



1979

THE MAGAZINE OF
KEITH GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Once again it is fitting that the first page of our magazine should be given over to an expression of the committee's appreciation of the support, moral and financial, given by our sponsors. Without it, quite simply, there would be no magazine.

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DATA 79

The Magazine of Keith Grammar School

"Do ut Des", the Latin motto of the school
means

"I give so that you may give"

"DATA" means "what has been given"

Editor: Katharine M. Ettles Class VI

Assistant Editor: Edna Cowie Class VI

Price: 40p

TO OUR READERS

WE APOLOGISE FOR THE ABSENCE FROM THIS ISSUE OF THE MAGAZINE OF THE CUSTOMARY PICTURES OF THE PREFECTS AND OF THE YEAR COUNCILS. THE PHOTOGRAPHS WERE TAKEN, BUT TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO REPRODUCE THEM.

Help! We are surrounded by a mounting pile of little balls of screwed-up paper. Who could have thought that a little thing like an editorial could be so difficult to write? Putting the magazine together was a piece of cake in contrast.

We have tried to stimulate creative expression throughout the school, and present the best of it here. It is unfortunate that we have no art to offer beside the written work, but our artists appear to have joined the rest of the country in its national sport of industrial action.

We see the magazine as the voice of the school, and we have tried to present a fair record of the year's work and play from staff and pupils in all departments. The ever-growing list of extra-mural activities carried out by our clubs and societies surely shows that KGS is alive to the growing importance of the right use of leisure in the age of the silicon chip.

It is customary to wind up these messages with a comradely signal to our successors. We do so with all goodwill. To the editor of "Data 80", "ave atque vale" - may the session of 1979-80 be full of interest and fun, and lacking in fuel shortage, blizzards, strikes, elections, and all the other trials we have had to undergo.

Our final task must be to thank all those who have assisted in the production of this illustrious publication.

Thanks to Mr J. C. S. Arnaud for yet another year of unfailing assistance and advice, to Mrs McFarlane and her assistants on the publication side, to the prefects for putting up with two months wading ankle-deep in literary contributions, and to the staff of Keith Community Centre for endless cups of coffee!

To future generations of Grammarians, and especially to all future holders of this honoured position, we have only one further message:-
AWRABEST!

I was just about to say that I am writing this on my back, but I realise that is both ambiguous and inaccurate. To inscribe anything, even a message for DATA 79, on one's back would demand considerable acrobatic powers that I certainly do not possess. In any case, I am not writing but speaking this message, by courtesy of the much publicised silicon chip.

On this first Saturday of June it really does seem as if Spring had at last arrived and was perhaps even hastening on its way to full Summer. Unaccustomed as we are to continuous sunshine, a day like this does encourage an appreciation of the growing world around us. Is it imagination or do the greens seem to be even greener this year because of the delay? Are the leaves burgeoning even more speedily and attractively than usual? Are the birds busier in their domestic construction and family planning, and are the insects making the most of their opportunities?

It is said in a counthy Scots proverb, that each of us "maun drie his aye weird." Maybe so, and this has been an unconscionably long "winter of our discontent."

In what single session previously has our school work, and in fact every activity been interrupted not only by harsh weather but by the impact of industrial action both within and outwith the sphere of education, by the impact of the world fuel crisis, and even by the sudden effect in the heart of winter of a temporary but total water shortage in school? Each of these factors has led to interruptions, sometimes for the whole school, sometimes for certain years only, the main effort every time having been to keep going those pupils involved in certificate work and the linked examinations in the summer term.

The results of these examinations may well affect the future choice of courses or of immediate employment for many of the candidates. Choice seems to bulk ever larger in the pupils' school life these days. Already we have to ask them in their second year what their intentions are in the way of choosing options for study higher up the school, and as they come towards 16-year old leaving dates, the Careers Staff and the Guidance Staff encourage them to make sensible and beneficial choices with an eye both to the future and to the capabilities of the individual. The questions posed at these stages may well affect the pupil's decision on whether to aim at work in the neighbourhood of his/her own home or to plan for a College or University course in Aberdeen or in one of the many other Universities which may offer a more suitable course for the intentions of the pupil concerned. Choice too will come when the pupil about to leave must decide whether to live in a Hall of Residence or find digs or, and I believe this is even more difficult, find an apartment or flat to share with like-minded friends.

And yet there are certain even more basic choices than those I have mentioned. It is open to every pupil in the school, whether a newcomer in a first year class or one of the real seniors who has survived into class VI, to make the choice to live with the conditions of the school or to declare war upon them or to remain vastly indifferent.

You see, school rules in general and specific instructions of various kinds, to cover certain functions or to control the work of a department, are laid down with a very practical purpose. They are there to ensure that for as many as possible of the school's population at a given time there should be a knowledge of what to do and how to do it in a way which will be efficient, will enable people to carry out different functions without interfering with each other unduly, and will give protection to those least able to look out for themselves.

As a community we must abide by these rules and regulations, which I can assure you are carefully planned and trimmed and pruned so that only the minimum rules are issued. Each time one of these rules is ignored or flagrantly disobeyed or forgotten, the impact may well be felt by fellow pupils and their efforts in turn may correspondingly be restricted or delayed. We exist as a community of about 700 bodies and what affects one in most cases affects all.

I expect one word has come to the mind of most readers at this stage: "vandalism." I have always maintained that probably 95% of the pupils at any given time in KGS would not knowingly or intentionally damage or deface the building or the equipment. It is unfortunately that lunatic fringe of 5%, in other words probably not more than 3 dozen pupils (and I am afraid we must include girls as well as boys in that small total) who will be responsible for senseless and needless damage in the school building. It is in line with the cowardly approach of these vandals that they manage to do most of their unwelcome work secretly and thus escape detection and the justifiable charging of repairs to their pockets, or to the pockets of their parents. But I do suspect that there is a percentage of the 95% who know about some of these happenings and who choose, for reasons of their own, ranging from fear perhaps to indifference, not to report damage when it is being done or make any attempt to stop the perpetrators. I know that in comparison with other schools in Scotland and the UK this problem in our case is relatively small, but it disappoints me that the problem is there at all because I think most of our pupils have sufficient sense of community to know that it is their property and their school that are being damaged, and it is the name of the school to which they belong that is being fouled in this way.

I had no intention of making a sermon of this but I feel that it is a subject that must not be ignored and cannot be swept under the carpet.

Now I must bring this rather rambling message to a conclusion. I should like to wish all those who are going out into the world from Keith Grammar School at the end of their school career success, satisfaction in a job well done and confidence in the future they are about to make for themselves.

Good luck, and let us know how you get on!

Yours sincerely,

ROBIN WINCHESTER
Rector

KEITH GRAMMAR SCHOOL

PREFECTS: SESSION 1978-79

| | | |
|------------|--|--|
| Class VI | Alastair Robb (Captain) Martin Lawrence (Vice-Captain) | Frances Sheridan (Captain) Maureen Gray (Vice-Captain) |
| | Ross Arbuckle Alastair Cove Adrian Fulton Stewart Caddie Alex Dawson | Edna Cowie Ann Christie Sandra Gordon Elaine Morrison Gillian Riddoch Helen Shaw Joycelyn Watson Heather Whyte |
| Class V(1) | David Black Robert Cove Struan Donald | Marian Doyle Vivien Henderson |
| Class V(2) | Kenneth A. McFitchie Neil A. Morrison | Elizabeth J. Mowat |
| Class V(3) | Ian Stuart George Sutherland | Jane Stewart Barbara Winchester |
| Class V(4) | Struan C. Marley Alan Legg Iain A. Sutherland Colin W. Taylor | Katharine M. Ettles Ann L. Herbertson Joyce M. Howells Lorna Johnston Anne Mark Christine D. Shaw Flora A. J. McLeod |

KEITH GRAMMAR SCHOOL

YEAR COUNCILS 1978-79

Class

| | |
|------|---------------------|
| V(1) | Susan Hutt |
| V(2) | Helen Riddoch |
| V(3) | Kirsten Theodoreson |

Chairman

| | |
|-------|-----------------|
| VI | Alastair Robb |
| IV(1) | Graeme Anderson |
| IV(2) | Simon Doyle |
| IV(3) | Clive Johnston |
| IV(4) | Alison Marshall |
| IV(5) | Fiona Smith |
| IV(6) | Neil Willox |

Chairman

| | |
|--------|------------------|
| VI | Frances Sheridan |
| III(1) | Stanley Arnaud |
| III(2) | Kevin McHardy |
| III(3) | Hannah Simpson |
| III(4) | Susan Grant |
| III(5) | Linda Peterson |
| III(6) | Sally Will |

Chairman

| | |
|-----|--------------------|
| VI | Martin Lawrence |
| IIB | Richard Sinners |
| IIG | Joyce Bruce |
| IIO | Carol Anthony |
| IIR | Wilson Pirie |
| IIV | David Mair |
| IIT | George Livingstone |

Chairman

| | |
|----|-----------------|
| VI | Maureen Gray |
| IB | Ian Dingvall |
| IG | George Gartly |
| IO | Audrey Main |
| IR | Gary Murdoch |
| IY | Michael Carling |
| IT | Scott Strachen |

STAFF CHANGES

This year, as in most other years, we welcomed several new members of staff to the school.

In August, Miss Rennie joined the Maths Department, and Mr Neilson came to teach P.E.. Later, Mrs Smith returned to the Home Economics staff to replace Miss Robb, and in May, Mrs Hayes arrived to double the numbers in the Music Department.

Mr Scott transferred from the post of Deputy Rector to that of teacher of Classics, and the vacant Deputy's post was taken over in October by Mr Gerald Haines.

Mrs Munro, Mrs Black and Mr McWhirr have all assisted on a temporary basis at various points during the session - the regular staff being severely depleted by illness.

Our two language assistants have been Mme. Marie-Françoise Mearns in the French Department and Fräulein Gaby Kaiffenheil in the German Department.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

Careers talks were given throughout the session, their subjects ranging from University and Technical Courses, Construction and ship-building industries, and banking, to careers in the Armed Forces.

At the beginning of April, the school played host to an extensive and ambitious Careers Convention, comprising stands and representatives from every imaginable profession and occupation.

A drama performance was given by "Take Three" in September, and the Pitlochry Festival Theatre visited in October to perform short extracts from some of George Bernard Shaw's plays, and an amusing one-act play called "The Mock Doctor."

"Scotland in Song and Story" was the popular concert sponsored by Mobil North Sea, in the Hall, in March.

The English Department managed to procure two films for our enlightenment: Laurence Olivier headed a magnificent cast in his own production of "Hamlet", and the notorious Polanski "Macbeth" certainly brought Shakespeare to life in glorious technicolour (mostly red!!).

Committees using the school as a meeting place included the Forum on Religious Education, and the Schools Industry Liaison Committee.

Mr Mohammed Idria Khen, an Education Officer from Pakistan, came to look round the Rural Science Department in February.

As is the custom in this school, the General Election heralded the arrival of all three of Banffshire's political candidates, to address interested staff and pupils.

EXCURSIONS AND VISITS

A bus party visited Aberdeen College of Education in November to see a performance of "King Lear", and in December, a group of forty-five went to see the New Zealand All-Blacks defeat a North and Midlands of Scotland select team. (Rugby of course!).

In January, a group from KGS went on a ski-ing trip to Gstaad, in Austria, under the supervision of Miss Taylor, and managed to return with "boom pooches", but all limbs intact.

The usual exchanges took place with Remiremont, in France, and Kronach in West Germany, but they are reported elsewhere in this magazine.

Twenty-nine pupils and two staff members visited an art exhibition in Aberdeen in February.

Two members of Class VI visited Woodhill House in Aberdeen to attend a conference on the theme of "Scotland in Europe."

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Two parents' meetings were held this session, one to see to the "settling in" of first year pupils, and the other to discuss the choice of options in third year.

The mini-computer made its visits to the school in October and May, and was put to good use by the Maths Specialists.

November saw the beginning of the dreaded school tests, and these were continued along with the S.C.E. exams. in May.

The KGS "Showband Show" was the high-light of the Christmas term, and consisted of entertainment by the school band, choirs, various solo acts, and the Keith Senior Primary Choir.

The first term was two days shorter than had been expected. Shortage of fuel for heating forced the school to close on 20th December, and the Junior and Senior Dances on that and the following night had to be transferred to the Longmore Hall, Keith.

The Senior Choir, under the direction of Mr Beattie, staged a programme of Christmas music in the St Rufus Church, Keith, entitled "Come all ye"

The school was closed again for one day in January, because of a strike by members of N.U.P.E., which included Janitors and canteen staff.

Easter saw the departure of Mrs Crockett, and Mrs Harris took over in the library.

Industrial action by E.I.S. members in March meant that the school was closed to I, II and III, and some of the senior classes found themselves with no teachers - but only for one day.

The photographs for DATA 79 were taken amidst great hilarity - we must thank Robert Cove V, for the loan of his camera when Mr Bannie's one broke down after one day.

LOSSES TO THE SCHOOL

Sadly, this would appear to have become almost a permanent feature of this magazine.

The recent and untimely death of Janice Campbell, a former pupil, is recorded elsewhere, but the school was equally shocked and saddened by the news of the illness and death of Harry Winton, our assistant Janitor.

Harry was a good friend to everyone, and his cheery smile is sadly missed around the school.

Our sympathy goes to both bereaved families.

IN MEMORIAM

HARRY WINTON

ASSISTANT JANITOR

KEITH GRAMMAR SCHOOL

died 27th August, 1978

REST IN PEACE

IN MEMORIAM

JANICE M. CAMPBELL

A FORMER PUPIL

OF

KEITH GRAMMAR SCHOOL

died 19th May, 1979

REST IN PEACE

JANICE CAMPBELL - A Tribute

Nothing we introduce in the way of modern methods or educational technology is ever going to do away with the fact that success in learning depends on an act of will, a readiness to subject oneself to mental effort that is often uncongenial. Such effort often taxes the resources even of those most fortunately endowed with health and physical strength. But sometimes we are privileged to witness a quality of spirit that triumphantly overcomes physical handicaps of a kind that the majority of people cannot even imagine. Such a spirit was shown in full measure by JANICE CAMPBELL, whose death last month was mourned by all who had been inspired by the example of her courage, and touched by her genius for friendship.

The onset of muscular dystrophy at an early age meant that normal full-time school education was impossible for Janice after the age of twelve. For some years she studied at home with tutors, but she was determined to take her place in the normal world of school, and arrangements were made for her to follow a modified syllabus on a part-time basis. Many members of staff and former pupils will remember the familiar sight of Janice's chair in the corridors, her animated face, the cluster of friends she always seemed to gather.

In spite of the difficulties under which she laboured, Janice was determined to face the challenge of the examination system, and her teachers were aware of her feeling that she wanted to show all handicapped pupils how much could be achieved by work and determination. She successively passed examinations in the 'D' and 'H' grades of the Scottish Certification of Education and crowned her school career with a very creditable pass in the testing examination for English in the Certificate of Sixth Year Studies.

On leaving school Janice enrolled as an undergraduate student of the Open University, and to her many friends it was a great joy to see how she responded to the mental enrichments its courses provided. She corresponded widely and even undertook the adventure of foreign travel - as far as Rome.

We grieve at her passing, but the memories of a spirit that rose triumphantly above such unimaginable trials and disabilities will remain with us as an inspiration.

JOHN ARNAUD

KEITH GRAMMAR SCHOOL SCHOOL COUNCIL

This is the third year of the Keith Grammar School Council which consisted of around 22 members this year. This membership was composed of teachers from Keith and neighbouring schools, parents, a local minister, several representatives from within the community and two school pupil representatives, Frances Sheridan and myself.

There have been only two meetings of the Council this year. The first, a very long meeting, was held in the Ogilvie School on 14th December, 1978.

At this first meeting, the Council discussed the unacceptable condition in which the Ogilvie School had been handed over.

It was suggested that School Council visits should coincide with the annual inspection so that any necessary improvements could be pointed out to the clerk of works at the time.

The council discussed the possibility of the bus picking up children straight from Newmill School rather than building a new bus shelter in the square, as this would be safer.

The council was presented with a set of examination results for KGS over the past two years, and different school leaving exams were explained to the Council.

The Warnock report was also discussed at the first meeting. This report is concerned with the education and provisions made for all young handicapped people. The report discusses the role of special schools to cope with the 20% of children who need special help. It was pointed out at the meeting, however, that most needs could be coped with by individual schools. The special schools, with their equipment and specially trained staff could act as Resource Centres. The report also concerns itself with the amount of personal information stored in the individual files of each child and the confidentiality, and access of teachers to these files.

The council agreed that a review of the regulations for vehicle movement within school playgrounds was required and that parking at Keith Primary School should be investigated.

The council was told that supervision of pupils during breaks and lunch-time is difficult because it is voluntary and older pupils must have a certain amount of freedom.

The second meeting was held on Tuesday 27th February, 1979 in KGS and was comparatively short.

A report was submitted to the council about the condition of the Ogilvie School following the discussion at the first meeting.

The function and composition of the school council was discussed briefly and certain recommendations were put forward. Education committee items were also considered.

An interchange of representatives between the school council and the community council was suggested and most members agreed with this.

Although there have been only two meetings this year Frances and I have been very proud to represent the pupils on this council even although several items were outwith our remit.

David Black V

YEAR COUNCILS

The School Council, whose activities are reported above, makes provision for a democratic system of advice and influence in local educational affairs. Its "younger brother" is the system of the Year Councils representing grass roots views of the different secondary stages, which provide a valuable living experience of our democratic ways. These councils were duly elected for the current session, and met on a number of occasions to discuss matters raised by the pupils of the school.

REPORT OF THE SERVICE COMMITTEE

Usually the pupils in the Service Committee raise money for various charities. However, this has been an unusual and interesting session in that we have been able to respond to requests for goods rather than money.

Last November we appealed for second-hand toys and games, to be distributed at Christmas to children who might not otherwise receive presents. The response was overwhelming, and we were given not only second-hand items in good condition, but also many beautifully dressed dolls and brand-new toys. We transported several car-loads of gifts to the Social Work Office, and left the Social workers to get on with the pleasant task of acting as Santa Claus.

We had a good response also to the W.R.V.S. Appeal for left-over wool, and to the appeal from Ladyshbridge for magazines. In March we "lent" the W.R.V.S. fifteen volunteers for their Rest Centre Exercise. The pupils acted as helpers in a mock emergency. A great deal of tea seemed to have been drunk by all, and they greatly enjoyed their day.

On the financial side we had, as usual, generous responses to our collections. We raised £18 for Shelter during our Carol Singing evening, and £80 for the North East Fund for the Blind, by a Book Sale and Collection. Our Flag Day for the S.S.P.C.A. raised £50.

Even as the magazine goes to press we have plans for one more collection before the end of the school year, and now, before midsummer, several charities have written asking us to remember them next Christmas. So we are likely to be as busy as ever. If you have given to us in the past, thanks very much, and we hope that you will help us again!

During the course of the session, a great variety of Inter House Competitions was organised. Competition was keen throughout, with the final result being in doubt until the very last event had been completed. The results of all the competitions are as follows:-

| | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th |
|---------------------------|---------|------------------|---------|---------|
| POTTED SPORTS | Smith | Grant | Ogilvie | Mair |
| BRAWN AND BRAIN | Grant | Smith | Ogilvie | Mair |
| SWIMMING GALA | Ogilvie | (Mair (Grant | - | Smith |
| SENIOR GAMES | Mair | (Smith (Grant | - | Ogilvie |
| GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ | Smith | Mair | Ogilvie | Grant |
| CROSS COUNTRY | Ogilvie | Mair | Smith | Grant |
| LIFESAVING | Ogilvie | Mair | Smith | Grant |
| ATHLETICS | Mair | Grant | Ogilvie | Smith |

The new Inter House Trophy for the overall winning house has been won this year by Mair House - many congratulations! As you can see below the competition was extremely close and congratulations are also due to Ogilvie, Smith and Grant for such an exciting finish.

| | | |
|-----|---------------|-----------|
| 1st | Mair House | 22 points |
| 2nd | Ogilvie House | 21 points |
| 3rd | Smith House | 20 points |
| 4th | Grant House | 19 points |

I am sure that all KGS pupils would like to thank all Staff who organised the competitions, in particular Miss Taylor and her PE Staff, and all members of the House Staff (Mr Smith, Mr Arbuckle, Mr Cameron, Mr Walker, Mrs Cruickshank, Miss Eddie, Mrs Leslie, Miss Farquhar).

As in previous years, Keith Grammar School dispatched a party of hardy souls to stay in Keith's twin town of Kronach in Germany. The stay, for twelve days in September/October, was mainly educational but a good time was had by all.

Taking part there were pupils from Keith, Muntly, Fochabers and Aberlour, accompanied by Mrs Rennie and Miss Steele from Keith Grammar and Mrs Shirreffs from the Gordon School, Muntly. The pupils were boarded out with their pen pals' families in Kronach and the surrounding area, and the teachers found themselves a nice cosy "Gasthaus" or inn to stay in.

The Germans soon proved to be most hospitable, and were extremely tolerant of the mass of Scottish pupils who descended upon them, their homes and town, and in particular their cafes. The Germans go in for cafes in a big way, and copious quantities of the many brands of soft drinks, and the large gooey cakes and buns on sale were sampled with delight. One cafe also provided the "delight" of a unisex "loo", which for one reason or another none of the Scots appeared to be in a tearing hurry to use.

Outings to various sights and attractions were arranged, and a bus run to the East German border and a modern church not far from it was included.

There was no great wall, just a row of innocent looking waist height pillars at the road side, with a strip of scrubland behind. There was no barrier, as such, and you could have walked through, had there not been armed guards in towers on the other side to stop you. We were given a (West-German) police escort along the border just to make sure we did not defect, and a police-man gave us a talk on the reason for the border. The modern church was just as peculiar, but not as frightening as the border, as it appeared to be built of chromium drain pipes and glass, and it sat in the middle of nowhere.

Runs to Bamberg, to shop, to Vierzeihenheiligen, a big old-fashioned church, and a brewery in Kronach were also arranged, and enjoyed. Some people found the brewery most agreeable, as free samples were given.

We also went to the town hall where we met the Mayor of Kronach, and were each given a special edition of a book on Lucas Cranach, a local sixteenth century painter. After this we went on a walkabout tour of Kronach old town and its castle (all in the bucketing rain, I might add). With these and excursions made with German families at the week-ends, the German countryside saw quite a lot of us.

So we were all quite sad when, with pockets empty of money and cases full of souvenirs, we had to leave, but I am sure we were all quite glad to come home to a country where everybody is not foreign.

We would all like to thank the teachers concerned both here and in Germany, for arranging a memorable exchange, and we all hope that the exchanges are just as successful for this year's pupils.

Simon Doyle V₂

FRANCE - THE REMIREMONT EXCHANGE

KGS was host to a party of thirty pupils from Remiremont during the last week of February. The French pupils attended classes and visited the Drum Farn, where Mr Chalmers showed them his dairy herd, and Berryleys Farn, where Mr Reid took them round his pig unit. These visits were organised by Mr Black, of the College of Agriculture, who talked about farming in the region and answered many questions.

A trip was made to Glenfarclas Distillery and there were two whole-day excursions, one to Aberdeen, the other round the coast. In Aberdeen the morning was spent shopping and the group visited King's College and St Machar's Cathedral in the afternoon. Under the guidance of Mr Barton and Miss Addison the French pupils and their hosts explored part of the Banffshire coast, which was of particular interest since Remiremont itself is so far from the sea.

The Gym department provided an entertaining afternoon of basketball and swimming. A disco was held at the beginning of the week to welcome our guests and Joyce Howells, Katharine Ettles and Bobby Coor were responsible for a very successful Scottish evening.

As I conclude this report, the nineteen pupils returning the visit are probably packing their cases. Keith Grammar School is to visit Lycée Béchamp during the first week of June.

LIBRARY

Perhaps the innovation of the year has been the establishment of a book shop from which pupils may buy books. The shop appears to be popular and the venture looks like being a successful one.

The audio-visual aids, for which a Resource Centre has long been planned, are still stored in a cupboard in the back of the library. As well as records, tapes, cassettes, films, slides and posters, they now include some hardware: two tape recorders, six headphones and six slide viewers. Perhaps one day space will permit these stocks to be more accessible.

During this session the library's stock of 'handsome' volumes has been enhanced by two gifts. Dr and Mrs Caldwell, Aberlour, gave a gift of money for the purchase of books in appreciation of the education their four children received in Keith Grammar, and two grateful former pupils have recently made an anonymous gift of David Attenborough's 'Life on Earth', based on his recent television series. The school is most appreciative of the gifts and of the thought which prompted them.

The library committee is grateful for the work done in maintaining stocks and in ensuring the regular flow from shelf to borrower and vice versa. During her temporary absence Mrs Crockett is being replaced by Mrs Harris. As usual, pupil librarians have worked hard at returning the inflow to the shelves, and Mrs Baird's library activity group have done repair and maintenance work. To all these people the committee give their thanks.

M.G.

ABERDEEN MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Keith Grammar School Recorder Group, comprising Joyce Howells, Christine Shaw, Vivien Henderson, Susan Hutt, Caroline Allan and Louise Forbes, gave a remarkable performance to win the Silver Challenge Trophy against stiff opposition, in the Aberdeen Music Festival.

They received the first Honours Certificate to be presented during this festival.

The adjudicator was very impressed by the standard of this group, and commented on the fact that they were the only group in the competition without a conductor.

Our congratulations to this ensemble on their outstanding success.



SENIOR GIRLS' HOCKEY

Back Row, L. to R. — Shona Black, Pearl Granna, Sally Stewart, Anona Turnbull, Carol Patric, Lorna Adam.

Front Row — Isobel Laith, Jane Andrew, Susan Giles, Katrina Arbuckle, Lindsey Smith.



SENIOR BOYS' FOOTBALL

Back Row — Derek Murray, Michael Dunbar, Kevin Gaidie

Both the senior and under 15's were able to produce two full teams this season, enabling us to compete in the Moray District League once again

Senior XI - A. Turnbull, S. Stewart, I. Leith, P. Cranne, C. Petrie, J. Reid, A. Marshall, L. Smith, L. Adam, J. Andrew, S. Giles, K. Arbuckle, A. Mitchell

Under 15's - S. Black, M. Ewan, M. McKenzie, N. Smith, A. Petrie, L. Mackie, P. Kelso, A. Stuart, P. Robson, I. Stewart, M. Sinclair, E. McCulloch, A. Harper, J. Geddes, C. Clark, F. Duncan

The season was badly interrupted by adverse weather conditions. Practices were confined to indoors and many matches had to be postponed during these months. However, the leagues were concluded with both teams enjoying reasonable success, not forgetting to mention the "few"! defeats we suffered.

The Senior XI, in their league, finished 6th, while the under 15's finished 5th.

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Points |
|------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|--------|
| Seniors | 15 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 36 | 54 | 12 |
| Under 15's | 15 | 3 | 5 | 7 | - | - | 11 |

The Senior XI also played two friendly games against Hurlly winning them both, while the newly formed 1st year team, under the supervision of Miss Farquhar, played matches against Elgin, Buckie and Milne's High Schools.

A team competed in the North of Scotland Schools Hockey Tournament in Inverness but, unfortunately, had little success because of stiff competition in near Arctic conditions.

An indoor tournament held at Keith, comprising teams from Buckie, Banff and Speyside, competed for a cup donated by Keith Grammar School. Banff ran out the eventual winners with Keith coming a "close" third equal.

District trials were again held this season and Pearl Cranne and Anne Mitchell were selected for the Highland District Second XI playing matches against the Midlands. Pearl also took part in an inter-district tournament at Cranford, Edinburgh.



SENIOR GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Back Row, L. to R. — Pearl Cranne, Lorna Adam, Anne Mark, Jennifer Reid.

Front Row — Louise Forbes, Maureen Gray, Katrina Arbuckle.



GIRLS' GYMNASTICS TEAM

Our other success came when Susan Giles was selected for the Highland District Indoor Team playing in an inter-district tournament at Perth.

All matches were thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who participated and I am sure that the enthusiasm shown this season will be carried on into next season's play.

We would like to thank our coaches, Miss Taylor and Miss Farquhar, for their invaluable help and encouragement throughout the season.

Anne Mitchell
Captain

KGS FOOTBALL CLUB

Overall, the past season can only be described as a mediocre one, although on occasions all teams showed just how good they can be. Which can only mean improvement in the not too distant future.

Of the three teams involved this season, the under 13's proved to be the most successful. However, they did have a disastrous spell just after the Christmas break, where they really lost any chance they had of doing well in the league. Mr Cameron must look forward to next season with high expectations.

The under 14's, despite some disheartening results showed us the true spirit of the game. They consistently turned out a full squad of players and with this attitude continuing can look forward to a general improvement in their results next season.

The senior XI must be kicking themselves. All in all, in their results, they had a very poor season. Yet against the better sides in the league they turned in some excellent performances and were unlucky to lose by the odd goal or so. Looking to the future with a team based mainly on the present fourth year, the experience of this year may be invaluable.

Two players from the senior XI gained District recognition, Ian McCarthy, IV for the under 15 side and Alan Legg VI for the senior squad. Our congratulations!

All teams are greatly indebted to Mr Cameron, Mr Wilson and Mr Neilson for their unstinted encouragement and help.



SENIOR BOYS' VOLLEYBALL

Back Row, L. to R. — Brian Adam, Alastair Robb

Middle Row — Alan Legg, Alex Dawson, Martin Lawrence

Front Row — Andrew McSeveney, Derek Mann, Kevin McHardy





SECOND AND THIRD YEAR RUGBY

Back Row, L. to R. — Graeme Walker, Graeme Cruickshank, George Featch, Gary Macpherson.
Middle Row — Gordon Cowe, Richard Scott, David Mair, James Thomson.
Front Row — Richard Simmers, Douglas Anderson, Brian Adam, James Davidson, Glyn Dalgarno.

RUGBY

This year saw the re-emergence of rugby as a sport in the school. There were two teams formed: a first year squad captained and vice-captained by David Jamieson and George Gartly and a second and third year team led by Stanley Arneud and Brian Adam.

A number of fixtures were played, in which the first year team had quite a few successes and the second and third year team, playing against more experienced teams, were not quite so successful, though a victory in the last game of the season over Forbes Academy made up for the unrewarded struggles of earlier matches. The first years also took part in a seven-a-side tournament at Elgin.

We would like to thank Mr Pollock and Mr Arbuckle whose help and advice have been invaluable.

S.A.

KGS CRICKET CLUB

At the time of writing this note we have managed to play the vast amount of no games at all. Like everybody else we have had the weather for our biggest opponent, and until that relents we shall just have to be patient and wait for the sun to shine.

Such a situation is more unfortunate than ever this season since Keith Grammar have been invited along with Huntly, Turiff and Inverurie, to take part in a new competition. This competition will be run, home and away, on a league basis and will considerably extend our field of operations since we have never played any of the other three schools in the competition.

As so often happens, we are going to have to play games in a few weeks, which is not the best of arrangements but which cannot be helped. Our young team is of largely unknown ability but their enthusiasm is unaffected by the adverse weather and they are just 'rarin to go.' Let's hope there is somewhere for them to go.

A.T.S.

In the last year's magazine report we predicted that in the season to come our run of success would probably be threatenedwe were right!

Our junior team worked hard to maintain our success but unfortunately because of lack of height and experience and loss of the captain through injury for half of the season, they were 4th in the Moray District League. The seniors, however, managed to retain "our" shield for the fourth year running! Also, after a thoroughly exhausting day, we were able to keep our title of "Moray District Tournament Champions" for the fourth year.

Trials were held at Keith and Inverurie to select the Grampian Regional teams. Again this year, we were well represented with four of our players chosen for the under-17 team - Katriona Arbuckle, Pearl Cranna, Anne Mitchell and Jennifer Reid; and Andrea Harper for the under-15 team.

The senior girls travelled to Edinburgh to participate with teams from other Scottish Regions in a tournament in which they gained valuable experience. Andrea travelled to Glasgow and took part in a similar tournament for under 15's there. Anne Mitchell and Katriona Arbuckle were asked to a Scottish Schoolgirls' senior pool training session as a result of their play at the tournament.

In order to give the senior team more competition, Miss Taylor organised an American Tournament in which teams from Aberdeen, Dundee and Inverness as well as our usual opponents were to have played. Unfortunately we were all disappointed when Milne's High and Powis were the only teams to put in an appearance. Here we met tough opposition and were beaten into second place for the KGS Challenge Cup.

Our senior team, along with Miss Taylor and Miss Stevenson, played in the Adult League and were extremely unlucky to come runners-up after working hard to defeat the eventual league winners. The senior team were winners of an adult tournament at Kinloss against the senior adult league teams. A similar tournament is to take place in the near future Inverness ladies watch out!

Our thanks go to the PE Staff, especially Miss L. Taylor and Miss L. Stevenson for being our inspiration.

Senior Pool

Maureen Gray (Captain)
Joyce Howells (Vice-captain)
Lorna Adam
Katriona Arbuckle
Pearl Cranna
Louise Forbes
Anne Mark
Anne Mitchell
Jennifer Reid

Junior Pool

Jacqueline Geddes (Captain)
Andrea Harper (Vice-captain)
Carol McIntosh
Lynn McWilliam
Mary Mark
Sandra Teverdale
Margaret Shaw
Nicola Forbes
Laura Stuart

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Although at present there are no leagues for boys' basketball in Moray District, there are plans going ahead now for next year. A good sign for KGS, as we have just started a club for Junior Boys.

The second and third team played a friendly against Milne's High School and we were greatly encouraged by a win. The first year team are beginning to look as if they may be a fairly good squad for next year. Any boy who wishes to join these clubs will be made very welcome.

At the date of this report, it is hoped that a few friendly matches can be arranged for both squads before the end of the term. We look forward to the introduction of the new leagues and hope that we can produce play of reasonable quality in our matches.

BADMINTON CLUB

In response to urgent requests from many pupils Mr McKenzie gave a lead in forming a Badminton Club. The club met on Wednesday evenings from 4 pm to 5.30 pm and consisted of senior pupils, 6 females and 2 males and Mr McKenzie. The club did not participate in any requests such as a tournament, but managed to organise a very successful inter house badminton competition, the overall winners being Grant house. Finally, the badminton club would like to thank Mr McKenzie for a very enjoyable year and for all the excellent coaching.

This season turned out to be very exciting and successful. The team started the season by winning the Mike Horn tournament at Banff. We then managed to reach the play-off for the final in the North Grampian League, against Ellon. After a very exciting match, in which we at last did credit to our coach, Miss L. Stevenson, we defeated Ellon 2:1.

Other school teams which took part in the league: Banff, Huntly, Speyside, Peterhead, Turriff.

Six of our players managed to reach the North Grampian Under-19 team. After some very exhausting training sessions, the team travelled to Edinburgh to participate in a tournament along with other regional teams. The six were: Katriona Arbuckle, Pearl Cranna, Louise Forbes, Maureen Gray, Helen Mark and Anne Mitchell.

Cup tournament at Banff marked the end of the Volleyball season. We won this opportunity to thank Miss Stevenson for the coaching, and patience she has shown to us. It took us a long time to prove to her that we can play Volleyball.

Team

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Maureen Gray (Captain) | Helen Shaw |
| Joyce Howells (Vice-captain) | Andrea Harper |
| Anne Mitchell | Helen Mark |
| Lorna Adam | Mary Mark |
| Louise Forbes | Susan Spence |
| Katriona Arbuckle | Lesley Courtney |
| Pearl Cranna | |

The first year team competed in the tournament at Keith, and finished second.

VOLLEYBALL TEAMS (BOYS)

The senior volleyball team entered the North Grampian Volleyball League (West) and found the competition from other schools very severe. Taking the game relatively less seriously than the other teams, the KGS team were beaten in all but one match - the last match of the season, showing a definite improvement in play. Credit is due to leaving seniors Alan Legge, Alec Dawson, Alastair Robb and Martin Lawrence for being the driving force of the team and helping to create the already 10-strong under-16 squad.

The 1st year volleyball team competed in a mini-volleyball competition held at Keith Grammar and came 4th. But having already begun training again, the 1st year boys should prove to be formidable opposition next year.

Senior Team

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Alastair Robb | Alastair Reid |
| Martin Lawrence | |

Catering for both the recreational and the competitive gymnast, the school Gymnastic Club has expanded yet again, this year with the boys helping to increase the numbers. The standards of the recreational gymnasts have improved by leaps and bounds, making competition for selection into the team very keen.

Twenty gymnasts were involved in the concert at KGS before Christmas, the majority of whom were 1st year (but the seniors did their bit). They all worked very hard and produced an exciting display.

There were two North of Scotland Gymnastic Competitions - one was divided into age groups, the other was an "open" competition. At the former Leslie Mackie was 3rd in her group, Katriona Arbuckle came 5th, and Susan Giles 7th. Also competing was Mary Mark. At the Open Championship Leslie Mackie and Mary Mark both received a 4th position medal for the floor and vault respectively. Others competing in these championships were Andrea Harper and Rachel Cruickshank.

After a lot of hard work the Gymnastic Club produced a team for the Moray District Championship, which took the Intermediate Team Trophy and the Senior Team Trophy, and came second in the Junior Team Trophy, only 2.2 points behind Lossiemouth. Individually the girls only just lost out, with someone from KGS coming second in every section but one.

All in all a successful year for the club.

KGS SWIMMING GALA

This year 163 pupils took the plunge and entered the Swimming Gala - almost 30% of the school population. The Inter-House competition was very close, with Ogilvie House emerging as winners with 164 points. 2nd equal were Mair and Grant Houses with 142 points and last, but not least, Smith House with 110 points.

Individual champions were as follows:-

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|--------------------|--------------|
| <u>Junior Girls</u> | Champion | Morag Brown | 27 pts (max) |
| | Runner-up | Patricia Johnstone | 16 pts |
| <u>Junior Boys</u> | Champion | Raymond Johnstone | 25 pts |
| | Runner-up | Neil Dicks | 13 pts |
| <u>Intermediate Girls</u> | Champion | Anita McQueen | 27 pts (max) |
| | Runner-up | Lorne Duncan | 9 pts |
| <u>Intermediate Boys</u> | Champion | Andrew McSeveney | 27 pts (max) |
| | Runner-up | Symon Simmers | 11 pts |
| <u>Senior Girls</u> | Champion | Kirsty Theodoreson | 22 pts |
| | Runner-up | Katriona Arbuckle | 12 pts |
| <u>Senior Boys</u> | Champion | Robert McSeveney | 20 pts |
| | Runner-up | Adrian Fulton | 15 pts |

KGS LIFESAVING GALA

The annual Lifesaving Gala (with trophies donated by Keith Police Force) proved to be extremely close-fought indeed. Results were:

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| <u>GIRLS' TROPHY</u> | Winners | GRANT | 44 pts |
| | 2nd | MAIR | 36 pts |
| | 3rd | OGILVIE | 33 pts |
| | 4th | SMITH | 28 pts |
| <u>BOYS' TROPHY</u> | Winners | OGILVIE | 42 pts |
| | 2nd | (SMITH | 38 pts |
| | | (MAIR | 38 pts |
| | 4th | GRANT | 19 pts |

CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

On a very wet and murky day, it was very encouraging to see nearly 70% of the school participating. A large increase from the previous year. The races proved to be close and for some, especially those spectating at the finish, very exciting.

The junior Girls' race was won by Kim McBain II, after a grueling struggle with her class-mate Dianne Russell. The great pity here was that the girls ran over a much longer course than planned, as a result of taking a wrong turn off Drum Road. The junior Boys' race ended with Ian Dingwall of Smith House first, and Gavin Farquhar, second. Two boys, sadly, had to be disqualified for cutting a corner. A great pity, for them! Anyway, well done Ian!

The Intermediate races were both exciting but in completely different ways. The girls' race was won by Shona Black 3rd year, who gradually wore down her opponents to win well. Andrea Harper 3rd year, ran well for an excellent second place. The boys' race had one of the closest finishes seen for many years, with the first four home all within ten seconds. Brian Adam 2nd year eventually won the race for the line, with Lachlan McLean 3rd year second. An excellent race from start to finish, culminating in an excellent time of 15 min 56 secs.

The Senior races again had two completely different stories to tell. Finish of the day must certainly go to the Girls' race, where Helen Mark IV came in with a storming finish to pip Lesley Innes IV on the line. Great stuff from both runners. The Senior Boys' race was inevitably won by Ross Arbuckle VI year, which just goes to show how much value is gained from consistent training. Robert McSeveney IV is to be congratulated on finishing second in a race run over a very demanding course.

These championships have shown us just how important back-up from your team mates can be. Even though GRANT HOUSE had individual champions in four out of the six groups, they finished fourth in the final points table.

| HOUSE CHAMPIONS | | OGILVIE | 727 points |
|-----------------|-----|---------|-------------|
| | 2nd | MAIR | 921 points |
| | 3rd | SMITH | 940 points |
| | 4th | GRANT | 1035 points |

Our thanks to all Competitors, Marshalls, Timekeepers and scorers, whether pupils or staff, for an excellent day's sport.

DEBATING SOCIETY REPORT 1979

President: Katharine M. Ettles

Secretary: Frances E. Sheridan

The society held two evening debates, on Tuesdays at 4 p.m., and both were well attended, the majority being from classes I-III.

The motions "that this house believes in fairies," and "that a temporary government should be formed to cope with the present National crisis," were both soundly defeated after a lot of good debating from the floor of the house as well as from the main speakers.

Frances Sheridan and Katharine Ettles took part in the English-Speaking Union's Youth debating contest.

In the first round, the Keith team spoke against the motion "that this house would support a men's liberation movement," and were selected by a panel of four judges to go through to the next round.

This was held in KGS, and the Keith team then spoke for the motion "that the school leaving age should be lowered to fourteen", the teams chosen to go through to the final were Elgin II and Benff.

Our congratulations must go to Elgin II who went on to win the national competition and are at this time relaxing on holiday in the States as a result.

The mock election went off in December with its usual flair, and an even wider than usual selection of parties stood for election. Representatives included the National Irish Tattie Society, Women's Liberation Front, National Lethargy Party, Hagar the Horrible Appreciation Society, Skivers' Union, National Front, Communist, Labour and Conservative Parties, as well as the Sensible Party who went on to win. Well done Stan! The usual props and costumes came into use, and all in all a good time was had by electorate and candidates alike.

The society's thanks must go to Mr J. C. S. Arnaud for his unfailing help and support throughout the year, and we wish our successors in the society joy and success in their debating.

SCHOOL BAND REPORT

The school band has met regularly during the past year under the guidance of its new conductor. Mr Walker has introduced many new pieces into the band's repertoire, and has encouraged band members by his enthusiasm.

The main event in the band's year was the 'Showband Show' production in December which was well attended on both nights.

At the end of the Easter term the band was invited to give a concert at Keith Primary School, in order that the pupils could see and hear the various brass and woodwind instruments.

Barbara Winchester
Class V

MADRIGAL GROUP

This group has been in existence since Christmas under the leadership of Mr A. Beattie, principal music teacher. Its fifteen members meet on Sunday afternoons to sing music from their ever increasing repertoire ranging from Monteverdi Madrigals to several Beatles songs. During its short existence, the group has performed at two concerts and has been invited to take part in the Community Bus concert at the end of June.

Caroline Allan

CHESS CLUB REPORT 1978-79

Session 1978-79 proved to be fairly successful for the chess club. Although we finished in the middle of the schools' league, we hope that the experience gained by the younger members will help us improve our position next year.

Two members, Kenneth Watson and Graham Jepps, competed for the first time in the North-East Junior Championships in Aberdeen. Kenneth's performance has put him in contention for a place in the regional team, which is to compete in the inter-region tournament.

We would like to thank Messrs Fleming and Moir for their help and encouragement and their wives for the teas for the teams in league matches.

Finally, we always welcome new members of all standards of play. Anyone who is interested, please come to room 9 any lunch time or Tuesday evening.

In the past session, the adverse weather has nearly always coincided with our observing night and consequently very little observing has been done. Despite this, our membership has in fact increased with added interest being shown by 1st years.

The club received a grant from the school enabling us to buy a variable drive unit for the telescope.

This year, the club changed its meeting time from 4 p.m. on Monday to 9 p.m. on Friday to permit more members to attend. This proved to be a popular amendment.

On behalf of the club, I would like to thank all teachers involved with it, especially Mr & Mrs Rennie who gave up many evenings to help us.

Alex. J. Clark V

FILM CLUB REPORT

To join the film club we had to pay £1.50 to see five of our most favourite films. To find out which films we like a suggestion box is put into the library. The librarian has a catalogue of film titles. The teachers in charge of the film club are Mrs Liddle and Mrs Leslie. The film club is always on a Friday night from approximately 7 p.m. to 9.15 p.m. It is held in the school hall.

This year the first film we saw and one of the most popular was called Doc Savage. The next film was called "The Gumball Rally." Others were called "The Family Plot," and "Earthquake," and "Watch Out We're Mad!" Each film cost about £15 to £30. To raise some more money to buy a new film we had a disco.

We think the film club has been very successful and should be continued for another year.

Rachel Cruickshank IY
Nicola Saillie IY

The School Squash Club has just completed its first year of existence. Looking back it can honestly be described as surprisingly successful. Although, inevitably, a few members joined simply for the novelty of the thing and dropped out as soon as they found you had to run about to play the game, most members stuck it out courageously. I say courageously because cold weather affects the game and slows it down, making it just a little more difficult for beginners.

The club played its first competitive game against Barff Academy. Some excellent squash was played and Keith were worthy winners by something like 6 games to 2.

The climax of the club's season was a knock-out tournament which took place on Tuesday 29th May. A worthy final took place and the boys' champion, Michael Dunbar, had to admit defeat at the hands of the overall winner JENNIFER GARTLY.

All-in-all, therefore, a year to be quite pleased with. The club will continue next winter with new members receiving coaching and instruction so that they may enjoy this excellent game to the maximum of their own ability.

S.L./A.T.S.

KEITH GRAMMAR SCHOOL CANOE CLUB

Keith Grammar School Canoe Club has had several worthy successes in surfing competitions this year, but it has been less fortunate on the river.

In June 1978 the North-East of Scotland Surf Championships were held, followed in August by the Scottish Surf Championships which were held at Sandend and after very respectable performances by all, Keith Canoeist, Alistair Cove emerged as Scottish Champion, and along with Adrian Fulton was chosen to represent Scotland at the British Surf Championships at Bude. Mr Gilchrist, a veteran surfer, was chosen to manage the team which very unexpectedly won the overall team trophy.

The climax of our Club's year was a 10 day tour of Scotland. Six pupile from Keith, one from Inverurie and staff, Mr McKenzie, Mr Gilchrist and Mr Smith, participated in what turned out to be a highly enjoyable, and profitable tour. The rivers visited were many and varied including very rough rapids on the Clyde and a scenic evening paddle along the Crinan Canal. All members of the party found the nine days' solid canoeing helped their techniques and skills tremendously although it was an extremely tiring experience and very hard on our canoes.

This winter saw the start of a Grampian Regional Training Squad based on the Don at Seaton Park and several Keith Canoeists participated. Unfortunately only two of the four intended training sessions could be held because of the severe weather this winter which caused the Don to freeze over.

Alastair Cowe was promoted to Division Three at the Potarch Slalom early in the season and although many Juniors entered the Don Slalom and did well, no promotions or prizes came to Keith.

One of the Canoe Club's biggest problems is the lack of premises in which we can build and repair our canoes as we had to move from the building which was very generously lent to us by Mr G. Christie.

Finally (on behalf of all members of the Club) I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, Mr McKenzie, Mr Gilchrist and Mr Smith who have put so much of their time and energy into the Club.

David Black



Literary Section

DEPTHS

Unreal valley,
Under the mist
Of a Summer night
Unseen, unknown
Unexplored. A chasm
Of which I knew not,
Though I have known
This place.

For this place is me,
The valley, me.
The mists of
Disbelief shroud
The part of my being
Of which I knew not,
Though I have known
This mind.

For in my mind,
The thoughts
Were all too rational.
Until I discovered
This valley in me,
Of which I knew not,
Though I have known
Myself.

And to this valley
Deep in my mind
I must journey.
To clear the mists,
Explore the depths,
Of which I knew not,
Until I knew
You.

My horse fidgeted. I looked at my feet and told myself to push my heels further down. Then I looked around, taking my surroundings in and thinking at the same time, "Where are they?" But Pony Club examiners always take so much time.

Then they came and it was our turn to jump.

The jump was small and she jumped with plenty to spare. Too much to spare. I floated over her shoulder, not even conscious of having tried to hold on. It was so sudden.

Those stands and poles seemed to divide my world. On the other side was that tensed-up atmosphere of a Pony Club 'C' test, harsh examiners, other excited horses, nervous riders.

On my side was only time. Aeons and aeons of time. Time to see everything in detail, time to think of everything.

A horse's leg floated over me. Whose horse was that? Every hair I could see, each speck of dust I had overlooked while grooming her. Every hair made such a beautiful pattern with the others. What thick fur she had. Why should it be so thick? It was July wasn't it? No. Stupid. It's December. December with frost glistening on that stone wall over there. Just like diamonds really. There are diamonds on the ground too, clear and sparkling among that stubbly, dull grass, and hard earth.

It is hard isn't it? It looks hard anyway. Then I discovered that it was hard. I felt a crash on my back, on my head.

I was thinking of everything; then nothing. Nothing at all.

Lesley McWilliam III (1)

FIRE

Red, orange, yellow;
Everchanging,
All embracing,
Interlocking colours.
Ripping, destroying,
Melting, warping,
Devouring all in its way.

Twisting, tapering tongues
Lash out for the sky
Through the exposed bones
Of a once solid roof.

Red hot slates
Slide down,
And crash to the ground,
Sneezed into tiny pieces,
To mingle
With the dirty water,
The charred wood,
The used and unused hose pipes
And with all the silt

BODYGLASS:

"What is this new invention?" you may ask. The inventors of this great creation have been asked about it by thousands and thousands of people. (Well, three anyway). So, I am going to reveal what this invention called BODYGLASS is.

One day the two famous Russian scientists Yarg Neerum and Sebrof Esivul were watching a highly intellectual game called basketball. (They were supposed to be playing but they had been sent off after breaking the noses of two people in the other team. Both scientists denied this saying that their hands just went out of control and accidentally tapped the noses of the players!) Anyway, during the match (which was being held at the nuclear science plant in Auchtermuchty) one of the players fell and her glasses fell off. It was then that our two scientists had the great idea.

"Undercumbublyfooshtyake!" shouted Sebrof. (Which is Russian for Eureka). Bodyglass!" he shouted in Russian. Seconds later Yarg and Sebrof were rushing to their secret laboratory in Newmill, and within a week their new discovery was complete.

Although BODYGLASS is a relatively new invention it will soon revolutionise the world of sport. It has been tested and approved by Olympic athletes in Rothiemay, Drummur and Mulben.

Bodyglass can be made for short-sighted OR long-sighted people. Bodyglass is a glass (singular of glasses) which you wear like a suit. You are suspended in a bubble inside the bodyglass which means that if you fall you don't hurt yourself. (It also means that your nose can't get broken in basketball matches when you play Yarg and Sebrof).

There are lots of attachments like bodyscreen wipers (similar to windscreen wipers and condensation removers). You can choose from plain, striped, tartan or multi-coloured bodyglass. (It is advisable for athletes to wear plain bodyglass as tartan legs and blue shorts do not really match!) Special bodyglasses with central heating installed are available, and others with automatic ventilation can also be bought.

The inventors would like to thank members of the senior KGS basketball team for their help in development of BODYGLASS.

UNDERCUMBUBLYFOOSHTYAKE!!

"Sebrof Esivul" IV(1)

CLOTHES

My mother keeps telling me
When she was in her teens
She wore quite different clothes from mine
And never heard of jeans

T-shirts, no hats, and dresses that
Reach above our knees.
I laughed at first and then I thought
One day my kids will tease

And scoff at what I'm wearing now,
What will their fashion be?
I'd give an awful lot to know,
To look ahead and see.

Girls dressed like girls perhaps once more
And boys no longer half
Resembling us, Oh, what's in store
To make our children laugh?

Lorraine Clark IT

FARM LIFE

Jack is up and about at dawn
While the rest o' the family sit in the house an yawn
The ither workers ill be comin soon
The grieve along wi the orra loon.

The coos ti milk, the pigs ti feed
The wife ill start ti bake the breed.
It's a' go, workin on the land
But lowsin' time is ayeays grand.

The cat's curled up aneath Jack's legs,
The dog's aron his feet.
It's a braw life farm life
Wi hame made scones tee eat.

Angela Grant IIT

THE LAIRD O' CULBIN

One night on sixteen thirty two the Laird o' Culbin wis playen
cards wi his twa pals, the Erol fa wis couthy an' the Count fa wis
cannie. They were newsin' awa like auld wifien on Market day an dricken
ale. The Laird seemed tee be a better card player, though whither it
wis through skill or cheating nobody kens.

Outside there wis a storm brewin an horses hoofs came a clatteren
near. Bit jist as noo the Auld Clock rang eleven times an finally hit
the twelve. It wis noo Sunday. The Erol an the Count were mannies o'
Religion an' refused to play cards on ae Sabbath. Noo the laird wis
na see holy an he could na care if he played cards wi' auld Nick the
Deil himsel, so aff went the Erol an the Count.

By ae time ae rain wis bucketing and skiterin doon from ae black
sky an ae win wis blawin ae sand ah oor the place. It wis aboot en at
ae clattering horses hoofs came tee a halt. That disastrous night the
sand blowed oor the Laird's hoose. An left just ae chimney stikken oot
o' ah grun.

Noo it wis aboot twenty years after the disaster that the Erol
an the Count returned to Culbin ae auld mannies. The twa shouted doon
the Laird's chimney whit wis stikken oot o' ae grun and ey herd a grue-
some laugh from the other en; so ey ran away nefer to return tee Culbin
ere again ae lang as the baith o' em lived.

John W. Mitchell IV

THE SAD PUNK ROCKER

I dyed my hair green and blue with a lightning streak.
I put a safety pin through my nose and a padlock through my cheek.
When I got on the stage, I stood up and sang,
I staggered around and my guitar string went twang.
I snapped my guitar over my knee and looked real proud,
As I took it up and threw it in the crowd.
I said some words I could not write,
And then I landed in a fight.
My Punk Rock image, it came a cropper.
That's how I became the Sad Punk Rocker.

Andrew Smith IG

It wis sax a' clock an' Ah hid jist deen gein' ma faither a haun' wis milkin' the kye. Ma mither wis stanin' at the hoose door cleckin' tee suld Jessie McKay fae the croftie doon the road, an' I thocht thit this wis jist a fine opportunitie tae slip awa' doon tae the burn. Bit na, na; ma mither collert wi jist is ah wis geing oot the gate an' tell't mi tae gang awa' an' dee ma hamework fur the squeal. Ah wis sittin' doon in the scullery an' thinkin' thit ma teacher wis an' affa pest, fin in comes ma mither, cleckin' is usual, wis ma Auntie Janet, fa's an affa posh an' weel tae dee vumun.

"Wullie, gang awa' outside an' play wis yer cousins," Mam said.

"Och Mam dee I hiv tae?" Ah speari't.

"Aye, ye div na loon. Oot ye gang. An' for Hivin's sake tie yer pints."

Stanin' in the close wir ma iwa cousins, Alec an' Betsy. Alec wis a' richt, bit Oh we ah just couldna stan' the sicht o' Betsy. Shi wis wee an' fat wis spoo and platts an' she wis jist a richt scunner. Ma an' Alec wint awa' doon tae the burn tae guddle fur funh an' left Betsy tae play wis her dalls. Jist is darkness wis drasin' in ah herd ma mither shoutin' fur us tae cum awa in. Seen wi wir a' sittin' in the best room, drinkin' tae fae ma mither's quid tae-set an' aatin' scones an' that fae side plates. Fit a richt! Efter thon lot hid geon awa' ma mither toll't mi thit Alec an' Auntie Janet, an' thon quine Betsy an' hiraell wir a' gangin' intae Aiberdeen nae this Saterdag bit next an' thit wi wir gangin' on a steamer. Och na, ah wis fair overcum by it a'. The only thing thit speilt it wis thit Betsy wis cummin' iz well.

The next two weeks wint by affa slowly bit it lang laist that day dawn't. Ah gut up it sax a' clock an' help't ma faither tae milk the kye an' feed the beasts. Syne ah wint intae the hoose an' ate ma brose an' bep an' hid a wee drinkie o' tae. Syne ah wint an' wash't mesell, ma mither minin mi tae wash ahin' ma lugs. Iz if ah widna! Ah pit onn ma best clotha (the cons thit ah ware it the Kirk onn Sundays) an' spruced mesell up. Wi a' gut intae the gig an' ma faither drove us tae the station it Keith far wi wis tae meet in wis Auntie Janet an' her lot. Ma mither bought the ticketies an' wi stud onn the platform wis Auntie Janet till the train cum. Oh na, ah nearly deest fin ah hird the train cumin intae thon station. It wis lik'e if the world wis faein' doon. Ah wis at feert ah wis nearly greatin'. Bit sanna...

it wis a' richt. Wi wir in a 'First Class' compartment naturelly, well it wis Auntie Janet's idea reely; its hir that's gut a' that miller. The countryside jist flew by, a' thon crafties an' perks fu' o' neeps an' tatties an' the like. Wi stopp't it an' affie amount o' stations bit it laist wi wir in Aiberdeen. Wis gut off it School Hill, cause that wis neerer the centre o' the toon than the ither station. Wi walk't along Union Terrace intae Union Street. Wi wid visit Watts an' Grants an' affa posh place, jist fur the 'Big Wigs' lik ma Auntie Janet. Shi nearly bought the hale shop, shi hid lipstick an' a this materiel, shi hid two frocks, een blue an' een green. Ah jist dinna ken faur shi gits a' the sunney fae. Ma mither bought a wee bit-tie o' materiel fur a blouse fur hiraell bit shi didna buy a' thon buooty aids thit Janet bought. Wi wint tae the Rubber Shop an' Alec an' Betsy gat toys, bit ah niver gut onnything, bit ach ah'm over big fur bern's stuff. "Raggy" Morrisons wis next on the list, he call't jist about a' thing, ah gut a brass bunnet there, och ah wis fairly proud o' it. "Cocky" Hunters wis the next een, my ye could buy onythin' fae a pish tae an anchor yanner. Ah bought a gas lampie fur ma byke an' ma mither bought an' affy bonny hat. The tyne wis shilin onn an' its gye neer denner time fin wi need on Reed an' Pearson's the drapers, Betsy wis needin' a new frock. Thit quine! Wi (ma mither an' me) hid oor denner in the New Merkitt. Chappit neeps, tatties an' mince. Maun! it wis fine. Auntie Janet thought that the New Merkitt wis over common for her, so shi an' the berna wint tae the Atheneum. Ah dinna ken fit the hid tae ate bit Alec wis weelick efterwards. Ma mither took me tae see Queen Victoria's statue at the Corner o' Union Street an' St. Nicholas Terrace (though it his bein' moved noo). Wi wint tie see the P an' J's offices an the Y.M.C.A. in Golden Square. Wi did sum mair shoppin' bit tyne wis wearin' onn an' efter a wee jucl onn the train wi wint awa tae catch oor train. Ah slept neerly a' the wey hame, so ma mither says an' jist weakened fin wi cum intae the station.

Ma faither wis waitin' fur us in the gig, an' cleckin' an' lauffin' wi a' climbed onn an' see back tae oor craftie Black Bank. Thit night iz a' climbed intae ma bed ah thocht over the day an' wis richt gled ah didna bide in the toon o' Aiberdeen.

The moon had long since disappeared
 A few stars shone, forlorn in the early-morning sky.
 A greyish light tinged the room where someone slept peacefully.
 Gradually morning flooded the room
 And shadows faded.
 Outside, birds awoke.
 Another busy day ahead, they sang their morning hymns.
 Slowly each part of the machine that was
 Earth awoke and began its work,
 Who knew what the new day held?

Barbara Winchester V(3)

'HERE AT LAST'

It was the beginning of October when it was announced that the film 'Grease' would be coming to Elgin. Many teenagers and adults of Keith longed to see the film as it starred John Travolta and Olivia Newton John, two well known singers, and dancers for that matter.

About the beginning of August one of the 'singles' taken from the film was released into the charts and reached the number one sound. That is more or less where it all began.

When it was sung on television, you saw an extract from the film which drew many people's attention. At the end of the month another two singles were released and the film was to be shown in Elgin for two weeks in October.

Many people from Keith went to see the film in Elgin and enjoyed it so much that they went back a second time and maybe a third. A bus went from the Keith Community Centre to Elgin to see the film. Because of such enormous crowds the film went on for a third week.

Everyone so thoroughly enjoyed the film and the music that they still listen to the 'Grease' music by John Travolta, Olivia Newton John and the cast. Many records have now been released from the film. There were even Travolta dancing classes that began all over Britain, and a popular film had made a change in our way of life, even in the wilds of Grampian!

Heather Lemon IV

WINTER

Last night Frost visited our town,
 He spread his icy fingers,
 And he made, as if by magic,
 A pattern that still lingers.

Snow came, and gently hid,
 Our "weed-infested" garden,
 She gently caressed,
 She soothed the flowers,
 That Frost had roughly handled.

She left her blanket,
 Soft and fleecy,
 Covering all harshness.
 And underneath the flowers sleep,
 Unconscious of the world.
 They patiently wait,
 For Spring to come,
 And wake them up again.

Sandra Taverdale IIV

A DAY IN THE YEAR 2000

I felt a slight tickling on my eyes as I woke up, my automatic waker was trying to waken me. The calendar changed itself; it was January 1st 2000. I rose out of my bed and saw the flowers opening. It was a beautiful morning as the sun shone down on my house. I like days when there is a lot of sun because my solar panels on the roof can soak up the energy. I set up and pressed the button that made the robot controls slide out. I pressed the button for robot 381. 381 was programmed to cook. When it came through I told it what to do.

After breakfast I dressed myself in the new fashion, 'space suits'. We were allowed to wear any kind of clothes to school. The school was so big we did not have to walk, there were conveyor belts to carry us. It was rather like a train. There were stations and there was also another conveyor belt which went in the other direction. My first lesson was English. My English teacher's name was ZF70. Everyone behaved themselves all the time at school because all the teachers were robots and had hard metal hands, so nobody wants a spanking.

After school I went home. I was so tired that I just had my evening meal and before I went to bed I switched off the robots at the mains and switched on the 3 Dimensional T.V. recorder.

Nicola Seillie II

THE BIONIC TEACHER

After a fatal incident with a radio-active piece of white chalk we have now a teacher barely alive. We can rebuild it, make it the first bionic teacher. Replace the brain with an automatic size nine wellie. The brain will be placed in a rusty bean can and stuck on with super glue. This is then bashed onto the rest of the body which comprises of a full packet of cornflakes, regurgitated curry and the latest issue of Super Cook. Extras include leather interior and side view mirrors. The cost of this mechanical marvel is classified Top Secret. We have the technology. We can make it work.

George Gartly IG

THE MUSICIANS OF 1960

At Merseyside the great group the Weasels began with the friendship of John Stalin and Paul McCarthorse. Then with the meeting of George Clackson and Kirky Star, the Weasels were formed. Paul McCarthorse played bass, John Stalin played guitar, George Clackson played lead guitar and Kirky Star played the drums. They made films, some of which were on TV. They had hits such as Its Been a Hard Day's Hunt, We all Live in a Yellow Burrow, All You Need is Grub, and others. But then John Stalin became a bit strange and Paul McCarthorse started to write silly love songs and they thus split up.

Paul McCarthorse formed legs who did Mull of Newmill but they are little compensation for the loss of the Weasels. Their biggest enemies had been the Rolling Bones. This wonderful group with the big lips, drugs and vacant expressions took over the music world. They had hits such as Horky Tonk Skeleton, Get Off my Bone, Wild Skeletons, Bone Bone Under My Bone, (I can't Get No) Skeletons. Some of their famous albums are Exile on Skeleton, Get Boned, Gimmi Skeletons, Coats Bones Soup, and Rock'n Rolling Bones. They are led by Mick Dagger, Keith Pilchards along with Bill Pieman, Ron Tube and Charlie Volts. The Bones don't make singles now, but are still successful with albums.

Kenneth Watson IG

"MINCE AN TATTIES"

The grandest meal ye'll ever get is myither's mince an tatties,
Ye'll never find a finer meal frae Chinese tee-Pakistanies,
Thae posh can keep their caviar an' juicy table natties,
They'll never mak anything tee match the taste o' mince an tatties.

There's a' that oriental dishes, noodles, chop suey an catties,
But for a' their fancy foreign names
They're bate by mince an tatties.

There's a' yer Pakistany dishes, curry an' chapatties,
But none o' them can match the taste o' smashin' mince an tatties.

James Simpson III (1)

STORM

Sharp tongues of lightning cut through the air, giving the black sky a luminous glow. The wind howled and whistled through the lashing branches of the forest. The mouse covered under a hummock of dried grass. Again the lightning crackled in the electric atmosphere. Thunder ripped through the air.

Animals sought refuge under leaves, trees and boulders as the knives of silver light flickered and spat overhead. Blinding blasts of the wind-tossed rain drenched fur and feathers. Icy fingers crept into warm snug dens; the animals shivered. Rivers became torrents as the rain cascaded down onto the wind-swept land.

A dazzling hot lightning fork hit a small grass tussock. It sizzled, spat and went out. The mouse was dead.

Karen Henderson IIR

FIRST RECOLLECTIONS

The mist rolls from the subconscious valley,
A rainbow lights the dormant brain,
Slowly the mind stirs.
Opaque light filters through,
A sudden sound startles,
The mind wakes.
From sleep the memories are roused,
Dull, grey, strung like pearls,
On fine cobweb strands.
Twisting, turning, the pale path leads,
Into a wilderness of memories,
Round round into clouds of fog
The tortuous road writhes.
From mountains of memories,
Contorted faces emerge,
Twisted, elflike, leering.
More memories: like rays of sunlight,
Brighten the cloud covered world.

Places, pictures of past years
Float silently over the brain,
Like breeze-swept veils.
The counterpane heaves.
From the deep slumbering world
A bright light shines
A heavy lid lifts.
From the box of dreams,
A sigh escapes, the spell is broken.
Lost, lost the memories wing
Across the clear sky of today.
The eye opens, blurred with sleep.
No longer does the world slumber
There is life in the brain.
The pearls roll away.
The cobweb is broken, the pale path erased.
Sleep is dead.

Karen Henderson IIR

What have I done, what have I done?
I didn't mean it, honest.
Please understand.

I'm not the only one, others have done worse.
It was just an accident, really.
Please forgive me.

Why must you torture me and keep me awake?
And why must your menacing voice haunt me?
Oh leave me alone!

Oh please go away and let my mind rest
Have you not done enough to get your revenge?
But no, I must be punished.

There is only one way I can peacefully sleep.
You too can now rest, knowing you've fulfilled your threat,
The gun is by my head.

Maureen Robertson IV (1)

THE CANOEIST

Thump, thump ... thump, thump.
Tension tight, atmosphere right.
Three, two ... Echoes through ...
One, ... Go ... Waters flow ...
Muscles react, tension cracked.

Paddle heaves, canoe leaves
Bark behind. Through gates wind.
Arms sore, rapids roar,
Back and forth, to and fro,
Bad pain, lungs strain.

Through last gate, finish straight.
Paddles stroke long, and strong,
Waves pound, weird sound,
Finish fast, home at last.
Pain gone. Energy? - none,

Canoe Slalom - great fun.

David Black V

On the morning of the 23rd of November. I hurried down the stairs to try to find the radio stations on their new wavelengths. As I fiddled around with the switches I came up with a rather unusual collection of sentences:-

... Margaret Thatcher took the House of Commons by surprise last night when she stood up to Jim Callaghan and said...
 ... "I'm hopelessly devoted to you"...
 ... and if Leyland is not happy they can go and...
 ... mash bananas up until soft and add them to...
 ... their paypackets...
 ... The Queen will be leaving today for the Bahamas wearing...
 ... a Radio 1 tee shirt or an album token...
 ... On her flight to the Bahamas she will be stopping off to visit...
 ... the Tomintoul to Cockbridge road which is blocked with...
 ... school dinners now going...
 ... to Tanzania to try to help starving...
 ... MP's who agreed that...
 ... "there's no business like show business"...

Finally I located all the radio stations, after discovering a new way to pass a boring evening.

Susan Giles IV

SKWEEL DENNERS

The donnere that I get at the skweel,
 Are enough tae mak m' feel nae weel.
 Fin I think on doughballs as hard as steen,
 The thocht o' that neer turns m' green.

There's vegetable soup (or so it's ca'd),
 The taste o' it is really bad.
 I wouldna advise the pea soup either,
 Cos pea pode nicht bring on hay fever.

An now tae the puddin's; they can mak them nae bad,
 But I ken fa's much better, an that's m' dad.
 His custard's the best, nae a lump tae be seen,
 But fin it comes tae the skweels; it fair turns me green.

So please tak this warnin! afore it's too late,
 Dinna ste the skweel dennere. You nicht meet yer fate.

Wendy Giles IR

Last year I went to the Highland Show with my pony to compete in the Working Hunter Pony class. We went down to the Show on Wednesday 21st of June and stayed in a caravan. There was stabling provided for my pony.

It rained for most of Wednesday afternoon so I did not exercise my pony Little Tiara but on Thursday morning the rain had stopped and the sun was out so I exercised her. There was a field behind the stables for exercising and warming up. After about five minutes I had the company of Captain Mark Phillips. I also had the company of one of Harvey Smith's grooms.

Later on that afternoon while I was walking past the jumping ring I met David Broome on Philco. As he had just come out of the ring and had a clear round he was in a good mood. I patted Philco and said "Hello," to David Broome and he replied "Hello". We spent the rest of that afternoon looking round the saddlery stalls and in the evening watched the big show jumpers in the main ring. After the major show jumping events there was a parade of vintage tractors followed by the pipe band.

Friday was the big day. I was up by 6 a.m. plaiting and grooming my pony. My class started at 9 a.m. so I was ready groomed, warned up, with brown hat and showing jacket on, saddled up and mounted quarter of an hour beforehand.

I had only one minor fault in my showjumping and during the showing phase Little Tiara went perfectly. When the class was finished I was pleased ending up seventh out of a class of thirty-eight of some of the best ponies throughout Britain.

Marion Watt IR

LANCE

He's big and hairy and very sweet
 He always lies down by my feet
 He gazes at me and seems to say
 "Aren't we going for a walk today?"
 We romp and play, have lots of fun;
 I want to stand, he wants to run.
 He's loyal, true, a faithful friend
 I'll love him to the very end -
 My dog!

Mark Winchester IR

Ski-ing is a healthy sport for the fit and energetic. Skiers of all ages male or female take up this sport. Very young beginners start from five years old if not younger. Most beginners start young, but many older skiers are fit enough to participate.

The nearest mountains to Keith are the Cairngorms which are roughly seven miles away from Aviemore. The ski season starts around December or usually whenever there is snow. The season generally ends about the end of March.

During the season many skiers take to the slopes. Many slopes are steep and once the skier has completed the ski run there are 'T' bar tows and chairlift tows to take him back to the beginning of the slope.

The 'T' bar tow is a tow which consists of a wooden bar in the shape of a 'T' and which can tow two people at one time. The chairlift is one in which there are carriages which carry you above the snow and the skis are held in one hand.

There are countless numbers of ski runs with or without ski tows. Some of the best known slopes are the Coire Cas, the Coire na Ciste and the White Lady. At the top of the Cairngorms is a dome-shaped restaurant called the Ptarmigan. Looking down, one can see that there are many little ski runs around the top. At the foot of the slopes is the car park which can hold many cars and coaches.

There is an ambulance service which runs back and fro from the ski slopes to the hospital.

We are lucky to have such a fine centre for winter sports practically on our own doorstep.

Clive Johnston IV (3)

NAE A CLUE

Och, whit am I goin to write about? I hinna got a clue,
Sittin here in English, has got me stumped the noo;
I could write about my holidays or my day in Aberdeen,
Bit it's really too much bother; ye ken whit I mean;
I've got nae inspiration, it really is a shame,
Bit the teacher says wiv got an hour, wi canna tak it hame;
I wish wi could tak this papers hame so as I could collect my thochts so clear,
The first bell has rung the noo, I can hear the fawk out there,
It's a' richt for then. It really isna fair;
It's nae si fair outside, the rain is peltin doon,
It's really weat, the golf course, I winna get a roon;
I hope the fitba match is on, thi grun will be real loose,
If it's aff I doot I'll hae ti be content tae bide within the hoose.
It's nearly twinty tes the noo. This period's seemed like years.
I'll hae tae say ay cheerin or I'll bore ye a' tae tears.

William Legge III (1)

It wis a fine sunny day last Saterdag an' me an' me fren thoct wid ging for a hike in the country. We collected a wir stuff igitheer an' set off.

Efter about half an oor we came till a bonny country lane an' set off doon it. It wis gettin' gay wearn so we teen aff wir jaskits an opent a bottle o' limonade.

About noon wi stoppit fir wer dinner doon aside a wee pool an seen we gaed fir a paddle in oor the pool. Oh it fairly coolt doon wir het, sare feet.

We stoppit fir shoot an oor thair then we cerraist on wir wy.

About half by een a' clock it staartet te get gae chilly kine hit we jist pit on wir jaskits an thoct nithing o' it. Bit my goodness, if we'd kent fit wis comin' we wid o' turnt back, an quick tee at that.

It wis about two a' clock an we wir miles fae ony wy an' it start-ed tae rain. Nae jist a few drops either, it wis jist leshin' doon on taap o's. Oh me. Fit a drookin' we got, an' the watter wis jist droppin' aff the ein o' me nose.

Weel, we started hame richt awa' wishin' wid niver gaed awa in the first place.

Oh an' fan we finally did get hame twis near five. We wir baith sneezin' an' shakin' wi the caal. Bit of course man wis thair wi een o' her, "fit did I tell ye noo?" lectures. Nae that I wis in nae fit state te argue wi her.

Shi geed me a richt sair heed wi a' her roarin' an' a hid te ging tae me bed wi a het watter bottle an' nae supper inside o' me.

You'll nae doot kain fit happent tae me. I wis laid up in bed wi a richt stinker o' a caal. Bit min' you, that diens detar me ony. Wir noo plennin' a three day hike roon the coast ins wummer. I hope it diens rain!

Catherine Clark III (1)

Noo, this night I'm gan tae tell ye a wee bit about Puddock Hunting. An' it isna jist gan oot tae a pond wi a fishing net an' catching the peer craters as though they will gan tae jile. Na, noo at a', ye hiv tae use yer head an' think about catching yersel a puddock.

Noo puddocks, or frogs, for a ye snooty folk, hiv brains jist the same as we hiv an' if ye dinna ken fit yer deeing ye'll scare they peer beasties an' ye'll niver get near han' an.

So ye see ye hiv tae hae eighty pircint skill an' twinty pircint brain. The skill comes in win yer creeping up on yer puddock cos ye hiv tae be awfy quast an' tak' yer time. It's awfy hard tae be quast cos, ye see, roon a puddock pond there aye seems tae be a hillock o' reed, an keeping quast in among an is like keeping a wee bairn quast win ther's nae mair coo-jooce left in 'is bottle. There's even mair skill needed in finding 'im in 'is pond, cos ye hiv tae find the wee things. Ye usually find em in among weeds an' stanes so 'at's the place tae look.

Amce ye've spotted yer puddock ye hiv tae creep up on 'im silently, cos as I said afore, if he hears ye, he'll scamper faster than a hare. Amce ye're up ahin im aye yer hands doon slowly an' pick im up, an' there ye hiv yer very own puddock.

If ye think ye're gan tae be nae eece at a puddock hunting, tak the easy wy an' search for frog spawn, bit fit ivor ye dee dinna keep the young puddocks awa free the wild. Pit 'em back tae far ye found em cos it's afa cruel nae tae.

Greene Cruickshank IV

CHAISTS

Fence upon a time there wiz a fairmer caud Geordie Hamiltoun. He wiz gweed at his job and woked hard, but beeing an ambeeshus kine a lad he decided tae expand and so bought a faim at Kittliefts next tae Stoorie Hill. The faim by the wy wis caud Bogs o' Muckery and deesd tae be owned by a lad caud Tam McPhee but it hid been empty fur dunkees years. Some fowk aid that it wis haunted by the Dail, bit Geordie wisna wurrried. In fact he hid a bet wi Sandy Broon that he could survive twenty days in the house wi'oot beein attacked by the Dail or any whigmaleries. Geordie jeeest worked awa as usual, prancin about in his galluses and dungarees keekin in the byre tae check on the cows an lookin aifter the yowes and lambs. See the night o' the twentieth day came and he looked as though he wiz gaun tae win his bet o' a tanner. Geordie went tae bed at nine as usual beein one o' those that woka frae sax in the morn till eight at night. Suddenly there wiz a blood curdling skelloch. Geordie jumped oot o' bed. There before him steed a ghostie. It cursed puir Geordie. Geordie, fu' o' terror, fleggit oot o' his wife, tried tae run past the ghostie but trippit over his sheet, pu'in it aff the ghostie's head. Underneath the sheet wiz Sandy Broon. Weol ye should o' seen Geordie's face, reed as beetroot. He grabbit his galluses an chased Sandy richt oot o' the hoose. Whether he got his tanner or no, Geordie continued tae bide there and niver saw anither ghostie a' his days.

Kenneth Watson IG

Subject Prizes in Common Course Classes

CLASS I

| | 1st | 2nd |
|--------------------|---|----------------|
| English | Darius Antell | Stuart MacLure |
| History | Stuart MacLure | Margaret Shaw |
| Geography | June Jamieson | Margaret Shaw |
| French | Moyra Clark | June Jamieson |
| Arithmetic | Moyra Clark | - |
| Mathematics | Moyra Clark | Peter McIntosh |
| Science | = William Carmichael = June Jamieson | - |
| Art | John Featch | George Gartly |
| Home Economics | Marion Watt | Margaret Shaw |
| Technical Subjects | Neil Dicks | Colin Hendry |

CLASS II

| | 1st | 2nd |
|---|--|----------------------|
| English | = Karen Henderson = Sandra Tavendale Anne Meldrum | - Gary MacPherson |
| History | | |
| Latin - The Robert Burns Johnston Prize | Karen Henderson William McEwan | - Karen Henderson |
| Geography | = Karen Henderson = Laurie McLean = Sandra Tavendale | - |
| French | Ann Rutherford | Allan Rettie |
| Mathematics | = Gary MacPherson | |
| Arithmetic | = Anne Stuart Anne Stuart | Allan Rettie |
| Science | Mark McGregor | Duncan Soares |
| Art | Patricia Sutherland | Lesley Ross |
| Home Economics | Keith Ross | William Gray |
| Technical Subjects | | |

Subject Prizes in Third Year S.C.E. CoursesCLASS III

| | 1st | 2nd |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| English | Lesley McWilliam | - |
| History | Sally Will | Stephen Mann |
| Latin - The Robert Burns Johnston Prize | = Lesley McWilliam = Sally Will | |
| Geography | Shona Black | Andrew Irvine |
| Modern Studies | Campbell Kelso | Gordon Cove |
| French | Sally Will | Lesley McWilliam |
| German | Sally Will | - |
| Art | Lorraine Riddell | Linda Paterson |
| Mathematics | = Shona Black = Derek Johnstone | |
| Arithmetic | Derek Johnstone | - |
| Physics | Shona Black | Lesley McWilliam |
| Chemistry | Lesley McWilliam | Patricia Innes |
| Biology | = Mhorag Duncan = Patricia Innes | - |
| Agriculture | Colin Mearns | Charles Stewart |
| <u>Home Economics</u> | | |
| Fabric & Fashion | Pauline Simpson | |
| Food & Nutrition | Isobel Leith | |
| <u>Technical Subjects</u> | | |
| Engineering Drawing | Robert Newlands | |
| Woodwork | Alistair Reid | |
| Metal Work | Gordon Innes | |
| <u>Commercial Subjects</u> | | |
| Accounts | Linda Paterson | |
| Secretarial | Karen Holt | |

Class III S.C.E. Places

1st Lesley McWilliam 2nd Sally Will
3rd Shona Black

Class Places

| | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
|-----|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| 10 | Peter Bowman | Leonard Robson | Andrew Duguid |
| 110 | Philip Hagg | Derek Mann | Elaine Roy |

Subject Prizes in Class IV

| | 1st | 2nd |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| English | Ronald Robson | Greene Carter |
| History | Greene Carter | Gordon Christie |
| Modern Studies | Keith Gray | David Davidson |
| Geography | Greene Carter | Ronald Robson |
| French | Greene Carter | Simon Doyle |
| Latin - The John Wilson of Montgrev Prize | Maureen Robertson | - |
| German | Patricia French | Lesley Courtney |
| Mathematics | Gordon Green | Ronald Robson |
| Arithmetic | Ronald Robson | Maureen Robertson |
| Music | Louise Forbes | - |
| Art | Gordon Green | John McSeveney |
| Physics | Ronald Robson | Gordon Green |
| Biology | Simon Doyle | Clive Johnston |
| Chemistry | Ian Stewart | Gordon Christie |
| A. P. & H. | Anona Turnbull | Helen Mack |
| <u>Home Economics</u> | | |
| Food & Nutrition | = Louise McConchie = Lucille Moir | |
| Fabric & Fashion | Anne Dingwall | |
| <u>Technical Subjects</u> | | |
| Engineering Drawing | Gordon Green | |
| Woodwork | Ian Watt | |
| Metal Work | Greene Davidson | |
| Engineering Science | Michael Law | Kenneth Couis |
| Agricultural Science | Ian Strathdee | |
| <u>Commercial Subjects</u> | | |
| Accounts | Fiona Smith | |
| Secretarial | Susan Spence | |

Class IV S.C.E. Places

1st Ronald Robson 2nd Graeme Carter
3rd Maureen Robertson

Class V S.C.E. Places

1st David Black 2nd Marian Doyle
3rd Alexander Clark

SPECIAL PRIZES

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

Peter Bowman

Australian Prize (best pupil in
1st Year)

William Carmichael

Jane Laing Prize for Homecraft
in non-certificate class

Carol McIntosh III

Keith Townesmen's Guild Prize

Maire Stewart IV

The Currie Prizes (best Technical
pupils in non-certificate classes)

Bryan Innes IV
David Gardiner IV

Jane Gordon Prizes (best pupils
in Third Year Science)

Physics

Shona Black

Chemistry

Lesley McWilliam

Biology

= Mhorag Duncan

Allen Gray Prizes for Scots
Vernacular (I-III)

= Patricia Innes

III Mhorag Duncan

II Graeme Cruickshank

I John Mitchell

III Sally Will

II Karen Henderson

I Derius Astell

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

Karen Farquherson

Mrs E. Macdonachie's Prize
in Music (Third Year)

Lesley McWilliam

Rector's Prize for Dux of S.III

SENIOR PRIZES

Special Prize for Commercial
Course

Kirsten Theodoreson

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

Susan Logan

Special Prize in Art

Brenda Johnston

Special Prize in Music

Susan Hutt

John C. Robb Memorial Prize
for Modern Studies

Brian Spence

Bronfman Prize for the History
of the American Economy 1862-1940

Gillian Hiddoch

Special Prize in Technical Subjects

George Sutherland

Mr Arnaud's Memento to Editors
of "Data"

Katherine Ettles and
Edna Cowie

Special Prizes for Post
Certificate Work

English

Frances Sheridan

Mathematics

Ann Christie

French - The Old Contemptible's
Prize

Edna Cowie

Geography

Ann Herbertson

Gordon Grant Prize
for Science - Class VI

Physics

Alistair Robb

Chemistry

Sandra Gordon

An Aberdeen University Bursary
Award has been made to:

Frances Sheridan,
placed 30th

SPECIAL PRIZES

| | | |
|---|-----------|---|
| Derek Alexander Simpson Memorial Prize | | Lynn McLean Anne Stuart Patricia Sutherland Ian Dingwall |
| The Rhoda Laing Memorial Prizes for meritorious service to the school | | Maureen Gray Frances Sheridan Alistair Robb |
| James Sabiston Memorial Prizes for Physical Education | | Anne Mitchell Ross Arbuckle |
| The Ella Lobban Prizes in Music | Violin | Dorothy MacDonald |
| | Brass | Alexander Clark |
| | Woodwind | Vivien Henderson |
| | Piano | Susan Hutt |
| Wm. Greig & Co. Prize for Dux in German | | Marian Doyle |
| Ogilvie and Ferguson Prize for Dux in Science | Physics | David Black |
| | Chemistry | David Black |
| | Biology | David Black |
| Collingwood-Kynoch Prize for Dux in Mathematics | | David Black |
| Helen S. Mitchell Memorial Prize for Dux in Geography | | Mervyn Walker |
| Special Prize for Dux in History | | Brian Spence |
| Brown Prize for Dux in French and the Old Contemptible's Prize | | Barbara Winchester |
| Special Prize for Dux in English | | Marian Doyle |
| Inter-House Championship Trophy | | Mair House |
| Factor's Memento to Captains of the School | | Frances Sheridan Alistair Robb |
| Dr. Grant Memorial Medal for Dux of the School | | David Black |

KGS ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

In the culmination of a disastrous athletic season because of the weather, it seemed only fitting that it was only on the fifth attempt that the KGS Athletic Championships were able to proceed in pleasant sunny, if threatening, weather. The initial entry was good with 901 entrants all competing for places in the finals. As the inter-house points tally rose steadily during the course of the afternoon an extremely close, keen contest emerged, with the final house places:-

| | |
|---------------|-----------|
| MAIR HOUSE | 166.0 pts |
| GRANT HOUSE | 163.0 pts |
| OGILVIE HOUSE | 148.5 pts |
| SMITH HOUSE | 143.5 pts |

The keen-ness of competition was also unaffected in the individual championships:-

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <u>Junior Girls' Champion</u> | Nicola Forbes 11 pts |
| Runners-up | Dianne McDonald 9 pts Dianne Russel 9 pts |
| <u>Junior Boys' Champion</u> | Colin Hendry 18 pts |
| Runner-up | Ian Dingwall 9 pts |
| <u>Intermediate Girls' Champion</u> | Shona Black 16 pts |
| Runner-up | Susan Grant 14.5 pts |
| <u>Intermediate Boys' Champion</u> | Brian Adam 16 pts |
| Runner-up | Raymond Elrick 10.5 pts |
| <u>Senior Girls' Champions</u> | Anne Mitchell 16 pts Katriona Arbuckle 16 pts |
| Runner-up | Helen Mark 14 pts |
| <u>Senior Boys' Champion</u> | David Davidson 17 pts |
| Runner-up | Neil Morrison 10 pts |

Moray District Athletics - Although it was a terrible day, the rain spoiling the performance of many of our athletes, we did have some success:

Intermediate Girls - Andrea Harper 3rd in High Jump
Shona Black 3rd in Javelin
1st in 300 m

ATHLETICS - Morey District

Intermediste Boys - Brian Adam 1st in High Jump

Senior Girls - Katriona Arbuckle 2nd in Shot Putt
1st in Discus
Helen Mark 2nd in 400 m

Senior Boys - Ross Arbuckle 1st in 400 m
Robert McSeveney 2nd in 1500 m

North of Scotland

We took a small number of athletes to the North of Scotland Meeting at Invergordon on 5th June. Despite the long journey they produced creditable performances:

Anne Mitchell 1st in Javelin; 3rd in High Jump
Ross Arbuckle 1st in 800 m; 2nd in Javelin
Brian Adam 3rd in High Jump
Katriona Arbuckle 3rd in Discus
Shona Black 3rd in 800 m
Margaret Ewan 3rd in Javelin

Scottish Schools - 16th June

We have high hopes for the four pupils who are going to participate in this meeting:

ROSS ARBUCKLE 1500 m
BRIAN ADAM High Jump
KATRIONA ARBUCKLE Discus
SHONA BLACK 1500 m