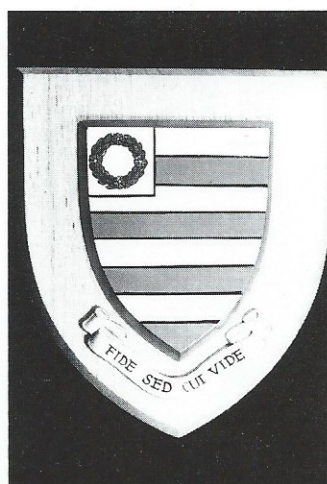


the H U L M E I A N



1998

THE HULMEIAN

THE MAGAZINE OF WILLIAM HULME'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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

Chaucer, Troilus and Criseyde.

"Haec olim meminisse juvabit."

("One day we shall be glad to remember these things.")

Virgil, Aeneid, I, 203.

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WILLIAM HULME'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

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Vice-Chairman:

J.D. Marsden, Esq.

Governors Emeriti:

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E.B. Jackson, Esq., F.C.A.

C.B. Muir, O.B.E.

Governors:

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Dr. M.N. Bhattacharyya, F.R.C.O.G.

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Mrs. M.J. Taylor, O.B.E., B.A., Dip.Ed.

Miss M.J. Vale M.S.C., M.R.Pharm.S.

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Librarian: Mrs. M. Evans, B.A., A.L.A.

Medical Officer: A. Wilson, Esq., M.B., Ch.B.

ACADEMIC STAFF

Head Master: B J Purvis, BSc, MSc, Bedford College, University of London and University of Durham

Second Master: M Loveland, BSc, University of Liverpool

Director of Studies: Mrs G M Brown, BSc, University of London

Assistant Masters and Mistresses

M R Booker, BSc, University of Manchester, C.Math.MIMA, (*Head of Mathematics*)
M D Wood, BSc, University of Manchester, (*House Master, Dalton: Coordinator of Time-table*)
P J Callaghan, MA, New College, Oxford, (*Head of History*)
J A Clark, MA, PhD, Exhibitioner, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, (*Head of Chemistry*)
G L Bennett, BA, CertEd, University of Manchester.
D G Barnes, BSc, PhD, University of Manchester, (*Head of Sciences*)
D M Fisher, BA, University of Manchester, (*OC CCF; House Master, Fraser*)
R S Moore, BSc, University of Manchester, (*Head of Biology*)
G J Turner, MA, Scholar, Christ's College, Cambridge, (*Head of German*)
M I Barker, BSc, PhD, University of Durham, (*Head of Physics*)
C MacLachlan, MA, University of Glasgow, BLitt, Balliol College, Oxford, (*Head of Classics, Coordinator of Information Technology, Examinations Officer*)
R A Ballantyne, MA, University of Aberdeen, (*Professional Development Director*)
C H Seddon, BEd, University of Leeds, (*Head of Physical Education*)
L Sharp, BSc, University of Manchester, (*House Master, Heywood*)
A Simkin, MA, Scholar, Jesus College, Oxford, (*Head of Sixth Form*)
Mrs L A Ballantyne, BA, University of Manchester, MIL, (*Head of French*)
M H Gracey, MA, MLitt, Exhibitioner, Brasenose College, Oxford
P M Bull, BA, University of Manchester, (*Head of Spanish*)
A Greenall, GRIC, University of Manchester, FCS.
J G Hofton, BA, University of Leeds, (*Head of Modern Languages*)
J H Thomson, BSc, University of Manchester.
H N Veevers, BSc, University of Liverpool, (*House Master, Gaskell; Head of Geology*)
M P Jones, BA, University of Lancaster, (*Public Relations Director, i/c Government and Politics*)
A E Watson, BA, MA, University of Liverpool, (*i/c General Studies*)
N P Dunn, BEd, De La Salle College, (*Head of Design; House Master, Byrom*)
G H Jones, BA, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, (*Head of Middle School*)
Mrs T Pollard, BEd, I M Marsh College of PE, Liverpool, (*Head of Lower School*)
D A Myers, BSc, University of Wales, Cardiff, MSc, University of Durham, MIBiol (*House Master, Whitworth*)
Miss J Barlow, BEd, Chelsea School of Human Movement, Brighton Polytechnic.
P R Hewston, BA Manchester Polytechnic, (*i/c Economics and Business Studies*)
Miss J F Smith BSc, University of Bradford, (*Deputy Head of Sixth Form*)
Miss S R Tandon, BA, University of Birmingham.
Mrs J A Worthington, BA, University of Sheffield (*Oxford and Cambridge Universities Applications*)
Mrs H Hesp, BSc, UMIST (*i/c Value- Added Analysis*)
Mrs S M Watson, BSc, UMIST
P W Goodwin, ARMCM, ARNCM, (*Director of Music*)
J H Hardy, BSc, University of Manchester, (*Head of Geography*)
G Addison, BSc, University of Lancaster.
Miss H P Kelly, BSc, University of Liverpool.
M C Gorman, BA, University of Nottingham.
Miss E L Matthews, BSc, University of London.
Mrs J F Swindlehurst, BA, University of Birmingham.
Miss A Boothroyd, BA, University of Staffordshire.
A C Crane, BA, University of Hull, (*Deputy Head of Lower School*)
Miss L C Derby, BA, University of Leeds.
T P Heavisides, BA, University College, Cardiff, MA, University of Sheffield, (*Head of English*)
Miss R J Minto, MA, New Hall, Cambridge.
A R Austen, BSc, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, (*Warden, Harris House, Hardraw*)
Miss A J Raw, BSc, Manchester Polytechnic.
B S Swales, BA, Leeds University (*i/c Religious Studies*)
J R Wise, BA, University College of North Wales.
A J Mackenzie, BSc, The Roehampton Institute.
Miss F V Collier, BA, Sheffield Hallam University (*Careers Adviser*)
Miss C S Day, B Mus, University of London.
Miss C S Lambert, BA, M Phil, PhD, University of Manchester.
G N Grant, Diploma, Loughborough College.
Mrs J Keable, BSc, PhD, University of Durham
Mrs C A Williams, BSc, University of Manchester, MPhil, University of London.
Mrs B M Beardwood, BSc, University of Reading.
Mrs J E Picken, MA, Girton College, Cambridge.
Mlle A-C Furst (*French Assistant*)
Frau A Brandenburg (*German Assistant*)
Srta S Reyero-Cascallana (*Spanish Assistant*)

Preparatory Department

Mrs C G Wilson, BA, The Open University, Head of Department
Mrs A McKay, BEd, University of Manchester, BA, The Open University
Mrs D Romaniszyn, BEd, University of Hull
Mrs P Ferguson, CertEd, University of Manchester
Miss T Alexander, BA, Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education
A Taylor, BSc, University of Loughborough
Mrs M P Cross, BA, The Open University
Miss A Adamson, ALCM, LLCM, (*Music*)
Mrs C Iddin, MIDTA, ISTD, RAD, (*Dance*)
Mrs T Chidley, CertEd, University of Southampton (*Science and Swimming*)

NOTES & NEWS

This year saw the retirement of Mrs. I.B. Wright after twenty years' devoted service to the School. We also said goodbye to Mr Welch, Mr Cotton, Mrs Hampson, Mr Parkin, Mr Wolsey, and to Miss Harrison (Prep. Dept.). Full tributes to all six departing colleagues in the Main School appear below.

In September 1998 we welcome to the teaching staff Dr. C.P. Lambert (Modern Languages) and Mrs J.E. Picken (Science), as well as Mlle. A-C Furst (French Assistant) and Frau A Brandenburg (German Assistant).

There have been several internal staff promotions and appointments: Mrs. Brown becomes Director of Studies, Mr. Ballantyne Professional Development Director, Miss Collier Careers Adviser, Mr. G.H. Jones becomes Head of Middle School, Mr. M.P. Jones Public Relations Director and Mr. McLachlan Examinations Officer. Mr. Watson is now i/c General Studies, Mrs. Hesp i/c Value Added Analysis, Miss Matthews Deputy Head of Whitworth House and Miss Raw Deputy Head of Fraser House. Mr. Greenall is i/c the Audit of Cross-Curricular IT.

The week from April 27th to May 1st 1998 our HMC School Inspection took place. The Head Master writes about it in this edition (p. 11).

In the Lent Term of 1999 the Preparatory Department is expected to move onto our site, housed in the main building. Details appear in the Bursar's Report and the move will of course be fully covered in the 1999 "Hulmeian".

Speech Day was held in the Bridgewater Hall on Wednesday 17th September; the Principal Speaker was Professor Sir Roland Smith, Chancellor of UMIST and Chairman of Manchester United plc. The Founder's Day Service was held on 3rd March 1998 in Manchester Cathedral; the Preacher was the Venerable Richard. J. Gillings, Archdeacon of Macclesfield, and the anthem was "Jerusalem on High" by Sir Frederick Gore Ousley.

For the School Year 1997/98, T.G. Safdar and M.J. Whyatt were Joint Heads of School. The School Prefects were as follows: O. Ademosu, N. Agarwal, H. Anwar, C.A. Baker, T.R. Barraclough, A.K. Burki, J. Daniels, D. Durrance, S.T.R. Flood, M.R. Gale, J.L. Green, J.T. Higgins, M.J. Kay, B.C. Kent, W.A. Khan, C.E. Lelonek, R.A. Longworth, A. Meakin, D.A.C. Melmoth, S.L. Moore, P.R. Murphy, G.D. Roberts, P. Shah, B.J. Stafford, D. Trivedi and K.J. Vites.

We congratulate the following students on their Oxford and Cambridge places: at Oxford Niki Jerath to read Economics and Management at Somerville, and at Cambridge Michael Gale to read Medicine at Magdalene.

Charities Week this year raised £10,000 for the British Heart Foundation (details on page 38).

We congratulate Mr. Fisher on his promotion in the CCF from Major to Lieutenant-colonel.

We are pleased that Miss Raw is now the new Sports Editor of the "Hulmeian".

* * * *

VALETE

MRS. I.B. WRIGHT

Mrs Wright joined us in 1978 to teach German at all levels, and for twenty years has been an outstanding and inspirational teacher.

Pupils very often refuse to believe that she has been part time throughout her career here, so unstintingly does she give of her free time in preparation, follow-up and interviewing. Her results have always been excellent. Her single-minded and energetic devotion to kindling a love of things German has communicated itself to generations of Hulmeians. A stickler for standards, she is not however a martinet; she has a lively sense of humour and Room 48 still echoes to her classes' renditions of "Eine kleine Deutschmusik".

Barbara Wright initiated, and in alternate years has led, our Werl Exchange, now in its eighteenth year. She has twice invited, and offered hospitality to, a practising teacher from Germany to spend a month with us in the classroom, joining in the teaching of the subject.

In 1989 she hosted and organised a Sixth Form conference here for about 300 students about the impending European Union. She has organised a class link with a school in Latvia and a whole day for our entire Fourth Year, showing films on loan from the Goethe Institute, about the Nazi régime and the lessons to be learned from it for all humankind. She has found several Work Experience placements for our

Sixth Formers in Germany. The need to break down all forms of prejudice has been one of Mrs Wright's great preoccupations, both here and in her work for the Association for Language Learning of which she has been the German Language Committee Secretary since 1992, organising many conferences here and in Germany.

Mrs Wright has often been asked to welcome whole groups of student teachers from the MMU into her lessons here, so exemplary and imaginative have they been.

Under her maiden name of Irmgard Meyer, she has published many resources for teaching German and has twice been presenter for radio/TV series for learners of the language. It is appropriate that she did a broadcast for Thames Television some years ago about the town of Hamlin (Hameln), home of the Pied Piper, since she herself is a charismatic



inspirer of young people; she has been very largely responsible for the frequent popularity of German at Fourth and Sixth Form level, and many of her former pupils keep in touch with her in their adult life, often from Germany - or even Werl!

Mrs Wright's involvements at William Hulme's Grammar School have by no means been restricted to German. For a time she also taught French here. She has been a House Tutor for Whitworth during our early years of co-education, and helped backstage with costumes etc for school productions, which she has always loyally supported. She will be sadly missed, and we all wish her every happiness in her well-deserved retirement. She intends to pursue other interests, horticultural as well as in the world of German, and we are sure she will bring to these the same unflagging energy and enthusiasm for which she will be so well remembered here.

J.G. Hofton & G.J. Turner.

MR. PAUL WELCH

Mr Welch left us after a four year stay in the Biology Department, where he successfully taught pupils in all years with enthusiasm and skill. Mr Welch also contributed in other areas, in particular he was responsible for developing the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme within the School and assisted with Junior School swimming. In spite of his other commitments, he also managed to complete an MA in school management during his time here. We wish Mr Welch well in his new post at Cheadle Hulme School.

D.G. Barnes

MR. CHARLES COTTON

Mr Cotton has left us to take up a Head of Department post in London after spending three years in the Physics Department. This was Mr Cotton's second stay at William Hulme's, as he was also a pupil here between 1975 and 1982, when his ability in physics was rewarded with a place at Oxford University. His teaching will be remembered by all his pupils for his great enthusiasm for the subject, which will also be missed by his colleagues in the department.

Mr Cotton also made valuable contributions to stage sound and lighting, lacrosse and Jewish assemblies. We wish him well for the future.

D.G. Barnes

MRS. LINDA HAMPSON

A graduate of the University of Leeds, Linda Hampson joined the Modern Languages Department in 1995 where she taught French. She spent some years first as an Officer in the Royal Navy and then in industry before deciding to make a career in teaching. (Linda, was in fact, one of the first student teachers to be trained by us under the new 'mentor' system.) From the outset Linda proved to be a most dedicated teacher, thoroughly professional in every way. All her pupils have cause to be grateful to her for the meticulous care she took over her work and the creative and thoughtful way she went about drawing out the potential of each of them. As a result her lessons were both lively and engaging and she imparted her knowledge of French and her love of France with infectious enthusiasm and humour. Her pupils, whether in a Lower School Form or in a Sixth Form set, also benefited greatly from being taught by someone who had exacting standards. Linda also gave unstintingly of her time outside the classroom: with her wide-ranging experience she was the ideal person to advise the Sixth Form about opportunities for work experience in Europe. Being an early riser she could be found before school started in R.68 recording French Satellite programmes for use later that day in her Sixth Form lessons as well as for use by all staff to use with their Sixth Forms; she regularly gave a helping hand during the dinner times with the French club. She also accompanied pupils on CCF camp and was a form tutor and badminton coach. Linda was a congenial colleague, warm-hearted, lively and good fun. She leaves us to take up the post of Modern Languages teacher at Wolsingham School, Bishop Auckland, close to her home town. She loved every minute of her time spent teaching at William Hulme's and we thank her for the valuable contribution she made whilst here. We wish Linda and her family every success and happiness in the years ahead.

J.G.Hofton
L.A. Ballantyne

MR. SIMON PARKIN

In such a short time Simon has made a big impact on the staff and pupils at William Hulme's. During his time with us he ran the Junior Drama Club, singing in the choir, playing the piano at assembly, turning Room B into a wing of the Tate Gallery, sorting out a form dispute without loss of blood, offering to file Coursework folders, doing a cover without complaint, puncturing pomposity with a smile and maintaining sanity when all around were losing theirs.

For someone of such ability - his lessons were given the highest marks by the Inspector - he never displayed the slightest touch of arrogance or complacency. I remember observing a Year 10 lesson when he was introducing 'Twelfth Night' and envied such confidence and competence: the class were spellbound and so was I. Simon has that wonderful knack of thinking very quickly on his feet and responding to the mood and atmosphere of a class, so he's not afraid of throwing his lesson plans in the metaphorical bin as and when required. He also manages that very difficult balancing act of establishing good discipline with a light touch. If he could manufacture this teachers' elixir, bottle and sell it, he could make a lot of money as well as making a lot of pupils - and teacher - very happy.

In two years Simon has more than exceeded my hopes for his development and I sometimes have found it difficult to believe that Simon has only been teaching for two years, such has been the apparently effortless ease with which he has done his job. But it's not been sleight of hand; it's not been magic. Simon has been a real presence and worked hard, and for all he has given to William Hulme's we are truly thankful.

T. P. Heavisides

MR. CHRIS WOLSEY

Chris Wolsey joined William Hulme's Grammar School in September 1997 to teach History at all levels. He quickly settled in the work of the department, engaged the interest of his pupils at all levels, and impressed his colleagues with his phenomenally hard work. I am very grateful for his revision of parts of the syllabus, and for all his hard work with the Sixth Form, especially in helping pupils to research their Personal Study. Those who took part in the visits to the National Film Theatre in April and the landscape history course at Hardraw in June know how much he contributed to their success. Chris was strongly involved in the Junior and Senior Debating Societies and, for the latter part of the years, was 1K's form tutor. We wish him every success in his new post at Churchers College.

P.J. Callaghan

* * * *

OBITUARIES

HERBERT WINTERBOTTOM

1921 - 1997

When the present organ was installed in the New Hall, the School was fortunate enough to secure the services of Dr Winterbottom as a visiting teacher for those learning to play the new instrument. As part of his association with William Hulme's, he also played the organ in the Free Trade Hall for us when our Speech Days were held there.

As a young man, Herbert Winterbottom trained and worked as an engineer, but it was his enthusiasm for the mechanism and repertoire of the church organ which became the driving force of his life. He emerged as an authority on the evolution of the pipe organ in Western Europe and on the church music which has been written for it down the centuries. The breadth and depth of his musicianship led to his being appointed Director of Music at Salford University and organ professor at the Royal Northern College of Music. He travelled widely through France, Holland and Germany, researching, teaching and giving recitals. He came to realise that, through his music-making, he could help to rebuild human relations within the shattered communities of post-war Europe and his achievements in this respect were acknowledged in the award of an Albert Einstein Nobel Peace Prize in 1991.

He touched so many people's lives in so many different ways and he was an inspiration to his pupils - seldom can Hulmeians have had so remarkable and distinguished a mentor.

H. N. Beggs

KENNETH MERCER, ERD, ATD, DA (WHGS 1928 - 1934)

Kenneth Mercer left William Hulme's Grammar School in 1934. His autobiography, "Peace, War and Recovery," contains the following reference: "Jock (Mr Anderson, the only teacher at WHGS I ever feared) would always arrive slightly late, and a little out of breath, for our form room was up a steep and winding staircase, admirable for the sentry who would be posted on the landing outside to give us early warning of the Beak's arrival below. Then Jock entered to a hushed class."....(Mr Turner thinks this refers to the stairs running up to Rooms 16 and 17, but I think it refers to the backstairs

behind Room 11. Jock would have spotted a "spy" looking over the rails by Room 16. Although he did not go into the Sixth Form, Kenneth Mercer had a tremendous affection for Hulme and it was a formative influence on him.

After leaving school, Kenneth journeyed to Canada and after this experience found employment with a Manchester Photographic firm, before joining the army to be commissioned as an officer in the East Lancashire Regiment. Kenneth felt it keenly that he was not with his regiment at Dunkirk. He was posted to Nigeria, when he returned after a few years downgraded medically from the effects of malaria. Kenneth Mercer was then employed in training young soldiers who were going to fight in France after the D Day landings. By then Kenneth was married and his young wife, Kitty, was expecting their first child. Kenneth was "torn" between his commitment to his young recruits and that to his family. Eventually he persuaded a Medical Officer to pass him fit to go to France and "upgrade" him medically if he could get over the assault course. By dint of hard practice with his recruits Kenneth succeeded and was posted to France. In the battle of Normandy Kenneth Mercer was very seriously wounded, but he survived. One reads with sheer disbelief the callous comment of a doctor on his Pensions Board who queried his decision to go to France despite his poor medical grading and enquired if he was unhappily married at the time!!!

After the war Kenneth Mercer trained to become an Art teacher and thus temporarily returned to WHGS for a teaching practice. Qualified he spent a lifetime teaching at Paston School, Norfolk-Colfox School (a co-educational comprehensive school) in Dorset where he was Head of Art, then a spell as Head of Art at St Catherine's (a girls' independent school, near Guildford) and then as Head of Art and Housemaster at the Quaker Sibford School near Banbury. Ill health then led Kenneth to take a part-time post at New College School after which he retired. Kenneth achieved some distinction as a portrait artist and was commissioned to paint such notables as Earl Mountbatten, David Sheppard, former Bishop of Liverpool and George Carey, the present Archbishop of Canterbury.

When I contacted Kenneth, he was delighted to hear news of WHGS and I promised to get any information I could on his surviving contemporaries. Alas he died on January 5th this year after a short illness. He had received a copy of "The Hulmeian" from Mr Turner a few days before. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to his wife, Kitty, and their two sons and their families. His autobiography, "Peace, War and Recovery" is in the School library. It is a very moving and readable book, recording the experiences of an artist who, as a man, was utterly artless, of a simple firm faith and brave - a Hulmeian typical of his generation who fought to rid the world of Nazism.

Alan Blight

* * * *

HMC INSPECTION

The idea of the systematic audit of a school's effectiveness, by impartial external assessors, is one that is relatively new in the educational field. Therefore, the arrival of twelve inspectors from the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference Inspection Service to spend a week in the School, was an event that had never been experienced previously by any of the teaching staff.

Many hours of preparation of advanced information by the Heads of Department and by Mr. M.P. Jones and Dr. D.G. Barnes had ensured that the Inspection Team was thoroughly briefed for their task. Even so, the anticipation of having an inspector sitting in lessons and passing judgement on the quality of teaching and learning did generate a degree of apprehension among the teachers. However, once the process began and the first day was over, it became apparent that it was easy to integrate the presence of the inspectors into the lessons and even to make use of them. The dialogue that developed between the inspection team and the teaching staff proved to be both stimulating and productive.

The focus of the inspection was clearly upon the performance of the School as an educational institution and therefore most attention was paid to what happened in the classroom. However, the team also reviewed other facts of school life such as pastoral care, administration, facilities, equipment and extra-curricular activities. In each case the appraisal considered how these things influenced the quality of the education provided.

The final report, which ran to 48 pages, provided fascinating reading for those interested in the work of the School. It included much praise, especially of the standard of teaching and the quality of relationships within the School community, and a series of recommendations that focused on three areas. Firstly the inspectors advised that more attention should be paid to the in-service training of experienced teachers to ensure that we kept up-to-date with recent developments in education. They noted that in the strongest subjects the teaching was marked by enthusiasm, variety of approach, challenge to the most and the less able, pupil participation and thorough planning. However there were few formal occasions when teachers could share good practice and while many teachers attended courses, this was on their own initiative and not as part of a co-ordinated programme of training.

Secondly, the curriculum was complicated and in need of a thorough review. They particularly recommended that the School should take account of recent changes in the State Education System particularly the introduction of the National Curriculum and the reform of 16 to 19 Education.

Finally the report noted that the facilities for the teaching of Information Technology were developed five years ago. They were then in the forefront of this field, but now were rather dated and it was time to upgrade them.

None of these key recommendations came as a surprise to me or to my senior staff. They had already been identified as priority areas. However, it was extremely useful to have our conclusions confirmed by impartial observers. The Action Plan, that has been prepared in response to the report, should ensure that improvements in all these fields are achieved within the next three years. At that time it will be necessary to have another systematic review.

Reflecting on the process of inspection, I am of the opinion that it is a useful and stimulating exercise. It cannot fail to have beneficial effects upon the operation of the School and the quality of the education that it provides. My recent experience has convinced me that all schools should be subject to inspection on a four or five year cycle because they would prevent them from becoming complacent and too set in their ways.

B.J. Purvis

SPEECH DAY 1997

For the second successive year, this was held at the Bridgewater Hall. The Guest Speaker was Professor Sir Roland Smith, Chancellor of UMIST, Chairman of Manchester United plc, formerly Director of the Bank of England and Chairman of British Aerospace.

In his report the Head Master highlighted the advantages of developing maturity, in a School like ours just as in an individual. William Hulme's Grammar School has "built upon past experiences, developed confidence in its aims and has a reassuring certainty about the values which it promotes." Above all we are and shall remain a Grammar School, whose hall-mark is high academic achievement based on three key factors, reiterated at the very end of his speech:

1. Sound teaching.
2. Firm discipline.
3. High expectations.

He praised our pupils' openness, mutual respect and harmony between traditions, cultures, religions and ethnic groups. He referred warmly to the work of his predecessor Mr Briggs, as well as to other colleagues who left in 1997, particularly Mr Langford, whose whole life has been dedicated to the School. On a much sadder note, he paid tribute to the late Tim Edwards of our Sixth Form, at whose sudden death in June 1997 we were all so shocked and grieved.

After the usual review of the School Year, including a "spot" for Tabassum Safdar to describe our sporting activities, he concluded with a look into the future - the full integration of our Prep Dept, and our responses to the consequences of the abolition of the Assisted Places Scheme.

Professor Sir Roland Smith, in his address, identified himself as a Mancunian born and bred. Blending a dry, throw-away humour with serious illustrations from his many involvements about the importance of recognising that life is competitive, he urged our students to react positively to this fact. Instead of vacuous clichés, he cited examples from many fields - industry, sport and education.

As in 1996, the School Concert band punctuated the proceeding with two delightful and utterly professional sequences of music in contrasting styles.

G.J. Turner

DESTINATIONS OF LEAVERS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 1996-97

UAS	Ahmad, Tabasem	Manchester University	Biological Sciences
ULS	Ahmed, Imtayaz	London (LSE)	Management Sciences
UDAM	Ahmed, Riaz	Ridge Danyers College	A Levels
ULS	Akhtar, Adam H	Nottingham University	Architecture
UMHG	Alderson, Caroline E	Manchester Metropolitan	University Hotel Management/Tourism
UDAM	Amadi, Paul C	Bradford University	Biomedical Science
UDAM	Amir, Eitan	Manchester University (1998)	Medicine
UTPH	Ashley, Caroline J		
UAS	Ashton, Rebecca J	University of Northumbria	Environmental Management
ULS	Badesha, Pritpal	Manchester University	Medicine
UMPJ	Bagley, Kelly S	Sheffield University	History
UMDW	Beales, Paul A	Edinburgh University	Physics
UMDW	Bedi, Riana	University of Wales - Cardiff	Business Studies
UPMB	Beenstock, Richard	Birmingham University	Commerce with Spanish
UHNV	Bell, Nicholas	University of Northumbria	Business Studies
UAS	Bishopp, Daniel T N	Sheffield University	Computer Systems Engineering
UGNG	Brocklehurst, Guy R	University of Newcastle (1998)	Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering
UMPJ	Brook, Geraldine M	Liverpool John Moores University	Physical Education (Secondary)
UHNV	Calderbank, James T	Loughborough Univ. of Technology	Comm.Management/Quantity Surveying
UPMB	Camarasa, Jos.-Manuel		
ULS	Chaudhri Fazal H	London Univ. - Imperial College	Chemical Engineering
ULS	Choularton, Edward M	Durham University	Economics
UAS	Cochrane, Sarah J	Cambridge University (Trinity)	Veterinary Medicine
UGNG	Craven, Thomas L	Leeds University	Architectural Engineering
UMPJ	Davenport, Nicholas J		
UGNG	De Freitas, Jacqueline H	Birmingham University	Mechanical Engineering
UJGH	De Silva, Asha C	Lancaster University	German Studies

UJGH	Dodd, Michael J	Stirling University	Business Studies & Business Law
UDAM	Edmundson, Paul R		
UEGT	Edwards, L Frances	Sheffield University	English Literature
UMDW	Ellis, Charles W	University of St Andrews	Computer Science
UPMB	Fleming, Victoria	Univ. College of Wales, Aberystwyth	Law with Spanish
UAS	Ganguly, Bidhan	Leicester University	Economics with Law
UMHG	Gilbert, David S	Liverpool University	History / Sports Science
UPMB	Gmbikian, Angelika		
UMDW	Goodwin, Rachel C	Birmingham University	Mechanical Engineering
UGNG	Gordon, Jonathan A	Leeds University	Mechanical Engineering
UMDW	Greenall, Aaron	Manchester University	Physics
UMDW	Hewison, Christopher J	University of St Andrews	Economics
UJGH	Heynes, Eleanor G	Manchester University	European Studies with German
UHNV	Hidges, Jon	University of Newcastle	Civil & Environmental Engineering
UTPH	Holt, Philip		
UDAM	Ives, Louise E	York University	Psychology
UPMB	Johnson, Samantha L K	Salford University	Italian/Hispanic Studies
UTPH	Johnson, Simon R		
UHNV	Johnston, Deborah J	Manchester Metropolitan University	Geography
UTPH	Kellett, Stephen J C	Year out	
UJGH	Khan, Soraya N	Univ.Coll.of North.Wales, Bangor	Linguistics / English
UDAM	Khoshneviszadeh, Sara E	Leeds University	Medicine
UJGH	Kumar, Sanjeev	Manchester Metropolitan University	Financial Services
UEGT	Lawson, Jane A	Keele University	
UMPJ	Leinhardt, James S	Leeds Metropolitan University	History & Politics
UEGT	Leveson, Laura H	Univ. of Central Eng. in Birmingham	Marketing
UTPH	Louden, Richard M	Leeds University	History
UMPJ	Mackay, Katrina	Year out	
UEGT	Majid, Asif	Year out	
UMPJ	Marks, Ashley H	Birmingham University (1998)	Accounting & Finance
UHNV	Matson, Andrew J D	Leeds University (1998)	Medicine
UHNV	Matthews, Francesca M I C	London - Royal Holloway & Bedford N	Geology / Environmental Studies
UPMB	Mattison, Lucy J	London - University College	French & Spanish
UJGH	Newton, Miles W	Edge Hill College of Higher Educn.	Sports Studies
UTPH	Ofoche, Obiora I		
UEGT	O'Keefe, Jonathan T	University of St Andrews	Economics
UHNV	Olden, Mark T	University of Northumbria	Business Studies
UGNG	Partington, Jorden A D	University of Newcastle	Mechanical Engineering
UTPH	Patel, Nilesh S		
UGNG	Pimbley, Matthew R	Salford University	Civil Engineering
UMDW	Porter, Richard T	Bristol University	Mechanical Engineering
UAS	Ramsumair, Laura-Marie	Sheffield Hallam University	Law
UMHG	Riste, Louisa M		
UMPJ	Robinson, Mathew E	Leeds Metropolitan University	Business Management
UMDW	Saddiq, Bilal	Xaverian College, Manchester	A Levels
UPMB	Sagar, Amarjit K	University of Wales - Cardiff	Law with Spanish
UJGH	Seddon, Robert M	Reading University	Psychology
UPMB	Seel, Victoria E	Manchester University	French and Spanish
UAS	Shah, Ali J H	Dundee University	Accountancy
UPMB	Shaw, Caroline H	Nottingham University	English Studies
UGNG	Silver, James T P		
UDAM	Smith, Craig C A	Plymouth University	Marine Biology / Ecology
UDAM	Sobhani, Shabbir	Bradford University	Optometry
ULS	Sobti, Tanuj		
UMDW	Tsang, William C-Y	UMIST	Microelectronic Systems Engineering
UEGT	Vara, Preyesh K		
UPMB	Weeden, Emma L C	Oxford University (St Hugh's)	Modern Languages
UMPJ	Wellock, Louise A	Manchester Metropolitan University	Early Childhood Studies
UAS	Westbrook, Rachel H	Sheffield University	Medicine
ULS	Williams, Kate L	Manchester University	Physics
UEGT	Williams, Victoria L	Sheffield University	History
UGNG	Xidacis, Alexander S M	Birmingham University	Mechanical Engineering
UTPH	Zoeftig, Catherine A E	Staffordshire University	Environmental Studies/Geography
UJGH	Zucker, Joanna Y	Leeds Metropolitan University	Business & Information Management

PRIZE LIST 1998

SPECIAL PRIZES

Anderson English Essay Prize: N.G. Barratt
 Aspinall Religious Knowledge Prize: E. Cruickshank
 C.H. Jones Prize: N. Agarwal
 Caswell Prize: G.A. Rowlands
 Colin Midwood Prize: R.E. Lee
 Colin Midwood Prize: G.D. Roberts
 D. LL. Griffiths Prize for Medical Subjects: A.K. Burki
 D.M. Williams Memorial Prize for Music: J. Daniels
 E.B. Jackson Prize: D. Trivedi
 Eric Barnes Memorial Prize & Trophy: B.H. Veitch
 Geoffrey Cocker Memorial Prize: E. Cruickshank
 Gozzard Prize for Craft: A.R. Pickford
 Graham Johnson Memorial Prize: K.J. Vites
 Halpin History Essay Prize: J.T. Higgins
 J.A. Barber Prize: D.A.C. Melmoth
 James Hickman Prize for Sporting Achievement: R.L. Aldersley
 J.N. Hopwood Reading Prize (Senior): N. Juma
 J.N. Hopwood Reading Prize (Junior): K. Gedal
 Junior History Prize: L.C. Hanford
 Prize for Original Verse (Middle & Junior): S.P. Onyemem
 R.A. Haynes Prize for Photography: A.K. Burki
 R.A. Haynes Prize for Photography: M. Prasad
 Sir Joseph Gilbert Prize: C.E. Lelonek
 Sir Joseph Gilbert Prize: D.A.C. Melmoth
 Library Award: J. Daniels
 Library Award: D.A.C. Melmoth
 Library Award: P.R. Murphy
 Library Award: B.J. Stafford
 Library Award: W.R.H. Stoddart
 The Watkins Prize (Heads of School): M.J. Whyatt
 The Watkins Prize (Heads of School): T.G. Safdar
 The Yates Prize: M.J. Kay
 Wolstenholme Memorial Prize for Art & Design: M.J. Whyatt
 Woollam Scholarship: I. Lazz-Onyenobi

UPPER SIXTH

Allman Further Mathematics: B.H. Veitch
 Classical Studies: N.L.R. Smith
 Dehn History: T.R. Barraclough
 Design: D.A.C. Melmoth
 Dorrington Latin: R.C.K. Ip
 Eastwood Geology: R.D. Williams
 Hewlett Geography: D.A.C. Melmoth
 Knoop English Language: D. Uflaz
 Knoop English Literature: A.E. Cooke
 Lymer Mathematics: J. Haboubi
 Margaret Cruttenden Art: M.J. Whyatt
 Music: C.L. Keable
 O.H.A. Biology: J. Daniels
 Palmer Chemistry: A. Lee
 Palmer Physics: G.A. Rowlands
 Pankhurst Spanish: A.C.L. Preston
 Rodgers Business Studies: A.J. Power
 Simon Smith Economics: R.N. Jerath
 Vlies French: D. Uflaz
 Vlies German: N. Agarwal

LOWER SIXTH

Business Studies: E.C. Cohen
 Chemistry: S. Seedat
 Classical Studies: A. Sagar
 Design: E. Chui
 Economics: M. Mirza
 Forrest English Language: E. Nwator
 Forrest English Literature: L.J. Simon
 Forrest English Combined Studies: R.M. Roy
 Further Mathematics: F.R. Youssef
 Geography: R.D. Fisher
 Geology: R.D. Fisher
 German: J.R. Arnold
 Hawley French: J.M. Shaw
 K. Arran Mathematics: S. Seedat
 Latin: J.M. Shaw
 Music: D.J. Coghill
 Physics: R. Hussain
 Politics: M. Mirza
 Pontiero Spanish: J.M. Shaw
 S.K. Appleton Biology: R. Hussain
 S.K. Appleton Biology: B.M. Green
 Religious Studies: E. Nwator

FIFTH YEAR

Art: L.A. Goodwin
 Biology: A.J. Race
 Caiger French: M.J. Mkumbwa
 Chemistry: A.J. Race
 Design: S. Khan
 German: J. Wu
 Geology: M.S. Hamid
 Greek: N.R. Whitehead
 Hewlett Geography: A.L. Chaudhry
 History: E. Cruickshank
 Latin: M.J. Mkumbwa
 Mathematics: A.J. Race
 Mathematics: N.R. Whitehead
 Music: K. Greenall
 Parents' English: L-M Edwards
 Physics: A.J. Race
 Religious Studies: D. Baker
 Spanish: M.J. Mkumbwa

FOURTH YEAR

Art: D.T. Wood
Biology: S.L. John
Chemistry: F.C. Ridley
Design: R.O. Wakefield
English: A.U. Opara
French: F.C. Ridley
Geography: A.R.A. Maan
Geography: A.G. McLeod
Geology: D.L. Pitman
German: A.U. Opara
Greek: M. Ahmed
History: S. Bowe
Latin: A.U. Opara
Mathematics: D.S. Endlar
Music: B.J. Coffey
Physics: M. Ahmed
Religious Studies: D.T. Wood
Spanish: A.L. Robertson

THIRD YEAR

Art: B.A. Vara
Biology: D.M. Pole
Chemistry: C. T-O. Leung
Design: D. Goodkin
English: D. Goodkin
French: M. Al-Himdani
Geography: G. Singh
German: A.O. Race
Greek: J.M. McConville
History: P.J. Sunderland
Latin: J.M. McConville
Mathematics: C.T-O. Leung
Mathematics: J.M. McConville
Music: R.M. Goodwin
Physics: D. Goodkin
Physics: C.W. Hanford
Spanish: M. Al-Himdani

SECOND YEAR

Art: P.W. Royle
Biology: C.H.R. Bremer
Chemistry: R. Kumar
Design: P.S. Whitehead
English: C.E. Booker
French: N. Travis
Geography: N. Travis
German: C.E. Booker
Greek: A.Asalam
History: C.E.Booker
History: P. Keenlyside
Latin: C.E. Booker
Mathematics: C.E. Booker
Music: A.R.J. Clark
Physics: C.E. Booker
Religious Studies: D.I. Njegovan
Spanish: C.H.R. Bremer

FIRST YEAR

Art: O Ezeh
Biology: M. Al-Bayati
Chemistry: K. Ahmad
Design: A.R.M. Vittoz
English: Z.I. McKenzie
French: M. Pang
Geography: J. Mak
History: M. Pang
Latin: J. Mak
Mathematics: K. Ahmad
Music: M. Al-Bayati
Religious Studies: J. Yousafi
William Taylor Memorial Prize: L.C. Hanford

BURSAR'S CORNER

Since I wrote the entry for last year's magazine, too much of life in the Department has been spent waiting for the Planning Department in the City Council to give approval for work to start to move the Preparatory Department into the Main School site. This has been part of the Governors' plan from soon after the department was acquired in February 1997, but a combination of factors has meant that it had to be deferred till this year. Originally, it was the intention that the move would be completed in time for the new School year to begin in new classrooms, but because of the delays the move is now due to take place in time for the Lent Term 1999 to start under its new roof. With larger classrooms and more modern equipment and arrangements generally, this will provide the environment for a department of which the School can be truly proud and parents well pleased.

In order to accommodate the move of over 120 Preparatory Department pupils, a number of other departments are being relocated during the Summer holidays and as a result, builders are at work preparing rooms in the Main Building to accept the changes. From September, the Staff Common Room will have a loftier view on life, after its move to the first floor, and for many pupils lockers have been moved into form-rooms to provide a more centralised and homelier atmosphere for them. Later, work to refurbish the classrooms for the Preparatory Department and to provide toilet and playground facilities will begin. All in all this will be a significant investment in providing high-class facilities for high-class education. Being located on site will also enable pupils in the Department to enjoy the academic, sporting and games facilities of the Grammar School so much more easily.

The School Inspection which is reported on in more detail elsewhere in this magazine provided the spur to review many procedures in the Department. The resulting report gave us all cause for some pride and encouragement to continue to make improvements in the services we provide to the teaching staff. Our breakfast service with pupils and staff was very much appreciated by the Inspector who wanted to jog in to School and have a swim before the main work of his day.

We were sad when Kate Iver left the office staff to join a firm in Altrincham. After four years here she had become a popular member of staff. Her successor is Anne McNicholas, sister of the Head Master's Secretary, Bernadette. John Grant and two other members of the kitchen staff left during the year for other jobs in catering. Their successors will start in September. One of the long-standing members of the department, Mrs Mary Keogh, left in February. She had joined in 1987 and during her eleven years here must have swept and cleaned many square miles of floor and wall space. A popular member of the team, we miss her.

The Catering Department was well and truly on parade for the first Founder's Dinner, held in the School on the day before Founder's Day. The guests, Governors and members of staff enjoyed an excellent dinner in the impressive atmosphere of the New Hall. Such success almost inevitably means that the event will be repeated regularly in the future.

The main work of the department continues smoothly under the surface of the School organisation. Maintenance, repairs, cleaning, catering, grounds work, accounts and the secretarial work all go ahead, as they should, without pupils and staff having to give them much thought. The staff who provide them are skilled and reliable and deserve the thanks which I, for one, offer too infrequently but nevertheless most sincerely.

M. H. Peters

HARRIS HOUSE

Harris House has had another very successful and active year, with an ever increasing variety of visiting groups passing through its doors. I am particularly pleased that a number of Old Hulmeians have visited the centre recently.

The buildings continue to be maintained and improved with a major refurbishment of the boys' shower/ toilet area taking place over the summer holidays. A fresh coat of paint was applied to the inside of the buildings over Easter, and it is planned to repair and repaint the external woodwork in the very near future.

The well established First Year form trips, designed to allow the pupils to get to know each other away from the formal school environment, were enjoyed by all. Highlights of these trips include meeting the animals at Holme Farm near Sedburgh, and exploring the depth of White Scar Caves near Ingleton.

This year also saw a new series of visits for the Second Year forms. Designed with a similar purpose to the First Year trips, these visits threw in the additional challenges of rock climbing, abseiling and potholing in the water that was waist deep in places. The activities were enjoyed by all, and I am very pleased that these trips are going ahead again next year.

None of these, or any other School trips to Harris House, are possible without the commitment and enthusiasm of the staff involved, and my thanks go to all those concerned.

Mr. A.R. Austen

DONNER LIBRARY

The library now has 14,000 items in stock. This is the size of a small public library, and for the first time the library is actually running out of shelf space. Hopefully we will be able to expand in the near future as space for books and pupils is at a premium.

Pupils are borrowing more books than ever, though my usual complaint applies that years three, four and five forget how to read.

We are hoping to upgrade the library computer system to Windows using the name companies' software on Windows with newer and quicker machines. The changes should take place in the next academic year.

After the stock take last year it was discovered that 1,332 books were missing. As this has never been attempted before there are no comparisons. We can only assume the time span to be 1989-1997 being the dates the library was computerised. So it has been a slow drip of books going missing from the library. The cost of missing books was £7,933, to replace them now would cost at least £10,000.

Last year the library prefects were John Daniels, David Melmoth, Paul Murphy, Will Stoddart and Ben Stafford. They worked hard (without realising it) and all the jobs were done quickly and efficiently. They were reliable and always cheerful; my thanks to them and very best wishes for the future.

This year the library prefects are Katie Chesworth, Richard Fisher, Ben Green, Stephanie Jackson and Neil McCleod - they have a hard act to follow. They are already making their presence felt.

The library is open between 8.00am and 3.45pm.

M. Evans

HIGH ACHIEVERS FRENCH VIDEO COMPETITION

Two of our Lower Sixth Modern Linguists, Vikram Luthra and Joanna Shaw, entered the High Achievers French Video Competition. Their delivery was straight to camera and they introduced some sophisticated techniques, such as panning, use of title credits and stills spliced into the footage.

Vikram spoke to camera for 5 minutes in French on: 'Le Vélo', and Joanna talked about her recent trip to Canada with the School ski party. We were delighted when for the second year running one of our entries (Vikram Luthra LJGH) won first prize: an invaluable two-week intensive French language course in Belgium - Value: £1,200.00!

J.G. Hofton

CD LIVE

In January Mr Hofton attended the BETT exhibition in London where he was presented with a free year's subscription to CDlive (Français Actuel*) by the French Consul.

* = a CDRom which allows pupils to access pre-selected materials in French from the Internet, including Video and Audio Clips from French TV and Radio.

The Modern Languages Department was awarded this prize after taking part in a pilot study last term. At present the service is available in French only, but the company hopes to make it available in German and Spanish soon.

G.J. Turner.





TV5 COMPETITION

Some fifth formers have recently taken part in the TV5 postcard competition. They had to write a postcard in French explaining why they would like to have French Satellite TV available in every room in the Zochonis Centre and why they would like to visit France. They also produced a class letter on the same themes. Adam Race typed up the composite letter on his own computer.

J.G. Hofton

A VISIT TO THE BRIGGS

(To celebrate Terry's retirement in September 1997, the Corfields set off for a four week visit to Singapore and Malaysia. Ingrid and Terry were stationed there with the Army from 1959 until 1962. During their tour they had planned a week of leisure, staying in a beautiful beach resort in Kuantan, on the East coast of Malaysia. Mr Corfield's report follows.)

It was from Kuantan that we contacted Mrs Briggs by telephone to arrange our visit; a quick look at the map showed that it was only a 190 mile journey and it should only take about four hours. We contacted our local Kuoni agent at our hotel, who arranged a very nice air conditioned, chauffeur-driven Limousine. What exactly Mr and Mrs Briggs thought of the ex-Head Porter and his wife arriving in such style is not known - but we felt great.

Arrival at the Kolej Tuanku Ja'afar was most impressive with a uniformed security officer paying us compliments in a smart military style. Again we felt great.

We were made most welcome by Mrs Briggs, were nicely refreshed with coffee and biscuits and given a conducted tour of their married quarter. The bathing pool in the garden and the sound of the waterfall made us feel quite cool.

Saturday mornings in Malaysian Schools are spent studying until noon and on the day of our visit, Mr Briggs chaired a staff meeting to discuss the problems of the rather nasty haze caused by forest fires in Indonesia. Many schools in the region had closed and many people were issued with and were wearing face masks. The college was to remain open - it was decided that the air quality in the accommodation buildings would be similar to that in the classrooms; studies would therefore continue as normal.

Lunch was arranged in the splendour of the adjoining golf club, where both Mr and Mrs Briggs are members. After lunch we were conducted on a tour of the college and though it was Saturday afternoon, the number of voluntary studies in progress was most surprising. A rehearsal for that evening's Inter-House Music Competition was in progress with the stage of the main assembly hall crowded with the local answer to the Spice Girls, all working very enthusiastically. An art class were very busy doing what 'Arties' do and a small party of 'The Lads' were conducting some scientific experiment with a skate board. Everybody was extremely polite, very happy to see us and many enquired as to whether the dreadful haze and lack of sunshine was in any way spoiling our holiday. Our answer - certainly not!

Our tour of the college lasted one hour, then it was back to the bungalow, a quick coffee and after one of the fastest six hours in our lives, our return journey to Kuantan.

Our overall impression was that Mr and Mrs Briggs were extremely happy living in paradise and have made the right decision in accepting the appointment as the college Head Master. They take a very great interest in local activities and have very quickly settled into their new lifestyles.

We are still very jealous!!!

T. Corfield.



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TRIPS ABROAD

GERMANY EXCHANGE

OFF TO MANCHESTER

On October 3rd 1997, we finally made it. We - 14 girls and boys, Mrs Wehmeier-Marx and Mr Marx - squeezed ourselves into a minibus that took us on a 3 hour trip to Rotterdam. There we were told that we were one and a half hours too early to get on board. The rich dinner, however, made up for the wait. After that we danced at the ship's disco till late at night and consequently reached Hull, tired and sleepy the following morning. The National Express coach took us via Leeds to Manchester where we met and were given a warm welcome by our host families.

At the weekend we had plenty of time to get used to each other and do things together. On Monday morning we all met at William Hulme's Grammar School and got a first impression of what British school life is like: starting at 8.45am (7.45 in Germany) and finishing at 3.45pm (1.05pm in Germany), having lunch at school, school assembly, the Combined Cadet Forces and lots more. Mr Turner had arranged an excellent programme for our time in Manchester: interesting outings to Chester, Liverpool and Quarry Bank Mill where we got a vivid idea of the history and culture of Britain's north west in general, and a long walk through Castlefield and the city centre, in particular, showing us Manchester's history. The undisputed highlight of the programme, however, was for British and German students alike our trip to Alton Towers where we spent our last but one day together with our English partners.

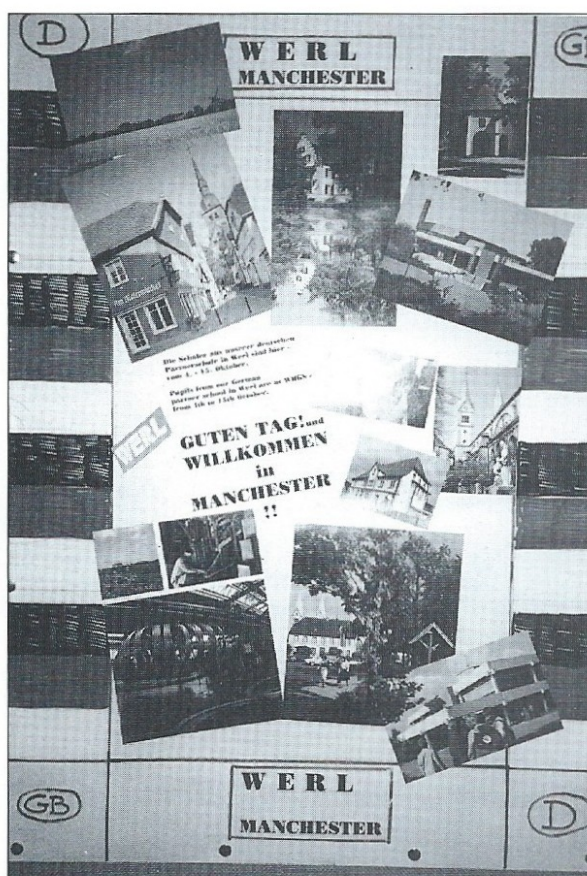
On Wednesday, 15th October 1997, it was unfortunately time to say goodbye; at about noon William Hulme's minibus took us to Chorlton Street coach station, from where we started our journey back to Hull. The return on the ferry was nice and entertaining again but, nevertheless, on Thursday afternoon we were all happy to be back in Werl safe and sound after a more than 24 hour journey.

All in all, we really enjoyed our time in Manchester and are now looking forward to our partners coming to Werl in February 1998. We say many, many thanks to Mr Turner for the full programme and the good organisation, the teachers at WHGS for their friendly help and understanding and especially to our host families for their wonderful hospitality. Many thanks also to the Marx couple, our caring travel guides.

Mariele Alteköster und Alexandra Weich.
Oberstufe, Marien-Gymnasium.



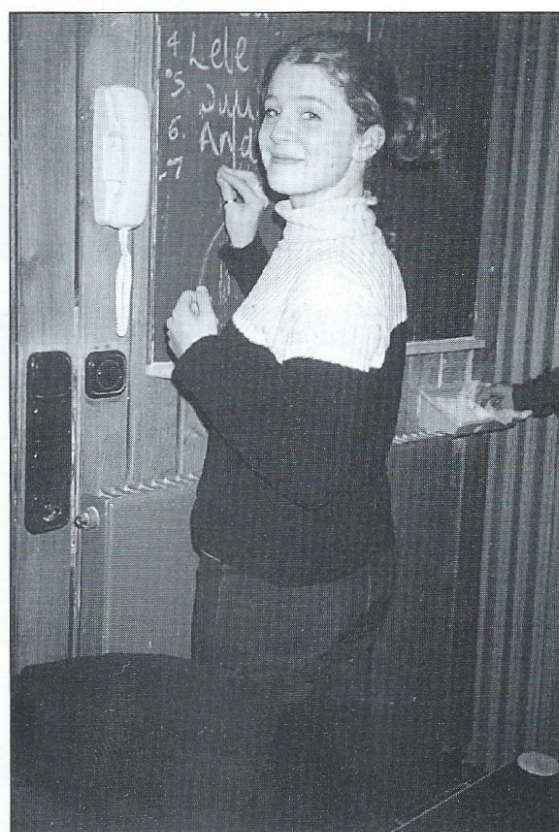
Mr Hofton and Herr Marx flank the 1997/8 exchange group.



Mrs Wright's last display of welcome, in this her retirement year.
But she isn't going to lose contact with our Werl friends!



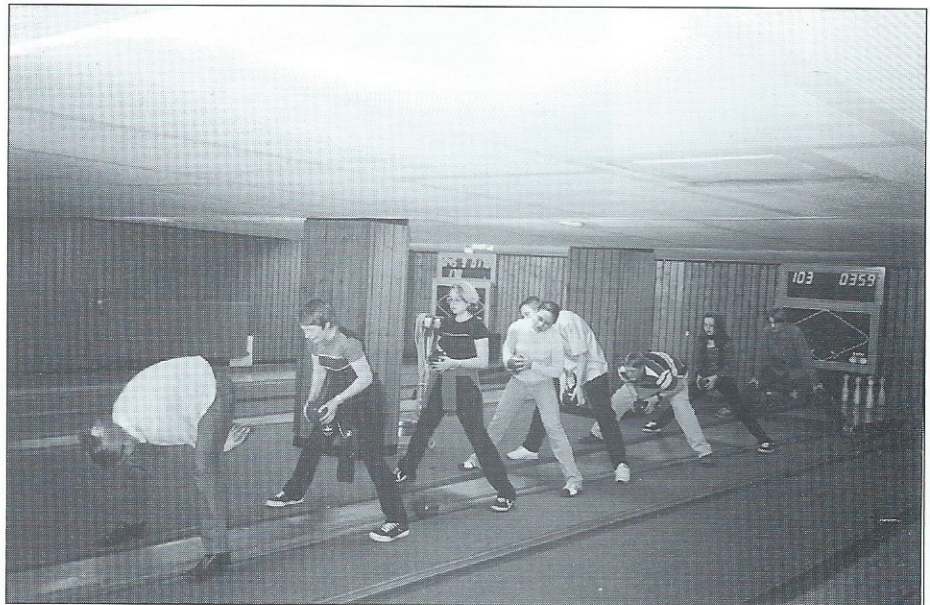
"Talk and chalk" is alive and well, and living in Werl.
Elisabeth Keable, O.H. - this year's Assistentin at the Marien-Gymnasium, Werl.



Elli Metcalfe sorts out the bowling teams at the Kegelbahn.



Mancunians prepare to celebrate a second, lasting Peace of Westphalia in Münster.



Unofficial variation of 10-pin bowling; NOT the usual German rules!



Social evening in Werl.

GERMAN EXCHANGE

The German Exchange: An event that happens each year. 11 days spent in Germany with an exchange partner, in a small town called Werl, near Dortmund, by about 16 German students at William Hulme's Grammar School.

The party set off at the early hour of 6.40am from Manchester Airport on 14th February. We were flying to Düsseldorf, where we had half an hour to get off the plane, get our luggage and get on a train to Dortmund. Not an easy feat! Amazingly everyone made it. In Dortmund we had 30 minutes to 'relax' and get another train to Werl, our residence for the next week and a half.

Our exchange partners had already visited us last October, and now it was our turn to visit them. Unfortunately, teachers also had to go as part of the deal!! However, this didn't turn out so badly, as everyone saw a different side to Mr Turner and Mr Gracey. In theory, a female teacher should also have gone, but due to Mrs Wright's unfortunate illness, we didn't have one. However Nicola Whiterod in the Upper Sixth was made 'honorary teacher' for the week.

At the station in Werl, everyone moved into a semi-circle. A photo was taken for the local paper, and then it was time to say goodbye to the rest of the English, as we all went our separate ways, to the depths of a German household.

On the Monday, after meeting at the school, we went into the town for a talk by the 'Bürgermeister' - the Mayor - of Werl, in which we learnt about the past and present of the town.

We did of course see some interesting sights. We spent a day in Köln (Cologne) and those who could stomach it walked to the top of Cologne Cathedral - all 199 steps of it. We also visited a Roman-Germanic museum, where we were given the past, present and future of every Mosaic stone in the building, in German and English. Even Mr Gracey thought this was too much of a good thing! Free time for shopping was then given. A much needed relief!

Another trip was to the city of Münster, a small city with a lot of churches. A couple were visited, then we had free time again. A rather less intellectual trip had also been planned, to the "Aquadrom" in Bochum. Everyone couldn't wait to get into their costumes and into the pool. Talking of costumes, we were in Germany for the week of the carnival, and if you were lucky enough, your partner made you dress up in something. The costumes the Germans were wearing ranged from a grim reaper to a bus-stop. My partner was kind enough to make me dress up as a prisoner. I'll have to return the favour someday!

On the last night, we had a "get together" in the Galerie, favourite meeting-place of Werl's young people. A good time was had by all.

A fantastic time was had by everyone involved, and a huge thank you goes out to Mr Turner and Mr Gracey.

Chloë Pepall (LJGH)

SPANISH EXCHANGE

Following the September meeting for parents and pupils fourteen pupils participated this year of whom eleven were girls. Six of these were the entire lower sixth-form A-level class. Three had taken part in 1996 and the remaining eight were from the second, third and fourth forms.

As the Lent Term drew on and the date for departure came closer, one by one pupils received a letter from their Spanish partner-to-be. Smiles and sighs of relief from those whose partners looked suitable, but very anxious faces on those whose partner was perhaps too young or maybe lived too far away from the others. Almost at the last minute the final pairing was made and we set off for Salamanca, via Manchester Airport and Madrid, just a few days before the end of term.

After our winter most of us longed for some typical Spanish sun for a couple of weeks and on arrival we were not disappointed. We all expected the occasional day of rain or cloud, so it was a negative feature this year that the weather rarely lived up to our hopes. One or two pupils found it hard to adjust at first to living in new and very strange circumstances: away from all friends and family (some of the time), a new culture and - not least - a foreign language which one had to use all the time. Within a day or so these problems were resolved, assisted no doubt by visits to Madrid, a cake factory and Avila - all during the first week.

After a week everyone had become much more used to using Spanish most of the time and were starting to make real progress with the language. As a teacher, this is a real pleasure to witness and it is, of course, the motivation for organising an exchange. There were more trips to come: Alba de Tormes (with its notorious relics of Santa Teresa and Saint John of the Cross), Toledo (many monuments and the hottest, sunniest day of the stay) and the local Gaceta newspaper.

When the Spaniards came to stay with us in July the weather was scarcely better than in Salamanca in April, but we managed to show them the best of Manchester and its surrounding area. I suppose everyone liked the visit to Alton Towers most but I was impressed by the interest and involvement shown by the Spaniards when they were taken on a guided tour of Manchester on their first full day here. Chester, however, appealed less to them. A party at a city centre Spanish restaurant rounded off the exchange before the Spaniards departed, leaving us all exhausted but better for the experience.

P M Bull
Head of Spanish

FRENCH TRIP

The trip took place from Saturday 25th to Wednesday 29th June. We left school at 7.30am on the Saturday morning. Although it was so early everyone was happy and smiling. The first couple of hours on the coach were fairly quiet as people were still trying to sleep. Soon we were at the shuttle. After about 35 minutes on the shuttle we were in France.

At about 7.30pm we arrived at our hotel. It looked good at first sight and it was. We were situated away from the other guests so we wouldn't disturb them. The good thing was we could talk to the boys through our bedroom window. All the girls' rooms had private facilities including a bath.

On Saturday, we went on a town trail around Montreal. It took us about 2 hours to complete because we got lost about fifty million times. We met Mr Hofton at the end and completed it with him. We then went to the beach for lunch. After Lunch some of us went to the hotel to collect our swimming stuff to go swimming at Aqualand. Miss Minto and Mr Hofton took us. Aqualand had a large pool, wave machine and two slides. After a couple of hours, we left and went back to the hotel. While we'd been swimming the others had had a great time on the beach.

The next morning we had to get up at about 7.00am because breakfast was at 8.00am. After breakfast, we had about an hour free time and then we went to an authentic bakery. After a short tour, we had the chance to make some croissants. We even got a free sample! While we had a second breakfast on the pavement outside, the teachers were having a conversation in a secret language they call French!

We then went to a chocolate factory. In the factory the teachers could have a rest from translating because the man who owned it spoke good English. He explained all the machines to us and how chocolate was made. We got a free sample and then had the opportunity to purchase presents. After the visits we went to another beach and chilled out a bit.

Berch was a small town we visited as well. It was next to a beach. We were let loose in small groups. My group wandered round for a bit and then headed for the beach. The cheese farm was an excursion we went on, no one was pleased about having to visit a cheese farm! We were told how cheese was made and then we were shown to the cellar. The cellar was where the cheese was stored for 49 days - 7 weeks. It stank in the cellar so when we came up again we stank as well. We were then taken to a room to have a taste of cheese and yoghurt produced on the farm. In the evening we had three quarters of an hour to buy a magazine and a hot drink in Le Touquet (another small town). We were given 50 francs for this quest. It was instead of going to Aqualand again. My group was back to the coach late once more!

The next morning we left for Calais because the visit was over. Before going on the shuttle the teacher let us raid the hypermarket! We then left for home. After what seemed years we were back, tired but happy. Thank to Miss Minto, Mrs Ballantyne, Mr Crane and Mr Hofton for accompanying us to France. A particularly big thank you to Mr Crane for organising the trip.

Cornelia Bremer (2K)





SKIING ACROSS THE ATLANTIC - QUEBEC, CANADA

February 1998 saw the School's Ski Club embark on its most ambitious venture to date when it undertook a trip to the Mount St Anne ski resort in Quebec province, Canada. The most obvious differences from the traditional European trips were in the quality of the accommodation - but equally as dramatic were the climatic extremes encountered. The notes below represent a selection of 'diary style' comments from members of the trip - some from rabbits, some seasoned tourists.

"This was my first ski trip, in fact the first time I had ever flown. However, the older students and staff seemed very relaxed on the plane, chatting or reading. Miss Smith had a book called 'The Rough Guide to Shopping in Canada, whilst Mr Dunn had a book with lots of numbers he joined up and then coloured in. Mr Jones spent most of the time asking one of the stewards to get Jack Daniels - one of the Sixth Form Prefects with us I think! Mr Myers slept for the entire seven hour flight."

"Day one and Miss Barlow tells us that the temperature today is -30°C - so wrap up warmly. Thermal Socks, thermal long-johns, thermal vest, sweat shirt, inner gloves, outer gloves and make up are all applied but most important issue is "Does my bum look too big in these salopettes?"

"The advanced group skiers just seem to fly down the slopes. Its hard for us beginners just to stop but at dinner time they gave us loads of encouragement. Apparently Mr Dunn fell this morning and the Sixth Formers told us that he's been skiing for over fifty years."

"First experience of skiing at night - great deal! Made five runs passing one of the staff in exactly the same place each time. Apparently they had come down with one of the beginners who fell over seventy times and only finished one run - still they got down in their own time. It isn't a competition - unless you are the Murphy brothers where "It's personal."

"The hotel room is brilliant huge beds, our own showers and a TV with sports channel with some great action on it. The staff can't get it on their set - so they spent most of the time in our room - well Mr Dunn and Mr Jones do. Mr Myers always appears to be resting."

"We've moved resort today. Yesterday one of the beginners impersonated a luge and came down the entire slope without the aid of skis or poles. It was a double diamond black run after only two days - but you learn quickly. Every slope's a challenge - the only way is down - so you just do it. Half the buzz is looking back up a slope you've just done and wondering how you did it."

"Yet again it was Mr Jones' 21st birthday whilst we were on tour. The seniors bought him some 'nice shorts' and a pack of balloons. He said he'd wear them as soon as he got home to impress his wife. Just as well - his skiing wouldn't on today's evidence."

"With the wind chill at the top the temperature reached -35°C. Every single one of us fell since the wind had blown all the snow off to leave sheet ice for over fifty metres, Miss Smith and Miss Barlow just about stayed up. Mr Myers was OK. Apparently he'd fallen asleep in the restaurant."

"And you just said "yikes"???"

It was most definitely a long way to go to get on the piste but some of the skiing was the most demanding and indeed exciting that I have experienced (in something less than fifty years!) Fifty eight students experienced skiing - North American style - many for the first time. Some may return - some may stick to Europe. But hopefully most will have enjoyed their skiing and long may they continue to do so. The students were a pleasure to accompany and I am sure they share my gratitude for the efforts of my colleagues, Miss Barlow, Mr. G.H. Jones, Mr Myers and Miss Smith without whose energies and growing expertise, such a trip would be impossible to undertake.

N.P. Dunn, Ski Club Leader.

THE AUSTRIAN ALPS TRIP

Mr Veevers, Mr Austen, Miss Day, Miss Collier, Miss Matthews, about 12 6th formers and 40 4th formers all stood in front of school....feeling absolutely exhausted.

Normal people still lay in their beds at this time of the morning; the geological and geographical elite of WHGS however, were raring to get to the Austrian Alps. Unfortunately a 25-hour coach journey lay in between. The colossal shape of the thing, which was to transport them there, stood on the road, (next to Kenny the coach driver was the double decker coach.) Everyone boarded and the Alps trip had begun.

At Dover the coach was stopped to go through Customs, unfortunately our efforts to persuade Customs to stop the teachers leaving the country with us were unsuccessful.

The journey passed quickly, the worst part waking up in the morning after sleeping on the coach. Opening your eyes to find someone's foot embedded in your mouth isn't fun.

We arrived mid-morning after passing through (literally) some spectacular mountains. Within a couple of hours, we were being led (or 'dragged') up the side of the nearest mountain to study the vegetation. A snowball fight began and soon it was a war.

The following day involved a long walk up another mountain, in deep snow. It was too snowy to study geology as planned; we passed the time by participating in various activities such as snowballing.

The town in which we were staying was a 'ghost-town', we were visiting out of ski-season and all the locals had gone on holiday (or they knew we were coming!) There was practically only one bar open in the evening in the town, run by an Englishman. We didn't actually see any Austrians, as the hotel employees were all British too.

Over the next couple of days we visited a huge waterfall, travelled deep into a salt mine on the Austria-Germany border, saw a dam, went to an ice-hockey match, visited Salzburg and went to the top of one of the tallest mountains in the area. Fortunately, the trip to the top of the mountain was by a train, we didn't have to walk. Mr Veevers intended to take us to see a glacier but was stopped by powers out of even his control; snowfall had blocked the road up to the glacier. That was the only disappointment of the trip though. The Austrian Alps trip was a thorough success and all on the trip, including the teachers, enjoyed it a lot. Thanks to the teachers involved for their time and effort.

Richard Fisher (LHNV)

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TRIPS WITHIN THE U.K.

GEOGRAPHY FIELD VISITS

The second form visited Stockley Farm in their form groups to study Dairy Farming on the Cheshire Plain. Mark Walton the farmer explained how modern dairy farms produce high yields from use of fertilisers and breeding cattle but that farmers must be careful not to destroy the environment.

The Fifth Form took part in a field day in February to collect data for their coursework in the Handforth Cheadle Hulme area. They constructed a land use map of the area which has recently seen the construction of the new Handforth Dean centre. They saw that the environment had changed during the last forty years by carrying out their own environment surveys. Nikhil Nagarkar put his foot into a drain hole to aid his depth of investigation.

The Sixth Form took part in five days of fieldwork in various contrasting places. At Hardraw we studied the drainage basin of the Cotterdale Beck but most found the visit to the brand new computer-run quarry at Ingleton more interesting.

In the Goyt Valley we assessed the quality of water in the lower Goyt from its source to New Mills and found a tremendous difference in insect and fish species within very short distances. Most pupils plodded enthusiastically but Danielle was keen to avoid the water.

The Upper Sixth visited Myerscough Agricultural College where they were shown the embryo research unit and the most modern dairy farm and milking parlour in North England. They also took part in three days' intensive fieldwork in North Wales looking at glaciation on Cader Idris and sand dome vegetation near Borth. All of the pupils showed great enthusiasm.

The visit to Salford Quays and Hulme is a conclusion to the syllabus section "recent urban change". Mr Jones' route is designed to avoid conflict and problems from the inner city areas and provides an excellent view of what has been achieved in Manchester in recent years.

Everyone enjoys the visits and fieldwork that we do and always come back tired and happy. Thanks to all the Geography teachers for remaining calm most of the time and driving carefully all the time.

Lower Sixth Geography Group.

Alison Hawcroft (LHNV), Anya Dearden (LHNV),

Ben Green (LTPH), Paul Edisbury (LHNV).

GEOLOGY

The pupils studying Geology at WHGS regularly go on trips out into the field to test the theory they have learnt in class. The highlight of these trips last year was the trip to the isle of Arran, just off the coast of northwest Scotland. A geology-centre lies remotely in the north of Arran, about as far from civilisation as it's possible to get in Britain (or that's what it felt like). Geology is the study of rocks, but unfortunately, there aren't many rocks inside, in the warm. Braving sub-zero temperatures, driving rain and a vicious wind, we shot around Arran for a week, looking at a wide range of rocks. Nearly all the rock types in north-west Scotland can be found on this small island, making it ideal for geology students to visit. (Well, not quite ideal, warmer weather would make it ideal). During the week we learnt a lot, as well as doing useful revision for the impending modules. Overall, an educational and enjoyable week.

As well as the Arran trip, there have been field visits organised by Mr Veevers to Edale, Alderley Edge, a brickworks, Hardraw and many others.

Richard Fisher (LHNV)

L6TH ECOLOGY FIELD TRIP AT THE PRESTON MONTFORD FIELD CENTRE Shrewsbury, 18th-22nd June 1998

Two excellent articles were submitted, so both are included - Ed.

1. On spotting "thermal underwear, sleeping bags and pillows" on the list of articles required for the trip, we developed the impression that the field centre would be a small damp cottage where we will be dumped into. However, Mr. Welch assured us that the trip would be as pleasant as a "summer holiday". Preceding the trip, the weather was fluctuating wildly and so there was the obvious problem of deciding what type of clothes to take.

The journey to the field centre was lengthy (3 hrs) yet comfortable. We listened to both English and Hindi music on the way and also had the opportunity to explore the Shrewsbury shopping centre although the special attraction in all the shops was only fathers' day gifts and cards. To our great delight and astonishment, the field centre was clean, spacious and tastefully decorated. Boys and girls were in separate blocks. The girls' rooms resembled hotel suites and had attached bathrooms while the boys' rooms merely had wash basins. Obviously the boys were not pleased about the discrimination between the sexes being in favour of the opposite gender.

We settled in quickly and then our tutor Tim issued out anoraks, wellies and waterproof trousers. I was bankrupt after hiring all these articles, so the idea of buying souvenirs for anyone at home had to be eliminated. We were divided into groups of four and then went to estimate the population of waterboatmen in the Preston Montford Pond by the "mark and recapture" method. On our way to the pond we passed fields smelling of horse manure and cow dung. Kick sampling was fun although I got my waders stuck in the mud. I'm sure the ramshorn snail population was significantly reduced after the generous coats of tipex we applied on them. Back at the centre we exchanged and discussed the results.

Dinner was at 7pm. After tasting the food there we withdrew our complaints about school lunches. The quality of the food increased the purchase of junk food from the miniature shop there. We worked till about 9pm, after which we indulged ourselves with coffee, orange juice, tea etc. in the common room while we watched the World Cup. Our most dreadful fear of having to be in bed by 11pm was overcome as we were granted an extra half hour to gossip with friends although it had to be quietly in our rooms.

DAY 2 : The weather was marvellous. After breakfast as I screwed up a sheet of scrap paper to throw in the bin, a lady snapped at me from behind and told me that all waste paper from the centre would be recycled and it would be easier to recycle flat sheets than crunched balls. I later found out that the woman was Sue Townsend, our tutor for the remaining days. Sue made an attempt to remember all our names, but getting accustomed to 31 new names was not easy and so "Zuna" became "Zoo" while "Mika" became "Mickey" (pity she did not add a mouse to Mickey!).

We investigated the distribution of organisms like chironomids, mayflies, simuliids etc. and measured abiotic factors like pH, nitrate level, oxygen content at 5 different sites of Ashes Hollow. We experienced what real natural beauty was as we walked against the waterfalls and had lunch on the river beds accompanied by sheep.

DAY 3 : Today we observed the heather moorlands. We used quadrats to find the percentage cover of heather, bilberry, cowberry on different age stands of heather and discussed how different phases of heather affected the grouse population.

The weather took a sharp turn. Harsh cold blades of rain crashed against us. A new method of writing on note pads in polythene bags was learnt.

DAY 4 was spent on finding the source of organic pollution of river Perry and relating how organisms differed according to the level of pollution at the site of the river.

DAY 5 : We studied plant succession at Crose Mere and Whixall Moss. We saw rare plant species like Ladies Smock, Penny Wort, Marsh Thistle etc.

The excitement to go home was probably most profound in Mr. Myers as he managed to slip on a perfectly dry and even piece of land. Our homeward journey was delayed for 3hrs as Mr. Myers filled one of the minibuses with diesel instead of petrol. The situation was deteriorated by the fact that we had to hear the World Cup on the minibus radio instead of watching it on T.V. at home.

The field trip had been enjoyable although it was labourious. With firm guidance from Tim and Sue and help from our teachers, we attained a general understanding of the entire ecology module. We are extremely grateful to our teachers Mr. Myers, Mr. Welch and Miss Matthews who made this field trip a learning and successful adventure despite the universal truth - "Ecology is boring!".

Anney Roy (LLS)

2. We arrived at school on Thursday morning, feeling apprehensive about the following five days to be spent at Shrewsbury. After hearing many different views, we didn't quite know what to expect.

We embarked on the journey at about 10:00 a.m., and after a stop at the services to stock up on food and magazines, it was mid-afternoon when we arrived at the small town of Shrewsbury. Here we were given some time to ourselves, and then drove to the field centre. We were greeted by Tim, and then shown to our rooms.

Obviously, females are the superior gender and so it was logical that we would be given the better accommodation, and I must say it was a lot better. The rooms were large, spacious with en-suite bathrooms, and the final personal touch was a Discman and some very graciously lent speakers. The guys, however, had to sleep looking at some tacky graffiti.

After settling in, Day 1 of serious work began. Any expectations we had of a luxurious and leisurely holiday went out of the window very quickly. Nets in hand, we made our way to the pond, and spent five minutes capturing organisms, followed by the best part of an hour identifying and counting them.

We then returned to the centre for dinner. Miss Matthews had suggested that the meals were of high standards, but most of us disagreed, and survived the five days on junk food and coke. After dinner, the evening of the first day (and also every other day) was spent discussing the results, until about 9:15 p.m. After this we were free until 11:15 p.m., and then it was lights out.

Day 2 was spent investigating the distribution of invertebrates along a stream, with lunch consisting of a tremendous effort to save our food from the nearby sheep.

On Day 3, we visited heather moorlands specially managed to increase the population of red grouse.

Day 4 was spent investigating the effects of pollution on the River Perry. We waded through murky waters and organic waste, with the smell of bad eggs lingering. No surprise then, that back at the centre, the showers were in high demand.

The morning of Day 5 was spent at Whixall Moss, and then came the return home.

We set off at about 4:00 p.m., in attempts to arrive home before the England football match. But, unfortunately the minibus had been filled with the wrong petrol so it broke down and we were stranded! We waited for about three hours whilst the AA rectified the problem. Emergency phone calls were made courtesy of Shabnum, Akeel and Sajad. During these three hours Reza showed us his psycho-abilities. (At least now we know that height isn't related to the build up of anger!). Eventually, we arrived back in Manchester, tired and three hours late.

The highlight of the trip for most of the guys was probably the presence of some pupils from a London girls' school, but we'd expect that. After all, they're males!

Overall we enjoyed the trip and learned many things, not all of which were about Ecology. Awaiz learned that to make a cup of tea, you should first turn the kettle on, Fady learnt the hard way just how painful a fall can be, and we all learnt that Cilla Black can appear in many forms. (Sorry Taiba!)

We'd like to thank Mr. Myers, Mr. Welch and Miss Matthews for putting up with us.

Zuna Farooq (LJAC)

LOWER SIXTH TRIP TO LEEDS UNIVERSITY

On the 6th May the Lower Sixth set off just after 9.00am to Leeds University. This event was compulsory for the entire year. Its aim was for all the pupils to gain an insight into University life. This was probably the first opportunity for most pupils into considering what type of course they hope to study.

When we departed the coaches, we were told that how we use the time was up to the individual. Some investigated the University in groups while others decided to look around the city of Leeds. Making sure that you are going to feel comfortable in an unfamiliar town for three or four years is an important factor in choosing a University. Those who study science A-levels tended to visit the Medicine, Dentistry, Health Sciences and Engineering facilities while those who study the Arts subjects explored Faculties of Arts, Law, Social Sciences and Business. We learnt that over five hundred different degree courses are offered at Leeds and these cover a wide range of subjects.

Some courses offered short lectures during the day in which people could attend to find out more about that particular course. There were tutors in most of the departments ready to answer any questions.

Whilst we walked through the University, it was obvious that the atmosphere was very welcoming and friendly. The student life in Leeds seems to be excellent with about 22,000 students at present taking degree programmes. There are many societies and committees which a student can join. By glancing through the prospectus which we obtained, we thought the night life in Leeds also seems to be first class.

The University has a range of different halls of residence. Some are situated on the main University precinct, others are only a short bus ride or a walk away. Most of the students have their own single study bedroom and heating, lighting and cleaning is included with the accommodation fee. Most halls provide a bar, a music room, a common room, television rooms, a laundry, a library and quiet study rooms.

We found this event to be an thoroughly enjoyable experience and we would like to thank Mr. Simkin, Mr Veevers and Miss Smith for organising this trip.

Suzanne Nathan (LLS) & Rowena Roy (LJS2)

LOWER SIXTH FORM VISIT TO OXFORD UNIVERSITY, 30th JUNE 1998

Nine members of the lower sixth form left at an extremely early hour in the morning for Trinity College. We were accompanied by Mrs Worthington, co-ordinator of Oxford/Cambridge applicants, Miss Collier, the new careers advisor and Mr Gracey, a graduate of Brasenose College, Oxford.

The long coach journey down to Oxford allowed us all to recover from a bit of lost sleep and to wonder what our destination, so steeped in history and fame, would seem like to us. The first impression we got as we drove through the large iron gates of the college was how well the architecture blended with the grounds. When we stepped out of the mini-bus, we noticed that the grass in the courtyard was cut so perfectly that not one blade was over the edge! This view was a little daunting because we know this was a place where they take perfection seriously.

However, our nerves on entering such a place were eased by the friendliness shown by the president of the college, who invited us all into the dining hall for tea, orange juice and food. It was then that he talked to us, amongst others, about his role in the college and about the college as a whole. He informed us that Trinity was a very friendly, close-knit college. This view was reaffirmed by the admissions tutor, who gave us more information about the college in general and how the admissions were dealt with. He also clarified a few of the myths (and truths) surrounding a place like Trinity. When he had finished there was barely enough time to do anything before lunch which we thoroughly enjoyed and which was incidentally voted the best in Oxford University!

After lunch there were opportunities to take a tour of the college's many departments with students. There were also opportunities to go to small meetings with various subject tutors. In these meetings, the tutor would explain the requirements and the content of the course; there was also the opportunity to ask questions about the course and what could be studied.

We left at about 3:30 and we all felt it had been a very interesting and useful day in getting to know how a university of Oxford's stature worked.

Jeremy Arnold (LJGH)

NATIONAL FILM THEATRE LOWER SIXTH HISTORY TRIP

Six o'clock in the morning, Piccadilly Train Station. Fifteen people gather in a huddle, bleary-eyed and led by the inestimable Mr Wolsey. Loading onto the London train, we were joined by a slightly nervous looking Mr Callaghan at Stockport. He was clutching his meticulously well-prepared speech on film in the Second World War. Three and a half hours later, we arrived at the National Film Theatre on the South Bank.

Mr Callaghan was first up and delivered a very interesting lecture on "Film in Wartime". Many a note was scribbled, and by now, everyone was well-awake. Rapturous applause met his conclusion, and we were very proud to be the pupils of such a convincing public speaker and historian. The second speaker paled in comparison, but the clips of animation were entertaining and again, lots of notes were made.

Work hard, play hard. That was the motto of the day, and once the morning session was over, lunch was taken on the South Bank. After a thrilling tube ride, we then made it safely to Covent Garden where further refreshment was taken, rounding-off a fantastic day that was enjoyed by everyone.

Christopher Edwards (LJFS2)

LOWER SIXTH FORM HISTORY FIELD TRIP TO HARDRAW

On 28th June 1998, the lower sixth history group met in the school grounds at 10.00am. This trip is to aid student understanding of The Landscape History topic in the A-Level course.

On arrival in Hardraw, Middleham Castle and Castle Bolton were visited. We studied their historical attributes such as their influence and locations within Wensleydale as well as their structures.

Askrigg, a neighbouring town was also visited on that Sunday afternoon, aspects of industry in the area were identified as well as the importance of the town church which indicated hierarchy and importance of society in the 17-19th centuries. The town of Hardraw was also researched in this way.

The evening meal was very enjoyable as the students had contributed towards the meal by bringing food of English, Kosher and Indian origin. I have no idea how we ate so much!

This was also a celebration of Mr. Wolsey's time at the history department with the school as he was leaving to pursue his career further.

On the following Monday, the towns of Hawes, Bainbridge, Carperby and Aysgarth were visited. We drew up conclusions from landscape, structure and positions of these towns as to why some of them had become de-populated over the centuries as others had become increasingly populated.

The information gathered from this trip will give us a clear indication as what is needed to achieve our successful grades regarding the landscape topic.

I would like to thank Mr. Callaghan, Ms Tandon and Mr. Wolsey for the effort they put in to provide such an enjoyable trip!

Amita Sagar (LMHG)

A WEEK AT SALFORD UNIVERSITY - INSIGHT 98

I was one of the fortunate few to be selected to attend an engineering course organised by EMTA (Engineering and Marine Training Authority) known as INSIGHT 98 intending to encourage women into engineering. The following is a review of what was covered each day:

MONDAY

I arrived at Salford University at 11.20 a.m. quite nervous because I didn't know anyone and wasn't sure whether I was going to enjoy myself. However after I was shown to my room I realised that there was nothing to worry about because everyone was very friendly and were all in the same situation as me. The accommodation was reasonable. There were twelve rooms in each house, a kitchen, two showers and two toilets. Each house consisted of three floors and I couldn't understand why the showers were at the bottom and the kitchen at the top floor (upside down to a usual house). Each bedroom had a wash basin, a long study table, heating, cupboards and shelves.

After a buffet lunch, Dr Haifa Takruri-Rizk, (University of Salford) and Ms Catherine Eaton, (EMTA) gave an introductory and welcoming speech to Insight '98. Then Dr Maria Mackay gave us a lecture on 'A future in Engineering'. Professor M J Hampshire lectured us on 'What is Engineering' and his enthusiasm was overwhelming.

At 3.30 we were given three tasks which were to be performed as group problem solving exercises and to be completed by 7.30 (with dinner in between). We were presented with several objects such as straws, pins, newspaper, cocktail sticks, a board and many more small objects. The first task was to design and build a construction which can hold a heavy weight. Task two was slightly harder - having to build a device in which a big marble had to trigger a medium size marble and then a small marble so hopefully they end up in the same position. The smallest distance of the marble would then be divided by the largest distance. The team which produce the smallest error would win that task. The third task was to build an object with maximum height between 40 and 50cm in which a small marble had to travel through a path and the time taken is recorded. The group which resulted with the marble taking the longest time to travel would win that task. For some reason when our task three was being examined the marble got stuck and wouldn't move. This was a disappointment as it hadn't failed when we performed it ourselves. This session had given us the chance for practical work and it was also an excellent way to get to know everyone in your group by working as a team.

The evening was a social event with the group tutors and we had cheese and wine.

TUESDAY

The day started at 9.00 with talks by two practising women engineers. These lectures lasted one and a half hours and proved to be quite interesting because I learnt how these two engineers have progressed through their careers. They gave me a broader view of what jobs as an engineer entail.

At 11.00 we were split into groups according to our options for project work. Seven of us opted to do a project on biomedical engineering. Before we started our projects we were shown around the Department of Rehabilitation. Three of us were given a project on the use of Kistler Force plate in the assessment of Gait where we had to compare the forces of different styles of walking. The Kistler force plate is essentially a system of force transducers which measures forces in the vertical plane, the medio-lateral plane and the fore & aft plane. This type of experiment can be used to select surgical footwear for a patient on the basis of results obtained from his/her trials with the force plate. The project work was split into three sessions throughout the day - one before lunch, one after lunch and we were given time to prepare our project presentations after dinner which were to be presented on Thursday.

The evening event was optional - you could either watch the World Cup semi-final match or a video called 'Austin Powers'.

WEDNESDAY

Today had to be the best day so far. Six of us were chosen to visit British Airways Engineering and we caught the 9.05 train to Manchester Airport. When we arrived several security checks had to be made and I had to hand in prove of identification. The highlight of the visit was that we were given the opportunity to walk inside Concorde and look inside the flight deck. It was an amazing experience. We were then taken up into a small business room where Peter Green (Fleet Shift Manager) talked to us about the company, the history of B.A. and his job. Before lunch we were driven around British Airways terminal and we went inside a 737. After lunch we were given green overalls to wear and it was our turn to get our hands dirty. We were shown inside the electronics department of the plane and how the control systems were tested. We then went inside the flight deck where we learnt about how some of the systems operate. We then went inside the cargo area and I had to change the filters of the plane. This was an exciting experience as I had never seen inside all the different areas of the plane.

In the evening we were taken to the Palace Theatre to watch Shane Richie in Boogie Nights the musical. This was a great evening especially if you were into seventies music.

THURSDAY

Our project presentations were carried out in the morning. The aim was for every to be able to talk about their projects so everyone could get a taste of what everyone else had done. Part of an engineers jobs is to present work in front of big groups and this gave us an experience to what was involved. The afternoon consisted of options of different departmental tours and a choice of lectures about different engineering courses which we could attend. In the evening there was a superb Dinner with a guest speaker and presentations.

FRIDAY

After a late and enjoyable dinner evening we still had to get up early for lectures which began at 9.30. Kim Karr (Head of Careers Advisory Service) talked to us about glamorous jobs for Engineers. Two more practising women engineers

then talked to us about Engineering as a Career. What inspired me the most about their careers was that each day of their jobs seemed to be different. There is so much that an engineer can offer. We then had lunch followed by a course review. The course had ended at 2.00 and everyone departed.

I would like to conclude by stressing to any girls who are taking maths and/or physics A level that taking part in an Insight course could be the most important week in your life. I fully recommend it even if you don't want to do engineering because that week can give you a real taste to what University life is actually like. I really enjoyed myself and I would like to thank Mr. Thompson for supplying me with the information and encouraging me to take part.

Suzanne Nathan (LLS)

"A" LEVEL BIOLOGY REVISION CONFERENCES AT SALFORD UNIVERSITY

My first impression of the revision conference on BYOI was that a white bored teenagers dozed of at the back of the lecture theatre. I worked out that the conference would be on day 3 and so I agreed to participate in the conference since I couldn't let go of the chance to miss a double games session at school.

The conference ticket was £8, but I succeeded in coaxing and cajoling my auntie to give me an extra £5 spending money. The BYOI conference was on Monday, 2nd February. I spent the whole weekend planning on what to wear at the conference, but at the end I turned up in a simple jean skirt and T-shirt. It was only a month before the BYOI module, so Mr Welch warned us to listen alertly to everything the lecturers said instead of daydreaming.

On reaching the university each of us were given a set of notes to accompany the lectures. I thought the notes would only be useful to play notes and crosses on during the lectures.

Amongst the lecturers, there was the chief NEAB examiner Bill Indge and principal examiners Keith Hirst and Ray Skwierczynski. Nearly all the topics on the BYOI syllabus was covered. Lectures lasted for about 30-40 minutes. It is amazing how the lecturers managed to provide us with a clear understanding of complicated aspects like respiration, photosynthesis, cell membranes etc in such short time. The lecturers represented their matter in an amusing manner with annotated diagrams. Towards the end of each lecture, tricky exam questions related to the topic were discussed. I thought that the lecture on examination techniques was particularly beneficial.

I hoped to look around the university near the end of the 1 V2 hour lunch break but the long queue at McDonalds didn't allow me to do so.

The day ended at 4.00pm. We all agreed that the conference had been interesting and informative. The lecture notes proved to be as efficient as revision guides.

The 2nd conference on BYO2 on the 28th April was equally productive. We all moaned over the fact that there wasn't a revision conference for BYOS.

Thanks to Mr Welch for taking us to the conferences.

Anney Roy (LLS)

LOWER SIXTH FORM VISIT TO SALFORD UNIVERSITY'S GERMAN OPEN DAY

Five members of the Lower Sixth German set, together with Mr Turner, arrived at Salford University on the 4th March 1998 in the hope that this day would live up to its reputation as both beneficial and informative to German students. We saw, as we entered the hall, that it was very popular as German A-Level students from schools and colleges from all over the north-west had come.

We were given an introductory talk by the head of the German department at Salford. He welcomed us and told us about the German course at the university. He then introduced the first speaker, the German Consul to Northern Britain, who talked to us on the subject of '*Die Vereinigung der Bundesrepublik*' (the re-unification of Germany). He spoke mostly in German, which coming from a native speaker, was difficult to follow at times. I feel this was because he was not a teacher but a top-class diplomat, and so our level of understanding were not always taken into account. He did, however, give explanation in English as to the problems arising from re-unification, such as the annoyance of the West Germans at having their taxes greatly increased in order to pay for the resurgence of East Germany (*Neue Bundesländer*).

The next lecture, after a short break, was given by a Salford University lecturer about '*Die Grünen*' (the Green Party). This lecture, also in German, was delivered at a slightly slower pace than the previous one and, therefore, was easier to understand. The lecturer talked about many aspects of the Green Party's popularity in Germany and about the unique idea of the '*Bürgerinitiative*', where citizens of a certain town undertake tasks and initiatives that they feel will be beneficial to that town.

After lunch, we went to the talk given by the 'Die Welt' newspaper's foreign correspondent to England. His talk was on the differences between the press in England and in Germany, it was entitled '*Die Presse und Massenmedien in Deutschland und in England: ein Vergleich*'. This talk - in English - was both interesting and informative as it explained to us many differences in the media that we did not know about. For example, the mass circulation tabloid in Germany, '*Das Bild*' is similar to 'The Sun' but is not as nationalistic or xenophobic as its English counterpart. He also told us of the increasing annoyance felt by many people in Germany at having constantly been branded as Nazis by the English press.

In the end, it was an interesting visit even though the language used by the German speaking lecturers was a little hard to follow at times.

Jeremy Arnold (LJGH)

SALFORD SPANISH DAY

On Wednesday 4th March our Lower Sixth Spanish group accompanied by Mr Bull attended a Spanish Day at Salford University. The purposes of the visit was to gain as much information as possible to help us with our 'A' Level course and future prospects of a career using modern languages.

The day consisted of a series of lectures given by members of the department of Modern Languages. The first lecture helped to identify common mistakes in the grammatical area of the language and how to avoid them. The talks which followed covered a range of subjects; these included a talk on Information Technology, which gave us general information on the Internet. This was then followed by a detailed talk on how to pass the oral exam, where the lecturer emphasised the need to form sentences using correct grammar with a wide range of vocabulary.

Finally the day concluded with a careers talk on future careers using modern languages. The majority of lectures were conducted in Spanish and we found the day to be very useful and informative.

Hema Gokal (LPMB)

HEBRIDES CYCLE CAMP 13TH - 20TH JULY or "THE GOOD FLOOD GUIDE 1998"

Six pupils and two staff took part in this camp to the islands of Coll and Tiree which are two of the sandiest, sunniest and windiest places in Britain. Here are some extracts from their diaries.

Mr J H Hardy

Tuesday

We left Wanlockhead Youth Hostel and started the long journey to Oban. We nearly missed our boat due to our talking and being disorganised. We had to tie up our bikes on the car deck of the new ferry "The Clansman".

When we arrived at Gott Bay on Tiree we only had to cycle four miles in beautiful sunshine to find our campsite in Balepetrish Bay. We quickly set up the tents and played football on the beach until the tide flooded our pitch!

Zac McKenzie (1J)

Wednesday

Mr Mackenzie started his day with a cold shower from a hose pipe with Harvey the young labrador pup helping to hold the hose!

We cycled across the island of Tiree to climb Ben Hough and get a brilliant view from the top. After a ride through the dunes Mrs McLeod at the Sandaig cottage museum told us what life was like on Tiree up to a few years ago.

We shared a game of snooker with two local girls in the Scarinish Hotel. We picked up the food rucksack from the ferry terminal, had a game of softball and went to the amazing ringing stone which sounded like a bell when I hit it with a rock.

Our beanfeast and spaghetti weren't burnt at all.

Tom Jones (1J)

Thursday

After bacon and eggs skilfully cooked by me, we headed through the golf course to the beach. Some mad people ran into the water, much to the amusement of several friendly Hebridean seals.

We rode back along Traigh Bhagh, the longest and hardest beach on the island, with several people surfing on the breakers in the sunshine.

Things got worse after this as a typhoon and force ten gales interrupted our pancake party and blew the cooking shelter and Jonathan's tent away. We were warm and cosy sharing three per tent and the wind and rain stopped at midnight.

Gregg Harmston (3D)

Friday

I had spent the night with the first years and we then cooked sausage and beans.

On the way to the sands at Traigh Chornaig, Zac and I collided and his front tyre popped. While he repaired his puncture we played football on the Shinty pitch next to the Tìree school.

We got a bit lost in the dunes on the way to Traigh Bhi (another really long golden sandy beach) where we had a sand castle building competition. I was the winner.

We headed back to camp but had to stop when an unfriendly bull wouldn't move off the road. Later the rains and winds started and we had a sing-song with Zac and me singing a duet of "Penny Lane". It was a very wet and cold night.

Chris Weems (2S)

Saturday

We woke at 7.15am and packed our panniers and took down the tents in sunshine and rode to the ferry terminal. On the boat to Coll we had a good shower and lunch.

On Coll we bought some extra fresh food and set off along a very hilly road to the RSPB reserve at Hogh Bay. We struggled along the sandy track amongst the dunes (it was great) and then came out to the fantastic beach with full sunshine and not a cloud in sight.

We quickly put our tents up (we were good at that) and then played on the sand and stayed in the breakers for almost half an hour. After a game of soft ball we had some "Island Games" with boulder throwing, welly whirling and sand dune climbing competitions.

It was light at 11.15 after the sun set straight into the sea.

Jonathan Case (3G)

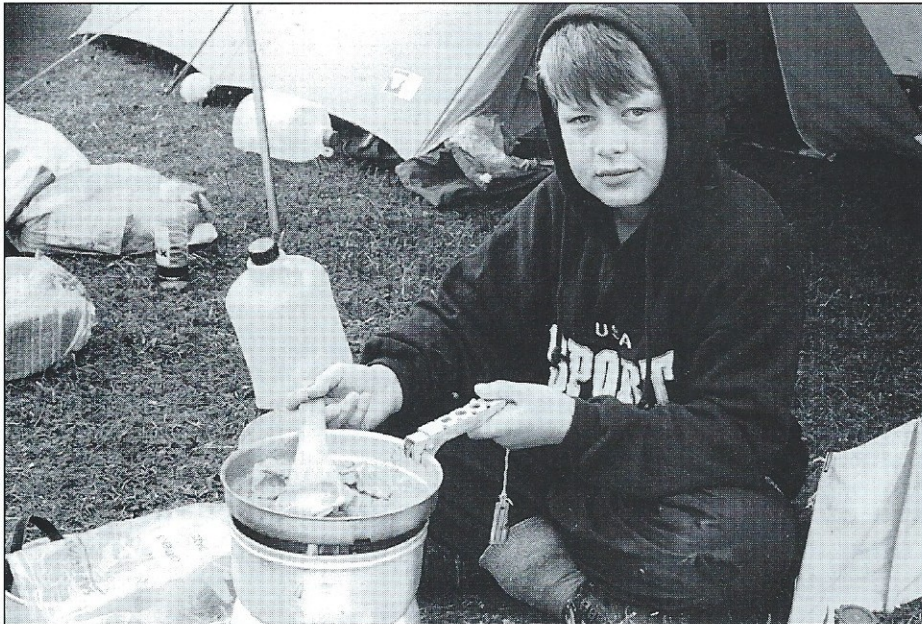


Chris Bowmer sets off into the storm.

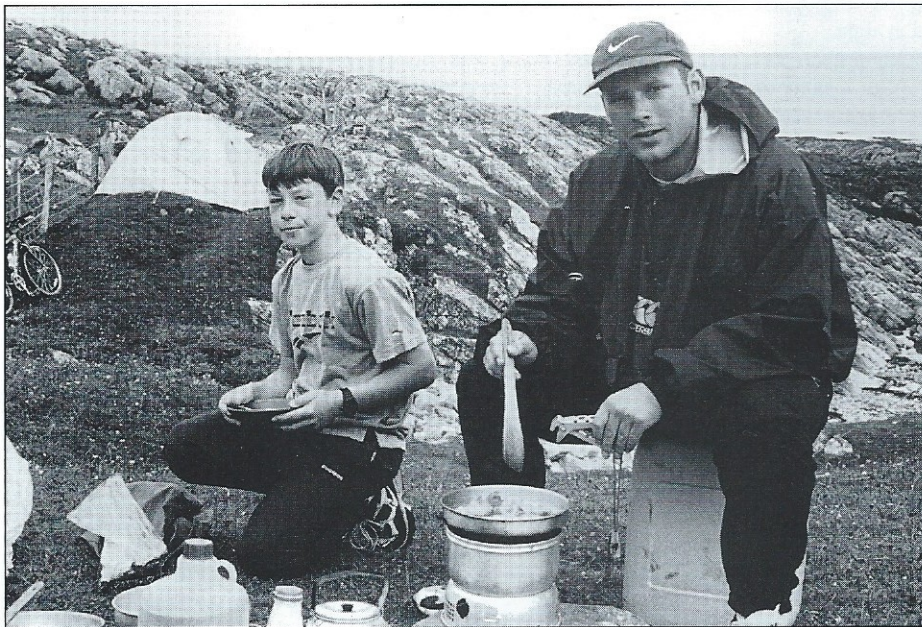
Sunday

Another bacon and egg breakfast (the best meal of the holiday).

During the day the rain started and got heavier and heavier. We played one game of football then had to play another after lunch just to keep warm. We were absolutely soaked when we got back to the strong winds and rain at the site to discover a stream flowing through the camp. We all went to sleep for three hours!



Tom Jones serves bacon for two!



Mr Mackenzie gets some cooking tips from his namesake!

I didn't want to get up because it was still raining but we found the cooking tents had been moved together so we had a pancake party with everyone producing superb pancakes after Mr Mackenzie's expert tuition.

Christopher Bowmer (3H)

Monday

Luckily it was a sunny fine morning and as all of us were keen to get home we packed up very quickly leaving a clean site, and jumped on the ferry for another luxury shower and meal.

We left Oban by minibus at 3pm and were back to school eight hours later, tired but happy.

We all split up for the rest of our holidays with many different individual memories but the camp was most remarkable for the good team spirit.

And the final result? Storms 3, Floods 1

Well done lads!

Mr. A. J. Mackenzie

CLUBS, SOCIETIES AND SCHOOL EVENTS

CHESS

The school took part in the U14 and U18 sections of the Manchester and District Schools' Chess Association.

Out of 12 competitors in the U14s, William Hulme's came 8th equal, after drawing one of their eight matches and losing four by a margin of a single match. A single extra victory in these matches would have transformed our position. This is something to aim for next year.

The U18s, loyally captained by Alex Mal'ouf (U6CML), played four matches, winning against Stockport Grammar School. This put us 3rd equal out of 5.

The most successful players in each team were Neil Whitehead (5H) for the Seniors and Edwin Leung (2J) for the Juniors. The Junior chess trophies were awarded this year for the contribution made to the School Chess Teams. The individual winner was Edwin Leung (2J). His form also contributed the most players to the Junior team and so 2J won the Second Form Turabi trophy; the First Form trophy went to 1S.

M. H. Gracey

THE DEBATING SOCIETY

Junior Debating

The society has thrived this year with Mr Wolsey's contribution enabling more frequent debates. The attendance level has been consistently high as has the quality of speakers. An enormous range of topics has been covered including Corporal Punishment, Women's Rights and Racism. All the speakers have shown great maturity and enthusiasm and hopefully they will continue to support the society next year. Mr Wolsey's continuous support and encouragement has been appreciated by all.

Senior Debating

This section of senior debating has been revitalised this year and the debating secretaries, Sajjad, Vikram, Zurqab and Wunmi have been excellent. A wide range of excellent debates has taken place and it has been most rewarding to see the increased participation of Middle School pupils, some of whom were the first members of Junior Debating. Hopefully we will be able to build on this next year.

S. R. Tandon

Observer Mace Competition

This year the School was represented by Sajjad Riaz and Joanna Shaw. They were successful in the first round of the competition where they argued that there was too much money in sport.

Unfortunately, although they were unsuccessful in advancing beyond the second round of the competition, they both argued most convincingly that cannabis should not be legalised and put up a creditable performance.

House Debating Competition

This was another excellent event this year judged by Mr G Jones and Mrs L Ballantyne. Fraser and Gaskell debated whether there was too much money in sport, Whitworth and Heywood whether euthanasia should be legalised and Byrom and Dalton whether the power of the media needed curbing. The standard of debate was excellent with Byrom winning the competition and Graeme Laycock and Robert Watson being commended.

The audience raised some interesting comments and questions and made the whole afternoon a worthwhile experience.

S. R. Tandon

PUBLIC SPEAKING

This year there have been some superb performances in speaking in public across the school, highlighted by Peju Pearce of 5W reaching the final of the Rotary Public Speaking Competition. Peju had to prepare and deliver two speeches to get to the final which was held at the Alma Lodge Hotel. Peju performed her after dinner speech with confidence and assurance which impressed the judges.

This year's Lower School Public Speaking Competition provided the audience with a wealth of different information, from Medieval Medicine to Mohammed Ali. Once again, Mr Parkin and myself found the standard very high. All of the competitors had obviously worked hard to prepare their speeches. Andrew Clark of 2J had the nerve-wracking task of opening the competition with a witty speech on public speaking. Kristie Tierney of 2S entertained the audience with a display of Irish Dancing which put Riverdance to shame! Mareshah Sheriffe of 2K gave a thought-provoking speech on The Stereotypes of Developing Countries and 1K's Mariam Al Bayati's direct and empathetic speech on Martin Luther King impressed the judges. This year's competition was won by a Second Year however; Ben Kaufman of 2R delivered his speech on The Media with poise and confidence.

The last Public Speaking competition in the calendar is The Hopwood Reading Prize. Traditionally the standard of the entrants is very high and this year was no exception. However what was most encouraging was the record number of students who took part in the competition. The Senior prize was won by Natasha Juma of 4D who displayed a maturity beyond her years. The Lower School prize was won by Khairie Gedal of 1S, who read with sensitivity. Special mention must go to Gazala Seedat of 1S, Martelique Yates of 1R and Peter Adewunmi of 2J who were runners up. Overall this was another successful speaking competition and shows the wealth of talent that we have in the school.

Miss L. C. Derby

FRENCH CLUB

The French Club continued to meet at lunch-times weekly for older pupils and recently on Thursdays for Lower School pupils. Mr Turner is preparing a French play with the latter, (hopefully) to be performed early in the Autumn Term 1998. Mrs Ballantyne took charge of the Senior Club but was ably assisted by Mlle Kuntzel, our assistante, and also by Mrs Hampson, who not only helped run the sessions but also gave up her time to provide ideas and materials. These contributions were both welcome and valuable, and many thanks are owed. The format for the older pupils changed this year following several requests for more listening practice. Perhaps the prospect of the new GCSE examination, with questions in French rather than English, has made pupils more nervous. By the end of the year, however, those who had attended did say they were much more confident about their performance and did not find the thought of the exam so daunting.

The French Club will continue next year, and as always pupils are warmly encouraged to make helpful suggestions as to what activities might be most interesting and useful.

L.A. Ballantyne

CHARITIES WEEK 1998

After having decided that we would choose the British Heart Foundation for our 1998 School Charity in memory of our friend Tim Edwards, we set about trying to make it one of the biggest and best, involving everyone in the school community.

We came up with different ideas of events and the great classics like the Fashion Show and the dreaded Walk. Even though it was possibly the hardest time in my school career, I think the spirit in which every event was done made it one of the most pleasing times of my life. I was privileged to have such a good team of workers but it wouldn't have been at all possible without the help of a few very special people such as David Melmoth, Nishant Agarwal, Hamza Anwar, Rachael Ordman, Richard Longworth and the others know who they are!

The list of events was the biggest ever. It all started on Thursday 26th February. The events included Soak-a-Prefect, Staff/Prefects Football match, Five a side football tournament, The Grand Auction, The Sixth Form Fashion Show, The Walk, The Revue, The Rag Mag, Gladiators '98, Dunk-a-Teacher, The Quiz Night, The Balloon Race and The School Concert Band playing Dunham Massey.

I would like to say a huge 'thank you' to all the teachers who helped us in every way possible, to Mr Purvis, the Bursar and Mr Loveland. But it would have never been possible without the help of Sara, Jackie, Bernie and Kate.

I would like to say a BIG thank you to everyone who made it possible for us to reach £10,000 which we presented to Mr Ian Jenkins from the British Heart Foundation. To the hundreds of people who sponsored our walkers, to Ibbi Anwar for our football shirts and to the 400 plus crowds at the Fashion Show and the Revue. I think the whole School was pulled together in order to raise such an amount; to give the British Heart Foundation a cheque for £10,000 was unbelievable.

Matthew Whyatt,
Joint Head of School

FASHION SHOW - BRIM FULL OF FASHION

Back in January, the Fashion Show looked very doubtful but on Friday 27th March, the greatest of Fashion Shows took place in the New Hall. After a very long day, (about ten of us got into school at 6:00am to set up the hall!!!) 7:30pm seemed like ages away, but the speed that day disappeared was unbelievable.

The rehearsals, scenes, meetings, clothes, music, almost everything had been carefully thought out by Rachel Ordman. She managed to get people to work together and enjoy themselves without feeling nervous. After about two weeks of solid practice, the night came. We were still without a Full Run through.

Rachel managed to combine the Sixth Form Fashion Show with scenes from The Teachers and the Ladies in the Office, also with Asian Style Dresses and Designer Clothes. The number of people involved was well over 60, from the models to the stage crew from the Hair to the Make Up. I would like to say a big thank you to Vidal Sassoon and to the Body Shop for helping us with the Hair and Make Up. Also to all the shops who supplied us with clothes. Some of the Scenes will stay in my mind forever, like M.I.B. - The Men In Black, the Beach Scene, the Traditional Asian Clothes and the Teachers - I'm Your Man.

So with the actual night being the Full Run -through, everything fell into place and delighted everyone. With the help of Matt Naylor, Helen Collins and myself. Rachel showed everyone how to put on a massive Fashion Show to over 400 people and raise a staggering amount of money for The British Heart Foundation.

Thank you and well done to everyone involved.

Matthew Whyatt, Joint Head of School

THE SIXTH FORM FASHION SHOW
COMMITTEE
proudly presents

**BRIM FULL OF
FASHION**

in aid of the
British Heart Foundation
Registered Charity No - 225971



**William Hulme's
Grammar School**



THE 1998 FASHION SHOW

THE SCHOOL REVIEW

All I can say is if you missed the School Review then you missed out! You would have missed the great duo performance of the "Square and Ginge" and everyone having a top time performing in front of over 300 people. There has never been an event like it and there will never be another Review like it. The acts were all different and here and there included a few adverts with slight changes, like Paul Murphy going through the curtains drinking Diet Coke and Rob Watson behind the curtains drinking a can of Fosters. From Wolf-Whistles to side-splitting laughs. The event was hosted by Dave Melmoth and myself but many long 'Board Meeting' style discussion, staying up drinking coffee to the early hours of the morning wondering whether people would laugh, were only half of it!! Thanks to everyone who took part and everyone who bought a ticket for the Half Time World Famous Grand Draw to win a £5 Safeway voucher. Thanks to the teachers who helped us and those who performed and to all the participants of the Best Review ever.

Matthew Whyatt,
Joint Head of School

B.T. INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER DAY FRENCH - GERMAN - SPANISH

On February 3rd all the Lower Sixth Modern Linguists and most of the Upper Sixth Modern Linguists entered the BT INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER DAY COMPETITION. This was the third year we had entered this competition and the atmosphere was no less exciting than in previous years. In one day they had to create 3 newspapers based on that day's 'raw' news which was delivered via the internet from various international new agencies. The 'raw' news was received in French, German and Spanish and the Sixth Formers had to turn this into their respective newspapers.

The atmosphere in the IT room was electrifying as each editorial team set about the task of deciding on which items to select for page one of their respective newspaper and then farming this out to their team of journalists. They then had to decide which articles to include in the rest of each paper. Questions of layout came next as they fought against the clock to cut and paste their articles into the final version of their newspapers which had to be completed by 5.00 p.m. that day. Finally I was able to put one completed French newspaper, one German and one Spanish in the post by the deadline so that they reached the adjudicators by the following morning.

The Sixth Formers found the day to be a very busy one but highly stimulating and a huge amount of fun. Everyone enjoyed working together in their various teams and particularly enjoyed seeing and reading the finished product.

The French newspaper was awarded "Highly Commended", and the German and Spanish ones "Commended."

J.G. Hofton

