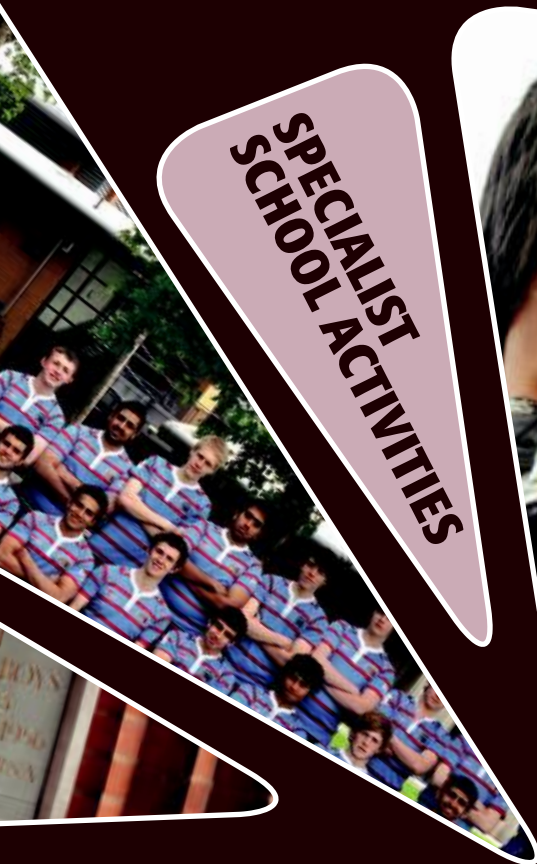


The Chronicle 2010

**SPECIALIST
SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**



**COMPETITIONS
& CHALLENGES**



MUSIC



DRAMA



TRIPS & VISITS



SPORT





Preface

BY THE HEADMASTER



Mike Roden BSc NPQH

I am delighted to welcome you to the 2009–10 Chronicle. It has been another full and successful year which I am sure that, once again, this publication will demonstrate. During the course of the year the boys have continued to be successful in a range of local and national competitions. These are recorded in detail on the School Website/Pupil Achievements tab.

In the Autumn Term we received news that a Lower Sixth student had, for the second year in a row, been awarded an 'Akwright Scholarship' for outstanding achievement in Design Technology: many congratulations to Phillip Williams. Alan Egan in Year 11 has won through to the final of the Young Engineer of the Year award which will take place in March 2011. Vivek Kotecha has been awarded a Prime Minister's Global Fellowship which will involve him spending six weeks in China this summer (there are 100 places available worldwide and there were over 3400 applicants).

Students at Camp Hill have, once again, excelled in the Royal Society of Chemistry 2010 Olympiad event by winning three gold, four silvers, ten bronze and two commendations. Not to be out done, the Biologists also excelled in the Biology Challenge with Camp Hill students winning two gold, five silver and seven bronze awards.

Our mathematicians also continue to shine. Following their success in the Regional Final of this year's Team Maths Challenge, our team (Robert Smith, Robert Walters, Giles Moss and Sam England)

travelled to the Royal Horticultural Halls, London, for the National Final of this increasingly popular event. They came third out of eighty teams – an incredible achievement. Following the Intermediate Mathematics Olympiad, two Year 9 students, Terence Wu and Lian Zhu received certificates of distinction and a medal placing them in the top 100 participants in the country. Another member of Year 9, Max Cheung, also achieved a certificate of distinction, a medal and a book, placing him in the top 50 participants. Nathan Brown and Aled Walker were both in the top ten of UK mathematics students after the British Mathematics Olympiad Round 2. Aled emulated Nathan's achievement last year when he was selected to represent the UK in the 'Romanian Masters of Mathematics Competition' held in February. Aled and Nathan were both chosen to represent the UK in the International Mathematics Olympiad in Kazakhstan in July. This is the first time that Camp Hill has had a representative in the team and we are the only school since 1996 to have two representatives in the team of six. What a tremendous feat! The UK team came 25th in the world. Aled received a commendation and Nathan was the second top performer in the UK team and was awarded a Silver Medal.

Our sportsmen have continued to excel. The junior Rugby and Hockey tourists had an enjoyable tour to Carlisle and the senior players to the north-east of England. The school cricket teams have enjoyed successful seasons. The Under 12 and 13 XIs reached the semi-finals of the county cup competitions. Charanjit Kalsi of Howard scored 109 not out in the House Competition. Not to be out done, Mustafa Chaudhry scored 102 against King Edward's Five Ways – hitting a six off the penultimate ball to reach his hundred. Mustafa has now scored 346 runs in 7 innings for an average of 69. The U15 tennis team won their league. The U15 Athletics Team won the regional final of the B competition of the English Schools event. In the West Midlands Athletic Championships, John Lutwyche in Year 11 (200m) and Tom Murphy in Year 9 (Javelin) won their events. Nick Wilson in Year 10 (Hurdles) was runner up. John and Nick

qualified for English Schools Finals. On Saturday 10 July John won two bronze medals as he came third in the 200m and his team were also third in 4 x 100m relay. This was shown live on television from the Alexander Stadium in Birmingham. After their success in winning the Birmingham Badminton Championships last year the Year 11 team of Wai Ming Yap, Aaron Hsu, Peter Liu, Asim Shoaib and Marvin Miu have gone one further and qualified as West Midlands where they came sixth. Alex Lloyd, our talented fencer is now ranked 1st in Great Britain in the under 15 age group category and he has qualified for the second year running for the under 15 World Championships in Paris. Alex has won the under 11, under 13 and now the under 15 title. He is the only boy to have achieved this. He has been selected for the British Fencing Academy and earlier this month became the youngest fencer to qualify for the British Senior Championship. Niyamal-Islam Ali in Year 7 came fifth in the Warwickshire U16 Golf Championship. He was then selected in the victorious U14 County Team who beat Worcestershire 9-6 (he won his match).

There has been the usual dazzling range of events provided by our large number of talented musicians. Davis Todd has won an organ scholarship to University College, Oxford and Joss Brookes will be taking up his place at the Royal Northern College of Music. In drama, we have seen three excellent productions – the Junior production of 'Midsummer Night's Dream', 'Teachers', and this year's senior production of 'Lady Windermere's Fan'.

The boys and I are, once again, indebted to the continued energy, enthusiasm and dedication shown by all the staff involved in extracurricular activities. The list of curricular and extra-curricular trips continues to grow.

The new Teaching and Learning Group are working hard to develop further the quality of the classroom experience. In the curriculum, because of constraints placed upon the budget of the school we have, reluctantly, taken the decision to terminate the teaching of Spanish in Key Stage 3 and A Level Physical Education. Under the auspices of the Directors of Specialisms, Terry

Editorial

Law and Pat May – specialist college activities have continued to make a tremendous contribution to the range of opportunities available, not only for the boys at Camp Hill but also for the pupils in our local partner primary schools.

The academic year drew to a close with another record breaking set of GCSE results. The boys in Year 11 Achieved a staggering 58% A* grades and 89.4% A*/A grades. The Lower Sixth also broke all school records at AS level and I believe they are on course to repeat this at A Level. At 81.2% A/B grades at A level this year, it was a relatively disappointing year for Camp Hill Boys. However, there were still some outstanding performances: well over 21% of all grades awarded were at the new A* grades. Alex Taylor, the Head Boy, achieved 5A* grades along with Bradley Orford-Hall. They, along with thirteen of their contemporaries (a new school record) are just about to start courses at either Oxford or Cambridge.

At the end of the summer term we said farewell to Beatrice Rossay-Gilson and two long standing members of staff, George Rouse and Sheila Jones. Our Graduate Trainee Student, Martin Barratt, passed his course. Their contributions to the life of the school are recognised later in the magazine.

It has been another hectic and immensely rewarding year at Camp Hill Boys. I hope you enjoy the Chronicle which will endeavour to give you a full picture of this wonderful school during the 2009–10 academic year. I would like to finish by thanking Bex Lockyer for her endeavours in collating what will, I'm sure, be another impressive school magazine.

■ **Mike Roden**, *Headmaster*

Hello and welcome back to a Chronicle of the to-ings and fro-ings, the deeds and drama, of another action-packed year at Camp Hill Boys.

Fresh from the giddy heights of an Outstanding Ofsted Report in 2009, the academic year that has followed has been a true test of that judgement of the school: outstanding consistency added to the equation. The fact that this year has been as full, as rich, as accomplished, as committed, proves exactly why Camp Hill continues to be one of the most sought-after educational establishments in our vast city, and indeed for miles around. If there was one clear message emerging from the BBC's 'Big Schools Lottery' programmes, it was that Camp Hill is seen as the vanguard of opportunity by hundreds of young pupils and parents each year. Small wonder then, that the boys of the school continue to impress with their achievements, their attitudes and their accolades.

The thoroughness of the Headmaster's Preface has, as ever, provided a sense of the energy and diversity of the activities of the last year. His introduction of a Lower School Presentation Evening is testament to the need to recognise both successes and progress (academic and otherwise) in all sections of the school, such is the range and degree of ability of the pupils. There is little to add, except to thank all those who have contributed to this publication, to provide you with detailed accounts of the many and varied exploits of the school in the past year. With the prospect of a student-led pantomime, a new 'Food Technology' building (shared with Camp Hill Girls), an expansion of school debating, another musical, even more foreign trips, and our ever-expanding sporting life, it remains to be seen whether next year's Chronicle will break records for word-count! Certainly it reflects the enthusiasm of both pupils and staff, and it is clear that though the wider world may forecast cloud, the future of the school remains exceptionally bright.

Again I would like to acknowledge the infinite wisdom and skill of Bob Weaver, of Byte & Type Ltd, in bringing this publication into being. Many thanks to him from all at Camp Hill.

■ **Bex Lockyer**, *Editor*

The Chronicle 2010

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Leavers

George Rouse 1979–2010



George has given 31 years of distinguished service to the school. He joined the school to be a teacher of Mathematics and it was in this capacity that I first met him. George was appointed Head of Department in 1981 charged with developing the use of Computing and ICT in the school. With a BSc in Mathematics and a BA in Technology, George has successfully led and managed the development of ICT at Camp Hill Boys to the extent that the school has an excellent reputation in the educational community, both locally and nationally.

George has not really retired but has merely made a career change because the Examination Board valued his expertise so much that George has been appointed to

the Chief Examiner role for GCSE ICT and Principal Examiner role for Computing at both GCSE and A Level ! George's cheerful cynicism and incisive wit will be sorely missed in school by his many friends but I have the feeling that staff will always be able to see him in local pubs around King's Heath (but this may be just a scurrilous rumour that I have started). Enjoy your partial retirement George, and by the way, — mine's a pint.

■ *S.T.*

Beatrice Rossay-Gilson 2007–2010



Beatrice joined Camp Hill in September 2007 as Head of Modern Foreign Languages from her position as Head of French at Warwick School. She quickly established herself as an efficient organiser, an enthusiastic advocate of language learning as a life skill and a promoter of educational trips and exchanges. She is a typical Parisian: she can be forthright and assertive and, like all Parisians, believes that Paris *is* France, the rest of the country being one whole swathe of agricultural land populated by country bumpkins who are still waiting for electricity and who point at aeroplanes as they pass overhead. Dorridge, where she has settled, must have come as a shock then at first but she has settled in to her new community, swapping her chiffon dresses for a barbour jacket and green wellington boots.

Beatrice was popular with the pupils and achieved some impressive results in her short time at Camp Hill Boys. She has left us however to go just a few miles down the road to Solihull School which is a better fit for her personally, domestically and geographically. Armed only with a double-barrelled name, a postcode in the right part of Dorridge and her own horse, we *do* hope she'll fit in. Incidentally, the horse is doing very well and winning quite a few competitions. There's no greater incentive for a horse than having a French owner, knowing that if it doesn't perform it'll end up as the Sunday roast.

We wish her every happiness and success at Solihull and trust that she'll keep in touch.

■ *R.A.S.*

Sheila Jones 1994–2010

Sheila proved to be a golden asset from the moment she arrived at Camp Hill. She came in the autumn term of 1994 to help us out of a rather deep hole. The long term absence of a recent appointment had left us in a very difficult position; Sheila had



recently sent her son to Camp Hill and was willing to come in and help us out part time, although Mervyn Brooker didn't realise she was a parent when he offered her

the supply post! One of her first tasks was to survive the Ofsted inspection of December '94, something that she did admirably, even without the answer book for the year 7 textbook. Peter tells me she was so easy going that she didn't ask for it again until she was reappointed in September 1998!

Born in North Wales, she attended school in Bangor and has some interesting tales of being taught in a Welsh school; ask her how she was taught to remember the spelling of Mississippi and she will recite a typically Welsh version!

Her background was in science rather than maths (her degree was Zoology and Biology at Manchester) and her early career found her moving around Somerset schools. She started at Warminster, where she taught for 13 terms before falling pregnant to the head of science, moving from there to join her husband at All Hallows (I feel it important to point out that her previous head of science was her husband!). A period at Frome and then a return to All Hallows followed, before the family (they had two sons by now) moved to Birmingham, where her husband took up a post at Blue Coat school in Harborne.

For her second stint at Camp Hill she taught classes in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Maths; she did this with dedication and utter professionalism, even when reports were due or exams needed marking! At one time she taught three year 7 classes and four year 8's! She also holds the record for observations in a single year; each of her 4 HOD's, the deputy and the headmaster; phew!

In 2000 Sheila, as professional as ever, wanted to be up to date with her maths so she enrolled on a one year A Level course that she completed with flying colours, adding this qualification to her already impressive list. Her genuine commitment to the boys is exemplified by the hours she has spent supporting them

during lunch and break time; their progress is a real concern for her, whatever their ability. Having taught set 16 of 17 at Frome our 'weakest' students seemed like geniuses anyway!

In fact, the time she was spending supporting the boys was a significant indicator that we needed to instigate a mentoring scheme for year 9 students and this proved a massive success, boosting the confidence and exam performance of all the boys she worked with.

Sheila has also embraced new technologies; ask any of her students and they will eagerly tell you about the excellent internet sites WaldoMaths and MyMaths or about the puzzles and challenges that she incorporates in to her lessons, not to mention the chocolate prizes! Along similar lines, her other major contribution to the maths department has been to expand our waist measurements (rumours that she has moonlighted in the design department are wholly unfounded!)

When she was running her allotment, homemade strawberry flan and fresh cream (home-grown strawberries of course!) were common diversions during our meetings. A rather surprising discovery was that she doesn't have the same reputation at home; it seems that there, the daily ringing of the smoke alarm is known as mums dinner bell! Her constantly full biscuit tin has provided sustenance at other times and we are certainly missing this at our meetings this year!

Not content with her superb contribution to the curriculum, Sheila began the introduction of sign language classes (again at lunch time!) in 2005. These proved an instant success with a growing band of 'groupies' to be seen trekking to room 15 on the appropriate days! The first BSL exams were sat in 2006 and since then more than 100 boys, girls (and staff!) have passed exams at different levels. Having witnessed the pride and enjoyment of the boys that have succeeded over the years I can only thank Sheila for the fantastic opportunity that she has provided.

The evolution of her classes to be a part of the schools specialism allowed her to spread her wings to the local primary schools. They embraced the classes Sheila provided and the way that Camp Hill has benefitted from this community link cannot be underestimated. The clear enjoyment of the students from Camp Hill and the local primaries during the recent Signing Concert (the third) must be very satisfying for Sheila, yet she seeks no praise or glory for it. Thankfully she is set to continue her contribution to signing with Saturday schools and sessions in the local primaries.

Sheila, you will be missed by us all; not only in the maths department but throughout the school and local community and we wish you and your husband a long and happy retirement in which to enjoy the grand children!

■ P.A.B.

Martin Barratt 2009–2010

There is little that ruffles the established practices of the History Department: our policy is to float lazily downstream, occasionally putting out a diplomatic boathook to avoid collisions. Into this vessel arrived Martin in September 2009 as a Graduate Trainee bursting with enthusiasm and a willingness to gain from as many experiences as the school has to offer.

Martin's taught all key stages in History very successfully, the results from his GCSE class in year 10 are testament to this. He brought innovation into our practice through his desire to experiment with new technologies and playdough. Constantly seeking to refine his practice, Martin made sure that each time he was observed and assessed as part of his training year, he tried something new and he was not afraid to sometimes make mistakes if it meant doing better next time.

Outside the classroom, Martin had his finger in so many pies he would run out of fingers. He was an assistant form tutor in year 8. On the sports field Martin was ably responsible for Sixth Form football alongside Mr Garrod and Year 7 Rugby with Mr Roden, he also managed cricket teams, refereed house activities and contributed to Saturday and summer schools. He accompanied students to Kenilworth, Flanders and Auschwitz, he ran a lunchtime Classics Club and supervised Year 12 students in their Envision project.

Martin showed his adaptability through successfully undertaking a second school placement at Colmers School and Sports College, he impressed enough for them to offer him a job. Martin, though, found that his strengths and skills were better suited in the selective sector and he has found a job teaching History at King Edward's School in Edgbaston. It is certainly their gain and our loss. Martin will make an excellent new teacher and has a very promising career ahead of him, he has also strengthened the department he has left behind by providing clear examples of what the possibilities are of new technology and techniques are.

■ G.N.H.

School Activities

Engineering in Education Scheme

Aero Engine Control Team

After one of the highest number of applicants for the Engineering Education Scheme (EES) in September 2009 eight people were interviewed for the four places to work with Aero Engine Controls (AEC). The successful applicants who got offered the positions were Hasan Ali, Joseph Nickson, Tony Song and Phil Williams. The company, Aero Engine Con-



trols, is a joint venture between Goodrich and Rolls-Royce, two influential companies within the aviation industry.

Soon after being formed the team went to the launch day to meet the AEC engineers, who would assist the team throughout the project, and receive our project brief and listen to various presentations from other engineers to give us advice about the pro-

ject that lay ahead. From the launch day it was evident to the team and I that the EES is a large scheme with companies such as Aston Martin, JCB and E.ON to name only a few taking part.

Our brief for the project was, "To create a tool to insert and remove components from within an engine actuator bore carefully and safely to reduce the potential for damage." The current process for measuring and adjusting the height of all the components within the bore is to insert them all by dropping them in and then twisting the entire unit upside down to let the compo-

nents slide out. This can cause damage to either the components or the unit as a whole. So the team and I sat down at our first meeting and created a mind-map to get initial ideas and thoughts down.

From the mind-map we went into discussions with the engineers once a week to draw up a Gantt chart and then start initial designs/ideas. After selecting a few to draw we chose the one idea to carry forward using a Pugh matrix, a table where the designs are rated to find the best design to carry forward. After this process the design the team took forward was a three-jaw clamp idea to pick up the components from the inside. The team then developed the design to create a prototype made at Birmingham University on the three day

to work with, along with planning out the next six months – organising activities such as research, site trips, and our residential at Birmingham University. Soon after we took a trip to Eaton's aerospace plant at Lakeside Redditch, where after a tour of the plant, we were given our brief concerning the engine hoses.

The next few weeks were hectic – although we were scheduled to begin production at the expansive university workshops on our residential, our plan did not give us enough time to produce working



residential where all the teams stayed in a hotel near the university and experienced student life using the machinery within the engineering departments with the help of the technicians.

After a prototype was produced the team then continued writing a report to industry standards with the help of the AEC engineers. The report was sent out to a panel of engineers who the team later presented our project in a fifteen minute presentation at the EES Celebration Day.

The Engineering Education Scheme has benefited us all as it gives students an insight into the engineering industry and the processes that are needed to go through, another benefit being the presentation of a British Science Association Gold Crest Award in Engineering. EES also gives students a chance to be able to talk to engineers who can give us advice on university and the other opportunities out there to get into the engineering industry.

■ **Phil Williams, L6 Art**

Engineering in Education Scheme

Eaton Team

Having successfully applied to the Engineering in Education Scheme, my team Chris Carter, Edward Wallace, Ben Harvey and I were given the opportunity to work with Eaton Lakeside with our project. The problem that we had to work on focused on the efficient drying of aerospace engine hoses, in aid of benefiting the company financially and helping to improve the relations between itself and those who are buying these hoses (needing them to be completely dry for safe use).

The scheme began with a day at Cranmore Business Park where we met the representatives of the company we were going



drawings for our solution until then. Subsequently, our residential was at times frustrating, but overall it was a brilliant experience – working on a real-life problem in a university atmosphere, learning new things along the way. Being in late December, we

had Christmas dinner and quizzes on one of the evenings, which was particularly enjoyable, making new friends and relaxing after a long day.

However, while enjoyable, we were behind schedule. Thankfully, we were able to return to the workshop some months later and have what was to become a prototype manifold welded together, incorporating a mesh to disperse the air evenly. This would connect to the hose lengths via a clamping system that we had produced concepts of, along with proposing the manipulation of a vertical steel grid they have at the plant to allow this drying system and hoses to be safely mounted horizontally, then held vertically to help save floor space – one of many factors we had to consider while designing.

Thankfully this was all done in good time, and we were ready for the celebration day. For this, we had to produce a thorough report explaining to the company our ideas and reasoning, along with delivering a presentation to a panel of engineers on the day. All went as planned, concluding a very



successful project, with ideas that Eaton will further consider.

Overall, I found the experience to be an invaluable one, giving me much-needed

experience of working in a team, outside the classroom, addressing a real-world problem.

■ **Antony Wood, L2**

Schools Aerospace Challenge 2010

See: <http://www.aerospacechallenge.org>

After hearing the promise of a five day residential course encompassing the piloting of aircraft and the chance to sit in the cockpit of a Hawk trainer aircraft for the twelve national finalist teams, it came as little surprise that Mr Jackson's initial annual announcement of the Aerospace Challenge in March attracted over fifty pupils.

This year, the organisers of this prestigious competition – backed by thirty-four of the biggest names in aviation, including BAE Systems, the Ministry of Defence and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, chose to set what they deemed to be the "most demanding challenge yet". The Royal Air Force was seeking a new approach to aerial refuelling of aircraft; removing the required skill element and extending the system to carry other consumables including solids.

Such a demanding challenge, accompanied by an engaging input from Mr Jackson, inspired James Wallis and Ross Mackie to join me in forming Team Strahl – a group of three keen problem solvers determined to reserve their place on the residential course at Cranfield University. Accepting there was no simple solution to the problem, we decided to break the challenge down into five sub-systems with each playing its own part in our aerial replenishment system. Sifting through tens of fruitless ideas, we eventually settled on 'borrowing'

the concept of peristalsis from Mother Nature. This method gave us an excellent solution for safely transferring solids between aircraft in mid-air with accompanying collapsible pipes handling the transfer of liquids. A segmented, modular rubber sleeving gave us the precise control needed for docking between aircraft with Assisted GPS and triangulation removing the requirement for an experienced pilot and the associated \$1 million training cost.

Weeks of delayed meetings, and A* procrastination, found James Wallis and myself struggling to complete the report in borrowed time between GCSE examinations; eventually seeing the six page report completed and submitted at 11:45pm on the 2nd June – a mere 15 minutes before the deadline.

But it was not to be fruitless. Two weeks later, sweetening the day of my final GCSE examination, it came as a pleasant surprise to find our team name among the twelve national finalists on the Aerospace Challenge website. Our performance had booked us a place on the 5-day residential course at Cranfield University – and one we're unlikely to forget.

A few weeks later we found ourselves in a car on the way to Cranfield University unsure what to expect in this reputedly



fantastic event. By chance, the student accommodation was taken, so we were allocated the Guest rooms; each with ensuite bathrooms, tea-and-coffee making facilities and a TV. Nice enough it seemed until we came across the eating arrangements – almost £25 each person, each day! The course organisers had arranged a few thoroughly engaging university-level lectures from many of the sponsors, including Rolls Royce and Marshall Aerospace, on the operational and design concepts of aircraft – topped by the chance to perform an emergency evacuation from a multi-million pound Airbus A380 aircraft simulator!

Of course, the highlight of the course was the opportunity to pilot an R22 Helicopter and a Diamond PA-28 fixed wing aircraft up and around the town of Milton Keynes! Under the pretence of 'educational purposes', we were taken for a spin (literally) in an 'airborne rollercoaster'; the twin engined Jetstream. Unfortunately the visit



of an RAF Hawk had to be cancelled after the entire fleet was grounded due to 'technical issues'. Without doubt, we found this wonderful experience thoroughly enjoyable and educational.

We'd like to thank the challenge sponsors and, of course, Mr Jackson for both bringing the challenge to our attention and pointing us in the right direction. Without second thoughts, we'd recommend any students looking for a special bang to their summer holidays next year participate in the Aerospace Challenge 2011!

■ **Andrew Soltan, 11Z**

Big Bang Fair Regional Young Engineers Competition

On the 14th of July of last year, Alan Egan represented the school at the West Midlands Big Bang Fair at the Thinktank, Millenium Point. This was an opportunity for him to present his GCSE project to a panel of judges.



There were over 270 pupils presenting their projects that day. Alan won the Young Engineer for Britain Achievement Award for his age group in the West Midlands. This means that he will now go through to the national finals in March of next year, where there are a number of prizes to be won in several different categories. We wish him well.

■ **A.J.N.**



Lower School Presentation Evening

The inaugural Lower School Presentation Evening was held at the end of the Summer term. Over 140 students from years 7-9 gathered with their parents, staff and governors to celebrate achievement with regard to academic progress, attainment, attendance and contribution to the life of the school.

In addition to the presentation of certificates which were made by governors (Mr Martin Crutchley, Mr Barry Matthews and Mrs Judy Green) boys from each year group gave lively and entertaining reports on the Year 7 trip to St Malo, the Year 8 Residential to Prestatyn and the Year 9 German trip. Various musical interludes completed the programme ranging from a violin solo to a tabla ensemble.

An enjoyable evening was had by all and we look forward to the event becoming a regular feature at the end of the summer term.

■ **C.M.J.**



Media Day 2010

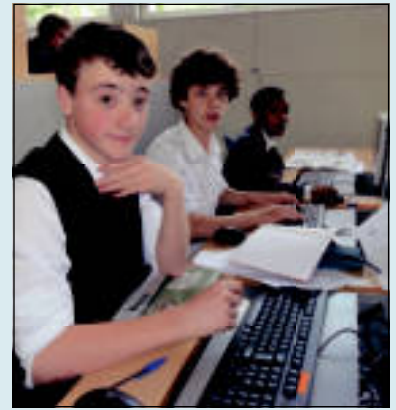
On Friday 16th July 2010 the whole of year 8 participated in the second Media Day prepared by Mrs Parmar and Mr Hill. Six guest presenters had been invited to the event and all had agreed to come. At 9.15 everyone was in the hall as Mrs Parmar explained the principles of the day, the theme 'Creating the News' and who each guest was.

At 10.35 everyone went to their designated workshops. David Maclean took the first group Designing the News and taught them about how to create and format a news story. Radio presenter Jim Lee and an excited Mr Rogers managed the radio group and created a news bulletin. Kester Demmar, television producer for BBC East Midlands and Sameena Ali-Khan, news presenter for Central News, made a TV news programme with the third group, along with Miss Lockyer. The fourth workshop, creating a media blog, was under the supervision of Vanessa Edwards, lecturer in media at Bournemouth University. The last two workshops made newspapers, one group with Ross Crawford, editor of two newspapers, the other with Mrs Parmar.

In my workshop, the media blog, we were shown how to handle all sorts of interesting technology from camcorders to high-definition cameras. Then, everyone lunged for their favourite piece of equipment and eagerly set off to find someone to interview or something to photograph. We all gradually came back to show our work and transfer it to some laptops and put it on the blog. After lunch, everybody went back to their workshops to complete the final product

and then went to the hall for the plenary session. With a lot of help from the IT helpers we got to see everybody's work, from our finished blog to various newspapers. After a question and answer session, we said goodbye to the guests and went home.

■ **Gaspard Bulso, 8M**



Election 2010

Mac vs PC, Messerschmidt vs Spitfire, Alien vs Predator, Blur vs Oasis. All great rivalries but none can possibly match Aled vs Nathan. This clash of the intellectual heavyweights added a particular spice and colour to the School Election held on May 6th 2010.

Following a phenomenal level of interest from boys from all parts of the school, the national General Election was brought into the corridors and halls of Camp Hill Boys' for two weeks before polling day.

Each Party carefully selected their candidate and started to produce their manifestos, posters and hustings campaigns. The whole school was able to get to know the diverse range of political opinion on offer through speeches and party political broadcasts in assembly. The Looney's Kieran Morrow cast Mr Roden as a teddy bear, the Conservatives had the misfortune to use Nazi imagery to promote their family values! Philip Massoud in Year 8 impressed all with the thoughtful and eloquent way in which the Green Party canvassed for votes. Ben Dovey spoke from the heart and the hip as an able supporter of Labour's record. In the end though it boiled down to a monumental tussle between Aled Walker representing the Liberal Democrats and Nathan Brown for the Socialist Party.

Polling day itself ran very smoothly thanks to the help of a dedicated team of polling clerks and counters. Official turnout was 78.8% and many thanks need to go to

all who contributed in so many ways to the colourful and enlivening spectacle which was democracy in action.

Following a series of counts and recounts the result was announced in assembly on Friday 7th May:

"I, the returning officer for KE VI Camp Hill School for Boys, announce that the total number of votes cast for each candidate are as follows:

Nathan Brown 191
Benjamin George Dovey 94
Aamil Rasalat Ghani 38
Philip Nabil Massoud 39
Kieran Michael Morrow 30
Aled Walker 190

I declare that Nathan Brown has been elected as the member for KE VI Camp Hill School for Boys."

So, at least one Brown won in 2010. A legendary outcome in the pantheon of Aled vs Nathan accomplishment. The result was determined by one single ballot paper. A Sixth-Form voter who had clearly expressed a preference for the Liberal Democrats proceeded to add what can only be described as a primitive male fertility symbol to their paper thus rendering it void. Upon such seeming trivialities can great empires fall.

■ **G.N.H.**

Election 2010 - Results in full					
	STAFF	POST-16	GCSE	KS3	TOTAL
Total votes cast	47	153	154	234	588
Spoiled papers	0	4	2	0	6
Valid papers	47	149	152	234	582
Brown (Socialist)	18	54	48	71	191
Dovey (Labour)	8	19	36	31	94
Ghani (Conservative)	4	9	6	19	38
Massoud (Green)	4	7	1	27	39
Morrow (Looney)	1	5	6	18	30
Walker (Liberal Democrat)	12	55	54	69	190

Domestic Trips

Prestatyn

Philip Larkin, a great English poet, once wrote a poem entitled 'Sunny Prestatyn' in which he describes a poster showing the resort being defaced by graffiti artists and thugs. Roddy Frame and Jeremy Stacey, members of the Aztec Camera wrote their 1995 album 'Frestonia' while staying in Prestatyn. They then later blamed the melancholic and gloomy tone of the record on the awful weather in the resort. Taking all these points into account, Mr Roden and Mr Jones decided that Prestatyn was the perfect place to throw 90 school children for a week.

And so it began. It was the 7th June 2010 with the time slowly nearing 9:30. Finally, the expedition began. After a few too many hours, we arrived in Llangollen, pulling up at the bottom of a daunting hill. It was a not-so-warm welcome to Wales trudging up a mud-stricken mound to reach Dinas Bran, the remains of a medieval castle. Of course Mr Jackson wouldn't trudge up a hill just for some history so therefore had us draw the surrounding cliffs which were rich in Limestone. After completing our masterpieces and slipping down the hill, we continued our adventure to Prestatyn.

Pontins Sandy Beach resort in Prestatyn is a large expanse of land filled with a range of activities, shops, chalets for accommodation and, for one week only, Grammar School boys. Staying in groups of three or four, we settled in nicely, mainly due to the discovery of the supermarket. Nevertheless, we were ready for the excursions that lay ahead. After a good night's sleep, everyone was set and raring to go next morning when we went to visit Caernarfon Castle, built during the reign of King Edward 1st.

After delving deeply into history, we visited the famous waterfall at Aber Falls where we completed some very sophisticated Biology and Geography work. We used a net for biology and the geography task was to investigate the cross-section of the river and the speed of the current using a ruler, a stopwatch and, (yes, you guessed it,) an orange. These tasks also involved entering the freezing cold river, much to some peoples discomfort with a few people falling in, some more than once.

Upon return to Pontins, it was time for the evening activity of form football, each form presenting 2 teams. It was very well refereed by Mr Watkins and Mr Barrett who (as every England fan will tell you) refereed

fairly unlike this year's World Cup referees. After some very close (and hard fought) matches, 8M emerged on top, putting them in pole position for the Form Championship.

The next two days fell into a blur, with not enough sleep and a lot of thoroughly enjoyed time at Plas Y Brenin, the Welsh National Mountain Centre. Here we took on activities such as Canoeing; where Mr Roden, Mr Jones and Mr Duncan started their own personal vendetta against the pupils, absolutely drenching those foolish enough to come near them. Skiing; where most spent more time

on the floor rather than gliding down the dry ski slope. Orienteering took part in the surrounding forest and we also did rock climbing. This was for most people, the highlight of the week, made enjoyable by the excellent instructors and the staff participation. More importantly however, these two days brought about the end of the form competition with 8M narrowly winning the tennis and 8S winning the snooker. However, some shocks in the cricket, resulted with all the teams even (prompting Mr Watkins to rethink the scoring system?).





After a long and tiring week, the final day came. The day we had to pack our bags and leave our temporary 'luxury' chalets. But there was still one more thing to do. It was time for the staff vs pupils football and cricket matches. Those teachers brave enough to run the risk of breaking their old backs hobbled onto the pitch. The pupils took an early lead but the staff fought back to win 3-2.

But, the pupils ignored this minor setback as they came back to fight in the cricket match. We batted first and started well due to a brilliant batting performance from Chad Atkinson. Unfortunately after the umpire failed to spot Mr Duncan moving the wickets (we very conveniently don't have any photos from the staff camera showing this!) the pupils were all out for 46. Then it was the teachers' turn, with Mr Jones and Mr May taking up the mantle of opening. After Mr May's impressive display, 22 were needed of the last over. No balls and wides took this to 7 needed from the final ball. In the end, the pupils won by a slender 5 runs which brought the end to this great expedition.

It was a thoroughly enjoyed trip by all the participants and I would like to thank the staff and the governors for making this trip possible. It was fantastic. All I can say is good luck to the year 7's who have the (arduous?) task of defeating the mighty staff at football next year. You're going to need it!

■ *Giles Moss, 8S*

■ *Connor Burns, 8S*







Year 7 History Visit to Kenilworth Castle

For the second year, students in year 7 were able to delve into medieval England and be captivated by one of the most spectacular and historic castles in the country. The tour consisted of three parts: discovering how to attack and defend the castle by taking a tour right around the perimeter of the curtain wall; developing an understanding of what life in the castle would be like by exploring the keep, the



kitchens and the great hall; and using the classroom to find out how the castle developed its defences over time and to handle a series of artefacts, some genuine and others replica. We were blessed by a warm summer's day although the pollen sent some of the party sneezing right round the exterior. Experience learned at the castle were then brought back into school for follow up work on the development of castles during the period 1066–1485.

■ **G.N.H.**

St David's Outdoor Pursuits 2010

Once again we enjoyed a near perfect visit to St Davids for our annual outdoor pursuits event. The excellent weather, unlike other, more recent years, definitely helped to ease the whole climbing business and made every day much more enjoyable for everyone.

We had a particularly talented and enthusiastic group this year and everyone climbed with a keen determination to improve both technique and style. Well done!

Thanks must also go to Messrs Bruten, Hardy, Cookson and Downing, without whom the boys would undoubtedly starve and remain unwashed for the whole five days.

■ **P.T.C.**

Year 11 History Trip to Cold War Museum

As part of the Modern World History course all year 11 students went on a visit to RAF Cosford to visit the National Cold War Exhibition.

Following a talk by an RAF signaller reflecting on his experiences of National Service, students were able to look at the displays, vehicles and weapons which

helped to further their understanding of this complex period of History. It was appropriate to visit in the week of the fall of the Berlin Wall. Highlights this year included the flight simulator, James May's full-sized Airfix model of the Spitfire and the relief of not creating another bomb scare!

■ **G.N.H.**

Foreign Trips

Polish School Exchange

We travelled to Poland in November 2009 for our third school exchange with Zespół Szkół Ogólnokształcących II Liceum (II LO) in Swidnica, Lower Silesia. Seven Sixth form boys accompanied by two teachers were, once again, most wonderfully looked after and entertained by their hosts in this small city in South West Poland. Our visit is planned to coincide with the Polish school's British and American Days; an exuberant celebration of the English language through drama, public speaking, singing and competitions, where, of course, we had a fair chance of winning.

"I really enjoyed the trip as you meet really interesting people and make great friends within the group. The karaoke with hilariously awful singers was definitely a high point, especially seeing as I got to judge who was the best!" Rupert Cole

Our students attended two days of almost normal lessons with their hosts, whilst the whole of this 16–18 co-ed grammar school practiced its English and made the most of the occasion.

The weather in Poland was still quite nice and we saw Swidnica, the city of Wrocław and the surrounding countryside at their autumn best. Polish school starts and finishes early and, apart from our Saturday sightseeing trip to Wrocław, the rest of the time was spent with local families, in town and out and about visiting places of cultural and historic interest.

Polish hospitality was reciprocated by our students when our visitors arrived in March of 2010. They in their turn spent two days with us in our school; with the science laboratories always a big favourite. Their appearance in school is usually a source of curiosity for Camp Hill; the majority of the visitors are girls and, in any case, they all take an active, and fluent, part in lessons. All the evening social side was apparently



sorted our well in advance by the students themselves. I can say that the Saturday group visit to London by train was a great success, with the Poles making a surprise descent on the shops for some serious buying of music CDs.

"It was a big pleasure for me to have a chance to spend such a great time in England. I knew many friendly people, met the new culture, had a chance to find out some information about the programme of English education and, which was also very important for me, I could improve my English by spending all the time with the native speakers; English families and friends. I'd love to meet them all once again in my life. All the exchange was awesome!" Monika Gdesz

"So, Poland or England? As you know, Poland has many customs and traditions. England too, but they are quite different. What amazed us? First of all, your food that is totally strange to us. For example, beans or bacon with cold orange juice for breakfast – it's unusual for the Polish stomach. The school programme is not at all similar to the Polish curriculum. We have a number of general subjects (16) and Abhishek Banerjee, who was my host, had only four. The room in which you can spend a break playing pool and looking over the room for girls, made a great impression on us.

In London, we could see a lot of places that we had admired in picture postcards before, such as Big Ben and London Bridge. That was amazing! On Sunday I went to the Cosford Aviation Museum with Abhishek's family. Airplanes are my passion so the museum was a paradise for me and I did not want to come out. I took photos of historical planes, learnt about pilots of WWII. We haven't got places like that in Poland. I would like to thank the entire host family. It was a great experience, a big thank you to everyone involved in this exchange." Radosław Jurga

So as you can see, a great time was indeed had by all. This Wednesday to Monday, term time exchange, will be repeated in 2011 and the opportunity is being offered to the current Lower Sixth.

■ C.J.



Year 9 in Germany

Pupils from 9J went on two trips to Germany at the end of May and the middle of June this year.

The first was a Homestay and, as its name implies, was a language and cultural trip where we all stayed with a German partner and his... or her... family.

The VDI trip (*VDI stands for Verband deutscher Ingenieure – the Association of German Engineers*) was a pupil forum where we had to present scientific or technological subjects of our choice in both English and German to an audience comprising academics and fellow German pupils at Frankfurt's Fachhochschule (the University of Applied Sciences).

Frankfurt Home Stay Trip

At a sensible 11 am, on a glorious June morning, 8 Year 9 boys and 3 Year 10's headed out on a Flybe flight to Frankfurt with Mr Surr and Mrs Balkham. We were staying with partners from our partner school in Germany the "Schule am Ried" and we spent the first evening getting to know them and their families. The following day gave us a taste of life in a German school with lessons starting at 7:45 am and ending around about lunchtime. In the afternoon we headed into Frankfurt for the official reception by the City Mayor in the town hall before having free time with our partners.

Our schedule was very busy with visits to Frankfurt Zoo, a tour of the city by Mr Surr, a day out to Heidelberg and also time with our host families. On the Saturday evening a large group of us went to the open air swimming pool and had a BBQ afterwards which was enjoyed by all.

On the other evenings when we had free time with our families and partners, we went to a local park and taught them how to play rugby. This was a very simple version of the game as our partners did not fully understand the rules – and I'm not altogether sure that they do even now!

The final evening was spent at the "Schule am Ried" where there was a party for us and our partners. At the party we all made a big list of things that we liked about the trip and a small list of how the trip could be improved. During the party as a gift to our partners, we presented them with a rugby ball that we had all autographed. This was well received and soon after we went outside and had a final game.

VDI Schülerforum 2010

At the rather less sociable hour of 5 am on a mid-June Thursday morning, 11 boys, Mr Surr and Mr Jackson met outside Birmingham Airport Terminal Two about to

depart to Frankfurt on the VDI Schülerforum trip. We made our own way from the airport by S-Bahn and then the U-Bahn to the "Schule am Ried" to meet our partners. We spent the evening with our partners, but they all lived very close together and were friends, so they met up with each other, which was nice for us and for them.

The next day was the actual day of the forum at the University of Applied Sciences. Camp Hill's presentations were the last to be given. Fraser West, Ed Maclean and Amir Azam did their presentation on Quantum Computing,



which went down well with the judges, even though there were a few slight errors with the German. Tim Chatfield, Kyle Reed and Kieran Bakhtiari talked about Hybrid Cars, which also was successful, even if one of the judges did want to know details about a specific Lexus model from 2007, which the boys had never heard of. Anthony



Featherstone and Max Cheung explained the future for space exploration and Hok Chiu, Torin Elmhirst and Andrew Hawkin spoke about Bionics which explored the area of telepathic communication and also the possibility of enhancing the human body. All presentations were commended not only for the scientific content, but the successful use of German; both spoken and written – and the odd bit of humour.

In the afternoon of the Schülerforum we were able to watch the Germany v Serbia game from the World Cup in South Africa among a large number of German students and even a couple of Serbian students. We joined in with our new-found Serbian friends and supported their team but our glee and Schadenfreude (what an appropriate place to experience that emotion!) at

Pictures:

[Top] Homestay, Hannan Currah in class

[Centre] Giving a presentation at VDI

[Below] Homestay group in Frankfurt City Centre



Germany's defeat was short-lived, as that evening England struggled to draw with football minnows Algeria.

The next day was spent on a sight-seeing tour Frankfurt town centre, where we went to the same places as on the home stay trip, but also went up the second tallest building in Frankfurt and got a magnificent view over the city. The evening and the last day were spent with our families, but on both occasions we met up as a larger group. Some of us went camping on the Saturday night by a lake in northern Bavaria, which was a fun experience. On the Sunday afternoon, we travelled back to Frankfurt airport, and made it back to Birmingham at around 8 pm.

Overall, both trips were a great experience, and we all benefited greatly in terms of our spoken German and gained an insight into German home and family life. We found out about the German way of living, and our German families were really hospitable, feeding us well, assisting our spoken German and being as helpful as they could. Not only did we experience Germany and form friendships with our German partners but their families learnt a lot about England too: mine asked me challenging questions like 'Why do you wear a school uniform?' and 'Why do the English like it when Germany lose at football?'

Many thanks must go to our host families and to Mr Surr, Mr Jackson and Mrs Balkham who gave up their time to come with us to Frankfurt. Special thanks also to Mr Surr and Mr Jackson who gave up many lunchtimes and free periods to help us with our German and give advice on the VDI presentation itself – Mr Jackson was an expert on what colours and font sizes are best to the eye. So once again thank you to our host families and to the teachers.

■ *Fraser West, 9J*

■ *Anthony Featherstone, 9J*

Ski Trip to France Alpe D'huez 2010

Fantastic snow conditions and astonishingly good food. What more can anyone want from a ski trip? We had both and more this year, so it was rather special. Thanks to all those who enjoyed the week.

Come back for more... in 2011 we are skiing in St Anton, Austria. There are several places available; if you ask nicely! In 2012, Saas Fee in Switzerland is our destination. Only a few places remaining here also so hurry with your deposits, before it's too late.

■ *P.T.C.*



St Malo 2010

As usual, the trip began early, with the coach setting out at 4:30 a.m. At 7:15, we stopped at services, and it felt like lunchtime, even though school hadn't started for everyone else. After lots of "How far is it now?" and endless games of Tap Tap on iPods, we arrived at the Port of Dover at 9 a.m. At 10, the ferry left, and for an hour it was off to the MegaDrome Video Arcade, the open-air deck or the shop that sold 2 huge Galaxy bars for £4.99. Unfortunately, Calais arrived very quickly, and it was back into the confines of the coach. After four hours, we stopped at the Pont de Normandie for a break, then set off again and arrived in St Malo at 7:30.

Mr Renault wasn't completely right: he said the first half an hour would be the hardest. In fact, it's the first half an hour after the first ten minutes, by which time you've been asked all the questions you understand, and are reduced to randomly answering "Oui" or "Non".

The next day, we met in the car park to go to Mont St Michel. In short, we climbed a lot of stairs, learnt about various aspects of the Abbey from the tour guide dubbed into English by Mr Renault and spent a lot of money – everything at Mont St Michel is ridiculously expensive. After a picnic, it was to the beach in Dinard, to play football, dig holes or just sit on the wall with ice creams.

The next day, we stayed with our host families, and experiences varied wildly, from trips to the beach to shoe-shopping, but whatever we did, we all ended up speaking some French. As on Friday, we met up on Sunday in the car park. We set off, and drove for about 45 minutes to the US war

cemetery. The number of graves there is incredible, and only a tiny fraction of those killed. On a happier note, we then sat on the coach for another 30 minutes to the Parc Zoologique de Champrepus, or Champrepus Zoo in English. At first, this seemed like just a tiny petting zoo, but soon we got to the lions, gorillas and other large animals, and it got much more exciting.

After yet another coach ride, and much speculation about where we were going, we arrived in Dinard for another visit to the beach, then it was back to St Malo for our final night.

We met bright and early in the car park at 8:15 to return home, or at least that's what the letter said. Because several people were late, we actually set off at 10 to 9. Half an hour later, we were in the hypermarket, "stocking up on provisions for the trip" like brioche and squirty cream, or massive packs of Mars Bars. After a cold, boring stop to have lunch, we arrived in Calais 10 minutes late – 4:50 instead of 4:40. Unfortunately, by 5:40, when the ferry left, we had moved about 20 metres in the check-in queue. After missing another ferry, we checked in and went through customs, to board the 7:50 ferry. This was much the same as the first crossing, if slightly less stable in the water. We left the ferry, and as we were back in the UK, people started making phone calls, with exchanges like "Where are you?" "We're on a road," and "We're in a town." Finally, at 1:30, we arrived at school. Aside from the last day, this trip was fantastic, and I certainly recommend it.

■ *Joe Malt, 7M*

[A gallery of photographs from the trip are shown on the following two pages]







Maths Matters

To say that this has been a momentous year in the mathematical history of Camp Hill is something of an understatement; to précis the achievements of the boys will be my biggest challenge!

The autumn term roared to life with busy open meetings and mentoring sessions for prospective **British Maths Olympiad** qualifiers, or any students interested in developing their mathematical skills. These sessions were again delivered with enthusiasm and considerable skill by Nathan Brown and Aled Walker and they were very popular, with boys from year 10 upwards taking advantage of the opportunity. I'm not sure how Aled and Nathan will squeeze these sessions in around University lectures next year!

Senior

In early November AS level mathematicians and invited 'others', from years 10, 11 and 13, took part in the UK Senior Maths Challenge. This was a tough paper, testing the skills of students of all abilities. It was very pleasing, therefore, to see how well the boys had performed when the results were returned; between them they gained 28 Bronze, 28 Silver and 14 Gold certificates. Six boys qualified for the follow up **BMOI**, a challenge aimed at the top 1000 or so students in the country; Nathan (as best in school), Aled, Santosh Karri, James Jordan, Tim Shao and Chris Carter. In the end, 9 boys participated in the **BMOI**: Jack Attack, Staszek Welsh and Andrew Pearson completed the line up.

The results of the **BMO1** saw Nathan Brown and Aled Walker gain Gold medals and certificates of Distinction for their superb solutions. Their total scores differed by only a mark; they attempted all six ques-

tions, scoring full marks on four, 9 out of 10 on another and a handful of marks for their final attempt. Their award of a Gold medal placed them well into the top 19 candidates who sat the paper; incredible!

Aled and Nathan qualified for the follow up **BMO2** and so their journey toward selection for the UK *International Maths Olympiad* team had begun. Once again they found themselves in the top performers nationally and were invited to the first of numerous training camps that would ultimately end in Kazakhstan (*see separate article*).

Senior Team Challenge Four Head to London

Two weeks later, Nathan Brown (taking time out from co-directing the junior play!), Aled Walker, Tim Shao and Staszek Welsh lined up against 19 other Midlands schools to answer problems over three time limited rounds in the regional heat of the UKMT Senior Team Challenge. Camp Hill started perfectly with 60 out of 60 in round 1 and followed up with an incredible 70 out of 72 in the Number Cross puzzle. The final relay round caused no problem and their victory placed them ahead of KEHS for Girls, KES and Camp Hill Girls, and meant Camp Hill travelling to London in February.

At the national final of this increasingly popular event they found themselves pitting their considerable mathematical skills against 69 other schools from around the country.

Firstly, and in a separate competition, they completed a poster to illustrate some aspects of 'Fractals'. This provided the ideal way to begin the day but they were anxious to get on with the competition proper.

Full marks in the first round (10 group questions) provided the ideal start but com-

petition was obviously going to be tough as 5 other schools achieved the same perfect start.

The crossnumber usually separates the teams a little but again there were excellent scores with our team dropping only a point.

The final relays would decide the eventual winners. A few slips cost a handful of points and the chance to win overall had gone. Nevertheless, their total of 171 out of a possible 186 was superb and placed them 7th overall, only a few marks behind second. The winners, Westminster school, only missed out on two bonus marks, making no mathematical errors all day! Well done to our team for doing the school, and themselves, proud; hopefully Tim and Staszek can carry on the excellent work that Aled and Nathan have initiated.

Intermediate

The inclement winter weather did not affect this year's Intermediate Maths Challenge and our boys from Years 9 to 11 were able to test their mettle on a good paper. There were 271 entries with the boys securing an impressive 84 Gold certificates, 73 Silvers and 49 Bronze; well done to Jason Pereira (year 10) for his 'Best in school' award. An incredible 20 boys qualified for the **IMOK**, a two hour paper for the top 1000 in the UK. Aled very kindly, and with his usual skill, provided a 'tutoring' session for the Olympiad qualifiers; his willingness to pass on his considerable experience is much appreciated! 25 others qualified for the European Kangaroo, a 25 question multiple choice paper sat by students throughout Europe.

Three boys from year 9 secured the major accolades when the results of the **IMOK** were published; Terence Wu and Lian Zhu received a certificate of Distinction and a medal, placing them in the top 100 participants nationally. Max Cheung also achieved a certificate of distinction, a medal and a book prize, placing him in the top 50 nationally. Superb!



Senior Maths Team



Senior Maths Team with certificates



Pictured above: Junior Maths Team

Junior

The students in years 7 and 8 were not to be deprived of their opportunity to succeed; 179 boys sat the Junior Maths Challenge this year and produced some impressive results, gaining 74 Gold certificates, 60 Silver and 24 Bronze. Michael Jones produced the top score, an impressive 116/135, and 11 boys qualified for the follow up Junior Maths Olympiad, aimed at the top 1000 or so students in the country.

The qualifiers did very well, with all receiving certificates, but special mention must be given to Sam England. He has the honour of being the most successful entrant for Camp Hill, gaining a certificate of distinction, a silver medal and a book prize that showed he was among the top 50 mathematicians in the country, a fantastic achievement!

Four Head to London, Take 2

After the 'fun' of exam week, Robert Walters, Robert Smith, Sam England and Giles Moss took a day trip to London to represent the school in the final of this year's Team Maths Challenge. This challenge, also organised by the UKMT is aimed at younger students and the team had won their place in the final at the end of the Spring term. Their victory had proved very impressive with the individual skills of the boys gelling perfectly.

We convened early and travelled to London by train; Robert Walters provided the entertainment en route by seeing how many digits of π he could remember, although he couldn't compete with the 2000 000 000 that make the current record! We travelled on the underground to our venue for the

day; the Royal Horticultural Halls, Westminster. I was a little alarmed to find that our team of very intelligent students couldn't fathom how to pass through the ticket turnstiles on the underground, although they did learn quickly!

We took our place in the hall and surveyed the 79 other teams that had qualified; it was going to be VERY competitive!

The boys had already spent time researching some geometric theorems, as this was the focus for the separate Poster Competition that began the final. They compiled their finished poster, answering some hard questions set on the day, but were clearly eager for the main event.

This contained the usual four rounds; a group round where they worked as a team of 4 and a mini relay, cross number and final relay where they worked in pairs.

The questions on the day were very challenging, especially as the times allocated to answer them were cut this year. We were announced as being in the top five after the first round but the boys felt that they had lost a few unnecessary marks in the mini relay and our name did not appear among the top five after round two.

A very strong performance in the cross number followed by an excellent relay meant the boys finished feeling very happy with their performance and they were keen to find out where they'd finished, hoping to better last year's 18th.

The results of the poster competition were announced, followed by those for the main event. To have the school name read out as the THIRD placed team was amazingly rewarding. The boys were incredibly proud of their achievement and, being



Picture above: BMO1 Competitors | Picture below: Junior Team at National Final



typically competitive, wanted to know how many points behind the teams in the top two places they had finished; a question I can't answer!

Following the success of our teams in the UKMT team challenges it was great to be given the chance to organise an event for South Birmingham schools. We entered a team of six Year 9 students (Fraser West, Andrew Hawkin, Thomas Chalklen, Max Cheung, Lian Zhu and Terence Wu) and they were outstanding throughout the day, top scoring in all three rounds (Group Round, Cross Number and Relay). The venue, Birmingham City Football Stadium, was superb and helped to add to the success of the day. The boys thoroughly deserved their overall victory and the event will hopefully be the first of many to bring the local schools together.

The separate article by Nathan and Aled summarises the 'once in a lifetime' experience that they worked so hard to achieve



European Kangaroo Qualifiers



IMOK Qualifiers

and that fittingly concluded their school education. Our pride at their selection to represent the UK in the team of 6 at the 2010 International Maths Olympiad is hard to quantify. **Very** few students reach this level of representation in any sport or activity (how many boys can we think of that have reached the top 6 nationally in their chosen skill?). The honour of competing with the best mathematical brains from around the world is quite unbelievable. We will always remember Aled and Nathan, not only for the honour they have brought to themselves and Camp Hill, but also because they tirelessly and selflessly gave so much to other students. Their contribution to mathematics at Camp Hill will almost certainly be unique: I find it difficult to imagine two other students in the same year group achieving so much!

■ P.A.B.

Pictures:

[Top right] Nathan Brown with Silver Medal

[Top left] Close up of medal

[Lower left] Nathan and Aled discussing BM02

[Lower right] Aled, Peter Bruten and Nathan



International Mathematical Olympiad

A Student's View

Some choose to go 'Inter-railing' across Europe. Others descend on Greek tourist resorts. However, Nathan Brown and I decided what we really wanted in our long post A-Level summer holiday was to compete a maths competition. Let me explain...

The International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO for short) is the most prestigious and challenging competition for pre-university maths students in the world. It has been an annual event since 1959, initially only for Soviet-bloc nations but gradually swelling to around 100 countries. The contest consists of two 4½ hour papers taken on consecutive days, with three extremely challenging questions on each. Its location changes every year, as different states bid to host it much like the comparatively insignificant Olympic Games, and in 2010 it was held in the incredible location of Kazakhstan! The UK has participated every year since 1967, and currently selects their team of 6 via a series of training camps and exams. For all slaves to statistics, we are *Camp Hill's first pupils, the first 2 pupils from the same school since 1997, and the first 2 pupils ever from the same state school to make the team in the same year.* This year, 47 Gold, 104 Silver and 116 Bronze medals

were awarded. If you are only interested in our results, I achieved 14 points (equivalent to 2 questions, one mark off a bronze medal, but gaining an honourable mention) and Nathan scored 22 points (equivalent to 3 questions, a silver medal).

With such an international field, the primary highlight was of course the fun of mixing with other teams from all over the world. Before the IMO, we shared a joint training camp with the Australians (in Astana, the Kazakh capital) and it was a delight to find a group of people so distant in geography but so close in sentiment to our own team. The camp served as the location for the annual 'Mathematical Ashes', a competition established 2 years ago in which the Australian and UK teams compete for an urn containing the burnt scripts of the first year's competitors. This proved the mathematical highlight of the trip as far as we were concerned, as the UK was victorious 72-68. The previous day, during a game of football, James Cranch (our deputy leader) had tried to increase the UK's chances by cunningly tackling AUS6 Sampson Wong in such a way as to nearly remove a toenail. He claims it was an accident...

Kazakhstan itself was a revelation. This was the 3rd country that I

had visited under mathematical auspices (Hungary and Romania being the previous two) and it was fascinating observing its cultural niceties. On the one hand you have a thriving market economy, based on oil and mineral wealth, and a showpiece capital that could be mistaken for Dubai; on the other you have an ex-communist state held together by personal adoration of their President, Nursultan Nazarbayev, who has held the position since the breakup of the USSR in 1991. Before the start of the competition, we got the chance to experience some local culture. At the grandiose Opening Ceremony we were treated to a melange of traditional dancers and musicians, the most unusual of which being a Kazakh folk/heavy metal group. Despite the infuriating quantity of self aggrandisement, Kazakhstan came across as a young and vibrant country. I would recommend anyone whose only knowledge of the world's largest landlocked country stems from Sacha



Pictured above: The UK and Australian teams



Above: Baiterek – The symbol of Kazakhstan

Baron Cohen to think again.

We have got to know the other people on the UK team very well over years, and it was exciting to be able to share such an extraordinary adventure with them. Possible anecdotes are numerous, but one of the most bizarre centres on our first 12 hours at Baldauren, the children’s health camp where the contest was actually held. Upon our evening arrival, in addition to utter pandemonium, there was a distinct lack of food – or rather, one would have to wait until midnight for it to be produced. With the hardest exam of our lives in the morning, the tardiness of sustenance was most disconcerting. We decided to retire rather than wait, since, as every Camp Hill pupils knows, “all you need is a pencil, a rubber and a good night’s sleep.” © Peter Jack

Due to this chaos, we were looking forward to eking out as many minutes of sleep as possible before the intellectual exertions to follow. However, all participants were awoken at 06:30 by ‘Peer Gynt’ blaring out of a centralised speaker system. This was psychological torture! The ‘extreme Grieg experience’ might have been the low point of the fortnight, but the team had shared a memory to last a lifetime.

The exams themselves harboured mixed

fortunes. Astonishingly, all the UK team achieved full marks on the ‘easy’ questions 1 and 4. This was almost jeopardised by the inability of the Kazakh markers to comprehend Nathan’s illegible scrawl! However, the other questions proved unusually impenetrable. A beautiful coin problem (well, beautiful once the solution was known) posed all participants major difficulties, mainly due to the seeming impossibility of the correct result – the question had cruelly left open whether its statement was to be proved true or false. Nathan’s navigation of this minefield was particularly impressive.

Despite the competitors at the IMO being chosen for their mathematical ability, one would be surprised at their sporting credentials! Football took centre stage (quite literally, in an open air amphitheatre screening of the World Cup Final in the early hours of the morning), with the Bulgarians dominating the organised 5-a-side tournament. A number of mathematicians enjoyed international volleyball games, but there was also opportunity for swimming, table tennis, chess, boating (on pedalos that were advertised as ‘catamarans’!) and, for a brief hour one evening, a large game of ‘Capture the Flag’ in the

wooded grounds of the camp. The UK is at an enormous advantage in this informal international diplomacy due to the extreme ubiquity of English; not only do many countries around the world have it as a national language, those that don’t tend to teach it with intense rigour. Although Nathan gave his French a try on one or two occasions, English was very much the ‘lingua franca’ between all participants. We played many games with the Australians, Irish, Norwegians, Finnish, Icelanders, Canadians, New Zealanders, Dutch, and even a quiet North Korean!

Although a predominantly positive experience, there were some low moments. Personally, the announcement that the bronze medal cut-off would be 15 (I had scored 14 with 2 perfect solutions) was particularly cutting – especially as almost every year 14 points is enough to secure a bronze. However, another member of the team was in an identical situation so we could share our frustration.

I never thought that I would get into the IMO team. I see it as an enormous honour to have been chosen to represent the UK, and a similarly enormous privilege to have been able to visit such an extraordinary country. On a trivial level, the competition was a disappointment for me; I didn’t get the bronze medal that I knew I was capable of. However, socialising with some of the most exciting, vibrant, engaging and intelligent young people in the world was a joy that completely masked any pangs of discontent. Of course there were administrative and organisational miscalculations, maybe a few more than usual, but with the gift of hindsight these problems fade into insignificance. Thanks must go to our fabulous Maths Department for their infinite wisdom, and the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust for its continual championing of mathematical truth.

■ **Aled Walker, U1**



Baldauren summer camp

Music

Summer Soireè

The Summer Soireè takes place at the end of the Summer Term and is a showcase for our Junior and Intermediate groups.

■ S.F.P.





A-Level Group

This was an outstanding A level group who were a delight to teach. They achieved outstanding results of 3-A*, 5-A, 1-B. In addition, the boys in the picture from right to left achieved the following:

- Aled Walker – scored 599 out of a possible 600 Marks in his A level
- Joss Brookes – gained a place at the Royal Northern College of Music
- David Todd – was awarded an Organ Scholarship at University College, Oxford

■ S.F.P.



Pupils performing with distinction

Many of our pupils play in the City of Birmingham Music Service Orchestras, Bands and Choirs, and represent the school with distinction.

An example of this is three boys who all play in Birmingham Schools' Jazz Ensemble, as well as many other groups, and formed themselves into a Jazz Trio – Aled and the Walkers. They are Aled Walker (Piano), Rupert Cole (Kit) and Alex Pattison (Double Bass). As well as playing in school events they have played for many events outside school such as concerts, parties and receptions.

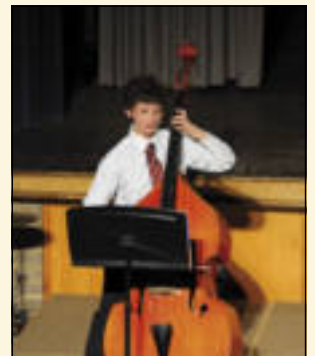
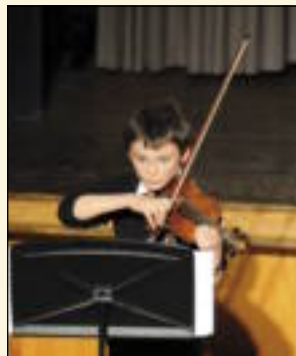
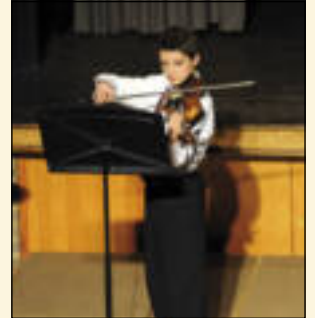
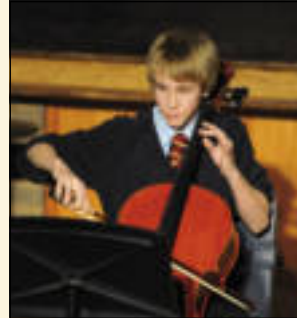
■ S.F.P.



Poetry and Music Evening

The Poetry and Music Evening is organised with local Junior Schools. Pupils from Camp Hill and the Junior Schools take part in a workshop of poetry and music projects and then present them in two concerts in the Spring Term, one to pupils and another to parents. We heard poetry and music of a very high standard.

■ S.F.P.



Charity Piano Concert

We have a number of outstanding pianists in school, and many of these performed in our Charity Piano Concert. It included performances by three boys who have gained piano diplomas, the level above grade 8. These are Robert Smith, Andy Mei and Marvin Miu. We are pleased to report that £176.00 was raised for Cancer Research UK.

We are delighted that two of the boys who performed in this concert have also recently gained diplomas: David Todd passed his piano diploma, and Andy Mei gained a violin diploma to add to his piano qualification.

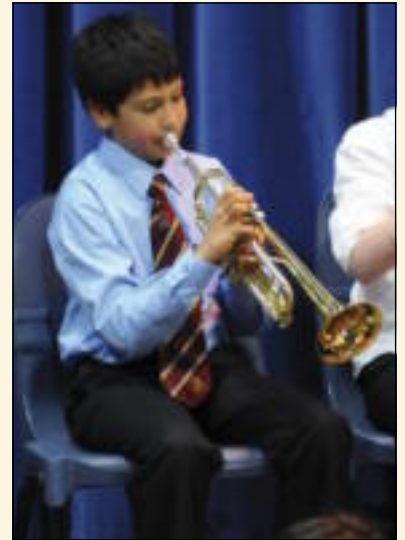
■ S.F.P.



Chamber Concert

The Chamber Concert is now held in the middle of the Autumn Term and is a chance for the Training groups to perform, as well as other medium sized ensembles.

■ S.F.P.

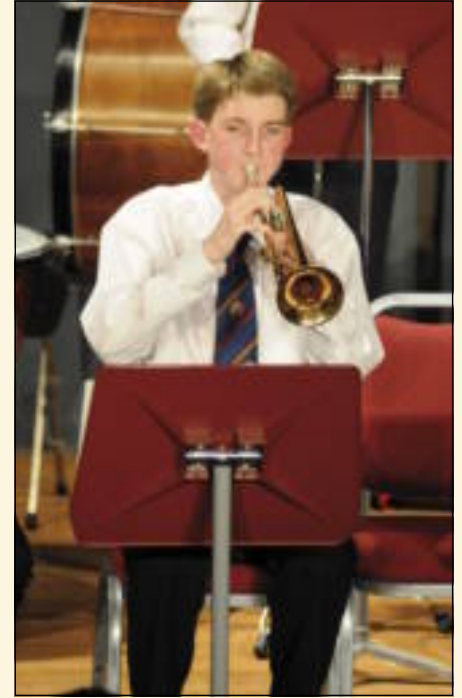
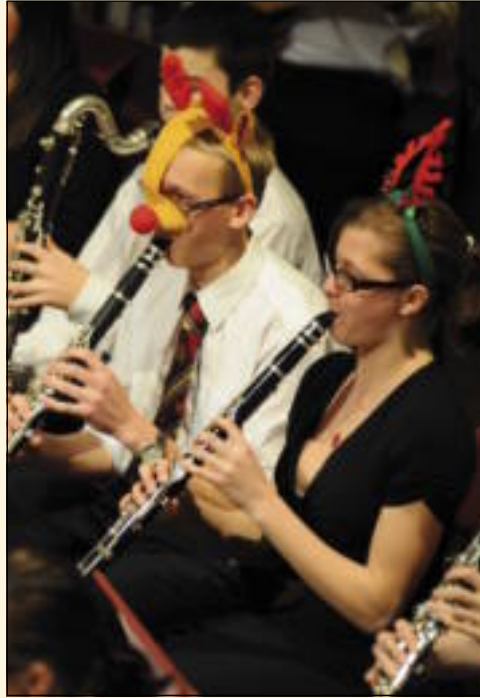


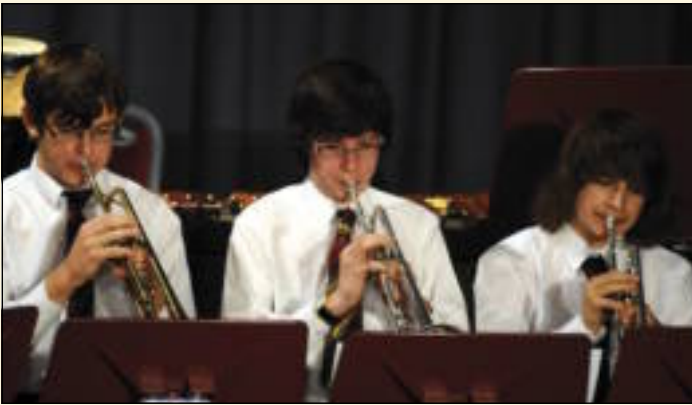
Christmas Concert

A popular annual event, the Christmas Concert features all of the main school Ensembles. Again we were pleased that Santa dropped in at the end to help with the Concert Orchestra's performance of Sleigh Ride by Leroy Anderson.

[See photographs on this and the next two pages]

■ S.F.P.







Drama

Teachers

In the last few weeks of the summer term two years ago, Mrs Lockyer announced that she would be running a play solely for the then year tens. And that auditions would start straight away. The play was *Teachers* written by John Godber. David Harvey and Alistair Hurst, who has just left upper sixth and hadn't had to go to university yet, had volunteered to be the assistant directors for the production which involved hours and hours of work after school and telling us what to do and other fun stuff like that.

Teachers centres around three teenagers called Salty, Hobby and Gail. Salty is the ringleader who was played by Thomas Dowling. Hobby the awkward boy or girl (a girl in the original, but changed by Mrs Lockyer) was played by Jordan O'Brien. Finally, Gail is one of only two (or three) girls in the whole play, and was played by Annie Randall. Throughout the play we meet a drama teacher called Mr Nixon (Ankit Bhatt) who inspires the three to want to do more with their lives. The three are semi-bullied by the teacher-shagging six foot two Oggy Moxon (Kieran Ahern) who really wants to get into Gail's pants.

Rehearsals started early on in the winter term with hours of variations upon the game



of "zip zap boing" or other "concentration games" before we started on our promenade theatre. Promenade theatre was Mrs Lockyer's new idea for this production: the audience follow the play around the "stages". The cloakroom, room 0 and the Hall would be used as rooms of the school. This new idea proved popular with the audience, but difficult.



Days before the show, disaster struck.

With only days left, Mrs Lockyer considered pulling the plug on Teechers because...we were rubbish. Cool-guy Anthony had to be called in to help us. Anthony is an ex-drama-teacher-turned-professional-drama-geeza who was tall and cool and stuff, and told us we needed to work really hard. So we came in at the weekend, still days before the performance, and we rehearsed hard and long: we ran through the play probably three times in dress. Oh, and we played hide-and-seek for about an hour. But of course, it all came together in the end with the cast of Tom Dowling, Ankit Bhatt, Annie Randall, Jordan O'Brien, Kieran Ahern, Alex McCormick, Jo Paul, Karndeepp Uppal, Navdeep Singh Bhamra, Charley Fellows-Cambell, Ben Dovey, Cameron Whitehead, Tom Williams, Micheal Chalmers, Chris Sherwood, Oliver Dawkins, Ross Mackie, Alex Wood and Jack Bristow. It was a huge success of course, with some calling it the best year 11 production the school had ever seen. Needless to say, it was the only year 11 only play anyone could remember.

The cast would like to thank Mrs Atay (I think, I can't remember) for helping with costume, without which Alex McCormick

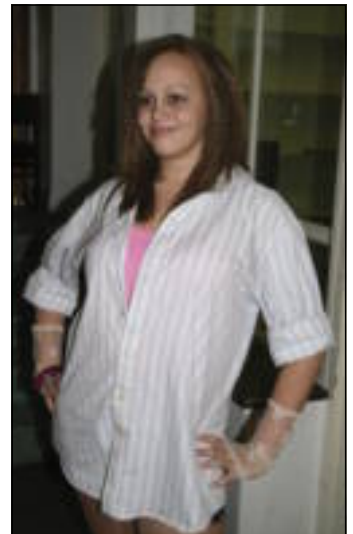


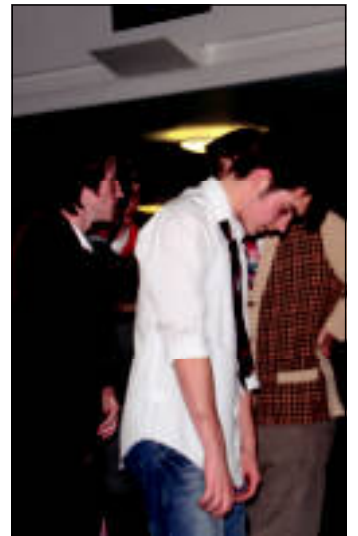
would not have been as hilarious, David Harvey and Alasdair Hurst for contributing huge amounts of time and effort, especially as they'd already left the school at the time, and, of course, Mrs Lockyer for

getting us to rehearsals, sorting out the script, and putting on a fantastic (I hate that word) production.

[Also see photographs on the next page]

■ **Cameron Whitehead, L1**





A Midsummer Night's Dream

Camp Hill Junior Drama 2009

It was the Summer Term of 2009, and once again, it was time to audition for the Junior Drama 2009. Genius directors Bex Lockyer and old boys Alisdair Hurst and David Harvey rocked up to deliver what would turn out to be the most complicated but ultimately the most rewarding production in Camp Hill's recent history. Mrs Lockyer decided that it was to be *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Admittedly, when Shakespeare was first mentioned, many cringed and a common thought was simply 'boring'. This was not the case. At the boy's auditions, large numbers of hopefuls turned up and were all auditioned, and all were presented with a part to play. When the girl's auditions were scheduled, nothing prepared us for the sheer numbers who turned up; in fact a whole year group were turned away, to wait for the next year's production. Those remaining were whittled down and allocated to their roles. All those who carried on after the audition stages, whether they had a major or a minor role, would hold a key part in bringing the play together when it really mattered. The directors went away, and a cast list was formed.

As this was Shakespeare with a twist and had several musical numbers and ingenious choreography involved – including 'We will Rock You' and 'Don't Stop Me Now' – rehearsals were scheduled almost daily from September 2009, right up until the performances in November and a huge level of commitment was required for all involved – now more than ever for the directors as David Harvey left for



Oxford University. However, the actors and actresses took the long hours in their stride, including several weekend marathons, where little acting was done as technical creases were ironed out. In the end, no one regretted the past 3 months and there were many tears.

For much of the rehearsal period, the large cast was split into four groups: the 'Nobles' including Duke Theseus of Athens and his wife Hippolyta played by Lewis Hedges and Adriana Whittle; of the 'Lovers', Lysander and Demetrius played by Ciaran Fitzpatrick and Timothy Chatfield and Helena and Hermia – Lizzie Simon and Emilia Olsen. The 'Fairies' included the King and Queen of the Fairies, Oberon (Philip McCahill) and Titania (Ruth Bertram), as well as Pick and Puck (originally Puck) played by Oscar Bocking and Torin Elm-hirst. The final group was the 'Mechanicals' which starred Daunish Negargar as Bottom and Matthew Childs as Quince. There are many other thespians who held more minor roles in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and who really helped bring the play together, especially in the last week of rehearsals.

In the end, the final result was a feat even by Camp Hill's standards. Despite no end of technical challenges and difficulties, eventually, everything fell into place and all ran smoothly. The directors were able to witness their creation and we hoped that they were proud of what they saw.

No one wanted *A Midsummer Night's*

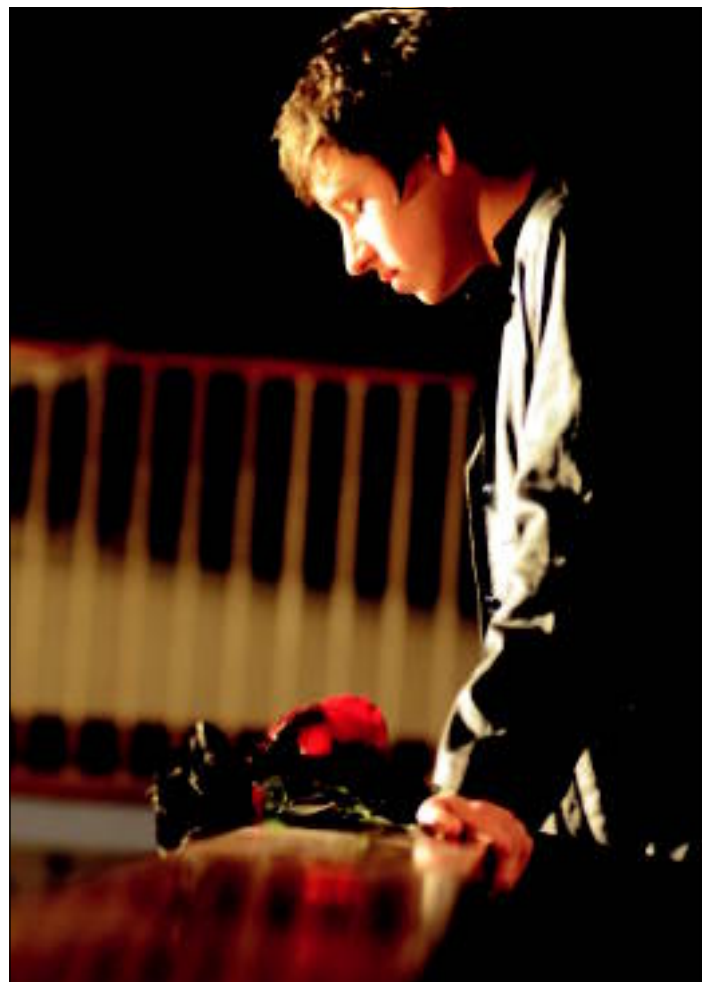
Dream to end, and when it did, we hoped that everyone would remember all we had done. It was said to have surpassed even *Lord of the Flies* (2008), a real achievement, as *Lord of the Flies* was called the 'best junior drama ever'. Our *Midsummer Night's Dream* was a comical recreation of a Shakespearian classic and enjoyed by many who saw it. The acting was superb and many congratulations were awarded especially to the dances and to the hilarious 'play within a play' during the wedding near the end of the production.

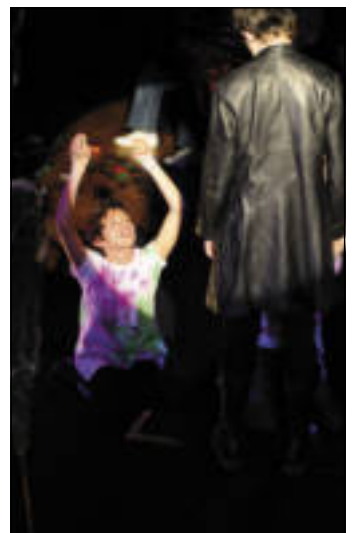
I doubt I'll ever forget *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and as we look back we remember a great production, some superb acting and even a few sparks of cast romance. It was not to be forgotten.

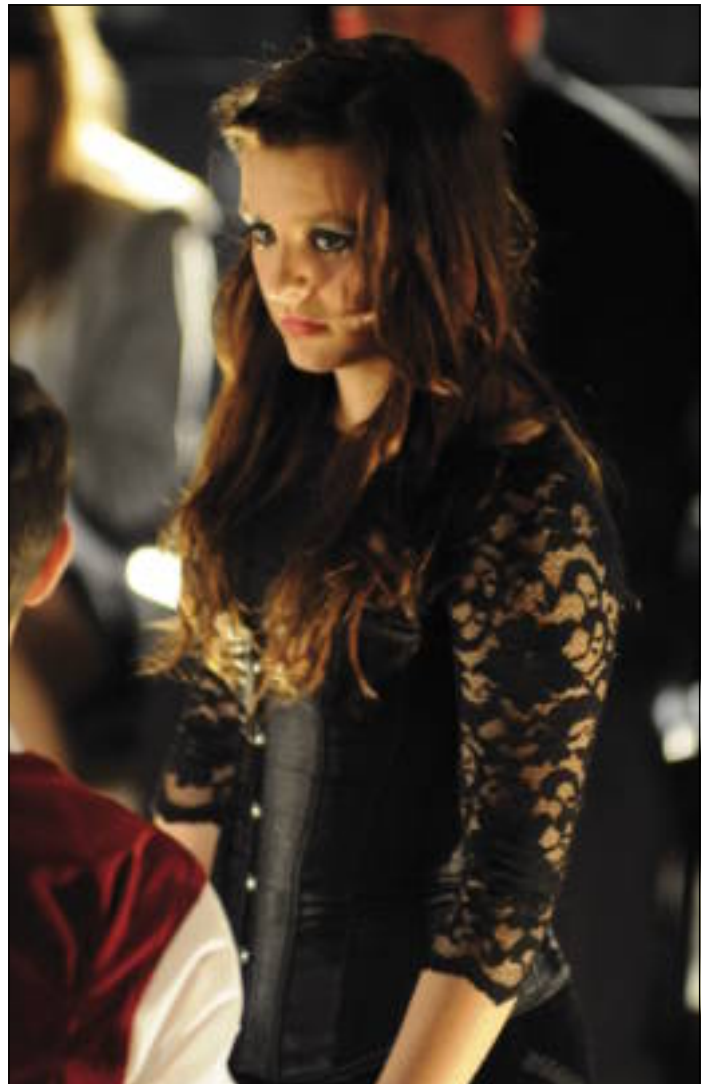
The cast's special thanks must go to many parties for making *Midsummer Night's Dream* possible. Firstly, Mrs Lockyer and Alisdair Hurst, our directors, for making everything possible, telling us off when we needed it and generally whipping us into shape before the big night. The cast also thanks David Harvey for being with us to help script and to organise the early audition stages. Secondly, Mr Carman and Mr Downing, for help with set design. Also, thanks to Mrs James and Mr Southworth, for organising costumes from a limited budget. Thanks, too, go to anyone else I have forgotten to mention who helped to make *Dream* a reality.

[Also see photographs on the next two pages]

■ **Philip McCahill, 9J**







Lady Windermere's Fan

Lady Windermere's Fan was yet another hugely successful play, directed by the infamous Mr Southworth. The whole cast enjoyed dressing up in the wonderful evening-wear costumes, and experiencing the lifestyle of the upper class society in nineteenth century England. Gossip and scandal was at the heart of the play, and it managed to spread into the corridors of Camp Hill Boys, the question on everyone's lips: would Aled Walker and Nathan Browne have an onstage battle, eagerly anticipated after seven years of intense academic rivalry throughout their years at the school? Unfortunately this was not to be... blame Oscar Wilde.

Iona Cambell, who played the elegant Lady Windermere, and Ellie Parkes, as the scandalous Mrs Erylne, starred alongside Nathan and Aled. They formed the heart of the play and all gave outstanding performances to ensure the success of the show. Jacob Genders gave a hilarious perfor-

mance at the dandy Cecil Graham, and Paul Thomas hobbled through the show as the senile Lord Augustus. Bethan Dovey also played a key role in the gossip and scandal as the mischievous Duchess of Berwick.

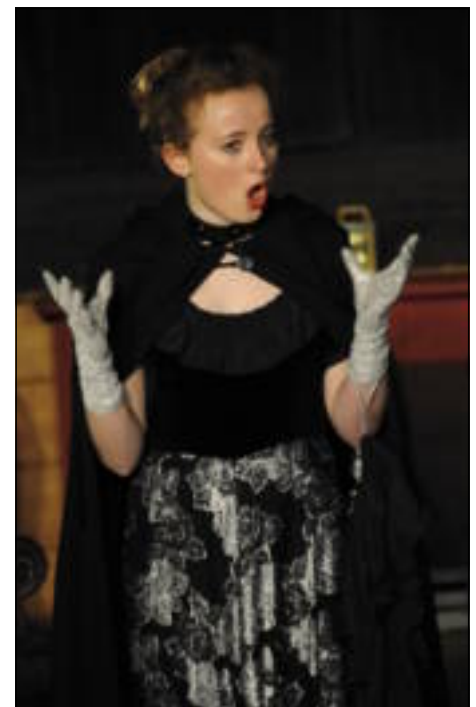
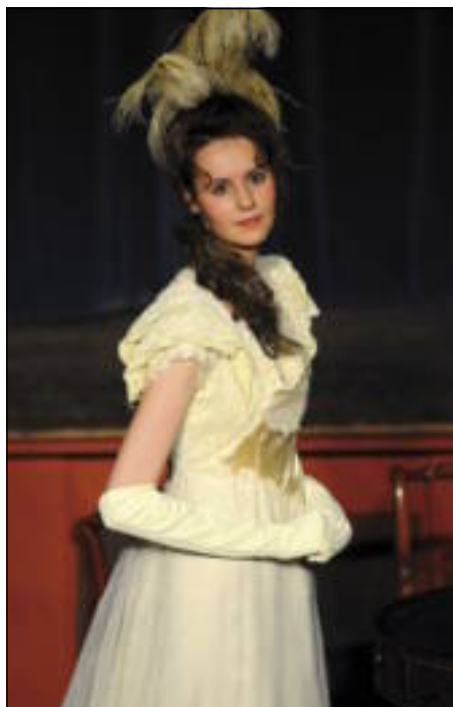
Much of the play's success was down to Ian Firth, who pulled off the performance of his life on the last night as the straight-faced Parker. Kieran Ahern made a cameo appearance at the hearty Hopper, a dandy who proved a big hit with the ladies, in particular Lady Agatha, played by Elin Dowsett. Their mismatch in size was comparable to that of a gorilla and a field mouse, (not to compare Elin with a field mouse) however this did not affect their wonderful, comical performances.

Overall, the show was hugely enjoyable for all involved and a great success, all thanks to Mr Southworth's fantastic directing, and the huge effort which he put in for everyone, alongside the endless help from Mrs James, and Mr Carman and Mr Downing's help with staging and



building our wonderful set. From all the cast, a massive thanks to Mr Southworth, Mrs James, Mr Carman and Mr Downing.

■ **Tom Dowling, 11W**





Poetry Competition

Ode to Romance

Again, it was only me who couldn't sleep,
illuminated by the subdued hue of the television lights,
natural disasters and financial market reports,
in places I've never been,
and to people I've never met,
it meant nothing to me,
if infant mortality rates had risen,
and the crash,

and the rally,
didn't interest me at all
because I knew that trains were rolling by in the night,
and out there somewhere, so were you,
heading to the sixth station,
for the final time

There'll be no flashing lights,
no neon stained rain,
no glamour,
no imagery,
I won't walk out of the mist,
or into the night,
fade to black,

or cut to white,
there'll be no romantic underscoring,
no surging violin crescendo,
just a mumbled goodbye
and a fumbled indiscretion,
on a smokey platform,

Morendo.

Sotto voce,
In an undertone you told me that,
"The world moves because you do",
and I retorted,
"But the stars still shine regardless",
It was the kind of bleak imagery that was always lost
on you

and the kind of hollow rhetoric I so despise in myself,
but stock markets crash,
and empires crumble into the dusty ocean,
without a ripple,
or a sound,
and still your train rumbles by in the dead of the night,
heading to the sixth station,
for the final time,
I really hope it crashes.

Al Niente.

■ **Sam Cofman**, L6 Art



Are You Taking Me Apart To See How My Insides Work?

I want to start by trying to show you
How it is when I try to capture a moment
And express it
In words
Crafted in a chaotic brain
Order thrust upon them on tyrannical paper.

Further down this is follow by
The rush of emotions feelings thoughts
To every extent
Of my body
The monotonous pump persists pushing
Thoughts from mind to finger to paper.

And now I am twisted into an internal mess,
Like a thousand pieces of string lost amongst one
one heap

As the pressure of pouring out
In legible terms,
Consumes without hunger
To achieve or perform to any particular merit.

So delve deep inside
There is meaning hidden within this maze,
So deep that not even,
I know
What to look for or where to look.

So are you taking me apart to see how my insides
work?

■ **Jack Bristow**, 11X



Full Circle

In the tranquil dusk
A father reads a fairytale to his darling boy.
A story of a great city
Between the rivers.
Enraptured,
His eyes lap up the wonders,
Huge vessels longing to be filled.

The following night daddy might regale about
The Pyramids or The Parthenon,
Or even recount journeys across
The Khyber.
The child dreams of twinkling spires,
And the glory of discovering the wheel.

Short years later,
Minds sharper but eyes smaller,
Young men march through dusty deserts.
Over fallen comrades they plough on,
Conviction growing with each death.

A handsome Captain snuggles down,
And remembers his bedtime stories.
He half expects his father's voice to
Waft across the years with tales of the Tigris.
He slumber in crimson khaki, content.

I watch the armies advance across the plain,
Drawn together by endless hatred.
On that diabolic highway dwell not only
Grave of men but
Graves of cities.

Civilisation's cradle has become its pyre.

Written in response to Not About Heroes 23.07.09

■ **Aled Walker**, U1



The two illustrations on this spread were specially created for the Chronicle by Gary Zhang, L6 Art, to illustrate two of the poems.

Live Blind

Atop her tower
The Queen of Hearts sighs
And kisses sinister Love on the lips.
Smiling, he shuffles the deck,
Bites a red diamond from her neck and bets it.
Miles below, the winds are dead.
Reclusive Sorrow keeps her spades on the table.
No call for her, she learnt her lesson long ago
When love lured her to bet her hearts,
Told her diamonds were trumps,
Then gave Envy a club to knock her from the game.

Now she holds on by digging in.
Her last chip will cover the tip
To the Doorman on her way out.

No matter what the Dealer offers,
Her strategy is set.
Even though the round may chance,
Make spades a foolish palisade.
Neither Love nor Envy's sway
Can hope to win her bet.

The Queen of Hearts mocks her
And pulls from her hand
Every spade that she has;
There's no need for them now!

They hold up her tower,
But even if it falls
She'll float through the storm,
In the air of Love's breath;

Love... who blew too hard to begin with.

The Dealer faces the players with a golden flame,
And his intent is masked by its flickering light.
Showdown, it's in, there is darkness,
And faced with five faded faces,
Not knowing if he should build, bluff, dig or fight,
Joe Normal wishes he could just fold and leave this game.

Definition:

Live Blind: A forced bet put in by one or more players before any cards are dealt. The "live" means those players still have the option of raising when the action gets back around to them.

■ **Benedict Hardy, U3**



Imagination

A hidden door,
So simple to find for a young child,
Yet with age
Gets shrouded in the demands of reality,

Unlock the hidden door,
Behind it,
Infinity to explore,
Expose yourself to the enthralling land,
Lose yourself in those golden moments,
When everything stops,
Time is frozen,
and the world takes on a new dimension,
Where nothing makes sense,
Yet all fits together like a jigsaw,
Where everything has its own perfect melody,
Played together,
A perfect harmony,
Welcome,
To the unimaginable world of imagination.

Time spent here is short lived however,
As if skating on thin ice,
We inevitably fall
Back to the realms of reality,
And so once again the door is locked
And the key thrown away
For another day,
When the young child inside us all
Goes out to play

■ **Oliver Tonks, 10W**



Forgotten

Take from my resting place of ages,
I am squashed, crushed, pummelled
While my broken kin is added to my pain

A giant of old bears me across the water
And makes the mountains level
Protecting it's precious cargo from the waves

Locked away in an eternal tomb I wait, until
A vehicle build to lift twice over takes me
Take me to the souls of the land

The pride of this building splits me
Once, twice, thirty times over
Now divided I am fought over by the masses

Shaped by the broken blades
I am cut removed added to
Until my shape is that which is desired

On the rack I am left for dead
The sun beats down on me
It shows no compassion or pain

Following in the footsteps of Shadrach
The fiery furnace is exposed to me
To alter me and make me stronger

The martens pride is stroked across my surface
Just as the Master instructed
Then varnish is applied and I am forgotten

■ **Thomas Meehan, 7J**



War Hero

I fill my ears with molten lead,
To drown out the voice in my head,
Screams of pain, whispers of dread,
I hear the voices; I know they're dead.

I gouge my eyes with bitten nails,
To hide the sights of ripped entrails,
Scene of war, what it entails,
I know they're dead; I hear their wails.

I cut my tongue with bloodied blade,
To silence the taste of the price they paid,
Their lifeless eyes stare back afraid,
I know their wails; they never fade.

I crush my skull on the dead church bell,
To block out the vapid souls who tell
Of those who fought and those who fell,
No hero's welcome hides this hell.

■ **Lewis Hedges, 9S**



The Curse of Independence

Freedom...
Shafts of iron do not encircle me,
Barriers of stone do not confine me,
Guidelines of life do not restrict me,
I am no prisoner.

People...
Shrouds of them on my lonesome street,
Their lives are blurred,
They mean nothing to me,
On my lonesome street.

Running...
The pace quickens and the strides lengthen,
Not once to look back,
Leaving company behind,
Is the path I choose to take.

Individual...
A single flower in a barren world,
A solitary soul in the body of humanity,
A debt to pay for freedom,
But what's the difference of independence?

Prisoner...
My life in isolation from others,
A captive,
Bound with cold chains of separation,
'Tis the curse of independence.

■ **Joseph McElroy, 9J**



Art



Tom Dowling, 11W



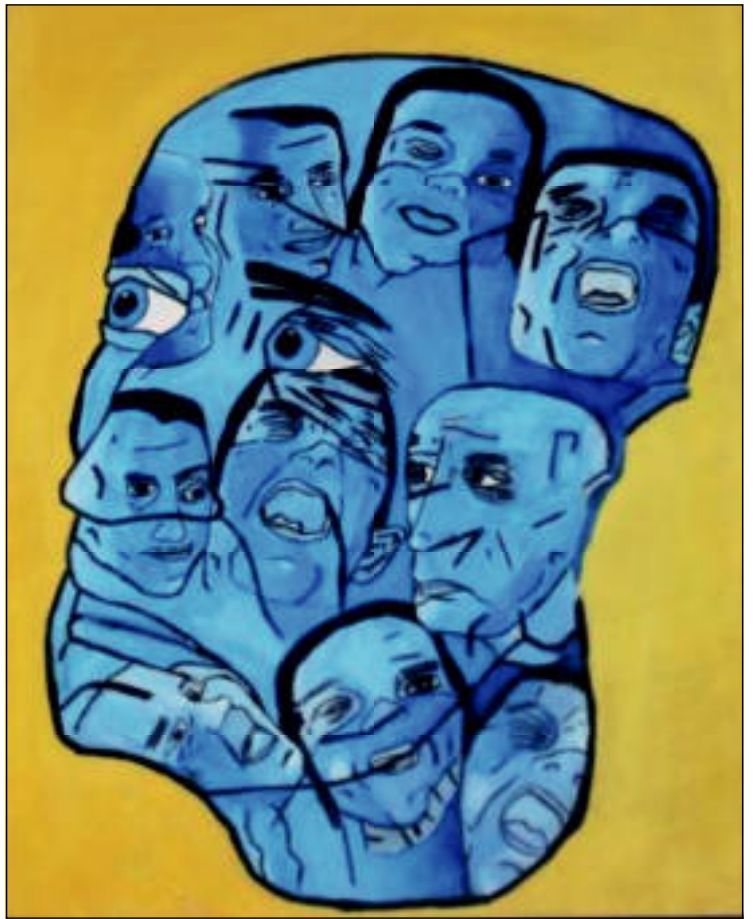
Hassan Mohammed, 11Z



Gary Zhang, L6 Art



Jared Dunn, 11W



David Williams, 11W



Michael Soley, 11Z

Sport

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The 2009–10 year at Camp Hill Boys has been a fine one. An action packed 12 months as ever, together with a number of bonuses along the way. Our U15 Tennis team progressed to the National knockout stages and will compete against the best of the Midlands in the autumn. The U16 Badminton team went all the way to the National Finals and enjoyed a day at Nottingham's Center Parks complex competing against the best in the country. The U14 Rugby squad were the team of the year following an outstanding season.

We celebrated two centuries on the cricket square as Mustafa Chaudhry and Charanjit Kalsi enjoyed the fine summer conditions on offer. Nick Wilson went to the English Schools Championships as part of the West Midlands squad and ran in the 100m hurdles. John Lutwyche of Year 11 also went and picked up two bronze medals in the 200m and 4x100m relay. He was then selected to run in the Youth Games in September for Great Britain. This is an outstanding achievement by a very dedicated athlete.

So a big thank you to all the pupils for their commitment, to the staff for their devotion and to the parents for their support. Enjoy the more detailed reports that follow.

■ *M.W.D.*

Rugby

1st XV Rugby

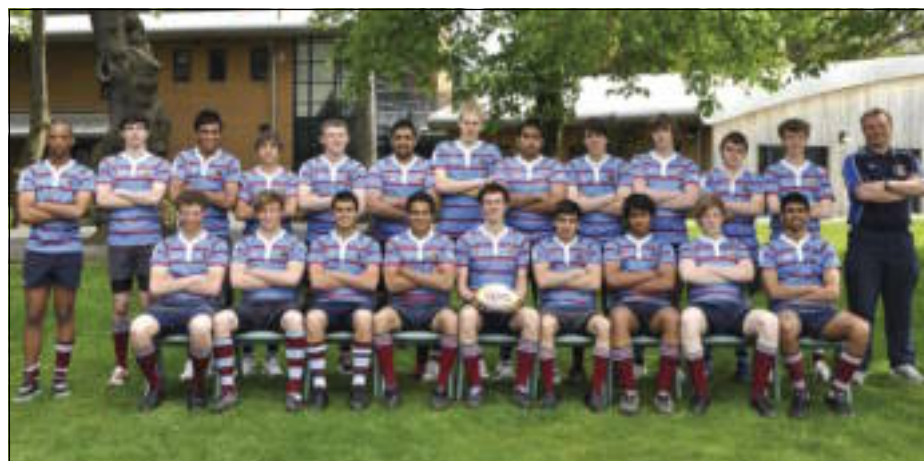
2009–10 won't go down in the history books as one of the most successful seasons for a Camp Hill 1st XV but it was, as ever, an enjoyable one with numerous highlights and some noteworthy performances along the way. The mentality of the squad remained positive throughout the year and despite several disappointing defeats, the players' good humoured and committed approach made them a pleasure to coach.

Fourteen defeats in twenty games are difficult to swallow; defeats against our nearest rivals KES and Aston are always frustrating; this season was always going to be a test of character. Alex Taylor, as 1st XV Captain and

Head Boy, knew that 2009–10 was going to be a challenging year for him. With a young and inexperienced team around him, a tough fixture list and the pressures of performing the school's two senior roles for a pupil, the demands on his time and energy were relentless but his response was hugely impressive. Alex is deeply passionate about Camp Hill rugby; he wears his heart on his sleeve and expects those around him to commit as fully as he does. What's more, he hates losing to KES almost as much as I do. Despite the defeats I would assert that Alex's captaincy was one of the season's success stories.

But of course Alex was not without support. His right-hand-man, scourge of fly-halves and Camp Hill's answer to Richie McCaw, was always on hand to help out. Raj Atkar, as Vice Captain, was the perfect complement to Alex's fervour. Cool, calm, consistently offside, it was clear from quite early in the season that Raj was to be one of the main contenders for player of the year, an award he went on to win with huge support. Harris Hussain also stepped up to the plate this year as one of the senior players in the team. Not a classic scrum-half, it's more like playing with an extra back-row player when Harris is on the field and he certainly proved his worth. He finally got a try against a very robust Camp Hill RFC Colts team and deservedly won full colours for his efforts in senior rugby.

By necessity, the younger players in the senior setup have had to take on roles in the 1st XV this year and their development over the season has been another considerable success story. Jacob Harvey was top try scorer for the season. He has tremendous attacking potential, a great eye for an interception and an uncanny knack of turning up in the right place at the right time when the try-line is begging. Jordan Clarke has also bagged a few tries as well as knocking the wind out of the sails of any opponent that has attempted to run through him. Pavan Harnal was ever present in the team this year, growing ever more confident in the number ten shirt and earning his 1st XV colours the hard way. The other recipient of this award was Dominic Fitzgerald whose performances have



been hugely influential. Add to these the other Year 12 1st XV regulars this year, Nathan Hehir, Andrew Stevens and Ben Dow and there is a core of talent that will be around for another year to come.

Year Eleven boys also played their part this season, but I would draw particular attention to the performances of Lawrence Welch and Jagatpreet Gill. It is hard enough to impose yourself in senior rugby as a Year 11 boy, but to do it as a Hooker or a Prop is exceptional. The front row of the scrum is a dark and daunting place, but both of these boys made very encouraging contributions to the team and earned Half Colours for their efforts.

Whilst I recognise the disappointment of the players in the lack of success this year, we would do well not to dwell on the defeats. I would like to think that Camp Hill rugby is about the people involved rather than the results. Each and every one of the thirty-seven players who have turned out for the 1st XV this year has benefited from the experience. We have developed and improved and got to know one another better and even in defeat we have picked out positives: the Camp Hill Colts' centres never once breaking through our defence,

the performance of the scrum against Adam's Grammar School and the chicken nuggets in the Old Swinford Hospital canteen. And perhaps what encapsulates the spirit and ethos of Camp Hill rugby best is the end of season tour. This year we returned to Carlisle to reacquaint ourselves with the Crown and Mitre Hotel and to take on Tynedale RFC, Wigton RFC and Vale of Lune RFC.

Tynedale are a National League club and this was a new fixture for us. Played in near perfect conditions, an open and expansive game ensued. Defence, it seemed was abandoned somewhat, and we ran in five glorious tries. Unfortunately our opponents ran in six and ended up as winners by 36 points to 31. However, nobody could question the entertainment value of the match – running rugby at its best. The fixture against Wigton the next day was not 'running rugby at its best'. It was a typical middle game of a tour and I have committed no further detail of the match to my memory. And so to the final game of the tour, the season and the Camp Hill playing careers of the Year 13 boys. We travelled down to the Vale of Lune and took on their Junior Colts and, as is becoming a bit of a tradition in my experience as 1st XV coach, put on the best

display of the season for our final game. The tries came from Jacob Hanvey, John Lutwyche, a long range effort from Andrew Stevens and perhaps most fittingly, in his final performance as Captain, from Alex Taylor. This time the defence did hold up and we ran out as 27-14 winners. And to make the victory all the more special, each and every Year 13 tourist featured in the match (with the exception of Kaz Singh who was ineligible having turned nineteen back in October). It was a perfect end to an enjoyable tour and a fitting finale to the Camp Hill playing careers of Alex, Raj and Harris as well as Mussawar Akram, Kuran Dhaliwal, Johnny Cook, Nick West, Gavin Bhangal, Aman Palak and Jagdeep Virdee and also Tom Pybus.

I would like to thank all of the players for their efforts this year. I would also like to thank the parents, staff, governors, old boys and other associated personnel for their continued support of Camp Hill rugby. It was a tough season for the spectators too! I look forward to next season, to facing similar challenges and to welcoming some new faces to the squad.

[Team picture below left on previous page]

■ **A.J.C.**

2nd XV Rugby

A difficult term within an onerous year. Constant movement between 2nd and 1st squads and injuries, illnesses and unavailabilities have made it impossible to look for continuity in selection. Nevertheless, the squad has never lost heart and I am always astonished at the mental strength of the players who can, despite being hammered in one match, return to the fray with even more enthusiasm than before in the next! We look forward to the tour in Cumbria and hope that with a settled squad, results will favour us once again. Thanks to Garen Khaira, who as Captain, has lead from the front and always remained cheerful.

[Team picture below]

■ **P.T.C.**

U15 Rugby

The season started extremely brightly with four consecutive wins, especially good wins against Fairfax and Kenilworth, and mentions go to Nathan Quadri who scored a hat trick of tries against Kenilworth. In our first four matches we managed to rack up an impressive 167 points. Our next match was against Bablake; where we were missing various key players due to injury including Jack Lea, Rory Luscombe and Joshua Bridgman, but managed to salvage a 24-24 draw, thanks to good kicking in terrible conditions by the eventual man of the match James Giblin. With key players now back we managed to survive a rough encounter against the ruthless Coundon Court where we came out on top. However we lost a key player that match, Sanjay Nath who has been ever-present in the team producing some great

performances and this would show in our next match against KES where we suffered a heavy defeat. The team couldn't dwell on this result and we had to pick ourselves up for a tough encounter against a strong Princethorpe side in the Daily Mail Cup. We went behind through early penalties, however due to great forward play we started to make a comeback and a last gasp try from Jack Lea brought the scores level. With the score at 15-15, the responsibility fell to Tomasz Kostuch to win the match, but he spectacularly missed and the match stayed a draw but because we were the away team we were to progress. With renewed faith in our abilities the team then faced Northampton NSB in the Daily Mail Cup, the match was a close encounter and we were found wanting when we lost a close match 17-20. The next match would be a test of character for the team to see if we could pick ourselves up from the narrow loss in the cup.

The team did well in a tight game against KE Aston 23-10, where all conversions were missed. After a slight dip in form the team then went on to win the next four games with the highlight being a match against KE Fiveways where the team triumphed to a 34-5 victory. This result has been described by many of the parents as the best ever performance the team has produced. Special mentions must go to Jack Lea and Rory Luscombe who produced four tries each in the five consecutive wins. We continued our good form into the Greater Birmingham Tournament where we secured a win and two losses where we finished fourth. Rory



continued his run of good form in the next match by scoring another two tries despite the team slumping to a 19-26 loss.

The next match was the CHRFC where we had performed remarkably well in recent years. We continued our past history as we produced a great performance, running out 47-0 winners with Gilad Grant scoring two tries. The result however left us embarking on tour with one player injured. Rory Luscombe still came to support the team as we overcame a tough fixture against Cockermouth in which Jack Lea produced a strong performance as well as James Bruten. The score line of 29-14 didn't reflect our performance as we dominated throughout the match, it could have been a lot more favourable if Nathan Quadri after twisting and turning through the opposition had managed to put the ball down over the try line. We then faced a difficult Ullswater team who fielded a number county U16 players, we put in a strong performance but even-



tually they proved too much for us, we lost 5-33. Our last fixture of the year was against Wigton RFC, where much was to be decided, for example the top try scorer award and also our record on tour. We completed a successful tour with a 17-16 win with Nick Wilson running in a try in the last minute leaving James Giblin with a kick in front of the posts which he managed to put over.

Congratulations should go to all of the

team but notably to Umar Ahmed who has played in all of the matches since year 7. A mention should also go to Zahaib Hussain, Hugh Saunders, Nathan Quadri and Tom Eraifej who played all 19 matches in the season. Special thanks should go to Mr Duncan and Mr Caves for dedicating their time to coaching us and making the season worthwhile.

■ **Tomasz Kostuch, 10W**

U14 Rugby

The wounds had healed from last year's battles, the soldiers reinforced, re-equipped and informed with new battle strategies were seeking to gain revenge for the narrow losses we were forced to swallow from the previous year, and we vowed to fight until the last drop of blood was lost. Our courage and determination was evident in the results: won 14, lost 2, gaining the schools crown for the team of the season. The losses were our own mistakes, the first against a particularly strong Old Swinford side, who caught us early in the season, and away against a well-drilled Five Ways team. For me, our two best were at rivals KES where we battled to a victory of 15-8 and a hard-fought 10-5 win at home against a robot like Lawrence Sherriff team looking for vendetta from the previous year. In both games our forwards, a major strength of the team, were a significant factor in the victories along with the team's organisation and resilience in defence, bringing to mind what the three musketeers once said, 'all for one and one for all!'

To add icing to the cake, we were going on tour, to crusade in foreign lands, we were going to Carlisle (which isn't very foreign), but the lads gratitude for the chance of touring was evident in the numbers. There was huge interest from the squad, indeed to such an extent that we had to disappoint 3 players as we were oversubscribed, sorry lads. After school on Thursday 4th March a fleet of school minibuses took to the road to head for the unusually clement outer reaches of north-west England. Carlisle was the destination; our base, the Edwardian Crown and Mitre hotel in the city centre, our home for the weekend. Our first game on the Friday was played in Cockermouth; we glared at the magnificent backdrop of the snow-capped northern edge of the Lakeland fells with open mouths. Our

rugby wasn't that bad either; we played some enterprising rugby and ran out convincing 33-10 winners. In our second game, we dominated a keenly contested game, belied by the 34-0 score line in our favour. In the final game of the tour on the Sunday, the team put in a celebratory, end-of-season performance beating Wigton Rugby Club U14 37-0, to put a smile on Mr Surr's face, now that was a sight! Once again, despite not conceding any points, the team had to work hard to earn this win.

Of course, the tour was also the opportunity for us to savour the social side of the game and relax. It was also the occasion for us to make awards for significant performances throughout the season. All our players have developed this season, but when given the opportunity to vote in a secret ballot, the boys, by some margin, made the following choices:

Best Forward – Tom Murphy

Best Back – Lewis Hedges

Most improved player – Shuranjeet Takhar and I collected the captain's prize. The highest try scorer for the season was the ace in our pack, No 8, Tom Murphy, with a total of 15 tries, which would have been a lot more but he was unfortunately injured for 5 games. My personal mentions go to Alex B and Lewis Hedges for their patience on the wing, which paid off when

Lewis crossed to score the try of the season as he found himself scoring after three unbroken phases of play culminating in a fluid passage of handling out to the wing where he then crossed with ease, Gully Bates who has improved significantly in his kicking, managing to kick 33 conversions and a penalty, Ben Connolly, who is known as the 'Spartan' of the team because of his never ending hard work. David Watson, who knows the rules better than any referee, Tom Chalklen who is a very important part of our forwards, Oli Lester our very own ginger, who poses some incredible handling and vision. Andrew Plimmer who had the hard task of taking over Alex Lloyd's position as scrum half, Charlie Song who came from the B team to mark his position for the A's, Kyle Reed the inside centre who is a key link and the teams raging bull at outside centre position, Daniel Miller who we owe a great deal for scoring 2 and assisting one against a very bulky Coundon Court side. The final, but by no means least, award was for Player of the Tournament and for his customary commitment, determination and highly vocal motivational skills, especially when pointing out the size of the opposition, deservedly to Asif Javed.

In recognition of our achievements and performances, the team have been awarded the Robinson Shield for team of the season 2009-



10. Mr Roden, Mr Bruten and Mr Surr, who have been impressed by our commitment and enthusiasm shown by all the boys in Block A rugby on Tuesday afternoons, pass on their congratulations to the U14A squad on this well-deserved accolade.

Finally, I would like to thank all the parents for their support and encouragement this season; the staff who organised and accompanied us on a very successful campaign of Carlisle. How-

ever, my biggest applaus got to our coaches, the first who tirelessly teared his white polished hair to ensure we played to our very best, his name, Mr Surr. Mr Bruten who thought up all the battle strategies, worked out the angles of the passes and the probability of scoring a try at a certain situation, this is why he is the head of mathematics! Finally, Mr Roden, who introduced us to 'tough love' training, the endless push-ups and sit-ups, did pay off though. Now, I would like

to thank the team for their grit and determination, their support and co-operation for me was priceless and I couldn't have asked for anymore. I wish all the U14 squad success and, above all, enjoyment next season and I am sure that we can become the best team ever to have had the KE Camp Hill badge sewed on their shirts. As Winston Churchill once said "Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference".

■ **Idris Mohammed, 9S**

U13 Rugby

Last season was a very successful season for the under 13's. We had some impressive victories including a 24-12 win over Old Swinford and victory in a close match against Lawrence Sheriff. Particularly towards the end of the season we played some exciting and entertaining rugby, combining backs and forwards effectively.

The forwards have provided a solid platform, with the front row and second row forming a strong scrum and also creating fast ball at the breakdown for us to exploit our fast backs. I would like to thank Giles Moss for being vice-captain and supporting me through the season. Sam England has been the main source of our line out ball but he has also scored 9 tries. The back row grew in confidence and were a key factor in the last match of the season where we beat Bishop Vesey, a team we had lost to earlier in the season.

The back line worked very effectively throughout the season. The scrum half-fly half channel worked very well and allowed the centres space. This helped a lot in allowing Jordan McDonagh to exploit his pace and natural finishing ability to the full. Jordan's 34



try haul is incredible by anyone's standards. The wingers produced some very impressive tries with some direct and aggressive running especially towards the end of the season. Matthew Lord, at fullback, was one of the most consistent players in the team, with courageous tackles throughout the season.

I would like to thank all the reserves who played for the team during the season, all of whom played well. It was a very suc-

cessful season with 15 matches played, 9 won, 1 drawn and only 5 lost. We also had a taster of sevens rugby and played well at the tournaments we entered. As a squad, we would like to thank Mr Jones and Mr Caves for coaching and supporting us throughout the season.

■ **Jacob Bruten, 8J**

U12 XV Rugby

Throughout the season the team, taking into account their lack of experience, has performed extremely well. We put on our best display of rugby in the Spring Term against a much larger and more physical Arden side, eventually winning (10-5). Despite this commitment and enthusiasm, we came out at the end of the season with an unflattering record of 3 wins out of 13 matches. Although this may seem as though we have underperformed we have, on a number of occasions, put on some good quality performances most notably against Five Ways securing a thoroughly deserved third place in the U12 Greater Birmingham tournament – we had lost to them in the 'regular' season fixture.

This is only our first season at Camp Hill and I am convinced that we can achieve more wins in the future against the strong teams on our fixture list. All in all it has been a fairly successful first season for us and I hope many players have been inspired to continue play-



ing rugby and they will return in September determined to improve on their games as individuals and to improve upon our ability to play as a team. Over the past year many of us have become good friends and this has reflected positively on our rugby.

Finally, I would like to thank all the parents who, whatever the weather, have supported

us at nearly every match, all the players for their consistent enthusiasm no matter the odds, all the teachers who have given up their time to coach us or drive us to matches. But especially Mr Roden, who has encouraged and inspired many players to play rugby to the best of their ability.

■ **Jacob Corr, 7M**

1st XI Cricket

This season showed signs of the quality that this school possesses on the cricket field. This is in stark contrast to the efforts of the previous year, who only managed one win. Harris Hus-sain was entrusted with the captaincy and had the challenging job of turning around the fortunes of last year, needless to say he did an outstanding job. He led the team admirably and was ably supported by the senior members of the team, such as: Gavin Bhangal, Amar Rajgor and Marlon Wijendra (all of whom made their last appearances for the school this year).

The first match of the season saw us competing against a strong King Henry's side, featuring three county players. This match also saw debuts for Kieran Patel (Yr 12) Asim Shoaib, Alex Weir, Milan Vashi and Aman Sahota (all Yr 11). However, the boys went out with a fearless attitude and were ready for the task that faced them. Asked to bat on a slow wicket, the Camp Hill openers, Asim Shoaib and Amar Rajgor, made a positive start. Wickets soon started to fall; nevertheless, Camp Hill continued to push forward and ended posting a competitive 150-8 off the allotted 25 overs, with Asim Shoaib top scoring with 64. The Henry's reply never got going, with wickets falling at regular intervals. The fielding was sharp and as a result Henry's limped along to 94 all out, with Aman taking 3-23.

The second match saw us take on a formidable Solihull Sixth Form side, who donned a team full of club and county players. However, the team full of confidence from the previous win came out fighting. Runs were hard to come by for the opposition, due to tight bowling and some sharp fielding and Solihull were restricted to a very gettable 145-7. Camp Hill did not get off to a good start, with Amar and Harris departing early. Asim (39) and Kieran (27) steadied the ship with a partnership of 50, until Kieran fell. Soon wickets started to tumble but Marlon chipped in with a valuable 26. After he departed, a win looked unlikely... but in stepped Gavin Bhangal. With 19 runs needed, Gavin struck two lusty blows to bring the target within single digits. Unfortunately Gavin fell playing one shot too many and that ended our chance of a win, which meant we lost by 9 runs.

Next up were Bablake, who have proven to be a difficult side to beat in the past. They won the toss and decided to bat, posting a below-par 112 all out off 20 overs. This was never going to be enough against an energetic Camp Hill side that was still hurting from the loss of the previous match. Camp Hill reached the target with seven wickets in hand with



Asim top scoring on 66 not out.

Birmingham Met were our next opponents in the first round of the U19 cup. We were asked to bat on an uneven wicket but still managed to post 144-6 off the 20 overs. This was mainly due to the fine knock of 46 by skipper Harris, who held the innings together. Birmingham Met came out all guns blazing and seemed to be coasting to victory that was until some athletic fielding from Gavin accounted for their best player. However, they kept on pushing towards the target and it came down to 6 runs being required from the last over, which was to be bowled by debutant Chris Curtis. Chris held his nerve magnificently and picked up two wickets from his first two balls. However, the opposition still managed to scramble five more runs off the next three balls. They required one run off the last ball. Chris produced a jaffa that was collected by Milan Vashi, who smartly ran to the stumps to run out the batsman. This meant the game was a tie, but due to fewer wickets lost, we progressed to the next round.

Aston were the next victims of the Camp Hill tornado, as they were swept aside by 5 wickets. Buoyed by the success of the previous game, Camp Hill restricted the hosts to just 97, with Asim taking 3-8. Then it was all about the Alex Weir show! Alex came out with fire in his belly, as he cut, drove and pulled his way to a rapid 41, thus ensuring that we won comfortably. The next round of the cup saw us play the old rivals Five Ways. Five Ways posted a formidable 175 off their 30 overs which proved far too many for Camp Hill. The chase never really got going and Five Ways ran out 45 run winners, Gavin Bhangal top scoring with 27 not out.

The main match of the season had finally come, Camp Hill vs. Marylebone Cricket Club. Camp Hill were determined to finish the season off on a high and were raring to go. MCC 'won' the toss and chose to bat, as was the

norm for these fixtures. They posted a fearsome 214-8 off their 35 overs, with Amar and Chris taking 3 wickets apiece. Camp Hill started the chase positively, with Alex crashing a few early boundaries, but he soon departed. Partnerships kept Camp Hill in the game with everyone chipping in. However, with the required rate climbing, the pivotal moment in the match came. The set batsman Asim Shoaib hit a full toss straight down to long-on's throat, thus ending his innings of 77. Amar kept us in the game with a fluent 36 not out, but Camp Hill fell 18 runs short, nevertheless, it was an outstanding effort from the team.

As it has been for many years, the final game of the season was against the staff, and for many of the teachers it was the most widely anticipated fixture because it gave them the opportunity to show the students that they could walk the walk and not just talk the talk. The match itself is a timed game where the students bat first for as many overs as they like but they must give themselves enough time to bowl the teachers out otherwise the match is a draw. The match began when the staff team (with an average age of about 50) took to the pitch, in their array of interesting whites dating back to the Middle Ages. Opening the batting for the 1st XI were Alex Weir and Chris Curtis. As usual Alex got the team off to a flyer and it seemed like the bowling of Mr Azam and Mr Bruten were no match for those of the Camp Hill first team. However, when Alex finally lost his wicket to Mr Bruten, the teachers finally got into their stride. When Mr Watkins, was brought into the fast paced attack, nobody expected what happened next. Over the next hour Tim Watkins took 9 wickets including that of Chris Curtis who managed to hold out until 90 before he was given out by his own team mate; Alex Weir. With the total of 194 all out reached it seemed almost an impossible target for the staff. After Mr Azam was run out by the excellent aim and ability of Alex Weir, the

staff reluctantly resided to trying not to lose the match. This proved a hard task with wickets falling left right and centre. It came down to the last over of the game where 3 wickets were required to win the game and if it were not for the solid defence of Mr Smith (Jimmy) then the headmaster himself would have had to endure the gruelling last over. In the end the match was drawn, much to the disappointment of the

boys who reacted like they had lost a cup final! However, on the whole it was a great day and we must thank the teachers for putting out an 'unbeatable' team.

A great improvement on last year's performances, indicates that cricket in the first team is on the up. A big thank you must go to Mr. Duncan for his guidance throughout the year as well as Harris Hussain for his constant

encouragement and his seven years of service to the school team. Thanks should also go to: Kasim Mirza, Suketu Yadav, Ahmad Saqib and Alex Taylor who played admirably when called upon. A special mention must go to a certain Martin Barratt for his performance against the MCC!!

■ **Asim Shoaib, 11W**

2nd XI Cricket

The 2nd XI Cricket's season was a typically short one, playing four matches, winning one and losing three.

For our first game we travelled to Coventry to play King Henry VIII School. They were put into bat first posting a respectable total of 136 all out, losing their last wicket in the 24th over. Kaldev Bhogal was the pick of the bowlers with figures of 4 for 20.

The response with the bat, however, was poor with only Kaldev (29) and Kazz Singh (20) breaking the double figure barrier. In the end we lost the match by 22 runs with 4 overs to spare.

The second game of the season was against Solihull 6th Form College, with their very talented team, and they showed us how cricket was meant to be played as they batted first and posted a very decent 165 for 5, Saad Anwar with the best but expensive figures of 2 for 43 off 5 overs.

Once again our batting lacked a strong partnership to steady the innings as we failed to make even half of Solihull's total and were all out for a dismal 80, with Kazz top scoring with 18.

The penultimate game was a brief one against Bablake as Rajan Bhambra ripped the batting apart with amazing figures of 6 for 16 off 5, with Josh O'Donnell helping with good figures of 3 for 4 leaving Bablake stranded at 34 all out. The batting was led by captain Raj Atkar scoring 18 of the runs required as we won comfortably by 5 wickets with 17 overs to spare.

The final game was the most thrilling of the games we played as we faced KE Aston. We batted first and made a very defendable score of 153 off 20 overs, mainly thanks to an outstanding and steady 53 by Sukhvir Lyall. Andrew Stevens scored a quick fire 22.

Aston started their response well by batting steadily but although they were slightly behind the run rate, the 3rd wicket partnership managed to last for 86 runs as we could not break Aston down further. Our bowlers struggled to find the right line and length and in the end they needed only 2 runs from the last over to win the game. It was now down to debutant Awais Sheikh, bowling his first and only over of the match



to try and win us the game. With three dot balls to start the over, Aston were put under a great deal of pressure but one run off the 4th delivery, tying the scores, saw all the pressure heaped back onto Camp Hill. A great catch by the wicket-keeper, Saad Anwar, saw another wicket fall and now Aston had to score off the last ball to win the match. As we soon found out, real life situations do not have fairytale endings, and Aston managed to dash through on the final ball for 2 as we narrowly lost a thoroughly exciting match by two wickets.

I would like to firstly thank Mr. Garrod for an enjoyable season and managing to cope with the team as he drove us to matches in the minibus. Credit must also go to all the players who took part in the team, 22 in total, and especially to Captain Raj Atkar for leading the team and shouting out something encouraging occasionally. The team played every game with the intention to win but also enjoyed the experience and worked hard every ball.

■ **Saad Anwar, L1**

3rd XI Cricket



U15 Cricket

The U15s started the season full of optimism and confidence, hoping to repeat the feat achieved by their predecessors by prospering in the cup. The U15s started the season with a trip to Coventry to face King Henry's, which is always a tricky encounter. We batted first and their rustiness was for all to see as they slumped to 39 for 7. But thanks to a brilliant partnership from Umar Ahmed (38) and Osama Hamid (31 not out) we reached a respectable total of 104 for 8. The U15s followed on from their promising finish to the innings by ripping through the King Henry's batting order with Umar Ahmed being the star performer with 5-3. We won this match convincingly by 62 runs.

The next match was at home to Stratford and we continued our fine form with the ball and in the field by limiting the opposition to 84-8 off 25 overs. The reply didn't start well losing James Giblin with only 7 on the board. However Sanjay Nath and Rory Luscombe shared a superb partnership to see us home. Sanjay scored 21 not out but it was Rory who stole the glory with a wonderful innings of 53 not out. We then travelled to Princethorpe, a team we had never played before, therefore we didn't know what to expect. After Sanjay had a recurrence of his knee problem, our batting order faced a reshuffling. Princethorpe took regular wickets but thanks to a classy knock of 36 from Umar Hanif and helpful contributions from Tom Kostuch (13 not out) and James Bruten (12) we reached 110-8. Princethorpe made a solid and steady reply. With only 4 overs remaining, Princethorpe needed 25 runs to win – an achievable feat. However thanks to some tight and clever bowling from Umar Hanif (1 wicket) & Rory Luscombe, we won thrillingly by 8 runs.

Our next game saw us head to Five Ways for a cup match. The main talking point of the match was the dodgy pitch of which uneven bounce played a huge role. We had a great opening partnership of 46 runs before wickets fell and runs weren't scored as freely, limiting the score to 90-6. We bowled tight and economically and at one stage had the hosts at 19-3. However after some slack bowling and mistakes in the field, Five Ways managed to up the run rate. We were set for another nervy finish as Five Ways needed 3 off the last 2 balls. Unfortunately, there wasn't a repeat of the previous match as Five Ways eliminated the dispirited U15 side. The U15s needed to improve their morale and nothing could do that better than a win over another rival; Aston.

Once again we batted first and opener Umar Ahmed performed sensationally in his knock of 64 not out. However, like in previous matches, the rest of the batting order failed and the U15s could only manage 112-3.



Aston's batting display was far more consistent and they eventually won despite 2 wickets each from Umar Hanif and Sameer Bashir.

Our last game came against Bablake. The batting order was changed severely to give chances to the players who had not played regularly. However it was a seasoned player in Rory Luscombe, with 32 not out, who top scored in a disappointing total of 99 all out. Bablake cruised and even two wickets from Osama Hamid could not

prevent the inevitable. On behalf of the U15s I would like to sincerely thank Mr Barratt, Mr Watkins and Mr Duncan for their respective contributions to the team. I would also like to congratulate captain Osama Hamid who led the team very well and instilled in us an exceptionally high morale. Hopefully the following year will grant us some much craved silverware!

■ Umar Hanif, 10Z

U14 Cricket

For once, the weather was kind to us in the Cricket season, with only one cancellation. Over the course of the season we played 7 games, and pleasingly won 5, losing only two.

Our cancelled game was the first one of the season on a Saturday, but luckily our next game was on the following Monday, and consequently got the season started. We faced King Henry VIII who batted first and we went on to dominate with the ball, bowling them out for just 33. Charanjit Kalsi [pictured right] and Gully Bates both took 3 wickets. This is impressive at any time of the season, so it was thrilling for it to happen in the first game. Gully Bates added to his 3 wickets by top scoring with 13* and Idris



Mohammed contributed with 12, giving us the victory.

The next match saw us take a trip to Stratford, where we batted first. In 25 overs, we reached 157-9, our highest score of the season. Charanjit batted very well for 43, and so did Jalees Hamid who made an important 33. Runs down the order from Idris and Narinder



Phull showed our depth in the batting department. Stratford chased well but fell short by 25 runs. Gully impressed once again with the ball with figures of 4-21 off four overs. Jalees, who took an extraordinary catch, took two wickets along with Arjan Nagra. In our next match against Princethorpe, we posted another big score with Jalees (36*) and Narinder (26). Our bowlers then defended the total to give us our third successive victory.

The following match was a cup match against the team we lost to in the year 7 final, Queensbridge. Desperate to beat them this time and progress, we batted first and reached 108-3 off our 20 overs. I was the only batter to reach double figures as I scored 38*. However, Queensbridge were very generous and gave us 46 extras! In their reply, Queensbridge only lost three wickets but fell short by 8 runs. Adil and Saif Ahmed picked up the wickets,

but everyone bowled well giving us a deserved victory.

Our next match against Aston produced the best batting display of the season. Charanjit Kalsi scored a magnificent 88*, and if we had played 25 overs he surely would have reached three figures. Adil also played well and scored 31* as we posted 142-1. Aston's reply started with 15 off the first over but slowly fell behind the run rate as they reached 117 after 19 overs. Despite conceding 20 off the last over, we won the game.

The next round of the cup came as we faced Fiveways. They batted first and scored just 101-8 off 20 overs. The wickets were spread out between five bowlers. Despite a great bowling and fielding effort, we failed to put runs on the board with only Charanjit (25) and Narinder (15) making a significant contribution. We eventually reached only 70 in our

reply. This was probably the most disappointing match of the season as it was a match that we should have won.

In our final match, we had the same problem as before as only Jalees (33) and I (13) got into double figures when batting so we lost to Bablake.

Despite the last two games, the season as a whole was a success. Players improved greatly like Jalees, who is now a regular contributor with the bat and part of the bowling attack. Charanjit top scored in the season with 88* and Gully produced the best bowling figures of 4-21. I would like to thank Charanjit, Arjan, Jalees, Gully and Idris for playing every game along with myself, and I would like to thank Mr. Bruten for coaching us throughout the season and making us all better players.

■ **Andrew Plimmer, 9J**

U13 Cricket

This year, in a rain-affected season, we only This year has been an exhilarating year for the year 8 cricket team with a great winning record. The team managed to win 8 out of their 9 games as well as proceeding to the semi finals of the cup, losing out to a more experienced Bishop Vesey side.

The season started off well with an easy 89 run win against King Henry VIII School. After a brilliant partnership between Mustafa Chaudry (58) and David Yate (28 n.o.) as well as Andy Elliot scoring 14 we were put in a great position for our bowlers to finish off the match. They did not disappoint. Thomas Else took 3 wickets as well as David and Dilan Parmer both taking two wickets each. This left Henrys with a miserable score of just 47 compared to our 136. This left us with a win of 89 runs in our first game. This gave us great confidence for games later in the season.

So after our magnificent win we pressed on to find ourselves against much harder opposition. KE Stratford were our opposition and once again we batted first. Mustafa again performed brilliantly scoring an excellent 74 n.o. Chad Atkinson (c) scored 21 as well as David scoring 26. This left us with a score of 132 as went to bowl. We took some good wickets with some excellent keeping from Jacob Bruten. Wickets came to Jei Diwakar, Chad, Tom, David and Dilan all taking 1 each. This left us with a 17 run win.

After a comfortable win against Washwood Heath we came to face our toughest opponents so far, Princethorpe. After keeping them down to a measly 104 with wickets once again for Mustafa, Jei, Chad, Tom, and a debut wicket for Ahsan Khan. It was looking good but after the loss of both Chad and David and Mustafa not far behind, things were looking grim. But luckily Jacob Bruten pulled



out a quick fire 28 off 22 balls to allow Tom Else to hit the winning runs, and allowing us to win by a single wicket.

After this close scrape we came to the performance of the season against bitter rivals Fiveways. Once again we batted first and once again Mustafa and David excelled getting a partnership of 168. Mustafa scoring 102 runs off only 70 balls with David supporting him with a solid 39. Mustafa's innings contained 3 huge sixes. After a great batting performance it was up to the rest of the team to put the match to bed. The pick of the bowlers was Chad with a hat-trick as well as Jei with 2. David, Tom and Nimreth Phull all gained 1.

Following our impressive win we proceeded to the second round of the cup against Aston and once more David and Mustafa set us up nicely with David hitting 48 and Mustafa 45. Our total finished at a respectable 132. Then it was up to the bowlers. The best bowling figures for the match and the whole season went to myself Chad. My stats were 4/12 with Mustafa and Jei both taking 2.

After a comfortable win over Bablake we proceeded to the semi-finals of the cup against the tough opposition of Bishop Vesey. We bowled first and it was obvious from the start they were going to be difficult. But after

much patience, it paid off, with Chad bowling out their opener. Then Ahsan got out the other opener and things started to look up. With Jei taking 1 and David Taking 2 late wickets we managed to keep them to a score of just 116. As usual Mustafa set us up with a quick 25 and it was looking up. This was until we lost 3 wickets in one over to the same bowler. From there it all went downhill with the loss of 7 wickets for only 14 runs. However things looked up when Nimreth and Dilan, at nine and ten in the batting order, started to pull together a good partnership. Unfortunately it was too late and we went out of the cup.

The best performing batsman of the season was Mustafa Chaudry [pictured below] with 371 runs in 8 innings averaging 61.83. The top bowler was Chad Atkinson taking a total of 16 wickets and averaging 2 wickets a game.

I have really enjoyed captaining the team this year and sharing their success. I would like to thank the team as well as Mr. Duncan and Mr Tranter for helping us develop an excellent side and driving us halfway across Birmingham with the racket in the back of the minibus.

■ **Chad Atkinson, 8S**

U12 Cricket

Reflecting over the past cricketing year I am proud to have been part of such a fantastic cricket team. We have had our fair share of wins and losses and some excellent batting and bowling performances. We reached the semi-final of the cup and we enjoyed a good 4 wins and 4 losses something we will strive to improve next year. Jogging out to the middle in our first game for Camp Hill against KE Five ways was a memorable moment for the whole team, we went on to narrowly lose that match despite a superb knock from Azeem Hanjra who batted well for his 29.

Personally however I believe that our finest performance of the season came in our third match on a sweltering Saturday when we travelled to KE Stratford to compete in a high scoring nail-biting game. We won the toss and put the opposition into bat and with an astonishing contribution from their captain/opener who scored an astounding 103* to lead his team to a very competitive 183 off their 25 overs with good bowling figures from William Houlden 3/24. As our opening pair of Edward Saunders and Azeem Hanjra strode out to the middle with a daunting task on hand. The early loss of Azeem made things worse. But a good partnership between Ed and Alex got our innings going with Alex eventually being dismissed for 37 off just 20 balls and an outstanding innings from Ed who fell just eighteen short of his century in a match winning innings. All of this was well supported



by Dominic Paver, who helped the run rate along, in the end it all came down to 1 to win off 6 balls with Kingsley Bates on strike who of course cool under pressure flicked the ball away for four. This was a remarkable win from a seemingly unretrievable situation which sums up the team's hard work and commitment.

Notable mentions from the year go to Dawood Ahmed who received the best bowling figures of the year with a good 3/9 and best batting went to Ed for his 82. Dawood has worked very hard this past year and has been a very successful and economical bowler and Ed has provided very useful and indeed match winning contributions throughout the year. Dominic Paver has provided some very good batting performances which have 'steadied the ship' so to speak and let's

all hope he continues this. William Houlden and Neil Bajoria have both provided fantastic batting and bowling contributions.

Unfortunately I don't have the space to write about all of our team but I would like to say a big well done and a thank you to anyone who has participated in any 'A' team match this year. These boys include : Edward Saunders, Azeem Handra, Alex Lane, William Houlden, Dominic Paver, Satnam Ajimal, Kingsley Bates, Jack Gould, Amman Bhambra, Arun Sohan-Pall, Parvesh Konda, Dawood Ahmed, Neil Bajoria, Alessandro Tassa. I would also like to thank Mr. Duncan and Mr. Tranter for making all of our fixtures possible and organising a team and training sessions. I hope we can take all of our good play in to year 8 cricket.

■ **Alex Lane, 7M**

Hockey

1st XI Hockey

Following the departure of key players, it was inevitable that Camp Hill's season would start off slowly. We began with two poor performances against Bablake and KES and in both these games it was clear that the team had failed to gel together properly.

However, in the following games, Camp Hill put up a better fight and showed an improvement on the field with two unlucky defeats to King Henry VIII 2-1 and Solihull Sixth Form 5-3 respectively. In the latter, Jacob Plummer scored a hat trick, the first of four for the season.

Our first victory of the season came against the relatively unknown KE Stourbridge, which indeed left us with a long minibus journey as we found ourselves stuck in traffic as we passed the Merry Hill shopping centre. Even with this set back, we arrived at a very slippery pitch with a rather nervous opposition awaiting us. In the rain we managed to

dominate proceedings and despite a little complacency we emerged victorious with a 3-2 victory. Our only other victory of the season came against Old Swinford Hospital School. Again with the same score line, our ultimate enemy was ourselves with poor defending and tracking back at the end of the game.

Despite not being the most successful, this year was an extremely enjoyable season. Mention must go to Aamil Ghani, Bilal Azam, Gus Sidhu and David Mason who have answered the challenge of playing 1st XI Hockey. As well as this, praise must go to Jacob Plummer, Joht Chandan, James Rogers, Bhavesh Patel and Sagar Patel who have been ever present whilst playing for school. This season Jacob scored 22 of Camp Hills



goals and his talent and ability will be sorely missed. Hopefully next year, we will be up for the challenge of filling in the roles which have been left behind.

■ **Aamil Ghani, L7**

2nd XI Hockey

A season that began with 8 losses in 9 has ended with 4 wins in 7, which is result of a team, without any members of Yr 13, finally settling down and forming a compact unit. In goal, Rajan Bhambra kept clean sheets 33% of the time, and along with Dominik Brundler, offered a fine and reliable last line of defence. Captain Pritesh Chohan marshalled the defence well and in his sweeping playmaker role scored 2 winners in the last 3 games. Ben Harvey was a stalwart in defence, and Jack Attack demonstrated his versatility playing in attack, midfield and defence! On the flanks, Robin Nie and Adam Khan played with solidarity and consistency, and Robin's cool head when under pressure proved invaluable in the last few games.

The partnership of Tony Song and Michael

Bristow in the centre of mid-field yielded 7 goals, top scorer Michael getting 5. The width in midfield was provided by Michael Chalmers, Santhosh Karri and Dhaleez "Gary" Zs, who all offered different options in support of the attack. Keshav Gupta and Tim Shao were the vital links from midfield to attack, and both helped develop urgency, flair and skill to the team. Up front, Karndeepp Uppal and Bharath Varadharajan scored 4 goals in 7 games and in each of these games they scored, Camphill went on to win.



The team's latter winning form forecasts a bright future for next year.

■ **Karndeepp Uppal, 11W**

U15 Hockey

This season proved to be an interesting one for the under 15 team. Being the last time all of these individuals would play together as a team, everyone was determined to make it a memorable season.

Under our new coach of Mr Willis, the team decided it was time for a change in formation due to our mildly impressive previous season. It was decided that this season would be approached with a diamond formation, hopefully utilising each player to their full potential. As the season finally got under way, the team at first found it hard to find their game. After draws or narrow defeats to teams such as King Henry's, KES and Bablake, the squad felt it was time to up their game. Then came along Bishop Vesey. Through hard work, perseverance and generally good hockey, the young Camp Hill lads came out with an

emphatic 8-0 victory, a hat-trick from Andrew Newman and two goals from Devinder Manu. This set the team up nicely for their looming tour of Carlisle.

This tour might not have exhaled wondrous results for the team, Camp Hill coming out with a win, a loss and a draw, but definitely provided invaluable experience for the team, playing against mixed sex teams and teams consisting of players much older than themselves. Thanks must go to Mr Hardy for leading us on such a splendid tour. Thanks also to Mr Willis for leading us through a truly fine season. And of course, special thanks to all of the players for their hard



work, dedication and patience with the team. I hope this season provided a sound base for all of the players who wish to continue next year into the rigours of senior hockey.

■ **Devinder Manu, 10Z**

U14 Hockey

During our first year of competitive hockey at Camp Hill, we learnt many things. For example, what hockey is, and how to play it. But most importantly, and as our record shows, we learnt how to lose, and in style.

Never conceding less than 6 goals when we lost, our record stands at an average of 5 goals conceded per game. Although this may look bad (and all these goals were conceded in just four games), the team never lost heart and played well throughout the season, with some very good performances coming from Jalees Hamid, the captain, Hannan Currah and Kishan Pankhania, the goalkeeper. Playing teams who practice twice a week and who have been playing from Year 7, we were outclassed and outplayed, but can take many

positives from the season. With more practice, our strikers would have been able to convert the numerous chances we created, especially against Old Swinford, although special mention must go to Narinder Phull, the only player to score during the season, and also one of the most improved players, along with Jaskaran Rajput and Charanjit Kalsi. Finally, thanks must go to Mr Watkins, Mr Smith and Mr Hardy for taking us to matches during the season, and to Mr Watkins for coaching us every Tuesday afternoon.

■ **Josh Lee, Vice-Captain, 9J**



Results Summaries

WINTER RESULTS		PLAYED	WON	DRAWN	LOST	FOR	AGAINST
Rugby	1 st XV	19	5	0	14	267	505
	2 nd XV	15	4	0	11	165	391
	3 rd XV	1	1	0	0	38	0
	U16	8	5	0	3	205	113
	U15	19	13	2	4	500	304
	U15 B	3	0	0	3	22	146
	U14	15	13	0	2	342	195
	U14 B	2	1	0	1	24	29
	U13	15	9	1	5	373	265
	U13 B	7	2	1	4	113	150
	U13 C	3	2	0	1	29	24
	U13 D	1	1	0	0	15	5
	U12	12	3	0	9	134	244
	U12 B	6	0	0	6	10	225
	U12 C	4	0	0	4	5	109
	U12 D	4	0	0	4	10	169
	Hockey	1 st XI	16	2	0	14	27
2 nd XI		17	5	1	11	22	52
U15		13	4	1	8	25	32
U14		6	1	1	4	1	27
Basketball	U16	6	3	0	3	136	115
	U14	5	4	0	1	115	82
Football [Soccer]	1 st XI	7	2	3	2	10	10
	2 nd XI	7	2	1	4	14	26
Badminton	1 st IV	2	2	0	0	9	1
	2 nd IV	2	2	0	0	8	2
	U16	15	12	0	3	48	19
	U15	1	1	0	0	3	2
	U14	8	7	0	1	37	3

CRICKET	PLAYED	WON	DRAWN	LOST	BEST BATTING	BEST BOWLING
1 st XI	8	4	1	3	Chris Curtis 90	Asim Shoaib 3/8
2 nd XI	4	1	0	3	Sukhvir Lyall 53	Rajan Bhambra 6/16
3 rd XI	1	0	0	1	Usman Azam 19	Bilal Azam 3/15
U15	6	3	0	3	Umar Ahmed 64*	Umar Ahmed 5/3
U14	7	5	0	2	Charanjit Kalsi 88*	Gulliver Bates 4/21
U13	8	7	0	1	Mustafa Choudhry 102	Chad Atkinson 4/12
U13 B	1	1	0	0		
U12	8	4	0	4	Edward Saunders 82	Dawood Ahmed 3/9
U12 B	2	1	0	1		

TENNIS	PLAYED	WON	DRAWN	LOST
1 st IV	5	1	1	3
U15 A	4	4	0	0
U15 B	2	0	0	2
U13 A	3	1	1	1
U13 B	2	2	0	0

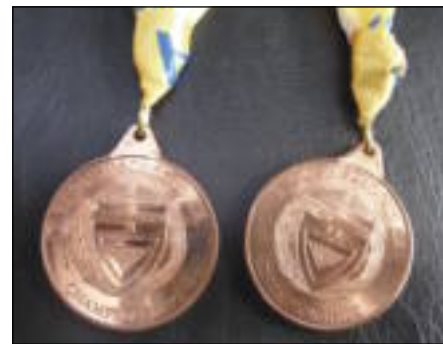
ATHLETICS	TOTAL MATCHES	TOTAL TEAMS	FIRST PLACES	SECOND PLACES	THIRD PLACES
	17	8	5	7	1

Athletics

This year the weather has been almost akin to old fashioned pre-21st century summers! Although conducive to the sport, it still remains too great a challenge for many schools to host their own competition and so limits the number of matches. Despite this there have been some superb results not just from teams but individuals also.

The first match was with year 11 and Sixth Form age groups against Solihull School, Aston and KES. The Sixth Form team, however, were under strength since year 13 former athletes played cricket or tennis, were injured or revising hard for their exams! Year 11 results included Josh Distin and Chris Williams, first and second in the hurdles, Ankit Bhatt won the 400m and Josh O'Donnell came second in the 800m. There was a formidable internal clash in the senior high jump. With only Danish Mirza and Ian Firth left in the competition they battled away pushing the bar higher and higher; great entertainment for the crowd. Danish sneaked victory this time. In the Foundation match against KES and Aston, the following week, the year 11 team were strengthened with the addition of John Lutwyche. John [see two pictures above] won both 100m and 200m, came second in the triple jump and was a member of the winning relay team. Ankit Bhatt, Josh Distin, Chris Williams and Howard Chew also managed second positions in their events. In the Sixth Form team, Jordan Clarke and Jamis Blakeman placed second in the long jump and hurdles respectively and honours were reversed in the high jump, with Ian beating Danish to win the event. Overall results for both matches placed the team a satisfying second behind KES.

The English Schools' Track and Field Cup is a most enjoyable contest where each athlete competes in 2 events and scores points for each performance. These points are added together for the whole team. The Intermediate team won their age group but sadly didn't score quite enough points to reach the Regional A Final. Best individual scores came from Nick Wilson 46 points, Rory Luscombe 38, Jake Thomas 35 and Umar Ahmed 34. In the same competition, the Junior team managed a pleasing second place, with highest scores from Jordan McDonagh 39, Jacob Bruten 27 and Joseph Cullen 25. The Intermediates progressed to the Midland B Final and in a very close and competitive match, came first beating a number of



powerful schools such as Fairfax, Rugby School, Loughborough Grammar and Aston Manor. The team excelled with many achieving personal bests on the day. In addition to athletes above scoring highly were Nathan Quadri 32, Talha Witten 34, Will Higgins 30, Elliot Black 32, James Giblin 31 and Evan Phoenix 36.

Many competitions involve Solihull School and this year we were invited to one before half term, but sadly only for years 8 and 10. Both teams, however, were too strong for the opposition and year 8 produced their best performance of the season. Oliver Paulin, David Yate, Jordan McDonagh, Ahsan Khan, Aaron Sandhu and the relay team all placed first, so final scores were Aston 95, Solihull 117, Bablake 127 and Camp Hill 142. Year 10 also won their age group with 142 points to 136 by Solihull, their nearest rivals.

On the Tuesday before half term, we held the annual Camp Hill Athletics match. This is a special event of the year when we compete against other schools, and all of the different events are officiated very efficiently by Camp Hill staff. Although the match may seem to be slightly in favour of Camp Hill, we have always struggled with the fierce competition. This year was no different, as Oldswinford Hospital, KES Stratford and Fairfax proved to be considerable opponents. It was a daunting affair for year 7, being their first outing and although they struggled, a few individuals achieved high points. Edward Waldon, Wesley Blackhurst and Tom Wood all placed second. Overall the team came sixth. Year 8 proved to be up with the best and with superb efforts from many came second with 70 points

to Arden's 84. Not to be outdone, the year 9 team also placed second but this time to Oldswinford Hospital. Lewis Hedges, Kyle Reed, Charlie Song and Tom Murphy managed second places with Tom gaining a first in 800m. Depleted with injuries, year 10 managed only fourth place, Fairfax being the winners in this age group. Overall Oldswinford won, Fairfax were second and Camp Hill third.

The Junior Foundation Match was not just the final school competition but was also split into two; years 9 and 10 followed by years 7 and 8. We are very grateful to KES for inviting us to their matches but for many years the scoring system they use always seems to contain a glitch. In the first half of the competition both years 9 and 10 were outstanding. In thirteen events, year 9 athletes won ten of them, many by athletes already mentioned but also Alex Barwani-Rai in 200m and Hamza Javed in discus. Extra special commendation must go to Tom Murphy who won all 3 of his individual events and was a member of the winning relay team. Year 10 won 6 events, again by many already highlighted above but also Howard Jones in the 800m and Will Higgins in 200m. Totals after this part of the Foundation Match were Camp Hill 327, KES 270, Aston 214 and Five Ways 46. In the second half of the match year 8 maintained their successful season and year 7 certainly improved on their previous efforts but sadly we have not received the overall results. In over 20 years we have only won the Junior Foundation Match once; perhaps the results will be available next term!

A few outstanding athletes were selected for the South Birmingham Team in the West



Midland County Championships. Jordan McDonagh, Lewis Hedges and Sam England performed well, Jordan and Sam both a year young for this age category. Umar Ahmed came 4th and 5th in discus and javelin, again a year young, and Nick Wilson ran a superb 100m hurdles reducing his PB by a full second to finish second; another Camp Hill athlete competing against others a year older. Tom Murphy threw a massive PB to win the junior javelin and John Lutwyche came first in 200m and second in 100m. These outstanding achievements by John, Nick and Tom qualified them to represent the county and John and Nick, both went on to compete

in the English Schools' National Track and Field Championships, held this year at the Alexander Stadium. A fantastic achievement for both and considerable praise must go to John for achieving third places and consequently bronze medals in both 200m and as a member of the relay team; the best result for a Camp Hill athlete since Phil Ferdinand came fourth in the Senior Triple Jump in 2000 (Phil went on to represent England and Great Britain) and James Peet who won relay gold in 1998.

In a separate year 8 West Midland Championship, Oliver Paulin, Sam England, Ahsan Khan and Aaron Sandhu all qualified

to represent South Birmingham in a friendly match as a precursor of next year's high profile event. They responded very well and gained excellent high quality experience.

Congratulations, however, must go to all athletes for their endeavours. Their achievements are frequently due to hard work and dedication after joining local clubs, where they receive expert coaching together with quality competition. Prospective athletes should look towards these clubs and take advantage of the opportunities they offer.

■ G.H.

Badminton

Badminton Nationals – Local Partnership Round 2010

On Thursday 4th December, the Year 11 team emerged as Partnership Champions after a comfortable win in the first round of the National Schools Badminton competition. In the group matches, they beat Bishop Challoner B team, King's Heath, and King's Norton. In the group winners final, they swiftly overpowered the Bishop Challoner A team. In the course of the four matches, they did not drop a game. At this stage the matches were too one sided to provide tension, though the team did become animated when Wai Ming Yap crashed to an 11-2 victory and on at least one occasion, Aaron Hsu took his jacket off. The next round would offer more challenging opposition.

■ M.R.

British Schools National Championship – First Round

The first round of the British Schools National Championship was played at Bishop Challoner. In the Year 10 and 11 category, Camp Hill entered two teams made up exclusively of year 10 players. Bishop Challoner also entered two teams.

Our A team put in a predictably strong performance and romped home to a comfortable victory, 3 matches to 0, winning all 15 of their games.

The Camp Hill B team faced more competitive matches. To win second place they had to beat the Bishop Challoner A team in the last match. They secured victory on the last possible point of the match!

This left the Camp Hill teams in first and second position. The A team went on to compete in the City Championships in January.

■ M.R.



Pictures (from top to bottom):

National KS4 Team, 2010

KS4 City Champions, 2010

KS4 Winners, Regional Finals, 2010

KS3 City Runners-up, 2010



Badminton City Finals 2010

Camp Hill was fortunate to have two teams in the city finals that were played on Thursday 4th February in Nechells Leisure Centre.

At KS3 level, we were represented by Jalees Hamid, Devjeet Bhomra, Saif Ahmed and Nimreth Phull and Perrie Chew. They played with great consistency and character, winning fifteen games in a row. Perry Beeches, Frankley and Fairfax were soundly beaten as they made their way to the final play off. The only close games occurred when the umpire lost track of the score!

In the final they played a strong team from Bishop Walsh school. Jalees at number one seed started the match with an excellently worked win over his counterpart. Bishop Walsh

however won the next two games impressively to take the lead. Jalees and Saif then played a nail-biter in the doubles and won through 24-22. The match was level, two matches each. In the final doubles, Devjeet and Perrie fought with determination but lost to a very steady pair of opponents, 15-21.

While disappointed, the KS3 team can take a lot of pride in their second place. The umpire made a point of congratulating the team for the sporting spirit in which they played the very tense matches. They were a credit to the school.

At KS4 our team of Wai Ming Yap, Aaron Hsu, Peter Liu, Asim Shoaib and Marvin Miu was defending the title they had won in year 10. Like the junior team, they romped through the group stages, winning 15 games without loss. They despatched Kingsbury, Hamstead Hall at a canter and only Broadway School

gave them pause for thought.

The final was an all Foundation affair as we faced Five Ways. From the start it was clear that this would represent much more challenging opposition. Wai Ming fought a tense match in which the lead was exchanged on several occasions. The score reached 20-20 and the adjudicators decided that an extended game would be played as it was the final. This was a shame as Wai Ming won the next point. In nerve wracking thriller, the Five Ways number one emerged victorious, 25-23.

Later games were also close as we edged wins by 21-17 and 21-19. However, Five Ways could not match our strength in depth, and Camp Hill emerged victorious, 4 matches to 1, thus successfully defending their title.

■ **M.R.**

KS4 Badminton Regional Finals 2010

Our Year 11 team went into these Finals knowing that it was at this stage last year that they were knocked out of the Nationals. The team was the same – Wai Ming Yap, Aaron Hsu, Peter Liu, Asim Shoaib and Marvin Miu. As ever, the coach on hand was Clive Ke but this year we also took a volunteer scorekeeper – Jordan O'Brien. At the outset, Jordan was tasked with keeping score in the girls' matches. He was consolable.

The standard of the teams this year was noticeably higher so there would be few easy matches. Unfortunately we were not scheduled to play in the first round of matches in our group. This meant the team had about an hour and a half to get cold and nervous. Even worse, their first opponents would be Arden School who were clearly going to be the most difficult of the teams we faced. The winners were likely

to be decided in this opening match.

Sadly, Mr Russell's fears were borne out. The Arden first seed, fresh and in form after his first round matches caught Wai Ming cold. Our third and fourth seeds then played the first doubles and also looked as though they needed more of a warm up as they lost in a nervous performance to their Arden counterparts. When you are playing best of five matches, it is not good to lose the first two!

However, cometh the hour, cometh the man. Aaron Hsu, looking as though he had no idea of the match score proceeded with a jaunty grin to showboat his way past their second seed. This left the score 1-2.

In the meantime, Clive Ke did sterling work calming the team down. This is not a team that gives in when faced with adversity. Wai Ming and Peter held their nerve to edge away from the opposition and win 21-15. The score was now 2-2 and once again, all would be decided on the last game. It was difficult not to remember that we were at the same point last year and lost it at 21-21.

It was obvious that the Arden team would direct play at our fourth seed, Asim Shoaib. Asim however, lifted his standard magnificently to keep the match close. The Arden team began to suffer from nerves and we edged out a lead which was finally extended to a 21-15 victory.

To come back from two matches down was a real sign of character. This struggle had lifted our team's performance level and normal service was resumed. They despatched Blessed William Howard School 4-1 then faced Kingswinford in the final. Wai Ming led the charge winning a tight opener 21-16, refusing to be unsettled by some dubious line calling. In the end we had too much strength in depth for the Kingswinford team and won the title comfortably 5-0.

Thanks as ever are due to Clive Ke for doing such sterling work on team morale, and to Mr Smith who give up an entire day driving them to and from the venue.

■ **M.R.**

Basketball

U16 Basketball

The boys of the U16 Basketball team can look back on a fine season. Three wins and three losses, (which include a narrow two point defeat and a tight one point loss to Archbishop Ilsely) meant that Camp Hill just lost out on a place in the play-offs. However, the boys can be proud of two memorable performances, including a 29-11 victory over Yardleys, in which every player managed to score a basket, and an epic win against Kings Norton, where Camp Hill managed to hold them to a draw after normal time

due to a last second three pointer from Alex Weir. We then went on to win the game in a tense period of extra time thanks to a superb shot by Suhkvir Lyall. Special mention must go to Alex Weir (top scorer on 29 points) followed closely by Umar Ahmed (25 points) and also to Nathan Cornwall and Ankit Bhatt who played every match.

■ **Tom Dowling, 11W**



U14 Basketball

The season was very successful for the U14 Basketball Team with four wins out of five matches. Our first match against Bishop Challoner was very close but we won due to the effective use of our taller players, Pavan Bhambra and Fateh Singh each scoring plenty of baskets. Gulliver Bates also helped contribute to our 26-24 win.

Yardley's was much easier for our players who dominated most of the game. Newcomer Kyle Reed delivered a fine performance by scoring 5 baskets to ensure our 32-8 win. We beat both Ninestiles and Baverstock, 22-16 and 17-12 respectively. Pavan Bhambra got 14 points in the two games and Idris Mohammed and Fateh Singh both got 6 points.

For the first three-quarters of our match against Wheelers lane we dominated the game despite the absence of several of our key players due to Rugby and other commitments. However, near the end of the match, disorder in the team led to Wheelers



gaining the upper hand. Despite a comeback by our players we were unable to match the Wheelers score and we narrowly lost 18-22. Gulliver Bates and Fateh Singh scored most of our baskets.

Our commendable performance has

resulted in an excellent season and we would like to credit Mr Duncan for the time and effort he has devoted arranging our matches and coaching us.

■ **Fateh Singh, 9J**

Chess

What a year 2009-10 was! We won several things (the Under 18 UK National Schools Chess Championship, Divisions 1 and 3 of the local league, the Invitational Tournament and the Closed Quickplay, and Best in Birmingham in the Under 18 tournament) but it was the thing we ultimately didn't win which provided the year's headline, and sets the standard for our younger players to aspire to.

The Christmas Term started with our annual individual competition, which was eventually won by Andrew Briggs. At the

time of writing, I am still to find the trophy, despite the fact that the competition finished in November. 32 players qualified for the regional Megafinal. Then we won the Invitational Tournament at Five Ways, Nottingham High School having helped us by not turning up. Millfield came next: our efforts there were memorably described by Hok Chiu in the December newsletter. This epistle, which included many memorable phrases, is too long to reprint here, but, in short, we had a good time and came last in the top division. In view of events which were to come, maybe I should have been more disappointed with this performance

than I was at the time.

When the local League programme, our first match (and only Division 1 match) was against KES. To say, as I did in the December newsletter, that it was "somewhat unexpected" when we won 5-1 was one of the understatements of the year: I was overjoyed! There was only one obstacle to the League championship: KE Five Ways, who for reasons best known to themselves had entered their formidable first term into Division 2. We played them at home on a dark winter's evening, and rapidly went 3-0 down: the rest of the team rose to this challenge and fought back to a 3-3 draw. As well



as our wins in Divisions 1 and 3, we finished runners-up in Division 4 and the Year 7 division. Our Year 7s acquitted themselves well in their fixtures, although KES won both the League division and the Year 7 tournament. Sulamaan Rahim and Tom Meehan seem to be the stars to watch. Bob Walker did a wonderful job as their trainer, ably assisted by various members of the senior Chess Committee.

The Under 18 tournament at KES in November went rather well for us. We beat Five Ways (this time) and Nottingham B, drew with KES, and lost to Haberdashers' Aske's and Nottingham A of course! This left us with the Best in Birmingham trophy, and Kyle Reed won a board prize. Windsor High School, who joined the League only this year, bravely offered to host the annual Under 14 tournament in March, and then only eight teams turned up, from four schools. Two of them were from Nottingham, so we expected nothing more than to proceed staunchly to a mid-table position, which is what we did. Sulamaan Rahim won a board prize. Then we hosted the Closed Quickplay. By tradition, we win this, and this year was no exception: two of the three losses incurred by our A team were against other Camp Hill players, and we managed to field no less than four teams and lent two players to other schools. In House Chess, the final order was Tudor, Seymour, Howard, Beaufort.

The regional Megafinal took place in Worcester in April, and several Camp Hill players took part. Kyle Reed won the Under 14 section, with Max Cheung as runner-up; Jason Pereira came runner-up on a tie-break in the Under 15 section, and Aled Walker came runner-up in the Under 18 section. In July a mainly sixth-form team relaxed after their exams by travelling to Breen Sands, Somerset, where we became the Under 18 UK National Schools Chess Champions, holding off Q.E. Barnet by one point. A great time was had by all. In preparation for student life, Clive Ke cooked us all dinner one evening.

And then there was the Yateley Manor national competition, formerly sponsored by the Times. You should bear in mind while reading that this competition has an age handicap system. We started with two


matches against local junior schools: we won both 6-0. Then we found ourselves up against KES in the semi-final. We beat them 3½-2½, and then faced Magdalen College School, Oxford, in the zonal final. Some years ago the response to this news would have been "Run away!" but we gave them a good run for their money, winning on Boards 4, 5 and 6 to secure a 3-3 draw. They won on age, but we didn't mind, as that put us into the Plate competition for zonal runners-up and, on a beautiful spring day, we set off to Woodbridge School, Suffolk. The journey took a long time, and so did the chess. Woodbridge had an IM (International Master) in charge, and various frightening players with double-barrelled or Russian names, and worryingly high grades. We had to win 3½-2½ because of the age difference. Kyle won, Nick West drew from what appeared to my practised eye to be a lost position (i.e. I thought his opponent had more pieces), Nathan Brown lost, and Andrew Briggs drew after making the same move several times. This left Clive Ke and Aled Walker. Suddenly, Clive took all his opponent's pieces except her King! But his flag fell, so it was a draw. Meanwhile, Aled and his opponent were moving their pieces so fast that you could hardly see them. Suddenly, his opponent made an illegal move! Two minutes more for Aled, which in a chess end-game, is an eternity. He mated him, so we won, to the obvious chagrin of their IM. This put us into the national quarter-finals, where we drew...Eton College! We went there in the late spring. The match started badly. They were younger, so we had to win 4-2. Nick West made some sort of error, and Andrew Pearson made a bigger error (a "blunder", even) which resulted in the loss of his queen. The others battled gamely on. Kyle Reed asked whether he should offer a draw, and we decided he shouldn't. This proved to be the correct decision, because his opponent blundered next move. Then Andrew Briggs did something clever. So it was 2-2, with Clive and Aled left. They both had to win. Would we make it? Suddenly, it was mate in one for Clive, and his opponent resigned. 3-2. Aled had to win. Suddenly, his opponent's flag fell. So it was 4-2 to us, and yes, **our chess team beat Eton College.**

This took us to the National Finals, held at Uppingham School the day after we came back from Breen Sands. We played a prep school called Homefield in the first match. They were good, and very young. Andrew Pearson made some sort of mistake, but couldn't explain what it was. Clive found himself pushed into one tiny corner of the board. The others won, so it was 4-2. Win for us? Sadly not, because of age handicap. This left us with a junior school called Aughton St. Michael's in the third place play-off, which we won 6-0, and this time, no amount of age handicap could deprive us of victory. So we came third, despite going through this whole competition undefeated over the boards. Our team for these two matches was Clive, Andrew Briggs, Andrew Pearson, Nick, Kyle and Max Cheung: Aled and Nathan were busy representing the United Kingdom in the International Mathematical Olympiad in Kazakhstan.

In 1984, Winston Smith confirms the disappearance of his friend Syme by looking at a printed list of members of the Chess Committee at the Ministry of Truth. "It looked exactly as it had looked before – nothing had been crossed out – but it was one name shorter. Syme had ceased to exist." Sadly many members of my Chess Committee have "ceased to exist", hopefully not through the intervention of the Thought Police. Aled, Andrew, Clive, Nathan, Nick and other "originals", and recently Chiraag Pankhania and Inderveer Kang, have contributed an inestimable amount to school chess over many years, and I still have fond memories of how easy it was to manage 7J's form periods in 2003 just by giving out chess boards and sets. Hopefully they will carry on with their chess at university: hopefully, by popular demand, new members of our Chess Committee can help Camp Hill Chess rebuild and continue.

■ **A.M.R.**

Cross-Country

 In a dry and hard surface, at the South Birmingham Cross-Country Championships, the boys ran very strongly, but couldn't quite match the outstanding results from last year.

Year 7 came an impressive 2nd; com-

bined years 8 and 9 were 3rd and years 10 and 11 also placed 2nd.

Many runners qualified for the West Midlands Schools X-Country Trials at Sandwell Valley; however it clashed with rugby fixtures. It wasn't an ideal day for cross-country as it wasn't snowing or raining and there was only a slight breeze; quite dis-

appointing for extreme athletes. Despite these unusual conditions Jake Webb, Oscar McNaughton, Oliver Paulin and Ben Connolly all ran well to achieve personal bests.

■ **G.H.**

1st XI Football

To anybody who holds the game close to their heart, the growing strength of football at Camp Hill must be a source of satisfaction. Despite boys not being given the opportunity to play competitively or even recreationally in games until they reach the Sixth Form, football continues to be the sport of choice for older boys at Camp Hill, with the numbers opting for 'soccer' being far greater than any other alternative. Certainly, if popularity is the measure of a sport's importance, then football is the most important sport in the Sixth Form. At least sixty boys would turn out every Wednesday afternoon to enjoy a kick-about, across all abilities and come rain or shine. What is equally as encouraging is the consistently high number of players who turned up for training for one of the two teams, establishing a hungry and competitive environment for places. It has been my pleasure to captain the first team in the midst of such an environment.

It has also been a privilege to lead such a young side this season, with only four of a typical starting line-up hailing from the upper sixth. The consequence of this has been the immense effort each player puts into every game, a youthful hunger throughout the team reflected in our desire to battle for every ball. In all honesty, I can say that in only one half of one match have I felt ashamed by our performance this season. We were completely outclassed in the first half of our first game against Baverstock, coming in at half-time 3-0 down and looking dead in the water. Yet I think it is a credit to the lads that we fought back to win the second half 1-0, losing 3-1 overall, but looking the better team by the end of the game. In that second half we played for our pride alone, and I would say that we won it back.

In fact, there are countless occasions when we have given everything until the very end. In our very first game, and after only one training session, we faced Q3 academy in the Cup. In truth, Q3 were a superior technical side, and we suffered badly as they played the ball around us. Yet we were only 1-0 down and right in the game until the dying seconds of the match, fighting for every ball

and agonisingly missing an open goal that would have seen us level. Our first game against Old Swinford saw us battle heroically to secure a 1-1 draw. The second saw us hang on to a 2-2 draw after a superb penalty save by Simon Atkins, while the third saw us win comfortably 2-0. This latter result highlights the immense progression made by the team over the course of the season. We were able to draw 1-1 against Baverstock in March after the loss we suffered in October, and the aforementioned win against Old Swinford followed two draws earlier in the season. By the season's end, we had gelled as a team and looked much stronger for it, as the staff found out when they were humiliated by a 4-0 defeat.

Yet while I praise the effort made by the team, it is only right that certain individuals are given due recognition for their quality and commitment this season. Nathan Brown has been a pair of safe hands in goal, combining with Alistair Carr, Amar Rajgor, Tom Hollywood and Kieran Patel to give the team a solid defence that has conceded just ten goals in seven games. In particular, Alistair has been an able leader of the back four, and will no doubt continue to dominate games next season. Up front, Jayven Athwal's pace has complimented Johnny Kay's strength to menace oppositions, while in midfield Michael Koppel's technical ability has always provided us with a dangerous option wide. Yet one player in particular has always been at the heart of the side. I have been lucky to have been able to partner Sean Miller in the centre of midfield this season, a player who is truly talented technically and physically strong, dictating games from the middle as well as being a

potent attacking threat, and easily finishing up as top goal-scorer this year. It was fitting Sean won the award for player of the season as well as football colours in Year 12, a prize I believe is unprecedented.

With the heart of the team this season coming from Year 12, it is my hope that next year this group of players will thrive and push to reach the latter stages of the competitions, a hope I do not believe to be far-fetched. I know the players left behind are a highly motivated and talented unit, and with certain additions from the new lower sixth, will be a match for any opposition they face. Next season's team will be the most talented Camp Hill has seen in many years, and I hope their achievements will reflect this fact.

I would just like to end with a note of thanks to the staff without whom none of this would be possible. Mr Garrod, Mr Speake and Mr Hill do a superb job in organising football at Camp Hill, and I am sure I speak for all boys when I say I am extremely grateful to have been given the opportunity to play football in the Sixth Form, an opportunity I hope it is clear we relish from the commitment we give. As an external entrant to the Sixth Form, I have always found it curious that football – a game that is unparalleled in bringing people together and so popular amongst the lads here – is allocated such a limited role in the school. I hope that our enthusiasm and dedication this year has inspired a greater place for football throughout the school in years to come, because in my eyes, this can only enrich the experience here for all involved.

■ **Matt Mears, U3**



2nd XI Football

With five matches in 2007, six in 2008 and seven in 2009-10, this season was the busiest yet (Arden, Baverstock*2, Kings Norton Boys, Old Swinford*3).

In the first fixture, the second eleven played against Kings Norton. It became apparent that they fielded several players from their first team and this was clear from kick-off.

Camp Hill conceded a goal within the first minute! With a call for regrouping and a quick motivational speech Camp Hill soon picked up their game and equalised with some good passing followed by Arun Verma's inventive chip over the advancing keeper. Camp Hill now began to dominate the game and were making many more chances on goal. Unfortunately none of those chances materialised and at half time the score read 1-1; however a win for Camp Hill did seem inevitable. Camp Hill made the necessary adjustments to their team with the two substitutes they had available to them. Kings Norton made several substitutions and this ultimately won them the game. With too many tired feet on Camp Hill's side, the final score read 3-1.

The previous game being a defeat Camp Hill were determined to win the next match against Arden. Within minutes of the start the 2nd XI went a goal up. An excellent run and cross on the counter attack from Sohail Arfan allowed Arun Verma to slot the ball into the net from close range. With a further two goals Camp Hill found themselves in a commanding position just before half time. The first half did not end without incident. The Arden goalkeeper made a mess of a cross and clearly palmed the ball over the line – which would have made the score 4-0. However, this goal was disallowed by the referee. Where's goal line technology when you need it!? Arden scored with seconds from the whistle making the half time score 3-1. The second half began in similar fashion and Arun Blaggan increased Camp Hill's lead with a well taken strike into the back of the net. With only ten minutes to go Arden scored making the score 4-2. A two goal buffer for Camp Hill, they were sure to win? A mix up of play gave Arden the ball and they were able to score another. 4-3, still a win – but with a minute to go the

unthinkable happened. Camp Hill were unable to keep possession and Arden somehow managed to scramble the ball over the line which made the final score Camp Hill 4, Arden 4.

The 2nd XI travelled to Baverstock for their third game. Baverstock had a clear height advantage, though this didn't faze Camp Hill in the slightest. As the game got underway Camp Hill settled in well, with the first goal of the match coming quickly with a superb curling free kick from captain Meghesh Shelat. This seemed to boost the Camp Hill confidence, but after a while Baverstock came back with a goal from their Drogba look-alike. With the scores level, and a little tactical substitution, Saam Malik scored a blistering goal from outside the box. Camp Hill continued to play well and the score at half time was 3-1. The second half continued in the same fashion but, with a sudden lack of concentration, the defenders let Drogba into the box allowing him to drive the ball into the goal. With the score at 3-2, flashbacks of the last game with Arden came to mind and some managerial changes had to be made. This made the all important difference and unlike the previous match we didn't concede goals, but in fact added another two on to our total. For Camp Hill, a convincing 5-2 victory.

With the captain away at an interview and Old Swinford up next for their fourth match, it didn't look pretty. The half time score was 0-0, but the opposing team managed to keep to their formations and this eventually led them to victory. Three months and not a lot of training sessions later, the 2nd XI faced Old Swinford for the second time in a row. Much of the first half was stalemate. Just before the whistle for the end of the first

half, Old Swinford managed to score. The second half started with the opposing team keeping most possession and they were able to penetrate through our defence on numerous occasions. Old Swinford made a couple of substitutions and capitalised on Camp Hill's tired feet. Old Swinford beat Camp Hill again. Three games in a row with Old Swinford, it cannot be? Guess again, if two games ending in defeat wasn't enough, we did in fact play them again. As the first half started Camp Hill's defence looked strong and well organised as they coped with the long balls over the top, with Simon Atkins also making some excellent one-on-one saves. However, soon after, a through ball from the opposition was converted clinically by their striker, lifting the ball over Simon Atkins, and seeing Old Swinford take the lead. Then came the first real chance for Camp Hill and it fell to Arun Blaggan deep inside the box, but his shot wasn't enough to challenge the opposition's keeper. Old Swinford were again on the attack resulting in a goal from sloppy Camp Hill defending. The first half ended, score 2-0. As the second half progressed it was clear that Camp Hill were starting to tire out which showed as the opposition bombarded the Camp Hill defence. As a result a few goals were scored, and let's just say Camp Hill lost again.

As the football season came to a close the 2nd XI wanted to finish strong; this was the last ever match most players were going to play at Camp Hill – and it was against Baverstock. The first half got underway and it was clear that both teams were determined to win. With some clever passing and movement around the ball the 2nd XI were able to break the deadlock and score the



first goal. However, the joy was short lived as Baverstock struck back from a well taken corner. As the game went on Camp Hill became more and more confident. Pablo Taylor was commanding the back line well, Ed Wallace, Yiannis Georgiou and Meghesh Shelat did well to lock off mid field and Serge Wicker made some good attempts on goal. After some organised play by Camp Hill, Arun Blaggan received the ball from Meghesh Shelat and ran down the left wing to tap the ball into the net making the score 3-1. This was opposed by an attempt from Baverstock to get one back and, after a few chances on goal, they did. With only a few minutes left and chances on either side Camp Hill were certain they wanted to score a fourth. With an attempt on goal the 2nd XI managed to get a corner. Arun Verma took the corner which eventually was converted into a goal after the keeper helped the ball on its way to the back of the net. The final whistle blew: Baverstock 2 Camp Hill 4.

After an eventful season Camp Hill finished on a high note. One thing that can be agreed by all though – it was an entertaining year. Good luck to the next lot!

■ **Meghesh Shelat, U4**

Rowing (Indoor)



Swimming

The swimming team began the academic year with a visit to Warwick School with some people known as 'girls' in a mixed gala with five schools participating. With no warm up due to traffic delays, the team performed well and gained third place. The gala also revealed the talents and saw good swims from newcomers Jack Wishart of the Lower Sixth as well as Alex Lane and Matija Novovic in Year Seven. The team visited Bromsgrove School, nine

days after, along with the neighbouring Girls' School team. The intermediate U16 age group were superb, winning thanks to their wealth of talent.

This year's regional heats of the English Schools' Relay Championship were held, not in the wilds of Telford, but at some place called King Edward's School Birmingham – might have heard of them somewhere, not sure where though... deprived of many swimmers, we did well but it was not enough to take us through to the next round of the competition.

Another mixed gala in the new decade at St Martin's School, Solihull proved to be successful with wins for all of our age groups. The gala also saw an impressive school debut from Kuran Rati. The sequel of the gala sized our swimmers up against Princethorpe School who had many competitive swimmers. Again, our swimmers prevailed with excellent swims from Lewis Hedges, Kieran Bahktiari, Charlie Song and Jordan McDonagh.

A mixed Middle School gala against Tudor Grange School, Solihull saw great



swims from Ben Griffin, Mikail Weir, Sam Archer and Luka Novovic. With the scores tied after individual races, a great team effort in the relays saw a win for the team. Ben Smith and Alex Owen deserve much gratitude for their voluntary, effective management of the gala.

Two galas before the 'all-important' exam season took place, the first a junior gala against Tudor Grange with fine wins for Alex Zhang and Joseph McElroy. Year Ten volunteers Danny Szucs, Tom Perkins and Ben Griffin deserve our thanks for voluntarily helping to manage proceedings. The annual Invitational Relay Gala at Bromsgrove School involving the region's top swimming schools is always a highlight for the boys for it involves two very important words – 'free' and 'food'. However, we were obviously much more focussed on the swimming – the food was just a bonus. The finest swimmers in the region were on display and they proved too much for the boys. We swam very well but the opposition were better.

The best news always comes last. The House Swimming Gala of 2010 was just as good as its 2009 predecessor in terms of action and excitement. The shield had become rather accustomed to the Beaufort trophy shelf after five years and so the house decided to grant it a little sabbatical last year to experience life in the world of Seymour.

After the Swimming Standards, two points separated the first and fourth place – the holders Seymour on 194 points, Tudor and Howard on 193 points and Beaufort on 192. In past years, one house usually held a considerable advantage before the start of the gala but the gala proved that two points can be decided by 0.21 secs. In effect, the gala performance dictated the final standings for each house. Going into the penultimate race, Tudor who were leading at that stage could have finished the gala third – yes, that's how close it was. Beaufort's strength in depth shone through and returned the shield to its true home.

Individual performances were dominated by Beaufort swimmers, Joseph McElroy (Y8) of Tudor stood between Beaufort and **total** domination. Matija Novovic (Y7), Luka Novovic (Y9) and Vinson Yeung (U6) won three of the four Victor Ludorum trophies. The latter having completed a clean sweep – winning the trophy every year during his time at Camp Hill as well as leaving two school records in the process. Recognition is due to Alex Owen of Year Eleven who 'out-dived' and 'out-floated' much bigger and older senior swimmers to win the coveted 'Plunge' event.

It has been a privilege to fill the role of School Swimming Captain for the past two years, swimming with the boys. The swimming team is something special – breeding connections between students of all ages. I

feel the following also deserve recognition for their superb contributions to the team during the past year: Jonathan Saad, Rishi Sanger (Y7); Bhalraj Rai, Hamish Wells, Abhimanyu Yadav (Y8); Ben Evans, Sumant Kapoor, Tom Perkins (Inter); Jack Bristow, Aaron Hsu, Josh O'Donnell, Alex Owen, Ben Smith (Y11); Andrew Jeskins, Robby Williams, Andrew Bentley and Philip Trzcinski (Senior).

Finally, I would like to single out Nick West, an unsung hero who has made such telling contributions to the swimming team. After seven years of devoted service to school swimming, Nick West embarks on a gap year journey, Philip Trzcinski immerses himself into the world of engineering at Sheffield University's prestigious Faculty of Engineering, Andrew Bentley begins his quest to become a mad chemist at Worcester College, University of Oxford whilst a certain Vinson Yeung toddles down to the University of Birmingham to stare at people's teeth. Whilst still on the topic of devoted service to school swimming, I would like, on behalf of all of Camp Hill's swimmers, to thank Mr Jack for yet another year of taking us all over the region and for his management. On a closing note, I wish the swimming team the best of luck in the future.

■ **Vinson Yeung, U5**

Tennis

As always the Senior Tennis season begins early with the Senior Students League programme which runs during the Autumn and Spring term. The squad comprising of Tony Song, Cameron Macinnes, James Rogers, Ollie Palmer, Luke Pritchard Cairns and Indveer Kang played three matches, drawing with Solihull School 3-3, losing to a very strong Warwickshire College team 2-4, but the highlight was a well deserved 4-2 victory against local rivals KES. During the summer term, in more appropriate Tennis weather, the Seniors played a further two matches, losing to KES and losing in the first round of the Glanville Knockout Cup against Solihull 6th Form College.

The U15 team (Kameran Ali, Charlie Song, Ben Palmer and Oliver Tonks) topped their area league with four excellent wins including two well deserved 4-2 victories against KES and Bishop Challoner. Their prize is a place in the regional stages of the competition. Special mention must go to Kameran Ali and Charlie Song who were unbeaten in all the singles and doubles



matches. The 'B' team (Ben Miller, Fateh Singh, Josh Bridgeman and Akshay Nathwani) had a tough season losing both their league matches to 'A' teams from other schools.

The U13 team (Giles Moss, Oliver Jebson, James Ternent, Alex Lane and Faaris Zaki) had a season of mixed results; beat-

ing St Georges convincingly, losing heavily to KES and drawing with Kings Norton. A mainly Year 7 'B' team (Dominic Paver, Alex Tassa, Faaris Zaki and Niyamal Ali) had a more successful season with two wins to put them top of their league.

■ **C.M.J.**

Camp Hill Rugby Football Club

Another up and down season. The 1st team won 9 out of 24 league matches finishing 8th in Midlands Division One (West); a highly credible finish. At times we looked very good, at others we failed to perform to our potential. This was not helped by the mid-season weather which not only disrupted fixtures but also training schedules. In December and January we did not win one game. In the North Midlands Cup we beat Newport and narrowly lost to Bromsgrove, both from the league above, thus showing our true ability.

Old Boys of the School featured strongly in the 1st XV with a total of nine Old Boys featuring in the side. The top four points scorers over the season were all former pupils:

- Ian Briggs (left School 2007)
158 points (3 tries)
- Ben Simon (left School 2008)
41 points (6 tries)
- Simon Edwards (left School 2001)
40 points (1 try)
- Rob Obeng-Manu (left School 2007)
35 points (7 tries)

On the plus side we regularly fielded four and even five teams most weeks. Many thanks to Chairman of Selectors Rich Hudson whose commitment in rounding up players each week was again phenomenal. Rich was awarded the Clubman of the season and we all owe him a huge vote of thanks.

Colts failed to materialise and had to cancel their league fixtures. There were a number of contributing factors which will be overcome and we look forward to next season with renewed optimism.

The Victor Saville Award this year went to Nathan Quadri. This award is made to the pupil who has done most to foster links between Club and School.

On the International front Dan Toth continued to be a regular member of the Hungarian national team. Also Dino Markou, a new acquisition during the season, not only played for Cyprus but also scored tries for them. Our congratulations to both players.

The ladies as ever continue to improve their performance level. They won their league, National Championship One (North), by a margin of 4 points. A great achievement at this level just one below the highest league in women's rugby.

Mini and Junior sections have once again been an example to the rest of us in commitment and willingness to volunteer. Chairman Nick Freeman has relinquished the 'helm' although he is staying on the

Club's Main Committee. Thanks Nick. You have done a great job and will be a hard act to follow.

As ever the Club can only exist as an amateur operation because of the dedication of many people and on behalf of everyone I offer many thanks to all of the volunteers. Thank you all.

We welcome any involvement from School, both boys and parents. Mr Caves will point you in the right direction as he is School/Club liaison officer.

Our thanks to Mr Roden who is taking an active interest in the Club as President. Finally we all had a good time at the annual School v Club matches which were keenly contested to a good skill level.

■ **Dave Maiden**, Chairman, Camp Hill RFC

C.H. Old Edwardians Golfing Society

Founded in 1951, C.H.O.E.G.S. meets three times every year for golf, dinner and a chance to catch up with old friends. Handicaps and ages vary considerably and all are most welcome to join up and play as little or as often as possible. Our meetings are as follows:

- The spring meeting, where we compete individually for the Philip Holden Challenge Cup. Commissioned in 1951, the cup is a very fine and valuable trophy. Since 1969, the runner-up is awarded the Crosbie Holden silver salver.
- A mid-year match against Aston Old Edwardians. The fixture sees twelve of the finest golfers from each society pitting their skills against each other in a pairs Ryder cup format. We compete for the aptly named
- 'Old Friends' trophy.
- The autumn meeting, where we have played since 1963 for the Bert Leech (our founding President) putters. A stableford alliance format sees the winning pair taking home an 'ancient' hickory shaft putter each to mount above the mantelpiece for the year.

2010 Results:

- Philip Holden Challenge Cup
– Roberto Hasnain
- Crosbie Holden Silver Salver
– Paul Hinsley
- Old Friends Trophy
– grrrrr! Aston Old Eds ... again!
- Bert Leech Putters
– outgoing Captain Mike Ravenhill and 'Sherring' Kieran Naik.

Highlight of the year – Mr G Cookson caddying for Timothy Robbo-inson at Moseley G.C. With yet another lame wrist injury, Robbo's expert caddy failed to com-

plete the round, complaining it was too cold to be outdoors and that he needed a warm Horlicks. I thought northerners were supposed to be tough??

If you are interested in joining the society, drop me a line: warren@tinkertaylor.tv or speak to Mr Caves at school.

■ **Warren Taylor**, Hon. Sec. C.H.O.E.G.S.

(There were some school masters who never expected letters after my name!).

Tanworth and Camp Hill Cricket Club

Following a successful 'trial merger' season with Tanworth in Arden CC, 'TACH' had another excellent season, playing high quality cricket with plenty of social activities to boot.

After promotion to the Cotswold League Premier League last season, the 1st XI achieved its primary aim of Premier League survival. Aply led by ex-Camp Hill student Ian Jordan, the side featured a number of key contributions from other past students, most notably Chris Pearce, Nick Humphreys and Dave Terrace. The cricket was of a high standard (we were regularly playing against overseas pros) in some great locations and we hope to consolidate and kick on next year with a good batch of young players coming through, including current KECH student Kieran Patel.

The 2nd XI also had a season to remember, securing promotion from Division 4 of the Cotswold League. Again plenty of key contributions came from Camp Hill alumni, including two hundreds from Dave Pearce, consistent keeping from Paul Scott and a hundred and plenty of wickets from Kieran.

The club has now got the resources to run a 3rd XI, which is a great breeding ground for youngsters to prove themselves and play a higher standard of cricket. Playing in the tough West Midlands 3rd XI league, the 3's battled ably and recorded some crucial victories.

The amount of cricket at the club has also increased, and includes a midweek Twenty 20 league against Birmingham League sides (captained by Dave Terrace) and a Sunday side, which was not possible prior to the merger. There were also numerous social events including a tour to south Wales, a 6-a-side tournament and a race night.

We are always looking for new players to join our friendly and progressive club. If you are interested please contact Dave Terrace on 07723334792.

■ **Chris Pearce**

Sports Day 2010





House Reports

Beaufort

At the end of the Autumn term 2009, Mr Southworth decided with some reluctance and no little sadness to hand over the reins as Housemaster of Beaufort House after 31 years of loyal and dedicated service. He took over at a time when Beaufort regularly picked up the wooden spoon in inter-house competitions, but over the years he managed to turn things around and transformed Beaufort into a winning machine, the last five years being the most successful in the House's history. For boys currently at the school and for old boys in particular, Mr Southworth will be forever identified with Beaufort House. He can always be seen sporting some item of red clothing, be that a tie or silk pocket handkerchief (Mike can be relied on to maintain sartorial standards at Camp Hill Boys), and he still keeps a keen eye on the boys' performances in the house competition.

Mr Southworth confesses that his time as Beaufort House Master was one of the most enjoyable aspects of his long and distinguished teaching career thus far, as it gave him the opportunity of working with a wide range of boys whom he would not necessarily meet in the normal course of teaching his subject. Furthermore, he also enjoyed seeing the boys develop their organisational and leadership skills through taking responsibility for organising teams for the inter-house competition. After only my first two terms in charge, I can only echo these sentiments and I have been very impressed by the boys' enthusiasm and willingness to participate in events, even when faced by much stronger opposition. It is these qualities that make the house competition the success that it is.

This was another successful year for Beaufort in the 101st house competition. We enjoyed some successes and saw good performances in the rugby, swimming, basketball and quiz competitions in the Autumn and Spring terms, demonstrating that athletic prowess and intellectual excellence are not mutually exclusive. The swimming gala and championship was won overall by Beaufort with Vinson Yeung leading by example and marshalling his team effectively. There were several commendable performances and, though it was a fine team effort, I must single out Vinson Yeung, Luka Novovic and Matija Novovic for winning the Victor Ludorum in each of their respective age categories, an impressive achievement. Similarly, I must commend house rugby captain Alex Taylor for his efforts in running Beaufort house rugby. The Seniors and Intermediates won their respective competitions and the Years 8 and 7 teams worked hard to contribute valuable points to the overall total. Beaufort was crowned



House Rugby Champions for 2009–10.

This Summer term was another successful one for Beaufort with our boys performing well in all the summer sports. Just to prove that Beaufort are not all brawn and just proficient sportsmen but possess keen minds as well, we won the quiz competition with the juniors securing the title with 2 wins out of 3. In the cricket competition we came second overall, the juniors and seniors winning a game each and a strong intermediate side winning all 3 of their games. In the tennis Beaufort came third overall and we were represented by Sean Miller and Chris Williams (seniors), the ubiquitous James Giblin (a stalwart member of the House) and Fateh Singh (intermediates), and James Ternent and Faaris Zaaki (juniors).

The postponed sports day eventually took place on a pleasant Monday afternoon in the last week of term. Strong team performances by the seniors and once again the intermediates, combined with the valuable points gained by the juniors plus the points from the standards contributed by all house members, helped secure a well earned victory. I was judging the discus on the day so was only able to have the odd glimpse of some of the boys' performances on the track, but it was evident to me that we were doing well in the face of tough challenges from the other 3 houses. Tudor had started the day in the lead in the house championship and they were the team we had to beat on the day. Wesley Blackhurst (Y7), Kyle Reed (Y9) and Nick Wilson (Y10) in the intermediates earned the Victor Ludorum in their respective year groups, Wesley and Kyle each sharing the award with two of their peers in other houses and Nick being the outright winner in his age group.

And so Beaufort House has once again won the house championship with 66.5 points, by a narrow margin of 4.5 points from Tudor. My congratulations and those of Mr Southworth go out to all the boys in the house for their contributions over the last year. Special mention should also be made of Jacob Plummer for his contribution throughout the year as House Captain. We now look forward to defending our title in 2010–11.

■ **R.A.S.**

Howard

A substantially better year would be a fair description for our performance in 2009–10. Gaining joint first place in Hockey and, more recently, sole occupancy of first position in the Cricket competition are the highlights, but many second places in a variety of sports have endorsed a good year. Praise must go to Harris Hussain who, as House Captain, has worked tirelessly with his team of mentors to encourage and cajole boys into even greater heroics in order to cement our current overall position. Unfortunately, owing to sports day being postponed to a date later than this article can be submitted, the final result is, as yet, unknown. What is certain is that the future looks slightly bluer than recent years and that the potential to improve is quite evident. We wish Josh Tibbetts, our 2010–11 House Captain, the best of luck in his quest to wrench the House Trophy from where it currently resides and we hope that the incoming new boys can also contribute some valuable performances.

■ **P.T.C.**

Tudor

After the disappointing end to last year's House competition, in which Tudor came last by one point, the green machine were looking to start stronger as we tried to come out of our recession.

Unfortunately the Intermediate House Rugby was not the start we wanted. Despite fighting hard they were narrowly beaten in all matches, and the year looked to start as last year had finished as Beaufort took the spoils. The Seniors however proved more successful and their efforts resulted in two good victories against Howard and Seymour, before losing to Beaufort by a single conversion.

House football was the first tournament to be completed this year, and Tudor made a good start by winning the senior 11-a-side and coming 2nd in the 5-a-side, conceding only one goal in the process, and thereby establishing an early lead. With 2nd place in the Juniors and 4th in the Inters, Tudor held on to grab 1st place.

After the continued success of the House Quiz, Mr Hill had managed to register it as a major house event. It is a shame that we as a House still have to come to terms with this as a competition, need we say more.

Table tennis has long been a strong suit of Tudor's, having held it for 5 years. This year proved to be a much closer affair than normal, particularly the Intermediates where all teams finished within 2 points of each other. Unfortunately, we fell short of

regaining our crown by a mere two points to Beaufort, despite Giles Hill and Joseph McElroy claiming the Junior section for Tudor.

Finally, the biggest event of the autumn term was as always the House cross-country. Credit should go to all years 7-10 as the strong Tudor performance in Standards across all year groups put us into 2nd place. Though we may never have looked to have the strongest runners in any of the age groups, our strength in depth was unparalleled across the other houses, and so it proved as Tudor won junior sections with all runners coming in the top 20 finishers, the pick of the runners being Y8 Oliver Whitfield's 3rd. Another strong turnout from the seniors, with Nathan Brown finishing 3rd in his final cross-country race for the House, saw Tudor take the cross-country championship

During the first half of the year the Intermediates had not always had results go their own way, but this wasn't due to their lack of endeavour. In their basket ball they narrowly lost two games and won one. The turn of the Juniors came in late February. Under the coaching of our Senior basketballers Jayven Athwal and Suraj Sisodia, the Year 7s and 8s came away with 3 wins out of 3, racking up 43 points and conceding just 12 points in the entire tournament, a fine performance indeed! Thus, with the House Basketball trophy finely poised, it came down to the Senior competition in late March, a chance for Javyen and Suraj to record their last performances over 7 years of House basketball matches. They man-

aged victories over Howard and Seymour, whilst only losing their section to Beaufort in the last match 11-9, allowing Tudor to take the overall title!

As reigning champions, Tudor were eager to repeat last year's success in the House Chess and our strength in depth looked very good on paper. Tudor's depth, allowed us to win against all the other houses even though some games were to close for comfort. This year has also given a good amount of experience to a number of very promising young players.

As ever, at the swimming gala, the competition was strong, but Tudor held a slight advantage after the swimming standards. Though we could not quite hold onto this advantage in the gala, we managed a very respectable 2nd place over all, just 3.5 points ahead of last year's winners Seymour. High praise should go to everyone who completed standards and helped contribute to this fantastic achievement, whilst with notable individual performances in the gala from Joe McElroy and Alex Zhang, who came 1st and 2nd in the Year 8 Victor Ludorum, Balraj Singh who came 3rd in the Year 7 section, and Ben Smith who also came 3rd in the Senior section.

The autumn and winter term saw us as a house perform well in the house rugby. We had creditable results in most age groups, which meant that we finished a very strong second only one point behind Beaufort.

The summer term activities did not always show us at our best, and we will therefore need to work on such areas as our forward defensive or at our serve and volley

game. The seniors in their tennis and cricket competitions continued their fine record for this year and won the tennis and were joint winners of the cricket for their age group. Can I just say that it hasn't been the same for the other age groups in these competitions. They had worked hard, but they had not quite had the skill levels to claim the wins needed to allow us to win the competitions overall.

The main event in the summer term of course is the athletics, but we struggled to claim a high finish overall due to our totals in the standards. This means that as usual points make prizes. We had a number of notable individual performances; the one that stands out is the high jumping ability of Ian Firth.

Well, what a busy and exciting year it was on the Tudor house front, we had a year to be proud of. Although we did not win overall we moved from last place to second with very creditable performances across all areas of competition.

Can I say a big thank you to the year thirteen lads, that have now moved on to pastures new, without their help and support then it would have made the running of the house a far greater and onerous task. Thanks must go to Raj Atkar and Jayven Athwal for their help and support as House Captain and Vice Captain. I would also like to say a thank you to Nathan Brown, who helped me by doing the job of House Secretary.

■ **Nathan Brown, U2**

■ **A.J.N.**

Seymour

Seymour's recent run in the House Championship has not lived up to the brilliance of its golden colour, but Mr Caves was still optimistic and was hoping for a spectacular end to his reign as House Master. Unfortunately, the end result was not one to be remembered. Despite a more convincing performance in 2008-09, this year saw Seymour house fail to capitalise and we slipped to a disappointing last place in the House Championship. There are still positives to be found though and reasons for optimism for future years.

The Senior boys were looking to spur the rest of Seymour on as Kaldev Bhogal led the 5-a-side football team to glory early on in the autumn with some dazzling performances. However the rest of the autumn was less successful with disappointing results in the other age groups for football as well as rugby and hockey. There was some success to be had within the senior section though, as the badminton team of Clive Ke,

Wai Ming Yap, Aaron Hsu and Asim Shoaib grabbed a narrow victory over rivals Beaufort. The team dealt with the pressure well as both pairings were forced to a third set by their Beaufort counterparts, but held their nerve to win by the slimmest of margins and retain the trophy for Seymour for the fifth year running!

There were encouraging performances from the younger members of the house too, with Kameran Ali and Ben Miller winning the intermediate section of House Tennis. However, the most impressive results are to be seen in the standards, with Seymour grabbing most points in both swimming and cross-country standards. It is admittedly a disappointment that we struggle to continue with that success into the finals but there are still bright prospects for the future, especially Jordan McDonagh of Year 8 who astonishingly broke two school records on sports day, winning the 100m in 12.1 seconds and the 200m in 26.1 seconds! He deservedly won the Victor Ludorum for his age group and was joined by

Edward Saunders of Year 7 who shared the Victor Ludorum with two others by winning both the long jump and the triple jump.

It is clear that the House Championship has a bright future ahead of it and hopefully that comes in the form of Seymour's gold. The 2009-10 Championship has been a disappointing blip on our record, but it will by no means deter the bright prospects and committed members of the House who will be looking to bounce back this time around.

Congratulations to the outgoing Vivian Bird Trophy winner Clive Ke, House Captain Kaldev Bhogal and of course Mr Caves, who have all been great influences on the House. We must now look forward to an exciting new era and this year's competition with Mr Watkins at the helm and John Erafej as his right hand man.

■ **Serge Wicker, U7**

The House Quiz

House Quiz Championship 2009–10

This was the first year that the House Quiz contributed to the overall House Competition. The contest took place in three sections: for seniors, intermediates and juniors. Each section would pitch the houses against each other on a round-robin basis.

Senior House Quiz

The opening salvoes of the years' quiz tournament were heralded by the Senior competitors over three consecutive Thursday lunchtimes. Leading up to the final round, the stage was again set for a showdown between Seymour and Beaufort, with two wins apiece. The final took place in the Hall to great fanfare.

In an evenly contested playoff match between Howard and Tudor (where the results will count towards the overall standings) it seemed that Howard were the most likely to break their duck; strong identification of French rulers and a comprehensive knowledge of Harry Potter spells and Roald Dahl books brought them a two point lead going into the final buzzer round. It was Tudor though who took the tie by 32 points to 30 following impressive buzzing by Raj Atkar and Nathan Brown.

In the final, a full strength Beaufort were able to get off to a commanding start with their knowledge of computer games and sporting venues. Seymour were unable to pull this deficit back during the picture round on Tolkein's Middle Earth and an evenly contested buzzer round. This left Beaufort as clear winners by the margin of 37 points to 26. Notable mentions should go to Alex Taylor and Robert Smith of Beaufort and Aled Walker of Seymour for their high scoring on individual questions throughout the

tournament, all three amassing 14 points for their teams.

Congratulations to the Beaufort team of Gary Zhang, Robert Smith, Alex Riley, Alex Taylor and, captain, Paul Thomas. Credit should also be given to Andrew Bentley for his tireless work in organising the Beaufort team.

Intermediate House Quiz

The spring term found the turn of the Intermediates in years 10 and 11 to grace the tables and face confrontation in the much-anticipated House Quiz. Following the first two rounds played to packed houses in room 11 and the Lecture Theatre, the hall provided the appropriate stage (literally) for an exciting showdown. This time it was Howard and Tudor going into the final round with the greatest chance of outright victory in a head-to-head tussle, the first time in five outings that this fixture would determine the final result. Many thanks need to go to the light and sound crew for making the final such a visual spectacle.

In an evenly contested playoff match between Seymour and Beaufort, it was Seymour playing for pride and Beaufort still standing a very outside chance of claiming the intermediate crown. It seemed that Seymour would emerge as comfortable winners following clear advantage made in identification of popular google searches and Pixar characters but in a tense buzzer round Beaufort were able to overcome a five point deficit to snatch the tie by a single point 33 to 32, expert buzzing by Sanjay Nath and Kieran Aherne proving decisive.

In the final, Tudor got off to the worst of starts claiming only one point against seven for Howard, after clawing back some of the deficit with strong expertise in Harry Potter first names, they again lost ground in failing to identify famous scientists. In spite of making seven against five on the buzzers,

it was not enough to overcome Howard who took the tie 38 to 35. Three teams were now on two wins each but it was Howard who won the intermediate round by virtue of stronger points difference. Well done to George Mather and Kieran Aherne who emerged as the top individual points scorers with 19 each.

Congratulations to the Howard team of Alex Wood, Hasaam Uldin, Ehsaan Qureshi and, captain, George Mather.

Junior House Quiz

The seventeenth and eighteenth fixtures of the House Quiz brought this years inaugural contest to a thrilling close. The first tie between Howard and Tudor had the outside chance of determining the Junior victors and it was Howard who took the spoils with a controlled 29 to 23 victory. This left the Beaufort vs Seymour fixture in which Beaufort were looking to cement their domination of this years championship. Beaufort started promisingly but were clawed back a dogged Seymour who impressed with the Harry Potter knowledge but less so with their ability to identify members of the new Lib-Con Coalition Government. With only the buzzers remaining, it was a narrow lead to Beaufort. In spite of Gethin Bradnam's sterling efforts, it was a strong group performance by Seymour, ably led by Robert Walters which steered them home by one point to give them Seymour their first win in six fixtures. The margin of defeat was small enough to ensure Beaufort still took the title. Congratulations to the Beaufort juniors: William Maclean, Gethin Bradnam, Andrew Hawkin and captain Fraser West.

Overall Standings

This lead the final standing towards the House Championship as follows:

Beaufort	7 wins	=	4.0 pts
Howard	4 wins	=	2.5 pts
Tudor	4 wins	=	2.5 pts
Seymour	3 wins	=	1.0 pt

Unofficial manager of the Beaufort Quiz team, Andrew Bentley, was able to take the trophy from Mr Roden on behalf of the house.

■ **G.N.H.**

What are the most populous countries starting with each letter?

A Argentina	40 mil	N Nigeria	155 mil
B Brazil	192 mil	O Oman	3 mil
C China	1336 mil	P Pakistan	169 mil
D DR Congo	66 mil	Q Qatar	1.4 mil
E Ethiopia	79 mil	R Russia	142 mil
F France	65 mil	S South Korea	50 mil
G Germany	82 mil	T Turkey	73 mil
H Haiti	10 mil	U USA	309 mil
I India	1177 mil	V Vietnam	85 mil
J Japan	127 mil	W Western Sahara	0.5 mil
K Kenya	40 mil	X	
L Libya	6 mil	Y Yemen	24 mil
M Mexico	108 mil	Z Zambia	13 mil

Pictured left:

Answers to a question in the Intermediate Final

Camp Hill Old Edwardians' Association

Chairman's Report

My first Chairman's report covers the last year of office of my illustrious predecessor, Ken Birrell.

At our Annual General Meeting, two of our founder committee members stepped down from the Association Committee after ten years of outstanding service; Ken Birrell has chaired the association throughout that decade and David Phillips held the offices of Treasurer and Membership Secretary for many of those years.

Both Ken and David are Camp Hill stalwarts with year upon year of unstinting service to the wider Camp Hill community at Rugby and Cricket Clubs, Golf Society, Old Boys Association and, in Ken's Case, as a long standing School Governor. Both epitomise the hard working un-sung volunteer upon which organisations such as ours depend and on behalf of generations of Camp Hill Old Edwardians I offer them both our thanks.

I am delighted that the third member of their trio of founders, Roland 'Basher' Staples, has continued as our Honorary Secretary. Will Hemming is continuing as Treasurer and Steve 'Noddy' Holder has taken on the roles of Vice Chairman and Membership Secretary.

Roland Staples organised an excellent trip to RAF Halton in July, a report of which follows in the Chronicle along with some notes on the trips that Basher has arranged and an article on the standing down of 70 Squadron at RAF Lyneham. We have also re-printed a letter sent to Ken Birrell by Old Boy Pat Best which reflects on Pat's memories of war-time evacuation to Lichfield.

As ever we sadly feature a number of obituaries of Old Boys who have departed during the 2009/10 year: Jim Corke (1937–2010), Tony Glasby (1932–2010), David Hudson (1939–2009), Tony/Neville Jackson (1932–2009), Frank Pynor (1918–2010) and Derek Summers (1922–2010). My thanks to Ken Birrell, David Phillips and John Daniell

for taking the time and trouble to produce these obituaries.

Looking to the future, we will be working closely with the Headmaster to shape the Old Boys Association to meet the needs of future generations. This will include much wider use of the Internet, electronic communication and social networking. While looking to embrace newer technologies I must re-assure those Association members who value the use of paper based communications that any changes will add to our existing activities and not replace them.

I will end my first Chairman's report by once again thanking Ken Birrell and David Phillips for their contributions to our Association and for their continuing involvement in the wider Camp Hill Community. They have both offered wise and valued counsel to me in my various roles and I hope that those of us now picking up the mantle will come somewhere close to matching their levels of service.

■ **Martin Crutchley**, Chairman

Annual Dinner 5th February 2010

Our annual dinner, held at the School, was once again a great success. The highlight of the evening was the speech by Old Boy Norman Davies, Mayor of Solihull, which included his own sung version of the School song, re-written many years ago to include the names of numerous contemporaries and members of staff. To those of a generation able to recall the names it was a hilarious recollection of School days but the humour crossed the generations to those attendees of much later vintage.

The whole of Norman's speech, including his version of the School Song, is re-printed below.

“ Mr Chairman, Headmaster,
Distinguished Guests Gentlemen.

This is an event I have been looking forward to since I visited the Rugby Club in September and Ken Birrell invited me to tonight's dinner. As some of you know, I am an Old Boy of the school and I have been a member of this association since its inception. Unfortunately, during recent years, I have been unable to get to this annual din-

ner due to other commitments but it is a big thrill to be invited as guest this evening.

I was at Camp Hill from 1953–1960 and I have many happy memories of my time here. I started in the Old building in Bordesley and we moved to this site at the start of what was then the fourth year (year 10 in modern parlance). Wow, what a difference to enter these bucolic surroundings after life in the smoke and grime of the old one.

Roland Staples has invited me to reminisce for a few minutes, something I am delighted to do. Reminiscences, however, can become a bit of a bore so I've taken the liberty of writing a few words that go to a tune you may recognise, summing up life, particularly during the time at the old school:

Where the iron heart of England throbb'd
In gothic soot and grime,
Came this group of fresh-faced innocents
Each keen to serve his time, Each one keen to serve
his time.
Here we sported brand new blazers,
Learned to cope with trousers long,
Wore strange caps and leather satchels,
Learned the rousing old school song.

Here we were, a bunch of sherrings,
Education was our goal,

'Till a gang of young Edwardians,
Shoved us down the Monkey Hole!
Old Tom Rogers in assembly, said,
"Sound your consonants, school!"
While Pop Espley tanned our onions,
Broke many a metre rule, He broke many a metre
rule!

Flossy Phelps played games of conkers,
In the playground during break,
Poor old Sos, through loss of hearing,
Did of us ventriloquists make!

Then Spud Kober, seeking order,
Said, "Venever I turn my back,
All ze verk comes to a still-stand!"
Chaos reigned from then, alack!

Biggles Bartlett from the R.A.F. Was easy to distract,
Though his lessons were enjoyable,
T'was Science that they lacked, It was science that
they lacked.
But we gained a special knowledge,
How to fly and drop a bomb,
Through the Dutch Gestapo letterbox,
And fly safely home to Mom!

Maths with Doubleday,
Art with Appleby,
Drysdale, Ridsdale, Thomas, Cleak,
Howe and Hunt, (both nicknamed Isaac),
Also Polly Bates, the Beak!

On the Sports side there was Gerry Thain,
Before him Slade and James.
Walked up Moseley Road for Swimming,
And Kings Heath for our games, Up to Kings Heath
for our games.
We canoed with young Geoff Sanders,
Worked with Gillard in his plays,
Via the Dionysus Society,
Boys played girls but were not gays!

Froggy Friar taught us Physics,
Chemistry from Charlie Budd,
Bertie Blackshaw taught us German,
French with Swinden did us good!

In that curious, sloping playground,
Some played wall ball, some played fives,
While in winter when it snowed
Our bench-top sledging risked our lives, Bench-top
sledging risked our lives,
Some played "Polly on the Mopstick",
Others peeped at girls at play,
While the train-spotting fraternity,
Watched the incline every day.

Finally, our awful dinners,
One of Dickens likely scenes,
Pots of mashed K.E Potatoes,
Lumpy custard, stringy beans.

Life in this building was, of course, a
great deal more sophisticated and it was
better to find tables in the dining hall you
could access without clambering over the
benches to get to a seat. You could be
guaranteed a full helping of lunch, not as
in the old place where, if you sat at the far
end of a table, the basins of vegetables etc.
were empty by the time they reached you.
We even had salt and pepper on the tables!

We had a library, a gym that didn't have
to be used for assemblies as well and the
very smart hall we are sitting in this evening.
I remember some excellent plays: "Morning
Departure" about the "Thetis" a submarine
that sank with all hands and "Twelfth Night"
with a mate of mine, John Rutledge, playing
Viola. There were at least two drawbacks
to this production. John Rutledge's voice
broke during the first performance and
Mr Gillard, the producer, decided to have
a full scene change between each scene
with result that the show went on till about
11.30pm and the audience were mostly
asleep when it ended.

The much respected Tom Rogers retired
as Headmaster during the year I was in the
upper 6th, and a prefect, and for the last two
terms we had a new head, Alan Cholmon-

deley. While the emphasis of Tom's years
had been on moving the school, Alan's job
was to bring it more up-to-date from a cur-
riculum standpoint. Being a musician he
introduced a Music Competition in which I
had the gall to enter playing Bach's "Jesu
Joy of Man's Desiring" on the piano only to
find to my horror after my performance that
he was a keen Bach fan and, I think, a mem-
ber of the Birmingham Bach Society.

I was a member of the school's Film
Society and we had some great holidays in
Ogmore in South Wales and in Franklin on
the Isle of Wight making films, led by Dai
Thomas, Ginger Jones and Bill Powrie –
great times!

Well! That's enough for tonight. Again
my personal thanks to Camp Hill School for
the start it gave me in life and for the many
things learned and otherwise acquired from
the school that have influenced my life and
career. Thank you also to the association
for inviting me as guest this evening. My
best wishes to you all and I hope to see you
again next year, just as a member. ”

Trip to RAF Halton

14th July 2009

On a very warm 14th July 2009, 35
members of the Old Boys Associa-
tion and friends left Notcutts
car park for a day with the RAF training
establishment to witness the Graduation
Parade (known to most older members as
the Passing Out).

Unfortunately it was not possible to
arrange a meal at Halton and so we arrived
at the lovely Red Lion Hotel in the centre of
Wendover (near Aylesbury) for a buffet lunch
which had to be taken early as the starting
time of the ceremony was 12.30 and we had
to be seated by 12.45 at the saluting base.
This was managed without difficulty along-

side family members who were watching
their sons and daughters in the ranks.

There was a fly past of Tornados
planned but this was cancelled due to the
dust cloud emanating from the volcano in
Iceland. The RAF Regiment band provided
the music and the review was taken by Air
Commodore C M Smith who inspected the
two flights accompanied by the Escorting
Officer. The Officer Commanding the intake
was F/Lt Regan who later introduced her-
self as an old girl of our school! This was a
big surprise and came about by her notic-
ing one of our ties when we were visiting
the museum after the parade. I received a
charming letter later explaining that she left
Camp Hill for Cardiff University where she

obtained a BSc Hons. degree and explained
that she had been in the RAF for three years.
I took the liberty of informing the Headmis-
tress of the event who indicated her pleas-
ure in learning of the progress of a pupil.

There followed marching at various
speeds, prayers and presentation of trophies
and awards which concluded the ceremony
ending with the dismissal and march off
when the recruits joined their relatives. We
retired to the Museum for a short period for
a cup of coffee to end our day with the RAF.
Our thanks were given to F/O Rob Blackaller
for the hospitality all the station staff gave us
and hoped that we should be able to return
some day, and this was promised.

■ **Roland Staples** ('Basher')

Notes from our trips

Our first trip was to Uxbridge
where we saw the bunker with
the plotting table, no doubt the
recent television coverage of the Battle of
Britain has brought back memories. The
date was April 2002. We actually visited the
station again in October 2007 going on to
the RAF museum at Hendon. We covered
the battle pretty well as at the end of 2002
we called in at Bentley Priory and Bletchley
Park, both sites having strong links with the
period. The former is now sold for develop-
ment but I understand that there will be a
museum on the ground floor of the Priory.

In 2004 we had a very popular group of
three visits to the Proof House in Birming-
ham listening to the very knowledgeable
curator recounting the history of the build-
ings. In September of the year we were at
the Kings Troop RHA who had their bar-
racks near to Lords where we had a very
nice lunch in the Sergeants' Mess with
some of the silver on show. Also in that
month we were at the Royal Hospital Chel-
sea with the pensioners who were prepar-
ing to receive their first lady resident. There
was much excitement in the ranks.

Our first visit to the National Memo-
rial at Alrewas was made in July 2006 on
a lovely sunny day and the interest gener-

ated made another visit imperative in April
2008. One of the most memorable trips was
to Cambridge where we were conducted
round three of the colleges and then in the
early evening we attended a service in the
chapel of Kings College just as the sun was
going down shining through the stained
glass windows. We also found a pub with
smoky signatures on the ceiling by pilots of
the RAF and ASAF (done by candle smoke).
This was in March 2009.

Soon after our trip to Oxford Colleges
(Sept 2008) and RAF Brize Norton in June
where we almost made a trip in one of their
Tri-Stars. And so the years rolled by with
trips to Assay Office, Hook Norton Brewery,

RAF Cottesmore, home of the Harriers, and finally to Halton twice, where we met F/Lt Regan an old girl of the School who was in charge of the parade much to our surprise. I hope this has revived a few memories because we had many remarkable trips and met some very interesting people.

■ **Roland Staples** ('Basher')

The Standing Down of 70 Squadron RAF Lyneham

I joined the Squadron in early 1947 at RAF Shallufa Egypt then equipped with Lancasters. Later it returned to the role of transport with many different types ending with Hercules for the past thirty years, at Lyneham.

Our contact stemmed from this short

period of service and after I joined the squadron association about twelve years ago. It has been very important to the Old Boys as much help has been given to us and one of the first trips was to Lyneham. This was arranged with the help of F/Lt (now Sqdn Ldr) Peter Challis who came with us on several trips with his wife Jo and who became friends with many of our party. He will leave the RAF on Oct 8th after 36 years service mainly as a navigator. Unfortunately he is seriously ill and I have passed our condolences for his recovery to Jo.

I received an invitation to attend the ceremony of the Squadron standown on September 8th at Lyneham which I was pleased to accept. The day was very similar to the parade at Halton, the band being the Central band of the RAF but ended with the handing over of the Sqdn colours for safe keeping. Where this will be I hope to find out eventually.

A major difference was the flypast of a Squadron Hercules followed by an aircraft from Brize Norton and to the delight of the crowd, the BB flight Lancaster which made several passes to close the proceedings. I have had much contact with Lyneham, arranging for the remembrance service to those who failed to return from wartime operations and for setting up the memorial. If you visit Alrewas please look out for the tree, bench and decorative plaque in the RAF section dedicated to LXX Sqdn who for some reason are known by the Roman numerals. The Sqdn has been promised a rebirth in 2014 when they will receive the first of the new Airbus replacement aircraft, but I feel that this may well be scrapped in the present situation. The station will close entirely in twelve months time and relocate at Brize Norton.

■ **Roland Staples** ('Basher')

Lichfield Memories

The following piece was sent to Ken Birrell by Old Boy Pat Best who shares some memories of the time when he was evacuated to Lichfield.

Dear Ken,

Lichfield Memories

Here are some random thoughts circa 1941 - 42

- My foster parents owned a little shop in Lichfield and I spent some of my holidays repairing bikes.
 - We were all conscripted to clearing snow from the town centre and form filling for the local authority - all in school time.
 - I received my first kiss from a girl called Evelyn standing on a canal bridge. Went back for more.
 - Found a method of getting into the cinema for free but had to wait until the lights were lowered so never saw the start of the film.
 - John Tracey borrowed my bike when he was unable to steal a car.
 - Some lessons were conducted in a local institute room used as an overflow; this was a 15 minute walk from the school site.
 - I joined the Army Cadet Force and was promoted to sergeant.
 - We went to Harvest Camp near Rugby to help with the grain harvest.
 - On some Sundays I hitch-hiked back home for the day, returning by train. Not many cars around and one Sunday I got to Erdington on the back of a tandem.
- I passed School Certificate with credits in snow clearing, form filling, walking and kissing. No other subjects taught or taken. These skills have been valuable throughout my life.
- I did not make the maid at the Bishop's Palace pregnant - it was you or Aggie Wright.

Kind regards,

Pat Best

Obituaries

CORKE, James Anthony Thomas (Jim) 1937–2010

Born 29th November 1937; admitted to Kings Edward VI Camp Hill, 9th September 1948, left 20th July 1956. Date of death 13th January 2010.

Jim read Law at Birmingham University before reporting for National Service. He captained Camp Hill Rugby Football Club 1969/70. Awarded Colours 1966/67. He played for Birmingham Combined Old Boys (COBs) 12 times between 1964 and 1969. Between 1960/61, he travelled regularly from Yeovil to Birmingham to play for the Club. He played for COBs also 1962/63. The Camp Hill Captain's report in 1962/63 stated that Jim was 'a much improved player at prop, who directs his energies wholeheartedly to the game of Rugby Football'.

In 1963/4, Jim was a travelling reserve for the Army and played for a COBs 'A' XV. Whilst in the Army, Jim played for Nuneaton in 1967/68. In 1968/69, the Captain in his report praised Jim, his Vice Captain, stating 'He deserves every praise for his splendid leadership of an outstanding pack. His experience and example have been irreplaceable'.

Jim claimed to have played in every county in England. He played for Dorset and Wilts in 1960/61 and in 1964/65 was Captain of Preston Grasshoppers. Also that year, Jim was promoted to Captain in his regiment.

Una, Jim's wife, experienced 30 wonderful years with him and described him as a 'larger than life character.' He had a wonderful quick mind, with a great sense of humour. He was Una's walking dictionary.

In particular, Una was pleased to have visited Camp Hill RFC in April. She and their sons really enjoyed the poignant occasion, when Jim's ashes were spread on the ground at the Rugby Club and she expressed her gratitude to the Club, Chairman Dave Maiden and his wife Mary.

Jim left the Army in 1977 with the rank of Major after 20 years service. Una met Jim in 1975, when he went to the Junior Leader's regiment in Dover, as the senior lecturer in the Education Department and Una was the secretary there.

His first civilian post was as a lecturer in Business Studies and Hotel Catering Management at Canterbury College of Technology. After 3 years, he secured a post as a

senior lecturer at Dorset Institute (later to become Bournemouth University). Una and Jim moved to Poole where they stayed for 17 years; Jim having been promoted to Principal Lecturer. He was a union rep and played a large part in union work; sorting out colleagues' problems etc.

Whilst at Bournemouth, he wrote 2 editions of 'tourism law' since there was barely anything on the subject in the University library. He declined writing a 3rd edition when requested, as the laws on tourism change so rapidly – not like writing a history book. He also sat on the employment tribunal cases at Southampton.

When they moved back to Kent, Jim carried on with the employment tribunal work at Ashford, until he retired at 70. The reason Una and Jim moved back to Kent and left beautiful Dorset, was because Jim's children Debbie (52), Simon (48) and Adam (46) all live in Whistable and Una's family live in and around the Medway towns.

Whilst in Poole Jim refereed for Dorset and Wilts and on returning to Kent, carried on for a few years.

Jim also wrote a book on War Memorials, research of which took Una and Jim all over England and Scotland; Jim became a very proficient amateur photographer over this period. Jim was also a regional volunteer for the War Memorials Trust and the Imperial War Museum, London, while also writing on things Kentish and acting as something custodian of Faversham's unique chart Gunpowder Mill. Jim kindly used his best endeavours, regarding the move of the Memorial Gates at the old Camp Hill site to Kings Heath, which proved in vain – to date!

1965/66: Jim's generosity extended to presenting the Club with a set of socks to be worn on 1st XV special occasions.

Finally, it can be said that four lines of the School song certainly were most apt in Jim's case:

'They who gave our School its laurels,
Laid on us a sacred trust;
Forward, therefore live your hardest,
Die of service, not of rust.'

Thanks to Mrs Una Corke for so many of the above details.

■ **Ken Birrell**

GLASBY, Anthony John 1932–2010

Born 2nd October 1932, died June 2010. Entered Camp Hill School 22nd September 1943, left 27th July 1949.

Tony was a fine wing threequarter. He played for Camp Hill Old Edwardians Rugby Club 1953/62, appearance: 1953/4 – 24 (9 tries), 1954/5 – 19 (3 tries), 1955/6 – 19 (11 tries) and awarded Colours, 1956/7 – 31 (22 tries), 1957/8 – 30 (9 tries), 1958/9 – 30 (14 tries), 1959/60 – 24 (6 tries), 1960/1 – 8 (no tries), 1961/2 – 14 (2 tries). Total 199 appearances, 76 tries, 228 points). Played for North Midlands v Leicestershire 1956.

He was a long time member of Birchfield Harriers and represented the club in the 1950s. He was a member of the Perry Bar unit for more than 60 years and was a member of their highly successful relay squads between 1952 and 1958. In 1956 he was part of the squad that won the AAA 4 x 440 yards at Port Sunlight and also featured two years later when the Stags went one better to accomplish a very rare AAA 4 x 110 yards and 4 x 440 yards relay double.

Tony died aged 77. Our condolences go to his widow Iris (also a Birchfield harrier in her youth), daughter Judith, son Neil (who plays for Aston Old Edwardians RFC) and their grandchildren.

■ **Ken Birrell**

HUDSON, David 1939–2009

Born 18th April 1939, died 25th November 2009. David joined Camp Hill School on 6th September 1950 and left 24th July 1957.

He was a talented sportsman, qualified for County Standard in Athletics and was awarded his Rugby colours. He had successful academic career both at School and at Manchester University obtaining a degree in Chemical Engineering. Upon leaving School he worked for many years in large companies around Birmingham, notably Bakelite, Serck and Birmid Qualcast.

In 1985 he acquired a small business, The Ash Rubber Stamp, in Birmingham. He happily and successfully built up this niche business which he finally and reluctantly sold when he was 68.

Apart from work his other passion was sport. After university played Rugby for Camp Hill Old Edwardians. He was a

member of Knowle and Dorridge Tennis Club playing both tennis and squash, where he held the positions of Captain and President. When injury curtailed his tennis activities he joined Ladbrook Park Golf Club where he became an active and enthusiastic member and was due to become Captain of the LOBS section for the 2009/10 season. He was a member of Camp Old Edwardians Golfing Society in which he served as Captain and President and won the Philip Holden Cup seven times, more than anyone else. In more sedentary mode he was a keen and talented Bridge player which he learnt during his schooldays.

David was an amusing, sociable and well-liked man. Although he played sport competitively and to a high standard he believed that it should be played for fun.

He died very suddenly leaving his wife of 46 years, Chris, a son, a daughter-in-law and granddaughter

■ *David Phillips*

PYNOR, Frank James 1918–2010

Born 22nd September 1918, died 12th January 2010. Entered Camp Hill School September 1929, left June 1934.

Frank served in the forces from 1938 to 1946 with the Royal Army Service Corp and as a Captain in the Indian Army. After the war in 1946 he joined the Central Electricity Generating Board where he worked as a Welfare Officer and Education & Training Officer until 1977.

His hobbies included tennis, cricket and rugby. He played as a back-row forward for Camp Hill Old Edwardians Rugby Club 1946-51. He was a member of Birmingham City Electricity Cricket Club 1947/48 and was a member of the Institute of Secretaries, Royal Horticultural Society and National Trust.

Frank married Molly (former pupil of KE Camp Hill Girls) in 1948 and they had three children; Lesley, born 1949, John, born 1951 and Margaret, born 1955, died 2010.

■ *Ken Birrell, with thanks to John Pynor*

JACKSON, Anthony Neville 1932–2009

Tony, as he was known in his early years, was born on 23rd June 1932 and died 27th September 2009. He attended King Edward VI Camp Hill from 1943 to 1948.

His business life was in 'metals' starting out as a sales representative for an IMI company and progressing to Director of Buying at Righton & Co.

Neville, as he was known in later years, was a very keen sportsman playing rugby and cricket but his main love was tennis. Whilst playing full back for Camp Hill Old Edwardians he contracted TB but with the help of modern drugs he was cured.

In later years he played indoor bowls (being Captain of Warwickshire) and golf at Ladbrook Park Golf Club where he met many other Camp Hill Old Eds. Unfortunately he suffered a stroke three years ago which put an end to all his sports.

He leaves his widow Veronica and his two sons Adrian and Neal.

■ *F. J. Daniell*

SUMMERS, Derek 1922–2010

Having previously attended Church Road School at the Yew Tree, Yardley, Birmingham, Derek passed the entrance examination to become a pupil at King Edward's Grammar School, Camp Hill, in 1933, left 1938. There he gained matriculation and left to make a career with the Alliance Assurance Group. Derek was very interested in rugby and played both while at Camp Hill and later as a keen member of the Old Boy's Association.

In 1940 Derek joined the RAF where he served with the Air Sea Rescue and Marine Craft Section. He, with his crew, took part in the rescue of many Allied and German airmen, particularly during the early days of the Normandy landing in June 1944. In one exciting event they rescued a U-boat crew who actually outnumbered them but fortunately offered no resistance. At the end of hostilities in Europe, Derek was posted to finish his RAF service in India and Ceylon.

After demobilization in 1946 Derek gained a position within the Colonial Office and was posted to Nigeria where he supervised the grading of cotton and groundnuts; travelling each day initially on horseback but later by safari truck. When due for

home leave in 1956 Derek and two friends travelled 6000 miles back to England in two cars, traversing the Sahara Desert, North Africa, via Spain and France. They started their journey on 17th December and arrived home on 22nd January having spent Christmas in France. After returning to Nigeria, Derek spent the next eight years in Kano.

In 1958 during a holiday in Ireland he met his future wife, Florence Joyce Paterson, and two years later she flew out to Kano where they were married. Their daughter Nicola Jane was born in 1963. At the age of eleven Nicola returned to England to attend boarding school in Torquay. She eventually worked for the Ministry of Defence where she met and married David Palmer. They now have two daughters and two sons. The elder son is at Exeter University and the others are at grammar schools.

In 1968 Derek returned to England for a few years and worked for the Inland Revenue but in 1979 he was approached by his first employer, now Sun Alliance Assurance. Because he spoke the native Hausa language fluently, they asked him to return to Nigeria and open a branch office for the Company. He stayed with the firm for eight years with postings to Liberia and to Manila in the Philippines.

In 1982 Derek settled in Poole, Dorset to enjoy, for many years, an active retirement. He frequently walked with the Ramblers Association, played indoor bowls, regularly attended outings with the RSA Pensioners Association also with the ASR Club and hosted classical music sessions with the University of the Third Age. On 11th March 2010, at the age of 87 he died quite suddenly and peacefully from an aortic aneurysm in Bournemouth Hospital, attended by his family. Derek was cremated at Poole Crematorium 23rd March at 12 noon in the presence of many friends and relations.

If anyone could be said to have encompassed the King Edward's School motto, it was Derek. Serving and representing his country in all parts of the world where he will be remembered by all whom he met as a man of honour and integrity; one of God's true gentlemen.

■ *Ken Birrell*



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