

# BENENDEN

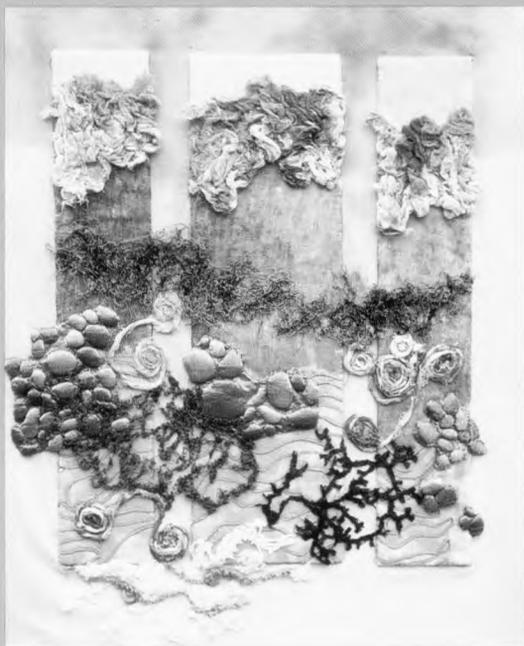
SCHOOL



*mm*®

MAGAZINE

1995



Seashore Embroidery

*Gemma Prall*  
Six Two



Puffins

*Alexandra Pye*  
Upper Fifth



The Basket

*Susannah Gault*  
Six Two



House Plants

*Holly Vernon-Smith*  
Upper Fifth

An exhibit of A grade A Level and A\* and A grade GCSE work most generously sponsored by Coutts & Co, 440 Strand, London WC2R 0QS

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Upper Fifth

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# VE Day Walk 8 May 1995



Setting Off

*Photo: Barbara Scopes*



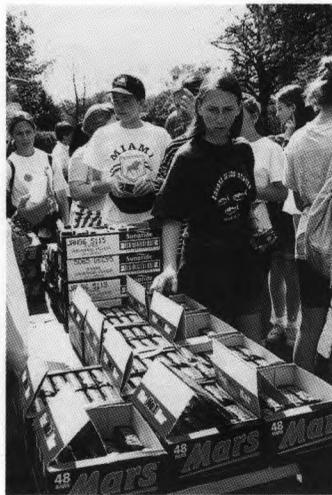
Lunch at Sissinghurst Castle  
(by kind permission of Nigel Nicolson Esq)



On the Way



Guiding Light



Temptation



The Good Provider



Wayside Refreshment



Striding Home

# Mrs duCharme's Speech Day Report

Last September seems light years away to me, and possibly to you, but my annual review should, I suppose, start at the beginning, especially since this time round the School was visited briefly on a routine basis last June by an OFSTED inspector and this was followed by a Girls' Schools Association QMA (Quality and Management Audit) for three days in September. Both inspections gave the School an encouraging and positive report, a good way to start an academic year. So we all set to with a will to continue the good work, and here we are in July, still smiling, still beating the National Curriculum and the public examinations into submission, and knowing that this is a process which will have to continue. At a time when pressures on education generally are immense, we feel that we are hardly bloodied, as Mr Major would say, and completely unbowed.

I do not intend, you will be glad to hear, to run right through the year from September to the present, but as usual to talk about the highlights and aim to give you the flavour of the experience. Before I do so, I want to put us as a school into a context, that of England today.

1995 is a special, anniversary year, and I have pondered continually on the kind of world we are bringing up our young people to live in. In the face of materialism, ruthless competition, destructive envy, and lack of trust in institutions or individuals, morale is at a low ebb, and I cannot avoid a *fin de siecle* feeling, which is perhaps not surprising since we ARE coming to the end of this century.

We need surely to begin to look towards the new millennium now, and think of new beginnings, change and new hopes, rather than let ourselves get further bogged down in the low-life which is brought to our attention constantly by the media.

This year, 50 years after the end of World War II, has given our nation a welcome and much needed cause for celebrating together, and rejoicing in victory, the victory of good over evil.

It was really heartening that so many towns and villages got together and enjoyed concerts and parties, simple celebrations. I decided that as a school we too would do something together on May 8 instead of classes as usual, and that we would go for a country walk. It was not a sponsored walk, just a way to mark the occasion, to see the beautiful countryside round here and be a community together. In the event we set out in



Genevieve Quarrington, Jenny Papas and Barbara Holroyd-Pearce who were selected to join the National Youth Theatre during the summer

glorious sunshine, 438 girls, more than 50 teachers, and over a hundred parents and dogs, and we walked merrily through the fields past the Old Cloth Hall and Dulwich Prep to Sissinghurst Castle. There we were able to picnic on the grass in front of the castle, thanks to Nigel Nicolson, a former Benenden parent, and then we returned to School through the Hemsted Forest, eight miles in all at our own pace. A few days before the walk, Pat Hoare, our Chemistry technician, told me that on the actual VE Day in 1945 she and her school - friends, evacuated to Somerset, had walked round the countryside there and had ended up by swimming in a lake! - So the walk we did seemed to me serendipitous, especially since the weather was fine. We all returned home tired but cheerful, and with only a few blisters to mark the event!

This term in Prayers we have been talking about symbols, and of course

one of the most important symbols for English people in World War II was Sir Winston Churchill's famous V for victory sign as well as his enormous cigar. I think we at Benenden now need two V words as part of what we are seeking and working for as a school. The first is V for victory.

The most spectacular V for victory this year is one Sheelagh Houlden will talk about, and it did a great deal for the confidence of the whole School. It continues to be part of the philosophy of the School to find the talent in each person which can bring her success, and all of us need a victory now and again to help our morale. These need not be public victories, but for US as individuals they make a real difference. Two girls have been selected to be part of the National Youth Theatre and another for the US equivalent group. Two girls have got GAP year teaching assistantships in India. Two

overcame persistent ill health and managed to turn up to take their A Level exams. I could give you literally hundreds of other examples. These seem small victories and they will not hit the papers, but they are very important in the building of character and of morale in the community. It is often easier to complain and to give up, but Benenden girls do not give up easily or without a struggle.

The second V is for vision. In order for the School to go into the new century with heads high we certainly need a vision of the future. The students have no trouble with this, as they proved by burying a time capsule on the terrace in March which included their designs for and poems about their view of life in the year 2045, when it will be dug up. We adults are perhaps a little more circumspect. We are now thinking and researching all aspects of the School both inside and outside the classroom as well as considering the impact of the new technology in ten years' time so that we can approach the year 2000 and go on to 2005 with the confidence that we have planned ahead in a sensible way.

The Development Committee, convened by the Council and consisting



Lauren Pobjoy with the 2045 time capsule

for the most part of members of the Benenden staff, is doing this research. We know that we intend to build the final section of Founders planned earlier which will house 20 more Sixth Form students, and the other signposts along our path into the future should be clear by the autumn. Of course I have a number of hopes and dreams, but we need to plan as a community so that everyone has an investment in the success of what we undertake. We have over the past ten years spent more than £10 million in upgrading the School's, facilities, a process which like painting the Forth Bridge must continue. Our most recent improvement which you may well have noticed, and perhaps used already, has been to rearrange the Victorian cloakroom and the luggage entrance so as to provide easier access and better toilet facilities for everyone, especially the men, who have for years been very deprived, meanwhile retaining some of the Victorian glass brick for everyone to see. I should en route like to thank the Council for their constant and active support of all that we do, support that is vital to us, and for their faith in our ability to do the job. At present we are not planning other new buildings, but concentrating on producing an overall blueprint for the future.

To return to the present, this year has not been a year of staggering surprises or flourishes or of pulling rabbits out of hats. I would call it more a year of consolidation, of polishing our efforts as an artist polishes marble. This is what we were aiming for, since pulling rabbits out of hats can be unpredictable and draining.

One of my long held dreams did begin to come to fruition this year, however. I have long felt that our beautiful park would be a wonderful place for outdoor sculpture - some of you may have seen for instance the sculpture park near Wakefield, but I have never managed to get hold of any. This year some of our art students, guided by sculptor Anthony Hawken, made the K8 and K9 sculpture at the top of the drive from

pieces of car and fridge and a shopping cart, so the sculpture park has begun, and a marble fountain is now being made which will be our second outdoor sculpture at Benenden, and several more have been made by the Fifth Form in the Design Studio, so this dream is coming true.

Another of my deepest interests is in words. In our society they often seem devalued, and I am glad that at Benenden our love of words is nurtured by the Lower School Poetry Competition, now in its third year. I am deeply encouraged both by the quality of the poetry being written by our younger poets, and also by their interest in writing poetry. This love of words - spoken as well as written - has also been demonstrated by our Lower School debating team, who spoke eloquently in the finals of the Allied Schools Public Speaking Competition held recently at Homerton College, Cambridge.

The fact that the arts and humanities are alive and flourishing at Benenden is also shown by our second Arts Festival, which took place in February, when nearly 30 artists from all aspects of the arts - from portrait painting to scriptwriting to silk banner making - came to Benenden and conducted workshops for the Fifth Forms and an afternoon Founders' Recital for the whole School, a day generously funded both by the Founders' Memorial Fund and our bankers, Coutts & Co.

The balance is held between arts and sciences by an ever-increasing number of our students studying the sciences at Advanced Level and going on to further education in medicine, veterinary medicine, engineering and the pure sciences. Added to that, fifteen girls will take the GCSE Design Technology course in September.

It is a common misconception among parents that learning takes place primarily in the classroom. Certainly the evidence from Benenden this year shows that the classroom is only one of many places in which it occurs. Our students and Seniors are

to be found in the four corners of the earth in the most unlikely places in their quest for learning. In the course of the past year they could have been found at the Kent Police Constabulary, in the neurosurgery department of a London hospital observing operations on the brain, at various London newspapers, publishers, City firms, auction houses, and law offices and at the BBC Philharmonic in Manchester, all for work experience, and in a freight shipping company on Take Our Daughters to Work Day. Another on GAP year helped build a suspension bridge across the Segama River in Eastern Malaysia on Operation Raleigh. You will find a Benenden student or Senior under almost every stone; last summer in China, at Easter in the Sinai desert along with some of their parents and in California, and this summer on a leadership course in Zimbabwe working out in the bush, as well as on our regular trips to Malaga, La Rochelle, Salzburg and Nettlecombe. Meanwhile, nearer home others can be found presenting their mobile phone company to judges from Mercury Communications, taking part in the Circus Workshop or our Tonbridge exchange and playing concerts at Rye and Smallhythe Parish Churches. I believe that it is this multiplicity of experiences which gives them, along with their many hours in the classroom, studio and lab and library, the skills to be able to cope with almost anything that they come up against - the fact that they study in a beautiful place gives the calmness needed to balance out the thrills and spills. I think it is important to note *en passant* our belief at Benenden that everyone should get as much education as she can, because given the surprises life usually throws at us all these days, both men and women need to be prepared for almost anything; also, given the longer life expectation nowadays, it is vital to have some training so that not only before raising a family, but also after they have grown up, and sometimes concurrently, a woman has enough skills to be able to have a fulfilling life as well as earning a livelihood.

Well, that I hope gives you a flavour of the year. Now for the farewells and the thank-yous. As usual, we have to say goodbye not only to our Six Two leavers but also to some of my colleagues, which is always hard and even harder when they have been bulwarks of our community.

Mrs Shirley Brinkhurst has indeed been a bulwark, for sixteen years in all. She first worked at Benenden under Miss Clarke, left to live in Canada and then returned to teach history and geography in 1981. She has been Housemistress of Echyngham since 1984. You can find Mrs Brinkhurst at the heart of every School drama or dance production, producing amazing costumes out of almost nothing, and sometimes you will find her wearing them too! I shall never forget her in her disguise as the art critic, Sophie Velazquez-Hiem, when she came to open one of our art exhibits and even her colleagues did not recognize her! To everything she does Shirley Brinkhurst adds zip and zest, and she will be sorely missed. However, she will not be far away, in Rye, for she is the only person I know who actually lives in a tower, though not an ivory one! Thank you, Shirley, for everything you have done for us all over the years.

Equally sorely missed will be Mrs Mary Strong, mother of two Benenden Seniors, Kate and Pippa, and teacher of PE for 25 years but whose association with the School began 31 years ago. Whether on the lacrosse field, the squash court or the tennis court, Mrs Strong has been a tower of strength and steady encouragement to the girls and to us all, and she has added much to the life of the School by her deep commitment and by her great interest



After the Speeches

in the girls as people as well as players. Her home has been a home from home for many girls, not just her own, and it will be very strange not to see her every day - though I must admit I have made her promise to keep on with our weekly tennis game. I have extracted the same promise from Mrs Julia Reynolds, her colleague in the PE department, who leaves after sixteen years of loyal service and who will also be much missed.

One of my most modest and most valuable colleagues is Mrs Hannah Addyman, who is a friend to many Seniors as well as to the girls. She has had several roles in the School over the past sixteen and a half years, beginning in the Accounts Department, becoming the Bursar's secretary and Clerk to the Seniors in 1979, and then moving to become Associate Registrar six years ago. As such, Mrs Addyman has been production editor of the School Magazine, the Seniors' Magazine and the newsletters, and has made herself utterly invaluable to us. Now she wants to devote more time to her family and to other pursuits, so she is leaving the School but will continue her work with the School Magazine.

I salute her, and I thank her for her dedication, support and initiative.

Mrs Shirley Roche of the Drama Department has also been a longtime member of staff, coming to Benenden in 1980. She has instilled confidence into her students by her dedicated teaching and encouragement, and hundreds of them have achieved certificates and medals for acting and speaking, very often with distinction. She has also been the advisor of the Junior Dram competition, and helped the Six One directors to put their show on the road and to achieve more than they could ever have hoped for, and she is an integral member of the Drama Department when the School puts on a production. In addition, Mrs Roche and her husband Patrick, who is still working at Benenden, are expert ballroom dancers, and we shall see Mrs Roche here regularly as they will offer dancing tuition to the girls.

We are also sad to say goodbye to Miss Jo Lewis, who is going off to join the Drama Department at Queen Anne's School after six years at Benenden. She has been a very important person on the teaching and technical side, and at the same time she has been a much loved Assistant Housemistress of Guldeford. We wish her all the best for this new phase in her career and thank her for her many contributions.

Our Director of Music, Mr Stephen Threlfall, as well as his wife, pianist Kathleen Uren, have decided to return to Manchester where Mr Threlfall has been appointed Director of Music at Chetham's, one of England's premier music schools. His four years in post have seen the Hemsted Forest Youth Orchestra and indeed our music generally go from strength to strength, and our loss will certainly be Chetham's gain. We hope he will revisit now and again in his capacity as cellist or conductor and we wish them both well. We also wish Mr Paul Smith, Head of Academic Music, good luck, as he leaves to concentrate more on his chief love, the instrumental side of

music, at Alleyn's School.

Several other colleagues are also bound for pastures new. Mrs Dinah Clayton of the Food Technology Department and Assistant Housemistress of Norris, has been a loyal and very committed colleague for seven years, and her husband David has been a real asset this year as Assistant Librarian, and we hope they will find their new position on the house staff of the Royal Hospital School in Ipswich fulfilling and fun. They will all be missed.

Mrs Jane Pallot, Mr Dave McDougall, Miss Isabelle Moran and Miss Maren Tolksdorf of the Modern Languages Department are also embarking on other ventures, and we thank them and wish them all the very best. Indeed, we thank and salute all our colleagues who are leaving; they can be replaced in their jobs but as people they cannot be replaced in our affections.

Last year I talked about an aircraft, and the heroism of Captain Jean Maridor, who saved our School building from destruction in 1944. And you may know that a plaque in his memory was dedicated at Benenden Church by his former fiancée last September in the presence of a number of his former Free French comrades and members of his family from Le Havre, all of whom came over for the ceremony and attended a lunch in their honour here at School afterwards. All of us walked together to the site of the crash. You may not have heard that a week after the ceremony, a piece of the doodlebug that destroyed his aircraft was recovered from our woods. We have now named the room next to the Registry on the ground floor of the main building after him, and in due course will put in it more memorabilia.

This year I want to talk about another aircraft, but this time a metaphorical one. We are not an old school, indeed our history, which is now being formally written, begins only in 1923, so like any plane H has taken us time to climb to cruising speed. It

is quite easy and quite impressive to whoosh upwards to 30,000 feet or so. What is not so easy is to cruise safely along, and to go even higher. Maintaining a cruising speed is not so obviously spectacular, and means constant attention to the dials, and a need to look carefully at the map to find the way to the next airport, and then the next. We cannot stand still, and in flying - small planes at least - it is never just a question of holding the joystick; there is work to be done to keep the aircraft in trim.

We have all been working hard to keep our aircraft cruising well and my colleagues have as usual been essential to the flight. In many ways, however, no-one has been more pivotal this year than our leavers, the Six Twos to whom we say au revoir today. They have been a terrific group from the outset, and the Upper Sixth, who have done a wonderful job, especially the Head and Captain of School, Sheelagh Houlden and Ginia Simkins. I have watched them with interest and admiration ever since they were quite small and I would like to express my thanks to them and to wish them all the very best in the future. I would also like to thank their parents, who have been a particularly friendly, hardworking and loyal group whom it has been a pleasure to know.

Sheelagh has family in Kenya, so I want to remind you of what Joseph Thomson, explorer of Masailand last century wrote. I quoted it to you last Speech Day, but this year I repeat it because I feel it has actually come true and is more relevant than ever. You will forgive me for changing the personal pronoun. *She who goes gently goes safely. And she who goes safely goes far.* And I am sure our leavers will.

I wish everyone a good summer and the leavers, both students and colleagues, Godspeed.

Gillian duCharme  
July 1995

# Head of School's Speech Day Report

Throughout this year, I have overcome a number of challenges presented to me as Head of School but none quite so daunting as giving a speech to such an awesome and august body of people. My initial thought was to bribe someone in my family to write this as I am sure many previous Heads of School have been tempted to do! At the time, my brother was writing his history degree dissertation so there was a glimmer of hope that he might be able to string a few words together for me. This positive thinking quickly turned into the realisation that R.A.F. Flying Corps strategies in East Africa during the First World War might not provide the most suitable material with which to follow Mrs. duCharme's report of the school year.

Arriving at Benenden in the Lower Fifts meant that naturally I was scared about what to expect, since my first impression of the School was my scholarship stay. This left me somewhat bemused about the tradition of 'crushing and cracking', especially having come from a mixed school! The parting words of my big brother, stemming from a vicious rumour circulating Tonbridge at that time, warned that all Benenden girls have long hair which they tend to flick and adore the film *The Breakfast Club* the latter I can now recommend as an all time classic!

The challenges thrown down do not end there as all of you are well aware of in your school career. There are not only the academic challenges of GCSEs and A Levels but also those in the fields of sport, drama and music to be faced. All you can do is to take a huge gulp and go for it, as did the Springboks last weekend when tackling the All Black Jonah Lomu!

Always having been keen on sport and being renowned at my prep school for managing to fall over heroically in nearly every netball match, I was desperate to be selected for the U14 lacrosse team. This took time, as the only use of my lax stick I found was to scare the next door dormie! We repeatedly tapped on their window, trying to contain our mischievous giggles. One of our unsuspecting targets came and asked if we had heard any mysterious noises and we were of course the epitome of innocence, pretending to

be asleep! Our final tap provoked the unexpected satisfaction of delirious screams and a high velocity escape into the refuge of the cubies! With this success behind us, our lacrosse escapades eventually culminated in winning the National Champion-



**Captain and Head of School 1994-95  
Virginia Simkins and Sheelagh Houlden**

ships. This was indeed an immense challenge to the whole squad resulting from many hours spent leaping up and down on benches and completing nauseating laps of the gym amongst other things, constantly being inspired by Miss Reynolds' motto for success:

Belief, patience, confidence  
and communication.

Perhaps we should pass this advice on to some of the England sporting teams.

Referring now to the Six Twos, I feel honoured to be part of such a talented year group. There has not only been sporting success but also two girls secured their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards along with many achieving honours in the Gold Acting

Award and Grade VIII distinction in music.

On behalf of the leavers, I would like to thank Mrs duCharme and her colleagues for the years of help and preparation they have given us in

overcoming these and further challenges. We would particularly like to thank the Sixth Form Housemistresses, Mrs Cocksworth, Mrs Macpherson-Smith and Mrs Sanders, for making our last two remaining years so enjoyable and for always giving us their utmost support in our university applications and A Levels. Not only have our original Housemasters and Housemistresses played such a vital role in our progression up the School to the Sixth Form but they have been so ready to provide advice and supply us with drinks and eats during times of stress! We

really do appreciate the support we have received. On behalf of the Echyngam Six Twos, I would like to extend thanks to Mrs Brinkhurst who has given eleven years of invaluable support and energy to the life in the House. We wish you every success in the future.

Finally, I have really appreciated the unequivocal support my year has given me in my role as Head of School. I was so nervous about my first Prayers in my newly appointed post as to how the School would receive me, but after reading out my notices to the School, all the Six Twos cheered and clapped politely, joined by the rest of the School. I thank you all very much for always being so lively and enthusiastic as

## SCHOOL OFFICIALS 1994-95

have been the Upper Sixth and Ginia, Captain of School, to whom I am extremely grateful.

We are now leaving Benenden having tackled and succeeded in our challenges here; we have made great friendships which we hope will stand the test of time. It is sad to leave but reassuring to know that we now have gained the confidence to face further challenges, with the support of our friends.

I would like to wish the rest of the School, especially the leavers, every success in what lies ahead.

Sheelagh Houlden  
July 1995

### Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

*Rosemary Cox*  
*Nicola Cronk*

#### HEAD OF SCHOOL

Sheelagh Houlden

#### CAPTAIN OF SCHOOL

Virginia Simkins

#### UPPER SIXTH

Abigail Banfield

Alice Carver

Natasha Chiumya

Sally Clarke

Belinda Cole

Camilla Dingle

Venetia Grove

Lucy Hutton

Vanessa Kirke-Smith

Sophie Robinson

Yara Shamji

Katherine Taylor

#### Captain of Athletics

Georgina Harland

#### Vice Captain of Athletics

Anna Jennings

#### Captain of Fencing

Georgina Harland

#### Fencing Secretary

Gemma Shearman

#### Captain of Judo (Senior)

Sophie Robinson

#### Captain of Judo (Junior)

Julia Burton Brown

#### Captain of Lacrosse

Sophie Robinson

#### Captain of Netball

Charlotte King

#### Captain of Riding

Lucy Briggs

#### Captain of Self Defence

Yara Shamji

#### Vice Captain of Self Defence

Annabel Leathes

#### Captains of Swimming

Alexandra McGowan

Vanessa Kirke-Smith

#### Captain of Squash

Lucy Hutton

#### Captain of Tennis

Emma Krafft, Penelope Hands

#### Vice Captain of Tennis

Anna Jennings

#### Chief Guides

Inca Neale, Johanna Newhall

#### Keeper of Drama Wardrobe

Inca Neale

#### Stage Manager

Kate Eustace

#### Keeper of Make-Up Cupboard

Elizabeth Scott

#### Keeper of Stage Lighting

Annabel Mackenzie-Beevor

#### Keeper of Stage Sound Equipment

Genevieve Quarrington

#### Head of Senior Choir

Alexandra Roberts

#### Head of Junior Choir

Olatokunbo Akande

#### School Pianist

Lucinda Smallman

#### School Librarian

Hilary Low

#### School Sacristans

Abigail Burton,

Gemma Perkins

#### PR Representative

Amy Wickham



Members of Six Two await the Speeches

**External Scholarships  
Awarded in 1995**

**Sixth Form Scholarships**

*Enida Ighodaro Trust*  
The Tiffin Girls' School  
*Francesca Whitelaw Trust*  
Cranbrook School

**Sixth Form Music Exhibition**

**Emily Pettit**  
Ascham School, New South Wales

**Lower School Scholarships**

*Catherine Cook Academic*  
Holmewood House  
*Mariana Corte-Real Trust*  
Sibton Park  
*Charlotte de Silva Mixer Music*  
Marlborough House School  
*Jenny Mulholland Founders'*  
Doha English Speaking School  
*Katy Norfolk Academic*  
Cumnor House  
*Alex Schofield Trust*  
Cottesmore School  
*Briony Schofield Barbara Findlay*  
Redcliffe School

**Hong Kong Trust  
Scholarships**

*Constance Chu Sixth Form*  
Maryknoll Convent School  
*Winney Chu Sixth Form*  
Maryknoll Convent School  
*Davina To Sixth Form*  
Maryknoll Convent School  
*Scholastica Mak Fifth Form*  
St Mary's Canossian School  
*Joyce Wong Lower Fifth Form*  
Diocesan Girls' School

**Internal Scholarships  
Awarded in 1995**

**Sixth Form  
Honorary Scholarships**

Caryn Albury  
Phensoame Assakul  
Ee-Lyn Toh

**Sixth Form Music Exhibition**

Xanthe Elbrick

**Upper School Scholarships**

Phoebe Allpress *Academic*  
Melanie Campbell *Academic*  
Harriet Dancy *Academic*  
Noelle Ho *Music*  
Lucie Lambert *Academic*  
Laura Newton *Academic*  
Sylvia Ng *Academic*  
Li-kun Phng *Academic*  
Nicola Robinson *Academic*  
Caroline Stripp *Academic*  
Romaneeya Tingsabadh  
*Academic/Music*  
Audrey Wong *Academic*  
Minesha Wong *Music*

**Technology Scholarships**

Saivipa Patpongpijul  
Natasha Pobjoy

Gifts to the School

We are grateful to the many people who have given most generously to the School this year among whom are:

**Norma Barclay G80**

*States of Grace* by Charlene Spretnak

**Monica (Francis) Clough Ma39**

*Two Houses : New Tarbat, Easter Ross; Royston House, Edinburgh* by Monica Clough  
*The Field of Thistles : Scotland's Past and Scotland's People* by Monica Clough

**Dr KW Humphreys, CBE**

Chairman and Managing Director of Rhône-Poulenc Ltd  
*The Language of the Genes* by Steve Jones

**Professor and Dr Lai**

Three economics books  
A Collection of Essays  
*Against Dirigisme: The Case for Unshackling Economic Markets* by Deepak Lai

**Mrs Priscilla Owens**

A painting *The Queen of Hearts*, depicting the Benenden Pageant in the 1920s by Mrs Owens' mother, Joan O H Garrett nee Heath (1910-1994). Mrs Garrett, who came to Benenden in September 1924, took up painting at the age of 67 after a lifetime of farming.

**Major and Mrs DE Robathan**

Betty Clarke's personal bible

**Mr John R Sclater**

*The Sclaters: History of A Sussex Family* by Tessa Harvey. In memory of Emma Sclater M88.

**Mr J G S Scott**

*The National Gallery Complete Illustrated Catalogue*, compiled by Christopher Baker and Tom Henry

**Mr Alexander Stiller**

Books for the Library including *Cinema : the first hundred years* by David Shipman; *The Times Atlas of European History*

**Mr Henry Wyndham**

Chairman of Sotheby's  
*Art at Auction 1993/4*

**Anonymous Gift**

Three display cases for the Entrance Hall

School's Pinetum

Despite the ravages of the 1987 storm, two species of tree in the School's pinetum are still national champions

**Sciadopitys Verticillata (Chinese Umbrella Pine)**

20m high

**Cryptomeria Japonica**

33m high

## Prizewinners 1995

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	<b>Achievement</b>		<b>Effort</b>	
<b>Classics</b>	Rosie Garthwaite	LVth	Louise Heming Johnson	LVth
	Ellen Pooley	LVth	Caroline Stripp	Vth
<b>English</b>	Jenna Shorten	LVth	Tessa Viljoen	LVth
	Jay Stephenson-Clarke	IVth	Leonora Pearson	IVth
<b>Geography</b>	Carolyn Newton	LVth	Harriet Reid	LVth
	Audrey Wong	Vth	Zoe Tomlinson	Vth
<b>History</b>	Katharine Gilbert	LVth	Claire Moore	UIVth
	Alexandra Seddon	Vth	Marina Mooney	IVth
<b>Mathematics</b>	Sylvia Ng	Vth	Victoria Sham	LVth
	Ying-Ying Cheng	UIVth	Nicola Sumner	IVth
<b>Modern Languages</b>				
<b>French</b>	Harriet Dancy	Vth	Siobhan Callaghan	UIVth
	Rebecca Saponaro	Vth		
<b>German</b>	Louisa Macmillan	UIVth	Kate Cullinan	LVth
<b>Spanish</b>	Helen Dunnett	LVth		
<b>Science</b>	Alexandra Tweed	Vth	Elizabeth Allison	Vth
	Nicola Wood	Vth	Georgina Harmel	Vth
			Clare Stroud	LVth
<b>Junior Science</b>				
	Ana Jackson	UIVth		

<b>Academic Music</b>	Yvonne Liao	LVth
<b>Art</b>	Olatokunbo Akande	LVth
<b>Design Technology</b>	Natasha Shah	Vth
<b>Drama</b>	Sophie Johnstone	LVth
<b>Information Technology</b>	Natasha Pobjoy	LVth
<b>Religious Education</b>	Lucinda Watts	UIVth
<b>Textiles</b>	Olivia McGill	UIVth

<b>Six One Effort Prizes</b>	Justine Bhar-Amato
	Elizabeth Kendon

## Leavers 1995

Abigail Banfield, Nicola Barkas, Annabel Barnett, Joanna Brice, Lucy Briggs, Abigail Burton, Harriet Butterfield, Poppy Buxton, Tammi Cairley, Alice Carver, Natasha Chiumya, Patricia Choi, Annabel Christian, Sally Clarke, Victoria Clarke, Belinda Cole, Anna Corin, Hannah Cotton, Rosemary Cox, Nicola Cronk, Elizabeth Daniels, Fiona de Almeida Araujo, Camilla Dingle, Kate Durr, Nina Foet, Susannah Gault, Hannah Gaunt, Jennifer Grey, Venetia Grove, Jamila Groves, Penelope Hands, Anne Harding, Rebecca Harrel, Victoria Hervey, Sheelagh Houlden, Lucy Hutton, Sarah Jones, Ailana Kamelmacher, Vanessa Kaoukji, Yukiko Kawaguchi, Sophie Kemp, Charlotte King, Vanessa Kirke-Smith, Emma Krafft, Tabitha Lake, Katie Lambert, Ada Law, Annabel Leathes, Barbara Leung, Sharon Liu, Antonia Loudon, Alexandra McGowan, Joanna Monkhouse, Johanna Newhall, Alexandra Nutting, Emma Nye, Jennifer Papas, Li Wan Phng, Ariadne Philippoussis, Gemma Prall, Nuria Prentice, Charlotte Prince, Emily Pritchard-Gordon, Anna Riccoboni, Emma Robinson, Sophie Robinson, Isla Rosser-Owen, Serena Rowe, Olivia Ruggles-Brise, Alison Sach, Elizabeth Scott, Yara Shamji, Virginia Simkins, Kate Stanley, Harriet Storey, Karin Suabedissen, Lamy Talpur, Leena Talpur, Nerine Tan, Katherine Taylor, Lucy Taylor, Frauke Thompson, Jennifer Too, Rebecca Wade, Victoria Webb, Alexandra Whitelaw, Amy Wickham, Serena Wilson, Alison Yeung, Alexandra

### Elizabeth Hilliard Award for Creative Writing

Eleanor Akenhead  
Ramona Pearson

### The Cameron Prize for Mathematics

Barbara Leung  
Jennifer Too

### Lloyd-Davies Science Prize

Vanessa Kirke-Smith

### Grootenhuis Science Award and Cup

Anna Riccoboni

### Southern Shelley History Prize

Venetia Grove

### Baker Prize

Alexandra Roberts

### Art Prize

for

### Effort and Achievement

Susannah Gault

### Mavis Leapman Cup for Drama

Jennifer Papas

### Micklethwaite Design Award

Juliette Wood

### Economics Prize

Jennifer Too

### Jowitt

### Modern Languages Prize

Antonia Loudon

### Laura Maurice Award for Contribution in Sport

Penelope Hands

Lucy Hutton

Sophie Robinson

### Sacha Stephen Award

Virginia Simkins

### Fuller Prize

Sheelagh Houlden

# STAFF 1994-95

Headmistress  
Mrs G D duCharme, MA (Cantab)

Assistant Head  
(Director of Residence)  
Miss M J Horsburgh, MA (Oxon)

Assistant Head  
(Director of Studies)  
D A Harmsworth Esq, MA (Oxon)

Housemistresses/masters  
Echyngham  
Mrs S Brinkhurst, BSc (London)

Guldeford  
D A McQueen Esq, BSc,  
MSc (Auckland)

Hemsted  
P Walls Esq, BA (Wales),  
MPhil (Leeds)

Marshall  
J Watts Esq, MA (Oxon),  
BPhil (York)

Medway  
Miss A Steven, BA (Bristol)

Norris  
Mrs R Smith, BA, MPhil (Oxon)

Founders'  
Beeches  
Mrs B Cocksworth, BSc (London)

Limes  
Mrs T Macpherson-Smith,  
BHum (London)

Oaks  
Mrs E M Sanders, MA (TCD),  
MA, MPhil (Nottm),  
DipEd (Belfast), AFBPS,  
CPsychol

School Chaplain The Revd R G  
Brown,  
BSc (Dunelm) [Autumn Term]

English  
N van der Vliet Esq, BA (UCW  
Aberystwyth), Mrs M M M du  
Plooy, BSc (Stirling), BEd (Sussex),  
CertEd, MA (London), Mrs E M  
Sanders, MA (TCD), MA, MPhil  
(Nottm), DipEd (Belfast), AFBPS,  
CPsychol, Mrs R Smith, BA, MPhil  
(Oxon), Miss A Steven, BA  
(Bristol), A R Stiller Esq, MA  
(Oxon), \*Mrs S Elkin, BA, MA  
(Open)

Mathematics  
Mrs D G Swaine, BSc (Wales), B A  
Clough Esq, BSc (London), Mrs V  
A Burgess, BSc (Dunelm), Miss E S  
Kemp, BSc (Oxford Brookes), D A  
McQueen Esq, BSc, MSc  
(AuckJand), \*Mrs M A Pook, BSc  
(Sheffield)

Science  
Dr P F Lewis, BSc, PhD (London),  
ARCS, DIC, CBIOL, MIBiol, Miss E  
J Chana, BSc (Surrey), Dr N J  
Dowrick, BA (Oxon), DPhil

(Oxon), Mrs J Hall, BSc (London),  
S C Heron Esq, BSc (London), Dr R  
J Hill, BSc, PhD (Warwick),  
CCChem, MRIC, A Keir Esq, BA  
(Cantab), D A McQueen Esq, BSc,  
MSc (Auckland), \*Mrs D M  
Clayton, CertEd (Sussex), \*Mrs A  
Linney, BSc (Birmingham)

Modern Languages  
Mrs E F Shellard, Lie & s Lettres  
(Sorbonne), Mrs G D duCharme,  
MA (Cantab), Mrs P Kentli, BA  
(Leeds), D C McDougall Esq, BA  
(Sheffield), MA (Southampton)  
[Autumn and Spring Terms], Mrs J  
E Oliver, MA (Oxon), P Walls Esq,  
BA (Wales), MPhil (Leeds), R  
Whitehead Esq, BA, MPhil (Oxon),  
\*Mrs J D Andrews, MA (Oxon),  
♦Mrs M S Curran, BA (Oxon),  
\*Mrs J E C Pallot, BA (Leicester),  
\*Mrs A Chance, Lie d'Ens (Rennes)  
(*French Conversation*), \*Miss I  
Moran, BA, MA (London) (*Spanish  
Conversation*) [Summer Term],  
\*Mrs S Sandeman-Allen, BA  
(Champlain) (*German  
Conversation*) [Autumn and Spring  
Terms],  
Miss M Tolksdorf (*German  
Assistentin*)  
Classics  
Dr D R Marsh, BA (Nottingham),  
PhD (London), Miss L Boyce, MA  
(Oxon), D A Harmsworth Esq, MA  
(Oxon), Mrs P Wileman, BA  
(Nottingham), \*Mrs F Breeze, BA  
(Oxon)

Economics  
DPR Baylis Esq, BA (London),  
Mrs B Cocksworth, BSc (London)

Geography  
Miss C M Moat, BA (Nottingham),  
Mrs J L Grayling, BSc  
(Loughborough)

History  
J Watts Esq, MA (Oxon), BPhil  
(York), Mrs S Brinkhurst, BSc  
(London), Miss M J Horsburgh, MA  
(Oxon), Mrs B Scopes, BA (Kent),  
\*P J Salmon Esq, BA (Anglia), MSt  
(Oxon)

Religious Studies  
Miss R B J Mullins, BA (Exeter),  
The Revd R G Brown, BSc  
(Dunelm) [Autumn Term]  
\*Mrs S J Ashton [wef Spring Term]

Art & Design  
Miss G A Wessex, BA  
(Cheltenham), Miss P J Ovens, BA  
(Middlesex Polytechnic), Mrs E R  
Tyler, CertEd (Cheltenham), Supp  
Cert in D&T (Bristol) (Textiles),  
\*Mrs S E Parker, BA, MA (London)  
(*History of Art*), \*Mrs P A Rawson-  
Mackenzie BEd (Sussex) (*Textiles*)  
Design & Technology  
Miss S E Can non, BSc (Brunei),  
Miss S M McCarthy, BSc (Brunei)

Information Technology  
A D Sanderson Esq, BSc  
(Warwick), MSc (Bath)

Speech, Drama & Dance  
Mrs V Whitelaw, CSTD, Dip of

Dram Art (London), Miss J R R  
Lewis, BA (UCW Aberystwyth),  
Mrs T Macpherson-Smith, BHum  
(London), Mrs S E Roche, LRAM,  
ADB, \*G R Lee Esq, CertEd  
(Roehampton), \*Mrs J H Whittaker,  
BA (Exeter), Mrs E Banks, AISTD,  
OBB, NBB, SDB (*Tap Dance*),  
\*Mrs J Hayward, LISTD (*Ballet*)  
Music  
S T Threlfall Esq, GRNCM (*Cello*),  
Miss P Anderson, GMus (*Double  
Bass/Trumpet/Piano*) [Autumn  
Term], Mrs A Futrell, GRSM,  
DipRCM (*Oboe*) [wef Spring  
Term], Mrs C Harmsworth, ARCM  
(*Violin*), Mrs V Lewis, ARCM,  
DipRCM (*Piano/Cello*), PA Smith  
Esq, BMus (London), LRAM,  
ARCM (*Piano*), \*Mrs C Alexander,  
LRAM, ARCM (*Cello/Bass*),  
\* A Allen Esq, DipRCM (*Clarinet*),  
\*C Beddow, Esq, DipRCM (*Violin/  
Viola*), \*Miss J P Beven, AGSM  
(*Harp*), \*Mrs M Burton (*Guitar*),  
\*D Clarke Esq, AGSM (*Flute/  
Recorder*), \*Mrs LA Dawes,  
GGSM (*Solo Singing*), \*Miss E L P  
Granger, BA (Oxon) PGRNCM  
(*Harp*), \*A W Haigh Esq, ARCM,  
LRAM (*Piano*), \*D Hirschman Esq,  
FTCL (*Viola/Violin*), \*Miss D M  
Maxwell, GGSM, AGSM (*Piano*),  
\*P Philbert Esq, DipTCL, LTCL  
(*Percussion*), \*J Phillips Esq,  
GRNCM (*Piano*), \*Mrs S Purton,  
LRAM (*Oboe*), \*T W Rainer Esq,  
GGSM (*Horn/Trumpet*), \*A Stowell  
Esq, GRSM (*Bassoon*), \*Mrs N  
Stevens, GGSM (*Flute*), \*Miss C  
Taylor, BA (Colchester) (*Flute*),  
\*Mrs K Threlfall, BMus  
(Manchester), GRMCM, GRSM  
(*Piano*), \*J Tilbury Esq, ARCM  
(*Piano*), \*P Williams Esq  
(*Saxophone*), \*Miss L M Young,  
LMusA, ARCM (*Piano*)  
Physical Education  
Miss SEA Colville, BEd (Bedford  
College of HE), MissWK  
Reynolds, BEd (Liverpool Moores),  
Miss A Steven, BA (Bristol), Miss J  
E Chapman (*Sports Centre  
Supen'isor*), \*M D Geer, Esq  
(*Swimming Coach*), \*Mrs J  
Reynolds, BEd (Sussex), \*Mrs C  
Stephenson, LTA Registered Coach  
(*Tennis/Netball*), \*Miss Y Stopford,  
CertEd (Dartford College of PE),  
\*Mrs M Strong, CertEd (IM Marsh  
College of PE), \*J Chorley Esq,  
(*Fencing*), \*E D Petty Esq,  
(Woolmanhill Scottish Dip of PE)  
(*Judo*), \*Mrs K A Atterton, Keep Fit  
Association Teaching Cert  
Careers  
Mrs S Brinkhurst, BSc (London),  
Mrs B Cocksworth, BSc (London)

Librarian  
Mrs S J Crawley, BA (Open), DipEd  
(Liverpool)

\*=part-time

Bursar & Secretary to Council  
R Dalton Holmes Esq, TD  
Facilities Manager  
C K Hayman Esq  
Assistant Bursar  
\*P F Roche Esq (*Energy*)  
Domestic  
J L Peters Esq, (*Domestic Bursar*),  
T Greenstreet Esq, (*Food  
Production Manager*), Mrs D L  
Cullen BA (Cantab) (*Assistant  
Domestic Bursar*), Miss D Reynolds  
(*Assistant Domestic Bursar*)  
Registry  
Mrs D Price (*Development  
Director*), Miss J Doxat,  
(*Admissions Secretary*), Mrs H M  
Addyman (*Associate Registrar*)  
Secretariat  
Mrs E Moore (*Headmistress's PA*),  
Mrs J D Marshall (*School  
Secretary*), Mrs G D Trott (*Bursar's  
Secretary*), Mrs S Nisbet  
(*Development Director's Secretary*),  
\*Mrs N Wood, BA (Iowa, USA)  
(*Staffroom Secretary*)  
Telephonist/Receptionist  
\*Miss J Dowdell [wef Spring Term]  
Accounts  
H K Boswell Esq, FFA  
(*Accountant*), Mrs B Tanner-  
Tremain, BSc(Econ) (London)  
(*Assistant Accountant*), \*Mrs B  
Cardinale (*Wages & Salaries*), \*Mrs  
M Grove (*Accounts Payable/Fees*),  
\*Mrs B W Thomas (*Accounts  
Payable/Fees*)  
Medical  
Dr A M Wood, MB, ChB, MRC  
Psych, Mrs M G Williams, SRN,  
Sister A Blythe, RGN, \*Sister J  
McDonnell SRN  
Assistant Housemistresses (non-  
teaching)  
Mrs E Banks (*Echyngham + Senior  
Matron*), Mrs P Murphy  
(*Guldeford*), Mrs D Wodehouse  
(*Hemsted*), Mrs I Denis [Autumn  
and Spring Terms], Mrs O Lunney  
[Summer Term] (*Marshall*), Miss E  
Scalpello (*Medway*), Mrs J Reeves  
(*Norris*)  
Day Matrons  
♦Mrs V Sargent (*Founders'*), Mrs W  
Mellon (*Guldeford*) \* Mrs M  
Holmes MCSP (*Hemsted/Norris*),  
\*Mrs P Shaw (*New House*), \*Mrs A  
Dane (*New House*), \*Mrs A Peiris  
(*Relief Matron*)  
Library \*D Clayton Esq  
IT Network Manager  
P A Nebbs Esq  
Technicians  
Mrs P Hoare (*Chemistry*), Mrs F  
Gamble (*Biology*), C J Fahy Esq  
(*Technology*), Mrs W Grosvenor  
(*Physics*), R Whitcher Esq (*IT*),  
\*Mrs J Major (*Modern Languages*)  
Grounds  
K C Potter Esq (*Head Groundsman*)  
School Shop  
Mrs J Teesdale (*Manager*), Mrs E J  
Gregory, Mrs H Savage, \*Mrs V A  
Martin (*Secondhand*)  
Laundry Mrs M R Wilson

# Ave atque Vale

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## Shirley Brinkhurst - a shooting star

Shirley Brinkhurst retires at the end of the Summer Term, 1995 after eleven years as Housemistress of Echyngnam. She will be sorely missed by girls and staff for more reasons than there is space to list them. She has always given absolute priority to her House and even when off duty, her door was always open to Echyngnam girls. Her attention to the administration of the House was punctilious and sometimes she was disconcerting by being ahead of colleagues! However attentive to detail she was, she never failed to approach everything with an infectious sense of humour and flair for the unexpected. For example, when Mrs duCharme suggested a link with a boys' school so that social occasions could be arranged, Shirley rapidly arranged to ask Tonbridge boys to a swimming pool disco with food, ensuring that the wave machine obliterated any shyness. It was an amazing success. Her interest in acting and drama has enabled her to liven up School life by 'being' a number of other people, enlivening one staff party with a shocking pink trouser suit, long blonde hair and a Swedish accent so convincing that few realised her true identity. She has similarly mystified all and sundry by assuming the guise of the White Queen at a House party, cheeks stuffed with cotton wool, a Californian art critic whose arrival stunned the School Office who had no prior awareness of her arrival, as well as a short-skirted hippy with all the decorative trimmings.

Her interest in costume has prompted her to scour the charity shops far and wide to add to the immense wardrobe of costumes for every type of dramatic production, both in House and School, ensuring for example that casts of fifty or more all have shoes appropriate to almost any period. Additionally, she knew how to make the most amazing creations for plays, if suitable items were not already available.



Mrs Brinkhurst with her leaving present

Shirley set herself high standards and expected them of the girls in her House. Although patient and kind by nature, those who let her down felt the sort of disapproval that could not be confused with play-acting! No one who has known her, however, can be unaware of her willingness to help with any problem, however busy she has been.

Shirley is an extremely active person with a very wide range of enthusiasms. No doubt she will find leaving her House activities behind difficult but she has a huge range of interests to compensate; the shooting star moves on but we hope will continue to brighten our skies.

Liz Banks  
Assistant Housemistress  
Echyngnam

## Mary Strong

Mary first arrived at Benenden in 1964 and has taught at the School, either full or part-time, since then except for two years between 1970 and 1972 when she was at Haberdasher's Askes' in London.

Trained at I.M.Marsh College, Liverpool, and a former pupil of Moreton Hall School, Mary soon felt at home at Benenden and found herself in a job where she had ample opportunity to share her knowledge and enjoyment of sport. She has seen many changes, not only in the size of the School, but also in the facilities and opportunities offered to the girls. When Mary first came, the whole School played lacrosse every day right up to Six Two; netball hardly

featured in the time-table and many Seniors will remember Scottish dancing lessons with Doris Pullen at the piano doing the *Times* crossword!

Mary's main games have always been lacrosse and tennis and many Benenden pupils have benefited from her expertise. A former England lacrosse captain, her enthusiasm and interest in the game have continued and in recent years Mary has been responsible for the U14 team, which has won the Kent Schools tournament many times. In tennis too, Mary has coached the U14 team and they have consistently achieved good results, remaining unbeaten this season.

Since the building of the squash courts, Mary has developed squash throughout the School. The First team has achieved considerable success, reaching the Area Final of the National Schools Squash Championships this year, and many others, less able, have enjoyed playing the game under Mary's expert tuition.

Mary has contributed to the School in many other ways, especially in Guldeford and has, in everything, always kept the best interests of the girls as her prime objective.

Now that Kate and Pippa have left the School, Mary has decided to hang up her lacrosse boots before she has to invest in a new pair and is looking forward to having more time to play golf and also to developing a new interest in tennis for the disabled.

Mary will be greatly missed but she will not be far away, and will remain, I know, a loyal friend of Benenden School.

Julia Reynolds  
Games Department



Jennifer Bekenn and Sophie Robinson make a presentation to Mrs Strong

## Shirley Roche

Mrs Roche joined Benenden in 1980 and is therefore, on her retirement, one of the longest serving members of the teaching staff. Justified tributes have been paid her, both by Mrs duCharme and Ginny Whitelaw. She was tireless in support of her students, particularly in seeking appropriate texts for performance and recitation but perhaps her most significant contribution not only to drama but to School life in general, was her transformation of the Junior Dram Competition where she placed great emphasis on providing a dramatic theme for the event and encouraged original scripts from the participant Houses, resulting in some remarkably accomplished writing, acting and ingenuity in staging. In addition to all this, Shirley provided, with her husband Patrick, a graceful antidote to present day 'dancing' by furthering the cause of the ballroom variety, to the lasting benefit of large numbers of girls. We do wish her every good fortune as she departs and trust that she will maintain her enthusiasm both for drama and dance!

Alexander Stiller  
English Department



## Julia Reynolds

Julia first came to Benenden in 1972 straight from college and she left in 1977 to get married. Luckily for us all, her husband Gordon lived and farmed in the Benenden area and when in January 1984 some help was needed in the games department, Julia returned for one term - she stayed for eleven years!

Julia was the mathematician of the department; if a quick calculation were needed, Julia had the answer before the rest of us had written it down. She was very efficient and organised and had superbly neat handwriting so she was inveigled into keeping all the records.



However, Julia will be best remembered for her kindness and encouragement to all whom she taught especially the U12 Netball and U13 Lacrosse teams who were her special responsibility. Her knowledge of games was immense and she was always full of new practices and ideas.

She also became an Assistant Housemistress in Medway, where she had a ready ear to listen to problems however small and became a second mother to many of the young in the House. She is a loss to the School but she will be living near at hand and we send our best wishes to her, Gordon, Claire, Sarah and Lucy.

Mary Strong  
Games Department

## Hannah Addyman

A loyal stalwart of Benenden School, dependable in EVERY way.

Since Hannah Addyman came to Benenden in 1979 I suspect this description has been applied to her dozens of times and with very good reason.

For the last six years Hannah has worked in the Registry on a multitude of different functions: helping to fundraise for the Trust, propel the School's publication range into the 21st century (School newsletters, handbooks and magazines have all been generated under her careful eye) and help promote the School to an ever wider public audience. Not least of her functions has been her 16 years as Clerk to the Seniors Association, a role Hannah took great pride in and through which she built up long lasting relationships with many different generations of Benenden Seniors. They, like us, are very sorry to see her go.

Before the Registry Hannah was the Bursar's Secretary, and before that worked in the Accounts Office. Her roles have changed over the years, but her manner of carrying them out has not: loyal, committed, caring and sensitive, and unbelievably thorough. Did I forget



bossy? Well, sometimes - just a little - but only when we, her colleagues, really needed it. Now we lose Hannah to an early retirement and more time with her family.

How do you carry on working without your right - or left - hand? That's what we in the Registry are still trying to work out. We will miss her - a lot.

Debra Price  
Development Director

During the academic year 1994-95, there were few changes in staffing. Richard Brown, the School Chaplain, left to follow his strong vocation for charity work. Peta Anderson married Jonathan Andrews virtually within the School itself and Alison Futrell filled her post in the Music Department. Dave McDougall, who, in addition to teaching Spanish throughout the School from 1991, was an expert organiser of foreign trips and contributed an enormous amount to School athletics training, left the Modern Languages Department to take up a further education lectureship and was replaced for the Summer Term by Isabelle Moran. Irene Denis joined Radley College at the end of the Spring Term and her duties in Marshall were covered by Olive Lunney for the final term of the year. Jane Ashton became a part-time member of the Religious Studies Department at the start of the Spring Term and in April Jill Dowdell became School Telephonist. Hannah Addyman is to give up her post as Associate Registrar with effect from 31 August 1995 but will maintain her involvement in the production of this Magazine. Judith Hayter Johnson will replace Mrs Addyman in the Registry, beginning her duties as Development Assistant during the Summer Term of 1995.

In 1995-96, we have a number of additions to the responsibilities of present members of staff: Sam Cannon joins Medway as non-resident House Tutor and Jane Grayling begins a similar role with

Echyngham. Jane Chapman becomes non-teaching Assistant Housemistress in Guldeford. Richard Whitehead takes over from Dinah Clayton in Norris and becomes Assistant Housemaster. Part-time member of staff, Yo Stopford (Mrs Reynolds) rejoins the Games Department full-time and Jeni Whittaker becomes full-time in the Drama Department. New appointments in the pastoral area include Melanie Driver who joins Marshall as non-teaching resident Assistant Housemistress and Rose van der Vliet who becomes Housemistress of Echyngham and will also teach modern languages.

A considerable number of new staff join us from the beginning of the Autumn Term, 1995: Hugh Best-Shaw *School's Theatre Technician*; Deborah Caron, Rosie Clements and Jade Taylor *Drama*; Hilary Moore *Modern Languages*; Patricia Prestney *School Chaplain*; Neil Vanburgh *Director of Music*; Dagmar Wetzler and Amalia Fuentes *Resident Conversation Assistants in Modern Languages*.

We extend a very warm welcome to all of those joining us and send our very best wishes to all who are departing: Jane Pallot, who taught French part-time and Maren Tolksdorf who returns to Germany after her year with us; both contributed much to modern languages. David Clayton gives up his Library duties and accompanies Dinah to Ipswich where she follows up her duties in Norris by taking on the full responsibilities of a Housemistress at the Royal Hospital School. Jo Lewis goes to Queen Anne's, Caversham to teach drama and to team up once more with Jenny Dwyer and her family. Jo is given a fitting tribute by her Head of Department in the appropriate section of the Magazine as is Shirley Roche, whose long association with the School is further described below. As well as Peta Anderson, lost, with her musical enthusiasm, to marriage, the Music Department sees the departure of an outstanding instrumentalist in Paul Smith and someone whose modesty forbids any

but the briefest eulogy: suffice to say that in his relatively short time as Director of Music, Stephen Threlfall combined an engaging informality of manner with high musicianship to bring Benenden's overall standard of music to new heights.

## Luxury Unlimited



Through the efforts of the Bursar, Robin Dalton Holmes, shown conducting the opening ceremony (pictured above) and a team from Davis the Builders, the Ladies' and Gentlemen's 'facilities' in the Main Building are now (private) areas of unparalleled opulence.

## Shock Horror: Editor admits Crass Mistake

The Magazine's Editor has been deeply embarrassed by the revelation that the date of 1969 accompanying the Pageant photographs in the Magazine's last issue is too recent by at least thirty years! A sharp-eyed Senior spotted this and was also able to provide additional information about the Pageant photographs. The news was conveyed to the Editor by Mrs Cecily Lebon, the School's archivist and it is said that he was visibly shaken by the revelation. The Editor has been unavailable for comment during the summer holiday as we understand that he has been working to ensure that this kind of thing does not find its way into the 1995 edition.

## Council

Mrs Jackie Scott's three year appointment as Chairman of the Seniors' Association ended in May and she has been succeeded by Mrs Consuelo Brooke. Both Chairmen are current Benenden parents, which gives a double perspective on the School. Jackie has spent many days working in School on Seniors' records and gathering input for the new successful sister publication - the Seniors' Magazine.

Commandant Liz Craig-McFeely resigned in March after six years' wise counsel to concentrate on family responsibilities; as she lives just outside Benenden we shall see her often.

The success of Mrs Helen Tamoy's family business, promoting trade with Hungary, has forced her to resign from Council. As the mother of three Seniors she did a three year stint as Chairman of the Parents' Association and Council Member *ex officio* until 1989. Shortly afterwards she was invited to rejoin Council and became a member of the Executive Committee. The time and thought she gave to Benenden has been very considerable and beneficial.

Mrs Ellen Winsor and her husband Tom's boat is now in British waters after over two years' fascinating voyaging, mainly in the Pacific basin, so we welcome her back to Benenden affairs.

Sir Ronald Harris, KCVO, CB who was the first Chairman of the Parents' Association and afterwards Chairman of Council for six years ending in 1979, died in January. His extended family with many Benenden connections celebrated his life at Southwark Cathedral in May.

To those who retire and those who continue, Benenden remains deeply grateful.

Robin Dalton Holmes  
Bursar and  
Secretary to the Council

## ADVANCED LEVEL

Subjects passed with Grade A are in italics. This list also includes A Levels taken early (markedf).

### **Fiona Araujo**

Classical Civilisation, English, History, *AS French*

### **Abigail Banfield**

*Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry*

### **Nicola Barkas**

Classical Civilisation, English, History of Art

### **Annabel Barnett**

*Art, History of Art, AS English*

### **Joanna Brice**

Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology

### **Abigail Burton**

*Economics, Mathematics, Physics*

### **Harriet Butterfield**

Latin, History, Theatre Studies

### **Tammi Cairley**

French, English, Theatre Studies

### **Alice Carver**

*English, Economics, Mathematics, Chemistry*

### **Natasha Chiumya**

History, Economics, Mathematics

### **Annabel Christian**

Geography, Economics, History of Art

### **Sally Clarke**

Geography, Economics, Mathematics

### **Belinda Cole**

French, *English, AS Latin, AS German*

### **Anna Corin**

*Latin, English, Theatre Studies*

### **Hannah Cotton**

French, *English, Theatre Studies*

### **Rosemary Cox**

History of Art, Theatre Studies, AS English, *AS French*

### **Nicola Cronk**

*Classical Civilisation, English, Theatre Studies*

### **Elizabeth Daniels**

*Mathematics, Physics, Music, AS Further Mathematics*

### **Camilla Dingle**

Mathematics, Chemistry, *Biology*

### **Susannah Gault**

French, *English, Art*

### **Hannah Gaunt**

Classical Civilisation, History of Art

### **Jennifer Grey**

German, Chemistry, Biology, AS Mathematics

### **Venetia Grove**

*English, History, History of Art*

### **Jamila Groves**

Chemistry, *Biology, Music, AS Mathematics*

### **Penelope Hands**

French, *Economics, Mathematics*

### **Anne Harding**

*Classical Civilisation, English, History*

### **Rebecca Harrel**

*Latin, English, Biology*

### **Victoria Hervey**

French, *History of Art, AS General Studies, AS English, AS History*

### **Sheelagh Houlden**

*Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology, AS French*

### **Lucy Hutton**

*Economics, Mathematics, Chemistry*

### **Sarah Jones**

History, *Economics, Mathematics*

### **Ailana Kamelmacher**

*Latin, English, History, Russian*

### **Vanessa Kaoukji**

*Classical Civilisation, English, History of Art*

### **Yukiko Kawaguchi**

History, *Art, AS Mathematics, Japaneset*

### **Sophie Kemp**

*English, History, Theatre Studies*

### **Charlotte King**

English, Geography, Theatre Studies

### **Vanessa Kirke-Smith**

*Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology*

### **Emma Krafft**

*Economics, Mathematics, Biology*

### **Annabel Leathes**

English, History, Economics

### **Barbara Leung**

*Economics, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, Chineset*

### **Sharon Liu**

*Geography, Mathematics, Biology, Chineset*

### **Antonia Loudon**

*French, English, History*

### **Alexandra McGowan**

*Economics, Mathematics, Chemistry, AS General Studies, AS German*

### **Joanna Monkhouse**

French, German

### **Jennifer Papas**

Classical Civilisation, English, Theatre Studies

### **Gemma Prall**

English, *Art, History of Art*

### **Anna Riccoboni**

*Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology*

### **Emma Robinson**

Economics, Mathematics, Biology

### **Sophie Robinson**

Geography, Economics, Mathematics

### **Isla Rosser-Owen**

Latin, Classical Civilisation, *History, AS General Studies*

### **Serena Rowe**

*English, History, Art, AS Latin*

### **Olivia Ruggles-Brise**

*French, German, Mathematics, AS English*

### **Elizabeth Scott**

English, History, Economics

### **Yara Shamji**

French, German, History of Art, AS English

### **Virginia Simkins**

German, History, Mathematics

### **Harriet Storey**

*English, Mathematics, Physics, Art*

### **Nerine Tan**

*English, History, Economics*

### **Katherine Taylor**

*Art, Theatre Studies, AS English, AS French*

### **Lucy Taylor**

English, History of Art, Theatre Studies, AS History

### **Jennifer Too**

*English, Economics, Mathematics, Further Mathematics*

### **Victoria Webb**

English, History of Art, Theatre Studies

### **Amy Wickham**

*Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology, AS General Studies, AS English*

### **Alexandra Yuill**

Classical Civilisation, English

## Six One

### **Bianca Law**

*Chinese*

### **Frauke Thompson**

*German, AS French*

### **Gloria Tse**

*Chinese*

## GCSE

Subjects passed with Grade A are in italics with A\* Grades marked\*. This list also includes GCSE subjects taken early (markedf).

### **Joanna Aitchison**

*English Language, English Literature\**, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, *Frencht, German, History, Art (Textiles)\**

### **Henrietta Andrews**

*English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French\*f, Spanish, Geography*

### **Jessica Avery**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, *Science 1 & 2, Frencht, History*

### **Sarah Baddeley**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, Geography, *Drama*

### **Emma Barkas**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, *French, Geography, Art (Textiles)*

### **Georgina Barker**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, German, History, *Drama*

### **Sara Bateman**

*English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, History, Drama*

### **Zoe Bedford**

*English Language, English Literature\*, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, Frencht, History*

### **Madeleine Boshier**

*English Language, English Literature\*, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2\*, French\*f, Spanish, History*

### **Lucy Briggs**

*English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, German, History, Drama*

### **Julia Burton Brown**

English Language, *English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, Spanish, History, Drama*

### **Poppy Buxton**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, *French, Drama, Art*

### **Naomi Chambers**

English Language, English Literature, *Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, Frenchf, German, Geography*

**Patricia Choi**

English Language, English Literature\*, Mathematics\*t, Science 1 & 2\*, Geography\*, Drama, Religious Studies\*, Chinese\*f

**Emma Cole**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, German, Geography

**Olivia Cotton**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French\*f, Spanish, Music

**Amanda Cowan**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, Geography, Drama, Art\*

**Georgina Dancy**

English Language\*, English Literature, Latin\*, Mathematics+, Science 1 & 2\*, Frencht, German, History

**Juliet Douglas-Hughes**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics], Science 1 & 2, French, History, Geography\*, Art\*

**Elissa El Hadj**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1, French, Drama

**Xanthe Elbrick**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, Music, Art

**Ainslie Everingham**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, Frencht, German, Art

**Claire Gault**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, History, Geography, Art

**Alexandra Gordon**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, History, Drama

**Lucy Gossage**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics], Science 1 & 2, French], German, History, Drama

**Anneline Groves**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2\*, French, Music, Art\*

**Hannah Harper**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Greek\*, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, Music

**Holly Havers**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, History, Drama

**Marcia Ho**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematicsf, Science 1 & 2, French, German, Art (Textiles)\*

**Vanessa Hunt**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, History, Drama

**Kate Kandiah**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, Spanish, History, Art

**Emily Latham**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics], Science 1 & 2, French], Spanish, History, Art\*

**Ada Law**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics], Science 1 & 2\*, Geography, Drama, Religious Studies, Chinese\*t

**Natasha McDonald**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematicst, Science 1 & 2\*, French, Geography\*, Art\*

**Mariamne Moore**

English Language\*, English Literature, Latin\*, Mathematics], Science 1 & 2, French], Geography, Drama

**Katharine Morris**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematicst, Science 1 & 2\*, French\*t, Spanish\*, Geography

**Philippa Newell**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, German, History, Art

**Jennifer Newton**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French\*, History\*, Drama, Art\*

**Alexandra Nutting**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics\*t, Science 1 & 2\*, Frencht, Spanish\*, Geography\*

**Elisabeth Parish**

English Language, English Literature\*, Mathematics], Science 1 & 2, French\*, German, History, Art (Textiles)

**Henrietta Paul**

English Language, English Literature, Latin\*, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, History, Drama

**Julia Pendred**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics], Science 1 & 2\*, Frencht, History, Drama

**Gemma Perkins**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, Geography, Music

**Kathryn Pinker**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, Frencht, History, Art\*

**Jessica Porter**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, Spanish, History, Geography

**Caroline Preston**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematicst, Science 1 & 2, Frencht, Spanish, History

**Charlotte Prince**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French\*, Spanish, History, Art\*

**Emily Pritchard-Gordon**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, History, Drama

**Alice Pulman**

English Language, English Literature\*, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2\*, French, German, Art (Textiles)\*

**Alexandra Pye**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, Geography, Art\*

**Vanessa Robinson**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, History, Art (Textiles)\*

**Johane Roysds-Jones**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematicst, Science 1 & 2, French, History, Art (Textiles)

**Serena Seddon**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, German, History

**Hilary Smith**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, Geography\*, Art\*

**Kate Stanley**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematicsf, Science 1 & 2, Frencht, German, Art (Textiles)\*

**Antonia Van der Bijl**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, Frencht, German, History

**Holly Vernon-Smith**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics!, Science 1 & 2, French, History, Art

**Rebecca Wade**

English Language, English Literature, Latin, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, Frencht, Spanish, Geography

**Charlotte Witheridge**

English Language, English Literature\*+, Latint, Greekf, Mathematicsf, Science 1 & 2, French, History

**Juliette Wood**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, Frencht, Spanish, History, Art (Textiles)\*

**Maidie Yeung**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics], Science 1 & 2\*, Geography, Music, Art, Chinese\*t

**Sarah Yorke**

English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science 1 & 2, French, German, History, Art\*

**Six One**

**Olivia Higgins** Italian

**Fifth Form**

**Georgiana Aitken** Latin, French

**Jessica Alford** French

**Elizabeth Allison** French\*

**Phoebe Allpress** Latin\*, Mathematics, French\*

**Lucy Bentley** French

**Katherine Cameron** Latin

**Melanie Campbell** Latin, French

**Praethip Chanyavongse** Mathematics

**Harriet Dancy** Latin, French

**Victoria Dorich** Latin, Mathematics

**Lauren Dudley** French\*

**Charlotte Dunstan** Latin, Mathematics

**Noelle Ho** Chinese

**Amy Jempson** French

**Samantha Lawson** French

**Vanessa Li** Mathematics

**Rebecca Macmillan** Latin, Mathematics

**Laura Mason** Mathematics

**Laura Newton** Mathematics, French

**Sylvia Ng** Mathematics\*

**Emily Orwin** French

**Davinia Pearson** Mathematics

**Nancy Prall** Latin, French

**Nicola Robinson** *Latin, Mathematics*  
**Rebecca Saponaro** *Latin, Portuguese*  
**Alexandra Seddon** *Mathematics*  
**Anna Shadbolt** *Latin, French*  
**Arabella Stewart** *Latin*  
**Caroline Stripp** *Latin, Mathematics, French*  
**Romaneeya Tingsabadh** *Mathematics\**  
**Alexandra Tweed** *Mathematics, French\**  
**Hannah Vaines** *Latin, Mathematics, French*  
**Neelam Verjee** *French*  
**Victoria Watson** *Mathematics*  
**Minesha Wong** *Latin*

**Priestly Cup  
 for  
 Excellence at GCSE  
 awarded to  
*Madeleine Boshier***

**Lower Fifth**

**Yvonne Liao** *Chinese\**  
**Victoria Sham** *Chinese\**  
**Clare Stroud** *Portuguese*



**Upper Fourth**

**Jennifer Ma** *Chinese\**

English  
 as a Foreign  
 Language

The following achieved  
 Credits in passing the  
 Oxford Board Examinations:

**Nina Foet**  
**Henriette Kuhrt**  
**Karin Suabedissen**

Priestly and Lancaster Cup Winners  
 Georgina Dancy, Natasha McDonald and Madeleine Boshier

**Lancaster Cup  
 for the  
 Best GCSE Results  
 awarded to  
*Georgina Dancy  
 and  
 Natasha McDonald***

# Benenden is pleased to welcome the following new girls

## Fourth

- Lucy Arthur** *Guldeford*  
Oakfield Preparatory School
- Hannah Clark** *Medway*  
Tanglin Junior School
- Susan Clowes** *Hemsted*  
Kensington Prep School  
for Girls
- Emily Compton** *Echyngam*  
St Mary's Lower School
- Camilla Cramsie** *Guideford*  
Finton House Educational  
Trust
- Kerri Hall** *Medway*  
Ashford Junior School
- Susannah Hutley** *Medway*  
St Cedd's School
- Katherine Josselyn** *Hemsted*  
Francis Holland School
- Sarah Langham** *Guideford*  
Skippers Hill Manor Prep  
School
- Ming Wai Li** *Hemsted*  
St Margaret's School
- Jenny Mulholland** *Guideford*  
Doha English Speaking  
School
- Susannah Norman** *Hemsted*  
St Michael's Preparatory  
School
- Louise Palmer** *Echyngam*  
Rowan Preparatory School
- Amy Ridley** *Guideford*  
The Roche School
- Victoria Rogers** *Echyngam*  
Yateley Manor
- Briony Schofield** *Medway*  
Redcliffe School
- Amanda Sellars** *Echyngam*  
More House
- Alexandra Sinclair** *Echyngam*  
Blackheath High Junior  
School
- Isabella Steel** *Echyngam*  
Francis Holland School
- Rachael Ward** *Medway*  
Milbourne Lodge School
- Elizabeth Watts** *Guideford*  
Derwent Lodge

## Upper Fourth

- Jenefer Gallegos** *Hemsted*  
Riddlesworth Hall
- Marisha Green** *Norris*  
More House
- Sarah Hopkins** *Medway*  
Junior King's School
- Francesca Langdon** *Marshall*  
Queen's Gate School
- Victoria Law** *Marshall*  
Maryknoll Convent School
- Daphne Low** *Norris*  
Chij - Our Lady of Good  
Counsel
- Daisy Mills-Kennelly** *Marshall*  
St Christopher's School
- Oranutt Narapruet** *Hemsted*  
Riddlesworth Hall
- Ana Raquel Suarez** *Hemsted*  
Colegio Junipero
- Claire White** *Medway*  
Bermuda High School for  
Girls

## Lower Fifth

- Laura Barkas** *Hemsted*  
Sibton Park School
- Mia Barlow** *Norris*  
Sibton Park School
- Nyika Brain** *Norris*  
Alice Smith School
- Frances Burge** *Norris*  
Vinehall School
- Katherine Charnaud** *Echyngam*  
Holmwood House
- Clarice Chin** *Echyngam*  
Alice Smith School
- Catherine Cook** *Guldeford*  
Holmewood House
- Rowena Cordrey** *Hemsted*  
St Teresa's Convent School
- Mariana Corte-Real** *Marshall*  
Sibton Park School
- Charlotte de Silva** *Norris*  
Marlborough House School
- Claudia Edmondson** *Marshall*  
Walthamstow Hall
- Louisa Ellis** *Norris*  
Ashford School
- Katy Fagg** *Guldeford*  
Wellesley House
- Faezeh Faiz** *Medway*  
Sibton Park School

**Annabel Flood** *Hemsted*  
Vinehall School

**Georgina Hope** *Guldeford*  
Vinehall School

**Sophie Johnson** *Marshall*  
Holmwood House

**Joanna Lowry-Corry** *Hemsted*  
Wellesley House

**Danielle Moffat** *Hemsted*  
Aberlour House

**Amber Montgomery** *Echyngam*  
Wellesley House

**Giannita Morelli** *Marshall*  
Wellesley House

**Sarah Morris** *Medway*  
Vinehall School

**Chloe Oughton** *Guldeford*  
Cottesmore School

**Venetia Pengelley** *Echyngam*  
Ashdown House

**Alex Schofield** *Medway*  
Cottesmore School

**Caroline Scott** *Echyngam*  
Holmewood House

**Rosie Seymour** *Guldeford*  
St John's College School

**Alexandra Thomas** *Echyngam*  
Ashdown House

**Kate Warburton** *Hemsted*  
Walthamstow Hall

**Joyce Wong** *Guldeford*  
Diocesan Girls' School

**Fifths**

**Tamara Ayoub** *Guldeford*  
Notre Dame Senior School

**Stephanie Coulson** *Hemsted*  
The British School of Brussels

**Melissa Li** *Guldeford*  
Belilios Public School

**Scholastica Mak** *Guldeford*  
St Mary's Canossian College

**Elizabeth Man** *Norris*  
Sibton Park/St Joseph  
Convent

**Laura Smith** *Hemsted*  
Bermuda High School

**Six Ones**

**Saira Chaudry** *Norris*  
Hillcrest Secondary School

**Constance Chu** *Echyngam*  
Maryknoll Convent School

**Winney Chu** *Guldeford*  
Maryknoll Convent School

**Corinna Contag** *Norris*  
Wilhelm-Gymnasium

**Julia Fröhlig** *Medway*  
Gymnasium Laurentianum

**Enida Ighodaro** *Marshall*  
The Tiffin Girls' School

**Sara Khaleeli** *Medway*  
Channing School

**Hanna Maluck** *Echyngam*  
Clara-Fey-Gymnasium

**Emily Pettit** *Medway*  
Ascham School

**Anna Picot** *Marshall*  
Gymnasium Rodenkirchen

**Sanam Taseer** *Guldeford*  
Slade School of Art

**Davina To** *Echyngam*  
Maryknoll Convent School

**Katrina Tsang** *Hemsted*  
Chinese International School

**Francesca Whitelaw** *Norris*  
Cranbrook School

**Vai Chi Wong** *Marshall*  
Kuen Cheng Girls' High  
School

**Mandy Wu** *Hemsted*  
St Paul's Convent School

## Six Two

**Mara Eddy** *Norris*  
ESU Scholarship Student

**BENENDEN BEE**



*Davina Langdale*  
*Six One*

*Echyngam*

*Marshall*

*Medway*

*Hemsted*

*Norris*

*Guldeford*

*Marshall*

*Echyngam*

*Medway*

*Hemsted*

*Norris*

*Guldeford*

## My Lizard Wizard

First Prize - Poetry Competition (Fourth and Upper Fourth)

Small, slender, slinky  
His rippling body darts across the  
jungle floor.  
He pounces and a black field  
cricket perishes.  
He licks his lips and surveys the scene.  
But no, he's not in the jungle -  
He is here, in England,  
In a glass tank,  
With a lid,  
A lid that shuts him in  
Like being in a cell.  
He's trapped.  
Sometimes he gets a look,  
A look at what? A cosy house?  
But he doesn't care, he has never known  
any better.  
The only jungle he has ever known is  
the jungle of feet and furniture.  
I wish I could release him  
Back into the wild.  
He'll never know the sun, only a light bulb,  
Timed to go on and off.  
I want to release him,  
Back, to where he should be,  
Where his ancestors were.

Siobhan Callaghan  
Upper Fourth

## Love

'Love is like a red, red rose',  
So Robbie Burns, he says.  
But I believe it's eternal,  
To stay for infinite days.

It is not labelled by colour,  
Not purple, red nor pink.  
It doesn't hold a gender,  
But genders it can link.

Flowers do not represent  
The everlasting bond  
Unless you have a love for plants,  
And of gardens you are fond.

Love cannot be expressed,  
Nor written down in prose.  
For love is something immortal,  
Not a red, red rose.

Louisa Macmillan  
Upper Fourth



Slobhan Callaghan with Wizard

## What is Behind the Shadows?

What is behind the shadows?  
Is there only gloom and sorrow?  
Does no plant or flower grow  
In the shadows of tomorrow?

Shadows lurk in every mind,  
In every corner you will find  
Shadows taunt your every thought;  
Will they ever be caught?

What is the meaning of these shadows?  
Do they show no flower or meadow?  
Is there a lonely life to come?  
Will I be the only one?

For these answers, I must wait.  
Only time can show my fate.  
But curiosity still grows:  
What is behind the shadows?

Bridget Green  
Upper Fourth

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### A Cup of Tea

I've always liked my cup of tea,  
It fills my life with lots of glee.  
When I am down or blue with madness,  
It warms me up with lots of gladness.

I drink my tea with a drop of milk,  
Then stir it round: symbolic silk.  
I add some sugar to make it sweet  
And settle to my favourite treat.

I smell the delicious, sweet aroma,  
And almost fall into a coma.  
I drink it up while it is hot  
And dream of winning the National LOT!

Zante Walker  
Lower Fifth

### Make-Up

I clambered up to stand on the chair,  
And saw a sea of lovely colours there:  
Pinks and blues and reds and more  
And in less than three seconds  
It was all on the floor.

There were pots and dips and things on sticks,  
The stuff that Mummy has on her lips,  
And all sorts of cakes, mainly pink or red.  
I decided to share the fun with my ted.  
I gave his fur a tinge of pink,  
Mine I coloured blue  
And his hair went red with sticky stuff  
And I added water too.  
When I heard my mum coming up the stair  
I ran to show her my teddy bear;  
The response came as a harsh surprise  
And I soon felt hot tears filling my eyes.  
'Anna! Anna! What have you done?'  
This was no longer any fun!  
Having seen the mess, she started to fume  
And promptly sent me to my room.

Why are adults always so boring?  
Well, other kids, I'll give you a warning:  
They say they will, they say they'll play  
But when you're having fun  
It's a straight 'NO WAY'.

Anna Fremantle  
Lower Fifth

### Mum, Let Me Grow Up

Sarah was coming  
Down the stairs  
And she was dressed  
In bright green flares.  
Above she wore  
A short pink top  
Which caused her mother's  
Mouth to drop.  
The mother gave a  
Deathly stare.  
Sarah said,  
'You're not being fair.'  
The reply was,  
'You're a spoilt brat.  
'You're not going out  
'Dressed like that!'  
'Oh, yes I am.  
'I'm going  
'With Sam.'  
'You know I said  
'You're out  
'Too late.  
'Tonight I want you  
'In by eight!'  
'Mother, you won't,  
'You can't  
'Stop me.  
'After all  
'I'm thirty-three!'

Lindsay-Anne Noton  
Fourth



Surrealistic Snooker!

Emily Latham  
Upper Fifth

## It's Coining - A Sixth Former's Confession

'It's coming!'  
A Six One earnestly replied.  
'Now where have I heard that tale before?'  
My English teacher sighed.  
'I've left it down at House;  
'I'll get it during break.'  
'Can't it be on time, for once?'  
'Really, for goodness sake!'

'It's coming!  
'But I went home last weekend  
'And I really couldn't tell you,  
'How fast Royal Mail will send.  
'I know this happened last week,  
'But I've really, really tried.'  
'How come you're always sunbathing?!'  
My history teacher cried.

'It's coming!  
'But right now it is in rough,  
'You'll get it really, really soon,  
'But I've got to add some stuff.  
'I thought it was for next week,  
'Until I was told last night,  
'And so it's not quite finished  
'And I want to get it right.'

'It's coming!  
Laughs echo round the room.  
'No, this time it really, really is,  
'It's really coming - soon.'

Alexandra Schaafsma  
Six One



**Textures** Annabel Barnett  
Six Two



**Natural Forms**

Harriet Storey  
Six Two

## Excuses

Sorry, Miss, I'm really sorry,  
I was attacked by Indians  
And hit by a lorry.  
A creepy old man  
In a white car  
Drove me away  
But not very far.  
I ran back to school  
And slipped in a puddle,  
Surrounded by girls,  
All in a muddle.  
As I reached the school gate,  
I looked at my wrist.  
When I knew I was late  
I was punched by a fist,  
Dragged to that door  
All covered in blood.  
I fell on the floor  
Which is splattered with mud.

Sorry, Miss, I'm really sorry,  
I was hit by a very big lorry.

Elizabeth Heneage  
Lower Fifth



**Leaf Shapes**

Kathryn Pinker  
Upper Fifth

### Birthday Girl

The 17th of February  
Does it still hurt to hear that date,  
To know that name,  
To see that face?

The 17th of February.  
I see your look  
Look at the past  
And the sadness  
Rip your heart.

The 17th of February  
Is what the calendar says.  
It stays the same,  
Quietly whispers her name,  
Still they sit,  
Stifling the feeling they create.

Pretend it didn't happen...  
The dead girl's smiling eyes,  
Her cheerful gaze,  
The fresh, youthful, dead face,  
Frozen in time.

It could be mine.

Snatched from their grasp;  
Her yearning darlings  
Awaited her return  
With open arms.  
Their arms forever empty.

The culprit himself is ignorant,  
Oblivious, long gone,  
Hard to say which is worse  
And still you must be strong.

The 17th of February  
Is just another day.  
I cannot feel your pain -  
I would not, to be fair -  
But I can see the vision  
In your tears,  
Feel the sadness in your stare.

She does not feel the pain,  
But her little lost daughter  
Demands nothing from her now;  
And while her icicles, melted by no  
one,  
Remain for all to view,  
She stands on the outside,  
Sitting in the house of her  
Life that ended years ago.

Madeleine Boshier Man  
Upper Fifth

### On the Wings of Life

When children are ten  
It nearly is then,  
That they go into the world  
And their wings unfurl.

They glide on ideas  
That will take them years  
Ahead of their time  
To lands  
Of hate and war,  
Not beautiful sands  
Which their dreams should include  
As an interlude.

Alicia Blunl  
Upper Fourth

### Four Portraits



Self Portrait

Harriet Storey  
Six Two



Young Man Anneline Groves  
Upper Fifth



Susannah Gault  
Six Two



Woman and Leaves Serena Rowe  
Six Two

### Keep Fighting till VE

*Second Prize - Poetry Competition (Lower Fifth and Fifth)*

It's dark and dingy in the trenches,  
Lying in the squalid stench,  
Soldiers with their fists in clenches,  
All around the war commences.

Fight for victory.  
Families for their fathers fear,  
The horror of the war is clear,  
Yet another bomb falls near,  
Keep fighting till VE.

\* \* \*

Homeless children look around,  
All that's left is burnt out ground,  
Their family home a smouldering mound  
From all of London not a sound.

Fight for victory.  
One more 'plane above them flies,  
But this time brings victorious cries,  
'It's the British,' one man sighs!  
Keep fighting till VE.

\* \* \*

Up above the sky is lit,  
More bright bullets 'planes do spit,  
Yes, a Nazi 'plane is hit,  
Tumbling down, kids jeer at it.  
Fight for victory.

Out at sea the cannons firing,  
Proud mothers their young sons admiring,  
That 'letter home' has got them smiling,  
Keep fighting for VE.

\* \* \*

Now at last the end has come,  
Families to the stations run,  
Soldiers greeted with some rum  
Many wounded, limbs are numb.

You've fought for victory.  
No more cannons out at sea,  
No more fear for you and me,  
For at last we've won the key,  
The key to victory.

Serena Carter  
Lower Fifth

### The Advent of Spring

The lightning struck with vivid force  
The clouds they shook with thunder,  
The naked trees fell one by one,  
Their bark was tom asunder.  
The rain beat on deserted streets  
With icy groping fingers,  
Whilst in the thicket of the wood  
A frightened creature lingers.

The rivers rose with turbulence,  
Their banks about to spill  
Then suddenly - tranquillity,  
The tormented night is still.

At last the rays of sunshine  
Pierce through the dew-drenched dawn,  
Making all the world awake  
To salute the brand new mom.  
Crocus show their rainbow hues  
Birds sing a song of mirth  
At God's creative bounty  
And the advent of Spring's birth.

Natasha Pobjoy  
Lower Fifth

### Homelessness

You see them in shop doorways,  
Or sitting in the street;  
Won't you spare a single penny  
To help them find their feet?

They only have a thin mg  
To keep them warm at night,  
The streets are cold and lonely  
And there isn't any light.

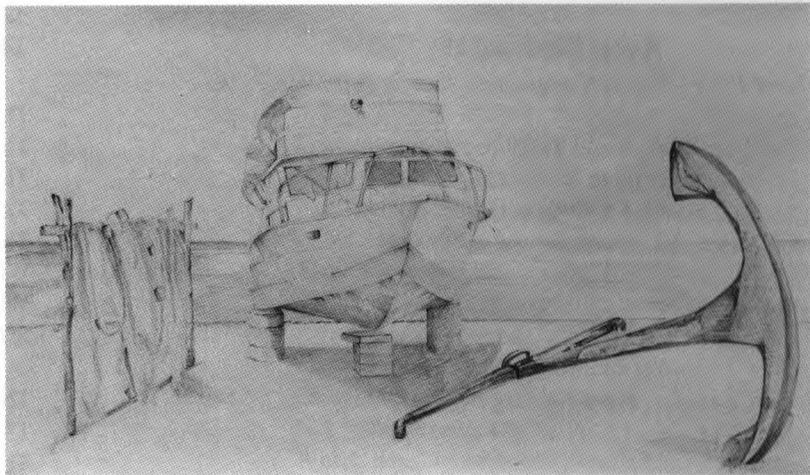
So next time that you see them  
Do not just stop and stare,  
Please don't walk right on past them  
And pretend that they're not there.

Sophie Moore  
Lower Fifth

**The Sea**

The sun sparkles on  
The beautiful glass sheet of serenity.  
It ripples;  
It has just awoken from  
A deep dark sleep.  
A cloud floats past  
The light present  
Causing a dark shadow to fall  
Over the enchanted waters.  
It tells of mystery and  
Secrets never to be known,  
Of a depth that goes on forever.

Lucinda Watts  
Upper Fourth



**The Shore**

Kate Kandiah  
Upper Fifth

**The Demon**

Drifting are the dark clouds of the night,  
Which hide the moon's dim glow,  
But a few lonely rays fall down,  
Falling on the crashing waves of dread  
For that is where it lives,  
In that dark, bleak cave,  
Asleep but not dead,  
The monster of the night,  
He is the dreaded black demon;  
He is but asleep - not dead.

Katherine Alexander  
Upper Fourth

**Darkness**

Darkness is like a hooded cloak,  
Wrapped round the world at night  
And it reaches every nook and cranny.  
To some it is an enemy,  
To others a friend, to whom it is  
Another whole world,  
Unexplored and exciting,  
Unreal and frightening  
Where surprises loom towards  
Children sleeping in their fantasy world.

Candida Wells  
Upper Fourth

**Night Creatures**

As the night draws nearer,  
The wolves begin to howl;  
Now the stars are clearer,  
The owls set out to prowl.

Sleep covers most creatures  
In their quiet dens;  
The night covers the features  
Of the farmers' pens.

Eyes gleam like jewels  
In the silver moonlight  
And claws are used like tools  
In a cruel and deadly fight.

Olivia McGill  
Upper Fourth



**Stormy View**

Susannah Gault  
Six Two

**The Spider**

When I was little, I think about four,  
I found a spider on the bathroom floor.  
I tried to catch him, but he ran away,  
But luckily I saw him the following day.

His back was curved and his legs were thin,  
He was making a web, just by the bin.  
The web was made of soft silky thread;  
'What a wonderful spinning gift,' I said.

\*\*\*\*\*

But, oh dear, the hoover's out,  
I hope my spider's not about,  
But when I was emptying the Hoover bin  
I saw some legs belonging to him.

Leonora Pearson  
Fourth



**Bird of Paradise**

*Ainsley Everingham*  
Upper Fifth

**There Once Was A Beauty**

*First Prize - Poetry Competition (Lower Fifth and Fifth)*

There once was a beauty that ran through the woods,  
Its antlers proud and high.  
There once was a beauty that ran through the woods  
And when it leaped, it would fly.  
There once was a beauty that ran through the woods,  
Until that fateful mom  
When men with faces full of scorn  
And shiny guns by their side,  
Slowly through the woods did stride.  
Their sour faces then turned bright,  
As of the beauty they caught sight.  
The defenceless beauty they did surround;  
From them no movement,  
From them no sound.  
The beauty pondered unaware  
Of hidden dangers lurking there.  
A branch did rustle,  
The beauty sped,  
A shot, a squeal, and blood dark red.  
The corpse it lay all forlorn,  
On that frosty, fateful mom.  
The corpse it lay on the ground,  
From it no movement,  
From it no sound.  
What once was a beauty  
Now is still,  
Its eyes wide glaring,  
Its face fixed tight,  
Not having been given  
A chance to fight.  
What once was a beauty  
Is hung high on a wall,  
What once was a beauty  
Has no beauty at all.

Joanna Langham  
Lower Fifth



**Arthurian Symbols**

*Hilary Smith*  
Upper Fifth



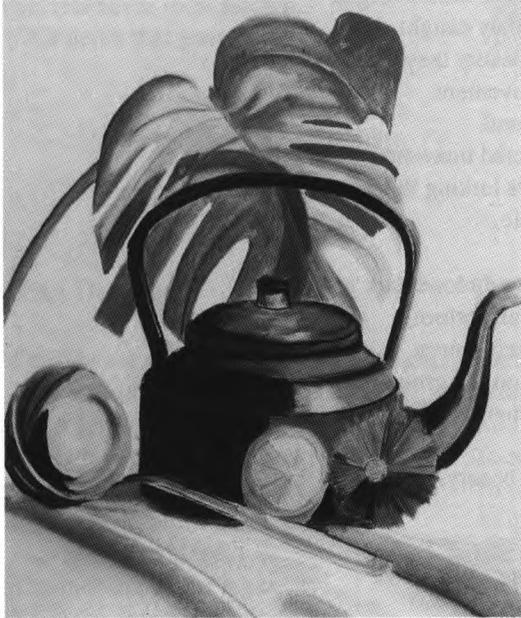
**The Mandala**

*Maidie Yeung*  
Upper Fifth



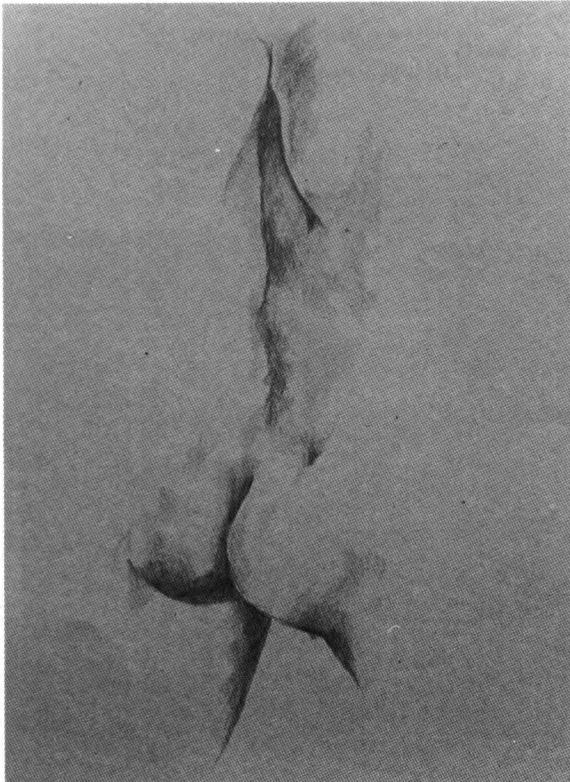
African Family

Charlotte Prince  
Upper Fifth



Still Life

Philippa Newell  
Upper Fifth



Life Study

Yukiko Kawaguchi  
Six Two

## Israel Enslaved in Egypt

*Second Prize - Poetry Competition (Fourth and Upper Fourth)*

The Israelites lived in Egypt,  
their numbers grew and grew  
and with Pharaoh the King of Egypt  
a peaceful life all knew.

But old Pharaoh died and was buried,  
and a new Pharaoh came to rule.  
'We must stop the Hebrews increasing  
and make their lives bitter and cruel.'

So the Hebrews became slaves in Egypt  
and built Pithom, Raamses - store cities.  
They were whipped and beaten and punished  
and life changed to hardship and pities.

Among every kind of hard labour  
was brick-making and ploughing the field;  
but their numbers continued increasing  
and Pharaoh's keen ire did not yield.

Pharaoh moved on to desperate measures  
and issued a command most vile:  
'Your new-born daughters I allow to live  
but your sons you must throw in the Nile.'

One mother hid her son at home  
until he was too big to hide.  
She put him safe in the waterproof basket  
in the reeds at the riverside.

Pharaoh's daughter, coming down to bathe,  
found the basket with the child inside.  
She adopted the boy and called him 'Moses'  
and brought him up with pride.

Moses grew up and knew the Israelites  
were suffering in misery and pain  
and God spoke to him from the burning bush  
and said 'Israel will be free again.'

'I will rescue Israel from Egypt;  
'you must do what I tell you to do.  
'Go to Pharaoh and say that I sent you;  
'he must let my people go.'

'Their suffering has gone on for too long;  
'Pharaoh must learn that I am the Lord.  
'Israel's land will flow with milk and honey  
and green peaceful acres so broad.'

Elizabeth Sebag-Montefiore  
Upper Fourth

# Elizabeth Hilliard Prize

This year there were joint winners of this competition, both of them short stories. Because of this, it is not possible to print in full the successful entries but we include the openings of both stories to indicate the quality of the writing.

The first extract is from Eleanor Akenhead's *The Incubus*:

**The world is dark, for my eyes no longer see. I am alone with my thoughts; muffled, unintelligible sounds from the hospital in which I lie occasionally silence the voices which jabber ceaselessly inside my head. My other senses have died, leaving nothing but a cold and lonely tingling in their stead; yet somehow, I have developed an unearthly ability to detect people's presences, even when they do not speak.**

Secondly, we include the beginning of Ramona Pearson's *Presumed Dead*:

**My heavy chest heaved, drawing in breaths of close stifling air. No light entered my partially-open eyes. I felt strangely secure in what felt to me like a narrow box. Soft satin cushioned my pounding head, and in a state of near delirium, I relaxed once more into a deep sleep.**

Those wanting to know how these powerful stories progress may obtain, with the authors' permission, a complete version of each from the English Department.



Frog in the Throat

Natasha McDonald  
*Upper Fifth*

# Poetry Competition 1 995

For the first time, the number of entrants passed fifty and we are once more indebted to the English Faculty of the University of Kent at Canterbury for providing us with a highly experienced and conscientious adjudicator, Dr Janet Montefiore, who gave us a fascinating analysis of the reasons for her choices as well as a powerful explanation of the value of poetry in a civilised life. We trust that the University's English Department will continue to find it possible to support our efforts in the field of poetry-writing.

## Fourth and Upper Fourth

### *First Prize*

Siobhan Callaghan

### *Second Prize*

Elizabeth Sebag-Montefiore

### *Very Highly Commended*

Katherine Alexander  
Alicia Blunt  
Bridget Green  
Louisa Macmillan

### *Highly Commended*

Emma Buzzard  
Jay Stephenson-Clarke  
Isabel Clement  
Lucy Gilbert  
Sophie Hall  
Ana Jackson  
Olivia McGill  
Marina Mooney  
Lindsay-Anne Noton  
Leonora Pearson  
Charlotte Teare  
Lucinda Watts  
Candida Wells  
Julia Wells  
Megumi Yawata

### *Commended*

Laura Hawkes  
Claire Moore  
Louise Neil  
Andrea Peartree  
Maya Shamji  
Clementine Shipp



Dr Janet Montefiore presents awards to (top) Siobhan Callaghan (left) and Elizabeth Sebag-Montefiore and (below) to Joanna Langham (left) and Serena Carter



## Lower Fifth and Fifth

### *First Prize*

Joanna Langham

### *Second Prize*

Serena Carter

### *Very Highly Commended*

Anna Fremantle  
Elizabeth Heneage  
Sophie Moore  
Natasha Pobjoy  
Zante Walker

### *Highly Commended*

Georgiana Aitken  
Penelope Bennett  
Katie Cullinan  
Rosie Garthwaite  
Christina Hadden  
Louise Heming Johnson  
Catherine Langdon  
Sara Milnes Coates  
Sophia Mooney  
Livia Schaafsma  
Alexandra Seddon  
Hannah Vaines  
Neelam Verjee  
Harriet Witheridge  
Alice Wright

### *Commended*

Yvonne Liao  
Harriet Reid  
Lucie Sargent

## Keen to be Green

Environment Week was an idea created to promote awareness of environmental issues and ways in which we can improve our present ecological situation.

On Monday, 7 November 1994, the Week was officially launched by a group of Sixth Form Committee members who presented Prayers and helped Mrs duCharme to hand out badges to all the official House Environment Representatives.

Activities such as 'Seen to be Green', non-uniform day and poster competitions were held during the Week, giving everybody the chance to become involved in current matters. However, our special *piece de résistance* was an environmental quiz. The event had an excellent turn-out and there were even some Six Twos competing for the title of *Most Environmentally Friendly Team!* Everyone proved that they were reasonably aware of current issues, although we did have some rather amusing answers. For example, one group of Fourth Formers said that one way of saving water would be to watch the bath running!

All in all, Environment Week was a great success and we managed to raise over £200 for various charities. In addition, the collection of aluminium cans during the year has raised a further £20 for environmental charities.

Jane Halt  
Head of Biology



The Garbage Angels, Environment Week's Non-Uniform Competition Winners

## Learning to Manage

Early in the Autumn Term, the Six Ones, with some reluctance, entered the gymnasium for an all-day Management Conference under the guidance of Philip Le Broc. Rather sketchy as to what the conference would contain, it was with some trepidation that we listened to 'Phil's' first instructions. Everyone sat in a circle and invited the staff in as they arrived. The staff, whom we were asked to call 'guests' for the day, arrived looking equally apprehensive. Philip Le Broc's aims for the day seemed to be centred on bringing the layer together, promoting the idea of a team effort and showing the advantages of co-operating with staff!

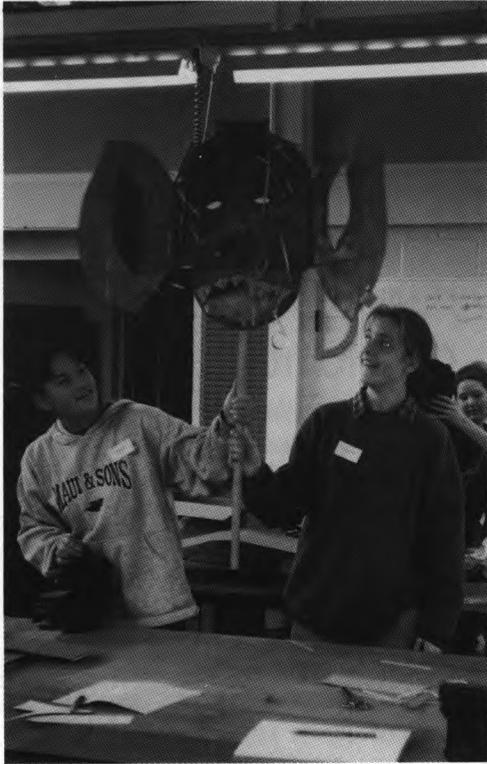
Phil's methods consisted of a number of games and exercises. The first of these was forming a group and then devising the best method of carrying a teacher above your head around the room. Another was forming a pair with a member of staff and having to shout 'yes' and 'no' at each other as loudly as possible. Alcohol was provided at a delicious supper which perhaps aided the more emotional discussion which took place in the evening. Everyone sat in a circle, some on chairs and some on the floor, and we discussed in which seating position we felt more secure. Philip Le Broc combined his novel methods of physical challenge with a

preference for American lingo: during the discussion we were not supposed to begin a sentence with 'I think' - only with 'I feel'. We also talked of ways in which we could improve the School and whether we *'felt'* happy with the way things were.

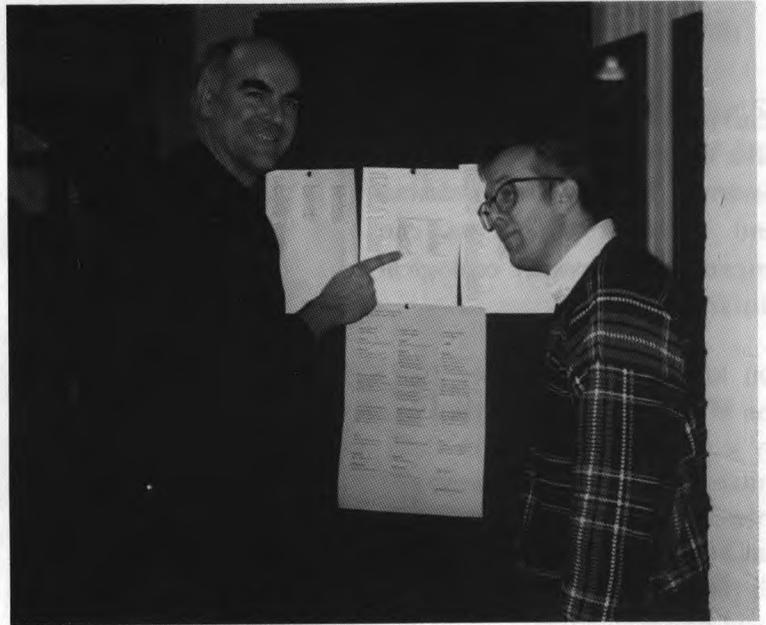
The result of the Management Conference depended very strongly on how much you put into it and in some areas it was very successful: Alex Schaafsma went on to form a Lower School Debating Society and it was also a chance for the year to get to know the new Six Ones and vice-versa. For some new girls, it provided a chance to speak their minds and state their opinions. However, Philip Le Broc's methods for bringing the year together were based mainly on his faith in the advantages of the 'group hug' and success here did seem to be somewhat limited. Our layer did get together for the day but the effects were not long-lasting. Despite this, the day was very enjoyable and if the lessons learnt were not always the intended ones, then at the very least, each of us went away with the knowledge that it did sometimes pay to be more receptive to these new methods of teaching.

Susanna Davidson  
Six One

# Arts Festival 1995



**Theatrical Mask-making**



**Steve Frost and Phil Nice**



**Advanced Embroidery**



**Transitions Dance Group**

The second Benenden Arts Festival for GCSE students was held on Friday, 10 February. Students from five schools in addition to Benenden attended with a special afternoon performance for the whole of Benenden School. Both events were sponsored by Coutts & Co and the Founders' Memorial Fund.

Workshops were run by 26 working arts professionals in areas as diverse as acting, directing, writing, journalism, composing and painting.

Work completed during the day was shown in a plenary session.

**The usual Six One Careers' Insight Programme took place this year but was supplemented by the Fifth Form's opportunity to take part in the nation-wide Take Our Daughters to Work Day and we have selected extracts from the reports of three participants on their experiences.**

**Take  Our Daughters To Work Day 27 April 1995**

**Alexandra Seddon visited the Foreign Office:**

After what seemed a hectic commute to me but is just a normal day to many people, I ventured out on my first real day in the working city. I was very apprehensive when I first arrived at the Personnel Management Department because I knew very little about how the Foreign Office worked. This section of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, to give it its full title, is situated outside the Office's main buildings.

I was at once made welcome and Mrs Barnes Jones, a Senior of the School and organiser of my day's itinerary, showed me to her office and explained the management structure and the main aims and objectives of the Foreign Office. In basic terms, the latter are: (a) to enhance the security and prosperity of the United Kingdom and the Dependent Territories and (b) to promote and protect British interests and influence overseas, including the welfare of British nationals.

She then described her own and the Personnel Department's role for the Foreign Office itself. Mrs Barnes Jones is responsible for the career development, welfare and personal matters of 130 people while they are working abroad. She was very willing to answer any of my questions

and greatly helped to increase my knowledge of how the Foreign Office functions.

**Alexandra went on to meet a variety of other officials, learnt of the qualifications needed to work in this field, toured the grand State Rooms, attended a News Department briefing conference for the press and experienced the high level of security. Her most unnerving experience was to be spoken to by a Minister's Private Secretary in the Minister's own office and to have the Minister arrive unexpectedly. Douglas Hogg, the Minister, was very understanding and very enlightening also. This ended 'an excellent day'. Her most detailed meeting was with the Hong Kong Department:**

After a quick lunch with some of the people I had previously met during the morning, I went back to the main building with an official of the Hong Kong Department. As you can imagine, this has been very busy because of the hand-over to China in 1997. The afternoon I was there coincided with the first House of Commons debate on Hong Kong and China for six years, so it was very hectic. The Hong Kong Department is a long corridor of about ten rooms, each dealing with individual aspects of the colony. It was very interesting to be shown a very large booklet of questions which had had to be prepared for the debate. The work dealt with for the last two years or so has been to try and ensure that there are as few changes as possible when Hong Kong reverts to China. For example, immigration from Vietnam and China needs to be controlled and every attempt is being made to avoid communist influence.

**Alexandra discovered that employees of the Foreign Office have a hectic but challenging life and concludes:**

I had a very worthwhile and interesting day and am very interested in doing some more work experience in the Foreign Office next year.

**Phoebe Allpress had a very different but no less interesting day at Mercury Asset Management:**

On the 27th April, Mrs Consuelo Brooke, a Senior and mother of Charlotte (Hemsted), kindly allowed me to shadow her at Mercury Asset Management - or the stocks and shares part of Warburgs, for those of us who are not familiar with 'financial jargon'.

Mrs Brooke is the Director of the Pension Funds section and, as I was to find out, her job is to look into new and even not-so-new companies to decide whether to invest in them or not. As she said herself, most of her day is spent on the telephone to clients, collecting vital information about the market and then dealing with huge amounts of other people's money!

She was keen to show me all the other areas of the business as well as her own and one section I particularly wanted to see was 'The Dealing Room'. All I really knew about this room was what I had been fed by movies and as I went up in the lift, I prepared myself for mass mayhem, accompanied by about five thousand people, all with at least six mobile 'phones stuck to each ear. When I arrived, I was met by the rather disappointing sight of about twenty people, all sitting at computer screens and, much to my horror, no mobile 'phones! When I asked the question: 'Where's all the action?' I was swiftly put in my place by my guide; he told me that all the best companies had up-to-the-minute IT facilities and there was therefore no need for huge numbers of people rushing around when a computer could do the job more efficiently.

**Phoebe learnt a great deal about the intricacies of Mrs Brooke's occupation and says 'even though it wasn't what I expected, I found it very interesting.' A highlight was a financial discussion meeting:**

In the afternoon, I went to one of Mrs Brooke's meetings with a French stockbroker called Laurent Sablio, who had brought numerous companies' portfolios with him, about all

of which he seemed to be extremely enthusiastic! They spent about an hour discussing these companies and it was especially interesting and also very amusing, as Laurent was quite a 'character'! All in all, the day was a wonderful experience and I am very grateful to Mrs Brooke.

you are morally fit to practise at the Bar.

Miss Gloster is a member of the Inner Temple Inn although for lunch we went to the Middle Temple Inn which is supposedly more interesting historically; the Temple Church, which Miss Gloster showed me is certainly of great antiquity.



Elizabeth Gloster with Neelam Verjee

**Neelam Verjee went to Law with Elizabeth Gloster, mother of Sophie Brodie (Marshall):**

...we walked to the Law Offices - 1 Essex Court, to be precise... Firstly, I was shown around the area. The chambers, as they were called, were built in 1677 and this is where barristers have their offices. There is also a Clerks' Room, which can be seen as the nerve centre and where there are twelve clerks who book barristers, make their appointments and sort out their diaries. There were timetables put up each day for the clerks, telling them what was on the agenda.

After I was shown around, I went with a barrister called Mr Jeffery Onions who was involved in a case to do with music copyright and the infringement of recording rights; you don't think about these aspects when you listen to the music recordings themselves! Half way through, I was taken to another court where the case concerned fraud. This was cut short and I rejoined Miss Gloster for lunch.

To become a barrister, you not only have to have a deep knowledge of the law but also have to join an Inn of Court and 'eat dinners' with other barristers so that they are able to judge your personality and see if

During the afternoon, I spent time with the junior clerks who are responsible for making sure that the barristers have everything they need for their cases and were, really, runners. During this time, I was taken around the Royal Courts of Justice, which were impressively large and imposing. A McDonald's with Mrs Addyman brought a really interesting day to an end.

**A large number of Fifth Form girls took advantage of the day's opportunities to find out about such diverse fields as telecommunications, school uniform retailing, marriage guidance counselling, occupational therapy, being a readers' adviser at a library, international media sales, shipping, hospice work and a host of others. The School wishes to thank all those mothers who made this Take Our Daughters to Work Day so successful.**

To the Salt Mines...

**In Salzburg we saw some beautiful views. The mountains had snow and ice and corries. We saw some lovely lakes. We saw houses with spikes on their roofs so the snow wouldn't all come off at once and cause an accident. There were also specially shaped roofs to direct the snow in a particular direction.**

The salt mines were the reason for Salzburg's name: salz - salt, burg - castle. We took a train-like engine down into the mines and slid down a long wooden slide in our white overalls. We actually crossed the border into Germany underground, and tasted the very salty water. The actual salt-making business closed a few years ago and the mines are now used as a tourist attraction. We went on an underground boat with amazing light effects and weird music! The roof was really low and when we touched it, salt crumbled away.

We also went to the Haus der Natur. There were lots of animals, including my favourite, the crocodile! They had some fascinating sticks all grown together like a trellis, and some strangely-shaped leaves. There were butterflies and birds and planets. I liked the planet section because you had to weigh yourself on all the planets and see on which planet you would weigh the lightest. I weighed 2kg on Mercury!

There wasn't much pollution in Salzburg as everyone had paper bins, biological bins, plastic and glass bins, aluminium bins and everyday bins. It seemed that there were lots of shops and stalls selling souvenirs so I think Salzburg relied quite a lot on tourists. Nearly every shop sold Mozartkugels!

Sophie Hall  
Elizabeth Sebag-Montefiore  
Upper Fourth

# Postcard from Zimbabwe



At the Airport

Photo: Jane Grayling

Amazing experiences - quite impossible to recreate in the few sentences allocated! Work on a game reserve, a canoe safari, numerous game drives, highland trekking, and white water rafting in Victoria Falls were punctuated by eight hour bus rides, holiday romances, campfires and much laughter! Confidence was boosted, leaders led and friendships were forged. Quite superb - a trip with 'World Challenge' is recommended for anyone needing a breath of fresh air!

Juliet Douglas-Hughes  
Upper Fifth



Canoeing down the Zambezi

Photos: Jane Grayling



## Gaudi to Guernica

On Thursday, 16 February, we found ourselves in sunny Barcelona, armed with bags of woolly jumpers and coats for the bitter spring that we did not have to endure.

The purpose of this trip to Spain was to study Spanish art and architecture and having discarded our bags in the 'art nouveau' style Hotel Espania in the centre of Barcelona, we were stunned by the magnificence of Sagrada Familia, Gaudi's 'organic' cathedral. Not only those acquainted with nicotine were puffing and wheezing after tackling the 730 steps of the towers, from which we earned a bird's-eye view of the spectacular city that we were yet to discover.

The next day, the group assembled to make its way to the Picasso Museum, ambling through the town to view an enormous number of world-acclaimed paintings. Here we saw a room devoted to *Las Meninas*, a monochrome paraphrase of the work of the same name by Diego Velazquez. The day's sights included the cathedral of Barcelona, the Miro Museum and the Olympic stadium.

The following day, we toured the city, admiring Gaudi's spectacular architecture and followed this with a sweaty trek to Parc Giiell to observe convoluting forms and remarkably imaginative mosaic sculptures. We reclined gratefully under the cool shade of the palm trees, looking out over the sea.

That night we were carted off, cattle style, on the couchette to the city of Madrid. Having now mastered the Spanish underground system, we travelled to the Prado art gallery, the highlight of our trip. Here we saw num-

erous famous paintings by Bosch, El Greco, Rubens, Goya, Melendez and Velazquez.

Having explored Madrid, we went to the Reina Sofia museum on the last day where we saw work by Dali, *Guernica* by Picasso and other examples of modern art. After stocking up on souvenirs and duty free, we were sorry to have to return home. The trip had been a great success (thank you to the staff).

We recommend you visit Spain if only for the paella and the generous helpings of, shall we say, liquid.

Nicola Bullard  
Nina Barttelot  
Emma Lewis  
Annabel Mackenzie-Beevor  
Six One

## Abroad for rain!

As we flew over Spain we saw brown mountains and many rivers and reservoirs. There was a bit of flat land but it was very dry as there had been a drought. However, we did see some waterfalls with huge drops. We went to the highest point in Malaga where you could see for miles around.

In Ronda all the bridges were ancient. I noticed one particular bridge that had four different bridges on top of each other. The people of Spain are obviously interested in arches as they are all over the place, especially at the Alhambra Palace where we saw gardens and flowers. It was very pretty. We also went to an old fortress. We went to cathedrals and churches which had a lot of gold and the pictures were really big and colourful.

The weather was sunny most days but on the two days when we went to the beach, it rained. The beach in Malaga was blacker than the one in Nerja because the rocks, which are ground up to make the sand, are black. The sea was cold. The caves in Nerja were a long way underground. There were stalagmites and stalactites and a huge 32 metre column in the Cataclysm chamber.

Clementine Shipp  
Upper Fourth



Mrs duCharme (right) and Mrs Pook are overcome by the Spanish Influence in Malaga

Photo: Alexandra Whitelaw

## Fourth Form Visits

### My Diary of La Rochelle (by Adrienne Mole aged 11¾)

Day 1: Left school on time, hope I put my suitcase on the coach?! Mr Moore's snoring kept the staff awake!

Day 2: Arrived safely but abandoned already! Teachers deserted us in market, (later saw them eating outside a café), we had to buy lunch in groups. Bought pastries and chocolate. Boat trip great, wasn't seasick. Youth hostel smelly but bunk beds great. (Toilets flush noisily!)

Day 3: Sleeping Beauty castle. Funny Frenchman did tour. He gave Miss Cannon a kiss - lucky her! Visit to Roman Auntietheatre, no lions about today, phew! On to Hennessy, distillery (Cognac) for "science lesson" and a free sample for Dad. Teachers seemed eager to get to the gift shop. Dinner at hostel - bread, bread and more bread...

Day 4: Futuroscope. Brill and fab! Queues long but plenty of boys to talk to and practise French. Starting to get blisters. Mr. Sanderson and Miss Cannon sing in corridor whilst we get ready for bed, they are quite tuneful!

Day 5: Museum of mussels then off to the marshes for a land train ride and punting. Had boat races, set fire to the water and sang very loudly. Teachers needed to buy "supplies" at the Hypermarché and made us late for supper.

Day 6: Walked to boat museum, blisters growing. Climbed towers and then caught boat to the aquarium. Too many tourists there though! Journey home was ok. Have run out of money so bought mum and dad a P&O biro. Tired but happy - will need half term to recover!

Ben Moore  
Samantha Cannon



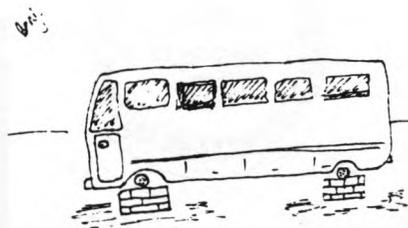
On the Quay at La Rochelle

Photo: Rose Colville



Mr Sanderson Serenades In La Rochelle

Photo: Claire Howeson



The girls don't seem to want to go home!

Ben Moore



With Mrs duCharme In Greenwich

**A SERVICE OF DEDICATION**  
**of the Memorial to**  
**Capitaine Jean Maridor Free French, 91 Squadron RAF**

**24 November 1920 - 3 August 1944**

**St George's Church, Benenden**  
**Sunday, 11 September 1994**

A distinguished group of French visitors, some colleagues of Jean Maridor, attended the memorial Service to the man who died protecting Benenden School and village from a VI flying bomb. Mrs Jean Holme (née Lambourn), Capitaine Maridor's fiancée at the time of his death, was a special guest at the Service and at the subsequent lunch at the School, hosted by Mrs duCharme.

The order of service was rendered into French by Caroline Bartlett.



Jean Maridor



Mrs Jean Holme and  
Wing Cdr R Sampson, CBE, DFC



Mr T S C Busby, OBE, DL (Benenden), Mr Kenneth Potter (British Legion) and Col M Bottine (Air Attache French Embassy)

# VE Day in Hyde Park

On 6 May 1995, the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War was celebrated. My great-grandfather was Sir Winston Churchill and my grandmother, Mary Soames, is his youngest daughter. Because of this, the Royal British Legion, who were in charge of organising the official VE Day celebrations, invited me to be the person to hand to Her Majesty the Queen the torch with which she would then light the Beacon of Peace.

I was allowed the weekend off School as there were several rehearsals in Hyde Park for the ceremony. On the preceding Friday night, I went to a concert in the Park and was privileged to sit in the Royal Box. We all stood when Princess Anne arrived. On the Saturday afternoon, we returned to Hyde Park for a rehearsal during which I met the torch bearers, who, after the ceremony, were to run to many destinations all over the UK, bearing the official torches. On the Sunday, there was another rehearsal for the television cameras.

On the night itself, I stood for three-quarters of an hour holding an unlit torch and this time there were 230,000 people in the stands watching. Then I walked to the Queen's chair where I lit my torch and handed it to Her Majesty. I did not curtsy as I was told not to while holding a flaming torch. As I handed it to her, the Queen asked me what she should do with it! I watched the rest of the ceremony through binoculars from the stands. I then went home very cold but it was a great honour to be asked and it was thrilling to participate.

Emily Macmanus  
Fourth



*Photograph by courtesy of Reuters*

## Visionary ideas...

Personal helicopters, flying motor-bikes, hologram televisions, underwater cities, automatic hair cutting booths, and temperature regulating clothes were just a few of the visionary ideas buried in a time capsule on 10 March 1995.

The Design Council marked its 50th anniversary by celebrating the nation's commitment to design and inspiring innovation for the 21st century through Project 2045: Design for our future. The project was open to schools, colleges, businesses and design consultancies. Participants were asked to put forward visions for design and living in the year 2045. Over eighty students submitted work ranging from concept sketches to poetry, reflecting ideas ranging from those within the realms of possibility to the truly fantastic.

The burial ceremony was well attended by students, staff and the press. Lauren Pobjoy, as the youngest member of the school, had the honour of burying the capsule. Details of the location of each of the 2045 capsules buried nationwide have been recorded at the Museum of Mankind. A copy of each entry sealed inside our capsule will be kept in the school's archives.

I hope that the contributors and supporters will be able to congregate once more at the site on March 10th 2045 when the capsule will be retrieved!

Samantha Cannon  
Head of Design and Technology

## Inter City to Adventure

After arrival at Euston, we endeavoured to make the four and a half hour journey to Betws-y-Coed, crossing the border into Wales without the delights of duty-free. However, we were blessed with the Inter City buffet car.

Upon arrival, we piled on to a waiting mini-bus and were taken to the field centre where the important sites of the village were grafted on to our minds. We were sharing the centre with five other schools, two of the male variety and therefore welcomed by all of us, especially Cariad. Work started that afternoon with an introduction to the rules and regulations of the centre which were assimilated by all listeners.

Our first day involved hydrology, which brought back fond memories of Nettlecombe and a very humorous incident occurred when Ali Ross disappeared, temporarily, in a bog. The day at the beach proved the most successful and enjoyable. The sun shone down and rather unfairly caught the pale skin of Alex's face, turning it to a dark shade of beetroot. To cool ourselves down, a dip in the sea was in order. Mrs Grayling joined us, though a little assistance was required, which consisted in her being carried down the beach by all of us and thrown into the imitation Caribbean.

Another of our adventurous days was spent taking a peaceful stroll in the countryside around Betws-y-Coed where, at one point, having climbed a dauntingly steep incline, we were greeted by an ill-humoured Welsh landowner, which distressed some of us. The farmer seemed to regard the place as a gold-mine rather than the slate heap which it seemed to us but we retreated to the welcoming surroundings of the field centre.

Our evenings were spent concluding the day's work and relaxing in front of Welsh television! The whole field trip was a tremendous success. We enjoyed it AND learned a good deal and sincerely thank Mrs Grayling for agreeing to accompany us. It was such fun that we are all looking forward to the slide show!

Alexandra Bateman  
Rachel Khalil  
Six One



Georgina Harland with Hygrometer

*Photo: Jane Grayling*



Even at their Society supper Inkslingers continue to write

## Sixth Form Field Studies at Dale Fort, Pembrokeshire



Fish's Eye View



Worm's Eye View



Human's Eye View



Seagull's Eye View

Photos: Peter Lewis

## BREAD

New to the scene in Benenden, BREAD was launched in late November. It is a Christian meeting that takes place on Friday evenings, aimed to appeal to those of religious inclinations or none.

A wide range of visiting speakers have come to talk on various issues and the relaxed atmosphere, varied activities and homemade cake make it a welcome way to end the week!

Rebecca Mullins  
Head of Religious Studies

## Several changes...

The School Union has met regularly this year and brought about several changes. One of these developments is the presence of two fixed exeats in the Autumn Term. This was because it was felt that this term is very long and tiring, for the new girls especially. A water fountain has finally been installed in the Cloisters for students with games between lessons.

An effort has also been made to improve the School's security. Students now meet with staff regularly as it is realised that students are often the most aware of security problems in Houses. There has also been much discussion over the necessity for obligatory church for Sixth Formers. Nothing has yet been concluded, however this is a thought for the future.

Many other small changes have also been made. I would like to thank all Union officials and staff that support the Union. I look forward to more progress this year.

Anna Jennings  
President of the Union

## Trip to the Sinai

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**I wriggle in my sleeping bag and open my eyes; the sky is totally clear, the sun is rising. I realise that I have never really seen a completely blue sky; living in England, that is hardly surprising.**

In the Easter holidays, ten girls, four parents and Miss Moat set off to the Sinai Desert. It was an amazing experience and great fun. One of our first feats was to climb Mount Sinai itself and we all felt very pleased with ourselves until we saw all the old ladies who skip up and down the mountain every day of their lives. On the way up, we went half-way on camels, which was very amusing. The camels liked to walk on the edge of the path and push each other around and I don't recommend being terrified of falling down a mountain. Believe it or not, at the summit there were stalls selling Cadbury's chocolate and hot drinks!

On our first day in the desert, it was my birthday and my mother had insisted on sending me off with a cake. To further my embarrassment, my godmother had insisted on icing it. We sat around the camp-fire and ate the cake and I am sure it was the first time the drivers of the vehicles saw and ate an English birthday cake. This brings me to our Bedouin guides and drivers. I am sure that I have never met such a friendly, forthcoming and funny people. The biggest hit were the two Mohammeds who were nicknamed 'Banana Man' and 'Chicken Man'. Perhaps 'Chicken Man' could be persuaded to come to Benenden to help with the catering: the food was delicious. We also stayed at St Catherine's for one night where we were, it seemed, overrun by Greek tourists. This monastery is a major landmark in the desert and is a Greek Orthodox establishment and is very beautiful though we only caught a glimpse of the priests, who, not surprisingly, seemed to avoid visitors.



*Photo: Harriet Reid*

The best day, I feel, was the day we spent in the sandstone desert. 'Chicken Man' took us to a Bedouin well and proceeded to soak everyone - and then we took our revenge on him. That day we also climbed a sand dune and raced down. A variety of names were adopted and allocated: the five Fifths on the trip took to calling themselves 'The Famous Five Fifths', Mr Carter's designer stubble earned him the title 'Yasser Arafat' and we suspected that Miss Moat fell for our young Bedouin guide!

It was, all in all, a wonderful trip and on behalf of all those who went, I would like to thank Emma Loveridge from Wind, Sand and Stars, all our Bedouin guides and especially Miss Moat, who made it all possible.

Harriet Reid  
Lower Filth



## Phoenix and Hands On

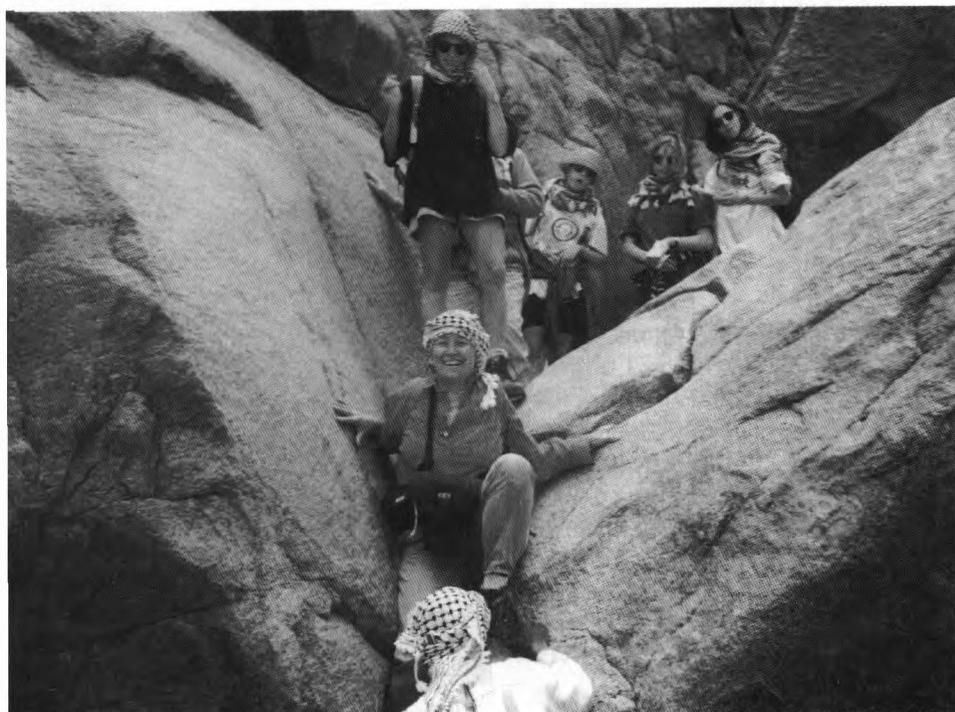
Early in the Autumn Term, over forty enthusiastic Six Ones formed two Young Enterprise companies. By half-term, these were fully operational and each was equipped with a managing director: Charlotte Baden-Powell and Sophie Brodie. 'Phoenix' made and sold cotton scarves, while 'Hands On' produced grass heads.

The two companies soon got their goods into production and started to sell them straight after half-term, to willing parents, staff and fellow students, as well as at a trade fair outside School.

Both companies were successful and made profits. Each produced an annual report and, as a result of this, Phoenix progressed to the second stage of the competition. During the Spring Term, many of us sat the Young Enterprise Europe examinations and no fewer than eight distinctions were obtained.

Considerable thanks are due to our two company advisers and to Dr Peter Lewis, who gave both groups a great deal of practical help. In the course of this year, we have often been told that Young Enterprise is, above all, a learning experience. I am glad to say that it was a lot of fun too!

Gemma Shearman  
Six One



*Photo: Eva Phillips*

# The Nettlecombe Experience

One Saturday morning in May, the Lower Fifts frantically sped around their Houses searching for various objects of kit. Outside, the clouds were low and grey - perfect weather for field studies, but luckily for us, the weather stayed good most of the week. Trembling teachers embarked on a long coach journey with 78 noisy girls. The coaches lurched forward amid cheers of "Freedom"! Five hours later, hordes of hot and sticky teenagers emerged from the convoy outside a looming house with a haunted air and creaking floorboards. Those hours of stored-up energy were released in unpacking and exploring. The groans of the field studies staff were drowned in yelps and squeals of delight.

By dinner time the group had been shocked into reality by measuring yellow flowers all over the front lawn! Dinner was a noisy affair, aided by the acoustics of the Great Hall. After dinner, a welcoming speech in the Flanders and Swan style was addressed to us by a metal-hipped man called Dr Crothers. He looked like Henry the Eighth and held his stick under his arm in a military manner, reminding me of an ex-sergeant major who was now a strict PE teacher. With this picture in my mind, I thought that we had been sent to an army camp and would have to work from 6am till 10pm till we died of exhaustion, but Dr Crothers was so friendly and funny that I knew that, after all, we were going to have a good time. His trusty canine companions were Basil, the Jack Russell and Sam the golden retriever, who was very good at releasing "dog gas" in the laboratory!

At Nettlecombe there is a delicious range of food, which prevented our stomachs from talking. It was almost like home cooking - cooked breakfasts, decent packed lunches, delicious buns or cakes for tea and a filling supper. What more could we want? On a typical day a loud rising bell rang at 8am, but if it was someone's birthday we would get up somewhat earlier.

We worked and played in the beautiful Somerset countryside, paddled in the bubbly stream of Embercombe in magnificently scenic Exmoor, and flooded our wellies investigating the distribution of freshwater invertebrates at six stages downstream; this day ended happily with a water fight. We trapped field mice and rolled down the steep hill, covering our

clothes in grass stains! When we went to Porlock Bay we had great fun measuring stones and investigating longshore drift: as the stones moved along the beach they were eroded and made smaller and smoother. It was a privilege to see a seal swimming in the Bristol Channel - a first time for some; when it poured with rain, we took refuge in a tiny shop. Another day we did the famous 'Nettlecombe Grassland Experiment', counting different species in plots mown like a normal lawn, plots mown every year and plots never mown; it wasn't the most interesting investigation! However, we liked the idea of working with the real world rather than imitating the land forms in a classroom.

We worked a lot, we learned a lot, and it was great fun. Only believe the good rumours about Nettlecombe: you'll have a good time.

CONTRIBUTORS: Olivia Powles  
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Anna Fremantle  
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Katie Cullinan  
Louise Heming Johnson  
Alice Wright  
Sara Milnes Coates  
Joanna Langham  
Freya Coolden  
Tessa Viljoen  
Saivipa Patpongpihub  
Zita Yarwood  
Helen Dunnet  
Juliet Nash  
Zante Walker  
Rebecca Smart  
Tanya Madhvani



Fun?



Work?

## Behind the Scenes Week at the Royal Opera House

**I applied for the course for 16-21 year-olds in February 1995, expressing my interest in theatre and was delighted to receive the letter of acceptance to start on 17 July..**

My first day at the Royal Opera House was certainly an eye-opener and I was particularly surprised at how easy it was for over eighty of us to become friends during our initial 'bonding' session. Each day was broken down into four two-hourly sessions with a one hour lunch break in Covent Garden. Throughout the week, we attended a ballet and opera demonstration, a 'life in the orchestra' sequence, a tour of the Opera House and of the workshops for directing set and costume design, stage management and lighting design. We even attempted some opera singing which was certainly an experience!

My favourite, however, was certainly the 'wigs and make-up' demonstration, which consisted of the head of department showing us various wigs of the past and also giving us a fascinating make-up demonstration. For this, a volunteer was chosen from the audience whose face was divided in two and then skilfully made up, much to his embarrassment, half as a man and half as a woman!

Another highlight of my week was the 'Department Visits'. Firstly, we saw the 'Model Room', which had an amazing display of miniature model sets of all past productions at the Royal Opera House. Afterwards, we visited a performer's dressing room, where we saw a demonstration on the art of prosthetics, which is the making of constructions to alter someone's appearance on stage. In this case, the performer used the character of one of the gnomes he played in Wagner's *Ring* cycle as his example.

Our last visit was to the costume department, where we were shown a display of costumes used in past productions along with the extensive wardrobes. I was astonished by the amount of attention to detail which went into the costumes and equally



Kathryn Eustace

astonished by the ultimate cost. I also managed to obtain an interview with one of the costume designers, which will be very helpful for my A Level Theatre Studies costume project.

At the end of the week, I had the chance to direct a scene from the play *Arms and the Man* by George Bernard Shaw. I found this particularly challenging, as the three characters in my scene were played by actresses from a London stage school, who were much older than I was. However, I found that by working closely with them, I was able to express my own ideas successfully.

The treat of the week was a performance of Verdi's *La Traviata*, with the leading role of Violetta being played by Carol Veness. Unfortunately, the performance had to be abandoned after the second act as Carol Veness was suffering from laryngitis. I will, nevertheless, always have wonderful memories of the beautiful singing, the extravagant set and the elaborate costumes.

The entire week was a very colourful experience, greatly developing my own presentation skills, and I would encourage anyone interested in the arts to attend this course.

Kathryn Eustace  
Six One

## Macbeth

A trip to see *Macbeth*? Various emotions spread through the Upper Fifths. After discussion, we decided this might be useful and enjoyable, with perhaps McDonald's too!

So, Thursday, 23 February came and the coach arrived. We arrived in good time for a quick leg-stretch before settling down in the (somewhat small) New End Theatre, Hampstead.

The beginning seemed somewhat different from the play we had been studying and a few sat through the first five minutes believing we had come to the wrong play! However, it slowly became familiar to all and we waited eagerly to see how *these* actors would interpret the plot.

We were pleasantly surprised when the supposed 'old hags' of witches appeared from under the stage as three young girls dressed in bright orange. The general opinion was that the characters were portrayed effectively with interesting ideas, such as modern dress, incorporated. It was encouraging to see such a young group of actors working so well together.

The play continued in an impressive fashion and most of the original text was kept. The characters were, on the whole, similar to those we had expected, although we were all disappointed with Lady Macbeth, as she had a strong Irish accent which undercut the play's vital Scottish setting.

A particularly impressive part of the production was the way in which the stage's wooden platform was slightly raised, not only to give a slanted look, but also to allow the actors to emerge from underneath, often surprising the audience.

At the end, we were so impressed with the play's effect that we completely forgot our craving for Big Macs! The return seemed quick and no doubt seemed comfortable for our able 'minders', Mrs Elkin and Miss Cannon, as the loud group were fast asleep in the back.

Kate Kandiah  
Alexandra Pye  
Upper Fifth

# Post Examination Programme 1995

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Shades of Bruges I



Bruges Transport



Shades of Bruges II



Checking the Money

**Other than Bruges visits, elements of the post-exam programme included:**

**Parents' Association outings**

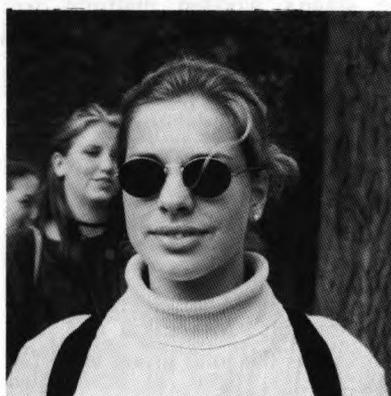
**Visits to Aylesford Priory, Knole Park, Cambridge and The Body Shop factory and headquarters**

**Lectures:**

**Colour Me Beautiful**

**How to Entertain**

***As You Like It* workshop**



Shades of Bruges III



In the Square

## Questions and Answers

What do you do if you want to have breakfast in bed, have a slave for a day, wear your own clothes in lessons or have your car washed?

How do you persuade even the most conservative members of staff to wear bright red?

What do tennis rallies, visiting Her Majesty the Queen Mother, hair plaiting in Marshall and Sushi band pop concerts have in common?

**THE ANSWER to all of the above is: raising money for charity at Benenden.**

There's something about a good cause that inspires the best in everyone and this year has been no exception. A huge amount of money has been raised through the imagination, flair and sheer hard work of girls and staff on all sides - they and family and friends have given most generously, enabling us to raise a recorded total of £5819.56.

A powerful and moving talk by Sally Trench elicited numerous enterprises to raise money for Project Spark: to fill two lorries with food and medical supplies, for Sally to drive across firing lines to reach the neediest people in Bosnia.

Closer to home, a well illustrated talk by Mrs Margaret Hanlon prompted some fruitful fund-raising for the Canterbury Oasts Trust. This is an important charity which enables mentally disabled adults to run a Rare Breeds Farm with a restaurant, as well as other local projects.

Other charities supported this year include:

- Save the Children
- Queen Mary's Clothing Guild
- Benenden Challenge
- Comic Relief
- World Wildlife Fund
- St Botolph's Centre, London
- Survival International
- The Macmillan Fund
- Help the Aged
- The Royal British Legion
- Royal National Lifeboat Institute
- St George's Church, Benenden
- Treloar Trust
- Marie Curie Cancer Care
- Shelter

Rebecca Mullins  
Almoner

## Sixth Form Lectures

**Forensic Science**

*Mike Silverman  
Scientific Support Manager,  
Kent County Constabulary*

**An Introduction to Further Education**

*Jacki Burr-Lonan  
Kent County Council Careers Department*

**Economics and Being a working mother**

*Professor and Mrs Lai*

**Applying to university**

*Brian Heap*

**Developmental Learning Difficulties**

*Steve Clarke  
Developmental Therapist and  
creator of The Centre for  
Developmental Learning Difficulties*

**Life from my wheelchair**

*Mark Bowen  
Mark, a 19 year old paraplegic and ex-Haileybury boy, achieved ABD at A level despite breaking his neck two years previously and suffering total paralysis. He had just spent three weeks on safari in Africa and after his GAP year has a place at SOAS to study African Studies.*

**South Africa, a den of iniquity or a cradle of hope?**

*Jeremy Taylor*

**A Career with Shell International**

*John Pearce*

**The Born Free Foundation**

*Annette Andre*

**MONTY**

*Gary Montgomery*

**Careers for a journalist**

*Barry Penrose  
Investigative Editor of Sunday Express and The Times*

**Russia from the inside**

*Greg Yeoman*

**Classic and Caribbean - travelling thoughts on cults and culture**

*David Harmsworth*



Baroness Warnock

## Founders' Lectures

**Feminism**

*Baroness Warnock*

**Taking supplies to the people in Bosnia**

*Sally Trench  
Author of 'Bury me in my Boots'  
and Founder of Project Spark*

# Sculpture

EXTRA CURRICULAR



K8 and K9 at Sunset:  
the first sculpture in the new sculpture park



Prof Grigori Bulgarov  
(aka Mr Stiller), with his  
'interpreter' Richard Whitehead,  
visits the Long Gallery



Anthony Hawken demonstrates sculptural technique at the Arts Festival 1995

# Textile News

Girls are encouraged to visit exhibitions and museums to look at historical or modern textile pieces. This year the Fiftys saw professional artists' work at the Commonwealth Institute in an event entitled 'The Art of the Stitch', which included large-scale pieces for corporate display. A visit to the Indian Rooms at the V & A later that day proved to be a wonderful source of ideas and, for some students, was the first of many visits.

Besides looking, it is exciting to take part in a public exhibition and some girls exhibited at three events this year. Firstly, congratulations to Melissa Clive who won joint first prize in the 15-18 age group in the Embroiderers' Guild de Denne Bursary Awards, winning a cheque for £50. Her richly-embellished velvet waistcoat *Streets Paved with Gold* won the Young Textile Group's competition 'Pantomime', held at Hampton Court Palace, to be exhibited again at Alexandra Palace, in October.

Nicola Bullard, Melissa Clive, Hannah Morgan and Alexandra Ross were amongst those who, in April, exhibited with the Tunbridge Wells Group of the Embroiderers' Guild at the town's art gallery.

Finally, congratulations to Joanna Aitchison, U16 class winner in the National Embroidery Championships at Ascot Racecourse in June. She was awarded £50 for her piece *Freedom*. Jenny Newton and Elizabeth Parish had the pleasure of hanging work alongside that of other textile artists.

Fashion and creative textiles are regularly exhibited in the Entrance Hall and in Long Gallery Art Exhibitions. Watch for displays of wonderful embroideries and textiles from the Historical Costume Collection which has items from 1800 onwards and from many cultures and countries. The Menswear section of the Collection recently had its 1970s area extended with the donation, by Alexander Stiller, of an Aquascutum suede overcoat with fur collar.

Elaine Tyler  
Head of Textiles

# Ski-ing and a Sun-tan,

Benenden trips across the pond to California

In the early hours of the morning of Friday, 24 April, the party began to assemble at Heathrow, ready to endure an eleven-and-a-half hour flight. We were wonderfully welcomed by the sight of two of our three instructors who would take on the arduous task of (supposedly) chaperoning us throughout the holiday.

Our first stop, once in LA airport, was the nearby 'Continental Plaza', a suitable 'passing through' place with spectacular views of Burger King. Overcome by jet-lag, we 'crashed out' on the first night.

On Sunday, we embarked on our seven-hour coach journey to Mammoth Lakes, where we would spend our week ski-ing. Surprisingly, the time passed quickly thanks to bizarre musical tastes, incredible scenery and a lot of jumping about by Emily Wills.

When we finally arrived at the Austria Hof Hotel, everyone piled off the 'bus in relief. Naturally, in the excitement, the Six Ones made a bee-line for the bar. Alas, the Americans are a peculiar people and you have to be over twenty-one simply to enter one, even if, like us, you have only the innocent intention of buying orange juice. We were not to be deterred however, and later managed winningly to persuade the barman to serve us - much to Helena de Chair's delight.

The following seven days were spent in bliss, skiing on some of the best snow in the world and, with the assistance of our lovely instructors, we became speed demons overnight. During the day, the sun shone endlessly while in the evening, the moisturisers were continuously re-applied in a vain attempt to curb peeling and cool the 'lobster look' that all but Ali Ross had been blessed with.

Almost two-thirds of the group tried their foot at snowboarding, urged on by rumours that the instructors were gorgeous. It proved to be harder than it looked and produced some seriously impressive bruises.



The Intrepid School Ski Party in California

After a strenuous day on the slopes, the spa pool, outside the hotel in the snow, was very inviting and soothed away many aches and pains. It also gave James Scopes the chance to get his own back by splashing every one as much as possible. After some capers on the last night, we reluctantly packed our bags and departed, not forgetting to rescue Helena from behind the bar!

We became stars for the day and visited the sights and sounds of Hollywood and Beverly Hills, planting our hands and feet in the prints of our heroes and heroines. When we felt sufficiently armed with handfuls of suitable souvenirs - plastic Oscars and the inevitable T-shirts, we boarded our 'plane and waved a fond farewell to California and to a great holiday. On behalf of the whole group we would like to thank Mrs Scopes, Mrs Grayling and Mr Nebbs for putting up with us all and organising such an excellent and successful trip which was thoroughly enjoyed by those reporting on it here, who are:

Sophie Brodie  
Lucinda Comes  
Alexandra Ross  
Sarah Scolt  
Six One

## Skiing in Flaine

From 28 January to 1 February 1995, the Benenden School skiing team stayed in Flaine in France for the annual British Schoolgirls' Races. The team consisted of seven: Sarah Baddeley, Zoe Bedford, Natasha McDonald, Jenny Bekenn, Katy Tiptaft, Natasha Pobjoy and Lauren Dudley. Miss Steven kindly looked after us during our stay.

We arrived in Flaine on Saturday evening and on Sunday we trained for the forthcoming races in cold and windy conditions with heavy snowfall. We woke on Monday morning nervous about the giant slalom race but everybody made it through the course, which, considering the weather, was very impressive. That afternoon the sun finally came out for the dual slalom, a fun event in which we competed as a team.

Our last race, the slalom, was on the Tuesday and on a difficult course, which we were all pleased to complete safely. We left Flaine with sorrow on Wednesday, having had a tiring but thoroughly enjoyable stay.

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"Computers are a powerful way of creating pictures." An innocent enough statement; and even if you don't like computers, you'd probably expect to be denounced as a reactionary if you dared to argue with it. Now I'm a physicist, and I **do** like computers. So if computers are so wonderful, why is it that all the pictures I try to draw come out like the two opposite—neat but totally unrealistic?

My complete lack of artistic talent is only part of the answer. The problem is that traditional computer drawing packages make it easy for you to draw lines and curves, and to colour in shapes. But if this is **all** that your drawing program can do, you have to work very hard to get something that looks even remotely realistic. With the exception of certain styles of interior decoration, the world around us is **not** made up of straight lines, curves and solid areas of colour!

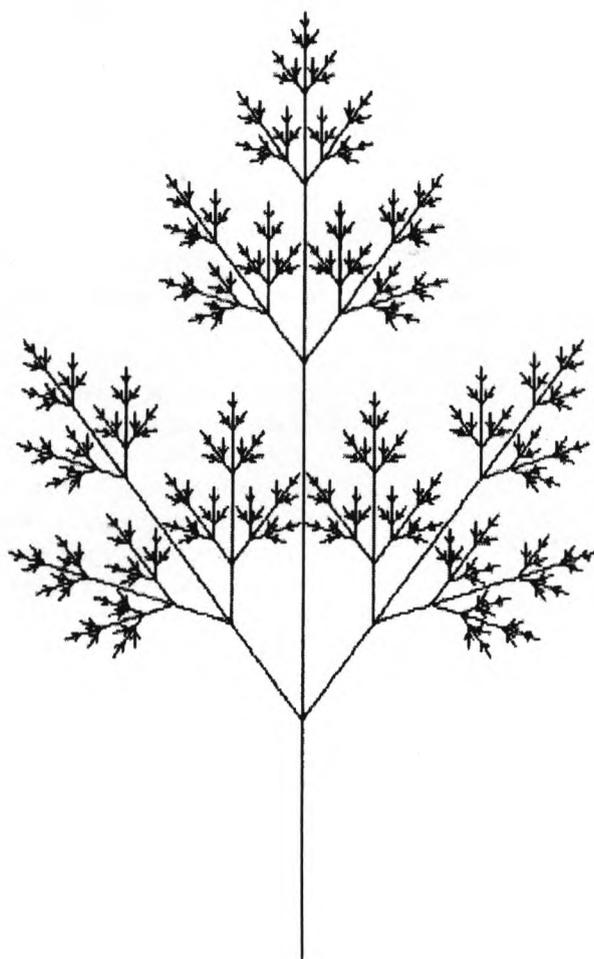
This matters, because unless computers can generate realistic pictures without the intervention of artists or cameras, they'll never be able to complete their program(me) of total world



**clouds**



**mountains**



domination. Fortunately, advances in mathematics in the last twenty years have provided a way to generate realistic pictures using shapes called **fractals**. These shapes have the property that if you magnify part of them, you see the original shape once again. The 'plant' opposite is an example of this: each branch is a copy of the whole plant. Nature is full of shapes with this structure—ferns, trees, the course of a river, the edge of a cloud, the side of a mountain... These natural shapes aren't perfect fractals, but they're close enough for fractal versions of ferns, trees, etc., generated by computer, to look extremely real. And because the rules that describe a fractal ("make the branch the same as the whole plant") are simple, computers can draw them very quickly and efficiently.

Just as traditional drawing software is best at drawing simple shapes, so traditional physics is best at handling simple systems—a pendulum, a single atom, a single planet orbiting a single star. Of course, this doesn't mean that traditional physics can **only** handle simple systems. Just as a skilled artist can draw realistic pictures using only straight lines and curves, so a physicist with the requisite skill can identify the essence of a complicated problem and simplify this until it can be solved, without simplifying so much that the link with the original problem is lost.

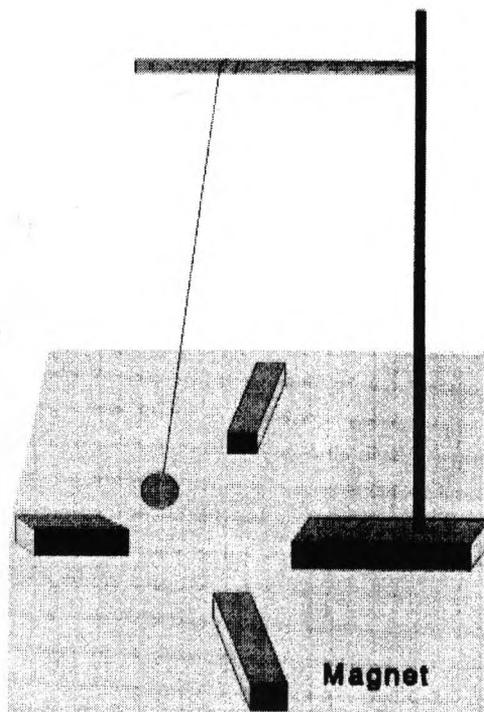
But sooner or later both the artist and the physicist

reach the limit of what they can do in this way. The artist who finishes with straight lines and curves and wants to draw something more complicated can move on to new shapes. Some of the best modern computer drawing software allows the use of fractal shapes and textures, giving the artist access to a far greater range of images. Is there something similar for the physicist? Is there some unifying principle, analogous to fractals, that will allow the physicist to study complex systems?

Understanding complex systems fully is going to keep scientists busy for a long time yet, but the first step on the road is the notion of **chaos**. Scientists have long been used to the idea that simple systems behave in simple ways. A pendulum is a simple system: swing it, and it does more-or-less what you'd expect; swing it again, and much the same thing happens. But not all simple systems behave in this simple way. Swing a pendulum in the presence of three magnets (see the picture) and it goes all over the place! What's more, if you start it off from the same place a second time, its motion is completely different! Adding the magnets has made the motion of the pendulum very sensitive to small changes in its starting position. Because the starting position is never known exactly, the motion of the pendulum is actually unpredictable, even though the laws that govern its motion are known. This unpredictability is called **chaos**.

Chaos occurs throughout Nature—in the size of animal populations, the weather, the beating of a weak heart, the dripping of water from a tap. All of these systems are governed by simple known laws, but all can be so sensitive to external conditions that, like the pendulum, there's no way of predicting what will happen over long periods of time. Left-over hippies will tell you that chaos represents the final failure of reductionistic Western scientific rationalism, or something similar. Even if you know the laws that govern a system, they say, you can't tell what that system is going to do, so science has failed. But the real situation is almost the exact opposite of this. Let me explain.

If it's true that simple laws can lead to complicated behaviour, then it is also true that behind complicated behaviour there may lie simple laws. Before chaos was recognized, a system which looked complicated was generally assumed to be complicated. But chaos has taught us that complicated behaviour may be the result of simple



laws, which means that understanding complicated behaviour is no longer hopeless. It's true that we can never predict the long-term behaviour of a chaotic system. But if we know the simple laws which govern the system, we can predict what will happen in the **short** term and we can understand the general features of what **might** happen in the long term. For example, the weather is a chaotic system. Knowing if it is going to be raining in six months' time is impossible. But short-term forecasts work well, and our understanding of long-term climate changes is getting better all the time.

The study of chaos is the study of complex behaviour in simple systems. Of potentially much greater importance is the study of **simple** behaviour in **complex** systems. An example: the human brain is a complex system, but human behaviour doesn't reflect the complexity of the brain at all. This is lucky, because the wiring of our brains changes from day to day as our brain cells die and aren't replaced. If our behaviour was as complicated as our brains, we'd be different people every day! But if it's not the detailed structure that matters, what **is** it about our brains that makes them work? It's looking increasingly likely that the answers to such questions will come not from slicing brains up on a chopping board, but from a general theory of complex systems.

Nigel Dowrick  
Physicist

Nothing in Nature is random...  
A thing appears random only  
through the incompleteness of  
our knowledge.—Spinoza

## Developing a product...

During the Summer Term the Upper Fourths embarked on a group project in association with Mercury Communications Ltd.

It entailed the setting up of a design company, in which a Managing Director, Marketing Manager and Design Manager were appointed to oversee and coordinate the development of a mobile phone for teenagers.

A report, a block model of the proposed design and a marketing strategy were produced. Each group presented their work to a panel of judges including two representatives from Mercury Communications.

Prizes were awarded as follows:

**Overall Winners**

*Gemini*

**Best Logo**

*Saturn*

**Best Product**

*Apollo*

**Best Marketing**

*Gemini*

**Best Advertising**

*Saturn*

**Best Report**

*Gemini*

**Best Presentation**

*Gemini*

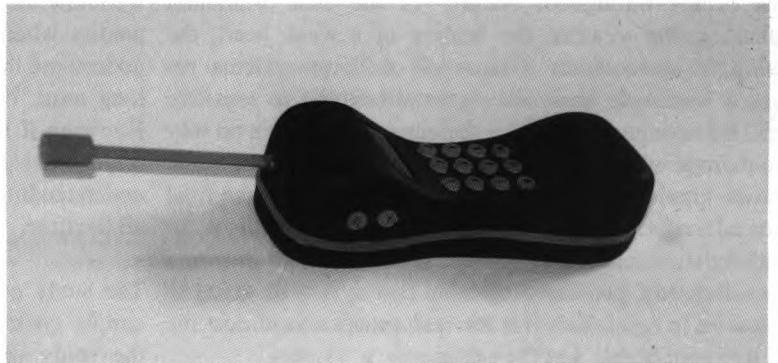
All work can be seen on display in the Technology Centre.



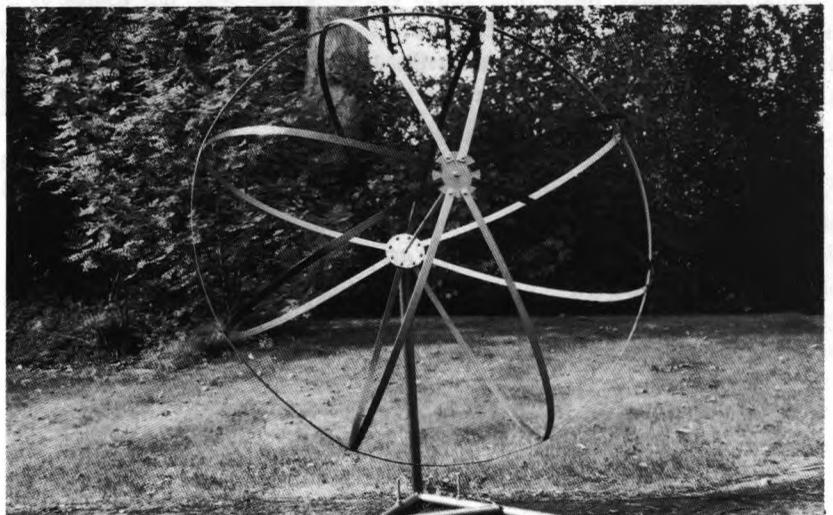
Emily Urry, Managing Director of Gemini pictured with Judges, Paul Whitehead and Fraser Hodgson of Mercury Communications Debra Price and Samantha Cannon of Benenden School and members of Gemini

Pictured right: The Apollo phone which was awarded 'Best Product' for its added value incorporating an attack alarm in its ergonomic design.

Pictured below: 'Overall Winner' The Gemini phone



As part of the GCSE course, students were given the opportunity to design a wall mounted or freestanding metal sculpture reflecting the Art Nouveau or Art Deco period.



Sculpture work by Amber Jefferys

# The Music Year

**In a year which has seen so much activity and, it has to be said, so much success it is not easy to review that year without fear of leaving something out! As I look through my file of the year it seems only a short time ago that I was rather rapidly teaching the Senior Choir the Marseillaise for the Memorial Service in honour of Captain Jean Maridor on the first Sunday of the year. They sang excellently, typical of the Benenden student mentality of delivering the goods when it matters. (Now if they can do it in rehearsals too !.....)**

A new concert venue was tried out in September when staff and students gave a lunch time Prom concert in the Entrance Hall with items featuring the harpsichord. This proved to be a very popular venue and a further concert was held there just before Christmas. The level of music making in Prayers and School Services greatly increased throughout the year giving our performers invaluable exposure and an important input to these services.

## *Autumn music...*

In early October the School was host for the Voices for Hospices performance of the *Messiah*, part of a synchronised nationwide fundraising event. Many of our students took part in both the choir and orchestra in what was a happy and exhilarating event. This was closely followed by a concert given by our Music Scholars at Marlborough House School where they performed with great maturity and flair **and** enjoyed a marvellous supper as their reward. (Just ask Olivia Cotton about the amount of chocolate desserts!)

## *Major event...*

The major event of the Autumn Term was the first Benenden Music Festival. This incorporated the choral weekend as established in 1993 and represented a very successful blend of youth, adult, professional and amateur performers. This was epitomised by the performances of the Beethoven's *Concerto for Violin, Cello and Piano* given by the distinguished cellist Alexander Baillie and his two 16 year old daughters stunningly accompanied by the Hemsted Forest Youth Orchestra and Vaughan Williams *Serenade to Music*, per-



The School Orchestra acknowledges applause, for the last time under the baton of Stephen Threlfall  
Speech Day 1995

formed by Canzonetta, the 1992 Sainsbury Choir of the Year. A hectic weekend which also included concerts by Canzonetta alone and students from the Royal Academy of Music. This weekend, I feel, did much to make many aware of our School as part of the community and I know from many of the letters I was fortunate to receive that many had greatly appreciated our facilities and friendly hospitality. The powers of music!

## *Highlights...*

At this stage of my review I can sense the editor's pen, poised to say 'yes I can see that the Music Department's year was very full'. So in order to save further censure I will progress with a few highlights and award winners.

Following on from a Carol Service, which, from all accounts, seemed to have pleased everyone, we were fortunate to have recitals from many visiting teachers and performers which included a stimulating recital of 20th century songs given by the soprano Lesley Ann Dawes and husband Alistair; a stunning recital of Liszt transcriptions given by the vir-

tuoso pianist Leslie Howard; a stylistically interesting concert given by the Kazakstan-born Bekova Sisters Piano Trio and a concert given by our musicians in aid of Macmillan Nurses held at the School in February. This concert raised in excess of £700 and along with concerts for the RNLI in Rye, given by the HFYO in May and latterly at Smallhythe Church given by our scholars, musical performances raised in the region of £1800 this year.



*Competition success...*

Some of our musicians' successes included the performance of Jacob's *Concerto for Clarinet, Trumpet and Piano* played by Alexandra Roberts, Tabytha-Lee Hall and Lucinda Smallman which won the area round of the National Chamber Music Competition for Schools, wins at the Hastings Music Festival for Tabytha-Lee Hall and Lucinda Smallman, Advanced Certificate of the Associated Board status for Tabytha-Lee Hall (trumpet) and Barbara Leung (piano), participation in both the Audi National Young Musician contest and the Marlowe Young Musician of the Year by Yvonne Liao (selection for both of these contests is very hard), and Grade 8 passes for a number of students including a distinction for Hannah Harper in piano: this automatically makes her eligible for application for an Associated Board scholarship.

*And finally...*

The music department has seen a few changes this year which began when Peta Anderson, a very popular member of the team, decided to leave at the end of the Autumn Term in order to get married. She had done much to galvanize the Junior Choir as well as academic music, particularly in the Lower School. Happily not only did she hold her wedding reception at the School but she has since returned to lead the double bass section in our various concerts.

Also leaving this Summer are Nancy Stevens, one of our long standing flute teachers, who has given the School many years of service, Leslie Young who has left to head the piano faculty at Colchester College and Andrew Stowell, our bassoon teacher, who is second bassoon at English National Opera. Our Head of Academic Music, Paul Smith is also leaving, having secured the post of Head of Instrumental Studies at Alleyn's School in Dulwich. This position will combine both his academic talents along with his inexhaustible skills as an accompanist. We wish them all well.

Nearing the end of this brief (!)



**Tabytha-Lee Hall**  
**Advanced Certificate of**  
**Associated Board**  
**and**  
**Soloist in the**  
**Jean Maridor**  
**Memorial Dedication Service**

report I cannot help feeling some sadness as I shall be leaving also this summer as I have been very fortunate in becoming Director of Music at Chetham's School of Music in Manchester. As many of you will know, this is one of only four specialist music schools in the country. I hope that I have left Benenden in a happy, musical position and that the perception of its students as part of the community continues to grow, and the prime importance of music in the lives of everyone has been established. I look forward to returning next April when I shall give a concert with the Philharmonic Chamber Strings. I am sure that the future of music at Benenden is in secure hands and I take this opportunity in thanking everyone who has contributed their time and effort towards its success and sending my best wishes to my capable successor, Neil Vanburgh.

Stephen Threlfall  
 Director of Music

**NEW VENUE!**

**On Friday, 23 September the Music Department inaugurated a new venue for lunchtime concerts: the Entrance Hall became the 'drawing room' after lunch, for a Prom concert.**

One almost felt inappropriately dressed in 20th century costume, such was the atmosphere of a bygone ease and elegance created in this setting by the music of Flackton, Moffat, Vanhal, Handel and Haydn. The strings, played variously and at times with virtuosity, by Sarah Johnson, Hannah Harper, Lucinda Smallman, Abigail Burton, Mr Threlfall and Mrs Lewis, were accompanied on the harpsichord either by Mrs Harmsworth, Mrs Lewis or Mr Smith, and the concert concluded with the grace and charm of Alexandra Roberts's treble recorder. Rare delights!

Chris Moat  
 Head of Geography



**Peta and Jo Andrews**

# GCSE Music Compositions

Anneline Groves.

## Woodwind Trio

*adagio espressivo*

Fl  
Ob  
Cl

Gemma Perkins

## CONTRASTS

In the style of Messiaen's "Quatuor pour la fin du temps!"

*comme un oiseau. (♩=80)*

Ⓐ 8ve

Picc. *pp*

Triangle *p*

*Bien modéré, en pentagramme harmonieux*

*pp legato (très enveloppé de pédale)*

*soft pedal molto ppp*

I II

## Musical Magic and a Plea

First, the plea: there are now so many excellent musical events in the School that your dedicated correspondent cannot cover anything like all of them, even with the enthusiastic help of Miss Moat - so come on, girls - do some reviewing yourselves and submit your efforts, which need only be brief, to the Magazine's editor, who, although he is the correspondent mentioned above, is not simply trying to avoid work!

On to much happier things: the recital at the very start of the Autumn Term was especially pleasing because of the appearance of David Elwin, who injured his hand on the last occasion he and Dorothy Maxwell were to play for us. This time there was no such problem and the occasion was well worth waiting for, with works by Poulenc and Schubert exhibiting skilled teamwork as well as sensitivity and expressiveness of a high order. This was rounded off with a splendid Constant Lambert rarity. One of the delights of the Benenden recital season is the number of exciting but relatively little-known works which figure in programmes.

This was certainly the case in the winter recital given by Lesley Ann Dawes, accompanied by her husband Alistair. After her memorable concert of European songs the previous year, this impressed not only by the quality of the musicianship but also by the quality of the solely 20th century English works included, reminding us, if such a reminder were needed, that England is definitely NOT 'the land without music'. The songs by Bridge, Finzi, Britten and Berkeley were quite splendidly and expressively performed and this concert too had its unusual element: Alison Bauld's *Banquo's Buried*, a musical version of Lady Macbeth's sleepwalking scene. On me, this had a very powerful impact indeed and it was a pity that so few of those studying the play seemed to be in the Hall to hear it.

Hard on the heels of the song recital came a second piano duet

concert given by Paul Smith and his wife Carole Presland. Lucky Allyn's, one is tempted to say. The programme was divided between Barber's *Souvenirs*, which I did not know and Ravel's *La Valse*, which I knew only in the original orchestral version; this had been transcribed for four hands by L. Garban. I need not have worried; not only did my attention not wander at all but I was held throughout by the marvellously assured and musical playing of both pianists which never faltered in these very testing pieces.

Towards the end of the Summer Term I was lucky enough to hear



Areata String Quartet

performed a work very familiar to me: Ravel's beautiful *String Quartet*. What was unfamiliar here was the explanation by the performers, the Areata Quartet, of some of Ravel's methods, especially his use of *pizzicato*. Surprisingly, these explanations did not 'murder to dissect'; the music sounded just as fine as ever and just as mysterious but afterwards one could reflect on the composer's creative genius and wonder at the art which truly makes something from nothing. Much was the music that I had to miss, notably Liane Keegan and Leslie Howard in late June but Benenden provides innumerable opportunities to listen and enjoy - take them!

Alexander Stiller  
English Department

## Benenden Music Festival

**Benenden's weekend-long inaugural music festival, which took place in mid-November, involved an astonishing range of people.**

The age span of the listeners and those who joined us as participants, stretched across about seven decades. Professionals, students, parents, staff and members of the local community came together in various groupings for different activities. The adrenalin flowed freely and there was an exhilarated atmosphere throughout the weekend.

It all got off to a gentle start on the Friday evening with a chamber concert by four prize-winning students from the prestigious Royal Academy of Music. Julia Thornton (harp), Emma Ramsdale (harp), Rachel Brazier (flute) and Julia Graham (cello) fragrant in their coloured taffeta dresses entertained us with chamber music played on their rather unusual combination of instruments. I especially enjoyed Rossini's *Andante con Variazioni for flute and harp* because the two instruments blend so beautifully and yet, apart from in Mozart's famous concerto, they are rarely heard together.

*Hard work...*

Saturday morning was when the hard work started for amateurs like me. We had less than thirty six hours in which to prepare a performance of Beethoven's *Mass in C*. Although we'd been working on it for some weeks at senior choir practices, there was still a great deal of work to be done. Mr Threlfall took us through it all together first - and, with all respect to those valiant gentlemen Mr Baylis and Mr Moore who come along to rehearsals every week to sing the bass and tenor lines, the music immediately sounds and feels quite different when a sizable group of male singers joins in.

*Learning a lot...*

Later we split up for the sectional rehearsals with which whole group sessions were interspersed. My group - altos - was very fortunate in being taught and helped, at different points in the weekend by two professionals: Kate Hardie and Jeffrey Wynn Davies. What a lot we learned and how satisfying it is when the music gradually emerges from the difficult notes on the page. Every note, cadence and rhythm gradually became clearer until it was almost second nature.

Even the meals and breaks were fun because there were so many different people to talk to. 'I think Stephen Threlfall's absolutely terrific,' one lady told me. She had come from Headcom with a group of friends, having seen the weekend mentioned in the *Wealden Advertiser*. 'Can't you persuade him to start a regular community choir? We'd all come,' she went on. A number of girls had the pleasure of singing alongside their parents in the choir, or in some cases parents of orchestra members joined in as singers. Plenty of staff, their spouses and friends were in evidence too.

*Indefatigable accompanists...*

While we were learning our choral parts, elsewhere in the building the Hemsted Forest Youth Orchestra was rehearsing, joined at one stage on Saturday by the Baillie family. During Saturday afternoon the sixteen members of Canzonetta arrived from Manchester to rehearse with the orchestra and in some cases with Mrs Lewis - she, like Mr Smith worked indefatigably playing accompaniments throughout the weekend. Saturday, thanks to Mr Threlfall's careful planning ran very smoothly - although co-ordinating all the things which had to be fitted in must have been extremely tricky to get right.

The highlight of Saturday, however, was the evening concert by Canzonetta. This newish group won the coveted BBC TV Sainsbury's Choir of the Year in 1992 and anyone who heard them at Benenden will understand why. Conducted by the

charismatic Jeffrey Wynn Davies, they sang crisply and with impeccable intonation, music from Morley to Messiaen. Their programme also included a delightful work comprising six short poem settings by the famous Thea Musgrave, composed especially for them. Four members of the group sang beautiful solos and the evening ended with unforgettable renderings of three folk songs. All in all it was a delightful concert which enraptured everyone present. If you missed it, take the first opportunity you get to hear Canzonetta sing - they've released their first CD since their visit to Kent.

Sunday morning found us tidying up the loose ends in our Beethoven Mass and, as always in the final rehearsals of a large choral work putting choir, orchestra and soloists together. Canzonetta provided the soloists for the Mass and how good they were! The remaining Canzonetta members had agreed to sing with the choir which, naturally, helped to boost the confidence of any timid amateur who was still feeling a bit nervous about the forthcoming performance.

*Final concert...*

After lunch and one more brief rehearsal, it was time to rest for an hour and then change into our formal gear in readiness for the climax of the weekend - the final concert at 4pm. The hall was full and the atmosphere expectant when proceedings began with Canzonetta's rendering of the wistful *Serenade to Music, for sixteen solo voices*. It was beautifully accompanied by our own Hemsted Forest Youth Orchestra, ably led by Jamila Groves who had a considerable amount of solo work in

this piece, which she executed with poise, accuracy and aplomb.

*Beethoven for three...*

For me, though, the most exciting performance of the entire weekend came next. Beethoven's triple concerto - for cello, violin and piano is breathtakingly lovely although, regrettably, it doesn't get performed very often because it needs three soloists. Our treat was to hear Alexander Baillie, internationally renowned cello virtuoso, play this gem of a concerto with his talented daughters: Helena (violin) and Martina (piano). It came off magically, in spite of their never having performed it in public before. The sense of vibes - musical and familial - passing between and amongst the three, was palpable. The orchestra played beautifully in support and I feel very privileged to have heard this concerto played in this place by these astonishing people.

Then, after the interval we sang and played our Beethoven Mass. Perhaps it isn't for me as a participant to pass any comment on how it sounded. Suffice it to say that I thoroughly enjoyed learning it and singing it - the audience clapped and clapped and lots of people said nice things afterwards.

It was a wonderful weekend. Thanks to Stephen Threlfall, staff in the music department and the many people who helped in a whole host of different ways to make it such a success.

Susan Elkin  
English Department



After the concert

## Senior Choir and Chamber

### *The Year Reviewed...*

The standards of performance of both the Senior Choir and the Chamber Choir have gone from strength to strength this year and, under the direction of Mr Threlfall, both groups have put in many appearances, both at Benenden and further afield.

The Senior Choir began by performing in the concert at the end of the second, annual Benenden Festival Chorus Weekend. They gave an accomplished and professional rendition of Beethoven's *Mass in C* together with the Hemsted Forest Youth Orchestra and the rest of the Benenden Festival Chorus, which consisted of staff, parents, friends and Canzonetta, who were the BBC's and Salisbury's Choir of the Year in 1992.

The Choir also sang Faure's *Pavane* with the HFYO in March, which went very well, especially as the number of Choir members was significantly reduced, a large number being members of the Orchestra. However the full complement returned in the summer to perform in Canterbury Cathedral with the King's School and Simon Langton School. The works performed were by Elgar, Vaughan Williams and Borodin and the concert was valuable experience for all concerned, especially as there was very limited rehearsal time.

The Chamber Choir has improved greatly this year, tackling such repertoire as three of Rachmaninov's *Six Pieces for Female Chorus*. Especially taxing was the task of singing in Russian. We overcame that hurdle but were unconvinced about copying the facial expressions Mr Threlfall seemed to use every time he started to speak the language! We performed at both of the charity concerts in the Easter Term and the final concert of the year at Smallhythe Church, which was described by one local as 'magical' - a fitting tribute to all the hard work of students and staff.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to Mr Threlfall, Mrs Lewis and Mr Smith for their dedication this year and we shall also miss the membership of Sixth Form leavers Jamila Groves and Elizabeth Daniels, both of whom have conducted the Chamber Choir as part of their A Level Music. Their work has been much appreciated and we wish them all luck in the future.

Alexandra Roberts  
Head of Choir

## Associated Board

### PIANOFORTE

- Grade 1**  
Isabel Clement *Distinction*  
Victoria Pilkington-Miksa
- Grade 2**  
Julia Piechoczek *Merit*
- Grade 3**  
Emma Buzzard  
Serena Carter *Merit*  
Natasha Pobjoy  
Jay Stephenson-Clarke
- Grade 4**  
Katie Riesco  
Zanthe Walker  
Harriet Witheridge
- Grade 5**  
Elizabeth Daniels  
Sophie Hall
- Grade 6**  
Victoria Sham  
Anneline Groves *Merit*
- Grade 7**  
Minesha Wong
- Grade 8**  
Jamila Groves  
Hannah Harper *Distinction*

### VIOLA

- Grade 5**  
Zoe Bedford
- Grade 7**  
Sarah Johnson *Distinction*
- Grade 8**  
Jamila Groves

### VIOLONCELLO

- Grade 2**  
Clementine Shipp
- Grade 3**  
Siobhan Callaghan  
Supapom Wattanakul *Merit*
- Grade 4**  
Minesha Wong *Merit*
- Grade 5**  
Emma Parfitt  
Alexandra Seddon

### FLUTE

- Grade 4**  
Gemma Perkins *Merit*  
Julia Wells
- Grade 7**  
Jessica Alford

### DESCANT RECORDER

- Grade 5**  
Sophie Johnstone

### CLARINET

- Grade 2**  
Victoria Glasson *Merit*
- Grade 5**  
Suzannah Gunn  
Lindsay Noton  
Alice Pulman
- Grade 7**  
Helena de Chair  
Holly Vemon-Smith
- Grade 8**  
Alexandra Roberts *Merit*

### OBOE

- Grade 1**  
Charlotte Hutley *Distinction*
- Grade 3**  
Harriet Witheridge

### TRUMPET

- Advanced Certificate**  
Tabytha-Lee Hall

### SAXOPHONE

- Grade 2**  
Elizabeth Heneage
- Grade 4**  
Sylvia Ng

### SINGING

- Grade 1**  
Amelia Calvert *Merit*  
Davinia Pearson  
Sophie Hall *Merit*
- Grade 2**  
Kate Buzzard *Merit*  
Anna Steel *Distinction*
- Grade 5**  
Ada Law
- THEORY**
- Grade 1**  
Emma Buzzard  
Alice Moss *Distinction*  
Natasha Pobjoy *Distinction*  
Lucy Gilbert *Distinction*  
Sarah Foley *Distinction*

### Grade 2

- Victoria Dorich *Distinction*  
Emily Jones  
Catherine Langdon  
Katie RiesCO *Distinction*  
Anna Riesco *Distinction*  
Lucinda Watts

### Grade 3

- Nicola Robinson *Distinction*
- Grade 5**  
Alice Pulman  
Rommaneeya Tingsabadh

# Speech, Drama and Dance

Once again the Speech, Drama and Dance Department has enjoyed a year packed with variety, hard work and success, culminating in a record *pièce de résistance*: no less than three students accepted by the National Youth Theatre. Barbara Holroyd-Pearce and Genevieve Quarrington will join the NYT this summer (Barbara as an actress, Genevieve as an ASM), and Jenny Papas is flying to the United States even as I write, to join the American Bayfest as an actress. Such successful forays into the world of theatre beyond Benenden, together with a constant endeavour to produce confident and articulate communicators, are the overall aims of Speech, Drama and Dance at Benenden, and I believe that this year above all, our students have achieved everything that they set out to do.

In the world of effective communications, not only did they achieve 100% pass rate in the English Speaking Board examinations in oral communication skills, with the Certificate in Spoken English for Higher Education gained by Susannah Gault (credit) and Nicola Cronk (distinction); but this year a junior team consisting of Alex Whitelaw (Chair), Sophie Johnstone (Speaker) and Victoria Neave (Proposer of the Vote of Thanks), entered and won the Regional Heat of the Allied Schools Public Speaking Competition, with Sophie Johnstone also achieving the Best Speaker award. Senior and Junior Debating flourished under the leadership of two committed Six Ones, Alex Schaafsma and Charlotte Baden-Powell (Juniors), and two equally committed Six Twos, Victoria Webb and Abigail Banfield (Seniors).

Not only did the Benenden students spend much of their time in dramatic pursuits this year but in the Autumn Term some of their parents joined them for the Two Generation Theatrical Performance Evening. This production was taken very seriously as mothers and daughters, fathers and daughters, aunts and nieces rehearsed religiously to the end, with extended families in the background providing scripts and ideas, and offering general and consistent encouragement. The event at the RSA in London was received with rapturous applause, and everyone involved was well pleased with the performance.

Junior Dram was, as always, ably and efficiently organised by Shirley Roche, and I thank her on behalf of everyone for this her final Junior

Dram, memorably adjudicated by Mrs Shema Treheme.

The Autumn Term closed with a moving and traditional Dickens Evening, produced by Graham Lee in the perfect and appropriate setting of the Entrance Hall, the gracious staircase utilised to the full, with ingenious shadow play above.

The twelve-strong A Level Theatre Studies group, led by Jeni Whittaker, gave us a feast of physical theatre in a stunning production of Berkoffs *Agamemnon* in the Spring Term. The group went on to produce two innovative and imaginative group projects for their examination in the summer, together with individual skills of a very high standard, in acting, set design, sound, costume and puppetry. The Six One group were pleased to have their photograph in the *Sunday Times* recently, enhancing an article extolling the virtues and the heavy demands within the AEB Theatre Studies examination.

GCSE has thrived and expanded, with two groups in the Fifth and one of nineteen in the Upper Fifth. A wide variety of performances for assessment were presented to parents this year, ranging from Bill Owen's *Laundry Girls and Dreamjobs*, to Alan Ayckbourn's *Confusions* and Maureen Duffy's *Rites*. *Find Me* by Olwen Wymark was presented on Seniors' Day by the Upper Fifth in preparation for their Moderated Assessment in the following week. A selection of technical skills ranging from Prop Making to Costume and Make-up were also prepared for the Moderator.

The School Play *The Importance of Being Earnest*, celebrating the play's centenary was cast among the Upper School this year, and the performances were packed with audiences among whom were many Seniors, including one of the cast members from the staff version of 1938!

LAMDA examinations continued to flourish, with Gold medals achieved by Rebecca Harrel, Yara Shamji, Hannah Cotton, Nicola Cronk, Vanessa Kirke-Smith, Anna Corin (honours), Victoria Webb, (honours) Joanna Brice (honours), Jenny Papas (honours), Serena Rowe (honours), and the Certificate of Merit Reading achieved by Jenny Papas (distinction). Minesha Wong and Mr Lee deserve the credit for a score of 96% in Mime, another Benenden record!

In the Summer Term, no less than 121 members of the School, from the Fourths to Fifths, presented a colourful and lively Circus Workshop, comprising songs learned in music lessons, dances learned in tap classes choreographed by Liz Banks, and drama put together in drama classes under the umbrella theme of *Circus*. A wide variety of drama was presented in a hall resembling a colourful 'big top' thanks to Graham Lee. Improvisation, original poetry and scripts, scenes from plays and perfected circus skills even including a tightrope walk, were combined with music ably provided by Alison Futrell and Vivienne Lewis, to provide a very enjoyable and fitting end to the year.

Visiting workshops, theatre trips to keep our students abreast of all that is happening in British theatre, the

Stage and Screen Society and our involvement in the Arts Festival all kept the Drama Department on its toes this year, together with excellent results in ballet and a moving and beautifully choreographed piece by Ana Jackson, taught by Jane Hayward, which formed part of the Benenden village VE Day concert. Contemporary Dance workshops have continued throughout this year, and we look forward to more of these in the future. Tap under Liz Banks has flourished, culminating in the aforementioned Circus Workshop display. Next year all dance moves into the SPLASH dance studio with its new dance floor.

It is always sad to say goodbye, and Shirley Roche has given fifteen years of her life to Speech and Drama at Benenden. So many of her skills will be remembered, not least her expert and wonderful make-up (who can forget the transformation of Barbara Holroyd-Pearce into Miss Prism, Jenny Papas into Lady Bracknell and Annabel Mackenzie-Beevor into the

elderly and shaky Merriman this year?). Shirley Roche's herculean task of providing instruction for 121 circus faces in one one-hour session is just an example of her skills as an administrator and teacher. I thank her for all that she has done, and wish her every happiness in the future. Fortunately, we shall still see her when she leads the Ballroom Dancing classes with her husband Patrick next year.

When I first met Jo Lewis on a Saturday morning six years ago, I knew instinctively that she was perfect for Benenden. What an enormous amount she has achieved, with that bright and cheery, cheeky personality we all know and love! Her encouragement and training of technical crews will be followed through, I can assure her, and all that she has been for the girls and staff at Benenden will long be remembered. I thank her too, for her loyalty and service, way beyond the call of duty.

Although not officially a member of

the Drama Department, Shirley Brinkhurst has been such a stalwart creator of so many wonderful costumes over the years, that I add here my sincere thanks to her and warmest good wishes for the future. Her swan song as the sad clown in the Circus Workshop will not be forgotten, and I hope she will visit us often.

We now look forward to next year and new beginnings; I extend my warmest thanks to Jo Lewis, Graham Lee, Shirley Roche, Jeni Whittaker, Liz Banks, Tana Macpherson-Smith and Jane Hayward for all their work in Speech, Drama and Dance at Benenden.

Cinny Whitelaw  
Head of Speech, Drama  
and Dance



Head of Drama Ginny Whitelaw with Sixth Form Drama Students

Photo: Nick Cornish

# Secrets

A Hall humming with excited tension, fleeting glimpses of scurrying girls swathed in startling costumes, blackened faces, luridly coloured hair; the lights dim, coughs and shuffles die down and another Junior Dram competition is under way. Last year, in the unenviable role of adjudicator myself, I had sat in the darkened Hall and wondered what to expect. I had been both surprised and delighted. This time, burdened simply with writing the review of proceedings, I wondered: can they carry it off again? I need not have worried. My belief is that they pulled it off to an even higher standard all round. Perhaps it is the very strictures of time and the superfluity of cast members that actually ensures these standards, everyone working together to overcome the difficulties and produce a triumph of dedicated team-work, spurred by the spirit of competition.

Echyngham led off with *The Secret Chamber*, a fantastical horror story with literary pretensions and very suitable for this year's theme of *Secrets*. Plenty of side-swipes here at literary jargon and many poetic jokes with Bluebeard's (Danda Seddon) high-flown verse contrasted to the doggerel of Puma (Arabella McDonald). Literary merit aside, there was plenty more to amuse and delight in Susanna Davidson's script.

Musical jokes were as competently and wittily used as poetic ones. All scenes of tension or climax were underlined with such as the *1812 Overture* or *I vow to thee my country*. And who could forget the skeleton dance, those highly comical jiggling bones? Characterisation was sharp and clear, with a nicely evil Bluebeard to carry the story to its 'tragic' conclusion and a stage littered with corpses.

*The Dancing Damsels* was Medway's contribution, most memorable for its wonderful costumes and masks and its attractive backgrounds. The sun and moon at the opening were stunning, as was the pretty wedding scene and tableau at the end. Popular touches were the princesses' disco dance and the water dance with its flickering strands of tinsel and waving streamers. My personal favourites in this piece, though, were the King (Emily Orwin), with his waggling eyebrows and the Witch (Lucie Lambert), whose strong voice and effective movement lifted the action whenever she was on stage.

Marshall gave us *The Secrets of Count Dracula*, a contrast to the previous two not so much in subject matter as in approach. This piece relied largely on music and on narration and as such was a very challenging and brave show. Songs were sweetly put over in the person of charming little Mina (Lindsay-Anne Noton) who looked and sounded just

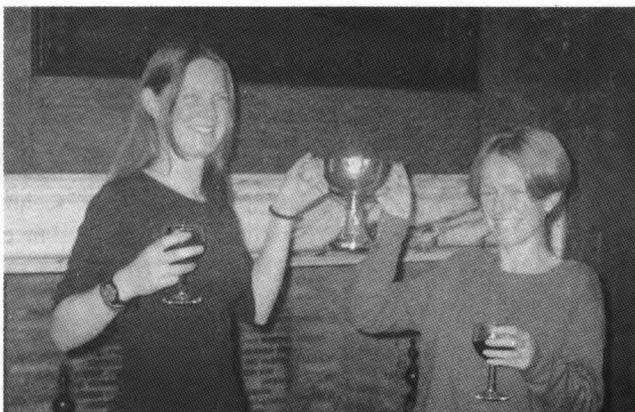
'musty effluvium'.

The fourth delight in this afternoon of delights was *Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves* (actually eight), as delivered by Hemsted. This production had plenty of energy, good control among the whole cast - the tableau freezes were excellent - and a widely varied, strong cast of characters.

Ali (Victoria Dorich) had a very expressive face and good presence. Melanie Campbell played the aristocratically bored-sounding King with a real feeling for comedy, as we saw in his clumsy movements and his sobbing at the end. Sophie Johnstone was a glue-sniffing beggar with a particularly clear voice and Nikki Wood's sassy Princess was more than a match for Zita Yarwood's suitably evil suitor. I enjoyed the charming and nubile belly-dancers, the very

macho, the five o'clock-stubbed thieves charging through the audience and the colour and contrasts of the whole presentation.

Last came Guldeford's utterly delightful *Pandora's Box*. More like a dance/drama in style, this piece charmed by its beauty and enchanted with its very imaginative inventiveness. There were genuine dramatic contrasts, such as the wildly thrashing curtains at the beginning, setting an atmosphere of tension, followed by the peaceful, white and still figures of idyllic Olympus. A very effective touch was the live music of flute and strings on stage in this scene. The imaginativeness of the



**Annabel Mackenzie-Beevor and Barbara Holroyd-Pearce celebrate Guldeford's win in Junior Dram 1994-95**

right, or clearly and strongly expressed, as was that sung by van Helsing (Rhiannon Jones), he of the very startling eyebrows! Dracula (Siobhan Callaghan) had presence and very striking make-up and Jonathan (Anna Fremantle) made a good foil for him. I particularly enjoyed the tableau, very English, with the cast in tennis whites, the fun of the dancing bats and the way that the director (Lucinda Smallman) achieved a genuine shiver with the stake through Lucy's (Caroline Stripp) heart. Best of all were the endlessly groanworthy variations on Dracula's native soil, variously described, among other things, as 'niffy humus', 'obnoxious loam' and

production showed in such moments as the formation of Pandora's box itself, when actors in black and gold joined together to create the box shape, their gold helmets projecting upwards to form the knobs on the comers of the casket. The opening of this casket, when all the sinister evils flood out, was genuinely frightening. Indeed, the costumes and the overall look of the piece were particularly impressive. Here we had dryad-trees of fluid grace, their trunks formed of elegant draperies, a beautiful balletic journey through the stars and revolving planets and an attractive and graceful Pandora in the person of Cressida Whyte.

I did not envy the adjudicator, who was surely as struck as I was by the high standard of all the work that had been shown. It was good, therefore, to see how carefully Mrs Shema Treheme gave every item its due, never criticising except constructively and balancing each small criticism with words of encouragement. She particularly stressed the team-work that all the plays had shown but finally chose *Pandora's Box* as the winner, a verdict that was greeted with enthusiasm by the audience, though I am sure the cheering was quite as much for the effort and commitment contributed by every girl in every play.

Jeni Whittaker  
Drama Department



Marshall Junior Dram  
Anna Fremantle (Jonathan) and Siobhan Callaghan (Dracula)

## Talented trio...

This year the tap classes performed in the Circus Workshop which involved more than 120 students from the Lower School, with all taking part in drama, dance or orchestra and some taking part in all three. The tap groups put on five numbers which were all very different, from the clowns with coloured hoops and cartwheels to a sophisticated number called *Shufflebeat* which involved gold and silver hats.

Cressida Whyte, Minesha Wong and Ana Jackson showed their talent with three items, including a Mambo tap dance, dancing in the sand, and they finished with their trio of Harlequin, Columbine and Pierrot, which was danced with passion and feeling.

Liz Banks  
Assistant Housemistress  
Echyngham



Pictured left to right: Minesha Wong (Pierrot), Ana Jackson (Columbine) and Cressida White (Harlequin)

## Events of 1994-95



Pictured above: Sixth Form Drama - Berkoff's *Agamemnon*  
Pictured below: *A Christmas Carol* - Scrooge (Julia Burton Brown) confronts The Spirit of Christmas Yet to Come (Lucie Lambert)



### Dickens Delights

One of the highlights of the Christmas festivities at Benenden was the Drama Department's production of *A Christmas Carol*, staged in the School's appropriately wood-panelled main Entrance Hall.

Using a combination of 'dramatised readings' and tableaux vivants, the cast of mainly Fifth and Upper Fifth girls, all beautifully dressed by Mrs Shirley Brinkhurst, recreated the atmosphere of a Victorian country house entertainment as they brought to life the most moving of the Christmas stories of Charles Dickens. Superb lighting and ghostly effects were created by Miss Jo Lewis and her technical team and the evening's enjoyment was rounded off with mulled wine and mince pies: sheer delight!

Graham Lee  
Drama Department



Allied Schools Debating Competition Regional Winners and National Finalists: Sophie Johnstone, Alexandra Whitelaw and Victoria Neave



Comedy Evening - Ainsley Everingham and Xanthe Elbrick



Comedy Evening  
Barbara Holroyd-Pearce

### Drama Department takes over...

In April, the School Entrance Hall was taken over for a second time by the Speech and Drama Department when thirty students, taking drama as an extra, presented *A Comedy Evening*.

Over a dozen short scenes were presented with material from a wide range of sources from Alan Ayckbourn to Victoria Wood. This was, for many of the girls, the first opportunity to perform their pieces in front of an audience after they had finished preparing them for the LAMDA acting examinations. Both those watching and those taking part agreed that the evening was a huge success and more 'drama evenings' are planned for the future.

Graham Lee  
Drama Department

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**EARNEST**  
By OSCAR WILDE



Presented by

**BENENDEN**  
SCHOOL

Friday, 17 March 7.30pm  
Saturday, 18 March 7.30pm

**Cast in order of appearance:**

*Lane, a Manservant*  
*Algernon Moncrieff*  
*John Worthing, JP*  
*Lady Bracknell*  
*Hon Gwendolen Fairfax*  
*Miss Prism, a Governess*  
*Cecily Cardew*  
*Rev Canon Chasuble*  
*Merriman, a Butler*

Miss Amanda Cowan  
Miss Julie Hawkins  
Miss Mariamne Moore  
Miss Jenny Papas  
Miss Marina Greenhalgh  
Miss Barbara Holroyd-Pearce  
Miss Vanessa Hunt  
Miss Georgina Dancy  
Miss Annabel Mackenzie-Beevor

The play directed by **Virginia Whitelaw**

**Production Manager**  
**Stage Manager**  
**Deputy Stage Managers**  
**Set Design and Construction**

Jo Lewis  
Harriet Butterfield  
Kate Eustace, Genevieve Quarrington  
Jo Lewis, Jane Chapman, Chris Fahy,  
Annabel Barnett, Tammi Cairley,  
Kate Durr, Sarah Johnson, Kate Kandiah,  
Katherine Taylor

**Lighting**  
**Sound**  
**Costume**

Juliet Nash, Laura Talfourd  
Charlotte King  
Sarah Brinkhurst, Shirley Brinkhurst,  
Liz Banks

**Make Up**

Shirley Roche, Vanessa Kaoukji,  
Elizabeth Scott

**Hair**  
**Programme Design**  
**Programme**

Liz Banks, Claire Stephenson  
Philippa Ovens  
Hannah Addyman, Jenny Marshall

**Pianist**  
**Music Advisers**

Sarah Johnson  
Clare Harmsworth, Vivienne Lewis,  
Stephen Threlfall

**Box Office**  
**Front of House Manager**

Jenny Marshall  
Graham Lee

Furniture kindly lent by the Honourable Mr & Mrs J W Butterfield,  
Mr & Mrs J A Quarrington and Mrs S Brinkhurst

Our most grateful thanks to Samantha Cannon, Colin Hayman, Anne Holding,  
Jim Peters, Elizabeth Sanders and everyone who has given their assistance

# A Centenary Celebrated

The crammed Hall fell silent. Exactly one hundred years, give or take a week or two, after *The Importance of Being Earnest* first opened, Benenden School's own version was about to begin.

The curtain drew back. The lush drapery and lordly furnishings of Algernon Moncrieff's drawing room were revealed. Hushed murmurings of appreciation broke out. The mood caught me. On this very night back in 1895, I found myself speculating, Wilde himself might have been ensconced in a similar room, probably as a feted guest and doubtless surrounded by fawning hosts. Hardly surprising: he was at the pinnacle of his literary career and easily the most sought after company in London. No serious party could have been complete without him. I imagined the choruses of laughter greeting the witticisms as they floated off that mellifluous tongue. How things were to change for him - but then, that's another story.

This night was all about the wholehearted acting of the Benenden girls and the astute and detailed stage direction of Virginia Whitelaw. Both Julie Hawkins as the effete Moncrieff and Mariamne Moore as the springy John Worthing faced tough tasks in playing two ostensibly similar characters. They achieved admirable delineation, skilfully picking their way through the thicket of Wildean quip and counter-quip - not easy. 'All women become like their mothers - that is their tragedy...' croaked Moncrieff, with a dismissive waft of the hand. It deserved a sparkier audience response.

Act Two had us in the Manor House garden, complete with trellises, luxuriant foliage and trickling fountain. As if this wasn't enough, there was the gentle trill of a bird. It all formed an excellent backdrop to the genteel sparring between Cecily Cardew (Vanessa Hunt) and Miss Prism (Barbara Holroyd-Pearce). 'I look perfectly plain after my German lessons,' Cecily sniffed. I thought it

the best delivered line in the whole play. Barbara Holroyd-Pearce clucked away superbly as Miss Prism and Marina Greenhalgh was a study in feminine poise. I was especially impressed by the way she kept looking down and picking at her gently swinging parasol. Jenny Papas played Lady Bracknell with such gurgling conviction that I would not have been surprised to see her make straight for the TCP bottle and Georgina Dancy (Reverend Chasuble) reminded me of an old dentist I once had. Yes, the drill really did shake in his hand! I also liked the slow-moving, cobwebby Merriman the butler though perhaps his entry did take a little too long!

A play can be broken or made by its costumes. This one was made. The colours were vivid but refused to compete too keenly with each other. I thought the swishing, peach pastel dress worn by Gwendolyn Fairfax particularly worthy of mention.

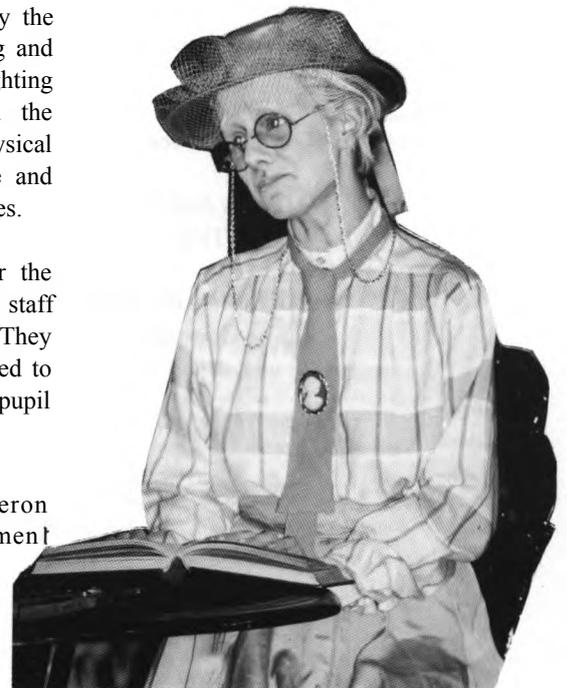
A facet of any production which initially escapes notice is sometimes an indication that it is being unfussily taken care of. This was certainly the case with both the stage lighting and the music. Throughout, the lighting proved faultless and projected the freshness and vivacity of the physical set. The music was unobtrusive and eased us both into and out of scenes.

In 1938, so the programme for the night told us, Benenden School staff staged Wilde's masterpiece. They would have been very hard pushed to have matched the 1995 pupil equivalent.

Simon Heron  
Chemistry Department



Pictured above: Georgina Dancy as The Reverend Chasuble  
Pictured below: Barbara Holroyd-Pearce as Miss Prism



# CIRCUS '95

## BENENDEN SCHOOL

Speech, Drama and Dance Department  
PRESENTS

A CIRCUS WORKSHOP  
with the co-operation of the Music and PE  
Departments, showing some of the work in progress  
in Lower School and GCSE Drama  
this term, taking the theme of  
*CIRCUS*

*Join the Circus*  
The Company

*Photographic Memories*  
UIVA

*Clown Dance*

*Murder at the Circus*  
LVA

*Mambo Dance*

The Fairground scene from *Ernie's Incredible  
Illucinations* by Alan Ayckbourn  
Vth GCSE Drama

*I Can Do That* by Jo Lewis  
IVB

*Shuffle Beat Dance*

Scenes from *Pinocchio* by Brian Way  
IVA

*Trio Dance*

*Circus Sadness*  
UIVB

*Come Follow the Band*  
The Company



## Ring Master

Lucie Lambert

### UIVA

Directed by Tana Macpherson-Smith

Julia Bader	Arabella McDonald
Lucie Bonham	Eva Phillips
Charlotte Brooke	Julia Piechoczek
Hannah Brown	Anna Riesco
Sarah Foley	Charlotte Scott
Holly Hum	Emily Urry
Charlotte Hutley	Julia Weatherill
Sarah Jensen	Sara White
Emma Lance	Alexandra Whitelaw
Jennifer Ma	Henrietta Williams
Louisa Macmillan	

### LVA

Directed by Jo Lewis

Kate Buzzard	Suzie Perkins
Elizabeth Heneage	Ella Riesco
Sophie Johnstone	Laura Talfourd
Victoria Liddell	Emily Wills
Siripach Mahagitsiri	Serena Wilson

### Vth GCSE DRAMA

Directed by Virginia Whitelaw

Annabel Carter	Emma Parfitt
Lauren Dudley	Sarah Kirke-Smith
Julia James	Anna Steel
Surina Cohen	Cressida Whyte
Georgina Cross	Sophie Colville
Sarah Deloford	Harriet Dancy
Samantha Lawson	Davinia Pearson
Noelle Ho	Elizabeth Waterhouse

### IVB

Directed by Jo Lewis

Jessica Boston	Joanna O'Brien
Rose Colville	Victoria Pilkington-Miksa
Bridget Halcrow	Lauren Pobjoy
Victoria Lewis	Morgana Robinson
Emily MacManus	Caroline Smith
Arabella Martin	Nicola Sumner
Liese Mayer	Philippa Tennant
Alice Moss	Stephanie Whitelaw
Rosalie Nicholson	Holly Williams
Lindsay-Anne Noton	Francesca Wilson

### IVA

Directed by Virginia Whitelaw

Carolyn Behar	Clementine Harvey
Emma Buzzard	Claire Howeson
Candy Chanyavongse	Lucinda Jagger
Marina Clement	Marina Mooney
Julie Dowse	Leonora Pearson
Rachel Dunckley	Olivia Saponaro
Helen Foti	Amy Shadbolt
Heana Georgiadis	Maya Shamji
Lucy Gilbert	Abigail Smart
Sophie Giles	Jay Stephenson-Clarke
Victoria Glasson	Julia Wells

### UIVB

Directed by Tana Macpherson-Smith

Katherine Alexander	Claire Moore
Alicia Blunt	Louise Neil
Siobhan Callaghan	Andrea Peartree
Ying-ying Cheng	Elizabeth Sebag-Montefiore
Isabel Clement	Clementine Shipp
Bridget Green	Charlotte Teare
Sophie Hall	Lucinda Watts
Laura Hawkes	Candida Wells
Ana Jackson	Megumi Yawata
Olivia McGill	

### The Dancers

Choreographed by Liz Banks

Olatokunbo Akande	Victoria Pilkington-Miksa
Elizabeth Allison	Charlotte Scott
Tiffany Buckland	Elizabeth Sebag-Montefiore
Sophie Colville	Anna Shadbolt
Sophie Hall	Natasha Shah
Holly Hum	Julia Weatherill
Ana Jackson	Alexandra Whitelaw
Sophie Johnstone	Cressida Whyte
Arabella McDonald	Minesha Wong
Caroline Melland	Joanna Yate
Andrea Peartree	

### The Band

#### Oboe

Alicia Blunt  
Charlotte Hutley  
Louisa Macmillan

#### Flute

Harriet Dancy  
Claire Howeson  
Victoria Lewis

#### Clarinet

Arabella McDonald  
Henrietta Williams  
Megumi Yawata  
Ying-ying Cheng  
Helen Dunnett  
Aileen Everingham  
Arabella Lloyd Owen  
Julia Weatherill

#### Drum kit

Sylvia Ng

#### Keyboard Accompaniment

Vivienne Lewis

#### Musical Director

Alison Futrell

#### Set Design

Graham Lee

#### Lighting and Sound

Jo Lewis, Laura Talfourd  
Juliet Nash

#### Costume

Liz Banks, Shirley Brinkhurst,  
Olive Lunney, Wendy Mellon,  
Penny Murphy, Jean Reeves,  
Emily Scalpello, Diana  
Wodehouse, Anne Peiris

#### Choreography

Liz Banks

#### Make-Up

Shirley Roche, Marina  
Greenhalgh, Elissa El Hadj  
and team

#### Stage Hands

Helen Dunnett, Aileen  
Everingham, Bella Lloyd Owen

#### Props

Graham Lee and members  
of IVA. The stilts kindly made  
by Mr Jonathan Jagger.  
Tightrope supplied by Kevin  
Fletcher.

#### Box Office

Jenny Marshall

#### Programme

Vivienne Lewis, Virginia  
Whitelaw, Judith Hayter

#### Catering

Jim Peters

#### Pimms Bar

Claire Stephenson

The Show Produced by  
Virginia Whitelaw and Liz Banks

With grateful thanks to Jane Chapman, Kevin Fletcher,  
Colin Hayman, Jill Horsburgh, Wendy Reynolds, Stephen  
Threlfall, Eddy de Vries.



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## Drama in RS

In Religious Studies, UIVA were given a series of plays to perform and were all divided up into groups of five or six. The group which we formed was performing the Old Testament story of Gideon. We did a modern-day version of the tale, which involved our dressing up in various costumes. Also, each person in the group was given a particular job to do in producing the play, such as script writer, scenery maker, props provider and director. We put our play together co-operatively and acted it out in class.

Julia Bader  
Jennifer Ma  
Eva Phillips  
Anna Riesco  
Emily Urry  
Sara While  
Upper Fourth



The 'Gideon' Group



Through the good offices of Fifth Form student, Jessica Alford whose brother Joseph is a member of the Company, Scapegoat visited the School twice in 1995 to conduct workshops and perform remarkable compressed versions of Shakespeare plays, a tragedy for winter - *Romeo meets Juliet* - and a comedy for summer - *As You Like It* - in the Rose Garden.



*Romeo meets Juliet*  
Andrew Watson and Wendy Meakes  
(Romeo and Juliet) with students



*As You Like It* - Cast

# London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art

## READING

### Grade 2 Pass

Katherine Cameron  
Surina Cohen  
Joanne Cordrey  
Julia James

Deepika Lai  
Samantha Lawson  
Rebecca Saponaro  
Anna Steel

Arabella Stewart

### Grade 2 Distinction

Georgiana Aitken  
Bryony Bullard  
Melanie Campbell  
Nicola Close-Smith  
Sophie Colville  
Katherine Cowpe

Georgina Cross  
Sarah Deloford  
Victoria Dorich

Lauren Dudley

Charlotte Dunstan  
Alexandra Edwards

Amy Jempson  
Lucie Lambert

Holly Lock

Sophia Mooney

Davinia Pearson

Nancy Prall

Roberta Ramsden-Knowles

Katy Riesco

Alexandra Seddon

Anna Shadbolt

Neelam Verjee

Minesha Wong

Nicola Wood

### Grade 2 Honours

Elizabeth Allison

Amber Jefferys

Sarah Kirke-Smith

Emma Parfitt

Li-Kun Phng

Elizabeth Waterhouse

### Grade 3 Distinction

Alison Chiu

Antonia Loudon

Ramona Pearson

Gemma Prall

Kate Stanley

Antonia Van der Bijl

### Grade 4 Distinction

Victoria Hervey

Vanessa Kaoukji

Jenny Papas

Charlotte Witheridge

## Grade 4 Honours

Keziah Kelsey

## Certificate of Merit

Jenny Papas

## IMPROVISATION

### Grade 1 Pass

Georgiana Aitken

Amy Jempson

### Grade 1 Distinction

Jessica Alford

Katherine Cowpe

Katy Heard

Sarah Hodgson

Clare Kendrick

Rebecca Macmillan

Sophia Mooney

Emma Nye

Charlotte Prince

Serena Seddon

## MIME

### Grade 3 Distinction

Nicola Close-Smith

### Grade 4 Honours

Minesha Wong

## ACTING

### Grade 7 Pass

Katherine Cameron

Sarah Deloford

Kirstie Dowse

Alexandra Edwards

Katy Heard

Sarah Hodgson

Amber Jefferys

Clare Kendrick

Samantha Lawson

Vanessa Li

Holly Lock

Emma Nye

Davinia Pearson

Anna Shadbolt

Audrey Wong

### Grade 7 Distinction

Phoebe Allpress

Jessica Avery

Melanie Campbell

Annabel Carter

Surina Cohen

Joanne Cordrey

Georgina Cross

Harriet Dancy

Victoria Dorich

Julia James

Vanessa North

Emily Orwin

Emma Parfitt

Nancy Prall

Rebecca Saponaro

Alexandra Seddon

Anna Steel

Arabella Stewart

Alexandra Tweed

Elizabeth Waterhouse

Cressida Whyte

Nicola Wood

### Grade 7 Honours

Alexandra Pye

Hilary Smith

### Bronze Medal Pass

Joanna Aitchison

Laura Boome

Madeleine Boshier

Lucy Briggs

Nicola Bullard

Julia Burton Brown

Poppy Buxton

Emma Cole

Olivia Cotton

Susanna Davidson

Juliet Douglas-Hughes

Alexandra Gordon

Lucy Gossage

Holly Havers

Olivia Higgins

Marcia Ho

Kate Kandiah

Natasha McDonald

Mariamne Moore

Hannah Morgan

Katharine Morris

Philippa Newell

Henrietta Paul

Julia Pendred

Caroline Preston

Charlotte Prince

Emily Pritchard-Gordon

Jodi Riches

Serena Seddon

### Bronze Medal Honours

Georgina Dancy

Xanthe Elbrick

Ainslie Everingham

Vanessa Hunt

Jennifer Newton

Sarah Yorke

### Silver Medal Pass

Charlotte Baden-Powell

Annabel Barnett

Nina Barttelot

Sophie Brodie

Poppy Buxton

Anna Colbeck

Marina Greenhalgh

Tabytha-Lee Hall

Emily Hayward

Anna Jennings

Vanessa Kaoukji

Serena Ridley Day

Alexandra Schaafsma

Elizabeth Scott

### Silver Medal Honours

Eleanor Akenhead

Julie Hawkins

Barbara Holroyd-Pearce

Annabel Mackenzie-Beevor

Cariad Silk

Sophie Urry

### Gold Medal Pass

Hannah Cotton

Nicola Cronk

Rebecca Harrel

Vanessa Kirke-Smith

Yara Shamji

### Gold Medal Honours

Joanna Brice

Anna Corin

Jenny Papas

Serena Rowe

Victoria Webb

## GROUP ACTING

### Grade 1 Distinction

Olatokunbo Akande

Nina Bunnag

Kate Buzzard

Chloe Collyer

Kate Cullinan

Helen Dunnett

Freya Goolden

Suzannah Gunn

Christina Hadden

Louise Heming Johnson

Emma Howeson

Sophie Johnstone

Tabitha Lake

Catherine Langdon

Victoria Liddell

Arabella Lloyd Owen

Tanya Madhvani

Siripach Mahagitsiri

Caroline Melland

Sara Milnes Coates

Saivipa Patpongpihub

Suzie Perkins

Annabel Perkins

Anna Portnik

Sarah Quarrington

Ella Riesco

Clare Roberts

Lucie Sargent  
Rebecca Smart  
Clare Stroud  
Laura Talfourd  
Zante Walker  
Venetia Wickham  
Emily Wills  
Serena Wilson  
Harriet Witheridge  
Joy Worley Bishop  
Alice Wright  
**Grade 1 Honours**  
Jennifer Bekenn  
Penelope Bennett  
Tiffany Buckland  
Amelia Calvert  
Alexandra Carse  
Serena Carter  
Alexandra Carty  
Aileen Everingham  
Anna Fremantle  
Katharine Gilbert  
Louise Glasson  
Katherine Gordon  
Kasia Grocholska  
Nadine Guirguis  
Annabelle Holland  
Emily Jones  
Rhiannon Jones  
Joanna Langham  
Yvonne Liao  
Lucinda Lovelace  
Sophie Moore  
Juliet Nash  
Victoria Neave  
Carolyn Newton  
Alexandra Pearce  
Natasha Pobjoy  
Ellen Pooley  
Olivia Powles  
Harriet Reid  
Livia Schaafsma  
Victoria Sham  
Jenna Shorten  
Lina Shour  
Katy Tiptaft  
Arabella Ure  
Tessa Viljoen  
Zita Yarwood  
Joanna Yate

## English Speaking Board Ballet

### SPOKEN ENGLISH

#### Grade 2 Good Pass

Samantha Lawson  
Arabella Stewart  
Zoe Tomlinson

#### Grade 2 Very Good Pass

Phoebe Allpress  
Annabel Carter  
Sophie Colville  
Julia James  
Deepika Lai  
Vanessa North  
Roberta Ramsden-Knowles  
Caroline Stripp  
Cressida Whyte

#### Grade 2 Credit

Bryony Bullard  
Surina Cohen  
Victoria Dorich  
Katie Riesco  
Rebecca Saponaro  
Nicola Wood

#### Grade 2 Distinction

Lucie Lambert  
Alexandra Tweed

#### Grade 3 Very Good Pass

Kate Stanley  
Antonia Van der Bijl

#### Grade 3 Credit

Joanna Aitchison  
Caroline Preston

#### Senior Proficiency

##### Good Pass

Alison Chiu

##### Senior Proficiency

##### Very Good Pass

Sarah Scott

##### Senior Proficiency

##### Credit

Justine Bhar-Amato  
Ramona Pearson

#### Certificate in Spoken English for Higher Education

##### Credit

Suzannah Gault

##### Distinction

Nicola Cronk

### ENGLISH AS AN ACQUIRED LANGUAGE

#### Foundation Stage 1

##### Credit

Praethip Chanyavongse  
Rommaneeya Tingsabadh

#### Intermediate Stage 1

##### Very Good Pass

Neelam Verjee

#### Intermediate Stage 1

##### Credit

Vanessa Li  
Li-Kun Phng

#### Intermediate Stage 1

##### Distinction

Audrey Wong

#### Intermediate Stage 2

##### Very Good Pass

Bianca Law

### Standard III

#### Special Merit

Sophie Giles  
Holly Hum  
Emily Urry

#### Standard IV

##### Merit

Freya Goolden  
Andrea Peartree  
Alexandra Whitelaw

#### Standard IV

#### Special Merit

Helen Foti  
Victoria Lewis  
Carolyn Newton  
Clare Roberts

#### Standard V

##### Merit

Aileen Everingham

#### Standard V

#### Special Merit

Lucy Gilbert  
Ana Jackson  
Samantha Lawson  
Cressida Whyte

#### Senior Grade

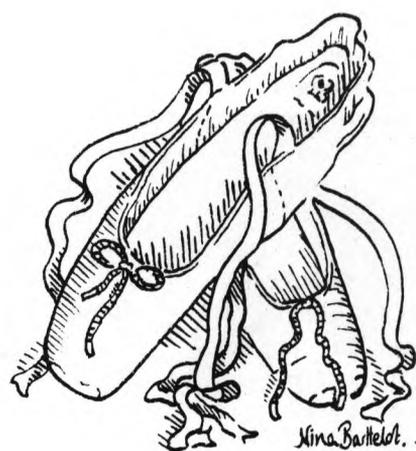
##### Commended

Penelope Hands  
Jennifer Newton  
Ada Law

#### Senior Grade

##### Highly Commended

Phensoame Assakul



# Tennis

This season has been pleasingly successful at all levels, perhaps more so than ever before. The U13 and U12 teams reached the semi-finals and finals respectively of their Midland Bank tournaments and the U14s have remained undefeated, despite some tough opposition. The U15 squad has also enjoyed continuing success, with the Benenden A team beating the School's B team in the Kent Midland Bank final. The U15s will go on to play Sussex next term. Another highlight of the tennis this year has been the achievements of the First Team, whose efforts culminated in their reaching the Midland Bank National finals for the third consecutive year. On behalf of the players, I would like to thank all of the Games Department for their continual encouragement and support, and wish luck to next year's team.

Penelope Hands  
 Captain of Tennis  
 Six Two

## Cup for Improvement in Tennis

*Amelia Calvert  
 Annabelle Holland*

## Prize for the outstanding contribution to Tennis throughout her School career

*Penelope Hands*



Members of Senior Tennis Teams

## Tennis Results

### Doubles

#### Upper School

Not Played because of injury

#### Middle School

Georgina Cross and Lucy Bucknall  
 beat

Rowena Martin and Clare Kendrick

#### Lower School

Emma Buzzard and Abigail Smart  
 beat

Hannah Brown and Arabella McDonald

### Singles

#### 16.6 and over

Penelope Hands beat Anna Jennings

#### 15.6 and over

Georgina Dancy beat Sarah Yorke

#### 14.6 and over

Clare Kendrick beat Georgina Cross

#### 13.6 and over

Arabella Martin  
 beat

Lindsay-Anne Noton

#### 13.6 and under

Arabella McDonald  
 beat

Rebecca Smart

### Upper School House Tennis

- 1st Norris
- 2nd Echyngnam
- 3rd Marshall
- 4th Guldeford
- 5th Medway
- 6th Hemsted

### Lower School House Tennis

- 1st Echyngnam
- 2nd Guldeford
- 3rd Marshall
- 4th Norris
- 5th Medway
- 6th Hemsted

## TENNIS

*1st Squad* Georgina Dancy, Penelope Hands *Captain*, Lucy Hutton, Natasha McDonald, Amy Wickham, Sarah Yorke

*2nd Squad* Julia Burton Brown, Patricia Fletcher, Emily Gore, Emily Hayward, Sheelagh Houlden, Anna Jennings *Captain*. Sophie Robinson

*3rd Squad* Naomi Chambers, Sally Clarke, Elissa El Hadj, Holly Havers, Alexandra Ross, Antonia Van Der Bijl

*U15A Squad* Lucy Bucknall, Georgina Cross *Captain*, Harriet Dancy, Clare Kendrick, Rowena Martin, Laura Newton

*U15B Squad* Phoebe Allpress, Nicola Close-Smith, Frances Morrish, Nancy Prall, Alexandra Seddon, Anna Steel

*U14A Squad* Jennifer Bekenn, Amelia Calvert *Captain*, Alexandra Carse, Annabelle Holland, Lucinda Lovelace, Rebecca Smart

*U14B Squad* Kate Buzzard, Chloe Collyer, Emma Howeson *Captain*, Siripach Mahagitsiri, Serena Wilson, Alice Wright

*U13A* Hannah Brown, Arabella Martin, Arabella McDonald, Lindsay-Anne Noton

*U13B Squad* Lucie Bonham, Emma Buzzard, Laura Hawkes, Charlotte Hutley, Sarah Jensen, Anna Riesco, Abigail Smart, Sara White

*U12A Squad* Emma Buzzard, Ileana Georgiadis, Bridget Halcrow, Claire Howeson, Arabella Martin *Captain*, Lindsay-Anne Noton, Abigail Smart, Nicola Sumner

*U12B Squad* Lucy Gilbert, Clementine Harvey, Victoria Lewis, Joanna O'Brien, Olivia Saponaro, Amy Shadbolt

Tennis Co,ours

**1st**

Georgina Dancy  
Penelope Hands  
Lucy Hutton  
Amy Wickham

**U15**

Lucy Bucknall  
Georgina Cross  
Harriet Dancy  
Clare Kendrick  
Rowena Martin  
Frances Morrish  
Laura Newton  
Anna Steel

**U14**

Jennifer Bekenn  
Amelia Calvert  
Alexandra Carse  
Annabelle Holland  
Lucinda Lovelace  
Rebecca Smart

**U13**

Lucie Bonham  
Hannah Brown  
Laura Hawkes  
Charlotte Hutley  
Sarah Jensen  
Arabella McDonald

**U12**

Emma Buzzard  
Arabella Martin  
Lindsay-Anne Noton  
Abigail Smart

Squash Colours

**1st Team**

Hannah Vaines  
Lucy Hutton  
Clare Kendrick  
Sophie Robinson  
Anna Jennings

Squash

This has been a very enjoyable and successful year with both the First team and the Senior Team winning the majority of their matches. The 'friendly' game against the King's, Canterbury boys was much enjoyed, although we had an advantage and still managed to lose! Once again the First Team entered the National Schoolgirls' Tournament and played to a very high standard, beating Crofton and Brighton and Hove and thus reached the South Final where they unfortunately lost to Fareham College. They could not have progressed so far without the extra coaching given by Jane Vaines or the support given by Mrs Strong.

The annual match against the staff played at the beginning of the Summer Term was exhilarating to all, especially the playing team, as we, at last, broke the tradition of defeat and won 5-3. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for the regular Wednesday night games, which provide valuable practice.

I would also like to thank Mrs Strong for her coaching, support and enthusiasm - she will be greatly missed by the School.

Lucy Hutton  
Captain of Squash  
Six Two

**Upper School Squash Cup**

*Lucy Hutton*

**Middle School Squash Cup**

*Clare Kendrick*

**Lower School Squash Cup**

*Lucinda Lovelace*

**Cup for Improvement in Squash**

*Natasha McDonald*

*Johane Royds-Jones*

Autumn Term

*Gemma Prall*

Spring Term



**Mrs Strong with members of the Senior Squash Squad**

**SQUASH**

**Midland Bank Tennis Teams**

*Senior Students A Team* Georgina Dancy, Penelope Hands *Captain*, Lucy Hutton, Amy Wickham

*Senior Students B Team* Julia Burton Brown, Alice Carver, Lucy Hutton, Anna Jennings, Natasha McDonald, Katherine Taylor

*U15A Team* Lucy Bucknall, Georgina Cross, Clare Kendrick, Rowena Martin

*U15B Team* Harriet Dancy, Frances Morrish, Laura Newton, Anna Steel

*U16 Kent Cup* Julia Burton Brown, Georgina Dancy, Natasha McDonald, Laura Newton, Sarah Yorke

Penelope Hands, Sheelagh Houlden, Lucy Hutton *Captain*, Anna Jennings, Clare Kendrick, Sophie Robinson, Hannah Vaines

# Netball

Benenden's netball season has once again been a huge success with every team winning the majority of its matches.

Despite continual problems, such as illness, the Firsts achieved very high levels of success with great credit going to Sally Clarke, our centre, whose skill and enthusiasm proved to be one of the team's principal assets. Congratulations are also due to Hannah Harper and Katharine Morris, who worked remarkably well together and demonstrated a very high standard of shooting in the circle.

Combined with the Seconds, the Firsts often enjoyed friendly matches against Sandhawks Ladies' Club, which proved very beneficial as they always gave us a challenging game, as well as plenty of valuable advice.

The U15s displayed impressive teamwork, constantly showing determination and persistence in all their matches. Many thanks are due to Lucy Bucknall, who helped out the Firsts on a number of occasions and led us to victory by immense accuracy in the shooting department.

Both U14 and U13 teams have had many wins also and each team has managed to acquire a balance of strength between attack and defence, a feature particularly evident in their victories over Mayfield and Marlborough House.

The U12 team has shown signs of great promise this season and with even more enthusiasm in the future

than they have already (if that is possible), they have the potential to do extremely well.

May I take this opportunity to give huge thanks to Mrs Stephenson for all her invaluable advice and support and thank Sally Clarke and Alison Yeung, whose vice-captaincy has been really helpful.

Finally, I would like to wish the best of luck to Nancy Harber and believe that, under her command, the teams will be very successful,

Charlotte King  
Captain of Netball  
Six Two

## Netball Colours

### 1st Team

Sally Clarke  
Charlotte King

### U15 Team

Lucy Bucknall  
Laura Newton  
Hannah Vaines  
Nicola Close-Smith  
Frances Morrish

### U14 Team

Victoria Clarke  
Carolyn Newton

### U13 Team

Hannah Brown  
Arabella McDonald

### U12 Team

Emma Buzzard  
Jay Stephenson-Clarke  
Claire Howeson  
Arabella Martin

## Cup for Improvement in Netball

Elizabeth Kendon  
Spring Term

Arabella McDonald  
Autumn Term



1st Netball Team

## 1st House Netball Autumn Term

1st Norris  
2nd Medway  
3rd Marshall  
4th Guldeford  
5th Hemsted  
6th Echyngham

## Lower School House Netball Autumn Term

1st Guldeford  
2nd Marshall  
3rd Medway  
4th Echyngham  
5th Norris  
6th Hemsted

## NETBALL

1st Sally Clarke, Hannah Cotton, Nancy Harber, Hannah Harper, Charlotte King, Katharine Morris, Alexandra Roberts, Alison Yeung

2nd Nicola Bullard, Naomi Chambers, Olivia Higgins, Caroline Preston, Alexandra Ross

U15A Phoebe Allpress, Lucy Bucknall, Nicola Close-Smith, Amy Jempson, Frances Morrish, Laura Newton, Hannah Vaines

U15B Georgiana Aitken, Harriet Dancy, Charlotte Dunstan, Sarah Hodgson, Clare Kendrick, Vanessa North, Rebecca Saponaro, Anna Steel

U14A Olatokunbo Akande, Jennifer Bekenn, Amelia Calvert, Victoria Clarke, Carolyn Newton, Alice Wright, Zita Yarwood

U14B Kate Buzzard, Alexandra Carty, Louise Glasson, Annabelle Holland, Lucinda Lovelace, Lucie Sargent, Arabella Ure

U13A Lucie Bonham, Hannah Brown, Laura Hawkes, Ana Jackson, Arabella McDonald, Anna Riesco, Lucinda Watts

U13B Ying-ying Cheng, Bridget Green, Eva Phillips, Charlotte Scott, Elizabeth Sebag-Montefiore, Clementine Shipp, Alexandra Whitelaw

U12A Emma Buzzard, Lucy Gilbert, Bridget Halcrow, Arabella Martin, Jay Stephenson-Clarke *Captain*, Nicola Sumner, Philippa Tennant

U12B Julie Dowse, Ileana Goergiadis, Claire Howeson, Victoria Lewis, Lindsay-Anne Noton *Captain*, Morgana Robinson, Olivia Saponaro, Amy Shadbolt, Abigail Smart

# Lacrosse

S  
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As the 1994/95 season began, the first lacrosse team boasted only three players from last year's line-up and so a time of rebuilding began. The 1994 USA Lacrosse Tour provided the basis to the selection because of everyone's success abroad.

The Kent Lacrosse Tournament took place, as usual, in the Autumn Term. Both the Firsts and Seconds played well and progressed through their sections, resulting in a match against each other in the semi-finals. After full-time and, embarrassingly, extra-time, the Seconds won, beating the Firsts by 2-1. This called for the Firsts to redeem themselves during the remainder of the season, something achieved in spectacular style at a later date.

Benenden was very well represented, as always, in the Kent trials and many players went forward into the U15 and U18A and B teams. After subsequent county trials, Alice Carver, Sheelagh Houlden and Sophie Robinson were selected as reserves for Junior East of England.

Apart from the Kent Tournament, the Firsts remained unbeaten all season, and the sought-after redemption was soon to be achieved by a superb win at the All-England National School Finals. After we had beaten the reigning champions in our section, we went on to beat Walthamstow Hall by 3-0 in the semi-final and by drawing 1-1 with Haberdashers' Aske's in the final, shared the trophy. Champagne flowed, as this is the first time that Benenden have ever been National Champions.

Finally, I would like to thank every School player for enthusiasm and dedication but especially pay tribute to Miss Reynolds for all her support throughout the year. Our success could not have been achieved without her influence and determination.

Sophie Robinson  
Captain of Lacrosse  
Six Two



Xanthe Elbrick  
Upper Fifth

**Cup for Improvement in  
Lacrosse**

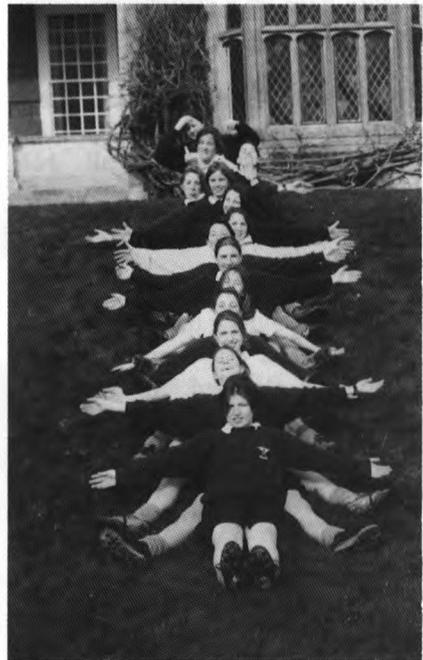
*Sarah Jones*  
Autumn Term

*Julia Burton Brown*  
Spring Term

**Lacrosse Stickwork Cup**

*Amelia Calvert*  
*Juliet Nash*  
Autumn Term

*Jennifer Bekenn*  
*Alexandra Carse*  
Spring Term



Lax Larks

## LACROSSE

*1st/2nd* Abigail Banfield, Joanna Brice, Alice Carver, Belinda Cole, Georgina Dancy, Juliet Douglas-Hughes, Patricia Fletcher, Emily Gore, Jennifer Grey, Penelope Hands, Georgina Harland, Holly Havers, Emily Hayward, Sheelagh Houlden, Lucy Hutton, Anna Jennings, Sarah Jones, Mariamne Moore, Elisabeth Parish, Anna Riccoboni, Sophie Robinson *Captain*, Serena Rowe, Katherine Taylor, Amy Wickham *Vice-Captain*, Sarah Vorke

*U15A* Alexandra Seddon, Clare Kendrick, Deepika Lai *Captain*, Emma Nye, Emma Parfitt, Georgina Cross, Hannah Vaines, Harriet Dancy,

Laura Newton, Lucy Bucknall, Nicola Close-Smith *Captain*, Nicola Wood, Rebecca Saponaro, Victoria Dorich

*U15B* Elizabeth Allison, Phoebe Allpress, Greer Baird, Melanie Campbell, Anna Dingle, Amber Jefferys, Amy Jempson, Sarah Kirke-Smith, Frances Morrish, Nancy Prall, Katie Riesco *Captain*, Anna Shadbolt, Alexandra Tweed, Elizabeth Waterhouse, Victoria Watson

*U14A* Jennifer Bekenn, Kate Buzzard, Amelia Calvert, Alexandra Carse, Rosie Garthwaite, Louise Glasson, Elizabeth Heneage, Annabelle Holland, Emma Howeson, Juliet Nash, Carolyn

Newton, Lucie Sargent, Katy Tiptaft, Serena Wilson

*U14B* Tiffany Buckland, Aileen Everingham, Anna Fremantle, Katherine Gordon, Catherine Langdon, Sophie Moore, Natasha Pobjoy, Olivia Powles, Harriet Reid, Rebecca Smart, Venetia Wickham, Emily Wills, Joanna Yate

*U13A* Hannah Brown *Captain*, Laura Hawkes, Ana Jackson, Arabella McDonald, Olivia McGill, Louise Neil, Andrea Peartree, Anna Riesco, Elizabeth Sebagn-Montefiore, Emily Urry, Lucinda Watts, Sara White



**1st Lacross Squad  
National Champions 1995**



**U15 Lacrosse Squad**



**Checking the Teams**

*U13B* Katherine Alexander, Lucie Bonham, Yingying Cheng, Isabel Clement, Sarah Foley, Bridget Green, Charlotte Hutley, Emma Lance, Claire Moore, Eva Phillips, Charlotte Scott, Charlotte Teare, Julia Weatherill

*U12 Squad* Emma Buzzard *Captain*, Ileana Georgiadis, Lucy Gilbert *Captain*, Bridget Halcrow, Clementine Harvey, Claire Howeson, Arabella Martin, Joanna O'Brien, Leonora Pearson, Abigail Smart, Jay Stephenson-Clarke, Nicola Sumner, Philippa Tennant

**1st House Lacrosse**

- 1st Echyngham
- 2nd Guldeford
- 3rd Norris
- 4th Marshall
- 5th Hemsted
- 6th Medway

**2nd House Lacrosse**

- 1st Echyngham
- Guldeford
- 3rd Marshall
- 4th Norris
- 5th Hemsted
- 6th Medway

**Upper School Games Cup**

- 1st Guldeford
- 2nd Norris
- 3rd Marshall
- 4th Echyngham
- 5th Medway
- 6th Hemsted

**Lower School Games Cup**

- 1st Guldeford
- 2nd Echyngham
- 3rd Marshall
- 4th Hemsted
- Norris
- Medway

**Lacrosse Colours**

**1st Team**

- Alice Carver
- Belinda Cole
- Georgina Dancy
- Penelope Hands
- Emily Hayward
- Sheelagh Houlden
- Lucy Hutton
- Anna Jennings
- Sarah Jones
- Anna Riccoboni
- Sophie Robinson
- Katherine Taylor
- Amy Wickham

**2nd Team**

- Abigail Banfield

**U15 Team**

- Lucy Bucknall
- Nicola Close-Smith
- Deepika Lai
- Laura Newton
- Emma Parfitt
- Rebecca Saponaro

**U14 Team**

- Jennifer Bekenn
- Kate Buzzard
- Amelia Calvert
- Alexandra Carse
- Rosie Garthwaite
- Annabelle Holland
- Juliet Nash
- Carolyn Newton
- Lucie Sargent
- Katy Tiptaft
- Serena Wilson

**U13 Team**

- Hannah Brown
- Laura Hawkes
- Ana Jackson
- Arabella McDonald
- Anna Riesco
- Lucinda Watts

**U12 Team**

- Emma Buzzard
- Lucy Gilbert
- Arabella Martin
- Jay Stephenson-Clarke

# Swimming

This has been a very successful year for all swimming squads as a result of continuous training and almost overwhelming enthusiasm, and the introduction of the new pool-side rugby tops smartened up the teams and lifted team spirits.

The First Team squad was the largest ever and as a result, we were able to beat both Roedean and Wycombe Abbey with considerable ease and over the whole year the squad was virtually undefeated. All of the junior teams were also highly successful and worked extremely hard throughout the year.

Further success was seen at the All-Kent Schools Swimming Gala where the School was second out of eight and every single Benenden competitor reached her final. We would like to congratulate everyone on a tremendous effort.

We would also like to take this opportunity of thanking Miss Chapman, Miss Colville and Mr Geer for their support and encouragement during the year and we wish good luck to all swimmers next year.

Vanessa Kirke-Smith  
Alexandra McGowan  
Captains of Swimming  
Six Two

## Relay Cup

1st Norris  
2nd Guldeford  
Medway  
4th Hemsted  
5th Echyngam  
Marshall

## Upper School Swimming Cup

1st Norris  
2nd Echyngam  
3rd Medway  
4th Hemsted  
5th Marshall  
6th Guldeford

## Lower School Swimming Cup

1st Hemsted  
2nd Guldeford  
3rd Norris  
4th Echyngam  
5th Marshall  
6th Medway

## SWIMMING

*1st Squad* Henrietta Andrews, Julia Burton-Brown, Poppy Buxton, Naomi Chambers, Elissa El Hadj, Georgina Harland, Emily Hayward, Lucy Hutton, Anna Jennings, Kate Kandiah, Vanessa Kirke-Smith *Captain*, Alexandra McGowan *Captain*, Jennifer Newton, Alice Pulman, Sophie Robinson, Vanessa Robinson, Cariad Silk, Maidie Yeung

*U15 Squad* Phoebe Allpress, Lucy Bucknall, Melanie Campbell, Sarah Deloford, Sarah Kirke-Smith, Rebecca Saponaro *Captain*, Minesha Wong

*U14 Squad* Jennifer Bekenn, Chloe Collyer, Katherine Gilbert, Emma Howeson, Sophie Johnstone, Rhiannon Jones, Sara Milnes Coates, Carolyn Newton, Natasha Pobjoy, Ellen Pooley, Olivia Powles, Harriet Reid, Lucie Sargent, Clare Stroud, Katy Tiptaft, Tessa Viljoen, Joy Worley-Bishop, Alice Wright

*U13 Squad* Katherine Alexander, Lucie Bonham, Hannah Brown, Sarah Foley *Captain*, Ana Jackson, Olivia McGill, Eva Philips, Clementine Shipp, Charlotte Teare, Emily Urry, Lucinda Watts, Megumi Yawata

*U12 Squad* Victoria Glasson, Bridget Halcrow, Claire Howeson, Lucinda Jagger, Joanna O'Brien, Leonora Pearson, Victoria Pilkington-Miksa, Olivia Saponaro, Caroline Smith, Philippa Tennant, Julia Wells, Stephanie Whitelaw, Francesca Wilson



Senior Swimming Squad



What sort of race is this?

### Style Cup

*Georgina Harland*

### Ellen Fraser Cup

*Vanessa Kirke-Smith*  
*Alexandra McGowan*

### Cup for Improvement in Swimming

*Clare Stroud*

# Judo

The ever-increasing judo squad has had yet another successful season. There are now many new youngsters, who have grown in confidence and approach each session with increasing enthusiasm. Each girl has progressed and attempted all new skills with enthusiasm. This dedication showed through in all our closely-fought matches, especially taking on the Bethany boys. After the initial cautious anticipation of fighting boys, the whole squad took up the challenge and many promising individual performances emerged.

Our success is made evident by the large number of belts which have been awarded this year and this clearly indicates that a higher level of skill and knowledge of the sport has been gained.

### Yellow Belt

- Katherine Alexander
- Charlotte Brooke
- Katy Heard
- Olivia McGill
- Davinia Pearson
- Eva Phillips
- Orange Belt**
- Surina Cohen
- Rosie Garthwaite
- Green Belt**
- Julia Burton Brown
- Sophie Robinson

On behalf of the whole team, I would like to thank Mr Petty for being such a supportive and encouraging coach; we would not have gained such success without his influence.

Sophie Robinson  
 Captain of Judo  
 Six Two

### Senior Judo Shield

*Sophie Robinson*

### Junior Judo Shield

*Olivia McGill*

Judo Colours

Julia Burton Brown

### Bronze Medallion

- Phoebe Allpress
- Greer Baird
- Lucy Bucknall
- Bryony Bullard
- Annabel Carter
- Miss Chapman
- Nicola Close-Smith
- Rosemary Cox
- Nicola Cronk
- Georgina Cross
- Sarah Deloford
- Alexandra Edwards
- Katy Heard
- Amber Jefferys
- Sarah Kirke-Smith
- Deepika Lai
- Holly Lock
- Sophia Mooney
- Pollyanna Moore
- Emma Nye
- Emma Parfitt
- Davinia Pearson
- Nicola Robinson
- Olivia Ruggles-Brise
- Rebecca Saponaro
- Anna Steel
- Zoe Tomlinson
- Alexandra Tweed
- Hannah Vaines
- Elizabeth Waterhouse
- Victoria Watson
- Minesha Wong

### Award of Merit

- Rosemary Cox
- Nicola Cronk

### Swimming Colours

#### 1st

- Henrietta Andrews
- Poppy Buxton
- Naomi Chambers
- Georgina Harland
- Emily Hayward
- Lucy Hutton
- Vanessa Kirke-Smith
- Alexandra McGowan
- Sophie Robinson
- Maidie Yeung

#### U15

- Phoebe Allpress
- Lucy Bucknall
- Melanie Campbell
- Sarah Kirke-Smith
- Rebecca Saponaro
- Minesha Wong

#### U14

- Chloe Collyer
- Katharine Gilbert
- Rhiannon Jones
- Carolyn Newton
- Olivia Powles
- Harriet Reid
- Clare Stroud
- Katy Tiptaft
- Joy Worley-Bishop

#### U13

- Katherine Alexander
- Hannah Brown
- Sarah Foley
- Olivia McGill
- Clementine Shipp
- Emily Urry
- Lucinda Watts
- Megumi Yawata

#### U12

- Bridget Halcrow
- Claire Howeson
- Lucinda Jagger
- Joanna O'Brien
- Leonora Pearson
- Victoria Pilkington-Miska
- Caroline Smith
- Philippa Tennant



Swimming Sports' Spectators!

## Riding



Off for a Lesson

This year the numbers have again risen for pupils who ride from School. It has now become a popular and stimulating extra enjoyed by all ages. The two riding schools, Lynx Park and Appletrees, have continued to further the girls' interest in dressage, jumping and other skills. There has been a great deal of improvement during the year. Although the School team has not been able to compete in any major events this year, it continues to maintain a high standard of riding and I have no doubt that interest will continue to flourish, enabling the School to achieve impressive results next year.

Lucy Briggs  
Captain of Riding  
Upper Fifth

### Rounders Colours

**U13**  
Hannah Brown  
Arabella Martin  
Alexandra Whitelaw  
**U12**  
Emma Buzzard  
Arabella Martin

## Self Defence

The necessity to feel safe in any situation is an aspect of increasing importance in everyday life. As girls, knowing about self defence provides us with this sense of security as well as a feeling of full independence. On behalf of each participant, I can certainly vouch for the fact that the skills of the instructor are communicated to us fully during the course and through the time and effort one puts in, there is always a sense of achievement at the end of each session. We recruited many new students at the start of the year and I hope that self defence will continue to flourish in the School after I leave. We are constantly and rightly reminded to look after our personal safety and are thus grateful for having had the opportunity to study this branch of the martial arts. In the future, I hope that my seven years' knowledge of self defence will enable me to protect myself if need be, in addition to giving me a basic understanding of other areas of the martial arts which I hope to attempt.

Yara Shamji  
Captain of Self Defence  
Six Two

### Self Defence Colours

Annabel Leathes  
Alice Pulman

## HOCKEY

*1st Hockey Squad* Annabel Carter, Nicola Close-Smith, Georgina Cross, Sarah Deloford, Victoria Dorich, Sarah Kirke-Smith, Deepika Lai, Lucie Lambert, Rebecca Macmillan, Pollyanna Moore, Sylvia Yuen Ng, Emma Nye, Emily Orwin, Davinia Pearson, Katie Riesco, Nicola Robinson, Natasha Shah, Alexandra Tweed, Nicola Wood

*Senior* Henrietta Andrews, Abigail Banfield *Captain*, Poppy Buxton, Tammi Cairley, Annabel Christian, Tabytha-Lee Hall, Hannah Harper, Kate Kandiah, Philippa Newell, Alexandra Roberts, Lucinda Smallman

*U15* Georgiana Aitken, Phoebe Allpress, Greer Baird, Harriet Dancy, Clare Kendrick, Laura Newton, Rebecca Saponaro, Anna Steel *Captain*, Hannah Vaines, Nicola Wood

*U14* Jennifer Bekenn, Kate Buzzard, Rosie Garthwaite, Annabelle Holland, Juliet Nash, Carolyn Newton, Lucie Sargent, Zita Yarwood *Captain*

## ROUNDERS

*U13* Lucie Bonham, Hannah Brown, Laura Hawkes, Charlotte Hutley, Ana Jackson, Arabella McDonald, Eva Phillips *Captain*, Anna Riesco, Emily Urry, Lucinda Watts, Sara White, Alexandra Whitelaw

*U12A* Emma Buzzard, Ileana Georgiadis, Lucy Gilbert, Bridget Halcrow, Claire Howeson *Captain*, Arabella Martin, Lindsay-Anne Noton, Abigail Smart, Nicola Sumner, Philippa Tennant

## Athletics

There has been an increasing demand for participation in athletics this year resulting in a relatively successful season. A considerable amount of potential has been noted in the younger age groups and it is to be hoped that they will continue to develop this next year.

Because of A Level and GCSE, members of the U15 team have had to move up into the senior section and with weakened teams their results have been adversely affected. The Senior, U14 and U13 teams have had a more successful season, winning the majority of their matches.

A number of girls participated in the District Athletic Trials held at Ashford and notable performances were achieved by Anna Jennings and Emily Hayward, who were first and second respectively in the Senior 1500 metres. In the Juniors, Carolyn Newton won the 100 metres and Jay Stephenson-Clarke the 800 metres. Lucie Sargent and Georgina Harland were both selected to represent the District, the former in the discus and the latter in the 800 metres.

Everyone has worked hard and many have achieved personal bests this season and we look forward to further successes next year.

Georgina Harland  
Captain of Athletics  
Six One

### Athletics Colours

#### Seniors

Georgina Harland  
Emily Hayward  
Anna Jennings

#### U15

Lucy Bucknall  
Nicola Close-Smith  
Frances Morrish  
Laura Newton

#### U14

Alexandra Carse  
Carolyn Newton  
Lucie Sargent  
Katy Tiptaft

#### U12

Jay Stephenson-Clarke

### Athletics Prize

*Jay Stephenson-Clarke*

## Fencing

School fencers continued to practise and improve their skills throughout the year though no matches could be arranged. Nevertheless, all participants showed great enthusiasm and their proficiency has improved considerably. We hope to arrange matches in the future and urge those who want to try fencing to take the plunge: sorry about the inappropriate metaphor!

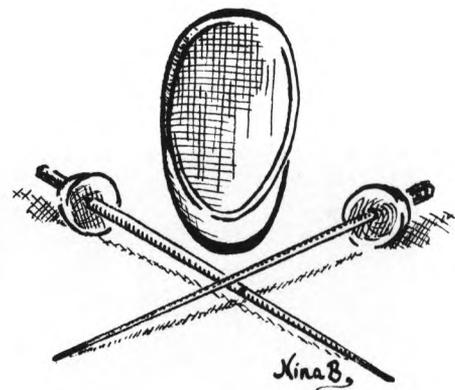
Georgina Harland  
Captain of Fencing  
Six One

### Senior Fencing Cup

*Li Kun Phng*

### Junior Fencing Cup

*Nicola Sumner*



## ATHLETICS

**Seniors** Henrietta Andrews, Poppy Buxton, Xanthe Elbrick, Patricia Fletcher, Nancy Harber, Georgina Harland *Captain*, Holly Havers, Emily Hayward, Anna Jennings, Mariamne Moore, Kate Stanley

**U15** Georgiana Aitken, Lucy Bucknall, Nicola Close-Smith, Victoria Dorich, Amy Jempson, Clare Kendrick, Anthea Moore, Frances Morrish, Laura Newton, Vanessa North

**U14** Jennifer Bekenn, Amelia Calvert, Alexandra Carse, Chloe Collyer, Rosie Garthwaite, Rhiannon Jones, Victoria Liddell, Lucinda Lovelace, Sara Milnes Coates, Sophie Moore, Juliet Nash, Carolyn Newton, Harriet Reid, Lucie Sargent, Katy Tiptaft, Alice Wright, Zita Yarwood

(773) Alicia Blunt, Lucie Bonham, Hannah Brown, Siobhan Callaghan, Ying-ying Cheng, Bridget Green, Laura Hawkes, Ana Jackson, Arabella McDonald, Louise Neil, Charlotte Teare, Emily Urry, Lucinda Watts, Alexandra Whitelaw

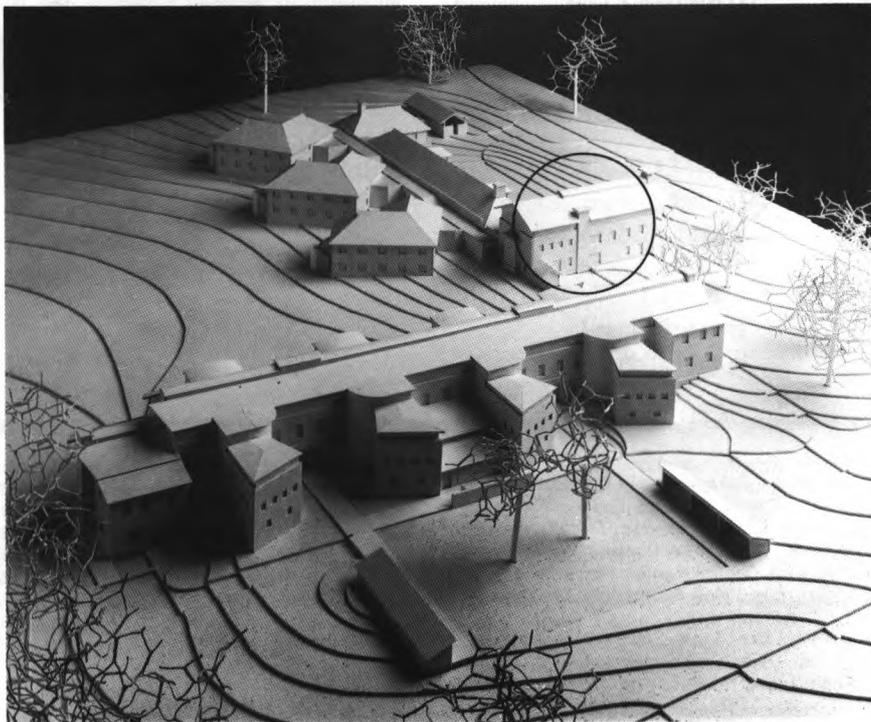
**U12** Emma Buzzard, Ileana Georgiadis, Lucy Gilbert, Bridget Halcrow, Emily MacManus, Arabella Martin, Victoria Pilkington-Miksa, Morgana Robinson, Olivia Saponaro, Maya Shamji, Jay Stephenson-Clarke, Nicola Sumner, Philippa Tennant, Julia Wells

## Founders' Sixth Form



Upper Sixth with Mrs duCharme

*Photo: Gillman & Soame*



*Photo: Sloman and Pettitt*

### 20 More Sixth Form Study Bedrooms

Benenden's School Council have approved the preparation of detailed plans for a 20 bed extension of Founders', attached to Beeches, and including accommodation for a fourth Sixth Form Housemistress.

Original plans for the creation of Founders' Limes and Oaks - shown in the model pictured left - included this provision. Details are being discussed with architects and the final decision to proceed is likely in about 12 months' time with completion for September 1997 occupation.

The creation of 20 new study bedrooms would raise the capacity of the Sixth Form (Six One and Six Two) to 160 students.

# Echyngham

**Head of House**  
Katherine Taylor

**Deputy Head of House**  
Lucy Hutton

**Captain of House**  
Hilary Low *Autumn*  
Kathryn Eustace *Spring*  
Johanna Newhall *Summer*

**Vice-Captain of House**  
Natasha McDonald *Autumn*  
Emma Cole *Spring*  
Sara Bateman *Summer*

**Head of Middle and Lower School**

Sophie Colville *Autumn*  
Emma Parfitt *Spring*  
Deepika Lai *Summer*

**Junior Dram Producer**

Susanna Davidson

**Almoner**

Henrietta Paul

**Sacristans**

Henrietta Paul  
Alexandra Gordon  
Serena Seddon  
Natasha McDonald

**Fire Party Captains**

Serena Seddon  
Charlotte Prince  
Sara Bateman  
Henrietta Paul  
Sarah Baddeley  
Hannah Harper

**Seniors' Rep**

Alexandra Gordon

**Lacrosse Captains**

Emily Gore  
Alexandra Seddon

**Netball Captains**

Tabytha-Lee Hall  
Nicola Close-Smith

**Swimming Captains**

Gemma Shearman  
Serena Seddon  
Sarah Kirke-Smith

**Tennis Captains**

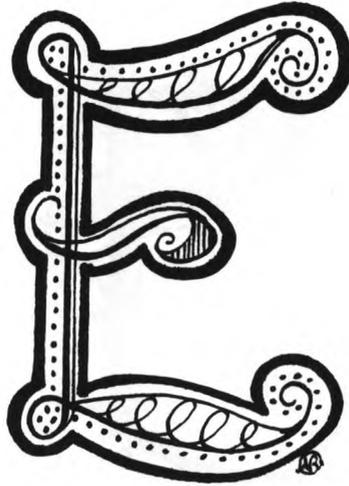
Emily Gore  
Rowena Martin

**Volleyball Captains**

Anna Colbeck  
Hannah Vaines

**Squash Captain**

Lucy Hutton



Echyngham has had what, in the vernacular, might be termed 'an all-round great year'. In Junior Dram, held during the Autumn Term, everything ran smoothly, thanks to the efforts of the whole House and especially to those of the director, Susanna Davidson and Anna Colbeck, stage manager. Next time around, Hettie Paul will be in charge and we hope that all will go as well.

In sport, the blissful summer sun saw the welcome sight of Echyngham playing outstandingly well in the House tennis competition, though we had to concede first place to Norris. Rowena Martin was one of those awarded colours in tennis. In the

Inter-House Swimming Challenge, cheering crowds of supporters once again urged us on to second place in the Upper School competition and fourth place in the Lower School. Vanessa Kirke-Smith was presented with a cup acknowledging her continual involvement in, and organisation of, School swimming events.

On the social calendar, a highlight was the visit of boys from Park House at Tonbridge School who came to play tennis and also to enjoy the following volleyball and barbecue. This event was a great success and a splendid recreation for all of us.

With the stress and tension around the time of examinations, the Sixth Formers have still managed to remain in close contact with 'junior ranks', ably supported by the enthusiasm of Mrs Brinkhurst and Mrs Banks.

As this Summer Term ends, so too does Mrs Brinkhurst's distinguished period as Housemistress of Echyngham. She has contributed an immense amount to the development of the House and that of its students during her eleven years in charge. She will be greatly missed by us all and we thank her and wish her all good fortune in the future. We know she will not be idle!

Katherine Taylor  
Head of House



Dancing Skeletons - Echyngham Junior Dram

# Guldeford

**Head of House**  
Yara Shamji

**Deputy Head of House**  
Abigail Banfield

**Captain of House**  
Davina Langdale *Autumn*  
Jodi Riches *Spring*  
Annabel Mackenzie-Beevor *Summer*

**Vice-Captain of House**  
Elisabeth Parish *Autumn*  
Caroline Preston *Spring*  
Vanessa Hunt *Summer*

**Head of Middle and Lower School**  
Alexandra Tweed *Autumn*  
Nicola Robinson *Spring*  
Elizabeth Waterhouse *Summer*

**Junior Dram Producer**  
Barbara Holroyd-Pearce  
Abigail Banfield

**Almoners**  
Barbara Holroyd-Pearce  
Caroline Preston  
Kate Cullinan

**Sacristan**  
Victoria Webb

**Fire Party Captains**  
Joanna Aitchison  
Juliet Douglas-Hughes  
Lucy Briggs

**Seniors' Reps**  
Annabel Mackenzie-Beevor  
Charlotte Watson

**Lacrosse Captain**  
Alice Carver

**Netball Captain**  
Victoria Hervey

**Swimming Captains**  
Jodi Riches

Antonia Van der Bijl  
Jessica Porter

**Tennis Captain**  
Sheelagh Houlden

**Volleyball Captain**  
Yara Shamji

**Squash Captain**  
Gemma Prall



Once again Guldeford has had a successful year and we have been well represented in all scholarly activities as well as in sport of all kinds.

The transition to having Mr McQueen as Housemaster has gone smoothly although quite recently there were conflicting views between our leader and the rest of us over something called the Rugby World Cup (who won again?).

There are congratulations due to all involved in the winning Junior Dram production, especially Boo Holroyd-Pearce, the director, and this, together with the School Play contingent, established yet again that Guldeford is a force to be reckoned with where acting is concerned.



Miss Lewis receives her leaving present from Yara Shamji and Abigail Banfield

Sporting success was most notable in the number of Guldeford girls selected for Kent lacrosse, in House netball, School lacrosse and even the cross-country run. However, regarding the swimming sports, any helpful tips would be greatly appreciated.

The VE Day walk posed few problems for a House of Guldeford's athletic ability. All attended, except Emily Macmanus who had a prior engagement with the Queen.

We hope that the public examinations went well for all involved. Post-examination celebrations were certainly engaged in with enthusiasm and taken full advantage of in truly traditional style. However, the end of examinations brings the imminent departure of the leavers. On behalf of the House, we wish them all luck and also extend our sincere thanks to Mrs Strong, a long-serving and much-appreciated Friend of Guldeford. We lack words to express to Miss Lewis our gratitude for what she has given, not only to us in Guldeford but to the whole School. We shall miss them both and hope that they will not forget their time in our House.

Yara Shamji  
Head of House  
Abigail Banfield  
Deputy Head of House



Guldeford House Supper Leavers Alice Carver (left) and Gemma Prall

# Hemsted

## Head of House

Belinda Cole

## Deputy Head of House

Ailana Kamelmacher

## Captain of House

Elizabeth Kendon *Autumn*

Yasmin Yarwood *Spring*

Phensoame Assakul *Summer*

## Vice-Captain of House

Amanda Cowan *Autumn*

Hilary Smith *Spring*

Lucy Gossage *Summer*

## Head of Middle and Lower School

Melanie Campbell *Autumn*

Rebecca Saponaro *Spring*

Surina Cohen *Summer*

## Junior Dram Producer

Emma Lewis

## Almoners

Marcia Ho

Anneline Groves

## Fire Party Captains

Emma Barkas

Hilary Smith

## Seniors' Rep

Jennifer Grey

## Lacrosse Captains

Jennifer Grey

Rebecca Saponaro

## Netball Captains

Olivia Ruggles-Brise

Vanessa North

## Swimming Captains

Charlotte Baden-Powell

Melanie Campbell

## Tennis Captains

Phensoame Assakul

Charlotte Dunstan

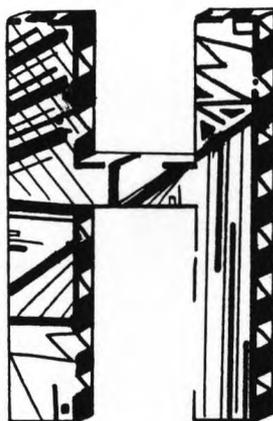
## Volleyball Captains

Ailana Kamelmacher

Nicola Wood

## Squash Captain

Rosemary Cox



At the beginning of the year, Hemsted was glad to welcome Miss Chana into the House as Assistant Housemistress. She also teaches biology and chemistry in the School. We were happy to see her settling into Hemsted quickly but during the year, she was away for quite some time because of an accident to her knee. Fortunately Miss Mullins, who was originally a House Academic Tutor, took her place during this time and helped Mr Walls and Mrs Wodehouse keep Hemsted going and 'under control'.

We were pleased to welcome all the new girls who arrived in September. They had no problem at all, it seemed, in adapting themselves to their new environment and have brought a great deal of new talent to the House.

Junior Dram, with Emma Lewis and Lucy Poole at the helm, was a great success and although we did not win, everyone enjoyed the chance it gave us to work together as a House on a major project.

Hemsted has proved itself once again to be a friendly, lively and active establishment which is particularly strong in swimming where we once again triumphed in the Knock-out Competition. We also have great potential in netball, lacrosse and tennis. With dedication and increased effort, we trust that our sporting performance will improve next year.

As always, Hemsted organised another charity event in the Spring Term. A band called Sushi came to play in the Clarke Room during one weekend evening, to the enjoyment of all who attended. The money raised was sent to help the war-ravaged people of Bosnia.

Without doubt, this has been a very successful year for Hemsted. We would like to thank Mr Walls, Miss Chana, Miss Mullins and Mrs Wodehouse for running the House so smoothly and thank also all the House officials for their hard work and support. We look forward with optimism to next year and hope that we can bring out Hemsted's full potential.

Phensoame Assakul

Elizabeth Kendon

Six One



Rapid sketches by Nina Barttelot

## House Supper

**On the last night of the Autumn Term, the School was invited to the annual House Supper, which was hosted by Hemsted.**

Upon arriving at the dining-room, the School could have had no doubt as to what the theme for the evening was to be. Huge banners, previously painted by the budding artists of Hemsted, revealed copies of the well-known album covers of bands such as The Beatles and The Rolling Stones. Peace and Ban The Bomb posters hung from every wall, between the miles of psychedelic streamers and hundreds of balloons. Each guest was handed a flower as they stepped back in time to the 'Swinging Sixties'. Hippies, teddy-boys and dolly-girls greeted them and showed them to their tables. Throughout the evening, greatest hits from the Sixties created the enjoyable party atmosphere and Hemsted themselves added the mood by dancing 'Sixties Style' to *Judy In Disguise*.

Mr Peters and the rest of the domestic staff prepared a delicious supper. On the menu was: Carnaby Street Chicken, Penny Lane Potatoes, Petits Pois and Mersey Mud Pie (commonly known as Banoffee Pie). Between courses, the School were lucky enough to be entertained by the leather-clad Leader of the Pack (alias Dr Lewis), and the rest of his gang (Miss Cannon, Miss Mullins, Mrs Wodehouse and Miss Reynolds) and of course his adoring admirer (Miss Kemp)!

The usual embarrassments and humiliations were inflicted upon innocent members of School as they were called up to 'do the Twist' and feed yoghurt to the Upper Sixth and, naturally, the staff were not spared!

The evening came to an end with an entertaining rendition of Sonny and Cher's *I Got You Babe* performed most excellently by Mr and Mrs



**Sonny and Cher or Mr and Mrs Walls as they are better known**

Walls, who bear a striking resemblance to the original couple.

In all, the evening proved to be a great success, for the performers as well as the guests, and Hemsted would like to thank Mr and Mrs Walls, Mrs Wodehouse, and Mr Peters and his team for all their hard work in making the evening truly memorable.

Zita Yarwood  
Lower Fifth

## Hemsted Junior Dram

Ali Baba and the  
Forty Thieves

This production was very successful and everybody worked hard and tried their very best. The newcomers as well as the existing members of Hemsted enjoyed themselves on the actual day of Junior Dram as well as in all the rehearsals, except for the times when a few members of the House became a little frustrated. It was also a good way of everybody getting to know each other.

The atmosphere in House before the performance was filled with laughter and excitement. The rather unusual(?) make-up and costumes of some of the characters provoked many giggles from the rest of the cast, especially the big camel with more than two humps.

In the original story, there were forty thieves but we had to manage with just eight; however, they made up for the other thirty two with all the noise they made entering the scene. We had a variety of acts, including the belly dancers (Sai Patpongibul, Julia James and Eva Phillips), who were dressed in sophisticated, baby-pink and blue outfits and we had live singing from Ali Baba (Victoria Dorich) and the beautiful princess (Nikki Wood).

We have to congratulate our brilliant producer and stage manager, Emmy Lewis and Lucy Poole, because without them we could not have done so well; more to the point, we would not have had a Junior Dram Production at all. Although we did not win, it was worthwhile and a pleasure to take part and perform in front of all the other Houses on the afternoon of Junior Dram.

Natasha Shah  
Fifth

## Sushi

**Four good-looking young lads from East Sussex came to Benenden on Saturday, 29 April for a charity 'gig', under the aegis of Hemsted House.**

The School's appetite was whetted by a great number of posters displayed everywhere it seemed, of the four, posing fetchingly. Their most successful song was played in Prayers with various members of Hemsted Lower School displaying just how 'wicked' and 'fit' this band was going to be. This occasion simply could not be ignored.

### *Commendable specimens...*

So, on that eagerly awaited weekend, along came the much-talked-about band and spent Saturday afternoon carefully setting up and preparing, not quite sure what to expect. Who could blame their being a little apprehensive, performing to a gaggle of excitable teenage girls eagerly awaiting an energetic performance and exciting guitar solos. Eat your hearts out, Guns 'n 'Roses, one might say.

The Clarke Room was filled with Benendonians clad in denim minis and 'Babe Power' T-shirts, admiring these four commendable specimens of the opposite sex. In fact, their playing wasn't bad either. They per-

formed a number of funky, rockin' tunes, sending the audience into a wild frenzy. The band enjoyed the attention and became quite carried away. The evening proved a great success.

### *Enjoyable cavortings...*

As a result of all these enjoyable cavortings, Hemsted raised £381 for Project Spark, a charity brought to the School's attention when Sally Trench spoke in Prayers about the appalling living conditions in Bosnia. The money we raised will go towards food and clothing which Sally Trench will help transport to its destination in the charity's lorries. The funds were raised from ticket sales for the Sushi event and from a pleasing number of tapes sold after the 'gig'.

We hope that the band will return in the near future though, if not, we shall no doubt see them on *Top of the Pops*.

Tabitha Langton-Lockton  
Lucy Poole  
Six One



Hemsted's Belly Dancers

## SENIORS' DAUGHTERS AND CRAND-DAUGHTERS

### **Echyngham**

Nicola Close-Smith (Rachel Earp); Sophie and Rose Colville (grand-daughters of Pamela Tulk-Hart); Katie and Alexandra Gordon (Susan White); Kasia Grocholska (Caroline Hamilton-Fleming, grand-daughter of Bridget Mann); Sarah and Vanessa Kirke-Smith (Catherine Dixon)

### **Guldeford**

Jessica Alford (Penelope Wort); Alice Carver (Andora Derbyshire); Vanessa Hunt (Julia Bennett); Annabel MacKenzie-Beevor (Gail Paterson, grand-daughter of Audrey Langford); Emily Macmanus (grand-daughter of Fiona McAlpine); Emma and Nicola Robinson (Anne Bevan); Philippa Tennant (Jane Seabrook); Charlotte and Victoria Watson (Lynne Paterson, grand-daughters of Audrey Langford); Candida and Julia Wells (Louise Ward)

### **Hemsted**

Charlotte Brooke (Consuelo Alexander); Julia James (Helen Patterson, grand-daughter of Jenny Chandler); Emma Lewis (grand-daughter of Diana Dick-Read)

### **Marshall**

Zoe Bedford (Deborah Sitwell); Poppy Buxton (Rosaleen Bagge); Anna and Camilla Dingle (Jacqueline Stead); Anna Fremantle (Sarah Whitbread); Venetia Grove (Jennifer Calvert); Sophia and Marina Mooney (Gail Turner); Mariamne and Sophie Moore (Georgina Calvert); Julia Pendred (Penelope Davidson); Serena Rowe (Sarah Thomas); Elizabeth and Sarah Scott (Jacqueline Pool)

### **Medway**

Eleanor Akenhead (Elizabeth Jackson); Hannah de Courcy Morgan (Belinda Evans, grand-daughter of Anne Oliver)

### **Norris**

Laura Boome (Rosemary Barstow); Georgina Harland (Claire Hunt)

# Marshall

**Head of House**  
Camilla Dingle

**Deputy Head of House**  
Sophie Kemp

**Captain of House**  
Sophie Brodie *Autumn*  
Olivia Higgins *Spring*  
Camilla Bennett *Summer*

**Vice-Captain of House**  
Zoe Bedford *Autumn*  
Mariamne Moore *Spring*  
Poppy Buxton *Summer*

## Head of Middle and Lower School

Rebecca Macmillan *Autumn*  
Frances Morrish *Spring*  
Sophia Mooney *Summer*

**Junior Dram Producer**  
Lucinda Smallman

**Almoners**  
Alice Pulman  
Li-Kun Phng

**Sacristans**  
Mariamne Moore  
Julia Pendred

**Fire Party Captain**  
Kathryn Pinker

**Deputy Fire Party Captain**  
Jennifer Newton

**Seniors' Rep**  
Venetia Grove

**Lacrosse Captains**  
Serena Rowe  
Georgiana Aitken

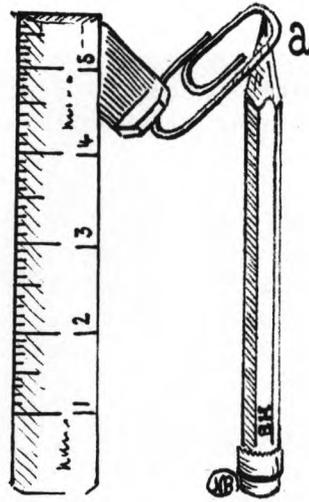
**Netball Captains**  
Sophie Kemp  
Frances Morrish

**Swimming Captain**  
Nicola Cronk

**Tennis Captain**  
Virginia Simkins  
Clare Kendrick

**Volleyball Captain**  
Annabel Barnett

**Squash Captain**  
Elizabeth Scott



Marshall has had yet another very successful year and its friendly and happy atmosphere has once again been coupled with talents in every area.

Lucinda Smallman produced an admirably polished performance of *Dracula* for this year's Junior Dram and the intricate programme, made by Gemma Murdoch-Smith, proved the skill involved in making it by winning the best-programme competition. Mariamne Moore and Georgie Dancy excelled themselves with superb performances in the School Play: *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Georgie Dancy showed her versatility by being, along with Anna Jennings, one of the front runners in the cross country. Indeed, Marshall has produced impressive performances in all the Inter-House sports competitions and I know that academic achievements match these.

Mrs Murphy's presence has been missed but her place was brilliantly filled by Mrs Irene Denis, who gained the confidence and respect of the whole House. Unfortunately, her having to leave after only two terms created another vacancy and I would like to thank Mrs Olive Lunney for her generous help at such short notice. I wish her successor luck and hope that she enjoys her time in Marshall.

I would like to take the opportunity of thanking Mr Watts and Miss

Boyce for all they have done to help House members this year and also wish to record my special thanks to my deputy, Sophie Kemp, for her never-ending support and dynamic ideas. I wish Olivia Higgins and Anna Jennings the best of good fortune and have complete faith in their abilities as our successors.

Camilla Dingle  
Head of House



'Erm... could we have those lights out now, please?'

Louisa Macmillan  
Upper Fourth



Marshall Junior Dram

# Medway

**Head of House**  
Sophie Robinson

**Deputy Head of House**  
Harriet Storey

**Captain of House**  
Eleanor Akenhead *Autumn*  
Keziah Kelsey *Spring*  
Hannah Morgan *Summer*

**Vice-Captain of House**  
Vanessa Robinson *Autumn*  
Emily Latham *Spring*  
Katharine Morris *Summer*

**Head of Middle and Lower School**  
Anna Shadbolt *Autumn*  
Lucie Lambert *Spring*  
Katie Riesco *Summer*

**Junior Dram Producer**  
Charlotte Witheridge

**Almoners**  
Holly Vemon-Smith  
Anna Shadbolt  
Clare Roberts

**Sacristans**  
Abigail Burton  
Olivia Cotton  
Alexandra Nutting

**Fire Party Captains**  
Katharine Morris  
Julia Burton Brown

**Seniors' Rep**  
Hannah Morgan

**Lacrosse Captains**  
Sophie Robinson  
Katie Riesco

**Netball Captains**  
Hannah Cotton  
Bryony Bullard

**Swimming Captains**  
Harriet Storey  
Anna Shadbolt

**Tennis Captains**  
Sophie Robinson  
Emily Orwin

**Volleyball Captain**  
Abigail Burton  
**Squash Captain**  
Vanessa Kaoukji



**T**his academic year, Medway welcomed a new Housemistress, Miss Steven, in place of Miss Barker, who left after dedicating nine years to the House. Medway has taken this major transition in its stride and Miss Steven has already shown her enthusiasm as well as her support for all House members.

The Autumn Term, as always, saw Junior Dram bring together all the acting talents possessed by the House, producing a superb perfor-

mance of the *Dancing Damsels*, written and directed by Charlotte Witheridge. Congratulations must go to all of those who helped in any way to make this enterprise such a successful one.

On the sporting front, Medway has continued to show increased confidence and determination, culminating in the winning of Upper School Netball and a valiant third place in Upper School Swimming. It proves that the House spirit is as strong as ever.

Medway has once again enjoyed a number of social events this year, having a new link with Manor House at Tonbridge and undertaking a trip to London to see Willy Russell's *Blood Brothers*.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Hattie Storey for all her help as Deputy Head of House and wish Alex Roberts and Eleanor Akenhead the best of luck as our successors.

Sophie Robinson  
Head of House



Medway Junior Dram

# Norris

**Head of House**  
Sally Clarke

**Deputy Head of House**  
Alexandra McGowan

**Captain of House**  
Georgina Harland *Autumn*  
Emily Hayward *Spring*  
Melissa Clive *Summer*

**Vice-Captain of House**  
Kate Stanley *Autumn*  
Naomi Chambers *Spring*  
Holly Havers *Summer*

**Head of Middle and Lower School**  
Georgina Cross *Autumn*  
Katherine Cameron *Spring*  
Lucy Bucknall *Summer*

**House Play Producer**  
Marina Greenhalgh  
**Stage Manager**  
Emily Hayward

**Almoners**  
Holly Havers  
Maidie Yeung  
Georgina Barker

**Sacristan**  
Gemma Perkins

**Fire Party Captains**  
Georgina Barker  
Gemma Perkins  
Kate Stanley

**Seniors' Rep**  
Georgina Harland

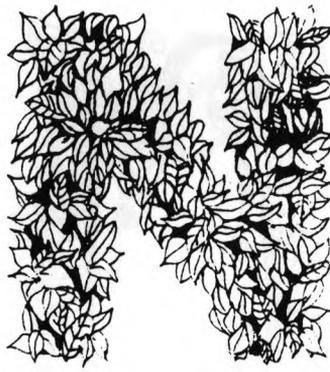
**Lacrosse Captains**  
Penelope Hands  
Emma Nye

**Netball Captains**  
Sally Clarke  
Lucy Bucknall

**Swimming Captains**  
Georgina Harland  
Sarah Deloford

**Tennis Captains**  
Emily Hayward  
Georgina Cross

**Volleyball Captains**  
Jennifer Papas  
Lucie Sargent



Norris has once again seen a busy and successful year in all areas. In inter-House sports we have gone from strength to strength, winning the Upper School netball, swimming, tennis and volleyball, with the Lower School coming second in swimming, netball and tennis. Again, Georgie Harland has achieved outstanding performances in both swimming and running.

One of the year's biggest events was the House Play: *The Jungle Book*, which took place in the Spring Term. Marina Greenhalgh directed, with all members of the House, including staff, involving themselves with great enthusiasm.

Many social events have also occurred throughout the year. These included links with Tonbridge and Bethany Schools, an ice-cream party and a trip to the theatre to see the musical *Grease*.

The House has fortunately had only one change in staff: Mrs Jean Reeves replaced Mrs Buckles as non-teaching Assistant Housemistress at the beginning of the year. As the year ends, Mrs Dinah Clayton, our Assistant Housemistress, is leaving with her husband David, to take up a post in Suffolk and will be deeply missed.

We would very much like to thank Mrs Smith for her encouragement and support throughout the year and wish good luck to Georgie Harland and Emily Hayward as Head and Deputy Head of House for this year.

Sally Clarke  
Head of House

# Crease

On the evening of 21 January, the whole of Norris, very excited, piled onto a double-decker bus to travel to see the musical *Grease* in London. This followed our performance the previous day, in front of our parents and the rest of the School, of *The Jungle Book*. As this had been taped, we watched ourselves on the televisions on the bus.

Once in London, we were given our tickets, disembarked, entered the theatre and waited for the show to begin, settling back in our comfortable seats.

The production starred Sonia and Shane Ritchie and was, to coin a phrase, 'totally brilliant'. The play had convincing atmosphere and all the actors looked as if they were really enjoying performing. The effects and the sets looked completely realistic. I liked the song *Greased Lightning* best because it used a real car which looked as though it was actually moving and which was covered in realistic-looking lights.

The music was especially enjoyable with a live orchestra playing and the conductor made sure that all of the score was very dramatic. At the end, everyone sang along with the cast and none of us could resist tapping our feet to the beat! All of us in Norris thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and would like to thank those who took us.

Henrietta Williams  
Upper Fourth

# THE JUNGLE BOOK

Norris House Play - 20 January i 995

**W**hen I was asked to write a review of our House Play, I first wondered if they had chosen the right person for this 'onerous' task. Being unfamiliar with School ritual, I assumed that an outside observer should write the review, in order for it to be fair. But then I realised that the whole point was to see how the play looked from the inside.....so here is what I have come up with.

I started out with a question - was this really *The Jungle Book*? There was certainly no Kiplingesque mongoose setting the scene, as my parents and their parents would have expected... No, poor Kipling has been cast aside by the Hollywood machine and *The Jungle Book* we have all now come to recognise is, it seems, the Disney version. I think a large portion of the audience would have been more than a little confused to see a mongoose at the beginning of the play.

In the circumstances, it seemed only natural that Mowgli should have an American accent, and who better to play him than Sarah Jensen? That was not her only asset however - she possesses the ability to fall convincingly as almost no one else can (except perhaps for Emily Hayward). I thought the casting overall was apt (then why did I play the snake?!).

What amazed me was how quickly it was over. After the anticipation and nervousness, suddenly we had reached the end. Not to say it was an anticlimax - how could it be?! - but it just went so fast!! All I can say is I hope it was as speedy for the audience...I thought you were great. The response to Danielle-the-tree was incredible, and I was just a little unprepared for the amount of booping I received once on stage.



The Jungle Book Cast

Photo: Emily Hayward

But what were your first impressions of our play? I, of course, cannot say, but it had to be one of stunning scenery. Norris House artists spent countless hours painting backgrounds as well as the main elements of the jungle and the city with its ape-like inhabitants and the unforgettably charismatic King Louis (Toks Akande). (My own artistic contribution was limited to two leaves and the eye of the gold statue - for which I received rather over-generous praise from Mrs Greenhalgh.)

I was completely taken aback by the finished result, and I was not alone. I'm sure we'd all like to thank Mr Greenhalgh for designing the set with such expertise and attention to detail.

The costumes and make-up were also striking. The most intricate details were painted on us - I even had a forked tongue sticking out of the side of my mouth, for example - and every member of Norris was transformed into a surreal-looking beast. The atmosphere just before we began was terrific, mingled with a strange, almost sad sensation, knowing it would be the last time.

The director, as I'm sure you are all aware, was Marina Greenhalgh.

Marina directed the play with great enthusiasm and imagination, with Emily demonstrating Mowgli's daring stunts and providing similar insights. Added to this, the sound and lighting crew did an excellent job of creating just the right ambience.

Marina was ever coming up with new ideas and impressed us all with her patience and determination -

"SING! I can't hear you ...

LOUDER! ... LOUDER!!!"

Great pains were taken over the actions of every member of the cast, and the results were shown in the outstanding choreography in many of the scenes. Given their many other commitments, the contribution of the staff as elephants was much appreciated, in particular the memorable cameo performance by Mr Harmsworth as their incompetent helmsman. Mrs Roche was suitably sinister as the menacing Shia Khana.

This play gave us a lot of enjoyment and an involvement of the whole House. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed presenting it.

Madeleine Boshier  
Upper Fifth

# THE BENENDEN SCHOOL TRUST

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Reaching the £1 million +



*Ab Fab*

**Mrs Mo Johnstone and Sophie Johnstone**

Since 1983 the Benenden School Trust has raised £990,000 through the generosity of parents, Seniors and friends of the School and for 1995 was determined to exceed £1 million. It did with some £35,000 being raised or pledged during 1995. The Trustees would like to extend their thanks and appreciation to parents, Seniors and other friends of the School for continuing to lend their support.

For 1995 the Benenden School Trust highlighted support for the School's performing arts as a special fundraising priority. During the year Trustees have worked to raise funds for a portable technical lighting rig and an extension of the art & textiles display in the Long Gallery as well as pedal timpani for the Music Department. Support for this project has been enthusiastic and generous.

The Trust's Parents Events Committee also added their hard work and dedication to the overall fundraising effort. Their programme included Two Generation Tennis, a wonderful evening of Two Generation Theatrical Performances at the Royal Society of Arts, an evening of tutored wine tasting introduced by Sir Ewen Fergusson, Chairman of Coutts & Co at the Bank's London Headquarters and a cookery demonstration held at Benenden. This calendar of social events not only provided great entertainment but also raised money to support this year's fundraising goals.

Debra Price  
Development Director

*Photographs depict scenes from the Two Generation Theatrical Performance Evening*



*Lollipop*

**The Cotton Family**



*A Magical Arabian Extravaganza*

**Barbara Holroyd-Pearce**



*The Green Grocer*

**Phoebe Allpress and Mr Robert Allpress**



*Benenden Calypso*

**The Riesco Family**

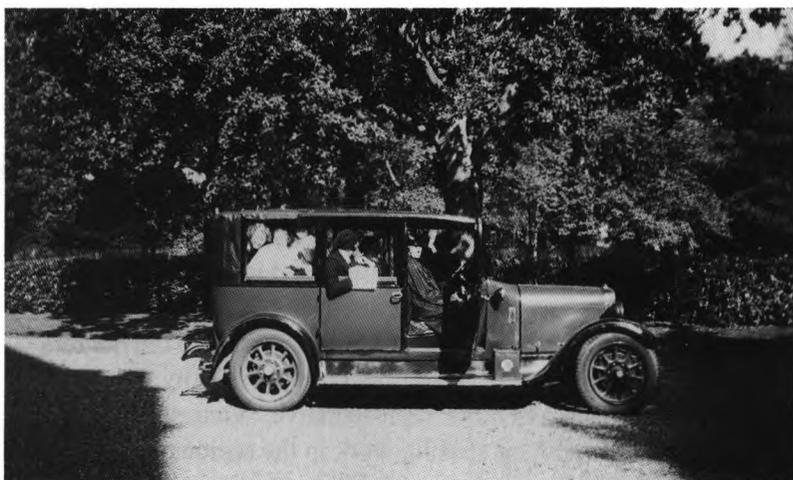
# THE BENENDEN HISTORY

SENIORS

Three young women with £100 each and a dream to set up their own school in the early 1920s - so began Benenden School. The founding and subsequent history (to be published next year) is a remarkable story of faith by the Founders, Council and parents. Seniors, past staff and Council members, and wartime occupants of Benenden have all made valuable contributions through interviews and written reminiscences. Photographs and other memorabilia have provided us with a great choice of illustrations.

We shall have collected enough for more than one book! Anything submitted, if agreeable to the contributor, will remain in the archives for future generations of Seniors or researchers. There are 75th and Centenary Year celebrations coming up so I have no doubt that the material will be useful.

Janet Grenier  
Benenden Historian



Pa Smith's Taxi

*Photograph kindly lent by Marigold (Williamson) PageH40*



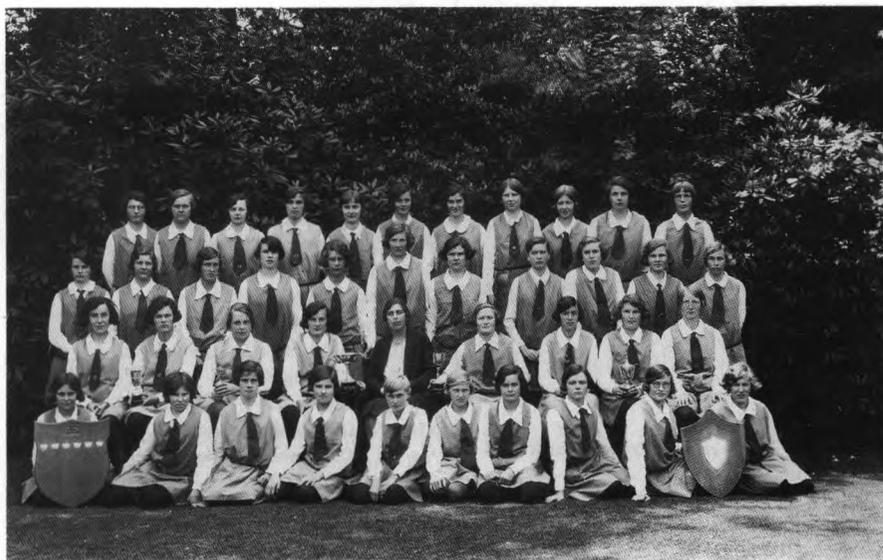
A School Holiday

*Photograph kindly lent by Marigold (Williamson) PageH40*

## A School Holiday

We only went home at half-term in the summer. During the Christmas and Spring Terms one day was unexpectedly chosen to be a School Holiday. Shelley announced it after Prayers, to great delight. It was always a fine sunny day. No rules applied. You could run in the Long Passage and go up the front stairs! We were each provided with a 'nose-bag' - a brown paper bag with lunch. We were allowed to go anywhere we could get on our own feet, as long as we said where we were going and there were three of us.

Marigold (Williamson) Page  
H40



Hemsted House with Miss Bird circa 1932 *Photograph kindly lent by Lettice Curtis H32*

## Ringing the Changes

1995 has been a year of changing faces for the Seniors' Association. Mrs Jackie Scott completed her three year term as Chairman to the warm thanks and appreciation of the Seniors as did Honorary Treasurer, Jane Anderson. Mrs Consuelo Brooke, a current Benenden parent, took up the Chair and Deborah Simon was elected as Treasurer. The Association was delighted to be able to welcome Mrs Gillian duCharme as its President and Mrs Sheila Doyle as Vice-President.

Sally Everist retired from the Committee and was enthusiastically thanked for her five years of loyal service and Roz Hyslop, Victoria Hyman, and Penny Orgill were warmly welcomed on to the Seniors' Association Committee. Roz Hyslop will take over Sally Everist's responsibilities as young Seniors' representative. Victoria Hyman will assist Sue Elworthy with her sterling work in the regions and Penny Orgill will support Claire Harland with her promotion of Seniors' sporting activities.

The Seniors also said a very fond farewell to Mrs Hannah Addyman, who retired as Clerk to the Seniors' Association after sixteen years. In her role as Clerk to the Seniors Hannah served six different Chairmen and built up innumerable friendships with several generations of Seniors; her unique knowledge of the affairs of the Association will be a hard act to follow. Mrs Judith Hayter Johnson took over this summer as Clerk to the Seniors and has already been welcomed into the role by several vintages of Benenden Seniors.



Gym on the beach at Newquay

*Photograph kindly lent by Dulcie (Roddick) Christmas H42*

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