



LE RATCHEUR MANCUNIEN

William Hulme's Grammar School le 3 février 1998



10F

IRAK: UN PAS EN AVANT

Hier soir, l'émissaire russe, Viktor Possouvalioutsk, a annoncé à Bagdad que Saddam Hussein avait donné le feu vert pour des inspections de 8 nouveaux sites présidentiels.

Cependant, les autorités américaines ont jugé cette concession insuffisante. Madeleine Albright, secrétaire d'Etat, a continué de faire le tour des pays du Golfe pour obtenir le soutien arabe à une frappe militaire.

Un responsable irakien a vite réagi en démentant que son pays ait donné un tel accord. Il a même nié avoir parlé avec les russes.

Le secrétaire général



L'inspection des
armements à Irak.

français, Bertrand Dufourcq, est parti hier soir pour Bagdad, chargé d'un message de "grande fermeté" de la part de M. Chirac pour affirmer le soutien des français.

Les Américains se préparent à se mettre en guerre. A Davos le secrétaire général de l'ONU, Kofi Annan et un représentant américain se sont réunis et à la suite de cette réunion le responsable américain a déclaré que les Etats-Unis ne poursuivraient la diplomatie que pour deux ou trois semaines encore.

Reste à savoir la réaction des pays arabes.

Joanna Shaw

Actualités en bref

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LYCÉES ET COLLÈGES EN GRÈVE

Aujourd'hui, la grande majorité des enseignants seront en grève, dans les lycées et les collèges. Quelques manifestations locales sont prévues notamment à Marseille et à Paris.

Les relations entre Claude Allègre, le ministre de l'éducation et les syndicats d'enseignants sont plutôt tendues ces temps-ci. Aujourd'hui, c'est la grande majorité des professeurs des collèges et des lycées qui décroche. Le mot d'ordre

de grève avait été lancé dès décembre par les organisations du second degré de la Fédération syndicale unitaire de l'enseignement. Aujourd'hui, plus de 80% des forces syndicales du second degré sont sur le front. Selon les syndicats, les revendications peuvent évoluer, les priorités varier. Mais fondamentalement, tous réclament des moyens supplémentaires notamment en postes. Or

le budget 1998 n'en prévoit pas. Dans l'après-midi, le ministre de l'Education a fait part de sa décision de "déconcentrer" la politique de gestion des ressources humaines. Cette mesure devrait rendre "plus souple et plus humain" le traitement des demandes d'affectations et de mutations des enseignants.

Par: Lecia Endlar.

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Der Greif

Dienstag, den 3. Februar.

Die deutsche Zeitung aus William Hulme's



FIDE SED CUI VIDE

WÄHREND DER KRISE IN IRAK VERGRÖßERT SICH -

DAS KREML SAGT: SPRECHEN MIT IRAK IST NOCH MÖGLICH

In Moskau gibt es die Chance für Irak, mit dem Kreml mitzusprechen. Der russischen Sondergesandte Possuwaljuk - könnte den Weg zur Inspektion sogenannter Präsidentenpaläste ebnen. Der irakische Präsident hat Schwierigkeiten verursacht, wenn United Nations Waffeninspektoren nicht in Irak fahren dürfen.

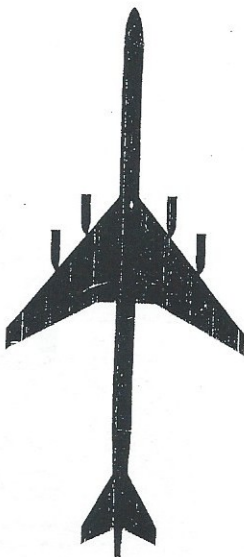
Über den letzten zwei Wochen ist die Situation in Irak schlechter geworden, und amerikanische und englische Soldaten sind mobil gemacht worden. Die Situation soll schlechter sein. Die irakische Gesellschaft zeigt Angst, daß die irakische Armee normale Menschen für Krieg trainiert.

Von Chris Smith



Irak: Gesellschaftliche Ausbildung mit Waffen

FLUG MIT 104 - LEUTEN FEHLT IN DEN PHILIPPINEN



Ein DC-9 Flugzeug mit 104 Passagieren an Bord ist verschwunden. Die Flughafen-beamte sagte, daß es in einem Vulkan in Süd-Mindanao sein könne. Die Bergsteiger haben den 2,484 Meter Mt Balatucan geklettert, um den 'Cebu Pacific Air' Flug 387 zu finden. Er flog von Manila nach Cagayan De Oro. Nach dem Zwischenaufenthalt im Stadtzentrum von Tacloban ist der Flug verschwunden. Die Flughafenbeamten sagten, daß der Flug den letzten Kontakt an circa 3000 Meter und 37 Meilen von Cagayan De Oro hergestellt habe.

Team

Chris Smith (ed)
Chloe Pepall Ric Fisher
Ed Barker Esther Nwator
Matt Whyatt Nicola Whiterod
Nishant Agarwal Jez Arnold

DAS WETTER-DIENSTAG 3.2.98.

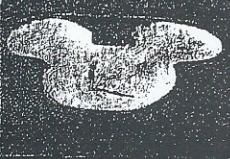
Am Freitag Grau und wolkg.
Hamburg(dpa/Ino)- Leichter Schneefall und Temperaturen um den Gefrierpunkt. Montag- Norddeutschland, kalt und windig. Einen Hauch von Winter beschert.
Am Dienstag wird es anscheinend wärmer. In den nächsten Tagen erwartet Man wieder typisches "Schmuddelwetter."

Am Mittwoch/Donnerstag ist die Temperatur bei 5 Grad, was relativ mild für die Jahreszeit ist. Wegen des Tiefs "Renate" erwartet man viele Regenwolken über Hamburg.
Nachts wird es in einigen Orten glatt und eiskalt.

Warum Der Greif?

Der Greif ist das Wappen unserer Schule, also finden wir, es ist ein guter Name für unsere deutsche Zeitung. Der Greif ist ein Fabeltier und das Symbol für Mut. Unsere Schule heißt William Hulme's, weil William Hulme der Gründer war. Wir glauben, der Greif war sein Wappen. Er lebte im 17. Jahrhundert. Das Sprichwort unter dem Greif bedeutet "Trau schau wem".

DisneyLand Europe



Golf spielen



Mickey Maus besuchen

Land der Träume

La Estrella del Norte

martes 2 febrero



FIDE SED CUI VIDE

Entrevistas locales ~ Las Noticias del día ~ La Moda ~ La Comida

Una mujer al patíbulo en Texas

Nueva York

Karla Faye Tucker dejó ayer la prisión de Gatesville, donde pasó 14 años esperando la concreción de su condena a muerte, y fue trasladada a Huntsville, la cárcel de Texas equipada para las ejecuciones y donde en las próximas horas, a pesar de todos los pedidos de clemencia, incluso la del Papa Juan Pablo II, le aplicarán la inyección letal.

En la cárcel de Gatesville, donde pasó 14 años, Karla Faye Tucker fue apodada "la novia del patíbulo".

Pero en un tiempo, en el lugar de la delgada detenida que invoca serena el nombre de Jesús desde las pantallas de la emisora de noticias CNN y de la Christian Broadcasting Network, existía una muchacha perdida que en una noche de 1983 participó de un feroz delito, matando a un hombre y a una mujer a golpes de pico.

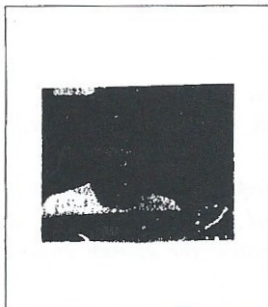
Karla tenía entonces 23 años. Ahora tiene 38 y sostiene que en la cárcel se

Dolly, ¿una oveja falsa?

Dos científicos cuestionaron, en la revista científica Science, la validez de la clonación de la oveja Dolly, obtenida el año pasado en un laboratorio escocés, por considerarla más una "anécdota" que

rehabilitó, pero el Parole Board de Texas (la oficina encargada de los perdones y las libertades condicionales) le negó la gracia a causa del "horror de su doble delito".

Todo sucedió en Houston,



en una cálida noche de junio, después de tres días pasados en una orgía de sexo, drogas y tequila.

En esa época Tucker formaba parte de una pandilla y llevaba encima años de adicción a las drogas y dudosas compañías. A los ocho años había fumado marihuana por primera vez, a los diez se inyectó heroína y a los 14 había aprendido a vender su cuerpo por dinero.

Con ella se encontraba en aquella época su novio de los

un verdadero "resultado".

En declaraciones a la revista, Norton Zinder, de la Universidad Rockefeller de Nueva York, y Vittorio Sgarbella, de la Universidad de Calabria, estimaron que los

últimos seis meses, Danny Garrett, y un amigo, Jimmy Liebrant. Querían entrar en la casa de otro amigo, Jerry Dean, para robarle piezas de su motocicleta Harley Davidson. El departamento estaba a oscuras y Tucker tenía la llave.

Sólo Danny y Karla entraron en la casa. "¿Quién es?", preguntó Dean. Karla le fue al encuentro y comenzaron a golpearse. En un momento Tucker vio el perfil de Garrett que, armado de un martillo, le golpeaba la cabeza a Dean: le rompía el cuello.

Garrett dejó la casa y comenzó a recoger partes de la motocicleta. Pero Jerry no estaba muerto, hacía ruidos horribles, un murmullo incesante, mientras sus pulmones se llenaban de sangre. Karla vio un pico: "Quería que dejara de hacer ruido, a toda costa, y comencé a golpearlo en la espalda", confesó ante el tribunal.

Karla se dio cuenta de que en la casa había otra persona, escondida entre las sábanas. Era Deborah Thornton, una mujer casada y madre de dos

intentos, por lo que apuntaron que "un solo ensayo conseguido sobre 400 es una anécdota, no un resultado".

Además, señalaron que la célula-madre de la que fue extraído el ADN a partir del cual fue

resultados del experimento no pueden ser aceptados hasta que no se realice otra clonación.

Ambos científicos recordaron que, para el nacimiento de Dolly, fueron necesarios 400

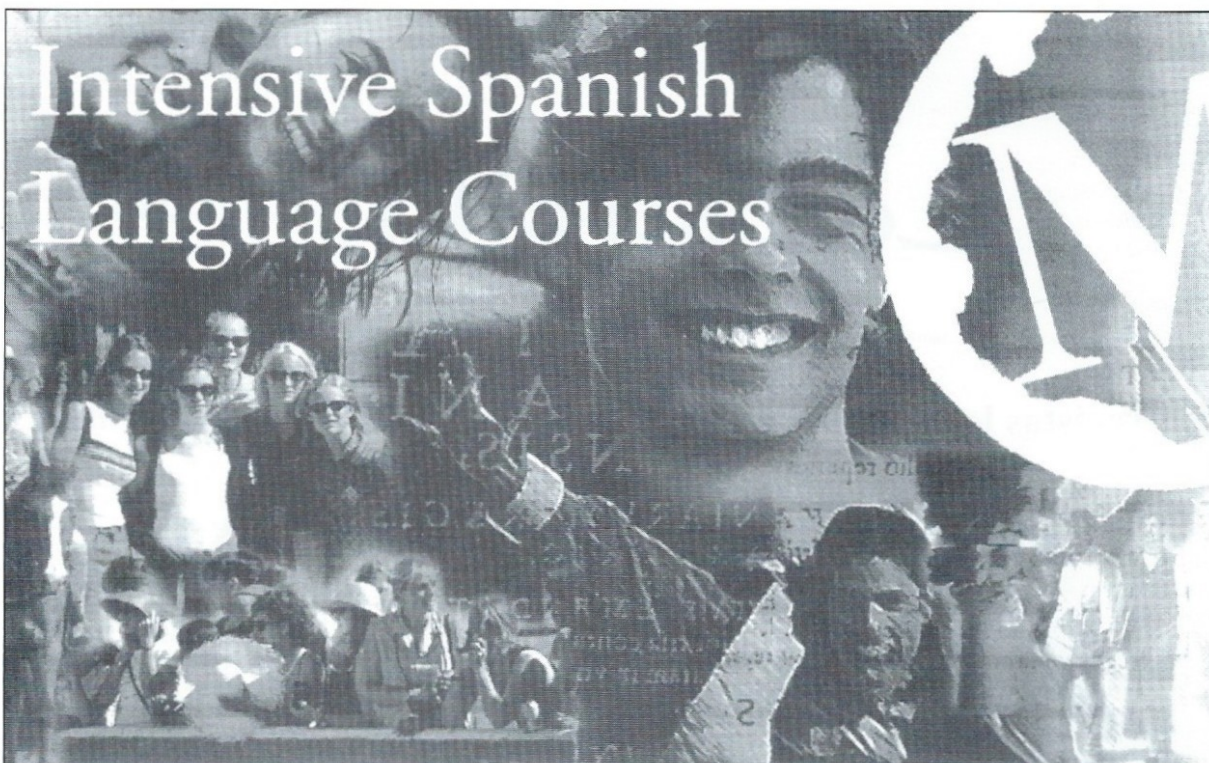
El Kremlin confirma que Irak está dispuesto a abrir sus palacios a los inspectores de la ONU Martes 3, 09.25

Con el prestigio de su diplomacia en juego tras un confuso episodio de afirmaciones y desmentidos, el Kremlin ha ratificado esta mañana que Irak está dispuesto a abrir sus palacios presidenciales a los inspectores de la ONU. El Gobierno iraquí, por su parte, se encargó anoche de calificar de "completo error" la información del Kremlin de que Sadam Husein había autorizado la inspección de ocho palacios presidenciales -de los 78 denunciados por EEUU- hasta ahora cerrados a los equipos de la ONU.



"concebida" Dolly, pudo ser en realidad un célula fetal, y no una célula normal.

Jane Balderstone.



Intensive Spanish Language Courses

Dear Parents,

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In 1991 we, a group of university teachers, founded the MESTER school influenced by the long teaching tradition of Salamanca. Today it is one of the most prestigious Spanish schools in town. This success has been achieved maintaining the highest standards of teaching, choosing the best accommodation and offering a wide program of social and cultural activities.

In short, we enjoy teaching Spanish and conveying this enthusiasm to our students. In this way, they can appreciate the Spanish culture, which is in turn enriched by their experiences here.

It will be our pleasure to welcome you all to Salamanca,

Yours Faithfully,



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José Ramon López Hernández
Headmaster

POLITICS LECTURES

On Friday 16th January 1998 our Lower Sixth Politics group accompanied by Mr. M.P. Jones spent the day at the Department of Government at the University of Manchester. The following lectures were attended:

The Nature of British Politics	- Prof Michael Moran (Manchester)
Why Study Politics?	- Prof David Denver (Lancaster)
The Politics of the Community	- Beatrix Campbell (The Guardian)
The Blair Phenomenon	- John Rentoul (The Independent)

On Monday, 30th March 1998 the following lectures were attended:

Class and Politics in Britain	- Andrew Adonis (The Observer)
Looking Back At It All - the 1997 election	- Prof David Denver (Lancaster)
Do Ministers Matter?	- Prof Philip Norton (The Politics Association)
The Revolution in Whitehall	- Prof Rod Rhodes

The first set of lectures were designed for students new to the study of politics. Thus the lectures were interesting and enjoyable and enhanced our attitude to the subject. Having spent a day at the university we also experienced a possible typical day of a student and the style of teaching in a university lecture. The second set of lectures were specifically designed for students taking A Level Politics in June 1998, thus we were a little premature for the content of the lectures. However, again these were also interesting and enjoyable.

All the lectures were delivered by leading academics journalists and politicians. They have proved an excellent complement to the EDEXCEL syllabus.

The Lower Sixth Politics group, Gurpartab Sathi, Seetal Sagar, Suzanne Kershaw, Syma Saeed and myself look forward to next year's lectures and the trip to the Houses of Parliament.

Mussadak Mirza (LMPJ)

FIFTH YEAR WORK EXPERIENCE 1998

The sixth annual work experience scheme was the most successful to date with forty-four students choosing to take part in this voluntary activity following their GCSE examinations.

They went to a variety of both public and private sector employers including hospitals, schools, the airport, law firms, industry etc. The students had the chance to experience, albeit in a very limited way, the career which they are considering pursuing, whilst the employer had the chance to learn something about WHGS.

The reports which follow these placements are invariably a credit to our students with comments such as 'an excellent attitude', 'always smiling and very helpful', 'a credit to her school and family'. 'will have a very successful future', being written about each girl or boy.

I would like to thank each of the following employers for giving an opportunity to one or more of our students. Without their generosity the scheme would be impossible.

Aintree Hospital
Altrincham Preparatory School
Atherden, Fuller, Long (Architects)
Bowdon Preparatory School
Bolton Hospital
E.D. Brown (Solicitors)
Cegelec Power
Chester Evening Leader (Newspaper)
Christie Hospital
Civil Service - Benefits Agency
Conrad Advertising
Coopers Lybrand
Kevin Donnelly - Barristers Chambers
Electro/Bio/Med Engineering
Ellenbrook Primary School
Greater Manchester Police (Airport)
Mr Hamed - Solicitor
Mr Hasnain (Dental Surgeon)
Hattrell Partners (Architects)
Hideaway Youth Project

Higher Lane Infants
 Dr Hussain
 Inwear Plc
 Jones Homes
 Juice Advertising
 Lewis St. Primary School
 Longview Hotel
 Lowe & Cohen (Solicitors)
 Manchester Airport
 Manchester One Parent Family Advice Centre
 Manchester Royal Infirmary
 Medical Research at Manchester University
 Peugeot Regional Office
 'The Project' Community Youth Work
 Royal Sun Alliance Insurance
 Russell, Jones & Walker (Solicitors)
 Thomas Saul & Co
 Specsavers
 Stanley Grove Infants
 Thermal Transfer
 Withington Hospital
 Ian Wood - Dental Surgeon

Mrs. G. M. Brown

Work Experience 1998

5B

Caroline Bell
 Pritpal Birdi
 Tom Hickman
 James Kerr

Manchester Airport
 Ian Wood - Dental Surgeon
 Manchester Airport
 Royal Sun Alliance Insurance

5D

Aliya Chandia
 Asad Chaudhry
 Hamed Farooq
 Hassan Imtiaz
 Huma Karim

Kevin Donnelly - Barristers Chambers
 Manchester Royal Infirmary
 Mr Hamed - Solicitor
 Manchester Royal Infirmary
 Dr Hussain
 Specsavers
 Bowdon Preparatory School
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 Atherden, Fuller, Long (Architects)
 Thermal Transfer
 Conrad Advertising

Georgina Laird
 Jonathan Murphy
 Minesh Parekh
 Andrew Pickford

Victoria Raynes

5F

Kessr Ali
 Louise Goodwin
 Youssr Issa

Mr Hasnain (Dental Surgeon)
 Juice Advertising
 Aintree Hospital
 Lewis St. Primary School
 Hattrell Partners (Architects)
 Jones Homes
 E.D. Brown (Solicitors)
 Altrincham Preparatory School
 Longview Hotel
 Manchester Royal Infirmary

Saima Khan
 Louise Lee
 Richard Lee
 Daniel Naylor
 Jenny Porter
 Balal Rana

5G

Mark Brown
 Elli Metcalfe
 Faye Todd
 Talia Turnberg

Greater Manchester Police (Airport)
 Chester Evening Leader (Newspaper)
 Ellenbrook Primary School
 The Project Community Youth Work

5H

Sadia Akhtar
Danielle Baker
Asmar Chaudhry
Vanessa Cohen
Lucy Counsell

Emma Cruickshank
Victoria Horn
Graeme Laycock
Andrew Machin

Neil Whitehead

5W

Nicholas Barrett
Jemma Cohen
Marsha Freeman
Gary Meakin
Peju Pearce

Natalie Phillips
Olamide Taiwo

Stanley Grove Infants
Manchester Airport
Hideaway Youth Project
Higher Lane Infants
Manchester One Parent
Family Advice Centre
Nanny - Germany
Peugeot Regional Office
Cegelec Power
ElectrolBio/Med Engineering
Bolton Hospital
Medical Research at
Manchester University

Russell Jones & Walker (Solicitors)
Civil Service - Benefits Agency
Lowe & Cohen (Solicitors)
Coopers Lybrand
Manchester One Parent
Family Advice Centre
Thomas Saul & Co
Christie Hospital

MY WORK EXPERIENCE

Having completed my GCSE's, I decided to spend the following week at the North Manchester Jewish Youth Project. I arrived on Monday morning at 9.30am very nervous as I didn't know what to expect. I first met Sharon Banister, a youth worker who showed me around the building and explained to me the role of her job. Each morning we started by checking the mail and any new phone messages. I soon realised that each day was very varied with many different aspects of her job taking place. Some days people from the public dropped in asking for information on drugs, alcohol, bullying and many other topical issues. At one time we even had a student come in enquiring for us to help her find accommodation whilst she was studying at university. I attended many meetings while I was there, which allowed several youth workers from separate parts of the country to meet up with one another and discuss about the different ways to encourage the 'youth' to get together and meet new people from places like London, Leeds, Birmingham, Glasgow and Manchester.

On Wednesday night I attended a youth organisation consisting of boys and girls aged between 10 - 14 who meet weekly to put together a magazine called the 'Link' which is aimed at young adolescents for them to enjoy. I joined in by helping them write the articles which included poems, a music section and a problem page. This evening gave me an insight into the experience of working with young people.

I was very upset to have to leave on Friday afternoon because I had a very enjoyable week working with all types of people of the youth profession.

Talia Turnberg (5G)

BIOLOGY/PETS CLUB

The club has continued to meet regularly every Thursday lunchtime and has some very dedicated members. The Pets Section is highly popular and the members are able to look after the various animals and give them plenty of tender loving care.

This year we have looked at pondlife, cat fleas!, wasps' nests, animal skins and talked about a wide variety of biologically interesting things.

The highlight was a trip to Harris House at Hardraw in June. The weather was not very kind but a group of eight girls and four boys had an immensely enjoyable time. We visited the Open Farm near Sedburgh to see and feed the animals and an unexpected bonus was watching the farmer deliver a new born lamb right in front of us!

The next day we visited the Falconry Centre at Giggleswick. We were given a guided tour of the different birds and then watched three separate flying displays. These ranged from Vera, a huge Lappet-faced Vulture, to a loveable rogue called Johnny Rook. Johnny is a Falkland Islands Taracara who used to live at Bristol Zoo but was banished to the Falconry Centre for mugging old ladies for their sandwiches!

The nest-box scheme was again successful with nine out of fifteen boxes being occupied, mainly by Blue Tits.

Finally, once again many thanks must go to the Laboratory Technician, Mrs Traynor, for all help she gives to the club and the members.

D.A. Myers & E. L. Matthews

PET CLUB – A PUPIL’S EYE VIEW

All of those people who say Pet Club is sad, well you are wrong! What could be better than a room that is teacher-free, where 3rd years throw out people who threaten to eat the hamster!... and animals to muck out....

A quick introduction to the Animals,

Robert the Rabbit
Skitso the Hamster
Mulder and Scully the Gerbils
Unnamed Terrapins, Stick Insects and Fish..... Any ideas for names??

We have a meeting every Thursday lunch time where most of us learn about animals. We discuss, care, diet, habitat and much more.

Then there is the pet club weekend at Hardraw, every pet club member’s nightmare! where burning questions were asked like “How late could we stay up?” and “Was there a television?”. The answer was 10.00pm and NO.

However, there were many things to do and we learnt absolutely loads about animals, visited a working farm and called in at a Falconry Centre. We were supposed to go on a night walk but unfortunately the rain hit us badly so we stayed in and had a quiz, won by Susan and Tom. The prize was a cuddly hedgehog minus the spikes!. On the night of our midnight feast it was difficult to tell who were the people and who were the animals. In our free time we were able to roller skate, play games, read or seriously annoy the teachers. It was a wonderful weekend and we look forward to next year.

We have had two sad occasions. The first was when Phrenic the Hamster escaped down a hole and hasn’t been seen since. Adam Vittoz and Tom made a rescue attempt to lowering a rope into the hole and tying it to a pipe in the hope that she would climb up to freedom. Sadly this wasn’t to be but we still hope she is alive. The second sad occasion was the death of Rudolph the Guinea Pig; the club built a memorial area at the side of the school and said a “few words”, gifts were left for him from flowers to a CD.

We have to take pets home for holidays so we need volunteers to adopt them for short periods. School provides cages and food so all you need to do is care for them and accommodate them.

Remember the pleasure and interest we get from them during term time so please don’t forget them during holiday time.

Tom Jones (1J)

INTERVIEW AVEC NOTRE ASSISTANTE FRANÇAISE, CLAIRE KUNTZEL

Juin 1998

JGH: Préférez-vous le style de vie anglais ou français?

CK: Je pense que je préfère le style de vie français parce que c’est complètement différent d’ici. En France on a un plus grand repas à midi et puis on mange moins le soir. En plus les magasins restent ouverts beaucoup plus tard le soir: par exemple, si on sort ici à Manchester à cinq heures et demie tout est en train de fermer. Je trouve que c’est dommage: je préfère le style de vie en France, oui.

JGH: Où habitez-vous en France?

CK: J’habite sur la Côte d’Azur à Nice. C’est une ville plutôt touristique tout au bord de la mer.

JGH: Vous êtes née où?

CK: Je suis née à Metz dans la Moselle et j’ai déménagé à Nice il y a 4 ans.

JGH: Est-ce que vous aimez le sport, Claire?

CK: Oui, j’aime bien le sport, surtout le tennis, le ski et aussi la natation. Mais en France on ne joue pas aux mêmes sports qu’ici: par exemple, le netball, le cricket, le lacrosse et tout ça - on ne connaît pas du tout!

JGH: Qu’est-ce que vous aimez comme musique alors?

CK: Oh, j’ai des goûts assez variés. J’aime bien la musique française - je sais que ce n’est pas très populaire ici mais j’aime bien des chanteurs comme **Jean-Jacques Goldman**, par exemple. Je trouve qu’il est très doué... j’aime bien aussi **Céline Dion**. Sinon, ici, j’ai fait connaissance avec la *Soul Music* ce que j’aime bien; j’aime bien la musique pop aussi et le jazz.

JGH: Vous avez assisté à des concerts ici?

CK: Non, c’est vraiment bête parce que j’aurais voulu aller voir **Texas** en concert; j’ai vu qu’ils sont venus en concert le lendemain du concert. Vraiment j’ai regretté. Après j’ai regardé le programme de tous les chanteurs qui allaient venir à **Nynex** et je n’avais pas envie d’aller à ces concerts-là.

JGH: Vous aimez la musique classique aussi?

CK: Oui, j’aime bien la musique classique - j’ai été une fois au **Bridgewater Hall**; c’était très, très beau - la musique était très bonne et l’acoustique était vraiment impeccable.

JGH: Quels sont vos passe-temps préférés?

CK: J’aime bien lire - des romans policiers par exemple, et j’aime aussi faire du sport; j’aime: faire du vélo, jouer au tennis, aller à la plage, des choses comme ça.

JGH: Venons à la question-clé. Que préférez-vous, la cuisine anglaise ou la cuisine française?

JGH: Ça ne va étonner personne! Je crois que je préfère la cuisine française.

JGH: Vous avez visité *Le Dôme à Manchester*? C'est une brasserie française.

CK: Non, je l'ai vu mais je n'y suis pas allée. Je suis allée au *Café Rouge* sur *Deansgate* et ça fait très français à l'intérieur.

JGH: Et comme cuisine anglaise qu'est-ce qui vous a plu?

CK: Bon, c'était pas mal de découvrir les recettes anglaises: j'ai bien aimé le *kedgeriee*, les crumbles.

JGH: Ici, à l'école ou chez vous?

CK: Oh, à l'école, les desserts étaient très bons. Le *kedgeriee*, je ne l'ai pas mangé ici - je l'ai mangé à l'extérieur. Mais ce que j'aime bien ici, c'est la variété dans les recettes, parce qu'avec toutes les personnes qui viennent d'Inde ou de Chine par exemple il y a beaucoup de restaurants indiens, chinois et aussi mexicains.

JGH: Vous avez un plat anglais préféré?

CK: ...Bon, ça va rester relatif, hein! J'ai goûté le fameux *fish and chips*.

JGH: Chez *Harry Ramsden's*?

CK: Non, c'était à *Settle* dans le *Yorkshire*. Bon, les frites sont toujours délicieuses. Le poisson je trouve un peu trop gras. Mais j'adore les *apple pies*, les *fruit pies* et tout ça.

JGH: Avec le *custard*?

CK: Avec ou sans *custard*. J'aime bien le *custard*, mais j'aime aussi avec de la glace à la vanille.

JGH: Est-ce que vous avez trouvé des différences entre cette école et votre collège en France?

CK: La grande différence c'est qu'ici, c'est un établissement privé. Donc, il y a plus de moyens ici.

JGH: Beaucoup de facilités, d'équipements, tout ça?

CK: Oui, par exemple, on n'avait pas de laboratoire de langues et ici, chez vous les terrains de sports sont très grands et très beaux. Je vois que tous les jours on les tond et on s'en occupe. Je trouve aussi que les élèves ici ont de bonnes relations avec les profs - je dirais presque des relations de confiance.

JGH: Merci beaucoup *Claire* et pour finir: quel sera votre meilleur souvenir d'Angleterre?

CK: Mon meilleur souvenir? Je vais garder un très bon souvenir de l'école de *William Hulme's*... Je dis ça sincèrement parce qu'en plus c'était ma première expérience dans une école et ça m'a appris beaucoup de choses. Je me souviendrai aussi des voyages que j'ai faits autour de l'Angleterre: cela m'a permis de découvrir le pays - c'était très sympa.

JGH: Merci beaucoup et bon retour en France.

CK: Merci - c'était un plaisir de discuter avec vous.

J.G. Hofton

YOUNG ENTERPRISE SCHEME

Young Enterprise is a scheme aimed at Sixth Formers, preferably studying Business Studies or Economics. It is a national scheme in which students across the country participate. Although previously sixth formers have been involved in the scheme, this is the first time there is an article in 'The Hulmeian' as it was a huge success.

We started off with twenty members and each member was given a role ranging from Managing Director to Company Secretary. We called the company 'Paradox' and had the company registered. We used to have a company meeting every Monday lunch time, during which we would look at the previous week's work, discuss our objectives and plan the following week's work. The work included designing goods and services, marketing and advertising them, producing and selling them and keeping records of stock and profits (and loss!). We often used to have further meetings during the week and sometimes at 'Siemens' where our advisors were from.

The goods and services which we produced are listed below:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| - Sweet Bottles | - Alton Towers Trip |
| - Candle Bottles | - Christmas Toy Appeal |
| - Valentine's Chocolate | - Valentines Message Service |
| - Recipe Book | |

Most of the goods and services were successful such as the Alton Towers trip and Valentine's Message Service from which we made a huge profit. The Toy Appeal was a contribution of new and good condition toys which we collected and donated to 'The Wood Street Mission', a local charity.

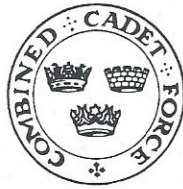
In March 1998 we had to submit a 10 page report to the Regional Young Enterprise Board. There was also a presentation at the Granada Studio, where all of the region's Young Enterprise Companies came and did a presentation. Although we did not win and go to the National and European Final, we were however financially successful as we had a turnover of nearly £700. We were also popular among the local community and within school, and overall we achieved many of our objectives as well as having a very worthwhile and useful experience.

We also sold shares to teachers, parents and pupils. The shares were priced at 25p each. When the scheme was over we gave a 100% dividend. For instance for every £1 invested the shareholder got £2 back.

All of the members, Rajeev Kumar, Paul Edisbury, Elise Cohen, Chloe Pepall, Abigail Silver, Stephanie Jackson, Chris Smith, Neil McLeod, Ross Mackay, Fiaz Ahmed, Levinia Clemetson, Syma Saeed, Gurpartab Sathi and last but not least myself have enjoyed being involved in the Young Enterprise Scheme and we have gained a lot of useful experience and knowledge of a real company.

We would all specially like to thank our advisors from 'Siemens', Andrew Ryder and Donna Mamigonian, and our link teacher Miss Collier, who were a great help throughout the scheme.

Mussadak Mirza (LMPJ)



COMBINED CADET FORCE

No King's Cup (cancelled) and no North West Challenge (for several reasons) meant a rather depleted programme on the face of it this year. A very busy series of Field Days and Camps, two teams in NW CSAAM, an Inspection by the HMC team and our first Germany attachment for six years more than compensated, though.



WHGS CCF on Exercise on the German/Dutch Border, July 98
 (photo: Dr A Wilson)

Senior Platoon Training

The Senior (Fifth Form) Platoon finally completed its training for the Army Proficiency Certificate in May, when certificates and stripes were handed out by the Head Master in Assembly. The numerous elements of the course, most of which were tested, culminated in the NCO's Cadre. All are designed to develop leadership, responsibility and teamwork, and the cadets' achievement was recognised by the following promotions:

APC GRADING	TO LANCE CORPORAL	TO CORPORAL
PASS	Vanessa Cohen	Caroline Bell
	Iain Gage	Joe Holland
	Georgina Laird	
	Rebekah Lawson	
	Vicky Raynes	
MERIT	Laura Berrisford	Kessr Ali
	Laurie-May Edwards	Sarah Baker
	Talia Turnberg	Neel Shah
DISTINCTION		Nick Barratt
		Kati Greenall
		Jonathan Murphy
		Chris White



Our three CSMs in the Dales: Stephen Flood, Jake Royle and Ben Kent...and the Fifth Form girls
(photos: Maj Fisher and Capt Simkin)

Field Days were held in the Macclesfield Forest and in March at Hardraw where route-preparation and First Aid occupied the evening and a strenuous Dales walk the day itself. As well as the OC and Lt Matthews, Captains Simkin and Grange and Mlle Claire Kuntzel, our French assistant, accompanied the platoon on this occasion. Several members of the platoon came to Central Camp after their Exams.

Capt M P Jones

Recruit/Junior Platoon Training

Most of the platoon has worked hard this year and displayed enthusiasm and commitment at Monday Parades, Field Days and Camps. Training has focused on weapons and fieldcraft.

Michaelmas Field Day was held at University Barracks, home of our Cadet Training Team in Manchester where cadets followed a circuit of First Aid, Signals and Climbing on the indoor facility. In March they went for the first time to the Dale Barracks in Chester where Capt Jones and 2 Lt Collier put on a programme of military activities. In June it was back to Holcombe Moor Training Centre for yet another wet Lancashire night out. It was a rather soggy and dispirited platoon that practised their Fieldcraft training the next day.

It was pleasing to see that most of the platoon found places on one or other of the three camps during the year.

Cadets who passed their Fieldcraft and Weapons Tests are now able to wear the red patch behind the regimental cap-badge. Thanks to the CTT and particularly to Miss - now 2 Lt - Collier, for their hard work with the platoon, and thanks also to the large group of NCOs who have assisted with their training this year.

Lt E L Matthews

ADVENTUROUS TRAINING CAMP

A change of Expedition route gave Camp an edge this year. Snowdon was forsaken for the Carnedd and Glyder ranges, with a base camp in the Ogwen Valley. During our stay here we were delighted to receive a visit from Flt Lt Jonathan Greenhowe OH who flew his Hawk as low as he was permitted over our tents during breakfast one morning and cheerily dipped a wing (almost into someone's porridge) in greeting. Starting from Capel Curig village the expedition went smoothly in the cool conditions once every group had identified the ridge leading down to our field in the valley below. There were few patches of snow left on the tops so walking was entirely straightforward and a superb expedition was completed in good weather without mishap.

Mishaps did occur, however, once the circuit of adventurous training options got under way. Fortunately none was too serious, and riders, bikers, canoeists, climbers and abseilers, skiers and orienteers all lived to tell the tale. Thirty boys and girls from the Fourth to the Upper Sixth Forms took part in all.



Sgt Will Laird's section with Mr Gracey and Mr Veevers on Y Garn
(photos: Maj Fisher)



Laurie and Laura attempt synchronised skiing
(photos: Maj Fisher)



The outflow at Plas y Brenin proved a challenge for canoeists
(photos: Maj Fisher)

The Orienteering was adjudicated by Mr Gracey and was generally well done. The winning team was Glyn Roberts and Gurpartab Sathi and runners-up were Paul Stonehouse and Jamie Meers, closely followed by Danny Wood and Alick Hyde, then Laura Alexander-Williams and Helen Fisher.

A hardy band of cadets opted for a walk on the final day of Camp, and experienced a superb traverse of the snow-covered Nantlle Ridge.

Various awards were made at the debrief, some more serious than others but all well meant: Ben Green for navigation, Will Laird for first-class leadership of his group, Laura and Helen for their pluckiness and enthusiasm, Kim Hayden for soldiering on good-naturedly despite her recurrent knee problem, and Miss Matthews for devotion to equestrianism.

Again Camp was enhanced by the presence of friends from outside the Corps: Capt Grange, Mr Veevers and family, Mrs Fisher, Miss Boothroyd and Guy Brocklehurst, for whose help we are very grateful.

North West Cadet Skill At Arms Meeting



Lt Matthews with the WHGS CSAAM Teams, May 1998.
(photo: Maj Fisher)

This year our firers had rather less practice on the GP rifle, apart from a half-day at Altcar with Capt Jones, but plenty of sessions with Lt Matthews on marksmanship principles and firing the .22 rifle on our own range. Such was the enthusiasm to take part that for a change we were able to enter two teams, which consisted of Sgts Chris Lindley, Edward Barker, Pareen Trivedi and Richard Fisher (Team A) and Sgts Will Laird RAF, Kim Hayden, and L/Cpls Kati Greenall and Nick Barratt (Team B). Our results were as follows:

				Team A	Team B	
Montgomery of Alamein:				24th	30th	} (out of 42 teams)
Ensign Rifle:				10th	39th	
Earl Roberts:				11th	32nd	
Marling:				9th	24th	
Individual Placings Overall:				Sgt Chris Lindley	53rd	} (out of 168 firers)
				Sgt Pareen Trivedi	56th	
				Sgt Edward Barker	64th	
Overall Team Positions:		A	14th	B	36th	(out of 42)

Pareen Trivedi was 10th best female shot too and Nick Barratt’s shooting put him comfortably into the Team A bracket. In addition Team A reached the Quarter Final of the Falling Plate Competition.

Thanks to Cdts Jamie Meers, Helen Fisher and Laura Alexander-Williams who volunteered to work all weekend in the butts.

Lt Col D M Fisher

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ARMY SECTION

CENTRAL CAMP, CULTYBRAGGAN, JULY 1998



A group of SNCOs, Recruits and Spaniards on the Glenogle Trail
(photo: Capt Simkin)

For the second year running we headed north of the Border, drawn by the excellent training programme and the beautiful surroundings of Cultybraggan. The training package incorporated a good range of military and adventurous activities, all testing yet enjoyable, enabling cadets to develop new skills and above all teamwork. In this respect we were thrown in at the deep end (almost literally!) with our first day of training: the unique Glenogle Trail which incorporates a series of command tasks, giving each cadet the opportunity to lead the others, culminated in a blind trail through a river - resulting in a great deal of screaming!

An important part of Central Camp is Range Day when cadets have the opportunity to put into practice the weapons training developed at School. This year's was very successful in that all cadets were able to fire both the cadet rifle and the LSW. Congratulations to Recruit Robi Dé who shot extremely well on this his first experience of range work. In all nineteen of our thirty new recruits came to Camp, more than for some years. A highlight of the Range Day was the drill training delivered in his own inimitable style by Captain Grange as a background activity.



Cadets rafting on Loch Earn as the safety boat bales out!
(photo: Capt Simkin)

Membership of the Corps offers the opportunity to try new activities and develop new skills, and certainly not just in a military context. Central Camp condenses many such activities into just one week when cadets can enjoy themselves while learning to work together as a team, and a typical example was the Watermanship day, although everyone still needs further practice at rafting!

The overnight Survival Exercise went extremely well. Some excellent shelters were built, especially by recruits, and everyone enjoyed a relaxing evening round the campfire. There's no rest for the wicked, though, as the cadets came into camp the following morning and went straight out again to climbing and abseiling. We endured a rather arduous journey to the climbing area in the back of 4-ton trucks, and were able to try a range of climbs. Recruit Jonathan Case excelled and was acclaimed best climber of the fortnight by the Training Team. Everyone successfully completed a Tyrolean Traverse during the day, though some took longer to recover than others.

The Fieldcraft Day is another opportunity to practise skills learned during term time from Contingent staff. It was excellently run, as always, and among the "stands" were a Section Attack and Ambush, and a timed Combat First Aid competition which necessitated a steep stretcher run carrying an injured Katie Chesworth.

In the inter-contingent competitions our results were good:

March and Shoot:		6th	} out of 28 teams
Assault Course:	<i>Girls' Team</i>	15th	
	<i>Boys' Team</i>	17th	



The WHGS Assault Course Teams (all hatless) with ACF cadets from Perth Academy
 (photo: Maj D B Pover MBE Black Watch Bn ACF)

All aspects of the week went without a hitch, including the late arrivals and early departures from Perth Station, our four Spanish exchange pupils seemed to have an interesting time and were the only ones to have a helicopter flight, and the WHGS cadets conducted themselves superbly, receiving many commendations from both instructors and other contingents' officers.

It was a brilliant Camp which everyone enjoyed. This could not have been achieved on this the first Camp I have run without the help and support of Captains Simkin and Grange and Mr Loveland. At the Camp debrief the following promotions were made:

to Under Officer	CSM Glynn Roberts
to L/Cpl	Cadets Laura Alexander-Williams and Helen Fisher

Further promotions will be posted at the start of the Michaelmas Term.

2 Lt F V Collier

ATTACHMENT TO 7th SIGNAL REGIMENT, JULY 1998

The Army may have well-trained soldiers and modern weapons but these would be of little use without communications. So at 2 o'clock one morning in July twelve cadets and three officers set off to visit 229 (Berlin) Squadron, 7th Signal Regiment in Germany, to find out just how important communications are. The journey went well, and the party had a leisurely breakfast in the terminal at Harwich while awaiting the huge HSS ferry, Stena Discovery. At 6 o'clock that evening we arrived at Krefeld and met Sgt Cooper and Cpl Barlow (from Manchester) who had organised our programme. They introduced us to the Squadron bar, kitted out with pool table, darts board, satellite TV (for the World Cup!), Nintendo and endless Coke, 7Up and Sprite - and to the officers and cadets from King's School Worcester who were sharing the visit with us. Most evenings were spent socialising in the bar, and during the tour cadets participated in Quiz and Games Nights (at which Cdt Jamie Meers won the darts trophy).

Over the next few days cadets underwent training in weapon handling, drill, map and compass and signals. Drill is not one of our specialities but Sgt Cooper soon had the squad marching smartly up and down the parade square, and even turning on the march. It was pleasing to see the cadets' drill improving rapidly as the week progressed, with even junior cadets able to lead a squad.

After an introduction to the Army's SA 80 rifle cadets moved to the SAT (Small Arms Trainer) to practise their shooting skills. The SAT consists of a large video screen on which are projected various scenarios including moving and half-hidden targets. The rifles are linked electronically to the screen and unfortunately each individual's score is displayed on the screen for all to see!

Half a day was spent on an extremely technical introduction to the Control and Relay vehicles used by Signals Regiments to set up a comms network. Cadets were also able to try their hand at erecting aerials and taking down the huge camouflage netting used to conceal the vehicles. Much of the equipment we saw is quite cumbersome and old but is still in use because it is so strong and therefore able to resist the heavy use it inevitably suffers in training and combat. Our demonstration finished with a look at the comms vehicles of the future.

Fitness plays an important part in the life of a regiment, but the fittest members of our party must surely have been the officers who were up early most mornings jogging round Krefeld while the cadets slept. This paid off on Games Day when the adult team was unbeaten at football, thanks to four clean sheets by their brilliant goalie! Sadly we weren't quite so good at basketball. Lt Matthews also ran two rugby training sessions during the tour for our cadets, one including a five-mile run which took in the only thing remotely resembling a hill for miles around.

Visits out of barracks had been laid on to complement the training and let cadets see something of Germany (and Holland), and the first of these was to Centre Parcs where cadets braved the rapids, snorkelled down to observe fish, or simply relaxed in a jacuzzi. We also visited Phantasialand, a German equivalent of Alton Towers, though much more compact and crowded. The final outing was to a very wet Arnhem for some military history. We visited the excellent Airborne Museum at Osterbeeck to learn about the background to the film "A Bridge Too Far" and then spent a very thought-provoking hour strolling round the Cemetery.



Major Robinson points out some Australian graves to cadets at the Military Cemetery near Arnhem
(photo: Lt Col Fisher)

The climax of the attachment was a 48-hour Exercise. Having deployed to a training area on the German-Dutch border cadets spent the first morning solving the problem of how to pitch a 24' x 12' tent with no instructions, and receiving instruction in safety, camouflage and concealment, night patrolling and platoon harbour drills. The afternoon was occupied by combat first aid and cassim, a modern weapons stand (which included variants of the AK 47), and a fascinating presentation by the Military Police Close Protection Unit who brought along a very fast car and weapons and equipment used in surveillance, which the cadets were able to handle. Cadets were also given the rare opportunity of driving both a 4-ton truck and a Land Rover on the training area, and were driven over a cross-country route in the latter, much to their pleasure! Having built their bashas the cadets spent the greater part of the night on recce patrol, during which they came across and had to react to such situations as an unconscious casualty who had crashed her Land Rover and some very strange French (or Spanish?) troops who hurled abuse - and more - at any cadet they spotted.

A largely sleepless night came to an end when troops overran the harbour area and our exhausted cadets were captured. However after a decent breakfast and a period of rest the tactical phase was over and the rest of the day was spent in CQB - close quarter battle drill - where cadets patrol individually, are fired upon by a well-hidden enemy, and have to react swiftly and correctly. Everything is done by the book in the Army, so there is one right way and many wrong ways of doing things, and this is something that cadets come to accept (just as they do at School!) The award for Best Actor goes to Sgt Richard Fisher for his realistic death at the hands of Sgt Kim Hayden! Finally in mid-afternoon the long-awaited helicopter - an Army Air Corps Gazelle - turned up amid great excitement and although there was no time or room for flights the cadets were given a briefing and a question and answer session by the young Lieutenant pilot and his Staff Sergeant observer.

Eleven days after our arrival the visit concluded with a range period where the best shots (on the 9mm pistol and LSW) were Cadets Danny Wood and Ryan Horsley-Frost. A dash back to the Barracks to change, hand over the accommodation and say our farewells and thankyou's and it was back on the coach for the Hook of Holland. After an uneventful crossing we arrived on time only to find that there was no transport to take us back up to Manchester. Three hours and several phone calls later the Army system had been unable to come up with our/a coach and so Lt Col Fisher managed to organise two minibus taxis from Colchester. We spent the next five hours packed in like sardines, arriving at the School gates at 3 a.m. An unexpected end to an interesting visit described by one senior cadet as his best CCF experience ever.



The Sergeants wait, all unsuspecting, for the transport home from Harwich
(photo: Lt Matthews)

Thanks are due to 42 Brigade for enabling us to go to Germany in the first place and to Major Chris Robinson Royal Australian Signals, OC 229 (Berlin) Signal Squadron, and his team, who hosted us and organised and ran the attachment.

Lt E L Matthews

- 30 Third Form recruits spent the traditional wet night under bashas at Holcombe Moor in June, and the following day, having dried out and recovered, were taken over the Krypton Factor Confidence Course, which they managed particularly well this year;
- An extremely weighty CCF Handbook had been prepared and sent off to the HMC Inspection Team, and a member of the team spent an evening quizzing the OC and visiting the flights and platoons as they trained at School. Both he and the OC were extremely impressed with what we saw. Cadets were well turned-out and enthusiastic, and were able to respond to the Inspector knowledgeably, articulately and with obvious enthusiasm for what they were doing;

- Flt Sgt David Melmoth (U6) has been awarded a coveted RAF Bursary to see him through his years at University and ensure a place as a Training Officer after graduation, and Sgt Richard Longworth has won an RAF Flying Scholarship;
- Several people connected with the Corps attended the Founders' Dinner in March, notably the Brigade Commander of 42 (NW) Brigade in Preston, Brigadier David Shaw, and Captain Simon Roffey (Old Hulmeian), serving with 1st Bn the King's Regiment;
- Jonathan Greenhowe has been promoted to Flight Lieutenant RAF and Giles Fisher has just passed out of BRNC Dartmouth and begins flying training in September;
- Sgt Gurpartab Sathi attended the Royal Signals Advanced Cadet Signallers Course at Blandford in August;
- Sgt Richard Fisher attended the Cadet Training Centre's Leadership Course in July and achieved the highest grading, a rare accolade for any cadet;
- Miss Matthews has completed a Unit Expedition Leader Course in Wales, a Rock Climbing Proficiency Course at Ballachulish, and is hoping to attend the Advanced CCF Officers Course in October;
- The School hosted an excellent Band Concert by the King's Division Band and the King's Regiment's Corps of Drums;
- The Army Section Stores were efficiently run this year by Sgts Richard Fisher and Jo Shaw, with help from Sgts Edward Barker and Lauren Standring.

Lt Col D M Fisher
Contingent Commander

RAF SECTION

The section has, as usual, had an active year, with opportunities for flying, gliding, building rafts and, through the trip to Hardraw, practising map-reading skills.

Flying however is one of the Section's top priorities. Cadet Susanne Onyemem had her first experience of flying in a Bulldog trainer on the Field Day during the summer term. She writes:

Imagine it: flying through the air at 2,000 feet and the only person controlling where you are going and what you are doing is..... yourself. RAF cadets get to experience this. The adrenalin rush is indescribable. As you are strapped into your parachute (only as a safety precaution), you can hear the sound of the aircraft taking off and landing. Any minute it will be your turn. Getting into the aircraft is the hardest part; then it all comes naturally. You are strapped into the seat, you greet the pilot and then off you go. The plane gathers speed, you hear the wind rushing past the cockpit and then you are airborne.



Cdts. Sudra Ghani and Susanne Onyemem await their flights.

Soon you are at 2,000 feet and you take over. What you do depends entirely on you: a loop-the-loop? Momentarily the ground is beneath your head and your feet are suspended in mid-air. Barrel-turns? The whole plane seems to be tipping over as you stare out of the side-window. Then you take the controls and you can even try these stunts yourself (if the pilot trusts you enough).

Time passes so quickly and you come into land after 30 minutes. What splendid views and friendly company!

It was not just the map-reading that Cadet Waqar Ahmad enjoyed when he came on the Hardraw weekend. He writes:

We left WHGS at around 1745 by minibus with Mr Gracey driving, and Mr Addison with Dr Keable in his car. We arrived at Harris House at around 2025 to meet Miss Matthews, who had stayed the past couple of nights with the Army Section. There wasn't a big party at Hardraw: only six pupils joined the four members of staff. We didn't do much that night apart from playing card games and table tennis before going to bed in the early hours of Saturday morning.

Soon Saturday morning came and we had breakfast and made our packed lunches before we had a short briefing with Mr Gracey about the 11km walk route.

At around 1030 all the staff and pupils packed into the minibus and set off to some bridge in the middle of nowhere, where Will Laird led us six pupils back to Harris House with only a map and compass. So we walked for two hours through the empty countryside, stopped and ate our lunch, and then finished the walk in the next two hours. When we got back to Harris House, we got cleaned up and just chilled out for an hour until we bumped into the teachers. We then split up: Mr Addison and Will walked back; Mr Gracey, Rick Longworth and myself took the easy option and went back in the minibus. The other two teachers took Miss Matthews' car while the rest of the pupils walked back, finding time to play some football on a pitch near Hardraw.

That evening Mr Addison and Will cooked the tea, which was Veggie Bolognese, Spaghetti Bolognese and Chilli. Only Mr Addison and Will had the chilli for they overdid it with the red chilli-powder, which made them turn pinkish in colour. After tea we all had a game of dingbats, playing cards and table tennis. Mr Gracey took us all for a walk before we went to bed early on Sunday morning.

Sunday morning came and we all slept until 1000, when we got up, had breakfast, cleaned up the house and left with all our stuff at 1230. Instead of going straight back to Manchester, we went to a park, with lots of hills to walk up and waterfalls to see. At 1500 we left the park and headed for home, arriving a little later than planned through getting stuck in a traffic jam.

Senior cadets, if they are lucky, gain the opportunity to visit RAF bases outside the UK. Two of these fortunate individuals were Junior Corporals Jennie Porter and Rachel Smith, who writes:

At 9pm J.Cpl. Jennie Porter and myself were abandoned at Victoria coach station with strict instructions to enjoy ourselves. This enjoyment started with a 10-hour coach journey to RAF Laarbruch.

We arrived at 0600 on Thursday morning, tired and stiff. After attempts to unpack and make our beds, we went to breakfast and were pleased to hear that nothing had been planned for us until after lunch. So, after finishing our unpacking, Jennie and I decided that with so much time to spare we could go and find the NAAFI. We walked for about half an hour until we found it, only to realise that we had passed two on the way!

After lunch we changed into uniform and had a station brief. This proved to be of some interest, as it answered the question I had been thinking about since I found out I was coming on the camp: where was Laarbruch?

The base lies on the border between Germany and Holland. It is due to close at the end of the year and is a Harrier base. After dinner we did a station familiarisation exercise. Basically the idea is that good little cadets go running around the base like headless chickens answering questions designed to make them explore the base. In reality cadets go to the nearest inhabited place, in this case the medical centre, and ask the people who work there to answer the questions for them, which they are usually willing to do. After this we had some drinks in a small bar so that people could mingle and get to know cadets from other schools.

We were woken the next day at 0640 with instructions to run to the gym so that we could do circuits until 0815. During the day we did Section Visits. These consist of looking around the different sections and being bored to tears while the staff try to persuade you just how interesting their jobs really are. After dinner we went to Centre Parks at Het Heijerbos in Holland, where we all became totally covered in bruises from their rapids ride.

We got a lie-in until 0700 (rather than 0640!) on Saturday and after breakfast we went to Cologne to do some serious shopping. We got back for dinner and after dinner we went bowling at the station bowling-alley.

Another long lie-in on Sunday. After breakfast we did fitness training in the gym for three hours before lunch. After lunch we went to the Arnhem Airborne Museum, and then we went to the Arnhem bridge, setting for the true-life war move "A Bridge Too Far". And then on to the war graves.

After breakfast we went on to the SAT range for firing. This is basically a glorified computer game, although we were urged not to think of it like that. You use a similar weapon to the ones used in live firing but with the addition of better sights and a laser stuck on top. You can fire in different positions than the usual prone position we use in live firing. After we had done the SAT firing, we went on to the range for live firing. After lunch we visited the IV (AC) Sqn, the home of the Harrier. We then did leadership exercises, which were cut short through the unpredictable and constantly changing weather. After dinner we did the Night Exercise. Although it makes you cold and tired, this is always fun. We arrived at the barrack block at around 0100 on Tuesday morning.

After breakfast we went to the RAF regiment for the morning where we learnt about what they do and took part in some exercises. We then had a small exercise on camouflage and concealment. We all covered ourselves in Cam cream and then had our Camp photo taken. Everybody was pleased with this photo. Usually the Camp photo shows everybody in dress uniform standing smartly in ranks; this one will remind us how relaxed this camp was. After lunch we went to the Fire Section, where another question was answered: what would happen if the alarm went off while they were showing us around? Answer: the firemen show us how quickly they can move. After this excitement we went to the Field Signals Section and were shown how exciting fixing broken telephone wires is! After dinner we went to the local disco, where I was presented with a birthday cake as it was my 16th birthday!

On our last day, after breakfast, it was hoped that we could go flying but to everybody's disappointment the weather did not allow this. After lunch we did work experience at various sections around the base. After dinner we were ordered to tidy the block and the rooms. Then we had the camp debrief and more drinks, and a chance to thank the officers.

We had breakfast at 0645, in time to get on the coach for the 10-hour journey back to Victoria. The journey was quite good if boring. Once on the train back to Manchester, we were annoyed to find that our two and a half hours took 8 hours!

We would like to thank Flt Lt Keable for organising this trip and Flt Off Addison for giving up his free time to take us from Manchester down to Victoria and back.

All cadets get the chance to go on camps, either at Easter or during the summer. These involve a visit to an RAF base. Cdt Kevin Ashtiani had his first experience of such a camp this summer. He writes:

This year's trip was to RAF Coltishall and I was lucky to be able to go as there were only very few places left. We had to be in school for 0800 hours so I missed my lie-in. We arrived after a 4½ hour drive and I was flummoxed to see a guard with a gun loaded with live rounds at the main gate. It made me think that this place took no messing around.

When we all got our belongings off the coach, we were separated into three flights, A, B and C. Our rooms were very clean as were the lockers. Every morning we had to be up at 0600 and have our bed very well made for inspection.

The great thing was that every day was packed with different things to do. There was raft-building, which involved the construction of rafts in competition with other groups. Our team's raft was very well put-together which kept it afloat, fell off, and the rope which kept the structure of the raft together unknotted. Then there were only four barrels and two pine-logs for four of us to sit on. Our feet had to rest on the front of the raft which had fallen apart, so it was difficult to find a foot-rest. Finally we got our feet stuck in the weed at the bottom of the river (we were in midstream at the time) and so I abandoned ship and swam for the bank. I got my feet a bit tangled up with the river-weed but eventually freed myself and made it to the bank.

There was also the Night Exercise, which I enjoyed thoroughly. We were left in a massive open area with soldiers with guns in the bushes and we had to find clues to solve a puzzle. The best thing was that it was late and very dark.

But what I enjoyed most was the opportunity to fly a plane at 1800 feet.

One thing we had to do everyday was drill. This was hard on the feet. However in a nutshell the camp at RAF Coltishall was a fun-filled week in which I got to do activities that I never expected that I would be able to do, in particular flying a plane. You must try it yourself.

A second group of cadets visited RAF Northolt, in north-west London. Cadet Robert Thompson reports:

We arrived at RAF Northolt at 1430 after travelling from William Hulme's by minibus driven by the psychedelic-haired Mr Addison. We were assigned to our rooms by the Camp Commandant, who was a strange man with a warped sense of humour.

After a quick introductory meeting with the members of staff and the cadets from other schools, we were put into flights, who went on a familiarisation exercise (FAMEX) of the base. The point of this exercise was to show us where we could and couldn't go on the base.

The food was of quite a good standard. We always ate breakfast and tea in the mess and on a couple of occasions we ate lunch there too.

On the Saturday evening after tea we headed off to a steam fair in Uxbridge. At the fair there were many rides driven by a steam engine, such as a pirate ship and dodgems.

On the Sunday, after an early breakfast, we left the base by coach to go to Hendon RAF Museum. This was a vast place, which had hundreds of large and small planes. The exhibits included Bulldogs, a Harrier, a Vulcan and a selection of planes that flew in the Battle of Britain.

In the Battle of Britain section there were videos, planes, uniforms and virtual videos of famous figures, including one of Sir Winston Churchill. We spent the best part of the day at the museum before we returned to base to have dinner.

The padre's hour then took place. Before the padre entered, nobody knew what a padre was. We were soon to learn the "padre" was another name for the base priest. This man used to be a pupil at William Hulme's. During this hour we were made to take part in a role play, in which we had to decide which person should die in a given situation in order for the others to survive.

On the Monday we had quite a relaxing day as we were going on the NITEX that night. During the day we went on trips to Air Traffic Control, where we took a look at the radar systems and out of the windows of the control tower. Our group also visited the Fire Section, where we used the pumps. We also travelled by coach to 11 GP Bunker, which was the main control bunker for the Battle of Britain in the Second World War.

32 Squadron - in other words The Queen's Flight - is based at RAF Northolt. This was quite a secure area that we were only allowed to visit in organised groups. Here we visited the hangar where the planes were kept and got the opportunity to sit in one of them.

That night we took part in the NITEX (ie night exercise) in an attempt to win points for our flights. This exercise was extremely intensive and tiring but great fun. It involved running around in a dark forest between 2000 and 2300 dressed in combat clothes. We were attempting to collect plastic oil drums and codes from the backs of enemy groups.

Tuesday 7th July was a day on which we recovered from the NITEX and visited several different sections of the airfield. One of the visits was to 621 OED, which was a bomb-disposal squadron. Here we were told about different types of bombs and how they are used by terrorist organisations to create anarchy. The men were not too keen to answer all of our questions on how bombs were made! Another visit was to the safety centre, where we were shown the different things a pilot has to have in survival kit.

After this visit we left the base by coach to get to Black Park in Slough to take part in a 3-hour orienteering exercise.

Further visits followed, including one to the Met. Office and one to the departure lounge where celebrities like Alan Shearer and the Spice Girls waited for planes.

On the Wednesday we set off early in minibuses to RAF Benson so that we could make the best of the day and enjoy AEF (Air Experience Flying) in a Bulldog. A Bulldog is a training aircraft with a single propeller and two seats. Each cadet

had about 30 minutes of flying-time with an instructor. We were allowed to take control and experience some aerobatics. While waiting for our flights we visited a Puma helicopter squadron and looked around a police helicopter.



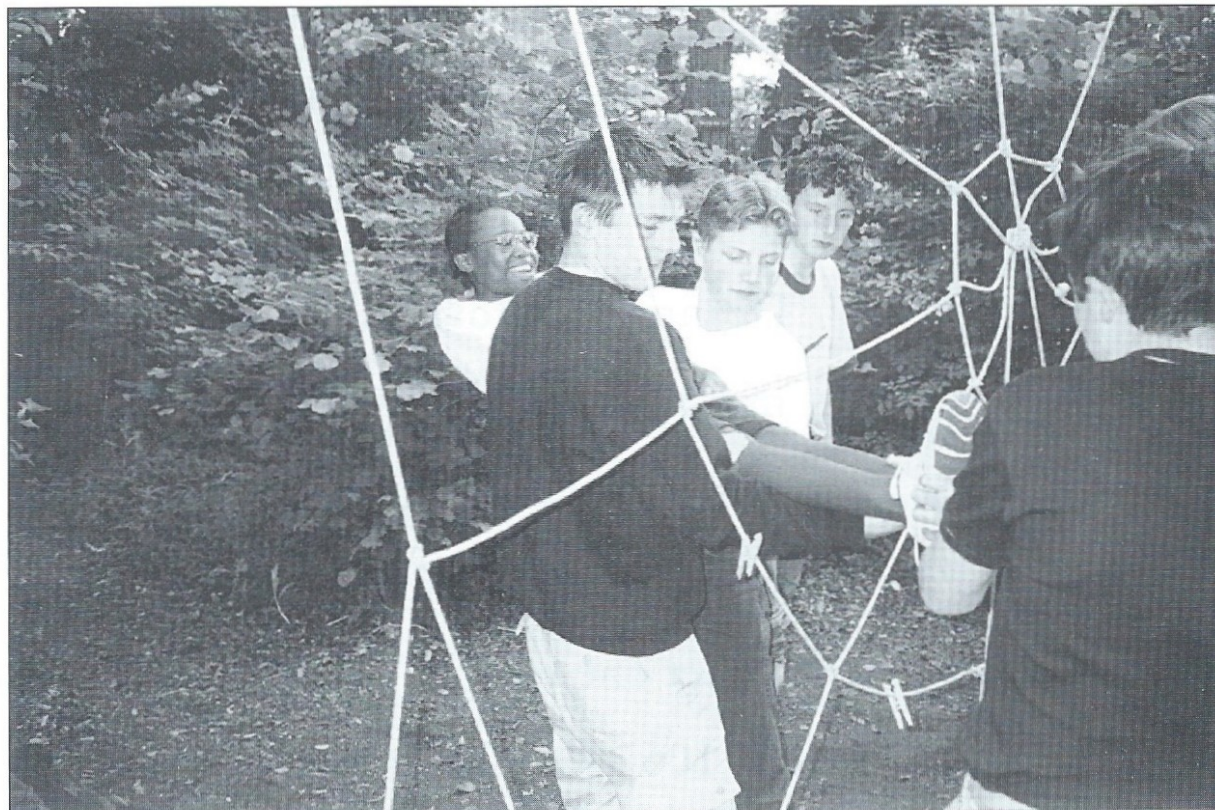
J. Cpl. Graeme Laycock in his canoe.

On the Thursday we went to Hillingdon Outdoor Activities Centre for canoeing and raft-building. The rafts were built by two teams. My team's raft was extremely well-built and won the race to a buoy and back. The other team's boat collapsed and the team had to be rescued by the Safety boat.



A raft is launched.

After lunch we used the centre's facilities to do some leadership exercises - the best one involved blindfolds and an assault course!



A leadership exercise.

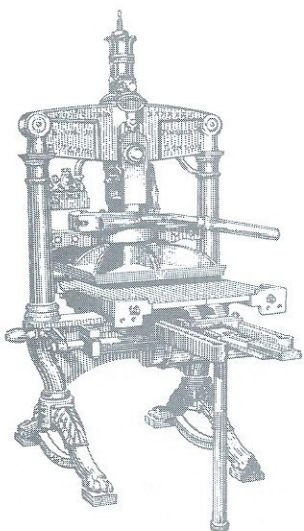
Friday was a brilliant day as it was left free so we could go and look around Oxford. Some people chose to go shopping, while others bought dodgy hamburgers from street vendors, eg Tom Hickman and Graeme Laycock. This caused them to be sick in a minibus. During the evening awards were presented by the Camp Commandant and an ambulance arrived to take Tom Hickman to the medical centre.

On the Saturday we cleaned our rooms and set off for home about 0900.

We said goodbye this year to an excellent group of cadets who have made a splendid contribution to the Section. Thanks and best wishes to all of them. Individual achievements have included: Cpl Christopher Smith's completion of his Basic Glider Training; Sgt Richard Longworth's winning of a Flying Scholarship; and Flt Sergeant David Melmoth deserves particular congratulations for his RAF university bursary. After his studies he hopes to join the RAF. We wish him and all the other upper sixth formers every success.

Thanks must go finally to Miss C. Day for giving up a week of her holidays to accompany a party of cadets to RAF Coltishall, to Fl Off Addison, in particular for his organisation of the raft-building Field Day at Sandiway Scout Camp, and to Flt Lt Keable for her indefatigable efforts on behalf of the Section, which included this year the organisation of two camps during the summer, to fit in all the new recruits.

Fl. Off. M. H. Gracey



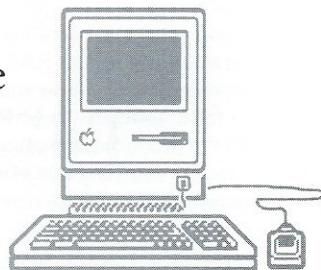
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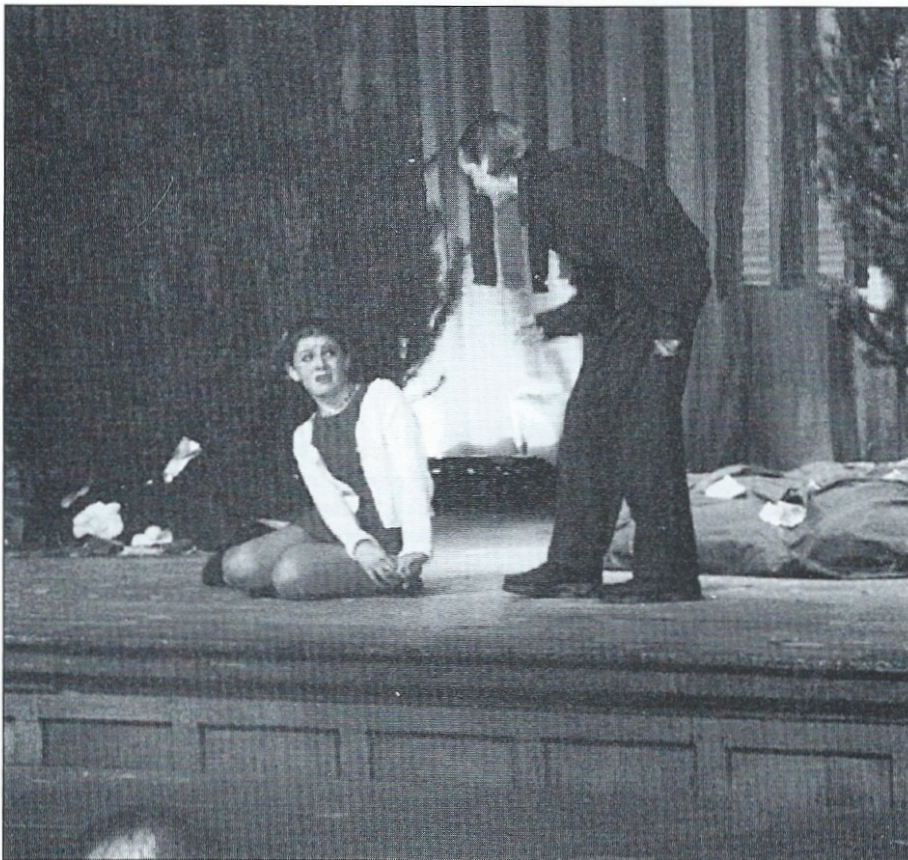
THE SCHOOL PLAY



"A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM"

Shakespeare's masterpiece is so well-known to most readers that its plot scarcely needs to be sketched out here. Its central theme - that love is both the most precious sacred and the most comically irrational aspect of human nature - unites all three strands of its plot: the Athenian lovers, the Pyramus and Thisbe "drama" staged by the hempen homespun, and the fairies, who laugh at our folly but put a holy blessing on the nuptial bedchambers at the end.

Mr Wise and Miss Derby certainly inspired their cast to bring out this fruitful paradox in their ambitious but brilliantly successful production in January. We were treated to an evening of sparkling wit and both fiery and tender emotion, underpinned by a deep intelligence which informed all the characters' interpretations of their roles.



Jeremy Arnold as Duke Theseus, and Carla Narnor as his consort Hippolyta, both exuded poise and clarity of diction. Confident in their own secure relationship and in their ducal rank, they brought out a tender benevolence to the young lovers, as to the artisans, at the end. Jeremy's (Theseus') harshness to Hermia in the opening scene thus gave way naturally to his blessing her union with Lysander in Act IV, and Carla's gesture of sympathetic understanding to Hermia on her way off the set in the first scene gave more than a hint that she would herself "soften up" her obdurate fiancé. The producers, faced with a 95% female cast for a play technically requiring 65% actors and 35% actresses, met this genderquake head on and, with a stroke of the pen, substituted Hermia's mother for her father, Egia not Egeus. This worked well, particularly with Claire Lelonek's convincing transformation from battle-axe to happy bride's mother, beaming from ear to

ear. It also made Lysander's suggestion that she marry Demetrius slightly more convincing than in most productions, and Theseus' line: "To you your mother should be as a god" was certainly in line with present-day feminist theology!

All four young lovers held their audience riveted and exploited every possibility for humour. Elli Metcalfe as Hermia was "in the part" with every fibre of her being. She ran the full gamut of emotions, quivering with ill-contained rage or frustration, vulnerable and hurt at Lysander's apparent disloyalty and callousness, sulky and regressing to childhood petulance with her mother, afraid at Lysander's premature advances in the wood, and glowing with happiness at the end. Her fury at Helena's jokes about her lack of height was for me the funniest part of the evening. Michelle Fearnley as Helena brought out well that deep sense of hurt and desolation felt by the unloved "poor little rich girl" (shades of Princess Diana, another tragic "tall personage".) Michelle met well the challenge of how to vary her expression when most of her lines are utterances of self-pity and rejection. Joanna Shaw's Lysander epitomised the honest, straightforward suitor, but as she is really a girl she gave an interesting insight into female perceptions of male "smooth talk" in her lascivious "over-the-top" advances when, in the wood scene, Hermia wisely insists on his sleeping some distance away!



Natasha Juma as Demetrius had a particularly difficult task - how to appear interested in Hermia at the beginning but not so much as with Helena after the love-juice has done the trick. This (s)he did by showing mere courteous detachment in Scene 1; Demetrius' expression of "love" for Hermia is just self-hypnosis, empty verbal posturing, like Romeo's for Rosalind or Orsino's for Olivia. A second problem for Natasha was how to show new-found passion for Helena, when Demetrius first "falls for her", without her believing him. This was done to great comic effect by Natasha's slowly advancing on Michelle, eyeing her up as one would a beautiful painting and taking in her beauty with slow, studied rapture. Natasha also emphasised the masculinity of the role by persistently stroking and scratching her painted-on beard, obviously fascinated by its novelty!

Oberon, King of the Fairies, was Laurie Edwards. Like the same role in Britten's opera, sung by a male alto, she stressed the eerie, sinister aspects of the part. The king of the fairies is indeed devious and jealous, and Laurie's slinky yet arrogant movements and smouldering eyes with their ominously heavy and turned-up black make-up lines were perfect, as was her slow, dark, deep-voiced delivery. By contrast, Titania's sunny, open, straightforward disposition was brought out by Hema Gokal, her eyes serene and smiling and her voice measured, light and clear, though she also knew how to put Oberon in his place with haughty disdain! The slow, stylised Spanish tango between Oberon and

Titania after their reconciliation was a delightful and well-received production touch. (More about Mr Parkin's music anon.)

Titania's attendant "train" of fairies was played by Vicky Bramwell (Moth), Jaya Jairath (Mustardseed), Alexis Dickson (Cobweb) and Sara Wolfson (Peasblossom). They threw themselves with girlish glee and great enthusiasm into their parts, with some very expressive facial reactions (but why were they dressed in black?) Vicky also played the fairy who helps introduce us to Puck; her scornful and unimpressed catalogue of his escapades and practical jokes were a foil to the more indulgent fondness shown towards this most enigmatic of Shakespearian characters by many theatre-goers.

Puck himself was brilliantly interpreted by Jemma Cohen. Jemma leapt athletically about the set, always ready to pounce on her prey, relishing every new prank with lively humour, and openly inviting the audience to share the joke long before the official communication in the Epilogue. As Puck says, he is best pleased by the preposterous, a youth of contrasting moods and attitudes; when Miss Green put the "Dream" on recently at Withington Girls' School, she isolated a dozen or so different facets of the spirit's personality, each played by a different actress. So Jemma definitely had her work cut out, and her varied, lively, intelligent expression certainly did the role full justice, from unashamed mischief to the serious sacred promise directly before the interval that - **"The man shall have his mare again, and all shall be well"**. The last action in the play, after Jemma's epilogue, was her gesture to the lighting gantry to extinguish the stage lights, the perfect final touch.

Peter Quince's troupe of well-meaning craftsmen "who never laboured in their minds till now" exploited to the full the rich possibilities for comedy, in the two "rehearsal" scenes and in the performance before the Duke. Despite Bottom's extrovert intrusions, Kim Hayden as Quince remained the natural leader, calm but firm, and able to keep Bottom in his place by a mixture of genuine authority and subtle psychology (i.e. flattery). This was enhanced by Kim's spectacles, "unflappability", and slight detachment from the others. But of course she betrayed Quince's real ignorance in her clumsily delivered prologue where she paused in all the wrong places. Nicola Endlar as Flute/Thisbe cleverly managed to sound like a male falsetto in the woman's part; her voice was indeed "flute"-like, and her gauche attempts at female elegance were a real "double bluff". Her costume symbolised her task - a girl (Nicola) in male clothes (Flute) with a skirt on top (Thisbe)! Seetal Sagar as Snout/Wall could no more keep a straight face than could the audience, particularly when the two-fingered gesture to symbolise the chink in the wall was greeted by the acknowledgement "Thanks, courteous wall". Snug/Lion was Emma Cruickshank, mock ferocity cloaking cuddly softness, and Jane Balderstone was a drooping, gushing Starveling/Moonshine

whose heart was clearly not in it (Starveling, not Jane!). Her impatience when she rattled off her list of symbolic props was hilarious.



Two years ago, when Miss De Vince produced the final scene of the "Dream" here as part of her "Seasons" evening, Levinia Clemetson was a promising Fourth Year who played well the role of Bottom the Weaver. Of the three survivors from that production to appear in this one (Michelle, Joanna and Levinia), only Levinia played her former part again, but with two obvious differences. This was the whole play, not just one scene; and Levinia has naturally grown in artistic stature to give an even more accomplished and convincing performance than last time. Her boastful, loud-mouthed swaggering in the first rehearsal scene was relieved by child-like human touches such as her jaunty, throw away "That was lofty!" after the



empty rhetoric of "The raging rocks..." - this raised a big laugh every evening. Her antics with her sword in the part of Pyramus threatened to cut short the Athenian lovers' nuptials. But of course it is in the "ass's head" scenes that Bottom really comes into his own. Levinia's successive expressions of fear, bewilderment, delight (in Titania's bower) and boyish showing-off before the fairy queen's quartet of gleeful attendants, both verbal and facial, were a highlight, though she could have done with Demetrius' beard in the line "Methinks I am marvellous hairy about the face!!".

The Pyramus and Thisbe play is introduced to the court via the "usual manager of mirth", Philostrate. Sunita Boodhoo in this role was haughtily scornful of the artisans, disclaiming any responsibility for their play being "preferred". This well portrayed snobbish detachment threw into sharper relief the warmhearted, sympathetic attitudes of the wedding party.

As always, the “back-room persons” helped to make the production the success it was. A full list of names is published at the end of this review. Special mention should be made of Mr Parkin’s original music. Like Mendelssohn, he composed a theme of delicate tracery for the fairies and another one, heavy and “clodhopping”, for the hemper homespuns. The fairies’ song “Ye spotted snakes”, and the Spanish dance for Oberon and Titania (despite the latter’s deliberately derivative opening bars!), were memorable.



The set was imaginative, with real greenery for the wood - though the evergreens were perhaps more appropriate for “Peer Gynt” than for Athens! The fairies’ costumes were appropriate from Oberon’s flowing cape to Titania’s traditionally “gauzy” winged dress. The Athenians were all in modern dress of varying degrees of formality, and the workers in boiler suits. The make-up for Puck in particular was imaginative and enhanced the fairy-like atmosphere; Oberon’s eye-lines have already been mentioned.

Audience reaction to the evening was generally along the lines - “I really enjoyed it. I had no idea that stuffy, heavy old Shakespeare could be such fun/so lovely.” Such comments justly pay tribute to Mr Wise’s and Miss Derby’s vision and to the dedication of everyone involved.

G.J. Turner.

Costume: Mrs. J.F. Swindlehurst, Elise Cohen, Rowena Roy, Stacey Khafagy. **Make Up & Hair:** Ms S.R. Tandon, Dr. J. Keable, Abigail Silver, Katie Chesworth, Gemma Rosenthal. **Lighting & Sound:** Matthew Whyatt, David Melmoth. **Stage Management:** Richard Longworth, Nishant Agarwal. **Properties:** Nazanin Sadeghi. **Original Music:** Mr. S.C. Parkin. **Pianist:** Miss C Day. **Front of House:** Mr. S.C. Parkin. **Publicity:** Mr. T.P. Heavisides. **Ticket Sales:** Vicky Lane, Lucy Counsell, Talia Turnberg, Faye Todd, Leanne Davidson, Anna Robertson. **PRODUCED BY:** Mr. J.R. Wise & Miss L.C. Derby.

Special thanks are given to Mr. Gorman for assistance during rehearsals, and to Miss Boothroyd.

HOUSE PLAY COMPETITION 1998

Adjudicator: Miss M. Green. (Head of English, Withington Girls’ School)

The House Play Programmes reflect the involvement of some eighty Hulmeians in last week’s Drama Competition. Two evenings of delightful entertainment were the result of all their hard work and commitment. Thanks and congratulations to all concerned.

For the adjudicator it is always a relief when the best play is obvious, leaving little room for debate. In 1998 this was not the case and the placing of the top three plays proved extremely difficult. In fact only after writing the comments on all six plays was I able to reach a final decision.

The result was:

2nd =	}	Byrom
		Whitworth
1st		Dalton

Several people gave memorable performances in small or cameo roles. These included Nicola Endlar, Gregory Harmston, Alick Hyde, William Laird, Elli Metcalfe, Chaminda Ranawickrema, Bill Shaw, Talia Turnberg and Rob Watson.

Contenders for Best Actor included: Chris Edwards, Ben Green, Ross Jenkins, Paul Murphy and Richard Nixon.

Amongst the best female performances were those of Emma Cruickshank, Katie Chesworth, Michelle Fearnley, Miriam Mkumbwa, Oli Taiwo and Karen Vites.

The winners were:

Michael Graham
Jenny Green
Marie Green

(As ever, we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Miss Green for her countless hours of work in reading the plays, compiling and writing the detailed adjudication, and her sensitive, warmly appreciative hour's talk with our assembled Thespians on the Monday after the performances. GJT)

BYROM

The choice of "Marooned" by Rob Grant and Doug Naylor, a Red Dwarf episode, was refreshingly different and highly enterprising. The sci-fi context meant that great ingenuity was required in the set design, make-up and costuming of the production. These challenges were imaginatively met and this, together with clever use of lighting and sound, meant the performance was technically most impressive.

BYROM HOUSE DRAMA PRESENTS



MAROONED

BY
ROB GRANT
DOUG NAYLOR

WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH 1998

The producers, Hema Gokal, Omar Ajar and Nazanin Sadeghi deserve congratulation on their successful interpretation of the script. They clearly worked extremely hard, contributing also to wardrobe, set design, properties and doing their own make-up. Their ambitions would not have been realised without the talents of their small but well-rehearsed cast.

All looked perfect for their parts. Julia Atherton was effective as the voice of the well-designed computer. In their brief appearances, Chaminda Ranawickrema (Cat) and Rob Watson (Kryten) were splendid. Rob was visually stunning and Chaminda lived up to his name in his sleek feline movement and well-conveyed vanity.

The weight of responsibility for delivering the script fell upon the shoulders of Richard Nixon (Dave Lister - the last human alive) and Michael Graham (Arnold Rimmer - a hologram). The two of them brought out the comic potential of the script with skill. Body language, timing and variation of pace were all used to good effect. Lines were well learned and tellingly delivered, provoking laughter, pathos and thought, in a wholly captivated audience.

Special effects contributed to the success of the whole. We almost believed we had been struck by a meteor at one point! I will long remember some of the lines in this play: "The Caretaker," by Harold "Pint-a", and, "Tootle-pip King Lear", were superbly delivered.

The main actors grew steadily in confidence as they performed and the highly moral message of the piece was communicated powerfully. The audience loved the humour, both risqué and more sophisticated, and Red Dwarf proved a successful vehicle for Byrom House's dramatic talents. Well done to all concerned.

DALTON

First, congratulations to Michelle Fearnley. To re-write any script is a very daunting if not dangerous task. The join here was seamless. It was impossible to tell where John Dole's script ended and Michelle's began. The quality of her dialogue was as sharp as, and her plotting as good if not better than, the original.

As if this were not enough, Michelle took a major part and also co-produced the play with Vikram Luthra and they clearly did a first-class job, helped by a strong, committed cast. Even in its amended form this was a long play and, like all farce, full of potential pitfalls for amateur performers. Dalton's cast brought a professionalism to the production which made it a pleasure to watch.

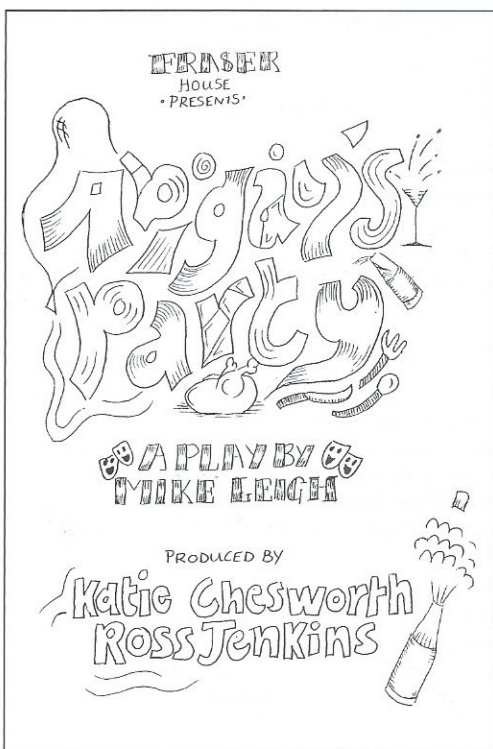
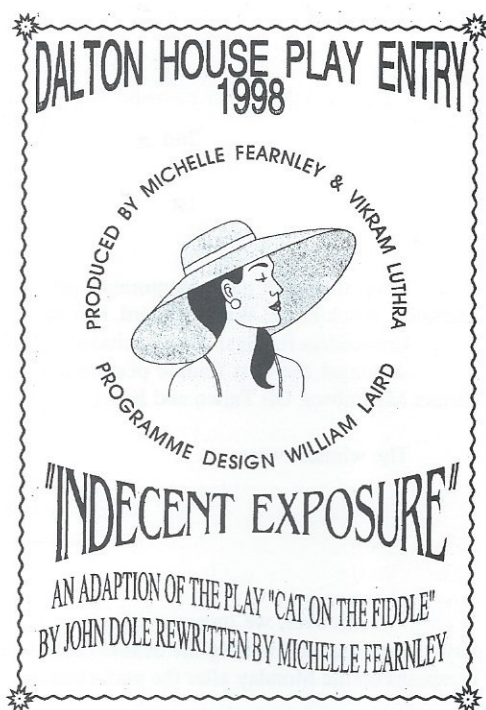
The marital tension between Michelle (Kate) and her husband Paul Murphy (Dave) was convincingly established from the outset. Karen Vites achieved her now customary excellent standard in her role as Kate's mother. Karen is an assured, strong presence on stage and she captured Mrs Scott's brash callousness impeccably. The variously named Mrs MacWhimble / MacRumble / MacDuffy and the deliciously funny Mrs Bottle revealed two possible stars of the future in Farrah Chandia and Seetal Sagar. Both performed with relish and enthusiasm and will doubtless time their delivery even more securely with greater experience. They were confident and comical but needed to give the audience a chance to respond to their lines.

The two policemen, William Laird and Alick Hyde, made brief but memorable appearances and Gregory Harmston was a magnificent curate. His final dishevelled and dishabille appearance was a courageous tour de force.

There was strength in depth here but quite outstanding were the quality of the performances given by Ben Green and Jennie Green. As taxi-driver cum burglar Ben brought energy, assurance and great comic talent. He became the archetypal 'spiv', complete with Cockney accent, swaggering walk and hollow bonhomie. The exquisite timing of his delivery, the mock solemnity, and wonderful bathos of his lines, made this an outstanding performance.

Every bit as impressive was Jennie Green as Maria, known to Kate and David as Mario. Jennie gave a commanding performance which would not have disgraced the professional stage. Her Italian accent was remarkably sustained. Jennie was a sheer delight to watch with her absolute mastery of the demands and possibilities of her part. She combined versatility with flair and made what was a demanding role appear effortless.

Even when their set collapsed about their ears, an event likely to deter concentration, Dalton's actors were able to maintain the pace and direction of their elaborate farce. This was the consecutive first place for Dalton and "Indecent Exposure" proved a no less worthy winner than its predecessors.



FRASER

"Abigail's Party" by Mike Leigh is a subtle and sophisticated play which, on those occasions when I have watched it before, has taxed the talents of even professional casts. Not only does its length make it an ambitious choice of House play, but even skilful editing, which Fraser achieved admirably, cannot disguise the similarity of many of the lines.

The near-repetition in much of the dialogue means that mistakes can be very difficult to retrieve, as Fraser's courageous cast learned. As always Fraser performed on a set which represented tremendous care and skill. The all-important cocktail bar was well-stocked and very well positioned. Even the flowers were beautifully arranged. The lead roles, Beverly and Laurence, were played by Katie Chesworth and Ross Jenkins who clearly have much natural thespian talent. Katie was always a strong stage presence and refused to betray tension when lines were lost. She exploited facial expression, body language and gesture very fully and effectively. Ross was consistently funny and brought out skilfully the wry humour which dominates this play. His sardonic tone was well judged and wholly apt.

The supporting players grew into their roles and Kimberley Hayden in particular showed promise as Angela, developing influence and acquiring the necessary forcefulness to portray Angela well. Her deliciously monosyllabic husband, Tony, was played effectively in lugubrious mode by James Meers. Chloe Pepall was rightly reserved and unobtrusive as Susan but did need to speak more audibly if the audience were to follow the complexities of the plot.

The cast showed considerable talent in ad-libbing and inventing when lines were forgotten and, more commendably and skilfully, when there was a glitch in the sound system. It is always problematic to speak over background music and this added to the difficulties facing Fraser's cast. They struggled valiantly to the end and will, no doubt, have learned a great deal from the challenges they set themselves this year. I applaud their efforts, acknowledge their achievements, and hope they will find a more manageable text in 1999.

GASKELL

In their charming introduction, Jane Balderstone and Suzanne Nathan were rightly proud of producing the largest cast. It is impressive to involve so many and there was much to applaud in Gaskell's rendition of "A Day for Killing Daffodils".

Lynn Bain's play was a potential winner in several respects. The school setting, the theme of imminent inspection, the strongly drawn characters of both pupils and staff: all were likely to engage the audience with ease.

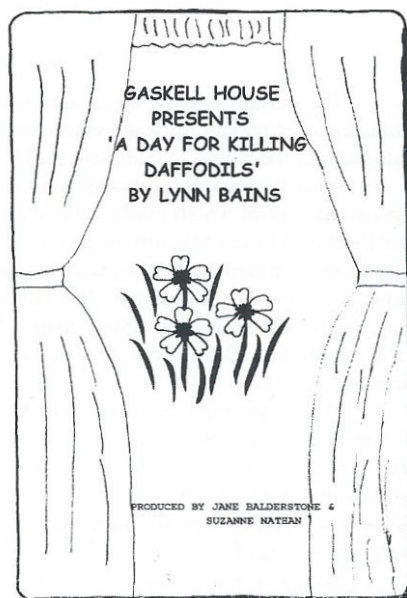
From the moment the action began the strengths and weaknesses of the production were immediately obvious. Bhavini Vara and Nicola Endlar were dressed and made up to create a powerful visual impact. Their brief scene, like the whole production, was imaginatively staged and showed expert direction of movement. The words, though, were delivered at a pace and volume, which tended to defeat the audience.

The curtain opened on the effective class-room set and we first met Mark, played with sensitivity by Chris Edwards who captured the character of the slow, naïve, gentle giant to perfection and provided a brilliant contrast to the appropriately brash, disturbingly convincing and worldly-wise girls, also very well played, especially by Elli Metcalf (Jeanette) and Talia Turnberg (Senga).

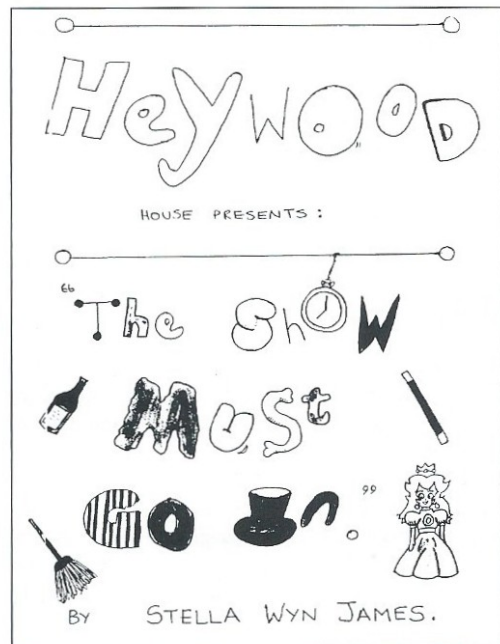
Owen Edwards brought individuality to the part of Bill with his mellow, well-sustained Scots accent. This role was nicely complemented by the effective portrayal of Miss Forsyth by Laurie Edwards.

All the parts involving large groups were lively. Suzanne Nathan, Anna Rogers, Sunita Boodhoo, Rebecca Goodwin, David Melmoth, Daniel Godkin and Alexis Race all successfully communicated the menacing group identity a class can acquire. Nicola Endlar brought out the humanity behind Margaret's hard shell with great skill and Ian Breen made a confident headmaster. Clearly no-one contributed more vitally nor put in greater efforts on this production than Carys Edwards. She was word-perfect and obviously very well cast in the main part of the liberal, caring Miss Boyde. Sadly that key element, indispensable to any performance - audibility - was a real problem. Whether an audience can hear is more a matter of pace and clarity than volume, and all actors should try to adjust the speed of delivery to ensure they can be followed.

Gaskell's was a thought-provoking, interesting play to which the audience responded with enthusiasm. The effort and commitment of large numbers of pupils were abundantly evident and deserving of warm congratulation.



HEYWOOD



Heywood chose a delightful script in Stella Wyn James' "The Show Must Go On" and the introductory use of Queen's song with the same title was a lovely touch. Emma Cruickshank's role as producer was well established by having her emerge from the audience and the show was off to a very good start. The six female characters were all strongly and appropriately contrasted, enhanced by skilful use of accents and costumes. The appearance of every member of the cast added enormously to the fun. Vanessa Cohen's entry as the 'spectre or spook' was greatly enjoyed by the audience and Levinia Clemetson's beard was wonderfully extravagant. Leanne Davidson delivered all her lines with gusto and in a strong, well-sustained Lancashire voice. Carla Narnor as the Good Fairy achieved some effective comic timing and Rachel Aldersley completed the ludicrous sextet with admirable efficiency.

The script places enormous demands on Mrs A who, as the harassed producer, has to create a sense of mounting hysteria and desperation. Emma Cruickshank brought energy and a great sense of fun to the role and was a suitably domineering presence. There was some hilarious physical comedy and the cast made excellent use of suitably make-shift props such as the bucket / brazier and the watering-can.

Some of the clever word-play in the text could have been more fully realised. There was more scope to contrast 'acting voices' with normal ones, and some delightful puns deserved more relish.

Nevertheless the momentum of the organised chaos was maintained and the play was enjoyed by cast and audience alike. Heywood's production revealed considerable potential in its cast and they can approach next year's competition with confidence.

WHITWORTH

The curtain opened on an intriguing and impressive set for Whitworth's production of "As Good as New". The prominence of taxidermy was evinced by the many glass cases containing specimens of the art, and Whitworth had even wall-papered the panels to complete the feeling of authenticity.

After a crisp, clear introduction the play began and immediately the vigour and control which marked the whole production were apparent. As Mrs Pimble, Miriam Mkumbwa gave a fine performance throughout. She was clear, confident and appeared relaxed, which always encourages an audience to sit back and enjoy. We also met, early on, Oli Taiwo whose exaggerated stance and movement helped her to play the role of Grandma with conviction. Both girls were terrific in maintaining the pace and direction of the play.

The script required many lines to be delivered from offstage, and all were commendably audible and strong. In fact Mr Pimble, Bill Shaw, had already made a considerable impact upon the audience before he actually appeared. He proved a master of invective, timing his mild oaths like an expert and fully exploiting their humour. Bill was at his best when most terse and gruff.

Similarly the ill-fated Sid required an understated performance by Matthew Booth. His increasing discomfiture was hilariously conveyed and his laconic manner provided a brilliant dramatic foil to the excesses of the females, and above all those of his would-be fiancée, June. In the part, Peju Pearce was great fun to watch. Her hyperbolic style was captured visually by the outrageous blond wig and striking clothes. When Peju first spoke in the shrill, over-excited manner the part required I could not imagine how she could increase the hysteria, but she did. The sustained histrionics were always hilarious.

The skills of Joanna Shaw and Louise Simon as directors were abundantly clear in the stylish nature of this production. Their attention to detail, both verbal and visual, was noteworthy and the result was a very funny and slick rendition of a well chosen play.



Marie Green (Adjudicator)

SENIOR DRAMA CLUB

All of the efforts of the Senior Drama Club this year were put into the school production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' by William Shakespeare. Without a shadow of doubt, this was a particularly challenging venture but happily the scepticism of some members of the school community proved unfounded and the production was a great success and enjoyed by those who attended, proving that there is a place in William Hulme's for serious drama.

The members of the cast of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' must be commended here for the dedication and professionalism that they showed during the rehearsal period and the performances themselves. To be able to deal so adeptly with the language of Shakespeare should not be underestimated and, without exception, the cast managed to inject into the play all the necessary energy, excitement and humour. No one performer can be singled out here, as this was a team effort that required the co-operation of all. The success of the individual contributed to the success of the many and for that many thanks. (Review: page 65).

I must take this opportunity to thank the great number of people who helped back stage, in particular, the staff members who worked so tirelessly on making the production such a great success. Special mention, however, must go to Mr. S.C. Parkin whose musical compositions gave the play an added fluidity and helped to generate such a magical atmosphere. Such talent will be greatly missed at William Hulme's and I am sure we all are sorry for his departure and wish him well.

One last point: the cast of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' included one male actor which represented a 100% increase in the number of male participants on the Senior Drama Club's production of 'Teechers' where there were no male actors at all. Undeniably, it's a start but there is still along way to go. Come on guys! 'Play your part'

J.R. Wise

JUNIOR DRAMA CLUB

From its birth last year, the Junior Drama Club has continued to develop and flourish. Indeed, its creator has been most pleased with the Club's achievements and how its members have shown real enthusiasm and commitment throughout the year. A good level of interest was shown in the Club in September and it was soon apparent that a talented and dedicated group of pupils were to become its core members.

Although the Club did not have any televised appearances this year, it still managed to undertake a variety of activities. As well as introductory workshops, rehearsals (of sorts) were soon underway for the Club's first public appearance of the season: the Open Days in the Michaelmas Term. Building on last year's success, the Club again showed off its talents in various ways and despite the fact that we were sharing the Upper Hall with Mr Hardy and his crew, the Club still managed to amuse (and bemuse) its audience. Prospective parents and pupils came to the Hall to learn about Geography; they left having witnessed the now infamous roller coaster sketch and having heard the Club's version of 'I'm a Barbie girl' courtesy of Tom Jones (1J) and Laura Harmston (ex 2K). Remember: you saw them here first!

A new year meant a new venture for the Club and a new play. A meeting was held to discuss ideas and audition a cast and days later "Behind Closed Doors" was written and being rehearsed. A play that deals with sibling rivalry within the context of a step family is not an easy one to perform but the cast of thirteen did the play complete justice. The pupils acted with understanding and feeling for their characters and were able to portray some of the more serious and dramatic moments well. On the 24th March "Behind Closed Doors" was performed in front of the entire Lower School. Acting in front of one's peers is difficult and the cast fully deserved their applause.

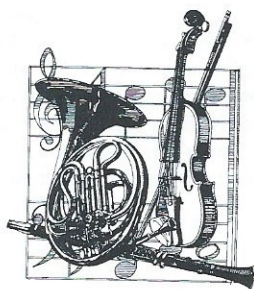
Last year I wrote that "the final curtain has by no means fallen" and this year the success of the Junior Drama Club has proved that it can only continue to thrive. I have greatly enjoyed setting up the Club and running it during my time at William Hulme's and have appreciated the hard work and commitment of its members. I would like to thank everyone who has been involved with the Club over the last two years for their effort and endeavours. I hope that the Club has enabled its members properly to display some of the more creative talents of the school's younger pupils and that such pupils step into the lime light (or spot light) very soon.

I am pleased that the Junior Drama Club's next season will be under the direction of Miss Derby who will no doubt help the Club to mature in her own special way. As Cheadle Hulme beckons, I wish her and future members well. As for Junior Drama, let the pupils speak - and act - for themselves. Goodbye and break a leg!

S. C. Parkin

CAST OF "BEHIND CLOSED DOORS"

1J Tom Jones	1K Mariam Al-Bayati Umara Chaudhry Daisy Chu Nina Kojidi	1R Qasam Pervez	1S Ellie Dodd Sukaynah Ghafari-Kanno Ehi Okpe Sally Suliman
2J David Njegovan	2K Laura Harmston	2R Khalid Mir	



MUSIC DEPARTMENT

AN OVERVIEW

How time flies! It certainly does not seem twelve months ago that I was waiting anxiously to start a new term in a new post. I had decided on a plan of action - several meetings with the also newly appointed Assistant Miss Catherine Day to discuss curriculum etc and a fairly quiet year whilst we both found our feet in our new jobs. So much for the plan. Due to holidays and other commitments Cath and I only managed to meet once and this year has seen a record number of concerts and other musical performances plus an HMC Inspection.

Many of the concerts are reviewed separately but I would like to mention a couple that I think were quite outstanding. The school Jazz Band has developed over the last few years into a very exciting group and so it seemed fitting that they should have their own concert. The evening was a great success and thoroughly enjoyable and will no doubt be repeated. I must give special thanks to Mr Andrew Wilson who runs the Jazz Band - his expertise as well as the time and effort he puts into the group are evident in the high quality result.

Another special concert was at Dunham Massey Hall. The concert raised money for the British Heart Foundation, but the opportunity to perform in such magnificent surroundings certainly inspired the Concert Band to produce some of their best playing ever. My thanks to Mrs Janet Edwards for the initial invitation and all the organising she undertook to ensure such a successful evening.

The HMC Inspection week duly arrived, something I was not particularly looking forward to, as I felt I needed more time to prepare. However, I found the inspector was quite approachable which was fortunate considering the amount of time he spent in the department and his final report was extremely favourable. One comment he did make however, which is very valid, concerns the number of pupils taking instrumental lessons. He, like myself, was of the opinion that a school the size of WHGS should have more pupils learning instruments. There has been a downward trend over the last few years in pupils taking extra-curricular music lessons for various reasons, but if we are to maintain the high quality groups that are vital to the music department, and of course the school, then we have to try and reverse this trend.

Finally I must pay thanks to those people who have given me much support this past year. The visiting staff whose work is invaluable and whose patience and good humour is much appreciated; the members of staff who give up their time to play in various groups when they do not always have the time! and Cath Day, who despite being part-time this year has made a big impact, not only in the music department but in many other areas of school life. Her efforts have been recognised with her appointment to full-time from September.

I am looking forward to next year and hope to see many of you at one or more of our musical events.

P. W. Goodwin

LA BOHÈME

Towards the end of the summer holiday I was approached by Stefan Janski, Director of Operatic Studies at the Royal Northern College of Music, to see if the School would be interested and able to supply a group of children to take part in their forthcoming production of *La Bohème*.

Once term had started in September I asked for volunteers from the Lower School and eventually had a group of twenty-one pupils willing to take part. Stefan had stressed that he wanted 'characters' before singers and I think we certainly managed to fulfil that criterion!

The rehearsal schedule was very hectic firstly in School where we had to teach the children not only the music but also the words (in Italian) and then at the Royal Northern College of Music where they had to learn stage movements and positions, costumes and make-up. The end result was quite stunning. *La Bohème* is one of Puccini's most popular operas with its many famous solos, duets and tragic ending, and this production ranks alongside any that I have seen by professional companies.

The scene that the children took part in was a real masterpiece of theatre with the stage being transformed into a street scene on Christmas Eve, complete with restaurant, revellers, street vendors, a marching band and a twelve foot high toy seller! There were five performances including one in the presence of the Duchess of Kent and all were met with great critical acclaim.



La Bohème

(photo: reproduced with kind permission of Gerry Murray)

For the children this was a fantastic opportunity to see just what it takes to put on such a production and to be there on stage in front of a full house was certainly an experience that none of them will forget.

My thanks to everyone concerned especially to those parents who patiently ferried their children to and from the college and to Miss Day who sat backstage for many hours trying to keep our 'characters' occupied until their big moment on stage.

P. W. Goodwin

Now for a "pupils' eye view"

La Bohème is a musical performed at the Royal Northern College of Music. Nearly every year there will be something like this which is a musical or an opera. Pupils from the 1st and 2nd forms can perform in the opera. In 1997 the opera was performed in Italian which took us a few weeks to learn the words. Although it was hard work it was also very good fun and really good for a laugh. If you enjoy doing music or singing you would really enjoy this musical.

You have to be ready for some hard work. There were a lot of rehearsals and practices needed in this. If you just want to get some time off School do not sign up. You would be in trouble if you mess around; you have to be serious and dedicated to this to have some fun.

In La Bohème there were about 160 people on stage at the scene we were in. The production is very big. Normally you would sing in a chorus with the rest of the children and most of the adults. But if you are lucky you could be picked and do a solo, which you have to be really brave to do. Your parents can get to see the show free if they wanted to go and watch it. Sometimes in the rehearsals you can watch the rest of the scenes which you are not in.

In this musical we had some pretend mums and dads who looked after us while we were in the scene telling us where to go. They help us to learn our lines and gave us some good advice. My pretend dad was really helpful and kind to me. He made me laugh so much. He told me jokes, which were good fun. I enjoyed this. I think it was really good fun and I would recommend this to anyone. I think most of my friends enjoyed the musicals.

In one of the shows the Duchess of Kent came to watch us, and we got to meet her at the end of the show - she was a great lady. Most of the seating area was full in the Theatre. There were about 200-300 people there but you could not see them very clearly because the auditorium was really dark.

Wendy Tang(1J)and
Kazhal Berahnegard (1K)

EDWARD BARNWELL PIANO RECITAL

Following the policy of inviting celebrity artists to perform in the school Edward Barnwell gave a piano recital in the New Hall on 4th February this year.

Ed is no stranger to the school, of course, as he teaches keyboard and some music technology, although few have heard him perform in a solo capacity. A former scholarship winner to the Yehudi Menuhin School, he has an impressive array of talents.

The programme chosen was certainly challenging but extremely rewarding, both for the audience and the performer. The first piece was the Beethoven Sonata Op2 No3 in C Major, a remarkably mature and assured composition considering the composer's age when it was written in 1795. All of the considerable technical demands especially in the final movement were overcome with seemingly limitless ease.

In contrast to the young Beethoven, the Sonata in B flat major was Mozart's penultimate sonata composed in 1789. Typically Mozart in its fast lyrical first movement, a slow heart-felt Adagio where the listener can perhaps sense some of the well-known personal difficulties Mozart was facing at the time, and a delightful Allegretto to finish with.

The final piece of the first half was another Beethoven Sonata, the famous "Waldstein" Op53 in C major. Far more mature than the first sonata played earlier, this shows how the composer had developed in the art of composition. Again Ed played with an assuredness that belied the technical and musical demands.

The second half started with the Bartok Suite Op14 - stark contrast to the Beethoven with its dance-like character seemingly based around folk material and complex chord structures - very enjoyable. This was followed by a piece that was new to me, Brahms' Piano Pieces Op119. What a revelation these proved to be with contrasts from meandering song to improvisatory sections to a magnificent rhapsody to conclude. All of these contrasts were met with flair and great insight by the soloist. The final piece was a grand showpiece by Debussy, 'L'Isle Joyeuse'. Known for its extreme technical difficulty, it was played with such panache that it is obviously one of Mr Barnwell's favourite pieces.

After prolonged applause we were treated to two encores both in a lighter vein, showing Ed's versatility and love of Jazz and contemporary music, and much appreciated by the audience.

All in all a most entertaining evening highlighted by some inspired playing of a calibre equal to that found in any major concert hall.

P. W. Goodwin

AN EVENING OF JAZZ WITH THE WILLIAM HULME'S JAZZ BAND

Jazz standards, big band classics and rock 'n' roll favourites were on the menu for an early Spring evening of jazz served by the school's very own Jazz Band. The mood was relaxed and the tables, discreetly decorated to resemble a jazz café, were surrounded by jazz lovers who had, up to now, only savoured the jazz band as a small item during the school's, ever popular, Christmas and Summer concerts.

From forties favourites such as "In the Mood" and "Woodchopper's Ball" through to modern fusion with "Mercy Mercy Mercy" and "Birdland" the audience was treated to a wide selection of jazz styles spanning over fifty years in what will be the first of many concerts given entirely by the Jazz Band. Enjoying the versatility of our own teaching staff to the full, the "Nice Jazz Quartet", formed especially for the evening and made up of myself on saxophone, Dave Alexander on drums, Ed Barnwell on piano and Dan Coghill (L6) on bass, enabled our guest singer for the evening, Gemma Bookbinder (4W) to enrich the concert with four, beautifully sung, jazz standards. Perhaps the highlight of the entire evening was seeing pupils and staff alike, coming together to play a style of music that is often forgotten about. Thanks to their enthusiasm and hard work they provided a first class concert and made a valuable contribution to the fund raising activities of Charities Week.

Andrew Wilson

SPRING TERM CONCERT

Each year the first year pupils always sing at the Spring Concert; this year they did 'Persephone' rehearsed by Miss Catherine Day.

But before that the Jazz Band, director Andrew Wilson, played a number of tunes that really got your feet going. They performed 'Shake Rattle and Roll, and 'Born to be Wild', tunes that will sound familiar to most people.

The first year pupils did an excellent performance of 'Persephone' which went in this order:

- 1) When the World was a Garden. 2) I'm Hades. 3) Where's the Sunshine.
- 4) Don't Forget the World. 5) Food Song. 6) Stop! and 7) Demeter's Promise.

It was a very enjoyable performance and they enjoyed singing it as much as the audience did listening to it judging by the smile on everyone's face.

After the interval the Concert Band did a few numbers as well as the Choir and the Brass Group, and we also had some solos and a Clarinet Trio. The solo students were Clare Keable (Violin) playing 'Sonata in G Minor' by Schubert, Sara Sadeghi playing 'Fantasy Piece' by Schumann on the clarinet and Kati Greenall playing 'Pièce en forme de Habenera' by Ravel on the tenor saxophone. Mr. Martin accompanied Sara and Kati. The clarinet Trio was performed by Jennie Porter, Sara Sadeghi and Mr. Andrew Wilson and they played the Second Movement from 'Divertimento No 2' by Mozart. The Concert Band played 'Washington Post' by Sousa, 'Elvis: The Legend Lives on' arr. Marshall and 'English Folk Song Suite' by Vaughan Williams, all three movements. The Choir sang 'Jerusalem on High' by Ouseley, 'Consider Yourself' and 'Who will Buy' by Bart and 'Memory' by Lloyd Webber. The Brass Group played 'Shake My Yoke' by Webb arr. Bosanko.

The concert was a very enjoyable evening as all our concerts are and highly entertaining.

Anna Rogers (3G)

CONCERT BAND TOUR OF THE FRENCH ALPS

On the morning of 22nd August 1997, 20 pupils, 3 OHs plus 10 members of staff were to be found in the school car park waiting for the coach that was to take us on our concert tour of the French Alps. The coach finally arrived several hours late having suffered from a technical hitch (was this a prophecy of things to come, we asked ourselves)!

However, after an uneventful channel crossing from Dover to Calais, we clambered back onto our coach and set off for Hotel Frejus in Villeneuve, which was to be our base for the next 5 days. On arrival we met the manager of our hotel and the local representative with whom we discussed our plans for the week and were informed about rules and regulations. Having settled into our rooms, we then assembled in the dining room and enjoyed what was to be the first of many excellent meals that the hotel provided during our stay.

The following day, having recovered from our long journey, we set off for the first of many enjoyable activities. We went to experience the thrill of Summer Sledging at Puy St. Vincent. Approximately an hour's drive from our hotel we spent the morning bumping, slipping and sliding down the dry sledge run.

Back on board our coach we set off for the fortified town of Briancon. Here we had lunch in the highest town in Europe, which is reputedly one of the sunniest. This proved to be the case during our visit! After lunch we walked round the town and many indulged in some shopping before it was time to perform our first concert of the tour in the town square. Having impressed the local residents with our musical expertise and attempted an explanation of the school motto on the stand banners, we boarded our coach and set off back to our hotel. In the evening, there was the first of several visits to the local Go-Karting track.

After breakfast (25th) we went for a morning visit to the lively town of Embrun for some sightseeing. This was then followed by a visit to Lac Serre Poncon. Here we enjoyed playing crazy golf and many of us took to the lake in various craft, i.e. yachts, pedalos and windsurfs. A great and wet time was had by all.

After drying ourselves off and changing into band uniform, we set off to perform our next concert in the main square in Chantemerle, one of the three villages that comprise Serre Chevalier. Another dazzling performance and it was back to the hotel for more food and an evening trip to the nearby ice-rink.

The following day (26th) we travelled via the beautiful Col de Lauteret to La Grave where we took a cable car to the Col de Ruillans (3,200m). Here we enjoyed the breathtaking views of La Meije and visited the spectacular ice caves where all sorts of things were sculpted in the ice, for example, animals, railway engines, Egyptian artifacts.

In the afternoon we arrived in Monettier, another of the villages in Serre Chevalier. It was the intention that we play in a local indoor arena but we transferred to the town square to the great delight of the local audience. After a great reception we returned to our hotel, and in the evening there was a disco in the bar.

The 27th was sadly the final day of our holiday and we were free to enjoy the resort. Various activities were available to us including mountain biking, rafting or walking. I decided to take part in some white water rafting which was to be the highlight of the holiday for me. First of all we were told the safety rules by an instructor and then we had to don our helmets, wetsuits and lifejackets. We were then divided into groups of five, given our paddles and taken to our raft which was next to an embankment. We scrambled in and the instructor pushed the craft into the fast flowing water and jumped in beside us. It was an exhilarating trip racing down the river getting bumped and buffeted along the way. Every so often one of us had to jump out and free the raft from one of the many protruding rocks. All too soon for me, we paddled, exhausted, into calm waters and it was the end of the trip.

I had now worked up an appetite for lunch. After we had eaten, the party split, one group returning to the Go-Karting track, another attempting mountain biking and the rest of us getting lost on a walk to Chantemerle Cable Car.

Finally at 8.30 we left the hotel for the final time and started on our return journey to England.

Thank you to Mr. Goodwin and all the other members of staff who made this the best band trip - ever.

Andrew Clark (2J)

CHRISTMAS 1997

As usual, the choir had its two carol services at Christ Church, West Didsbury and at St Ann's Church in the centre. It was refreshing to perform the mystical and slow Walford Davies Version of "O Little Town" for a change, more evocative of his native Oswestry than of Bethlehem, and to sing "Stille Nacht" in German, a classic example of a piece which does sound better in its original tongue. In the more secular atmosphere of the "Christmas Celebration" in School, the choir crashed gears from Eric Clapton's moving requiem to his late son, "Tears in Heaven", to the Broadway melodies "One" and "The Rhythm of Life". Miss Day was unable to realise her fantasy of dapper Fred Astaire clones waving their boaters, as we understand she did at Rishworth, but never mind!

The Concert Band gave us three items in contrasting styles, as well as accompanying the free-for-all sing-along at the end. Mr Martin's Recorder Group and Mr Wilson's Jazz Band each had a "spot", as did Miss Quayle's Brass Group, the latter also taking part at St Ann's. We also had a vocal duet from the now legendary Karen Vites and Gemma Bookbinder, and solos from Clare Keable (Violin) and Kati Greenall (Tenor Sax).

The Readings included a scene from the Coventry Shepherd's Play, with the shepherds, complete with "Shaun the Sheep" backpacks, abandoning the expected Jasper Carrot accent in favour of Liverpool (Julia Atherton), Cockney (Kati Greenall), Scottish (Laurie Edwards) and standard English (Elli Dodd)! A good seasonal all round show.

G.J. Turner.

DUNHAM MASSEY CHARITY CONCERT

This year the concert band have done a charity concert to add to the sum of 'Charities Week' which was in aid of the 'British Heart Foundation'. It's the first time that the concert band have done a concert out of school.

Dunham Massey is a very beautiful building and it was a great pleasure to play in it, there were many lovely paintings and the building was very antique.

The pieces that were played were thoroughly enjoyed by the audience, for example 'The English Folk Song Suite' by Vaughan Williams, the first movement, (Seventeen come Sunday) and 'Washington Post' by Sousa.

The concert was a great success and to show this many people asked when the next concert would be happening as they enjoyed it so much and I'm sure there will be another concert later in the year.

Anna Rogers.

THE LIVERPOOL TRIP TO THE BEATLES CAVERN

A group of approximately 50 3rd year pupils who have studied music this year got the chance to see the Beatles museum as earlier on in the year the Beatles was one of the topics they have covered. The museum was full of priceless memorabilia plus original instruments and clothes that they were wore during their fame. All the way round the museum it was telling you how it all started as well as how it all ended, not forgetting their huge success in the middle.

The museum let you know what life was like for them as well as their millions of fans. It took you into the cavern where they used to practise and their recording studio plus many more famous places. In the "Abbey Rd recording studio" there was original recording equipment there plus there were black and white photos of famous people who had been there. Sir Cliff Richard was there with his band the Shadows; that was before he went solo. There were other famous faces there but most of us failed to recognise them so the teachers were useful there. All in all it was very informative and some aspects stuck out more than others.

Anna Rogers (3G)

HOUSE MUSIC FESTIVAL

Monday 20th October

Adjudicator: Mr. K. Ferguson
Wardle School, Rochdale

As ever, the programme was as accomplished and entertaining as it was varied. Gaskell won the competition, and there were only 5 points out of 120 separating 1st and joint 5th places.

1.	Gaskell	107
2.	Whitworth	106
3.	Dalton	105
4.	Fraser	104
5.	= Byrom	
	= Heywood	102

Impressive was the range of periods and styles, as of instruments and combinations, as follows:

STRINGS:	Violins, Cello
WOODWIND:	Flutes (running into double figures), Clarinet, Recorder, 3 registers of Saxophone.
BRASS:	Trumpet, Cornet, Tuba, Trombone, Horn, two Euphoniums.
PERCUSSION:	Five students

Plus a number of bands and ensembles, six guitars and ten solo voices, a tribute to our students' wide ranging musical interests as well as to the instrumental and vocal tuition of our resident and visiting teachers.

Above all, it was a splendid day's entertainment. As Kati Greenall put it in the Gaskell House programme "Feel free to enjoy the music - that's what music is for."

G.J. Turner

SUMMER CONCERT

For the third successive year, our Summer Concert took the form of a "Last Night of the Proms", modelled on the famous annual event in London's Royal Albert Hall.

The first half, performed by the WHGS Choral Society with Guest Tenor Soloist Tobi Edwards, was Britten's sparkling and rumbustious St Nicholas Cantata. This has Britten's fingerprints all over it - an intense, pure-toned tenor solo, ethereal choirs singing derivative but newly arranged Church music offset against dramatic down-to-earth choral turmoil, with themes such as the sea in its different moods and the corruption of child-like innocence thrown in for good measure. Britten also parodies traditional styles - Handelian baroque, Gilbert and Sullivan, "cow-pat school" English pastoral, Scheherazade, swinging pop, etc. etc. This yeasty brew was musically very ambitious for a choir open to all comers, and it is to the great credit of Mr Goodwin and Miss Day that it came off so well and was so enthusiastically received.

But fun through this first half was, the second half of the concert really let rip. Mr Wilson's Jazz Band gave us two numbers, Gershwin's "Summertime" and "Yardbirds Suite", both arranged by Edmundson, and Mr Goodwin's Concert Band played Eric Coates' stirring march written for the film "The Dam Busters". Although this 1954 film is now rightly regarded as tastelessly triumphalistic, the music remains glorious without such associations.

The same goes for "Land of Hope and Glory", the climax of the party popping, flag -flapping sequence which concluded the evening, via a medley of World War II morale -boosters, Parry's setting of Blake's "Jerusalem", and Wood's Fantasia on British Sea Songs (the searingly poignant "Tom Bowling" contrasting with the vigorous "Sailor's Hornpipe".) Another highlight was Miss Phylippa Tyler's solo in "Rule Britannia".

All in all, an evening to remember.

G.J. Turner.

INFORMAL RECITALS

Once again this year has seen a successful series of informal recitals performed by pupils of all ages and ability range. The only real change to the well established format was that due to a very full calendar all of the recitals had to take place at lunchtime. However the attendance at all of the concerts was much improved, which was very encouraging.

As in previous years each concert had a slightly different theme; the first was performed by pupils taking an external grade examination, the second by GCSE and 'A' level students and the third by clarinet and saxophone pupils. This provided a wide range of styles and standards from pupils who may have had just a few lessons to others who were trying out a piece for their final examination recital.

The concert by GCSE candidates was just such a case. As part of their course each has to play two pieces - one solo and one ensemble - both of which are recorded but not edited, so this was an ideal opportunity for them to try out their chosen pieces. All played well, but special mention must be made of some quite outstanding performances; Graeme Laycock on alto saxophone with the 'Rondo' by Binge, Julia Atherton and Vicky Raynes with a popular flute pieces by Paul Taffanel and John Rutter, Elli Metcalfe and Jenny Porter both playing music by Mozart, and three excellent contributions by Jonathan Murphy, Chloe Duckworth and Kati Greenall on saxophones.

The recital in April coincided with the HMC Inspection and in fact gave the inspectors a good insight to the standard of music-making in the School. This concert was given by clarinet and saxophone students and was certainly the best attended - probably due to the fact that as pupils ranged from first to upper sixth forms many had brought friends along for moral support. Again the music was extremely varied, reflecting the ability level of those taking part, but it is very pleasing to see some potential 'stars' enjoying making music in an informal atmosphere.

I cannot name every performer who has taken part in this series of recitals but all of the pupils deserve credit for their efforts and I am sure they would like me to thank Mr. Colin Martin for the time he gives in his role of accompanist.

There will be another series of recitals next year, including at least one in the evening, and I hope to see many of you in the audience.

P.W. Goodwin

LOWER SCHOOL WORKSHOP

Early in the Michaelmas term the Music Department organised a workshop for all of the new first form pupils. The idea was to introduce them to some of the musical opportunities available in the School.

Whilst many were aware of the extra-curricular activities of the department many were surprised at the range of instruments that they could learn. The School is fortunate in having a very dedicated team of visiting staff, all of whom offer expert advice and tuition on their chosen instruments, and it is important that children should have the opportunity to benefit from this expertise.

The format for the morning is fairly straightforward; assemble all of the pupils, divide them up into groups of six or so and let them loose on the teachers! Each teacher gives a short demonstration on their instrument, then each child has the chance to have a go. Throughout the morning the children had the chance to play piano, guitar (acoustic and electric), saxophone, clarinet, flute, trumpet, trombone, violin, keyboard and drums, the latter probably the most popular. For many it was the first time they had ever come face to face with, let alone play, a particular instrument, so in those terms alone the morning was a success. However the real success will come from the number of pupils who decide to have lessons on an instrument and realise the pleasure that can be had from making music, be it by themselves or with other people.

Of course not everyone will take up an instrument - but at least they had the opportunity.

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