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Editorial

Editors: GILLIAN BROOK & MELISSA GODDARD

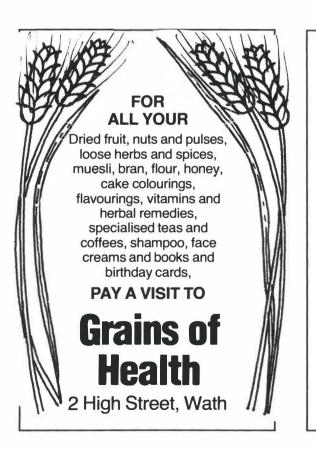
After months (yes months!) of hassling people in corridors, planning surprise attacks on unsuspecting victims and generally making ourselves very unpopular, we have finally produced what is sure to become a literary classic in its own right — "The New Wathonian 1985".

To say that entries were thin on the ground would be an understatement, but the entries we did receive were of a high standard, and as a result you will no doubt notice that this publication is of exceptional quality. As you may know, we were offering a £5 prize for the best entry and we decided that this should be awarded to Sarah Walsh for her two poems (pages 10 & 19) which we found impressive, especially considering her age.

At this point, we would like to apologise to Birdy and Yoser, and we hope that they will not take offence at the photograph (page 13) which they knew nothing about.

We would like to thank Mrs Pinto for the use of her telephone and office-cum-interview room; Mrs Pinnock and Mrs Burns; Mr Dragovic and Birdy for use of their photographs; Mr Bareham for nearly bringing a photograph; Janet Thorpe for helping us collect work; Peter Elliott and Wendy Hadfield for their co-operation; the advertisers for their money and finally to Gill's mum and dad for putting up with typing at all hours, sellotape and paper strewn across the floor and making gallons of coffee.

We hope you find this magazine worthwhile and please buy one of your own if this doesn't belong to you, after all, it will become a collectors item one day.





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Athens House Report



A new era began in September, with the advent of Mr Baggaley as Head of House. I am sure all Athenians would like to thank Mr Dunsby for all the years of hard work that he has put in.

The year began with a win in the 1st Year Cross-Country, our boys finished 3rd but a magnificent performance by our girls team who finished 1st, gave Athens an overall victory. A special mention must be given here to Rachel Pidd who won the girl's competition.

And so the Inter-House Cross-Country. Athens again proved to be a formidable outfit, only beaten by the narrowest of margins by Troy. Indeed, the points difference of 1,451 to Troy and 1,473 to Athens would probably have been made up had the previously mentioned Rachel Pidd had not dropped out on the morning of the race due to injury. Mr Baggaley denied fervently that his 'run' around the cross-country course gave Athens an advantage, leadership from the back rather than from the front, in his case!

The football competition continued Athen's run of success in a very keenly fought event. Athens came 1st and the splendid performance of our 1st and 2nd Years gives encouragement for the future.

Mention must be made here of the inaugural girls football competition. Only the 2nd Year girls took part and Athens proved to have one or two sharp-shooters. The message following the quality of some of the play must be 'watch out boys!' Our girls finished a commendable 2nd in the competition.

In the more established netball competition, our girls finished overall 3rd. There were some notable performances from all years, however we said a sad farewell to two stalwarts of Athens, Jane Pepper and Mandy Speight, who have done so well for the House in past years.

Indoor hockey proved reasonably successful for Athens with another 3rd place, our girls proving that there is talent throughout the years.

The Swimming Gala came with some expectation, certainly Athens must improve on previous performances. Well, yes, they did. A very creditable 2nd place gave Athenian swimmers something to shout about. Indeed, Mr Baggaley proved that some people don't need a microphone to shout across the pool, Athenian swimmers had no choice but to swim for their lives!

Our House Quiz team found the going rather tough, some closely fought rounds and a replay against Rome brought us fourth position.

After our titanic performances in the football, we wondered what the rugby would bring. Well, Athens played in every final for 1st and 2nd place, this shows the consistency through the years, although unfortunately only our 1st Years won their competition. Athens finished a gallant 2nd overall.

Just one disappointment in the year was our 6th position in the middles badminton. The players have assured us that they can improve on this! These results prove that Athens can improve on last year's 3rd position in Sports day.

All that remains is to thank all the people who have been involved in playing and organising teams and to thank Mr Baggaley for his leadership and encouragement.

Carthage House Report



The new school year began with an influx of new blood into Carthage with the 1st Years, who were eager to take part in any activities Mr Longley could think of, whilst some 2nd Years were just as keen, but the majority of the 3rd and 4th Years wondered what all the fuss was about and the mere mention of a House competition sent the 5th and 6th formers scurrying for the door.

By now, if you've read other House Reports, you'll have noticed how they think they're the best, well, Carthage was never a House to mince its words because we know we're the best — it's just that in some events we thought we would give the other inferior Houses a sporting chance. Anyway, enough of this build-up, now to the long-awaited Carthage results for 1984-85.

Once again Carthage proved it had an array of budding young artists with its large number of entries for the Christmas card competition.

Winners in Carthage were Joanne Hudson, Adele Middleton and Angela Millington. The fine form of the girls extended to the House netball where they disposed of all the other competition with ease to achieve 1st position, though they were not so lucky in the House hockey where they came a creditable 4th place.

The arrival of the swimming gala saw all hip and trendy Carthaginians knocking the dust off their slinky summer swimwear to power home to another victory and gain 1st position.

In achieving these results, it was the girls who, for the most part, pulled the boys along and this showed when the boys were on their own, only achieving 5th position in the House rugby and football competitions, though thanks to those boys who actually took part.

However, nothing could help the Carthage cross-country team who came 6th, though our excuse is that the only running that Carthaginians do is out of House assemblies before Mr Longley has time to tell a joke.

Nevertheless, all was not lost and the Carthage House quiz team rallied round and gained 2nd place, a vast improvement from last place in 1984.

Finally to Sports Day, an event once dominated by Carthage but due to much pressure from other Houses we have now released our grip on the Sports Day Cup, and we now find ourselves in 6th position, though the stage is all set for a comeback in 1985.

Mostly by MARK JONES

Troy House Report



One cold winter's morning, we were approached by the Red Baron himself (more commonly known as Mr Goodman) and asked in somewhat dubious terms if we would write a report of our tactical manoeuvres throughout the year (leaving out all the unnecessary details, of course.) Owing to our devotion and love for our leader and his followers, and despite the fact that at the time of the 'request' it was 8.45 a.m., we willingly agreed.

We will begin with our most prestigious victory over our notorious enemies, (including the devious and cunning General 'We have ways of making you take part' Miller and her platoon of infamous rebels!), in the widely acclaimed Sport's Day. Don't let it's innocence fool you, it's an all out frontal attack by each squad to demobilse and then destroy (as slowly and as painfully as possible) their enemy. Our victory was well deserved, we defeated the opposition easily with our talented team of athletes.

After that historical battle, out next target was to be the notorious kamikaze run, in which the courageous volunteers from each squadron battle it out over Abdy's rough terraine (some competitors never return and in some cases, due to a sudden attack of nerves, or sense, never even start!)

With the stamina and precision timing shown by our very own Winstanley and Joanne Maire, we stormed to yet another victory - our jungle warfare training had obviously been successful! Unfortunately, due to devastating casualties sustained in our pre-training courses, our top squadron was depleted of that top ranking officer known as Debbie Lambert and we were thus tragically defeated in that fiendish battle known as netball.

Our fate was also seemingly sealed in the swimming gala, when we were "sunk" by the enforcement of some rather dubious rules and could thus only manage 3rd place; although our sources have informed us of suspected foul play, and our secret agent, Woody 'the coat', is at this moment investigating the claim.

Nevertheless, after strategical replanning, (ordered by the great one himself), we tried to reclaim our territory in the football. Our skilful males once again strove to the finals, but due to the fearsome Baggaley brigade (we're pretty convinced that they're on weekly wages), we were robbed of our well deserved 1st place by 1pt. However, our mad scientist Neil Fleming-Smith is at this moment devising a whole new concept in military tactics - we will return!

Our 3rd victory was claimed when the new blood of our mighty squadron annihilated their opponents in an afternoon of dangerous and highly skilled pursuits, namely netball and rugby.

The brains of our intelligence men were brought to light in numerous rounds of the quiz, in the 'O' block interrogation rooms. Our squad, led by Gillian Brook (a character not to be reckoned with in such harrowing tests) stormed to 4th place.

This was followed by our 'kill first and ask questions later' hockey teams. The 2nd Years came 1st and the senior team, introducing their secret weapon 'Sadistic Sue' (Suella Edwards) managed to secure a victory with the minimum amount of blood - despite the fact that one of her goals was disallowed (even secret weapons don't argue with Miss Ackerley). The overall result was another Trojan first.

Finally, we will look at our success in the most feared exercise of the whole year, where the leaders of the teams count their men after the game and, on finding one or two missing, scour the field for their remains. Yes, you've got it, rugby - that organised opportunity to tread on the face of your deadliest rival while the referee is trying to intervene in the odd massacre at the other end of the pitch. For the third year running our males brought us success, the second winning 24-0 and the third/fourth years storming to a similar victory. The senior team also won, either because of the fact that the dirtier an exercise becomes, the better they are at it, or because Pana (John Payne) was on our side. Those trying to tackle Pana will, thanks to the great achievements of medical science, just live to try again.

We would, in conclusion, like to thank all the 'volunteers' who willingly, or after minimal degrees of pressure, took part in our activities. Those of you who missed out on the fun must not despair, for we at H.Q. never make the same mistakes twice and we can assure you that we'll get you next time!

Sparta House Report



Unfortunately, Spartan athletes have not done themselves justice over the past year, although Sports Day saw the introduction of some very talented 1st Years - keep it up, you are our hopes for the future! Though the 1st Year as a whole proved to be less than enthusiastic over House activities, and for the first time ever we have had difficulty forming 1st Year teams.

However, the 2nd Years have been very keen and have produced our best results, particularly in the girls netball and hockey.

The cross-country brought individual successes for third year girls, and a fourth year boy, Chris Nuttal, ran in the senior race and did us proud with his achievement.

The Christmas card competition entries, though not exactly abundant, were of a high quality and well done to everyone who gave it a go - and perhaps more Spartans will join in this festive activity next year.

Our hopes are high for the Spartan dramatists, with such verve we're bound to produce another Gielgud or Olivier. Hopefully, the competition will go ahead in October, and our fingers are crossed for all Spartans involved.

Now Sparta has never been a House to boast about its achievement for obvious reasons, but you must allow us to mention our crowning glory - the House quiz. We may not have the best athletes, but the way that Sparta sailed so easily to victory in the quiz proves that we have the brains to beat 'em all. Our congratulations to the team, all of which deserve a mention. Thanks to Melissa Goddard (especially for her memory of all the questions from previous years which she insisted the rest of the team learnt each week!), Richard Spiby, Harry Thompson, Jane Joyce, Michael Chan, Jacob Stanley and David Hickman. Our 1st & 2nd Years (Jacob & David) were very impressive and show great promise for the future.

Our thanks also to the House captains Alison Chappell (also Head Girl of course), Robert Booth, Kate Collier and Andrew Pepper for their help and support over the year.

Thebes House Report



It was another tremendous year for Thebes, we won absolutely nothing. However, we came a close 2nd in the badminton and hockey. The girls did us proud in the football, showing that they could do just as well as the boys - both coming 3rd.

The House event which nearly killed everybody was the cross-country - it nearly killed me anyway. After all that effort which the House put in we only came 4th.

This year, we decided to give the other Houses a chance in the swimming gala seeing as we usually win it, so we only came 4th overall.

Netball has never been a strong point, although we always turn out a team, unlike the senior boys at rugby!

Even though we haven't been as successful as usual, the old Thebes spirit is still there, everybody willing and able.

Better luck next year Thebans, we know you've got the ability to win everything even though we sixth formers won't be there to urge you on — we hope!!!

NICOLA SPEIGHT



THIS SPACE WAS RESERVED FOR THE ROME HOUSE REPORT. UNFORTUNATELY, DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND OUR CONTROL, NO SUCH ENTRY WAS RECEIVED.

Portrait of the Lord

Old, gnarled, wrinkled, grey-bearded, Soft smile, kind eye, stern voice. Long white robe draped over ancient body. Bony hands with veins uplifted grasp The arms of His throne — Seat of all wisdom.

Silence is broken by voices of angels, Heavenly chorus sings praise to its Lord. He listens on to the echoes of gladness, But deep down in His heart is a feeling of sadness, Sadness for sinners who heed not His word.

Eyes clear and blue, colour of ocean, Deep seeing, all spying, conscience searching, Between them a noble nose, Nostrils expand, expiring air — the breath of all life.

An endeavour to capture such beauty, Beauty which only He alone can create.

SARAH WALSH

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WATH SCHOOL'S ANNUAL SKI 'BREAK' -

Here follows a documentation (account) of the week's events:-

DAY 1 & 2:

The coaches (Arnold's) embark on their journey across the barren wastelands of inner Britain on their quest, via Luton airport, for the group of big, white, firm bumps known as the Alps. Early in the quest, the gruesome twosome (alias Nick Ward and Dave Probert) acquired the fatal disease, domination of um cassettum recordum. Upon the third change of a Carlsberg light bulb we arrived at our lodgings at Marilleva. The adventure had thus begun. Dave and Nick then introduced the big white mountain in the sky to the ear piercing sound of Big Country and thus skiing commenced.

DAY 3:

Price tragically mistaken for a dwarf, Albanian snow-monster, whilst Greaves spots an unsuspecting wench. After only two lessons and one day's skiing the big, white mountain in the sky claims its first victim.

The gruesome twosome find it difficult to keep their eyes off the sprockets (third year girls), on and off the slopes.

The day ends with groovy body shuffling and heavy disco boogy shakedown. The gruesome twosome show signs of being irritable.

DAY 4 (Wedenesday):

Due to the night's heavy snowfall, lifts found to be out of order in the morning, so Franz Klammer Price and Steve Podborski Greaves decide to make temporary ski jumps in the hotel. Price has difficulty scaling the snow drifts. Skiing resumes in the afternoon and after Greaves takes a fall (or five) he realises that only Birdy can fly down the mountain.

Tape recorder fiends definitely becoming a bore.

DAY 5:

Ashton still unfamiliar with the surroundings, finds it difficult to stay on the inside of the cable cars, preferring to keep his ski's company on the rack outside. To Ashton's disgust, his bent ski poles accidently fly off the lift and to his delight he spots an abandoned pair next to Mr (the snow plough expert) Swift's ski's. Swift later seen with very small ski poles, followed closely by a screaming toddler. That night Ashton and Foster spotted as transvestites at the Fancy Dress Disco.

Cassette recorder heard at 2 a.m. as fight breaks out in one room (gruesome twosome and room mates involved).

DAY 6 TRIP TO MADONNA:

Foster and Ashton told to refrain from bombing as Greaves once again couldn't keep up.

Money running low — gruesome twosome now regretting earlier drinking spree.

Due to skimpy continental breakfast, Ashton seen skulking round bins.

DAY 7 (Saturday):

Last day skiing, everyone up bright and early. Weather now perfect. Tests done in daily lesson. Foster seen bombing down at incredible speed followed by a worried instructor. Ashton insists on not fastening his boots up. Day ends with amusing name pronunciation at award ceremony. Foster disappointed with $1\frac{1}{2}$ star silver.

Later, staff and sixth form seen eating enormous pizzas and drinking bottles of wine at the pizza parlour.

DAY 8:

Morning spent with suitcases waiting in lounge for coach. Big Country definitely ruled the morning.

Arriving at the airport, trade at the duty free shop picked up considerably. Once aboard the plane, airhostess seen swearing at Ashton. Ashton insists on Yorkshire tea with Yorkshire water.

Toilet facilities on plane found to be very tricky to handle. Plane touches down in dense fog in the early hours of the morning.

Having conquered the Alps, Wath school party make the long journey back through snowbound Britain.

PLUNK (alias Yoser & Rowly)





Birdy and Yoser after a few bevyies



The group on arrival at Marilleva

Environment in Danger

Because of the population explosion and the industrial and technological developments of the last two hundred years, great damage has been done to the environment in many areas by the disruption of the balance of nature.

Pollution has become a major problem, particularly in modern industrial societies. For example, air pollution in the form of smog has made cities unpleasant and unhealthy. It causes bronchitis and various other respiratory diseases. The London smog of 1952 killed an estimated 4,000 people.

Water pollution by sewage and industrial wastes has fouled rivers, lakes and even seas, notably parts of the almost tideless mediterranean. The flora and fauna have been destroyed and people's health has been directly affected as in Minamata in the 1950's. Here, perhaps as many as 10,000 people suffered death, deformity or acute illness after eating fish poisoned by acetaldehyde waste pumped into the sea by a chemical company.

The land too has been polluted in many ways. For example, the pesticide DDT was once regarded as a means of raising food production. But it has also wiped out large populations of birds and, because of its persistance, it has damaged the fragile ecology of soil by weakening the micro-organisms in it.

Steps have been taken in many places to control the dangers of smog, Minamata disease and DDT, but many other, perhaps ever more serious problems lie ahead if the balance of nature is disturbed.

For example, if jet airliners and rocket discharges damage the ozone layer in the stratosphere, it could expose the Earth to the Sun's ultra-violet rays. And no-one is sure of the consequences of the rising content in the air of carbon dioxide.

One estimate is that it could double by the year 2030. The atmosphere would then block long-wave radiation from the Earth, like the glass roof of a green-house and temperatures would rise by an average of 3°C. Ice sheets would melt submerging coastal plains and cities.

ANTHONY LITTLE

While taking a grandfather clock to be repaired, a man turned a street corner and ran smack into another man, sending him flying.

"I'm so sorry," said the first man.

The fellow on the ground got up and snarled, "Why can't you wear a watch like everyone else?"

The Plight of the Seals

Where does a fur coat belong — vital to survival on a seal or adorning the backs of the rich? The answer should be clear.

IFAW (International Fund for Animal Welfare) has been battling for year to spare seals from a barbaric and agonising death, but they can never have enough support.

Canada is the main offender — its fishermen are heavily backed and funded by the government, the fishing industry and the fur trade.

After surviving the horrors of their annual migration, thousands of which do not, the Canadian ice-floes proves all too short a resting place for the seals while their cubs are born. They are helpless, their only protection being a thick, insulating white coat, but unfortunately this coat is highly prized by the rich. And so the cubs must pay for this human greed with their young lives.

The Canadian fishermen show no mercy as they descend upon the bewildered cubs with guns, nets, clubs and ice-picks, as many photographs, too distressing to print in this magazine, will testify.

The IFAW need your help — and you can help. Join others such as Spike Milligan, Johnny Morris, Angela Rippon, and Brigittte Bardot in the campaign to but an end to such senseless massacre. Boycott Canadian fish products — buy Findus who support the cause, and put Birds Eye, Princes and Shippam back on the shelf. Check labels for the origin of the fish products you are buying so that we can have victory over the fishermen of Canada. It's the only way.

Remember, these lovely and intelligent animals cannot defend themselves, it is up to us to help them.

For further information on any subject of animal welfare, write to:-

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Confectionary Recipes

Peanut Butter Cookies 175g (6oz) butter

50q (2oz) peanut butter 100g (4oz) caster sugar 100g (4oz) soft brown sugar 150g (50oz) plain flour

1/4 tsp. salt 1 egg

- 1. Mix the butters, sugars and egg together in a bowl, add the flour and salt and mix to a firm dough.
- 2. Make into 36 balls. Place on greased baking trays and flatten with a fork.
- 3. Bake in the oven at 190°C, (375°F), gas mark 5 for 10-12 minutes until golden. Cool on trays.

Caramels

25q (1oz) grated plain chocolate 50g (2oz) soft brown sugar

75ml/2.5 fl.oz milk 180g (6oz) golden syrup 20a (3/4oz) butter

Few drops of vanilla essence

- 1. Place all the ingredients except the vanilla essence in a saucepan and bring slowly to the boil, stirring.
- 2. Continue to boil gently until a little of the mixture forms a hard ball when dropped into a cup of cold water.
- Remove from the heat and stir in the vanilla essence.
- 4. Pour into a shallow, well greased, square tin. Cut into 1 inch squares and leave to set.

Crispy Bars

100g (4oz) butter

100g (4oz) marshmallows 100q (4oz) caramel toffee 100q (4oz) rice krispies

- 1. Melt the butter, marshmallows and toffee together in a saucepan and boil 1-2 minutes.
- Remove from the heat and fold in the rice krispies.
- 3. Spread into a greased swiss roll tin and leave to set. Cut into squares.

Peppermint Creams

1/2 lb icing sugar

1 eaa white

Few drops peppermint essence

Food colouring

- 1. Sift icing sugar. Put egg whites into a bowl and gradually stir in sugar until stiff. Knead in more sugar to form a firm paste, adding essence to taste.
- Divide mixture and colour as required.
- Dust work surface with icing sugar, roll out mixture to about 5mm thick
- 4. Cut into shapes and leaves to dry on sheets of greaseproof paper.

PARROT TALK

I saw this parrot,

He saw me.

I hung around expectantly, Hoping we could have a chat. Exchange ideas on this and that.

Christopher Taylor, form 14

Here Today

If, after all, I am wrong about all this. My God, and I die. Have I really so very much to fear? For always after the loving comes the leaving, And always after the joy, must come a little sorrow, And the winter follows autumn as the summer follows spring. And the silence follows singing. We must end all to begin. And the stars follow the sunshine. And the peace follows the pain, After the dance is always stillness, 'Tho the muse will dance again. After tears comes the smiling. And the loss follows the gain. So after living must come dying, Like the hills beyond the plain.

SARAH WALSH

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Jeans Scheme



PETER ELLIOTT

A few weeks ago, after months of negotiating with Wendy Hadfield, we finally managed to smuggle Peter Elliott into Mrs Pinto's room, away from the hoards of screaming fans to ask him a few questions . . .

How did you start running?

I started running when I was a 1st Year at school, and that was by accident really. I went to Rawmarsh Comprehensive school and they didn't have a sports hall or anything like that, so whenever the football pitches were water-logged we had to do a cross-country — I did a cross-country in P.E. and won it. Then I had to do an inter-schools cross-country at Brinsworth but I got sent the wrong way and ended up running down the motorway. Then I came here to Wath to race and won that as well.

Do you have any other talents apart form running?

Football. I got offered trials with Manchester City and Leeds. I used to play football in the morning and run in the afternoon but it was too tiring so I had to choose between them.

How often do you train and have you ever considered training in America?

I train six days a week, usually twice a day but sometimes three times. I have had offers of scholarships at universities in the States, but I'm not interested in going anywhere because there a lot of things that they don't mention like having to run when they say and do what they say as well as having to get a job at night to support yourself — you're there to ensure that the college does well at sport and at the end of it they give you a degree.

How do you feel about Seb Coe being selected for the Olympics despite the fact that you beat him quite convincingly in the selection race?

It seemed quite unfair at the time but I suppose it was fair looking back. We had been told beforehand that whoever won the race would go to the Olympics, but they should have just said that Seb had already been selected then I wouldn't have had to run. In hindsight it's easy to say that they were right as he went on to win the 1500m. Actually, I was invited to the BBC studios to be present when the team was announced but nobody bothered to tell me that the ITN cameras' would be there, wanting to film my reaction — I mean what was I supposed to say?

How do you get on with other athletes?

I don't really get on with Seb Coe all that well. Steve Ovett and Crammy are alright, it's just that Seb thinks he's above everybody else, though he has come round since he moved to London. As far as being as athlete is concerned he's the best in the world.

What do you think about drugs in sport, and what do you think should be the penalty for offenders?

Anybody caught taking drugs should be banned for life. I have never taken such drugs in my life and I never will do because as far as I am concerned, when I step on the track it's me, not drugs, against somebody else.

Are there any advantages to being well known?

Well yes, I do get recognised but it depends if you walk round with a head as big as a bucket nobody treats me any differently, so it keeps my feet firmly on the ground.

What do you think of the sports facilities in Britain?

They're pretty poor in this country especially where indoor tracks are concerned. They need to spend lot of money on facilities if we are to compete with the U.S.A. and Eastern bloc countries.

What do you think of Americans?

Pretty loud. Wherever I went in the States, people said 'have a nice day'. They try to go overboard on everything.

Do you think they treat British people any differently to other nations?

I suppose so, because every American wants to meet a British person and look back in their ancestry hoping that their great, great grandfather was English. One of the advantages of going to college in the States, so I've heard, is that all the girls come banging on bedroom doors trying to get to the Englishmen.

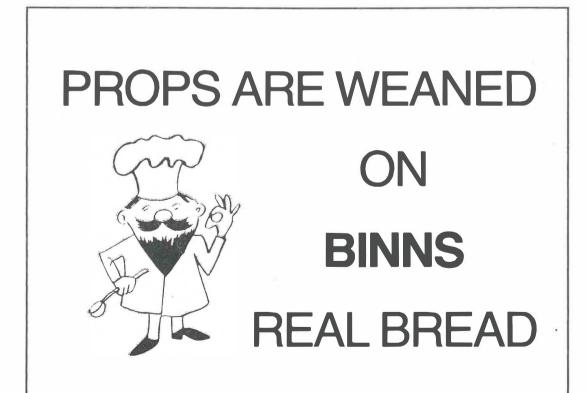
What is the next step in your career?

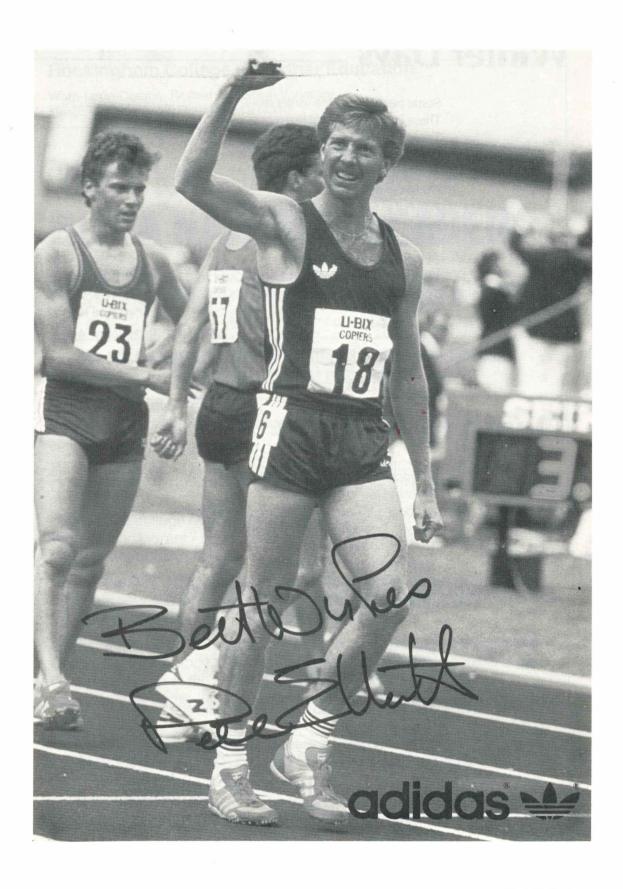
The season starts again in May when there are the U.K. Championships in Northern Ireland. I'll have to think about whether to go because trouble is expected for anybody from Britain, although I went in 1981 and there was no trouble then.

Where are going after this interview?

Back home training, for a ten mile run.

GILLIAN BROOK & MELISSA GODDARD





Winter Days

Some people hate the winter days, There is nothing they'd like more, Than to hibernate like a hedgehog, When the rain beats against the door And I for one can see their point, I hate the wind and ice, And not to fight my way through ice Would be extremely nice.

Frost patterns on the window panes, Birds footsteps in the snow, I'd rather stay awake and see The whole world set aglow.

WAYNE BIRCH, form 14

Death in Autumn

A ferocious wind whistles like a kettle,
Whistling round every corner,
Devouring leaves, leaving trees like skeletons.
The wind intimates that winter is near,
The ground is like a checked quilt,
The leaves are the fragments.
Down falls another leaf,
Exhausted gold laid on the earth,
The skeletons are impelled by the wind.

Instantly, the wind becomes more vicious,
The sun retires from a days shining
And begins to set,
The swallows remain motionless on telegraph wires,
Waiting to migrate.
As the wind assassinates trees and leaves,
The earth shivers.

DAVID HICKMAN, form 15

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Opportunities while still at school to study subjects not available at Wath Comp. (eg Psychology, Sociology, Law) either on a 'Link' course basis during the day or in the evening —

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SCIENCE BLOCK v SIXTH FORM NETBALL MATCH _____

One bleak, windy lunch time, after minutes of hard practice, a bunch of finely tuned athletes strolled out of the sports hall in eager anticipation of what was to come. We are talking of course, of the science block netball team — an awesome collection of sportsmen (!) if ever there was one. Coached to an unprecedented level by Mrs Thomas they prepared to meet the opposition, the mighty sixth form girls!

The match got off to a flying start, though it soon became obvious that the staff didn't know the rules; Mr Elliott couldn't even manage to keep within the lines of the court and disrupted every decision made by the *umpire. After a very shaky start, Mr Davies began to show his shooting prowess and together with Mr Haynes proved a partnership to contend with.

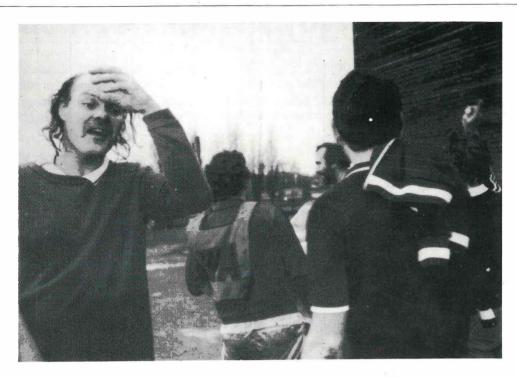
Their defence advantage was obvious (Mr Bilby) but the sixth form were undeterred, confident of their greater skill. Mr Baggaley and Mr Walsh, perhaps more enthusiastic than skilful, battled hard for their side and Mr Swift stuck it out bravely, running about, trying to mark everybody on the court, even his own team.

At half time the sixth form had looked all set to give the teachers a hefty scutching but in the second half, brute force and blatant cheating prevailed and the science staff clinched a narrow victory, the final score 10-9.

*The umpire still maintains that Mr Elliott should have been sent off.

MELISSA GODDARD & GILLIAN BROOK





"Right then lads, when do we start?"

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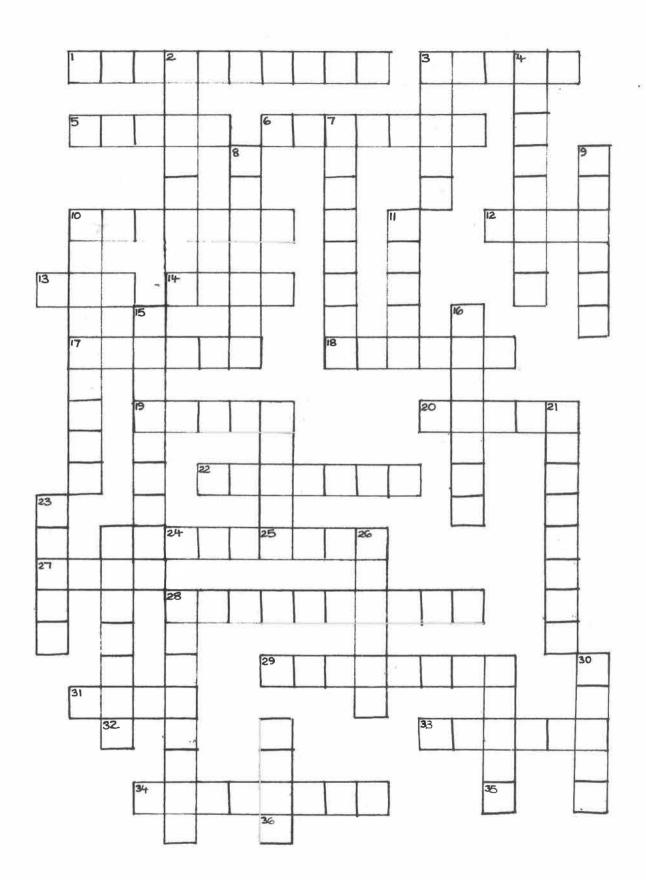
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Teachers' Name Crossword

The answers to this Crossword are all teachers' names and can be written across, up or down according to the letter given in the clue (A, U or D). If the letter U accompanies the clue, then the first letter of the answer should be put in the bottom square of the column and the answer written upwards. It's not meant to be easy, and you'll find the answers on page 36.

ACROSS:

- 1 A. This music teacher has Mr Caine's automobile (10)
- 3 A. The cost of this P.E. teacher is quite small (5)
- 5 A. The commonest of all the English teachers (5)
- 6 A. The artful orange (7)
- 10 A. Bops his way through the sums (7)
- 12 A. This science teacher can have either a Capri or Fiesta (4)
- 13 A. The newest edition of the male P.E. staff or a veteran of the geography dept. (3)
- 14 A. An English teacher who's almost a young sheep (4)
- 17 A. This maths teacher goes on about a stringed instrument (6)
- 18 A. This music teacher's no spring chicken (6)
- 19 A. This female science teacher doesn't like subtracting (5)
- 20 A. Is this science teacher like this on the squash court (5)
- 22 A. An artist who's almost an M.D. (7)
- 24 A. A history teacher or half a maths teacher (7)
- 27 A. This English teacher's a shady character (4)
- 28 A. A science mistress who likes to play this deep noted instrument in the valleys of Yorkshire (10)
- 29 A. The sound of gunfire make this maths teacher start (8)
- 31 A. A French chef, perhaps (4)
- 33 A. This English teacher takes a tumble (6)
- 34 A. Hunt and shoot this science teacher (8)

DOWN/UP:

- 2 D. A shorter version of that famous tyre-man (8)
- 3 D. Just over 20 fluid oz. for this mistress (5)
- 4 D. This maths teacher, P.E. teacher and head of year has half a carving tool at his house (8)
- 7 D. A French teacher who's more than a gift from the three kings (8)

CROSSWORD CLUES CONTINUED

- 8 D. The flame haired beauty of the P.E. dept. (7)
- 9 D. This teacher RAN ROD (anag.) (6)
- 10 D. This master's thick soup will make you better (9)
- 11 D. This man is a vital statistic to the school (5)
- 15 D. This mournful maths teacher frets a lot (7)
- 16 D. This English teacher isn't a forest neither (7)
- 21 D. This lady's talent is both artistic and athletic (8)
- 23 D. This drama teacher's no sassenach (5)
- 25 U. This cookery teacher's very temperamental (5)
- 26 D. Politically speaking, he's almost the Lord himself (6)
- 28 D. A Carrington who's fond of climbing (8)
- 30 D. A certain flower is contained within this P.E. teacher's name (5)
- 32 U. A history teacher who's not a bad chap (7)
- 35 U. Mr Baggins the Hobbit almost teaches in the science dept. (5)
- 36 U. This hospital has a French division (4)

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DO YOU RECOGNISE ANY OF THESE FACES?

They should be familiar as they're all teachers at Wath.



1.

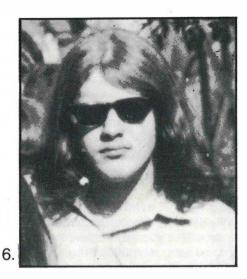




2.

3.











8.

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But what's the point in telling the majority of readers of the "New Wathonian" about the efforts we have been making? They will be certain to obey the instruction in our headline, and ignore this advertisement completely. However if one or two of the younger readers should happen to cast a furtive glance over this page, perhaps they could bear us in mind when they reach the age to make their contribution to emptying the wine lake . . . always providing that it has not been drained in 1990!!

ROCKINGHAM WINES

4 HIGH STREET, WATH-ON-DEARNE Tel: Rotherham 878850

Autumn

I see the bare trees wave their branches around,
Like cheering supporters at a football ground.
I see scampering squirrels dart across the floor,
Like busy bees they gather nuts for their winter store.
Out in the field, I hear the harvester coming,
Soon I hear a noise, a low steady humming,
Relentlessly it reaps in the harvest crop,
I hear the screech of brakes as it grinds to a stop,
Down in the yard I hear the hens clucking, I smell the aroma of freshly baked cooking,
I on into a harn where the have is stacked high.

I go into a barn where the hay is stacked high, Cheering children run around me shading their eyes, From the gleaming glow of the shining sun, Yes, Autumn's a busy time until the harvesting's done.

LEE GIBSON, Form 30

Staff Review

I bet you've often asked yourself "Can teachers ever take a joke?" and "Where's their sense of humour?"

Well, last December the staff gave us the opportunity to find out if they really did have a little humour hidden away somewhere. Under the direction of Mrs 'Snow White' and 'Cinderella' Bacon, a staff review was put together. Isn't it amazing the lengths some people will go to in the hope of boosting school funds? Anyway, a large number of staff were prepared to give up some of their time to make fools of themselves by performing in front of audiences of thousands, well hundreds at least.

Ideas were thought of in a relatively short space of time, rehearsal schedules were arranged and slowly but surely after much 'tomfoolery', the production began to get off the ground. The staff were able to keep most of it to themselves, although some gave their ideas away by begging for articles of clothing or props. Some, mentioning no names (the P.E. dept.) even danced around the sports hall during sixth form games. Still, the lower years were kept in total suspense about it all, I mean what other way would the tickets have been sold?

So, the night arrived, and even after attending rehearsals the night before I still didn't know what to expect because some staff didn't know the words. Fortunately however, all went well and our compere, the man to link one chaotic scene to the next, was Mr G. Brammar who was assisted as usual by two females, the French and German students. His wit may not have been as sharp as his features (don't laugh!!) but he was obviously in his element up there in the spotlight, and he got a good audience response by getting them to shout 'Wath on Dearne' as if it was a football match. Suitably dressed in Bobby Ball attire, he was clearly enjoying every minute and I bet his assistants had nothing to do with it!!

The evening began with an assembly by Mr Bacon, or should I call him Mrs Bacon. He read the oddest assembly notices our school has ever heard. His high pitched voice held everyone in awe and when he began to pick on Wupert Price, he showed the rest of the school just how he treats sixth formers! Not only did we see Mr Bacon in drag, but the ever nimble Mr Blakeman appeared, looking as if he had just fallen off the top of the Christmas tree — I must say that the blonde plaits went extremely well with his red beard. Anyway, his invitation to go to Crowden for a week was too good to be missed as his bunch of sugar-plum fairies showed us just what at outdoor pursuits course can do for a man. I've never seen Mr Harper, James, Ensor, Greaves and Mirlees look better.

Even the senior staff, or should I say the people at the top (senior makes them sound old) took part. Mr Brothwell was a picture in his gown plus bottle of gin, and on stage Mrs Pinto, Mr Kirby, and Mr Godber carried off their grovelling perfectly. Obviously it wasn't the first time they'd done it. However, the idyllic scene was shattered by the entrance of Wupert Price, a typical scruffy 1st Year, who was dealt with accordingly by Mr Brothwell. Once Wupert had left the stage, Mr Brothwell broke into a rendition of 'Lord it's hard to be humble,' aided by his back up team who made a lovely dance troupe.

One of the funniest scenes was entitled 'Babies' and that's just what we got, two of the biggest babies Mr Price and Mr James, and Mr Ensor made a lovely mother, that gold lurex dress looked stunning! The babies nearly brought the house down, and when they got out of their shopping trollies, oops sorry, I mean prams, I've never seen such baggy nappies! (Nearly as baggy as Mr Ensor's tracksuit bottoms.)

Although that was a hard act to follow, Mr Swift and his science block band did exceptionally well playing 'Putting on the Ritz'. I would award a gold star to Mr Haynes for that scene — those legs!!! The highlight of the scene was 'Fred Astaire' Godber and 'Ginger Rogers' Bacon. Their timing was almost perfect, Mr Godber looked like an old Hollywood extra, and as for Mr Bacon, does this man really like dressing up in women's clothing?

As you all know by now, no school production is complete without the classroom scene. Mr Swift made a lovely school mistress (he must have stretched his voice as much as he stretches his muscles at dinner-time!) Miss Ackerly was at usual the rowdy one, not unlike Jimmy Krankie but the most true to life pupils were Miss Lawson and Mrs Thompson who were in very tight skirts with plastic bags and the ever popular 'Patrick' Kagoule. Mr James, Jordon and Greaves looked the scruffy back row type, but no class is complete with the class joker come Romeo; and who better to play the character of Wally than Mr Ensor. He played the part as if it had been made for him.

Most areas of school life were portrayed, prefects being no exception. They were depicted as drunken drivers who were nothing but trouble. The conversation between Mr Harper and Mr Lewis was excellent and the one liners kept flowing. They kept bringing Nick Hartley (the head boy) into the conversation to give it a bit of spice, and when Mr Harper appeared in court, what better judge could he have than Mr Mirlees who was once like that himself (i.e. young and drunk).

The penultimate sketch was the best, I reckon. Billed as the 'singing nun', Mr Mountain appeared in one of his wierder habits (ugh!) He proceeded to mime to 'Climb every mountain' until suddently a rope came down from a hole in the ceiling with Mr Blakeman attached to it shouting 'Climb every mountain'. Closely followed by Mr Etheridge, he scaled the stage and carried out a mountain rescue on Mr Mountain, and carried him outside through one of the side hall windows. Who knows, next year maybe a pantomime?

If you came to the production, thank you for boosting school funds, if not there's always next year as this was only a trailer for next Christmas.

LOUISE HORTON



Mr Godber asks for yet another pay rise.



Mrs Mason and Mr Davies expound Einstein's theory of relativity.



The science block show off their musical ability — pity you can't see Mr Haynes' legs.

SUE MORLEY

An ex-pupil of Wath, Sue Chick (formerly Sue Morley), competed in the Women's 400m Hurdles final at the L.A. Olympics. At great expense, we managed a postal interview with her and here are the results:—

Who encouraged you to take up athletics or made you realise that you had talent?

I have always enjoyed running, and winning, even from a very early age. I joined Hickleton Main Youth Athletic Club when I was 10-years-old but prior to that I can remember loving to run whenever I had a chance. I am not what you would call a talented athlete, as a youngster I was good at running but outside of the school environment I was not an outstanding success. My major asset is my ability to work hard (which unfortuntely didn't show in my school work!), to be able to push myself beyond the limit, through the pain barrier. I have always known that on natural talent I wasn't the best around. I knew that to improve I had to work hard and that to be the best I had to work harder than anyone else. This together with my determination to be the best are what have got me to the top.

What competitions did you win whilst at school?

I competed in both the House sports and the Inter-schools as well as the county schools championships. These in turn led to the English Schools Amateur Athletic Championships - the largest sporting event outside of the Olympics. I competed in this once over cross-country and four times on the track, coming fifth twice and third once. At sixteen, I won five Yorkshire county titles. I have held at least one every year since then, in seven different events.

Do you stick to a special diet?

I don't have anything special, no vitamin tablets or pep-pills, but I do try to ensure I have some meat or eggs, vegetables, bread and cereals every day. When you are an athlete continually working your body hard, you must ensure that you eat enough to keep your body functioning normally and that in doing all that hard work you don't run all the goodness out of your body.

What is your training programme like and did you alter it to prepare for the Olympics?

My programme has been a progression over the last nine years, each year building on the previous one. My most successful year was 1983 and the World Championships, where I came seventh in the final and also broke the British record. 1985 was a very different year from that. Preparation or a year's athletics begins in the September/October prior, when conditioning begins followed by stamina and strength work culminating in April/May with speed work.

In the year before the Games, I was injured from September to January and so had to try and fit everything in, in only six months. If my background work and general fitness hadn't been as good as it was, I would never have been able to compete last summer, never mind compete in the Games! There was also another problem with the Eastern bloc countries pulling out of the Olympics thereby removing our usual competitors for international matches leaving us cold racewise for the Olympics. Athletes based in America did not have this problem. Taking all this into account, my time was comparable to the previous year — it's just that it should have been faster.

What was the atmosphere like in the Olympic village?

When we arrived in America, we first of all spent ten days acclimatising in San Diego, and then went on to L.A. three days before our competitions began. Both the accommodation and food in the Olympic village were good and the overall atmosphere was calm and friendly. It was somewhere to come back to after each round and relax. There was a great team spirit in the British camp, everyone willing each other to do their best.

What did you think of the U.S.A.?

After I had finished competing, we managed to get out and see quite a lot of America. We travelled through the desert, which at 1 a.m. was unbearably hot, to the Grand Canyon, over the mountains (which at 10,000ft. were beautiful), then on to Las Vegas, over the Hoover Dam, through San Francisco and Santa Barbara and back to L.A. In just that small part of America, the contrasts were great.

Did the heat/pollution/humidity of Los Angeles affect your performance?

I was not adversely affected by any of these. It was very hot but most of the time we kept in the shade and always wore sun hats to keep out heads cool. Inside the stadium it was even hotter, with no cool breezes to help at all. You have to accept natural things as there isn't anything you can do about them.

As a competitor, did you think that the Games were too commercialised?

The Olympics is the largest sporting event, catering for most sports and almost every country. The cost therefore to the host country is phenomenal and will continue to increase until one venue for all future Games can be decided on. Because of the extreme costs, Governments are becoming more reluctant to host the Games and so it is essential to find other ways of paying for them. The obvious answer is to ask major companies to help by allowing them to commercially exploit the Games. However, I do feel that the 1984 Olympics were too commercialised with the organisers intent on making a profit. I think any extra money raised should go to future Games and not the organisers.

What is the next step in your career; do you have any ambitions yet to fulfil?

Most of my athletic ambitions have been achieved. I have represented Great Britain regularly, hold the British record, have competed in the Commonwealth Games, the World Championships and the Olympic Games. This year I intend to have a quieter year and next year the Commonwealth Games? — who knows?

How do you think sports facilities in Britain could be improved?

There are lots of ways, as various Governments have suggested but never implemented. I think that now there are so many people unemployed, sports facilities should be provided for their benefit, not just the specialists. More warm weather training facilities are necessary and competition against foreign countries.

Do you have any advice for any budding young sportsmen/women at Wath?

Any budding sports person should first of all enjoy sport. They should not specialise too early and certainly not be forced into training. They should remember that top-class athletes do not occur overnight, it takes a lot of hard work.





There was a man who fell asleep with his mouth open and a mouse ran inside. His wife rang for a doctor, "I'll be there in half an hour," he said. "In the meantime try and tempt the mouse out with a piece of cheese."

When the doctor finally arrived, he found the man's wife waving a tin of salmon under the man's nose. "What are you doing that for?" asked the doctor, "Mice don't like salmon." "I know," said the wife, "But first we've got to get the cat out!"

LISA ROWLEY

A woman went into a dress shop. "Excuse me," she said to the assistant, "Do you know the orange dress with the pink and green frills? The one with red and purple belt?"

"Yes, madam. Shall I take it out of the window for you?"

"Yes please, said the woman, "It makes me feel sick every time I walk past it."

Did you hear the one about the hyena who swallowed a beef cube? He ended up making a laughing stock of himself.

Boy — "I don't want a bike for Christmas now Dad"

Dad — "Why not?"

Boy — "Because I've just found one at the back of your wardrobe."

MARK BROADBELT

Mummy, Mummy what's atomic mutation?" — "Stop sucking your ear and I'll tell you."

Scientists have discovered a new way of splitting the atom. They send it through the post marked 'FRAGILE'.

"Jones leads with the right . . . Smith ducks, then jabs at the ribs . . . wow, what a football match!"

ANSWERS TO THE CROSSWORD:

Across: 1A. Carmichael; 3A. Price; 5A. Smith; 6A. Simmons; 10A. Bareham; 12A. Ford; 13A. Cox; 14A. Lumb; 17A. Harper; 18A. Senior; 19A. Addey; 20A. Swift; 22A. Proctor; 24A. Fleming; 27A. Gray; 28A. Bassindale; 29A. Ackerley; 31A. Cook; 33A. Fallis; 34A. Baggaley.

Down/Up: 2D. Mitchell; 3D. Pinto; 4D. Chisholm; 7D. Mirlees; 8D. Brammer; 9D. Ardron; 10D. Brothwell; 11D. Bowen; 15D. Greaves; 16D. Norwood; 21D. Thompson; 23D. Angus; 25U. Moody; 26D. Godber; 28D. Blakeman; 30D. Ensor; 32U. Goodman; 35U. Bilby; 36U. Ward.

PHOTOGRAPHS

- 1. Mr Baggaley; 2. Mr Elliott; 3. Mr Dragovic; 4. Mr Cox (P.E.); 5. Mr Ensor; 6. Mr Bilby;
- 7. Mr Swift; 8. Mrs Thompson (P.E.); Mr Brammer.

