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DATA 76

The Magazine of
Keith Grammar School

"Do ut Des", the motto of the School means

"I give so that you may give"

"Data" means "What has been given"

Editors: Kevin Sloan Class VI
Michael Barnettson Class VI

all photographs by courtesy of

STUDIO RICHARDS, KEITH

PRICE 70p

Against all the predictions made last year and thanks to the indomitable spirit of the pupils of KGS, "Data" - the revered magazine of Keith Grammar School - appears again, albeit in a somewhat altered form. Although the external appearance of the magazine has changed, at heart it is still the magazine we know so well.

Alas, inflation has struck the school as it has every other walk of life, but the team sports and other extra-mural activities have thrived as never before. Is this the Dunkirk Spirit - or are we all crazy? Certainly, as editors we have tried to respond to financial stringency as a challenge.

The drastic change of format has sent us back to research among relics of former years. The earliest copy of the school magazine we can find dates from 1921. This was a publication of the KGS Former Pupils' Association. Some of the articles had the most intriguing titles - "Mais où sont les neiges d'antan?", or "O tempora! O mores!", or finally "The Trans of Smyrna."

"Data '76" cannot compete with such poetical mastery, but we answer the challenge with "Canteen Odeurs", "Pathetic Phonetics", and "A Conversation on a 'Bus'", perhaps not so elegant as trans from Smyrna, but we think far more humorous.

The next original copy of the magazine which we were able to find is dated December 1937. This incorporated the KGS Former Pupils' Association and the KGS magazine. In this 1937 edition there were several pupils' contributions printed. These included a poem entitled "Please Teachers" by a certain HAMISH WATT. Perhaps future historians may note these first thoughts on the Scottish educational system!

PLEASE TEACHERS

As school goes in too early,
Please, teachers, change the time,
For I would rather have it ten,
Than fifteen minutes to nine.

My reason is that morning's cold
makes me a sleepy head,
And I would rather have a snooze
Than quit my cosy bed.

You know I come two weary miles,
It's a dreary cycle in,
And when, as usual, I am late,
There is an awful din.

HAMISH WATT Primary 5(a)

While reading the efforts for this year's magazine we were struck by the number of depressing articles dealing with death and desolation.

In choosing the contributions for publication, we have tried to include many humorous and entertaining pieces, to balance out this depressing but thought-provoking element.

As in former years the magazine has been enriched by the Allan Gray Scots Vernacular. Of the five entries chosen to be printed, three of them are by Englishmen, surely in these days of heightened national feeling, an interesting statistic.

To the rest of the world we suppose that one school year looks very much like another. Yet in fact, each session has its own special quality, and we have tried to bring out the essence of 75/76 in this literary reflection of the year. One sad landmark calls for special mention. Staff and school alike were shocked by the sudden loss of Mr. James Sabiston - a teacher of 19 years' standing at Keith Grammar School - who died on 16th August, within a year of moving to Milne's High School, Forthabers.

In his memory, a new prize has been presented to the school by Mrs. Sabiston - the James Sabiston Memorial Prize for Gymnastics.

Now to those members of the staff and pupils who leave the portals of Keith Grammar School this year, the editors give their best wishes for the future, and to those who have to remain - our commiserations.

Lastly, we hope the school magazine will continue in future years, for it is a fine souvenir of six years at Keith Grammar School.

Kevin Sloan
Michael Barnettson

Class VI (Editors)

To write for this magazine is both a challenge and an honour. The level of achievement displayed in the various contributions is of a high order and it is thus a challenge to maintain this standard, particularly when the writer has, as it were, a guaranteed promise of inclusion! To be permitted to follow the Editors is an annual honour which is, no doubt traditionally, accorded to the Rector, who must thus justify his living in such elevated circles.

Talking of circles, or rather of a very comfortably modified roll, it is an unusual pleasure to be thinking of this contribution while seated in the modern passenger accommodation of the diesel ferry "Sullivan" on its steady course from Stornoway to Ullapool on the mainland. That the time is not quite 6 a.m. is perhaps surprising but, now that the connection has been safely caught, not so alarming as it sounded last night.

The hotel's alarm clock, set for 5 a.m. was in fact reinforced by a Hebridean cuckoo (set apparently for 4.15 a.m.) which successfully contested the dawn cries of the gulls as it surveyed them from one of the relatively few mature trees to be seen on the Isle of Lewis. There is something exhilarating, as well as humbling, in the early hours of a new day (you remember Wordsworth's sonnet?) but I believe the effect is heightened by the proximity of water in quantities, whether it be the normally placid River Thames or the rarely calm Minch. Today, as indeed on our outward crossing on Saturday morning (this being the Monday holiday), the Minch is proving unnaturally considerate and the almost glass-like surface is disturbed only by the odd fishing boat setting out for the new week's work, or an occasional gannet diving explosively for a fish it has spotted. The outline of the Isle of Lewis is falling away behind us, and ahead, their tops still capped with mist, are the starkly higher peaks of Wester Ross. Such natural peace prompts thoughts that tend to be philosophical and timeless. How can they be brought to bear on a specific school or in particular on its progress and achievements in session 1975-76?

As usual it has turned out to be a session of contrasts, of successful progress on a number of fronts and of disappointments too. Not that it would be rational to expect success spectacularly in every aspect of school life: just as there are times of rapid progress, so there can be occasions of setback or failure to advance because of the obstinacy of conditions or even of persons.

The year, then, has had its worries and much discussion has gone to the solution of difficulties. It has seen the first operational year of regionalisation and even at this late hour is still awaiting the pronouncement of the Secretary of State on leaving dates for Scottish pupils. Staffing deficiencies in some subjects have persisted and accommodation problems have remained unsolved. Transport (for purposes of sport and club activities) has continued to present a financial headache, in spite of extremely active measures to alleviate this condition in the body scholastic. The effect of inflation has made itself evident, not only in this sphere, but also in the restricted choice and quantities available to subject departments against the allocation of the annual per capita allowance. Even the "Coffee Bar" has had to put up its prices! Sheer cost has dictated the changed format of this very publication.

Yet we have battled on, not without pioneering efforts in various fields: revision of subject schemes or work; initiation of new competitive activities, both individual and group, in sport and swimming; successful participation in a drama festival; a strong impact on certain classes of the Moray Music Festival; self-help by clubs through running their own "disco" entertainments; further development of social involvement in the needs of the community. It is a pity that the formation of a College Council has been delayed by procedural uncertainty at District/Regional level. Our own Internal School Council has survived its conversion to Year Councils and we have already learnt several lessons on how best to benefit from the many useful suggestions brought forward in this way.

However serious the financial future may appear likely to continue for at least the next few years, there may be a brighter prospect in some aspects of school administration. At this date, for instance, our staffing situation (with only one vacancy to fill) looks more promising than ever before and augurs well for the prospect of being able to cope with the conditions of the Teachers' Contract, in terms of preparation time and class sizes. Accommodation will certainly not be increased in the foreseeable future, but the fact that Speyside High School will not be sending us a third-year intake in August means that the space equivalent of 90 pupils, say three classes, will be saved and thus should become available for more equitable distribution.

A long-term project that is already being actively planned is the development of the Library into a full Resources Centre, providing not only books but also fully catalogued materials such as film strips, sound and video-tapes, cassettes and records, and reference materials. The adequate housing of this mass of new material will require ingenuity of planning and a certain outlay of specifically voted money.

I resist the temptation to make use of this platform to shout once more about the injustice of travel allowance allocated to a school in our geographical situation; let me say only this, that I have made repeated applications for special consideration to the Education Authority (which is the Grampian Regional Council). We have our own plans for equating a full programme next session with an un-enlarged grant, and the manifestations of Superstars and KDS Cabaret 76 as money makers will already have been highly evident as "Data 76" attains its publication date.

This latter achievement is a matter of some considerable congratulations to you, Sirs, as Editors, and to your Professional Advisers. Your readers, if they have read thus far, cannot fail to have noticed the change in format and design, accepted after deep thought and consideration of comparative budgets as the only way to at least approximate solvency while retaining almost all highly desirable features that all readers have come to expect as quality hall-marks of every successive edition of "Data". May I close by wishing your offspring - "Data 76" - every success and a really healthy circulation?

Yours sincerely,

ROBIN WINCHESTER

Rector

KEITH GRAMMAR SCHOOL

PREFECTS FOR SESSION 1975/76

BOYS

SCHOOL CAPTAIN

Ian Jackson

VICE-CAPTAIN

Michael Garnetson

GIRLS

SCHOOL CAPTAIN

Judith McVean

VICE-CAPTAIN

Jean Mc Nicol

Kenneth Anderson
Graham Day
Alexander McKay
Graham Morrison
Colin Shepherd
Kevin Sloan
James Stalker
Stuart Andrew
Gerard Doyle
David Legg
Ronald Mitchell
Stuart Morrison
Martyn Shedd
Peter Ratson
Colin Whyte
Gordon Williams

Jean Auchinachie
Carol Harper
Hazel Jamieson
Jane Mark
Kathleen Porteous
Patricia Reid
Lesley Beasley
Jennifer Duthie
Hazel Edwards
Kay Jackson
Margaret Johnston
Aileen McLennan
Hellen MacLeod
Carol Mair
Judith Milne
Kirsten Smith
Joy Stuart

KEITH GRAMMAR SCHOOL YEAR COUNCILS 1975-76

IB Linda Geddes
IC Sheila Eadie
IO Colin Stewart
IR Ian McCarthy
IY Ronald Robson

IIB Barbara Winchester
IIC Ian Stewart
IIO Lorraine Robertson
IIR Jane Morrison
IY Ronald Shearer

III 1 Carol Stephen
2 Joyce Howells
3 Maureen Gray
4 Brian Gray
5 Mhairi Bruce (Succeeded by David Mair)
6 Michael Shand
III J Gillian Shanks
III K Moira Coull
III L James Petrie

IV 1 David McHardy
2 Janice Shearer
3 Wilma Rennie
4 William Edwards
5 Ann Simpson
6 Barbara Sims
IV J Jean Craig
IV K Jennifer Morrison
IV L Ian Wilson

V G Jean Morrison, Margaret Menzies, Ruth Strathdee
V B Peter Cruickshank, Grant Mercer, Michael McDonald

SCHOOL NOTES

Staff Changes

Several new teachers joined the staff at the start of the session.

Mrs. McFarlane replaced Mrs. Purves in the Commercial Dept., while Miss Steele arrived to join the English Dept. and become an Assistant Rector.

Miss Diverres joined the French Dept. and M. Jean Lebars came to Keith as the French Language Assistant for the session. Miss Wink joined the P.E. Dept., replacing Mrs. Fraser who retired in August. Mrs. Melvin joined the Science staff, albeit only for a short while.

A welcome return to the staff was that of Mr. Milton, the janitor, who had been absent on sick leave for some months.

Another staff change which has not required an appointment to another position by any staff members was the change of name which Miss Brown underwent when she married Mr. Bruce during last summer holidays. Best wishes of staff and pupils go to this popular couple.

Excursions and Visits

As is usual, there have been a large number of excursions to various theatrical performances, career and university meetings and the link courses at Elgin Technical College.

Visits to theatres were numerous, one of the most notable being a trip to the Festival of One-Act Plays at Elgin Academy in which Keith Grammar had an entry. The Keith Grammar School play, "Passion, Poison and Petrification" by G. B. Shaw, proved very popular and was highly praised by the adjudicators. Milne's High School in Forthabers was the venue for the production of the "Winslow Boy" by the Forthabers Dramatic Society. This visit was well attended and proved very popular with all pupils present.

A Christmas Maths lecture was held again at Aberdeen and the highly topical subject "Change Ringing" was very well received by the large audience from senior classes of various schools, including Keith Grammar.

The School to University Conference was held at Banff Academy in September and was very helpful in various points about University life.

A few members of Class IV have been attending link courses at Elgin again this year.

Visits to local distilleries are always popular with pupils and this year has been no exception. This venture goes down so well that we are tempted to ask those in authority to "Make it a Double!"

Visitors to the School

As has been seen in previous years, Keith Grammar School again proved popular with visitors.

The Ziegeleiden Youth Orchestra held a concert in the School Hall on the 29th August and then gave a special performance to all school pupils on the morning of the 1st September. The loud ovation proved their popularity.

The Pitlochry Theatre Company made its annual visit to the school in September and gave two performances. "Triumph of Harlequin" was performed to First, Second and Third Years and a composite programme on Pinter's plays to Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Year pupils.

A visitor to the school for the first time, Lt. Commander C.A. Mason, R.N., proved popular with all the pupils and also the library staff. He presented two books to the school library in honour of former pupil A.M. Grant, who had been awarded the Kings Badge whilst serving in the Royal Marines.

Another visitor who is slightly better known to us made two visits to the school during the year. Dr. H. Ellington of R.C.I.F. gave a talk to Astronomy Club members and also senior pupils of both Keith Grammar and Buckie High School in November. He returned in March to present the prizes to the successful Bruce Oil Management Game team.

Two military exhibitions were given to pupils in October and March. In October the Royal Navy gave a spectacular and noisy demonstration of diving techniques in the Swimming Pool. A pupil proved invaluable in showing the buoyancy of a diving suit in deep water. He was however, prepared for the event.

The Gordon Highlanders held a mini tattoo on the hockey pitch in March, together with an exhibition of army life in the Hall and East Quadrangle.

Probably the most devastating visit was that of the students collecting for their Charity Campaign. But it is always pleasant to see last year's VI, all grown up - behaving like bairns!

Other Activities

"Gremmarama", as many of our readers will remember took place during a hectic week towards the end of last session. The various sideshows both inside and outside the school were a great success. Strangely enough the most popular stand was the shooting gallery, where photographs of the devoted K.G.S. staff were used as targets.

A sponsored walk raised a substantial amount towards the total sum raised; a staggering £2,000.

The usual assemblies were held, with several special ones cropping up throughout the session. A Remembrance Day service was held, and two Christmas services at the end of the term. The Women's World Day of Prayer was marked by a special service. Both Easter services were conducted by visiting clergy - a return to our usual procedure after the Pupil services of 1975.

The Christmas Discos and Dances were held on the last three nights of term and all were well attended.

Staying on the subject of discos, we come to what has been seen to be a major club fund raising activity. Earlier in the year a twin deck stereo record player unit was purchased by the school for use at club discos. The science and technical departments built light boxes and the existing speakers were used. Numerous clubs have made use of this new asset and have boosted their funds substantially.

The Bruce Oil Management Game was competed for again this year. The team from the fifth and sixth years reached the finals and carried the day. Congratulations to the team and their staff adviser, Mrs. Doyle.

Several inter-house competitions were held, as in former years, and interest has increased thanks mainly to the enthusiastic efforts of the House-masters and House-mistresses.

We must finally report that a new method of proving one's ingenuity and courage has grown up, centred around the highest point of the school. Certain "objets d'art" have mysteriously appeared, attached to the flagpole by glue and string. Enough said.

IN MEMORIAM

James Sabiston M.A.

died 16th August 1975

"... home from the sea."

PREFECTS



Back row (l to r) — Gerard Doyle, Kevin Sloan, Stuart Andrew, Gordon Williams, Alexander McKay, Martin Shedd, Gersome Morrison, Stuart Morrison, Ronald Mitchell, Colin Whyte, James Stalker.

Third row (l to r) — David Legg, Jane Mark, Judith Milne, Alison McLennan, Hazel Edwards, Lesley Beader, Margaret Johnson, Colin Shepherd, Gersome Day.

Second row (l to r) — Hazel Jamieson, Patricia Reid, Jennifer Duffin, Jean Armstrong, Kathleen Porteous, Carol Malt, Carol Harper, Kirstin Smith, Joy Stuart, Helen MacLeod, Kay Jackson, Kenneth Anderson.

Front row (l to r) — Michael Barnetson (vice-captain), Judith McVean (captain), Mr Wilson, Mr Scott, Mr Winchester, Miss Street, Mr McLachlan, Ian Jackson (captain), Joan McNicol (vice-captain).



Back row (l to r) — Grant Mercer, Michael MacDonald, Ian Cunningham, David McHardy, Freddie Fettes, David Mair, Michael Shand, Ronald Taylor, Harold Shearer.

Third row (l to r) — Margaret Monies, Joyce Davis, Barbara Winchester, Lorraine Robertson, Ruth Stratheden, Barbara Sims.

Second row (l to r) — Marjorie Martin, Mera Cull, James Shearer, Wilma Bennie, Jean Craig, Gillian Shanks, Carol Stevenson.

Front row (l to r) — Maureen Gray, Michael Barnholm, Judith McVean, Mr. Winchester, Ian Jackson, Joan McNiel, Jean Morrison.

The Year Councils have continued to meet regularly with the year teachers acting as assessors and with a captain or vice-captain in the chair, and they reflect the grass roots views of the pupils on a wide variety of topics.

Two of our sixth year pupils, Carol Harper and Ian Jackson had some insight into a council of a larger calibre when they were fortunate enough to be invited to the offices of the Grampian Regional Council at Woodhill House, Aberdeen, to act as "Councillors for a Day". This they found to be a very interesting and worth-while exercise.

The high quality of the part taken by pupils on that occasion is another good omen for the contribution which pupils may be expected to make to the new School and College Council which are due to be formed.

V. Scott

Depute Rector

THE SOCIAL SERVICE COMMITTEE 1975-76

The work of the Service Committee began modestly, though not quietly, in December, with our Carol Singing evening. An enthusiastic group of about forty pupils and members of staff set off round the town, and by the time our voices and our feet gave out we had collected £26 for Action Research for the Crippled Child.

During December and January, we launched an appeal for pupils to collect used stamps, and as a result, four large parcels of stamps were sent to various charities. It may seem odd that our mundane used stamps should be of any value, but of course they can be sold abroad to collectors as "foreign" stamps.

Almost every morning's mail brings a letter of appeal from a charitable institution, but it would be impossible to collect from them all. We limit our collection to a maximum of one month, and so far this year we have collected the following sums:-

Coatlands Emergency Appeal	(February)	£83
National Children's Home, Aberdeen	(March)	£64
Dr. Barnardo's Homes	(April)	£75
National Appeal for the Blind	(May)	£80

As you can see, our collection have gone from strength to strength, and the Service Committee would like to thank not only the collectors, but also parents and friends who have given so generously.

H. Steele

Assistant Rector

ACTIVITIES AFTERNOON

Wednesday afternoon is now firmly established as KGS Activities Afternoon. One double period is set aside for all members of Class III and Class IV, in which the pupils are offered a wide range of curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Each term a different activity is selected, so that each pupil should have sampled six different activities by the time he leaves KGS. This is intended to introduce the pupils to new sports and leisure activities which otherwise they may have overlooked.

Some of the activities offered are fairly unusual and outside the normal school curriculum. Examples are:- Giving a helping hand to senior citizens, Drama, Fish Fly Tying, Soft Toy Making, Arts and Crafts, Pet Keeping, Gymnastics, Lifesaving, Tennis, Tattling, Orienteering, and many other usual school activities.

Next session it is planned to extend the Activities Afternoon to include all Senior pupils as well as Classes III and IV, thus extending the choices available and increasing the total number of Activities taken by each pupil.

Finally, I would like to convey my thanks to all the Members of Staff who have departed from their own school subject to take the wide variety of Activities which has made the venture very well worth while.

H. W.

THE LIBRARY

At this moment in time, the Library of KGS is undergoing a transformation. It is hoped that it will eventually emerge as a fully fledged "Resource Centre".

Firstly, however, the progress made in 1975/1976. The stock of the library has increased by over five hundred volumes, purchased from the annual grant. For the Reference Section some attractive encyclopaedias of sport have been added and the Scottish National Dictionary is finally complete.

A generous exchange of stock from the Regional School Library Service certainly brightened our shelves, adding one hundred new Senior Fiction, one hundred and fifty new Junior Fiction and one hundred new Junior Non-Fiction.

A new venture which has proved extremely popular is the Library subscription to a number of magazines and newspapers.

During next session, the changes mentioned at the beginning of the report are destined to take place. In the library itself, the distinction between Junior and Senior fiction will be shelved together on one side of the library and all non-fiction on the other. The Reference Section will remain separate and a new career section will be set up.

A new catalogue of all the library's holdings is now in preparation and this should be available to pupils and staff in the new session. This catalogue will include the library's stock of audio visual materials (e.g. records, cassettes, film strips, slides, etc.), which should be available to staff early in the new session. It is hoped to store these materials in Room 11.

I should like to conclude by thanking both the Library Committee and the Librarians for all their much appreciated help in the last session.

C. P.

MURRAY MUSIC FESTIVAL - 1976

The following pupils entered in the Recorder Solo, Duet, Trio, Quartet, and Ensemble Sections, and, owing to lack of competition, carried off most of the awards:-

Joyce Howells, Christine Shaw, Linda Cameron, Maureen Gray, Vivien Henderson, Susan Hill, Jane Stewart, Caroline Allan, Louise Forbes, Linda Gray, Susan and Linda Logan, Sandra Rennie, Pauline Craig, Lesley Davidson, Jennifer Reid, Lynne Hendry, Maureen Rutherford.

Maureen Rutherford gained 1st place in the Bach piano class and also the under 16 solo. She was invited to play in a Master Class, conducted by the adjudicator, Mr. Lionel Salter.

Other awards were obtained by the Chamber Music Group (2nd). Simon Doyle (3rd solo singing), Carol Hair (1st in under 14 violin solo), David Hair (2nd cello solo, under 15).

The Junior Choir was third.

G. Cadenhead.

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CHESS CLUB



Back row (l to r) — Keith Sloan, Robert Cowie, Mr Fleming, Sandy Mackay, Gerard Doyle.

Front row (l to r) — Karin Paterson, Sonya Paterson.

SENIOR VOLLEYBALL



Back row (l to r) — Ian Adon, James Stalker, Stuart Andrew, Norman Mitchell.

Front row (l to r) — Peter Cruickshank, Graeme Day, Andrew Johnston, Gordon Williams.

BADMINTON



Back row (l to r) — Andy Johnston, Keith Ingram, Walter Leith, Gerald Stronsch, Mr Mackenzie.

Front row (l to r) — Jane Morgan, Linda Morrison, Judy Doyle, Shelley Jamieson.

ASTRONOMY CLUB



Left to right — David Legg, Gregg McInosh, Gerald Davis, Ray Jackson, Graeme Morrison, Sonya Paterson, Sandy Clark, Vivian Henderson, Sandy McKay, Kevin Sloan, Clive Johnston, Aidan Sloan, Robert Cooze, Katharine Ellis, Jean Morrison, Michael Peirle, Michael Barnetson, Ian Jackson, Mr Bennett.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY

President Kevin J. C. Sloan
Secretary Hazel Edwards

The Society this year held its meetings between four and five thirty after school, so that those people from 'up country' and 'down country' could hear the pearls of wit and wisdom which are ever present at the meetings of the W.G.S. Debating Society.

Topics included the very appropriate one on whether "Columbus should not have discovered America." Or on the other hand "That this house believes in Fairies." This motion was unanimously carried - except for those who voted against it.

The mock election was a great success with all who were present. For the first time a Fascist candidate stood for election, but the traditional parties were also well presented - Conservatives, Socialists, Liberals, Communists and Women's Lib. 'Oh' and those S.N.P. people for whose manifests included 'Social' Services being, very 'Liberal' with Spain, but more 'Conservative' with Guinness.

With these 'heaven sent' plans they carried the day.

The interest in this society continues as high a level as ever, enthusiastic juniors replacing those seniors who left at the end of '74/'75 session.

A team consisting of Kevin Sloan and Gerard Doyle, took part in the "Sootsmans Trophy." The standard of debating was praised by the judges; but the two speakers from Leith were unable to secure places in the quarter finals. The motion for that debate was 'That Pop music is killing the art of conversation.'

Finally, a team of three from Leith took part in the "Rotary Public Speaking Competition" in March. The team was the same as the one before mentioned, with an addition of some 'young blood' in the form of Bernard Smith. Once more the team was beaten, but they acquitted themselves well and were praised by the judges.

All that now remains is for me to thank Mr. J. C. S. Arnaud for his help in the past year, and my best wishes to future presidents of the society.

DRAMA CLUB

The Drama Club staged two productions of George Bernard Shaw's "Passion, Poison and Petrification" the first being our contribution to "S.N. OF THE BEST". Gillian Kynoch interpreted Magnesia with elegance and poise, Kevin Shand was a melodramatically fiendish Fitztolenache while adoring Adolphus was ably played by Gerald Stronach. The supporting roles of policeman, doctor, landlady, thunderbolt and maid were skillfully performed by Sandy Clark, Christine Thompson, Sheila Thompson, Rachel Cottan and Katherine Ettles who was subsequently a sparkling and witty Magnesia in the second production for the Murray Arts Club festival of One Act Plays. The maid's role was ably taken over at very short notice by Carol Stephen. The play was produced and staged managed by A. Duncan and H. Cottan, lighting was by R. Winchester and Margaret Johnston and C. Lamb provided the indispensable collapsible ceiling.

Andrew Duncan

CANOE CLUB

The last year has seen an encouraging rise in the club membership, although we were very sorry to see the departure of Mr. Coull, a keen member of the club. We have been fortunate in having the use of the Keith swimming pool from 4 o'clock until 5 on Thursday evenings during the winter months. This has proved very beneficial to all the members. Junior members, having started canoeing on the River Isla, have recently enjoyed runs on the River Spey while senior members also made two runs on the River Dee.

In April of this year the club organised the first slalom for schools in the North East on the River Isla. Inverurie were first and second in the Senior Boys event, Karin Paterson won the Senior Girls, the Junior Girls was won by Brechin and Adrian Fulton and David Black were first and second respectively in the Junior Boys.

The Club also built five canoes this year, and we hope to be able to continue building canoes, although we are in danger of losing the use of the old Grammar School for this purpose.

We are very grateful to Mr. Gilchrist, Mr. Smith and Mr. McKenzie for their help and encouragement throughout the year and for all the time they have given up to take us canoeing.

Karin Paterson

Class V

CHESS CLUB

The membership of the chess club has continued to decrease but the quality of the players has increased. Although we failed to retain the trophy which the team won last year, and only came second, our accustomed skill and finesse was evident in all the games played.

Two members of the team, Kevin Sloan and Karen Paterson competed in the individual championships. Unfortunately after some "stirring play" both were unable to reach the final - "We wiz robbed!"

I am confident that in two or three years' time, once the junior members have gained experience in competitive chess, the trophy will return to Keith.

Finally, I must thank Messrs. Weir and Fleming for their help and guidance, and their wives for raising the standard of the teas to a state where they were looked forward to rather than dreaded. Thanks must also be given to the Third Year Girls, who helped with the teas.

Kevin J. C. Sloan

Captain

JARQUE

(Twin Town Exchanges)

"Meine Damen und Herren, we are now landing in Nürnberg. We hope you have had a pleasant flight."

And so began for the party of Banffshire exchange pupils a very happy sojourn in Germany.

We each lived for twelve days with a family in or around our twin town of Kronach - a town set in magnificent surroundings, amid forests of pine trees growing straight and tall on the hillsides.

Our hosts showed us all the local places of interest: among them Schloss Banz (a monastery) and Vierzeinhöhlen (a pilgrimage church). We also visited the town of Bamberg where we shopped German-style, and sampled the delights of the German cuisine.

Indeed "das Essen" (food!) was a highlight of our holiday. We thoroughly enjoyed the dishes of Sauerkraut, Wurst, Klöße, Klabekuchen, and Germany's answer to the Knickerbocker Glory - der Eisbecher.

All too soon the twelve days were over and we returned to Keith laden with souvenirs, photographs, and an extra stone in weight.

To the people of Kronach we would say, "Danke Schön", "Auf Wiedersehen", and, "Keith hat ein Herz für Sie."

CROSS COUNTRY

A new course was used this year for the K.G.S. Cross Country Championship Competition was keen and the following results recorded:-

Girls		Boys	
Junior	- Lucille Moir	Junior	- David Davidson
Intermediate	- Elsie Wright	Intermediate	- Martin Whyte
Senior	- Judith McVean	Senior	- Crahan Morrison

The girls were unable to attend the Moray District Championships because of a 'choir' commitment, but the boys took part and returned the following results in the team competition.

Junior:- 2nd from seven schools
Intermediate:- 1st from seven schools
Senior:- 3rd from six schools

The Intermediate Boys are especially to be congratulated for their efforts. They finished in the following places:-

2nd Martin Whyte	4th Ross Arbuckle	8th George Mitchell
12th Neil Morrison	41st Lewis Melvor	44th Brian Auld

ORIENTEERING

1976 marked the revival of Orienteering at Keith Grammar. The school's first venture into the open competition took place at the Bin Hill, Garmouth, on Sunday 21st March after desperate preparation the week before. At this event run by the Moravian Orienteering Club, the honour of the school was upheld by a team consisting of five pupils, a parent, three members of staff and a dog. The dog did not appear to have benefitted from training and had to be rescued late in the day! The others, however, successfully completed their courses and in spite of stormy weather conditions enjoyed the competition experience.

Practice continues during activities on Wednesday afternoons, and on finding a suitably mapped area of woodland near Keith local competition will follow.

RUGBY REPORT

The first rugby playing group of lads have come to the end of their school days. Their rugby can and will be carried on locally with the Huntly and Elgin rugby clubs, in the forces, and at the various colleges and universities to which they are going. To them, our thanks for their enthusiasm, interest and application. Their initial efforts will not be lost on those coming after them.

A number of senior boys, new to the game, added weight to our efforts. While we paid dearly for our inexperience at this age group it was gratifying to see the newcomers quickly adapt to team play with a confidence which belied their relative inexperience.

Our First Year XV has established itself as an opponent worthy of respect. Individual ability is blending well with an awareness of the need to work as individuals within a group. Team spirit is decidedly healthy. Score wise, we have beaten the best and lost the odd game to the "not - so - good."

Of recent years the popularity of the game in the north is such that the non-rugby playing school is now very much the exception. This year we have had new fixtures against three established rugby schools and three where rugby has recently been introduced.

Rugby, as it used to be, was dependent on the inspired moment. Present day emphasis does not exclude that possibility, but works toward it in four main ways. "To go forward, to support, to maintain continuity, and to put the opposition under pressure" - that is our aim.

M. Arbuckle

CRICKET

In the summer of 1976 K.G.S. will once again be taking part in the Cricket League and Knock-Out Cup. However, up to the time of writing the unco-operative weather conditions had prevented matches and even practices taking place.

The highlight of our short season, however, could well be the 7-a-Side Cricket Competition for both Juniors (SI & II) and Seniors (SIII upwards), which will be taking place as part of the Inter-House Team Sports Competition.

There is a completely new spirit about this year's Inter-House Competitions and the 7-a-Sides will no doubt find each House trying to both out-run and run-out all its opponents.

A. T. S.

HOCKEY

This year has proved to be a very successful one for all four hockey teams, the Senior XI winning the MORAY DISTRICT LEAGUE with an undefeated record, while the under-15 XI came runners-up in their league. The 1st and 2nd year teams also came away with a fair share of the glory by winning the majority of their games.

The Senior and under-15 XI's each took part in their North of Scotland tournaments, but failed to reach the finals, partly because of nerves in the case of the senior team! Although support was very sparse, certain members of staff turned out to photograph us at some awkward moments (bottoms up!)

The Highland District Team played representative matches and tournaments for which Judith McVean and Patricia McNicol were selected to play. Joan McNicol played for the second District Team this season. Judith McVean was selected for a Scottish Schoolgirls Trial but unfortunately played below her own standard, failing to be selected.

The Senior XI, exhausted after their year of success and getting up early on Saturday mornings, decided to close the hockey season with an easy game, so challenging to reasonably preserved staff. To make the game enjoyable (for us, at the end!) the staff were allowed to win 3 - 0.

The under-15's were represented by: Y. Farquhar (Capt.), B. Stuart, G. Hoqq, A. Menzies, B. Coddies, A. Adams, W. Bentley, M. Shaw, S. Ritchie, A. Robertson, L. Laing.

The senior XI results were as follows:- against Huntly 10-0, Forres 9-0, Elgin 2-1, Buckie 2-0, Gordonstoun 3-20, Torry 8-1. (KGS score given first in each case).

Everybody has had an enjoyable season, spirits remaining at a high level throughout.

It only remains to thank Miss Taylor and Miss Wink for all the hard work they did coaching us, and we only hope they have survived the ordeal to carry on the good work in the future.

J. McVean (Capt.)
J. McNicol (vice-capt.)
K. Porteous (Sec.)

Excellent team spirit played an important part in this season's successes for which much credit for good leadership must be given to the officials.

L. C. Taylor

SENIOR SOCCER

1975 - 76

	Played	Won	Lost	Draw
Results: (Cup; League; Friendlies)	18	9	8	1

An excellent approach from all concerned towards Senior Soccer in the School this season saw a consistent pool of 22 pupils practice and train twice a week.

This led towards having a good season - finishing a respectable fourth in the league, with Alan Milne our top goal scorer with over 20 goals.

1st xi:- Captain: Norman Mitchell
Vice Captain: Graham Dey
5th & 6th Year Rep.: James Stalker
4th Year Rep.: Kenneth Caldwell

A. Johnson, J. Reid, K. Ingram, P. Cruickshank, S. Andrew,
G. Williams, A. Milne, D. Legg, M. MacDonald, P. Marshall,
N. Rodger, G. McLure, G. Scott, B. Allan, W. Leith, J. Law,
E. Beattie, C. Goldie.

A. B.

FOOTBALL - UNDER 11 TEAM

The team started the season well with two wins and a draw, before form fell away and a succession of defeats followed. Ian McCarthy captained ably and although the boys played keenly, more regular attendance at practices would have helped improve play. A draw followed by a win in the last game of the season promises better things in 1976 - 77.

Played 20 Won 3 Draw 2 Lost 15

SOCCER ACHIEVEMENT

Two of the K.G.S. Senior 1st XI players - Alan Milne and Neil Rodger were selected for the Elgin and District Boys Senior Side.

This involved many coaching sessions before they were included in the squad to travel on a European Tour during the Easter Holidays

Both boys played in three tour games, two in Holland and one in Germany. The tour was a great success and boys came back with nothing but credit, both for their football achievements and their exemplary behaviour.

This has been followed by their recent win against Aberdeen Youth side and they now go forward to take two of the top Youth teams in the country, later this summer - Celtic Boys Club

V
Manchester Utd. Youth Team

Well done lads!

A. B.

SENIOR VOLLEYBALL

1975 - 76

With only two of last year's very successful teams left, a new team had to be built, using the experience of Graham Dey and Peter Cruickshank.

Again success was made over all other school opposition. However, against the stronger Further Education sides the standard did not match that achieved last session.

Nevertheless the games were enjoyed by all participants

Results:- Won Lost

Played 7 W L

A. B.

GYMNASTIC DISPLAY TEAM

(Boys and Girls)

A group of the school's top gymnastics including pupils from all years was brought together to form a very good display routine.

They have been working twice a week on specific display work, and a highlight performance was given to encourage and promote gymnastics within the community.

The standard of the performance was generally acclaimed to be of a very high standard.

Gymnasts:- Jane Andrew, Rosalind Michie, Jackie Goldie, Lesley Gordon, Elaine Rhynas, Christine Proud, Lynn Gamcock.

Neil Morrison, Duncan McIntosh, Lesley Marshall, Gordon Winton, George Mitchell, Peter Manson, Keith Morrison.

A. B.

GIRLS' GYMNASTIC CLUB

Last year's Gymnastic Club found new heights in endeavour thanks to the expansion of the number of club members and the introduction of competitions. Competitions against Buckie High and Lossiemouth High and the district event were entered with high spirits, though unfortunately some of the results were slightly marred by nervousness. The standards of the club's performance have risen considerably.

SENIOR BADMINTON

During the session '75 - '76 Wednesday evening has been the Senior Badminton club night. The club mainly consists of 4th year pupils who, if on occasion they were lacking in skill and finesse, certainly showed no lack of enthusiasm.

During the season we took part in the North Grampian Schools' Badminton West District League and met Buckie, Elgin, Forres, Lossiemouth, Banff and Huntly teams. We were unfortunately, slightly lacking in experience which will profit us next session.

We have high hopes for next session and prophesy a great improvement in our results.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to Mr. D. McKenzie for giving up his own time in order to coach and organise the club.

Jane Morgan

Class IV (2)

SWIMMING CLUB

The competitive swimming activities of the school were broadened this year. The KGS Swimming Gala was held in the first term with a hearteningly large entry.

It was run as a house event with the overall winning house being Mair.

This was followed by a life saving gala in the second term which was the first time the lifesaving shields presented to the school by the police force of Keith had been competed for. The first girls' house to win their shield was Mair, and the victorious boys' house was Smith.

The girls took part in a gala against Buckie High, but unfortunately the projected series of galas was not completed through lack of finance.

BASKETBALL REPORT '75 - '76

The "tip off" of the season was a friendly game against Inverness High for the seniors in which we were narrowly defeated, 10-8.

Two teams, Under 15 and Senior, entered the newly created Moray District League. Success followed shortly as both teams played against and defeated teams from Forres (Under 15 only), Buckie, Elgin, Fochabers, Gordonstoun and Lossiemouth. Both teams won their leagues by winning 9 out of 10 games. The under 15 team lost 32-34 to Gordonstoun and the Seniors were beaten 16-17 by Lossiemouth.

The most recent basketball success was when a team consisting of B. Sims, B. Ewan, L. Harper, R. McCombie, I. Bell, C. MacPherson, J. McNicol, J. McVean, A. Mitchell, M. Menzies won the Moray District Tournament at Buckie. Four Seniors B. Sims, R. McCombie, H. MacLeod, M. Menzies and three Juniors, A. Mitchell, J. Howells and M. Gray were chosen to represent Grampian Region, and went to Brechin to play against Tayside Region where the Juniors lost narrowly and the Seniors were heavily defeated, but it was a worthwhile experience for all concerned (especially pushing the mini-bus for half a mile because we ran out of petrol).

All in all, it was a pleasant and worthwhile season for all participating and achievements were gained through a lot of hard work by both the teams and P.E. staff.

M. Menzies V (Captain)
B. Sims IV (Vice Captain)

ASTRONOMY CLUB

Members this year have waned rather than waxed but there has been a lot more enthusiasm shown by the remaining members.

Thanks to an abundance of various spectacular phenomena such as eclipses and comets, the viewing potential was excellent.

But adverse weather conditions forced the abandonment of most planned observations, allowing only a few nights clear enough to photograph planets.

New lenses were purchased in February but they will not be put to full use until the dark nights arrive in October.

Talks were given by club members and also by Dr. Ellington of R.C.I.T. The afternoon meetings were used mainly for teaching and project work. The younger members have gained a substantial amount of knowledge already, providing a sound base for further more advanced work.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. Rennie whose aid has been gratefully accepted by all without whom the club would be much poorer.

Michael Barnettson

Secretary.

SENIOR FOOTBALL



Back row (1 to 8) — James Stalker, Stuart Andrew, Gordon McLaren, Neil Roger, Andrew Johnston, Peter Cruickshank, Keith Ingram, Gordon Williams, Alan Milan.

Front row (1 to 7) — John Reid, Graeme Scott, Drew Bailey (coach), Norman Mitchell (captain), Kenneth Caldwell, Graeme Dey.

SENIOR HOCKEY



Back row (1 to 8) — Miss Taylor, Helen MacLeod, Joan Auchincloss, Patricia McNeil, Joan McNeil, Kirsten Smith, Frances Davidson, Barbara Sims.

Front row (1 to 7) — Gillian Slanks, Ruth Strathdee, Judith McVean (captain), Carol Howells, Kathleen Parteous.

SENIOR RUGBY



Back row (l to r) — Tony Henderson, George Mackintosh, John Thompson, Stuart Mackie, Edward Beattie, Peter Marshall.

Second row (l to r) — Mr. Arbuckle (coach), Michael Barseison, Jim Law, Robert Gray, Gordon Bennie, Tony Duncan, Mariya Shedd.

Front row (l to r) — Gordon MacDonald, Ian Adam, Steven Glenzie, Colin Whyte (captain), David Allan, Kevin Essex, Peter Watson.

GIRLS' SENIOR BASKETBALL TEAM



WINNERS OF MORAY DISTRICT LEAGUE AND SENIOR TOURNAMENT, 1973/74

Back row (l to r) — Jean McNair, Lesley Harper, Margaret Menzies (captain), Barbara Sims (vice-captain), Rhoda McCumbe.

Front row (l to r) — Barbara Ewen, Helen MacLeod, Irene Bell, Carol McPherson. Absent — Judith McVean.

"SIX OF THE BEST" - BEHIND THE SCENES

To every stage show there is a 'behind the scenes' story, and the K.G.S. Christmas variety show is no exception. This story is not one of off-stage romances, however - not necessarily because those involved were not that way inclined, but because there was no time. Those actually involved in the 'Show biz' aspect of the production had been practising and preparing their acts for weeks, but those of us who volunteered for the stage crew began our practising on the Friday before the Monday on which the shows commenced.

The stage crew was divided up into different sections with different jobs to do. The largest section consisted of those who assembled the various stage 'props' for each act - e.g. the bedroom suite for Shaw's play 'Passion, Poison and Petrification', the Barnyard set for 'Brigadoon', etc. They had to learn when and where to put these things and above all to do their work QUIETLY - or face the prospect of six of the best behind the scenes from J.B. Some of us were given special jobs e.g. operating the curtain while a Vth year girl and myself were all allocated to the lighting department to help the omnipresent Mr. J. Bruce (he was stage manager as well).

The show opened on Monday, December 7th, 1975 at 7.30 p.m., and relatively few mistakes were made - even I managed to avoid making a complete botch of it. To recap: the first half of the concert was the Variety half - with music, modern dancing, a play, and a recitation by the Kilted Mr. A. Watson. The second half was the Brigadoon sketch, consisting of traditional Scottish entertainments - a bagpipe band, highland dancing, etc.

During the interval on the opening night, as the stage was filling with choking artificial smoke for Brigadoon, Jim's Country Dance Band, consisting of four teachers dressed as Peasants (?) (-or should it be agricultural labourers?) came on stage. It was noticed then that one of them was hat-less, and the only other hat around belonged to me. So I lent my tartan bonnet to a certain drum playing teacher (who shall remain anonymous). As the hat was several sizes too small for him it had a rather comical effect when perched on his head, and probably gave the wearer a headache. However it was used in both of the subsequent performances and made a minute contribution to the success of the show.

In the dark, at the end of the show, the Brigadoon cast began to assemble for their curtain call - without realising that the curtain had not been closed. The well known Aberlourite whose job it was to operate the curtains had disappeared. He later claimed that a teacher had told him he could go.

All in all the show was a great success. There were enough acts contained in it to do two separate shows - which illustrates the amount of talent contained in the school. The show made a profit (a valuable contribution to the school funds) and provided great entertainment at a bargain price for the people of Keith and District. And of course all those involved had a good time and probably learned something as well - not the usual academic type learning, but learning all the same.

The following were the Stage Crew, without whom the show, or indeed this article, could not have been written:

B. Steele, C. Faylor, D. McHardy

K. McHardy, R. Strathdee, and of course myself

Bernard Smith IV



Literary Section

NO PROMOTION FOR DOUGAL

"I'm fed up!" Dougal complained to Florence. "Everyone else is being promoted to other TV programmes while I'm stuck here in the Magic Roundabout!"

"Have some sugar," said Florence mildly. "Just imagine this time next week I'll be sailing the seven seas on the Black Pig with Captain Pugwash!"

"You're doing this on purpose!" shouted Dougal, stamping off into the garden. "It's not fair," he complained to Ermytrude. "I'm never allowed to do anything exciting." "Look at Roobarb, that stupid green dog. Even he gets to climb trees, go on exciting treasure hunts on desert islands, and invent new machines."

"Never mind, dear," replied Ermytrude. "I'm off on holiday to Hector's house and then I start my new job at Blue Peter." And so saying she skipped off through the trees, leaving a very frustrated Dougal.

Suddenly Zebedee appeared. "Look here, Zebedee," started Dougal, "I'm fed up with the Magic Roundabout. I want to go on Ivor the Engine."

"Time for bed," said Zebedee.

Joycelyn Watson

Class III (1)

THE THINGS THEY MAK YE DEE IN SKWEEL

Ah ken't fine it wid come tae this. Ivery year they hev 'ess feel Alan Gray Competition, and noo they expect a peer sassonach lik' me tae enter it. The Scots chiefs theresel's hev ower muckle trouble deiln't; sae ah d'a ken fit they expect me tae dee. "Hae a shottie mon" they aa lach, kennin fine that ah winna be able tae wricht onythin. An' ye canna wricht jist fit ye wint - It has tae be a scripted dialogue (fit over that is) or a short story or a sixteen line poem (which ah couldna even dee in mah ain dialect). Ach its eneuch tae mak ye greet.

Its no' jist kinnin fit wids tae wricht - Ye hiv tae think like a scotsman - hev scots ideas; and a sassonach heid canna dee 'at abaur. Ye hev tae be brought up tae't. Ah niver heard o' a loon bidin' doon Sooth hae'n tae wricht in the broad Lancashire dialect (Ee bah goon). It's gey coorse if y'esk me. Onywhy, ah hev tae mak a start: Ah present ma short story, entitled 'By the Fireside'.

Th'owd lad coom in ter t'front room from t'scullery an' sat 'ised down by t'fire. "Ee bah gum burrits coud out ter neet," says he

Oh Jings - noo ahm gettin aa mixed up! Ah'll hev tae think o' somethin' else tae wricht. Hoo's about thon poem - sixteen lines o' I didnae wint tae - but it's the only thing ah can dee (ah still dinna ken fit thon scripted dialogue is).

Hoots loots och aye the noo
It's a brae-bright moonlight night
In thon park there stands a coo
It's horns are a gey frightening sight
.....

Och that's nayese. It'll niver run tae sixteen lines, and a dinna think they'd like it anyye.

Sae ah hev tae giv up. The nanny'll go feel and aa the chiefs'll lach cause ah cudna dee't. They're richt coorse tae me!

It's eneuch tae mak ye an English Nationalist!

Bernard Smith

Class IV

"Oh my God, how on earth am I going to get out of this. What if he finds it? What'll happen to me, to my wife, to my kids? I know. I'll keep calm. Yes, that's the best thing. I'll keep cool." Uriah drove on a little, the darkness enveloping the black car that had been Uriah's pride and joy from the day he had bought it, seven years before to that exact day. He dimmed his headlights and drew up at the side of the long country lane. A clammy hand reached out for the ignition key. Uriah turned to look if the boot was closed. He knew it would be, but he had to reassure himself. A sweat bead began to trickle down his brow as he sat and waited. His heart skipped a beat as a shadowy figure appeared at the car door.

"Good evening, Sir. May I see your driving licence?"
"Yes Yes, certainly officer," Uriah replied and put his hand into his inside jacket pocket. Without looking at the policeman he handed over the licence.

"Yes, very nice Sir. Your wife I take it, but she doesn't quite resemble your driving licence" a husky voice replied.

"What? Oh I'm sorry, I keep the photo along with my licence. Ah! Here it is" and Uriah handed it over saying nothing more.

"Mr. Uriah Potter of 12 Legg Drive, Eastleigh. Just purely routine you understand. Seen up north, have you?" the voice asked.

"Yes Yes, Clackly Green. I had a small business to deal with." Uriah replied, speaking quickly, anxious to be on his way.

"Well, just stopped to tell you, one of your rear lights isn't working. I'd have it fixed if I were you, Sir," the officer said beginning to put on his glove again.

"Certainly Officer, I'll have it done tomorrow morning" replied Uriah.

"Well goodnight Mr. Potter."

"Yes goodnight officer."

Uriah reached for the key and car drove on in to the night. Sweat was still pouring from his brow, and the body still in the boot.

Ann Herbertson

III (1)

Dark,
Lonely,
Footsteps echoing,
Drunks staggering,
Fear,
Night.

Sleep,
Creaking,
Owls screeching,
Foxes hunting,
Death,
Night.

Moon,
Stars,
Fishes glistening,
Puddles reflecting,
Beauty,
Night.

Anne A. Meldrum

Class IV (1)

OUR WITHER

The winds' blawin' na hair in na eon,
Ma toes are frozen in na soaken' weat sheen.
Ma hans' are jist fair blue wi the caull.
It maks ye feel a hunner years aull.

Ma scerf jist winna bide at peace,
I've crumplet my broo intae a crease,
An na eehs screwed up an' I canna see.
Ma umbrella's blawin awa fae me.

The withers at bad I feel I could greet,
I hate bein' caull an I hate bein' weat;
But that's fit I get for hidin' up here,
Coz the withers' really terrible peer.

Ye canna see the sky for clouds,
Us North-east folk rely on wir hoods.
An' if ye iver come up here to bide
Mak sure ye niver gang outside.

Fiona Watt
Class V

DESOLATION

The pitiful sight of this empty street is one of the saddest imaginable. As I look at the moonlight dancing on the puddles with a hypnotic effect, my attention is held and my mind wanders. A paper blowing across the street awakens me from my dreaming. It comes to rest against an unlit lamp-post. All the lights are switched off in this sad street. The broken windows of the empty derelict houses are dark shapes on moonlit walls. The slogans sprayed in aerosol paint upon the walls proclaim this street to be the territory of a gang unheard of in the world outside.

As I cross the street my footsteps sound hollow on the cobbles. The echoes ring clearly in the eerie silence. The splashing of my feet in the puddles and the brushing of my boots against the weeds between the cobbles sound deafening. A garden gate bangs shut with a sudden gust of wind. The rumble of a lorry travelling along another highway seems far off as if in another time and place.

The moon comes out again and the street lights up with the white light reflecting off the windows and the puddles. The rows of houses are not for sale in this street. Tomorrow they will cease to exist. The new Hospital will be built here.

The sad picture appears to plead for people to play here, to work here and to live here. Humans and humanity are sadly missing from this scene where once life contained joy and sadness in these houses.

A cat runs along a wall on the opposite side. Its black coat glistens in the moon-light as it hunts for rats and mice which have taken over the empty houses.

I pass house Number Three. Almost at the end of the street now. The garden is over-grown and full of weeds. So is the garden of the next house which is presumably Number One. At the end of the street I look for the name plate of the street but it is no longer there. I turn and look at the street for the last time. The moonlight dancing upon the puddles holds its hypnotic on my attention for a while before at last I turn to go.

Anon

Class V

A BAGPIPE'S TUNE

A'm nae muckle tae look at,
Bit mon, A've plinty tae say,
About ma bonny tartan jaicket,
An' the tunes thit I kin play.

Many a battle I hivy won,
Withoot me, Far wid ye be?
Ma squeals an' squeaks an'orra groans,
Kin fair mak' the English flee.

A'm a queer kind o' shape, I canna deny,
Ma legs are no' the same length,
Bit jist ye lot try tangling wi' me,
I'll seen show ye all ma great strength.

Aye! A'm a bonny set o' bagpipes,
Wi ribbons an' chanter braw;
Bit ye'll need a lot o' wind,
If ye wint tae hae a blaw.

Theresa MacDonald

Class V

"ROCK-A-BYE MURDER"

Before starting to write this article for the magazine, I spent some time trying to think of a suitable topic. I decided to rule out some "unsuitable" subjects and work from there, so put went everything from cruelty to animals to murder. Not long after, I opened a book only to discover that 99.9% of its contents had "unsuitable" subjects. What was this book? James Bond? even Sherlock Holmes? No, it was my little brother's book of Nursery Rhymes!

Surely, the sad saga of the death of Cock Robin would be unsuitable for 3 year olds? In Rock-a-Bye Baby, what would happen if the cradle fell? Earlier on I mentioned cruelty to animals. This is very evident in Ding, Dong, Bell, where there is an attempt to drown a cat, or in Three Blind Mice, where the tails are cut off the poor animals. Tom, Tom, the Piper's Son dosen't set a great example either.

Maybe that sounded alarming, but my little brother thinks that his Nursery Rhymes are wonderful, and they don't seem to have the rest of us much harm - or at least I don't think they have!

Marian Doyle

III (1)

They left at dusk,
Black shapes silhouetted against the grey of
the evening sky.
Few would live to see another day,
But they had their duty to do.
The men who sat behind the desks had told
then so.
The engines droned on.
They knew inside themselves that each flight
could be their last,
But when and if the end did come for them
The suffering would be short.
Then it would be over.
But not for the women and children they left
behind them.
Their suffering would be long.
The men would be gone but the memories would
still be there,
Memories of the happy times
Before the war.

Susan Hutt

Class IIY

CRISIS, OURS OR THEIRS?

She struggled up out of her chair beside the empty grate and hobbled across the cold, damp room. Pain shot up her poor bent legs and her eyes strained to see through the mist that had shrouded her sight for many years. She groped in her thin, shabby purse, with a hand racked with rheumatism, for the last few pennies of her meagre pension to drop ungrudgingly in a tin marked "Guatemala".

Gillian Kynoch

Class III (1)

CONVERSATION ON A BUS

Mrs McTavish:- Weel mun, fit like the day?
Mrs Cameron:- Nae bad, hoos yersel'?
Mrs McTavish:- Daein' fine. Nae, fits the latest news?
Mrs Cameron:- Hiv ye na' heard?
Mrs McTavish:- Hiv ah na' heard fit?
Mrs Cameron:- Weel ye ken yon Jessie Broom -
Mrs McTavish:- Aye, she's a right fine quine, she's going tae look efter the bairns fife ah'a oot the morn's nicht.
Mrs Cameron:- Ah widnae let her look efter een o' my bairns efter fit ah wis teit.
Mrs McTavish:- Fit wis ye teit?
Mrs Cameron:- Ye mean tae say ye dinna ken? Ah thocht abody kent about Jessie Broom.
Mrs McTavish:- Weel, ah dinna ken; aae tell me.
Mrs Cameron:- Ah dinna like tae sae onything, ye ken, but Mrs MacDonald at the Post Office said,
Mrs McTavish:- Come on, fit did she say?
Mrs Cameron:- Ah dinna like repeating tales, ye ken, but frae fit Mrs MacDonald said, ah think it's only richt that abody should ken about it.
Mrs McTavish:- Aye, but fit is it?
Mrs Cameron:- Mrs MacDonald teit me that Jessie Broom - weel, she teit me that Mrs Macintosh, saw a - Oh! we've stoppit!
Conductor:- Weel, ladies, we're at the depot noo; an' inless you're wanting tae sleep here, ye'd better get off for ye've a wee walk home!

Frances Sheridan

Class III (1)

The alarm goes off at six o'clock wakening me quite early,
As I wash myself and dress I whistle a tune quite merrily,
Then I walk down to the shop and read the daily news,
I read Little Sport and Dr. Kiidarn and look at all the views,
The "Daily Records" are not there yet, so no coloured photos,
To cheer me up I read my stars and memorise my mottoes.

Then the other papers come and I can start my round,
But I wish I had finished this big job and I was homeward bound,
Then up to the different houses I go and hear each peculiar sound,

There are a lot of different noises on this paper round,
The calls to get up and the scuffling of feet,
At this time every morning it's the same people I meet,
Plates clattering and alarms going off,
Dogs barking, people singing and odd men having a rough.

James Grant

Class III (4)

IN THE TRENCHES

In the trench,
Blood, skeletons, corpses,
Death had struck,
Cold and terrifying.

The night was dark,
Few stars shone,
Like a silver ball in black velvet,
The moon peeped out behind a cloud.

Then, like a volcano erupting!
A fiery flood of flames arose on the horizon,
An explosion broke the silence,
And brave soldiers came out to fight.

Dianne Law

Class IB

Half a lunch, half a lunch,
half a lunch downward;
All in the canteen of death
strode the five hundred.
"Forward the medics with aid!
Don't eat the lions" he said;
Into the canteen of death
strode the five hundred.

"Forward the medics with aid!"
There was non undismay'd
Not tho' the scholar knew
No-one had blunder'd;
They did not reply,
Not even asking why;
Theirs but to eat and die:
Into the canteen of death
strode the five hundred.

Custard to right of them,
Custard to left of them.
Custard in front of them
was pilfer'd and plundered'd;
Used up as shot and shell,
Boldly they ate and fell,
Into their jaws went Death,
Into the mouth of Hell
strode the five hundred.

Cursed they to right of them,
cursed they to left of them,
cursed them behind them,
those who follied and blunder'd.
Blindly they broke and fell,
they that had supped so well,
Came thro' the jaws of Death
Back from the mouth of Hell,
All that was left of them,
Left of five hundred.

When did their glory fade?
O the wild charge they made - (15p)
All of it refund'd
Honour the food they made!
Honour the cooks Brigade,
who nobbled five hundred!

(Apologies to Alfred, Lord Tennyson)

SRUTIDE ENT

CLASS VI

Water,
 Silvery blue,
 Slim sleek canoes,
 Slicing the azure water, slowly;
 Swish, swash, swish go the paddles,
 Until.....
 Roar!
 The luxurious calm too good to last
 Disappears.

Lost in a chute of ferocious, foaming fury;
 Then, the lights go out!
 NO AIR!
 Struggling, striving to get free.
 AIR! Must get air!
 The lifejacket hauls you to the surface;
 Fear; then, relief,
 And soon, you are once more,
 Slicing the azure water, slowly.

David Black

Class IIG

DEATH

And in the death as the last few corpses lay rotting in the slimy
 throughfare and the skyscrapers lay in ruins around them, the rats
 emerged. Huge, with teeth like those of lions, they crawled among the
 decaying bodies, tearing at that which once ruled the earth. Now no
 longer were the voices of men to be heard on the planet: no more build-
 ing of the massive iron and concrete towers, called homes by those who
 stayed in them, for no longer was there intelligent life on the planet.
 Only the rats. Only the rats survived through the Happening. Now,
 they were to become rulers of the planet. Death lay all around them.
 But, death to them meant life.

Ian Stuart

Class IIG

PATHETIC PHONETICS

From early age I was set back with certain linguistical difficulties
 exposed through a few years to the myriad of different sounds and dia-
 lects of the British Isles. Lancashire born in a rural suburb, a guttural
 and gravelled dialect, embellished with Irish and Scottish influence from
 my parents. A few years later and a move to the South of England, Kent,
 real cockney mate, which left me a little Uncle Dick' (sick) after a time,
 a rich and colourful dialect. But my latest aquisition to my unfortunate
 experience in dialects:- Scots 'language'

Quite an experience to turn from a plain Manchester accent to the
 confusing and frightening language of Scotland.

"Fit are ye dein man? Weel fitlike?" and a host of other expressions.
 The Scots I find are an inquisitive people.

"Far de ye cam frae? did ye bide far Sooth?" well I did ne ken fit
 tae mak oot of the Scottish, though it does mak an impresson on ye after
 a time as I usually find with dialects. Ye canna disagree that it will
 stick tae ye after a time, but ah'd rather live doon Sooth agin. At
 least ye can understand f# the heck they're sayin!

After hain my tongue twisted an' alangated tae abnormal proportions,
 my usual cavity inflated and deflated, an ma larynx soon's like a cuckoo
 clock, ah'm entitled tae stay amongst fellow Englishmen, far we, at least
 speak properly, and

"Fits that ye said nam? We're goin tae England fer oor holidays!
 How embarrassin

David Montgomery

Class IV

THE TRANSPORT

We sit in the bus till ten past eight,
Chatting 'bout what was on telly last night,
The driver arrives, gets into the bus,
Starts the ignition, indicates right.

We head for the square; time's quarter past eight,
See all the people, waiting to get on,
A scuffle, a scramble, a pulling of bags,
By half past eight all the buses are gone.

We go down past Parkmore, change into top,
The ancient old gearbox makes a sound like a saw,
Past Parkmore cottages and past Loch Park,
We can't go fast enough to break the law.

We chug through Drummair; we're doing 'bout ten,
Stuck behind this H.G.V. Lorry's no joke,
Around eight forty five we arrive in Fife Keith;
Going too slow, so he lets out the choke.

We've passed the golf course just outside Keith,
And passed the rusty old warehouse as well,
We arrive in the bus park round five to nine,
Everyone Out! Ah, there goes the bell!

Sandy Smart

Class III (4)

FITS BEEIN?

Ah! Fin ah look aroon' the day,
Ah'm nae shair fit on earth tae say
About the troubles o' the nation;
Strikes, redundancies an' inflation,
Permissiveness an' sair temptation,
But noo - NAE SEX DISCRIMINATION!

Maureen Rutherford

Class III (1)

THAT'S LIFE

As Budget Day is drawing near,
I'm in a state of constant fear,
There'll be a tax on this and that;
Some say he'll even tax the cat.

Some say the air will be
Taxed at so much per c.c.
It will be cheaper then to die
When we need not air - not you nor I

Yet maybe at the Golden Gate
Mr Healey will await
Hand outstretched and lip a sneer
"You've got to pay to get in here."

So off we'll go far below,
Far happier I'll have you know.
And every day we'll have a laugh -
With members of the K C S Staff.

Rhona Hadden

Class IV

THE AWFUL TRUTH

There was a young man from Peru
Who dreamt he was eating his shoe,
He woke in the night,
With a terrible fright,
And found it was perfectly true.

N. McLeod

Class III

KEITH GRAMMAR SCHOOL PRIZE LIST

SESSION 1975/76

Subject Prizes in Common Course Classes

Class I

	1st	2nd
English	Simon Doyle	Jane Andrew
History	Susan Spence	Graeme Carter
Geography	Richard Sheridan	Ronald Robson
French	Elaine Morrison	Norma Logie
Mathematics	Elaine Morrison	Pamela French
Science	Ronald Robson	Richard Sheridan
Art	Gordon Green	
	Neil McDonald	
	John McSeveney	
Home Economics	Pamela French	
	Maureen Robertson	
Technical Subjects	Graeme Davidson	Neil McDonald

Class II

	1st	2nd
English	Barbara Winchester	David Black
History	George Cruickshank	Anne Mitchell
Latin	Vivien Henderson	
	Anne Mitchell	
	Heather Strachan	
Geography	Susan Hutt	Alexander J. Clark
French	Heather Strachan	Barbara Winchester
Mathematics	Vivien Henderson	Susan Hutt
		Anne Mitchell
Science	David Black	Alexander J. Clark
Art	George Sutherland	Ian Stewart
Home Economics	Sheila Gerrie	Morag Riddoch
Technical Subjects	David Black	George Sutherland

Subject Prizes in Third Year S.C.E. Courses

Class III

	1st	2nd
English	Joycelyn Watson	Maureen Rutherford
History	Maureen Rutherford	Valerie Smith
Latin	Maureen Rutherford	
	Gillian Riddoch	
Geography	Ross Arbuckle	Alistair J. Taylor
Modern Studies	Margaret Shaw	Anne Mark
French	Stewart Geddie	Heather Whyte
German	Edna Cowie	
Art	Alistair Robb	Douglas Barclay
Mathematics	Edna Cowie	Frances Sheridan
Arithmetic	Elaine Morrison	
Statistics	John Mitchell	
<u>Home Economics</u>		
Fabric & Fashion	Audrey Adam	Gorothy Jack
Food & Nutrition	Yvonne Kerr	Sylvia Ritchie
Technical Subjects	John M. Shewan	
<u>Commercial Subjects</u>		
Accounts	Wendy Bentley	Helen McWilliam
Secretarial (Audio)	Maira Thain	Lorna Wilson
Secretarial (Shorthand)	Alison Strathdee	Alison Siewright
Rural Science	Charles Thomson	Roderick MacLeod

Class III S.C.E. Places

	1st	2nd
	Maureen Rutherford	Frances Sheridan
Specially Commended -	Ann Christie	
	Edna Cowie	
	Gillian Riddoch	
	Alistair Robb	
	Joycelyn Watson	

Class Places

	1st	2nd	3rd
IO	Colin Stewart	Brian J. Wilson	Ian B. Siewwright
IIIO	Joan Simpson	David Mearns	Rosemary Thain
IIIO	M. Carol Jamieson	Pamela Grant Peter Bell	
IIIK	Graham McBain	Graham Marr	Gladys Hogg
IIIL	William Wright	John Barclay	George MacKenzie
IVJ	Jacqueline McCarthy	Davina Kennedy	Lorraine Henderson
IVK	Violet H. Thomson	David M. Mainland	Derek Bell
IVL	David Scott	Albert Dey	David Mitchell

Subject Prizes in Class IV

	1st	2nd
English	Bernard Smith	Gordon McLure
History	Bernard Smith	Kevin Turner
Modern Studies	Matthew Kiloh Alan Milne	
Geography	Charles Taylor	Stephen Glennie
French	Rona Thomson	Bernard Smith
German	Anne P. Meldrum	
Mathematics	Bernard Smith	Judith Doyle
Arithmetic	Bernard Smith	
Statistics	Margaret Howat	
Art	David Montgomery	William Brown
Physics	Bernard Smith	Gerald Stronach
Biology	Gerald Stronach Dale Winchester	
Chemistry	Bernard Smith	W. Gordon Mair
<u>Home Economics</u>		
Food & Nutrition	Margaret Howat Joyce Petrie	
Fabric & Fashion	Carol McPherson	
Technical Subjects	Roy Jamieson	Robert Grey
Rural Science	Evan Duguid	Derek Bell
<u>Commercial Subjects</u>		
Accounts	Gwen Reid	Alistair Fordyce
Secretarial (Audio)	Wilma Rennie	Lesley Green
Secretarial (Shorthand)	Shirley Dean	Jennifer McIntosh

National Bible Society Prizes

11nd year

Vivien Henderson
Barbara Winchester

National Bible Society National Award

Vivien Henderson

Mrs. E. Maconachie's Prize in Music (IIIrd year)

Maureen Rutherford

Rector's Prize for Dux of S.III

Maureen Rutherford

Special Prize for Commercial Course

Kathleen Porteous

Chas. A. McHardy (Keith) Ltd. Prize for Homecraft (Senior Classes)

F. & N.

Ruth Strathdee V

F. & F.

Sheila Keiro V

Special Prize in Art

Carol Howells

John G. Robb Memorial Prize for Modern Studies

Lesley Beasley V

Special Prize in Technical Subjects

Michael Munro V

Mr. Arnaud's memento to Editors of 'Data'

Kevin Sloan
Michael Barnettson

Special Prizes for Post Certificate work:

English

Kevin Sloan

History

Kevin Sloan

Mathematics

Alexander McKay

French

Jennifer Duthie

Physics

Judith McVean

Chemistry

Judith McVean

Gordon-Grant Prize for Science - class VI

Derek A.W. Simpson Memorial Prize

Katrina M. Arbuckle IG
Jane Andrew IG
Neil A. Morrison IIB

The Rhoda Laing Memorial Prizes for meritorious service to the school

Violet Morrison V
Joan M. McNicol VI
Ian J. B. Jackson VI
Judith McVean VI
Michael J. Barnettson VI

Class IV S.C.E. Places

1st	2nd	3rd
Bernard Smith	Judith Doyle	Gwen M. Reid and Stephen Glennie

Class V S.C.E. Places

1st	2nd	3rd
Gerard Doyle	John Thomson	D. Stewart Andrew

SPECIAL PRIZES

Gray Prize (best non-language
pupil in 1st year)

Colin Stewart

Australian Prize (best pupil
in 1st year)

Pamela French IV

Jane Laing Prizes (best Home-
craft pupils in IIIJXL IVJXL)

Pamela Grant IIIJ
Kathryn Innes IVJ

The Currie Prizes (best Technical
pupils in IIIJXL IVJXL)

William Wright IIIJ
Neil Rodger IVK

Jane Gordon Prizes (best pupils
in IIIrd year Science)

Physics

Frances Sheridan

Chemistry

Colin Taylor

Biology

Sandra Gordon

Allan Gray Prizes for Scots
Vernacular (I-V)

V

Fiona Watt VC

IV

Bernard Smith IVI

III

Frances Sheridan IIII

II

Anne Mitchell IIR

I

Lesley Courtney IV

S.S.P.C.A. Essay Prizes

III

Joycelyn Watson IIII

II

George Sutherland IIY

I

Jane Andrew IB

Intermediate Girls:
Anne Mitchell 20 points
Runner-Up Sylvia Ritchie 9 "

Intermediate Boys:
Charles Mackie 20 points
Runner-Up Douglas Barclay 15 "

Senior Girls:
Carol Howells and
Pat McNeil 17 points
Runners-Up Lesley Harper
and
Hellen MacLeod 7 points

Senior Boys:
Alan Milne 20 points
Runner-Up Charles Alexander 10 "

In the Individual Championship it is worthy of note that
in their five events Anne Mitchell had a maximum of 20 points
breaking two records on her way to becoming Intermediate Girls
Champion.

Alan Milne had a maximum of 20 points, breaking three
records on his way to Senior Boys Champion.

Charles Mackie in his five events took a maximum 20 points
and broke five records for his worthy title - Intermediate Boys
Champion.

In the House Athletics Championship the winners - Hair House
with a convincing winning total - 214½ points

Second - OGILVIE - 135 points

Third - SMITH - 120 points

Fourth - GRANT - 118½ points

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