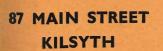
KILSYTH ACADEMY MAGAZINE



JUNE, 1962

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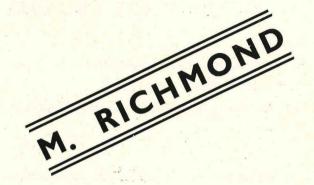
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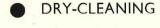
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KILSYTH ACADEMY MAGAZINE, June, 1962



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Foreword

I am glad indeed to have this opportunity of writing a foreword for our School Magazine. Within its covers the reader will find articles, reports and photographs, which mirror admirably the present state of our school.

The Scottish Educational System is in these days receiving considerable adjustment. Some would have it that the adjustment is a "change into something rich and strange". In a period of transition established and cherished traditions oft have to give way to new thought and recast purpose. It would be most regrettable if our magazine failed to keep its place in the "ringing grooves of change."

The production now in your hands called for much thought and careful planning. I wish to offer my sincere thanks, and congratulations, to those who have thought so well and planned so successfully.

As always, I send our warm greetings to all former pupils wherever they may be.

Sincerely,

FRANCIS T. KIDD, M.A., Rector.



Editorial

"If it is in print, it must be true".

No, despite our quotation, we do not expect you to believe everything in this magazine; we have learned to respect the tremendous powers of imagination possessed by our contributors. We have learned, too, to respect the efforts of the English and Art Departments, and especially of the heads of these departments, Miss Stark and Mr. Henderson. We wish here to acknowledge their help and encouragement.

Our thanks also go to Mr. Gillies for his excellent photographs; to the advertisers for their much-welcomed assistance; and to the printers for their customary good work.

We must also say how grateful we are to all contributors, the quantity and quality of whose work have really surprised us. The Editorial Committee, admittedly, have had moments of hysterical exasperation when we felt urged to print an article just to "shame the fools"; but, in the final editing, the real exasperation lay in having to select, because of limited space, from what was good enough to print.

We hope that those whose work we have regretfully rejected will not be too disappointed to try again next year; and we know that those whose articles appear in the following pages will feel thrilled to have contributed to what we are sure is an enjoyable magazine, worthy of the school.

MOIRA BANKIER,



NANCY ROBERTSON V.

THE MAISTERS.

STAFF SIGNATURE TUNES

Mr. Hendry—I'm sitting on top of the world. Miss Steel-Basin Street Blues.

Miss Porter-She flies through the air with the greatest of ease.

Mr. Kidd-Tower of Strength.

Miss Louden—Hark, hark, the lark. Mr. Donald—Right in the Middle of a Big Triangle.

Miss Stark-Poetry in Motion.

Mr. Wilson-I slipped, I stumbled, I fell.

Mr. Meiklejohn-Devil or Angel.

Mr. Corbett-Wooden Heart.

Mr. Noble-Climb every mountain.

- Miss McGibbon-She walks like an angel walks.
- Miss Anderson-Gaudeamus igitur, juvenes dum summus. 5A GIRLS.

ALMA MATER-2,000 A.D.

Having retired from public life in March, 2,000. I decided to pay a visit to the place which guided my first steps on the way to fame. I found the school somewhat enlarged, now stretching across Kilsyth Golf Course on the East and Dumbreck on the West. I was informed by the janitor, Mr. Malcolm Macniven, that the school now contained 10,000 pupils, ranging socially from the uppercrust Lennoxtonians to the plebeian Banknockians.

I made my way to the Rector's office, where the Rector, Mr. John Shields, M.A., was kind enough to give me permission to look round the school. I boarded the lift which took me up to the science laboratories, where I found a grey-bearded and bent Mr,

June, 1962

Fleming giving Class 1z a lesson on semimicro analysis. He received me with charming crustiness and showed me round his luxuriously-equipped premises where he and Mr. Peter Bow are working together on Scotland's answer to the space age, a portable haggis splicer.

I now wandered off to the English room to pay my respects to Miss Stark. To my dismay, however, I found that she had retired in 1999 to write her chef d'oeuvre on "Hamlet as I knew him", and that Mr. George Campbell, M.A., had taken over as English Principal, a not unexpected appointment, as Mr. Campbell was one of those people who read all his home readers.

Next door, I found Mr. Meiklejohn, who is still Principal of Modern Languages, though he has now turned his teaching talents to Martian.

To round off my visit I called in at the Boys' Gymnasium, where Mr. Harold Richards (now down to a trim 15 stone), is in charge.

Filled with nostalgic memories, I made my way to my private helicopter and left the busy hubbub of school life in Kilsyth Academy, 2,000 A.D.

BILLY MARSHALL, 6.

GENUINE ACADEMY HOWLERS

- Walking down the street, my eyes were arrested by a policeman.
- An angle between 90 and 180 degrees is called an obese angle.
- As Burns says, "While we sit bousin' at the NAFI".
- Haggs is the capital of Holland.
- Whence didst thou go to?
- When his money was stolen, he was like an Indian elephant in Africa, a lost dog.

The next thing I knew, I was fast asleep.

- Hamlet was very happy at the marriage of his father and mother.
- After the Act of Union, 1707, the English and Scots shared the same taxis.
- Macbeth turned his back on his good side and walked forward to murder.

Bad water gives you typhoo.

A Dramatic Monologue is a speech between two people, both of whom are present.

- About this time, or shortly before, the stable diet of the Scots was oats.
- Tom Brown was toast in a blanket at Rugby. "Waxing more fluent" means lighting another candle.

DIARY OF A FIFTH YEAR PUPIL

- March 1st: Dog bit one of the Science teachers today. We buried it under the floor of the French Room.
- March 2nd: Classics teacher disappeared with Virgil.
- March 3rd: Nothing much happened today, except that the Maths teacher got entangled in some algebraic formulae.
- March 4th: No maths today. There's a funny smell in the French Room.
- *March* 5th: We heard that the Classics teacher has gone to cross the Alps with Virgil in his rucksack.
- March 8th: All the Fifth Year passed their English exam. We buried the English teacher under the floor of the French Room.
- March 9th: Classics teacher sent letter asking for an elephant.
- March 10th: History lesson about development of aviation. Teacher was demonstrating how a man jumped from the Eiffel Tower in an attempt to fly. The floor of the French Room's getting quite crowded.
- March 11th: Elephant came back, but still no Classics teacher.
- March 12th: French teacher left—he said there was a funny smell in the French Room.
- *March* 13*th*: The "Glasgow Herald" had an article on the shortage of teachers today.

5A Girls.

GOLDSMITH ON THE EXTENSION

- Room 32—A man severe he was, and stern to view.
- Room 31—With aspen bough, and flowers, and fennels gay.
- Room 30—Here lies honest William whose heart was a mint,

While the owner ne'er knew half the good that was in't.

Room 29—What wit and what whim, Now breaking a jest, now breaking a limb.

TWO SMALL HEADS, 5A.

THE WEANS



"Well, boys, if you've had your wish, I'll be moving on". Donald Wilson, V.

A NOTE MUST BE BROUGHT

Please excuse Eddie's absence yesterday as his mother was washing His father.

- I hop youse will not punnish Tommy for being away from your scool but he got (pyunomia) a very bad cauld when his drain pypes berst.
- Teacher. Don't ask our Tennyson to say his poetry today as his throat has been temporarily jammed by a "Gob-stopper".
- Johnny has been unable to attend school for the last six months as he was sent to a crematorium suffering from an inflammable liver.
- Please excuse Agnes's recent absence. Her teeth were aching in her bottom.
- James has been to the funeral of his grandfather who was wounded long ago in the Dardy Nells.
- Please excuse Jessie's absence from school as she has a leg complaint from a banana skin.

5A Girls.

THE NIBBLERS

As roving reporter of Kilsyth Academy Magazine, I was assigned the delicate task of investigating the underworld of the Academy whose seldom-seen inhabitants go by the name of the Nibblers. The entrance, negotiated with some difficulty, was by a small hole in the Assembly Hall stage. Below, I found a thriving community of academic vermin. The feature which I first noticed when my eyes had become accustomed to the dim light, was a large number of cheeseburger stalls, the idea having been originally introduced from Govan and catching on rapidly down here. Journeying further into this land of the Nibblers deep beneath the school, I came to a great building which I was informed was the Mouseleum in which the great benefactor of Mousekind, Cheeser, is buried.

These creatures are very sybaritic; in fact, they resemble the ancient Romans in their ways. Slave-mice are imported from Banton and Queenzieburn. But, to be fair, not all of the Kilsythian mice are lazy and pleasure-loving. There are many great names among them, such as Shumouse, who lives in a great house (in actual fact an old shoe). The architect of this house was a Russian from Mousecow. There are many places of education The chief seat of learning, however, is situated on an old chair.

I had to leave this fantastic country to my great regret, and proceed to the exit which is another hole—in the extension this time—and which is covered by a discarded cigarette packet.

And so I re-entered the upper regions of Kilsyth Academy, where the Nibblers are still regarded as "Wee, sleekit, cou'rin' tim'rous" beesties by our goodly scholars. Perhaps I have brought some enlightenment.

COLIN SCOTT, 1A.

WHAT IS SCHOOL LIKE?

On the first day of school we were all in a fuss, But at last we were ready and jumped on the bus. All the way I kept asking, "What like will it be?"

- But the answer was always, "Be quiet! Wait and see!"
- So I did what they said, and this truth I found out,
- Which I'll pass on to you, if you too are in doubt:—

If you do what you're told, it won't be too bad; But if you do not—well, you'll just wish you had. CHRISTINE GUNN, 1B. June, 1962

MAGAZINITIS

As I sit here and chew my pen, I try to cudgel from my brain, An idea for the Magazine About Academy life or scene.

Perhaps I would gain credit for A letter to the Editor; Or last year's effort might bring fame, I think "L'Allegro" was its name.

Passionate poems or prose of clarity, Howlers causing huge hilarity, Photographs with fitting captions, School life and its mad attractions.

I still can't choose: it's getting late; By now I'm in a frantic state. With tired eyes and an aching head— I give it up and go to bed.

JACK CALDER, 3A.

THE WEAN'S DUMFOONERT

Dear Teacher, Why does one and one make two? Three to me but two to you? If o double 'f'' spells "off", Why not then write "coff" for cough? Another thing you might explain, Is what you really mean by reign. It soaks you to the skin I know, But don't it make the horses go? Yours truly, a pupil.

Dear Pupil,

On reading your letter, I guess right away, You've been trying quite hard with your spelling today;

Now, don't be too rash, not dare burn that there pen,

Exams are tomorrow, tomorrow at ten. On your face I perceive a sad look of disaster. So I Sign with a smile, Yours truly, Your master.

MAY BEITH, 2A.

A rocketed spaceman named Glenn, Once circled the world thrice and then, Retarded in flight, He descended all right, And said, "I could do it again". MAY MARTIN, 1B,

EXAMINITIS

(With faint recollections of William Wordsworth)

And now with gleams of half-remembered notes, With many recollections dim and faint, And misery of a sad perplexity, The image of the room revolves again: While here I sit, not only scared and dazed By present questions, but with the awful thought That on this moment may depend my life and food For future years . . . I cannot paint What now I feel. The ticking clock Haunts me like a passion; the scratching pens,

The bent heads, and my blank and hungry foolscap,

The questions pleading for answers are now to me

A torment . . . When will this time be past? When will this aching head pain me no more, And all these crawling moments?

ELIZABETH PARK, 5A.

There was a young fellow called Ben, Who kept an intelligent hen; The homework each night, It would grab with delight, And work out his sums with a pen. ANONYMOUS, 2B,



"O.K, Einstein, you've proved your point, now c'mere", BILLY IRVINE, V,

KILSYTH ACADEMY MAGAZINE

OF LOCAL INTEREST



CASTLECARY CASTLE

I am sure that you have all heard of the existence of the Roman Fort at Castlecary, but how many of you know that quite near the Wall, and only four miles from Kilsyth, stands a 15th century castle? Recently I visited the castle and found it so interesting that I thought you might like to hear about it. I could, I suppose, describe the building, with its solar, its merlons, its crenels, its champhered windows and its garderobe, but as I doubt if those who know nothing about Scottish castles would know what I was talking about, I shall just point out the most interesting features.

As I mentioned, nearby stands Antonine's Wall, and so it is not at all surprising to find that the tower was built of stone from the Wall. This is obvious since all over the tower are to be seen typical Roman markings such as the good luck sign made up of a star and beetle. However, old as the present tower is, it is not the original building. This was a wooden structure standing a short distance away. In 1473 the Flemings from Cumbernauld, having quarrelled with the owners, the Livingstones, stole their cattle and burnt down their dwelling. As in those days, a laird who did not possess a castle, was considered worthless, in 1480 the tower which now stands was built. At the time of the Battle of Kilsyth there was a building adjoining the tower, which by this time was in the hands of the Baileys, the great Covenanting family. This part of the castle was rebuilt in 1679.

The whole of the five-storied tower, at present being renovated in the original style, is really fascinating, but the dungeon is the most interesting. This room, half under ground level, was more likely used as a store or for defence purposes, than as a prison. Here, in the north wall can be seen three layers of stone which are thought to be part of a Roman temple which once stood on the site. Protecting the doorway into the dungeon, is a heavy iron gate or yett which is made up of four sections so interlocked that the gate cannot be broken down. In fact this type of gate was so strong that a castle owner had to have a licence from the King to possess one-the King had to be sure that he could gain entrance to every castle in his kingdom, in those days of rebellious barons.

I have told you of only a few of the interesting features to be seen at Castlecary Castle. I have had to omit the original Roman sun-dial, the gardens laid out in the original manner and the unique gun loops; but perhaps, some day you will have a chance of seeing them for yourself.

JOHN MILNE, 6.

BEFORE AND AFTER

The "Hydro" was a dilapidated old house, which was situated off Parkburn Road.

The people of the Church of God, Kilsyth, bought the ground on which to build a new church. The clearing of the site commenced during the summer months of 1961 and many of the church members worked hard demolishing the house, bit by bit, using a tifor. When the building had been completely brought down to ground level, work began on the trees. The largest trees were hauled down, also by using the tifor, and sawed into parts.

During these months, the architect, Mr John Angus, had been working industriously on the drawing up of the plans for the new church. After being passed by the local council, these were sent to the head office at Stirling, where they were completely passed in January, 1962.

For a few months the work on the site had been at a stand-still, pending the "all clear" from the County Council. Then every night, many of the men worked, under light, preparing the foundations and the most essential parts of the lesser hall.

Every member of the church is looking forward to the day, when the waste piece of ground on the corner of Parkburn Road will be occupied by a beautiful church, built to the Glory of God.

IRENE MACHRAY, 2A.

BALDERNOCK CHURCHYARD

Baldernock Church, built in 1795 for 406 people, had one of the churchyards which body-snatchers used to frequent since it was near Glasgow where there was a demand for bodies by the medical school. It was because of this that a small out-house was built in which the members of the Parish used to take turns at watching the graves. Some of the graves have the skull and crossbones on them which probably shows that their inhabitants died of some epidemic like cholera.

JOHN MCMILLAN, 1A.

WHERE ARE THE THEATRES?

"Thy hand, great Anarch, lets the curtain fall, And Universal Darkness buries all".

This is an apt description of the theatrical activity going on in Kilsyth today. The curtain has well and truly dropped. It was not always so. I have gathered from the older members of the community these facts about the theatre, as it used to be in Kilsyth.

The beginning of performances in Kilsyth has been lost in antiquity but the earliest recollected form of acting as a public entertainment, is the Penny Geggies. These were travelling companies which gave performances in barns, halls or any suitable place. The entrance fee would be something very small like a penny and they carried their properties around with them in a kind of cart—hence presumably the name. The performances were melodramatic and violent. After this halls such as the old Westport Hall were used as theatres. Then the Old Vic. (St. Patrick's Hall) was used regularly for entertaining. Many famous people appeared here, Harry Lauder and Will Fyfe, among them.

These theatres gave Kilsythians an occasion to dress in their best, meet one another and thoroughly enjoy themselves for a night. It was also a contact with the world outside their own environment. Theatres such as these in Kilsyth gave a livelihood to many travelling artists who would often make the same performance or play the same play again and again in different towns. Many local amateurs would also appear here.

How different it is today! All we are offered are cafes and cinemas. Where have the theatres gone? I know that I should enjoy a night out at a theatre regularly, without having to go into Glasgow. After all, 10,000 people live in Kilsyth. Surely they could support at least one theatre in the town even if it were only a small converted barn as in the old days.

AGNES BINNIE, Class 3A.

There was an old lady from Torrance, Who looked on T.V. with abhorrence; She said, "I prefer To sit on the fler, And spend an hour cutting my corns."

JOHN WHITEFORD, 1A.

KILSYTH IN A NUTSHELL

Kilsyth, a town of 10,000 inhabitants, in the County of Stirlingshire, lies in the Forth and Clyde valley thirteen miles from Glasgow. Its industries are coal-mining, quarrying, and the manufacture of hosiery, blackboards and coffin-furnishings.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, weaving was the main industry, as a name like Shuttle Street reminds us. Many years ago, too, copper was mined and limestone quarried in the Kilsyth Hills.

The town has been associated with more than one religious revival, and perhaps this has something to do with the fact that Kilsyth has been dry since 1920 when the people voted it that way.

WILLIAM CHALMERS, 3E.

STRANGER THAN FICTION

THE DUEL

He was a fellow to be respected. His sleek muscular frame had a beauty of movement reminiscent of the grace of a ballerina but was ever ready to spring into action with the rugged brawn of a wrestler.

The scene was a craggy mountain glen dotted with naked pines and groups of coarse black rock with a stream gurgling its way down the bleak slopes. In the gloomy Highland dusk there was a deathly hush. The weather had prevented the ascent of his steep winding path.

Ever alert, he approached once more the worn hollow rock which was his shelter. He was hungry. But his restlessness was aroused by his keen instinct which warned him that there was something to be feared here.

Suddenly he heard something striking water behind him. Too late! He felt a sharp cruel pain in his side. He was struggling for life in the grasp of a rough wiry little man, armed with an evil-shaped weapon. He writhed, wrestled and struggled to free himself but the grip was firm and even then he felt a numbness creep through his body. For a moment his struggles were redoubled . . . he was free, rolling down the bank into the river. A shattering splash echoed through the glen as he hit the water but he never felt the impact . . .

The killer, recovering from the frantic thrust, stood up, glimpsed at the limp corpse, then heaved it on to the bank.

His triumph was brief . . . he was fixed in the offensive glare of several torchlights. Four men loomed up over the rocks. He gasped in dismay. They had finally caught him. He was grabbed and led away. One man remained, training his torch beam on the mutilated body beneath him and muttered wistfully—"Poor fellow, must be a gide 30 pun' in him—a braw salmon!"

DONALD WILSON-Class 5A.

A STORY OF OLD CAMPSIE

This is a story behind a name on a tombstone which is situated at the Clachan Cemetery in the Campsie Glen. The name is that of the Rev. John Collins.

The story goes that the Rev. Collins came to Campsie intending to remain a bachelor, but he was not long in his charge until he married the fairest woman in the district. Others had sought her hand, but all, save one, retired from the field when it became evident that the new minister was the favourite suitor—the exception was the Laird of Balglass.

The Laird of Balglass was very jealous of the Rev. Collins, and, one way or another, he wanted to get rid of the minister. His chance came one day in November, 1648. He knew that on that day, the minister was to attend a presbytery meeting in Glasgow and would return in the evening. Accordingly he laid his plans.

On returning from the meeting, Collins was dragged from his horse and murdered by Balglass on the Glasgow Road. He took his victim's money and watch so that suspicion might fall on highwaymen. He left the body on the roadside, and made for home.

Balglass pretended to be very helpful when the body was found, and he showed much sympathy when he broke the news to the minister's wife.

After some time Mrs. Collins had to move out of the old manse Balglass proposed to her, and she accepted readily.

At first things went smoothly but some time later Balglass's conscience began to trouble him—he could not sleep; he evaded company and he refused to talk. His wife grew very worried, but she thought that some light might be thrown on the mystery if she could examine his papers which were kept in a box. He guarded the key jealously, but in the end she secured it, and, when her husband was out, searched the box. To her horror she found her ex-husband's watch tucked in the corner. At that moment Balglass entered the room. She looked up and saw the guilt on her husband's face.

Balglass left the house and was never seen again. CHRISTINE YOUNG, Class 2A.

A MYSTERY STORY

I spilt my soup on my trousers, It left a horrible stain! I was told that the stain would vanish, If I left them out in the rain. So the first rainy evening I left them Outside on the top of some plants; In the morning the stains had vanished, And, by gosh—so had my pants!

ROBERT CASSIDY, 3D.

THE MAJOR'S PLAN

Major Stephens at last convinced the Board that his plan was the best. It might be incredibly expensive, but what was expense when the survival of the human race was at stake! At most, said the scientists, the earth had a future of thirty years.

The decision taken, the plan was at once put into operation. Day and night, work went on constructing huge spaceships, each capable of holding 1,000 of the millions who were to escape from earth. As each fleet of vehicles was completed, the people assigned to them were sent off at once. The black race was destined for Zena, the yellow for Ostillo, the white for Rens, the mulattos for Al. It was agreed that on landing they should destroy the ships and that no further communication should be attempted with earth.

At the end of ten years the last spaceship hovered over the earth, its occupants witnessing apparent desolation. But it was not desolate. Major Stephens had watched the ships disappear into nothingness as he lovingly cast into a likely pool in the still summer evening. His line tightened. "It's going to be good fishing", he said blissfully.

ANNE GIBSON, 4A.

THE HANDSOME KILLERS

I encountered the weasels late in the evening in the middle of the wood. They emerged from the shadows of the gaunt firs and advanced swiftly towards me.

I backed against a gnarled tree as the first weasel reached me. A swish of wings and a soft thud at my feet indicated the presence of a brown owl. In less time than it took the weasels to realise that one of their number was missing, the bloody talons claimed the head of the tribe and my ghostly benefactor carried him into the shadowy pine. Taking courage, I picked up a stick and leapt into the midst of the savage little animals. Seven died under my swinging weapon and the remainder fled.

An eerie silence settled over the place and, as I turned to resume my walk, one thought predominated in my mind, "I wonder if that was Tawny, the owl I raised from an owlet?".

JAMES WYPER, 2A.

WILLIE

Willie saw some dynamite, He could not understand it quite. Curiosity never pays, It rained Willie seven days.

I. WITHERS and B. CLELLAND, 3E.

A DRIVING LESSON

One Saturday, my uncle decided to give me a driving lesson. I took over the jeep, but when I put the gear lever back and my foot down on the accelerator, the jeep started to go backwards towards the pond. My uncle stopped it just in time.

I tried again but the engine started to spurt. We had no petrol left! The nearest garage was six miles away. I started walking towards it. It was raining cats and dogs by this time and I had no coat or jacket.

When I reached the garage, I found I had forgotten the petrol can. After an age the attendant found one and gave me three gallons in it. I did not notice the leak in the can and arrived with just enough petrol to reach the garage again with the jeep.

Now I feel safer in a bus.

IAN GRAHAM, 2F.

There was a young lady from France, Who knew nothing except how to dance, But one day with her toes, She kicked her large nose, And quickly fell into a trance. EDWARD MAXWELL, 2C,

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ROMANCE IN NATURE



NORMAN MCDONALD, VI.

A LONE GLEN IN SUMMERTIME

Here is a pure, pellucid burn, Sheathed in glades of oak and fern, Lapping moss at every turn.

Here are flowers of rainbow hues, Yellow and pink and azure blues, Blushing and blooming, moist with dew.

Here is a haven of peace profound, Rolling hills and moors surround, Hush! God and Nature are all around, RAY F. WADDELL, 3B.

THE POOL

The stillness of the forest dark, That rings the water clear and cool, The distant singing of the lark, The sky re-echoed in the pool, All make on me their quiet mark, And fill me with contentment full. SANDRA BUCHANAN, 4B,

DUCKS

Four ducks in a pond. A grassy bank beyond. A blue sky of spring. A cloud on the wing. WILLIAM MILLER, 3E,

NIGHT

The velvet blackness of the night, Slips slowly down the sky, Till we are shadows in the dark, The hill, the trees, and I.

In silence now the stars are lit, The moon sails up on high; And we are bathed in silver light, The hill, the trees, and I.

ANNE CAMERON, 3B.

IN THE VALLEY

It was quiet and peaceful in the valley below, Where the grass was greener and swaying to and fro.

The birds high up in the trees were chirping, The rabbits over the tufts were skipping.

The stream rippled over the stones and the moss,

And gleaming fish in the brook flashed past. The flowers in the wood were blooming fair, And the perfume they gave made sweet the air.

JANET BAILEY, 3F.

THE VOICE OF THE WIND

Sometimes the wind has a voice like the sea; I hear it when I'm in my bed; Softly it sings as it scurries around, In the chimney-pots high over head.

Sometimes it shouts, like a boisterious giant With a blustery flustery roar, As it whirls down the street and scatters the leaves, And rattles the latch on the door.

And rutiles the tutch on the ubor.

And sometimes, on winter nights, stormy and dark.

When windows shine cosy and warm, Says the wind with a sigh as it taps on the pane, "Won't you please let me in from the storm?" HELEN WALLACE, 1E.

A MOUNTAIN

Huge, dark, dreary lump. Taut on the inland soil, With a lofty peak above the clouds, and slopes as greasy as oil.

TOM JOHNSTON, 1C,

June, 1962

THE TWIST



DONALD WILSON, V.

THE TWIST

The twist is here the twist is there, The twist is almost everywhere, They twist in groups they twist with flair. They twist in singles and with dare, Hands to the right, Feet to the left. Body arched in stylish cleft. Backwards and forwards. Round and round. Upwards stretch, Then to the ground, They twist in homes, they twist in halls, They twist in hamlets and at balls, In fact 'tis almost true to say. The twist has surely come to stay. JACQUELINE JOHNSTON, 2A.

THE TEENAGER

Her stockings are as black as coal, Her skirt is far too tight, Her chunky jumper's to her knees, She really looks a sight. Her eyelids glow with brightest green, Her hair hangs round her face, She totters round on pencil heels, And fails to walk with grace. She thinks the effect is beautiful, She's sure she looks real cool; But when she tries to mount a bus, She really looks a fool.

MAY MARTIN, 1B.

DOGS AND CATS

A TALE

As I was walking through a wood I heard a dog barking. Hurrying to where I heard the noise I came across a disused quarry. There on a ledge sat a very forlorn collie pup.

I ran to a farm which was near by. I described the situation. The farmer told two of the farm-hands to collect some rope and a couple of bones.

Soon we were back at the quarry. As I was the smallest it was decided that I should be lowered down to the ledge. After some difficulty the dog was brought up. It scampered off without a sniff at the bones or a bark of thank you.

SHIRLEY SMITH, 2E.

A NEW PUPPY

Watch your football, watch your blouse, There's a puppy in the house. Watch your lamp cords, watch your chairs, Watch your feet upon the stairs. Watch and watch from dawn to dark, Run wherever there's a bark; Still you'll find a sock a shoe, Gone, or nearly chewed in two, Still you'll find your bathrobe torn, Your curtains of their fringes shorn. You'll find your paper chewed or gone, You'll find deep holes dug in the lawn— You'll find a welcome at your door, And love you've never known before.

JEAN JOHNSTON 3A.

AN ADVENTURE

This tale is true only the facts have been; changed, about a cat; not on a hot-tin roof, or on a mat; as you'll see as follows:—

Two dogs fought over a rat, A dead rat! When along came a cat, A sly, slinky, scavenger cat, Who took that rat, And made a scat, To his habitat. And after that.... (Do not repeat this in front of mice) It ate that rat!

HAMISH CAMPBELL, 2A.

MADEMOISELLE LOOKS AT KILSYTH ACADEMY

O Muse, who formerly inspired Ossian, the ancient bard, lend me your lyre, that I may sing in worthy terms the praises of the School.

After a slow ascent, through wind and rain unleashed, suddenly it appears, a citadel a-top a hill, sparkling with myriad lights in the mist which gradually drift apart.

It's tower is visible from far, the noble equal of those cathedrals which formerly drew to themselves their floods of pilgrims. To-day, they burn perhaps not with such ardent faith, those pilgrims who, at a certain hour, direct their steps towards her, hasting and bent under the weight of tomes; yet their fate would be the envy of many of their French equals. In this modern temple of knowledge all is clear, gay and spacious.

Who can sing the charm of these endless corridors, that diabolical labyrinth, fit to maze the stranger, those staircases going up and down? You turn to right, you turn to left; faces smiling in the passing, others shy; eyes alive and ruddy cheeks, in the harmony of uniforms or a swirling kilt scuttering round the corner.

And what can we say of these doors sagely arrayed, whose colours would make you dream, from canary yellow to kingfisher blue? what tongue can tell of what goes on behind these barred doors? There is one at least behind which tea flows in a permanent mirthful flood. . . but even I dare not reveal the secrets from within this den of gods!

Let us think rather of the joys of the pool —a privilege enjoyed by no French school; of football on such a faithful field that it dogs your steps; of the home-craft department whence mouth-watering odours emerge to distract you from the contemplation of works painted by artists on the spot.

There is nothing severe or restrictive in the school. The belts lie, in dormant threat, in the depths of the drawers; but study does not seem austere there; tables are pushed back, chairs brought in, for debates as diverse as humour and topicality can make them, based on the talent of the protagonists.

Christmas brings a true magic; the recorders pipe, mingling with the sounds of

carols; dull cares fly away, and young and "elder" together dance in a cascade of stars; all is joy in the feast, while I feel rise within me the sadness of leaving soon these charming people in this charming spot.

MARINETTE PENAUD.

THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Our centre pages this year feature some of the varied activities of the Music Department.

The foundation of all true musical education is the training of the ear. It is only through the ear that music can appeal to the intellect and emotions, and the ability to hear intelligently is of equal importance to the performer and the listener.

This brings us to the two main divisions in musical education, making music and listening to music. Every pupil possesses a "built in" instrument—the voice, and one of the first essentials is to train him to use it to produce good tone, pure vowel sounds and the best possible diction—not an easy task when speech is not of the best.

Appreciation of classical music presents its own difficulties in this "Pop" age, but every effort is made to widen the musical knowledge of the pupils in this field.

In both these divisions extra curricular work plays a large part as the time available during the school day is not sufficient. The Choirs and recorder groups who compete in the Falkirk Festival, the entrants for the Sol-fa Examination, and pupils who have taken part in school concerts have given generously of their time after school hours.

For the most part too, visits to Orchestral Concerts, Opera and Ballet performances etc., take place in the evenings or on Sunday afternoons, so the large attendance at these outings is most encouraging, and is a good omen for the future of music in Kilsyth Academy.

The king of the Greeks wouldn't wear any breeks,

Wouldn't wear any breeks—not he! He said I'm well built, For wearing a kilt,

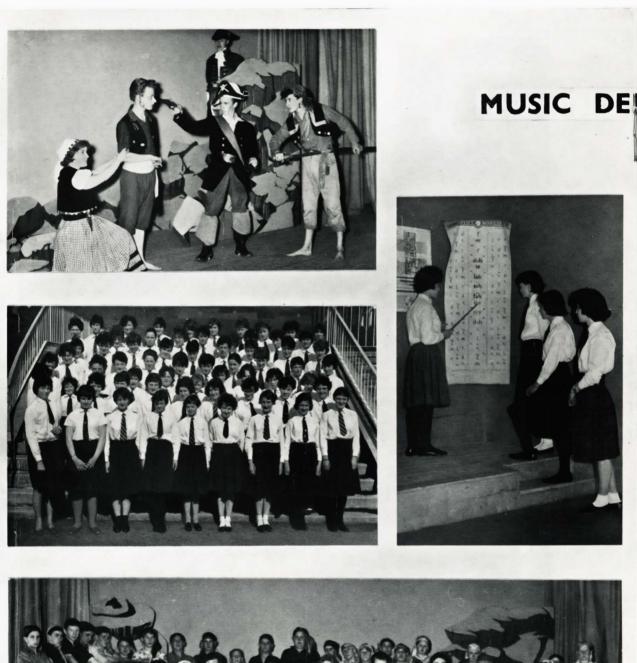
For my grandmother's name was McPhee. Donald Gillies, 1c.



CLASSES 5 AND 6



CLASS CAPTAINS AND VICE-CAPTAINS













UNDER 14 FOOTBALL TEAM, 1961-62

Standing: J. Weir, M. Cunningham, B. Stevenson, Wm. Smith, R. Cooper, M. Dyer, R. Cassidy, Seated: H. Bryce, D. Smith, I. Withers, K. Kidd (Capt.), I. Donaldson, J. Currie, I. McLaughlin.

SENIOR LIFE SAVING AWARDS 1961-62

Bronze Medallion: G. Bowe, Wm. Barrowman, J. Irvine, N. Smart, I. Miller, R. Reid, J. Hartley, M. Blair, E. Anderson, J. Murphy M. McDonald, M. Prentice, N. Couper, A. Taylor, M. Smith, M. Stirling, M. Todd, M. Cowan. Bronze Cross: A. Gibson, M. Addie, J. Stewart, H. Richards, (Instructor's Certificate), S. Taylor A. Patrick, E. Kidd.





INTERMEDIATE CERTIFICATE OF THE R.L.S.S., 1961-62

Back Row: Wm. Kerr, Wm. Whyte, J. Marshall, H. Houston, J. Pollock.

Second Row: N. Kenyon, D. Russell, Wm. Wilson, J. Dunn, D. Blair, B. Prentice, H. Griffin, R. Miller.

Seated: J. Hood, M. Turnbull, J. Johnston, I. Machray, M. Beith, M. Campbell, G. McKay.

FOUR TRANSLATIONS

GREEK

(From Mimnermus)

CARPE DIEM

As leaves in spring, so rich in many flowers, Unfold themselves before the warm sun's rays, So we in youth enjoy our fleeting hours, And no cloud overcomes our golden days.

But two fates wait mankind when youth is past. The one is death which all are doomed to meet; The other age which creeps on us at last, And cruelly makes us think of death as sweet.

For one may lose his wealth, another health; Or yet another vainly wish an heir; And none may shun his destiny by stealth, No man escape his doom and his despair.

HELEN PROVAN & MARGARET THOMSON, 5A.

LATIN

(From Tibullus)

THE GOLDEN AGE

Once did the honey sweetly flow, Even from the oaken tree; Once did the corn unhindered grow, And under Saturn none did see The yoked oxen labouring slow, Over some fenced lea.

Once no white sails swept billowing free, No man had tamed the wave, Nor sought for wealth across the sea, Nor found in it his grave; No man had learned to bend the knee To conquering foemen brave.

But now that Jupiter is king, I see the marshalled hosts; I hear the soldier proudly sing His battle songs; he boasts Sad sights that bloody memories bring, Of friends that now are ghosts. MOIRA BANKIER, 5A.

FRENCH

(From Henri de Regnier: Les Lendemains)

YESTERDAYS

Round the sleeping pool the reeds now quiver, Like the timorous flight of hidden birds; And the muted zephyrs softly whisper, Bringing memories scarce recalled in words.

Silver moonbeams fall upon the water, On the boundless stretch of meadow land, Whence the restless wind is ever wafting, Fragrant scent of herbs from nature's hand.

In my heart awakened, thus by beauty, Life long past comes shrouded in regret, Words of love once whispered in the distance, Plaintive fountains weeping in neglect.

JAMES CLELAND, 4A.

GERMAN

(From Christian Knorr von Rosenroth, 1636-89)

MORNING HYNM

O morning gleam of endless life, Shine down with Thy unceasing light, To banish fear and darkest strife, And end our night,

May these dark clouds of Adam's sin, Before thy glory quickly flee, That by thy light this little world, May blessed be.

O let thy morning-dew of goodness, Descend upon our weary minds, Till each refreshed by its sweetness, Some comfort finds. MARGARET C. CALDER, 4A. KILSYTH ACADEMY MAGAZINE

LAUGHTER HOLDING BOTH HIS SIDES

INTERLUDE IN A BUS

I sat down beside a sleepy-looking man who, with mouth agape, eyed me suspiciously from beneath a jungle of hair protruding from below a battered deerstalker hat, set at a jaunty angle. He wore a white raincoat (white fifty years ago, but now dying a horrible death). On his lap lay a huge parcel wrapped in the "Racing News". His famous first words, "Wantadrink?" produced a negative answer, and, taking this as a personal insult, he produced a huge pipe and disappeared behind a white cloud from which came a violent coughing. As a veritable London fog swirled down the bus, the combined protests of the passengers at last prevailed on him.

When his features finally became clear, I saw him struggling with the parcel. "Malunch!" he announced, proudly displaying several bottles; but, ah, cruel fate, not a bottle opener! Nothing daunted, he staggered down the bus, disturbing everyone in the quest for the missing key to his lunch. When he should have reached the driver (his smoke-screen was still efficient) we swerved several times and braked twice. Then, singing in an incoherent, off-key style, Matt Munro the II appeared again.

Peace reigned momentarily, but suddenly beside me a hammering noise broke out, increased in volume and culminated in the lady in front having a beer shampoo. Forgetting his lunch temporarily, he produced a battered notebook and was engrossed in calculations for several minutes. Then. glancing quickly around with all the furtiveness of a secret agent, he showed a page on which was scrawled, "Weery Willie 5,000-1". "Acert!" he said emphatically. Well, certainly straight from a horse's mouth! It must have been the beer. It certainly must have been the beer, for the poor man descended at a well-known stop and, singing a well-known tune, entered a well-known entrance.

Next morning, I read in the Stop Press— "Missing and thought to be lost, one Rangers' supporter, last seen entering Parkhead singing, 'We will follow Rangers'."

GEORGE MORRISON, 2A.

SCOUTS BEWARE!

Attention Scouts! I beg you hark To my sad tale of woe, Take heed, and note this carefully, If you should camping go.

A leader and his cronies crept Late one mirk starless night, To see what mischief could be done On the sleeping guide camp site.

The guys of one tent had been loosed, When Oh! Alas! Alack! He heard a noise; he spun around— Those guides were at his back.

He spurned the ground beneath his feet, 'Mid screams and sounds of hissing, And when at last he reached his tent, He found something was missing.

While visiting that camp next day, His garter tab he spied; Upon a flagpole, out of reach, 'Twas by some bold guide tied.

He tried in vain this to regain, It nearly broke his heart, Because some sentimental girl Refused with it to part.

So my advice to all you scouts, Who guide camps think to storm, sirs, Just think again, or you may lose Part of your uniform, sirs.

A GUIDE, 3A.

SWEET REPOSE!

This morning I rose From sweet repose Puts on my clothes And out I goes.

Meets one of my foes Who hits me on the nose And down I goes.

Picks myself up Dusts down my clothes And home I goes For more sweet repose. CHRISTINE PRIMROSE, Class 3A.

THE PLAGUE OF THE GOLF COURSE

It was 9 o'clock on a bright Saturday morning when we saw emerging from the club-house, Dig Turfup. We could not deny that Dig had every golfing asset—a full set of bright, new clubs, a caddy car, a huge umbrella and the loudest pullover that money could buy.

He casually strolled over to the first tee and set a brand new ball on his speciallymade tee. After a few confident practice shots, he made a spectacular swing and dislodged a massive piece of turf which flew several yards. The ball merely trembled in the breeze it made.

His next attempt proved more fruitful, for Dig drove the ball all of ten yards (with the help of a following wind), narrowly missing us watchers at the club-house. Perhaps he gathered strength from success for the next piece of turf that hurtled into the air was of unbelievable proportions. At this point, the greenkeeper, Snam Sead, retired to the club-house groaning sadly.

But the President of the Course seemed pleased with Dig's progress. "That boy's got what it takes!" he declared loudly. "He'll make champion grade yet". With no little surprise I heard some of the other spectators agreeing.

Ten minutes later, Dig had still not completed the first hole and it was late afternoon before he finished the round, leaving his trail for all to see.

When I found the greenkeeper alone, I asked him why Dig was allowed to pursue his destructive course. "He's the President's son", he answered sadly.

Dr. CARY BROWN, 5A.

GENUINE QUOTES FROM PEN-FRIENDS' LETTERS

Dear....

I thank you energetic for your last letter and photograph. I have admired your house and garden with a stream (1).

I go passionate willing to inspire the filmstar Elvis Presley—have you heard of him? What is the backside of his "Teddy Bear" like?

I am sorry I do not write sooner but I have been reviving for the exams,

You ask about my hobbies—I exercise myself on my accordion and fill myself with the joy of my little sister.

I extend appreciation to you for the present of a genuine Lawrie's Tartan Character Doll with sleeping eyes, premoulded plastic body. Marvellous value at 17/6—sub-standard (2).

I must go, mother is very ill. I embrace you very vigorous.

Yours affectedly,

From the love of Francoise.

- (1) A photograph of the Houses of Parliament.
- (2) See manufacturer's label, inadvertently left on doll.

B. MITCHELL and A. CLARK, 5A.

LOVE KNOTS UNTIED

Send your problems of the hart to us we're two old deers—Priscilla, M.A. (Mistress of Amours) and Gertrude, R.S.P.C.A.

- Q. My boy friend and I are very much in love. Only one small point bars the way to perfect happiness. I want a church wedding—he wants to stay single. Please help me!
- A. A little delicate diplomacy is called for, dear. Why not suggest your father owns a revolver and is a splendid shot. We feel sure this would work.
- Q. My daughter Awfulelia retires to her room for hours each evening with Hamlet, a Great Dane. What can I do?
- A. Why not consult the expert on such matters, the eminent psychiatrist, Mr. W. Shakespeare?
- Q. I tried to dye my hair black, but it fell out and my scalp has turned a luminous red. Do you think I shall still be attractive to the opposite sex?
- A. My dear, any boy who shuns a girl in these circumstances isn't worth bothering about.
- Q. Do you think I am too young to have a regular boy friend? My Mother thinks I should wait another year. I am nine.
- A. This, to our mind, is a teeny-weeny bit early. But so much depends on the speed of maturity.

KILSYTH ACADEMY MAGAZINE

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

DEBATING SOCIETY

The session began with "A Matter of Opinion" in which a Teachers' Panel provided delightful entertainment by answering our questions. Then followed a varied programme. We had debates on the motions "That Freedom is our most prized possession", "That Science has been of benefit to mankind", and "Euthanasia", a difficult subject, ably tackled by the Third Year. Debates were interlarded with lighter items like Juke Box Jury, a Hat Night, and an excellent performance of a dramatic Trial by Jury by the Fifth and Sixth Years.

Despite the interruptions caused by various examinations, the session has proved very enjoyable, and our thanks go to those members of staff who have shown interest in us, and especially to Miss Stark, our Convener, for ever much-needed help through out the year.

MOIRA BANKIER, 5A.

SCRIPTURE UNION—GIRLS' SECTION

Mr. Kidd has permitted us to hold S.U. meetings in school, under the supervision of Miss Montgomery and Miss Anderson.

Our meetings for Bible reading and discussion are held on Tuesday's at four o'clock. We follow the S.U. system of Bible Reading but the discussions have mainly been on subjects which the girls choose themselves.

We were also pleased to receive visits from Mr. Stuart and Miss Dunnigan of S.U. Glasgow and from Captain Petrie of the Salvation Army, Kilsyth Corps.

Attendances were good this year but we would welcome any other pupils who are interested.

HELEN PROVAN, 5A.

SCRIPTURE UNION-BOYS' SECTION

The boys meet on Tuesday nights and spend the first twenty minutes discussing a portion of the Bible, the understanding of which is the main aim of the club.

The remainder of the time is spent in playing either football or basketball. Various competitions have been organised, including a football tournament to raise funds for spastic children.

Scripture Union cards and other literature can be obtained from Mr. Shaw, who guides the meeting of about thirty boys every week.

JAMES HUTCHISON, 3A.

THE RADIO CLUB

The club was formed by Mr. Goodwin in November of 1961 and meets every Tuesday night. The purpose of the club is to teach the members the principles of electronics and how to build simple morse and radio sets. This club is attended by twelve pupils of the Third Year. The future aim of the club is to carry on for a further two years and for the members to sit a General Post Office examination at the end of the fifth year.

DAVID MCBRIDE, 3A.

SPORT

The Academy has had a lean year in sport. There was no senior football team and the Intermediate team had one of its poorest seasons to date. Of sixteen league games played, it has won one, drawn two, and lost the remainder. The under-fourteens fared little better, winning five and drawing two of the twelve games played.

In the County Sports held at Graeme High School in 1961, no team trophies were won, but all groups acquitted themselves nobly, and Bert Patrick won the Group B Boys' Discus event.

The school Badminton Club has flourished during the past year under the leadership of Mr. Gray, and membership has risen.

The School Sports, 1961, were won by Balmalloch with Garrel only a few points behind, Colzium third and Monieburgh fourth. David Taylor was Senior Boys' Champion, James Cleland Intermediate and Robert Cooper Junior Champion. Mary Macniven was Senior Girls' Champion and Maureen Barker Junior Girls' Champion.

MALCOLM MACNIVEN, 5A.

Staff v. Pupils.—On a sunny 12th April, the Annual football battle between staff and pupils was fought out on a muddy Kilsyth Academy football pitch. After an exciting tussle, the pupils opened the scoring by an excellent goal from young Bradford. In the second half, the staff (with the help of referee Burns) fought to regain their honour, and although a penalty was missed, succeeded in tying the match when that red-headed crack inside forward, Mr. Fleming, skilfully lobbed the ball over the defenders' heads to Mr. Hendry who equalised. After the drawn game, comments from the staff ranged from, "A quiet afternoon", to "I'm dead!"

VICTOR HAMILTON, 5A.

COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS

National Bible Society of Scotland Essay:— Each of the following Third Year pupils will receive a beautifully bound Bible for writing the best essay in his or her respective class:—

3A, Jean Anderson and Joan Davidson; 3B, Ray Waddell and Jean Stevenson; 3C, Hugh Paterson; 3D, Ian Bell; 3E, William Chalmers; 3F, Christine Law.

Those written by Jean Anderson and Joan Davidson have been forwarded to the Society as entries for the special prize.

Burns Competition, 1961:—Elizabeth Park, 4A, was the successful candidate.

Colzium Award for Public Speaking, 1961:— The Cup was won for the second time by Clifford Roseweir, 6A.

Glasgow Art Gallery's Competition, 1961:— Over twenty pupils from Kilsyth Academy competed. Three bronze medals were won: —Donald Wilson, 5A ("Dozing"); Norman McDonald, 6A ("Landscape") and Maureen Barker, 3B ("Choirboys").

Brooke Bond Essay Competition:—George Morrison and June St. Clair, of Class 2A, won book tokens for the best essays in their class.

Central Counties Musical Festival Association: 36th Festival, May, 1961.—Kilsyth Academy won first place in the recorder section. Summer Cruise on M.S. "Dunera":--Margaret Thomson, 5A, won the Captain's prize for the best essay written about the cruise. The girls of the Kilsyth Academy party won the award for the best kept dormitory. Anne Wilson (formerly 4B), shared first place for her speech about the cruise. A Kilsyth select won the deckhockey tournament.

Life Saving Awards, 1961:—Boys: Fifteen boys received Intermediate Certificates; five boys won Bronze Medallions; two boys won Bronze Crosses; one award of Merit was gained; one boy received the Instructors' Certificate. Girls: Five girls won the Intermediate Certificate; nineteen girls won Bronze Medallions; six girls won Bronze Crosses. 1962: Boys: Eight boys won Bronze Medallions. Two boys received Instructors' Certificates.

GEORGE F. LINDSAY, 5A.

SCHOOL EXCURSIONS

English Department: In June about 180 pupils attended a delightful performance of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at Jordanhill Training College, and about the same number saw the Old Vic Production of "The Merchant of Venice" in November. The Kirkintilloch Players have with customary kindness provided thirty complementary tickets for their performances.

History Department: In May, classes 2A and 2B made excursions to David Livingstone's home in Blantyre, and class 1A, 1B and 1C visited the Art Galleries to study historic weapons. A more ambitious project is being fulfilled in June when classes 2A and 2B will make an excursion to the Border Country which will include Melrose Abbey and Abbotsford.

Music Department:—In October a party of 150 pupils visited the Albert Hall, Stirling, to hear a concert given by the Scottish National Orchestra under its conductor Alexander Gibson. Later in November, 200 girls attended a performance of "The Sleeping Beauty" by the Royal Ballet Company in the King's Theatre, Glasgow. Science Department—New visits this session included a third form geology visit to Campsie Glen and one to the steel works in Coatbridge. Another new venture was the trip to the aluminium works in Falkirk.

The Christmas lecture at Graeme High was on Synthetic Plastics and was of the usual high standard.

Visits which have become "hardy annuals" were those to St. Rollox works of I.C.I., Dumbreck Coke Ovens, and the summer outing to the Marine Station, Millport.

Technical Department—In June, once again a party of third year boys had an interesting visit to H.M.S. Caledonia. In December the senior boys went to the Miners' Institute in Falkirk to carry out some experiments and they are also planning to visit the New Forth Road Bridge near the end of term.

HELEN PROVAN, 5A.

FILMS IN SCHOOL

During the past year many films were shown to pupils which were of interest to all who saw them.

In the History Department, Mr. McCallum has shown three films of great interest to would-be archeologists. "Biskupin", a film depicting the excavation of an entire prehistoric lake settlement in Poland; "The Medieval Castle" and "The Medieval Monastery" which show clearly every aspect of these monuments of bygone days.

Mr. Fleming has used films extensively in the Science Department, especially in Chemistry, to help pupils grasp the facts more clearly and easily. Among those of general interest were, "Domestic Hot Water" and "Gas in Everyday Life" issued by the Gas Council and also "The Water Cycle", "Uses of Limestone" and "The History of Oxygen" issued by I.C.I. In Physics there has been only one film, "What is Electricity?" but, for the first time, two Botany films were shown, "The Gift of the Green" and "Journey into Spring" as well as a marine biology film, "Between the Tides".

FINLAY MCCAFFER, 6.

FIFTH YEAR HAIR STYLES



KILSYTH ACADEMY MAGAZINE

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FRIGHTFUL FIENDS

A NIGHTMARE

The shades of night were falling, The moon was shining bright, The owls they were a-calling, The mice ran fleet with fright.

He turned into a graveyard, It was the shortest way, He passed between the tombstones, That loomed up dark and grey.

In the centre of that churchyard, He almost died of fright, When he saw a skeleton squadron March towards him through the night.

He hid behind a gaunt tomb, And looked upon the stone; His heart was filled with horror, The name there was his own.

At that the horde of skeletons Surged forward in a wave, And clutched him with their bony hands, And threw him in his grave.

He felt himself a-falling, A hundred feet or more, Until with an almighty crash, He hit the bedroom floor.

ANDREW HILL, 1A.

ESCAPE

Last week I was Mark Anthony and had a crush on Cleopatra. With eyeballs rolling and tongue lolling I slowly made my way out of my room in quest of "Her". I travelled to London in a car going at least two hundred miles an hour. Reaching the Thames' embankment I found her needle. Not seeing the owner, I scaled its slippery slopes, searching high and low for her.

Satisfied that Cleopatra was not to be found, I adjusted my toga and found my way to an Art Gallery where I bade Van Gogh lend me his intact ear.

Unfortunately my friends at home retrieved me and once more I found myself in my quaint quiet cell in a jungle of people flashing lights in front of my eyes. Confidentially, I think they are all mad.

LORD NELSON, 2A,

THE NIGHT OF HALLOWE'EN

This is the night when goblins run, Ghost and witches have their fun; Spooks come slipping down the lane, Tick-tacks rigged on window panes. Eerie noises in and out, Prove that elves are round about; -Doorbells ring and shutters bang. Gates on rusty hinges clang, Bonfires lighting up the scene, This is the night of Hallowe'en.

Then at ten o'clock comes peace, All these eerie noises cease, Bonfires flicker out and die, Black once more becomes the sky, Doorbells suddenly ring no more, When there's no one at the door, Tick-tacks cease their tapping, and Calm once more comes o'er the land, Then a boy, with ghost-like tread, Silently enters and goes to bed.

DEREK COVILL, 3B.

A CRIME

It lay at the edge of the darkened lane, Its body small and white, The head against a piece of stone, A head as black as night.

I pondered as I slowly passed, I knew that I was right, That rigid object on the ground, Would never more see light.

The hand which performed this deed Was probably poised again, Ready to strike another head, And throw away the slain.

Now you who read my little poem, Remember, and take care— To put a match back in the box, When you've put out the flare. MARLYN SHAW, 2C.

LIMERICKS

A wife with a lisp from Kilsyth Shaved off her moustache with a scythe. When people asked why, She said with a sigh, "I don't find a rathor tho nithe".

There was a young man from Banknock Who drove about in an old crock. On Balmalloch Brae His steering gave way— There was a young man from Banknock. JOHN WHITEFORD, 1A.

A giddy young flapper called Florence Ran out for the school bus at Torrance In avoiding a flivver, She fell in the river, And landed miles up the St. Lawrence. BARBARA GOW, 1c.

There was a young lad from Dundee Who said, "A train driver I'll be". But he travelled too fast, All the signals he passed, To end in the depths of the sea. JOHN LAW, 2F.

There once was a dark man from Ayr Who was always combing his hair. He woke up one day, To find it away, And when it grew back it was fair. SANDRA CUNNINGHAM, 2C.

There was a young person called Glen Who tried hard to purchase some yen. He went to Hong Kong, And wrote a hit song, And now he has plenty of them. JOHN WHYTE, 2B.

There once was a high school teacher, A dear, sweet, kindly creature, Who smiling would say, In a lady-like way, "Shut up, youse weans, or Ah'll beat ya!" JAMES TURNBULL, 3C.

A LATIN HEADACHE

Jack et Jill collem scandunt, Ut portent aquae hamam, Jack cadit, caput frangit, Et Jill ruit post eum. JULIUS CAESAR, IIIA.

CUL'YUR

THE ROMANS HAD A WORD FOR IT

Pupils assembled for lunch

Uncaeque manus et pallida semper ora fame. Hooked hands and faces ever pallid with hunger.

Teachers

- Fristius haud illis monstrum. Stygus sese extulit undis
- No more dreadful monster raised itself from the Stygian waves.

Janitor's dog

Monstrum horrendum, informe, ingens A huge, ugly, horrifying monster.

Ode to a Football Coupon

Quid non mortalia pectora cogis auri sacra fames

To what do you not compel mortal hearts; accursed hunger for gold?

5th year pupils before Highers

Mihi frigidus horror membra quatit gelidusque coit formidine sangius

A cold horror shakes my limbs and my icy blood freezes in fear

5th year pupils after Highers

Vivite felices, quibus est fortuna peracta iam sua.

Live, happy ones, whose future is now assured.

Gentlemen of the 5th Year.

Vanum et mutabile semper femina.

Woman is ever fickle and changeable.

5th Year pupil preparing his Latin.

Non illum cereris, non illum cura quietis abstrahere inde potest.

Neither desire for food nor need of rest can drag him away from this.

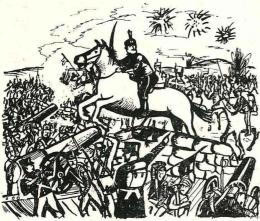
NESTA STIRLING, Class V.

HUMPTUS DUMPTUS

Puer rotundus in muro sedit, Puer rotundus deorsum cadit, Viri regis et equi regis Sanare non possunt puerum bis.

2A TROGLODYTES,

DEATH AND GLORY



GEORGE MORRISON, 2A,

THE VALLEY OF DEATH

With thundering, loudly the cavalry came, The leader fast halted, and drew in his rein. He pulled out his sabre, he shouted aloud, "Come follow me men and we'll humble the proud".

The bugle rang out 'mid the turmoil of war,

- "Go fight for the empire that men have died for".
- The cannon grew louder, the smoke like a cloud,

Hung over the valley, a ghastly white shroud.

The horses ran faster, the cannons flashed red, The white smoke grew thick o'er the ground where lay dead.

Now out in the sunlight and faster we went,

- But slowed when the air with the death shot was rent.
- "We're nearing the guns, I can see them quite clear.
- On then now my beauty! Ride faster than fear!
- We're over the gunpits! They're running away!
- All out with your sabres and we'll make them stay.
- We've captured the guns, they will dormant remain,
- But back in the valley they're paying with pain".

Once more down the valley, they've reached their own line,

But less than two hundred will charge the next time,

And down in the valley four hundred will stay, A'-charging the guns till the great judgment day. George Morrison, 2A.

KILSYTH IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

In a newspaper in my possession dated February 27th, 1915, there is an account of Kilsyth's contribution to Britain's fighting forces in the 1914-18 War.

At the time in question, more than four hundred men had been recruited for the regular army, and if the Territorials are added close on five hundred—and this from a town with a population of about 7,000. When it is remembered that there were many of our lads serving in the navy beside in the army, and that the basic industry was, even more than today, that of mining, these figures seem remarkably high at a time when mobilisation was not compulsory. Moreover, at the time of writing, two hundred of our men were bearing the full brunt of trench warfare.

It is good that we young folk should remember this noble record of our grandfathers and be proud of it.

GEORGE F. LINDSAY, 5A.

ARMISTICE DAY

The dark days of November, Are lit by poppies shed To remind us of our soldiers, The brave ones who are dead. They fought in many a battle, They died by day and night, To prove they loved their country, And all they knew was right.

Their life blood stained the desert, And reddened the green field; But those brave and gallant soldiers resolved they would not yield. They left their homes and loved ones, They marched through lands unknown, To prove they loved their country, The land that was their own.

JOAN WILSON, 2C.

KILSYTH ACADEMY MAGAZINE

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EDUCATIONAL ASPECTS



BILLY IRVINE, V.

"DUNERA" CRUISE

Last summer, I was fortunate to be one of the party from the school to spend thirteen days on board the "M.S. Dunera". This former troopship has been converted into a modern ship which takes up to eight hundred schoolchildren per voyage on educational cruises. We visited the ports of Bergen, Oslo, Copenhagen, Hamburg and Amsterdam.

Soon after we had set sail from Liverpool, the signal for Emergency Station Drill at our muster station was given. Here we were shown how to don our life-belts and told what to do in case of an emergency.

On the ship there was a large Recreation Room with a library, games, Juke-box and shop, which sold almost everything. There was also a Reading Room and an Assembly Hall where we had lectures and films.

9.30 p.m. was the normal time to turn in with lights out half an hour later. On the first night we girls in "Jellicoe", our dormitory, fell asleep to the sound of throbbing engines and the feel of the ship's gentle sway which was not to be so gentle round the North Coast of Scotland.

Each morning, at 7.30 a.m., we awoke to the sound of "Reveille Rock". We were responsible for making our own bunks and keeping the dormitory clean and tidy as there was Captain's inspection each morning and there was a special dormitory prize which our girls' dormitory won at the end of the voyage.

There was plenty of free time when, among other things, we could play deckgames, swim in the pool, listen to records or sun-bathe. One day anchor was dropped in a Norwegian Fjord and there was a lifeboat race between schools. Evening about, there were dances, films and sing-songs.

When we came into port, there were conducted tours in the morning with the afternoon free to shop or sight-see on our own. The most exciting port for me was, Hamburg where some visited the Eastern Frontier while others visited German families. On that evening, the families came back on board to join in the dancing.

These days on the "Dunera" are the happiest I have ever spent.

HELEN HAMILTON, 4A.

TRIBUTE TO. A SCHOOL CLEANER

Armed with buckets, cloths and brushes, In and out of rooms she rushes, Cleaning up the dirt that's there With elbow grease and loving care.

On her face a happy smile, Though she toiling all the while; When she's done, the school's a treat, The floors are clean, the classrooms neat. DOROTHY PENMAN, 5A.

OUR AMBITIONS (By Class 1F)

When Ian grows up he wants to be a chef, and work in a big hotel. He will wear a tall cap and an apron to keep his clothes clean. Alan hopes to be a football player and play for Kilsyth Rangers. He says his position on the field will be centre half. Gavin is going to be a sailor because he wants to see the world. Hugh thinks he will be a farmer with a big dairy farm, with forty cows and five hundred acres of land. Tom will be a bus driver although this is a very hard job because you have to concentrate when you are on the roads. Leslie will be a joiner for a year and then go to the Royal Air Force for nine years. Bruce is going to a training school to learn to be an engineer in the Merchant Navy.

SPORT IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

SPORT-PAST and PRESENT

Today, the sport around Kilsyth is mainly football, but one of the earliest sports in the district was curling. Indeed the curling club was founded in 1711 and claims to be the oldest club in the world. The Kilsyth Fish Protection Association is one of the largest angling clubs in Scotland, with over six hundred members.

In the Colzium-Lennox Estate you may see the local Archery Club at practice on one of the greens. Not to be left out, indoor sports have a firm hold in the community. There's Gymnastics, Badminton, and Wrestling. Golf and Bowling are two sports which have produced many famous players.

Getting back to football, Kilsyth Wanderers was the first team from Kilsyth, but the name was later changed to Kilsyth Emmet. This team gained many honours along with neighbours, Croy Celtic. Round about 1930 the team was renamed Kilsyth Rangers, who have laid a trail of success behind them, including honours like the Scottish and Pompey Cups.

IAN KELLY, 3B.

KILSYTH GOLF COURSE

Kilsyth Golf Course is found to the North East of the town and is situated on the hill side. Although it is only a nine-hole course it is a tricky one and to complete a round (for which the par score is 68) two rounds of the course are made.

There are principally four long straightway holes. These are the first, third, fourth, and eighth. The first hole is bounded on the right by a wood with a singular feature in that it attracts golf balls by some magnetic magic—But, of course, mine never go near there!! The third, to my mind, is the simplest hole but the fourth, although it has no really difficult obstacles requires two long shots in order to reach the green with a view to obtaining a par. The eighth hole is bounded on the right by the Beltmoss quarry and a wrongly-hit ball is invariably lost. The remainder are short holes. The second is a 128 yard hole which may be completed in 2 or 20 strokes. The fifth, sixth, and seventh holes which lie in the extreme north comprise what I consider as TIGER COUNTRY. If wrongly struck a ball will certainly land in the long thick grass and I have had many embarrassing moments in attempts to claw out of this jungle. The ninth hole is relatively simple but its trap lies in the fact that if a ball takes a "banana bend" it flies over the trees into a farmer's field.

Apart from the two disadvantages of lying on a sloping hillside and having built-up tees and greens this is an excellent course and affords great enjoyment to anyone wishing to play the difficult but most agreeable game of golf.

W. MOTHERWELL, IIIA.

PIGEON SHOOTING IN THE PAST

Not so long ago, pigeon shooting was a popular sport in the district. Sometimes perhaps twenty men would collect at the foot of the town and set off, with their guns, for a day's shooting. It was noticed, however, that, since the Main Street then boasted twenty-two public houses, by the time the party was through Kilsyth and into the country, the number was down to seven or eight.

The shooting was not purely for pleasure, but often pigeon pie was the main dish of a household for the following two or three days. JOAN WELSH, 3B.

FISHING

I'd love to go a-fishing, For salmon or for trout, And always I'd be wishing, I'd pull a big one out.

The Glaizert would be flowing, For rain'd be falling fast, And sometime I'd be knowing, I'd got a bite at last.

DOUGLAS TRAVERS, 3A.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE USE OF SPACE IN THE ACADEMY MADAM

Kilsyth Academy covers a large area of ground and is not a compact building with the result that there is much space that, with imaginative treatment, could be transformed to the benefit of staff and pupils, mentally and physically.

There is, for example, a grass square in the centre of the school surrounded by buildings. This quadrangle at present serves no purpose other than to provide pleasure through our looking at it. The grass is in good condition and could be easily trimmed to create a first-class putting-green. If it were thought that a putting-green would be misused, the square could be converted into a rock or floral garden which could serve as a class-room for pupils interested in horticulture as well as a delightful refuge from studies. If such a use were also deemed unsuitable, concrete slabs could be laid over the quadrangle to provide a roller-skating rink for those pupils who must lunch in school. Another possible conversion would be to a running-track by laying a cinder path.

The roof over our school is flat and, at present, of no advantage to the school except to keep the rain out. It could be provided with means of access and used in the summer months as a peaceful place of relaxation and as a sun parlour for staff and pupils.

Beneath the school, the dungeons lie half empty and are thus only half use. The unused space could be put to many uses. For those interested in photography, a dark room could be set up at little cost for it is already dark in the dungeons. For recreation purposes, table tennis could be established, along with, perhaps, a boxing ring and television area.

Most of these adaptations would cost very little and I am quite sure that the pupils themselves would be willing to contribute to making useful these unused spaces.

I am, etc.,

MARSHALL PRENTICE, 5A,

PUPILS' PARKING

MADAM.

I would like to point out the need for a pupils' parking lot. Sometimes in the mornings the senior pupils have difficulty in finding a space for their limousines as many of the staff come early to be sure of a place. I should suggest a parking ground with a capacity for about 100 cars for pupils. This is, perhaps, a conservative estimate if one looks five years ahead.

I am, etc.,

MUSTAPHA PARKINSPACE, 3A.

GOLF FOR THE YOUNG

MADAM,

Last golfing season there were only thirty youth members of Kilsyth Golf Club, most of these attending this school or Falkirk High. This is to be wondered at as Kilsyth has an excellent nine-hole course and many special opportunities are given to young members. There is a professional, for example, who can start them off with the right technique. Another encouragement for young people is the annual youth competition, held usually in the summer holidays. Unfortunately, last year only ten entered, but this did not prevent there being keen competition with the eventual winner of the Meechan Trophy being Harold Richards.

I hope that in the coming season there will be a far larger youth membership. If there were, I am sure that many more competitions could be organised.

I am, etc.,

NEIL SMART, 3A.

RESISTANCE TO ENTRANCE

MADAM,

The doors of the school seem to have been designed by Miss Porter to help our physical training. In the morning I don't know whether to take an extra bowl of porridge or a battering ram. The task of opening these doors is not for the delicate girls of 1B but one for those muscular hemen in 1A.

I am, etc.,

NAN ABERCROMBIE, 1B.

THE FORMER PUPILS' ASSOCIATION

Once again it falls to me to report briefly on the activities of Kilsyth Academy Former Pupils' Association, of which I have the honour to be president.

Our most active section continues to be the Badminton Club, which plays twice weekly during the winter in the school gymnasium. The Cricket Club made a good start last summer, in spite of the weather, and is looking forward in keen anticipation to the approaching season. The Social Section has also been busy, and its various enterprises, which comprise dances, theatre and festival outings, have been well supported. The Record Group has not attracted big numbers to its meetings, but the small band of enthusiasts who have met fortnightly during the winter, have found no little enjoyment in the sounds emitted by the whirling discs. Also, a very successful reunion dance was held last autumn in an Hotel in Bridge of Allan.

All this seems to indicate that the Former Pupils' Association is successful and flourishing, but though much good work is being done, I feel that its full potential is not being realised. This, I do not think, can be attributed to the officers or committee, for they are prepared to welcome and support any practicable scheme that is put to them.

It is difficult to pin-point the reasons. The distractions, ever-increasing, of the age we live in, the modern tendency to sit and spectate rather than be up and doing, the attractions of the big city close at hand, probably all play their part. Kilsyth, as you know from the pages of "The Scotsman", has many deficiencies, and one of these seems to be a disclination on the part of its inhabitants to sustain an interest for long in any public activity. It has been frequently said to me that the F.P. Association will be like all the others-after a promising start, a decline will set in and then the inevitable end will soon follow. You can rest assured that such is far from the minds of the present members. We believe that in the Association we have something good, we believe that it embodies an ideal worth preserving, viz., the strengthening of the link between town and school, to the advantage of both. and we believe that with your help, we can make this ideal a reality, that we can make the F.P. Association live and last.

JAMES WHYTE, President.

BULLETIN

Last year was something of a record when we consider the number of pupils going forward to University and College. No fewer than six pupils from our sixth year and two from the fifth embarked on a University course last October—Arthur Adam, Robert Drummond and David Taylor in the Science Faculty; James Provan, Clifford Roseweir, Fiona Kidd and Marlene Watson in the Arts Faculty; and one girl, Carol Young, is studying Medicine. Robert Maxwell has chosen dentistry as his career.

Robert Bradford, James Reid and Alex. Wilson are preparing for an Associateship in Engineering and Rosemary Carmichael for a B.Sc. of Pharmacy, all at the Royal College of Science and Technology. At the same college Alan Wilson was first in his year for Architecture.

Jordanhill College of Education claimed three girls—Elizabeth Allan, Mae Forrest and Isobel Thomson; the College of Domestic Science two—Netta MacLaren and Elaine Nicolson.

John Macaulay has been accepted for training in the Royal Air Force, and Jennifer Young and Phyllis McNeill have Civil Service appointments. Anne Hood and Adrian McLaughlin are in Banks, Anne Quail is with a firm of pharmacists, while Tom Hendry and Iain O'Pray are in Insurance. Janette Whyte is in the office of Kilsyth Town Clerk and Robina Thornton is training as a nurse in Killearn Hospital.

Six boys and two girls whom we would willingly have retained had to take their sixth year at Falkirk High School, and we hope to have good news of their progress soon.

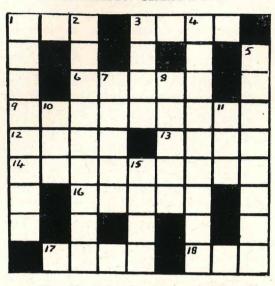
Since the last Bulletin, three pupils have completed the degree of B.Sc.—John Freebairn, Peter McGinnes and David Storrar; William Dunlop has graduated M.D., Ch.B. Molly Duff and Helen Shaw are now teaching in the County—Molly at Banknock and Helen in Craighead.

We are happy to welcome Mr. Eric Binnie, a former pupil, as our School Librarian this year.

These are the successes of some of our former pupils. We congratulate them all, and any we may have omitted to mention, and wish them happiness and a sense of fulfilment in the work they are doing.

Mrs. M. MAXWELL, Lady Superintendent.

PUZZLE CORNER



COMPETITION CROSSWORD

All entries to be placed in box in Room 31 on day of sale of magazine. First correct opened at 4 o'clock will receive a prize of 10/-.

Across

- The first essential in the geography lesson. (3) 1.
 - You describe these in geometry. (4)
- The government has threatened to do this to the leaving age. (5)The Garrel is this to the Kelvin. (9)6.
- 9.
- There is a tendency to do this at 4 o'clock. (4) 12.
- 8 down with flashes of fire. (4) 13.
- 14. The Queen's portrait may be seen here. (2, 7)
- Every teacher likes to keep this. (5) Small fresh water duck, (4) The diocese of a bishop. (3) 16.
- 17.
- 18.

Down

- Hero of a local battle. (8)
- Could be useful at a Rangers' match, if you're 2 small. (9) The O is missing. (4)
- 3.
- Mr. Henderson would not tolerate these 4 inexpensive skills. (5, 4)
- At present at 15 a pupil may do this. (3, 5) 5.
- 7.
- Many a pupil tends to feel this way about homework. (5)"This precious - set in a silver sea". (Shakespeare). (5)8.
- You may be sports champion if you can do 10. this. (3)
- You ought not to do this to school leavers. (3) 11.
- 15. Cliff Richard is this to teenagers. (4)

Name:

3.

1.

RIDDLE-ME-REE

My first is in cake and also in breakfast. My second is in ink but never in pen. My third is in milk and also in lager. My fourth is in sweets but never in toffee. My fifth is in yacht and also in yes. My sixth is in butter but never in cheese. My seventh is in happy and also in humorous.

My first is in apple and also in orange. My second is in cabbage but never in potato. My third is in coal and also in heat. My fourth is in dunce but never in genius. My fifth is in brain and also in head. My sixth is in money but never in gold. My seventh is in yellow but never in blue.

My whole is in a large building but never in three.

Answer: Kilsyth Academy. GLENDA MCKAY, 2B.



Across

- Head of America.
- 2. Island in the Inner Hebrides.
- 3. German river.
- Opposite of eastern. 4.
- 5. The answer.
- Mountains named in the Bible. 6.
- Famous town on the River Jumna. 7.
- 8. Not the truth. 9
- Capital of Argentina.

(You should finish in the middle, up and down with a continent).

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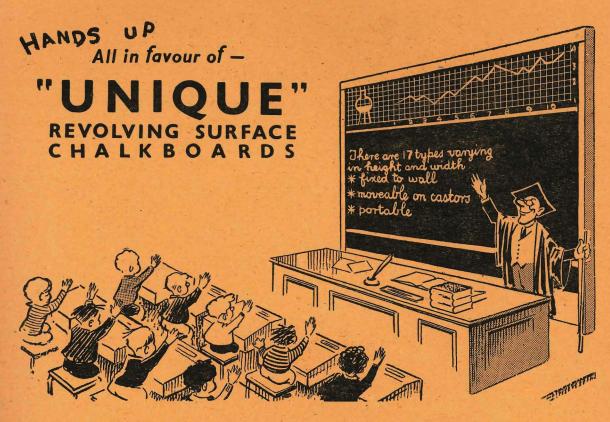
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