



"O yonge, fresshe folkes, he or she!"

Chaucer, Troilus and Criseyde.

"Haec olim meminisse juvabit."
("One day we shall be glad to remember these things.")

Virgil, Aeneid, 1, 203.



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H.R.H. The Princess Royal at W.H.G.S.

























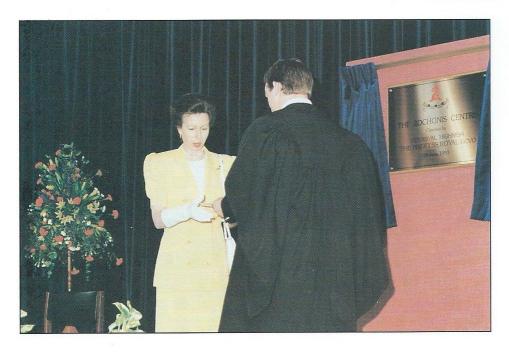






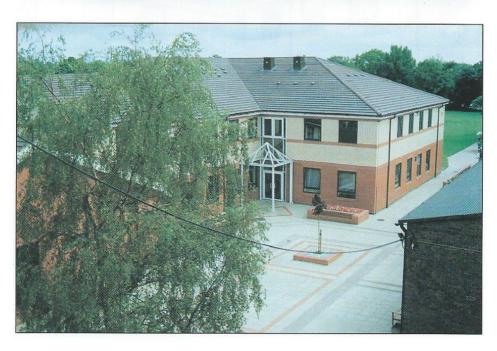


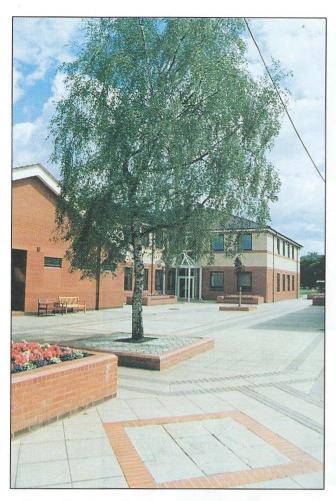






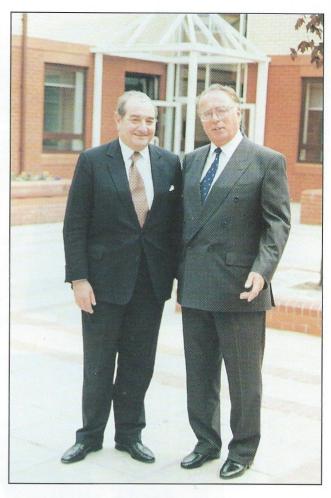






"Space with and around buildings creates a sense of harmony and reduces tension."

(Professor Sir Colin Stansfield Smith, to the Head Master.)



Mr. Boothman, Chairman of the Governors, with Mr. Zochonis.



The Bursar, Commander Peters, with Mr. Zochonis. (All colour photos: Mr. J. H. Thomson)

The opening of the Zochonis Centre by H.R.H. The Princess Royal

Throughout the history of William Hulme's since our foundation in 1887, there have been significant moments where a need was satisfied and the School flourished. Such was the case with the Science Block in 1927, the Donner Centre (originally the Sixth Form Centre) in 1964 and the New Sixth Form Centre and Library in 1986. Since 1976 when the School became independent and was designated a registered charity, the Governors, by prudent management over the next twenty years, enabled us to be in a position to develop the School further.

"There is a tide in the affairs of men Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune."

The need was clear. The School population had grown, classes were smaller, more subjects were being taught and the demands of technology needed to be addressed. An imaginative concept was born. On a tight site it was important that a sense of space be observed. After staff discussions where the need for classrooms, language facilities and information technology equipment was considered, the idea of a block which would enhance the present buildings and provide a first phase which future generations could develop further was planned. The venture would cost almost a million pounds but would enable the School to move forward and provide the facilities to take us into the next century. Professor Sir Colin Stansfield Smith, an Old Hulmeian of architectural and sporting renown, gave me the idea of creating space with and around buildings. This would create a sense of harmony and reduce the tension with so many people inhabiting a small site. The architects, Hattrells, came up with a building which incorporated all we wanted and was imaginative in design.

It was always my hope that a building of such importance warranted Royalty to open it. I have always admired Princess Anne, her independence, her feeling for children and her interest in sport and the Olympics in particular. She was a natural choice and through the Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester, Colonel Timmins (a father of two Old Hulmeians) the invitation was prepared, substantiated by a full report and, to our delight, was accepted.

The preparation required was like planning a military campaign. The Bursar and the Second Master worked tirelessly on detail and the day was blessed with perfect weather. The naming of the building gave much cause for speculation and discussion. It was felt that calling the building after a Governor or Head Master was not appropriate and was not what I wanted anyway. Certain benefactors long dead were also considered but eventually the name of John Zochonis came up. His charitable trust gave a generous donation to the development of the building but more than that he is known as an influential businessman who has done much for the City of Manchester and its youth. I was delighted when he accepted my invitation to be associated in name with the building as he is a most modest man.

After the police had vetted the whole School campus with specialist squads and sniffer dogs the arrival of The Princess Royal was the culmination of over a year's preparation. Having been introduced to the Right Honourable Gerald Kaufman, our local M.P., Mr. & Mrs. Boothman, my wife and myself, Her Royal Highness was welcomed by Joanna Shaw and presented with a bouquet. Lieutenant Matthew Jones presented the Guard of Honour which was inspected and the trip round the School commenced.

At all times Princess Anne showed great interest in the pupils and activities and had that enviable ability to relax everybody and make you feel you had known her all your life. Her conversation was warm and informed and so interested did she become in talking and viewing that her Lady in Waiting became agitated that we were not sticking to schedule and that her plane would have to be delayed at Manchester Airport. Her Royal Highness eschewed being pushed along and overstayed by nearly half-an-hour.

The opening ceremony, carried out in the New Hall, with an invited audience was splendid but unpretentious. The Orchestra entertained the audience for over an hour before her entry and the music was a credit to them and the occasion. I made a short speech mindful of the impending chaos at the airport and invited Her Royal Highness to perform the opening ceremony. Subsequently Henry Slack, Head of School, presented her with a cheque from the pupils of William Hulme's for the Save the Children Fund, an organisation dear to her heart, as a token of our thanks and gratitude. After signing a commemorative book which will be on display in the new Zochonis Centre, Her Royal Highness took her leave and departed to the cheers and applause of the whole School and members of the public lining Spring Bridge Road. We all departed to the Sixth Form Centre for strawberries and cream.

All the members of the School were impressive, confident and animated and it made for a memorable event, the like of which the School has not seen before. The Centre is superb, well equipped and already much appreciated.

"On such a full sea are we now afloat,

And we must take the current when it serves,

Or lose our ventures".

Head Master

The Royal Guard of Honour

Having accepted the Headmaster's invitation to form an Honour Guard to meet the Princess Royal on her arrival at School, the Corps began to realise just what was involved: not simply a few weeks' extra drill for a handful of keen cadets! Nearly thirty cadets from both Sections, and we were determined to have as even a balance between Army and RAF, boys and girls, as possible. Only two months remained for all our rehearsals and preparations, and whereas regular servicemen and women would have several hours a week to reach the necessary standard, we had to rely on our customary Monday parade of an hour, plus one additional half hour session each Thursday lunchtime. Nearer the day, we had to obtain white belts with brass buckles, kindly lent for the occasion by 1 KINGS, on ceremonial duties in London at the time. And what was Lt. Jones to wear? Major Goodall OC 26 CTT came to his rescue with his own full KINGS uniform complete with sword. Rifle drill was proving a challenge to the cadets, in the meantime, and foresights were therefore removed to avoid any nasty facial injuries! The Flag Party began training to ensure that the Royal Standard was raised and saluted as the Princess Royal alighted from her car. Finally a Fainting Party was briefed and trained, so that any member of the Guard unfortunate enough to drop during the Princess's inspection would be hurriedly but discretely removed!

Dress Rehearsals went well enough, but it was not until the very day that everything came together smoothly. A false alarm left Lt. M.P.Jones, Guard Commander, and the sixteen cadets standing to attention for several minutes before the Princess's arrival. Despite the weight of the rifles, and the inevitable effects of nervousness, every one of them stood their ground, and when the time came to present arms at the Royal Salute they accomplished all their drill movements like professionals! During the Inspection the Princess Royal tactfully a boy and a girl from each of the two Service Sections and questioned them at some length about the CCF, their training, camps, and even the effect of the preparation for her visit on their academic work. The Princess complimented the Guard subsequently on their turnout, bearing and responses.

This was a unique occasion for the Corps, and especially for all those cadets who were involved. To give the Royal Salute under such circumstances was a privilege and a pleasure, and one they will always remember, of course.

It was a proud moment for us all, but had it not been for the expertise, energy and boundless good humour of Major Goodall and Sgt Yates of 26 Cadet Training Team, who coached both the Honour Guard and the Guard Commander, it would have been a much lesser event. Their contribution was indeed over and above the call of duty, and the gratitude of the Corps must be recorded. Lastly our thanks must go to Lt. Jones for his tireless efforts to ensure the success of this most public of occasions and for his own splendid performance throughout.

Members of the Guard of Honour:

Robert Moodie

Edward Buckley (CSM) Andrew Nunney
Paul Bagnall Laura Owen
Alice Caine Ankish Patel
Andrew Chance Sarah Porter
William Faulkner Gareth Roberts
Zoë Fisher Daniel Taylor
Natalie Mason James Vickers

James White

Flag Party Ian Butterworth Andrew Holden Carrie Litherland

> D.M.Fisher Major Contingent Commander

Princess Anne's Visit

Having been told that I would be in the Lecture Theatre, on the left hand side (the Old Hulmeians would be on the right hand side) with no more than about half-a-dozen pupils, I decided to make use of the Junior Poetry Competition for the occasion. Miss De Vince, the organiser, had set as the subject, "Manchester: The Olympic Bid" and had made the best contributions into a professional-looking booklet so there I was, flanked by two sixth formers with some artfully arranged booklets and my half-a-dozen contributors. Suddenly there was a hush as Princess Anne moved towards us with Mr. Briggs and an imposing group of people. Her Royal Highness talked to the pupils, pressing them to send a copy of the poems to Bob Scott, and enquiring whether they were always inspired when they wrote poetry (the answer was yes!). After she left, the pupils scampered off to see her again as she left the building, saying that they would never forget such a "brillant day".

Mrs. P.A. Treweek

The J.T. Suite

The visit of the Princess Royal to the I.T. Suite was an exciting prospect but one we could easily cope with. After all, we had modern, industry-standard hardware located in a gleaming open-plan environment with enough high quality software to impress anyone. We didn't have a thing to worry about.

In the days prior to the visit everything was got ready and the pupils - a good selection of junior and middle school types - were fully briefed. Four different displays were prepared: a desktop publishing project on the destruction of Pompeii, a graphics program, a French language program and, the 'pièce de résistance', a science project using the multimedia CD-ROM machine. What could possibly go wrong?

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It wasn't until the morning of the visit that I began to think of all the things which could go wrong. Anyone involved with computers knows that if a piece of hardware or software is going to play up or hang up it will do so precisely at the moment you are trying to demonstrate it to someone. What if the pupils putting on the displays play up or hang up? Should we have rehearsed more fully? As we waited for our royal visitor the pupils became, understandably, more anxious and excited. Then, just at the moment the royal party arrived at the school, the multimedia machine decided to misbehave. Was this to be the beginning of a disastrous train of mishaps?

With all these worrying possibilities racing through my mind I almost did not notice the princess unobtrusively enter the room. Straightaway she put everyone at their ease. She showed more than polite interest in the displays, and her sensible and searching questions revealed a knowledge and awareness of I.T. which I hadn't anticipated. The equipment performed flawlessly, as did the pupils. Well, I knew they would, didn't I?

C. MacLachlan

Language Laboratory and Room 68

The Head Master escorted the Princess Royal into the Language Laboratory. Here he presented Mr. Timm, who explained the substance of the German lesson which Mr. Turner was conducting with a group of Third Formers. The Princess reminisced about her own German studies, both at School and, later, at an intensive Berlitz course. Mr. Turner discussed with the Princess the role of the Language Laboratory in the teaching of Modern Languages. Next the Princess was taken to see a Lower Sixth class at work in Room 68. Mr. Timm told her of the use made of European satellite television in the Department before introducing Mr. Hofton, who was making use of a video of a perforamnce of Aymé's "La Tête des Autres" in order to bring out some finer points of the text. The Princess was particularly interested in Mr. Hofton's comments on the extra dimension which T.V. can bring to literary and linguistic studies.

H.W. Timm.

Design Department

Both aspects of the department were represented; Mr. Grant with Howard Ash and Shahid Hussain of the Lower Sixth preparing the Hovercraft for racing, and Mrs. Cruttenden with Andrew Kelly, Joshua Robinson and Vinnie Pohoomull of the Fourth Year putting the finishing touches to their clay models. We were put through our paces by the first official party when the Rt. Hon. Gerald Kaufman M.P. expressed great interest in the work in hand.

Princess Anne questioned Howard and Shahid very carefully on the techniques of hovercraft driving, likening the control to that of an inflatable boat with which she seemed familiar. Moving to the sculptors, she examined the models closely and, after observing that pupils would not normally be working in the covered way, proceeded to tell Andrew, Joshua and Vinnie how impressed she was with their models and with similar olympic-themed sculptures by Manchester school children on the Olympics Bid Stand at Lucerne recently.

G.N. Grant.

Science Department

H.R.H. inspected a combined display by the Biology, Chemistry and Physics Department involving a total of about 30 pupils.

The Biology exhibition was introduced by Mrs. Watson and was a display of the activities of the Biology and Natural History Club. H.R.H. showed particular interest in the nest box project. She spent some time talking to Affan Burki and Michael Gale of 2B and said she was impressed with the Club's contribution to the national project of the British Trust for Ornithology.

Mr. Simkin presented a Chemistry display which involved First Form pupils demonstrating a range of typical experiments. H.R.H. showed particular interest in the mechanism of paper chromatography and spent some time discussing it with 1B pupils.

The Physics display was led by Dr. Barker and was presented by pupils in the 2nd, 4th and L6th forms. H.R.H. enjoyed discussing microelectronics with Andrew Yates and Daniel Ellis of 2C and also microwaves with Christina Barnes, Michael Bartlett, Michael Birtwistle and Abby Hyams of 4X. She impressed Dr. Barker by emphasising the need to teach basic principles in science as these remain forever.

D.G. Barnes.

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The History Department

The History Department displayed several pieces of coursework which had been produced by First to Third year pupils. These included castles, whether Norman keeps or motte and bailey castles, a village in Gaul under attack from the Romans, swords, spears and shields, and assorted firepower from the First and Second World Wars. Written coursework included wall displays on the Italian Renaissance and projects on the English Civil War. The display overall was an eloquent testimony to the inventiveness of pupils and teachers alike, and the six junior pupils who set it up and manned it were able to describe and comment on individual pieces with several distinguished guests.

P.J. Callaghan

The Geography and Geology Exhibition

As soon as the Princess saw our display her eyes lit up and she looked towards the display of triangular graphs and the grading of different types of land. Rakesh Patel and Julian Hope were keen to explain the different uses of the graphs from their Geography and Geology courses in the Lower Sixth this year.

The Princess Royal summed up the display by commenting "extremely useful subjects" and asked if they were popular at William Hulme's Grammar School. We agreed that they were, and that with the coming changes associated with the National Curriculum they will become more popular!

It was a short but very useful encounter.

Mr. J.H. Hardy.

A Musical Offering

In writing about Princess Anne's visit, I couldn't help being reminded of a wedding scene from one of those 40's Ealing comedies so frequently seen on BBC2 on damp Friday afternoons:

The opening scene is of the interior of a church (the New Hall). The congregation (3Y) sit in quiet expectation of the arrival of the Bride (Princess Anne). The organist (Mr. Goodwin) plays something meditative on the fine pipe organ (the Band) as the sun pours in through the leaded windows. The clock strikes the hour - no sign of the bride. Not to worry, it is the bride's prerogative to be late. The clock strikes the quarter hour. Still no sign of the bride but she's bound to turn up any minute, isn't she? The verger (Mr. Dewhurst) tries, in as discreet a way as possible, to signal to the organist to carry on despite the fact that he is in full view of the congregation (amused smiles from the congregation). The verger then scurries outside only to return holding up both hands with fingers spread and mouthing "ten minutes" (more amused smiles from the congregation). Suddenly, there is a flurry of activity at the back of the church - this is it. The organist expertly opens the carefully chosen ceremonial entrance music on his stand with one hand only to be signalled by the verger that it's a false alarm who, not able to catch the organist's eye, says in a loud stage whisper "keep going". By this stage, the organist has already exhausted his carefully prepared programme. Nothing for it but to repeat some music, but perhaps more slowly this time in the fond hope that no-one is listening anyway and so won't notice. Eventually and true to the form of happy endings, the Bride does appear and with a huge sigh of relief from all, not least the organist who by now is in a state of nervous exhaustion, we hear the strains of the Wedding March (or in this case "Te Deum" by Charpentier arranged for the occasion by Mr. Goodwin).

Despite the physical demands of playing for an hour instead of the planned twenty minutes, the choice of entry music presented problems of its own. Firstly what to play and secondly how long it should be since no-one knew exactly how long it would take Princess Anne to walk the length of the New Hall and whether she would chat to members of the audience as she went. Too much music and there would be an embarrassing pause before everyone could sit. Too little and there would be an embarrassed silence as the platform party shuffled into their correct positions. The music chosen not only had to be suitably regal and fanfare like but in short phrases so it could be finished effectively at any number of points on a given signal from Mr. Goodwin.

In the event, the professionalism of the Band had to be admired and I am sure the occasion will be remembered by all those who took part, not least because of the 'Royal Smile of Approval' from Princess Anne as she left the stage in acknowledgement of the Band's achievement.

P. Dewhurst.

SCHOOL NOTES AND NEWS

The most important event in this year's School Calendar was of course the Opening of the new Zochonis Centre for Modern Languages and Information Technology by Her Royal Highness, the Princess Royal on Friday, 25th June 1993. This great occasion is fully chronicled in these pages.

This year there is one epoch-making retirement. Miss Hillyard, the Head Master's Secretary, is retiring after 28 years here serving with three successive Head Masters. A full tribute to Miss Hillyard appears in this edition. Her successor is Miss B. McNicholas, already on the office staff here and our "Hulmeian" amanuensis since 1990. We also say goodbye to Dr. Paula James, after her year in the Classics Department, and to Sabine Mioux, our French Assistante, both of whom have given sterling service all the year.

In the Michaelmas Term of 1993 we welcome Mr. A. Austen to teach Geography and Games, Mr. C.R. Taylor to teach Classics, and Mlle. F. Dreyer, our new French assistante. The following internal staff promotions have been made during the last twelve months: Mr. Ballantyne to Director of Academic Studies, Mr. Veevers to Head of Geology and Earth Science, and Mr. G.H. Jones to second in the Geography Department. Within the House system Mr. Myers became House Master of Whitworth in January, 1993. He is replaced as Deputy House Master of Byrom by Mr. Addison, Miss Priddle is now the lady House Tutor in Byrom and Dr. Keable in Whitworth. In Gaskell House, Mrs. Hesp is now the lady House Tutor.

This year has been a milestone for our house at Hardraw, now renamed Harris House and refurbished. A full report can be found elsewhere in the magazine. Speech Day 1992 was held in the Free Trade Hall on the evening of 17th September. The Principal Guest was Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw, D.B.E., D.St.J., D.L., Ll.D, D.Sc., F.I.M.A., C.R.N.C.M. A report appears elsewhere in this edition. The Founder's Day Service was held on March 9th in Manchester Cathedral. The address was given by The Right Reverend David Bonser, M.A., Bishop of Bolton. For the first time, the Choir sang two anthems, both for unbroken voices only, C.S. Lang's setting of "Let all the World in every Corner sing", and Christopher Walker's vigorously syncopated "Cry out with Joy".

The C.C.F. Annual Inspection was on 6th October. The Inspecting Officer was Brigadier E.C.W. Morrison, O.B.E., A.D.C., Brigade Commander, 42 Brigade.

For the School Year 1992/93 H.A.F. Slack was Head of School, and W. Mason, Deputy Head. School Prefects were S. Arora, S.J. Bookbinder, E.F. Buckley, T.C. Cooper, S.H. Copsey, S.J. Dearden, P.M.T. Edwards, P.D. Foster, O.J. Garside, H. Gilmore, J.D. Gordon-Nesbitt, H.J. Hay, S.O. Jameson, J.C. McPhillips, S.O. Martineau, S.R. Moran, P.R. Patel, F.E. Richards, S. Sobhani, K. Swiderski, R.C. Sykes, T.B. Veitch, M.A.L. Weeden and N.A. Whiteley.

We congratulate the following students on their Oxford and Cambridge places: at Oxford Catherine Lewis to read Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Somerville, Sébastien Martineau to read Modern History and Modern Languages at Keble, and Henry Slack to read English at St. Hugh's; and at Cambridge Sonny Arora to read Politics at Fitzwilliam, and Shoaib Sufi to read Natural Sciences at St. John's.

We congratulate Mr. Ballantyne on passing the Common Professional Examination in Law.

We congratulate Mr. Mallinder on his distinctions with the England North Rugby Squad. (See page 150).

We congratulate Anna Hope on being nationwide runner-up in the Shakespeare Globe Trust "Shakespeare on the Platform" Competition and Daniel Riste on also reaching the national final. A full report appears elsewhere in this edition.

In the field of Sport several students deserve congratulations on their achievements beyond School.

- 1. Swimming in James Hickman and Karen Hawcroft we have two swimmers of international repute, possible Olympians. James took the Gold Medal in the European Junior Championships 200 metres Butterfly in Istambul in July, and was also in the winning Great Britain medley relay team. A local company (RTA Limited of Kingsway) has now sponsored him with a very generous cheque to assist with his training and travel expenses in his attempt at selection for the 1994 Vancouver Commonwealth Games. Karen is now the English Schools Intermediate 100m Freestyle Champion, the National Champion in 50m, 100m and 200m Freestyle and 200m Intermediate and the English Junior Record Holder in the 50m Freestyle, which she gained at the televised National Championships in Sheffield. She also swam for Great Britain in Brussels in the Youth Olympics and in the Three Nations International in Southampton.
- 2. Cricket Nathan Wood has during the last year represented England on many occasions. He now has a two-year contract with Lancashire. Asif Majid has been chosen for the Lancashire U14 team.
- 3. Lacrosse Paul Foster has represented the full England squad. Other players too numerous to mention here have represented Lancashire.
- 4. Table Tennis Lindsey Thornton of our First Year is the current National 12 Year-old Champion, for the third year running within her age group.
- 5. Field Archery (U16 Girls American Flat Bow.) Lauren Crane has once been British Champion, and twice Lancashire Champion.
 - 6. Ten Pin Bowling, Rachel Aldersley is England U15 Girls Champion, and is now in the U19 England Squad.
- 7. Hockey Stephen Kellett has been selected for the North-West U14 team for the second year running and this summer he has been invited to a pre-selection event for possible inclusion in the England U15 squad. Geraldine Brook has been selected, while still at U14 age, for the County U16 team.
 - 8. Netball Sophie Stephenson is one of the twelve squad members for the Manchester U15 squad.

During the Charities Week, the School raised £5,250 for the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital and also £250 for the Head of School to present to H.R.H. The Princess Royal on 25th June for her beloved Save the Children Fund.

The Editors gratefully acknowledge receipt of The Stopfordian" (Stockport Grammar School), "The Bridge" (Handsworth Grammar School, Birmingham), "The Sedberghian" (Sedbergh School, Cumbria), "Ulula" (Manchester Grammar School), "The Clavian" (Bury Grammar School), "The Suttonian" (Sutton Valence School, Kent), "The Wellingburian" (Wellingborough School) and "Forum" (the Marien-Gymnasium, Werl, Westphalia).

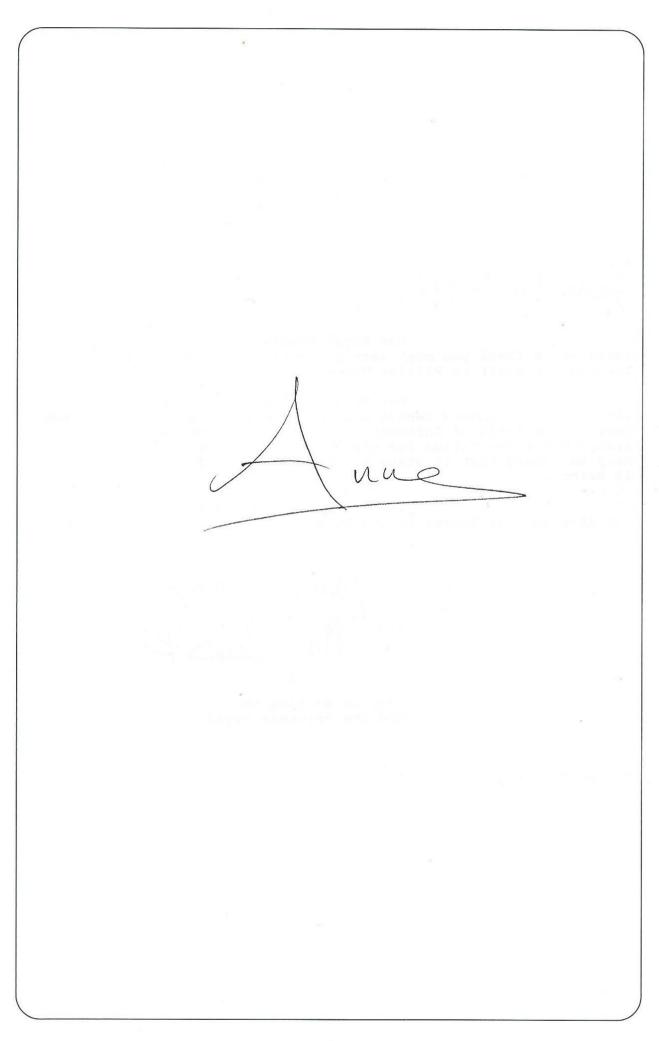
The Zochonis Centre

was opened

by

Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal GCVO on

Friday 25 June 1993





BUCKINGHAM PALACE

30 June 1993

Dear Mr Biggs,

Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal has asked me to thank you most warmly for her most interesting and informative visit to William Hulme Grammar School.

Her Royal Highness was very impressed with the new Zochonis Centre and the wonderful facilities you now have in the field of Information Technology. The School has always had a reputation for excellence and these facilities will help to ensure that it stays at the forefront of education where it belongs.

The Princess only regrets that she was not able to stay longer to see more.

Lady in Waiting to HRH The Princess Royal

Yours sincerely Mary Caras Pl

P D Briggs, Esq.

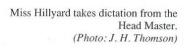
John Basil Zochonis

John Basil Zochonis, D.L., B.A. (Oxon)., is a well respected and influential businessman in Manchester. He joined Paterson Zochonis plc in 1953 and became Chairman in 1970 and is Senior Trustee of the Zochonis Charitable Trust. From 1987 to 1990 he was Chairman of Council at the University of Manchester, is President of the Greater Manchester Youth Association and is involved in a wide range of social, business and charitable organisations in and around Manchester. He is also a Freeman of the City of London. He was educated at Rugby School, Corpus Christi College, Oxford, is currently a Governor of Withington Girls' School and is a keen supporter of cricket.

John Zochonis is a man who has committed himself to the community of Manchester and has made a major contribution to the life of our city. He follows a long tradition of Manchester names who have been linked with William Hulme's, our School Houses are a constant reminder of this, and by naming the Languages and Information Technology block the Zochonis Centre we are perpetuating this tradition.



Miss A. Hillyard (Photo: J. H. Thomson)







Miss A. Hillyard receives her presentation bouquet on behalf of the Teaching Staff from the Common Room Secretary, Mr. M. P. Jones. (*Photo: J. H. Thomson*)

MISS HILLYARD - HEAD MASTER'S SECRETARY 1965-1993

I talked with Agnes Hillyard before I met her. Prior to taking up my appointment I had conversations with her when she advised me and kept me up-to-date with developments in the School. Her manner on the telephone revealed much of the woman for she had that precious gift of being concerned while protecting confidentiality. Discretion is the essential hallmark of a good secretary and a personal assistant.

Miss Hillyard has been virtually my personal organiser for six years. She has served three Head Masters since her appointment by Mr. Bird in 1965. Four Chairmen of Governors and four Bursars later she still relishes the job and I know she will be sad to retire. However, looking back on the changes which have occurred, she may well heave a sigh of relief. In the early days there were manual typewriters, one Roneo duplicator and fee ledgers were completed by hand. Fees were £165 per annum, there were 689 boys in the School, a Prep. School of 43 and 41 all male staff. Only four members of our present staff preceded Miss Hillyard, Messrs. Jackson, Blight, Timm and Langford.

Her role is comprehensive (not a term used lightly in an independent school) and to say that her influence and control have been crucial to the organisation of the School is a gross understatement. Her training first in industry and later with the Uganda Government, where she was Secretary to the Provincial Commissioner, fitted her for the role to which she was to devote her life. Her meticulous attention to detail, an innate sense of knowing what to do and what to say and her ability to plan for the future are all qualities which she has brought to bear at William Hulme's.

The office organisation has required tact and common sense and eighteen office staff have come and gone in her time. She liaises with the Bursar, members of Staff, parents and pupils. She painstakingly checks all entries to the School, organises the entrance examination, sorts pupils out into Houses, makes full arrangements for Governors' Meetings and special School events. In fact, there is little in the running of the School in which she is not involved. And at all times she must be prepared to answer questions from anyone in the School, as well as from parents and the general public, to help out answering the telephone, carry out simple first aid, sell items to pupils, lend money for bus fares, frank the mail, make the tea and anything else which strikes her fancy.

At all times her control has been exemplary. The job is too big for one person now but she has done it. Her main role has been to act as my secretary. Agnes has an uncanny but kind way of letting me know when she disapproves and usually she's right. Standards matter to her; a list must be correct, a letter must be accurate, appointments must be properly documented and when I have piled extra work onto her she has never jibbed but has just got on with it. She has the manner of a true gentlewoman from the way she brings in parents and introduces them to me to the unlined gloves she wears for driving. She even talks to my plant in my study to keep it happy.

I shall remember Agnes Hillyard for the enormous help she has given me over six years especially at the beginning when I knew nothing but had to appear to know everything. I know my wife is equally indebted in that my three diaries have been always kept up-to-date. Her contribution to the life of William Hulme's is beyond evaluation. I have never known her to lose her temper even when I have almost lost mine and at all times she has been loyal and discreet. Women like her are a dying breed but what a priceless asset they have been. We may now have word processors, laser printers, computerised lists and letters but it is people who make things happen and make sense out of our chaotic existence. Sensitivity and concern are virtues none of us should take for granted. Agnes Hillyard will be sorely missed but leaves us knowing that she has made a unique contribution to our lives and the life of the School. Thanks sometimes appear paltry but in this instance are heartfelt and genuine.

P.D. Briggs.

SPEECH DAY 1992

This was held in the Free Trade Hall on the evening of Thursday, 17th September. The Principal Guest was Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw, D.B.E., D.St.J., DL., Ll.D., D.Sc., F.I.M.A., C.R.N.C.M., a brillant mathematician, educationalist, former sportswoman, former Lord Mayor of Manchester (1975-6), Freeman of the City of Manchester (1981), first Chairman of the Royal Northern College of Music (1972-3), keen astronomer and (now) octogenarian. As the 1979 "Hulmeian" put it last time she was invited as the Principal Guest on Speech Day, "Dame Kathleen, distinguished in the worlds of mathematics, politics, education and the universities, needed no introduction."

Welcoming Dame Kathleen, the Head Master outlined her achievements and said how appropriate it was that we should have a lady guest in our first year of co-education in every age-group throughout the School (Dame Kathleen actually wrote a book entitled "The Girls' Schools" in 1967). He went on to instance examples of innovation and initiative by famous Mancunians through the ages, and stressed the need for an education which avoided blind obsession with "league tables" and visible results for their own sake on the one hand, and disregard for standards on the other. We are indeed an academic school, but we aim to train the whole child, not just to focus on the measurable. More specifically, the teaching of English here at W.H.G.S. remains both academic in the best sense ("grammar" and "structure" are not dirty words) and also flexible and imaginative. "An apparent drop in national standards does not mean a drop in our standards", yet as Professor Cox (a recent Governor of our School) put it recently "all children should be able to speak standard English, but it should be left to the professional skill of teachers to decide when and how to achieve this goal." The Head Master questioned the judgment of those who decry the G.C.S.E., with its welcome stress on initiative and personal interpretation. He then passed on to outline recent changes in School - the new teaching block, the creation of new appointments "to ensure we keep ahead of the times" - and after tributes to departing colleagues ended with the usual review of school activities.

Dame Kathleen began her address by talking to the parents in the Hall. Next to unconditional love and care, the best gift a parent can bestow is the best possible available education. She praised our School's long record of excellence. The bulk of her speech then concerned the initiative and achievement shown by Mancunians over the years in the fields of medicine, science, computer technology, music and the arts and education, all the result of good ideas capable of being translated into practical reality. Manchester's traditionally welcoming attitude to the persecuted and oppressed in other countries has also contributed to this rich diversity. But disembodied principles and ideas are worthless. It is people who act on them and thus achieve great things. We must seek beauty and cherish it when we find it, and rise above disappointment to aim high. She urged the young people present to model themselves on great men and women of the past and above all never to abandon their personal best talents. Dame Kathleen ended on a personal note, referring to thrilling events in modern astronomy (one of her current absorbing interests), and rejoicing that, perhaps thanks to modern medical achievements, she may be spared to see the year 2000, maybe with a Manchester Olympiad.

G.J. Turner.

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DESTINATIONS OF LEAVERS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 1991-92

DEGIL	THE STATE OF EATHER		
U6A1	BOND, Jayne C	Liverpool John Moores University	Earth Sciences
	KERR, Jonathan D	Oxford Polytechnic	Geological Sciences
	MOSS, Daniel J	University of Wales - Cardiff	Geology
U6A2	BURTON, Noel J	Liverpool University	History
	CHERRY, Nicholas J	Hull University	History
	COPE, Ian	Nottingham University	History
	ECCLES, Richard W M	Leeds Metropolitan University	Law
	HYLAND, Christian J	Nottingham University	History
	JACKSON, Nicholas J	Sheffield Hallam University	Accountancy
	KAY, Jonathan M	Nottingham University	Ancient History
U6A3	DONN, Marcus B	Leeds University	Politics
UOAS	FLANNIGAN, Jamie		Design Management
	GUTHRIE, Daniel	Leeds University	Politics & Parliamentary Studies
	INGLEBY, Richard H	Leeds University	Politics & Parliamentary Studies
		Bristol University	French
	LARKIN, Sophie E ROSS, Anastasia	Bristol University	French & Russian
		Carrier Tologon	
U6A4	CLARKE, Trystan J	Manchester Metropolitan University	Manufacturing Management
	ELLIOTT, Darren J E GOLDFINE, Martin H	Wanchester Wetropontan University	Manufacturing Managinent
	HIRA, Sanjay N	London School of Economics	Accounting & Finance
	KELLER, Danny L	Leeds Metropolitan University	Economics & Public Policy
	LAMBERT, Darren J	Loreto Sixth Form College	
	LEES, Jonathan J	Full-time employment	
	LEVY, Marc J		
	LEWIS, Catherine A	Oxford University (Somerville)	PPE
	ROSE, Andrew D	Dundee University	Accountancy
	YADID, Mark	London School of Economics	Economics
U6A5	BAMFORD, Gregory C V	Hull University	Geography
UOAS	GREENHOWE, Jonathan M	Durham University	Geology
	OGIER, Simon D	Leeds University	Geography
	OKEY, Jonathan N J	Salford University	Aerosystems Engineering
	STANSFIELD, Damien	Sheffield University	History
	WILSON, Michael P	Durham University	Geology
	,, 125 511, 134 134 134		PERSONAL PROPERTY.
U6C	CLARK, Michael R	Oxford University (Balliol)	Literae Humaniores
	MCCONNELL, Shaun	Leeds University	Latin
	STEPHENSON, Heather M	Loreto Sixth Form College	
U6L	BECKETT, John R	Salford University	Languages & Business Studies
	BOOTH, Matthew J	Liverpool Institute of Higher Educn	Drama & English
	CLARE, Melanie P	Bristol Polytechnic	European Law & Languages
	FISHER, Giles E M	Royal Holloway & Bedford	
		New Coll.	Business Studies with Languages
	HOLDER, Nicholas J	Sheffield University	Economics & German
	MATTISON, Richard C	Warwick University	Law
	MEHTA, Anish S	Sheffield University	Business Studies & German
	MODY, Roger A	Leicester University	German
	WILKS, Daniel I	Salford University	Business & Management Studies
	WILLIAMSON, Christopher R	Edinburgh University	Law & German
	WYNNE, Philip R	Leeds Metropolitan University	European Finance & Accountancy
U6M	BARNES, Martin D	Nottingham University	Mechanical Engineering
COM	CAIN, Philip M	Nottingham University	Mathematics
		Cambridge Univ. (Gonville	17IIIII
	FORSHAW, Benjamin J	& Caius)	Natural Sciences
	GEE Robert D	Oxford University (Keble)	Physics
	GEE, Robert D	Stand Centre:Bury Metropolitan Co	
	GOLDMAN, Mark J		Computer Science & Mathematics
	HARTLEY, Stephen M	Durham University Cambridge University (Pembroke)	
	MALIK, Rizwan A	Birmingham University	Physics
	MARTIN, Louise A		Accountancy & Finance
	NURENNABI, Irvin M	Salford University	Accountancy of I marke

U6S1	BEER, Jonathan A CLARKE, Victoria M	Staffordshire University Birmingham University	Geography & Geology Geography & Geology
	LADD, Andrew R	Kingston University	Geographical Info. Systems HND
	MASON, Jamie S	Ealing	Business Studies & Economics
U6S2	AHMED, Arshad	Manchester University	Materials Science
	ELLIOTT, Mark A	Kingston University	Geography
	MCINNIS, Erica E	Sunderland University	Combined Sciences
	MORRIS, Simon A SALEEM, Hamad	University of Central Lancashire	Chemistry (HND)
	SHAH, Nayna	Xaverian College, Manchester	
U6S3	BRATT, Martyn A	Hull University	Mechatronics
	SHIELDS, Martin D	Birmingham University	Electrical & Electronic Engineering
	SPENCER, Sam	Royal Navy	Engineering
	WALLIS, Zoë	Leeds Metropolitan University	Architecture
U6S4	ETCHELLS, Craig W	UMIST	Electrical & Electronic Engineering
0001	GREENFIELD, Jeffrey	Sheffield University	Accountancy & Finance with Mathematics
	KLEIN, Simon G	London - University College	Computer Science & Electronic Engineering
	LEITCH-DEVLIN, Rachel A ROSEN, Avishai Y	Cambridge University (Newnham)	
U6S5	BONE, Richard D	Birmingham University	Materials Engineerng
	BUTSON, Jonathan D	Sheffield University	Mechanical Engineering
	ELLIS, Ian	UMIST	Electrical & Electronic Engineering
	WILLIAMS, Nicholas J	University of Central Lancashire	Electrical & Physical Engineering HND
U6SB	BABICKI, Andrew A	Rossendale & Accr.Coll. of FE	
	BIALICK, Simon H	Sheffield Hallam University	Applied Biology HND
	CONROY, Christopher P	South Cheshire College of F.E.	
	DAR, Nabila Q	Loreto Sixth Form College	
	KHAN, Iftikar A	Xaverian College, Manchester	
	KORALE, Mihirini	Loreto Sixth Form College	J.M. pi.Stegral 1 (Rris
	McCLOY, Sean M	Hatfield Polytechnic	Radiography
	MOORE, Richard D T	London - University College	Physiotherapy
	MOULT, Richard R	University of Central Lancashire	Biology
	RANAWICKREMA, Chanaka A	Loreto Sixth Form College	Manufest 2006-10-
	SANDERSON, Martin J	Portsmouth University	Biomedical Science
	SMITH, Jeremy J	Liverpool University	Civil Engineering
	VU, Thi Ha	Loreto Sixth Form College	



School Prefects 1992/3, with Mr. Briggs. (*Photo: J. H. Thomson*)



VIth Form Leavers 1993. (Photo: J. H. Thomson)

PRIZE LIST 1993

SPECIAL PRIZES:

Anderson English Essay Prize: M.T. Royds

Caswell Prize: S.A. Sufi C.H. Jones Prize: E.F. Buckley

Colin Midwood Prize: CSM, E.F. Buckley

D.Ll. Griffiths Prize: O. Asgher

D.M. Williams Memorial Prize for Music: R.C. Sykes Eric Barnes Memorial Prize & Trophy: H.A.F. Slack

Geoffrey Cocker Prize: C.E. Reichl

Graham Johnson Memorial Prize: A.T. Rodgers

Halpin History Essay Prize: R.S. Smith

*Harry Charlesworth Memorial Trophy for Cricket: N.T. Wood

Hillyard Cup and Prize: C.E. Reichl J.A. Barber Prize: W. Mason E.B. Jackson Prize: H. Gilmore

James Gozzard Prize for Craft: I.P. Ratcliffe J.N. Hopwood Reading Prizes: A. Hope (Senior),

M.J. Kay (Junior).

Junior History Prize: A. Tehrani

Library Award: J.E. Harding, H.J. Hay, J.C. McPhillips,

S.R. Moran and B.E.F. Stephenson.

Original Verse Prizes: N.D. Mason (Middle),

J.M. Shaw (Junior).

Powell Prize for Reading in Assembly: J.D. Gordon-Nesbitt

R.A. Haynes Prize for Photography: D.A. Gilbert

Sir Joseph Gilbert Prize: Sgt. J.A. Vickers

Watkins Prize: H.A.F. Slack

Woollam Scholarship: P.M.T. Edwards

Yates Prize: S.O. Martineau

UPPER SIXTH

Art Prize: A.S. Seymour

Ancient History Prize: G.C. Sampson Business Studies Prize: C. Bury Dehn History Prize: S. Quyoum

Design Prize: D. Smart

Dorrington Greek Prize: D.P. Marsh Dorrington Latin Prize: D.P. Marsh Simon Smith Economics Prize: S. Arora

Geology Prize: N.T. Haggerty

Hewlett Geography Prize: N.A. Whiteley Knoop English Language Prize: A.M. Battrick Knoop English Literature Prize: H.A.F. Slack Lymer Mathematics Prize: E.F. Buckley

Music Prize: J. Lazarus

O.H.A. Biology Prize: S.A. Sufi Palmer Chemistry Prize: S.A. Sufi Palmer Physics Prize: P.M.T. Edwards Pankhurst Spanish Prize: P.D. Warren

Reid Politics Prize: S. Arora Vlies French Prize: J.C. McPhillips Vlies German Prize: J.C. McPhillips

FIFTH FORMS

Art: J.L. Colclough Biology: S. Hasan

Caiger French: C.M. Brown

Chemistry: T.A. Djeddour & I. Siddique

Design: C. Gleave German: E.H. Keable

Hewlett Geography: R. Ahmed

Geology: I.P. Ratcliffe History: T.A. Djeddour Latin: M.A. Knowles Mathematics: S.D. Porter Music: E.H. Keable

Parents' English Language: Barraclough Parents' English Literature: K.J. Nolan

Physics: I. Siddique Spanish: J.P. Foggon

LOWER SIXTH

Ancient History Prize: J.R. Tate

Art Prize: R. Haroutunian

Business Studies Prize: I.M. Sherwin Chemistry Prize: C.F. McElhinney

Design Prize: R. Hargreaves

Forrest English Language Prize: T.W. Donnai Forrest English Literature Prize: A. Hope Further Mathematics Prize: C. Simpkin

Geography Prize: J.C. Hope

Geology Prize: A.J. Clegg & J.C. Hope

German Prize: D. T. Brooks Hawley French Prize: A. Hope History Prize: A. Hope Latin Prize: J.R. Tate Mathematics Prize: C.G. Heys Music Prize: C.P. Harris Physics Prize: N.D. Goodwin

Physics Prize: N.D. Goodwin Politics Prize: R. Hargreaves

S.K. Appleton Biology Prize: C.F. McElhinne

Spanish Prize: R.K.G. Pimblott

FOURTH FORMS

Art: C.L. Barnes
Biology: M.T. Royds
Chemistry: M.T. Royds
Design: P. Bagnall
English: S. B. Burney
French: M.T. Royds
Geography: T. Rahman
Geology: C.L. Barnes
German: A.J. Farrell
Greek: C.J. Hope
History: D. Lowry

Latein: C.J. Hope Mathematics: S.B. Burney Music: D.K. Mosley Physics: M.T. Royds Spanish: V. Poohoomull

THIRD FORMS

Art: O.I. Ofoche Biology: S.J. Cochrane Chemistry: S.J. Cochrane Design: A.S.M. Xidacis English: L.E. Ives French: S. J. Cochrane Geography: S.J. Cochrane German: L.E. Ives Greek: D.J. Johnston History: J.A. Bloom Latin: P.A. Beales Mathematics: L.E. Ives Music: G.M. Brook Physics: P.A. Beales

FIRST FORMS

Biology: E.H. Barker Chemistry: E.H. Barker Design: R. Nixon

Spanish: E.L. Weeden

English: J.A.R. Balderstone & S.J. Johnston

French: E.H. Barker Geography: R.D. Fisher History: B.M. Green Latin: E.H. Barker Mathematics: F.R. Youssef Music: E.H. Barker

Religious Education: E.H. Barker

William Taylor Memorial Prize: J.M. Shaw

SECOND FORMS

Art: M.R. Gale
Biology: A. Bagga
English: A.E. Coke
French: M.R. Gale
Geography: A.J. Power
History: T.J. Ross
Latin: G.A. Rowlands
Mathematics: A.W. Yates
Music: D.Y. Durrance
Physics: M.R. Gale

Religious Education: T.G. Safdar

*The Harry Charlesworth Memorial Trophy for Cricket has been donated by Mrs. Midgley, in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the cricketing life of the School. Harry Charlesworth was here from 1935 to 1940, and died in 1989.

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BURSAR'S CORNER

The end of any year is a time for reviewing the past. School's summer holidays are the time for looking back and comparing progress against the plan which was written some months before the year actually began. The year which is now drawing to a close certainly qualifies as one of the more significant in the history of our School.

Much will be written elsewhere in this journal about the events of 25 June. All I would wish to do here is to express my sincere thanks to all the members of my team who made the day such a success - from completion of the building on time to the detailed arrangements for the events of the day itself. It is generally acknowledged to have been a success.

The events leading to that happy day can be said to have started in early November last year when Messrs Curbishleys completed their work of construction on time and in budget. To have coordinated such a range of trades and bring it to a neat conclusion on time and within budget was truly impressive. The six weeks to Christmas holiday were busy with the delivery of furniture, fixtures and fittings for the building, but happy to relate, all was in place on time for the start of the new School term on 5 January. Some weeks later, the computers were delivered and the building was then fully operational. It is pleasing to note that the carpets and decoration generally have lived up to expectation and give a most satisfactory atmosphere in which to teach and learn.

That such high standards were achieved is due, in no small part, to the generosity of benefactors, parents, Old Hulmeians and friends. The Appeal which the Head Master launched almost 12 months ago was very successful - in the prevailing economic climate - as those who have visited the building will have noted, and our thanks are due to those who gave so generously. We have recognised our major sponsors by naming a room in the Zochonis Centre after each of them and recently has come the most welcome news that the Wolfson Foundation has made a significant grant towards the costs of the equipment. The School is particularly grateful to the Trustees of the Foundation, who donated money to found our Wolfson Scholarship fund some years ago, for their continuing support.

The opening of 13 new classrooms has provided the freedom to allow work to proceed elsewhere in the School to improve the standards generally, gradually to collocate departments in a more logical manner and to provide much needed space for some administrative functions. A three-year plan to implement these changes has been set in train, but the only part completed before the end of last term was the provision of three offices for the Heads of Middle School, Junior School and Arts and an interview room all in the old Classroom 4. However, as I write a total refurbishment of the Common Room, including the provision of much-needed work space for teachers, is progressing well. Completion before the start of next term is confidently expected - and fervently hoped for! As next year sees a large increase in the number of girls in the Sixth From, another "must" is to provide additional cloakroom facilities for them. These are being built, together with the new Field Toilets, in the old Committee Room, in the Sixth Form Centre.

Changes being progressed in the Main Building are the move of the Classics department from the ground floor of the Donner Centre to Rooms 9-11, with a consequent improvement in decoration and lighting and the move of the Middle School lockers from the old "cages" area to Rooms 5 and 6. This latter will help to clear the way for the move of the Music Department to occupy the whole of the basement area under the New Hall.

On a rather depressing note, and in common with many other schools across the country, we have suffered a number of break-ins of late, and improved security arrangements have been installed to protect the valuable and attractive equipment which is so much part of life in the School.

It is clear that the Department is in good form and enjoying the challenges of making significant improvements to the fabric of the buildings. My thanks go to all of my team who contribute so much to the general good of all in the School.

Finally, it would be wrong for me not to include my own word of thanks to Miss Agnes Hillyard, who is to retire as the Head Master's Secretary soon after the start of next term. After nearly 28 years sterling service to the School, having looked after three Head Masters and helped this particular Bursar to find his feet, she will be very difficult to replace. We all thank her for her exemplary standards of service and care and wish her a peaceful and happy retirement.

M.H.J. Peters (Bursar)

THE RE-OPENING CEREMONY AT HARRIS HOUSE, HARDRAW

On Tuesday, 11th May, the J.G. Bird Trustees decided to hold their meeting at the refurbished and renamed Harris House at Hardraw, partly to check the renovation but more importantly to invite Mr. & Mrs. W.C. Harris to attend a short ceremony for the re-opening and renaming. Mr. Harris, an Old Hulmeian (1925-29), has been a most generous benefactor to our House at Hardraw, and it was fitting that he should unveil the plaque recording the re-opening of the House named after him. Present were the Trustees as follows: the Head Master; Mr. D.W. Homer, J.P., one of our Governors; Mr. W. Brewood (also a Hulme Trustee); Mr. J.M. Haslam (Warden); Dr. D.G. Barnes (former Warden); Mr. M.H. Gracey (Secretary); our Bursar, Commander M.H. Peters; and of course Mr. & Mrs. Harris.

Editor.



Mr. W. C. Harris, O.H. (1925-1929) looking at the plaque at the refurbished Harris House, named after him. (*Photo: Dr. D. G. Barnes*)



Harris House, Hardraw - 1993.

HARRIS HOUSE, HARDRAW

1992/93 has seen an enormous change in Hardraw's fortunes. Following a lengthy period of discussion as to its future the decision was made to enter into an extensive refurbishment programme. As reported in the last edition of the Hulmeian, considerable progress has already been made and we were looking forward with great keenness to the cessation of all building work.

The builders finally moved out in August leaving just finishing touches to be completed. Over the last year much has been achieved on this front; 'Alpine bunks' have been constructed, outside yards cleared, signs erected and various amenities provided. Most importantly, the centre had its official opening on May 11th, 1993, at which it was renamed Harris House in recognition of W.C. Harris, the Old Hulmeian, whose kind generosity enabled us to carry out all the work to date.

Over the last year many groups from school have visited Hardraw, their interests ranging from the appreciation of English Literature to the study of the diverse Geology and Geography of the area.

Numerous Form and House trips have been made and other users have included the Biology Club, Art Students, musicians on rehearsal weekends (which even the locals noticed!), and 'A' level Historians exploring the area together with a school group from Essex.

The facilities at Harris House have also been used by parties outside W.H.G.S. I was particularly pleased to see the local Parish Council of Hawes and High Abbotside use the hall on three occasions - for a Harvest Festival Auction, Bring and Buy Sale and Christmas Whist Drive. The latter event brought visitors from the neighbouring valley of Swalesdale as well as Wensleydale, including several who attended school at Hardraw in the 1940's. They were very pleased to see the building being renovated and working towards its full potential again.

Other 'outside' users are Beaver Road School, Didsbury, who this year were making their tenth annual visit! The National Park Officers have also used the Centre as an instructional base for conservation workers - perhaps we could arrange a conservation weekend for people from school?

Wensleydale is quite unique amongst the Yorkshire Dales in that it was formerly called Yoredale (Geologists take note) or Uredale - after its river and later changed to Wensleydale, after the village near Leyburn. The valley extends from its head on the Cumbria and North Yorkshire border at Hell Gill to its foot near Leyburn (although this is not clearly defined) - in all some twenty or so miles. The valley is a popular area with tourists and famous for its dairy products, notably Wensleydale Cheese. It has a multitude of features including the Pennine Way, which indeed passes right by Harris House, Hardraw Force at 99 feet high England's highest fall above ground, exquisite limestone scenery and open moorland bounding the valley sides. These last two features, of course, provide almost unlimited scope for hill walking with groups at a variety of levels. It is this activity, hillwalking, which has motivated many visitors from school in the past. Of course it should be noted, however, that numerous other possibilities present themselves, a quick visit to the Tourist Office will provide a whole host of activities and places to visit, from White Scar Caves over by Ingleton to pony trekking in Bishopdale, farm visits in Sedbergh and Museum and Ancient Monument visits in the Dale itself. There is certainly something to suit everyone.

W.H.G.S. has 26 Forms in the Junior and Middle Schools. Harris House puts our School at an advantages and it is up to you the pupils, parents and Staff to make full use of it. When pupils, returning to visit School after University or years away, mention those things which had a lasting impression on them, visits to Hardraw and centres like it always appear high on their list.

I will be working hard to make 1993/94 a successful year for Harris House. You can play your part by getting that trip booked in now!

On a closing note thanks must go to the Trustees of the J.G. Bird Trust for their support and guidance and all those people who have helped in any way.

J.M. Haslam, Warden.

THE SCHOOL BOOKSHOP

The Bookshop is open to all pupils to buy paperback and occasionally hardback books which cover a multitude of interests and activities. It is intended to encourage children to buy books for pleasure and to stimulate an interest in literature, but basically it is a fun place to spend a few minutes during the lunch-hour. It is situated at the entrance to the Donner Library, which is open to all pupils. The Bookshop is open every lunchtime from 12.30 until 1.20 p.m.

Pupils may pay for their books by cash, although it is not recommended that they should bring large sums of money into school for obvious reasons. A much preferred option is that of "Credit" whereby a pupil deposits a cheque for, say £10.00, in the Bookshop Account to cover the anticipated expenditure on books for the term. If this amount is not used, it is carried forward indefinitely and is always available for book purchases. It will be refunded if the pupil leaves the school or following parents' request. Should it be found necessary to add to the initial deposit a further cheque may be deposited at any time. Pupils are not allowed to purchase books to a value in excess of their current "Credit" balance.

The Bookshop is run by pupils from the fifth and sixth forms, under the guidance of a member of staff. They are responsible for daily sales, record- keeping, stock-orders and the display of books in the shop. Anyone with an interest in books or selling is welcome to come and talk to us and several members of the Junior School are keen "part-time" assistants. Sincere thanks are due to Richard Holden and Kelvin Blakey who leave the school this summer and who have run the Bookshop most efficiently for the last year. They will receive their School Colours in September.

The Bookshop needs your support to remain lively and competitive. We welcome your suggestions for new titles (or old ones) to keep our shelves fresh and interesting. Support your School Bookshop. . . make friends with a book.

Mr. J.H. Thomson

DONNER LIBRARY

While cataloguing copies of the "Hulmeian" I finally discovered the origin of the Donner Library. In 1911 Sir Edward Donner donated £10 towards the library. What this would be worth now is debatable, but his donation was the keystone to the library. Looking at the library now with three computers, 10,000 books, magazines, newspapers, photocopying facilities, study rooms and a generous budget for new books, I feel Sir Edward Donner would think his initial £10 well spent.

We have finally finished putting all the library books on the computer. This makes the library more efficient and it is satisfying for me as a librarian as I can now trace books, reserve them and print notification of availability. Departments can also have lists of all books on their subject stocked by the library. This is a great help in project work, and also in keeping the stock up-to-date.

Without the help of my five library prefects none of this would have been possible. They have been a tremendous help and my thanks go to them all: Ben Stephenson, Simon Moran, James Harding, Jane McPhillips and Heather Hay. Good luck to them in the future.

There are four library prefects this year, Jon Howarth, Jon Ghazi, Daniel Gilbert and Mark Schilling. I hope they can match the standard set by last year's prefects, a hard act to follow!

Due to the number of thefts we hope to install a security system in the library during the next School year, a sad reflection on the integrity of library users in the past. Hopefully this move should ensure that books are guaranteed to be available for pupils and staff.

The library is open from 8.00 a.m. - 3.40 p.m.

M.E. Evans.

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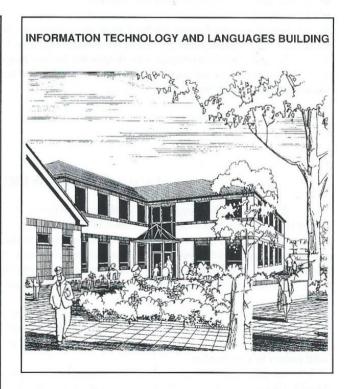
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HULMEIANS ABROAD

THE WERL EXCHANGE

1. THE WERLER IN MANCHESTER

Our exchange with William Hulme's Grammar School took place from the 10th - 23rd October.

Rather tired, but nevertheless in joyful expectation, we arrived at the schoolyard of William Hulme's on Sunday, where our host families picked us up. The rest of the day was needed to become acclimatised and regenerated which was done by most of us successfully. On Monday morning the extensive program, chosen by the English colleagues of our German attendants Mr. Marx, his wife and Mr. Brodde started.

The topic of our program was "the development of industry in Manchester". The first destination in our outing plan was the "Living Museum: The Way We Were" in Wigan Pier. This was followed by a guided tour through Manchester, at which we were shown the origin of Manchester itself and the visit to the Museum of Science and Industry, the next day. Next we went to the Museum of Photography and Television, had a guided tour through Saltaire (unfortunately the tour was affected by heavy rain) and paid a visit to the Granada Film Studios.

This part of our program did not refer to the topic, but was friendly welcomed as a nice change after the frequent visits to cotton mills. Friday morning we spent in Styal Quarry Bank Mill, where we admired the old cotton mill with its still functioning machines. In the afternoon the traditional football match took place and after having fought heavily the English team finally won.

We were given an insight into the history and the development of industry in England and saw many new and interesting things such as a lesson from grandmother's age or an old cotton mill with still functioning machines. Here the "proper" program was finished and now there was "only" two days of school attendance and the visit to Alton Towers left on the plan, but now we were looking forward to a weekend with the families.

The very friendly host families tried to show us some places of their country and made some trips to Blackpool, York or even London with us. Everybody had some fun. After this, for most of us, pleasant weekend we followed our partners to their lessons or went to Mrs. Wright's or Mr. Turner's German lessons, where we talked to the other pupils, read something or acted. The lessons which are different from German lessons were very interesting and school lunch, unfamiliar but better than expected, was eaten with appetite.

Last but not least the tour to Alton Towers, best of all, was made and nearly all English partners joined us. We set out in little groups and amused ourselves in the park until we got enough. On our return a little farewell party for us Germans, prepared by some friendly English teachers, was held. With music and plenty of food and drinks we celebrated our last evening. Then we had to pack our suitcases. This was sometimes a difficult affair, because of the plenty of things many of us had bought.

Next day, after having a school meal once again, we had to say goodbye. After saying goodbye to our partners, we started our return journey and arrived in Werl overtired, but with many new impressions the next day.

To sum it up the exchange was, despite the packed program, a valuable experience and we won't forget it.

The success of our exchange is owing to the English teachers and the friendly and sincere host families. We want to say once again: Thank you!

Silvia Hiltenkamp, Marien-Gymnasium, Werl.

MANCHESTER - WERL EXCHANGE 1992/93

Bleary-eyed, we congregated at Ringway Airport; it was a quarter past six in the morning, and we were eager to depart for Werl, our destination for the next twelve days.

What seemed like no time passed before we were wandering around Düsseldorf Airport. A few longer, slightly more tedious train journeys followed and we were eventually met at Werl by our hosts. Rather nervous, we were shown to our cars and hurried off to the various parts of the town where our partners lived.

The rest of the day and the Sunday were spent re-acquainting ourselves with our partners and getting to know their families.

The start of our visit fell right in the middle of "Karneval", a massive celebration of fun, with people all over the region making fools of themselves in bizarre costumes. That Monday was "Rosenmontag", a holiday with no school or work, enabling the Germans to enjoy the festivities. Most of us spent the best part of the day in bed, and attended the various wild parties in the evening.

An early start the next day; unfortunately one of many to come, and we were pleased to see our English pals at the Marien-Gymnasium School. Most had settled in excellently and were enjoying the exchange so far. Soon, the noise and madness of the school died down as the Germans made their way to their lessons. We were greeted by the "Schulleiter" (head teacher), Herr Drepper, who gave us a talk and made us feel very welcome. After a couple of photo shots of the English group outside the school by the local press, we made our way to the "Stadtzentrum" (town centre), where we were allowed to wander around. This gave some of us an excellent opportunity to try out our German (the cafés and bakeries were filled within moments!). Soon we were reunited with our partners back at the school and had the whole afternoon to do whatever we wanted. This is the main advantage with the German education system; although the students have to get up very early for school, they get to go home at one o'clock in the afternoon.

Back to school that evening at six o'clock for the annual disco, which was enjoyed by all. However, some of us felt out of place alongside the local German 'ravers' - very strange!



Out and about with Herr Marx. (Photo: G. J. Turner)

That night the weather changed to how it was to be for the remainder of our stay, snow!

We all met up again outside the School the next morning, tired and cold. At a quarter to eight prompt, we boarded the bus, bound for Köln. After a look around the huge cathedral and an endless tour around the old town by the ever-happy Herr Marx, we were given the rest of the day to do as we pleased. Again McDonald's and Burgerking were extremely busy! Some of us, however, did manage to make it to 'Saturn', Europe's largest music store. Having reassembled back at the coach, we were taken back to Werl, and were left to entertain ourselves for the remainder of the evening.

Donnerstag (Thursday), and ice-skating in the nearby town Unna was on the agenda for the morning. After a brief journey by train, we were happily skating around, posing for pictures for Mr. Turner. However, the cafeteria was full within twenty minutes! Back to Werl for lunch and then to the sports centre for the annual 'Werl vs. Manchester 5-a-side tournament'. Despite getting hammered by the Germans, this really was the highlight of the exchange for some people (Michael Birtwistle, Kit Brown).

That evening, a massive social gathering took place in the "Konvikt", the boarding house; about fifty or sixty of us crammed into the bar. This was an excellent opportunity to get to know some of the boarders living there. The English proved excellent for business; they were out of stock by half past ten!

Fortunately, we were able to grab a few more minutes of much needed sleep on Friday. Our departure for Münster was a little later than usual. On route, we stopped off at the 'Glockengiesserei', (bell foundry), at Gescher. Mercifully, Mr. Turner summarised rather than translated the guide's long talk! From there it was on to Münster, a very old town with historical monuments. We were given free time to wander around and familiarise ourselves with the town and met back up in the afternoon. We were then given a huge tour of all the churches and monuments in the town by a very nice lady who made it all come to life.

We were able to spend Saturday morning in bed while the Germans went for their Saturday morning school - this was much appreciated by everyone! The rest of Saturday and Sunday were spent with our partners and their families.

Monday brought some of us our first real experience of German school lessons. For periods one and two we attended our partners' lessons. Then back to Werl after break for the English. We went to the Rathaus (town hall) and were formerly welcomed into the town by Frau Bürgermeisterin Böhme (the lady mayor). It was a little late seeing as we were leaving in two days! We were then given an opportunity to ask Frau Böhme any questions we had on German life etc. The questions raised ranged from the danger of neo-Nazism to the lack of hedges in German countryside. The rest of the day was ours to do as we pleased.

Another early start the next day as we boarded the coach for Düsseldorf at a quarter to eight. We soon arrived at the 'Landtag', the parliament buildings for that part of the country. There, we were served breakfast. A short film and a longer tour around the building followed, and we were told all about the way in which the German government system works. A brief walk later and we were in the town centre. This gave us our last opportunity to purchase any more souvenirs and stroll around the very rich town.

So that was it. We assembled on the platform of the same station where our experience had begun, cold and saddened at a quarter to seven, waiting for the train to come and take us home. The train arrived on time so we said our last

goodbyes and thanks. The journey was without problems and we were greeted back by our parents at Ringway at twenty past twelve.

Our sincere thanks to the ever cheerful Mr. Turner and Miss McGuinn, without whom the exchange would not have been such a huge success. Everyone enjoyed it thoroughly.

Paul Bagnall (4Y)



Preparing questions for the "Bürgermeisterin".



The gang outside the Marien-Gymnasium. (Photo: courtesy of the Werler Anzeiger)

THE SPANISH EXCHANGE - 1992/93

IN SALAMANCA

In October we left England for Spain. We were all looking forward to our ten days staying with Spanish families, but were nervous about meeting our partners.

While we were on the plane to Madrid we met "The Farm". They were really nice and offered us free tickets to see their concert in Madrid (which we unfortunately could not attend).

On the way to Salamanca in the large taxi driven by Manolo we were still in good spirits, yet becoming more tense and excited by the minute. When we reached the school, the Colegio Montessori, we were introduced to our hosts and most of us soon left with them for our first night in a Spanish home.

A few trips were organised for us - one to the local newspaper, which was interesting; another to Avila (a nearby town with medieval walls) and another to do all the local historical buildings.

When we were not on trips during the week, we spent our time in School receiving lessons from the Headmaster (whom the pupils call by his first name!), Miss McGuinn and Angela. We also played a game of football outside in the rain, but despite the weather we had a great time.

We found ourselves speaking Spanish quite a lot of the time, putting all our classroom knowledge into use. Whilst we were in Spain we can all honestly say that we improved our language skills. The Spaniards were very friendly towards us on the whole.

However, it was not sad saying goodbye to our partners since we knew we would see them again in April when they came to England.

IN MANCHESTER

Just before Easter it was time for us to meet up again, though it was no less nerve-racking as we waited patiently at Manchester Airport for their arrival.

Numerous trips were arranged by the School and by ourselves, the best being to Alton Towers. The weather was typically British but this did not stop our fun. Many everyday Spanish phrases were picked up by the English, and the Spanish language seemed to predominate, which was good for us.

Towards the end of the visit it became apparent that the Spaniards were not too keen on English food, yet it had been exactly the same with us in Spain. They were also complaining about the British weather, but who can blame them?

As the Spaniards left England to go back home some were glad and some were upset for many reasons. Nevertheless, the trip was most beneficial all things considered.

Our special thanks go to Miss McGuinn for her help and organisation and for accompanying us to Salamanca, and also to Mr. Bull for all the arrangements.

Sarah Holder (4B)

Carrie Litherland (4C)

Helen Ralston (4L)



The Spanish Exchange students in Avila. (*Photo: Miss C. McGuinn*)

SPANISH COURSE AT THE DON QUIJOTE-DULCINEA LANGUAGE SCHOOL, SALAMANCA

In April 1992, I entered a competition which involved answering several questions about Spain and writing a short essay explaining what motivated me to enjoy Spanish. Two weeks later I received a phone call from London informing me that I had won the competition. The prize was a two week course at the Don Quijote-Dulcinea Language School in Salamanca.

Fortunately, I had already planned to spend two weeks with an exchange partner in Salamanca, so Mr. Bull arranged my travel so that I could spend two weeks with my partner and then two weeks at the school.

I arrived at Madrid Airport, slightly worried at the prospect of spending a month away from home, on a hot August afternoon. Once I had met my partner, Oscar, my apprehensions were laid aside. During my two enjoyable weeks staying with Oscar and his family, I got to know the beautiful town of Salamanca almost better than my home town.

Whilst doing the course I stayed at Luisa Rodriguez's apartment, an Argentian lady who was paid to board students from the 'Dulcinea' school. I was glad to find that there were three other students from the school who were staying in the apartment, an English girl, a German girl and a Dutch boy. During my stay I got to know these very well.

On the first day at the school all the new students sat an exam in order to sort them out into varying levels of ability and to place them in a suitable class. On the second day the classes began. There were six other girls in my class. Classes started at 9.30 a.m. with two hours of grammar with a lady called Presen. After this there was a half-hour break in which all the students and teachers went to a nearby bar for coffee and 'tapas' (snacks). This break was followed by an hour and a half of conversational lessons with a teacher called Felix. Classes end at 1.30 p.m. I would usually go home, have lunch and then spend the afternoon with the students from the apartment. In the evenings there were numerous activities including some evening 'fiestas' organised by the school. It seems that in Salamanca there are more bars than people.

I would recommend to anybody learning a language that they should take part in one of these courses in a foreign country. There is a very friendly atmosphere at the Dulcinea school and you learn a lot both from the school and from being in the country. However, I do think that if I were to do this again, I would like to spend more than two weeks on the course. One problem also is that because there were other students in the apartment, all of whom spoke fluent English, we tended to speak a lot of English together for simplicity. I believe there is no better way though if you are learning a language than to take part in an exchange where you are constantly meeting Spanish people and learning about the Spanish culture and way of life.

I would like to thank Mr. Bull for organising my exchange visit and making the travel arrangements, Miss McGuinn for entering me in the competition, and the Don Quijote language school for offering me such a beneficial prize.

Perry Warren (U6L)





Contact: Chris Boyes

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WORK EXPERIENCE ABROAD

In the four years between 1989 and 1992, twenty-two sixth formers have enjoyed temporary week placements in Europe. This year big developments have taken place, and a total of fifteen Lower and Upper Sixth Formers have gone to France, Germany or Spain this summer.

This year it seemed appropriate and feasible to extend the possibilty of foreign work experience, not only to those studing 'A' level languages, but also to include our future scientists and mathematicians and business and marketing managers! This year, therefore, I invited, as the first stage in this development, interested maths and science sixth formers as well as the linguist to apply. I have been most grateful to Dr. Barnes for his enthusiastic support, and I received twenty-five written applications in the first fortnight!

The selection procedure is, of necessity, rigorous, because the competition is keen. The candidates submit their G.C.S.E. results and the subjects they are taking at 'A' level. They indicate the country where they would like to work and give the reason for taking part. The next stage is an interview in the appropriate language with either Mrs. Wright, Mr. Bull (to both of whom I offer my sincere thanks for their help and wise recommendations) or myself. I also speak to form teachers and House Masters. In this way I can build up a picture of a candidate whom I may never have taught.

During November and December 1992, I began, yet again, to investigate the possibilities of finding new jobs. I sent out eighty-two letters mainly to local or North-West companies which I knew had foreign subsidiaries. By the end of March 1993 I had received five offers, twenty-two refusals and had eleven inquiries still in progress; subsequently these eleven became refusals. Forty- four companies did not reply. This was a better response than that of two years ago when most companies either ignored my letter or replied in the negative.

This year the tone of the replies has been quite different. Much interest and approval has been shown and good wishes expressed, and I was sent many foreign addresses. Progress is slow, but has steadily improved. My main source of help is still through personal contacts and from the parents of W.H.G.S. pupils. This year I am most grateful to Professor Hope, Mr. Pimblott and Mr. and Mrs. Whittingham. If any other parents have contacts in Europe (France, Germany, Spain, Belgium, Switzerland) I should be delighted to hear from them.

I have been particularly grateful to Herr Eberhard Marx of the Marien-Gymnasium in Werl, our German exchange school. He has found four excellent jobs in the town, and has been unfailingly resourceful in dealing with any accommodation problems.

I would also like to thank the Bursar for his help in checking my information sheet for parents, concerning insurance, medical and travel arrangements, and Miss Bernadette McNicholas who has typed so many letters beautifully.

And now to the fortunate participants! In Werl, Germany, Daniel Riste is working in the Export Department of a metalwork company producing precision tubes. Manish Das has a technical management position with a large garage. Blake Siegler is working as a mechanic in another (no doubt rival!) garage. Andrew Howarth is working in a furniture hypermarket. All these boys are being accommodated with exchange partners except Blake, who will be living with the family of his employer's brother.

Daniel Brooks and James Goodall are both with a large Chemical Company in Ludwigshafen. Edward Buckley will be working at the Data Centre of a large international bank in Meerbusch. Simon Whittingham will be working at a Water Treatment Plant in Eidelberg.

Two "au pair" jobs in Bordesholm, N. Germany have been offered this year to two sixth form girls from Stockport Grammar School, when our two candidates had to withdraw from these positions.

In France Alison Battrick will be spending a month with a Chemical Company in Paris. Alok Jha and Colin Harris will be with a Pharmaceutical Company in Le Trait, near Rouen.

In Spain Matthew Butterworth will also be working for a Pharmaceutical Company in Zaragoza. Richard Pimblott will be returning to the home of his exchange partner in Salamanca, and will be working locally.

I always look forward to hearing about the varied experiences of our pupils. Problems very rarely occur, and of course if they do arise, the candidate gains further maturity by resolving them. These jobs are valuable. In the short term, University interviewers express interest. In the long term employers recognise the value of a young person who shows initiative and who can communicate competently in a foreign language.

With our three post 'A' level candidates in Poitiers this year, our total number of placements has jumped from twenty-two to forty in a year!

M.O. Derham

WORK EXPERIENCE IN GERMANY

Even during these hard times of world recession I was fortunate enough to have work experience on the continent through the hard work and effort of the Modern Languages Department and its various contacts in Germany. The only company, to which I am indebted for my invaluable learning experience, brave enough to take a non-German learning student was "Autohaus Bechheim" - a VW and Audi dealership in the small town of Werl. On account of my host family's acquaintance with the owner of the company, Herr Bechheim, I was fortunate enough to meet with my boss to be and find what I was about to be doing for the two weeks of my employment. Given the choice between working with the cars or working in the sales office I chose the less labourious option of the office. I arrived punctually to begin my first working day at eight o'clock, dressed formally in a suit expecting the rest of the office staff to be in similar attire. But upon entering the office I found to my surprise everyone else, including my boss, dressed in casual clothing. Despite this formality on my part I was immediately introduced to my job of filling in their quick reference customer book and checking the customer bills. Due to the nature of my job, I found myself with the perfect chance to observe how an average German firm functions. What was most obvious to me through their smiles and friendly comments was their dedication to their work. Each person put in maximum effort and Herr Bechheim himself was always very approachable to help or advise the staff. There seemed to be

no company heirarchy, with the industrial relationship between staff and employer being more a friendship rather than a contract. The hand of friendship and help was always extended to me, and my assistance in the office was appreciated and valued.

Life after work was equally enjoyable, if not more enjoyable than life at work. I never felt I was an outsider with my guest family, and through them I discovered that though the Germans work hard, they relax with equal gusto.

The two weeks I spent in Germany was obviously beneficial to my German, and by the end of my stay I found that I could communicate fairly complex ideas to my colleagues at work. The work experience scheme, in my opinion, is something truly worth participating in, because one is thrust right to the centre of an average working life in a foreign country, and on account of this the person has the unique opportunity of finding out what life is really like abroad.

Manish Das (L6M)

WORK EXPERIENCE IN FRANCE

I first became interested in the prospect of work experience when I heard that, for the first time, people not taking language 'A' levels would be allowed to go. Since I didn't do any languages and I wanted to keep alive anything I did know, this seemed ideal. When I spoke to Mrs. Derham about it she pointed me in the direction of a small factory in Le Trait owned by Fisons. I duly wrote a letter of application and, along with a copy of my CV, I sent it to France and hoped for the best. A few months later I got a reply, via Mrs. Derham, saying that I had got the job for two weeks in July. Things were looking rosy.

When there were two weeks left to go, I remembered that I needed a visa to visit France. No problem, I thought. So I applied for my visa thinking that I would get a quick reply and that I would be on my way to France. Sure enough, I got a quick reply but there was that little something missing from their reply - namely the visa. The nightmare was beginning. That same moment the phone started ringing and I picked it up to be informed by Mrs. Derham that the job in France had fallen through due to the fact that I would have nowhere to live if I went. Fair enough, I thought. What had seemed like a good idea at the time in January had rapidly degenerated into just one huge stack of problems, with no way of getting into France and no job even if I ever did.

Then, after four days I suddenly got another phone-call and I was informed that the company had found somewhere for me to live and so I could also have the job, this time for two weeks in August. It was as though the beings up there in heaven had given me a reprieve from their daily acts of 'being sly just for the fun of it'. I hurriedly made another visa application and after I had convinced the members of the French Consulate in London that I did not intend to stay in France for the rest of my life and make my fortune there and that I would in no way cause detriment to the French economy, they reluctantly granted me a visa.

I finally arrived in France at 7.00 a.m. on the 2nd August after a nineteen-hour journey which, apart from the fact that I had suffered a severe case of food-poisoning, went pretty smoothly. After another two hours I arrived at the factory in Le Trait. I was introduced to the factory manager and was given a brief tour of the premises after which I was put to work "au conditionnement". Now came the hard part - speaking French, something I hadn't done properly for just over a year. I was introduced to "un chef de ligne" by one of the managers and she then had the job of explaining to me what they did on that particular production line and also what I had to do. Nothing on God's earth could have prepared me for what was about to come. I was quietly confident that, after doing French role-plays for five years from the trusty "Tricolore", I would understand quite a bit of spoken French, but when it actually comes down to it, it must be said that it doesn't prepare you for French spoken faster than a speeding bullet by a native Frenchwoman. However, I didn't lose heart and a quick "Excusezmoi madame, mais je ne comprends pas" prompted her to repeat everything slowly. I was then assigned to 'contrôle' which involved looking at small ampoules of medicine as they came out of a machine and making sure that they were not damaged. It was not a particularly stimulating job but it gave me plenty of time to talk to the other members of the production team and slowly develop my French. I worked until four o'clock that day and considering the fact that I had not slept properly for roughly thirty-three hours I was very tired.

The new works manager had kindly agreed to let us stay at his home in Le Havre which was a drive of about one hour from Le Trait through some very beautiful countryside. On the way home he explained to me that the factory work started at 7.15 a.m. and ended at 4.00 p.m. so I would have to wake up at about 5.45 every morning. This little piece of information gave me a bit of a shock but since I had come mainly to work, if I didn't want to walk to Le Trait every morning, I had to do it.

For the next few days, I worked on different jobs on different production lines and got to know just about everybody in the factory. My tasks ranged from packing boxes of medicine to spending hours taking stickers off bottles. The jobs were not particularly demanding but when you work from seven in the morning until four in the afternoon doing the same thing over and over again and trying to speak French at the same time in temperatures that reach the surface temperature of the sun (or so it seemed), the effects add up to quite a severe degree of mental fatigue. However, I can speak no ill of the place because absolutely everyone was friendly and helpful to me all the time. Personally I thought it was an excellent place not only for work experience but for experience of French life in general - the food, the social etiquette and the people.

At this point, I must thank Mr. & Mrs. Derham for all the help they gave me on this little enterprise. Without their constant ringing and faxing of the company in France I would not have been able to go there and thus narrate this story to you, the reader.

Alok Jha (L6M)

WORK EXPERIENCE IN GERMANY

After flying from Manchester to Düsseldorf I then caught the train to Werl and arrived at about 12.30 a.m. to be met by my former exchange partner.

Although School had not finished in Germany, I didn't wake up the next day until about midday and so I missed it. The following day I began work at a place called 'Mobel Turflon' which as it turned out was the equivalent of an 'IKEA'.

I found myself working in the storeroom and although the work was fairly unadventurous, it did give me the opportunity to speak German constantly and I'm sure the work experience was beneficial in this area.

After one week, I moved in with a fellow worker after my friend had gone on a week's holiday and this was really enjoyable as we went out constantly and his friends and girlfriend were all fairly young (18-23).

After now having done the work experience, I can say that it has both helped my German and enabled me to meet some new and interesting people, and the work wasn't too bad either!

Andrew Howarth (U6L)

The Editors apologise to Matthew Butterworth for not being able to include his excellent article on his Work Experience in Zaragoza, Spain. This will appear next year:

POST 'A' LEVEL WORK PLACEMENTS ABROAD

This year, three "Old Hulmeians" who left in 1992 and had decided to take a "year out" before university, took advantage of a splendid scheme organised by E.C.Petra, North West, based in St. Helens.

Anastasia Ross, Giles Fisher, and Richard Mattison, all of whom had gained good French 'A' level grades, spent three months in Poitiers, France. They were the only three chosen from a group of ten students from the North West, and our congratulations go to them for this achievement.

After a month of intensive language tuition and a variety of cultural and business visits, the three students were given very interesting work placements for two months. Anastasia worked for a Russian business man in a Business Innovation Centre. Her job comprised interpreting in French and Russian as well as general office duties. Giles worked for the Banque Nationale de Paris in Poitiers. He was one of a number of student "Stagiaires" at the bank, and his two month stay included work in several departments. Richard worked for the "Centre Information Jeunesse" a European Job-Placement agency for young people.

Finding temporary work during a recession in Manchester is often very difficult for those Sixth Formers who hope to take a "Year Out" and gain practical work experience. It might well be an excellent alternative to look at the European scene. Obviously competent language skills are necessary, but a candidate with a G.C.S.E 'A' grade would be considered. Good oral communication is essential. PETRA takes care of almost all the expenses! Please let me know if you are interested in applying for this very interesting and well structured work experience, during 1993-94.

Mrs. M.O. Derham.

TOUJOURS PARIS!

"Where's Ruddy? He's the last one!" was Mr. Langford's anxious question at 1.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 13th April as we excitedly shuffled about in our places on the coach that was waiting outside the School's main gates. But Mrs. Pollard, with her Captain-Kirk-like 'phone, rushed to the rescue summoning Ruddy, who had got his dates mixed up, from his warm bed. Half an hour later the charabanc eventually headed towards Newhaven with its cargo of twenty-six second year Hulmeians and three staff leaders, leaving bed-bound parents waving in the distance.

We had a time of peace and quiet on the coach to build up our strength to tackle the arcade machines en route to Dieppe where we arrived 'sain et sauf' towards lunch-time. The sleepy journey to Paris from Dieppe ended with the sight of the beautiful city itself. Hungrily we entered a very French bistro to be met by the very French-looking patron, his face adorned with a magnificent waxed moustache, who gave us our first French meal - cheeseburgers and chips! Well satisfied we then made our way to the Hotel Europark for a good night's sleep. My two room mates were Glass (Robert) and Crystal (Peter) - all we were short of was a French boy by the name of Chandelier!

On Wednesday, after croissants and coffee, we 'metroed' round the city taking in the beauty of the Sacré Coeur and the colourful Montmartre. After lunch we made our way to the Trocadero which gave us a splendid view of the great Eiffel Tower. Then it was on to my favourite part of the day - ascending the stairs of the Arc de Triomphe to look down on the mad Parisian drivers, like Kamikaze pilots swerving through l'Etoile. After viewing some of the world's greatest sculptures and paintings housed in the Louvre - Mona Lisa, Winged Victory, Venus de Milo to name but three - I can see why it is controversial to have the new glass pyramid sited where it is.

Thursday included trips to the Ile de la Cite, the Sainte-Chapelle and one of the world's best known Cathedrals, Notre-Dame, which was impressive enough by day but even more enhanced when viewed under floodlight on our later evening tour of the city. On the square outside Notre-Dame several of us had caricature sketches done. Everyone agreed that mine was a very true likeness - all ears and teeth!

Friday was our last full day. Part of the morning was allocated to shopping in the Forum des Halles. I bought my dad a silk tie - if you knew his taste you would agree with me that this purchase was very necessary! Next on our itinerary was a trip 'en bateau' down the Seine, giving us a marvellous view of the city and its bridges from the water. The boat transported us to the very base of the Tower so we didn't have far to walk to join the queue for the Tower's ascent. It wasn't until we

reached the half-way stage of the ascent, however, that we were told that we couldn't go any higher. The tower is painted every seven years and the last time was in 1986! As it is 1,001 feet tall, it is hardly surprising that this lofty, slender pyramid of steel needs 40 tonnes of paint.

All too soon Saturday, the day of our departure, arrived. Mrs. Pollard had been knocking on our door for ten minutes without success before resorting to telephoning our room in an attempt to raise us from our slumbers. Isn't it funny how a homeward journey always seems to pass more quickly than the journey out? The sea crossing was a little rough for the time of year and many of us were relieved to set foot on terra firma in England. We made our way northwards stopping at the motorways services to inform our parents of the arrival time and to sample the English haute cuisine we had missed - burger and chips! In no time at all we were back at Spring Bridge Road where our parents were waiting to ferry us back to our homes. A great time was had by all. Thank you Mr. Langford, Mr. Hofton and Mrs. Pollard.

James Merron (2A)

VENICE TRIP: EASTER 1993

Venice is one of Europe's most beautiful cities and was chosen for this year's Italy trip, which was, once again, organised by the History and Art Departments. Our party consisted of a group of twenty-eight pupils from the Second Year to the Upper Sixth Year and four staff: Mr. Callaghan, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Watson and Miss Tandon.

We departed from School on the morning of Thursday, 1st April and travelled by coach to Dover, arriving there by late evening. We then set out by ferry to Calais, where we settled back for the thirty-hour coach journey, during the night, through France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Austria and Italy to Venice.

Some pupils might feel that the journey was incredibly tedious, but for some of us it was the highlight of the trip. This was the time when people could get to know each other, try out their cameras and hand-held electronic games, read books or study the scenery. The stops at motorway services, which occurred every four hours, were always a welcome break, though some of us found it difficult to resist the temptation to oversprend.

We finally arrived in Venice on Friday afternoon and took a vaporetto (water-boat) from the coach park to our hotel. Venice is a magnificent city, its dreamlike, eternal essence captured well in the Adagietto from Mahler's Fifth Symphony. Gondolas slide elegantly through shimmering water; majestic palaces and churches seem too beauitful to be real, and the whole place is timeless. For centuries it has been recognised as an enduring part of the artistic legacy of humanity.

On Saturday morning, we all enjoyed a tour of some of the city's main features, such as St. Mark's Square, the Ponte della Guerra, and the Grand Canal looking towards the Rialto. Our evenings tended to be spent in bars and restaurants where the Sixth Formers, with varying degrees of failure, tried to chat up girls of all nationalities.

On Sunday, some of us took the vaporetto to the island of Ravenna, whilst the others were given a tour of the city, including the Bridge of Sighs, St. George's Island, the Campo Santo Stefano and the Palazzo Contarini dal Bovolo. Throughout the whole day, the sun shone brightly, the sky was azure, and the whole atmosphere was blissful. On Monday the part split: some pupils visited Art galleries and Churches, for which Venice is rightly renowned, and places of scenic beauty such as S. Giorgio Maggiore from the Dogana, the Ponte della Guerra, the Santa Maria della Salute and the breathtaking Torcello and the Iglesia de Santa Fosca, whilst others took vaporettos to the islands and enjoyed a relaxing journey in a gondola. Our visit to Venice ended all too quickly. It had been a truly memorable trip, a marvellous success. Our thanks go to Mr. Callaghan, Mr. Bennett, Miss Tandon and Mr. Watson for organising the trip and for making it such an interesting and worthwhile exercise.

Richard Berd (U6A4) Christopher Dixon (L6A2) Gareth Roberts (L6L1) Anthony Sheldon (L6L2) edited by Richard Berd.

RISOUL 1993

Three articles were submitted about the Ski Trip. Since they are all interesting and describe the visit from different angles, they have all been included.

Editor

RISOUL SKI TRIP - TAKING THE PISTE? A HYPOCHONDRIAC'S DIARY

FRIDAY, 20TH FEBRUARY:

Board coach, pulling hamstring in doing so and straining back lifting suitcase full of first aid supplies. Mrs. Pollard translates everything, the Geordie drivers grunt at us whilst back seaters entertain us pretending to be American dressed in baseball hats and huge training shoes.

Ferry journey nightmare - suffer seasickness.

SATURDAY, 21ST:

Suffer cramp and possible trapped nerve in neck due to awkward sleeping on coach but wake up to rescue second former from rabid French shop keeper whilst injuring shoulder. Arrive at Hotel - four stars, but offend manager in introduction due to his mistranslation of Welshman as child molester. Not much snow - but still suffer severe sunburn. Depressed - Wales lost heavily to Scotland.

SUNDAY, 22ND:

Awake to find blizzard-like conditions have covered the slopes with snow and the prospect of severe injury. Disastrous day - crashed into snow. Cannon, other skiers and found the chair lift to be a very serious opponent. Everyone now competent except myself. Near suicidial discovering Kersal's loss in Cheshire Plate semi but pain from swollen ankles distracts me.

MONDAY, 23RD:

Confidence growing - only collided with a tree today, a result of severe blistering to hands. Now receiving individual tuition - everyone else has been promoted from the beginners' group.

TUESDAY, 24TH:

Breakthrough made - a complete run down slope but afternoon aerobatics on ski lift proved a major distraction. Forgot to lift skis off footbar which resulted in spectacular exit and frenzied panic by people sharing lift. Suspected double fracture turns out to be French coins trapped in salupets.

WEDNESDAY, 25TH:

More skiing and tension mounts as ski tests loom before us. Broke two ribs in afternoon! Much excitement at the prospect of relaxation at the village disco. Jolyon Guy, James Silver, Craig Leasor appear deliriously pleased and both Guy Brocklehurst and Amir Tabatabei display novel forms of dance. Two of the party ensnare local wildlife - Belgian mooses. Think my eardrums were perforated by disco-noise levels.

THURSDAY, 26TH:

Tests - judgement day and all pass at every level, testimony to the hard work put in on the slopes since Sunday. Spent afternoon at the ice rink in Risoul with gradients more to my liking. Shin gashed by stray skate. The learning curve is a steep one - but not as steep as the slopes which I have been told I'm to ski down tomorrow. FRIDAY, 27TH:

Free ski in the morning following packing for departure this evening. Afternoon is spent going up ski lifts but alarmingly not descending and eventually arrive, suffering altitude sickness at top of undoubtedly the highest mountain in the world with only one way to go. Horrendous crash with myself on descent - lost glasses, sunglasses, hat, both skis and poles, and severe scarring but survive to board coach.

SATURDAY, 28TH:

Arrive home and beg to be allowed on next year's trip. Skiing is an exhilarating activity and one not to be missed. A composite experience involving sublime snowy scenery, daring and pure excitement. My thanks to my colleagues for inviting me and the students for making it such an enjoyable School visit abroad.

Mr. G.H. Jones.

SKI TRIP

For this year's ski trip we went to Risoul Vars in the French Alps. We travelled by coach and ferry which was not as quick as travelling on the plane and it took us about one day just to get to the resort. Our main worry was that there would be no snow because, as we were going towards the resort, there was no snow anywhere! However, there was snow but not near the hotel - just in the resort which was higher.

I enjoyed the skiing very much but didn't like the hotel packed lunch at all and I think many people would agree with that. We skied in groups with the teachers in the mornings and then in the afternoons we had some instruction. At the end of the week we all took a proficiency test and all came home with some sort of badge.

In the evenings the entertainment varied. One night we had a quiz in which the team made up of third and fourth year girls easily beat off all opposition to win. Another evening we went bum-boarding. Watching Mr. Mallinder heading downhill at high speed on a very small piece of plastic was different to say the least. One night we went to a nightclub - the less said about that the better!

Over the week the weather stayed quite fine and I thoroughly enjoyed my holiday. Thanks to Mr. Mallinder, Mrs. Pollard and Mr. "Bruiser" Dunn for taking us.

Sarah Cochrane (3X)

SKI TRIP TO RISOUL 1993

On the 19th February, after School, the ski party set off for their long journey by coach to Risoul. It seemed like days before we did actually reach our destination. As soon as we got there we unpacked, had our tea and went to get our skies, poles and boots and then we all tried to have an early night.

The next day, we travelled by coach up to the ski resort. When we had been given our skies etc. we went on to the bottom of the slope and we were split into groups of ability and then introduced to our ski instructor. Our group had a ski

instructor who was called Titi, he was really kind. We were then shown how to use the ski lifts. The advanced skiers spent most of the week on the black runs and the beginners and intermediates used various ski slopes, mainly the blue and green runs. We had lunch which the hotel provided for us, at the end of the slope near to the village.

In the evening we could do as we wished. However, some nights our representatives organised activities which we could do; we could ice skate on a natural outdoor rink, go swimming, go tobogganing and on the last night a disco was organised which some other schools attended. It was a really good night and everybody enjoyed themselves.

I really enjoyed the skiing and had learnt a lot. It was a really enjoyable week.

Thank you to Mr. Dunn, Mr. & Mrs. Mallinder, Mr. G.H. Jones, Mr. & Mrs. Pollard for taking us all.

Martyne Jones (4L)

EURO-DISNEY

In October 1992 members of the second and third year travelled to France and spent two days at Euro-Disney - the new theme-park just outside Paris. We had three nights at a hotel in Paris itself. The weather could have been kinder - it poured the first day - but could not dampen the enthusiasm of the pupils and in the words of one of the pupils, Maame Ankrah:

"The rides were magnificent, the special effects were oustanding and the welcome was friendly. Most of the 'cast' (the employees) seemed to be British or American. My favourite rides were the Space Invader, the Bumper Cars and the Flying Objects. We also explored some of Paris where we saw the Arc de Triomphe, the Eiffel Tower and most of the famous Paris landmarks. Thanks are due to the accompanying members of Staff: Mrs. Treharne, Mr. Myers, Mr. Haslam, Miss Tandon and Miss Priddle."

On the return journey a visit was also made to a hypermarket where the pupils were able to put their French lessons to good use.

Mrs. Treharne.

VIETNAM TRIP 1992

Although I had originally intended to tour Eastern Europe, my travel plans for the summer changed rapidly between applying for travel awards after Easter and the actual trip I made in September to Vietnam and Thailand. I hope that neither St Catherine's nor my old school, William Hulme's Grammar School in Manchester, both of whom gave me money towards the trip, mind this: the Vietnam trip was I think more exciting and interesting than Eastern Europe would have been, even in these changing times. One has to go so much further to find communism these days!

That wasn't the real reason for choosing Vietnam. In fact Vietnam was suggested by the friend, Ophelia Field at Christ Church, with whom I travelled. She has previously worked with Vietnamese boat-people in Hong Kong which made her interested in seeing the actual country; and it remained one of the few countries in South East Asia which she hadn't yet visited.

From the first, the trip was to be more than a holiday. Both Ophelia and I have some reservations about "Third World tourism" and felt that if we were to combine sightseeing with some English teaching we would not only assuage our consciences but also get to meet more ordinary people than an ordinary tourist would. During the two months prior to leaving, therefore, we worked hard at trying to build up a list of contacts both in England and Vietnam who might be able to help us achieve this end. On the whole we were very successful: helped by a wide range of people, from Vietnamese businessmen and officials to Justin Wintle, the author of a recent travel book on Vietnam, and Jonathan Dimbleby, who made a film about Vietnam for the BBC earlier this year, we assembled a long and fairly high-powered list of contacts who we hoped would help us to arrange teaching. This included Western expats - Reuters correspondents, Aid- workers and businessmen - as well as several Vietnamese government officials and academics.

Vietnam is at a turning point in its history in many ways. In the wake of Peristroika, Glasnost and the communist collapse in Eastern Europe, Vietnam is for the first time starting to introduce more liberal economic measures designed to create some kind of limited market economy, albeit one which is heavily regulated by the government. Without the traditional support of the USSR, and given its hostile relationship with China, it badly wants to forge trade links with the Western democracies. It will not be able to do so properly, however, until the US lifts its Trading With The Enemy Act, enforced after the war in Vietnam, which prevents Americans from doing any business with Vietnamese companies. Even though Americans are allowed to visit the country, they are not offically supposed to buy anything when they are there except the bare essentials for living! Britain is encouraging the US to lift the embargo, which has recently been reinforced after a period of relaxation, and indeed many European companies, including British ones, are involved in joint-ventures in Vietnam. But the US has introduced three conditions for abolishing the Act: firstly that Vietnam should cease hostilities with Cambodia; secondly that it should improve its human rights record; and thirdly that it should return all American Missing-In-Action (MIA) prisoners of war. In fact the first two conditions have largely been met, and it seems that the MIA issue is all that prevents suspension of the act. But the MIA issue is hotly disputed. Vietnam says that there aren't any MIAs - they were all killed long ago; the US insists that it has evidence that there are. In fact most Western observers acknowledge that the Vietnamese are telling the truth - the British Embassy were to conform this view whilst we were there. But so hotly contested is the issue in the US that it seems unlikly that any politician there could admit that the Vietnamese are to be believed. Vietnam has now given the US permission to send investigators to Vietnam to do whatever is neccessary to look for the putative MIAs and so to resolve the issue, and indeed this is what is happening. But a solution still looks far off.