

The Hulmeian

THE HULMEIAN

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WILLIAM HULME'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

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Vice-Chairman: J. D. Marsden, Esq.

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SCHOOL STAFF

Headmaster: P. D. Briggs, M.A., Christ's College, Cambridge
Second Master: M. Loveland, B.Sc., Liverpool (Mathematics)

D. F. Manning, M.A. late Scholar, The Queen's College, Oxford, B.A., Open University (*Director of Studies*)
W. Jackson, M.A., late Scholar, Pembroke College, Oxford (*Head of Classics*)
A. M. Blight, Cert.Ed., Culham College (*House Master, Byrom*) (*Religious Education*)
H. W. Timm, B.A., Manchester University (*Head of Modern Languages*)
C. P. Langford, B.A., late Exhibitioner, Brasenose College, Oxford (*Head of Junior School*) (*Modern Languages*)
H. V. Grange, B.Sc., Manchester University (*Physics*)
R. L. Houghton, M.A., late Exhibitioner, Emmanuel College, Cambridge (*English*)
D. A. Bamforth, B.Mus., University of Wales, F.T.C.L., A.R.C.M. (*Director of Music*)
M. R. Booker, B.Sc., Manchester University, A.F.I.M.A. (*Head of Mathematics*)
M. D. Wood, B.Sc., Manchester University (*House Master, Dalton*) (*Mathematics*)
P. J. Callaghan, M.A., New College, Oxford (*Head of History*)
J. A. Clark, M.A., Ph.D., late Exhibitioner, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge (*Head of Chemistry*)
G. N. Grant, Diploma, Loughborough College (*Head of Design*)
G. L. Bennett, B.A., Cert.Ed., Manchester (*Art*)
J. F. Chudleigh, o/c C.C.F. (*House Master, Gaskell*) (*Physical Education*)
I. J. Shaw, B.A., Sheffield University (*Head of Economics*) (*Head of Sixth Form*)
D. J. Barnes, B.Sc., Ph.D., Manchester University (*Head of Physics*)
D. M. Fisher, B.A., Manchester University (*House Master, Fraser*) (*French*)
R. S. Moore, B.Sc., Manchester University (*Head of Biology*)
G. J. Turner, M.A., late Scholar, Christ's College, Cambridge (*Modern Languages*)
M. I. Barker, B.Sc., Ph.D., Durham University (*Physics*)
H. N. Beggs, M.A., University of Wales (*Head of Geography*)
C. MacLachlan, M.A., Glasgow University, B.Litt., Balliol College, Oxford (*Classics*)
A. M. Wilson, B.A., Newcastle University, Ph.D., St. Andrews University (*Classics*)
R. A. Ballantyne, M.A., Aberdeen University (*Head of Careers*) (*History*)
C. H. Seddon, B.Ed., Leeds University (*Head of P.E.*)
L. Sharp, B.Sc., Manchester University (*House Master, Heywood*) (*Mathematics*)
A. Simkin, M.A., late Scholar, Jesus College, Oxford (*Chemistry*)
Mrs. L. A. Ballantyne, B.A., Manchester University (*French*)
M. H. Gracey, M.A., M.Litt., late Exhibitioner, Brasenose College, Oxford (*Classics*)
P. M. Bull, B.A., Manchester University (*House Master, Whitworth*) (*Modern Languages*)
A. Greenall, G.R.I.C., F.C.S., Manchester Polytechnic (*Chemistry*)
J. G. Hofton, B.A., Leeds University (*French*)
J. H. Thomson, B.Sc., Manchester University (*Physics*)
C. J. Maudsley, B.Sc., Manchester University (*Mathematics*)
H. N. Veevers, B.Sc., Liverpool University (*Geography and Geology*)
R. M. Harrison, B.Sc., Warwick University (*Mathematics*)
M. P. Jones, B.A., Lancaster University (*History and Politics*)
R. M. N. Smith, M.A., late Scholar, St. Catherine's College, Oxford (*English*)
A. E. Watson, B.A., M.A., Liverpool University (*English*)
N. P. Dunn, B.Ed., De La Salle College (*Design*)
G. H. Jones, B.A., University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne (*Geography*)
Mrs. M. H. Statham, B.Sc., Manchester University (*Biology*)
Mrs. G. M. Brown, B.Sc., London University (*Girls' Tutor*) (*Mathematics*)
Mrs. P. A. Treweek, M.A., Liverpool University (*Head of English*)
Miss H. A. Crossland, B.A., Queen's College, Oxford (*History*)
Miss J. A. de Vince, B.A., Lancaster University (*English*)
J. M. Haslam, B.A. Lancaster University (*Geography*)
D. J. Mallinder, B.Ed., Carnegie School of P.E., Leeds (*Physical Education*)
N. A. Mason, B.Sc., Manchester University (*Physics*)
Mrs. T. Pollard, B.Ed., I.M.Marsh CPE Liverpool (*Physical Education*)
G. D. Saddington, M.A., Jesus College, Cambridge (*Biology*)
Mrs. I. B. Wright, Staatsexamen, Hamburg University (*German*)
Mrs. M. Cruttenden, Liverpool College of Art (*Art*)
J. McIntyre, B.Sc., Manchester University (*Chemistry*)
Mrs. J. Keable, B.Sc., Ph.D., Durham University (*Chemistry*)
D. McNally, B.A., Manchester University (*Economics*)
Mr. P. W. Goodwin, G.R.N.C.M. (*Music*)
Mrs. C. A. Williams, B.Sc., Manchester University, M.Phil., London University (*Physics*)
Mrs. M. O. Derham, B.A., London University (*French*)
Mlle. P. Blier, Licence d'Anglais, Paris III (*French Assistant*)

NOTES AND NEWS

In 1987 Mr P. D. Briggs became the sixth Headmaster of William Hulme's Grammar School. We extend a very warm welcome to him and to his family.

Co-education began this year with the admission in September 1987 of ten girls into the Lower Sixth. Looking further ahead to 1988, thirty-six girls will be admitted to the First Form, as we progress towards full co-education.

We record with sadness the death of a Governor Emeritus, Colonel J. B. Coates. We offer our sincere sympathy to his family.

Mr E. B. Jackson stands down as Chairman, and Mr W. G. Thorpe as acting Vice-Chairman. We thank them for their service in their respective roles, which will now be assumed by the new Chairman, Mr D. A. Boothman, and by Mr J. D. Marsden, Vice-Chairman.

We thank Professor Sir Mark Richmond, who has retired, for his service as a Governor; and we welcome as Governor Professor C. B. Cox.

Two long-serving members of staff leave us this year, Mr S. A. Kirkham, who was Head of Science, and Mr D. E. B. Golder, Head of English. More complete tributes to them appear later, but we may here register our warm appreciation for all they have done for the School, and offer our best wishes to them in their retirement.

We have to say goodbye also to Mr R. E. Lytollis whom we thank for his four years' service and in particular for his contribution to Physical Education; to Mr Martin Murray (Geography) and to Mr Alistair Hodgson (Physical Education) who stood in for two terms in place of Mr Lytollis; Mr Jack Elliott, who joined the staff for a year to teach History and Physical Education; and to Mrs G. H. Hall, whom we thank in particular for her service to the English Department and to tennis. We extend our best wishes for the future to all our departing colleagues.

Turning now to our existing staff, Mrs P. A. Treweek has been appointed Head of English. Mr A. Simkin, after many years' fine service, for which we thank him, relinquishes his post as Housemaster of Heywood House. Mr L. Sharp has been appointed the new Housemaster. We may also record here that Mr R. L. Houghton (English) has been recruited as a regular contributor to the literary critical review, *The Cambridge Quarterly*.

The Founder's Day Service was held in Manchester Cathedral on 8 March. The address was by Canon M. Arundel. The anthem was *Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life!* by Sampson.

Colonel G. E. Cauchi was the Inspecting Officer at the C.C.F. Annual Inspection on 29 April.

Speech Day was held on 12 July in the Free Trade Hall. The Chairman of the Governors, Mr D. A. Boothman, took the chair, and the Principal Guest was Professor J. M. Ashworth, D.Sc., F.I.Biol., Vice-Chancellor of the University of Salford. The Headmaster in his first report recorded pass rates of 82.7% at 'A' level with a 45% pass rate at grades A and B, and for 'O' level 82% with an average of seven passes achieved by each candidate, and 24% at grade A. He gave the Headmaster's customary review of academic, sporting, cultural and social activities during the School year, and paid tribute to departing members of staff and to all those who in their different ways through their work contribute to the life of the School. He announced that the School has embarked on an extensive programme of planning and renovation, citing as an example that by the end of September 1988 we would have a new swimming pool. The Headmaster also stated that detailed thought was being given to five and ten year plans, and he spoke of the future of William Hulme's Grammar School as an exciting one.

For the School year 1987-8, M. Lovell was Head of School and A. P. Cleary Deputy Head. School prefects were B. Armstrong, N. de B. Baynes, J. Bradley, A. St. J. Dawes, J. R. T. Dobkin, J. P. Garner, R. D. Glynn, A. J. Jackson, A. W. Kloss, D. Loveland, S. J. Marsland, M. A. Nawaz, A. J. Sayyid, P. A. Stanley, D. M. J. Timm, J. P. Trigg, A. J. Wray, A. J. Crowther, N. A. Meech, A. I. Mallalien, I. D. Butler.

We congratulate the following on their success in the Oxford and Cambridge Entrance Examinations (it will be recalled that no Open Awards are now available at this stage): Nicholas Baynes, Andrew Hann, Daniel Matthews, Nigel Partington, Jemeel Sayyid and Keith Stephenson.

The sum of £7,000 was raised for Booth Hall Hospital during Charities Week, surpassing the £6,000 raised the year before for Wrightington Hospital, and maintaining the School's very high standards in fund-raising activities. The Christie Hospital and Comic Relief were both also beneficiaries of the generosity of so many people connected with the School, and there were other minor fund-raising events throughout the year.

We continued to take part in a large number of activities outside the School, many of which are recorded in the 1988 *Hulmeian*.

Editor



MR S. A. KIRKHAM

“His departure marks the end of a chapter” is one of the clichés beloved by writers of valedictory notices. In the case of Mr Kirkham “tome” or even “omnibus edition” would be far more appropriate, for in a career which spans 36 years at William Hulme’s (excluding his term’s teaching practice before he was appointed to the staff by Mr Bird) he has seen and been involved in many changes, not least in the organisation and accommodation of his own subject and of the other sciences. He has, for example, seen three major additions to the Science Block itself; he has seen the steady development of all the science subjects in the School’s curriculum; he has seen far-reaching changes in the content of the subjects themselves; he has been closely involved in the changing pattern of the examination system as it has affected 5th and 6th formers as well as potential Oxbridge candidates; he even mastered the complexities of the New Maths in order to continue his enthusiastic teaching of the first forms! And enthusiasm has been the keynote of all Mr Kirkham’s activities since he arrived at the School soon after completing service with the R.A.F.

He immediately began to play his part in the sporting life of the School as a House games referee, while his skill as a tennis player led him to take a leading part in the introduction of tennis as an alternative to cricket as the only summer term sport. As a follower of soccer in such outposts of civilisation as Old Trafford and the Potteries, he was much in demand as a referee of the unofficial inter-form games that took (? take) place on Hough End Fields, and of the far more bloody contests between staff and prefects.

It was no surprise when Mr Bird appointed him Housemaster of Heywood, a House that had had a long spell in the doldrums; under Mr Kirkham’s vigorous leadership the expected recovery in morale took place, thanks partly to his impassioned encouragement from the touch-line (always an extra trial for an impartial referee to endure!), and partly to the strong revivalist tenor of the weekly House Assembly when, it was rumoured, the performance of the various house-teams took precedence over the finer points of theological doctrine.

It was with mixed feelings that Mr Kirkham relinquished the Housemastership of Heywood in 1967 to take up the position of Head of Science, a post he has filled with distinction for the past twenty-one years. But apart from being the “*éminence grise*” of the Science Block, he has performed another invaluable rôle, in conjunction with Mr W. Jackson, in the administrative work involved in the G.C.E. examinations. Since 1973 they have been responsible for the completion of entry forms, the checking of incoming examination papers and (most importantly!) the dispatch of the right scripts to the right examiners at the right time; it has proved to be an ideal partnership of the two cultures as they have coped successfully with an ever-increasing diversity of papers and examination boards, each with its own special set of regulations. The School, and thousands of G.C.E. candidates, owe a great deal to their patient and efficient powers of organisation.

Mr Kirkham’s greatest qualities, however, are reserved for his dedication and expertise as a teacher at all levels of the ability range. His knowledge of his pupils and his concern with their progress are whole-hearted, and this has been shown year after year on the day that G.C.E. results are received at the School. First, the remarkably rapid assimilation of the results in general (memorised with extraordinary accuracy), then the pin-pointing of individual triumphs and disasters, followed by the patient, truly professional words of advice to pupils or parents who seek his assistance. His service to the School over many years has been whole-hearted and his influence has been felt and treasured, not only by Old Hulmeians now in all walks of life, but by colleagues, past and present, who have enjoyed his companionship and the benefit of his experience. It is safe to predict that Mr Kirkham will not find retirement boring as long as there is a bridge-table, a bowling-green and even Old Trafford within reach, but in thanking him for all his years of dedicated service we hope that he and Mrs Kirkham will continue to keep closely in touch with the School to which he has given so much.

C. J. Lowe



MR D. E. B. GOLDER

The retirement of David Golder in July 1988, after twenty years as Head of English, deprives the Common Room of one of its most warm-hearted and likeable members. In one sense his career can be easily summarised; Oxford (where he specialised in the philological aspects of English, so nurturing a lifelong love of languages), then a long stint at the King's School, Grantham, subsequently moving to be Head of Department at Gravesend School for five years before migrating north. Along the way he did the things which the traditional all-round schoolmaster has always done: games coaching, producing plays, Housemastering . . . yet a bald list of facts and dates conveys little of the flavour of his personality.

Really of course it was a migration for him to have moved south, for David is a Scot through and through (his outrage at the erroneous attribution to him, on one occasion, of Hibernian ancestry will not easily be forgotten by the guilty party). He has all the best characteristics of the Scot of popular folklore: a generous hospitality, a bracing earthy humour, an eye for a good malt whisky, a love of outdoors, and an awesome command of colourful invective when required. No-one could be less like a dour Scots dominie; to his pupils' benefit, and his colleagues' envy, he has preserved through nearly four decades of teaching an infectious enthusiasm for language and literature, a capacity to discover new aspects of well-known authors and the humility to learn about new authors altogether, which is the best insurance policy against boredom in the classroom. His taste is astonishingly wide. As one might expect it takes in the great writers of his homeland such as Burns and Scott, and he is perhaps most at home with Romantic literature, but he is prepared to teach anything, whilst his idea of Summer holiday reading a few years ago included Goethe and brushing up his Latin with a few books of the *Aeneid*. Not that the less exalted corners of the subject don't still engage him; younger pupils have always liked his lack of pomposity and sense of fun, and there is nothing incongruous in his having switched, for his last year, from being a Sixth to a Third year form-master.

There is, however, a second love in David's intellectual life, for he is an LTCL as well as an MA. Long before he came here he had been a familiar figure as an accompanist in School concerts, and as an organist and choirmaster in local churches. His services to music at W.H.G.S. have been truly exceptional, ranging far beyond the teaching of the subject to junior forms. The School Choir, the Band and the Orchestra have all benefited from his supervision at various times; he has been in charge of the Christmas Carol Service at St. Ann's, and organist in the Cathedral on Founder's Day, for many years. To be a good piano accompanist requires rare tact, which David has, but he has also figured as a soloist in public concerts, and again his range has encompassed the modern as well as the classical repertoire.

The affection David inspires among his colleagues was shown by his election, in 1981, to the Chairmanship of the Common Room. Although a clubbable man he has never been one for cliques, but has always considered the best interests of the School community. To the members of his Department he has been a real delight to work under; never autocratic or unreasonable, always quick to praise and encourage, delicately sympathetic with problems, unwavering in his belief in the humane and civilizing role of English in the School curriculum and in individual lives. His own life has been an eloquent vindication of that belief, and as he and Dorothy prepare for yet another migration we express our thanks for such vivacity of spirit so unstintingly given, and our confidence that the Isle of Mull will shortly, like Prospero's, be full of sounds and sweet airs, that give delight and hurt not.

Paul Dean

PRIZE LIST 1988

Special Prizes

Anderson English Essay Prize: A. O. B. Fajumi
 Aspinall Religious Knowledge Prize: R. P. Kay
 Caswell Prize: R. J. Kelsall
 C. H. Jones Prize: J. R. T. Dobkin
 Colin Midwood Prize: S. V. Kapadia
 Computing Prize (Junior): J. F. Hook
 D. Ll. Griffiths Prize for Medical Subjects: F. Amaee
 D. M. Williams Memorial Prize for Music: N. de B. Baynes
 Eric Barnes Memorial Prize & Trophy: D. M. J. Timm
 Geoffrey Cocker Memorial Prize: P. D. Higginbottom and A. S. Partington
 Graham Johnson Memorial Prize: A. J. Wray
 Halpin History Essay Prize: A. J. Sayyid
 J. A. Barber Prize: D. M. J. Timm
 J. A. Barber Prize (Proxime Accessit): D. Loveland
 James Gozzard Prizes: A. K. Scott (Craft); T. J. Burden (Photography)
 J. N. Hopwood Reading Prizes: J. W. Babicki (Senior), D. J. O'Keefe (Junior)
 Junior Classics Prize: A. T. Rodgers
 Library Award: M. K-C. Kwan
 Original Verse Prize (Middle & Junior): R. J. V. Avery
 Powell Scripture Reading Prize: A. W. Kloss
 Watkins Prize: M. Lovell
 Woollam Scholarship: D. J. Matthews
 Wolstenholme Memorial Prize for Art & Design: L. J. McCloy
 Yates Prize: J. S. Goldsmith

Upper Sixth

Art Prize: A. J. Booth
 Allman Further Mathematics Prize: N. de B. Baynes
 Ancient History Prize: M. A. Fossey
 Dehn History Prize: A. J. Sayyid
 Design Prize: B. Grange
 Dorrington Prize for Latin: A. G. Hann
 Economics Prize: J. Brogan
 Geology Prize: S. D. Hatton
 Hewlett Geography Prize: A. G. Hann
 Knoop English Prize: A. J. Booth
 Lymer Mathematics Prize: A. J. Wills
 O.H.A. Biology Prize: K. J. M. Stephenson
 Palmer Chemistry Prize: N. de B. Baynes
 Palmer Physics Prize: N. de B. Baynes
 Spanish Prize: N. I. M. Eccles
 Vlies French Prize: N. I. M. Eccles
 Vlies German Prize: A. W. Kloss

Lower Sixth

Ancient History Prize: R. L. Jones
 Art Prize: M. L. Ellis
 Chemistry Prize: D. J. Burke
 Design Prize: D. G. Greenwood
 Economics Prize: M. C. McNeany
 Forrest English Prize: R. J. Ketteridge
 Further Mathematics Prize: D. J. Burke
 Geography Prize: M. R. Tallis
 Geology Prize: J. E. Mackereth
 German Prize: M. C. McNeany
 Hawley French Prize: R. J. Ketteridge and M. C. McNeany
 History Prize: R. J. Ketteridge
 Latin Prize: M. H. Drumer
 Mathematics Prize: M. R. Tallis
 Music Prize: A. S. Hogben
 Physics Prize: D. J. Burke
 S. K. Appleton Biology Prize: W. E. Hockenull

Fifth Forms

Art: C. S. Blairs
 Biology: C. D. Eastwood
 Caiger French: I. N. Drayton
 Chemistry: R. Popuri
 Design: N. H. Hall
 German: A. J. Edwards
 Hewlett Geography: J. N. Symms
 History: A. J. Edwards
 Latin: A. J. Edwards
 Mathematics: I. N. Drayton
 Music: J. B. Samuels
 Parents' English: A. J. Edwards
 Physics: D. I. C. Capon
 Spanish: S. P. Harrington

Fourth Forms

Art: P. J. Thornhill
Biology: R. J. V. Avery
Chemistry: O. F. Islam
Classical Studies: P. J. Gallagher
Design: T. E. Smith
English: G. White
French: R. J. V. Avery
Geography: A. Goodwin
German: R. J. V. Avery
Greek: A. A. Khan
History: A. Goodwin
Latin: O. F. Islam
Mathematics: O. F. Islam
Music: N. Bhattacharjee
Physics: R. J. V. Avery and O. F. Islam
Spanish: M. J. Starr

Second Forms

Art: A. S. Seymour
Biology: M. I. Rudge
English: A. S. Seymour
French: P. M. T. Edwards
Geography: T. J. Elliott
History: A. S. Seymour
Latin: R. S. Smith
Mathematics: D. P. Marsh
Music: N. T. Haggerty
Physics: S. Sobhani and T. B. Veitch
Religious Education: T. J. Elliott and D. Garside

Third Forms

Art: M. R. Clark
Biology: S. M. Hartley
Chemistry: A. J. Scott-Gall
Classical Studies: K. A. Ahmed
Design: M. D. Barnes
English: M. R. Clark
French: M. R. Clark
Geography: J. M. Greenhowe
German: J. R. Beckett and D. I. Wilks
Greek: M. R. Clark
History: J. R. Beckett
Latin: M. R. Clark
Mathematics: M. D. Barnes
Music: S. D. Ogier
Physics: J. R. Beckett and A. J. Scott-Gall
Spanish: P. R. Wynne

First Forms

Biology: C. P. Harris
Chemistry: P. L. Kidd
Craft: M. A. McLean
English: M. A. McLean
French: S. J. Seddon
Geography: T. W. Hukins
History: A. J. Clegg and G. A. Roberts
Latin: S. J. Seddon
Mathematics: J. E. Phillips
Music: C. P. Harris
Religious Education: J. R. Tate
William Taylor Memorial Prize: C. Simkin

BURSAR'S CORNER

It has been something of a year of changing faces amongst those employed in the Bursar's department. Peter Hollinrake, who came as the Clerk of Works in February 1987, succumbed to the "Call of the East" and left us the following July to take up an appointment among the sand dunes of the Saudi Arabian desert with a Saudi-owned oil company. Regular reports received from him indicate that he has settled down well in that far from ideal climate, but that he is pleased to be able to return home to Cheshire at regular intervals. Our present Clerk of Works, Alan Telford, arrived at the end of July 1987, just in time for the holiday maintenance period, and took over the reins immediately. His long and varied experience in the construction industry as a professional Clerk of Works makes him admirably suited for his position here, and his sense of humour, new ideas and resource planning ensure that he is a greatly valued member of the Team.

By the end of November, two long-serving members of the Accounts Office had also departed. Peggy Oakes, who ran the School Fees accounts from the inception of computer accounting here in 1981 (and prior to that, with a quill pen) left to start her well-earned retirement, along with her husband Bill, who had been the Maintenance Electrician at the School. We wish them both bon voyage and good fortune. Jenny Williams, well known for all her work with the Centenary Appeal Fund and for her unfailing good humour and ever-helpful nature, left to live a little closer to her husband and family down in Clwyd. Again, all our good wishes went with her. We do, however, still see them all from time to time.

Improvements and re-construction around the real estate of the School have again dominated the maintenance scene this year. The biggest project, of course, is the refurbishment of the entire swimming pool complex which, apart from the "hole" actually occupied by water, involves a complete replacement of the pool roof and associated steel work, with a new and greatly improved insulated roof cladding, a new heating and ventilation system throughout, and the re-building inside of the showers, changing rooms and internal facilities.

At the time of writing, the roof steel sections are going back on, and it is anticipated that work will run on until mid-September, and that the Pool will re-open for full time use by the beginning of October 1988.

Other work completed in the year includes the provision of improved changing and showering facilities for boys in the Gymnasium block, and a re-constructed set of toilets for both boys and girls in the Donner Centre. A cloakroom for 6th Form girls on the first floor of the Donner Centre and a new Careers Office situated within one of the Library quiet rooms are also planned for completion by the beginning of September 1988.

To the great relief of both the English and Classics departments, the lower corridor of the Donner Centre will also receive attention from the decorators during the Summer recess, as will the Main Staircase in the same block. All long overdue, but now about to be rectified.

Visitors (of whom there are many) to the School Office will also note the gleam of fresh paint around the place, which has hopefully improved the working environment for the ladies working in there. The Economics Department is also well on the way to getting a small, though delightfully secluded, office and storeroom in the Lower vestibule of the Donner Centre. As to the future, the works programme for the coming year is already building up at a rapid pace—watch this space for future developments.

So another year passes, with what always seems to be alarming rapidity. Its progress in the "Bursary" tends to be measured in a materialistic sort of way by the endless miles (or perhaps kilometres would be more appropriate) of sausages that Mr Gregson and his kitchen staff cook and deliver up, surpassed only by an even longer stream of paper that emanates from the jaws of the computer printer in the Accounts Office, or even perhaps the 430,058 copies that have passed through the photocopiers in the last twelve months. Who needs statistics?

G. Straw (Bursar)

THE DONNER LIBRARY

During the year 1987/88 843 new books have been added to the Library stock. The Literature section has been re-catalogued and re-classified making it easier to find a required book. There has been a major change in the very old fiction stock: many outdated books have been discarded and replaced with either new editions, or another more popular author.

In fact there has been a sharp increase in the number of fiction books issued. During an average week approximately 130 books are issued, and they are of fiction and non-fiction.

Unfortunately not everyone takes books out officially and this is becoming a serious and worrying problem.

The Prefect Librarian was Matthew Kwan, who was an excellent choice. He was always cheerful, hard working and very responsible in his attitude to his role. Our grateful thanks to him.

Donations were received from Mr Grant, Mrs Langford, Mr M. Jones, Mr Houghton, Mr Callaghan, Mr Turner, Dr Barnes, Mr Shaw, Mr Gibb, Mrs Raventos and Mr Bull.

The library is now staffed from 9.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. N. J. Whitworth has been appointed Prefect Librarian for this year.

R. A. Haynes & M. Evans

THE JUNIOR SCHOOL LIBRARY

This year we have made a number of interesting changes. We now lend out some records and tapes as well as books. To encourage the use of our reference books, we have had a series of popular quizzes. But the best idea of all was our new Magazine, which has already run through three editions and been a "sell out" every time.

Thanks to a very generous donation by the Parents' Association, we have just bought in over two hundred new titles, many of which have in mind our new intake of girls next term. We hope to see the Library continue to flourish next year.

Michael Bentley & Jonathan Lazarus

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

THE HIGHEST PLACES—Doug Scott Lecture

On 26 January, Doug Scott, the mountaineer, presented an illustrated lecture on Himalayan climbing to a packed audience. The lecture involved an account of expeditions to Everest, K2 and Kangchenjunga, in all of which Doug had taken a leading role. The illustrative slides were of the very finest, a truly magnificent collection. A particularly memorable image was of the expedition at night, camped under Everest, an orange tent aglow from the light within. Doug's commentary was, as usual, laconic, intelligent and perceptive as befits an ex schoolmaster! It has always been a tradition amongst climbers to underplay hardship or near-disaster and Doug has the technique off to a fine art. An emergency bivouac on the top of Everest, for example, becomes an acceptable if unusual night's camping.

Although the lecture was primarily about mountaineering, there was also much interest in Doug's speculations on life, death and the political situation in Tibet. It was depressing to hear of the subjugation of an essentially gentle people by the Chinese invaders and the wholesale destruction of Tibetan culture. The ignorant loutishness of the occupation was brought home very clearly by Doug's commentary. Virtually all the monasteries destroyed, thousands massacred, an entire nation enslaved and all in the name of liberation. Who are the imperialist running dogs now? Painful too to see the unlovely manifestation of the new regime, military personnel and armour everywhere, unlikely "hotels" for foreign tourists in the shape of concrete block houses daubed with slogans. What do they say, one wonders, apart from "No Tibetans", that is? Should we begin to share the disquiet of the people of Hong Kong?

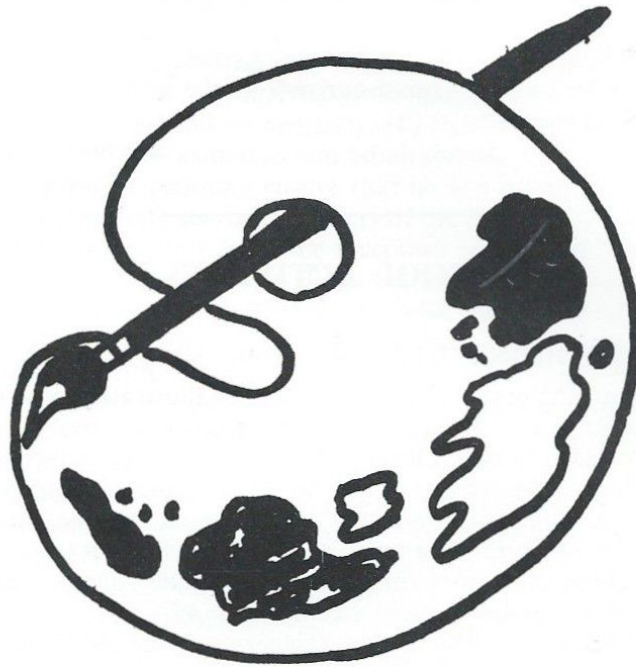
It remains to thank Iain Shaw for his efforts in organising, once again, a stimulating and informative evening.

M. I. Barker

ART TRIP TO LONDON

It was Monday November 30th 1987. A trip had been arranged to go down to London to look at two galleries, the Victoria and Albert and The National Gallery. The schedule for the day began early. We had to be at Piccadilly Station for 6 a.m.! My brain had not yet begun to function fully and I was still unsure of my surroundings as I reached the station. The others slowly turned up, one by one, and by the look on their faces, I knew conversation was out of the question. When everybody who was coming had got on to the train we were off. I hate Monday morning when I have to go to school but at least you don't have to get there at 6! As dawn broke, people were eventually waking up, and a couple of the more learned members of the fifth year Art set were already flicking through the pages of such intellectual papers as *The Sun* and *The Star*. The journey seemed to go fairly quickly as we passed the time by playing cards and demolishing the huge packed lunches that were meant to last through the day.

After arriving at Euston at about nine we were hurried through the underground en bloc. I gazed in dismay as tube trains came through, people packed inside like sardines. The distorted features of a businessman were seen, his face pressed against the window. However we managed eventually to arrive at our destination, the Victoria and Albert Museum. We had paper sheets that told us where to go, and even a map, but it took a considerable amount of time to reach the right floor. The trouble was finding the lift! After wandering through "Fashion Over The Centuries" and getting lost in "Constantine Alexander Ionides' Collection", I thought it wise to ask a guide how to get up to the sixth floor. I finally managed to reach my objective and was surprised to find that some others of the Art set were there already. Probably on account of our high altitude, a member of the set had a nosebleed. A nurse who was in the near vicinity, dealt effectively with the problem and so the loss of further blood was averted. Exhibited on the sixth floor were Constable's drawings, a collection of his preliminary sketches which ranged in size from a piece of graph paper to a car showroom window. We had to make notes on these paintings because, yes, you've



guessed it, an essay had to be written on the subject. You don't go on art trips down to London for nothing, you know!

The morning, even though it had been lengthy, had slipped away, and it was time for lunch. After a rather small lunch, most of it having been devoured at a quarter to seven, we travelled, this time more comfortably, on the underground to The National Gallery, which overlooks Trafalgar Square.

We were given a guided tour by Dr Francis Bozello who led us through the centuries of great paintings, pointing out the different themes and styles. Some of the more abstract paintings I found harder to appreciate, as they appeared to have been done when the artist was aged about five. It was incredibly hot and stuffy in the Gallery, and this atmosphere led to a few people feeling irate. There was an air of tension, and the stress of such a long day was beginning to tell.

The tour was a good one precisely because it showed us a massive range of different styles. However I thought that there was too much on show for one visit and it was impossible to appreciate the Gallery to its full extent. The shop was huge and it provided a fairly full selection of postcards. I purchased a few relevant ones which would come in useful when writing up my account and wandered out into Trafalgar Square for a breath of fresh air.

At 5 p.m. we made our way back to Euston, and in doing so subjected our unaccustomed selves to the London rush hour once more. No one speaks in a tube, going either to or from work. They either read the Financial Times or look out of the window. What are they looking at? We are on the underground, there is nothing outside but walls.

We board the train without much fuss, although everybody wanted to get on first. Mr Bennett was besieged by a lot of fourth years, desperate for a window seat. Luckily, depending on how you look at it, we left nobody behind.

On the way back we discussed the day's events and laughed at the stories that you usually tell on trips back from Hardraw.

The game of cards again made up most of our entertainment though when a packet of crisps exploded into my lap the game had to stop momentarily before being resumed. A few people were finishing off the remainder of their lunches, the sandwiches by now looking very undesirable and the pork pie . . . well, the pork pie is best left alone.

The day on the whole went well, with few complaints, and it was a worthwhile excursion. After all, who would rather go to school than do this?

William McCloy 5B

**SMALLPEICE TRUST—DESIGN ENGINEERING COURSE—WARWICK UNIVERSITY,
EASTER 1988**

My name was the lucky one to be pulled out of the hat from 4th years taking Design, to go on this course. I was very excited. Only one person from each School in the Midlands and North West was allowed to take part and therefore it was a high level course, or so I thought. Also, everything was free, except for travelling.

It took us about three hours to drive down there on a very busy Monday morning on the M6 motorway, and after several times round a large roundabout near Warwick, we eventually found the correct turning for the University.

After finding the Reception in the large University Complex, I unloaded my case and queued among several other people of about my own age, to receive my name badge, kit (including pencils, note pads and leaflets etc.) and, most importantly, my room key.

When my parents had eventually seen my room, they agreed to go home and leave me to get on with some serious socialising.

We were finally introduced to John Jack, Chairman of the Smallpeice Trust (which incidentally *is* spelt correctly) who then gave us an introductory lecture in the lecture theatre (with which we were to become very familiar) and then we went outside to have a group photograph taken.

All the students on the course, about 120, were divided into groups of four (our group was three boys and one girl) for the project work, which we were to take part in over the next four days.

Our first project was handed out after lunch, and we had to make a quarter scale wheelbarrow out of a limited number of materials and with a set amount of time to make it. We then went over to the Sports Hall to design and make it. It was eventually tested and judged: we did not do too well.

After dinner and a chat, we went to the lecture theatre for a lecture on Design and Engineering, and next day's project was handed out which could be thought about during the rest of the evening, before going to bed.

I got about three hours sleep in the most uncomfortable, worn out bed I have ever slept in, and was woken up to a very greasy breakfast, followed by a couple more lectures and videos.

We then continued with our second project, to design and make a flying vehicle which was to run down a taut rope and accurately drop two eggs (not hard boiled) on two of your team members. For this we were given a few basic materials and tools. Unfortunately, our vehicle was too basic, as it missed both team members and got stuck half way down the rope.

Our second project of that day was to build a water borne vehicle out of a big plastic bag and a few pieces of wood. This craft had to get the whole team the full length of the swimming pool and if we came off, we would be eaten by Piranhas. Fortunately this was only a lie and the girl in our group finally decided to come with us; unfortunately, by the time we had all changed into our swimwear and carried the craft out to the pool side, the large plastic bag had deflated, and as we all piled onto a few bits of strung-together wood, it inevitably sank, and we were all eaten!

After a good night's sleep (too tired to think about the bed) we were introduced to Professor Heinz Wolff, who was to set us our final project, a go-cart. For this, we were given all day to design and build it. It was then tested around a course with both left and right hand bends. We thought ours was quite good and I was chosen to be the driver. During the course though, the pedals snapped off so I had to push the wheels round with my hands. . .

That night was the Disco, but most people were too tired to dance so they sat around the edge of the floor behind several cans of coke.

Another good night's sleep later, and the usual breakfast, we were given an important and very interesting Career Exhibition, in which we could meet important people from large companies offering student sponsorship and future apprenticeships for those leaving School. There were many large companies there, mainly British Car Manufacturers, like Jaguar, Austin Rover and Land Rover. Also there were the Military Forces and big engineering firms like G.E.C.

After lunch we were given another talk by John Jack called 'Careering-on' during which we discussed our futures and filled in a file for them so that they could keep in touch with us.

This was followed by the closing and prize-giving ceremony (in which we did not win any prizes) but I received a photograph of all the students on the course. Many addresses were then swapped amongst now good friends, and when our parents came to pick us up it was a sad goodbye.

All in all it was an excellent course which was informative and fun.

Since then I have been offered a Student Sponsorship to do a sandwich course at University with Jaguar Cars Limited.

THE DESIGN DEPARTMENT IN LONDON

The group consisting of 4th year and Lower Sixth designers met at Piccadilly Station very early in the morning. There was much last minute buying of pens and notepads, as we had all forgotten them. The teachers arrived and had a short conversation with the ticket collector and we were on the train. The group were all excited but tried not to show it. The usual commotion over seating arrangements followed as the train moved off. On the journey there was an assorted cacophony of noise and much toing and froing as people got drinks and snacks from the British Rail Buffet Car.

We arrived at Euston at around 9.30 and went down onto the underground, with Mr Grant and Mr Dunn keeping the group moving in an organised manner. The short trip on the tube was followed by a walk to the Design Centre in the Haymarket. We were a little early so we had to wait for it to open. Once inside we split into two groups. As one group looked round the exhibitions the other had a lecture and discussion given by the staff of the Design Centre about the role and functions of the organisation. The most important thing they do is to help and promote British Design and Designers. The items on display proved to be of great interest to the group. There was also a fine bookshop and store where items were bought by many of us.

We left the Centre and took a short walk to the Crafts Council. Here we were shown to a large room with seats where a lady explained what the crafts council does and what we could see in the exhibition halls. She talked for about thirty minutes about how they funded craftsmen and women who made one-off pieces in a large range of materials. She tried to explain about the fine line between what is art, craft and design. And she explained how they fund people who are experimenting with materials, and how they are used. We were then let loose in the exhibition halls. . .

The items on show and for sale were many and varied. They ranged from a chair made completely from glass, to pots that looked like rocks, to strange looking objects made of combinations of wood, glass and fabrics. The things that were for sale all had prices far above what they were worth, starting at £700 for a pen, to £2,000 for a screw, going up to several thousand pounds for a red carpet with a grey square on it. After we had looked round we went back downstairs for a discussion on what we had seen. Most people seemed to think that the items were very interesting, but served no useful purpose and that they were grossly over priced. There was a very lively discussion about the value and point of the work. The lady from the crafts council concluded by saying that the work had achieved what it set out to do as it had stimulated such a lively debate.

From here we took another short walk to Covent Garden where we were able to wander and eat lunch. Covent Garden proved to be a lively street environment with market stalls, musicians and street players. After lunch we made our way via the underground to the Science Museum where we spent the rest of the day. In the Museum there were many galleries of different topics, but after being let loose we set off in small groups to explore some galleries. The building is huge. On the top floor there was a room full of planes, there was a space gallery and a gallery of cars. There were exhibitions on electricity, telephones, and plastics. After we had gone to the galleries to which we had been assigned, most people found their way to a gallery where we had originally not been allowed to enter by the man on the door. The gallery was full of very interesting "hands on" exhibits—you had to work out the principle involved yourself. It had all the latest gadgets and puzzles to illustrate things. There were lasers, mirrors, computerised images, static, electro-magnets and optics. These were all presented in such a way as to make them really good fun. As we were all having fun on these exhibits the end came too soon. We all assembled and made our way back to Euston Station. We were all quite tired as it had been a long day, and we were none too pleased to be subjected to some awful sixties music being played by the 'A' level art group. Nevertheless the journey passed quite quickly and we were soon back at Manchester Piccadilly.

B. Brown
M. Brown 4th Year
R. Blairs

WHITWORTH HOUSE CYCLING TRIP TO HARDRAW—EASTER 1988

Day One: Wednesday, 13 April

A group of six intrepid cyclists met at Victoria Station at about 7 a.m. After months of planning and preparation what was once just an idea thought of in a Physics lesson was now reality. British Rail were playing their usual trick of running ten minutes late (and so was Mr Bull) and soon after we were on our way to Lancaster, the starting point of our journey.

Arriving at about 9 a.m., we set about trying to get out of Lancaster (with Mr Gracey leading the way this was bound to be a problem) and one hour and a few wrong turnings later we were in the country. After a relatively uneventful ride, the group arrived in Hawes at about 3 p.m. Mrs Mullen arrived a while later with our luggage, closely followed by Mr Moore.

The evening was spent mainly in Hawes (after waiting for Campbell to pump up his tyres) and listening

to Ben Elton. An early night was had by most, although thanks to Roger Waters and loose tongues, three of us managed to get only four hours' sleep.

Day Two

Rising early for a delicious cooked breakfast, it was soon decided that a nice long cycle ride was the order for the day. Mr Gracey managed to find a very steep hill for us to push our bikes up—our thanks to him for the exercise. He also managed to find for us an authentic Yorkshire Dales gravel 'road' full of potholes and rocks. When we finally reached a normal road we were faced with yet more steep hills—all of them one-sided. Only near the end of the ride did we find a downhill section to let off steam on. One of our number received a blow-out on this hill and thanks to Campbell, the tube was quickly exchanged and we were on our way again—only to find more hills. The last of these resulted in something a little more serious than a blow-out through stupidity and carelessness—but a lesson was learned. The rider concerned received a bruised pelvis for his recklessness, but managed to get back to the house. In spite of this, the evening was again spent in Hawes and back at the House playing table tennis or cards. Another early night was had by most, but this time only two stayed up late.

Day Three

Everyone was up early so that everything could be cleared away and the return journey started as soon as possible. Leaving at about 11 a.m. the group arrived at Victoria later that evening, having had a thoroughly enjoyable time. Thanks must go to Messrs Bull and Gracey for making the trip possible, and also to Mr Moore for giving me a lift. Hopefully more trips such as this one will take place. As a first attempt, ours was very successful.

Gareth Knight 4X

ALTON TOWERS—FIRST YEARS

It was a dull and cloudy day in May, when a hundred First Years waited patiently for the coaches, which would take them to Alton Towers. It was quite exciting to go to the famous pleasure park, as quite a number of us had not been before.

We arrived at 11.00 a.m. and we were allowed to wander around the Park in small groups. Most of us made straight for the Log Flume, which seemed to me to be a good idea, until I travelled down a tunnel in the dark. Then we all ran over to the Black Hole, which is like a roller-coaster in the dark. Fifty pounds would still not persuade me to go on this ride, but it was great fun to watch all my friends queue up and pretend they were not frightened. It was even funnier to see their white faces after the ride!

After dinner, I made a big mistake. I went on to the Grand Canyon Rapids without any waterproof clothing. However I enjoyed it so much, that I went on it another six times! It was brilliant! What was even more enjoyable was watching all our teachers get a really good soaking as well.

We went on all the rides in the five hours spent at the Park and we arrived back in Manchester, after a thoroughly enjoyable day. Thank you to all the teachers for supervising us and to Mr M. P. Jones for organising it all.

James Seddon (1A)

THE GEOLOGY FIELD COURSE TO N.W. SCOTLAND

25 March—2 April, 1988

The Geologists assembled on Friday morning by the more comfortable version of the school mini-bus. Our first visit was Blencathra in Cumbria. The jovial atmosphere and personal stereos made the journey pass quickly. The relaxed attitude of the staff (Mr Veevers and Miss Marshall) was counter-balanced by the seriousness of the 'A' level Geologists.

The second day involved a study of the Carrock Fell Gabbro and its associated mineral deposits. This day we were assisted by a local Geologist who enthusiastically used a five pound geological hammer to considerably increase the rate of erosion in the Lake District. We found the top of a batholith and many minerals such as galena, sphalerite, arsenopyrite, scheelite, molybdenite and chalcedony at the now abandoned mines.

The next day involved crossing the Highland Boundary Faults and a visit to Stirling Castle where some remarkable spheroidal weathering was observed. Two days based in the Loch Tay area allowed a study of the Dalradian metasediments. These are sedimentary rocks that have been metamorphosed by heat and pressure to create new rocks characterised by new minerals such as chlorite, andalusite and semi-precious

garnet. Though it takes a while to 'get your eye in' we soon became sick of spotting garnets in the rock at places such as Killiekrankie, Pitlochry and Schiehallion. The next day involved a drive through Glen Coe and into the real mountains of N.W. Scotland. The rocks here are the oldest in Britain and some of the oldest in the world. The Lewisian Gneiss became familiar and is 2,600 million years old though the age of the earth is 4,600 million years. The stay in Torridon Youth Hostel was blessed with good weather which displayed the spectacular scenery at its best. The three days allowed a detailed study of Loch Torridon including some individual fieldwork, with the light nights allowing fieldwork to continue until 9.00 p.m.

Not all the course was spent working—those who work hard must also play hard. A snowball fight on the top of Applecross provided a considerable venting of energy for the Geologists who were glad of the opportunity to stretch their tired limbs after the rather cramped conditions in the van.

We returned to Manchester with a van full of rocks and having survived eight days of self-catering in Youth Hostels. One particular feature of the course was the varied packed lunches of cheese and jam or jam and cheese sandwiches. The field course was certainly of great value, as we observed real life examples of geology to supplement classroom studies.

Paul Gagan

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

BBC RADIO PROGRAMME 1987

The Politics group once again entered the annual Hansard Society local radio competition, sponsored jointly by the BBC and ESSO. Our chosen topic was "The Abolition of the GMC—Government versus The People". We were very interested to find out if the Conservative Government's argument, that the GMC was "a wasteful and unnecessary tier of local government" had been accepted by the people of Manchester and we wondered if they really missed the GMC.

We interviewed a number of ex-GMC councillors including David Heal, Keith Bradley and John Kershaw. Virtually all of them felt that the GMC had been a major asset and the present situation, whereby two and a half million people were without any degree of centralisation, was deplorable. However not everyone agreed with this point of view.

We spent a very enjoyable afternoon with Mr Peter Hatfield, the Chairman of the Residuary Body. Mr Hatfield's organisation is responsible for the winding down of the GMC's functions and building stock, and in particular the selling of County Hall in Piccadilly Gardens. Mr Hatfield gave us a very elaborate argument for the abolition of the GMC, pointing out the doubling up of its functions and the apparent aloofness of its council. Mr Hatfield pointed out that few people identified with the GMC—even the Lancashire Cricket Club has its ground within its boundaries, and many people still use Cheshire post codes!

After finding out what the politicians thought, we then asked the people of Manchester. We interviewed forty people at random outside County Hall and in Piccadilly Gardens. Most people had not really missed the GMC, but many thought its abolition was an act of political spite, aimed at the GLC and Labour's "Municipal Socialism" Campaign.

Our tape was then carefully edited to the required fifteen minutes. This proved to be a very difficult and time-consuming task, but after two days' solid work we finished and sent off the results.

The tape was judged by Mr Brian Redhead. We were disappointed not to be made the regional winner. The national winners conducted inquiries into "the Pedestrianisation of York" and the "Effects of Nuclear Energy in Montgomery"—all good controversial topics.

The team comprised Robert Ketteridge, Mark Langslow, Matthew McNeany, David Rathbone, Sanjay Seth and Stuart White. We would all like to thank Mr M. P. Jones for his patience and organisation.

Stuart White (Chairman) L6S5

SIXTH FORM LECTURES

In January 1988 the Politics 'O/A' level groups attended three lectures at Manchester University. The first lecture on "Modern Themes in British Politics" by Professor Dennis Kavanagh proved to be an excellent synopsis of the main changes which have affected our political system since 1945. In particular Professor Kavanagh pointed out the loss of Empire, the emergence of many new states, the development of nuclear weapons and an unprecedented economic growth rate, as all having a profound effect on the way our country is governed.

After coffee, the second lecture by Dr Michael Moran on "The Nature of British Politics" proved an excellent complement to the first lecture. Dr Moran identified the main challenges on the political system today. In particular he highlighted the collapse of "consensus politics", the decline of law and order, the

loss of deference to authority and the increase of separatism in the country, as all making it increasingly difficult to govern the country. Sadly he could offer little hope for the future.

Following dinner, the final speaker Mr Philip Whitehead (TV producer for the series "The Writing on the Wall") gave a lecture on "Politicians and the Media". As an ex-Labour MP and frontbench spokesman on Education, Mr Whitehead gave a fascinating insight into the ways politicians and the media manipulate each other. Even though both institutions are highly critical of each other, they supply the oxygen of publicity they both require.

M. P. Jones

VISIT TO THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

On March 29th 1988 the Politics 'O/A' level group were the guests of Mr Robert Dunn at the Palace of Westminster. Mr Dunn is the Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Education, and had only just finished helping Kenneth Baker in getting their Great Education Reform Bill (GERBILL) through the House of Commons.

Mr Dunn gave us an excellent guided tour of the Palace of Westminster and despite several visits it still remains an awe-inspiring place. The golden throne in the House of Lords from which the Queen delivers her speech was magnificent and quite breath-taking. As we walked around the corridors of power, famous MP's quickly walked by, such as Sir Francis Pym, Bryan Gould and David Steel. Rarely had so many famous politicians been seen in such a short space of time. Mr Dunn proved to be a very congenial host, and he often gave us off-the-record comments about the life of an MP and a Minister's relationship with his Civil Servants. He was especially useful in giving the group a first-hand account of the efficacy of the Select Committees and he actually took us upstairs to a committee room for further discussions. En route to the committee room, we passed the room where David Alton's Abortion (Amendment) Bill was being discussed and judging by all the noise and attendants, it was getting a rough ride.

We spent an excellent two hours with Mr Dunn and we are very grateful to him for giving us a fascinating insight into Parliament and for being so generous with his time. I would also like to thank Paul Oxley (U6A) for all his help in organising the trip.

M. P. Jones

THE UNITED NATIONS MOCK ASSEMBLY

For the sixth successive year William Hulme's took part in this annual exercise of international role-play held in Manchester's Town Hall. Twenty schools representing thirty countries arrived on 1 July 1988, well-briefed and ready to play their part. The School this year was representing the United Kingdom and Iran!

The opening plenary session on "The Role of Women in Society" witnessed an interesting exchange between the School's rival teams. Tamsin Wakefield justified the United Kingdom's record on Women's Rights as indicated by the Queen and the Prime Minister. However David Rathbone on behalf of Iran completely disagreed with any improvement for women's rights, as he eloquently argued this would be in breach of his country's Islamic tradition. The Assembly did not like this forthright stance and Iran was subsequently attacked for its conservative role, finding allies only in Pakistan and Egypt. The plenary session ended after an hour of intense debate and some rather undiplomatic comments about The Netherlands campaigning for Women's Rights and yet being at the centre of a huge pornography industry. After the meeting, refreshments were provided and this gave all the delegates a chance to lobby their causes.

The Assembly then divided into three working parties and a press corps. In all four groups, the delegates for our two countries were very busy. The working party on Peace and Disarmament sought to limit the amount of arms trading in the world. Neither the UK after the Falklands War nor Iran due to its struggle with Iraq were too enthusiastic about limiting the supply of weapons.

The second working party on Aid to the Third World saw the UK severely criticised by many delegates. Resolutions calling for an increase in aid from the industrialised nations were unanimously accepted.

The last working party on the rights of self-determination and the destabilising of legitimate governments, proved to be very controversial. The UK found itself in isolation in supporting South Africa, but was successful in defeating calls for mandatory sanctions against the Botha regime. Resolutions concerning Nicaragua, Kampuchea and Palestine were warmly endorsed by the Iranian delegates.

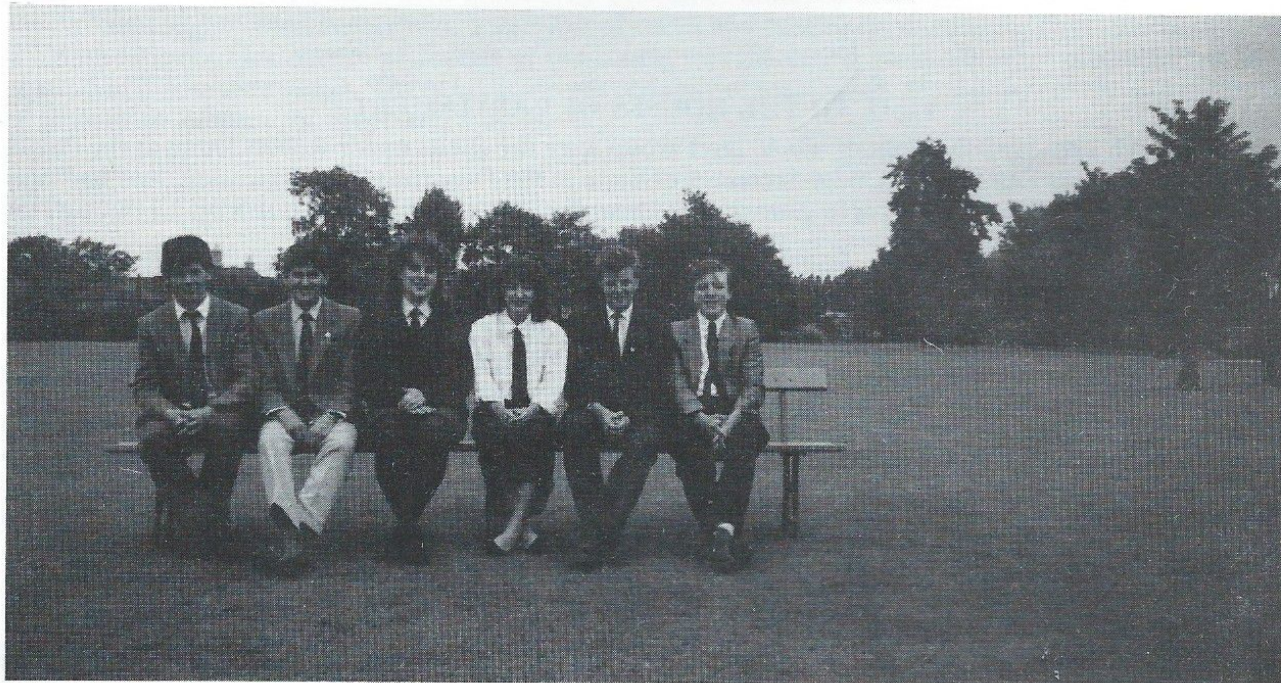
The final plenary session enabled the chairman of the three working parties to report back to the full

Assembly. Voting on all the resolutions that had been worked out proved predictable. The session was drawn to a close by Mrs Myriel Davies, O.B.E. (Deputy Director of the United Nations Association), who complimented all the delegates on their hard work, enthusiasm and standards of debate.

The Iranian delegation were A. Rathbone, K. Jones, S. Seth, R. Hockenhull, R. Clark, A. Tyler, S. White and C. Lombard.

The UK delegation were T. Wakefield, A. Blake, E. Bembridge, N. Fraser, M. Langslow and N. Herbert.
M. P. Jones

THE UNITED KINGDOM DELEGATION



Left to right: N. Herbert, N. Fraser, T. Wakefield, A. Blake, E. Bembridge, M. Langslow

(Photo: M. P. Jones)

THE IRANIAN DELEGATION



Back row: D. Tyler, R. Clark, S. White, S. Seth.

Front row: C. Lombard, K. Jones, D. Rathbone, K. Hazell, W. Hockenhull.

LOWER SIXTH CURRENT AFFAIRS LECTURES 1987/88

Michaelmas Term

- "Sixth Form at WHGS", Mr I. J. Shaw, Head of Sixth Form.
"The Strangeways Hotel", Snr Officer Ratcliffe, HMP, Strangeways.
"A Guide to Armageddon", QED documentary, "The British Nuclear Deterrent", COI Film.
"Study Skills", Dr W. Jones, Director Extra-Mural Studies, University of Manchester.
"Connections", Visit to recording at Granada Television.
"The Story of Life", Mrs M. Johnson, Stockport Branch LIFE (Save the Unborn Child).
"Ethnic Segregation in British Cities", Dr J. Cater, Director, Urban Policies Group, Edge Hill College.
"Nuclear Energy: Do we need it?, Is it Safe?", Mr R. Wheeler, UKEA Risley.
"Consumer Rights", Mrs P. Oldham, Consumer Advice Service, Manchester City Council.
"Summerhill—the School without rules", BBC Horizon Documentary.
"University Life", Rory Taylor, Stephen Beggs, Simon Jeffries, David Kirby.
"Insight on Blindness", Mr Roger Elgood.
"You, The Law and The Road", Sgt Porey, GMP.
"Forensic Pathology", Dr J. Lawler, NW Region Home Office Pathologist.
"Mind-madness", BBC Documentary on Mental Illness.
"Nutrition", Mary Drewitt, Nutritionist, Rusholme Health Centre.
"Down on Factory Farm", "Blood on their Hands", RSPCA Films.
"Starting a Business", "Self-Starters"
"Black Forest to Black Sea", Dr G. Spencely: adventurer and explorer.
"Trades Unions in Britain Today", Mr D. Pimblott, GMB & ATV.
"AIDS".
"Retail Marketing", Dr D. Conch, Course Organiser, and D. P. Jones, Head of School, School of Retail Marketing, Manchester Polytechnic.
"Amnesty International", Mr P. Banks, Manchester Group AI.
"Doctor in Nepal", Dr D. Halpin OH and former Doctor with Save the Children.
"The Arab-Israeli Conflict", J. A. Levy, Friends of Israel and Dr D. Poole, Senior Lecturer in Politics, Manchester University.
"UCCA".
"You and The School: an informal discussion of Rules and Reasons, Policy and Policies", Mr M. Loveland, 2nd Master.



DRAMA

"THE CURSE OF THE WEREWOLF"

"Nobody is normal!" Professor Steiner's "great discovery" in this year's School Play, produced by Mr Callaghan and performed before packed houses on 9, 10 and 11 December, was certainly corroborated by the eccentric array of bizarre and thoroughly entertaining characters in Ken Hill's "The Curse of the Werewolf". The programme warned us that "this play has no hidden meanings, no depth and does not seek to answer any of the great questions of the universe", and Steiner, while hypnotising Kitty, tells her that "This is no time for reality!" However, the humour and pace of this mock-Gothic horror story, set mainly in the 1920's, were real enough, and the whole production team brought off a sparkling evening's entertainment. More than just a play, the show was punctuated with lively, choreographed songs in a variety of registers—sinister, mock-ragtime, "Gang Show" hearty and even semi-sentimental.

Arif Nawaz was Baron Martin, the dashing, gentlemanly young aristocrat who knows how to exploit his "dishiness" to win Kitty—and his rank to impress her mother! Arif played this side of his personality with self-assured maturity and charm; which sharpened the contrast with his alter ego, the Werewolf, which

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presents

The Curse of the Werewolf

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DECEMBER
9th 10th 11th



he secretly hates and fears ("Not now, damn you! Not now! Not again!") yet to which he compulsively—and even gleefully?—returns. His song at the end of Act 1, followed by his emergence as the Werewolf dragging the hapless Kitty through the audience, was a brilliantly acted climax showing great stage presence. His ability to convey bestiality by his facial expression and gestures was particularly valuable since no startling make-up change was possible in the few seconds he was off the set, with a look-alike stand-in (Mohil) gallantly prowling round the stage impersonating him in his absence.

Maria Drumer as Kitty managed well the role of the bright young thing trying, quite reasonably, to break free from her domineering mother's apron strings and to cope with three contending suitors. Her delivery was clear and intelligent, showing split-second timing over such lines as, "For a moment I thought there was somebody in my room"—when three men have just, successively, entered her bedroom—and, cleverly, she never allowed us to be quite sure whether her girlish naivete and charm were assumed or genuine. The duet "Don't sing the words" for Kitty and Martin was very affecting, just about avoiding Schmalz.

Tamsin Wakefield as domineering mother (to Kitty) and wife (to Dr Bancroft) brought great energy, mock indignation and dismissive briskness to a most rewarding humorous role. Her delivery was fast, and it succeeded; Mrs Bancroft is no dowager Lady Bracknell but a strident and self-confident snob who blusters rather than generates dignity. Tamsin seemed to relish the variety of styles required of her, from simpering coyness when the Baron flatters her on her youthful appearance, to vigorous assertiveness when she floors the hapless Ramsey shouting, "You great bully! . . . Help! Help! I'm being attacked!"—words which brought the house down every night.

Matthew Davies as Dr Bancroft, the insipid, hen-pecked husband, was the perfect foil for Tamsin. He interpreted his part with the deliberate restraint it needed. His great moment came when his wife urged him to scold their daughter—looking quite aghast, he tried two lines of attack, both of which were cut short in mid-sentence by his wife; and finally, in desperation and much to the amusement of the audience, whispered, "What do you want me to say?"! Matthew's face registered bewilderment for most of the evening.

Matthew Hargreaves played D'Arcy, the polite but quietly self-assured family butler in the tradition of the Admirable Crichton and Jeeves. Matthew is a natural actor who should go far—his superb sense of timing made all his suave unctuousness a particular delight. His mask slipped when he showed his jealousy of Martin; but for all his duplicity he evoked our sympathy, especially for his treatment at the hands of Mrs Bancroft.

One of the high-spots of the play was the delightfully choreographed musical number "All you have to do is open your eyes" for the Bancrofts and D'Arcy. The foursome worked in delightful harmony and as well as being the freshest of the songs, all written by Ian Armit and Ken Hill, this was one of Mrs Treweek's finest routines and bears witness to the many hours of work she put in with the choreography.

Dean Stogsdill, an old pro on our school stage, interpreted the part of the mad psychiatrist Steiner with his usual blend of studied intelligence and wit. His voice had a thoughtful quality; with a touch of ruthlessness ready to erupt into psychopathic cruelty at the end of Act 2. Like Martin, he cannot help becoming a werewolf and is horrified at his own schizophrenia (No! . . . Not me! . . . Her!").

Matthew Grey, as Inspector Otto Krueger, had to avoid a too obviously crude caricature of the precise, pompous, Teutonic policeman, while still doing justice to his amusing role. His dry, poker-faced delivery came off extremely well and his comic mimes with his recalcitrant hand were hilarious!

Nicholas Vowles was a natural comic as Ramsey, the insane inmate of Steiner's clinic who, like most psychotics, proves the truth of G. K. Chesterton's dictum that "a madman isn't someone who has lost his reason; he is someone who has lost everything except his reason." His jerky compulsive movements and chirpy voice, deliberately cracking from broken to croaky adolescent to falsetto were absolutely right for the part; everything he said had an internal logic of its own. His cavortings with the penny whistle were splendid, and when the werewolf attacked him in Act 2 he showed great mastery of his frothing blood capsule. A memorable performance.

Frau Gessler, the ostensibly meek and mild peasant woman, who is, nevertheless, a werewolf, was portrayed by Judith Doney. Judith played the innocent with beguiling simplicity. Her most delightful moment was when she tried to reclaim her lost hand from Otto! Then she gradually became more cunning and sly, and her innocence was seen to be only skin-deep; of all the moon-dominated werewolves, she came across as the one whose plight was most to be pitied.

Richard Avery had a brief but effective moment of glory, reeling through the Hall as the "cheerful, drunken hunter" who produces the severed pad/hand of the werewolf/Frau Gessler, complete with nail-varnish (Mr Fisher's most unusual prop for years!). His German was the best in the production, with Mark Brandreth's a close second. (Otherwise, the German teachers would like to stress their total lack of involvement in training the vernacular speeches!) Richard also played the Gravedigger in the opening scene, and Nicholas Cherry played the Child who turns out to be Otto in the 1922 time sequence. Katrina Hazel, with the minimum of rehearsal, stepped in as the Corpse in the same scene on Wednesday and Thursday to replace Amy Blake who was absent sick. On Friday, Katrina was unable to come and Gareth Jameson went down in the School's history as the last ever "drag artist"—albeit as a Corpse!

Paul Tweed played the Pastor with characteristic dry humour; a sceptic who says that he, a Protestant, will carry a rosary because he doesn't believe in taking chances. His emergence in Act 2 to link the two time sequences would, in a serious play, be like the old shepherd's appearance at the end of "Oedipus Rex", but in this context the effect is, of course, comic, as are his pious platitudes set against his cynicism elsewhere.

Mark Brandreth's interpretation of Eberhard, Steiner's valet/butler, was masterly. Like D'Arcy, but in a much more German way, he debunked the servility of his role with mock military desire to obey, fatuous grins and domineering annoyance when he announces he cannot produce the drinks asked for. He was at his best in the song "Walpurgis . . . dorf is bliss", a tour de force of mock melodrama. Mark's sudden appearance in Act 2, when he is momentarily mistaken for a werewolf, had to provoke a laugh at Mrs Bancroft's comment, "What does he mean, only Eberhard? Is there worse?"—and it did!

Special mention must be made of Matthew Booth. Not only did he sit patiently for half an hour each evening being made up—brilliantly—as a werewolf by Dr Barker, but he performed on stage with bloodcurdling intensity and spent most of the evening making all the "werewolf noises" off stage.

Other solidly executed supporting roles were Gareth Jameson as the Sergeant, Nicholas Cherry and Jon Stogsdill as attendants and Timothy Jones, Richard Kay, Stephen Shoard and Rohan Amandakone as coffin bearers.

The choreographed songs were particularly pleasing in this production. Michael Clark of the third year had, on his own initiative, circularised all unbroken voices in the School and invited them to join his group. He then trained and accompanied his seven stalwart henchmen who sang with gusto and full-throated purity.

The set was, appropriately, the wrought-iron gateway to Walpurgisdorf Castle. Mr Hofton, Gavin Leigh and the stage staff worked like beavers late every Friday to get things ready and the scene shifting worked very well on the nights, most of it being necessarily carried out in the dark. Dr Barker and his lighting team coped well with their numerous and diverse cues. Mrs Brown's costumes were ambitiously varied—a lot of quick changes were called for, and were efficiently carried out. Mr Fisher's well organised properties included the already mentioned hand, a "live" rabbit, hairy hands with six fingers and surgical gear, and of course we did a roaring trade back-stage with frothing blood capsules, stage blood and crepe bandages. Mrs Briggs and the rest of the team helped us enormously in our race against the clock with the make-up.

Mr Greenall proved very successful indeed as Publicity and Front of House manager. As well as organising the competitions and refreshments he made sure that the play was widely publicised, and the attractive programme, designed by William McCloy and Richard Kay, was sensational.

Praise should always be given where it is due and it is, therefore, fitting that the final words of praise go to Mr Callaghan who with this, his fifth production in twelve years, certainly equalled and probably surpassed the high standards he has always achieved.

Some cynics might argue that reviews for the School magazine are glorifications rather than sober, balanced assessments. If you saw "The Curse of the Werewolf" you will have already formed your own judgement, which, we strongly suspect, will be the same as ours. If you didn't, kick yourself for missing a treat and ask someone who did!

G. H. Hall, G. J. Turner

HOUSE PLAY COMPETITION

The competition performances were held on consecutive afternoons near the end of the Lent Term before a captive audience of third, fourth and lower sixth forms. The hundred or so contributors to the plays are to be congratulated on surviving such an ordeal and in many cases apparently enjoying themselves.

On the Monday afternoon, the choice of plays provided an interesting variety of entertainment. The general quality was raised by the hard work of those actors of little experience but strong commitment, who provided the supporting roles to the main characters.

A Choice of Kings (Dalton). For a one-act play, it is important that the audience recognises the setting quickly. In this case, the programme provided no background information (not even mentioning the author!) and choice of full evening dress for two soldiers gave no clue at all. Nonetheless, once tuned in to the context (just before the Norman invasion, in William's castle), two strong performances by M. Hargreaves as Harold and M. Davies as William gave insight into the contrasting characters of two men soon to meet in battle. Harold overestimated his own subtlety and strength, and William used all his hard-won experience to trick Harold into a weakened position ready for the coming conflict. R. Jones as Odo, William's legitimate brother, did not manage to convey the smooth deviousness of the politician cleric 'setting up' Harold for his downfall. P. Rogers as Fitzosbern seemed a little too cheerful for a heavy henchman but D. Berger did manage a strong hatred of the English. The other actors spoke their parts well but the simple staging often left them standing in a line passing conversation along it. The table props were well done and the stage well lit. A good overall performance.

Teeth (Fraser). For this play, the ominous outline of the dentist's chair left no doubt as to the setting of the play. The action revolved around the smooth womaniser, George, placing himself in the weak position as dental patient to the cuckolded Harry. Harry, of course, turns out to be far from taken in, producing a dentist's patter of double meanings and apparently threatening comments. The play, written for television, depends on watching the changing emotions of George. These were well expressed by A. Nawaz with a good range of facial expression and tone of voice. Some slight fluffing of lines near the climax spoilt a little the effect of Harry's revenge. Kim Segal as George's wife and Harry's lover(?) lacked a little expression at the start but this gradually improved. R. Mattison's portrayal of Harry, the avenging dentist, was not quite threatening enough for an audience but would have been very worrying to anyone actually in the chair, a problem perhaps reflecting the fact that the play was written for television. The two spinsters of the waiting room supported well but would they have worn headscarves on a trip to the dentist?

The change of scene from waiting room to office to treatment room was quite well managed and the use of a genuine dentist's chair and instruments was a real asset. Another good overall performance.

Hiss the Villain (Heywood). The title, props, costumes and programme instantly set the scene for a Victorian melodrama. J. Babicki produced an immediate air of exaggerated villainy as Silas Snaker, the crooked financier, and despite the easily detached moustache, maintained the required sweeping gestures and delivery throughout. A. Babicki as the opportunist clerk Bowler gave a promising performance with good comic touches. R. J. Avery in the dual role of Captain and Percy Noble gave a solid performance but did not quite convince as the pure hearted Percy. Tamsin Wakefield and Judith Doney were good as the mother and daughter, though occasionally they lost some lines with quiet delivery. M. Brown as Harold Headingford had a touch of the Joe Cools. The overall impression of the play was one of good entertainment, well thought out and delivered.

On Tuesday, unfortunately, the high standard of the previous day was not maintained.

Byrom attempted two plays and this spreading of talent and energy was probably their undoing.

In the first offering, "A Walk in the Park", there were some good opening gestures and conversational offerings from M. Grey as Arthur. His use of facial expression was maintained as the conversation passed round the cast. Shoard, appearing as Ernest (a late substitution), also performed well, but the piece had the air of an interlude with only a single idea to sustain it.

"The Enterprising Burglar" had more potential as a house play. D. Taylor started the accumulation of characters well as Jimmy, the legitimate union burglar and expert on the law. Various caricature characters arrived, each with their own social self-justification for designs on the householder's pools winnings. M. Grey sustained the speech impediment of the vicar well. The entrance of all the characters was well managed despite the explosive entry which almost literally brought the house down. However, the problem of what to do with the assembled characters who were not delivering lines was not solved.

The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's Production of Macbeth (Gaskell).

An attempt to send up a poor amateur production. Unfortunately too much of the send-up was the real result of insufficient rehearsal and thought. Slapstick comedy of this sort demands an excellent sense of timing and is not at all easy to produce well. Mulligan kept manfully on as Macbeth. Ross and other characters produced moments of laughter, but in the words of the play's own adjudicator—"a primitive production". The cast did, however, apparently know their lines!

Whitworth: *A Villa on Venus*. The production lacked sparkle and pace. The props and costumes tended to be crude rather than simple and the action which depends largely on the flow of conversation suffered from pauses in delivery. The three astronauts G. Armslow, B. J. Allen and A. Reece tried hard, but stronger direction was needed to make a successful production.

The prize for best play was awarded to Heywood and that for best actor to A. Nawaz for his portrayal of George in Fraser's production of *Teeth*.

J. A. Clark



THE DEBATING SOCIETY

Chairman's Notes

'If', says Tacitus in his *Dialogue on Oratory*, 'practical advantage is to be the rule of all we do, can there be any safer line to take than the practice of an art which gives you an ever-ready weapon . . . while you yourself are behind a rampart of inalienable authority and power?' Never blind to the attractions of power and practical advantage, Hulmeians have been engaging in a range of public speaking contests both in the intimidating arenas of the School and in the more benign world beyond.

Whether tiptoeing through semantic minefields towards the Hopwood Reading Prizes (won by D. J. O'Keefe and J. W. Babicki) or mixing cocktails of profit and delight to tickle the astonishingly unjaded

palates of Didsbury Rotarians (R. P. Kay, L. J. McCloy and M. P. Grey) a cheerful equanimity of demeanour masked a resolute purpose in the agency of persuasion.

Once again A. J. Sayyid and A. J. Wray mounted a formidably intelligent and forcefully expressed challenge in the Observer Mace Debating Competition but again the judges seem to have been seduced by more superficial skills. We did not progress beyond the first round.

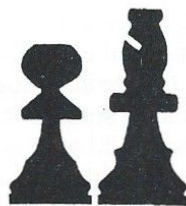
The same team, however, did prevail by the narrowest of margins over A. W. Kloss and J. C. Doney in a School Debate of the highest quality on the rights of a mother-to-be to have an abortion. J. C. Doney's acutely argued contributions marked the first entry of a girl into School debates and I hope her admirable lead will be followed by many others in the future.

The Debating Society, under the able secretaryship of R. Naylor and J. W. Babicki, seemed somewhat preoccupied with health issues this year—perhaps unsurprisingly so considering both national concern over the Health Service and the School's charitable exertions on behalf of local hospitals. Debates on the cost-effectiveness of spare-part surgery, the frivolity of vegetarianism and even the advisability of living in the South rather than the North all brought the hypochondriacs out of the closet.

In addition to those contributors already mentioned, warm thanks are due to A. J. Edwards, A. O. B. Fajumi, D. Peglion, N. J. Hall, M. Hargreaves, R. J. Neal and, both for his rhetorical and artistic efforts, A. Booth. Not least I must thank the carnivorous Mr Turner and the renouncer of all flesh Mr Callaghan for being our guest speakers in the vegetarian debate and, along with all other speakers and attentive listeners, contributing towards a wholly healthy Society.

Tacitus, in common with other ancient rhetoricians, looked for the imaginative selection and disposition of material from a well-stocked memory in ordered argument eloquently articulated. Had he haunted Room T on a Friday lunchtime he might, at times, have found what he sought.

Alistair E. Watson



CHESS 1987/88

Senior and Junior teams from the School competed in the Stockport and District Chess League this year. The Seniors, captained by the veteran B. J. Allen (L6S4), who was regularly joined by A. J. Edwards (5Y), S. A. Khan (U6S7), F. Amaee (U6SB), L. M. A. Leadbetter (5L) and A. J. Hill (5L), won three of their six matches and came fourth in the League.

The Juniors, under the joint leadership of A. M. Salam (3B) and S. N. Hira (3L) and with J. A. Beer (3A), N. J. Burton (3A) and R. S. Smith (2B) in the regular team, won three and drew one of their six matches, ending creditably in third position.

Chess has also been flourishing inside the School, thanks largely to the efforts of Mr Turner. The Junior School Chess Competition was won by R. S. Smith 2B, who defeated S. R. Moran (2C) in the final. The winner of the Middle School Competition was R. G. Hurst (4L), who beat M. B. Rogers (4L) in the final.

The two cups in memory of Saif Turabi, awarded to the first and second forms gaining the greatest success in the preliminary games of the Junior School Chess Competition, were won by 1C and 2C respectively.

M. H. Gracey

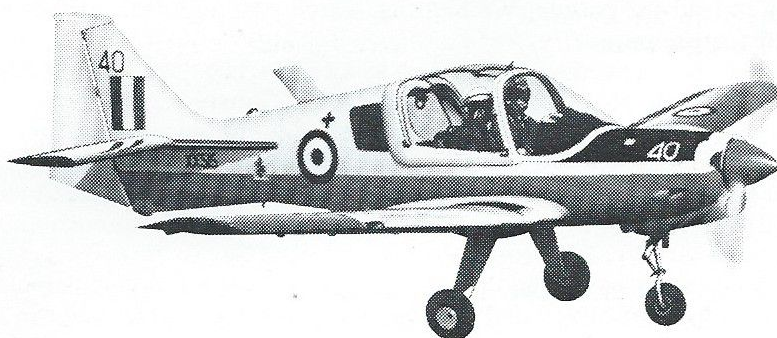


CCF INSPECTION

29 April 1988

Inspecting Officer: Col. Gauchi, Gt. Manchester Garrison Commander.

Inspection day dawned and the weather forecast was absolutely diabolical. In fact I was resigned to changing to the wet weather programme. When I left home at 0750 hours the sun was shining and it did look altogether much too bright to last.



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We fell in on the School field at 0930 hours for a practice run through with the police band, who had kindly come along to lead the parade. We had one march past and decided that we understood each other, and then waited for the parade.

The Garrison Commander arrived and was taken to meet the Head Master and Mrs Briggs, and after a short chat the serious business of the day commenced. Col. Gauchi inspected the contingent and then took the salute on the march past to the British Grenadier. The standard of drill was very high and this was commented upon by the Colonel. C/SGT Dawes who took the parade, although rather nervously at first, soon got into his stride and settled to lead a very good parade. After coffee Phase II began, which was to be a March and Shoot competition by the recruit platoon, and an ambush and counter attack by the seniors, with a commentary by 2/Lt Jones.

Each activity had been rehearsed during the week and proved to be excellent demonstrations. The boys really entered into the spirit of the attack and had quite a good time. Sadly they ran out of ammunition before the final assault but we gather this was done with fixed bayonets.

The March and Shoot went very smoothly and proved to be a closely fought competition, the winning section being that of Sgt Clark, who also had the highest individual score of the competition.

The conclusion of the morning's activities was the final address to the contingent by the Garrison Commander, who said he thoroughly enjoyed his day.

Major J. F. Chudleigh



CCF Female Contingent. Left to right: Kirsty Barker, Karen Jones, Lt (Dr) Keable, Kim Segal, Maria Drumer.

(Photo: J. H. Thomson)



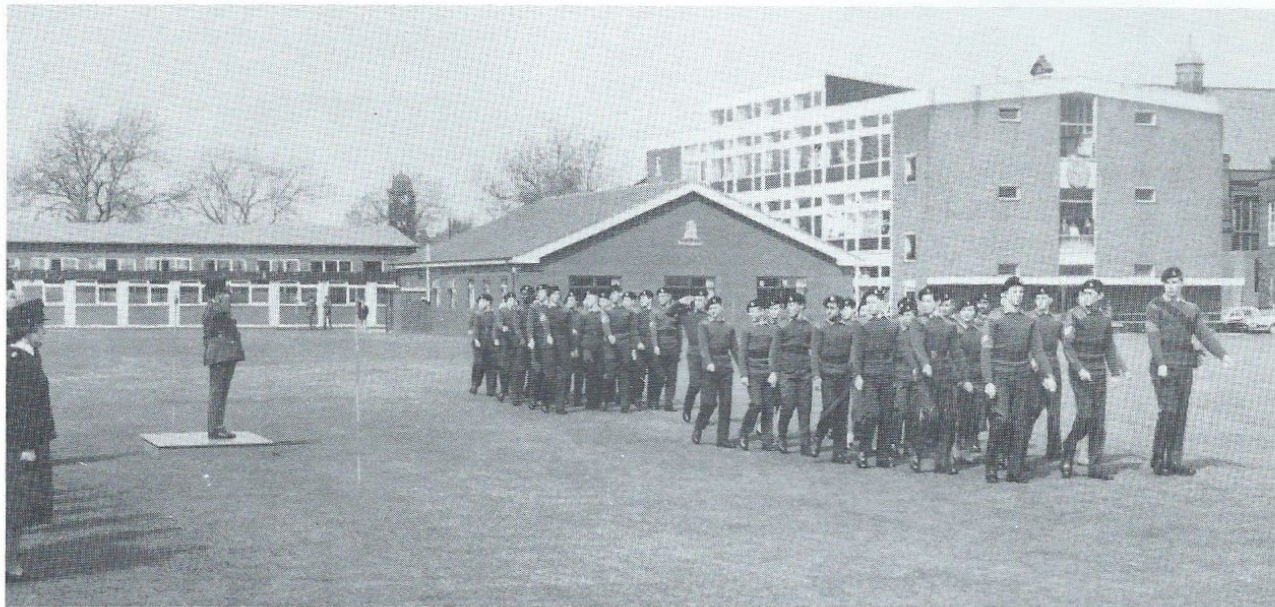
GMP Band

(Photo: J. H. Thomson)



Col G. E. Gauchi and Mr D. A. Bamforth

(Photo: J. H. Thomson)



Col Gauchi inspects the cadets.

(Photo: R. A. Haynes)

CCF ACTIVITIES

The CCF had its usual action-packed and exciting year! It began as it ended, with a summer camp; it included three Field-Days, a skiing trip in Aviemore, an excellent Inspection and a record number of recruits, appointments and promotions. The Corps also made history in September 1987, by welcoming to its ranks four female cadets.

SUMMER CAMP 1987—WATH GILL, YORKSHIRE

This camp proved to be an enjoyable mixture of military and adventure training. The cadets learnt about rock-climbing, abseiling and canoeing. However the highlight of the week was being allowed to drive 4-ton army trucks over rough terrain. All the cadets proved to be remarkably good drivers, even without a HGV licence!



(Photo: D. M. Fisher)

FEBRUARY 1988—ADVENTURE TRAINING IN AVIEMORE

Following three successful 'dry-runs' at the Rossendale Ski Resort, the cadets were looking forward to a week's skiing in Aviemore, Scotland.

After arrival at our hotel, which often resembled a Youth Hostel, we quickly took to the slopes. The runs in The Lecht were quite superb and very steep. The novices had a hilarious time holding on to the tow-bars and coming back down again. Skiing down the runs proved to be equally entertaining. To see officers and cadets trying to master the art of balancing on top of two pieces of plastic and, at the same time, hold on to two sticks, was a sight to behold.

For those of us who had not skied before, this new experience proved to be as exhilarating as it was exhausting. We were also quite amazed at the 'designer' range of clothes and make-up.

We spent a full five days skiing in the Cairngorms and the quicker the cadets grew in confidence and ability, the more demanding the runs became. The officers were very impressed to see so many cadets tackle the infamous White Lady!

Needless to say there were plenty of Eddie the Eagle impersonations—especially from the officers! However most of us came back as budding Klaus Krammers, if slightly bruised and battered.

FIELD-DAYS—SENIOR PLATOON

In September 1987, the Cadre course of NCO's spent a weekend as guests of 40 Royal Marine Commando in Taunton, Somerset. During the two days of their visit the cadets took part in lectures, keep-fit exercises and a close-quarter combat course firing the new SA80 weapon. The remaining members of the platoon successfully tackled the Snowdon Horseshoe—a total distance of twelve miles over difficult terrain.

In March 1988, the second field day was spent at Holcombe Moor. The purpose of the weekend was to test the cadets' physical fitness, fieldcraft abilities and patrolling techniques. This proved to be a very demanding exercise, since it snowed throughout the two days. The cadets though were very good at organising their patrols, attacking the enemy and laying ambushes. It was equally reassuring to see the leadership, drive and determination in many of the NCO's.

FIELD-DAYS—RECRUIT PLATOON

The recruits spent their first field-day in the Welsh mountains. They too successfully completed the Snowdon Horseshoe and also learnt some very important map reading skills!

Their second field-day in March 1988 was also spent at Holcombe Moor. All the cadets took part in a very demanding self-reliance exercise, where their map-reading skills were tested to the limit.

The final field-day in June 1988 was spent at the School's cottage in Hardraw. An extensive fell-walking weekend further developed the cadets' stamina and self-reliance.

FIELD-DAYS—RECRUIT PLATOON

The new recruits spent their first field-day in June 1988 up at Holcombe Moor. The purpose of the weekend was to introduce the cadets to some basic fieldcraft and campcraft. The weather was mild enough to sleep underneath our 'bashas'—much to the delight of the local horseflies. The weekend proved to be very successful and it was good to see so many cadets do well on the infamous Krypton Factor assault course.

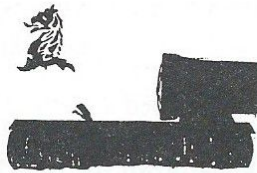
NCO NEWS

The Corps were very pleased to hear that C. S. M. Trigg had been awarded a university bursarship with the Prince of Wales' Yorkshire Light Infantry, beginning in September 1988. Two other NCO's, Sergeants Roden and Mackereth, both won flying scholarships to train with the RAF. Sergeants Chudleigh and Kapadia successfully completed their UKLF leadership courses at Frimley Park and are currently pursuing careers in local Territorial and Regular Army Regiments. The Corps were also pleased to see Sergeant Clark begin his training as an Officer Cadet in 42 Royal Signals.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The Corps hopes to expand its activities even further next year by including a Signals Section, an RAF section and a Corps Band. Our summer camp in 1989 is in West Berlin as guests of the King's Regiment and we hope to have a few field-days at Proteus Camp.

M. P. Jones



HOVERCLUB

The club began its first full season operating two hovercraft this year. Our new craft, 'Horace', has performed well, but 'Griffon' has been slow and a little unreliable (and therefore embarrassing to drive). However, we have achieved some success in racing and have also given displays at various school fairs in the area for publicity.

Mere Brow: The first race, conveniently held near Southport, started with a practice day, during which a complete set of fan blades shattered and 'Griffon' broke down on the lake.

Having repaired both craft, we completed two racing days, finishing with one Junior team in 3rd place and the other in 4th, while Dave Greenwood was also 4th in his Novice class.

Stanford Hall, Rugby: We could only manage to stay at this meeting for one day, so our overall positions were quite low. Simon Copsey made his racing debut, having passed his test at Mere Brow. 'Griffon' encountered some difficulty, breaking down on water once more, but 'Horace' fared better, taking 3rd and 4th places in its races.

Weston Park, Shropshire: Helen Grant passed her test when we arrived, so that she could race later in the day. The course comprised of a lake and a steep hill, where 'Griffon' made itself very unpopular with race marshals, as it needed to be pulled up!

BP Schools Championships, Nottingham: This event began with a manoeuvrability course, testing the drivers' skills. We had polished up our performance during the Open Day demonstration on the previous day, resulting in Paul Fellows gaining 2nd place and winning £75 and Robert Mullen in 3rd, winning £50, driving 'Horace'. Andrew Pardoe and Richard Avery drove 'Griffon' and were placed 8th and 9th out of over 40 competitors. The driver with the better time from each craft qualified for a speed trial in which 'Horace' came 5th, but broke another set of fan blades.

Many thanks must be given to Mr Grant, who has sacrificed so much time, to Mr Scott for his help and to our sponsors for financial assistance.

R. J. V. Avery
R. F. Mullen



Robert Mullen receives directions for the obstacle course.

(acknowledgment: D. Williams)

THE CHRISTMAS CONCERT 1987

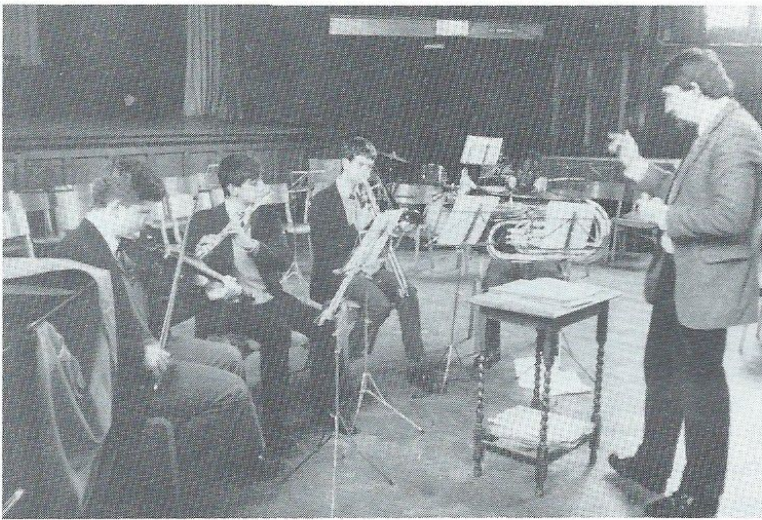
On Monday, 14 December, 1987 the School Christmas Concert took place in the New Hall. A capacity audience enjoyed a traditional yet varied programme of music and readings.

The School Band played with great spirit and confidence, and, despite the unfortunate absence on the night of some principal players, gave a very creditable performance of a new work for band, 'The Knight's Trail' by Tony Cresswell. The School Choir, under the capable direction of Mr D. E. B. Golder, sang with conviction and clarity and maintained a high standard throughout the concert. A special mention must go to the Small Singing Group, led by M. Brandreth, for its excellent contributions to the programme, and also to the Brass Group for 'Bright Eyes' and 'The Entertainer'.

I was most impressed by the readers, M. Hargreaves, J. Babicki, K. Segal and D. O'Keefe, who delivered their contributions with much understanding and control.

We had two soloists: A. Campbell (trumpet) playing the 2nd Movement from the Trumpet Concerto by Haydn; and M. Russell (cornet) who carried on regardless as Mr Golder added a new dimension to the term 'improvisation' at the end of 'Mary's Boy Child'. The highlight of the evening for myself, and I think for many others, was the performance by Mr J. Hofton and N. Bhattacharjee (flutes) and Mr Golder (piano) of a Trio Sonata in C Major by Quantz, which was played with a high degree of technical skill and much musicianship, bringing a most enjoyable evening to a satisfactory conclusion.

P. W. Goodwin



Mr P. Goodwin rehearses the Fourth Form music set's own compositions. C. Egels, N. Bhattacharjee, M. Hulston and F. Williams.

Mr J. Hofton explains a point to N. Bhattacharjee, with Mr Golder in the background.





Mr Goodwin and Band at the Concert.

HEATON MERSEY FESTIVAL

In March, for the third successive year, Hulmeians were represented in the Language Classes at the annual Heaton Mersey Music Festival, of which our own Mr Callaghan has coincidentally been the enthusiastic and industrious General Secretary since 1985. Four of the twelve prizes were secured by our competitors: Lin Leadbetter (Intermediate German); Matthew McNeany (Sixth Form German); Simon Harrington (Intermediate Spanish); and Neil Eccles (Sixth Form Spanish), who also attained second place in the Sixth Form French class.

G. J. Turner

THE SCHOOL BOOKSHOP

This new venture got off to a flying start in September and by Christmas we had sold over a thousand pounds' worth of stock and added more than a hundred new titles to the shelves, including hardbacks as well as paperback, fiction and non-fiction. The Letts range of GCSE and 'A' level revision aids have proved to be very popular and our stock of text and reference books continues to grow to meet the demand from each department in the School. There are now a great many books on History and Geography as well as the Sciences and Mathematics. A second-hand section offers many of these titles at reduced prices and pupils can 'trade-in' old text books or revision guides for new ones.

Most of our books are supplied on a sale-or-return basis by Books For Students, a subsidiary of W.H. Smith. They are the experts in the school bookshop field and offer a very comprehensive list of titles and services. The Bookshop was busiest in the period just before and after Christmas, with Mock 'A' levels and impending GCSE's adding impetus to the sale of revision guides. Popular fiction also sold well including novels by Jack Higgins, and the fantasies of J. R. R. Tolkien as well as his more modern imitators. Garfield is popular with young and old readers, as are the more light-hearted titles, and even Spike Milligan's war memoirs, which are still selling well. We would welcome any suggestions you care to make as to any titles or authors you would like us to stock.

By the end of the summer term, our sales had topped the £3,000 mark with nearly the same figure on our shelves. The profits are being used both to increase the number and variety of books in stock and to provide new books for the Donner and Junior School libraries. The Bookshop has been expertly staffed by J. R. G. Smith and D. J. Mattison, under the watchful eye of Bookshop Prefect, N. J. Partington. We hope that you, our customers, have found the service helpful and that you will continue to visit us regularly next year.

J. H. Thomson

THE GERMANY EXCHANGE 1987/88

1. MANCHESTER. OCTOBER 1987

Once more we have enjoyed a successful and educational trip to Manchester. Although this was the seventh time our school had travelled to England, our reception was still as wonderful as usual.

From the first day, when we got off the bus after a tiring if interesting journey, we were welcomed as friends, not strangers, and our time spent in the family was good, even if the English spoken was sometimes a little difficult to understand.

The trips we made were a balance between culture and entertainment. In Liverpool we visited the Museum of Labour History, but perhaps more appreciated was the "Art of the Beatles" exhibition. Other excursions included the famous Roman towns of York and Chester, where we made a tour of the city, and afterwards had some time to look through some "typically English" shops. Once again on the last day we drove to the leisure-park at Alton Towers, where German and English alike had a good time. In the evenings activities were variable. I found your English "pubs" very interesting, although I could not understand why they close so early. We also went ice-skating, to a game of Manchester United and to the famous disco "Deviles".

This was my fourth time on the exchange, and the organisation was once more excellent. For this the teachers must be thanked—Mr Turner, Mrs Wright, Mrs Ballantyne and Mr Hofton. The Werl-Manchester exchange will continue for many years to come, and so it should be!

Alexander Kellerhoff (Klasse 12, Mariengymnasium, Werl)

2. WERL. FEBRUARY 1988

At 3 p.m. on a mild February afternoon, thirty-eight budding linguists boarded the train for Harwich. In charge of this exuberant group were Messrs. Gracey and Hofton, and Miss Cockroft from Loreto. The first crisis of the trip was when Lin Leadbetter discovered he had forgotten his suitcase. To cries of "That's the Gamble!" his father raced home to save the day. After a hard and tiring trip via Harwich, Hoek van Holland, Cologne and Dortmund, we finally arrived in Werl. To our surprise, the weather was mild throughout our stay, unlike in previous visits.

Our first full day in Germany was "Rosenmontag", the climax of the German Carnival festivities; this seemed mainly an excuse for enjoying alcohol among our hosts, and culminated for many in a party in Westönnen's village hall. The next morning we had to get up in what felt like the middle of the night to go to school, where we were greeted by the Headmaster Dr Bierbaum before leaving to celebrate the Carnival further in the nearby town of Körbecke. That evening there were yet more celebrations at the annual school party, although the music left something to be desired. However, Stephen Arundel and Simon Hayes provided great entertainment by trying to improve Anglo-German relationships still further.

On Wednesday's trip to the industrial city of Bochum, we visited the impressive Opel car factory and had an interesting tour round a mining museum. The following day we had another friendly greeting, this time from the mayoress. This trip to the Town Hall, which we feared might be tedious, was enlivened by a discussion about the problems of immigrant workers. That afternoon plots were hatched and scores settled in the England v. West Germany football match. We lost—contributing factors were some silly shots and incomprehensible German rules, though of course the better team won.

The next trip, on Friday, was to the historic university city of Münster. There we had several hours of free time (some might say too many hours), but later in the afternoon we visited the Natural History Museum and the Planetarium which more than made up for this. These were both very interesting, though at times the German was a little beyond us.

Saturday and Sunday were spent with the host families and it was left to them to entertain us. Most of this entertainment centred round the Café Crème; other amusements included ski-ing in the Sauerland and trips to other towns.

Monday morning was spent in the school but it was clear that few minds were concentrating on lessons as thoughts turned to the afternoon's excursion to a local brewery. There we were to sample the best aspect of German culture, and it would be fair to say that a good time was had by all especially by Andy Bell of L6L. Some Fifth Formers, and Mark Burrows of the Lower Sixth much to his dismay, visited the town of Soest instead, which was right for the Fifth Formers.

The fun continued with a trip to the German capital Bonn. Bonn is a small town, similar to Harrogate, which was made into the capital after the war. It is quite pretty but not what you would expect of a major European capital. For example, the German Parliament currently resides in the former water works! The day had two particular features of interest—seeing Beethoven's birthplace and coming across a Turkish hunger strike in the main square.

On the morning of our final full day we once again attended lessons. In German schools the lessons are more relaxed than in England, and there is less emphasis on a final examination. In the afternoon we

travelled to Unna to be put to shame on the ice rink by the infinitely more skilful Germans. On the return trip three of the Loreto girls managed to miss their stop at Werl and had to be rescued from Paderborn by Herr Falke! That evening was our last, and judging by the hang-dog looks the next morning, it was a good one for most.

In the early afternoon of Thursday we said a sorrowful goodbye to our new-found friends, promising to return again. It was a very successful and enjoyable trip for all of us; our thanks go to Mr Hofton, Mr Gracey and Miss Cockroft for running the trip so smoothly, to the German teachers especially Herr Marx for his infinite patience, to Mr Turner and Mrs Wright for their help in the organisation before we went, and above all to our partners and their families for their hospitality and friendship.

Robert Malone and Matthew McNeany (L6L)

THE SOVIET UNION

Saturday 2 April came, after a too long Friday, and a small group of people (twenty pupils and two teachers) found themselves on a platform at Piccadilly Station. This was the starting point of a school trip that nobody would forget. We boarded the train at half past ten, changed at London Euston, to Victoria, where we were transported again by train to Gatwick Airport. Our plane, which had been delayed by over an hour, eventually landed at Moscow airport in the early hours of the morning.

This was where the fun really began. Each of us was made to stand before a glass panel, behind which lay the most evil-looking militia man we were to see on our trip. For what seemed like half an hour, though was probably only a few minutes, he diligently examined you and your hopefully corresponding passport and visa, while conversing with his comrade. Fortunately the awaited "Your papers are not in order" never came and after collecting our baggage we eventually got on the coach to our hotel.

Down long, bleak, wide and incredibly straight roads we ambled, reaching the hotel, after being overtaken by at least half a dozen Ladas. At about four in the morning we were finally asleep, not in the hotel itself, but in what we were to call "wigwams" situated outside at the back of the building.

Next morning we were woken by Mr Callaghan, with only fifteen minutes to spare, for breakfast at nine in the hotel. This consisted of bread, eggs and meat washed down with a cup of black coffee. Any food which wasn't wanted (or was wanted) was readily digested by Mr Gracey. So, fuelled by our nutritious breakfast, it was off to the Kremlin. Throughout the week we shared our bus and our guide, Tatiana, with another school, West Hatch, from London. As the week progressed friendships between parties, both pupils and teachers, were established and this made for a more enjoyable holiday.

"Kremlin means fortress", we were told, and this was indeed the case. Large, sturdy walls surrounded many buildings of great beauty: the domes sparkling in the morning sun—an ideal day for our first tour of Moscow. We were to see the carriages, crowns and weapons of former Tsars displayed in all their glory in the Armoury—a museum that was to set the standard for the rest to come. After lunch we returned to see Red Square—the showpiece of not only Moscow but the whole of the USSR. It was immaculate. Not a piece of litter or dirt to be seen. Our cameras clicked with glee at the sight of St. Basil's Cathedral and Lenin's Mausoleum. Our tour was completed for that day after seeing the Moscow open swimming pool, the university, and a panoramic view of the whole city.

The day had gone fairly smoothly, although the two dwarfs (Mark Kershaw and Darryl Garside) as they became known, had already been lost twice and for the rest of the holiday were to engage in a competition to see who could get lost the more for the longer period of time. Mark won on both scores.

The evening brought a trip to the State Circus which was disappointing. Certain unnecessarily cruel acts caused several parties to walk out. Mr Gracey at least enjoyed his first trip to a circus, finding the clowns immensely funny: perhaps being the only one of us to understand Russian humour.

The next two days were unrelenting in their pace. A packed agenda allowed little free time, but after all that was not what we had come for, and most of us eagerly absorbed as much of the Russian experience as we could. On Monday we travelled on the Metro (where Darryl Garside handed out Bic pens to bemused Russian couples) and visited a Soviet school. Here we were treated to several performances, the most memorable, at least for me, being a recital of "We shall overcome", by three girls. Such words seemed tragically ironic.

Monday evening was one of the highlights of the trip. Mr Callaghan decided to take us to see the changing of the guards in Red Square. The change, which takes place on the hour, was breathtaking. A manoeuvre so quick that it was difficult to see took place before our camera lenses. On the way back we just missed the bus and found ourselves with forty minutes to spare. Whilst Mr Callaghan devised an on the spot quiz, which incidentally even resulted in a passer-by correcting one of the answers, Mr Gracey along with Andrew Daley and myself got talking to a Russian also waiting for a bus. We managed to extract an authentic Russian joke out of him, translated by Mr Gracey. It was abysmal, but it just went to show that when you removed the mask imposed by the Communist regime there was a 'real' person underneath.

The following day saw a tour of the Exhibition of Economic Achievements and the Lenin Museum, both proving to be fairly tedious, and that night we took the sleeper train to Leningrad after saying goodbye to our crowded wigwams.

Leningrad, if less interesting, was a more attractive city. Built on swamps and constructed virtually from scratch by Peter the Great, it is adorned by beautiful cathedrals, monuments and palaces. Our hotel, the Sovietskaya, was more comfortable; each enjoyed an individual room with television, radio, bathroom and telephone, and in many cases a slightly view of the numerous domes and peaks of this ancient city.

The next few days showed us the Winter Palace, St. Isaac's Cathedral, the Admiralty and the Peter Paul Fortress—all of which were immensely interesting, being conveyed to us by our pretty new guide, Svetlana. The pace of our tour slackened off a little and we were given further opportunities to buy yet more posters and badges. Tim Kimber provided the entertainment as he insulted as many Russians as he could in his own sweet way.

On the Thursday we visited the House of Friendship where we were given the chance to meet Russian young people and exchange gifts in the form of chewing gum and badges. That evening we visited a concert of Russian folk music and dance at the Leningrad Hotel. Here we clapped and whistled to the sight of Ukrainian men and women bouncing around on their heads and throwing their legs about in the most extraordinary places. Attempts to start a Mexican wave failed and so we settled for a standing ovation at the end of what had been an incredible performance.

Friday presented us with the ideal opportunity to finish off our last films as we were taken around the glorious Hermitage and Winter Palace—the former residence of the great Tsars of Russia—and finally the Peter Paul Fortress. Several gifts were presented at dinner to our two party leaders as a token of our gratitude and that night a party was held, in conjunction with West Hatch, to celebrate what had been a most enjoyable trip and to give out certain silly awards to several members of our group.

And this is where my report should have come to an abrupt end. I was going to say that we returned to Gatwick on a pleasant journey back from Leningrad. Unfortunately this turned out not to be the case. Whilst handing out the passports on the coach, Mr Callaghan noticed that one was missing. Mine. The coach was immediately turned around and headed back to the airport. The hotel denied all responsibility for it and literally sent us packing. We did, however, have one last hope. It was ninety-nine percent certain, I was told, that the other party would have it (the numbers having been mixed up). At the airport they, too, denied any responsibility. So, for a terrifying ninety minutes, with only a false visa and passport (Mr Callaghan had luckily made photocopies) we waited to see if I would be allowed out of the country or at least whether I would be able to go home on the same flight as the rest of our party who had by now checked in. At the last minute, just as Mr Callaghan was threatening a major international incident, we were given the go ahead. It had been a tense two hours.

We arrived at Gatwick to shouts of "We love you, England". Despite a fabulous trip everybody, myself included, was glad to be back home.

Andrew Edwards (5Y)

Robert Angel and Alex Roberts, two recent leavers, came to Russia with us. They had been on the 1985 trip and were less interested in the routine tours than in visiting various Jewish families to take presents, exchange news and give moral support. On our last day in Leningrad we were all delighted to learn that one family who had been waiting for an exit visa for ten years had received one that morning: they are now happily settled in the USA.

P. J. Callaghan

THE RHINELAND TRIP—April 1988

It was on Wednesday, 6 April that twenty seven Third and Fourth Formers met outside the School gates. The destination of the trip, which among many other things promised us a Fahrt down the Rhine, was the Hotel Erholung in St. Goarshausen.

We set off just after 11 p.m., hoping to catch an early ferry, whiling away the time playing cards and listening to cassettes. (Of the cassettes I saw, absolutely none had any German on them! So much for setting oneself in the right frame of mind.) After two half-hour stops, we got to Dover an amazing three hours ahead of schedule and took the 7 a.m. ferry. Here we met our permanent coach driver, Fred, who had the daunting task of getting us around Germany. From Calais, where we docked at 9 a.m., we took an eight-hour coach journey through France and Belgium to Germany, stopping off at service stations for food kindly paid for out of our "kitty".

Our very first meal at the Hotel was a delicacy of gammon and chips which we all gobbled down with relish. We were then introduced to Debbie, our guide throughout our stay who the same evening showed us round town telling us of its objects and buildings of historical interest. Afterwards, we unpacked and went straight to bed. After such a long journey out, we hoped the stay would be good and we were more than pleased.

One of the many trips out was to Rüdesheim, on the Saturday. After an hour exploring the quaint old shops in the riverside village, we met back at the coach for our sandwiches, then split into three groups—a