



The Victorian 2002

Queen Victoria School

“At Queen Victoria School, we have a mission which lies at the very heart of the school ethos, and which 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 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.”

Queen Victoria School

Queen Victoria School is a co-educational boarding school, which provides stable, uninterrupted and high quality education for the children of Scottish service personnel or those who are serving or have served in Scotland. Set in 45 acres of beautiful Perthshire country. Queen Victoria School is easily accessible by road, rail or air.

Pupils may be registered for entry from the age of 7 but will normally be admitted to primary 7 (ie 10.5/11 years). Applications must reach the school by 30th November so that they may be considered for 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 and balanced curriculum following the Scottish educational system to Standard, Intermediate 2 and Higher Grades of the Scottish Certification of education. Pupils also have the opportunity to study in a number of subjects for the Advanced Higher Examination. Increasingly pupils move on

to Higher and Further Education but career links with the Services remain strong. Pastoral care is given a very high priority along with careers guidance and personal and social education. The School aims to provide a happy and stable “home from home” environment in which pupils can participate in a full and energetic boarding life. Within this context Queen Victoria School is able to promote the welfare and happiness of each individual child and develop their self esteem. In addition, there is a very full programme of sporting, cultural and spiritual development.

Queen Victoria School is a unique boarding School which seeks to achieve the best that is possible academically for its pupils. The School prides itself also on developing the pupil in the widest possible sense and aims to achieve success academically, in sport, music, drama and many other extra-curricular areas. A very special and unique dimension of Queen Victoria School is the ceremonial side which preserves the very best of the School's traditions.

Front Cover Image: Craig Farquharson, Andrew Reith and Lindsey Farquharson
Back Cover: Lynsey McAulay and Lisa Milligan
Photographs taken during the Edinburgh Tattoo courtesy of Mr B. Raine



Artwork: Christopher Niven, Stuart Ruthven, Alex Trousdale, Paul Fleming, Kris Edwards, Jenny Holmes

The Victorian 3



Headmaster with Pipe Band

The academic session 2001 / 2002 started in great fashion with the last week of the Edinburgh Tattoo merging into the first week of term and news of some excellent exam results. Our Standard Grade results were quite simply superb! 76.3% of S4 pupils gained 5 or more passes at Grade 1 and 2 compared with 52.4% of last year. 97.3% gained 5 or more passes at Grade 1 to 3 compared with 90% of last year. At Higher Grade 75.9% of our presentations in S5 and S6 were in the A - C category compared with 68% last year. The pupils and staff deserve great credit for such excellent results and we must now make every effort to maintain and build on this standard.

Queen Victoria School's participation in the Edinburgh Tattoo was a great success. Our pupils impressed everyone with the high quality and professionalism of their performance. Over 25% of the School took part in the Tattoo, which was quite a feat in itself, and indeed a huge logistical exercise, because it involved transporting everyone to and from Edinburgh every evening. To have a large percentage performing at a prestigious international event and at such a professional level, considering their ages 13 - 18, is a great tribute to the pupils and staff involved. Seeing the pupils grow in confidence and self-esteem, as I did over the 4 weeks, showed that it was a

most worthwhile venture for them even though they sacrificed some holidays. In addition, very good links were established with the Cook Islands Dancers and the Irish Dancers. General Walker's comments about Grand Day could be equally true of the Tattoo when he described it as a truly memorable Grand Day - with Highland Dancers of the highest calibre supported by first-class Pipes and Drums! Lindsey Farquharson, Lynsey McAulay and Darren Farr deserve special mention as the Drum Major, Pipe Major and Principal Highland Dancer for the Tattoo.

Further moves were made on the refurbishment programme with Phase 1 of the second floor in the dorms of the Main Building completed. Phase 2 will complete the second floor this summer and then we move on to Haig. Thereafter, we need to concentrate on developing the classrooms with a new block and a Music centre. The latter will be the main focus of our 100th Anniversary Fund-Raising Appeal.

We have also done a lot of work this year on networking the School. The core system for the LAN / Internet should be fully operational this summer and the next stage of this will be to incorporate the Houses. As part of this whole process we have installed PPMS - a Pupil Performance Monitoring System. This will allow Senior Management, staff and pupils themselves to monitor their progress. Pupils will also be able to use this for producing their own Curriculum Vitae.

This is only one area in which we have been working to improve communications within the School and academic life in general. In November 2001, I asked Stirling Council Children's Services to conduct an academic audit. This was carried out by their Quality Assurance team and included the Headmaster of Stirling High School. The overall assessment was good to very good with a number of development areas.

We are now working on the latter. As part of this process I am, at present, preparing a Service Level Agreement with Stirling Council to work more closely with the Quality Assurance Unit and to access training and development for staff.

This year was our biggest Admissions process ever with 141 applicants of which we have accepted 53. There is no doubt that the School is proving to be very popular because of what we have to offer and because we are successful in both examinations and the wider sphere. The pupils continue to be our best marketing tool but things do not just happen and it is a great credit to all staff that we are, at present, so successful. However, we cannot afford to be complacent.

The 1st XV have not had a great season, although we have beaten Morrison's Academy, Madras and Lomond amongst others. We have, however, had one of our most successful seasons with our Junior sides. The S2's remained unbeaten and won the District Section of the SSRU Jubilee Competition. Having won their way through to the National Competition it was most disappointing for it to be cancelled due to snow. The P7's was also one of the best sides we have had at this age group for years.



Kris Edwards, Caledonia U18's Team

On the representative side it was good to see Kris Edwards make it through to the Caledonia U18's and Murray McLeod the Caledonia U16's. In addition, Jamie Evenden, Craig Farquharson, Greg Towns, Kevin Hayes and Richard Cooper all represented the Central Crusaders U15's. Following on from last year it was also good to see last year's Captain, Chris Harris selected for the very successful Scotland U19 side.

The hockey 1st X1 have had an excellent season, losing only to Strathallan. We are now consistently achieving good results in hockey against all the major Schools. Lisa Milligan captained the side for the 3rd year and has done a magnificent job. I'm sure she will be a great asset as a GAP student in Perth, Australia. Claire McGilivray and Fiona Coyle are also to be congratulated on representing Midlands U16's.

2002 had been one of our best years ever for Cross Country. At

St. Aloysius, the U15 girls came 1st: David Honeyman came 1st, Katrina Leith 2nd and Leanne Bridgeman 2nd. At Glenalmond the U15 boys and U14 girls came 1st with David Honeyman and Leanne Bridgeman coming 1st. At Queen Victoria School, David Honeyman and Karen Harrower came 1st and Katrina Leith 2nd. At Strathallan the U14 and U15 girls' teams came 1st with a number of very good individual results e.g. Karen Harrower and David Thorpe 1st. In the Fettes Relays the U15 and U13 girls came 1st and U17 boys 2nd. At the Scottish Schools Championships the U14 girls and U15 boys came 2nd and the U17 boys came 4th with Leanne Bridgeman 9th and Karen Harrower 14th. A magnificent season!

Football has also gone well this year so far with the 1st X1 doing extremely well in a league of Independent Schools. Unfortunately, the Perthshire Cup did not go so well and, once again, St. Columba's proved to be our downfall.

The Young Enterprise Scheme is now in its second year at Queen Victoria School. Earlier in the year Kris Edwards was the Managing Director of the winning team in the Young Enterprise Master Class. The team have worked well together and introduced hot chocolate / hot dogs sales at morning break, periodically. At the beginning of the summer term the team (Kris Edwards, Callum Small, Craig Curson, Ashling Kerr, Scott Mackle, Jamie McIntyre) were placed 3rd in the Central Region final which was a very good achievement.

Having won the regional competition, our Drama group competed in the final of the Scottish National Drama Competition for Human Values and came 3rd overall with the best script. Other events on the Drama front were a play called 'Cinders Twist' performed by S3 and an innovative and very successful Wavell Talent Competition at the end of the Winter Term.

One of our most worthwhile activities 'Swimming with the



Headmaster and School Sergeant Major with Colour Party and Orderlies: L to R - Cameron Johnston, Liam Bridgeman, David Walker, Jamie Graham, Kris Reid, Charlie MacDonald, Finlay Smith



Headmaster with School Monitors and S5 and S6 School Prefects

Disabled' deserves a mention. This activity has been going for as long as most people in the School can remember. It is very well received by those less fortunate than ourselves who do appreciate the help and support of our young people. It is good to see that we have pupils willing to help others in this way. Well done to: - Alasdair Spence, Michael Brown, Adam Tose, Graeme Houston, Neil Greenwood, Richard O'Donnell, Andrew Reith, Amy Morton, Laura Dunnachie, Laurie Cairns, Jennifer Holmes, Laura Hadland and Nicola Bonner.

The CCF showed, in its Biennial Inspection by Commodore Borley, that it is well organised. Commodore Borley commented "My abiding impression of the day is of a nurturing, caring community that encourages maturity and leadership skills to flourish."

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme continues to do well with 67, 13 and 8 involved at the Bronze, Silver and Gold, respectively. Last year's Gold Awards were to Stewart Ruthven, Nick Burge and Gareth Martin and this year's Amy Morton, Lindsey Farquharson and Lynsey McAulay.

In Debating, the S3 Public Speaking Team, (Carley Spence, Claire Greenwood and Kevin Hayes) won their round of the BP Young Speakers Initiative and came second in the final. In a Young Writers Competition for all secondary Schools in the U.K., Natasha Bruce, Laura Morrison and Carrie-Ann Campbell wrote pieces of distinction that were accepted for publication in a Young Writers Zodiac Anthology.

With the departure of Mr Onslow in June we had our final concert last summer under his direction. Miss Chapman looked after the department until the end of the Winter Term and did a very good job in putting on the Music Concert in December which was very much appreciated by pupils, staff, parents and friends. The Junior Minstrels have also performed well at functions such as the Ladywell Friendship Guild, Stirling Royal Infirmary and Erskine Hospital.

The Pipe Band and Highland Dancers could not match the

intensity of the Tattoo period but have, nevertheless, been very busy, as usual. Our involvement at Murrayfield continues but within the context of massed Pipes and Drums, although it is still Queen Victoria School as the centrepiece and our Pipe and Drum Majors who co-ordinate everything. The Pipe Band have been involved in the following internationals: -

Scotland v	Ireland
Scotland v	Argentina
Scotland v	Tonga
Scotland v	New Zealand
Scotland v	England
Scotland v	France

Against England the Highland Dancers were also asked to provide a 'Guard of Honour' at the tunnel for the teams and Princess Anne. It was a most impressive sight to see Queen Victoria School pupils in a V shape with swords leading from the tunnel to the pitch. The climax was the French match when the Queen Victoria School Pipe Band and the Lowland Band played a tribute for Bill McLaren at half-time including a specially prepared pipe tune 'A tribute to Bill McLaren' composed by Pipe Major Gordon Ross. Parents may well also have seen an item on BBC Scotland News in the build up to the Scotland v England game.

The Pipe Band have, of course, been involved in other functions such as Burns Night at RAF Leuchars and a dinner sponsored by American Airlines. In addition, Cameron Lee in S1 came 1st in a Junior Piping Championship at The Piping Centre in Glasgow. Unfortunately, due to Mrs MacDonald's prolonged illness, the Highland Dancers have not been involved as much since the Tattoo. However, they have continued to perform on Parade Sundays, the O.V.A. Weekend and, most recently, at a Farewell Dinner for 2 retiring Commissioners Lord Cullen, Dr. McClelland and Mrs Hainey, and at the Bobby Watson Tribute in Aberdeen. Mrs Hainey retired at the end of the spring term 2002 after 10 years at Queen Victoria School as Assistant Headteacher. When



GAP Students L to R - Simon Tanna, Ryan Molloy, Tove Olafson, Jane Mulvihill, Sam Cullen

she was appointed she was tasked with introducing P.S.E. and being someone whom the pupils could approach if they had a concern. At the time, she was the first full time female teacher and with a job remit which was completely new to Queen Victoria School. It is to her credit that the School has moved on so much on the Pastoral side. The whole Pastoral / Welfare side has become so important and since 1998 Mrs Hainey's job description was increased on the recommendation of the HMIs to include Quality Assurance Manager on the Welfare side. Mrs Hainey has spent countless hours counselling pupils but more importantly, listening to them. It is interesting to note that parents have also found her a very good listener and counsellor. The School has benefited from her skills not just on the Pastoral side but as a teacher of English, at times - her main subject - but also of P.S.E. I have enjoyed working closely with her and I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her tremendous, ground breaking contribution to the School and wish her a long and happy retirement.

Lt Col Jim Sharp MBE, our Estates Manager, also retired in March. I am aware that the Bursar has included a short piece in his notes on him; therefore, I will merely add my thanks to Lt Col Sharp for his contribution to the School on the Estates side during what has been, latterly, a very busy period. Again, I would like to wish Jim and Angela, his wife, a long and happy retirement. Unfortunately, my Secretary Mrs Dorothy Bryan has also been forced to retire through illness: we wish her a speedy recovery and long and happy retirement.

Our new recruits have been Miss Gail Johnston in the Geography Department, Mr David Breingan as Director of Music, Mrs Alison Morea as Deputy Head's Secretary, Mrs

McColl as part-time Primary teacher, Mr David Dent as the Estates Manager and Miss Lyn Smith as Assistant Headteacher. The new GAP students for 2002 are Ryan Molloy and Sam Cullen from Brisbane Boys College (Haig and Trenchard respectively), Simon Tanna from PLC Warwick (Cunningham) and Jane Mulvihill from Mount Saint Michael's, Brisbane (Wavell). In addition, to help out with the girls in Trenchard, Tove Olafson joined us in September from the University of Victoria in British Columbia.

Once again I would like to pay tribute to the Staff of Queen Victoria School who, as I mentioned earlier, do make things



Assistant Headteacher, Miss Lyn Smith



Headmaster with School Monitors: L to R - Amy Morton, Callum Small, Lindsey Farquharson (Senior Monitor), Lisa Milligan, Jamie Graham, Andrew Reith.

happen in the School. Someone once said, 'It takes a village to raise a child' and in many respects we are a small village community and a microcosm of society. Within our village community we have many talented individuals who contribute in so many ways at different levels to help produce our end product - a well educated, confident individual. The motto 'Children are always the only future the human race has. Teach them well', is very true and one which holds true at Queen Victoria School. It is indeed the Queen Victoria School staff in the widest sense that make things happen and produce the all round and wide-ranging quality which I have just described above. The School's re-accreditation in the IIP process is also evidence of this process.

It is also worthy of note that 3 of the QVS staff represented half of the Boarding Schools Award Ceremony in May 2002 for this new qualification: they were Rev. J Silcox, Mr Tomkins and Mr Duthie.

Lindsey Farquharson is our second female Senior Monitor and, although she did not trail blaze in the way that Vicky Harris did, she has continued the very fine tradition of excellent Senior Monitors. I would like to thank her for her help and advice: she has found the right balance in the position and gained the respect of staff and pupils alike. My thanks are also due to the other Monitors and Prefects who help us at House and School level to keep things running smoothly.

Finally, my thanks go to the Commissioners and in particular, to the Chairman Lt. General Sir John MacMillan and Mrs Nan Howe the Chairman of the General Purposes committee for their tremendous work on behalf of the School. The range of

expertise and support available to any Headmaster of Queen Victoria School is illustrated by the departure of the two Commissioners mentioned earlier: Lord Cullen, who is well known to all for his work on Royal Commissions such as Piper Alpha, Dunblane, the Paddington Rail crash and Dr. McClelland, previously one of Her Majesty's Inspectorate and a well-respected advisor in the educational field. Her Majesty's Commissioners support in the governance of the School is very much appreciated.



L to R - Rev. J.R. Silcox, Mr Tomkins, Mrs Judith Sischy (Director of SCIS) & Mr Duthie at the B.S.A. Awards Ceremony May 2002.

The Norman MacLeod MacNeil Trust Fund

Activities Report – 2001

Parents, Pupils and Old Victorians will be aware of the Norman MacLeod MacNeil Trust Fund, which was established in 1994 by Mr Jack MacNeil of Connecticut USA, in memory of his father, Norman MacLeod MacNeil, who was a pupil at Queen Victoria School from December 1909 to July 1912.

As in previous years, in 2001 The Norman MacLeod MacNeil Trust Fund attracted an interesting range of projects, and the grants awarded in support of activities were considerable. A total of £4,400 was awarded to a total of 10 pupils, with three GAP years in Australia (Paul Fleming, Gary Houston and Gareth Martin) and one GAP year in Zambia (Ciaran Flynn) prominent in the list. We look forward to hearing where their travels have taken them when they complete their years in July and August 2002.

A second group of four - Lindsey Farquharson, Mhairi Henderson, Colin MacDonald and Thomas Wright - joined forces to attend a CCF Camp in Cyprus. They were based at RAF Akrotiri, and their two-week visit included activities ranging from inter-flight competitions to flights with No 84 Squadron in Wessex helicopters, and time spent with a Royal Logistics Corps bomb disposal detachment. Not surprisingly, the latter visit produced an Old Victorian who had left the School in 1982! Needless to say, the group managed to fit time in a busy schedule for some sightseeing and sunbathing. Overall, the group reported that they had enjoyed a fantastic experience, which enabled them to get a greater insight into the role of the RAF abroad, and at the same time make new friends and contacts.

The final two awards went to Chloe Johnston and John Halley to assist their participation in the British Schools Shooting Team's tour of South Africa 2001. The team competed in several matches with some success, notably 14 medals on international day, when British Schools competed against the South African 'A' Team, and a win in the final match, with

John Halley achieving a new personal best. Not only did the QVS representatives make a significant contribution to the British Team's performance, but also it is clear from their diaries that John and Chloe both took full advantage to see a wonderful part of the world, and enjoy their visit. Chloe Johnston concluded her report:

"I'd like to thank the Trust Fund for providing £600 for a once in a life time opportunity. It will not be forgotten".

For 2002, pupils are again being given support for GAP years, but there is a slight shift in emphasis for the other awards with a number of grants being given in support of music and dance projects, and a block of awards in support of eleven pupils participating in a West Highland Way Sponsored Walk and ascent of Ben Nevis to raise funds for the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust. In approving these awards, the Trust was particularly pleased to be able to include an expedition in aid of charity, and to note bids in support of cultural activities in the fields of music and dance. The Trust also took note of the relative effort and planning involved in the GAP year proposals, in line with its aims of encouraging individual enterprise and ambitious spirit of adventure.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the Norman MacLeod MacNeil Trust Fund should contact the Headmaster or the Bursar. Application forms are available from the Bursar and the annual deadline for submission of grant requests is the close of the Autumn/winter term each year, with bids being considered by the Trustees early in February the following year. Why not give it some thought, and get your bid in early?

Queen Victoria School has made major advances over the past ten years since becoming a Government Agency. Its success in meeting the challenges of increasingly rapid social and educational change is reflected in a rising demand for places. The challenge now is to plan for future growth and meet this higher demand.

Queen Victoria School has a truly unique position in the world of Scottish education, and in recent years the School has not only been moving with the times, but also it has been consolidating and enhancing its excellent reputation in a wide variety of ways.

Two years ago my predecessor was writing in this magazine about the need to react swiftly and willingly to change. In my short time in post I have quickly become aware of a readiness to try new ideas, and adapt, whilst maintaining the best of the School's established practices and traditions. For traditions to survive they need to remain relevant, and to add value. Too often, being modern assumes rejecting all that has gone before. Clearly, this is not the case at QVS; the School has found the secret of not throwing out the baby with the bath water!

If anyone needs proof that the School has a winning formula they need look no further than the steadily increasing interest in its achievements over the past twelve months, and the rising demand for places. Consequently, from the Bursar's perspective, the focus of attention has now turned to the future shape and size of the School. Studies are underway to determine the options, and recommend possible ways to take QVS forward over the next ten-to-twenty years, and beyond.

Returning to the present, the current refurbishment programme took another step forward last summer with the completion of the two dormitory corridors on the Second Floor of the Main Building. Cunningham House now enjoys bedroom accommodation which I am sure would be the envy of many other boarding schools in Scotland. Haig's turn is, of course, coming, but not until 2003. The next phase is to complete the bulk of the work on the second floor of the Main Building during the Summer break 2002.

Despite the turbulence and disruption of the refurbishment programme during the Summer break 2001, the School ran very successful summer lets. Also, we were able to help out the National Youth Orchestras of Scotland (NYOS) during the Easter break 2002 with their Spring 2002 Residential Course for the National Children's Orchestra of Scotland, following announcements in the media that the NYOS were looking for a new home, and might even have to move outside Scotland to find a suitable location. The 140-piece symphony orchestra was accommodated in the MacMillan Sports Hall and the arrangements worked extremely well in all respects. Lets are an

important source of income, and contribute to meeting one of our Key Targets. Of course they do so at a cost, most of which falls on the House and support staff, who have traditionally viewed the holiday periods as the opportunity to catch up on those essential maintenance and housekeeping tasks which cannot be carried out sensibly during term-time.

Turning to the more mundane, but vitally important subject of Health & Safety, improvements in fire protection measures are always under careful consideration on the Estate Manager's agenda. Following a recent periodic inspection by the Headquarters 2 Division Fire Advisor, we have taken note of his advice and work is in hand to ensure that the School is keeping pace with changes in legislation and mandatory requirements, inevitably at considerable cost. In broader terms, attention to Health & Safety matters is the concern of everyone in the School, without exception; thanks to the careful vigilance of all thus far, we have enjoyed a good record. Long may it continue.

The burden of advising the School on Health & Safety matters has changed hands with the departure of Lt Col Sharp from the post of Estates Manager in early March 2002, and his replacement by Major David Dent. Lt Col (Retd) Jim Sharp MBE, late Gordon Highlanders, joined the School in 1990 and served as Administrative Officer from 1990 to 1992, Assistant Bursar from 1992 to 1995 and Estates Manager from 1995 until his retirement earlier this year. During his time in office he has played a significant part in improving the infrastructure and overall condition of the School, most notably the provision of Trenchard House, and the current refurbishment programme. He helped steer the organisation to Government Agency status in the early 1990s, and his depth of experience and knowledge of MOD business, in general, and Army procedure in particular, has been invaluable. At the time of writing, I have been in post just twelve months, and I would like to express my personal thanks to Jim Sharp for his assistance and wise counsel during my settling in period.

I extend that thanks to the rest of the Bursar's team who have been busy throughout the year recruiting, paying, admitting, repairing, billing, issuing, accounting, guarding, planning and discharging the myriad of other tasks that have come its way, including carrying the new Bursar through his early months; never a dull moment.

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Young Enterprise



Young Enterprise L to R - Callum Small, Kris Edwards, Craig Curson, Ashling Kerr

Another year has come and gone in the frenetic world of Queen Victoria's Business community. This was a year that saw many successes of the second Young Enterprise group. With 2 members of the first ever QV enterprise group taking part again this year, we were able to benefit from their experience and build upon their achievements. Firstly, we were able to organise ourselves faster (organise jobs and meetings, set deadlines, etc) and, therefore, more able to set tasks and progress our ideas. This, in turn, meant that we had a successful day at the Falkirk Trade Fare, organised by Forth Valley Enterprise as a showcase for young entrepreneurs, almost selling out of our product, (dough dolls). The group's profits this year far exceeded that earned by last years entrepreneurs. Further, in percentage terms, the profits earned would be the envy of many a national firm. This was in no small part due to the innovative product that we made and the drive with which we set about selling. Finally, before the group members talk about the experiences YE provided, another great success of this year was that our group was placed 3rd in the Central Region Enterprise competition. A very good achievement considering this was only our second year of participating and the other schools have a long history in this competition. Now to the young entrepreneurs, beginning with the MD, **Kris Edwards**.

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

"It starts as a hobby and finishes as an experience. Hard work, strict deadlines and targets to meet. Not everyone survives, but for those who do it is a very rewarding and exciting challenge. You form a company, find a name and you get to work. What will you make? How will you make it? Will you make a profit? Who has the entrepreneurship to make this work? It's real! The business, the money, the teamwork, the competition, success and failure. This is what YE is all about."
"Young enterprise is a superb idea that gives a great opportunity for the participants to gain experience of business"
"On behalf of the company, I wish to thank the Link Advisors Ian Taylor and Anne Dunne and Mr Wright for their hard work and guidance. I would also like to thank all staff who supported us, too many to mention, and hope that you will continue to support YE in the future."

Accounts, Craig "Louis" Curson

"As the Accountant for the company I am pleased to report that Genesis had an overall income of £1,000 for the year. After all expenses we have a net profit of almost £500. As I am also studying Higher Accounting, the experience of receiving and paying out money as well as keeping the records has complemented my studies."

Personnel, Nicola Bonner

"Our company started out with 14 people and ended up with 7. Most of these left of their own accord stating pressures of schoolwork as their reason for leaving. However, others were asked to leave by the directors. This meant that we had to make some very tough decisions and face unpleasant situations when telling some to leave. In particular, we had to "let go of" the first MD. However, this proved to be the right decision as the team became more motivated and organised and our views were listened to."

Sales and Marketing, Callum Small

"For our products to be successful we had to ensure that we got the right product to the right people in the right place at the right price using the right promotion. Our Marketing Department was mainly involved in advertising the product. We did this by posting leaflets and posters around the school and we also created the display for the Trade Fare at Falkirk. We also worked extensively on the PowerPoint presentation for the Central Region competition. As a student of Higher Business Management I was able to bring my knowledge of the Marketing Mix, relating price to quality, to this function."
Company Secretary, Scott Mackle
"It was the job of Company Secretary to record all the minutes of each meeting and to organise ourselves to ensure that we progressed each week. We used our meetings to set tasks and deadlines and in doing so we were organised for success. I was also heavily involved in organising a coffee morning and selling hotdogs and hot chocolate, two highly successful business ventures."

There we have it, hard work, meeting deadlines, setting targets, rewarding and challenging experiences, discussions (or were they arguments?), hiring and firing, organising, motivating, commitment, inter-personal skills, teamwork, failures followed by successes, opportunities, profits earned, great experience.... Yes, that is what Young Enterprise is all about.



Cunningham House Staff and Pupils

Mr Tomkins, Cunningham Housemaster

It always comes as a surprise when the letter requesting articles for the Victorian appears in my pigeon hole and I realize that another year in the life of the House has past. Although it stimulates a period of reflection and memories it also focuses the mind on the year ahead and the ever evolving traditions and progress of the school.

As usual the social calendar has been busy with outings, House parties, discos and now the annual visit to Alton Towers. None of these events would be possible without the support of the House Team and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their commitment to the social, pastoral and safety of the boys in our care. There has been a change of Gap student with Richard Wilson leaving to go back down under with our thanks for a great year. Simon Tanna arrived in January and is settling in very well. Another change has been the retirement of my wife, Cath, from the post of Matron. Cath has been instrumental in supporting me in every aspect of the job of Housemaster and I am grateful to her for the many and varied ways she has helped me and more importantly the boys. I am pleased to say that Cath still intends playing a role in the House Team and will continue to help compile the boys accounts and keep control of the ever-popular tuck shop. Our new matron is Mrs Sheena Graham who has already experienced the hazards of the laundry and the daily cry of "Miss, I've lost my". Welcome to the Team Sheena I hope you enjoy your time ahead with the House.

As I talked about reflection at the beginning of the article it's hard for me not to compare the life of the boys in the House with my own many years ago. Without doubt there are innumerable advantages with the variety of opportunities they have now through sport, Duke of Edinburgh, Combined Cadet Force, outings, computer games and the ever increasing

amount of tuck the boys come back with at the start of term or after weekends at home. Even pocket money just seems to appear at times on request. I know you would expect me now to say "Well in my day laddie you had to work hard for anything you got" and that would be true, with my pleasure coming from my voluntary commitment to the local pipe band and pocket money dependent on my two paper rounds, potato and strawberry picking and my Gran who gave me a shilling (5p) a week for doing her shopping.

The downside I feel is the hectic lifestyle the boys have and the ever increasing expectation to do well at everything they do. Certainly, now it is not just a question of "Did you pass?" but "What were your grades?". Success seems to be measured and expected in all the varied aspects of the boys lives but I am confident we can balance this pressure of work with a bit of fun, humour and realisation that much can be gained from the type of care we provide for the boys in the House by having high standards, combined with an awareness of the pressures and demands made on them.

My thanks to the senior boys in the House, House Captain Jamie Graham, House Vice Captain Kris Edwards, Paul Tyson and Kris Reid - they work hard and provide a valuable link between the House Team and the boys.

Mr Duthie, my assistant, and Karen, the Matron's assistant, have again been the stalwarts of the House providing support for the boys and myself. Their hard work and commitment is second to none, providing a lending hand or just a sympathetic ear whenever required.

On then to the summer term with the prospect of Drill Competitions, Duke of Edinburgh, Athletics, CCF Beating Retreats and preparation for Grand Day. "Never a dull moment!"

THE BOYS' PERSPECTIVE

Now it is our obligation to turn off the cheese and hit the Victorian with some top quality journalism (as you can see). Our predecessors, the former Senior Monitor, Gareth Martin and 'Scuba Steve' Tierney, managed to somehow write a whole paragraph of 'funny jokes', sarcastic comments and pointless sentences that degraded the high standard of Q.V. humour.

After Gareth and Steve departed for Oz, two replacements had to be found. This wasn't a hard task for the Cunningham House Team as any new member of the 5th year would have been around to do duty more often than Gareth and Steve (even me Kris Edwards)!!! So here we are landed with Paul Tyson and Kris Reid.

This year we've seen the back of Rich Wilson the Gap student and welcomed Simon Tanna. We have also seen but not really heard our new Senior Monitor, Lindsey; on the other hand our new Cunningham House Captain and Colour Party Sergeant, Jamie Graham (the hardest man you will ever know) can always be heard on the parade square - Mmaaaaaaaaaaaaaammmmmmmmmmm!!!!!!!

In the House things run quite smoothly - well it's hard not to with Reggie bellowing down the dorms! The laundry always seems to be handed in on time - maybe we are all just scared of Matron? Sadly, we will be seeing no more of Mrs Tomkins as Matron, as she takes her new post as the School Hospital emergency evacuee-unit.

We just can't believe it's our turn to write this article, because eight years ago seemed like a lifetime before we left school and it's now just about to happen. We will be leaving a lot of friends, respected staff and a school that has seen everyone mature, and grow into who they are today. We would like to thank Mr Tomkins, Mrs Tomkins, Mr Duthie, Mrs McVey, Mr Laing and a lot of other staff that have made our time at Q.V. worth all the effort.

Kris Edwards & Jamie Graham

CUNNINGHAM ANTHEN - Andy Martin

Life is such a dream
Here in Cunningham House
It's calm, like a stream
Quieter than a mouse (!)

Up we get in the morning
Out of our 'pits'
Running off to the shower
With our smelly wash kits

To breakfast we rush
Then back up again
To tidy our rooms
In sun or in rain

To classes, then lunch
And more classes too
If you want a hobby
Then it's up to you

We've got hockey and squash
Rugby or football
Which one's for you?
There's one to suit all

We look forward to our trips
To the movies or pool
Watching Harry Potter
- Or Neville - (the fool)

We love Murrayfield too
Unless Scotland get gubbed
Our hopes of a win
All too easily snubbed

And although in Cunningham
We all love a trip
If Drummie can't manage
Then it's time for a 'kip'

Or there's more sports on offer
Basketball or swimming
We don't take it too seriously
- Unless we're not winning

We shower before bed
Tired after our hard work
We lie like the dead
- Prefects get to stay up

And then once again
You can hear the noise
It must be because
We're such fantastic boys!

HAIG OR VAGUE?

How much do you know about Haig House and the Haig Housemaster?



Haig House Staff and Pupils

1. Haig House is called after:

- (a) Hugh Montague Trenchard
- (b) Archibald Percival Wavell
- (c) Andrew Browne Cunningham
- (d) Douglas Haig, 1st Earl of Bermersyde

2. Mr Laing went to school at:

- (a) Galashiels Academy
- (b) St. Custards
- (c) Borstal
- (d) The Institute for the Technically Insane

3. In the eight years or so that Mr Laing has been Haig Housemaster, how many times has he got his House reports in on time?

- (a) Eight times
- (b) Never
- (c) Once
- (d) House what?

4. When Mr Laing catches boys playing football in the North Annexe after lights out, what is he most likely to say?

- (a) 'What's the score?'
- (b) 'Can I have a game?'
- (c) '**&\$£!!@~!'
- (d) 'Goodnight lads!'

5. What was Mr Laing's expression when he was informed it was time to decorate Haig corridor for Christmas?

- (a) 'Bah, humbug!'
- (b) 'I gave the decorations away to the poor'
- (c) 'Great! And let's use plenty of spray-on snow this year because it doesn't come off the windows easily'
- (d) (Holding up a legal document) - 'There ain't no sanity clause!'

6. When Mr Laing finally retires from Haig House, what will he miss most?

- (a) The boys
- (b) Working from 7am to 1am
- (c) The constant supply of Kit Kats left over from supper
- (d) Free Sky TV

7. How much is Mr Beattie's tuck bill this year?

- (a) Equal to the national debt
- (b) £0.00 - he doesn't eat rubbish
- (c) Let's hope his lottery ticket comes up soon
- (d) He should take out shares in Mars, or preferably, a membership at a gym

8. What question is most often heard in Haig House?

- (a) 'Sir, when are the chips coming?'
- (b) 'Sir, have you filled up the tuck shop yet?'
- (c) 'Sir, can I go overdrawn to.....em.....buy my mum a birthday card?'
- (d) 'Sir, can I have a paracetamol?' 'Haven't got any, but there's Polos in the tuck shop' 'Aye that'll do!'

9. What question is least often heard in Haig House?

- (a) Matron, can I help you pair the socks?
- (b) Sir, can we do prep on a Saturday as well?
- (c) Sir, I've cleaned my bunk space, can I do the office now?
- (d) Sir, can I stay up to watch Open University?

10. What is made in the Haig office on a Friday night?

- (a) A right racket
- (b) Cheese 'n' ham toasties
- (c) An illegal still
- (d) Furniture for Mr Laing's flat

11. What is the best Haig excuse for not attending a dance at a girls' school?

- (a) Sir, my girlfriend won't let me
- (b) Sir, I feel a right dork at a disco in a kilt
- (c) Sir, I've got to practise my reading for Chapel tomorrow
- (d) Sir, I've got loads of prep

12. What is the most likely reason for the Haig Housemaster not wanting to attend a dance at a girls' school?

- (a) He's terrified in case a jolly Headmistress grabs his hand and makes him do the Reel of the 51st Division
- (b) He's terrified in case a jolly Headmistress grabs his hand and makes him dance like a Mosher to Nickelback

- (c) He's terrified nobody will speak to him and he has to stand like a wallflower beside the vol-au-vents, or wander up and down the corridors studiously regarding paintings of Headmistresses past and present
- (d) He's never known the words to Auld Lang Syne, crosses his arms at the wrong time, and always sustains a rugby-type injury in the stampede at the end

13. How many times in his Housemaster's career has Mr Laing caught a boy hiding in a cupboard trying to skive Chapel?

- (a) Never! The very thought!
- (b) Once, in 1996. The boy went on to university, but didn't read Divinity
- (c) Once, but there were seven boys jammed in
- (d) Every Sunday morning

14. What does Mr Laing do when the fire alarm goes off at 2am?

- (a) He sleeps through it
- (b) He knots sheets together and abseils out of the nearest window
- (c) He puts his suit on and goes to his first class
- (d) He throws mattresses out of the window and chucks the boys out after them

15. What's the most common excuse for not going to Sunday chapel?

- (a) Can't find my brogues
- (b) My kilt's too long
- (c) My kilt's too short
- (d) There's not enough seats

16. What expression are you most likely to hear from Mr Laing when he's playing in the Monday night staff v pupils footie competition?

- (a) Sorry, it's unrepeatable
- (b) We wiz robbed
- (c) Ya jammy wee git
- (d) Jolly well played everyone! It's the taking part that counts, not the winning

17. What is Mr Laing most likely to say when he catches a couple of boys sneaking down to the first shop when they should be in school?

- (a) Gonnae no dae that?
- (b) Can you get me a bottle of Irn Bru?
- (c) Can you take my dog, she needs a walk?
- (d) Signed out, have you?

18. What is usually the highlight of the Haig Housemaster's school year?

- (a) Dressing up in a gown and hood on Grand Day and pretending he's an academic
- (b) Tanking all over Sherrifmuir looking for lost cross-country runners
- (c) Going to the Cash 'n' Carry for rubbish for the tuck shop
- (d) First day back at the start of a new session

19. What qualification do you need to be a Haig Housemaster?

- (a) An 'O' Grade in metalwork
- (b) A PhD in applied psychology
- (c) The 'Home-Maker' Girl Guide badge
- (d) None, but recommended reading includes Tom Brown's Schooldays and all the Billy Bunter books. The St. Trinians videos are quite handy too.

20. When Mr Laing leaves Haig House, where will he and his family live?

- (a) With Mr Beattie in Callander (but he doesn't know yet)
- (b) In Matron's flat (but she doesn't know yet)
- (c) In his luxury villa in St. Tropez (family still in Dunblane)
- (d) He doesn't intend leaving - likes the job and the flat too much (but his family don't know yet)

HOW DID YOU DO?

Mostly D's? Well done, that's what Mr Laing used to get on his report card at St. Custards.

Can you solve the mystery?

The following letters were found in Wavell House over the Easter Break. We strongly suspect that some of the Wavell Staff might have "misplaced" them...Which staff members do you think are responsible?



Wavell House Staff and Pupils

Dear Agony Aunt,

I have an addiction. I can't fight it any longer. It's taking over my life. All I dream about is my fixation. In the past I've been able to cope without my "fixes" but I'm finding it harder and harder.

I am addicted to Mars Bars washed down with Barrs Irn Bru. Just the thought of the chewy, gooey centre is enough to keep me going when I've got 32 people queuing outside my office looking for their pocket money, somebody is ringing me constantly to get Dawson's creek on Sky, my assistant is blaring music from her open windows and 12 people want to go to anybody's gran's on Saturday but haven't got a pass slip.

The fizzy amber nectar makes everything seem calm and helps me cope with these difficult times.

But I'm worried that it's starting to become a crutch, some days I'm thinking about it so hard I can't even bake a muffin and other days I can't even focus on my line dancing

Please, please, help me.....

Dear Agony Aunt,

Please help me, I am addicted to the movies. Whether it's at the 12 screen cinema, on Satellite TV or on my DVD at home...I just can't see enough of them. Sometimes I spend my free time just reading through cinema reviews, planning my next 'moviefest'. My pupils have even gone as far to call me a 'Cinema Dreg'. There is no film worth seeing that I haven't seen. People consult me like the evening paper to see what I recommend because I've just seen so many of them. I'm not even fussy about the type of movie I see, as long as I can see moving pictures I'm happy. I'd even prefer a night at the cinema to buying new boots, and you know how much I love that!

You have to help me before it's too late, before I turn into Barry Norman...

Dear Agony Aunt,

I have a huge problem, I have recently become engaged and someone has just told me that it is considered traditional for the bride to dress in white or at least a pale colour for the entire duration of the ceremony.

How can this be possible? MY ENTIRE WARDROBE IS BLACK! I wear black daily, my jeans are black, my trainers are black, even my swimming cossie is black.

I am writing to you in the hope that you could provide me with a list of countries where it is socially acceptable to marry in black or at least as dark a colour as possible. The 'big day' is looming on the horizon and I don't want to break the habit of a lifetime.

P.S.- I don't want to get married anywhere where the bride has to wear a long and trailing train - I fall over a lot.....

Dear Agony Aunt,

I am close approaching retirement and having looked after hundreds of girls and boys throughout my career, I am having anxieties about how I will cope with the drastic reduction in workload.

I am worried that after I leave I will start accosting complete strangers in the street and telling them in no uncertain terms that gum is banned.

I also fear that on certain days of the week I will be searching through all the neighbours' laundry for red socks and pillow cases and making them pair all the socks if they forget to give me them on time. My other concerns are that I will be determined to tell my new neighbours if I feel that their skirts need resizing or their shoes look a little down at heel - after all it will be our street that they are representing in public!!

Please help me with some strategies to help me take things a little easier in my retirement.

Dear Agony Aunt,

Please help me. Just because I'm a tanned blonde in an open topped sports car, people don't take me seriously. I do evening classes in Greek Philosophy, go on archaeological digs in the school holidays, knit for the elderly and love ballroom dancing - but people refuse to look below the surface and classify me as a mindless bimbo just because of my bronzed limbs and glamorous lifestyle. What do I have to do to make people see my hidden depths? I'm fed up having my intellectual capacities overlooked just because of people stereotyping me as one of the 'Beautiful People'

Please help me encourage the others to see the real me.....

Dear Agony Aunt,

I need your advice. I am hopelessly in love. The object of my affections doesn't even know that I exist, never mind return my adoration. I am at a loss to know what I should do. The man of my dreams is a god among men. He has such rare talent and beauty that all other men pale into insignificance next to him. His name is Cliff.... He has a voice beyond compare, dancing techniques to die for and his Christmas record each year makes my yuletide complete. As soon as I heard his voice for the very first time, I knew that he was the man for me. I buy his calendar each year so that I can have him next to me each and every day.

Please help me turn my dreams into reality and make him mine...

Dear Agony Aunt,

Please help me. I recently moved to a new location in my workplace and I am having problems adapting to the new way of life here. Instead of football matches where I was expected to be able to comment on both players' techniques and the final outcome, I am constantly faced with questions like 'Who do you prefer Miss, Will or Gareth?' I miss the smell of sweaty socks in the corridors and can't get used to the fact that we

always have left over suppers at the end of the evening. The only thing, which hasn't really changed, is the desperation with which the pupils - regardless of gender - rush to the tuck shop as soon as it is declared open and can't seem to pick up the same speed when it's time for bed.

Please give me some tips to help me acclimatise to my change in scenery...

Dear Agony Aunt,

I am struggling with a terrible problem. I work with 80 girls and I love them all so much that I am considering adopting them. I know it will involve considerable financial hardship, but it will be worth it to be able to take care of them all. My husband doesn't know yet - but I am sure he won't mind as he has experience in cooking for large numbers.

Please help me to approach the authorities concerned to make my dreams come true...

Dear Agony Aunt,

I need your help. I have become trapped in a situation, which I myself have created. All my pupils think I love fitness and exercise - including running - but in actual fact I hate it. I feel that I can't own up to how I really feel as they will totally 'rip' me. I feel pressured into running up Bruce Brae as the Wavell girls laugh at me if I've slowed to a walk.

How can I own up and make it clear that I much prefer watching Paula Ratcliffe than imitating her...

Any pupil who feels that they have any ideas about the identities of these poor unfortunates...

TELL AS MANY PEOPLE AS YOU CAN

They shouldn't have left them lying about in the first place!



Trenchard House Staff and Pupils

Mr G Carroll Trenchard Housemaster

Another year has whizzed by and I find myself reflecting once more on our achievements and accomplishments. We live in times of continual change, which is linked to a need for continuity and stability.

In terms of change, Trenchard became a co-educational boarding house, accommodating all the new Primary 7 and four S1 girls along with the Primary 7 and S1 boys. The experiment was necessitated due to the demand for more girls spaces and, at the time of writing, the experiment seems to have been reasonably successful. So much so that the same structure will be in operation next session.

As a result of the new structure, a number of new protocols and procedures were required to be put in place to ensure a reasonable degree of flexibility and harmony into what could have been a tricky environment.

However, due to the excellent co-operation from all of the boys and girls, Prefects and Staff the year has moved forward with only a few hic-cups.

In terms of stability the House has strived to maintain the levels of self-discipline required to enable young people to cope with the demands of living at boarding school. Over the year it has been very rewarding to see each individual grow in confidence and self-esteem as each learned to deal with their difficulties and to cope with the transition of being away from home.

We have enjoyed the usual outings to the theatre, Murrayfield, the cinema and leisure pool. Our Christmas disco was a great success, as was our Halloween party and visit to the fireworks display in Bridge of Allan for Guy Fawkes Night.

Last summer term we travelled to Alton Towers theme park. The children had a great time, as did the Staff, I must add, and so we are going to repeat the trip again this year.

Throughout the year, I have been supported immensely by Heather Devlin, my House Matron and Mr McNally, my Assistant Housemaster. I offer them my thanks for all that they have done and extend my thanks to all the members of the House Team.

Over the past two years I have also been assisted by some senior girls, who have been my House Prefects. Four of them will be leaving to pursue higher education at the end of the session and so to Lindsey Farquharson, Amy Morton, Emma King and Lynsey MacAulay I would like to say a sincere, 'Thank You' and wish them all every success in their chosen courses and careers.

Also leaving us will be Miss Tove Olafson who joined the House in September last year. Tove's remit was, in the main, to assist with the daily routines of the girls in the House. Her cheerfulness and 'joie de vie' soon expressed itself and Tove very quickly became a respected and popular member of the Team. Again we wish her every success for the future.

Joining us this year from Australia is Sam Cullen and he also has quickly settled in and has become a valued member of the Team along with Mrs Carmen O'Neill.

It only remains for me to say, 'Thanks' to all the Team members for helping the House through another session and to look forward to another year, which I hope will just as successful as this one.



Rugby 1st XV Team 2001 - 2002

Rugby 2001 - 2002

When the players turned up for our first training session of the season it struck me that most of the 1st XV backs were actually bigger than most of the forwards. I knew then that it was going to be a hard season and that the players would have to approach every game with the right attitude, that a high fitness level and hopefully very few injuries to key players would be vital if we were to be successful as the season progressed.

Kris Edwards was selected to play for Caledonia Reds U18, which continued the tradition of players from QVS playing representative rugby. Murray McLeod was selected to play for the Caledonia Reds U16. Both players fully deserve this honour and are to be congratulated on their achievements.

Madras College v QVS: 7-17 (W)

For the first game of the season I couldn't have imagined a better performance by a team who had only just come together. The team played out of their skins and held the line in defence like their lives depended on it. David Walker has to be congratulated on his try saving tackles at full back, which saved us more than once. One could only hope that the team would keep up the spirit and performance that managed to beat such a good side.

Morrison's Academy v QVS: 10-12 (W)

This was our first match where it seemed that we nearly lost a potentially easy game, due to our own mistakes. Rather than

them raising their game to our level, we lowered our game to theirs. But thankfully, due to a combination of magic and skill, Stephen Cameron and Kris Edwards were able to combine and steal a match-winning try.

Madras College 15-a-side tournament

Our strong team spirit persevered once again and helped us reach the final of a dramatic tournament. The substitutes, due to an injury ridden team, performed superbly in their roles, to help us narrowly lose the final to a well-drilled Dundee High 1st XV. Overall, an outstanding performance from the whole squad.

QVS v Merchiston 2nd XV: 42- 17 (L)

This was our poorest performance so far. We didn't perform to our usual standard and failed to link as a team. Key players tried to gel the team together but too many players did not perform on the day. The team still kept on pushing to the very end but a positive result was out of our reach. Key players are to be congratulated on their efforts and without them the defeat would have been far worse.

North Berwick v QVS: 10-5 (L)

This was a very tight game, which was lost in the final minutes due to poor decision - making and indiscipline. Despite this the team should be congratulated on superb defence but the weather conditions on the day prevented us from making the most of our attacking opportunities. A try scored by the captain and a try given away by the captain. Nobody's perfect.

Morrison's Academy v QVS: 20-5 (W)

With a close win at the start of the season against this team we were ready to finally show them how good we were. We stopped them from attacking and pushed them back in defence. The forwards are to be congratulated on a good game and the back row did a great job in holding the backs in defence.

St Columba's School v QVS: 12-7 (L)

Another defeat as we failed to yet again play simple rugby. We over complicated our game and didn't adapt to the opposition's weaknesses and strengths.

Lomond School v QVS: 29-5 (W)

Our spirits were low due to our previous run of defeats, but we fought to the end and produced a good win to build up our morale. The team played well with some very good tries and good kicking from Kris Edwards. We played well for a team that was, due to injuries, having to be constantly changed and we adapted to each other's strengths to work as a team.

Glasgow Academy v QVS: 41-14 (L)

This was a very good team who went on to win the Scottish Schools Plate Competition and we let them play their game instead of our own. We had several key players out due to injury. We played well but they had an outstanding back row who caused us enormous problems both in attack and defence. Well done to the team, who despite the result, stuck to their task to the final whistle.

Marr v QVS: 48-5 (L)

There was a lack of effort by the team in this game, which eventually resulted in our downfall. The team started really well with a quick try set up by Adam Bott to let Kris Edwards in for the score. We allowed ourselves to be intimidated by the opposition and as a result, we lost our shape and focus. This was a poor performance by the team even though we started off so brightly.

Conclusion

As I said at the start of this report, it was always going to be hard going throughout the season due to the lack of height and bulk in our forwards. Our inexperience showed on quite a few occasions when the wrong decision was taken by many players, at crucial moments, which resulted in scoring opportunities being lost or the initiative being handed back to the opposition, at key moments in the match. A number of matches which we lost this season should, and could have been won. Hopefully, we will learn from these mistakes next season.

Overall, I certainly cannot complain about a lack of commitment or poor attitude from the players this season.

Both have been excellent and they can be justly proud of their efforts and I thank them for it. It was much appreciated by all the coaches.

I would, in particular, like to thank Adam Bott and Michael Brown for their efforts as Captain and Vice Captain. They have been outstanding, both on and off the field, in these roles and it has been a great pleasure working with these young men. They will be a hard act to follow and I wish them all the very best in the future.

Once again, I would also like to thank all my fellow coaches:- Mr McLay, Mr Raine, Mr McNally, Mr Gilhooly, Mr Philson, Mr Carroll, Mr Wright and Mr Beattie, (all of whom give up a great deal of their spare time), for their considerable efforts on behalf of all the players this season. In addition, I would like to thank Sister Fitzgerald and her staff and Mr Warner for their assistance. Last, but not least, I would like to thank all the Gap Students who have been always willing to assist in any way they could.

A VARIED SEASON FOR THE 2ND XV

Well, another season has gone by and it's been as varied as ever! Once again we've encountered a number of interruptions at various points, most notably by the weather but, whenever a match went ahead, the team rose to the challenge. The 2nd XV enables players to hone their skills and this year has proved quite positive, with a number of the team experiencing 1st XV rugby, which will bode well for next season.

We've had a number of captains throughout the year but the one who sealed the position for the majority of the season was Michael Gibb, who led by example and demonstrated his commitment by organising the team outwith the time-tabled sessions.

Throughout the year we were fortunate enough to have two Australian GAP students working with us and I'd like to thank both Sean Baxter and Ryan Malloy...a couple of good Queenslanders!

There are several reports on the matches we played throughout the season and I'm pleased to say that we were victorious in the majority of the matches.

Madras College (Away): 0-47

We suffered a 47-0 defeat. The team played very well but the decisions didn't go with us; however, our commitment was never in question. The forwards were quite a presence and the backs were beginning to work well towards the end of the match.



Rugby 2nd XV Team 2001 - 2002 (Winners of the Quest Cup)

St Columba's (Home): 0-0

A super effort by the team and they deserved to come away with a win, but it wasn't to be. Solid defence kept St Columba's at bay; we were unable to convert the points when the opportunities were presented to us and it was a lesson learned in attacking play.

Rannoch School (Home): 15-0

An added game to the fixture list and, as ever, a welcome match against Rannoch. Yet again, they proved to be tough opposition and the lessons learned in the previous game meant that we were able to take the scoring opportunities when they appeared. It was a very hard physical encounter and we were able to cross the try line twice. Encouraging was our defence and our ability to keep the opposition out.

Lomond School U16 (Home): 43-8

This was an opportunity for some of the younger members of the squad to show their skills and also for us to look at some of the S3 boys who will be playing 2nd XV rugby next season. They didn't disappoint and we were able to gel quite well as a team in a very short period of time. We crossed the line seven times and this included a hat trick by Darren Muir and a try by one of our S3 players, Craig Farquharson. What was very encouraging was the team's ability to remain focused throughout the entire game.

Glasgow Academy (Home): 0-17

Always a difficult game and this proved to be no different! Glasgow are a well-organised side and they were able to capitalise on some defensive errors made on our part. This was the first game for the 2nd XV in a month and rust had set in slightly. Some of the errors would not have been made had we had more games under our belt. The training sessions that

followed this match were quite intense; it's good to see a team with such a strong commitment to the game.

Marr College (Away): 33-33

After the Christmas break we journeyed to Troon to visit the very windy Marr College ground. This proved to be a bruising encounter and we lost a number of players to injury and to the 1st XV whose match was equally as bruising and we were reduced to 14 players by the third quarter. Therefore we did exceptionally well to come away with a draw. Some very positive play from our team and a commitment that cannot be questioned!

Wellington (Away): 28-24

Our previous match was 6 weeks before and to play Wellington away was going to prove challenging! It certainly was and wind swept Ayr brooded over the game. It was a very balanced game and we were down at half time. It wasn't until the final quarter that we were able to really work together and grind out a victory. We used our heads and kicked for territory and took the points when they manifested themselves. Two penalties in the latter stages secured a victory that was deserved. This indeed turned out to be the final game of the season for us and a nice point on which to end.

Unfortunately we didn't have as many matches as we were lined up for at the beginning of the season but the games that were played were competitive and enjoyable. Again, I must thank all of the players involved and I appreciate the time that you invested. It's also the time to say thanks to all in S6 who played for the team and to wish you all good luck in whatever you choose to do.

Cheers

James McNally

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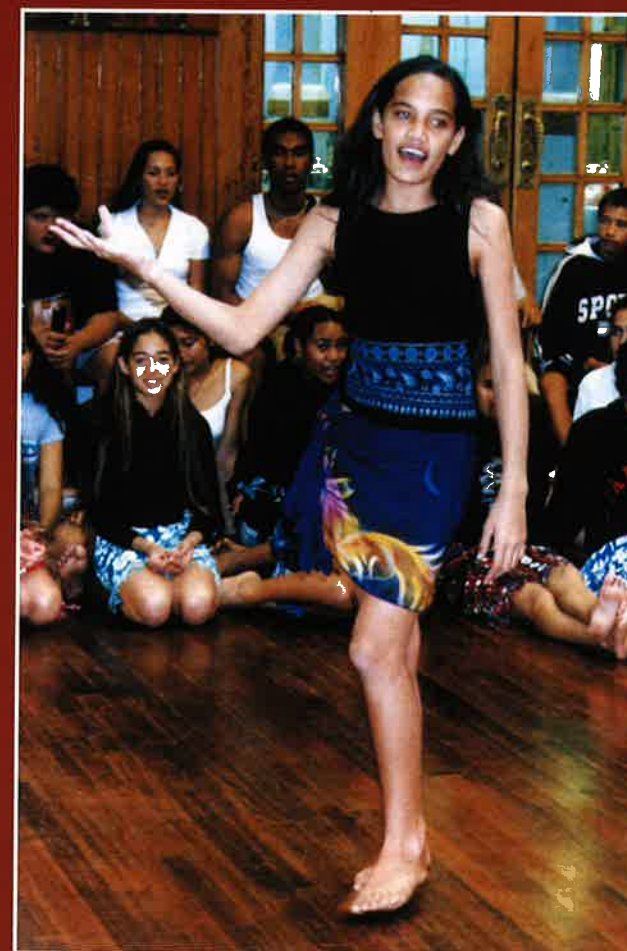
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Cook Islanders



The Cook Islanders relax at Queen Victoria School during the Tattoo



Edinburgh Tattoo



Photographs courtesy of Mr B Raine





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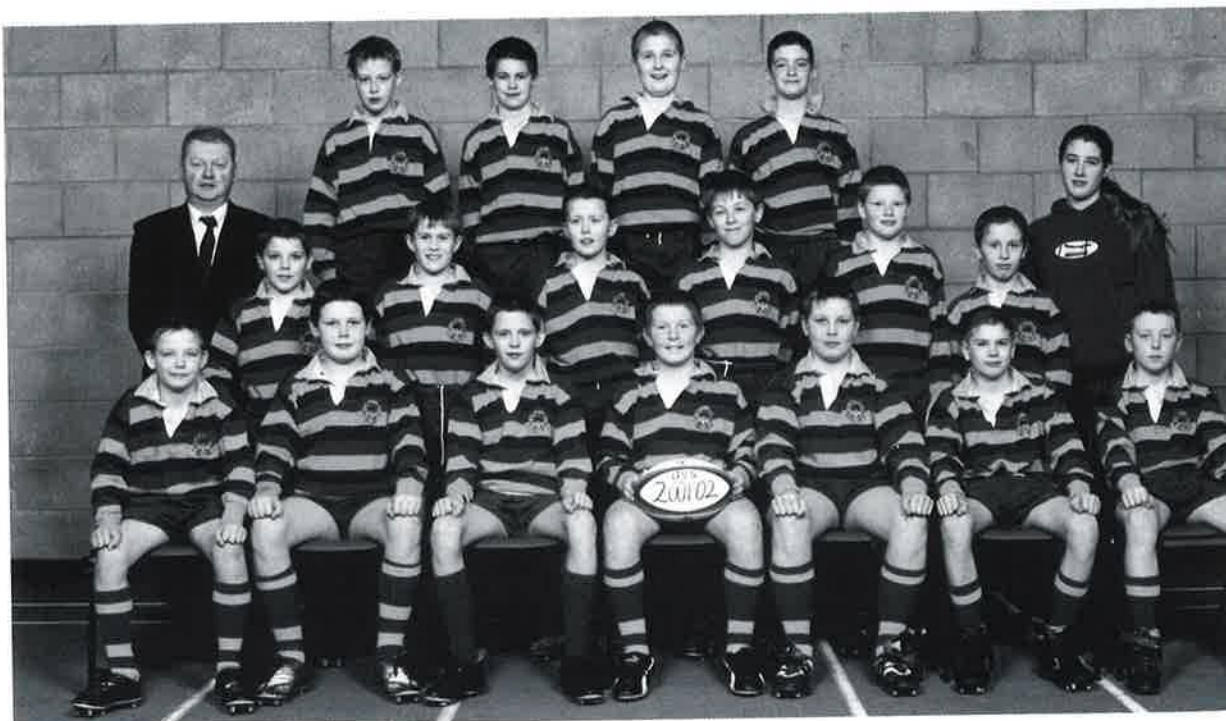
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P7 Rugby Team

P7 RUGBY SEASON 2001 - 2002

Props: Scott Fretwell and Callum Toole
 Hooker: Blair Marshall
 Second Rows: Michael Goodman and Stuart Evenden
 Number 6: Connel Burt
 Back Row: Scott Houston (Scrum Half) Fraser Newbury
 (Fly Half) Jay Maloney (Left Wing) Daniel
 Flaherty (Inside Centre) Blair Furnace
 (Outside Centre) Liam Gillie (Right Wing)
 Darren Aitken (Full Back)
 Subs: Steven Mallett, Ben Johnstone,
 Kieran Hoskins and Declan Gallacher

This season has gone well for us because we have won four, lost three and drew one. The games we won were against Beaconsburst, Glasgow Academy, Wellington and Belmont. We lost against Morrison's and Stewarts Melville. We drew against Dundee H.S.

Our strengths are our team spirit and tackling with our best tackler being Blair Marshall. In addition, Mr Beattie helped our team spirit and kept up our hopes. We were starting to ruck better after Christmas.

Our weaknesses are our kicks to touch and our handling skills, because we have had too many knock ons. But on balance the team has more strengths and, hopefully, we will develop further next season.

Fraser Newbury

S1 RUGBY REPORT

At the start of the season, the S1 group simply did not play as a team. This caused the loss of lots of matches which we could have, and should have won. As we played games we learned from our mistakes and began to work together and really think about the game as we were playing it. As the time went on we became more skillful and took our training seriously to practise these skills.

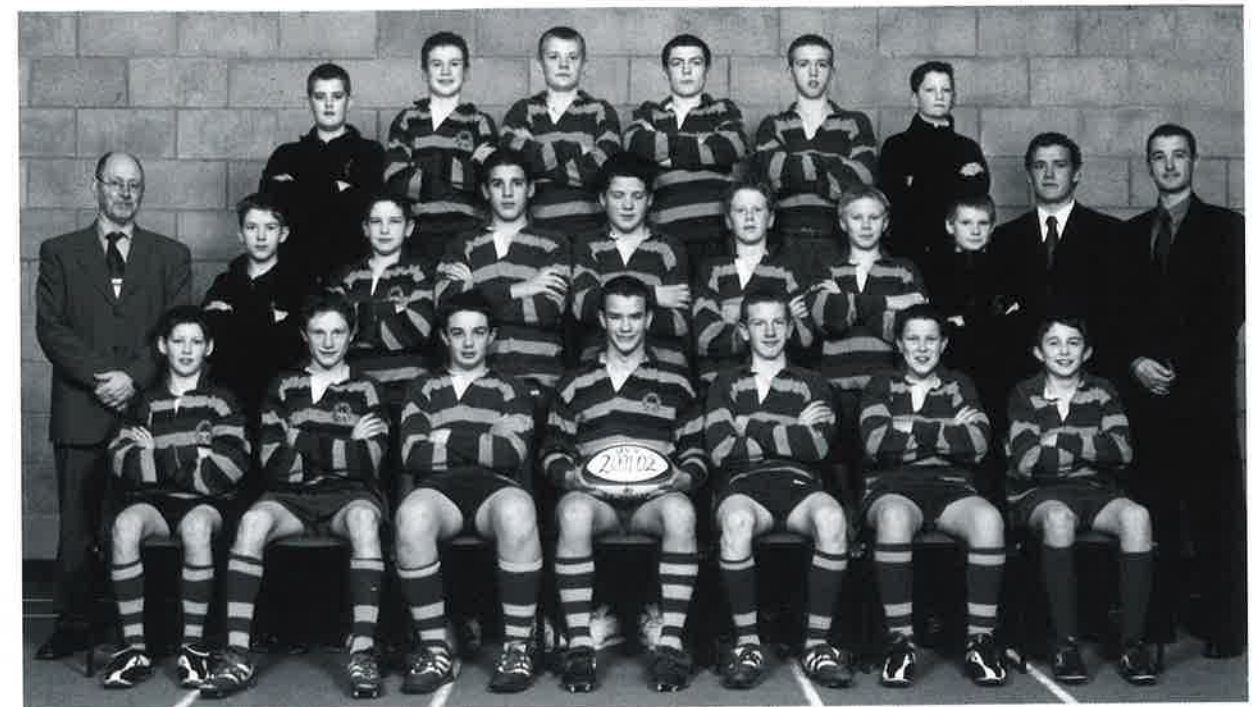
Unfortunately, just before and after the winter break, a lot of our fixtures were cancelled due to bad weather. However, when we did play another game, we managed to remember these skills and used them in such a way that we were on top of the game. This game was against Wellington School, which, ultimately we won 19-10. This lifted our spirits and we loved winning it.

We were looking forward to our game against Dundee High, as it was the last game of the season, and we really wanted to win it. The weather made it a forwards' game because the pitch was very wet and muddy. Our forwards worked very hard, although we didn't know what to expect. However, against stiff opposition we dug deep and battled away and with five minutes remaining we were trailing by 12-10. With one final effort our forwards made a final surge and drive that took us up to the opposition's five metre line. After exerting tremendous pressure on their defence they conceded a penalty which was quickly taken to allow us a score which proved to be the winning try, along with the conversion to make the final score 14-12 to us.

This game showed us our increase in physical power and disciplined aggression but, most importantly of all, it illustrated the power of team work. The squad would like to thank Mr Carroll, Mr Wright, Mr Malloy, Mr Philson and Mr Lee (Cameron's dad) for all their work and for never losing their faith in us. Altogether a good season - well done team!
Cameron Lee and Cameron Johnston (Captain and Vice-captain)

S2 RUGBY

S2 rugby was quite a change with the majority of us in new positions. David Honeyman as captain in S1 carried on the role into S2 for the majority of the season; unfortunately, near the end of the season, David stepped down as captain and gave the opportunity to his other team mates. As we went on Mr McLay gave the captaincy to Glyn Read who held it for a brief while,



S2 Rugby Team

after which Daniel Gibb took on the responsibility.

The unbeaten season was hard to maintain due to the weather, the condition of pitches and it was especially hard because of the teams we played, for example, Dundee High School, where the team played to the best of our ability. The forwards played a very active part in the team. The scrum-half, Ryan Flaherty, provided the ball very quickly to the backs making their job a lot easier. The back line shipped the ball out to the wingers (especially Matthew Lovell); the rest of the backs also played very well with their ball handling from the forwards to the backs. Certain people like David Honeyman and David Love (the centres) made a very powerful back line.

One of our most successful games was against Marr where the score was 48-0 and our team was outstanding. We had a great day at the District Championships at Morrisons where we won all of our games and the title of District Champions. This meant that we qualified to play at Murrayfield in the Jubilee Cup, a tournament where all the teams from S2 compete to be the best side in Scotland. Unfortunately, this was cancelled due to bad weather.

Daniel Gibb, Alan Craig, Adam Rainey

S3 RUGBY

The season started off with a great victory over Madras in which the forwards worked tirelessly to provide the backs with room to attack. Thus we managed to overcome the opposition by using the width of the pitch and the speed of players like Craig Mason and Greg Towns. In this match the players realised the importance of good team work and self belief. Against Morrisons Academy we managed to put their forwards under a great deal of pressure with Kevin Hayes, Jamie Evenden and Scott Graham causing a lot of problems but our backs could not seem to break their line of defence. Merchiston Castle proved to be a very close encounter which could have gone either way. It was in this game that we played some of our best rugby in the season. The backs and forwards

linked up effectively with John McCulloch providing good ball for the backs with which to attack. The forwards dominated the rucks and mauls with James Elliott, Callum Henderson and Peter Girvan securing the ball while Jamie Evenden, Craig Farquharson and Scott Graham kept up the forward momentum but they seemed to have the edge with regards to organisation and support in the backs which in the end proved to be our downfall. In the match against Glasgow Accies we were forced to put on players with limited experience due to injury. This proved to be costly as not only were the opposition a formidable side it also meant that that team's confidence was low. However Craig Farquharson, Mark Braceland, Jamie Evenden, and Peter Girvan put in great performances which limited the damage. With the first part of the season coming to an end the players linked up with S2 boys to compete in the Inter-House Competition. A lot of quality rugby was played and all those who participated are to be commended, not only on the level of skill demonstrated throughout the tournament but also the spirit in which the games were played.

The second half of the season was quite literally washed out with many games being cancelled due to the pitches being water logged. We managed to play one game which was against Marr College, which we won quite convincingly. It was also a game that several players came of age including Stuart Mooney, Andrew Martin and Darren Howie.

Overall, although not apparent by looking at the results, it was in fact a very successful season for a variety of reasons. Many players realised their true potential and also found their preferred positions. Although we lost several games the team showed great character under pressure and worked hard to implement what was learnt on the training ground and several players went on to represent at a higher level e.g. Central Crusaders. Most if not all members of the squad maintained their enthusiasm for the game indicative of the tremendous amount of talent in this year group which shows great promise for the future.



Hockey 1st XI

1st XI Hockey

Once again, the 1st XI hockey girls have had an excellent season. With 10 wins, 1 draw and only 2 losses we can positively say this has been our best season yet. The highlight of the season had to be our efforts in the Midlands Cup. For the team and our coach, Miss Scott, we felt this was where we could prove how much the team had come along since last year. In 2001, the team was challenged in the first round of the cup due to lack of experience in this higher level of hockey. This year, 2002, we showed the level of hockey we are capable of, by reaching the Semi Finals against Strathallan, only marginally losing out on penalty flicks. The run up to the Semi Finals resulted in some of our best wins of the season; we beat Rannoch 8-0 and St Leonard's 4-0 (they beat us last year in the first round).

As the Captain I feel that over the last 4 years the team has reached its peak performance and has become stronger overall. Our biggest thanks go to our coach Miss Scott. She surprised us all by being able to put up with our bad tempers, disagreements and our overall bitchiness, helping us put all this aside to work as a positive and determined team.

At the end of June the team will be losing six excellent players but I'm sure younger players will be brought up and programmed into winning just like we were. Miss Scott will make sure of that. Introducing new, younger players has always proved to be a promising move for the team and I'm sure this will continue in the future.

On behalf of myself, Ashling, Laura, Lynsey, Emma and Lindsey we would like to thank the team for the consistently great effort and Miss Scott for her determination on building a strong, positive minded and hard working team, oh and her overall excellence as a coach!

We wish you the best of luck for next season and hope we aren't missed too much!!

Lisa Milligan

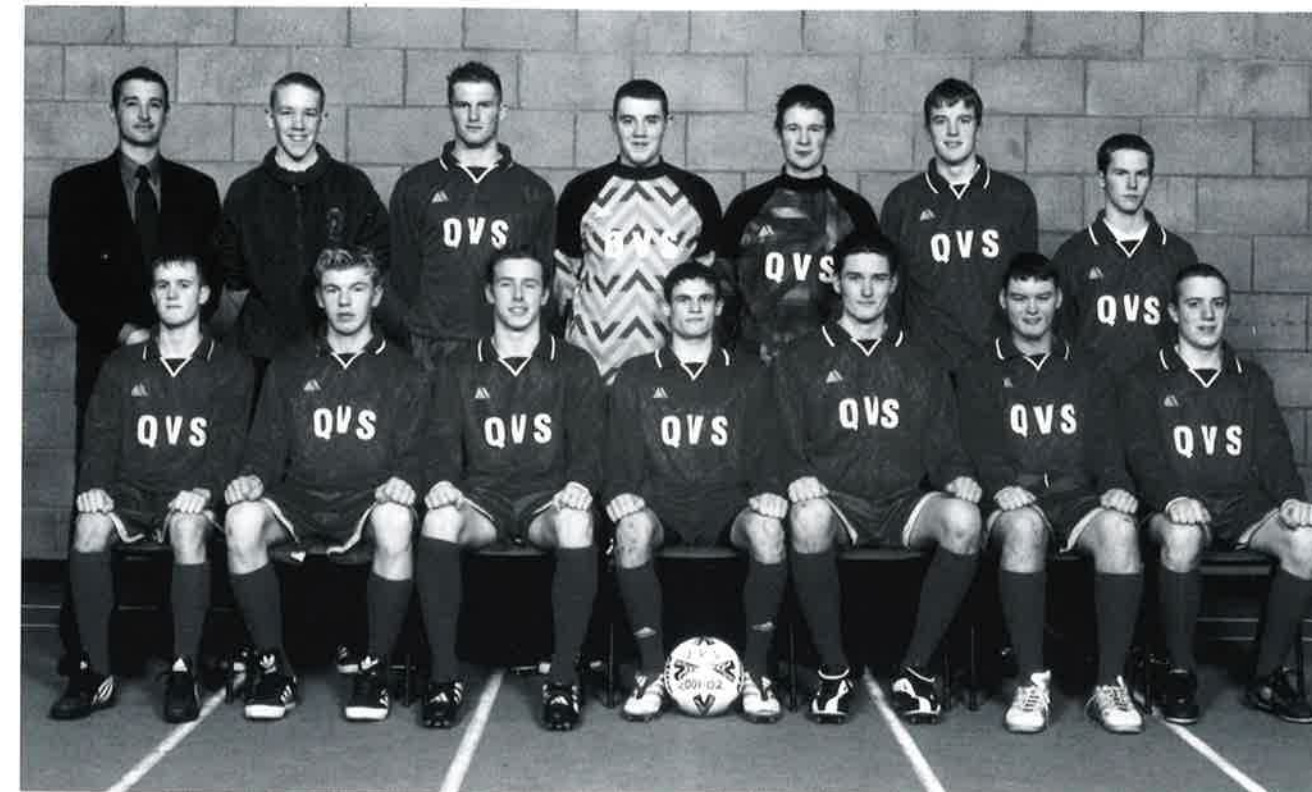
TEAM STATISTICS

GAMES WON	10
GAMES DRAWN	1
GAMES LOST	2

GOALS FOR	51
GOALS AGAINST	13
GOAL DIFFERENCE	38+

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS (TOP GOAL SCORERS)

LISA MILLIGAN	18
LYNSEY McAULAY	16
SARAH MOORE	9
LAURA DUNNACHIE	4
FIONA COYLE	3
ASHLING KERR	1



Football 1st XI

1st XI Football

The first X1 football season has been very successful up-to-date. We have entered a new Independent Schools Football League where Scotland is divided into North, South, East and West divisions of which we are in the North Division. We have won all of our matches so far having played Dollar, Glenalmond and Strathallan. We have yet to play Gordonstoun and if we beat them we go on to play in the semi-finals of the independent schools Scottish League Cup where we will come across teams such as Stewarts Melville and George Watsons.

Although we don't have as many talented individuals as we have had in years gone by, the team spirit is excellent and the units work well together, producing a very effective side. The

captain, Callum Small, leads by example and his work rate cannot be faulted. Kris Edwards' ability to cause opposition's defences to crumble has proved useful throughout the season, as has his accurate shooting. Kris Reid has really come of age and has proven to be a real problem behind the defence with his quick acceleration and tenacity on the ball. Notably, however, it is the defence of Michael Brown, Liam Flynn, Damian McDade and Adam Bott that has provided the confidence for the rest of the team to push up to attack. Craig Curson, in goal, has shown outstanding skill and quick reaction times, often at crucial moments.

P.S. Unfortunately, the team lost to Stewarts Melville in the semi-final.



Athletics

Writing the report for athletics is quite difficult as the season we are reporting on happened such a long time ago, and the new season is about to start. Athletics is becoming more and more popular in the school and last season's successes have helped to fuel this enthusiasm. Our first match of the season is always against Hutcheson's Grammar School and is an all boys fixture; the other competing schools are Lomond and St. Columba's. Although it is a fairly informal occasion it allows us to see what potential we may have in the on coming season. Some notable successes from last year were as follows:

In the over 17 category Chris Harris won the hundred metres and high jump, Kris Edwards won the triple jump, Wayne Ratcliffe won the javelin, and the senior boys relay team won their race.

In the under 15s category, David Thorpe won 1500 metres, Scott Lawrie won the 400 metres, Robert Carmichael came 2nd in the triple jump, and Mark McGregor won the javelin. In the under 14 David Honeyman won 1,500 m, Jamie Evenden won both the shot putt and high jump, Craig Mason won both the long jump and triple jump, and Brian Clyde won the javelin. Overall a successful meeting with a lot of personal bests being achieved.

Our next meeting was at Glenalmond; this consisted of a senior boys and girls team and a junior boys and girls team. We competed against Fettes, Glenalmond, Dollar and Strathallan, and managed second place in the senior boys, being beaten by Dollar by only 2 points. Our senior girls came third with a great performance in the relay race.

Our next 2 competitions took place on the same day, the juniors competed over in Glasgow while the seniors competed at Strathallan. In Glasgow the S1 boys team convincingly beat Hutcheson, St Aloysius and Douglas Academy with some fine performances from David Love, Mathew Marshall, David Honeyman and Brian Clyde. The S3 boys team came third, with Tom Bruce competing well at both long jump and triple jump. The S1 girls team also came third with both Leanne Bridgeman and Katrina Leith showing how much potential they have for the future. At Strathallan the over 17 boys drew with great performances from Chris Harris, Michael Brown, Alan Gault, while both the under 17s boys and girls were defeated by a narrow margin.

The season ended with some notable successes at Scottish Schools level. The senior boys relay team clinched a bronze medal competing against some formidable opposition. The team consisted of Chris Harris, Michael Brown, Alan Gault and Kris Edwards. At the joint track and field championships Robert Carmichael won the triple jump and Fiona Coyle was awarded bronze in her triple jump competition, while Jamie Evenden was awarded silver for discus.

We are now just about to start a new season in which many of the aforementioned athletes will feature well and, hopefully, at this time next year we will be able to report on more successes. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Laing and Miss Scott for their enthusiasm and continued support throughout the season. Without their help athletics would not be the success it is at QVS.

Mr McLay



School Cross-Country Team

Cross-Country

The cross-country report in the Victorian 2001 stated: "the future looks bright". This prediction was true after, arguably, the most successful season the school has ever had. A combination of good individual performances with strong backing from team members throughout the winter culminated in team medals in championship races at both local and national schools level.

We now have built up a healthy fixture list starting in mid-January, which takes the pupils over a variety of challenging courses over a two-month period.

David Honeyman started the season in great form winning his under-15 age group races at St Aloysius, Glenalmond and on home soil. Karen Harrower (under-14) won at home as well as at Glenalmond and Strathallan, leading her team of Emma Reid, Maxine Cameron and Courtney King to victory in each race. Not to be out-done, the under-15 girls also enjoyed similar success at these races. Leanne Bridgeman and Katrina Leith both had wins and led Nina Richardson and Carly MacDonald to team wins. Both of these teams won their respective age groups at the Fettes relays.

The boys participated in the prestigious St Aloysius Road Relay around Kelvingrove Park in Glasgow. The team of Andrew Batson, Simon McCallum, David Honeyman, Stuart Mooney, John Campbell and David Thorpe finished 16th overall and (8th Scottish school home). Next year we hope to be able to put out a girls team for the first time.

All these performances helped give the runners confidence

that they could do well at the Scottish Schools championships in Irvine over 'the beach course', and this was proved. We finished 2nd team in both under-14 and under-15 girls. The under-14 girls team was made up of Karen (14th), Emma (24th), Laura Hurlestone (42nd) and Maxine (49th). The under-15 team included Leanne (9th), Nina (25th), Carly (42nd) and Sarah Fennell (46th). Unfortunately, due to injury and illness, David Honeyman and Katrina Leith were unable to participate.

The under-17 boys team of David Thorpe, John Campbell, Nick Farr and Craig Richardson all finished in the top 50 with the team taking 4th place. Amy Morton (19th) completed her last race for the school in the over-17 age group.

The local championship - Forth Valley Schools - was held at Stirling University where our S1/S2 team of Karen (2nd), Katrina (4th) and Leanne (5th) was first team and the P7 team of Courtney (3rd), Hayleigh Dumbreck (11th) and Jordan Cox (30th) finished 3rd.

The inter-house competition around the school grounds was resurrected with Karen Harrower, Simon McCallum, David Honeyman and David Thorpe winning their respective age-group races.

Thanks to Riley for dragging Mr McLay round the Laighills on the Monday lunchtime run, and Mr Tanna for coming all the way from Australia to help!

Mr Laing



Mr Breingan, Director of Music and the Windband

2001/2002 has been an interesting and challenging year for the department with Peter Onslow leaving music at QVS to take up post in Switzerland at Aiglon College. Word from Switzerland tells of strenuous days on the ski slopes. It's a tough job but someone has to do it! Despite my being appointed in June I was unable to take up post until Christmas. Luckily the school was able to employ the very capable Miss Fiona Chapman, who did a tremendous job maintaining and developing classroom music, as well as running a variety of instrumental groups and producing a highly successful Christmas concert.

Now after one term I'm beginning to settle in, thanks to the pupils and staff of QVS who have been wonderfully welcoming.

Our most able team of peripatetic tutors, who make up the rest of the Music Department, continue to develop our very talented youngsters, on brass, woodwind, guitar and drum kit. Two of our young woodwind players Alexandra Watson and Stefani Miller delighted audiences with their duet playing during P7 minstrel performances.

In the classroom the junior pupils are now enjoying the new delights of kit drumming and computer composition, with large numbers making exciting progress in these areas. Class 2A must be mentioned as one of the most rapidly improving music groups ever, with excellent performances on both keyboard and drum kit from every pupil.

A group of our brass students have recently completed a range of external 'Associated Board Examinations', with some outstanding performing. A particular high point for me was the stunning playing, during rehearsals of Lynsey McAulay.

The examiner obviously agreed as all our five candidates passed with some very positive comments on their performances;

Karen Harrower (grade 4 Trumpet)

"Very colourful phrasing with a focused and well supported sound "

Sheona Kirkaldy (grade 1 Baritone)

"Vivid dynamic exchanges with very regular rhythm throughout."

Keshia Harris (grade 3 Trumpet)

"Very musical and the sound continues to impress."

Cameron Johnston (grade 2 Trumpet)

"Your playing shows a lot of potential."

Lynsey McAulay (grade 5 Trumpet)

"Very positive features shown today."

I think he likes us!

The Wind Band has been working hard and, although we will lose some experienced and talented players at the end of the year, we have a healthy crop of youngsters ready to fill their places. During OVA weekend we had an excellent rehearsal playing through a wide range of repertoire, as well as playing for Chapel on OVA Parade Sunday. We were excited and delighted to receive a cheque from the Old Victorians to start the fund raising effort to build a new music-teaching block. We are now looking forward to summer term and the opportunity to display the musical skills of as many of our youngsters as possible.

D V Breingan



Mr Breingan, Mr Carroll and P7 Minstrels

The P7 Minstrels have had a highly successful year with three outings. Their first performance was at Ladywell Parish Church. An excellent mixture of Dance, Poetry and Music was greatly appreciated by the audience. Numerous members of the audience wanted to take our smartly polished youngsters home, stating that they were very impressed by such charming and well-mannered pupils. Despite being tempted Mrs MacDonald and Mr Breingan did bring all of the performers home. On our next outing, Stirling Royal Infirmary, we had the additional help and expertise of our Gap students Tove Olafson and Sam Cullen and sixth year Laura Dunnachie who did an excellent job of standing in for Mrs MacDonald who was indisposed, as well as doing sterling work sampling the cream cakes on offer. Our final outing, to Erskine Hospital, once again featured the excellent community singing on the bus, despite appeals from both Mr Carroll and Mr Breingan for the group to save their voices for their performance. Despite being without their teacher the dancers were once again magnificent, this time helped by Adam Tose. The, by now hardened, performers were once again a credit to themselves and QVS, with many of them showing their multiple talents, reading poetry, singing and dancing. The Minstrels were a great success with many of the old soldiers delighted to see the tartan being worn and the tradition of links with QVS being continued.

NOW THE VIEWS OF ONE OF OUR MINSTRELS.

All the Minstrels thought that the performances were a great success. The songs that the audience liked best were ' Will ye

no come back again ' 'Bonnie Charlie's Noo Awa' and 'Oh Ye Cannee Shove Yer Granny'.

The Minstrels favourites were probably 'Skyscraper Wean' and ' Build a Bonfire', which Mr Carroll and Mr Breingan looked rather worried about! (the bit about throwing teachers on the top).

On our first performance, somebody kicked a sword accidentally during the Broadwords and it was so funny! We all almost burst out laughing but we managed to hold it back, but only just! .

The audience liked the Sword Multiplication best because the Single Swords, The Double Swords, The Broadwords and the Perth Assembly were all danced at one time without going off and because of the sword marching.

On the way to the Erskine Hospital, we all started to sing on the bus and Mr Breingan and Mr Carroll looked a bit worried because they thought that we were going to lose our voices! Thankfully, we did not!

After all that, the Minstrels would like to thank Mr Breingan, Mr Carroll and Mrs MacDonald for the hard work they put into it to make it a great success and we hope that the next years Minstrels will enjoy it as much as we did.

Siobhan Howell



QVS Highland Dancers

Pipes, Drums and Dancing

2001 started like any other year with the normal high profile pipe band engagements in the diary. These included events such as the Lord High Commissioners dinner at Holyrood Palace, C.C.F Beating Retreat on the esplanade at Edinburgh Castle, a full programme at Murrayfield for the Autumn tests and six nations Rugby tournament, Faslane Fair plus all the School commitments, including the drill competition and, not least, the preparation for Grand Day.

It seemed to be just another year for the Pipe Band, until Brigadier Mel Jamieson, from the Edinburgh Military Tattoo, contacted the School enquiring whether the pipe band and dancers would be interested in doing their own display for the Tattoo? "Cancel your summer holidays, we are going to participate in the Tattoo this summer".

There is a saying in the School that "things don't just happen" and planning the Tattoo was no exception. There were endless meetings and countless changes to the music and dancing display. 38 Dancers, 20 Pipers, 18 Drummers and the School's Colour Party were all put through their paces and, with a lot of hard work from the pupils and staff, we finally had a show that incorporated all of the ceremonial traditions of the School. Mrs MacDonald did a wonderful job, not just producing a high quality dancing display, but also in raising money for the performers recreation time. For those of you who were lucky enough to obtain a ticket for the Tattoo (which was a sell out) you will agree it was a truly magnificent spectacle and well worth the hard work and holiday sacrifice.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the performers, parents and staff for their help and support during the Tattoo period.

2002 began steadily for the band with the normal Murrayfield engagements for the six nations Rugby tournament. Three of our young girl pipers, Fay McIntyre, Keshia Harris and Mel McInnes attended a three day piping course at the Piping Centre in Glasgow. All three girls achieved their preliminary certificates in piping, a first for the School. Well done! The summer term started on a high note with the band playing at the Rugby League Challenge cup final at Murrayfield. Top of the bill were Atomic Kitten, with the School pipe band close behind!!

The summer term is always a busy time for the band and dancers and 2002 is no exception. At the moment the summer holidays are free, except for the possibility of the band making a CD for S.R.U. Hopefully when the 2003 Victorian Magazine comes out the CD will be on sale in the shops.

Pipe Major Ross



Boys Gold and Silver training in the Mammors: Mr Wright, D McMenemy, D Walker, D Stevenson, A Kirkaldy, N Greenwood, K Edwards, Mr Shannon, G Kerr, M McLeod, M Brown.

Working jointly with Stirling Council we also managed a Gold assessed Exploration in the Peak District investigating the Dam Busters. Here is a section from the group report.

LINDSEY FARQUHARSON'S ACCOUNT

"The entire week was one which gave us a deeper insight into the whole Dam Busters operation. After having visited the aircraft museum and the bouncing bomb it allowed us to envisage what a feat it actually was embarking on such a mission.

The day we walked around Derwent reservoir - although tiring - helped us to get an idea of how the targets in the Ruhr valley must have looked all those years ago.

It was satisfying to visit the Vic Hallam museum as we saw many special things unique to 617 sqdn and the surrounding area.

All in all the week was a success and a good way to complete our Duke of Edinburgh Award".

In June last year pupils from the school played a major part in a Duke of Edinburgh Award ceremony hosted by Stirling Council's Youth Support. The ceremony was started with a set of tunes performed by our pipes and drums. This was followed by presentations made by Award participants. From Queen Victoria School the Service section was covered by Laura Dunnachie on Disabled Swimming and Nick Burge on Fire Service. The skills section was covered by Gerald Kerr on piping and Kristofer Edwards on drumming. The physical recreation section was covered by Adam Tose on football and Michael Brown on rugby. The final section, expeditions, was covered by Stuart Ruthven on his Gold Expedition to the Cairngorms and Amy Morton on her Gold canoeing expedition in Canada. All the presentations were well delivered and enjoyed by the audience. One of the final events of the evening was a surprise when the Award secretary for Scotland, Janet Shepherd, presented me with a quach in recognition of my voluntary work with Stirling Council's Youth Support.

Last year the foot and mouth disease, which had such a devastating effect on our countryside, made the completion of the expedition element of the award more difficult. Unfortunately this resulted in the postponement of some of our Bronze Assessed Expeditions. However, we did manage all our Bronze practice Expeditions in the Glen Coe area, as well as two Silver and one Gold practice Expeditions in the Mammors. (a range of mountains south of Ben Nevis).

As this is the Queen's Golden Jubilee year, the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold award Presentation ceremony at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, was brought forward to the 22nd March. Two of our pupils were among the young people receiving their Award from the Duke Of Edinburgh: Nick Burge and Stuart Ruthven both of whom are now at university. A fine achievement!

This session we are back to our local Ochil Hills and the Trossachs. The new intake of Bronze candidates will be carrying out their practice expeditions around Ben Venue and Loch Achray in the Trossachs. Their assessed expeditions will be in the Ochil Hills, allowing participants to finish their expedition with a walk off the hills into the school. The Gold and Silver expeditions and explorations will mainly be taking place on the Isle of Arran.

In the service section of the Award we have reintroduced First Aid. Twelve pupils successfully completed their certificates and this will help them complete the service section of their Bronze Award as well as give them more confidence when out on their expeditions and explorations.

In the physical recreation section of the Award, Tae Kwon Do has been introduced and this has proved to be very popular with the pupils.

The success of the Award in the school is due in part to the time and effort of many of the staff, who help and support our pupils in all the different sections of the Award and through the three levels. Thank you for your contribution.

The last note must be to say well done to Amy Morton. The first female pupil at Queen Victoria School to achieve her Gold Award. Congratulations!

Mr T Shannon
Director of Outdoor Pursuits

Combined Cadet Forces



Combined Cadet Force, 159 Cadets.
Contingent Commander John R. Silcox, TD
WO1 Douglas Duthie, (Scots Guards)

Royal Naval Section, 37 Cadets.
Officer Commanding Lt Cdr Tom Shannon RD RNR
Lt Graham Borking

Army Section, 73 Cadets.
Officer Commanding (Vacancy) Contingent Commander.
Capt. David Garden
Lt Janette Scott

Royal Air Force Section, 49 Cadets.
Officer Commanding Flt Lt David Gilhooly
Plt Off. Christine Sheerin
Plt Off. Bobby Wright.

The corps warmly welcomes **Mr Wright** into the RAF section as its third Officer. He has already proved himself an enthusiastic member of the CCF Staff by taking part in the Adventure Training Camp in February this year.

As all our fellow officers in other CCFs have found there is something very different, very special and uniquely valuable in taking pupils away on any type of CCF activity. Such activity, often of a challenging or very demanding nature, allows a perspective between pupil and teacher which is completely different from the normal school routine. The shared hardship of cadet and officer builds a unique respect for each other which often lasts a long time.

For example, in a recent Tactical Exercise Weekend at Barry Buddon Training Camp the Cadets were kept very active into the dark hours with patrols and stag duties. Yet, just after five o'clock the following morning when everyone was in their prepared positions for the well rehearsed Dawn Attack, as the darkness slowly lifted and the ground was shrouded in the early morning mist, the sun slowly rose to reveal the

shrouded enemy's patrol coming eerily toward their dug-in positions. This was a most memorable and breathtaking moment!

Adventure Training Camp, Aviemore. 7th - 14th Feb., 2002.
Under our Skiing Director, Mr Borking, and ably assisted by his Ski Party Leaders, Miss Scott and Mr Garden, twenty nine Cadets attended this Camp together with five other supporting adults. This was easily the greatest number of cadets that I can ever remember attending this annual camp and we were made most hospitably welcome at Rothimurchus Lodge by Mr George Gaff, the Deputy Warden. As we lost only one day to high winds and were able to ski every other day it was a most successful week and I would wish to pay personal tribute to all the Ski Instructors and supporting adults who made it all possible by their hard work and dedication. I would also like to pay tribute to the seniors, Gerald Kerr, Michael Brown, and Matthew Roessler and the Cadets as a whole, who by their excellent behaviour and willingness to 'muck in' and complete the Duty Work Rota for each day, made the whole week such a happy and profitable time.

The following awards were made:-

Gold Star Award Michael Brown Murray McLeod	Bronze Star Award Claire Greenwood Vanessa Sherriffs Jenna McAulay Nicola Bonner Gillian Briggs Alan Batson Robert Cooper Gerald Kerr
Gold Award Nicholas Farr Paul Tyson Claire McGillivray Matthew Roessler	Bronze Award Charlotte Tervit Carrie-Anne Harris James Elliot Rebecca Copland
Silver Star Award Pippa Roessler Elliot Wood	
Silver Award Craig Farquharson Jamie Evenden Neil Greenwood Ciara Watson Peter Girvan Alasdair Page	

May I also take this opportunity to pay tribute to our School Pipe Major Mr Gordon Ross, our Drum Major, Mr Bert Tomkins and our Highland Dancing Instructor, Mrs Eileen MacDonald. All three have been tremendously supportive of the CCF, in general, at Dancing or Piping Competitions, but specifically in their heavy commitment to the CCF Pipes and Drums Display and beating of Retreat held each year at Edinburgh Castle.



2001 also saw our Biennial Inspection of the CCF and below is a brief excerpt of the Inspecting Officer's report.

REPORT BY REVIEWING OFFICER. CDRE. K. J. BORLEY RN, DIRECTOR NAVAL BASE CLYDE.

I inspected the CCF Contingent of Queen Victoria School Dunblane on Wednesday 7th November 2001. The day was exceedingly well organised, allowing ample opportunity to observe the cadets in action, in both formal and informal settings.

The proceedings started with a parade of the CCF Sections, complete with Pipes and Drums. The Cadets were very smartly turned out, and generally responded cheerfully and politely to questions. The March Past was excellent: the Band played superbly and the marching was impressive. A Search and Rescue helicopter from 8190 Naval Air Squadron performed a fly-past and landed in the School playing fields, adding to the occasion.

Following an accomplished dancing display, and an informal look at the pupils' accommodation, a full afternoon was spent visiting lessons taken by staff and cadet instructors in each of the sections. Activities observed included canoeing, flight simulation, map reading, first aid, practical leadership tasks, navigation, fieldcraft, skill at arms and shooting. A high degree of professionalism was demonstrated throughout, and all

cadets spoke positively about their experiences in the CCF. They were clearly enjoying themselves.

The Headmaster is clearly a great supporter of the CCF and I was most impressed with the relationship he had with his pupils, which I would characterise as one of warmth and mutual respect. He is ably juggling priorities.

I thoroughly enjoyed the privilege of inspecting such a worthwhile organisation. My abiding impression of the day is of a nurturing, caring community that encourages maturity and leadership skills to flourish. The whole event was, for myself, a positive and uplifting experience. I thought it did credit to the CCF Sections and the school as a whole.

I would close my article to the Victorian by paying tribute to all the cadets in each of the three sections whose infectious, adventurous spirit and exuberance make it such a pleasure, and a privilege to be a member of QVS CCF.

John R Silcox.



Sgt Johnstone, 3811, 1980-87 now with the Royal Logistic Corps Bomb Disposal Unit, meets up with three CCF RAF cadets on Easter Camp in RAF Akrotiri. The cadets from L to R - Cpl Farquharson, Cpl MacDonald and Jnr Cpl Wright. Cpl Henderson was also at the camp but was not in the photo due to severe sunburn! Photo by kind permission of Flt Lt Philip Jones (VRT)

Under the 'watchful' eye of the C.O. Flt Lt Gilhooly and Flg Officer Sheerin, the RAF section has remained strong and progressed through an active and rewarding year. It has also taken part in a variety of different camps and activities; one of these camps was in Cyprus at RAF Akrotiri which was attended by 4 cadets: Sgt Farquharson, Cpl Henderson, Cpl Wright and Cpl MacDonald.

In August we were also joined by Plt Off Wright, whose efforts to drag six cadets through the 'cadre' course have been much appreciated. Cpl Tom Wright enjoyed a particularly productive year, gaining an Air Cadet Leadership course, taking part in the Cyprus Camp and also earning a Gliding Scholarship (where he learned to fly a Viking. He now sports an armful of badges to prove it all.) Like Sgt Farquharson, he enjoyed Cyprus, in particular the visits to Aphrodite's Rock and Famagusta, on the border of the Green Line (controlled by Turkey). On the base, the cadets met an Old Victorian serving in the Bomb Disposal Unit and were allowed to control a robot.

"RAF Akrotiri was a busy place this Easter, home to over 70 air cadet from ATC and CCF contingents. The 2 weeks were filled with rafting competitions, fly pasts from the Red Arrows, flights in Wessex helicopters, search and rescue visits, sun, sea and sand, lots of sand. By the end of the camp, bronzed, bitten and mildly refreshed, we said our goodbyes to all of the staff and cadets who had made it such an enjoyable experience, and of course those mosquitoes - not such a sad goodbye!"

The entire section had a June Field Day at RAF Kinloss, Morayshire. We enjoyed visits to the ARCC Search and rescue, Mountain Rescue and were shown round the Nimrod MkII. The section also completed an initial weapons training and a



swimming proficiency course while on the base. Thanks to Mr Harrison who came with us.

This year also held the CCF's Biennial inspection. The RAF section held an inter-flight competition, consisting of aircraft recognition, flight simulation, survival and leadership exercises and navigation exercises.

The section has seen, done and achieved so many other things, with individuals such as Alasdair Spence achieving a Flying Scholarship, earning his wings and myself being awarded a Gliding Scholarship and a Staff Cadet position at RAF Kinloss. Two cadets: Cpls Broadbelt and Carmichael went to an RAF Easter camp at St Mawgan, where the highlights were being winched in a Sea King and a water-fight in the Fire Section. Over the last year, 20 cadets have had the chance of air experience flying in 'Tutor' aircraft at Glasgow Airport. Thanks to Mr Davies and other staff. Also, 18 cadets have been gliding at RMC Condor and have passed their GIC1s. Thanks to Plt Off Wright and Fg Off Sheerin for spending their Sundays shivering on the frozen wastes of Arbroath airfield! This year, the section loses Sgts Chisholm, Farquharson, and Cpls Reith, Edwards, Brown and Kerr, as we too, like others past, hand over the section to those below us. We leave what we have done in their (hopefully) capable hands. With many thanks to Flt Lt Gilhooly, Flg Off Sheerin and Plt Off Wright, without whose efforts none of the above could be possible.

Finally, I feel sure that our C.O. would also like to thank his staff and NCOs for doing all of the hard work this year.

Sgt Cameron CHISHOLM, Sgt Lindsey FARQUHARSON, Cpl Tom WRIGHT

INTRODUCTION

It has been another busy year for the Royal Naval section of the CCF. The number of pupils choosing to join the Naval section continues to rise steadily. The merging of the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme into the training syllabus has extended our options for cadets. Our new system of recruit training is progressing well with three of the sections senior cadets acting as instructors and divisional officers.

On a sad note we were upset to hear of the sudden death of Danny Kay, who was our area instructor for many years and had only retired from the Royal Navy three years ago. He was a kind, generous and helpful man and will be greatly missed by all those who worked with him.

VISITS

The visit to HMS Illustrious last summer was very interesting when the cadets were given an in depth tour of the ship. As part of celebrations to mark the one hundred year anniversary of submarines in the Royal Navy our section was invited to tour the mixture of submarines from all over the world including the USA and Russia.

SPORT

The Summer term saw our usual array of water sports and again this term we will be heading off to Loch Ore Meadows for windsurfing and sailing, to Loch Ard for canoeing, and Loch Lomond for power boating.



Naval cadets visiting a Sea King helicopter, which came across from HMS Gammet, near Ayr, for the Biennial Inspection

FIELD DAYS

Loch Lomond was the usual destination for our Summer Field Day and it was typically wet and windy; however, we did get on the water and managed to have our barbecue. Our next Field Day was taken up with the Biennial Inspection. The cadets were a credit to the section and the school. Commodore Borley was very impressed. Incidentally the helicopter in the photograph above is the same one which appears in most of the episodes of the new BBC Scotland production Rock Face, a drama about the mountain rescue.

On our last Field Day in January 02, we visited Faslane and had a great day including a visit to HMS Superb, a nuclear powered hunter killer submarine. The cadets were also able to use the skill at arms training area and had a trip on a fleet tender where they were able to test their navigation and ship handling skills.

At the annual RN CCF swimming Gala our girls team came second only narrowly beaten by George Watsons; Katrina Watson, Kate Trousdale and Callie Mc Farlane all received runners up medals.

LS Andrew Kirkcaldy's deck hockey team and swimming team won both this year's end of term competitions.

CONGRATULATION AND THANK YOU'S

Firstly, congratulations to Lt Borking on receiving his Cadet Force Medal marking twelve years of service with the CCF. On behalf of the section I would like to thank, PO Bradshaw and his team for the stores department at Faslane, for their help and support. The section would also like to thank CPO Nordon, our area Chief who helps in all areas of training, camps and courses. And finally thanks to Lt Ritsperis, our Parent Establishment Liaison Officer.

Lt Cdr T Shannon RD RNR
OC RN Section CCF QVS

Last year's summer panto "The Gruesome Tale of Bishop Hatto", based on the comical poem by Robert Southey, was, in the opinion of many, the best QV production of recent years, certainly the most hilarious. David Kelly played himself, really, in the character of the evil Bishop who joyfully kills off his villagers and is supernaturally revenged. Graham King was the cackling Dalziel (Di'el = the devil) who led the Bishop astray. Nick Burge and Ashling Kerr played the brother and sister victims of the Bishop's machinations and Alan Laws was the noble, shy, self-sacrificing Grossherz, his character summed up by his German name. We had another good cross-section of the school involved in the production and aim to put on another pantomime at the end of this summer term: "Macbeth, or, The Traitor's Camp" - a sort of Shakespearean tragedy filtered through the Carry-On team.

Another bit of dramatic fun was the S3 panto just before Christmas, Cinders' Twist, written and produced by 3K. A broken limb meant that Jamie Kerr gave literal meaning to the theatrical term "break a leg" and so, sadly, his career as an ugly sister (really ugly, actually!) was curtailed.

Alasdair Spence, drafted in at short notice (about half a day or so), filled the part in every sense of the word. Gordon Cook played his equally ugly sister and the two raised many a giggle as they swanned and preened and flounced across the stage. Cinders was played by Callie MacFarlane, Craig Richardson was Buckles (not Buttons), and Carley Spence flitted about as a kind of punk-rock Tinkerbell. The lessons learned were several: it takes days to make a pantomime cow's body; it is great fun to appear on stage; and, yes, Mr Kirk will make you write about it.

On a far more serious note, "Laurie's Diary", our entry to the 2001 Sri Sathya Sai National Drama Competition on Human Values, attempted to convey themes of love and self-sacrifice in caring for a terminally ill relative. Laurie's Diary won best play and best script at regional level in Glasgow, and came third in the National Final in Dundee, but again captured the best script award. Thanks go to Laurie Cairns (S5), Fiona Thomson (S4), Ciara Watson (S4), Barbara Davidson (S5), Laura Morrison (S2), Pippa Roessler (S4), Laura Friery (S2), Carrie-Ann Campbell (S2), Alasdair Spence (S6) and Scott Lawrie (S4) for their participation in what one judge described as a "powerful and moving performance."

We had the services of two students in the Department in the Winter Term leading up to Christmas. Alex Bruce and Hazel Meldrum learned a lot while they were here, and the department, as is usually the case, benefited from their assistance and participation. We wish them well in their future careers and hope they remember the three Ps every English teacher needs; flexibility (to the demands of the SQA), fun (but pupils will have to write about it) and...forgotten the third one (must be the pressures of the job).

What's a Victorian Eng Dept report without a terrible Star Trek cliché to round it off? I ask you. Where are we boldly going



BP Young Speakers Initiative Team. Miss J Johnstone with pupils Carley Spence, Kevin Hayes, Claire Greenwood

next? Ah - the 'undiscovered country' of revised-revised-revised-amended-revised-totally unchanged Higher Still: that's where. Material there for another pantomime perhaps...

BP YOUNG SPEAKERS INITIATIVE 2002

The Third year public speaking team made their "Maiden Voyage" in the very public forum of Alloa Academy on Thursday 21st February.

The annual competition - run by Denny Speakers Club - aims to encourage pupils from the old Central Region to present their views on a variety of topical issues in a formal situation. This year our team comprised of Kevin Hayes, our chairperson and resident "Speechmeister" who managed to fend off a barrage of terrifying questions with dignity, aplomb - and a little bit of tongue in cheek humour. He was most ably accompanied by Carley Spence who opened our motion for the evening: Celebrities and Sports Stars earn far too much money - and contribute absolutely nothing of any value to society. Carley's dulcet tones rang out clearly in defence of our fascination with "Celebrity". As she quite rightly pointed out, no one forces us to buy their albums or watch their films. Carley's very definite views managed to sway the most hardened of judges, who congratulated her on her original opening and her utter belief in her proposition. They obviously hadn't noticed her knees knocking underneath the lectern!

The third and final member of our team was Claire Greenwood who closed the competition by offering a very different perspective on this topical issue. Claire argued extremely persuasively that many people who are making millions each year are actually providing young people with very negative role models: for every Beckham with a stable marriage and enviable family life, she pointed out, there are surely hundreds of George Bests and Liam Gallaghers who openly promote drug taking and promiscuity. Claire's persuasive angle and no-nonsense approach also won her praise from the judges, who commented in their closing speech about the clear division of roles and use of humour in the team's presentation. The team are currently limbering up for their place in the final, which will be held in the BP Exhibition Centre in Grangemouth on Wednesday May 8th

The motion promises to be just as challenging as they have chosen to discuss the concept: Violent crime is on the increase. The youth of today have no respect for anything. I only hope that the judges have packed their bullet proof vests! (P.S. The team came second in the final.)

HELPING GUIDE DOGS BY SHEONA KIRKALDY

This year I raised money for the Guide Dogs by selling love hearts in the library. Pupils bought a loveheart for five pence the week before Valentine's Day and we displayed them all on the library walls. Pupils wrote verses on them and the names of their true loves! We sold Valentine's designer pipe cleaners that Aaron King had made in the shape of hearts and took orders for different designs. We raised about thirty-five pounds; with this I made chocolate crispie cakes and sold them, so in the end I raised £40 and I was very happy. The guide dog people sent us loads of posters, leaflets and balloons.

TAE KWON-DO HOBBY

I just put out a tentative note to see if anyone would be interested in the martial art, Tae Kwon-Do. Lo and behold the response was overwhelming! Understandably I was taken aback and had to quickly reconsider how the hobby would be run, so it is now running twice weekly throughout the entire school year, and will continue to do so. Vigorous exercise is the central concern of the hobby and this, married together with the skills of Tae Kwon-Do, make for an excellent way of keeping fit and learning self-defence.

Under the guidance of our instructor, Stuart Barrie, we are put through our dynamic warm-ups, 'patterns' and self-defence work. Luckily we are blessed with excellent facilities and are able to accommodate forty students from S1-S6.

I am a novice myself and am moving up the 'gradings' along with the students, and a number of us are about to move onto our 'Yellow Belts'.

Next on the agenda will be competitions, which will involve sparring; this is a voluntary element and not all students will opt for this area of martial art.

Soon every student will have passed a 'grading' and in three or four years there will be a number of black belts in the school, including myself!

Just what makes Tae Kwon-Do such a fantastic activity? Well, apart from keeping fit, it instills discipline, improves flexibility, strength, stamina and balance and these are just some of the qualities that make it so attractive. However, the most important factor is that everyone who takes part enjoys it immensely. Finally, I'd like to thank all of you for showing such a strong commitment to the hobby.

Cheers

James McNally.

POTTERY HOBBIES

The Wednesday and Friday night hobbies were attended initially by 1st and 2nd year girls until they had each completed a coil pot, thumb pot or slab-built piece of work.

Some of these successful potters were replaced by several enthusiastic P7 pupils and "old" and "new" sculptors keen to work on their clay-modelling techniques. The products ranged in scale and form - from simple animal thumb pots to more adventurous constructions using a variety of modelling and building techniques.

Hopefully, when they are finally glazed, the finished pieces will be a credit to their efforts!

L.T.

SCRIPTURE UNION HOBBY. SESSION 2001-2002.

S.U. and JAM Members gathered at 'Dalriada' last June for a Games and Barbecue Evening. We ought to have done a study on yielding to temptation as a rather damp group (it was a fine night, but we had left the hose pipe in the garden) presented Mrs Onslow and Miss Courtney with gifts and cards to express our thanks to them for all that they had contributed to both Groups during their time at QVS.

This session, instead of offering the P7 S.U. Hobby, we have enjoyed a challenging year of deeper study with the older JAM Group.

I am grateful to Aaron King, a faithful member since P7, who has helped with the running of the Hobby as part of his D of E. The present S2 members are now willing and able to help relaunch the P7 hobby next session. Watch this Space. I have been deeply encouraged by the support and prayers of S.U. Headquarters and Team Leaders across the country. Mrs Isabel Black and Mr Martin Boyd, both Independent School Field Workers, have come along and spoken enthusiastically at our meetings. It is great to know that we are 'not alone' but are part of a large National and International Organisation.

L.H. Silcox

WIEBKE KUCHARNOWSKY

This year's foreign language assistant, WIEBKE KUCHARNOWSKY, came to us from the University of Kiel in North Germany. She arrived in mid August, just in time to see our dancers and pipers performing, so successfully, at the Edinburgh Tattoo.

Their performance delighted her so much that she quickly enrolled in Mrs MacDonald's lessons with younger pupils and has now, herself, achieved a considerable degree of proficiency in Highland Dancing. Wiebke has also worked throughout the year in both Wavell and Haig houses, while assisting with all German classes in the modern languages department. We thank Wiebke for her valuable contribution to life at Queen Victoria School, and we wish her every success on her resumption of her university career in Germany.

Mrs J Howie



1924 - 25 Queen Victoria School Rugby Team - Undefeated. Back Row: Taylor, Anderson, Craig, Robertson, Hardie, Hamilton, Dredge: Capt Barnes. Seated: Cosgrove, Ross, Watson, Taylor, Friend, Rose, Renton

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

An interesting and inevitably active year for the OVA has passed with a similar result to 2000-01 in that membership and OV contact is increasing at what often seems to be a non stop rate. Yet again our website is the major contributory factor to this success. To date over 250 Old Victorians have registered their email address in our webmaster's Directory, many of whom being what I call 'lost OV's' i.e. either never having become members of the Association or have moved around so much that we have lost contact. On one morning 43 emails turned up in my pigeon hole! I am not complaining, keep them coming.

New members often emphasise the family spirit which has been so important to the School over the years. The 4 Mooney Brothers, 1426 Matthew, 1525 James, 1664 Terence and 1764 Michael, who were here in the 1930's, joined en masse having established contact initially to satisfy a small family disagreement as to the Regiments of RSM Squeaky Watson and CSM Teddy Maxwell, names that will bring back many memories to Victorians of the 30s-40s! Other families completing their groups included the 3 Morgans, 1983 Tom, 2000 John and 2493 William plus the 3 Leonard brothers 3381 Andrew, 3382 Gordon and 3521 Colin. The message here for other OV families is to ensure that any OV relatives not members should be recruited asap! We do a very nice presentation pack!

Increased contact through both Email, visits and normal correspondence highlights the mobility of Old Victorians around the world. Iain MacNeill (3953) is 'visiting' Afghanistan

at present with the Commando brigade and Barry Hamilton (3106) added yet another exciting city to his collection in Vladivostok. News from the London Branch is not so good. Bob Gill (2900) having chaired it for the past 6 years has resigned due to pressure of work. Bob, supported valiantly by Melissa, brought the Branch back to life after a long period of inactivity. The current informal meetings are to continue and Stephen Hill is sitting in the Chair pending appointment of a successor. Volunteers please!

The Annual Reunion was held at the School on 16-17 March. An excellent turnout, fine weather and fellowship helped in its success. Lt Col John McGrory RAMC(2630) took the salute at the Parade Service and we followed our normal practice of making a donation to the School of £1000, a starter for a Centenary project, i.e. a Centre for Music Excellence to replace the current portacabins.

Finally, my sincere thanks to Her Majesty's Commissioners for inviting me to participate in their meetings. This was not just a personal honour to me but, more importantly, recognition of the role that Old Victorians have assumed in relation to the School. Through attendance at these meetings I now have insight into the highest level of management of the school and given me the opportunity to speak with particular relevance to historical aspects of QVS. I have been made most welcome by HMC and thank them for this compliment to the Association which has helped to enhance the QVS/OVA relationship even further.

Ron Smith

Death of a Famous Gordon Queen Victoria School lad who fought at Loos

HIS STIRLING CONNECTION

During the seven and a half years of its existence the Queen Victoria School at Dunblane has given many evidences of the immense value of a liberal training in patriotism and duty, and since the outbreak of the war lads who have been trained there, and who are still in their teens, have shown themselves second to none in bravery and resource on the field of battle.

Lads who have passed through its halls have been wounded or taken prisoners, but the first death to be recorded is that of Company Sergeant Major William Lawson Crichton of the Gordon Highlanders. This promising young non-commissioned officer was killed in action on 5th March but the sad news of his death did not reach his old school until Sunday morning 12th inst. A gloom was cast over all throughout the day, and at morning service the Rev. D.R. Alexander made a touching reference to the sad event. Crichton was without a doubt the most popular boy that has yet been at the Victoria School. He was one of two Scottish boys who came from the Royal Hibernian School, Dublin at the opening of the school in June 1909, two others coming from the Duke of York's School, and from the day of his arrival he at once installed himself a prime favourite both with boys and staff owing to his genial disposition and his readiness to oblige both old and young.

He was nominated to go to Balmoral to receive the Colours of the school from the late King Edward, taking them from the King's hand as Colour-Corporal, and he also attended the Coronation of King George.

He was selected as Primus of the school in 1911, and at the Grand Day of that year it was noticeable the regularity with which he marched forward for prize after prize either for himself or his company.

Crichton took the greatest interest in all sport, and was a pre-eminent football player and Captain of the Rugby Football team.

He was entered for the examination for studentships, open to the United Kingdom, at Dublin in June 1914, when he obtained the sixteenth place. On war being declared, however, he at once requested permission to enlist, and joined the Gordon Highlanders on the 14th August 1914. In October, after eight weeks' service, he was made Lance-Corporal, and by June of 1915 he was promoted Sergeant. He sailed to France in August and he was in the great rush at Loos, and after the

engagement was made Coy. Sergeant - Major, being perhaps the youngest soldier to hold that rank in the Army. He was just eighteen years old.

Deceased was a step-son of the late Sergeant-Major Lenton, Stirling. The early close of a career which showed so much promise is keenly felt by all the school, and by many friends in the district.

Placed here by E.W. Kipling, nephew of W. Lawson Crichton. Sgt. Major Crichton has no known grave but his name is recorded on the Menin Gate, chiselled in stone for all to see.



From Army Brat* to Soldier of the Queen

In this celebratory year of the Golden Jubilee it would be inappropriate not to have some personal memories of events during those 50 years. So this Army Brat is searching his memory bank for events which link him to the reign of Her Majesty and to the title of Soldier of the Queen.



Ron Smith newly commissioned July 1953

I was born in Edinburgh Castle married quarters in 1933 with two Grandfathers, one a sapper, the other Grenadier Guards. Both had served in South Africa in 1899-1902 and thus were 'Soldiers of Queen Victoria'. My father was posted on a 4 year tour to Singapore shortly after my birth; luckily he refused the offer of a second tour in 1937 and we returned to the UK. En route we called into Colombo where celebrations for the Coronation of King George VI were taking place. My parents told me that it was great fun but my brother and I were too young to appreciate it!!

To Aldershot then and World War 2. Dad went to France and back via Dunkirk and his posting on commissioning to the Middle East resulted in our evacuation to our grandparents in Edinburgh and then to QVS. We both played in the Military Band and thus were delighted when in June 1946 the Band was invited to perform outside the Municipal buildings in Stirling during the visit of The King and Queen accompanied by the Royal Princesses.

I enlisted in the Royal Engineers in September 1951, followed by 5 months of basic training and the 18 month course at Sandhurst. Our Troop of 31 potential officers was submitted to

an extremely rigorous course, the basis being the Troop Sergeant's belief that route marches were best for us and the required rhythm sustained by the threat of 'Sing or Double'. Thus our final Exercise was planned as a route march from Honiton to Helston. On 6 February 1952 we left Honiton at 6am proceeding westwards, singing as we went. Surprisingly the reaction from the locals as we marched was quite unfriendly! It was only when we halted for our first break that we were informed that King George VI had died overnight and thus our repertoire of rugby songs mixed with 'Kiss Me Goodnight sergeant Major' had to be refined somewhat. And so we become SOLDIERS OF THE QUEEN.

The most memorable event of my time at Sandhurst was the Coronation. We were chosen to line the route within the area of Westminster Abbey and Dettingen company (mine) was sited opposite the entrance to the Abbey. What a marvellous view we had on marching into position. Alas! It was not to be. The further tramp of marching feet signified that the Guard of Honour from the Grenadier Guards halted in front of us and our view was severely restricted! However, the crowd to our rear took pity on us and provided sweets and buns. When it was all over we returned to Sandhurst, changed back into plain

clothes and went back up to Town to stand outside Buckingham palace shouting 'We want the Queen'. Her Majesty responded and we were able to go back to Camberley happily after a marvellous day.

July 1953 was very significant, personally, as indicated by a framed parchment in my study. On it Elizabeth the Second sends greetings to her Trusty and Well Beloved Ronald Smith and appointed him to be an Officer in our Land Forces from the Thirty First day of July 1953. The Sovereign's Parade was held on 30 July with some 300 cadets commissioned in the traditional way at Sandhurst. Regrettably, due to Her Majesty's many commitments in her Coronation Year, the Duke of Gloucester stood in for her as Inspecting Officer. As we slowly marched up the steps of Old College to the tune of Auld Lang Syne we knew that we really were SOLDIERS of THE QUEEN.

On 8 July 1966 The Royal Artillery celebrated the 250th year of its formation and we were privileged to attend the Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen, our Captain General and His Royal Highness, Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. It is interesting to note that the Orchestra of the Royal Artillery played during the service under the direction of Captain (later Major) R. Quinn MBE LRSM (London) Director of Music, Royal Artillery Band, better known to older OV's as 1489 Jock Quinn.

In 1977 Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal visited the United States to represent Her Majesty at her Silver Jubilee

celebrations being held there. Some 600 members of staff worked in the Embassy then and most of us felt very let down when it was announced that The Royal Garden Party to be held to welcome the Princess was restricted to a higher level staff plus diplomatic representatives. The equivalent of a kitchen revolution resulted in a change of plan and, much to our delight, a second Garden Party was held to which all members of staff were invited and HRH spent overtime walking round and chatting to everyone.

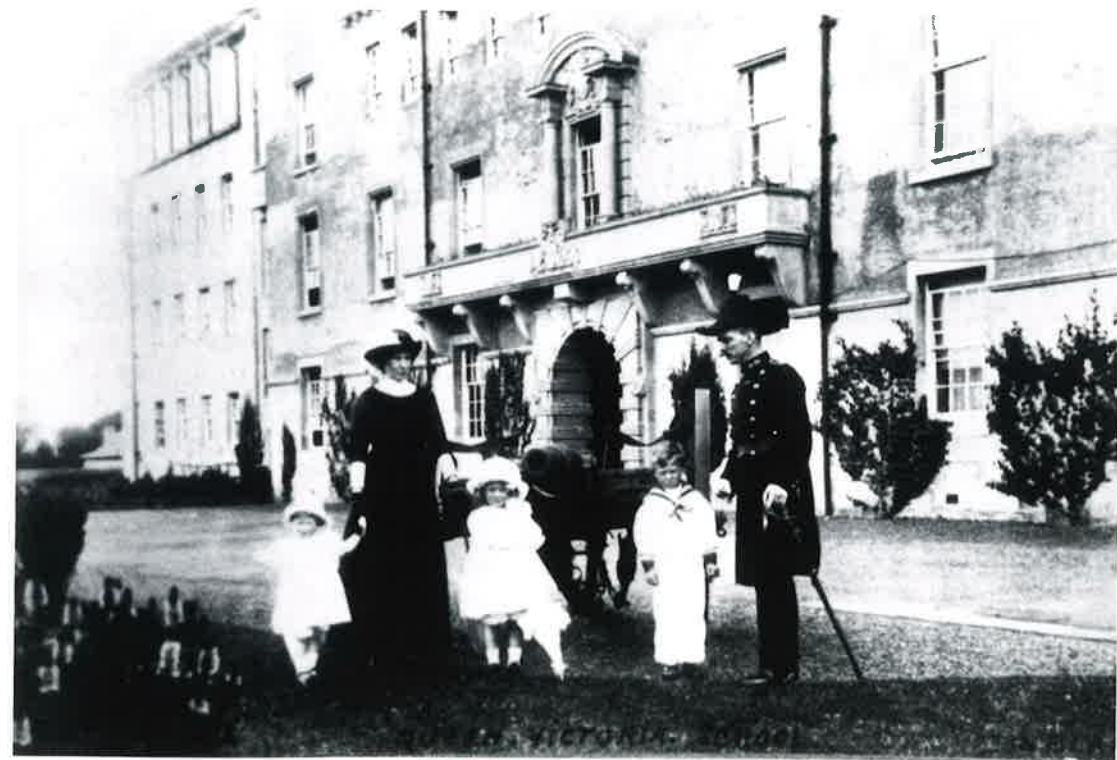
The most recent Royal Visitor to the School was of course The Princess Royal on Grand Day 1977. It was a really GRAND DAY, excellently reported on in the 1998 VICTORIAN but my personal highlight was the conversation I had with Her Royal Highness in which she referred to my recently completed service as the Gleneagles Colonel (!) in the most complimentary manner.

And so this Army Brat has, over a period of 50 years, served Her Majesty faithfully as required in the Commission referred to above and hopes to continue to do so through the medium of the Queen Victoria School for as long as possible.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN

Col. R. Smith President of Old Victorians Association

* An Army Brat is the US Army's name for a child born and brought up in Married Quarters.



1913 - Captain and Mrs. D Mathers and children, one of whom is now Mrs Jean Halahan. Captain D Mathers was the 1st Adm Officer 1908 - 14

Obituaries

Sadly I have to report the passing of six Old Victorians during the past year. Never an easy task but I have been helped by the families involved and I am very grateful to them in what is always a very personal matter.

745 Captain Ron Taylor

Ron was born at Hamilton Barracks in 1910 and joined his two brothers, George and Alan, at Queen Victoria School in 1919. His mother was employed as a matron at the School. He enjoyed life at QVS, was a keen sportsman, particularly as a member of the 1st XV and he was often keen to remind others of its unbeaten season in 1924 (see photo on page 51). He was a piper and again rightly proud of his promotion to Boy Pipe Major. He left QVS for civilian life, working in London and Birmingham, and was able to maintain his sporting activities, playing for London Scottish and, having taken up rowing, competing at Henley.

He maintained his army links by joining the Royal Warwickshire regiment (TA) and was called up in 1938-39 at the outbreak of War. He served in North Africa and Cyprus prior to moving to India and was commissioned in the 42nd Punjabi Regiment before transferring to the 75th Indian Cavalry Regiment in India and latterly Persia. He returned to the UK in late 1945, rejoining his family, Kathleen, whom he had married in 1940, daughter Margaret and son Michael. Once settled back into civilian life Ron played a very important part in the OVA, filling the posts of secretary of the London Branch and latterly the Chairman. He was a regular visitor to our Annual Reunion and to Grand Day and it was only in the late '90s that his visits and correspondence ceased. In July 2000 he collapsed in the street, was admitted to hospital and subsequently moved to a Nursing Home where he died on 23 March 2002. Ron was a great representative of the OVA, immensely proud of the school and all that it had done for him as a boy.

1142 Robert McLean

Robert, a half brother of Campbell McQueen (past President of

the OVA) came to QVS in 1926. He joined the RAF in 1934 serving a total of 34 years much of which was overseas, commencing with Palestine pre 1939 and during the war in North Africa 1941- 42. He returned to the UK in 1942 and post war served in Iraq 1950-52, UK '52-61, Germany '61-63, UK '63-66 and finally Singapore 1966-68 retiring as a Warrant Officer and taking up employment with Naafi as an engineer until 1981. He retired finally in 1981, living in Lincoln until he died on 20th November 2001, the last of three QVS brothers.

1405 Bill MacKay

Bill, born in Aberdeen, the son of a Chelsea Pensioner, joined the School in 1930. Tall and sometimes described as 'Skinny' his main claim to fame at QVS was in the boxing ring where he exploited his long reach to become a school champion. He left in 1935 to serve his time in Aberdeen to qualify in engineering. On the outbreak of war in 1939 he attempted to join up but poor eyesight ruled the Forces out. However, he made use of his engineering skill designing bombs in a Clydeside munitions factory. He returned to Aberdeen post war and worked at an accountants firm in Bon Accord Street. He was then able to combine his engineering skills with accountancy in the establishment of North East Motor Factors, one of the biggest suppliers to the oil industry. Despite his commitment to a flourishing business he found time for golf, gardening, DIY and photography and was a founder member of Fittick Rotary. His family remember him as a very committed father and grandfather, 'Everything he did, he did with gusto!' I remember him for his strong and generous commitment to the OVA, a regular visitor for our reunion and Grand Day and latterly his determination to combat Alzheimers. Sadly he lost that battle and died aged 80 at Banchory on 27th May 2001.

1454 Fred Morton

The oldest of 3 brothers, Fred joined QVS in 1930 and although he was a quiet boy he distinguished himself as a musician, playing the euphonium in the Military Band, perhaps a surprising instrument for a boy who liked a quiet and sheltered life, but he was taken under Bandmaster Lax's wing and performed very effectively. He left the School in 1935 to join his father's Regiment, the Black Watch and served during the 1939-45 War.

He was not physically strong and left the Army to work in the industry, being employed by CAV Ltd in Acton, progressing through the years to the post of Work Study Manager. His health continued to trouble him and eventually he retired, living in Uxbridge. In retirement he was supported by his family until he suffered a final heart attack and died on 5 May 2001 just prior to his 81st birthday.

16464 Jim Smith

Jim and I joined the school on 5 May 1943, part of a contingent of 25 Dukie rookies. 18 Victorians joined on 6 May. The separation was presumably to avoid problems in the issue of uniforms as we mixed quite normally afterwards! Almost immediately we lost our first names, receiving the nicknames of Big Smith and Wee Smith on arrival in D Company! Jim entered into School life very quickly, ensuring that I could clean my own boots and buttons, make my bed and generally look after myself. Thereafter, I was happy to make my own way whilst he concentrated on moving upwards in education, sport and promotion to sergeant. As was very common in the '40s, many boys looked to the future in RE Ordnance Survey and, armed with his 1st Class Certificate of Education, he left for the Army Apprentice School in 1946 qualifying for man service in 1949. He served in Egypt (SUEZ) 1950-53, East Africa and Kenya during the Mau-Mau uprising '53-58, SHAPE. BAOR, Bahrain, Canada and Singapore, retiring as a Sergeant in 1971 after 25 years service. Latterly, he was employed at HMP Coldingley (Bisley) from 1971-91. In 1974 he interrupted his service there to volunteer for duty with the Northern

Ireland Prison Service at McGilligan, returning to Coldingley to complete his service there on final retirement in 1991. Very much a family man, retirement was spent with his wife Kathleen and daughters Carron and Lynn and looking after our mother, eventually assuming a total care responsibility for her. He was not very healthy himself and during the latter part of 2001 suffered from severe breathing difficulty. He died at home peacefully on 18 January 2002 aged 70.

3491 Kevin Smith

Kevin Smith (Big Smudge) attended QVS with brother Mark between 1972 and 1978 and, in a tragically short but outstanding career exemplified one of the school's original aims in becoming a first class teacher and sportsman. His life was built around sport, both at school and in adulthood. Captain of the QVS 1st XV, Scotland Schoolboys international, School colours for Rugby, Swimming and Athletics, winner of the Victor Ludorum Cup for outdoor sports. He was a prefect at all levels, Sergeant in the Army Section of the CCF and Bass Drummer in the Pipe Band. Externally he received The Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award from Prince Philip in 1979 and was awarded a Certificate of Merit for outstanding Service and Personal Achievement to the school community by the Physical Education Association.

He qualified as a coach in Rugby, Athletics, Canoeing, Basketball, Sailing and Trampolining. After leaving QVS he studied at Nonington College of PE in Kent, achieving a BA with Joint Honours in Human Movement and Education in 1983 and subsequently a Post Graduate Certificate in Education at Brighton Polytechnic in 1984. He then taught PE at Ferndown Upper School, Dorset for 17 years and was described by his Headmaster as an 'Inspirational Teacher'. Kevin suffered from diabetes but despite this he continued to teach and participate. Sadly, aged 40, he died from a heart attack on 19 August 2001 and we lost an outstanding OV.

Ron Smith

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BURSAR J Drysdale BA (Hons)
ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER E Smith BEd (Hons) BA PGCG

HOUSEMASTERS/HOUSEMISTRESS
Cunningham H W G Tomkins Cert.P.P.(BSA)
Haig J S Laing Dip Tech Edn
Trenchard G D M Carroll BA DCE PGCE
Wavell A MacDougall BEd PGCG

PRINCIPAL TEACHERS
 B Bauld BA Dip Ed Tech Cert TT
 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 S Laing Dip Tech Edn
 J Lawrence BSc (Hons) PGCE
 D McLay BEd (Hons)
 D Breingan D.R.S.A.M. Dip Ed (PT Music)
 D Stewart BSc (Hons)

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 E Blackwood BEd
 G Borking BEd BSc
 T A Dale BSc Cert Ed
 G Johnston BSc (Hons) PGCE
 J Johnstone MA (Hons) PGCE
 T King BEd (Hons) T Cert
 J McNally BA (Hons) Dip Ed
 J Porter MA (Hons) PGCE
 J Scott BEd (Hons)
 T Shannon Dip Tech Edn HND Eng Mech
 Rev J Silcox BD Cert PS CF TD (School Chaplain)
 C A Taylor BSc (Hons) PGCE
 R Wright BA PGCE

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 C Sheerin BA (Hons) Dip Lib ALA

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 M McColl

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 A Brown
 J Dallas

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Haig H Kettles
Trenchard H A Devlin
Wavell J B Kean

HOUSE ASSISTANTS
 D Henderson
 H R Duthie
 K McVey
 C E Cullen
 C O'Neill

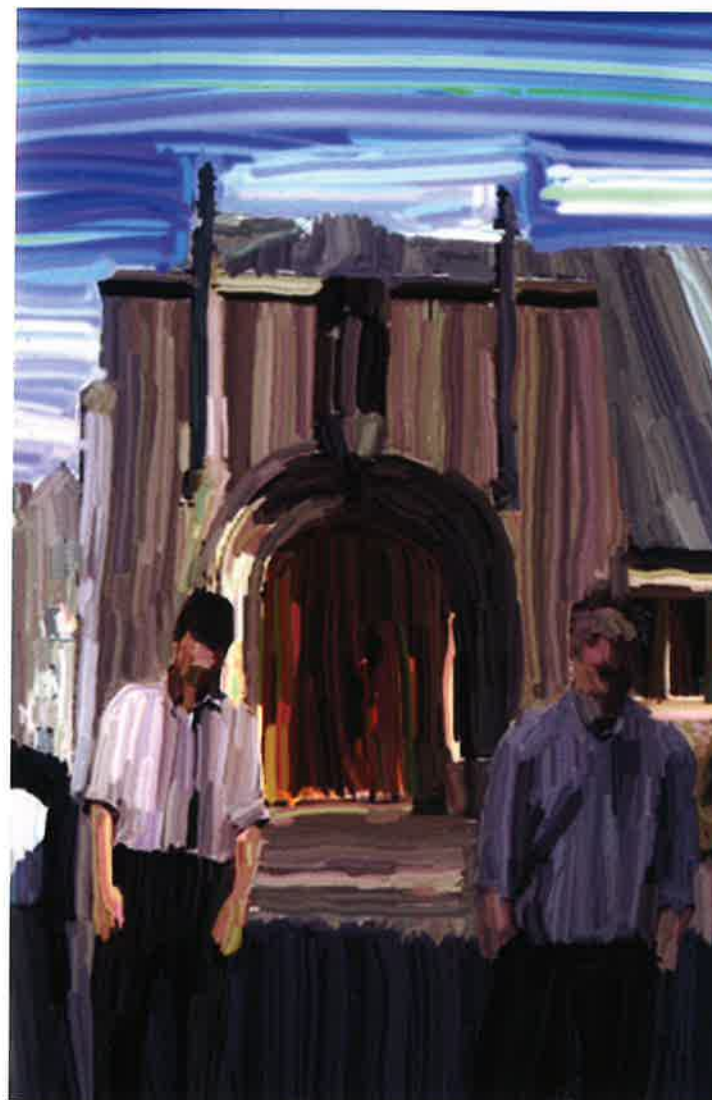
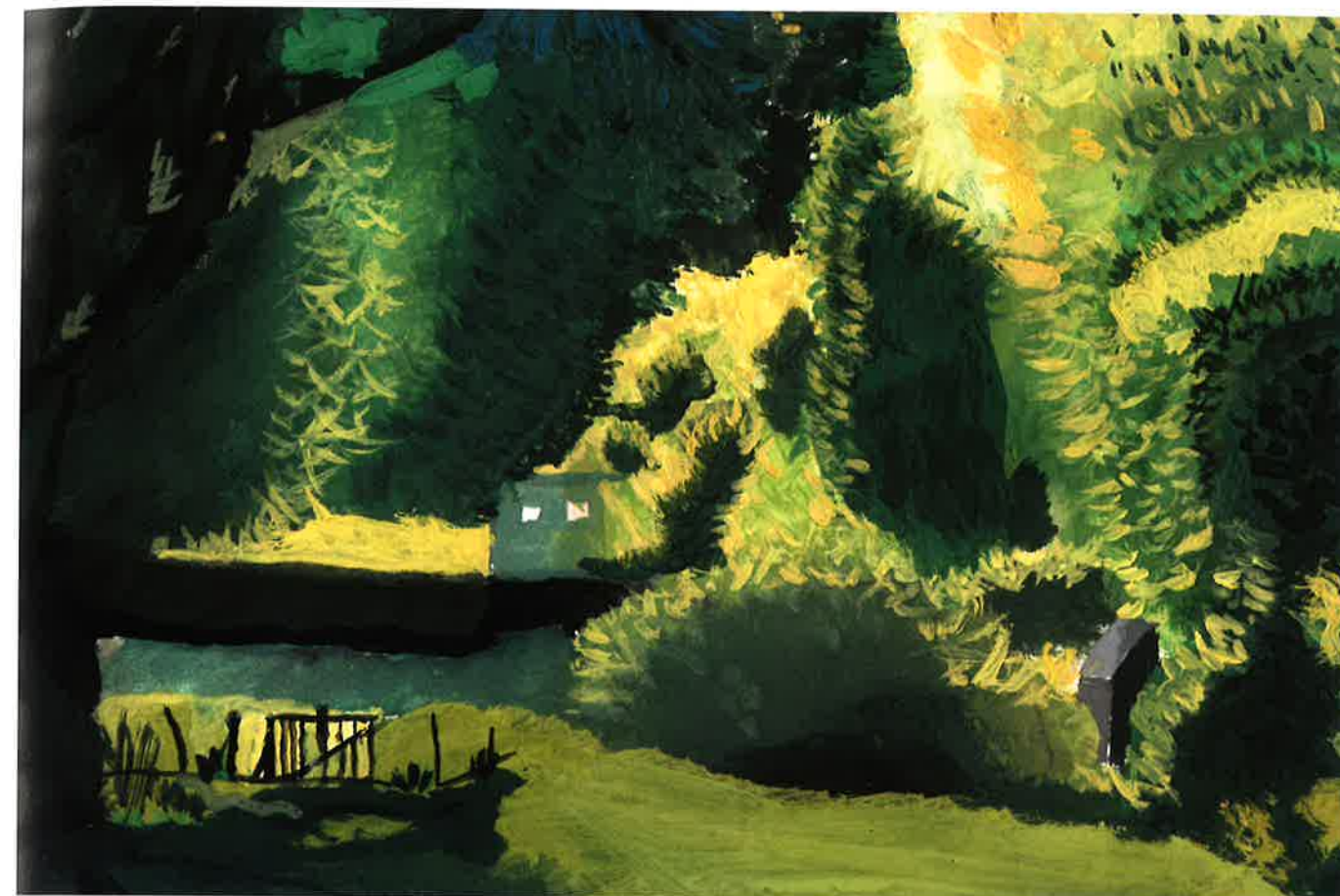
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 Hospital Nurse (Part-time) L Hepburn RGN
 Hospital Auxiliary H Heslop

UNIFORMED STAFF
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 Pipe Major G R Ross (late Gordons)
 Drum Major H W G Tomkins (late Gordons)
 Cert.P.P.(BSA)
 Highland Dancing Instructor E M MacDonald

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 Personnel Officer M Wallace
 Finance Officer K Lawrie BA (Hons)
 Headmaster's Secretary D G A Bryan
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 Bursar's Secretary M Reid
 School Secretary A Morea
 Accounts Officer M Symon
 ICT Technician B Harrison (HND Comp Studies)
 Part-time Typist R Ainslie (HND Business Admin)
 Reprographics A B Gauld BA (Hons)
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 R Hiddleston
 F Wernicki
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 C Allan
 A McDonald
 R MacDougall
 MA Fleming
 M Roy
 W Stockman
 P Warner

Experimental Worker
 General Hand

Storekeeper



Artwork: Colin Macdonald, Paul Fleming, Daniel Stevenson



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