



the **STRATHALLIAN** **2010**
2011





A star is born...



Billing certainly knows how to treat his missus.



Clochemerte installation not an immediate success.



Go west, young man!



I always keep a spare tucked under my arm for emergencies.



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Captains of School



“before you know it, it is over and you’re out there in the big, bad world...”

Ben Melville UVI Simpson **Heather Larson** UVI Thornbank

There was certainly a different perspective in place when I sat down to write this article than when I began writing the speech for Speech Day back in early May. The reason for this is because our days at Strath are very much over; we have moved on and are making new experiences but are now looking back on the memories we have of Strathallan and in my opinion only now really realising how lucky we were with the opportunities we were given there.

There is no doubt about the academic pressures that the final year brings and I'm sure many like me found it all a bit much at times and just wished for School to be over and to move onto university life. As much as I'm enjoying university, I feel it is only really clear now that I'm looking back on my days at Strath how much fun the last year and all the years there were. Be it the events, balls and dinners or the spirit within a musical cast or a sports team, Strathallan has provided us with memories and friendships that will last a lifetime. There are opportunities for every pupil to find their area of expertise and both challenge themselves in that area as well as enjoy every minute that it brings. Much of this can be put down to the pupils who are a credit to themselves by the efforts they put in but certainly the

majority has to do with the staff that run around the clock, in and out of lessons, to accommodate the needs of every student. The relationships between the pupils and teachers in Strathallan are second to none and it is this connection that makes it such a special place.

I have very many fond memories of my time at Strathallan and hope that every pupil makes the most of their time there because I can promise you before you know it, it is over and you're out there in the big, bad world. Heather and I would like to thank all the staff for their support and efforts throughout our time at Strath. And finally we would like to wish everyone the best of luck in all their future endeavours!

Headmaster's Report

This year at Speech Day I focused on achievement, not only at the top level but for all pupils in each context. In Matthew Syed's book *Bounce* three areas are identified for success to be earned in any activity: hours of practice, learning from mistakes and the context in which the activity takes place. Obviously, the first two of these are crucial in any school environment and the context which we provide at Strathallan is also vital. The results of these elements were clearly evident in the external examinations results when they arrived this summer. The particular highlight this year was the percentage of A* to B at A level which, at 82%, was the best which we have recorded in our history. The Higher rate A-C was also significantly improved on last year. Crucially, in what was no doubt the hardest year for university entrance of recent times, our pupils secured good offers in the first instance and in almost all cases achieved the results necessary for their first choice university. A notable feature again of the destinations is the variety of course and location which reflects the diversity evident in the pupil body. It is a source of great pride that our pupils choose as individuals and that the School nurtures and supports that individuality. Thirty-four different universities have welcomed our alumni this academic session including all the top Scottish universities but also representatives as far and wide as the University of British Columbia, University of New York Abu Dhabi, George Washington University, Oxford, Cambridge and large numbers of Russell Group and ninety-four group universities. I am also delighted by pupils' achieving academic success in the Arkwright Scholarship, the Guardian Young Critic Award, the RSA National Art Awards, and a major international literature award for Otto Kakhidze in the Benjamin Franklin House Prize.

Speech Day offers the opportunity to reflect on the year and the achievements continue to be wide-ranging and at a high level. There were placings at the World Burns Federation Competition, a member of Scottish Ballet Senior Associate Training Programme, three Diplomas in Music Theatre, a representative in Scottish Youth Theatre, three Golds for Acting

in LAMDA, three members of the Scottish Conservatoire, two members of the Youth Choir of Great Britain and members of the Youth Choir Scotland and Youth Orchestra Scotland. In Sport we produced a total of nine Scottish champions, eight British champions, twenty-four Scottish internationalists and three British representatives with seven of our teams national champions – in skiing, equestrian, swimming, hockey, canoeing, netball and tennis, and national representatives in rugby, skiing, sailing, equestrian, tennis, hockey, canoeing, cricket, tetrathlon, pentathlon, fencing and clay pigeon shooting.

Our charitable activities continue with the major focus this year on Kenya. Again seven



It is a source of great pride that our pupils choose as individuals and that the School nurtures and supports that individuality.

pupils and two staff worked in Kibera in the Summer holidays and the fundraising during the year supported the creation of a playground, a drop-in centre, and of several sustainable micro-businesses and provided educational gifts for large numbers of children. In addition we also ran events in aid of Cancer and Heart Research, Breast Cancer, Japanese Tsunami/ Earthquake Victim Support, and The Children's Hospice Association of Scotland, which we have supported from the outset.

This year we bade farewell to a number of staff who played important roles in the life of so many pupils. Roger Quick is returning to parish work nearby and we hope to stay in touch with him. He managed the extremely demanding task of RE for everyone, Chapel Services and provided sympathetic pastoral support with outstanding personal skills and empathy. He has been a genuine friend to so many in the community and, of course, is a wonderful

musician. Dr Matt Gibson who has been an outstanding teacher of Geography, a tutor in Riley and has helped with a variety of Games leaves us far earlier than we would have chosen to a promoted post nearby. Greg Ross was a member of staff for twenty-four years. Starting in the Biology Department and picking up the new technologies associated with Computing he established the subject here. Greg has also been very much the all-round school master who has shown an interest in pupils in all areas of their lives. A tutor throughout in Nicol House, rugby coach and referee, he has helped with hockey and cricket with passion and enthusiasm. Simon Cowper has provided a different dimension in the Design Technology Department and has been committed to golf, badminton and a role as tutor in Freeland House. John and Sandra Fleming remain on the staff but have handed over the reins of Thornbank House. I know that generations of girls in Thornbank would wish me to pay tribute to their help, support, understanding and the high standards which they had engendered in the House. Finally we thank Mihaela Palimariu our EAL teacher from Romania who has really thrown herself into the life of the School not only teaching English to those for whom it is not the first language but also as a Basketball coach and tutor.

The new Housemistress of Thornbank House is Rosalind Stuart, a graduate of Oxford University in Philosophy and Theology



who spent two and a half years as a Troop Commander in the Royal Artillery before deciding on a career in teaching. Her husband, James, who runs the Scottish Yachting Association will also be involved in the House and the extra-curricular life of the School. Rosalind rowed for Oxford and the Army, and the new Residential Tutor in Thornbank House, Megan Mackie also rowed, for Scotland, while taking a degree in Geography at the University of Dundee where she was Vice President of the Sports Union and was involved in a number of other sporting and musical activities. A shared interest with the Headmaster is purely coincidental in each case. Having completed her PGDE at Moray House, Claire Brownbridge joins the Design Technology Department. Her degree was in Furniture and Design at the Edinburgh School of Art. Claire is a keen hockey player who has been involved in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme and Young Engineers Club. Along with Claire the DT department has been able to welcome Graham Philp, a highly-experienced technician who joins us from Perth College. We are also delighted to welcome back Jackie Martin to Strathallan School for the winter term. She will cover Computing, a subject which she taught with distinction here a few years ago. Uliana Nastashchuk will be with us for a year from the Ukraine on the HMC Teacher Exchange programme and will have a central responsibility for helping students whose first language is not English. With the exception of Graham, the above-mentioned staff all join us at the beginning of the academic year 2011/12 but unusually this year we will be joined also by two further members of staff in January. Daniel Rutherford will become Chaplain, a role which he has fulfilled at the City of London Freeman's School for the past fourteen years. There he is also Head of RE and Head of Year. He is a graduate of the University of Durham in Theology where he also undertook a PGCE. He spent seven years in parish work before moving to a Chaplain's role. He was himself previously a cathedral chorister and choral scholar. Also at the beginning of the calendar year, Stuart Robertson will join us from Llandoverly College where he is currently Head of Humanities and a Housemaster. His subject experience includes Geography, Computing and Business Studies and he will initially be taking on a largely Computing timetable. In addition he will have responsibility for Outdoor Education and the Duke of Edinburgh Award for which he is well qualified. After a degree in Environmental science at Plymouth and a career in the Royal Marines where his experience included responsibility for diving he became a teacher. He also has an MBA and is qualified in sub-aqua, life-saving, mountain leadership, canoeing, yachting and a variety of other sporting activities. His wife, Lynda, will also be involved in the CCF.



BKT

Salvete

Name	Surname	YG	House	Ad date
James R	Adam	P7	Riley	07 09 2011
Sophie L	Adams	S2	Woodlands	19 04 2011
Caitlin	Andrew	S1	Riley	20 02 2011
Shannon M	Arkell	P7	Riley	07 09 2011
Calum J	Bannerman	S2	Freeland	07 09 2011
Seamas G D	Blanche	S1	Riley	07 09 2011
Ruairidh G S	Boyd	P6	Riley	19 04 2011
Cameron G	Brown	S1	Riley	10 01 2011
Jessica A G	Brown	S4	Glenbrae	10 01 2011
Fraser	Buchan	S3	Nicol	07 09 2011
Scott	Buchan	S1	Riley	07 09 2011
Alistair J	Burnett	S2	Nicol	07 09 2011
Jack	Burton	S5	Simpson	07 09 2011
Adam J	Bush	S2	Nicol	07 09 2011
Sarah J	Cameron-Sutcliffe	P6	Riley	07 09 2011
Catherine J D	Campbell	S5	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Zixi	Chen	S5	Thornbank	07 09 2011
Natasha	Claxton	S2	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Rhys S	Connah	S2	Simpson	07 09 2011
Fraser	Craw Harley	S3	Freeland	07 09 2011
Shay	Crockin	P5	Riley	07 09 2011
Lily A	Culham	S5	Woodlands	07 09 2011
Sam	Culham	S5	Ruthven	07 09 2011
Euan D J	Curran	S2	Freeland	07 09 2011
Raina L	Dalrymple	S2	Woodlands	07 09 2011
Melissa M	Davy-Ericson	S2	Woodlands	07 09 2011
James M K	Day	S1	Riley	07 09 2011
Ayrton C	De Cecco	P6	Riley	07 09 2011
Chloe L	Dibnah	S2	Thornbank	07 09 2011
Stoyan	Dimitrov	S5	Ruthven	07 09 2011
Jian	Ding	S5	Freeland	07 09 2011
Catriona S	Dobie	S1	Riley	07 09 2011
Ewan	Doig	S2	Nicol	07 09 2011
Beatriz	Dominguez	S3	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Ina M	Drouven	S5	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Tom	Eller	S5	Simpson	07 09 2011
Emma	Elliott	S2	Thornbank	07 09 2011
Jessica A	England	S2	Woodlands	07 09 2011
Maggie R M	English	P6	Riley	07 09 2011
Alexander J R	Fagerson	S5	Nicol	07 09 2011
Cameron C	Fenton	S4	Simpson	07 09 2011
David R	Ferguson	S5	Nicol	07 09 2011
William M	Ferguson	S5	Freeland	07 09 2011
Allan A	Fernandes	S1	Riley	07 09 2011
Francesc	Forn Canabate	S2	Ruthven	07 09 2011
David	Forrest	S5	Simpson	07 09 2011
Pablo	Gil	S3	Freeland	07 09 2011
Alexander J	Gloag	S2	Ruthven	07 09 2011
Christian	Goldkuhle	S5	Ruthven	07 09 2011

Name	Surname	YG	House	Ad date
Angus F	Gray	S4	Freeland	27 09 2011
Struan M A	Griffiths	P5	Riley	07 09 2011
Angus D	Guthrie	S6	Ruthven	26 09 2011
Agata	Guz	S5	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Laura J	Haldane	S3	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Oussama	Hamzeh	P5	Riley	07 09 2011
Valid	Hasanli	S3	Ruthven	07 09 2011
Austen J	Hay	S2	Freeland	07 09 2011
Sarah M	Hollingsworth	S1	Riley	07 09 2011
Ying L	Huang	S5	Nicol	07 09 2011
Ogheneovie	Iro	S6	Nicol	07 09 2011
Camilla J	Irvine-Fortescue	S5	Thornbank	07 09 2011
Kristin L	Jeffels	S2	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Hamish S	Johnston	S2	Simpson	07 09 2011
Jake A	Johnston	S2	Ruthven	07 09 2011
Freya H	Kinloch	S2	Woodlands	07 09 2011
Matthew A	Knowles	S2	Freeland	07 09 2011
Martin	Kreilinger	S3	Freeland	07 09 2011
Syazirah B	Kuan	S5	Thornbank	07 09 2011
Alamin A O	Kudehinbu	P6	Riley	07 09 2011
Derek	Lai	S5	Simpson	07 09 2011
Martin	Lai	S3	Simpson	07 09 2011
Georgia K	Laird	S1	Riley	07 09 2011
Chi H	Lau	S5	Ruthven	07 09 2011
Zeyu	Li	S5	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Dominik	Liedtke	S4	Nicol	07 09 2011
Alasdair J	Lightbody	S2	Nicol	07 09 2011
Runfei	Lin	S5	Woodlands	07 09 2011
Ce	Liu	S5	Freeland	07 09 2011
Murdo L	McAndrew	S6	Nicol	26 09 2011
Hannah V	McCarthy	S3	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Hannah B	Macdonald	S5	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Ailsa C	Macgregor	P7	Riley	07 09 2011
Katie A M	McIvor	S5	Woodlands	07 09 2011
Eleanor N S	McKay	S2	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Eleanor K	MacLeod	S5	Woodlands	07 09 2011
Abigail A	Macnaughton	S2	Thornbank	19 04 2011
Zoe J	Macnaughton	S5	Thornbank	07 09 2011
Connor	MacNeil	S3	Simpson	10 01 2011
Tom B	Malyn	S2	Freeland	20 02 2011
Cameron D	Maurin	S5	Nicol	07 09 2011
Elizaveta	Menshikova	S4	Thornbank	19 04 2011
Scott A	Middleton	S5	Ruthven	07 09 2011
Tomas S	Morris	P5	Riley	07 09 2011
Zoe R	Morris	S2	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
David G	Niven	S5	Simpson	07 09 2011
Margaret	Njeri	S2	Woodlands	07 09 2011
Bethany J	O'Shea	S3	Woodlands	07 09 2011
Marina	Otano Gonzalez	P7	Riley	07 09 2011

Name	Surname	YG	House	Ad date
Motoko	Otomo	S4	Glenbrae	19 04 2011
Dylan A	Patterson	P7	Riley	07 09 2011
Paula	Penas	S2	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Joshua J	Philpott	P7	Riley	07 09 2011
Shannon A	Pook	P6	Riley	07 09 2011
Angus	Rennie	S5	Freeland	07 09 2011
Harry A	Richards	S3	Ruthven	07 09 2011
Angus	Robertson	S4	Ruthven	07 09 2011
Eilidh C	Ross	S2	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Lindsay M	Ross	S3	Woodlands	10 01 2011
Lyle	Ross	S2	Ruthven	31 10 2011
Sarah J E	Salvesen	S2	Woodlands	07 09 2011
Julia F	Schmitt	S4	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
David M	Schuldes	S5	Nicol	07 09 2011
William E	Schuneman	S2	Nicol	07 09 2011
Sarah L	Simpson	S3	Woodlands	07 09 2011
Adam F	Smith	S2	Ruthven	07 09 2011
Lochlan J	Snowie	S2	Ruthven	07 09 2011
Alexandra	Stasovskaya	S3	Woodlands	07 09 2011
Gavin	Stewart	S1	Riley	07 09 2011
Jack	Stewart	S2	Simpson	07 09 2011
Vanessa	Stewart	S3	Thornbank	07 09 2011
Phillippa E C	Stirrat	S2	Woodlands	07 09 2011
Alexander D A	Stokes	S3	Ruthven	19 04 2011
Ruizhe	Sun	S5	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Josh	Sweeney	S3	Nicol	31 10 2011
Yining	Tang	S5	Thornbank	07 09 2011
Cedrik P	Timmel	S3	Ruthven	07 09 2011
Gorka	Torras	S2	Freeland	07 09 2011
Ho H	Tsui	S2	Simpson	07 09 2011
Javier	Uriach Dasca	S2	Nicol	07 09 2011
Leonhard	von Hof	S5	Freeland	07 09 2011
Emma M	Walker	S3	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Murphy B	Walker	P7	Riley	07 09 2011
Peter M	Wallwork	P5	Riley	07 09 2011
Darcey I	Watson	S2	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Robyn E	Wauchope	S2	Thornbank	07 09 2011
Sarah K	Weyde	S3	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Hamish G	White	P7	Riley	07 09 2011
Iona M	Wilson	S1	Riley	07 09 2011
Julia D	Wilson	S5	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Christy J	Wiseman	S1	Riley	07 09 2011
Finlay J	Wiseman	P5	Riley	07 09 2011
Phillippa K	Wood	S2	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Jessica L	Woodcock	S2	Glenbrae	07 09 2011
Gregor J	Wright	P7	Riley	07 09 2011
Prasitta	Yookhong	S4	Thornbank	07 09 2011

Speech Day



don't think that it's too strained a metaphor to suggest that a school such as ours is very like a ship of war; captain, officers, crew, regular engagements, Admiralty scrutiny, lengthy and, at times, extraordinarily arduous duty before the mast, and those well-known twin frauds, the possibility of glorious victory and, yes, equally possible, ignominious defeat.

And then there are the civilians; welcome aboard Michael Russell, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning. Piped aboard with full ceremony, Mr Russell, a consummate politician, delivered an address which would have gone down well across the Fleet. There was no reason why the Cabinet Secretary should attempt to deal with the imminent possibility of the economy's crashing upon a lee shore, the rapidly-approaching squall of a schoolteachers' pension crisis, or even his Party's (the SNP's) tax proposals - the ones that would give specially short shrift to the likes of Strathallan School. And he didn't. Instead, Mr Russell delivered a rousing speech which would have certainly given the young people under his brief tutelage a number of useful ideas about their own futures. I'm also hopeful that Mr Russell's own lifelong learning will have been perked up immensely when he came into actual physical contact - a handshake, occasionally a kiss - with the sort of scholars that Strathallan School attracts, nurtures and eventually sends out into the world. Our prize-winners have very often merited their accolades, quaichs, shields, swords and other paraphernalia and few more so than the remarkable Otto Kakhidze who, as the Headmaster duly

mentioned in his address, had succeeded in an extraordinary range of fields including gaining entry to what is probably the most exclusive university on the planet.

And what of the captain's oration? Bruce Thompson elected not to read the Articles of War, instead confining himself to what seems to be the increasingly challenging task of doing justice to the sheer quantity of useful, educational and quite simply life-enhancing activity that the school engages in. The list was indeed a long one. As someone who has enjoyed the, ahem, privilege of listening to the Headmaster addressing the Full Assembly inside a faintly thrumming canvas tent since his first go at it I think I can safely say that Mr Thompson has taken heed of his own advice and has got into his stride through practice. Indeed, he has even incorporated more jokes and, yes, we did enjoy the one about Severine thinking her dad was 'weird'.

As ever, parents and staff repaired to the really important tent, (*You're not going to call it the forecastle, are you? Ed*) where they did justice to the fine lunch produced by our ever-dependable catering staff. Some for the very last time, others for the very first, took the opportunity to meet and chat to friends and, of course, to beard in their den the teachers of their precious sons and daughters. Mr Drummond's pipes and drums enlivened the proceedings, the departments threw open their doors, musicians spread joy. Another Speech Day had come to an end.

EGK



The following were presented with prizes on Friday 1st July

Academic

Best Form Orders - Effort Totals

1JJ	Ellen McDonald
1J	Caitlin Donald
1st	Emily Watt Chris Blair
2nd	Delphine Mahos Orpheas Manos Nina Mearns Lucy Crabb

Most Progress Jack Bruce

Distinctions Sarah Clayton

Connor Collins
Amber Garvie
Ross Campbell
Imogen Robertson-Barnett
Douglas Tait
Becky Ward
Lianna Inch
Kirsty Bell
Cammy Griffiths

Music Ben Addison-Scott & Delphine Mahos

Drama Pauric O-Carroll Batterham & Lucy Crabb

Games Jack Bruce & Nina Mearns

Art Lachlan Macgregor & Jess Bussey

Reading Champion Becky Ward

Cups and Trophies

Div Plays Dron
Chess Master Lachlan Macgregor
Div Music Best soloist Nina Mearns
Best Div Dron

Piping/Drumming

Angus Lapslie Novice Chanter
Jonny Carswell Novice Drumming
Orpheas Manos Band Contribution
John Dew Junior Piping March
Senior Piping March
Senior Piping Jig

Div Swimming

The Simpson Cup Dron

Football - World Cup

Balmanno & Dupplin

Riley Sports' Day

Victrix Ludorum Nina Mearns
Victor Ludorum Jack Bruce,
Chris Guest,
Rory Arthur

Mixed Doubles Tennis

Douglas Tait & Isla Patterson

Equestrian

Charlotte Stephenson
Logie Walker
Lisa Garrett

Hewson Cup

John Dew & Nina Mearns

Divisional Shield

4th	Glenearn	51.5 pts
3rd	Dupplin	61 pts
2nd	Dron	68.5 pts
1st	Balmanno	69 pts



The Autumn term began with our new pupils' and parents' tea on Wednesday 1st September. This year we welcomed 51 new children to join our 53 old hands and by the Summer term we had 109 pupils in Riley. We also welcomed Mrs Emma Lalani as a teacher of English, Maths and Geography and as a tutor in Riley.

The first Saturday of term there were no lessons for Riley as we headed off early to the Forest Theme Park at Carrbridge near Aviemore for 4 hours of fun on the water slides, sky dives, high wire courses, climbing wall and the new rollercoaster. This proved to be a great day out for everyone and a great help in starting friendships for our new pupils.

By the 2nd week of term the activity programme was up and running and the new children were adapting to their new routine. Once again table tennis, canoeing, climbing, DT, football and swimming were most popular but there were many other activities including music and drama offered during the course of the year.

The Autumn term will also be remembered for the excellent sports results. Our U13 girls' hockey side and our U13 rugby side had their best seasons for many years. The girls also won the Fettes 6-a-side hockey tournament in November. The term will also be remembered for the very cold weather and snow that disrupted school for the final two weeks - some of our day pupils were unable to come to school for over a week and we had to postpone the divisional plays until the Spring term.

At the end of the Autumn term we said goodbye and thank you to Sam Drummond and Tom Studholme, our gap year students from Australia. They were replaced at the beginning of January by Annabelle Gilroy and Hamish Whittle, also from Australia.

The snow and cold weather continued at the beginning of the Spring term which did mean the House had a ski day at Glenshee but generally the children became rather frustrated as there were few safe areas outside for play until mid February.

The divisional competition was interesting this year. Dupplin won the Autumn term but Dron came back strongly winning the music and plays in the Spring to gain 1st place. The Summer saw Balmanno and Dupplin fighting it out with Balmanno winning the term on the final event. This also meant Balmanno won the divisional shield for the year but only by half a point from Dron!

Other highlights during the year included... 10.10.10 charity event, the musical showcase at Perth Concert Hall, Scotland rugby internationals with New Zealand and Ireland, informal concerts in the Riley Common Room, canoe club events and success in the Scottish Schools', the Summer term triathlon, Strathallian and Family Day, 2nd Form Camp in the Cairngorms (despite the early return due to the weather), Schiehallion mountain climb and our House production of the 'Rocky Monster Show' performed to a packed theatre just before our Prize Giving at the end of the Summer term.

Sadly, we said goodbye to Dr Matt Gibson at the end of the Prize Giving. He had been a tutor and in charge of Dupplin since his arrival in 2008 and he had run the weekly climbing and Summer evening cricket activities. He will be much missed.

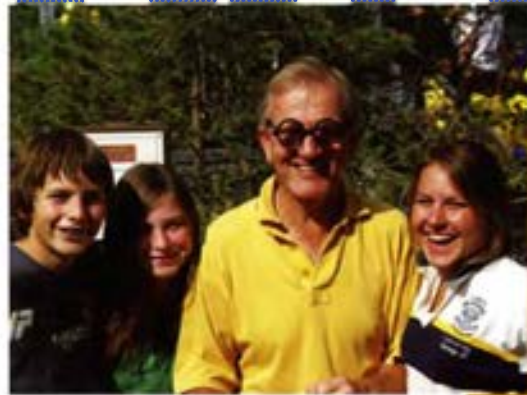
Also we said thank you to all the tutors, Tracey and Mrs Bush, the domestic team and all who helped in Riley in many ways throughout the year.

Well done, Riley.

PWB



RILEY HOUSE



...thank you to all the tutors, Tracey and Mrs Bush, the domestic team and all who helped in Riley in many ways...





FREELAND HOUSE

Upon returning to Freeland in early September after a good summer's rest, I found myself quickly acquainted with many new boys in the House. With a whole new 3rd Form joining, and a large collection of additional Lower 6th boys, the House was packed, ready to take on the year as a close-knit group after bonding well in the first few days. We also welcomed the enthusiastic Mr Gallier to our tutoring ranks.

Winter Term saw strong performances by the younger years of the House in the Junior Rugby competitions, leaving the seniors gutted by the fact that a House rugby competition would not be taking place this year, despite having what would certainly have been the strongest side in the school. This senior side was enhanced by the presence of the first of two exchange students joining the House throughout the year. Ali "Turbo" Turbayne made a great contribution to the House during his short stay and is greatly missed by many in the school.

Spring Term started in January with examinations looming and the House falling into academic mode. This was combined with busy preparations for House Music in the final days of the first half of term, a very busy time for all members of the House. House music culminated in an unforgettable choir, entertainingly conducted by Liam Kennedy, singing *Follow Me*, a strong Trombone solo from Andrew Blair (L6th) and the triumphant and extremely entertaining ensemble comprising Ryan "Rasta" Hornby, Andrew Blair, Josiah Bircham, Jonathon "Smooth Moves" Keddie, Scott "Jazz Hands" Haldane and Marcus Adams singing *Don't Worry - Be Happy*.

Notable sporting performances came from the junior hockey sides, but the premier performance came from the Senior Boys Hockey Team, who pulled off an outstanding win in the inter-House final. This victory was completed due to our goalkeeper Dan McBride's excellent save in sudden death penalty flicks, blocking a flick from a Scotland Internationalist representing our arch-rivals down the hill, Nicol House. Better luck next year, Mr. Billing!

The spring term ended with the school musical, *Beauty and the Beast*, which involved a number of boys from the House, in many different capacities. Lead roles of Lumiere (Ryan Hornby), Gaston (Marcus Adams), Le Fou (Jonathon Keddie) were all portrayed by Freeland Boys, along with notable chorus performances from Alex McLeod and Scott Haldane, Andrew Blair playing as part of the Orchestra behind the scenes.

Returning to school for Summer Term, we welcomed Oliver Triggell to the House on exchange from Canberra Grammar. The timing of his arrival could not have been better, as the first weekend of term saw our boys take the Senior Inter-House Cricket Sixes title, in fine style. Having also won the intermediate Victor Ludorum trophy at sports day for the Intermediate group, Oli, like his counterpart Ali, brought a lot to the sports fields at Strathallan, and helped promote Freeland as the Number One House for Team Sports this Year!

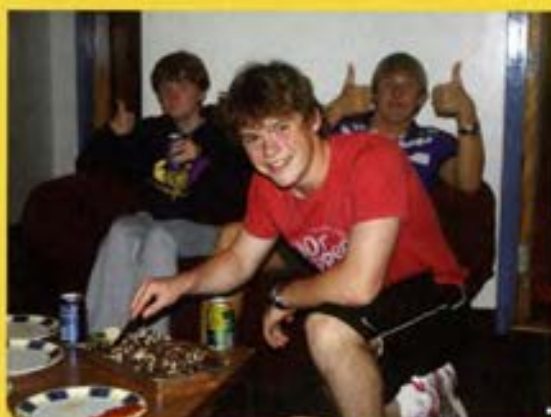
Our sports performance, especially in the senior part of the House, has been of extremely high quality, but to put this into perspective, here are the numbers. With 24 boys (1/3 of the House!)

playing first team level sport for the school in at least one sport, 4 International Representatives, 6 additional District Players and with Freelanders winning individual and team trophies at School, Inter-school, District and National levels, it's safe to say that it has been an extremely strong year for Freeland on the sports fields.

All in all, the 2010/2011 school year was highly successful across the board for Freeland House, and I leave with the knowledge that the bonds between year groups and the individuals within those groups are stronger than ever. Farewell to all the leavers, in particular Mr Cowper who has moved on to another school after caring for the House and our tutor group in particular for three years, and good luck for 2011/2012!

Marcus Adams





...it's safe to say that it has been an extremely strong year for Freeland on the sports fields...



NICOL HOUSE

Another year has passed in Nicol and the list of achievements grows ever longer. From the glorious rendition of the K'naan classic 'Wavin' Flag' to our heroic performances on the sports field, this year has been filled with unforgettable moments, all cheered on by the limitless enthusiasm of the whole House.

House Music was organised by Tom Esparon and as usual Nicol put on a jaw-dropping display. After an energetic performance in the House Choir, Tom Esparon impressed with his piece on the violin. Our ensemble, led by Steven Segaud, kept up the high standard. We are not sure if the judge was slightly distracted by Glenbrae being out of tune or perhaps their dance moves, but we were disappointingly not crowned winners.

Nicolites have always been strong on the games field and this year did not disappoint with successes in many of the House competitions including Junior Cricket, Inter-House Basketball and perhaps most notably Athletics Standards, a competition that requires participation from the largest number of boys and one that we have won for the last four years. As always, Nicol came together with typical spirit and almost every member of the House took part in one competition or another. The agonising penalty flicks that edged us out of both the Junior and Senior Hockey inter-House finals were hard to take, yet our sportsmanship allowed us to win the moral victory. Unfortunately, the senior House rugby didn't take place this year due to weather conditions, much to the disappointment of Tom Wilson who believed a little bit of snow couldn't stop him, despite his size. With Stanno (our rather desperate exchange student from Australia) in our ranks we would have been sure of success.

Academically, our UVI have just received the best A Level results seen throughout the school in recent years. Controversy was high in the Academic Challenge, with eyebrows raised over some of the questions asked during the

Nicol vs Ruthven bout. (*Would that be because you didn't know the answers, Jamie? Ed*). Nicol emerged victorious in both the Junior and Senior inter-House Debating competitions with Charlie Mearns, Connor Ovenstone, Robbie Blackburn and Jamie Naasan proving too strong in argument. Outside the House Nicol boys performed well in all areas and were a very large part of all the good things happening in the school. We had a strong presence in the rugby, cricket and hockey teams with many star performers: Michael McKenzie and Murdo Elwis made the Scotland U18 and U16 hockey teams respectively, alongside our Deputy Head of House Joe Lipworth who has continued to swim for Scotland and achieved a full scholarship to attend the University of Washington. The cricket and hockey captains, Keith Wigley and Mike McKenzie, and the rugby vice-captain Tom Wilson, were all members of a strong top year.

High standards and hunger for success remains in Nicol and the effort put in by every member continues to be an admirable part of what it means to be a Nicolite. There is a strong sense of community in the House, shown by our heavy support at every event and feeling of togetherness. Nicol has always been a friendly House and that continues to grow. We are a community that allows everyone to thrive and we are all decent lads who look after each other and that, as we are always told, is pretty important. What's certain is that Nicol will keep going from strength to strength and next year will be another great one.

The whole house would like to thank all the tutors for their help throughout the year, particularly Mr MacLean for putting up with living under the same roof as us (we're good really!). We are also grateful to Davina and the ladies for their fancy dress outfits and their patience. And finally to Mr and Mrs Billing (and Talla) for their hard work and for keeping us on the straight and narrow.

Adeeb Naasan







*...friendships
are made and
lifetime bonds
are formed...*





RUTHVEN HOUSE



One of the tasks generally left to the last minute is the House Report - and even more so when you manage not to ask the Head of House to write it.

Looking back on the year I think I can safely say that this was one of my best ones. This was to be my eleventh one in the House and we had a small but enthusiastic UVI year. The year started with the customary and what was going to be the last Ruthven III Form Retreat. We headed up to Loch Morlich with new boys, seniors and, at the wheel of the minibus, Doc Jimmy. We had a fantastic weekend, full of activities and laughs - and most of all getting to know each other - Housemaster - House Prefects - new III Form.

And that was just the first few weeks in Ruthven. Over the course of the year friendships are made and lifetime bonds are formed. Over the years the House has developed into a caring and friendly place with respect being shown to all groups in the House. The atmosphere or "ethos" is what people talk about and I feel I can say that the "ethos" has changed and evolved over the past 11 years. One aspect of the ethos that will stand the test of time is that of House Competitions. The Boys will always gauge the success of the House and the year by "silverware". I can still remember my first few years where we did extremely well on this front. And then

came a lean year or two and I was useless. Well, I am pleased I am once again of some use as we did very well this year. If we didn't win it, we were second to Simpson, or it was a Girls' Competition. Tug-of-war, Junior Hockey, Sports Day Champions, and Golf are just a few of the House successes of the year.

Individually the boys did well especially with regard to playing representative sport. Keith Buchan and Craig Rintoul have both represented the Caledonia rugby teams and Keith the U17 Scotland rugby team. Rory Barnes, Rory Wood, Alasdair Wood, Connor Holborn and Ross Buchanan have all played District Hockey. Alasdair went on to play U16 Scotland hockey and was selected for the UK Schools' Games team. Nick Farrar had a successful season in the U17 Scotland Cricket team and was also selected for the U19 squad. Scott Garvie saw success on the ski slopes and Jordan Black had success in his Laser boat, competing at the European Championships in France in the summer.

Success is also to be measured in the classroom and Ruthven once again produced some fine results at GCSE, Highers and A Levels. Having produced a Dux for the past two years, much was resting on Otto's shoulders. Learning in a 3rd/4th language is never easy yet he did extremely well

and secured a place at New York University, Abu Dhabi. Most of the UVI secured a place on their chosen course. A number of boys also earned Colours or Half Colours for their achievements in public exams.

A boarding house does not just function on its own, it takes much effort on the part of everyone in the House. To that end, I thank the UVI and my Prefect team for all their efforts and contributions throughout the year. To Callum Reid, Head of House, Keith Buchan and Ben Giles, Deputy Heads of House, a big thanks. There is at times a thankless task, yet they did well to hold everyone together.

To Kate, Julie, Brenda and Charlotte, a big thank-you as well for keeping the House and all in it neat and tidy. Looking after 60-plus boys is no easy task, so well done. Dr D and my visiting tutors play an important role in the functioning of the House - it could not be done without them - so thank you for all your time and efforts (*the Ed as well*).

Finally, a word of thanks to Ann, Gareth and Emily - thanks for being there for me - even though I may not have always been there for you. Ruthven is a way of life and at the moment I wouldn't change it for the world.

AW





SIMPSON HOUSE



As I reminisced on the past twelve months in Simpson House, I found myself with the daunting challenge of having to write about a year's worth of fun and hard work, victories and defeats (in fact they were so scarce I'll leave them out), laughter and inevitably D J Benny's truly dreadful Euro Dance/Pop/Whatever music. All of this in the space of two pages - probably a lot less once The Editor has removed the spelling mistakes and inappropriate jokes about Ru being whipped or Adel and his future in Aviation Management. (no worries, James, they're in, and I won't even mention your 'amusing' email address. Ed)



This year Simpson further advanced aim to become the 'undisputed' Best Boy's Boarding House - an aim that some would argue we had already attained. It seems apt therefore for me to start with successes in both the Swimming Standards Competition and the Swimming Gala. Led by Ruairidh Watson and our own future Olympian, 3rd Former Duncan Scott. (Good luck, Duncs).

Junior Rugby was next on the schedule and was won by our 3rd and 4th Form teams, with Jamie Ritchie at the forefront. He also picked up this year's Most Promising Junior Rugby Player Award from the Headmaster. Whilst on the topic of rugby, it would be remiss not to mention Alex Henderson, Jack Somerville and George Horne. Hendy (Alex), as well as captaining the 1st XV rugby team, was selected to play for Scotland U18 and was at the heart of a number of their victories, including a 26-21 victory over England in Leeds. Although I'd never tell him to his face, I am certain that he will appear in the National Team in the

not-too-distant future. Jack was selected for the Scotland U17 squad and George is in "some sort of top secret Elite National Development Programme (whatever that means) to improve his kicking. The junior boys also won Inter-House Basketball in style, adding yet another trophy (The Horse's Head) to the cabinet, and highlighting the diversity of skills in the house. James, Bato and Jordan won the Chess Competition.

Huw (Australian for Hugh, apparently) Green was this year's exchange student from Tasmania, and Shuggs certainly left his mark on the house, although nobody could understand why he looked so surprised all the time. He was a welcome and amusing presence among the lower 6th boys and his good natured attitude, especially in the face of one or two pranks, was admirable.

To round off the first term, the Annual House Outing to an All-You-Can-Eat Indian Buffet, followed by a trip to the cinema was organised. Mr Gardiner surpassed his previous achievements and reached 6 full plates of assorted meat (to be identified) curries, 11 poppadums, naan breads, sundries and ice cream to top it off. Harry Potter was this year's choice of film, but Emma Watson had to fight for attention as, much to everyone's delight we found ourselves sharing a private viewing with a girl's Boarding House from The School over the Hill. We ignored this minor detail and I was quick to lead the way in our attempts to build bridges between the two schools. Our U6th house outing, for a meal at the Bothy, was equally successful with Hercules showing us all just "how it is done in Hong Kong."

Simpson has always striven for (and often reached) academic excellence and there was no



*...once again sorry
about the milk -
remember, it was
all Ben...*

better way to advertise this fact this than with victory in the Academic Challenge. The winning team consisted of Bryn Rees, Ben Melville, Calumn Twaddle and me. Ultimately, it was Bryn's vast familiarity with all things culinary coupled with Calumn's previously unsuspected knowledge of the Girl Scout Movement which won the trophy. Inter-House debating was also particularly successful, three of the four teams entered making it to the final. In particular, our junior teams Nick Drummond-Hay and Duncan Scott, and Ross McDonald and Greg Meiklern ensured that Simpson's future in Inter-House Debating is secure.

The Inter-House Music Competition was next on the agenda and Simpson was looking to regain the House Choir Trophy it last won in 2008 (R. Kelly anyone?). Our own Captain of School, Ben Melville (he asked me to get it in somewhere...or was that Tayside Constabulary?) organised both the choir and the ensemble. Justin Wong ably performed the solo on the piano. The ensemble, consisting of Santi and Javi Garcia Serrano on the guitars, Josh Henderson on drums and Ben on

the piano and vocals performed Chasing Cars by Snow Patrol. The victorious choir performed The Lion Sleeps Tonight by The Tokens and regained the prize. However, the price of victory was high and came at the expense of Ben's and my dignity (see left).

Into Summer and the first competition that needed winning was Inter-House Tennis and Simpson, ably led Captain Ruairidh Watson, comfortably beat first Nicol and then Ruthven returning the trophy to the cabinet for the third time in four years. Finally in the calendar (quickly skipping any mention of cricket...silly sport) was Sports Day and, mirroring the tennis, a chance to win our third triumph in four years. Impressive performances throughout the age groups, most notably from our IV Form boys meant that going into the final race, the 4x100m relay, Simpson only needed to complete the race to win. Easy enough, what could possibly go wrong? Step up, Alex Henderson. Typical to his rugby background, he forgot to let go of the ball...sorry baton before the changeover zone finished; disqualified

Victory now depended on the performances of other Houses. For the first time in the combined memories of Mr Fleming and Mr Giles (and that is a lot of memory) the trophy was shared between two Houses; Simpson and Ruthven.

Simpson also welcomed the arrival of a new resident tutor, and piping instructor, Mr Drummond. I would like to thank him and all the House tutors this year. Linda, Anne, Michelle and Alison all played vital roles in ensuring the smooth running of the house, once again sorry about the milk - remember, it was all Ben. Mr Batterham, thank you for putting up with us, on behalf of me and the other leavers, it has been a pleasure. This year has been an amazing success for Simpson and this could not have been achieved without the hard work put in by the Deputy Heads of House, Adel and Alex, and the House Prefects - yes, even you, Bryn. Finally to next year's U6th in Simpson, good luck for next year and enjoy it.

James McAllister



... "You're not going out in that" was never well received ...

As I re-read last year's House report I noted that it began with a comment about how different that year would be as we adapted to losing twenty of our girls to the new House. Well this year was definitely going to be different as we would have to prepare ourselves and the girls for the end of an era. As we started our last year in Thornbank we knew it was going to be a good one, with Lucy and Lisa running the House and Heather running the school we had plenty of time to enjoy our new girls and all the old ones too. The year followed its now usual pattern of work and play; the new girls adapted to their new routines and soon settled in. Fee did a brilliant job of organising all the sporting events and Rosie took on House music with great professionalism - we expected no less.

It really has been difficult to find the right words to write in this piece so here are some of the things we have learned over the last ten years of Housemastering!

- >> Always have a large box of tissues in the office for post events, homesick girls, stressed parents and overtired staff.
- >> Never say "I think I'll have an early night" or "Everything seems to be going quite well".
- >> Always keep tuck shop well stocked with chocolate, especially at exam time.
- >> Treat your tutors well, even make them a cup of tea; you never know when you might need them to do an extra night duty.
- >> Get a great bunch of prefects- this will take at least five years training, so start when they are in 3rd Form.
- >> Throw lots of parties.
- >> Cook pancakes and fajitas (not at the same time.)
- >> Buy a purple fleece.
- >> Have a cute dog (sorry, Sammy).
- >> Always shout really loudly and embarrassingly at any inter-House competitions.
- >> Try not to sound like a Grandma before events. "You're not going out in that" was never well received.

>> Always defer to Matron on anything concerning laundry and room tidiness.

>> And finally the most important thing - spend as much time as you can with the girls, it is always time well spent.

Our time has been shared with a great bunch of tutors, Julia Morrison who, as our first House tutor, was responsible for keeping us on track in our first year. We could always find her on duty nights; it was usually where all the commotion was coming from. Thanks, Julia. Kate Wilkinson joined the team after Julia moved out and became a great favourite with the House and a great favourite with the tutors when she brought her amazing chocolate cake to duty. Susan Robertson became our latest House tutor bringing her football and particular culinary skills. As she moves on to Glenbrae I know the girls will benefit from her enthusiasm and sense of fun. Nigel Smith has provided a calm and reassuring presence on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Audrey Sime was always there with her support and common sense and Audrey HF was always tremendous at looking after her girls. We wish all the best third time around.

Fortunately, we had a highly experienced matron in Morag Stewart who kept us right about most things Thornbank and provided us with a great sense of security and continuity. She kept the girls and her staff running smoothly and efficiently as well as being a listening ear for the girls. She must have heard plenty of gossip over her twenty-three years. We had a catch-up most mornings and she was always keen to find out if we had had a quiet weekend or if there was anything she should know about. We wish her all the best in her hard-earned retirement.

So what are the things that we will miss about sharing our lives and our home with the girls of the Thornbank?

The Christmas party sketches, the chocolate game, karaoke, chatting in the foyer after games, tutor outings, theatre trips, ice pops in the Summer, chatting in the kitchens, cooking pancakes, inter-House competitions, skipping, pizza and Irn Bru after the Ball, tutor banter, chatting in the corridors, prefects' meetings, meeting the new girls, saying goodbye to the Upper 6th, the Halloween party, Barbecues, Saturday night carry-outs, party videos,

tuck shop banter, exam success, chatting with the prefects and even events.

A friend of ours once described being a Housemaster as a privilege and he was right. It is a real privilege to witness that tentative 3rd Former turn into an awkward 4th Former and then into a hard-working and slightly stressed 5th Former then a party-going lower 6th former and finally into a well-balanced and confident young woman ready to head out into the world.

It has been an amazing adventure, one that I am so glad that we decided to embark upon. We want to thank everyone who has been part of the journey and for everyone who was involved in our totally brilliant surprise farewell party. I know that it was pretty stressful as the whole plan was nearly scuppered by a hail storm. Like the weather on that day in June, this job is anything but predictable and we learned that we should never take anything for granted. The girls will always keep you on your toes and that's been the joy of it all.

It has truly been a job like no other because it was our lives.

We hope that Thornbank goes from strength to strength and wish all the best for Rosalind and James, the tutors, matron, Ros and the girls.

The Flemings





THE ORNIBANK





...Woodlands once again lived up to its name of creating a vibrant, friendly, sometimes crazy House...





WOODLANDS HOUSE

What defines Woodlands House?

There are many potential answers to this, one could be the unstinting encouragement the Tods instilled in us all to create a bond which delivers a sisterhood, a home, a determination to achieve and the ability to recognise each other's frailties and simply laugh.

Looking back on the last year it is safe to say that Woodlands once again lived up to its name of creating a vibrant, friendly, sometimes crazy House. How Mr and Mrs T do it beats me, they year after year without question create not just a House, but a home away from home for all of us to enjoy. This is achieved in such ways as our Saturday night take aways with XFactor and Britain's Got Talent marathons, to chilling in the office with a cup of tea and having a natter (with the odd tissue or two on hand if necessary). Calum, Fionn, and baby Zac, always bring out the big protective sisters in us all and are very much a part of the Woodlands family. Not forgetting our amazing Janet, Dora, June and Mary, along with our fantastic line-up of tutors who all add to the special place that Woodlands is. It is safe to say, Woodlands House had yet another incredibly successful year.

Woodlands' team spirit continued to impress this year. Several of our achievements include victory in senior inter-House hockey, under the guidance of First XI captains, Ciara Elwis, Philippa Orr and vice Hannah Cox. In addition to our Hockey success, Woodlands also had great accomplishment in netball, also winning the inter-House contest. Swimming also had fantastic results, with Woodlands being winners in both senior and junior divisions. Woodlands also excelled on sports day winning overall girls. Yyyyy, I'm like a proud mother!

There are so many successes to reflect on; Hope Whitelaw's ski success as being part of the Ladies team which won "British Schools". Hannah Cox and Ciara Elwis's diplomas in Musical Theatre. The Inglis sisters made Woodlands proud as Alice got accepted into Oxford University and Amelia won the Victrix Ludorum Sports Day Junior Champion. Annabel Wilson and Phoebe Arnot qualified for the Horse of the Year Show and Annabel was also selected for the Scottish team in equestrianism. Mille Galashan did work experience in the Scottish Parliament, and Sophie Arnot featured in the Scottish Youth Theatre's five week programme and its production of *Born Bad?* Abby Evans had brilliant success in being the Argyll and Bute's young sports woman of the year for her fantastic swimming efforts. Christina Stephenson and Anna Olafsson made the The Gordon Duncan Experience, Strathallan's play this year had a cast of six leading ladies, five of whom were Woodlands girls, Olivia Quick, Rosie Beech, Millie Galashan, Sophie Arnot and Hannah Cox, who captivated their audience and had everybody in fits of laughter. Out of the many outstanding results these are a few, clearly many more could follow but I would run out of ink.

Woodlands Music Night is another great memory from last year. With many outstanding performances, laughs (thanks to Lower Sixth's great performance in particular) and in the case of Lynne Howie and Morgen Thomson's solo acts, sending shivers down all our spines. It really was an unforgettable night to all that attended. House music was also a night to remember for Woodlands. With our House choir having the best of times singing to *I'm a Believer* by The Monkeys (*don't know this band, Hannah, but they sound great. Ed*). Our brilliant House ensemble of *1234* by Feist, and of course our spectacular soloist, Alice Inglis who sang *Una donna a quindici anni*. The

time we gave up for tuck-shop paid off and we all had a really fun night, which as the opening act of the night set the bar high. Woodlands quiz night was another really fun occasion for everybody. It was an excellent evening with fantastic and very imaginative fancy dress from each team, with the "power bringers" taking the prize of Best Dressed

My fondest memories of the last year took place in Woodlands foyer and snug; where everyday life, developed, evolved and showed itself in all its guises. We have laughed, lived, grown and continued to learn all within the comfort of the blue sofas, Janet's "naughty list" and of course, my personal favourite, TUCK SHOP!

When Mrs Tod sent me an email with regard to writing this piece, she said to focus on one or two events. I thought this would be easy, however as you can see, it's easier said than done with all that we conquered this last year. I know for a fact I could write a novel. This is just goes to show the talent, enthusiasm and friendship that makes Woodlands what it is.

Now that my time at Strathallan has come to an end I safely say on behalf of the Woodlands House leavers of 2010-11, that Woodlands would not be a fraction of the success it is today without the endless encouragement, support and enthusiasm of those of Woodlands House. The tutors, who have helped us countless times to complete our prep left to the last minute, and may I commend them on their efforts to finally get our mad hatter Third Formers to bed. To Janet, who we could always rely on to see we were not stepping out of line, and have the odd sing-along with the hairbrush. Dora, June and Mary, who never failed to chase us up on our uniform and bedrooms, but who were always up for a boogie down the corridor or hanging out drinking tea. Señorita, and Miss P, for all those Sundays and our conversations which would go on until the early hours. Last, but not least the Tods. Words cannot begin to describe how eternally grateful we are to you both for everything.

Hannah Grant



*... this House
will grow and
establish itself
more and more
each year ...*





GLENBRAE HOUSE



When people try to describe Glenbrae many things spring to mind. We are thought of as being a fun, exciting family that you want to be part of. In our second year of being Team GB, House spirit has reached a new level. We love our team psych-ups and no matter whether we're winning or losing the House is always there to support each other.

Our triumphs peaked when we successfully brought home the glory of winning House Music 2011. We started our performance with Stefanie singing *Hallelujah*, who went on to win the overall soloist prize. The ensemble was put together by Kirsty Glasgow and they played a beautiful version of Mika's *Happy Ending*. This happy ending continued when the whole House belted their hearts out to *Barbie Girl* and destroyed the hopes of any other House's taking home the trophy. The suggestion, however, that we won because of my and India's short skirts and not because we actually have talent is, of course, ridiculous.

Apart from House music Glenbrae have also managed to win senior tennis, basketball and squash. As well as team successes we have had a number of individual achievements; Nicki Cochrane gained her place in the U18 Scotland hockey squad, travelling to Europe and getting five caps playing against many other countries (*Would that be five? Just asking, Ed*). Laura Glasgow played U16 Scotland Hockey and Sophie Curran competed internationally in Belgium in gymnastics, her team coming overall 2nd. Charlie and Katie Guest and Lucy Garvie went to France and took part in the British Ski Championships bringing home gold for Strathhallan. They have also had many individual triumphs.

We couldn't be who we are without the brains behind our organisation. Mr and Mrs MacBain give Glenbrae an amazing atmosphere and, along with their trusty sidekick Nell, keep everyone smiling and working hard. We also have a great team of tutors with the addition of Dr Blackie this year. We will be sad to see Mrs Duncan move out of the flat as weekends with the Duncanator are always eventful. We also regretfully said goodbye to Mrs Howett who took her warmth, good humour (and we think the last of the Fizzy Cola Bottles) over to Freeland.

My last year at Strath would not have been as special if it had not been for Glenbrae, or possibly the en suite bathroom, lift and numerous cakes that have been made in the MacBains' kitchen. I am confident that this House will grow and establish itself more and more each year as it has done throughout the past two. Thanks go to the Upper 6th this year who have done an amazing job and a special mention goes to my deputies Jocelynn and Rachael. Good luck to the Lower 6th and Head of House next year, Nicki Cochrane, my words of advice would be, don't take House Music too seriously, keep the MacBains happy and keep filling the trophy cabinet!

Sally Lungmuss



The Chaplain

The school's Valedictory Service, always a significant and poignant occasion, became personally so for me this year, leaving after seven years at Strathallan to return to parish ministry, as Rector of Highland Perthshire.



In perhaps rather different circumstances, the blessed Dumbledore is reported to have said: "You will find that I will only truly have left the school when

none here are loyal to me." And it is true that all of us, both staff and pupils, leave behind us a legacy which is the sum of all that we have been. We take with us also the gift of unnumbered moments, meetings, conversations, experiences, insights and memories. For these I am profoundly grateful.

The role of Chaplain lies somewhere between that of Father Confessor and Court Fool; the success of an incumbency owes much to those who have engaged the one, and forgiven the other.

We all have had cause to be grateful to those who have shared in the ministry of Chapel this year, particularly Mr Fitzsimmons. One especially memorable event late in the year was the farewell to Mrs Moira Thomson who not only maintained the sparkling cleanliness of chapel for many years, but took a proprietorial interest in all that went on there; providing, for example, a robin to nest in the Advent wreath at its annual return.

The address given at Valedictory has remained, in intention at least, for the last few years substantively the same; it seems appropriate to end with a transcript; and an assurance of my continuing prayers for you all.

"Many of you leaving today, I have known for the last seven years. And I remember how, as I was wittering on about my own youth, as clergymen will, some of you would gently wind me up by asking what I got up to when I was a student.

Did you have hair sir?

-Yes, it was a shoulder-length ginger afro.

Sir, did you ever go clubbing when you were a student?

Sir, did you ever smoke camel dung?

And I always said to you, because it saved time, and got me out of awkward corners; I did everything.

And whatever that everything constituted, I'm certainly not going to say to you *don't do it*. Don't

make the same mistakes; be creative - make your own!

And why should you listen to me anyway?

Some of us can only learn by going through bad experiences. Maybe I was one of them. You see, as the Buddhists say, *actions have consequences*. And if you insist on spending your first year at university high as a kite and drunk as a skunk, then you will do what I tried to do, and fail your first year. You may want to get off with every beautiful body in sight. And even from the purely physical perspective, it's not who you sleep with, it's who you wake up with that's important.

Sometimes it helps to remember that we're not just bodies, we're spiritual beings; and somehow the two can get separated if you just concentrate on the one of them. From the spiritual perspective, it's *who you dream with* that matters.

There will be lots of people anxious to have your spirit; to save your soul or to kidnap it. And how do you know which ones are right?

Well, you learned that lesson in the Third Form, as we studied the words of the great prophet of our times, Homer Simpson:

"What if we've chosen the wrong religion and every Sunday we're just making God madder and madder...?"

Well, *By their fruits shall ye know them. The fruit of the spirit is Love, Joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness...* you'll know those who's got it when you see it.

And which ones to avoid?

Well, they're pretty much the same in every religion. Those who are given to absolute dogmatic certitude; those who are technically known, in all Christian charity, as *Complete Raving Loonies*.

There are those in every religion who want to make so sure they've got a seat in heaven that they limit the number of tickets sold. They want to make sure they're a saved sheep by being able to point at you and say *there goes a damned goat*.

Such things come from insecurity.

And insecurity is not a sign of the presence of God.

The opposite danger, of course, is of being so open-minded that your brains fall out.

Hold to what you know to be good, and set off exploring; exploring the spiritual you.

Try going to a Church, or a Synagogue, or a Mosque, or Temple, or even the Sacred Conventicle of the Unspeakably Smug and Unbearably Righteous. Brackets Apostolic.

There are lots of reasons for not going to Church.

But consider for a moment some of those reasons, and apply them to another human activity, such as *Washing*.

- 1 I was forced to wash as a child.
- 2 People who make soap are only after your money.
- 3 I just wash on special occasions like Christmas and Easter.
- 4 People who wash are hypocrites - they think they're cleaner than everyone else.
- 5 There are so many different kinds of soap, I don't know which one to choose.
- 6 I used to wash, but it got boring so I stopped.
- 7 None of my friends wash.
- 8 I can't spare the time to wash.
- 9 I tried going to the bathroom, but no-one talked to me, so I've stopped washing.
- 10 I tried going to the bathroom, but everyone talked to me, so I've stopped washing.
- 11 I went to the bathroom once, but I didn't like the music.
- 12 I washed a couple of times, but it didn't make me feel any different.
- 13 I go for a walk in the rain; it's just as good.
- 14 I'll start washing when I get older and dirtier.

Don't give up on exploring; searching for the truth. However you decide to do it.

Searching for truth demands toughness; recognizing it calls for vulnerability.

The Truth doesn't shout or bully or manipulate us. We have free will to choose, and then we live with the consequences.

But because God doesn't shout, it helps to be able to pick out the still small voice from the hundreds of others demanding our attention. We recognize a friend's voice because we've heard their voice many times.

And friends will be important. Not least because there will always be some friend to tell you that however bad you thought you were... *they always knew you were worse*.

And the chances are that that friend will be an old one, a good one, someone who shared with you your time here. Who shared with you this part of your exploring, which is now come to an end. So, in the words of T.S.Eliot:

...the end of all our exploring

Will be to arrive where we started

And know the place for the first time.

And in all our exploring, we are never left alone; that is why we heard the gospel we did today; for it is *true*. Jesus, leaving his friends for the last time, says to them: *remember, I am with you always*.

That too, I pray you may have learnt here, and may take with you today, as we leave Strathallan School!"

RAMTQ

Senior Music

Even before the dust settled at the end of the academic year our thoughts had turned to the Autumn term and the major musical events that dominate it. Almost from the day the pupils returned to school, we had booked eight significant performances before the Christmas vacation, four of which occurred in the first five weeks!

Building on their success of the previous year, and on their work as part of the Gordon Duncan Experience over the Summer, some of the senior members of Folk group were invited to provide music for the Independent Schools Career Organisation Scottish Conference at the Westerwood Hotel near Cumbernauld. Anna Olafsson, Christina Stephenson, Kirsty Glasgow and Clare Sterritt demonstrated their performing flair and charisma to a genuinely appreciative audience in a half-hour set that unquestionably left the conference members wanting more.

The first internal concert of the year was the Music Scholars' recital. As well as providing entertainment, this is an opportunity for us to hear the progress of the Scholars and to be a measure for their future development. With the breadth of works on offer deftly executed by our scholars, I need not have worried.

One of the highlights of the year for the Chamber Choir occurs in the autumn term. However, by rights it shouldn't be an expected highlight. The weekend tour to Royal Deeside to perform for HM The Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and other members of the Royal Family is, unsurprisingly, an invitational event that has strangely become a Chamber Choir tradition, not least because of the quality of the choir's performances. Again, they did not disappoint. Our immense thanks go to our wonderful hosts, Rev and Mrs McKenzie for their tremendous hospitality.

As well as being used for our own internal concerts, the Music Room is popular for a range of different events. And so it was that, just before half-term, the charity *Music in Hospitals* held a fund-raising concert there. As part of the evening's entertainment the Chamber Choir had been invited to perform Bob Chilcott's arrangement of *Ev'ry time I feel the spirit* alongside a professional trio, *Trio Burnsteeg*. A packed audience were effusive in their praise of the young singers, and one member of the hosting Prefect body was even overheard saying that they had 'even thought of joining Chamber Choir' after that performance!

Of course, one of the biggest musical events of the year normally takes place swiftly after



half-term, and this year the Musical Showcase in Perth Concert Hall fell on Remembrance Sunday. As a consequence, the general theme chosen for the concert was one of remembrance. Without wishing to steal the thunder of the review that appears later in the *Strathallian*, I have to say that I was immensely grateful and proud of all of the musicians for their performances that night.

Many of the pupils in the various Choirs will often comment (far too early in the term for my liking) that Christmas is their favourite musical time. And with this winter's extraordinary snowfall you can imagine how enthusiastically the combined Choirs tackled the learning of carols for our three carol services, *Carols in the City*, and our own two senior Carol Services. These services are a mixture of traditional and contemporary readings, poetry and carols, and help to send the community off into the Festive season. This year was no exception, with Carols including *Of the Father's heart begotten*, John Rutter's *What sweeter music shall we bring* and *Nativity Carol*, Adolphe Adam's *O Holy night*, as well as *O come all ye faithful* in Latin.

However, in addition to these more traditional offerings, the Chamber Choir had the exciting honour of being invited to perform at the wedding of Strathallian Christina Broaden and William Larkin in St Mary's Episcopal Church, Broughty Ferry. With the snows that had fallen in the weeks preceding, it was a truly magical winter wedding; we wish them both every happiness for their future together.

For the Choral Scholars, their Christmas Festivities continued with the Christmas stay-ons. As well

as performing a carol service, for Midnight Mass and Christmas Day, and enjoying the various dining treats on offer, this year the Scholars were delighted to be invited to Carol-Sing on the wards of Perth Royal Infirmary. They found it profoundly moving to bring smiles and laughter to the patients who would be spending Christmas in the hospital, and hope to repeat this in 2011.

With the New Year came new events alongside some of our more traditional offerings for the Spring Term. Early on, the Choral Scholars were invited to sing Choral Evensong in Kinross Parish Church. However, the most radical change for the school came in the form of the biggest musical event in the school's calendar, the House Music Competition. For many, this musical 'battle' is the best musical event of the year. By being held on the evening before half-term, with professional lighting and sound amplification adding to the drama of the event, this was no exception. Historically, adjudications for the spoils have often provoked fierce debate amongst pupils, House staff and parents alike. This year proved no different, and congratulations should duly go to Glenbrae House on their inaugural victory as overall winner.

Although the second half of the term is normally given over to rehearsals for the Senior Production, there was just time to sneak in two other events. For the Choral Scholars, there was an opportunity to take part in a Diocesan Choral Day, where choir members from across Perthshire were invited to join the Scholars and members of St Ninian's Cathedral Choir to sing Evensong. With repertoire including Wood's *Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis in E♭, No. 2*, Howells's *Like as the hart* and Wombles's



own *Preces & Responses* the day proved to be a tremendous success.

In addition to this, Sixth Formers Marcus Adams, Ciara Elwis, and Hannah Johnstone were invited to take part in a charity concert for *Hope and Homes for Children* at Hopetoun House, organised by Strathallan singing teacher Ms Heather Boyd. The programme featured several professional musicians alongside our pupils, and all were reunited with former Strathallan Director of Music, Neil Metcalfe, who was the accompanist for the evening. A grateful audience of over two hundred thoroughly enjoyed the musicians' performance, with over £5000 being raised for the charity.

The final performances of term were reserved for this year's superb Senior Production, Walt Disney's *Beauty & the Beast*. With a wonderful leading cast supported by a band comprising pupils and professionals, the show provoked some high praise, with several audience members declaring that they had 'forgotten it was a School show' and that they thought the 'band was a recording'!

The Easter holidays provide welcome rest (and time for revision); however, they felt tremendously short. This was because, extraordinarily, the beginning of the Summer term fell in the middle of Holy Week. The Choral Scholars' first service, the Maundy Thursday vigil, occurred on the first night back. On Good Friday, not only did the Scholars perform a service of meditation in the morning, but the combined Chapel & Chamber Choirs marked the occasion with a performance of Fauré's *Requiem* in Strathallan Chapel in the evening. The festival culminated on Easter Sunday, with the Scholars performing Stanford's great Easter Anthem *Ye Choirs of new Jerusalem* in St Ninian's Cathedral.

All pupils' attention is rapidly focussed on exams in the Summer term, and for the A-level music students, this means their examined Public Recital. For the A2 candidates, Marcus Adams and Ciara Elwis, they had to give a 12-15 minute balanced recital, whilst the AS candidates, in

this case Andrew Blair, Hannah Johnstone, Ellie Kemp and Steven Segaud, had to perform a programme lasting 5-6 minutes. With works including Guilman's *Morceau Symphonique* for Trombone, Max Bruch's *Romance* for solo Viola, and Mouquet's *Pan et les Bergers* for Flute the standard was phenomenally high from all candidates, and the audience were genuinely treated to a concert of outstanding quality. Needless to say, all the candidates were ultimately awarded A*s for their performances.

Equally, because of all the hard work that examination candidates put in to producing their composition portfolio, the Composers' Concert showcases a small fraction of the work that is done across the school. Both Ciara Elwis's A2 submission, *The Music Box* for flute and piano and Murdo Elwis's GCSE submission, *String Quartet*, wowed the assembled audience, as did Andrew Blair's AS submission *Midnight Adventure* and Ryan Hornby's dance-inspired arrangement of Mozart's great *Symphony No. 40 in G minor*

The year always ends with the Headmaster's Music in the Chapel. This year, the concert was organised and compered by Sixth Formers Hannah Johnstone and Steven Segaud, in order to raise money for two designated charities, Macmillan Cancer Support and the British Heart Foundation. Alongside works that had been performed earlier in the term to a more select audience, freshly-heard works included the Choral Scholars' rendition of Elgar's *The spirit of the Lord*, Chamber Choir's performance of Eric Whitacre's *Sleep*, Mhairi Bannerman and Eilidh Gibson's performance of the Andante from Mendelssohn's *Konzertstück No. 1* in F minor and String Ensemble's performance of the Finale from Holst's *St Paul's Suite*. And in maintaining the theme of the term, although the concert, characteristically, officially ended with Big Band and Hannah Johnstone's fantastic performance of *Have you met Miss Jones*, in a break with tradition the closing honours fell to Riley Choir with their mash-up of *All you need is Love Actually* for the encore.

Our successes have not just been measured by our concert performances. In the Perth Festival of the Arts our pupils came away with a record haul of class-winning certificates and trophies. Particular congratulations go to Ciara Elwis, Kirsty Glasgow, Andrew Burns, Oscar Mansfield and Fergus Brown for their successes with silverware. In instrumental and music theatre examinations, our pupils achieved a 100% pass rate, with 74% achieving a merit or distinction. Particular congratulations go to Marcus Adams, Hannah Cox and Ciara Elwis for obtaining their DiplCM diplomas in Music Theatre. At a national level, Steven Segaud was appointed as co-principal Viola with the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland, Ellie Kemp was invited to sing with the National Youth Choir of Scotland Chamber Choir, and both Ellie and Hannah Johnstone were successful in becoming members of the National Youth Choir of Great Britain.

Of course, none of the pupils' successes would happen without the support of their instrumental tutors and parents. Thanks must go to Neil Hamilton, Carole Sim-Sayce and Cameron Drummond, along with all of the instrumental tutors, for their hard work in preparing the pupils for their numerous performances throughout the year. And to **all** of the pupils who have contributed to the musical life of the school over the past 12 months, our most heartfelt thanks go to you for your efforts. On behalf of the department, I would like to thank our Upper VI leavers, particularly Marcus Adams, Rosie Beetschen, Josiah Bircham, Hannah Cox, Ciara Elwis, Tom Esparon, Benedikt Fundulus, Hannah Grant, Sophie Howell, Freddie Hunter, Alice Inglis, Fiona Johnston, Jonathan Keddie, Anna Olafsson and Christina Stephenson, for their contributions over their entire time at Strathallan. We wish them all the best for the future, and look forward to the remaining musicians assuming their mantle in 2011-12.

RCAW

Riley Music



Something wonderful happened in Riley this year - the pupils were compelled to make and perform music of their own choice. Only at the end of session did it seem clear that this was the phenomenon that clearly defined the year. It started with a Riley Informal Concert, more often a starting place than an end point and traditionally the occasion when Riley pupils offer up an audience-ready piece (often prompted by their instrumental teachers). The choir had been used to lobbying for their song choices and this time produced *Defying Gravity*, the song from the musical *Wicked* and a real barn-stormer of optimism and embracing the future. This proved somewhat telling as in the same concert 1J had worked up their version of *Ice Baby* - happened-upon through a chance remark in Mr MacLean's History class. Their own little piece of history involved seeing an original vinyl 45 single and also having the sense of soothsaying as the winter chilled everything to sub zero ice for several weeks thereafter.

Also emerging in the Informal Concerts were solo acts and groups who were rehearsing in their own time after lessons. What a lovely memory to recall Carrie Mack of 1J, so new to the school, standing up to perform Taylor Swift's *Love Story*. Her voice was fittingly sweet and vulnerable and the audience sat in delight as a huge swathe of girls' voices buoyed her through the song. Not at all vulnerable on stage but full of swagger and the promise of rock careers was the 1st Form band, *Long Gone*. By their second appearance they had the t-shirts (literally) to match their ambitions.

They always have the next gig and song in their sights. Led by the colourful and highly likeable, Jonny Carsewell, the boys have a captivated fan club in Riley and still have another year of Informal Concerts to develop their instrumental skills & repertoire. Cammy Griffiths, already a talented guitarist, and learner drummer Thomas Holloway are certainly ones to watch.

As the year wore on it was a case of Here Come the Girls with two 2nd Form girl groups emerging from the practice rooms. Each group accompanied themselves on instruments and each made inroads into harmony singing. Popular repertoire by Adele and Taylor Swift pleased the crowd at the Spring Informal but there was no denying the sincerity of these groups performances - Charlotte, Nicole & Nina and Delphine, Fabienne & Freya. Putting herself out there with similar soul-searching singing was Isla Patterson. I have rarely seen a young singer enter into a song so emotionally; Isla seemed to stay in the trance-like mood she had created for several seconds after the end of her performance.

These Informal Concert performances seemed quite emotionally raw sitting alongside the polished ones of the capable instrumentalists in House. They reflect, however, a great surge in music-making in-House and the number of musical alliances and cross-pollination of skills and talents taking place. Mention must be made of those highly committed performers who always have a piece ready and are keen to perform and share their joy of making music: Lauren Dundee (flute), Orpheas Manos and John Dew (pipes), Rosalind Coutts (piano), Ruaridh Clark

(piano), Phoebe Clements (voice), Freya Ireland (violin), Robbie Brown (horn), Gregor Ritchie (violin), Sam Steele (voice), Christopher Blair (piano & trumpet), Delphine Mahos (piano), Isla Gordon (clarinet).

Formal performances are of course a great focal point and Riley's input into the summer Headmaster's Music proved challenging, fitting in rehearsals around matches and all that summer offers. Once more the choir item was inspired by a pupil. Ruaridh Clark of 1J had played the piano theme from *Love Actually* to his class and that led us to recreate the scene from that film where a choir bursts into song, *All You Need Is Love*, and instrumentalists pop up in the audience. Happily the concert was indeed in a chapel so there was a certain feeling of destiny calling! My most cherished memory of the year came in the same concert with Riley Orchestra's thrilling performance of *Pirates of the Caribbean*. Memories of rehearsing pupils in ski clothes in the winter and demanding sonic sabres from the large percussion section still make me smile. Above all, it was the commitment of the children and the joy in playing together that marked this as a great achievement and step forward in the musical life of the house.

Giving the children their heads also yielded rather fantastic results in the annual half term prep project competition. Always set on anniversary composers, this year's prep focussed on Mahler and Liszt. The competition produced over one hundred unique posters. There was a 3D wooden sculpture of Liszt (Angus Gibson); an aged, candle wax stained book (Linsey Macdonald) and immaculate collages and masterclasses in paper folding (Christopher Blair, Caitlin Donald). Above all, there was the wittiest and pithiest content: pictures of Liszt and Snape side by side - uncanny (Lisa Garrett); the Battle of the Toons as Bugs Bunny and Tom & Jerry both perform Liszt's Hungarian Dance (Ruaridh Clark) and perhaps the most succinct summary of Mahler's life from Isla Gordon: Mahler - successful but miserable (Mahler biographers, eat your heart out). Colleagues begged me to give these marvellous works a more public airing and thus they appeared in the theatre corridor at the end of year show. Gold star work and best in year were: Matthew Hyde (overall winner) and Carey Wright (2nd form), Angus Lapslie and Christopher Blair (1st form), Ruaridh Clark, Morgan Irving and Caitlin Donald (1J).

Perhaps the most fitting tribute to a year marked by pupils' ownership was the *Rocky Monster Show* - a panoply of surprising, delightful and utterly engaging performances from the whole of Riley House. It has been an exhilarating time to be a music teacher and, looking at the year groups coming up, I think there is even more ahead.

CASS

Lectures

Jim Gellatly

On the 7th of February Jim Gellatly graced us with his pink mohawk to give the Strathallian Club Sponsored Lecture to 6th Form. We were treated to an insightful talk about his life and times as a Radio DJ promoting up-and-coming bands within Britain. For over twenty-five years Jim has been introducing new bands and as a result of his efforts he received the John Peel Award, for new bands such as Snow Patrol and Biffy Clyro. (*Because Peel would have loved Snow Patrol, Callum, Ed*)

After the lecture a group of 6th Form joined Jim for a meal to discuss their views on the music industry and also get to know more about events that have occurred throughout his career. It was a relaxed occasion that we all enjoyed and as a bonus Jim offered his expertise in helping out the next generation of rock-stars coming out of Strath.

Callum Reid

Jim Telfer

Scotland and British Lions coach Jim Telfer visited the school on the first Tuesday of term and put the 1st XV through a hard training session before holding a Q&A session with the VI Form where he told us about not only his rugby philosophy but his sporting one. There were two types of player, honest players and dishonest players. Players who could be self critical and were honest could look at themselves in the mirror and develop. He only wanted to work with honest players. However you could replace "player" with "people".

He also regaled us with stories of his time with the Lions and whether there was a place for the Lions in modern professional rugby. He also gave his views of the professional system in Scotland and how it should develop.

This truly inspirational coach and player then joined us for supper where he chatted informally with some of the VI Form, telling stories and answering more questions.

Richard Holloway

Richard Holloway chose to talk to the VI Form about different aspects of religion in "Four Notches on a log: The religious situation of our time"

In his lecture he discussed the four groups which he considered individuals could be classified into: extreme evangelists, moderate evangelists, moderate unbelievers and extreme unbelievers. He told of his own journey through many of these groups and where he stood today.

Dr Holloway was thought provoking and interesting and spoke from both personal experience and extensive knowledge. It was a real privilege to listen to this animated and excellent speaker.

PMV

Carol Ann Duffy

On the 4th of October the Poet Laureate, Carol Ann Duffy, came to Strathallan to do workshops and talks about her poems and we 5th Form had a workshop with her which was fascinating. First Carol Ann read some of her poems from 'Rapture', a collection of modern love sonnets one of which, Hour, we had been studying in class. She also gave some readings from her book *The World's Wife* with witty accounts of the lives of Mrs Midas and Mrs Aesop. She explained the thoughts and ideas behind these poems - how the story of Rapunzel had inspired parts of Hour and how another poem in Rapture had echoed a cowboy film, only with phones instead of guns. We also asked Carol Ann some questions about her poems; how long she took to write them, whether her style of writing had changed over the years, whether becoming Poet Laureate had changed her poetry in any way. In answer to this last question she read us two poems on topical issues which she had felt that, as Poet Laureate, she should write. The first was about the abolition of counties in addresses, using references to counties in literature, and the second was about the destruction of ancient trees known as English Elms, where she showed us how she had used words that echoed the sound of 'elm' to keep drawing the listener's attention back to that topic. The workshop was absorbing, for having studied poems and even tried writing them in English it was intriguing to hear from a real master of the art.

Frances Myatt V Form Thornbank



Speech & Drama

The annual Perth Burns Club Schools Festival in November had two of our pupils carrying off a brace of trophies each. Rosie Beech won the secondary age group singing class, with Ye Banks and Braes and the under-15 verse speaking class, with To a Haggis. Otto Kakhidze showed that you do not have to be a Scot to perform poems by our National Bard. He recited Willie Wastle in the over-15 verse speaking class. Not only did he win that, but he also gained The President's Trophy for the best overall performance of a work by Burns in the Festival.

As a result of the success in that competition, Otto and Christina Stephenson, who was runner-up in the senior recitation class, were invited to take part in the World Burns Federation Schools Festival in Lockerbie, in April. Here, Otto achieved Highly Commended and Christina came third in the Senior class. Otto also entertained the adjudicator and audience with his translation of Willie Wastle into Georgian.

The Edinburgh and Perth Competition Festivals brought the usual batch of successes for Strathallan pupils. They competed in classes testing a wide range of speech and drama activities: Burns recitation, the poems of Perth poet, William Soutar, Bible reading, solo acting, performing speeches by Shakespeare, prepared reading, public speaking, reciting poems in Scots and English and choral speaking.

In choral speaking, Form 1J won their class in Perform in Perth with a well-deserved Honours (90 and over) mark. Over the two festivals, Lauren Dundee won three classes, including two with Honours. Katharine Griffiths and Isla Patterson also achieved double Honours with Katharine gaining the Bible-reading trophy in Perth. The Perth Burns trophy went to Rosie Beech, along with an Honours and four other firsts. The William Soutar Tassie was won by Lucy Orr, with another first. Christina Stephenson won three classes. Honours marks were achieved by Sophie Arnot and Josiah Bircham. In the over-18 category, Jonathan Keddle won two classes and Otto Kakhidze one, with a recitation from Chaucer.

Other winners were Lucy Crabb, Sophie Curran, Ian Macey and Caitlin Donald.

The five days of LAMDA exams - two in October, three in May - once again produced very good results. Sophie Arnot achieved an extremely



high Distinction mark for Bronze Acting.

Other fine performances in medal exams (ie, Grades 6 (Bronze), 7 (Silver) and 8 (Gold)) were delivered by Jonathan Keddle and Alice Inglis (Acting, Gold), Millie Galashan (Acting, Bronze), Benedikt Fundulus (Public Speaking, Silver), Christina Stephenson (The Speaking of Verse and Prose, Silver), and Frances Myatt (Reading for Performance, Bronze). (We are indebted to Strathallian actor, Ishbel McFarlane, for her help in preparing the medal candidates.)

Many candidates achieved Distinction in grade exams (ie, Entry level up to Grade 5). Notable amongst these in Spoken English exams were Chris Thomson, Becky Vallot, Antony Gloag, Caitlin Donald, and Lauren Dundee. In Reading for Performance, Distinctions went to Gaydelia Talipova, Lucy Crabb, Imogen Robertson-Barnett, Alex McLeod and Nick Drummond-Hay. In Acting exams, Caitlin Donald, Sophie-Anne Ross, Katherine Jones, Izzy Spence, Lucy Crabb and Becky Ward. In the Speaking of Verse and Prose, Isla Patterson and Lauren Dundee. Group Devising exams resulted in Distinctions for every member of Form 1J.

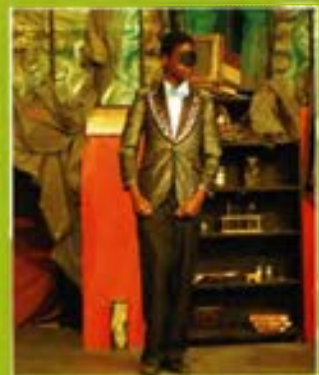
The highest marks for the year in LAMDA went to Rosie Beech, in two Grade 5 exams - Acting and the Speaking of Verse and Prose.

Well done to all!

IIMcF



*...inside
the theatre
something
spooky was
stirring...*





the Rocky Monster Show

a Riley House production

Though the sun was shining outside Strathallan as the summer term drew to a close, inside the theatre something spooky was stirring. Doom reigned in the village of Arkham (announced by Stuart Cantlay) as Riley brought The Rocky Monster Show to life in a truly spectacular revival of all things gothic.

Under Mr MacLean and Mrs Sim Sayce's direction, the terrifying tale of a mad scientist and his creations sparked into life. Dan Stoker, played by Pauric O'Carroll Batterham and Freya Ireland's Rebecca Shelley find themselves summoned to help the delusional Professor Rocky Fenton, played with electrifying presence by IK. For the castle is not only home to the professor's beautiful daughter Gloria, played by Delphine Mahos; the butler, played by Angus Lapslie at his ghoulish best presides over a house where two monstrous

creatures, Mungo and his companion, Elsa stalk the corridors. Yet Kieran Grieve and Lisa Garrett's deliciously lumbering green creations paled into scary insignificance next to the icily spooky housekeeper Mrs Danvers; Caitlin Donald's spine-chilling performance arresting the audience as they are taken on a journey through all things rock and roll. Spectacular accents meant that all the characters, especially John Dew's Old Ted and Lauren Dundee's Ada Doom added to the success of the show. Nearly one hundred Riley pupils were on stage for the ensemble numbers and a wonderful time was had by all in this extravaganza which finally answered one of the most important questions of all time: is Elvis still alive? Uh huh huh - under Sam Steele's lip-curling, toe-tapping rendition, and as long as the generator stays powered up, he sure is!

CGH



In 1985, Neil Simon revised *The Odd Couple* for a female cast. It was titled *The Female Odd Couple* and was based on the same story line and same lead characters...



It isn't everyone who would immediately look at Neil Simon's 1965 Broadway hit *The Odd Couple* and think 'this is a sure thing for a really good school production'. But producer, director and general factotum Irene McFarlane isn't, as we all know, everyone. No, sir. Or should that be, No, ma'am?

You've been to see drama at Strathallan? Have you? Well, in that case you know that there are precious few boundaries, and not a single one of them got a shred of respect in this splendid production of the women's version of the gloriously successful original. These young people stamped themselves indelibly and, in some cases, quite wonderfully on the piece.

Simon's play uses the notion of the Chorus rather well, and our commentators, the Trivial Pursuit gals, Becky Vallot, Rosie Beech, Olivia Quick and Hannah Cox do an excellent job of setting the scene and giving us a first insight into the intrigue that is about to unfold. They will reappear, helpfully, to egg us on to the unstoppable conclusion and, of course, to introduce the main characters.

This is the point at which my task becomes genuinely difficult. This is a school production, for all love, and yet I would challenge any serious playgoer to distinguish, in acting terms, between this and a piece at, let's say, The Donmar Warehouse or any West End venue. *Introibo* the main players:

Millie Galashan needed no accent-coaching to persuade an all-too-willing audience that Philadelphia and New York were not too far apart (they aren't). Her languid, finely-observed portrayal of the slobby, proto-slacker Olive, able to infuriate her housemate without even lifting a finger, was a genuine delight.

Mr Kennedy's accent-coaching skills (*Cardiff is the only one he really does, you know. Ed*) were hardly put to the test at all by the excellent comedy duo of Johnny Keddie and Jamie Dinsmore as the priapic Costazuela brothers, Don Juan and Don Jaime with chocolates, flowers and a slick line in chat, "What is the opposite of gay?"

The Odd Couple

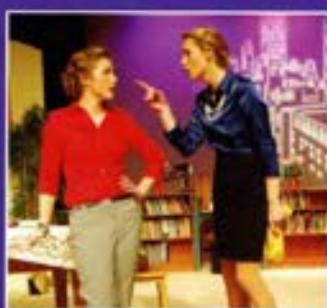
...a towering performance...

And now I'm coming to the crux; Sophie Arnot quite simply was a cranky, self-obsessed, on-the-verge-of-breakdown New York, apartment-sharing hostess who ran the gamut of emotions from hesitant expectancy to black despair and provided the central tension which drives the plot. This was a towering performance from a young woman who revealed an uncanny ability to inhabit the psyche of another. This performance alone would have been worth coming to see, but put it into the context of Mrs McFarlane's proteges it became the something wonderful that I referred to at the start of this critique.

The exchanges were lightning, Neil Simon's repartee was done more than merely justice by all the players, and an inventive set was magnificently brought to life by a production that, quite rightly, paid respect to nothing but good quality drama. A delight.

EKG







Beauty and the Beast

*"This was the
best day of
my life....."*

These words were overheard from a six year old pupil from Abernethy Primary School, on the way out after attending the matinee performance of "Beauty and the Beast". It certainly caught the imagination of the young audience. When the Beast disposed of the dastardly Gaston by pushing him off the balcony and Gaston screamed realistically, another small audience member leaned over to her teacher and whispered urgently, "Is he still alive?" When Beauty appeared for the final scene in the lemon-coloured ball dress, familiar from so many viewings of the Disney DVD, there was an audible "Oooooo..." throughout the auditorium.

But it was not just the very young matinee audience who fell in love with "Beauty and the Beast", it was hailed by fans of all ages as a great success. Largely a show of songs, with less dialogue than some of the School's recent choices, it was extremely challenging for the production team, band and cast, alike, but the challenge was met and the end product was a credit to all concerned.

The talented production team included new brooms and old. Mary Robertson-Barnett, assisted by Catherine Howett and John MacLean, directed it, with Neil Hamilton and Richard Walmsley in charge of the singing

and the band. Jim Salisbury, Molly Barnes and Adeeb Nassan supervised the set-building and stage crew. Strathallians, Ollie Beetschen and Andrew Glover proved their continued commitment to the School by operating light and sound systems. Kate Streatfeild-James had the massive task of co-ordinating costumes and make-up for the huge cast, assisted by Sophie Arnot and the team. Gerry Kennedy worked on the genuinely remarkable range of accents required for this Disney musical. AND HE DISNAE COME CHEAP. BOOMIBOOM!

The multi-level setting took us into the great Hall of the Beast's Castle, and Beauty's village. Here the story flowed from one scene to another carrying along this "tale as old as time" of the transformative effect of love and how it should be based on compatibility and not on physical appearance. Belle is the Beauty who brings about this transformation, and she was excellently portrayed by the rich vocal tone of Hannah Johnstone. Alasdair Wood provided a poignantly memorable performance as the selfish, spoiled Prince who is trapped in the form of the Beast, until redeemed by Beauty's love.

Marcus Adams was an ideal choice to play Gaston. He carried himself in such a way that he actually looked like the Disney portrayal of the conceited, manipulative suitor of Belle. The same could be said of Jack Collins, in the role of Maurice, Belle's father. Jonathan Keddie made



Jonathan Keddie made a splendid Le Fou, in the way he could bend, move and speak



a splendid Le Fou, in the way he could bend, move and speak, with impressive flexibility.

When an old beggar woman (played by Alice Inglis) comes to the Prince's castle, and offers him a single rose in return for accommodation, he turns her away, in disgust. Despite her having warned him not to be deceived by appearances, and that beauty lies within, he turns her away again. She then transforms herself into a beautiful enchantress, her ugliness having melted away. The Prince attempts to apologise but it is a hollow effort, because he has no love in his heart. The enchantress places a powerful spell on the castle, in which the Prince is transformed, and leaves him with the rose. If he cannot learn to love another and earn her love in return, before the last petal falls, the spell will never be broken.

Unfortunately for the castle staff, they come under the spell as well and are also transformed. The excellent costumes, representing the domestic items into which the staff were

transformed were worn with confidence, as if they were normal garments. This was matched by excellent performances, both in acting and singing. Ellie Kemp (Mrs Potts) and Amelia Inglis (Chip), the teapot and cup, Flora Hay (Babette, the duster); Hannah Cox (Madame de la Grande Bouche, the wardrobe), Ryan Hornby (Lumière, the candle). There was a particularly fine performance from James McAllister, as Cogsworth, the clock. He revealed a natural, impressive talent for comic acting.

There were fine performances also from Jan Toepfer and from the "Silly Girls", Hannah Stewart, Andrina Dew and Gaydelia Talipova. The principals were supported by an excellent ensemble cast.

Love won through at the end; the Beast became a Prince again, and the audience filed out of the theatre having had a thoroughly enjoyable time.

IIMcF



Art



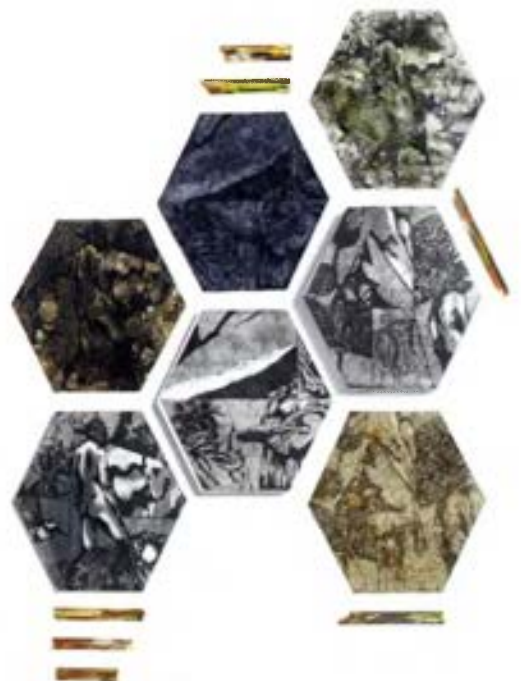
Rosie Gibson

UVI
A2



India Gill

UVI
A2



Rosie Gibson

UVI
A2



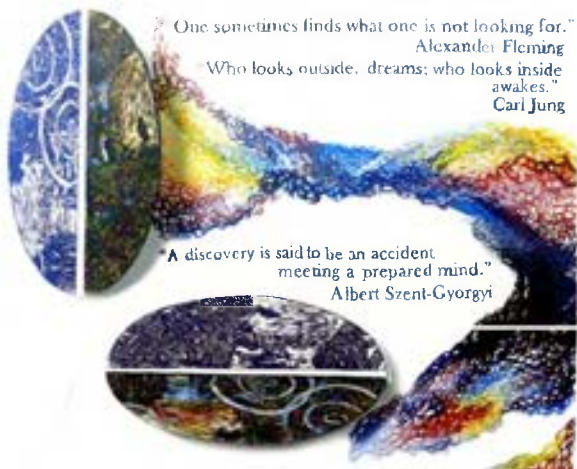
Nick Walker

UVI
A2



Anna Olafsson

UVI
A2



“One sometimes finds what one is not looking for.”
Alexander Fleming
“Who looks outside, dreams; who looks inside awakes.”
Carl Jung

“A discovery is said to be an accident meeting a prepared mind.”
Albert Szent-Gyorgyi



Hannah Stewart

UVI
A2

Freddie Hunter

UVI
A2

Anna Olafsson

UVI
A2





Olivia Quick

UVI
A2



Lucy Murdoch

UVI
A2



Nadia Shakor

UVI
A2



Anna McNeill

UVI
AS

Strathallan 2011 Art Graduates



Robert McMorrine



Robert McMorrine



Olivia Streetfold James



Mariam Kudehinbu

V
GCSE



Murdo Elwis

V
GCSE



Christina Stephenson

UVI
AZ



Olwyn Jenkins

V
GCSE

Strathallian 2011 Art Graduates



Olivia Streatfield-James



Cara Duncan



Andrina Dew

V
GCSE



Hannah Grant

LVI
A2



Polina Konkina

V
GCSE



Charlotte Guest

LVI
AS



Sophie Burdet

V
GCSE



Lucy Coleman

V
GCSE

Design & Technology



Emily MacLachlan

LVI

AS Product Design



Mhairi Bannerman

LVI
AS Product Design



Emma He

LVI
AS Product Design



Calvin Chan

UVI
A2 Product Design



Sally Lungmuss

UVI
A2 Product Design



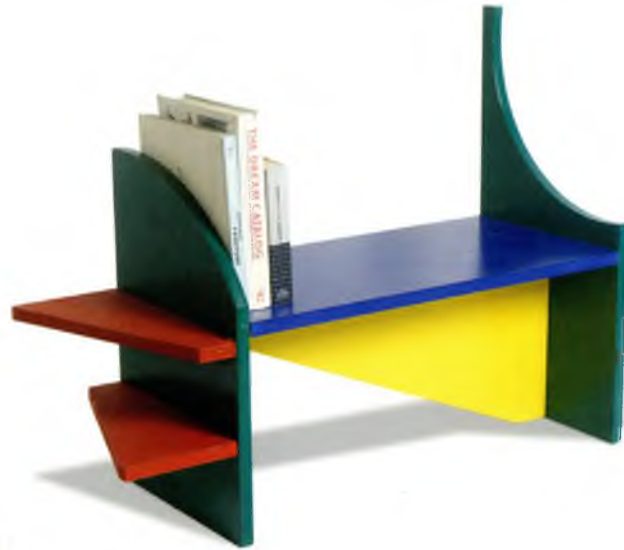
Molly Seed
UWI
A2 Product Design



Fiona Johnston
UWI
A2 Product Design



Nick Walker
UWI
A2 Product Design



Charles Beamish
V
GCSE Resistant Materials



Ben Giles
UVI
A2 Product Design



Adam Shakor
V
GCSE Resistant Materials



Anna McNeill
LVI
AS Product Design



Conor McCarthy
LVI
AS Product Design



Maggie Luck
LVI
AS Product Design



Robbie Miller
LVI
A2 Product Design

Cricket

1st XI 2011

The question for the 2011 season was going to be how well the side would do without inspirational captain and run-machine Freddie Coleman. That we managed to cope well without him for most of the season was testament to the hard work put in by the team, once more under the control of Keith Wigley. Indeed, both Nick Farrar and Derek Hoogerbrugge stepped up to the plate in terms of scoring runs - both were century-makers in 2011 - Derek with an unbeaten 101 against the Strathallians, and Nick scoring an unbeaten 118 against the Scottish XL club and, what is believed to be a School individual record score of 168 not out against Glenalmond College.

Throughout the season we played a variety of formats, from limited overs fixtures to the more traditional time-declaration matches, which gave the players the chance to develop their games in a less pressurised way and to put a value on their wicket. It also helped them develop ways of bowling sides out rather than sticking to the rather sterile formula of much modern limited overs cricket, with teams sitting back in the field waiting for batsmen to make mistakes.

First up, in this format, was Dollar Academy who did well to reach 165-8 from their 30 overs, with Chris King and Grant Doig being the pick of our bowlers. In reply we rather coasted to an 8 wicket victory thanks to an unbeaten 55 from Aussie Oli Tridgell and 44 from Derek Hoogerbrugge. The Dollar opening attack was quite quick and hostile but Keith Wigley and Nick Farrar blunted it, enabling the middle order to attack successfully. The succeeding match against Edinburgh Academy, played in a declaration format, was a cracker.



We bowled well enough to dismiss the Academy for 167 after they had gotten off to a solid start, but then batted like novices to collapse with 8 wickets down for fewer than a hundred runs. None of the top order covered themselves in glory with a series of millionaire shots, and it took the lower order, marshalled by Grant Doig with an unbeaten 29, to push us over the line in the gathering rainy conditions.

This less than auspicious performance was unfortunately followed up, as in 2010, with two weak performances against Fettes and Loretto, both away from home. In both games the bowling attack somewhat came off the rails, and the batting was, at times, spineless. It was becoming clear that the attitude of one or two players did not display the sort of determination and fight that Strathallan 1st XI sides of recent years demanded and displayed. Against Loretto, Tim Heaney and Keith Wigley had batted with aggression and skill to put on over 70 for the first wicket, but we collapsed to an all out 140. In the Loretto match we conceded a total

of over 270, and then collapsed meekly with the bat, only Nick Farrar showing some fight with an unbeaten 33 alongside Keith Wigley's 29. Half-term could not come quickly enough.

A re-evaluation and some home truths later, and the team which took the field against the Scottish XL Club was somewhat different, in both personnel and outlook. Some hard training and renewed dedication from some of the more senior players was to lead to a mini run of three victories against the XL Club, Strathallians and Glenalmond, all at home. The XL Club was dismissed for 187 with Oli Tridgell taking 5-49 in a much more accomplished fielding and bowling effort, and Nick Farrar scoring the first of his unbeaten hundreds (118). This was followed by an excellent effort with the bat against the Strathallians, this time with Derek Hoogerbrugge scoring an unbeaten 101 in what was becoming an expensive week for the Master i/c. The total of 269-5 dec was too high for the Strathallians for whom Robin Dicke and Alastair MacDonnell were the mainstays.



...hard training and renewed dedication from some of the more senior players was to lead to a mini run of three victories...



That we bowled the Strathallians out for 183 was mainly down to two fourth formers, Grant Doig (3-42) and Jamie Ritchie (3-17) who had previously combined to win us the Edinburgh Academy match.

Going into the MCC match, we were determined to make a clean-sweep of the club matches. We bowled really well, particularly in the second half of the MCC innings, to induce a declaration at 229-8, with Fraser Doig (4-63) and Chris King (2-25) being particularly impressive. In reply, we were well up with the rate after an excellent partnership between Nick Farrar and Derek Hoogerbrugge, but both got out at the wrong time, leaving the lower order too much to do to overcome the MCC total. A mixture of inexperience and over-confidence led us to be bowled out for 214, so close but yet so far.

With matches against the High School of Glasgow and Merchiston falling prey to some wet weather, the final home match of the term was against close rivals Glenalmond College. We were put into bat on losing the toss on a slightly damp track but with the promise of good weather. A couple of quick wickets set us back slightly but a tremendous partnership of over 150 runs between Nick Farrar (168 not out) and Fraser Doig (50 not out) set up a huge target of 269-2 dec about an hour after lunch. Nick's innings was full of early watchfulness as he calmly accumulated his first fifty or so runs, but then he branched out in particularly brutal fashion with his third fifty coming in only 20 balls. He was particularly severe on anything short, peppering Glenbrae with some huge shots. At the other end Fraser Doig finally showed his class with a flawless unbeaten fifty as the pair ran the Glenalmond fielders ragged. In reply, a demoralised Glenalmond, missing some senior players, were shot out for 89, with the damage done primarily by

Jamie Ritchie (3-11) and Nick Farrar (2-11) who both bowled with venom and pace. This was as complete a performance as any in the season and due reward for the hard work put in since the Loretto debacle before half-term.

The final two matches were in the end of season Festival at Stewarts-Melville College. Against SMC we bowled and fielded below par as they totalled 221 in 50 overs, with Jamie Ritchie and Oli Tridgell both taking four wickets. That we scored 122 was due in the main to a fantastic debut innings from third-former Jack Waller who top-scored with an unbeaten 46. The rest of the batting rather meekly fell apart and the less said about it the better. The following day's performance was considerably better. Bowling the Edinburgh University side out for 225 without Farrar and Ritchie was a very good effort and gave us a chance to finish the term with a positive result. Everyone contributed with the bat, in a winning effort, with special emphasis going to Oli Tridgell



sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying "I will do better tomorrow"

who capped off a good match with 54 runs, and to both Daniel Adams (27) and Jack Waller (26) who set up the penultimate over nicely for Chris King. Two, four and a huge six later and the match was over, registering a two wicket win.

So, a record of six wins from eleven starts was an acceptable return for the season, but the biggest disappointments came with those two sub-standard performances against Fettes and Loretto. Consistency needs to be the watchword for 2012 when a good deal of the side, including all the bowling attack, will be present once more. Oli Tridgell was the deserved winner of the bowling cup for 2011 with 20 wickets at 17.85, and Nick Farrar bagged the batting prize with 441 runs at 88.20. Full colours went to Keith Wigley, Nick Farrar and Derek Hoogerbrugge, with half colours being awarded to Tim Heaney, Fraser Doig and Oli Tridgell.

As always, a series of debts are owed to a number of individuals for their service throughout the summer. To Gordon Stewart and Sodexo go thanks for their catering, to Earnside Coaches thanks for transporting us around the country, and to Graeme Robertson much appreciation for his assistance with the coaching and running the administration of all the cricket. Nick Du Boulay was, as ever, a fountain of knowledge to both individuals and to the group as a whole and Robert Proctor's continuing help was greatly appreciated. The biggest thanks go to Iain Philip for the pitches he produced, and for the many hours of coaching he put in, not only with the 1st XI but with many of the juniors. It is no surprise that the number of centuries scored by Strathallan players is on the increase. We look forward to his return next summer.



2nd XI

It is often said that success follows belief and that courage does not always roar: sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying "I will do better tomorrow". The 2nd XI wanted for nothing in the self-belief category and were constantly buoyed up by the morale-raising quips of Alex Vine. The quiet courage of the boys was always clear and there is no doubt that the team performance improved

over the season. Sadly, of the six matches played one was abandoned due to weather and we lost five.

The team, confidently led in a relaxed wicketkeeping style by Torquil Curran, often failed to bat through all the overs. Our best was 132 for 6 off 30 overs against Edinburgh Academy with good contributions from Chris McCarthy (best seasonal batting average), Jack Rathborne, Murdo Elwis, Dougie Stephenson, and Euan Pirrie. We only once managed to bowl the opposition out: an unforgettable,

bright and sunny afternoon at Gienalmond when we had them 118 all out after 21 overs. Callum Ketties took 4 for 15, Jack Rathborne 3 for 36 and Euan Pirrie 2 for 28. We're not entirely sure how we managed to lose that particular match, Dan Adams (best seasonal runs aggregate) looking really in form as number 1 until he was out for 29. The ever-dependable Matt Hunter was bemused to be 4 not out as a flock of golden ducks appeared at the other end.

NPG



Rugby

Our season started off with pre season as usual, with only a handful of players that were in the 1sts the previous year it was going to be interesting how the team would develop; we were soon put through our paces and were looking like a rugby team. To all of the team's disappointment the Madras tournament which we managed to win the year before had been cancelled due to typical Scottish weather.

However, we did not have to wait too long for our first game as the following week we had our opening fixture of the season against Madras. Straight from kick-off our intentions were clear; run the ball at every opportunity. Within no time we gained our first try through Marcus Adams who finished off a well-worked move which developed from an opposition scrum. Tries were also scored by Tom Wilson, Keith Buchan, DJ Innes, Jonny Bain and Derek Hoogerbrugge. The final score was an impressive 73 - 3. All in all a good start to the season.

Our next fixture was to be more demanding. An away game at Robert Gordon's. With high expectations from the week before everyone was looking to carry on where they left off. We started off the brighter and were able to take the lead through a set move and some individual brilliance from Keith Buchan who managed to run in from the halfway line. However we took our foot off the gas and due to some poor defending and lack of concentration Robert Gordon's managed to tie the game up with some pick-and-gos from their forwards. Final score 12-12.

The next fixture was a home game to North Berwick; the year before we had just lost out in an intense game. The game started in our favour; with some early penalties we were able to dominate the game and keep the ball in the opposition half. Again we were quick to score through a fluent backs' move with crisp passing and good feet Chris King was able



to finish off the move in the corner. After this the tries flooded in with the scorers being; Ali Wood, Marcus Adams, Tom Wilson, Keith Buchan, Jack Sommerville, DJ Innes, Alex Henderson and Connor Coleman. Final score 64-10.

The match began in Strathallan's favour as we gained a quick sequence of penalties to put us in kicking range in which we converted. After this we began to impose our dominance again as we were camped in Fettes' 22 for long periods of time and with lots of pressure we gained our first try through a Fettes' mistake which Keith Buchan managed to attack off and score. Straight from the restart we again applied a lot of pressure which marched us right back down into their 22. After some great defence we were awarded a penalty and with some good thinking from Keith Buchan we had our second try in the corner from a quick tap and go which Jack Sommerville finished off. This took us into the second half with the game in our hands, all we had to do was the same as we did in the first half. However we made the game difficult for ourselves as we squandered multiple chances to score and one breakaway try from Fettes' brought them right back into the game. Again we applied pressure to ourselves as Tom Wilson was sin

binned with only 5 minutes to go. However the team defended well and eventually caught onto the act of "time wasting" and we saw the game out. All in all it was a good team performance.

Our next opponent was The High School of Dundee, in the past this has always been one of our favourite fixtures. The game started fairly even with both sides having plenty of possession. The breakthrough came with some individual brilliance from Jonny Bain to beat the last defender with a good sidestep and score underneath the posts easily the try of the match. The match itself was a good contest and throughout the whole game Dundee made life difficult for us however our strength in attack proved too much and we ran out comfortable winners with score being 45-5.

The next fixture was the derby match against Glenalmond. The match began in Strathallan's favour with some excellent phases of play and great pressure. After a number of attempts Strathallan soon broke the deadlock with a team built try, finished by Chris King. After the try Glenalmond replied strongly with some great phases of play in Strathallan's 22. However, Strathallan's defence held firm and with some great commitment they managed to see off the Glenalmond

attack and apply pressure again in Glenalmond's half, however to no avail as Strathallan could not convert possession into points. At the start of the second half Alex Henderson stamped his mark on the game with some excellent leaps and catches of the restart kicks. Glenalmond started in the ascendancy scoring first through some consecutive penalties and some quick tap-and-gos. However, without converting the score was 7-5 to Strathallan and with a few missed penalties from the Glenalmond kicker, Strathallan were given the upper hand and finally midway through the second half Strathallan scored. With a lazy kick and a great kick chase we scored. Pulling away from Glenalmond. Glenalmond had it all to do but only managed a penalty kick. The final score 12-8.

Merchiston is always thought to be the toughest fixture of the year and this season was no exception. The game started with Merchiston applying pressure in our 22 and soon gaining to penalty kicks to put them in the lead. We eventually managed to get our hands on the ball and start to play the rugby we had played all year. However, Merchiston soon adjusted to the poor weather conditions and began to hit up with their big forward pack and Strathallan's defence soon gave



way. The final score 6-30, indicates a notable effort but not the score-line we were hoping for.

With the Merchiston game behind us and hoping to move on we came up against Scottish Schools Champions Edinburgh Academy in the group stage of the Scottish Schools Cup. Straight from kick off we were pinned down in our own 22 and our defence was holding firm. We gave away a few penalties through some ill discipline and Edinburgh kicked for the corners showing they wanted to run the ball with every opportunity. Our defence soon lost its shape after a few phases and Edinburgh went in for the first try. The rest of the half was very much the same, losing three more tries. The whole of the first half we barely touched the ball so we still felt if we got the ball we could make something happen. The second half started and we managed to get a few touches of the ball and sure enough we were making line breaks and gaining yards, but Edinburgh's last gasp defence kept us out and our opposition managed to run in a few more tries ending the game at 38-0,

a very poor performance.

The final game of the season was our last group match against Bell Baxter. We wanted to end our cup run on a high and straight from the first whistle Alex Henderson retrieved the ball from kick off and we were on the attack in the opposition 22. The phases strung together nicely and we scored in the corner through a backs set move which DJ Innes finished off nicely. For the rest of the first half we played the same type of running rugby and we scored four more tries to put us well in the lead. The Second half did not start as well as the first and we lost two tries in quick succession allowing the opposition to have the forward momentum. Half way through the second period we managed to get our hands on the ball and after a few phases which pushed us over the opposition halfway line, Nick Farrar managed to weave his way through the defence and score a great individual try. After this we dominated the game scoring another three tries bringing the score to 42-12.

2nd XV Rugby

This year the 2nd XV have had an incredibly enjoyable season, unfortunately cut short by the inclemency of the weather. The season started off with a midweek game against a touring side from Chile where we were thrown in at the deep end against their 1st XV after only a handful of training sessions. Suffice to say, when we saw 30-odd, 6' 4", 300lbs Latin Americans getting off their bus we were in a mild state of trepidation and our feelings were justified two hours later at the final whistle 65-3 down.

Ironically, it was a great experience and from there we only went up, narrowly losing to both Fettes and Glenalmond, in games we probably should have won. However, victories over Howe of Fife, Bell Baxter, Edinburgh Academy and, in particular, Merchiston meant that the 2nd XV did reach the potential we had promised throughout the season. Without a doubt the

highlight of the season was the victory over Merchiston and the reactions of the entire team at the final whistle emphasised just how much it meant.

Honourable mentions go to James Gray and Blair Sangster who both had very fine seasons. James Wordie too who joined us from the Firsts halfway into the season was a huge benefit to the team. The player of the season award was given to Ben 'the powerhouse' Melville who with his size and strength alone could frighten teams into submission. Just like the weather, a few things have been inevitable this season; Ewan Ramsay would fail to catch a ball in the lineout, Marcus Adams would massacre every two-on-one and Otto Kakhidze would get a black eye in every match.

I am sure I speak on behalf of the entire team in saying it has been a thoroughly enjoyable season and for me personally it has been an honour to captain the 2nd XV rugby team and I wish them all the best for next season.

James McAllister



3rd XV Winter 2010

When experienced leaders talk about teamwork they say that coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress and working together is success. On that basis the 3rd XV had a successful season even though the bare statistics report played 5 lost 5.

Our best performance was in the home game against Glenalmond. We scored first after 10 minutes: a forwards' drive spearheaded by

Bryn Rees and Jack Collins allowed Hamish Mitchell to pick and dive over the try line. After a first half typical of attrition warfare the score was 5-7. Unfortunately, in the second half we ran out substitutes, injury replacements, and energy and they ran in a further four tries.

Noteworthy players included: skipper Tim Heaney, line-out king Robbie Miller, quick hands Toby Mitchell, and the quiet-but-strong Will Bradley. Several international pupils playing rugby for their first season showed real prowess: Christian Livardu, Jan Toepfer, Jacob Moll, Kenson Cheung and Erik Wand.

NPG

U16 2010-11

The players in U16 squad made significant strides both individually and collectively over the term and it was wonderful to see several boys who had not previously played Rugby making their debuts.

It was a privilege to share in the personal and team progress of those involved and there is no doubt that their Rugby supported their overall personal development. There were many highlights, not least the early encounters with North Berwick High School and The High School of Dundee, both very well contested and high quality games. A narrow defeat to a strong Merchiston side was a fair reflection of the match but indicative of significant improvement in the Strathallan ranks. Victories

over Fettes and Glenalmond were hard earned and the defeat in Edinburgh to the excellent Academy XV was a reminder to us that the links between potential and performance are complex and require constant maintenance.

Two players went on to represent Caledonia U16 in the Inter-District Championships, at least two more may well have done had injury not ruled them out of consideration. They both made significant contributions to this Championship Winning team, following on from the success of last year's trio.

To the players, parents, match officials, coaches, ground staff and catering staff, thank you. All helped to create such a positive, memorable and genuinely educational experience. Best wishes to the players as they move on to the U18 age grade.

DJB, MRAJBT



U15 As

Coming off the back off a long holiday we started 4th Form with a bang and a win against Madras was a good way to get the squad going. Against North Berwick we had a very physical battle but came through to win with tries from Javi Garcia playing at full back. Against Edinburgh Academy tries came from Thorin Maxwell and following a well worked backs' move, from Ross Buchanan who moved in from the wing to play at centre. The game was a hard-fought victory and the whole team showed great resilience to hold the opposition off at the last play to seal the win.

The highlight of the season, however, was the victory over Glenalmond away from home. This performance was the best from the team and it came after a lot of hard work in training throughout the week. The 36-0 victory included tries from the front 8 and some stunning run-ins from Jamie Corbett and Ross McDonald behind the scrum, the latter a superb solo effort from within our own half. The try of the game came from Ando who with great footwork and speed managed to trip over his own feet onto the line. It was a pleasure and a privilege to captain the side. All in all, the season showed great improvement and for this I think we owe a lot to Mr Billing.

Jamie Ritchie

(Captain - U15 A Rugby)



U15 Bs

The 2010 season was a very successful one for the 4th Form B rugby team, starting with a run of narrow defeats but culminating in wins against some of our fiercest rivals.

We travelled to Glenalmond expecting a tough match, and it turned out to be our narrowest defeat of the season and the most disappointing and frustrating game we played. Scoring three tries in the first 10 minutes came as a shock to all involved in the match, as previously the opposition had scored first in every match we had played. Some poor defending let Glenalmond back into the game just before half time, their star player finding a gap to run through and score under the posts. The game then went all Glenalmond's way after half time, the referee having a big part to play in that, and they managed to score two more tries with five minutes to go, but we were still winning 19-17. An incredible last-ditch tackle from Gregor Leighton to push the opposing player into touch when he would have surely scored looked to have secured us our first win of the season. At the death Glenalmond went on to score a try from a scrum after passing it



out to the wing, and despite our best efforts to push forward and reply, the referee blew his whistle for an offside and the game finished 22-19 to Glenalmond.

Another of our final games of the season was at Merchiston, a school which is widely known for its strength at playing rugby and a match we didn't expect to have any chance of winning, but turned out to be the best game of the season for many reasons. After scoring three tries each in a fiercely contested game, we found ourselves 19-15 down with the last play of the game to go. Euan Gray, the vice-captain, twisted and turned from a penalty through the home defence and bundled over the try line to score. We won the match 22-19, with a conversion sailing through from the very edge of the pitch to give us the two extra points. This game tested us all both physically and mentally; frequent penalty awards are trying under any circumstances. However, the team pulled together to keep focused on the game, winning deservedly. This was also the first game that the team really felt like a team capable of winning matches regularly, and we were the only team to beat Merchiston that weekend.

But playing in the matches wasn't the best thing about being in the 4th Form Bs, Dr. Downhill's jokes, nicknames, ruthless training regime, "banter" and general belief in our team to succeed when we doubted our own abilities, made going to games every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday one of the highlights of going to Strathallan. On behalf of the entire team I would like to thank Dr. Downhill for taking time out of his busy schedule to turn us into a team that became known as 'The Allstars'.

Robbie MacDiarmid

IV Form Freeland

Football



We started Squad selection back in September to allow us time to develop a team for the next term.

So after prep on a Wednesday all the hopefuls arrived on the astro-turf pitch. By half term we had cut the numbers down to 28 with the final 22 announced at the end of term. Connor Coleman was selected as the team captain with Alex Henderson as vice; thank you both for your help through the year.

With hope in our hearts we travelled north to our first match against Robert Gordon's for that hope to be dashed on a problematic surface with a ball that would have been more at home on a beach. The boys played well and were unlucky to lose the match and our right back, Robbie, for the rest of the campaign. But we had scored and Keith had opened his account; still not sure about the big South African up front.

Well we had time to dust ourselves off and prepare for our first home match against QVS. What a game! My tactics went out the window and the team took a leaf from Kevin Keegan's book of management forget defence and score more than the other team, two more, to make a real 7-5 thriller. Keith had carried on scoring and netted his first hat-trick with a brace from Connor, a Hendy goal and one of those rare things a goal from Euan Pirrie. Unfortunately, we picked up another injury and Alex Vine was gone for the season. The stats were not looking good; 2 games played won 1, lost 1, 8 goals for, 7 against and two of my main players with injuries.

So with a restructured team off to St Leonard's and back on script, another small pitch and trying to manage the team and watch for the odd flying lacrosse ball made life interesting. On the pitch the back four of DJ, Connor, Chris and Murdo were solid and with Hendy and Tom controlling the midfield Keith was causing havoc with their defence and it was time for Jason to play his



part: with two goals and a smile he had their central defenders chasing shadows.

Our next match was at home to Gordonstoun and with three players missing, Keith, Hendy and Tom, a change of tactics was called for. Knowing this would be our toughest match in the group I went for a 3-5-2 formation bringing Ross McDonald (4th Form) into the squad to help the midfield crisis which was compounded by losing Tobias to a knee injury in training. Ross started the match with DJ and Murdo becoming wingbacks while Dan joined Connor and Chris in defence. A highly competitive match with chances for both teams in the first

half but as the game developed we changed back to a 4-5-1 formation as Gordonstoun started to take control. Some fantastic world class saves from Santi (*OMG, you haven't told him this have you? Ed*) and last-ditch defending kept us in the hunt only losing 2-1.

Our next match was the home derby against Glenalmond. With Keith, Hendy and Tom back normal service was resumed. The team played attractive passing football and totally dominated the game, winning 6-1. Keith scored his second hat-trick of the campaign with goals from Pirrie, Marcus and a Glenalmond own goal. One more match to play in the group stage, which we needed to win and hope other results went our way to proceed to the quarter-finals. So, after our last performance a confident team took to the road for an away match at Dollar and Jason's last match with the team. We again totally dominated the game and a relentless bombardment of their goal ensued, two goals from Keith with two from Jason and goals from Tom and Marcus made up the six we scored.

We came back to school for the summer term having qualified for the next round with a quarter-final away to Stewart's Melville on an artificial pitch. Still missing Rob, Alex and Tobias, Jason had returned to South Africa and Hendy had come back from playing Rugby in France with an ankle injury. Drastic action was called for and Jonny Bain was approached and rejoined the squad after playing hockey the previous term. In a tight match Stewart's Melville came from behind twice before taking the lead and scoring a fourth goal while we chased an equaliser. Jonny and Keith scored one apiece; Keith had now scored in every game he had played in, 11 goals in 6 matches.

Thanks to all the squad who played in the team last year and those in the squad who didn't get a start and I wish all those who have now left the school all the best in the future. I am so proud of the way we played and competed. A Special mention to my assistant coaches, Mr Batterham and Mr Drummond; thanks for your advice and support.

Mike 'Mourinho' Bussey

Boys' hockey



First XI

The 1st XI this year had a rather mixed season.

With a strong team and good individual players things looked promising at the beginning. Our loss to George Watson's 3-1 in the Schools Cup then came as a bit of a reality check as to how little we had played together as a squad at that point, and the training that immediately followed emphasised this. The following first half of the season then followed the suit set by George Watson's; frustrating losses to Glenalmond 4-3 and Loretto 2-1. Things then picked up as we

played together more as a team, and stole a close win off Fettes to take the match 3-2.

The second half of the term was much more positive with good performances during training and good results during the remainder of the season. A convincing 10-1 victory away to Gordonstoun was soon followed by a 2-1 win in the return with Fettes. Next up were Watson's and revenge for the cup loss was duly taken with a fine 5-2 victory. This rich vein of form continued and memories of our away loss to Loretto soon faded as we brushed them aside at home, winning 12-3. The final game of the season brought on a Strathallian team with a wealth of experience,





but they proved no match for the 1st XI and fifth win of the second half of the term was achieved with a 5-1 scoreline.

In all, the season could be epitomised by a promising squad of players that despite good all-round effort were not quite clinical enough in the D areas where it really counted on the pitch; the team only realising its potential right towards the end by using the skills shown in practice during matches.

Under 18 Cup

Group Matches

V Clydesdale	Won 6-5
V Cala	Lost 5-4
Quarter Final	
V Clydesdale	Lost 1-7

Representative Honours

Scottish

U18	Michael McKenzie
U18 Development	Alistair Wood
U16	Murdo Elwis
U16 Development	Daniel Adams

District

U18	Michael Mckenzie Alistair Wood
U16	Daniel Adams Murdo Elwis

Colours

Full	Marcus Adams Michael McKenzie
Half	Julian Buck Murdo Elwis Derek Hoogerbrugge Erik Wand Keith Wigley Alistair Wood LVI Ruthven

2nd XI

When I was sitting down to write this article my first thought was to go through every game, analysing the stats and re-counting every goal but I realised that would be way too much like the 1st XI article and down in the depths of the mortal 2nd XI we like to be totally different from the 1st XI.

To be honest there is only really one word to describe the 2nd XI hockey season: unbeaten. I'd like to think we had a perfect set-up: a great group of lads, a mixture of experience and youth, a quality coach in the former Italian hockey international Mr Vallot and a mentality that was in place from the start.. don't take things too seriously, have a good laugh and really enjoy our hockey and with that in mind we genuinely did play some great hockey. To name a few highlights, an 8-2 victory over rivals Glenalmond and a 14-0 win against Gordonstoun were two of many strong performances. However it certainly wasn't all as easy as I make it sound and in our final match of the season we gave away a 3-0 lead to Loretto to find ourselves 4-4 with only a few minutes left and looking like we may be throwing away our unbeaten season. However some moments of magic from Jonny Bain saw us finish 6-4 up with our record intact.

To finish I would just like to say it was an absolute pleasure to lead such a great group of guys and I would like to thank Mr Vallot for his efforts and sublime coaching and for putting up with my chat for three years. I wish the 2nd XI all the best

for the upcoming years and maybe next year they will actually get their Jimmy Chungs!

Ben Melville

2nd XI Captain

U16

As Midland and National U16 Champions we took part in the Midland District Competition again this year. We beat all our opposition to win the tournament and retain the trophy. We had thus again qualified for the Scottish U16 Championships. After being snowed off in March we eventually travelled to Aberdeen in June to play the tournament.

We played four matches against the top teams from each of the other districts. Once again were the only School team in the tournament.

The results were as follows:

v Gordonians HC	Won 5 - 1
v Watsonians HC	Won 4 - 2
v Clydesdale HC	Won 1 - 0
v Perthshire HC	Won 4 - 0

This meant we retained the title, having won all our matches. Well done to all the team which was ably captained by Murdo Elwis.

AW

U15

This year's 4th form had an excellent transition from their achievements the previous year continuing with excellent results. The boys played very well and numbers meant that on most occasions we were able to field two very strong teams for the school. Results were varied across the board with the A squad recording two losses and two draws whilst winning eight matches; this included a five-match winning streak.

The boys worked very hard over the year improving their stick skills and fitness levels this was evident when ten of the squad were put forward for district selection and seven were actually selected. The selected players have done themselves and the school proud. One of these players, Rory Wood, has since been selected for Junior International

training squad. Rory was also joined by the other six boys to attend a development camp at the National training centre in Largs.

Back to school and the boys continued to improve with eight of the players being selected in the successful U16 squad that retained the Scottish Cup. These players now have the challenge of retaining the Scottish Cup and competing for a 1st XI position.

SG

U14A

Connor Holborn should be congratulated for his captaincy, goal scoring and resulting inclusion in the winning Scottish Cup team who retained the Cup for the second year in succession. Undoubtedly talented with stick, he also showed leadership, determination and a level of self belief which players around him both admired and strove to emulate.

Eight matches were played: five wins, two losses and a draw. Goals scored: twenty three and only eight conceded, three of which came in one match! Much credit should be attributed to those who played defence, notably Declan O'Brien as goal keeper.

Highlights of the season were wins against Fettes, Glenalmond, Gordonstoun and George Watson's College with only Loretto proving too hard a test.

The squad can take much encouragement from their hard work this season which bodes well for the challenges which await next season.

My thanks to Messrs Glass and Price for all their help and support over the season.

GSRR

Girls' hockey

1st XI

**Winners Midland KO Cup,
Winners Midland U18 Indoor,
Winners Midland U16 Cup,
Qualified for National Indoor
Finals, National Schools
Finals and National U16 Cup
Finals**

Played	Won	Drew	Lost
12	7	3	2

The morale at pre-season was high after spending three weeks of the summer in Singapore and Australia on hockey tour, with many of the girls returning to play. In order to prepare for the coming season Miss Sime entered us into the Bell Trophy which is the Midland Senior Ladies tournament. We were up against tough opposition and eventually lost in the semi final to Madras Ladies. This proved to be great experience. We had a disappointing performance at the Midland 1st XI Tournament where we finished 3rd in the Section but this spurred us on and we set ourselves a goal of winning the Midland KO Cup and the Indoor Tournament. During the season we had good wins against Robert Gordon's College (5 - 2), Dollar Academy (3 - 1) and Queen Victoria School (3 - 0). We lost two matches - our first defeat to a strong touring team from Chile, Craighouse School and also to George Watson's College.

In the KO Cup we had a difficult draw in the 1st round against Glenalmond. We won this game 4 - 1 and then defeated HSD in the semi final which set us up for the final against Dollar. This tournament is the qualifying tournament for the Scottish Schools Finals so there was a lot at stake. We went on to win the match 2 - 0 - it was a great team performance with all players rising to the occasion. Particular mention to Nicki Cochrane



who made some amazing saves in the dying stages of the game. At the Scottish Schools Finals we missed out on the semi finals by a whisker and finished 3rd in our section.

As holders of the Midland U16 Cup we received a bye in the first round of the competition. The team, led by Rachael Campbell ('Wee Rach'), defeated Kilgraston 3 - 1 in the semi final and then faced Glenalmond in the Final. This was a magnificent team performance where we played a great passing game and created lots of opportunities. We won the match 10 - 1 and therefore qualified for the Scottish U16 Finals where we reached the semi final and lost to a strong High School of Glasgow side.

At the Senior Indoor tournament in December we played 3 matches and won all 3 to lift the trophy. We defeated Kilgraston (5 - 0), HSD (6 - 4) and Morrison's Academy (6 - 2). The National Indoor Finals took place in January at Bell's SC. We defeated Mary Erskine (3 - 2) and lost to Keiso (1 - 3). This put us into a 5/6 play off

where we defeated RGC (6 - 2).

The season finished off with the team attending the High School of Glasgow 7s and the Heriot's 7s. Although not a team who like to play on grass we played some great 7s hockey at the Heriot's Tournament. We reached the semi final where we defeated Heriot's 2 - 1 on penalties but then lost 0 - 1 to GWC in the final.

At the end of season presentations, the following awards were made:

Player of the Year

Nicki Cochrane

Indoor Player of the Year

Hannah Cox

Most Improved Player of the Year

Rachael Campbell

Most Promising Junior

Christina Farrar

Top Goalscorer - 40 Goals

Rachael Campbell

Half Colours Awards

Mhairi Bannerman, Laura Glasgow, Lynne Howie, Sophie Howell, Heather Larson & Eugenia Ramos

Full Colours Awards

Hannah Cox, Nicki Cochrane, Ciara Elwis, Philippa Orr

The success of the girls hockey club this year is a result of a lot of hard work by many people - players, coaches, umpires, ground staff, catering staff. We would also like to thank our parents/supporters who have come out in all weathers to cheer us on.

Special mention to Nicki Cochrane who played for Scotland U18 Team in the European Championships in Utrecht in July 2011. She played 4 out of the 5 games and proved herself to be the top U18 GK in Scotland.

Captains - Ciara Elwis & Philippa Orr

UVI Woodlands

2nd XI

Season 2010/2011 was billed to be an exciting season and it did not disappoint. With some of the team experiencing hockey life

down under during the schools summer tour to Australia, moral and expectations were high.

The team were a mix of youth and experience which proved to be a recipe for success.

The season started well with victories over Robert Gordon's, Queen Victoria School, Morrisons's Academy and St Georges. We came up against stiffer competition when we faced Mary Erskine School, Fettes College and George Watson's College going down in all of these matches.

The highlights of the season were victories over Glenalmond and Dollar, winning both of these matches 1-0. These results capsulated the hard work and effort put in by all of the players.

We finished the season having played 9 matches, fewer than previous years due to the weather, recording 6 wins and 3 losses, a record we are very proud of.

Special thanks go to captain Fiona Johnston for leading the team so well both on and off the pitch. Thanks to all of the players and good luck to the future 2nd XI teams.

LC

3rd XI/4th XI & 5th XIs

Due to the adverse weather many of the matches for the 3rd, 4th and 5th XIs were cancelled. The 3rd XI played 5 and highlights were the 2 - 0 defeat against St Georges and the 1 - 1 draw with Glenalmond. New recruit Dr Blackie thoroughly enjoyed working with the squad. The 4th XI reached a peak in the Glenalmond match when they won 5 - 3 and the 5th XI managed to get 2 matches this year. Thanks to Mr Gardner and Mr Batterham for taking the training for the 4th XI and 5th XI.

U15 Girls

It was a season that on the whole saw many good performances and an abundance of goals scored, but unfortunately as momentum was gained, it was curtailed by the early snow fall.

There were good wins against the High School of Dundee, Robert Gordon's College, Gordonstoun, Kilgraston, St Leonard's, St George's and Glenalmond. In the ten matches played, seven were won with a goal aggregate of thirty five scored! Anni Arthur captained the team with great enthusiasm and leadership, competitive no matter what the occasion, and tireless in both her own and the expected efforts of those around her. The U15 team performed well at the district tournament and lost narrowly in the final.

It was a good effort from the entire squad that represented the team throughout the season, albeit shortened by the inclement weather. The depth of talent and ability this team carries forward, will undoubtedly strengthen the future of hockey here at the School for the next few years.

GSRR

U14 Girls Hockey

Results are not the only benchmark that should be used to measure a season - true they are important, but often they do not reflect on how a team has and will develop over time. What was evident by the end of the season, which came earlier than expected due to the weather, was precisely that they enjoyed playing hockey not only for themselves, but for one another.

Bringing together new players to form a team is often a matter of trial and error. How best do you accommodate eight players who only want to score goals with no-one wanting to play in defence?

The drawing board came out and slowly but surely players began to realise the virtues of their skills and where best on the pitch to exercise them.

Representative Hockey

Well done to the following girls who were selected to represent Midland District throughout the season

Outdoor

Midland U15	Christina Farrar Captain Nina Mearns	Anni Arthur
Midland U16	Laura Glasgow Rachael Campbell Anni Arthur	Lucy Coleman Christina Farrar
Midland U18	Hannah Cox Ciara Elwis Eugenia Ramos	Nicki Cochrane Philippa Orr Mhairi Bannerman

Indoor

Midland U15	Christina Farrar Emily Barnes	Anni Arthur
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Scotland U18 Team Nicki Cochrane

Scotland U16 & UK School Games Laura Glasgow

Well done to Nicki Cochrane who was No 1 GK for Scotland at the European Championships in Utrecht in July. Laura Glasgow was selected to play for Scotland U16 at the UK School Games.

Captains - Ciara Elwis & Philippa Orr

There were highlights to the season: wins against Robert Gordon's, Gordonstoun, Queen Victoria and St Leonard's Schools, and in those that we lost we were only truly outplayed by George Watson's College.

I would like to thank Eliza Younger for dutifully captaining the side, and to all those that represented the team, for their efforts and enthusiasm throughout the term.

I look forward to the continued development with this squad next year. Although there will be challenges, we should be confident that with the same level of commitment, willingness to learn and team spirit, their efforts will pay dividends.

GSRR

Riley Girls'

Riley girls had a very successful season. There were many highlights throughout the season, most notable was the U13 A team winning the Fettes Tournament. The girls finished top of their pool undefeated, beating Ardveck and Edinburgh Academy after a nervy first match draw against Heriot's. The semi-final was against George Watson's College and at full time it was 1-1 which meant the match

would be decided on penalty strokes. In the final we faced the host team Fettes and won 1-0. This tournament has been running for many years and some of the top schools and prep schools in Scotland enter and this is the first time Riley have won.

Winning the tournament was an excellent achievement for not only the team but the whole of Riley Hockey. The U13 A team continued to have a successful season remaining undefeated. The U13 team were not the only success of the year, the U11 team also performed well recording victories in all their matches.

On an individual note, congratulations go to Nina Mearns who was selected to play for the Midlands U15 squad at the Inter District tournament.

Throughout the year there were many matches played and a lot of development took place. The girls all really enjoyed themselves and their skill level and understanding of the game have improved greatly. I look forward to seeing them develop further next year.

LC

Swim team



Captain's Report

I have been a member of Strathallan Swim team for six years and it seems that every year we just keep on getting better. This year was no exception as we maintained our unbeaten record in inter-school competitions and recorded the largest number of medals we have ever had at the Tayside schools. As well as team achievements we have also had individual success with Duncan Scott attaining his first British championship times, as well national medals and also qualifying for the Scottish national silver squad. Sandie Smillie, Abi Evans, Maggie Luck and Connor MacNeil all also competed at national level achieving personal bests as well as many a podium place at their regional meets. All this success does not come easily; I can vouch for the hard work that the swim team puts in, in and out of the pool especially those early morning practices that we all get up for (well most of us), as well as the hard work and dedication from the swimmers' coach, Elaine. She has

been there keeping us motivated and putting in a large amount of her time and effort coaching us in the pool. I have enjoyed every minute swimming with the team, and I am proud to say I captained the swim team this year. As we look towards next year the swim team is left in the capable hands of Maggie Luck who can hopefully lead the team on to even better achievements.

*Joe Lipworth, Swim Team 2005-2011
Swim Team Captain 2010-2011*

2010-2011 was another successful year for Strathallan Swim Team. Once again a number of new swimmers joined the squad, which continues to develop and progress each year. On the domestic front Strathallan had a 100% success in all their Inter-School Events against Glenalmond, Fettes, Merchiston and Robert Gordon's and Craigclowan. As the swim team progresses the demands on the swimmers and staff alike intensify but all the hard training both in the pool and the gym are worth it when the results are exceptional.

Midlands Schools Swimming Championships

Once again during the first school half term a number of Strathallan Swimmers travelled to Dundee to compete in the Midlands Schools Swimming Championships.

The Under 16 boys team of Duncan Scott, Jordan Curtis, Mark McGuire and Callum Fletcher did extremely well to finish 4th in the final of the 4 x 50 freestyle relay.

The Under 16 Girls team of Abigail Evans, Sandie Smillie, Eilidh Gibson and Jayne Thoms had an outstanding performance in the final of the girls relay event to win the Gold medal and the Etta Cooper Rosebowl for the second year in a row.

A number of the swimmers also took part in the individual events with Abi Evans and Sandie Smillie finishing 4th and 6th respectively in the final.

Tayside Schools Swimming Championships

Strathallan had a team of 32 swimmers who were fast enough to qualify for this event this year. We had representation from Riley swimmers as well as senior school. Strathallan returned with 38 medals over all this year, once again topping the leader board.

Gold medals

15/16 Girls relay:

Abi Evans, Sandie Smillie, Eilidh Gibson and Jayne Thoms

17/19 Girls relay:

Maggie Luck, Olivia Woodes Rogers, Emily McLachlan and Jacqueline Liedtke

17/19 Boys relay:

Nick Walker, Rhu Watson, James Pak and Joe Lipworth

15/16 100 & 200 backstroke:

Eilidh Gibson

15/16 100 freestyle:

Abi Evans

15/ 16 200 Individual Medley:

Sandie Smillie

17/19 200 backstroke:

James Pak

17/19 200 IM & 100 backstroke:

Joe Lipworth

13/14 100 fly & 200 IM:

Duncan Scott

Silver medals

13/14 Boys relay:

Duncan Scott, Mark McGuire, Alex Thoms and Louis Reid

15/16 100 br:

Sandie Smillie

17/19 200 backstroke & 100 freestyle:

Maggie Luck

17/19 100 freestyle:

Rhu Watson

17/19 100 backstroke:

James Pak

Bronze medals

12 & under Boys relay:

Ryan Curtis, Ian Macey, Thomas Holloway and Murray Ritchie

13/14 100 breaststroke:

Julia Leng

17/19 100 freestyle:

Nick Walker

The majority of swims at this event were personal best times and it is encouraging to see the range of ages strokes and distances that the swimmers are excelling in. Swimmers who also took part and in some cases made finals were:

Calumn Twaddle, Charlie Mearns, Jordan Curtis, Callum Fletcher, Lauren Dundee, Imogen Robertson-Barnett, Phoebe Clements, Caitlin Donald, Nicole Skinner, Abbey McGrath and Nina Mearns.

Congratulations to all swimmers who took part; they were a credit to Strathallan.

Scottish Schools Swimming Finals

Following all the regional heats in Dundee, 8 swimmers from Strathallan qualified to swim at the National School finals held at Tollcross, Glasgow. Joe Lipworth won Strathallan's only medal in the 17/19 200 Individual Medley. Others who qualified were Abigail Evans, Eilidh Gibson, Sandie Smillie, Julia Leng, Maggie Luck and Connor MacNeil. Duncan Scott also qualified but had to withdraw due to illness.

Scottish Schools Relay Championships 2011

Despite a number of our top swimmers being in the middle of external exams Strathallan still managed to enter a number of teams in the National Relay Championships at Tollcross in June. The swimmers did very well in all the events and although there were no medals won the swimmers all recorded a number of personal best times.

Scottish Nationals Age-Group Championships 2010

Four Strathallan swimmers took part in the Scottish National Age-Group Swimming Championships at Tollcross, Glasgow from the 7th - 10th April. Duncan Scott had an outstanding meet swimming nine personal best times and winning Gold in 400 IM. Bronze in 100 fly and finishing in the top eight swimmers in another six events. Sandie Smillie

continued to show improvement swimming in seven events, recording personal best times in all her events. Joe Lipworth won a bronze in the 200 IM and finished in the top eight in all his other events. Abigail Evans also competed and swam very well.

Riley Swimming

Riley swim team returned to Kilgraston for their annual invitational prep school gala. The U 13 girls won the trophy this year for best performance and the U11 Girls finished second.

U11 Girls

Sarah Clayton
Lauren Dundee

U13 Girls

Amber Garvie
Imogen
Robertson-Barnett
Caitlin Donald
Nicole Skinner

Riley also had an inter-school match against Craigclowan and once again finished with an outstanding victory. Well done, Riley. The number of swimmers in Riley this year was so high that Thursday training sessions had to be split in to two groups. The swimmers remained committed for the whole year which was great and results of their hard work were evident in the competitions they took part in.

Inter-House Competitions

Swimming Standards 2010/2011

Swimming standards this year saw a complete turnaround for one House in particular, having finished in last position for the past number of years. SIMPSON won the house standards with a score of 338. The final results were as follows:

1st	Simpson	338
2nd	Ruthven	328
3rd	Nicol	322
4th	Thornbank	294
5th	Woodlands	252
6th	Glenbrae	221

Inter-House Swimming Gala 2010

As always the Inter-House Gala always provides very close and interesting races. As the general standard of swimming at Strathallan has risen this event becomes more intense and competitive. This year 14 new records were set and the final placings were:

Girls' Championship

1st Woodlands	74
2nd Glenbrae	50
3rd Thornbank	47

Boys' Championship

1st Simpson	66
2nd Ruthven	50
3rd Nicol	46
4th Freeland	27

Riley Inter-Div Swimming 2011

Once again this year's event was full of fast competitive swimming and lots of noisy support. It was an extremely close competition, with the final result resting on the last race of the day.

The results were as follows:

1st	Dron	87
2nd	Dupplin	86
3rd	Balmanno	57
4th	Glenearn	55

Other swimming events

As well as competing for Strathallan a number of swimmers also compete for clubs at local, district and national level competitions. Special mention has to go to Duncan Scott who qualified for the British Age-Group Championships in Sheffield for the first time in an individual event. Duncan was one of the youngest in his event having only recently turned 14 but I am sure he will have gained invaluable experience from his participation.

Sandie Smillie, Maggie Luck, Abigail Evans and Connor MacNeil also represented their various clubs throughout the year winning a variety of medals at district level and above.

End of an era

2011 saw the final year of Strathallan for Swim Team Captain Joe Lipworth. Joe has been an invaluable member of the swim team since joining Strathallan in 2nd Form and has represented the school locally, nationally and internationally throughout his school career. This culminated in Joe's being offered a full swimming Scholarship to George Washington University. A well deserved opportunity and a first for a Strathallan pupil. Well done, Joe. Personally I would like to congratulate the swimmers on another successful year and thank Joe for his help as Captain and Maggie Luck as Vice Captain.

Elaine Johnston

Swim Team Coach

Basketball

This season saw the 1st V basketball team at Strathallan reach new heights by making the quarter finals of the Scottish Cup. Having beaten all the Perth teams in the round robin stage, we progressed to the top eight with a convincing 58 - 29 victory over Bell Baxter High School. While defeated by a very well drilled Portabello unit on finals day, we competed well, Amar Hodzic in particular turning heads with his outstanding performance.

In the regular season we shared the honours with both Fettes and Merchiston. All of the matches were fiercely competitive with a 59 - 49 loss to Fettes being followed up with a 38 - 34 win while a 48 - 36 win over Merchiston in December was followed by a 58 - 42 loss after Christmas.

The season produced our strongest team for many years with Omar Hodzic and Enoch Mak being recognised with full colours for their outstanding play and leadership. Blair Sangster provided much needed physicality under the basket and as a regular high scorer and rebounder earned half colours. Others to contribute strongly were Brian Chen and Ivan Goncharenko.

We celebrated a successful season with a trip to the Harlem Globetrotters in Aberdeen. I would like to thank Miheala Palimariu for her enthusiastic contribution to the coaching of the team throughout the season.

BH



Equestrianism



...Strathallan was the only school to finish with double clear rounds...

Strathallan riders have completed another successful year with impressive results at the Scottish Schools Championships and top level competitions throughout the UK.

Kilgraston Scottish Schools Equestrian Championships

Strathallan entered 3 teams in this popular and competitive event held at Gleneagles Equestrian centre in May. They all had a good day with each team coming away with rosettes. The highlight of the competition was seeing both the Senior and Intermediate teams winning the Team Show jumping for the second year in a row.

It was a pleasure to see a Junior Team taking part as we were unable to enter this section last year. The 3 members of the Junior Team gave determined performances with excellent dressage scores from Lisa Garrett and Charlotte Stephenson. Logie Walker supported them well and they were

all pleased to finish in 4th place (Dressage and Show jumping combined), out of 7 teams.

The Intermediate Team had a most successful day. Rosie Williams, Sarah Cheape, Annabel Wilson and Gareth Watt all gave excellent performances, with Rosie winning the individual awards for Dressage and combined Dressage/Show jumping. Rosie, Sarah and Annabel flew round the show jumping course and their fast double clears enabled Strathallan to win the Team Showjumping by 2 seconds. Overall the team finished 2nd in Dressage/Show jumping (out of 12 teams) which is a great result.

The Senior Team of Heather Larson, Emma Cheape, Flora Hay and Olivia Woodes Rogers all performed really well. Olivia achieved a fantastic score in the dressage, and all the riders gave sound overall performances in both Dressage and Showjumping, allowing them to finish in 4th place (out of 11 teams). The Team Showjumping section was the most exciting event as Strathallan was the only school to finish with double clear rounds. The Senior Team has won this event for 4 years now which is a significant achievement.



News and Results:

Heather Larson:

Won 2 major trophies in Eventing and was 3rd in the Working Hunter class at the Horse of the Year Show. She was the top British U25 rider at Blair Castle International Horse Trials.

Olivia Woodes Rogers:

Won Area Intermediate Dressage and qualified for the Pony Club National Championships in which she came 11th. She was selected for the Scottish Dressage 'C' squad.

Callum Fletcher:

Came first in the Scottish Open Pentathlon Championships and represented Scotland in the UK finals in which he came 18th.

Rosie Williams:

Won 3 One Day Events and was second in Area Open Pony Club Eventing. She qualified for the Open Pony Club National Championships and the Burghley Young Event Horse Championships.

Gareth Watt:

Selected for the Scottish Dressage 'B' squad and represented Scotland at the Home International in which he won the Junior Elementary Championship.

Annabel Wilson:

Represented Scotland in the victorious Scottish Pony Club Games team at Windsor. She also qualified for the Horse of the Year Show Games Championships.

Connie Snowie:

Won Novice Area Dressage and qualified for the Pony Club National Championships. She was the Novice Showhunter Pony Champion and she also qualified for the Horse of the Year Show and the Royal International Horse Show.



Phoebe Arnot:

Qualified for the Horse of the Year Show Games Championships and was selected for the Scottish Dressage 'C' squad.

Emma Cheape:

Won the 1m Score One Day Event and qualified for the Pony Club National Showjumping Championships in which her team came 5th.

Jenny Summersgill:

Won several classes in British Show jumping events and achieved a 4th place in the Scottish Horse of the Year Show. She was placed 3rd in the Scottish National 1m SJ league.

Sarah Cheape:

Selected to trial for the Scottish Games team and she qualified for the Pony Club National Championships in which her team came 5th.

Hanna Cheape:

Selected to trial for the Scottish Games team and she came 3rd in the Pony Club Area Intermediate Dressage Championships.

Lisa Garrett:

Qualified for the Novice Pony Club National Dressage Championships.

Logie Walker:

Winner of the "overall points" trophy at Perth Hunt Pony Club Show.

JAS



Clays



The British Clay Pigeon Championships

While the rest of Britain was setting up for the biggest wedding this century, the Strathallan clay pigeon teams were gearing up for the 10-hour drive to High Wycombe and our prime competition of the year; the British Championships. A total of eighteen boys and three girls went down to England, the largest number of pupils yet, accompanied by Mr Vallot, Mr Hamilton, Mr Kass, and of course Paul the driver. We stopped off on the way down, about half an hour after the 'I dos', for a shoot in Cumbria. Despite the blustery day and the sluggishness felt after five hours on a bus, everyone shot well and with the statistics worked out for the Boys' A team, we were looking good for the next day and the competition.

Upon arriving in High Wycombe, we had dinner and, with an air of nervousness (were you perhaps wondering whether you had the right day, PMV? Ed) and excitement, headed to bed for an early night before the big day. The big day began with the sun shining and optimistic outlooks. After a good breakfast we headed out to the range for the start of the competition. Arriving just before 11am, we split up into our respective teams and began our amble around the courses. The Girls' team accompanied by Mr Hamilton, and the Boys' B and C teams with Paul and Mr Vallot made their way around the blue course. After a slow start, the shooting began to pick up and soon all three teams were feeling confident and comfortable in their shooting. Along with the beautiful sunshine everyone was having a good time.

However, on the red course the competition was fierce for the Boys' A team. As one of the first teams on the course they set the standard very high, with Dan MacBride, the captain and Alex Falconer hitting 40 out of 50 and Torquill Curran, Charles Beamish, Derek Hoogerbrugger and James Wordie all hitting 35 from 50. One of the best collective scores Strathallan has seen down at the British championships, and hopefully the one to make us win. But being one of the first teams round also meant we had to play the waiting game. After 4 hours of basking in the sun, and watching the score board avidly the last team was going round the course and as things stood we were in 1st place, the suspense was killing us. Mr Vallot was on tenterhooks.

Much to our despair our day did not go as swimmingly as Kate and Wills', with the Boys' A team losing by just one clay, though it was still a fantastic result with the Girls' team coming a respectable 7th from 10 and the and the boys B and C teams silting in the upper half of the table in their respective competitions. We decided to celebrate anyway and finished the trip with a lovely dinner at TGI Friday, rounding off a brilliant weekend of shooting, sunburn and super experience.



PMV

Golf

The golf season began in style with a trip to the Old Course on the sunny links of St Andrews.

Michael McKenzie and Ewan Ramsay played in the Wayfarers match against Strathallians. The boys won their match on the final green in front of a captivated audience of tourists and enjoyed sandwiches in the Trophy room of the clubhouse after the match. Michael was gracious in thanking the Royal and Ancient for their hospitality on behalf of the current pupils' team.



Ewan Ramsay continued to play some splendid golf in school matches and competitions, including a gross 71 around Auchterarder, a round in which he completed the tricky back 9 holes in one under par. This round was good enough to win the School Championship by one stroke.



One stroke behind Ewan was Jork Greeve with 72 and one stroke behind Jork was Johnathon Dunn; two new golf team members with a very bright future in the game. Jork represented the school in a number of matches winning the majority of his ties. Johnathon, with an already formidable knowledge of Auchterarder's layout has played consistently well this season, reducing his handicap to 9.



Our team for the Independent Schools Golf Championship at Glealmond College this year was Jork Greeve, Sebastian Peter, and Claas Romeike. Claas was the worthy winner of the Pitlochry Cup held in early May this year, and he also picks up the prize for most improved golfer. Sebastian has been a consistent golfer in school matches this year and has a real opportunity to develop his already impressive game in the year ahead and bring his handicap down. Sadly for us, he has chosen to pursue this dream in his native Germany.

Josh Martin and Josh Johnstone also joined the golf squad this year. They gave their best but found the level of competition challenging. I hope that they will come back next year stronger and wiser.

Exams curtailed the participation of last season's golf team regulars but James Wordie, Tom Wilson, Charles Beamish, Euan Gilbert, Keith Buchan and Reece Hay all played a part.

I am indebted to Mr Cowper who leaves the golf team after 3 years. Numerous golfers have benefited from his coaching skills and enthusiasm for the game. I would also like to thank Mr Bussey and his team of grounds staff for their efforts in maintaining the school course this year. Players of all ages and abilities have thoroughly enjoyed some golf when weather permitted in the summer term. The course is a real asset to the school and helps to develop the skills of future generations of Strathallan golf team members.

BC

Tennis

Boys' tennis & Tennis Academy

In its fourth year of operation the Academy programme continues to benefit individuals and the sport as a whole. The programme runs throughout the year giving individual and group training sessions to selected talented tennis players. Tommy Ogilvie continues to work with the Academy players developing their skills while they are also part of the Strength and Conditioning programme for all elite sportsmen.

The Boys' team had another very successful season as is evident from the results. The year started in September with the Perth & District Singles Tournament. Here we were to discover Justus-Henri Vier - a talented player who had joined us from Germany for what was to be a very successful two terms. He won the U16 Boys' title while Neele Grandt won the Girls'. Our captain, Ruairidh Watson, took the U18 Boys' title.

We continue to play in a variety of National Competitions at various age groups. The Boys' and Mixed Doubles' teams again qualified for the Senior Students' Finals in Bolton in March. The players included Ruairidh Watson, William Lyburn, Justus Vier and Lewis Watson, along with Neele Grandt and Karolin Bott who played in the Mixed Doubles.

The Boys also qualified for the Scottish Schools' Finals for the second time in two years. In the semi-final we were drawn against Royal High School, Edinburgh where George Horne was the only player to record a win in his singles. Royal High School, Edinburgh went on to win the Final. In the third and fourth play-off we narrowly lost 2-4 to High School of Glasgow

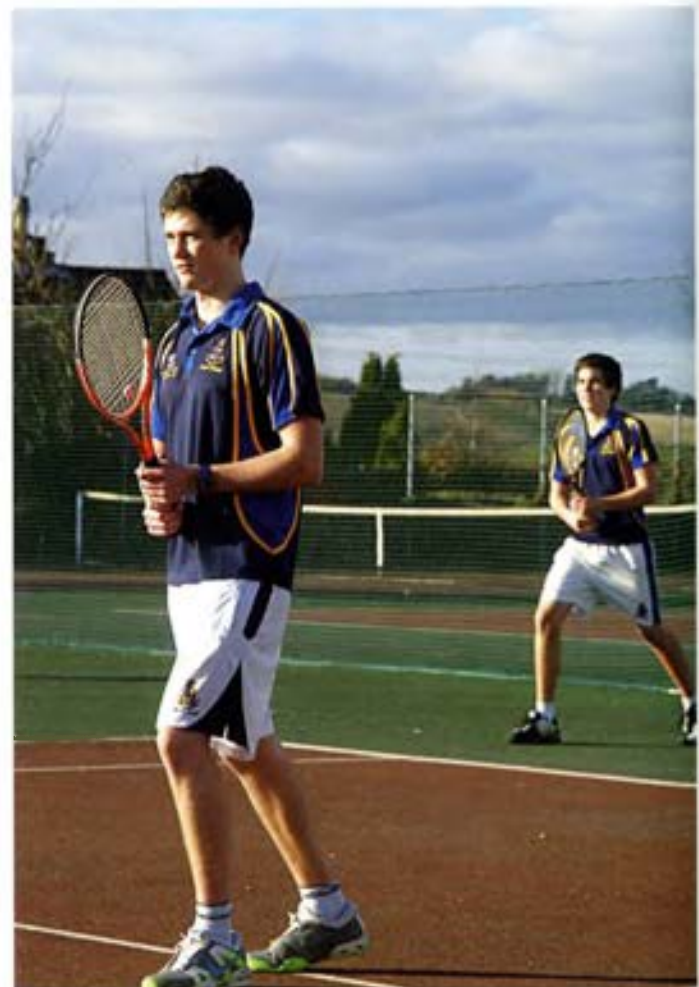
Our junior players again had the opportunity to play in the U14 Perth & District League. With fewer teams entered this year it meant we played some of the teams twice. This gave Douglas Tait some valuable match play experience for he was to feature in the Senior VI against Stewart's Melville College. Douglas is in Riley 1st Form and is certainly a player to watch in the years ahead. Regular first team players included Ruairidh Watson as Captain, Will Lyburn, Lewis Watson, Santi García, George Horne and Ben Melville. The second VI had a successful term as well, winning all their matches in convincing style.

We were again fortunate to secure tickets to Wimbledon in June. This is fast becoming an annual pilgrimage and one that is thoroughly enjoyed by all who make the round trip to London in the space of about 30 hours.

Congratulations to three players who represented a Scottish School's Team playing against a touring U17 team from South Africa. Ruairidh Watson, William Lyburn and Amber Paterson all played matches in June against this touring team.

Well done to Ruairidh who was re-awarded his Full Colours for his commitment and achievement in tennis. Full Colours were also awarded to William Lyburn, who will also captain the team in the year ahead. Lewis Watson and George Horne were awarded Half Colours. Well done to all Academy and Team players. Tommy and I look forward to the coming year as the Academy gains younger players.

AW





*...Well
done to all
Academy
and Team
players....*

Tennis Results 2010 - 2011

Glanvil Cup - British National Championships

v Glenalmond	W 6-0
v Merchiston	L 2-4

School Fixtures

Gordonstoun 1st	W 5-4
2nd	W 6-3
Morrison's (U15's)	W 6-3
St Leonards	W 9-0
Fettes 1st	W 9-0
2nd	W 7-2
Glenalmond 1st	W 9-0
2nd	W 9-0
Loretto School	W 5-4
Fettes 1st	W 8-1
2nd	W 8-1
Merchiston 1st	W 5-4
U15's	L 0-4
Stewart's Melville	W 6-3

Inter-House Winners Simpson

Boy's Singles Champion William Lyburn

Riley Mixed Doubles Douglas Tait
Isla Patterson

Scottish Schools - Boys Finalists

British Senior Students

Boys	Finalists
Mixed Doubles	Finalists

U14 Perth & District League

Darnhall (H)	W 7-1
Craigie (A)	W 6-2
Blairgowrie (A)	L 3-7
Craigie (H)	W 7-1
Blairgowrie (H)	W 8-0
Kinnoull (H)	L 1-7

Girls' Tennis

The 1st VI had an amazing season recording some excellent results. Amber Paterson (Riley) and Lexie McLellan (4G) played their first match for the 1st VI against Kilgraston and together they won all three doubles matches to help the team to an 8 - 1 victory. Amber and Lexie went on to be key figures for the 1st team and we look forward to seeing more of their impressive performances in years to come. Congratulations to Neele Grandt who competed in the Perth & District Singles tournament in September and went on to win the U16 competition. The junior teams also performed well and the 4th Form were impressive in the first game of the season against Fettes College. 4A winning 7 - 2, 4B winning 5 - 4 and the 4C winning 7 - 2. The 3rd Form A VI had good wins against Loretto (6 - 3), Glenalmond (5 - 4) and St George's (7 - 2). Nina Mearns and Caitlin Donald stood out for Riley in the Ardvreck match where they won all 3 matches to help the team win 6 - 3 overall. At the U13 Morrisons tournament Isla Gordon and Charlotte Stephenson picked up Silver Medals by winning 4 and only losing 1 match whilst Isla Patterson and Caitlin Donald finished in 3rd position at the St Leonards New Park tournament.

British Aberdare Schools Cup

The 1st IV (Amber Paterson, Lexie McLellan, Anastasiya Veretenikova & Eugenia Ramos) competed in the British Schools Cup. They lost to GWC (1 - 5), defeated Glenalmond (8 - 0) where Amber Paterson (Riley) won her singles matches 6 - 3, 6 - 3. They were then drawn against a strong St Trinity School team from Carlisle and lost the match 2 - 4.



Senior Results

	1st VI	2nd VI	3rd VI	4th VI	5th VI
Fettes	9 - 0 W	8 - 1 W	9 - 0 W	3 - 6 L	4 - 5 L
Kilgraston	8 - 1 W	7 - 2 W	-	-	-
Gordonstoun	5 - 4 W	8 - 1 W	-	-	-
Loretto	7 - 2 W	5 - 4 W	5 - 4 W	-	-
St George's	9 - 0 W	5 - 4 W	-	-	-
Glenalmond	6 - 3 W	4 - 5 L	1 - 5 L	-	-



an amazing season recording some excellent results.



Scottish Schools Cup

In a closely fought 1st round match against Dunblane HS, the 1st IV went on to win the match on a tie break. Neele Grandt won her singles tie break 11 - 9 whilst Karolin Bott & Anastasiya Veretennikova won their doubles tie break 10 - 8. The girls were delighted but exhausted after this long match. We then played Millburn in the quarter- final and lost 2 - 4 on a very wet day.

Kilgraston Tournament

U12 Group - Caitlin Donald and Imogen Robertson-Barnett reached the quarter-finals.

U14 Group - Eliza Younger and Caitlin Beveridge reached the semi finals whilst Francesca Blair and Amber Paterson defeated everyone who they came up against. They defeated St Leonards in the quarter-finals, Glenalmond in the semi finals then Kilgraston 1st couple in the final.

U16 Group - Lexie McLellan and Jayne Thoms defeated Kilgraston in the quarter- final match and then lost to Dollar in the semi final. Anni Arthur and Ella Coleman reached the ¼ finals.

Open Group - Mhairi Bannerman & Ellie Kemp reached the quarter-finals whilst Eugenia Ramos and Anastasiya Veretennikova made it all the way to the final. They defeated

Fettes (6 - 0) in the quarter- final, then Kilgraston (4 - 2) in the semi final. They lost to Dollar Academy in the final.

Well done to Amber & Francesca on winning the U14 tournament - they played some really good tennis and hopefully a good partnership for the future. Also well done to Amber who was selected for the Scotland U15 team to play against a South African touring team.

Inter House Matches

Well done to Glenbrae who won both the Junior and Senior inter- House matches.

Many thanks to Tommy for all his coaching throughout the year. He really deserves a lot of the credit for such an amazing tennis season. Thanks also to all the coaches for all their help and enthusiasm, to the parents for all their support and also the catering staff for providing us with the match teas.

Sophie Howell

VI Woodlands
Captain



Athletics and Cross Country

On one of our most memorable training runs this year we could only follow narrow, trodden-down paths through the snow that criss-crossed the school. A month later we finished a session by jogging up the hill towards Forgandenny.....upstream, calf-deep, through the freezing torrent covering the road. These are enduring memories, but only partly make up for the fact that another cross country season was severely hampered by the weather. We had promising results at the Fettes relays and at our own meeting, but we were not as race fit as we should have been for the Scottish Schools. Any faint hope of medals was, however, finally removed when we decided to abort the trip to Irvine when the snow began to cover the road completely.

With Summer coming in April this year, the first two weeks of the Athletics season were most enjoyable, and an early trial fixture against the Edinburgh Academy was a good way to focus the mind. We also enjoyed fixtures against QVS, Fettes, Glenalmond and Merchiston, the relative success of all schools being as much a factor of what examinations were going on at the time as the strength of the squad. We competed well as individuals, but we rarely filled every event with point winners, and therefore struggled to beat the stronger squads.

Sports Day was squeezed between the showers, and in a very exciting competition, Woodlands won the girls', and Simpson (on countback) the boys' cup.

At the Scottish Schools Championship, a bronze medal was won by Callum Nicol in the pole vault, and silvers by Connor Coleman in the Discus and Shot Putt. There were many more personal bests, and we can only hope that these athletes will build on their progress next year.

As ever, we must thank JRF for his continuing devotion to the sport both within the school and at national level, and all the coaches for their time and effort.

DMH



Athletics Records

Girls

	Age	Record	Holder	Year
100M	J	13.00	K Streule	1982
	S	12.12	Alison Edmunds	1990
200M	J	26.73	Lauren Giles	2003
	S	25.20	Alison Edmunds	1990
300M	J	42.30	Katie Fleming	1999
	S	41.72	Katie Fleming	2002
400m	J	63.65	Lauren Giles	2004
	S	60.00	Sonya Reid	1990
800m	J	2.26.2	Katie Fleming	1999
	S	2.15.2	Katie Fleming	2002
1500m	J	5.14.09	A Barlow	1992
	S	5.05.10	C Meiklejohn	1990
3000m	J	10.59.2	Ciara Elwis	2008
	S	11.51.37	Olwyn Jenkins	2011
HIGH JUMP	J	1.50	Amelia Inglis	2011
	S	1.55	R Rutherford	1987
LONG JUMP	J	4.49	Emily Fraser	2003
	S	4.64	Anna MacDonald	
			Kirsty Hay	2004 / 05
POLE VAULT	J	2.40	Sarah Nicol	2011
	S	2.60	Sarah Fleming	2005
TRIPLE JUMP	J	7.80	Ciara Elwis	2008
SHOT PUTT	J	10.23	T Sang	1992
	S	9.49	Alison Edmunds	1990
DISCUS	J	25.75	Yasmine Forbes	2009
	S	26.60	Rhona Chapman	1998
JAVELIN	J	26.46	Anna Younger	2010
	S	27.52	Anna Younger	2011
4X100m Relay	J	53.73	School Team	2003
	S	52.63	School Team	2006
4X400m Relay	J	4.37.48	Thornbank	1999
	S	4.32.36	Thornbank	2007

Boys

	Age	Record	Holder	Year
100M	J	12.00	T Ling	1971
	M	10.9 *	Ogilvie	1978
	S	11 *	various athletes	1970's
200M	J	24.00	Richard Wallace	1993
	M	23.20	T Ling	1973
	S	22.80	T Ling	1973
400m	J	56.50	C Cook	1987
	M	52.50	Millar	1977
	S	50.30	G Roger	1982
400m Hurdles	J	64.41	Stuart McDonald	2002
	M	60.80	Scott McKinlay	1999
	S	57.70	Scott McKinlay	2001
800m	J	2.12.90	C Lawrence	1984
	M	2.03.06	C Lawrence	1985
	S	1.55.02	G Roger	1982
1500m	J	4.32.07	C Lawrence	1985
	M	4.14.05	Roger Bond	1988
	S	4.09.02	Roger Bond	1989
1500m S'chase	M	4.51.11	Tom Fleming	2006
2000m S'chase	M	7.00.23	Chris RENNISON	2009
2000m S'chase	S	6.37.48	Tom Fleming	2008
3000m	M	9.28	Chris RENNISON	2009
	S	9.24	Tom Fleming	2007
3000m S'chase	S	10.44.44	Tom Fleming	2007
5000m	S	18.25	Juraj Sabol	2009
HIGH JUMP	J	1.63	Holmes	1965
	M	1.77	Cuthbertson	1984
	S	1.95	Okki Colquhoun	1999
LONG JUMP	J	5.55	C Lear	1967
	M	6.17	Lawson	1967
	S	6.52	D Smellie	1978
POLE VAULT	J	2.50	Callum Nicol	2011
	M			
	S			
TRIPLE JUMP	J	10.68	Marcus Adams	2006
	M	11.29	Marcus Adams	2007
	S	12.49	Gregor Duncan	2004
SHOT PUTT	J	12.83	L Walker	1992
	M	14.73	G McKenzie	1973
	S	12.90	Callander	1979
DISCUS	J	36.27	S Knox	1974
	M	42.00	S Knox	1976
	S	40.26	G McKenzie	1974
JAVELIN	J	49.81 *	J McBride	1969
	M	49.81	J McBride	1969
	S	57.07	J McBride	1971
4X100m Relay	J	50.50	Ruthven	1987
	M	46.60	Simpson	1972
	S	45.50	Freeland	1981
4X400m Relay	J	4.09.07	Simpson	1995
	M	3.53.49	Simpson	1995
	S	3.41.03	Freeland	1992

* = unverified performances



Ski racing season



This season has been astonishing and will remain memorable for two main reasons: it snowed and snowed well before anticipated (plus it carried on snowing) AND the race results seemed to be getting better and better as the season progressed.

Back in Autumn, the Dry Slopes Scottish Schools Championships took place at the Midlothian Ski Centre, Hillend, near Edinburgh. Our Senior Girls Team (of Charlie Guest, 3rd overall, Hope Whitelaw, Katie Guest and Lucy Garvie) won the overall event ahead of thirteen other schools. Our Senior Boys (Scott Garvie, Alasdair Wood, Michael McKenzie, and Rory Wood) were less fortunate and did not get a place. In the Minors Girls Race (U14), Kirsty Guest was the overall winner and the rest of our team (Amber Garvie, Hannah Wilson and Aurelie Thompson) skied well. The Minors Boys (Chris Guest, Angus Gibson, Nick Drummond-Hay and Rob Muir) did not get a place but finished with dignity intact.

In January our top three girls, Charlie Guest, Katie Guest and Hope Whitelaw, travelled to Flaine, France to compete in the British Schoolgirls Championships. They returned with Gold Medals for the Slalom, GS (Giant Slalom) and Combined Event and were awarded the Best British Team Trophy for placing first overall, ahead of 114 other schools. Charlie Guest excelled throughout the whole event by finishing 2nd Briton in the GS and First U18 in the Combined event. Her younger sister Katie placed 3rd U16 in the GS and 2nd in the U16 Combined event. The team of three came home with no fewer than 5 trophies and 13 Gold and 4 Silver Medals.

In February at the Lecht, the Scottish Schools Minors Championships took place. Our racers did not go unnoticed with the girls (Amber Garvie, 3rd overall, Kirsty Guest and Megan Inch) grabbing bronze medals and the Chris Guest winning the Boys event, ahead of teammates Rob Muir, Angus Gibson and Nick Drummond-Hay.

Early in March our eight star racers (Charlie, Katie, Kirsty and Chris Guest, Hope Whitelaw, Lucy, Scott

and Amber Garvie) travelled to Les Houches, France, to compete in the British Interschools Ski Challenge. In both the Slalom and the GS, Charlie Guest came first Junior Girl (U19) over all, closely followed by sister Katie who came 2nd. Hope Whitelaw came 3rd in the GS. With excellent performances of our other and younger racers, and after a total of 26 runs, Strathallan placed First School overall, ahead of another 28, that's more silverware being flown back from the continent to Strathallan.

Shortly after this, the Scottish Schools Seniors Championships took place at the Lecht. In spite of being short of two key players (who were at the time competing abroad) our Girls Team rose to the Challenge and managed to win the overall team event, thanks to the strong runs of Katie Guest (overall winner), Lucy Garvie, Severine Thompson and Robyn Somerville. In the Boys event Scott Garvie finished 2nd overall ahead of 78 others including team mates Doga Makiura (Japan Junior Team Member), Sebastian Brazier and Connor McCarthy.

In June's Scottish Schools Dual Slalom at Hillend our strong team of Charlie and Katie Guest, Hope Whitelaw as well as Lucy and Scott Garvie secured a series of strong and promising runs until they turned out to be unlucky with a fall in the quarter final.

Beyond the School scene, our top racers accumulated credible results at local, regional and national level, the most noticeable being:

Charlie GUEST: Gold Medal (GS and Slalom) in two Open races, Silver Medal in the Cairngorm F.I.S. Slalom (thus gaining international ranking) and Bronze Medal in British Junior Downhill Championships. In addition to this, Charlie has won a total of seven British Medals (overall or age group placing) and three Scottish Gold Medals abroad whilst racing against members of mainland Europe teams in Slalom, GS, in F.I.S. Thus it seemed entirely justified to award Charlie full skiing colours.

Katie GUEST: Bronze Medal in the Scottish Junior (U16) Championships (and 3rd GB girl) as well as Silver

Medal in the U16 F.I.S. Slalom Race (thus gaining international ranking). Katie therefore deserves her full skiing colours.

Hope WHITELAW: Silver Medal in the British Junior Slalom Championships (U16) as well as Silver Medal in the Scottish Slalom Championships.

Along with her outstanding achievement of last season, at Regional and National level, and bearing in mind that Hope has twice already been selected for and participated in the World Schools Ski Championships it seems only fair that in spite of being only in 4th Form, Hope is awarded full skiing colours.

Lucy GARVIE: In view of her several high placings which contributed to her team being placed top in Scottish and British events, our dedicated and pro-active Captain was awarded half skiing colours.

Scott GARVIE: U15 winner of the Saab Skicross Challenge at Glenoshee,

Silver U15 Slalom Medal and Gold U15 GS Medal in the Hilton Coylumbridge Open Championships on Cairngorm as well as Bronze Medal in the Slalom event of the Scottish Children U15 Championships.

Kirsty GUEST: Gold Slalom Medal and Gold GS Medal in the Scottish Championships as well as Gold GS Medal in the Hilton Coylumbridge Open Championships.

Chris GUEST: Slalom Silver and Giant Silver Medal in the Scottish Championships as well as Silver GS Medal in the Hilton Coylumbridge Open Championships.

Amber GARVIE: Gold Slalom and Silver GS in the Hilton Coylumbridge Open Championships on Cairngorm.

The youngsters above could on several occasions have monopolised a whole Assembly between them just by having their individual as well as team success at Regional and National level read out. It takes team stamina and dedication to deliver such outstanding results, week after week over several harsh winter months. These are results every school dreams of. We look forward to next season for more excitement.

Fabienne Thompson

Netball

It has come to the end of yet another very successful season for the Strathallan 1st VII netball team. With an unbeaten school-match season, we would like to congratulate the girls on what has been a fantastic year of netball. Our skills have improved significantly since we started out in September 2010.

With 2 "baby" additions to the 1sts, Lucy and Ella Coleman, we started a fresh season on a high, winning comfortably against Glenalmond with a score of 56-23. As the season and the team developed, the school-match scores further improved as the goals seemed to increase each game. We agree that Strathallan girls had the upper hand in most games due to the commitment made every Wednesday night to attend Bell's Sports Centre, where the girls played in the Perth Ladies' League. This is a club league of twenty-one sponsored Perthshire teams consisting of experienced ladies who play to a very high standard. This opportunity undoubtedly improved the girls' play as we faced challenging, skilful and at times intimidating players who made up unbeatable defence zones, effective centre court plays and sharp attacking combinations. The challenge faced each week at Perth league where unfortunately we achieved our lowest scores, definitely set us up for bigger and better things when it came to school matches.

As the season progressed the team's ability and agility really shone when we entered and convincingly won the Independent Schools' Cup. A trip down to Fettes on Saturday March 5th saw the girls hit the court with assertiveness and the positive attitude of winners – and that we were! Having convincingly beaten the six Independent Schools entered on that day in the round robin (such as Robert Gordon's, Fettes, & Glenalmond,), Strathallan went on to face Kilgraston in the final where we

brought home a victorious score of 21 goals to 9 in just 20 minutes and yet again returned the trophy to its place in the school Trophy Cabinet.

We also entered the national Scottish Schools cup competition. In the early rounds Strathallan yet again stood out from the crowd winning comfortably every match and challenge faced. However, as we reached the quarter finals we were dealt the unfortunate away draw of Robert Gordon's College in Aberdeen. After a long journey, we set out to play our best knowing it was going to be a tough match against a 13 member squad with 2 international players, plus their home court advantage. Although we gave it our best and more or less held them in the first two quarters, it didn't prove to be enough as we narrowly lost 31-25. Although disappointing it was a fantastic achievement to reach that stage against a school of that size.

To end what was a fun-filled, extremely successful and fulfilling season with a lot of laughter and ice cream, the girls finished up with a hand-cooked meal by Lynne and me – which was rather delightful if we do say so ourselves.

At the meal, the team voted Chloe Grossi as our "Players' Player" of the year; an extremely reliable and flexible player who managed to spring back from an early-season knee injury to become one of the team's key players this season. What's more, Fiona Johnston was voted 'Most improved player' as she has made phenomenal progress throughout a very successful season in defence and without such skills and determined play, we would have inevitably faced more defeats.

So to conclude, we would like to acknowledge our dedicated coach Mrs Ingram-Forde who has coached us both for four years and made us feel very much a part of her netball team at every age group. Mrs Ingram-Forde's passion and support has been the underlying catalyst of



Strathallan netball and without her we would not have enjoyed such a wonderful netballing career.

Although 2011 sees five of the Upper Sixth leave the 1st VII team, we have no doubt that we have left the team in good hands and wish them all the very best of luck for next season.

Happy Netballing!

Sally Lungmuss (captain)

UVI Glenbrae

Lynne Howie (vice captain)

UVI Woodlands

...the school-match scores further improved as the goals seemed to increase each game...

Judo



Aiden Moffat and Scott Malone recently put on a judo demonstration and the club has now recruited several new members pictured above.

Also this year five Strathallan Pupils medalled at the Invergordon Under 16 years Championships in April 2011, Jack Bruce won convincingly in the Under 46kg weight category to take the Gold Medal.

In the Under 42kg weight category Gavin Tulloch won Silver and James Barrack won Bronze.

In the Under 34kg weight category Alex Webb won Silver and Euan Nicol won Bronze.

After a recent grading Jack Bruce, Callum Nicol and James Barrack all gained their 10th Mon (green belt).

Alex Webb, Euan Nicol, Cameron Griffith all gained 6th Mon (yellow belt with black stripe).

Strathallan Judo Club runs every Friday in the Small Gym from:

4.30pm - 5.30pm Riley Pupils

6.30pm - 7.30pm.

All Strathallan pupils are coached by Scott Malone the 2006 Commonwealth Gold Medallist and Andy McInroy the 2009 Judo Scotland Performance Coach of the Year.

Table tennis

Strathallan Table Tennis Club can be a busy place these days, with over fifty pupils who have come along to try their hand at the world's most popular sport - Table Tennis.

The accent at the club is to make each session an enjoyable experience and to play sport for fun. However, there is a serious side too. Strathallan have four representative teams competing in the Perth & District Junior Table Tennis League, where our players have enjoyed some success. Our top team (Strathallan 1) with John Dew, Tony Tong and Chris Hu won the league last year making it three championships in a row for Strathallan. After the first month of this season Strathallan 1, John,

Tony, Matthew Paterson and Martin Kreiling have gone top of the 1st Division but only on a game difference from Kinross High School.

Strathallan School is affiliated to Table Tennis Scotland and has access to fully qualified coaches who can work with players who want to go further in the sport and compete at the various National Competitions.

The school champion last year was John Dew with Chris Hu in second place. This year John will face tough opposition from Matthew and Tony as he sets out to retain his title.

The club meets on a Thursday at 5.15pm in the small gym - why not come along and see for yourself why Table Tennis is proving to be so popular at Strathallan.

Pat Duffy

...John Dew will face tough opposition from Matthew and Tony as he sets out to retain his title

Sailing



A keen band of sailors spent their games afternoons at Port Edgar again this summer term - serial addicts such as Michael Brodie, now in his fourth year of the sport (and who should have been writing this report) along with some talented newcomers from Riley up.

The beginners (Euan Gray, Jordan Curtis and Jan Toepfer) were able to progress confidently to achieve their Level 2 certificates before the end of the term, but there was a certain lack of continuity for those who had more experience: many were either in exam years and could not attend all the sessions, or were only able to sail on the Saturday being in class on the weekday sessions. There were some moments of drama, Angus Lapslie lost an argument with his centreboard which left him proudly carrying a large finger bandage for many weeks thereafter; Iain Robertson should now remember why instructors always tell you to hold on to the sharp end of a rigged dinghy - I was thinking of risk assessments, boards of enquiry and the like as he seemed likely to disappear across the harbour behind his boat, but fortunately he let go... Our new sailing diva, Miss Robertson, accompanied the Saturday outings and braved the elements as well as the risks posed by over-enthusiastic helmsmanship, not least that of Michael Brodie himself. That she was still smiling at the end of the season says much for her fortitude.

ACWS-J



Sailing Trip, July 2011

We started out in Rhu and stayed the night in the Marina there.

We then sailed down the Clyde the next day and stopped off in Largs. Our boat was a Bavaria 37 called Scorcher IV. We all had a great time learning how to sail properly, look after the boat, avoid the jellyfish, and cook 7 different meals with pasta. We visited some interesting places and saw some cool things on the way including an upturned sugar cane boat, several dolphins and a shark. We learnt lots of new skills and visited some great places including Tarbert, Arran, Rothesay and Faslane. We experienced some real sailing weather, on Tuesday we all had to be clipped on if we were going up on deck because it was gale force 7!

We will always have great memories from our trip including Scott catching five mackerel, planking in some really weird places, Miss Robertson's maths lessons, accidentally filling the sea with washing up liquid, seeing the Waverly Paddle Steamer, visiting some very old Victorian toilets, paddling through the Marina in the dingy, attempting to scrub the decks, learning first aid and Nicole almost killing Rory.

We also had a good time night-sailing and learning about all the different colours of the buoys and what they all mean. We set off from Holy Loch at 11.30 pm and sailed until 3am back to where we started in Rhu. We had to motor the whole way because there was no wind but we still enjoyed the experience.

We all had a great time and would recommend it to any people in the Navy considering it this year.

Julia Leng

IV Form Woodlands

Canoeing

Throughout the year the canoe club has grown dramatically and with combined sessions with Perth Canoe Club, the pond is a busy place. During the week we regularly get up to sixty children canoeing on the pond and in the pool. The ability ranges from complete beginners who start to learn the basic rules of slalom paddling to people who are in the top divisions and on the Scottish Development Squad.

Recent development of the pond

Last summer the pond underwent a massive development scheme part-funded by a Strathallan parent. It seemed like a perfect time to hang slalom gates and construct a slalom course. Over the past year with thanks to Colorado Group construction company, the slalom course has blossomed with a jetty, buoys, floodlights and easy-to-use bearers for adjusting gates. These are just some of the features which allow the pond to facilitate such a successful club. We also have a big container which stores all twenty of the club's boats and a shed for changing and hanging kit up. From all the canoeists, we would like to thank the parent who sponsored the refurbishment of the pond and the School for supporting our development with resources such as the container. Without this support the success of the canoe club would not have been possible.

Results:

Eilidh Gibson

KAYAK:

- > Division 1 - 1st, 1st, 2nd, 2nd, 4th - Promoted to Premier
- > Junior selection - 5th J16
- > Pan Celtic home international - 2nd J16 Woman's Kayak
- > 1st J16 Scottish Schools
- > Selected into Scottish development squad
- > 10th Teen World Cup - Slovenia

C1:

- > Division 2 - 1st, 1st, 1st - Promoted to division 1/premier
- > Division 1/prem - 2nd, 3rd
- > Pan Celtic home international - 2nd J16 Woman's C1
- > 1st J18 Scottish Schools

Angus Gibson

C1:

- > Division 2 - 1st, 1st, 1st, 2nd, 2nd
- > Promoted to division 1
- > Pan Celtic home international 2nd J14
- > British J14 Champion
- > 2nd J14 Scottish Schools
- > Selected into Scottish development Squad
- > 5th, 5th Teen World Cup - Slovenia

C2:

- > Pan Celtic home international - 1st Juniors
- > Division 2/3 - 1st, 1st

Crawford Niven

- > Division 3 - 10th, 8th, 1st - Promoted to division 2
- > Winner of Simon Fletcher Trophy best div 3 man
- > Division 2 - 3rd, 4th, 2nd - Promoted to division 1
- > Division 1 - 39th
- > C1 - promoted to division 3

This year we had over 15 people competing for the School and Club at Scottish Schools and success for everyone in their own categories led us to win Best Scottish School for the second year running.

Over the summer Angus and Eilidh were selected to be a part of the Scottish Junior team to travel out to Slovenia to train and race in the Teen World Cup. It was an amazing experience and the great rivers, paddling and sun made up for the 27 hour drive. In both the races Angus made the J14 semi-final and final and finished 5th J14 C1 in both races. Eilidh did not make the semis in the first race but managed to in the second, narrowly missing out in the J16 final by one place. This left her 10th J16 Kayak. Both had a great time and the experience will stay with them forever.

Fraser Glasgow

- > Division 3 results; 1st, 1st, 1st - Promoted to division 2
- > Division 2 - 2nd, 2nd
- > 2nd J14 Scottish Junior Championships
- > 5th J14 in British Junior Championships
- > Selected into J14 Regional training squad

Division 3 paddlers

- > Alex Robertson - 2nd, 3rd, 4th
- > Hermes Manos - 13th, 14th
- > Oscar Mansfield - 15th, 10th
- > David Carswell - after a 2nd in division 4, promoted to division 3 - 16th, 16th
- > Gregor Ritchie - after a 3rd in division 4, promoted to division 3 - 18th
- > Orpheas Manos - after a 4th in division 4, promoted to division 3 - 11th
- > Nicole Skinner - after a 2nd in division 4, promoted to division 3 - 6th

Division 4 paddlers

- > Sandy Fotheringham - 3rd - promoted to division 3
- > Kirsty Mack - 2nd - promoted to division 3
- > Murray Ritchie - 4th, 6th, 13th

Other division 4 paddlers: Iain Robertson, Andrew Adam, Euan Sutherland

It is amazing to see so many different people canoeing and achieving great results. This year alone has seen the canoe club soar to success and the hope is to get more and more people enjoying canoeing and canoe slalom. All of this would not be here and the canoe club would not be possible without the voluntary coaches Jane and Gary Gibson, Paul Kelly and Richard Rogers. All the paddlers are very grateful for the time taken out of their busy schedules to coach canoeing and we thank you very much.

Eilidh Gibson

Captain, V Form Glenbrae



Angus Gibson, 1st form, Teen World Cup - Tacen, Slovenia



Fraser Glasgow, 1st Form, training on the Tay



Elith Gibson, 5th Form, St Pierre de Boeuf - Summer trip France

*...this year alone
has seen the
canoe club soar
to success...*



Sandy Fotheringham, 2nd form, Alva slalom

Angling club



Alfonso triumphs! Playing a lively fish at Golden Loch.



Scott Garvie into yet another fish...



Findlay Kinloch concentrating hard.



Finlay Stewart playing a well deserved fish.

The moons were not in alignment nor the weather gods appeased in what proved yet another testing season for the anglers of Strathallan. Time and time again the weather proved the deciding factor in whether our anglers returned home with piscatorial trophies or not. Indeed, trips were even cancelled due to monsoon rains or, worse still, lightning (never a good idea to be waving a carbon stick about when there's lightning - just ask the physics and geography departments).

This prolonged run of bad luck with the weather was disappointing

because the skills our anglers displayed were good and merited better attention from the finned residents of our local lochs than they got, although the boys seldom returned home empty handed.

From the first trip on 3rd May until our last trip in late June, Scott Garvie, Findlay Kinloch, Finlay Stewart, Rory Wood, Alfonso Ramos, Charles Gifford and Lewis Couatts all proved themselves capable of winking out fish even in difficult conditions by a combination of perseverance, skill and luck. From dragging large feathered lures to inching small nymphs, the boys all developed their own style during the season with there always being a good-natured sense of competition between them.

In the inter-House competition (this year taken over the whole season), the winners by some margin were Ruthven, with the vast majority of the anglers (and fish caught) coming from this house. Nicol were worthy runners-up. Hand over the trophy, Simpson House!

There were two highlights of the season, however - firstly, the annual match against the Strathallians saw five of the pupils in the School team that won for a third time in a row against vastly more experienced opposition - and on a terrible day with strong winds blowing the boats at a quick pace down the loch. For the second year running it was a pupil who took the largest fish of the day - Scott Garvie proving to his dad

(who was fishing for the Strathallians) that he is an angler to be reckoned with.

The second highlight - and a fitting finale to the season, was the Club's trip to Golden Loch on the night of 29 June. At last the weather gods were benevolent, the moons and all the angler's biorhythms were in alignment and so fish were caught - many fish! Whilst the boys had the advantage of the loch holding some fairly recently stocked fish, they absolutely deserved a night of relatively easy fishing having endured so many challenging nights before. Here's to an easier season next year...!

ACG

Sports Day

Victor Ludorum

Rowan Cup

(Standards) Nicol

Tug of War Boys Ruthven

Tug of War Girls Thornbank

Junior Girl: Amelia Inglis

Junior Boy: Connor Holborn

Middle Boy: Oliver Tridgell

Senior Girl: Fiona Johnston

Senior Boy: Ben Giles

Girls House Champions

1 Woodlands

2 Thornbank

3 Glenbrae

Boys House Champions

1 Simpson

Equal 1 Ruthven

3 Freeland

4 Nicol



Thankfully, the weather stayed dry to allow this year's highly competitive

Sports Day to go ahead. In the girls' competition Woodlands were victorious, with notable performances from Junior Victrix Ludorum winner, Amelia Inglis, 1st in the high jump and long jump and 2nd in the 100m and from Abi Evans, one of our top swimmers, victorious over 200 and 300m. From the other Houses, Fiona Johnston of Thornbank completed a fine season by winning the 200m, 300m and long jump to retain her Senior Vitrix Ludorum

trophy and Glenbrae surprised all with a fine victory in the 4x100m relay.

The boys' competition produced many very good individual performances. Ruthven's Connor Holborn took the Junior Boys Victor Ludorum title with fine wins in the 100m, 200m and the high jump. Our exchange student, Oliver Tregell from Freeland ran away with the Middle Victor Ludorum following comfortable wins in the 800m, 1500m and long jump. The senior trophy went to Captain of Athletics Ben Giles from Ruthven, who after winning the 1500m and coming 3rd in the 800m jumped out of his skin

to secure victory in the long jump. Craig Rintoul and Conor Coleman both achieved the sprint doubles in their respective age groups and the performance of the day goes to our international hockey player Michael Mackenzie, who stunned the field to win the senior 800m. The boys' team competition was a very close affair and went down to the last event, the senior boys 4x100m relay. Simpson had a four point advantage over Ruthven going into the race but with a disqualification at the last changeover and Ruthven scoring four points the Boys' title was shared for the first time ever.

DRG

CCF Army section

In terms of achievement it is a well known fact that unless you try to do something beyond what you have already mastered you'll never grow. The aim of the Army Section is to turn cadets into leaders by giving them unfamiliar challenges.

The first major challenge of the year was preparing for and competing in the Scottish Schools CCF Military Skills Competition. The pre-competition training was ably and enthusiastically run by CDT Sergeant Olivia Quick assisted by CDT Corporal Robbie Bussey and CDT Corporal Molly Seed as our expert first aider. Due to academic and sporting commitments many senior cadets were unable to attend the actual competition but the resultant young team acquitted themselves well. Notable performances were CDT Callum Dodd's night navigation, CDT Sophie Burdett's Command Task-solving intellect, CDT Olwyn Jenkins' amazing physical fitness, CDT Kirsty Muir's strength and team spirit, and CDT Chris McCarthy's all round ability and good humour. The team were delighted to gain a first place in the patrolling event.

The Biannual Inspection and Field Day in October consisted of an overnight search- and-destroy exercise at Barry Buddon. Olivia Quick's strong leadership and Robbie Bussey's excellent organisation meant that the Army Section's night harbour position was effective and quiet with good light discipline. Cooking an evening meal for yourself in the dark is a really unfamiliar challenge that all cadets eventually rise to and enjoy. New CDT NCOs Callum Kettles and Adeeb Nasaan proved their worth by leading successful reconnaissance patrols. CDT Chris Thomson showed himself remarkably adept at playing the enemy during the section advance phase.

The Army Section Formal Dinner in November presents a more enjoyable prospect to the fledgling leaders of the section. The cadets are increasingly taking over the whole organisation of the dinner: thirty-four people, pre-dinner drinks in the library, five courses in the Wilf Hoare room followed by four toasts and speeches. Our principal guest was Lieutenant Colonel Ed Fenton, Commanding Officer of the Regular Army's Black Watch Battalion. He enlightened us as to the history of the red hackle we wear and then proposed a toast to the future of all who wear it.

The tactical field exercise also known as the 'capture the flag' game is normally run at the end of term and often half term. Sometimes we run it in the close woody confines of Scout Hill and sometimes in the wide open spaces of big and



little acres, the lake and mud flats. Individual and leadership skills are tried and tested during these afternoons and as often proved on real operations it is the quiet and thoughtful soldiers or cadets that often come to the fore. Katie Guest, Hannah Pitts, Andrew Burns and the reluctant Reece Hay being examples.

Throughout late January and February we were fortunate enough to have use of the close combat tactical training system at Dregghorn Barracks in Edinburgh. Using laser simulation this system enables advanced marksmanship training to take place in an enjoyable, comfortable and enlightening environment. CDTs Elsa Hofland, Chris McCarthy and Dan Adams proved themselves particularly able. This year the Contingent was inspected by Col. Peter Kemp RM. The last few biennial inspections have been carried out at school, and it made a challenging but refreshing change to take the whole contingent out for the event. The Army and RM undertook a spirited campaign against the usual devious enemy overnight at Barry Buddon, and were able to spend the following day passing on skills and knowledge to the Recruits. Meanwhile the Navy Section honed their leadership and teamwork skills at Blue Sky Experiences. It is good to report that the Colonel was impressed with all he saw and was kind enough to write to congratulate the cadets and adults on their hard work

Command Tasks featured heavily in the Wednesday afternoon training activities throughout the second half of the Spring Term. Many cadets had leadership opportunities and 'grew' as a result of trying to master the situation and their subordinates. CDTs Siobhain Forbes and Olwyn Jenkins discovered how hard it is to lead a team in crossing a six foot high electrified fence. CDTs Alex Bannerman and James Spalding were beginning to learn about discipline and responsibility.

The Summer term is mostly devoted to exams in this day and age, but this May we were privileged to host the Beating of Retreat ceremony which is performed annually by the massed bands of the Scottish Schools CCF. It is, we believe, a first for this event to take place anywhere other than on the Esplanade of Edinburgh Castle: this year the venue was not available due to major development works, and thus the Lawn became the rather greener (and much closer!) backdrop for this impressive display. There are not many opportunities to see a pipe band of over one hundred and fifty pipers and drummers (not to mention seven Pipe Majors), and the standard of playing and drill did them great credit. The Section was well turned out and very noticeable with red hackles seemingly shining in the evening sun. Many visitors commented most favourably on the turnout and demeanour of our army cadets.

The highlight of the year is annual camp. For most Strathallan Cadets over the last twenty or more years, Central Camp was always at Cultybraggan (and the sun always shone). Since the regrettable demise of the camp we have been venturing further afield and this year the Section went to Wathgill Camp in North Yorkshire and had a full programme featuring shooting, patrolling, ambushes, orienteering, command tasks, kayaking and archery. Many cadets are wary at the start of camp but by the end have made significant improvement in their personal and leadership skills. Robbie Bussey became a dependable platoon sergeant and will head the army section next year. Elsa Hofland, Kirsty Muir and Siobhain Forbes proved themselves to be capable leaders in exacting circumstances. Scott Haldane, Alex McLeod, Ross Buchanan, Findlay Kinloch, Josh Martin and Colin Gordon developed into impressive cadets and hopefully will benefit from leadership training next year. Robbie McDiarmid, Euan Gray and Gareth Watt kept the instructors alert by asking a constant stream of incisive questions; these three were particularly good at thinking through command task problems. Gregor Leighton, Cammy Mack, Thorin Maxwell and Monty Peeters were quite reluctant to engage fully to begin with but all showed impressive personal skill improvement towards the end. Becky Vallot deserves praise for determination and endurance, she was the only lady junior cadet but did not ever complain, give up or seek special treatment. Señorita and I found out the way to the local A&E department, first with a 'flu case and the following day with Josh Johnstone who fractured his collarbone when off duty. The week ended with an overnight exercise which segued into an excellent visit to the REME depot in Catterick Camp where we were hosted on a visit which included hands-on looks at some of the more exciting modern hardware and vehicles used by the Army.

At the end of an arduous overnight exercise involving a very early ambush the Army Section had to cook their own breakfast and get cleaned up in the field ready to visit a Regular Army unit in Catterick Garrison. All the cadets showed impressive motivation and considerable skill in achieving this in good time. As the regular soldiers, many just back from Afghanistan, were showing the cadets equipment and procedures the soldiers remarked how smart, knowledgeable, interested and intelligent the cadets were. During a recovery exercise to tow a bogged-in tanker out of the muddiest hole in Yorkshire (surely that's Eland Road, Ed) we were not short of volunteers to wade through and attach the towing cable. With such stalwart cadets the future's bright, the future's red - the red hackle of the Army Section.

NPG



CCF Contingent Commander's Report

Following on from the Cadet 150 celebrations and the appearance of four cadets from the Contingent at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo 2010, the first half of the Autumn term was a busy one for the CCF, holding as it did the two big competitions and their attendant preparations along with a major Field Day and Our Biennial Inspection. The year continued in much the same vein, ending with the School hosting the Beating of Retreat by the massed bands of the Scottish Schools CCF.

We welcomed a good number of new recruits in September, particularly to the Royal Navy Section which grew by around twenty to reach a strength of nearly fifty; we were very lucky that Miss Susan Robertson joined us at the same time, initially as an Adult Instructor, bravely taking on a large part in the weekly affairs of the RN. After a lively and lengthy exchange of messages with RN CCF HQ, she was formally appointed as an officer in the RN Section, which is excellent news.

A fairly young and inexperienced team, albeit with the leadership of Ben Giles and Keith Wigley, trekked down to Lymptstone to contest the Pringle Trophy; they worked hard and enjoyed their weekend, although they will have to put the result down to experience and train hard for next year.

The annual Adventurous Training Camp - now in its sixth year - occupied the last five days of the Spring holiday; this year we took our largest group to date, some twenty cadets, and were able to host two cadets from Loretto School in return for the help of their RN Section officer, David Howie. Based again at Rothiemurchus Lodge, we were exceptionally lucky with the weather and the group was able to get a good introduction to some hill walking, climbing and canoeing.

Just around half term in the Summer we were contacted by the RN Careers Office in Dundee who asked us if we would be prepared to take a visit from the Lynx helicopter from HMS Portland; it was not a hard decision, and in the event eight cadets from the RN and RM Sections had a lengthy flight, as did Capt. Walmsley and the now Acting Sub Lieutenant Robertson.

The end of the summer term is time for Camp, and this year all three Sections were active in their different areas: The Royal Navy Section sent a small group on a yachting cruise on the Clyde, while Michael Milford and Torii Douglas-Song spent two weeks on the RM Cadet camp at Garelochhead and the Army Section boarded a coach to travel down to Yorkshire.

At the end of what has been a busy and successful year I must thank all those who put in the hard work in the CCF to train and to lead our many cadets: we say goodbye this year to Ben Giles, Olivia Quick, Hannah Stewart, Lucy Murdoch, Marcus Adams, Keith Wigley, Olivia Stephenson and Sally Lungmuss who have all served for four years apiece and have given freely of their time in their final two years to set a fine example. And to the Contingent staff, aka Capt Walmsley, Capt Higginbottom, Capt Gallier, S/Lt MacBain, Lt de Celis Lucas, Acting S/Lt Robertson and WO2 Lindsay, who work tirelessly in term time (and frequently in their holidays too), heartfelt thanks.

Finally a note on Marine John James Chalmers: JJ, as many readers will know, was badly injured in an explosion in Afghanistan in which two of his colleagues were killed, and he is currently recovering in hospital in the UK. JJ has a special place in our hearts not only because he was an outstanding cadet in his time with us, but also because he has maintained his link with the RM Troop and made frequent visits to us in his own time to help with training. We all hope and pray for him to make a speedy and complete recovery.

ACWS-J



...a mixture of new tunes and hard work ensured that the Pipe Band's performance was a success...





Pipe band

The last year for the pipe band has been an exciting one indeed.

It started with the arrival of our new Piping Instructor; Cameron Drummond joins us from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, formally known as the Royal Scottish Academy for Music and Drama. There, he studied Scottish Traditional Music and Piping, graduating with an honours degree. Cameron has performed and competed at the highest level and brings some welcome, fresh ideas to Piping and Drumming at Strathallan.

Our first engagement of the year was at the Perth Concert hall for the Headmaster's musical showcase. A mixture of new tunes, arrangements and hard work ensured that the Pipe Band's performance was a success.

During the first term Mr Drummond and piper, Annabel Wilson welcomed Juan Carlos, the King of Spain to a Perthshire estate where he enjoyed a weekend of shooting. He enjoyed the pipes and was grateful for their efforts on a cold dark night.

The band attended numerous solo piping and drumming competitions including the Craigmount High School Solo Piping competition in Edinburgh and the Vale of Atholl Solo Piping and drumming competition held in Pitlochry. This was a chance for our younger and inexperienced players to cut their teeth in the competitive world of solo piping and drumming. While not gaining any silver ware John Dew and a few other band members managed to take a couple of prizes and a lot of experience away from these ventures.

The Combined Cadet Forces Beating of the Retreat was held this year, at Strathallan School. This event is usually held at Edinburgh Castle but due to work on the esplanade this year it was our privilege to host it at Strathallan, the first time it has visited a venue out with the Castle. Almost one hundred and forty piping,

drumming and dancing cadets came together from eight different schools; Dollar Academy, Fettes College, Merchiston Castle School, Morrison's Academy, Loretto School, The Edinburgh Academy, Queen Victoria School, George Heriot's and Strathallan. The cadets performed a rousing selection of music including Marching, Slow Air and Highland Dancing sets to an audience of VIPs and enthusiastic observers from the Strathallan community. At the climax of the evening Colonel Martin Passmore received the official salute from the lead Drum Major of the Combined Cadet Force Massed Band. The Strathallan pupils contributed tremendously to the proceedings and as always, enjoyed the occasion.

During the summer holidays our Alumni piping activities got off to a flying start with a great practice weekend. A mixture of ages, abilities and instruments gathered, practised and reminisced about past band days. This Alumni Band will serve us well in the next few years and we look forward to planning some future performances with a keen eye on our centenary celebrations. We would encourage any former piping and drumming pupil to get in touch and become involved, even if you have just left!

We said good bye and good luck to; Alice Inglis, Tom Wilson and Freddie Hunter. Thank you for your hard work with the Pipe Band during your time at Strathallan.

With the addition of Piping and Drumming to the expressive arts programme and new initiatives within Riley like the soon to be launched Riley Pipe Band, Piping and Drumming at Strathallan continues to grow and develop in a very positive manner.



Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Participation increased this year with many more pupils working their way through Bronze and Gold. Weekly expedition training, volunteering, skills practice as well as the regular training for sports and games all brought participants closer to completion. And finally, when the participants were ready, we went out on expeditions.

Bronze expeditions

The expeditions were particularly busy this year, not least because we had to cancel one Bronze expedition in May due to the risk of thunderstorms.

In the end, forty pupils in Fourth and Fifth Forms went on a two day expedition just north of Dunkeld in June. For the Fourth Formers, this was their first expedition, while for the one group of Fifth Formers who had not been able to complete the Award the previous year it was the final qualifying expedition. Walking from Cally car park, they were to walk to Mill Dam, where half the groups were to go round the left side and head for Loch Benachally, while the other half were to go round the right hand side. Despite a couple of minor navigational mishaps and some persistent rain in the afternoon all the groups reached the campsite and settled in for a windy, rainy night. The following morning the sun shone and the groups set off in good spirits to walk the rest of the route back to the Cally car park. In September, after the summer, they were out again, this time in two slightly smaller groups. The first group walked round the Loch Leven cycle trail and then headed uphill into the Lomonds to find their sheltered campsite. After a windy night they headed round three of the reservoirs and then down the Glen Vale path to the finish. The second group walked from the B827 just outside Comrie towards Glen Artney.





group (Tom, Jamie, Keith, Ben, Otto, Derek and Michael) started in Poolewe and headed down the west side of Loch Maree, up Glen Grudie and then round the bottom of the loch up towards the Causeway between the Dubh Loch and the Fionn Loch, then back towards Poolewe. The other group (Ciara, Sophie, Rosie, Fiona and Philippa) started at one end of Loch a Bhroain on the edge of the Fannichs, walked along the loch and then along the river valley towards Shenevall Bothy, where they camped with fantastic views of An Teallach. After crossing a couple of shallow rivers, they headed up Gleann na Muice Beag to the Causeway. They had a pleasant day's walk from the Causeway, looking at the fantastic waterfalls that feed into Loch Maree, before finally walking out to Poolewe. The last Gold expedition of the year took place just before term started in September, with two groups following each other round the Blackwater Reservoir (Lucy, Andrew, Calum, Fraser and Olivia; Adeeb, Torii, Lucy and Flora) They started in Kinlochewe and, heading over to the reservoir, walked past Loch Ciaran bothy in the sunshine towards Loch Treig where they camped, just as the wind picked up and the rain began. The next day they walked past Corroul station towards Rannoch Station, camping by some woods a little bit outside the village. The third day they walked over Rannoch moor, following the 'Road to the Isles' to Kings House, then the last day they went up the Devil's Staircase, to take them back to Kinlochleven. The groups worked well, some of them overcoming some really bad blisters to finish the route.

Many thanks to the supervising staff and our volunteers, Dr Raschkes and Dr Rawlinson.

SF

camping in the sheltered valley with views towards Ben Vorlich and Stuc a Chroin. The next day they headed along the valley, crossing the Keltie Water and then headed down towards Callander, then as it began to rain, along the cycle path towards the end at the Ben Ledi car park.

Gold expeditions

With record numbers signed up for Gold, the plan was to put on a couple of accompanied weekend training expeditions in March before expedition season started in earnest in the summer. Unfortunately, the local weather was once again against us and one of the weekends had to be cancelled because of the snow. The second one went ahead though, and participants got some appreciation of the skills they would need on longer expeditions. Some of those who had been unable to go on this cancelled expedition were able to go in May, and there was a longer expedition to the Cairngorms in June. The highlight of the year was surely the UVI expedition to Letterewe at the end of term. One



Rouen trip

On Saturday, 12 February, fourteen pupils and Mrs Thompson and also Mr Dunn left in the freezing cold and drizzle to spend a week in freezing cold and downpours in Rouen in Normandy.

The main thrust of the trip was, of course, the study of the French language and consequently pupils stayed with French families, eating real French food (not all snails and frogs' legs, you know) and communicating in French. They also had lessons in the morning which taught French grammar through the medium of French culture. Then they had the afternoon free and the group visited the Bayeux tapestry, Omaha beach war cemetery, Arrormanches and the Mulberry Harbour (much of which was built at John Brown's after the Blitz - in fact, one bit of it was stored in the road I grew up on), the Musee des Beaux Arts - possibly the best gallery in France outside Paris and, best of all, we all learned to make macarons (very traditional French sweets/cakes which are considered the height of the pastry chef's art. Various problems delayed our return, yet the party, with typical Strathallian grit and determination, kept cheerful, positive and resourceful to the end. Chins up all round!

ALMD



*...not all
snails and
frogs' legs,
you know...*



Trier exchange

Last year senior Strathallan pupils took part in an exchange programme with the Max-Planck Gymnasium in Trier, Germany. The exchange was a great success with both parties enjoying their respective stays thoroughly. A high point of our trip may have been the marked increase in the ability of our pupils to speak German, however everyone also agreed that the town of Trier, although not well known here, is a hugely interesting place to visit.

Visits to almost all Roman remains in the town served to prove this point. The apparent importance of the River Mosel's water in toilet manufacture was also brought to life vividly in a visit to the Villeroy and Boch factory. A relaxed feel characterised the exchange to the point where the tourist attractions of Luxembourg were more heard than seen by one of our party, due to the apparent comfort of the hosts' car after a late night out. A trip to the theatre to see a play by Bertolt Brecht, often seen as Germany's very own Shakespeare (*erm, you don't think Goethe is in with a shout then, Ali? Ed*) served to test abilities further.

The students all agree that they made lifelong contacts in Germany and may carry out further exchanges in the future.

Alasdair Wood

It's not just a school trip, I would expect a school trip to focus on being informative but this trip was both informative and fun. I had fun at the same time as I was learning more German because it was different to being in a classroom - I was actually experiencing how it was used in day-to-day life, not just preparing for exams.

Highlights for me included the Koblenz Bundesgartenshow, a bobsleigh run in the middle of vineyards, and the good food (the excellent bread was mentioned by all).

I felt a sense of achievement at the end of the trip because I had managed to understand what was being said to me and they understood me when I was speaking German. Because I stayed with a German family I was able to absorb more German than if I had just been on holiday there.

Lauren Johnson



Charities

During the summer term of 2010 the Charities Committee began to organise a sponsored event for the Autumn term. The committee had decided to hold a sponsored run from Land's End to John O' Groats in the grounds of the school. There would be a competition to see which House could run the most laps and cover the greatest distance of the run.

The date was set for 10.10.10. For the first time we used the Just Giving website to collect donations. This was to make it easier for family and friends to make donations. Mr Fleming kindly laid out a course round the school giving a lap of 1 mile. On the morning a great many pupils turned out to take part. Some ran one lap for their House and then went away. Others, like Ben Giles, just kept running. Ben completed 20 laps in total, closely followed by Lucas Martin Calderón who completed 17 laps. Two 1st Form girls, Imogen Robertson-Barnett and Emily Watt completed 11 laps each. A total of 911 laps were completed meaning we had made it safely from one end of the country to the other!

House Totals

House	Number of laps
Freeland	71
Glenbrae	65
Nicol	79
Riley	265
Ruthven	201
Simpson	41
Thornbank	98
Woodlands	91
TOTAL	911 miles

A total of 302 people and dogs took part.

Of the total, 664 miles were run or walked by pupils.

The cake stall raised £167.60

Cash donations on the day amounted to £436.40

The website currently stands at £1525

The total raised was:£2129

In February the annual Non-uniform Day was held. This year it was in aid of Cancer Research. The theme was **PINK** and a total of £638.77 was raised.

On 11th March the coast of Japan was hit by an devastating tsunami. Doga Makiura approached the Charities Committee with an idea for a non-uniform day to raise money for the British Red Cross Japan Tsunami Appeal. He gave a moving presentation in Chapel showing the effects of the tsunami and appealed to pupils to think about



what they spend their money on at a time when so many people in Japan have lost everything. The theme for the non-uniform day was Red and White. A great many pupils took part and raised a total of £1000.

The increasingly unreliable staff quiz-team once again contributed to the coffers of Capability Scotland by taking part in their annual quiz night. Again, their narrow failure to secure victory is partly attributable to Mr Kennedy's irritable refusal to take part in a round based on 'a popular TV programme'. At least, that's what he says.

A substantial sum was also raised by pupils and staff who sponsored gentlemen in their Movember efforts. The money raised went towards research into prostate cancer.

Our increasingly close connection with the township of Kabira in Kenya was further cemented when a group of Sixth Formers and staff once again visited in the Summer and shared their talents and enthusiasms with the local people.

KS-J



...a total of 664 miles were run or walked by pupils...

Valete

Name	Surname	YG	House	Ad date	Leave Date
Adel	Abdo	S6	S	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Marcus S	Adams	S6	F	01/09/2005	02/07/2011
James M	Addison-Scott	S6	N	01/09/2005	02/07/2011
Jonathan G	Bain	S6	F	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Ashlee J	Barnett	S6	T	01/09/2004	02/07/2011
Rosie L	Beetschen	S6	T	07/09/2005	02/07/2011
Josiah J F	Bircham	S6	F	01/09/2005	02/07/2011
Jordan J	Black	S4	R	01/09/2007	03/07/2011
Marcus A	Black	S4	S	01/09/2008	03/07/2011
Michael E	Brodie	S6	N	01/09/2007	02/07/2011
Charlotte H	Brown	S6	T	01/09/2005	14/12/2010
Euan A	Brown	S4	S	01/09/2008	03/07/2011
Keith M	Buchan	S6	R	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Julian	Buck	S4	F	01/09/2010	03/07/2011
Andrew W M	Burns	S4	N	01/09/2007	03/07/2011
Calvin J	Cameron	S6	R	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Chun K	Chan	S6	R	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Conor	Coleman	S6	N	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Hannah A	Cox	S6	W	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Jocelynn I	Craw Harley	S6	G	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Lisa K	Crossan	S6	T	07/09/2005	02/07/2011
Callum J	Davidson	S6	R	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Karl G	Drouven	S6	N	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Ciara G	Elwis	S6	W	01/09/2004	02/07/2011
Murdo G A	Elwis	S4	N	01/09/2006	03/07/2011
Tom C	Esparon	S6	N	01/09/2004	02/07/2011
Ramon	Forn	S3	R	01/09/2010	03/07/2011
Benedikt	Fundulus	S6	S	21/04/2009	02/07/2011
Rosie C	Gibson	S6	W	01/09/2007	02/07/2011
Charles P M	Gifford	S4	S	07/09/2005	03/07/2011
Euan B	Gilburt	S4	S	01/09/2009	03/07/2011
Benjamin J	Giles	S6	R	01/09/2003	02/07/2011
India A	Gill	S6	G	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Anastasia A	Gnatyuk	S6	G	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Ivan	Goncharenko	S6	F	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Hannah K	Grant	S6	W	01/09/2008	02/07/2011

Name	Surname	YG	House	Ad date	Leave Date
Samantha J	Gray	S6	G	01/09/2003	02/07/2011
Stuart G	Gray	S6	N	01/09/2004	04/10/2010
Jork C	Greeve	S3	F	19/04/2011	03/07/2011
Chloe	Grossi	S6	W	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Reece	Hay	S4	R	01/09/2008	03/07/2011
Timothy G	Heaney	S6	N	01/09/2005	02/07/2011
Sarah M E	Hellewell	S6	T	01/09/2005	02/07/2011
Alexander R	Henderson	S6	S	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Amar	Hodzic	S6	N	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Derek J	Hoogerbrugge	S6	F	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Kyle J	Houston	S2	R	01/09/2010	03/07/2011
Sophie A	Howell	S6	W	01/09/2004	02/07/2011
Lynne K	Howie	S6	W	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Fanfei	Hu	S6	N	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Mengjie	Huang	S6	T	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Frederick D L	Hunter	S6	S	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Alice C	Inglis	S6	W	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Fiona J	Johnston	S6	T	01/09/2004	02/07/2011
Tilman K	Kaim	S4	N	01/09/2010	03/07/2011
Otari	Kakhidze	S6	R	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Gavin B	Keddie	S4	F	01/09/2007	03/07/2011
Jonathan G	Keddie	S6	F	19/04/2007	02/07/2011
Heather A	Larson	S6	T	01/09/2004	02/07/2011
Jacqueline	Liedtke	S4	T	01/09/2010	03/07/2011
Joseph L R	Lipworth	S6	N	07/09/2005	02/07/2011
Sally M	Lungmuss	S6	G	09/01/2006	02/07/2011
James F	McAllister	S6	S	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Daniel P	McBride	S6	F	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Jonathan W	McCashin	S6	N	01/09/2003	02/07/2011
Innes J	Macgregor	S4	S	01/09/2010	03/07/2011
Michael C	McKenzie	S6	N	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Connor J	McLean	S4	S	01/09/2006	03/07/2011
Tsz C	Mak	S6	F	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Ines	Martin Calderon	S1	RI	01/09/2010	03/07/2011
Lucas	Martin Calderon	S2	R	01/09/2010	03/07/2011
Hannah C	Meikle	S6	G	01/09/2009	02/07/2011

Name	Surname	YG	House	Ad date	Leave Date
Benjamin A	Melville	S6	S	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Molly E	Menneer	P7	RI	01/09/2008	03/07/2011
Robert R	Miller	S6	R	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Jacob C	Moll von der Wettern	S5	R	03/06/2010	03/07/2011
Lucy J	Murdoch	S6	T	07/09/2005	02/07/2011
Bethany J	Murphy	S2	W	01/09/2009	14/12/2010
Christopher K	Mutimer	S6	R	01/09/2007	02/07/2011
Yuen Y	Ng	S6	G	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Anna E	Olafsson	S6	W	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Philippa B	Orr	S6	W	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Denisa	Pacholska	S6	G	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Sebastian M	Peter	S5	R	01/09/2010	03/07/2011
Olivia M W	Quick	S6	W	01/09/2004	02/07/2011
Ewan	Ramsay	S6	R	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Bryn F	Rees	S6	S	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Callum G	Reid	S6	R	01/09/2003	02/07/2011
Jordi	Ribe Lleal	S3	N	01/09/2010	03/07/2011
Courtney L	Robb	S2	G	01/09/2010	03/07/2011
Claas H	Romeike	S5	F	01/09/2010	03/07/2011
Miguel	Rumeu Claret	S2	F	01/09/2010	03/07/2011
Nadia A	Shakor	S6	T	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Christina M	Stephenson	S6	W	01/09/2007	02/07/2011
Corrie G I	Stewart	S6	T	01/09/2005	02/07/2011
Hannah K	Stewart	S6	W	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Rachael A	Stewart	S6	G	01/09/2007	02/07/2011
Maxim A D	Tabourel	S6	F	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Qianhe	Tang	S6	T	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Marek R	Terjung	S3	S	01/09/2010	03/07/2011
Christopher P	Thomson	S4	R	01/09/2007	03/07/2011
Jan A	Toepfer	S5	N	01/09/2010	03/07/2011
Xinwei	Tong	S6	F	01/09/2008	02/07/2011
Bradley F	Tracey	S4	R	01/09/2007	03/07/2011
Anastasiya	Veretennikova	S4	G	01/09/2009	03/07/2011
Luke T	Walker	S4	F	21/04/2009	03/07/2011
Nicholas J M	Walker	S6	R	01/09/2007	02/07/2011

Name	Surname	YG	House	Ad date	Leave Date
Ruairidh K A	Watson	S6	S	01/09/2006	02/07/2011
Keith G J	Wigley	S6	N	01/09/2004	02/07/2011
Charlotte E	Williams	S4	G	17/04/2008	03/07/2011
Thomas	Wilson	S6	N	01/09/2009	02/07/2011
Chun S	Wong	S6	S	01/09/2004	02/07/2011
Tsun F	Yeung	S6	S	07/09/2005	02/07/2011
Eliza V	Younger	S2	W	01/09/2008	03/07/2011
Ren W	Zhu	S6	F	01/09/2009	02/07/2011

Staff Valete



Dr Gibson

Matt Gibson arrived at Strathallan in September 2008 from the Nelson Thomlinson School in Cumbria.

An immediate hit with many of the girls in particular, it was not long before he had fully immersed himself in boarding school life as head of Dupplin division in Riley, coaching cricket and hockey and making an extremely positive impact in the Geography department. He also managed to find the time to run sessions on the climbing wall for Riley, organise the 2nd form camp, and set up and run the Leviathan Society, which many of the Sixth Form (the girls again? Ed) enjoyed immensely.

Matt's selfless and unflappable attitude made him an extremely popular schoolmaster. He always gave up his time to help colleagues and pupils alike and his humour and commitment to effective teaching and learning meant that pupils loved being taught by him. He also expanded their horizons with numerous field trips. He specialised in making the subject accessible to all and was always keen to promote independent thinking.

His Sixth Form classes assure me that they will never forget his demonstration of convection currents in the mantle using soup, or the moment

when he tried to pretend that he had not just fallen off his bike in full view of the department... until blood started seeping through his shirt and trousers, his wife's wanting to get a llama, the squirrel eating the pigeon, his reaction when he wrote on the whiteboard with permanent pen and gambling in Las Vegas to mention but a few.

Unfortunately for Strathallan, Glenalmond identified Matt's talents as a motivator and leader and he left in July to be Head of Geography there. During his time at Strathallan Matt invested much energy into the school and pupils and I am certain that Matt and his family, Claudia, Florence and the newest addition Luca will be sorely missed by many. That said, we wish them all the best at Glenalmond and hope that they will have fond memories of their time at Strathallan.

KEW

Roger Quick

It isn't every day that you meet a fully qualified and ordained Clerk in Orders who, whilst holding down a post as School chaplain, also manages to pursue a lively and genuine interest in shamanism, a variety of languages including modern Hebrew, genealogy and radio-broadcasting. Add to these a sort of parallel career steeped in modern dance and physical theatre and a consummate musicianship and you have an inkling of the remarkable individual that is the Reverend Roger Quick.

Roger came to Strathallan from the parish work which is his real spiritual home and quickly fashioned himself a substantial niche in the community. Staff and especially pupils knew that he could be relied upon to deliver a warm, witty, human and above all, relevant sermon in chapel that might deal with any topic from bereavement to the Cult of the Flying Spaghetti Monster. Housemasters were frequently on the edge of their seats wondering what hymn would appear next on the roster. Outwith chapel everyone knew Roger as someone who could be relied upon to lend a sympathetic ear no matter what the problem. He recalls having been approached at an early stage of his appointment by a small and trembling child

Happy memories of trips and near-death experiences...



Greg Ross

In Sept 1987 ten new staff came to join Strathallan. Among them were Greg Ross, David Harris in Allybank; the house belonging to the then second master Cosmo Fairbairn, situated half way down the road to Bridge of Earn. The "Odd Couple" spent a year together, as tutors in the same house and hockey coaches, before their divorce when Greg was joined by Sally, his wife, the following September. Greg, as well as Sally, would spend the next 24 years serving the pupils of Strathallan and being an integral part of the Strathallan community.

Greg threw himself into school life and, unlike many today, he did all three sports, CCF Activities and enjoyed the life in the Masters' Common Room. He had played rugby at a high level and used to regale the boys in his charge with stories of his time on tour and how it was done in his day. His playing career was cut short by an horrific leg break.

Greg joined the CCF and set up the SBS (Strathallan Boat Service), an élite band of naval members who did things their way and the section soon became a magnet to those who liked the adventure, but did not want the excessive discipline of the other three sections. This was important as CCF was compulsory at the time and the SBS gave an important niche to some boys.

One story I recall took place when Greg and I were "marking in the working CR" (writing reports until the wee small hours. We finished up and headed home via "The Strippies" and we saw movement at the "longboat". The two of us just stood and waited for 20min, without moving or talking, until 3 figures emerged saying they couldn't take the tension any more. Our "midnight walkers" (unlike many today) accepted a "fair cop" when it happened.

Soon after starting at Strathallan, Greg resurrected the basketball club. His enthusiasm soon filtered down to the boys and it was not long until a thriving club was back up and running. The Strathallan Invitation Tournament was re-introduced, giving the boys under his guidance some much deserved match play against the likes of Rannoch, Merchiston, Glenalmond and Kinross High School. But Greg wanted more for the boys and it was not long before we were playing in the Tayside League with a team made up of the boys and one or two enthusiastic staff. We all have happy memories of trips and near-death experiences with games in Brechin, Dundee and Perth, playing teams such as the Jesters and the Linlathen Lions. Without Greg's enthusiasm and support none of this would have been possible and I am sure that he will be pleased that there is still a strong basketball presence in the School.

As a House Tutor, Greg was an individual and one of a kind, a true Schoolmaster. He always put the pupils under guidance first and always had their best interests at heart. If this meant telling them as it really was then so be it, but he would always be there for them when it mattered and he certainly would not have any qualms about supporting them to the hilt if he felt they were being hard-done-by. He would always be supportive of others and you always knew that he was on hand to offer advice when and if required.

In his 24 years at Strathallan he gave a great deal and without the likes of him schools such as Strathallan would not be the places they are today.

DRG & PMV



who, clearly upset and through a veil of tears, confided, "My parents have died." Deeply moved, the Reverend Quick comforted the stricken child for several minutes and offered words of consolation "What were your parents called, my dear?" With a look of some astonishment at the clearly insane priest, the horrified child replied "Parents? I said hamsters!"

Roger has returned to his true vocation and will be ministering to the spiritual needs of his parishioners, and doubtless others, in Highland Perthshire. We shall certainly miss him, his boundlessly energetic wife, Valerie and their lovely children Ben and Olivia, and wish them the very best. Alfie, on the other hand...

EGK



Obituaries



Julian Brind

(1942-2010)

Master of Wine
Strathallan (1955-1960)

In the Senior School entry of September 1955 there were a number of high calibre and intelligent individuals with the result that five years later there were an unusually large scholarship entry to Oxford and Cambridge. Julian Brind was one of those individuals but he was not in the Oxbridge entry of 1960. In fact he left School to become a ghillie in Sutherland. Julian's school career was, however, distinguished by his infinite good humour, personal charm, batting prowess and a single A level in Art, achieved he felt on a "self taught" basis and also unusual at the time.

Julian's father, a Sales Director with DCL, encouraged Julian to consider the wine trade as a career because they "are a nice crowd and seem to have a good time" and he joined Watney Mann as a management trainee. Whilst there he worked specifically in the wines division and, his potential recognised, he was encouraged to sit his Master of Wines examinations having received a Vintner's Scholarship and passed his finals in 1970.

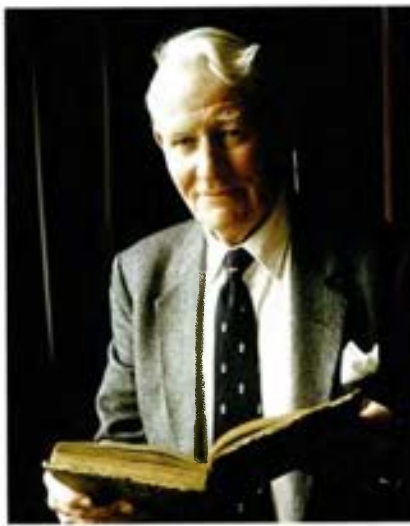
In 1971 Julian moved to Waitrose as central buyer for wines. Wine sales in supermarkets were just developing and were regarded as a sideline. However, the company recognised talent and supported the building of a young specialist wine buying team, led by Julian, who initiated and were responsible for the now much-respected Waitrose policy of seeking good value and quality from smaller producers particularly in the New World. Julian

was responsible, for example, for arranging the importation of the first Container of New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc to be sold on British Supermarket shelves. The British wine-buying public have reason to be grateful to him for his painstaking and informed search for rare and interesting wines at affordable prices.

Julian remained with Waitrose as Head of the Wine Division until his retirement from executive duties in 2002 and thereafter served as a Consultant to the Company until his death. He was Chairman of the Board of Examiners for the Institute of Masters of Wine and in 2002 President of the Wine and Spirit Association.

Julian Brind was a gentleman at School and remained one all his life. The Wine Industry regarded him as very much "Old School". His courtesy and manners were legendary as apparently was his competitive streak, manifest on the racquets courts even in retirement. It is a great shame he died so young and our greatest sympathies are extended to his wife, Charlotte and their four children.

Ian Jones



Bobby Burnett

(1920-2010)

Bobby Burnett was born in 1920 in Kilmarnock, a son of the manse, and was educated at Glasgow Academy.

The outbreak of the Second World War meant his university plans were delayed and he served in the Royal Navy attaining the rank of lieutenant. After the war he continued with his original plans and went to Edinburgh University from which he graduated with a degree in English Literature.

After qualifying as a teacher Bobby joined the staff of Strathallan in September 1951 as an English Master and there can be no child who was taught by him who was not impressed by his love of and devotion to Shakespeare and Chaucer in particular.

While at Strathallan Bobby filled almost every post possible in a School. He was games coach, Head of Department, Housemaster, Second Master and even acting-Headmaster. When girls first came to Strathallan it was his daughter Margi who was the first real 'Strathallienne' and Bobby and Bunty welcomed girls to stay with them before the first Girls' Boarding House was built.

He retired from Strathallan in 1980, after 30 years service, to go and live in St Andrews where he was appointed the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews' honorary librarian before moving onto assume the role as its historian, a position he held until 1992 when he retired.

During his time with the R&A Bobby catalogued historical golf documents and books - many of them very rare - in its library collection. His views and opinions on golf were in

great demand and he wrote for golf magazines and other publications around the world as well as writing an award-winning book on the Open Championship at St Andrews.

In addition to his literary endeavours connected to golf, he returned to his first love and wrote and published a paper that connected the work of Shakespeare with the margins of the Geneva Bible, a link now accepted by scholars.

After many happy years in St Andrews Bobby and Bunty moved away, settling in Wales to be closer to family.

He is survived by his wife, two sons, Francis and David, daughter, Margi, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Aileen Wilson

Alastair Thomson

In 2011 we lost Alastair Thomson to a battle with cancer. To many a dear and valued friend, to many more a respected and reliable colleague and to all who met him at the very least an absorbing and interesting character. Accomplished piper, top-class cricketer, serious scholar and excellent companion- all were in Tommo's curriculum vitae. Here, ex-colleague and long-time friend Bill Colley sets out some of his memories of the man.

Some time ago after duty, early in my career as a tutor, I asked Alastair how I could best describe the 'Riley system' to those who worked in the senior school and who knew little of what went on in the junior House. He leant forward in the armchair and grimaced, brow furrowed and head tilted, and said patiently, with a voice that had lost an octave as the night had progressed, "Sir William. (Pause) The key thing is, that there is no system."

Exactly what he meant by this may be open to interpretation. What it signified then, at a time when Riley was evolving from a small junior boarding House for boys into a co-educational 'school-within-a-school', was a departure from the structures and conventions that had traditionally formed the heart of public school life, to something less formal that resonated with 'ordinary' families both at home and abroad. Riley was first and foremost a home and not an institution. It owed more to ancient Greece than it did to Rugby or Harrow and was a place where children could be children and where their imaginations could be fired by the infinite possibilities that learning would open up to them, rather than muffled by the need to conform to any stated ideal.

"When a child leaves Strathallan, you should see first the personality that they came with and not the school they have been to" he once said when we tried to define the essence of what set us apart from our competitors, and in this he echoed the sentiments of many of his colleagues in the senior school at that time.

So long were he and Carol at the centre of Riley life that we tend forget how pivotal their roles were at the very beginning of the modern era in the development of Strathallan School, and we take for granted the work they did in re-shaping the boarding experience for hundreds of boys and girls then, and for years to come. They fielded those difficult phone calls from parents in Saudi Arabia or Brunei that defied time zones and etiquette, and gave up long hours at weekends to entertain their tutors and during holidays to prospective parents. They ferried the sick bowls and the orange juice from dorm to dorm during flu epidemics that laid the whole House low, and they picked up and dusted down the fallen rugby player or the homesick GAP student. Riley House in those days really meant Alastair and Carol, together with an assortment of those of us who could cheerfully drive away when duty was done.

Alastair would be the first to confess that it could not have been achieved without a team, but this too was his success because he inspired such loyalty in those who worked for him that we bore with good

grace the longer hours that duty in a junior House involved. Somehow, he managed to glue together a range of disparate personalities through a shared sense of purpose, a dry, under-stated humour, and an extraordinary command of the spoken word that captured every nuance that life in this community of young people threw at us and wrapped it around our common experience of working with them. We listened to his every word during House meetings that cemented the place together, and like the pupils, shifted a little uneasily on our feet when he asked us with his usual eloquence to look deeply into the mirror and judge what we saw there. Integrity above all, was what he respected most in others.

He shepherded us and his charges through the peaks and troughs of the school year; the trauma of those first few days of term and the strangeness and loneliness of being away from home for the first time; the dark, cold winter evenings and those long, carefree summer days weaving imaginary 'vapour trails' across the Paddock; Christmas plays, carol concerts, and the final bonfire at the end of the school year when PK was let loose to delight the 'old lags' moving onto the senior school; the departure of the geese in early winter and the arrival of the oyster-catchers in Spring.

Through this ebb and flow, Alastair demonstrated a sense of perspective and proportion that reassured pupil and tutor alike, and we rarely questioned any decision or judgement that was made because we always understood that wisdom lay behind the outcome.

I am reluctant to suggest that Alastair was a man of many contradictions because the cliché obscures rather than elucidates those qualities that would not hang well together on a lesser man. He was a strong leader with a fierce determination and clear sense of direction, and yet it was difficult to discern the ego that drove his selfless ambition. It was for this reason that, despite offers, he was never inspired to take his career further into leading a school. I suspect that he feared that this would rob him of the chance to enjoy the absurdities of life and to push too far the need to take seriously those obligations which he found difficult at times to sustain.

Latterly, he was proud to have become one of the 'elder statesmen' in the common room, and yet embarrassed by the respect he commanded from his junior colleagues as if reluctant to accept the esteem in which he was so clearly held. And despite his individualism, his reluctance to conform to 'unnecessary' convention, and a formidable self-belief, he could be an extraordinarily supportive and sympathetic team player as many colleagues in the English Department have found over the years.

"I dread the day when I walk into a classroom and see myself sitting there" he once confessed, alluding to a not altogether trouble-free experience as a pupil in the public school system in England. It would have been an interesting moment to be a fly on the wall. It may also explain why he had such an affinity with the more challenging youngsters who came his way and why he thought so highly of colleagues in senior Houses who had that knack of inspiring difficult young people to cling to the often tenuous thread that kept them in school. The 'career teacher'



might not have understood the methodology (after all, "there is no system") but he managed to get the best out of those of us who did work for him and appreciated what was being achieved, even though it was rarely, if ever, stated. He did well to step down before the era of mission statements and development plans.

He and Carol finally relinquished Riley after 14 years in charge and there was no hesitation in my decision when the post was offered to me to say, "No". "They are too big an act to follow", I told the Headmaster, until Alastair did what you might expect in reversing my decision with a few well-chosen words. By then, Riley had expanded from the cramped sandstone stable block into a new purpose-built boarding House centred on a bright, open common room where a million unplanned interactions could take place every day. This was and is, the 'forum', where ideas, however absurd can be tested and challenged, and where every personality has a place. Even at the end of my own five year stint in charge of Riley, I still saw this as Alastair's space.

I moved on from Riley and from Strathallan but never lost the link with the 'Tommo' who was so influential in my early career. Every key decision I have made has been 'passed by his scrutiny', every important speech I have given contains words and phrases that I think he might have chosen, and the elusive novel that has yet to be written is forming under the critical eye of someone who knew a thing or two about language and who would have written it better.

There is a sense of disbelief that he has gone. It is like waking one morning to find that Schiehallion has disappeared from the horizon. I had always expected it to be there.

History:

Willie Ward, the Forgotten Headmaster?



The Nineteen Forties was a difficult decade for Strathallan, as for other institutions, in the midst of the Second World War and the rather grey aftermath that settled on Britain.

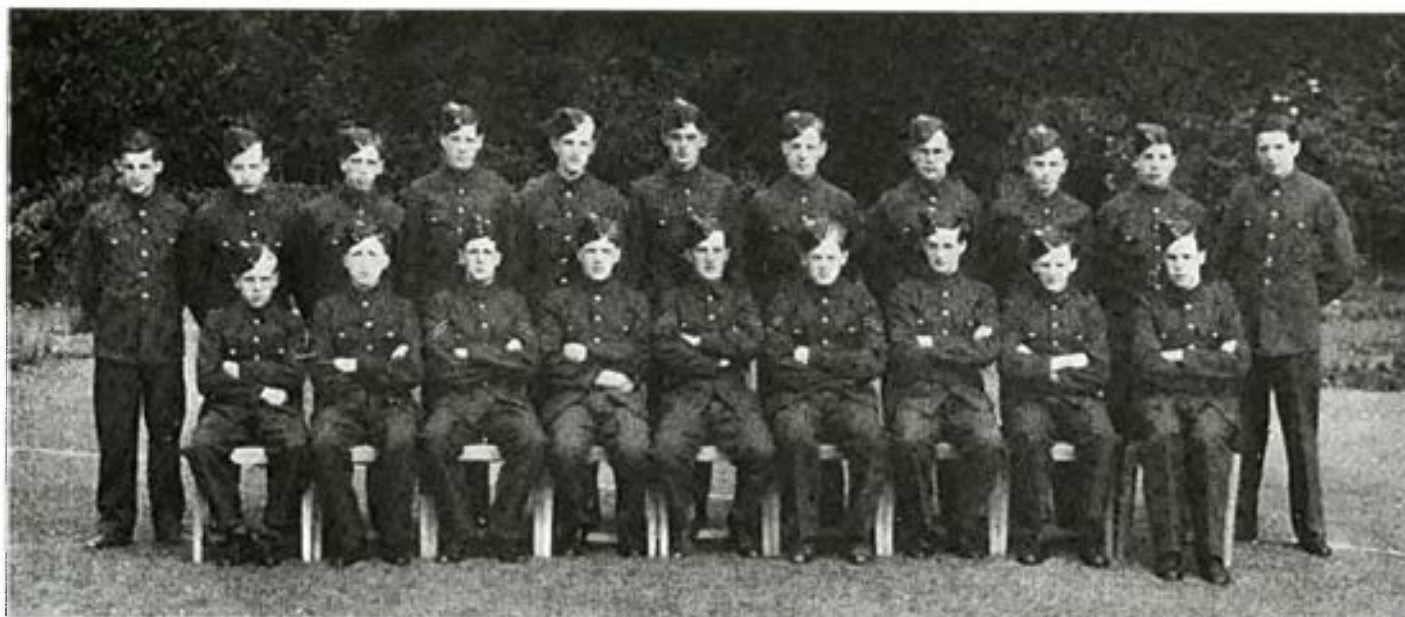
Not only were there the inevitable casualties of the War itself to deal with from amongst the Strathallians flung far and wide throughout the British Empire, but it was a period of great uncertainty focused on a single question - would the School survive the death of the Founder, Harry Riley, in September 1942? Indeed, the School did survive, but it was not without a struggle. Strathallan had five Headmasters in the 1940s, the School's numbers varied widely across the period and, although the majority of the staff who had been called up during the War had returned by 1946, there were rumblings amongst them on a seeming disparity of pay which was to lead to a number of disagreements between staff and Governors.

These disagreements, as well as a concern from the then Governors that the School required a new direction, led to the resignation of the Headmaster William E. Ward in the spring term of 1948. The Second Master, A. J. Shaw, stood in as an interim measure until the Governors appointed A. N. Hamilton from Clifton College to be Headmaster in 1949, and then Hamilton and Shaw both resigned in the summer of 1950 necessitating a recruitment of yet another Headmaster. And so, it was decided to appoint Wilf Hoare, a Housemaster from Fettes, as Head from January 1951. With such a chaotic decade behind it, the only way for Strathallan was up and, in Wilfred Hoare, the School was lucky to have a man of drive and vision who, amongst Strathallians, has been feted as a second Founder.

Probably the most difficult years of the decade were the final years of Harry Riley's Headmastership. Burdened with increasing ill-health and coping without the Masters who

were called up to the war effort, he was forced to rely on a number of female teachers who, although more than competent academically, were nevertheless of little help in maintaining the sports programme or the pastoral element of looking after the boys during the evenings and weekends. And, as the numbers of casualties began to mount among the Strathallians who were called up during the war, Harry Riley's mood became ever more sombre. He had never quite got over losing three of the earliest Captains of School in the Great War, and now 'his boys' were playing an important role in the fight not only against Hitler's Nazi regime in Europe, but also the Japanese expansion in the far east. Although Strathallan was a much smaller school in those days, Strathallians were to be found in the RAF and RNVR, in the Frontier Forces Rifles, the Assam Valley Light Horse, the Gurkhas, the Royal Australian Field Artillery, the South African Tank Corps, the Royal Scots, the Cameronians, the Black Watch, the Highland Light Infantry, the Seaforth Highlanders, the Gordon Highlanders and the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. They served throughout the Empire and some of the more important Strathallians for the post-war period - in David Bogie and David Thomson - were captured at St Valery in 1940 spending the remainder of the war in POW camps.

It was a matter of some pride for Harry Riley that Strathallians such as these were making their mark in Imperial Service, to the extent that, in the 1930s, he had boasted that Strathallan had by then joined the ranks of the great Public Schools and that Strathallan's name was becoming ever more widely known. He would have been proud, had he lived, to see that during the Second World War, 'his boys' collected 3 Distinguished Service Crosses, 2 Military Crosses, 2 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 2 OBEs, 8 MBEs, 19 mentions in Despatches, 4 Territorial Decorations, 10 Testimonial Efficiency



Medals and 1 Croix de Guerre. But on 20th September 1942, the day after the Autumn Term had begun, Harry Riley - The Boss, died. He was later buried in the Forgandenny Churchyard and the burden of running the School now fell on his deputy, William E. Ward.

William Evan Ward had come to Strathallan to teach Physics and Mathematics in 1922 and it was to him that is credited the founding of the long tradition of strength in sciences at Strathallan. He came to Strathallan from Teddington where he had been a research assistant in the Engineering Department of the National Physical Laboratory. He had previously picked up major scientific prizes in both Physics and Mathematics at the University of Birmingham. Having quickly won the admiration and respect of his colleagues as a gifted teacher, he became Second Master in the 1930s, when Harry Riley's health became a pressing worry, often taking over at short notice and running the School with a characteristic loyalty and devotion to his duty. He, along with A. J. Shaw the senior teacher of Modern Foreign Languages, had been involved in taking groups of pupils to the continent in the 1930s during the summer vacation when 'the Boss' was unable to do so, including one memorable trip to Nazi Germany in 1935.

It was Willie Ward's ill fortune to take over a School that was beginning to struggle with the exigencies of the War situation. Numbers were down, there was rationing not only of food but of coal for the School's furnace, trenches were

dug alongside what is now the road down to the astroturf pitches, in preparation for air raids. The male staff were beginning to be called up for the war effort, with many not to return until 1946, and were replaced by a number of women who maintained the School's examination results in the face of tremendous difficulty. The fixture lists for rugby and cricket were maintained, although with some difficulty, and the normal school activities were to continue as best they could. To add to these, Strathallan had instituted its own Air Training Corps and a company of the Home Guard in 1941, soon followed in 1942 by an Army Cadet Corps. Although the green and leafy surrounds of Forgandenny could perhaps lead many to think that the War was a long way off, the activities of these various military groups, and the growing number of casualties from amongst the ranks of Strathallians, were enough to keep everyone's minds focused.

One of the major developments of these dark years was the realisation of Harry Riley's dream of Strathallan moving from being a private school to a public one. Strathallan School Limited was liquidated in 1944, with its assets being transferred to a number of trustees who were to liaise with a Board of Governors. Although the two major trustees, Major David J. Bogie and Lieutenant-Colonel John B. Maitland-Cowan were unable to take up their positions, Bogie was in captivity in Germany and Maitland-Cowan was heavily involved with a staff post in the Airborne Forces, a



Group Captain Ernest Morrison, A. Brown & Houston, D.R.E., H.C.C., inspecting the A.F.C. Flight



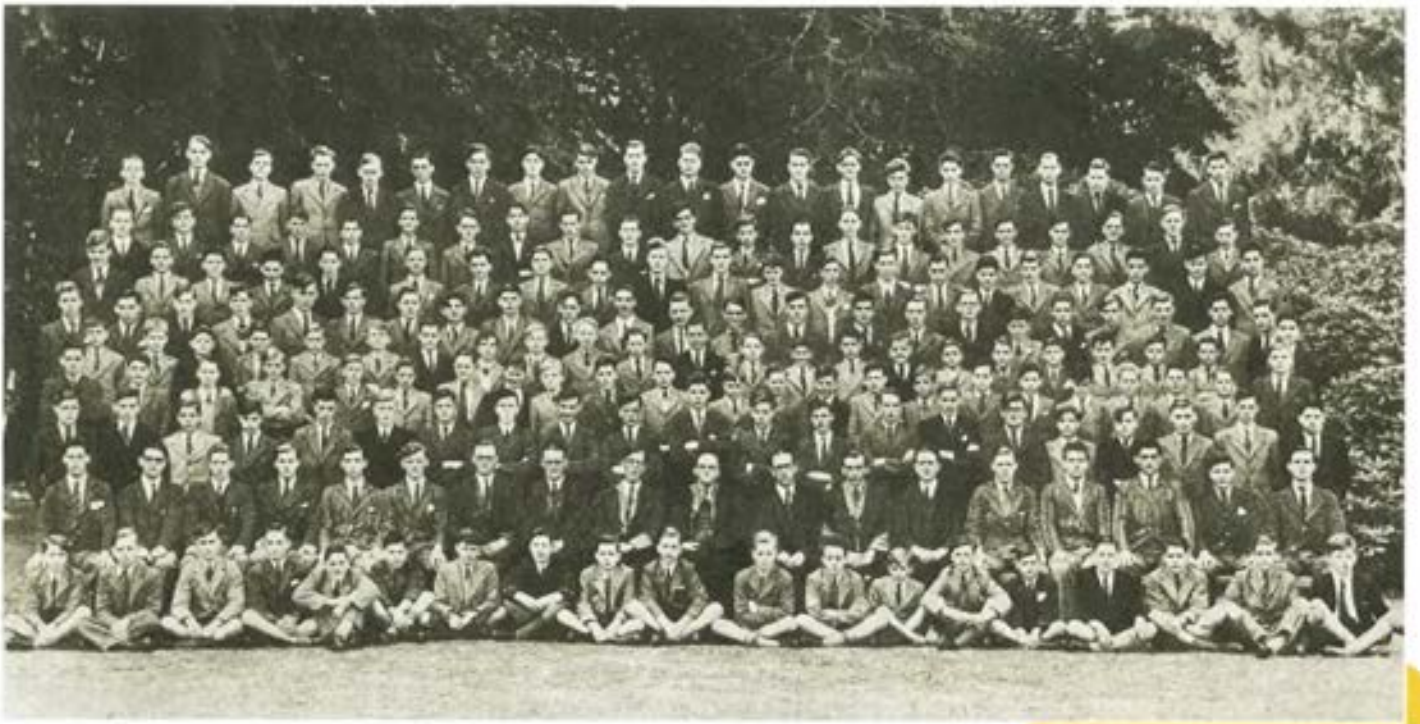
Board of Governors was set up to carry the School forward. This process was further cemented in the summer term of 1945 when Willie Ward was invited to join the Headmasters' Conference. This invitation was a sign of a return to some sort of normality after the Victory in Europe celebrations of early May, and a further sign of a lifting of tensions was the resumption of the visits of the H. B. Rowan's Empire Cricket XI in June. Although the School was beaten quite handsomely on the day, the event was regarded as a great success as the boys, led by John Thomson, were coached in the morning by former West Indian great Learie Constantine and Ernie Achong.

There were two pressing problems in the aftermath of the end of World War Two, the recruitment of more boys to ensure that the School continued to be a profitable institution and maintained academic standards, and the return of the male staff who had been called up for war duty. Of utmost importance was the reinstatement of discipline both in and outside the classroom. Whilst the male members of the teaching staff had all returned by the summer of 1946 from their war duties, the discipline of the school was creaking somewhat. In July 1946 Willie Ward had been forced to expel six boys, suspend two for a term and one for two terms, on account of their raids on a local vinery. It took all his ingenuity to persuade the local owner and the Procurator Fiscal not to press charges against the boys and thus drag the School's reputation through the gutter. The price of this deal was the drastic action Ward was forced to take about the boys'

futures, although this was not to be the last time he was placed in this position.

The Governors of the time, led by David Bogie, were anxious to raise standards in the School to what they felt were the better standards of the pre-War years. With worse than usual Leaving Examination results in 1946, it was decided to institute a new entrance examination for the Junior boys in addition to Common Entrance, the hope being to recruit more able boys to Strathallan. There was, in addition, a lot of rumbling from the Strathallians of the time about the fixtures lists for both rugby and cricket not including the likes of Loretto and Edinburgh Academy so a search was begun for a suitable new sports master to take over and begin an overhaul of the system. The Governor W. G. Leburn was particularly critical of the amount of time spent on games in the School routine in this period. Not only was the routine to be re-examined but so were the standards of the staff of the period.

To this end a survey was done of the responsibilities and qualifications of the all the teaching staff. This caused somewhat of a stir for a number of reasons. Some staff had felt that they were being paid less for their considerable efforts than certain others; some were granted accommodation but



...the boys were coached in the morning by former West Indian great Learie Constantine and Ernie Achong.

others were not; some staff tendered their resignations and moved on to other employment when their grievances were not satisfactorily addressed as they saw them. The Governors of the time, however, were doing all they reasonably could to solve the pressing accommodation issue and they had to grapple with a number of different pay scales - the Teviot and Burnham scales - upon which to grade the staff. The main issue, as in other periods, was the level of allowance that should be paid for special responsibilities. Regardless of the murmurings about salary, things were about to turn distinctly worse for Willie Ward.

In April 1948, and barely a few weeks after he had received a presentation marking his twenty-five years of service at Strathallan, Willie Ward was asked to tender his resignation to the Board of Governors. He had had to expel two boys and to demote two senior boys on account of their being involved in certain unpleasant incidents. The Chairman, W. G. Leburn, was detailed by the Board to inform Ward that the Governors had been losing confidence in him and considered that a change was warranted. They had

felt that there was a breakdown in communication in the School, between Staff and Headmaster, that the discipline of the boys needed a drastic overhaul, and that the School spirit needed vastly improving upon. It was stated that there was a certain lack of moral guidance that had to be addressed. Ward's resignation was immediate and summary.

For the foreseeable future the Second Master, A. J. Shaw, was to be in charge pending a new appointment of a Headmaster. As for Willie Ward, he retired to Oswestry from where he found it exceedingly difficult to find a further teaching post. His resignation was presented in the May 1948 Strathallian as a retirement rather than a sacking, a matter which resonates with a number of Strathallians of that period. He himself wrote of the event as one of no regret, having spent many happy years at Strathallan and cemented friendships widely amongst former pupils and staff alike. Strathallan was now to look to the future, he wrote, but the next two years were to see two short-lived headmasterships before stability returned.

RHF



Narbonne: a retrospective

When ploughing through a box of photos (you can't/don't tend to do this with digital photos or at least I don't!) I came across a pile of pictures from the Rugby Club's pre-season tour to Narbonne in 1990.

I was taken with the spirit that exuded from the images of young lads on tour, enjoying themselves and sharing experiences with their peers, staff, hosts and the look in their eyes as they took the chance to experience other cultures and ways of life, other cuisines, other ways of doing things. These invaluable life lessons are the invaluable tit-bits that one picks up on tour and they are what make sport such a great vehicle for this part of education. I worry that with the advent of professionalism, target setting and individualised training programmes, as well as personal diets profiles etc., the modern sportsman or woman may be a better exponent of their art, but that something has been lost on the way, either that or I'm just looking through the wrong end of the rose-lensed telescope, who knows. (What does that make things look like, PMV?)



Throughout the 1980s and early 1990s Strathallian RFC were regular visitors to Narbonne in the South of France, where for two weeks towards the end of the summer break, pre-season rugby tours took place.

Master in charge of rugby, BR, saw the opportunity for the 1st XV squad to get some competitive rugby under their belts prior to the start of the school season. For BR, a lover of Burgundy wines, Roquefort cheese, rugby played with flair, and of course garlic, there was nowhere more suitable than the Carrefour du Sud, and hey, it was only a thirty hour bus trip from Strathallan! Throughout the years in France, Strathallian notched up some notable victories. Our opponents tended not possess the skill and fitness levels we boasted, but they were usually a couple of years older and therefore bigger, and they certainly knew how to use their fists and feet. As a scrum half in 1989, I had never played against an opposite man with a full beard.

The memories are plentiful: PMV throwing some serious shapes at the youth hostel disco, BR's insistence that if anyone had had too much Vin Rouge, they should do the "Harry Honkers." Graham MacLennan's chat up line "Oui, je parle Français un petit pois!" DJB's rendition of "Climb, climb Chalabre Mountain!" Ky Kay persuading BR that he was in fact prone to sea sickness, and he would never dream of having a beer on the ferry. PK's chairmanship of the "Speade Award!" And of course l'école de ballet, Paris, who on two occasions, were resident in the same youth hostel as us! Ooh la là...

Ed Anderson
Freeland 1992





Mes souvenirs de l'excursion de rugby à Narbonne.

It started with mum driving, me, Mac, Dips & Punjab, from Edinburgh to Strath, squeezed into a sports car, with all our Kit in 35 minutes.

I was sick on the tour bus, after taking a drop or two on the ferry. Sorry again, Mac, BR, Du-Bouls, PK, DJB & PMV.

The camaraderie went deep. House rivalries were set aside, people who you didn't always get on with became brothers. 1st XV socks were worn with utter pride and we lived, breathed and slept rugby.

I turned my ankle in the warm-up for the first game. There was no way I wasn't playing. I lasted the ½; ankle was like a football. DJB's prognosis was not good & in stepped Piers DuCaine-Wilkinson (Freeland '91) with some arnica, he only had a small amount for him just in-case, but he selflessly shared it with me. That was the bond we had on tour and I know the masters felt the same because we toured to Narbonne 2 years on the trot.

I discovered props were revered in France from the little extras Jean-Jacques (Narbonne Prop & Chef in the youth hostel) put into packed lunches to extra food at post-game functions.

The town that had posters up calling us the Scottish Schools rugby team, the amazing Citadel of Carcassone;

Seeing Wade Dooley & Preston Grasshoppers;

Making up the Harry Honkers rap;

DJB's never-ending supply of rugby songs;

Pete Sochart and Ed Anderson's Harry Honkers "race" out the bedroom windows;

Watching PK & PMV fail miserably at the "spade work" with a gorgeous girl at the beach only for Mac to comment "She is so hot!" and her to answer "Thank You" in a broad Glaswegian accent;

The Masters taking their nightcaps in the Gay Bar across the road, from the youth hostel;

Top Gun was never off of the video on the bus;

FUB the gorilla.

Even now, having left this amazing school all those years ago, the memories are vivid. It's a true testament to the bonds we made, that inevitably, when Mac, Tenchy, Ed, Dips and I get together, Narbonne crops up another round comes in and the tears of laughter still flow.

The final mention goes to PMV. Thanks for everything Paul, because you crossed over on tour as well, you became my mate and not just a teacher :-)

Ky Kay

Simpson '92



Roundup



Glasgow and Edinburgh Drinks Reception

Strathallians, current parents and prospective parents joined Staff at 29 Royal Exchange Square, Glasgow and also at the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh for wine and canapes.



Leburn House Reunion

Former pupils of Leburn House returned to School for a reunion twenty years after the House ceased to exist. Andrew Sinclair, who was the last and therefore current Head of House was the driving force in organising the event and everyone enjoyed drinks in the Drawing Room before heading down to the Dining Hall for lunch.



Scottish Game Fair

A glorious weekend in July encouraged a record turnout at the Scottish Game Fair at Scone Palace this year. The School had its normal stand and enjoyed meeting lots of Strathallians, parents and friends of the School, for a glass of Pimms.



Strathallian Lecture - Jim Gellatly

DJ Jim Gellatly was the guest speaker for the annual Strathallian Club Lecture this year. Jim talked about his life and times as a Radio DJ promoting up and coming bands within Britain. For over twenty-five years he has introduced new acts such as Snow Patrol, Biffy Clyro, The Fratellis, Amy Macdonald and KT Tunstall and received the John Peel Award for contribution to Music Radio, in 2008.

Christmas Fair

On the last day of Autumn Term the School welcomes a wonderful variety of stall holders in for the Christmas Fair. Tea, coffee and mince pies are served to Strathallians, parents and friends as they do some Christmas shopping before attending the Carol services held throughout the day.



Golf Section

This year's annual outing temporarily moved from its usual venue of Prestwick to the very welcoming Panmure Golf Club, near Carnoustie. There were some familiar faces and some new ones representing the Strathallian Club and, though only nine strong, we enjoyed a competitive game of golf in the afternoon after a delicious lunch in the dining room.



Angling Day

The annual match against the School Club saw the Club endure a windswept Frandy Loch again this year. With worsening winds, the afternoon's fishing was all but impossible and the Strathallians threw in the towel over lunch time, the tally being 9-2 in the School's favour.



Simpson House Reunion

The last in the series of House Reunions saw Strathallians ranging from the Year of 1946 to 2000 returning to the School.



London Dinner

The flags were out in London on the night of the Strathallian London Dinner - not for us, but for the Royal Wedding the next day! The chance to get together with friends not seen for some time made it an evening to be enjoyed and remembered.



Strathallian Day

The School swept the board in cricket, football, girls' hockey and touch rugby, leaving many with aches in muscles that have not been used for some time (a year to be exact in some cases). Over four hundred guests turned out to enjoy the entertainment offered not only by the fiercely-contested matches, but also golf, croquet, clay pigeon shooting and noisy, high octane fun on Riley paddock.



Strathallians *in Australia*

Strathallians come to the School from all over the world and once they leave they scatter to the four winds, forging successful careers in far flung places. We have contact details for around 63 Strathallians in Australia, although I know there are quite a number more who live there, and this is an update from just a few.



Allan (Angus) Houston

Nicol 1963

Married to Liz and with three sons, Robert, Sandy and Gordon, Angus now lives in Duntroon, ACT Australia.

Angus was born into a Royal Air Force family and so attended many schools before boarding at Strathallan, a time of which he has very happy memories. "It enabled me to develop a high self confidence to meet the many challenges that lay ahead and gave us all the opportunity to excel in any area you wanted to pursue."

Following a successful School career Angus tried to join the Royal Air Force but was rejected on the basis of being too tall! He then decided that he wanted to go to Australia and during a walk down the Strand, he went into Australia House and that cemented it. The best piece of advice he has ever been given came from his mother when she

counselled him that of all the options he was thinking about, Australia was the best one - Australia was the land of opportunity.

Angus joined the RAAF as a cadet pilot in 1970 and he spent the early part of his career flying Iroquois helicopters in various parts of Australia, Papua New Guinea and Indonesia. Angus became a qualified Flight Instructor and completed several instructional tours, he also served on exchange with the Republic of Singapore Air Force and the US Air Force helicopter unit. In 1980, Angus was awarded the Air Force Cross and he was the Director Air Force Policy during 1992-1993 and served at Headquarters Australian Theatre from 1997-1999 as Chief of Staff, and Head Strategic Command from 2000-2001. Angus was the Chief of the Defence Force from 4 July 2005 until 4 July

2011. Prior to that he was Chief of Air Force for four years.

Looking back at his career Angus says "I had no idea I would ever occupy the office of the Chief of the Defence Force. When I joined, my first hurdle was getting through officer training and my pilot's course and I was totally focussed on finishing them. Initially, I didn't think much beyond those courses and I just continuously focussed on whatever the next hurdle was in my career. I never thought I would get to Chief of the Defence Force.

It is the people with whom I served and led who have provided the most memorable moments in my career. I look back on 41 and-a-half years of working with wonderful people. It was an incredible privilege to command the Australian Defence Force on 58 operations which included not only major deployments to Iraq, Afghanistan, Solomon Islands and East Timor, but also a large number of disaster relief, humanitarian assistance, peacekeeping and evacuation operations. No matter what the circumstances, the people of the Australian Defense Force and the Defense organisation never let me down."

Having retired in July 2011 Angus relaxes by exercising. "When I was Chief of the Defence Force, I got up at 4:30 am every day to either run or ride my bike. Exercise is important to me because it clears the mind and puts me in a positive frame of mind. I also enjoy just being in the outdoors, particularly in the Australian bush and the feeling of space. I like bird watching too." Holidays are enjoyed anywhere on the Australian coast or in the Australian bush, particularly to Broome on the West Australian Coast, where his son and grandchildren live. Recently, Angus had further honours bestowed upon him and was named 2011 Father of the Year.

Angus considers the best thing about living in Australia is just the ethos of being an Australian. "Anything is possible in Australia. There is a great sense of being able to meet whatever challenge is thrown at us and overcoming adversity." Family however is the thing he misses most about the UK.

Favourite Book War and Peace

Favourite Film Chariots of Fire

Favourite singer/band The Beatles

What advice would you give

School leavers today? Take your opportunities when they present. You don't want to be somebody who says "if only I had done this or that ...". Grab every opportunity that presents itself and then work hard to be as good as you can be. 'Labor Omnia Vincit'.



Iain Gray

Nicol 1961

Lots of fun and lots of friends are how Iain would sum up his time at Strathallan, which he left in 1961 to go onto Edinburgh University. While there he gained a BComm and qualified as a CA, which, in addition to getting out of the profession, he cites as being the most memorable moments of his career. Friendship is very important to Iain and he feels amongst his greatest achievements to date is retaining his old school friends from 1961, as well as his move to Australia.

This move came about as he worked for a London based company which had 24,000 employees too many in Australia. He ran a UK listed investment company in Sydney until 1974-75 when it was all sold. He then returned to live permanently in Sydney in 1975 and set up his own investment group, Primdonn Securities Pty Ltd, in 1976.

Looking back on his career Iain sees it as a process of evolution, he always liked the investment "world" in Edinburgh, London, USA, Hong Kong and of course Australia and takes great pride in having made a lot of people financially independent in the process.

When not working Iain enjoys golf, food and wine and Bridge, which is reflected in his favourite places to visit on holiday, namely St Andrews, and Gullane in Scotland, Ireland for golf and Palm Beach, NSW. In September Iain met up with Tommy Taylor and Ali Pate plus wives (1961 Ruthven) in Elie, Fife for a few days. Tommy lives in Durban, South Africa and Ali Pate in Surrey, it was a great reunion.

Living in Australia has many benefits, most importantly the people, the lifestyle, weather and the wine which more than make up for the politics and mosquitoes! The UK still pulls Iain back for his friends and the climate.

What or who makes you laugh?

A variety of friends and the Two Ronnies

Favourite Book An autobiography

Favourite Film Wee Geordie

First pay packet and what was it for?

£5 6s 8d per month as an apprentice C.A. (1961-1965)

Favourite singer/band John Denver

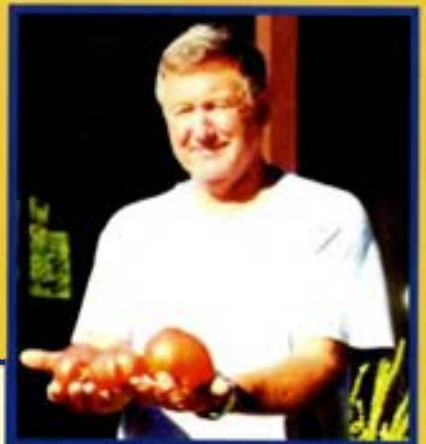
What advice would you give School leavers today?

Get a qualification

Travel

Get a home base and pay it off

Enjoy business, profitable fun



Arthur Budge

Nicol 1958

Margaret River

Being born in Tanganyika, East Africa the journey to Strathallan was longer for Arthur than most. Following his time at Strathallan he moved on to the West of Scotland

Agricultural College where he studied Estate Practice and then on to study horticulture. His interest in farming and the help he could give to farmers through soil and plant analysis leading to more effective fertiliser and chemical use has been the driving force in Arthur's career which started in Rubber and Oil palm planting with Harrison and Crossfield, before joining Westfarmers Group as a field officer. He was responsible for

raising farm dry matter production by 50% through the introduction of new rye grass varieties.

The end of work permits being issued in Malaysia prompted the families move to Australia where Arthur and his wife Aileen brought up Fiona and David, settling in Margaret River, West Australia where several years ago Arthur formed a group of farmers starting to grow Macadamia nuts in the area. They now have 17,000 trees and hope to take this to 30,000 in the next few years. They have purchased de-huskers plus cracking machines but Arthur feels the next step will be a factory once production gets to a reasonable tonnage. They sell locally at present but export will be their next target - you might see Margaret River Macadamias in Scotland one day!

What or who makes you laugh?

Mr Bean

Favourite Book

Beyond the Black Stump by Nevil Shute

Favourite Film Out of Africa

First pay packet and what was it for?

£5 per week as a college student

Favourite Singer/Band

Scissor Sisters

What advice would you give School leavers today?

Make sure you get a degree or diploma



Lee R Walker

Simpson 1996

Currently travelling around Australia

I am currently living in Australia with my new Australian wife after having emigrated last

year. We are currently travelling Australia as part of our honeymoon and running a blog as we go - web.me.com/leeandlibbywalker. At our wedding we were lucky enough to have a number of Strathallians, my former Simpson Housemaster Alan Ball gave a reading, Louise Ball, Andrew Chown, Alan Gibson and my sister Kirsty O'Brien (née Walker).

Russell Griffiths

Ruthven 1994

Perth

I emigrated to Perth, Western Australia in October 2007 after having married my Australian wife Meghan. I couldn't convince her to move to MY Perth so I had to settle for this one!

Having qualified as a chef in the early years, after leaving Strath (Ruthven '92 - '94) this took me down some weird and wonderful paths through my chosen career. From 5* hotels in and around London to Formula 1 teams then Luxury Canal Barges cruising the Inland Waterways of Europe. It was on these boats that I met my now wife and mother to our two beautiful children - James, 4, and Angelina, 3.

Having been with P&O now for 18 months I am now Operations Manager for WA

Rail. We are currently in the middle of a contract building an 80km stretch of track for an Iron Ore mine in the mid-west region and have several other trains running around in rural WA.

If I would have had to guess, 5 years ago, what I would be doing today I would never in a million years think that I would be such a far cry away from those busy kitchens I had become accustomed to since '94. The extreme change of career path has been sudden but welcome and having had the opportunity to develop a whole new skill set and knowledge base has been second to none. I consider myself extremely fortunate with the chances I have been handed.

With less travel to and from the Eastern States now, I am beginning to settle in and enjoy being with my family on a full-time basis again. Family is so so important.

Gordon Cumming

Freeland 1984

Brisbane

After three years in KL, Malaysia, we have recently moved down to Brisbane, Australia (September 2011)

Nigel Avern

Nicol 1985

Perth

Peter Russell

Simpson 1982

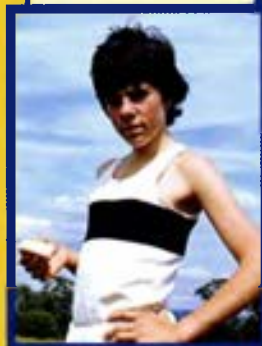
Melbourne

I moved here in 2003 and I subsequently met my wife Kate (a Czech Australian who arrived as a refugee in 1981). We now have three children, Bessie, Vincent and Felix. We now live in Melbourne and I have met up with Mike Crabb.

Peter Mclean

Simpson 1981

Melbourne



Cameron Wood

Freeland 1996

Sydney

Currently working as a rugby/PE teacher at Scots College.



Region	Number of Registered Strathallians
New South Wales	23
Queensland	14
Victoria	16
Western Australia	11

News update

David Robertson

Ruthven '95

Just returned from second operational tour of Afghanistan with 4SCOTS (The Highlanders).

Made it back on R&R to be there for birth of my second daughter, Eloise, little sister to Elin.

Moving back to instruct at the Land Warfare School in Warminster after 5 years posted in Germany.

Alison Drane

Woodlands '05

I am currently working as a scenic artist at Pitlochry Festival Theatre but have also recently done some scenic art on my first film, which is Emma Thompson's new screenplay, Effie. Exciting!

Pete Watson

Ruthven '82



I am still in the Navy and just back from Afghanistan - not bad for a submarine engineer just after a 6 mth stint in the DRC with the United Nations. Still married to Mairi after 21 yrs and Emma(19) now at Uni in Aberdeen. Sean(17) in his last year at Lomond and Finlay(13) just starting his standard grade course but a handy grade 3 at his Saxophone. After 3 years in Gibraltar all accomplished dinghy sailors.

Mark Pawson

Leburn '87



I'm still with UBS bank. I'm married to Barbara and we have two boys - Max (2) and Ben (4 1/2). We moved house last year and live in South West London.

My wife and I cycled from Land's End to John 'O' Groats for charity in the summer - 1500k's over 12 days and we raised £6000.

Also had my 40th at the Caledonian Club in the summer. Bruce Tilley was among the guests.

Alexandra Lanni

Thornbank '98

Moving from Lloyds Banking Group to a new job in London with Laxfield Capita

Lyndsey Hurley

(nee MacEachern)

Thornbank '97

Had a baby son called Isaac in April 2011.

Simon Houison Craufurd

Freeland '90

We are moving into the Main House on the estate (Craufurdland Castle) in November. We are also opening part of the house for Self-catering lets, sleeping up to 10-12, with some stunning reception rooms. Good rates to all Strathallians.

Walter MacDonald

Nicol '84



I have started my own Leisure Consultancy service WM Consultants based in Macau. I qualified as Concept 2 Master Trainer China in August, I'm still rowing regularly despite missing the HK Open Rowing Championship in March due to fog delaying me getting there. I managed and operated the Shenzhen World University Games Athletes Village Club in August and when I have time race my bike on tracks in China.



Matthew Boyd

Freeland '00

I passed my surgical exams in Oct 2010, became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and gave up being a Dr and went back to being a Mr again. I'm still working for the Royal Army Medical Corps and in August 2011 I was promoted to Major. I continue to work in Trauma and Orthopaedics at Derriford Hospital, Plymouth but will shortly be posted to Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham for three months to work on the ward receiving casualties from Afghanistan.

Pete Seymour

Nicol '95

I am pleased to say that I passed through the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyor's Assessment of Professional Competence in May

David Corrie

Ruthven '98



Married Susan Sellar at Kirkcudbright Parish Church on 20th August 2011. David is a surveyor with CKD Galbraith in Dumfries and Galloway and Susan is a freelance product designer, they live together in Kirkcudbright.

The Fuzz McDonald Brothers:

JSP (Fuzz) McDonald Simpson '75

lives in Wokingham, Berkshire and runs a thriving nutrition education company. Fuzz who won the Victor Ludorum in 1975 (and was in the first XI cricket and hockey teams for 4 consecutive years - school record???) has dodgy knees but keeps himself fit by competing at off road biking. Fuzz is no longer a widower; he now lives with his new partner Maria who between them have 6 adult children to keep them busy!

Graham McDonald Simpson '74



celebrated the birth of his first child (Margaret) at the ripe old age of 52! Graham lives and works in Dubai with his partner Maggie. He works for a mechanical engineering firm and loves the warm winter season.

Wade McDonald Simpson '73

just turned 50 last June and works and lives near London. He is a Senior VP in Asset Management for Statestreet and spends much of his time working in Africa and The Middle East. He drops into visit Graham once monthly. He lives with Heather and his daughter Tara.

this year and am now a Chartered Surveyor. This was the end of four very long years of work which included passing a Master's Degree in Real Estate Management and Development with Distinction in November 2009. I am now Peter Seymour BSc MSc MRICS! (What a mouthful).

Duncan Logan

Freeland '90



I got married last year to Lucy in Italy. Living in San Francisco, CA. CEO and founder of RocketSpace Inc, a Technology Accelerator - www.rocket-space.com

Andrew Widdowson

Nicol '75



As well as doing the Felstedian for 15 years, I have been Director of 'Felsted Arts Festival' for 8 years. My proudest moment in this was recently when in two days of its 10 day annual run I managed to organise Scots Evelyn Glennie, Alastair Barge (OG), and Alastair McCall Smith to perform, lecture and 'have an evening with' I attach photo of me with Oliver Everett (OF), Librarian Emeritus at Windsor Castle who gave a fantastic talk on 'The Royal Collections'. I am on the right of the photo.

Jamie Dodd

Nicol '09

This summer I summited Mont Blanc, without a guide. Somehow, we smuggled aboard our ice axes and crampons, things regarded as 'offensive weapons' by Easyjet and we set off on the flight to Switzerland. Once we reached in Chamonix we were told the next two days would see a weather window on the mountain so the race was on. We were going to attempt Europes Highest Mountain, breaking my altitude record by nearly 1000m. Our route was to be by the standard 'Gouter' Route,

first climbed in 1786. It involved a cable car and tram up to 2000m, and then a hard slog up to the Tete Rousse Hut at 3100m, where we would camp for the next morning's climb. From there the route weaves across the Grand Couloir to the Gouter Hut at 3800m. Upwards of this, long snowslopes take you onto the Done Du Gouter, the subsidiary peak of Mont Blanc, and where the summit comes into view. From here, we would pass the Vallot refuge and head up the exposed Bosses Ridge onto the summit dome. I had done 'The Blanc', my objective for the holiday, what next?



Simon Welsh

Ruthven '90

After being in the New Zealand Police for 11 years and being a Detective for the last 7 years I have just been promoted to Sergeant. I live in Auckland, separated, with my 8 year old daughter. I would love to hear of any Strathallians in Aotearoa.

of my working life as an Army Officer and since 2001, as a civilian employee of the Ministry of Defence (MOD).

My military career spanned 34 years and I served all over the world, notably Hong Kong, Australia, Cyprus and Indonesia. Highlights include, command of 7 Tank Transporter Regiment RCT in Germany, Instructor at the Australian Army Staff College near Melbourne, Deputy Chief of Staff in 4th Armoured Division in Germany, Director of Defence Logistics in London and finally as the Defence Attaché in Jakarta, Indonesia. Interspersed with these posts, there were the inevitable operational tours in the North of Ireland. Over all, a privileged, challenging and enjoyable time of my life.

On leaving the Army in 2001, my family moved to Devon and I dabbled in Defence Consultancy, before returning to the MOD to work as a civilian with Defence Estates. I am due to retire finally next year. I have been married to Issie for 37 years and we have two adult children - Helen, who works in the

Bill Galloway

Riley '60

I now lecture in accounting, with all my students enrolled in a professional accounting program. Recently went to Ghana because Glasgow Grandfather Galloway worked there in 1910 - 1946. Amazingly his factory building still stands, with his name in foot high letters. The building company, sawmill and furniture factory are no longer operating. One of his partners was Duncan Robertson Moir also Glasgow based.

David S Macfarlane

Nicol 1966

Since leaving Strathallian in the summer of 1966, I have spent most

wine business and Ollie who is an operational analyst. We live in South Devon, overlooking Lyme Bay, in a converted Victorian House, that once was the home of the double-Oscar-winning actress Vivien Leigh.

I enjoy dinghy sailing very much and I am a member of a Choral Society. I have come across a few Strathallians over the years and would be interested to catch up with any of my year- even though it is 45 years since I left.

Alasdair Campbell Simpson '59



Following my time at Strathallan I had a career in the Royal Air Force (Gen Duties/Flying Branch), retiring at the rank of Wg Cdr. I then began my second career in Emergency Planning in the SW Region of England and was involved in Military Assistance to the Civil Authority. I retired in June 2006. I have lived in Bath since 1996 and my elder grandson is now at Bath Spa University whereas younger grandson is only 18 months old! Two granddaughters in between with a fifth grandchild due in March 2012. I enjoy playing golf (badly) and support Bath Rugby Club. For my 70th birthday this year I enjoyed a round of golf on the Edinburgh Course at Wentworth. Related to the Turnbull family of Boghall, Kingsbarns, of which three generations attended Strathallan School (Nicol House).

Carolita and Jonny Ireland Woodlands '93, Nicol '93



were married on May 23, 2011 in Devon, UK. Two weeks later, they and their springer spaniel, Archie, were on a plane emigrating to Chile. On August 19th, they met up with Fraser Currie (Nicol '96) in Santiago for a meal and drinks. (If there happen to be any other Strathallians in Chile, we'd love to make it a regular thing.)



Deceased

George Innes-Smith	1949	February 2010
D J Wightman	1948	July 2010
Peter Glendinning	F '49	September 2010
Peter G Dunley	F '49	September 2010
John P Allardyce	1949	November 2010
Julian H Brind	R '60	December 2010
Peter W Bullard	S '83	May 2011
N A Charlier	N '95	June 2011
David H Muir	F '68	July 2011
Bobby Burnet	Second Master 1980	September 2011

Burns supper



It is now 202 years since Robert Burns was born. The Sixth Form recognised the anniversary at an increasingly popular event, their annual Burns Supper, on January 28th. The panelled Music Room has an excellent period feel for such an occasion, with an acoustic which lends itself perfectly to words and music.

Chairman, Mrs Irene McFarlane, gave the welcome and then the gathered company rose to acknowledge the arrival of the "star" of the evening,

the Haggis! This was piped in by Mr Freddie Hunter and addressed by Mr John MacLean.

Miss Hannah Cox delivered the Selkirk Grace, prior to the traditional meal of cock o'leekie soup, haggis, neeps and tatties, and biscuits and Scottish cheeses. The serving of the meal was a major achievement for Mr Gordon Stewart and the kitchen staff, in such a crowded room!

"The Nicht's Ongauns" began with the speech, common to all Burns Suppers, "The Immortal Memory". It was proposed by Olivia Quick who gave a light-hearted, but informative interpretation of the life and work of the poet.

Also a feature of all such events is The Toast to the Lassies and the Reply. Originally, at all-male celebrations, an acknowledgement of the work done in the preparations by the "kitchen lassies", this tends, nowadays, to be a "humorous battle of the sexes". And in Josiah Bircham and Rosie Beetschen we found worthy sparring partners.

Needless to say, most Burns Suppers do not contain a Toast to Strathallan and Reply, but this has been a feature of ours since our current Headmaster initiated the annual celebration. Ben Melville spoke with humour and generosity as he reflected on the years at the School and the characters he had encountered along the way. Mr David Barnes responded with a witty Reply.

The speeches were punctuated by selections from our traditional music group of Anna Olafsson, Kirsty Glasgow, Christina Stephenson and Alice Inglis.

A Burns Supper would not be a fitting tribute to the Bard without that which made him famous - his poetry. Christina Stephenson awoke in all of us memories of the "hell o' a' diseases" with her rendition of "Address tae the Toothache".

One can doubt whether Burns would ever have heard any of his poems recited in the Georgian language. The Strathallan audience, however, did have that privilege, as Otto Kakhidze recited "A Man's a Man for a' That" in both Scots and his native language, in a translation of his own.

In her vote of thanks, Heather Larson spoke on behalf of all who attended, when she expressed her appreciation of the fun and laughter of the evening, while acknowledging that everyone had also learned something new about our national poet.

The evening concluded with yet another of Burns' works, "Auld Lang Syne".

IIMcF

Prizewinners 2010-11

Dux	Kuo Hong Wong
The Smith Cup for Head Boy	Ben Melville
The Morley Quaich for Head Girl	Heather Larson
The Draper Cup for Deputy Head Boy	Marcus Adams
The Draper Cup for Deputy Head Girl	Hannah Grant
The Houston Prize for All Round Merit	Marcus Adams
The Scanlan Cup for Merit	Ciara Elwis
The Thomson Salver for Achievement	Otto Kakhidze
The John Fulton Memorial Prize for Overall Contribution	Hannah Cox
The Hayward Award for Citizenship	Linda Gordon
The Campbell Award for Best All Round Sportsman	Alex Henderson
The Campbell Award for Best All Round Sportswoman	Philippa Orr
The William Tattersall Art Prize	Rosie Gibson
The David Bogle Prize for Economics	Otto Kakhidze
The Lord Kincaid Prize for English	Rosie Beetschen
The University of Dundee English as an Additional Language Prize	Rachel Ng
The Richard Moffat Prize for History	James McAllister
The Robert Rankin Prize for Mathematics	Amar Hodzic
The Wilfred Hoare Senior Reading Prize	Christina Stephenson
The Gary Rogers Prize for Creative Writing	Finlay Kettles
The Patrick Grandison Prize for Strings	Anna Olafsson
The William Pasfield Salver for Music	Marcus Adams
The Robert Barr Memorial Prize for Music	Tom Esparon
The Choir Prize	Rosie Beetschen
The McMaster Quaich for Piping	Alice Inglis
Strathallan Travelling Scholarships (Modern Languages and Music)	Ciara Elwis
The Haviston Broadsword Prize	Marcus Adams
CCF Prize	Ben Giles
Royal Navy Section Prize	Christina Stephenson
The Rick Trophy Army Prize	Olivia Quick

UVI Form Prizes

UVI A Level Art	Anna Olafsson
UVI A Level Biology	Keith Wigley
UVI A Level Business Studies	Lynne Howie
UVI A Level Chemistry	Keith Wigley
UVI A Level Classics overall	Josiah Bircham
UVI A Level Computing	Anastasia Gnatyuk
UVI A Level Design & Technology	Robbie Miller
UVI A Level French	Michael McKenzie
UVI A Level Geography	Michael McKenzie
UVI A Level German	Hannah Meikle
UVI A Level Music	Ciara Elwis
UVI A Level Physics	Tim Heaney
UVI A Level Spanish	Lynne Howie
UVI Higher Biology	Olivia Quick
UVI Higher Business Management	Calvin Cameron
UVI Higher Design and Technology	Christina Stephenson
UVI Higher Geography	Ben Giles
UVI Higher German	James McAllister
UVI Higher History	Ben Giles
UVI Higher Mathematics	Ben Giles
UVI Higher Physical Education	Keith Buchan
UVI Higher RMPS	Otto Kakhidze

Lower Sixth Prizes

LVI Art	Anna McNeill
LVI Biology	Adeeb Naasan
LVI Business Studies	Robbie Blackburn
LVI Chemistry	Cristian Livadaru
LVI Classics	James Gray
LVI Computing	Sophie Fraser
LVI Design Technology	Mhairi Bannerman
LVI Economics	Bogdan Marcu
LVI English	Cristian Livadaru
LVI French	Adeeb Naasan
LVI Geography	Flora Hay
LVI German	Lauren Johnson
LVI History	Alex Falconer
LVI Mathematics	Lewis Watson
LVI Music	Andrew Blair
LVI Physical Education	Nicki Cochrane
LVI Physics	Adeeb Naasan
LVI RMPS	Kim Chan
LVI Spanish	Neele Grandt

Fifth Form Prizes

Vth Form Art	Olwyn Jenkins
Vth Form Biology	Alex Bannerman
Vth Form Business Studies	Alex Bannerman
Vth Form Chemistry	Frances Myatt
Vth Form Computing	Frances Myatt
Vth Form Design Technology	Adam Shakor
Vth Form English	Frances Myatt
Vth Form French	Harriet Smith
Vth Form Geography	Eilidh Gibson
Vth Form German	Olwyn Jenkins
Vth Form History	Frances Myatt
Vth Form Latin	Harriet Smith
Vth Form Mathematics	Frances Myatt
Vth Form Music	Eilidh Gibson
Vth Form Physics	Frances Myatt
Vth Form Spanish	Alex Bannerman

Fourth Form Prizes

IVth Form Art	Sarah Nicol
IVth Form Biology	Josephine Dibnah
IVth Form Business Studies	Robbie MacDiarmid
IVth Form Chemistry	Robbie MacDiarmid
IVth Form Computing	Robbie MacDiarmid
IVth Form Design & Technology	Rory Wood
IVth Form English	Kara Tripney
IVth Form French	Javier Garcia Serrano
IVth Form Geography	Finlay Kettles
IVth Form German	Katharine Griffiths
IVth Form History	Finlay Kettles
IVth Form Latin	Finlay Kettles
IVth Form Mathematics	Robbie MacDiarmid
IVth Form Music	Amelia Inglis
IVth Form Physics	Finlay Kettles
IVth Form Spanish	Robbie MacDiarmid
Young Enterprise	Sophie Lightbody

Third Form

IIIrd Form Academic Prize	James Burdett
IIIrd Form Academic Prize	Finlay Stewart
IIIrd Form Academic Prize	Emma Morris
IIIrd Form Academic Prize	Cameron Jenkins
IIIrd Form Academic Prize	Kyle Cooke

The Ball





*Strictly Come Dancing, Proc?
There's nothing to it.*



*Now, I know it's somebody's
birthday today.*



*Three little maids from
school are we.*



*You put your right leg in, your
right leg out...*



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