



The Victorian 2003

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 countryside, Queen Victoria School is easily accessible by road, rail or air. Pupils may be registered for entry from the age of seven but our main intake is to Primary 7 in the Scottish system (equivalent to Year 7 in the English system), i.e. ten and a half to eleven years. Applications must reach the School by 30 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.

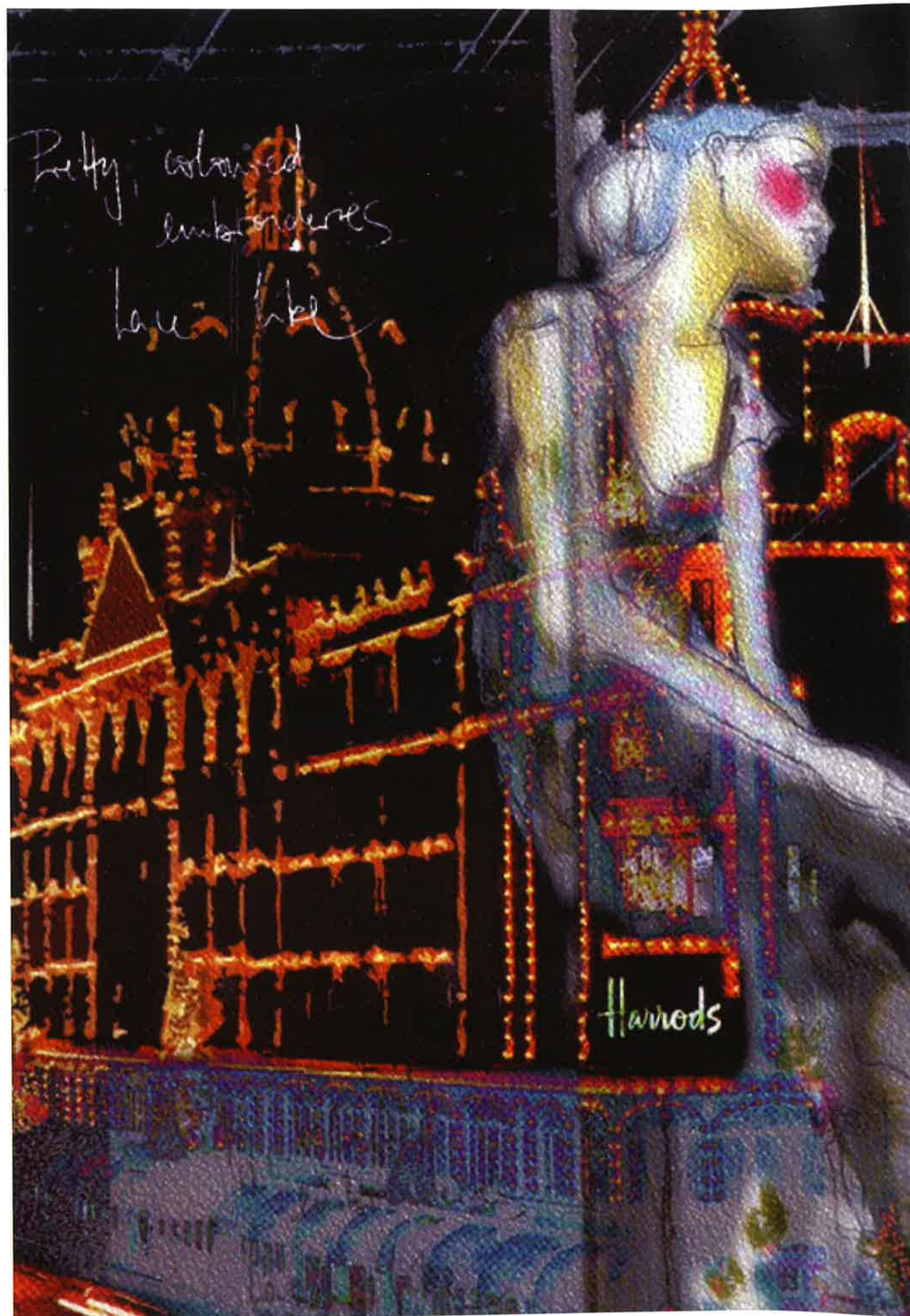
The School offers a wide and balanced curriculum following the Scottish education system; and includes courses at Standard Grade, Intermediate 2 and Higher Grades of the Scottish Certificate of Education. Pupils also have the opportunity to study in a number of subjects for the Advanced Higher Examinations. 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 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 to develop their self-esteem. In addition, there is a 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.

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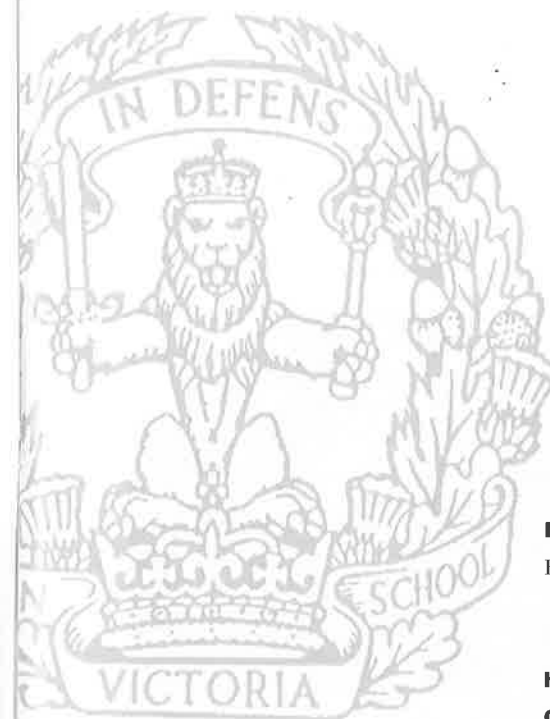
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Headmaster's Notes



HM, SSM & Colour Party



HM, School Monitors & SVI prefects

Queen Victoria School's academic session 2002/3 will be notable to any future historian of the School because our Establishment Development Plan was put together, accepted by Her Majesty's Commissioners and put forward to the Adjutant General. Having taken over a School in 1994 which had been subjected to piecemeal development and, with the introduction of co-education and the building of Trenchard, to a certain extent, having continued that trend, it was extremely important to look to the future development of the School.

I do believe we are at a pivotal point in Queen Victoria School's history. If we continue with the piecemeal approach we will, inevitably, continue to lose money and not support more of the Armed Forces families eg this year we had 151 applicants for admission, from which we took 44, quite a change from 1994 when we took 34 out of a total of 35 applicants.

Our Establishment Development Plan (EDP) will provide QVS with a new teaching block, up-to-date IT facilities, and another boarding house. In addition, the Centenary Appeal will aim to raise £2.5 million to build a new music centre and auditorium.

The EDP offers a cost effective way of moving forward and a very strong 'spend to save' argument. Clearly, it will depend on the timing and money being made available by AG but I can assure you that, whatever happens, the School will continue to move forward.

2003 will also be notable for the Iraq War. This had a big impact on the School, as very close relatives of a lot of our families from army, navy and airforce were involved. Fortunately, the main

fighting has moved into another 'peace-keeping' exercise. However, all such situations have their inherent, very difficult problems and knock-on effects on the families. We should all be extremely grateful for the continuing role played by our Armed Forces and thankful that an establishment like Queen Victoria School exists to support and act as an anchor of stability for the children of our Armed Forces families.

The overall impression of the 2002 exams results was very good and in S5, excellent. At Standard Grade, 70% of our presentations in S4 were in Credit with only 14 below a 3 and 1 no award. 68% gained 5 or more passes in Grades 1 and 2 (National Average is 33%). In S5, 69.6% of the year group gained 3 or more Higher passes at A to C (National Average is 22%) and the pass rate on presentations was 85.8% The overall pass rate at Higher for S5 and S6 was 77%, compared to 75.9% last year. For both Standard and Higher Grade, Queen Victoria School was in the top National Comparison Decile.

In our efforts to improve academic life we are working to a Service Level Agreement with Stirling Council to benefit from

their assistance on Quality Assurance, Training & Development and Support for Learning. Internet access is now available in the Library, both Computing Rooms, in Business Studies and the Houses. We have piloted a scheme in S2 to work on a positive discipline policy and we have now moved to computerised reporting.

2002 saw the last phase of the second floor refurbishment and this summer will see the first phase of the first floor (Haig). The two main dormitories will be completely refurbished by August 2003. In addition, there has been considerable work throughout the year to improve a number of areas of the School.

The Pipe Band and Highland Dancers continue to uphold the strong traditions of the School. It has been good to see Queen Victoria School's continuing involvement in the Murrayfield Internationals and the Pipe Band's performance at the Caird Hall in November was first class with the Lord Provost of Dundee commenting on 'the quite magnificent performance from the pupils'.

In addition, the Pipe Band, Highland Dancers and Buglers performed Beating Retreat on HMS Invincible and at Edinburgh Castle for the Commonwealth War Veterans in January and March 2003. Admiral Anthony and Captain Soar commented about the former as 'an outstanding performance' and that 'the Royal Marines should look carefully to their laurels'. The Provost of Stirling wrote about the pupils being 'first class ambassadors for the City of Stirling and Dunblane'. It should also be noted

that the School combined with the Lowland Band in August to produce the CD 'The Sounds of Murrayfield' which, I gather, is the second best selling item at Murrayfield.

The Highland Dancers continue to reach very high standards. Again, the UKA results were excellent, particularly Nicola Moffat, Dean McMenemy, Laurie Cairns, Liam Bridgeman and Nicola Bonner – all gaining the Premier Cup and Christine Guthrie, Claire Greenwood, Alasdair Page and Andrew Martin the Presidents Award. Alasdair Page also competed well at the Highland Dancing World Championships.

The 1st XV have had another mixed season having played 15, won 7 and lost 8. On the positive side, there were good victories against Morrison's Academy, Madras, Dunfermline High, St Columba's and culminating in a hard-fought victory over Kelvinside Academy in our last game of the season. The other rugby sides more than held their own and there were some stirring performances from P7 through to the 2nd XV, with some very promising players at all levels. Murray McLeod and Craig Mason are to be congratulated on being selected for Caledonia U17 and U16, respectively.

The girls' 1st XI hockey side have had yet another very good season, losing only to Morrison's Academy and Strathallan. The junior sides are also beginning to make good headway with the S1's only losing one game and S2 and S3/4 sides losing only two games each. Fiona Coyle is to be congratulated for representing the Midlands Schools and Youth U18 Hockey side. Emma Reid,

Karen Harrower and Carly McDonald were all selected for Midlands U15

Last year's success at Cross Country was continued this year with our S1/S2 girls team coming first in the Forth Valley Champions Cup and Karen Harrower 2nd overall. At Strathallan, Karen Harrower, David Honeyman and Katrina Leith all came 1st in the U15 girls, U17 boys and U17 girls, respectively. The U15 girls team came 1st and the U15 and U17 boys 2nd. At St Aloysius, in a competition with Dundee High School and Glenalmond as well, our U14 boys and U15 girls came 1st with Hamish McArthur 1st. In the Fettes relays, the U17 girls team came 1st overall and the boys 2nd. In the Scottish Schools Championships the U15 girls team (Karen Harrower, Emma Reid, Maxine Cameron and Laura Hurlstane) came 2nd and the O17 boys 4th. Hayleigh Dumbreck, in the U14 girls, came 4th overall.

Once again our Drama team won the regional semi-final Human Values Competition with Robert Carmichael and Carly Spence being awarded the best actor and actress, respectively. This year we went one better in the final and came 2nd overall with the best script.

Another Art Competition was held in the autumn term with pupils throughout the School preparing work for the judges in December. The following prizes were awarded:- in S5/S6 Annabel Porter and Nicola Moffat 1st=; Ilona Evenden and Treejana

Dewan 3rd=; in S3/S4 Jennifer Carter 1st, Vivian Moonan 2nd; Greg Swan 3rd and Terri Moles 4th; in S2 – Karen Harrower, Sarah Houston and Josh Flann 1st=; Jordan Ross 4th; in S1 Courtney Dornan, Hayleigh Dumbreck, Natasha Anderson and Niall Day.

The CCF Highland Tac team, in October 2002, came 7th overall in the ACF/CCF competition and 2nd in the Schools section. The team included Stephen Carter, Nick Farr, Jamie Evenden, Craig Farquharson, Michael Gibb, Robert Carmichael, Greig Towns and Ciara Watson, and was led by Kris Reid. In addition, a very successful Field Day was held in November, which involved an orienteering expedition to Queen Elizabeth Park.

In Debating, the S3 Public Speaking team (Mhairi Toole, Ashleigh Hughes and Nicola Findlay) were awarded the Certificate of Merit at the BP Young Speakers Initiative – a very good result for their first time out.

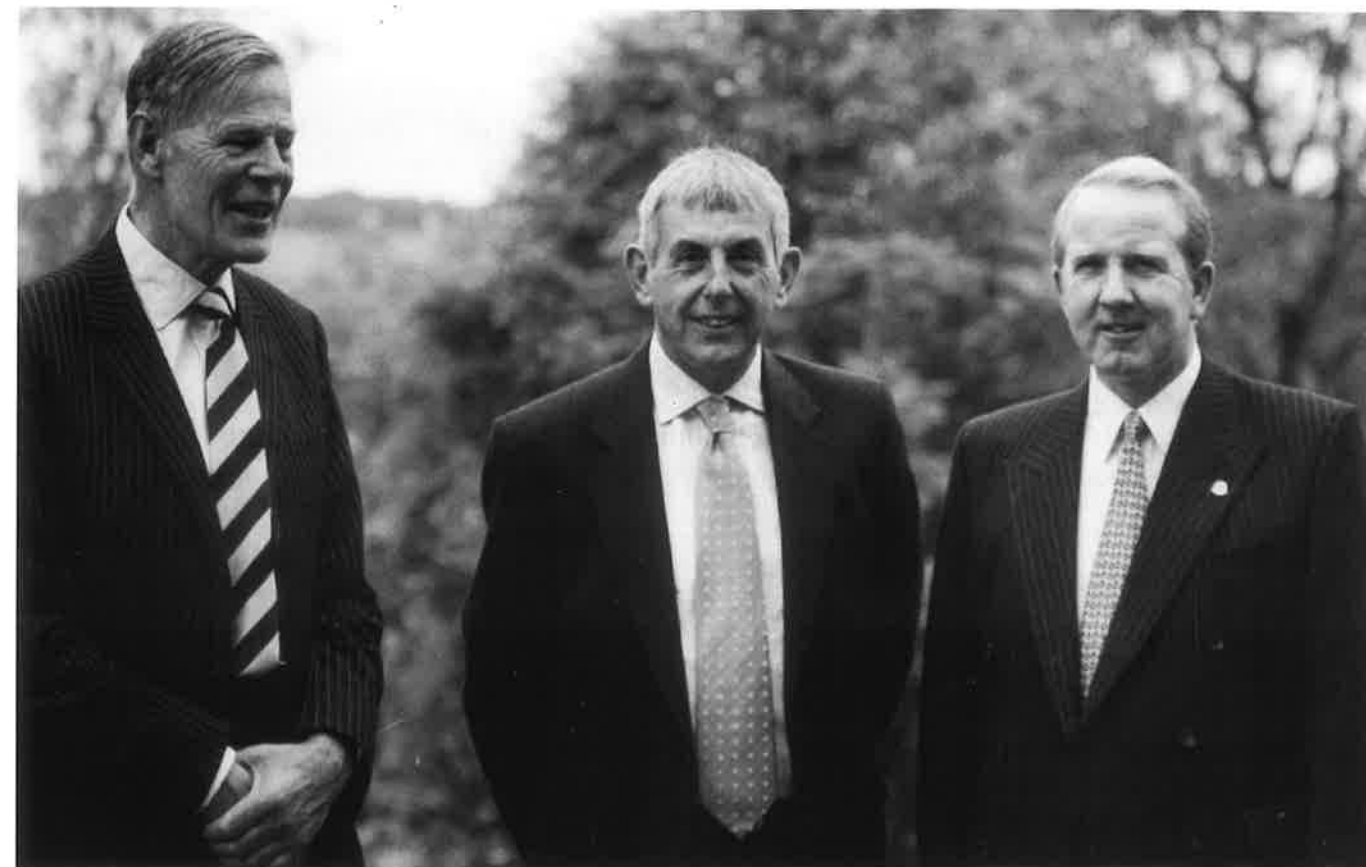
With the arrival of Mr Breingan in the Music Department, we have had two very good concerts in 2002 and look forward to the next one at the end of this term. It was good to see the resurgence of the choral tradition, especially in the Christmas Concert. The Windband continues to perform also at Parade Sundays. The Junior Minstrels have again performed very well at various venues including Ladywell Parish Church, Erskine Hospital, Sauchie Parish Church, St Blane's and Le Croft – all of which were very much appreciated by the various groups. The



Lt General Sir John MacMillan & Mrs Bryan – Imperial Service Medal



Lt General Sir John MacMillan & Mr Stewart – 30 years service at QVS and still going strong



Lt General Sir John MacMillan, Ian McGeechan & Headmaster – Grand Day 2002

Burns for Bairns in Dunblane also involved a group of 16, mainly P7's, including pipers, dancers and fiddlers.

The above does not include the wide range of hobbies and activities which continue in the School. Our fund-raising for charities has again done well, supporting the Shoe-Box Appeal, CHAS, UNICEF, the Earl Haig Fund and Stirling Women's Aid. Another activity which you will see reported in the Magazine, which has now become very well established and supported, is Tae Kwan Do. A number of pupils gained medals at the National Tournament with Jamie Greenwood, Alix Laidlaw, Vanessa Sheriffs, Finlay Smith and Fay McIntyre all receiving gold medals.

There have been a number of changes in the personnel over the year with Mrs McColl being replaced by Miss Edwards as a part-time Primary Teacher, Mrs Graham by Miss Chalmers as Cunningham Matron and Mrs Fitzgerald by Miss Skeith in the School Hospital. Sister Fitzgerald has served the School and its pupils extremely well for 8 years, as did Mr Graham as Civilian Security Officer for over 20 years. My Secretary, Mrs Bryan, also retired after 13 years service at the School and a very lengthy civil service career, for which she was awarded the Imperial Service Medal. Her replacement in the Headmaster's Office is Miss Craig.

Our new GAP students for 2003 are:-

Edward Hope	from Scotch College, Melbourne
Michael Green	from Scotch College, Melbourne
Alexandra Cato	from St Catherine's School, Melbourne
Claire Fairbairn	from PLC Warwick, Queensland

Liam Wiltshire from Marist College, Brisbane

Once again, I would like to pay tribute to the Staff of Queen Victoria School who, not only educate the children in their care but, provide the homely care within the boarding context and challenge them in the wider context.

I would also like to thank the Senior Monitor, Kris Reid, and the Monitors and Prefects for their invaluable contribution. Kris has done a very good job and followed an excellent tradition. His contribution to the School has been tremendous and this has not gone without notice, even by some of our visitors. I was also very impressed with the way Kris and Ilona Evenden handled their part – the youth perspective – at a press/civic launch of the Scottish Poppy Appeal in Stirling. They were not only good ambassadors for the School but also for young people in general.

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. During a very difficult year, with the Quinquennial Review and the start of our work on the Centenary Appeal, General John's work, advice, support and experience have been invaluable. This year General Sir John will retire as Chairman of Her Majesty's Commissioners following Grand Day and, on behalf of the School, I would like to thank him for his tremendous commitment and support for QVS. Fortunately, we will not be losing him altogether as he has agreed to be Chairman of the Centenary Appeal Committee.

The Norman MacLeod MacNeil Trust Fund

Activities Report – 2002/2003

'To encourage enterprise, adventure and cultural pursuits'

Parents 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.

The Norman MacLeod MacNeil Trust Fund continues to attract interest from pupils keen to test their initiative, broaden their horizons and develop their skills in a variety of ways. In 2002 activities supported by grants ranged from GAP years to a number of awards granted to pupils who were intent on obtaining qualifications in music and dance.

The awards for 2002 totalled some £4,900, made up of six GAP/Link Exchange bids, a number of pupils taking the UKA Dancing Award, and a grant to assist a pupil participating in the Scottish Schools Orchestra Trust Summer School. In addition, there was a block award to ten pupils who participated in a West Highland Way Sponsored Walk and ascent of Ben Nevis to raise funds for the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust. The expedition was a great success and a creditable example of how initiative and enterprise, supported by the NMMTF, can be directed to help a worthy cause.

For 2003, GAP years remain prominent in the list; however, one pupil – Graeme Houston – has been offered, and has accepted, a place for 6 months voluntary work with Link Exchange either in Sri Lanka, China or India. Graeme will start work in February

2004 teaching English and sport in a home for underprivileged boys and helping in the community. In all, seven pupils have been granted support for GAP/Link Exchange experience and we look forward to receiving reports from Nicola Bonner, Paul Tyson, Gary Houston, Laurie Cairns, Barbara Davidson, Richard O'Donnell and Kris Reid after they complete their year.

Returning to the 2003 bids, the cultural activities are represented by four pupils – Nicola Bonner, Laurie Cairns, Evelyn Henney and Dean McMenemy – receiving assistance towards their UKA Dancing Teacher's Award.

Anyone interested in finding out more about a Norman MacLeod MacNeil Trust grant should contact the Headmaster or the Bursar – application forms are available from the Bursar's Secretary. The annual deadline for submissions is the close of the Autumn/Winter Term each year, with bids considered by the Trustees usually early in February the following year. It is worth remembering that time spent in planning is rarely wasted, and, if you have a particularly ambitious enterprise in mind, it is worth starting early and seeking advice.



Kris Reid and Ilona Evenden at the Poppy Appeal launch - Stirling, November 2002

Queen Victoria School is not simply moving with the times, but trying to push ahead and actively promote change in order to meet its mission even more effectively and efficiently.

When I wrote in last year's "Bursar's Notes" about QVS moving with the times, and showing willingness to change, I had no idea that the rate of advance would be so dramatic. There has been considerable progress across a wide front, including the provision of much-needed ICT support in both teaching and support areas, substantial work on the playing fields to improve the drainage, road traffic calming measures to improve road safety, and a major equipment refit in the kitchens. Queen Victoria School is not simply moving with the times, but showing that it can push ahead and actively promote change in order to meet its mission even more effectively and efficiently.

The above progress is helping to strengthen the School's reputation, as for the third year running eligible applications reached record levels. It is comforting to know that the word is being spread in such a positive way but it is concerning that so many eligible candidates are being disappointed.

Last year a team of specialist MOD Estates advisors were tasked to conduct an extensive review of future options, referred to as the 'Establishment Development Plan', and this was completed in January 2003. As the Headmaster stated, if accepted and funded in full, most of the unsightly, temporary and time expired buildings currently offending the eye and the budget would be demolished, and improvements would include a new teaching block, re-styled dining facilities and a new boarding house for an additional 60 pupils.

Turning to a separate, but equally promising building proposal, the School will celebrate its centenary year in 2008 and the Board of Commissioners have decided to launch a fundraising appeal for the provision of a new Hall/Auditorium, possibly incorporating the Music Department. The idea is to provide the School with a large, multi-purpose assembly and performance area, and the fact that the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland, already a regular visitor to the School, has expressed considerable interest in the proposals has opened up all sorts of possibilities including plans

for closer ties in the future. Clearly, the potential in this initiative is considerable.

The task of uplifting the existing fabric to meet today's more immediate requirements is another major focus. Preliminary works on the first floor (Haig House) dormitory areas is already underway, with the bulk of the work to be completed during the summer break. The remainder of Haig House is scheduled to be complete, together with some areas on the Ground Floor, in 2004 by which time the bedroom accommodation throughout the School will be of a very high standard.

Last year, our visitors for lets included our regulars – Scottish Schools Orchestra Trust and Salvation Army – and some new faces, the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland, Sport Outreach Scotland and the National Guides Choir. It was a successful programme, and an important contribution to the Income Generation Target we are set each year.

In addition, considerable time, effort, planning and expense are involved in upgrading and maintaining accommodation throughout the School and our small maintenance team do a tremendous job to help the process. A boarding school is home for many for a large part of the year, so please treat QVS with care and consideration not only for your own benefit and comfort, but also in the interests of others and a measure of pride in our surroundings.

In these, and in many other ways, our Support Staff continue with the wide variety of tasks involved in running both a School and a small Government Agency. Most of the work is unseen and unsung, but it all ensures that funds are raised, bills are paid, people are fed, orders are processed, transport is provided, training is arranged, and all the other tasks essential to our everyday routine are carried out as quickly and as efficiently as possible. My thanks to them for their efforts and support in what has been yet another very busy year.



At Barry Camp, 1912



The Royal Tournament, Olympia, 1914

Cunningham House



Cunningham House Staff and Pupils

Life in Cunningham House has, over the last year, been one of change, busy schedules and the continued effort to ensure that the boys in our care can enjoy a happy and safe environment in which to live.

At the time of writing this article the conflict in the Gulf region is ongoing with the parents of ten boys in the house active in the war in Iraq. To help the boys we set up a support group called the GG's "Gulf Group" where we met almost daily to discuss the war, review the extensive media coverage and, generally, try to support the boys and let them know we are aware of their fears and anxieties. I believe they enjoyed the solidarity of the group and the opportunity to give their views and receive reassurance from myself, Mr Ross and the other House Team members.

Cunningham House for all S3, S2 and the majority of the S1 boys in the School has formed the House structure for the past academic year. Three fifth year boys joined the House bringing the total House number to seventy-two boys. By the time the Victorian Magazine goes to print we will know the structure of the House for the next academic year, which will eventually be the status quo or a change to a vertical house of S1-S6 boys.

I mentioned busy schedules at the start of the article and that encompasses a whole host of hobbies, sports and social events, other than the boys academic work that somehow we seem to fit into the working day, weekends and term time. I imagine that if a time and motion survey was to be carried out on the lads, it would show a lifestyle that is full, challenging, stimulating and, hopefully, enjoyable for the boys and rewarding for the staff who ensure it is possible. Our end of term disco continues to be the most popular social event, giving the boys a chance to let their hair down and "strut their stuff".

There have been a number of House Team changes since the last Victorian was published with Mr Porter moving to Haig as Assistant House Master, Mrs Graham leaving as Matron and Mr Tanna heading back down under after his gap year. Mr Ross has joined the team as Deputy House Master. Mrs Tomkins was persuaded to come out of retirement to stand in as Matron until Miss M Chalmers takes over as our new Matron and Mr Edward Hope joins the House for his gap year. I would like to thank those that have left for their contribution to the House and welcome the new members of our House Team.

It seems unbelievable to me that on Grand Day this year I will have completed five years as a Housemaster. The school and the House during that time seems to have been in a continual period of change but, throughout it, the boys in most respects are the same and strangely enough the stable factor in the equation.

I would like to thank Mr Ross, Mr Duthie, Mrs McVey and Mrs Tomkins for their collective support and all the members of the House Team for their continued input, advice and individual contribution. My thanks also go to the senior House and third year prefects who do an excellent job in ensuring the smooth running of the House domestic routine.

Finally, congratulations to Kris Reid (Senior Monitor and House Vice Captain) and Paul Tyson (House Captain and Monitor) for completing their twenty-four hour silent fast in the Central Hall. Money raised from this event will go to the Children in Need charity and the boys own Gap Year funding.

Mr Tomkins

Once again the Seniors of Cunningham House have had to sacrifice valuable 'revision time' to produce a small article for The Victorian this year. So, with the computer games and videos safely out of reach of Paul's hands for now, we'll try to cover this year's events in a few words.

Well, where do we start? First of all, we would like to show our gratitude to Kris and Jamie, last year's Seniors, for showing us how NOT to run a House and, in turn, making us look good!

The House has run smoothly enough this year with the addition of three new Fifth year boys to the House Seniors. Stephen 'Tumbleweed' Carter (with his very 'unique' sense of humour), Michael 'no you hang up' Gibb (whose phone has had to be surgically removed from his ear...twice) and John 'JC - School Prefect' Campbell (who is to be held responsible should Paul and Kris fail their Highers as he has, relentlessly, supplied them with videos and encouraged them to waste their study periods).

This has been another fairly interesting year for Cunningham House. The fact that the House has been on two floors for the second year running now has made controlling it difficult, at times, but the House Staff and Prefects have managed to do a good job.

Also, this academic year saw the end of the 'Cunningham Alton Towers Trip' in the summer term as the boys in the House opted for a range of smaller trips throughout the year instead. Mr Tomkins has kindly obliged and the boys have enjoyed numerous trips to the cinema as well as the occasional disco where they get to shake the dance floor and impress the ladies

(especially Kris and Paul who have been known to bust some pretty funky moves...we rule!!). Now, as the year draws to an end, Cunningham House can look forward to the function that has been organised for the end of term with anticipation - nobody actually knows what it is yet but it's bound to be a memorable way to end the year.

Finally, we would just like to thank everyone in the House Team for helping to make our last year at QVS such an easy and enjoyable one. In particular, we would like to thank Mr & Mrs Tomkins, Mr Ross, Mr Duthie (especially for his in-depth tutor periods), Mrs McVey, Mrs Graham and Mr Hope 'The Gapper'.

On a final note we would just like to say that, although we'll both be living it up in the Southern Hemisphere next year, we'll still take the time and effort to send you a postcard.

All the best to everyone at QVS. Have a good one.

Kris Reid & Paul Tyson



Kris and Paul after their 24 hour fast

Haig House

IN LOCO PARENTHESIS

Haig House by Quotations

Mr Laing couldn't be bothered to do the Haig notes this year but took solace in the fact that:

"The ability to quote is a serviceable substitute for wit."
(W Somerset Maugham)

He often feels a bit paranoid in the job.....:

"Infamy, infamy. They've all got it infamy!" (Kenneth Williams – Carry on Cleo)

But knows how to make things run smoothly:

"A sense of humour is the lubricant of life's machinery."
(Unknown)

He is always helpful.....:

"Just because I don't care doesn't mean I don't understand."
(Homer Simpson)

And approachable.....:

"Lack of planning on your part does not constitute an emergency on my part." (Notice on Mr Laing's door)

With a sound philosophy on boarding school life:

"The more litter, the less tuck." (The late Ben Phillip, Haig Housemaster 1985 - 1993)

And.....

"In no particular order....." (Mr Laing..... ad nauseum)

Assistant Housemaster Mr Porter takes the Big Brother approach:

"Resistance is futile. You are part of the collective. You are not an individual. You will be assimilated!" (Star Trek)

Housemaid Mrs O'Neill knows the way to harmony in the boarding house:

"Make the best of everything. Think the best of everybody. Hope the best for yourself."

And Housematron Mrs Kettles sums up the boys of Haig thus:

"Today is the harvest of yesterday and the seed time of tomorrow."

Not quite sure if Assistant Housemaster and occasional crooner Mr Beattie is having a good time in Haig or not:

"Unforgettable." (Nat King Cole)



Haig House Staff and Pupils

Does Andrew Martin (IV) find Haig his dream House or his worst nightmare?

"Your House will be something like your family." (Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone)

Greg Swan (IV) gets a bit melancholic about life in Haig:

"Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day." (Macbeth, Act 5, Scene 5)

While Peter Goodman (IV) states the facts:

"Hard work never killed anyone, and it certainly won't get us."

Scott Graham (IV) advises Mr Laing on how to be a good Housemaster:

"To be happy with human beings, we should not ask them for what they cannot give." (Prep diary)

Alasdair Page (IV) feels he could manage without supervision in the House:

"Adults are just obsolete children, and to hell with them." (Dr Seuss)

Gavin Reith (V) surprisingly looks forward to school dinners:

"The belly is a rascal. It doesn't remember how well you treated it yesterday. It'll cry out for more tomorrow."

Mark Braceland (IV) wrestles with the "no talking after lights out" rule:

"Silences have a climax when you have got to speak."
(Elizabeth Bowan)

While an anonymous contributor is philosophic about life in Haig:

"Everything that happens to you happens for the best." (Adela Saraceni). Mr Laing does not agree after recently receiving gallons of mucky water through the Haig Office ceiling.

Robert Cooper (IV) goes his own way:

"I'd rather be dead than cool." (Olympus Design)

And Craig Heselton (VI) has obviously experienced a classic Enid Blyton dormitory pillow fight:

"And the hits just keep on coming." (Tom Cruise)

But Dean Paterson (V) knows how to stand up for himself:

"It's not the size of a dog in a fight that counts, it's the fight in a dog that matters." (Unknown)

David McDougall (V) bites the bullet and gets on with boarding school life:

"When adverse circumstances ultimately predominate, we must necessarily succumb to the inevitable."

Chris Soper (IV), however, is making the most of things:

"Some mistakes are too much fun to make only once."

While Callum Henderson's (IV) laid-back approach is evident:

"There is no pleasure in having nothing to do; the fun is in having lots to do and not doing it." (Mary Wilson Little)

As is Richard O'Donnell's (VI):

"I am contemplating thinking about thinking." (Robbie Williams)

Elliot Wood (IV) is one of the more hardworking members of Haig House:

"If you really want something in this life, you have to work for it. Now, quiet! They're about to announce the lottery numbers...."
(Homer Simpson)

All Liam Flynn (VI) needs is the leathers and the motorbike:

"Dream as if you'll live forever. Live as if you'll die today."
(James Dean)

Graeme Houston (VI) gives us a few home truths:

"I think I've changed a lot over the past year, but I've got a hell of a lot more changing to do before I'm finished."

And finally, Murray McLeod (VI) is about to be released into the real world:

"Someday I must give up this mad, carefree existence." (Snoopy)

Being the Haig Housemaster entails tremendous responsibility and Mr Laing sums up the stresses and strains (with help from Bill Shankly):

"The 5-a-side football league is not a matter of life or death – it's more important than that."

As someone once said:

"All's well that ends well."

Mr Laing

LOCATION...LOCATION... LOCATION

Occupying a prime spot in an historical and extremely sought after location, Wavell House is an extremely desirable address within the green, well-tended grounds of Queen Victoria School, Dunblane. The accommodation has recently benefited from substantial modernisation and refitting over the last few years.

Not only has it been given brand new carpets and curtains, which lend the building a bright and cheery atmosphere, the residents have also been busy with "Changing Rooms" touches: such as their groovy fish theme in the downstairs bathrooms and hand-crafted sentinels at the doorway of Wavell itself.

The large living spaces have recently been refurbished to include a range of home comforts such as wide screen televisions; SKY television and their very own well-stocked Video Library – not to mention the ultimate in luxury, the amazingly comfy seating for all, courtesy of IKEA and the Commissioners, and organised by Miss MacDougall.

The accommodation also provides its very own purpose-built and well-stocked Tuck Shop – managed expertly by Ms Taylor and her fast-adding team. They cheerfully ensure that, whatever we crave, we have (literally) right on our doorstep – whether it's an attack of the Saturday afternoon "munchies" or an ice-cool drink on a red hot day.

There is also the benefit of having residential staff to ensure that whatever you desire is readily available – although we do feel that we have to point out that recent requests to Mrs Adams for: 'Sellotape', 'A birthday card I could give my mum' and 'A decent sized picture of James VII...' at 10pm on a Saturday night were not as well received as we might have hoped...

The residential Hobbies programme ensures that the residents are never short of something to do, even on the darkest winter nights, including: Early morning swims, Charity baking, Needlework and Cross Stitch, Line Dancing, Hockey and the chance to participate in the All-Star Christmas Talent Show. For anyone who wants a challenge there's never a dull moment. The only activity that hasn't been quite so popular is the 7.30am Hoover Dash with Advanced Slalom Bin-Emptying as an optional extra - We can't think why, it just hasn't caught on...

Our lively bunch of tutors are another asset to the house - they're always there on hand to ensure that our days pass as calmly as possible. We have a whole range of ages, experiences and personalities: our newest addition to the house is Miss Cato - hailing all the way from Melbourne, Australia. From Miss Blackwood's hilarious jokes, which we're sure were funny when she was at school, to Mrs. Howie's tips on the High Jump, we've got it all right here where we need it.



Wavell House Staff and Pupils

The kilted residents are a feature known as Prefects who assist in the smooth running of the House, the disappearance of all of the cheese sandwiches nightly at supper time and the stockpiling of single shoes at the day lockers. On a more serious note, they are a real asset to the House and are to be congratulated for all their hard work over the course of the year. Special thanks indeed should go to our Head(s) of House, Ilona and Evelyn for indeed proving that two heads are better than one.

The other people we have to thank for the smooth running and welcoming appearance of Wavell are Mrs Duthie and Mrs Henderson. They make sure that whatever the daily dramas, the girls of Wavell always look smart and their rooms smell clean and fragrant (well, nearly always...) It's not just their help in these ways that makes them so valuable, it's their real ability to cheer us up when we're down or have the last pair of navy-blue tights in the entire universe that makes them such a valuable part of Wavell House.

As well as all of these extremely attractive internal features, Wavell also has an extensive programme of events to enhance its property value. This year we've been able to sing along at 'Joseph and his Technicolour Dream Coat'; laugh and cry at 'Beauty and the Beast' and check out Miss MacDougall's 'unusual' dance technique at 'Hey Rock'n' Roll'. Mrs Adams disgraced us all by singing on stage with the 'Lookalikey' Robbie Williams at the tribute concert and all of the staff gave us a good laugh at their hopelessly un-coordinated efforts to take part in the beach games on our annual outing to St Andrews. Combine this with the fun we had with the inflatable maze and bungee jumping at the BBQ, and you will soon see that there's not much time to be bored in Wavell House.

Although we wouldn't say no to a visit from Carol Smellie and 'Handy' Andy, we think that Wavell's current property value is pretty unique - it's comfy, modern and cheery too (OK, Monday mornings are an exception...) As far as we're concerned it's getting better all the time - and we're looking forward to seeing what changes are in store for 2003/4!!!

Mrs Adams

CHECK OUT THE TALENT!!!

After last year's talent showcase, the committee decided that this year's Wavell Talent Show had to be even more of an extravaganza than our 2001 debut. After a very lively meeting in the Autumn term, it was decided to make the talent show a charity benefit evening and we voted to give all of the money we managed to raise to Stirling Women's Aid to help them to have a happier Christmas.

The auditions this year were even tougher than before; there was such a huge range of ages and songs which made the judges' jobs very difficult indeed. And the 14 acts ranged from the spectacular S2 group act, the 'Glitter Girls' to the secret Sixth-Year singers, who unveiled their amazing hidden talents.

We had representative acts from every year group and there was even more effort made with costumes, hair and make-up than the year before, making it a very glamorous night indeed. It was great to see the new additions to the house - our S1 'Kittens' - strutting their stuff and singing into their hairbrushes and also very impressive to hear our singing and song-writing combo, 'Innocence' perform their very own song.

The show was 'directed' by Miss Johnstone and Mrs Howie who performed an amazing range of roles: from constructive criticism - trying hard not to sound too much like 'Nasty Nigel' Lythgoe, to hair and make-up that Nicky Clarke himself would be proud of. We'd like to thank them for making it all possible and praise them for the tactful encouragement that they gave to some of the 'dodgier' acts. We'd also like to thank our panel of judges, including Miss Smith and Sister, who had a very difficult job to do in judging the talent and ensuring that all their hard work was rewarded.

Including the committee's competition to guess how many 'Celebrations' were in our prize-winning tin (Won by Karen Harrower from S2), the whole 'Star studded' evening managed to raise over two hundred pounds for our nominated charity. The committee would like to take this chance to thank all of the staff and pupils of QVS who supported our event for this very deserving charity, managing to combine a good night out with a very worthwhile cause. Look out QVS, you have been warned, the Talent Show 2003 is going to be bigger... and better than ever!!!





Trenchard House Staff and Pupils

It never ceases to amaze me how quickly each year turns round, although I'm sure that it's something to do with old age or so my wife, Maureen, keeps telling me!

Each year seems to go round in the same way; new children arrive, GAP students leave and are replaced and staff change. The past session has been no different, yet there still remains the challenges, the ups and downs and the rewards of looking after and, being responsible for, the welfare of the youngest members of our school community.

This session Trenchard has been redecorated and is looking much more comfortable with the children's rooms appearing more brightly coloured and cheerful. The boys and girls were very pleased with the result and were very appreciative.

Our third year of being the co-educational house in the school has been successful and is attributable to the good team work of the staff, senior prefects, S1 prefects and the willingness of the other boys and girls to try to work together and for each other. It's not all plain sailing by any means, but I do believe that if you keep insisting on certain codes of behaviour and conduct that, in the end, the pupils regard such codes as the norm and, as a result, are more able to give consideration and thought to others.

However as these are young children, they need support and constant reminding and it is in this role that the staff and senior girls play a pivotal role. I would, therefore, like to take this opportunity to thank them all for another good year's work in helping the young ones to settle in, get used to the routines and

overcoming the difficulties that they have experienced from being away from home for the first time, especially during the current situation in Iraq.

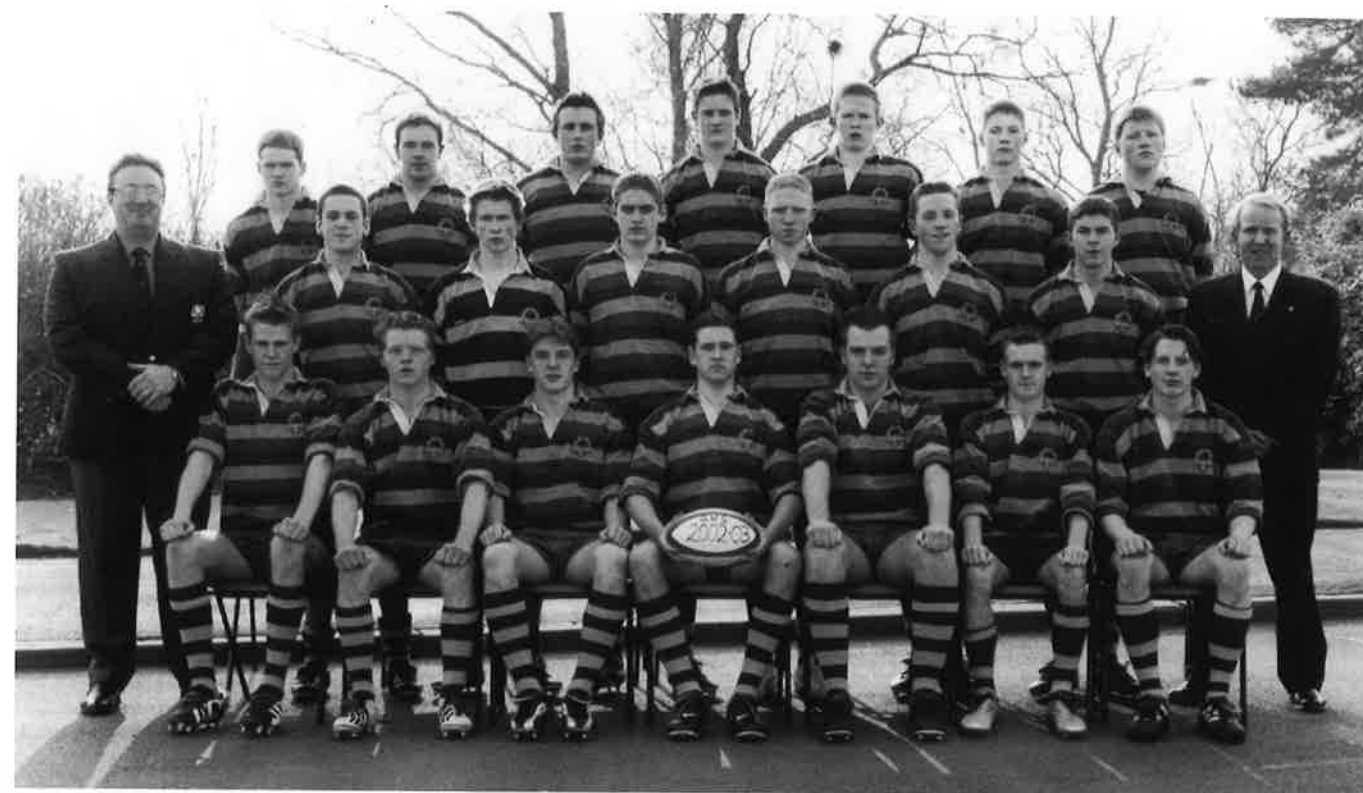
We have enjoyed our usual round of activities and trips to Dundee leisure pool, the cinema, the successful autumn tests at Murrayfield, the panto and various shopping trips and chippy runs. Our trip to Alton Towers last summer term, in conjunction with Cunningham, proved very successful, even though the staff were utterly exhausted by the end of it.

As it is the end of a session there comes the time when seniors leave and I would like to wish the House Captain, Laurie Cairns, and the House Vice-captain, Barbara Davidson, every good wish for their year in Australia and success in their chosen university courses and subsequent careers.

We also welcomed Miss Gail Edwards onto the house team as Deputy Housemistress along with the arrival, in January, of our two new GAP students Liam Wiltshire and Claire Fairbairn, who took over after the departure of Sam Cullen and Antje Sauerzweig who returned to Australia and Germany, respectively, in December.

Last, but not least, mention must be given to Matron, Heather Devlin, Kate Cullen, Helen Hyslop and all the team of maintenance staff who help to keep the house clean and in good repair. Thanks to everyone and good luck for next session.

Mr Carroll



Rugby 1st XV 2002 - 2003

Rugby 2002 - 2003

At the start of this season I was cautiously optimistic. I knew that we would have an inexperienced group of players but those same players had shown great promise in S3 and I was sure that they would rise to the challenge. I wasn't wrong. Once again we had a number playing for Central Crusaders at U15 and U16 levels. Craig Mason was selected to play for Caledonia U16 squad and Murray McLeod was selected for the Caledonia U17 squad – quite an achievement for a small school, such as ours.

Players who were involved throughout this season were:

Backs: A Abolins, C Mason, C Farquharson, R O'Donnell, S Carter, K Reid, G Towns, M McLeod, D Paterson, C Richardson and D Walker.

Forwards: K Loch, M Gibb, K Hayes, P Girvan, P Tyson (Capt), J Evenden, J Kerr, C Henderson, C McNally, T Bruce, R Carmichael, L Flynn and G Houston.

Morrisons Academy: 25 – 15 (W)

Always a tricky fixture away from home, but this was a very good win. Morrisons were a big, well-organised side, but they gave away too many penalties, and Greg Towns kicked six penalties which may have been a school record. Overall, a good start to the season.

Merchiston College: 42 – 10 (L)

Merchiston are always going to be physical and totally committed and they showed up our lack of experience. Too often we were wiped out in rucks by three or four Merchiston forwards,

whilst we committed six or seven. As a result, they invariably had extra players in their back line. However the players did rally in the second half, losing only one further try and scoring two! At least we won the second half.

Madras College: 21 – 7 (W)

Having played Madras in a trial/training match at the very beginning of the season, we were optimistic. We played well, exercising good control amongst the forwards and using our undoubted pace out wide. We didn't allow Madras to dominate any aspect of the game and ran out worthy winners in the end.

Glasgow High School: 22 – 17 (L)

Despite the eventual result, this was one of our best performances of the season. Glasgow High School were 17 points up after only 20 minutes, but we re-grouped well, took the game to them, put them under considerable pressure and rarely allowed them into our half. We lost this game because, at first, we gave the opposition far too much respect and then played to our true potential and out played them in nearly all departments. A very encouraging performance.

North Berwick: 10 – 8 (L)

We dominated the game totally from start to finish and yet on the two occasions when the opposition got into our half of the pitch, they scored! We had numerous opportunities to score but either took the wrong option, dropped the final pass or didn't make the scoring pass. A very disappointing result against a team that we should have beaten!



Rugby 2nd XV

Morrisons Academy: 22 – 21 (L)

For the return fixture we were missing some key personnel amongst the forwards and our tackling in recent games had been less than secure. Gaining little possession from our own set pieces, we were constantly on the back foot and tackling was poor, resulting in scrambling, unsuccessful, defence. Although we did fight back, scoring some excellent tries ourselves, the damage had been done.

Glasgow Academy: 53 – 3 (L)

Glasgow Academy has been one of the outstanding school teams of the season, reaching the semi-final of the Scottish Cup and the game was a total mismatch. Our players battled valiantly but were well beaten by a bigger, faster and more experienced side.

Lomond School: 20 – 3 (L)

This match was played on the muddiest pitch I have seen for a very long time. We dominated this game throughout, had lots of try scoring opportunities but lost four tries in the match, each one as a direct result of poor tackling. Lomond were in our half of the pitch once in the whole of the second half and scored. A very frustrating day all round.

Dunfermline High School: 12 – 10 (W)

The attitude after the New Year in the side was much more positive and the determination to win returned. This is always a hard fixture and so it was to prove. However, we battled well in all departments, despite the fact that they were much bigger, physically, than us and we ran out worthy winners of a hard fought contest.

St Columba's School: 27 – 0 (W)

This was one of our best displays of the season. We controlled the game from start to finish and never let St Columba's develop any rhythm or pattern to their game. Paul Tyson and Jamie Evenden were outstanding in the lineout. Michael Gibb's throwing was spot-on and the backs were given the sort of possession that Kris

Reid and Craig Mason, on both wings, could exploit to the full. A great team effort, with great team spirit. A very satisfactory victory!

Kelvinside Academy: 14 – 10 (W)

This was the first time we have played Kelvinside Academy in a regular fixture and it is a tribute to the players that they had the grit and determination to finish the season with a win against a very capable side. It was very hard fought throughout, with no quarter being given or asked! Our set piece was good and as a result we had good, controlled possession to allow the backs to really attack the opposition. Superb defence, especially in the latter stages of the second half, gave us the victory we deserved.

Scottish Schools Cup & Bowl Competition

A very straight-forward victory over Montrose Academy was followed by our exit from the Cup competition at the hands of Millburn Academy. It was a hard encounter, where a very street-wise Millburn taught us a lesson in the rude art of rugby. Thereafter, we began our Bowl campaign against Banchory Academy which we won quite easily. This led to a quarter final against Perth Academy, which we lost (11 – 0) to the better team on the day.

Conclusion

I would like to thank the players for their efforts throughout the season. I am sure that those who will be with us next season will have benefited from this year's experiences and I hope that those who are moving on will continue to enjoy their rugby at whatever level they choose to play. I would especially like to thank Paul Tyson who has been an outstanding player and captain, always leading by example and never afraid to put himself on the line, if required. I am sure we will hear a great deal more of Paul in rugby circles in the future.

I would also like to thank all my fellow coaches: Mr Raine, Mr McLay, Mr McNally, Mr Gilhooly, Mr Carroll, Mr Philson, Mr Beattie and all the GAP students, for their considerable efforts



S3 Rugby Team

on behalf of all the players throughout this season. My thanks also go to Sisters Fitzgerald and Skeith, Mr Warner in the Sports Store and the Kitchen staff. Their efforts on our behalf are much appreciated.

2ND XV RUGBY SEASON

Our first game against Morrisons was a real wakeup call and highlighted our weaknesses. Although we had practised attacking moves, we were always under pressure and seldom had the ball. This coupled with the fact that there was no real commitment in defence allowed the opposition to run in a lot of tries.

After another defeat at the hands of Merchiston Castle, in which we were taught the rudiments of fast, flowing rugby, the focus in the rugby sessions turned to defence and commitment in the tackle. This proved to be beneficial and the team notched up their first win against Madras, with a 22-20 victory. The improvements in organisation and structure allowed the team to turn solid defence into attack. We went on to beat Glasgow High's 3rd XV and North Berwick 2nd XV; the team's spirit was high and the discipline on the pitch was exemplary. The return match with Morrisons was a much closer encounter but we let ourselves down with the lack of structure and discipline. This continued into the game against Glasgow Accies; although they were probably stronger man for man, we had a real opportunity to win, if we had kept our minds on the game.

After the Christmas break we had only three games as a 2nd XV. The first against Wellington was a miss match. Although the team worked hard and it turned out to be a real physical game, the opposition proved to be too strong in the end. This was also true for our last two games against Kelvinside in which the team, despite having to defend for the majority of the games, never let their heads go down.

Although a mixed season, I was impressed throughout by

everybody's commitment and dedication to the team. Jason Wilson, the Captain, was effective in his leadership and motivated the team in some difficult situations. Amongst the most improved players were Scott Graham, Colin McNally, Richard Cooper and Peter Girvan; however, every player played a vital role and there is much to look forward to next year.



2nd XV v Merchiston



Squad Session Match at Madras



S2 Rugby Team

S3 RUGBY – A TESTING SEASON!

It's been quite a season!

Having had an unbeaten time in S2, the team had a lot to live up to. Our first match was against Howe of Fife and it was an emphatic victory for us. This was followed by the Jubilee Cup and it looked as though things were going well but we were beaten in the semi-final. Merchiston was next and this again gave the team the bitter taste of defeat. Following this, the team worked hard in training and did not lose another game in 2002.

We welcomed in 2003 with a victory, but suffered a number of injuries which had an effect on the team line up for the remainder of the season. In fact, we started each game with a different team, so any continuity was lost. However, the team's commitment to playing, enjoying and trying to win the matches was never in doubt.

We also had several team captains throughout the season. Glyn Read was the first choice captain but, due to injury, the captain's role was shared by Matthew Marshall, Daniel Gibb and Adam Rainey – who all did a super job!

Out of the 10 games we played, we won 7 of them so, overall, it was not a bad season. The team rose to the challenges presented to them and the players are a bit more hardened; they must now ready themselves for the next step up that is required for 2nd and, for some, even 1st XV rugby next season.

Thanks for your hard work and commitment. A big 'Thank You' must also go to our Aussie GAP student and assistant coach, Michael Green. Cheers Mate!

S1 RUGBY

The S1 rugby team has progressed a lot since last year in Primary 7. Our team spirit has stayed constant, even when the going got tough! Our tackling has improved quite considerably and has become much more forceful, especially by the big impact hitters, like Blair Marshall, Michael Goodman and Liam Gillie, who by their big tackles can turn defence into attack. Our passing has become better because we are able to vary our passing with a good repertoire of conventional, loop, switch, pop and off-load passes which contributed to setting up some well worked tries throughout the season.

The forwards have worked hard all season. They've rucked superbly, driven fantastically and worked as a pack and collective unit. Individuals like Rio de Sherpa and David Ure were new to playing rugby, but they quickly established themselves as enthusiastic and positive members of the squad and are now regulars in the starting line up as props. Well done to them as their strength and size has been a valuable addition to the squad.

Scott Fretwell, our captain for part of the year, has had a tough time on occasions being captain, encouraging us to play the sort of rugby of which we are capable.

The backs have played well as a unit with Fraser Newbury, our captain for part of the season, swapping positions fairly regularly and is now emerging as a valuable utility back – an asset to any team – especially with a squad with small numbers such as ours. We know that the forwards were a lot bigger and better rugby players than the backs!!! – but the backs did their job really well with great tackling, passing and pace.

Overall S1 have had a great rugby season. We won a lot more



S1 Rugby Team

than we lost with some notable victories over Lomond, Hamilton College, Marr College and Kelvinside Academy to mention a few. The players who acted as captains throughout the season were Scott Fretwell, Fraser Newbury, Callum Toole and Liam Gillie who took on the job well and led the team to some brilliant victories.

Some of the things that we will need to work on for next season are quicker and better-timed passing, better communication and being fitter- so we'll have to keep off the pies!

We would like to thank Mr Carroll, Mr Philson and Mr Wiltshire for helping us along every step of the way.

Good luck for S2!

Liam Gillie, Scott Fretwell & Callum Toole

P7 REPORT

I am very happy with the progress of the team although it was strange for Callum and I to play with a team where only a few had played rugby before.

Our 1st match was against Morrisons. We scored two early tries but Morrisons just kept coming back at us, the defence finally fell and we let in three sloppy tries. I think that loss made us even more determined to win games.

We only lost 4 games against experienced teams. They were Glasgow Academy, St Columba's, Morrisons and Dundee High School.

Although we finished the season on a low note against Dundee

High School, I think the team should be happy with themselves and I am sure we will continue to improve.

Here are some of the achievements our players have earned (picked by Mr Beattie):

Players of the Year	Callum Harris/Euan Collins
Most Improved Player	Ewan Christie
Top Try Scorer	Euan Collins

All the team would like to thank Mr Beattie, Mr Green and Mr Malloy for coaching us over the past year.

Euan Collins (Captain)



P7 Rugby Team with Mr Beattie



1st XI Hockey Team

1st XI Hockey

The season started with a few apprehensions but after the opening game the team settled down and began to play some great hockey.

Throughout the season the entire team has demonstrated real determination. Living up to the standard of past teams was daunting but with coaching from Miss Scott things took shape early on in the season. There was naturally the odd scream and a few tears shed but nothing which affected the high level of performance shown in all games.

It is encouraging to see the younger members of the team developing steadily with Carly MacDonald (S3) being one of the top goal scorers. Pippa Roessler is to be congratulated on her effort and commitment to the team. She has been awarded player of the year and has continually put her blood and sweat into her own performance (literally!!).

We ended the season in excellent style with a 9-0 win over St Margaret's, which was more than we could ever have asked for. The past season has definitely stood us in good stead for the coming year; with little change to the current team we should be even more effective with regards to team-work.

Games Won – 9
Games Drawn – 2
Games Lost – 2

Congratulations also go to those who attended U16/18 Midlands trials:

Claire McGillvray
Jenna McAulay
Sarah Harrower
Fiona Coyle – Representing Midlands U18

Fiona Coyle 1st XI Captain

S3/4 HOCKEY

Although our season has been relatively short this year, we have worked hard and played well as a team. After losing 2-0 to Fettes at the start of the season we came back with a convincing 2-0 win over St. Margaret's, whilst playing against an old team member. We were scheduled to play another four games after the Christmas break though only managed to play two due to the weather. We held on for a 2-1 win over Mary Erskine's but ended the season on a low, losing to Kelvinside 3-1.

I would like to thank, on behalf of the whole team Miss Scott, Miss Smith, Alex and Claire for their support and coaching. The team would also like to send their best wishes to the greatest left defender QV has ever seen- victories will never be the same again!

Claire Greenwood Captain S3/4



S1 Hockey Team

S2 HOCKEY REPORT

The S2 hockey team has had a mixed season this year, winning 3 games, drawing 3 and losing 3, but missed several games due to adverse weather conditions.

As Captain I felt the team went out with a positive attitude in every game. We all tried our hardest on the hockey pitch, using some different passing and shooting techniques which sometimes worked.

Our final match of the season is the one which we all look forward to playing as it is against St Margaret's from Edinburgh. We played well against them with everyone giving 100% effort; however, even with a few close shots we only managed a draw with them. Better luck next year.

We should all be proud of the effort applied this season and will, hopefully, continue this for next season. The team and I would like to give a big thank you to Miss Smith and Miss Scott for coaching us this year.

Emma Reid – S2 Captain

S1 HOCKEY

This season has been very successful for the S1 hockey team, losing only to one team which was our first ever game on grass. In P7 we did not have many games so this year we wanted to demonstrate the skill and team-work of which we are capable.

In the team we all have our preferred positions:-

Strikers – Natasha Anderson, Jordan Cox and Courtney King
Midfield – Hayleigh Dumbreck, Nicole Howe, Heather Peters and Kirsty Day
Defence – Zoe Halliday, Lindsay Hobson and Alana Carmichael
GK – Alexandra Watson

We are very proud of this season's results and with dedication and determination are sure we can do even better next year.

Hayleigh Dumbreck & Nicole Howe – S1



S2 Hockey Team



S3/S4 Hockey Team

Battle of Britain Parade Sunday, September 2002

The Inspecting Officer: Air Commander MJ Routlege, Air Officer Scotland and Northern Ireland



Photographs courtesy of Mrs J Mulvihill









1st XI Football Team

1st XI Football

We are part of the Independent Schools Football League, playing in the Northern sector and our opponents include Dollar, Strathallan, Glenalmond, Dundee, St Leonards and Gordonstoun. Each team plays each other in a league and the top two at the end of the season go through to the Knockout Cup competition against the Edinburgh and Glasgow sides.

The football team during training looked promising. A lot of young talent is coming through, in particular David Honeyman and Stuart Mooney, which enabled more flexibility within the side. We still had the regulars, the likes of Kris Reid (Captain), whose commitment and determination in both training and in the games cannot be faulted, Liam Flynn, solid in defence and Stephen Gale, who really developed his game over the season.

Our first match against Glenalmond proved to be a little disappointing in many respects, losing 5-2. The next game versus Dollar was completely opposite to the previous experience. We came across a very well organised and structured side, who played intelligent fast flowing football. They managed to cope with the poor conditions and constantly put us under pressure in the first

half. In the second half we were a little more composed but still gave the ball away too easily when under pressure. The score will remain a secret; suffice to say it was in double figures and we scored 1.

So it was back to the drawing board and after a little soul searching and reorganisation of the team we went to Strathallan for our next encounter. With a lot of end to end football and plenty of chances missed at both ends, eventually, we came away with our first victory. The team played sound football, with the units linking well together and the movement off the ball creating problems for the opposition.

Our last fixture, due to time running out, was against St Leonards. This was our only home fixture in which we showed our true potential. The playing surface allowed us to put passes through to our speedy attackers, which they utilised well. The season finished with a good win but, unfortunately, we did not make it through to the knockout competition. We learned a lot of lessons for next season and with more youngsters coming through we should do well.

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Athletics

We started off last season with our usual trip over to Hutchesons Grammar School, with a squad of S1-S6 boys. Notable successes at this meeting included:

1st Places U14's

D Honeyman	1500m	5.01s
A Rainey	800m	2.34s
D Love	400m	64.8s
D Honeyman	200m	27.2s
M Lovell	100m	12.5s
D Gibb	Shot Putt	9.66m
M Lovell	Long Jump	3.87m
M Hancox	Javelin	26.00m
Relay Team		52.7s

1st places U15's

J Evenden	Shot Putt	10.14m
J Evenden	Javelin	35.00m
J Evenden	Discus	34.1m

1st Places U17's

T. Bruce	Triple Jump	11.43m
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Our next meeting was at Scotstoun Athletics Arena on a cold wet Saturday morning. The opposition included Schools such as Hutchesons Grammar, George Watsons, Douglas Academy and St Aloysius. It's a tough field to compete in; however, many of our athletes attained personal bests and many collected an array of 1st and 2nd places. Ryan Roberson was 1st at shot Putt, David Honeyman cruised the 1500m winning in 4min 58 sec, Glynn Read out threw the opposition in both Shot Putt and Discus, while the S2 relay team came first in an exciting race. Kevin Hayes produced a personal best at Discus, achieving first place, by throwing over 30m. On the girls side Emma Reid ran convincingly to win the 100m, and Melanie McInnes, surprised herself by throwing the javelin 15m 66cm and winning the competition. Leanne Bridgman ran confidently and won the

1500m, and the S2 girls won the relay race. Kate Trousdale, who stepped in at the last moment also managed a first place with a fine throw of 17.80 in the discus. Overall a very successful event. At the Forth Valley Championships held at Grangemouth the weather was dismal; however, the athletes persevered and were rewarded by winning the following team categories.

S1 Girls Team 1st
S2 Boys Team 1st
S3 Boys Team 1st

Scottish Schools were not as successful for us this year as last. Our representing athletes were as follows:

Fiona Coyle	Triple Jump
Katrina Leith	200m
Alistair Page	High Jump
Jamie Evenden	Discus
Gynn Read	Discus
Tom Bruce	Triple Jump
Robert Carmichael	Triple Jump
Scott Lawrie	400m
Stephen Cater	100m
Greg Towns	200m

Although all athletes attained personal bests we managed only to attain 2 bronze medals, one by Tom Bruce, jumping 11.34, the other by Alistair Page jumping 1.65 (ranked 5th in Scotland). Alistair is now in the national squad training system and has already, this season, cleared 1m 70cm. It is also worth noting that Katrina Leith was ranked 6th in Scotland last year for the 100m with a time of 12.85 and 13th in Scotland for the 200m with a time of 26.66.

Congratulations to all competitors who represented the school at all levels and thanks to Mr Laing and Miss Scott for their time, effort and enthusiasm throughout the season, despite the weather!

Mr McLay

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Cross Country



Cross Country Team

In the first race of the season, Hamish McArthur won the U14 boys race in which we took the first team prize. Hayleigh Dumbreck was 3rd in the U14 girls with Karen Harrower 2nd and Emma Reid 4th in the U15 girls. This result was to auger well for Karen as she was, arguably, our most successful runner throughout the season.

We hosted the next competition and over 200 runners from eight schools completed the four races. Karen won her race, leading the U15s to first team with Maxine Cameron third and Laura Hurlston fifth. David Honeyman showed his promise by winning the U17 boys and Katrina Leith finished third in the U17 girls - not bad for a sprinter ranked sixth in Scotland for her age group! It was good to see the number of runners coming in to make up teams.

At Strathallan, Karen, Katrina and David all won their respective races, and at the Fettes Relays our U17 girls team of Katrina, Vivian Moonan, Nicola Findlay, Carly MacDonald and Sarah Fennell won, with the U15 girls and U17 boys both finishing in second team position.

In the local Forth Valley Secondary Schools championship, our S1/S2 girls' team regained the title, finishing one point ahead of Dollar and was made up of Karen (2nd), Emma (3rd) and Maxine (6th). The boys' team were fourth with Tommy Spence our top finisher in 14th place.

The culmination of a winter's hard work was the Scottish Secondary Schools Championships at Irvine. Our U15 girls team of Karen Harrower (16th), Emma Reid (32nd), Maxine Cameron (46th) and Laura Hurlston (47th) were again 2nd. The O17 boys

team, which came very close to winning a medal in the younger age group last year, also came a close fourth this year. Craig Richardson (25th), David Thorpe (27th), John Campbell (41st) and Neil Greenwood (68th) made up that team, with Neil filling in at the last minute. Other performances of note were Katrina Leith - 37th in the U17 girls and Hayleigh Dumbreck - 47th in the U14 girls. Many runners took part over the winter and other notable performances were provided by Stuart Mooney, Chris Soper, Adam Rainey, Richard Cooper, Cameron Johnston, Callum Anderson and Darryl Pearce.

INTER-HOUSE WINNERS

Senior boys - David Thorpe
Intermediate boys - David Honeyman
Intermediate girls - Karen Harrower
Junior boys - Liam Gillie
Junior Girls - Hayleigh Dumbreck

Again it was helpful to have Primary 7 runners to help make up our U14 teams - in particular, Kayleigh Harrower, Lesley Ann O'Connor, Sean McGee and Kieran Mackie.

At the Scottish Primary Schools Championships, our top finisher in the boys' race was Kieran in 35th place and in the girls' Kayleigh was 33rd.

Thanks again to Mr McLay and Miss Scott for their support and gap student Ed Hope for his help at races. Also thanks to John Campbell (S5) for his enthusiasm and support as unofficial cross country captain.

Mr Laing

Highland Dancing



Highland Dancers

After a period of time during which the dedicated pupils of the Highland Dancing Team were without the guidance of Mrs MacDonald, our much loved dancing teacher, she returned and we knew that no longer could we get away with "scaffing" practice. Instead we would have to work really hard for the challenging year that lay ahead of us. With our newly promoted Principal Dancer - Kris Reid, and a bunch of other enthusiastic sixth year leaders, the team managed to work slowly but surely to the high level required of us. And so the 2002/2003 dancing calendar had begun...

Firstly, we must say a massive "Well Done!" to Alasdair Page, whose success at the Highland Dancing World Championships at Cowal Games, last summer, is one of the big achievements not only for himself, but for the dancing team and Mrs MacDonald. Alasdair also got the highest grade since the dancing exams started at QV, with a massive 97.5% for his President's award, along with being placed first in the Senior School competition!

The senior dancing exams saw many of our dancers collecting the prizes they deserved as a reward for their hard work. November saw Nicola Bonner, Liam Bridgeman, Laurie Cairns, Dean McMenemy, Nicola Moffat and Kris Reid obtain the prestigious Premier Cup (Grade 12), with Liam and Dean only two percent away from a distinction. Across the board, exam results were on a par with previous years, keeping up the school's high dancing reputation. At the same time, forty dancers sat the voluntary Queens Jubilee Award, again all with excellent results.

The Scottish Tradition of Dance Trust Conference, in Tollbooth, Stirling, provided the opportunity for the younger dancers to show off their skills. The S1 dancers were watched by a highly knowledgeable audience, and acquitted themselves admirably. The team comprised of Sophie Burns, Jordan Cox, Kirsty Day, Niall Day, Siobhan Howell, Ben Johnstone, James MacDonald, and Stefani Millar. Watch this space though, for these are the future dancing stars of QV!

There was a surprise in store for the audience of the OVA Sunday reception. They watched as four senior boys danced a traditional broadsword, but that's where tradition ended. The S2 dancers provided a sword dance to the sounds of RuRa, a Gaelic Rock Band, to be subsequently followed by the S6 girls reel rendition of The Corrs. The unconventional display certainly got heads bouncing and feet tapping, and was enjoyed by most.

And so another year has nearly come to a close. However, with the CCF Beating Retreat and Grand Day still to be worked for there is still much to do. In addition, more hard work is to be put into the Junior and some Senior exams, and also the Teachers exams. We would like to thank Mrs MacDonald for all her hard work. We would also like to wish all the best to the dancing leavers, who have played a major role with the dancing team throughout their time at Queen Victoria School.

Barbara Davidson, Senior Dancer



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Pipe Band



Pipe Band

Once again it has been a very busy year for the Pipe Band. The year started with an outstanding Grand Day: both the Parade and the Beating of the Retreat were of a very high standard, greatly enhanced, I'm sure, by the only dry and sunny period of weather that month...

Thereafter, we managed to have a fairly free summer break to look forward to - except for a CD to record for the SRU. This was put together in a lightening fast two days at Murrayfield, in collaboration with the Lowland Band of the Scottish Division. If you have not already heard the CD you must make a point of purchasing one on Grand Day (while stocks last) I'm sure that you will have a pleasant surprise at the standard of music that the pupils have achieved at such a young age.

The autumn and winter terms were very busy for the band. We began with a full autumn test series at Murrayfield and countless other engagements filled virtually every weekend.

The S1 piping class played their first official piping engagement in December (having only spent two weeks playing their pipes!!) and rounded off a very successful term with the chance to play the top table in for their Christmas lunch. Well done!

After such an exciting and busy term, the Christmas period was a welcome break, for the pupils and indeed for Pipey himself...

The Spring term was, in relative terms, a very quiet period for the band which allowed the Drum Major and myself to concentrate on the younger members of the band. We were proud to see some of our younger pipers and drummers playing for The Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust Conference in the Tollbooth Stirling. One of the highlights of this term was playing on the flight deck of HMS Invincible at Rosyth Dockyard, a very enjoyable experience that I'm sure many of the pupils will have found as memorable as I did.

As always the Six Nations also took place during this term and was a huge success, with a few young drummers and pipers making their debut in front of packed crowds at Murrayfield. I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate everybody concerned, which they thoroughly deserve.

This summer looks like following the trend of previous years and being a hectic one! But I am sure the young pipers and drummers will rise to the occasion and produce yet more performances of a very high standard.

I would like to thank all the parents for their support over the last year, and look forward to seeing the next generation of pipers and drummers' parents in the very near future.

Pipe Major Ross

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Music Department



Mr Breingan, Director of Music and the Windband

Well, another year for music in QVS and my first full year. 2002 / 2003 has been a busy and exciting time for the music department with concerts, visiting performers, lots of new young players arriving, some new equipment in the classroom and exciting plans for the future.

The previous year ended with the summer concert, featuring our sixth year leavers, Amy Morton, Lyndsey McAulay and Laura Dunnachie who had a challenging time performing some pieces specially written for the occasion. One other sixth year leaver fulfilled a personal ambition when Matthew Roessler made an appearance playing piano in a small ensemble; he had kept this performing talent secret for most of his time at QVS!

On the instrumental teaching side we have recently said goodbye to John Dallas, our clarinet and saxophone tutor, who has left to do more work singing in Scottish Opera. Piano lessons have restarted with Miss Deanne Campbell, clarsach with Ian Wood and we now have our own fiddle group tutored by Pam Johnston. Our pupils have been out performing at a number of occasions including the School's first visit to Le Croft Church, with a group of instrumentalists and dancers entertaining a combined church guild group. The fiddle group took part early in the year at the Burns for Bairns morning in Dunblane, and made a great impression on their first outing.

As well as a visit from the Lowland Division Band, in the spring term, we had a visit from the RAF band that put on a wonderful performance for our pupils.

Thanks to some extra funding this year the music department has joined the IT revolution with the purchase of new computer music workstations. All P7, S1, S2 and certificate music pupils are using these computers with their synthesizer keyboards to

compose and manipulate music. This year we are losing fifth year student David McDougall, trumpeter, pianist and organist who has been a very important member of our musical community. David, who has gained places in both the Scottish Schools Orchestra and this year the Scottish Youth Orchestra, is leaving to take up a place in one of Scotland's specialist music schools. We all wish David the best of luck working towards his future career in music.

The School Windband has once again been at the centre of many musical events in the school with both the summer concert and our Christmas Carol concert. We had some great fun in the audience participation carols and after a very nervous evening performance the young singers from P7 put in a good performance for the parents on the last morning of term.

The school continues to provide musicians for community functions and keeps links to its foundation with youngsters performing at Erskine Hospital, Karen Harrower playing the last post at Stirling's Armistice service and the Windband playing for our own armistice service and OVA's Parade Sunday.

This has been an exciting year with an increase in pupils taking certificate music, more instrumental lessons, new music technology in the department, the gift of an extensive record collection from Mr Michael Campbell, five new flutes from the schools special funding, and the start of fund raising to build a new music performing and teaching block.

We still have two more performances outside the school and the end of term concert to follow; then we can start to complete the plans for 2003 / 2004.

Mr Breingan, Director of Music

West Highland Way



Left to right
Back - Tove Olafson, Callum Small, Jenny Holmes, Lynsey McAulay, Mr Lawrence, John Campbell
Front - Sarah Harrower, Darren Howie, Pippa Roesler, Andrew Morton, Chris Soper

West Highland Way and Ben Nevis Challenge 2002 - in Aid of the Anthony Nolan Trust

In June 2002 a team of students completed the West Highland Way and Ben Nevis Challenge as well as raising £1100 for the work of the Anthony Nolan Trust. John Campbell (S4), Stephen Carter (S4), Ciara Watson (S4), Darren Howie (S3), Mr Lawrence, Andrew Martin (S3), Sarah Harrower (S3), Tove Olafson (gap student) and Callum Small (S6) took part in this challenge.

Here is Darren Howie's diary of the walk...

Day 1

Having left the school bleary eyed at 6.30am we began with a stop at Tesco in Milngavie where we had a good breakfast to boost our energy for the day ahead! The first few miles were quite easy through woods and country lanes. We stopped for lunch at Dryman - I had my feet checked for damage before playing some football! The section after Balmaha was very hard going as we were all getting tired. To make things worse two members of the group were struggling with injuries and it started to pour down. We eventually arrived at Rowardennan Youth Hostel at 9.30pm having walked nearly 30 miles! The girls cooked some pasta and we settled down to relax and watch the World Cup on the TV.

Day 2

The second day, with a 21 mile stretch, taking us along the banks of Loch Lomond, finished at Crianlarich. The path on this day rose and fell and we had to walk in single file. We stopped for a quick break after 15 miles: it was pouring down and we had to huddle round a small shelter to stay dry. Sadly, the midges had the same idea! Sarah's blister from day 1, although well patched up, was giving her quite a lot of pain. The rain was so heavy that a lot of the path was covered with small rivers but our feet were wet by this point so we didn't really care!! That evening it was the boys turn to cook, and we surprised everybody by making a nice pasta meal!

Day 3

On the third day we had a bit of a lie in as this day was only a 12 mile walk. After breakfast we made up our lunches and set off in good spirits. This first three miles was difficult but we made very good progress, even though it was raining on and off. By the time we reached Tyndrum it started to rain very heavy. We had to huddle together when eating lunch to keep warm! By now most of the group were fed up of Mars Bars - but not me! That night we stayed at the Bridge Of Orchy Hotel in the Bunkhouse and had a meal in the hotel.



Day 4

The fourth day was a tough 19 mile stretch from Bridge of Orchy to Kinlochleven. The first part was quite steep and the ground quite wet and slippery. Andy had a bad fall on the way down and he was not a happy camper after this! Especially as it started to rain heavy again!! We had our lunch at the Kingshouse Hotel in Glencoe. The scenery was spectacular. Then it was time to tackle the famous "Devil's Staircase". By the end of this Sarah was exhausted! The walk down into Kinlochleven was quite easy after that and went past the hydro-electric falls. We went to a chip shop that evening and stuffed our faces! The rooms in the Blackwater Hostel were very good - en-suite and with TV!

Day 5

The final day was a 14 mile walk into Glen Nevis. It started with a fairly long and steep climb but slowly flattened into a valley walk through the Mamores. We stopped at the youth hostel before walking the final few miles to take us to the end of the walk.

Day 6

The final day was a clamber up the highest mountain in Britain - Ben Nevis. The weather at this point was very pleasant and we were all looking forward to the challenge ahead. It was great only to have to carry light packs! The path on the way up was teasing and tormenting. We kept thinking we were at the top when we were actually nowhere near it! As we walked into the clouds it became quite misty. Even though it was June, there was still a fair bit of snow to plough through near the top! Eventually we reached the summit. It was very cold at this height so we quickly changed into our Anthony Nolan t-shirts for the pose at the very top - we had completed the challenge and raised £1100 for the Anthony Nolan Trust!



Combined Cadet Forces

It is my very great privilege to report on a full and very busy year within the Corps at Queen Victoria School.

I would wish to pay tribute to the many individuals, both Officers and Senior Cadets, who bear the brunt of sustaining the weekly training programme on top of all their other teaching or learning commitments. Such unpaid, time consuming dedication, should never be overlooked or go unacknowledged.



We welcome to the Corps, specifically to the RAF Section, Flying Officer Gail Johnstone. Gail, a Geographer, has already proved to be a great asset to the RAF Section and we trust she will enjoy the rewarding experience of working with cadets. (Photo Inset)



Another great helper this year has been our GAP Student, Ed Hope. Ed, who has considerable cadet military experience from his own school in the Southern Hemisphere, has been assisting with the HCTC Team (Highland Cadet Tactical Competition) as well as in night and weekend exercises. I am sure that the

other Officers in the Army Section will acknowledge with me that, not least, he brings two vital assets, youth and fitness. Both, I assure you, are required to keep up with the HCTC Team! (Photo Inset)

Military Summer Camp 2002. 42 (NW) CCF Central Camp Warcop. A total of 56 Cadets (RN 8, Army 39, RAF 9) and five Officers representing all the three services attended Military Camp. As the Weekly Training Timetable reveals this was a diverse and full programme.

Day Date	Saturday 29th Jun	Sunday 30th Jun	Monday 1st July	Tuesday 2nd July	Wednesday 3rd July	Thursday 4th July
Am	Sports	Signals	March and Shoot	Combat First Aid	Ranges	Leadership Training
Pm	Parade	Water-man-ship	SAT Trainer & Orienteering Course	Observation Post	Ranges	Passing Out Parade Recruits
Ev.	Free	Briefing for Obstacle Course & Climbing Wall (Alpha)	Free	Briefing for Range & Climbing Wall (Bravo)	Climbing Wall	Bar-B-Q

What this does not reveal however is that over my eighteen years experience at QVS this was the wettest Summer Camp that I can ever remember. While the whole programme was completed, as scheduled, the evening daily routine was drying off Combat Jackets and Trousers in preparation for the next day! To the great credit of all the recruits they took such difficulty in their stride but it was much more like a survival course than summer camp.



Tri Service Adventure Training Camp, Rothiemurchus Lodge, Aviemore, Friday 7th – Friday 14th February, (School Exeat Week) 2003.

I, and all the Cadets, am very much indebted to our Ski Party Leaders (Lt G Borking, RN. (CCF Ski Director), Lt J. Scott, Mr D.McLay, PT Dept.) for all their work over Ski Camp. This year they were supplemented by three hired BASI (British Association of Ski Instructors) Instructors from the Aviemore Ski School. Health and Safety Regulations now require all instruction to be at this level of expertise and the Cadets are very grateful to the Headmaster and Commissioners who funded this sudden and additional financial cost of £1,200. The BASI Instructors are restricted to a maximum of eight pupils for the purposes of instruction so our whole party could not, therefore, exceed 24 and each cadet was rewarded with a BASI qualification on their 1 – 10 scale. No higher than grade 7 could be assessed because the snow conditions were very limiting for the whole week. We did, however, manage to ski every day. It is pleasing to note that eight of the senior cadets reached this highest possible grade. Even those who had never skied before all reached very commendable grades.



CCF Navy L-R Mr Borking, Paul Tyson and Mr Shannon

Summer Term Water Sports

We were lucky with the weather last summer term and managed either sailing, windsurfing or canoeing each Wednesday evening. Loch Ore Meadows is the venue for the sailing and windsurfing and we use Loch Ard for the canoeing. Both locations are ideally suited for their activity and provide us with a safe and fun environment. I hope that some of the cadets will attain one or more of the national certificates available for sailing, windsurfing, power boating and canoeing. Loch Lomond was once again the venue for our water sports field day and barbeque. The RAF Section joined us for the day, which made for a busy beach at Milarrochy Bay. I hope this year the weather is kinder to us.

Orienteering Field Day

The first big event of the new term was Field Day, which involved the whole contingent competing in a large-scale orienteering competition. The venue for the event was the Achray forest near Aberfoyle in the Trossachs. The Naval section had two teams, the Mean Machine and the Tree Spotters. After spending most of the day searching the 8km square forest the Tree Spotters ended up the overall winners much to the dismay of the Army section.

Royal Naval Student Presentation Team

We were lucky to have the presentation team as they only had a few days to cover the Central Scotland area. As usual they gave an exciting and informative show covering all aspects of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines. I have to admit it was a bit embarrassing when the audience was invited to name the new Royal Naval helicopter, which will shortly be entering service. An RAF cadet was the only person who knew the name.

CCF Royal Navy



Midshipman MacRae receiving a token of thanks from Lieutenant Commander Shannon RD

Visiting Officer

During the first half of the term the school had a student teacher from Glasgow University, working in the Biology department. Mr MacRae is also a member of the Glasgow and Strathclyde University Royal Naval Unit and kindly offered to help with the CCF. Midshipman MacRae was very helpful, taking the cadets for lectures and practical exercises. The contingent presented Kirk with an inscribed port glass as a token of our thanks for all his help during his stay at the school.

Ski Camp

We had another very successful ski camp, although the snow was limited we were able to ski every day.



Royal Naval section's Cox Paul Tyson with some other cadets on the piste.





CCF RAF Mr Wright and RAF Senior Group

The RAF section has enjoyed an action-packed year, starting with last summer's Camp at RAF Waddington, where the sun shone brightly all week and the cadets and officers who attended experienced flying, section visits, a night exercise, a visit to the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight museum and whilst shooting we even saw a Lancaster Bomber take-off. The highlight of the camp and Flt Lt Gilhooly's personal favourite was the three hour long 'Owl Talk!'. Cadet Fiona MacLeod achieved a personal best, as she – a complete beginner in shooting – managed to get the highest score of the camp!

We've had a brilliant amount of air experience flying this year with over forty slots offered at RAF Leuchars and Glasgow Airport. Gliding has been good too, although we've been unlucky with the weather a couple of times. The cadets who have gained their GIC1 (gliding certificate) this year are: Kieran Broadbelt, John Campbell, Robert Carmichael, Brian Clyde, James Elliott,

Peter Goodman, Leigh Halley, Mark Hancox, Callum Henderson and Daniel Hulme.

The weekly programme has been the best for years as we have some excellent instructors and Plt. Off. Wright's Cadre course maintains a high standard. 'Operation Nomad', a leadership exercise undertaken in the autumn term was particularly successful. Many thanks to all the NCOs, especially those who have stepped in at short notice to give quality lessons. As ever, thanks to our officers and TEST FS Taylor, who do the 'hard work'.

The year ended with our Easter camp at RAF Uxbridge, again a week of brilliant sunshine as we experienced trim trails, raft-building, nitexes and visits to Hendon Air Museum and the Battle of Britain bunker. David Leishman enjoyed being in the winning Flight for drill and the best overall Flight. Flg. Off. Sheerin's highlight was getting dressed up as a fire-fighter and turning the hose on all the cadets from the top of an RAF fire engine!

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Bronze Expeditions

The Bronze training expeditions took place in the Trossachs. The base camp was situated in an idyllic spot on the shores of Loch Achray. Here the pupils were able to develop their camp craft skills and discover the culinary delights of campsite cooking. The area around the Trossachs is ideal for navigation training with a wide variety of terrain.



E Wood, J Greenwood, A Martin, J Kerr, J Elliot, J Campbell, C Soper and P Goodman. A wet day on Binnein.

The Bronze assessed expeditions were carried out on the Ochil Hills; a challenging but safe environment which gives the pupils a real sense of adventure and develops their self-reliance and confidence. Starting in Tillicoultry they made their way to Ben Cleuch, at 721m, the highest point in the Ochils, and on to the campsite area by the River Devon. The second day of the assessed expedition involves the group navigating their way back to school. All our Bronze assessments were successful.

Silver Expeditions

The three-day practice expeditions took place in the Highlands with the girls group training in the Mamores and the boys group in the Gray Corries. Everyone enjoyed their experience in these remote wild country areas and agreed that many valuable lessons were learned.



Silver boys group at camp by the Lairig Leacach bothy. Comment from D Farrish; "It was great looking back, but at the time I was in pain. Short trousers and hailstones don't mix."

The Silver assessed expeditions were organised on the Isle of Arran in the Firth of Clyde. The girls group carried out a beach study as part of their exploration in the north and in the south; the boys made a survey of a number of archeological sites, some as old as 5,000 years. All our Silver assessments were successful.

Duke of Edinburgh Award



Silver girls exploration on Arran
N Bonner, G Briggs, B Davidson, P Goodman, L Hadland and J Holmes.
Comments from Nicola and Barbara; "Cold, wet and full of midges. Can't wait to do it again." And "If I am to do this again I will take more clothes, more food and more midge repellent."

Gold Expeditions

The Gold training expedition took place in both the Mamores and Glen Coe with the group bagging three Munros on the four-day expedition.



Gold and Silver practice group. S Gargan, T Dewan, B Davidson, L Hadland, G Briggs, N Bonner and C Watson.

The annual Stirling Council Youth Support Awards Ceremony was held in Stirling where fifteen of our pupils were invited to receive acknowledgement of their achievements in the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Edward Hope, one of our Gap Students from Australia, has completed the Australian version of the Duke of Edinburgh Award while here at the school and will be able to receive his Gold Award from the Duke of Edinburgh at Holyrood Palace in Edinburgh in July.

This Summer our Silver and Gold assessed expeditions will take place on Dartmoor which will be the first expeditions we have run out of Scotland.



Silver girls mountain camp. S Gargan, T Dewan and C Watson enjoying breakfast.



Mr Breingan, Mrs Edwards and the P7 Minstrels

The Junior Minstrels (who consist of about twenty five P7's boys and girls) have been busy performing again this year travelling to various venues to entertain senior citizens with their singing, dancing and poetry readings.

Our first venue was at Ladywell Parish Church in Stirling. Everyone was nervous, including Miss Edwards, as this was her first outing with the Minstrels.

The Ladywell Friendship Guild warmly welcomed everyone, although there were not as many people as in previous years. It had snowed heavily through the night and many old people were frightened to leave their home. It was good fun but seemed to finish very quickly. The best thing was the juice and biscuits at the end.

For the next performance at Erskine Hospital, Glasgow, we included more poetry reading. This meant that some of the performers were now doing two or three things in the show. It was the most memorable show as one of the singers fainted and then one of the dancers kilt nearly fell down and Mrs MacDonald had to do a quick repair before the next dance started. We were all true troopers by now as we helped each other and stood in for those who felt too ill to perform.

In March we went to Sauchie and Colsnaughton Parish Church. Mr Breingan had taught the choir a new Scottish song and it turned out to be quite a tongue twister and we had to sing it twice. The ladies were really nice to us and told that we all looked very smart in our dress uniforms. When we had finished we not only got juice and biscuits but a Mars bar as well. We only have one more performance left to do this year but we feel much more confident. It has been really good fun and very interesting to talk to the people in these different places. Some of them even know people who used to be at our school who are now Old Victorians.

By Kieran Donohoe & Connor Mackenzie (Primary 7)

ROOKIES PARADE

On Sunday, 8th December 2002, the P7 Rookies had to march on parade in front of the school, parents and friends.

It didn't just happen as it took us a long time to get it right. We had to practice every day for weeks, until we got it right. It was hard work to concentrate on the counting and getting your feet and arms working in the right order and was also very tiring and took us two months of practice.

One day Mr Duthie had to pick two Guard Commanders and a Parade Commander. I was picked to be the Guard Commander for P7B.

On the Sunday of the Parade my shoes were sparkling as I had spent lots of time polishing them. We got our dress uniform on and everyone looked very smart.

Before we started I was really nervous because I wanted to do my very best and to be the best parade ever. We all lined up in Nason Avenue and, suddenly, the Pipe Band started to play and we were marching up to the Parade Square, in front of all those people.

Although it was a cold wet day we were all very happy when it was over because now we are not Rookies but REAL Victorians.

By Ewan Christie P7B



FUNDRAISING

This year saw the return, after a year's break, to the collection of shoeboxes for the Charity Operation Christmas Child. There was a superb effort from pupils, parents and staff this year – with 80 boxes being handed in. Thanks go to all. This year we delivered some of the shoeboxes ourselves to the warehouse near Glasgow and some pupils, in the fundraising group, spent an evening assisting with the sorting out of shoeboxes. At least some of our shoeboxes were destined for Romania and one pupil received a letter of thanks from a grateful recipient. In addition, £50 was raised from the first weeks of the bakery hobby and went to the Samaritans Purse, Operation Christmas.

The fundraising group turned its hand to baking to raise money for two Charities. With great enthusiasm, the group of boys and girls baked sponge cakes, chocolate marshmallows and chocolate crispies to sell to their fellow pupils. Thanks go not only to the fundraising group, but also to the pupils who purchased the cakes. A profit of almost £170 was made and this money has been shared by the two charities 'Breakthrough for Breast Cancer' and 'SSPCA'.

The pupils participated enthusiastically in our non-uniform day in support of Children in Need and the sum of £294 was raised.

Miss Blackwood

AT THE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD WAREHOUSE

In answer to Miss Blackwood's announcement that she needed volunteers to help at the Samaritan's Purse 'Operation Christmas Child' warehouse, we volunteered. When the day finally came we were all very enthusiastic and the car journey was filled with singing and games, and of course, French poems!!

When we arrived, we were shown around and the first thing we noticed was the amount of shoeboxes. We were shown into a room where we had to sign a book to say we helped and were introduced to everyone by Chris Thomson, the co-ordinator and Skip, the dog! Next came the sorting of the boxes and we had to take a box, remove money, liquids and war-related toys and ensure that the boxes were suitable, which we then sealed.

Once we had four or five done, we took them up to big shelves at the back, where they were sorted into categories: Boys and Girls 2-4, 5-9 and 10-14, to be packed into boxes and sent away. We were also able to see through a video of the people who received the shoeboxes which was really touching.

Beccy Copland and Natasha Bruce

P7'S LITTER INITIATIVE

On a showery morning in June, all P7 pupils equipped with litter picks, gloves and bags and encouraged by six Form V and Form VI pupils, carried out a huge assault on litter both inside and outside the school. Four groups tackled the school buildings and grounds, while two other groups worked outside from the entrances to the school along the Perth Road as far as

Kippendavie Road. The aim was to give the school a good clean up and also to let the local residents know that the pupils care about the immediate environment in which they live. This was just the beginning of raising awareness in terms of litter. It is an ongoing project and, in addition, next session, the whole school hopes to become part of the Eco Schools Programme, concentrating on recycling and composting within the school while continuing to support the community in local environmental projects.

TAE KWON-DO – INDOMITABLE SPIRITS

The Tae Kwon-Do club has again grown in strength, although it's only been running for eighteen months. Unbelievably, all students have 'graded' and are moving up the 'belts'; now we have several 'Green Belt' students. Various questions have been posed by both students and parents alike, but the main one is – what does Tae Kwon-Do mean? The discipline originated in Korea and the loose translation is Tae (Foot); Kwon (Fist); Do (Art), and the Global Tae Kwon-Do Federation (GTF) was founded by Grand Master Park Jung Tae (9th Degree Black Belt). He has taken the 'Art' to a new level. Essential to the 'Art' are the five tenets and every member adheres to these core elements: Courtesy, Integrity, Perseverance, Self Control, Indomitable Spirit

We train under the banner of the GTF (Scotland) which ensures our training is second to none. On top of this, it's all down to our instructor, Mr Stuart Barrie (2nd Degree Black Belt), who works us hard and prioritises the teaching of the technical skills required at all levels; these are the ingredients that make the club such a success.

Realising this, pupils in the school have been attracted to the club and now we have a number of new students; several are from P7 and S1, which means more 'black belts' in the future, if they maintain their commitment.

Even though the club is young, we have two competitions under our 'belts' and our club has done very well indeed. Various successes means we have gained medals in all disciplines, from 'patterns', that illustrate technical ability and control, to 'sparring', that enables a student to test him or herself in a more realistic, but controlled, environment, using the skills they have learned. Even as I write, another competition is being organised to take place after the Summer Break.

I would like to express my thanks to Mr David Brown (6th Degree Black Belt), National Technical Director and Scotland team coach, who has worked closely with Park Jung Tae, and has offered real encouragement and support to the club. No amount of thanks could be enough for Mr Stuart Barrie; we're indebted to him for his commitment, instruction and leadership. Significantly, he also makes the training enjoyable for all those involved; we're very fortunate to have him as our instructor.

Just as we are about to depart for the Summer Break, one crucial element remains to be mentioned – the parents. The club would not exist without their unwavering support, which is vital to their sons and daughters in this very rewarding discipline – thank you! Finally, I'd like to thank the students for their year round commitment to the club and to remind them to keep training!

Ski trip 2003 – Alpe d’Heuz



Once more we stayed at the conveniently situated Beau Soleil Hotel which meant you could just about ski right off the piste and up to your room. We had an excellent week's skiing and frivolities at Alpe d'Heuz, and the QV prize giving at the end spoke volumes.

Most unusual skiing injury – step forward Mr Beattie. Having more than exerted himself by negotiating two green slopes on the first morning, Mr Beattie clambered up the wooden steps to the restaurant and for some reason he didn't see *un grand chien noir* lurking in the shadows. Understandably, it sank its fangs into Mr Beattie's leg after being trodden on by a massive ski boot. *Mechant Monsieur Beattie*.

Best bumboarder/worst ice skater - Mr Laing managed a creditable double here, elegantly hurtling the furthest down the nursery slopes on a piece of plastic, but not so elegantly landing on his *derriere* as he took his first tentative step on to the ice rink.

Best karaoke – or should that read worst karaoke? Stephen Gale's rendering of an Oasis classic was em Interesting. Stephen also worked hard during the week to produce the best dismount from a chairlift. The fact that he was trying to get on at the time and ended up sitting on a moving conveyer belt made him more than a worthy winner of the accolade. Karaoke queen – this award went to Emma Reid who belted out every song sung and choreographed some wicked moves.

Best wipe out – surprisingly went to our expert skier Miss Scott when she was up-ended by a snowboarder. One of her skis disappeared over a precipice never to be seen again but, undaunted, she came down the run gracefully balanced on the one remaining ski.

Worst French accent – went to Graeme Houston – allegedly the proud owner of an A for Higher French. The only two phrases he knows seem to be (a) "I am a hairdresser and I live in a bakery" and (b) "Thanks very much" or "Mersey boocoo." Both phrases were used in copious and irritating amounts throughout the week.

Best panda eyes – or the Chi Chi and An An award went to James Wootton who managed an impressive tan that skirted expertly round his goggles giving him an alarming expression.

Most improved skier – was picked up by Scott Houston who, with wisdom beyond his years attempted bravely to act in loco parentis in trying to send his sister back to her room to change before the disco, announcing on the stairs: "You can't go out wearing that - it looks like a hockey skirt!"

Mr Wright demonstrated a fearless attitude on the piste and midweek finally slumped down in a chair at the hotel. Apart from the usual sunburn, the casualties were mostly confined to the staff.



The English Department

Following the English Department's involvement with the local drama group during the Dunblane Fling in May 2002, we were asked to contribute to the St Blane's Drama Group "Three One Act Plays" in November 2002. At the same time we entered the annual Sri Sathya Sai School Drama Competition on Human Values, using the same play for both events.

Our play was *Hope*, which tried to show how in the space of a Sunday evening in a hospital casualty ward, a person can lose hope - but have it given back from one of the unlikeliest of sources. We showed how a set of chance encounters, and odd coincidence, can change the lives of a few, forever - while others, as must always happen, remain unchanged. The cast were very good: Carley Spence, Gavin Reith, Laurie Cairns, Robert Carmichael, Scott Graham, Ciara Watson, Aaron King, Mark Braceland, Vanessa Sherrieffs and David McDougall were the actors. Fay McIntyre and Carrie-Ann Campbell did lighting and sound. Natasha Bruce and Luke Day filled gaps. Natasha, in particular, shone for her willingness to stand in for Carley in one of the major roles.

The competition Regional Final was in Airdrie's Town Hall, a very impressive venue for us. It's safe to say we were all a bit apprehensive because prior to this things just hadn't gone right. But when that evocative soundtrack started up and Laurie Cairns ventured out on to the steeply sloping stage, everything came together at last. Robert Carmichael won the Best Actor prize; Carley won Best Actress and we won the Best Play award, which meant we had a place in the final in Dundee. Next followed the Dunblane performances over four nights at the end of November, which were very well received and gave the cast invaluable extra performances.

The final at Bonar Hall in Dundee was on Sunday 1 December. The quality of the other plays was, for the most part, very good, and the whole day was, once again, a very worthwhile experience (though, at times, nail-biting). Our group was singled out as being a very polished team indeed. "Not one of them looked as if they didn't belong on the stage," the judge remarked at the end. We came second in a very close contest. There's no doubt in my mind this is a terrific competition and every year the quality gets better. I hope I can have some of the same group for the next competition. I would like to express my thanks, in particular, to

Laurie Cairns (S6) who has been with the drama group since her S1 days (remember *Frederica the Maid*?) and starred in Laurie's *Diary* in the last national competition (2002). It was, I felt, only fitting that she should collect the Best Script Award on Sunday 1 December for her last appearance in a "QVS Production". I'd like to wish her, and the other leavers who took part, the very best for the years ahead. I'd also like to express my appreciation to all the parents who gave up their time to see their offspring "treading the boards". They must have been justifiably proud.

No sooner had we mopped our brows after that experience when my S3 pupils set about putting on last year's (postponed) production of *Macbeth*, or, *The Traitor's Camp*, in which we did to Shakespeare what Rowan Atkinson did to English history. This was a most enjoyable production and everybody worked together very well and the audiences enjoyed themselves too. Unlike many productions which can be fraught with difficulties this one was mostly fun from beginning to end. And it's great to see people who are maybe shy or lacking in confidence, or who never thought they could do such things, overcoming their fears and strutting about on stage wearing absurd clothes, provoking mirth in the audience, and having a really good time! Jenny Carter as *Macbeth* and David Leishman as the evil wife, particularly stick in my mind, but Ryan Flaherty cavorting around as Duncan to the sound of Kylie Minogue, and Cati Monti rising from the fires of hell (the black cooker) and saying "Oooh, hello!" raised a fair share of laughs. James Wootton also milked the food jokes as far as he could, and Carrie-Ann Campbell's sense of shocked outrage as she took a custard pie in the face was a picture to behold.

The highlight of the Department's Social Calendar was, indubitably, the wedding of our dear Miss Johnstone to Sean Adams. The event was marvellous, starting in the Chapel and followed by a merry carouse in the Bo'ness Town Hall. I'm sure we all wish them both every happiness and success for the future. Coping with children should not pose any problems for the future, how many married couples begin their lives together with eighty children right on their doorstep? Talk about baptism of fire! (Hmmm – sounds like a good idea for a play...)

A Kirk (PT English)



Visit by Lieutenant General Sir Alistair Irwin KCB CBE Adjutant General





President Bush and Hughie Gilchrist

The Royal Hospital Visit to the USA – November 2002

At the invitation of Colonel Arnold Smith, Director of the US Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH), Washington DC, a party of four In-Pensioners accompanied by Lt Col and Mrs Mackenzie, visited the AFRH in November 2002. One of the four was Hughie Gilchrist who was at Queen Victoria School between 1934-38 and served in the Seaforth Highlanders : he is on the right of the picture.

AN EXTRACT FROM LT COL A M MACKENZIE MBE'S ARTICLE IN THE TRICOURNE JANUARY 2003

Monday 11 November

US Veterans Day. Despite the fact that it was raining heavily this was a day that none of us will forget or want to forget. Our day started very early in order that we could arrive at the White House in time for breakfast with the President, having negotiated the intense security screening which surrounds the President and entry to the White House. I knew that I was in bother as soon as the CIA security officials set eyes on my sword. This was a challenge they were clearly not prepared for and I was in no mood to compromise or hand-over an item of Her Majesty's uniform. After a humorous stand-off which lasted for some minutes and numerous phone calls to security chiefs, I was permitted, with sword, to rejoin the Party and enjoy a hearty breakfast in the company of numerous veterans and high ranking officials. Following breakfast and before we were taken to our seats in the East Room to hear the President's annual address to veterans, we were given the opportunity to visit some of the beautiful State Rooms in the East Wing, not normally seen by

members of the public. In his introductions the President mentioned the UK as one of America's strongest friends and welcomed the Chelsea Contingent to the people's house. The speech that followed paid homage to all past and present veterans, praised the success of operations in Afghanistan and was riveting and unambiguous in its pledge to have Iraq disarm with or without the use of force.

The visit to the White House was followed by our official attendance at the Arlington National Cemetery as guests of the US Non-Commissioned Officers Association (NCOA), to hear the President giving his Veterans Day speech to the Nation. Following the departure of the President we were invited to provide the escort to the NCOA Wreath Laying Party at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This was a very quiet, dignified affair and we all felt very privileged to parade alongside our US allies.



Charlie, Aged 14 (extreme right)

Charlie Mitten – The Penalty King 1921 – 2002

'The greatest outside left England Never had'



Mitten at his deadliest, Old Trafford, January 1949 (photo: Daily Express)

Charlie's father was a company Sergeant Major in the Royal Scots and when he retired from the army he took a job as a physical training instructor at Queen Victoria School. Charlie was 7 at the time. Every day after school Charlie would be out kicking a football against the gable end of the row. He'd mark little spots on the wall and practice hitting them further and further back. Unconsciously, he was developing innate skills. Later, as Matt Busby stated, he could land the ball on a sixpence from the corner flag, a skill he practised for 2 to 3 hours per day.

Charlie commented on his time at Queen Victoria School as follows:- 'Life can so easily take the unexpected course. It would not have been surprising if I had made the army my career, or if rugby had been my sport. The principal game at Queen Victoria School was rugby and I played rugby league for the School, as well as soccer. I grew up at a school that was a paradise – you did your academic studies, then learned military skills, reading the compass, shooting and there was every sport you could think of'.

The young Mitten excelled at athletics too and was the School's Victor Ludorum. He also played in the Pipe Band at Murrayfield for the England international. Charlie commented as follows:- 'At the time I was proud to see myself as a Highland laddie. I only realised how important the sword dancing was much later, when I analysed what I was doing. I thought, why do they keep saying to me, "You skip round the full back and he just misses you"? I thought they're not just missing me – I'm doing it so they miss me'.

Charlie Mitten commented on Highland Dancing as follows: 'Sword dancing is a magnificent exercise that can benefit all athletes. It's the most perfect physical exercise for footballing skills because you've got to control something with your feet, while doing the athletic things like running and jumping, turning and twisting. Your balance has to be correct, it makes you nimble and exercises the leg muscles, especially the calves. It enables you to jump nimbly and change direction in the air. I would say sword dancing and country dancing were the most important

exercises I've found to help me in my football skills. It also helped me in my quickness and timing in tight spaces. The balance required for Highland Dancing is total and for football total control over your centre of gravity is the key to going round a man with a ball. I'd often come off the field at Manchester United and I'd never have a mark on my shorts – because of my balance. They used to say to me "We don't need to wash your shorts, Charlie, you can wear yours again next week".

Charlie Mitten joined Manchester United in 1936 but he served in the Azores in the Second World War as a tail gunner and physical training instructor. After the war he enjoyed 4 seasons (142 games) with the 'Red Devils' in three of which Manchester United finished second in the league. He scored 50 goals including 17 penalties from 17 attempts. He played a key part in their 1948 cup winning attack which comprised Jimmy Delaney, Johnny Morris, Jack Rowley, Stan Pearson and Mitten – 'the famous five'.

The team's greatest success was indeed their FA Cup campaign of 1947 – 48 and in the F.A. Cup Final were losing 2 – 1 to Blackpool (with Stanley Matthews and Stan Mortensen in their side) and won 4 – 2.

I was privileged to meet Charlie Mitten a few years ago when I showed him round the School. As all Old Victorians do, he reminisced about his enjoyable time at QVS. He reinforced the comments quoted above from 'The Bogota Bandit' by Richard Adamson and, in particular, his debt to Highland Dancing. So convinced was he of its value that when he returned from South America and later became Manager of Newcastle United in 1958 he taught the players Highland Dancing.

(Material used for the above article: Obituary from The Times and extracts from 'The Bogota Bandit – the outlaw life of Charlie Mitten' by Richard Adamson).

Headmaster

Management Committee

President: Lt Col Ron Smith
Secretary: Stewart Wilkie

Treasurer: Ron Mackintosh
Life Member: Duncan McLay

A year of changes for the OVA resulting from the decision made at the 2000 AGM to examine and revise its Constitution in order to bring the organisation and management up to date. To that end our Treasurer, Ron Mackintosh, prepared Business Plan 2002-2005, which received the approval of the AGM in March 2003.

The previous Constitution has been replaced by a Memorandum and Articles of Association which has been published on the OVA Web site. For copies for OVs without access to the site please write to our new office – Queen Victoria School Old Victorians' Association, Dunblane, Perthshire FK15 0JY.

The annual Reunion was very successful this year. The Headmaster gave a very informative briefing on the proposal to redevelop the School through an Establishment Development Plan (see HM's notes). A major feature of fund raising for Centenary 2008 will be a new Music Centre and at the AGM the Association pledged £1,000 as a starter for the Fund.

The salute at the Reunion Parade Sunday was taken by 3094 Lt Col Bill Common RHE, newly returned from a posting in Canada (Batus). At the Reception following the Service three presentations were made; firstly, to Mr Douglas Stewart, Principal Teacher of Mathematics, Life Membership of the Association, in recognition of over 30 years service to the School; secondly, a

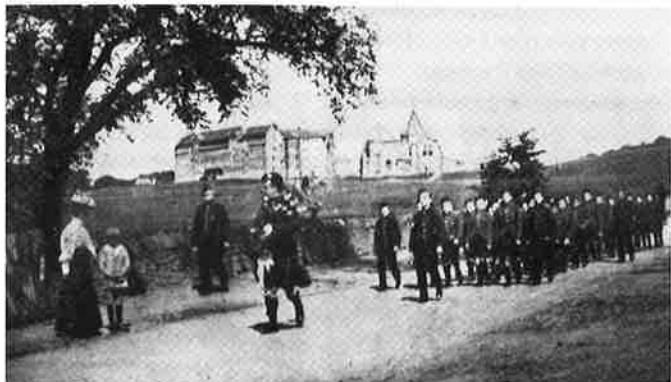
copy of the 'Bogota Bandit' the Biography of the late Charlie Mitten, undoubtedly the best footballer produced by the School; thirdly, the presentation of Colin (Jock) Stewart's Olympic Chef's White Jacket badges and medallions to be on show in the archives. When 2701 Colin (Jock) Stewart left QVS in 1961, the then Headmaster advised him that the only career he could envisage for him was to be a cook! Well he did, via the Army Catering Corps, emigrated to Australia to become one of Australia's top Chefs! Jock organised the meal for our Farewell Dinner on the OZ99 Tour with a special QVS cake adorned with School insignia and in 2000 he was appointed Administrator of the Australian Junior Culinary Olympics Team.

Another presentation to the School earlier this year was the Yule Memorial Bench, sited behind the Flag Pole donated by the sister of the three Yule brothers 1723, 1775 and 1808, a good place to relax on a sunny day!

Finally, 2349 Donald MacDonald felt that the appointment of the first female Pipe Major and Drum Major deserved special recognition so he composed two pipe Marches entitled 'Lynsey McAulay' and 'Lindsey Farquharson', respectively, printed them on parchment and asked the Association to frame and present them to two special young ladies. The marches will be included in the portfolio of Pipe tunes composed by Victorians which Pipe Major Ross is preparing for a QVS Centenary Book of Pipe Tunes.



The Pipe Band, 1911



Church Parade, Circa, 1909



Field Marshall Viscount Montgomery visits the school, 20 May 1947

Obituaries

Inevitably several Old Victorians have died during the past 12 months. It is my responsibility pay tribute to them and I must also thank their relatives and friends who have provided information to help in this task.

1596 Major I.B.Stevenson R.E.

Ian was at QVS from 1934-1938 and was one of the first of many OVs to go on to the Army Technical School at Chepstow. In his words 'I had my War' (39-45) and, after a course at Chatham became an RE Clerk of Works until, after being a WO1 for ten years, he was commissioned in 1953. Ian had two sons at QVS, 3030 Robert and 3129 Gordon, very convenient for his employment on retiring in 1978 when he joined the PSA in Scotland, serving as a Technical Officer at RAF Machrihanish until again retiring at age 65 only to be asked to return after 15 months on a part time basis. He agreed and continued to work there until he died in May 2002. Another staunch OV, very proud of his School and his two OV sons.

1571 William (Bill) Barclay

Bill Joined the School in 1934 returning home in 1936. He was in business as a Property Developer in the South of England and, despite the distance between Dunblane and Bournemouth, kept in contact, especially in respect of attendance at the Reunion and Grand Day. He was also a strong supporter of the London Branch. Bill's wife Ruth wrote of him, 'Through his life QVS was one of the highlights, often saying 'it was the making of him' and he was fiercely proud of his School'. He was 80 when he died on New Year's Day 2003.

711 John McLay

One of our older OVs John joined the School in 1919 after his father, a Boer War Veteran, died tragically as the result of an accident. He became a cornet player in the Military Band and was a keen and competent sportsman. He left in 1924 to take up apprenticeship as a mechanic at the Clyde Valley Power Station, Yoker, remaining in employment for 50 years until he retired, by which time he was recognised as The Motor Engineer for the SSEB Fleet.

As a young man he continued his sporting interests, playing in goal for Clyde F.C. in the West of Scotland Amateur League. John lived in Largs and was a great supporter of the OVA, both financially and with his presence at School events. Indeed, he rarely missed Grand Day. Coincidentally, he died on 17th June 2002 and his funeral was held on Friday 21st June!

1236 Bill Swan

The son of a Royal Horse Artillery Battery Sergeant Major, Bill joined the School in 1927. He was a drummer and bugler in the Pipe Band and joined the RHA in 1934 as a Boy Trumpeter, a 'badgie' as such boys were known. In 1939 he was transferred to 78th Field Regiment RA seeing active service in North Africa, Sicily and Italy. In 1945 he returned to 2RHA as WO2 until demob in 1946 when he joined the Mounted Branch of the Edinburgh City Police until his retirement in 1973.

A very staunch member of the OVA and an ever present at the Reunion and on Grand Day. After his death on 30th December 2002, the current Mounted Branch Members of Lothian and Borders Police paid their tribute to Badgie Bill by escorting his funeral procession to his final resting place.

1371 William Morton

The eldest of 3 brothers from a Black Watch family Bill joined QVS in 1929, was directed to trade tailoring and enlisted in the Black Watch in 1922 into the Regimental tailoring shop. During the ensuing years, coached by his father, he became a very proficient boxer, winning the Battalion welter weight Championship on two occasions. In 1939 Bill qualified as a small arms instructor, was promoted to Sergeant and recommended for officer training. He was commissioned in the Northamptonshire Regiment, volunteered for the Parachute Regiment and posted to Italy where he was injured. Bill left the Army in 1945, returning to his original trade of tailoring, but found it difficult to obtain suitable employment in the trade and moved into management of manufacturing companies, before final retirement to Lincolnshire. Bill was a quiet man who liked to be involved and never lost contact with his School of which he was inordinately proud. Sadly, after a short illness, he died aged 83 at Louth Hospital on 27th November 2002.

Dukie/Victorian Peter Caine

Peter came to QVS during the evacuation from DYRMS in 1940. He left from training as an Armourer at AAS Aborfield in 1944 and mustered to REME in 1947, rising to SSgt prior to retirement in 1959. He joined Gillette as a junior manager and, after 30 years service, he moved to a new firm Sabre. Peter was a firm supporter of the London/SE Branch but, latterly, his mobility was restricted due to suffering from emphysema keeping him permanently linked to an oxygen machine.

2089 Frank Blake

Frank joined the School in May 1943, and was more attuned to life here than most, with his father a member of the school staff and his brother Eddie (1834) already well known as a saxophonist and nature lover. Frank was attracted to the RE Ordnance Survey and he served his apprenticeship at AAS Taunton, followed by AAS Harrogate, mustering to the Royal Engineers. His first posting was to BAOR then Cyprus and, thereafter, to Aden to map the empty Quarter in Yemen. He was married in 1959 and was posted to Singapore before returning to UK and Barton Stacey. He completed his 22 years service as a Staff Sergeant and retired to work for a survey firm in Maidenhead, Fairey Surveys, currently known as ESR. He managed Quality Control there and was much in favour with Army contacts as they respected him for the product he supervised and delivered. He worked for ESR for 25 years but, sadly, was stricken by cancer for 4 years and died at home on 26 November 2002.

Staff List

HEADMASTER
DEPUTY HEADMASTER
ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER
BURSAR

B Raine BA (Hons) PGCE
C Philson BA (Hons) PGCE
E Smith BEd (Hons) BA PGCE
J Drysdale BA (Hons)

HOUSEMASTERS/HOUSEMISTRESS
Cunningham
Haig
Trenchard
Wavell

H W G Tomkins Cert.P.P.(BSA)
J S Laing Dip Tech Edn
G D M Carroll BA DCE PGCE
A MacDougall MEd 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)
David Breingan D.R.S.A.M. Dip Ed (PT Music)
D Stewart BSc (Hons)

TEACHING STAFF
J Adams MA (Hons) PGCE
G Beattie MA MEd PGCE PGC in SFL PG Dip SFL
E Blackwood BEd
G Borking BEd BSc
G Carroll BA DCE PGCE
T A Dale BSc Cert Ed
G Johnston BSc (Hons) PGCE
T King BEd (Hons) T Cert
A MacDougall MEd BEd PGCG PGCE
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 Cert.P.P.(BSA) CF TD (School Chaplain)
C A Taylor BSc (Hons) PGCE
R Wright BA PGCE

SCHOOL LIBRARIAN
C Sheerin BA (Hons) Dip Lib ALA

PART-TIME TEACHERS
G Edwards
S Johns Dip Ed
L Thornton Dip Art & Design Grad CE

VISITING MUSIC TEACHERS
R M Jones BA (Hons) LTCL ALCM Cert Ed
H Lockwood
Anne Scott
Alan Brown
John Dallas

HOUSEMATRONS
Cunningham
Haig
Trenchard
Wavell

C Tomkins
H Kettles
H A Devlin
H R Duthie

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

HOSPITAL STAFF
Residential Hospital Sister
Hospital Nurse (Part-time)
Hospital Auxiliary

M Skeith RGN
C A C Fitzgerald RGN RSCN
V Hiddleston

UNIFORMED STAFF
School Sergeant Major

Pipe Major
Drum Major

Highland Dancing Instructor

D Duthie (late SG) Cert
P.P.(BSA)
G R Ross (late Gordons)
H W G Tomkins (late Gordons)
Cert P.P.(BSA)
E M MacDonald

ADMINISTRATIVE & SUPPORT STAFF
Estates Manager
Maintenance Supervisor
Personnel Officer
Finance Officer
Headmaster's Secretary
Local Purchasing Officer
Bursar's Secretary
School Secretary
Accounts Officer
ICT Technician

Part-time Typist
Reprographics
Laboratory Technician
Civilian Security Officer

Experimental Worker
Charge Hand
General Hand

Storekeeper

D Dent
J Blyth
M Wallace
K Lawrie BA (Hons)
L Craig
A Macfarlane
M Reid
A Morea
M Symon
B Harrison
(HND Comp Studies)
R Ainslie (HND Business Admin)
A B Gauld BA (Hons)
D P Carrington-Porter
R Hamilton
R Hiddleston
F Wernicki
R Davies
A McDonald
A McDonald
R MacDougall
MA Fleming
M Roy
W Stockman
P Warner



Nicola Moffat SVI



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Jennifer Carter SHI



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