

## CHRISTMAS FAIR 1984

A year ago, when the last magazine came out, we were horrified to realise that we had failed to thank, through its columns, the very many parents and friends of the School who had contributed to the great success of the Triennial Christmas Fair held in November 1984, when £3,000 was raised.

May we make amends now by thanking you all most sincerely for your generous support?

H.K.T.B.  
L.J.B.  
D.W.

## SEMINAR ON UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE — CITY UNIVERSITY MAY 1985

Applying to universities through UCCA can be a bewildering process for sixth formers. There has grown up too much rumour and misinformation about what universities expect, and the value of seminars such as the one conducted by Brian Heap at City University is that careers experts and university entrance tutors can explain the current position clearly. It is important that sixth formers understand the entry process and are not overawed by any false "mystique". The accent was on commonsense and making informed decisions. The students present were asked to examine their motives for applying — to consider carefully which courses would suit them and to look at the type of institution in which they would be happiest. The procedures were well-explained and the admissions tutor of Lancaster University gave some very straightforward advice on how to approach the section on the UCCA form in which candidates have to describe their own interests and on the difficult question of in which order to put down chosen universities.

There was time for questions and it has been evident that all St. Mary's Hall sixth formers who attended derived a great deal of benefit from a seminar which aimed, rightly, at relieving unnecessary anxieties.

M.E.W.

## EXPEDITION TO THE ISLE OF WIGHT

One of several annual events is General Expedition Day. This takes place during the summer term; each class chooses where they would like to spend a day's outing. For 4F it was the Isle of Wight.

We had all been looking forward to the day and when it finally arrived, Mrs. Lock and Mrs. Lynton accompanied us on the coach to Portsmouth, where we joined Mr. Liddell, who had bought the tickets for the ferry.

We all gathered on deck and watched the ferry move further and further away from the harbour until all that surrounded us was the deep blue sea. Out of the calm, regular chugging sound of the ferry came the shrill cries of the seagulls. The weather was well-suited for the occasion, for the sun was shining brightly and not the smallest puff of cloud could be seen, just pure blue sky. Already we knew that it was going to be a memorable day and indeed it was.

We arrived at the Isle of Wight and were left to explore the area. For some of us, with Hoda leading the way, it was straight to the ice-cream stall, where ice-cold lollies were very much appreciated. We then went around the town. We came across an old jeweller's shop where Lobby emptied her purse in purchasing a forever-treasured bracelet. Every now and then we would pass a bakery, where the sight of the cakes and buns made our mouths water. Ruth, having no will power at all, dragged us all into the shop and made us each buy a cake of some sort. So there we were, filling ourselves with large, sticky buns and thick, dairy-whipped cream oozing out of the rich chocolate éclairs. I do recall our all feeling rather sick — especially Ruth who ate two — but our hearts were content.

It was not an adventurous day, but it was a day on which we felt free. A hard term's work had deserved a day for relaxing. No lessons, no rushing around, no worrying about prep; the day was ours to enjoy.

At 4 o'clock we met the other members of our form and exchanged news on how we had spent the day.

We were all very exhausted on our return journey, but this didn't deprive us of our energy in singing on the coach, though I don't know what the staff thought about it!

Deborah Kol. VT

## DOMESDAY

One of the most striking educational ideas of 1985 was the involvement of schools nationwide in the compilation of a new Domesday survey. William I's researchers in 1086 produced for the king a tax guide which is the richest single source in the mediaeval period. The aim of Professor Ted Wragg in connection with the BBC was to celebrate the 900th anniversary of the original Domesday by compiling a vast amount of information about contemporary Britain which would be stored on the most advanced computer disc and be available for use in larger libraries and universities.

Our second form took part in the local survey along with Brighton College Junior School and Brighton College, and the History and Geography departments organised the work, which was undertaken in the Summer Term of 1985. This consisted partly of a statistical survey in which groups of girls had to note local features and amenities and partly a more analytical inquiry into aspects of local life. Our topics were Lifestyles, Leisure and Tourism. The aim was to convey the essential nature of the Kemp Town area not only in terms of quantifiable fact, but also as it appeared to our pupils from their point of view. Groups of girls conducted surveys and spoke to local people to gain an impression of local problems and how people lived. The result was sometimes surprising, but instructive to the girls. Actually taking part in such a survey was a valuable experience and interesting discussions about local life and comparisons with the 1086 survey were a worthwhile "spin-off" for Historians and Geographers.

M.E.W.

## ADELAIDE HOUSE REPORT

Very sadly we had to say goodbye to Mrs. Channing at the end of the Summer Term. Her support in House matters was invaluable, and she will be remembered with affection by all House members. We also welcomed Mrs. Boddington, who joined Mrs. Best in the leadership of the House, and many thanks are due to them for the help which they gave me in my term of office. Thanks must also be given to Jane Whittemore, who was House deputy for the Summer Term, but left school and was replaced by Clare Hemmings, who has undertaken the job with great keenness.

The House has continued to support Cancer Research and, despite the particularly cold summer, we managed to raise £45 from our customary ice-cream sale. During the Christmas Term we raised £30 from a raffle and £10 from the sale of Christmas parcel boxes. We introduced the sale of chocolate chip cookies in the Easter Term and, quite remarkably, raised £50 within three weeks!

In the Inter-House sports, congratulations must go to the members of the lacrosse and rounders teams, both of which came first. The netball team members also deserve praise in that they narrowly came second to Chichester on goal difference. In tennis, badminton and swimming, the girls had less success, but equal enthusiasm. In the General Knowledge Quiz, the team came third. However, we had more success in the Inter-House Drama competition, with the play "The Man in the Bowler Hat" by A. A. Milne, coming second.

The House party this year was held at the end of the Christmas Term and was a joint party with Bristol House. Thanks must be given to all Adelaide and Bristol sixth formers, who staged several short pantomimes, and especially to the staff, who provided delicious mince pies. It was very enjoyable.

Lastly, I would like to thank all Adelaide members for being so co-operative and helpful during the last year. I hope that Adelaide will continue to do well and we all wish Heather Bruce-Merrie and Nadjeh Oroumchi the best of luck as the new House Captains.

Maha Barakat

## BABINGTON HOUSE REPORT

This year has been another good one for Babington House as far as Inter-House competitions go. What looked destined to be a disastrous performance of "Ernie's Incredible Illucinations" somehow sorted itself out in time to win the Inter-House Drama Competition. Babington also came first in the swimming and badminton owing to the teams' hard work, and loud verbal support from the rest of the House, particularly in the swimming! Then, in the General Knowledge and tennis, Babington allowed itself to come second, feeling consideration for the other less illustrious houses! Yet, despite this little act of kindness, Babington still won the House Shield for the fifth successive year. Next year we may perhaps allow another House to win it to add a bit of variety.

Fund-raising also went well. We held a "Guess the weight of Miss Bristol and Henry the Dragon Competition" together with "Guess the baby", which consisted of some very revealing pictures

of the Staff in younger days. We hope to hold a similar competition using photographs of the Sixth Form. To prevent everybody from being totally fed up with guessing, we held the traditional Babington Mini-Fair and a Cake Sale as well. Throughout the year we have been diligently collecting foil, aluminium cans and stamps, while Miss Bristol has been selling marmalade to members of staff. All these enterprises have resulted in one hundred and ten pounds for the Church Missionary Society. To add to this, we sent a parcel to a missionary school in India containing crayons and pictures of England. This was very gratefully received.

The other main event of the year was the House Party with Chichester. The Babchester Players got together to perform an episode of "Dallysty" accompanied by some delicious food very kindly prepared by the House Staff. Party games followed, which everybody greatly enjoyed, including the Sixth Form, who really have not grown out of House Parties yet.

To conclude on a more serious note, Babington House has in all respects, had another excellent year. This has been made possible only through the strong support of Miss Bristol, Miss Griffiths and the other House Staff, and the enthusiasm of the members of Babington House itself.

*Patricia Kennedy*

#### BRISTOL HOUSE REPORT

Once again we have come to that time of year when we have to sum up the events of the past few terms for Bristol House. Although our teams have not been entirely successful in the sport competitions, their performances were consistent and we certainly have a team spirit and enthusiasm which can never be beaten.

The bitterly cold Spring Term did nothing to quench this spirit and we achieved second and third places in the lacrosse and netball respectively. Meanwhile indoors Jenny Buck was highly praised for her performance in our house play "Burning Topic", which made up for the fact that we were placed fourth, trailing by only one point behind Chichester, overall.

The Summer Term did much to raise the Bristol morale, particularly intellectually. Our team of Catherine Scarborough, Melissa Bowerman, Minnie Black-James and Angela Tebe excelled themselves in the General Knowledge Competition, with our reserve for the first year Lynnette Rogers-Wright stepping in bravely at the last minute, and we maintained our reputation of coming first. We also gained the highest number of house points for the term, but, unfortunately, it was not enough to pull us up from second over the whole year. In sport our swimming, tennis and rounders teams all came third, but illness hit us badly and we were pleased with the way the Bristolians pulled together even in the face of "press-ganging".

Autumn '85 saw some tense and exciting badminton matches in which our team were narrowly beaten into second place by Babington. The Christmas and end of term mood was heightened by our joint party with Adelaide House. The sixth form in particular enjoyed the event and the preparations for it. Our clown costumes disguised us sufficiently to allow even the most shy to take to the stage in some bizarre and modern interpretations of three well-known pantomimes. We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and the fact that we over-ran our time limit meant that a few highly-privileged parents were able to join in the fun. We hope that a good time was had by all.

We have always been successful in supporting our house charities — Dr. de Winter's Cancer Crusade and Christian Aid — and this year has been no exception, as we raised the most money as a house during the year. We have spent our time searching for new and innovative fund-raising ideas. We repeated our sponsored knit, which enabled us to send ten large blankets to East Africa with the Red Cross and raise £260 for famine relief there. The cake sale was one of our less original events but, as usual, it was very popular and raised over £30. Joining together with Babington House we held a staff baby photo competition, which attracted many members of the school and it is to be repeated soon with upper sixth photos. To celebrate Hallowe'en we held a "pumpkin pip" competition and we assure you that to guess the exact number was far easier than fighting through the pulp to count them! More recently the third years organised a "buttons in the jar" competition and the second years a Treasure Hunt, both of which raised smaller amounts of money, but were enjoyable. We are having an Easter egg raffle with which the first years hope to make a larger sum and are looking for a big project to boost our donations — all suggestions welcome.

We would like to thank all Bristol staff and members of the sixth form who have backed us up throughout our term of office and parents who support us so generously. We wish the new head of Bristol, Sarah Alshaikley and her deputy Vicky Davis, the best of luck during their year ahead and as much enjoyment as have had.

*Lisajane Nash, Liz Warburton, Melanie Harrow*

#### CHICHESTER HOUSE REPORT 1985/6

Another year has passed by and I believe I may be right in saying, with a great deal of success. The credit must go to the staff and pupils of Chichester House, who have exerted a great deal of energy into amassing money for our charity, Dr. Barnardo's. Enterprises have included a sponsored swim, various cake sales, and the most profitable of all, the selling of crisps. From all these we have collected the encouraging sum of £164.

As well as these exploits, there has been a noticeable growing optimism in Chichester. In the last year we did very well in the sporting activities. There has also been an improvement academically. Chichester House gathered the most house points in the autumn term 1985. Our house has not often been in the limelight, but I suspect that in the future, this will be reversed. I have really enjoyed being Head of House, and am grateful to Kate Wolff, who acted as vice head. I now hand the post over to Vicki Tink, wishing her the best of luck for the next year.

*Rebecca Utley*

## ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS

### PEOPLE

#### SILENCE

Everything's ready, the clock ticks,  
The bell chimes, your heart jumps.  
Your first guest arrives.  
They now come in a steady flow.  
Then stop.

Then silence, what shall I say?  
Those first painful moments.  
A glass is dropped and breaks the silence.

You feel you want to escape from yourself,  
And fly into that welcoming sky  
Like a swallow and swoop down on them  
Giving out a cry of laughter  
At their awkward silence.

*Fleur Hardman, IVV*

#### PORTRAIT OF A BUSINESSMAN

As I walked along the High Street I saw a very familiar looking person. Deliberately I bumped into him and he said in a low, monotonous tone, "Go away little child". As I walked off he sat down and I, being rather curious, stared at him while I was pacing around.

He was wearing a black bowler hat and a black jacket while underneath it he wore a striped grey waistcoat with a watch chain hanging from it. He wore a white shirt, which had most probably been ironed so many times it was stiff, with a navy tie. His black trousers were like silk and his shining black shoes amazed me; I don't know why. He held a black brief case in one hand and an umbrella in the other, which he swung every time a person passed by.

His hair was rather like the rest of him, black. He had it parted to both sides and a bald patch showed in the middle of his head. He had a droopy sort of face, his eyes looked very stern and he had a very straight-looking mouth. His nose seemed to turn up and his eyebrows seemed to be touching his nose because he was so cross.

He was sitting on a seat in the street, waiting for a bus. All the cars and lorries rushed past him, puffing car fumes into his face. He sat chattering to two old ladies who every so often would get up and walk to the edge of the pavement to see if the bus was coming. All the buildings behind him had been closed down and on the windows were torn posters and bits of paint, while things had been flicked onto the windows.

At last he stood up and walked towards the bus stop. He walked in a sort of zig-zag way, first putting his right foot forward and then the left, but with the left foot almost crossing over the right one. I thought that would make it rather difficult for him, but he seemed to act as though he was walking normally.

He had a very conceited sort of character, for every time a woman walked past him, he would look very serious and stern, but every time anyone wasn't looking he would get out a packet of cigarettes, take one out and have a smoke and then throw it into the gutter. To me he was still a plain, boring businessman, but with a certain fascination.

*Natasha Watts, The Junior School*

## ANONYMOUS

A — Anonymous is a man,  
N — No-one knows him,  
O — Or his ways,  
N — No-one cares for him.  
Y — Yellow bellied he is shy  
M — Miser? No. But very quiet  
O — Only known to very close friends.  
U — Until he comes out of his shell,  
S — Sadly we know him, not at all.

*Clare Drew, IIO*

## ALL ALONE

My Mum has gone to the shops.  
She said, I'll be thirty minutes.  
I hear the tapping of the cat flap,  
The dog barks,  
The budgies squeak,  
And the cat meows.  
I hear the door open, it's Mum  
With some sweets.  
I'm glad she's back.

*Amy Bayless, The Junior School*

## SELF-SATISFACTION

H.R.H. Not royalty by any means, but Herbert Rodney Hodge; any blue blood in his veins is due to the vast quantities of blueberry pie which he forces himself to eat to "take his mind off the pain". The doctor has told him that a chiropodist will do something about his bunions, but Herbert Hodge refuses to have anything to do with chiropodists "on account of what one of 'em done to Alfred Brown", a deed so terrible that he can never actually bring himself to tell us what was done.

But the blueberry pie does seem to work, because Herbert never feels the pain until he is reminded of it, at which point it comes on "something terrible"; and as we seldom remind him of the bunions, Herbert manages to live a very satisfactory life.

He has the most amazing smile, a sort of "Cheshire Cat" grin that rarely leaves his face and I believe that he wakes up with it, beaming across his face after a night of very satisfactory dreams. He even smiles when his bunions are hurting, as if to say, "My bunions hurt better than anyone-else's!", but he can be quite a disturbing sight when seen smiling by some poor innocent who does not know him.

He lives what would be, for most, a boring humdrum life, with no excitement or surprises; he started planning his retirement life long before it was necessary to do so. He put savings by, on a regular basis, and kept an eye out for things that he thought would be useful to him when he stopped working, such as electric slipper-warmers, automatic egg-slicers and battery-operated foot-massages.

Having never married, Herbert has become very selfish — looking after, worrying about and caring for one, is much easier than doing so for two and as a result, he has aged far less than married men of equal years.

Herbert does deserve his comfort. He has worked very hard to ensure a comfortable life, which he does indeed live. A typical day in his life will be as follows: getting up at 9.00 exactly, having had half an hour to wake up fully with a cup of fresh tea from his Russell Hobbs' teasmad and BBC Breakfast-Time from his remote control black-and-white portable bedroom television, having breakfast (more tea, porridge and toast) and conversation with whoever is on the radio, having a cold shower in the bathroom ("to get the blood flowing") and finally dressing at about 10.00. Then Herbert is off to buy his groceries, vegetables and Guardian, stopping off for a chat and coffee and biscuits at his friend's, Albert Brown. It is roughly mid-day when Herbert returns to prepare his lunch, a task which he immensely enjoys. He makes lunch his main meal rather than supper and every day he chooses a different recipe. After eating his culinary delight, Herbert retires to read his Guardian, listen to Radio 3, and sleep. Then at about half past four it is tea-time and Albert is always present. Herbert eats his supper at 7.30 on the dot and after that he watches television until about 10.00, when he has a hot bath "to relax the blood"; and before going to sleep, Herbert always has a strawberry cream, which does not spoil his clean teeth because they are sitting in a glass beside him. And so Herbert Rodney Hodge goes to sleep with a self-satisfied feeling after a very satisfactory day, made possible by possibly the most satisfactory person in the world.

*Minnie Black-James, IVV*

## QUEEN VICTORIA

When Queen Victoria was made Queen she was in her night gown. The first people to know were the Lord Chamberlain and the Archbishop of Canterbury. After Albert died she wore black. She was very intelligent and loved children. She also loved animals, paintings and Scotland. Queen Victoria was born in 1819; she was brought up strictly by a German governess. Queen Victoria adored her husband, and when he died she cried and cried, but it did not bring him back. Queen Victoria died aged eighty-two in 1901. Just before she died she had a Diamond Jubilee. Queen Victoria was wise, powerful, sensible, famous and kind.

*Sarah Bridgewood, The Junior School*

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A MUD LARK

Ello, my name is Tom. I'm a mud lark. I get up at 3 o'clock in the morning. Every day when the tide goes down all us mud larks go down to the river Thames and searches through the mud for things. If we don't find anything, none of us will eat that night. If we didn't sell anything for a few days we would probably starve to death.

We all live under a bridge where it isn't very nice. Under the bridge it is dark and dirty and none of us like it. It is muddy and totally horrible.

*Venetia Allan, The Junior School*

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CHIMNEY SWEEP

My name is Eddie and my job is being a chimney sweep. I do not like it and I am not happy. I have a master called Harry. We call Harry Sir. I would like to call him Bossy Boots. I get up at 2.00 a.m. and I work till 6.00 p.m. and I am an orphan. I sleep on the floor with all my other friends. We don't have a room and we only have gruel at tea. I was born in 1843. When I started I was four, but now I am seven. So I've been working three years.

*Anna Millyard, The Junior School*

## A CURSE ON BULLIES!

I'll show those silly boys  
How it feels  
To be treated like toys

Let *them* face a fist or two  
To get rid of them  
Go then SHOO!

Chase them monster in their dreams,  
Let ME hear THEIR frightened screams.

Make their foreheads break with sweat,  
Force them to pay their sickly debt.

This is the future of these two thugs,  
Say the magic charm,  
Change them to slugs!

*Josie Williams, IIZ*

## MY GRAMPS!

I admire my grandad because he does many kind and generous things.

My grandad is very clever. If I ask him a question he always knows the answer. Just after Christmas, we had a lot of snow and one Thursday when Gramps came over to our house, my sister and I asked him if he would make us a sledge so that we could go up onto the downs with it. So Gramps made us one and it is fabulous! He is very kind. He takes us for walks down the lane in summer, and in winter he plays games with us.

My Gramps is very, very generous, with both time and money. He comes to our house with Nanny every Thursday, and always brings us a bar of chocolate each.

My Grandad will explain things slowly and clearly. He teaches me how to do a great many things, from bird-spotting to planting vegetables. My Gramps likes nature and he knows a lot about it. In September we collect conkers and sloes. In the summer we pick and sometimes press wild flowers. All through the year we have fun with Gramps.

He NEVER gets angry, even if you don't understand something. He is a very easy person to get on with.

My Gramps does talk about the war, but only about the nice things, such as Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi. He never gives the slightest intimation of how difficult and dangerous the war was.

As you can see I am very fond of GRAMPS.

*Clare Drew, IIO*