

THE METEOR 2010

Rugby School



But as for me, I will behold thy presence
in righteousness: and when I awake up after
thy likeness, I shall be satisfied with it.

J.W. BOWEN
 J.W. BOWYER
 E.F. BOYD
 H.A. BOYD
 D.E. BRADBY
 E.J. BRADLEY
 O.G.F.J. BREUL
 H.J. BRIERLEY
 A.C. BROOK
 R.C. BROOKE
 W.A.C. BROOKE
 F.C. BROOKS
 A.L.T. BROWETT
 A.C. BROWN
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 A.C. BURRIDGE
 W.M. BURT-MARSHALL
 J.W. BUSH
 G. BUSHELL

W.J. CAIRNES
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 G.L. CALDERON
 W.R.L. CALROW
 H.W.L. CAMERON
 A.C. CAMPBELL
 D. CAMPBELL
 N.D. CAMPBELL
 T.L. CAMPBELL
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 E.P.D. CATOR
 H.T. CAWLEY
 J.S. CAWLEY
 O. CAWLEY
 A.J. CAY
 J. CHAMBERLAIN
 A.J.F. CHAMBERS
 E.O. CHAMPION
 W.T. CHANING-PEARCE
 P.G. CHAWORTH-MUSTERS
 P.M. CHAWORTH-MUSTERS
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 L.N. COOK
 P.H. COOK
 J.D. CORRIE-WARRIN
 G. COWIE
 G.E. COWLEY
 R.B. CRACROFT
 E.M. CRANLEY-BRODY
 T.A. CRIPPER
 A.H.P. CRICKSHEW
 C.L. CONNOR
 L.R. DODD

+ 1914

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Chaplain's Notes

Chaplain's Notes

One Friday morning, I was a victim of technology. It was E5 Divinity, and I'd got a new projector in my classroom. I plugged it in, switched on the computer, and pressed the key that sends the image from the computer screen on to the whiteboard. There on the *laptop* was a lovely neat Divinity worksheet. There on the wall was two-thirds of it.

We tried rotating the projector but that didn't work. Then someone in the class suggested I try changing the laptop settings. Fatal advice. Two clicks of a mouse, and the image on the screen was upside-down. And upside-down it remained. Nothing we tried could get it the right way up again. I clicked every possible menu I could find; I even resorted to picking up my laptop and turning it upside down with a little shake, but to no avail. Well, it was almost the end of the lesson, and they'd been working hard up to that point, so I thought we might as well watch a bit of a DVD. *The Simpsons*, of course, with the added twist of being upside-down.

But what was interesting was this – that we very quickly found we could follow the film quite well. After a while we got used to it. It brought back a vague memory of something I had once heard about, and I went to look it up again. In the 1960s Dr Irwin Moon of the Moody Institute of Science in Los Angeles built himself a pair of inverting spectacles, which had the effect of turning everything upside-down. He wore the inverting glasses every waking moment for several weeks. At first he suffered seasickness and had great difficulty getting around. But it gradually improved and after eight days he began to perceive the image as the right way up. Note that – it was not that he learned how to cope with it after eight days, but that he actually *saw* the world the right way up. Here's a short quotation from one of the reports of Dr Moon's experiment, from the glorious days before health and safety and risk assessments:

His problem was to devise a convincing demonstration showing that reorientation had been achieved. The riding of a motorcycle seemed a good test. Dr Moon mounted the motorcycle and rode as well as he would have done if seeing normally. Then it was decided to extend the experiment to flying an aeroplane where visual co-ordination and depth perception are even more critical. He piloted the plane for more than an hour, executing all the normal flight manoeuvres.

When we spend long enough looking at something that is wrong, it can begin to seem right. If we surround ourselves with upside-downness, that which is upside-down seems the right way up. If the values and the attitudes of the world around us are upside-down, then it is no wonder that we adopt them as normal. If our world suggests that beautiful people are better than plain people, and rich people are better than poor people, or that white-skinned people are better than brown-skinned people, then how are we to resist seeing that inversion of the truth as normal?

If we watch soap operas and reality shows which show human beings interact in an entirely morally neutral setting, in which sex is presented as a leisure activity, like badminton, and where people strive to put each other down in order to get a job or progress to the next round; well, no wonder that, like Professor Moon and his inverting spectacles, we get used to seeing things that way and even see them as normal.

It is sometimes said of Jesus that his teaching turned the world upside-down. In fact, he turns it the right way up again. In his concern for the poor, the outcast and the underdog he shows us the proper way to look at the people around us, how to treat people with respect and how to make the world better.

And in his teaching and example about the value and uniqueness of every single person, and the potential of holiness in all, he gives us hope that we too might be



holy, and that there might be a different, a deeper and a better way to live.

When a young girl, Mary, was told that she would be the Mother of Jesus. She responded in words that ring down to us through the centuries, rejoicing in God's decisive action to put the world upright on its feet again:

*My soul magnifies the Lord,
And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour...*

*...for he has shown strength with his arm;
He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.*

*He has put down the mighty from their thrones,
And exalted the lowly.*

*He has filled the hungry with good things,
And the rich He has sent away empty.*

*He has helped His servant Israel,
In remembrance of His mercy,
As He promised to our fathers,
To Abraham and to his descendants for ever.*

(Luke 1:46-55)

RMH



Christine Robinson

Christine Robinson has been very involved in the School since the Robinson family moved to Rugby 22 years ago. Christine began as Science librarian, and continued in that role until the departmental libraries were merged with the TRR in the mid 1990s. At the same time, Christine was a tutor, first in Southfield and then in Rupert Brooke. Christine was a rock during the pretty turbulent last year that Southfield was a boarding house, and I know that her tutees there were very grateful for the friendly stability she provided at that time, as was I. I was delighted when Christine then moved to Rupert Brooke, where we were able to work together again until my move to Tudor in 2002. Having helped out in the Careers Department at Monkton Combe before coming to Rugby, it made sense for Christine to join Jane Phelps in the Careers Department here, which she did in 1996. Christine has proved instrumental in finding work experience placements for the D block and others, and in providing important higher education advice to the LXX and XX as they go about their applications to university. Christine has made a real impression on Careers at Rugby, with her kindly approach, her endless patience and because of the hours she has put into her work, which surely exceed the time most people would be prepared to offer. In the last few years, Christine has also taught D block Citizenship and moderated some of the new Edexcel Extended Project qualifications. She has also played an important role in Whitelaw, too, where her husband, Peter, is a tutor.

I know that all of the pupils who have experienced Christine's care and attention – and indeed the many staff with whom she has worked – will miss her and remain grateful for all that she has done. She has all our best wishes for a happy retirement.

SAR

Peter Robinson

Peter Robinson came to Rugby as Head of Science in 1988 from Monkton Combe, where he had been both Head of Careers and Head of Physics. Science had only recently become a compulsory subject in the National Curriculum, and one of Peter's first decisions at Rugby was to introduce Nuffield Co-ordinated Science, a dual award course that linked together various strands in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, and which was taken by those who, it was felt, would benefit from a more practical and context-based approach to science. As such, this linked with work done by Geoff Foxcroft (a former Head of Science here), who had been involved in developing the Nuffield A Level Physics course. Co-ordination was very much Peter's watchword, and during his time as Head of Science he did much to ensure that the three Departments worked together as one within the Science Faculty.

As well as leading the Science Faculty, one of the roles of the Head of Science is to ensure that Rugby maintains a high profile in the world of science education, something Peter did during his time in charge by being a member of the 59 Club (a meeting of the Heads

of Science from the leading public schools); by organising Biology, Chemistry and Physics 'At Work' events (when local schools were invited to come to meet practising scientists); and by encouraging the heads of Biology, Chemistry and Physics to invite speakers to talk to the Upper School subject specialists. Peter was also a founding member and chairman for ten years of the Schools' Physics Group (which still meets annually at Rugby), as well as being a moderator, examiner and trainer for both OCR and Edexcel. On stepping down as Head of Science in 1998, Peter took over co-ordinating the staff appraisal scheme, a role he continued to fulfil until 2007.

It was during Peter's tenure as Head of Science that plans were put in place for a well overdue refurbishment of the Science Schools. This ambitious project started in 1997 with a view to providing a 'flexible and unified structure reflecting inter-disciplinary advances and an understanding of science'. The last major phase has only recently been completed, but it was through Peter's vision and under his initial guidance that the 'new' Science Schools we see today have become a modern and exciting place in which both to teach and to learn. One could use, perhaps, a rather well known epitaph at this point – *Lector, si monumentum requires, circumpice* – although, of course, we hope that Peter will be around for many more years to come yet!

As well as being Head of Science, Peter has been very active in many areas of the School over the past 22 years. He tutored in Tudor when it was boys' house, first under the guidance of David Gregory, and then under Ron Reeve-Johnson, when Peter also served as a non-resident Assistant Housemaster. When the decision was made to convert Tudor into a girls' house, it was decided to merge Tudor and Whitelaw. Andrew Smith was appointed as Housemaster to oversee this change, not an easy task given the loyalty that the boys had to their separate houses. But with Peter as his AHm in charge of the Sunnyside Annexe, the merger was successful and Peter has continued to be a loyal tutor and great help to Andrew in Whitelaw ever since. Peter was in charge of the RAF section of the CCF for period of time and has been a 2AA supervisor for the past fifteen years. Peter has also been a regular with the first aid kit as casualty officer on sports afternoons; a timekeeper at home athletics meetings; and has helped out in Chapel, most notably with administering the chalice at Holy Communion. And when not busy at school, Peter is often to be found trimming the rather large hedge that surrounds his house at Springhill!

Over the last twenty or so years, Peter has been a schoolmaster in every sense of the word. Not only has he been an excellent Head of Science and dedicated Physics teacher, but as one would expect, he has also been an active member of the Rugby School community. We wish Peter and Christine, his wife, well as they retire to their cottage in Wiltshire. Their departure leaves a large hole to be filled.

NJM

Nick Fisher

Nick Fisher arrived at Rugby as Head of Physics in 1994 from King's School, Chester, where he extraordinarily combined Physics teaching with being Head of Years 10 and 11 and Head of Drama. His experience and enthusiasm for school conferences, trips and theatrical productions was quickly employed to enhance Physics, Science and theatricals of all sorts here at Rugby, and since joining the school, Nick has organized a now annual residential Physics trip to London; five exciting trips to CERN in Geneva; numerous day trips to Alton Towers and the JET research laboratory in Oxford; and much else besides. He quickly also resurrected the Science Forum (once he was so excited about booking the Astronomer Royal as a speaker that he quite forgot that the day he set aside for the meeting was also his 30th birthday!) and subsequently has lured a number of top presenters – Jim Al-Khalili, Brian Cox and Simon Singh to name a few – to lecture to various of the school's other scientific societies. Ever the egalitarian, Nick has always invited local schoolchildren to the events he has organized, ensuring that they too can benefit from exposure to such things as a Rugby education affords. And, indeed, Nick has organized a number of events specifically for these children in his role recently as co-ordinator of the Warwickshire Independent-State School Partnership, which sees each year hundreds of Warwickshire schoolchildren, teachers and technicians involved in workshops on everything from forensics to time travel. Nick has also put on numerous INSET courses for teachers and technicians, and most recently run events with the Independent Association of Prep Schools.

As a young Head of Physics, Nick embraced the innovative Salters Horners A Level Project, which he piloted at Rugby; and he has contributed to this project on a national level by developing practical resources, writing chapters of textbooks for the course and by presenting numerous workshops on it at universities around the country. Physics and the curriculum is something very close to Nick's heart and recently he has led the team developing the exciting new Cambridge Pre-U Physics course, which is now in its second year of teaching both at Rugby and at a number of well-known schools around the UK. It is no surprise, then, really, that Nick's achievements were recognized with a Salters Horners Physics Teacher of the Year Award in 2003, a Fellowship of the Institute of Physics in 2005 and an Institute of Physics Teaching Award in 2009.

Nick's enthusiasm for Physics is infectious. One only has to attend one of his many Royal Institution-style lectures to become interested in all manner of forces, motions and theories (and Nick knows all about the Royal Institution, having been invited there in 2009 to give his talk on how to survive a nuclear attack – which is something quite special). My most abiding memory of Nick's lecturing is his Heston Blumenthal-like demonstration of irradiating a steak with gamma rays and then cooking it and eating it in front of an audience of pupils and teachers. What a show!

And Nick is a showman. What always amazes me is how he combines his academic commitments with directing and producing

plays and science shows. His outstanding production of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* as a school play in 1998 highlighted the resonances the story has for conformist and non-conformist pupils in a boarding school; and he has also put on other major works, such as Molière's *The Misanthrope* and Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. More recently, Nick has put on plays in the Arts Festival, using the Science schools as a venue for a number of science-themed productions, including Michael Frayn's *Copenhagen* and his own *Darwin on Trial*, written to celebrate last year's Darwin centenary.

Nick has been tireless in his efforts in promoting science to Rugbeians, maintained schools and local science groups during his time here, both as a teacher and, since 1998, as Head of Science. The new Science Schools, with its stunning central atrium, teacher administration area and state of the art lecture theatres, laboratories and seminar rooms, which was completed last year under Nick's auspices, is a fine testament to his promotion of Science as a subject here. We wish him well in his new role as Deputy Head (Academic) at Truro School. Some still think that his move to Cornwall is just an excuse to investigate the radon gas there; others think he is doing it simply to investigate Newtonian physics by strapping a cylinder of carbon dioxide to the back a go-kart to see if it can propel the Fisher family all the way to the South West; everyone knows Rugby's huge loss is Truro's gain.

AGD

Jonathan Norris

Jonathan Norris arrived at Rugby fresh from teacher training following a period in Sri Lanka, where he had first tried his hand in the classroom. His decision to pursue a career in teaching has benefitted Rugby School enormously, and we have been delighted that he has spent his first five years of teaching here. He has brought to the classroom a sure knowledge of his subject (as one would expect from a Cambridge graduate) and an exceptional ability to communicate with the pupils at all levels. His command of ICT, including the Promethean whiteboard, has put interactivity at the heart of his lessons and also made him a 'Promethean guru' to the staff, especially on ICT-based INSET days. Jonathan's enthusiasm for his subject put him at the forefront of the development of a Chemistry Extended Project qualification and he is often found 'out of hours' in the new Chemistry Projects Laboratory.

Jonathan has also done a lot outside the classroom. His good sporting ability is due to his strength and athleticism, characteristics that might be difficult to spot when observing his distinctive gait around the campus. His right-footed thunderbolt will be long remembered amongst the staff 5-a-side regulars, as will his powerful drives from half a metre in touch rugby sessions. Jonathan brought the perfect approach to the occasionally difficult U16C rugby side, but his greatest success was with his first passion, soccer: several excellent U15A sides will testify to his enthusiasm, skill and firm tackling. Jonathan also made a huge contribution on Thursday

afternoons, first with his work on First Schools (including the organisation of First Schools' Day) and latterly as a member of the CCF. Add to all this his first-rate tutoring in Sheriff and you start to get an inkling of the contribution that Jonathan has made over the last five years.

There is no doubt that Jonathan has also gained from being at Rugby. He has matured and developed rapidly, not least in terms of his choice of coaching gear! It was inevitable that he would move to become a head of department. Finding a young Chemistry teacher with such an eye for detail and such an extensive knowledge of the subject would be difficult enough; add to this excellent classroom control and all-round contribution to school life and it would hard to find someone better than Jonathan. During Jonathan's five years here he has married Naomi and they are soon to start a family. As they move on to Gresham's, Jonathan will relish running his own department and we wish both of them every happiness for the next stage of their lives.

TMW

Molly Tollit

Five years ago I found a letter in my pigeon hole from the wife of the new Deputy Head at Bilton Grange. A classicist who had taught in senior and preparatory schools, Molly Tollit was simply wondering if anyone needed an extra hour or two of Latin in the evening. Little did I realise then that Molly was actually an entire Classics department rolled up in one person and she was soon signed up for as many periods as she could cram into her already busy life. Equally at home with Latin, Greek or Classical Civilisation, and willing to teach any year group or ability, Molly is a godsend for any head of department. Molly has run trips, organised resources, put up displays, sorted out visiting speakers, masterminded pupil presentations, hosted pupils and staff for barbeques and dinners; in short, she has shamed us all with her efficiency, energy and enthusiasm. Most important of all, she has been a demanding, but kindly teacher to Oxbridge classicists, nervous beginners and everyone else in between. She will be greatly missed, but it is good to know that she is still around if anyone needs an extra hour or two of Latin in the evening.

HWP

Max Pappenheim

Max Pappenheim arrived at Rugby three years ago and immediately gained something of a cult following: there is a generation of Rugbeian classicists who will always very fondly remember their deponent verbs with a 'ding-a-ling-ling' because of Max's 'deponent verbs symbols', which he chimes whenever such a verb appears in a text. Max is, of course, an absolute genius, so much so that the rest of the Classics Department unashamedly tell pupils that they will 'just pop over and ask Mr Pappenheim' when they

are unsure of anything. Max is modest about his intellect, though, and exceedingly patient with those less intellectually titanic than he is; indeed, he has only ever lost his patience once, but that was spectacular – we'll leave it at that

Max does seem to be on a different planet from the rest of us a lot of the time. He is often to be seen running down the road to school, late, tie undone, papers flying, and it takes regular reminders to get him to turn up to departmental meetings. On trips, perhaps unsurprisingly, Max is always the last person to turn up to breakfast or the first to wander off from the rest of his party. But he always makes up for such things by expertly leading us all away from the tourist track to visit some little-known sight or some backstreet bar for some serious limoncello drinking or by coming up with witticisms and what I still think is the best insult I've ever heard: 'O you Laestrygonians!' Similarly, Max always ends up working right up until the deadline (I've lost count of the number of emails I've received from him at 2.30am), but what he produces is the kind of thing that would take the rest of us weeks of slogging. He is certainly the only person who could write a textbook for teaching in September that we only jokingly discussed in March!

Max was keen(ish) to play a role in the sporting life of the school and, in between taking hockey, he has found his calling in rounders, where the girls made caps and badges for their 'star coach'. Max has also been a caring and attentive tutor in Griffin for two years and, this year, in Michell. Max could always be persuaded to sing along with Anne Naylor at every Griffin music event and he will certainly be missed by all the Griffin musicians as a cheerful and reliable piano accompanist. Max's musical talents are prodigious so it was no surprise that he was straight away snapped up by the Music Department here to play the organ in Chapel and with whom he has directed numerous concerts and, in 2008, the school musical, *Sweeney Todd*. Max has also directed a host of dramas, including Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia* as the school play this year and Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex* in this year's Arts Festival. To say that Max is talented simply does not do him justice; sadly for us, he is just too talented to stay here. Max leaves Rugby to pursue a career in the theatre. We all wish him well for a happy future.

CLH

Charline Fournier

Charline Fournier started at Rugby two years ago as a language assistant, having already worked elsewhere in the UK as a classroom teacher before moving back to France for some time. It immediately became clear that she had a great deal to offer Modern Languages here and so was the obvious choice to fill a teaching post in the Department when one arose this year. Charline's teaching of French and Spanish has been exemplary. She is very hard-working, spending long hours preparing innovative work for her classes, and has proved to be an excellent colleague, always willing to join in and to adapt to any situation. Charline has also been very generous

with her time in the school generally, not least in her willingness to take part in overseas trips, and many pupils in School Field and Stanley have cause to be grateful to her, as do those on the receiving end of her notorious basketball skills.

Charline will be much missed in the School and we wish her all good luck for the future in her new post as a teacher of French and Spanish at Gray's Convent High School in Essex.

JMJ & ACL

Jon Hind

It seems that no sooner has Jon arrived as Second in the Mathematics Department here than he is leaving to lead his own department, back in his beloved Big Smoke. His sojourn in provincial life has been brief but definitely not unremarkable. His pupils, for example, will no doubt be forever grateful to him for his unstinting belief in stretching them beyond their elastic limit and his tutees in Whitelaw have the good fortune to have benefited from his unique brand of careful tutoring.

Moreover, Jon's unorthodox approach to fencing has been much admired by pupils and staff alike, and his considerable contribution to the coaching of polo has been hugely appreciated by the participants and colleagues, all of whom have marvelled at his riding style. And who will forget Jon's wardrobe? A keen exponent of rugged individualism, Jon's choice of summer attire – and particularly head gear – has always emphasised his propensity to stand out from the crowd. In addition to all of these things, rumour has it that he can also do sums, and some very hard sums indeed.

As Jon prepares to face the challenges of managing his own team of mathematicians, we know that his experiences here – and within the Mathematics Department in particular – have provided him with a solid foundation from which to progress to his new position. We all wish Jon every success and happiness in his new role and in his future career.

PPJ

Tamsin Summers

It has been fantastic having Tamsin Summers working as a textile specialist in the Art Department for the last two years. She has made such a difference to the Creative Arts Circus. With a firm, experienced grip on the subject and with a number of exciting ideas for projects, Tamsin has had her groups dyeing, sewing, sculpting and printing with rich colours and lovely fabrics. She was really dropped in at the deep end when she first came to teach textiles to the F Block, but she quite quickly established a hard-working, creative environment where her pupils felt comfortable and confident with unfamiliar techniques and methods; and it was a delight to see such excellent textile work being made. Tamsin has

been a real asset to the Department and, whilst we will obviously miss her, we wish her and Nick every success at their new school.

MH

Oli Serginson

This year, the School welcomed another one year contracted Graduate Teaching Assistant, Oli Serginson, who has divided his time here between the English and Games departments and who has also been attached to Sheriff.

Oli has been excellent value in the Games Department. All the pupils who have come into contact with him have appreciated his help in the coaching of a number of different sports. The Department certainly wishes it could have kept him for longer than just this year, as of course does the English Department, where Oli has been an enthusiastic, inventive and enterprising teacher with a lot of understanding and sympathy for pupils at all levels of enchantment with the subject. Oli's passion for English is obvious and he communicates his literary interests with generosity, humour and a no-nonsense understanding of human fallibility (born, probably, of his hair-raising experiences as Head Boy of Trinity School, Croydon, where he regularly had to defend younger pupils against attack from hostile locals on the more dangerous bus routes!). Oli has also worked hard in Sheriff, where he has built strong and profitable relationships with the boys without ever losing sight of his position as a member of staff. Fridays in the house have been hugely enhanced by his friendly and down-to-earth approach to being on duty. We wish him the very best with all that lies ahead.

SJB & AF & HWP

Vicky Castillo, Justine Robillard, Tanja Schüttler

The Modern Languages Department has benefited this year from the company of three very able language assistants. Vicky (from Ecuador) Justine (from France) and Tanja (from Germany) have contributed greatly to our pupils' speaking and studying of Spanish, French and German. They have all made notable progress with their English and have immersed themselves in various aspects of Rugby School life, whether cooking on Thursday afternoons or helping with Marshall Art classes. Our pupils have cause to be grateful to them for their help, as do their colleagues in the Modern Languages Department. We wish them well.

JMJ

Michael Mavor: Head Master

Michael Mavor, Head Master, was born on January 29, 1947. He died on December 8, 2009, aged 62

Michael Mavor was one of the most successful reforming headmasters of his era. He led three good schools and left them all in significantly better condition than when he took them on, raising their academic standards, fitting them for the 21st century, and ensuring that they responded to the demands of modern society.

His most significant achievement, in the view of Sir Eric Anderson, former Head Master Provost of Eton, "was to transform Rugby, the most manly of boys' schools, into a strikingly successful co-educational school. What I liked about him was his quiet modesty and the way in which, through all the trials and tribulations of administration, he remained a real schoolmaster. No one ever doubted that his pupils and his colleagues mattered most to him."

At Gordonstoun, where the Duke of York and the Earl of Wessex were among his pupils, he became headmaster at the age of only 31 — two years younger than Dr Arnold when he took over Rugby. The appointment was described by one of the governors as "the best we ever made". He worked with the legacy of practical idealism laid down by Gordonstoun's founder, Kurt Hahn, while greatly improving the academic culture of the school and enhancing its tradition of service to the community.

The most unstuffy of heads, he once astonished the pupils at Rugby by skateboarding down the aisle of the school chapel, and while at Loretto Academy he demonstrated the need for pinpoint accuracy (and his own sporting skills) by driving a golf ball straight down the centre of the chapel. He regularly turned out in rugby kit to help with coaching, directed school plays, played the bagpipes, and learnt to become an expert salmon fisherman.

As governor of 14 schools in all, he became a significant influence on the development of the public school system in Britain, insisting that, as well as raising academic standards, they must have a true vision of their role within the wider education context, staying closely in touch with modern developments and involving as broad a section of society as possible.

•••••

Michael Barclay Mavor was born in 1947 in Malaya, where his father, William Ferrier Mavor, and his mother, Sheena Barclay, had begun their married life. Ferrier Mavor had been posted there by the British and Commonwealth Office. When war broke out he joined the Intelligence Corps, and was captured when Singapore was surrendered to the Japanese in February 1942. He



spent the remainder of the war in the notorious Changi prisoner of war camp, where his weight dropped to 6½ stone; at one point his life was saved by an Australian doctor who removed his appendix without anaesthetic. When he emerged from the camp, he was still suffering from the ravages of amoebic dysentery. Nevertheless, within two years he was back in post in Malaya, where Michael Mavor and his elder brother Ian spent their early years, before the family returned to Edinburgh in 1951. Mavor regarded his father as a role model all his life, quoting their favourite philosopher, Marcus Aurelius, who said he had inherited "from the reputation and remembrance of my father, modesty and a manly character".

At school, Mavor was a glittering pupil, but not always a predictable one. He ran away from Loretto "Nippers" — the preparatory school — because he said that he was bored. An imaginative headmaster promoted him to be head boy. He went on to become Head of School at Loretto itself, was captain of cricket, hockey and golf, played in the first team at rugby and tennis, edited the school magazine, and was pipe-major of the school band.

At St John's College, Cambridge, he was Trevelyan Scholar and Exhibitioner in English; he also played rugby for the university, but he narrowly missed his Blue. It was at Cambridge, too, that he met his future wife, Elizabeth. From Cambridge he went to the United States, where he was Woodrow Wilson Fellow at Northwestern University, Illinois, from 1969 to 1972.

His first job on his return to Britain was as an English teacher at Tonbridge School in Kent, where he also organised General Studies, coached rugby and cricket, produced plays and edited the school magazine. One colleague said: "None of us could ever work out how he managed to find time to do all he did."

Given his achievements and Scottish background, it was not perhaps surprising that he was recruited, in 1979, to take on the headmastership of Gordonstoun. Although young for the job, one of those who interviewed him said: "He swept us away at the interview." The school that Mavor inherited was still the rugged outdoor place where the Prince of Wales had famously been so unhappy, and although he did not seek to change the ethic of practical idealism laid down by Kurt Hahn in the 1930s, Mavor took steps to improve its academic standards, soften its image, and cement its relations with the local community. The school has its own fire station and mans a coastguard station on the Moray Firth as well as teaching and practising mountain rescue and seamanship.

After 11 years at Gordonstoun, Mavor was appointed Head Master of Rugby School, where pupil numbers, and the school's reputation, were in decline. One of the great boarding schools of England seemed in danger of slipping from its position among the elite. With remarkable speed, Mavor took the decision that it must become co-educational.

Against determined opposition, he succeeded in winning over a strong minority of teaching staff and pupils. He handled dissent with humour and reasoned argument. Having won the argument, he initiated a complete refurbishment of boarding houses for boys as well as girls, on the principle that the girls must have the best possible accommodation, but the boys should be equally well-treated. The programme of rebuilding that modernised the school continued well into the last decade. A colleague at the time commented: "He had a vision for the school which he carried out with great determination, but he also knew the importance of the little things, for instance that the atmosphere is different if shoes are cleaned and shirts tucked in, and he went on bothering about them."

In 2000, after 11 years in which he helped to restore the fortunes and reputation of Rugby, he returned to his home town of Edinburgh and his own old school. He was headmaster of Loretto until he retired in 2008. Again, he

succeeded in raising academic standards, but he also founded the first golf academy in a British school, giving the chance of a good education and intensive tuition in the sport to promising young golfers.

In 1983 he was appointed Commander of the Royal Victorian Order. He also became a member of the Royal Company of Archers, the Queen's bodyguard in Scotland. He took archery seriously and won the famous Musselburgh Arrow in 2007. In 1997 he was elected by his fellow heads that year's chairman of the Headmasters' Conference. He was also chairman for four years of The Oxford Conference in Education.

Michael Mavor will be remembered as a great communicator and a brilliant speaker, who was at his ease with governors, educationalists, pupils and parents alike. He died of a heart attack while on a family visit in Peru. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth, a son and a daughter.

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Service & Public Benefit

Rugby School Partnership with Future Hope

One of the many distinctive features of Rugby is its long-established commitment to service and public benefit activity. Interestingly, Rugby School was a pioneer in mission work with an "overseas mission" being established in India in 1848. This was in honour of Henry Watson-Fox who had been a pupil at Rugby (1831 –1836) under Dr Arnold. After Fox's death, subscriptions were raised by his friends at Rugby and elsewhere to pay the salary of the Rugby Fox Master at Noble High School, a Church Missionary School and the first Christian school in South India, where Fox worked and died. The "home mission", better known as The Rugby Clubs, was founded in 1894 by an Old Rugbeian, Arthur Walrond. Rugby School became involved in 1889 when the Head Master, Dr Percival, decided the school should take part in some form of social work in one of the big cities. It was Dr Percival's casting vote that led to Arthur Walrond's club in Notting Dale being chosen. Our links with The Rugby Clubs continues to this day.

In the 1960s Rugby was one of the pioneers in developing social service as an alternative to the CCF. The work we continue to do today in our Thursday afternoon activities and in our partnership and community work is a key part of Rugby School life. Underpinning it is a recognition of the importance of service in revealing a wider world and reminding us that without the capacity to serve others our education counts for very little indeed.

Rugby has had many opportunities to franchise its name for a fee to overseas educational ventures but we have always said no. In March 2010, though, we announced a formal partnership between Rugby School and Future Hope School in Kolkata in India. This is radically different from what other schools have done and we are delighted, as a community, to have the opportunity to provide educational support to Future Hope School on a charitable basis. Future Hope was started by an Old Rugbeian, Tim Grandage, in the late 1980s. It is a charity that gives street children a loving and secure home, medical care and an education. The charitable school, for pupils aged 5 -19, provides an outstanding all-round education (based on Rugby School's approach) to orphaned and abandoned street children and to children from the Kolkata slums. Since it was founded, Future Hope has helped transform the lives of some 500 children and its central belief in the redemptive power of education is something that has been part of Rugby's DNA since 1567. We have had informal links with Future Hope for several years now and we had a sponsored walk for Future Hope in September 2007 which raised just under £100,000. Our formal partnership means that from now on we will be advising Future Hope on teaching, curriculum, professional development and governance and management. This promises to be an exciting partnership with considerable benefits for both parties.

PSJD



Future Hope, September 2009

"Alison Aunty, you give me sticker now?", Bijoy said at least twenty times a day. I had naïvely thought that the smiley faced stickers I had taken over to Kolkata with me would be a good reward for excellent work – the trouble was that the children wanted one after every sentence they had written! When I realised that Bijoy had helped himself to them one day and had planted 14 on one page of simple Maths I decided that perhaps they weren't such a good idea after all!

Bijoy was one of thirteen pupils in Future Hope's 'Fast Track', a group of children ranging in age from 10 to 19 that have 'special needs' of one sort or another. To say that my teaching skills were stretched is an understatement. One boy spoke very little English, two were severely dyslexic and many had complex psychological difficulties. Armed with a small piece of chalk and a black board, I attempted to do what their dedicated teachers do every day – never have my groaning bookshelves of fantastic resources seemed the luxury they are. What bonded the group was a ferocious desire to learn, a realisation of how lucky they were and a sense of humour and generosity of spirit that underpinned everything they did. On my last morning there – knowing that I particularly loved one Bengali song I had heard Ramesh, a senior student, sing at his home (one of five dotted around Kolkata) – one of the younger pupils sneaked out of the class and went to fetch him from his lesson in order to sing it to me again. A beautiful solo, with the rest of the class using desks as percussion and joining in the chorus, ensued; and puzzled looks followed when they saw I was in tears!

Patrick and I return in July for two and a half weeks – Patrick will teach some History classes; I will be up with Fast Track again, perhaps armed with a few more resources this time but also knowing that teaching will never be more rewarding than this.

Alison Derham



Investiture of David Ray, MBE

On a beautiful April Tuesday this year, I joined David Ray and his other guests, Rose Piercey (leader of the Bradby Club) and Mark Taylor (Old Guard), at King Henry VIII's Gate, Windsor Castle, for David's investiture as a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

David had been nominated by Mark, Rose, myself and a number of others in recognition of his notable public service to the game of Rugby football and to young people in Warwickshire, as well as for his outstanding contribution to his work as a teacher and the community generally. This process, from nomination to investiture, had taken over two years and was processed by the Cabinet Office in Whitehall. About twenty-five investitures are held each year, mostly at Buckingham Palace, but also at Windsor Castle and and the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

David's investiture was conducted by the Queen in the magnificent Waterloo Chamber at Windsor. We assembled at about 10.30am and were entertained by an orchestra from the bands of the Household Cavalry. At 11am exactly the Queen entered, attended by two Gurkha orderly officers and a detachment of the Queen's Bodyguard of the Yeomen of the Guard. First two knighthoods, which the Queen bestowed using a sword which King George VI used when serving in the Scots Guards, then to other awards. The Queen was briefed on the recipients by an aide and spoke for about 30 seconds to each before the offer of her hand indicated that time was up. The Queen confirmed with



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David that he had taught at Rugby School, and then, "Is that where the game started? A very rough game, I think!"

With the investiture over we were able to wander through the wonderful state rooms before meeting the official photographer, who found our party quite hard work; we were not quite sure what she meant by "sexy feet please"! Then lunch at The Castle Hotel and off home.

Overall, it was a memorable day of magnificent British pomp and ceremony for a most deserving friend.

HGSB

First Schools' Day

On a chilly, sunny morning at the beginning of March, the whoops and shouts of over 240 excited youngsters participating in the annual First Schools' Day event rang around the School campus. To begin the day, the Rugby students invited our visitors to take part in a quiz which involved an exploration of several sites on and around the Close. Thereafter, the pupils were taken off to participate in a number of activities ranging from drama to sport, IT to science experiments. Break and lunch in the boarding houses for the young people and their teachers completed the morning's programme. Immediately after lunch the visitors enjoyed a music concert that featured a number of primary pupils from Rokeby Junior School who have been coming to Rugby each Thursday to learn to play the recorder. This was followed by a prize-giving ceremony. The final activity: a fun run the length of the main rugby pitch. With some regret we said our goodbyes as the pupils were escorted back to their schools by coach. As ever, we very much enjoyed hosting our visitors and we are already looking forward to a re-run in March 2011.

AJN



Service & Public Benefit

The Rugby Portobello Trust and The Bradby Youth Club

This year has been a busy and eventful one for both the Rugby Portobello Trust in London and the Bradby Youth Club in Rugby. The Rugby Portobello Trust in North Kensington is a youth, education and housing charity originally founded by Rugby School over a century ago. It enables disadvantaged young people from the ages of 5 to 25 to make the very best of their lives. In July 2009 the RPT concluded a successful merger with the social inclusion charity P3, which brought about many positive changes and improvements to the Trust's provisions, including the refurbishment of new housing facilities for homeless young people. The Trust has a long and fruitful relationship with Rugby School, with many Rugbeians providing financial support for the charity through fundraising events and various acts of sponsorship; and it is hoped that this will continue. In April this year, Mark Simms, Deputy Chief Executive of P3, spoke in Chapel to raise pupils' awareness of the Trust and to encourage those interested in volunteering during a holiday or gap year to make contact and get involved. Two representatives from the RPT attended the Higher Education and Gap Fair on Speech Day with further information about the possibilities available for volunteer work, and this elicited considerable interest. On 19th June the School will again host the annual visit to School House and Rugby town of the 'Club Mums'.

The Bradby Youth Club on East Union Street in Rugby has this year seen regular evening visits by four members of the XX: Kane Maunder, Sophie Raichura, Emily Offord and Bill Cowderoy. Rose Piercey, the Club's Youth Leader, reports that these pupils have done an excellent job, particularly Kane Maunder who was also previously a member, and as a Senior Leader was proud to represent the School at the Mayor's Parlour. Kane and Bill wrote the following about their experience this year: "Volunteering at The Bradby Club for a Thursday afternoon activity was a decision I do not regret. Each week other pupils and I attended the club from 7.30pm till 8.30pm on a night of our preference. Children from the local area attend the club and take part in a range of activities, which we also take part in and sometimes organise. There is a range of activities which we do, including cooking, a variety of sports, arts and crafts, and there is also a gym which we can use. It has been a worthwhile and truly enjoyable experience this past year and I would recommend it to



anyone looking for a Thursday afternoon activity. Every week there is something different going on, with a diverse range of members from all ages and backgrounds; there are always new people to meet, making evenings there a unique experience and more importantly fun, too."

Visiting the Bradby Club is part of the School's Thursday afternoon social service programme, even though the activity is carried out on Monday to Thursday evenings. In the words of David Ray, former Chairman of the Bradby Club Management Committee: 'Bradby is one of those institutions that enable members of the school community and town to meet, socialise and cultivate friendships. Furthermore, it offers future adults of Rugby a chance to sample a number of challenging activities in a safe and relaxed atmosphere. Membership has never been higher and opportunities have never been more varied. A satisfying by-product is that it enables Rugby pupils to complete an important element of their Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award. The links are further enhanced with Rugbeians, staff past and present and parents represented on the Management Committee.' The School regularly hosts successful fundraising



events to support the Club, most notably the annual Rokeby Garden Party, Leavers' Ball Raffle and quiz nights. To celebrate the Club's 90th Anniversary this year, HRH The Duke of Kent visited the Club on 29 April and unveiled a commemorative plaque to mark the occasion. The visit was a huge success and the Duke was highly impressed with the wide range of projects and activities in which the young people are involved. This year sees the retirement in June of Rose Piercey after 19 years of outstanding service to the Club as Youth Leader. It is thanks to Rose's excellent leadership that the Club has risen in status to its current position, with nearly 600 members, and has achieved success in so many fields, including receiving the Queen's Golden Jubilee Award and a Club of the Year award. A further

significant moment this year was the investiture as MBE of David Ray at Windsor Castle in April (see page 9), in recognition of his long years of public service and commitment to the game of Rugby football, to the Bradby Club and to young people in Warwickshire.



Rugby School CCF: 150th Anniversary



The formation of the CCF

Rugby School has a long and proud tradition of service in the country's armed forces, as this year's *Meteor* cover photographs attempt to illustrate.

The earliest records of a volunteer corps at the School dates back to the early 1800s. Its creation owed something, no doubt, to the School's experience of home-grown revolution in 1797 and to the fear in the country at large of a French invasion after the events in Paris of 1789. Rugby added its contingent to the Town Corps, creating a large company of well-equipped and well-marshaled volunteers. They dressed in a uniform of blue coats with scarlet collars and cuffs, and armed themselves with heavy wooden broadswords. Although little else is known of these early years, the company drilled in the area now occupied by the Little Church Street car park. It was not until the 1850s, with renewed threats from France, that the War Office sent out a letter on the 12 May 1859 to the Lords-Lieutenant of the counties, authorising the formation of a single Volunteer Corps.

After a discussion amongst the masters (where the general opinion was against the creation of such a corps), Head Master Frederick Temple, with his usual determination, said: 'Then we will try it'. On the 9 May 1860, Temple announced in OBS that the Rugby School Rifle Corps was to be formed.

The regulations stated that the charge for drilling 'and other current expenses' would be ten shillings each half year, and that the following year each member would be required to purchase 'a musket and bayonet, a belt and some simple uniform', which should cost no more than thirty shillings. Any arms which were bought would be under the custody of an officer appointed by the Head Master. All members had to be over 16 years old and above five feet and four inches in height, and have written permission from home. There would be six drills each week, each lasting half an hour, out of which each member had to attend three.

Whilst at first the School's corps may have been seen as little more than a rifle club, the Volunteer Act of 1863 stated that the sovereign might call out these volunteers to be bound to active service in Great Britain 'until released by Proclamation'. In effect the boys were agreeing to be called up to active service in battle. By 1868 it became an 'enrolled corps', commanded by a master holding a commission; more and more boys volunteered to join.

In 1871 control of the corps passed from the Lord Lieutenant to the War Office, although little changed until 1908. In a letter from the War Office in that year they accepted the incorporation of the Rugby School Cadet Corps into the Junior Division Officers' Training Corps, and the Rugby School O.T.C. was formed.

Rusty MacLean

Activities

CCF Inspection

The year 2010 marks the 150th anniversary of the cadet movement in the United Kingdom. For this reason, the Rugby School CCF inspection this year was of extra importance and all displays took place on the Close. We were very fortunate to have Brigadier Tim Radford as the inspecting officer, a distinguished figure in the British Army and also an OR. The inspection commenced with the traditional parade and march past with Brigadier Radford being invited by Tom Wiegman to inspect all the cadets. Brigadier Radford made his way along the inspection line, talking to a number of the cadets, after which he returned to the dias from where he watched the march past. The march past was accompanied by the concert band playing *Floreat Rugbeia*. The parade then carried out the Advance in Review order and marched off to the James Pavilion for photographs.

Various demonstrations then began. These were conducted by members of the CCF and 2AA. These included a demonstration of sentries at an observation post, fencing, RAF command tasks, abseiling from the Chapel and rifle shooting in the range. The demonstrations finished with a rifle drill display from the Royal Marines section, which was highly commended by Brigadier Radford. These displays were followed by a final scenario. Firstly, the RAF section simulated setting up a helicopter landing zone. This was then followed by an ambush and a platoon attack by the Army and then the Royal Marines sections, who conducted a casualty evacuation under fire of a downed pilot. The scenario was explained to the spectators by Tom Wiegman over a PA system. This was followed by the speeches and awards presentation in the Macready Theatre. Brigadier Radford spoke about his time in Afghanistan as Commander of Task Force Helmand and also commented on how the CCF had improved since his time at Rugby.

There were presentations for the most promising and best cadets in the CCF. Tom Wiegman was awarded the Honourable Artillery Company Sword and Ed Pointon was awarded the Rugby School Sword of Honour. After the presentations, all the NCO's joined the officers and Brigadier Radford in the Sports Centre Café for a curry dinner.

Ed Pointon





Activities

Royal Marines

The start of the year for the Royal Marines section is always marked by our focus on the Pringle Trophy Competition at the Royal Marines Commando Training Centre. This year's competition was intense, as always, but our efforts paid off with a faultless performance on the drill square, impressively led by Cadet Sergeant Ed Pointon, rightly earning us the much coveted Drill Trophy.

The first Activities' Day of the year saw the cadets on a navigation exercise in the Peak District, where route planning and navigation offered rather more challenges than on Springhill. In March, the cadets had the opportunity to put their training into practice at a military exercise area, where they developed leadership skills, conducted patrols, and planned and carried out ambushes and section attacks. In Rugby, all of the Royal Marine cadets were put to the test on the range, with many proving to be first class riflemen and deservedly gaining their badges for this.

For this year's inspection of the CCF by Brigadier Tim Radford the Royal Marines section put on a weapons drill display, showing great discipline and skill, much to the admiration of those observing. Courage, determination, unselfishness, and cheerfulness in the face of adversity. Do you have what it takes?

AMM

Combined Cadet Force

This has been a good year for the CCF, with many new people in the E-block starting well and those in the D-block progressing through the ranks. We have had a very active year, with leadership tasks on the Close and inter-section competitions on Springhill. Many members of the CCF have also been striving for their Army Proficiency Certificate, which took place over a series of assessed weeks on the assault course and on the ranges, and which is highly regarded across the country.

For the activity weekend we went away to Gamecock Barracks where we practised using the DCCT (basically a giant Playstation!) and worked in our sections for the first time. We performed close range reconnaissance, ambushing and section attacks, and spent two nights under bashers. The junior cadets also learnt how to use the DCCT and were taught basic harbour building and command tasks. This has proved to be a very successful year and we hope to have much more success in the years to come.

Ben Wiegman

The CCF In My Time

Trying to condense thirty years into three hundred words has proved an interesting exercise. Your correspondent was commissioned in 1978 as a bemused and ignorant Second Lieutenant and retired in 2008 as a marginally less bemused and less ignorant Lieutenant Colonel. In the late 1970s changes were evident, both within and outside the CCF. Camps in exotic locations started to dry up as the Armed Forces became further stretched, interest in the Royal Naval section fell away and we found it more and more difficult to send a shooting VIII to Bisley. The outdoor range at Brownover was sold for housing and we lost the luxury of a visiting band or corps of drums on Inspection Day. However it wasn't all doom and gloom. Our splendid School band became a fixture at inspections and a Royal Marines section was formed, which rapidly became a very popular E block choice.

We began to enter brigade competitions and to attend central camps. Female cadets were admitted to all sections and proved high achievers. The quality of officers became the envy of most other contingents: several had already served with distinction in the Armed Forces and eleven moved onto headships over the three decades. The number of cadets attending courses – ranging from gliding to six weeks in the Rockies with the Canadian Army – steadily rose and we cultivated an increased involvement on Remembrance Sunday.

Such changes were underscored with continuity. A steady flow of cadets joining the services was maintained. Three regimental sergeant majors since 1968 and three commanding officers since 1977 can only be matched by a few contingents. A full Thursday afternoon of activities and a full inspection every year is most uncommon. We have been privileged to host generals, air marshals, submariner captains and the Royal Marine commandant. The evocative armoury, full of memories and memorabilia, continues to be the heart of CCF life.

So why a CCF in the 21st-century? Not everyone can be in the XV, achieve an Oxbridge place or a lead in the School play. The CCF offers something different. There are still some who believe young people need genuine challenges, both mental and physical, a chance to lead and opportunities to work in a team on everything from camouflage and concealment to command tasks. It's rewarding to see teenagers gaining in confidence and competence whilst taking a pride in appearance and bearing.

David Ray



Pushcart Race 2009

If I were a betting man, I would suggest that one of the safest bets is for fine weather on the day of the pushcart race. There has yet to be a race affected by rain or snow. Is it the fact that the Close has a true all-weather surface, or is it more probable that fortune favours the bold? Those intrepid push-carters who brave the event put so much on the line, whether it be their muscle power and running ability or their brain power and engineering skills. They risk ridicule if it goes wrong. Get it right, however, and glory is theirs. Hours, days and weeks can be spent designing, building and tweaking the machines that need to survive for only a few minutes. Costumes and make up that take longer to apply than the duration of the race can go to waste in the moment of a puncture or a buckled wheel.

So why do they do it? Look to this year's winners: dark horses looking to break the lengthy dominance of School House and School Field with a machine concocted from junk, built in a shed and propelled by a team lacking pedigree. However, the writing was on the wall from the start. Each lap got quicker and quicker, the lead bigger and bigger, as the underdog Whitelaw boys raced to ultimate victory. School House, the dejected and depleted former champions, despaired as their favourite silverware was ceremoniously passed to their conquerors in view of their own front doors. Rarely has there been such a show of unbridled passion and joy as the Whitelaw boys took their prize.

While the partying began, so did the plans for next year: scores to be settled, lessons to be learnt, machines to be built. The pushcart race is not just about the spoils of victory, but also about the journey: house bonding as those who can build, build; those who style, style; and those who can push fast, push fast. A role for everybody and even if competing for prizes is beyond all houses every year, there is something about the atmosphere and the event that brings out the best spirit in the houses. Early starters this year showed well and stayed in contention until the final pairings, with Michell holding on to fourth place with their decent time. Dean rolled out a new machine and a new energy, and went so close to holding off the challengers that followed. The certainty of good weather is matched by the certainty of an appeal: were Bradley right to have male tutors pushing? Did this weigh too heavily in their favour? Will the rules be discussed? Will changes be made? What, indeed, will 2010 bring?

PAB



Activities



Rugby Parliament

With all three major political parties summoning their supporters at their respective party conferences, there is never a better time for the Rugby School Parliament to resume. This meeting's debate, proposed by the opposition parties, was titled: "This House believes that the stewardship of the British economy is not safe in the Government's hands". It saw James Kew as David Cameron and Harriet Manson as George Osborne supporting the statement. For the opposition were Abi Barber as Gordon Brown and Georgia Archer-Clowes as David Miliband; both had the unenviable task of defending the New Labour government that has been in power since 1997.

After a series of speeches from the party leaders of either side, followed by the supporting statements from respective cabinet members, (Mr Teeton), the Speaker of the House, opened the debate to questions and statements from the floor (consisting of 65 budding Politics students and others with interests in the field) before proceeding with the voting. In true Commons style, those supporting the opposition exited OBS through one door to be counted; those in favour of Labour exited through the other. The final result was 52 to the opposition, 13 to Labour. The night was an all-round success, even receiving praise from members of the English Department, and I am sure that I am one amongst the many who are looking forward to the next meet of the Rugby School Parliament.

Abi Barber

Extreme Physics at Rugby School

Nearly 100 Year 10 pupils (aged between 14-15) from 24 schools across the Midlands attended residential courses at Rugby School during the Easter vacation. They were presented with a variety of individual and team challenges (including a dragster race and parachute drops) and were also taken on a visit to experience sky diving in a wind tunnel and to go rock climbing. Lectures on Physics topics attended by the pupils included 'Low Temperature Physics with Liquid Nitrogen', 'How to Survive a Nuclear Attack' and 'Ballistics'. Alongside these events teachers attended sessions aimed at enabling them to make Physics more entertaining in the classroom.

The event was organized by the School's Physics Department and the Institute of Physics, and was made possible by the very generous sponsorship of the Ogden Trust and an OR, minimizing the cost of the courses to the schools and pupils involved.

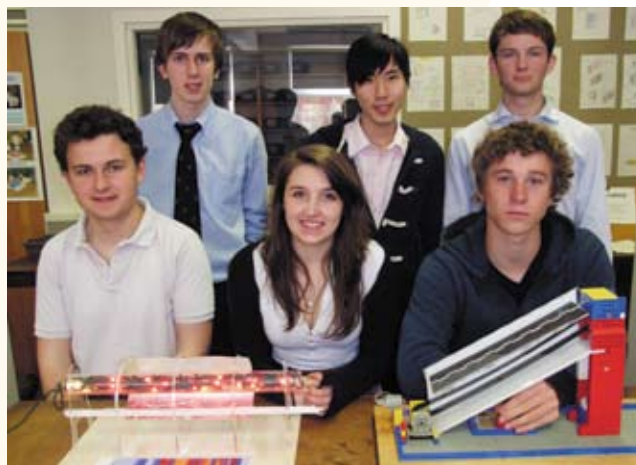
NAF

Engineering Education Scheme

This year we had six pupils working as a team on a real engineering problem for six months in conjunction with Cemex (formerly Rugby Cement). The brief was to explore ways to recover some of the wasted energy at the plant. Following a site visit, we explored three possible areas where heat energy might be recovered. Using information from the company engineers, and individual research, the teams developed two viable systems and built models to demonstrate the concepts.

The team have worked well, and the final report is an impressive document, useful for university interviews as well as the Cemex plant! They are due to present their report and solutions alongside about 50 other schools at the midlands EES presentation day in Solihull in May.

CMR



Senior Maths Challenge

One hundred eager members of the XX and LXX crowded into OBS one day in November to face the Senior Maths Challenge, an hour and a half of intense mathematical puzzles. One hundred pencils scratched away as the students attempted to decipher the problems with admirable concentration etched onto their faces. The difficulty of the questions increased towards the end of the paper, as too did the tension in OBS as the time limit loomed. Moments of inspiration had many pupils satisfied, but all agreed that the hour and a half had gone far too quickly.

Isobel Ormiston



Rugby School Careers Convention

The Careers Convention certainly delivered its promise to inform and inspire. The day brought together 70 speakers from a broad range of occupational backgrounds, each of whom spoke about a day in their working life. Talking frankly about the world of work, the speakers provided an insight into what lies behind the professional title, and offered advice on how to develop life plans and succeed in a competitive employment market.

The day opened with a key note address on 'The Future Graduate', given by Dr Paul Redmond. This was a riveting and revealing look at the working world future graduates will enter into. The audience was gripped as Dr Redmond revealed how the graduate market place is evolving and adapting to accommodate those born into the technological age. Dr Redmond outlined how the graduate market place has been affected by the global economic downturn but provided a fist full of hints and tips on how to achieve success when competing at the highest level during the transition from the world of education to the world of work.

Having been given an insight into the key elements required for success, the conference audience, which consisted of the D Block, LXX and XX and their parents, dispersed to the 23 panel venues located around the school. Each panel

consisted of three speakers from similarly aligned backgrounds who spoke about their work. This provided a broader focus, demonstrating both progression and specialisation within a particular occupational area. The interaction between the speakers and their audience produced some really interesting questions and debate.

The feedback from pupils best indicates the success of the day.

"I really enjoyed the careers convention. It gave me a great insight into the working world. Particular thanks to Pia Schaefer who was very engaging in her talk about private equity/ internships, and Mr Scott who gave a great idea of what it takes to make it".

"Just to let you know that I really enjoyed the entrepreneur panel, especially the Abel and Cole organic food man. I thought he was really inspiring and what he has achieved is pretty cool!!"

"The Careers Convention really helped me to choose what I want to do in the future. I always knew that I had an interest in medicine but with advice I am now certain that medicine is the path that I want to take."

"I want to thank Isabel Fay and Will Kenning who spoke in the TV and Theatre

panel for instilling the confidence to be more ambitious in looking for work experience, and to thank them for the inspiration they gave me to keep on working on my ambition of being in theatre."

"The military speakers gave concise talks about the three services, but most importantly they were honest and spoke



about both the positives and negatives of life in the armed forces. It has definitely persuaded me to continue with my route into the army."

"I felt really privileged to have met so many CEOs and entrepreneurs. They were all truly inspiring and gave me really good and valuable advice which I will definitely remember in the future. They really inspired me to pursue my future with even more of a passion."

"I would like to thank you for the amazing key note speaker. He was truly amazing and it was good to hear his view on our future."

JCP



Activities



School House Reunion

On Sunday 14th March School House played host to almost 300 SH ORs and their partners at the first major School House reunion to be held for many years. The date was chosen to coincide with the annual Crick Run and indeed a small number of those attending the reunion also took part in the OR race. One such runner was Andrew Miller, who, in winning the Crick in 1977, had followed in the footsteps of his father (Peter Miller) who won in 1948 – it is thought that they are probably the oldest father and son winners still alive!

At the age of 93, Alan Coburn (who left Rugby in 1934) was the oldest OR present, closely followed by Henry Coggin who celebrated his 90th birthday just a few days after the reunion. The youngest ORs present had, of course, only left last September! Nearly all age groups were represented, providing a continuous link from the 1930s through to the present day. As well as the SH ORs, it was also a pleasure to welcome back a number of former tutors and housemasters, including Jim Woodhouse who was the last head master also to be housemaster of School House.

A large marquee had been erected on the Close just outside School House and the event started at noon with a drinks reception at which the Head Master welcomed the assembled company. There then followed a delicious lunch that had been prepared by the School House kitchen staff. After the meal, Nick Morse (the current Housemaster), Charles Carver (a former Head of House and current parent) and Will Rowlands (the current Head of House) all spoke, the latter ending with the “traditional” School House toast (from *Tom Brown’s Schooldays*), which was followed by the assembled company singing the *Floreat*.

During the afternoon current members of the house were on hand to show their predecessors round the house. Many had not been back since they left Rugby, and although the external structure of the house had not changed much, they discovered that some internal walls had

moved and the rooms were a touch more luxurious than in their time!

A number of ORs had kindly sent in various photographs and other memorabilia and a small exhibition of these, plus the *Fasti* and photograph albums, had been set up in Old Hall. Up until 1967, when the current Dining Hall was built out of what was known as the “Jerry Quad”, this room had been the main hall for the house, and many of the older ORs could not believe the changes that had taken place in recent years.

One thing that has not changed over the years is the house spirit, and it was clear that everyone who attended the occasion really enjoyed themselves. Old friendships were rekindled after many years and all went away agreeing that School House is “the best House in the best school in England”! As Sir Ewen Fergusson (SH 45-51) wrote after the event, there is a special loyalty to this great establishment and we hope that this will continue over many years to come. The next School House Reunion will be in 2017 when the School celebrates its 450th anniversary – now that really will be a party!

NJM



Activities

The Extended Project and the Philosophy Zone

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is growing fast and looks set to become a central component in UK post-16 education, as well as having significant uptake internationally. One of the reasons why the qualification is proving so attractive to schools and colleges is that it offers the opportunity for the development of a higher education model of learning within a secondary context. It is therefore of value as a preparation for the challenges of university study. This point was made by the 1994 Group of universities, who commented:

"The Extended Project is widely welcomed in principle and in prospect. A large majority of departmental admissions tutors expect to recognise it as a positive attribute when selecting among applicants with similar levels of achievement (both high fliers and those at the borderline). Tutors also welcome its potential to enhance study skills, to align with undergraduate modes of study and to provide additional diagnostic evidence when selecting among applicants."

There is a high degree of overlap between the set of skills that the EPQ qualification is designed to develop, and those which are part of philosophy: thinking more deeply about conceptual questions, exploring the relationship between different fields of study and engaging in ethical reflection. Philosophy, therefore, is a subject which has a central role to play in the preparation for, and writing of, EPQ dissertations.

The philosophical element has been emphasized in the development of the Perspectives on Science course, and the widening of the Perspectives learning model to other subject areas. Students using this approach learn elements of philosophy by engaging in argument about questions of a philosophical nature, rather than by didactic teaching of the history of ideas. Seminar discussions are used to build skills in argument, analysis, synthesis of perspectives and oral communication.

To explore the potential of Perspectives-based partnership arrangements, in September 2008, Rugby School set up a programme called the 'Philosophy Zone', which links the four sixth forms in Rugby. Local schools' participation has been made possible via sponsorship by the Warwickshire Local Authority 14-19 section. Over 50 lower sixth students have participated this year. There are four Philosophy Zone seminar discussions each week, to which Rugby School students also come.

The Philosophy Zone online was launched in September 2009. Currently, nearly 400 students and staff have accounts for the zone. There are weekly podcasts, with linked discussion threads, a space for discussion of project ideas, resource links and a philosophical quotation of the week. Following publicity on the BBC news website, a number of schools and colleges from the UK and Australia have joined the zone.

The Philosophy Zone programme culminated in a major student conference in March. Part of the conference featured a live online discussion. Remarkably, this was joined by students from Australia. Passion for philosophy, it seems, runs strong enough to gainsay the need to sleep!

JLT

Haileybury Model United Nations



A delegation of five students (Jonathan Willetts, Elise Johnson, Astrid Nestius-Brown, Thomas Schafranek and Salem Qunsol) represented the Republic of Indonesia at the annual Haileybury MUN conference at Haileybury School. The conference lasted three days and went extremely well considering it was the School's first time participating in such a conference.

In the Disarmament Committee, Jonathan Willetts successfully guided through a resolution to debate on the question of the unregulated international transfer of nuclear weapons with twelve signatures when only ten were required, which is an astounding result. Meanwhile, in the Human Rights Committee, Salem Qunsol was able to merge his resolution designed to protect the rights of orphans with two other delegates' proposals to create one resolution made by three different countries.

Elise Johnson was also successful with her resolution concerning the exploitation of young workers. This meant all of the delegation's co-written resolutions were passed into debate, an extraordinary achievement. Throughout the rest of the conference, involvement from the delegation was obvious. The delegation had high debating skills and asked the right questions at the right time, making sure they made an impact on the conference.

All in all, the Rugby delegation left a huge imprint on the conference and did extremely well considering it was their first time.

Salem Qunsol

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Over 70 pupils in the school have enjoyed completing and receiving awards at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels over the last 12 months. Congratulations to all of them. During the first week of the Easter holidays over 60 E block pupils went to Thetford in Norfolk to complete their practice and assessed Bronze level expeditions. On their return, each handed in a written presentation about their expedition experiences. Here are a number of their comments, which show how much fun they had and just what a valuable experience the award is:



'As the bus pulled up at the army camp, and I thought how everyone else not on this course would be starting their Easter on holiday with their family, I thought to myself, 'Why on earth did I sign up for this?' The D of E award taught me a lot about being in a team and working together. It wasn't what I expected at all, and I am very happy I did it.' Jemima Sandison

'On the second day we found it quite hard to get along together. Most of the time it was because half of us wanted to go faster and half of us wanted to stop. These disputes were settled as we compromised a lot. I haven't been hiking before in my life, so I wasn't prepared for the experience at all. Mud clung to your boots, weighing you down, and when you did get into your tent, most of your stuff still managed to get wet!' Will Roberts

'You should always double check your route because you don't want to go wrong. Even if you are in a hurry you shouldn't be afraid to stop for a few minutes and look at the map. We tried to rush the start of the practice and as a result took the wrong footpath. I learnt to trust the other members of the group more and to listen to what they say. It is important not to get angry at someone if they make a mistake because everyone will inevitably make mistakes.' Hannah Bibby

'Despite the blisters and heavy rucksacks, the D of E expedition was an enjoyable and interesting experience. I had great fun throughout. I learnt that I was much better at encouraging people than I thought I was. I also learnt that planning is very important as we would have got lost if we hadn't considered everything on our route cards.' Kaamil Walilay

'The two expeditions helped me to reinforce the importance of teamwork. Encouragement and listening to each other are essential factors in working as a team.' Caroline Cieslewicz

'I learnt that even when you are pushed out of your comfort zone, it isn't that difficult to face challenges if you have the right attitude and willingness to do so.' Julia Hewitt

'I have learnt how much we really rely on each other. I felt a strong sense of teamwork and camaraderie in my group. After the expedition I felt a huge sense of accomplishment and a feeling of independence.' James Day

'I found out that I was determined and could persevere even when things were hard. I don't like giving up.' Ellie Hall

'When anyone was feeling down we thought that singing some old Disney music would help. And it did. I remember walking down a road and everyone was silent, as everybody was in some form of pain and clearly wishing they were somewhere else. A team mate and I starting singing 'The Bear Necessities' and soon everyone was singing. Our group made an excellent team as we were always there for each other.' Jodie Cox

'I learnt a few things from the expedition that I can apply to life. I learnt not to rush things and to take my time making sure that the beginning is right, which makes things easier in the long run. I also found out that if you have a group of friends you are comfortable with, then it makes you enjoy things so much more. The expedition helped me improve my self-confidence and ability to make new friends without being shy and holding back.' Amy Green

'I have learnt that I can work in a team and pull my own weight, and that I can take directions from others and not have to be the leader. I have learnt that you are only as strong as your weakest link, and although we certainly didn't have one person weaker than the rest, at times there was someone lagging behind. I have learnt that it is important to look after that person and encourage them to carry on going.' Charlotte Sweet

AJVM

Dewar-Pilkington Gap Year Report

My Experiences With the Ibero-American Ministries

In January 2009 I embarked upon a six-month trip around the world with two good friends from England. After coming dangerously close to missing our connecting flight in Miami, we eventually touched down in Cuzco, Peru. Our first week there was spent tackling the Inca trail and acclimatising to the altitude, as we would be living at above 3000ft when we started working for the Ibero-American ministries.

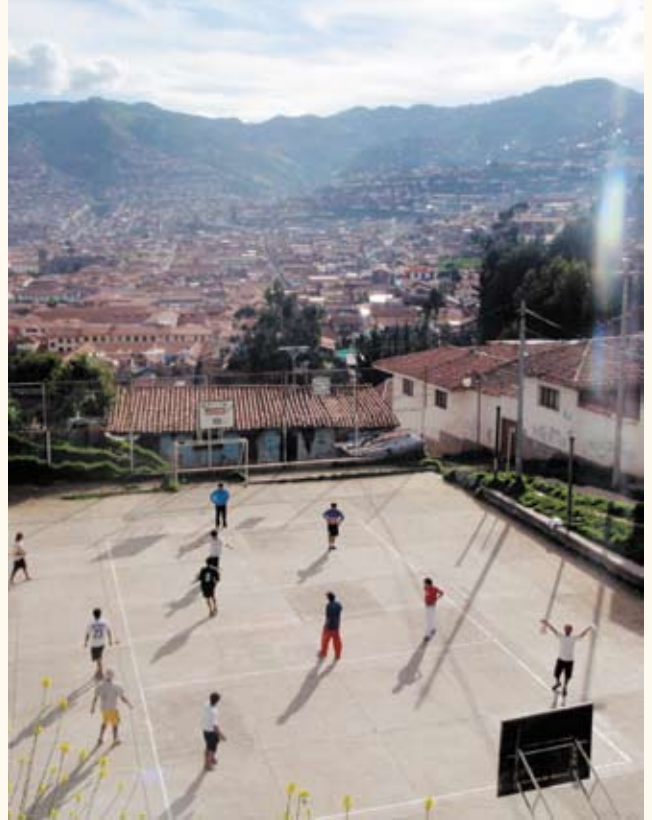
The four-day trek along the Inca trail was hard work but it was incredibly rewarding, with lots of stunning scenery along the way. We finally arrived at Machu Picchu for sunrise only to find it covered in cloud! This didn't however, take anything away from the trek; it was a fantastic way to start our journey.

Back in Cuzco we met up with the family who would be supervising our voluntary work: Ricky and Tracy Olivares and their one-year-old baby, Isabella. Our first task was to find accommodation. This proved incredibly easy with no contracts to be signed, just a welcoming Peruvian landlord. Ricky gave us an orientation of what our work for the next three months would entail. I was incredibly excited and wanted to get stuck into the activities that had been laid out for us.

As it was the children's summer holidays for the first two months, we spent the mornings playing sports and fun games in San Marcos, a poor shanty area up in the hills with the most fantastic views of the beautiful city of Cuzco. The kids were great fun, and ranged in age from three to fifteen years old.

A highlight of working up at San Marcos had to be when the annual water festival came about in Cuzco during February. This culminated in a weekend in San Marcos where we brought hundreds of balloons and foam up to the 150 children and initiated a gigantic water fight, girls versus boys.

Playing with the children at San Marcos

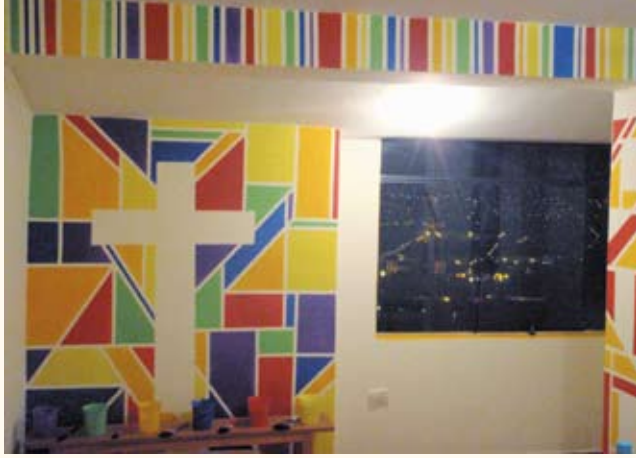


The San Marcos football court overlooking Cuzco

The friendships we had with the children were great and we were sad to see them all leave for school again. These children would often beg from tourists and many belonged to families where alcoholism and abuse were normal. We were able to supply these children with compulsory equipment, such as pencils, pens, rulers and workbooks, necessary for them to get into schools. It was hard work trying to gather all of this equipment and package it to give to the children but they loved receiving these gifts and preparing for school.

Organising school supplies for each child





One of the two rooms we painted in the church at San Marcos

From then on the mornings were dedicated to painting the church classrooms, which the charity owned up in San Marcos and building a small puppet stage.

In the afternoons, time was spent at an orphanage close to our flat. I was given four of the older children to look after. They knew a small amount of English and I provided textbooks and pens for them to use. At first I thought this would be a real challenge as I had only done one year of Spanish. The children however were so enthusiastic to learn. It was great fun and I looked forward to every lesson. Speaking Spanish proved incredibly useful in getting the most out of my travels through South America.

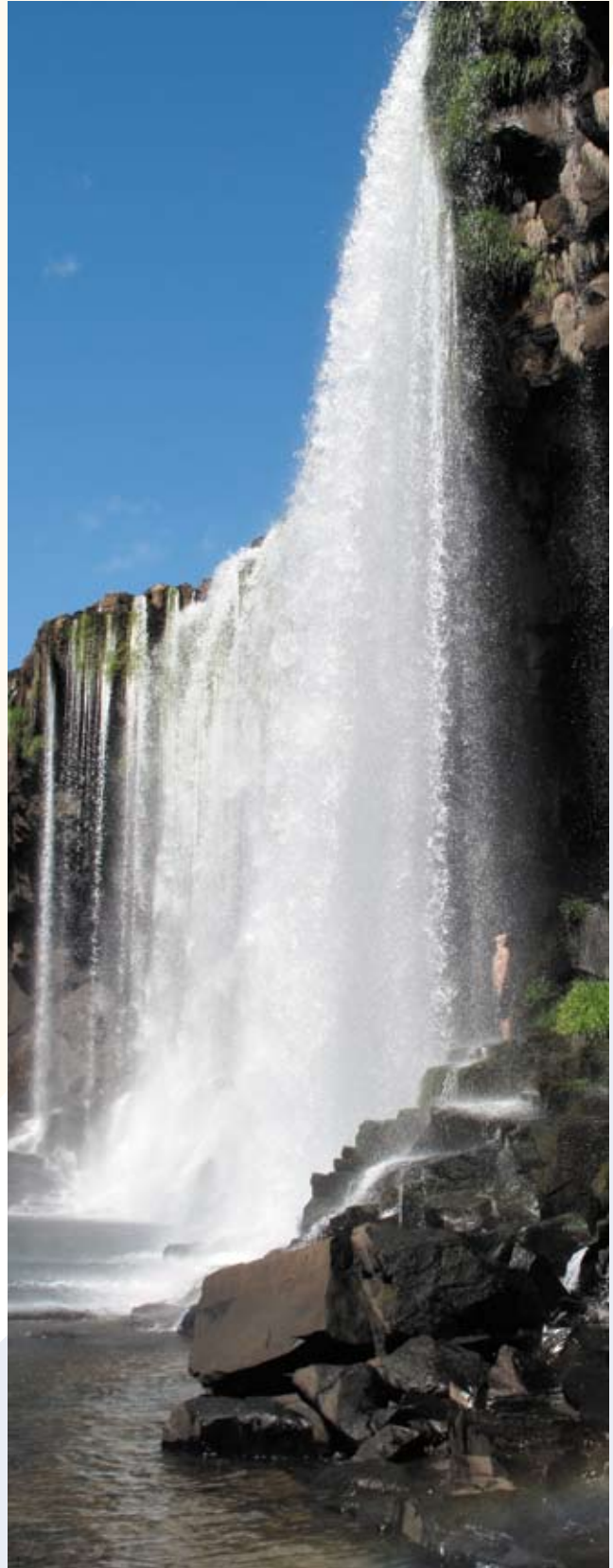
Again we were incredibly sad to leave these children behind. Hopefully they have carried on their enthusiasm in learning English through school.

Our time spent living by ourselves in Cuzco was fantastic. When we had some spare time we were able to go mountain biking, white water rafting and quad biking. We even caught a local football match, seeing Ciencianos play.

We left Cuzco with fond memories of our voluntary work, travelling by bus, up even higher into Bolivia. This was our first long bus journey in South America, something that we would get very accustomed to. We arrived in La Paz at the same time as Maradona's Argentine football team, so went to see Bolivia-Argentina, played in the national stadium. We couldn't have picked a better day to arrive: Bolivia thrashing the world No.1 side (at the time) 6-1. Bolivia, my favourite country of all those that I visited during my travels, has so much to offer. We travelled up to the Amazon in the north where we swam with pink river dolphins and down to the Potosí goldmines in the south (where we purchased dynamite on the street for £2) and were astounded by the beauty of the highest salt flats in the world.

From Bolivia our travels took us down the backbone of South America, through Chile to Patagonia, where we climbed a live volcano, scaled glaciers and swam in crystal clear pools. Crossing the Andes would have to be one of the most memorable trips of our journey. Arriving in Mendoza, Argentina, we experienced some of the world's finest wines and steaks. The Iguazu falls were next on our itinerary, on the border between Argentina and

Brazil. This was a truly stunning and special experience in our case, as we were able to swim under a section of the waterfalls in a secret lagoon with a 75ft fall cascading down above us.



Standing under the Iguazu falls – Argentina/Brazil

Report Report

The next two weeks were spent travelling south, stopping off on Ilha Grande, an island just off the coast, which boasts one of the top ten beaches in the world, and Florianopolis, a city situated on an island connected to the mainland with great beaches and some fantastic surfing.

My last week in South America was spent in Buenos Aires. I had heard great things about this city and had been looking forward to the nightlife. The people manage an incredibly laid back and fashionable lifestyle: going out to eat late at night and only reaching the clubs in the early hours of the morning. We ate some of the finest steaks in the world here, where farmers allegedly play their livestock classical music in order to relax them, increasing the quality of the meat.

After an amazing week in Buenos Aires I flew across the Pacific to Sydney for a quick two-day stop over. It rained for the two days I was there so I didn't get the proper Aussie experience on Bondi Beach but I still managed to go over the harbour bridge and to see the Opera House. I was lucky enough to be taken to the Blue Mountains by some family friends, however when we arrived we couldn't see anything due to thick fog; it did clear for a couple of minutes so I caught a glimpse of the iconic 'Three Sisters', but it was only a glimpse.

Having had enough of the bad weather we flew up to Bangkok where we met friends who had come out from university. Four weeks were spent hopping from island to island, scuba diving and relaxing on the beaches.

After this extremely relaxing period we started to travel again, back up to Bangkok and through Cambodia, stopping at Angkor Watt and Phnom Penh. Angkor, like Machu Pichu, was stunning. It was hard to imagine how people could have possibly built such great structures. During the short amount of time we had in Phnom Penh we visited the killing fields, learning of the shocking crimes the Khmer Rouge committed.

Street vending in Hanoi, Vietnam



Diving off the 'junk' – Ha Long Bay

Yet another bus drove us across the border into Vietnam. This country was by far my favourite in South East Asia. We travelled up the coast from Ho Chi Min in the south to Hanoi in the north. We drove for six hours on some incredible mountain roads, scorched by the sun in the morning then hit by torrential downpours in the afternoon, arriving in Da Lat soaked to the bone and shivering.

Ha Long Bay was our next stop. We enjoyed stunning scenery from aboard our 'junk'. The first night was spent on the boat, lost in this magnificent paradise. The second and third days were spent on a tiny island right in the centre of the bay in a thatched shack, open to the elements. This island also had a small motorboat, so we were able to water-ski around Ha Long Bay in the sunset.

We finished our adventures in Hong Kong. I bought presents and relaxed and had time to reflect on how the whole trip had been a huge success with very few problems along the way. Our time spent in Cuzco had been incredibly beneficial to others and I will always remember the children we worked with. It was a great and humbling experience for us.

I would like to thank the Dewar-Pilkington trustees for their very generous scholarship which made the trip possible for me, covered my rent whilst working in Cuzco, and bought the supplies needed to provide the children of San Marcos with the materials they needed to enter their school system.

Josh Oates (W 03-07)

Societies

Arnold Society

The Arnold Society has hosted a couple of memorable events this year and both occasions were enthusiastically received by Classicists and non-Classicalists alike. We were extremely fortunate to have two highly respected speakers come talk to us. The first was Dr Rosanna Omitowoju, with her lecture titled 'Sex and City: 500BC'. This was an intriguing talk that gave us a lucid perspective on attitudes to sex and women in Ancient Greece. Due, probably, to the title of the talk (!), Upper Bench was unusually bursting at its wooden-panelled seams as it struggled to contain a fat gathering of curious students and teachers. The second talk was delivered by Judith Affleck and was on 'Telephus: The Last Word in Myth'. This was a highly informative and equally vigorous experience, teaching us about the facts behind the ambiguous stories of Telephus through artifacts and history.

With Michell House allocated as the new venue for after-lecture dinners, it seems the Society has earned itself a reputation for culinary merit. Those who were organized enough to reserve themselves a place were rewarded with a delicious spread of a hearty, home-cooked feast, complete with wine and cheese, all in the midst of a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Huge thanks are owed to all the Classics staff, especially Miss Le Hur, for organizing both evenings, and Mr Day for the dinner arrangements at Michell.

Issy Oon

Bliss Society

This year was a fantastic year for the Bliss Society. We offered a wide range of outings and tried to encourage a wider audience. Highlights included Matthew Bourne's original adaptation of *Dorian Gray* and seeing Natalie Klein perform with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Derngate. In fact, inspiration was drawn later from *Dorian Gray* to help create the A Level drama devised pieces, proving that all areas of school life are entwined

and mutually beneficial. We had great fun this year organising the events with Mr Edwards and we hope that next year is equally as successful for this society which offers unique cultural opportunities. And if cultural trips aren't your thing, then it's worth a go just to experience Mr Fletcher's rather unpredictable driving.

Jenny Burton & Katie Bradfield

Dodgson Society

The Dodgson Society continues to flourish with several events taking place this term. Professor Chris Jones, a former Head of School at Rugby, returned from the University of Northern Carolina to give a talk entitled 'Climate Change: Can Mathematics Help Clear the Air?' Evidently topical, it was an excellent survey of what Mathematics can, and cannot, predict in the complicated world of changing climatic conditions.

Dr Hennings took his turn in presenting the annual Christmas Lecture, delivered by current members of the Mathematics Department. His title, 'When is a Knot not a Knot?', set the tone for a talk that explored this surprisingly complicated, and relevant, area of topology. Even better was the dinner afterwards which was universally agreed to be a great event.

In between times members of the LXX visited London for their annual dose of *Maths in Action*. Presentations included exploring the Mathematics found in *The Simpsons*. It turns out that there is rather a lot.

Many thanks to Isobel Ormiston for her work as Secretary of the Society. There is much to look forward to in the year to come.

PPJ

Engineering Society

The Engineering Society has been very successful this year. We have had lots of interest from lots of people and have had a diverse range of speakers and talks.



The year started with a talk from Penny Stott about the Year in Industry scheme, through which some of the current XX have gained placements for their gap years. She also talked about her experiences in aeronautical engineering. Later on in the year we had a visit from a current student on the Year in Industry scheme. Other speakers included Andrea Byrd, who spoke to us about her career as a materials engineer at both Rolls Royce and Ilmor. We particularly enjoyed the talk by Nick Wirth, the technical director of the new Virgin F1 team, who gave us inside information about the development of the 2010 Virgin F1 car.

During the autumn term a select few members of the Society were invited to go to see the progress on the construction of the Rugby relief road, where civil engineers explained the problems they encountered and the stage they were at. We were then taken on a tour of the site, looking at a few particularly interesting points about the amount of work, detail and sorts of problems they encounter. You would never guess that much work went into building a road!

The XX have given two presentations this year, the first on their work experience placements at companies such as CERN, Siemens, Brawn GP and Cemex. The second was more informal and aimed at giving the younger members of the Society an insight into what the XX have learnt about universities, engineering interviews and Year in Industry applications.

Over the last four years the Society has gone from strength to strength and the quality of the speakers and the rise in the number of pupils attending this year has been really encouraging. We hope this trend continues.

Chris Atkins & Charlie Ripman

Societies

Geography Society

This has been another busy and successful year for the Geography Society, and I have been ably assisted by three very pro-active members of the XX: Alex Ward, Annabelle Chelsom and Lucy Suddaby, all of Stanley House. They have created a varied and interesting programme on behalf of the Geography Department for the students and staff to enjoy, and the standard is now set for others to follow next year in much the same vein.



Will Gow – Antarctica Experience

An OR of School Field, Will came to speak to the F block geographers in particular about his experiences on the most challenging of continents, Antarctica. He is not an expeditioner, but works in the city; however his family connections to Shackleton drew him to this icy wilderness. He spoke of the arduous planning and preparation that was needed to get the trip off the ground as well as the physical and mental demands that were made on him when faced with a trek to the South Pole. His talk was both entertaining and inspiring, and his time was very much appreciated by all.

Hazel Barrett – HIV

Professor Barrett is currently conducting numerous research projects from Coventry University, and she made the short journey to the School to speak mainly to the Upper School geographers about the myths and mysteries that surround HIV/Aids. She made particular reference to Africa and explained why finding a cure and preventing the spread of this catastrophic disease is an uphill struggle for the continent. She also made reference to the fact that this is not just a disease for the poverty stricken, nor is the risk necessarily exclusive to those who are involved in homosexual relationships.

Rosie Hamp – Gap Years

It was felt that the Upper School needed to hear more about gap year opportunities post A-level, and Rosie Hamp used this opportunity to inform those who were currently considering this option to think very carefully about what actually they were planning to achieve. There was a clear message from this talk – take a gap year and explore other landscapes and cultures, but make sure that you can come back and justify what you have done, particularly considering the employment market is

so competitive nowadays. In addition, helping communities less well-off than our own is hugely rewarding, and Rosie represents an organisation that does just that.

Pippa King – what can you do with a Geography degree?

Pippa kindly agreed to come to Rugby to speak to our Upper School students about the usefulness of Geography in the workplace, with specific reference to her own personal experience of the subject from A level upwards. She brought home the fact that Geography provides a breadth and depth of education with regard to the environmental, social and economic challenges to life on the planet, as well as arming the student with transferrable skills that can be used throughout one's lifetime. Pippa illustrated how her love for the subject encouraged further study towards a masters degree, and how rigour and motivation was required to allow her to study in great depth the specific issue she had chosen. This attention to detail and the ability to multi-task (holding down a job whilst studying) enabled her to gain her present employment at London Zoo, mainly as events co-ordinator but also with an involvement in current scientific research with regard to endangered species, which sounds both a fascinating and fulfilling post.

Dan Box – Evacuation of Carterets Islands

Dan Box brought a close to our events for this year with a very vivid talk on the evacuation of the Carterets Islands – the world's first climate change refugees, as the press would report it. He spoke of how he was able to visit such a remote part of the world, how friendly and generous the people of the island were, and whether or not the evacuation was due to climatic changes or other factors at force. There was plenty to think about at our Society supper afterwards!

JCE

History of Art Society

In the Advent Term, the History of Art Society was fortunate enough to be addressed by Dr Amy Frost, of Bath University's School of Architecture, on 'Structure, Space and Society in Architecture and History'. This lecture provided a comprehensive and informative introduction to architecture for new members of the Society, and the experienced students amongst us were able to develop our existing knowledge.

Dr Frost presented many enlightening ideas on architecture, including the idea that once you step inside a building you become physically a part of it, an element of the art. She was able to cover a wide range of examples of architects throughout history and, to the advantage of students in the XX, she spoke at length about the Circus in Bath. Architecture is inherently essential to mankind and Dr Frost's talk increased our awareness that buildings are not just for visual stimulation but are actually a necessity of life.

Lucy Weston

Senior Debating Society

The Advent term saw the beginning of the year's Senior Debating Society debates, some twinned with other of the School's societies, such as the English Society, the Law Society, the History Society and the Medical Society. Motions proposed at these twinned society meetings included ones on the relevance of the study of history today, the legalization of cannabis and the morality of sex change operations. With helpful tips on how to improve their debating skills from Mr Smith, all debaters improved over the first term, and were ready for the Inter-House Debating Competition which followed in the next term.

In each of the four heats of the Inter-House Debating Competition, two houses put forward their best debaters in an attempt to defeat two opposing houses. A number of times, Mr Smith was left with the casting vote due to a tied vote amongst the audience (possibly due to severe house bias) leaving Dean, Town, Kilbracken and Cotton as winners of their individual heats, with Dean and Town progressing to the final.

Both Dean and Town delivered well-planned and thought-out speeches, and had clearly taken into account Mr Smith's tips about good debating. In the end, Town took the title of winner of the Competition for the third year running.

Amelia Barkes & Abi Barber

Junior Debating Society

The Junior Debating Society met for its customary warm-up debates during the Advent term, revealing new talent and growing confidence, but it was the Junior Debating Competition itself that drew the crowds. Kicking off mid-freeze with a double assault on Simon Cowell and snow itself, and continuing through Gurkhas, iPads and the voting age (which, it turns out, is fine as it is), the contest inspired arguments ranging from the sound and persuasive to the decidedly shaky. Kilbracken, Bradley, Tudor and Town faced each other in the well-attended final, debating the Pope's influence on equality legislation and the dangers posed to British manhood by computer games. Despite a virtuoso flight of rhetoric by Harry Penfold - whose speeches tend to resemble a tornado of the mind, but in a good way - it was, as always, the superior ability to engage in the opposition's arguments that prevailed. Elissa Foord and Hannah Bibby took Tudor to victory, with a robust performance and confident responses to points of information; this will surely be the team to beat next year.

MJP

Modern Languages Society

Wine Appreciation Evening

On 14th January 2010, the Modern Languages Society was proud to hold another highly successful wine tasting evening. This year Mr Pridgeon, father of Charles Pridgeon in Whitelaw, generously offered to commission the evening which was hosted by Tuggy Meyer of Huntsworth Wine Company. Mr Meyer set up Huntsworth Wine Company twenty years ago and opened his distinctive shop in Kensington, London, five years ago. He has been on Decanter Magazine's wine tasting panel and is well known in the wine trade as an expert on France, and in particular Bordeaux. He has spent summers in Bordeaux as long as he can remember, and regularly visits vineyards around the world to taste new vintages 'en primeur'.

Oenophiles in the Upper School and several members of the Modern Languages department were offered three very different red wines, about which Mr Meyer gave us a brief description. These were three classic Bordeaux Estates, blending predominantly Cabernet-Sauvignon and Merlot grapes. First, Château Brande-Bergère's Cuvée O'Byrne, 2005 Bordeaux Supérieur, from a small château just on the northern edge of Pomerol and St-Émilion, which produces just 2,000 cases of this, their top *cuvée*. Second, Château Beaumont's 2005 Haut-Médoc Cru Bourgeois, from one of the largest estates in the Haut-Médoc, and finally, Château Lafon-Rochet 2003 St-Estèphe, 4ème Grand Cru Classé, from the less fashionable commune of St-Estèphe but, then, that does nestle against the most northerly Pauillac Estate, Lafite-Rothschild! These excellent

Societies

wines were accompanied by a simple selection of bread and cheeses. Mr Meyer was keen to demonstrate during the course of the tasting that a more costly wine does not necessarily indicate a superior taste; one's preference for a particular wine is largely subjective. It was clear that all those present had an excellent time and learned a great deal about the appreciation of different wines. We are all extremely grateful to Dr Leamon for organising this highly enjoyable event, and to Mr Pridgeon for making it possible.

Rachel Barclay & ACL



MAYOWA ONABANJO

Medical Society

It has been an extremely successful year for the Medical Society. We have had many interesting speakers from different specialties come talk to us throughout the year to give us an insight into their lives as doctors and surgeons. Amongst those who spoke, Dr Vestey talked honestly and openly about her work on breast cancer and reconstructive surgery. She also encouraged the girls to be confident to enter some of the male dominated fields of medicine. Mr Sethia, a cardiac surgeon, made us aware of the range of skills that he took away with him from working in less economically developed countries, such as India and countries in Africa.

One of the highlights of the year for the Society was Activities' Day when Dr Crombie, a consultant anaesthetist, and a fourth-year medical student, gave demonstrations on how doctors handle all sorts of emergencies, ranging from falling off a bike and basic first aid to major disasters. Using role play he took us through a step-by-step process of how a doctor would approach a serious road traffic accident. Mr Nicholl, a consultant neonatologist, gave a memorable talk on his work involving well, ill and premature new born babies.

The opportunity to hear all these speakers – and for those to have some interview training as well from them, too – has helped ensure that all those applying for medical school this year have been offered places.

Stephanie Huang & Helen Bowen Wright

The Scholars' Dinner

The Scholars' Dinner was a calendar highlight in the run up to the Easter holidays, as we gathered for what we knew would be our first and last Scholars' Dinner, in order to show our thanks to the governors for their investment in us over the past five years. The mixture of governors, staff and scholars from every discipline made for a unique evening, in many ways. Each course was interspersed by recitals from our music scholars. These ranged from classical pieces played on the violin to a more contemporary choral arrangement of "The Lord's My Shepherd" by Howard Goodall. Each performance demonstrated how the music scholars have benefitted from their time at Rugby. Over coffee we heard a speech from the Heads of School about the benefits scholarship has brought all of us. If the meal had an element of predictability with the great food and conversation, Dr Smith's speech surprised everyone. After speaking for a few minutes he broke into an outstanding rendition of Bob Dylan's 'Forever Young' accompanied on his guitar.

It seemed proper to celebrate this longstanding tradition in one of the oldest buildings in the school. All the scholars were

Societies

KATIE MCKILLIGIN



able to enjoy OBS and its beauty before it becomes the prison where we will be temporarily confined for our A-level exams this summer. Indeed, many of us felt we had come full circle, sitting in the same room where we took the 13+ Academic Scholarship papers on those sunny days in May 2005 and where our academic school career will culminate in a few weeks' time.

In Rugby, everywhere you turn there is tradition, and at the Scholars' Dinner we celebrated an integral tradition and core value of the school, with our final request being that it continues long after we leave.

Jess Hastings & George Ribaroff

Drama Club

Run by two members of the LXX, Zoe Lord and Happi Starling, the Drama Club has not once disappointed in its promise of providing enjoyment through improvisation and originality. Activities vary from week to week. We can work individually, in pairs or in groups. We often work on planned pieces based on Mrs Lawson's 'WHO? / WHERE? / HOW?' cards. To further complicate matters we might have several objects imposed on us and then have somehow to contrive them into our story. Everyone enjoys watching the results, which are invariably hilarious. We sometimes do completely improvised skits. Members of the school, from all year groups, find themselves involved in some of the most bizarre scenes the Macready Theatre foyer has ever witnessed. There is, of course, method to this madness, with insightful input from Mrs Lawson and Mrs Murenu, who often initiate some of the funniest scenes the club has come up with. Each term finishes with a party (fancy dress, of course). These parties always lead to the inevitable demand for party games. This Easter's party headlined with the sketch competition with a twist – to involve a carton of eggs! It is this sort of eccentric humour that brings out the best in Drama Club members and so hundreds, if not thousands, are enticed to join the regulars.

Ben Wiegman

Philosophy Society

In the Michaelmas term, the Philosophy Society heard a renowned philosopher of science speak on 'Putting science to work: the influence of science on technology'. Mr Miller, once a research assistant for Karl Popper, entertained the crowd with logical formulae. Contradicting Popper himself, he argued that it is mistaken to view science as the driver of technological innovation, since the forms of reasoning used in scientific and technological discovery are quite different. With specific reference to the current decline in innovation in America, Mr Miller stressed the dire impact of new guidelines which mean that all scientific research must first prove its potential for future technological advancement.

In the Lent term, the Society heard a stimulating talk by Professor Tom Stoneham, OR, Head of Philosophy at the University of York. Professor Stoneham introduced the philosophy of George Berkeley, posing the age-old question of the conceptual link between existence and perception. Can objects exist unperceived? Berkeley's highly counter-intuitive negative answer was given a clear and sympathetic exposition by Professor Stoneham. Conversation continued over supper and into the night. Society members were left to question the existence of the fine food they enjoyed, once it had passed beyond the veil of perception.

Sophie Boorman & Georgia Archer-Clowes

Black Lamp Society

Corporeal and mental succour were at hand in the form of a Black Lamp meeting over dinner in the Michaelmas term. The topic was freedom of speech, its place in our society and limits. Discussion ranged from an interrogation of John Stuart Mill's framework for freedom of speech to an analysis of Nick Griffin's recent appearance on Question Time. Without such an abundance of food and drink for its Lent term meeting, the society readied itself for a digital gorging. Through observing lectures by Harvard Law School's Michael Sandel the society examined and challenged the case studies and arguments put forward concerning the ethics of murder. Both meetings were thoroughly stimulating and enjoyable.

Hanz MacDonald

Trips & Visits

Barcelona Fieldtrip

It was an early morning wake up for those LXX geographers who were to depart for Barcelona on the last day of the Lent term. Fortunately, the trip went without incident, apart from an entertaining expression of frustration and aggression displayed in Luton airport by one middle aged Italian gentleman – the beauty of budget airlines! We were greeted by ‘Dutch Derek’ at the other end of our flight, and were treated to a whistle-stop tour of Barcelona before sorting out our domestic arrangements for the week at the Sitges Park Hotel, some 40 minutes along the coast. The boys and girls were quite keen to explore the nightlife here, having read so much about it on the Internet in the preceding weeks. However, the height of the entertainment that evening was to watch the final Six Nations match in the local bar.

The diet for the week was two solid days of human and physical geography work, with early morning starts, brief lunch breaks on task and late evening meals – very Spanish! This did come as a shock to the minority who thought this was a holiday, however I am sure they will thank me when they do well in the



fieldwork exam! There were some memorable moments during the trip, including the soakings that Happi Starling received in the River Tordera on the first day. Chris Foster would not let it lie that he managed to beat me at pool, and Chloe Walker revealed that she had played the game before. James Barker insisted on knowing what we were doing during every minute of the day to keep me on my toes, but it was all done with good humour and a genuine interest.

The highlight, I am sure, for most on the trip was undoubtedly the atmosphere at the Nou Camp, where we watched a Messi inspired Barca beat Osasuna 2-0, although I would like to think that some of the work we completed was memorable too. To their credit, the group as a whole were excellent company and I was very impressed by their behaviour and attitude during the course of the trip.

JCE



Trips & Visits



in anticipation of the afternoon we were going to have; we explored the cathedral and castle that used to be the seat of the Polish monarchy, and climbed the old bell tower to reach beautiful views over the city. Then that afternoon was an experience I'll never

Berlin and Krakow

In October 2009, about forty D blockers travelled to Berlin on a trip that is legendary in the school, visiting sights in and around Berlin and Krakow to do with 20th-century history. The days were all meticulously planned but a lot of our time in these incredible places was just spent wandering and exploring the cities we were in, and slowly realising just how important and relevant history is. We began the first proper day of our trip with a visit to the Stasi Museum, deep in the former East Berlin. When you're standing in what used to be a real cell for prisoners not much older than you, the reality hits home. After this we went on a walk around Berlin. It was simply incredible to stand on top of the site where the Nazis burned 'forbidden' books. Next, we walked right through the new maze sculpture, which symbolizes and remembers the Holocaust. The next stop after that was the Reichstag at night, where we were rendered speechless by the view of Berlin from a very luxurious bench.

After a much needed sleep, and a sampling of strange German cuisine at breakfast, we were on the move again, this time driving to the Wannsee Villa just outside Berlin, where the final decision on the Holocaust is officially recorded as having been made. On the way we stopped at the memorial for some of the heroes of the Nazi regime, those who stood up to it and tried to stop it, one of the stories made famous by the recent film *Valkyrie*. And then onwards to the Wannsee Villa. The house has almost not changed since 1942, and it was another emotional moment for a lot of us. But no time to dwell, as it was off to see one of the largest remaining pieces of the Berlin Wall at sunset, something I never thought I would ever do. Then after having made friends with the actors playing soldiers at Checkpoint Charlie, it was off to a rather fitting dinner, at an American diner. A thoughtful goodbye to Berlin, and we left, to scramble onto an overnight train that would take us to Krakow, Poland.

Arriving groggy and exhausted from a night of not much sleep, no one was in the best mood. But after a rushed arrival at the hotel, it was time to explore the beautiful city that is Krakow. After walking through the Jewish ghetto, visiting one of the few remaining synagogues, getting lost on the trams, making friends on the trams, having long chats with the vendors at the market, and a visit to the site of Oskar Schindler's factory, we were all ready for a movie night of *Schindler's List* to prepare us for the epitome of the trip, the reason that many of us had come on it anyway: the visit to the concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau. The morning of the trip was fairly quiet,

forget. A once in a lifetime opportunity that is different for every person, can't really be described and must be experienced by everyone because of the power of the history of those otherwise quite insignificant and surprisingly small stretches of land.

In all, it was five days I will never forget: the loudest, most interesting, moving, provocative and hilarious school trip I've ever been lucky enough to experience.

Eva van den Belt

LXX and XX Art & Art History Trip to Paris

We knew it was going to be an exiting trip from the outset, when Victoria Beckham herself strutted from our Eurostar on our arrival in Paris! After a busy Advent term, and a late night at our Christmas suppers, a group of bleary eyed XX and LXX Artists, Art Historians and Photographers arrived in Paris for what was going to be a fantastic three-day visit. Mr Howard's slight inability to read a map meant we had the opportunity to see the beauty of (the whole of) Paris at night, until arriving for our boat trip on the Seine. To be able to visit many of the well known attractions and see the splendour of the Parisian architecture was a treat.

The Louvre, the Musée d'Orsay, and Musée d'Orangerie were where Miss Rayner came into her own, and this was truly beneficial to our learning; it was also very exciting to see the original paintings for ourselves.

The Musée Rodin was a contrast to the other museums and it was amazing to see such a beautiful house and garden in the centre of Paris. This is where the artists amongst us had the opportunity to sit and sketch. Due to the amazing weather it meant the photographers also had the opportunity for some great photo shots of the city, which was well organised by Mr Bradbury.

Some other memorable moments include the roller blading policeman, delicious stops at the creperie and a magnificent time at the Cirque du Plume, which was the cherry on top of the croissant!

Rosie Gordon Lennox & Ellie Cunningham Batt

Trips & Visits

Spanish Exchange

During the Easter half term, the LXX hispanists had the wonderful opportunity of spending ten days in Madrid on the Spanish exchange. We all congregated nervously at the arrival gate, trying to match the eager faces of our exchange partners to the photos we had received of them and dreading the first conversation in the car on the way home, school and being separated from each other, having to live alone with families who can hardly utter a word in English! However, we were all lucky to stay with wonderful families who were keen to show us the real Spain, from cooking to sightseeing.

Spanish school was a challenging experience (being taught philosophy and graphics in fast Spanish was tricky), but the students were patient and encouraging which helped all of us attempt our Spanish on them. Adapting to the families' routine was sometimes hard, for example instead of having supper at 7pm we ate at 10:30pm so the whole day was pushed back; on the plus side everyone got a lie-in!

Going to Colegio Base was an amazing experience as it was so different from Rugby School. We had one PE lesson in the whole week, which consisted of running round the playground performing various stretches and then a game of football! All of us saw huge improvements with our Spanish and everyone found the experience very valuable and enjoyable.

Vienna Exchange

"The Vienna experience starts now." This is what our teacher said to us at the airport as we arrived in Vienna and I will remember this sentence for a long time. From that moment everything was quite new, strange, interesting and surprising'. Thus one participant in the 29th annual Vienna exchange. 'At the start it was a bit nerve-racking, going into different classrooms as a new pupil, but on the other hand it was great to find out how friendly and curious the people were,' said another. Some, not unreasonably, had mixed feelings: 'Before the exchange, I thought it would be unbearable to spend my holiday in a classroom, getting up at seven in the morning... But after the first school day came the city walk and the view of Vienna in the winter was beautiful (Hofburg, Stephansdom); then I thought it might not be so bad.' Another summed up: 'I really enjoyed my visit; the family was kind, the school relaxing and the excursions informative (Schonbrunn, Esterhazy, the Neusiedlersee). I did so much and learned so much about Viennese culture (state



The exchange also consisted of many exciting excursions around Madrid. Some of us were given the chance to go out with our families on separate trips or meals out; and we all visited museums and famous sites around the city with Mr Jarvis. We also went on a school outing as part of the year group's philosophy course to the town of Toledo.

Most memorable were our visits to various art galleries, in Madrid and elsewhere.

All in all, it was a fantastic trip, where we all benefited from the necessity to speak Spanish and the opportunity to explore new things. We have all grown to love Spanish culture even if we became a little sick of paella and jamón serrano!

Harri Archbell & Natalia Robinson



opera, coffee houses, dancing lessons). I was sometimes a bit homesick but the people were always so hospitable that I soon felt better'.

JCS

Classics Trip to Italy

At the start of the summer holidays this year the E block classicists visited the Roman ruins around Italy's Bay of Naples. During our time there we visited Pompeii, one of the biggest extant Roman towns, famously covered by ash following the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79, where we saw the remains of houses, temples, the forum and some brothels; we also saw the casts of many of the town's population killed in the blast. After Pompeii we travelled round the beautiful Amalfi coast to the town of Paestum, where we visited a small museum containing many interesting artefacts and the outstanding temple ruins. Our last day saw us visiting Herculaneum, one of the best-preserved Roman towns anywhere in Italy. The town was covered in mud following Vesuvius' eruption rather than burning ash, which ensured the survival of many delicate wall paintings and mosaic floors. We spent a good deal of time looking around this site before heading to the airport and back to England.

Jimmy Sandison & Scarley Hall



LXX Activities' Day French Trip to London

A group of LXX French students left school early on the morning of 4th March to visit the Courtauld Institute of Art and to watch a French film at the Institut Français in London. We were accompanied by Dr Leamon, Dr Smith, Mr Fletcher and French assistante Justine Robillard. We arrived at the Courtauld Institute around noon to look around some of the most renowned paintings by Impressionist and Post-Impressionist artists such as Monet, Renoir and Degas. One of the classes had each previously chosen a painting to study and present to the rest of the class, so we were excited to see the paintings in real life. We had a guided tour with one of the guides. She spoke in French throughout to us, which was hugely beneficial and added to the effect of being in the presence of such great French artists. The guide talked to us about the real pioneers of the Impressionist movement, so many of whom were exhibited in the gallery.

The most popular painting was 'A Bar at the Folies-Bergères' by Manet, which confused us with its embedded reflections.

After visiting the gallery, we had our packed lunch and continued on to the Institut Français to see the latest film by *Amélie* director Jean-Pierre Jeunet, entitled *Micmacs à Tire-Larigot*. The film is a fantasy comedy about a man who gets caught up in a rivalry between two influential arms dealers to avenge his father's death. He lives in a makeshift house in a scrap heap with a crew of bizarre social outcasts and homeless people like himself. The film was highly entertaining and, luckily for some of us, had English subtitles! We all thoroughly enjoyed the trip: it was an educational and relaxing day and an excellent way to practise our French outside the classroom.

Maddie Speed

Trips & Visits

Politics Trip to the USA

On 25th October a small group of Politics students, along with Mr Teeton, Mr Trelinski and Miss Hopkins, departed Heathrow for Washington DC. Upon arrival, everybody was desperate just to get to bed, but not before we found time to have supper (American style) at Fuddrucker's diner. The next three days in Washington were action-packed, to say the least, with the amount of walking particularly distressing to some of our group; but the days were filled with quality insights into how the US political system functions. Trips to the Supreme Court and Congress satisfied the tourist in all of us, as well as helping us to understand the powers possessed by each separate branch of the US government.

Undoubtedly the high point of our time in Washington was our trip to the White House, a truly inspiring visit that we were lucky to experience. As well as these trips to the various 'landmarks' of American politics, there were helpful and in-depth meetings with a Congressional committee as well as a visit to the offices of Senator Mary Landrieu, for whom Mr Trelinski used to work. Having rounded off our stay in Washington with a walking tour of other famous sites around the Capitol, and a trip to the preppy Georgetown, we made our way to New York by bus.

After a stop in Philadelphia, which enabled us to visit some of the most important sites in the history of the Constitution, as well as a brief visit to the Liberty Bell, we arrived in New York. We were given the evening to ourselves, with most people taking the time to take in the atmosphere of such a great city. Seeing sights such as Times Square and the ice-skating rink at the Rockefeller Centre restored everyone's mood after a day of travelling, and a particular highlight from a personal point of view was the pulled pork at the Hard Rock Café. The next day we were given a very insightful tour around the UN building, which gave us a real sense of the impact the UN has all over the world. This was followed by a trip to Wall Street and then a very informative session at the National Urban League, one of the country's leading advocacy groups. We then spent another evening relaxing in the city, with a few of us taking in the incredible sights from the top of the Empire State Building at night, which was a truly unforgettable experience.

The next morning was given to free time, with some people taking the opportunity to relax in Central Park or ride the Staten Island Ferry, or even to head to Fifth Avenue for some last minute shopping. By the time we arrived back in London we were exhausted after an action-packed week, but the trip was a valuable experience both for enhancing our political understanding and for generally being a lot of fun.

Angus McIntyre



Peak District Trip

The annual trip to the Peak District was a huge success again, and one hopes that this will be reflected in the quality of the coursework that will come from the E block geographers as a consequence of this experience. The positive feelings derived from this residential trip can be attributed to the excellent hospitality given by the staff at Hartington Youth Hostel, particularly the sumptuous food on offer which meant that we all put on a few pounds during the weekend. In addition, the department staff always throw themselves wholeheartedly into the fieldwork, meaning that the students gain a full understanding of their surroundings amongst the familiarity of their classmates. Each class visited specific locations to conduct their numerous surveys, be it in the Dark Peak to the north or the White Peak to the south of the National Park. We were also ably assisted by a team of volunteers including Miss Hollings, Mr Steele-Bodger and Miss Schüttler, all of whom enjoyed the chance to work closely with the Geography department I am sure!

On the Saturday night the quiet hum of hard work could be heard around the hostel as each class group collated their own data from the day – we had been blessed by excellent summer weather which added to the enjoyment of the trip. Some of this work even continued long into the night, despite the distraction of England's opening game in the World Cup.

I must mention the behaviour of the 58 students we took on this excursion, as it was probably the best we have seen in the 12 years I have been running such trips in the department. They were excellent ambassadors for the School and were both appreciative and courteous to all those who had made the trip possible. An excellent way to spend a weekend in June and a job well done!

JCE

LXX Economics Trip

In June, a group of LXX Economics students went on a trip to the City to learn more about careers in finance and management. We began our day meeting Tim Huddart (father of Tom Huddart in Kilbracken) who is a partner in H²Glenfern, a company that provides market-focused advice to financial institutions and many other organisations. Mr Huddart then introduced us to a number of speakers, who individually led various talks and seminars on a wide variety of subjects, such as the impact of government policy on financial markets, absolute strategy, and the role of a financial director. After lunch, where we got to chat more with the speakers, we had a tour of the trading floor

Scholars' Outing

In November, the School's academic scholars went on the highlight of their social year: the annual scholars' outing to London. After a long journey, we finally arrived at Samuel Johnson's house. We went as two groups around the astoundingly tiny house, split between a tour of the building and some word games on the top floor. The former turned out to be exceedingly informative and interesting, and was conducted by the curator herself. In every minute room, we were presented with a host of information about the objects therein, ranging from the portraits on the wall to the origins of the door chains. It was fascinating, and by the time we actually got to see the room in which Johnson worked compiling his dictionary, I felt like I had actually moved into the house.

Because of the small size of the house, it was then necessary to swap with the other group. We were kept entertained by some word games upstairs for an hour or so and then left, more knowledgeable about the history of the English language than when we had arrived.

After a relatively long lunch break, in which my small group of friends and I consumed rather a large quantity of cake at Starbucks, we moved on to the afternoon's activities.

As is tradition, the afternoon consisted of a trip to the theatre. This year the particular show we went to see was 'The Rise and Fall of Little Voice' at the Vaudeville Theatre. I was slightly cynical of the casting of Diana Vickers of X Factor fame as Little Voice, but my doubts were soon dispelled. It was an excellent performance that was enjoyed by all, and we left London after a brilliant day out.

On the whole, everyone seemed to enjoy the trip, and I would highly recommend that any scholars who have not yet been on the outing yet sign up next year.

Zoe Richmond

at KBC Peel Hunt, where we witnessed the true pressure of the stock exchange. After a very insightful day we returned to school, where two days later we were able to put into practice what we had learned in a stock market challenge with pupils from Lawrence Sheriff and Rugby High Schools. Both the trip and this event were highly successful.

Sam Cunningham

Trips & Visits

London Docklands Trip

The annual trip to London's Docklands comes around very quickly and once again we were blessed with excellent weather for this day trip. Mr Evans was very kind to the group, booking seats on a late departure train from Rugby at 9.23am. However, even that time was almost too early for some of the students who managed to leave arriving at the station to the very last minute - nearly missing the train.

We arrived in London within the hour, and the group was soon brought to its senses by negotiating the underground and the considerable traffic to our first destination, St Katherine's Dock. The students were given an activity familiarising themselves with the new environment whilst the staff admired the luxurious boats that were moored in the dock, one of which belonged to a current Rugbeian!

Our stomachs were now rumbling, so we set off on the DLR for Canary Wharf – probably at just the wrong time as it was the start of the lunch hour and the restaurants were very busy. The students still managed to find Burger King without too much trouble, however!

After lunch, we took the Jubilee Line to Stratford, the site for the 2012 London Olympics. The group enjoyed a whistle-stop bus tour of the site, and it was quite incredible to hear of how rapidly the area was changing at an estimated cost of £9 billion! The question was – is it all going to be worthwhile?



In complete contrast, we continued our journey east to the residential area of Canning Town, a close knit community which is currently seeing some level of economic change although we did question the benefits to the locals.

Our final destination was Excel, which was particularly fitting considering that from this vantage point we could see both the regeneration of the past as well as the possible future for this particular area of London. There was also time for a group



photo to commemorate the day's activities. Once we had found suitable refreshment, we braved the fight through the London rush hour on the DLR and tube to get to London Euston. Despite the 50 minute train journey, the trip was made all the longer as there were passengers already sat in our reserved seats – the joys of public transport!

JCE

XX Art Historians' Trip to London

On 17th January the XX Art Historians took a trip down to London to see 'Turner and the Masters' at Tate Britain and to visit the Courtauld Institute. As a group we all enjoyed the exhibition, which visually demonstrated Turner's ambition, and we also took the opportunity to have a quick look at some of Turner's more characteristic works which were in the permanent galleries. The trip was hugely enlightening and influential on our overall view of Turner and it deepened our understanding of his work that we had studied as part of the syllabus.

After lunch we went to the Courtauld Institute which holds an eclectic mix of art works, but we were particularly interested in its collection of nineteenth century French art. Degas' bronzes were particularly exciting and it was fascinating to see his work as a sculptor. Overall the most beneficial part of our visit to the Courtauld was having the chance to see in real life the paintings which we had studied giving us all a greater appreciation of them. These included works such as Manet's *Bar at the Folies Bergère* and Monet's *Autumn at Argenteuil*. The overall trip was a big success and was a huge inspiration for our studies for the rest of the term.

Rose Button

F block Trip to Birmingham

It is difficult to know what else there is to say about the F block Geography fieldtrip to Birmingham, which has been running for 10 years now, other than that it is always a very enjoyable and rewarding experience for the staff and students who are involved. This year every seat was taken on the three coaches that proceeded to leave in convoy from Rugby to the NIA, Birmingham, on a cold, crisp Thursday morning. The traffic was kind to us once we had negotiated the congestion in Rugby, and we made it to the city in good time.

The six class groups had been expertly briefed, and like a well-oiled machine the department divided up into each and every direction to set about their own specific tasks for the day. Themes included the success of regeneration around the CBD, the impact of the Bull Ring on the High Street as well as an assessment of the relative success of the CBD for locals and visitors. We were very lucky with the weather as usual, although some of the students had not heeded the warnings and were dressed for temperatures several degrees warmer than is normal for early spring!

Anyway, the cold did not seem to dampen their spirit, and they were impeccably behaved on the day and had the following comments to make of their experience:

'Once we found our way into the Thinktank, we had a look inside and I thought the fashion workshop was incredible with such good designs.'

'After visiting our study sites, we set off for the Bullring where much money was spent and where everybody paid a visit to Krispy Kreme - I remember Rory coming out with a whopping 36 donuts. In the confectionery section there was a giant jelly bean bull.'

'After we had lunch we had to do a sprint around the shops as we only had about 40 minutes left to try and go to as many shops as possible.'

'In the Mailbox some of the girls were interviewed for the regional radio station on their views of the city, but they forgot to listen to the broadcast yesterday.'

'The walk back along the canal was very interesting and soon the day was over as quickly as it had begun. Altogether it was a really good day out which was a good laugh and very interesting as I had never been to Birmingham before.'

As you can see, a variety of positive comments that illustrate typically the preoccupations of the F block when on a Geography fieldtrip!

JCE

Marshall House Trip to Warwick and Stratford

Warwick Castle

This term Marshall House went on a trip for Activities' Day. We had a tour around the town of Warwick on the coach before we arrived at Warwick Castle. We had a short guided tour around the main gateway of the castle and around 'The King Maker' exhibition. We then made our way into the dungeons, where people act out what torture would have been like in the Middle Ages and give information about the Black Death. We then had a picnic lunch.

William Shakespeare

In the afternoon we went to a museum about William Shakespeare. After watching a short documentary about the playwright we went on to see the house where he was born. Shakespeare's father was a rather wealthy man who made gloves for a living. We were shown his father's office and work room and also the family bedrooms. Then we went into Hall's Croft, which was the expensive house Shakespeare's daughter lived in. The last house that we went to visit was Shakespeare's great-grandchild's house, which was extremely expensive. She was married to a rich doctor and had a happy life but never had any children. She was the last of Shakespeare's relations.

All throughout the day G2 were giving prepared speeches about what we were looking at. It was a great day and I am sure the whole house enjoyed it greatly.

Nicholas Colbourne

LXX Physics Trip to London

During the Exeat of the Lent term, the LXX Physicists went to London to attend the Physics in Perspective study course at the Royal Institute of Physics. Over the three-day period we attended a series of lectures on a variety of topics. We also visited the London Eye and discussed its physical aspects. The lectures were all thought-provoking and interactive with the audience. The most interesting, the majority of us found, was the lecture 'Life, Universe and Everything: The Unknowns of Particle Physics' presented by Professor Mark Lancaster of UCL. Overall, the trip was very successful thanks to the all-enthusiastic group of staff led by Dr Davies.

Sam Cunningham

DRAMA & MUSIC

The School Play: Arcadia

Arcadia is everything from a crude romp through the backstairs delights of early nineteenth-century sexuality, via peevish satire on contemporary academic mores, to reverent celebration of the sacrifices love makes to genius. Not very much happens onstage – it is a form of theatrical chamber music which relies on an audience whose intelligence Stoppard at times flatters, and then puts through an intellectual assault course of allusion, shifting time frames and virtuosic panoramic dialogue, all of which, presided over by the metaphor of the landscaped garden, opens at key moments to reveal the omnipresence of death and the imminence of decadence in every version of arcadian pastoral.

For all of these reasons this is a ferociously difficult play to produce in a way which will convincingly convey the multiplicity of theme and reference and keep all members of the audience amused, provoked and challenged rather than exasperated; it is a credit to Max Pappenheim's fastidious attention to detail and the ability of the cast to rise to his vision that this engaged all of the audience in different ways.

Jack Sardeson as Septimus cleverly balanced his persona as the essentially vulnerable if apparently cocksure serial adulterer, whose intelligence ultimately leads him to recognise the genius in his pupil and turn himself into a living computer to prove her theories after her death. Sophie Boorman as Tomasina matched this by evoking from the beginning the tragic sense of a kind of lucid brilliance that requires innocence to guarantee its vision – first by seeing through Septimus's increasingly panicky etymological evasions, and then by discovering the mathematical set which will only be fully realized when picked up in the 'contemporary' part of the play by Valentine Coverly.



Hugh Johnson Gilbert captured the way in which this character assumes an apparently slipshod aristocratic unconcern, and, as his (presumably genetically determined) genius comes through, turns it into another form of innocence which echoes Tomasina's. Hannah Jarvis often reflects Septimus himself in the modern period, and in a performance that rose magnificently to the demands that Stoppard places on his actors, Abi Ribbans ranged from scandalized incredulity, to amusement transforming to precisely aimed denunciation in often breathtakingly rapid succession.

Set against these are Chater, and his modern counterpart Bernard Nightingale, both in different but complementary ways commenting on the way society is always more concerned with epiphenomena than the secret decoding of the universe going on in hermitages. Tom Wiegman was very skilful in his portrayal of a man reduced to cuckolded idiocy by Septimus, managing at times to achieve a genuine sympathy underneath the uncomprehending bluff gentry persona. Pip Schlee's Captain Brice complemented this performance with gun toting, outraged curmudgeonly zeal. Nightingale as the contemporary academic hopelessly in love with the media rather than the truth is mercilessly pilloried but Arthur Thomas managed to dramatise a character that one has to despise without falling into the trap of outright caricature, and carrying it off with unselfconscious brio. His scenes with Abi Ribbans were among the many high points of the production.





Evoking the arcadia within which all this is set, Lady Croom remains the balanced rational cause of unreason in others – partly by having everyone fall in love with her, and by tangling with Noakes’s redesign of her garden in a way which violates all of her enlightenment attitudes. Amelia Barkes’s performance matched her vitality with an undertow of shrewd judgement (‘Do not dabble in paradox, Edward, it puts you in danger of fortuitous wit.’) in a clever balance which memorably captured the theme of classical restraint in tension with emergent romantic abandon. James Kitchin as Noakes managed the differently inflected contradictions in his character in a way which made him appear initially to be the local village idiot until the visionary (or is it obsessive?) quality of a man in love with the future shone through it.

The presiding representative of order in the contemporary part of the play is embodied in Chloe Coverley, played by Katie Smith. Her delightfully beaming, non-judgemental and benignly amused presence was projected by her dazzlingly swift and frequent changes of costume, ending up undecidably poised between Jane Austen and Bo Peep. Stoppard contrives the play to end with all the characters in Georgian dress, and the wardrobe department, managed this effect with apparently effortless skill.

In a play which lives by various kinds of volubility, the two characters who have least to say have an important role to set into relief the territory between wit and persiflage in which the others range. Stephen Frost as Jellaby, the butler, was intelligently megalithic, managing to underscore an apparently timeless feudal world whose fragile foundations the play exposes in its course. Tristram Hobson, who, as Gus Coverly, has nothing to say at all, made his mute adoration of Hannah Jarvis all the more eloquent by its silence; as Lord Augustus Coverly he represents a more urgent curiosity about carnality than Tomasina’s wit allows, and it is a credit to Tristram’s execution of these contrasting roles that I was not aware at the time that he was playing both parts.

Stoppard makes the play yearn for the arcadia he is at pains to anatomise, and the senses were fully satisfied not only by a set which Mr Ramsden and his team made impressive by its very discretion – right down to a convincingly eighteenth century floor – but also by Guy Lough as the invisible live musician playing the eminently appropriate *Dichertliebe* which supplied a lyrical immediacy while incidentally showing how much is lost



by recorded sound. Even the programme looked as if it had been lovingly disentangled from Chater’s opuscle.

The tortoise (which looked like a teddy bear in a shell, but suspended disbelief by some artful puppeting) is an emblem of timelessness in a play which relies paradoxically on rapid and vividly contrasting effects to endear the audience to Stoppard’s mental gymnastics. The great achievement of this production was the way these energies were understood, focused and developed in a way which made the dramatic medium fully adequate to the intellectual and emotional content of the play. All of the cast and those who worked with such evident commitment behind the scenes are to be congratulated on the formidable standard this *Arcadia* set for those of us left catching our breath with admiration in the flawed workaday world.

AF

Bradley House Play

Short and sweet - but highly entertaining. Aply directed by Ellie Parkes and Abi Ribbans, the annual house play was once again a huge success. As the audience filed into the OBS, nothing could have prepared them for such a highly amusing take on the classic and familiar Disney story, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*.

Particular mention should go to individual roles. Connie Krarup, as Snow White, played the sprightly character to perfection. Ellie Cunningham-Batt was suitably terrifying as the Evil Queen, yet also somehow managed to generate hysterical laughter, particularly in her dying moments! Tess Annan as Prince Charming proved that it is not just the boys who can portray the opposite sex with panache. The Dwarfs raised the roof with their singing, dancing and assorted accents. Finally, we could not have managed without the expertly acted trees, plants and animals which made up the woodland setting.

Credit is due to all involved, especially those behind the scenes - Georgie Hanbury (costumes), Emily Hess (lighting/sound/set design) and Bella Ruffell (props) and their teams. The audience were also treated to several musical items, both before and during the play.

Jem Leslie

DRAMA & MUSIC

Kilbracken House Play

I was promised a trio of sketches – but ‘sketches’ was an inadequate word for the three playlets that made up *All In The Timing*, Kilbracken’s contribution to the house play season. The work of American writer David Ives, this was comedy of the highest order.

In *Words, Words, Words*, Daniil Tarankov, Louis Bowers and James Thorn were three monkeys sitting at typewriters. Would they ever write *Hamlet*? They were desperate to do so, for then they could return to the jungle, but their captors refused to help them. They considered taking revenge upon the man who stood between them and their rightful heritage, but they were racked with indecision...

Chris Palmer and Finlo Clarkson presented *Sure Thing*, the disjointed tale of two strangers meeting in a restaurant. The

regular ringing of a bell caused time to leap backwards by a few seconds, allowing the characters to have a second, third or fourth attempt at their conversation. A number of parallel universes were presented...

Finally, in *The Philadelphia* Matt Tabor, Jonnie Martin and Barny Elmhirst fell into a world of opposites. The only way out is to ask for the thing you don’t want, and, if you want to summon the waitress, be very rude indeed.

All three pieces demanded a high level of technical skill from the actors, whose performances exceeded the standards we have come to expect from a house play. All credit, therefore, to director James Kitchin, who got the very best out of his players and gave us an evening to remember.

RMH

Michell House Comedy Drama

The boys of Michell House presented a programme of sketches by Stephen Fry and Hugh Laurie, all written for double-acts. These were almost universally at the risqué end of the taste scale but they were much appreciated by a good gathering of parents, pupils and staff. The most striking feature of the production was that the cast numbered 37 actors, a pleasing cross-section of the house. Particular highlights were provided by Joe Colchester and Thomas Schafranek in effective deadpan style, while Mr Beavan was type-cast as an eccentric Test Match Special commentator in the vein of Brian Johnston. Jan Westad seemed absolutely tailor-made for the role of Richard Whiteley in a spoof Countdown sketch. Carlos Pang was a terrifyingly clinical surgeon from the viewpoint of his poor patient, Ken Kashiwagi. Harry Hopson and Henry Wilson-Holt played a pair of insane yet plausible psychiatrists; Henry also played a crucial role in directing the F Block contributions. Important production assistance also came from David MacColl, Jamie Dujardin and Jamie Couchman.

The event was rounded off splendidly by another well-received double act, curry and rice.

TJD

Southfield House Play

The audience which filled OBS for Southfield’s house play was this year treated to a spectacular performance of the classic tale *Cinderella*, the likes of which has never before been seen. The play, directed by Louise Fletcher, was an astounding success. The fantastic script, adapted and improvised by Southfield girls, included a range of hilarious characters. Perhaps the most memorable of these were the ugly stepsisters, true to form in Burberry and bling. The costumes on the whole were truly great to behold, and I am sure they will doubtlessly inspire further generations to bring fairy tales into the 21st century. Mr Fletcher, Mrs Scanlon and Theo Matthews all took part in cameo roles, whilst Mrs Phillips was once again burdened with the job of backstage direction, as well as creating the marvellous backdrop. A note of thanks should also be made to everyone who helped to make the night a success, and for all the time and effort put into costumes, props and the lighting. Audience participation as well as house participation was at an all time high, and the whole play was very well received. If ever one should wonder how best to bring together funny characters, a love story about overcoming adversity and truly shocking costumes, they must undoubtedly come to the conclusion that ‘The play’s the thing’.

Angharad Maclellan

Stanley House Play

During the weeks leading up to the Stanley House play, the girls involved spent many evenings devoting themselves to endless rehearsals. The play could not have come together without the help of a few important people: Liddy Conway, who made a great choice of play, assigned the characters and planned



rehearsals; Anna Symington and Natasha Evans, who directed the rehearsals, making sure everyone was in the right place at the right time, wearing the right clothes, with the right props; and Miss Hopkins who helped so much with the costumes, props and was generous in dedicating her time to us.

Liddy chose a famous play entitled *Once a Catholic*. In a nutshell, the play, set in London in the 1950s, is about the lives of the rebellious and the goody-two-shoes Catholic girls at a very strict Catholic school. The girls at the school brought completely different characters to the play, including the usual mix: the good, innocent girl (Lucy Oliver), the charming, disobedient girl (Harriet Stallibrass), and the one with no clue whatsoever (Astrid Nestius-Brown)! The play began with a wonderful duet sung by Amanie Fennel-Wells and Lucy Oliver. Abruptly, we moved into the play which, understandably, had to be cut down quite significantly but, taking this into account, it was still very easy to

follow. From being a serious play, the cast managed to transform it into a funny, crafty piece with many amusing comments and naughty sexual innuendos which really got the crowd cheering! I must say that the schoolgirls, all named Mary, played their parts extremely well, as did the teachers. I enjoyed Natalia's efforts of being an old, fragile male music teacher and her impressions of an elderly man's singing voice. Incredibly, throughout the whole play, the cast maintained their expressions and stayed in character, despite having us giggling away in the front row! I also enjoyed the roles of Astrid and Harriet, who had to fight over heart-throb Derek, played by Sam Steele. Daisy Preece did extremely well to play the role of the Irish priest. Her accent was incredibly believable and her performance was faultless. It would take forever to praise all the actresses but I must also congratulate all the back-stage members who did a fantastic job with make-up, costumes, lighting and props. It was a fantastic performance and has definitely raised the bar for next year!

Harri Archbell

School House Drama and Music Evening

This year, instead of putting on one single play, School House decided to perform four scenes from four different plays and to showcase the musical talent of the house with performances from various of its members. The plays represented roughly one hundred years of dramatic comedy, from the end of the nineteenth century to the beginning of the twenty-first, starting with an extract from the opening scene of Oscar Wilde's 1895 comedy *The Importance of Being Earnest* and finishing with, appropriately enough, a scene from Alan Bennett's 2004 school-set *The History Boys*. Each scene was delivered with real panache by the actors who were all obviously having a lot of fun in their roles – and who wouldn't, tottering around the stage in sparkly high heels or getting to surprise everyone by ripping off one's shirt and trousers in one quick flick of the wrist?

Like the drama, the music involved boys from nearly all the years in the house, from the F block's jazz man Oli Rowlands and X-Factor hopeful Marcus Hunter to the Upper School's Tom Clarke and Titus English, both of whom impressed the audience with their accomplished recitals of Chopin's *Raindrop Prelude* and the finale from Stravinsky's *The Firebird* respectively. It was, however, Dr Morse who stole the limelight here with his amusing Chemistry-inspired twist on the infamously speedy 'I am the very model of a modern Major-General' from *The Pirates of Penzance*.

Many thanks go to Mr Smith for his time, efforts and creativity directing and producing all the drama and the music and to the ever-faultless kitchen staff, who provided such a superb meal for everybody afterwards.

Freddie Rose



DRAMA & MUSIC

Town House Play

Your typical play, really: three fifteen-stone women, some Scottish bloke cringing in the front row and some historically inaccurate banter from one of the infamous Miller brothers. Okay, it wasn't really that typical, but the Town House play – *The Scramblings at Spriggly Torch* – was really one of the most entertaining evenings I've experienced at Rugby.

A weekend house party turned weekend hunt and a confusion over a set of aircraft design plans. Sir Henry, dutifully played by Harry Thompson, holds a casual weekend house party, which is then hijacked, and used to catch a traitor. The heroes of the play, almost shockingly, turn out to be a Welsh bartender named Plunge and a Scottish butler named Poop – both characters were fantastically mastered by Sam Wood and Will Lynn respectively. Less shockingly, the head of MI5, Sir Aubrey, is deemed to be the villain of the play... This role belonged to Giorgio Ferraro who, like Sam and Will, completely owned his character on stage with a fantastic performance.

A play of manly women and womanly men, of little dresses and masculine, high pitched voices, combined with the genuine smiles and laughter of a fantastic audience, all worked perfectly with the idea which we set out to achieve: to have fun and entertain. This witty and perfectly applaudable performance was conducted with a style and elegance which can be felt in all of Town House's endeavours.

Chris Mills

Tudor House Play

A jungle; a comically large pair of ears; an excited troupe of monkeys; four gormless vultures – what could possibly go wrong? The Tudor House play this year – *The Jungle Book* – was a huge success. Amelia Barkes' adaption of the story was pulled off with style and excitement, with the vast majority of the house taking part either on stage or behind the scenes. Particular praise goes to Meg MacMahon, who played Mowgli, and to the impressive performances by Occy Carr and Eva Van Den Belt who each added their own touch of spontaneity.

Jenny Burton and Katie Bradfield



Rugby School's Got Talent!

After weeks of auditions, recalls and rehearsals, the eight finalists delivered their ultimate performances in front of an audience of over 500 Rugby pupils and staff. This home interpretation of the TV show *Britain's Got Talent!* celebrated the best hidden talent amongst Rugby's pupils. Acts ranged from break dancers and contortionists to guitarists, drummers and future singing sensations, who could rival the talents of today's popular music stars.



The judging panel – comprising Mr Fletcher, Miss Thompson and Head of School, Jess Hastings – had the tricky task of whittling down the finalists from eight to two, leaving the final casting vote in the hands of the audience. The winning act of the night turned out to be 'Dance Squad' – the most talented (and select few) from one of the school's games options, 'Reccy Dance'. The act stormed the stage with their decorated black and gold hoodies, performing to T-Pain's 'Church'.

The night wouldn't have run as smoothly as it did if it wasn't for the hard work and effort put in by Abi Barber, Fraser Wylie, Titus English and Jack Sardeson. Our thanks also go to the judging panel, Mr Hill, Mr Bradbury, Mr Ellis, Mr Harris, the School Porters and Elizabeth Jamieson for their support.

Abi Barber





The Pirates of Penzance

Rugby School delivered its own interpretation of Gilbert & Sullivan's renowned *The Pirates of Penzance* so well that the production managed to convince over 1300 people that the Temple Speech Room was really and truly a rocky cave in Cornwall. Since September 2009 principal and chorus cast members had worked hard with various members of both the Music and Drama departments to recreate the explosive and fun-filled plot, with a slight modern-day twist.

Titus English's charm and stage presence served him well as the Pirate King, while Jamie Couchman lived up to the role of young Frederick, tied down by an overbearing 'sense of duty'. Jem Leslie, who fully embraced the role of dainty Mabel, captured the hearts of the audience with her lyrical voice, and did a great job in leading her three sisters (Amarantha Fennell-Wells, Georgia Collis and Sarah Alcock); the contrast between the role of Ruth – Frederick's nursery maid – played on respective nights by Abi Barber and Tess Annan took the play in new directions.

No version of *Pirates* is complete without its Major General Stanley, and Ali Horler dished up a rendition of 'I Am A Very Model of a Modern Major General' to be long remembered! The use of the School Porters and several other 'suitable' male staff members really did put the icing on the cake – their performance of Constabulary Policemen (led by their hopeless Sergeant, played by Thomas Ribaroff) left the audience in hysterics.

Despite having to handle a cast of almost 100 pupils the direction and efforts (not to forget constant discipline!) of Mr Drennan, Mrs Lawson, Mr Beavan and Mr Colley ensured the performances were a great success! More musicals, please!

Abi Barber



DRAMA & MUSIC



Diary of a Director of Music September 2009 – June 2010

September

'Lead by example'. Us experienced old lags know this is the classic way to inspire youngsters, so after a nine-week holiday what better way to kick-start the academic year than present a staff concert as the first major billing? Like many a brilliant idea concocted in the Merchants Refreshment Emporium at the end of the Trinity term the cold reality hits all the full-time musos on the first day back. My pleadings with them to honour their commitment, trips to the local friendly physio and copious lashings of WD40 (plus promised lashings of Castlemaine XXXX for after the gig itself), seem to do the trick and the **Staff Concert** actually manages to amuse, entertain and even at times amaze the audience (hopefully for the correct reasons).

October

Now it's the turn of the kids to do their stuff and the enticingly named **Blue Note Society** gives a rum assortment of crooners, pluckers and strummers the opportunity to show off their wares to all and sundry. Now restricted to ticket holders only due to its popularity I remind Nigel Beavan about the first ever BNS a few years back when the two staff present somewhat outnumbered the one pupil who dared turn up. Some muttering about the 'good old days' but I think he is only joking. That chappie from up north, claiming to be Head of Brass, puts on a **Brass Concert** (clever title that one) and a good (and loud) time is had by all – some very impressive talent here, especially amongst some of the younger brassers (a technical term I am told). Not to be outdone, a week later the Head of Piano tippexes out the word 'brass' on the posters and inserts 'piano' and hey presto an instant **Piano Concert** takes place. Cunning lot my staff – have to keep an eye on these budding Baldricks.

November

Apparently we have rather a lot of folk learning instruments here so it seems time we had a mega-concert – quickly inspecting my almanac I have a Baldrick moment and arrange for one of the secretaries, Kim Thompson, to put some pictures of leaves on a poster and in the flash of an eye we have an **Autumn Concert**. Not quite a cast of thousands but getting close to a quarter of school are to be found in the Symphony Orchestra, Senior Strings, Concert Band, Ripieno and Lower Chapel Choir – though to be fair not all were playing at the same time (now *that's* an interesting idea for the future). Quite a busy month, for within three weeks of this concert we also cram in an **Informal Concert** in the NMR, a lunchtime gig in **St Andrew's Church**, another **Blue Note Society**, all rounded off the month on Advent Sunday with not one but two big events, carols at **Blenheim Palace** and **Christian Forshaw** in our chapel.

December

The Carol Services seem to be getting earlier in December each year – maybe we are trying to emulate the shops by preparing for Christmas in September? However, all the punters seem to

be in the festive mood and it appears the Visitors' Service is now on everyone's 'must do' list: amazing how well over a thousand people can fit into the school chapel (the phrase 'can fit into' might need reconsidering methinks: time for ticketing perhaps?).

The Christmas Concert is quiet, restrained, with an atmosphere more akin to a chamber recital of late Beethoven quartets – or maybe not. Glad to see that the chappie from up north has toned down his taste in dodgy DJs, although everything is relative – we all agree he is colour blind and so must be forgiven.

January

Peace and quiet at last! Just a **Blue Note Society** to dust off those New Year cobwebs and a Wagnerian proportioned production of **Pirates of Penzance** perfectly presented.

February

A short month maybe but we still find time for an **Informal Concert**, a **St Andrew's Church** concert and a **Junior Blue Note Society** – the latter is much the same as its big brother except the alcohol level in the audience is drastically reduced (apparently). Someone discovers that it's ages since a **CD** was made of the choir and this neatly coincides with a generous parent who thinks the choir is rather good and offers to help out with the costs – so I manage to fool the members of the Upper Chapel Choir that Exeat ends two days earlier than advertised and we spend a merry six solid hours a day for two days recording in the chapel. Even my sense of humour is nearly dented when the producer suggests just one more take after the fifteenth attempt at 'Jesus Christ the apple tree' but the producer, Gary Cole of Regent Records, proves to be master of charm and persuasion: 'That was simply wonderful – why not one more time just so that it becomes outstanding?' Give the man his due, the finished product sounds rather good.

March

This could be turning into a silly month. Every year I swear we will reduce the number of events in this month and every year more creep into the calendar: the nostalgic days of three or four events maximum are evidently long behind us. Just to list them is going to take up my allotted space but never mind, here goes: the concerts start on 1st March with an **Informal Concert**, swiftly moving in the same week to a **Marshall House Concert**, a **Blue Note Society** and the Arnold Singers (aka The Arnies) at **Edgbaston Old Church**: the latter seems to be a firm fixture in the church's calendar – they certainly will not take no for an answer, and as the proceeds from the concert go to the church appeal and Future Hope we shouldn't complain. Hurtling rapidly into week two of this crazy month I find someone has slipped another **Informal Concert** in, followed a few hours later by the annual **Singing Competition** – Nicholas Scott-Burt, organist of St Andrew's Church is the judge and he manages to keep the punters happy with his witty and astute observations. A **Chamber Music Concert** fills up the midweek slot and then it's time for the Upper Chapel Choir to bomb down the M1 to London for the **BBC TV Songs of Praise School Choir of the Year Competition**; third time



lucky? I think not but, hey ho, the choir sings fantastically and we get many letters and emails from Joe Public raving about our lovely sound (and raving about the judges' decision – but that's another story). Good. That's March done, apart from the minor matter of the **Choral Society** gig (featuring the sublime Requiem by Gabriel Fauré) in the last few days of term: the choir now has 150 vocalists in it and manages to produce some terrifying sounds in the *Libera me* and a spine-tingling hushed tone in the *In Paradisum*. Decide to give the audience real value for money and pop in the *Adiemus* suite by Karl Jenkins as a curtain raiser featuring the girls of the Arnold Singers with a battery of percussion and strings all really enjoying themselves – hmm, a bit too much methinks, so it's back to funky 15th-century polyphony for them next term.

April

The family of the late Michael Mavor, former Head Master, invite the Arnold Singers to sing at his **Memorial Service in St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh**. Sense of humour begins to be dented on the morning of the flight up to Edinburgh when we hear that an Icelandic molehill called Eyjafjallajökull (that'll stuff the spell-check) has started spewing out a lot of garbage and we have to resort to driving up to our gig in two minibuses. Despite the seven hours of driving and little sleep in the glamorous Travelodge the Arnies manage to sound sublime and are invited to take over the job of the resident cathedral choir – decide this is not a very wise or diplomatic idea so we reluctantly head south again. Much rejoicing as we squeeze out of the GCSE D block musicians their final bits of composition coursework in time for the deadline. A rather hastily put together **GCSE Composers' Concert** sees the world premieres of fourteen masterpieces (note to self: might have to find another more appropriate term for that one).

Principal Music Events 2009 – 2010

Sept Music Society – Music Staff Concert
Blue Note Society
BBC1 Songs of Praise featuring the Arnold Singers

Oct Informal Concert
Brass Concert
Blue Note Society
Lunchtime Concert at St Andrew's Church
Music Society – Piano Recital
Junior Blue Note Society

Nov Autumn Concert
Informal Concert
Lunchtime Concert at St Andrew's Church
Blue Note Society
Arnold Singers at Blenheim Palace
Music for Advent with Christian Forshaw

Dec School Carol Service
Visitors' Carol Service
Christmas Concert

Jan Blue Note Society
D Block Concert
Musical: Pirates of Penzance

Feb Lunchtime Concert at St Andrew's Church
Junior Blue Note Society
BBC1 Songs of Praise featuring the Arnold Singers

Mar Informal Concert
Marshall House Concert
Blue Note Society
Arnold Singers at Edgbaston Old Church
Informal Concert
Singing Competition
Chamber Music Concert
Upper Chapel Choir in finals of BBC Songs of Praise Competition
Lunchtime Concert at St Andrew's Church
Choral Society Concert: Requiem – Fauré & Adiemus – Jenkins

May

Well, thank goodness for a short working month due to a bank holiday and an Exeat – as if! Eight varied events are squeezed in, kicking off with a rather impressive selection of music in the **F block concert**, with some really fabulously talented junior ticks giving the large audience a great evening. **Blue Note Society** appears in both senior and junior guise whilst that man Eno and assorted jazzers find an excuse to open a bar in the TSR and claim that it's all part of **Jazz Night**. The end of the month and a desperately needed Exeat seems to be in sight but we still manage to knock up the traditional **Speech Day Concert** with star turns from the symphony orchestra, senior strings, concert band, Arnies and jazz orchestra.

June

One would think the **Arts Festival** would be enough for this month but somehow we sneak in an **Informal Concert** (featuring a number of trembling ABRSM candidates), a **Marshall House Drama & Music Evening** and even an **Organ Recital** by your lowly scribe. Then it's all the fun of the fair, well at least the fun of the festival, with **Festival Big Band, Music Technology, Highly Strung, Jazz, Songs for a Summer Evening, Chamber Music, Afternoon at the Opera** and **The Boy Friend** truly ensuring that the musicians in the school are left in a true state of exhaustion by the last day of term. Now for nine weeks of freedom. Plenty of time to scheme and plan for a really quiet 2010/11 season...

RDS

Apr Arnold Singers sing at Michael Mavor's Memorial Service in St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh
GCSE Composers' Concert

May F Block Concert
Lunchtime Concert at St Andrew's Church
Blue Note Society
Open Day Concert
Jazz Evening
Junior Blue Note Society
Informal Concert
Speech Day Concert

June Informal Concert
Marshall House Drama & Music Evening
Music Society – Organ Recital
Rugby School Arts Festival
Music Events: Festival Big Band, Music Technology, Highly Strung, Jazz, Songs for a Summer Evening, Chamber Music, Afternoon at the Opera and The Boy Friend

DRAMA & MUSIC

Arnold Singers

Members of the Arnold Singers, Rugby School's chamber choir, are used to being worked hard by their conductor, the school's Director of Music, Richard Dunster-Sigtermans. Possibly Advent Sunday 2009 will be remembered as one of their busiest days, packing in two excellent performances and two excellent meals.

The first official performance of the day was scheduled to be at Blenheim Palace, although the choir did give a sneak preview to the Holmes family (Cindy Holmes is one of the School's governors and mother to two boys in the School), who warmly welcomed the choir, director and accompanist to their beautiful home for lunch, effortlessly (it seemed) providing enough food to feed an entire boys' boarding house!

The afternoon performances at Blenheim Palace went down a treat with the audience of Palace visitors, and the odd Rugby parent or two. The Arnies, as they are affectionately known, performed a selection of traditional and modern Christmas carols, including one of the two pieces which secured the Rugby School Upper Chapel Choir its place in the final of BBC Songs of Praise School Choir of the Year Competition. Immediately after the two recitals at Blenheim the choir had to rush back to School to prepare for the next event – there wasn't even a chance to sightsee, let alone buy a souvenir!

It is not every day that a school choir is invited to perform with such a renowned and superbly gifted saxophonist as Christian Forshaw. However, this was the second time that Christian had worked with Rugby School musicians (the previous occasion was in 2007), and it proved to be a wonderful experience for the choir to rehearse and perform with an international player of Christian's calibre. The Chapel was a perfect venue for the concert and the blend of saxophone, percussion, soprano solo, organ and the Arnies inspired the audience to give a standing ovation. For me the performance of the night was undoubtedly Forshaw's *Nunc Dimittis*, a powerful piece of music that truly makes one's spine tingle.

How do you finish off a day like that? Chili, of course! Straight after the concert all of the singers, plus Christian and company, descended on the Dunster-Sigterman's abode for the now traditional Advent fare of an RDS (in)famous chili con carne. On behalf of the Arnold Singers, I would like to extend thanks to Christian Forshaw and the Sanctuary Ensemble; Antonia Keeney and her colleagues at Blenheim Palace; the Holmes family; and most importantly, Mr Dunster-Sigterman and Mr Colley: the day would not have been as successful as it was without their help, support and input.

Abi Barber



Howard Goodall

Transformation was the theme of this year's Arnold Foundation lecturer, composer Howard Goodall, as he expertly deciphered 'The Stravinsky Code: Music's Untapped Power'. Supremely, he said, music promotes self-esteem, team work and social cohesion, whilst giving enormous pleasure. Sport might achieve some of these goals but here 'there are no losers'. Music is 'the only thing that really changes you', that offers 'an alternative timescale' and 'puts the brain into a different place'. He has witnessed its transformative power himself. There was the Iraqi child, traumatised into voluntary mutism, who had recovered her speech through singing. There was the gypsy wedding in Romania which this 'comfortable Londoner' had found rather threatening until the sound of an accordion suddenly put a smile on every face. Music education is vital to 'create a virtuous life' and singing in particular is a 'birthright', as important as literacy and numeracy, not least because 'music makes the brain grow faster'. In children, music is a 'magic' that transforms their lives.

JCS



Arts Festival Reviews

The Boyfriend

The Boyfriend, directed by Mr Naylor and Mr Dunster-Sigtermans, was one of the most anticipated events of this year's Arts Festival, and it didn't disappoint. The faultless cast performed every note and step to perfection, and had the audience roaring with laughter.

Gene Hirst and Tom Ribaroff presented wonderful vocal performances and their chemistry was undeniable. Tom had the female members of the audience swooning as he hit every note. Backed up by a capable chorus, the other stars of the cast each had a part to play and all showcased their talents. Georgia Collis and Gene Hirst's stunning vocals left everyone in awe. Georgia and Noel Newman were old flames thrown together. Their flirtatious behaviour was a comical parallel storyline and their bum-pinching engaged the audience who were all chuckling as the duo frolicked on stage.

The music was catchy and by the end we were all humming and clapping along. Every joke and pun was well delivered. *The Boyfriend* was well worth the wait and the cast performed their parts professionally and fantastically.

Poppy Mostyn-Owen



Highly Strung

Sitting down in the TSR, the Senior Strings Orchestra managed to dispel any misconceptions regarding the title: the relaxed atmosphere was a perfect opening for the first day of the Arts Festival. This event highlights the musical talent and diversity of Rugby School, and the quality of teaching within the Music Department. The violins, violas, cellos and the bass all rose in a cacophony of glorious sound unlike any I had ever heard.

Eunseo Lee's piano concerto was particularly impressive. Then up stepped the guitar ensemble led by Graham Roberts. They played a wonderful rendition of *Shot In the Dark* from the *Pink Panther* movies. This also was met by hearty applause.

All of the performers played wonderfully throughout the performance, and I look forward to seeing more of this kind of thing in the future.

Eddie Thomas

Forum: John Harrison

If you happened to be passing by Dean during the Arts Festival, you may have been lucky enough to hear various stasimons of Sophocles' *Antigone* being performed by numerous Rugbeians, under the marvellous direction of John Harrison, the noted classicist and theatrical director. After generically discussing ancient tragedy as a whole, the audience went on to examine the fundamental role of the Greek chorus, and in a workshop-style format, we explored its significance within the plot. Great fun was had by all, and it was particularly informative for those studying Classical Civilisation.

Taz O'Brien



Arts Festival

The Lesson

The three actors in this production of Eugene Ionesco's *The Lesson* were Tilly Fletcher as the pupil, Talula Carpenter as the maid, and Mr Fisher as the professor. The pupil had arranged a private lesson with a well-known professor at his house. During the lesson it becomes apparent that the pupil does not meet the high standards expected by the professor, who gets more and more frustrated as the lesson progresses. After forty minutes of intense drama the play ends with an unexpectedly dramatic twist. The actors and supporting team created an excellent production due to the first-class acting and the gripping storyline.

Caroline Cieslewicz



Music Tech Concert

The Music Tech Concert in the NMR was an event which was definitely worth rushing to get tickets for. The NMR was packed and late spectators sat on the floor or stood by the door. Julian Roberts, James Watkins and Ben Hayes, accompanied by the expertise of Mr Martin, performed music at a very high level. The performances consisted of a combination of live and pre-recorded material sometimes mixed with film. James Watkins and Julian Roberts showed their extraordinary talent for guitar and special effects, as did Ben Hayes on the keyboard. *Backward* by Ben Hayes was a particular highlight and was an entirely self-composed piece. We were also treated to some F block work. Some of these pieces were remixes and others were everyday noises combined to make music. The final song was performed by the three music tech students, and was superb. They played *Time Is Running Out* by the band Muse and they managed perfectly to recreate the band's iconic sound and received much appreciation from the audience. It was a privilege to watch such a high level of talent.

Poppy Mostyn-Owen

Staff and Scholars' Exhibition

Upon entering the Lewis Galley one was immediately greeted by great fluorescent paintings and truly eye-grabbing three dimensional modern art, all of which displayed Rugby School's true artistic talent and ability. The main work on display was a set of four pieces by our very own Mr John, each one a bright, marvellous piece of work which would be at home in an upmarket gallery.

Continuing into the second room of the Gallery we witnessed wonderful photography and outstanding paintings from the D block through to the XX, a clear symbol of our students' tremendous artistic skill, surely signifying a second side to Rugby School.

Franciszek Matuszek



Arts Festival

Reduced Shakespeare

To begin with I was doubtful as to how a company consisting of Rugby's finest actors could do justice to the complete works of William Shakespeare in just an hour, but they pulled it off brilliantly. The cast contained few people: Astrid Nestius Brown, Lucy Oliver, Tash Evans, Jessie Firth, Mairi Hilleary, Amanie Fennell-Wells, Kate Kennedy, Taz O'Brien and Alex Colville. However, despite the minimal numbers, all the actors appeared on stage several times in various different costumes and guises creating a totally new outlook on Shakespeare, taking the audience through his comedies, tragedies and histories, and adding a comical effect that really made the whole play stand out. All the actors were obviously enjoying themselves, and that enjoyment was contagious. The audience loved it.

Ellie Robertson



Organ and Brass Concert

The Organ and Brass Concert took place in the Chapel which was filled with those keen to see the incredible talent of some of Rugby School's finest young musicians. Sarang Lee opened the concert on the organ, playing a highly complex piece; her skill on this instrument was phenomenal. Katrina Levins then played the tuba, followed by Kaitlin Wild on the organ, playing a tricky piece. Kaitlin and her sister Charlotte then performed together, Kaitlin again on the organ and Charlotte on the trumpet. They played the famous *Prince of Denmark's March*. Then, unexpectedly, Jinseog Lee played an off-the-programme piece on the organ, displaying his remarkable gift. Finally the audience was treated to the best brass players in the school, backed by Mr Williams on the organ playing *Toccata*. The Organ and Brass Concert was an extraordinary display of talent from Rugby School pupils.

Poppy Mostyn-Owen



Arts Festival

Weakest Link

Miss Dixon made a convincing Anne Robinson with her wig and quizzical questions. The nine contestants' lack of general knowledge let them down in the first round. Miss Dixon's demanding questions continued, making contestants drop like flies; however, by the time the contestants were whittled down to a more knowledgeable few, correct answers became more regular and the points shot up. The next few rounds were close but eventually it was the final sudden-death stage of the competition. It was an extremely entertaining show, testing both the contestants and audience on their general knowledge.

Jess Bickerton

Rock 'n Blues

The usually inert atrium of the Science School had been transformed. Professional sound systems waited in anticipation for the supernovas of the show, coupled with a lighting display that did the electromagnetic spectrum proud. The performers chose to leave their comfort zone and face a rather ferocious audience: a mix of peers and pupils. However, the ensembles took all hiccups and setbacks

in their stride and continued with their devoted tributes to the artists with whom they grew up. Surprise talents were in abundance throughout the evening and a variety of collaborations revealed quieter, hidden sides of the members of the School's senior common room. Those who participated were justly applauded for seizing the opportunity by the lapels – of the metaphorical lab coat of course.

Amarantha Fennell-Wells

Forum: Marcos

OBS was heated up with the sound of authentic Spanish flamenco music from the distinguished musician and broadcaster, Marcos.

In between spell-binding rhythms and the reading of passages from his book, Marcos also treated us to an extensive history of the origins of Andalusia's gypsy culture, and invited us to think that flamenco is not just about dancing, but more importantly singing. In particular, Marcos focused on the life of Camarón de la Isla, and the way in which his music has influenced flamenco all over the world today. After watching various video clips of his performances, it was not difficult to

see why! Listening to Marcos' mesmerizing guitar skills was a highly enjoyable and informative evening.

Taz O'Brien

Radio Play

A performance acted purely by teachers, the radio play was a huge success with its wide range of sound effects provided by the cast, aided by the technical support of Mr Drennan, Mr Ramsden and Jess Horner. Mrs Scanlon acted the part of a Welsh maid with style and Mr Naylor was a revolutionary Holmes, and the story was narrated mainly by Manning (Mr Pappenheim) and Watson (Mr Edwards). The story was interesting and well acted and the audience was captivated by the plot. The sound effects and music added to the suspense and really contributed to making the event one to remember, and I think everybody in the audience enjoyed it and would go back and see it again if they could. It was a refreshing and interesting performance to go to mid-afternoon and really stood out from all the other events in the Arts Festival.

Ellie Robertson



Dichterliebe

Dichterliebe (Poet's Love) was a collaboration of the Modern Languages and the Music departments. Dr Smith was acting as the intermediary, as he is a lover of both languages and music. Mr Gillett introduced the piece with a prologue about Heinrich Heine and Robert Schumann, the writer and composer respectively of *Dichterliebe*. Dr Smith then sang the piece in sections; every few sections he paused for Mr Gillett to explain the music and the thought process behind Schumann and Heine's composition and writing. Mr Gillett offered an insight into the wonderful melodies of romantic German poetry. Dr Smith's powerful baritone voice, accompanied by Mr Colley's skill on the piano, enthralled the audience. *Dichterliebe* was passionate and beautifully performed by two skilled musicians, and Mr Gillett's knowledge made the concert even more fascinating.

Poppy Mostyn-Owen

Sketches

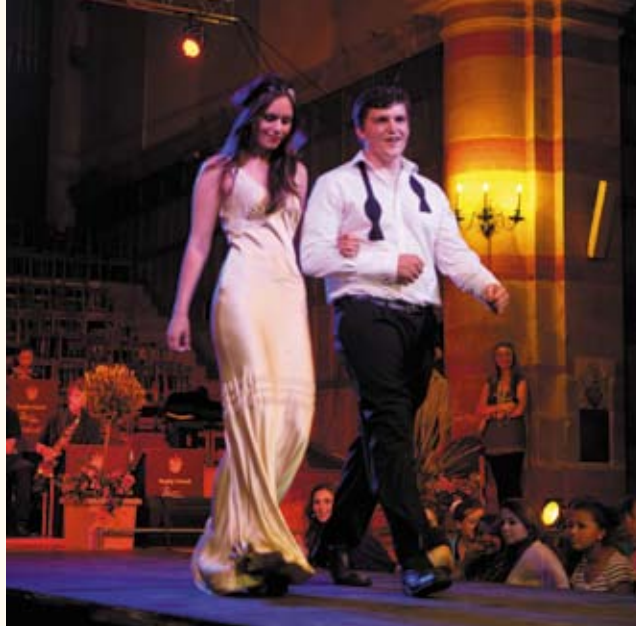
Sketches was a series of eight sketches cleverly devised and written by members of the cast. During every sketch the audience greatly enjoyed the creative and funny ideas that these people had put together. *Pam Loves Toddlers*, *Hear, Hear* and *Cookery* were hilarious, and the cookery sketch will definitely be remembered for the mess it created. *Firing*, was also one of the highlights, due to the great acting and script. The sketches were directed by Ellie Cunningham-Batt. Everyone involved is to be praised due to their funny ideas and great acting.

Lottie Griffiths

Improvisation Crash Course

Improvisation is definitely a difficult skill (as I found out whilst performing in *Reduced Shakespeare!*) so I was sceptical when I turned up in the dance studio for a 'crash course'. Crowded with stubborn looking E blockers and a few of us LXX, we were thrown into several dramatic games to 'free our minds', having been instructed not to think, which was in fact really difficult! Oliver Senton, the guest directing this course, tried to muster our enthusiasm teaching us to work with each other to create simple improvised frames. It was actually a lot of fun in the end, creating human sandwiches, sound balls and a strip club, surprisingly!

Lucy Oliver



Festival Fashion Show Finale

The Fashion Show finale of the 2010 Arts Festival was a fitting end for the spectacular collection of shows and performances on offer this summer. The stylish models showed off their designers' fantastic twenties designs with much flair and much pouting! The voices of Taz O'Brien and Tom Huddart followed those strutting down the runway of the TSR, with Mr Eno's jazz orchestra booming out swing. There were not only trumpets and saxophones blasting but also Mrs Naylor and Mr Richards singing, and of course Eunseo Lee, giving his last performance to his Rugby School fans. The cast of *The Boyfriend* performed also, showcasing their dancing and singing talent, which was a definite highlight in the week of shows. It was an evening of great fun and fashion, music and singing, brilliantly rounding off perhaps the best Arts Festival so far!

Lucy Oliver



Arts Festival

Alice in Bed



Having frantically asked a confused-looking F blocker for directions to the rackets court, I arrived late for the second showing of *Alice in Bed* but not late enough to miss the bemusing entrance of James Kitchin, striding past the crowds, followed by a bewildered Alice (Daisy Preece), setting the scene for perhaps the most confusingly insane production of this year's Arts Festival. It was definitely different, what with the mattress seating plan, the tiny tables and chairs, and the cupcakes to eat. There were several brilliantly stylised performances from Tess Annan and Alice Stuart-Grumbar, effectively the *Tweedle-dum* and *Tweedle-dee* characters of the play. However this was not a regular *Alice in Wonderland* tale: the dark elements of a mental ward created a stark contrast to the innocence of the original story. Daisy Preece effectively combined the two, creating a rather obscure, unusually deranged Alice; another excellent performance along with the rest. The storyline was as mad as the characters and, although confusing, the climbing-frame bed together with the audience interaction held our attention. Others just ate the cakes.



Forum: Sam Troughton

Sam Troughton is becoming one of the UK's most famous actors and he has starred in a great variety of productions from *Alien vs. Predator* to *Romeo and Juliet*. However, he is best known for his TV appearance in the BBC production of *Robin Hood*. Mr Williams met Sam while studying drama at Hull University. Sam comes from a great acting stock. His father, uncle and particularly his grandfather, who was an early *Doctor Who*, are all professional actors.

After an introduction Sam proceeded to respond to questions fired at him by Mr Williams. Sam is currently part of the Royal Shakespeare Company and is performing two plays. He was quizzed on the difficulty of confusing lines across plays and the hours he has to work. Sam explained to us the commitment it takes to become an actor, and had the audience rapt in a star-struck silence. Sam spoke on many diverse topics from acting alongside Gwyneth Paltrow to rumours of his romantic involvement with Billie Piper. He also spoke about the choices he made between drama school, film or theatre, and how to get into character. The audience then had the opportunity to ask any unanswered questions, and those not bold enough to put their hands up rushed to the front at the end of the forum to get autographs and answers.

Lucy Oliver

Poppy Mostyn-Owen



CARLEY PAINE



LUCY CAMERON



TONNIE CASSIDY



JEM LESLIE

Art & Design



REBECCA UKLEJA



ALBERT NEUENDORF



ELLIE CUNNINGHAM BATT



ROSIE GORDON LENNOX

Meditations

The scent of wild flowers and damp grass hung in the air, mixed with the pungent smell of the sweat which glistened on the slick hair of the horses' muscular necks. The gentle chirps of the morning birds and the distant trickle of the brook seemed to fill the silence of this forgotten corner of the world. The long, wispy grass, dotted with colour, was gently bending in the light breeze which was sweeping along the valley floor. The rock-steady mountains stood looming over the valley, as if curious about the new arrivals. The morning sky was an explosion of colour – pink and orange streaks slashed through the sky. The sun creeping out from behind the mountains cast a beam of light down onto the centre of the valley, to the main attraction. The old oak stood proud, its trunk thick and strong.

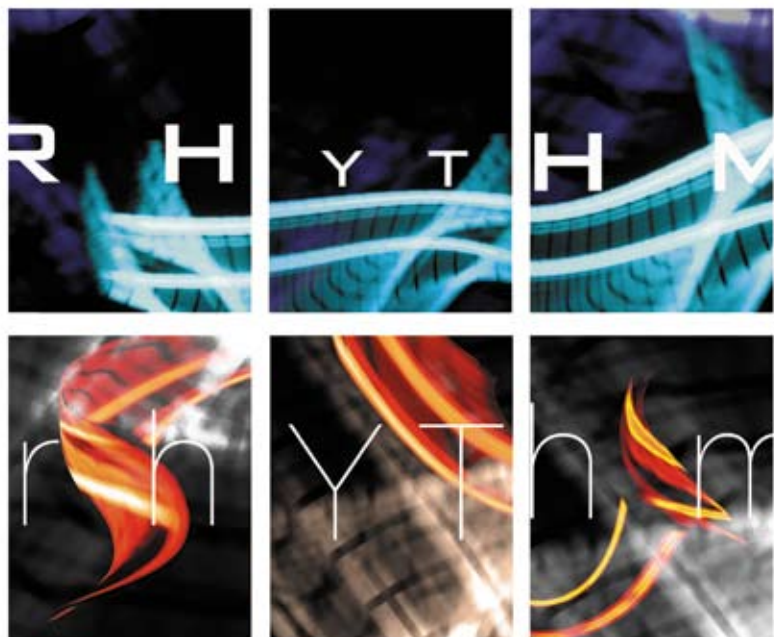
The murmur of conversation had come to a halt as everyone admired their surroundings. The tiresome trek through the night was over, and as guaranteed, the view was breathtakingly stunning. Everyone's faces displayed raw emotion. Even our leader, Martin, a small, old man who hadn't shown a glimpse of cheerfulness when first meeting us, was now tranquil. His usually crumpled up face was now a picture of serenity. The woman who had accompanied us throughout the journey and who had questioned us on every aspect of our lives was now silent, making the atmosphere totally still. The mood was broken when one of the horses whinnied and threw up its head in impatience. We had been told where we would be setting up camp. The old oak was the perfect spot to centre our stay. Its long branches were like open arms pointing towards the sky, and its shady leaves which spread out far were a safe shelter for the night.

The sun had now risen higher in the sky and the valley seemed to be coming to life. More sounds of wild animals randomly erupted from the long grass and more birds were swooping from the oak and to the other trees which lined the valley edge. The lush grass finished just behind the trees and gave way to the dark purple rock which gradually sloped to the mountains. Just behind the trees, on one side of the valley, a brook flowed gently, with small boulders obstructing the water in places. The sound of croaking frogs could be heard as we walked past.

Louise, our assistant leader, suggested stopping to let the horses drink. We all rode over to the bank and the horses stretched out their necks and slurped at the water. Martin went ahead to make a start at setting up camp, and soon we all followed, still in a stunned silence – it was almost as if we had a growing respect for this perfect place. I imagined that if you came

here hundreds of years ago it would look almost exactly as it is now, a sanctuary of nature, untouched by the uncaring and selfish hands of mankind. The canopy of leaves stretched out over a few meters from the oak. I jumped off my horse and hooked her reins over a snapped branch of the thick trunk. I circled the tree, my arm outstretched and my hand skimming over the rough bark. At the foot of the tree I sat down and scraped up the dust in my hands, then let it fall from between my fingers. The clatter of pans woke me from my daydream, I got up and made my way to the centre of the camp. Logs had been placed around the fire and an old kettle was hanging from a stick held up by metal rods either side. Louise had taken all my gear off the horse and had already set up my tent. The flimsy material was held up by ancient rods and the metal pins dug into the mature ground.

Excitement started to well up inside me as I realised I had hours to explore this hidden treasure. I changed out of my boots and breeches into some shorts and told Martin to tell my parents I would be back before dark. He mumbled something to himself and so I headed off. I walked away from the oak and headed towards the slanting rock, letting my hands brush against the wisps of grass and inhaling the blend of delicate scents. I reached the row of trees which were standing in front of the brook. At the base of one of the trees a rabbit was burrowing, totally un-phased by my presence. I slipped off my shoes and lightly stepped forward towards the bank of the water. Little pebbles swirled at the bottom of the clear water and electric blue fish darted through the current. I dipped a toe into the cool water then stepped in. The water flowed past me. I looked further up the stream and noticed the miniature torrents of water surging down a groove in the rocks, only to settle in a



AMIE HALL



JENNY COOK

pool which led to where I was standing. I waded through the water and wandered what wonder I would discover next. I reached the pool and hoisted myself out of the water, then climbed up the smooth rocks which the water streamed down. I emerged in a different world; the sun was no longer visible, only shafts of light streamed through the canopy of leaves which hung over the deep, glimmering pool. Enormous boulders loomed over the water and higher up it cascaded over the rim and sleekly fell, then pounded the water at the bottom. A cave was hidden behind the curtain of water, and beside each rock there was an outburst of colour from vibrant plants. I clambered up the rocks and jumped into the cave. The air was fresh and cool, I walked along the edge and watched the water falling in front of me. I walked to the back of the cave and felt the coarse, damp, grey rock. Bright yellow lizards scurried up the rock into little nooks and cracks. I turned around and ran at the waterfall. I leaped off the edge and plunged down into the pool. I hit the water and the cold rushed around me. I opened my eyes and saw the tranquil scene erupt with bubbles. I let myself sink to the bottom and crouch there, and then I sprang up off the smooth rocks and resurfaced. I floated in the water for some time. The air began to turn colder. I hauled myself out the water and squeezed the moisture out of my clothes. I hurriedly walked away from the waterfall hoping I wouldn't miss the sunset. I appeared out of the rocks. The sun was getting lower in the sky. Standing high on the rocks I looked out and the grass was now a golden brown from the setting sun. The oak looked small from here. I could see the faint black smoke rising from the fire and little figures

bustling around, in and out of the tents. I made my way down the rocks and waded back down the brook; I hopped back up onto the bank and slipped my shoes back on. The sun was bigger than I had ever seen it; it was a flaming red with wisps of clouds straying in front of it. It descended so fast; it was almost hard to savour the brilliance of it. After it had fallen behind the mountains, the sky faded from a deep pink into a darker blue. Across the valley the horses grazed freely, only glancing up now and then. I sauntered back towards the oak, and after climbing into the tent, changed out of my soggy clothes. The smell of wine and meat was strong in the air; the adults were laughing and eating by the flickering flames of the fire. I listened to the stories my parents told Martin and Louise, and acted like I still found them amusing after hearing them retold for years. I was glad Martin had warmed to my parents; he seemed like a different person now. He was jolly and talkative; he even tried to include me in conversation. Soon they all staggered back to their tents, and I was left with the glowing cinders of the fire. I lay on the grass with my head resting on a log. I felt myself relax now I was alone. Silence had surrounded me and was only interrupted by a lonely cricket or the whisper of rustling leaves in the faint breeze. Looking up I saw the vast, deep purple sky dusted with glistening stars, and the moon gleaming a lustrous pearly white. My eyelids were getting heavy, my head lolled forward now and then. No matter how much I tried to fight it, the overwhelming fatigue took over. My last glimpse was the glowing fireflies hovering between the strands of grass, and the towering mountains standing guard against the rest of the world.

Sophie Davies

The Movie

I clasped my hand around the cold, sticky, metal door handle and pulled sharply. The stiff metal frame jarred open and the warm, stale air embedded with the stench of popcorn filled my lungs. I could see the long queue stretched out in front of me. I took a deep breath and joined the end of it.

'That's nine poun' fi'eeey'. I took a ten pound note out of my purse and handed it to the young Essex man obliviously chewing his chewing gum. He shoved a two pound coin and my ticket towards me on the counter and, unaware, he proved to me that manners are obviously not needed to work at the cinema.

'Sal'ed or sweet, love?' The lady took a medium popcorn bag, as I thought for a bit, and then pointed to the huge mountain of sweet popcorn. The lady picked up the metal scoop and violently pushed it into the middle of the pile of popcorn and then poured the scoopful into the bag. Ungratefully, she put it on the counter and snatched the five pound note out of my hand, before dropping the few coins of change onto the counter next to my bag of popcorn.

The red, itchy seat material rubbed against my bare shoulders as I took my thick knitted cardigan off, to save myself from the sweltering heat. I wriggled and shuffled myself so I was as comfortable as I possibly could be, when a large, sweaty man came and flopped himself next to me. I shuffled away from him slightly and began to think to myself, 'why do I bother?'

Odette Moncur

The first match

I remember my dad coming into my room at a quarter to six and telling me to get dressed and that we better hurry if we were to catch the 6:47am train to Kings Cross. It was the first time that I had been on a train and I was enthralled by the experience: the eccentric ticket man on Platform 3, the croissant stand in the entrance and then best of all the train itself.

The train journey took one hour and I enjoyed every minute of it: the chugging motion, long dark tunnels and the whooshing noise we got every time another train passed ours. My brother, Henry, would have loved it too but my mum had said that he was too young to go (he was only six and I was a bold eight). It felt good that I was doing something by myself, with my dad, going to spend the day in London and then going to watch West Ham United play Tottenham at home. I had supported them ever since I was born; mind you it was bred into me from the start. My dad was always talking about the mighty Hammers and my granddad was always buying me West Ham footballs and key rings. So I think that really I had no choice whether or not to support them...

So anyway then we arrived in London at Kings Cross station. We then took the Piccadilly line to Covent Garden. The tube was a fun but scary experience, with all the hustle and bustle going on around me, I felt like telling everyone to just slow down. I nearly lost my dad on the platform as we got off the tube as I went left and he went right. I went into a sudden state of panic, wailing, screaming and shouting for my dad. But once everybody had gone their separate ways, it was only me and my dad left on the platform and in true Hollywood style I ran over to him and jumped into his arms. He gave me a scolding and then told me to be more careful and always hold his hand when we were on the tube.

Then when we emerged from underground and were surrounded by the glory of Covent Garden. This was a great experience, the brightly coloured buskers and the exciting shop fronts. My dad took me into the 'build a bear' workshop and let me choose any teddy I wanted! Then after buying some Christmas presents for my mum and brother we went to have lunch in a small Italian restaurant just off one of the little winding side streets that surround Covent Garden. I enjoyed lunch and remember asking dad why we didn't eat out more when we were at home. He told me it was because it was expensive and it was a real treat and it wouldn't be if we did it all the time.

After wandering about in Covent Garden some more we took a taxi to see the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace. I loved this because at the time I had decided that after I had been a footballer for West Ham and won the Premier League I would be a soldier (or a fireman).

I loved the shining gold buttons, the bushy black hats and the way all the soldiers stared straight ahead like there is nothing going on around them when in fact there are hundreds of tourists taking photos, chattering and generally enjoying themselves.

After we had had enough of watching the guards my dad said he reckoned it was time to go to the stadium and watch the game. We jumped on a tube (managing to stick together this time) and arrived in the midst of a sea of claret and blue shirts all getting off at East Ham to go to the game. Then, along with the rest of our fellow supporters we started the mile walk to Upton Park, the home of West Ham. And I was amazed at the difference between this East London suburb and the glamorous West End. It was like we had taken the tube to a different world. Here was obviously harder work for the shop owners as they could not rely on the custom of tourists to pay their wages. I remember clearly walking through a market and listening to the cockney accents advertising their goods.

"Half dozen o' apples going cheap. Only two bob."

"Come on, come on, role up get yer fruit 'n' veg 'ere."

"Get 'vis lovely necklace fa' ya' wife or the bees 'n' honey just in time fa' crimbo."

My dad explained that "bees and honey" was rhyming slang for mummy. Although I couldn't comprehend most of what the street sellers said I had fun walking through this market and seeing and hearing all the vendors and football fans getting excited about the match.



GUY EDWARDS

Pupils' Work

We arrived outside the stadium. It was the first time I had ever been so close to such a colossal structure and it was very daunting but I felt a swell of excitement and adrenaline as I entered and heard the roar of 'I'm West Ham 'till I die' boom out from the faithful fans. We found our seats. They were right behind the goal and half way up the stand so we had the best view in the house; we could actually see the drips of sweat fall slowly to the ground from the players as they warmed up. I looked around me and tried to take it all in, the ocean of football shirts, the Mexican wave rippling around the stand and the never ending chants (many of which my mother would not approve of!). A man slowly sipping at a beer slurred at me his accent, not as harsh as the street sellers but still with a hint of cockney about it 'First time at the game is it.'

'Yes,' I replied obediently.

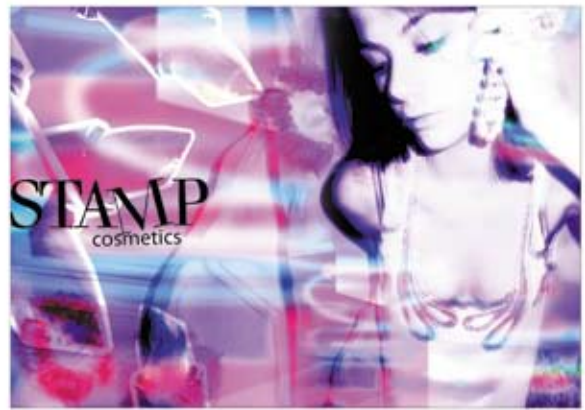
'Should be an easy win for us today,' my new friend commented. I told him that I hoped so and went back to looking round the ground.

Then the players came back onto the pitch, the singing volume went up about ten notches and the game was under way. It was nothing like watching on the TV. This was the real thing and I loved every second of it. West Ham were on the ball, speeding down the right flank. Then came the cross into the penalty area he shoots... he scores!!!

The crowd erupted into a volcano of noise. I was absolutely ecstatic. All around me people were hugging each other or shouting applause, I even got a painful high five from my drunken friend next to me. It was brilliant. This had to be one of the best days of my life. The game continued, for much of the time West Ham on top of proceedings. Then with only ten minuets to go there was a surging run from the West Ham midfielders, a slick pass into the box and... Oh, off the post! That really would have sealed it for us.

But then their goalie booted it down the pitch, their centre forward had it in our area... in came the sliding challenge and... a sharp blow on the whistle... they had a penalty! A huge gasp went up from the crowd (and several colourful pieces of language were hurled at the referee from the less sober members of the fans). Every one was on the edge of their seats. And... NO! Back of the net and silence erupted around Upton Park. I thought I was going to cry. But then just when things couldn't get any worse they managed to score again, helped by an outrageous decision from the ref that should have been a free kick to us but instead he gave it to them, making the score 1-2 to them at full time. I was gutted. And to this day when I look back at my 'first match' I remember that day as a bad one purely because the 'mighty' West Ham lost that match. Despite this I continue to support them and I have been to many a loss, and win, since then.

Johnnie Martin



LOTTIE SOLE

Allie's old mitt, in the Style of J.D. Salinger

My brother Allie, he got this brand new baseball mitt when he was young, for his birthday. It was his birthday, we had a cake and all, and it got very late, but we were still sitting there at the table laughing and talking, and Mom and Dad were there too. Finally, someone thought to get old Allie's presents. There were a couple of books, you could tell those ones from the shape, they were flimsy and all, and then this one big package wrapped in brown paper. Old Allie, he was so excited, but he opened the books first, he was like that, he used to always save the best one until last. He opened it and it was this hard leather mitt, just like the ones those big shot baseball stars wear. Allie was quite a small kid at the time, so it was pretty big on him, but he still wore it when he was playing. Said it'd last him forever, that it was perfect. He was crazy about baseball was old Allie; he wasn't the best at it, but he wasn't bad either, he used to be on the team, he had quite a hit. I'd honestly say I've never seen a hit like that from such a small guy. You could always tell where he was, say if you'd arrived late and hadn't seen them all running onto pitch cheering and all, because he had this red

Creative Writing



NEIL MCDONALD

hair, which you could see from anywhere, so long as he took his helmet off.

Anyway, that was when he was ten, but he always kept that mitt, he never got a new one, but he never wanted one either. The leather on it is that sort of tan colour, a bit like terracotta almost, terracotta but paler. The leather's a bit faded now, but it's far darker at the seams, where it's folded in and protected from the sun. The stitching is still bright white though. The leather's cracked and torn as well, making patterns which don't make too much sense; it looks like a flame licked across it taking off bits of the surface leather with it. But what's so special about old Allie's mitt is that he used to write all over it, so he wouldn't be bored when he was out in the field and all. He marked these little poems he used to write all over it in green ink. He was fantastically clever, old Allie, I could never come up with the things he used to write, and I was two years older than him at the time, but then poetry's not really my strong point. He would just notice something out in the park or something like that and come up with one of his simple little poems, and then he

would write it on his glove. There were acrostics up and down the fingers, limericks too. Then he would write his proper poems on the middle of the glove, where he would catch the ball, and on the back of the glove. Often they would fade, especially the ones where he used to catch the ball, so he'd just write them back on, in the same place until they stayed. He had this special pen he used to use, had it especially for writing on his mitt — he used to like the way the green looked on the glove, and he never wasted that green ink he had.

*There was a young schoolboy from Maine
Whose schoolmates all found him a pain,
He got on a boat,
Found they'd taken his coat,
And got soaked when it started to rain.*

Allie's writing was really neat. It wasn't girly though, but boy was it neat. Take mine, you can't read it when you're right up next to it, but old Allie's — you can read it from a long way off, if it's written big enough I mean. This was the first poem he wrote, it goes right across the fingers, but it's hard to read now, it's got a bit smudged in my bag and it's so old bits have peeled right off, but it doesn't really matter, I know what it says anyway from looking at it so many times and all. It kills me, his poem, it really does.

Once I went fishing with old Allie, he must have been about eleven or something. We were catching minnows in a stream, but old Allie, he wouldn't catch any for the first hour, he just watched them, and he whistled as well, (he was a swell whistler, he got a great buzz from that) but he joined me in the end. A bit after that another poem appeared on his glove.

Ode to a minnow

*Where're you swimming?
To afar exotic sea,
Filled with coloured plants?
To a sunny shore,
Off the South of France?
To the clear pond
A mile down the stream?
To the peaceful lake
I once saw in a dream?
I wonder where you came from,
I wonder where you'll go,
But I guess that is a secret
That only you can know.*

This one's down the back of the glove, it's still really bright and all, I guess, seeing as how nobody catches a ball there. He was terribly private, old Allie, I never read it when he was alive, I just noticed when new poems appeared. He had a fantastic imagination, old Allie, he was always thinking up some dreamy

Pupils' Work

place, and he had such knowledge of the world I probably wouldn't have even heard of France at his age, let alone the South of it.

*There's a light across the prairie,
Weaving through the night,
The wet, dark wheat is shaking,
But it's yellow, warm and bright.*

I don't know what he was writing about, but I always think maybe it's set up in our holiday house - it backs onto this big prairie, and when he was younger, he used to sit up in the window, right at the very top of the house, when it was stormy and the grass was shaking and all, and stare out. He did that more than once, I remember.

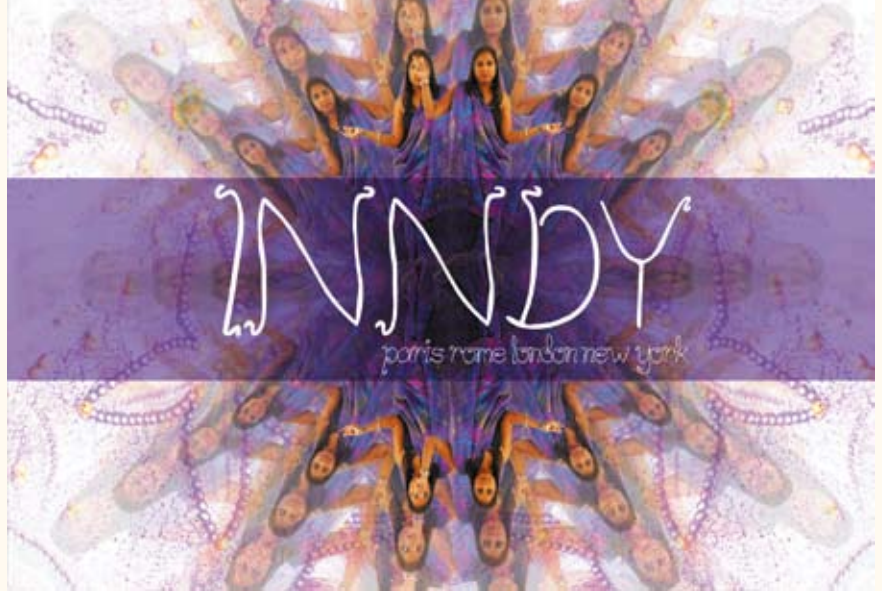
He still wrote on his glove, right up until the end. I guess it sort of comforted him — if I was a kid like Allie, and I liked doing that type of thing, I'd have found it comforting, to have my old glove with me. Maybe it would have protected my hand that one night, but I wouldn't have wanted to get it all scratched and all. Anyway, I don't think he'd like it being all scratched up, he would say it was fine and all, but I wouldn't like my glove to be all scratched up like that.

There's one seam down the side that's coming undone, I remember when that started happening; it was snowy out, but Allie was still playing baseball, and a ball clipped by the side of his glove - couldn't work out why it made it start to unravel, but it did. Didn't make much of a difference though, but it's all frayed and all. It was a bitterly cold day, but old Allie got a catch anyway, he wasn't put off. I made a snowman that afternoon, Allie was inside, nursing a cut he had gotten when he slipped on some ice, onto his right hand — it was all cut up, and he couldn't move it properly but he came out later on and just sat in the snow. He wrote this poem that day, spiralling round the loose seam:

*I found him in the garden,
With his strange, bewitching smile,
I thought that I would sit,
And watch him for a while.*

*His eyes were glistening coal,
His smile a chunk of ice,
As frost makes up his soul,
His mind is like a vice.*

*But then it clouded in,
And the rain began to pour,
And by the afternoon,
He was my frozen friend no more.*



ALEX COOK

I guess the thing about Allie was, he didn't try and write great love poetry, or things about the deep meaning of life, like all these writers trying to be hotshots today, the type of stuff D. B. would probably try to write - he just wrote about what he saw; a light moving through darkness, a snowman, a minnow. He wasn't a phony, like all these Hollywood guys, trying to write poems with hidden meanings and all, or maybe he was so good at disguising the hidden meaning that I can't see it — I like that as well, it's not phony if you can actually do it and mean it, not that Allie would write love poetry.

So that's it really, it's a left-handed glove, Allie being left-handed and all, it's pretty small for me now, but I still put it on, just from time to time, without knowing why, not really anyway.

Elissa Foord

Hope

Dusk. Hope's advocate mounts the blood-black sky.
A lighthouse amongst a troubled sea.
Venom thick enough to smother suns,
but never Hope. She treks onwards still:
Strong; Sure; Permanent

Frankie Anderson-Wood

The Spoils of Education

Education thrice: a promise of decay,
Dead decades: preposterously killèd.
One quadrill'on quangos querulous bay,
For their quantum: preposterously billed.
Politicians dither hither, thither,
Whilst then in the cut-glass classroom covers
Still the teacher behind paper towers,
Through the chippèd concrete walls they wither.
Thus this flighty flitt'ry flimflam appals
Parents, teachers, and opposing speakers
Who'd do the same would occasion befall;
Drear society still weakens, bleaker.

Central still to this: the depraved student.
Buried at the forefront: cruel imprudence.

Nathaniel Hess

The Egg and I

When we moved from London to the depths of the Leicestershire countryside my parents obliviously promised us we could have pets. And we took them at their word! We have hatched hundreds of frogs from tadpoles, grown dozens of exquisite butterflies from ravenous caterpillars and have single-handedly been responsible for repopulating the entire ladybird community of south Leicestershire. We have looked after a fledgling thrush with an injured leg, which we nursed back to health with a combination of kitten food, scrambled egg and a pair of tweezers, and for a few weeks last summer we fostered fifteen engaging newts whom we rescued from our ancient pool.

Currently we have two large dogs; a gentle good-natured golden retriever called Genevieve, and Satchmo, a sappy brute of a Rhodesian Ridgeback, who has an attuned skill for causing a great deal of trouble. We also have six cats, including Felix, who is two years older than me and jet black, and my own pure white cat, Kit, who tries to look inscrutable, but is quite possibly the dopiest creature I have ever come across.

This term I have achieved a life-long ambition and have acquired eleven chickens. The girls are all a beautiful shade of red, with individual touches of ginger, saffron and paprika. Perhaps not surprisingly, we have called five of them Ginger, Saffron, Paprika, Cinnamon and Coriander and, continuing with the herb and spice theme, named the rest, Lovage, Borage, Nigella, Oregano, Tarragon and Lavender.

They are all extremely affectionate and race towards us whenever they see us, demanding that we stroke them and return their attention. Generally they are very companionable and while away their time sunbathing, scratching and clucking to each other in the garden, but occasionally there are short lived but violent squabbles when one of them finds a worm or grub that she has no intention of sharing with the rest.

They are extremely fond of slightly warm water and have created their own version of the Japanese tea ceremony, where they all circle around the bowl, cooing to each other and taking it in turns to dip their beaks gracefully to drink. They always remind me of a group of old biddies enjoying a cup of tea and a good gossip.

As the term 'bird-brained' is usually applied to people who are not particularly quick-witted, I naturally assumed that our girls, although very beautiful and charming, would be somewhat lacking in resourcefulness. However this is absolutely not true. They are incredibly intelligent and can recognise the sound of our cars approaching from quite a distance and are all ready and waiting at the gate for our return. They are sufficiently inventive that the cat flap has proved to be no challenge and they spend many happy hours with their heads in the kitchen to the great consternation of our cats. Fortunately the hole is too small to allow them to progress any further.

They are also fearless explorers who are always ready to come on a walk or to have a quick look at what is going on in the churchyard. As they race behind us as we drive to school, coming dangerously close to the road, I always think that whoever thought to call anybody cowardly a 'chicken', clearly had no idea of what they were talking about. Although, if we don't manage to get out of the car quickly and shut the gate, there could be yet another answer to the age-old question of 'why did the chicken cross the road?'

Daisy van der Post



HENRIETTA SANDISON

RUGBY FOOTBALL

1st XV

P 12, W 6, L 5, D1

With a good number of the team returning to the XV from last season, revenge was on the cards. This year a sizable forward pack promised much more than could be offered in 2008. In the fixtures leading up to Exeat we knew that we had to make our size count and take every opportunity we had. Unfortunately we began with a very frustrating start against the Oratory, in which we deserved the win but came undone with their last minute try. While the 13-15 result was immensely exasperating, it did much to channel our determination into the upcoming game against St Edward's.

On a very hot day we travelled to Oxford. We managed to grind out a win in what was everything but an exciting game. Two penalties were enough to secure a 3-6 victory, but by no means were the team content with their performance. A trip to Oundle followed and with Rugby failing to record a win there in a number of years, the pressure was on and expectations amongst what was quickly becoming a very strong team were mounting. Rugby put in a fantastic performance, capped early on with a well-worked try from the forwards. The team stayed strong to finish the game and leave the field triumphant, 8-10 winners. Our third fixture on the road took us to Uppingham, where we could only manage a 3-3 draw, despite sustained pressure on the opposition line for long periods of the second half. The feeling in the changing room afterwards was one of an opportunity missed. In true form, however, the boys stepped up and beat a sprightly Haileybury side 14-3 back at home on the Close. The final fixture of the first half of term was against Stamford, again at home. The team dominated a good Stamford side and recorded a 26-7 win. Generally, it was a good start to the first half of the season.

After the half term break Rugby faced a strong Oakham side in torrid conditions, and went down 15-9 to three outstanding solo tries from the opposition. However, having put in a gutsy performance, and with the score lines so close, we couldn't help but feel disappointed. Harrow was our next game back on the Close and, being our only Tuesday fixture of the season, it had a slightly different feel to it. Harrow turned up boasting a huge physical presence and set the tempo straight from the start. The score of 6-18 was not a true reflection of the game, but Harrow finished deserved winners. The visit to Cheltenham College was what must

be described as the worst display of the season. Rugby began on top and orchestrated a dominant start, before letting their guard down completely and never really getting back into the swing of things after half time. Sloppy defending and poor performances all round meant a defeat of 16-10 and a quiet journey back home.

The team made up for the Cheltenham result with a performance against Bedford that was one of the most determined and focused of the season. Playing against a side that was unbeaten so far was a daunting prospect. A fairytale ending was not on the cards but an outstanding team effort gave Bedford one of their toughest games of the season. The final result was a disappointing 16-9 loss.

The final game of the season saw a new sparkling white kit and the entire School out to support. The visitors this year were Clifton College, and despite the loss of a few key players from both sides because of Oxbridge interviews, the match was going to be a special one. For eight of the team it was their last XV game together and the anticipation was overwhelming. Both teams threatened in the early stages and despite some good rucking from a solid set of forwards, Clifton failed to capitalise. Rugby took chances well with the backline always threatening. We finished on top and the 11-0 win was a brilliant finish to the season, with some real determination after the disappointing results.

To finish the season with a record of 6 wins, 5 losses and a draw was unfortunate considering the potential shown in the first half of term. With some promising players from the LXX featuring throughout the term there is definitely an exciting team to look forward to next year.

Will Rowlands & Cameron Byrne

The XV had a good season. A number of players stepped up when it mattered and punched well above their weight. The side was well lead by Sam Heygate, who was excellent all season, both on and off the field, and who was well supported by his team. Composure and opportunities were the key for me. Had we taken the scoring chances when we had them, then the number of near losses would have been converted into wins.

Player of the Season – Sam Heygate

Most Improved Player – Mitch Williams

Unsung Hero – Tom Wiegman

A number of players in the XV play representative Rugby football:

Mitch Williams – *The Welsh Exiles*

Jamie Warr – *Northampton Saints*

Sam Heygate – *Independent School Barbarians*

Tom Wiegman - *Independent School Barbarians*

Joe Moxham - *Independent School Barbarians*

William Rowlands - *Independent School Barbarians*

SJB



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2nd XV

P 8, W 0, L 8

This season was obviously a very disappointing one as we lost all our matches. This was down to the fact that, at the beginning of the season, the team changed around a lot due to injuries and members of the squad being required in the XV. There was also a lot of miscommunication within the team, especially between the forwards and the backs.

However, towards the end of the season there were some good partnerships developing, especially that between Charlie Wood and Tom Huddart, who provided some much needed flair in the centre. The main problem for us was that we were not able to present the ball properly at the break down and this meant that it was very difficult for us to string together many phases of possession. However, we generally defended well. This was proved by teams having almost total possession but putting only a few points on the board. This defence was due to a good all round team effort, but Theo Silkstone-Carter stands out here, with his massive tackles and good work around the breakdown. The team was also helped massively by the experience of Tommy Cooper who controlled the back line very well and Sam Dalton who contributed massively in the scrums when we were fortunate enough that the XV did not need him.

This season was one that nobody will look back on fondly in terms of results. However, I will look back fondly in general because I believe that throughout the season the team developed massively. This was displayed by the great contrast in both skill and passion between the team that got thrashed against Uppingham at the beginning of the season and the team that was in the match until the dying seconds of the game against Bedford in the last match of the season.

Tom Gover

3rd XV

P 7, W 4, L 3

A season blighted by injury and illness for the 3rd XV: we did not field the same team for any two matches of the term.

A very unfit Rugby side beat St Edward's comfortably at the beginning of the season, with Joe Lanni's pace from scrum-half, Freddie Rose's kicking and Harry Hopson's tackling and handling the outstanding features. Illness meant that the match against Oundle was cancelled and then we were annihilated at Uppingham in a game where we lost every single collision. Haileybury were much weaker than us and we brushed them aside as our players began to return from illness. Stamford, who had beaten Uppingham, was the best team we faced and won an excellent match 10-20. The highlight of our season was a thrilling 14-7 win at Oakham in

stormy weather and with our backs against the wall. The forwards (Edward Pell, Seb Foster, Jack Vellacott and George Ribaroff) were magnificent, showing an appetite for contact and much improved technique. At Cheltenham we arrived very late, competed well in the first half and then, losing Angus Berwick with a dislocated shoulder, subsided weakly in the second half. The season ended with a good win over Bedford, where Rory Hellier tackled strongly and George Connell showed the sort of form we had seen last year.

HGSB

4th XV

P 7, W 3, L 4

After a disappointing start to the season, in which we suffered defeats at the hands of St Edward's and Uppingham, the team began to play some attractive and attacking rugby. Good wins followed against Haileybury, Stamford and Bedford. Oakham, away, were very fortunate to record a win against us. A disappointing loss to Cheltenham drew attention to the fact that even when we dominated the forward exchanges we were unable to defend against an attacking set of backs. Tackling in our back division was at times woeful. The team picked itself up for the last match of the season and delivered a decisive victory against Bedford. The strength of the team lay in the pack and at scrum half. The boys and coaches enjoyed the season more as it progressed and it was pleasing to see the progress made by so many of the team.

PTE

Under 16A

P 10, W 8, L 2

The season started with a successful pre-season tour of Norfolk. Victories over Gresham's and Norwich gave the squad a much needed momentum before embarking on the regular block fixture programme. Further victories over the Oratory, St Edward's and Uppingham were achieved despite an apparent inability to maintain possession at the breakdown as cleanly as desired, but the team were already showing their quality as an attacking force, able to strike even from their own 22 due to the pace of several members of the back line, and this despite two of last year's fastest try-scorers being unavailable due to injury. A convincing win over Haileybury took the team to Exeat with 6 wins out of 6.

A very narrow and disappointing loss to Stamford was followed by perhaps the two best performances of the season. Firstly, a much-weakened side travelled to Oakham and came away with an old-fashioned style victory achieved in difficult weather with our strength at the scrummage and the ruck proving crucial. Next, a very strong Cheltenham side were beaten 12-8 in what was a high-class game of rugby. The final game away to Bedford was a tough way to finish but here, too, despite the team recording only the second loss of the season, the extent to which the team had developed over the term was once again apparent.

I hope that many of the squad will challenge for places in the XV next year. Sam Pointon exploited space in effective fashion while Ben Wiegman could be relied upon to make an impact with the ball in hand. Jake Kings dominated the front of the line-out and



his partner in the second row, Jack Alderson, was an obvious target man at the maul. The front row became increasingly destructive at the set piece thanks to props Sam Addis and Barny Elmhirst, while hooker Will Darby also showed what a versatile player he is in the loose. Several flankers were employed; perhaps the most dynamic pairing was Jamie Couchman and Ned Goedhuis before injury forced a change there, but there were important contributions from Ali Horler and Tris Edwards, too. The centre partnership of Callum Wilson and Alex Roden worked very hard indeed and with tremendous commitment. In particular, Callum Wilson's ability to make breaks, or to stay on his feet in order to await support, was absolutely vital. Marcus Kerr and George Walker were extremely reliable wingers in both attack and defence. Finally, Richard Assheton proved to be crucial as a decision maker at stand-off; he was also the only one seemingly capable of catching Sam Pointon's bullet pass. The players will be grateful to Mr Dewey who made an enormous contribution to the coaching of the side this term; his technical expertise was absolutely crucial in developing the players as individuals and as a collective unit.

TJD

Under 16B

P 8, W 5, L 3

With pace throughout the team stormed past the Oratory (7-31) and then St Edward's (50-5). The next game, against Uppingham, proved more difficult. After a somewhat sluggish start, conceding 15 points in the opening 20 minutes, the team's mettle was tested. The team rallied behind some brilliant open field running by both Oliver Ashby and Joe Warde-Aldam, put in brilliant second half display, but unfortunately lost by two points, 19-21.

Despite this setback the boys were not to be deterred and returned after Exeat beating Haileybury (7-40) and Stamford (17-34). Unfortunately we again came undone after two good victories losing 20-10 to Oakham in near-biblical conditions. Nevertheless Max Or's try-scoring debut cannot be overlooked and he can only be commended for a brilliant running display in conditions suited to forwards rather than the fleet of foot. Determined not to be downhearted the team bounced back well, beating Cheltenham 35-17. Unfortunately they ended the season with a brave loss against Bedford (47-10); an ill-fitting end to an otherwise very impressive season.

OS

Under 16C

P 6, W 4, L 1, D 1

The season started with a bang against St Edward's but unfortunately ended with a whimper against Bedford. Our first fixture of the season demonstrated the strength and power the boys had, with a 52-26 victory over our rivals from Oxford. We worked hard over the following weeks and the hard work paid off as our defence

become ever more watertight, resulting in 32-14 and 36-5 wins against Uppingham and Stamford respectively.

By the middle of the term things were looking good for a perfect unbeaten season. However an injury-hit side, playing with just 14-men against the 15-man Oakham side, could only manage a 0-0 draw.

The final two matches were like chalk and cheese. The first, against Cheltenham, saw us put up 72 points on the board against their 7. Going into the last match still having not lost we started to have doubts about our chances as injuries in the A/B squads meant we lost vital players to them and had to play with only 14-men and no subs. We matched the tempo of the Bedford side for the first ten minutes but they were easily the better side on the day and by the second half when they were bringing on fresh legs we were looking weary.

JLN

Under 15A

P 8, W 0, L 8

Having coached a nearly unbeaten U15 side just one year ago it has been a very different experience this season. The U15A side of 2009 have certainly not been successful and although they developed in so many different ways I cannot be sure that greater success is just around the corner. The season started marvellously with enthusiastic pre-season training and plenty of effort. Had the side been winning regularly then they might have recorded wins in the tighter matches but sadly when we needed confidence and control the team panicked and fell to weaker opposition. In the future there may be wins at Uppingham or St Edward's but that will require even more rapid development than we have seen this year. After the successful pre-season, training sessions deteriorated rapidly and as a group their concentration was poor and silliness that is rarely seen at A team level surfaced again and again; the weaker players struggling to appreciate the purpose of the practice and the stronger players trying inappropriately complex skills when they really needed to keep with the basics. The lack of quick-moving, quick-thinking backs was the biggest problem and our option-taking was hampered by a simple inability to do anything at pace.

However one area of real improvement was in the contact area. Throughout the season, with the notable exception of the game at Stamford, the tackling was fierce and effective. The rucking and the response to a tackle situation also improved. The forwards often picked and drove successfully, and Henry Mitchell, Sam Bennett and Alfie Medoza became very impressive around the fringes in attack. Mark Or was prominent in the tackle and worked hard in every match.



Other players that stood out during the season did not do so consistently. Alex Johnson took lovely lines in the centre but lacked the fitness to be a useful player, especially in defence. Probably the most improved player was Izaak Williams; not only was he a revelation in the line out but his play on the wing in both attack and defence improved enormously. Kit Goodfellow captained well and was capable of turning defences with his accurate kicking from fly half.

Everyone felt very disappointed by the season but there was certainly marked improvements in many areas. The team have chances of victory in several matches in future and even the big defeats will be narrowed as fitness, pace, and concentration during training improve. Team spirit needs to improve as there was a tendency to criticise rather than encourage. The Daily Mail run, aided by the addition of the most talented U14 players was the highlight of the season. Sadly even this run of victories was curtailed prematurely as the side outplayed Princethorpe but failed to score enough points; perhaps a more successful side would have made their superiority count.

Despite the lack of success I have enjoyed coaching this group and I am very pleased by the improvement in so many players. My thanks go to Mr Hemming Allen for his excellent work with the backs and to John Moreland who refereed our home games very sympathetically.

TMW

Under 15B

P 8, W 3, L 5

The U15B team had a mixed season, results largely depending upon the availability of players. At best, the forwards rucked and mauled strongly, displaying good body positions, and won a great deal of ball against physically larger teams through good technique and sheer determination. Pace on the wings was a great asset to the team and it is heartening that our top points scorers were both wingers, reflecting the ability of the inside backs to move the ball effectively. Highlights include good wins in very tough games against Oakham and Haileybury. However, due to a large number of injuries in the age group, we were an unsettled side and frequently lost players to



the A team, leaving us vulnerable; indeed two games were lost through a lack of concentration in defence when we had lost players half-way through a match.

Overall, the boys played and trained with a positive spirit and I enjoyed working with them. There is some ability in this group and they are developing the basic skills needed to become good players. I expect to see them continuing to perform well in the future.

NGH

Under 15C

P 7, W 3, L 4

We started the season with a crushing victory over St Edward's. This set a good momentum for the season, where we had victories over Stamford, Oakham and Cheltenham, which was perhaps the best match of the season, where we won 63-0, and George West converted successfully almost every time.

Throughout the season we had strong tackling and almost always good spirits. These were encouraged by our good coaches, the Marshal and Mr Byrne. Will Lewis captained well throughout the season; his job was made tough by injuries, illness and players having to go up to fill gaps in the As and Bs. This affected us most at Haileybury where we had only thirteen players which caused us to lose the match narrowly, despite our determination.

It was a great season and the times we lost were often close affairs. Thanks should definitely go to our coaches, who always found a way to inspire us whether through kind words or the threat of press-ups!

Kaamil Walilay

Under 14A

P 11, W 10, L 1

In their first term at Rugby, the U14s proved themselves to be a year group rich with talent and full of promise for the future. The U14As enjoyed a fine season, including a 10-match unbeaten run, scored 81 tries (an average of seven a game) and dominated their opponents. The best performance of the season came at Cheltenham, where the team showed their dogged character, coming from behind to win 11-10 after Harry Mallinder bravely stepped up to slot the winning penalty.

Ben Pointon and George Lewis were the pick of the side. Both scored a number of tries and they formed a potent combination from the base of the scrum. The team suffered its one and only defeat against a very physical Bedford side in the final match of the season. Although it was a disappointing end to an excellent season, it serves as a reminder of the hard work that needs to be done if this group of players is to fulfil their undoubted potential.

ETR

Under 14B**P8, W4, L4**

In the first match we came up against St. Edward's, who proved to be quite a strong side. The match was close and both teams played encouraging rugby, but the opposition eventually emerged victorious, 15-12. Our first win was achieved in the very next match, a Tuesday afternoon fixture against Coundon Court. It was a hard-fought game, one of the best of the season, which saw Tom Sainty touching down in the dying minutes to secure victory. The team's confidence grew and our form improved. We outplayed Uppingham to win 42-17, and then beat Haileybury and Stamford by similar margins.

Our next game was against Oakham. We lost but played hard. A committed performance by Oliver Colville should have helped win the match, but unfortunately he sustained an injury during the latter stages which resulted in him missing the last few fixtures.

The penultimate game was at Cheltenham and it was our best performance of the season. A fruitless trip to Bedford concluded a largely successful season in which a wealth of experience was gained by all.

*George Beard***Under 14C****P 8, W 6, L 2**

The season started well with a 15-13 win against St Edward's. The team was led well by Alex Walker, going from victory to victory with a fantastic record of: 57-0 against Trent, 30-5 against Haileybury, 24-12 against Oakham, 19-10 against Cheltenham, and a crushing victory against Trent, 72-0.

Our last match of the season was away against Bedford. Everyone put up a hard fight, but eventually they began to score. It was certainly the hardest game we had played in and we ended with a disappointing defeat of 30-0.

*Hugo Lebus***Under 14D****P 6, W 3, L 3**

With a number of their fixtures cancelled this season due to illness and bad weather, the U14Ds never really got the chance to prove their mettle, although those games that they did play showed them to be a good side with some real talent, especially in the backs. Ptolemy Jenkins did especially well variously at full back and on the wing; his characteristic zigzag running helped him to evade the clutches of some often much heartier opposition. Oli Rowlands (fly half and captain) also deserves a special mention for his nifty passing and his keen use of space: he is a talented player and one I expect to see challenging for a position in a higher team next season. Of course, each year the U14Ds is invariably made up of some of boys who have never played rugby football before. This year almost half the team were new to the sport, and I am especially pleased by how readily that number threw themselves into the game.

RJS**GIRLS' HOCKEY****1st XI****P 13, W 2, L 10, D 1**

This season was a very memorable one for the XI. Despite the not-so-spectacular set of results, we were a team never to let anything bring us down. From inventive forfeits, numerous memorable quotations and lively warm-ups to the tune of Barbie Girl, it was a season of great fun for everyone.

The highlights of our season have to include our success in tournaments, making it through to the Midlands finals and being one of the top eight teams in the whole of the Midlands region. A proud moment for us all was seeing our brilliant goalkeeper make it through to be selected for the girls' England U18 squad, so congratulations to Alice Stuart-Grumbar on her amazing achievement! Highlights also include watching footage of our matches – a great deal was learnt from doing this.

Special mention should go to Hen Craven for her superb efforts in holding together the midfield and thus earning Player of the Season. Everyone's contributions to practices and matches made the season one not to forget. If only we could have another season!

*Annie Morris***2nd XI****P 11, W 3, L 6, D 2**

This year the 2nd XI had a season that was very much of two halves. After a poor start, we won convincingly on numerous occasions after half term, the highlight being our 7-0 win against King's Worcester. The team undoubtedly worked hard throughout but the scoreline rarely reflected our efforts. This was unfortunate and frustrating for both the players and the coaches but we will all look back with fond memories. A big thank you to Mr Bell and Mrs Hampton, whose patience and determination never let them give up on us.

*Hannah Ives & Katie Bradfield***3rd XI****P 9, W 2, L 7**

While we have seen plenty of good hockey from the 3rd XI it has been a very unusual season. Despite good preparation and lots of effort and improvement in our training we only managed to win two of our games. The girls and their captain, Lottie Sole, worked hard all season to improve their game and they made great

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progress, but in the matches that were close and competitive we did not manage to turn our favour. That said, there were some excellent performances, most notably from our much occupied goal keeper, Amelia Barker, whose agility and speed of reaction kept countless balls from hitting the back board. Our defence were under a great deal of pressure in most games, but were stoic in their resistance. The mid-field were dogged and determined and our top goal scoring centre-half, Rebecca Ukleja, had a strong season. The forwards were persistent in their quest for goals, but all too often the opponents' back board remained elusive.

MH

4th XI

P 7, W 3, L 2, D 2

This year the 4th XI were a lively bunch of characters who were determined to do well and to enjoy the season. Sadly it got off to a slow start at Oakham but picked up with a win over Uppingham. In both of these games Vicky Granville won Player of the Match, and in fact ended up top goal scorer for the season. Another highlight of the season was Lottie Wildblood in goal. This was her first season in goal and she was responsible for a solid defence. Overall a good season with a great group of girls who just wanted to win and enjoy hockey.

DAE

5th XI

P 8, W 2, L 5, D 1

The 5th XI had an incredible term on the field, with enormous amounts of team spirit from a very lively group of girls. We did not win every match but we always gave 100%. Emily Wilson and Tess Annan helped in keeping up motivation on and off the pitch. The defence did a great job by scaring off the opposition with their interesting hockey moves and only a few goals were lost. Many goals were scored by the two wingers.

RW

6th XI

P 5, W 1, L 4

The 6th XI hockey was a new addition to the senior hockey teams this year. Comprised mainly of girls who, as in our case, had never picked up a hockey stick before, it was an interesting experience for the whole team. Being the professionals that we are we trained hard in fair weather, and were even out there in the rain. It was great to learn a new sport, even if we did have to take bashing from the Oundle 6th XI, masked in war paint.

Anna Symington & Tasha Evans

Under 16A

P9, W 5, L 3, D 1

This was a team which ended last season showing signs of promise and this year they more than fulfilled their potential. The turning

point for them came in the second match of the season, where they defeated arch-rivals Uppingham, and from this point on they went from strength to strength as they finally developed the belief that they were a team that deserved to win. This match symbolised the greatest strengths of these girls, most notably their sheer determination and refusal to give in. Such attributes ensured that the Under 16s would succeed all the way through to the Midlands' finals, where they gave their best and showed that they more than deserved their place amongst the region's best hockey schools. Deserving some mention are Katie Berwick and Aggie MacDonald-Milner, who shared the title of Most Valuable Player for the season. This is now a team which has learned to win, a very valuable quality as they progress into the senior teams. From a coach's perspective, they were a pleasure to work with and they should be very proud of all they have achieved.

KH

Under 16B

P 7, W 4, L 3

The season started with an extremely close fixture against Oakham, which the team narrowly lost, 1-0. An impressive winning streak followed in the next three matches, with Georgie Hodgson scoring the majority of the team's goals. The season ended with an exciting match against the Oundle 4th XI. Rugby scored a goal in the opening minutes of play, but battled hard to score another. We managed to score again but unfortunately Oundle scored more. Overall, it was an exciting season with more wins than losses. Player of the season went to Izzy Holton, who was solid in defence throughout.

GLD

Under 15A

P 13, W 8, L 5

The first match of the season, at the end of the very first week, provided a wake-up call to a perhaps complacent unbeaten team from last year. The same structure as last year was used given such early days, but whereas in the U14s this had produced a hard fought 3-2 victory over Oakham, this year saw an emphatic destruction as Rugby lost 7-1. Normal order seemed to be restored when the side showed reasonable comfort with the new 4-3-3 structure in beating an ordinary Uppingham side 2-1 in a game where we should have scored more goals. Unfortunately the next three matches revealed that there was an awful lot of improvement that needed to be made, above all in terms of players working for each other and seeing the whole team as a set of equally important units. At the heart of our improvement in the second half of term was, of course, a greater sense of togetherness and mutual respect among the players, a process helped immeasurably by the half term tour to Barcelona, but pioneered above all by the team's outstanding captain, Hannah Hawkesley.

Teams found it very difficult to break down the press marshalled by Hannah Hawkesley from centre forward, whilst greater movement



throughout the team allowed Izzy Wedgwood to show off her full range of passing and even to carry the ball into space from central midfield. She was a deserved player of the season. Phoebe Dunstan proved an invaluable addition at left midfield both in support of her defence and in ambition going forward, and Jess Breese began to show positional discipline and organisational skills to match her outstanding ability in the tackle. Meanwhile the leading goal scorer was Izzy Schlee, who steadily improved her positional judgement through the season, and the overwhelmingly important provider was Chessie Ruffell, from right wing.

Well done to the whole squad, but to Hannah Hawkesley in particular.

TGB

Under 15B

P 11, W 6, L 3, D 2

The U15Bs had a rather mixed season, with some fantastic wins and some rather disappointing losses. Highlights include beating Cheltenham 6-0, Kimbolton 8-0 and a good 2-0 win over St Edward's. They played their best hockey in their toughest match against Denstone A team, winning 1-0.

Our star forwards were Polly Richards, Holly Free and Jimmy Sandison. Our tireless midfield players battled hard throughout all the matches; here we had Tilly Fletcher, Xanthe Gladstone, Scarley Hall, Annah Morrish and Hannah Bibby. Our stalwart defenders were Alice Miller, Becky Bestwick, Jess Mason and Livvy Constable-Maxwell, who became a fantastic right-half-back and played for the As a few times. Gaining Emily Post from the Cs proved good and Gev Barton coming from the As for the last two matches, not surprisingly, was a bonus. The final word has to be about Jessy Firth. The star of the team in many ways Jessy valiantly volunteered to play goalie when we were very stuck at the start of term. I hope that she continues in this role as there is definite talent there.

CLH

Under 15C

P 5, W 2, L 3

The U15Cs have had a very enjoyable hockey season despite our losses outnumbering our wins. We have had a lot of fun, especially with 'the hokey-cokey' warm ups and our mathematical cheers of morale. Our coaches, Mrs Naylor and Miss Hopkins, helped us improve our hitting skills. Initially one of us was reluctant to be the goalkeeper but with some gentle persuasion she agreed to put the kit on each week and discovered a real talent, making some very impressive saves during the term's matches. In the mid-field Arabella Bowers seemed prepared for every ball that escaped the goal and she was always ready to push the ball forward to Meely Cooper.

Lydia Campbell-Black

Under 14A

P 13, W 10, L 3

Our first match was against Oakham and ended up with a very convincing win, 7-0. This result gave us confidence for our future matches. The next match was against Uppingham; it was a very close game that we lost 0-1. Bromsgrove was again a tough match which we lost 2-3, being half asleep and conceding all three goals in the first ten minutes. The match against Cheltenham saw a very good performance and a win, 4-1. Oundle was also a good match, with a lot of defending in the first half. We had a triangular tournament against Chigwell and Haileybury. We won the tournament with a win over Chigwell 4-0, having beaten Haileybury 10-0. Against Kimbolton we came back with yet another strong win, 7-0. Our final match was against Trent, where we rounded off the season well with a 2-1 win.

During the course of the season we scored 78 goals. Our top goal scorer was Alice Williams, who scored 34 goals, smashing the previous U14 record of Jaz Clark which had stood for four years. The Player of the Season was Eliza Talbot-Williams. Most Improved Player was Livvy Ripman.

We would like to thank Mrs Moreland for the hockey coaching. We are all pleased with our hockey season winning 10 out of the 13 matches and we look forward to being in the U15s.

Rosie Martin

Under 14B

P 11, W 4, L 5, D 2

The season started slowly with a couple of narrow loses against Oakham and Uppingham, but once the team had found their stride, the U14Bs developed into a very competitive unit. Issy Bulmer and Caitlin Allen scored the majority of the goals, and this led to comfortable victories against Bromsgrove and Cheltenham. A stunning dribble and strike by Katy Welch was the highlight of a convincing 5-1 victory against Northampton High. The strong team spirit was typified by the match against St Edward's. They began poorly and the team were 3-0 down at half time. But somehow the





girls turned things round to gain a very good draw in the second half. Results were affected by the loss of a couple of key players towards the end of term, but notable defensive performances were made by Meg MacMahon, Daisy Bendel and Anna Wirth.

AJD

Under 14C

P 7, W 5, L 1, D 1

The U14C team had an excellent season. Every member of the team played extremely well and their hockey skills and team work really improved over the term. They won five of their seven matches, narrowly losing to Oakham in their first match (1-0), drawing 1-1 in their meeting against Oundle, and then going on to beat them and Uppingham, St Edward's and Denstone in their successive matches. The term culminated in an outstanding 13-0 win against Trent. The team played with real enthusiasm and skill throughout the term and it was a pleasure to coach them. I am sure that they will continue to have success as they go into the U15s next year.

LJG



Under 14D

P 6, W 2, L 2, D 2

The U14D team won two matches, lost two matches and drew two matches which was an excellent result from a team consisting of many players who were completely new to the sport. As the season progressed the skills of the team improved significantly, most notably Mady Burger's; she received the award for Most Improved Player. The team began the season captained by Nina Whatmough who was later promoted to the C team, at which time the responsibility passed jointly to Emma Fleming and Sophie Sillman-McNeish, Sophie receiving the award for Player of the Season. Matches of particular note included the spectacular 5-5 draw at Uppingham and the rain-soaked match at Oundle, where the whole team worked valiantly to ensure a 4-1 victory, aided in no small part by Emily Hook's goals.

LLD

Cricket Tour to India 2009

Playing cricket in India is a tough proposition as there is always great excitement when a team from England is on tour. This excitement was clearly evident in one game when we were introduced as the England U22 XI. Our final result of played seven, won three and lost four was, then, very creditable.

We started the tour in Mumbai, where we played three fixtures. We lost the first two to strong academy sides. The third game, played at the Hindu Gymkhana on Marine Drive, was a thriller. The opposition needed three to win off two balls, but steady nerves allowed the School to win off the final ball.

Whilst in Mumbai we were entertained in magnificent style. The parents of a current Rugbeian picked us up by boat from the famous Gateway of India and ferried us to their private yacht for a two-hour cruise around the coast. Rishabh Shroff (OR) very generously hired out an entire restaurant and hosted a memorable dinner.

We left Mumbai on board a train for the eighteen-hour journey to Jaipur. It was an experience that I am sure will stay with the boys for years to come. In Jaipur we played some good cricket, winning one and losing one, and, following more fantastic

hospitality, we headed off to Ranthambore National Park. There are 27 tigers within the 400 square kilometres of reserve, so we were not expecting to see one, however, as we were about to leave the park during our second game drive, we spotted a three-year-old female. She came within 150 yards of us and spent 20 minutes in the open before heading off.

From Ranthambore we boarded another train and then a bus to Agra in order to see the Taj Mahal. We got up at 5.00am so that we could see dawn break over the memorial. We were not disappointed. It was a magical experience. We then spent a further six gruelling hours on the bus to Delhi. We drove straight to a lunch hosted by the Old Cottonian Association (Bishop Cotton School, Simla) and then to our sixth game: a 20:20 contest under lights against Mayo College Old Boys, which was won. The last match of the tour against Delhi Public School was always going to be tough as they select from over 2,000 boys. At times we were in the game, however we were eventually soundly beaten.

Overall, the batting was led by Joe Moxham (captain) and George Mackenzie.

Both Jake Kings and Rohan Inamdar bowled and batted very well and there were notable performances from Kit Cutter, James Barker and Richard Assheton, which bodes well for the summer.

It was a marvellous two weeks in all respects and my thanks go to all those who made this trip so memorable.

MJSE





BOYS' HOCKEY

1st XI

P 8, W 1, L 7

There were high hopes for the boys' XI before the start of the season but with another pre-season training cancelled due to our seasonally unseasonal weather we were left a little behind in our preparations. Having lost major fixtures against Oundle and Oakham to the snow and ice, we spent the best part of 20 days training in the Sports Hall, which we shared with netball, badminton and soccer.

Our first fixture finally came in Week 3 of the term, when last year's National Schools champions and Boarding Schools runners up, Dean Close, paid a visit to Rugby in the first round of the Boarding Schools Cup. The game was a very close affair, and swung both ways during the seventy minutes, with some skill on show and some exciting passages of play taking place. At one point, Rugby were 2-1 up, but two goals just after the half time break, and some missed opportunities, handed the game to Dean Close, the final result 3-4. A close game and a good start to the season.

Two games ensued against our toughest opposition of the season. A trip to Trent saw a game in which we barely got going. Half time resulted in 0-5; and it was 2-8 at full time. A trip to Bedford saw a better performance, but also ended with us on the wrong end of a 5-0 score.

The County Championships offered a chance to get back on track, and having beaten Princethorpe, King Henry VIII and Warwick in our group, we went through to the semi finals of the competition. This was a game against Bishop Vesey's, in which they played a counter-attacking game in a match which was controlled by Rugby. Rugby could not find the breakthrough, though, and were knocked out of the competition.

A competitive match against the ORs resulted in a 2-1 reverse, and then very close matches against Abingdon, Cheltenham and Oakham should all have been won, but resulted in us losing by the odd goal, 3-4, 1-2 and 2-3 respectively.

The season was shaping up to be a disappointing one after so much promise, and our last game against Uppingham was a chance to put all of this right. Uppingham had beaten Trent earlier in the season, so we knew they were a good side, and their visit was our season-ending finale.

The opening stages of the game were very cagey from both teams, with Rugby taking an early lead but Uppingham equalizing quickly. The game was a midfield battle, and slowly Rugby were gaining the upper hand. Just after the break, Rugby took the lead again, and then dominated for the remainder of the match, snatching a third goal ten minutes from the end and taking the 3-1 victory. A well deserved end to a very frustrating season, I think all team members would agree.

RD

2nd XI

P 7, W 2, L 3, D 2

Mother Nature initially curtailed a 2nd XI budding with potential, layering surfaces throughout the country with picturesque, but impractical, snow. When the snow subsided we did not get off to the start planned, losing 8-0 against Trent. Clearly improvement was needed. We did not have to wait long, beating Repton (3-1) and then coming from 3-0 down against Bedford to draw 3-3. Unfortunately we could not maintain our momentum post-Exeat, and lost narrowly to Abingdon (4-3) and put in a sluggish display against Oakham, losing 4-0.

At this stage many a team would have stuttered into the last two games, heads down, feet shuffling; the 2nd XI were made of tougher stuff. Under the guidance of captain Jeremy Gibb, a reshuffle inspired by James Barker and a spirited run out against the 1st XI, the 2nd XI went into its last two games with nothing but unfaltering commitment to the cause. The boys were rewarded with a fine 2-2 draw against a very strong Cheltenham side and finished the season beating Uppingham 2-1, thanks to a gargantuan display in goal by Jonathan Hutchinson.

Thanks to the boys' attitude from beginning to end, the season was a great success. This season has been an absolute pleasure from start to finish.

OS

3rd XI

P 6, W 0, L 5, D 1

Once the snow cleared, the 3rd XI memorably enjoyed success against the 2nd XI in training and drew against Bedford; otherwise, they were plagued by terrible luck in the key moments of many matches. There were two sounds to be heard again and again during the season: the opposition's coach saying 'You ought to have won', and the hopeful cheers of our loyal and irrepressible supporters.

MJP

4th XI

P 5, W 0, L 5

It was a difficult season for the 4th XI. But towards the end the boys certainly improved and some great hockey was played. The outstanding player was Yuki Saito, with his aggressive approach in defence. A fun time was had by all.

GBB

Under 16A**P 8, W 5, L 0, D 3**

The U16As had a successful season, which might have been even better but for a number of injuries. The team was undefeated in regular school fixtures, which was a fine achievement. The highlight was a 5-0 victory over Oakham, in which the boys demonstrated that by keeping it simple they could produce some superb hockey. Other notable matches were the 2-2 draws against very strong Trent and Cheltenham teams, when the boys showed their fighting spirit by coming from behind in both matches. Early in the season, the team were crowned County Champions after a fine tournament culminating in a hard-fought 2-1 victory over Warwick School. In the ensuing Regional Finals, the team narrowly lost out on a place in the National Finals, as a combination of tiredness and injuries led to their losing 1-3 to a strong Ecclesbourne side in the semi-finals. Throughout the season, the boys worked very hard as a team and made progress both individually and collectively. I look forward to seeing them push for places in the XI next year.

*PKB***Under 16B****P 6, W 1, L 3, D 2**

The U16Bs had a mixed season, one which featured some very good hockey but which had mixed results. It was a slow start to the season due to the weather, which led to a poor first performance against Trent College. One highlight was Will Clarke, who got on the scoresheet and continued to do so throughout the season. From then on we scored in every match apart from the last game of the season, against Uppingham. Good performances were put in by all but Henry Hunt, Jamie Couchman, Will Clarke and Jake Kings deserve a mention. Charlie Pelham-Lane and Stéphane Victor both made huge improvements during the season. Overall, the results do not reflect the quality of the hockey played, the general skill level of the players or the good atmosphere of the team.

*DAE***Under 15A****P 9, W 0, L 7, D 2**

This season was never going to be easy for the U15 boys. Stepping up from the U14s brings with it the new challenges, which some in the As failed to recognize until too late in the season. To make



matters worse, we were slow starting because of the snow. Although this was not the most successful season for the boys, the matches against Repton and Bablake are worthy of note as the boys contested well to force two draws. Hopefully this year has been a learning curve for the boys and next year they will be able to reap the benefits. Special mention must go to the team captain, Kit Goodfellow, who really did live up to his name in every sphere.

*KH & RJS***Under 15B****P 5, W 2, L 3**

We started the season with two wins, both against strong sporting schools, Repton (3-0) and Bedford (5-1). Our following game was at home against Abingdon. We were unlucky to concede the only goal in a 1-0 defeat and keeper Johnnie Martin kept brilliantly the whole game. From then things spiralled downwards, with two heavy defeats to Cheltenham (6-1) and Uppingham (7-2). I feel the players of the season were Johnnie Martin and Huw Phillips. Johnnie did a fantastic job in goal. As for Huw, he was on fire in front of goal and constantly posed a real threat to every opposition.

Overall I am very pleased with the way our season went and I thought we were always confident on and off the field.

*Sam Bennett***Under 15C****P 5, W 2, L 2, D 1**

Much to the team's dismay we were caught off-guard after two match cancellations due to weather, leading to an unfortunate loss against Trent. However, we came back in the next match against Bedford, winning 3-1, with man of the match, Armando Garza, marshalling a solid defence. The team was knocked back by a loss to Abingdon before coming close in a 2-2 draw against Cheltenham, with man of the match Kaamil Walilay commanding a strong attack and keeping Cheltenham on their toes. The team fought hard right up until the end of the season and secured a well deserved 3-0 victory against Uppingham in the final match. After a couple of early goals, excellent goalkeeping from Ian Sillett and decisive clearances from sweeper Henry Brown confirmed the win.

*Matt Gallagher***Under 14A****P 8, W 8, L 0**

The team started their competitive hockey in snow at Denstone and ended in the draining heat of a glorious spring day at Cannock. In the process, just three matches were lost as the side reached fourth in the National Finals, and one of the best aspects of the season was that each and every one of these defeats was bitterly resented. The side has done well enough to see how good they need to be, and can be – it is vital that they continue to want to learn and develop as they move up through the school.

During the conventional school season every match was won. The team showed itself able to win when not playing at its best (against MCS) and to raise its all round game against opponents on top form (Bedford). Equally, the side was happy to produce

commanding victories when dominant, such as in the 7-2 scoreline over Abingdon.

Tournament play offered more challenges, partly it might be argued as a result of shorter match formats. Perhaps the most tense moments came against KES, when penalty flicks were required following a tight game. Monty Alexander in goal was on magnificent form. He was similarly impressive at the end of the Midlands tournament, but following a final in which Rugby dominated our flicks were not up to scratch. Flicks were not required on the day of the finals, but after winning the first two games comfortably Rugby narrowly lost 1-0 in what was effectively the semi-final, ending the tournament in fourth place.

This was a prodigious performance and the entire squad deserves recognition for the achievement. My particular thanks go to the Captain, Charlie Austin, who led the side by example and with calm authority throughout the season; also to Mr Dhanda and Kali Takker for their coaching expertise; and finally to the faithful band of supporters from bitter January to sweltering April.

TGB

Under 14B

P 7, W 5, L 2

For the first two weeks of the season the Midlands' astros were under a cold blanket of snow and ice, so our first few matches had to be cancelled. It was not the most ideal preparation. However, along with the good weather came a fantastic season of excellent hockey for the Bs. The team, ably captained by George Brockman, was clearly a highly competitive force. While our defence was sometimes a little porous our prolific attackers hit 25 balls against the oppositions' back boards. The team really improved as the season went on and by our last game we proved to be a well drilled, cohesive unit.

MH

Under 14C

P 4, W 2, L 1, D 1

The weather produced a terrible start to the season for us, reducing our fixtures due to cancellations. As a result we ended with just four matches. The team played, however, with commendable spirit and demonstrated a good deal of skill. In many ways the match



in which we played our best hockey was against the U14Bs. They were a good side and we really raised our game to compete in an exciting game which we could have drawn or even won.

The membership of the team was pretty constant and I was lucky to have a squad of 13 or 14 committed players. Guy Balogun was a solid captain, determined in defence, and capable of pushing up in attack. As a goalkeeper, we were very lucky to have a player as skilled as Edward Hutchinson, who could easily have played for a higher side.

CJE

Under 14D

P 4, W 2, L 1, D 1

Following an unsettled start to the season due to bad weather the U14D team began with a 6-0 win against Trent, boosting the morale of the team: training and fitness sessions were paying off! A strong forward line of Finlo Clarkson, Tom Sainty and Henry Holmes, supported by Hugo Lebus, Jacob Adorsu, Harrison Anton and Gavin Sewdyall in midfield certainly gave our opponents something to think about. In defence, Rufus Holt, Marcus Powis and Boris van den Belt proved that a serious attack was needed to get through to the goal, guarded by the formidable James Glew, who made some spectacular saves throughout the season.

We were unfortunate to fall 2-1 to Bedford in the final minutes of that match, and fought hard to keep Abingdon to a 0-0 draw. The highlight for many, however, was the decisive 4-0 win in our final match against Cheltenham. Well done to all!

AMM

Under 14 MAVERICKS

P 3, W 2, L 1

The Mavericks made good progress over the course of the term, particularly given that many of them had never played hockey before. A convincing 4-1 win away at Solihull did much to raise confidence and the team were unlucky to lose 2-3 to Abingdon's C team in their next outing. A win over the U14D team showed how far the boys had progressed and several players were promoted as a consequence, notably Jatinder Devgun, who scored a hat-trick for the D team the following week. Andrew Armstrong captained the side with authority while Ptolemy Jenkins, Harrison Anton and Toby Brazier showed genuine skill on the ball.

TJD



Lent 10



Boys' Soccer

1st XI

P 7, W 3, L 3, D 1

Once again the start to the season was protracted and frustrating. The freezing temperatures and snowfall put paid not only to pre-season training and the two games scheduled, but also the first two scheduled matches on our official fixture list. The eventual fixture list of only 7 games, rather than the usual 11, told the story of the reduced season.

The difficulties of the first few weeks and team selections meant that the first game against Bedford did not materialise until the end of January. Nevertheless, the leadership of Joe Moxham, Titus English, and Mitch Williams, managed to cultivate a good ethos and spirit, and this developed well throughout the term.

On a boggy pitch at Bedford, and with little training preparation, all that could be expected of the team was a solid, simple performance. The performance surpassed this in many ways and at times the inter-passing and movement from the Rugby midfield and attack looked encouraging. After weathering early pressure and settling down after a couple of good chances, Rugby took the lead through a long range strike from Bruno Howard. Further pressure for the rest of the first half could have led to more but it was a deserved 1-0 lead at half time. The second half saw another long range strike; Jaime Montero gave Rugby a 2-0 lead. Despite conceding a penalty with 20 minutes left, we managed to withstand a large amount of pressure to win 2-1. After the previous few weeks of inactivity, it was a promising start to the season.

The next fixture against St Edward's was the first cup fixture, and a win was needed to give Rugby the best possible start to their campaign. St Edward's started strongly, challenging Tom O'Brien to make a couple of good saves. Gradually, however, we began to settle. Albert Neuendorf, Kane Maunder, and Freddie Rose, created some good opportunities but we failed to capitalise.

The back four proved a hard line to beat, with David McColl, Max White, Jamie Warr, and Joe Moxham taking the honours in the first half. The second half saw chance after chance created and finally, with only a matter of minutes remaining, Freddie Rose scored a well-deserved winner to give Rugby 3 points.

The cup game against Bromsgrove proved to be a stronger test, and despite causing the opposition defence trouble in the first 30 minutes, we were unable to capitalise on the chances created by George Connell, Albert Neuendorf, and James Montero. A lack of team cohesion and match fitness meant we went down 2-1 despite some heroic goalkeeping from Tom O'Brien. This meant that further

progress in the competition would now only depend upon the forthcoming game against Radley.

The school fixture list was put on hold briefly by the visit of Daniel Williams' (SH 1996-2000) OR side early in February. Daniel had managed to gather twenty players for the OR game, and therefore the 'rolling subs' rule meant that those visiting ORs who had had lost some fitness over recent months or years were able to

be 'rested' at regular intervals! This made for a close and entertaining game, and with the woodwork being struck several times by both sides, the game went down to the wire with the School finally clinching a 2-1 victory in the last few minutes of the game.

The game against Radley proved to be tough. Much was at stake and everyone raised their game. The first twenty minutes saw both sides trying to settle and both keepers needed to make a series of good saves. Radley, however, began to settle and play with confidence, and took the lead before half time with a well struck long range effort which Tom O'Brien had little chance of stopping. The game swung Radley's way and with a confident and technical performance in the second half, they deservedly took the honours leaving our aspirations to be put on hold for another year.

With the competition now over, the two remaining games against Oakham and Uppingham saw us score goals in abundance, something we had struggled to do in the early part of the season. There was a 2-2 draw against Oakham and a late goal in the dying seconds of the final game against Uppingham saw us go down there 3-4. Despite the final season result, there were some good performances, particularly by those members of the LXX who will be present next season, and with better weather and pre-season training under our belts, we look to improving upon this season's results.

Once again, and as always, my sincere thanks to Neil Hampton, Peter Dewey, Tony Darby, Phil Byrne and Tom Rennoldson who gave many hours on the coaching ground as well as the many away matches with the senior teams this term. Their help, enthusiasm and commitment with all the senior teams were appreciated by both myself and all the boys in their squads.

FHA

2nd XI

P 7, W 3, L 3, D 1

The season began with the management in the depths of despair about the prospects for the new season, as once again it looked as though victories might be few and far between. However, also once again, the SMT* was wrong! The first two matches were won and the rather motley crew that we had assembled was gelling nicely into a proper team under the leadership of, first, the Bobby Moore-like defensive qualities of Peter Kershaw, and then the rather more Anfield tendencies of Angus McIntyre. Déjà-vu also played a part in the issues of goalkeeping and left feet, as we had neither an experienced custodian, nor any player who could do anything with his left foot other than stand on it. George



Olcott started with the keeper's shirt, but let it slip through his fingers and so Rohan Inamdar stepped in and proved a very good find, making some excellent saves including one at Radley that had me in mind of Jim Montgomery! Tom Stott was a vociferous presence and it was his ability in the air that saw him moved into the centre. He was assisted by the skills of Ben Tubbs, the pace of Tom Coy and the almost left-footedness of Louis Bowers. In midfield, McIntyre rallied the troops and underpinned the defence, leaving the likes of the feisty Frenchman, Nic Godeau (who took a number of unfortunate blows for the team), and Harry Hopson to forage further forward. Arthur Thomas, who was probably the most consistent performer, both created and took chances. Finally, up front we had James Herlinger, but his breach of 2nd XI etiquette prevents me from saying any more. So, it was a better season than we had hoped for on the results front. In terms of the boys, their attitude and discipline was severely tested in the final game of the season and suffice to say that, compared to their opponents on that day, we had a good bunch.

* Seconds Management Team
PWD

3rd XI

P 6, W 2, L 4

This season was one of mixed performances and emotions. There were some great highs, such as clinging on to win against Oakham, and some dreadful lows, such as the 11-0 defeat to Radley. This season was very tough because we were good enough to win games. However, we often failed to play as a team, which let us down and for the majority of the season we were without a true striker which meant many opportunities were missed. There were some great individual performances throughout the season which did help us to get some results. For instance Rhys Okpu's pace up the wing was a great threat and helped in setting up many of the goals along with Henry Bacon's accurate crosses (but not shots). Matt Jeffreys and Charles Rose also made a large impact when they came up from the 4th XI. Rose was able to play as a target man and hold up play along with his dazzling left foot, which provided vital goals in the last two matches of the season. Matt Jeffreys was able to strengthen the defence. However, although the results in general did not go our way, the attitude of the team was always good and full of humour, which meant that on the whole the season was great fun.

Tom Gover

4th XI

P 2, W 0, L 1, D 1

It was a short season in terms of fixtures for the 4th XI. During training, squad members worked hard and played some good attacking football, although they were ultimately unlucky in the two competitive matches. The first of these was away at Bedford, and despite a strong goalkeeping performance from Rowland Reeves, the home team emerged 5-2 winners. The second and last match at Radley was a superb contest. Courtesy of some excellent finishing, Rugby raced to a three goal lead before half time. The



team defended admirably after the interval but Radley pulled the scores level before hitting the post in the last few seconds. The match ended as a hard fought, deserved 3-3 draw. Nonetheless, many positives will be taken from the brief but enjoyable campaign, and I hope the squad will return next season eager to post some wins on the board.

TER

Under 16A

P 7, W 4, L 2, D 1

The deep snow on the pitches meant that the matches against Bromsgrove, UCS and Oakham had to be cancelled but we finally kicked off the season with a home game against Bedford. We appeared to be cruising until we let in two soft goals in the space of ten or so minutes, leaving the score at half-time 3-2. Bedford were looking dangerous in the first five minutes of the second half, when a shocking tackle flew in on Wilf MacColl, dislocating his knee in the process. The game was ended there, as was Wilf's season, much to the disappointment of the team.

Rugby took the lead against St Edward's through a clever free-kick from Gil Reeves, whose elegant chip found the head of Tommy McIntyre to put us 1-0 up. The game opened up in the second half and Rugby's fluid attacking football proved too much for the St Edward's defence, sealing an emphatic 4-0 drubbing.

Against Radley we found ourselves trailing 0-3 before half-time. McIntyre and Olly Ashby found the net again and brought us back into the game, before Radley grabbed the clincher. We sought to redeem ourselves against Princethorpe on a Tuesday afternoon. We prepared well and were quick off the mark, racing into a 4-0 lead in the first half. A rather slack second half from Rugby saw us concede two goals, although the result was never in doubt. The final score was 4-2.

Again we were left frustrated against Oakham as they beat us 4-3 in a high intensity game where tempers flared on both sides. We travelled to Oundle for our first, and last, away game of the season. A 2-2 draw meant that we were not defeated but their late equalizer meant the disappointment was more painful than ever.

The last game of the season welcomed the return of George Holt from his broken wrist. A fine last minute save enabled us to hold on for a 1-0 victory over Uppingham.

George Walker

Under 15A**P 5, W 2, L 2, D 1**

This was a season that will be remembered just as much for the snow that curtailed our first few matches as for the performances on the pitch. When we were finally able to play some competitive matches the outlook for the season looked promising. We had the strength and pace of Freddie Embleton upfront, the dynamic Isaak Williams in the centre and the powerful Callum Grier marshalling the defence.

The first two games saw us get off to a dream start, with comprehensive victories against Bedford (6-2) at home and Oakham away. Things did not go so well in the remaining three matches, unfortunately, and we were narrowly beaten 3-4 by a much stronger Radley team, who snatched the winning goal in stoppage time; lost 1-2 at home to the Oakham side that we had beaten earlier in the season; and played out a frustrating 1-1 draw on a windy Oundle pitch.

In the short time we had this term the boys really progressed and began to understand their role on a football field. The season could very easily have been a clean sweep of five victories but, alas, it was not to be.

JLN

Under 15B**P 5, W 2, L 2, D 2**

Defiant in his Sheffield Utd shirt against this white backdrop, the irrepressible Charlie Cunningham immediately stood out as an interesting character who might feature centrally in the season: this proved to be the case as his skill, strength in possession, and composed finishing was one of the team's best attributes. At first, he was paired with James Bateson as a strike partner, but Bateson then moved back into an advanced central midfield position, from where, in the home game against Oakham (won 3-2), he scored the goal of the season, a beautifully struck shot from the edge of the area which left (the admittedly small) opposition goalkeeper flailing. He was duly presented with a sumptuous reward for this by Mr Jarvis, who also coached the side, at the end-of-season pizza extravaganza. Bateson was replaced in attack by Calvin Cragg, who made the unusual transition from A team goalkeeper to B team centre-forward. Calvin glided around the pitch in a stealthy, quick, predatory fashion, scoring 6 goals in the 10-1 drubbing of Oakham (away) and, despite playing in only three of the six matches, ending up as our top scorer. The midfield consisted of variations of Freddy Kerner, Levon Knadjian, Ben Kew, Dan Caplin, Boris Tsang, and, most impressively, the skilful and tenacious Paul Godeau, who brought Platini-esque Gallic flair to our forward movement (though his penchant for attempting to play without shinpads caused occasional chaos). The defence was Tom Firth, Harry Penfold, Will Roberts (captain, defensive rock, player-of-the season), and George Shone, who also won a sumptuous award for being the most improved player of the year. In goal was the banter-addicted but brilliantly commanding Harry McClements.

JOS

NETBALL**1st VII****P 10, W 3, L 6, D 1**

It was a frustrating season for the VII. They were plagued with illness and injury and there was a lot of movement between the 1st and 2nd squads as we tried to find the best combinations on court. The girls played in some hard-fought battles, particularly against Oakham and showed grit and determination – following a fine example set by both captain and vice captain. The team managed to gain some winning momentum towards the end of term and began to form some very efficient partnerships on court, particularly in the defensive circle. All in all, the results do not give a fair picture of the VII who demonstrated high skill levels and good team work and showed huge improvement over the term.

EJF

2nd VII**P 9, W 3, L 6**

It truly was a season of two halves for the 2nd VII. The first half of the season was one of development. A senior squad was created with the VII and 2nd VII combining for most of their training sessions, giving players the opportunity to raise their play to that of our best players. The top U16 players were included in the senior squad, which meant that the teams took longer than usual to gel and come together as one unit.

The highlight of the first half of the season was an exciting match against local rivals, Princethorpe. Each team moved into the lead after their centre pass until Princethorpe took a two goal lead with one minute left to play. The final score of 20-21 was a frustrating end to a well-matched game. Under the excellent leadership of TP McFarlane, the 2nd VII improved significantly as the term progressed. This was reflected in the wins that followed Exeat – a welcome after a barren first half of the term. Our annual triangular tournament between Rugby, Oundle and Sedbergh was our first taste of victory. We beat an impressive Sedbergh side by 5 goals. Our final two matches were the finale of the season: a 23-11 win over Northampton High and a 35-13 win over Bloxham. The inaugural end of season dinner was a lovely evening when awards



were made to Bridget Lew as Player of the Season and to Lucy Ripman as the Most Improved Player. Many of the girls return next year and will make the core of the VII.

LMH

3rd VII

P 8, W 7, L 1

The 3rd VII had an excellent season and were in fact one of the most successful teams. Oundle managed to pip us to the post in a very exciting match, which ended 19-20 to them, but the team is fired up for revenge next year. All the girls played with great enthusiasm and it is to their credit that a number of them progressed into the 2nd squad. Lizzie Dalton was a very diligent captain but every player made their mark and of course the season cannot pass by without mention of Anna Symington's trainers, which became a mascot! It was an excellent season and the girls were a pleasure to coach. Well done!

LJG

4th VII

P 8, W 4, L 3, D 1

A great season for the team. They went from strength to strength, winning their last three games of the season very convincingly. Apart from during Friday training sessions after their fish and chips, the team were always up for trying new ideas. A particular mention for the D block players (Hattie Slater, Amy Webb and Katie Berwick), who gelled quickly into the senior team dynamic. It is a real shame to lose the seven XX players but it was great to see all of them in action for the final quarter of our last game. Well done to all!

GG

5th VII

P 6, W 3, L 3

The team had a very pleasing season having won half of their matches. They played with great enthusiasm and determination. They worked together extremely well as a team and showed a great positive attitude. There were some extremely close games against Cheltenham, Repton and Oakham, and the girls were able to keep their cool and achieve successful wins. A really pleasing season for all the girls involved.

RW

6th VII

P 3, W 2, L 1

The team had a great season, with much enthusiasm and some serious victories. Two matches were won convincingly (17-3 and 20-7); the only match lost (9-10) was against a side including three of our players. Anne-Marie Murphy, whose goal-scoring is legendary, was the Most Improved Player, and Eathar Shakweh was Player of the Season for her constant and exemplary hard work on the field and as captain.

JMJ



Under 15A

P 6, W 3, L 3

The first match against Tudor Hall had to be cancelled due to the snowy weather but this gave us a chance to get used to playing with each other as a team again. It also meant that we could prepare ourselves for our next match against Oakham, which we knew would be a tough one. It was a very close match and could have easily gone either way. The score at half time was pretty even but in the second half we managed to pull away and gain a substantial lead which won us the game. Overall we had a very good season but we came across some good opposition and not all the matches were easily won. We often took a while to warm up and only started showing the netball we could play in the last minutes of a game. For example, we only beat Cheltenham narrowly after being behind until the last quarter. Our last fixture of the season was a tournament held at Uppingham. Up until then, we were unbeaten in regular matches but unfortunately, we could not hold on to our winning streak as we came across very strong sides, such as Gresham's, who prevented us from continuing through to the finals.

Connie Krarup

Under 15B

P 7, W 2, L 4, D 1

The U15B team had a mixed season with several changes to the squad during the term. There were many good performances, but it sometimes proved difficult to get the ball into the circle to finish an attacking move with a goal. Most teams found Caroline Cieselwicz, Poppy Mostyn-Owen and Georgia Collis a difficult defence to play against, with many great interceptions. In centre court, Gusta Matthews, Emily Post, Xanthe Gladstone, Fabia Carney and Scarley Hall worked tirelessly, making sure they used skills practised in training sessions. In the circle, Annah Morrish, Livvie Constable-Maxwell and Jimmy Sandison all had moments of brilliance, but overall consistency proved to be our downfall. This meant we finished the season with fewer wins than we might have hoped, but the girls showed plenty of potential for a better set of results next season.

JO

Lent 10



Under 15C

P 7, W 6, L 1

The U15Cs had a fantastic season, only losing one very tight match against Oundle and winning some games by more than 20 goals. Our centre court players of Georgia Miles, Ella Dodd, Holly Free, Julia Smith, Gev Barton and Phoebe Dunstan moved the ball fluidly and with such control that it was rarely intercepted, although they managed to win the ball back easily when defending. Our stalwart defence of Laura Gordon-Lennox, Becky Bestwick and Chiedza Chikanza rarely let anything get past them to our circle and our shooters – Phoebe, Gev, Elissa Foord and Annah Morrish – scored goal after glorious goal. The players mentioned above were the foundation of this brilliant team, however, it says a lot that the majority of them also played in the Bs at some point (in fact, in training, the Cs often beat the Bs). This set of girls show a lot of talent and the label of C team does not do them justice. They were an absolute pleasure to work with and I hope they continue with netball in the future.

CLH

Under 15D

P 3, W 0, L 3

The ladies of this team were always cheerful at practice and were happy to learn new training routines and techniques. With only three matches and a large squad, choosing a consistent team was difficult but flexibility was a key characteristic of this team with them all willing to play in several positions. Kaitlin Wild and Hannah Bibby often held the team together in the central play. Notable improvers during the season were Polly Richards, Hitomi Kayama and Mairi Hilleary.

ADT

Under 14A

P 7, W 5, L 1, D 1

Despite a delayed start due to the snow, the U14As can describe their netball season as a highly successful one. Right up until the final fixture the track record was an unbeaten one – consisting of five strong wins and one draw. The enthusiasm and determination of the team was always evident, no more so when a victory was scored in a tough match against Oundle. An impressive level of improvement was witnessed throughout the season by all members of the squad, although special mention must go to Katie Welch, whose spectacular shooting rarely failed to secure a victory for the team.

HEG

Under 14B

P 5, W 1, L 3, D 1

The season began with a close win against Oakham. Rugby took an early lead, and managed to hold on to this lead throughout, despite Oakham's best efforts; the match ended 9-7 in our favour. A defeat against Uppingham was followed by an extremely exciting match at Oundle. Each quarter ended with no more than a goal difference between each team.

A minute before the end, the score was 10-9 to Oundle and Rugby had a chance to score. Unfortunately we missed and Oundle went on to score one more in the closing seconds of the match. Another exciting match against Repton ended in a draw. Player of the Season was awarded to Ellie Olcott who was excellent in defence and a committed player throughout the term.

GLD

Under 14C

P 5, W 3, L 1, D 1

Those of you who have been following Mr Price's netball coaching career closely over the last few years will know that he has enjoyed four successful seasons with the 4th VII, culminating in an unbeaten season in 2009 and the accolade of 'team of the season'. Talk of a move was therefore inevitable and there was some debate when LMH appointed HWP to the U14C team. Was this a suitable promotion? In fact, was this a promotion? Could he adapt his senior coaching skill set to a more junior age group? Will he ever realise his dream of taking the 1st VII?

Reassured that his Levée drive had been noted, and with the crucial development role explained, like Achilles on the island of Scyros, HWP quickly settled happily back into the netball sorority. Sheriff House, teaching Classics and family life once again became mere distractions in the quest to hone another unbeaten unit.

But what about the team of athletic Atalantas? The Hippolyta of these Amazons was Meg Johns, who made up an able trio in attack, together with Milly Howard and Ali Rixon. They wove the thread of the attack like Clotho, Lachesis and Atropos, yet did so with the charm of the Graces. Only against Oundle did they lose their eye and become a little toothless like the gray old Graeae. The mid-field duties were shared by Meg MacMahon, Martha Bickerton, Odette Moncur, Issy Bulmer and Octy Butler. Muses in other spheres of school life, when playing netball, they become like Gorgons causing opponents to freeze before them as they struggled to beat off their Harpy-like attacks. Finally, like sailors towards the Sirens, attackers were lured towards our defence, only to find the Cerberean defence of Emily Kerner, Caitlin Allen and Nina Whatmough.

In short, we squeezed past Uppingham in our first game, were outplayed by an excellent Oundle side, thrashed Repton, pipped Cheltenham to the post and drew with Tudor Hall. The girls were lively, but excellent company and showed real ability when focused. I would like to thank Mrs Hampton and Miss Grant for their organisation, support and sense of humour and wish the girls well as they move up through the school.

HWP

Under 14D**P 6, W 4, L 2**

From the very first training session it was apparent that this year's U14D netball team was one of calibre. Their knowledge of skills and techniques was already well-developed, and as the season progressed it was evident that they were keen to put into practice the more advanced skills which they had begun to develop in training sessions. The girls worked very well indeed as a team, and they were always forgiving and understanding of any mistakes which their team mates might have made when under pressure during matches.

RPK

RACKETS**P 14, W 9, L 5**

The first pair, Chris Atkins and David Mackenzie, had a successful year winning nine matches and losing five. The highlight was beating St Paul's in the first round at Queen's, the first time we have ever played St. Paul's, and it was a thoroughly deserved win for a hard working pair who both made the most of their ability.



The second pair consisted of two from George Mackenzie, Harry Carr and Tom Clarke. Though we won a lot of matches there will be much to do for the younger two to bridge the gap between second and first pair. The junior pairs just about broke even, with the U16s being Richard Assheton, Henry Hunt and Harry Wilson. The U15 representatives were Kit Goodfellow, Bertie Bennett-Jones, and Paul Clarke.

Four U14s made a good start to their rackets careers: Ed Clarke, Sam Phillipson, Ollie Skales and Ben Wilmot-Sitwell. Apart from Queen's we also had the usual annual trips to Manchester and Hayling Island, which were both great fun and introduced boys to playing in clubs.

We now lose Chris Atkins, David Mackenzie and George Mackenzie. All three have kept practising at least three times a week throughout their time at School and have managed to combine playing the game for fun with making the most of their ability. They will be missed and it will be a real challenge for others to try to get a record as good as they managed to achieve.

PJR

FENCING**P 3, W 0, L 2, D 1**

This year the fencing group has been small, but committed. We have continued to meet regularly on Monday evenings until the examination season filled the Old Gym with desks!



This year we have extended our range of matches. We fenced twice against Shrewsbury, losing the first overall, but with our B team drawing their match, and drawing the second. One match with Harrow was cancelled, but the second took place, being a three-way competition with Tonbridge as well. Sadly we lost this match, but there were some promising individual performances to admire. In a new direction, what was turning out to be a very close match with Rugby Sword Club had to be abandoned half-way through; this is a fixture that will be repeated next year. Two more schools have expressed an interest in fencing with us next year, so the club can look forward to a much busier year to come.

For the first time ever, this year saw a SCR/student match. Great deeds of derring-do were performed by PSJD and others, and the SCR were holding their own against the students right until the last minute, when youth overcame age and the SCR team collapsed to defeat. A revenge match is clearly on the cards for next year!

Many thanks are due to James Watkins for captaining the team this year, and congratulations go to Richard Watkins, this year's winner of the Captain's Sword competition.

MAH

BOYS' SQUASH**P 10, W 10, L 0**

This has been the strongest and most successful squash team in 16 years. The 1st V were victorious in every single match; indeed, so dominant were they that none of the side bar one player in one match dropped a game during the whole Lent term. Harry Carr, playing at number one, coasted through his matches, as did numbers two and three, Shahaab Bhanji and Chris Atkins. Charles Pridgeon at 4 improved enormously on his showing during the Advent term and played very competitively. Jerry Taechaubol at 5 found most of his opposition too friendly as well. It will be difficult to improve on this year's results and I will be sorry to see Shahaab, Chris and Charles depart. They have all given a great deal to the sport at the School and I wish them well.

AJN

BOYS' BADMINTON P 13, W 4, L 8, D 1

After losing some very good players last year some regrouping was required. The first matches were tough but the squad worked hard with coach Darren Walker and began turning in some good results. Inspirational captain Toby Hong and Jay Taechaubol became a formidable first-pairing and won most matches. James Peet, who played consistently well all season, and Tin Cheung began winning at second pair and saved several matches for us. Gary Chan and Merrick Ho became a strong third pair in the second half of the season, playing some very good badminton.

NDJ

GIRLS' BADMINTON P 5, W 1, L 4, D 1

The girls' badminton team has had many close games this season, with the overall statistics giving a harsh picture. Of the four matches they lost, three were 5-4 and could easily have gone either way. The regular first pair of Chloe Walker and Alicia Walker played very consistently throughout and won a very creditable 77% of their matches, with captain Vicky Robbins and Estelle Jarvis winning a respectable 50% as second pair. Emily Hess, Taz O'Brien and Louise Fleming, who all played regularly in the third pair, also put into practice what they learned from coach Darren Walker, but, despite many hard-fought battles, our opposition seemed to have the knack of just coming out on top. The badminton team have all been enthusiastic throughout the season and worked extremely hard to improve during training sessions. A very enjoyable season despite the overall results!

JO

CROSS COUNTRY

Inter-school matches

Cross Country has enjoyed another successful term. The influx of new talent into the squad resulted in a confidence boost and improved results all round. The U17 team performed extremely well in the League, coming third overall, with Ben Sutherland taking the top individual position. With two more years in this age group, Ben is certainly going to make his mark on regional cross country and, we hope, he will also be recognised at national level.

This year there was a home match over a new course, with Rugby winning the Open Girls' and Intermediate Boys' races while finishing third in the Senior Boys.



Colours were awarded to Peter Morris, Angus Berwick, Barny Elmhirst, James Kew, Michael Miller and George Style on the boys' side, and Chloe Quinlan, Katharine Bramwell, Isla Colclasure, Sophie Fontes, Lotty Griffiths and Venetia Johnson on the girls' side.

The House Running Cups

This year 260 boys and girls represented their houses in fine weather. The Senior course had to be shortened as building works prevented the initial lap of Caldecott's and Hillbrow. This meant that records could not be established. Individual winners were Chloe Quinlan and James Firth (Senior Girls and Boys respectively) and Katie Berwick and Ben Sutherland (Junior Girls and Boys respectively). Ben set a new course record, overhauling the previous best time by 41 seconds. The house team winners were Stanley (Senior Girls), Southfield (Junior Girls), School Field (Senior Boys) and Whitelaw (Junior Boys).

The Crick and Barby Runs

Once again the weather was more than kind to the runners and 112 boys and girls entered these individual events entirely voluntarily. The Crick winners were James Firth and Chloe Quinlan, James missing the current course record by just 35 seconds. The Barby Run was led home by Ben Sutherland and Hebe Rut. Ben smashed the Barby record by 2 minutes 28 seconds.

GJH

RUGBY SEVENS

The Sevens rugby season was a short but productive one on many fronts. The seniors reached the semi-final at the Windsor 7s, having won their group and beaten Eton and Wellington on the way. At Rosslyn Park the seniors finished second in their group.

At the Barnet tournament the U16 squad reached the final of the plate competition and at Rosslyn Park they won their group and lost the play-off match against Lord Wandsworth.

The U14s were involved at Barnet and Sherborne and reached the semi-finals of the plate in both tournaments.

SJB

CRICKET**XI****P 24, W 11, L 7, D 6**

As results go, the 2010 season is one of the most successful in recent years. Not only were eleven matches won, but there were four centuries (all from Joe Moxham), two five wicket hauls (Tom Clarke and George Mackenzie) and a six wicket haul (Jake Kings).

There is no doubt that the boys improved as cricketers during the tour of India in December 2009 and this was evident from the start of the season. Tamworth were beaten by 63 runs in the first game with Mackenzie stranded on 98 not out, and this was followed by an excellent five wicket win against the Gloucestershire Gypsies; chasing 222 to win, Clarke made 77no and Kings 51.

The first school match brought the XI down to earth with a sudden jolt when St Edward's beat them by 47 runs. On a good wicket in Oxford, the XI had done well to bowl St Edward's out for 158 (Kings, 4-38), but inexplicably a combination of poor batting and overconfidence saw a lacklustre display. This was an important lesson to learn early in the season and the XI bounced back to beat the MCC by 7 wickets, the first victory over the MCC for many years. Moxham and Mackenzie put on 161 for the first wicket, the first of many excellent first wicket partnerships.

Bedford batted the XI out of the game in a 50 over contest scoring 279 (Kings, 3-51), but Rugby fought hard to post 232 for 8. The top order all scored runs, but number 1, 2 and 3 were all run out – not the way to win a high scoring run chase. The current Radley XI is probably the best side in the country and having won the toss on a green and damp wicket we put them in. After a flurry of early wickets, we finally bowled them out for 227 (Mackenzie, 3-31), slightly disappointing considering the start we had. The Radley opening attack was quick and the XI found themselves in trouble, but an excellent tenth wicket partnership between George Terry and James Barker thwarted Radley's hopes.

Queen Elizabeth Wyggeston were soundly beaten by 109 runs, with Moxham making his second hundred (119no). We then embarked upon our week of 20:20 cricket. The XI played some excellent, competitive cricket and beat Warwick, Leicestershire Grammar School and Uppingham by one run in a thrilling finish.

We travelled to Uppingham to play a 50 over game, batted first and scored a very competitive 233 for 7 (Kings, 80; Clarke, 54). A thoroughly professional performance with the ball saw Uppingham dismissed for 118 (Barker, 4-28; Rohan Inamdar, 3-13). This confidence was taken into the next match at Stowe. Stowe won the toss and batted for 65 overs on a very hot day. The XI did well to

contain Stowe to 218 for 8 and another excellent performance with the bat saw the XI reach 222 for 4 (Mackenzie, 69; Theo Mckibbin, 57). This rounded off a very satisfactory first half of term which had seen nine matches won.

The second half of term is never easy due to exams and the XI took their eye off the ball a little. We lost off the last ball of the game to MCS Oxford and failed to bowl Bloxham out. Cheltenham posted 278 and although the XI had an opportunity to win, finished 28 short with nine wickets down.

Marlborough's form had been similar to ours and when they arrived for what was to be the 155th match between the schools, there was an expectation of a competitive game. The first half an hour was quite extraordinary, Marlborough, having won the toss, elected to bat and suddenly found themselves 0 for 2, 4 for 4, 10 for 5 and 30 for 6. A combination of good seam bowling and wonderful catching created panic within the Marlborough ranks. Unfortunately the XI was unable to dismiss Marlborough for less than a hundred and they finally made 147 (Clarke, 5-28; Barker, 3-20). Moxham and Mackenzie continued their form at the top of the order and put on 187 for the first wicket, with Moxham making his fourth hundred of the season. We decided to bat on the following morning and declared on 336 for 9 (Clarke, 56), with a lead of 190 and a hundred overs to bowl Marlborough out for a second time.

The XI started well, but some good opposition batting and slightly wayward bowling allowed Marlborough to dominate the post-lunch session. The XI did manage to

bowl Marlborough out for 273, however they were 83 ahead and there were only a handful of overs left in the day.

The following day we hosted Rondebosch High School for Boys from South Africa. They had played 13 games in 14 days and had won all 13 matches, so we were expecting a tough game and we were not disappointed. Rondebosch were aggressive from ball one and declared before half time on 264 for 9 (Inamdar, 4-51). After an excellent start (Moxham, 69; Mackenzie, 39) the XI were in an ideal position to win the game, however a combination of nerves and poor batting resulted in the XI hanging on for a draw at 231 for 9.

The festival was played at the picturesque Malvern College and we were joined by Blundells and Downside. On a very small ground we finally bowled Blundells out for 280 (Kings, 4-89), which was 30 more than they should have got, and following a disappointing batting display the XI were bowled out for 216. We played Malvern on the second day and, winning the toss, we batted first. At 123 for 9 the XI were in real trouble, however an excellent 51 stand between the two E blockers, Paul Clarke (38) and Bertie



Trinity 10



Harry Wilson. He marked his arrival by scoring successive unbeaten centuries against Uppingham and Stowe, the first to chase down a target of over 200, the second to set the same, this time untouchable, total.

The bowling and fielding remained important, however, and this was most clearly shown in the last match of the season when Rugby batted first and scored an under-par 154 all out. Even though Barker, the season's most consistent bowler, had an off-day, the pace attack of Tom Huddart, Freddie Rose, George Connell and Callum Wilson got the full reward they had sometimes been denied and bowled Cheltenham out for 151, Huddart capping an extraordinary all-round performance by taking the last wicket in the last over. Finally the attitude of the side struck the ideal balance between intensity and enjoyment and for this most credit goes to the captain George Connell and his fellow members of Sheriff XX, Ed Pell and Qahir Popat, who played right through to the end of the season.

TGB

Bennet-Jones (19), allowed us to set Malvern a target. The wicket was very dry, started to turn prodigiously and Malvern lost wickets regularly. Kings bowled superbly and finished with figures of 6 for 37, and Malvern were bowled out for 108. Downside was the last opponent of the season and again we elected to bat first. On another dry and dusty wicket the XI posted a competitive total of 254 for 6 (Terry, 68) and once again our spinners exploited the conditions with Mackenzie finishing with 5 for 41, a fitting end to a successful season.

Moxham led the side adroitly throughout the season and his tally of four hundreds in one season is a rare feat. Once in, he is a joy to watch and is strong on both sides of the wicket. Mackenzie batted well throughout the summer and deserved to make a hundred, but it was his leg spin that enabled the XI to win a number of matches. Clarke bowled very well, made a number of important contributions with the bat and is likely to thrive next year. The all rounder of the summer was undoubtedly Kings, not only did he top the batting averages, but he also took 39 wickets, an exceptional performance for a member of the D block. Kit Cutter did not feature as prominently as expected, however his fielding was first class and he took a number of spectacular catches. Barker bowled well at times, especially at Uppingham and in Marlborough's first innings.

MJSE

BATTING AVERAGES

J.B. Kings	20	2	711	39.5
J.L. Moxham	23	3	756	37.8
G.R. Mackenzie	23	3	594	29.7
T.H. Clarke	21	5	471	29.4

BOWLING AVERAGES

T.H. Clarke	159	41	492	26	18.92
G.R. Mackenzie	150	14	618	32	19.31
J.B. Kings	223	40	809	39	20.74
J.M. Barker	116	15	468	20	23.40

XXII

P 10, W 5, L 4, D 1

The XXII enjoyed one of its more successful seasons of recent years, more so given that one of the defeats was against strong club opposition. At the heart of success, as usual at this level, were good performances with the bat. Early in the season Alex Astley-Jones and Tommy Cooper all produced at least two good innings each at the top of the order. Later in the season the team was strengthened further by the addition of Richard Assheton, who repeated the performance of the aforementioned, and above all by

3rd XI

P 8, W 4, L 3

After a first match defeat, the side showed great spirit and skill in winning a number of very close games. These included last ball wins over Bedford and Stowe and a nail-biting tie in the last match against Cheltenham. The strength of the side lay in the depth of its batting and a number of players recorded 50s including Luke Newsum (71), Freddie Wildblood (76), Hugh Johnson-Gilbert (47), Tom O'Brien (72), and Henry Barton (50). The side was led with calm thoughtfulness by Ed Pointon who made notable contributions with the bat in his own campaign. The bowling line-up was also useful, with Sam Addis and Archie Reed the pick of the attack. The side's poor fielding meant that we were often chasing more runs than we ought to have done. However, this was a very cheerfully talented bunch of players, several of whose enthusiastic parents were regular fixtures on the boundary and who appreciated and enjoyed a lot of genuinely entertaining and hard-fought cricket over the course of the season.

AJN





4th XI

P 4, W 1, L 3

The term started slowly, with an early loss against Bedford, but one that suggested the team were better than the bare result. A more even match against Wyggeston saw a narrow loss after some reasonable bowling from Yuki Saito and Steve Wright.

The match against Uppingham proved to be superb entertainment for players and spectators alike. Set an unlikely target of 236 to win, several players such as Tom O'Brien and Michael Bateson smashed some exciting shots, and although the team fell short by 40 runs, they had certainly come close to pulling off an unlikely victory. Ben Armstrong's fielding display will live long in the memory.

This good form was carried forward into the Stowe match, and finally the team recorded a well deserved victory. Having scored 220 whilst batting first (with Tom O'Brien scoring 96), the fielders and bowlers then set about bowling out Stowe for less than 130. Pick of the bowlers was Henry Barton, who also captained the side with good humour throughout the season

AJD

Under 15A

P 11, W 5, L 5, D 1

It was a summer of mixed success for the U15As. The highlight was undoubtedly reaching the regional semi-finals of the prestigious Lord's Taverners National Cup competition. Unfortunately, we lost out to a very talented Shrewsbury side containing several county players. The biggest win came away at Uppingham, thanks largely to a first innings partnership of controlled destruction of Harry Umbers (88) and Alex Johnson (22 no).

Umbers (313) went on to top the batting charts, closely pursued by Paul Clarke (251), the captain, who batted very maturely at the top of the order, and Kit Goodfellow (250). Bertie Bennett-Jones consistently produced prodigious bounce and swing, which earned him 17 wickets, a haul equalled by Freddie Embleton and his metronomic action. Goodfellow's rhythm and control could also be relied on to produce wickets when needed.

To conclude the term, the team took part in its first ever 20/20 competition at Magdalen College School, Oxford, played in pyjamas and with a white ball. Four extremely close matches resulted in only one win from four, but George Shone proved himself to be somewhat of a 20/20 specialist, picking up a number of wickets with his deceptive left armers and, after a season in the batting doldrums, Embleton managed to clear the ropes with a monstrous six.

ETR

Under 15B

P 9, W 4, L 5

This has been an enjoyable season for me with a cheerful bunch of enthusiastic cricketers. The highlight was a very tense victory at Repton despite us being 2 for 4 after the first two overs of the match. But overall our persistent weakness with

the bat left us bowled out too often for paltry scores that we could not defend.

Nevertheless, George Wish, Roddy Crawford, James Bateson and Kaamil Walilay all showed themselves on occasion to be capable batsmen. In the field we were often a bit dopey and rather unathletic. Tom Radley, Will Seymour and Ben Kew all bowled good spells while Johnnie Martin improved a lot behind the stumps without ever quite becoming tidy.

Tom Radley captained for most of the season and George Wish took over for the last match. They both did well.

HGSB

Under 14A

P 17, W 11, L 6

The U14A cricket team won 11 matches and lost 6. After good early wins against Bedford and Repton the side became rather inconsistent, particularly in the batting. Guy Lough opened the batting making several 20's and 30's. He needs to convert these into bigger scores. The middle order of Sam Phillipson, Marcus Hunter and Ben Pointon all made valuable contributions, and these were followed by Harry Mallinder, who was often at his best in a crisis.

Seam bowling was part of the strength of the team and was made up by opening bowlers Hunter and Mallinder, followed Charlie Austin, who provided a bit of pace. The most successful bowler, however, was Charlie Bruce, bowling relatively quick leg breaks and backed up by the off-breaks of George Beard. The final place was between the big hitting of Seb Jenks, who made one crucial cup half century, and Tom Mourant, who was much better in the field. There is much potential to work on in this team and they were a bit unlucky to lose the county final to Warwick.

PJR

Under 14C

P 5, W 0, L 4, D 1

The U14C squad trained and played with much commitment and enthusiasm throughout the term. Although the team could not secure a win, there were several good performances with bat and ball. Alex Dibnah was the most prolific batsman (101); Gavin Sewdyall and Alex Walker took 12 wickets each in the five matches played. The outstanding performance of the season was by Gavin Sewdyall, who took 6 wickets for 12 runs against Uppingham.

MAM



BOYS' TENNIS

Senior 1st & 2nd VI

P 7, W 2, L 4, D 1

Once again, the seniors struggled for victories, but there were some good individual performances and with a number of U16s being given an opportunity in the 1st VI, we are hopeful of a more successful season in 2011. The most consistent performer was the captain, Chris Jockelson, and he played some excellent tennis on occasions and most especially in the match against Oakham, where his all-court skills were consistently to the fore. He was partnered here by Gil Reeves, who has two more years to establish himself in the 1st VI. Ashik Shah began his fourth season in the team, but once again suffered from an inability to reproduce his practice form in matches, which is a shame as he can be a very good player. Jack Vellacott and George Ribaroff suffered from a similar problem and struggled for victories all through the term. However, they never gave in and have been very good value in the tennis teams over the last five years. James Firth and Will Clarke had some success in the second half of the term and they will both be aiming to continue that progress next year. The 2nd VI also struggled for match victories, but mention should be made of the stalwart, if eccentric, performances of Peter Kershaw and Max White, who have been a regular partnership over the last two seasons. In addition, Alex Bowers and James Kew made themselves difficult to beat and were rewarded with a couple of matches in the 1st VI towards the end of the season. With a strong D block group coming through next summer I am hopeful of two good seasons ahead of us. Senior singles winner: Chris Jockelson.

PWD

Senior 3rd VI

P 2, W 1, L 1

Despite the season being as short as it ever has been the boys committed themselves to every second of each set. Notable mentions have to be made of David MacColl and Tom Stott, who dropped only a single set over the two matches and even caught the eye of Mr Beesley who signed them up for the 2nd VI for a match!

JLN

Under 16

P 2, W 2, L 0

The U16 boys' tennis squad showed enthusiasm and commitment, winning both matches conclusively against Uppingham and Oundle. The A VI was the Cotton pairing of Sam Livingstone and Francesco Sersale, the Michell pairing of Tristan Edwards and Will Clarke, and Jerry Taechaubol and Will Clarke; Gill Reeves played up for the senior VIs and Ned Goedhuis also played. This was a strong group of players and there is real depth in the squad, which augurs well for senior tennis next summer.

NDJ & JCS

Under 15

P 7, W 4, L 3

The U15 group did not contain any stars, but the boys were good and conscientious trainers and all came on in one element or other of their game. The first pair was made up of Josh Passmore and Calvin Cragg, who were very competitive in all their matches. Josh was the more consistent and his game has progressed well – he was the winner of the U15 singles. The second pair was a little more fluid, but Tim Brown and Hugo Whalley eventually claimed the position for themselves. Both have decent techniques, but they can tend to fall apart in match conditions. The third pair was Jamie Walker and Faisal Hizami, and their dogged consistency always tested their higher-ranked opponents. Tommy Blystad also played some matches for the A VI and he may be one to watch. The B VI was headed by George Button and Will Lewis, and they were always pushing for promotion. So, it was a pretty good season overall and it finished with Ollie Skales (U14) and Josh Passmore representing us at the MCS Oxford singles; both reached the final of their section. Finally, at the ISLTA tournament held at Eton, Ollie Skales and Ed Clarke reached the final of the U15 plate competition and played some very good tennis along the way.

PWD



Under 14

As: P 6, W 5, L 1

Bs: P 5, W 5, L 0

The U14 boys had a very successful season, with the A team losing only one match, and the B team remaining undefeated throughout. The A team was led with distinction by a first pair of Ollie Skales and Ed Clarke, who won every match this year, which was a superb achievement. The U14 boys' singles competition was won by Ollie Skales. The entire squad of sixteen boys worked hard at their games, and in general showed a willingness to learn. As a result, they all improved throughout the season. Congratulations to them on such a good season, and we look forward to seeing them making further progress next year.

PKB & TER



GIRLS' TENNIS

Senior 1st VI

P 6, W 3, L 3

Notable performances this season would certainly be the 2nd and 3rd VI victories against Repton and the 1st VI victory against Oundle. With the summer term so full of other (public exam) distractions it is even more impressive that the girls were able to commit themselves to tennis. In large part I am grateful to the ever willing LXX who were even sometimes notified on the morning of a match that they would be playing that afternoon.

The highlight of any season is always the ISTC tournament held at Eton. This year the tournament was held after the end of term. The senior team was made up of Georgia Archer-Clowes and Isabel Schlee and Laura Gordon-Lennox and Amy Green. With Laura and Amy playing two years below their age-group, one would expect that they may be nervous, but it certainly did not show in their performance and indeed it is a shame that they eventually had to go out of the competition when they drew our own first pair. After this victory, Georgia and Isabel progressed to the final of the plate competition, where they put up a good fight but left as runners up.

KH

Senior 2nd & 3rd VI

2nd: P 5, W 3, L 2

3rd: P 3, W 2, L 1

The girls' 2nd and 3rd VI teams have had a good season, winning and losing an even number of matches on a tough circuit. Continuity was not helped by the moving exam season and a variety of injuries, but all of the girls involved have put in their utmost, and most importantly, have strived to find their competitive edge for all matches, which is all we can ask for. The squad actually consisted of 14 girls who all worked their way into the team at some point or other, and there were even a couple of players who really shone through towards the end of the season, having started in the 3rd VI or not even in a team. A most notable performance for the 2nd VI was a trip away to Trent when the squad was weakened, but the players who came into the team stepped up to the plate, and in a very competitive contest, Rugby only just lost 4-5. Well done to all involved, and for those staying with us next year, I look forward to seeing you again!

RD

Under 16

As: P 4, W 3, L 1

Bs: P 4, W 3, L 1

The U16s had a brilliant (if short) season. Despite the pressure of GCSEs these 13 girls played with enthusiasm and showed plenty of talent. The U16A team lost only once (to Repton As) and had great wins over Trent, Oundle and Uppingham. The U16Bs lost only once as well, to Oundle (4-5), playing some very hard fought sets. The A team pairs were all evenly matched, with Sophie Sheach, Tillie

Lloyd-Thomas, Margaux Steyaert, Gaby Ford, Bisman Sethi and Harriet Slater all demonstrating plenty of skill and determination. Becky Denton started in the As before an unusual accident in the Repton match, which sadly put her off games for the rest of the season. The Bs consisted of Alice Geary, Aggie McDonald Milner, Chesky Baillieu, Steph Ng, Kitty Thornton and Katharine Dauncey. Several of these girls were competing for places in the A team as well.

The school singles competition deserves a mention as well with several of the U16s making their way through the first rounds with ease. Special mention must go to Alice Geary who made it to the semi-finals.

CLH

Under 15

As: P 8, W 5, L 3

Bs: P 7, W 4, L 3

The U15A and U15B girls tennis teams had a very pleasing season, with both teams winning well over half of their games played. Throughout the term both teams played with a good deal of enthusiasm and their natural determination always ensured that vital matches were won. Some tough opposition was met on the circuit that challenged the U15s, but this did not stop them securing the much needed wins against closer matches such as Uppingham and Repton. Despite a great deal of movement throughout the pairings and teams the girls always stepped up to the mark and tried their best to secure the win we were looking for. Special mention must go to Livvy Constable-Maxwell, who constantly improved throughout the term and ended up playing in the As. Despite a few blips on the score card the U15s have had a very pleasing season. Even though at times the girls were distracted by the sunny weather, the overall results reflect a satisfying season that they can hopefully build on further next year.

HEG

Under 14

As: P 7, W 6, L 1

Bs: P 7, W 5, L 2

An extremely impressive season from the U14 girls, with the A team losing only one match and the Bs only two. After a few close matches to start off the season, the As then went on to thrash their next two opponents 9-0. An extremely close match against Stowe followed, with the team narrowly missing out in a tie-break in the final set of the day. Katie Lister and Alice Williams should be commended on their consistently strong performances throughout the term for this team. The Bs also deserve a mention for their four 9-0 victories and for their enthusiasm throughout the season. Well done to both teams.

GLD

Trinity 10

MCS Oxford (eventual winners) to proceed to the finals. Although we sailed very well as a team, we again landed on the wrong side of the racing rules and lost by



GOLF

Last year was a slightly disappointing one as, through a combination of ill-health and a clash of commitments, we exited one of our major tournaments at the regional final stage. At the Gerald Micklem Trophy we won the plate for the second successive year. In the regional final of the HMC Foursomes, we were drawn against Wellington, the winners of the Gerald Micklem Trophy. The final was played at Collingtree Park and proved to be a memorable event. Huw Phillips and Jamie Hirst lost, Rory Browne and George Mackenzie won, leaving Qahir Popat and Hugh Johnson-Gilbert in the deciding match. Rugby leveled the match at the 18th but lost at the first extra hole – frustrating but a really tremendous effort.

At the end of term the Anthony Armitage Golf Practice facility was opened, giving us a high-quality putting green, pitching area, bunker and three driving nets. Consequently next year looks like being a really exciting one on the golfing front.

RBD

one point.

This strong start was followed by individual victories over Oundle, Oakham and Uppingham. There was also the first ever B team fixture, which was narrowly lost to Bloxham. Unfortunately the Ferraro Wilkes Trophy was returned to the ORs. Although the team sailed well, we were let down by basic boat control, where the ORs triumphed. In June, four Rugby sailors travelled to Itchenor, West Sussex, to compete in the National School Championships. The helms Hannah Bibby and Bart Holt-Smith coped very well with the notorious variable weather and tide that the sailing area offers. The crews Ian Sillett and Harry Eastwood adapted very well to the different techniques needed to sail the new class of boat. The series started with perfect conditions. The moderate breeze favoured the lighter crew of Bibby and Sillett, who did very well and even led two of the day's races until the final leg. Both Rugby boats performed well in an unfamiliar class. The experience will also help for the same event next year, as crews will likely go unchanged.

The team already looks in good shape for next year.

James Bibby

ROUNDERS

The 2010 rounders season has been very satisfying, particularly after the 2009 season, which saw most of our matches and practices cancelled due to rain. The girls have trained hard and played hard, with the teams experimenting with different fielding styles to find the one best suited to the particular strengths of the players. Whilst our results sheet this season does not show us in a particularly good light, it reflects neither the commitment nor the talent of our team members. Ultimately, a loss is a loss, even if the only thing separating the winners from the losers is a mere half rounder. Together, the rounders staff members and the rounders players look forward to building on this season's successes and achievements in 2011.

RPK

ATHLETICS

This has been a genuinely outstanding athletics season with many long-standing School records falling. The intermediate boys have not been beaten in any athletics fixture and they have achieved remarkable results. At the Achilles Relays the intermediate boys' 4 x 100m relay team set a new School record and equalled the existing meeting record with 44.6 seconds. This was the third time they had broken the School record this season. On the same day the junior boys' 4 x 800m team won their event, with Ben Sutherland running a remarkable last leg. Rugby has never won a cup at the Achilles meeting before and to win two cups highlights the strength of the current team. At the Radley relays the intermediate team secured the 4 x 100m cup with a meeting record, while the juniors won the medley relay.

SAILING

The racing season started with very successful pre-season training. The coach was a European champion, and despite strong winds and tricky swells we gained a lot of experience that proved invaluable in our later matches. The season kicked off with the BSDRA East Kent Team Racing Championships at Westbere. Twenty schools were split into four flights. In the first race, against Kings Canterbury, we were clearly ahead due to some strong upwind tactics. The team should have held the lead to the finish, but a brush with the umpire and a subsequent disqualification meant Kings won. It was a close call that could have gone either way and the team was unlucky on this occasion. Learning from earlier mistakes we easily won the second race after a good start. We also won the third, against Tonbridge, after Happi Starling used a brilliant mark trap to take pole position and ensure a team victory. We enjoyed our best race of the tournament against Aldenham, where Rugby's three boats finished first, second and third. We had to win our last race against



Individual school records that have been broken are:

- Ben Sutherland has broken the Junior Boys' 1500m record set in 1981.
- Sam Pointon has broken the Intermediate Boys' javelin record set in 1990.
- Charles Ogunkeyede has broken the Intermediate Boys' high jump record set in 1993.
- Chessie Ruffell has broken the Intermediate Girls' shot putt record set in 1998.



Both our intermediate boys' and girls' teams qualified through the Warwickshire round to compete in the Midlands Final, meaning that they are both in the top twelve teams in the Midlands.

A record nine pupils have represented Warwickshire Schools this term. Ben Sutherland, Ben Pointon and Charles Ogunkeyede will represent Warwickshire Schools

at the National Finals in the first week of the summer.

SJB & LMH

POLO

The season has been highly successful. The weather was sufficiently good at the beginning of term to allow play to continue outside. An early win over Felsted at A, B and beginners level was a good confidence-booster for the squad. Play moved inside at Exeat and we were able to appreciate the full benefit of the new indoor arena at the polo club, allowing fast and furious play in the most pleasant of conditions! Matches against Malvern and Stowe were also won and the new F block polo squad quickly proved themselves to be the best beginners group ever, according to coach Glynn Henderson. Ten members of the squad enjoyed an excellent polo tour to Polo del Sol in Jerez de la Frontera, with excellent coaching and fun evenings during the Advent Exeat. It was good to have the company of a number of parents who immediately caught the polo bug and enjoyed morning coaching and afternoon chukkas, culminating in enough skill to play a sedate tournament against their children at the end of the week. With continued lessons they formed the basis for the Parents' B team that played on Speech Day. An impressive effort! Polo captain Ciara McKibbin was selected to tour India with a Young England



team, which proved to be a highly successful squad.

In the Lent term, there were victories for the girls' A team over Stowe girls and the B team over Harrow and a second victory in a three-way match with Bloxham and Stowe. In the National Tournaments all teams fared well. In the girls' tournament, held at Rugby Polo Club for the first time, we fielded seven teams, the most any school has put out in a national tournament. Rugby F (Venetia Johnson, Catherine Richards and Millie Brine) beat Rugby E in their divisional final. The A team beat the B team for third place in Division 1. Three novice teams competed in their tournament and Rugby B (Eliza Talbot-Williams, Millie Browne and Chris Clowes) beat Luckley Oakfield in the final to win the tournament. In the National Senior tournament, the A team of Ciara McKibbin, Maddie Purver, Ben Tubbs and James Hudson won, beating Bradfield and Shrewsbury before Stowe in the final. The A team also beat the ORs in a close-fought arena competition.

There was a very full fixture list for the Trinity term and the weather was, for the most part, with us. The A team had early victories over Oakham and then beat Harrow, Uppingham and Stowe but lost to Bloxham and, in a very tight and exciting match, to Radley. The B team beat Harrow but lost to Stowe. The intermediate girls beat Cheltenham Ladies' College but lost to Wellington. The beginners teams beat both Uppingham and Oakham.

Speech Day provided excellent competition between parents and pupils. Sadly the wet weather prevented play on Springhill so the match was moved to the polo club's indoor arena. Here, fierce competition ensued with the Parents' A team beating the School A team by one goal; the School B team defeated the Parents' B team by a reasonable margin. The huge audience was hugely appreciative and supportive and a good time was had by all.

The house matches were won by a joint School House/Town team, captained by James Hudson of Town, who beat Bradley 6-1 in the final.

In the National Tournaments the U16B team of Tris Hobson, Annah Morrish, Olivia Flowers and Max Barnes won their division, beating Dean Close and Felsted. In the National Senior Schools Tournament, the A team won Division 2, thrashing Bradfield in the final. James Hudson was awarded the most promising player of the whole tournament and was also picked to play for UK Schools in the International Festival in July. He will become School Polo Captain

next year. Ciara McKibbin, the School Polo Captain for the last two years, has been picked to play for the English team against Italy in July – the first Rugby pupil to represent their country at polo!

Thanks go to staff colleagues Sophie Murenu and Jon Hind for all their help and support during the season.

JCP

Prize Winners 2010

Art

Barnes	Max	SH
Bowers	Arabella	D
Bradstreet	Emma	G
Cambridge	Phoebe	St
Cheung	Tin Chun	W
Gordon Lennox	Laura	RB
Hurley	Charlotte	St
Lesmoir-Gordon	Laura	RB
Nativitat	June	D
Neuendorf	Albert	SF
Rossi	Eve	S
Slater	Harriet	Tu
Steyaert	Margaux	G

Business Studies

Evans	Natasha	St
Fazalbhoy	Farah	Tu
Kershaw	Peter	K

Classics

Atherton	Emily	D
Brumpton	Richard	T
Campbell	Alexander	W
Campbell	James	W
Cooper	Meely	B
Denton	Becky	B
Foord	Elissa	Tu
Foster	Dominic	Shf
Geary	Ollie	Shf
Hall	Ellie	S
Higgins	Jenny	B
Huddart	Tom	K
Kent-Baguley	Victoria	RB
Kershaw	Peter	K
Lister	Katie	Tu
Matthews	Augusta	S
McGrath	Hannah	S
O'Brien	Tazi	S
Oon	Isabel	G
Potts	Alastair	T
Sheach	Sophie	G
Sillman-McNeish	Sophie	S
Slater	Harriet	Tu
Sloane	Harriet	Tu
Youngusband	Robin	C

Computing & IT

Popat	Qahir	Shf
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Creative Arts

Burger	Mady	B
Haynes	James	C
Hess	Nathaniel	SF
Lord	Sarah	D
Moncur	Odette	Tu
Thomas	Rowan	B

Design & Technology

Dalton	Sam	SH
Douglas-Ferguson	Felix	W
Green	Amy	Tu
Kayama	Hitomi	D
Petitjean	Julien	W
Pointon	Edward	T
Ukleja	Becky	G

Divinity

Bennett	Sam	SF
Bibby	Hannah	Tu
Chikanza	Chiedza	B
Day	James	SF
Hall	Ellie	S
Hewitt	Julia	Tu
Pang	Bernard	K
Symington	Anna	St

Drama

Annan	Tess	B
Barkes	Amelia	Tu
Carpenter	Talulah	D
English	Titus	SH
Foster	Kristina	B
Krarp	Connie	B
Ribbons	Abi	B
Smith	Katie	B

Economics

Chan	Portia	Tu
Kew	James	W
Moxham	Joe	W
Osband	Valerie	D
Qunsol	Salem	W
Rowlands	Will	SH
Schafrenak	Thomas	M
Sullivan	Catherine	St
Wan	Adam	W

English

Barnes	Max	SH
Bibby	Jess	G
Bibby	James	SF
Bradfield	Katie	Tu
Cieslewicz	Caroline	S
Cunningham-Batt	Ellie	B
Drake	Marianna	D
Dunstan	Phoebe	G
Evans	Natasha	St
Firth	Thomas	SF
Foord	Elissa	Tu
Foot	Sarah	St
Ford	Gaby	B
Goodall	Paddy	Shf
Harris Stuart	India	Tu
Holmes	Henry	SH
Jackson	Ella	D
Johns	Meg	G
Kings	Jake	W
Lanni	Joseph	Shf
Leslie	Jem	B
Livingstone	Sam	C
Lord	Sarah	D
MacDonald	Hanz	T
O'Brien	Tazi	S
Oliver	Lucy	St
Oon	Isabel	G
Park	Seong	D
Penford	Harry	T
Pointon	Ben	T
Richards	Polly	RB
Robbins	Victoria	S
Sefi	Leo	Tu
Speed	Margot	RB
Westad	Jan	M
Wildblood	Charlotte	Tu

Games

Archer-Clowes	Georgia	S
Cutter	Kit	SF

Geography

Anton	Harrison	Shf
Bestwick	Rebecca	D
Brown	Henry	K
Foord	Elissa	Tu
Harris Stuart	India	Tu
Heygate	Sam	T
Hinchley	Rob	K
Hoggarth	Charlotte	S
Hudson	Poppy	SH
Jenks	Sebastian	S
Kerner	Freddie	M
Lister	Katie	Tu
MacColl	Wilf	M
Manson	Hugo	W
Martin	Rosie	B
Neely	Tasha	St
Starling	Happi	D
Tweed	Olivia	St

Graphics

Bacon	Henry	W
Cook	Jenny	S

Head Master

Bradfield	Katie	Tu
Gibb	Jeremy	SF
Hastings	Jessica	RB
McFarlane	TP	B
Ribaroff	George	W
Ribbons	Abi	B
Robbins	Victoria	S

History

Anton	Harrison	Shf
Atherton	Emily	D

Berwick	Angus	C
Bramwell	Katharine	S
Brown	Henry	K
Clarke	Paul	SF
Collis	Amy	G
Drake	Marianna	D
Hall	Amie	S
Hall	Ellie	S
Hess	Nathaniel	SF
Hinchley	Rob	K
Imray	Ollie	T
Kings	Jake	W
Lloyd-Thomas	Tillie	B
Lough	Heidi	B
Manson	Hugo	W
Mehra	Rohan	T
Mostyn-Owen	Gemma	Tu
Olcott	Ellie	Tu
Rut	Hebe	G
Smith	Robert	SF
Sweet	Charlotte	G
Walker	James	SF
Walters	James	W
Watkins	Richard	SH
Westad	Jan	M
Wildblood	Freddie	Shf

Marshall House

Armbrister	Jessie	Ma
Byrne	Millie	Ma
Capewell-Salisbury	Rebecca	Ma
Colbourne	Nicholas	Ma
Miller	Joe	Ma
Miller	Joe	Ma
Phillips	Joe	Ma
Phillips	Millie	Ma
Phillips	Millie	Ma
Treanor	Kelan	Ma
Zhao	Alice	Ma

Mathematics

Barclay	Rachel	G
Bhanji	Shahaab	C
Bibby	Hannah	Tu
Brumpton	Richard	T
Chan	Portia	Tu
Fender	Kezia	D
Foord	Elissa	Tu
Hall	Ellie	S
Han	Peter	C
Hess	Nathaniel	SF
Ievins	Katrina	St
Imray	Ollie	T
Jenkins	Ptolemy	SH
Lough	Guy	SF
Miroshnichenko	Daniil	W
Mourant	Tom	T
Ormiston	Isobel	Tu
Osband	Valerie	D
Park	Seong	D
Ribaroff	Thomas	W
Roden	Alex	SF
Rowlands	Will	SH
Saito	Yuki	Shf
Sheach	Sophie	G
Tomkinson	Alex	T
van den Belt	Boris	SH
van der Post	Max	T
Victor	Stéphane	D
Walker	Alicia	D
Watkins	Richard	SH
Youngusband	Robin	C

Media

Foot	Sarah	St
Jamieson	Elizabeth	St
MacColl	Wilf	M
Wild	Kaitlin	S

Modern Languages

Anton	Harrison	Shf
Assheton	Richard	SF
Atherton	Emily	D
Barclay	Rachel	G
Bennett-Jones	Tilly	Tu
Bennett-Jones	Tilly	Tu
Blundy	Alistair	W
Bramwell	Katharine	S
Buikovich	Polina	St

Chadwick	Theo	Shf
Colclasure	Isla	S
Cooper	Tommy	K
Coy	Tom	T
Darby	William	SF
Drake	Marianna	D
Fender	Kezia	D
Fenner	Vicky	Tu
Foord	Elissa	Tu
Granville	Victoria	D
Hall	Ellie	S
Haynes	James	C
Hudson	Poppy	S
Lewis	George	SF
MacLellan	Angharad	S
Mallinder	Harry	T
Martin	Johnnie	K
McKibbin	Ciara	RB
Miller	Alice	RB
Miroshnichenko	Daniil	W
Morrish	Annah	G
Mourant	Tom	T
Muki	Anjali	St
Newman	Noel	SF
Olcott	George	K
Rose	Kitty	St
Sethi	Bisman	G
Seymour	Will	K
Sinclair	Vicki	RB
Taechaubol	Jerry	W
Thornton	Zara	B
Varley	Michael	T
Walters	James	W
Weber	Amelie	D
Weber	Amelie	D
Wildblood	Freddie	Shf
Wildblood	Charlotte	Tu
Yamaguchi	Akane	D

Music

Alexander	Hector	C
Armstrong	Benjamin	W
Beere	Charlie	Shf
Chan	Portia	Tu
Clarke	Thomas	SH
Couchman	Jamie	M
Dalton	Sam	SH
Fisher	Jack	Ma
Gallager	Matt	W
Goodall	Paddy	Shf
Hayes	Polly	S
Hayes	Benjamin	T
Hayes	Benjamin	T
Hess	Emily	B
Hess	Nathaniel	SF
Horler	Ali	Shf
Ievins	Katrina	St
Kent-Baguley	Victoria	RB
Lee	Eunseog	W
Lee	Eunseog	W
Lee	Eunseog	W
Leslie	Jem	B
Lough	Heidi	B
Lough	Guy	SF
Lough	Guy	SF
MacMahon	Meg	Tu
Murphy	William	T
Murphy	William	T
Ormiston	Isobel	Tu
Penfold	Harry	T
Pointon	Edward	T
Pointon	Sam	T
Pointon	Sam	T
Pointon	Sam	T
Roberts	Julian	SF
Skailles	Toby	C
Style	Peter	M
Thomas	Maria	B
Wild	Kaitlin	S
Wilson	Emily	RB
Wright	Dahmicca	S
Wylie	Fraser	K

Perspectives

Georgia	Georgia	S
Bruno	Bruno	W
Isabel	Isabel	G
Lucy	Lucy	St

Photography

Cassidy	Tonnie	Tu
Lew	Bridget	G
Saye	Khadija	St

Physical Education

Quinlan	Chloe	Tu
Warr	Jamie	M
Politics		
Archer-Clowes	Georgia	S
Moxham	Joe	W
Nestius-Brown	Astrid	St
Oliver	Lucy	St

Science

Abel	Jess	B
Airey	Olivia	St
Airey	Olivia	St
Anton	Harrison	Shf
Atkins	Chris	W
Bhanji	Shahaab	C
Bibby	James	SF
Bibby	Hannah	Tu
Bowen Wright	Helen	St
Bowers	Alexander	SH
Bradfield	Katie	Tu
Chadwick	Theo	Shf
Chan	Portia	Tu
Cieslewicz	Caroline	S
Colclasure	Isla	S
Colville	Oliver	M
Dalton	Sam	SH
Fernandes	Steve	K
Foord	Elissa	Tu
Frost	Stephen	T
Griffiths	Charlotte	S
Hall	Ellie	S
Hayes	Polly	S
Hess	Nathaniel	SF
Hirst	Gene	S
Hoggarth	Charlotte	S
Inamdar	Karan	SH
Jenkins	Ptolemy	SH
Johnston	Harry	Shf
Lawrie	Sophie	B
Lloyd-Thomas	Tillie	B
McFarlane	TP	B
Miroshnichenko	Daniil	W
Mourant	Tom	T
Ng	Joan	St
Ormiston	Isobel	Tu
Palmer	Christopher	K
Pang	Bernard	K
Pointon	Ben	T
Potts	Alastair	T
Qunsol	Salem	W
Roden	Alex	SF
Slater	Harriet	Tu
Steeves	Karl	T
Style	Charlie	Shf
Sullivan	Catherine	St
Sweet	Emma	Tu
Thorn	James	K
Thorn	Alexander	W
Tomkinson	Alex	T
van den Belt	Eva	T
Varley	Michael	T
Victor	Stéphane	T
Walker	Alicia	D
Walker	James	SF
Watkins	Richard	SH
Weber	Amelie	D
Wilson-Holt	Henry	M
Youngusband	Robin	C

SCR

Dalton	Lizzie	D
Gibb	Jeremy	SF
Goedhuis	Ned	SF
Hoggarth	James	T
Thrasvoulou	Eleni	S
Weber	Amelie	D

Social Services

Bradfield	Katie	Tu
Hurley	Charlotte	St
Ribbons	Abi	B
Rose	Charles	SF



Celebrating 150 years of the Rugby School CCF.

Front cover: Detail from a stained glass window in the Memorial Chapel.

Back cover: Memorial crosses from the graves of OR First World War poet Rupert Brooke (1887 – 1915) and his brother Alfred (1891 – 1915), newly installed in the Memorial Chapel.