

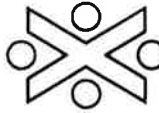


THE VICTORIAN

1998

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Mission Statement

At QVS we have a mission which lies at the very heart of the school ethos and which guides and underpins everything we do here. That mission is to provide stable, uninterrupted and high quality education for the children of Scottish service personnel, or those service personnel who are serving or have served in Scotland. In doing so we aim to produce well rounded, articulate and confident young people who are better equipped to face the world outside the School. We achieve this by training and developing all our employees to reach their full potential which in turn enhances our aims.



The School provides boarding school education for the children of both Scottish Servicemen and women and those who have served in Scotland. Set in 45 acres of beautiful Perthshire countryside, QVS is easily accessible by road, rail or air.

Pupils may be registered for entry from the age of 7 and will normally be admitted to Primary 7. Applications must reach the School by 31 December so that they may be considered by the Admissions Board which convenes in February. However, consideration will also be given, in particular circumstances, to applications made after these dates.

The School offers a wide curriculum following the Scottish educational system and included Standard Grades, Highers, SYS and SCOTVEC modules. The career links with the services are strong, but increasingly pupils move to Higher and Further Education. Pastoral care is afforded a very high priority along with careers guidance and personal and social education. In addition there is a very full programme of sporting, cultural and spiritual development.

Queen Victoria School is a unique boarding school and, as such, looks to achieve the best that is possible academically for all its pupils. The School prides itself also on developing the pupil in the widest possible sense and, as well as academically, aims to achieve success in activities such as sport, music, and other extra-curricular areas. The traditional ceremonial side gives Queen Victoria School a very special and unique dimension.

For further information, write to: The Headmaster, Queen Victoria School, Dunblane, Perthshire,
FK15 0JY
Tel (01786) 822288
Fax 0131-310-2926 or 0131-310-2901

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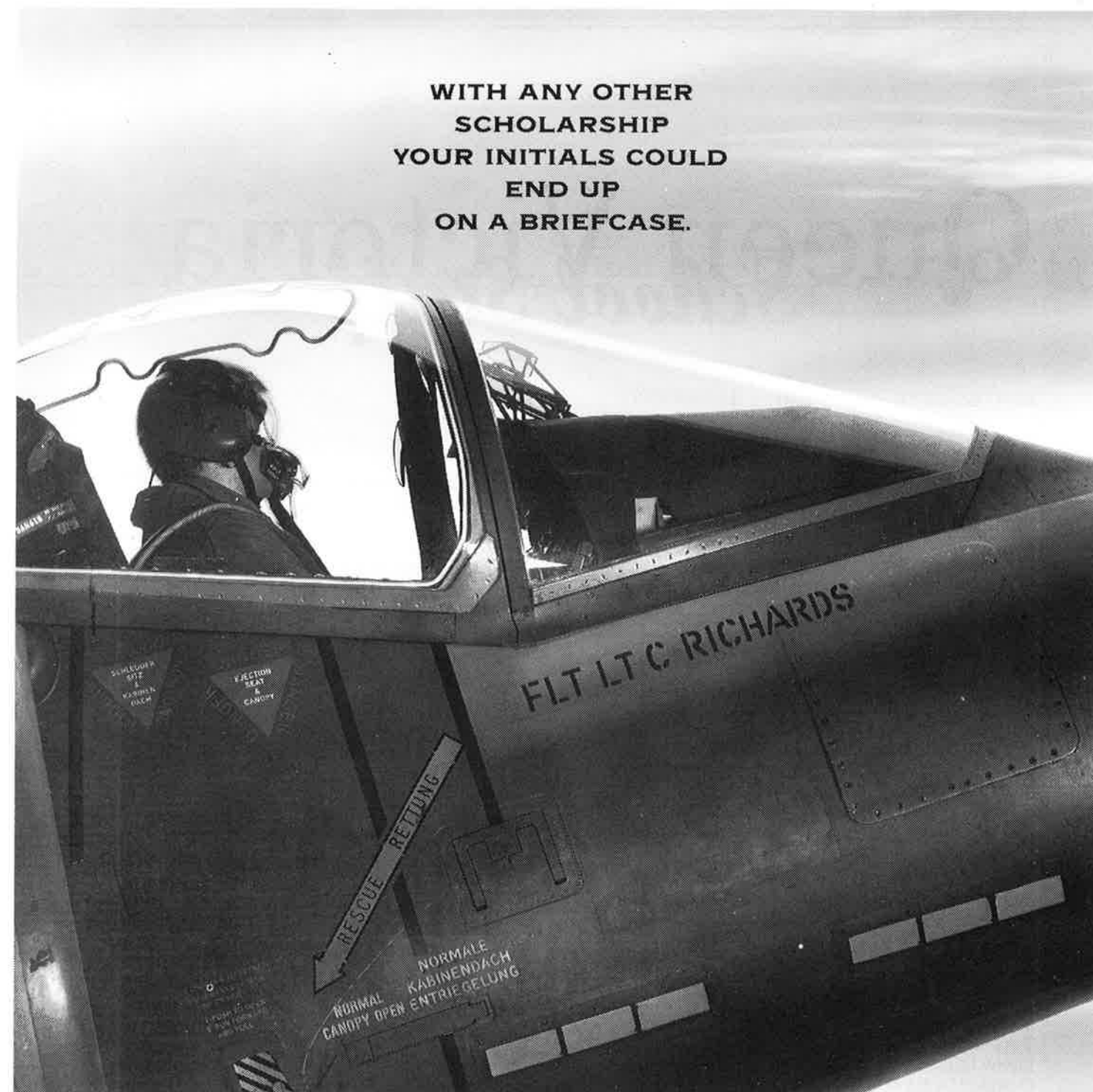
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If you really want to make your mark, you'd be better off not joining the masses in the city.

Especially now the RAF are offering you the chance to see if you have what it takes to become an officer, through a sixth form scholarship.

To apply, you need to be between fifteen and seventeen and about to take your GCSEs or SCEs, with the intention of going on to sixth form.

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Queen Victoria School Staff

HEADMASTER B Raine BA (Hons) PGCE

D/HEADMASTER C Philson BA(Hons)
PGCE

ASST HEADTEACHER A Hainey MA PGCE

BURSAR Col (Retd) A R Tapp

HOUSEMASTERS/HOUSEPARENTS
Haig J S Laing Dip Tech Edn
PT (C&D)

Cunningham G Borking B Ed
Trenchard G D M Carroll BA DCE
PGCG

Wavell M McGlashan Cert Edn

PRINCIPAL TEACHERS

C Bruce MA (Hons)
D Garden BSc (Hons) M Phil Dip Ed
D Gilhooly BA (Hons) Dip Ed
J Howie MA (Hons) Dip Ed
A M Kirk MA (Hons) PGCE Dip Ed Tech
J Lawrence BSc (Hons) PGCE
D McLay BEd (Hons)
P Onslow FLCM LRSM A Cert CM Cert Ed
D Stewart BSc (Hons)

TEACHING STAFF

G J Beattie MA Med PGCE (Asst HoM Haig)
(Asst PT)

E Blackwood BEd
T A Dale BSc Cert Ed (Asst PT)
I Dow BEd (Hons) T Cert Dip SEN
D Frize MA BA (Hons) PGCE /
A Lawrence BA(Hons) Dip Ed
D P Kelling BSc (Hons) Dip Ed Tech
T King BEd (Hons)DRSAM Cert Ed
ATQ(Prim)PGCC

C S Barr BSc (Hons) PGCE/
A Milligan BSc Dip Ed
J Scott BEd (Hons) (Dep HoM Wavell)
L A Shannon MA (Hons) PGCE
T Shannon Dip Tech Edn HND Eng Mech RD
(Director of Outdoor Pursuits)
Rev J Silcox BD Cert PS CF TD(School Chaplain)

W G Webster BA (Hons) BD Dip Ed

LIBRARIAN

C Sheerin BA (Hons) Dip Lib ALA

PART-TIME TEACHERS

S Johns Dip Ed
L Thornton Dip Art & PG CE

VISITING MUSIC TEACHERS

A Bell DRSAM ABSM Cert Ed *Woodwind*
S Blackwood *Guitar*
R Donaldson BA *Percussion*
A Ferguson BA (RSAMD) *Piano*
R M Jones BA(Hons) LTCL ALCM Cert Ed *Brass*
J Petrie BA (Hons) ALCM *Strings*
C Shearer BA (Hons) RSAMD *Voice*

SCHOOL SERGEANT MAJOR

D Duthie

PIPE MAJOR

A T Dippie BEM

DRUM MAJOR

H W G Tomkins

HIGHLAND DANCING INST.

E M MacDonald

HOUSEMATRONS

Cunningham J B Kean
Haig C R Tomkins
Trenchard M L Chalmers
Wavell M Genini/C Ashworth

HOSPITAL STAFF

C Fitzgerald RGN RSCN
B McNeill SEN
S Graham
H Heslop

ESTATE MANAGER

Lt Col (Retd) J Sharp MBE

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

J Blyth

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

H H Muirhead EO (A & A)

ADMIN STAFF

D G A Bryan AO HM Secretary
M Wallace AO Personnel
M Symon AO Accounts
M Reid AO Bursar's Secretary
A Macfarlane AO DHM's Secretary
M Ramsay

SUPPORT GRADE II

A B Gauld

PORTERS

J Alexander
S Graham
R Hamilton
F Wernicki

LAB TECHNICIAN

D P Carrington-Porter

EXP WORKER

I McIntyre

JOINER

M O'Malley

STOREKEEPERS

MA Fleming (Clothing)
M Roy (Accn Stores)
W Stockman
P Warner (Sports)

GENERAL HANDS / HOUSE AUXILIARIES

A Laird
R Davies
R B Beddoe
A McDonald
H S Blyth
HA Devlin
H R Duthie
C E Cullen
K McVey

Queen Victoria
School Staff



ROYAL GRAND DAY 1997



Headmaster's Notes

1997/98 has seen the consolidation of the introduction of co-education with an increase from the first 41 to 57 girls, the completion of the second phase of building, the Wavell extension and the settling in of a new Housemistress Ms McGlashan very ably assisted by her resident Deputy, Miss Janette Scott. As the Inspectors have noted we are now well on track to providing the right quality of accommodation with the appropriate homeliness in Wavell.

This year has also seen further movement towards our next phase of development in order to produce the equivalent quality of accommodation in the remainder of the School. I commented last year on the way in which this was to be achieved and the first phase of this process will be the building of a new Boarding House which will be for P7/S1 boys. A Project Manager has been appointed and the new building will be sited where the maintenance buildings are at present, off the lower square, opposite the Swimming Pool. The new maintenance building next to the CCF/ACF complex will be ready by June 1998.

The above will allow for greater space in the Main Building and within the refurbishment programme the architects will be asked to upgrade all accommodation, provide better leisure facilities and, given the constraints of the Edwardian building, a more homely environment overall. Thus, well before the 100th Anniversary of the School, all accommodation will be of a suitably high standard to meet the requirements of a modern day boarding school and the scrutiny of Her Majesty's Welfare Inspectors.

The other major building project this session has been the All-Weather Pitch on the plateau which is an excellent addition to our facilities. By the time the Victorian is published this will also be equipped with flood-lighting which will enable us as a School to make use of the facility throughout the long winter dark nights, as well as providing another valuable source of revenue through letting.

Results

On the very important area of examination results the Standard Grade results compared very favourably indeed with the last few years. Again 100% achieved the target of at least three passes at Grades 1-3 and 84% achieved the target of at least five passes at Grades 1-3 compared with 79% in 1996, 82% in 1995 and 74% in 1994. Within these results it should be noted that 50% of the passes were in Grades 1 and 2 compared with 42% last year and 52% the year before. In addition, we recorded only 13% below Grade 3 - our lowest since I became Headmaster.

At Higher the S5 results were disappointing with 72% of presentations in the A-C category compared with 79% last year, 69% in 1995 and 47% in 1994 (12% and 23% were in the A and B categories respectively compared with 20% and 21% last year). Clearly there is still more work to be done at the Higher Grade level and we must move forward in terms of those achieving three, four and five passes in the A-C category. It was also very pleasing to see some excellent SYS results in both Chemistry and English. Although personally I am not in favour of League Tables it should be noted that

we came 37th out of 401 Scottish Schools ranked according to percentage of Leavers entering higher education.

The above results illustrate that raising standards can never be a smooth, unending, upward path. However, overall and since 1994 Queen Victoria School has maintained good progress and I am confident that we will make further progress in the next few years, as long as Higher Still does not cause too many complications for us as a small school. I would like to praise pupils and staff alike for their efforts over the past year and exhort both to seek further improvement in the future.

Staffing

As noted in last year's Victorian Mr Philson joined us in May 1997 as Deputy Headmaster and Ms McGlashan started in August 1997 as Housemistress of Wavell. Another major change on the House side is that Mr Borking has decided to demit office as Housemaster of Cunningham. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking both him and Isobel for all the hard work, care and attention they have given the boys in Cunningham over the last 6 years. Mr Borking's position is being taken over by Mr Tomkins, whom everyone knows as the Drum Major.

Mrs Blake was replaced by Ms Genini as Housematron of Wavell in September 1997. Mr Frize, who joined Queen Victoria School in 1991 as a teacher of English, left in January 1998 to take up position in the Middle East. His position has been filled temporarily by Mrs Lawrence and in August 1998 we will be joined by two English teachers, Mr McNally and Miss Johnstone who will also become Assistant Housemaster/Housemistress of Trenchard and Wavell respectively. I took the somewhat unusual step of replacing one teacher by two because recently Mrs Hainey has been teaching a half timetable in English and we were also in need of more Learning Support to replace Mrs Robbins who was on a half timetable and left in December. The Welfare Inspectors have indicated that Mrs Hainey must change her remit and give up the English teaching. Thus we will boost the English Department but also work to improve Learning Support and literacy within the School. Mr McNally and Miss Johnstone also have very good and complementary extra-curricular activities to offer Queen Victoria School.

Unfortunately this good news has been balanced recently by the announcement that Mrs Barr is moving back to industry and will leave Queen Victoria School this summer. On the Administrative side Miss Watson also left us in August 1997 to be replaced by Mrs Symon.

Monsieur Jean-Philippe Cuneo our Language Assistant left in June 1997 and was replaced in September by Miss Tanya Lang. Although we have Language Assistants for one year only they are a valuable resource and contribute extremely well both on the academic and extra-curricular side. On the GAP front James McGeoch did not stay the course but was very ably substituted by Ewan Carroll. Ryan Webster and Ewan left in December. They have been

replaced by four GAP students with one per house as follows:-

Michael O'Connor from Marist College, Brisbane - Trenchard
Michelle Greene from Nga Twa Diocesan School for Girls Wellington - Wavell
Craig Anslow from Scots College, Wellington - Cunningham
Andrew McKenzie from Lindisfarne College, Hastings - Haig.

The GAP students contribute enormously to the School both on the House side and in extra-curricular activities. It is a valuable learning experience for them as well and I can comment very favourably on reports that I have received on QVS GAP students who have worked abroad over the last couple of years.

Pipe Band and Highland Dancers

The Pipe Band continues to perform in the best of School traditions both on prestigious occasions such as Murrayfield - this year, prior to the Australian, South African, French and English games - as well as the many major or minor engagements. The Pipe Band and Highland Dancers performed at the International Garden Centre in Milngavie in August 1997 and at Edinburgh Castle for an International Medical Convention in September 1997. In addition, a smaller band and the Highland Dancers will perform at the end of April at the Caledonian Ball in the presence of Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal.

The Highland Dancers perform as both a combined entity with the Pipe Band as well as in their own right. As with the Pipe Band they contribute substantially to achieving excellent standards within the School. The Highland Dancers captained by Douglas Greenhowe won the Alistair McLean Challenge Cup at the Argyllshire Gathering with Christopher Harris winning the individual Potallach Cup.

The Intermediate Dancers competed at the U.K.A. Medallist of the Year Competition in February 1998 gaining four 1st places (Nicola Bonner, Ashling Kerr, Chris Niven and Damien McDade) and four 2nd places (Nicola Moffat, Ross Stevenson, Chris Niven and Chris Harris). In the U.K.A. Examinations there were 4 Pre-Bronze Awards, 15 Bronze, 13 Silver, 8 Gold, 7 1st Gold Bar, 4 2nd Gold Bar, 1 Laurel Award (Chris Niven), 2 President's Awards (Andrew Moffat and Chris Harris) and 2 Premier Cup Awards (Douglas Greenhowe and Colin Wood).

In addition there have been a number of performances by the Dance Group and P7 Concert Party: WRVS Heart and Stroke Club at Logie Church Hall
Harley Court, Falkirk

Soroptimist Variety Concert
Whins of Milton Special School
St Marks Women's Guild
Darby and Joan Club, Grangemouth
Callander Thursday Club
Arthritis Care

Summer Term is always a very busy period for the Pipe Band and Highland Dancers as they perform on the Esplanade at Edinburgh Castle for the CCF Massed Pipes and Drums and Dancers with Queen Victoria School providing the only Highland Dancing. Last year Sean Fenwick was the Lead Drum Major and this year it will be another Queen Victoria School senior pupil, Ian Murray. In addition, there are the usual performances at Holyrood. In all it amounts to a most important and thriving part of our extra-curricular activity which contributes so well to the ethos of the School.

Rugby

This year's rugby has not been as successful overall as compared with last season. The 1st XV lost six games and only made it through to the Quarter Finals of the Plate Competition and the junior sides were not as successful across the board as they were last season. Despite this, the School continues to make very good progress within a very competitive circuit and there has been considerable success at all levels.

However, we did host our 2nd 10-a-side competition in August sponsored by Albion Drilling Services and H & S Drilling Supplies Ltd which was a very successful event won by Boroughmuir High School (Cup) and Dundee High School (Plate). In addition, Alastair McKinnon has represented the Midlands Schools in the under-18 team, and both he and J R McCulloch represented the Caledonian Reds under-18 against an Argentinian touring side. Michael Logue, J R McCulloch and Craig Cunningham all represented Midlands B XV. At the under-15 level Fraser McKinnon and Gary McCulloch represented the Midlands and Fraser repeated his achievement of last year by representing Scottish Schools under-15 in the Easter Break.

CCF

The Biennial Review of the CCF took place in October 1997 and Group Captain Cross commented very favourably on the CCF and its activities. There have been a number of very successful organised exercises as well as a Field Day held within the School in March. In Sep-

tember the Highland Tac Team led by Mark McLeod came 2nd overall in the annual CCF/ACF competition which was our best overall result so far. In addition, the RAF section led by Craig Cunningham won the Scottish section of the National Ground Training Competition and came fifth in the UK Competition in April at Uxbridge which was a most creditable performance on the first occasion that we have entered this Competition.

Stephen Tierney is also to be congratulated on being selected for Scottish Schools against England and Wales and the British Team - a very fine achievement! He has been presented with his Scottish International Colours for Small Bore Rifle. Overall, the CCF provides excellent opportunities on the extra-curricular side for the pupils and is another thriving area of activity.

Duke of Edinburgh

Last year two boys achieved the Gold Standard and had their awards presented by Princess Anne on Grand Day. This year we have 112 taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme. (4 Gold, 24 Silver, 84 Bronze)

Music

Because this report has to be written well before the end of the Summer Term I was unable to comment on the end of year concert in 1997 which was indeed excellent. There were many fine performances and there was considerable improvement from the Christmas Concert. It may be somewhat invidious to single out one individual but Callum Kennedy deserves considerable praise for his organisation and high level of performance in different categories.

The increasing level of involvement in events such as Remembrance Sunday, the Coffee Morning in the Cathedral Hall in Dunblane, the P7 Concert Party, School Carol Service and the concerts at the end of the Christmas term indicate that the Music Department under Mr Onslow's very capable direction is thriving.

A number of pupils also competed in the Perthshire Music Festival and Mark Lovell was awarded a 1st Class Certificate for his euphonium/baritone solo.

Drama

On the drama front, an S1 play, "The Enchanted Christmas Tree" was performed by Mr Kirk's class just before the Christmas holidays. Shaun McGinty drew on his dramatic expertise to take on the

Time Capsule

Educational Notes (50 Years Ago - 1948)

Once again we reach the end of a "School Year." Looking back and then taking stock we find that the school is "young"; by this we mean that comparatively few boys are over the age of fourteen years. Therefore we cannot expect to find that our achievements during the past year will compare with those of previous

role of the middle-aged meanie, a part none of the first year pupils could be made to look nasty enough to fill.

At Easter S2 produced "Tom Sawyer" (with Michael Brown taking the lead role as Tom). The English Dept students at the time, Andrea Carpenter and Joanne Gibson, helped enormously, especially Joanne who was really in charge of the whole project.

Both were very good efforts indeed and the latter, which was a very much more ambitious project, was performed in front of a large audience including our Czech visitors. Undoubtedly, there are some budding actors and actresses coming through.

Cross-Country

22 pupils across the age groups represented the School at the Scottish Schools Cross-Country Championships with the best results coming from Ashling Kerr 10th and Jamie Campbell and Leigh Bissett 32nd and 36th respectively.

Football

In football we seem to be having more success at the different levels than previously. The under-18 and under-14, however, were knocked out of the Perthshire Cup at the Quarter-Final stage and the under-13s in the semi-final. At the time of writing the under-16s were still to play their semi-final match.

Swimming/Hockey

It has been pleasing to see the development of these sports for all pupils. Ms McGlashan's expertise and encouragement has resulted in the girls A team beating Rannoch and under-16 boys beating Glenalmond. In similar vein Miss Scott has been responsible for the development of hockey and there have been encouraging results for both boys and girls. Much has been done here in a short space of time and, clearly, there is considerable potential.

Cultural Exchanges

Although not an extra-curricular activity the arrival of the Czech group of 40 pupils (between P7 and S3 ages) during the last week of the Spring Term did provide a number of extra-curricular activities and opportunities in terms of cultural exchange. The voluntary country dancing group organised by Mrs McDonald swung into action and provided an excellent oppor-

tunity to mix together. The Czech group enjoyed enormously the Piping, Drumming, Bugling and Dancing Competition as well as Tom Sawyer. They were delighted with their visit and hopefully we will be able to go to Czechoslovakia with a group in the near future.

The Argentinian group from Barker College also provided us with a most interesting and stimulating evening's entertainment in which they gave us a cultural tour of Argentina through slides and a talk by their pupils with the highlights being various Argentinian dances in traditional costume. We reciprocated with a very good performance by the Pipe Band and Highland Dancers in the Sports Hall. The social soiree afterwards provided an excellent opportunity for our pupils and the Argentinian pupils to mix together and proved that there is much scope in these cultural exchanges which can only be beneficial to us all.

Conclusion

At the end of my first year I commented that I was conscious of the amount of change asked of the staff and with reference to my opening remarks we continue to go through the change process and this will not diminish in the coming years. However, such changes are necessary if we are to move the School forward and make it a better establishment both academically and pastorally in terms of boarding for Queen Victoria School pupils in the 21st Century.

I would like to thank all staff, both teaching and non-teaching, for all their efforts throughout this last year to cope with the continuing change and to further improve the quality of education and life for our pupils. There is no doubt in my mind that pupils leaving Queen Victoria School are much better in all respects for their time and experience here, and the staff are to be commended for their efforts on behalf of the pupils.

However, as with most school reports so it is with the Inspectors and we will see from their recommendations that there is still much to do if we are to produce a boarding school of excellence in the 21st Century.

Finally, I would like to thank all pupils, parents and Commissioners for their loyalty and commitment to the School. Your support is very much appreciated and it was good to see that the Inspectors recognised the quality of our pupils, the support of our parents and the Commissioners.



The Pipe Band

Bursar's Notes

The extension to Wavell has been a complete success and the standard of accommodation has now become the minimum benchmark for the future. The Headmaster has reported in his notes that a Project Manager has been appointed for the new boarding house and planning is now at an advanced stage. I am confident that the building will be completed for occupation in August 2000. The initial phase, the demolition of the old buildings beside the lower square and their replacement by a new building in the area of the CCF Hut will be completed by Grand Day. The old buildings to be demolished have been put to many uses over the years and so, in some ways, part of our history will have gone; on the other hand progress is to be applauded. Preliminary planning has begun for the refurbishment of the Main Building. I think most people will appreciate the difficulties of converting this large Edwardian barrack type building into the homely environment that we seek. However, we are starting with a blank piece of paper and I am confident that the refurbishment will be of a high standard. Because the building will continue to be occupied, the work will need to be carried out in phases and thus the whole refurbishment programme will take at least two years. Further plans in the pipeline are to replace the temporary buildings such as the music centre and the social studies department with purpose built buildings.

Life for the stores staff is becoming increasingly difficult as much of the clothing and equipment

previously obtained through the MoD is drying up and trying to find items on the open market is extremely difficult.

There are not too many companies who are prepared to invest in small quantities and so the staff have had to work extremely hard but somehow or other they always seem to obtain what is needed - well done!

The general hands continue to work away in the background. Known to every member of the School, staff and pupils, they are prepared to have a go at any problem. Mark O'Malley has now returned from sick leave so once again they are at full strength. On the administrative side Marianne Watson has left us for an appointment in Headquarters AG and her work has now been taken up by Margaret Symon who has quickly established herself in the

complexities of local purchasing and accounting.

The Pipes and Drums and Highland Dancers have had another busy year and much of what they have achieved is reported elsewhere in the magazine. The highlight for me was their performance at the Royal Caledonian Society Ball in London attended by Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal. Her Royal Highness spoke to all the pupils taking part and recognised many of them from her visit at Grand Day last year. Their performance was perfect and they received tumultuous applause from the members of the Society.

Time Capsule

Buildings and Grounds (25 Years Ago - 1973)

The most obvious of the several additions to the buildings made during the year (indeed it can hardly be ignored) is the extension to the Teaching Block. Approval for this extension took some years of negotiation and even after this had been obtained there have been many frustrating delays, so that the building is already more than a year past its original target date for completion. However, we still hope to have it functioning by the beginning of next term, with a third laboratory, store, and preparation room above, linked by a bridge to the rest of the Science Department. Below, two more classrooms, to cope with the ever more demanding educational requirements, including the raising of the school-leaving age, although this affects us only to a limited extent.

Nobody could call the new building beautiful. Indeed, from its western aspect its forbidding blank wall reminds me vividly of one of Hitler's air raid bunkers. But perhaps, in due course, our Art Department may be able to do something about that.

Time Capsule

Headmaster's Notes (10 Years Ago - 1988)

The School roll is larger than it has ever been with 273 on the roll... this was achieved by extending the size of Haig House to 74 boys, a feat partly achieved by: the introduction of new bed-study units for 19 of the 4th year boys (which they see as the height of modern luxury); the provision of a new Haig Matron's Flat, converting her old flat to boy territory; and by squeezing two boys in what they would be justified in calling Black Hole conditions. It is hoped that by next Session all 4th year boys will be using the high quality bed study units...

Inspecting Officer and Prize Giver

The Right Honourable George Robertson MP

PRIZE GIVING

Prize Giving takes place at 11.30 in the Marquee in the presence of Her Majesty's Commissioners, distinguished guests, parents, staff and pupils.

PARADE

On Parade

Parade Commander, Senior Monitor.....	Leigh Bissett
Guard Commanders:	
No 1 Guard.....	Alistair MacKinnon
No 2 Guard.....	Felicity MacLellan
No 3 Guard.....	Craig Kintrea
No 4 Guard.....	Stephen Page
No 5 Guard.....	Craig Cunningham
No 6 Guard.....	Martin Sherwood
No 7 Guard.....	James Martin
No 8 Guard.....	Michael Logue
I/C Colour Party.....	Richard McConnell
Ensigns.....	Brian Gault Colin Wood
Escorts.....	Scott De-Gernier Jamie Campbell
Orderlies.....	Paul Ruthven Gavin Fleming
School Sergeant Major.....	Mr D Duthie (late SG)

The Parade

The School will march on and the Colours are marched on with the Parade at the Salute. The Inspecting Officer will be received with a General Salute at 1500; he will then inspect the Parade. The Parade will then March Past in Slow Time, break into Quick Time, Reform Line and Advance in Review Order. After the General Salute the Inspecting Officer will address the Parade and Mrs Robertson will present prizes culminating with the Prince Philip Medal. The School will then give 3 Cheers. Having sought permission to march-off the Senior Monitor will lead the Parade off the field in Column of Route. All spectators are asked to stand when the Colours are marched on to Parade, during General Salutes and when the Colours pass during the March Past.

RETREAT

At approximately 1550 the Buglers will sound the 5 minute call. 5 minutes later the Pipes and Drums will march on to Beat Retreat which will include a display of Dancing. Spectators are asked to stand during the sounding of the Retreat Call and lowering of the Union Flag.

TEA

After the Retreat, Tea will be served for HM Commissioners' Guests in the Marquee behind Enclosure A.

Refreshments will be available on repayment in the Playhall for all other spectators.

PARADE MUSIC

March on to Parade.....	Within A Mile O' Edinburgh Toon Cabar Feidh
March on the Colours.....	Victorians
General Salute.....	Loch Leven Castle
Inspection.....	The Mingulay Boat Song Morag of Dunvegan The Highland Cradle Song The Skye Boat Song
March past in Slow Time.....	Westering Home My Home
Break into Quick Time.....	Bonnie Dundee
Advance in Review Order.....	Scotland the Brave
General Salute.....	Loch Leven Castle
March off in Column of Route.....	Highland Laddie

RETREAT MUSIC

March on.....	Bugle Horn Hot Punch Bonnie Dundee
Retreat Call	
Drummers Call	
Marches.....	Cock of the North Farewell to the Creeks
Dancers March on.....	Teribus Corriechoillies Welcome
Strathspey.....	The Marquis of Huntly
Reels.....	The High Road to Linton The Piper of Drummond
Dancers March off.....	The Victorians
March off Parade.....	Highland Laddie Black Bear

Pipe Major.....	Mr A T Dippie BEM (late BW)
Drum Major.....	Mr H W G Tomkins (late Gordons)
Dancing Instructor.....	Mrs E MacDonald AUKA
Boy Pipe Major.....	Ryan Kerr
Boy Drum Major.....	Kenneth Davidson
Senior Dancer.....	Craig Cunningham

Netball

All P7 girls were given the opportunity to learn the game of netball in the form of this introductory course. Some of the girls were already "old hands" and were able to pass on their skills to help the newcomers and to allow us to play some fast and furious practice games. All the girls participated enthusiastically and we can be justly proud of their progress. On the instruction side we were also greatly helped by the formidable netballing skills of Christine Martin (S4) and Kerri Meleady (S3) and our thanks go out to both girls.

E Blackwood

Squash

The hobby attracted pupils from S1 to S6 and all enthusiasts made good progress, surviving both training sessions and practice games. Particularly impressive was Liam Flynn (1B), who showed considerable talent and great promise. Leading lights amongst our more experienced pupils were Leigh Bissett (S6) and Lee Jones (S4). David Aldous (S4), one of our older newcomers to the club, provided added competition. All members of the club contributed with enthusiasm and a sense of fun.

E Blackwood

Bowling

Another winter of indoor carpet bowling - this year with a lively mixed group of P7 and S1 boys and girls - culminated in a very happy evening at Hollywood Superbowl in Stirling. We thank Miss Scott and Frau Lang and "our helper" Ryan Kerr (S6) for joining on this occasion, although we were all rather envious of Frau Lang's quick succession of strikes. She modestly assured us it was just beginners luck!

Camera Club

Again this year a lot of enthusiasm was shown for the camera club at the start of the hobbies time in October. A great deal of time was spent in the darkroom as well as outdoors taking photographs. A few pupils can now compose and take good black and white photographs as well as process the film and produce the final print. These pupils, if they stay with the club in their remaining years at school, should be able to produce award-winning photographs.

The senior pupils in the club, after working with black and white photographs in the darkroom, moved on to colour around Christmas. The results in this medium were

of a mixed variety and consequently more thought and effort is needed before the shutter is pressed. This will only come with experience and by taking many pictures.

We in the club wish to thank Mr Dale for his never-failing enthusiasm when trying to show us how to produce good prints from our negatives which, on occasion, were not of too high a standard.

Hopefully next year we will be able to, with advanced technology, produce enlarged colour prints for other pupils in the school.

S Tierney (S3)

Hobbies

Pottery

The pottery hobby was successful again this year, with more emphasis placed on using pinch pot techniques as the basis for sculptural work than in the past. Some pupils produced very good work and the range of cats was particularly effective. Once again some pupils used the work as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

D Stewart

Badminton

This year Mr Stewart ran a badminton hobby on Sunday afternoons. The hobby was very informal and open to everyone on a "drop in" basis. Attendance varied, but there developed a core of regulars who produced some very good games. Technique was observed to improve over the session as a result of the work being done in the PE Department.

Beginners Dancing Hobby

D Stewart

For roughly eight months a group of enthusiastic, 'keen beans' have been attempting to master the steps that make the Q.V.S. Highland dancers renowned. For an hour, every week we fumbled the quickstep, and rehearsed the Highland Fling, over, and over, and over again. It seemed to pay off as all the beginners gained a United Kingdom Alliance (UKA) dancing award. Thanks to Craig Cunningham (principal dancer), Darren Robertson (assistant principal dancer), Andrew McKinnon and all the other members of the senior dancing team for putting up with us. Also a big thank you to Mrs MacDonald for her time and persistence.

Leigh Anne Sowton (S5)

Geography Field Trips

QV's first ever Higher Geography Field Trip to the Yorkshire Dales and Lake District National Parks took place in September last year. Pupils were let loose on the indigenous population, carrying out questionnaires and surveys to discover the impact of tourism in Lake Windermere. The rest of the Field Trip was spent in the Yorkshire Dales surveying/mapping/sketching carboniferous limestone scenery, climbing up Gordale Scar to Malham Cove and walking through a spectacular underground cavern at Ingleborough. Many thanks to Mr McLay and his fiancée for assisting with this trip. His help and local knowledge of the area was very much appreciated. A very successful trip!

The S3 Field Trip to Stirling is fairly well-established now, where pupils enjoy carrying out questionnaires, surveys and mapping. Many thanks to Mr Kirk for assisting.

The S1 Field Trip to the Ochil Hills in June last year ran for the first time as well. Again, thanks go to staff members for helping out - Mr Beattie and his fiancée; Mr Lawrence; Mr Shannon and senior pupils Leigh Bissett and James Matthews.

Mrs Shannon



Tanja Lang

Tanja came to us in September from the University of Eichstatt in Bavaria and settled in very quickly to her dual role in the Modern Languages Department and Wavell House. Her intellectual ability and her skill and natural charm in the classroom have been of immense benefit and enjoyment to all studying German, particularly to those involved in Standard Grade and Revised Higher German oral presentations, to whom she gave unstintingly of her time and energies. One had only to observe the steady file of boys trooping across to Wavell for extra tuition to appreciate her immense talent and enthusiasm for her native language.

Tanja also enjoyed life to full in Wavell, whether singing German carols, supervising and helping senior girls at Prep, or playing a boisterous game of football with P7 boys. Tanja is now also an accomplished "Scottish Dancer".

We thank Tanja very much for her huge contribution to life at Queen Victoria School and we wish her every success and happiness in her future career.

J Howie

P7 CONCERT PARTY

The P7 concert party is made up of a group from both P7 classes. It has been going on for about 3-4 years and will hopefully continue for a long time after this.

The first concert party we went to was at the Heart and Stroke Club in Stirling and this was followed by 3 more concert dates: the Monday Club of Ladywell Parish Church, the Darby and Joan Club of Grangemouth, and the Thursday Club of Callander.

All the P7s were nervous and very excited everytime we went out. We all tried very hard to give a really great performance. Our programme consisted of Group/Solo Poetry, P7 Choir, Music Solos, Highland Dancing and Piping from Stephen Tierney (S3).

One of the most enjoyable parts of the concert parties was to speak to the audience, which was made up of elderly people. We were also given juice and biscuits at the end.

P7 would like to thank Mr Carroll, Mr Onslow and Mrs MacDonald for their help and organisation.

David McDougall and Laura Hadland P7





Peace

Gavin Heselton (S4)

Thomas Jones stepped into his dilapidated flat carefully avoiding the pile of refuse which had accumulated by his door. He had meant to dispose of it some time ago, but he could never find the time to take it to the skip: the refuse removal trucks had ceased to operate in this part of town; another victim of council cutbacks.

He crossed to the simple mattress and sheet which paid lip-service as a bed. It was surrounded by cigarette stubs, and a few dirty glasses, liberated from the local public house, lay by one side. As he lay down exhausted with his hands over his eyes the bare floorboards beneath him groaned uncertainly and he worried. He worried a lot now. The bills would have to be paid: gas, electricity, water, food, child support, council tax, income tax, tax and and more tax. Often he knew not where his next meal would come from and often he went hungry. His job at the distillery would only keep a roof over his head for so long and the work left him drained.

He was nearly thirty-nine; his wife had left him. Her photograph lay face down by the bed. His children, two girls now aged eleven and thirteen, had not seen him in years, but he still paid their benefit monthly.

As a child this was the life he had hoped to avoid. His mother dreamed of him becoming a lawyer, but he had always wanted to be a joiner as his father was. However, his hands were square and clumsy, he showed no ability for the skilled tasks involved. He promised himself daily that he would get a good job and work himself back into an acceptable life and every day he went to bed physically and mentally exhausted by his work leaving him bitter and disappointed.

He began to weep. He felt sick and pathetic. His tears were salty in his mouth and he reached for the brown plastic bottle from under his pillow. It contained Valium capsules - the drug for bored housewives - but it was all could get prescribed. He's had a history of drug abuse as a teenager and medication of any type did not come easily. He had acquired this particular bottle from his mother's medical cabinet on his last visit. He took four and wiped his face of tears.

There was a small tape player by his bed. He pushed down the play button. It emitted a high-pitched whine, and then John Lennon's voice floated from the dented speakers.

He rose to his feet and undid his belt, pulled it from around his waist and walked slowly to the bathroom while fitting it loosely round his neck. He stood on the edge of the bath and looped the free end of his belt over a thick pipe above his head.

Almost at once he realised the finality of what he was about to do and he began to unwrap the belt from the pipe.

He paused and thought. His head swam from the Valium he'd taken and his depressed state hindered rational thought. Yet he knew he would have to decide. He could return to his tiring, sad life of drudgery, simply keep going for the sake of going, or, he could take the easy option of stepping off the bath and ending the struggle for good.

His choice was made.

He retied the belt.

He stepped off the edge of the bath and came to an abrupt halt two inches from the tiled floor. His body jarred and his hands swept up grasping for his throat. The thick brass buckle bit into the skin of his neck and his legs flailed wildly to return to the edge of the bath. His brain swelled in its cloudy confines, his scalp felt tight and he could sense every root of his hair tingling individually. His face stretched and his eyes bulged from the trapped blood building behind them.

He hadn't noticed his legs stop moving; his arms were numb and his vision began to go grey at the edges. He could only compare it to the kind of grey one would see on an untuned television channel and it was rapidly filling his whole field of vision. However, he could still see his reflection in the shiny porcelain of the bath. He looked awkward, staring down like an ugly parody of a child's puppet. He closed his eyes to dampen the vision but it lingered, taunting him from its strings. Tears streamed down his face and his tongue went limp and dry as he fought for air. He could still faintly hear John Lennon: "Imagine all the people, living for today..."

The words played and played and played through his head.

The pain which had wracked his body faded. A bright light surrounded him. He was warmed inside and there was a sensation of water lapping against his face. The light grew more intense for a time, and then faded, leaving only the darkness, the emptiness and peace forever...



Changes

Sometimes in life you do something
You wish that you could change:
You want to turn back the clocks
And do it all again.

Your life is always changing
In many different ways;
You do and say so many things
Every single day.

You wish you hadn't done something,
You're really sorry now;
Your friends don't know just how you felt,
Or how you're feeling now.

The weather's always changing,
It's sunny then it rains;
One minute it's snowing,
Then the sun is out again.

Changes in life can be so hard,
Changing one school for some other
You lose your friends and loved ones
For one reason or another.

People are always changing,
They're kind and then they're not.
If you hurt or are upset,
They never spare a thought.

Changes - well, without them
Our lives would be so dull.
Without them we'd be so bored,
And those changes make life cool.

Some changes they may hurt us,
But others make us smile.
Yet some of the the changes that we make,
Are really not worthwhile.

We make changes to ourselves,
Our clothes, our face, our hair;
People changes their names and faces,
Because other people are unfair.

Changes are sometimes for the worst,
But often for the best.
The changes I make are right for me,
But maybe not the rest.

Changes, Changes, Changes,
Without them we'd be sad.
Most of the ones that we make are good,
But others are really bad.

Sometimes, I wish I could change
The people that enter and leave my life,
Some of them turn out to be evil,
But others are really nice.

My brother tries to make changes,
For the better in my life.
But what he doesn't realise is,
He's really wrecking my life.

I wish that I could turn back time,
And change the past again,
Then maybe I wouldn't have said
Those things I never meant.

I've got so many things,
I wish that I could change,
My life wouldn't be filled with enemies,
It would be filled with lots of friends.

QV Highland Dancing Competition 19th March 1998

Beginner

1. Laura Hadland 2. Andrew Shannon 3. Cheryl McCubbin

Junior * Winner - Most Promising Dancer Prize

1. *Stephen Carter 2. Fiona Coyle 3. Sarah Milligan

Intermediate * Winner - Royal British Legion Prize

1. *Lauren Campbell 2. David Walker 3. Ashling Kerr

Senior * Winner - London Scottish Prize

1. *Ross Stevenson 2. Christopher Harris 3. Colin Wood/Douglas Greenhowe

Seann Truibhas Competitions

Junior

1. Lauren Campbell 2. Ashling Kerr 3. Liam Bridgeman

Senior * Winner - Seann Truibhas Shield

1. *Alistair MacKinnon 2. Colin Wood 3. Ross Stevenson

Victorians Broadwords Competition Winners - John S Steel Trophy

1. Alistair MacKinnon, Jamie Smith, Robert Stevenson, Nicola Moffat

Interhouse Reel Competition

1. Cunningham House - Capt, Douglas Greenhowe

Christopher Harris, Damian McDade, Christopher Niven, Liam Bridgeman

United Kingdom Alliance Medal Tests March 13th 1998

(Highly Commended 83 to 92% = H/C, Honours 93 to 100% = Hons)

Introductory Award: Grade 1 Robert Kent H/C, Grade 2 Robert Kent Com, Grade 3 Robert Kent Com.

Pre Bronze Medal Test:- Alan Batson H/C, Michelle Wright H/C, Ryan Bennett H/C, Barry Prowse H/C

Bronze Medal Test: Claire Harris H/C, Mhairi Page H/C, Fiona Coyle H/C, Christine Guthrie H/C, Stephen Carter Hons, Leigh Anne Sowton H/C, Rhona Love H/C, Cheryl McCubbin H/C, Andrew Shannon H/C, Leigh Smart H/C Darren Farr Hons, Nikola Benn Hons, Laura Hadland H/C, Amy Morton H/C, Laura Donald H/C.

Silver Medal Test: Nicola Bonner H/C, Laurie Cairns Hons, Charles MacDonald H/C, Nicola Moffat Hons, Darren Muir H/C, Jamie Graham H/C, Jennifer Jones H/C, Sarah Milligan H/C, Claire Harris H/C, Mhairi Page H/C, Fiona Coyle Hons, Christine Guthrie H/C, Stephen Carter Hons.

Gold Medal Test: Laura Dunnachie H/C, Helen Onslow Hons, Nicola Bonner H/C Christopher Boyle Hons, Jennifer Jones HC Gayle Ferguson H/C, Charles MacDonald H/C, Nicola Moffat H/C.

First Gold Bar Medal Test: Liam Bridgeman Hons, Dean McMenemy H/C, Kristopher Reid Hons, David Walker Hons. Helen Onslow Hons, Laura Dunnachie H/C, Gayle Ferguson H/C

Second Gold Bar Test: Damian McDade Hons, Lauren Campbell H/C, Adam Tose H/C, Ashling Kerr H/C.

Laurel Award Medal Test: Christopher Niven Hons

Presidents Award: Andrew Moffat Hons, Christopher Harris Hons.

Premier Cup: Colin Wood Hons, Douglas Greenhowe Hons.



HIGHLAND DANCING



S2, S3 SOCIAL DANCING CLASS

Over the past five months girls and boys from S2/S3 have been learning some social dancing. At the beginning the ratio of girls to boys was 2:1, so as you can imagine there were no complaints from the S3 boys. Everyone was a bit nervous and unsure at the start, but after two dances we were soon at ease.

After this first night, news spread round those who had not attended that it was a great way to have a laugh and learn something worthwhile at the same time. Within 2-3 weeks spare places were quickly taken by a number of S2 boys.

Before the Easter holidays pupils from the visiting Czech school came along to one of our dancing sessions. When they eventually joined in they learned quickly by following our lead and like us had an enjoyable time. As we were dancing Ryan Kerr played the pipes and by the looks on the Czech pupils faces they liked the atmosphere immensely.

The highlight of the dancing classes was the ceilidh that took place at the start of the summer term. Everyone present shared what they had learned over the months with the members of staff who joined in. It was a very successful event. My thanks to Mr Raine for providing the dancing prizes for the evening. We must also thank Mrs Kean for all her help at class-time and for organising the supper at the ceilidh. We are grateful to Mrs MacDonald for taking the effort to teach us all to dance. Thanks from us all.

Nick Burge (S3)



ROYAL CALEDONIAN BALL, LONDON

When we were told about the Caledonian Ball it sounded very exciting, but when we found out about all the extra practice required it was a different story. The job called for a small pipe band and eight dancers to dance a sword medley and the Sean Truibhas.

On the morning of 30th April we had to get up at 0500 - this was shattering. However a large breakfast soon cheered us all up. After loading up our luxury coach with the equipment we left QVS at 0600 for a comfortable eight hour journey to RAF Uxbridge where we were to spend the night.

At 1630 we left RAF Uxbridge for the Grosvenor House Hotel where the Ball was to be held. Once there we had a rehearsal of our display and a meal. We then had to sit around for ages. By the time the Princess Royal arrived (2200) we were all lined up at the entrance to the ballroom. She greeted us one by one while photographers from magazines took pictures. David had to present a bouquet of flowers to the Princess as she made her way into the ballroom.

The performance itself was not as nerve-wracking as we'd expected and it went very well indeed. We returned to RAF Uxbridge about 2400 with the thought that at 0700 next morning we would have to pack up and return to QVS.

Overall the trip was very enjoyable and hopefully we will do it again someday.

David Walker and Liam Bridgeman S1



Drumming and Bugling Results 1998

	Side	Tenor	Bugle
Intermediate			
1st	G Fleming	A Kirkaldy	S Cox
2nd	K Edwards	R O'Donnell	G Fleming
3rd	L Flynn	A Spence	A Kirkaldy
Senior			
1st	T Whittle	A Kintrea	W Ratcliffe
2nd	K Davidson	S Dunsmuir	P Barlow
3rd	P Barlow	W Ratcliffe	A Kintrea

Champion Drummer: A Kintrea



Piping Competition 1998

Chanter

1st	M McLeod
2nd	G Houston
3rd	P M Ruthven
4th	D Stevenson
4th	M McGregor

Intermediate

1st	S Tierney
2nd	M McLeod
3rd	G Kerr
3rd	G Houston

Senior

1st	R Kerr
2nd	J Blackhurst
3rd	G McCulloch

Wavell Chanter

Ciara Watson

Outdoor Pursuits

Duke of Edinburgh Award

41 pupils joined the Award Scheme at the Bronze level this year:-

Andrew Benn	Fraser MacKinnon	Graham King	Tammy Allan
David Bulloch	Arron Uytendhal	Paul Fleming	John Kidd
Nick Burge	Louise Kirkaldy	Dean Colvin	Alan Gault
Mhairi Page	Stephen Tierney	Mark McConnell	Barry Prowse
Toni Matthews	Stuart Donnelly	Ciaran Flynn	Fiona Gannon
Chris Harris	Liam Dowdeswell	David Fennell	Laura Gale
Alan Laws	Ross Stevenson	Craig Murphy	Kerri Meleady
John Willans	Nicholas Dunnachie	Stuart Ruthven	Fraser Dewar
David Aldous	Christine Martin	Cheryl McCubbin	Darren Farr
Leigh-Anne Sowton	John Halley	Martin Terry	Stuart Gregory
Eugene Kuczerepa			

So far, all the practice expeditions have gone well. One of the Silver expeditions was particularly exciting:

"Well we did it! All 5 of us, Claire Harris, Alistair MacKinnon, Vicki Harris, John Blackhurst and myself. We walked from School and arrived at our campsite in Glen Artny 12 hours later. Next day we climbed Ben Vorlich and Stuc-a-chroin. Looking back, despite the blisters, sunburn and peat bogs, the experience was great fun.

Stuc-a-chroin proved a big challenge (especially for those who are slightly scared of heights) but on reaching the top it was FAB.

Sarah Milligan (S5)

BASIC EXPEDITION LEADER AWARD (BELA)

The Basic Expedition Leader course is a National Award, devised by the Central Council of Physical Recreation and administered by the British Sports Trust. The award is supported by governing bodies of sport and recreation as well as the Department of Education and Employment, and the Scottish, Welsh and Northern Ireland Offices.

Five staff - Mrs Shannon, Mrs Kean, Mr Kirk, Mr Gilhooly and Mr Lawrence - joined 7 other people from the local community who started the course earlier this year and spent each Sunday afternoon covering the syllabus delivered by a variety of guest lecturers who gave talks on Leadership, First-Aid, Navigation, Campcraft and Equipment. The formal part of the course culminated in a 3 day back-packing expedition in the Trossachs. I am delighted to report that all the Staff who took part have gained the award. Probably making Queen Victoria School staff the most qualified outdoor staff in the country.



The Island of Arran in the Firth of Clyde is the destination in June for 2 expeditions, one Gold and one Silver and a Silver exploration. Fifteen pupils are involved in this trip supervised by three experienced staff.

A new addition to the service section of the award was a Bronze Fire Brigade course run at Stirling Fire Station, courtesy of Central Fire Service. The course was a great success and I hope it will become a regular feature with the addition of a Silver course.

The BELA participants



WATERSPORTS

Sailing

Once again, we had a good sailing season last year with these pupils attaining National Sailing certificates:

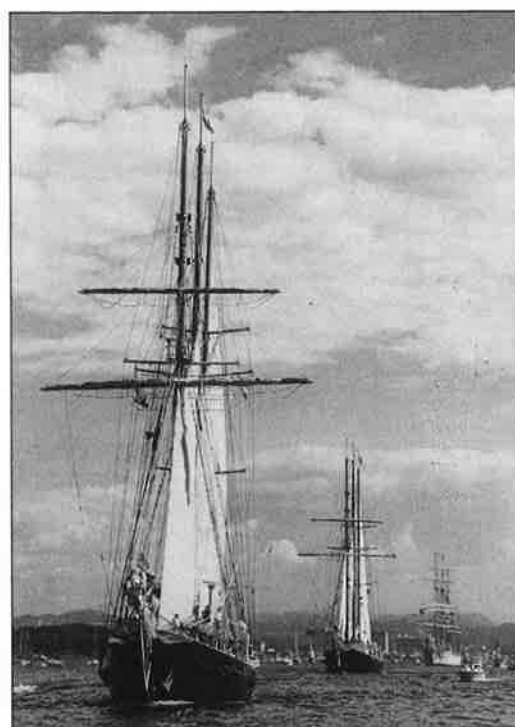
J Blackhurst	RYA Dinghy Sailing Level 2
L Bissett	RYA Dinghy Sailing Level 5
I Watt	RYA Dinghy Sailing Level 2
E Porter	RYA Dinghy Sailing Level 3

This year's hopeful sailors and wind-surfers have got off to a good start this season; they should all gain an RYA qualification by the end of the season:

Callum Small	Gareth Martin	Gareth Hadland
Scott Turner	Alan Laws	Louise Kirkcaldy
Samantha Fennell	Stephanie Brown	Toni Matthews
Paul Fleming	David Bulloch	Mhairi Page

We also have a growing number of racing fixtures, the Scottish Schools Championships at Loch Earn, the CCF National Regatta at Portsmouth, an Inter-school race with Merchiston Castle at Lochore and our most recent fixture with Dollar Academy. These races give the pupils great experience and help to develop their sailing skills. Perhaps in next year's magazine I will be able to report the winning of a sailing trophy.

After John Blackhurst spent a week, two summers ago, on board the Ocean Youth Training Yacht 'Tycoo', it inspired him to join in the Tall Ships race last summer. John crewed on the sail training ship the 'James Cook'. He sailed with the ship from Stavanger to Aberdeen. He writes: "As a result of my voyage from Norway, which I thought was fantastic, I went to Plymouth to complete the shore-based aspect of my Day Skipper certificate. This in turn has led to more sailing this summer. I can't wait!"



Outdoor

Pursuits

Tom Shannon
Director of Outdoor
Pursuits



Canoeing

Mr David Frize has taken over from Mr Turner as our BCU Instructor. Over the winter, David has been training up a number of pupils in the School Swimming Pool for the BCU star awards. This year's canoeists to attempt the British Canoe Union Awards are:

Robert Adams	Russell Fleming	Ian Murray
David Aldous	Douglas Greenhowe	Cameron McLeod
Ryan Bennett	Stuart Gregory	Samuel Morton
Craig Bissett	Gavin Heselton	Edward Porter
James Cox	Jamie Campbell	Barry Prowse
Kenneth Davidson	James Martin	Sandy Watson
James Donald	Ian Watt	Lee Willans



The Ski Trip

We left the School at about 0700 on the Saturday morning. The journey to Manchester took several hours but it was a great laugh although the girls rendition of bits of Clueless, during and after the film, just weren't funny. The plane journey was uneventful and so was the bus journey to the resort until we started to climb the "Infamous 21 hairpin bends" which were narrow and a little bit too steep at the sides for the likes of the teachers. The pupils rocking the bus competition didn't go down too well with them either.

The hotel itself was good and not too far from the ski lift. The food was great and the waiting staff were fine, even though they pulled a fast one on one of the senior lads. (Much to the enjoyment of the others).

The skiing conditions were excellent with one night's snowfall making good powder conditions. Mr McLay's temperature inversion was "a little too exciting for the senior boys at seven in the morning". The ski runs were excellent in the morning but tended to fade as the afternoon progressed. The instructors knew a lot about skiing but had no sense of danger at all.

The injury count was thankfully low, with only Amy and two of the lady supervisors managing to miss a day or two of skiing, much to their annoyance.

There was a number of activities laid on after the evening meals that allowed the younger ones to unglue themselves from the arcade machines. These included a resort ramble, bingo (where QV won everything), a quiz (where Loretto P7 beat the QV staff), bum-boarding (OUCH!) and a night descent down the mountain which was preceded by a "hot chocolate and a frolic in the snow".

The senior lads were then given an hour and a half to "get to know the resort" which proved to be more than enough time, whilst the juniors returned to the arcade machines. The last night the French National Snowboard Championships were on so it was decided that we should all go and watch.

The social side was good. The teachers were almost like parents and everyone got on well with each other. The younger pupils mixed with the older pupils and some lasting friendships were made (MUZ!!!!). A few of the senior boys managed to make friends with some of the female members of the group from Kings College!

With a mixture of good skiing and great laughs everyone had a really good time. Alpe du Huez was definitely the place to be this Easter.

Stephen Page

Iain Murray



THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE SNOW BUSINESS

Alpe d'Heuz - the responsible(!) adult's view

Lucky for the faint-hearted the ascent to Alpe d'Heuz, negotiating 21 hairpin bends, was done under cover of darkness. Unlucky for the faint-hearted, our descent was in broad daylight. In between ascent and descent some of us had some great skiing, and some of us were permanently in the snow-plough position which is difficult to get out of, even at 4.30 pm when you're standing pouring yourself a well-deserved apres-ski coffee at the hotel. There was some good fun - apparently a torch-lit procession - (all of us skiing down a slope in a line in the pitch dark trying to balance two ski poles and an illuminated torch) fell into this category, and there were some unexpected events - someone leaping off a balcony on top of Mr Beattie, for example.

Casualties included the future Mrs Beattie's leg - (hairline fracture on the second day); Amy's multi-coloured limb which meant a few visits to a doctor who wore a suntan, flowery open-necked blouse and a pair of clogs; three of Mr McLay's hats that shot off on the black slopes; Mrs Laing's hair (her heated rollers didn't make the trip); and Charlie's luggage which only made about a third of the trip, resulting in him borrowing clothes and partaking of a shopping spree round Alpe d'Heuz looking for a few essentials - like underpants. The fact that none of us could remember the French for "underpants" didn't help although Mr McLay could say: "The monkey is in the tree", which may have been true, but didn't get us very far. Mr Laing, managed an excellent mime of putting on a pair of underpants in one shop but to no avail since Alpe d'Heuz did not seem to stock such a commodity.

Other casualties included half a dozen juniors from another school, who were sharing our hotel, as they were up-ended by some ferocious bumboarding by QV that saw the likes of Stephen Page and Iain Murray leave the piste at 110 mph, pass through a car park, and head off down the high street, eventually returning relatively unscathed.

There were some anxious moments such as only having one number left on the bingo card knowing that a shot at Parapointing was the first prize. "Don't let it be me, don't let it be me". If you scrape your way down a nursery slope, your eyes wide with terror, being overtaken by a ski-school of three year olds, you're not likely to enjoy the experience of jumping off a hill wearing a pair of skis and a parachute, hoping you don't land on the roof of the Ecole du Ski Francais.

The quiz night for the children saw some shocking behaviour from the (responsible) adults, as they squabbled over the answers. The school with the six up-ended children got its own back on QV when one of their teachers demanded that the adults' results were read out, knowing they had gubbed us. We had the handicap of having Mr Beattie on our team, thus: "What's the capital of Belurus?" Answer? "B". When they asked our rep, Mark, what the first prize was for



the teachers, he replied: "Just your inflated ego", so we presented him with a bottle of duty-free whisky which unfortunately already had a medicinal nip out of it courtesy of Ms Sweetmore - well she did have a broken leg.

The floodlit snowboarding display was em.....interesting. Apparently the idea was to approach a ramp faster than the speed of light, shoot up into the air, do as many somersaults as possible before landing on your head. That's nothing, I was doing that daily on the nursery slopes.

The group I was with - Annabel, Nicola, Andrew, Craig, Jenny, Tommy and Mr Laing (who didn't break his collar bone like last year, although it wasn't from the lack of trying), had an instructor who said every ten minutes: "Always, always, always, the good position", which presumably meant not lying face down in the snow being used as a ski ramp by the better skiers, and certainly not sliding down the hill backwards shouting: "Help!" As far as I'm concerned a "good position" is sunbathing on the hotel balcony eating a baguette.

The kids were a great bunch and praised loudly by the hotel management for being so well behaved while the (responsible) adults didn't do too badly as temporary bachelor boys Mr Beattie and Mr McLay were kept in order by fiancées Heather and Sarah while Mr Laing was busy keeping his wife in order - you'd think she'd never seen blond, bronzed ski instructors before!!

Hockey

Due to the small number of girls in the senior years at QVS the first ever 1st XI hockey team consisted of a variety of age groups with a large number coming from as low down the school as second year. However this made no difference to the spirit in which the girls came to training and the effort which was applied.

The season was used mainly for training purposes. However, we did manage to play a couple of friendly games against Rannoch and Strathallan. We were unfortunately beaten in both games but some excellent hockey was played by both Lisa Milligan and Cheryl McCubbin, who also captained the team.

The girls were also challenged by a senior boys' team, who through strength and speed overcame the girls - by the narrowest of margins!

The fixture list for season 1998/1999 is well under way with several games already scheduled. If the girls continue to adopt the same positive attitude as they had this year I am sure they will develop into a strong team.

J Scott

For the High Jump

This year's parachuting activity in the CCF has been marked by the first girl jumper, Laura Donald, who is to be congratulated on her achievement. She was joined by six other pupils and one parent on a bright clear day in September. The jump was made from the usual 2,500 feet on round parachutes which were opened automatically by static line. All enjoyed the experience and joined that band of elite people - those who have thrown themselves from a perfectly serviceable aeroplane for the fun! I can assure those who may seem amazed by this that it really is incredible for many reasons: overcoming fear (must be high on the list), the surge of adrenaline (beats anything else), the flight up, etc. In November, a further pupil undertook training and became our first minor casualty. Landing with the legs apart is not to be recommended and a sprained ankle ensued: painful! Some pupils managed to fit in a second jump at this time too, and one of these managed to land off the airfield in a stubble across the way: prickly!

Congratulations to all those overcame fear to achieve a wonderful and unforgettable experience.

PO

Music

The following passed examinations of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music in June/Nov.

Grade 1

Derrick Anderson trumpet
Edward Porter clarinet

Grade 2

Ciaran Flynn clarinet
Mark Lovell baritone horn
Gareth Martin piano (with merit)
Cameron McLeod theory (with distinction)
Alasdair Spence clarinet

Grade 3

James Martin tenor saxophone
Lynsey McAulay trumpet
Cameron McLeod alto saxophone

Grade 5

John Blackhurst theory
James McQuade trumpet
Colin Wood alto saxophone

The two major events presented by the Music Department since last year have been the Summer Concert held in June and the Christmas Concert. The Summer Concert turned out to be a fairly lengthy evening, such was the musical talent on display, but members of the audience assured participants and the musical director that it was most enjoyable with a large variety of musical styles being presented. Technically, it was an ambitious production with an array of electronic wizardry skilfully managed by Callum Kennedy who performed a number of pieces in the concert. Especially fine were the theme tune from 'The Mission' for saxophone and organ and 'Forever Love' by Gary Barlow. Callum's musical talents were also in evidence in his arrangement of 'All I ask of you' for the windband. Callum was joined by Adam Morton for the lively 'Prologue' and an improvisation later in the concert. Gordon Laughlin played 'Londonderry Air' on the trombone which was well received. We wish these and other musicians who have now left the school all the best for the future.

The string group performed what must have been the earliest piece of music ever in a QVS concert - the 13thC round 'Summer is a coming in'. The windband was also much in evidence and a large range of music was played. It was very pleasing to be able to perform pieces written or arranged by Higher Grade examination candidates, these being 'March in C' by John Blackhurst and 'March - The Victorian' by Andrew Paisley.

Another pleasing development was the first performance of the Training Windband - an ensemble to give experience to modest players before their inclusion in the main band. They performed 'When the Saints go marching in', a soulful 'Blues' and a lively 'Cossack Dance'.

Many solo pieces were performed by players and singers from all years and it was also a pleasure to see and hear the 'Black Snakes' who brought the house down with 'Married with Children' by Oasis.

The Christmas Concert was also marked by a variety of different styles from two delightful German carols performed by the P7 singers and accompanied by six glockenspielers from S2 to Bill Haley's 'Rock around the

Clock performed by the windband. The latter had by now grown to fourteen players who were joined by a further six players to perform a piece for intermediate band. At the time of writing the band comprises some twenty players with a new training windband being formed shortly. It would be difficult to single out particular performances - there was so much that was good in the concert - but the saxophone trio near the end had the audience tapping and clapping with 'Santa Claus is coming to Town', and Leigh Bissett treated us to 'Winter Wonderland', accompanied by some remarkable festive bell and orchestral whip players! David McDougall of P7 also gave us a superb rendering of 'Maple-Leaf Rag' on the cornet and Claire Harris gave an assured performance of 'Another Suitcase in another Hall'.

Apart from concert preparation there is much other work going on in the department. The dedicated team of peripatetic teachers gives superb support and some sixty pupils receive weekly lessons. That's approaching a quarter of the school and thanks go to our instrumental staff. We were sorry to lose Mr Alan Bell in February who travelled four hundred miles south to take up a well-deserved post as Head of Woodwind in a music school in Essex; and Miss Angela Ferguson who has expanded her role as choirtrainer/organist in Edinburgh. We wish them every success and thank them for their contribution to music here. We welcome Miss Nicola Jenkins who has replaced Mr Bell and hope she enjoys her work at QVS.

In the recent Perth Music Festival, two of our players performed very well indeed. David McDougall came first in the intermediate B flat cornet class and Mark Lovell came fifth in the elementary euphonium/baritone horn class.

The end of the session is nigh. It has been a busy but very successful one and it goes without saying that none of these achievements would have been possible without the enthusiasm of the pupils themselves. Well done to all those who have contributed to any of the events of the year.

PO

English

Debating and Public Speaking

The School's performance in the debating and public speaking arenas could not, this year, be described as glorious. Leigh-Anne Sowton, Claire Harris and Cheryl McCubbin delivered a competent performance at the BPW Public Speaking Competition in Falkirk in October, and the talk, on Women in the Media, attracted favourable comment and provoked interesting questions from members of the audience.

The School took part in, and hosted, for the first time, a round of the CADIC Public Speaking Competition. CADIC stands for Community Against Drugs in Central. Our host round took place in the theatre and was well attended. The competition consisted of a team from Dunblane High and a team from Beaconsfield. The team from Beaconsfield eventually won the contest final.

The Senior and Junior debating teams (Lee Jones, Eugene Kuczerepa(S4); David Walker and Craig Heselton (S1)) did not get past the first heats of the Courier/Royal Bank Competition.

The School was unable to participate in the ESU Debating competitions which, in the past, have been happier occasions for our teams.

The Theatre

Since the last edition of The Victorian the Department has produced three plays in our theatre. *The Wyrd Sisters* by Terry Pratchett, at the end of last summer term, was the most ambitious play yet attempted. Two hours long, it was a tough test of the endurance and memories of those who took part, and it called for a greater degree of lighting and sound effects expertise. Ian Ramsay was invaluable as the sound man, and flash-bang explosive devices helped to keep the audience alert. During rehearsals it sometimes seemed as if the gods were against us. There were field days, industry projects, careers visits, and all the usual hullabaloo of a QV summer term (including one important star being cast into the outer darkness for a period time for what we shall describe as an "ill-judged weekend misdemeanour"). But we overcame all obstacles, the cast came together marvellously and the result was the best play QV has put on for many a canty day.

Shaun McGinty "shone" as the Fool, Daniel O'Connell went mad as the evil usurper, Kerri Meleady was fast and furious as the Duchess, Darren Farr was a little devil; Craig Heselton got the point with an arrow in his back, and David Walker wondered why the flash-bang didn't go off (we were too busy laughing back-stage we forgot to throw the switch); Stephen Page was totally out of character as the down-to-earth, rather coarse Nanny Ogg, Tammy Allan was charismatic as Magrat, and Laura ("I hope that's not the script you have hidden in that basket") Donald was a well-cast wily Granny Weatherwax.

Christmas brought the Bentons on stage in *The Enchanted Christmas Tree*, an S1 production, but with some able assistance from S McGinty, Esq. Penny Wood was miserly and misguided, and Laurie Cairns as the down-trodden servant helped bring about a happy conclusion.

Our students in the Easter term helped to put on *Tom Sawyer*. "And they said it couldn't be done - ha!" It was a great success, thanks largely to the efforts of Joanne Carpenter who did not flinch from this challenging project. Michael Brown was just right for Tom, and I wonder if anyone realised that Huck was really Lindsey Farquharson in disguise!

Students

John Lund joined us from Stirling in the terms before Christmas. He discovered the joys of word-processing during his time here and left the Dept with a stock of illustrated worksheets and a poetry booklet he prepared himself. John hoped to take up a post in Spain on completion of his course.

Andrea Carpenter and Joanne Gibson joined us in the spring term and did some wonderful work with classes. I have mentioned Joanne's work with Tom Sawyer, and Andrea stimulated the pupils and teachers by studying Edwin Morgan's Instamatic Poems. The resultant wall display was very good indeed, and we were reluctant to take it down.

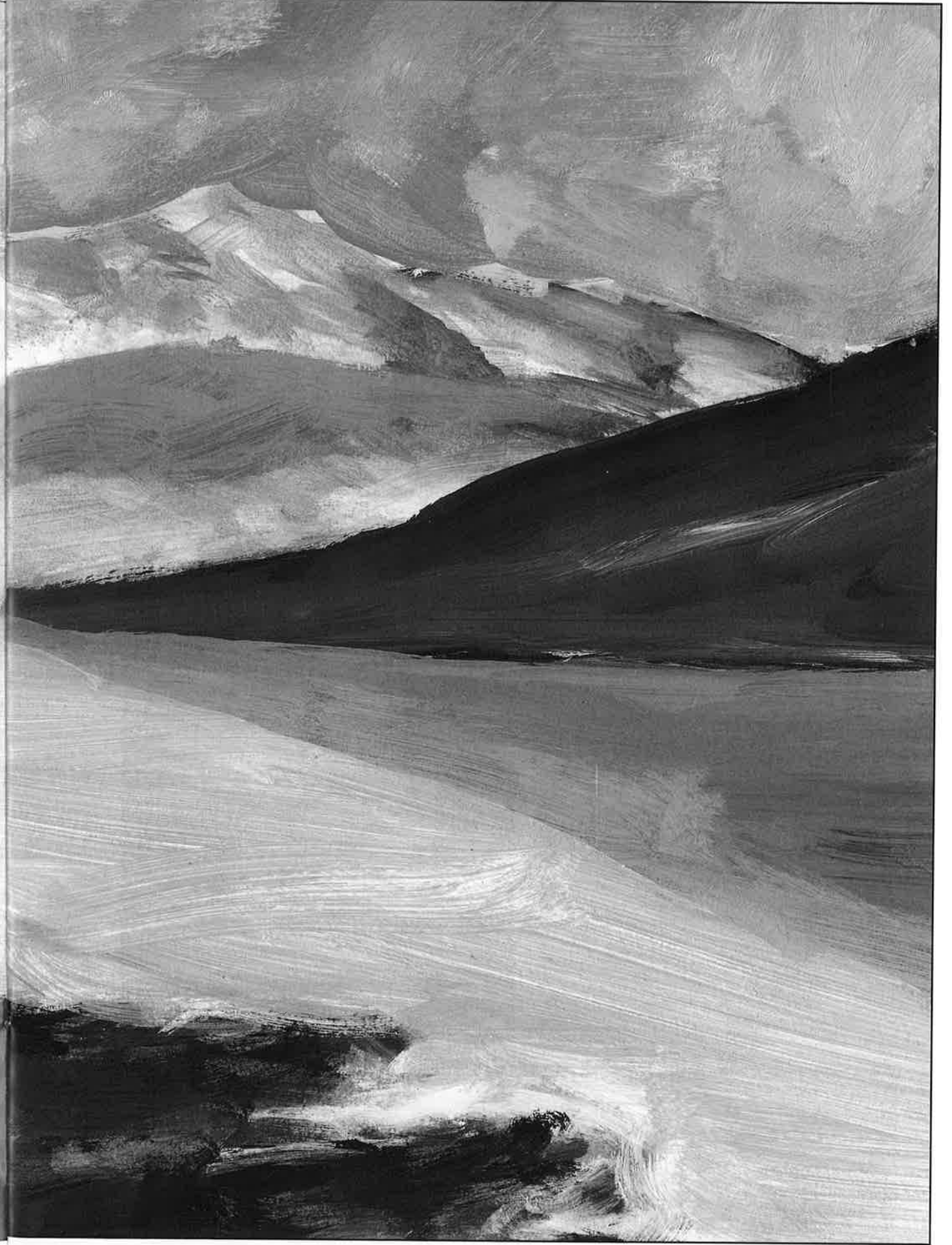
Mr Frize

Mr Frize left the department at the end of January to take up a post in Saudi Arabia, teaching English for Aramco. In his years here helped to develop Standard Grade courses, introduced the teaching of SCOTVEC modules into the dept and took pupils forward into debating competitions. It has been rumoured that some of his minibus trips were somewhat "adventurous" to say the least, and I hope that his life is still adventurous in the happiest sense of the word.

Mr Frize is replaced by two members of staff, both very well-qualified and coming highly recommended. Miss Johnstone has been teaching in England since leaving Jordanhill College and Mr McNally teaches in a school "doon the road." So next session we are all set to hit warp speed yet again.

I must pay tribute to Mrs Lawrence who has so ably and charmingly taught in the dept since Mr Frize's departure. Her sense of humour and helpfulness in the day to day running of the dept has been first class. I wish her all the best in her future career. What is it Spock would say? "Live long and prosper."

AK



EARTH AIR FIRE WATER

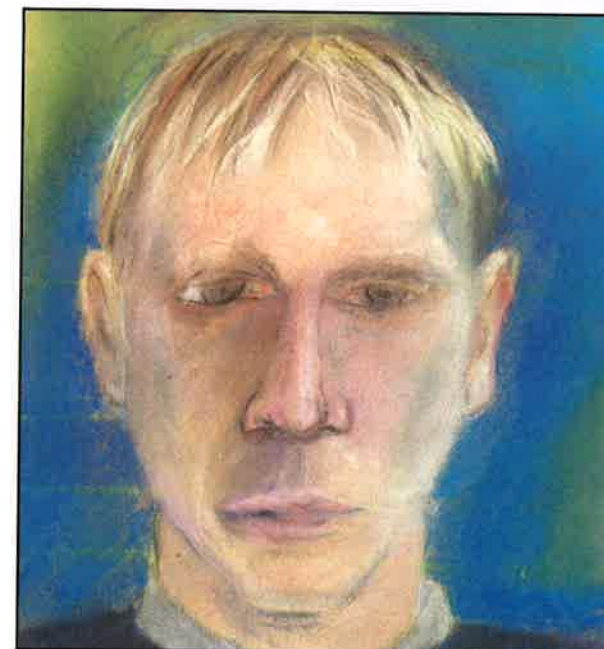
Earth Dragons
Air Dragons
Rainbow Dragons
The Dragon Slayer
Hurts The Dragons

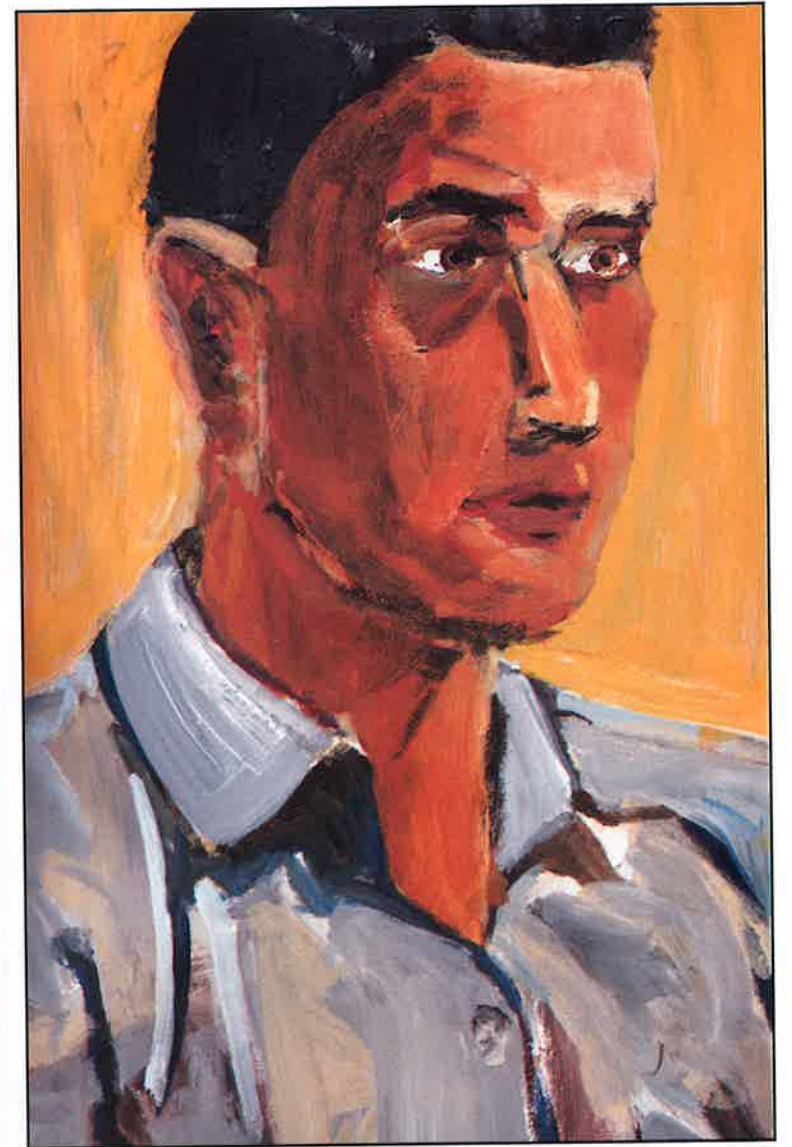
Are The Dragons
Illegal
Rainbow Coloured Dragons

Fire Breathing Dragons
Illegal Dragons
Rich Dragons
Ethiopian Dragons

Water Dragons
Are the Dragons Nice.
Their Dragon is Horrible
Each Dragon is Nice
Rainbow Dragons are nice.

J Patience







Perfect Day

Amy Morton (S2)

If I could choose what would happen on my perfect day, it would be something different, something that would be highly impossible on any normal day.

The first part of my perfect day would be to wake up knowing the day would last as long as I wanted it to.

I would listen to the radio and discover that, overnight, Kings, Queens and rulers had all decided to declare world peace. No more wars, no more conflicts, no more young children living in fear. Also, children would stop bullying others, people's rights would be respected, no young girls would be abused or raped or harassed, parents needn't worry about locking the door. It would be a perfect day to know you and I were safe.

All of this would make my day perfect and please me and make me happy. But what I would also like is for just me and my family to go and see my big brother Adam in New Zealand, so I can talk to him and see all the places he's written about in his letters. That would probably be the best thing.



My perfect day is not one that is impossible. It is one that can really happen if people believe in trust and peace. All anybody needs for a perfect day is pure love and happiness.

I have only mentioned one part of the day that would be impossible - it lasting as long as I wanted it to. There is one thing I would love to have on a perfect day that I know will never happen.

I would like to see all the people I have loved and lost. I'm not saying my perfect day would be one where death wasn't a part of life. I'm saying my perfect day would be to talk to Grandma Morton and Grandpa Morton and Great Aunty Nell. One word or look at/with them would make my day perfect. This is all I would want on my perfect day - two things possible, (with a little hope), two things impossible.

I don't want to meet Boyzone, or Liverpool footie team or get rich in two minutes then go shopping for free.

I want things that will really matter to me. I don't want to turn back the clock and replay the thirteen years of my life with all the mistakes erased, because the whole point of life is doing what you want to do and if you make a mistake, who cares? You should be happy with yourself before you worry about what other people think. Don't change yourself to be someone different.

Life in my eyes will never be perfect unless you love and learn to trust. Life is to live and to die knowing you learned in life from mistakes. Anybody who has lived life and not make any mistakes has wasted a life.

"Oh what a Perfect Day."

I stepped out
 Into the autumn rain,
 The stiff breeze tossing nature's offcasts in the street,
 and a furious sun battling to break through the stone
 cold cloud wall.
 Children moved like distressed rats,
 scurrying for cover to avoid the invasion of traffic
 on their make-shift playground.

A moment later
 and I was back to reality,
 Preparing to carry out my duty.
 God only knew what scenes the next few minutes would bring.
 I pulled a sheltering hood over my face,
 Slammed the car door shut.
 There was no turning back now.
 I composed myself and prepared to enter the world
 of the condemned.
 A world, alien to me.

Edging ever closer,
 Combating the blinding rain,
 in the distance all that was visible were two
 great pillars.
 Looming, standing guard over the small, rickety gateway,
 A gateway leading to what could be my worst nightmare,
 In the flesh, or not.

Here stand I,
 Between these pillars,
 My mother on my right, and my father, my left.
 A short pause and we together take
 that first weary step.
 At funeral march pace,
 the rocky path seemed endless.

Now we have arrived,
 I sit here at the bedside of my Godmother.
 She looks so weak.
 Flesh and fat are nonexistent.
 She is but a shadow of who she used to be,
 Yet she looks on me with the same endearing eyes.
 I smile to see that "Auld Bridie" is still there.
 Suddenly this place is her heaven no longer,
 my hell.

A time passed.
 We parted with a smile,
 and a glimmer of hope for her life,
 or she would give up and say she was ready to move on,
 no she would not.
 She left that place and returned to her
 life at home.
 We all breathed a metaphoric sigh of relief as
 she was released from prison.

But once again
 She was struck down by the Gods.

Final Goodbyes

We said our final goodbyes one rainy autumn day,
 One year later.
 As I played my piobairchaed on the hill
 Above her gravestone,
 As the Father read "Ashes to Ashes, Dust to Dust",
 I struck up and turned my back on her
 As I wandered away playing slowly,
 that haunting melody,
 "The Flowers of the Forest".



Graham Robertson

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Contingent Commander's Report

Royal Naval Section 39 Cadets
Officer Commanding Lt Cnd T
Shannon RNR
Sub/Lt G Borking
Sub/Lt L Shannon

Army Section: 79 Cadets
Officer Commanding Major J R Silcox
Capt D Garden Marksmanship Officer
Capt P Onslow Section Officer
Recruits
2Lt J Scott 2 i/c Recruits

Royal Air Force 36 Cadets
Officer Commanding Flt Lt D
Gilhooly
Commissions Pending: Mr D McLay
and Mrs C Sheerin

Readers will appreciate that there is nothing quite like a Biennial Inspection to focus and reveal the strengths and weakness of any Cadet Unit and 1998 was the Corps Biennial Review Year. The Inspection took place on Wednesday 8th October 1997 and the Inspecting Officer was Group Captain W M N Cross OBE, Chief of Staff, HQ Air Cadets, Cranwell.

The Corps was honoured to report to him that since the last inspection Cadets have participated in two Military Camps; two Adventure Training Camps; two Marksmanship Camps, Pipes and Drums Cadre; CCF Sailing Regatta; Highland Tactical Competition; Scottish Full Bore Rifle Championships; Scottish Small Bore Rifle Championships; as well as 2 Parachute Qualifying Courses; 2 Sea Days; 6 Field Days; 8 Self Reliance Weekends; 2 Tactical Exercises; several RYA Sailing Courses; RYA Power Boat Courses; Marine Amphibious Assault Courses; Cadet Leadership Courses; Cadet PT Leadership Courses; Signals Courses and SSRA Marksmanship Courses - to name but a few!

Following his Inspection of the Corps, in which he was accompanied by our Headmaster, the Inspecting Officer gave the following report:

"The day began before the formal inspection of the Contingent with a tour of the School with the Headmaster - which allowed me to talk over

developments in the Contingent, particularly the RAF Section, over the past two years. It also provided a good opportunity to see where the Contingent fitted into the Head's priorities. He then gave over the rest of his day to the inspection.

The formal inspection consisted of a short display of highland dancing; a parade and inspection of the recruit year (run on a tri-service common skills basis) and the pipe band followed by a march past. The bulk of the afternoon was taken up observing a wide range of Section activities from abseiling and canoe instruction to a computer based flight simulator programme and some advanced syllabus field training (a pleasant and interesting change from the usual platoon attack!) I had ample opportunity to speak to both staff, cadets and the NCO cadre, the latter of whom I was pleased to see taking the lead and delivering the instruction. There are some very good quality and enthusiastic young people among the cadre, several of whom were planning a regular career.

Overall this was an active and successful Contingent which, despite the initial
(Ctd over)

QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL, COMBINED CADET FORCE

Contingent Commander J R Silcox TD





2 years compulsory requirement, seemed to command a general enthusiasm, pride and enjoyment throughout the age range. In my experience the extent of this attitude is unusual where the CCF is compulsory. Whilst the Service background of the pupils might contribute to their broadly-based positive approach, the commitment and support of the contingent staff, and indeed that of the latter's teaching staff colleagues, clearly contributes much.

Whilst the time given over to Contingent matters in the school programme has been subject to some internal scrutiny, matters are now on a sound footing and the Contingent has the full support of the Headmaster. Furthermore, although the RAF Section has been through a difficult staffing period which led to a decline in its activities, it has now turned the corner and is offering an attractive option for the students to choose. Two members of staff have committed themselves to the Section and are giving it the direction it needs, albeit neither have yet undergone the commissioning course.

In summary, this was a most enjoyable day with an active and positive Contingent directed by committed staff with a supportive Head, which, after a short period of uncertainty, has a sound future in all 3 sections."

I would most heartily endorse the Reviewing Officer's comments about the CCF Staff and take this opportunity on behalf of the cadets from all three sections to acknowledge their great commitment to the Corps amidst a very busy school timetable. On behalf of the Officers I would also seek to place on record our great indebtedness to our liaison officers from all three services; the Pipe Major, Drum Major and Dancing Instructress of Queen Victoria School; and Mr Raine, our Headmaster.

JOHN R SILCOX

Summer 97 Activities

Last Summer's holiday found Sub Lt Borking down south in Windsor at Victoria Barracks helping run the CCF Summer Camp hosted by the Scots Guards. I believe Graham's Naval uniform caused a few surprised looks.

Further West, Sub Lt Shannon spent a week at Britannia Royal Naval College in Dartmouth completing her Officers initial course. The course at Dartmouth included practical sea training, navigation, drill (lots of!) and practical leadership training. The course was "very informative, exhausting and well worth attending."

At the beginning of the session I accompanied our sailing team, (Cox Leigh Bissett, PO John Blackhurst and PO Martin Sherwood), to the annual CCF RN Regatta. Against stiff opposition Leigh and John did well in the bosun while Martin did even better in his top-per.

Biannual Inspection

Wednesday 8th October, Group Captain Cross spent the day at the School inspecting the sections. The Naval Section was well represented at the recruits inspection and in the mini Pipe Band. Later the Cadets were seen

carrying out various exercises including dinghy rigging, windsurfer simulator, navigation class and practical leadership tasks. The day ended with a debrief to all the cadets in the theatre from the Group Captain.

The Inspecting Officer's report which followed was very complimentary and clearly demonstrated that he enjoyed his day with the QV CCF.

Recruits Weekend

The skill of the Royal Navy was obviously needed by the Army Section to fulfil all of the required tasks throughout the Recruits Self Reliance weekend at Barry Buddon Lighthouse this year. Well done, Sub Lt Shannon and Sub Lt Borking!

ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

Field Day at Loch Lomond

On Wednesday 18th March the Naval Section set off in the two School minibuses towing the rescue dory and the canoe trailer to Loch Lomond. The forenoon was spent power boating and canoeing, then for lunch, the first barbecue of the year producing the most delicious sausages. The afternoon found us all making our way out to Bucinch, one of the smaller islands on



Loch Lomond and there we had an Easter egg hunt. There were shouts of "fix!" when our Coxswain Leigh Bissett found the egg. Although the water was cold everyone enjoyed the day.

Easter Course

LS David Fennell went off to HMS on a gunnery course, where he fired a 30mm gun. LS Edward Porter and Cox Leigh Bissett went on a sailing course at HMS Ralaghe where they upgraded their RYA qualifications to Level 3 and Level 5 respectively.

"The Naval Section of the CCF has given me numerous opportunities such as this RYA course. I would highly recommend it to all pupils". Leigh Bissett

PO John Blackhurst was also at HMS Ralaghe, successfully completing his RYA Day Skipper assessment.

Sub Lt Borking and myself helped out at the joint service ski camp at Aviemore. It was a super camp and unexpectedly the skiing was very good. Unfortunately, Sub Lt Borking's hot-dogging resulted in a sore posterior - OUCH! The cadets thoroughly enjoyed the camp and we are looking forward to next year's.

Sail Training

After the hard work in the boat shed over the Winter, our sail training vessel "Grouse" is back on her mooring in Loch Leven. I hope to organise a sailing weekend camp in the near future.

Thanks

There are a number of people I must thank for their help over the past year. Firstly, Lt Phil Richards and Lt Andy Pelow for their input at the Bi-annual Inspection. Secondly, as ever, the irrepressible CPO Danny Kay, he has been invaluable with his visits and support. Finally my Staff, Graham and Lorna, for all their time, effort and support.

RAF REPORT

1998 has been a year of many changes for the Royal Air Force section of the school's Combined Cadet Force. Firstly the arrival of Flight Lieutenant Gilhooly marked a new era where the section was revived from the 'recession' that had occurred during the last few years and they once again began to show the true spirit of the RAF. Within weeks of taking up the post F/Lt Gilhooly had managed to enter the section in the National Ground Training competition and had organised the Easter Camp to R.A.F Conningsby. Yet the rebirth of the section hasn't all been the work of the C/O but has also been due to the hard work and determination of the cadets themselves.

With Sergeant Bruce Telford manning stores the section was issued with kit once more and his uncanny skills at 'measuring' up the lads ensured that the uniform sizes were perfect (well no one went and asked him for bigger or smaller kit anyway!). Sergeant Craig Cunningham began the arduous task of training the lads in the very refined art form that is called "Drill". Through rain and sunshine he stoically took the jibes about his resemblance



to George Michael and was the self declared 'Conker' king. Within the short span of time we had left before the competition (NGT) he managed to get us up to standard and even managed to keep the more boisterous among us silent for a few minutes.

Corporal Stuart Watt taught the section until he had finally managed to get a few of us to pass their part 2 tests and then he seemed to 'retire' and take on the role of teacher co-ordination officer (which consisted of telling us to teach and then rummaging around trying to find books all the time). He was also the master mind behind all of them annoying little pieces of paper which seem to be stuck up on the wall of the R.A.F office and do nothing apart from name every single person who has ever been in the section. All of the cadets who took part in the NGT competition performed well winning the Scottish heat to represent our country south of the border. All who took part were impressed with the uncanny marksmanship skills of Cadet Aldous who proudly boasted of his shoot-



ing skills and then when put to the test scored perfect marks (except that he was firing at someone else's target!). The R.A.F knowledge competition went very well with Owen Fenwick scoring 70 marks in 114 seconds (only to be informed that a cadet from another school scored full marks in eighty seconds) and the lads who took part learned that the R.A.F had managed to obtain an amazing amount of USAF planes within its ranks during the two min-



utes since we had last looked over the repertoire of planes that they flew. A round of applause should go out to those few cadets (Craig Cunningham, Bruce Telford, Stuart Watt, Timothy Whittle, Jamie Williams, Owen Fenwick, Gary Cornelius, Stephen Page, Iain Watt, David Aldous, Gareth Martin, Arron Uytendhal and David Yorkston) who braved the long nights with nothing to do except laugh at the drilling techniques of the other sections.

The Easter camp was just as good with the cadets taking part managing to appear normal for once (except for the one exception). With the impeccable taste in women of Arron Uytendhal



.....or should I say men! Arron's antics amused the whole camp for several days and the focus of his intentions became frequently embarrassed. Flying was good with Ryan Bennett managing to be sick in the plane and F/Lt Gilhooly enduring the stunts of his pilots who tried to make him sick.....and almost crashed in the process! Congratulations to Darren Farr who was the best cadet in his flight and to all the members of A-Flight (you know who you are) who wiped the board with the other flights and won the inter flight competition. Well done to all cadets in attendance (Iain Watt, Ryan Bennett, David Aldous, Gareth Martin, Arron Uytendhal, Darren Farr) and many thanks to F/Lt Gilhooly for his help and guidance throughout the camp (especially thanks from Arron who put him in a compromising situation involving a dog owning Sqdn/Ldr who hitched a ride on the camp with him!).

The year ahead holds many more surprises and changes with the introduction of females into the section and the recruit-



ment of two new officers: Pilot Officer McLay and Pilot Officer Sheerin.

We all hope that Pilot Officer McLay will manage to bring a bit of sport to the section with his trips to indoor climbing and his amazingly inexhaustible supply of energy. He should also bring no end of amusement to the section with his gestures and sayings from the old days when he went to the school that he still thinks are used today, resulting in him obtaining the pitying glances from cadets who will, quite frankly, believe that he's mentally unstable.

Pilot Officer Sheerin will be drafted in to help with the female section of the cadets and will be a great help. Yet some among us (namely me) shudder at the thought of the colour of the flying suits she will wear and can just hear her questioning the pilots as to why the planes are grey and green and not a nice shade of purple or red. There is no doubt that she will bring much more colour to the section and try to brighten it up a bit and, in her own mind if not anyone else's, introduce much more glamour into the section as well as, dare I say it, beauty (Haaa!).

The year ahead looks very interesting indeed and with the replacement of the older NCOs with a younger fresher group (myself included!) we should be able to improve the section greatly indeed.

F/Lt Sgt Iain Watt



This year in Wavell has been a momentous year, the last that boys will be part of the inmates! With P7 boys now moving to Trenchard, Wavell will now become a female stronghold apart from Mr Onslow and any males brave enough to enter! I will not be sorry to see the boys' socks move on to Miss Chalmers but we will, I think, miss the boys' cheeky little faces from time to time. Unfortunately we will also lose Mrs Hainey and Mr King as house tutors and I would like to thank them for their work in the house over the years. My thanks also to Mrs Shannon, Mr Onslow, Mrs Thornton, Miss Blackwood, Miss Lang, Miss Greene and latterly Miss Wolfenden and Mrs Milligan for their help in running the house this year. Very special thanks go to Miss Scott and Mrs Blyth who have both been a tremendous help to me this year. Miss Scott's considerable music talents on the piano, drums, chanter and recorder have been... well, interesting if nothing else!

We also lose three of the senior girls from the house this year. My thanks to Felicity for all her help - we shall miss her calm influence in the house. We shall definitely miss Laura's profound comments and the hockey team will miss her considerable talents (Well, that's what she says, anyway!). Last, but not least, we shall miss the bubbly personality and smiling face of Diane Marshall. Good luck to you all.

We have had various parties and outings this year. The P7s had a super Halloween party and talent contest which was

organised by Christine Martin who was heard to say at the end "Never again!" Christmas saw the Wavell Disco where the P7 boys and Mr Onslow found themselves in great demand as the only males present! However it was a great evening also enjoyed by the staff.

The drill competition once again saw fierce competition from the P7 classes and again the honours were even at the end. The intermediate girls also did well to win the best turnout again.

Girls' sport is really taking off now as more and more fixtures are being arranged. The girls' hockey and swimming teams are both coming together well and the athletics team is also competing at a good level. I suppose the house *should* be quite sporty with myself and Miss Scott at the helm!

We are finishing the year with another first for the girls at QVS. Lindsey Farquharson is the first girl in the school pipe band and will be playing on Grand Day. Well done, Lindsey!

It has been an interesting year for me as my first year in charge of Wavell. At the start I didn't think I'd make it to Grand Day but now we are nearly there and I'm still here and becoming a bit more settled. I hope the house will develop even more next year when it is all girls and with a bit of effort from us all I hope we can make it a pleasant place to be.

WAVELL HOUSE NOTES



The Secret Diary of a Haig Housemaster Aged 40 1/2

- 0650 Alarm goes off - set snooze button.....
- 0659 Leap out of bed, into trousers and Haig corridor in one fell swoop.
- 0701 Go round switching on enough lights for Blackpool illuminations and wishing everyone as pleasant a "good morning" as possible. "Invite" those boys from North Annexe who were talking after lights out last night, to improve their fitness by running round the Band Hut.
- 0720 Go back round 34 rooms and 3 dorms dispensing with pleasantaries and shouting very loudly at those still unconscious and check on boys walking round the Band Hut.
- 0735 Go round again prodding vigorously the duvets of those boys who believe they can avoid discovery by lying as flat as possible in their bunks.
- 0750 Haig trotters well into the breakfast trough while the usual suspects dawdle in late (e.g. Craig Cunningham).
- 0830 Boys off to Chapel.
- 0831 Not ALL boys off to Chapel - shout loudly and usher them in general direction
- 0833 Set to work hacksawing through the padlock on a boy's locker - key gone a.w.o.l.
- 0845 Into own flat where I shower and shave and eat a bowl of Sugar Puffs at the same time.
- 0846 Head for teaching block carrying unmarked prep from night before.
- 0900 Try to encourage S4 re their projects - "Nice rabbit hutch...." "It's a bedside cabinet sir." - while making urgent repairs to a chanter, a school step ladder, and three deceased pool cues.
- 1017 Try to pour cup of tea in staff room - none left as usual - (mental note: get there before Mr Beattie and Mr Shannon).
- 1018 Boy arrives at staff room door pleading poverty and needing money to attend interview. Train leaving in 17 minutes, so can't ask where he was at pre-arranged meeting time. Sprint faster than Linford Christie to the office
- 1030 Back in classroom. Computers crash, band saw jams, boy has varnished his hand to his project - so just a normal day then.....
- 1234 Arrive at Flat for lunch just as the phone rings. St George's School for Girls wanting to rent a crowd of boys since they have a group of German exchange students with no males to dance with at their ceilidh. Red Jackets obligatory since the boys: "look so handsome in them" - the implication being that they're not so good looking without them.
- 1251 Phone and both door bells go together - the Tuck Shop man has arrived with a delivery, John Irvine is grovelling for 10p for the phone, and a small Primary boy has rung my bell and legged it - hilarious.
- 1315 Still unloading boxes of Mars Bars and Fruitella and staggering upstairs with 72 cans of juice at a time.
- 1320 Matron is bearing down on me in the corridor holding Cameron McLeod's split trousers, buttonless shirt and laceless, scuffed shoes. Shoot off in opposite direction in case it's something vitally important.
- 1334 Leave lunch uneaten and drink a cold cup of coffee on way to teaching block.
- 1335 Start writing something on whiteboard for S2 to copy in their jotters. Grind to a halt when I realise I can't spell dowering, elliptical, or feint. Rub the whole lot out and dictate instead.
- 1631 Just as I get running kit on, door bells (upstairs, downstairs, and kitchen) plus phone all go together. Deal with the lot wearing a dirty old T-shirt, bobble hat, tracksters with a hole in the knee, muddy trainers tucked under arm.
- 1700 Go to supervise tea. Monitor informs me I'm improperly dressed and tries to give me "days".
- 1730 In the office pricing the tuck, arranging it attractively on the shelves, and liberally helping myself.
- 1800 Into Flat to see if anything resembling dinner is on offer.
- 1801 Bell goes - boy wanting TV channel changed.
- 1802 Back in the office deluged by boys with various requests/problems - wisdom of Solomon and patience of Job needed. Unfortunately I've been endowed with the wisdom of a plank of wood and the patience of Victor Meldrew.
- 1850 Prep starts.
- 1851 Not ALL prep started - bellow loudly down corridor.
- 1900 Referee football match in North Annexe and show 8 yellow cards. Shout loudly - feel better.
- 1920 Into computer room - prep well underway - CDs being played at full volume and game of Championship Manager on the go. Check how Hearts are doing and then shout loudly.
- 1937 Boy needing help with Economics homework. Waffle on (what's new?) pretending I have a comprehensive knowledge of the subject (E for Higher in 1975)
- 1940 Hear a rumpus and tiptoe along corridor. Boys playing computer games - a record number of boys squeezed into Niall Mackay's bunk space. Give vent to my displeasure - loudly.
- 1945 Work on boys' accounts. After 5 years I'd get an A for Accounting.
- 2015 Find a boy about to use telephone. Inform him in my usual gentle manner that prep isn't over till 2030. Cruelly ignore the heart-rending pleas that if he doesn't contact girlfriend at that precise moment, she'll dump him.
- 2040 Supervise supper and try to ascertain how many boys haven't turned up and if I could eat their allotted sandwiches before Alistair McKinnon gets his hands on them.
- 2100 A number of serious casualties reported - two broken pool cues and four table tennis bats without handles - I'm never stuck for a project in the woodwork room.
- 2105 Rush into own flat where wife is interrogating offspring along the lines of: "When did you last see your father?" Blank expressions (obviously take after him). "You know, that tall skinny baldy guy with the specs....."
- 2110 Pull on Hearts strip and leg it to sportshall for Staff V Pupils indoor football league. Score a goal and lose specs in the melee.
- 2145 Sprint back to Flat. Only time for quick slap round the oxters with a damp face cloth while the boys luxuriate in their umpteenth shower of the day - first thing in the morning, after games, after CCF, before a school disco, after a school disco.....
- 2146 Into office to dispense tuck. Can add up a Mint Aero, tube of Smarties, packet of Roysters and a can of Lilt with practised ease while answering the phone and miming to a prefect that he should start checking the state of the 4th year common room.
- 2200 Bedtime routine begins - not for me, unfortunately.
- 2232 Referee football match in North Annexe after floodlights out. Fed up shouting, so adopt a different tactic and make it quite clear I'm in the huff and not speaking - no effect whatsoever.

continued

2245 6th year lounging about in the office Channel 21. The argument that: "Mrs Howie said we should watch it to improve our German" doesn't wash. The usual late night awkward questions ensue.
"Have you sent out the Disco invites Sir?"
"Oh yes" - nose grows half an inch.
"Have you organised that cinema trip yet Sir?"
"Yes" - nose extends further.
"Did you send away for the tickets for the Scotland international?"
"Yep, in the post" - nose like Cyrano de Bergerac
2250 Ensure tuck shop well and truly locked before Ryan Tervit comes in looking for a midnight feast. Flash the House torch in his face and remind him he ran out of money a week ago.
2255 Final Patrol - cue in the tune for Mission Impossible as I creep along corridors keeping close to the shadows, slinking round corners etc.
2300 Settle down to disco invites, cinema and football tickets, references for boys past and present, and accounts (trying to decipher Mr Beattie's hieroglyphics). Own account seriously in the red. Attempt an assault on House reports by making a list of phrases to pick out at random - "more serious hard work needed cleaning bunk space", "could make his bed better", "friendly boy - in Office a lot - could be because tuck shop is located there."
0120 Head for Flat. Return to Tuck Shop for packet of wine gums.
0125 Sit in front of TV with bottle of beer and packet of crisps.
0517 Wake up in sitting position. The morning TV programmes have started.
0519 In bed with clothes on.
0650 Alarm goes off - press snooze button

PS Many thanks as always to the Haig House Staff, responsible prefects, monitors and Senior Monitor, without whose support, my life would be twice as hectic.



TRENCHARD HOUSE NOTES

Another year has been clocked up and Trenchard House has continued to develop. We have managed a year of good stability which has enabled everyone to consolidate routines , practice and care and therefore enhance the general quality of life in the house.

Since last year Trenchard won the Intermediate athletics championship and has contributed a good number of boys to the school's rugby, football, athletics and swimming teams. Well done to all of them.

We purchased a new pool table after the summer holidays which has been extensively used and it allowed us to run a couple of pool competitions during the dreich winter months.

We had a successful disco and a most enjoyable Christmas party which along with our visits to Murrayfield, Dundee Pool, the cinema the theatre, various shopping trips and Mr. McLay's Sunday afternoon treks, contributed very positively to the student's social calendar and I thank all staff involved, whatever their contribution may have been.

Our GAP student from last year, James McGeoch, left us early to take up other opportunities, and the space left by him was filled by my son Ewan. Now it might be suggested that my opinion is biased in this case, and one would probably not be wrong. However, notwithstanding that aspect I must say that Ewan filled the vacancy more than adequately, and plunged wholeheartedly into the life

of the house. He proved to be popular but was able to maintain an atmosphere which was respectful and positive. Therefore I would like to thank Ewan for all of his help and hard work.

The New Year brought Michael O'Connor to our doorstep all the way from Brisbane. Once he had acclimatised to our winter Michael rapidly settled into the routine of the house and is under constant demand to take the boys for football, basketball, swimming or for a run. Thank you, Mike, for all your efforts so far.

After Easter, Mr. Dow, who had served as my Deputy Housemaster for our years, gave up that position. I would like to thank Iain for his past support and his work with me in both Wavell and Trenchard.

However, as always, the house , its routines and the continued happiness and welfare of the boys do not happen by magic. The hard work of all the members of the house team is the reason for it occurring. So I owe a debt of gratitude to Miss Chalmers, Mrs. Devlin, Mr. Philson, Mr. Bruce, Mr. Garden, Mr. McLay and Mr. Gilhooly for everything that they have done for the boys and the house.

Next session sees Trenchard House becoming the home for all the P7 and S1 boys. This will present a major challenge to everyone in Trenchard. However I am sure that if we can maintain and develop further the excellent team spirit that exists at the moment, then Trenchard House will continue to provide a safe, secure and happy environment for the boys who live there.

CUNNINGHAM HOUSE NOTES

As this is the last time I shall be writing Cunningham House notes, I feel I should start by thanking all the people who have supported me in the last 6 years during my period as Housemaster. The list is endless but here are some: Mrs Kean and Mrs McVey, better known as Jean and Karen, who are always bustling around the house doing the mundane tasks that are never noticed, but keep the house looking so presentable with 54 boys in it; Mr Duthie, the Assistant Housemaster and the pertinacious (look it up) House Tutors; Craig, our resident 'All Black' Gap student; the Fifth and Sixth Year - some of whom have been in Cunningham almost as long as I have; the boys, the parents, and finally, Isobel my wife for her constant encouragement.

Now on to some of the events of the year. We again had a camp, this time near Stirling, which culminated with a walk back to school via Dumyat. An enjoyable weekend but there were some questions asked about the Bar-B-Q breakfast and disbelief at the suggestion that we walk back to school via a mountain. We also had a Disco at Christmas that was... 'nice', and the Christmas Pantomime in Glasgow King's Theatre.

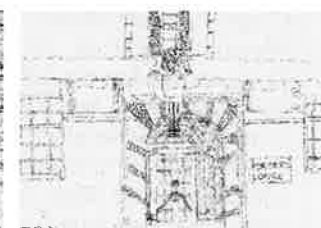
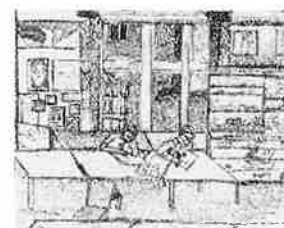
Cunningham won the Drill Competition with a fine performance from Christopher, Simon and Gary. This made it three in a row and I think we now keep the Cup.

Some new equipment was bought by the House. A new 29" Sony widescreen TV, a pool table and a football machine. As I am the only person playing football, or should I say paying to play, I think I should take the machine with me when I go, or at least have free lifetime use. We also received a Microwave from Mrs Bott for which we are very grateful and hopefully one day the school will provide a kitchen area where we can site it.

I would like to finish by saying I have enjoyed being a Housemaster and in my own way helping Cunningham to be the success it has become.



Old Victorians Association.....



President: Lt Col Ron Smith
Secretary: Stewart Wilkie
Treasurer: Duncan McLay

A good year for the OVA with increasing membership, excellent participation and renewed contact with "lost" members. Co-operation between School and Association continues to flourish, much helped by the very supportive attitude towards OVs adopted by so many members of staff.

The past twelve months have seen the membership rise by 66 and has passed the 1,000 milestone. Appropriately the 1,000th member is an older and far flung OV, Jim Oliver (1511) from Toronto. A very warm welcome to Kirsten McCartney (4544), our first member from the initial intake of girls in 1996. Kirsten completed her 6th Year before going on to University. Once again the OVA has recognised the service to the School by former members of staff by voting unanimously for Miss Isa Johnston and Mr Jim Urie to be Honorary Life Members. Of additional interest in those joining are six Dukie OVs, part of the contingent from the Duke of York's Military School who were evacuated to QVS during the 1940s.

A Royal Grand Day 1997 provided an excellent turnout of OVs for a great parade, graced by the presence of HRH The Princess Royal. A small party of OVs, Don MacKay (1717), Phil O'Connor (2776), Bob Gill (2900), Stewart Wilkie (3876) and myself were honoured by presentation to HRH who, through her charm, relaxed manner and straightforward speech, won the hearts of everyone present on what must have been one of the best ever Grand Days.

Our 1998 Reunion Weekend was successful albeit with a reduced turnout, due possibly to poor weather in the preceding days. The main participatory event was the OZ99 sponsored swim, a great success jointly, with pupils, parents, staff and OVs filling the pool for 4 hours to swell the coffers of the OZ99 Fund. For the first time for many years, an RAF Officer, Tom Gemmill (3208), took the salute at the Church Parade.

Consideration of a musical theme for the 1999 Reunion is under way. An OVA Pipe Band, the School Wind Band augmented by some well known OV instrumentalists? It could be possible so why not start practising now if you feel you qualify? My own forgotten skills on the saxophone are so distant as to disqualify me from taking part. However, if you are in practice there could be a vacancy for you.

Those readers who compare this report with that of 1997, will have noted a committee change. Gordon Griffiths (3337) has relinquished the post of Treasurer and Duncan McLay (3733) is combining those duties with his in-house liaison position. Our thanks to Gordon and also to Duncan, who has proved the value of having an OV on the staff.

The London/SE Branch had hoped for an increased attendance at their annual "Bash" last September. Sadly it coincided with the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales and thus had to be cancelled at very short notice. Bob Gill hopes that, on the 12th September 1998, all who would have attended last year will come along as well as many other OVs in the South.

Further afield, we continue to receive news of OVs overseas. Gibraltar, Guam and Malawi were added to our mailing list this year and my search for Barry Hamilton (3106) has pinned him down to Thailand after spells in Pakistan and Australia. Another traveller is Neil Burrows (2600) who, by the time this is published, will have left Dubai on a round the world trip. Bill Geddes (2314), our Canada representative, hopes to be here for Grand Day. However, our main overseas news is inevitably linked to Australia with OZ99 looming. There is no doubt that the forthcoming tour has revitalised OV contact and activity down under. We have located Stuart Fairbairn (2097), Derek Leal (2108), Terry Gavigan (2273), Fred Cameron (2502) and Derek Ritchie (2718). There are more OVs to be found in Australia and I will repeat my request of last year for names and addresses of any OVs there so we can have successful reunions in all three venues, Perth, Brisbane and Sydney. A meeting of OVs in NSW took place in Sydney the same weekend as our Reunion to welcome the visit of Jack Quinn (2517). Ten OVs and one Dukie Old Boy were present (plus wives) and a good time was had by all! Alex Hamilton (2522) arranged this event and it is a forerunner of what we hope to generate during OZ99.

Again, a Dukie reference above. Contact between the OVA and the Dukie OBA has been re-established both in the UK and Australia. Indeed our Australian contact has been extended to include them in any arrangements made by our Australian members for OZ99. At home we are looking towards the year 2000 which is the 60th Anniversary of the Dukie evacuation to Dunblane. It is hoped that as many Dukie Victorians as possible will attend Grand Day 2000 to celebrate the Anniversary. To achieve this, can I ask, that any readers who know of Dukies who were at QVS

between 1940-54 advise the OVA of their names and addresses? Dudley Vosser has already written to say that he plans to come from New Zealand for the event and will bring his elder brother up from Hampshire... so we have made a start!

The OVA is always pleased when other items of OV interest are included in the Victorian, thus complementing this report. This is certainly the case this year and I hope it will encourage other writers to submit their efforts in future years.

Modern technology is catching up, even with the OVA. Stephen Hill (3578) runs his own computer company and he has offered to start a web page for us. I am sure we should take this step forward and full details will be reflected in our next Newsletter.

A plea to all OVs reading this article. Members must advise us of any change of address in order that contact be maintained. If you are not a member please establish contact with the Association. We really want you to be part of the OVA and to join in our various activities.

A final thanks to the School, Headmaster, Staff, boys and girls for making us so welcome. The very high level of support given to us generates the visitor load of OVs. Long may it continue.

BLUEBELL AND QVS

Have you seen that unusual shop, Bluebell Collectibles in Dunblane High Street? What is it and what is the connection with the School? Well, if you look inside you will see that it is full of militaria and china, jewellery, pictures etc. "Another antique shop," you might think. However, it does seem to contain quite a number of QVS-related items... and some photos of a relatively young QVS boy. OVs at the School in the late 70s will in fact recognise Charles Claydon (3678)... but he is a PE teacher at Ratcliffe College, so what is the connection? Quite simply it is his father's shop and it has become a regular stop off for OVs, parents and particularly anyone interested in militaria. And Bluebell? No, Charlie Claydon Snr does not clean the brasses every day, though he will tell you that he did when he was a young soldier. Those who have recalled their radio procedure will realise that Charlie is REME, Bluebell being the means of referring to REME in veiled speech. So, if you are in the High Street, why not call in and have a chat? You'll certainly find it interesting.

Time Capsule

(50 Years Ago - 1948)

The School War Memorial was unveiled in the Chapel by Field Marshal The Right Hon. Earl Wavell, P.C., G.C.B., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., C.M.G., M.C., on Sunday, the 2nd May. The Chapel was filled to capacity, but even so, many who wished to come were unable to get admittance. Relatives of 25 out of the 37 fallen were present and a large gathering of Old Boys. No more fitting person could have been found, and his address was simple and inspiring. The whole Service was most impressive and will for long be remembered by those who were present.

OBITUARIES

It is with great regret that I have to inform you of the deaths of the following Old Victorians.

847 C McKenna

A remarkable association with QVS began in 1912 when Charles was born in the School, his father (ex KOSB) being a member of the staff. Quite naturally he followed his three brothers into the School in 1921. Obviously education was his forte as, armed with his Army Special Certificate of Education, he again followed two brothers into the KOSB in 1930 but was then, after a qualifying course at the Army School of Education, transferred to the Army Education Corps as a Sergeant at Chatham in 1932. His first and longest overseas tour began in India in 1938 and lasted until 1945. Initially, he taught at stations such as Multan, Rawalpindi, Peshawar and Kohat and then was employed on cypher duties at HQ Eastern Army, Calcutta. Posted home as a WO 1, he was Headmaster of an Army Children's School at Bulford Camp (with a staff of Queen's Army Schoolmistresses) until 1947 when he was commissioned in the RAEC and posted to the War Office. From 1949 - 52 he was overseas again in Malaya and Singapore, to be followed by tours at HQ Highland District, Perth 1953-56 and BAOR, Dortmund 1956-59, before retirement as a Major after 30 years service.

In retirement, Charles took up employment as a civil servant, working for the Customs and Excise, particularly with respect to VAT. He re-established his links with the School and, with his wife Christine, was an ever-present at Grand Day, OV events and Remembrance Sunday. His deep knowledge of the School was a great help to me as President of the OVA. Sadly he died on 27th March 1998. However, his affection for QVS has been reinforced by the presentation to the archives of the inscribed pocket watch (still working) awarded to him as best KOSB boy in 1926.

OBITUARIES continued

976 R J W Fairbairn

Ronald, the oldest of three brothers at the School and step-father of Ian Fairbairn (2508), enlisted in the Seaforth Highlanders on leaving school in 1929. During the 2nd World War he served in Palestine, Gibraltar and Burma (Chindits). Post war he was in Singapore before returning to the UK. Promoted to RSM at Fort George and then commissioned and posted to SHAPE in France, he retired as a Captain in 1949. He was then employed as an Accountant in Basingstoke and Lightwater before retiring fully and moving to North Yorkshire where he died on 28th May 1997.

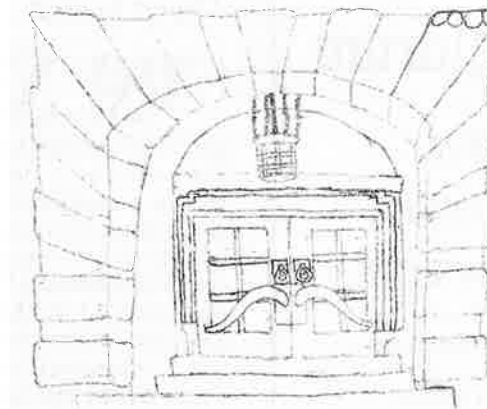
1631 E McKay

Eddie was at QVS from 1935 to 1942. He played the euphonium in the military band and originally hoped to follow a military band career. However, doubts as to the future of Kneller Hall training in 1941 resulted in his joining the Royal Engineers in 1942 and he trained as a draughtsman (Topo Survey). In 1943 he was posted to India and was employed on the Survey of India at Murree. He took part in a Long Range Penetration Patrol (Chindits) into Burma and on return went to HQ SEAC in Ceylon. He was in Singapore in 1945 and witnessed the Japanese Surrender.

He was promoted to Sergeant in 1945 and returned to the UK in 1946 and was initially employed on supervision duties at a German Officers POW camp. He completed army service at the War Office and, as a civilian, continued his service links through employment by MOD on both survey and MQ administration duties, both overseas, Malaya, Singapore and Germany, and in the UK. Eddie suffered heart problems and retired fully in 1985. He died peacefully on 23rd July 1997.

1811 A L Watts

Aubrey was involved with vehicles and the motor industry for much of his life. He left the School in 1943 and trained at the Army Apprentice School, Aborfield. He joined the REME as a vehicle mechanic and quickly made a name for himself as a motor cyclist. Most of his service was spent as a highly respected Driving Instructor.



He had many happy memories of his QVS days and often remarked that life at QVS made service life easy for him, perhaps proof of this being his rank of Sergeant at the age of 20. After leaving the Army he worked for 18 years at the Road Research Laboratory at Reading where he managed all the Garage facilities. He retired fully at the age of 60 and spent his latter years in Southern France. Sadly he was taken ill with cancer and it became so severe that he had to return to Alvaston in Derbyshire where he passed away on the 4th June 1997.

2039 J Scott

I remember John as an excellent athlete, rugby player and boxer and a strict but fair NCO and Monitor, and these attributes were clearly repeated in his service life. He joined the Royal Navy in 1948 for apprentice training and after qualifying as an artificer, he served in a variety of ships and shore appointments, primarily in middle management. He was an Incorporated Engineer and became a Member of the Institute of Plant Engineers, Institution of Incorporated Executive Engineers and Institute of Supervisory Management. John was a qualified Diver and dived actively for 10 years. On the sports field he represented the Royal Navy in rugby, athletics and boxing. He retired from the Navy in January 1977 after 27 years service, having attained the rank of Fleet Chief Engineering Artificer (Propulsion).

As a civilian he worked as a section engineer at Watneys Brewery, Mortlake initially and then was Chief Engineer at the White House Hotel, Regents Park for 13 years before final retirement in 1991. In retirement he was an active member of the London and SE Branch of the OVA and a great help to its committee over recent years. John died, aged 65, on the 25th January 1998.

Writing an obituary can sometimes be a difficult task - does the writer know the subject personally and, if not, how best to reflect the life presented? Thanks to the kindness of George Munro (1374), I have been able to write the following with the aid of a tape recording of his funeral service during which family and friends were asked to express their appreciation.

1444 D Aiton

David Aiton left the School in 1935 to join 1st Royal Scots as a boy. He was too young to go overseas with the Battalion when war broke out and thus moved to 79Bn where he progressed rapidly in rank to become Drum Major, possibly the youngest in the Army. After 12 years he returned home to Edinburgh and, in 1955 emigrated to the USA. Initially he worked in the shipyards in San Pedro, California and in 1957 took up permanent employment with the Gas Company, remaining there until retirement in 1983. David was very active in the local community as a respected Church Elder, a dedicated YMCA leader and a soccer referee. His Scottish roots and, I suspect, his QVS training gave him a love of Scots songs, the pipes and drums and Scottish Country Dancing. The latter activity gave rise to his chairmanship of the Los Angeles Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society.

He was a much loved husband, father and grandfather and was obviously a great example to his family. Moreover the respect and appreciation of him by friends and colleagues was shown by the attendance of over 500 people at his funeral. A true Scot, despite all those years in America, he died on the 30th October 1997.

G. S. Meldrum

BOOKSELLER

STATIONER

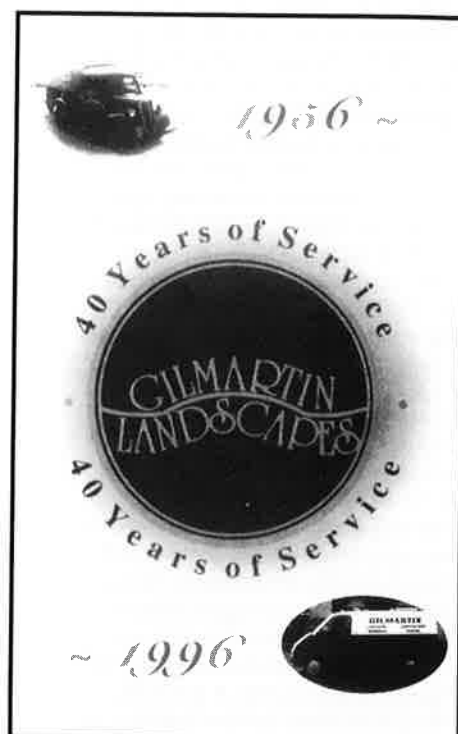
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Airport Lounge

D. O'Connell

As I walk through to find my place, I am overcome by a stale smell. Not pungent but it is present. It irritates me beyond belief. The bars, the shops, all the luxurious outlets, what are they all for? I'm going away to escape these mundane, typically British luxuries. I am the one running away from it - but why?

Whenever a "normal" human passes the duty free, he, or she, is inclined to purchase a few things. Why do they have this necessity? I don't. To be honest I am ascetic. The constant jibes I receive for this enhance my anger. But I won't succumb.

I take a seat and gaze into oblivion. Then something strikes me. Not the smell, but the people. An obese man sits and reads the Guardian. Why is he pretending? His pager, the mobile phone and the paper - they are all unnecessary. His clothes are hardly Versace. I think he feels inferior. He wants to be something he can't. After all, it's not his fault he's obese, it's not his fault he has a detestable job and it's not his fault he despises himself. His wife is long gone, but a faint white line still remains where the ring once rested. A "scar" which he wishes would leave so he can forget.

The lounge is dull and dismal. The few plants have nearly passed away. What a waste. In the lounge there is no time for anyone. No one will spare you a minute, they are caught up in themselves. Too selfish to recognise the fact that the human race even exists!

Two children chase each other like cat and mouse. They are having fun oblivious to others. Should I be kind and let them play on? Why? The younger one trips and falls. She starts to wail. Her high-pitched screech sends shivers down my spine. I see red, but somehow I am able to keep remarkably calm. A small, sneaky sneer comes across my face. Revenge is sweet after all. The child's pain makes me joyous. Am I satanic? No, the child has suffered for her wrong doing, in my tranquil surrounding.

The weather reflects the atmosphere of the lounge. As the lounge becomes invaded by people that wait for delayed flights, it becomes filled with cigarette smoke. The smoke is as thick as a cloud waiting to produce rain. What light there is, is soaked up by the smoke.

An old couple sit across from

me. They try to start a conversation. I send out bad vibes and try not to acknowledge them, but they keep mumbling on. Who cares about their son who emigrated. I don't care about their twenty-four hour flight to Australia. It is all insignificant to me. I apologise very falsely and excuse myself.

I make my way to the complaints desk. A middle-aged woman approaches me. She is masquerading in make-up. Her attempts at looking like a young woman are to no avail. Rather reluctantly she asks what my problem is. My problem, well, I could be sincere and tell her that she annoys me, the obese man annoyed me - even the smell irritates me. I ask how the late the plane is running. She answers about an hour.

As I walk back to my seat, I hear a slight groan from my stomach. I amble over to the bistro. The prices here are phenomenal. The bistro plays on the fact there is no other alternative within a ten mile radius. I have no other option but to purchase their meagre portions of food. I place my food on the counter. I am shocked at the manner of lady behind the counter. This woman relies on me for her job! After all, if I weren't to use her business she would be out of work. She fails to recognise this. She has no common courtesy. What a complete harri-dan.

A young lady passes by. She looks round. I catch a glance. Her body is beautiful, her face is like a rose bud. She has been and gone. She has been the only real light have seen all day. How I wish she could've stayed.

Will the plane ever reach this desolate place? We are now on compensation vouchers because the plane is so late. A free drink or biscuit - how generous, considering the length of time I've been waiting in this dingy hole. In the time I've waited a whole different world has passed by. It was real life. The people weren't special and they knew it. They are merely passers-by in this strange world. They reflect feelings of hate and anger on everyone else because of the little attention they receive.

All these people don't really matter. I've impinged on their lives, yet they have irritated me with their simplicity.

But to more important matters. Flight DAN 123A, destination faraway, is at gate two. All of a sudden I feel unruffled. These people mean nothing to me anymore. I'm escaping ridicule. I'm escaping myself.

OZ 99

There cannot be many readers who do not know what OZ99 means. However, just in case it is news to you, the School is on its way to Australia in the Summer holidays 1999. Perhaps I should say that the Pipes and Drums are going. Planning and fund-raising have been ongoing since March '97 and good progress is being made. The Tour will last four weeks and will visit three venues - Perth, Brisbane and Sydney.

Proposed Programme - 1999

21 June	Travel to Australia
22 June - 1 July	Perth
2 July - 10 July	Brisbane
11 July - 15 July	Sydney
16 July	Return to UK

This is a provisional programme and the full details are dependent on the recce to be conducted by the Headmaster and the Drum Major during the period 22 June - 7 July 1998. Early in the Autumn Term 1998 a confirmed programme should be available. It is expected that the School will play rugby against local schools/clubs at each venue and the Pipes and Drums (plus the dancers in the party) will undertake appropriate engagements locally. In addition, the tour party hopes to take full advantage of seeing and learning about Australia in what is likely to be a very exciting time in that fascinating country.

Support

The success of this exciting venture depends on the support we receive both here and in Australia and I am pleased to report that there has been a very gratifying response to date. In the UK it is primarily related to fund-raising, and in Australia to assistance and organisation and hospitality plus some fund-raising. We are fortunate to have excellent contacts, both in the schools and through the Old Victorian network. These contacts will be exploited fully during the recce and, as a starter, Tom Hunter (2384), our OVA contact in Perth visited the School in April and was fully briefed on our plans. We do need to extend the QVS network in Australia so readers, please let us have the names and addresses of any relatives and friends there who you think would like to support the Tour.

Finance

Fund raising is essential to the success of the Tour and a target of £100,000 has been set. It is very gratifying to report that we are over halfway to this goal thanks to the efforts and generosity of pupils, parents, staff, Old Victorians and friends of the School. Events have varied from the simple Smartie tubes, coffee mornings and cake sales to the complex Oz Swim, Three Peaks Challenge and Monthly Draw and varied events will continue over the next twelve months. However, we cannot depend on the school system to produce all the funds required. It is essential that we have some support from outside and thus would welcome donations and personal, unit and corporate proposals for sponsored events outside the School. The OZ99 Committee will help with such events so please write to the Treasurer (Lt Col Ron Smith) with your ideas and donations.

The major OZ99 event for the Autumn Term is a Fund Raising Dinner to be held in the School on the 10th October 1998. It is hoped that some well-known sportsmen will be our guests for the evening and it will take the form of a Regimental Dinner Night followed by an auction and, of course, a raffle! Drum Major Tomkins will be very happy to receive requests for further information and, more importantly, for seats for the evening, either from individuals or from parties.

I must finish by thanking everyone who have given us support in this great venture to date. Your response has been most generous and helpful. We just have to keep it going for the next twelve months. THANK YOU!

R Smith

A Maori Greeting... from Bonzo Currie (1251)

Tena koutou, kena koutou, tena koutou.
Nga mihi nui hoki ki o tatou tipuna me o tatou tikanga.
Manakitia te kai whakhaere me nga kaiawhina ke konei.
Manakitia nga akonga o tenei wa me nga wa o mua.
Manakitia hoki te whenua, te awa me te maunga o Scotland
No reira, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou.

Greetings to you all.
Greetings to the buildings standing here.
Salutations to our ancestors and our traditions.
Bless the principal and teachers here.
Bless the students gathered here and past students also.
Bless the land, the rivers and the mountains of Scotland.
In conclusion, again my greetings to you all.

RUGBY 1997 - 98

Having lost so many quality sixth form players, I always knew that this season would be very much a re-building process. Despite this, Alastair MacKinnon established himself as the first choice tight-head prop with both the Midland Schools U.18 and the Caledonian Reds. JR McCulloch was also selected for the Caledonian Reds U.18 team and last but not least, Fraser MacKinnon was selected for Scotland U.15 to play against Yorkshire and Lancashire. Considering the relatively small numbers of players that we have at the senior level, we can be justly proud that our players are continuing to be regularly selected at these levels.

1st XV

The players who have been involved throughout the season have been the following:-

Backs:- Stuart Noy, Kenny Davidson, Nick Kerr, Ian Murray, Ian Smith, Cameron McCutcheon, Darren Robertson, Donal MacDiarmid, Andrew Kintrea, Brian Gault, Michael Logue, Gary Cornelius, Richard McConnell and Sandy Watson.

Forwards:- Bill Ford, James Matthews, Fraser MacKinnon, Alastair MacKinnon, Matthew Knowles, Cameron McLeod, Douglas Greenhowe, Ryan Bennett, Richard McAulay, James MacFarlane, Gary McCulloch, Paul Barlow, Stephen Page, Jamie Williams, Tim Whittle, J R McCulloch, Mark McConnell and Craig Cunningham.

The season began with our own 10-a-side tournament which was once again sponsored by Albion Drilling. Unfortunately, we did not perform well on the day, failing to qualify for the later stages of the event. I would like to say how grateful I am for the efforts of all officials, coaches, referees and players before, during and after the event.

Inverkeithing High School

Our first match of the season was against a 14 man Inverkeithing High School side. We soon took control of the match in every department. The forwards, in particular, simply did not give their opposite numbers any ball. As a result, the backs had the time and space to create many excellent tries. Result: 58 - 0.

Selkirk High School

At the request of our hosts we fielded an 'A' side, including a number of fringe players, yet to establish themselves as regular 1st XV players. The match was quite a close contest, with the home team not quite as weak as expected. The introduction of several regular 1st XV players soon resulted in the domination of the Selkirk side in all departments. The forwards were making telling drives up the middle of the park, with the back row outstanding. Tries by Craig Cunningham, Nick Kerr and Michael Logue completed a convincing win by 32 - 10.

Loretto

This was always going to be a difficult match in our first encounter with the side from Musselburgh. Unfortunately, we did not perform against a determined opposition. Our usual strengths of rucking and line out were not up to par and as a result the quality of our possession was poor. We were consistently rucked off our own ball and inaccurate throwing at the line out cost us dear. The result was a 23 - 6 defeat.

Perth Academy

It was essential to re-gain confidence after the defeat by Loretto and a good win against Perth would provide that welcome boost. A much more determined QV side quickly gained the upper-hand in all departments, rarely allowing the opposition any quality ball from which to work. The key to our success lay in rucking well beyond the ball and accurate throwing at the line out. The backs, who tackled well throughout, were well organised by Michael Logue at stand off and as a result, we scored some excellent tries. The try scorers were Michael Logue, Ian Murray (2), J R McCulloch, Tim Whittle and Gary Cornelius. The final score was a 46 - 0 victory for QVS.

Fettes College



On an excellent day for running rugby, we continued where we left off against a disappointing Fettes side. The forwards dominated the exchanges in both the tight and the loose, with Gary Cornelius a constant threat around the fringes. The backs, especially both wingers, worked very hard and were rewarded by excellent tries by both Nick Kerr and Ian Murray. Not to be outdone, the forwards in the shape of Alastair MacKinnon and J R McCulloch also created good tries. The final score was a very satisfactory 47 - 5 victory.

Merchiston Castle School

The fixture against Merchiston is always one of the hardest of the season and so it proved to be again this year. Both sides played well in a very close encounter, as the advantage flowed from one side to the other. Michael Logue scored a great try which begun by a break at the base of the scrum by Gary Cornelius who out paced two defenders and then passed to Michael who scored. Unfortunately, we continued to give away careless penalties which kept the opposition in the game. An excellent breakaway try by Darren Robertson put us ahead but, a late penalty clinched the game for Merchiston. The final score was a 15 - 13 defeat.

Lomond School

Unfortunately, Lomond School felt the full backlash of our frustration at the defeat by Merchiston. Our rucking and tackling was superb and we never allowed Lomond any platform from which to operate. The forwarder cleaned the opposition out at the line out and scrummage, whilst the backs pressurised their opposite numbers so much, that they were unable to cross the gain line throughout the match. Good tries by Andrew Kintrea, Darren Robertson, Ian Murray, Nick Kerr, Craig Cunningham and 'twinkle toes' Alastair MacKinnon (with a superb kick and chase) resulted in a very satisfying 58 - 0 victory.



Perth Academy

Although we won this game quite comfortably by 23 - 0, there were some worrying signs of how easily we could underestimate the opposition. Resting somewhat on our laurels, we allowed the Perthshire team to hurry us into several uncharacteristic errors. They adopted an Irish type of play by not allowing us to settle in a pattern. Instead of keeping the ball tight and settling things down, we fell into the trap of allowing ourselves to be disrupted by their tactics. Tries by Fraser MacKinnon, Michael Logue and Nick Kerr brought us a victory, but left us feeling very dissatisfied by our performance.

Madras College

Despite the biting wind and rain, we never allowed the opposition into this match. Michael Logue and the rest of his backs had their best game so far and, really controlled the match

throughout. The forwards provided quality possession which gave the backs time and space to fully express themselves. Excellent tries by Michael Logue, Ian Murray, Nick Kerr, Donal MacDiarmid and Jamie Williams completed a good win by 32 - 0.

St Columba's School

Gary Cornelius proved too much for the opposition to handle in this one-sided encounter. He was a constant threat at the base of the scrum and round the fringes. With the back row also very much on song, St Columba's never really got the opportunity to get into the match. Paul Barlow proved that he really had made the transition from 2nd XV to 1st XV by providing quality ball at the line out and the backs made good use of the ball they received by scoring several well worked tries. The result was a 59 - 0 victory.

Rannoch School

Rannoch were unbeaten and had been having an excellent season, so we knew that we were in for one of our toughest encounters. Both teams played some excellent rugby, although we had the edge in most of the forward exchanges, especially in the line out. Both Richard McAulay and Ryan Bennett were providing us possession and the back row was working well off the fringes. Although we had a lot of pressure, we were not scoring the points our play deserved. In the second half, a double miss in the centre gave the ball to Ian Murray, who scored in the corner. Craig Cunningham wrapped up the game with a score from the base of a scrum on their five metre line to complete a memorable 16 - 10 victory.

George Watson's College

It was a miserable day on which to try and play rugby. Torrential wind and rain, together with an already saturated pitch, helped to produce one of the worst games of the season. Neither side played well and the game was a catalogue of errors from start to finish. The end result was a 0 - 0 draw. Certainly, a match well worth forgetting.

Dundee High School

Traditionally, we have never been at our best after the Christmas break and, so, it was to prove yet again. Against a very mediocre High School side we were completely cleaned out at the line out. Although we were not helped by indifferent refereeing, it was a very disappointing display where the margin of victory, 19 - 5 to Dundee, flattered the opposition. We really must rid ourselves of the in-built inferiority complex we have created for ourselves when we play against the senior independent schools.

Sedburgh School

It appeared that any thing that could go wrong in relation to this match, did go wrong. From leaving our packed lunches behind, to the bus having one of its windows smashed en route. As a result, we arrived in Sedburgh, nearly 2 hours later



than planned, with only an hour before kick off. The match itself began well for us, with an early score from Ian Murray after some good forward play at the line out. But from that moment on, Sedburgh took control of the game, with a display of straight running, good tackling and very swift passing, which we were unable to cope with. Several injuries to key individuals did not help our cause, but far too many

players looked off form or/and unfit. The result was a 31 - 8 defeat by a side that taught us a lesson in dynamic inter-play between forwards and backs.

Boroughmuir High School

It was to be a new experience for the majority of the 1st XV to play under the floodlights at premier side, Boroughmuir's Meggetland Stadium. With a howling gale blowing across the pitch it was never going to be easy to play flowing rugby. Playing against the wind in the first half, we played controlled tight rugby, cleaning out the opposition at the line out, keeping the ball in amongst the forwards, driving and rucking our way up the park. Andrew Kintrea was playing well as our new stand off, Michael Logue having picked up a wrist injury which was to end his season prematurely. Two careless errors resulted in Boroughmuir tries, but we hit back with scores from J R McCulloch and Ian Murray. Although we were behind, we were confident that with the wind in our favour we could still go on to win this match. In the second half Boroughmuir were never in our half of the field and were under constant pressure, although yet again, we were not putting the points on the board. In the end a kick ahead and follow up, (out-sprinting the covering winger and full back) by Alastair MacKinnon gave us the try we required to win the match by 29 - 22. This was undoubtedly one of the best performances of the season.

Our first match in the Plate Competition was against Hawick High School at home. The Borderers are always difficult to play against, but we never allowed the visitors the opportunity to settle into any sort of a pattern. A combination of aggressive rucking, solid scrummaging and total domination at the line out resulted in tries by Nick Kerr, Stuart Noy and Jamie Williams. Both forwards and backs played particularly well and we ran out deserved winners by 23 - 0.



by the forwards in an excellent display of driving forward play, which released the backs to display their full range of talents. Tries by Michael Logue, Alastair MacKinnon, J R McCulloch, Fraser MacKinnon, Jamie Williams, Nick Kerr, Ian Murray and Tim Whittle resulted in a 79 - 0 victory.

Kinross High School

A spirited performance by a Kinross team which has made good progress over the last few seasons could not match an excellent display of power rugby by the QVS forwards. In particular, the driving mauls at the line outs proved just too much for the Kinross forwards to cope with. Another good display by Nick Kerr and Ian Murray on the wings resulted in tries for both wingers. The forwards also got in on the act with tries from Alastair and Fraser MacKinnon and J R McCulloch. A most encouraging end to a very mixed season. Result 39 - 5.

SCOTTISH SCHOOLS CUP

Due to our successful run in the Plate Competition last year, we were fortunate to be given a bye into the national rounds of the competition. As a result we did not play our first match against Glasgow Academy until November. In one of the games of the season and against a much heavier, although less mobile pack, we competed throughout the match staying within one score of the opposition who were making good use of their ample size, especially at the line out. An interception try by Nick Kerr and two penalties by Michael Logue were not enough in the end and we lost the match 16 - 11. Nevertheless, this was a very good display by our players against one of the best school sides in Glasgow.

PLATE COMPETITION

Robert Gordon's College

A disappointing Robert Gordon's side proved to be no match for a side boosted in confidence by the display against Boroughmuir. The game was controlled

towards this game was correct. With a driving wind blowing across the pitch, we encountered a totally focused and determined Perth side who held us to a 0 - 0 at half time. With the wind in our favour in the first half, we simply did not take our chances and tried to run the ball, when it was obvious that the only tactic should have been to kick long using the strong wind. Three - disciplines and poor finishing led to our opponents taking the upper hand and they were rewarded by two penalties which they successfully converted. We were outplayed by the better side on the day and it taught both myself and the players a lesson that I am sure we will not forget in a very long time.

Conclusion

Firstly, I would like to thank Alastair MacKinnon who captained the side very well throughout the season. I felt that Alastair was very unlucky not to be given a trial for Scottish Schools U.18, but as his selection by Caledonia Reds has proved, his talents are being appreciated by those in charge at the higher levels of the game. I would like to thank all the players of the senior squads for their efforts throughout the season. They have all worked extremely hard to improve their level of performance and it has been a real pleasure to work with them all in my first season as Master in Charge.

I would also like to pay tribute to all the other coaches who have worked tirelessly on behalf of QVS RFC: Mr Dow (S3), Mr Gilhooly (S2), Mr Carroll and Mr Philson (S1) and Mr

CUP GAMES

Glasgow Academy	Lost 16 - 11
Hawick High School	Won 23 - 0
Perth Academy	Lost 0 - 6

Points For	590
Points Against	154
Points Difference	+436

Matches Played	20
Matches Won	13
Matches Lost	6
Matches Drawn	1



1st XV FIXTURES & RESULTS

Versus	Result
Inverkeithing High School	Won 58 - 0
Selkirk High School	Won 32 - 12
Loretto 2nd XV	Lost 6 - 23
Perth Academy	Won 46 - 0
Fettes College 2nd XV	Won 48 - 0
Merchiston 2nd XV	Lost 13 - 15
Lomond School	Won 58 - 0
Perth Academy	Won 23 - 0
Madras College	Won 32 - 0
St Columba's School	Won 59 - 0
Rannoch School	Won 16 - 10
George Watson's 2nd XV	Drew 0 - 0
Dundee High School	Lost 5 - 19
Sedburgh School	Lost 8 - 31
Boroughmuir High School	Won 29 - 22
Robert Gordon's 2nd XV	Won 79 - 0
Kinross High School	Won 39 - 5

Beattie (P7). They have all done a tremendous job and I am sure that all the boys in their charge have reaped the benefits of their experience.

Mr Raine and Mr McLay have been an invaluable source of expertise, advise and occasionally consolation, throughout the season and I would like to extend a most heartfelt thanks to them both for their hard work and support.

My thanks also go to Sister Fitzgerald and Nurse McNicol who attend every home match, in all weathers, lending us not only excellent medical attention but also great support on the touch-line.

Mr Henderson and his catering staff also deserve a special mention for putting up with the problems we regularly present them with throughout the season. Their good humour and patience is much appreciated. I would also like to thank our groundsman, Henry, who has prepared our pitches so well under, at times, very difficult weather conditions. Finally, the excellent efforts of our GAP students, Mr Webster, Mr Anslow, Mr McKenzie and Mr O'Connor must not go without mention, they have been a great support throughout the season.

Tom King

Swimming Team

This year we have reformed the school swimming team and have started to train and to build up a little squad of swimmers. The team has worked hard during the year and is now much fitter and able to swim longer distances. Our first competition was a girls' fixture against Rannoch School, and our team was very nervous as for most of them it was their first ever competition. However, they swam very well and we won quite a few races with the scores ending up even between the schools. The next fixture was again girls, this time at Glenalmond. As their pool is a little larger than ours we struggled a little with the extra distance but still turned out some excellent performances against a team which was much older than ours. The boys' first gala was against Glenalmond who put out a sympathetic team. However, the boys performed well and actually won the gala.

We took a mixed team to an Independent Schools Relay competition at Glenalmond. The opposition was very strong and we came last in all but one event. Our team, however, all recorded personal best times so I couldn't ask for more than that. Richard McAuley became the first QV boy to go under 30 seconds for 50m freestyle that say - a considerable achievement on the limited training time available. My thanks also that day to Richard, Matthew Roessler and Lynsey McAuley, who all very bravely swam 50m butterfly.

The boys finished the year with a friendly gala against Merchiston Castle and it was sadly the last time Sam Morton, Richard McAuley, Cameron McCutcheon, Stuart Gregory, Lee Willans and Ross McKenzie would swim for the team. Thank you boys for your efforts this year.

The girls' team is not losing any members and will hopefully gain a few more next year and become even stronger. The boys' team will have to be rebuilt a lot so I will be on the lookout for new talent! Thank you all for your hard work and for giving it a try. You have done very well in a short space of time and I look forward to even greater things next year.

M McGlashan



Under 15 Football



Perthshire Cup

The under 15 football squad have had an excellent season this year, and should be congratulated on their sheer determination and dedication. Most of the training took place in the boys' free time and in many of the sessions the elements were not too kind. However, the team came to train in good spirits and didn't mind the weather.

The Perthshire Cup run began with a game at home against Auchterarder, which did not test the players' ability to any great extent. The next round against Crieff High School was, in fact, the semi-final, due to another school withdrawing.

Again the determination of the boys and some outstanding play from Stuart Noy won the game. From 3-1 down at half time QVS came back to extend the game into extra time and then to penalties, eventually winning 4-3 and giving me a few grey hairs.

The final was played in glorious sunshine at the South Inch, Perth, against Perth High School. After going 1 down just after half time the team battled back to draw 1-all at full time, due to an excellent free kick from Stuart Noy and some determined defending from Lee Willans and Ross Innes. Again extra time was played with no further scoring and penalties were taken. Unfortunately this time it was not to be and we were beaten 4-3. This was the cruellest way to lose a cup final, but the boys played with pride and made me proud to be associated with them.

I would like to thank Neil Seaton for captaining the team and all the players who worked so hard throughout the season.

J Scott

Lunchtime in the Library

"Is that book in yet?"
 "How do you load up Encarta?"
 "Do you have anything on industrial extractions?"
 "Do you think I should do my talk on the Bible and cosmology or should I try for something more original?"
 "Have I read enough books for a book mark?"
 "Can I borrow your tippex?"
 "This computer's not working."
 "Miss, I've read all the Paul Jennings books Miss. Miss, are there any other Paul Jenkins books Miss?"
 "Do you know where Mr King is?"
 "How do you block text to the right?"
 "Do you have any Choose your own Adventure stories?"
 "This printer's not working."
 "Can I restamp my books for two weeks?"
 "Can you photocopy this stuff about being a lawyer?"
 "That'll be the 'phone."
 "Do you think this hair cut makes my ears stick out?"
 "What would be a good quotation to start my discursive essay on drugs in sport?"
 "Did I leave my bag in here?"
 "Can I print out this stuff on unemployment?"
 "Which ones are the irregular French verbs, again?"
 "Would you like a nice cup of tea, Miss?"

Only one of the above is a work of fiction - no prizes for guessing which!

Haig Informal



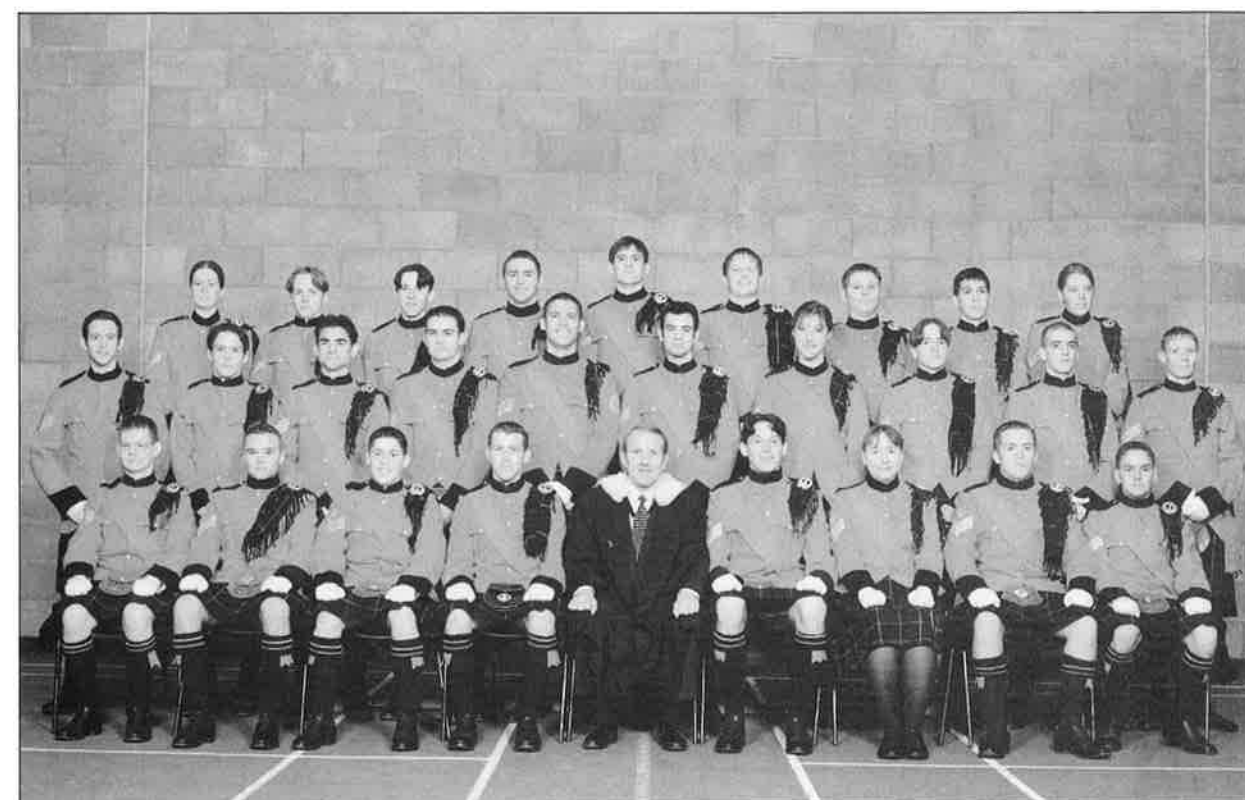
Match these descriptions/phrases to the individuals portrayed above.

Cool; asleep; poised; reckless; dangerous; charming; bored; thoughtful; *acting* thoughtful; hard as nails; needing support; backward; slinky; immaculate; having trouble sitting on chair; a reservoir dog; happy; intellectual; suave; looking for a refund; feeling cold; startled; formal; cheerful; nervous; attentive; earnest; confident; "Sorry, can't stay!"; mean; serious; "Is that a spider up there in the corner?"; paralysed; "Mulder, is that you?"; praying; about to fall asleep; sporty; scary; posh; ginger; baby; old; dodgy; prim; "Oi, mate, want to buy some dodgy goods?"; invisible; "Where's Wally?"



School Teaching Staff

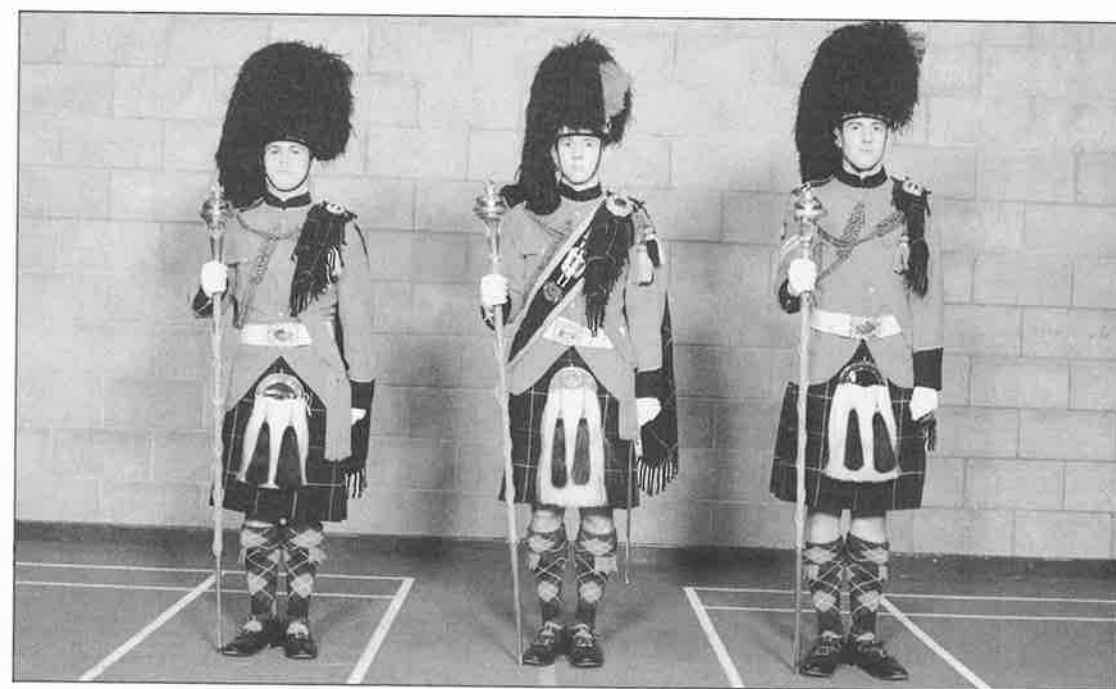
Back Row: M O'Connor, D Kelling, T King, A McKenzie, T Shannon
 Second Row: Rev J Silcox, L Thornton, T Lang, C Barr, S Johns, A Lawrence, C Anslow
 Third Row: D Gilhooly, D Garden, D McLay, J Howie, P Onslow, J Lawrence, J Scott, G Beattie
 Front: A Kirk, S Laing, M McGlashan, C Philson, B Raine, A Hainey, G Borking, G Carroll, D Stewart



Headmaster, with Monitors and Prefects



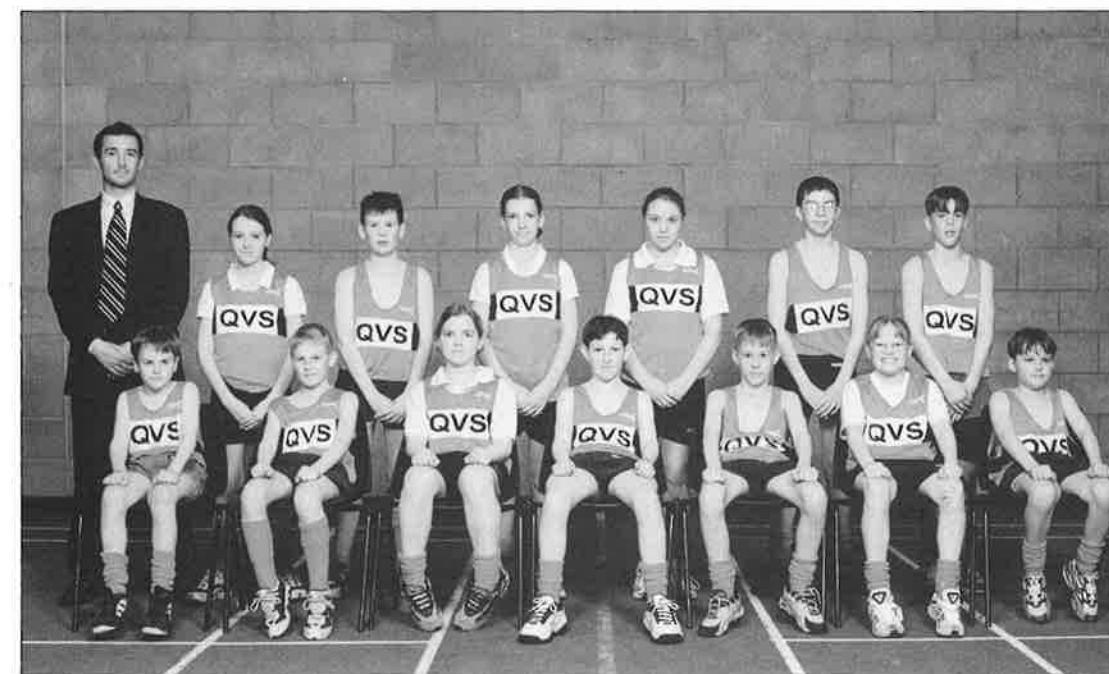
The Colour Party



Supernumerary, Ian Murray
Senior Drum Major, Kenneth Davidson
Supernumerary, Nicholas Kerr



P7 Rugby Team



P7 Cross Country Team



