950 | I. Graham | B.Sc. London 1975 |
| 2958 | D. Langlands | B.Sc.(Hons) St Andrews University |
| 2975 | M. G. Scoggins | B.Sc. Strathclyde |
| 2979 | J. R. Willmott | M.A. Dundee |
| 2984 | J. F. Barnes | B.Sc. Edinburgh 1974 |
| 3008 | A. N. MacDonald | M.B. Glasgow 1976 |
| 3010 | D. McInnes | M.A. Edinburgh 1973 |
| 3012 | W. K. McKerron | B.Sc.(Hons) Heriot Watt University |
| 3017 | S. W. Munro | LI.B. Strathclyde 1976 |
| 3024 | A. Robertson | B.Sc. Heriot Watt 1975 |
| 3040 | D. J. Barnes | M.A. Aberdeen 1976 |
| 3041 | J. W. S. Brown | B.Sc. Edinburgh 1975 |
| 3042 | G. J. S. Bruce | B.A. Stirling 1976 |
| 3060 | A. Hewgill | B.Sc. St Andrews 1976 |
| 3098 | I. F. Crawford | B.Sc. Paisley College of Science & Tech. 1976 |
| 3104 | P. J. Gilchrist | D.A. Glasgow 1974 |
| 3125 | J. Robertson | B.A.(Hons) Heriot Watt |
| 3126 | C. G. Robinson | B.Sc. St Andrews 1976 |
| 3137 | J. G. Wrenn | L.R.I.C. Napier 1976 |
| 3178 | J. Sayer | B.A. University of East Anglia 1975 |
| 3226 | M. J. Stear | B.Sc. Aberdeen 1976 |

**Old Victorians granted Commissions in the Services**

| *No.* | *Name* | *Service* |
|---|---|---|
| 2 | A. D. Swan | Royal Aust. Air Force |
| 8 | J. H. Kerr | Royal Pioneer Corps |
| 12 | J. Farquharson | Royal Air Force |
| 17 | W. J. Ritchie | Royal Army Educational Corps |
| 33 | J. T. Hetherington | 5th Ghurka Rifles |
| 38 | M. J. McGregor | Royal Army Educational Corps |
| 43 | G. Stirrat | Queens Own Cameron Highlanders |
| 46 | E. V. C. Hayes | Royal Army Educational Corps |
| 64 | A. V. S. Lenton | Royal Army Ordnance Corps |
| 69 | P. Sinclair | Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders |
| 79 | P. Fennessey | Royal Army Ordnance Corps |
| 81 | J. R. Pirie | The Royal Scots |
| 90 | J. W. Lindsay | Royal Army Ordnance Corps |
| 97 | W. G. Tucker | The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) |
| 98 | J. H. K. Mackie | Royal Air Force |
| 124 | W. McArthur | Royal Naval Air Service |
| 127 | V. Bowen | Royal Engineers |
| 133 | G. D. Henry | Royal Army Service Corps |
| 135 | D. A. L. McKenzie | Indian Army |
| 164 | P. B. Pirie | Royal Army Educational Corps |
| 172 | R. Shearer | Royal Army Educational Corps and Intelligence Corps |
| 180 | D. S. MacDougall | Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders |
| 187 | J. C. Coote | Royal Air Force |
| 190 | H. D. Tocher | Royal Army Service Corps |
| 195 | J. B. Baldwin | Royal Air Force |
| 211 | R. G. Shaw | Royal Artillery |
| 232 | A. M. Dodds | Royal Army Educational Corps |
| 237 | A. E. McLeay | Royal Army Educational Corps |
| 247 | J. C. Shearer | Royal Tank Corps |
| 248 | G. M. Stewart | Royal Canadian Forces |
| 264 | F. C. H. Starling | The Lancashire Fusiliers |
| 273 | A. C. McLaughlan | Royal Army Educational Corps |
| 277 | V. C. Fennessey | Queens Own Cameron Highlanders |
| 325 | D. J. McLeay | The East Surrey Regt |
| 332 | J. Tomney | Kings Own Malta Regt |
| 353 | W. A. Sargent | Royal Engineers |
| 360 | K. J. M. McKenzie | Royal Army Ordnance Corps |
| 364 | J. D. Palmer | The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry |
| 488 | J. C. Harvey | Cameron Highlanders |
| 497 | W. MacPherson | Royal Army Educational Corps |
| 521 | C. W. Noble | Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders |
| 522 | W. Skelton | Royal Artillery |
| 534 | J. J. Thornhill | The Royal North'land Fusiliers |
| 555 | C. C. O'Grady | Royal Air Force |
| 556 | A. C. Mackay | Royal Artillery |
| 584 | D. Watson | Royal Army Educational Corps |
| 597 | H. Friend | Royal Army Educational Corps & Intelligence Corps |
| 608 | A. Lees | Royal Army Service Corps |
| 609 | J. R. C. Cosgrove | Royal Army Educational Corps |



| *No.* | *Name* | *Service* |
|---|---|---|
| 648 | J. H. Slorrance | Royal Pioneer Corps |
| 699 | A. F. Renton | Royal Air Force |
| 700 | J. O'Brien | Royal Engineers |
| 742 | J. J. Archibald | The South Staffordshire Regiment |
| 745 | R. J. Taylor | The East Yorkshire Regiment |
| 750 | T. W. Kean | Royal Air Force |
| 768 | J. C. Doig | Royal Army Ordnance Corps |
| 815 | C. McQueen | Royal Army Ordnance Corps |
| 844 | W. S. R. Fraser | The Black Watch |
| 847 | C. McKenna | Royal Army Educational Corps |
| 859 | J. D. McLeod | Queens Own Cameron Highlanders |
| 863 | G. Thomson | Royal Signals |
| 883 | S. T. Garner | The Seaforth Highl'ders |
| 906 | R. V. D. Dewar | Royal Artillery |
| 912 | W. S. McKinley | Black Watch |
| 920 | R. Linton | Royal Signals |
| 928 | D. Thomson | Indian Army Ordnance Corps |
| 932 | J. C. Nealon | The Royal Scots |
| 937 | J. A. C. Black | Royal Signals |
| 949 | J. L. Martin | Royal Signals |
| 950 | D. A. Alexander | Seaforth Highlanders |
| 952 | D. R. Spence | Gordon Highlanders |
| 954 | J. McIntosh | Queens Own Cameron Highlanders |
| 962 | A. Cruickshank | Royal Tank Corps |
| 963 | C. J. A. Vass | The Seaforth Highl'ders |
| 976 | R. Fairbairn | The Seaforth Highl'ders |
| 1041 | M. D. Kenny | Royal Air Force |
| 1079 | H. H. Stevenson | The Ghurka Rifles |
| 1098 | F. James | Royal Engineers |
| 1099 | O. J. Dignan | Royal Army Service Corps |
| 1143 | W. C. Ramsay | Royal Signals |
| 1152 | H. R. Bunch | Royal Army Pay Corps |
| 1169 | J. Fairbairn | The Ghurka Rifles |
| 1215 | J. E. Ryan | Royal Signals |
| 1217 | D. F. McKinley | Royal Air Force |
| 1225 | J. E. Wright | Royal Engineers |
| 1280 | J. Holland | Royal Engineers |
| 1281 | V. Rosie | Royal Engineers |
| 1306 | M. H. Robinson | Royal Engineers |
| 1332 | J. W. McDonald | Royal Air Force |
| 1371 | W. A. Morton | The Parachute Regiment |
| 1397 | J. L. Davidson | Royal Army Service Corps |
| 1413 | A. W. Finnie | Royal Army Ordnance Corps |
| 1414 | D. K. Beaton | Scots Guards |
| 1422 | G. McDonald | Royal Air Force |
| 1423 | D. C. C. Bunch | Royal Air Force |
| 1489 | R. Quinn | Royal Artillery |
| 1511 | J. Oliver | Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders |
| 1513 | E. Coull | Royal Artillery |
| 1523 | N. E. McLeod | Royal Artillery |
| 1532 | E. L. Monaghan | Royal Engineers |
| 1547 | W. Lloyd | Royal Army Service Corps |
| 1555 | J. Myles | The Royal Scots |
| 1568 | F. Pegg | Royal Engineers |
| 1596 | I. B. Stevenson | Royal Engineers |
| 1629 | A. Sturrock | Royal Engineers |
| 1660 | E. Mullen | Royal Signals |
| 1696 | D. D. Hume | The Seaforth Highl'ders |
| 1697 | J. C. Campbell | Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers |
| 1772 | H. D. Dyer | Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers |
| 1785 | H. F. Harrison | Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers |
| 1881 | V. A. Southon | Royal Air Force |
| 1943 | D. Dawson | The Welsh Regiment |
| 1979 | N. M. Dick | Royal Air Force |
| 2009 | G. S. Munro | The Intelligence Corps |
| 2052 | I. W. Dunn | Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers |
| 2067 | T. J. Mitchell | Royal Air Force |
| 2097 | S. W. Fairbairn | Royal New Zealand Air Force |
| 2110 | A. R. Williamson | Royal Army Ordnance Corps |
| 2112 | N. J. Dunstance | Royal Air Force |
| 2139 | D. A. McArthur | Royal Air Force |
| 2207 | R. Fairbairn | The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) |
| 2277 | B. F. Williamson | Royal Army Ordnance Corps |
| 2423 | J. K. Sim | Royal Air Force |
| 2464 | D. McKellan | Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps |
| 2600 | N. Burrows | Royal Air Force |
| 2634 | R. Maxwell | Royal Army Service Corps |
| 2677 | M. R. Nixon | Royal Army Ordnance Corps |
| 2683 | G. Matthews | Royal Air Force |
| 2694 | K. M. Douglas | Royal Air Force |
| 2728 | S. R. McArthur | Royal Artillery |
| 2742 | M. J. Armstrong | Royal Artillery |
| 2754 | M. W. Gillespie | Royal Corps of Transport |
| 2777 | A.D.M.Richardson | Royal Air Force |
| 2899 | G. H. Fox | Royal Air Force |
| 2903 | J. S. Grigor | Royal Air Force |
| 2916 | A. W. Morrice | The Royal Marines |
| 2922 | G. Slater | Royal Air Force |
| 2946 | P. A. D. Evans | Royal Corps of Transport |

| *No.* | *Name* | *Service* |
|---|---|---|
| 3094 | W. A. Common | The Royal Highland Fusiliers |
| 2959 | C. A. Lannen | Royal Air Force |
| 3129 | G. C. Stevenson | Royal Artillery |
| 3197 | A. I. Crawford | Royal Air Force |
| 3232 | G.A.M.Richardson | Royal Air Force |

**Duke of York's Royal Military School Pupils who were at Queen Victoria School during the years 1940-1946**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 16414 | D. Beat | Royal Artillery |
| | W. Davies | 11th Hussars (Prince Albert's Own) |
| 16465 | R. Smith | Royal Artillery |
| 16370 | R. M. Field | Royal Artillery |

**Old Victorians Awarded Decorations or Medals**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2 | A. D. Swan | Royal Australian Air Force (M.B.E.) |
| 49 | J. D. Cooper | Royal Fusiliers (M.M.) |
| 135 | D.A.L.MacKenzie | Indian Army (C.B.E., D.S.O.) |
| 425 | W.A. McBride | Queens Own Cameron Highlanders (M.M.) |
| 483 | J. B. Robertson | Scots Guards (M.B.E.) |
| 582 | P. B. Taylor | Royal Army Educational Corps (M.B.E.) |
| 750 | T. W. Kean | Royal Air Force (C.B.E., A.F.C.) |
| 825 | A. Slorrance | Royal Air Force (B.E.M.) |
| 844 | W. S. Fraser | Black Watch (D.C.M.) |
| 912 | W. S. McKinley | Black Watch (M.C.) |
| 920 | R. Linton | Royal Signals (O.B.E.) |
| 924 | W. McDougall | Para. Regiment (M.M.) |
| 932 | J. Nealon | Royal Scots (M.B.E.) |
| 963 | C. J. A. Vass | Seaforth Highlanders (M.B.E.) |
| 1030 | R. Douglas | Commandos (M.B.E., D.C.M., M.M.) |
| 1212 | V. R. Dunn | Para. Regiment (M.M.) |
| 1306 | M. Robinson | Royal Engineers (B.E.M.) |
| 1414 | D. K. Beaton | Scots Guards (M.C.) |
| 1423 | D. C. Bunch | Royal Air Force (D.F.C., D.S.O.) |
| 1523 | N.E. McLeod | Royal Artillery (O.B.E.) |
| 1589 | A. Runsie | Royal Air Force (B.E.M.) |
| 2110 | A. R. Williamson | Royal Army Ordnance Corps (M.B.E.) |
| | *Croix de Guerre* | |
| 211 | R. G. Shaw | Royal Artillery |
| | *American Bronze Star* | |
| 1496 | J. C. Robertson | Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders |
| | *Glasgow City Police* | |
| 922 | T. Mitchell | Kings Police Medal for Bravery |

# Old Victorians

## CENTRAL BRANCH

**Report by Major C. McQueen**

Taking hint from the Commandant in his Notes in the *Victorian Magazine* for 1976, it was decided to attempt to harness all the information relating to Old Victorians in our possession, and make a copy of the Old Victorians Register, starting from No. 1 and working our way through. This proved quite a gigantic task, and sincerely hope the results produced, have been worthy of the effort, and will help renew acquaintances with the School, and the O.V.A. As the information gathered covers a period of approximately 70 years and 4,000 individuals, there are bound to be a few blank spaces, as a great many O.Vs. have not been in touch with the School or O.V.A. for a number of years. The Register was on display during the O.V.A. Weekend, and rather surprisingly, caused quite a bit of interest, and notification by individuals of further information for inclusion in the pages.

At this stage, I would like to remind Old Victorians that though their names are included in the Register, few seem prepared to join the Association, or make any contribution towards the work involved. At the time of writing, approximately 10% of those who have passed through the School are O.V.A. members, and the bulk of them are over the age of 65 years.

The Annual Dinner Dance was again held at the Westlands Hotel, Dunblane, 70 attended. We were pleased to entertain Brigadier and Mrs Marston, Mr and Mrs Melluish and Lt-Col. and Mrs McLeod. Jimmy White, in between his spells on shift work, managed to get everything organised, off to a fine start.

On Sunday morning, London, Edinburgh and Central Branches laid wreaths in the Chapel at the Memorial Service. The salute at the March Past by the boys, was taken by Captain Robert Shaw.

Lately we have received correspondence from Jim Wilkie (U.S.A.), he is greatly interested in all the happenings at the School. Also from Derek Peachey (D.Y.R.M.S./Q.V.S.), now residing in Australia. Derek is now the President of Toowoomba Football Federation, and is becoming quite well known for his landscape oil paintings.

## EDINBURGH BRANCH

**Chairman, S. T. Garner**

**Hon. Secretary, A. G. Bulloch**

**Annual Report to March 1977**

Once more our Annual Report never varying much, same old regulars appearing at our monthly social evenings held in the Victoria Social, 11 Albany Street. We are pleased to report increasing attendances, the last two occasions having over forty members and friends. At our evening of 3rd March we welcomed Russell Marchant and brothers Alan and Warren McKean. Alan recently returned from South America, Warren left Q.V.S. last year, and Russell at Edinburgh University. I reckon their combined ages equal the average age of our members. It is heartening to see some of the new "Old Victorians" and we look forward to them bringing along more in the future.

Nice to see Andy Leitch's efforts in the formation of the 200 Club have met with some success, their first prize draw having taken part in December 1976. Prize winners being: £100, G. W. Thomson; £50, Flt-Lt Richardson; £20, A. Noble; and £10, C. McKenna. We feel the 200 Club is an excellent idea, giving Q.V.S. the chance of contributing to the funds of the O.V.A. and the School, as well as having a chance of a prize in the draw.

Congratulations to the School in projecting "Boy Archer's" photograph as a Christmas Card. It is very popular with our members and a substantial order was sent to the School. We look forward to having an established market next Christmas.

*Old Victorian No. 228, Thomas J. Guthrie – Boy Pipe Major at the School and Pipe Major of The Scots Guards, now aged 75 years.*

Since the last copy of the *Victorian* was published, we have had six deaths in Edinburgh – Jim Kelt, our President, J. White, Lt-Col. J. C. Nealon, W. Learmonth, J. Forrester and F. Lonie. To all their loved ones our deepest sympathy. More in obituary column. Jim Kelt, our president was elected in 1967 when the Branch was reconstructed after being moribund for several years. Although living in Dumfries he and his wife, Mabeth, always attended our major functions and frequently attended our monthly social.

Old Boys weekend saw Jim and Mabeth in the Westlands Hotel where he revelled in the "Reunions". His was a genuine love for his old School, his other passions being ornothology and fishing at Bettyhill, Sutherlandshire. After his cremation in Carlisle his ashes were scattered on the River Naver he loved so well.

At the social evening of 9th December, 1976, in succession to Jim Kelt, his friend Peter Taylor was unanimously acclaimed as our new President. Peter has seen and done it all. Joining the Army in 1925 – captured at Dunkirk – after returning home in 1945, schoolmaster at Duke of Yorks till 1947. Schoolmaster at Queen Victoria School till 1952. Left the Army in 1962 after 37 years' service. Served three years as President at H.Q. Branch, O.V.A. Well done, Peter, long may it continue.

Best wishes to Old Victorians everywhere.

**Report from Alastair G. Bulloch**

*Hon. Secretary*

50 Northfield Broadway, Edinburgh EH8 7PH

Tel.: 031 661 3620

## GLASGOW

**"Old Boys' Day", 1977**

A long time ago I had a dream, a dream about "Old Boys' Day". It was a Glasgow railway station and at least about sixty "Old Boys" with relatives and friends had gathered and eventually boarded the train for lovely Dunblane.

At Dunblane the train practically emptied. It was a lovely day and the old town looked its best. Outside the station a huge banner was displayed with only one word, "Welcome". This was Dunblane's big day. The hotels, pubs and shops were very busy. We made our way to the old School, how busy the road was, cars and groups of people. The old School and the sound of music, the bands of a famous Scottish regiment were entertaining the large crowd and everyone seemed to be happy.

Dunblane was happy.

It was a dream, but often I have wondered if my dream would ever become a reality, certainly not in my time, now I am "toddling down the brae".

On Saturday, 12th March, 1977, "Old Boys' Week-end" at Dunblane. A Glasgow railway station, this time I was alone, even my old comrade Bobby Stewart was missing, he had a bad fall a couple of weeks back and was unable to travel. About a dozen folk left the train at Dunblane but I knew none of them. I made my way slowly through the old High Street, to the hotel where I was booked in, and there I was happy to meet some old friends, particularly my old school mate and regimental comrade "Captain R. Shaw" and his good lady and son.

At the School there were no bands playing, no great crowds but a fair number of old boys. Two rugger games were in progress and I am sure those playing and watching enjoyed themselves. After tea, the "Old Victorians" Meeting was held, and what a disappointment. I think there were about fourteen present.

I have nothing but praise and admiration for C. McQueen and Jimmy White who work so hard for the Association and at our annual meeting, see such a pitiful turnout of the "Old Boys".

I know only too well the frustrations, for the best part of 50 years, I tried so hard in Glasgow but in the end, was beat.

Saturday 12th, "Supper and Dance", again my thanks to Campbell and Jimmy, but where were the "Old Boys"?

Sunday 13th, I attended the Church and Parade and here I must say that I cannot find the words to express my feelings, sitting in that little chapel and perhaps when prayers were being said, and my eyes closed, I was not hearing the words of the Padre, "I was back as a Boy" among my Pals. Forgive me, Padre.

I was delighted that the honour of taking the salute was given to Captain R. Shaw. I felt real proud of him because I know that he was ill, that he is still suffering from old war wounds, and is continually in and out of hospital. He was a credit. Thanks School, and thank you Robert.

So another "Old Boys' Day" is over, perhaps I will be back on "Grand Day" but if I am alive and well next year, I will be back on "Old Boys' Day".

Broomielaw

*3213 Ian Kempsell – playing the pipes at Remembrance Day Service at R.N. Establishment, Torpoint, Cornwall. He was a Chief Petty Officer Apprentice, but has since departed to continue in Phase II of his trade. The photograph was forwarded by Len Ashton (No. 857) who is a Civilian Bandmaster Instructor to the R.N. and an Old Victorian.*

### DIRECTORS OF MUSIC

This month we sadly say farewell to Major Jock Quinn, Senior Director of Music Royal Artillery for the past ten years. In his place we welcome Captain Stanley Patch who joins us from the Royal Engineers.

Jock Quinn started his Army career as a Band Boy in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in 1936. He became a Gunner in 1962 when he assumed the appointment of Director of Music of the Royal Artillery B.A.O.R. Band. After four years with them he was appointed to the Royal Artillery Band at Woolwich in 1966 and became Senior Director of Music. Under his baton the Band has maintained the very high standard of performance in military band and orchestral work for which it has always been justly famous.

We will remember him for many things; his outstanding and characteristic conducting ability, for which he was acknowledged to be without a peer in any of the three Services; his occasional rendering of Al Jolson songs; his Japanese jokes which did not mean what he thought they meant; his inimitable Scots accent; but above all for his complete dedication and professionalism as a musician. We shall miss him greatly. As he knows, the very best wishes of the Regiment go with him for his future years. One of the Band said to me ". . . when you think of the R.A. Band you think of Major Robert Quinn."



This is a tribute upon which I could not possibly improve. It makes a man hard to follow. However, a follower there must be and he is already in position (or should I say play?).

Captain Stan Patch comes to us from the Royal Engineers Band at Aldershot with whom he has been Director of Music for six years. We are glad to report, however, that he started his career as a Band Boy at Woolwich in 1946 and served with the Royal Artillery Portsmouth Band for eight years before he became a Band-master with The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars. He was with the Light Infantry before his appointment as a Director of Music with the Sappers. We warmly welcome him back into the Royal Regiment and hope that he will have many happy years as our Director of Music.

Colonel G. S. Hatch,
*Regimental Colonel*

# Valete

For many boys, leaving Queen Victoria School is not a tidy business for a fair amount depends on the quality of examination results, published in July. On the Grand Day Parade a number can not tell if seven years, say, of Q.V.S. life is ending or whether an eighth is in store. This makes the publication of a definitive list of leavers in *The Victorian* an impossible exercise and it is not attempted. Rather do the notes below refer to nigh-on definite leavers and I am conscious by the same token that some will not get a mention this year and then will not be here in September. Sorry!

David Hughson has been our Senior Monitor and he hopes to move on to both a University and the Army. He leaves with an impressive School record: Senior Monitor; C.S.M. in C.C.F.; three years' membership of the 1st XV and Colours each season; badminton colours for two years. Also he has been Haig Champion in Badminton twice, Cross Country twice, Swimming and Squash. And he has acted in plays as well as having piped in his younger years. He has certainly been a contributor and a great asset to the School.

Philip Ross is another who has participated in just about every activity here. Deputy Senior Monitor; Flight Sergeant in R.A.F. Section; Captain of the Rugby team (a three-seasons Colour); Athletics Champion; winner of the Addison Smith Public Speaking Contest and title role in *Macbeth* in 1975 as well as other excellent performances. He was also five years in the Band, finishing as Senior Side Drummer.

Glenn Wallace was Prince Philip Medalist; Monitor; Colour Sergeant; Flight Sergeant; Rugby Colour for two years and is aiming for St Andrews University and the R.A.F.

Banking has attracted Ian Clark. While here he has been Monitor; Rugby Vice-Captain (Colours for three years); R.A.F. Sergeant and a keen dancer.

Iain Campbell and Andrew Kerr have been Prefects. Iain, a Rugby Colour this year, has long strived after a career with the round ball and that might yet happen. But he would be prepared to go to a University! Andrew is bound for the Services, with a hankering after the Army Air Corps.

Four years as Boy Drum-Major has been a feather in Steven Buchanan's cap and he was also in the Rugby team for two years, winning his Colours each year. Paul Harrison will leave having sat Highers, aiming for a Technical College; he was a canoeist of some distinction here. Alex Lambie, another Fifth Year leaver, has been a prop-forward par excellence, winning his Rugby Colours in two seasons. And he has been Swimming Champion. He leaves hoping to join the Royal Fleet Auxiliary.

Ian Robertson and Roy Simpson are the last two Fifth Year men I mention. Both have hit the heights in their particular fields: Ian with his leading parts in *Macbeth* and *Merchant of Venice* and Roy for his Rugby and Piping and a marvellous mini-part as "baddie" in *Macbeth.*

Quite a number of the Fourth Year are leaving, with futures as yet somewhat indefinite since employment is not as easy to find as it was. Stuart Benson recently has come into his own as a Rugby player (Colours this season) and as Cricketer; Peter Carson has been a stylish Cricketer, Leading Tenor Drummer, member of the Squash team and Champion Bugler, bound now for a Career in Music. The dancing organisation will miss Bruce Dempsey; the Rugby team will miss Graham Farquhar (Colours this season); the drummers will miss Andrew Leonard who has also been reserve hooker and scrum half to two excellent practitioners so that in leaner years he might have played for the School. Paul McLaughlin and Alan Riddell had each a handful of matches for the 1st XV without commanding places; Ian Munro has photographed every part of the School in his time; Dougall Watson has been a keen piper, a keen actor and not without ability as a footballer. And Stuart Rae leaves us too after contributing so much here to the Stage – naturally hilariously funny at times, naturally deadly serious in *Merchant of Venice* – to Debating and to the Addison Smith Public Speaking Contest, whose senior section he won in 1976. He has spent quite a lot of time in hospital but his contribution to the School's dancing has been very considerable. And he has won the coveted Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award.

Others leave who have given their best (much of the time!) without having their names on programmes or lists of Colours. We wish them well:

Raymond Boyd, Philip Calder, Wayne Carter, Ian Connor, James Currie, Tony Dacey, John Heeps, Clive Johnson, Paul Kerr, Paul Martin, James Murray. And we hope to see them again and we hope they'll keep in touch.

Last year's Valete omitted Ross McKinnell because he was not then expected to leave. But with a good crop of Highers he did not return; instead he joined the Army and he has passed R.C.B. and joined R.M.A. Sandhurst. Congratulations!

John Melluish, *Headmaster*

# Literature

### RISE AND SHINE

The restless traffic lights signal to no-one but the lonely policeman pounding the beat. The first signs of another boring day can just be seen, through the wet mist sticking to the buildings.

Under the roads the muck level begins to rise in the wormy sewers. A workman comes out of his tank turret in the road. His mates file out of the road and into a van like convicts.

Further below the pavements a train cracks and the people spill out like water.

Factories start working with their cigar chimneys belching out smoke. The smoke, the mist mixed with the grey sky threaten to fall at the slightest breath.

Jim Robb, 3b

### SHANTY TOWN

The road is dotted with potholes filled with oil and petrol snaking across the top of the repulsive puddles. Debris and litter clutters up many gardens which have not been tended since last year. Children play in the gutters with nothing else to do but sit watching the litter race by in the water in the gutter. Decaying houses and smashed windows scar the desert scenery. Stray dogs run the streets in hope of finding some food, but all they find is filth and litter. Old sandstone buildings stink of rotting floorboards and roof struts hang in a trance.

L. Strong, 3b

Look at him sitting there. The new housemaster must have had shock treatment this morning when he first met Jim. He's still got spit behind his ear from when he had a spit fight earlier on. His nose is dripping as usual and any second now I bet he wipes it on his filthy sleeve. His flies are burst and his trousers are hanging loose because he doesn't have a belt. I can see the new master staring at Jim as he makes an almighty sniff and swallows. Ugh! His shirt tail's hanging out and his school blazer is almost unrecognisable. All his buttons are hanging on a thread and only one is done up. He scratches his head and a cascade of dandruff falls to the desk. He blows it away and scratches under his armpit. His stubby bitten finger nails are covered in muck by the time he finishes scratching. His lace lies untied on one of his shoes and the other shoe has no lace. His socks are lying down to his ankles. His tie is pulled right down so you can't see the knot. His large hands are filthy and he keeps on scratching. Apart from being the most untidy boy in the school he is the most popular.

Mark Fisher, 11a

*Illustrated by David J. Ross.*

### EMERGENCY WARD THIRTEEN

"Good morning, Mister Robertson; and how are we today?" the sacchorrine-sweet matron inquires with a fluoride grin; "Goof muflunk," I reply struggling with my shattered lips and traction supported body plaster, the matron oozes over the treacherously clean floor and allows the sunlight to look me over, and then with another "ultra-brite" example of her good cheer, administers a hearty crack on my broken pelvis before oozing out again.

Giving up the struggle against the overwhelming brightness of this place of mercy I half shut my eyes.



"Good morning, Mister Robertson; and how are we today?"

"Ohf shiff." A white coat informs me that "that nice Doctor Jones" is here.

"Pardon?" white coat enquires.

"Goof muflunk," I correct myself painfully.

White coat removes the drip from above my head and exchanges it with Mrs P's, then with a hasty "Cheerio" stiffly advances.

The dazzling pale green walls, scientifically designed to calm one, are slowly driving me insane, my body is in a state of perpetual pain, and the pretty nurse has forgotten to connect me with my bed-pan.

"Breakfast," cries the sterilised orderly and dangles the drip enticingly in front of me, and then watching that pretty nurse, connects my mashed weetabix to the unused toilet; "looks delicious" lies the orderly and leaves.

"Oh good," enthuses the pretty nurse fifteen minutes later, "your bowles are moving", and cramming the "delicious" weetabix into my face to prove the wisdom of her words, is gone.

The whole day proceeds in the same, efficient, well oiled manner, until finally peace comes.

"Good night, Mister Robertson, sleep tight, and don't forget, ring if you need me." The T.V. night nurse makes her generous offer pointing to the specially illuminated bell, twenty-five yards down the corridor.

"Piff offle," I reply wholeheartedly.

"Pardon?" she inquires undaunted.

"Goof nifed," I moan, defeated.

Ian Robertson, V

### MY DREAM

Last night I lay in bed,
Driving buses in my head.

M. Davis, 1a

### THE BUDGIE

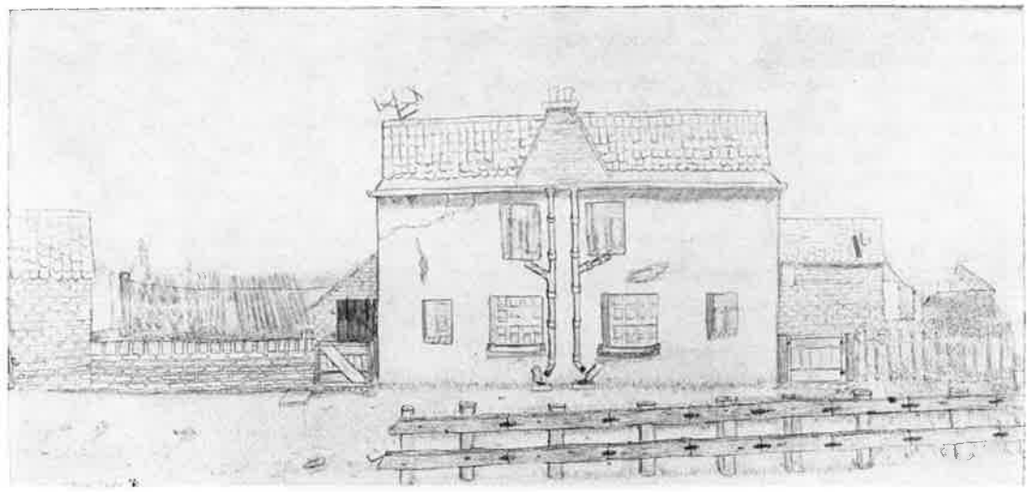
Chirping and swinging on its perch,
Green breast yellow head;
Eating its food and playing with its toys,
Swinging and singing on its perch.

M. Adamson

### THE COMING OF SPRING

The sun rides up high on the back of a small cumulus cloud giving out a victorious feeling into the world. Naked trees come back from the dead and at the same time a freshness is added to the air. Hedges burst out and are covered with pink buds. Spiders, flies and other small insects appear out of the darkness of cracks in the walls.

Colin Jones, 3a



*Illustrated by Kevin Smith.*

### MORNING

As I walked along the back of the hill through the autumn leaves which were like woodshavings, I could see the road and rail bridges over the Forth stretched across the murky waters. Edinburgh lay there flat, with a light grey mist rising from it. The morning was slightly cold with the first chills of winter but the sky was light blue with just a streak of cirrus cloud. My dog ran through the trees chasing rabbits, steam puring out of her mouth and then she strolled up to me trying not to show her misery after her defeat. Then we left the hill and crossed the patchwork fields and went back into the concrete jungle, home.

Colin Jones, 3a

The saloon door swung open and he stood there, tall, dark, and sinister. He was dressed in a dusty, grey, Confederate's uniform, with the peak of his cap casting a dark shadow over his eyes. His lips were parched and cracked and a cigarette hung loosely from them. His eyes scanned the saloon then with a snort he spat contemptuously on the floor and shuffled to the bar. When he reached the bar he flopped over it like a wet rag doll.

"A glass of beer and something to eat, you sonofabitch," he drawled.

The bartender anciously filled a mug with beer and passed it to him. Then the bartender pulled it from behind the counter and gave it to him.

"What do you call this, you lousy creep?" he roared in disgust.

"That, sir, is the biscuit that has more chocolate on it than any other biscuit in the west."

That was our cue, we ran towards the stranger hands held high. His hand shot to the holster and he swivelled in bewilderment.

"If you like a lot of chocolate on your biscuit join our CLUB!"

A grin spread across his face and he dropped his gun and he joined in until we got the signal to cut from the director.

Mark Riddell, 3a

### THE HINDENBURG

The Hindenburg glided slowly and majestically towards the mooring mast; its tiny belly-cabins glistening in the sun. Suddenly an explosion interrupted the cheering and the clapping of the crowd – and an intensely bright light dazzled them all. The huge airship plummeted to the ground with its fuselage gutted by hungry flames.

Like a mortally-wounded man falling to his knees, the tail of the airship smashed on the ground, and the Hindenburg raised its head in a last defiant gesture. A final explosion ripped through the ship, leaving it sprawled on the ground like a dying animal.

Sean Dolan, 3a

*Illustrated by M. Buchanan, Class IV'*

### LEAVING HOME NEVER TO RETURN

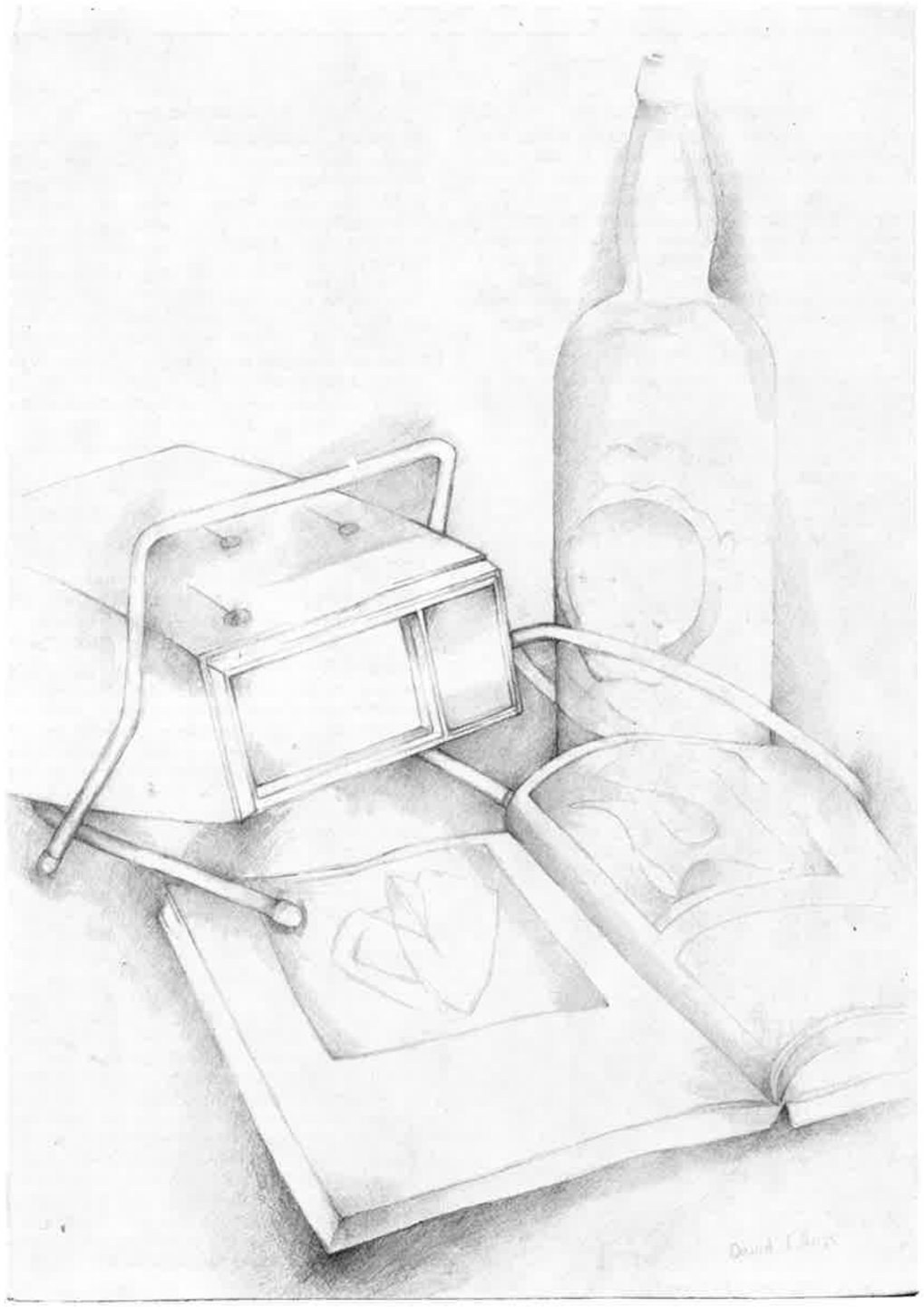
Why
did he
turn his back
and leave his home
when he was so young?
Maybe life is
not what it
used to
be.

Sean Dolan, 3a

### RUNNING OUT

"Next time I will leave!"
She says as she returns home.
She's said it before.

Sean Dolan, 3a



### CHAMELON

It
looks for
daily prey
Its sticky tongue
darts, returns, devours.
It placidly
bites, savours
crunches
it.

A. G. Davis

*Illustrated by David J. Ross.*

### APPLES

My mouth is drooling
it looks tender, juicy
and delicious, Apples.
Fresh fruit, nothing like it.
Not even synthetics,
with their pleasant flavours,
but they're dry, boring to eat,
not like apples.
There are no apples now,
just this coloured picture,
reminding me,
of where my parents were born,
on the planet Earth.

A. Cuthbertson

### A THOUGHT

A kaleidoscope of images
Not one rigid.
Try to focus on it,
Analyse, perceive the translucent colours
Savour and cherish it.

A. G. Davis

### THE BIG, BAD WORLD OF THE 70s

I woke up with the dratted alarm bell ringing in my ear, got up, got dressed and had some bread for breakfast, bread with damaging chemicals in it. I walked outside and took a deep breath of beautiful – ahhh – cough, cough – carbon-monoxide from vehicle exhaust. I start off down the street for work, see an ad, "Come to sunny Israel for your summer holidays, hear the beautiful sound of small arms fire and the breath-taking noise of rockets flying over your head. Walk on mined beaches, stay in bombed ruins of hotels, swim in blood. We have novelties here, instead of seashells we have bombshells and although there is a shortage of skimming stones we can supply you with free torpedoes instead, and if that doesn't suit you, you can build gelignite castles with nitro-glycerine moats. Our funfairs are also very good value if you shoot down an Arab's plane with our real (not mock) Sam Missiles; the prize is a Sam back in the face from the Arabs. This holiday is very cheap, it will only cost you your life." My reading is rudely interrupted by the deafening roar of Concorde screaming overheard at high speed. I get on the jam packed sardine tin they call a train. As usual I get choked on cigarette smoke, standing there gasping for a breath. One of these days I'll end up with lung cancer. At last the train stops. I get off and arrive half dead at my work. Yes, I would rather be living in a cave with the danger of being flattened by a wooly Mammoth while looking for Brontosaurus steaks for my breakfast.

R. L. McDonald, 2b



### THE SURVIVORS

The shrill burst of the referee's whistle pierced the overcast air. Sighs of relief rose from the drenched players, and the usual argument broke out among the losers. The pitch seemed almost unplayable, and the mud looked as if a herd of cattle had stampeded across it. The rain came down monotonously and blurred any distant objects on the horizon. The wind beat vigorously against the backs of the small figures, bent forward as they made their way back to the pavilion. A single boy, well away from the main pack, listened blankly at the insults thrown at him from the rest of his team, the losers. It seemed to them that he was to blame for their defeat, and they were going to make him pay for it. He was different from the others, his legs were white and untouched by mud, and his socks were still up tightly, round his knees. The goose-pimples on his body could be seen clearly and his fingers and ears were numb with cold. The laces on his football boots were still bound tightly. His thin, straight hair clung to his forehead and his green shirt stuck coldly to his, frail, skinny body. His turned up nose was red and runny, and he sniffed annoyingly.

A. G. Kennedy, IIa

### THE OLDEST BUILDING

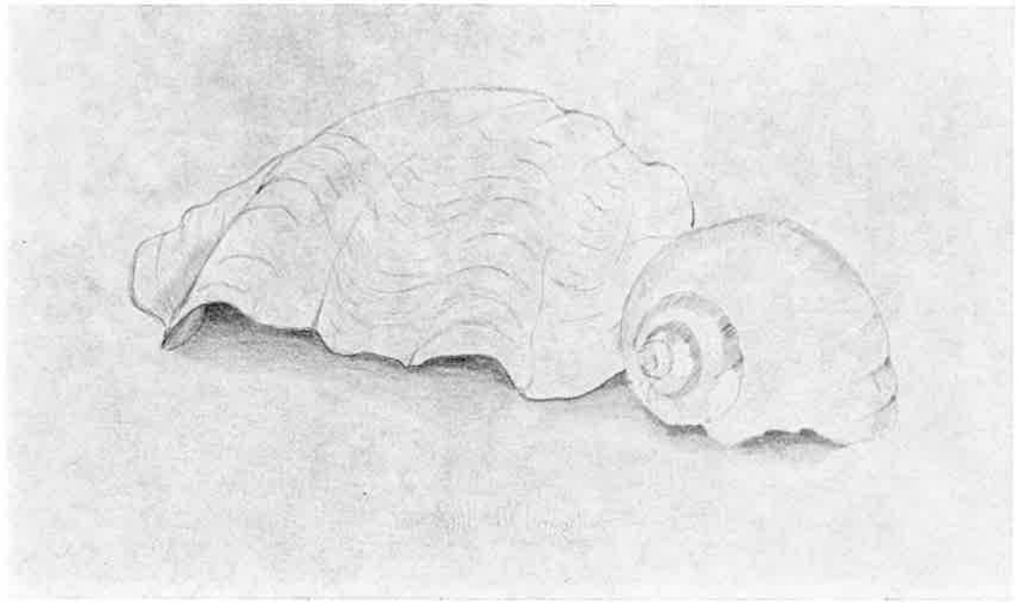
It was the oldest building I had ever seen, a tall, huge, lurking figure. It had a rough, faded brown surface, standing boldly against the skyline! A dark slated hat lined the top with a silvery rim. A multitude of glassy eyes lined the side. There were pronounced botanic veins over its face, with a deep inset tunnel in the centre. Tall stout stone limbs proceeded out of the side. A heavy dampness crossed its brow and trickled from the glass eyes.

Keith A. Gray

### END OF GAMES

A murky rain tumbles down. A slimy mist slithers around engulfing the multi-bladed pitches, smudged with mud. Peeeep!! a whistle sounds. A cry of delight starts up then dies. Then lumbering out of the mist comes a dampened humanoid. At first, unfocussed and faded. A huge truck passes by, scurrying along the road. By now the focus has adjusted. I can see he is a tall, heavily built boy, with bright "burning" red hair. His half red, half brown shirt is evidence of a hard game. He slightly limps as though he had injured a leg! His hands and face are a deadened blue, with watery cold eyes. He's running now, I can see the cold white condensed breath. Indoors at last!

Keith A. Gray



*Illustrated by Paul McLaughlin.*

# From the Headmaster

Any write-up of the School Year for *The Victorian* should start with the end of the previous Summer Term since the Editor puts his magazine to bed, as they say, in mid-May. Certainly the end of 1976's Summer Term (oh! but what a poor Summer – with hardly a cricket ball bowled – until we had all gone on holiday) included some outstanding occasions with the Pipes and Drums performing at the B.B.C's televised *It's a Knockout* from Stirling, the visit to the School of the new G.O.C. Scotland and the migration of just about every boy the same afternoon to Glenalmond to see a fine Presentation there by units of the three Services; the Red Arrows, with the Perthshire Highlands as a backcloth, was a superb finale to a very comprehensive show which for many Q.V.S. boys included a helicopter flight.

Just before Grand Day, the dramatists presented *The Merchant of Venice*, produced and updated – yet with hardly a touch to the script – by Mr Moffat, to packed houses on three successive nights. Certainly, youngsters from many local schools as well as our own parents and friends and ourselves provided lively audiences to a lively production. Stuart Rae's Shylock was a great performance and Russell Marchant wound up his year as Senior Monitor and captain of a good Rugby team, not only by commanding the Grand Day Parade well but by splendidly funny performances of two of Portia's suitors.

Grand Day went well – keeping fingers crossed it always will. Mr Fearn, retiring Secretary of S.E.D., presented the academic Prizes, General Scott-Barrett took the Salute and Lady Scott-Barrett presented the non-academic Trophies on the field.

A bonus this year was Mr Orrock's handing to General MacMillan a cheque for £1,600 for Erskine Hospital, the money raised almost entirely by our boys and their families.

And so to the Summer Holidays. The Army Section of the C.C.F. camped in the West, the R.A.F. in England and Wavell, with a tummy-bug that threatened to upset totally the best-laid Bruceian plans and cause an early end, in the Rothiemurchus.

By now the weather was marvellous – too hot, some thought – and it was on a very sunny day in July that Mr Mortimer, about to retire at the New Year, took a team of boys and locally-recruited girls (with splendid bona-fides in Q.V.S. terms, like the

*1977 Monitors – Ian Clark, The Headmaster (Mr Melluish), David Hughson, Philip Ross, Deputy Headmeaster (Mr Paterson), Glenn Wallace.*

*Grand Day 1976 – The Inspecting Officer, Lieutenant General Sir David Scott-Barrett, K.B.E., M.C., G.O.C. Scotland, talks to Colin Fraser. With the General are (l. to r.): The Headmaster, Russell Marchant (Senior Monitor and Parade Commander), The Commandant and David Hughson (Guard Commander).*

*1977 Colour Party and Orderlies – Angus McLay, The Commandant (Brigadier Marston), Graham Farquhar, Ian Clark, Glenn Wallace, Gordon Best, Alex Lambie, School Sergeant Major (Mr Deeley), Roderik MacDonald.*

# Annual Inspection

**Inspecting Officer:**
General Sir JACK HARMAN, K.C.B., O.B.E., M.C.
Adjutant General
General Officer Commanding Scotland

### INSPECTION

The Parade is drawn up in single line with Pipes and Drums in rear. The Colours are marched on to the Parade to the School March *The Victorians* and given a Salute by the Parade. (*Spectators rise for the Salute.*)
The Inspecting Officer is conducted to the Saluting Base by the Commandant, accompanied by the Headmaster, and preceded by two boy Orderlies. He mounts the dais and is received by a General Salute at 3.45 p.m. precisely. (*Spectators rise for the Salute.*)
The Senior Monitor commanding the Parade, reports the Parade "Ready for Inspection" to the Inspecting Officer. The Inspecting Officer preceded by the two boy Orderlies, and accompanied by the Commandant and the Headmaster, inspects the Parade, returning after to the dais.

### MARCH PAST

The Parade moves off to the right and forms Column of Guards to the left of the Saluting Base.
The Pipes and Drums play *Queen Elizabeth's March.*
The Guards march past in slow time to the tune *The Borderers.* (*Spectators rise as the Colours pass them.*)
The Parade reforms line to the tune *Major Bobby* and then advances in Review Order to the tune, *Scotland the Brave* and again gives a General Salute. (*Spectators rise for the Salute.*)

### ADDRESS AND PRESENTATION OF PRIZES AND TROPHIES

The Parade forms three sides of a square and advances to the Saluting Base.
The Inspecting Officer addresses the Parade.
Boys receiving trophies and medals are fallen in.
Non-academic Trophies and Medals are presented.
The Senior Monitor calls for Three Cheers (*only boys on Parade cheer*).

### MARCH OFF

The Senior Monitor requests permission to march off from the Inspecting Officer.
The Parade reforms line and marches off, preceded by the Pipes and Drums playing *Highland Laddie.* (*Spectators stand during the March Off until Colours have left the Parade Ground.*)

### ON PARADE

| | |
|---|---|
| Senior Monitor, Commanding Parade | David Hughson |
| Guard Commanders, No. 1 Guard | Andrew Kerr |
| No. 2 Guard | Alan MacRae |
| No. 3 Guard | Andrew Millsop |
| No. 4 Guard | Edwin Gibson |
| Orderlies to Inspecting Officer | Roderick McDonald |
| | Angus McLay |
| In Charge of Colour Party | Glenn Wallace |
| Colour Bearers | Gordon Best |
| | Alexander Lambie |
| Boy Pipe-Major | Ewan Pitkeathly |
| Boy Drum-Major | Steven Buchanan |
| School Sergeant-Major | Mr J. Deeley (late Royal Scots) |

# Further Programme

1. Tea will be served immediately after the Parade has left the Parade Ground.

2. Queen Victoria School Pipes and Drums (Pipe-Major Instructor Mr J. Mackenzie, late Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders; Drum-Major Instructor Mr G. Moulding, late Scots Guards), and Highland Dancers (Instructor Mr L. Georgeson, late Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders).

Retreat Call (*During the Retreat Call the Union Flag will be lowered. Guests are requested to rise and gentlemen to take off their hats.*)

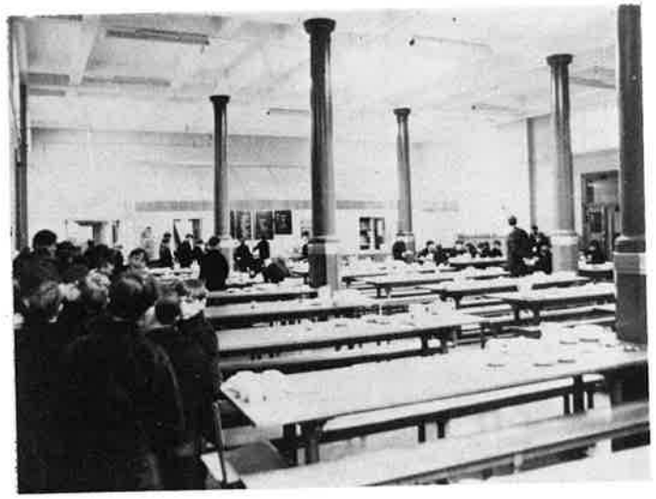
| | |
|---|---|
| Drummers' Flourish | |
| Retreat Marches | *The Dhorlin* |
| | *The Silver Jubilee* |
| Dancers | *The Argyllshire Broadswords* |
| Slow March | *Mull of The Mountains* |
| March | *The Inverness Gathering* |
| Strathspey | *The Fiddlers' Joy* |
| Reel | *Willie Davey* |
| March | *Tug Argan Gap* |

3. March Off of Pipes and Drums to the tune *Highland Laddie* giving "Eyes Right" to Inspecting Officer.

### ARTS, CRAFTS AND HOBBIES

A display of work done by the boys during the year, or exhibits relating to popular hobbies, is arranged in the "Playhall" on the South Edge of the Parade Ground. All guests are cordially invited to visit this exhibition, before or after the Parade. There is a separate display in the School Model Railway and Modelling Hobbies Hut, to which any Q.V.S. boy will direct guests. Guests are also invited to view the Pipe Room and Drum Room, behind the main row of seats. In these rooms are pictures and badges which have been presented to the School by the three Fighting Services, including every Regiment and Corps normally represented by sons at the School. Also presentations from neighbouring British Legion (Scotland) Branches, the former South African War Veterans' Association of Edinburgh, and principal or neighbouring cities and towns of Scotland.

"MONSIEUR LISÉ'S VIEW OF Q.V."



daughter of the farm that marches with us and daughters of all grades of Staff) by coach through most of the length of Britain and across the channel to an International Folkdance Festival in Belgium where they won many hearts. The Summer holidays also produce Exam results from the previous May – fair enough this year though we have had better, I'd say.

In September our Wavell Staff, Mr Bruce, Mr Brown, Mr Philip and Mr Carroll, as well as the surviving Wavell-lads, welcomed forty-odd new boys who quickly settled down.

In September, too, we welcomed Mr Buchanan in Mr Malkowski's place as Principal Teacher of French, and Monsieur Lizé as his assistant. David Hughson became Senior Monitor with Philip Ross his Deputy and these two, well supported by a good team of Monitors and Prefects have enabled the School to live pretty peaceably, for which I am most grateful. Glenn Wallace and Ian Clark were the other two Monitors. The latter was Vice-Captain of Rugby and the former the 1976 Prince Philip Medalist. This annual award is made by the Commandant, on the Headmaster's recommendation (and I do some consulting before recommending) as to who has been the best all-round boy of that group of boys who reached the age of 16 during the School Year. (1976's Medalist had to be 16 some time between mid-July 1975 and mid-July 1976.)

Philip Ross captained a very successful Rugby team which lost only once and had some thrilling wins. Fettes, even at 3rd XV level which is where we play, never like losing and we came back from an eleven point deficit to score five tries in the second half. Queen Anne's, who so often have taken us apart, were this year well beaten and it was good for once to get the better of Rannoch, the boarding school we play at 1st XV level. It was a pity that a fair-sized epidemic here – the first of the reign as Matron of Mrs Lee's, whom we have been delighted to have in the Hospital, and the last of Miss McLauchlan's assistantship (before her replacement by Miss Robertson whom we welcome) – prevented our playing the High School of Stirling for we have not beaten them for a year or two and it would have been good to try. However a certain Central Region superiority was shown in our winning the Schools' Sevens run by the University with a really dogged final. Congratulations to the team in this good season and to Mr Paterson for his coaching of it!

Praise to the Third Year team, too. They crowned a good season with winning their Sevens competition.

The C.C.F. saw a change of command, Mr Reid handing over to Mr Williams after many years' leadership going back to A.C.F. days. Q.V.S. boys get a lot out of their cadet-work and to get it they have to depend considerably on the time and trouble taken in training and administration by their Officers, Mr Finlay, Mr Deeley, Mr Urie and Mr Watson.

We have not had a play this session, though one is now in the pipeline for next. But we have enjoyed our debating and our Public Speaking Competition and though our first pair in external debating competitions were eliminated early, alas, our seconds did well. The Carol Service lived up to its usual reputation and so did the Christmas Dinner, with thanks to all the Staff. If I mention them here and the Commandant and the Administrative Officer, I do not want to suggest that they never do anything else!

In 1977 we have operated on a very even keel, with never a pause for breath. Mr Bovill has introduced more and more Careers talks, interviews and information. Mr Squires has done some serious football coaching with a sizeable squad of devotees, who in no way were disloyal to our Rugby traditions. Mr Stewart and Mr Clive Bruce kept up our Sailing standards. Mr Scott and Mr Willman ensured that we enjoyed our Badminton; they have seen David Hughson be a tower of strength in the local badminton world, for the past three seasons representing Perthshire in national schools competitions. And Andrew Cuthbertson has given us great pride in being in the Scotland under-19 Squash squad. He has easily kept his place as first string in the combined Boys' and Masters' team in the Central League this season.

Summer Terms are over almost as soon as they start these days; certainly I find the pace hectic and I think I am not alone. The Band is always being chivvied on by Pipe Major and Drum Major to be up to scratch – and we need to be especially that this year of Jubilee when Her Majesty will hear us twice, which incidentally will be a nice finale for Stephen Buchanan who has been Boy Drum-Major for four years – but there's more than Band, for there's Public Exams and an Admissions Board and a Field Day and Sports and Grand Day and the pleasure of reading yet another *Victorian*. Thank you, Mr Kelly, for all you do in putting your paper together for us.

# Wavell House

A characteristic feature of Wavell House is the new intake which arrives each year in early September, normally accompanied by a retinue of mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, uncles and aunts. All are excited, some apprehensive of the new life in front of them and some full of confidence and enthusiasm. It is a turning point in their lives as they are entering a new world, one composed of boys of their own age and held together by a mixture of routine, discipline and tradition but from the moment they enter it they become part of the society and learn to adapt to the new demands which are made upon them.

One of the contributory factors in helping a new boy through his first few weeks is the "rookie" system in which a second year boy is made responsible for a new arrival. This is usually done very conscientiously and is beneficial to the more experienced boy as it introduces him to a new responsibility and often leads to lifelong friendships.

The September intake followed the general pattern outlined above and all eventually settled down and found their own niche within the House. From the start a great enthusiasm developed for rugby football. For many it was their first introduction to the game but a good offensive spirit developed which compensated for the initial lack of skill and often cumulated in a small red-faced boy disappearing under a mound of writhing bodies clutching the ball as if his life depended upon retaining possession.

This year's hard winter brought a change in the games' routine. For many weeks the usual football and rugby games were impossible owing to frozen fields and sledging and hikes up Sheriffmuir took their place. The usual crop of minor accidents accompanied the Wavell version of the Cresta Run and imagination had a field day on the snowy slopes of Sheriffmuir in the form of Russian soldiers advancing across the frozen Steppes.

The severe weather continued into the Easter term and was the cause of the cancellation of two rugby fixtures but the remaining games were played and the House fifteen displayed courage and determination in all those games winning two and drawing the third. Much credit must go to Mr Brown and Mr Carrol for the enthusiasm which was instilled into the team.

The house has for the past few years developed a high standard of swimming. Every boy can swim and a large number have reached a high standard of proficiency gaining personal survival awards which are proudly displayed on the lapels of the walking out jacket. The swimming team also won both of its galas against other schools. This standard is not achieved without hard work on the part of the boys and much encouragement and time given by Mr Philip who has been solely responsible for the success achieved in this field of sport.

The dark winter nights saw boys involved in a variety of hobbies including basketball, boxing, stamps, art, rugby practice, dancing, swimming and choir. Now the Summer term is here a more relaxed routine is followed so that the long summer evenings can be enjoyed. Impromptu games such as "man hunt" and "kick the can" are engaged upon, the marble season has arrived, and teams of enthusiastic engineers construct dams across the burn. Boys have a chance to get out into the surrounding countryside and as usual twenty-eight boys will be spending the first week of the summer holiday in the Cairngorm Mountains.

Finally our thanks to Mrs Milne, our Matron, who is always ready to listen to our stories, sew on numerous badges, mend torn clothes, search for lost items of clothing and attend to minor injuries. Her job is not one which often attracts the limelight but it is essential for the smooth running of the House and we thank her for the time and interest which she is always so willing to give.

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## BOXING COMPETITION

The Wavell House boxing competition took place near the end of the Easter term. Members of the boxing hobby had been developing their pugelistic art during the winter months and this was the opportunity to display their prowess in the ring. The competition is an inter-dormitory event and the Cup and Individual Stylist Trophy are keenly contested.

The evening was a very successful one with much determination, enthusiasm and courage being displayed. Fights ranged from a contest between the youngest antgonists of 26 kilogrammes to the 41 kilogramme heavyweights. But whatever weight, size or experience everyone tried his best and no one gave up before his three rounds were up. Our thanks to Mr Martin for the enthusiasm and interest he has shown in developing boxing within the House and to all the judges who gave up their time to make the evening possible.

**Results**

1st Abercromby, 14 points; 2nd Moore, 12 points; 3rd Lynedoch, 11 points.

David Grant was awarded the Best Stylist Trophy.

| *Winners* | *Runners-up* |
|---|---|
| Deuchars S. | Lundon E. |
| Ingram A. | Borthwick A. |
| Sutherland D. | McLay E. |
| Turner A. | Macintosh A. |
| Borthwick S. | Ferguson B. |
| Charlesworth A. | Craig J. |
| Brunton T. | Smith R. |
| Letford R. | Collie P. |
| Hill S. | Aitken D. |
| Grant D. | Harrison G. |
| McDonald A. | Fox D. |
| Halliday A. | Haley A. |

## THE STEEPLE CHASE

The Steeple Chase course is run within the School grounds and consists of five quarter-mile legs involving negotiating water jumps, plank bridges, steep slopes and rough tracks. Ten boys from each dormitory run in pairs so that if one falls by the wayside the other can complete the course and thus allow his team to carry on to the next leg.

This year the Steeple Chase was run on the afternoon of the 26th April, in conditions which were hardly conducive to good running. The wind was blustery and the ground was muddy, slippery and heavy underfoot. However this did not deter the boys from participating wholeheartedly, even though some did lose their shoes in the stream or in a patch of deep mud.

It was in both the Major and Minor sections that Abercromby dormitory showed skill and strength of running by winning both competitions comfortably after establishing substantial leads in the early stages of both races.

The result of the race was: 1st Abercromby, 2nd Moore and 3rd Lyndoch.

## TABLE TENNIS

The highlight of the indoor programme of games during the dark days of the Winter term is the table tennis competition. Weeks before the event the sound of bats against TT balls can be heard echoing through the House as eliminating games are held and the less skilled TT players are weeded out.

The final match calls for a steady hand and iron nerve as it is played before a critical audience of classmates who are all too eager to give advice and criticism and where a moment's loss of concentration can be fatal.

The major event was won by John Paxton with Stephen Hill coming second and Andrew Mackintosh third.

The minor event was won by Steven Borthwick after a closely contested match against Graham McKay; Ian Kennedy came third.

## RUGBY FOOTBALL 1975-76

*Captain:* A. Mackintosh; *Colours:* A. Mackintosh, D. Grant, G. Harrison, J. Paxton.

Our only defeat this season was at the hands of our own School's 1st Year XV. The match with Beaconhurst Grange was twice cancelled, owing to bad weather which also stopped us playing Morrisons and the away game with Heriots.

On the positive side we gained new fixtures with Dollar Academy and Rannoch School and acquitted ourselves well in both encounters. Final scores were as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Wavell 18 | Dollar 14 |
| Wavell 24 | Rannoch 12 |
| Wavell 0 | Heriots 0 |
| Wavell 3 | Q.V.S. 1st Year Team 28 |

In the inter-dormitory competition the winner was Abercromby with Moore second.

## ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

Despite the fact that soccer has now to share pride of place with rugby football the teams have had a successful season. The round ball is still close to the hearts of many of the boys when they first enter the School and there is great competition to represent the House in either the first or second eleven, wear the School strip and play other primary schools. The teams have gained confidence under the coaching of Mr Philip and Mr Squires and it is hoped that they will continue their successful record in the games still to come.

*Captain:* E. Lundon; *Football Colours:* E. Lundon, A. Ingram, G. Harrison, S. Hill, A. Mackintosh.

**Results**

*Autumn Term*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Q.V.S. 1st XI | v. Doune Primary School | Draw | 2–2 |
| Q.V.S. 1st XI | v. Bridge of Allan Primary School | Win | 3–0 |
| Q.V.S. 2nd XI | v. Ralston Primary School | Win | 7–4 |
| Q.V.S. 1st XI | v. Callander Primary Sch. | Win | 7–0 |
| Q.V.S. 1st XI | v. Kilbarchan Primary Sch. | Lost | 1–4 |
| Q.V.S. 1st XI | v. Crieff Primary School | Win | 9–2 |

*Summer Term*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Q.V.S. 1st XI | v. Crieff Primary School | Win | 9–1 |

## SWIMMING

Unbounded enthusiasm, endless energy and condiserable achievements, have been the hallmarks of Wavell aquatics once again. It is a privilege to coach such responsive pupils. Survival Swimming dominated the winter scene, culminating in the following awards being gained: 28 First Stage, 31 Second Stage Joint National Swimming Awards; 29 Bronze, 25 Silver, 24 Gold and, to their great credit, 14 Honours, Survival Swimming Awards of the Amateur Swimming Association. Now that summer has come, in theory at least, Speed Swimming and Distance Swimming have taken over. A class of thirty boys has started preparing for the Intermediate Certificate in Life Saving, the test to be sat this term.

The House Gala, held amid the usual lather of excitement, was won by Abercromby, followed by Moore, then Lynedoch. We competed in two Challenge Galas, one at home against Beaconhurst Grange School, the other in Edinburgh at George Heriot's School. In both cases our teams won convincingly, though attention must be deservedly

*1976/77 Wavell Football XI with Mr Philip.*

drawn to the pleasant atmosphere and keen competition offered by both the above mentioned schools.

Last September, 39 boys entered the Senior School from Wavell. Between them they had gained a staggering 261 Awards in the fields of Survival, Life Saving, Distance and/or Speed Swimming. This was a remarkable achievement, which this year's group are well on their way to matching. Well done all. Look out, David Wilkie!

B.P.

House Major Swimming Champion: (tied) D. Craft and D. McLennan; Runner-up: R. Bruce.

House Minor Swimming Champion: A. Halliday; Runner-up: (tied) P. Collie and C. Hutton.

The following finished the year at Gold Survival Swimming standard: S. R. Anderson, A. R. Borthwick, A. P. Haley, A. G. McColl, R. McDonald, A. Mackay, C. Moffat, A. S. Mutch, B. J. Oliver, A. W. Reid, J. S. Steel.

The following finished the year at Honours Survival Swimming Standard: M. A. Black, T. C. Brunton, P. D. Collie, S. I. Deuchars, I. A. Fernie, A. Halliday, G. Harrison, A. Ingram, R. Letford, E. Lundon, A. E. Mackintosh, E. McLay, D. J. McLennan, J. A. Paxton.

Others who gained Survival Swimming Awards were: K. G. Biggs, C. S. Fletcher, D. Grant, K. Hainey, M. Henderson, W. McDowall, A. McLennan, R. More, A. Turner.

## AVIEMORE 1976

Grand Day was finished and the next day we were to set off for Aviemore. Everyone was excited as a lot of us hadn't been on this sort of expedition before. We went to bed that night really looking forward for the long day ahead.

We got up early the next morning and after breakfast the bus arrived and we packed all the equipment on. The food was going separately by land-rover. They weren't taking any risks. We set off at half past nine. One or two of the boys had managed to get hold of some packets of ice-cream. They handed them out and although they had just had breakfast they were all finished. But as we approached Perth people were being sick all over the place. We stopped the bus and about seven people got out to be sick. We then carried on to Pitlochry and had our dinner there. Some of the inhabitants thought we were from some institution. We wandered back to the bus and found that Brian Robinson had been taken to Perth Infirmary with suspected appendicitis. After Pitlochry there

weren't any stops and we arrived at Rothiemurchus Hut at about 3 o'clock. It took us nearly an hour to unpack. After unpacking we went out to explore Mark Clay got stuck in a peat bog and we tried to help him out but ended up in as well. After a struggle we got out and went back caked in mud to our bunks.

We woke up in the morning to find that people had been sick during the night. During breakfast it was decided that there was a bug going around and all those who had been sick were confined to the hut.

It was 9 o'clock and the sun was out but the wind was blowing quite strongly. The land-rover was loaded up with the first group and away they went. Meanwhile our group started walking down the road. After a while the land-rover picked us up. We arrived at the bottom of the chairlift station. But to our disappointment it was shut due to high winds. So after some discussion it was decided we would walk across the Coirres. We walked up Coire Cas and then cut across onto Coire an Lochain. And there before us lay a sparkling lochan. It was hot and the water looked so tempting that a few brave souls went in. But as soon as they had stripped and entered the water the sun went in and the wind grew stronger. The swimmers soon came out and quickly got dressed. But as we carried on our weary way the sun appeared and the winds dropped and all that lay before us and our nice cosy beds was a great big mountain. We traversed up it and came down the other side at great speed. We reached the hut at about 5 o'clock and we were shattered. It had been a long walk and another one lay in front of us. So a bed was a welcome sight.

The bug struck again that night and we woke in the morning to find that even more people were ill. Mrs Brown had turned herself into a matron and was nursing us all back to health. But the bug was too quick for even her and soon there were more people than she could handle. The place was like a hospital. Quite a few people managed to walk that day but nearly died on the way.

However, gradually nature took its course and everyone recovered to enjoy the rest of the holiday which was blessed by marvellous weather. We trudged across the moors in temperatures of 90°F accompanied by halos of flies and plunged into cool mountain lochs. We sunbathed on the sands of Loch Morlich and raised clouds of dust on the road to the hut. It was a great holiday and as we departed from the hut I was thinking that it had been a holiday I would never forget.

Angus Mackay

### THE FLY

The mist,
The mist of death,
Slowly suffocated,
Breathing cut off,
Mind whirls,
Blurred pictures,
Beautiful shapes and colours,
Fantasy,
Drops out of the sky,
Dead!
Killed by man,
The overlord,
Of all living,
Creeping, crawling, swimming, flying
Creatures.

Philip Collie, P6b

*Illustrated by G. Farquhar.*



### THE FIREWORKS

A large bang!
A firework in flight
A cascading torrent of myriad colours
Flashing in the night
Excitement rises inside me
I start to sing and shout.
I watch the sparks fly out
Like little suns they are
Then fantastically they fill the night with light.

Martin Sinclair, P6b

### DINNER BELL

Dinner bell means end of starvation.
Sounds like a whole nation running down those stairs.
Shuffling feet that's all you hear.
People racing that's all you see.

G. Mackay, P6a

### LIGHTS OUT

Lights out is a time for dark
time for silence in bed,
time for thinking
A time for snuggling down under the sheets
A time for warmness all over
A time for sleep to come.

I. Hay, P6a

### BONFIRE NIGHT

Little flame to start,
little flame to finish,
But in the middle a roaring, leaping, monster,
Crackling, banging, throwing sparks everywhere,
Excitement builds up inside me,
Among all the banging, cracking, shooting, showering, fireworks,
Silver, gold, blue, yellow, red, green,
Noise,
Drowning, deafening noise,
Engulfing, choking noise,
The Excitement bursts out,
A world of fantasy
The monster bows down
Dead!
All is silent
All is dark
Bonfire Night.

Philip Collie, P6b

### BLIND MAN

Tap Tap the blind man is still in
His colourless world.
The smell and feel of the rose
Is all he knows.
Tap tap away he goes.

A. Meiklejohn, P6a

### THE CAPTIVE POLECAT

I'm a vicious animal
every one's scared of me
but now I'm in captivity
Who cares about me?
Not you or you, but only he
Who feeds me once a day.
I'm laughed at and looked at
but no one's scared of me
It's pointless being vicious.

A. W. Girvan, P6a

### SICK IN YOUR LUXURY

Raspberries on your fore-head,
Fire is placed on your hands,
Sickness is placed on your sinews,
There are no feet in your shoes.
Fear is placed on your eyelids,
Courage is placed in your head,
A chill is placed on your feet,
You are cold and longing for heat.
A river of salted dew drops flow down your arm,
The river bed reaches for a pool of water,
You swallow the cool water,
And a nurse comes and fills your bottle.

Anthony Haley, P7b

### HAND-EMBROIDERED THOUGHT

A five-legged spider, clutching its inky, nimble prey,
Crawling stealthily through a thoughtful atmosphere,
Leaving its colourful trail of embroidered words
In a web of beautiful legibility;
Of imaginative communication.
Its fluent, throbbing, igniting rhythm
Exquisitely and delicately patterned,
To capture and excite the sensory
Inqisitive, wandering eye.

Class Poem, P7b

### COMPARISONS

Light is like the volcano erupting;
It pours out its gleaming hot lava;
Then it disappears into darkness.

Light is like the lighthouse;
It reflects off all things near;
But when it fades away your power dies away.

Light is like your eye;
It shines and glares at you;
But when the eye lids close;
You separate your eyes from light.

Light is like an old lady;
Once was born;
Grows in strength;
Now fades and dies.

J. A. Paxton, P7b

### SNOWING

Down comes the snow from the heavens
Colliding, swirling, fluttering, spinning
Till at last it falls to its destination
Dappling trees, covering the countryside
There it dies
Only to live again in a different form.

R. Letford, P7a

### SLEDGING IN WAVELL

WOOSH – a small, sleek sledge skims along the gleaming white surface of the dazzling white snow. Controlled masterfully it can perform all sorts of miracles such as twisting, turning, spinning and ploughing. I clamber to the top of the hill still recovering from the last breath-taking run. Then a shout of "Let's make a train." All at once there are cries of agreement. Linking up we push off speeding down the compressed track. Then shouts of "Break", "Let go", and "Get off" as the little sledges head for the bumps, but before boys can let go they are flung up into the air falling on top of each other and causing other sledges to crash so as not to hit them. But soon the night crowds in. Slowly we desert the track for yet another night.

A. G. McColl, P7a

### RAIN

Rain
What purpose to fulfil?
Why great floods upon innocent ground?
Why do people run from your clasping arms?
Can you answer in your hissing voice?
Can you speak your secret?

Twirling, running, falling, torrenting
Devouring the crumbling banks
Powerful, helpful
Fulfilling its purpose on Earth in two faces
Mystifying, essential.

R. Bruce, P7a

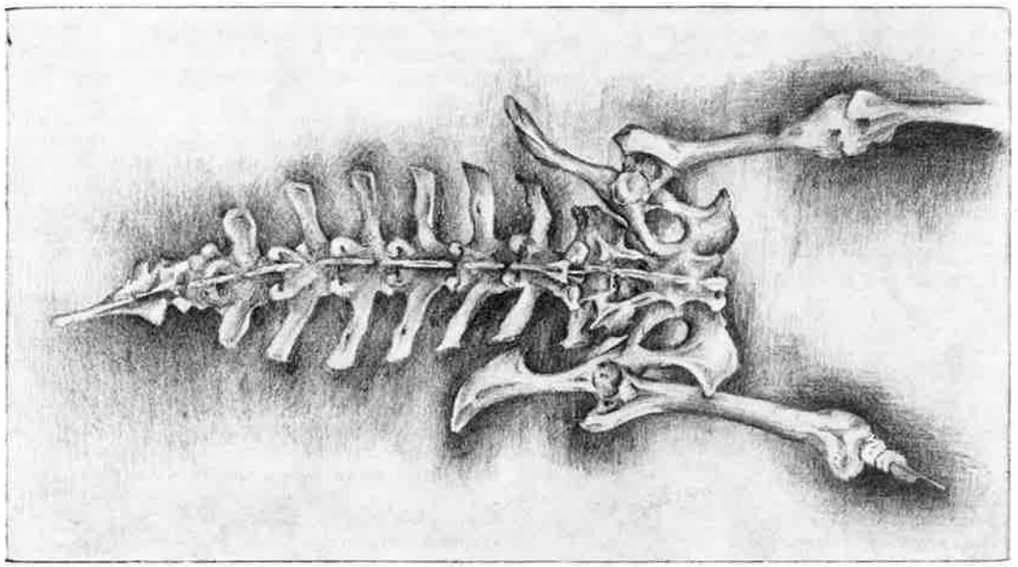
### THE CREATURE

The creature wriggled and kicked and squirmed, sometimes a hump would appear above the sand then it would tunnel like an elongated mole into the underworld. I gazed intently at the small animal as it burrowed and submerged. Its beady but curious eyes surveyed its feeding ground and then it started burrowing with orange scaled feet. It had small sensitive ears that pricked up at the slightest vibration of sound. It started to burrow again and stayed under. The last I saw of it was a long black velvety tail disappearing into the golden warm sand.

David Aitken, P7a

### THE NEW PLANET

Down from the space ship we step.
A bare planet of grey rocks.



*Illustrated by David J. Ross.*



No life.
Stones like conker shells.
Broken in half.
A black sky.
Except for the sudden flicker of orange.
Trails of a zooming star.
No welcome and no hospitality.
On this unknown planet.

Sudden gusts of smoke passed by.
Like a film in a dark night.
No horizon to look to.
Only the suspicious darkness.
No morning to look forward to.
Just the continuing dust and smoke.
No warmth, no clothing, no friendship.
Better move on.

E. Lundon, P7a

### THE GRANDFATHER CLOCK

Tick Tock,
I'm the Grandfather Clock,
Master of time
As I tick and chime.

I stand in the hall,
So big and tall,
My pendulum swings
From left to right
Keeping the time
Both day and night.

I'm old and grey
But I still say
The time for people
To work and play.

D. Craft, P7a

### THE FOREST FIRE

A small flicker, a glow and a spark,
Soon to strip innocent trees of their bark.

Just a spark which nobody heeds,
Is all that it needs.
To bring to life a raging inferno,
Attacking nature like an invincible foe.

Till it comes to steadfast water,
It falters, appeasingly,
Flickers and dies.

J. L. Smart, P7a

### THE HAUNTED CASTLE

An eerie, wierd, forbidding place,
Is the antiquated castle
Inside, the satanic, spine-chilling silence;
Outside, the crashing thunder.
Now and then a lone wolf cries;
Then an eerie shriek!
The devilish mutterings, the cob-webbed corridors;
The ghost of a long-dead man.

Martin Sinclair, P6b

### BONFIRE NIGHT

Cracking fireworks,
Gleaming fireworks,
Explosions,
Fireworks like fire flies,
Gleaming faces,
Gleaming eyes,
Bonfire Night.

D. Revie, P6b

### THE BLIND MAN

I often wonder,
What it would be like,
To see again?
This void,
This isolation,
Makes me sad.
Are the trees still green?
Is the sky still blue?
I'll never know.
You think you understand,
But lonely understand the black void,
And live the sad truth.

D. Law, P6a

### MORNING

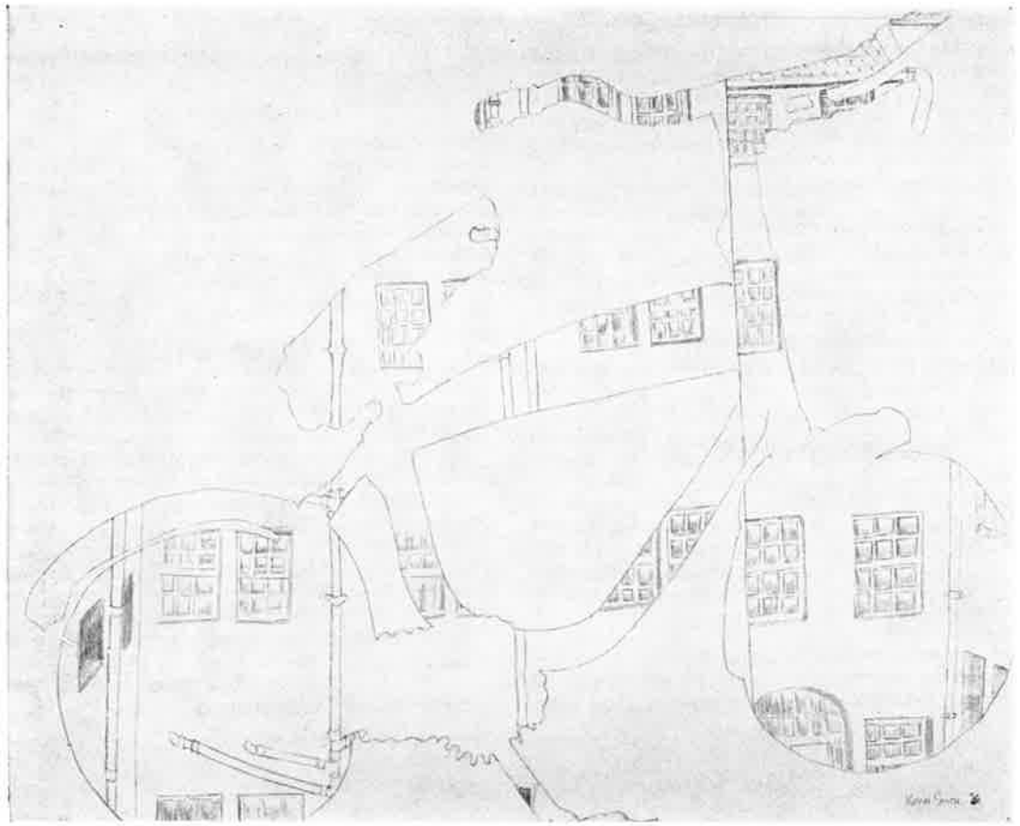
The bell, that dreaded bell
A groan
Then a stretch and a yawn
Feeling for shoes
Walking to the toilet
Eyes still shut
Then shivering cold water splashed against your face.

D. Revie, P6a

### THE TIGER

He plods up and down.
What goes through his mind?
Here they come one after another.
Where has my morning meat got to?
That little boy wants me to roll over.
Where are all my brothers and sisters?
Ah here comes my meat now.
No place to hide, no place to run.
No trees.
The old cat thinks.
Up and down he goes like a yo-yo.
The cat behind the bars roars.
He stands up on his hind legs.
He comes down and snuffs and sniffs.

S. Borthwick, P6a



*Illustrated by Kevin Smith.*

### LIGHTS OUT AT NINE

Hustle, bustle before the bell
But as it rings silence falls
On Wavell House at nine.
'Deps' and 'Dorms' say "Shut up you lot."
But I'm too tired to hear
The dreams of home go through my mind
Missing Kojak and the box.

A. Girvan, P6a

### DAWNING OF A NEW DAY

Dashing, thumping, trundling feet bring in the day
What a rude awakening
"Out of bed you lazy lot
There's no lie in today."
Cold, freezing water running down your neck
What a rude awakening
For today it's a maths test.

A. Girvan, P6a

### THE BLIND MAN'S DOG

Blindness is a void, a blackness never ending,
a lonely mine without lights.
I have a trusty pal, a doggy friend is he
He guides me through his colourful day
although it's colourless to me.
I cannot see his doggy face, I do not know his colour
All I know is he is a doggy pal to me.

Ian Hay, P6a

### BLIND ME

All I see is blackness
No gentle floral shades
I want to see my children
But how can I see them

I think of Beauty
And of other colourful things.



How I miss them
Oh how.

Summer days no longer the same
All is Darkness
Feeling the beautiful Christmas tree
No Christmas tree for me to see.

There's nothing to see in this world
Except darkness
I wish I could see.
I wish I could see.

Colin Hutton, P6a

### TRAPPED IN A CAGE

Trapped in a cage
Nothing to do
Just walking around.
Impatient, wanting to get at any food in sight.
Then the caretaker comes round.
Same old routine.
"Up boy", he shouts.
Lifeless as a stone.
In a lethargic way forcing my front paws in the air.
Then suddenly banging them down like a ton of bricks.
That's at meal time.

S. C. Black, P6a

### SNOW

Up in my lofty home my mission is announced
And from a leaden snow cloud I nervously fall
Would I end up on wet puddled ground?
Or on snow once more safe and sound.
I was falling down. The air all filled
With spinning friends
That had over spilled.
I had no eyes to define.
What future lay in store.
Cold mountain slopes or slushy roads.
As I reach the ground I madly start to sway.
I settle on soft, cold snow,
My home till rain or sun cause my death.

R. Bruce, P7a

### SNOWING

Softly came the snow that night,
Flying freely across the skies,
Attacking the tarmac and settling,
Filling the gutters with water,
Colliding with other crystal chips,
Settling on the garage roofs,
Changing a world of green to a world of white.

Mark Henderson, P7a

### RAIN AGAIN

Pitter, patter raindrops,
On the roof they come.
Pitter, patter raindrops,
Down the drain they run.
Pitter, patter raindrops,
Falling through the trees.
Pitter, patter raindrops,
Mingling with the breeze.
Pitter, patter raindrops,
Turning to a storm.
Pitter, patter raindrops,
On the windows of our dorm,
Pitter, patter raindrops,
Cascading down in sheets.
Pitter, patter raindrops,
Falling down so neat.
Pitter, patter raindrops,
Flying through the air.
Pitter, patter raindrops,
Spitting on the square,
Pitter, patter raindrops,
Must you fall all day,
Ruining all our pitches,
Stopping all our play.

P. Stewart, P7a

### THE CLOCK

Tick, tock, tick, tock.
The pendulum swinging
Left, right, left, right,
The pendulum glides,
Left, right, tick, tock.
I sit in the hall
I'm ten feet four.
I'm very tall so I sit on the floor.
Tick, tock, tick, tock.
Eleven o'clock so I must chime
To tell my master the coming of time.
Tick, tock, ding, dong,
Goes the sound of my dinner gong.
Dinner time again I must chime
To tell my mistress the coming of time.

A. W. M. Reid, P7a

### THE DIGITAL WATCH

The digital watch,
Upon my hand.
Of all the tickers,
The best in the land.
Illuminous hands,
Illuminous face,
Keeping the time,
At a ?——? pace.
Showing the time,
Day and date.
Never varying,
A mathematical rate.

Paul Stewart, P7a

*Illustrated by Kevin Smith.*

### THE NEW PLANET

We got out of the cramped space ship and looked into a desolated place. The air was ice cold as stars twinkled and stared at the unhabited land. The surface had been eroded away and with it it had taken its wild life. No longer did its fresh water streams run down the solitary rocks and no longer did birds soar or trees sway in the wind. The only sign of life was that of us. Our space ship stood up like the motionless rocks round about. Extinct volcanoes stood in the horizon and craters dented the planet. Our air tanks started to run out and we had to return to the space ship where we would have to depart from this unknown planet.

S. Anderson, P7a

### THE CAPTIVE

Thy bonds are the craters of thy kingdom,
Thy cage be the shores of the world,
And yet little fish,
Although we say to be free is to live
To you it is to die.
Death is the freedom,
The freedom of life, which time dictates.
So swim my little friend, to freedom alone.

J. L. Smart, P7a

### THE WITCHES' RIDE

Bonfires spitting, witches flitting
Across the deep black sky
Menacing faces take to their brooms
As the saints go marching by.

Pointed hats and streaming cloaks
Like meteorites flying by
Wrinkled up faces all cracked and lined
Flash across the sky.

M. Black, P7a



### A SAINT ANDREW'S NIGHT TALE FROM BRESSAY

On Saint Andrew's night there is an old superstition. John and I were coming back frem school when John said, "Remember that story the teacher told us." "What story?" I replied. "The one about the island on Saint Andrew's Night." We walked on. Then I said, "You mean the one about the shelties or seals that had once been humans?" "Yes, I'll see you at nine then." After tea I got my fishing line ready, with as many flies on it as I could. By half past eight I was ready. I walked down to the gate at the bottom of the hill. I met John and we were on our way. We walked for a minute and arrived at Beoster Sands. "There the boat is," I said, "down by the cave." We were soon out in the bay. I had caught five piltock and two rielies when we stopped. I said, "Let's row over to the Bard." Soon we could see the sheer rock above us. We landed on the jutting up rocks called Learner's Isle where the morose rocks had a veil of mist lying over them. Then the air was filled with a strange whistle. The water was disturbed and ripples went over the calm sea. The once gracious, docile and exquisite seals were bobbing about in the water. Slowly a chant reached my ears, and the rhythm made me drowsy. Before long there were seals every where. I just managed to get John into the boat and myself and row to Beoster Sands. I felt cold and wet but we were still alive. I remembered that story about the shelties and how people were made into seals. Was it true?

A. Borthwick, P7a

### WHAT DO YOU KNOW!

The door groaned, the wind howled, and the floorboards squealed.
As I cautiously tiptoed across the abandoned Elizabethan mansion.
The furniture stood bare with white bleached cloths,
Draping over them like statues of modern art.
Then the dim light flickered out like a dying soldier,
And all sense was "Lost".

A. Turner, P7b

### LIGHT IS LIFE

Stumbling through the misty marshes,
As the hand of darkness descends from the unknown.
Blind and helpless, cold and worried, with a curtain of blackness,

Shutting off all light from me,
Like a prisoner in a dungeon cell.
Darkness is like a disease clinging onto you for dear life.
Like a leech desperate for blood;
Darkness is like a black cloak,
Swaying in front of you, cutting sense and knowledge away.

Light is the sun breaking the darkness.
Light is a hunter, seeking, striking, pouncing into every nook and cranny.

Light is life, and
Life is
"Death".

A. Turner, P7b

### VICTORIOUS LIGHT

Light is seeking all the time.
Like a lion looking for prey,
Creeping on darkness and giving colour,
Different shades for a different area,
Some in a shadowy space,
Where all is dull,
Some outside, gleaming with light.
As the hours pass, the light fades away.
And darkness creeps upon the ground.

C. Moffat, P7b

### DANGER!

This fiend, dangerous and aggressive,
And alert in defence,
A murderer in proper usage,
Merciless to its foe,
Leaps out to the attack,
It strikes with its five stubby fingers,
Protruding to its opponents throat,
A karate chop with this strong object,
Kills his offender.

I. A. Fernie, P7b

### WHAT'S A CITY?

A tall factory in the distance,
Puffing out smoke in a tremendous force,
Crowded people, in a crowded neighbourhood;
Rushing to their endless work;
Bells ringing, cars starting, buses collecting;
Horns blaring, in the busy road;
Lights changing, cars stopping, cars moving;
"What is a city?"

Dull buildings, bright buildings;
Corner houses, centre houses;
Busy pavements, quiet pavements;
Shops open, shops closed;
Rain in the distance, cloudy above;
Darkness has fallen, in the evergrowing city;
Lights disappear, people hibernate for the night;
"What is a city?"

Lonely streets, favourite streets;
Small vehicles, large vehicles;
Expanded rivers, rain drop puddles;
Enormous entrances, a tight squeeze entrance;
House after house, brick after brick;
Scarcity of green pastures, mainly endless roads;
Fuels in the air, to poison your lungs;
"What is a city?"

A. Ingram, P7b

### OH SEEKER OF LIGHT

Shadows lurk through silent seconds,
From a monstrous light in the air,
Reflecting spectrums of the rainbow.
A light seeking its fortune over the land,
Its shadows striking where the rays can't reach;
Trying to penetrate through the earth,
Finding objects which give shade in its path.

T. C. Brunton, P7b

### LIGHT

It's like a silver mirror
Reflecting flashes through the night immutable obscurity,
Across the inimical, indiscernible terraqueous horizon.
Or it's like a golden inferno,
Transmitting everlasting impetuses
Of dynamic effulgence through the cordiality of day.

D. Burns, P7b

### ANNIHILATION

It rose like a cobra,
Poised ready to strike.
Bearing down on its prey,
To annihilate life.
It aimed for the nose,
It aimed for the mouth,
To silence the body,
Before it could shout.

W. A. M. McDowall, P7b

### TOUGH THEN TOUGHER

The slime and stones,
Smear over the workers boots.
The spade jabs into the peat
Their huts are shabby and damp,
Doors dangle off their hinges,
Cupboards sit moulding in corners.
Their possessions wait dumbly.
They sit quietly looking towards,
A new life heading their way.
It would be better for some,
And lonely for others.

G. Harrison, P7b

### NEVER TO GO BACK

Dropping off like hair when moulting,
A few, by a few, dying, hairs,
Leaving a dying community rejoining a new one,
Like trying to transplant different hairs into someone else.
They shrivel up and die.
Leaving one wish behind them to be forgotten forever.

Iain Hutton, P7b

### KARATE MAN

With a flash,
Through the air,
And a chop with the hand,
He aims for the head,
To knock a man dead.

Keith Biggs, P7b

# C.C.F. Section

Major George Reid, M.B.E., resigned his command of the School's C.C.F. in September, 1976, having been associated with the Cadet Force at Q.V.S. since its introduction in 1956 as an A.C.F. unit. When it was replaced by the formation of the Combined Cadet Force at the School in 1968 Major Reid became its first Contingent Commander, and in 1975 his achievement of service was marked by Her Majesty the Queen in the Birthday Honours List. Mr James Mortimer, B.E.M., who was also a founder member of the School's Cadet Force, originally as S.S.I. and latterly as R.Q.M.S., also terminated his association with the C.C.F. on his retirement in January of this year – Mr Mortimer had earlier been similarly honoured by Her Majesty the Queen for his services. We acknowledge with much appreciation their loyal service to the School through the Cadet Force.

Mr I. T. Williams, formerly O.C. of the C.C.F./R.A.F. Section, has assumed command of the School's Contingent of the C.C.F. whilst Mr G. Moulding is in the process of easing himself into the C.C.F. responsibilities relinquished by Mr Mortimer. Mr J. P. Urie has been appointed O.C., C.C.F./R.A.F. Section, in the rank of Flt Lt V.R.(T).

Andrew I. Crawford, who left Q.V.S. in June, 1975, and who is now a student at Aberdeen University, has qualified for a University R.A.F. Cadetship. It was good to meet him at R.A.F. Waddington and again at R.A.F. Swinderby during the summer of 1976 when as Plt Off. Crawford he assisted us during the orienteering and night exercises. Ross W. McKinnell, who left Q.V.S. in June, 1976, entered the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, in January of this year. We congratulate them on their success and wish them well in their chosen careers. It is hoped that arrangements can be made for them to speak to members of our C.C.F. at a future careers session. I would be interested to hear from any former cadets now serving in any branch of H.M. Forces, of whatever rank, so that news and views, where-abouts and experiences could be circulated through this Section of our School Magazine.

Congratulations are also due to Cadt/Sgt Ewan Pitkeathly and Cdt Iain MacDonald who gained 1st and 2nd places respectively in the C.C.F. Scotland Solo Piping Championship at Edinburgh in May, 1976. Ewan will again be competing in 1977 and will be accompanied this year by Cdt Kevin Henderson. Arrangements are also in hand for us to compete in the Scottish C.C.F. Schools Pipe Band Competition, which this year is being held in Dundee High School in June.

Opportunities are also being sought for Cadets of both Army and R.A.F. Sections to attend courses sponsored by the M.O.D. and U.K.L.F. and bids have been channelled through H.Q. Scotland (Army). Eleven cadets are attending a course at the Central Region Fire Station, Stirling, where they are receiving instruction on action to be taken in the event of fire, on how to assist the Fire Service in coping with the public and in fire prevention. We are grateful to the Fire Service for this opportunity and in particular to Station Officer McGowan for his encouragement and enthusiasm. Another venture that has attracted much encouragement and support from Cadets of both Sections has been the introduction of dry-ski instruction whereby twenty-five cadets attended evening sessions during the Easter Term at Polmont Dry-Ski Centre; our thanks again to Messrs Bovill, Buchanan and Philip for assisting with the transport and for providing encouragement (and occasional entertainment!).

Canoeing is another joint venture where demand far exceeds the opportunities which are limited by factors ranging from adult supervision, lack of canoes, weather conditions and irate anglers! Some of the canoes, that are getting as old as the canoeists, are now having to be written-off. Three new canoes have been purchased and the canoe maintenance group have now started building; visits have been made to the Strandglass Centre in Glasgow, demonstrations have been given in our own Hobbies Hut and the first "Papoose" training canoe was built at the end of the Easter Term. Our thanks to the Trossachs Canoe Club for their assistance, not only in canoe building but also for instruction in the School Swimming Baths through the persons of Geoff Hatfield and brothers Richard and David Rogers. Twelve candidates are currently preparing for the D. of E. Award Scheme Gold expedition on the River Wye, sixteen for the Silver and twenty-six for the Bronze. In addition, nine have already completed the Silver expedition since May, 1976, and eleven cadets have successfully gained their Bronze standard.

As well as the annual visit to R.A.F. Leuchars for the Battle of Britain "At Home", Field Day Visits have been made to R.A.F. Lossiemouth (an overnight stay during which we experienced our first "R.A.F. Tactical Evaluation" exercise – and experienced little else!), to the Scottish Infantry Depot, Glencorse, to Redford Barracks, where we were hosted by the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, and to the local Whiteston Range. We have also received visits from the Royal Signals Quicksilver Display Team and the Royal Artillery Demonstration Team. The Band of the Royal Air Force Regiment visited the School in November and played an interesting and varied selection of music. A few of us were also entertained by the Band of the Scots Guards in the Albert Hall, Stirling, and met their Director of Music, Captain Duncan Beat, A.R.C.M., P.S.M., who was a pupil at Q.V.S. in the late 1940s.

### ARMY SECTION

| | |
|---|---|
| O.C.: | Capt. J. G. Finlay |
| Adjutant: | Lieut. J. Deeley |
| O.C. Signals Section: | Lieut. G. M. Watson |
| R.Q.M.S.: | Mr G. Moulding |

Cadet N.C.Os.: C.S.M. D. Hughson, C.Q.M.S. E. R. A. Pitkeathly, Sgt A. C. Kerr (Signals Section), M. H. Nicholson, S. R. Buchanan and R. Simpson, Cpls S. J. Rae (Signals), and K. T. Smith, L/Cpls E. J. M. Gibson, G. J. Best (Signals), W. D. Edmondson, G. Farquhar, P. J. McLoughlin and A. G. Stroud.

There are at present eighty-two cadets under various stages of training with the Army Section of which twenty-seven are undergoing Recruits' Training. The 1975-76 Army Recruits Cup was finally won by Cdt Lorne Strong but he was closely challenged by Cdts Peter D. Blythe, Raymond Lambie, Colin Pashley and Michael S. Watson. Leading this year's competition for the trophy is Cdt Alan Kennedy with Cdts C. Hulston, J. A. D. Lewis, P. Murphy, D. C. Rutherford and K. G. Smith in close pursuit. So close is the competition that with two more scores to come some-one from outside the first six could yet pip the front runners. Another twenty-one cadets are nearing completion of their Parts II and III of the A.P.C. syllabus, while the remainder are undergoing Advanced or N.C.O. training.

I.T.W.

### Signals Section

This year six candidates sat the Signals Classification Exam. J. Rutherford obtained a 'B' pass while J. Heeps, J. Currie, R. Boyd, P. Kerr and J. Smith all obtained a 'C' pass. Our two instructors, G. Best and E. Gibson, both passed their Assistant Instructor in Signalling Test.

During the year the Section has continued with its normal training routine. Next year, however, we hope to expand this training by joining the C.C.F. Radio Net which should provide extra interesting practical work for the cadets.

Cdt Paul D. Kerr successfully completed the Royal Corps of Signals C.C.F. Certificate 'T' Course at The School of Signals, Blandford, during the Easter holidays, bringing much credit to himself and the School's Signals Section.

G.M.W.

### Summer Camp, 1976

Once again we spent our summer camp at Lochgilphead among the friendly West Highland people of Argyll. The accommodation was good but as usual it was not occupied for long. On our second day we moved out on our first expedition from Lergychonniemore (much more easily spelt than pronounced) to a spot on the Crinnan Canal, with an overnight stop at the Graham stronghold at Old Pottalloch. It is not surprising that they led a relatively untroubled existence there, as it is a most difficult place to find in the middle of a twenty-five year old forest. Having proved to themselves that "Compo" may be all right when properly cooked it tastes pretty awful when burned, they were all glad to come back to some good wholesome fare provided by one of our School chefs, Mr Shaw.

Unfortunately this did not last for long and next day the cadets set out on a three-day expedition, spending two nights out amongst some of the most beautiful scenery in Scotland. But I rather doubt that this was greatly appreciated as each cadet was carrying about sixty pounds weight on his back and the odd blister on his feet tended to take his minds off his immediate surroundings.

They set off from a spot near the Crinnan Canal and followed tracks through the mountains to a spot forty miles distant just south of Oban. The weather conditions were ideal but I do not think anyone will forget the thunderstorm and torrential rain which drenched everyone on the last half hour of the hike.

As "Anno Domini" is beginning to catch up on some of us (no names mentioned) we were most grateful to Sgts Buchanan and McKinnell and L/Cpl Rae who lent a hand assessing. And our grateful thanks to the local land owners and farmers who gave us every assistance during our stay.

In the end we had one Duke of Edinburgh's Gold award, nineteen silver awards and seven Bronze awards – which I suppose makes it a highly successful camp.

### Adventure Training Camp, 1977

We returned this year to Rothiemurchus for a week's skiing. Unfortunately with running costs doubled this year we were only able to take sixteen cadets in spite of the fact that we were heavily subsidised by H.M. Commissioners.

With so much snow around the School this year and with occasional visits to the dry ski slopes at Polmont the cadets had at least the rough edges removed before they set off and on the first day all of them went straight to the top. This made life a lot more pleasant for our instructors. We were fortunate once again to have Tommy Thomson with us and Lt Watson and Mr Bovill who after a few years with Tommy have become very proficient instructors in their own right.

Conditions were ideal and apart from the last day when we were literally blown off the mountain we were on the slopes every day and at the end of the week we had sixteen cadets all in one piece who felt they had made good progress and could really "bomb" down the mountain thanks to the unending patience and advice from the instructors.

A great deal of thanks must go to Lt Deeley for lending a hand in appalling road conditions, for getting the cadets to and from the slopes each day. And, of course, no camp could be successful without good food. We are most grateful to Mr Shaw for the excellent meals he provided each evening on our return from the slopes.

J.G.F.

## R.A.F. SECTION

Cadet N.C.Os. (as at 30th April, 1977): Flt Sgts P. J. Ross and G. Wallace, Sgts I. M. Clark and A. J. Millsop, Cpls I. D. MacGregor, A. K. MacRae, I. S. Robertson, N. H. Wilson, J. S. Grant, P. Irvine and P. R. Harrison, J/Cpls A. W. Lambie, A. A. Leonard, M. A. Riddell and D. J. Ross.

### Training

Last year's notes went to press before the competition for the R.A.F. Recruits' Cup had been finalised. Cdts A. M. Cuthbertson, C. Jones and C. J. D. Lyons tied for first place with 556 points each, followed closely by Cdts I. M. Collie (551) and R. MacKenzie (549). The Cup was awarded to Cdt Colin Lyons on the basis that he had scored higher marks in Airmanship subjects. This year's recruits are still very much involved with the competition which is proving as keen as ever. Cdts C. D. Angus, M. Fisher, S. A. Hill, M. J. Milne and E. Wallace are leading the field – all within a range of 4% of each other – with two further tests to come in May and June.

Eight cadets passed the H.Q. Air Cadets Proficiency Part 2 examination in December and another four in March. Cadets Andrew M. Cuthbertson, Iain M. Collie and Colin Jones obtained a credit pass. Whilst the format of the examination has changed this year the syllabus in both subjects – Principles of Flight and Aircraft Operation – remain essentially the same. In Part 3 of the examination the Engines syllabus remains the same but the two former papers Navigation Theory and Meteorology have been combined under the new title of Weather and Air Navigation. Thirteen candidates have passed Part 3 with Cdts Keith Sinclair (December) and Colin Jones (March) passing with Distinction – Colin Jones scoring 94%; Cdts Iain Collie and Gary D. F. Milne (both in March) obtained Credit passes.

The weather has not favoured us for Gliding and Air Experience Flying this year and the Primary Glider Training, with the exception of two evenings, has been confined to the static stand; it is hoped to graduate to slides and hops during May and June! Four members of the Section – Cpls Ian Robertson and Neil Wilson (July 76) and Cpl Iain MacGregor and L/Cdt Keith Sinclair (April 77) successfully completed continuous Gliding courses at Milltown and Kinloss by going "solo" for three launches and qualifying for their "wings". Four other cadets have applied for courses at Arbroath and Kirknewton during the summer. Eighteen cadets have flown chipmunks at No. 12 A.E.F., R.A.F. Turnhouse, this year and two further visits have been arranged for the latter half of this term.

Two teams have again been entered for the Small Bore Winter League Postal Competition organised by H.Q. Air Cadets at R.A.F. Turnhouse for air cadets (C.C.F. and A.T.C.) throughout Scotland and Northern Ireland. Having won the Tomintoul Cup (Division 'D' – there are eight divisions altogether) during the winter of 1975/76, members of the new 'A' Team are hoping to emulate their predecessors and are now anxiously awaiting the results of the final round. At the end of the Easter Term they were leading Division 'D' with 1,056 points and our 'B' Team lying fourth with 1,019 points in the same Division.

### Annual Camp, 1976

Forty-one cadets, with F/Sgt Russell Gillespie as our Senior Cadet, accompanied by Messrs Urie and Williams travelled to R.A.F. Waddington, Lincoln – the home of the Vulcans – for our summer 76 camp. We were well received, despite our arrival coinciding with the "morning after" the Annual Mess Ball, the accommodation was good and the food proved to be excellent. The programme looked very interesting with much evidence that the organisation and preparation had been thorough and that the A.C.L.O. – Flt Lt A. N. Ryder – was anxious that the aims of R.A.F. Annual Camps would be realised. It was most unfortunate therefore, that the station was called out on a "tactical evaluation" exercise before reveillé on Monday, that the exercise continued through Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning that the squadrons and ground support sections were busy re-assembling for the remainder of Thursday and, because of the success of the exercise, that the Station was on "stand-down" on Friday. This made the implementation of the programme nigh impossible and it was only after much difficulty and frustration that we succeeded in salvaging some of it. R.A.Fs. Swinderby and North Luffenham came to our assistance by providing transport which enabled us to visit the former for an orienteering exercise and the latter to be given a conducted tour around the Institute of Aviation Medicine and Midland Radar. H.Q. Strike Command also came to our assistance, after pleas for help, by giving us authority to hire transport to conduct a night exercise off camp and for some of us to visit the Harrier Squadron and the R.A.F. Regiment at R.A.F. Wittering. Fifty-five of the total of eighty-eight cadets at camp (thirty-five of the Q.V.S. contingent) received chipmunk flights – a Q.V.S. total flying time of 14 hours, 54 minutes.

Andrew Millsop and Mike Smith gained R.A.F. Marksman awards for ·303 Shooting and seven other cadets qualified as C.C.F. Marksmen. Thirty-four members of our section also qualified for the R.A.F. Swimming Proficiency Certificate. Russell Gillespie gained the Best Cadet at Camp award. Philip Ross' flight, consisting of Iain MacGregor, Mark Riddell, David Ross, Iain Collie, Ian Connor, Mark Fisher and Stuart Wilson, won the Best Flight Award – a station plaque. Our thanks to the few, and in particular Flt Sgt Des Sonley, of H.Q.A.C. R.A.F. Newton, for succeeding in salvaging and improvising a programme.

We are being re-assured that the odds are very heavily against us experiencing another tactical evaluation exercise in 1977 after the two "tac-evals" of last year and over thirty cadets have already confidently reserved places at R.A.F. Shawbury – the location of this year's camp.

May we again express our appreciation of all the help we so readily receive from H.Q.A.C., Sc. & N.I. at R.A.F. Turnhouse – from Group Captain Hunter, who continues to eye us from above ensuring that we are being well looked after, from Flt Lt Mike Laundy who has given us so much encouragement during his tour but left us in April for the "higher planes", and from Flt Sgt Pete Gipson without whose help and regular visits so much of what has been accomplished would not have been possible. Sqn Ldr Brian Nicolle who commands this area of the R.A.F. Careers Information Service has visited us regularly and communicated personally with all the boys who have sought career advice – boys, parents and staff appreciate your interest in us.

I.T.W.

### CHAPEL

Once again we have to record our thanks to all those who support the ongoing life of the Chapel. Andrew Kerr, as Chapel prefect, supported by his stewards, has carried out his duties with the utmost efficiency and diligence, and with utter self effacement; Mr Lewis has kept the Chapel in immaculate condition; ladies and gentlemen have provided flowers to beautify the building; the elders have given ever ready assistance; Mr Bruce, as organist, has given unswerving loyalty; and Mr Scott gave his much appreciated assistance in the preparation for, and the carrying through of the Carol Service. To all we say "Thank you" for your devoted service.

Among our visitors have been The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Professor Torrance, the Right Reverend Haire Duke, Bishop of St Andrews, and the Very Reverend Dr Leonard Small of Edinburgh. In June we honour Mr Gray, Minister of Dunblane Cathedral who, by the time the magazine is published, will be the new Moderator, by worshipping in the Cathedral.

Throughout the year we have tried to bring more and more boys into the conduct of Worship and the resultant variety has added a new interest to our Sunday Services.

But whatever changes we may make, and whether we succeed or fail, our aim must always be the Lifting up of Christ that all may be attracted to Him, His Life and Service.

A. A. Orrock

# Sporting Events

## SWIMMING

**Results of School Swimming Championship held on 14th March, 1977**

| *Events* | *1st YEAR* | | | *Time* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **1st** | **2nd** | **3rd** | |
| 1 lth Butterfly | N. Collie (C) | S. Hathaway (T) | M. Davis (T) | 13·8 NR |
| 2 lth Breast Stroke | B. Nelson (C) | (equal) N. Collie (C) and Ferguson (T) | | 31·6 NR |
| 2 lth Back Stroke | S. Deuchars (C) | M. Clay (C) | Winning (T) | 33·8 |
| 2 lth Free Style | N. Collie (C) | Winning (T) | Davidson (T) | 25·5 NR |
| 4 lth Medley | N. Collie (C) | B. Nelson (C) | Ferguson (T) | 68·2 NR |
| | *Champion:* N. Collie, 10½ pts | | *Runner-up:* B. Nelson, 5 pts | |
| | *2nd YEAR* | | | |
| | **1st** | **2nd** | **3rd** | |
| 1 lth Butterfly | G. Boyd (C) | C. Leonard | C. Buchanan (T) | 13·8 |
| 2 lth Breast Stroke | C. Buchanan (T) | C. Leonard (T) | E. Wallace (C) | 36·1 |
| 2 lth Back Stroke | C. D. Angus (C) | (equal) B. J. Barrie (C) and C. Leonard (T) | | 31·5 |
| 2 lth Free Style | P. Murphy (T) | C. D. Angus (C) | C. Leonard (T) | 25·6 NR |
| 4 lth Medley | C. Leonard (T) | C. D. Angus (C) | P. Murphy (T) | 74·2 |
| | *Champion:* C. Leonard | | *Runner-up:* C. D. Angus | |
| | *3rd YEAR* | | | |
| | **1st** | **2nd** | **3rd** | |
| 2 lth Butterfly | G. Benson (C) | I. Collie (C) | M. Hindshaw (T) | 26·4 NR |
| 4 lth Breast Stroke | G. Benson (C) | M. Hindshaw (T) | W. T. Graham (C) | 68·2 NR |
| 2 lth Back Stroke | G. Benson (C) | I. Collie (C) | B. Hamilton | 29 NR |
| 4 lth Free Style | I. Collie (C) | B. Hamilton (T) | S. Wilson (T) | 53·8 NR |
| 4 lth Medley | G. Benson (C) | I. Collie (C) | M. Hindshaw (T) | 62·5 NR |
| | *Champion:* G. Benson | | *Runner-up:* I. Collie | |

NR – New Record



| | *HAIG* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **1st** | **2nd** | **3rd** | |
| 2 lth Butterfly | A. Lambie | K. Smith | I. Munro | 31 |
| 4 lth Breast Stroke | A. Stroud | K. Smith | A. Lambie | 67·3 NR |
| 2 lth Back Stroke | D. Hughson | I. Nicholson | K. Smith | 28 0 NR |
| 4 lth Free Style | A. Lambie | I. Nicholson | K. Smith | 58·1 |
| 4 lth Medley | A. Stroud | A. Lambie | I. Nicholson | 65·2 |
| | *Champion:* A. Lambie | *Runners-up:* K. Smith and A. Stroud | | |
| *1st Year* | **1st** | **2nd** | | |
| 4×1 lth Free Style Relay | Trenchard | Cunningham | | 51·2 NR |
| *2nd Year* | | | | |
| 4×1 lth Free Style Relay | Trenchard | Cunningham | | 48·7 |
| *3rd Year* | | | | |
| 4×1 lth Free Style Relay | Cunningham | Trenchard | | 43·8 NR |
| *1st Year* | | | | |
| 4×1 lth Medley Relay | Cunningham | Trenchard | | 58·2 NR |
| *2nd Year* | | | | |
| 4×1 lth Medley Relay | Cunningham | Trenchard | | 55·6 |
| *3rd Year* | | | | |
| 4×1 lth Medley Relay | Cunningham | Trenchard | | 52·7 NR |
| *Inter* | | | | |
| 12×1 lth Free Style | Cunningham | Trenchard | | 2 min 24·4 NR |

NR – New Record

### Inter-House Championship

*1st Year* – 1st Cunningham, 29½ points; 2nd Trenchard, 18½ points.

*2nd Year* – 1st Trenchard, 26½ poijnts; 2nd Cunningham, 21½ points.

*3rd Year* – 1st Cunningham, 34 points; 2nd Trenchard, 14 points.

### Awards of The Royal Life Saving Society

This remains in the usual healthy state and continues to be an all the year round activity. To date the boys have been examined for, and gained 77 awards: Bronze Medallion 37, Bronze Cross 3, Award of Merit 16, Distinction Award 13, Teacher's Certificate 9, and Advanced Teacher's Certificate 2. At the time of writing this report I have classes working for more awards and they will be examined before the summer holidays.

### Non-Swimmers Class

We only had five boys enter the School this year who were unable to swim.

After the usual course of ¾-hour per day for 12 consecutive days I am happy to report that the School reputation of having every boy able to swim is intact.

### Representative Swimming

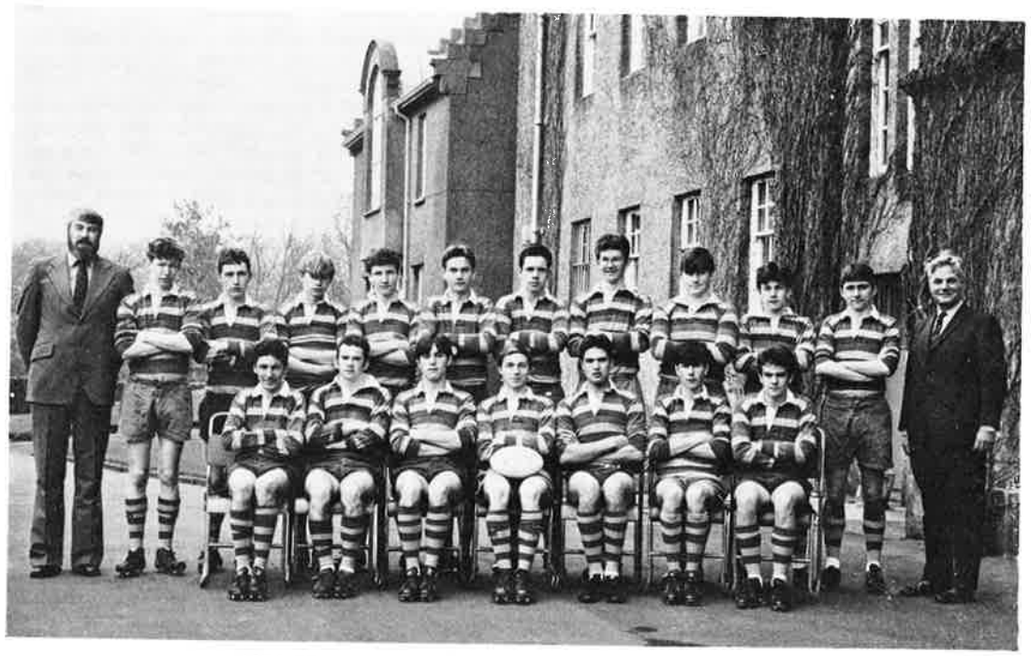
This is our second year of entry into Central Region Schools Swimming Championships. This event brings together the best swimmers from the twenty-six senior secondary schools in the Region. There are four age groups – 15 years and over, under 15 years, under 14 years and under 13 years, and a competitor may enter one of four events in his age group. Entry is by time, so to swim in this competition a boy has to be one of the twelve fastest swimmers in the Region.

This year we had nine boys whose times were good enough to allow to the championships. They were A. Lambie, A. Stroud and K. Smith in over 15 section; I. Collie and G. Benson in under 15 years; C. Angus and G. Boyd in under 14 years; and N. Collie and B. Nelson in under 13 years – this pair were our successes. B. Nelson won the 25 metres breast stroke and N. Collie was third in the 25 metres free style.

## RUGBY

### 1st XV

This season's excellent First Team have had the honour of not only equalling but probably surpassing Hugh Millan's great team of 1961–62 which played 13 matches, winning 11, drawing 2, but losing a Seven-a-side Competition. We played 12 matches, won 11, lost only 1, and won the Stirling University Seven-a-side Competition as well. We thus either share the title of being the most successful team in Q.V. rugby history, or hold it ourselves.



*1976/77 Rugby XV with Mr Paterson and The Headmaster.*

The gloom and despondency of shattered hopes and "if only's" was done away with. We won our first match against Dollar 16–8 and then after a hard-fought match at Morrisons we really settled down as a team. Against Strathallan we turned on a brilliant non-stop display of attacking rugby. The forwards played like a pack of wolves, while the backs attacked with every ball. We won 46–4, not because Strathallan were a weak team, which they were not, but because all the hard work in previous years came to a peak in a superb display of rugby.

We then went on to beat Glenalmond, McLaren High School and Rannoch. We suffered our only defeat against Lenzie in the last minute of a hard-fought match to lose 6–0. But from then on we played even better. We went to Fettes as the underdogs, but due to a marvellous team effort turned the tables in the second half and crushed them with five tries. After beating Queen Anne at home 13–6 our intact home record was really put to the test. Against a fairly strong Headmaster's XV we scored almost from the whistle thanks to a great forward move. From then on we starved their "stars" of the ball and controlled the game in every department to win 10–4. The O.V's match was full of tension, antagonism and hard play. Our forwards again played really well to secure possession against a much stronger pack, and also put severe pressure on their half backs. Ian Campbell scored a brilliant try and with continual attacks we finally won 14–3. Our final match of the season was against Lornshill. We went not only to win, but to finish off our great season of rugby with a match in which everybody put in 200% effort. We won 49–0. A great end to a magic season.

We also won a 7s competition, even though in our only practice for it, the 'B' Team almost beat the 'A' team!

I should like to thank Mr Paterson and Mr Melluish for all the help and tremendous encouragement they have given us all. But most of all I should like to thank The Team, who went out and played with one aim – to win.

Philip J. Ross

**The Team**

*Backs:* S. Benson, N. Marchant, P. Campbell, A. MacRae, G. Farquhar, P. McLoughlin, A. Riddell, P. Ross, D. Hughson.

*Forwards:* G. Wallace, I. Clark (S.L.), A. Lambie, K. Smith, G. Best, R. Simpson, S. Buchanan, E. Pitkeathly.



**2nd XV**

For the first time in many years a recognised 2nd XV has played regular fixtures. The season started out with little confidence present in the team, especially amongst the threequarters, but after winning the first match of the season by a wide margin all apprehension was dispersed. It must be mentioned however that the Dollar team was on average a year younger than us. The next game against Lornshill was won, but the best game of the season I feel was against Glenalmond. The whole team, but especially the forwards played very well, and we won the game by skill and rugby ability. McLaren High School presented little problems and we beat them with good play from both the backs and the forwards alike. Possibly the best player in the McLaren team was a player who was lent to them by us as they arrived with only fourteen players.

The team was now playing well and I felt we would win the next match against Lenzie Academy. This was a memorable match, not because it was our first defeat of the season but because we had fifty-four penalties against us. The next match against Morrison's was lost though not through lack of trying. We were constantly on the attack but could never finish with a try. The matches against Glenalmond Under Sixteens, Alloa 2nd XV, and Glenalmond 5th XV were all cancelled.

I would like to thank the team which was selected from the following people for a successful season: D. Watson, P. Kerr, A. Streud, P. McLoughlin, A. Kerr, A. Radell, E. Gibson (vice-captain), C. Johnson, A. Leonard, R. Boyd, D. Edmondson, P. Carson, I. Munro, W. Carter, F. Gibson, D. Ross, P. Harrison, I. Robertson (captain), and A. Millsop.

Results: Played 6, Won 4, Lost 2.

E.G.

**3rd XV**

When I look back on last season, I can only think of what might have been, for if ever a team was unlucky, we were. If it wasn't injuries dogging us it was the weather. Out of 13 scheduled games 6 had to be cancelled, and out of the 7 we played we lost 3. And it was those 3 that I meant when I said we had been unlucky. Two narrow defeats by Glenalmond and Strathallan. They were a bit of a morale let-down and it was with heavy hearts we trekked up to Rannoch and were surprisingly beaten. We pulled ourselves together, and in the latter part of the season beat Queen Anne and Lornshill to bring our grand total to 4 victories after having beaten Lenzie and Morrisons. Our greatest success came one day into the Easter holidays, when eight of us stayed behind to play a seven-a-side tournament. We eventually won it by beating Grangemouth and Wallace High in the first two rounds and Alloa in the semi-final before beating Lornshill in the final.

For a round-up I would say that the season has been, if not a total success, an enjoyable one. We would sincerely like to thank Mr G. Reid and J. Norbury (who spent his last coaching season with us at Q.V.S.) wholeheartedly for their strenuous coaching periods.

M.R.

*Backs:* Brian Hamilton, Stuart Wilson, Mervyn Reid, Iain Collie, Mark Riddell (captain), Michael Watson, James Gallon, Kenneth MacRae.

*Forwards:* Alan Davis, Walker Graham, David Rogers, Colin Pashley, James Robb, Ross Mackenzie, Colin Jones, Sean Dolan, Paul Kent.

*Results:* Played 7, Won 4, Lost 3, Drawn 0, Points For 148, Points Against 75.

This report on 3rd Year Rugby is by a member of the team. He omitted to mention that from this XV we had players selected for the Central Region Under-15 Years XV. They were R. MacKenzie, A. Davis, M. Reid and Reserve B. Hamilton. Selected for the Midland Under-15 Years XV were R. MacKenzie and Reserve M. Reid.

**ATHLETICS**

**Results – 10th June, 1976**

| *Events* | *MINOR* | | | *Time or Distance* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **1st** | **2nd** | **3rd** | |
| 80 metres | D. Cfaft (A) | J. Paxton (L) | Harrison (A) | |
| 400 metres | A. Ingram (A) | J. Paxton (L) | I. Fernie (M) | 71·4 sec. |
| Long Jump | A. MacIntosh (M) | G. Harrison (A) | D. Craft (A) | 3·89 metres |
| High Jump | A. MacIntosh (M) | D. Craft (A) | D. Grant (L) | 1·18 metres |
| Cricket Ball | J. Paxton (L) | A. Turner (L) | G. Harrison (A) | 44·50m. NR |
| Relay 4×100m. | Abercromby | Lyndoch | Moore | 63·6 sec. |

NR – New Record

| Events | MAJOR | | | Time or Distance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **1st** | **2nd** | **3rd** | |
| 100 metres | G. Lee (M) | D. J. Wilson (L) | J. Lamond (L) | 16·2 sec. |
| 200 metres | D. J. Wilson (L) | A. Morrison (A) | A. Cairns (M) | 33·6 sec. |
| 800 metres | S. Godderidge (L) | M. Davis (A) | A. Duffus (M) | 2 min. 42·9 sec. |
| Long Jump | S. Godderidge (L) | B. Nelson (A) | N. Collie (M) | 4·25 metres |
| High Jump | M. Davis (A) | D. J. Wilson (L) | A. Cairns (M) | 1·32m. NR |
| Cricket Ball | A. Duffus (M) | B. Nelson (A) | A. McLay (M) | 56·72m. NR |
| Shot | A. Muirson (L) | B. Nelson (A) | R. McGregor (M) | 8·45 metres |
| Relay 4×100m. | Lyndoch | Abercromby | Moore | 62·9 sec. |
| | *1st YEAR* | | | |
| | **1st** | **2nd** | **3rd** | |
| 100 metres | M. Fisher (C) | D. Broadbent (T) | A. Wilson (T) | 14·9 sec. |
| 200 metres | M. Fisher (C) | D. Broadbent (T) | A. Wilson (T) | 30·1 sec. |
| 400 metres | M. Fisher (C) | D. Broadbent (T) | G. Johnstone (C) | 66 sec. |
| 800 metres | S. Turner (T) | D. Loch (T) | B. Barrie (C) | 2 min. 45·2 sec. |
| Long Jump | A. Wilson (T) | S. Simmonds (T) | A. Robb (C) | 4·46 metres |
| High Jump | P. Murphy (T) | A. Robb (C) | A. Wilson (T) | 1·30 metres |
| Cricket Ball | D. Broadbent (T) | B. Barrie (C) | A. Wilson (T) | 49·56m. NR |
| Shot | C. Angus (C) | D. Broadbent (T) | D. Gunn (C) | 9·54 metres |
| Relay 4×100 m. | Trenchard | Cunningham disqualified | | |
| | *2nd YEAR* | | | |
| | **1st** | **2nd** | **3rd** | |
| 100 metres | S. Wilson (T) | B. Harman (T) | P. Kent (C) | 13·6 sec. |
| 200 metres | S. Wilson (T) | B. Harman (T) | P. Kent (C) | 27·5 sec. |
| 400 metres | S. Wilson (T) | M. Reid (C) | B. Harman (T) | 61·1 sec. NR |
| 800 metres | M. Reid (C) | A. Davis (T) | G. Benson (C) | 2 min. 31·6 s. NR |
| Long Jump | S. Wilson (T) | I. Collie (C) | A. Davis (T) | 4·70 metres |
| High Jump | G. Benson (C) | I. Collie (C) | A. Davis (T) | 1·42 metres |
| Shot | M. Reid (C) | A. Davis (T) | S. Dolan (C) | 8·87 metres |
| Cricket Ball | P. Kent (C) | B. Hamilton (T) | C. Pashley (T) | 59·60m. NR |
| Relay 4×100 m. | Cunningham | Trenchard | | 53·9 sec. NR |
| | *3rd YEAR* | | | |
| | **1st** | **2nd** | **3rd** | |
| 100 metres | N. Marchant (C) | K. Smith (T) | G. Farquhar (T) | 12·9 sec. |
| 200 metres | N. Marchant (C) | K. Smith (T) | G. Farquhar (T) | 26·7 sec. |
| 800 metres | A. Stroud (T) | A. Leonard (C) | A. Riddell (T) | 2 min. 25·6 s. NR |
| 400 metres | K. Smith (T) | F. Gibson (T) | R. Boyd (C) | 62·2 sec. |
| Long Jump | G. Farquhar (T) | N. Marchant (C) | F. Gibson (T) | 5·29 metres NR |
| High Jump | G. Best (C) | K. Smith (T) | J. Stewart (T) | 1·44 metres NR |
| Shot | D. Ross (C) | N. Marchant (C) | C. Farquhar (T) | 9·63 metres |
| Discus | N. Marchant (C) | A. Stroud (T) | A. Leonard (C) | 27·78 metres |
| Javelin | P. Kerr (C) | G. Best (C) | I. Munro (T) | 32·15 metres |
| Relay 4×100 m. | Cunningham | Trenchard | | 52 sec. |

NR – New Record



| | HAIG | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **1st** | **2nd** | **3rd** | |
| 100 metres | P. Ross | D. Hughson | N. Kempsell | 12·8 sec. |
| 200 metres | P. Ross | D. Hughson | N. Kempsell | 26·2 sec. |
| 400 metres | P. Ross | I. Campbell | E. Gibson | 60·1 sec. |
| 1500 metres | P. Ross | I. Campbell | I. MacGregor | 5 min. 36 sec. |
| Long Jump | D. C. Hughson | N. Kempsell | A. Millsop | 5·90 metres NR |
| High Jump | A. Lambie | D. Hughson | N. Kempsell | 1·40 metres |
| Shot | R. Marchant | A. Lambie | N. Kempsell | 9·96 metres |
| Discus | A. Lambie | P. Ross | R. Marchant | 22·60 metres |
| Javelin | A. Lambie | A. Millsop | A. Kerr | 34·46 metres NR |

NR – New Record

**Senior School**

*1st Year Championship* – 1st D. Broadbent, Runner-up M. Fisher.

*2nd Year Championship* – 1st S. Wilson, Runner-up M. Reid.

*3rd Year Championship* – 1st N. Marchant, Runner-up K. Smith.

*Haig Championship* – 1st P. J. Ross, Runner-up A. Lambie.

**Wavell**

*Minor Championship* – 1st J. Paxton, Runners-up A. McIntosh and D. Craft.

*Major Championship* – 1st D. Wilson, Runners-up B. Nelson and S. Godderidge.

**Senior House Championship**

1st Trenchard, 92 points; 2nd Cunningham, 82 points.

**Wavell Inter-Dormitory Championship**

1st Lynedoch, 36 points; 2nd Abercromby, 35 points; 3rd Moore, 19 points.

## CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Results of Inter-House and Individual Cross-Country Championships held on 3rd March, 1977.

*1st Year* – Individual Champion, S. Godderidge, time 10 min. 43·1 sec. (NR); Runner-up, B. D. Nelson; Inter-House Championship, 1st Cunningham House, 253 points; 2nd Trenchard House, 346 points.

*2nd Year* – Individual Champion, M. Fisher, time 10 min. 32·8 sec. (NR), Runner-up, P. C. Doyle; Inter-House Championship, 1st Cunningham House, 139 points; 2nd Trenchard House, 222 points.

*3rd Year* – Individual Champion, S. W. Wilson, time 10 min. 5 sec. (NR); Runner-up, M. Reid; Inter-House Championship, 1st Cunningham House, 138 points; 2nd Trenchard House, 243 points.

*Haig House* – Individual Champion, N. A. Marchant, time 10 min. 27 sec.; Runner-up, A. K. MacRae.

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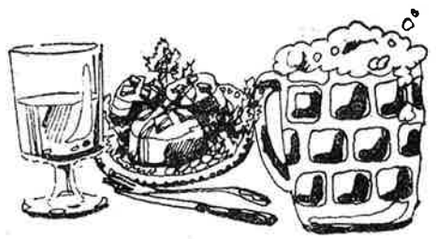

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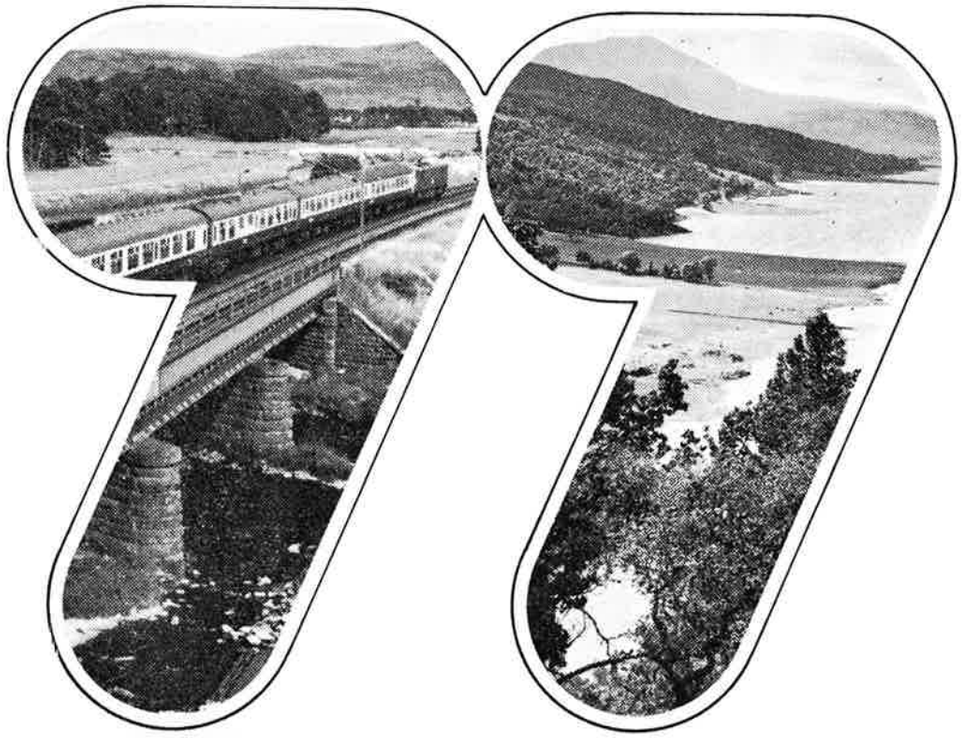

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