

# STOVER

# M A G A Z I N E



1996 - 1997

## FACES FROM THE HISTORY OF STOVER

Stover House was built in 1777 by James Templer. James' life had been a classic 'rags-to-riches' story as he left Exeter as a runaway orphan, became a cabin boy on a tea-clipper bound for India, and returned 16 years later a very rich and successful builder, and father of four children.

James bought the estate then known as 'Teign Bruer' from a branch of the Courtenay family. The estate included most of the land known as Bovey Heath, mainly bog, but also containing granite, china clay, iron ore and lignite and a derelict manor house known as Stofford Lodge.

James Templer built one of the first canals in England, the Stover canal, to carry china clay, to Newton Abbot and the River Teign. James also landscaped the estate, creating Stover Lake, now part of the Country Park, and a driveway from the Granite Lodge, still to be seen fronting the A38.

It was James' son, James the second, who was responsible for building Teigngrace church, and his son George who built Clockhouse to house the South Devon Foxhounds. George had two packs, known as the 'Let 'em Alones'.

In his time Stover became a centre of local culture, with musicians and other artistes entertaining his guests at his frequent parties. Sadly, but not surprisingly, George ran out of money and in 1829 Stover had to be sold and was bought by the Duke of Somerset. George built nearby Sandford Orleigh where he lived until his death.

Stover belonged to the family of the Dukes of Somerset until 1932 when it was acquired by the then Miss Joan Dence for her growing girls' school.

C. YOUNG

*Portrait of George Templer (1781 -1843) son of James II. He secured the rights to supply granite for the building of the present London Bridge, the British Museum and the National Gallery. Stover House is built from the same granite.*



# FROM THE STUDY WINDOW



This has been another very busy year at Stover. In the Autumn Term we ran our 1996 Country Fair which was a joint effort by staff and parents and culminated in an excellent day with over 1,000 visitors to the school. As a result the staff were able to present the school with a cheque for £3,000 towards a new minibus. Many local charities also received donations in excess of £1,000 in total. For the next Country Fair...wait and see!

Throughout the year the girls have had numerous opportunities to represent the school and their Houses in Music, Drama, Sport, Public Speaking and in many other ways. They have participated in field trips in Geography, Science, Art and History. In addition our two Ten Tors teams trained hard and did exceptionally well, coming in early on the Sunday this year.

The summer saw a hugely successful Summer Ball with over 315 guests; Sports Day (after one or two cancellations due to the weather), Inter-House Drama and, of course, Public and School examinations in which we hope all our pupils have performed to the best of their abilities.

In the Nursery School we have been extremely busy, taking on more staff and improving facilities, while the Junior School has also grown. They produced their own 'Old Time Music Hall' extravaganza, competed in Sports Day, visited Abbeys and farms generally had an action-packed and successful year.

Stover is a special place. To achieve what we do, and to create the opportunities that we have, requires a really strong joint effort at all levels in school between parents, staff and pupils. For all of this co-operation, support, energy and enthusiasm, I thank all of you associated with Stover for this outstanding 1996-97 academic year.

Looking ahead, we have a new Sixth Form Centre and Humanities Block to open in the 1997-98 academic year as well as further developments in the Junior School. We also have new staff and many new pupils to welcome, and I hope that we can all strive to create yet another excellent year in the school's history.

P. E. Bujak  
Headmaster



Stover School magazine 1996 - 97

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## GOVERNING BODY

**Chairman** Mr T M T Key, MA *Cantab.* FRICS.  
**Vice Chairman** Mr R H Roberts JP  
**Vice Chairman** Miss F R Evans Cert.Ed.

Mr H Anderson BSc (*Hons*)  
 Mrs A Anning  
 Mr A C J Cooper Bsc  
 Mrs C Cottle  
 Prebendary N J Davey  
 Mrs A Dyer MA  
 Mr D J Groom  
 Mrs A Harrison MCSP  
 Dr P J Key OBE, MB, BS  
 Prof I D Mercer CBE, BA, BSc, LLD  
 Mrs J W G Scott

**School Legal Advisors:** *Boyce Hatton Solicitors, Torquay.*  
*Over, Taylor, Biggs, Exeter*  
**School Accountants:** *Francis Clark Newton Abbot*

## ACADEMIC STAFF

### Headmaster

Mr P E Bujak BA (*Hons*), MA, Cert.Ed, *East Anglia AR.Hist.S. History*

**Deputy Head** Mrs S Bradley BSc (*Hons*) MIBiol., C.I Biol., PGCE *Portsmouth & Oxford. Biology*

### Head of Sixth Form

Mrs M Batten BSc *RHC London*

*Mathematics*

### Head of Boarding

Mrs H Collinge B.Ed (*Hons*) *Cardiff*

*Technology*

Mrs S Bamberg	BA, MSc.	<i>Cambridge</i>	<i>Chemistry</i>
Mrs R Cockell	BSc. ( <i>Hons</i> )	<i>Exeter</i>	<i>Mathematics</i>
Mrs J Cranmer	Bsc ( <i>Hons</i> )	<i>Hull</i>	<i>Biology</i>
Mrs T Dinsdale	BEd ( <i>Hons</i> )	<i>S.Mark &amp; S.John</i>	<i>P.E &amp; Humanities</i>
Mr G Dunbar	Cert Ed PGC	<i>Cheshire College &amp; Middx</i>	<i>Art &amp; Technology</i>
Mrs V Elce	BA ( <i>Hons</i> )	<i>London PGCE Oxon</i>	<i>RS / PSE / Geography</i>
Miss E Evans	BA ( <i>Hons</i> )	<i>Exeter PGCE</i>	<i>Modern Languages &amp; P.E.</i>
Mrs J Jorgensen	BA ( <i>Hons</i> )	<i>Hull PGCE Oxon</i>	<i>English</i>
Mrs M Kearney	BEd ( <i>Hons</i> )	<i>Exeter</i>	<i>Biology &amp; Mathematics</i>
Mr A Manning	BA MA CertEd	<i>Exeter</i>	<i>History &amp; Politics</i>
Miss T Oakes	BA ( <i>Hons</i> )	<i>Brighton</i>	<i>P.E &amp; English</i>
Mr Palmer	Cert Ed	<i>Exeter</i>	<i>EFL</i>
Mr R Priddes	BSc ( <i>Hons</i> ), RSA, Dip AIT	<i>Leeds</i>	<i>Information Tech.</i>
Mrs S Rolls	BA	<i>Dartington</i>	<i>Drama</i>
Mrs A Smith	BA ( <i>Hons</i> ),	<i>Durham PGCE Camb</i>	<i>Geography</i>
Mrs V Stevens	BA ( <i>Hons</i> ), MA	<i>Exeter &amp; Essex</i>	<i>English &amp; Classics</i>
Mr D Topley	BA, Cert.Ed	<i>Open &amp; London</i>	<i>Physics &amp; Mathematics.</i>
Mrs M Whitechurch	MA	<i>Oxon Dip Ed</i>	<i>German</i>
Mrs N Winston	<i>Licence d'Anglais</i>		<i>French</i>

## BOARDING HOUSE STAFF

<b>Junior Housemistress</b>	Mrs M Bousfield	Cert Ed <i>Sarum St Michael</i>
<b>Senior Housemistress &amp; Sixth Form</b>	Mrs J Varley	
<b>Boarding House Assistants</b>	Miss Y Holdsworth & Miss T Pentony	

## MUSIC

**Director of Music** Mrs. S. Farleigh BA (*Hons*). *Flute, Piccolo & Voice*  
*Dartington College of Arts.*

*Visiting staff:*

Miss Hiley	<i>Percussion</i>
Mr J Bryden MA (Cantab) ARCO ARCM	<i>Piano</i>
Mrs A Brown	<i>Piano</i>
Mrs H Wills	<i>Cello</i>
Mrs R Morgan	<i>Oboe</i>
Miss J Hitchcock	<i>Clarinet &amp; Saxophone &amp; Flute</i>
Miss C Hayek	<i>Violin &amp; Viola</i>
Mr P Hill	<i>Classical and electric Guitar</i>
Mr A Stark	<i>Brass</i>

## STOVER JUNIOR SCHOOL

Mrs D Williams	BA ( <i>Hons</i> ) PGCE	<i>Exeter</i>
Mrs V A Chapman	B.Ed	<i>Exeter</i>
Miss H Gill	BA ( <i>Hons</i> ) PGCE	<i>Plymouth &amp; Exeter</i>
Mrs A Campkin	NVQ 3	<i>Nursery</i>
Miss L Campbell	NVQ 3	<i>Nursery</i>
Mrs L Sharrock		<i>Nursery Assistant</i>
Mrs F Martin		<i>Nursery Assistant</i>
Mrs A Bujak	RGN	<i>Nursery Assistant</i>

## SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

Reverend C Knott BA

## ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

<b>Headmaster's Secretary</b>	Miss L Rathe
<b>School Secretary</b>	Mrs L Shell
<b>Finance Officer</b>	Mrs H Godwin
<b>Accounts Secretary</b>	Mrs M Barnard

## MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

<b>School Medical Officer</b>	Dr H Bates	B.Med.Sci., B.M.B.S., D.R.C.O.,	M.R.C.G.P
<b>School Matron</b>	Miss T Swain	RGN	
<b>Head of Careers</b>	Mrs H Collinge	B.Ed ( <i>Hons</i> )	
<b>Examinations Officers</b>	Mrs M Kearney	BE. ( <i>Hons</i> )	
	Mrs S Bamberg	BA, MSc.	
<b>School Librarian</b>	Mrs V Stevens	BA ( <i>Hons</i> ) MA	
<b>Outdoor Pursuits</b>	Mr R Priddes	Bsc. and A Manning MA	
<b>School Tennis Coach</b>	Mrs J Hough	LTA	
<b>Speech &amp; Drama</b>	Mrs V Thresher	LRAM, LGSM.	
<b>Laboratory Technician</b>	Mrs A Milford		
<b>Catering Manager</b>	Mr D Woods		

## NEW STAFF APPOINTMENTS

### **Mr Alexander Manning** BA MA Cert Ed

Mr Manning joined Stover as Head of History after a successful career in the Royal Navy including extensive service in the Royal Marines. Appointments included teaching at the Department of History and International Affairs at the Royal Naval Staff College, Greenwich, and also the Royal Naval Engineering College, Plymouth, where he was Head of Politics and Defence Studies and History. Alex also brings to Stover a number of extra-curricular skills, particularly those for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and Ten Tors training .



### **Miss Teresa Oakes** BA Hons with QTS

Miss Oakes has been appointed as teacher in PE and English. Teresa, who graduated from Brighton University in 1996, enjoys swimming and literature and plays netball for her local ladies' team. She has also played representative netball for Cornwall at both U18 and U19 levels before playing for West Devon U21.



### **Miss Tanya Swain** RGN

Miss Swain came to Stover as School Sister after nursing in London where she was based for four years. Tanya enjoys travelling and walking extensively, and has already become involved with the school's outdoor pursuits programme and the boarding Sixth Form



### **Mrs Jane Varley**

Mrs Varley joined Stover from Eton as Senior Housemistress following the retirement of Mrs Maureen Smyth. Mrs Varley, together with her dog Bertie and cats, has already settled into life at Stover very well, and she looks forward to supporting the continuing development of facilities on the senior wing in the coming years.



**Mrs Hazel Godwin**

Mrs Godwin joined Stover at the start of the Spring Term 1997 as Finance Officer and Bursar. She is married with two children and her husband lectures in Biomechanics and Physiology.



**Mrs Linda Shell.**

Mrs Shell came to Stover as School Secretary from Akrotiri in Cyprus. After only one term Linda is already well known to parents and pupils, and has begun to get her head above the administrative water produced by the school!



**Staff retiring or leaving for pastures new**

**Mrs Jude Cranmer**

Since coming to Stover in 1988 Mrs Cranmer has taught Biology throughout the school and was instrumental in supporting Stover's fine record of entry and success in the Ten Tors competition each year. Jude has always been a loyal and keen supporter of Stover and takes with her many happy memories of her time here. We wish her every success in the future and hope that she will stay in touch with us all at the school.

**Mrs Roey Paige**

Mrs Paige has taught Drama and English at Stover for just over 12 years. Throughout this period she has created and supported a wide range of performances thus making available her guidance, expertise and professional support to many hundreds of girls. Her commitment and individual style and flair will be much missed and we all wish her every success in her future career.

**Mrs Mary Whitechurch**

Mrs Whitechurch has taught German at Stover for many years and has recently supported the development of Modern Languages throughout the school with her considerable experience. We wish Mrs Whitechurch a very happy retirement.

P.Bujak.

# Eileen

Eileen Shillabeer joined the administrative staff at Stover, as School Secretary, in 1970. Ever friendly and helpful, she soon established herself as the welcoming face of the School Office and voice on the end of the telephone, always ready to sort out all those everyday problems we face on a daily basis - the forgotten PE kit, the train ticket that needed booking or changing, pocket money collection, the out-of-date passport ("and we're leaving on Friday!"), where to stay over half term. And, on top of all this, the day to day secretarial duties that are all part of running a busy workplace efficiently.

For twenty seven years she continued to provide the invaluable support that was so necessary, both for girls and staff, building up a wealth of knowledge and information that will be impossible to replace, despite all our modern day technology. Fortunately for the Old Girls' Association, she has agreed to take over as Secretary where her 'filofax' memory for names and faces will be extremely beneficial. We all wish her, and Ray, a long and happy retirement, although, with her faithful typewriter at her side, it could turn out to be something of a 'busman's holiday'!

Melian Kearney



RECEPTION



Eileen writes:

*I fell in love with Stover the first time I walked along the driveway for my first interview with Miss Smith in 1969. It was mid-summer and I marvelled at the manicured games fields and parkland and the stately building in their midst, all so peaceful and yet so brimming with life.*

*To work such a long time in such lovely surroundings amongst so many happy folk of all ages has been a pleasure to me that will never diminish. Helping others to maintain Stover's quality of life and continued success in so many varying activities has given me so much pleasure too.*

*I am sure that Stover will continue to progress with the same strong leadership that has always been evident and I wish "all who sail in her" success, continued happiness and good fortune in the years to come.*

## HEAD GIRL'S REPORT

What makes a good Head Girl? Well....what a tricky question. I've just spent a year giving it my best shot, but to be honest I'm really none the wiser.

My aim as head girl of Stover was to try to match up to the criteria that I believed a good leader have: a good understanding of others, and good communication skills. Patience is definitely a virtue and a sense of humour is essential.

"You're leading by example, Tanya," I was regularly reminded, so a cheerful positive attitude is also important.

After six very happy years at Stover, to be made Head girl was a real honour. I found the position both challenging and rewarding and believe it to have been a great learning experience for which I am grateful. I have learnt that democracy isn't always the best method of leadership as it is impossible to please everyone. I feel a good leader will respond appropriately to different situations and when dealing with different types of people.

Over the last year there have been ups and downs. Successful moments and of course unsuccessful ones which I'd prefer not to dwell on! However they have all left me with fond memories of Stover.

Especially those simple everyday occurrences: sneaking second puddings when there's shortbread or chocolate custard (my favourites). Nodding off during those very long and sometimes rather tedious assemblies and carol concerts. Rolling up your kilt and claiming your mother shrunk it, umm likely story! We've all been there.

There have also been the more major events: the ski trips, the unforgettable netball tour to South Africa and not forgetting the dreaded Sixth Form socials and the wonderful school summer ball.

For these great times and for all their support and co-operation over the last year I would like to say a huge thank you to all my great friends, especially the deputy head, Sarah, the house captains and the prefects. I'd never have managed without you! I would also like to thank the Headmaster and staff for allowing me to take on the role as Head Girl; it was very brave of you all.

Finally I would like to say that I believe strongly in 'living life to the max'. Making the most of every moment regardless of the situation. You don't get a second chance at your school years, so without sounding like an old fuddy duddy: don't waste them!

By Tanya Strongman



*Tanya Strongman, seen here in her role of Captain of the 1996 South African netball team tour.*

# SPEECH DAY

Mrs Angela Browning, MP for Tiverton and Parliamentary Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture, was the guest of honour at Speech Day. She delighted parents, pupils and staff with her wry and humorous account of her own career, first as a Domestic Science teacher, then in business, and finally in politics. Mrs Browning said that the biggest challenge today was how to respond to change. She said that while it was perhaps sometimes difficult to see the relevance of subjects studied at school it was often only later in life that their value might be proven. She herself left school at sixteen and she stressed that high academic achievement was not the only criteria for success. Elected as an MP she studied the backgrounds of her colleagues in the House only to find there were no former cookery teachers! Most, she said, had double firsts from Oxbridge or a career in a Guards regiment! But she was delighted to find that cookery came in useful - when she was made minister for Food - thus proving the value of a good all-round education! She felt that in spite of all the progress women had made in the past 50 years many areas were still under-represented - and often women were not prepared to put themselves forward. This, she felt, was a great waste, as the skills women had acquired in their varied lives were in fact the same as those needed to run ICI. Thus, in a fast moving world, women, with their varied experience, multiple skills and flexibility, were ideally placed. She was impressed by the variety of interests and skills obviously on display at Stover demonstrated by the choice of prizes which ranged from Jane Austen to an SAS survival handbook - which, she suggested, could come in useful in the House of Commons! Stover, to her, offered its students the ideal foundation for adult life.

## SPEECH DAY AWARDS

### Major Academic Scholars

Emma Colley  
Jennifer Stocks

### Music Scholars

Katie Jones  
Lucy Jones  
Katherine Storrs

### West Bank Scholar 1996 - 97

Clare Cooper

### Form and Progress prizes:

7F	Form Prize Progress Prize	Grace Bennett Rebecca Moloney
8T	Form Prize Progress Prize	Felicity Harding Catherine Sulzman Dorothy Sulzman
9C	Form Prize Progress Prize	Fiona Linton Melody Cooper

9L	Form Prize Progress prize	Carolyn Hocknell Anna Gledhill
10E	Form Prize Progress Prize	Elizabeth Anning Rebecca House
10T	Form Prize Progress Prize	Camilla Kwong Zoe Caines
Form 11	Form Prize Progress Prize	Sarah Whatmen Sophie Philip

### Music Awards

Bairstow Cup for the pupil with the highest Associated Board results:	Lucy Jones
Redstone Cup for Junior Instrumental Progress	Katie Jones
Wendy Insole Cup for Singing	Fiona Linton
Patricia Cardale Cup for Instrumental achievement	Katherine Storrs
Sarah Bruce Cup for Service to school music	Zoe Caines

### Sports Awards and Outdoor Pursuits

Junior Sports Girl	Jane Howard
Partridge Cup Senior Sports girl	Tanya Strongman
Jameson Cup for support for school games	Sarah Hunt

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award	Claire Cooper
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Prize for Outdoor Pursuits	Louise Astbury
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The prize for Art	Camilla Dudley Cooke
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The prize for Languages	Sarah Whatman
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The prize for Information Technology	Eunice Fan
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The prize for Mathematics	Kanokporn Rungchaiporn
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The prize for Home Economics	Victoria Anning
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Miss Smith's prize for History	Kerry Smitheram
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Miss Jewell-Hill's prize for Classics and the prize for English	Kate Taylor and Kerry Smitheram
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Drama Plate for Service to School Drama	Tarida Kuesuwan
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Harvey Cup for Service to School Games	Sarah Cheung
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### Upper Sixth Leavers:

Victoria Anning	Bournemouth University	BSc. (Hons) Clinical Nursing
Sarah Cheung	Thames Valley University	HND in Business Information Systems
Angela Kwong	London Guildhall University	BA (Hons) Accountancy
Petra Lucacik	St Hilda's College Oxford University	BA (Hons) Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry
Kerry Smitheram	Sheffield University	LLB (Hons) Law
Kate Taylor	University of Wales, Swansea	BA (Hons) Ancient History and Civilisation

## FOUNDER'S FELLOWSHIPS

On Speech Day girls, staff and parents were told of the establishment of the new Founder's Fellowships instituted in memory of Mrs Joan Key, nee Joan Dence, who founded Stover School in 1932.

The aims of the fellowships are to make one or more annual awards to enable current Stover girls (Founder's Fellows) to undertake enterprising projects or activities which will

- i) Broaden their own education and outlook
- ii) Bring some benefit to people with less opportunities than themselves at home or abroad
- iii) Motivate their peers at school and home to follow their example.

The award is open to all Stover girls from Year 10 upward. The total amount available for 1997/98 is £1,000. This could be awarded for one exceptional enterprise but is more likely to be shared between several good applicants.

All applications should be made to the Headmaster and should be in the form of a project proposal written by the girl herself, stating clearly the aim, scope and detailed activities to be carried out; the time frame and total budget, which should include all possible funding sources. Projects will be expected to be completed within the next twelve month period.

A special Governors' sub-committee, on which staff and senior girls will be represented, will judge proposals. Girls may be asked to discuss their proposals with the sub committee. If no good proposals are received in any one year then the money will be held over to the next year. Each successful fellow will be asked to provide a written report and to give a presentation to the school.

Penelope Key.

# ELIZABETH



# REPORT

The renowned determination and enthusiasm of Elizabeth House was apparent in every event in which the house participated this year. Their energy was overwhelming despite their defeats. We may not have won the Sports, Music or even the Drama, but we did not make it easy for the victors, Mary and Victoria, as seen in the very close battle for the Winter and Autumn House Cups. Yet Elizabeth's consistency isn't in achievements of sport and music, unlike Victoria and Mary, but in their determination to have fun and enjoy the challenges we face. For example our highly successful three-legged football match which raised £150 for Childline; and our notorious rendition of "Big Spender" complete with feather boas in the Music competition.

At the end of the day I have never wanted to be in a different house from Elizabeth in my seven years at Stover, despite the defeats. The will to succeed grows every year, as does the fun and enthusiasm in a house that shines not as individuals but as a team.

On that note I would like to congratulate my house on the victory of the House Cup last term, especially since it was my last chance to go up and receive a cup for the house that undoubtedly deserved it.

Ayesha Markland



# INTER HOUSE CHARITY EVENTS

## INTERHOUSE THREELEGGED FOOTBALL.

This extraordinary football match, definitely NOT played under FIFA rules (or any rules as far as anyone could see) took place on an overcast December afternoon towards the end of term. In the swiftly failing light alien creatures clad in weird garments and joined together in pairs at the ankle swarmed, or rather tottered, fell, stumbled, or hopped out onto the field uttering assorted war-cries along the lines of "Vicky, Vicky, Vicky! House, House, House!" "Mary, Mary, Mary! House, House, House!" etc.(you get the idea). The Stover home strip on this occasion seemed to consist of red and black stripy tights, assorted T-shirts and sweaters, the more garish the better, all topped off with an assortment of bobble hats, reindeer antlers or Santa hoods. There appeared to be a few Masai warriors amongst the throng but that could have been a trick of the by now almost non-existent daylight.

At the start of the match the field bore a passing resemblance to a proper game of football but it didn't last. Luckily the game

was played with what appeared to be a radioactive orange ball so at least the spectators could make out something of what was going on. There were however complaints that they were missing the finer points of the game, but then, on the other hand, they missed most of the coarser ones too, which was probably just as well. Referee P. Bujak commented (his face pale with fear), "It's quite frightening when

they all get going isn't it?"

Night eventually stopped play leaving the field scattered with prone and supine bodies and reindeer antlers. According to the referee Lizzie "sort of won". But as we all know, it's not

the winning but the taking part that counts. And anyway, it was, after all, a "sort of" football match!

Sponsorship, extortion and blackmail raised £150 for Childline and we are certainly going to have another one. This could definitely become the highlight of the Stover sporting calendar. Photography was impossible (apart from the lack of light Mr Dunbar was laughing too much to have a steady hand) but Hannah Garvin produced a drawing that sums up the spirit of the occasion



Mr Dunbar and Mary House's 'Make and Bake'

# MARY



# REPORT

This year, being my last, thankfully wasn't an anti climax. As a house we were as usual "selective" as to where we applied our talents. We excelled, of course, in the most important sporting events: Sports Day (which finally happened after all the rain) especially the Tug of War; the Swimming Gala and the Gym and Dance competition which we seem to have won for the past decade. As ever though, being generous, we gave the other houses a sporting chance with other events, narrowly losing on several occasions - but we're not bitter. Those familiar shouts of "Give it that big one!" and "Come on, Mary, nicely now" from Mr Dunbar (yes, he really does say these things) always helped to spur us on and create a bit of amusement even when we lost.

Our chosen charity this year was the Waltair Trust which provides a residential home in Tavistock for adults with learning disabilities. We decided to raise money with a Christmas Market and cake stall and were exhorted by Mr Dunbar to "Make and bake!" So we duly all got Making and Baking and raised £35 on our stall at break and lunchtime.

Despite having all my house duties and unending WORK to do '97 has had to be the best year out of all the seven that I've been at Stover, and that just makes me all the more sad to leave. I would just like to say to all those members of Mary House (and that includes the Staff) who have taken such pleasure in making my life difficult, thanks for not making it impossible ! Thanks to all of you, being House leader was not half such a chore as I had thought it would be!

Ruth Hammond



# VICTORIA



# REPORT

This has been another eventful and busy year for Victoria House. Despite the traditionally impressive efforts made by our members, we did not manage to retain our usual trophy, the House Cup. However, I'm sure this is only a temporary arrangement and I hope that next year it will be returned to its rightful place with us !

In previous years Victoria House has not been renowned for its sporting greatness - but this all seems to have miraculously changed ! Throughout the year we seem to have been on a winning streak, with house members displaying their talents ( and of course endless enthusiasm ) in an array of sports; nearly always winning a cup or trophy in the process. Success was with Vicky House in the Summer Term as house members stormed their way to victory in the rounders competition and similarly, in both the senior and junior tennis competitions Vicky House triumphed claiming both the cups.

The sun finally decided to shine for Sports Day and a brave effort by all house members put us into second place. Again, a good all-round effort meant that Vicky House splashed its way to a soggy second place in the swimming competition !

Over the course of the year members of the house combined their efforts with those of the other two houses in a three-legged football match, which was organised by Lizzie House. This was a charity fund-raising event which succeeded in raising a considerable amount of money for " Childline ". In spite of the mud a good time was had by all !

Finally, I would like to wish Victoria House the best of luck for the coming year; I'm sure the house will continue along the path onwards and upwards under the leadership of her new House Captain.

Jenni Fisk





# STOVER JUNIOR SCHOOL

## Our first year

The new Junior School was opened in October 1996 by Mrs Angela Browning MP, shown here with Mr Roger Roberts, Vice Chairman of Governors, the Headmaster and, from left to right:

Laura Fletcher, Hannah Nicholson, Naomi Griffiths, Alice Hyland, Sarah Abbot and Anna Taylor.



The doors opened on Wednesday 4th September 1996 to welcome 22 children to the first day of the new Junior School. I suspect that both teachers and pupils were somewhat nervous that morning. As I recall we were very busy with practical issues such as organising drinks and biscuits for break, taking the children to lunch and having enough hooks to hang coats. There were some tears but the children quickly settled in and started making new friends.

Our first event was the October Harvest Festival. We asked parents to contribute harvest produce and were stunned at the amount of fruit, vegetables and cakes that we received. The children performed a selection of harvest songs

and poems which went very well considering it was our first performance.

Friday 18th October was Speech Day and also the official opening of the new Junior School by Mrs Angela Browning, former Junior Minister for Agriculture and MP for Tiverton and Honiton. The teachers put on their black gowns and the children were told to look very smart with polished shoes and blazers buttoned. We gathered in the library of the Junior School where Mr Bujak introduced Mrs. Browning who made a short speech and unveiled a plaque celebrating the opening of the Junior School.

We began our next half term with more confidence and were looking forward to the 7th November when the children were to take part in Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" led by a group of actors. This was planned in such a way that the children were included in making sound effects and actually playing some of the characters in small groups. This was a splendid experience for them and we were able to follow up many of the ideas in class. The term was moving along very quickly and Christmas was approaching.

Every Friday afternoon we rehearsed for the Christmas performance and finally the day came. The stage was ready the lights were in place, the Jubilee Hall was overflowing with parents. The show started with the nursery children, all 50 of them, dressed as shepherds, angels, stars, donkeys, lambs with Mary and Joseph and the

baby Jesus, ready to perform the traditional Nativity. All went well, but the reindeer stole the show!

The next day all the Junior children including parents visited Pennywell Farm. It was a special Christmas visit and all the children were able to dress up in Nativity outfits and act out the Christmas story together with the animals. It was a really splendid day out.



Thursday was our combined Christmas party. We played games for about an hour and then something magical happened. Father Christmas arrived on a sort of sleigh pulled by a magical reindeer (which looked a bit like a pony with antlers on its head) and I will never forget the children's faces. After handing out presents, Father Christmas drove off to waves and cheers from all of us.

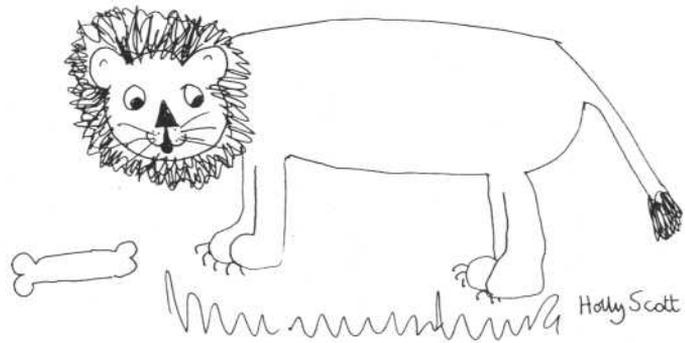
The term was brought to an end by a Carol Service in the Jubilee Hall for the whole school. A memorable end to an exhausting but enjoyable first term.

Animal Week took place in February. Here is an account by Rachel Bagley, Holly Scott and Eleanor Hemmens.



"In Animal Week we had a whole week of raising money for the animals. On Monday we did a drawing competition. You could do owls, frogs, kingfishers or ducks, for 5p a sheet.

On Tuesday a policeman came with his dog Flynn who was only two years old. He showed us how he could smell. He had to smell out things and take them to his owner. We also had an RSPCA lady she talked about cruelty to animals and showed us some slides. On Wednesday we had a cake sale for nothing over 5p. There were jam tarts, butterfly cakes, chocolate bars, ginger cakes and biscuits. On Thursday we went to Paignton Zoo and we saw lots of animals like lions, tigers, elephants, monkeys, lizards and giraffes. On Friday we did games like guess the name of the teddy, guess the smelly pots, pin the nose on the teacher and lots more games for under 20p and altogether we raised £39 72p. But we are aiming to raise £50 and we are going to visit the RSPCA centre in Exeter to see what we have bought for them. The whole week was great fun".



### CLUBS

These are the clubs that there are at lunchtime in Stover Junior School.

On Monday there is ballet, oops! I've fallen over.

On Tuesday there is tennis, whack! oh dear, the ball's gone over the fence.

On Wednesday there is netball, recorders, tap and modern and animal club, oh there's guinea-pigs running all over the place!

On Thursday there is choir, so, la, ti, do, re, me, fa.

On Friday there is craft club where there's sewing and collages.

That's a lot of clubs.

by Lynsey Peacock



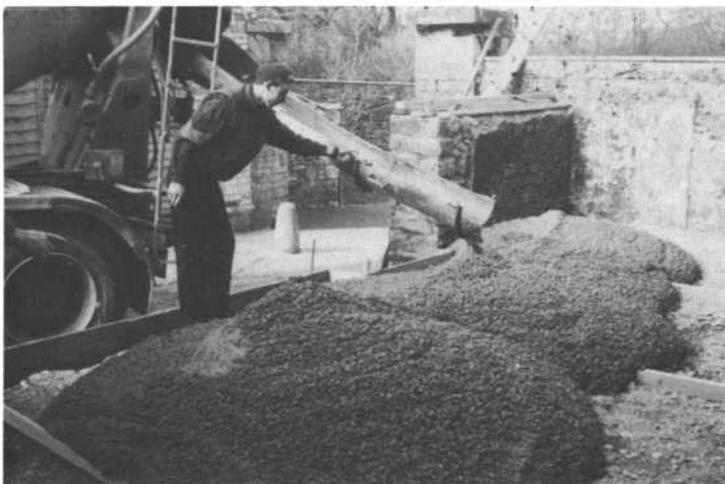
Throughout the term the children had been rehearsing for the English Speaking Board Exams. Maxine Erangey, Jenny Colley and Alice Hyland seem to have enjoyed it!

“Mrs Williams has been teaching us for drama and we took the English Speaking Board Exam. What we did was to learn a poem off by heart then we read a passage from a book of our own choice. After the person had read we asked questions like why did you choose that book or which character did you like best and why. Mrs Holden, the examiner, said, “It’s not just the performing but listening and asking questions is just as important.” The last thing was to talk from one to three minutes about a pet or hobby of your own choice.”

“I read a poem called The King’s Breakfast by A.A. Milne. I read a passage from the BFG by Roald Dahl and talked about my cello for two minutes. I liked listening to the talks best because they were about something different. I liked Maxine’s talk about her folk harp best and I loved her piece “Melting Snow.”

“An examiner came to listen. She’ll do a report about you and then she will give you a certificate. I think that’s worth having if you really worked hard at it. And I’d like to thank the examiner for coming to hear us and a huge thank you to Mrs Williams who puts a lot of work into drama and makes it the best that drama could be! Everyone had a great time and are soon getting their results.”

The examiner was very pleased and all the children passed with good grades. Considering it was the first time for all of us, a very pleasing experience.



David Biddescombe laying concrete for the new Junior School patio

The spring term ended with an evening concert held in the Jubilee Hall when the Junior Choir sang “What shall we do with the Drunken Sailor?” which was particularly well received.

Back at School for the summer term our first big event was Art Week which began with a visit to the Orchid Centre. The orchids came in every size and colour and in many different perfumes including chocolate! The girls chose an orchid to sketch with impressive results

Coloursful Orchids

Petals and Sepals some rounded  
Some straight, star shaped, exotic and  
Very ornate.  
Some silly some pretty,  
Tropical and sticky, some purple,  
Some yellow some orange and green,  
They grow in the treetops  
Or sometimes the ground  
And they are the prettiest glowers  
To be found.  
Coloursful Orchids with patterns so  
Bright.  
They glow in the darkness and light  
Up the night.



by Miranda Chaplin  
Age 9



During the week Mrs Chaplin, mother of Miranda, came to tell us about being a professional artist and showed us some of her designs for mugs, fabrics and advertisements. Another professional artist, Claire Hornsey, did stone rubbings and still life with the girls. These made a splendid display in the library.

In June the Beekeepers visited, equipped with miniature beehives, posters, honey and all sorts of fascinating artefacts and fascinating information about bees. We also visited Buckfast Abbey and the Butterfly Centre. The children spent a good hour in the Abbey educational centre where they erected stone arches, hoisted heavy weights, make stained glass windows and other activities associated with building an abbey! Then a monk told us about life in the abbey which was followed by a tour of the building itself. We ate our picnic lunch in the grounds and ended our visit with a brief trip to the gift shop.

Next was the Butterfly centre and Otter Sanctuary. The otter keeper told us all about the lives and habits of otters while we watched them being fed. We could view them under water as well as above which was fun. Afterwards we returned to the Butterfly centre to see and identify some butterflies.



After the completion of the Summer Term tests the children began practising for Sports Day which owing to the bad weather was finally successfully amalgamated with the Senior School Sports Day. In glorious weather the children lined up for various races and everything went off smoothly. In fact it was so successful that we would want to hold a combined Sports Day in the future.

The 7th of July was another big day! Rehearsal in the morning, performance in the afternoon! The Chamber Hall was set out ready, the costumes were organised,( with changes finally streamlined,) the pianist was waiting but we were all very nervous. But it went wonderfully well: the children sang out really loudly and enthusiastically. The dancers performed splendidly and they all managed to get changed in time! The children took a final bow and posed for photographs...an expression of relief and pride showing on their faces....and probably ours as well.

On the day before the end of term we welcomed the new girls who would be starting with us in September and all of the girls moved on to their new classes for the day. By the end of the day it was smiles all round. Lots of new friends had been made and everyone was confident about the September start.

Wednesday was the last day of the summer term and the last day of the first year of Stover Junior School. A very happy and successful year. Well done everyone!



# MY FIRST DAY AT STOVER

## Collective memories from Year 6

Mum, Dad and I were coming through the entrance of the big mansion called Stover School. I was feeling very nervous because I thought I was going to get lost and the work would be too hard.

I remember arriving in my Mum's car and going into Mr Bujak's office and him signalling for us to sit down. His office was lovely and warm compared to the bitter day outside. Mr Bujak explained a few basic rules and the Do's and Don'ts about the place.

We had assembly. It was alright.

Then I was taken to meet form 6C that I was going to join. They were sadly in the middle of Maths where they were making little cardboard boxes for Easter. After that we had games which was unfortunately my weak spot. Mrs. Dinsdale handed me a very heavy blue plastic racket and when we tried to have a rally I couldn't hit the ball once.

My first lesson was History. It was OK. In Food Technology I made popcorn, and after French I went home at 4 pm. During that day I made some friends and I enjoyed my first day.

When we were in the classroom we had to do our timetable in our academic diary. I didn't know what these words meant. I thought the teacher was making up posh words for everything. I was really silly and did everything wrong so I had to use tippex around six times in my academic diary. I felt such a twit.

When we went to lunch I thought that lunch was really nice compared to my old school which I won't tell you about because it was disgusting. When I came to get the water I didn't know how to use the machine so I didn't have any water.

We had to go over all these rules and after a while it was break and I got lost but I found the rest of the class. The teachers here are very nice to you, my favourite subjects are Home Ec. where you make all sorts of things like cakes and puppets. It is a very nice school to be at.

After that it was time for lunch. The food was quite nice and then we had half an hour of playing outside. I fell in a big puddle but it was still really fun.

Next Mrs Cockell said that we'd go and find Year 6 so we did. The only problem was that they were very hard to find! In the end after asking a few people where they were we found them.



Becky Moloney with Hugo on Family Day

### PUPPY LOVE

*I know he is watching me,  
With his big brown soulful eyes.  
He thinks we're going to kiss and make up  
But he's in for a surprise.*

*I can't believe he left me,  
Sitting all alone.  
If he had appeared on time  
We would have walked home.*

*I waited and I waited,  
But still he didn't show  
So I thought I'd show him,  
I'd just get up and go.*

*Maybe I'm in too deep,  
Look, he's sleeping like a log.  
Shall I call the whole thing off?  
No....he's only my dog*

**Laila Waters Year 9**

## THE DUKE of EDINBURGH'S AWARD

The Award Scheme was first established in 1955, in response to an initiative by the Duke of Edinburgh. Since then, it has expanded world-wide and is in operation in every Commonwealth country. Other countries have also copied its aims and ideals and established it even further afield under different names, e.g. the President's Award.

The Duke's idea was to encourage and stimulate young people's enthusiasms and energies by presenting them with the opportunity to follow a challenging programme of activities aimed at developing skills and personal qualities that would stand them in good stead throughout life, in the home, in work and in personal relationships.

In terms of structure, the format of the Award has remained essentially unchanged, although the range of skills and activities that can be embraced has expanded enormously. In a nutshell, the Award (or the "D of E", as it is almost universally known) is a challenging programme of leisure-time activities aimed at helping participants learn new skills, help others, experience a sense of adventure and, overall, acquire a real sense of accomplishment and achievement.

The Scheme is open to all young people between the ages of 14 and 23 and there are three progressive levels of Award - Bronze, Silver and Gold. For each, a participant must complete and qualify in four sections - Service, Expeditions, Skills and Physical Recreation. The aims of the four sections are as follows:

**SERVICE:** To encourage service to others, either by direct service or by obtaining a qualification that can be used for the benefit of others (e.g. First Aid Certificate or Life-Saving Bronze Medallion).

**EXPEDITIONS:** To encourage a spirit of adventure and discovery and develop the ability to work with (and get on with!) others.

**SKILLS:** To encourage the discovery and development of personal interests and social and practical skills.

**PHYSICAL RECREATION:** To encourage participation in physical recreation and improvement of performance.

There is an additional requirement at Gold level for a residential project, to broaden experience through involvement with others in a residential setting.

Most people begin at the Bronze level, but you can begin directly at the Silver level if you are 16 or over and at Gold if you are over 17.

The programme is very flexible and in each section there is a wide range of options. You can readily choose an activity with which you are already involved (riding, for example, or music) and improve on a standard you already have, or you could start something completely new. The minimum qualifying times are 6 months for Bronze, 12 months for silver and 18 months for Gold but, realistically, a girl at Stover could expect to complete her Bronze in Year 10 or 11 and Silver/Gold in Year 11 and the 6th Form. Ultimately, you have up to your 25th birthday to complete Gold (or even Silver or Bronze for very late entrants) so you can continue it whenever you leave the School and go on to university or elsewhere - The Scheme operates on a nationwide basis and most universities and colleges have established their own Units. "Stickability" and self-motivation are two of the most important qualities required of anyone thinking of giving "D of E" a go as, beyond a certain point, no-one will do it for you (although your Leaders will naturally help and guide you); that is part of the personal challenge of the Award and, for many, the appeal.

The Award has been running for some time now at Stover and new members are always welcome - if you think you might be interested, why not see Mr Manning and/or Mr Priddes and let them help you to take it on from there?



# OUTDOOR PURSUITS

96/97 - Another active year for the Outdoor Pursuits Department

The term started with a mixture of activities: various caving trips to Pridhamsleigh and Bakers Pit and canoe trips to the Dart with surfing at Paignton ending up with more than a few canoeists getting a good soaking. Abseiling at Chudleigh was added for the girls who had a head for heights.

We also had a couple of walks on Dartmoor just to wet the appetite for the Ten Tors.

The main theme of the Spring term was Ten Tors training which started with 30 girls.

After lots of Ten Tor training including overnight camps we entered two Ten Tors teams, one at 35 miles and one at 45 miles. The OATES Walk, a gruelling 27 miles from the South to

the North of the moor, was duly completed as training. Not all the walks went off without incident and I do remember sitting on Hare Tor in the mist and dark waiting for a group of girls only to be told that they had been taken off by the Dartmoor Rescue Group because they had given their spare clothing and food to a group suffering from hypothermia. In fact just about all the practice trips were with inclement weather, thankfully a lot worse than the actual event. This gave our teams a lot of good experience and finally resulted in two teams finishing the event.

As for the Duke of Edinburgh Award, Anna Storrs completed the Bronze and is now into Gold training.

After two Gold practice expeditions on Dartmoor a Gold Expedition to the Brecon Beacons was

arranged and included Tanya Strongman, Sarah Hunt and Clare Cooper. The expedition was very successful and the Assessors' report stated that they were one of the best groups they had received. This has now resulted in Tanya and Sarah completing their Gold awards.

First aid and Bronze Medallion life saving courses for the service parts of the D of E Awards have all been run with full numbers.

As for the future we are now branching out - expeditions this year are to include open canoeing and horse back riding. What next?

R Priddes



# MOORLAND RESCUE

It was meant to be a normal training walk on Dartmoor over the weekend, planned from Oakhampton camp to Tavy Cleave where our campsite would be. The weather had been deteriorating as the morning progressed and because of this we had ventured onto the wrong path. As we were working out how to get back onto the planned route we saw a figure running up to us through the fog. As he approached us he was shouting out for help as one of his party was showing signs of hypothermia. At first we didn't really know if he was having us on as we had never come across a hypothermic case before.

As we got closer to the group we noticed a figure huddled up beside a rock and the rest of the group was standing talking. By now the weather was rapidly getting worse and the morale of the lost group was very low indeed.

We then set about getting the hypothermic girl into jumpers, sleeping bags and under their group shelter. Three of our team, who had mobile phones, went to contact the emergency services, who unfortunately did not respond for another 4 - 5 hours. Luckily we were able to contact the father of one of our walkers who responded to our call.

Others in the group were also showing signs of hypothermia so they too went under the group shelter. Our team were split into a group under the shelter with the casualties, others still calling on the phone while the last members set about making hot chocolate with the equipment we had.

Three hours had passed by with no sign of help and we were getting worried what we would do for the night, as we were expected at Tavy Cleave some time ago. There was a sign of improvement in both the physical and mental well-being amongst the group so we decided to try to get to our campsite and leave the team. This proved to be the wrong decision as by the time we had walked for what seemed like a few minutes we all felt guilty and rang the Dartmoor Rescue for the third time. After assuring them that we were serious about the situation, they then told us they would be with the casualties soon. We then realised that we should not have left the group and started running on our back bearing towards the path we had only left a few minutes before. This, however, took a lot longer than expected. We felt as though we had been running for ages until one of our members spotted the bright orange group shelter. We all ran to the group; on our arrival we found most of the group under the shelter with hypothermia. We immediately took action, splitting again into three groups. One group put the tents up, another started cooking and the third took care of the casualties by

changing them into our dry clothes. Just as we were moving the last casualty into the tent we saw the headlights of a vehicle coming towards us. We all stood in the road and shouted for help. It was the Dartmoor rescue. To our relief they took the casualties to the nearest hospital where they were treated over night for hypothermia. We were told by the Dartmoor Rescue that if we had not handled the situation as well as we did there could have easily been a fatality.

The team of rescuers were - leader Anna Storrs, Borjana Arsova, Lorna Deas, Hannah Garvin, Lucy Jones, Louise Neu, Daisy Rae, Katherine Storrs, Katherine Coveyduck and Jane Howard

By Lucy Jones and Louise Neu.

## THE WIND

The wind of the storm is a long gripping hand  
Cold and pale with bony fingers.  
Its blood can be felt running along  
Chilling everything to the bone. The hand  
Wraps itself round its prey  
And squeezes out every last breath.  
Then suddenly lets go its deadly grip,  
And, just as quickly as it came,  
It slips away.

Lucie Wotton Year 9

## THE BRACKEN

The bracken in the wood is fire,  
long thin flames flickering in the sun,  
spreading further as the days go by.  
It surrounds trees, burning at their roots. But  
the fire fades when the spring comes  
and the fresh green undergrowth  
is revealed.

Toddy Turner Year 9

## TEN TORS - 45 MILE TEAM

After several months of training the weekend of Ten Tors finally came and we wondered what we had let ourselves in for! The weather was looking good and things were going well until we saw our route that we had to walk. Our first tor was Kitty Tor (anyone who has done Ten Tors will know that Kitty Tor is half an hour of torture before you've even reached it!) Then it suddenly hit us - we had 45 miles to walk and only two days to do it in. Saturday morning was an early start and we were woken up at five with the usual Chariots of Fire broadcast over the loud speakers.

The start line was so crowded with thousands of teenagers that we had to be careful not to lose each other. By half past seven we were well on our way having left Mr Priddes in the distance; everyone will agree that the start is an experience in itself.

By the time we had reached our fourth tor our feet were beginning to feel sore especially in Clare's case of which the army medic said he had never seen anything like it. I must admit our feet weren't a pretty sight and we still had plenty more miles to walk!

Eventually we arrived at our seventh tor just before 8 o'clock and headed towards

our campsite. Unfortunately the weather had started to change by this time and soon we were surrounded by a thick mist- this was where our navigation was put to the test! By half past nine we were busy cooking our pasta which didn't look too nice! Cooking pasta in the middle of nowhere isn't the easiest of

while I had to suffer the consequences of sitting on an ants nest! All these things kept us in high spirits and often to solve the problem of boredom!!

Towards the end of Sunday the adrenaline boosted our energy as we came nearer to the finish. Everyone was in high spirits and couldn't wait



jobs!

That night we all slept like logs and hadn't realised how hard it had rained in the night. We woke at four with great difficulty and I found myself in a puddle of water! We were up and walking at 5.30 in order to reach our eighth tor by six o'clock.

Jane was our lead singer during the walking( which did a good job on keeping our minds off the pain in our feet), while Katherine was the best at falling in bogs. Clare was the one in charge of having the reputation for the smelliest feet. Daisy was the one who had the problem of dealing with contact lenses in the dark. Borjana was in charge of keeping everyone stocked up with polos and painkillers

to see the crowds of people waiting for us at the end. The last five miles seemed to go on forever but once we had checked in to our last tor I don't think we had ever walked so fast (especially up the last hill!)

Gradually the finish came into sight and we almost ran down the hill to the finish. The first thing we saw were cameras and smiling faces everywhere. We had done it!

Once we were presented with our medals we found it almost impossible to walk as almost every single muscle had seized up. The only thing we wanted was a long hot bath, a bed and a week to catch up on our sleep.

Anna Storrs

## TEN TORS - 35 MILE TEAM

Well we made it! Saturday morning we woke up to the sounds of that good old 'chariots of fire' and Tina Turner's 'Simply the Best'. At 5:00 in the morning the idea of walking 35 miles had not actually hit us. During our training weekends we had not managed to complete the set distance required, and we weren't sure if our stamina would hold out.

After receiving the route which we had to walk the prospect of walking it seemed a nightmare on the moor. However, the sun was shining upon us as we left Okehampton camp, and soon only our blue sweatshirts could be seen storming off in the distance.

Our first trek led us to East Mill Tor. We were an hour ahead of time. For the next six tors we were doing surprisingly well, on our route card it was estimated that we would only reach our sixth tor on the first day. However, after superb walking we managed to reach our eighth tor by night fall, but we must add the trudge between Staples and Great Mis Tor was painful as we pumped our legs up the steepest side of the tor. We couldn't wait to reach camp.

It was good to see the smiling and encouraging faces of the Army officers. A couple of us went to the medical tent to show them our smelly feet and the blisters we had acquired. All in all everybody's feet were in a real

mess. We set up tent and tried to get an early night. Unfortunately for the light sleepers the hail stones and wind kept them awake, but most people were so fatigued that they slept reasonably well for a night in a tent. All night Cally was constantly asking for the time to make sure we did not set off late, and in the morning she nagged us all out of our tents. Lucy and Louise, after catching site of the

prepared the Stover song for when we came in. It was arranged that Cally would yell out the words then Lucy, Chloe, Louise, Hannah and Lorna would repeat them afterwards. There was an amazing feeling of accomplishment as we turned a corner to see thousands of people waiting at the bottom of the hill. The sun was out when we returned, but we still had to wear the Stover jumpers on our way



misty conditions, begged to stay in the tent for an extra hour. Chloe, Lorna and Hannah moaned slightly as they woke up but the whole team managed to leave on time.

It was good to know that we only had two tors to go before we could return to civilisation. Everyone's feet were extremely sore due to blisters and morale was low. When we reached our tenth tor there were smiles on everyone's faces, but we were not amused to find out we had to climb yet another hill before we could get back to Okehampton.

On the path as we were gradually approaching the finish we

into camp. Due to seized muscles and painful blisters we only just managed to climb up onto the stand to receive our medals and to have a photograph taken when we were looking at our best after walking across Dartmoor.

We would like everyone to know that although the weather was superb at the start and the finish it was definitely not at its best in the middle. However I think everyone will remember the experience as an enjoyable way of overcoming problems as a team, even if the problems were 619 meters high!

# HOUSE DRAMA

## THE STOVER MYSTERY PLAYS



This year's House Drama was, as a member of the audience was heard to remark, certainly something different. Entering the Jubilee Hall the audience discovered not one but three stages and not very many chairs which, the programme informed them, were for use only by "the fortunate or infirm". Those who fell into neither category were expected to stand to watch and move from stage to stage as each play was performed.

Thus Stover followed the "promenade" tradition of the original Mystery Plays when the entire population of a town (that is, those who weren't actually taking part in the performances) made their way from place to place through their town following the great cycle of the Biblical story of Man's Redemption from the Fall of Lucifer to the Harrowing of Hell.

The medieval Mystery Plays were written by the travelling Friars Preachers in order to explain the ways of God to men. Each play became the responsibility of a particular Guild of craftsmen in the major towns of England in which they were performed. They were much adapted by the Guilds to widen their appeal to audiences who were in those days uneducated and largely illiterate.

Pageant wagons, much like today's carnival floats, were sited in a variety of locations around the town and served as staging for the plays. The dialogue was written in the vernacular with a simple rhyme scheme, many

topical references and, at times, broad humour which appealed both to the untrained local actors and the unsophisticated audience.

The brief given to the Houses for the competition was to indicate this simple, almost naive, approach to the Bible stories, an approach which resulted in great freshness and

variety. The six stories selected were allocated at random to the Houses and the girls generated their own scripts, all based on rhyming couplets. They were encouraged to be adventurous in their use of space, movement, music and effects. Costume and props were kept to a minimum in order to recreate the emblematic traditions of the original mysteries. The emphasis throughout was on a team effort to organise and direct the plays themselves involving every

member of the House in some capacity. Special thanks go to those members of the Sixth form who put in a great deal of time helping in their Houses and to Mrs Farleigh and Katherine Storrs who were in charge of the music.





NOAH'S FLOOD - Victoria Juniors



MOSES AND PHARAOH - Mary Juniors



THE FALL OF LUCIFER -  
Mary Seniors



THE SHEPHERDS - Elizabeth Seniors



THE CREATION OF MAN - Victoria Seniors



CAIN AND ABEL - Elizabeth Juniors

## MY EXPERIENCE OF AWE AND WONDER

(Written in a Year Nine R.E. lesson as part of a series of lessons on the evidence for the existence of God.)

Just a couple of years ago, when I was 10 or 11 and living in Saudi Arabia, my family, with a couple of my good friends and I, went to camp out in the desert. As we used to go every weekend, this wasn't really anything spectacular or very special.

It was getting towards the evening, about six o'clock, and my friends and I had gone on a walk around the sand dunes, not far from the camp. We climbed and scrambled to the top of the biggest dune and sat down. After a while of gazing up at the sky, my friends got bored and started playing about on the dune, rolling and jumping down it.

I quite often liked to sit and watch the sunset in Saudi, especially in the desert because there it is so pretty: the sun is just disappearing, the sky is dark except for the patches of pink, orange, yellow and red where the sun is going down; the dunes and palm trees and rocks are stretching out before you with the last rays of light reflecting off them, everything is outlined in black in such a way that is hard to explain and the sun slowly sinks down.

It's a wonderful sight, both beautiful and unusual, but despite this it makes you feel incredibly small, to be sitting on top of a single sand dune and have the vast sky and the big, wide, seemingly never-ending desert stretched out in front of you. It seems to go on for ever, never-ending, never finishing; and that night I felt particularly small, unimportant, yet still of some importance.

I lay down and stared at the millions of stars above and could feel and hear the stillness and quietness of the world above, the shouts of my over-active friends still playing in just one of the hundreds of countries, in just one of the planets, in just one of the galaxies in the whole massive universe.

And I was just one of the billions of human beings on that planet. Small, unimportant, yet still of some importance.

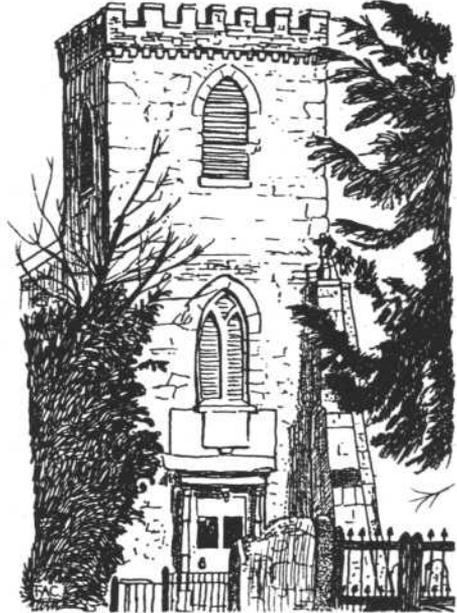
## DUNBLANE TREE PLANTING

On Wednesday 4th December seventeen trees were planted in memory of the seventeen children and one teacher killed in Dunblane. Sixteen pupils and Mrs Bunty Scott, a former Stover girl and now school governor, planted them in the school grounds. I was picked to plant one, because I was form captain at the time. It was a good idea that two pupils from each year were picked, because it made the event even more special. Mrs Scott planted the first tree because she was actually born in Dunblane. The trees planted were a mixture of

hazel, oaks and hawthorns. They were planted just inside the school drive and will eventually form a beautiful row of trees.

I think that this was a very touching thought, as the trees will last for many years. It is a very good way to remember the tragic deaths and of making our feelings for the families at Dunblane felt.

Anna Gledhill Year 10



## A VISIT TO TEIGNGRACE CHURCH

On the 3rd of February Year Six decided to go and visit Teignrace Church. Before our visit Mrs B. told us that we must be quiet and well behaved because a church is a place where people go to pray to God sometimes in silence. We all got into the school bus and Mrs B drove us to Teignrace. Through the bus window at a distance we could see Highweek village and Highweek church. When we got to Teignrace we all got out of the bus and walked to the church. We thought it was really beautiful. We found out that it was named after Saint Peter and Saint Paul. We went inside and sat on some pews. We talked about why we had been to church, for example weddings, christenings, funerals and normal services. We saw kneelers that people kneeled down on to pray. The people who sewed them must have worked hard. There was a pulpit which is a raised stand. We saw the altar at the front of the church which had a cross and candles on it. Next we went outside and looked at the graves. Some were very old and others were very new. The new graves had lots of flowers on and the older graves did not have so many flowers. Then we went back to school.

# YEAR EIGHT ENTERTAIN

In July all members of Year Eight combined together to produce lunch and a musical entertainment for twenty residents of Bradley Court residential home for the elderly. Music was provided by Sophie Cohen, Helen Cottle and Katherine Storrs.

We had spent many weeks preparing for our 'Old People's Lunch.' We had voted as to whether it should be a buffet or a sit-down meal, cold or hot, and where it should be eaten. The class finally agreed that we would have a cold buffet in the Blue Library.



We laid out the food: there was a lot of it! There was quiche, pizza, sausages, cheese and pineapple, cakes and pastries and lots more. Mrs Bamberg collected the elderly people in one of the mini buses. When they were all seated we offered the food around as many of them couldn't walk very easily.



They were very nice to talk to and we had some interesting conversations. The savoury food went very quickly, probably because there wasn't quite enough of it rather than as a compliment to our cooking. However there were plenty of cakes and biscuits left over in spite of the fact that these appeared very popular! Perhaps we made too many because everyone enjoys making things like chocolate rice crispy cakes.

After lunch we took our guests to see a lunchtime concert which they appeared to enjoy very much. The day was a great success.

Grace Bennett Year Eight



# COMIC RELIEF DAY!

*Basically an excuse for near total anarchy Comic Relief day also managed to raise the splendid sum of £530. Special congratulations to Year 6 who raised over £100. All the forms came up with excellent and varied ideas which were as follows:*

*Collecting a week's worth of coppers in a tin, apple-bobbing, auctioning drawings of the staff, guess the baby competition, cake-selling, wearing mufti, blind-fold goal-keeping, test your reaction time. However undoubtedly the most popular were the Great Staffroom Seige, and Attack-A-Teacher-With-A-Wet-Sponge.*

*"The best thing about today was definitely sponging the teachers. The dinner ladies got their own back on Duncan and the apple dunking was a great success."*



*Mrs Bousfield tests the chocolate cakes*



*Miss Evans has a good laugh*

*"Today the sun was shining and I was happily listening to the silence in the lunch queue when all of a sudden four loud and noisy girls came charging down the lunch queue and pushed us all out of the way just so they could get to the front. They were Mrs Stevens, Mrs Batten, Mrs Paige and Mrs Jorgensen in their scruffy, dirty uniforms and ripped tights. They were horrible, screaming and shouting, just horrible."*

*'They were horrible. just horrible'*



“Year Ten locked the teachers in the staffroom at breaktime and they had to pay money to get out. We also had to pay money to keep them in and they had to put on school uniform and if they did not they had to pay 50p. My favourite thing was Mr Topley because of the way he dressed but it was disgusting the way he pinched Mr Priddes’ bottom.”



*The great staffroom seige*



**“Our form decided that we would buy doughnuts and hang them from the lights. It was really messy and I got sugar all over my face. There were so many activities and nearly everybody got soaked, good job it was a hot and sunny day.”**



“The best part was when we soaked the teachers. The one who got the wettest was Mr Bujak. Everyone threw their sponges at him.”

Well done all those brave teachers and Duncan who stoically endured the wet sponge torture and also Tanya and Sarah for co-ordinating all the events and counting the money.

# SCHOOL PHOTO

Well, as it was my first school photo I had a lot of curiosity. First there was the form tutor's paranoia that we didn't look up to scratch.

"Jumpers off, shirts in, take those earrings out, Fiona. Oh, and Gemma, how many times, you're meant to be wearing a GREEN hairband. And Becky, this is your last warning or I'll confiscate those bangles. Now line up and let me take a look at you.... Melody, Melody, PLEASE do something with your hair...Right, quick as possible, off you go else you'll be late."

Stage two required a little more skill. It was time to sort the whole school into height order. While people strained on their tiptoes and raised their heads to the sky so as to appear taller and get at the BACK the photographers split us right and left along the precariously balanced stands. Those who had managed to squeeze in with the tall girls beamed with pleasure while smaller people had the honour of for once standing over the teachers. It was our chance to do a grey hair count among the older members of the school but to spare them the humiliation we'll keep the results to ourselves (though I would just like to mention that Boots do a very good range of hair dyes...) Tiny tots with their legs folded firmly beneath them were being picked up like jam jars and plonked down again further along the line to try and squash a few more in front of the teachers.

Finally we were arranged in some form of order, standing over the RED marks so kindly pointed out a thousand times as most of us appeared to be colour-blind. Ready and beaming we grinned at the camera our teeth chattering with cold, our hair whipped across our faces by the force six wind until, oh look, here comes someone else, we can't possibly start without them, right ready, smile...Then here come some more late people, teachers included (for once) who slowly meandered up to

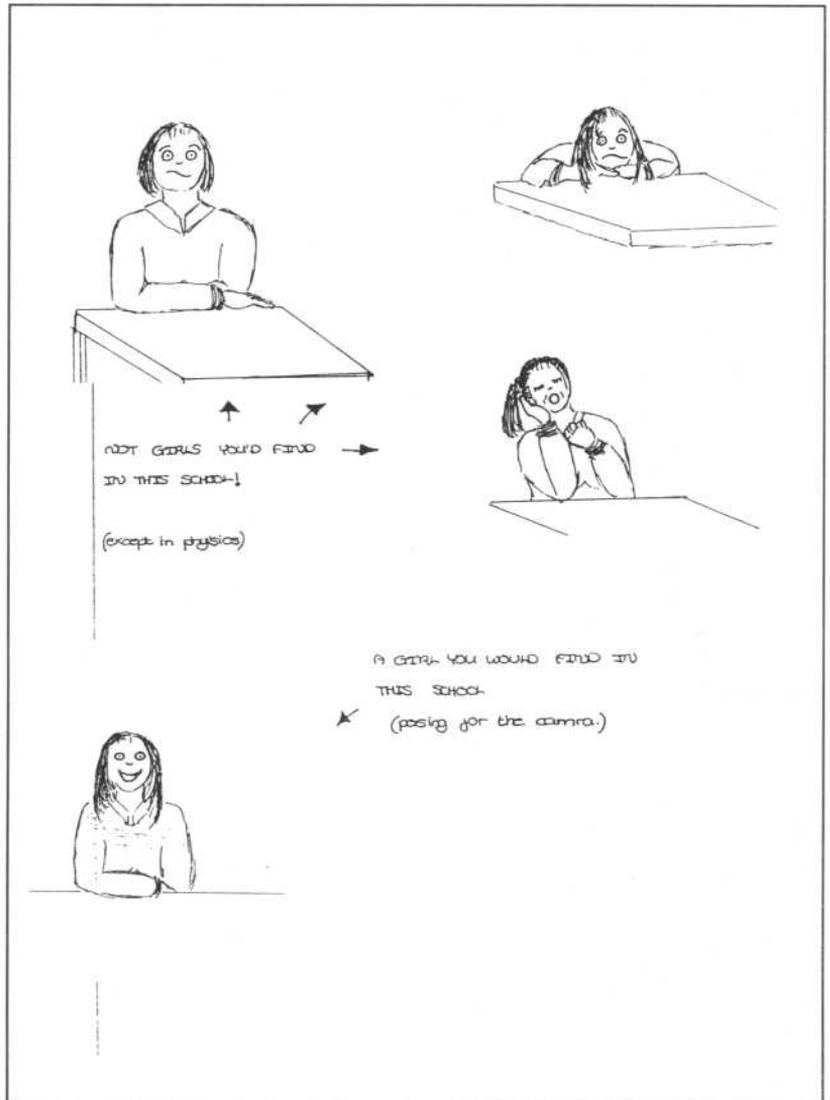
the stand as our numb legs threatened to give way beneath us.

OK this is it, girls, say sausages and...

Oh dear, would the girl there in the green jacket, no, not you, the one a bit further along, no, sorry, too far back...Now it might be clear to the photographer whose hair is covering her face but we're so tightly packed it's impossible to tell who is the offending culprit. Some teacher was muttering darkly about grey clouds and if we didn't get a move on and wasn't that a slight prickle of rain - no, HAIL! and within seconds the whole painstakingly contrived edifice disintegrated as the heavens opened and everyone fled for shelter.

Well, would you believe there were TWO more attempts during the summer term and then finally, still in threatening weather conditions with a splendid array of red noses, frozen fingers and windswept hair -"Click!" and we're done!

Gemma Fitzjohn Sykes Year 10



*Not the School photograph!*

## PERSONAL AND SOCIAL EDUCATION 1996

All girls at Stover follow a PSE course, dealing with a variety of real life issues. Senior girls in years 10 - 12 have had a variety of invited speakers into these lessons to deal with specific topics. These have included San Sister Tanya Swain speaking about abortion and Peer Educators (specially trained young people) leading educational games about alcohol.  
V.Elce - PSE Coordinator

### RELATE

Although we are not at the age to be seriously considering marriage or needing marriage guidance, we felt that this talk was very informative. We found out about the many problems which face marriages today and reasons why these problems arise. Part of the answer is to realise what went wrong. We discussed whether the problems were serious enough to get divorced over or whether with help from the counsellors, they could be worked out. One fact which we found interesting was that it was often the men who were reluctant to go to Relate for help. We learnt about the many ways in which we can deal with the problems facing us in our relationships now and in the future. This talk gave us more of an idea of how serious a commitment marriage is and how much you have to put into it.

Lizzie Anning, Natalie Henderson and Josie Coxon - Year 11

### BODY SHOP

Laura, a Body shop representative from Taunton, told us how involved they are in providing employment for people from Third World countries, without exploiting them. She told us a bit about the history and thinking behind this company. The video showed us many Body shop products, like scrubs, bags and pumice stones, actually being made. It was surprising to see the work, time and effort put into each item, providing us with the simple goods we use without thinking. We were able to handle the same goods and even to take away free samples of Brazil nut oil shampoo. We all agreed that this was a very interesting and enjoyable talk.

N. Croke, V. Arscott, N.Strongman, L.Mills, V.Webber, Z.Gaye - year 11

### PRISON CHAPLAIN

Rev. Graham Dodds doesn't look like a reverend with his denim shirt, jeans, earring, and spikey hair but he is. He used to drink heavily and has

been in court many times and also in prison. ( He is the only prison chaplain to have a prison record). When he first heard about Jesus he couldn't stop weeping. Now he would say that God has changed his life; he has certainly been reconciled to his family. Now he talks to different people about God and sometimes he goes to prisons to talk to the prisoners. He made us realise that prisoners are real people and we spent some time in other lessons discussing the aims of imprisonment.  
May Cheung - Year 11

### SAMARITANS

When the lady representing the Samaritans arrived I thought, " Oh no, this is going to be another one of those religious talks that we get every once in a while." To my great surprise the first thing she said was, " The Samaritans is NOT a religious group. " She then went on to explain what they actually did. Most people know already but what was a surprise to us all was that she said that. You don't have to be a particular type of person to be a Samaritan. What you do have to do is to be able to understand people, to be ready to listen and not break the unbreakable rule of confidentiality. Many people came away feeling it was a place they could turn to if they just needed to talk. The fact that Samaritans don't give you advice unless you ask for it makes them approachable.

Willa King - Year 10

### TEAR FUND

This talk gave us an insight into the unfair distribution of wealth throughout the world. The speaker, 23 year old Marvin Rees who is Youth coordinator for TEAR fund in the SW, enabled us to learn about the connection between riches and power by means of a simple game involving a dice and matches! After round 1 the winners formed a 'top' group who were now able to make up the rules. Our top group was too nice and made fair rules ! Marvin had assumed that they would make rules which gave them an advantage. The point of the game is that the rich make the rules and the poor of the Third world have to make do with what they can find. The people with the most matches wanted more and more and if they couldn't get them from the rich they would take them from the poor. Although the subject was serious Marvin was amusing and enthusiastic and this was a fun way to learn an important lesson.

Jessica Cottle - Year 10. Emma Pocock, Becky House and Louisa Wilkins Year 11

## MUSICALLY POLYPHONIC

The music department has once again experienced a very busy year, with a variety of events both in and out of school. The commitment of the girls in Stover Singers and especially the music scholars has been commendable; and their talent and enthusiasm has shone through in everything they have done.

In October a charity concert for Rowcroft Hospice took place at Abbotsbury church, Newton Abbot. It was well attended and over £200 was raised. The musical performance throughout the evening was to a very high standard and included solos from Katherine Storrs - cello, Lucy Jones - flute, and Kate Jones - cello. Flautasia performed two very challenging pieces, of which "Flight of the Bumble Bee" was played so quickly and showed such technical agility that it was almost over before it had begun! The concert also featured two Baroque duets by Vivaldi and Bach which were played by Anna Storrs and Zoe Caines and their teachers. Chamber Choir excelled themselves with their interpretation of "Rhythm of Life" and String Ensemble and Chamber Orchestra performed to their usual high standard. Stover Singers sang with musicality and feeling and the finale "You'll never walk alone" proved to be an emotional experience for the audience.

The Festival of Christmas readings and music was held in Jubilee Hall on the last day of the Autumn Term. It was a wonderful way to finish term as students, parents, friends and Governors joined together to celebrate the Christmas story. Stover Singers and musicians led the concert and congregational carols with music ranging from arrangements of Handel's Messiah for Flautasia to more traditional carols like "Ding! Dong! Merrily on High" and "In the Bleak Midwinter". The Junior School choir joined our festival this year and sang an arrangement of "Away in a Manger" and "Rocking" accompanied by the Chamber Orchestra. This year Chamber Choir and Stover Singers sang two lively untraditional carols that were enjoyed by all. The whole concert was interspersed with Christmas poems and stories by writers such as T.S. Eliot and Dylan Thomas.

The Flute Quartet, Flautasia, have been asked to perform on several occasions at concerts organised by the Robert Owen Foundation, which offers opportunities to people with learning difficulties.

The Torbay and South West of England Music Festival 1997 once again proved to be highly successful.

### Solos

Alice Hyland - Piano - 3rd place - Distinction  
Zoe Caines - Piano - 1st place - Distinction  
Louise Neu - Flute - 2nd place - Distinction  
Zoe Caines - Flute - 1st place - Distinction  
Lucy Jones - Flute - 1st place - Distinction  
Kate Jones - Clarinet - 1st place - Merit  
Fiona Linton - Voice - 3rd place - Distinction  
Katherine Storrs - Cello - 1st place - Distinction  
Anna Storrs - Violin - 1st place - Merit  
Katherine Storrs was also awarded the Dr Wray Cup for the best individual string performance in the festival.



Katherine Storrs

### Duets

Katherine Storrs and Zoe Caines - Piano - 1st place - Distinction  
Lucy Jones and Louise Neu - Flute - 1st place - Distinction

### Trios, Quartets and Ensembles

Flute trio - 1st place - Distinction  
Flautasia - 1st place - Distinction  
Chamber Orchestra - 1st place - Distinction  
String Ensemble - 3rd place - Merit  
Chamber Choir - 1st place - Honours

Comment sheet for Chamber choir :

" A really sparkling performance, bursting with energy. Rhythmically tight, entries confident and together, words very clear at all times. Some very effective changes in dynamics and tone - colour within the performance with textural changes in the

arrangement brought out well. A good deal of hard work evident here and it paid off ! "

The Inter - House Music Competition was a very successful event which involved the entire school. Opera singer Isobel Buchanen was guest of honour and presented the awards to the winning houses. At the event an audience of about 200 people were entertained by the girls. The programme of music which included pieces from Gershwin, Shostakovich, Brahms, Jerome Kern and Haydn was performed by both soloists and ensembles.

**Results : Winning Houses**

Junior Solo : Kate Jones - Cello  
 Senior Solo : Lucy Jones - Flute  
 Duet : Ella Chivers and Rachel Byrnes - Voice  
 Ensemble : Victoria - Haydn String and Flute Trio  
 House Song : Elizabeth - " Big Spender "

Winning House : Victoria House

The highlight of the event was a medley of songs from "Les Miserables" sung by Stover Singers. Isobel Buchanen described the evening's performances as " superb " and some pieces as " of a very high quality and sensitivity ".

The Wednesday lunchtime concerts have proved to be a highly successful series of recitals by music scholars and exhibitionists in the senior school. It was a pleasure to listen to some of the Junior school in these recitals and the concerts provided all of the girls with a wonderful opportunity to experience solo performance in front of an audience. Parents and friends are very welcome to attend these concerts. Details of dates are published in the Stover termly calendars.

The music department would like to thank all of the peripatetic teaching staff for their hard work and commitment throughout the year. I would also like to take this opportunity to personally thank all of the 6th form leavers for all of their hard work and support in the music department during their Stover years.

S. H. Farleigh - Director of Music

**EXAM. RESULTS 1996-97**

**AUTUMN TERM**

Katherine Storrs	Grade 8	Cello	Distinction
Louise Neu	Grade 6	Flute	Distinction
Elizabeth Anning	Grade 6	Voice	Merit
Gemma Fitzjohn-Sykes	Grade 4	Flute	Pass
Helen Pizzey	Grade 1	Clarinet	Pass
Georgina Dean	Grade 1	Clarinet	Merit
Sophy Cohen	Grade 1	Clarinet	Merit
Tarida Kuesuwan	Grade 5	Voice	Pass

**SPRING TERM**

Rosina Erangey	Grade 1	Snare Drum	Merit
Anna Storrs	Grade 8	Piano	Merit
Rachel Storrs	Grade 5	Piano	Merit
Camilla Kwong	Grade 4	Piano	Pass
Kate Edwards	Grade 2	Piano	Distinction
Eunice Fan	Grade 7	Piano	Pass
Alice Hyland	Grade 1	Piano	Distinction
Vivian Tse	Grade 4	Piano	Pass
Brenda Ng	Grade 6	Piano	Merit
Fiona Linton	Grade 5	Violin	Pass
Fiona Linton	Grade 6	Piano	Pass

**SUMMER TERM**

Helen Cottle	Grade 2	Clarinet	
Alison Hendy	Grade 3	Clarinet	
Sarah Denham	Grade 2	Clarinet	
Sophy Cohen	Grade 2	Clarinet	
Elizabeth Vine	Grade 1	Clarinet	
Laura Bagley	Grade 3	Clarinet	
Rachel Bagley	Grade 2	Clarinet	
Helen Cottle	Grade 3	Piano	
Katherine Coveyduck	Grade 2	Flute	
Maxina Erangey		Piano	
Emma Donaldson	Grade 1	Violin	
Lucy Munday	Grade 1	Clarinet	
Fiona Linton	Grade 7	Voice	

**THE PHYLLIS DENCE MEMORIAL CONCERT 1997**

**GARY LOVINI IN CONCERT**

On the day of the concert everyone was wondering what to expect. Would we hear classical, modern or blues music from this musician ?

When he finally arrived in school a group of girls, mainly the music scholars, were very eager to meet him and see his violin and electric violin.

Gary was very friendly and gave Lucy Jones, a very promising violinist, a go on his electric violin ( which she really enjoyed and will never forget ! ) After vigorous practice, the concert was ready to start. As the hall filled up with parents, staff, friends and students there were lots of expectant faces - after the last Phyllis Dence concert no-one knew what to expect.

As Gary came out and performed a wide range of music from classical, the Beatles and Blue Grass fiddle, everyone was impressed. It was a very informal concert with the audience participation immense, especially by the girls. By the end of the evening everyone was clapping their hands and tapping their feet to the entertaining sounds of Gary Lovini .

Louise Neu - Year 10

## AN EVENING AT STOVER

We all know that Stover does more than most but just how much can even Stover fit into four hours? On the 11th December an extraordinary varied programme of events took place between the hours of six and ten pm.

The evening kicked off with Year Eight's production of "The "Idiot King" in the Chamber Hall. This delightful Maltese folk tale told a story of betrayal and adventure featuring a wicked visier, an elegant witch, beggars, bandits, sea-shanties, storms at sea, all presented with great panache and enthusiasm.



**YEAR 8**  
**INVITE YOU TO**

# THE IDIOT KING

ON  
WEDNESDAY 11th DECEMBER 1996

**JUBILEE HALL**

6.00pm  
(prior to "In Tune for Christmas")

PARENTS, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS ARE ALL  
WELCOME



This was followed by the traditional "In Tune For Christmas" concert in the main house: mulled wine, delicious food and excellent music in the beautiful setting of the library and entrance hall.



Meanwhile the Chamber hall had been converted to a Wild West bar (well stocked with typical cowboy drinks such as Pepsi and lemonade) for the Year Ten party and disco.



**JUNIORS!**

## COWBOY

### AND INDIAN NIGHT

WEDNESDAY 11TH DECEMBER  
HELD IN THE OLD SALOON (CHAMBER HALL)  
**IT WOULD BE MIGHTY GOOD IF YOU DRESSED UP  
FANCY DRESS**  
**WE WILL KEEP YOU POSTED**

Here the juniors were entertained with popular party games such as pass the parcel and the dreaded Eat-as-much-chocolate-as-you-can-with-a-knife-and-fork-while wearing a silly hat-scarf-and-thick-gloves. The prize? More chocolate! Afterwards partygoers in denim and cowboy boots or just their favourite disco gear danced the evening away to a very different sort of music.



*Maybe not exactly a typical Stover evening but certainly one that demonstrates the talent, variety and sheer enjoyment to be found here.*

## LIFE IN THE SIXTH FORM A typical day

- 8:00 - Anna arrives, waits for everyone else to arrive and watches the cleaner hard at work.
- 8:15 - The silence is broken; Demelza, Fiona and Natalie make a dramatic entrance, discussing the latest gossip and Mr Priddes' driving.
- 8:45 - Jenni, Sarah, Tanya, Vicki and Leanne arrive in their personal vehicles and go to the lecture theatre chatting loudly.
- 8:46 - Clare arrives, fumbling through the doorway with her many sports bags.
- 8:49 - Emily enters looking as though she's just crawled out of bed.
- 8:50 - Everyone eventually assembles for registration.
- 8:51 - Mrs Batten makes her favourite speech about skirt lengths. "They can be 1 or 2 inches above the knee but 16 or 18 inches above is a little extravagant."
- 8:55 - Mrs Bamberg takes the register and looks around anxiously for people, realising the person she's looking for is immediately in front of her nose.
- 9:00 - Assembly.....
- 9:03 - Mrs Bradley's notices. "If anyone finds a Pooh Bear pencilcase could they please return it to Mr Topley."
- 9:05 - The school rushes out of the hall and Year 7 race to find the best front seat for the first lesson.
- 10:40 - First lessons end. The lower sixth go to the kitchen to get some toast,(aiming to arrive before Emily so there is toast left for everyone else.)
- 10:45 - The upper sixth geographers moan and groan about all the coursework they have to do.
- 11:02 - People realise they should be in a lesson somewhere.
- 11:50 - Sarah realises she should have been in an English lesson 50 minutes ago.
- 12:30 - Lunchtime. The picnic people remain in Bellever and listen to Radio 1 whilst the more sophisticated venture downstairs for Duncan's special and coffee.
- 12:40 - Amy dashes upstairs to watch Neighbours, Home and Away, Emmerdale and Sesame Street. Vicky goes home.
- 1:25 - Zuzanna comes in: "Demelza I can't understand Mr Manning's History. Have you done your homework?.....Oh good."
- 1:30 - Some hard-workers get down to work (Emily) only to be interrupted by the piano or Leanne's latest gossip.
- 2:00 - Tanya and Sarah return from their A-level P.E lesson, clutching the many 'Handouts' from Mrs Dinsdale, that is to say they have lots of work to do.
- 2:15 - Alex flings open the door after storming through the entrance hall and tells everybody at the top of her voice exactly what happened in her driving lesson and how much she hates driving.
- 2:30 - Natalie is taking study in the Main Library, shouting can be heard as she tries to keep them quiet.
- 3:00 - Kathryn and Natalie go for a 'jog' in their P.E. lesson.
- 3:55 - Mrs Bradley casts her beady eye around to ensure everyone is working until 4pm.
- 4:00 - Anna and Clare prepare for their after school sports. Then help to deplete the supply of chocolate in tuck shop.
- 5:30 - The day ends.  
(Boarders' day continues.)
- 6:15 - Kathryn phones Anna; "Anna have you done your French?"
- 6:30 - Chrissie makes yet another phone call to Dartmouth Naval College to arrange a social event.
- 7:30 - Amy phones Deke.
- 8:00 - Vivian, Bonnie, Corina, Rebecca and Rita make some interesting and potent smelling food.
- 9:00 - Chrissie tells everyone to be quiet, brush their teeth and go to bed.
- 9:10 - Borjana asks, "somebody want a polo?"



## DECISIONS ABOUT THE FUTURE

The Higher Education day at Exeter University was something I really didn't expect it to be. I mean I never thought that wandering from stand to stand of different universities could make so much difference to my life. Well, it did. In other words that is when it all started.

As I already said: stands, loads and loads of stands... When I first walked into the university hall I thought, "How many universities are there?!" And now when it is all over I'm thinking, "How did it happen that it was me who walked up to the Imperial College stand and picked up the last application form for the IC-WISE pre-university course." I'm not quite sure if luck was on my side, or something else, but on July 3rd I made my way to one of the top places for studying science in this country, Imperial College, London.

The college organised eight two-day courses each with 2 half-day laboratory sessions in different science departments. My choices were biochemistry, so far my favourite, and chemical engineering, something I knew little about but after discussing it with Mrs. Bamberg finding out more about it seemed like a good idea. I must specially thank the school and Mrs. Batten who helped me get there in the physical meaning of the word (especially after the "interesting" no-ticket event at Newton Abbot railway station.) Luckily everything turned out OK.

This time London didn't manage to amaze me with its huge busy streets nor to capture my interest with its buildings, monuments or shops. For the first time there I became one of the people who had a goal while rushing along the streets in that flow of human bodies. This time I knew where I was going.

I found out there were about 50-60 girls on the course I attended. All like me doing their A-levels somewhere in the UK, and all hoping one day to enter a good university on a good course. The silence that I found when I first walked in to the hall was soon broken. In a very short time people were chatting to each other, finding that we all had things in common, making new friendships. Later on some of the IC students took us on a guided tour round the college. You can imagine what was the first thing we were shown- of course the pub, then where to eat, the swimming pool, the gym...The labs were last!

After lunch was "wake up" time, which meant enough of jokes and messing about. It was time to get serious and start doing what we were here to do. Separated into small groups we were taken to our departments.

### Session 1- Biochemistry

Have you ever wondered how would a protein (e.g. haemoglobin) look from inside its structure? (You haven't?!) Using 3D to study this sort of thing looks and sounds great. Until that day electrophoresis of linear DNA molecules and plasmids in order to determine which one is which, their size, mass and so on were things I'd just read about in my chemistry books or learned in the lessons. Today I got to do them. We joined some people researching in these fields and got an explanation of what their latest work is all about. We had a chance to ask all sorts of questions until everything in our minds was clear. And by the end of the day I was more than sure that applying for this course was a great idea.

The evening spent with my new friends was cool.. I'll definitely try and keep in contact with them.

### Day 2, session 2-Chemical Engineering

This time I really got to use the kind of equipment someone who likes science dreams about. First by varying the pressure and measuring the temperature whose rise was achieved by increase of the voltage we were trying to determine the properties of certain liquids. Then (with help of course) we ran a power plant that was distilling beer in order to make a new one with a smaller percentage of alcohol in but still with a good taste (hey - we didn't try any, I promise). The session finished with some calculations and a small test.

What can I say- there isn't a better way to learn about something than to do it yourself. When I left my head was packed with impressions from the past two days.

Though I thought that the Chem.Eng. course was on a much higher level of organisation it definitely wasn't what I wanted to do. On the other hand the BioChem. course confirmed and supported the ideas I had about further education, a profession and life. I'm not 100% sure about this yet, and I know that this sort of decision will still need a lot of thinking about. But it certainly is much closer to being sure now than it was before.

On this course I learned a lot about the subjects and about myself. It showed me if not the exact path then certainly the direction I want to follow to get where I want to go. And I know that slowly but certainly working step by step I will get there ...in the future.

Once again thank you to everybody who helped.

Borjana Arsova Sixth form

## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT NEWS

During Science Week Years 6 and 7 visited Plymouth Aquarium, and met an octopus, while the sixth form went to the University and learned about basking sharks and other forms of life in Plymouth Sound. These included scallops, sea slugs and some rather nasty-sounding bugs (we decided not to swim in the Sound). Through the electron microscope we also saw the amazingly beautiful and intricate skeletons of diatoms. The A level Chemists and Biologists plan to return in September to learn more about modern analytical techniques and to have another look through the electron microscope.

In June a party of budding engineers from Year 10 went with Mr Topley to Bideford on an amphibious vehicles course. The sun shone, and everyone got very wet indeed driving in and out of rivers, and even out to sea.



### SMILERS!

'Small organisms living in pondwater can be seen using a microscope.'

'Meat and fishing animals like the tiger have well developed canaries.'

'In surface tension the water monucules form a tight skin.'

'The pieces of paper were attracted to the glass by Asiatic electricity.'



Borijana Arsova, our visiting student from Macedonia, was selected for a WISE (Women Into Science & Engineering) course at Imperial College, London in July. While there she studied Chemical Engineering, and Biochemistry. During the Biochemistry practical sessions she used electrophoresis to analyse and identify fragments of recombinant plasmid DNA, and has now decided that a degree in this field is very definitely for her.



## YOUNG ENTERPRISE

This year I was fortunate enough to join the Young Enterprise team at South Dartmoor Community College. I was looking forward to the daunting prospect of walking into the first meeting to see many inquisitive faces wondering who I was and what I was doing there. Once I got over the first hurdle everything was fine and I found a few familiar faces which speeded up the settling in process.

At the next meeting we elected a Managing Director and other people decided whether they wanted to be a director or simply an 'achiever'. Natalie was an obvious choice for Managing Director as she already seemed to have taken on most of the responsibility. I opted for Marketing Director as I was familiar with computers and had done some similar projects previously.

It wasn't until the third week when we decided on a company name and product ideas. We chose Momentum as our company name as it resembled something static being given a push and once it was rolling nothing could stop it (just like our company - that being the theory, anyway!)

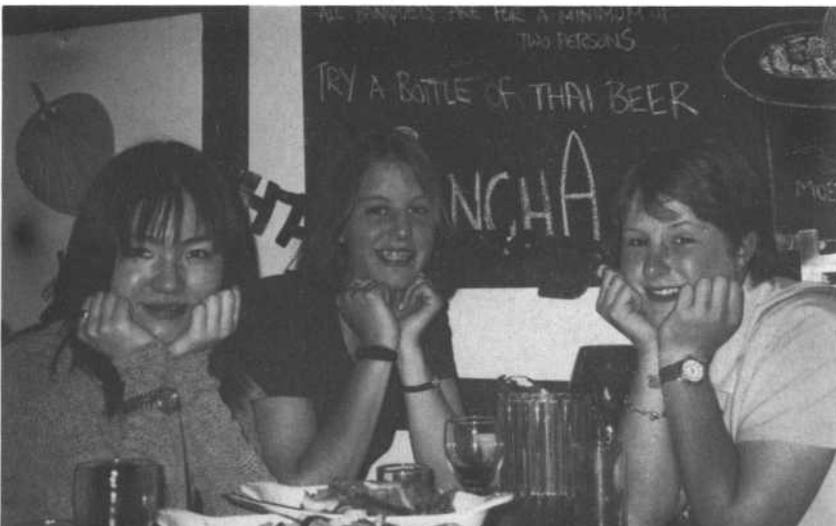
Every week up to Christmas we beavered away producing painted picture frames, painted light bulbs, material picture frames, gift boxes and salt dough wreaths. Unfortunately some people felt they didn't want the commitment of being a member of the team and we were soon down to half our original number.

The remainder of us ploughed on, selling our products at school events, a Victorian fayre and on stalls at school daily. We didn't make a profit, but we were able to pay back our shareholders (down 40%!), leaving us with a wage of two pence each!

I enjoyed the Young Enterprise scheme and it was definitely a good experience. We learnt a lot about each other, found our own strengths and weaknesses and had a good time as well.

I would recommend Young Enterprise to next year's Lower Sixth because it really is good experience (and it is something else to put on your UCAS form if nothing else!)

Clare Cooper



*The Enterprising Clare Cooper relaxing with Anna & Yoko*

## EXCUSES, EXCUSES !

During the past five years, I have had the great pleasure of being form teacher to the same delightful group of young ladies. Only one slight cloud has cast a shadow over my otherwise perfect class, that being the regular morning tardiness of a certain member. She has produced an astounding litany of excuses ranging from the mundane to the frankly ridiculous. Here are but a few of the common ones.

1. Stuck behind horse box/ cattle/ tractor/ sheep/ cattle lorry/ learner driver (all used several times)
2. My dad had to relight the boiler in Haytor/ move boxes to Haytor.
3. Crash on roundabout.
4. My mum's secret admirer phoned.
5. Took my brother to school (used many times)
6. It's the Devon county show.
7. I'm tired.
8. Emma spent half an hour in the shower.
9. I forgot my watch
10. Mum forgot the food.

On the final day of being in my form, the young lady concerned breezed in at 10.00am and informed me cheerfully, "I didn't know I had to be on time!"

It would be unfair to mention her name but suffice that it reminds me of cheese and raspberry.

Staff Member (Anon)

## SMILERS!

### Activities

"I dropped out of self-defence to do cake-making..."

### Use of the swimming pool:

Wed: Sub aqua

Thurs: Pony Club:

# PANCAKE DAY

On Friday 17th February there was a pancake race at school. The Junior School made the three pancakes used in the race. The children in the nursery had to run and hand the pan to each other in a relay. The Junior School had to toss the pancakes once before running while the Year Six and Sevens had the difficult task of tossing the pancake twice before racing. There was a surprising amount of accuracy in the tossing and few mistakes were made. No pancakes went flying but there were a few cases of failed lift-off. The overall result was a three way tie between the houses with eight points all.

Stephanie Smith Year 7



SMILERS!

ENGLISH:

Q. Why does the poet choose to write about the moth as a female?

A. Because there are more things to say about a female

In 'Silas Marner' Eppie feels that Aaron is someone with whom she is familiar from her childhood and adder lessons.

Before the banquet Macbeth and Lady Macbeth are planning to assassinate King Duncan. Selfish of them it may seem, but Macbeth really wants to become King.

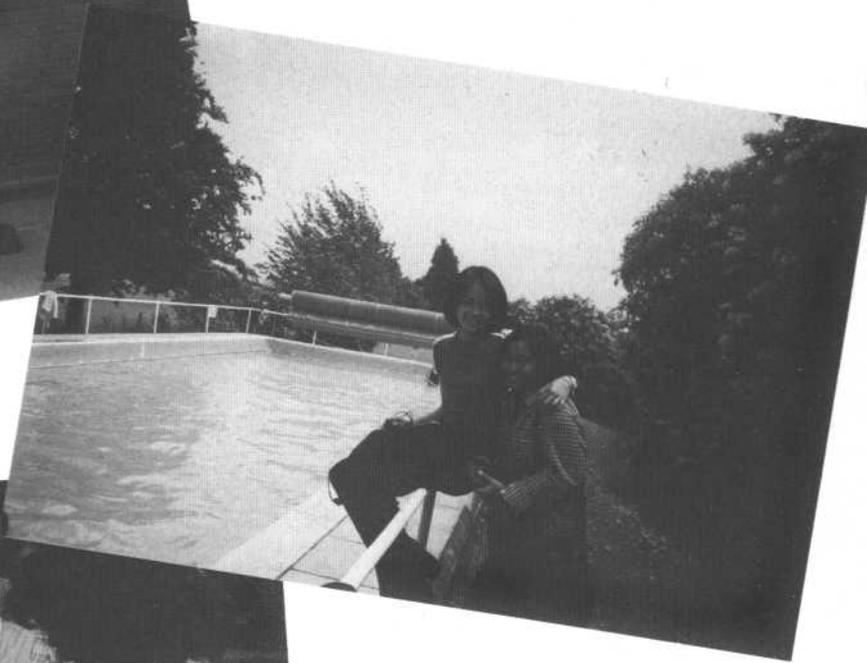
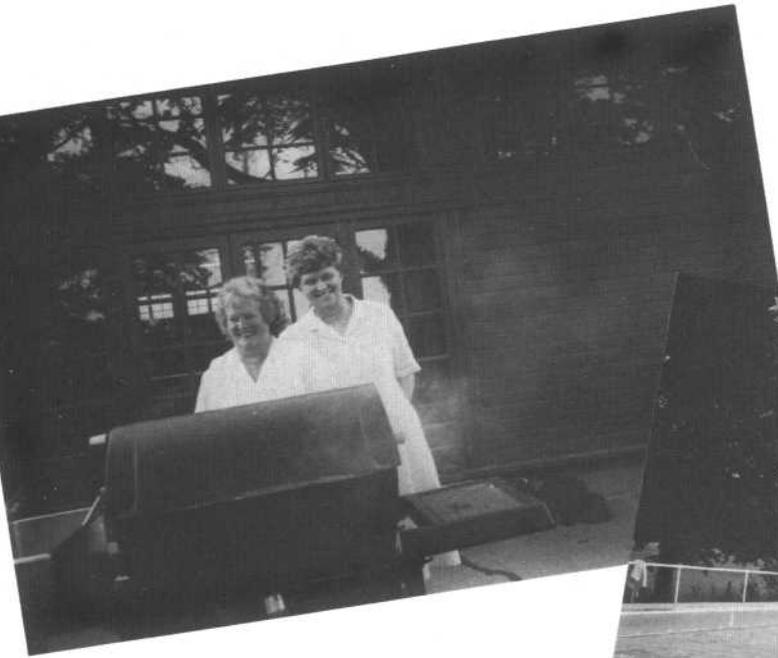
## FAMILY FUN DAY

*Despite the uncertainty of the weather the Friends of Stover Parents Association went ahead with this year's Family Fun day in the School grounds.*

*This event has been run each year as a non-profit making fun day for parents and their families to use the school grounds for a relaxing day doing what they want. This year we had a bouncy castle, ice-creams, tennis tournament, scuba-diving, bike and trike obstacle course, face-painting, treasure hunt and much, much more. Families brought picnics and food to barbecue, and the weather, after a grey start, was on our side and we had brilliant sunshine for the rest of the day.*





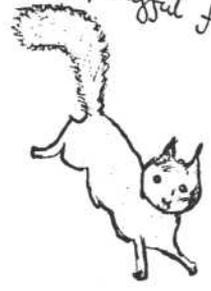


# HAIKU - Year 8

  
Dog  
 Age, slowly plodding  
 Limping leg and drooping ears  
 Still sparkle in her



  
Playful squirrel  
 Scampering along  
 Head and tail bounce up and down  
 Dancing, playful friend



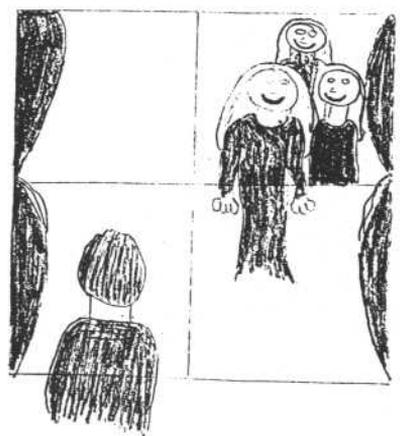
## Golden Retriever

Bounding across grass  
 Fetching sticks from flowing stream  
 Golden fur flying.

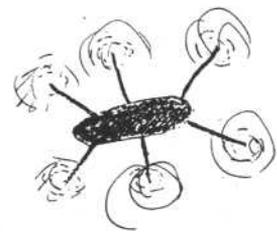


## PEEKING

Peeking through a glass  
 Window, looking at three girls  
 I was caught by one.



Waterboatmen  
 On the murky lake  
 Spindly legs rowing across  
 Water ballet show



## AS OTHERS SEE US

One of the most stimulating aspects of life at Stover is our many foreign contacts. While students come here to learn, both academically and culturally, it is definitely a two way process with the Stover community also learning much of value about the way of life of their guests. Zuzana Smidova from the Czech Republic is spending two years at Stover taking A levels in English, History Maths and AS IT. Now that she's had time to reflect a bit on her first year she has given us this account of the impression we have made on her.

"In my old school they taught us that English people and English weather are both cold. However my first impression was quite the opposite. When I came to Stover it was lovely warm autumn: no rain, only sun for a long time. The same was my impression of English people: all those I have met are nice, polite and friendly.

The next thing I was warned about in my English lessons was a specific sense of humour, which I was told can be misunderstood by many foreigners. Well, maybe it's just that Czech humour is very similar, but I don't have any problems with it. Of course I didn't understand some jokes at the beginning, but mostly because of my English, which thanks to the talkative sixth formers has improved a lot!

Since we usually don't have single sex schools in my country, living in an all girls school was another experience for me. I expected it would be more difficult (you know what girls are like...) but now I can say it's OK. You can survive that!

However what surprised me the most was the teachers' attitude towards their students. Probably this is because Czech classes are bigger, usually thirty students in one class, but all the teachers I have met in this school are so enthusiastic and helpful. I hope one day it will be like that in every school because learning in such a class is so much more interesting. And when I told my friends from my old school that I am studying only four subjects, that school starts at nine and that some days I have only five lessons, they were even more surprised. In the Czech Republic you start

school at eight at the latest and you have to do twelve subjects till you are eighteen. The good thing is you usually finish at two in the afternoon so that you have plenty of time after school to do whatever you want. Here school life really does occupy you for the whole day and so I really feel like a "full-time" student. Obviously both school systems have advantages and disadvantages and so I am really enjoying the novel experience of studying in England.

### HELLO POSSUMS!

Now there's something none of you have heard for quite a while. Some may not even remember hearing it, some will never have heard it, but for others I hope it conjures up memories not unlike those that the mention of Stover always will for me.

Memories of a year of trying to come to terms with the cold (even in what you all called the summer). Memories of the hot water (or lack there of) and of attempting to run the library and trying in vain to get overdue books returned. Of Prep and Lights Out, washing dishes with Year Eight, and an early morning run around the Lax pitch. Memories of ringing round asking for a port-a-loo and using the buzzing machine that got on everybody's nerves (Mrs Dinsdale made me do it). Of lost property and San shop never having what anybody wanted and of being the Gong player in the Idiot King. Memories of looking after juniors after school. Of herding sheep that came to graze and being a shepherd in the nursery play. But most of all of the friends I made, the fun I had thriving on hard work.

To anyone who ever considers taking a year out I can fully recommend it. Travelling to a far off place may seem a little daunting at first and I can assure you that it won't always be an easy ride but it has definitely been one of the greatest experiences of my life and something I will never forget.

I hope that one day you do organise that Netball trip to Australia then you will truly be able to see what it is that I was always raving about.

The very best of luck to everybody that I knew and thank you for all that you did to add to my experience.

Best wishes

Katherine Fleming

## GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIPS

### July 2 Year 9 Geographers set off for Somerset

There is a tradition for Mr Topley to accompany the summer fieldtrip with Year 9. For the last few years this has seen the good natured physicist of that name coming along to Start Point, Hallsands and Slapton. All very jolly, but not very much to do with *physics*.

1997 has seen a change to this. We went somewhere which the uninitiated might have thought didn't have much to do with *geography* - Hinkley Point Power Station. Looking around the superb exhibition in the Visitors' Centre, with its animations about atoms of uranium etc., Mr Topley was certainly in his element, so to speak. The girls didn't find it at all boring (sorry) either. In fact, Natalie Whitehead and Julia Wingate couldn't get enough of the little cartoon programme about how nuclear fission works and kept pressing the button at the end, just to make sure that they had understood.



*Hinkley Point - Fashion Gear*

We were conducted around the power station itself by no fewer than four Nuclear Electric guides, dressed like airline cabin staff, including Valerie who had shown Year 10 round earlier in the year. We had to wear hard hats, security tags and silly pink ear plugs (which kept falling out).

Before our Hinkley Point visit we did a village study at Cannington. I managed to prove conclusively that it is not possible to make a decent large scale plan by enlarging many times on the (trustworthy and over worked) staffroom photocopier, a tracing from a normal 1:50 000 map. However, the girls *were* equipped with a map of sorts and in their groups managed to gather a good deal of data, without getting lost.

We ate our lunch in a grassed area by a little stream in the village. The ducks did very well out of it- Mr Topley remarked that they were swimming

lower in the water afterwards-although even they did not like Stover sausage sandwiches.



*Lunch at Cannington*

We would recommend a visit to Cannington. It is an attractive village, with some promising looking pubs, but do not make the mistake of thinking you might get parked somewhere in the grounds of Cannington College. We did not hang around to see the wheels clamped, but had to make 15 point turns to get out of the place.

### June 19 Years 6 and 7 do Moor fieldwork

In the morning we visited Kingshead Farm at Widcombe, where Mr and Mrs Storrs showed us around their moorland farm, after we had got our breaths back from the steep climb up from the road. In spite of the rain, we took in the lovely views and enjoyed seeing Mr Storrs rounding up the sheep with his dog.

Then the rain stopped. It would have been more accommodating if the rain had stopped *before* the farm visit, but we were still delighted to see clearing skies and even some blinks of sunshine.



*Visiting the Storrs' farm*

In groups, the girls then looked for evidence of tourism in Widecombe. They did not have to look far! After lunch, we took in Dartmeet, Combestone Tor and Venford Reservoir before heading back to Stover.

#### **June 13, 14 Year 10 study visitor pressure in the Haytor area.**

It's the summer, it must be time to get Year Ten started on their fieldwork.

We went expecting the worst in cagoules and overtrousers with eyes cast upwards at the big grey clouds... but in spite of having chosen Friday the thirteenth as our first day we were lucky this time. We kept dry and on Saturday the sun shone. Not only would bad weather have made it difficult and miserable to do fieldwork but it would also have kept away the visitors whom we needed to count and question.

Proceedings began with a visit to the Dartmoor National Park Headquarters at Bovey Tracey. They were having an open day and we were able to see displays and attend a talk as well as be filmed for TV and photographed for the newspapers. We are not yet charging for our autographs!

Later on the moor we measured footpath erosion at Top Tor and Haytor, did quadrant surveys of vegetation, litter surveys (equipped with our Marigold gloves) and various counts of traffic and people as well as questionnaires. On the Friday we were assisted by Mrs Elce who knows a lot more about plants than I do. On the Saturday Sister came along and by this time we were all confidently able to show her the difference between sedges, heath bedstraw and plain old grass... and so Sister was roped in to help with some of the field work too.



*Sister was roped in to help*

If you happen to be around Haytor in the next few months do look out for some wing nuts! Our brand new gradometers (which were used for measuring angles on eroded footpaths) came off the moor minus a number of these. The other casualties of the fieldwork were four of the six metre rules borrowed from the physics department. These were

returned as 50cm, 25cm and 75cm rules. Ella owned up to having a little accident with two of them (four of them, afterwards) and Clova and Tracy downsized the other two.



*Year 10 hard at work*

#### **May 20 Year 8 Geographers get sopping wet at Kingswood, Buckfastleigh**

Year 8 had spent some time studying forests in class before their field trip. We had covered the Brazilian rainforest in some depth and attention had then turned to temperate forests, considering deciduous and coniferous trees, the soils associated with them and what not. Mrs Elce arranged for us to be shown round Kingswood, a mature plantation owned by Fountain Forestry.



*Yr 8 get sopping wet*

Well, we set off in drizzle from Stover but by the time we got out of the minibuses the heavens had really opened. Was this meant to be rainforest after all? Our two forester guides strode on regardless of the weather, professionals to the core. An umbrella or two went up amongst the girls - undoubtedly sensible if a bit amateur looking for a field trip. Several pairs of Nike trainers got their first taste of mud... Tesco carrier bags emerged from pockets and did sterling work as rather slippery galoshes for Micki Ling and friends.

Helen Pizzey was able to hold her head high as a real geographer with her new walking boots. The hardy ones carried on earnestly making notes, which began to resemble papier mache. (Have I put you off field trips yet?) The rain did eventually ease off and we managed a few measurements of the heights of trees, with Lucy Robillard getting mildly perforated by a Norway Spruce when attempting to take a tape measure right up to its trunk, before we shot it with a gun clinometer. Well, we were all completely dry by next morning anyway. I'm sure that the girls are eagerly awaiting the next foray into the great outdoors organised by this department.

Ann Smith.



## THE DENSEST PART OF THE WOOD

(A poem written after a Geography trip to Kingswood, Buckfastleigh)

The densest part of the wood  
Is very dense indeed.  
The darkness covers the floor  
Like the shadow of a huge bird.  
And light is concealed in a chamber of leaves  
Above the darkened floor.  
The calling of a far-off bird  
Is swallowed up in the branched jaws  
And sharp leaves act as teeth,  
Swishing back and forward,  
Back and forward.  
The pine needle carpet is springy  
Underneath my feet,  
As I weave amongst the close packed trees,  
Their tops concealed by the dark canopy overhead.  
I call and my voice echoes,  
echoes  
echoes  
echoes  
echoes

Trapped in a dark jungle,  
No living life to see,  
Only the trees and me.

By Amy Shapley-Arioli Year 8

### SMILERS! Geography

Hills in Devon include Mount Everest

Bangladesh is drained by the River Mrs Sippy

Cloud cover is measured in metaphores

During the drought there was a ban on watering public parks and sports people.

## TWO BALLADS

*As with all the best ballads, the following are based on true events.*

### **THE BALLAD OF DAD AND THE SNAKE**

( a tale from Zambia)

*It was on that Saturday morning  
All in the pumphouse dark,  
A terrible snake was lurking,  
It was worse than a great white shark.*

*I went into the pumphouse  
not noticing the snake  
Who was curled up sleeping quietly  
next to the garden rake.*

*While Gran was having her siesta  
Under the sunny sky  
I gave a scream as I saw it  
And I thought I was going to die.*

*Dad went behind the pumphouse  
With a long metal pipe in his hand  
Hit the snake on the head with his weapon  
And scattered its brains on the sand.*

Elizabeth Turner Year 8

### **PASSION FLOWER**

( A tragic ballad of country folk.)

*We had a pig called Passion Flower  
As sweet as you or I,  
She went for a walk with a man one day  
And now she is pork pig.*

*It was a sunny afternoon  
When my Dad stepped outside;  
A pigman came right up to him  
And loudly he did cry.*

*He said there was a piglet dead  
Right in the middle of the barn.  
My Dad asked where had the mother gone  
And how could they have come to harm?*

*The pigman and my father  
Went running to her pen  
And found large footprints on the ground  
Which were the prints of men.*

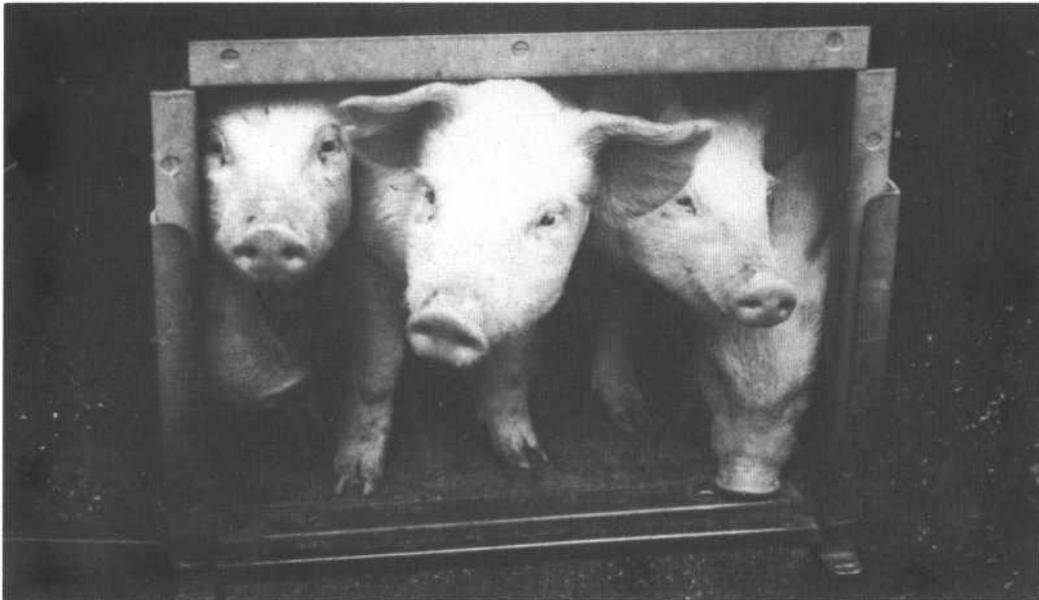
*My father said "Let's call the police  
We need the men in blue.  
They'll find the man who stole our pig  
They'll know what to do."*

*The police went running to the woods  
And looked for Passion Flower.  
But nowhere could they find the pig  
Although they searched an hour.*

*We found the pig called Passion Flower  
With all her insides out.  
So we called the vet who quickly came.  
And said, "What's this about?"*

*They found the man that stole our pig  
Trying to climb a gate.  
They caught hm and arrested him  
And three years was his fate.*

Georgia Dean Year 8



*'As sweet as you or I'*

## CAREERS

For several years now staff at Stover have organised a "Careers Week" for Year Ten when representatives of various professions come into school to talk to the girls and give them some idea of the great variety of career opportunities open to them as well as some first-hand information about their own professional lives.

This year the format was changed so that instead of a full week, "Careers Days" took place at intervals throughout the year with each occasion focusing on a different area.

The year's programme started off with a "Forces Forum" when speakers from the three armed forces came to address the girls. Some amusement was caused by the girl who quoted a Royal Marine Sergeant as saying that the Marines considered women to be just the same as men...Our own Mrs Kearney (of the "Navel Reserve" according to another report) talked about the RNR.



*Life with the Marines*

Stover staff were again in evidence for Medical and Health Care with Sister Tanya Swain throwing light on all that lies behind her being here handing out the paracetamol and plasters. A physiotherapist and a personnel manager showed the wide scope of opportunities in this field.

Very popular was the Legal session - we have several girls planning a career in Law - and an elegant but friendly and informal female barrister made an ideal and inspirational role model. This was followed by a visit to Plymouth Crown Court to see the long arm of the law in action, something that came as quite an eye-opener to a few!

The most "fun" day must have been the visit to Bicton College where the focus seems to have been largely on pigs, snakes, horses and hamsters and driving around behind a tractor!

And finally back to school for an intriguing mixture: a talk on a career in the Police from the recruitment manager of the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary followed by a talk from Mrs Janey Tully Chaplin, a practising designer.

This format has proved very successful and is being followed up in Year Eleven with individual careers interviews with a professional Careers Advisor.

H. Collinge (Head of Careers)



*Visiting Bicton*



## WOMEN IN A MAN'S WORLD

The construction industry has until recently been dominated by men, but in July a group of Year Ten girls found that the industry has many attractions for women as well.

During a Construction Industry Day run for them by Devon Education Business Partnership and the Earlybirds group of professional women, who are all connected with the industry in different capacities, the girls learnt, through a role play exercise, of the many interesting jobs actually open to them in the construction industry. They found that mud and wellington boots had in many cases been replaced by highly sophisticated equipment and computers.



During the day the girls also tried their hand as entrepreneurs. They designed the layout of a car park and developed a housing site, learning that a profit had to be made to survive in business and that good design must be practical as well as aesthetically pleasing.

Working with the Early Birds gave the girls an opportunity to talk to role models and get a much clearer view of career opportunities in the construction industry.

### UK MATHEMATICAL CHALLENGE

Congratulations to all the participants in the UK Maths Challenge this year.

#### RESULTS

##### Intermediate challenge

Best in school : Sarah Parker

Silver certificate : Rebecca House, Camilla Kwong, Sarah Parker, Lucie Wooton

Bronze certificate: Elizabeth Anning, Heidi Kwong, Brenda Ng, Fanny Lee.

##### Junior challenge

Best in school : Jenny Stocks

Gold certificate : Jenny Stocks

Silver certificate : Emma Colley  
Abigail Harding

Bronze certificate : Sophy Cohen  
Rebecca Garland  
Stephanie Smith

### RED CROSS CERTIFICATES

Rebecca Cheng, Eunice Fan, Tarida Kuesuwan, Leanne Lucas, Amy Moncaster, Katherine O'Dwyer, Kanokporn Rungchaiporn

#### SMILERS!

##### Religious Education:

Q. What is a font?

A. (tentative suggestion) Something to do with a computer?

John the Baptist wore a leopard skin leotard.

Examination grades (according to the Junior School) in ascending order:

F	Fail
P	Pass
C	Credit
M	Merit
E	Extinction!!!!

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This has been an action packed and successful year for the physical education department. We welcomed Miss Teresa Oakes to the department As we share her with English and Science she is a very busy person ! We hope that she will enjoy her time at Stover

Among many sporting triumphs we must mention our tennis scholar, Victoria Conibere, who won the Under 15 Devon Schools Tennis Singles Tournament., and then came runner-up in the Devon Finals. Well done!



Sports Girls of the year for 1997 are Clare Cooper (Senior) and Kate Jones (Junior). Clare has been a member of the Rugby, Hockey, Netball and Athletics teams and Captain of the Rugby team. She competed in the 100 metres for the Area in the Devon Schools Athletics Champion ships and was a member of the squad which toured South Africa in 1996. On top of this she captained the Ten Tors 45 mile team and is a member of the Exeter Women's Rugby 1st team in her spare time.

Kate Jones has been a member of the Hockey, Netball, Athletics and Cross country teams as well as Tennis and Rounders. She has also been Captain of Hockey and Tennis.



## Junior Inter-House Netball

Elizabeth didn't do so badly in the netball this year just failing to snatch the lead from Victoria. Although very narrowly Elizabeth had to settle for second place. Everybody played to the best of their abilities and at the end of the day it's the taking part that counts. (It would have been nice to have won!!) The junior team consisted of : Lorna Deas, Abigail Harding, Felicity Harding, Kate Hawker, Lucy Wotton, Katrina Corner, Sarah Denham, Rama Korallas and Jessica Brown.

1st Place - Victoria

2nd Place - Elizabeth

3rd Place - Mary

By K. Corner 7B

## Year Seven Netball

The Year Seven Netball team of '96 consisted of Maria Glendinning (Captain), Olivia Whiteway-Wilkinson, Anne Perry, Katrina Corner, Jessica Brown, Jennifer Watts, Emma Colley, Stephanie Smith, Laura Bagley, Joanna Mann, Rachel Caddey, Jennifer Stocks.

Unfortunately we had a bad start to the season but as we played more matches our skills progressed and our team went to matches with much more enthusiasm and confidence. At last we had a win which boosted our confidence into the clouds! Kelly were gobsmacked as we played the best match we had done throughout the entire season.

K. Corner and M. Glendinning Year 7

## U15 Netball

The '97 Year 10 Netball team consisted of Cally Hocknell (Captain) Vicky Conibere, Jane Howard, Lucy Jones, Hannah Garvin, Katherine Storrs, Louise Neu, Anna Gledhill, Chloe Mansell, Becky Roberts, Fiona Linton and Daisy Rae.

We had a very positive start to the season by winning 22 - 9 against Teign, followed by four other victories against TGGs, Trinity, Coombeshead and Blundells. Last season we promised ourselves that we would not lose against Kelly College but unfortunately we did lose a hard-fought match against them 11 - 20. Following this our morale was low but we made our way successfully to the semi-finals in a tournament held at Stoodley Knowle. We lost against Stoodley and

did not get to the finals but everyone was happy with their performance.

About four of our matches were postponed due to rain but eventually the weather held out for our last match of the season and we made the most of it, winning 16 - 6 against St Margarets. It was a very successful season: out of the seven games we played we only lost one game, everyone played very well and hopefully next season we will beat Kelly and have an unbeaten season.

Cally Hocknell Year 10

## County Netball

For the last two netball seasons I have had the opportunity to play for the under 19 Devon Netball squad which is selected each season to represent the county in various regional and national tournaments.

Having only played netball at school level it was a completely different experience – a different game. The squad trained every Sunday evening for 3 weeks before each event. Training involved fitness, skill practice, tactical and match play. The training was vital allowing each of the individual squad members to come together and work as a team.

In total I played six tournaments involving county teams such as Cornwall, Somerset, Avon and Dorset and some of the larger schools such as Millfield and Bransten. The team was relatively successful as we won the majority of our matches but only ever reaching runner-up status during our best performance.

It was interesting to see that it was often the school teams that were the most successful, which proves that it is the team effort that counts. School teams practice together as a team, whereas county teams comprise a mixture of talented individuals. There is a difference.

Playing County netball had a substantial influence on my standard of play. It also gave me many new tactical ideas which were welcomed by the Stover U19 Team. I found my experience as a county player helped enormously in preparation for our netball tour to S.Africa in the summer of 1996, where their school netball is much more like English club and county netball: fast, furious, entertaining and utterly exhausting!

I would recommend that anyone keen to improve their netball should make the effort to join a local club. It may be a shock to the system initially but in the long run it would be most beneficial.

Tanya Strongman.

## U16 HOCKEY '96 -'97 SEASON

**SQUAD** :- E.Chivers, L.Jones, L.Neu, C.Cooper (Captain), J.Howard, C.Hocknell (Vice Capt.), G.Fitzjohn-Sykes, R.Roberts, J.Simcox, K.Storrs, F.Linton, H.Garvin, D.Rae, C.Mansell, L.Baudouy, C.Newman.

This committed squad, (encouraged by the hockey-mad Miss Evans) turned up every Tuesday evening during the hockey season to improve their already dazzling skills and to prove they were worthy of a place on the team.

Some schools proved they had less committed teams, as four matches were cancelled due to lack of opposition.

### FIXTURE ANALYSIS

OPPONENTS	RESULT	SCORE	REPORT
Trinity School (H)	WON	9 - 0 (!)	Great start to the season, team on a high.
S.Devon League (A)	DREW (3 matches)	0 - 0	Good effort from everyone.
Blundells (A) (U18 2nd team)	WON	1 - 0	Excellent game, brilliant goal-keeping by Ella.
Kelly (H)	WON	1 - 0	Another good performance. This time without Jane - (recovering from appendicitis)
Torquay G.G	DREW	0 - 0	Excellent team effort.
KEVICS	LOST	1 - 0	Close game.
Teign School	WON	6 - 0	Great result, team positions were changed after every goal.
Kingsbridge	LOST	1 - 0	Not the best way to end a season, but half the team were injured.

### MATCH BREAKDOWN

WIN - 4  
LOSE - 2  
DRAW - 4

BY CLARE COOPER (I am in the fourth year.....honestly!)



## SOUTH DEVON SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY

The 1996 South Devon Schools Cross Country Championships were held in the Stover grounds in December. Our teams did extremely well in the competition and their results are as follows:

In the Intermediates Louise Astbury, Lucy Mills and Katherine Storrs came 4th, 6th and 9th respectively out of 46 and the overall team position was 2nd out of 8 schools.

In the Juniors Rachel Storrs and Georgina Dean came 18th and 20th respectively out of 80 and the overall team position was 3rd out of 14 schools.

In Year 7 Jenny Watts, Laura Bagley and Maria Glendinning came 8th, 22nd, and 25th respectively out of 80 and the overall team position was 6th out of 13 schools.

Louise Astbury, Lucy Mills, Katherine and Rachel Storrs were all selected to compete for South Devon in the Devon Schools Championships.

Katherine writes: "After qualifying in the trials we went to Plymouth to compete in the Devon trials. Louise and I ran in the Intermediate category which was approximately three miles and Rachel ran in the Junior category which was approximately 2 miles. The experience was worthwhile and challenging. Unfortunately none of us qualified for the Devon team this year but we are already looking forward to next year!" Katherine actually finished in 24th place which, for the whole of Devon, is a very good achievement. Well done

### Inter House Cross Country

#### Individual results:

#### Seniors (Years 10, 11, 12)

1st Louise Astbury Yr 11 Elizabeth.  
2nd Katherine Storrs Yr 10 Mary  
3rd Lucy Mills Yr 11 Victoria

#### Juniors (Years 6, 7, 8, 9)

1st Helen Cottle Yr 8 Victoria  
2nd Rachel Storrs Yr 8 Mary  
3rd Georgie Dean Yr 8 Elizabeth

#### House results

Each runner's final place/position is added to the overall House points total

#### Seniors

1st Victoria 90 points  
2nd Mary 102  
3rd Elizabeth 108

#### Juniors

1st Victoria 58 points  
2nd Elizabeth 126  
3rd Mary 134

And a final comment from Hannah Garvin of Mary House:

"The Inter-House Cross Country was a triumphant occasion from the point of view of Victoria House and very unsuccessful from the Mary perspective! In the Senior event although Katherine Storrs came second and a couple of the other Mary competitors came in the top ten it still wasn't enough for us even to reach second place. The Junior event was amazing. As they came down the Torture Field, Helen Cottle, a member of Victoria House, led by a very comfortable distance from Rachel Storrs of Mary. Once Rachel was over the fence and heading for the long run up the field a large group of girls all belonging to Victoria came running round the corner! Elizabeth did very well coming second in the results table, fighting for their place all the way which they well deserved.

All that is left to say is, Better luck next time, Mary!"



*Intermediates*

## TENNIS.

The 1996/97 season saw much activity on our tennis courts. Under the guidance of Jackie Hough, our registered professional coach, over a third of the school enjoyed tennis lessons. The introduction of short tennis to the Junior School has been enthusiastically received. All girls receive coaching lessons and in addition a lunch hour tennis club has been established. The keen ones are also offered the chance to take the Yoplait Tennis Award Scheme which offers certificates for attainment. A very promising start for the Junior School.

The Senior School Tennis Team entered the Midland Bank Competitions Under 13 and 15 age groups. Our U 15 team reached the quarter final stage eventually losing to Torquay Grammar. The Under 13 team gained much experience in the round robin format, playing three matches and winning one.

Our Tennis Scholar, Victoria Conibere, represented the school in the Under 15 Devon Schools Tennis Singles Tournament. She won the area final in May which qualified her for the Devon Finals. Victoria was runner up in this event. Well done!

Laura Bagley (Year 6) played in her first short tennis event in March representing Stover and did extremely well coming third overall. Congratulations go to her. Watch for her name in the future!

Two teams played in the Aberdare Cup and Senior Students Competition winning some rounds in both.

In May Stover hosted the inaugural Girls Doubles U15 Tournament. A number of schools entered including Stoodley Knowle, Maynard and Torquay Grammar to mention a few. It was played as a round robin allowing all the girls to play at least four matches. Stover's team of Lucy Mills and Lucy Jones came fifth in a line up of fifteen couples. Other representatives were Cally Hocknell, Chloe Mansell, Jessica Cottle and Louise Neu. Sadly Victoria Conibere was absent due to illness. The winners were Torquay Grammar with runner-up Stoodley Knowle.

The event was most enjoyable and hopefully will become a fixture on the calendar each year.

J.Hough

Victoria Conibere writes:

"The tennis team members are extremely proud of our performance in the Midland Bank Tournament after getting to the quarter finals. It tested both our ability and our stamina but at the same time it was a very enjoyable experience. We hope not only to improve our position next year but

to WIN! We would all like to express our thanks to Mrs Hough who has helped us tremendously and arranged all our matches. Unfortunately she has had a lot of difficulties during the year thanks to the dreadful rainy weather.

During the summer term I entered the South Devon Schools' U15 Girls Singles Tournament. I won the area final and came second in the overall tournament. I was pleased with the way I played and it was interesting to meet girls from different schools who played tennis. The only disappointment was that I did not win but this allows me to aim for something next year! Another very important ambition of mine is to play tennis for Devon. This has always been a life-long ambition and one I intend to fulfil."



### First Team players:

Tanya Strongman (Captain)  
Victoria Conibere  
Sarah Hunt  
Natalie Strongman

### U15 Team squad

Victoria Conibere (Captain)  
Lucy Mills  
Nicola Croke  
Jane Howard  
Lucy Jones  
Chloe Mansell  
Louise Neu

### U13 Team Squad

Kate Jones (Captain)  
Helen Cottle  
Emma Martin  
Dorothy Sulzman  
Lisa Tulloch

### Inter House Tennis Results

Senior Singles: Victoria Conibere  
Senior Doubles: Lucy Mills and Victoria Conibere  
Junior Singles: Helen Cottle  
Junior Doubles: Kate Jones and Helen Cottle  
Overall winners: Victoria House



Inter-House Tennis *Junior Doubles*



Inter-House Tennis *Senior Doubles*

**UNDER 13 ROUNDERS**

The Team:

Helen Cottle (Captain), Rachel Storrs, Rebecca Garland, Libby Chivers, Bonnie Chivers, Georgina Dean, Claire Lees, Venetia Thompson, Frances Newman, Abigail Harding.

The Under13s have had an unbeaten season. We have played four matches and won them all against Kelly College, Blundells, St Margarets and Trinity. Our best result was against Trinity School. The team has played to a high standard throughout the year with excellent performances from the individual team members. I am sure we have improved since the '95 - '96 season. We intend to repeat these brilliant results for years to come!

Helen Cottle Year 8

Inter House Rounders

Juniors	First	Victoria
	Second	Elizabeth
	Third	Mary
Seniors:	First	Victoria
	Second	Mary
	Third	Elizabeth

Overall winners: First: Victoria  
 Joint Second: Elizabeth and Mary



*Rounders Team*

## INTER HOUSE GYMNASTICS AND DANCE COMPETITION.

It's unbelievable how close the gym competition got this year. There were some outstanding routines that were to a very high standard. At the interval Victoria House were just leading with Mary following close behind and Elizabeth just a few points away.

Katie Jones' and Helen Cottle's doubles routine was brilliant. Julia and Vanessa's routine unfortunately did not work out as planned. They had a few hiccups, with one ending in a near fall, but despite that they carried on to the end and were awarded a well

deserved second place.

There was an outstanding performance by four year ten pupils who worked extremely hard on their routine and it wasn't surprising they were from Victoria and came first.

However, I suppose what won Mary the gym cup was their vaulting. Vanessa came first with an outstanding handspring, Julia followed very close

behind with another excellent vault and Natalie and I came joint third with our through vaults. In the Junior vault Alison Hendy changed her mind

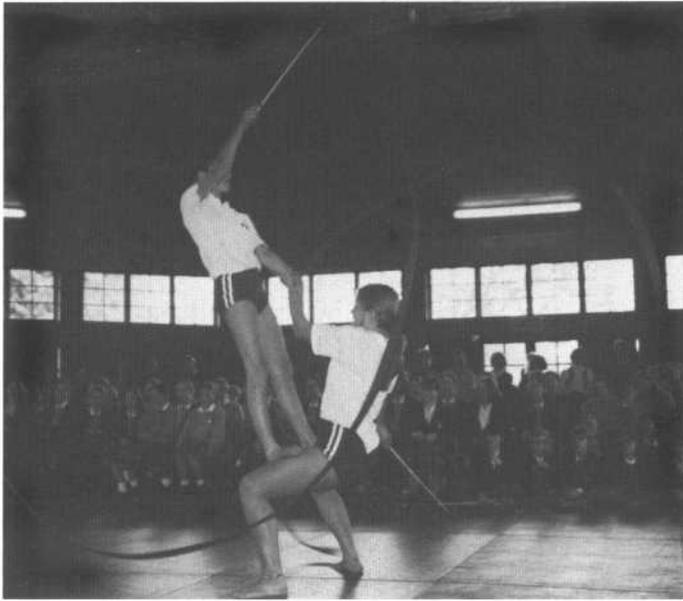
at the last moment: instead of a through vault she decided to try a headspring which she had not performed for a reasonably long time. She did not come first but got a brilliant second place.

There were some excellent dance routines by all the houses but Mary won overall with 8.6. There was a surprising victory for Mary and Victoria Houses when they came joint first in the MRG with a score of 7.9. Unfortunately for Lizzie they were just one point away from the others. Although

Victoria House had a few mishaps with their ribbons tangling they ignored it and carried right on to the end.

At the end of the morning Elizabeth was third with 96.7, Victoria second with 101 and Mary first by a whisker with 101.7 Well done Mary for the fourth consecutive year.

Hannah Garvin  
Year 10



*Inter-House gym and dance Mary House*

## SOUTH DEVON SCHOOLS ATHLETICS

On Wednesday the 27th of June the eager Stover Athletics team went to Exeter Arena for the South Devon Championships. Although some of the events had to be delayed due to the typical British weather the spirit of the team was still high and everybody performed to a very high standard. Daisy Rae, Helen Cottle, Jane Howard and Francis Newman managed to get first places with Helen improving her personal best. Well done Hannah Schauff for coming second, Jenny Watts for coming third with a personal best and Helen, Jo Mann and Rachel Storrs for coming fourth. Also Toddy Turner, Lucy Jones, Hannah Garvin, Georgie Dean and Ann Perry for achieving their personal best. The Year 10s came away with 5th place overall, Year 8 with 4th and Year 7, 9th out of 17 schools. Apart from the weather it was a very successful day. Well done everybody!

J.Howard Year 10

### AREA TEAM REPRESENTATIVES

The following girls were selected to represent the South Devon Area in the Devon School Championships:

Clare Cooper	100 metres
Anna Storrs	200 metres
Lucy Mills	Long jump

Lucy Mills was second and missed out on selection by 5 centimetres! Better luck next year, Lucy! Anna Storrs won her event and went on to represent Devon. She writes about her experiences in the following article:

After running for South Devon in the Devon Athletics Trials, I was very lucky to be chosen to run the 200m for Devon in the South West of England Schools Athletics Championships in Bournemouth on Saturday the 21st of June. Saturday morning was rather dismal (especially at 8 o'clock in the morning!) The coach left for Bournemouth from Exeter Services and we all prepared ourselves for a long journey. Eventually, after being issued our "tasty" red vests and black running bags, we arrived and I was surprised how many people were there. I soon found out that there were seven counties who were competing, including Gloucestershire and Wiltshire.

My race wasn't until 4:30 so unfortunately I had to wait six hours but there was plenty to watch and I was amazed at the standard of performance. I was rather hoping I wouldn't come last since the standard was so good. I was especially impressed

with some of the 100m times which were often about 11 seconds or faster.

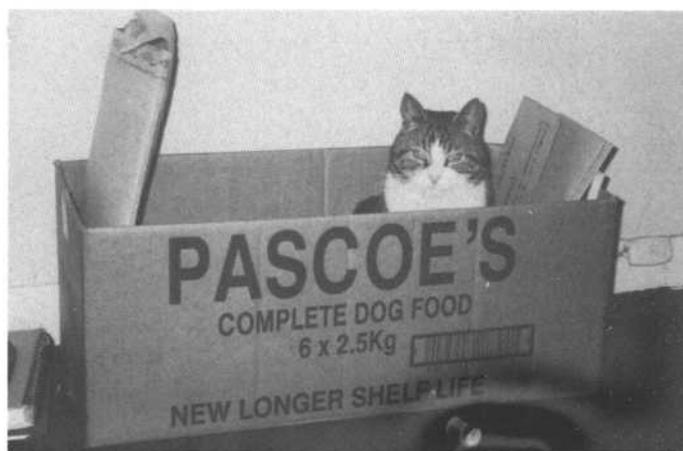
Gradually my six hours passed and suddenly I realised that I should have thought about warming up which I wasn't too keen on doing since it seemed to be raining rather heavily and it was very cold. Luckily the atmosphere was so great that I soon forgot about the weather and concentrated on the warm up.

Suddenly it was my turn to run. Within 28.7 seconds I was at the finish after coming 5th (out of 7) and was met by the team manager who congratulated me. The runner who came first was incredibly fast (25 seconds) and overtook me quite easily, but I enjoyed the race and thought of it as being a good experience, especially as I had never run for Devon before.



### SMILER!

(courtesy Mrs Batten and Biggles)



It's a dog-eat cat world!

## RUGBY

This was a very successful season as both the Over and Under 16 teams won all of their matches against other school teams. The U16s started with a good win of 15 - 0 against South Dartmoor. It was decided that the match would be full contact and before long tackling, scrums and hands-offs became second nature. The following match against Stoodley Knowle was unfortunately 'tag' but the speed and skill level was equally impressive giving us a victory of 35 - 5.

The Over 16 team played Exeter School three times this season and we won each match. All three were really tough as the Exeter side were desperate to beat us. The most memorable match was played at home in January. A good all-round team performance provided Clare Cooper and Anna Storrs with try-scoring opportunities, converted by Sarah Hunt.

Efficient defence and solid tackles prevented Exeter from scoring until the last minute of the game with County Selectors observing from the sidelines. We were delighted with our win of 24 - 5. We also proved too strong for Knowles Hill School. Clare Cooper, Vanessa Arscott, Anna Storrs and Borijana Arsova were all try scorers allowing us to snatch another win of 27 - 15 and finish the season on a high note.

In March the U16 team travelled to Bristol for a tournament in which they played some tough matches against club sides. Their overall position was third out of six teams. I'm sure the squad would agree that it was a busy, successful and, most importantly, an enjoyable season.

Sarah Hunt Captain



## SWIMMING GALA

Fortunately the weather remained fine for this year's swimming gala. A number of school records were broken in a variety of events. Emma Colley achieved good times in her freestyle and backstroke events; and then collected the Junior Swimming Cup. Claire Cooper maintained her tradition of good results for her house and collected the Senior Cup. Lisa Tulloch demonstrated her ability in the diving and took the Inter and Diving Cups. Other records were broken by Georgie Dean, Alice Baumer, Catherine Sulzman and Tanya Strongman. All the houses entered into the spirit of the occasion and competition was fierce. Mary House, although starting slowly, managed to maintain the lead throughout the morning becoming overall victors with Victoria second and Elizabeth third.



## SPORTS DAY

Finally the sun came out, followed shortly by the staff, parents, governors and of course, the competitors. Competition was strong at Junior and Intermediate level but was unfortunately lacking in the Seniors. Poor old Victoria House had many injured and were unable to field a relay team - much to the delight of Mary and Lizzie House!

The Nursery and Junior school provided light entertainment for the parents but a nightmare for the timekeepers and track-stewards! Then it was back to the more serious stuff. The relay races, staff, brothers and sisters, and of course, parents races - all compulsory events of a traditional sports day. The last of these provided great satisfaction for the pupils to see their parents suffer and understand what their children had been through. (A special mention of the Storrs girls who white-washed the sisters' race; it was lucky the other two sisters were away at the time!)

Then the ever popular Tug-o-War took place. Thanks must go to Mr Manning and Mr Priddes who spurred on all teams. Of course well done Mary Seniors, who, yes, WON again!

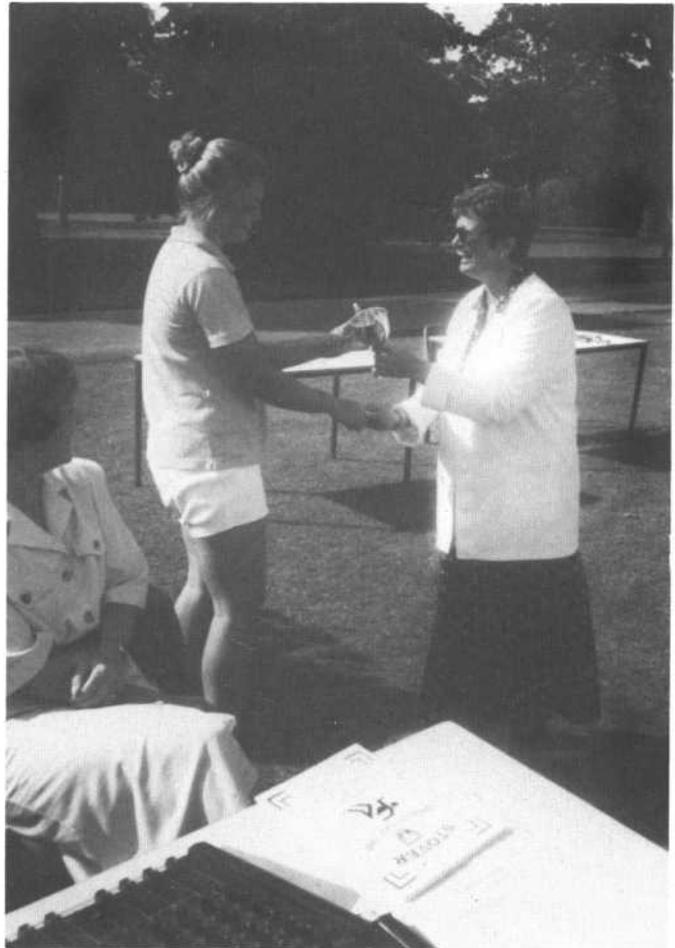
Seven school records were broken:-  
Anna Storrs - 200m - 28.52  
Anna Storrs - Long jump - 4.47m  
Lucy Robillard - 300m - 53.25  
Amy Moncaster - 300m - 61.53 (new record)  
Kate Corner - Shot-put - 6.35m  
Frances Newman - Shot-put - 7.73m  
Hannah Schauf - High jump - 1.39m

Best Junior Athlete - Frances Newman  
Best Intermediate Athlete - Daisy Rae  
Best Senior Athlete - Tanya Strongman  
Best Long Jump - Anna Storrs  
Best High Jump - Hannah Schauf  
Fastest Relay Team Shield - Mary Seniors:-  
Clare Cooper, Anna Storrs,  
Natalie Strongman, Kathryn O'Dwyer

Inter-House Athletics Cup -  
1st Mary - 91 points  
2nd Vicky - 74 points  
3rd Lizzie - 44 points

Well done everybody who took part and especially the P.E.Dept. for organising and running the event so smoothly.

Clare Cooper and Anna Storrs



*Tanya Strongman receiving her cup from Mrs Strongman!*





# STOVER OLD GIRLS ASSOCIATION.

## COMMITTEE:

Katharine Howard (Rowe) Chairman  
Rachel Evans Deputy Chairman  
Eileen Shillabeer Secretary  
Sally Lean (Grey) Treasurer

Melian Kearney (Pappin), Pene Key,  
Tessa Adams, (Shillabeer), Rosemary Jones  
(Poyntz-Roberts), Jennifer Lean,  
Bunty Scott (Jenner)

1996 - 97 has been a relatively quiet one for the Association, partly due to the postponement of the buffet supper in early November.

However about 25 gathered for the AGM and reunion on 21st June when we had hoped to enjoy the annual Sports Day, but sadly due to the wet weather this was cancelled.

Several Old Girls were visiting for the first time for some years and a happy hour or two were spent over a picnic lunch in the Blue Library after a tour of the new and impressive Junior Department which opened at Clock House in September 1996. Miss Hill had sent her apologies as sadly she had recently fallen and broken her hip. She celebrated her ninetieth birthday earlier this year and hopes to visit Stover again very soon. The Association sent her some flowers for which she was very grateful.

Decisions taken at the meeting included a donation to the school funds of £1,500. The appeal for the swimming pool has been put on hold for the present and it was felt the old girls would like to contribute to a project now as well as to the pool appeal in due course. £500 has been given towards building a trophy cupboard in the corridor alongside the TMB door and £1,000 towards play equipment, possibly a climbing frame, for the Junior Department.

A buffet supper is being organised for 15th November 1997 when it is hoped that many old girls and their families will be able to enjoy an informal evening together. Further details will be sent with the autumn calendars.

Advance notice! The next AGM and reunion will be held at the beginning of the autumn term 1998 - the date to co-incide with the craft fair.

Following the meeting we made a presentation of a cheque and a bowl of flowers to Eileen Shillabeer to mark her retirement after 26 years as School Secretary.

Finally this is my last contribution as secretary as after six years 'in office' and ten on the committee, I stood down at the AGM. However I am delighted to report that I have handed over to Eileen Shillabeer (she didn't escape after all!) I am sure the Association will benefit greatly from her in depth knowledge of Stover - she has always been a great supporter of the Old Girls and a great help to me.

With best wishes  
Anthea Morley-Smith.

## Old Girls News

**Rebecca Gardiner** is studying nursing at the Thames Valley University in London (Project 2000) and has completed her second year.

**Pamela Gullard** wrote from her home in Dumfries. She has kept in touch with **Elizabeth Rew (Tett)** since they left Stover in 1953 ! Elizabeth has recently moved back to Devon. Pamela is also in touch with **Pene Key**.

**Mary Downey (McGahey)** came to the reunion. Mary lives near Yelverton and works for Withers and Rogers, a firm of Patent Agents, where she is responsible for the trade mark renewals for all the firms' offices, but is able to run this from home. Last June she organised a reunion for her year (leavers of 1974 and 76). They met at a hotel in Corsham where they had dinner and stayed overnight before visiting Lacock the next day. The weekend was a great success and they all agreed to meet again in three years' time. Those who attended were: Debbie Burrough (Loud), Jane Cattermoul, Jo Stephens, Ros George (Bennett), Penny Weeks (Atkins) Julia Fairbrother (Major), Shirley Jennings (Fuller) . Patsy Howe (Browning) was unable to attend as she is currently living in Kuwait.

**Charlotte Trinick** is now married to an American - a former marine. Charlotte was promoted to petty Officer WREN and is currently based at Northwood. Her sister **Sarah** is also married to a marine and they live at East Prawle. Victoria is thoroughly enjoying life as a beauty therapist working at the Marine Hotel, Salcombe.

Charlotte also has news of **Katie Watson** who has married an army captain. She has also 'bumped into' some of the **Lloyd Edwards - Bronwen** is working for West Country Television and **Bethan** is a veterinary nurse in Oxford. No particular news

of Sian, Ceri or Gwen, but the family still have a home at Stoke Fleming.

**Emma Wyness** writes from Leicester where she is preparing for her wedding to Robert Cunningham on 27th September 1997. She graduated from the University of Lancaster last year with a 2.1 Honours Degree in Biological Science and has since taken up a Higher Diploma in Administrative Procedures. Emma was bridesmaid to **Kathryn Harvey** who married Noel Wheelan on 7th June 97. Kathryn is to be bridesmaid to Emma too! They are also in touch with **Debra and Hayley Newbury, Fay Clarke and Vikki Wilmott-Sharp.**

## LATE NEWS

Further news from **Mary Downey (Magahey), Patsy Howe (Browning)** - included the news that she now has a son aged eight and a daughter aged six. Patsy is busy taking Arabic lessons and hoping to visit England this summer.

**Ros George (Bennett)** is now in Washington with her husband Steve and three daughters where he is currently at the Embassy.

**Penny Weeks** has two sons Thomas and Oliver and a daughter Charlotte. Penny is currently taking a break from nursing.

**Julie Fairbrother (Major)** is a primary school teacher. She has two daughters, Kimberly and Chloe and a son, Robert.

**Debbie Burroughs (Loud)** helps her husband on their farm near Axminster ably assisted by their three sons. Three seems to be a popular number for offspring!

**Shirley Jennings (Fuller) and Nicki Pitts** both have families and **Jan Cattermoul** was working at Coulston Hall in Bristol but looking for a change.

**Kay Tudor** who continued her studies at Exeter College took the International Baccalaureate in May '96 with Higher Level passes in Biology, Geography and Psychology, and Subsidiary Level passes in English, Mathematics and French. Kay had unconditional offers for two courses at Sussex and opted for the UCL Human Science course. In November '96 Kay joined a four week aid project among Tibetan refugees in Nepal. She subsequently travelled through India to the Andaman Islands and back to Nepal, after which she completed the Annapurna circuit trek which involved crossing the 5,400m Thorong Pass through thigh-deep snow! Kay was planning to return home in mid May this year. This news from one justly proud father.

**Kirstie Collier** is living in County Wexford and has two sons aged twelve and nine years.

**Angela Read** writes to say how much she enjoyed the recent London Old Girls' reunion which was attended by about a dozen and organised by the very supportive Pene Key

Finally a very warm welcome back to new member **Loveday Thesen (Townsend)** now living in Bovey Tracey. I hope that she is the first of many who will be returning to the fold!

This brings the Old Girls' news up to date for the moment. I am sure you all enjoy reading these items, particularly when the news is about old friends or colleagues.

Most of the letters we receive request "more news please" - but we do need your co-operation here, so please get writing. I am sure that you all have interesting stories to tell, memories of school days and your subsequent experiences. To keep the Association going we do need even more members, all your news, and, very important, any change of address. I know we have had a little spate of weddings lately and no doubt more babies!....so please do let me have details and if possible photographs. I promise that I will do my very best to get everything printed.

If you have any ideas for an improvement in the format I am ready and willing! Everyone has their own ideas and as this is my first communication as your secretary I am open to offers.

With warm best wishes to you all,

Sincerely yours  
Eileen Shillabeer.

### Late, late news:

**Juliane Brown** graduated in June 1997 with an Upper Second Class Honours degree in Medical Microbiology from the University of Leeds.

**Liz Pomeroy (Bennett)** and Geoff have a daughter, Zoe Jessica, born on 12.08.97, a sister for Joanna.

**Francis Coward** graduated in 1996 from University College, London, with an Upper Second Class Honours degree.

**Tessa Shillabeer** graduated in 1997 from the University of Plymouth with an Upper Second Class Honours degree in Police Studies

**Hannah Armstrong** graduated from the University of York with a Lower Second Honours degree in History

## OLD GIRLS

In last year's magazine we published a fascinating picture from the archives showing a speech day from the thirties, but there was some uncertainty as to exactly when it was and who were involved. Several Old Girls have made helpful suggestions and the consensus of opinion is as follows.

The year is 1938 and the cup which is probably the tennis singles cup is being presented to Peggy Knapman. The speaker was not Miss Iggleston but Miss Margaret Brousfeld or possibly Boudfield, who was the first female cabinet minister. Miss J. Scott, who was among our informants, says that, according to her mother, the lady was "quite inappropriately dressed in brown velvet!"

Miss Scott goes on to say: "I was at Stover from the autumn term of 1932 at the Chestnuts until the end of the summer term of 1938 when I left, sorrowfully, to go to boarding school. because it was "good" for me Having been at boarding school certainly was a great help when the war started and we were all called up, but it was something to be endured, not enjoyed as Stover had been.

It interested me very much to know how Stover has expanded and developed over the past years."

Thank you all for your help which has encouraged us to think we may be able to solve our next problem. This year a magnificent Honours Board was erected in Jubilee Hall which records in gold leaf all the known Head Girls of Stover. Unfortunately we have some gaps They are for the following years: 1932 to 1943 excluding 1935

(Pauline Farrell) and 1936 (Josephine Stubbs), and 1957. We would be absolutely delighted to be able to fill in the names for these years and to have a complete record of Head Girls going back to the year the school was founded. If anyone can help us to fill in any of the gaps please contact the Headmaster.



*This year's picture from the archives for identification shows students working in the Blue Library in 1954. Do you recognise anyone - perhaps yourself? Do write and let us know and tell us what life was like at Stover then!*



*Mr Bujak receives a cheque for £1,500 presented on behalf of the Old Girls' Association by Chairperson Mrs Kate Howard. The money will be spent on two projects: outdoor play equipment for the Junior School and a new trophy cabinet for the Senior School to be placed in the entrance hall.*

*Old Girl Joanna Helme getting into practice for her jungle trek*



## TREKFORCE EXPEDITION TO BORNEO

Old girl Joanna Helme who left Stover in 1990 has sent us an account of the six weeks she spent as a member of an expedition to Southern Borneo.

Trekforce Expeditions is the expeditionary arm of the International Scientific Support Trust which, as the name implies, was founded to support important scientific and conservation projects. Trekforce offers participants over the age of 17 the opportunity to make a contribution to science, undertake a personal challenge and learn about life in remote areas of the world. Joanna, with a 2.1. Honours degree in Applied Consumer Science and Technology and Product Management Studies from Surrey University, and who hopes to follow a career in the RAF, felt that this was for her.

"To join an expedition, I had to raise a minimum of £2650, in itself a demanding challenge! A raffle, a stall at Totnes Elizabethan market, car boot sales, donations from Marks and Spencer and The Prince's Trust all helped me achieve my goal. Last, but by no means least, Stover girls contributed the money they raised in a sponsored mufti day. I also worked at a Newton Abbot rest home and added my wages to the kitty. You have to be 100% committed and can't sit back and expect the funds to be paid in by themselves.

And so, with an arm full of inoculations against an amazing variety of diseases, my specialist jungle equipment and a trusty rucksack, it was off to Jakarta. The expedition's first fortnight, after the preliminary jungle training in Northern Java, was spent up a river in Central Kalimantan in

Southern Borneo, constructing a jetty and walkway to enable scientists to have year-round access to the peat-swamp forest. Top priority research is being carried out here on peat swamp as part of the ecosystem and into the dangers of flooding as a result of extensive deforestation.

Reveille was at five am - which sounds appalling but was essential in order that the hard physical work could be done in the cooler part of the day: a midday siesta was compensation. Everything and everybody frequently got soaked but after all we were working in a swamp and this was the rain forest! Living in the jungle offered very little in the way of entertainment so we made our own: a valentine box, Blind Date, LOTS of birthday parties and a final Tribal party and "Its a Knockout" competition, renamed for local conditions "The Jungle is Massive"!

After a fortnight our group moved site in a very eventful but not untypical journey for this part of the world. Cheerfully we boarded the bus at dawn. After two hours the concrete ran out and the road turned to mud. Then the road ran out and the bus had to be towed through a river by a landrover. Once over the river the road became impassable. And so on.

We spent our second week in the Tanjung Puting National Park at the Proboscis Monkey Research Centre. This species, like the orang utan, is threatened with extinction due to habitat destruction, largely as a result of logging. In that week, the team, now well into the daily routine, built a canteen/cookhouse and a verandah, started a jetty extension and carried out much essential general work such as cutting pathways and measuring trees. The climax of the week was a visit to the

orang utan rehabilitation centre further down the river.

This was the end of the actual working part of the expedition which was followed by the Great Five Day Jungle Swamp Trek which was hardly an opportunity for rest and relaxation either!

The joys of jungle living included huge hairy spiders, hammocks incautiously slung over fire ants' nests, and leeches - my leech bite scars are at last beginning to fade -, but it also had utopian moments, camped on the shores of a palm fringed lake under the stars with fresh fish on the barbecue and hushed conversation with good friends. Eventually, wet, smelly, exhausted and happy, we staggered back to the village from which we had started. A farewell party in the Indonesian equivalent of the village hall was a night to remember.

With the expedition over I decided to make full use of my eight-week tourist visa by spending two weeks backpacking through Java and Bali. It was wonderful to be able to relax!

I found the expedition to be a valuable and rewarding experience, which led to a greater understanding of myself and how I relate to others. At times it was really demanding but the harder it got the more we pulled together as a team. The main attraction was to travel to such remote areas, mingle with the locals and in particular, make a contribution to science. No one can possibly evaluate life on the other side of the world without experiencing it at first hand. It makes you realise how diverse cultures are and gives you a bigger perspective on the way we live and the things we value most. It was most definitely an adventure with a purpose."

Joanna Helme

# STOVER COUNTRY FAIR

SUNDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER 1996

**\*10 am until 5 pm\***

To be opened by **Professor Ian Mercer**  
Secretary General of The Association of the National Parks Authority

---

**Commentator - Mr Peter Wakeham**

**Main Ring Displays**

including:

**Side-saddle Display**

**Hound Parade Gundog Parade**

**Dartmoor Driving and Dartmoor Ponies**

**Gun dog Training Fly-fishing Ferret racing**

**Award-winning Tudor Dance group**

**Mountain Bike Display**

**The South West Axe Team**

**Lurcher/Terrier Show and Racing**

**Exhibitions of rural skills Country Pursuits**

**Trade stands Indoor Craft Halls**

STOP  
PRESS

*Gundog Scurry*

**Vintage Cars, Engines and Machinery**

**4 x 4 Obstacle course**

**Mountain bikes**

**The Salmon and Trout Association**

**BASC and other conservation groups**

**Senior BASC Clay-pigeon coach**

In the beautiful setting of **Stover School** grounds

Just off the A38; 3 miles from Newton Abbot

**Admission: £5 per car**

Stover School, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ12 6QG

TEL: 01626 54505

Donations from proceeds will be made to Devon rural projects and charities

## COUNTRY FAIR IMPRESSIONS

The second Stover Country Fair was held on Sunday the 22nd of September in the school grounds. As last year we were blessed with another perfect autumn day (we must have done something right!) and the tried and tested mix of attractions again drew huge crowds. Popular events and parades in the main ring included many of last year's favourites such as the Dartmoor Rescue Team, the Devon and Cornwall Mink Hounds, the South Devon Foxhounds, the Area 16 Side saddle Group, Gun dog Training and Fly fishing. New this year were Dartmoor driving, a gundog parade and a dazzling display of expertise by the South West Axe Team. Throughout the day much else was on offer. There was fly-fishing and clay pigeon coaching; a 4x4 demonstration; the lurcher and terrier show followed by racing; demonstrations of rural skills such as thatching, spinning, saddling, dry stone walling, falconry basketmaking and more. Definitely something for everybody. Profits from the fair were largely donated to several rural charities and also contributed to the purchase of a new mini bus.



### Preparations

Going for a greener Devon!

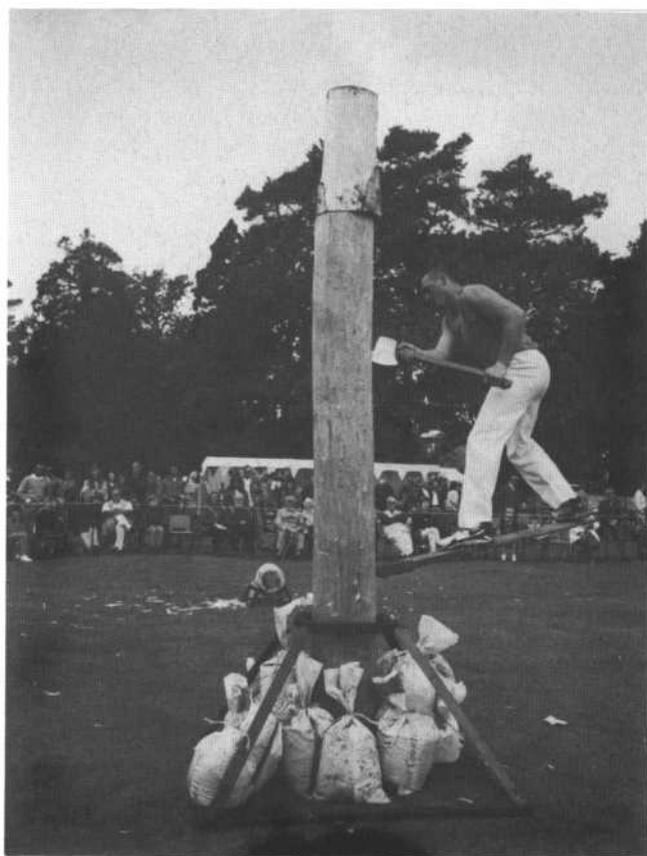
Every hill, town and village was plastered with green leaflets

Green posters all along the road on the way to school

"And after you've put up those 5 posters you collect 2 housepoints and 5 more posters. And after that 5 you collect..."

"Get more leaflets out because if you do Mary house will most certainly win the House cup!" Mrs Jorgensen bellowed enthusiastically.

"Housepoints! We need more house points!" cried the other teachers



### On the day

The country fair was a busy time especially for Mrs Jorgensen whom was running all over the field giving someone a message then bringing it back and Mr Topley like a captain telling and bossing everyone where to put their car. You couldn't get a word in edgeways, everyone was too busy setting up their stalls and advertising their goods. The sound was like a barnyard: chickens squawking here, dogs barking and whining there, it was quite a racket; and the sweet smell of food was so compelling that you just had to follow the smell and get yourself something.

Mr Topley leaping around at the entrance in his fluorescent orange waistcoat. Not to mention his shorts and hairy legs.

It wasn't fair how all the teachers had a brilliant view of the arena and when it rained they had a caravan to go into and a shelter to sit under. They had rows of biscuits and lots of cups of coffee. That is when I wish I could be a teacher.

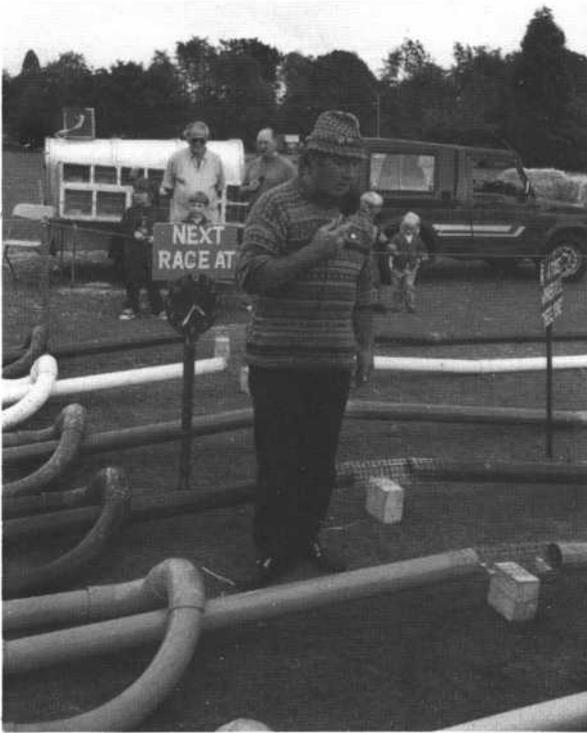
(The following were among the most popular attractions to judge by the comments).

### Ferret racing:

One man was waving and shouting so hard at his chosen ferret in the race that he fell over.

Ferrets charging through their tubes like bullets.

I really wanted to take a ferret home



### DOUGHNUTS!!

I thought the doughnuts were lovely. They were nice and hot and doughy.

They had the most delicious doughnuts I have ever tasted in my life.

The doughnuts were quite the best thing at the Fair. They were hot, gooey and delicious and I became quite addicted to them. It was also fascinating to watch them being made - that's something I've never seen before

The ice cream was very good. I had Dutch apple, chocolate, strawberry and blackberry flavour. I thought blackberry was nicest. I had eight doughnuts. These were very soft and hot. I loved it. I was such a pig but I didn't care.

Lovely doughnuts and not so nice tea

The doughnut stand was brilliant. The doughnuts were so light and fluffy.



### Mountain bike demonstration.

The bikes were superb. I spent most of my time around the bikes. At one time the riders got challenged by the landrover going around a sort of assault course. It looked really fun and it was thrilling to watch because at one point the land rover looked as if it was about to tip over.

### Side saddle display

We enjoyed watching the side saddle display. At first everything looked very elegant and professional. When the lady took her skirt off we saw how she managed to stay on the saddle with her leg hooked around it; it looked very uncomfortable. We thought some of the riders looked rather tense and worried. The horses looked a bit worried too, showing the whites of their eyes. Basically I'm pretty sure it's not as easy as it looks...



And of course, DOGS! Gundogs, fox hounds, mink hounds, lurchers, terriers and pets.

The terrier racing went a little wrong with the two terriers who came first and second fighting over the lure at the end of the race

There were lurcher puppies for sale. They were so fluffy and gorgeous aaaaahhh...

Dogs stubbornly refusing to follow their owners in the gundog scurry...

Robbie, Miss Young's dog, was entered in the scurry. Rachel Storrs had to jump over the bales to get him over them and then he didn't bring the dummy back. Instead he jumped out over the fence surrounding the run. Everyone was hysterical (including Miss Young.)



### Pets Corner

There were some adorable parrots. I especially liked the South American one with its long green feathers. It climbed on to my shoulder and ate my sister's ice-cream then wiped its beak all over my shirt.

I liked the little goat. He was very bad tempered. He kept hitting his horns against the fence when someone touched him

My Mum nearly bought two lovely ginger chickens but my Dad's going to get her some for Christmas.



(But of course there were the less attractive aspects which in all honesty must be reported):

Sadly the day was marred by violence:... My little sister wanted a go on the swing but someone wouldn't get off so she hit him with an inflatable hammer.

### Litter Patrol

The bit I didn't like was when I was on duty and had to pick up litter and things like that.

When we were doing our duty by wandering round picking up litter a lady in a bit of a rush came up and asked us in a worried voice if there was a bin anywhere. I replied, "Yes, right here!" and I opened the big black binliner I was carrying. From behind her back she pulled a baby's nappy and dropped it in the bag and went smiling off towards the burger bar! Charming!!



# GOURMET PAGE (every magazine should have one)

## CAMBODIAN WATER BUFFALO STROGANOFF

1. First catch your water buffalo. Admittedly, this is not easy in South Devon.
2. For a large dinner party two medium sized beasts (i.e. approximately 3/4 ton, no larger) are recommended, rather than one large one. Avoid mating pairs, however, or you may not live to host the dinner party.
3. Skin and wrap your buffalo in kitchen foil. More than one roll may be required.
4. Place in a large oven (earthenware outside is best but indoors in a large kitchen will still do) and

cook for three weeks at 245F/140C/Gas Mark 1. Turn once each week after 7 and 14 days.  
5. Serve in a large bath pre-filled with 50 gallons warmed sour cream and 10 lbs/5kilos sliced mushrooms and green peppers. Accompany with a '93 Chateau Mekong Vietnamese Burgundy

A. Manning

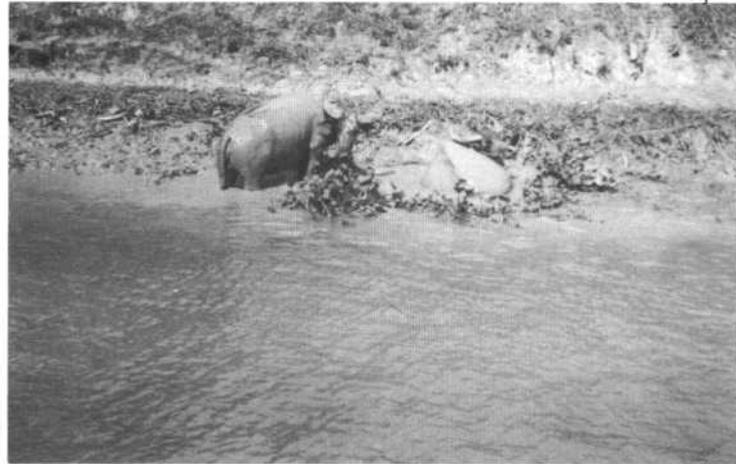
*snap of genuine Cambodian Water buffalo taken by the intrepid Mr Manning.*

## THE TUCK SHOP

As the clock strikes four  
we're a stampede at the door  
pushing, shoving no one's budging  
elbows nudging  
(one girl's on the ground)  
the tuck shop's smell  
wafting through the air  
the snake's tail line-up  
money's on the ground  
,chaos all around  
all our dreams  
are peppermint creams  
waiting for the click of the lock.

Then there's a shout  
"Chocolate's out!"  
Only two chocolate bars  
however shall I choose?  
a Snickers or a Mars/  
a velvety smooth Galaxy?  
I open the wrapper and take a massive bite  
into a nutty chocolate world of pure delight  
rich sticky caramel blanketing my mouth  
crunchy crispy chocolate on a hard toffee bar.

Row upon row  
horizontal, vertical,  
sweets galore,  
big, red and chewy,  
soft., smooth and gooey  
minty ice snow caps melting on my teeth  
liquid sunshine sherbet makes you shiver  
sourness hits you hard  
makes your eyes water  
a sweet, sharp tender taste  
sweet smelling fruity burst  
pop them in and wait....



Bang, fizz, zoom!  
swallow fast but feel  
the startling sensation still.

As the hustle and bustle fade  
it's not like an arcade  
the room is empty  
the dust has settled  
silent, closed,  
only a sad, screwed-up sweetie wrapper left  
lurking in a corner.

As I come to the last lick  
I feel  
very  
very  
sick....  
But hooray!  
Tomorrow is another day!

Group poem by Year Eight

## OUR FIRST YEAR AT STOVER

The day I arrived at Stover School  
I noticed it had a swimming pool.  
As soon as I could I wanted to swim  
Instead of singing the school hymn.

I soon got used to the school routine  
But found the teachers were rather mean.  
Stover has lots of sports  
And also some tennis courts.

Now I am very glad I came  
No other school could be the same.

Lizzie Vine and Laura Bagley

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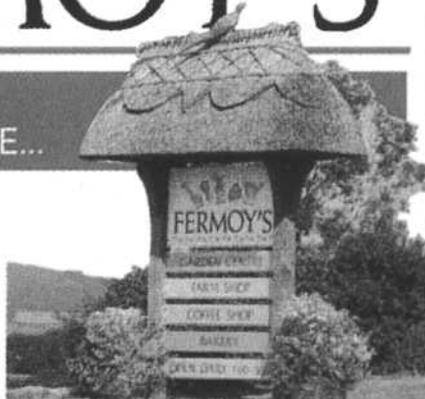
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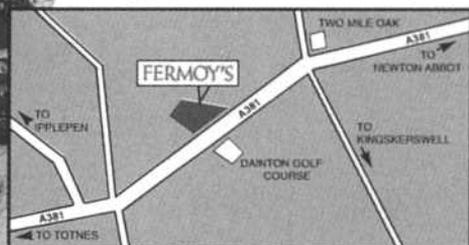


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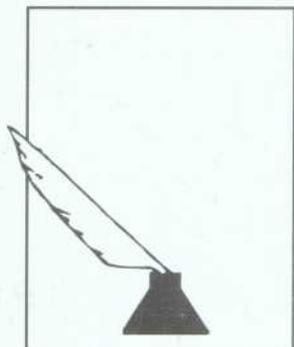
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