



THE SEDBERGHIAN

1995

THE SEDBERGHIAN



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HOUSE NOTES

EVANS HOUSE

Many different types of wasp exist, with widely differing habits and structural characteristics. They may be divided into the social wasps and the solitary wasps. Species of wasp include the paper wasp, the mud dauber and the potter wasp.

How is it that my encyclopaedia has such an insight into Evans House?

Let us begin with the Social Wasps. No, on second thoughts, let us begin with THE WASP, making a reappearance after three winters of hibernation. The efforts of Sam Stell and David Watson, helped by Adam Rickitt, in compiling, editing, designing, proof-reading and printing the 1995 edition were as appreciated as they were prodigious, setting an example that will be hard, but I hope not impossible, to follow. The timing of publication was also fortuitous, enabling those crushed into the House on a showery Open Day to have something to read on the way home. It was heartening to see parents and relations in such numbers on that occasion, as we were able to extend our first collective welcome to Mr and Mrs Hirst.

Paper Wasps

After the outstanding successes of the previous year's U6th and 5th forms in their public examinations it was gratifying to see the classes of 1995 do so well. Though there were fewer A grades at A-level, the average points score was 23 pts per Evanian. David Lonsdale-Eccles and Alex Robertson thoroughly deserved their three As, and Alex Ollier scored two As and two Bs, not including General Studies. Meanwhile the 5th formers outdid the previous year in terms of GCSE pass rate, scoring 92% of grades at A-C.

Academic success was not just limited to the 5th and U6th forms. Elsewhere the 4th form united effectively to win the Craig General Knowledge Prize ahead of Winder and Hart.

Mud Daubers

The 1994-95 season saw some excellent sport in all areas, and in the house rugby competitions the depth of talent throughout the House was amply illustrated. The Juniors XV, captained by Tom Riddle, went into their final undefeated, with self-confidence as high as Martin Bayfield's headband. Nerves jangled, though, in a thrilling game against

a skilful and hard-working Hart XV until Taylor's last minute try in the corner brought the trophy back to Evans. In the Lent term the House team, buoyed by the Juniors' success, adapted well to the mostly awful conditions, only this time to lose narrowly to Hart (0-8) in the final. For their part Hugh Stacey's Junior Juniors played out of their skins in their own campaign. Hart proved the only stumbling block, again, as they lost a tight semi-final 3-6. This brought to a close a fine season for Evanian rugby in which Sam Rickitt, captain of the 1st XV and the House team, set a shining example to others with his integrity and courage.

After his disappointment in the Ten Mile last year Evanian fingers were tightly crossed for David Lonsdale-Eccles in this year's race. Alas, it was not to be. Pre-race injury and a fall at Thrush Gill meant 4th place, ahead of surrogate Evanian Tom Wright (5th) and Sam Stell (7th), but his contribution to House and School running will not be forgotten. It is interesting to note that Evanians comprised the largest contingent of Ten Milers and, had it been a team race we would have been just piped for first place by Powell.

The day before, our Middle and Junior runners had finished 2nd and 3rd respectively. Had the previous year's rules applied the Juniors would have won the Cup, so congratulations to them.

As holders of the Cricket Cup the House team was unfortunate to face a very strong School House XI, the eventual winners. In the first match and, despite beating Powell, the Evans XI failed to make the final this year. Lower down, the Painters team produced some superb cricket after an early surprise defeat against School to finish in 3rd place. But for a last ball lbw decision against Hart - which I shall never be allowed to forget! - they would have contested the final.



At school level it was heartening to see huddles of Evanians in so many school terms. The 3rd XI, (captain Simon Riley), A2 XI (captain Tom Brown) and B1 XI always contained at least 4 Evanians, and Mark Crookes, with his century against Ampleforth and fifty against Rossall, was the star batsman of the 1st XI.

From a House perspective, the sporting highlight of the Summer term was undoubtedly the collective success achieved on Sports Day. Winning the House Sports Day Cup for the first time in years was the result of a tremendous all-round effort. In a real team performance the outstanding athletes were David Lonsdale-Eccles (senior), who also won the Wilby Track Shield, John Kevan (middle) and Edward Page (junior). Meanwhile, outside the school Sam Rickitt and David Scarr became County champions in the senior hammer and intermediate shot respectively.

A further new departure over the past twelve months has been the Evanian contribution to the shooting team. Jonathan McNeish enjoyed huge success in winning the individual competitions at Alcar and Uppingham. In the former he was competing against 163 other marksmen for the Northern Schools Skill at Arms Trophy. Third formers David Fell, David Lawson and Alasdair Couch were victorious in Cadet Pair and Cadet Four competitions at the same meetings. The successes of Bisley have, I am sure, been reported elsewhere.

Potter Wasps

Those who attended the Open Day concert cannot have been unaffected by Andrew Sleightholme's outstanding performance of Shostakovich's 2nd

Piano Concerto, in my view the finest individual achievement by any boy in the school in the last academic year, but this was a distinguished tip of a most welcome iceberg. Evans has gained a reputation as a musical house, and the level of Evanian presence in the choir and orchestra is a source of great pride to me. With their Italian madrigal *Contrapunto bestiale* the Evans House Singers, led so musically by Paul Baguley, won the Part Song Shield for the eighth year in succession, a wonderful achievement.

In drama, too, the House responded in numbers to Michael Raw's call for actors in his production of the *Orestia* with Paul Baguley, Andrew Sleightholme and Tim Hind taking leading roles. In the Summer Term Tim's slick musings in the Open Day play *After Magritte* demonstrated a comic ability of note.

So, we can now look forward to another year of challenge, responsibility and reward. At the end of his final term at Sedbergh, Dr Baxter awarded nine School Colours, four of which went to Evans boys - Alex Ollier for his contribution to the Chapel, and James Ryding, Paul Baguley and Andrew Sleightholme for their contributions to music and drama. Outside Sedbergh, on Firkbank Fell, there is a plaque commemorating George Fox's exhortation to the first gathering of Quakers: "Let your lives speak!" It is a tribute to those four young men that they have embodied this advice, and I know that the House will do its best to follow it in future. With Edward Fanshawe as Head of House Evans has a bright year ahead. There are 52 boys in the House, including 14 new boys. Of the eleven 3rd formers four are sons of OSS and one is the son of a former member of staff.

Before I finish I must pay tribute to the eight years Dr Hobson devoted as House Tutor in Evans. His sympathetic encouragement of his many tutees, his support on the games field and in the concert hall, and his efficiency in things tutorial were hugely appreciated. Thursday evenings will not be the same, and I have yet to hear a convincing explanation for why a man with the initials ICH can be known as Sean. Finally, I must thank Mrs Wilson for the kind donation of a bench for the garden in memory of her late husband Major Ashley Wilson (Evans).

Dr J.D.Halliday

HART HOUSE

Mark Farnsworth was Head of House. Harry Small and Pic Evans joined him on the School Prefectorial body. In each of the three terms members of the House were busy participating in the many inter-House competitions. Success was enjoyed in rugby, fives, squash and running. Mark Farnsworth captured the 1st XI but was sadly unable to play until the very end of the Summer term having broken his leg playing rugby in the Easter holidays. James Lofthouse played in all the under 16 group rugby internationals for England. There was a strong representation on the 1st XV.

Mr Fergus Timmons was appointed House Tutor for the two winter terms, and provided some skilled coaching for the House rugby team. An immensely successful House fourth form skiing week took place in the Christmas holidays. Although the Oxbridge candidates were unsuccessful in obtaining places, outstanding A-level results for both Harry Small and Pic Evans have inspired them to reapply to Oxford. The Upper sixth A-level results were pleasing – a 93% pass rate with 66% at C grade or above. Tom Mercer achieved straight As in his GCSE with 7 A-star passes. The boys in the House achieved a 96% pass rate with 37% at grade A.

A dinner was held to honour Dr and Mrs Baxter in March. The House was particularly sorry to say goodbye to Pic Evans at the end of the year. His arrival from the U.S.A. five years ago had intended to be a stay of one year. In the end he stayed for five, and made a huge contribution to the life of the School and Hart House. Particular highlights of the year were the contribution made in drama to the joint Casterton/Sedbergh production of *My Fair Lady* and the main school production of the

four hour trilogy *The Oresteia*. Richard Wild as Professor Higgins and Edward Jones as Colonel Pickering were outstanding in *My Fair Lady* and Tom Mercer gave an astonishingly powerful performance in the *Oresteia*.

Congratulations are also due to Andrew Symonds who won the Junior Cross Country Race in the Lent term.

POWELL HOUSE

Powell House's contribution was excellent in all the aspects of last year's school life. Academically, both the Oxbridge candidates Jono Lawn (Oxford), and Prabhu Rajan (Cambridge) gained well-deserved places after attaining superb results at A-level. Most of the remaining Upper Sixth succeeded in gaining first choice university places with respectable results, most creditably Neil Parkin with 3 A's and 2 B's. GCSE results were also comparatively good, notably Mark Sanderson with 5 A* grades. Best of luck to next year's Oxbridge hopefuls; Trefor Moss and Gareth Jones (Classics), and Ralph Thomas, fresh back from his Zimbabwean Black Rhino studies, (Medicine).

On the sports' side, there was a certain scarcity of senior rugby players and a repeat of the previous year's appearance in the final of the House team competition was definitely not on the cards. However, congratulations must surely go to the junior end of the House for making up for this, winning both the Junior Juniors and the Panthers competitions, not forgetting the junior athletics competition on Sports Day.

The House strongly congratulated Nick Pearson on running the Ten so successfully that he was only narrowly beaten into second place. We wish him the best of luck for the 1996 Wilson Run and maybe winning.

Musically, the House has offered its talents in school activities, including the CCF band, the orchestra and the choir. A disappointing second was achieved in the House Unison competition behind Lupton House, who had stolen a Powell House pianist. However a draw in the House Parsing contest denied Evans House an outright win for the n'th year running. Powell House's Thespians also contributed in many school productions such as the acclaimed *Oresteia*, *My Fair Lady* and *After Magritte*.

This year we welcomed eleven third formers (including Terry Chu from Hong Kong) and a new Lower Sixth (Angus Sawers from Kenya), and better still a new front hall.

The only down-side of this year's events will be the departure of our Matron, Mrs Nancy Harris. After twelve years of committed care and service to the boys of Powell House, it will be a great shame to see her leave. We wish her all the best in a very well deserved retirement.

We hope that under the guidance and support of Dr Ripley, Powell House will continue to enjoy success and continue to offer its attributes to the School.

Stewart Perrygrove

SEDGWICK HOUSE

The academic year '94-'95 was a very successful one from Sedgwick's point of view. Under Mr Hildrew and House Tutors Messrs. Sykes, Aveyard and Higginbottom, the House maximised its potential, despite a fall in numbers. James Bennett and the Upper Sixth led the House in a relaxed, friendly manner, appreciated by all, and which the new Head of House, Chris Martin-Smith, is already following.

Academically the fifth-form, especially Phil Farrier-Price, were rewarded for their hard work with great results, whilst all the Upper Sixth found University places.

The House play was well received, and in the Unions we were placed a respectable third. In School rugby James Bennett was the inspirational vice-captain, and was awarded his 'Dates', whilst in the Colts James Whitfield, Matthew Dinsdale and Tom Sterne impressed.

For the second year running, a member of Sedgwick won the Ten Mile. This time Henry Kaye was victorious. Elsewhere, Sedgwick produced fine victories in Tennis, both Senior and Junior Basketball, the Scott Academic Prize, Middle Running and, most notably, Athletic Standards, showing the House spirit to be as strong as ever.

And whilst it was pleasing to emerge as a force in sport, at a time when the School seems intent on placing immense importance on it, it was far more pleasing to see the House remain undivided on a social level. The atmosphere and repartee around the building has been as great as ever. Long may this continue.

Finally, the House was extremely saddened to see Mr Higginbottom leave after five great years. We congratulate him on his marriage and wish him well at Strathallan School, as we welcome Mr Davies, who has already settled in well.

Duncan Finley

SCHOOL HOUSE

School House has once again had a successful year both on and off the sporting fields. The Lent term saw the House win the Swimming cup for the second year running, thanks to the excellent organisation of swimming captain Simon Ruckstuhl. School House Entertains also took place for the second time, proving to be a huge success, thanks mainly to David Bremner. The Football cup was won in the Summer term, under the excellent captaincy of Gordon Maclelland. However, the sporting highlight of the year was the victory over Evans, to win the Senior Cricket cup, under the captaincy of Matthew Biker. On the academic side, David Bremner, Tom Mitchell and Stuart Gardiner all achieved places at Oxford or Cambridge, and Martin Jaros, from Slovakia, who was only with us for a year, achieved three "A's" at A-level.

Sadly, after one year as House Tutor, Mr Jefferies has moved on to Warwick School. He was a great asset to the House, and will be greatly missed. Taking his place as resident House Tutor and History teacher is Mr Allen Martin from St Andrew's University. After the death of Morph at the age of 14, we now have a new dog in the House, called Sulven, who is still in the process of being house trained! I would like to thank all the House Tutors for their guidance, and the Head of House, John Grant, for his excellent leadership throughout the year. Finally, thanks must go to Mr and Mrs Priestley, for their continued support and management. With thirteen new boys entering the House, we hope for a most successful and enjoyable year.

Jonathan Gill

WINDER HOUSE

Daniel Ballard, who was awarded the ultimate accolade of School Colours for his service to the School community, led the House through another busy and challenging year. In September 1994 we welcomed to the House a total of seven new boys. The Thirds quickly made their mark; Simon Cross, Martin Hogg and Iain Thackrah ran for the School cross-country team, and Jonathan Heavyside showed us all how a trumpet ought to sound. Philipp Laufer joined us for one year from Germany, and Sam Thorp and Jake Lodge entered the Lower Sixth. In addition we hosted three Lupton House Upper Sixth including Clive Selman, who was one of a group of seven who played for the 1st XV in one of their most successful seasons. Peter Jameson was awarded his 1st XV Colours, and Marc Bentley, Simon Price, Toby Rainthorpe, and Ben Steel were given 2nd XV Colours. Jameson skipped the School Sevens side, taking them to the Northern Final at Birkenhead Park. House rugby provided some fine matches at all levels; Andrew Holden scored vital penalty points for the Seniors, and James Jackson showed great commitment and courage for the Juniors. The House maintained its reputation in swimming under the inspirational leadership of Simon Price, who received his Colours. Daniel Ballard's assistance with timing and record keeping helped to ensure the smooth running of one of the North's premier swimming events, the John Parry Relays. Andrew Holden, closely followed by Alex Stoddard, achieved the House's best places in the Wilson Run, and in the Summer Term, Holden won the Senior Mile at a very enjoyable Sports Day in which Rainthorpe took the Track Shield. Peter Jameson took on the captaincy of the 1st XI with style and panache, with Derrick Burston as part of the pace attack. Marc Bentley and Justin Jameson gathered runs and wickets for the 2nds while Matthew Ridgway, Anthony Walker and Crispin Jameson were key members of the undefeated 3rd XI.

Throughout the year, the House made valuable contributions to Sedburgh's artistic life. Marcus Steele, Ben Blane and Simeon Baker appeared in *The Orestia*, and Ben Steel, Sam Thorp and Richard Rouse sang and danced in the Casterton production of *My Fair Lady*. In the depths of winter with the Rawthey bursting its banks, the House entertained parents and friends to an excellent evening of music and drama, including a production of Chaucer's *The Pardoner's Tale*. A fine buffet supper followed. The annual House barbecue, held on OS Day, was a great success and it was good to see a number of Old Winderians.

We were also honoured by a visit from a most distinguished Winderian and one of the most highly decorated soldiers of the Second World War, Brig Alastair Pearson DSO (3 Bars) OBE MC.

At the close of the School year, the Upper Sixth moved on to the next stage of their careers, most achieving the A-level grades they needed, with Alex Stoddard gaining a remarkable 5 grade A passes and a place at Trinity Hall, Cambridge. Nottingham Trent and Northumbria Universities were popular destinations.

Particular mention must be made of three important members of the House team, who have also moved on. Peter Moore was Resident Tutor for the Michaelmas Term, and quickly became a popular and respected figure. Martin Gray, a former Tutor and CCF Officer, left the School to develop his career; his unflagging support and wise advice will be missed. Finally, Sue Thornecroft-Taylor, House Matron, has moved to a school in Oxfordshire where her energy and high standards will be as valued as they were here. The House owes them all a great debt of gratitude.

Mr S.M. Smith

CRESSBROOK HOUSE

The Michaelmas Term saw 43 boys returning to Cressbrook of which 19 were new pupils. Due to the fact that most of these new boys had already visited and spent a long weekend in the House during the previous year, everyone settled in quickly and the normal routine was soon established.

As is now traditional, the Sevens Squad made its annual pilgrimage to Norfolk and returned triumphantly having shared the trophy by drawing 12-12 in the under 8½ stone competition with Bow School, Durham. Prospects looked good, but the transition from Sevens to fifteen-a-side took some time to achieve. The XV lost 0-4 to Terra Nova and 22-0 to a strong Beeston Hall XV. An 8-7 win over Catterall Hall paved the way for the Mini Scottish Tour which was arranged for just before half term. This was to be a Tour with a difference! Eight sets of parents drove the squad over the Border to Crieff where the team again just lost 0-5 to a determined Ardreck side. The following day saw the convoy crossing the Forth road bridge on the way to play Belhaven. After a disastrous first 12 minutes which saw the team 0-17 down, Sedburgh pride was restored with a remarkable comeback, but not enough to prevent a 22-31 defeat. The match against Durham Choristers proved to be the best

display of the season when everything went right and the XV won 31-0. Against a sound Mowden side a win by 19-0 showed how well the team had improved on the field. However, the strength of St. Mary's (L.32-19) and Malsis (L.19-3) proved to be too great and despite a great effort both matches were lost. In retrospect, this squad has great potential and I have no doubt that in five years time the Sedbergh 1st XV will contain many of this group of young men and have an outstanding season.

The end of the Michaelmas Term saw the House saying goodbye to Dave Sulan, our outstanding G.A.P. year student from Adelaide who had been with us for a year. Dave's calm, sensible and reliable approach had been greatly appreciated by boys, parents and staff. Everyone in Cressbrook, wishes him well as he begins a Law degree at Adelaide University. Another Australian returning home to Toowoomba, Queensland, was Alan Hill who with his wife and family had spent the year on exchange in Sedburgh. Alan certainly made the most of his time in the House and the School and his contributions to the drama, cricket and pastoral life of the House were significant. As Alan Hill left, Susan Garnett returned from her year in Australia and together with Nick Brown, Janet Dodds and our new Tutor, Dawn Taylor, the Cressbrook Tutor Team was at full strength. Two new Australians, Daniel Brown from Knox G.S. and Brendan Roberts from Toowoomba G.S. joined the House and both have taken a full and active part in all aspects of life in the House.

Once again, the Cressbrook contribution to the School Choir has been significant with 18 boys involved every week. They also took part in two excellent evenings' entertainments, singing Faure's Requiem, both in Kendal's Leisure Centre and in Ripon Cathedral. However, perhaps most memorable was the performance of Sam Barker and the full choir in Carlisle Cathedral when they sang Mendelssohn's *Hear my prayer*.

Another Cressbrook first occurred during the Christmas holidays when six families flew to Italy for a week of skiing. Despite the lack of snow a good time was had by all and New Year's Eve 'Italian style', was memorable. As a result of the friendships made during this trip a Cressbrook Parents Social evening was arranged during the Summer Term which saw 60 parents past and present dining and dancing to a live group in Queen's Hall. Undoubtedly, a great success and one to be repeated annually.

In the Lent term, seven boys sat the Scholarship examination and all gained from this valuable experience. From this group, Jonathan Lidiard won an Academic Scholarship and Sam Barker an Exhibition into the Senior School. Form I put on the play *Wolf Boy* under the direction of Mr Manger and this was enjoyed by parents before everyone left for half term. Cressbrook became Northern Prep. Schools 6-a-side Soccer Champions winning a Darlington Tournament. The Sevens Team also won the Plate at the Merchiston Tournament in Edinburgh. A number of debates took place in the School Library and many thanks must go to Mrs Griffiths who organised these excellent events.

The Summer term for once produced sunny weather and the cricket wicket on Akay has never been so good. Peter Yorke came back to coach the team and it is pleasing to note that the overall standard improved as the season progressed. A visit to the theatre in Blackpool to see *Return to the Forbidden Planet* was a great success as was the trip to Bowness to see *The Madness of King George* for the lucky Dorn Competition Winners! The last few weeks of term saw the Second Year 'bivying' and engaging in night patrols whilst the First Year camped in traditional style with Mr Yorke and Mr Sykes. Sailing with Dr Ripley, canoeing on Ullswater and cliff-jumping into the lake followed by an Athletics match at the Rydale Stadium in York rounded off a full and action packed term.

Mr P.J.N. Knowles



Cressbrookians in the snow

...the school's first homecoming...
...the school's first homecoming...
...the school's first homecoming...



...the school's first homecoming...
...the school's first homecoming...
...the school's first homecoming...

...the school's first homecoming...
...the school's first homecoming...
...the school's first homecoming...



PEOPLE

...the school's first homecoming...
...the school's first homecoming...
...the school's first homecoming...

MR CHRISTOPHER HIRST



The Headmaster, with Sara, Victoria, Catherine and Emily

At the beginning of the Summer term we welcomed Mr and Mrs Christopher Hirst and their young family to Sedbergh. Mr Hirst has taken up his appointment as headmaster in succession to Dr Roger Baxter following the latter's retirement after thirteen years in the post.

Christopher Hirst was born in Bradford in 1947 and educated at Merchant Taylor's School, Northwood, and Trinity Hall, Cambridge, where he read History and represented the University at Cricket and was Captain of Rugby Fives.

After a brief spell as an International Banker in Chile, he returned to Cambridge to take a Post Graduate Certificate in Education and joined the staff of Radley College as an Assistant Master teaching History and Political Thought; he also coached Cricket, Rugby and Fives. In 1987 he became a Housemaster and represented Radley on the Rugby Group Housemasters' Panel until his appointment as Headmaster of Kelly College in 1985.

An active member of the H.M.C., Christopher Hirst has written and presented papers on a range of topics and is much involved in the formulation of

H.M.C. policy for Training and for Sport. His interests also include Music, Drama and Local History.

Mrs Hirst is herself an experienced teacher and will be involved in the teaching of both General Studies and English.

The whole community joins in wishing Mr and Mrs Hirst a happy and rewarding life at Sedbergh.



Mr Hirst meets the John O'Gratts to Land's End cyclists in July

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE HEADMASTER

Sed: Why did you come to Sedbergh?

CHH: My roots have always been in the North of England. I have long admired Sedbergh as the great boarding school of the North, and to be able to become Headmaster here was in some ways an ambition fulfilled.

Sed: How does it compare with your last school?

CHH: Kelly College, where I was Headmaster for ten years, is a school of similar size and spirit. But there are considerable differences in that it is fully co-educational and has as many day pupils as boarders. Sedbergh compares more closely with Radley where I began my schoolmastering career in 1972. In many ways, it is good to be back in an all-boys, all-boarding school.

Sed: How can you see the school developing?

CHH: It is considered radical now to think in terms of single sex, all-boarding schools but this is the essential Sedbergh and my wish would be to ensure that we are offering the best possible modern education in this traditional context, so that the great values and standards and traditions of the School are strengthened as we move into the 21st century. I simply want us to be the best boys' boarding school in Britain. That will mean ensuring that we strive for the highest standards in all areas of school life and that 'quality' is our watchword. One key development for the future will, I hope, be a close link with Casterton.

Sed: What have been the biggest problems so far?

CHH: My first impressions have been not so much of problems, but of great opportunities. There is so much warmth, good will and support from the whole Sedbergh community and an enviable legacy from the hard work of my predecessors that my initial thoughts on the future are all positive. It is frustrating (and I suspect that to a greater or lesser extent this will always be so) that a considerable amount of time has to be spent away from Sedbergh, promoting the School up and down the country. There is nothing I like better than preaching the gospel of Sedbergh far and wide but I should dearly like to spend more time with boys and colleagues. I look forward to being able to do this before too long.

Sed: What have been the biggest successes to date and what are you most proud of?

CHH: I am simply proud of the School. It is too early to talk of successes, and that will always be for others to evaluate. At this very early stage of my time as Headmaster, I would say that I am very pleased with the total commitment of Common Room and the strong feeling that we are all working together with a real spirit and sense of purpose.

Sed: Is there going to be any major change in the near future which you can reveal?

CHH: There will be one major change in the location of the Headmaster's study and Secretariat. As you know, I am anxious to move into the main body of the School, and plans are well in hand for a move during the Christmas Holidays. The New Year should also see the first courses taking place in the Lupton Centre. This is going to be a source of great strength for the School. As far as the running of the School is concerned, I am looking not so much to change as to improve in all areas. At the same time, I am able to say that this process is one of progressing from standards which are already high.

Sed: Can you foresee a Girls' House at Sedbergh?

CHH: No.

Sed: Can you foresee a Sixth Form House at Sedbergh?

CHH: No.

Sed: What are you thoughts on the balance between academic and sporting achievements at Sedbergh?

CHH: I think that one in no way precludes the other. In my experience, many an outstanding games player has also been a first-class academic. The morale of the School can be boosted in many different ways, not least by excellent academic results, but equally by great School performances in music, drama and sport. I shall be striving to produce excellence for Sedbergh in all areas.

Sed: Is the School going to continue its international links?

CHH: While it is fair to say that I am looking the length and breadth of Britain for quality pupils and am anxious that Sedbergh with its very special qualities should be seen as a national school, I am also anxious to maintain and strengthen our contacts with the world beyond. This will also be a function of the Lupton Centre, which could see special courses for overseas students.

Sed: What are your plans to increase school numbers – is there a perfect size?

CHH: You will understand from my previous answers that encouraging boys of quality and potential to come to Sedbergh is one of my major tasks. At the same time, we are all ambassadors for the School, and I believe that there is no better advertisement for Sedbergh than the Sedbergh boy himself. As far as numbers are concerned, I look forward to steady growth, but you will not be able to prise an optimum figure out of me!

Sed: How will relationships with the town develop in the future?

CHH: I believe that over a period of 450 years and more, the town and School have developed traditions of mutual respect and support. I would hope to continue to work closely with the town and share our facilities with our neighbours. I hope that in the years to come we shall see a continuation of mutual respect and understanding of each other.

Sed: What is the future of Lupton House?

CHH: My aim is to re-open Lupton as a boys' boarding house at some stage in the future. Before then it will incorporate a Centre of Excellence which will mirror every facet of Sedbergh life from academic endeavour to Music, Art, Adventure Training and Sport. I hope that 1996 will see the beginning of a series of courses in these and other areas which will both promote Sedbergh as a school and at the same time be of considerable commercial importance. I hope that the Lupton Centre at Sedbergh School will have an important part to play in our future development.

Sed: How will relationships with Casterton School develop in the future?

CHH: I look forward to developing still stronger links with Casterton. I have been delighted with our work together in Drama this term and look forward to seeing this continue at many different levels of school life. It makes a great deal of sense that Sedbergh and Casterton should take on a brother/sister relationship and that we should provide parents with a unique opportunity in the North of England – preserving our single-sex integrity but at the same time working closely together.

Sed: Do your girls enjoy Casterton?

CHH: Yes, very much. One of the reasons my wife and I feel so happily settled at Sedbergh is because Victoria, Catherine and Emily are enjoying their new school so much.

Sed: What do you plan to crack down on next?

CHH: I suppose that you are referring to my early hair-cutting directive and general message of sharpening up in all areas! I don't think that you need fear any actions on my part other than those which seek to ensure that the Sedberghian is proud of his appearance in all areas at all times. For the most part, I have, from the very beginning, been pleased with what I see and sense about the school. We have a great deal to be genuinely proud of.

Sed: Do you think that pupils at the upper end of the school are slightly restricted and do you have any plans to address this area?

CHH: I am very happy to discuss areas in which senior boys can exercise greater responsibility in both the school and particularly a house context. I shall always listen carefully to any ideas that boys senior or junior may have concerning their enjoyment of life at Sedbergh.

Sed: Should rugby be compulsory for all boys?

CHH: I think that all boys should expect to play some rugby at Sedbergh. Many will want to develop their game to the highest possible level; others will enjoy the camaraderie of House competitions. Certainly, representative School rugby is not on the agenda for the boy who is thoroughly unathletic and has no aptitude for the game, but I firmly believe that those who are not in this category should at the very least make themselves available to represent the school. I honestly do not see this as a problem. I shall always be happy to act as arbiter in the very rare individual cases that may come my way.

Sed: What position did you play at rugby?

CHH: Fly Half or Full Back in the days of the three point try!

Sed: Do your ambitions extend further than Sedbergh?

CHH: I am totally absorbed in Sedbergh and my ambitions at present are concerned solely with this school and the very exciting future which lies ahead. Sedbergh is a Great School and I count myself very fortunate to be its Headmaster.

MR T.JEFFRIES

Terence Jeffries joined the staff this term to become Head of Science and in addition to succeed Roger Moore as Head of Physics. He came from Kimbolton School where he was both Head of Physics and a Housemaster. He had previously taught in Cambridge, at the Perse School and the Grammar School, after taking his degree in Physics and Philosophy at the City University, London. Outside the classroom his main interests are music, in particular playing the 'cello, and coaching rugby. Married to Jane, a Psychology graduate, he has two sons William and James who have joined Sedgwick and Powell, respectively. We wish them all a happy stay at Sedbergh.

Mr R.W.Cann



MR R.S.DILLOW

It is not often that one is asked to sing the praises of the person who has taken one's job! Perhaps I ought to be suspicious of the ease with which I can fulfil this task. However, in the short time that Rob and his delightful family have been in Sedbergh it has become clear that the Modern Languages Department is now in excellent hands. No better person could have been chosen to lead the Department through the curricular confusions of current linguistic politics. Exciting years lie ahead for those of us committed to exposing Sedberghians to things foreign.



Rob came to us from Stowe School, where he had taught French and Spanish for three years and occupied the position of Director of European Studies. There he also served as a house tutor and coached the 1st hockey XI and the 2nd cricket XI. Strange though it may seem for someone to whom it had come so naturally, schoolmastering was not his initial choice of career, however. After leaving King Edward VI's School in Southampton to take up an exhibition in Modern Languages at St John's College, Cambridge, where, incidentally, he played hockey for the University, he was accepted into the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and was set on a fast-track diplomatic career. His hispanic leanings coincided with FCO requirements and so he spent several years posted in Montevideo and Buenos Aires, a part of the world about which he speaks with passionate enthusiasm. Further postings to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and work on the Iraqi desk in King Charles Street resulted in early elevation to First Secretary, but he nonetheless decided, after careful consideration, that the demands of his own vision and conscience were more fully met in a career in education.

We in Sedbergh are certainly the richer for that decision, and we wish Rob, his wife Celia, and their two boys Sam and Barnaby every success and happiness in their years at the School.

Dr J.D.Halliday

MR H.R.DAVIES

Mr Haydn Davies is welcomed as a new member of the Mathematics Department. He joins us after a rich variety of teaching experience. He held posts in Tenby where extra-curricular activities included rugby and involvement in the Duke of Edinburgh schemes, Braeburn High School, Nairobi, Kenya where many different sports occupied Haydn's time and most recently at Shiplake College, Henley-on-Thames where he coached rugby, hockey and athletics. At Sedbergh his enthusiasm for mathematics has been seen not just in the classroom but also with the Mathematics Clubs and competitions he is running.

Haydn is also the resident house tutor in Sedgwick and his sporting background will be of benefit to the House. He has already gained the respect of the boys, and his quiet and thoughtful manner is also valued by the Housemaster.

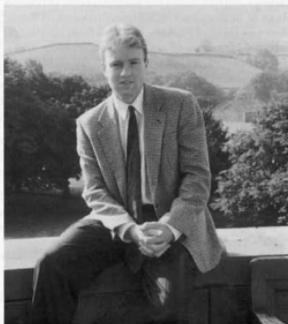
Third form rugby has already had success this season and I am sure that Haydn's endeavours in training these boys will lead to further wins.

I wish Haydn a happy, productive and enjoyable time at Sedbergh.

Mr J.M.Sykes



MR R.L.FREEMAN



The yawning hole left in the Classics department by the departure of Mark Higginbottom has been filled by Roderick Freeman. Roderick has come to us from Cambridge, where he spent a year learning to be a schoolmaster. Before that he took a degree in Classics at Bristol, and, delving yet deeper into his past, I can reveal that he was a schoolboy at Repton. He is a cricketer, a fives player and is also an expert at a game called soccer. He has brought his enthusiasm for these sports with him to Sedbergh, and I have already been so impressed by his performance on the fives court that I have selected him as my partner in the Winchester Fives World Championships, which are to be held at Sedbergh next term. He will, of course, be delighted when he eventually hears the good news.

Meanwhile he is settling into Cressbrook House as one of the residential house tutors; he is teaching Classics every day and coaching sport every afternoon. I take this opportunity formally to welcome him to Sedbergh and to wish him a long and happy association with the School.

Laurence Catlow



DR ROGER G. BAXTER

AN APPRECIATION BY
SIR GILES SHAW M.P.

Chairman of the Governors

Roger Baxter arrived here from Winchester in January 1982 as successor to Peter Attenborough and tackled his job with energy and determination. He was determined to lift academic performance and appointed and structured his staff to provide a wide range of subject teaching to ensure that Sedberghians could optimise their individual talent in subjects of their choice. He appointed good staff and successful staff. It is, I think, a positive reflection on his choice that many moved on to headmasterships, like John Light, first to Oswestry and now to Edinburgh Academy. Or Martin Stevens, first to the Perse School, Cambridge and now High Master at Manchester. To Angus McPhail, now Headmaster of Strathallan. And Tony Thomas, from Housemaster of Evans House to Headmaster of Casterton.

Roger was a great one for diversification. More subjects are now studied, more sports are now played, more boys do more things in many avenues of endeavour than ever before. Sedbergh life now includes a social programme of joint activities with other organisations and schools, and particularly close cooperation with Casterton and with St Anne's at Windermere. The life of the Sedberghian under Roger's tutelage became therefore brighter, fuller and better.

But I think it was in his drive to renovate and develop the School's estate that we find the permanent memorial to the Baxter years – the Sports Hall, Queen's Hall, the modernisation and refurbishment of all the School's boarding houses and most of the School's property. A capital programme was determined, designed and delivered within a time span which coincided with large increases in the number of boys in School and therefore large increases in revenue. This wise insistence on investing in the future allowed the School to present a new and shining face to the parents of the Nineties.



Roger Baxter's relations with parents showed his humanity and sensitivity to good effect. He was particularly adept at coping with parents who had fallen on hard times and in making wise use of bursaries to enable those boys of promise to sustain their career when it was threatened. Parents responded to his approachable and warm personality, and many have written in appreciation of what he meant to them. One of many wrote to him, "I would like to say how extremely sorry I am that you are leaving. You have fostered an atmosphere in which boys can learn to be themselves; rugby fiends, academicians, musicians, whatever. And so my son is now starting to blossom and is at ease with himself". That is a tribute which many parents would echo and is a powerful endorsement of the man.

Roger sought expansion too. Faced in later years with increasing competition, recruitment was widened and strong links were established with schools in Germany and France. Successful efforts have been made to draw boys from Hong Kong and the Far East, and the School's presence in the prep

school market was established and confirmed with the development of Cressbrook House. All this led to improvements in academic results: the highest percentages to Degree courses, emphatically shown by the total of ten entrants to Oxford and Cambridge in 1994, and better performances in exam grades at GCSE and 'A' Level. Meanwhile, sporting achievements still ranked high in the Baxter years. Will Carling still at the zenith of his fame, with many other Sedberghians achieving international representation at various levels, establishes the School's rugby prowess beyond doubt. The name of Sykes displaced the name of Pumphrey in the annals of the Wilson Run after nearly a century. What a milestone that was in 1993.

And then there was music and drama. And this allows me to turn to the immense contribution which Roger's wife Dorothy played in these successful years. Productions large and small, musical or dramatic, operas or operettas, chamber concerts or symphonies, the musical life of Sedbergh has never been more prolific. And Roger and Dorothy, together with the inspired appointment of Christopher Tinker, brought a new zeal and energy to the cultural side of the School. Whether playing the double bass in the school orchestra in Powell Hall or belting out Belshazzar's Feast in Ripon Cathedral, Dorothy was a versatile and full hearted contributor to the school. The long-term benefit, however, is that the reputation of Sedbergh for music has resulted in scholarships and entrants from far and wide coming here for that purpose. And this too, I trust, will be a lasting memorial to the Baxter years.

Finally, let me turn to the pastoral role. Roger Baxter made a deep and personal commitment to the spiritual welfare of this School. This is an important dimension to the Headmaster's role and springs from the fact that Roger's faith was an important influence on his life and career. He loved the Chapel; and how glad he was that a replacement organ was found and purchased and installed in September last year and how glad he will be to return here when the Chapel's centenary will be celebrated in 1997.

But, latterly, there were difficulties too. Falling numbers bringing with it some loss of confidence and the spectre of house closures or staff redundancies caused a loss of morale within the Sedbergh community: problems which as a private rather than a public personality Roger found hard to bear. So early retirement beckoned.

We rejoice at the manifest and manifold contribution which Roger and Dorothy Baxter made to the life of Sedbergh School over thirteen years. We are grateful for their commitment and their conscientiousness. We share their pride in their partnership and we applaud their achievements. And if there is but one memory which I suspect they will always treasure, it will surely be that day in May 1991 when Roger and Dorothy played host to the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. For half a day they toured the school; royal heralds and fanfares; orchestra and band; town and gown and multicoloured prep school blazers. Sports Hall opened. Coat of Arms presented; flags unfurled and boys and bunting everywhere; lunch with the boys in Sedgwick House and departure with "Winder" bellowing, it seemed, from a thousand throats.

As one observer put it: "The ultimate in Grand Opera". Not in Verona but in Sedbergh in a humble place founded by her royal ancestor 470 years ago.

To Roger and Dorothy Baxter that surely must have been their finest hour.

FROM CHRISTOPHER TINKER

Roger Baxter, perceptive, a brilliant organiser, a man of courage and generosity; an intensely sensitive person. He came to Sedbergh as a dedicated and experienced schoolmaster, a mathematician, and left us as a Headmaster under whose guidance the school had achieved outstandingly well. The 1980's and early 90's were fast-moving times: from prosperity to economic recession, into league tables, into major advertising campaigns (especially for boarding schools). Sedbergh needed a man with direction and vision: Sedbergh had him here at the helm.

As a Headmaster to work with, R.G.B. let his staff get on. He was no interferer. He had faith in his staff to achieve high standards, and was generous in his praise of them both face-to-face and at staff meetings.

Roger Baxter was knowingly less than comfortable with the big public image and this is where a deep courage developed. The Open Day speech, the sermon, the reading of a lesson in Chapel: in his early days at Sedbergh, much time would go into practice of delivery, but it was the final message of

a speech (or of a sermon) that was pertinent. He had a message for his school, and he was determined to get it across. On successive Open Days, parents would depart after his speech with the Headmaster's fresh and imaginative thoughts and ideas: these would be of the moment, of Sedbergh, of education, always strong and always provoking. The extra quality of his speeches seems to me to have been a quiet authority.

Two more qualities: generosity and humour. Generous not only with time, but with his insistence that he should support genuine causes: the bright boy whose parents could not afford the fees of a holiday excursion might be an appropriate example. And of humour? This came into its own behind closed doors, and was immensely enjoyable to share. He was not a humorous public speaker, but there was often just the right touch to his chairing of a Committee, and many a grin in his dealings with individual boys.



At the opening of the Queen's Hall

He was a brilliant organiser – and Dorothy featured strongly here too. The Queen's visit in 1991 was personally undertaken by Roger and Dorothy, and what a feat that was. Dorothy even bought a computer, though Roger's mind should have been sufficient. The Sunday evening Headmaster's Concerts, of which they hosted twenty-five, will remain unforgettable, though R.G.B.'s insistence of taking the entire occasional lighting systems from

his office and from his home in order to turn Room Four from a classroom into a salon bordered on the fanatical. He spent many hours, too, re-setting the chairs for his guests because the music staff, who had spent the morning at this task, were never deemed capable of attaining his mathematical standards in forming a perfect semi-circle of seven rows. To be more serious, this series of concerts will always be remembered by parents and boys alike who were present – Roger was at his warmest ever in public when welcoming his guests at these. The return of so many O.S.'s to the Jubilee Concert last May was a great tribute to a man who, besides being Headmaster, was also a magnificent entertainer. Roger loved friends at home to the extent he would forget officedoms. Wine bought personally from French vineyards during the summer holidays would be lavished upon guests, at official functions as well as private.

There is little room to cover so many areas: getting good quality boys into the school, fine academic achievements (ten to Oxbridge in his last year), the Departmental presentations, the opening of a new Sports Hall, the continued sporting and cultural successes of the boys, the appointment of a large number of staff, the disappointment of a few who fell foul of a firm, sometimes unpalatable decision. And as for the man? Roger Baxter never lost a personal touch for people or events. He had a kindly word for the smallest boy, he had a good relationship with the maintenance staff (how many know that he always attended their annual Christmas party in the Workshops?). He was not a proud man.

During the Easter holiday of 1987, R.G.B. and Dorothy arrived in Belgium in his new car (a huge one). He took with him the Chaplain, Theo Harman. He had gone there to visit the school choir who were touring at the time. A treble caught (sic) appendicitis, and whilst the boy languished in a Belgian hospital, the Choir returned to England. They were able to do so because the Headmaster had offered to wait in Belgium until the poor boy was better and then bring him home – which he did. A typical gesture.

Roger was respected for common decency, a quiet wit, an intelligent, guiding hand; intensely likeable through that veil of shyness, he insisted on achieving his objectives. He set the agenda – no one else. He cared for us all, staff and boys, and for his school. Sedbergh salutes a great Headmaster.

Christopher Tinker

DOROTHY BAXTER

The advertisements in the Times Educational Supplement abound with attractive job descriptions for prospective Headmasters. But not for their spouses. With hindsight, Dorothy Baxter's might have read thus:

"You will entertain all and sundry, create endless flower arrangements, produce musicals, plan a visit of the Queen and Prince Philip, teach physics, comfort the bereaved, learn the double-bass, and German, and the rules of Rugby Football, and you will propel disco-bred sixth-formers around the gym in an attempt to teach them the Waltz."

All this she did, and much, much more. But how did she manage to do it all so well, and appear to enjoy it?

Firstly, she was a happy and fulfilled wife and mother, making a stable, loving home for Roger and their two children. Philip and Fiona boarded at Winchester and St Anne's/Gordonstoun respectively, so Dorothy viewed boarding education with a mother's perspective. She had been Head of Physics at St Swithun's while Roger was Under Master at Winchester; she knew fine schools. She was creative and artistic with an eye for colour, form and detail, an expert with food and flowers, and widely experienced in music and drama.



Mrs Christine Tinker

On first meeting, one warmed to a friendly lady with whom all felt comfortable. She converses easily, is alert to those who need drawing out, and has a genuine care for people. Dorothy was usually one of the first to call when new staff arrived in Sedbergh, or after a birth, or death. She was there to listen if disaster struck, and her many acts of kindness are still remembered and appreciated. Her entertaining was legendary in scope and quality, but the fine food and immaculate presentation never overwhelmed a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere wherein all could enjoy themselves.

I think Dorothy relished Sedbergh's "Big Occasions" and the public side of her role – Open Days, the Ampleforth Match, Summer Balls, The Wilson Run, Headmaster's Invitation Concerts, The Royal Visit, OS Day, and her musical productions. There were six of these, including three Gilbert and Sullivan. She is a gifted planner, and any project undertaken was thought through to the last detail and seen through to the end. She recognized the talents of others and harnessed the skills and energies of all. In spite of a hectic schedule she was a faithful member of the Choral Society and orchestra. She quizzed the boys over their rugby games and the referee's decisions, enjoyed matches, and went around the Ten in her first term.

Dorothy knew the School and how it ticks, proudly promoting it both at home and abroad. She coached Physics privately, and occasionally in school. Full of humour, quick to acknowledge her shortcomings and to forgive those of others, she embraced all that Sedbergh had to offer with enthusiasm and gave of herself unstintingly without a trace of resentment or martyrdom.

The support she gave to Roger is incalculable. When asked to define his greatest asset, a former Headmaster of Eton replied "My wife". Surely Roger would have answered similarly.

Thank you, Dorothy, for all that you are, and for all that you have done for Sedbergh.

ROGER MOORE 1957 – 1995



Roger Moore, who retired in June after a remarkable career spanning thirty-eight years, came to Sedbergh in September 1957.

Devonian by birth, Roger was educated at Blundells, where he ran for the School. He then went up as a Scholar to Clare College, Cambridge, to study Crystallography, Maths, Physics and Chemistry. He was fortunate to have as his Tutor Brian Pippard, later Professor Sir Brian, who was at that time busy elucidating Fermi Surfaces. He took a first in the Natural Sciences Tripos. While at Cambridge Roger ran for the Hare & Hounds, where another keen runner was called Giles Shaw and at the Chemistry benches there was an undergraduate whose name was Chris Bennett.

In 1957, that vintage year which also saw the appointment of John Rogers, Chris Bennett and Theo Harman to the Sedbergh Staff, and while he was in his last year at Cambridge, Roger was appointed by the Headmaster, Michael Thornely, to teach Maths and Physics at Sedbergh. With Sedbergh, Rugby and Oundle all on the look out, it was Sedbergh's good fortune to win Roger's approval. Sedbergh was not Roger's first post, as he had taught for a term at Blundells before going up to University.

After helping for four terms as an Assistant Tutor in Hart House with Peter Madge, Roger succeeded John Durran as House Tutor in School House, where Michael Thornely was both Housemaster & Headmaster. Preference soon followed and Roger became Housemaster of School House in 1965. He was joined by Tony Thomas as House Tutor in 1967 when the Thornelys moved to Birksholme.

It was on a well remembered Extra-Half that Nicholas van Gruisen went bird watching. Roger had taken a School House river bathe to Uldale

Force. Quite by chance he found Nicholas unconscious in the river. He had fallen off the steep river bank. Fortunately his face was just above the water and he was still breathing. With the evident possibility of spinal injury, Roger knew exactly what to do and how to do it. Thanks to his skillful action, Nicholas was transported safely to hospital where he regained consciousness a fortnight later. He went on to make a full recovery and subsequently joined the Mountain Rescue Section, which Roger ran.

Roger had taken over the Cross Country when he arrived in 1957 and trained the team for the first school match, which was against Ampleforth. In the same way Roger began Sedbergh Athletics fixtures, beginning once again with Ampleforth. Roger took over the Ten from Andrew Morgan in 1962, and watched it flourish under his care. He presided over the Centenary in 1981, and the 100th race. Roger's achievements for the School on the Fells and the Athletics track are of recent memory. Perhaps less well known is his expertise as a Colts B-set Rugby coach with TAH, and his playing on the wing for the Assassins.

Roger has served in the CCF ever since he arrived. First commissioned in 1957 he was awarded the CCF Medal in 1970, now with two bars and clasps, and was promoted Major in 1976. He ran the Signals, he was a founder member of, and ran for 20 years, the Mountain Rescue Section, which was the first in the area, and then the Recruits Company for 12 years. He has been Second in Command of the Contingent for nearly 30 years, and has been to at least 72 camps, of which Adventurous Training in Scotland have been a regular feature and a particular delight.

One of Roger's first responsibilities was the Grubber. Appointed Master in Charge of the Grubber when he came in 1957, he was told by the Bursar that whatever happened he must make a profit, which would then be used to swell the Games Account. Roger duly employed a manager. When the Grubber began to fall down, he turned to Dick Winn for advice. Dick said that if he was allowed to encase the Grubber in concrete, it would last another 20 years. He did, and it has.

Roger began to forge Sedbergh's links with Brathay, near Ambleside, in the early '60s when Bertie Mills persuaded him to become involved. Roger went on to lead several expeditions for the Exploration Group, including one to Iceland. Later on he was Quartermaster for further expeditions. As a result of this contact, Roger was able to set up the House weekends at Brathay, which many

former House Tutors will remember keenly and often with pleasure. His work at Brathay continued with the Young Explorer's Trust, which advised on and funded expeditions for young people.

Roger did fit some teaching in between everything and more that he has done at Sedbergh. He arrived as the new Physics Labs were being completed, the year of the Sputnik. Len Taylor was Head of Physics, and most of the apparatus had been made by Bobby Woodhouse, Len's predecessor who had left back in 1930, and by Howard Dawson. Roger took over from Len as Head of Physics in 1962, and soon created quite a stir with the construction of our first digital computer, our first analogue of the computer, the first overhead projector seen in the North of England, to say nothing of his Automatic Telephone Exchange in School House, linking Housemaster, House Tutor, Head of House and Matron. Roger's interest in wirelesses and skill in their construction was kindled at a very early age by a neighbour who had been a radar operator in the war, and who had returned with plenty of surplus equipment so his exhibits at the Speech Day Physics Exhibition over the years have always been instructive, and have often involved wizardry with such radio circuits. There followed of course a stream of successful physicists from Room 35, which has continued to this day.

Roger's energies were further absorbed when he helped found the Lancaster University Physics Centre, linking Schools and the University. Roger has taught S level Maths and Physics, A level Electronics, Chemistry and General Studies, AO Divinity, Cressbrook Biology, and Metalwork. He was appointed our first Director of Studies in 1988. Nothing has been mentioned yet of Roger's love of literature, of which his knowledge is profound, or of his enjoyment of music. Or that with his skill as a botanist he has served on the Cumbria Wildlife Trust for many years.

Many generations of Sedberghians, as well as his colleagues, have experienced at first hand Roger's keen and diverse mind, his exceptional gifts as physicist and teacher, his endless patience and good humour, his immediate and ready solution to any difficulty real or imagined, and his trust and kindness. All these we greatly value. We wish Roger and Hilary and their family every happiness and we are glad that they will not be far away.

Mr R.H.Thomas

REFLECTIONS ON (NEARLY) 40 YEARS — ROGER MOORE

In 1957, when I joined the staff, most boys came by train to Sedbergh Station at the beginning of each term. Roads were bad and parental visits were uncommon. There were no half term holidays and few outings. All boys wore the uniform of blue blazer and open neck shirt, thick blue shorts and long blue socks.

A normal working day started at 7 a.m. with a cold bath. House prayers at 7.15 were followed by 'early morning prep' until 8 a.m. The pattern of morning and afternoon school were then similar to that used today. After evening prep, all boys except prefects were in bed by 9.55 p.m. Most slept in large dormitories, holding up to 30, with chests of drawers topped by metal wash basins down the centre. Many of the House activities were run by the prefects. Discipline was strict, and beatings frequent.

A large coal fired boiler provided heat for each boarding house. The last duty of the House Tutor was to stoke the boiler for the night — a demanding job, as I remember. Even so, heating and hot water were limited. Boys were allowed a weekly bath, and the heating season did not start until November. Dormitories were usually unheated — often the washing water would be frozen on winter mornings.

Electricity reached Sedbergh in 1953. However, there was no TV, and few boys had radios or record players. Films, concerts and visiting lecturers provided entertainment at the weekends. On Sundays there were two compulsory chapel services.

In 1957 there were 415 boys aged 13–18 in the school. Academic standards were generally high, with particular strengths in languages and music. Class sizes were often quite large; I once had a Lower Sixth set of 23 physicists. The recognised sports included rugby, cricket, running, shooting and fives. There were a limited number of fixtures against other schools (25 in all during the September term). Coaching in depth within the school led to excellent team performances. In part because of the limited range of other activities available, boys spent much more time on the fells than they do now. The average Sedberghian developed enormous powers of endurance. The CCF was compulsory for all after the first year in the school. On leaving, most boys were required to do two years of National Service in the armed forces.

Forty years ago the Powell Hall block, the main School block and the Chemistry laboratories formed the core of the school teaching facilities. There was an art room and metal and wood workshops, but little use was made of these during timetable hours. When I arrived Guldrey was being developed as a music school. The library was housed in the Knowles Pavilion while the old school (now the library) was undergoing renovation.

It has been both a privilege and a challenge to teach the many bright boys who have come my way. Such pupils benefit from exposure to a wide range of ideas. The ability to see connections between apparently unrelated phenomena or concepts, and to look beyond the surface, are sure signs of intelligence. For such pupils, to educate is truly to lead on and out from the mundane. My work in Physics has given me great satisfaction, and the evolving nature of the subject has meant that there has always been a demand to meet new challenges and experiment with new ideas. The first Sedbergh computer was made in the Physics labs in the early sixties. I was eager to support some aspects of Nuffield science and the National Curriculum, as well as work experience and initial teacher training more recently. In the same spirit I have been keen on experiment in the social sense too, introducing many things to Sedbergh. School House had the first bedsits and House TV room; I remember much opposition to the wearing of trackuits and to the introduction of inter-school cross country and athletics matches. However, innovation is a feature of the times – others would have made similar introductions had I not done so.

In his declining years Newton repeated a saying attributed to Bernard of Chartres: "we are like dwarfs on the shoulders of giants, so that we can see more than they". I am conscious of the enormous support that I have received both from colleagues and boys during my time at Sedbergh. My induction was at the hands of Messrs Taylor, Mawby and Madge, the senior scientists of the time, who gave me much valuable advice.

By comparison with 1957, today's Sedberghian has vastly improved facilities and standards of comfort. There are many more opportunities for developing particular talents, and a much wider range of representative team games. Some things have not changed. I see very similar standards of care and dedication from the teaching staff. Many boys still show the capacity to work hard in the classroom and to cooperate effectively in team games and other activities. Finally, the surroundings exert their influence, often not apparent for some years. A great attraction of Sedbergh for me has been the

magnificent environment in which it is set and the opportunity to take part in so many outdoor pursuits. How many schools can boast such an impressive range of facilities in such a setting?

Mr R.W.Moore

JOHN JEFFERIES

John Jefferies has left Sedbergh to take up the post of Assistant History Master at Warwick School. John's contribution to the academic, pastoral and extra-curricular life of Sedbergh was energetic, distinctive and fruitful in the five years that he served here. He had read History at Christchurch, Oxford and arrived here within a year of his graduation and following a brief skirmish with Law and with ex-patriate children in Menorca. He taught the latter in a somewhat inexact form of preparation for Sedberghians.

John was an exceptionally gifted classroom teacher. Though he wore his scholarship lightly, he was a man with a considerable breadth of specialised knowledge. He was extremely well briefed in late fifteenth century English history and his appreciation of the subsequent Reformations, both at home and on the Continent, was formidable. Equally, he was entirely at home with the nineteenth century and his developing collection of "Spy" and other caricatures of the period testified to this enthusiasm. John's most distinctive contribution to the Department was certainly his



establishment of a G.C.S.E. course on the Zulu Wars. Here he not only shaped his enthusiasm to the required objectives of coursework but, much more notably, took an unusual, vivid subject by the scruff of the neck and enlivened it with his own distinctive, meticulous attention to the material and to the needs of his pupils.

On the pastoral side, John worked as House Tutor in two Houses and for three Housemasters. In any context, his capacity to fulfil, without affectation, the necessary role of young, approachable master was invaluable to the smooth, and happy, running of domestic affairs. John kept open house, more or less, in his flat, both in Foster View and in School House, and it was rare to find him unaccompanied by boys engaged in some activity somehow related to the education of the young.

John's interests were numerous and the more welcome for their not conforming to the obvious. It was impossible to mistake John for a Hearty and, indeed, he really pioneered Wednesdays at Sedbergh ensuring, for example, that no boy ever felt intimidated by J.J.'s presence or manner. His grasp of discipline was unique. Malefactors shrank from the annihilating admonition that, if they failed to produce a piece of work, Sir would do it for them! This worked every time. Being a Weed, and hence never committed to rough games on Saturdays, John became indispensable to Mrs Maz Campbell's social programme and logged hundreds of miles on buses to away fixtures at girls' schools. He also travelled in the cause of debating, an activity which he rescued from prolonged doldrums. His own style of Chairmanship was flamboyant, but never so as to upstage his table speakers who benefited from John's careful encouragement. John's regular secondment to the Modern Languages department led to his accompanying a number of exchanges to Pontoise and to Vienna. It was striking how John's photos of such trips, faithfully conserved in the flick-book, showed master and boys unfailingly in happy, smiling mood, testimony to Sedberghians' straightforward enjoyment of John's company. This was also demonstrated on the History Department visit to Saint Petersburg, which John inherited from Philip Cottam, and on Anglo-Saxon Fundays when John would drive for hours in search of the dark age sculpture and architecture of the remote north. As an idiosyncratic games coach, John received his apotheosis from the Headmaster on Speech Day and one should perhaps do no more than quote that tribute to John's "benign and assiduous" care of sportsmen. Those who heard tell of John's bloodcurdling addresses to the 7th XV (more recently he was promoted to the 6ths) at half time at Ampleforth will recognise and remember a

stealer side to his character. John was also a great raconteur and gossipier and History Society supporters were enlivened by his witty enthusiasm for the human, personal side of academic life. More seriously, he also flung himself latterly into the correspondence necessary to secure good speakers. All members of History Society have reason to be grateful for John's efficient supply of refreshments: his finding of a reliable source of mead was a perfect valedictory gesture to his Head of Department. John's appreciation of the possibilities in history teaching of the video cassette was also much appreciated by his pupils and unique within the department.

John's editorship of the Sedberghian warrants particular attention for the magazine has been transformed under his care. He has been patient with colleagues and, above all, has shown that characteristic ability to enthuse and motivate the pupils, his "newsounds" to make more of the magazine their own with original material, notably a series of illuminating interviews with distinguished OSS.

This last remark perhaps gets us closest to the nub of John's contribution to Sedbergh. Throughout his five years here he has demonstrated a remarkable, unassuming capacity to elicit the best from the considerable array of pupils he has taught. He has the gift of inspiring not only interest and commitment to History, but also boys' confidence that they can tackle successfully a demanding and sometimes perplexing discipline, without sacrificing rigour. John was greatly liked by colleagues and boys. We wish him all success and happiness as he moves on from Room 13.

Mr M.A.F.Raw

SEAN HOBSON

One measure of the quality of a good schoolmaster is the number of activities in which he becomes involved. In the eight years that Sean has been at Sedbergh he has shared his wide variety of interests with the boys.

On the sporting front he will be well remembered for his interest in soccer, a game which he promoted with enthusiasm. Many boys enjoyed playing the game under his care and Sean led to encourage boys to achieve success. He took special interest in those boys who did well at soccer but perhaps did not achieve greatly in other sports. Being one of the taller members of the Common Room he was able to play basketball and establish the game in School. House competitions and matches against

other schools were established by Sean and basketball has become a popular sport thanks to him. In the summer Sean was to be seen on the tennis courts where he helped with the running and coaching of the School teams. He left Sedbergh at the end of one of its most successful years in the game of tennis. However, one of Sean's heartfelt irritations has been his perception of a lack of support for the so called "minor" sports; yet he strongly believed in their importance and the benefits they gave to so many boys.

On Thursday afternoons Sean was to be seen with the CCF in which he was involved with the signals section. He also took interest in the shooting and went on adventurous training expeditions.

Sean's musical abilities were to be seen on St Patrick's night celebrations where he would play his guitar and sing Irish folk songs and entertain fellow guests. On these occasions and many more Sean's wife Avril provided excellent food. She has been most appreciated for her catering skills in various Houses and more recently was a highly regarded domestic bursar at nearby Baliol School.

In the Mathematics Department Sean made a very valuable contribution. His planning and preparation of lessons were thorough and he would always give generously of his time to help boys with the subject. He expressed concern for all the boys he taught and particularly so for those whom he felt were not great achievers in one field or another.



Sean has left Sedbergh to join Alan Smith in the Mathematics Department at Christ's Hospital, Horsham. We wish Sean, Avril and their children Melanie and Richard good health and happiness for the future.

Mr J.M.Sykes

MARK HIGGINBOTTOM



When Mark Higginbottom turned up for his interview on the wrong day I immediately recognised in him a kindred spirit and was delighted when Roger Baxter announced his appointment. Closer acquaintance confirmed initial impressions; Mark had soon established himself as a valued member of the Classics department. He has spent five years at Sedbergh and it was with regret that I heard in the new year of his impending departure.

It is not only in the classroom that Mark has distinguished himself. In the mountains he has dangled from ropes and taught boys how themselves to dangle safely. Every Thursday he has put on a uniform and instructed boys in the art of war. Sedberghian rugby players have benefited from his expertise in the mimic warfare of the football field. And, by the example of his truly hideous outdoor clothing, he has taught a whole generation of Sedberghians what not to hang in their wardrobes. Throughout his time here he has served as resident house-tutor in Sedgwick and latterly he has organised the School's programme of outdoor pursuits.

He has done all this with no detriment to his service within the department. He has taught Latin and Greek throughout the School and Ancient History in both years of the sixth form. His classes have gained fine results in public examinations and have often paid tribute to the quality of his teaching. They have enjoyed his relaxed manner and have appreciated it the more because they have realised that it conceals no hint of slackness. I have valued his contribution greatly and am very sad that he has gone.

He has left us for Strathallan, lured there by the wiles of Angus McPhail. He faces there the challenge of establishing a new department. I wish him well in this exciting enterprise and I shall be happy to help him solve any little problems that may arise. I have heard a rumour that, since leaving Sedbergh, he has taken a wife. Of wives I have no experience and thus no advice to offer; but I wish him and Jackie every happiness in their life together.

Laurence Catlow

MARTIN GRAY

Martin Gray joined the Winder House team in January 1991 as Resident Tutor to Philip Cottam, and immediately made his considerable energies and talents available to the House and School. Martin had been a boy at Mowden in the days when Sedberghians wore shorts to school, and he was later delighted to find himself teaching at a place famed throughout the North. After Mowden, Martin spent his schooldays at Winchester, and went on to read Theology at Durham. He entered banking and rose to become a manager at a leading branch of Barclays in London before taking time out to travel extensively in Asia, including a spell in India which he enjoyed enormously. After his arrival in Winder Martin quickly became a trusted and loyal colleague, and he tackled the job with unflinching energy and boundless good humour. The House warmed to his open and friendly personality, and boys found him approachable, patient and the source of much sound advice. When the present tutorial system was started, Martin's tutees found that they were interviewed promptly and guided wisely, and his advice to Sixth Formers working on their UCAS forms was greatly valued. Martin taught English and Divinity, the latter to A-level and was thrilled by the success of his pupil

Alex Ollier who was among the top three A-level candidates in the country. He pioneered the teaching of A-level Business Studies which has rapidly become a popular subject. He is a devout but not a solemn Christian, with a strong sense of duty and service.

He became commissioned into the CCF, rising to the rank of Captain and in his final year with us, he ran the Army section with great efficiency. He was a stalwart supporter of the hugely successful Shooting team, generously giving his time to accompany boys to range practices and competitions. He took a training course in canoeing and became a regular member of the CCF Easter Camp party, visiting his beloved Scotland in winter conditions and working up a vast appetite for compo rations while striding over the snow-covered Munros. Martin founded one of the year's biggest social events, the Rawthey Ball, and made it into an enormously successful and highly enjoyable charity event.

During his time at Winder, Martin married his wife Lucy, and in due course became the proud father of twin sons Thomas and William. Both he and Lucy have enriched the communal life of the School, and we wish him and his family the very best of good fortune as he takes up his MBA course at Lancaster University.

Mr S.M.Smith

DAWN TAYLOR

Dawn joined the Modern Languages Department in September 1994 for one year, teaching French throughout the school and Italian to enthusiasts outside the timetable. Fresh from Edinburgh University and teacher training in Aberdeen and Dundee, she soon demonstrated her professionalism and commitment as a school teacher. In the Department she worked very successfully with the French assistante, accompanied one of our groups to France and was most helpful in guiding a trainee teacher in the Lent Term. On the pastoral side she proved a dedicated house tutor in Cressbrook House and she played the clarinet in the school orchestra. I would like to thank her for all the effort she put in to the department in the course of the year and wish her well for the future in her new job at Beaconhurst Grange, Bridge of Allan.

Dr J.D.Halliday

I'M AN ALIEN, I'M A LEGAL ALIEN, I'M A GERMAN IN SEDBERGH!!!

—two terms as a German House Tutor in an English Boarding School.



I never did feel like an alien, of course. Except for rare occasions, such as the time I was asked to umpire Panthers, and I didn't have much of an idea what on earth was going on around me... When I left Sedbergh on Friday, July 8th 1994, after half a year of being a House Tutor in School House, Sheila Blackwell asked me to write down a few things about the time I had spent in Sedbergh – it might be interesting how a German looks back upon two terms spent in an English town and how he feels about it, she added. What would I be expected to do? Would I be able to cope?

So, what did I do during all that time? I found it was a perfect mixture of commitments and spare time, which on the one hand allowed me to slowly find my way into things (after all, Sedbergh School was not comparable to anything I had ever experienced before), spending some time exploring on my own, but on the other hand made me feel I was needed and asked to do my bit in the big institution that is Sedbergh School. And I found that in the course of time I committed myself to more and more things, I got involved in various activities and events in and around the school. I started off with my tasks as House Tutor: supervising prep, taking evening prayers and, which proved the most difficult part, making sure bedtimes were stuck to; a constant challenge until the very end. Gradually I also got involved in sports, which I was particularly looking forward to, having once been a sports student at university.

Having played tennis almost all my life, being an assistant coach was one of my main occupations in Summer Term, and it proved to be great fun – I even got to play on grass for the first time in my

life, which was a dream come true to me. So I was to be found on various sports locations quite frequently, but I also tried to be helpful academically. Where else could that be but in the German Department? Not having been trained as a teacher, I couldn't do very much, but I tried to assist John Hildrew, Robin Hildrew and Chris Morgan as well as I could, which a few weeks before A-level exams included preparing candidates for oral exams. One of the very special experiences to me was participating in orchestra activities as a violinist.

So all these things were part of my weekly routine at school, and I greatly enjoyed them, but of course many things which became very special to me only marginally had to do with Sedbergh School as such, and they're just as much worth mentioning. First of all the "Low Birks Ensemble" or "Monday Morning Orchestra", as I call it to myself. Only shortly after having learnt that I was more or less able to play the violin, Jenny Hildrew and Sheila Blackwell invited me to come down to Low Birks at 10.00 a.m. on Mondays. Down there, these two, Dorcas Thomas and a few others had lots of fun every week playing the clarinet, the cello, the violin – whatever was there. Special skills in playing whichever instrument was needed was provided by Dorcas Thomas – I hadn't experienced anything similar before! Something else I won't forget was St. Patrick's Night '94 and its consequences for me... St. Patrick's Night isn't celebrated in Germany, so this too was a first time experience to me. Late at night I also tried to make a little contribution by singing "The Lord Of The Dance" and accompanying myself on the guitar – but I hadn't realized what I would be getting myself into: Robin Laird came up to me afterwards and suggested that I could give an encore – in Chapel, in front of 400 people!!

Quite naturally it was strange for me as a German (with both my grandfathers having been in the Army) to be in England and experiencing how people reacted on the other side, how they felt about it. For me, as I said, it was kind of strange, and I had a whole mixture of feelings, not being able to tell precisely what I felt. I guess predominantly I was deeply ashamed, though of course I couldn't help what had happened 50 years ago. And I was worried that in one way or another someone would show at least resentment against me as a representative of the people which had done so much harm, to the world in general, but, more importantly to me, to people and the relatives of people in Sedbergh. Well, I talked about D-Day and all the rest of it with quite a few people, and I was surprised and relieved to know that although

everyone was well aware of history and its special implications in this case, no one held a grudge against Germans because of that any more, which I found remarkable. Still when standing there and participating in the short commemorative service in the afternoon of June 6th, I felt odd to see the Union Jack hoisted and to hear the names of many Sedbergh School Old Boys who were killed in the war read out aloud. I don't think too many Germans were in quite the same situation as I was then, and I don't think either that I'll ever forget.

Finally, I want to thank all those many people who helped me and were friendly all the time. They still are and will be on my mind.

Steffen Kinzler
Resident House Tutor of School House
Lent Term / Summer Term 1994

NOW, I THINK THAT IT WAS A GOOD CHOICE



In February 1994 I became one of the two lucky people at my former school, who were offered an application form to join the Secondary School Scholarship Programme run by the Foundation for a Civil Society in New York (with branches in Prague and Bratislava) whose task is to send students from the former Czechoslovakia to study in the USA and UK. So I filled in the questionnaire, wrote a long essay, sent it all and crossed my fingers.

I was quite surprised when I found out that I had made it to the second stage which consisted of a personal interview and another essay. After a month of nervous expectation I received a letter that I had been accepted to spend a year in Britain. I cannot remember what followed the next few minutes after reading the letter; I just know that I was very noisy. After a short time it was informed that I was going to attend Sedbergh School. Then I was sent prospectuses from the school itself and I was deeply shocked. I found out that it was a boys' school where people must wear uniforms all the time. When I had spent a few hours in a library searching for information about Sedbergh I was horrified even more as I had found out that the school is situated in the most rainy part of England.

At the end of August I packed my suitcases and set off for a long journey. I got to Prague after nine hours spent looking out of the train window. But that was just the prologue. The travel from Prague to Dover was supposed to take almost twenty-four hours since we went by bus. But finally we found the trip to be very good and we were glad we had not gone by plane.

Before my departure I had not known Britain at all. All I knew were the names of the Queen and the Prime Minister and the affairs of Prince Charles. Other information I had was not fact, just gossip, which made me feel quite uneasy about Britain. People, for example, tend to say that there is no worse cuisine than the British one. They also say that British weather is always foggy, cloudy, and rainy. That was why I was rather worried before leaving Slovakia (for the very first time) for Britain. I was worried even more when I found the gossip to be true.

A few days later I got my school uniform (how odd, I thought then), chose three subjects, and started to go to school and thus to get to know the British educational system. How odd, I kept thinking. For comparison, secondary schools in my country take only four years and the last is a year of preparation for "maturita", Slovak A-level exam. Even though you take "maturitas" only from four subjects (or more, if you wish and are crazy enough), you have to study nine or ten subjects all the time. Therefore I was quite surprised when I found out that when British students spend two years preparing for A-levels they read only the three subjects they need for the exams. This makes people study things in depth and I really like it. For example, I started to love physics which I could not understand in Slovakia, because I used to have only two or three lessons of physics a week and I could not concentrate on it.

Another difference: I used to have about twenty-five classmates who shared all the subjects with me (we were the smallest class in the school). We created a kind of community often with very tight relationships. That is one thing I quite miss in England. On the other hand, in Britain, although I have different classmates on each subject, they all (almost) enjoy the subject (it is they who have chosen it) and that makes the atmosphere in the classroom more relaxed. And it is also easier for teachers to teach some ten students instead of thirty, sometimes even as many as forty, when only a few of them pay attention. In defence of Slovak schools I can say that I did not use to go to school on Saturdays. To sum up, I think I prefer the British school system to the Slovak one.

England is foggy, cloudy and rainy. Its cuisine is not the best one in the world. The country is flat from coast to coast. In short, England is not a country one would call Eden. But I love it.

In the application form I was filling in at the beginning, there was a question asking whether I preferred going to USA or UK. I thought about it quite a long time and at the end I decided to tick UK. Now, I think it was a good choice.

Martin Jaros
School House 1994/5

MY LIFE AT SEDBERGH



Iliia Nabutovsky

When a thought about sending me to study in England came into my parents' minds, "Gabbitas Educational Consultants" dispatched the addresses of three independent schools to us. They were Sedbergh, Giggleswick and Rossall. After a close study and analysis of all the schools a choice was made, and off I went to Sedbergh.

Before departure from home, I had been thinking for a long time about the different social environment in which I would have to live and study, with dissimilar principles and a foreign language. I hesitated with the final decision: to go or not to go? In Latvia, where I permanently live, there are no boarding schools and I did not have any experience of staying away from home. But thanks to my new helpful friends from Winder House, the process of adaptation passed lightly.

The first thing that astonished me on my arrival was the actual size of the school. Rugby pitches, tennis courts, swimming pool, chapel; how can you compare it with my previous school in Riga, in the very centre of the city, where there is not even a gymnasium.

In the beginning, I learned that I would only have three subjects, after the twelve that I used to have in my Russian school. I thought the works would be easier as I had less subjects and consequently more free time. But after a few days of studying, I realised that in fact everything was more complicated than I first thought. Preparation for lessons and my own homework took so much time, like never before.

After settling into the situation and learning about existence of hobby groups and societies, I became a member of the RAF section. I will never forget the assault courses and flying experience at the RAF station at Leeming.

I do not need to say that sport is well established in Sedbergh. From the wide range of sport activities I started with basketball and even managed to participate in a few matches for the school team. I played tennis in summer and once used an opportunity to sail at the nearby lake. At the moment a rugby season is underway and I decided to try myself as a rugby player.

Now, I am studying in the upper sixth form and the work is harder, since we will sit our examinations in the near future. I get on with my friends and teachers excellently. My English has improved a lot (so people say).

The Russian and English education systems are very different. Each of them has its own pluses and minuses. It is impossible to say whether one of them is better or worse than the other. But I am definitely convinced that I will never forget or regret the marvelous and beneficial time that I had in Sedbergh School.

Iliia Nabutovsky
Joined Winder House, 1994

CAREERS

The purpose of the careers room is to promote thought to the future and life beyond school. A-level subjects can be swotted but wisdom is a life force only learnt slowly. Paul Davies of Lancaster University learned to the lower sixth year in the Autumn term and gave a reflection of his extensive careers-research throughout the country. With visions from "Educating Rita" and films of plasterers and bank managers, Dr Davies displayed how the priority for a form of work changes through the working ages of 20, 30, 40 and 50 to 60. Career selection has never been and never will be a simple process. Selecting further education has become more difficult with the choice of courses quadrupling in the last decade. In helping the sixth former make the giant leap away from school, visiting lecturers spoke on many and diverse careers during the academic year 94 to 95.

All bar one of the summer 95, leavers elected for higher education with 24% opting for a 'gap' year and a deferred entry to October 96. At the bottom end of the scale, one boy gained entry to a new university with one A level pass and to study for a degree in a subject that he had failed at A level. At the top there were boys with five grade As and for Martin Jaros of Slovakia a remarkable three As in just nine months. This gained him a scholarship to the University of East Anglia to study Physics but unfortunately the £4000 per annum was not sufficient to pay his science fees and support him through student life. Martin is now studying in Bratislava.

Most 'gappers' had arranged something for their year before university and amongst the most exciting opportunities was that taken by Alex Ollier who is teaching Tibetan refugees English whilst spending six months in the Indian Himalayas.

The careers room continues to be a mine of information. The prospectus region has been revamped and a new subject area is being developed to cater for the non school subjects such as engineering, environmental science, accountancy etc. The essential sixth form texts continue as "The Push Guide to Which University", "Degree Course Offers" and "The Times Good University Guide". Course and University selection is vital and employers are recognising that there are universities and there are universities and the split is not necessarily new/old. From the fifth form onwards, the wise pupil will look to work experience, holiday courses and then beyond to sponsorship through the financially difficult university years.

Mr H.M.Symonds

LEAVERS' DESTINATIONS

- 52% gained and accepted their first choice UCAS offers
- 17% gained and accepted their second choice UCAS offers
- 13% used and were successful with the UCAS clearing system
- 18% are either at colleges external to the UCAS system, are re-applying for 1996 entry or are studying abroad.
- 24% of those gaining their first or second choice UCAS offers have elected to take a 'Gap' year, deferring their entry to 1996

Popular Destinations:

Northumbria	9
Leeds	4
Bristol (UWE)	3
Cambridge	3
Central England	3
Durham	3
Newcastle	3
Nottingham Trent	3
Oxford	3

Popular Subjects:

Social Science/Management	25%
Arts	22%
Engineering	14%
Agriculture	12%
Law	8%
Medicine	8%
Science	3%
Others	8%

RUGBY FOOTBALL

1ST XV

Played:	13
Won:	9
Drawn:	1
Lost:	3

Points For: 226 Points Against: 90

(Matches v Schools)

1994 was an outstanding season for the Sedbergh Football XV; of which a very creditable playing record was only part. Right from the outset at the training camp in Bath, it was clear that there was no shortage of quality players in both backs and forwards, and, further, there was a deep concern that an attractive and successful version of the game would be achieved. Perhaps most significantly, Sam Rickitt and Peter Jameson were two inspirational figures on whom the team could lean for a purposeful and creative lead. The latter had as good a season in the brown jersey as any player in recent years, and would certainly have achieved representative honours had he sought them. Sam Rickitt was in the very finest mould of Sedbergh captains, selfless, courageous and deeply committed. The playing success that was created over a summer of hard training and three months of intensive daily practice was a tribute to the concern and character of all involved.



Early season opens against Ermysted's G.S. and St Bees clearly indicated a creative potential in comfortable victories, but an away win against R.G.S. Newcastle, featuring a sixty metre try by James Bennett suggested that this might be a team of substance. A disappointing defeat 10-3 to Bradford resulted from one unfortunate defensive error and an unremarkable game against R.G.S. Lancaster produced a disappointing 6-6 draw. These weeks, however, were critical in the formative stage of this XV. The importance of Fergus Timmon's coaching of scrum and lineout was becoming apparent whilst the backs complemented the handling skills of Jameson, James Lofthouse and Andrew Holden with some direct and pacy running from wings James Bennett and Clive Selman, and the ever improving Ian McKerrow at full back. This established the background for probably the most exciting stage of the season.

Away at Ampleforth, an incredible performance, featuring an outstanding try by Sam Williams – in which the support play following a break by McKerrow was of the very highest order – led to a much coveted victory which was followed seven days later by another controlled display to defeat Durham in an excellent game. The encounters with Durham over recent years have consistently produced games of the very highest quality and, after two narrow defeats, it was pleasing to record a well-deserved win.

At this stage, the fluency of the team's progress was interrupted. A below-par performance against a good Cumbria XV led to a 17-3 defeat and, worse, produced injuries and illnesses that severely depleted the squad for the first ever visit to the St Joseph's Festival at Ipswich over the first weekend of half term.

This was always going to be a learning experience, against top-class opposition from elsewhere in the country, in a different form of game. Whilst the results were modest (two victories and a draw from six fifteen minute each way games), the whole event was a performance of tremendous character from the Sedbergh side. Probably five of the team were insufficiently well to play, but played nonetheless. The efforts of Sam Williams, Harry Small and Tom Fleming in adverse circumstances were nothing short of heroic. With two games played (and won) with fourteen men and memorable moments such as James Bennett's sidestep and hobble to the line to score on one leg against Dollar Academy, showed as much for the call of the brown jersey as more fluent performances in earlier weeks. The whole event was one of those performances of character, where

individual comfort and reputation were willingly sacrificed to the needs of the team. Doubtless future Sedbergh XV's will be more successful at Ipswich, but none will be more resolute.

The second half of term produced some excellent rugby, and pleasing results as the team really matured. The lineup became a most profitable area with Charles Madge and Tom Fleming consistently providing controlled possession and Jameson continuing to use it creatively. Victories over Arnold, Loretto and visiting teams from Newcastle-under-Lyme and Cape Town were achieved with varying degrees of ease, and offset defeats against Uppingham in a most disappointing display and Stonyhurst, which was a thrilling game between two good sides both playing well: although it was frustrating to see a 14-0 half time lead overtaken by one point in the dying minutes, there was considerable satisfaction to be had in the quality of the game.

Overall, this was certainly a memorable season in the finest tradition of Sedbergh rugby. Pride, courage and selflessness were consistently to the fore and perfectly complemented the skills and organisation which the team worked so hard to achieve. In terms of playing ability this was a good Sedbergh side – in terms of its spirit, it was a great one.

It was a privilege to be part of it all.

Mr N.A. Rollings

Team:

S.J. Rickitt (Capt.)*	S.J. Kavanagh*
A.T.M. Ollier*	C.O. Madge*
C.E.W.M. Yeoman*	H.J.R. Small*
S. Williams*	T.J.N. Fleming*
C.P. Simpson-Daniel*	P.J. Jameson*
J.S. Bennett*	J.C.M. Lofthouse*
A.J. Holden	C.A. Selman*
I.A.C. McKerrow*	P.R. Rowntree
C.E. Heap	K.J. Bennett
A.S. Ramus	M.V. Farnsworth
M.J. Bentley	B.J. Stoll

* Denotes Colours

Results (v.Schools):

v Ermysted's G.S.	(H) WON	44 - 0
v St Bees School	(H) WON	27 - 0
v R.G.S. Newcastle	(A) WON	13 - 7
v Bradford G.S.	(H) LOST	3 - 10
v R.G.S. Lancaster	(A) DREW	6 - 6
v Ampleforth College	(A) WON	14 - 6
v Durham School	(H) WON	18 - 8
v Uppingham School	(A) LOST	0 - 20
v Arnold School	(A) WON	17 - 6
v Stonyhurst College	(H) LOST	14 - 15
v Loretto	(H) WON	18 - 12
v Newcastle-under-Lyme School	(H) WON	27 - 0
v Hottentots Holland H. S.	(H) WON	25 - 0

Other Fixtures:

v Cumbria Schools	(A) LOST	3 - 17
v Old Sedberghians	(H) WON	9 - 0





2ND XV

What a season!

The briefest glance at its vital statistics says it all:

Played:	12
Won:	11
Points for:	420
Points against:	63

From the very first match it was apparent that this would be an excellent 2nd XV. And so it proved. The pack was big - very big - and strong, yet surprisingly mobile for all its size; the backs not only handled well, but were powerful, direct runners, who could as well, when called upon, tackle with considerable ferocity in defence. But above all, everybody played as a TEAM. Whilst everybody had their own particular strengths and talents none stood out above the rest; instead the success of the team rested on two things: firstly its mutual cooperation and encouragement; and secondly, to use a good Welsh word, its *Huwyl*.

In this light, it would be wrong to single out any players for particular praise - everybody who played, be it for one or several games, made their own individual contribution. However, I would like to thank the captains - Mark Farnsworth, the incomparably safe full back who captained for the first half of the season until he went on permanent loan to the 1st XV, and Matt Biker, the barn storming No. 8 who then took over the mantle. Both were quite excellent captains and the quality of

the team's spirit was in no small part due to them. I might also add that they were both excellent ambassadors for the School. Thank you, both.

So what did I, as coach, take away from the season? Obviously, a great deal of enjoyment and satisfaction, not just from the matches, but as well from the practices; I really did have a great deal of fun. In addition, I have a mental album full of 'snapshot' memories:

-Jonathan Gill's siege gun kicks up the pitch;

-Waiting to hear the crunch of breaking bones as Marc Bentley put in his first tackle of a match;

-A triptych of running styles: Toby Rainthorpe's fleet of foot, gazelle-like dashes; the runaway train of Charles Leather; and the clatter and rumble of Jonathan McNeish's steam-roller

-Mark Crookes's hectoring and berating of his pack, any of whom, a head taller and a shoulder wider, could have swatted him like a fly.

-Tom Wright's rocket launched, soaring leaps at the front of the line out; "He was never lifted, honest reff!"

-The roving lighthouse of 2nd row, Al Ramus bursting through on a crash ball at centre.

-And my personal favourite, Jon McNeish aquaplaning his way into the Arnold School's 22 like a drunk, red headed whale, crossed with a bouncing bomb.

The last thing that I am left with is a fine tankard, engraved "To Bully" (whatever that might mean?). Unlike some of the memories, this will never fade, but I am doing my best to wear it out. For this, and the season, I would like to thank everybody.

Mr N.H. Brown

2nd XV Colours were awarded to:

S.G. Barry (F half)	K.J. Bennett (P)
M.A. Biker (8)	M.B. Crookes (S half)
J.D. Gill (F half)	A.M.E. Hall (F)
C.M. Leather (W)	G. Maclelland (P)
J.M. McNeish (H)	J.E. Partridge (C)
S.D.J. Price (2nd R)	T.J. Rainthorpe (W)
A.S. Ramus (2nd R)	S.J. Riley (C)
B.J. Stell (F)	T.E. Wright (2nd R)
T.M. Winney (S half & C)	

3RD XV

Over the years the 3rd XV has had more unbeaten seasons than not; never before, however, has it run all its fixtures without conceding a point. The hardest game was against Ampleforth, to whom we had lost heavily last year. It was a most robust encounter, revealing the intense nature of both teams. Sedbergh pressed for much of the match but Ampleforth came back strongly and a 0-0 draw was a very satisfactory result for both sides. All other games were won; the team was well organised by Mr Vigar and Mr Horsfall and the simple strategy of 15 man rugby ensured that all players enjoyed the season.

Ben Edwards

Players representing the 3rd XV

B.J. Edwards (Capt.)	T.M.M. Booth
B.L. Pepler	J.T. Shore
C.D. Martin-Smith	S.G. Barry
J.M. Chapman	W. Price
C.H. Blair	N.J. Cridlan
A. Birley	D.C. Edington
J. Tweedale	A. Thomson
T.J. Mitchell	J.J. Lawn

COLTS A1

Played	9
Won	6
Lost	3
Points For	163
Points Against:	76

This was a very promising season for a Colts side that improved greatly under the outstanding coaching of Mark Higginbottom

This team was one of purpose with the ability to use the ball efficiently. Forwards Richard Wild, David Searr, James Whitfield and Tom Mercer were constantly to the fore and complimented the delicate skills of Alex Pye at scrum half and the more forthright approach of Henry Morris in the centre.

The undoubted highlights of the season were the 17-5 win over the Cumbria Under 16 and the away win at Lorreto, 19-12.

Mr N.A. Rollings

COLTS A2

This year's A2 team did not start their season particularly well. A poor defensive display resulted in a heavy away defeat at the hands of RGS Lancaster. This was largely because many of the team's members lacked confidence in their own abilities. As usual, frequent injuries to players in key positions made it difficult for the side to establish consistency in its play and fielding the same team on consecutive occasions was something of a rarity. However, one cannot fault the squad's commitment and as the season progressed it gradually became clear that the side did have the will to win. Late on in the season a nail-biting match against Durham, which resulted in a 7 all draw, effectively signalled a turning point in the side's fortunes. The final match against Our Lady's Chetwynde proved a fitting climax to the season. A2's prize was a victory against a side which had convincingly beaten RGS Lancaster the week before.

Mr C.R.I. Morgan

Those who represented the school at A2 level were:

T.R. Bailey	A.P.S. Bowes
J.M. Chapman	M.H. Chapman (Capt.)
B.R. Galaud	R.M.H. Hardie
O. Hargreaves	C.M. Jameson
J.D. Jameson	C.A. Kitson
B.P. Lewis	G.M.A. McNamara
M.R. Repath	A.J. Scorer
O.C. Scott-Harden	D.W.D. Sewell
I. Thomson	

COLTS B1

This was an enjoyable and rewarding season. Like all good Sedbergh sides, these boys possessed a tough inner loyalty to their XV, to the School and to the game itself which was expressed in commitment to the disciplines of training, full-blooded involvement in matches and an enjoyment of one another's company on and off the field. They were a good bunch to coach, parental encouragement was, as usual, tremendous, and a great supportive tonic and I am confident that the season was useful in paving the way for sterner challenges ahead on Riverside and, ultimately, on Bigside. The playing record of six victories, three defeats and one draw is decent enough but disguises the specific highlight of success against

all three of the sledgehammer Grammar Schools at the start of the season, the subsequent sense of anti-climax in defeat at Ampleforth and, later, at Loretto, and the pleasure of seeing bags of good points scored after half term against Arnold and South Tyneside Schools. The obvious strengths of the side lay in the strike-power of the back row around the fringes and of the centres in midfield. These could be unleashed by, respectively, a workmanlike front five and neat halfbacks; the latter grew noticeably in confidence as the season wore on. The weaknesses could perhaps be identified as a touch of the "After you Claude" among the heavier forwards and in poor cover out wide against sides who moved the ball. The best and worst performances were, in my view, only a fortnight apart. Against Bradford, Sedbergh played committed and technically accomplished rugby and, spearheaded by the centres and back row, registered a comprehensive, memorable victory. Two weeks later, a side unhelpfully weakened by two Saturday morning cry-offs weathered a strong Ampleforth opening only to throw the match away with five minutes of dumbstruck lassitude in which they were content to watch Ampleforth stage a short exhibition of running rugby and score three tries which, despite a brave Sedbergh comeback in the second half, settled the match and left the coach to muse wistfully upon the impromptu restoration of corporal punishment. No, no, Ms. Rantzen ... only joking.

The prop forwards, Tom Yeoman and Roberto Bordi were efficient, rather than overwhelming scrummagers, and both contributed well in the loose at times. Yeoman being a powerful and committed tackler whilst Bordi showed glimpses of pace and ball-skill that his future coaches will value seeing more consistently. James Tyler, the hooker, was skilful in the tight and contributed more and more prominently in the open, his technique being as good as anybody's in securing and recycling possession. His one weakness was his line-out throwing, which needs more work. Recent experience suggests that there is scope for an imaginative entrepreneur, probably an Australian, to market some seductively expensive device (articulated, telescopic and in day-glo colours) which will suspend a pair of titanium hands (autographed by Martin Bayfield, for a fee). Such a snazzy piece of kit might encourage today's young hookers to practise throwing. Clearly, a chalk-mark on a brick wall will no longer cut the mustard.

In the second row Matthew Dinsdale was robust and effective in set-piece play and was capable of rampaging play in the loose. With a bit more ginger,

which will no doubt come as he grows more confident in his strength, he will develop into an excellent tight forward. His partner was the irrepressible Rob Mercer, who defied the logic of height and weight to secure his place on the strength of exceptional commitment and devotion to the game. One could not have asked for a more wholehearted player, or one more willing to learn and utilise new techniques. As usual at Sedbergh, the wing-forward places were hotly contested and Mark Thomas and Nick Powell were unfortunate not to play more games on the Colts B 1st team, as was the determined Chris Rhind, a utility forward. Hugh Stacey and Richard Fanshawe were first choice at 6 and 7 this season, both were technically sound, albeit with a tendency to daydream, and extremely useful going forward. They usually did this in support of Paul Halsall, the number eight and captain, a gifted and highly promising player, still I think in need of a more hard-working attitude



in defence, but whose driving play was instrumental in launching Sedbergh into attack time and time again. He also commanded the respect and loyalty of his team through example, and the pack, in particular, lit up when he was on song.

Phil Thompson will have learned a lot in the course of his season as scrum half. He is a natural and skilful ball-player, with a good eye for a break and plenty of courage in defence. With more experience, he will learn not to get entangled at the base of rucks and mauls and to be more demanding of the piano-shifters in front of him. His partner at half-back was Will Cousins, whom I believe improved as much as anyone this year. A deft distributor and kicker, he developed an excellent outside break, which tested the defences of our later opponents and carved up South Tyneside. Paul Stinson, at centre, also came on enormously and his physical presence intimidated all but the soundest opposition. There was no more committed or quietly hard-working member of the side, always on hand to tidy-up the errors of others. His courage against Loretto was exemplary. Robert Leather, the other centre, had real dash and pace in attack and scored a handful of tries during the season. He was rather more enigmatic in defence and it may be that the wing proves a more fruitful position for him in the long run. On the wing, Henry Whitten and Charles Obank both had credible outings. However, once he recovered from injury, Charles Walford joined James Johnson as Sedbergh's first choice pairing. Both had pace and bulk. Johnson was another much improved player whose positional play and sense of how to get involved in the game grew in maturity. The increasing reliability of his handling suggested that he might, in time, move in to the centre. Walford, perhaps, lacked a touch of confidence after prolonged injury, but he has the makings of a fine player. His taking of a short pass at pace and on the shoulder of his centre, albeit in a practice game, is an abiding memory of the season. At full back Charlie Aitken showed pluck and determination in adapting to a new position. His fielding of the ball was always positive and at Loretto he showed that he could run it back at the opposition with interest. Inevitably, his positional sense needs finer tuning and his last-ditch tackling was once or twice shaky. Nevertheless, there was no more determined player on the team.

I have no doubt that all the boys will wish to consolidate the strengths of their play in the future, whilst working to eradicate weaknesses. They will improve technically and tactically. Through it all, I hope that they retain their enthusiasm, loyalty

and good humour and that they enjoy their rugby for what it is, the greatest of all team games, played for fun.

I'm grateful to the work of Mr Peter Moore, who provided some welcome sparks of invention to our lineup and to Mr Daniel Harrison for his cheerful and precise coaching of all the threequarters and for his taking charge of the second team.

Mr M.A.F. Raw

COLTS B2

Played	10
Won	5
Lost	5
Drawn	0

This was quite a successful season for this side and they finished the season strongly against physical opposition with three good wins. The side was led very ably by Rory Wilson who was always at the heart of things in the back row. The main strength in the side was to be found on the wings and John Kevan and Simon Elliott turned many games with their exceptional pace, and the half backs John Sugden and Tom Stephenson grew in confidence as the season progressed.

Team spirit was kept at a high level throughout the season and the tackling was one of the teams strong points towards the end of the season. Two of the hard working forwards, Nick Powell and Chris Rhind, were rewarded with first team places, as was Henry Whitten who performed very well in the centre.

Mr D.J. Harrison

COLTS C1

Played	10
Won	2
Lost	8
Points for	96
Points against	249

This team, led with increasing confidence by Jake Moore and then Simon Cross, was capable of some delightful passages of play characterised by excellent handling, continuity and courageous running. After a shaky start to the season away at

RGS Newcastle and Bradford, when the tackling was Emmethal in quality, the boys responded in spirited style to defeat RGS Lancaster in a gripping, tenacious encounter at home. It is not often that two drop goals win a match 6-3, but I was certainly not complaining. If Ross Winney's kicking out of hand was often sublime, he still needs to work on the strike of the dead ball. The two matches against Durham (away) and Ampleforth (home) were again excitingly close and should have been won - but on these occasions the kicks went against us. At Durham only the cross-bar prevented Ross's last minute drop from winning the game.



The second half of the term began with an excellent all round team performance against a large Morecambe XV. Rucking, handling and continuity were shown at their best here, with the tackling by now tenaciously effective, smothering any counter-attacks. After another close but ultimately disappointing match against Arnold the team put in one of its best defensive displays against an outstanding Stonyhurst XV whose size - the front row had a combined weight of 36 stone - was this time matched by skill on the ball and imaginative team work. That the score after 20 minutes was still 0-0 was a magnificent achievement, with the front row of James Hart, William Kinsey and Robert Rhodes heroic. The trip to Loretto was an anti-climax, on the other hand. Fires in the belly had been extinguished by the time we passed the Musselburgh red shirts. Thus to the last game against South Tyneside Schools which encapsulated much of the season. Skillful and inventive back play, with Ross Winney, Thomas Sterne, Jake Moore and Edward Page to the fore, combined well with the spirited foraging of Simon

Cross, James Hart, Andrew Marshall and Marcus Worsley in particular. Ultimately, though, this balanced team was repeatedly outgunned physically, facing teams of "hairy men" whose bulk, rather than team skills, ultimately overcame the waves of young boys in brown.

The boys deserve every credit, therefore, for preserving an excellent morale throughout what must have seemed a long term. Their cheeriness made the practices an enormous pleasure and they go into the 1995 season with my good wishes. It will be hard, but with persistence results will begin to give their way.

Dr J.D.Halliday

The following played in most games:

J.F.E. Moore (Capt)	S.T. Cross (V-capt)
N.J. Aldersey	J.W. Almond
J. Batty	J.E. Forbes
I.M. Halsall	J.C. Hart
W.R. Kinsey	A. Marshall
E.C. Mitchell	S.D.P. Moore
E.J.R. Page	R.S.G. Rhodes
T.R. Sterne	C.R. Winney
M.D. Worsley	

COLTS C2

This was a team that throughout the term grew in stature and competence week by week. We did not start well. Three successive losses, and an exasperated coach whose pearls of wisdom at half time to his winning team resulted in the matches being lost! Then came a run of success, starting with a resounding victory at Ampleforth, and ending with a tremendous win over an unbeaten and powerful Stonyhurst XV. We played the Kirkie Kendal and Bury Grammar School 'A' XV and despite some heroic efforts, went down to both. Our run of success mid-term was developed around exceptional teamwork. The pack played very well together, largely due to the fantastic coaching efforts of Upper Sixth former Roger Haworth. His contribution to the success of the team was immense. The backs had some very skillful ball players, and were as adept at moving it in pleasant dry conditions as on the swamp of Lupton 1. It was never dull rugby! All players made huge contributions throughout the term and I will not try to single out individuals. They were an exceptionally nice group to work with and I am

sure they will have continued success as they progress through the School. Thank you all for your efforts.

Mr J.R.D. Morgan

SEVEN-A-SIDES

The 1995 season was ultimately one of frustration. This was not the frustration of an inadequate team, but the frustration of inadequate competitive opportunity as the record wet spring resulted in the cancellation week by week of four of the six tournaments that had been planned. The frustration was only increased by the fact that a strong and serious squad had been assembled under captain Peter Jameson which had many of the qualities necessary for a successful VII. This included the successful handling of Jameson, Andrew Holden, Charles Heap, and Daniel Scargill, supplemented by the pace of Clive Selman and James Bennett. They trained long and hard through countless afternoons in rain and thick mud on Lupton Field and showed great devotion to the cause. However, the Spring weather was exceptional even by the standards of the North-West and record rainfall led to the cancellation in rapid succession of tournaments at St. Bees, Durham and the eagerly anticipated Stonyhurst event. It wasn't until the 12th March that the team saw action in a competitive arena.

Even the North of England Sevens at Birkenhead Park had not escaped and had been hastily rearranged on what turned out to be excellent pitches at Birkenhead School.

The morning group games improved steadily after an inauspicious start in which a poor St. Edward's team were narrowly beaten. Things improved with a much better performance to comprehensively defeat Denstone College illustrating the importance of possession in the abbreviated game. There was then a major scare as we struggled on a tiny pitch to scrape through at the death against a limited but spirited Rydal School team followed by free-scoring romp against the hapless St. David's College Seven.

In the afternoon knockout rounds the team was unrecognisable from that which had struggled through the morning. Deft, skillful football drew admiration from a growing crowd as R.G.S. Lancaster (quarter-final) and King Henry VIII, Coventry (semi-final) were brushed aside by 30 point margins. This brought a final against Stonyhurst College who had also been in excellent form throughout the day. It proved a compelling encounter, skillfully handled by World Cup referee

Steve Lander. In an even game, and despite holding the lead three times, we could not quite contain the pacy Stonyhurst side and lost 25-19 in a worthy final. Runners-up medals were slight consolation for a team that believed it could have gone one better.

The following weekend saw the School's inaugural visit to the British Aerospace Sevens at Fyde, played over two days. The Saturday games were won comfortably and, despite a defeat at the hands of a very powerful St. Joseph's team on Sunday morning, we reached the knockout stages comfortably.

St. Bees were the first opponents and although they proved no serious challenge, Peter Jameson suffered a serious ankle injury which robbed the team of his mercurial presence and reduced the squad to a bare VII. Although this was enough for Denstone College in the quarter final, the semi against Arnold proved decisively to be the end of the line. Deprived of the ball by the local team, who dominated the luck, we were never in contention and were defeated 30-0. Arnold went on to win the final equally comfortably.

The final record of a short season, therefore, was one final and one semi-final and the overwhelming frustration of too few tournaments. It can only be hoped that 1996 throws up a team of as much dedication and skill and a little better fortune with the weather.

Mr N.A. Rollings

Sevens squad:

P.J. Jameson (Capt)	A.J. Holden
C.E. Heap	D.R. Scargill
C.A. Selman	J.S. Bennett
M.W. Farnsworth	H.J.R. Small
I.A.C. McKerrow	C.W.M. Yeoman.

Under 15 Seven-a-Side

Due to a late cancellation of the Durham Tournament we were left with just the Ampleforth one to compete in. Here we took a young, inexperienced squad who performed very well and finished 3rd in a group of 6, thereby narrowly failing to qualify for the semi-final stage. Outstanding performances came from Paul Halsall, Tom Yeoman and Philip Thompson.

Mr D.J. Harrison

CRICKET

1ST XI

Played:	11
Won:	5
Drawn:	3
Lost:	3
Cancelled:	2

(due to weather)

The 1995 season produced some excellent cricket. It was never going to be a vintage XI, nor was it blessed with the best of fortune, but in its application – both in practice and competition – and determination to play positive cricket, it was most certainly outstanding.

Handicapped from the outset by the unfortunate loss through injury of captain Mark Farnsworth, the bowling lacked consistency and penetration. The seamers between them took only 35 wickets from a total of three hundred overs, at an average of nearly thirty runs per wicket, and a strike rate of one wicket per fifty deliveries. This was despite consistently good ground fielding and catching that was often brilliant. As a result, the bowling depended almost entirely on the flight and turn of slow left-arm Mark Chapman, whose 35 wickets was the best individual haul of recent years. His urgent need of someone to tie up the other end, made the absence of the controlled bowling of Farnsworth doubly frustrating. To see them bowling in tandem in the last game of the season gave a wistful indication of what might have been.

The batting was, generally, much more reliable, and the team was dismissed for under 200 only once. The top six batsmen all averaged over 25, and Mark Crookes had a vintage season with 411 runs at average of 45. He and Peter Jameson (444 runs, average 40) formed a powerful and dependable combination that could both contain and dominate opponents' bowling.

Another significant factor was the positive approach to the game. Only two games petered out into aimless draws – on both occasions the opposition, unusually including Ampleforth, showing little faith in the game as a vehicle for excitement. The only other draw was the washed-out game with MCC which was abandoned at a fascinating stage.

Even in defeat there was tension and uncertainty. The games against St. Peter's and Durham were almost identical. Recovering on each occasion from

roughly 50-5 to make over 200 owing to major middle-order innings from Daniel Scargill and Simon Farnsworth respectively, the opponents were made to toil to the death for their runs, with the result in doubt throughout the last hour.

Of the victories, that over Rossall was probably the most satisfying. The visitors slumped from 103-1 to 177 all out as Chapman bowled a bewitching spell of 6-8 in six overs to give him match figures of 7-39, comfortably the season's best. Against a good Rossall attack, spearheaded by the mercurial Liam Botham, the runs were hard to come by, but a mastery innings by Crookes (57), well supported by determined contributions from Heap and Jameson, meant that a four wicket victory was relatively comfortable.

The two two-day games were also won, in conflicting style. At Glensalmond, in extremely hot weather, on a good wicket, first innings runs were easy to come by, with 254-6 being based on a third wicket partnership of 120 between Heap (76) and Jameson (77). In tense circumstances on the second morning, Glensalmond were dismissed for 144, and the follow-on enforced. In baking sunshine the Sedbergh XI showed great character and endurance, fielding for 129 overs non-stop in the two innings as the home team were dismissed the second time for 160, leaving an hour to knock off the remaining 52.

The following day against Magdalen College School, again saw runs comfortably compiled. For the second year running, Peter Jameson got a hundred against these opponents, this time in a partnership of 153 for the third wicket with James Lofthouse (86). Magdalen comfortably matched our first innings with their own 247-5, but a rapid second innings of 228-3 in 38 overs (Heap 77 not out) left them a target of 233 in 57 overs. Wickets fell steadily on a deteriorating pitch and the visitors were dismissed for 147, with ten overs remaining, by the long-awaited combination of Chapman (4-35) and Mark Farnsworth (2-61).

And so the season drew to a close on an exciting evening in hot sunshine under Winder's clear cut outline. A fifth victory from eleven games was a satisfying reward for a team which, even in adversity, never lost sight of positive aims and which applied itself as wholeheartedly as any of its predecessors. Its two captains, Peter Jameson and Mark Farnsworth were, in all respects, worthy heirs to the proud traditions of the brown cap.

Mr N.A. Rollings

AVERAGES

Batting (Qual: 150 Runs)

	Inns	N/O	Runs	Highest	Av.
M.B. Crookes	11	2	411	108	45.7
P.J. Jameson	13	2	444	101	40.4
D.R. Scargill	9	3	187	98	31.5
J.C.M. Lofthouse	12	1	287	86	26.1
C.E. Heap	13	1	305	77	25.4
C.P. Simpson-Daniel	12	2	254	42	25.4

Bowling (Qual: 15 wkts)

	Overs	Mns	Runs	Wkts	Av.
J.M. Chapman	180.3	39	633	35	18.1
B.R. Biker	157.5	24	601	16	37.6

1st XI Results

v	Q.E.G.S. Penrith	158-7	(Lofthouse 76*)
	Sedbergh	108-7	
	Q.E.G.S.		
	Match drawn		
v	St. Peter's York		(Scargill 98)
	Sedbergh	203	
	St. Peter's	204-5	
	Lost by 5 wkts.		
v	Craven Gentlemen		
	CG	247-3	
	Sedbergh	248-5	(Crookes 96)
	Won by 5 wkts.		
v	Durham School		(S. Farnsworth 69)
	Sedbergh	210	
	Durham	214-4	
	Lost by 6 wkts.		
v	Ampleforth		(Crookes 108)
	Sedbergh	240-5	
	Ampleforth	142-4	
	Match drawn.		
v	Rossall		(Chapman 7-39)
	Rossall	177	
	Sedbergh	178-6	(Crookes 57)
	Won by 4 wkts.		
v	MCC		(Rain stopped play)
	MCC	200-3	
	Sedbergh	75-2	
	Match drawn.		
v	R.G.S. Lancaster		(P. Jameson 57)
	R.G.S.	199	
	Sedbergh	200-7	
	Won by 3 wkts.		
v	Pocklington		(Chapman 5-60)
	Pocklington	206	
	Sedbergh	175	
	Lost by 31 runs.		
v	Glensalmond		
	Sedbergh	254-6	(Heap 76, Jameson 77)
		and 52-3	
	Glensalmond	144	
		and 160	
	Won by 7 wkts.		
v	Magdalen College School, Oxford		(Jameson 101, Lofthouse 86)
	Sedbergh	251-7	
		and 228-3	(Heap 77, Jameson 63)
	MCS	247-5	
		and 147	
	Won by 85 runs.		



2ND XI

This year's 2nd XI cricket report starts with the champagne moment of the season. On a freezing afternoon at Ampleforth, their number three batsman is on 82 and looking set for a century. He effortlessly strokes an off-drive that is on its way to the boundary. The umpire is already taking his hand out of his pocket to signal four, but has not counted on a stunning interception by Head of School elect, Jonathan Gill, horizontal, at full stretch and six inches off the ground. It was an outstanding catch, and puts Gill alongside Jonty Rhodes as the player who makes the team on his fielding skills. The 2nd XI were as ever a skillful and enthusiastic bunch led well initially by Jim Chapman and then by James Tweedale. Gordon Maclelland was the top scorer, anchor-man, and a great team man. All other batsmen at times made solid contributions. Commiserations must go to John Darling who in his last innings was looking good on 80 but then chose the wrong ball to hook. The imprint of stitching on his nose was not a pretty sight! Derrick Burston, Justin Jameson and Guy Melrose made up a very useful bowling attack, with Ian McKerrow behind the stumps letting little through. It was a successful season with 3 wins, 3 draws and 1 loss. My thanks to all who worked so hard and with such enthusiasm.

Mr J.R.D.Morgan



CRICKET

3RD XI

Sedbergh had an enjoyable and successful season. The first match, against Austin Friars 1st XI, was probably the hardest. Some excellent tail-end batting from Guy Tothill and Iain Hunter secured a draw after defeat seemed inevitable. Against Ampleforth, Sedbergh had a strong side, and good batting, particularly from Alex Pye and Marcus Chapman, enabled a declaration at 236-9. Ampleforth may have been disappointed with their reply of 118 all out. Away at Rossall, Sedbergh bowled the home team out for 55 and scored a somewhat slow 56-3 for an easy win. Lancaster made a creditable 186, but their erratic bowling gave Sedbergh an easy victory by 8 wickets. The last match of the season against Bentham 1st XI saw another comfortable win and the season ended in style. The players enjoyed the season; thanks to Mr Vigar and Mr Smith and to a dedicated scorer Colin Davies.

Paul Barker

The following represented the 3rd XI:

P.M.Barker (Capt.)	P.J. Bingham
C.M.Jameson	T.J.D.Reyle
N.Parkin	I.Hunter
A.K.Pye	A.J.A.Walker
M.H.Chapman	E.P.Fanshawe
J.McNeish	G.Tothill
S.J.Riley	M.J.A.Ridgway
S.G.Barry	J.R.A.Baucher
C.Sanders	

COLTS A1

Played:	9
Won:	5
Lost:	3
Drawn:	1

The emphasis all season was to try to adopt as attacking an approach to the playing of the game as possible, and to avoid at all costs the plethora of tedious draws that, on many occasions, has spoilt the game at this level. The captain, Philip Thompson, had to demonstrate a willingness to take some risky decisions in his efforts to force a win. The team had to be aware of scoring runs at a good rate, of picking up singles wherever possible, bowling overs quickly and generally being prepared to react in a positive and active manner to "make things happen". By this criteria the season can be judged a success. A single draw only in nine games

indicated that attacking cricket can be played. The victories against Arnold and Yarm were achieved with minutes to spare, and the defeat by Lancaster also occurred in the last few overs. This contributed to an exciting series of games which provided real interest for the players. Ampleforth were set 212 runs to win - a good declaration - the fact that they scored the runs was a tribute to their excellent batting rather than any failure of Sedbergh's.

Michael Wilson and Robert Leather were the most prolific batsmen. Both hit the ball hard and did not allow any bowler to dictate to them. It was a delight to see them bat at Ampleforth, where they put on over 100 together. Leather kept wicket for most of the season although Wilson took over for the last few matches. Both were brilliant in the field.

Matthew Dinsdale and Charles Walford were two middle order batsmen who had the necessary technique to play a long innings. They improved as the wickets became harder, and each one of them played at least one substantial innings. James Johnson besides being outstanding in the field, batted with determination. He showed a splendid defence and temperament. Paul Halsall was a hard-hitting lower order batsman and very useful medium pace seamer. He was also extremely athletic in the field.

The two opening bowlers, Charles Piper and Roger Pearson, were a fast and aggressive combination. Piper's hat trick at Rossall and Pearson's haul of 5-20 against Lancaster were two of the bowling highlights of the season. Both these two will provide exciting potential for the 1st XI in years to come. John Sugden was the most successful bowler. A leg spinner is an attacking bowler. He took 20 wickets at a cost of 14.9 runs per wicket. The captain used him very sensibly. There were many occasions when the spin bowlers cleaned up the opposition. Philip Thompson, himself, bowled his off spin with superb control. His tally of 22 wickets at a cost of 12.0 runs per wicket ensured that the pair of spinners operating together presented two very different problems for the opposition. Thompson never justified his class with the bat in matches, but he was quite outstanding fielding in any position, and as captain responsible for an enormous amount of what was achieved by the team.

It was a real pleasure to witness the steady improvement in technique, knowledge, confidence, and the understanding of cricket, by this group of players during the season. The enthusiasm and good humour generated on and off the field made

the sessions on New Field ones to be looked forward to each week. A large number of these players will go on to represent Sedbergh at 1st XI level. The talent is certainly there.

Mr J.O.Morris

The following played for the team:

P.D.Thompson	M.H.Wilson
R.J.Leather	J.R.Sugden
C.deG.Walford	R.A.Pearson
C.K.S.Piper	D.A.Riley
P.T.S.Brown	P.D.Halsall
J.A.Johnson	M.R.Dinsdale
B.M.Wilson	T.F.M.Yeoman
R.S.Fanshawe	

Colts A1 Results

St Peter's 180-6 dec. Sedbergh 138 Lost by 42 runs	(Halsall 54)
Sedbergh 175-5 dec. Giggleswick 71 Won by 104 runs	(Leather 79, Dinsdale 36) (Sugden 6-36)
Sedbergh 173 Durham 112-5 Drawn	(Wilson 53, Johnson 38)
Sedbergh 211-7 dec. Ampleforth 212 Lost by 6 wickets	(Wilson 89, Leather 72)
Rossall 87 Sedbergh 88-3 Won by 7 wickets	(Piper 3-10) (Leather 34 n.o.)
R.G.S.Lancaster 142 Sedbergh 104 Lost by 38 runs	(Pearson 5-20) (Pearson 30)
Barnard Castle 153 Sedbergh 157-6 Won by 4 wickets	(B.Wilson 4-2) (Leather 85 n.o.)
Sedbergh 178 Yarm 131 Won by 47 runs	(Walford 73, Dinsdale 32) (Thompson 5-50)
Sedbergh 170-2 dec.	(Dinsdale 54 n.o., Thompson 46 n.o.)
Arnold 146	(Thompson 5-49, Sugden 4-50)
Won by 24 runs	

COLTS A2

Colts A2 cricket had a good season and Sedbergh boys are fortunate to be able to maintain a decent fixture list at this level. In a summer largely untroubled by the vagaries of the weather we faced, in turn, the following schools: Our Lady's Chetwynde, Kirkbie Kendal, Ampleforth College, Rossall, Stonyhurst College, RGS Lancaster, and Bentham School. Only one match was lost through rain. The pick of the games was with Ampleforth when a notably determined captaincy by the Ampleforth skipper turned what should have been an easy win into a most interesting tussle, though the performance against Rossall produced the highlight of the season. On this occasion a remarkable, hard-hitting opening partnership of 199 (Ben Wilson 130 n.o., Tom Brown 62 n.o.) in under two hours left Rossall with little hope. Batting was generally strong though all proved fallible to the ill-considered swing, and calling left much to be desired. With ball in hand we showed great promise, and the captain, Tom Brown, grew in wisdom with regard to field settings. There was plenty of pace in the attack, and some direction. Ben Wilson and Daniel Riley have the potential to play at a higher level if they can exercise control. The rough outfield on the Graveyard pitch, baked into concrete furrows, kept the fielders on their toes. Colin Smith saved barrels of runs on the boundary and Charles Obank kept wicket with style and a commendably low 'extras' count. The team played good cricket and enjoyed the season.

Mr E.A.D. Campbell

COLTS B1

Played:9 Won:5
Drawn:2 Lost:2

This was a very successful season for this team who played the game with much enthusiasm and always in the right spirit.

James Hart led the side from the front, opening the bowling and batting with great success. He was ably supported by vice-captain Ross Winney, who took vital wickets with the ball and batted with great patience when it was needed. Simon Cross proved that he can develop into a fine hard-hitting batsman and his quick scoring turned a couple of matches in his favour. On the bowling side, Jake Moore will develop into a useful left-arm spinner with increased accuracy and Winterbottom found considerable turn on some wickets.



The most important thing that this side had was a fantastic team spirit and this was illustrated by how much the fielding improved during the season. Early losses against Ampleforth and Durham were rectified by five good wins, perhaps the most important being the defeat of St Peter's York. I hope this team can continue in this successful manner in forthcoming seasons and I wish them the best of luck.

Mr D.J. Harrison

COLTS B2

The team had a most successful season beating all the other school 2nd XIs they played and losing only one game to a school 1st XI. Ian Halsall captained the side sensibly and made the best use of the resources available to him. The major reason for the success was the bowling of Max Gaskell. He bowled a good line and length and took five wickets in several matches. Significantly, the only defeat came when he was eventually promoted to the 1st XI. There was no outstanding batsman, but several played good innings at various times. The ground fielding was no more than adequate but the catching was good in most of the matches. I would like to thank the groundsmen for consistently producing good wickets on 'cinders' and also the tea-ladies for providing such excellent refreshments.

Mr R.W. Cann

Results

Sedbergh 78-4,	St Peters 77	Won
Sedbergh 128-8d,	Kirkbie Kendal 85	Won
Sedbergh 223,	Ampleforth 101	Won
Sedbergh 16-0,	Rossall 15	Won
Sedbergh 129,	Lancaster 112	Won
Sedbergh 97,	Our Lady's, Chetwynde 133	Lost
Sedbergh 147-7,	Yarm 146-6d	Won

THE WILSON RUN

The pre-race favourites to win 1995 Wilson Run were Tom Wright, Henry Kaye and David Lonsdale-Eccles (captain 1st VIII), but no-one would have thought that the final result would have been decided in the last mile. The race started with Wright, Kaye, Lonsdale-Eccles and Nick Pearson at Ten Mile Lane in a pack with Tom Booth just strides behind. Even though the race had been going for only a few minutes, it already looked as if the winner was going to be out of these five.

By Cautley four out of the five were within strides of each other with Lonsdale-Eccles looking a bit worse for wear, perhaps due to the knee injury which had troubled him for much of the cross-country season. The leading four hit Baugh Fell rapidly and across the open fell the places moved about somewhat with Booth leading Kaye and Wright by seconds whilst Pearson had dropped back 16 seconds on the group. Lonsdale-Eccles was now showing enough determination to suggest that he might catch them.

Viewed from the top of Danny Rise, it seemed, as the runners came over the Dovecotes, that one of the three runners took the lower route whilst the other two took the shorter over the top, but there was little in it. Coming up Danny Rise, Pearson, having made up a considerable amount of time just led Kaye. Booth was slightly behind and appeared poised to strike with his well-known 400m finishing speed. Wright was now looking fatigued and Lonsdale-Eccles looked out of contention for the top three.

Wright stopped near the Sool Bank cattle grid. A severe stitch cost him time and a smooth rhythm and he was soon caught by Lonsdale-Eccles. For the final couple of miles, Kaye, Pearson and Booth were very close together and it was reported by New Bridge that there was nothing in it - just ten



metres between the three. Henry Kaye drew on special reserves and managed to pull away in the final half-mile to win by 12 seconds over Nick Pearson (Captain 1st VIII, '96) with Tom Booth (Captain Athletics '95) a further 17 seconds behind.

Rarely, if ever, have four different runners led at Cautley, Hebblethwaite, Danny Bridge and over the finishing line. Lonsdale-Eccles did not gain on the leaders on the road but did gain an important place finishing fourth over Wright. As Tom Wright approached Library Corner in fifth he merely raised his shoulders and his hands showing his disappointment knowing he could have done no more on the day. Henry Booth gained a vital place along the road to finish sixth.

It was one of the closest races in the history of the Ten and it was certainly one of the most exciting to watch.

C.L.Sykes (SH 90-94)

W.A.Sykes (SH 57-62)

1	H.G.Kaye (S)	1.15.41.7
2	N.D.Pearson (P)	1.15.53
3	T.M.M.Booth (L)	1.16.10
4	D.A.Lonsdale-Eccles (E)	1.17.24
5	T.G.Wright (L)	1.19.07
6	H.W.L.Bolton (P)	1.20.29

THE WILSON RUN -
A HOUSEMASTER'S PERSPECTIVE

"Never shall you strive in vain
In the Long Run"

The atmosphere and mystique surrounding the Wilson Run are a unique feature of life at Sedbergh. None of our major sporting occasions, not even Ampleforth Rugby Day, commands anything like the intense speculation and interest generated by the Run among members of the School, Old Sedberghians and, particularly, in the town of Sedbergh, where the names and current form of the favourites are discussed and backed as knowledgeably and enthusiastically as horses on Grand National day. Legends abound, many apocryphal, a few probably true. "Sir, is it true the course was shorter when Pumphrey broke the record?" "Sir, what was Mr Moore's best time round the course?" "Has Mr Symonds broken the record?"

Despite the wealth of information in Norman Berry's excellent history of the first 100 years of the race, it is good that some of these questions remain unanswered and still stimulate the imagination of boys and staff alike.

I am no competitive sleepchaser, but in 26 years of running at least once a year round the course I can perhaps claim a greater familiarity than most with every hill, ghyll, hump, dip and bog on its 10 miles 385 yards length and with the wide variety of weather conditions that runners of all ages have to contend with. I have learnt where the best time-saving lines can be taken across Baugh Fell and where the worst bogs can be avoided. But most of all I have learnt to appreciate the scale of the whole across this beautiful, wild countryside. I can understand and applaud the decision taken in 1963 to discontinue the house team race (instituted in 1922) and to return the race to the status of the only school sporting event for which no inter-house trophy exists. This rightly emphasizes the individual nature of the Wilson Run winner's achievement. It is worth noting that the Winner's Cup was only instituted at the time of the Centenary Run in 1981. Hitherto the honour and acclaim earned by being the first to mount the stage in the Wilson Run Concert was considered glory enough on its own.

This is not to say that house spirit is absent from the Wilson Run. Far from it! Every house takes enormous interest in the achievements of its members and basks in the reflected glory of its successful runners. I am proud to be housemaster of a house which over recent years has shown a remarkable depth of talent and determination in cross-country running. This has given Sedgwick House since 1991 two individual winners of the Junior Race (Roger Haworth and James Whitfield) with one first and two second places for the Junior team, and one second place followed by three successive wins for the Middle team with one individual winner (James Whitfield). In the Wilson Run itself we had two runners placed in 1992, three in 1993 and two in 1994, this leading to the crowning achievement of two successive first places in 1994 (Charles Ellis) and 1995 (Henry Kaye). After the 1995 race we were proud to be able to photograph three Sedgwick Wilson Run winners together. Charles Ellis and Henry Kaye were joined by Paul Edington, currently a Sedgwick parent, whose time of 1.11.40 in 1960 was the fastest time since Pumphrey's record and who showed the way to the faster times achieved over the next 30 years before the record finally fell.



Before 1994 the last Sedgwick winner of the Wilson Run was as far back as 1971. It is interesting to note that in the decade 1970-80 Sedgwick House had three placed runners on no less than four occasions, ample proof—if such were needed—that the spirit within a house is every bit as strong a motivating force as individual talent. Long may this continue in every area of our sporting endeavour!

The year of Charles Ellis's win was of course all the more remarkable for those who did not win! Charles Sykes, the previous year's record-breaker, was the natural favourite, while Alex Dean of Sedgwick (2nd in 1992, 4th in 1993) and David Lonsdale-Eccles of Evans were both more strongly fancied than Ellis. That the first three runners should lose their way in thick mist on Baugh Fell and allow Charles as the best runner on the day to take the winner's place only served to emphasize the unpredictability and open nature of this great race. It is an interesting coincidence to discover that on the previous occasion when a Sedgwickian won the race (David Scott-Aiton in 1971) the course was also obscured by thick mist, with several runners getting lost, though not that year the leaders. A few even went through the same check-point twice! Over the years many Sedberghians have discovered that the Wilson Run is not just a ten-mile test of fitness and endurance—it is also a test of route-finding and familiarity with the course, gained through intensive previous training. The winner has to be the best at both.

The Wilson Run has become an institution which inspires all those who set foot on its course, whether competitors in the race, boys or staff doing their "best time", or the many Old Sedberghians of all ages who retrace their steps annually, to produce a performance of which they can be personally and individually proud. This I believe is the real and enduring challenge of the Wilson Run.

Mr R.E. Hildrew

RUNNING

RUNNING TEAM REPORT

The captain and his runners feared a difficult series of races in the winter of 94/95. The team appeared to lack pace and experience. However, at the start of the season, Mr Symonds said that a running team consisting of eight sound runners rather than a few heroes could be just as competitive as teams from previous years. This wasn't easy to swallow as at our first race of the winter, at Stonyhurst, Sedbergh) and Charles Sykes (Durham University) and Alex Dean (Salford University) for the first time in four seasons. The new team consisted of three experienced runners, David Eccles, Tom Wright and Tom Booth; and three newcomers to the team, Henry Kaye, Nick Pearson and Sam Stell, the latter two both having given up captaincies of other teams to run for the VIII. Our seventh and eighth men had little running experience at this time. Apprehension was high but great efforts from every member of the team led to all six counters finishing in the top twenty five places out of the two hundred runners on the impressive Stonyhurst circuit of Lancashire countryside. Sedbergh finished a close second behind the home team and were glad to finish ahead of Lancaster RGS. A few weeks later, on neutral soil and mud, revenge was gained when we defeated Stonyhurst at Lancaster.

During the season the team defeated the OSS and staff, Lancaster RGS, Stonyhurst, Manchester GS, Barnard Castle, Austin Friars, Ampleforth, Strathallan and Glenalmond in small fixtures and many more in championship events. Great improvements throughout the season were enjoyed by most runners especially Henry Kaye who collected several first places for the team. Sam Stell and Nick Pearson were also of great value and all three were deservedly awarded their first VIII colours. Tom Booth and Tom Wright (colours 93/94) also had excellent seasons.

The Under Fifteens team enjoyed several victories during the season and the future looks promising with Andrew Symonds, Robert Rhodes and Iain Thackrah all having represented Cumbria.

The short, sharp and flat Loughborough relays were a new event on the fixtures list and were greatly enjoyed by all who took part. Finishing seventh in a field of twenty schools from all over England was a great achievement. The annual Midland and Northern Schools' Championships were held on a twisting and demanding course at Malvern on a damp and gloomy day. The team excelled, finishing third behind Shrewsbury and Stamford thereby returning home with the trophy for the first small (under 400) school.

Captaining the team has been a great privilege for me and the determined but friendly approach of all the runners to competitions has brought deserved success.

David Lonsdale-Eccles



ATHLETICS

Seniors:		Intermediates:	
Played	4	Played	4
Lost	3	Lost	3
Won	1	Won	1

School Matches:

- v Giggleswick
Lancaster R.G.S
Bradford G.S
- v Northern HMC Schools Championships
- v Durham School
- v Ampleforth
- v Stonyhurst (cancelled)

County Matches:

South Lakes at Lancaster
Cumbria Trials at Carlisle
Inter-county match v North East Counties

Captain: T.M.M.Booth
Vice-Captain: C.A.Selman

The season began with the regular opening fixture against Lancaster R.G.S, Giggleswick and Bradford G.S at the new sports complex at Salt Ayre in Lancaster. The team was somewhat stretched during the first weeks of the season and hence the Seniors narrowly lost to Lancaster, yet beating both Giggleswick and Bradford. This was due to the inspiring performances by Roger Hawthorne and Charles Yeoman in the 400m and James Bennett in the 100m. A similar situation occurred in the Intermediate competition but Lancaster won convincingly with a large percentage of their athletes finishing in the top three of each event. However the team achieved promising performances during the day both on the track and on the field. A couple of days later we took 24 athletes to the Northern HMC Schools' Championships at Gateshead. The Seniors had victories in the 800m (Tom Booth), the Discus (Clive Selman) and the Hammer (Sam Rickitt). The team missed winning the championship by one point. The Intermediates achieved a large number of high positions such as Andrew Bowes in the High Jump and Henry Morris in the Long Jump. The Intermediates finished third out of nine schools.

We came back from our match against Durham with victories in both age groups and having gained nine first places out of 12 events in the Seniors and seven first places in the Intermediates. Inspiring performances in the Seniors came in the 100m (Toby Rainthorpe), the High Jump (Charles Sanders) and the Hurdles and Discus (Clive Selman). Good Middle performances came from Simon Elliott in the Javelin and Hurdles, David Scarr in the Shot and Richard Wild in the 200m, 800m and Triple Jump. Against Ampleforth, we narrowly lost in both age groups in matches held on Riverside. Injuries caused problems in the Senior 100m and 200m. But the longer distance runners maintained their form with victories in the Senior 400m and 800m (Tom Booth), and in the 1500m (Nick Pearson).



Sedbergh athletes returned from the South Lakes District Trials with ten 1st places and 16 went on to represent South Lakes in the County Championships at Carlisle. Gavin Lewis, David Scarr and Andrew Symonds were selected for an inter-county junior and intermediate match at Middlesbrough. Our thanks go to our two coaches Mr H.M.Symonds (Track), and Mr N.H.Brown (Field) for the time and effort in "fine tuning" the skills hidden within the team.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

A.F. CLUB

	P	W	D	L	F	A
1st XI	6	3	0	3	20	19
U15	1	0	0	0	3	6

The team had changed considerably and several new players were required. However under Ben Edwards's captaincy a settled side soon began to appear. One game was arranged in the Christmas term, the School losing a closely fought battle with a Dent XI with Gordon Maclelland scoring a hat-trick. In the Lent term a full fixture list was played at home. The team played well to beat Bentham 4-2 and against Chetwynde the team held on to a slender 2-1 lead in atrocious conditions. We struggled to contain a strong Barnard Castle side losing 6-2, whilst the deadly finishing of the forwards of Ripley St Thomas proved decisive enabling them to win 4-2. In the final match against Giggleswick the Sedbergh attack ran riot in the second-half, with Simon Riley scoring a hat-trick in the 6-1 victory. Several players found themselves playing out of position, but everyone is to be congratulated on their efforts. In goal Daniel Abraham was outstanding and his bravery often kept the score respectable. In defence Charles Sanders and Edward Watson developed a sound partnership, with the energy and skill of the midfielders Michael Barry and Philip Wearmouth providing the link to the forwards. In attack Edward Laver, Simon Riley and Gordon Maclelland showed that they had the ability to score spectacular goals when given the chance. Maclelland finished as top goal scorer with eight goals. However the driving force behind the team both on and off the pitch was Ben Edwards, and he is to be congratulated for setting such high standards of organisation and of sportsmanship. Our thanks go to Mr Campbell for refereeing often in atrocious conditions.

Colours were awarded to:

M.R.Barry
D.C.T.Sanders
A.E.Laver
S.J.Riley
H.W.Bolton

Team Members for the 1995 season:

Senior Squad:

T.M.M.Booth (Capt)	C.A.Selman (V-Capt)
R.N.Haworth	J.S.Bennett
T.J.Rainthorpe	D.Lonsdale-Eccles
T.G.Wright	C.W.M.Yeoman
N.D.Pearson	B.J.Stell
D.C.T.Sanders	D.M.Easterby
S.J.Rickitt	T.N.J.Fleming
R.G.R.Thomas	O.M.Pease
A.T.Birley	H.G.Kaye
S.D.J.Price	M.Sell

Intermediate Squad:

P.Stinson	R.Brown
S.D.D.Elliott	R.B.Wild
H.I.G.Morris	G.Peto
A.W.Archer	M.R.Thomas
A.P.S.Bowes	D.H.Scurr
R.S.G.Rhodes	A.M.Symonds
H.O.Stacey	T.A.Mercer
T.P.M.Yeoman	S.J.Cartwright

Colours were awarded to:

Thomas Wright
Sam Rickitt

David Lonsdale-Eccles
Toby Rainthorpe

Inter-House Competition:

1st	Evans	220
2nd	Winder	213
3rd	Hart	188.5

Wilby Shield (track):
Toby Rainthorpe shared with
David Lonsdale-Eccles

Leather Cup (field):
Tom Fleming

Mile Trophy:
Andrew Holden

Inter-House Standards:

1st	Sedgwick	12.43 (per boy)
2nd	Hart	8.95
3rd	Powell	6.74

Best Individual Performance:

Richard Wild (with 32 points)

Thomas M.M.Booth

Dr I.C.Hobson

UNDER 15 XI

Several Sunday games were arranged for the Junior players, but terrible weather caused the cancellation of all but one game. Against a very strong and well-organised Stonyhurst team we fought back from 4-0 to lose 6-3.

SENIOR HOUSE CUP

This competition was moved to the beginning of the Summer term and was played on one afternoon as an eight-a-side cup. School and Evans won their respective leagues and in the final School ran out comfortable winners.

JUNIOR HOUSE CUP

An eight-a-side competition was organised by Daniel Abraham and in a very exciting final Powell beat Winder 3-1. Sedgwick beat Hart 3-2 to finish 3rd.

Dr. I.C.Hobson

O.S. SOCCER PLAYERS

"What were Old Sedberghians doing playing football against such teams as Corinthians, Arsenal, Aston Villa and Tottenham Hotspur?" might well be a question in a Sports Quiz. The answer is that they were all Oxford University footballers who had changed from rugby to association football after leaving school.

The first Sedberghian who got a Blue for soccer was F.N. Dowson of Oriol College in 1901. He was a member of Mr Mackie's House (Evans) and was at Sedbergh from 1892 to 1897. (In later life he founded Cressbrook School). In those days, as now, the School played soccer as a minor game and the team, strengthened by masters, played three matches in 1895 after the rugby season had ended. Strangely, Dowson was not in the School soccer side and we find him playing at half-back in his House Rugby XV and scoring tries for the School 2nd XV against Giggleswick. At Oxford he played outside right in the victorious XI that beat Cambridge 3-2 at the Queen's Club in February 1901. By December 1902 he was again playing rugby for the Old Sedberghian XV so perhaps his attachment to soccer was only a temporary, albeit successful, lapse from Sedbergh tradition.

Dowson was followed by W.G. Edwards, who spent two years at Sedbergh from 1900 to 1902. He is mentioned, rather perfunctorily, in the School magazine of 1910, "W.G. Edwards played for the Oxford XI against Cambridge". In fact he played in the Varsity match at the Queen's Club in both 1909 and 1910, a strong, determined attacking centre-half in the days long before Arsenal invented the 3rd backstopper system of defence. The 1909 match was won 2-1 by Cambridge and a 1-1 draw was the result in 1910.

The third Sedberghian to play soccer for a first class amateur side was A.H. Dutton. He began his school career in 1926 and in the March edition of the 1936 Sedberghian he was mentioned as being "the Oxford goal-keeper until an accident robbed him of his Soccer Blue". It was, indeed, cruel luck for he had played in all the matches against amateur and professional opposition during the term only to be injured a fortnight before the Varsity match was due to be played on the Arsenal ground at Highbury. Soccer correspondents of the Times and Daily Telegraph had written of him as "by far the best goal-keeper in the University". Only ill-fortune prevented him following in the footsteps of Dowson and Edwards in playing against Cambridge.

It is also noteworthy that in the same years, 1909 and 1910, that W.G. Edwards was playing soccer for Oxford, Sedbergh was also providing one Oxford and two Cambridge Rugby Blues: F.H. Turner, the Oxford Captain of 1910, J.A. Scofield also of Oxford, and J.H.B. Lockhart of Cambridge

Mr C.J.Weir (former master).



TENNIS

SENIOR

Having benefited from indoor play during the Michaelmas and Lent terms the senior squad in particular looked set to continue the encouraging performances of the previous two years. Duncan Finley and Simon Richards along with Peter Kavanagh and Nick Cridlan had looked strong but never really made the most of their potential until late in the season. Newcomers Oliver Scott-Harden and William Webb did, however, make an impact on the seedings and their competitive edge helped them to rise to meet the challenge in some important matches. Seedings were never entirely safe throughout the season and it was pleasing to see Sam Strell and Tim Sessions, Richard Rouse and Tom Winney and the likes of Hal Watson and Oliver Hargreaves playing good competitive tennis throughout and, indeed, challenging for the top positions on numerous occasions.

At under-15 level the future certainly does look bright. Adam Wilson and Henry Whitten became Cumbrian Champions in emphatic style and it was also encouraging to see John McLoughlin and Henry Strell make their mark as the season progressed.

At the Northern Schools LTA Championships, Sedbergh once again met the real world of tennis. Both Senior and Junior teams went out of the main competition very early on and this was repeated at the Independent Schools Tournament held at Eton in June. The standards of play at this kind of event are quite exceptional.

At home, Sedgwick once again triumphed in the Alban Cup. Tim Sessions of School House won the Senior Cup and Adam Wilson of Sedgwick, perhaps the odds-on favourite, took the honours in the Junior Cup, defeating Henry Whitten of School House.

In conclusion it only remains for me to express my own and the players' thanks to Mrs Garnett for looking after such a successful junior squad, to the Queen's Hall staff for such superb teas and, of course, to Dr Hobson who has now moved on to Christ's Hospital School. His tireless efforts as Master-in-Charge of Tennis will not be forgotten. We wish him and his family well for the future.

Mr C.R.I.Morgan

U15

This season has been particularly successful for an especially enthusiastic and talented Under 15 team.

Results were as follows:

v. Bradford	Won	4-2
v. Durham	Won	9-0
v. Giggleswick	Won	6½-2½
v. Barnard Castle	Won	9-0

The first pair Henry Whitten and Adam Wilson entered the Northern Schools LTA Tournament at Bolton. They beat Leeds Grammar and Stonyhurst before losing to Pensby High School, the current champions, in the semi-final. On the same day, a valiant 2nd V1 lost to Ampleforth's 1st.

Henry and Adam went on to the South Cumbria LTA Tournament which they won convincingly going forward to the All-Cumbria Under 15 Finals held at St.Anne's School Windermere. Both produced sparkling performances, winning all their matches and finally being awarded individual trophies as the Under 15 Champions of Cumbria.

There have been examples of impressive stroke play and generally a positive approach by all throughout the season, providing a strong basis for further success in the future.

The squad has included:

A.C.Aitken	R.M.Campolucci-Bordi
D.P.G.Burger	J.R.McLoughlin
R.P.Mercer	J.R.Parratt
H.R.Stell	T.F.J.Stephenson
D.J.B.Waldron	C.M.A.West
H.B.T.Whitten	A.J.M.Wilson (Capt.)

Mrs M.S.Garnett



FIVES

In spite of disappointing results the season was in many ways encouraging, particularly in the emergence of one or two players of real promise for the future. Mark Crookes, our captain, developed into an enterprising singles player and, when provided with a reliable partner, acquitted himself well at doubles. Mark Chapman showed that he has the ability to mature into a valuable left-hander. David Edington showed plenty of talent, but not the consistency that is so essential for success in Rugby Fives. James Lofthouse and Ian McKerrow showed a combination of strength and increasing reliability that augurs well for next season. Both of them, moreover, have the makings of impressive singles-players.

The highlight of the term was probably the visit of Merchiston and the appearance at Sedbergh of the best schoolboy-four that we have come up against for many years. Defeat against such a team was no disgrace. The club-sides, against which most of our matches are played, are almost always too strong for mere boys and this season was no exception, although the result against the R.F.A. hung in the balance until the last point had been played. We should like to play more schools and hope to do so in future seasons, but the experience gained from meeting some of the finest players in the country is invaluable; the worth of such encounters often reveals itself in the National Schools Championships at the beginning of the Easter holidays.

In the Nationals this year we could not quite repeat the successes of the two previous seasons. But James Lofthouse progressed with ease to the final of the Colts Singles. The final itself was a lacklustre game in which neither James nor his opponent, Richard Holland of Bradford, produced their best form, although both played well for periods. Richard was undoubtedly a worthy winner. Meanwhile Ian McKerrow had won the Open Singles Plate with a display of uncomplicated, but consistent and determined Fives. The Open Doubles was a disappointing competition this year and we did not play it with any distinction. We look for better things next year and there are genuine grounds for hope.

In conclusion, I should like to thank Mark Crookes for his enthusiastic and cooperative approach as captain of Fives, which contributed greatly to the pleasure of another hugely enjoyable season.

Laurence Catlow

WINCHESTER FIVES

The origin of Fives is lost in the mists of antiquity. There are three versions of Fives that are played within the United Kingdom, that which has its origin at Rugby School known as Rugby Fives, in which the court is similar in shape to a small squash court having no step or buttress, secondly Eton Fives, which was developed at that school and is derived from a handball game played against the buttress walls of the college chapel. This also is widely played and is a more complicated game with a pepper pot, step and buttress wall incorporated into the court. The third variety of the game is Winchester Fives, which is the type played at Sedbergh, and which originated at Winchester College. The court has a diagonal buttress on the left-hand side wall, to which the server can aim, but is otherwise a rectangular court without steps etc. Many would perceive this as the best version of the game. It has, however, not had the same popularity (because of the relatively fewer courts available) as Rugby and Eton Fives and there has been no national association.

The earliest Fives played at Winchester College used a bat, and courts were known to have existed as far back as 1830. Two courts were built at Sedbergh in 1878, four more added in 1903, and further courts were added in 1922 and 1925.

The rules of Rugby Fives and Eton Fives have been standardised for many years. Whilst the rules of Winchester Fives have developed along similar lines to those of Rugby Fives there are some differences in the scoring. Minor variations also exist between the major schools themselves.

Sedbergh has always been at the forefront as a Fives School and although the universities on the whole do not play Winchester Fives, many fives players have gone on to achieve some fame in the other varieties of Fives, particularly Rugby Fives in the National Championships. A number of Old Sedberghians have won Blues at Oxford and Cambridge in Fives, including Sir Giles Shaw and Gerald Vinestock.

Happily, Fives continues to flourish at Sedbergh, though I have been somewhat saddened to discover that you often play to Rugby Fives rather than Winchester Fives rules as a sop to neighbouring schools, and the buttress, if hit, occasions a let! Let other schools learn to play Winchester Fives and our results might be even better!

Mr M.T.Haslam (Evans, 1947-1952)

SQUASH

This season saw the usual high level of commitment from both Squash Teams. The highlights were, for the Senior Team, their splendid win over Ampleforth, and for the U15 Team, their narrow defeat by Barnard Castle. Altogether an encouraging season, due in no small part to the tireless efforts of the captain, Tomas Winney.

Mr N.J.Horsfall

Results:

1st. Team	U15	
4-1	2-3	v Ashville College
2-3	0-5	v Barnard Castle
3-2	1-4	v Ampleforth
5-0	5-0	v Giggleswick
3-2	4-1	v Stonyhurst

The Durham match was cancelled because of snow.

HOCKEY

Hockey continued to flourish at Sedbergh this year despite the loss of several key players from last year's first XI. As ever a number of players either new to the game, or taking it up again, made up the team, providing a great deal of raw talent and enthusiasm. The problem remains that there is a limit to what can be achieved with skill and tactical development using the Sports Hall (albeit an excellent one) and on an all-too-often very soggy grass pitch. Tom Wright and James Tweedale provided sage experience and solid defence - both have served the hockey team well over the past three years. Numbers of players are emerging and they hopefully should develop well over the next



few years. Ben Lewis, Jonathan Baucher, Henry Stell, Hal Watson, Guy Melrose, Alex Tustain, Hugh Thomas and Rob Leather all learnt quickly and made great progress, particularly on the end of season tour to Gloucestershire. David Edington, when available for the team, made outstanding contributions and helped the team a great deal. Adrian Hall likewise had a huge impact on the team. He opted for hockey late, but turned into an orthodox but very effective defender. Few people passed him - few dared! We need not dwell on results, but the rate of improvement of the players was the success of the season, and many remain to continue that upward trend for next season. The arrival of Mr Dilow and Mr Bobby on the staff can only help to improve hockey and to promote what is a fast and skilful game. I thank all those who opt for hockey and urge that they persevere and keep learning.

Mr J.R.D.Morgan

SWIMMING

The squad had tried, tested, but young, swimmers at the senior end, the usual unknowns at the junior end, and battle-hardened middles, who year-on-year contrive to produce the School's best match results. At the top end, Simon Price, despite exam commitments, and declining interest, still competed fiercely, preferring free to back whenever possible. He justifiably won his colours as reward for consistent and stalwart service to school swimming for five years. But the senior squad burdened rested squarely on Tom Ruckstulh, Jonathan Gill, James Allison, with 'rusts' drafted in as and when. That they swam with increasing enthusiasm, and ever-diminishing times was a tribute to their cheerful competitiveness. Simon Ruckstulh dominates largely through sheer brute strength, animal exuberance, and an insatiable competitive hunger. Alongside him, was the coolly effective Jonathan Gill, whose elegant technique was allied to increasing strength and sharp competitive edge. They became a truly formidable pair, both of whom deservedly won their colours. James Allison re-joined us after a season out, and showed great commitment in getting back into something like race-shape. He swam many dashing freestyle 50m, though 100m found out his lack of deep training. As a foundation for next season, however, it was most encouraging. In the Middles, Oliver Ashworth learnt how to sprint, and eventually swam all four strokes as the 'hard man' at the centre of the team's campaign. His strength is based on immaculate technique and tireless training. Richard Hardie proved to be the revelation of the season, developing ferocious

competitiveness, good technique, and a totally unflappable attitude. James Drinkwater took seconds off almost all his times, and competed quietly and efficiently at both backstroke and free, becoming a strong member of the successful relay team. James Johnson recaptured much of his zest for the sport, and we came to a useful arrangement with rugby over his Stevens commitments which I hope can become the model for future years. Colin Smith came and went: when really 'up', he was almost unbeatable in any company, and gave us real cutting edge in relays as well, but he finds long-term commitment difficult when set against hockey. Again, I hope working compromises can be effected, so that the boy himself and the School get the best out of each other! James Tyler was his usual uncomplaining self, and if he really gives it all he has in training next season, he could become a real force in freestyle. From the Junior trials this year we picked up a pretty decent crop of promising technicians, but, frustratingly, it was only a 'nearby' season all round. Jonathan Heavyside has all the right techniques in all four strokes, plenty of competitive edge, but hates training, reducing his effectiveness considerably. Jonathan's Barrow background links him with one of the all-time greats of Sedbergh swimming, the legendary Jake Hughes. Well, if he ever starts to swim like Jake...! Simon Cross has become a powerful backstroke swimmer and strong driving force in the Junior squad, developing technique and good race temperament - a real find! Stephen Tweddle and Marcus Worsley are serious competitors, but very poor trainers, so that it was sad, but not unexpected, when their season's campaign failed to take off quite as their undoubted talent led us all to expect. Both, I am sure, will want to command the respect their technique deserves next season. Dominic Reeve was a reliable member of the relay squad. If only they realised it, this Junior squad

lacks only the self-belief that comes from patient winter training in the pool and weights room to develop real killer instinct in the pool in January 1996. It's that close!

Luckily, most squad swimmers were poolside to see at first hand the competitiveness of the Schools in the **John Parry Relays**, and again a few days later at the marginally more impressive **Sutton Relays**. Clearly you don't have to look like the incredible hulk, nor shaven like Duncan Goodhue to be good, and we saw in our notoriously 'slow' pool (in common with all 4 lane/non-wave-breaking lane rope pools!), and in Manchester, some terrific performances from MGS, Barnard Castle, Leeds GS, RGS Lancaster that should have spurred Sedbergh swimmers to realise that good swimmers are not different mortals, but of the same flesh and blood as themselves made better by serious training. Next season, our senior and middle squads should be made up of quality and experience, with dividends in strength, competition-wisdom, and pride in achievement. Much will be expected of them.

The standards competition and internal championships were again very keenly contested. After an initial Winder surge, School and Hart got into gear. Both houses have greater numbers and potential, but in the end the superior organisation by School of their undoubted talent told, and they ran out winners of both. In marked contrast to the peer-pressure talent - stifling in some houses, I would like to sound some notes of commendation firstly to the Winder Middle Medley Relay quartet, who made it so nearly possible for the house to snatch victory, secondly the Powell House Middle Freestyle Relay squad's 2.17.15, and lastly to the outstanding School House Freestyle relay foursome whose demonstration of power-swimming took them to 2 mins 02.24 secs, an almost unprecedented feat for a single house. The supreme Sedgwick and Powell teams of the mid-eighties were only marginally more successful - praise indeed! The Canon Relay record was under serious threat in the final amazing scrap fought amidst complete bedlam between the three houses that had dominated the competition, School, Winder, and Hart, with School's hungry dash for glory edging out Winder by three seconds. Sedgwick's astonishing 2.58.61 back in 1989 still remains intact. But I think we'd fancy the School House team to have a crack at that next season!

Finally, it is the end of an era for the wonderfully eccentric, utterly reliable, and entirely indispensable team of Chief Timekeeper and Squad Statistician, Daniel Ballard, and his less

aquatically-challenged Deputy, Stuart Gardiner. These two have run most matches, home and away between them for three years, and were specifically commended by the ASA officials who felt able to dispense with their own team of timekeepers for the John Parry Relays, so efficient were ours. The same team were hired in toto to monitor the Ten Mile! We are urgently in need of another statistician, with cheerful patience and computer skills. And as Daniel would be the first to explain, all you need is the ability to make it look as if you swam, and a sense of humour. To run the Swimming Club, its prima donna swimmers, and their coach, the latter is by far the more important qualification!

Mr S.M.Manger

BASKETBALL

	P	W	L	F	A
1st	9	7	2	342	217
U15	4	2	2	70	68

Training started in the Christmas term with two matches played against a Town team, the School winning 19-15 and 37-22. This enabled the squad to settle in before the season started in the Lent term. There were comfortable victories over Bentham (56-38) and Barnard Castle (37-12). However Ampleforth proved far too strong and we lost 41-29. After a good win against Giggleswick (58-11) there followed two very close and exciting games. Against Stonyhurst the team held its nerve to win 29-25 with Max Sell scoring four points in the last minutes. Austin Friars were much stronger and were able to hold off a late Sedbergh challenge to win 38-35. In the final match the School played 42-15. The players are to be congratulated on their dedication and attitude. With the squad averaging almost 40 pts per match, it was pleasing to see the progress made by all players. My thanks go to the captain David Easterby who led the squad so well and to Mr Thomson for his support and meticulous score-keeping.

Dr I.C.Hobson

The following represented the School:

D.M.Easterby	A.Thomson*	C.D.Martin-Smith*
S.R.Richards	R.W.Lee	M.Sell*
P.S.Evans*	R.N.Haworth	M.Wu
S.B.Aitken		

(*Denotes Colours)

UNDER 15

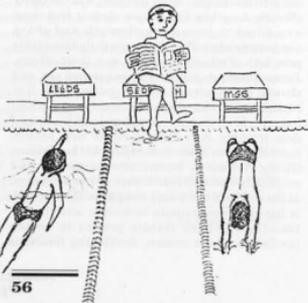
Despite there being very little time to practise, the squad managed to compete against much stronger teams without being overawed. A good win against Bentham (14-2) was followed by two defeats against Barnard Castle (12-25) and Stonyhurst (12-21). However the season ended on a high note with the defeat of Austin Friars 32-20.

Dr I.C.Hobson

CRESSBROOK CRICKET

A lack of match-experience and the difficulty of providing fixtures to suit the quality of the players are not new problems with Cressbrook cricket. Once again the pressing need in April was to learn the value of patience and concentration, whether it be in building a useful innings or bowling accurately or taking catches in the field. As on past occasions it was only towards the end of term that these lessons were learnt. In the first match about ten days after the start of term, we were completely outplayed by a Malis A XI and lost by 93 runs. Our next opponents, Aysgarth 2nd XI, were dismissed for 56 (Michael McCarthy 6 for 17) and we won by eight wickets (Richard Bean 36 n.o.). Against St Mary's Hall 1st XI, we made 65 and then, by dint of some purposeful play, reduced them to 40 for 6. Unfortunately, the St Mary's number six was dropped on seven and, having taken fourteen runs off the next over, saw his side home for the loss of one more wicket. We then met Catterall Hall who put on 116 for 7; in reply our batting collapsed, with many unforced errors leading to our dismissal for 42. The season ended on a more confident note. Against Hurworth John Goulding, (41 n.o.) led the side to 106 for 6; when he and Richard Harrison had tied the opposition down to ten runs for two wickets off the first ten overs, the game-ended in a draw with Hurworth on 59 for 3. A week later we succeeded in winning the Durham Six-a-side Competition, John Goulding scoring eighteen runs off the last four balls of the match. For one who clearly has the ability to play good cricket this was a welcome end to a disappointing term, but one in which he had learnt something of the skills of captaining a side. While many had their brief moments of success particularly encouraging were the steadily improving batting of Richard Bean and the development of Richard Harrison as a bowler. There were also two first year matches against Holme Park, both games being drawn with the last Cressbrook batsmen at the wicket in the final over.

Mr P.M.Yorke



SAILING

This was a very varied year with winds starting from barely nothing up to force 6, often making sailing tricky, to say the least. The results were quite good, winning half of all the races, and being semi-finalists twice in the BSDRA regional events in the North and Midlands. The whole team worked well together with successful team tactics developing, helped by hectic training on Tuesday afternoons.



The season started with a match against Worksop where close sailing resulted eventually in a 2-1 victory for Sedbergh. We then went for our annual pilgrimage to Radley for the BSDRA Midland team sailing event. The almost complete lack of wind caused a postponement of the second half of the event as time had run out. A square course used by three flights simultaneously separated by five minute intervals should have worked well, but the vagaries of the wind often caused all three flights to bunch together so that tacking became very difficult. However, we qualified as semi-finalists but were unable to attend the postponed event due to a clash of fixtures. The following weekend we hosted the Northern region BSDRA event and were met with the problems of too much wind. We were fortunate to be able to use the Lancaster University Larks for this event, but their condition meant that quite a few breakages contributed to the problems of the day! The gybe mark was close to the shore and caused quite a lot of spectator interest. The

sailing became a matter of survival rather than tactics. Radley won, and Sedbergh were losing semi-finalists to them. We then had matches against Durham and Stonyhurst which we won in clement conditions. Our last competitive event was a visit to Colwyn Bay to meet salt water and tides for the first time in some peoples' experience. Four teams took part in 420's and Toppers, and we came second in interestingly variable conditions of wind and tide.

After the end of the Summer term and as a swansong to their five years' loyal service to the sailing team, the captain and secretary of sailing, Richard Peavor and James Ryding entered the National Schools' Sailing Association annual regatta. They sailed a 420 in this 300 boat event held this year at Calshot in the Solent. The 420 fleet was very strong, even in the absence of the National Youth team at the World Championships. Our pair were pleased to be placed 9th at the end of the five days of racing.

The usual team was:

R.J.Peevor* (Capt.)	D.A.Lonsdale-Eccles*
R.G.C.Gilpin*	C.A.Kitson*
G.C.G.Murphy*	J.K.J.Tyler

(*Denotes Colours)

Occasional appearances were made by:

C.K.Davies, C.M.Bingley, A.R.Devine T.S.Sanderson

Robert G.Gilpin

GOLF

During the Summer term, recreational matches were played against the Durham, Ampleforth and Giggleswick teams. All the matches were greatly enjoyed by those who took part and thanks go to Edward Laver, Captain of Golf, who tirelessly organised the team, despite some difficult clashes with other sports.

Next season under the captaincy of Daniel Abraham, it is hoped to raise the profile, standard and awareness of the game at Sedbergh.

Results:

v. Durham	lost 1-2
v. Ampleforth	halved
v. Giggleswick	lost 1-2

Mr N.J.Horsfall



DRAMA

THE ORESTEIA

by Aeschylus (524-456 BC)
performed at Sedbergh School, October 1994

The story of Orestes as told in the Agamemnon, the Choepheri and the Eumenides has exerted a fascination over the western mind for two and a half thousand years. It is not just the power of the plot, though that in itself would be sufficient explanation; it is that the resolution of the plays, albeit somewhat suffused with the self-congratulation of the emergence of the domination of the Hellenic world by the Athenian state, marks a point in the development of civilization whereby the blood-feuding of barbarism is replaced by the measure and rationalism of a philosophy in which justice is tempered with understanding. The replacement of the avenging Furies by the Kindly Ones is more than a conjuring trick by the goddess Athena. It is a moment that equates to the replacement of the 'eye for an eye' calculus of the Old Testament with the limitless forgiveness of the New. As we witness the transformation, we witness one of the great steps forward in the development of our culture.

It was a bold undertaking to attempt the complete trilogy in five weeks of rehearsal time and much had to be undertaken before the cast assembled in September. A great deal of preparatory work had been done in the preceding Summer term and over the holidays. The enthusiasm and commitment of the cast to a work and an idiom with which they were largely unfamiliar was a good augury – no hares torn by eagles here, nor contrary winds.

The production was staged in the Lecture Theatre, in which, by October, had been erected a virtual facsimile of the walls of Argos, home of the blood-stained house of Atreus. As Christopher Tinker's evocative music introduced the spectacle, we were there. Michael Raw had opted for Tony Harrison's stirring and rhythmical translation into modern (at times highly colloquial) English. Again the idiom would have been unfamiliar to the cast – indeed, the verse structure would be unfamiliar to all but a student of Anglo-Saxon. They rose to the challenge seemingly without effort, though having sat in on some of the early rehearsals I know well that effort had not been in short supply.

The decision to play in masks, and without a detailed programme relating dramatis personae to actors, was triumphantly successful. True, some

actors were recognizable by voice and stature, but as a medium by which an October in Sedbergh was forgotten, to be replaced by a wholesale involvement in other times and other people, the capacity of the masks to both distance and involve the audience was remarkable. This is in no way to deny a number of outstanding individual and ensemble performances. Matthew Dinsdale's towering Agamemnon, Adam Birley's increasingly threatening Clytemnestra, Paul Baguley's sharp-edged mania as Cassandra, stand strongly still in my memory of the Agamemnon. Similarly the chorus playing throughout, be it the apprehensive Argive elders, the solemn libation-bearers, the slavering Furies, was of the highest calibre and clarity. We were dealing with spoken opera, and again one can hardly overestimate the contribution of Dr Tinker's music in setting tone and establishing pace, or the discipline of the ensemble players as their rhythmic exchanges flowed and ebbed, resonating the principals and their themes. The use of space by the choruses was also most effective, notably the entry of the Choepheri, and the Hoplite guards, through the auditorium. There were times when the audience might have wished themselves a little further away from the action.



The vengeful lament of Orestes, Tom Mercer, and Electra, Alex Tustain, over the death of their father Agamemnon at the hands of their mother, was, for me, the high point of a production which took us from summit to summit. It is not just that this point in the play brings together most poignantly the contrasting themes of family ties and the imperatives of the blood-feud, there was a quality in the writing, and in their acting, which I found wholly transporting – so much so that I am not sure I would wish to see it again. This was truly thrilling theatre.

Also notable among the individual parts were Philip Farrier-Price as the loathsome Aegisthus, Andrew Sleighholme's delightfully mannered nurse, Gareth Jones's uniquely idiosyncratic Delphic priestess (hardly surprising no-one ever managed to get a straight answer from that oracle), Marcus Steele's Apollo, Paul Baguley's reappearance as Athena, and Tim Hind's muscular Herald. But Michael Raw was right to merely acknowledge 'The Company' in his helpful programme notes – for it was not who they really were that mattered, but who they were at the time.

Behind the scenes an army of technicians and helpers as numerous as the cast had given their time and expertise in fullest measure. Scenery, lighting, wardrobe and make up had been stretched and found more than resilient. Nor had publicity been wanting, and the public came from far and wide. The Oresteia, bold in conception and vigorous in delivery, must rank among the finest productions we have seen at Sedbergh. To all involved, in whatever capacity, I offer the congratulations and thanks of an enthralled audience.

Mr E.A.D. Campbell

A letter received from the composer, Alan Ridout:

I have seen many school performances of plays in my life, but only two which have made an indelible impression. One was a stunning performance of 'St Joan', over thirty years ago. The other, and ultimately the more remarkable, was 'The Oresteia' performed at Sedbergh this past year. It was the more remarkable because there were so many outstanding performances. In fact, I find it difficult to separate one from another: the whole was delivered as an astonishing tour-de-force. One felt that everything was subordinated to the vision and power of the playwright so that his message crossed the centuries with extraordinary force.

Indeed, I found it all so moving that I was quite unable to take in the whole cycle in one. I had intended to but felt so shattered by the first half of the evening that I elected to see the remainder a day later.

I suppose that one must thank the producer for co-ordinating all: boys, staging, lighting, and the outstanding musical score, so powerfully; but such was the unity that finally one simply has to say "thank you Sedbergh, for an unforgettable performance".

MAD NAUSEAM

Mad Nauseam, this year's revue for Comic Relief, was notable for the striking originality of its conception, the boldness and fluency of much of its script and the vivacious discipline of its production. Carl Partridge and Gareth Jones, its authors and producers, are to be congratulated on their seeing through of a project which required determination and courage, let alone inspiration and creativity, to bring to fruition. They provided the apparently seamless structure of sketches and linking-dialogue which allowed a small and tightly woven cast, whose commitment to the production was abundantly clear, to perform with winning confidence. One was struck by the corporate clan of the cast and by the diversity of comic technique and timing which they presented: wry understatement rubbed shoulders with manic exuberance. The revue's title expressed continued allegiance to the nomenclature of recent Comic Relief productions at Sedbergh, the *Mad* series continued, but Carl and Gareth bravely and successfully scrapped the minimal staging of past years in favour of an omnipresent desk, with full office kit and some unexpected surprises, behind which they drolly discussed the pressures, and tedium, sustained by impresarios of comedy, interrupting themselves to introduce a variety of diverting items conjured from the nearby "television". These were enacted by the other members of the company, often strikingly, weirdly costumed and accompanied by effective mixtures of sound and light. Throughout, the production was technically sophisticated and innovative, for example in its scurrilous use of the Lecture Theatre video monitors. However, it by no means depended upon gimmicks. The writing was impressive, if uneven in places, and the odd rather limp sketch was more than outweighed by many that were quite excellent. "Invasion", a reworking of the Bodysnatcher's story, was particularly well written and delivered and notable for its effective use of the younger members of the cast, of whom we might have seen more had not "Crushers" been pulled from the show by force majeure. "Playdays" undoubtedly created the greatest audience response. This was deserved, for it was extremely sharply written, particularly the dialogue with the three Teddy Bears, and it sustained the parody

from one set-piece to the next with Trevor Moss's inspired wig and freshly glowing light justifying the decision to costume the show.

The production was well supported, especially on the Friday night when the Lecture Theatre teemed, and it is good that Comic Relief seems well established in the School's theatrical calendar. Well over £900 was raised by the demanding but invigorating process of producing a genuinely home-grown revue, which provides invaluable experience for those involved on or back-stage – and a very good night out for those in the auditorium.

Mr M.A.F. Row

AFTER MAGRITTE

Mrs Maz Campbell's decision to produce Stoppard's odd and stimulating surrealist comedy for Open Day was fully vindicated by the committed and intelligent performance she conjured from her cast and by the absorbed and appreciative response the production elicited in the Lecture Theatre auditorium.

As the title of the piece suggests, Stoppard's intention seems to have been to create a theatrical work 'After Magritte'. That is, one which begins and ends with tableaux reminiscent of the Belgian surrealist painter, includes properties, such as an ironing board, a bowler hat and, most tellingly, a tuba, that are recurring motifs in Magritte's work, and which poses teasing questions of perception both of the play's characters and of the audience. The familiar is dislocated and made perplexing by incongruous context. The possibilities of misinterpretation are numerous and milked with consummate dramatic skill by the author. It was testimony to the secure grasp of Mrs Campbell and the cast that they were so abundantly sure of their own comprehension of the play's potentially confusing layers of meaning and were able to convey the piece to the audience with complete coherence of presentation.

Thus, in the opening tableau, in which Mrs Judith Aveyard's set brilliantly evoked the rather tacky world of struggling north London suburbia, the apparently bizarre scene witnessed by Police Constable Holmes, which seems to him to carry the smack of sexual deviance and illicit backstreet medicine, had a much more mundane explanation. Harris, half-naked, clad in thigh length rubber boots and fiddling with with a light fitting is not preparing for a grotesque sexual experiment, as

Holmes erroneously but understandably concludes. Events make clear, once the tableau comes to life (as Magritte's paintings, alas, never do) that there is a more prosaic explanation. Harris is bare-chested because he is waiting for his shrewish wife, Thelma, to iron his shirt and, to allow her to do this, he is removing the light bulb so that the iron may be plugged into the socket. His rubber waders are innocently explained by the flooded bathroom, recently vacated by Harris's elderly mother. It is she who, wearing a tight black bath cap and bath towel, is lying on the ironing board and relaxing after a restorative massage from Thelma. She is mistaken for a "nigger-minstrel" by the impressionable Holmes, who believes he has stumbled upon some form of perverted operation on an illegal immigrant. Holmes's suspicions are confirmed by the flat's furniture stacked against the outside door. He presumes that this is to prevent unwelcome intruders and witnesses. In fact, Harris and Thelma have cleared the decks in order to do some much-needed practice for their ballroom dance routine at the North Circular Danceteria. This explains Thelma's evening dress, in which she is discovered scouring the floor for the lead slugs of the broken counterweight to the light fitting, in whose place Harris has ingeniously rigged a fruit bowl. The visual humour latent in this see-sawing apparatus is beautifully explored by Stoppard and the cast's assurance in controlling its lop-sided movement, for example by use of the bowler hat, was admirable, as was the backstage work of the Stage Manager, Tom Bailey.

Tim Hind and Phillip Farrier-Price, as Harris and Thelma, inspired complete confidence from the start. Each presented and handled the apparent oddity of their dress and activity with persuasive assurance and helped the audience to be drawn into their actually rather banal domestic world. Farrier-Price kept fastidious count of his lead slug findings. One was impressed by the ease with which Stoppard's stage business was conducted. Hind coped well with the precise counterweight of the counterweight as Farrier-Price doggedly ironed Harris's evening shirt. They also caught well the familiar tetchiness of a couple long-used to weary argument over light bulbs, bathwater and even, curiously, over whether Mother, whose noisy devotion to the tuba imposes strain upon the household, is the parent of Thelma or of Harris. Charles Rahtz gave a notable performance as the tough and strangely menacing matriarch, who contemptuously regards Harris as a "nincompoop" and who is unwaveringly determined to have her all-too-regular tuba practice. Whilst Thelma ignores against the background of Harris's increasing impatience to get away to the ballroom, in order to

redeem the couple's earlier fiasco on the dance floor, their argument focuses on a strange person seen earlier from their car. Both saw the same figure, but each interprets and identifies him differently. Harris saw "an old man with one leg and a white beard, dressed in pyjamas, hopping along in the rain with a tortoise under his arm and brandishing a white stick", whilst for Thelma, he was a one-legged football player dressed in the colours of West Bromwich Albion, carrying a football and an ivory cane. Both Hind and Farrier-Price were entirely persuasive in asserting their own powers of observation.



Harris and Thelma's verbal sparring is interrupted by Mother's foot being burned by the iron and, more dramatically, by the intrusion of Inspector Foot, who has been summoned by Constable Holmes to investigate the bizarre spectacle witnessed at the start. Trevor Moss brought a restless and convincingly insecure energy to the role of Foot and was neatly matched by Gareth Jones's well-observed playing of Holmes, the tireless, methodical, eagle-eyed young flatfoot. Moss conveyed well the tremulous excitement of a man on the verge of unmasking, as he thinks, a sordid vice-ring. In incongruous reply, Hind showed equal skill in his portrayal of a man disconcerted that he has been rumbled, not for illegal surgery, but for being caught without a television licence. Farrier-Price showed Thelma's obstinate streak by challenging Foot's assumption that the stacking of furniture against the wall constitutes a crime. For Thelma, it is a practical necessity in her small flat. Holmes's search for incriminating evidence

leads only to the ironing board, a discovery which Foot finds distinctly unimpressive. Moss and Jones's double-act as what Harris and Thelma almost call "Foot of the Yard and Sherlock Holmes" was particularly well handled, as was Moss's portrayal of Foot's increasingly desperate and fantastic attempts to concoct a plausible case, in defiance of the paucity of evidence, and so escape the ridicule of his colleagues back at the Station who are apparently eager for Foot to over-reach himself in his sleuthing. As Foot's imagination moves into overdrive and envisages the Crippled Minstrel Caper perpetrated by the talented though

handicapped doyen of the Victoria Palace Happy Minstrel Troupe, Thelma's anxiety to complete her preparations for the now-imminent dance competition also reaches fever-pitch. Farrier-Price coped with aplomb with his shedding of Thelma's ball gown onto the shoulders of Harris and with the hasty hemming, accomplished clad only in bra and petticoat. The farcical overlay of different strands of meaning is accentuated by Mother's exasperated seizure of her chance to practise on her beloved tuba. Rahtz let rip with "When the Saints Go Marching In" as it became eventually clear to all that the figure espied by the Harris household in Fosnoby Place, after their visit to the Exhibition of surrealist art at the Tate Gallery (Mother found Magritte's tubas disappointing, "I doubt he'd ever tried to play one") was, after all, Foot himself. Cheated of his quarry, Foot concludes that is has been one bit of a day and, as the final tableau forms, demands of Constable Holmes an explanation.

As the light bulb descended for the final time into the horn of the tuba, the cast stood once more in a tableau that was as seemingly bizarre as that at the start. However, every detail (such as Foot's eating a banana on Mother's advice that it would be good for the migraine induced by his professional blunder) had been perfectly explained by the unfolding of the plot. The cast's nimble negotiation of Stoppard's complex comic plotting allowed the audience to enjoy each twist and turn that had brought us to this conclusion. Altogether, this was an intelligent and well-crafted Open Day production, a tribute to all those involved and, in particular, to the patient and clear-sighted direction of Mrs Campbell.

Mr M.A.F. Raw

SEDGWICK HOUSE PLAY

The Imaginary Invalid – Molière

Costume-drama is sometimes scoffed at by cognoscenti – all Haymarket Theatre, afternoon tea in the stalls, and carriages at five stuff. Yet it provides today's young actors with formidable challenges in terms of correct performance style, movement, the apparently simple business of wearing alien kit convincingly, wig and coat-tails management, and above all sensitivity to language – breathing and enunciating longer sentences than most adolescents ever use even in English essays



these days. To persuade a House to undertake such high style in a Molière comedy is to signal real confidence in your acting, design, and wardrobe teams. In Sedgwick's case – the House in the school that has most consistently produced, supported and developed such theatrical values over the last decade – such producer-trust was amply repaid. With a very young cast – only one sixth former in the entire cast – there was freshness of tone, even a certain elegance of movement, and above all, a concern for detail and ensemble, and obvious relish in the more extravagant moments of melodrama and farce. The show revolves around the hypochondriac self-pity, and avarice of Argan, who is oozing with dosh, pampered, flattered, bamboozled, a symbol of the thick, rich bourgeoisie that Molière both clearly despised, mocked and yet needed as patrons. The quick-witted, street-wise Toinette manipulates his neurosis until the love-match between her beloved mistress Angelica, and the ingenious, handsome young lover, Cleonte, is clinched after various alarms and excursions, during which Argan hears stinging home truths. The parasites are Molière's favourites – dolish, grasping lawyers, a whole coven of scary quack-doctors, idiot-suitors, and clever, bored women – old and young – who well know upon which side their bread is buttered. Phillip Farrier-Price wheedled and roared, wept and blustered with suitable variety – perhaps a little more colour and perhaps a little more pace in delivery needed? You felt he was so exasperatingly odious that you were on the side of the lovers right from the start – exactly what Molière wants! The Toinette – both the plump part and the play's biggest minefield –



was entrusted to Mark Stephenson: bold portrayal, plenty of voice, particularly relishing his run as the disguised doctor, good strong facial energy to support the lines. A really auspicious debut for an actor who clearly has a big future ahead on the Sedbergh stage. Personally, I would have liked a bit more wit, and pacier sense of someone rather enjoying dancing on the tightrope as narrow squeaks nearly derail the scheming, for this is surely a dice with dismissal for her, as well as a demo of her adroit intellectual footwork? To my surprise, the lovers were actually rather well done: not what you expect in a boys only cast at all, but Mark Repath's elegance, characteristic reliability, and immaculate sense of quiet comic timing helped Tom Sterne's gentle Angelica relax, and enjoy the intrigue – the spoof duet at the harpsichord was particularly neatly effected. The idea of making the waspishly shrewish Mrs Argan of John Sedgwick really vamp Iain Thomson's lecherous lawyer Bonnefoy behind the old man's back was excellent – they deserved each other! The play took off with the arrival of the dumb Diafor, père et fils: Ben Leathe's oily pomposity, and self-delusive greed were matched by the hilarious clod-hopping of Matthew Dinsdale's myopic village idiot god up as expert. It takes a certain kind of deft expertise to play a duo like this, and these two really had it. Tom Bailey was positive, patient and persevering as the frustrated Argan brother, and a real word of congratulation for Ben Carruthers's debut as the younger sister – naughty, lively, sparkling and absolutely unafraid of the bright lights – watch this young actor! And what about Douglas

Waldron! A revelation. It all looked good too: bright colours, plenty of movement, an inventive clutter of comic props, rustle and silk and wigs, a driving sense of purpose about the movement, and a finale of sheer silliness that justifiably drew smiles from an appreciative audience.

Mr S.M. Manger

CASTERTON SCHOOL PLAYS

'THE CORN IS GREEN'

by Emlyn Williams

Casterton School's Sixth Form Play – Emlyn Williams's affectionate reminiscence of the encouragement given him in early life by a liberal and dedicated English teacher – comes gift-wrapped in period charm and Welsh quaintness, but leaves one with the distinct impression that the fiery Celt has found himself inadvertently sleeping with the enemy and is just a tad disoriented as dawn breaks and he sits at his desk to write his thank-you letter for being shown the road out of the valleys.

"The noblest prospect that a Welshman ever sees is the high-road leading to..." *Message for Posterity* has waved a less compromised flag for the cause of the Welsh under-class, and *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* has exposed the psychosis of the teacher whose ego-trip is mounted on the back of the favoured student in far more disturbing style. However, though post-Ibsen theatre had majored in social and psychological realism, a rose-tinted trip to the past may yet wile away a pleasant enough evening, and so it did.

The Tom Penny Theatre is an excellent venue for chamber drama. A clearly stated, unfussy set gave both context and space to the production. Sound performances by Edward Neilson and Elizabeth Walling pushed the boat out in confident style and they maintained an admirable consistency in keeping the prowl pointing forwards throughout. If the play has a tendency towards sentimentality this production avoided it by some crisp comic performances in the bit parts. Carl Partridge's upper-class English twerp kept just on the right side of parody: over-bred, brain-dead, and with his hands on the purse strings – perhaps the play is more topical than I first imagined? Clare Rhind's Mrs Watty ("She makes a tip-top cup of tea!") was a source of constant delight. Her knowing criminality was tellingly understated though she

was acting her socks off and thoroughly enjoying herself. Tarty Bessie, Holly Lumsden, was less inhibited. She revelled in all three courses of the meal – sticky-fingered class-room vamp for entrée; adolescent Eve for main course; predatory opportunist for dessert – though I trembled a little at the trite solution of parking the bundle of joy on Miss Moffat for posterity.

Richard Wild's Morgan Evans (aka Emlyn Williams) emerged confidently and steadily from the main field of extras. This is a well-written part with his ambition, pride, and susceptibilities suggested at an early stage. Act II saw him at his best with a powerful, emotional current in full flow. The conflict between duty and ambition was strongly conveyed in the last act, even though the resolution is wrenched out of nowhere with as much probability as the statue coming to life in *A Winter's Tale*, and it is not that sort of play.

Emmaline Fletcher had the other mainstay of the play to look after – the crusading Miss Moffat. In Act I she squared up to the indolent and uppity natives in a fine, brisk style. One was in no doubt where the running battle with *The Squire* was going to end: two pinfalls and a submission in the third round. There is a tendency for the comic potential of these exchanges to overshadow the depth of her vicarious ambition for fulfillment through her protégé as it rises on an increasingly steep incline to the 'Open Sesame' of the telegram of acceptance. Yet she racked up tension and suspense notch by notch; the school marm was replaced by an accessible and vulnerable human being; there was a genuine sense of emotional release; and then – oops! – we were back in melodrama and the quandary over Bessie's babe. No wonder she seemed nonplussed as the superfluous loose ends of the plot were knotted around her with a speedy cynicism that left her no third dimension in which to operate.

Hats off to the Welsh Language coach who kept the supporting cast nearer Porthcawl than the Punjab – Henry Chilton's Idwal showing good promise for the future. I was frustrated by the play but enjoyed the performances of an accomplished production.

Mr E.A.D. Campbell

MY FAIR LADY

For your reviewer the 1995 Casterton/Sedbergh production of *My Fair Lady* combined an evening of fine entertainment with a trip down Memory Lane for it was twenty years ago that Casterton and Sedbergh first combined for a production to be staged at Casterton School. The show was *My Fair Lady*. We lived in different times then, and one of the prerequisites of that inaugural production was that the cast should be accompanied by a member of staff who would remain with them throughout the rehearsals and escort them safely off the premises. Sedberghian archivists who in time unearth the photographic record of that production will notice a familiar face under Lord Boxington's topper in the Asot Gavotte – eventually I gave in and joined the cast. It's a tricky part, Lord Boxington – speaking, singing, dancing, all that – and I must say I thought I brought a rare depth of characterization to it, though this was unaccountably overlooked by the reviewer at the time.

And so to the present. The cast and production team of the 1995 show brought both zest and the emotional depth to what has become a classic musical. Based on Shaw's *Pygmalion*, the story of the flower girl dragged from the gutter to be made into a lady for a night to win a wager, has picked up an interesting sharpness over the years. Its commentary on male chauvinism was ahead of its time when it was written, even though Professor Higgins has his cake and eats it in learning his lesson and being forgiven as well. Director Angela Lavers cast two Elizias, Lucy Philpott taking Thursday's performance, and Sarah Curran the other three nights. Miss Curran certainly filled the part to perfection, singing with clarity and accuracy and ranging the emotional spectrum from Cockney vulgarity to pathos with entire conviction. Richard Wild's Professor Higgins matched her well. Richard is an experienced actor with a marked stage presence. He coped smoothly with the musical demands of the part and was more than ably supported by Edward Neilson as Colonel Pickering – the bumbling Watson to Higgins's Holmes. Of the other male characters Nick Pearson gave us a robust and artful Doolittle and Carl Partridge an elegant, foppish, and exceptionally well-voiced Freddy. Bit parts and choruses were made up from Henry Chilton, Richard Hardie, Matthew Hildrew, Alex Hornby, Trefor Moss, Roger Pearson, Charles Piber, Richard Rouse, Simon Ruckstuhl, James Shore, Ben Stell, and Sam Thorp, appearing in a variety of disguises, all in good voice, and many displaying an improbable lightness of foot.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening, and in the forlorn hope that Lord Boxington would suffer a heart attack on the first night ('Is there a doctor in the house?') I boned up on my part, but though I brought my boots along I was not asked to play. Just as well – I would have been out of place in such accomplished company.

Mr E.A.D. Campbell

CONCERTS

THE JUBILEE HEADMASTER'S INVITATION CONCERT

The twenty fifth Headmaster's Invitation Concert was a very special occasion in more ways than one. First of all it was held in Powell Hall, transformed for the evening with staging under the new Coats of Arms. This was an effective arrangement and the large audience was able to hear well and all had a good view. Another happy idea was to invite everyone who had taken part in Invitation Concerts over the last thirteen years to join in the evening's music. It was good to see so many familiar faces from the distant and the more recent past gathered together so agreeably. And then of course there was the food. If Sydney Smith's idea of heaven was eating pâté-de-fois to the sound of trumpets, this has often been approached at Invitation Concerts, perhaps most nearly for your correspondent with Summer Pudding and the sound of the Organ. The combination of food and music is hard to beat.

As usual, there were some outstanding solo performances. David Bremner's *Suggestion Diabolique Op 4 No 4* by Prokofiev was as hair-raising in its virtuosity as Paul Baguley's *Strike the Viol* (for Counter Tenor) by Purcell was beautifully done. James Ryding gave a most musical rendering of a movement from Albinoni's *Concerto Op 9 No 2 for Oboe and Strings*, and Andrew Sleightholme's *Melodie Op 3 No 3* by Rachmaninoff was sensitively played.

Of the ensembles, the Harmonie gave a spirited account of the *Theme and Variations* from the *Serenade in C Minor K 388* by Mozart. They were on fine form this evening and were ably led by James Ryding. Also heard were *Romance Op 119 No 1* by Górecki from "Cello Quartet", *Trio Sonata Op 5 No 1* by Corelli played by Pic Evans (Violin), James Ryding (Oboe), Gareth Jones (Cello) and Andrew Sleightholme (Piano), and *Keep in the Middle of the Road* arranged by Gareth Jones.

After the interval, and the food, Old and Young Sedberghians joined together in the Orchestra, led by Pic Evans and conducted by Christopher Tinker, for a memorable and rousing performance of the first movement of Beethoven's Eighth Symphony. Next the Marching Band played *YMCA* by Morali, conducted by Alan Lewis, and, finally, we heard Christopher Tinker's skillful arrangement of Percy Grainger's *Im Seventeen Cent Sunday*, which was performed by members of the Chapel Choir and the Band.

This splendid evening ended with speeches from Mark Alban, who had taken part in the very first Invitation Concert, the Director of Music, and the Headmaster.

Mr R.H.Thomas

OPEN DAY CONCERT

The annual Open Day concert by the School Orchestra in Powell Hall, always eagerly awaited, was once again of a very high standard, and for many the highlight of the day's festivities.

Four pieces in all were performed, commencing with Purcell's *Sonata no.1 for Trumpet and Strings* which gave the soloist, Ben Edwards, a chance to shine. He certainly proved to be a worthy successor to the King's Sergeant Trumpeter, Mathias Shore, for whom Purcell had originally written the piece. This was followed by two movements from Beethoven's *Symphony No.8 Op.83*. These were the first and third movements, *Allegro vivace e con brio*, and *Tempo di Menuetto*, and, although an ambitious undertaking, the orchestra played each movement with considerable assurance under the leadership of Pic Evans and Christopher Tinker's conductor's baton.

Dr Tinker then moved to the piano to accompany Pic Evans in Berio's *Romance for Violin*, which provided a suitable break in mood between the Beethoven Symphony and the last exciting item on the programme, Shostakovich's *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra No.2, Op.102*. This work was composed in 1957 and first performed by Shostakovich's son, Maxim, at his graduation concert at the Moscow Conservatoire. Certainly any performance requires a pianist of exceptional ability, and of Andrew Sleightholme's remarkable talent the Sedbergh audience was left in no doubt. It was not only the technical mastery shown that so impressed, but also the intellectual insight revealed in such a complete understanding of the music.

The whole concert will have given the Director of Music particular pleasure, for here was hard work on the part of all so richly rewarded, but especially the last piece, since, as the programme informed us, during his University days he had once been the soloist in the Shostakovich Concerto himself.

Michael Ffinch

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Christmas concert is fast becoming established as an enjoyable occasion with music for all. This year continued the trend with welcome variety. The Orchestra was heard in fine form with the first movement of Beethoven's *Eighth Symphony*, played with the essential *brío*, and Malcolm Arnold's *Suite* op 53. For Vaughan Williams's *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* the Orchestra was joined by the town members of the Choral Society, with soloists from the Chapel Choir. The Band and the Corps of Drums entertained us with *Christmas Swingalong*, *Rudolf the Rednosed Reindeer* and *The Little Drummer Boy*.

The various items in the programme were interspersed with some well chosen recitations arranged by MAFR, and the evening concluded with everyone joining in some Christmas Carols, Winder, and the National Anthem.

Mr R.H.Thomas

THE WILSON RUN CONCERT

Strangers who come to the Wilson Run Concert find it an oddly combined celebration of the cultural and the athletic, and as such it is perhaps, a typically Sedberghian occasion, and all the better for that.

The concert began, appropriately, with Ben Edwards, the Head of School, playing the *Sonata No. 1 for Trumpet and Strings* by Purcell. Ben is an accomplished performer who presents himself and his music with confidence. As ever, he produced a clear, bright sound, well supported by a sturdy string accompaniment. James Ryding followed with the first movement of Albinoni's *Concerto for Oboe and Strings*. James is the most outstanding oboe player the school has heard, and although this was not quite his swan-song his impeccably phrased playing brought a performance

of rare quality to his audience. The third principal performer was Andrew Sleightholme who performed, from memory, the first movement of Shostakovich's *Second Piano Concerto*. This was by far the greatest technical challenge of the evening, to which he rose with complete assurance. Musical sparks flew, both from the piano and from the orchestral accompaniment. Indeed, the accompaniment of the soloists throughout the evening reflected great credit on all instrumentalists. Gareth Jones's witty arrangement of *Keep in the Middle of the Road* followed and much amused the audience, who had by now been shifted onto a diet in which humour has become as important an ingredient as musicality, though there remained no shortage of that. The Evans House singers followed with a cracking performance of *Contrapunto Bestiale alla Mente* which, if you are not familiar with it, is an operatic compendium sung with the voices of animals. It is very funny, and it was very funny. Evans were followed by Powell and an arrangement of an Appalachian drinking song – witty, tricky and appealing.

With this the musicians cleared the stage and the procession of athletes, the Long Run, and Winder were all received and performed with customary *brío*.

Mr E.A.D.Campbell

THE CARLISLE CATHEDRAL CONCERT

Friday 5th May saw a large percentage of the school embus for Carlisle early in the afternoon. The Chapel Choir, the Orchestra and the Band were off to rehearse for a concert to be given later that evening. The concert was in aid of the Carlisle Cathedral Fabric Fund.

A very good turn-out of staff, parents and friends of Sedbergh School helped swell the rather small audience of local worthies. A certain member of staff was heard to comment the next day that he had had great difficulties spotting any strangers amongst the assembled audience. Those absent from the Cathedral that evening were the losers!

A glorious concert enthralled all present and was a worthy showpiece of the diversity, the skills and the talents of Sedbergh and its musical life.

The concert started with the Orchestra playing the first movement of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 8*: a difficult and complex movement which allowed the

strings to demonstrate their strength. James Ryding was the soloist in Albinoni's *Concerto, Opus 9 No.2*, for oboe and strings, and what a joy it is, to hear such a gifted and sensitive oboist. Ben Edwards played the solo part in Purcell's *Suite for Trumpet and Strings*. Again, a gifted performer who will be sorely missed. Andrew Sleightholme held an enthralled audience in absolute awe as his fingers danced in mystical and magical movements over the keyboard as he played Shostakovich's *Piano Concerto No.2 Brilliant!* (No... I'm very proud of Sedbergh and its musicians and I'm not biased!)

The Chapel Choir continued the concert from the choir stalls with a splendid rendition of Mendelssohn's *Hear my Prayer*. The solo voice of Sam Barker is, I am certain, still floating through the beams and lofty chambers of the Cathedral. I think there were a few tears in certain eyes as we enjoyed those inspiring notes, followed by a spirited rendition of Haydn's *Insanae et Vanae Curae*.

The Marching Band brought the evening to a close by marching the length of the Cathedral before their mixed offering of *The Magnificent Seven Theme*, *Go West* and *YMCA* (both arranged by Bernaets) with the traditional *Ashgrove* rounding off a really enjoyable *soirée*. For a school of less than 400 to produce music of such depth and of such quality speaks volumes those who teach. Well done to all who gave us such a truly enjoyable evening!

The Reverend R.G.Laird

MUSIC NOTES

An incidental column covering some aspects of Sedbergh's musical life not covered elsewhere in the *Sedberghian*.

We bid farewell to some fine musicians, and so, as is always the case in school life, we wonder how we will do without them in the future. Paul Baguley, Head of Choir, has given some remarkable performances as a counter-tenor as well as leading the alto line so strongly over the last two or three years. His first performance on stage here was in his first term, having just come to us from Lincoln Cathedral, and he took the part of Princess Ida. Since then his voice has matured under the careful direction of Charlotte Jackson. We wish him well at the Music Faculty of Durham University. David Bremner leaves us for Keble College, Oxford where he will be Organ Scholar and read Music. A brilliant musical career at Sedbergh has led to many successes as a pianist under the faithful guidance of Pat Shackleton. We also lose two fine orchestral players, Pic Evans and James Ryding. Both have served well in the choir too, and all these musicians have played a major part in chamber music activities. The 25th Headmaster's Concert took place in March, and was a musical farewell to Roger and Dorothy Baxter who have hosted these memorable evenings throughout their time at Sedbergh. (Please see the report.) Outside the school we have performed Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast* and Faure's *Requiem* in Kendal Leisure Centre and Ripon Cathedral, the Chapel



Choir trebles providing a pure sound for the *In Paradisum* section of the Requiem; the choir have travelled to Edinburgh to provide services at St Mary's Cathedral; a concert of choral, orchestral and band music was given in Carlisle Cathedral; a chamber concert was given at Brigflatts, and many boys took part, with considerable successes, in the Mary Wakefield Festival in Kendal. The Music Department has expanded into the Danson Room, which was the sixth form centre until Queen's Hall was built. This now serves as a band room, rehearsal area, and teaching space for brass instruments and percussion. The Band continues to give magnificent displays in and out of school, and special mention must also be made of the splendid corps of drums.

Our Subscription Concert series began with the inaugural recital on the new Chapel Organ, given by James Lancelot of Durham Cathedral. This was followed in October by nineteen-thirties music from the Piccadilly Dance Orchestra, one of London's top dance bands. The main chamber music concert this season saw a welcome return of the Pirasti Trio who gave an exquisite concert in Queen's Hall.

The legendary Julian Bream filled Powell Hall for our celebrity concert. He entranced the audience with his fingerwork in the music of Bach, and the programme included Spanish dances by the Argentinian composer, Piazzolla (which Mr Bream was performing for the first time) and the music of Mompou and Bartok.

The final concert was given by the soprano Kym Amps, accompanied by David Mason. This proved to be a recital of great character and considerable range of style (Purcell, Fauré, Schubert and Turina, amongst others). The small audience who fought through the snow to get there were well rewarded.

The First Orchestra has had a most fruitful year. Pic Evans has led, James Ryding has proved a first class oboist and Ben Edwards a reliable first trumpet. Repertoire included the eighth symphony of Beethoven and the second piano concerto of Shostakovich. The Choir continues to provide weekly anthems and settings, and the strong treble line has produced a confident soloist in Sam Barker; he will be remembered for his performances of Mendelssohn's *Hear My Prayer*. The tenor line has been glorious this year, an unusual feature in any choir but particularly so in young voices: and as this feature will remain largely unchanged next year, it encourages me towards hope for some more satisfying music making 1995/96.

Dr C.G.Tinker

CCF BAND

Since its formation in 1991, the band has gone from strength to strength, playing up and down the country, and overseas. The last twelve months has been the busiest in its short history with the whole band appearing for the first time in white pipe helmets, and with the new drums emblazoned with the School's coat of arms.

With the V.E. celebrations in the middle of the summer term, it seemed at one stage that we needed two or three bands, such was the demand for our services. The most prestigious engagement this year was leading the military parade through Lancaster on V.E. day. The band performed exceptionally well, which cannot be said for the local press reports, mistaking us for the band of the Royal Marines!

Additional engagements included leading the parade for the King's Own Royal Border Regiment Association through Lancaster, a concert in Carlisle Cathedral, Remembrance Day service, Field Day Review, and many others. There was the usual round of prep school visits of which the most notable was at Malsis, where a full marching display was performed for the School's 75th anniversary. This was followed by a short tour of some Scottish prep schools, producing our best performance to date. Band members were astonished at ARL's quote: "That was the best ever and nearly perfect!"



Future plans include major alterations to the band uniforms and replacement of the home-made dress cords. The Drum Major is busy developing a flute section for the Corps of Drums which will add another dimension to our marching display. There is also the usual full programme of engagements and school visits.

The end of the year saw us bid farewell to the first group of members to have served the band since its formation. Ben Edwards, Adam Birley, Iwan Lewis, Tom Mitchell and last, but by no means least, John Grant who has been an excellent Cadet Drum Major. They have all served the band extremely well throughout their five years and will be greatly missed.

Finally, thanks must go to Mr Lewis and the Drum Major, Ron Rogerson, for all the time, effort and hard work they have continued to put into the band. I am sure that this year it will continue to be equally successful.

Jonathan Gill

CHORAL SOCIETY

Ripon Cathedral February 26th, 1995

Fauré's *Requiem* and Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast* were performed in the Cathedral to a large audience by the combined forces of Sedbergh School Choral Society, St. Anne's School, Windermere and the Ulverston Choral Society, with the Lakeland Sinfonia Orchestra under the direction of Christopher Tinker (Director of Music, Sedbergh School).



The choir, largely comprising young voices, gave convincing performances of the starkly contrasting works and was supported by an excellent orchestra.

Michael George (Bass) gave distinguished performances in both works.

From the *Troito* and *Kyrie* to the end of the *In Paradisum* the choir mastered the sombre, introspective style of the Requiem, particularly in the imitative writing of the *Offertorium* and the majestic hosannas of the *Sanctus* heralded by confident horn playing.

Fauré's use of muted strings, organ, harp and sopranos to portray paradise in the final movement particularly exhibited the quality of the orchestral playing.

Belshazzar's Feast is a daunting challenge for any choral society, orchestra or conductor but Christopher Tinker pulled it off brilliantly. The predominantly young voices portrayed the various emotions of the vivid text outstandingly well, particularly when praising the false gods, during which section the percussion performed with outstanding skill. The most poignant moment came near the end when a small semi-chorus sang "The trumpeters and pipers are silent".

Voices are stretched to severe limits in different ways in this great oratorio and Christopher Tinker produced a dazzling performance which was much appreciated by the audience.

Mr N.Hancock

(This review appeared in the *Yorkshire Post* and the *Ripon Gazette*)

BELSHAZZAR'S FEAST

The background to the performance

In the choral/orchestral repertoire there are a few works whose impact is so stunning, and which are so musically overwhelming and even visually exciting, that a musician's initial encounter with them sparks the ambition to perform it oneself, some day.

CGT's ambition to conduct *Belshazzar's Feast* by William Walton dates from 1969, and came to fruition in February 1995 with two unforgettable concerts in Kendal and Ripon Cathedral, coupled with Fauré's *Requiem*. Sedbergh Choral Society and the Chapel trebles were joined by Ulverston Choral Society, girls from St Anne's School, Windermere, and the Lakeland Sinfonia Orchestra.

Fauré's *Requiem* is well-known and often sung; *Belshazzar's Feast* not so. Hearing the finished work is one thing; slogging away at it week after week is another, and there were a few mutterings of 'We can't do this' and 'I don't like it'. But gradually the music takes shape over the many rehearsals and as the various forces involved finally come together the participants realise that yes, they can do it, and that yes, they like it very much indeed. Musical colleagues in other schools gasp when they hear that Sedbergh is doing *Belshazzar*, then go green with envy at the luxury of performing it twice.

Along with the musical preparation is the business side – balancing the finances, tickets, programmes, advertising and publicity, invitations, transport, the C.D. recording, sponsorship (grateful thanks to the O.S. Club and the O.S. Trust Fund among others) – and all this has to be managed for two venues. Months of planning culminate in a memorable weekend of music, and incidentally the best weather of the Lent term, making the journey to Ripon a real pleasure.

Soprano soloist in the Requiem was Alla Kravchuk, whose lovely presence, beautiful voice and innate musicianship will doubtless take her far. Baritone soloist was Michael George, an exceptional singer of international stature. Curiously, he and CGT discovered that they had collaborated in an earlier performance of Faure's *Requiem* as schoolboys, CGT as a tenor and Michael playing in the viola section. They then studied together at the Royal College of Music.



Comparisons between the two concerts are impossible because of the different nature of the buildings. In Kendal's Westmorland Hall, with a clear, dry acoustic and tiered seating for the audience, one watched heads in the rows in front going from left to right and back again as in a tennis match, as some new fantastic sound caught the ear. In Ripon Cathedral the ambience was magical, and the rich acoustic sent huge chords, and the shout of 'slain', echoing around the pillars before dying away to a spine-tingling silence. In both, audiences were on the edge of their seats.

Mrs C.L. Tinker

THE NEW CHAPEL ORGAN

The authorities at St Mary's, Hucknall decided in the early nineties to re-order the Church and to sell the organ. Thanks to the British Institute of Organ Studies (BIOS) we became aware of the availability of the organ. As a result of some splendid fund raising, generous benefactors stepped forward and the School was able to purchase the organ in 1992, and now to have it re-assembled in the Chapel.

We are fortunate to have had Mr John Norman as consultant, and Mr David Wells with his dedicated team from Liverpool as builders. Their brief was to preserve as far as possible the original qualities of the instrument, in an even drier acoustic and in a more secluded position than it had been before. They have carried out the installation and restoration with the greatest care. Work started this year on 21st March (that auspicious anniversary in the history of music) and it was completed during the Summer. The organ was dedicated by the Bishop of Bradford on 12th September 1994.



Some features that make our new organ special are the mechanical action, which is tensioned to keep it light and responsive, the balanced choruses in each department, which make organ music from all ages accessible, the compact and elegant case and its bright and singing tone.

Mr R.H.Thomas

THE ORGAN

<i>Great</i>		<i>Swell</i>	
Open Diapason	8ft	Stopped Diapason	8ft
Chimney Flute	8	Gamba	8
Octave	4	Principal	4
Gemshorn	2	Nason Flute	4
Mixture	IV-V	Octave	2
Trumpet	8	Quint	1½
		Sharp Mixture	III
		Shawm	8
		Dulcian	16
		Tremulant	

<i>Pedal</i>	
Sub Bass*	16ft
Principal	8
Flute*	8
Octave	4
Mixture III	
Trombone	16

Couplers

Swell to Great
Swell to Pedal
Great to Pedal

Mechanical Key & Pedal Action
Equal Temperament
Wind Pressure 3 inches wg
Electric Drawstop Action & Combination Pistons

Church & Company

St Mary's, Hucknall
1976

David Wells

Organ Builders
Liverpool
Installation & Restoration
Sedbergh, 1994

John Norman

Consultant

St MARY'S, HUCKNALL

It was as the result of a serious fire in Hucknall Parish Church near Nottingham in October 1973 that the firm of Church & Co was invited to tender for a new organ. The consultant was David Butterworth, at that time Organist of St Mary's, Nottingham. I met David at the Church whereupon we agreed to site the instrument within the arch of the north transept (more or less above the crypt holding the remains of Lord Byron). Details of the specification were drafted between us. It was very exciting to get this contract for it marked an important step in the development of the firm and was to lead in turn to several other instruments in the Nottingham area.

The installation went well and I completed the voicing and finishing with Peter Whitfield (formerly with Harrisons of Durham). He was tragically killed in a motoring accident shortly afterwards. There is a plaque to his memory on the music desk.

The acoustic at Hucknall is very dry, but even so, the sound was, I think, successful mainly because we managed to avoid the edge and shrillness often associated with continental organs of the period.

The inaugural recital was given by David Butterworth on 3rd April 1976. Early notable recitals were given by Peter Hurford and Roger Fisher.

Nigel Church

INAUGURAL ORGAN RECITAL

James Lancelot

We were most fortunate to have Mr James Lancelot, the Organist and Master of the Chorists of Durham Cathedral, to give the inaugural recital on our newly installed Chapel Organ. He has played memorably in Powell Hall so he is no stranger to Sedbergh, and it was with very great pleasure that we were able to welcome him once again. The distinguished gathering in the Chapel who had come to hear him included, among others, Mr Nigel Church, who had built the organ in 1976 for St Mary's, Hucknall, Mr David Wells, who had so successfully installed and restored the organ for us, Mr John Norman, the consultant whose forebears had worked on the first organ in the Chapel, and some of our benefactors without whose generosity the whole enterprise would not have been possible.

One of the delights of the instrument is that it is possible on it to give an account of organ music of different ages and styles very effectively, and Mr Lancelot's well-chosen programme reflected this wide accessibility to the full.



Mr R.H.Thomas

During the first half of the evening we heard music from the C17th by Bruhns: *Prelude and Fugue in E minor*, from the C16th by Sweelinck: *Variations on Est-ce Mars*, and three pieces from the C18th by Bach: *Fugue in G, à la Gigue*, the *Sonata No 1 in Eb*, and *Pièce d'Orgue (Fantasia in G)*. The Bruhns and the Sweelinck were characterised by clarity of line and appropriate sonority. Bach's *Gig* fugue was restrained, and beautifully controlled. As with so much of Bach, there is nothing quite like it. That Mr Lancelot chose to play the wonderful *Eb* Sonata, written by Bach for his eldest son Wilhelm Friedemann, was both a compliment to the instrument and a privilege for us. Those who heard it will always remember. The first half of the evening ended with Bach's noble *G* major fantasy.



Mr Lancelot spoke movingly about the importance of welcoming a musical instrument, constructed so carefully of wood and leather and metal, into the community, and its use and value in worship.

There was also applause for the two builders.

Next we heard Mozart's *Fantasia in F minor*, then two *Pieces for Musical Clocks* by Haydn. The C18th was left behind now with Mendelssohn's *Sonata No 3 in A*, and the C20th approached with *Madrigal: Impromptu* by Vienne followed by *Bereuse sur deux notes qui continer* by Jehan Alain. Mr Lancelot thoughtfully warned us, and the nervous organ builders, that it only sounded as if two notes had stuck... *Introduction and Passacaglia in D minor* by Max Reger brought the programme to a splendid climax.

Mr R.H.Thomas

ORGAN RECITAL

Robert Marsh

For the second recital on the new Chapel Organ the soloist was Mr Robert Marsh, Assistant Organist at Ripon Cathedral, and Director of Music at the Cathedral Choir School. His choice of pieces was naturally quite different from that of the first recitalist last September, but Mr Marsh nevertheless drew pleasing sonorities from the instrument in a well executed and enjoyable programme of considerable variety. We heard *Festical Voluntary* by Flor Peeters, *Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen* by Brahms, Bach's *Fantasia in G, Rhosymedre* by Vaughan Williams, Purcell's *Voluntary on the Old Hundredth*, *Variations on God Save the King* by Max Reger, then a particularly effective piece *Thema met Varieties* by Hendrik Andriessen, Albinoni's *Adagio in G minor* most sensitively played, *Nun Danket alle Gott* by Karg-Elert, Kenneth Leighton's *Elegy*, and as a fitting climax *Choral No 3 in A minor* by César Franck. We look forward very much to Mr Marsh's next visit.

Mr R.H.Thomas

COLLEGIUM MUSICUM

This year has seen a wide variety of different themes chosen as subject matter for the talks. James Ryding provided the first, in which he enlightened his somewhat small audience on the life and works of Beethoven. The subject of Requiems was the choice of the secretary, Pic Evans, for his presentation, and the next time

Pic appeared was to conduct a performance of Purcell's *Ode on St. Cecilia's Day*, which was the result of the annual joint venture with Casterton's "Phoenix" choir.

A new term saw a talk on Olivier Messiaen, given by the author of this article, and then, a month later, when Mr and Mrs Thomas were no longer marooned on Wennington Station, a presentation by Gareth Jones who talked about Popular Music, managing to slip in a reference to his beloved charts. The final talk of the year was perhaps inspired by Gareth: Modern and Popular Music was what David Bremner spoke about, although he concentrated more on how the former has influenced the latter, and vice versa.

The year ended in the usual manner by means of the Summer Concert; all sorts of people had clearly realised what an enjoyable event this would be, and so they all came, resulting in a frolicsome evening which ended with an impromptu performance of a Haydn symphony: I am sure Papa Josef would not have minded in the least. Sincerest thanks must go to the Blackwells, who hosted one of the evenings, and to the Thomas's, who hosted all the others. May Collegium Musicum continue for many years to come!

Andrew Sleightholme

VISIT TO COVENT GARDEN

On a bright summer morning in June, a group of musicians, accompanied by various members of the Tinker family, left Oxenholme Station in a train bound for Euston. Some three hours later, the said destination was reached and, escalators having been ridden and Tube trains having been endured, the weary party of travellers arrived at the Royal Opera House at Covent Garden, with the intention of being witnesses to a trio of ballet productions presented by The Royal Ballet.

Seated in boxes at the side of the uncomfortably hot auditorium, we, and indeed the rest of the audience, were then subjected to the first ballet which, as I was reliably informed, was in fact two ballets: *Firsttext* and *Stoptext*, which were danced, respectively, to strange sounds and snippets of Bach's *Chaconne no.4 in D minor* for solo violin, although silence reigned for much of the time. Both the sound, which was conveyed through loudspeakers, and the dancing made for a

performance which was utterly incomprehensible and hardly an apt experience for the many schoolchildren for whom this was an introduction to the worlds of both ballet and, possibly, culture.

Next came *La Ronde*, which was an improvement. Created by Mr Glen Tetley for the National Ballet of Canada in 1987, *La Ronde*, which is based on a play, *Reigen*, by Arthur Schnitzler, portrayed the decadent way of life in Vienna at the turn of the century by means of a cycle of amorous affairs between various citizens: a prostitute – inappropriate for three o'clock in the afternoon – and a soldier, the soldier and a parlourmaid, the parlourmaid with a count, and so on. The music to which *La Ronde* was danced was the *Sinfonietta, opus 5*, by Erich Korngold, a composer more famous for his film scores than as a provider of an antidote to sleep in a stuffy auditorium.



The Evans House Singers

The final ballet was *Rhapsody*, danced to Rachmaninov's *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini* for piano and orchestra, which was played with appealing feeling and passion by the occupants of the pit. The dancers pranced in front of a dazzlingly colourful and imaginative backdrop, although the story, if indeed there was one, was unclear; I do admit, however, to having held my gaze upon the piano rather more steadfastly than upon the stage, so the subtle nuances of the tale might have passed me by.

The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all; with one liking London so much that he stayed a little longer and returned on a later train. I am sure that the next visit to the Royal Opera House will be just as memorable, but in the meantime thanks are due to the Director of Music for having organised the trip.

Andrew Sleightholme

HOUSE UNION COMPETITION

Precompetition chat suggested that this year's House Union would be distinctly unexceptional. Happily this proved not to be the case, and whilst the standard failed to reach the excellent heights of recent years an evening of most enjoyable singing was produced. Mr Innis Allen, the adjudicator, expressed fulsome praise for the musical qualities and obvious efforts displayed by the seven choirs participating.

When he came to announce his judgement Mr Allen placed the first four, leaving separation of the other three to the critical evaluation of the audience. Winder, Hart and Evans comprised this subsection, though there was nothing in their performances that suggested they were obvious candidates for this dubious honour.

Winder started their programme with an unaccompanied version of the *Battle Hymn of the Republic*: initially it was most exciting. Humming, muted distant singing and an early crescendo promised well, but regrettably failed to build on the potential. A strident electronic organ was utilised for *Walk of Life*, and the choir struggled to make themselves heard against it, their collective solemnity suggesting a resigned acceptance of the accompanist's superior volume.

Hart was the one house which seemed to have tried consciously to achieve contrast in their choice of songs: they also achieved an excellent standard of smartness that emphasised their determination to offer a serious challenge. *Blue Velvet*, tastefully accompanied by a double bass, maintained throughout a romantic wistfulness of tone. Thought had gone into interpretation, the structure was confident, the song was delivered with a good clean sound and there was a pleasing variety in the dynamics. *Rock Around the Clock* failed to sustain the standard and a lack of animation, verbal hesitancy and a reluctance to attack the high notes confined them to the lower reaches of the competition.

With a wealth of musical talent at their disposal, Evans predictably produced an enjoyable performance. They were ably accompanied by Sleightholme and the positive conducting of Bagley extracted animation and enjoyment from the choir. Good musicianship, fine voices and thoughtful variety breathed life into *When I'm Sixty Four*. The same qualities came to the fore in *Multiplication*, in which small groups provided variety contrasting with the full choir's good volume that never crossed the dividing line into

raucousness. They communicated the inherent humour effectively and were clearly in the running for one of the higher placings.

Sedgwick were awarded fourth position, their varied musical accompaniment and choreography compensating for limitations in their singing. In *Shakermaker* the guitar and drum backing challenged the choir to make themselves heard resulting in some rather woolly diction. Brass and saxophone, together with drums, conspired against them in *YMCA*, and their stuttered raising of arms appeared to be an act of communal surrender rather than a spontaneous expression of joy.

Last year's winners, School House, had to be content with third place. They were drawn to sing first and were unable to benefit from the gradual relaxing in tension enjoyed by those who came after them and this contributed to the lack of crispness and spontaneity that marred their songs. A *Hard Day's Night* possessed excellent rhythm, however in spite of the spirited efforts of the drum, guitar and piano accompaniment the performance was wooden and the words did not possess the desired clarity. Good dynamics balanced out some entry hesitancy in *Nothing Like a Dame* and although lacking variety it was an enjoyable programme.

A modest performance of the *Policeman's Song* probably cost Powell the trophy. Although the abundance of fine voices in the choir were well exploited in the repeats, their rendition was too mechanical and insufficient emphasis was placed upon the essential humour of the song. *It Must Be Love* was an altogether more successful contribution. Clearly much thought had gone into interpretation: the dynamics and diction were excellent whilst their imaginative use of the full stage evocatively underscored the sentiment of the song.

Lupton's final participation in the competition saw their nine member choir carrying off the cup for the first time since 1977. A solid core of able singers produced evidence of sound musicianship that compensated for the lack of humour and sparkle that characterised *Sir Joseph Porter*, *KCB*. Decisive in gaining their first place was *Seaside Rendezvous*, in which they displayed their musical abilities to the full in a relaxed, thoughtful interpretation most effectively supported by non-vocal contribution. They are to be congratulated on the successful manner in which they exploited their resources to provide the audience with a much appreciated and warmly received performance.

Mr G.R.Blackwell



ART & DESIGN

THE ART CENTRE

The department will never be quite the same after the departure last summer of Paul Rowntree, David Easterby and John Grant. Their very individual and prolific work in ceramics seemed always to be in production, their lively discussion of ceramic form and ideas, (amongst every other possible topic) was liable to involve everyone in the entire Art Centre. Their A-level assessment shows were inspiring and well deserved their top grades.



A recent postcard from Paris tells us that John has a flat "just behind the Musée d'Orsay" and that his Business Studies course leaves him with enough time in which to pursue his interest in ceramics at Parson's Art School. Paul (with four excellent A level grades) is embarking upon a course in Agriculture. David, having during his school days reached the verge of a very promising career in riding events, is following that course, but plans to convert a farm building to his own ceramics workshop.

Sam Williams' big panel-painting which represents the cinematic achievements of Quentin Tarantino, made a splash on Open Day, while his brooding prison scenes, after Goya, may have struck a more familiar note with boys. Sam is

aiming for a well known Film School, but, if his violent paintings are anything to go by, it seems unlikely that his own first productions will quite fit our official definition of School Films.

Our GCSE grades were pleasing, with most of the A-grades being won by the candidates who spread themselves the most, producing work in painting and drawing, graphics, sculpture AND photography. It was a case of 'if you need something done, give the job to a busy man', and it did seem that those with too much to do found they could produce good work in very limited time. Mark Sanderson, for instance, gained five starred A-grades, while finding time to do excellent work in sculpture, photography and painting. And, as always, there was much sophisticated and individual work in ceramics, most notably from Craig Kitson and Crispin Jameson.

Very pleasing Open Day exhibitions were put on by fifth form Art Scholars Hal Wilson, Tim Roy, Simon Huroomb and Oliver Ashworth. The latter three produced panel-paintings, measuring six by three feet, which attracted a lot of interest. In the fourth form the work of Dominic Burger was especially notable. Andrew Symonds and Robert Rhodes, third form Art Scholars, showed varied and interesting work which suggests that we shall see remarkable things next year when their GCSE shows are assessed.

Visits to galleries and museums continued, and the fourth form artists had an enjoyable and busy day in Liverpool, visiting the Tate Gallery there, as well as the Walker Art Gallery and the Anglican Cathedral. Sixth formers went to London several times and saw the exhibition of Impressionism at the Royal Academy as well as the Summer Show there. Edinburgh is always a popular destination, and it is good to see the permanent and temporary exhibitions at the Museum of Modern Art, and at the Scottish Royal Academy. The National Gallery of Scotland contains a perfect small collection, and its Titians, Rembrandts and Impressionists, among others, always provide us with much to discuss. There can be few schools which are so well placed as to make possible a day trip to most of the great art galleries in Britain.

Our nineteenth Preparatory Schools' Festival took place in May when, once again, visiting teams painted huge pictures or joined the modelling competition with Mrs Davey. Several schools have taken part during most of the years since we started the festival, and it was sad this year, following the closure of Crawfordton School, not to see Mrs Rosalind Hall with her kilted artists.

During the lunch break most of the ninety or so boys and girls entered a sketching competition. Later on there was a chance for everyone to have a go on the pottery wheels, under the guidance of our senior boys who learned, with amazement, that teaching can be "quite exhausting". The printing press was also on the go, as well as demonstrations with an airbrush, and at the same time the darkrooms were a hive of activity when young visitors saw themselves appearing in photographs, as they helped with the printing and enlarging processes.



At the end of the activities, before the concert in Powell Hall, Mr Hirst had the pleasure of presenting a big pile of prizes to the winners of the various competitions. These took the shape of art materials which, as for many years, were given by the Daler Rowney Company.

Perhaps we should plan something even more ambitious than our usual programme for next year, to celebrate our Twentieth Festival. Art teachers at preparatory schools are invited to suggest ideas, - and to book early!

Mr R. Davey

THE DESIGN CENTRE

We seem to have had our usual busy year, with many interesting pieces of work being successfully completed.

Third formers who took up Egg Races for their interest activity took part in a number of interesting competitions which included a marble throwing device, building the tallest paper structure to support a golf ball, bridge-breaking, etc. Such competitions become rather noisy as the excitement mounts.

Third formers opting for set-construction had a few unusual tasks including the making of an animal cage for a human being, a chariot and a pair of rather large horses. Yes, I did measure the workshop door to make sure that the horses could make their way into the Lecture Theatre. How was I to know that subsequent doors would be narrower? Hence, a pair of horses had to make their way through the Design Centre car park to the chorus of "why didn't you measure the door first?"

We continue to be amused by the antics of back stage scenes as we attempt to draw up curriculum plans, mark work, prepare materials, etc. At times the fitting of a bra to a fifth form boy, painting twelve boys blue and the last minute rehearsal of musical items can be an interesting change from the financial merits of injection moulding over vacuum forming. We persist.



With talk of drought orders coming into force in Yorkshire, it is hard to focus on the storms of last January when the river flowed over Plank Bridge. One particular gust of wind brought down a beech tree below School House. The lower portion was delivered to the Design Centre and converted into planks using a "Woodmizer" and the walnut tree donated by Mr D. Webster in good season and we look forward to putting it to good use.

The RAF continue to provide a different type of contrast to design activities as they discuss tactics, learn how to drill and generally fill the workshops with a totally different kind of language.

Turning to our main business, A Level candidates produced some interesting projects and were rewarded with some good results.

Tom Booth created a steam generator for softening timber prior to bending. As this was for Design Centre use, safety was a major consideration and Tom is to be congratulated on gaining a safety certificate for his project before final moderation. His device is now in use in the workshop and could lead to some interesting designs from pupils who follow.

Simon Kavanagh designed and made a trailer for the CCF canoe section. Security was of great concern, both in transit and when parked. The simplicity of his solution has been much admired.

Jonathan McNeish is keen on shooting and designed a rifle support for use in rough terrain. Much of his investigation was derived from personal experience whilst culling deer.

Matthew Biker had an enormous collection of used and unused shotgun cartridges and wished to present them in a suitable manner. Besides constructing an attractive cabinet, his design enabled the exhibition to be changed quickly.



GCSE Design Project - Seating

Simon Price designed a device to drop and position roadwork cones accurately. His highly original mechanism was the product of much hard work, soul searching, and trial and error.

Hard to believe it may be, but the above five candidates tested the organisation of space within the workshops to the limit and mental flow charts had to be produced to prevent clashes over space and equipment usage. Eventually, Simon Kavanagh reached the point where he had to complete his canoe trailer outside because he had been warned by GA, remembering a certain pair of horses, that objects built in the workshops may not fit through the doors. That it did not rain whilst he was using the MIG welder is indeed a miracle.

Having started and then dropped National Curriculum Key Stage 4 last year, we returned to GCSE Design & Realisation to find that the syllabus had changed and we had to do a bit of quick reorganising. We found ourselves well placed to do the course and thus proceeded. The range of seating projects produced in response to the brief were varied in style, character, function and size, employing an interesting variety of techniques and materials.

The theme for this years GCSE D&R was "litter" and an interesting variety of projects was produced including a selection of mechanical grabs for picking up litter of varying kinds. Coursework is but 50% of GCSE and the varied exam results were not quite as expected.

Following a two year interval, we are delighted to re-introduce CDT Technology and look forward to a richer mix of disciplines at GCSE level. We seem to have some promising candidates as witnessed by the Open Session work of Nick Attwood (Cressbrook) who produced a hydraulic arm capable of lifting an apple. The project is now being converted to a computer driven model. Bryan Hinton, our technician, has devoted much time and thought to the background organisation of this project.

With so much happening, it would be beneficial if Examination Boards allowed us to have a period of calm to encourage long term-planning. The next cloud on the horizon is the re-organisation of the A-level syllabus in 1997.

Mr G.Aveyard

PREPARATORY SCHOOLS FESTIVAL OF MUSIC AND ART

This year saw the 19th Preparatory Schools Festival of Music and Art at Sedbergh. Thirteen schools took part during a day in which the orchestra rehearsed in Powell Hall, the artists painted and created sculptures in the Art School and numerous competitive games of Chess were contested in the Mathematics Department. Meanwhile, the choir, under the expert direction of Andrew Carter, rehearsed in Chapel.

At lunch-time the School C.C.F. Band gave a marching display on the Cricket Field, in front of an appreciative audience.

At the end of the afternoon, the concert and presentation of prizes took place in Powell Hall. Prizes were awarded for the painting and modelling classes and the Chess competition.

The concert followed, in which the orchestra gave enthusiastic performances of the *Star Wars* march, *Memory* from *Cats* and *Pomp and Circumstance* by Elgar. The choir, under the direction of Andrew Carter, performed his Anthem *Bless the Lord*, followed by Michael Hurds' *Swinging Samson*. Orchestra and choir then combined to give a memorable performance of *Bare Necessities* from the *Jungle Book*.

Altogether, an action-packed day, enjoyed by the artists, competitors, performers and audience alike. Our thanks to all for their enthusiastic participation in the many activities throughout the day.

Mr N.J.Horsfall

MARCUS DAVEY FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

Marcus left Sedbergh in 1985 to take up a place at Dartington College of Arts, and gained his B.A. (Hons.) degree in music in 1988. Early the following January he started his first job as Administrator of the Dartington International Summer School. This is probably the largest thing of its kind, and draws musicians of all standards of musical expertise from around the world. It was founded in 1947 by Sir William Glock at Bryanston School, and moved to Dartington in 1953. In 1993 Marcus took on the extra job of Director for the Dartington

Arts Centre and became the overall manager in charge of the Summer School. His other jobs include that of Director of Exeter University Concerts' Programme and of Chairman of Hackney Youth Orchestra.



The 1995 season at Dartington was the most successful in its 48 year history, providing over 130 sell-out concerts, 50 master classes and workshops, and 30 specialist courses. It received much acclaim in the national and international press, BBC Radio 2, 3 and 4 and Classic FM.

Anyone who visits Dartington during the Summer School will know its wonderful atmosphere, which attracts participants repeatedly, year after year, from well known professional musicians, to amateurs and hard pressed students who save all year for the fee - although several bursaries are on offer. Students may also apply to go as helpers, and several Sedberghians have done this. It is a dreamy experience to wander among the medieval buildings, in their beautiful gardens, listening to various instruments, voices and ensembles being practised. Last August I stopped in the much needed shade of a large tree and heard, coming from a nearby parched lawn, a horn quartet. From another side a chorus from *Cosi Fan Tutte*, from a third side a frenzied unaccompanied violin, and from a window came the unmistakable sound of a flamenco troupe in full cry, with castanets, guitars and voices, which admirably fitted the heatwave.

Juan Martin and his ensemble gave a memorable performance later that night. I wonder when enthusiasm turns into advertising...

Several years ago Marcus was given a Prince's Trust Award, which enabled him to go to mid-European countries, in order to make connections in the musical world and invite performers and teachers to Dartington. He has been twice to Zagreb and in October he took there an eighteen piece baroque orchestra.

He leaves Dartington in November to take up his new position as Director of the Norfolk and Norwich Festivals. There are two Festivals, a sixteen day visual arts festival in July each year, and a full arts festival of ten days in October each year. The October Festival is the main event producing over 120 large scale performance events in music, of all types, literature, theatre, dance, film, and the visual arts.

Mr R.Davey

TREVOR BURGESS, PAINTER

Another Old Sedberghian who is connected with the Norwich Festival is Trevor Burgess, who, in July 1995, put together an exhibition of the work of 170 artists. It was his initiative, a few years ago, which led to the setting up of the Warehouse Artists' Studios, a cooperative venture which is the largest studio complex in East Anglia. He is also much involved with the National Artists' Association in coordinating their Code of Practice, which was launched at the Tate Gallery last Spring. And he is working with the Artists' Rights Programme which is to be launched at a Conference in Sunderland as part of the Arts Council's Year of the Visual Arts Programme for 1996.



Finally, such is Trevor's output that, in September and October, he put on an exhibition of his own paintings, entitled "Happy Families", at the Ben Nicholson Gallery at Gresham's School. We look forward to his next exhibition in our own gallery.

Mr R.Davey

ANDREW RATCLIFFE PORTRAIT PAINTER

Andrew was a fourth generation Sedberghian, leaving Powell House in 1964. He trained initially at Burnley College of Art and went on to take a Fine Art degree at Canterbury. Thereafter he was a part-time Lecturer until 1975 when he joined the staff at Manchester Grammar School. In 1981 he started painting full time.

Looking back on his days at Sedbergh, he says that it was not unusual in the Sixties to take a strong interest in art, and there was a very keen group of Sixth Form artists. The boarding situation gave time, which was especially useful at weekends. The Art Centre was a good bolt-hole after a wet and muddy run on the fells. A fellow enthusiast for painting was Roger Vignoles, who is now a well known pianist.

Andrew does not think of himself as primarily a portrait painter, but he has always been keen on drawing and painting from the figure – the ultimate challenge and discipline for any artist. Is it a little odd, for an O.S., that he has never been very interested in landscape painting? Perhaps those wet and muddy runs on the fells provided him with enough familiarity with landscape. But it is as a portraitist that Andrew has become established. The Parliamentary Committee with responsibility for portraits has commissioned him to paint Neil Kinnock, a project which is currently in progress. His portrait of the Lord Chief Justice, Dame Elizabeth Butler-Sloss, hangs in the National Portrait Gallery. He has entered pictures for exhibition there for some time, and for nine years running his work won National Portrait Gallery Awards. His first studies and painting of the Prince of Wales were shown there in 1986. He recently painted the Prince again, just before embarking upon his portrait of retiring Headmaster, Dr Roger Baxter.

He has also painted Lord King of British Airways, Sir Andrew Huxley O.M., (for the Queen's collection at Windsor), and Sir Leslie Young, Chairman of Art Galleries on Merseyside. A portrait of the Speaker of the House of Commons, Betty Boothroyd, is planned.

When I asked him to comment on his portrait of Dr Baxter, which now hangs in Powell Hall, he said, "The composition and approach are basically traditional. A portrait, for me, stands or falls by how accurate a portrayal of the person – not just a likeness – it really is. It is a straightforward approach."

And your colours? I asked.

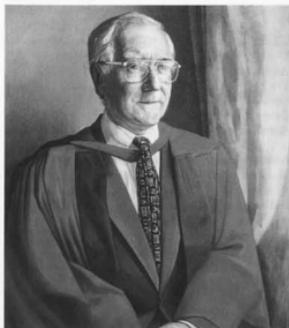
"The colours were felt to be right and are the ones I like to use."

I felt these were modest references to the skills of the portrait painter, not least of which must be some insight into the personality of the sitter, if that "portrayal" is to represent anything deeper than a mere external likeness.

The picture is a bold image which generously fills the frame, and gives a close-up study of features and clothing, in an almost startlingly fresh way. The analysis of features and hands is very penetrating, and shows an involvement with graphic technique which allows for none of that bland oiliness which is all too common in "official portraits". The approach of the practised draughtsman is clearly evident.

It is especially pleasing that through his acceptance of this commission we have re-established Andrew Ratcliffe's connection with the school. He has kindly agreed to put on an exhibition in our Gallery, and this will take place later in the Autumn Term.

Mr R.Davey



Andrew Ratcliffe's portrait of Dr Roger Baxter, which hangs in Powell Hall.

POETRY

These poems were written shortly after the death of Kurt Cobain.

'The Point of no Return'

Killed by hedonistic desires
Usurped from life by fame's desires
Reality's absence really
Took breath away from him. Really
Comeatose in hospital, how
Odd some thought he'd live on. Just how
Bad a state was he in? Most guessed
Any day now he'd be a grave's guest.
If not this time, then surely next,
Nirvana would gain a singer

Stuart Gardiner





'No Problems'

Knelt on the morbid floor,
 eyes transfixed on the final anaesthetic
 Under the spell of a grisly bewitchment,
 Rapt and entangled in the silken cloak of death.
 Trembling hands hold trembling gun holds no
 future.

Can't you see what you're doing, Kurt? Wake up,
 Morpheus!
 Only one body, one chance, one life!

Bang

A puff of smoke
 a flicker of understanding
 game over

In utero
 No brains
 no life
 no problem.

Carl Partridge

'Suicide'

Killing yourself
 Under your chin
 Ram the gun home
 Trigger pulled in
 Can't take the strain
 Of drugs and of fame
 Bang goes the gun
 And with it your head
 Isn't it nice
 Knowing you're dead?

James Capstick

'Slipping Away'

Kurt Cobain
 Urt Cobain
 Rt Cobain
 T Cobain

Cobain
 Obain
 Bain
 Ain
 In
 N

Stuart Gardiner

'Poetic Justice'

Killing oneself is easy; try to live, and fail.
 Usually the search for the ultimate high just
 Results in an ultimate low, six feet under.
 Try a little something. Just a little bit, it
 Couldn't do you any harm. Some doctors often
 Overestimate the danger from substances
 Boredom and stress go hand in hand. Escape
 them both.

Alleviate pain and misery in one go.
 It's tried by us all at some stage. But does it
 work?
 Not a hope.

Stuart Gardiner

'Kurt Cobain'

Killing himself
 Under the influence of drugs
 Reality lost

To the realms of fantasy,
 Cobain lived a life of death
 Outpourings of music
 Became his karma,
 Atrophied senses
 In Nirvana
 Nevermind

Mr J.M.Sykes

Kurt Cobain has it right.
 Rich he died, but his soul was poor,
 Tried to end the game; he could take no more
 Courageous even in defeat
 Others tried to take this awful feat
 Blasts of a shotgun in his mind
 A place in heaven he tried to find,
 Intervened by the devil's hand
 Now, that is Kurt Cobain's land

Luke Allwood

'Kurt Cobain'

Understood by none; ended his life
 Underground, dead
 Revolver in hand
 Trigger pulled, dead
 Caught up in drugs
 Out of his head
 Band's lead singer was
 An airhead,
 In the wake of his death
 Nirvana is finished

Charles Walford

SMM writes:

Karma: term in Buddhist philosophy: way in which the future arranges itself, the way events work out, a chosen path, the pattern of inexcusable consequences from actions both good and bad.
Nirvana: the final state of extinction, in which the individual soul is absorbed into the universal soul, i.e. total and final loss of identity.
Fascinating that Cobain's music has become associated with ultimate individuality, when the band are named after a state in which individuality is totally extinguished for all eternity!

CHAPEL NOTES

The early part of the Michaelmas term saw the dedication of the new organ by the Lord Bishop of Bradford, the Right Reverend David Smith. *Loud Organs, his Glory forth tell in deep tone* has taken on a new meaning as we sing to the accompaniment of this magnificent instrument and our gratitude is due to those whose generosity made a dream become a reality.

Without wishing to trespass on the Director of Music's comments, I do want to give praise to the excellence of Chapel music, both choral and instrumental. As Chaplain it is indeed a joy and a privilege to officiate at all services, knowing that the worship is being led by such hard-working members of the School. The extra work for the choir has included preparations and rehearsals for the annual Carol Service, Confirmation Service, when 33 boys were confirmed into both the Anglican and Scottish churches, O.S. Weekend and Benefactors' Service; Open Day Service and a service to mark the dedication of a memorial plaque to Lieutenant Colonel Freddy Spencer Chapman.



These are just some of the special services which have taken place in the past year, during which time the Chapel pulpit has hosted many eminent ecclesiastical figures: The Bishop of Bradford, a most supportive and helpful diocesan, who has visited us twice; the Very Reverend Raymond Furnell, Dean of York, who spoke to us on Open Day; the Reverend Nick Barker O.S., Rector of Kidderminster, demonstrated the Trinity and its dependability when he spoke on O.S. Sunday; the Reverend Haydn Jones, Assistant Chaplain General from Army HQ, York; Andrew Bennett O.S. from Scripture Union in Scotland... many visitors and many presentations of our faith. Thank you to all who have spoken to us.

When the new organ was built, a small area behind it was in danger of becoming a dumping ground for unwanted furniture; books, and any ecclesiastical ephemera which had died and was not to be resurrected. With minimal expense but with great care and sensitivity, this area is now a small memorial chapel, suitable for a variety of purposes. Thank you to all concerned, and especially to Eric Brown and his team for their caring craftsmanship.

You will read elsewhere of the continuing good works of the Choir and all associated with the musical side of Chapel life, but I would just like to underline my gratitude to all those, staff and boys, who gave up their time and talents so generously. Worship is so much more uplifting and expressive when the music being offered is of such a high standard.

Many thanks also to all the ladies who, week by week, arrange the flowers to enhance the beauty of our Chapel. A very special word of thanks is due to Hilary Moore, for her own quietly efficient manner. Thank you, Hilary, and best wishes to you and to Roger as you retire from a lifetime of service to both Chapel and School.

The Reverend R.G.Laird

THE REVEREND CANON A.T.J. BOGGIS

16th June 1908 – 15th June 1995

This is the text of the address given by the Reverend Bill Long in the parish church of St. Andrew, Sedbergh 20th June 1995

At the heart of the Christian faith, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The belief that the giving of himself in his death was stronger than all the evils that had marred man's response to God; that through his resurrection a new life was offered to men and women; that this new life is enabled by the gift of the Holy Spirit; and that in the world to come we enter, through the doorway of death, into the fullness of that eternal life, a life of self-forgetful love and wondering worship.

That faith every member of the Christian Church is called to proclaim, by their words and by their life. Small, frail, faulty, forgiven, they are to declare this glorious truth. And among them some are called to serve Christ in his Church in a particular

way, a way which has a particular significance – they are called to the priesthood of the Church. Small, frail, faulty, forgiven, they ask to be used by God in that way.

Austin Boggis knew that call at an early stage of his life. From Kelly College and Exeter School he went to Oxford to read Theology and also to study music. He went on to Bloxham School as Director of Music. Then followed training at Salisbury Theological College, Ordination, a curacy at Chichester.

He felt a clear calling to be a priest in a school and in 1938 he ventured into the wilds north of Watford and came to Sedbergh. He retired from the post of Senior Chaplain in 1974, and from part-time teaching two years later.

The schoolmaster priest. Here, under God, is the centre of his life. All the rest, in some way or other, is linked with it.

In the classroom, in Divinity teaching, in the organising of that teaching, a concern for accuracy, and order, a sense of deep responsibility, a readiness to help, a touch of severity, which never quite left him.

A meticulous ordering of the worship in School Chapel. Much hidden pastoral work – and that went on almost to the end of his life. At School he put the welfare of his flock before his own preferences in churchmanship, strong as they were; but he never wavered in his insistence on the faith and order of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. What one remembers most about his sermons is the sense of strongly held conviction, and of reverence. Those whom he guided on the path to ordination, both during and after school days, have particular reasons to be grateful.

Behind it all, the longing for the spiritual growth of all those among whom he worked.

The work of schoolmaster priest went on in other ways too, especially in the many years as House Tutor at Lupton House. Austin was a keen sportsman. He had represented Oxford at fives, he was a cricket enthusiast, he loved fell-walking, and had a remarkable knowledge of the Howgills as well as of the Lakes. Towards the age of forty he took up mountaineering seriously. He scaled many of the more noteworthy Alpine peaks, including the Matterhorn, and he introduced both boys and masters to the world of climbing. And so he created a network of friendships, bonds of affection which developed far beyond schooldays, and will be remembered by many today.



As a musician he gave much to the House and the School. He played a wide range of instruments, was an accomplished performer on the 'cello and the oboe, was a member of the Westmorland Orchestra, produced musical comedies in which the town was involved as well as the School.

For 26 years he was secretary and joint organiser of the Public Schools Chaplains' Conference, and so was in touch with schools all over the country and with vital educational issues of the time.

It was in 1968 that the Church recognised his services by making him a Canon of Bradford Cathedral. One boy congratulated him on being "canned", and another said he was very pleased to hear that he had been "canonised". Austin acknowledged each of these tributes with equanimity.

When he retired he learnt to cook – very well. He was a generous host. He had always loved social occasions. And when he could no longer entertain in his own home he did so in other ways – almost to the end.

And the man? A sharply timed intellect, a swift wit, and a genuine enjoyment of the wit of others, a gift for apt and immediate quotation, a hint of the deliberately eccentric, a slightly obstinate determination not to approve of most of the innovations of the modern church – which produced some marvellous jokes, that I do not dare to tell you here; a deep love of his family, a reverent admiration in matters ecclesiastical for his father, who had been a Prebendary of Exeter Cathedral; a love of nature, in particular of butterflies, of flowers, those of the high Alpine pastures and those of the dales round Sedbergh. A particular love of *The Dream of Gerontius*, and that tells you a lot. A love of the beautiful in creation, an awareness of the miracle by which we are able to perceive that beauty.

And in his closing years here, one jewel which he polished – gratitude; gratitude to anyone who happened to call to see him, or happened to write to him. Daily gratitude to those who surrounded him with sensitive care and affection through the last six years. Gratitude for the constant love and comfort he received from those dearest to him. Gratitude to God. And through those last years a mellowing went on, the outlines were softening. From the stern disciplines of infirmity and dependence, new patience and new courage and even deeper trust were being born.

But above all, and through all his life, the sense of the wonder of this world, of the Creator from whom it comes, of the privilege and the responsibilities of the priesthood, that priesthood which is a response to all God's revelations of himself, and a looking to that mystery of sacrificial love which the Church celebrates, and by which we are enabled to come to the kingdom of God's glory.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy Holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Reverend Bill Long

LIEUTENANT COLONEL F. SPENCER CHAPMAN D.S.O AND BAR

On Sunday, 4th June, a service was held in the School Chapel during which a plaque was dedicated to the memory of Lieutenant Colonel Freddy Spencer Chapman DSO and Bar and to his son, Stephen. The former was in Lupton House from 1921-1926 and the latter from 1962-1967. The plaque was donated by Mrs Faith Spencer Chapman, widow and mother, and its wording is given below.

The service was attended by Mrs Spencer Chapman, her two sons and four grandchildren and many friends of the family and former colleagues and pupils of Freddy Spencer Chapman, especially from his time at King Alfred's School, Plön, in Germany. A moving tribute was paid to his memory and that of his son by a former pupil, Major General C.G. "Bill" Cornock CB MBE, now Bursar of Cranleigh School, the Headmaster petitioned the Chaplain to dedicate the plaque and the prayer of the Seaforth Highlanders was read. Afterwards, guests and staff met for refreshments in the Queen's Hall. An exhibition on the life and work of FSC was open in the School Library.

Freddy Spencer Chapman was a distinguished Old Sedberghian whose love of Sedbergh and its fells stayed with him all his life. He was the recipient of six awards or medals, the author of several books, soldier, mountaineer, explorer, botanist, ornithologist, and schoolmaster of distinction. His achievements were too numerous and his life too full for any adequate account to be given here, but there is a biography of him, written by Ralph Barker, the Special Collection of the School Library has copies of his books and, in the School Archives, there is much material relating to his life and work, thanks to the generosity of Mrs Spencer Chapman who donated it. He returned to Sedbergh School whenever possible to share with boys his latest adventures, whether in the Jungles of Malaya, the Himalayas, a dormobile in Africa or the wastes of the Arctic.

The wording of the plaque is as follows:

In memory of Freddy Spencer Chapman D.S.O. and Bar Lieutenant Colonel the Seaforth Highlanders (Lupton 1921-1926) who died 8th. August 1971 as a result of war service in the Malayan Jungle, 1941-1945. Explorer and holder of the Polar Medal with Arctic Clasp.

Also of his son Stephen (Lupton 1962-1967) who vanished aged 35 in Saudi Arabia 20 July 1984.

V.E. DAY SERVICE

The Memorial Cloisters was the setting for the School's Act of Thanksgiving and Remembrance to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the end of the war in Europe. Perhaps that Sunday, 7th May, might have been a little warmer and less hesitant in its sunshine, but no-one worried about the odd shower... We had much to be thankful for and much to remember.

The local branch of the Royal British Legion joined us for our service, as did many locals, and also parents and friends. It was very good to have with us Colonel Jerzy Pajaczkowski-Dydynski, father of Mrs Dorcas Thomas. Aged over 100, Colonel Pajaczkowski-Dydynski served in both World Wars, in the second as an officer in the Free Polish Army.



The format of the Service and Act of Remembrance was traditional - the School Band led in the singing of *O God, our help in ages past* and Bunyan's *Who would true valour see*. The Headmaster and Head of School read, and Mr Roger Moore read Lawrence Binyon's exhortation *They shall not grow old...*

After the Last Post, Silence and Reveille the words from the Kohima Memorial in Burma were read as a reminder that peace in Europe did not mean peace in the Far East and that the Forgotten Army were also in our minds... *When you go home, tell them of us and say - for your tomorrow, we gave our today.*

Remembrance... Thanksgiving and an act of rededication and commitment for each of us present!

The Reverend R.G.Laird



THE SEDBERGH V.C.s

The Memorial Cloisters have been a poignant reminder to all Sedberghians of the sacrifices made by previous generations. The fact that the style and appearance of the Cloisters at Sedbergh show such remarkable similarity to the entrance of the British War Cemetery at El Alamein in the Western desert is no accident. Both these memorials were designed by the same man, J. Hubert Worthington, himself an O.S.

All three V.C.s were won in 1941, at a time when the plight of Britain was particularly desperate and the outcome of the war not at all certain.

Flying Officer Kenneth Campbell had been a boy in Sedgwick House. On 6th April 1941, over Brest Harbour, he attacked the German battle cruiser "Gneisenau". He ran the gauntlet of concentrated anti-aircraft fire and launched a torpedo at point-blank range. The ship was severely damaged below the water line and was obliged to return to the dock from whence she had come only the day before. Flying Officer Campbell's aircraft met a withering wall of flak and crashed into the harbour. He was 24 years old.

Second Lieutenant George Gunn was also in Sedgwick House. On 21st November 1941, at Sidi Rezegh, Libya, an attack by sixty German tanks was countered by four anti-tank guns under the command of Second Lieutenant Gunn. During the engagement, this officer drove from his gun in an unarmoured vehicle encouraging his men, and when three of the guns were destroyed, and the crew of the fourth, except the sergeant, were all dead or disabled, he took charge of this remaining

weapon. It was on fire and there was the danger of ammunition exploding. He managed to fire fifty rounds and set two enemy tanks on fire before he himself was killed.

Brigadier John Campbell was in Evans House. He lived to receive his V.C. which was presented to him by Field Marshall Auchinleck in Cairo. A photograph of this occasion hangs in Evans House to this day.

On 21st November, 1941, in the same place, Sidi Rezegh, but on a different part of the battlefield, Brigadier Campbell's heroic action resulted in the third V.C. to be won by an old Sedberghian. Brigadier Campbell's small force, holding important ground, was repeatedly attacked and wherever the fighting was hardest, he was to be seen on foot or in his open car. Next day, under intensive enemy



attacks, he was again in the forefront, encouraging his troops and personally controlling the fire of his battery. He twice manned a gun himself to replace casualties. During the final attack, although wounded, he refused to be evacuated. His brilliant leadership was the direct cause of the very heavy casualties inflicted on the enemy, and did much to maintain the fighting spirit of his men.

It is important to note, that although the V.C. memorial is a constant reminder of the bravery of the three men who won their awards for supreme gallantry in the 2nd World War, there is a fourth Old Sedberghian who obtained this decoration. He was Lieutenant Robert Digby Jones. His bravery at Ladysmith, during the Boer War in 1900, was rewarded by the receipt of one of the earliest posthumous V.C.s to be awarded.

Mr J.O.Morris

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SOCIETIES

DEBATING SOCIETY

This was a very busy year for the debating society. As usual, the main school debates proved very popular, packing out the School Library. Casterton's presence at most of these debates provides not only a useful incentive to draw the crowds, but it also gives another perspective to the issues discussed.

Balloon debates were re-introduced, and provided much entertainment. These involved five individuals arguing on behalf of a famous character to prove that he should be the only one not thrown out of a plummeting balloon. Needless to say, Jonathan Lawn's winning case for "Jabba the Hut" has quickly become one of the elite legends of debating.

For the first time, Sedbergh entered the national "Observer Maze" debating competition. Richard Wild and Thomas Wright reached the regional semi-finals, so we hope to build on this success in this year's competition.

Obviously, to lose Mr Jefferies was a great blow to the society. Mr Jefferies was instrumental in re-introducing debating to Sedbergh and he deserves all the credit for the popularity of the debates, through his enthusiasm as chairman of the society. We are very sorry to see him go, but hope that the reputation that he has built up for the society, over the last few years, will be enough to ensure its continued success.

Richard Wild

HISTORY SOCIETY

The History Society has enjoyed an extremely animated and vigorous year. Sedbergh has been delighted to welcome a most congenial collection of visiting speakers who have addressed the Society on an unprecedentedly wide range of historical subjects. Our guests have also given us valuable insights into the teaching of history at university level and into the personalities and teaching methods of their various institutions. At least part of the value of meetings lies in the appreciation the pupils gain that academics are by no means dry or intimidating, either in their presentation of material or in social contact.

We were delighted to renew Sedbergh's acquaintance with Dr Michael Mullett, from Lancaster University, who opened the year for us with a characteristically robust paper on "Reform, Reformation and Counter-Reformation" which

focused on Luther's reluctance as a revolutionary. Subsequent conversation speculated upon the making of a modern-day historical epic for the screen "Sola Fide", featuring Brian Cox as Luther, Robbie Coltrane as Tetzel and Stephen Fry as Pope Leo X. Dr Jane Ridley, from the University of Buckingham spoke to us on "Disraeli as Social Reformer" whilst our third speaker for the autumn term, Dr Denis Turner of Bristol University, provided an extremely acute and accessible introduction to a masterpiece of medieval mystical writing, "The Cloud of Unknowing".

In November the Society also hosted two members of the Kurdish Information Centre who spoke in harrowing terms of the dirty war of political and cultural suppression currently being waged by Turkish security forces against the people of Kurdistan, thousands of whom have been evicted from their homes, tortured or, particularly in the case of journalists or others who risk free, open speech, murdered. That this war rages with minimal attention paid by the British media made this meeting the more illuminating, and appalling.

In the Lent term, Dr David Dutton from Liverpool University spoke on "British Politics since 1945" and argued that periods of political consensus have been rare and brief but that the contortions of the political parties at the moment might be seen as crowding together in the middle ground. Dr A.J. Pollard spoke next on the "Wars of the Roses", providing an entirely coherent and helpful analysis which broke this notoriously unwieldy subject into more manageable, realistic phases. Dr Denise Kenyon, from Manchester, spoke on the "Origins of Lancashire" in a paper which drew attention to the specialised techniques now employed in regional history. Finally in this term, Dr R.W. Scribner, from Clare College, Cambridge gave a paper on the role of Zwingli in the Reformation which argued that the Swiss reformer should be seen as more radical and pioneering than his German counterparts.

In the Summer term, Dr Susan Kelly spoke on "Anglo-Saxon Missionaries on the Continent", placing their work in the context of the wider spiritual life of the English church in the eighth century and emphasising the personal, human conviction and motivation behind the missionary enterprise. Her use of the often profound, moving correspondence of the period was particularly effective and enlightening. In the last meeting of the year, Professor D.H. Alderfort from the University of Manchester spoke on "Government Policy and Unemployment during the Inter-War Period".

The Society is naturally grateful to all those who came to speak to us. Closer to home, I wish to express our thanks to Mrs Elspeth Griffiths who is unfailingly hospitable to us in the School Library, to Mr John Jefferies for his provision of refreshments and to Mr Malcolm Priestley and Dr Myles Ripley for their hosting of speakers and kind provision of hospitality after meetings.

Mr M.A.F. Raw

CHESS COMPETITION

The tensions of 1994, when Winder and School were involved in an exciting play-off, were unrealized this year. Winder had most of their previous year's players, and their remorseless style forged an early lead which no other House could assail. Since the inception of the competition in 1988, Winder have won on three occasions, with the trophy shared once, reflecting the true cerebral capacity of the House.

Mr D.T. Vigar



Mrs M.E. Griffiths

CRAIG GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

The summer term of 1995 saw the third Craig General Knowledge Quiz to take place in the School Library. The money to fund the prize was provided by the late Commander A. S. Craig O.B.E., R.N. (School House, 1931-1935) who thought the boys might benefit from such a competition. He even submitted a very handsome selection of questions and answers upon which we could draw for the first few years. It was decided that all fourth-formers should take part and that the School Library would be a suitable place for its staging.

Supplementary questions are sought from time to time from members of staff. It is to be hoped that the boys taking part go away wiser than they came and that some of their newly-gained knowledge remains with them.

In its first year the competition was won by Gareth Jones, and in the second by Matthew Watts. This year saw a joint win between Matthew Dinsdale, and Christopher Duxbury, with Evans gaining the honours as top House on average points.

Perhaps it would not be too unfair to entrants to record a few of the more amusing guesses at some answers. The mind boggles a little at a body with 634 bones and Miss Muffet comfortably ensconced on the Woolpack. Prince Anne might be flattered to learn that she is considered by some to be the Patron Saint of Scotland and the Roundheads not so pleased that they sported the white rose during the Wars of the Roses. Bill Clinton was promoted (?) to the Secretary Generalship of the United Nations Organisation while polar bears have become the currency of Iceland. Rowland Hill is remembered for his revolutionary changes to "hand-rolled cigarettes" and, perhaps, more understandably, Orion's Belt as an "instrument to keep one's trousers up" and the Poet Laureate as "someone for special occasions".

CHARITY COMMITTEE

Every year the Charity Committee changes, with one boy from each senior House acting as a representative. His first term on the Committee is in his Lower Sixth Form which he then follows with the first two terms of his Upper Sixth year. For the last six years the Committee has been chaired by Ann Parratt, who has received great support from Hugh Symonds and Susan Garnett (while Susan was in Australia her replacement, Alan Hill took on her role with gusto).

This year has seen the Charity Committee organise yet another highly successful event. Help from the Howgills II was held at the end of the Summer term over a two week period. Each Howgill had an orienteering flag placed upon it enabling all those who took part to punch their card proving that they had completed all the peaks for which they had been sponsored. So far over £2,000 has been collected for the local NSPCC and Kendal/Kirkby Stephen Mountain Search and Rescue Teams. Both boys and staff took part in the event. We also given great support by our local community of Sedbergh, including both schools and the Methodist Church. Our thanks to all those who took part.

Two annual events took place. The Charity Film was a joint Sedbergh/Casterton event, followed by refreshments in Queen's Hall. This was a very popular event with both schools and it is intended to have a repeat performance this year.

The Sixth Form and Staff Christmas Party, also held in Queen's Hall, was a success, and thanks must go to all those members of the Committee and to the Staff wives who so ably helped to make the Hall look so festive. A mention should be made about the standard of singing at the event: staff and boys were both game enough to take part in the use of a Karaoke and those who heard Hugh Symonds's rendition of *Tainted Love* will never be the same again!

Over the last six and a half years a tremendous amount of fun and hard work has taken place. The Committee has raised over £27,000 during this time. The money has gone to many different types of charities including sponsoring our young African student, Hansarah, enabling her to continue with her schooling. The list of charities that we have helped during this time includes:

Local Needs

Play Area for local children, a large contribution for the purchase of a Scout Hall, St. John's Ambulance, Old Peoples' Welfare, and Help the Aged.

National and International Charities

Intermediate Technology, British Heart Foundation, The World Trust, CARA, Three Romanian Orphanages, JET, Barnardos, Help Tibet, Refugee Aid, Health Unlimited, McMillan Nurse Appeal, Lakeland Search and Rescue Teams, Cancer Research, Blywood Charity, Children in Need, Save the Children Fund, NSPCC, and Kendal & Kirkby Stephen Mountain Search and Rescue Teams.

We have also been able to organise, run and pay for two holidays for inner city children from Bradford. Boys from Sedbergh and Bradford travelled to Kinrara in Scotland for a one week holiday, which included taking part in many activities that many had not experienced before, for example, horse-riding, canoeing, feeding wild deer, camping, catching pike, and swimming in the River Spey at midnight!

Over the years the Committee have employed many varied and interesting ways of raising funds, including Dances, Ladies v. Staff cricket matches, a Charity Concert, The Krypton Factor, Everest in a Day, The Bardathon (all Shakespeare's plays read from Tuesday midday through non-stop to Saturday midday - would you like to read Pericles at 3 o'clock in the morning?) and too many other events to mention.

The Committee would like to thank all those who gave so generously of their time and their money to support its work, and I would like to add a personal word of thanks to all those boys and parents who have supported me over the last six years.

Ann Parratt
Chairman



LIBRARY NOTES

Several articles have appeared in the Press in the course of the last year about the future of libraries with the rise of the Internet, the electronic library, "informate telecentres" and predictions of the demise of the book. It is to be hoped that there is a balance which can be achieved between the use of all the modern aids for research, cataloguing, and security, and preservation of the written word. This is what we should like to achieve, combining a respect for the latter with a forward-looking policy in regard to the former. We are lucky at Sedbergh in having a flourishing Information Technology Department whose Head, Martin Baggley, is keen to integrate all resources. One would like to think that thanks to his efforts Sedbergh would have scored very well on the "Library Power Parents' Checklist" published in a Times article on school libraries last May.

The summer holidays of 1994 saw a renewal of the Library roof and at Christmas the ceiling was redecorated. Both have improved the Library greatly and we are most grateful to Eric Brown and Val Leighton for all their efforts in overseeing the work and to the Yorkshire Dales National Park for the grant which made it possible.

The School Library has been used this year not only for History Society lectures and Senior Debates but also for talks on the history of the School to Cressbrook House and for Cressbrook debates.

To contribute towards Cumbria Book Week, a competition was held which was won by Edward Whitaker (S), with Marcus Steele (W) and Charles Piper (H) as runners-up. First-formers have produced some very good projects and, also, some interesting essays on Lieutenant Colonel Freddy Spencer Chapman as a result of work done in their Library periods.

The Librarian is in no need of a calendar to forewarn of approaching examinations for the Library begins to fill up and all seats are taken at all hours and even booked in advanced by the farsighted.

The Library has received many visitors over the course of the year, both from Old Sedberghians, prospective parents and visitors to Sedbergh. The School is very keen to foster such visits, as it is to encourage local people to use the facilities. Two notable visits were made by pupils of the Lakes School who were studying the historical development of sport in schools, and by Mr Brendan

Bracken, nephew of Lord Bracken of Christchurch, Old Sedberghian, Governor, Chairman of the Governors and benefactor of the Library, the anniversary of whose arrival at the School we commemorate this term.



This report would not be complete without the recording of the Librarian's grateful thanks to the following people who have helped so much this year: Mr Martin Baggley, Mrs Carol Laird, Mrs Angela Wilson, Mrs M. LeM. Campbell, Daniel Ballard, Andrew Sleightholme and David Watson. Particular thanks must go to Mr Martin Gray, who is leaving us and whose willing and cheerful help with library duties for all the time he was here has been very much appreciated. As always, Miss Doune Ward and the County Library Service have provided a wonderful back-up service for which we are very grateful.

The generosity of many must also be recorded and grateful thanks accorded to all those who have donated magazines and books to the School Library this year. Space does not allow all to be mentioned but the following accessions to the Special Collection of books by or about Old Sedberghians will be of especial interest:

- Tony Mercer** (L 1933–1936)
"Chronometer Makers of the World"
- W.T. West** (H 1938–1942)
"Bolton v. Stone; a Problem for the Umpire"
 with other articles
- Richard Sanderson** (SH 1944–1948)
"Looking for a Needle"
- Lt Col Sir John Baynes** (SH 1941–1946)
"Lake Vyrnwy; the Story of a Sporting Hotel"
 (purchase)
- Professor W.B. Gallie** (P 1925–1931)
"An English School" (based on Sedbergh),
"Understanding War", and *"Philosophers of
 Peace and War"*
- Iain Galbraith** (S 1969–74)
"The Art of the Portrait" (which he translated)
 and *"English in Letzter Minute"*
- Professor H.C.G. Matthew** (SH 1954–59)
"Gladstone 1875–1898"
- B.W. Brown** (L 1920–23)
"Cathedral Close", presented by his widow.
- J. Scott Cooper** (P 1926–1931)
"In Danger's Day"
- Dr Colin Bertram** (former Governor)
*"Memories and Musings of an Octogenarian
 Biologist"*
- Roderick Ancombe** (H 1961–1966)
"The Secret Life of Laszlo, Count Dracula"
 (purchase)

**Also, the following substantial donations to
 the Library deserve grateful acknowledgment:**

- Mr D. O'Brien** for a collection of books on travel,
 the oil industry etc.
- Dr and Mrs Baxter**, a collection of sporting and
 other books from the late Revd B.G. Baxter.
- Mrs Faith Spencer Chapman**, for a collection of
 travel and mountaineering books from her late
 husband, Lieutenant Colonel Freddy Spencer
 Chapman (L 1921–1926)
- Dr Peter Iveson** (H 1951–1957), for books on
 mathematics, science, history and bungee jumping.
- Mr Arthur Whitehead** (SH 1926–1931) for books
 on Kipling, subscription to two sporting magazines,
 and grant to the Library; yet again we record our
 great debt of gratitude for his generosity.

Individual donations have included "The Language
 of the Genes" from Rhone-Poulenc; "Literary Terms
 and Criticism" from Mrs P. Dixon; "The Forward
 Book of Poetry" from Forward Publishing; "Don't
 Laugh, There's a War On" from Mrs P. Ballard
 and "Great Britain; an Industrial Requiem" from
 Mr Peter Huntley.

Mrs M.E. Griffiths

ARCHIVES

The archives have had an especially fruitful year
 both in respect of quality and quantity of deposits,
 details of some of which are given below. Much
 has been added to our knowledge of the history of
 the School.

Good progress has been made on making
 photographic copies of old photographs for safe-
 keeping and for any Old Sedberghians or others
 who may be interested in obtaining copies from
 the negatives. An enormous debt of gratitude is
 due to Mr Manger for all the time and expertise he
 has given to this project. His enthusiasm and
 dedication, when he has so much else to do, is very
 much appreciated. The Archivist is also very
 grateful to all those who have lent items for
 copying, especially Mr R.M. Wilson, C.B.E. (Powell,
 1936–1940), Mr T.J. Bulmer (Powell, 1972–1977),
 and Mrs M. Dillon (daughter of O.I. Preston, M.C.,
 Evans, 1909–1912)

Talks on the history of the School have been given
 to Casterton Local History Society and to
 Cressbrook boys by Mr Peter Yorke, to whom very
 grateful thanks are due both for his expertise and
 the time he gives. We hope to extend these talks to
 a wider audience and are already booked to talk to
 Frostrow W.I. in the Lent term.

Many enquiries have been received and answered,
 including several from journalists and media
 presenters, and several researchers have visited
 the School and Library, including Mr Christopher
 Alderman, who is writing a thesis on Charles
 Temple (School House, 1882–1889), the notable
 colonial administrator, and Mr J.R. Andrews,
 cousin of W.B.J. Happold (Powell, 1935–1939) who
 lost his life in a bombing raid over Dortmund in
 1943.

As work on the Library has not been completed
 and as suitable alternative storage has yet to be
 found, most of the archives are still being cared
 for by the County Archives Service and we are

extremely grateful to them for all their
 consideration and for the quick and efficient service
 they provide in retrieving boxes for us on request.

Small exhibitions were mounted for D-Day, the Ten
 Mile, and Remembrance Day and a large one for
 Open Day, which was repeated on Old Sedberghian
 weekend and for the day of the service of dedication
 of the plaque to Lieutenant Colonel Freddy Spencer
 Chapman, DSO and Bar (Lupton 1921–1926), on
 his life and work.

Thanks are due to all the staff etc. who send in up-
 to-date results and other items for the archives,
 particularly Mr John Jones and Mr Hugh
 Symonds. A special word of thanks must go to Mrs
 Alison Wright, mother of Thomas Wright of Hart
 House, for all her help and enthusiasm in tracking
 down items on the history of the School.

As with books, there have been too many accessions
 for each to be acknowledged here but all have been
 most welcome and the Archivist is very grateful to
 everyone who has taken the trouble to donate
 items.

**The following substantial additions to the
 archives are acknowledged with gratitude:**

The fascinating collection on the life and career of
 the late Lieutenant Colonel Freddy Spencer
 Chapman, D.S.O. and Bar, from Sedbergh to the
 Pestalozzi Village in Sussex via Greenland, Tibet,
 Malaya and Africa, donated by his widow, Mrs
 Faith Spencer Chapman.

Copies of all his research on Canon J.M. Wilson,
 O.S. made by Mr Ian Davies

Copies of original letters in the Cotesworth
 Collection relating to Sedbergh School in the
 Eighteenth Century from the Local Studies Library
 at Gateshead.

Photographs and other items relating to the late
 Canon Boggis from his sister, Miss Margaret
 Boggis.

Reminiscences of life at Sedbergh and after, from
 Mr C. Sherwood, (Lupton, 1943–1946), and
 Mr N. Gardner (Lupton, 1935–1939).

School Songs, programmes of events etc., from Mrs
 Helen Forster, widow of O.M. Forster, O.S. and
 former master.

Items on the life of John Wolferstan Villa
 (Sedgwick, 1933–1936), a notable Spitfire pilot
 during the Battle of Britain from Mr M. Robinson,
 and more on Bernard Happold (see above) from
 Mr Andrews.

From within the School have come substantial
 deposits from the Headmaster, the Bursar, Mr
 Dowse, Mr Vigar and Dr Hobson, and, from Mr
 Manger, a splendid photographic record of
 "preparations" for the Royal Visit. It is pleasing to
 see how many House magazines are still produced
 and copies donated to the archives to continue a
 fine tradition and provide an invaluable source for
 research.

Grateful thanks are due to Mr Colin Weir for his
 article on Sedbergh Soccer Blues and also, very
 specially, to Mr Kevin Clerey (Sedgwick 1970–
 1975) for all his efforts in sending copies of
 newspaper articles about Old Sedberghians: a task
 which he has managed to continue despite his move
 to Switzerland.

On display in Busk Pavilion, along with other
 rugby memorabilia is the rugby jersey which James
 Lofthouse wore for the England Under-16's and
 also the jersey which Mike Biggar wore for
 Scotland. The latter was presented by Mike Biggar
 and the Old Sedberghian Club, and the former by
 James himself.

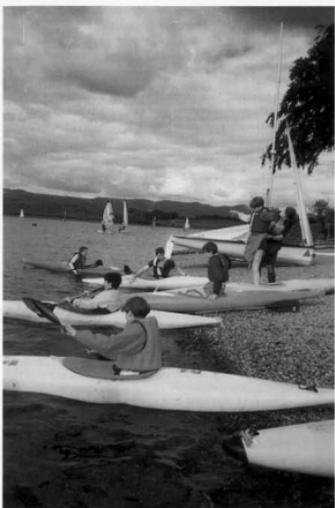
The School wishes to thank all those who have
 made donations to its archives during the year.

Mrs M.E. Griffiths

...the



CCF NOTES



CCF SECTION

C.C.F. NOTES

ARMY SECTION

Following Major Cottam's move to Stowe, Lieutenant Commander Tinker took over as Officer Commanding, and Captain Gray took charge of the Army Section. Campbell Company (third form) were involved in the usual programme of outdoor pursuits and basic training. Most were successful in the Army skill-at-arms test. The Recruits Company (fourth form) were controlled by Lieutenant Higginbottom after Alan Smith moved to Christ's Hospital, where he has just become Commanding Officer.



In the Summer term boys took part in weekend expeditions to the Lake District, leaving the Howgill Fells to the sheep. There was rather more emphasis than usual on battle drills, as the annual camp in Bavaria did not include training in military tactics. The fifth form Cadre course culminated in a worthwhile night exercise at Warcop, where essential support was once again provided by the Signals Section.

There were two full Parades during the year, one for the departing Headmaster in March, and another for the incoming Headmaster in April. These were the first full Parades the Contingent has presented for many years. The Biennial Review was conducted by Brigadier Jeremy Gaskell (O.S.), in a varied day he saw all parts of the C. C. F. in action. We visited Gairloch in Scotland for the

Easter adventure training camp; most cadets were able to enjoy winter mountaineering and sea canoeing in better than average weather conditions.

We are grateful for the service of four officers departing this year. Roger Moore retires after thirty eight years of service as a C.C.F. officer, nearly twenty of which have been as second-in-command; he attended seventy-five camps during that time including the one in Bavaria this summer. We also bid farewell to Martin Gray, who ran the Army Section most efficiently; to Mark Higginbottom (in charge of Outdoor Pursuits); and to Sean Hobson (i/c Signals, and following Alan Smith to Christ's Hospital). This leaves the officer complement of the Army Section in need of several new recruits!

Lt Commander C.G.Tinker

Major R.W.Moore

RAF SECTION

The RAF Section has enjoyed its most successful year to date during which all the new recruits passed their proficiency examinations and took to the air in Chipmunks and some in gliders, too. Most other members of the section passed Proficiency 2 and Advanced Examinations.



The finest achievements were those of Andrew Franklin in winning a coveted Sixth Form Scholarship with a place at Cranwell and of Iain Devine who won an RAF Bursary which helps to support him through university and secures him a place at Cranwell to be trained as an officer for flying duties. The competition for these awards is very fierce. As part of his award Andrew received a flying scholarship and, during the summer holidays, managed to accumulate 20 hours of powered flight of which four were solo. He has been appointed CSM of the Sedbergh School CCF for the coming year.

A visit from the RAF Presentation Team was enjoyed by all those who attended, both from this section and from the CCF generally. Field Days and General Inspection went smoothly as did all the other activities outside the classroom, such as orienteering, raft-building and shooting.

Summer Camp for all the fourth formers, together with Tim Hind and Iain Devine, was a great success at RAF Wittering, once the early rising, uniform-ironing, tent-inspections and such-like terrors had been overcome. Iain won the Certificate of Excellence as best cadet at the camp which was attended by two other schools, while Tim Hind won the award for the most improved cadet.

Two other successes were notched up by Alex Hornsby and Tim Hind who both achieved their Wings after flying solo at the end of their Basic Gliding Training at Catterick in August. Tim was invited to continue there as a staff cadet.

The Section would like to record its thanks to Mr John Jones for all his support again this year and, also, to our liaison NCO, Flight Sergeant Dave Rodger. We look forward with great excitement to our first flights in the Bulldog aircraft which are to replace Chipmunks at RAF Leeming during the coming year.

Mr G.A.Clarke and Mrs M.E.Griffiths

ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

With the promotion of Lt Tinker to the dizzy heights of Lieutenant Commander (CCF) RNR and his appointment to Contingent Commander, it might be thought that the section would falter. Luckily, however, he is still running the RN section and it is in good health. We have 28 cadets who have been under the cadet command of Coxswain James Ryding this year and we have recruited a further 15 for 95/96. CPO T.Turner has joined as

our visiting Chief Petty Officer and has proved to be a worthy substitute for CPO "Pincher" Martin. Unfortunately, with the new system he will not stay with us for very long.

The chief highlight of the year was the invitation from HMS Cumberland, our affiliated ship, to send four cadets to join them on their return from Gibraltar. They had an excellent time being well integrated into life on board. "On the ship was a totally new experience, with seasickness being a problem at first..." "It was a good experience of life on a warship at sea seeing how different members of the crew operate." Mr M.M.Priestley was able to be temporarily adopted by the RN to accompany them to further his meteorological studies. We were fortunate to be able to repay some of that hospitality when the ship was in Barrow and we entertained all the flight crew to lunch. We also went to sea on one of the Royal Navy's P2000's, HMS Charger.



The section says farewell to C.P.O. Pincher Martin

Our programme has included navigation, self-reliance, ropework and naval knowledge in the classroom. Outside we have sailed extensively, chiefly on Killington, with two members of the section also visiting Turkey to sail. We have also orienteered, camped, shot and climbed. We had visits from the Police underwater team who gave us an opportunity to use their scuba sets in the pool. We have also sent cadets to various Royal Naval establishments to sample the delight of courses in P.E., sailing, diving, gunnery and Naval Acquaintance. A number of our cadets also joined the excellent Bavaria joint services camp.

We would like to thank H.M.S.Cumberland, H.M.S.Gannet, H.Q.C.C.F. and C.P.O. Turner for their continued support and encouragement, and especially our S.S.I. John Jones for his unstinting help and support.

Dr M.P.Ripley

CCF SUMMER CAMP TO BAVARIA

The powers-that-be decided to embark on the first summer camp ever on foreign soil this summer. After a 30 hour trip (having crossed the Channel three times due to mechanical problems) we reached our destination, a small village among the wooded mountains near Kempten. The adventure training lodge we stayed in was run by the Royal Engineers and we were the first school expedition to use it. The programme consisted of outdoor pursuits; everybody spent a day canoeing, climbing and hill-walking, before choosing to do two of these activities again. Under the guidance of Capt. Knowles most boys paddled on a river for the first time. Lt Higginbottom led the climbers to some spectacular rock faces in the massive pine forests, and Mr Jones ensured we saw the stunning scenery from the best possible vantage point, the tops of the peaks in the area. On our day off we visited the castle where Chitty Chitty Bang Bang was filmed (Schloss Neuschwanstein) and also visited Fussen, a busy town which gave us an insight to the German way of life. The trip was a great success, with all the boys (and the Officers!) relishing the activities on offer. We thank Lt. Cdr. Tinker for leading the party, Mr Jones for organizing the trip and a special thank-you goes to Major Roger Moore for his years of service in the CCF. This was his 75th and last camp and his influence will be sorely missed.

Ian McKerrow

SHOOTING

In the Sedberghian last year, I stated "The major problem with having a successful sports team one year is that you are expected to do just as well the following year."

The shooting season for the Sedbergh Shooting Team ended in great disappointment. That may sound as if we had a bad season, on the contrary, as far as can be ascertained, 1995 has been the most successful in the history of the School. The disappointment was the fact that we only came fourth in the Ashburton (this is a correction to all other publications that I have distributed. For some unknown reason I stated Sedbergh were fifth in the Ashburton).

The first competition of the season was the *Cadet Skill At Arms Meeting* held, as usual, at Altcarr Ranges and run by Headquarters 42 (North West) Brigade. The team had two weeks of practice, so

arrived on the Friday evening in a confident mood. The next two days of shooting was proof that their confidence was justified.

Sedbergh won the 'Earl Roberts', the 'Montgomery' and the 'Ensign Rifle' competitions and by doing so, were overall champions for the third year running. Will Squires won the individual best shot in the 'Earl Roberts', Jonathan McNeish was overall individual champion with Will Squires second, Stewart Perrygrove third, James Buffoni fourth and Richard Wild placed sixth.



There were three weeks of practice before the next competition, the *Brack* which was held at Dechnon Ranges in Glasgow. The departure time for this Meeting, 6.30am, was not at all popular, but most people were on time and spirits were high.

Out of the five competitions of the day, Sedbergh won the 'Brock Shield' (for only the second time), James Emson and David Fell won the 'Cadet Pair' and with the help of Charles Anyan and Alistair Couch, they also won the 'Cadet Fours'. Stewart Perrygrove won the 'Ranken Challenge Cup', an individual self-coached competition. In the overall individual placings, John McNeish was placed second and Stewart Perrygrove third. Due to illness and a D of E expedition, we did not have a ninth man to enter the last competition.

The third competition was the *Bell Meeting* held, at Beckingham Ranges on 25 June. Due to range requirements, the meeting was to start an hour earlier than usual at 10.30 a.m. which would have meant leaving Sedbergh at 5.30 a.m. Fortunately, Uppingham agreed to accommodate us on the Saturday night and a good night's sleep was had by all.

Sunday proved to be another most successful day; Sedbergh won the 'Bell', the 'Marling' and came second in the 'Snap' to Oundle by only three points. James Buffoni and David Fell won the 'Cadet Pairs' and were joined by Chris Duxbury and David Lawson to win the 'Cadet Fours'.

The final competition of the shooting season was, as always, the *Schools Meeting* at Bisley. The team travelled to Bisley on Sunday, 9 July, with great expectations after such good results in the previous competitions.

Only five out of the thirteen team members had been to Bisley before and, once again, the team had selected itself. If you could go, you were a member of the team!! Out of twenty five boys that started the shooting season back in September 1994 only thirteen had the full commitment to see the season through to the end.

In the individual competitions, the 'Marlborough' and the 'Ivagh', the results were not so good, but when it came to team events, Sedbergh came into their own. The first team event was the 'Marling',



which was to be held on an Electric Target Range (ETR) for the first time. Unfortunately, Sedbergh had a bad draw and were first to try the new competition. Eight team members, with ten rounds each, have to run one hundred metres, lie down and fire at their own target. Sedbergh only missed six shots out of eighty. No other team came anywhere near this total, so the 'Marling' trophy was retained for the third year running.

On the same day, the 'Devon and Dorset' falling plate competition took place. There were sixty four teams, four members per team, Sedbergh had three. The B and C teams were soon knocked out. As this is a knock-out competition, and visual, there

is great excitement generated. All teams and their supporters are present at the same time, some three to four hundred people cheering. After five run downs in the searing heat, Sedbergh won the final shoot-out by the narrowest of margins to lift the magnificent trophy.

We could only manage fourth in the 'Schools Snap Shooting', which was disappointing as we generally do well in this competition.

Morale and confidence were high on Thursday, 13 July, 'Ashburton Day'; the team were convinced that 1995 was Sedbergh's year. The last time Sedbergh won the 'Ashburton' was in 1921. The day was like the rest of the week, stifling hot. The team had great support both from parents and staff. RGL had spent three days with the team and MEG

came down by train for the day. The Headmaster and Mrs Hirst had ensured that they would be back in the country, after visiting Russia, in time to support the team in the Ashburton.

After shooting very well at two hundred yards, Sedbergh were lying second. This gave rise to great excitement as our scores at the longer distance are generally higher. The pressure was on at three hundred yards and, unfortunately and uncharacteristically, the team score as not as high as at two hundred. We had the same score as Guildford in third place but were placed fourth as we had a lower score at three hundred. The team was greatly disappointed with this result.

They should not have been disappointed. There were fifty-five schools taking part. Because of their good results in the 'Ashburton', the 'Marling', the 'Schools Snaphooting' and the good performance of Alasdair Couch and David Fell in the 'Pairs' Sedbergh retained the 'Schools Aggregate' for the third year running. They won the 'Cottesloe Vase' for the highest placed small school in the 'Ashburton', and also retained the 'Royal Regiment of Fusiliers Challenge Cup' for the second year running.



This year also saw more Sedbergh boys in the top one hundred shots in the 'Ashburton' than we have seen for many years; they were, William Squires 10th, Stewart Perrygrove 11th, Guy Ellison 42nd, Samuel Webster 58th, and Richard Wild 87th.

So, all in all, a fantastic season. Well done to the shooting team, Stewart Perrygrove Captain, Samuel Webster, Jonathan McNeish, Richard Wild, Guy Ellison, Nicholas Baker, William Squires, James Emsen, Christopher Duxbury, Charles Anya, James Buffoni, Alasdair Couch, David Fell and David Lawson.

The service rifle (the Cadet GP Rifle) has been used in all competitions this year. The MoD target rifle was withdrawn for safety reasons and will be reissued when it has been refurbished. Unfortunately this will not be in time for the Schools' Meeting at Bisley in 1996.

To allow the School shooting club to continue to practice target rifle shooting whilst the target rifles are with the MoD the Club is most grateful to Andrew, Count McMillan, Baron of Cleghorn, the Old Sedberghian Club and the Old Sedberghian Rifle Club who have each donated a top of the range target rifle to the School at a cost of £1,300 each.

The success of the shooting team, like all other sports is dependent on practice. We had more than our fair share of range allocation this summer for which we are most grateful to H.Q. Catterick Army Field Training Centre.

The shooting team are also most grateful to MRG, RGL and PJK for their help on the ranges during the season and GAC for helping at Bisley.

Two team members leave the team this year, Jonathan McNeish who moves on to pastures green, we wish him well for the future, and Richard Wild who has higher priorities for next year.

After such a successful season, Stewart Perrygrove remains Captain for the second year, with Samuel Webster as Secretary.

Mr J.T.Jones

ROYAL NAVAL SECTION VISIT TO H.M.S CUMBERLAND

In early May, three naval cadets, Nicholas Powell, William Cousins and Philip Thompson enjoyed four days on board H. M. S. Cumberland. The frigate was returning from a six month patrol in the Adriatic and the party had been invited to join the crew for the final leg from Gibraltar to Plymouth.

A Sunday morning flight from Gatwick and overnight stay at the Royal Naval Shorebase, H.M.S. Rooke, allowed time to explore Gibraltar before embarking H.M.S. Cumberland. Our friendly welcome was to typify the excellent hospitality offered throughout the voyage. Every part of the ship and its operation were explored without restriction. Watches on the bridge and exercises in the operation room were interspersed with helicopter displays, weapons demonstrations, fire drills, speed trials and briefings on every aspect of the vessel's role and organisation. In quieter moments calm seas allowed close views of schools of dolphins and basking sharks.

Distant views of the Spanish and Portuguese coasts was replaced by fog banks in the Bay of Biscay. However, we emerged from the persistent gloom to rendezvous with the Royal Yacht Britannia, accompanied by appropriate ceremonials. All too soon, we were coming along the Cornish coast enjoying a final barbecue on the flight deck with the whole of the ship's 350 strong company. Early morning arrival in Devonport concluded a most memorable trip.

Mr M.M.Priestley

CCF CLIMBING SECTION

Sedberghians are indeed fortunate to have a rich variety of rock climbing within an hour's drive. On Thursday afternoons the group is often able to enjoy sole occupation of a Lake District crag, from the limestone cliffs of Jack Scout Cove on Morecambe Bay to the majestic Gimmer Crag high above Langdale.

Gowbarrow Crag beside Ullswater was visited for the first time, its surface gleaming from the passage of generations of Outward Bound boots, but most expeditions were to old favourites: a glorious autumn afternoon on Castle Rock, Thirlmere; a major assault on the towering Black Crag, Borrowdale, when a drenching shower of hail struck while one party was crossing the slabs, knowing that the holds in the final exposed groove would be full of icy water; the unplanned use of a top rope to complete a route on Gowther Crag, Swindale in a thunderstorm; and an ascent of Ash Tree Slabs on Gimmer, which Lord Hunt describes in the book 'Classic Rock' as one of his favourite climbs.



Late January found the group driving carefully along the icy Haweswater road to the end of Mardale with the valley full of snow under a clear sky. The crest of Plot Crag was reached at sunset, with marvellous views across to the lights of Penrith, and there followed an exciting torch-lit descent on excellent snow, like an Alpine day in reverse.

Finally, we are able to visit some of the North's best indoor climbing walls: the new wall at Penrith is spacious and offers routes at a comfortable standard, while the Ingleton Wall grows higher

every year and is popular with climbers who like desperate overhanging gymnastics: Sedberghians treat the merely vertical with disdain.

Mr S.M.Smith

CCF CAVING SECTION

The darkness beckons. Much has been written on the attraction and mystery of the limestone underworld. This article concentrates on the hazards faced in that hostile underground environment which the boys of the CCF caving section volunteer themselves for every Thursday afternoon. Over the months and years each boy must develop his ability and technique to cope with the challenges involved in getting to the bottom of a deep Dale's pothole and getting out again, safely. Safety is our utmost consideration on every trip. Only by knowing the hazards can we respond appropriately. Perhaps a glance at these hazards gives some insight to the commitment our sport demands. The first consideration is the weather and potential for flooding. An eye is kept on its tendencies in the days leading up to Thursday, and subconscious juggling for the choice of venue begins. Wednesday night and Thursday morning require careful scrutiny and right up to the last minute we must be flexible in our options. Once underground, one constantly considers the cave's response to rising water levels and, of course, the forecast. Second perhaps amongst hazards is the potential for a fall. Seemingly minor injuries on slippery rock must be avoided. The new boy-caver soon realises that amongst all those places to be sutured and protected from the consequences the pitch head demands supreme respect. The vertical bits, from little free climbable drops to hundred metre fluted shafts need security gained by careful rigging of rope and metal work we use for our protection and passage. The techniques of descent and ascent (abseiling and prussicking) need independent skill and care - surely nowhere is a schoolboy more responsible for his actions than dangling alone in the void on a single rope. Nowhere is the care and maintenance of that rope more crystallised in the mind.

Cavers must not lose their way - at least not for long; one's light is of finite duration. In the more complex systems such as the labyrinthine tunnels under Casterton Fell, (sixty kilometres of passage - all connected), a sense of direction is clearly required. Reading the cave survey is an important skill - much more involved than a map - being in

three dimensions. Emerging on the surface to the dark and frequently fog-clad moor demands the more usual skills of navigation.

The 'art' of handling one's own body so as to negotiate an infinitely limitless range of physical obstacles and constrictions, and to do this in such a way as to remain physically intact at the end of the day requires a certain fitness and maximum economy of energy if exhaustion is to be avoided. Exposure to the chill air and even chillier water demands keeping dry if at all possible – even if this means penduluming from one wall to the other whilst abseiling down a waterfall. Thankfully our clothing has come a long way since wetsuits which we rarely use.

The layman's caving nightmare is getting physically wedged – currently ranking a lowly 8th in the incident charts. Most boys wisely only contemplate constrictions that their (rather wider) leader has shown to be negotiable. Slots and rifts under 60 cm need a fair share of thought as to the sequence of passage – which way up, which way round and so on. The Fairy Liquid approach to caver extraction has yet to be used with Sedberg boys. Roofs do fall in, floors do give way, walls do collapse. This is how many passages form. In such sections we take great care what we touch.

Why do we do it? Because it's not there.

Mr J.E.Fisher

CCF CANOEING SECTION

The year began with the usual enthusiasm but, unfortunately, the rivers were quite low in September. A short rock bashing trip down the Rawthey saw the new members settling in quite well, blissfully unaware of the adrenalin-surging thrills to come later in the season. A trip to the beach at Walney Island, Barrow followed and some good surfing and 'swimming' was enjoyed.

During October and November after some heavy rain we paddled the Clough in medium water from Danny Bridge to New Bridge. The first section below Danny was technically very difficult, most managed to negotiate the problems by luck rather than judgement. However, as the term progressed it was good to see the skill-level improving. The following week the Rawthey was high and the group paddled from Straight Bridge to Plank Bridge. At the confluence of the Clough everyone portaged to a point above the falls that were roaring

into Winder Dub. From here all had a swift and foaming flume ride over the falls without any problems. This proved to be so exhilarating that a number of the group went for 'seconds'.

On the final paddle of the term the group was accompanied by Mr Alan Hill. Having experienced canoeing, sailing, climbing he had decided to save the best till last! We set off from Crook of Lune bridge with the Lune at medium height and Mr Hill was paddling like a veteran. Familiarity began to breed contempt and he went for the obligatory swim below the Grade 4 rapid. P.J.N.K. was soon to follow as he again hit his own magnetic rock on the fall above Lincoln's Inn Bridge. Of the group only Simon Price didn't swim!



Tuesday 31st January saw the Rawthey at the highest level for many years after days of torrential rain. Water was lapping over the boards of Plank Bridge, the speed and power was awesome. By Thursday the river had dropped 12 feet and the group was able to paddle in high water conditions.

The longest trip of the term saw the hardy few drive beyond Tebay to the bridge on the Orton road and launch into new territory. This proved to be a good paddle, although the dangerous falls through the Tebay Gorge were portaged. The next section proved to be quite tricky and there were a few swimmers, but the passage to Crook of Lune was one of the quickest as the river was high.

Field Day again saw the group breaking new territory with a visit to the new White Water Course at Tees-side. This eight million pound development proved to be an excellent experience and all were able both to try the course and to watch some of the 'Experts' performing in the stoppers and on the 'Surfing Wave'.

C.C.F. Annual Camp this year was held in Bavaria and was purely Adventure Training based. Canoeing was one of the three options open to the Cadets. All spent a day learning the basics on a beautiful and warm lake in very hot sunshine. Then those who wished were able to experience moving water paddling on a local river. A number of the group showed considerable ability and no doubt will want to pursue the sport in years to come.

Finally, this report cannot close without thanks to Ron Ireland our canoe driver who has served us so well for the past five years. Ron has decided to stand down and we thank him for his help and cheerfulness, without which we would not have been able to accomplish many of the trips during these years.

Thanks must also go to Simon Kavanagh who for his A-level Design project designed and built a new canoe trailer which incorporates a unique system for holding the kayaks in place.

After eight years, numerous 'hairy' experiences and many hours of sheer joy at being on the river in such beautiful surroundings P.J.N.K. has had to revert back to his DPM uniform and take charge of the Army Section. However, he still hopes to be able to paddle occasionally with the group which will be ably led by our new member of staff, Mr Stuart Parry.

Mr P.J.N.Knowles

CCF ADVENTURE TRAINING CAMP GARLOCH, SCOTLAND

"The steep slope of virgin snow glistened above and led up to an azure blue sky. Behind and to the right of us was an incredible back drop of the Beinn Eighe horse shoe with the famous Triple Buttress of Coire Mhic Fhearcair being the focal point of the immediate horizon. Their towering cliffs making a seemingly impenetrable defence of the north-facing corrie. Beyond the mouth of our sheltered domain an expanse of isolated Scottish moorland swept towards Gairloch with snow-capped peaks like islands in a sea of wilderness. After a short rest I was asked to break trail for the group and with a reluctant acceptance began the laborious and extremely tiring process of kicking steps through the previous night's fall of snow and into the firmer, packed snow beneath. The gradient of the slope began to steepen and I slipped in to a steady rhythm of place the axe, kick and step-up. Nearing the top

of the slope the shelter afforded by the lee of the hill diminished and a jet of cool air blew into my face, refreshing my slumbered consciousness. I noticed that for the final few hundred metres of hillside the fresh snow had been swept off and the older snow was frozen solid by the wind. Our ascent now became slightly more challenging and exposed, made even more so as we had not donned crampons for the ascent because in the softer snow they would have been useless. At last the gradient slackened and on climbing the final few feet to the summit of Ruadh-Stac Mor (The main peak of Beinn Eighe) we were rewarded for our efforts by a spectacular panorama covering most of the Torridonian peaks..."

This years CCF Adventure Training was based in Gairloch, north west Scotland, and after a shaky start we were blessed with some excellent days in the mountains and canoeing on the lochs of Torridon. This year the week proved to be one of the most enjoyable yet.

The first day was somewhat relaxed following the previous night's journey. We went for a walk along the bleak coastline north of Gairloch and returned to our accommodation (the annex of the Gairloch Sands Hotel) just after lunch. This left the afternoon for us to be included in the local gym or watch the football on Sky television! For the people who had attended the previous camp this was a bit of a culture-shock for last year the bothy we stayed in needed a full day's renovation, which included retiling some parts of the roof and re-connecting the water supply from the adjacent spring, before it could be lived in with any comfort.

After this rest day the remainder of the week became increasingly arduous; on the second day we honed our basic winter skills with lessons from Mr Higginbottom and Mr Jones on the self-arrest and basic winter mountain survival. Our first Munro of the week was climbed on the third day with a scramble ascent in the cloud up the Horns of Beinn Alligin. This was ended with a fine glistense of at least 1000 feet down a gully off the main ridge.

On the fourth day we made a traverse of the Beinn Eighe ridge (part of which is described above) in glorious sunshine – including a vicious snow ball fight instigated by Mr Higginbottom against Mr Hildrew and Mr Smith who were breaking the trail during the walk in!

Unfortunately, the weather broke for the fifth day but, unperturbed, we drove further north for a seaside bumble along the ragged coastline. Mr Higginbottom led the walk and immediately

persuaded us to play a game that involved trying to get as far away from the coastline as possible by jumping from rock to rock without getting wet feet. Needless to say he had gortex boots and didn't get his feet wet while the rest of us had less waterproof footwear and were soaked!



The following morning brought clear blue skies and it was decided that Mr Clarke and Mr Hildrew should split from the main party and attempt a traverse of the famous Liathach Ridge as a reconnaissance for a possible group traverse the next day. While they did this we drove to Glenuaig, near Achnashellach. By the time we had arrived at the foot of the hill, however, a belt of cloud at about 2000 feet had enveloped the summit of our mountain but undeterred we trudged up an endless snow slope and bagged another Munro. Mr Clarke and Mr Hildrew on the other hand had succeeded on Liathach and that night told enviable stories of airy traverses around ice encrusted pinnacles and front pointing up slopes of hard ice in unrelenting sunshine.

On the final day we again woke up to a hard frost and clear blue skies. After the seriousness of the Clarke/Hildrew adventure of the previous day the Liathach ridge was deemed too dangerous for the boys to attempt. Instead we ascended Beinn Dearg with Mr Clark and Mr Hildrew while the rest of the staff, apart from Mr Moore and Mr Knowles who went canoeing with Andrew Franklin, were tempted to try a repeat of the Clarke/Hildrew route up Liathach. Unfortunately, by the time they had travelled to Liathach the sun had been up for too long and large blocks of melting ice were falling

off the main ridge which forced a premature end to what had promised to be an excellent day. We, however, had a superb day in almost alpine conditions on Dearg and after an exposed traverse around the steep rock buttress on the side of the mountain we reached the top and were greeted

with a view of the full Liathach ridge under a canopy of blue sky. On the way down we again found a good gully to enjoy a final gissade and so ended an excellent week in Torridon.

This year was also Mr Moore's last Adventure Training who, after being commissioned to the Sedbergh CCF in 1957, has never missed an Adventure Training. Mr Moore's incredible knowledge of Scotland, imaginative uses of compositions and good humour will be missed by all in future years and we all wish him a very happy retirement. Also, our thanks must go to Mr Jones for organising the trip.

Sam Stel



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

This has been a good year for Gold Awards: Prabhu Rajan and Christopher Blair both managed to complete the Award before leaving school, a commendable achievement. We also had a cluster of Awards to recent leavers. They also deserve praise for being persistent and seeing the Award through to completion.

BRONZE

About 20 boys have completed the year's programme. Owing to circumstances beyond our control, it was not possible to run a life-saving course, but we hope to remedy that this term and thus enable more boys to complete the Award. Otherwise boys have completed the "service" section by doing first-aid and fund-raising. The fund-raising activities of Robert Leather are particularly noteworthy.

Expedition training has followed the pattern of the last two years. What stands out in one's memory this year is the amazing weather endured by the participants, particularly the snow at the time of the March expedition practices. Snow and gale-force winds were also a feature of the first qualifying expedition of the "Summer" term. The members of this expedition were only too glad to adopt a had weather route. Other qualifying expeditions, carried out like the first in the Lake District, were, fortunately, less taxing.

If they have not already done so, I hope these boys will now make haste to get their "physical recreation" and "skills" completed and recorded.

SILVER

The number of boys embarking on Silver this year was enough to make up three expedition groups. Two were planning the customary expedition on foot and the third group hoped to do a canoe expedition. Although the canoe group showed enthusiasm and put some effort into preparation, the requirements for safety and supervision proved too much on this occasion. I hope this group has learnt from the experience and wish them success if they attempt a similar venture at Gold level.

In the end we had three foot expedition groups. Training was an extension of work done by Bronze and the practices took place in March, in similar conditions to those endured by the Bronze expeditioners. Two of the qualifying expeditions were held in the summer term, after the G.C.S.E. examinations. One group explored limestone scenery in the Yorkshire Dales, while the other studied footpath erosion in the Lake District. Both these expeditions, carried out during a heat-wave, were feats of great endurance and I congratulate the participants on their fortitude and stamina. The third group, the would-be canoeists, are due to do their expedition in the Lake District at half-term and I wish them success.

As with the Bronze Award, our inability to offer life-saving has been a slight impediment to completion of the "service" section, but rather more boys have been occupied with first-aid and forms of practical service in the community. I hope to see some of these boys completing their Award very soon.

Mr R.Koopers

GOLD

Currently there are eleven boys actively pursuing Gold at Upper Sixth level, participating in a variety of activities including recycling aluminium, playing squash, pony club camps and 'cello playing. The Gold level can embrace almost all activities when properly formulated and pursued consistently over a period of time. The Gold level rewards the self-organised and disciplined participant. The role of the School and teachers involved is as facilitators to allow the participants to gain the appropriate experience efficiently.

The area where the School is most fully involved directly in helping the scheme is with the expeditions. This summer these eleven participants completed the expeditions section by cycling for four days and 250 km complete with all their camping gear and food. They set off in the first week of the summer holidays before the heat wave made life too difficult. Originally one group had been intending to cycle around the Cairngorm massif, but procedural difficulties with the relevant Expedition Panel for this area meant they had to change their plans to go south into Tayside.

This involved both groups camping one night at Rannoch forestry campsite where they met the redoubtable Archie, a figure who has graced these Duke of Edinburgh reports before. A retired builder

turned stickmaker, he operates as an alternative pastoral adviser to Rannoch School. A group from Sedbergh has met him each year for the last four years and found his fund of stories fascinating. As they say, "travelling is about your experiences en route, not just completing the mileage". Gold trips often view the completion as the only important factor, which is why each expedition must have a purpose to focus the group's observations of life as they travel. One of the two groups was keeping a log of road conditions as they affected cycling; the other group was monitoring pulse rates to observe the stress applied by cycling at different stages.

Some diversions applied by Fraser Millar due to his local knowledge kept the supervisor and assessor guessing on the last day but eventually all the cyclists, assessor and supervisor met up at the end, having successfully completed the route. Charles Leather was immediately picked up by his family to warm down by cycling from John o'Groats to Land's End! The rest of the groups were variously dispersed to train stations and kind parents, while two returned to Kinrara to join the Powell House third form in the final days of their summer camp.

All they now have to do is to write their logs and project reports to complete this section of the Gold award. They will then have to complete the remaining four sections of the award before they receive their invitation to St James's Palace to collect their award. The next batch of successful Silver award participants will join us to emulate, and, possibly, better their predecessors.

Dr M.P.Ripley



IMPRESSIONS OF OZ.

A year in Australia

In early January, 1994, I arrived in Queensland as an exchange teacher for one year, the beginning of a great adventure.

I expected contrasts and I was not disappointed. Sedbergh winter to a Queensland summer of record-breaking temperatures was the first of many. In thoughtful anticipation, the Hills had left out, conspicuously, two sets of keys to survival. One was to their air conditioned car and the other to the school. Both were well used.

My new home was a typical, wooden, single-storey house on stilts with a garden stocked with all sorts of novel flora and fauna. Squash, pumpkin, Bougainvillea, proteas and, on the wild side,



possums, skinks, snakes, various deadly spiders, brilliant birds and five militant chooks led by the definitely un-Everage Edna".

My school was independent, all boys and half boarding of "historic foundation" in 1875. My pupils were bouncy, precocious and fun. Some were straight from remote outback properties, educated by radio. Just sitting at a desk with many others was a novel experience for most of them when they first arrived. Some desperate swotting had to be done on Australian Geography. It was easy to forget that these boys, mostly of British extraction and English speaking, (more or less), had been born and bred in a totally different environment. No

good going out to study cloud formations when the norm is the odd bit of fluffy cumulus. Winds and pressure systems are reversed, north facing slopes are the sunniest and, honestly, the bathwater does go down the plughole in an unnatural manner. Daylight arrived at about 6 a.m. and disappeared 12 hours later. Long summer evenings were unknown.

Colleagues and parents were supportive, encouraging and very hospitable. I spent happy hours with my ex-Wallaby headmaster riding his horses in the parched countryside nearby. A four year drought was causing devastation and distress to farmers, livestock and wildlife.

Superficially the school system seemed similar but the sun always shone on fieldwork expeditions and our rugby players came off the field, after a hard game, with nothing muckier than the occasional grass stains. Spectator sport was more at risk from sunstroke than hypothermia.

Sport was of even greater priority than at home and of a very high standard. I was assigned the 14B cricket and U15 tennis teams and helped organise the equestrian team. There was so much opportunity to get involved with the many extra-curricular activities and I made the most of it. Four terms and the majority of weekends free meant a series of holidays and the chance to travel. Sailing, diving, camping, trekking, platypus spotting, the possibilities were limitless. Australia is a vast country with numerous climatic and scenic variations, a geographer's delight. There were memorable episodes, inadvertently swimming with crocodiles, tripping over a death adder in the dark, climbing the Rock at dawn and many more.

The year was suddenly racing to its conclusion and the long summer holiday arrived. These last few weeks were spent touring New Zealand's fiords, glaciers, volcanoes and hot springs. Then Christmas, not quite "in the bleak midwinter", and the long flight home to the real world, a time to take stock. Some preconceptions had been shattered. Hardly anyone said "G'Day" and I never met a Bruce or a Sheila. Sunworshipping and smoking are considered equally irresponsible and fraught with carcinogenic peril, and I have met more male chauvinism back home!

It was an amazing year. A chance to recharge batteries and break the mould. I am deeply grateful to all those who made it possible and heartily recommend this in-depth experience to all.

Mrs M.S. Garnett

RHINOWATCH

Winning the Max Nicholson Award was a privilege and turned out to be a marvellous opportunity for me to explore an area of personal interest, African wildlife. By means of an essay and an interview I was fortunate enough to win a place for two weeks on the Earthwatch Research Team, funded by the award set up by Max Nicholson (OS), to study the Black Rhinoceiros in Zimbabwe.

The principal aim of the project was, and is, to gather information about the ecology, abundance and ranging behaviour of the elusive and much-hunted Black Rhino. There were ten other volunteers on this, the seventh term of Project Black Rhino, all adults, all paying, nearly all American and nearly all on their first Earthwatch expedition.

We lived in tents and ate camp food, but were otherwise exposed to no hardships worse than having elephants cut off the water supply and tear down trees at night.

Typically we would rise before dawn, eat breakfast and prepare a packed lunch (inevitably cheese and tomato in a bun!) before setting out in groups of three or four with an armed scout to track a particular rhino. Having driven out to that animal's neighbourhood and having seen some of Africa's astonishing wildlife en route, we would record several bearings of the signal from the animal's radio collar, and then photograph and trace its spoor prints when we found them.

On several occasions we caught a glimpse of a rhino and were more than content with that, given the scarcity of the species. The same area however harboured a wealth of other animals, including zebra, impala, buffalo, elephant, giraffe, kudu, lion, leopard and hyena, all of which we saw.

Back at the camp we triangulated the bearings on the map, and the data was collected by the Principal Investigators, who created a pleasantly relaxed and jovial atmosphere for us throughout the project.

The scenery and the wildlife were fantastic, and I was very lucky to have had such an informative, fascinating and enjoyable first trip to Africa.

Ralph Thomas

JOHN O'GROATS TO LAND'S END

Charles and Robert Leather, with Philip Scott-Priestley, raised over £9,500 this summer during a sponsored cycle ride.

DAY 1

JOHN O'GROATS - Helmsdale 54 miles

On Friday the 7th of July 1995 we all met at John O'Groats and were ready to leave, when the "over 70's" runners arrived from Lands End. They had run in relays and completed the distance in 7 days!

We set off on our Mammoth Challenge with Mrs Leather and Mrs Ross as our back up. Lunch was a picnic in a windy lay-by on the A9. We arrived at Helmsdale at 5.30 to find a "simple" hostel.

Charles: Piece of cake compared to D of E; cycled up Berridale Hill



DAY 2

Helmsdale - Kilcoy Castle 65 miles

We crossed on to the Black Isle on the Nigg Ferry. We saw several dolphins in the Firth when we stopped for a picnic at Cromarty

Rob: Legs woke up at the end of the day so quite easy.

DAY 3

Kilcoy Castle - Kingussie 53 miles

We had gone two miles before Rob's chain broke on Tore roundabout. Luckily Mrs Leather was there with a spare. We stopped for lunch at the Little Chef and collected funds in the car park.

Phil: Everything OK, touch wood. Hamstring improving

DAY 4

Kingussie - Taymount House 69.5 miles

Followed the old A9 to Dalwhinnie where we met up with Mrs McKerron, our back-up for the next two days. On the stretch to Blair Atholl there were no cars and we had to negotiate narrow bridges and gates.

Charles: Other two didn't believe excuse for crashing into bridge.

DAY 5

Taymount House - Leodburn House 72 miles

We headed for the Forth Road Bridge. After lunch, Mrs McKerron guided us through to Currie where she left us here as our route then continued off road. Cycling down a rocky track Charles hit a pot hole and was catapulted over his handlebars buckling a rear wheel in the process.

Charles: An experience crossing Forth Road Bridge being such a height over water

DAY 6

Leodburn - Carlisle 81 miles

Souvenir photos were taken at the border with England. We were delighted to use the pool and jacuzzi at the Hotel before an excellent dinner.

Phil: Not as bad as I thought it would be. Delighted to get out of Scotland.

DAY 7

Carlisle - Arnside 65 miles

By the time we reached Shap we were experiencing true Sedbergh weather, low cloud, driving hail, head wind and slippery roads. The worst conditions yet. Just before Kendal, Charles's new back wheel started to cause problems forcing him to swap to the spare bike. We arrived at the Youth Hostel to be greeted by the representatives of the NORTH WEST CANCER RESEARCH who asked us about our trip and congratulated Phil on his fund raising for their charity.

Rob: After 19th hill was getting anxious

DAY 8

Arnside - Whitegate 84 miles

We left Arnside youth hostel after a cooked breakfast and rejoined the A6 at Lancaster where our back up team got lost! Once re-united we continued through Preston, Wigan and Warrington. Despite the industrial and urban surroundings we encountered no problems. Our longest day yet.

Phil: Tiring I was struggling a bit through Wigan and Warrington.

DAY 9

Whitegate - Kinver 72 miles

Due to Charles's enthusiastic pace we covered 18 miles in the first hour (mistake!). This caused a certain amount of friction between the parties but after a pub lunch and "relax" in the sun tempers were cooled and peace restored. Our trip through Telford was marked with torrential rain which was quite refreshing, but made the roads slippery. Once through Bridgnorth we were faced with more hills than expected, some of which Phil and Rob walked up.

Phil: It rained very hard in Telford. Rob and I loved it.

DAY 10

Kinver - Frampton 65 miles

Heavy traffic on the road to Kidderminster. In the afternoon we went down the A38 to Gloucester where Charles's pedal broke and once again he was banished to the spare bike.

Charles: Great feeling to be only 4 days from Lands End.

DAY 11

Frampton - Ilton 80 miles

After 30 minutes of riding Phil's wheel jammed. Continued through Bristol without mishap. Achieved our fastest speed yet in the Mendip Hills (47 mph) leaving the Volvo in our wake. After lunch, the small country lanes across the Cheddar plain gave us time to have fun with Cyclobatics.

Phil: Cyclobatics was great fun. We got some good photos. Bike breaking was very annoying.

DAY 12

Ilton - Ermington (78 miles)

Left at 8.00 am without a cloud in the sky. After Honiton our backup made a major map reading error taking us up a 1 in 4 hill instead of the relatively flat route to Ottery St Mary. This left us with 50 minutes to get to the ferry 10 miles away. Made it with seconds to spare.

Rob: Much too hot, very tired, too hilly, hated today. Thank goodness for Lucozade Sport Tablets and dry shirts.

DAY 13

Ermington - Falmouth (77.7 miles)

We passed Devonport dockyards and continued on small but steep roads where we encountered little traffic towards Fowey. At Fowey we crossed on a small ferry taking 4 cars which was very expensive (£1-80 for a bike crossing 200 yards). On disembarkation we had a picnic lunch and continued up yet more hills to Truro where we met Mrs Leather and Mrs Ross. Our trip from Truro to Falmouth proved to have several steep hills with a lot of traffic and we were relieved to arrive at Flushing knowing that the end was in sight. Mr Hirst and family arrived to give us encouragement and check on our progress.

Charles: Morale high; great evening at the Pub.

DAY 14

Falmouth - LAND'S END (38 miles)

Left Flushing at 10.30 am feeling on top of the world. As we took the A394 towards Penzance the pace was very gentle as we had plenty of time to get to Land's End. The early cloud had now burnt off and as we passed around Penzance it was getting very hot. We made our way along towards Land's End and stopped a mile out of Sennen to wait for Mrs Ross and some cousins, who had flown over from America, to arrive. We then cycled down the hill to Land's End four abreast and over the finish line. Then came the official photos, the celebrational spraying of champagne, and a hearty lunch before we all said our goodbyes and went our separate ways.

Charles: Great feeling to cross finish line

*Rob Leather
Charles Leather
Phil Scott-Priestley*

THE BOB GRAHAM ROUND

42 Lake District Peaks in 24 Hours

The story of Mr H.M.Symonds's and Mr D.M.Higginbottom's long day in the Lakes

On June 13-14th 1932, a Keswick mountaineer, Robert Graham, became the first to climb the Lake District's main 42 peaks in a continuous circuit from Keswick. It was another 28 years before the feat was repeated, in 1960 by Alan Heaton of Clayton-le-Moors Harriers in Lancashire. The foundations of the route lay in the footsteps of Dr A.W Wakefield (O.S.) of Keswick (S. 1889-94), who in 1905 climbed 27 peaks on a circuit totalling 23,500 feet of climbing and 86 miles distance. Wakefield had developed his tremendous physical fitness through using a bicycle for professional calls and by swimming in Derwentwater almost every day of the year. He was the first to adopt really lightweight kit on the fells, wearing a rugby shirt, shorts and gym shoes. In the 28 years between the first and second successful "Rounds" there were many attempts to repeat Bob Graham's magnificent circuit of the summer of 1932. One of the closest attempts was by the explorer, and O.S., Mr F. Spencer Chapman (L.1921-26), who completed the round but unfortunately his time in 1937 was over the 24 hour limit.

In 1971 Harry Griffin and Fred Rogerson formed a club for people who were successful in covering the peaks within 24 hours. By the end of that summer there were nine members and the seeds of enthusiasm had been sown amongst lovers of long, hard days in the hills. Numbers grew rapidly, totalling nearly 200 by 1980.

On the penultimate weekend of the 1995 summer term, two Sedbergh schoolmasters left the Moot Hall, Keswick, at 4.47 a.m. on Sunday morning, 25th June. For years Hugh Symonds had yearned to have a go but had never got round to it. For Mark Higginbottom it was the final week of life at Sedbergh School, as he was moving on to Strathallan School, Scotland. The time was right for a joint attempt.



Tired, but successful: Hugh and Mark at the end of their run.

Thick cloud and heavy mist covered the Northern peaks of Skiddaw, Great Calva and Blencathra, slowing the pace as careful navigation was called for in this wild and empty space "Back of Skiddaw". Then, as we descended the rocky ridge of Hall's Fell, the sweeping fog thinned in shafts of sunlight, giving us a rare glimpse of our own two shadows in a rainbow halo - a Broken Spectre - this freeing our pace for a momentary 20 seconds of visionary delight. At the first of four road-crossing-points (this one at Threlkeld) we enjoyed a restful fifteen minutes breakfast in warm sunshine as Pauline Symonds and Jackie Finney (now Higginbottom) delivered us deck chairs, bananas and clean socks. As we climbed the Dodds, the day now intensified in heat and the sky revealed a clear blue which remained with us till dusk on Great Gable. Through the early afternoon the heat had given us unsatiable thirsts as we slowed the pace in crossing the highest peaks from Dunmail to Wasdale. The secret intention had been to return to Keswick within daylight hours and to get a few hours sleep before maths and classics lessons on Monday morning. The heat, however, had got the better of us and the run had slowed to a walk over the Western fells around Pillar. Night had fallen by Honister and dawn broke just two miles south of Keswick. We touched the Moot Hall at 3.30 a.m., having completed the 27,000 feet and 72 miles in 22 hours and 43 minutes. We were rushed back to Sedbergh in time for two hours sleep before lessons.

Mr H.M.Symonds

AUSTRIAN EXCHANGE

The 1995 Austrian exchange with Theresianum was a fitting end to Mr Jeffries' reign as resident School house tutor, an epic trip.

The humour started in the minibuses when one member of the party was late due to a bit of delayed packing (at about 5 o'clock that morning). Our flight went smoothly and we were soon in Vienna. At 1 o'clock we met our exchange partners and after lunch we left to go and meet the parents we would be living with for the next two weeks. In those two weeks we were shown around some of the biggest and best sights in the whole of Austria, ranging from the Imperial Palace to the fun-fair.



During the stay we watched a German film and in the English lessons we were shown the *Third Man*. This formed the theme of the week's project work. We were shown round Vienna where the film was created. We visited the famous sewers which were unfortunately over-flooded so we could not go down into them. In our free time Mr Jeffries and Mr Bagley showed us round the historic and famous parts of the city, from the Karlskirche to the Spanish Riding School. The Austrian capital was a very busy and hectic place with a few of us finding ourselves on the wrong train.

All our host families were very welcoming and we thank them for their generous hospitality; we hope that many other Sedbergians will be visiting the Theresianum in the future.

James Franklin
Jonathan Lowe

ST PETERSBURG

Over the New Year a second party from Sedbergh journeyed to the magnificent 'Venice of the North', St Petersburg. We stayed with designated Russian families, as had our contemporaries during the previous Easter, but our programme was modified. It included such excursions as the Kirov Opera, the Summer Palace, the Hermitage and many others. It was principally a history trip, so we heard two informative lectures on Russian history by a professor from the University as well.

St Petersburg was founded on 16 May 1703 when Peter the Great laid the foundation stone of the great Peter-and-Paul Fortress. It lies on the banks of the Neva at the strategic easternmost tip of the Gulf of Finland. As the city continued to grow it attracted, in addition to architects, large numbers of outstanding scientists, musicians, sculptors, and painters, both from Russia and abroad. Indeed the new city was declared capital of Russia, amidst great celebrations, as early as 1712. Its stormy history included three revolutions: those of 1905-1907; of February 1917; and the great drama of the October 1917 Revolution itself. The city contains so many architectural splendours that its entire heart is virtually a museum in stone. This is complemented by the threading of scores of branches of the Neva Delta, which form a mosaic of over 100 islands.

Once we arrived at St Petersburg airport we were greeted by our hosts and taken in a coach to our allotted homes. Here we exchanged gifts and started to settle in. Our families were very generous and the Russian food was excellent. They were well-educated professionals who lived in city apartments. James Jackson's family however seemed to be a bit more powerful as he was given his own bodyguard and chauffeur, and spent the New Year skiing near the Nordic border!

During the day we would usually meet at the 'House of Friendship', from where the journey was organised. We would set off from here on our scheduled trips around the city and usually come back for lunch. One such trip was our excursion to the fabulous Summer Palace in Pushkin. This was one of the lavish homes of Catherine the Great which was unfortunately gutted during the Nazi occupation of the Second World War. During the Cold War years, however, the Russians set up their own group of professional restorers who meticulously set about their job of re-instating the Palace to its former glory. The Russians had to re-learn the skills which were used when the Palace



was built in order to do their job efficiently. The extent of the damage was so great that the Palace is still being worked on and it will take many years yet. The parts of the palace that we did see were excellently restored and the splendour of the building overwhelmed the entire group.

The Hermitage fully deserves its reputation as one of the world's great art galleries. Not only do its exhibitions include a full range of works by Rubens, Rembrandt and Picasso, but the collection itself is housed in the Tsar's Winter Palace. Apart from the distinguished paintings, the Hermitage also owns many impressive ornaments, statues and other precious items. Later in the week we visited the Russian Museum which was well worth visiting as it displayed many Russian treasures rather than foreign ones.

Of the many other sights we saw, St Isaac's Cathedral and the Peter-and-Paul Fortress stand out particularly. St Isaac's Cathedral is dwarfed only by the domes of St Paul's in London and St Peter's in Rome. This impressive building can be seen from many miles away due to its characteristic shape and height, and inside the architecture, fittings and decor blend with meticulous attention. The most dazzling feature of the building was the huge dome which from inside reached up to a suspended bird in the top of the roof. This bird seemed to sparkle as it was bathed in sunlight from surrounding windows. The Peter-and-Paul Fortress was the first building to be built in St Petersburg and the fortifications it possessed were awesome. The day that we visited the Fortress was particularly cold and the Russian vodka we had

was greatly appreciated. The prison and chapel were especially striking as the chapel housed the majority of the Tsars' sarcophagi from the time when the chapel was built onwards, and the conditions in the prison were some of the worst I have ever seen or read about. The prison is no longer used and hasn't been for a long time, but the deprivation that the prisoners suffered was a tremendous contrast to the luxury of the palaces and buildings we had seen before. The Fortress has a quay onto the river and the frozen Neva provided some great scenic photographs of the city.

In the evenings we visited the Philharmonic Orchestra, the Kirov Ballet performing the Nutcracker Suite and a Youth concert and disco. On the evenings when we didn't have an organised event, we either spent the night with our families or tasted the nightlife of St Petersburg. At the Youth concert we saw talented young Russians in an exciting display of colour and music, and the disco afterwards provided us with the opportunity to socialise in Russia which Ben Stell, in particular, appreciated greatly.

St Petersburg fully warrants its title of the 'Venice of the North' as its magnificent architecture and culture proved. The mixture of market stalls and burger bars also showed us how the Russians of St Petersburg live, and the experience of living with families for the week was not to be missed. This exciting and informative trip was packed full and Mr Jeffries deserves full credit for a well-organised, successful tour.

James Allison

EXPERIENCE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF ESCAPE

Sedbergh is a dreary place at the best of times according to many Sedberghians. But it is only after the long 5 years that you can really appreciate the kind of warped atmosphere and freedom inherent to a place where you often feel trapped. This of course works the other way around when you leave – the sense of isolation felt in a hostile and empty society leaves you feeling trapped and manipulated. The very legislation and autocratic nature of Sedbergh, encompassed in the barbed wire fences of the Howgills, is a freedom to be cherished.

This is not to say, however, that happiness and freedom cannot be reached outside Sedbergh – it's just often harder to find. The world is a much larger playing field than Lupton pitches or the claustrophobic security of the houses. So it is important to escape the clutches of school and family. It is important to reach out to the world and taste real freedom, real happiness. It is important to forget the manipulative restraints of the Spartan Agogae and explore the world's labyrinthine potential. Forget yourself for a while; after all learning is finding out what you already know. Boredom and conformity is society's weakness and here is a chance to rise above it.

It was with these far-reaching and confused objectives that I agreed to spend 5 weeks in Kenya with Dave Lonsdale-Eccles and Mungo Robertson. Being new to Evans I barely knew these two but it was the idea that counted at this point. In the quiet of our bedsits we decided to climb Mt. Kenya. Although Mt. Kenya (5199m) is far from being the highest mountain in the world it is one of the most technically demanding, being a vast and daunting hunk of rock. We carefully chose to ignore the distant but rational rumblings of Mr Hildrew, Mr Smith and Mr Higginbottom who proclaimed that we were "either over-ambitious or insane". We later decided that the latter term was more appropriate.

We could not have been more inexperienced short of not knowing what a rope was but the effort did go unfeigned. We survived the 60km walk up to Top Hut (the height of Mt. Blanc) which took three days and involved unbearable heat, fog, rain, a blizzard, a girl called Helen/Madelaine, and 27kg. of pure and uncomfortable rucksack. Remarkably we were all untouched by the altitude – which was probably the single piece of good fortune which we had.

We then climbed Pt. Lennana (the walkers' summit), twice, for good measure, which was great fun, involving an ice traverse across a petrifying steep drop onto a glacier. To add to the excitement we had no ice climbing kit, heavy rucksacks and were accompanied by a Dutch girl called Helen.

The following day was set aside for our attempt on Batian (the climbers' summit) which was sheer cliff, towering above Lennana. We had anticipated a little adventure but had perhaps underestimated the mind-boggling fear which came of knowing that we'd spent a night tied to Batian. Mungo was the more sane of the three of us and finally capitulated



to "Hildrew & co.'s plaintive warnings. Dave and myself, however, repacked our rucksacks and negotiated the scree slope at 5 a.m. to find a memorial plaque marking the start of our climb.

Echoing the maxim that "all that exists is to climb", we ignored sanity's guiding hand. Firm resolution and a burning ambition to prove "Hildrew & co." wrong made us continue. The first pitch (IV) gave us confidence since it was supposedly the second hardest pitch on the two day route. We then climbed the scree/snow face for several pitches with some caution, but it was the next pitch in which the true Sedberghian climber rose to the surface. The Guide book became outrageously ambiguous and supposedly determined that we ascend the very

vertical, very exposed and totally blank wall towering above us. The Guide book also proclaimed that this was only a Grade III, but we later decided that either we were lost (most likely) or the Guide book had a typing error and meant E3. Back in Lupton me leading had seemed a good idea but it now seemed that I could have more easily quenched my thirst for fear in the Lake District.

After the first 5m. of Absolute Terror (the emotional equivalent of Absolute Zero) I was sweating pure adrenalin and was seriously regretting... everything. There was a small double-crack running up the rock-face and that was it, that was really it. It was a case of off-balance jamming all the way up and our rucksacks didn't help. There was no question of going back down and I was way too knackered to put any safety kit in. Looking down was the kind of phenomenal, heart-stopping drop that suicidal people like to parachute off. But I was in no mood to admire the view. On reaching a small ledge half way up I swallowed my heart and prayed to every God I had heard of, made some up and prayed to them too.

Upon finding the ultimate belay point in the traditional style – a loose spike, it was Dave's turn and I was greatly relieved. I knew Dave was physically a good climber but he was wildly inexperienced having only started a month previously and I wondered how he would cope. At least he was at the right end of the rope which on these terms only meant that if he fell then I would go with him. On the way up Dave was ominously silent; I knew exactly how he felt, and was not jealous. I gave him as much tight rope as possible and confirmed that the only way up was the "suicidally exposed and blank crack".

When he got up he was shaking all over and explained in distinctly unpoetic terms that Mt. Kenya was a really bad idea. I agreed with him and showed him the belay point! The following pitch seemed a continuation of the one we had just done while the Guide book described somewhere completely different. After slowly recovering we looked at the airplane-like view. It was an overwhelming sense of achievement just to get this high, despite the momentous rock-face we had our backs to. Moments like these are lost in time, and cannot be condemned to words but this was silent and perfect.

It was then that Dave suggested that we go back down. I half-heartedly agreed but was secretly relieved that it wasn't me who had admitted defeat. (If Dave hadn't said it then I would have done). So we reluctantly conceded to "Hildrew & co." despite

the feeling that we could climb anything after that E3. We set about working out how to abseil off a rock-face. There's always a first time for everything! We first let down our rucksacks to test out the fixed sling which had probably been rotting there since 1870; it seemed sound enough. Nevertheless I was more than willing to let Dave go first since I was admittedly more terrified of the descent than the actual climb. With climbing you are in control of your own destiny whereas with abseiling there are several other factors involved; this is the only thing that frightens me. As with most things, once I was over the edge it was easy and fun.

Once at the bottom we felt drained and empty. Although we had undoubtedly come close to "touching the void", we felt strangely liberated. Nevertheless we had met the challenge and failed. All those hours spent dreaming instead of revising the stark unrealities of Middlemarch or the seemingly futile theories of Perfect Competition and everything which I had aspired to cover the past few months seemed shattered. I couldn't believe that a perfect dream could end in failure. It was only much later that I realised that I had learned the hardest lesson of all. That everything is important and that happiness and survival is the only thing that counts in the fragile world of today. Things like A-levels are important, but friendship, learning to live with yourself and the ability to be truly free are essential. If you believe in yourself then your dreams will come true. Failure is only a term for success in a different way than expected. Failure may mean starting again but with the taste of freedom still fresh. Anyway it is the battle in which the true spirit lies and success is merely a consequence. I tasted something unique and saw the fragility of our time.

The Cure: to be yourself, forget everything else and above all enjoy yourself. After all, dreams are all we have.

Here endeth the lesson.

"Beneath the sea of clouds lies eternity." Antoine de Saint-Exupery

"The world is not to be put in order, the world is order incarnate. It is for us to put ourselves in union with this order." Henry Miller

"It doesn't matter how slowly you go so long as you do not stop." Confucius

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