



Easter Newsletter

Madras College Newsletter

March 2001

Rector's Message

During the bombardments of the trenches in the First World War some of the soldiers sheltering in their deep dug-outs noticed that the huge earth-rending explosions were beginning to sound less and less violent. This was the start of shell-shock, when the human nervous system has been punished so often that it begins to close down its responses. Physical or mental breakdown followed.

While it has been a very difficult term in many ways, and while the more strident media reports have freely described staff, pupils and parents as being shell-shocked by some of the problems, we need to keep a sense of perspective. With this in mind, we particularly remember the community of Morgan Academy in Dundee who have had the tragic loss of so much work, resources and heritage in the terrible fire last week.

Severe winter weather has reminded us recently of the power of nature. School was closed for one day, was seriously disrupted for another owing to a lack of buses, and some pupils in upland areas were twice sent home an hour or two early. This amounts to a maximum of two and a half days out of sixty.

Learning has carried on despite these inconveniences; teachers have noticed that most pupils used their time sensibly while off work for a day or two, some even caught up ground lost from previous personal absences; one year group (third year) had a special study skills day; various study clubs and initiatives have sprung up as the motivation to do well grows intense; most pupils have met their SQA deadlines, the departments have met theirs, the school has met its external requirements. Parents have given their usual heartening support to the learning process here at Madras; the attendance at parents' evenings has been as high as ever, the turn-out at the Higher Still event (PTA) most encouraging.

The school buildings have taken a few direct hits. Water mains broke in South Street, one boiler failed, some roofing tiles had to be secured. Under-floor

heating in Kilrymont Road has swung from extreme to extreme, very cold one day then sweltering the next, gas supplies have been disrupted, and more buckets have had to be ordered to cope with the number of roof leaks. On two occasions the travelling between buildings was most awkward, once owing to ungritted roads, once to a deluge turning Kilrymont Road into a swift-flowing river.

On the credit side, however, there have been some tentative moves to tackle the poor physical state of much of the school. At least now you may drive in without risking damage to your car's suspension; some rooms are getting a lick of paint; the heating system is being properly assessed for improvement; comfort in some rooms is being improved by window laminates, curtains or blinds; safety of low-level glass has been improved. Much more is planned, including a whole-school spring cleaning effort. The Quad Fund campaign (see last page) has swung into action.

As you will have heard in recent media reports the SQA problems of last year have threatened to reappear. Coming at a time when staff and pupils are working particularly hard in final stages of certificate courses this is a bitter blow. We all have to be very careful how we react to such warnings. The best advice to give is this. While the external system may not yet be completely smooth-running the part the school plays has been fulfilled to the letter. Pupils must fulfil their task to the letter. All deadlines must be met, even though sometimes the pressure is great and advice has to be sought from teachers. Parents should encourage, question or nag as appropriate. If we do our bit to the best of our ability the pupils should not in the end suffer. We already know that the results are to be released a few days later than planned. All the signs are that the more rigorous procedures than last year, all the extra checks and controls built in to the system, take longer and involve more effort than the previous system.

Lastly, despite the difficulties of the

term, there has been a highly commendable programme of social and charitable activities. On occasion these two have run together very well, pupils and staff both enjoying themselves and contributing to good causes. The recent Comic Relief day was a prime example, where the purpose and tone were right, everyone got stuck in, and all targets were exceeded. We trust that because of our effort some people have a happier Easter than they would have had otherwise.

'GET CAUGHT READING'

World Book Day arrived again, this year on March 1st, along with blizzards which forced postponement of the £1 voucher exchange and book sale by J & G Innes. Fortunately this transferred successfully to the following week, with S2 Parents' Evening also benefiting from Books, Books, Books.... in the foyer. This opportunity to act immediately on the advice 'Reading for Success' and 'Revise Right' with Leckie and Leckie Study Guides, is now well established for every Parents' Evening. John Smith & Sons contributed their 'Crate of 60' new books, a browse, discuss and buy mobile bookshop from classroom to classroom, encouraging many to top up their WBD voucher to treat themselves to a book. The WBD 2001 slogan 'Get Caught Reading' could certainly have led to the 'arrest' of hordes of Madras staff, pupils and parents for their enthusiastic page-turning!

INSIDE

Up for Debate	2
Along the Corridors.....	3
PTA.....	4
It's Carnegie Medal Time	5
On and Off the Field.....	6
Dates for Your Diary	6

Staffing Update

Compared with some recent terms it has been fairly quiet on the staffing front. In January Mrs Campbell joined the Learning Support Department as Acting Principal Teacher, Mr Gibbins was appointed to the Department of Special Education, Mr Graves became Acting Head Janitor, Mrs Little became Assistant Principal Teacher of Guidance and Mr Hédou took over the part-time post in Modern Languages. In February Ms Shields became Acting Assistant Principal Teacher of Guidance, Mrs Cox joined the office staff on a temporary basis, and Mr Matheson took over the full-time temporary post in Mathematics. We were sorry to lose the services of Mrs Barclay from the office, even though she was just moving downstairs to a post in Community Use. Miss Payne joins the English Department after Easter.

Parents will be aware of the national problems being encountered finding supply staff to cover short-term needs in some subjects. This also affects us when staff absences are high owing to illness or out-of-school commitments such as work for the SQA. We rely heavily on a dedicated band of supply teachers and also others who assist with the invigilation of external examinations. It is worth thanking them publicly.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

MADRAS COLLEGE AWARD GROUP

'The rays of sunshine filtered through the smudges of white cloud strewn across the perfect, wide expanse of blue sky above us. Before we had even reached the peak of our last climb, we could hear the celebrations of our anxiously awaited arrival. The glorious melody that reached us was a mixture of children's laughter, musical instruments and the merry sound of the carousel.'

Our bags felt as light as feathers as we began our final descent to the waving banners awaiting our arrival at the Spittal of Glenshee. We enthusiastically bounced our final few yards, our freshly washed clothes gleaming in the sunlight and the light breeze softly teasing our glistening locks. The limo pulled up and out leapt Miss Robertson, Miss McCormac and Mr Kay, champagne flutes in hand. Glasses clinked with celebration of the completion of our final Gold Duke of Edinburgh expedition

.... I woke to find a dripping, wet tent blown precariously close to my nose. Reality struck'

Ruth Miller (unbiased 6th year)

One of the classy but voluntary schemes for personal achievement in Madras College is to join the Duke's Mob; Over 70 pupils in S3 to S6 have done so, moving at their own pace through worthwhile leisure activities and

voluntary service. There are 4 sections - service, skills, physical recreation and expeditioning at 3 levels - Bronze, Silver and Gold. Activities range from first-aiding, clay potting, bagpiping, netballing to even dry stone dyking (as a Gold residential project). The list is endless. Soon Ruth and her gang will be finished their Gold and will go to Holyrood Palace for presentation by HRH in July. (Honestly, they found the scheme a very satisfying and enjoyable experience!)

NB Expeditioning is suspended at the moment due to the Foot and Mouth restrictions; but training is continuing - tent pitching on the school lawns, wild country camping in the HE kitchens and navigation round the Quad! Normal service will be resumed asap!

'.... I realised that this was the first morning of our expedition and even though 19 km were down, 62.5 km were still to go!'

Up For Debate

The Junior Debating Society has had a full and varied programme this term. Debates included 'Should the monarchy be abolished?' 'Fox hunting banned?' and 'Does pop music corrupt young people?'

The highlights of the term were the excellent performances of the three Madras teams in the Courier/TSB Junior Debating Competition which attracted over 70 teams. Mhairi McInnes and Catriona Kay (both S3) narrowly missed out on winning the competition, coming second and being awarded an all-expenses trip to London for their efforts. Michelle Thaddeus and Anna Wowk (both S2) put in a strong performance and also reached the final. Hamish Findlay and Graham Taylor (both S3) were unfortunate not to proceed past the second round.

Mhairi and Catriona have also reached the Regional Final of the prestigious Lloyds TSB ESU Debating Competition at their first attempt. The girls face stiff competition from Mary Erskine, Merchiston Castle and George Watson schools for a place in the National Finals. Next term will see Public Speaking Competitions as well as further debates. Inter-House debates are in full swing and results will be announced soon.

In fourth year Stuart Ball and Thomas Foster fought their way through to the National Semi-Final of the ESU Public Speaking Competition and were extremely unlucky not to win a place in the Final. They also stood in for two sixth year pupils who had to withdraw from the ESU Debating Competition and did very well to reach the Semi-Final of this competition against older and more experienced teams.

June Timetable

For the first time at Madras we plan to change to our new timetable in June, just after the end of the SQA examinations. This means that each year will move up one, so that first year becomes second year, and so on. The third year will move to South Street for the last few weeks of the term. The new first year, of course, will not start until August.

Part of the reason for this is that the pupils in new certificate classes are able to make an early start to their courses, particularly in the Higher Still courses in fifth and sixth years but also in Standard Grade and at all stages. Any problems with the new timetable can also be sorted out before the summer break to avoid spending time on this at the start of next session.

Our big end-of-session events such as Sports Day and Prizegiving will take place as usual.

FUNDRAISING FUN & WORKING FOR OTHERS

Each term more and more pupils are becoming involved in fundraising events both in and out of school. Pupils, parents and staff contributed generously to all areas of the charities programme.

By far the biggest event took place for **Comic Relief** on Friday 16th March in both buildings. All 1800+ pupils paid for a No Uniform/Wear Something Red voucher. The Kilrymont Road Assembly Hall resounded to laughter for the Madras version of "Blind Date". Miss L Dewar, as Cilla, kept the pupil and staff contestants in control with her wit and charm. At South Street, "The Weakest Link" was performed with devastating honesty much to the amusement of another huge audience. A further excellent fundraiser was the school crest design on the front lawn. This aroused the curiosity of pupils and public alike and reached the pages of the local press the following day. This whole project was a big event in the school. Everyone had great fun, the atmosphere in the school was uplifting especially at a crucial time for pupils involved in Higher Still. However the serious side of the programme was highlighted regularly through school assemblies to which the pupils responded splendidly. Between the two buildings a grand total of £2,200 was raised. A colourful third year duo, Danny Turner and Blair Rennie, through their own sponsorship, raised £112 on the day. A big "thank you" goes to everyone who made this day one to remember for some time!

Another colourful group of pupils and office staff took to the roads of the town in **The St Andrews Fun Run** which took place in February. In addition to the money raised through the participation itself, the runners personally raised nearly £400 which was donated to the The Breast Cancer Campaign. Let's hope this most enjoyable event continues since it has raised a lot of interest already among a wider group of staff and pupils who will be willing to take to the high and low roads next year.

Recently sixth year pupils have been prominent in both buildings collecting reading material for their project "**Books For Botswana**". A former Madras College teacher Peter Jarvis now teaches there in a school with poor resources and in classes with large numbers and when the sixth year heard about this they immediately responded. Literally hundreds of books have been collected

and the pupils are at present exploring ways of sending them out!

After an interesting and effective talk by members of the **Blood Transfusion Unit**, 80 sixth years have volunteered to give blood at the end of this term. Two groups of 40 will attend and support each other through this exercise in the hope that they will donate more in future and encourage younger years to become donors when they arrive in S6.

ALONG THE CORRIDORS

Third Year **Drama** pupils have recently performed three sell-out performances of 'Flour Babies'. Proceeds from this will be donated to Comic Relief. Pupils in S4 will soon be performing their class productions of *The Last Flower*. At Higher, pupils will be performing a selection of their Acting Exam extracts while Intermediate 2 have given lunchtime performances of their Drama Skills work.

Finally, rehearsals for Harold Pinter's 'The Birthday Party' are well under way.

The **Home Economics** Department are asking you to make a date for Thursday 12th April. Scotland's Larder (Grampian) will include the appearance of two first year pupils, Emma Murphy and Christina Lochhead.

On Thursday 22nd February the school played host to a successful conference concerned with Health Care issues. This further developed essential skills and knowledge required for Higher and Intermediate 2 **Modern Studies**. The panel, who answered questions from senior pupils, included Sir Alan Langlands (Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Dundee and Former Chief Executive of NHS for England and Wales), Mr Timothy Brett (Chief Executive of Tayside Health Board) and Mrs Linda Dunion (Chair of North East Fife Local Health Care Co-operative). Furthermore, that evening Modern Studies staff and 16 pupils were privileged to attend a lecture by F W De Klerk at the University of St Andrews.

On Monday 12th March, Mrs M Brown (Principal Teacher) and two senior Modern Studies pupils, Kai Hopkins and Louise Dear, were invited to attend a

Out and About

Pupils who access Room 100 have been active again this term. The hillwalking group have enjoyed the views from Lucklaw Hill and Drumcarrow Craig as well as sections of the Fife Coastal Trail at Kingsbarns. The Environmental Studies Access Group have begun assessing sites around the school to enhance their appearance through some development work. This has involved visits to local garden centres, Elmwood College and round both school sites. Details of findings will appear in the next newsletter.

conference concerning the consultation document 'Education for Citizenship for Scotland'. Eight schools across Scotland were asked to discuss and share perspectives at the consultation stage of the proposed initiative. With the focus on political literacy, both teachers and pupils were given the opportunity to suggest and contribute ideas and opinions as to the extent to which the aims of the document are already being met by the Modern Studies curriculum.

In the UK Schools Intermediate **Mathematics** Challenge 2001 held in February, the school entered 59 pupils from S3 and S4. Four promising second year pupils were also entered. The contestants gained a total of 39 awards - 11 Gold, 11 Silver and 17 Bronze. Special congratulations go to Joe Neilson and James Milne, both S4, who have qualified for the renowned International Intermediate Invitational Mathematical Challenge which will be held in May.

In **English** Roisin Kearns (1H) has won the 'Special Endeavour' award in the "Pushkin Prizes Competition" for poetry writing. This group is Scoto-Russian and its main aim is to encourage young people to take their writing further. Roisin is overall winner for the whole of Scotland! This is indeed a major poetic achievement.

The **Learning Support** Department are once again collecting Tesco Computer for Schools tokens. Last year they 'bought' two Alphasmart lap-top computers and added a variety of software to the department library. They are very grateful for the support they receive with this and would urge you all to keep collecting and sending your tokens.

Parent Teacher Association

HIGHER STILL
February 13th

This meeting was held in the South Street building to update parents on Higher Still in Madras College. With so much in the media that is confusing and negative, Mr Matheson presented a welcome description of the school's implementation of the new courses and the improved opportunities they offer pupils. As Assistant Rector with current responsibility for fifth and sixth year, Dr J Gilbert explained how the courses and their assessment work in practice. Four members of the current sixth year then gave an entertaining account of their experiences, as Higher Still 'guinea pigs'. The over-riding message was that although they had had to work hard, they had benefited from their new courses and found them rewarding. While there are still some concerns about SQA procedures at national level, it became clear that as far as Madras College is concerned, huge efforts by staff and pupils alike have got the new system off to a good start.

MURDER MYSTERY NIGHT
March 16th

The aim of this evening was sociable fun and it certainly succeeded for all who attended. Fortified by the bar, the assembled audience in the Kilrymont Hall was treated to a play which set up a murder mystery. While they enjoyed their buffet supper, each table wrangled over the solution, handing in their written decisions before the actors returned, in true Agatha Christie fashion, to unravel the story and discover the murderer. A crime quiz and a raffle filled the corners of the evening and all left feeling they had had a relaxing and entertaining time. Our thanks go to Mr R Dewar, Principal Teacher of Drama, and his talented team for their convincing performance: Mrs P Esler, Miss L Dewar, Mrs E Kirk, Mr M Latona and Mr J Lyden. Thank you also to the organisers on the PTA Committee who worked hard to organise such a successful evening.

The next meeting is a **Question Time evening in the Kilrymont Road building at 7.30 pm on Monday 23rd April**. At this meeting an invited panel with concerns about the broader educational issues which affect pupils

in Madras College will answer your questions in a session chaired by Mr Matheson. Watch out for information about the panel members in a flyer due to be sent out in the first week of next term.

50/50 CLUB

A number of parents who expressed regret at being unable to support school fundraising through attendance at the Murder Mystery Night, asked how they could help the PTA's efforts to raise money for school activities. So here is a reminder of the easy - and potentially profitable! - way to do so: **join the 50/50 Club!**

For a modest subscription each year, your name is entered into a monthly prize draw. 50% of the proceeds are returned in prizes; 50% go directly into PTA funds, which are used to support a range of activities and resources which enrich your children's school lives. PTA committee member **Mrs D McCabe** currently runs the club and will be delighted to sign you up. Contact her on 01334 476763. Meanwhile, here are the recent winners:

December

£100 Prof & Mrs Humfrey, Ceres
£100 Ms K Pitman, Guardbridge
£50 Mrs H Hagan, Tayport

January

£50 L Stevenson, St Andrews
£30 Mrs E Langlands, Wormit

February

£25 Mr J Rice, Wormit
£30 Ms L Thom, St Andrews
£25 Mrs M Gilruth, Ceres

FINAL SQA APPEALS

As this newsletter is written, word is just being received about the 29 special appeals that we submitted to the SQA. We have been informed that 26 have been rejected and only a further 3 are still being considered. As a result we will remain convinced that justice has not been done and we will remain angry that several departments which have long and distinguished service to the external examination process are in effect being told that they do not know their own business. That is very hard to take.

Madras Fast Fiction Consultants

A group of Madras pupils have been subjecting author manuscripts to very close scrutiny at the vital pre-publication stage. Edinburgh based Barrington Stoke want to be sure their latest teen fast fiction really will succeed. Fourth year pupils have been marking areas of text, suggesting more up-to-date words and insisting on a clear gripping storyline with nothing to hold the reader back from eagerly turning the pages. Their reward is a free copy of the paperback once published, with their names as consultants acknowledged on the final page. Since these books are sold all over the world, their names will be on bookshelves as far away as Australia. Barrington Stoke also provide each pupil with a full reference letter detailing the valuable part they have played in the process. The project has given these pupils a clear focus and motivation for their personal reading through S3 and into S4, both in terms of the manuscripts and a keen interest in the full range of titles as they become available. The good working relationship between Barrington Stoke and Madras is set to continue with the next group from S3 ready in the wings.

Fife Schools Rock Band Competition

The school heat for this annual competition to select a band to represent Madras took place in the last week of the Christmas Term. "Jackal" (Ross Cooper, Andy Kay, Matthew Broadbent and Matthew Edgar, all fourth years) were selected by the pupil body from the six participating bands to go forward to the area heat which was held on March 14th. Here they competed against Waid Academy, Bell Baxter High School and St Andrews High School, Kirkcaldy. Kilrymont Road Hall was the venue for this heat where the four bands performed various styles of loud but enjoyable music. Jackal's programme contained cover versions of music by Guns 'n' Roses, Lenny Kravitz, Rage Against the Machine and a song written by themselves. Waid and Madras won through to the Fife Final which will be held in the Lochgelly Centre at the end of April.

It's Carnegie Medal time!

The success of last year's Carnegie Medal 'shadowing' scheme - over 40 pupils and staff taking part - has inspired staff to again run this very enjoyable project. Miss Doig, Mrs Baughan and Mrs Scott will again be challenging everyone in the school to join in the 'readathon'. Every participant will be asked to try and read as many of the 8 titles on The Carnegie Medal short-list within a matter of 7 to 8 weeks: certificates of achievement will be given to every participant. However, reading one of the books and having an opinion is just as important as reading all 8 books.

The short-listed titles will be announced on 1st May, and the final selection will

be made in July. Leaflets about the project will be available in school from that date onwards.

This is a great chance for staff, pupils and parents to become involved in what has become a hotbed of enthusiastic reading. Parents can participate by encouraging their children to take part in a scheme which will stretch their reading abilities, and it would be great if parents could help their child to send - via a special website - in their reviews.

If you have any doubts, ask those pupils who took part in last year's project whether or not they had fun!

The Social Calendar

After the unfortunate and unavoidable postponement of the Fourth Year Christmas Dance the pupils returned to school this term to a quickly arranged disco to allay the disappointment experienced previously. It was very well attended and it ensured the term got off to a lively start.

Over one hundred and fifty seniors boogied their way down in 'period costume' - flares, tie-dyes and other nostalgic outfits in the 60s/70s night in February to raise money for charity and the Yearbook Fund. This was a night to remember with Abba fans delighting in a medley of songs as a finale.

Those other party animals, the first years, were not to be outdone. After the success of last year's show, 'Stars in their Eyes' returned with even more live and well rehearsed acts. The Assembly Hall heaved to all their favourite songs and dance routines!

Next term it will be the turn of the second and third years who will be organising something different and of course, it's the time of the annual Sixth Year Ball. Full reports will follow.

Music News

A class-based competition to find the best singers of Burns' songs yielded excellent performances from some 80 pupils mostly in S1 and S2 who were subsequently presented World Burns' Federation certificates by Mrs L A Brown, Depute Head. The whole-school Burns song competition also attracted a strong entry of the younger pupils giving reason for confidence in the future of this event and in the continued maintenance of the tradition of Scottish music at Madras. The Burns' Supper was much enjoyed.

Many people have their heads down at this time of the academic year but there was still time for individual distinction as Mary Erskine (S4) performed at the Royal Festival Hall, London. She also took part in a well-received recital put on by 6 senior musicians before the St Andrews Society of St Andrews.

As we go to press, the Music Department makes final preparations for the Spring Concert, a major assembly for all S3-S6 pupils in Holy Trinity Church and assemblies for S1 and S2 on the last day of term. The final of the Bell Baxter

Centenary Young Musician competition is to take place in the Kilrymont Hall this Thursday, March 29th, at 7.15 pm. This involves three musicians from each of Bell Baxter High School, Waid Academy and Madras College and promises to be an excellent evening of music-making as the pupils battle it out for the coveted Caithness glass trophy. Please come along and support Hannah Craib (viola) Mary Erskine (piano) and Adam Greig (piano). Adjudicating is Henry Neil, Perthshire. There is no charge for entry or refreshments and we look forward to seeing you there.

LEARNING LINES

A group of specialist tutors from "Learning Performance Seminars" in London visited the school to present a one-day programme of Study Skills to the whole of third year. In itself this was quite an organisational feat. The programme centred on Personal Management: motivation, goal setting; Information Management: understanding through summarising, and memorising skills. This introduction of an outside agency to present a study skills programme on such a large scale was a new venture, one deemed extremely successful by the third year pupils who can now look forward to using their further developed skills in the approaching term examinations!

At the moment, "The Brain Train", another learning pilot is being offered to groups of first and second year pupils as part of the school's Study Support programme. Here the pupils are finding out about different ways in which the brain contributes to the learning process. It also concentrates on learning styles and helpful activities to promote active learning. The programme is presented through a more informal setting, focussing on the pupils' own learning styles. It's also good fun!

The Voice of the Pupils

This term has seen the setting up of Pupil Representative Groups in each year who have been extremely active in presenting pupil points of view and concerns on matters in and out of school. Discussions have centred on the issues of pupil lockers, littering, the gum problem, a calendar of social events, the reintroduction of a school newspaper and ways of brightening the school.

As you may be aware the school is being freshened-up at present with all the rooms in the main Kilrymont Road building being painted over the next few months. As a result of this and other concerns the third year Pupils' Group has invited Mr Matheson to its next meeting to discuss school repair and decoration. The others have presented a shortlist of activities that could contribute to a school Spring Clean programme. It promises to be another active term for the pupils.

Dates for your Diary

HOLIDAYS

Easter

Monday 2nd April 2001
to Friday 13th April 2001

May Day

Monday 7th May 2001

June

Monday 4th June 2001

Summer

Monday 2nd July 2001
to Friday 17th August 2001

Autumn

Monday 15th October 2001
to Friday 26th October 2001

Christmas

Monday 24th December 2001
to Friday 4th January 2002

IN-SERVICE DAYS

Tuesday 1st May 2001

Monday 20th August 2001

Thursday 15th November 2001

Friday 16th November 2001

STUDY LEAVE

Monday 14th May 2001
to Monday 11th June 2001

EXAMS

S3

Monday 14th May 2001
to Tuesday 29th May 2001

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Thursday 29th March 2001

Thursday 10th May 2001

Thursday 21st June 2001

On and Off the Field

The **Ski Club** saw another 15 pupils successfully complete a series of instruction lessons at R M Condor, Arbroath in November and December. This term, 30 pupils furthered their skiing experiences by participating in one of several trips to Glenshee and took advantage of one of the best years of snow. Although the weather conditions were challenging at times, both staff and pupils had a very enjoyable day's skiing.

The busy Monday **Badminton Club** for S1-3 has operated to capacity (35) throughout the winter terms. Players (and parents) please note it does not run in the summer term; all raquet players dash out and enjoy the sun on the tennis courts.

Madras dominated the Under 14 events in the Fife Schools Championships with gold medals for Christopher Birrell (S2) in the Singles and his partner Ross Carstairs (S2) in the Doubles; Michelle Thaddeus, also S2, partnered Chris to silver in the Mixed. Ewan Forbes (S3) played strongly to gain silver in the Under 15 Singles and partnered Rory Scott (S3) to silver in the Under 16 Doubles. In the Inter-Region matches, Madras was represented by Tim Weir (S2) and Fiona Bennett (S3) in the Fife team.

The School Championships for Singles play produced no surprise in the Junior Boys Cup with Chris Birrell, a Scottish Youth Squad member, displaying power and precision. Michelle Thaddeus won the Junior Girls Trophy. The Senior Boys Champion was Graham Hood (S3) whose crossover skills from his tennis clearly extended to some superb badminton and the Senior Girls Champion was Lindsay Adams (S5).

The annual Staff v Pupils match will take place next term. (It is rumoured staff need more practice in the face of their increasingly sharp opposition...)

In the Fife Schools **Cross-Country** Championships at Beveridge Park in Kirkcaldy, the S1 Boys and Girls teams were winners while the Under 15 Boys and Girls teams and Over 15 teams were runners-up. Individual Champions were Scott Gates (S1) and Tommy Greene (S6); Michael Cunningham (S3) and Andrew Murphy (S5) were third. At the Scottish Schools Indoor Athletic

Championships in January at the Kelvin Hall, Madras pupils fared very well with Iona McIntyre (S6) coming 1st in the Over 16 800m by a substantial distance. Tommy Greene came 3rd in the Over 15 1500m while Adrian Dempster (S5) and Rory Scott (S3) reached the final of the shot at their age groups.

Despite many call-offs due to the bad weather, the **First XI Football** team managed a successful season by winning the East section of the league only to lose by the odd goal to Queen Anne High School in the play-off tie. What has been particularly encouraging has been the contribution made by the players from the younger years.

In **Senior Rugby** healthy numbers continue to train regularly but the atrocious weather has led to the most cancelled games in recent memory. The First XV have played a series of tough matches with varying results. The pupils are delighted to congratulate Rob Dewey (S6) in making the Scottish Under 18 Team and his tries in all the District games helped secure a place in the team who play matches in April and go on tour to Spain. Finally it has been pleasing to field a Second XV against local sides and hopefully these young players will continue with their rugby next season and make a strong impact in the First XV.

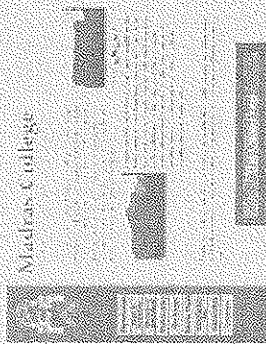
The **First Year Rugby** group have enjoyed further visits to Murrayfield for Scotland's games against Wales and Italy. This ended a successful playing season.

Seth Thompson (S4) and Ben Hann (S3) continue to develop their **American Football** skills in the Scottish squad. It has been an extremely successful time for both players.

Pupils from Madras College **Dance Club** participated in a series of dance workshops hosted by Scottish Dance Youth. Around 70 pupils participated, each learning new skills in the area of Salsa, Jazz and Capoeira. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience and will be taking these new ideas into the school show which will be announced later.

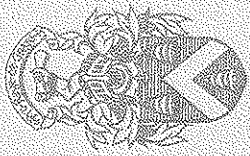
◆ Current Quad Fund Total = £4,480.67 ◆

Madras College on the World Wide Web



Have you checked out the school web pages? They contain information about Madras College including a history of the school, details of departments, internationally acclaimed mathematics pages, school aims, e-mail listings of former pupils and much more.

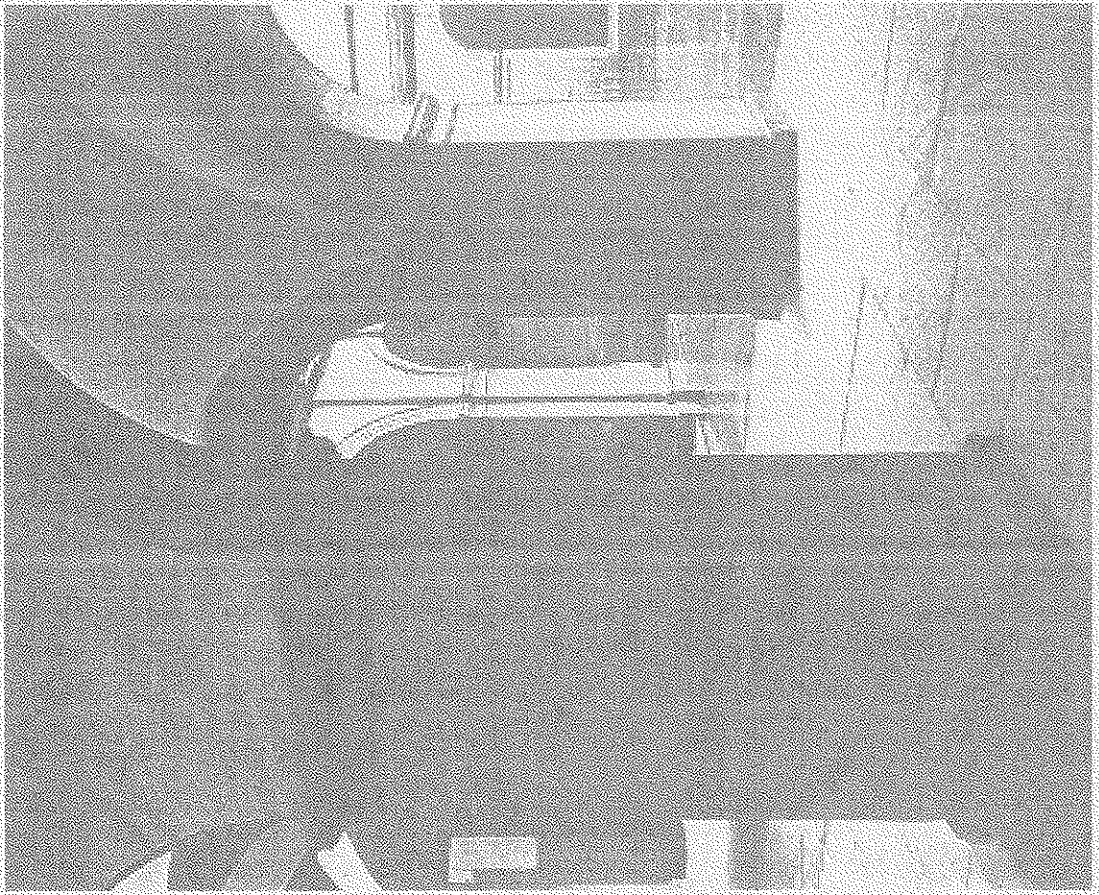
<http://www.madras.fife.sch.uk>

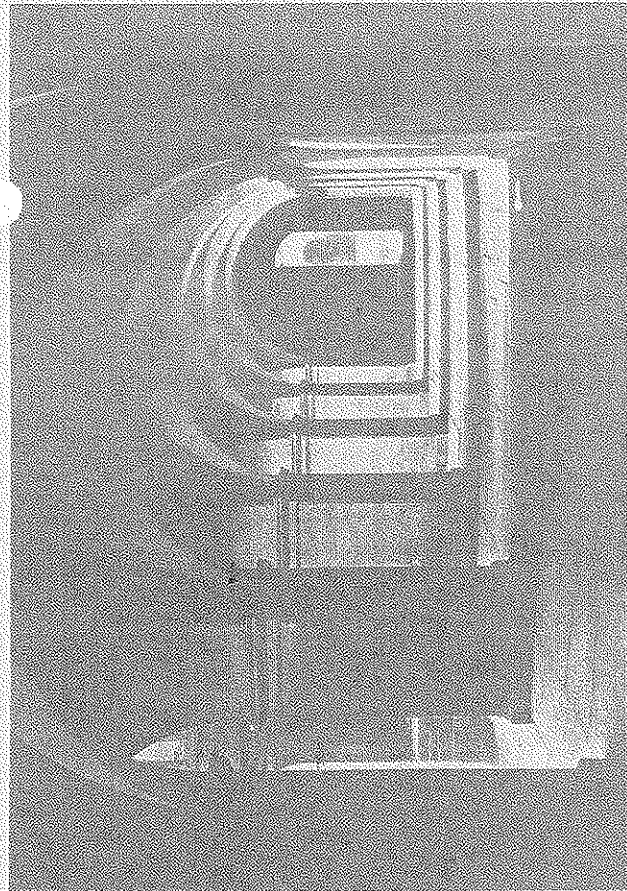


MADRAS COLLEGE

QUAD FUND

2001





The Quad in 1912

The Quad

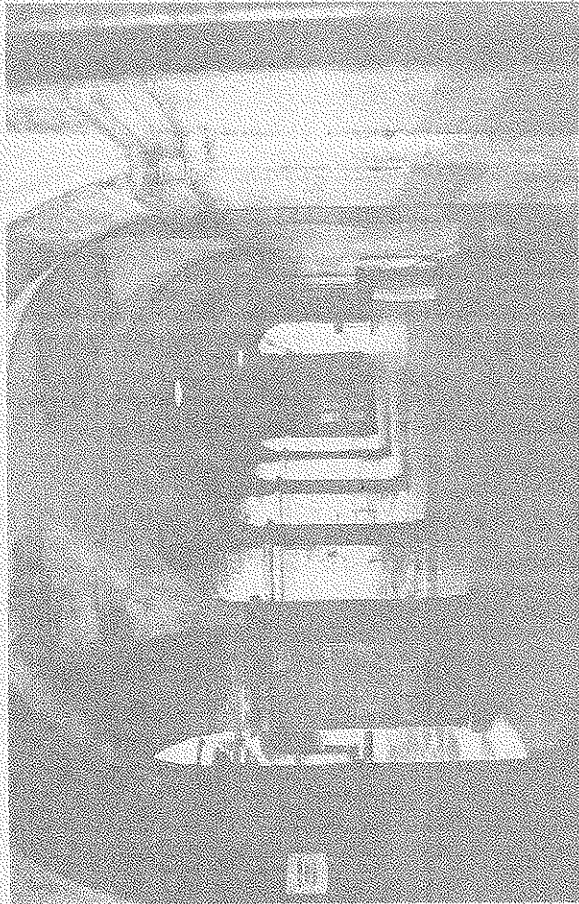
The Quad is the most distinctive part of the whole College. It is the only complete surviving quadrangle in St Andrews, even the university does not have one! In its original form the Quad was spectacularly impressive as in this photo from 1912. Nowadays it is severely eroded, owing mainly to winds circulating in a particular pattern.

The Quad Fund

The Fund has been set up to tackle the recent rapid deterioration of the sandstone pillars in the South Street quadrangle. Mr Watson, stonemason, has diagnosed the problem as wind erosion of the surface blocks. Repair will be a slow and skilled process. It will also be expensive, each pillar requiring full repair costing over £3000. Some pillars, however, only require partial repair. Since the idea of a Quad Fund was mooted about a year ago there have been several generous donations, suggesting that a campaign to tackle this issue immediately would meet a ready response from Former Pupils and others interested in this fine building. It seems the right time to take action, moreover, since it is clear that the state of the pillars, while offensive to the eye, will not be addressed by Fife Council, because there is at present no structural or safety concern being caused by the surface erosion. The Quad Fund Committee represents: EPs, pupils, staff and the business community.

What you can do to help

Mr Watson will undertake the work over a period of years. It would not be necessary to reach our target of £40,000 before the work commences. £100 buys a stone, like the one Mr Watson has put in place to show what the finished project would look like. Because the stone is soft we shall have to do repairs in the future. Since the original has lasted for 168 years, the next campaign would be mounted in 2169. Tell your great great grandchildren about this now!



The Quad in 2001

As you can see from the pictures the Quad has deteriorated over the years, and we are trying to raise money to turn the clock back and restore it to its original beauty. *Please tell a friend!*

DONATIONS

Donations may be made in cash or by cheque made payable to 'Madras College Quad Fund'. Please deliver or post your donation to: Madras College, South Street, St Andrews, KY16 9EJ.
Name:

Address:

Other details for our files (such as year at Madras, or connection with the school)

Enquiries are: quadfund@madrasfife.co.uk or by post or telephone (0344 42540)