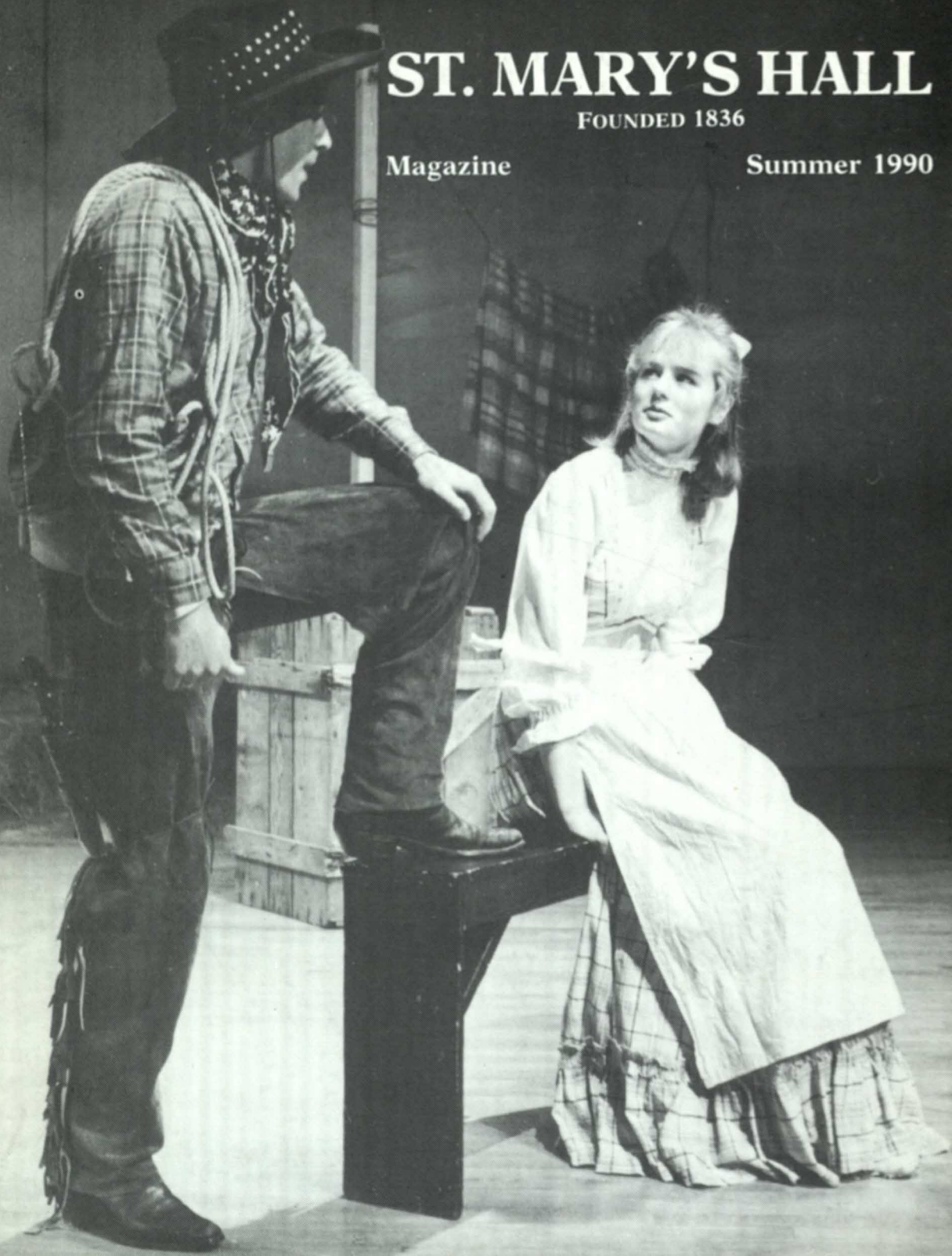


# ST. MARY'S HALL

FOUNDED 1836

Magazine

Summer 1990



# **ST. MARY'S HALL**

**MAGAZINE**

**SUMMER 1990**



## HEADMISTRESS'S REPORT

The wonderful summer weather of 1989 came to an end with the first of the winter's severe gales on 20th October 1989. Fierce winds and lashing rain did not dampen anyone's enthusiasm or excitement on that day as we welcomed Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Gloucester to St. Mary's Hall. Her Royal Highness toured the new pre-preparatory building, spoke to many boys and girls and enjoyed their musical performances, before declaring the building open and naming it "Gloucester House". The Bishop of Chichester dedicated the building in a short but deeply significant ceremony. The Duchess visited the Hall, where aspects of school life were represented in displays and activities. Her Royal Highness and her party greatly enjoyed their conversations with pupils and staff. The new Information Technology centre, which was opened in September 1989, and the Technology Room, were points of interest on the Royal route. Whilst most visitors were entertained to lunch in Venn House, the Duchess and her immediate entourage lunched with the Head Girls and representative officers of the Parent School

Association. An after-lunch coffee reception in the Library enabled many girls to talk personally with our Royal Guest. Speech Day was heralded by a fanfare written for the occasion by Mr. A. Jay, Director of Music. Her Royal Highness said that she had been most impressed by all she had seen and she had greatly enjoyed her visit. Her Royal Highness left in a helicopter of the Queen's Flight.

Since the last edition of the school magazine, the school has been featured in the *Sunday Times* and on ITV, to show the facilities and opportunities which are attracting increasing numbers to independent schools. Many of the articles in this magazine will provide evidence of the breadth of opportunity that is available at St. Mary's Hall today.

St. Mary's Hall will make its mark on the local musical scene when the Summer Concert is performed on the Opening Night of the Brighton Festival on 4th May.

I am indebted to Governors, colleagues, parents and pupils for their support, dedication and infectious enthusiasm.

*Mrs. M. Teresa Broadbent  
March, 1990*



H.R.H. The Duchess of Gloucester

*Photograph J.B.L.*



## ENTRANTS TO FURTHER EDUCATION

Sarah Bright—Royal Navy—Nursing Training  
Caroline Brownless—North Staffordshire  
Polytechnic—International Studies  
Julia Buchmann—Exeter University—Mathematics  
Rita Cheung—Southampton University—  
Accountancy  
Anthea Davy—Bristol University—Medicine  
Janet Dodd—Bath University—Biochemistry  
Cheryl Garnsey—Bristol University (1990)—  
French and Italian  
Miranda Graham—Exeter University—  
English and Education  
Kathryn Little—Edinburgh University—Medicine  
Irene Mak—Manchester University—  
Accountancy and Computing  
Katharine Manktelow—Leeds University—  
Classical Civilization and French  
Heloise Overshott—South Glamorgan Institute of  
Higher Education—Education  
Rosidah Rahman—Glasgow University—Medicine  
Tracey Rawlings—Bristol University—  
Mathematics and Education  
Angela Smith—Eastbourne College of Arts and  
Technology—Art Foundation Course  
Joanna Slater—Guy's Hospital—Nursing Training  
Christina Songhurst—St. Andrew's University—  
Biochemistry  
See Pan Tan—Leicester University—Law  
Pearl Yong—Buckingham University—Law

## ST. MARY'S HALL OPEN SCHOLARSHIP FOR 1989/90

11+ Kathryn Taylor, Telscombe Cliffs County  
Primary School

## 'A' LEVEL PASSES 1988/89

Sarah Bright—Geography D  
Caroline Brownless—English E, Religious Studies B  
Julia Buchmann—Biology A, Economics B,  
Mathematics B  
Ruby Chan—Mathematics E, Chinese C  
Rita Cheung—Biology C, Chemistry C,  
Mathematics A  
Nicola Cornford—Art C, Biology C, Geography D,  
Geology C A/S  
Anthea Davy—Chemistry A, Mathematics B,  
Further Mathematics C, Physics B  
Janet Dodd—Biology A, Chemistry A,  
Mathematics C  
Cheryl Garnsey—Economics B, French A,  
Mathematics C  
Miranda Graham—Classics B, English C,  
Geography C  
Sarah Greenwood—French D, Mathematics E

Sigal Joory—English E, French B, Mathematics D  
Cindy Lam—Chemistry D, Mathematics C,  
Physics D  
Katrina Lewis—English E  
Kathryn Little—Biology A, Chemistry A,  
Mathematics A, Further Mathematics B  
Lai Ching Looi—Classical Civilization B, English E  
Irene Mak—Chemistry C, Mathematics A,  
Further Mathematics C, Physics C  
Katharine Manktelow—Classical Civilization C,  
Economics C, French B  
Vanessa Newton—Mathematics D  
Heloise Overshott—Economics E, Geography C  
Rosidah Rahman—Biology C, Chemistry B,  
Mathematics C  
Tracey Rawlings—Economics A, Mathematics A,  
Further Mathematics B, Latin A  
Siti Samad—Chemistry E, Mathematics E  
Angela Smith—Art C, Classical Civilization C  
Christina Songhurst—Biology B, Chemistry E,  
Geography D  
See Peng Tan—Biology B, Economics B,  
Mathematics B  
Jenny Woo—Chemistry E, Mathematics D  
Pearl Yong—Chemistry E, Mathematics C,  
Physics E

## USE OF ENGLISH

Sarah Bright  
Caroline Brownless  
Julia Buchmann  
Anthea Davey—Distinction  
Janet Dodd—Distinction  
Cheryl Garnsey  
Miranda Graham—Distinction  
Sarah Greenwood  
Sophie Hamza—Distinction  
Katrina Lewis  
Kathryn Little  
Lai Ching Looi  
Katharine Manktelow  
Vanessa Newton  
Tracey Rawlings  
Christina Songhurst  
Nicola Cornford

## 'A' LEVEL PASSES IN LOWER SIXTH

### Mathematics

Siti Abidin A  
Grace Lee A  
Josephine Pang C

### Chinese

Josephine Pang B



## ADDITIONAL MATHEMATICS AO

Katrina Beck A  
Sarah Davis A  
Jessica Jones B  
Elaine Lau B  
Hajah Mahmud A  
Annabelle McCracken A  
Erica Nakpo-Ewien B  
Norsurainah Ramlee A  
Amanda Robins A  
Preema Vig B

## ADDITIONAL GCSE PASSES IN SIXTH FORM

Sarah Bright	1
Louise Caisley	2
Anthea Davy	1*
Janet Dodd	1
Claudia Duveen	1
Amber George	3
Sarah Greenwood	1
Faezeh Hosseini	2
Sigal Joory	1
Elaine Lau	2*
Josephine Pang	3*
Amanda Sara	2
Joanna Slater	2
Angela Smith	1

## ADDITIONAL MATHS (AO) IN FIFTH FORM

Joanna Ball B  
Tina Cheng A  
Sarah Cole B  
Helen Crittall A  
Catherine Harris B  
Susan Hindhaugh A  
Yammie Pang A  
Abigail Steer B  
Catherine Tissier A

## CAMBRIDGE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COURSE

### Word Processing

Siti Abidin  
Nowal Alshaikhley  
Katrina Beck  
Sarah Bright  
Sigal Joory  
Elaine Lau  
Annabel Leach  
Grace Lee  
Vanessa Newton  
Josephine Pang  
Norsurainah Ramlee  
Joanna Slater  
Preema Vig

## Computer Literacy

Katrina Beck  
Annabel Leach  
Grace Lee  
Katrina Lewis  
Kathryn Little  
Irene Mak  
Josephine Pang  
Siti Samad

### Programming

Irene Mak

### Databases

Katrina Lewis  
Siti Samad

## GCSE RESULTS

Charlotte Abbiss	8
Caroline Amato	9*
Joanna Ball	9*****
Karen Batt	9**
Mireille Blass	6***
Justine Bowman	6
Tracey Briffa	7*
Christina Buggy	4
Susan Cheah	10***
Tina Cheng	10*****
Jennifer Clarke	7****
Victoria Clough	8***
Sarah Cole	10*****
Helen Crittall	10*****
Emma Davies	6*
Clare Drew	9***
Henrietta Duveen	8****
Christianne Ellison	10*****
Mia Garbutt	10****
Jane Garland	5*
Holly Garmston	6*
Julia Greenslade	6*
Alexandra Gregory	10*****
Claire Grinyer	10**
Nicola Gunn	10
Sarah Hanson	10****
Catherine Harris	9****
Susannah Hill	3*
Susan Hindaugh	10*****
Rachel Hirschfeld	11*****
Nina Humphreys	7***
Clair Joynt	6
Mona Kassim	9*
Lisa King	10*****
Sasha Kofman	10*****
Zoë Lightfoot	6**
Catherine Lovesey	9**

Catherine Lowe	6
Gemma Mangat	4
Emma Manville	9***
Melanie Maunder	6
Claudia Nicholson	1
Anne-Marie Ogedegbe	9*
Rebekah Palmer	9*
Yammie Pang	9***
Katherine Picton	8*
Christine Proe	5
Katherine Richardson	6*
Lalida Richardson	10***
Lynne Richardson	5
Kate Roberts	10**
Llynette Rogers-Wright	9**
Joanna Shimkus	9*
Nicola Slater	3
Elizabeth Smith	9**
Abigail Steer	10*****
Anna Symonds	8***
Jessica Taylor	3
Rowan Thompson	7**
Claire Tickner	8
Catherine Tissier	10*****
Claire Watkins	8**
Joanne Wilkinson	9***
Josephine Williams	8**

### GCSE PASSES IN FOURTH YEAR

#### Chinese

Queenie Ho\*  
 Chriscelia Hui\*  
 Yokka Mak\*  
 Brenda Ng\*  
 Esther Poon\*  
 Irene Tam\*  
 Sally Tang\*

### GCSE PASSES IN THIRD YEAR

#### Chinese

Deborah Chan\*

#### Arabic

Amani Edghayes\*

An asterisk indicates an A Grade pass:  
 grades A B and C only are listed

### GIFTS TO THE SCHOOL 1989-90

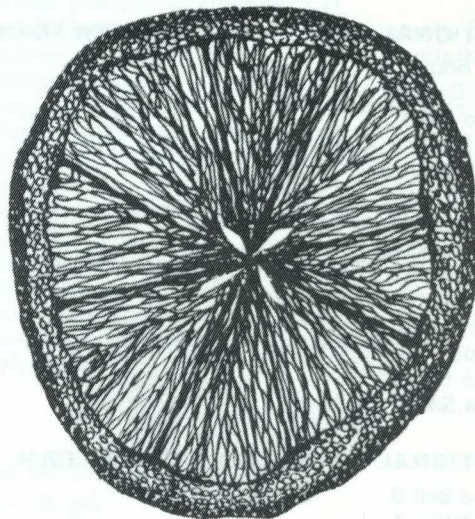
Mrs. Bayless (mother of Amy) for Senior Library:

Sylvia Plath: Letters from Home

Mr. Ken Gloyn: A table tennis table

Mrs. Brenda Johns: A short tennis set for the  
 Junior Department

Cdr. M. D. Martin: A pair of processional  
 candlesticks for use in St. Mark's  
 Anthea Davy: Print of "On the Beach" by  
 Laura Knight  
 Philippa Graham: Shield for Classical Languages  
 Award  
 Miranda Graham: A shield for a Shakespeare Prize  
 Mr. Roger Reed: The Old Ship—a Prospect of  
 Brighton, for the library  
 In Memory of Mary Elizabeth Jill Baker (1929-36)  
 £1,000



Drawing by TERRI HOWARD IV Y

## THE ARTS

### "OKLAHOMA!"

"Oklahoma!" by Rodgers and Hammerstein was performed in the Hall as the school's major theatrical production of the year in December 1989. For the first time we were able to use our new lighting system which allows us to light productions in the round. A large and enthusiastic cast of cowboys and farmers' gals took part. Mr. R. Roser took the part of Curly, Dr. Dixon played "Pa" Carnes and Mr. M. Wells played Jud. Mr. A. Jay was the musical director and conducted a small but expert orchestra. The set was designed by Mrs. P. Lock, and Mrs. S. Rothero organized costumes. The directors, Mrs. W. Overshott and Mr. M. Wells were impressed by the hard work and evident enthusiasm of the cast and hope that



"Oklahoma!" will be remembered happily by all those who took part. Sarah Cole was Laurie, the leading lady, and she has contributed her recollections of the show in verse . . .

M.E.W.

**"Oklahoma!"**

***Was it pleasure, was it fun?***

***Why was it ever all begun? . . .***

The auditions were over, the parts given out  
Rehearsals began, and with many a pout  
Directions accepted, to be later ignored.  
Some stood there interested, others were bored.  
Many reluctant but the work was involved  
And around "Oklahoma!" our whole life revolved.

Costumes and make-up brought life to the show  
Hopes were raised high, not allowed to fall low;  
Scenes and acts were all fitted together  
Would that it could have gone on for ever!  
But yet for the audience, would they be impressed?  
Would they appreciate our very best?

For three night of noise the hall had been packed,  
Parents and friends had laughed and had capped,  
Lines had rolled on and the songs had been sung,  
Excitement had mounted to the bang of a gun,  
Costumes had swayed and the noise increased,  
Props had been used, and the audience pleased.

Thanks to the directors it was a success.  
How it would have turned out is anybody's guess;  
Now it's all over, what do we remember,  
The final night in early December?  
Or is it our laughter (our mistakes too!)  
But what must not be forgotten, are our thanks  
due to you.  
Sarah Cole, L VI

### **INDEED, IT WAS A DREAM!**

It is perhaps fitting at the very time when there is so much controversy about the Royal Shakespeare Company and the Barbican Theatre, that we have just made what is probably the most successful theatre visit ever by St. Mary's Hall!

On Thursday, 22nd February, all the girls in years three and four travelled up to the Barbican by coach on a sunny spring day, not knowing quite what to expect. From the moment that the opening chords were played by the accompanying musicians, there was total concentration as an excited and enthralled audience became involved in this lively production. "A Midsummer Night's Dream" has never been performed like this before; here was a magic of a very different kind: humour, and pathos too. The fairies were interestingly attired in white net ballet skirts and Dr. Marten's boots! Puck, played with tremendous

ingenuity by Richard McCabe, wore a schoolboy shirt, tie, blazer, long shorts with very short tutu and, at one point, a flying helmet! There was laughter and humour throughout the play with a particularly energetic performance from David Troughton as Bottom; his ass's head had the most expressive ears!! There was not one weak actor but credit must also be given to what our girls agreed was an incredible stage set: with several storeys, the hi-tec fairy dell was a fascinating creation! We laughed loud and long that afternoon and were particularly proud that it was a group of SMH girls who led a standing ovation.

But, there have been other "magic" visits this past year. In April all the fifth-formers saw "Of Mice and Men" at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne. They had read the novel by John Steinbeck and were able to assess quite critically, but knowledgeably, this adaptation which had a notable performance of Lennie by Ian Burfield.

June was the month of the theatre visit that never was! A coach load left Brighton one Saturday morning expecting to enjoy a matinee of "Me and My Girl" but the vagaries of an over-heated coach engine determined otherwise! Another time, perhaps.

The last visit of the academic year was in July when a mixed group were privileged to see "Hamlet" at the National Theatre with Daniel Day-Lewis in the title rôle and Dame Judi Dench as Gertrude. It was a dramatic and demanding afternoon but so rewarding too.

October was a busy month with all the fourth year visiting the Theatre Royal, Brighton to see Peter Shaeffer's "The Royal Hunt of the Sun". It was the total dramatic performance with music and dance too. This is a very stunning play to see and the girls were impressed with the way it was adapted to fit the small stage. With the death of Atahualpa at the end there was a quiet sadness; we had known what to expect because we had read the script for GCSE course-work.

On 14th October, 18 valiant girls met at the station at 7.30 a.m. heading for a whole day's theatre at the Barbican: "The Plantagenet Trilogy". It was such an exciting day with three plays covering Shakespeare's Henry VI Parts I, II, III and Richard III, the final one ending at 10.45 p.m. We had gold-plated horses on stage, battle scenes, armies charging, murders in plenty, blood certainly and real "drama". We felt privileged and I was proud of a group of girls who had worked hard for the love of theatre and grateful too that "English Estates" had subsidised our tickets so generously.

In November, a minibus load headed for the Bard's town, Stratford-upon-Avon, to see a most light-hearted and enjoyable performance of "All's Well That Ends Well." With the sun shining, and the swans eager for the remains of our packed lunches, it was the perfect day!



The year 1990 started well with all the first and second years enjoying a matinee performance of "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe" at the Theatre Royal, Brighton. It was a light and entertaining adaptation of the C. S. Lewis book.

There were 45 girls present to see "The Diary of Anne Frank" at the Theatre Royal on Saturday, 24th February. We all knew that this could have only a sad ending yet the cast successfully conveyed something of the courage, tension—and humour—that emerged from that attic room in Amsterdam. Penny Gonshaw was so convincing as a 13 years old Anne that we found it hard to believe she is actually 20! Garfield Morgan, perhaps well known as Insp. Haskins in "The Sweeney", was an excellent Mr. Frank and Stephanie Turner, Inspector Darbley in "Juliet Bravo", was a convincing Mrs. Frank. It is hard to say one "enjoyed" a play on such a theme as this, but we all realised we had experienced an excellent performance.

Looking ahead, this term still has some exciting visits to come. "Dr. Faustus" at the Barbican, another visit to "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and, finally, "Julius Caesar" at the Theatre Royal.

It has been a particularly satisfying year with almost every girl in the school visiting the theatre once, and many have been several times but, as the Bard himself said in the "Dream":

" . . . a good play needs no epilogue."

W.O.

### P.E. REPORT 1988-89

The year was, as always, busy and full of variety. The season started with a Pop-Lacrosse day using the new equipment provided by Natasha Procter for which we are most grateful. The games were enjoyed by about 40 staff and pupils of all ages and aptitudes; and photos, kindly taken by Mr. Liddell, show not only the excellent weather but also the energy and enthusiasm of all involved.

The winter season was however blighted by bad weather, many matches being cancelled, which took its toll on the enthusiasm of those involved. Fortunately, the summer more than compensated for this and the Tennis and Rounders fixtures were well attended by spectators who fuelled the energies of team members.

Senior and Junior school ski courses were run in January and March respectively with 43 girls enjoying the thrills and frequent spills of the slopes.

Miss Gent left at Christmas to pursue a new career, possibly in the Army, and we thank her for all her work in the Department, wishing her well in the future. Miss Hoad joined us for two terms and her willingness to give time to all activities was greatly appreciated. We wish her happiness in her new post at Beresford House.

H.F.

### INTER-HOUSE MATCHES

#### Badminton

1st Chichester  
2nd Adelaide  
and Bristol  
4th Babington

#### Lacrosse

1st Bristol  
2nd Adelaide  
3rd Babington  
4th Chichester

#### Netball

1st Babington  
2nd Chichester  
3rd Bristol  
4th Adelaide

#### Tennis

1st Bristol  
2nd Adelaide  
3rd Babington  
4th Chichester

#### Rounders

1st Babington  
2nd Bristol  
3rd Adelaide  
4th Chichester

#### Swimming

1st Babington  
2nd Adelaide  
3rd Chichester  
4th Bristol

### STRIPES

#### Lacrosse re-awarded

R. Suffolk  
C. Garnsey  
A. Davy

#### Netball

C. Lowe  
O. Ibraheem

### COLOURS

#### Lacrosse retained

A. Robbins

#### Netball

C. Garnsey  
J. Clarke

### Trampoline

re-awarded J. Garland

### Junior Lacrosse Cup

R. Suffolk

### Senior Lacrosse Cup

A. Robbins

### Gym Cup

J. Garland and J. Clarke

### Junior P.E. Cup for Effort and Improvement

A. Kellett

### Senior P.E. Cup for Effort and Improvement

A. Deghayes

### Swimming Cup for Effort and Improvement

E. Papadamou

### Tennis Cups

*Under 13 singles*  
A. Kellett

*Under 14 doubles*  
K. Moorman and  
S. Nicolls

*Under 14 singles*  
K. Moorman

*Under 15 doubles*  
N. Monen and  
E. Collins

*Under 15 singles*  
M. Levene

*Open doubles*  
A. Driscoll and  
E. Collins

### School Badminton Tournament

A. Davy and C. Brownless





H.R.H. and 4 years old Nicola Haines

*Evening Argus photo*

## GENERAL ACTIVITIES

### THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME

The group has been very active again this year. Twenty four girls from the fourth form joined at Bronze level in September and previous members have progressed to Silver and Gold levels. There are over 70 girls in the group altogether.

Expedition training has been provided in school, on the South Downs and in the New Forest for all levels and I am extremely grateful to Mr. Grant for all the tremendous help he has given the girls and me with this section. At the time of writing, we are planning a mass Bronze expedition weekend in June (if we can persuade our "tame" farmer to accommodate the required number of tents!), the Gold group is due to go to Snowdonia in July and a Silver team to the

New Forest in September. The necessary paperwork is enough to exhaust me now!

The usual Police and First Aid service courses have been followed, along with one Gold participant on an invigorating RNLI course based at the marina; and many girls continue to give community service at the hospitals, St. Dunstan's and in local old people's homes. Interests have varied in the skills section and I am always indebted to all of my colleagues who so willingly help and encourage the girls to their assessment standards. The PE department have excelled, as ever, in monitoring girls' progress in the physical recreation section and I am particularly grateful to them for undertaking the extra work that this involves.

Several girls are now keeping in touch with me to report their progress in the award scheme at University or Polytechnic. Perhaps we shall have a rush of Golds being presented at St. James' Palace very soon now?

*D.J.M.*



## **"OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL MORGINS" (Apologies to Oscar Hammerstein 2)**

On the first day of the Summer holidays (1989) a party of third and fourth formers set off for a study holiday in Morgins, a small village in the Swiss Alps about two kilometers from the French border. We stayed in a genuine old Swiss chalet whose owner, Miss Hilary Jones, or "hyper-active Hilary" as the girls were later to dub her, has for the last few years organised a summer school.

Except for the day when we had a whole day's outing to Lausanne ending with swimming, sun bathing and a barbecue by the lake, every morning was spent in class. The girls were divided into groups of about six and were taught by young native-speakers. The emphasis was heavily on spoken French with a minimum of written work and many sessions ended with a visit to the market or to one of the cafes whose owners did not seem at all to mind serving orders such as "une glace, deux cuillères" (one ice-cream and two spoons)!

We had other excursions, to the picturesque medieval town of Gruyeres with its castle, cobbled streets and modern cheese factory and to a thermal bath, but the afternoons were mainly given up to tennis, swimming and mountain walking. The last activity was considered "leisurely" by Hilary and "crippling" by the girls!

Evening activities included a barbecue in the rain, a treasure hunt, two musical events in a marquee in the village square and a visit to the disco.

In spite of two rainy days the trip was a great success and one that we are eager to repeat. We have booked the second week of the holidays in 1990, so we do hope that third and fourth formers will put that week aside.

V.E.B.

## **THE CAREERS DEPARTMENT**

The resources of the careers staff have been stretched this year. Over seventy girls have been given individual consultation advice and there is always a stream of visitors to the careers library at break times. The introduction of a careers advice request slip has alleviated some pressure and reduced delays caused when staff are not immediately available.

An encouraging number of fifth formers applied for individual ISCO careers testing, but I hope that there may be even more participants in this excellent scheme in the future. Information is sent to all fourth form parents in the Summer term. ISCO have also supported the careers staff very effectively this year and Miss Morgan and I have attended a total of seven ISCO training days or conferences. These courses are essential in keeping us well-informed and in a position to give updated advice.

The universities and polytechnics overhauled their method of prospectus distribution last Summer and this had a consequent effect in our careers room. The previous catalogue system just could not hold the increased number of prospectuses, so we had to buy new box files and launch into a bright new colour-coded system at the same time. I hope that the colour-coding has helped our sixth-form users.

As well as the Easter and Summer holiday work experience courses provided by ISCO, we also launched an SMH work experience week for fifth formers in the post-examination period of July. This was not taken up by a large number of girls but all who were placed had a thoroughly enjoyable and worthwhile time. I hope that more may take up this opportunity this year.

At the time of writing, I am in the final stages of planning a grand scale careers convention evening, with Mr. Brian Heap, an eminent careers adviser, to speak during the proceedings. I hope that I may have met you at this event.

D.J.M.

## **"A" LEVEL CLASSICAL CIVILIZATION**

The "A" level course has already proved interesting, if somewhat different from our GCSE studies. Essays which appear impossible at first glance seem less daunting after one of our classical trips to London.

In October, the four of us and Miss Morgan braved British Rail transport to go to the British Museum. On the fifth of the month we went to investigate "Greek Vase Painting", and at the end of the month we returned to study classical architecture and design, or "From Paladio to Prince Charles", with an inspiring lecture by Patsy Vanags, and lectures both times in our lunch breaks, which Miss Morgan encouraged us to attend. Lunch-time lectures over, the London shops and Wimpy eagerly awaited the arrival of the Brighton crowd, and I found to my delight that I had in my pocket my bank cash card. Half an hour later, Jane and I staggered to the next lecture laden with bags crammed with new clothes and jewellery. London may be excellent for our studies but it greatly harms our pockets!

In November, we (minus Tracey) made our way up to the Friends House near Euston Station, for a scintillating Sixth Form conference on "Understanding the Greek World". We met the examiner of our GCSE classical papers (with the help and undivided attention of Miss Morgan last year, we had all achieved A and B grades) and were amused by lecturer Peter Jones, who insists he cannot lecture unless he first puts on his slippers.

Since the train back to Brighton was full of commuters, we sat cross-legged on the floor of the



corridor and enthused whole-heartedly about classics, an educational experience not to be forgotten!

On the 30th January, fully refreshed after the Christmas holidays, Sasha and Joanna went to the sixth form conference on "Roman Emperors and Society", and on the 1st February there was a performance of Aristophanes' "Clouds" in English with authentic costume.

On the 6th February, we went to another conference—this time on Greek Literature, at the Commonwealth Institute, again with Peter Jones . . . and slippers.

Thirty-four classicists will travel by coach up to the Bloomsbury Theatre in London for a performance of Sophocles' "Antigone", and it will be interesting to see what the fourth years think of their introduction to Greek Theatre. There will be two welcome additions to our group—our American visitor, Miss Teresa Shepard, and also Rachel Bolton, an ex-SMH classicist currently applying for classics places at University.

In March, a treat lies in store for all budding classicists—another performance of "Clouds", in Greek! Will we be invited to the cast's post-production

party, as were last year's SMH classicists? We look forward to finding out!

Later in March, Sasha and Joanna go to a conference on "Understanding the Roman World". If it is anything like the "Greek World" conference, they should enjoy themselves greatly.

On 21st March, we go to the Covent Garden Theatre for a backstage workshop on "Clouds" and also on "Antigone". With any luck, Jane and I can stock up on our wardrobes again.

The next day we will travel up to the National Theatre for the recently discovered satyr play by Sophocles, "The Trackers of Oxyrhichus"! We were extremely lucky to get tickets for this, and the prospect of seeing this rare performance is very exciting.

In May, Dr. M. Silk of King's College, London, leads a lecture on comedy, and a lucky crowd of classicists and others will spend Easter in Greece. This year promises to be hectic before it has barely begun, and as Miss Morgan says:

"A happy classicist is a busy classicist.

A busy classicist is a shattered one!"

How very true.

*Henrietta Duveen, LVI*



Drawing by MASRINA DAMIT IIK



**III yr. visit to Clandon Park, October 1989,  
organised by the History Department to  
participate in a National Trust Education and  
Drama project.**

**MY DAY IN 1789 AS A LORD**

We started early in the morning. We were all at school by 8.00 a.m., when the coach left. We travelled for about an hour until we reached Clandon Park and House. We were all now changed. As I was a Lord, I had to dress very smartly. I wore a three pointed black hat, with a red velvet jacket, which had tails and brass buttons. I wore a black lace cravat and a frilly white blouse. I certainly felt very smart. My other friends were dressed in different clothes, as they were acting as villagers, servants or inventors. We all grouped together at first. As well as our school, there were two others as well. Then, as we stood waiting, the day's activities began.

Suddenly about eight people charged out of the house with long flags. A woman announced that the year was 1789, and revolution was taking place in France. When she had finished all of us were led inside. We were taken into a large hall. The floors were black and white, and they were polished so much that you could see your face in them. The ceiling was beautiful. It was made of plaster and had a design based on the Sistine Chapel ceiling by Michaelangelo. A man named Stanfield then came out and told us about the place and what the day's activities were. This man Stanfield was Lord Onslow's personal servant and advisor. He asked a few people, including me, questions about how we had travelled there and where we had come from. Then an actor who played Lord Onslow (who owned the place), came out of another room and we were then split into our separate groups. The Lord then introduced himself (we all had to bow) and then he had a fencing match with Stanfield. It was very exciting, but, as we all expected, Lord Onslow won the battle. They then escorted us into another room, where we discussed the subject of enclosure and we were asked how many areas of enclosed land we each had. They then partook of some snuff.

The next person to meet was the Signora. She was dressed in a beautiful dress and she wore a white wig. The Lord himself wore a long peach coloured jacket; he looked great!

The countess then led us outside, where we were taught a dance. It consisted of the minuet and the promenade. It was very graceful and I felt very proud. We then rejoined the other groups inside. I and the other lords and ladies were taken into the same room as we had been in before and we sat at the front. The other groups sat further back as they were of a lower grade than us (just for today!). All the actors then performed a play for us. It was about a young girl who was being forced into marrying a man whom she didn't

want to marry. So she ran away from her father and sailed away in a balloon with her lover. While they were in the balloon, they were hit by a storm, and we had to decide what happened to them. Of course, everyone voted that they should survive, so they did. It was a very funny and enjoyable play.

We then went back outside again where the scientists and inventors group talked about machinery and showed us an experiment on soil. Our group then moved onto the main lawn and performed a dance. We got a big round of applause. The villagers then performed a dance for us (really my school friends). It was really good, but not quite as elegant as ours. Then Stanfield played his recorder for us and the villagers disappeared.

Then Stanfield left us, and a short while after there was a loud cry and we all went rushing to the side of the building. There we saw the villagers by the corn store together with Stanfield, who accused the leader of striking him, although the villager denied it. They had a long argument about it and they finally decided that everyone would discuss it later and take a vote on what would happen to him.

Then the Italian countess arrived and the villager accused her of being a French ambassador who had fled to England to save her life. They had some evidence of this as when Stanfield had played a tune on his recorder, which was written by an Italian composer, she didn't seem to know who he was. Again, we decided that we would discuss the matter and then decide what would happen to her. So we all went back inside in our different groups. Our group discussed both matters for a long time and we came up with these conclusions: the villager should be thrown off Lord Onslow's land and should not be allowed to work there. He should then be put on trial and, if found guilty, should hang. However, the French ambassador (as she had now admitted to this) was only afraid for her life and so she should stay with Lord Onslow.

The other groups were then brought in and we discussed the matter as one group. Many people had different ideas such as: the villager was only hungry and he needed the money and that the ambassador should not bring her troubles to England, but in the end the conclusions were the same as my group's had been.

The whole cast then got up and sang a song. They used drums and tambourines and it sounded very nice. We gave them a big round of applause then said goodbye, as the day was now over.

I had a terrific day and the acting was brilliant. All the clothes were fantastic and the day was very exciting. By the end of the day, I really felt as though I were in the 1700's and that everything was really happening. This has definitely been my best school trip ever.

*Josie Gander Illu*





Portrait by School Photographic Society

### THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

This flourishing society is committed and dedicated to the art of photography. Everybody involved can gain pleasure and enjoyment from this rewarding hobby. Our results may not always be perfect, but we are never short of advice for each other and the end results are always satisfying.

Portrait sessions are kindly set up by Mr. Liddell, and these need concentration and skill, along with a lot of patience and perseverance. Many lunch breaks are spent engaged in the dark room printing. We would like to thank Mr. Liddell for his help over the last year.

*Jane Garland, Henri Duveen, Clair Joynt, LVI*



### **THIRD YEAR TRIP TO THE SCIENCE MUSEUM**

When we arrived at the Science Museum we were taken to a Gallery where there was a special exhibition on The Year of the Microscope. We spent the morning there playing with the demonstrations and making notes for a project. There were many different microscopes on display ranging from the first 16th century light microscopes to the latest electron microscopes. We then paused for lunch and moved on to the Wellcome Gallery where there was a display about the history of medicine. This was fascinating—there were lots of displays of tools, etc., and it was full of waxworks. We had been given worksheets which we filled in as we went along. We spent the afternoon there before having a very hair-raising journey home.

*Alexander Kellett, IIIIF*

### **FIFTH FORM VISIT TO LONDON**

On a beautiful sunny day in September the history department organised a visit to London for the fifth year. The morning was spent very enjoyably at the National Portrait Gallery. After lunch in the Embankment Gardens, we made our way to the Houses of Parliament.

For several years now we have attended the excellent courses run by the House of Commons' Education Service on the work of Parliament. After an audio-visual presentation and a question and answer session, the party divided into groups to be conducted by expert and entertaining guides on a tour of the chambers of both the Lords and the Commons, the division lobbies, the Grand Committee Room and much more besides.

*J.R.*

### **WOMEN IN THE FRENCH REVOLUTION**

In June 1989 some of the third form and the junior brass group took part in the Sussex University's celebrations of the bi-centenary of the French Revolution by performing a play specially written by the school history department. The theme was Women in the Revolution, and the play centred on the fanatical woman revolutionary Theroigne de Mericourt. With the assistance of the French and music departments a striking presentation took place in the University's Gardner Centre which was repeated in St. Mark's on the day of the Garden Party.

Alexander Reynolds found herself impersonating the bloodthirsty heroine and wrote:

"Theroigne de Mericourt was a brave, mad woman who went from being an innocent young girl in a remote village to being the most famous of the hysterical crazed supporters of the Revolution and ended up in a lunatic asylum. The play we put on

was a great team effort. I played the heroine, but we all worked together to portray the dramatic and sometimes gruesome and bloodthirsty scenes of the French Revolution. We all enjoyed being on the stage of the University's Gardner Centre and having professional help with lighting and presentation and we learnt more about the fight of the French people for 'Liberte, Egalite, Fraternite'."

### **ADELAIDE HOUSE REPORT**

This has been a fairly average year for Adelaide. It is a pity that there is a lack of support as we would have been more successful if everyone had helped with the efforts.

However, we have made a great amount of money by selling ice-creams in the summer. Also we have contributed to our charity collection by holding two cake sales, selling chocolate milkshakes and a few other efforts.

Unfortunately, Adelaide did not do too well in the sports area but we are still determined to reach the top some day and we hope to do better in lacrosse and netball. In the inter-house quiz we came third but there is plenty of time to improve yet!

To be more successful in the future, more support and enthusiasm is required but we appreciate the help we have had. Nevertheless, it has been an interesting year for both myself and Preema and we wish our successors the best of luck.

*Claudia Duveen and Preema Vig, UVI*

### **BABINGTON HOUSE REPORT**

Babington House has seen a number of changes this year. First, Mrs. Rothero took over as Head of House. We also had a vote to change the charity to a school for mentally handicapped children. Along with the other houses, we have decided to have a third year representative, in our case Jocelyn Crouch, to help liaise between the captains and the rest of the house.

To begin with, fund-raising was successful, with a sponsored cake-bake; however, this enthusiasm did not last and has consequently led to a reduction in house funds.

Again Babington did well in the sports events, coming first in both swimming and rounders and third in tennis. Unfortunately, this success didn't continue in the General Knowledge Quiz, as we were knocked out in the first round. Let's hope we do better next year!

Although Babington has not been easy to organize, we have enjoyed being House captains and would like to thank everyone for their support, and wish every success to next year's captains.

*Emilie Daviron and Amanda Sara UVI*



## BRISTOL HOUSE REPORT

There have been a few adjustments in the house system. Instead of only two sixth form heads of house, there are now middle school captains, ours in the shape of Sarah Harvey and Amy Bayless. This we hope will bring about greater communication between the years so that more fund raising activities may be organised.

On the competitive front the general knowledge team did very well to get to the finals but were just beaten by Chichester. Bristol sport teams gained mixed results in the inter-house events, coming fourth in swimming but triumphing in the badminton, tennis and lacrosse.

However, Bristol has another chance to win the swimming cup as it has a new fixture in the Spring term, so now everyone can re-live that momentous occasion.

We look forward to the drama competition at the end of the Easter term. This year it is in the capable hands of Catherine Harris and Justine Bowman, who, along with their star-studded cast, hope to achieve the same standards set by last year's troupe.

Our efforts to raise money this term began with an extraordinarily successful cake sale; many thanks to all those who contributed and organized.

We have just got under way a "Sponsored Spell", which I'm sure will be most popular with all our members. The sixth form are continuing to sell crisps at first break, as anything edible seems to sell very well at St. Mary's Hall.

We have already passed on to Leukemia Research nearly £100, and there will be more shortly.

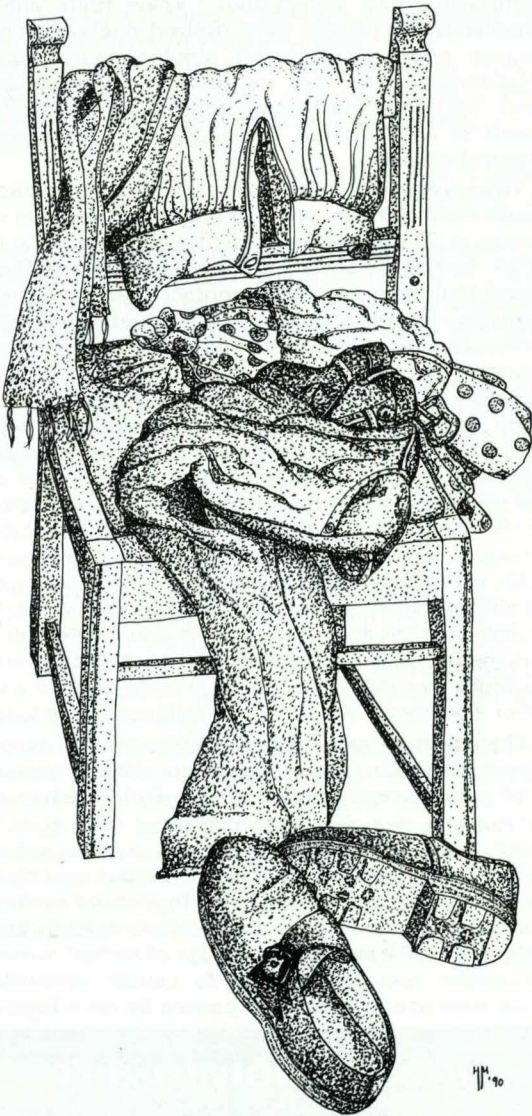
I'd like to end by saying that it's certainly been an experience being head of house and I hope that my successor has as much fun.

*Nowal Alshaikhley UVI*

## CHICHESTER HOUSE REPORT

Sarah Davis and Jessica Jones took over as heads of house this year. Our new charity is the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital. We have raised money in various ways over the year. Cake sales seem to be the most profitable events because of the immediate interest of the whole school. We have also been selling chocolates in school which has bought in a fair amount of funds.

We have taken part in all the usual sporting events including swimming, in which we came second. Our greatest triumph of the year was beating Bristol in a close run final of the general knowledge quiz. Our house play was brilliantly directed by Nonie Harries and Sarah Davis. Unfortunately, we were closely beaten to the first position, but nevertheless, the play was greatly enjoyed by the whole school.



Drawing by HOLLY MELLORS, IVP

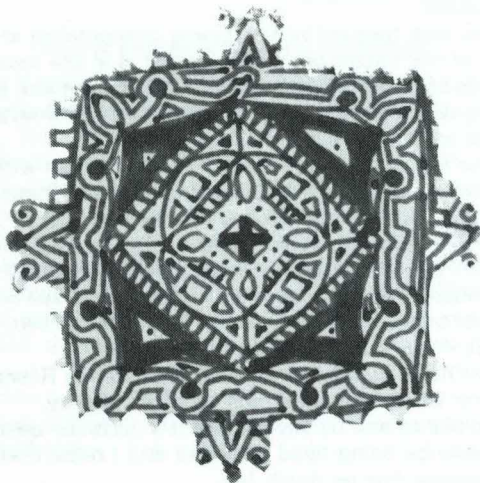


Mrs. Betts and the other staff members have been a great encouragement throughout our term of office. Sarah and I would like to thank Mrs. Betts for all her help on behalf of Chichester House.

Another new addition to the house system is having a middle school captain. Alex Exley was voted to this position in Chichester House and we appreciate all the help she has given us.

Over the last academic year Chichester House managed to amass the greatest number of house points. We were very proud to be awarded the house shield for our efforts. We must thank all members for their positive contributions towards the House and wish the new captains the best of luck.

*Jessica Jones, Sarah Davis, UVI*



Drawing by HOLLY MELLORS IVP

## NEWS FROM OLD GIRLS

### PHYSIOTHERAPY

When it was time to select my A-level subjects, I suffered the dilemma of wishing to study a mixture of both Arts and Science. I wished to develop my interest in English and Biology. This is what I did, choosing French as my third subject. I went on to take English at S-level.

My plan had always been to teach children with special needs, taking an English degree as part of this process. However, when the time came, I felt I no longer wanted to teach. I looked around for a

profession which would still involve me in practical contact directly with people, not necessarily children. Somehow—goodness knows how!—I settled on Physiotherapy.

I am not sure now of my impression of this profession's role, except that I knew from family experience that physios were involved in rehabilitating people after strokes and similar neurological disabilities. I knew they also performed out-patient work, but had no knowledge of their work on hospital wards or with children, or people with mental and physical disability.

What is Physiotherapy? To explain this, it is perhaps worth mentioning its origin. It began with a group of nurses at The London Hospital, Whitechapel, who in 1894, formed the Society of Trained Masseuses. They found that, through tactile contact they gave their patients, certain ailments were greatly relieved. Unfortunately, as one can imagine, the art of these trained masseuses was commandeered by other less desirable characters, and massage fell into disrepute! From this beginning and through integration with remedial gymnasts has developed a profession which has branched out to embrace such diverse areas as the treatment of sports injuries, respiratory problems (both long-term and post-operatively, including intensive care units), treatment of back injuries and other soft tissue problems; treatment of neurological conditions such as strokes, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis and paraplegia. We also treat children with neurological problems such as cerebral palsy and muscular dystrophy, as well as juvenile arthritis and other conditions which affect children and adults.

The common core to our treatment of all these varying conditions is that we use our skills of manual or physical therapy, adapted specifically for each area. In America, we are called "Physical Therapists"! Through our hands (working both on dry land and in hydrotherapy pools) and through various electrical treatments, we give sensory input to promote healing. Manual skills are used for manipulation of joints and soft tissues. We use our knowledge of normal human movement and development to correct abnormal movement and malalignment caused by neurological problems or specific local injury, counteracting stiffness, lack of mobility and inability to perform everyday activities.

Having worked in all areas of physiotherapy, I have now specialised as a Senior Research Physiotherapist working specifically with children who suffer from asthma. I also treat some other children with breathing or movement problems who come onto our wards in Southampton General Hospital. We work with the smallest of babies, sometimes needing to see babies born prematurely who need help to clear excessive secretion from their tiny chests, and to help them to



develop normal movement. Older children may need to go in the warm hydrotherapy pool.

This whistle-stop account of physiotherapy is intended to give an idea of some of the diverse areas of work. To discover more, it might be useful to visit your local physiotherapy department, by contacting the Superintendent Physiotherapist.

Basic areas of study in my four year degree course: Anatomy, Physiology, Physics, Psychology, Sociology, Physical Skills, Neurology, Statistics, Computing and Biomechanics.

*Rachael Gregson (née McClaughry)*  
SMH 1974-78

Upon rounding off my seven years at SMH with the completion of A levels in English and French, I decided to pursue a career as a Private Secretary and studied a bi-lingual secretarial course at the local Technical College.

My first job was at Brighton Magistrates' Court, where I worked for two of the Court Clerks and regularly went into Court to assist the Clerk and take notes. I had special responsibilities in Domestic Court proceedings which I found extremely interesting, with cases ranging from routine maintenance order enforcements to complex adoption cases.

After a year, I moved on to Seaboard's hectic Head Office based in Hove. As Private Secretary to the Appliance Retailing Manager, I find my work both challenging and demanding but enjoy sorting out the varying day to day problems which inevitably occur with the 73 shops and over 500 staff for which my boss is accountable.

I am also fortunate enough to be able to give my French "skills" a regular airing. A number of documents intended for Directors' eyes are put through my French dictionary before they leave for their conferences in Switzerland and the like.

All in all I thoroughly enjoy what I do—being bossy and attempting to organise people (usually successfully!!).

*Lucy Warwick SMH 1979–1986*

## THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

This has been a very busy year for the Juniors. During the Spring Term, Lower Prep, Upper Prep and Transition performed "Solar" for parents and friends which, along with the Junior Music Festival, displayed the hard work, talent and enjoyment involved. The Rainbow Theatre again visited the school, this time with their version of Kipling's "Just so Stories". Transition visited the British Museum linked with their

studies of Ancient History and a group from the prep classes went to Italy on a ski-trip, returning fit, healthy and intact! At the end of the Spring term children and staff throughout the school bade a fond farewell to Mrs. Brenda Johns. She was a source of inspiration to all who worked with her.

Mrs. Julia Knight took on the role of Acting Head for the Summer Term, working hard to oversee all the changes taking place in readiness for Mr. Brian Vidler whom we welcomed as our new Head of Juniors in September. At the beginning of the Summer Term we were very pleased to have Mrs. Deidre Taylor joining the Staff to teach Transition.

The Summer Term saw the children involved in many fund-raising activities. The entire Junior School took part in the RSPCA National Pet Week survey, answering a questionnaire and sending their handprints to the Hands Across Britain Project. Upper Prep went to pick up litter from the beach for National Spring Cleaning Day and sent £28.23 sponsor money to the Children's Society. The children designed Christmas cards for a competition organised by Cot Death Research and sent £40 to the Charity in entry money. Miss West from the Children's Society came to explain how we could grow sunflowers and collect sponsors to help deprived children. Mrs. Taylor started a gardening club and the sunflower seeds were planted.

We enjoyed the summer weather on several outings during the term. Mrs. Jewsbury's class visited Standean Farm to see the new lambs. The Pre-Preps also visited Standean Farm and enjoyed a trip on the Bluebell Railway. Upper Prep went to the farm at Plumpton Agricultural College. Lower Prep went to Cuckmere Haven for the day, also visiting the "Living World Exhibition". Transition, Upper Prep and Lower Prep went to Box Hill at the end of term, hosted by Mr. Littlewood. Our links with Mr. Littlewood and the Young People's Trust for the Environment and Nature Conservation have developed over the years and in July Miss Barnard and Mrs. Vaughan took a group of children on a week's Environmental Discovery course in Swanage led by the trust. This was a great success and we are already looking forward to our next visit in July.

Towards the end of the Summer Term, the Pre-Preps excelled themselves in their music and drama. Pre-Prep II and III performed "Tales from Alice", adapted by Mrs. Page and Miss Goman, and Pre-Prep I performed "Goldilocks and the Three Bears". Lower Prep, Upper Prep and Transition gave a very moving performance of "Along came Man", on the theme of conservation, under the musical direction of Mrs. Aviss. The Junior Orchestra also performed on this occasion, displaying their great achievement during the year, especially the strings. The Garden Party was thoroughly enjoyable



with the Prep Classes demonstrating a display in the swimming pool and the Pre-Preps giving a demonstration of their Country Dancing Skills.

The end of the summer term was once again a time for farewells. We said goodbye to Mrs. Julia Knight who made such a positive contribution to school life and also to Miss Marysia Goman, who achieved so much during her year teaching Pre-Prep III.

Work continued in the Junior School during the Summer holidays, as preparations were made for the opening of the new building. Term began and everything was ready just in time. Mr. Vidler led the Juniors into the new academic year as Head and we welcomed Mrs. Ford to teach Lower Prep I, Miss Green to teach Prep IG and Mrs. Aldridge to teach our 3+ class. The sunflowers had grown tall during the holidays and sponsor money sent to the Children's Society amounted to £239.13.

Preparations for the "Official Opening" of Gloucester House continued. On 20th October, despite the inclement weather the Duchess of Gloucester arrived and was positively charming, showing a real interest in the children.

All the Juniors participated in the Harvest Festival at St. Mark's and the generous collection of food was distributed through the Church Army to the poor and needy.

The Rainbow Theatre group presented "The Gunpowder Plot" to the older Juniors and "Aladdin" to the younger children. Lower Prep I visited The Mohair Centre in Chiddingfold, in conjunction with their project on textiles, and Upper Prep visited Bodmin Castle and Battle as part of their Medieval History studies. A Book Week was held, when the sale of books made a profit of £77 for the library.

At Christmas the Juniors enjoyed the culmination of a great deal of hard work in their Christmas Service. The collection was given to the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Sick Children. Mrs. Aldridge's class presented their own Christmas entertainment for family and friends. The term finished with an outing to Worthing to see "Snow White".

S.M.V.

### OPENING DOORS TO NEW HORIZONS

There are now 149 Boys and Girls in the Junior Department of St. Mary's Hall, with the possibility of more as we meet the demand of parents for the type of education that this school offers, to begin at an earlier age.

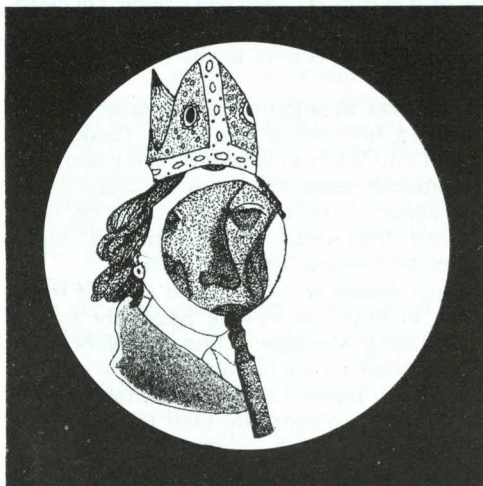
But what makes SMH different, unique? I began a list in September when I arrived. It included the buildings, especially the newly painted front. Girls, each with talents being slowly nurtured, and boys making their own contribution in the Junior School.

Staff, Teachers in the classroom and in their own time, painters and cleaners improving the looks, cooks ensuring we eat well. The list grew with parents, visitors, helicopters, pieces of paper and photocopiers that never work.

But it was not the individual items that made St. Mary's Hall unique. It was the special combination that allows doors to be opened and individual horizons found.

I would like to give my personal thanks to Mrs. Johns and Mrs. Knight, for all the work they did to ensure I had a smooth start in September, and all the Staff for their help and support, in particular Mrs. Vaughan who kindly wrote this year's diary of events.

B.C.V.



Drawing by SHERRIE ELLIOTT IVY

## ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS

### MY SWIMMING COURSE

I did a swimming course. I had to dive down into the deep end and pick up a very heavy brick. I had to take my teeshirt off in the water to get my badge. Then we went to a cafe and then went home. When we got home I played with my toys in my bedroom. When daddy came home I showed him my badge and he said "Well done".

Catherine Collins, PP2

### MY FRIEND

My friend is Paula, she is very helpful and nice. I play with her and she makes me laugh. I am going to invite Paula to my party, and at my party, I think we will have lots of sweets.

Ana Scandian, PP2



## MY BEST FRIEND

My best friend is Amelia because Amelia makes me laugh. Amelia is coming to my house one day. Amelia has a sister called Katy in Mrs. Jewsbury's class. Amelia is in my class. Amelia has got black hair. Amelia has got a band on top of her head. Amelia likes dogs a lot. Amelia is my buddy. I play with Amelia a lot. Amelia is the Vice Captain. Amelia is good at art. Amelia does good drawings. She is in Chichester house, the same as me. Amelia, my best friend, has got a pet. It is a fish. I play with Amelia's sister a lot too. They are my best friends. Amelia and I laugh a lot, and so does Katy. Amelia makes up songs a lot. She makes me laugh.

*Katherine Paddenburg, PP2*

## HALF TERM

In the half term Ruth stayed the night and we got a basket. Another day I got a book—a paper doll was in it and it had clothes of paper and it is fun to play with. Last night my Auntie and Uncle came. When they went out, Lucy stayed a little while and then went home. When Ruth stayed we played on my junior computer and it was fun playing with it. In the morning we played hide and seek under the bed.

*Zoe Lewis, PP2*

## THE WITCH

She has a long, pointed nose, slightly turned up at the end; it's a little bit bumpy; it's cold and stiff; it's slimy green to match the rest of her face.

Her eyes are sharp, round and slightly slanted up to the middle and down to the side, the colour is a dark bluish green. The outside is a shiny, gleamy white and all round her face she has wrinkles.

Her eyebrows are black and long and thin, they're evil in their own way. They're curved round her eyes and turn in to the middle and go further up her brow.

Her mouth is thin to the sides and gets bigger in the middle. Her teeth are sour lemon yellow and her lips are bloodthirsty red. Her cackle is wicked and sound quite sickening.

Her hat is black, a horrific black, it falls to one side. There's a spider hanging off the point.

Her hair is just a lighter black than her hat. It's fairly short and straight. She wears a shiny black cloak with white embroidery.

Her dress is sooty black as well with a grey belt, her tights are grey black and her shoes are dark black and turn up at the end with bells on her toes.

*Amoret Abis, Upper Prep*

## CAN I START TODAY AGAIN PLEASE?

I know I made a mess of things yesterday. I admit I did. It must have been the worst morning of my life. I woke up feeling happy until a sudden lack of clothes hit me. What had I done with them? They were not in the bathroom, or in the laundry basket. I took them off last night and . . . and . . . Surely I did not put them away. I never put clothes away. Although, when I looked in my wardrobe, there they were!

Dressed, I set off downstairs but stopped at the clock. It said 8.50! That could not be right. I set it back to 8.30. In the kitchen I turned on the radio. "And now the headlines at ten to nine," the newsreader said. I froze. The clock was not wrong! I had to get a move on if I did not want to be late. I walked to the bread bin. No bread. Instead I took out two rashers of bacon and put them in the frying pan. They took an awful long time to cook.

At 8.55 after swallowing the bacon far too fast, I reached for my car keys. They were not there. After frenzied hunting I found them under the sofa.

Out by the car I noticed the lights were on. The battery would be flat! I had to get the bus. As I ran to the bus stop, the bus put out its indicator and left. I waited 15 minutes for another one. At 9.30 I arrived at the office. "Sorry I'm late Mr. Hargraves," I said. He looked at me somewhat surprised.

"But you don't work here any more," he said.

Then I remembered. Two days before I had received a job at the art gallery!

If only I could start that day again!

*Clover Arnold, Trans*

## MY FABRICS TOPIC

At school I learn a lot. Last term we learnt how to sew and we weaved a purse. I liked it when we learnt about the people in the old days and they had to work long hours it was called the Industrial Revolution. I go to a mohair centre and I like it a lot.

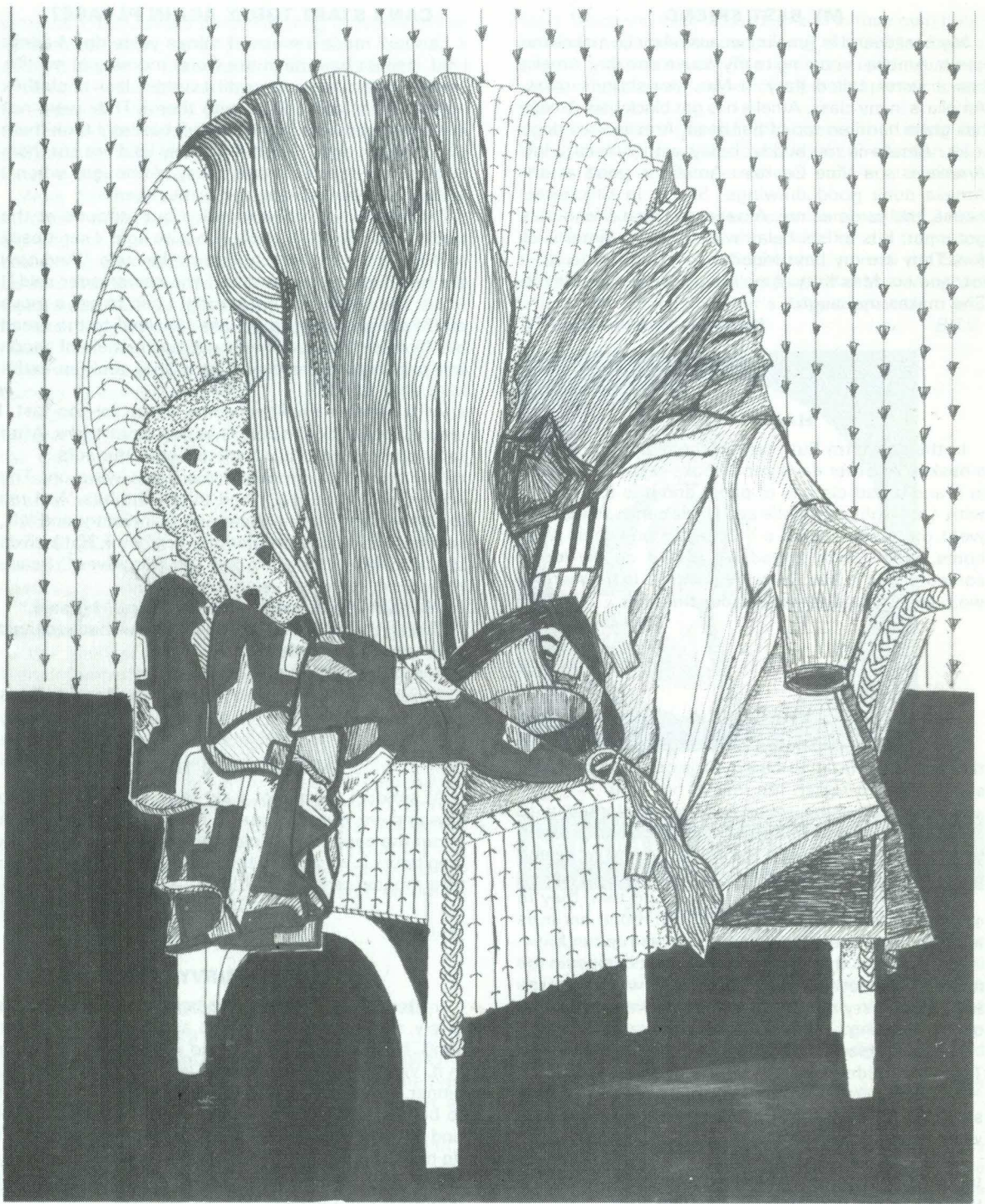
*Charlotte Overton-Hart, LP1*

## MY TOPSY TURVY STORY

In December I went to the beach. I thought it was lovely sun-bathing in the sea and swimming in the sand. When I went home I had a bath with no water in it. When I came I was very very dry, then I had my dinner, I had ants and bees with gravy. Then I went to bed at 12 o'clock at night. Then I went to school and did one sum. Then I came home again and didn't do my home work. Then I went to a party and did my home work there. Then I went to the toy shop and bought some cheese.

*Louisa Redfern, LP1*





Drawing by LUCY MAJOR IVY



## A BROWNIE HELPS OUT

There was a little girl called Rose and she went to the park. It was seven o'clock and it was dark. There was a Brownie in the park too. Rose did not see the stone and Rose tripped over it. The Brownie came rushing with a plaster and wet cloth. Rose was screaming like mad. The Brownie said "Calm down" but Rose kept on screaming. The Brownie put on the plaster but Rose was still gasping. There was a phone in the park and it cost 10p. Rose told the Brownie her phone number and the Brownie got her 10p and rang the phone number. Rose's mummy was not there so Rose and the Brownie sat on the bench and looked at the owls. It was eight o'clock and the Brownie had one more 10p. She tried the last time. Rose's mummy was there. She came in a car and thanked the Brownie and took Rose home. Rose's mummy was very cross with Rose, and Rose's knee got better. Rose's daddy was not pleased with Rose at all either.

*Victoria Davids, LP1*

## WARM FUZZIES AND COLD PRICKLES

I get the cold prickles when I stay up late and my Mum tells me to go to bed. I get the cold prickles when my Mum shouts at me. I get the cold prickles when I do not get my own way.

I get the warm fuzzies when my Dad gives me presents. I get the warm fuzzies when my Mum is nice to me.

*Rima Gudka, LP2*

## THE RAINBOW THEATRE

First, all of us put our cloaks and hats on and then we went in the Robwing. The ladies and gentlemen told us who we were. I was a guard with Hannah from lower prep. I was frightened when there was a big bang and it made me jump. I liked it when Miss Barnard acted, I thought she was super. The play was about Guy Fawkes who tried to blow up Parliament with his gang of men. He was going to light the gun powder when two guards stopped him. They tortured him to make him tell the names of the rest of the gang. Guy Fawkes would not tell them and so he died.

*Olivia Sherwood, LP2*

## THE STORM

Yesterday it was very windy but we were lucky families and that means Katie Mokhtar's family as well and our little world. I saw the television aerial was wobbling a lot.

*Madeline Wilson, PPIV*

Nick stood by a bus pole and Nick nearly got blown away.

*Valerie Furnham, PPIV*

The wind was strong. I had to hold Mrs. Marriott's hand and there was no school in the afternoon.

*Natasha Lustig, PPIV*

The wind was strong and I nearly thought the trees were going to fall down.

*Olivia Heal, PPIV*

## CHRISTMAS

I like Father Christmas because he is very kind. We gave him some carrots for Rudolf and his friends and we gave him some cookies for him to eat.

*Alexandra Bartlett, PPIV*

## ALADDIN

In the Aladdin show I liked the proud mum. She did all the washing. She looked funny.

*Emma Hoyle, PPIV*

I went to the Aladdin show. I was scared of the wizard and so was Natasha and I laughed at Aladdin's mum and I was wearing my pyjamas I was. I had fun.

*Kerrie Trembling, PPIV*

I did an Aladdin play. There was lots of people. I was a guard. There was one guard. I guarded the princess, then there was a happy ending.

*Charlene Evans, PPIV*

## HOLIDAYS

I went to France and I can ski. I can swim and I went to ski and I swim next door to us.

*Ruth Evans, PPIV*

I went swimming with mummy and my brother too and I went and dived in the water and it was nice.

*Karen Pooley, PPIV*

## ATTACK!

Hello my name is Daniel and my friends and I are going to attack the English. I'm a soldier and I'm trying to get into Bodiam Castle. Bodiam Castle was built in 1388. My friends have come as well; their names are Pierre, Dominic, Daniel and Jean. We all are going to attack Bodiam Castle. Now it is 1390. So I was going near Bodiam Castle then cannon-balls were shot out of the gunloops. Some of my men fell into the moat. Cannon-balls came out, half of the bridge was gone. I thought fast. I put tree trunks down. "Oh no," I said, "They're throwing stones and all kinds of rubbish down; hot oil." The door went up but suddenly came down, so I ran.



I got in, my men came after me. The gateway was in front of me. "Oh the murder holes in the ceiling." Arrows came out and hot oil again. I went up the big, big, high stairs it was . . .

People started throwing spears. One caught in a soldier's eye and he died.

I didn't know that there were people cooking; one of the English men jumped on me and then he died because I stuck a sword in his heart. It was 25th September when we fought. We threw some soldiers in the well which was five miles deep. At the end the French won and all of the English died but a few lived.

*Desha Chudasama, Upper Prep*

## OUR FIRST DAY AT SWANAGE

When we went to Swanage it was great fun. I found the journey quite a long time but I liked it when we stopped for a drink. At last we got to the Chatsworth where we were staying and then we went into a room where all our bags were. We were sorted into rooms and I was in a room with Sarah Downe, Desha, Philippa and Vanessa. When we got to our rooms we had to put the duvet into the cover then make our beds. As soon as we were going to unpack Mr. Littlewood came in and said, "Who wants a swim?" and we all said "Yes," because we were so hot, but when we got into the pool it was freezing cold. I didn't stay in for long and Philippa didn't either.

So, then, afterwards we unpacked our bags. After we had done all that we had to go downstairs for a talk about fires and talking after lights out at night.

Then we went for supper. I didn't like it much. At about 6.30 we went back to our rooms and had a small talk and got ready for bed.

Mr. Littlewood than came in and said, "Lights out, no talking." So we all had to go to bed for the next day when we went for a walk to the woods.

*Tiffany Henry, Transition*

For Christmas I got a record player, a "New Kids on the Block" record, a "Lisa Stansfield" record, some soap and some bubble bath. My cousin, Nick, came to dinner and we pulled a cracker at the table. At night when Jacob was in bed he screamed "Mummy!" because he didn't want Father Christmas to come.

*Lauren Summers-Haywood, PP1G*

One day we went to school and Miss Green told us that one of the guinea pigs died. It was sad. I wish he could not die.

*Sarah Corfield, PP1G*

Once upon a time there was a caterpillar. It's going to be a beautiful butterfly and it will fly.

*Wendy Lam, PP1G*

I am scared of the night because I sometimes have nasty dreams, and when I got to bed the next night I think my dreams are real.

*Paul Allen, PP1G*

The clouds whoosh along  
with power  
and then melt softly.  
Little tiny drops begin to fall  
as the rain splashes  
to the ground.

*Katayoun Mokhtar, PP1G*

"I am scared because I have bad dreams. In my dream I got eaten and my mum and day too. But you shouldn't be frightened of dreams because they aren't real."

*Amy Drinkwater, PP1G*

"Dear God,  
help me to be nice to people.  
help me to help their feelings."

*Karina Korby, PP1G*

## "DRIPS AND DROPS"

"When it was raining I took my umbrella out in the garden and I played."

*Anna Rosati, PP1G*

"I went to the hairdressers.  
Everybody likes my haircut!"

*Vivienne Benson, PP1G*

## FLYING HIGH

Flying high in the sky.  
swinging in the sky  
I am having a lovely time.  
up high in the sky  
I like looking down  
because I can see the  
treetops and the roads  
and the traffic and I just  
love the birds singing.

*Annabelle Doyle, LP2*

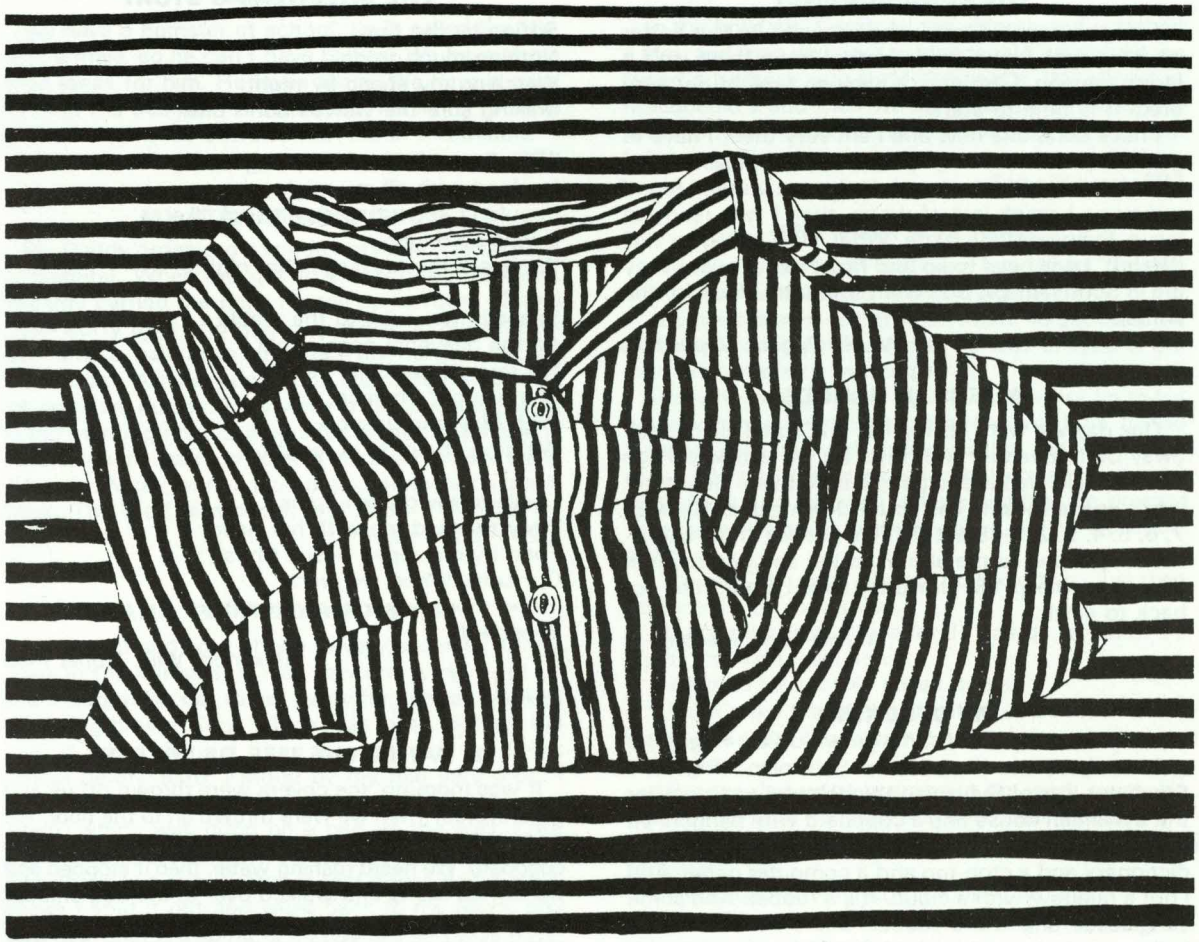
## REVOLUTION

July 14th, 1789! The peasants are shouting outside the gates of the palace, threatening to storm the Bastille if His Majesty the King does not give bread. I hear the Queen mutter, "Let them eat cake". But, that was not enough. They were going to guillotine us. The very next day many children and other people were beheaded. Then more and more. I was last in the queue of the dead to be.

Then . . .

*Morgan Charlesworth, LP2*





Drawing by ISABEL TITLOW, IVY

### THE LADY

There was an old lady the age of sixty. She liked gardening. She was quite gloomy. The garden was extraordinary. It was an Indian garden. There were lots of magnificent trees. She was petrified of little animals. There was a gloomy looking banana tree in the garden. She kept having to give it water. She had a gloomy husband of the age of fifty. Her son died of cancer. She had been going through a lot of things lately, like her dog died, her son died, and her husband was quite ill. She had friend who helped her make the garden look nice for a year or so. Then one day the lady who owned the house became very ill. She had to go to hospital. She died. Her husband had to sell up. He sold the house and it was knocked down because it was very dilapidated.

*Fiona McCarthy, Upper Prep*

### NICE AND NASTY

What sounds beautiful?  
Laughter, rain, fluttering and fireworks.

What sounds horrid?  
Shouting, arguing, whingeing and ghostly chants.

What smells gorgeous?  
Rose, soaps, freshly cut grass and perfume.

What smells ghastly?  
Dad's feet, toilets, smoke and glue.

What feels lovely?  
My cat's fur, hugs, brother's ears and tickling my back.

What feels revolting?  
A thump, dragging my nails across something,  
tickling feet and worms.

*Elizabeth Vivien, LP2*



## THE LONG JOURNEY

I am one year old today and I have to fly to a hotter country, with some other birds. I hope there isn't a storm coming. I am only a baby so I might get very tired. It is time to start.

I have done one mile and I am very tired. I have to go down. I landed in a pile of bread so I stayed there. I had lots of bread, I went to find some water, I found a river so I drank lots of water, then I was ready to leave. Everyone has gone. What am I going to do? "Help!" I will have to go and find them. I guess they are in South Africa. So I went to South Africa for the winter.

*Nicola Rogers, Upper Prep*

## ALIENS IN SCHOOL

One day we were having P.E. and some aliens took away Dipti, Beenum and Ruth. So we told Mrs. Page and she said we have to go and save them. So we got into a space-rocket. The count-down came, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1—Blast Off! We got out of the space-rocket, jumped to the aliens' rocket and got in when they were asleep. We turned the rocket around and got back to earth.

*Amelia Ideh, Pre prep 2*

## MY STOCKING

In my stocking, I had some grown-up ear-rings, lots of chocolates and I had lots of Sylvanian things and Sarah got lots of Sylvanian things too. I got a cat for the Sylvanian house and a cupboard with hangers on it. I got a Bedtime Story-Book and I got a very heavy dictionary and a crop-top and a computer game. And I got a rainbow with a cloud. It's a rubber. And some sunglasses and it's a rubber, and I have a hot-air balloon and it's a rubber, and a 500 puzzle and with it was a teddy-bear with a game and a teddy-bear box with chocolate.

*Laura Corfield, Pre prep 2*

## THE WIND

Crack, bend, whistle, twirl  
Round the corner curl and whirl.  
Up down round and round  
It sounds like a howling hound.

Blow blow, where will it go?  
I don't know where it will flow.

Here, here, it's coming near,  
Watch out old granny dear.

*Louisa Canavan, Transition*

## THE SHEPHERD'S STORY

Sitting by the fire,  
Nothing much to do,  
Watching my sheep by night,  
Making sure the wolves don't bite.

Then I met the heavenly angels,  
I gulped with all my might,  
I couldn't see what angels look like,  
It was so bright,  
We heard the message that night.

Speedily we went to the stable,  
As the heavenly angels told,  
We found little baby Jesus,  
In a manger I behold,  
With Mary and Joseph,  
We gave the gifts at length.

I gave a few golden coins,  
Mary thanked me with her heart,  
Then I worshipped Jesus Christ,  
Our Lord. When we went,  
In the morn, we told of the other  
Shepherd.

*Alexandra Weir, Upper Prep*

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF MY FEET

It was morning, the covers were thrown off us and we shivered. Then we were thrown on to the floor. We walked into a room and stood in front of this large cupboard. We heard rushing water, then it stopped and we turned round and walked over to the bed and sat on it and a large pair of hands came down and put some socks on us. Then we ran downstairs. THUMP, THUMP, THUMP, THUMP. Then soon we were dangling from a chair. A few minutes later we were getting in the car. We were sitting on the seat. It was very comfortable. "Mum," shouted a voice, "I've forgotten my shoes." Just as we were going to sleep we got pulled out of the car. We got our shoes on, then we went to school and had an aching day. We're dreading tomorrow.

*Annalise Saxby, Upper Prep*

## ABOUT ME

I am Dipti. I live in Havelock Road. I like swimming and I like playing tennis, and making things. I have a sister, she is in the church, and she likes pictures. I can jump into the swimming pool, and I can stand in the pool. I like colouring pictures. My birthday is on March the 7th.

*Dipti Patel, PP2*



## SCUFFLE

We have a hamster at school, he is called Scuffle, he is a male, so he can't have babies. We have some good ideas for him. He loves them. We have a cage for him. His bedroom is at the top, his living room is at the bottom, his exercise room is in the middle.

*Antonia Edwards, PP2*

## MY STAY AT HOSPITAL

My Daddy organized a London-style taxi to take me to hospital. When we got to the Nuffield hospital, Mummy carried the case for me up to room 12 and I had Nuffy bear on my bed. I stayed in hospital for two and a half days and had my tonsils out on Wednesday. After my operation I felt sleepy and I had my own two nurses. They were called Sue and Nicky. In the morning I had Sue and Nicky, and I had Sue in the afternoon. I had a children's menu which you could colour in. Nicky wore a blue dress. Sue wore a green dress. The food was super, and I had a fun day.

*Ruth Copelin, PP2*

## CAN I START TODAY AGAIN?

I woke up and light shone in very strongly from a crack in the curtains. It was very annoying. I got up and thought I've got to get ready for school. I looked at my big brown clock which was hung high on the wall. It said 7.00 and I had to get ready and be at school before 8.30. I stood by my bed very tired. I walked over to the bathroom, I reached for my tooth brush, which was hung on a peg on the wall. I put some tooth paste on the brush, well what I thought was paste, but as a matter of fact it was dad's after-shave. I spat it out and went back to my room, and said to myself it's going to be just one of those days. Suddenly I slipped over my cat and landed plonk on my nose. I began to get dressed.

When I had finished I realised that I had a pink and blue pair of socks and I knew Mr. Vidler wouldn't approve of it so I changed them.

I ran downstairs to have my breakfast. I went to the fridge and got an egg out and put it on the table and went to get a pan when all of a sudden I heard SPLAT. It took a while clearing it up so I decided not to have breakfast. Then it suddenly struck me that I hadn't done my home work and if you don't do your home work terrible things might happen but I couldn't do it now, so I picked up my bag and left. I walked to the bus stop and no buses came then all of a sudden I remembered that my baby brother, Tom, had been fiddling around with it and it was 7.00 now and that clock was three hours slow, and I was so upset and angry and I walked home hitting everything in sight.

*Charlotte Munting, Transition*

## A BIRTHDAY PARTY

In the holidays, I went to the cinema and watched a film, and then we went to Macdonald's because my friend's birthday was in Macdonald's. We played at Macdonald's and then we sang Happy Birthday and went home. Then we had dinner and then went to bed. I woke up the next morning and I put on my clothes.

*Salha Soussi, PP2*

## THE TIME MACHINE

Joe was a perfectly ordinary boy, apart for one thing—he had invented a time machine!

Joe had his own secret work room. To get the time machine working all he had to do was to type in the date and where he wanted to go.

Today he was going to try it out. He went up to his workroom and went over to his time machine. It was a round glass ball with flashing lights outside. Inside was a computer with a keyboard. He stepped inside, and decided to go back a few minutes. He pressed some keys. He found himself walking into his workroom again!

"It works," he said, jumping up and down. Just then he thought of something.

"If I can go back, I wonder if I can go forward? I'll try it," he said, getting up.

Just then his mother called down.

"Joe, it's tea-time," she shouted. Joe's mum didn't know about the time machine and Joe wasn't going to tell her.

After tea Joe went upstairs to his work room. He got into the time machine and once again pressed the right buttons. This time he pressed the buttons forward!

When Joe had landed, he looked around.

"Now," he thought, "I pressed the buttons to go forward to the horse racing."

Joe walked along . . .

"Here we are, the horse racing!"

He went over to watch. He was just in time to see the horses finish.

"And 'Little Bear' wins 'Lighting' second . . ."

Joe didn't bother to hear the rest. He thought carefully.

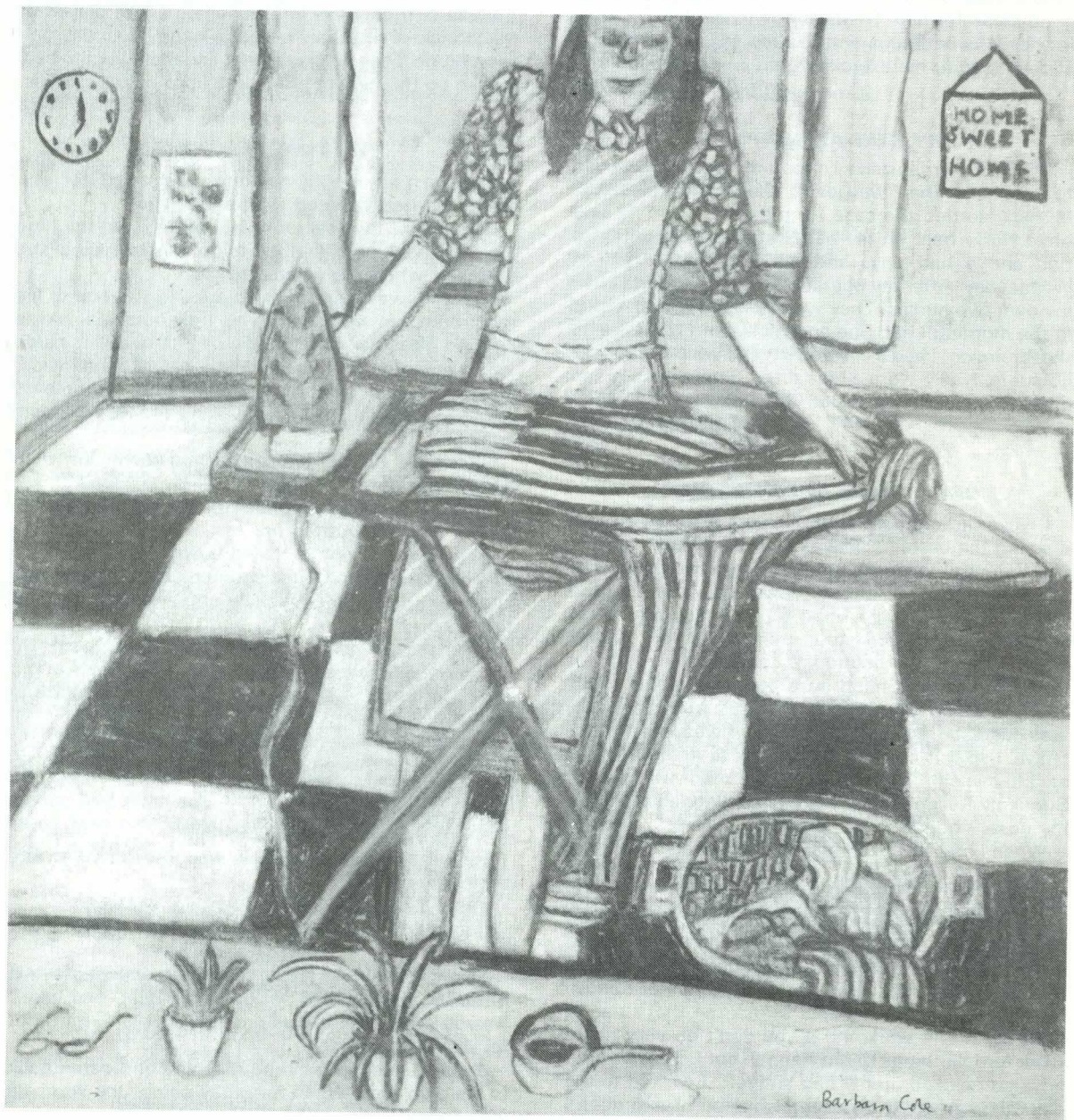
"Now, if the horse racing that I have watched is next Saturday, then I could bet on 'Little Bear' and win!" As you may think that is cheating you are right, but for Joe it's winning.

Joe got back in his time machine and came back to his own time. When Saturday came, Joe won! He was happy.

Joe decided that he would go into the future further. He got into his time machine and pressed the buttons to go forward three years.

When he got there he saw a little girl who had a pink dress, yellow bunches and a doll.





Drawing by BARBARA COLE, IIK



"Who's that?" Joe thought. The little girl ran to Joe's mother, and she picked her up.

Joe looked at the time.

"Gosh," he said, "It's my bedtime!"

When Joe had finally got home, he wondered about the little girl he had seen.

In the morning he got dressed. As he was going downstairs his dad met him.

"Your mum's had a baby girl!"

Suddenly everything fitted together.

"The little girl I saw was my baby sister!" Joe hurried downstairs. Just then Joe's dad came down.

"I have to go to the hospital to see mum."

"I'll stay here," said Joe.

"O.K., bye," and he went out of the door.

Joe got back into the time machine and went ten years forward.

When he had got there he looked around, arh, there was his sister, making a daisy-chain. Suddenly his sister vanished. Joe was puzzled. How could she just vanish like that? He decided to go home. When he got back he came out of his workroom and downstairs. He found his mum crying and his dad trying to calm her down.

"I've got bad news for you," said Joe's dad. "As we were walking home, your mum crossed the road and the baby got knocked over and was killed!"

Joe then realised why his sister had vanished.

*Sarah Dyer, Transition*

## A SCHOOL VISIT TO A WATERFALL

We all tumbled off the coach, which had taken us from London to Snowdonia, Wales, into the Youth Hostel in which we were staying for the night.

Tomorrow was to be an exciting day for the whole form. We were going to visit a waterfall, which we had discussed all term.

That night we had a midnight feast; Johnny, a boy in our class, had crept into the girls' room and had started telling us ghost stories. At about 12.30 a.m. Susan was sick over Johnny so he decided to take a bath. In vain I tried to sleep but all I could hear was running water and Johnny singing the words to pop songs.

I felt dreadful next day as I pulled on my Long-Johns, jeans and other warm clothes. My wool jumper was itchy and my rock-climbing boots seemed heavier than usual. I packed my rucksack with the equipment I would need for the day's outing. I had just put my lunch in my bag when I heard the girls calling to me; it was time to go. I was astonished when I saw Meg; she looked so brazen—as if she was about to walk down the cat-walk: short black skirt, red high heels, big dangling ear-rings and a white t-shirt with beads strung round her neck. As we boarded the mini-bus I tried not to show how shocked I was.

We were driven to a spot up in the mountains, just outside the Snowdonia Range Park.

As we all got out, I thought what a tranquil and beautiful place the mountains were as we steadily climbed the hills. I noticed that Johnny kept well away from Susan all day.

After a while, as our group drew nearer, we heard the fury of rushing water. As we turned the bend we saw the most wonderful sight.

I let out a small gasp as I saw the waterfall crashing onto the rocks below. It was so fierce yet so gentle as it sparkled in the sun. The water reminded me of falling diamonds, or stars. It was as if God had just turned on his tap for a bath.

"Now, everyone, our aim is to walk behind the waterfall," our teacher said. "All hold hands, Meg, you go at the end of the line." We all held hands and edged our way behind the running water. We were nearly there when one of Meg's heels broke. She stumbled and fell into the water. She dragged all of us as well, including the teacher.

Girls let out screams, boys shouted. From then on it seemed like a bad dream; rucksacks went flying, scarves floated down the river and shoes came off and sank.

After a while all of us managed to grope ourselves out of the water and onto the bank. We gathered what was left of our belongings and walked back down the hills. Nobody talked to Meg until the shock had worn off. As soon as we were in the mini-bus everyone started moaning and yelling at her. It had been a disastrous day's outing!

*Sarah Bridgewood, IIG*

## INTELLIGENT RACE

Whenever I watch the telly, my mind starts questioning.

Families separated,

Children become orphans,

Wives become disabled.

My heart cannot function properly.

It bleeds.

Bombs, Sirens, Fires, Robberies, Air Raid Shelters all these chained together just for one reason. Nurses busying to save, Doctors disappointing them. Blood treasured, saved for wounded, Soldiers generously shed it on the field, making puddles, creating pools.

Children look for mothers,

Robbers look for misers,

Doctors look for medicines,

Nurses look for bandages,

Christians look for Jesus Christ,

Muslims look for Allah,

Buddhists look for Buddha,



Atheists look for peace,  
 And  
 A dictator looks for land?  
 Heroism?  
 Money?  
 or Blood?  
 Land against land,  
 Faith against faith,  
 We against them,  
 They against us,  
 Corpses piled up for no reason,  
 Blood pouring like waterfalls,  
 Starvation starts for silliness,  
 Restriction starts for selfishness,  
 Are humans still honoured to be an "intelligent" race?  
*Terry Cheng, IVP*

### MY THOUGHTS ON RIDING

I love riding,  
 The Downs are calm—sometimes windy.  
 Start with trot, then into canter.  
 The wind blows into my face.  
 My hair streaming behind me.  
 I feel free and excited.  
 Cantering along, with the horse for company,  
 I think of nothing else but my riding,  
 Everything else is forgotten,  
 I could ride for hours on the Downs.  
*Alanna Henry, IIIU*

### S.M.H. THE STRONG AND MIGHTY SCHOOL

The large school is strong and mighty  
 She seems like a mother  
 By guiding me, when learning  
 And protecting me from raging winds.  
 The decorative looks are grand  
 Compared to that of a large house.  
 Even though she looks like a school  
 I could mistake her for a mansion.  
 In many ways she's like a castle  
 Because of her masterful ways.  
 The building looks inviting  
 With elegant wooden door.  
 The bell adds to the character  
 Of the majestic, old palace.  
 She stands proudly on a hill-top.  
 From miles away she can be seen  
 With all her splendour from her long life,  
 Standing, strong and mighty  
 Guarding all within her.

*Barbara Cole, IIK*

### ELIZABETH

She is as thin as a lamp post.  
 She is as cool as Tom Cruise.  
 She dances like Michael Jackson.  
 She is as pretty as a peacock.  
 She is like the girl with the curl in the  
 middle of her forehead.  
 She chatters like a monkey.  
 She is as light as a one pence piece.

*Lucy Barnes, li*

### "STORM AT SEA"

I lived on an island in the Mediterranean Sea. On the island is a tiny fishing village, alone and desolate, with no mainland near it. It is in the middle of nowhere, where there are no crimes, no serious worries and everyone is eager to help one another.

My name is Emma, I have dark, short hair, tanned body and a face with green, sparkling eyes, looking for adventure. I can't say I am ugly for I am pretty in my own way. My hobby isn't dancing or reading, but fishing. I love the sea. You can't depend on it, but it is great for adventure. You see, the weather can change very suddenly. One minute you are on the beach and the next minute there is a fully fledged storm brewing, so I sometimes get caught in the storms while fishing. Then there is a frightening journey that makes your heart beat faster and your breathing stop. This happened one day when I was fishing for crabs near our beach.

I lay in the little wooden boat, my feet dangling in the water. I gazed up into the sky where clear blue was seen. The warm air ruffled my hair and there wasn't a cloud in sight. I wished I could stay like that for ever.

I must have fallen asleep because my fishing net was being pulled by something. I had caught at last ten crabs as well as other fish. I started loading them into the boat. I looked up and saw a massive black cloud above me. "Oh dear, we are in for another storm," I thought to myself. "I had better get back to the island or my family will worry."

Suddenly the heavens opened and a torrent of rain came down. Thunder was heard and the sea stirred.

My little boat was tossed like a toy on the ocean's surface. My heart skipped a beat as a huge wave lifted me. I held on for dear life. "My God!" I screamed as the rain hurled down and the waves crashed against the boat's side, causing holes in the deck. You could hear the thunder like scornful laughs over the howling wind. It was like a game for the weather, playing with the boat, hurling it higher and higher.

Then suddenly the sea was calm, the sky was blue and it was like nothing had happened. The storm might never have been.

But I knew from the terror I was feeling, my torn clothes and damaged boat, that it certainly had happened.

*Penny Powell, IIG*