

As usual, the term since the October break seems for staff at least, to have accelerated rapidly towards the end, with examinations and report sheets followed closely by the crescendo of year parties. This final stage was ushered in appropriately by the Carol Concert in the Kilrymont Road Hall on 14th December when the staff and pupils of the Music Department delighted a packed audience with a superb programme. The proceeds - £170 - go to the British Heart Foundation.

The school has recently benefited from the generosity of its F.P.'s. Miss F. Doreen Gullen, a pupil from 1919 to 1928, having already given to the school a very large collection of books from her library, has followed this with a gift of £500. At Miss Gullen's suggestion, this will be used to buy books for the Kilrymont Road library and resources centre. Our other benefactor is Frederick L. Newnham who, after studying at the Madras from 1913 - 1916, served in the armed forces in the First World War and later became a well-known baritone singer. Now Professor Emeritus of Music in the Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, Washington, USA, he has endowed the sum of £1000, the annual interest from which will provide an instrumental or vocal scholarship. In an imaginative way, Miss Gullen and Professor Newnham are encouraging in today's pupils interests which the Madras College of their day helped to foster in them, and we are deeply grateful to them for their interest and generosity.

The school's extra-curricular activities continue to thrive. The Chess Club gained second place in the Ayr Chess Jamboree. The Debating Club at junior level has attracted so many that two sections have had to be formed, while at senior level, debating and current affairs provide two complementary attractions. The Drama Club now has an active junior group, who will no doubt watch with critical eye the performance of their senior counterparts in Farquhar's "The Recruiting Sergeant" which they are staging in the Byre Theatre from Wednesday 19th to Saturday 22nd January, 1983. Of the other indoor clubs, darts, small-bore rifle shooting, table-tennis and badminton continue to attract large numbers. Congratulations to Roderick Christie on being selected to play badminton for the Senior Fife Team. Through the Scripture Union, we played host to the "Plus 1" evangelical team which met pupils in R.E. classes and assemblies.

In outdoor sports, following the success of the Girls' Hockey 1st XI in winning the Fife Schools' Senior Tournament, the intermediate team were champions of Fife at their level, while the 2nd Team were runners-up in the Fife Junior Tournament. The boys' hockey teams, in spite of having fewer fixtures so far than last year, have had more promising results. The soccer 1st XI have won the majority of their games so far, and three of their players - Willie Donaldson, Stuart Gatherum and Neil Pumford - have played in the Fife Schools Under-18 team. The Under-15's and the Under-14's have had mixed results, the latter being unfortunate to lose to Bell-Baxter in the 3rd round of the Scottish Cup after extra time. The Under-13 team has started the season well and shows much promise. The Rugby XV's have all had mixed fortunes since the October break, but continue to enjoy their play. Congratulations to Michael Robson on receiving a Scottish Schoolboys' Under-18 trial. The two volleyball teams - 2nd Year and 3rd/4th Year - have played their first league fixtures, giving a good account of themselves though narrowly defeated. It is good to see the sport reaching this stage of development. In swimming, the school was well represented at the Fife Schools' Swimming Trials, with placings being gained by Margaret Bochel, Michael Braidwood and James Strachan.

The fact that the school can offer such a range of activities at a time when staff are shouldering extra burdens of curriculum development and a heavy programme of in-service training says much for their devotion; and I am grateful to them and to the F.P.'s who help with coaching and refereeing on Saturday mornings.

Since the last issue of the newsletter, we have said good-bye, reluctantly, to Mrs Poller who retired from the Special Education Department after 10 years' service. Her careful, sympathetic approach to her young charges will be greatly missed.

In her place we welcome Mrs McGhie from Blairgowrie High School. At the same time Mrs Muriel Robertson retired after 14 years' service with the Remedial Department, where her imaginative and dedicated teaching did a great deal to bring on pupils encountering learning difficulties. We wish both of these ladies a very happy retirement. Yet again we are indebted to Mrs Landells and Mrs Finlay for filling the gap after Mrs Lawson's departure. Her place has now been taken by Mrs Christine Reid, who joins us from Kilsyth Academy. Thanks are due also to Mrs Spalding who temporarily replaces Mrs Oliver, now on maternity leave, to Mrs Pirie for part-time help in Science and to Mrs Collier for temporary supply in the Art Department. Finally we welcomed back to the Remedial Department this time on a permanent basis, Mrs Patricia Alexander.

As promised in the last newsletter, I include a list of degree and diploma passes recently gained by F.P's. I am sure that there must be others about whom we have not heard, and I hope that they will get in touch.

Robert Anderson	B.Sc. Hons. II(ii) Maths Econ	Angus McKay	B.Sc. (I) Biochem
John Anderson	HNO in Building	Josephine McKenzie	M.A. (II i)
Robin Barbour	Hons. II(i) History	Sandy McNaughton	Hons II(ii) B. Admin Std.
Margaret Brown	LL.B. (Ord.)	Sarah Maitland	B.Sc.
Shirley Brown	M.A. (II.ii)	Jane Marshall	Hons. (I) English
Jennifer Buist	M.A. (II.i)	Robert Parry	HND in Engineering
Jennifer Burn	B.Sc. Design	Allan Prentice	M.C. Ch.B.
Allan Dunlop	B.Sc. Elec/Elec Eng.	Nicola Pyke	Hons II PPE.
Stephen Grosset	HND in Biology	Shona Rae	B.Sc. CNA Home Econ.
Thelma Hardie	B.Sc. (II.i)	Anthea Robertson	Diploma in Management Studies
Richard Heriot	M.B., Ch.B.	Allan Simpson	Hons. (II i) Classics
Paul Hudson	B.Sc. in Science	Stewart Simpson	B.Sc. Engineering
Mark Jackson	B.A. (II ii)	Robert Soutar	B.Sc. Engineering
Graeme King	B.Sc. Medical Science	John Stewart	B.Sc Hons (I) Agriculture
Marlon Kirton	B.A. (II) Modern Languages	Jane Watt	M.A. (II i) History
David McIntosh	B.L. Ord.		
Ursula McKane	M.A. (I)		

*J.D. Geary.*

Rector.

#### Holidays and Forthcoming Events

- Christmas Holiday - School closes 12.30 p.m. on Wednesday 22nd December  
- School re-opens on Thursday 6th January.
- SII Parents Evening - Monday 10th January at 7 p.m. in the Kilrymont Road Building.
- Dessert/Theatre Party - Thursday 20th January.
- SV/VI Parents Evening - Wednesday 19th January at 7 p.m. in the South Street Building.
- SIV Parents Evening - Wednesday 26th January at 7 p.m. in the Kilrymont Road Building.
- SI Parents Evening - Tuesday 8th February at 7 p.m. in the Kilrymont Road Building.
- PTA Meeting - Tuesday 22nd February. "How the Micro came to Madras College. A member of the Computer Committee.
- SIII Parents Evening - Thursday 3rd March at 7 p.m. in the Kilrymont Road Building.