

# SMART

St Michael's Academy Rumours & Tales

**issues 80-82**

**1981**

It seems that no. 82 of Oct. 1981 was the last to appear.

**pdf version June 2021**

# ST. MICHAEL'S ACADEMY RAMOIRS & TALES

No. 80

9 Feb. 1981

4 p

## computing's c(h)ool

The Computer, a Cramenco 22, came to the school in 1980 from the Scottish Micro-Electronics Development Project.

In January 1980 the SMDP asked for ideas for the use of micro-computers in education. The best 26 would be given a micro-comp to try out ideas. Ours arrived in May 1980.

Its primary use for the time being is the development of suitable educational programmes. To date it has been used to create some computer assisted learning packages, processing of 3rd Year's marks and class lists. In the future we are hoping for an improvement in the graphics capabilities and the circuit board necessary to connect the computer with science apparatus.

Some S3 and S5 pupils have been given an opportunity to learn programming in BASIC language. Some of the pupils have been quoted as saying "It is useful and enjoyable. A never to be missed opportunity".

The whole computer unit consists of a printer, a visual display unit and keyboard and a dual floppy disk drive which is the unit where the floppy disks (cassettes) are put in.

Mr Pentleton was asked about the importance of the computer in education now - and in the future and why it is important for pupils to learn experience of computers. He said, "The computer is useful for storing large amounts of data and fast processing and fast retrieval. By using the computer graphics it is possible to use animated simulation and to draw graphs and examine how the shape alters when one of the variables is changed. This can be done at the press of a button.

It is also possible to produce computer aided learning packages - a form of individualised learning pack useful for revision or where work has been missed through absence.

Report cont. on inside back page

## INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE DISABLED

1981, proclaimed by The United Nations as The International Year of The Disabled, will be geared towards an awakening of the entire population to improving all facilities for the disabled. Centred in Kilwinning Academy there exists an organisation - PHAB (Physically Handicapped and Able-Bodied), which encourages the physically handicapped people in our area to get to know the able-bodied and vice-versa. PHAB maintains that none of us is perfect, either physically or mentally, its just that some have worse degrees of physical handicap than others.

There are over 1m people of all ages who are officially disabled - how are WE going to make a contribution towards enabling everyone to have their right to work, have a family life, to go on holiday and to be educated to the limit of their mental ability? Disabled people miss out on so many things that we take for granted, but they should not be denied the right to do the things that they could manage - getting inside theatres, restaurants, hotels, discos, offices, sports grounds, factories without trouble. Let us all put our hearts and souls into making this special year, and future years beneficial to those less fortunate than ourselves.

### PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR ST MICHAEL'S

1. Collection of used, reasonable books for BEAVER LODGE, Paisley (already implemented).
2. Sponsored Walk - Token gesture. Approx 2 miles during school time (1 hr)
3. Novelty Prize Draw - Your waist-line in £s per inch, in return for pence per inch. 1 prize - pupils: 1 prize - outside.
4. Visit to PHAB Group at Kilwinning Academy.

Dear Editor

I think the school should allow the school uniform to be optional this would make the pupils a lot more comfortable and feel okay. I also feel the toilets should be smartened up a bit, because in their present condition they are not fit for a tramp and I'm sure a lot of people would agree with me....P Padden 205

POINTS: BIASED OPINIONS, BAD ENGLISH, LACK OF CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM REGARDING 4 ALBUMS.

Dear Editor

In answer to Edward Graham's record review in the 1980 Annual, I must say that I was very disappointed. There was a distinct lack of constructive criticism involved. Regarding the first album reviewed, Mr Graham just says how much he likes Bob Dylan. With the second and third LPs, it is a waste of time even writing the title, as there are merely a couple words written below under the pretentious name "review".

Looking at his review of the Peter Gabriel album I was very surprised to hear Gabriel described as "new wave". How can anyone categorise Pete in this way? It is beyond belief. For anyone who doesn't know, Peter Gabriel formed Genesis in 1968 and was with them until 1975: The British new wave only got off the ground in 1977, nine years after Gabriel started playing. Genesis were one of the old, successful bands, which the new wave shunned. Peter Gabriel hasn't changed that much since he left. That is not all that annoyed me about the review. Another point is that Mr Graham only says if a song is good or bad. I would like to ask why he thinks "I Don't Remember" is a bad track. In my opinion it is the best and liveliest piece of music on the album.

Yours regretfully

Graham Teaz 303

Editor's Note: Another Record Review by Edward Graham appears on the back page.

Stop Press: It is now planned to have the Drama Club produced on Tuesday, 21 March.

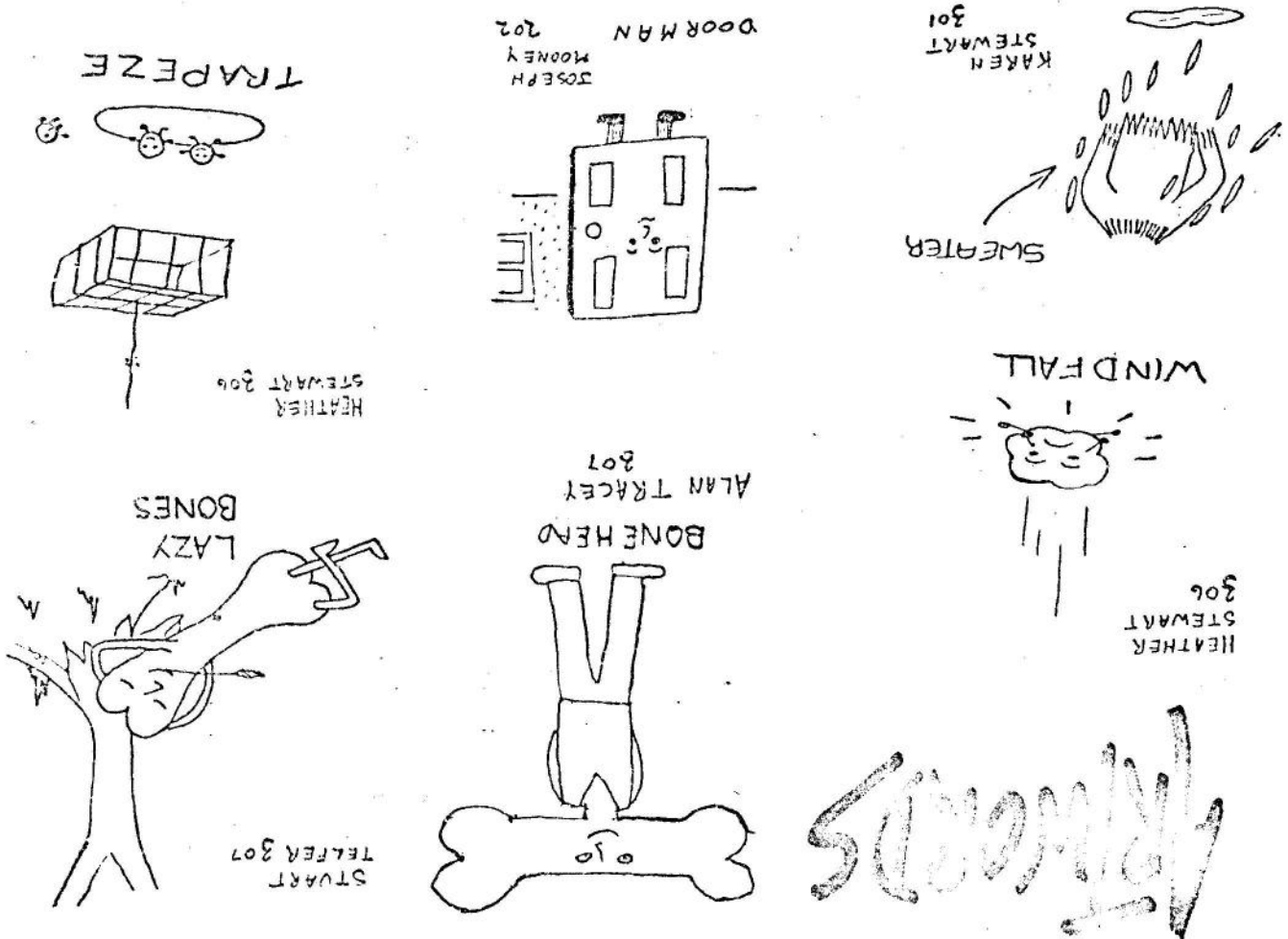
The Scottish organiser of Dr Barnardo's Homes has asked Mr Dickson to thank you all for the charity contributions of 10p organised for the Drama Club's Nativity last month. A total of £28.50 was sent. Mr Dickson agrees that all pupils should have paid, but there was not time to check everyone. Of the three performances, the third, on the Thursday evening, was the best, though the Wednesday one went very well. Staff were very pleased with the excellent behaviour of most pupils at the daytime performances.

Anyway, keep watching SMART for more details of the important March productions.

The Drama Club plans a full evening's entertainment for you, probably on 24 March. First item will be the junior play, "Brinle's Incredible Illusions" by Alan Ayckbourn (Britain's most popular playwright). In it, third year's own Mighty Midget takes on Big Brian and other crazy things just seem to happen. Later, the seniors will present some famous scenes and speeches from Shakespeare, including characters such as Portia and the murderous Macbeth. There will also be two or three sketches. Finally, after the second interval, will come the senior play (a Victorian melodrama, with villains, and a body), called "Temptation Sordid - Virtue Rewarded" by Winifred Phelps.

Tickets will be on sale in March. There will be no performances during school time. A tuck shop stand will be organised and the class which sells most tickets will be given vouchers for free refreshments.

## Laughter and Suspense



## SHELL BETTER BRITAIN COMPETITION

This competition was entered by the members of the St John Ogilvie's Youth Clubs to try and win a prize of £250 and be the winner in the whole of Scotland, and then we would have been sent to London for the British Final.

It all started with the Department of the Environment award scheme. As some members were looking for something to do for their service part, they thought they would try and get some good publicity for our local pond because up to that point people said it was dangerous and an eyesore.

We started by clearing the pond of rubbish which had to be continually cleared away each week until the people realised it was theirs, and began to stop throwing their refuse in the pond. We then built a boardwalk out into the water so that the local primary schools could get out into the water to study the plant and animals during their biology lessons. We then studied the animals and plants in and around the pond and took and drew pictures, and also wrote about them. Before the final in Edinburgh we held an exhibition open to the public in our local Community Centre showing and telling them what we had done and they all showed a keen interest. We then had to choose four members to go to Edinburgh for the final and the leader chose Michael McSorley 103, Janie Stuart Pr7, Jim Hayes 408 and Ann Marie McKenna 501.

And on Thursday 13 November we all set off from Bourtreehill and arrived at the King James Hotel Edinburgh (all expenses paid) at about 7 pm. We had a meal and then made our final preparations for the next day. We also had name tags which had to be worn throughout the Competition. In the morning we had our breakfast about 8 am and as we weren't to be interviewed until about 10.45 we went and explored Edinburgh - and guess who got lost!!!! When we arrived back at the hotel we had to carry all our exhibition from the 2nd to the 6th floor and set it out for the judges. We showed the judges some slides and then they walked round and asked us questions about different things. When we were finished being interviewed we carried our stuff back down to the 2nd floor and set it back up and while we waited for the judges to decide, the Duke of Atholl who was present to hand over the prizes, arrived and walked around the exhibitions.

When the Duke was ready to present the prizes, we all held our breath. "Ladies and Gentlemen it gives me great pleasure to announce that the winner of the Shell Better Britain Competition 1980 is the A.D.C. Cubs, Glasgow.", and the second prize went to a small village who saved a piece of land, and our club, the St John Ogilvie's Youth Club received third prize - a plaque for our club and a cheque for £30. Mr McSorley and the rest of us each received a copy of "The New Shell Guide to Scotland". We then had a meal with the Duke of Atholl and the judges and afterwards we packed up and came home!

by Jim and Ann Marie

## RUMOURS

- ... that Mr Walsh, the Maths teacher, was actually seen smiling in the corridors!
- ... that Mr Edge is going straight.
- ... that John McDonald's (309) bag is glued to his shoulder.

# ACROSS

1. A couple of fruits
3. To ... or not to ...
4. Start
7. Abides, stays alive
8. A short flower-girl
9. A precious colour
12. A baby's bed
14. A school subject
16. Close by
18. Neither
20. Finish
21. Tree's name
22. Small vegetable
25. Order
27. A heavy weight
28. Not a pass
30. More broad

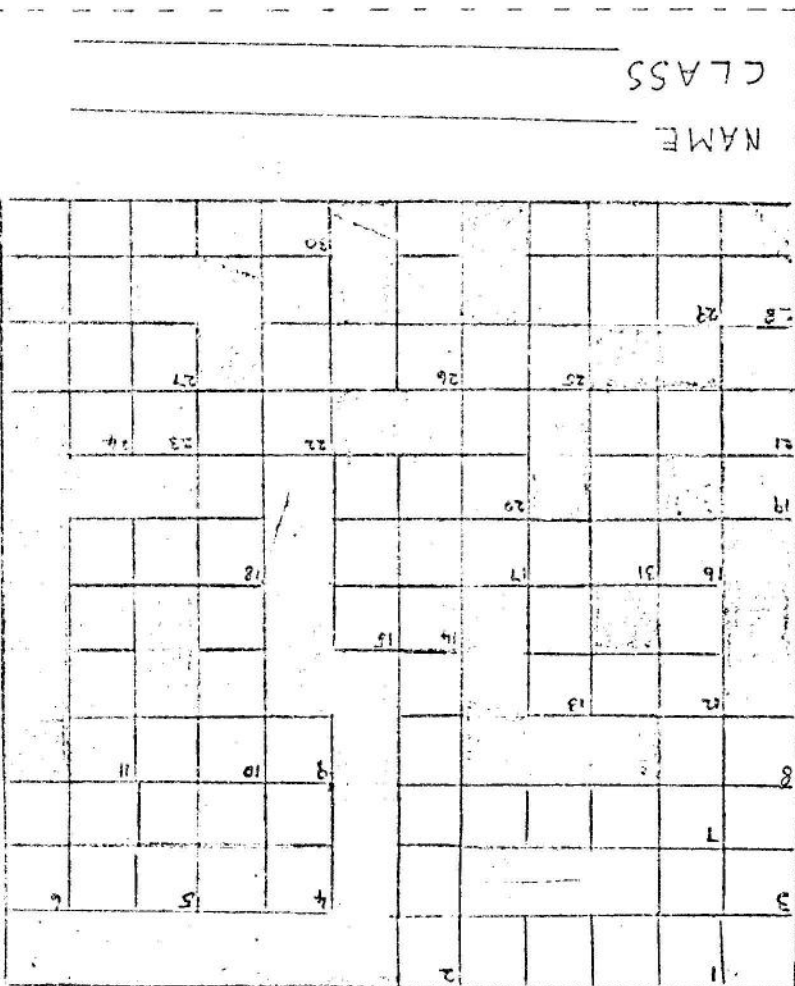
# DOWN

1. Big-mouthed bird
2. Female relation
4. Plead
5. Solidify, almost
6. Negative
10. Colour of a fruit
11. An expensive creature
13. A golden drink
15. Antiquity, old age
17. The back of
19. The head of bread
22. A handsome Scottish word
23. Cookney's, eadgar
24. A small message
25. Aged
26. Scottish river
29. A small advertisement
31. A large 11 down

# PRIZE CROSSWORD

50p PRIZE

Solutions to Mr Incester R 28  
by THURSDAY.



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

Computer (cont. from page 1)

With the development of the silicon chip, they will become even cheaper and the day is not far off when each household could have its own computer. In the light of these developments it is essential that pupils should gain "hands on" experience with computers. The rate of development of suitable educational material is increasing daily. A lot of it has still to be assessed. This is one of the major tasks for the present. Material already developed goes right across the whole spectrum of subjects from art through languages to science and maths. The biggest problems currently are finance and time.

Report by Daniel Moriarty - 3rd Year

## P O E M S

### New York

The tall sky-scraper, tower into the sky,  
The vile smell of rubbish,  
The unsighted sign of wildlife,  
Except the rats who feast.  
And the Queen of Liberty,  
In the distance

Anon

### Landscape in Cornwall

Sloping hills reach to the valley,  
Leads to the yellow strips of sand,  
The aqua freshness of the sea,  
Reaches the man of peace.

Anon

### Down the Pit

Down the pit the miners do go,  
Into the darkness they crawl very low.  
Through water and mud their lamps do shine  
Taking them deeper into the mine.  
At the coal face these men do toil  
Taking them deeper into the soil.  
In the dim light with all their might  
The miners work hard to see God's  
    keylight.

Brenda Allan (class 102)

### John

Q. What happened to the woodpecker  
    who didn't have a beak?

A. It turned into a head-banger

EH 205

### Guess Who

It's in the fields that he is born  
Amongst the grass and stalks of  
    corn

In his brown fur coat he looks a  
    treat

With his big long tail and tiny  
    feet

You'll find him mostly in his nest  
To me he's lovely, to most a pest.  
I don't think he does much harm  
But they don't say that kown on  
    the farm

They say his antics they must stop  
If t ey're to reap a bumpers crop.  
So in the summer he runs in fear  
As the farmers harvester he can  
    hear.

Although he runs to save his life  
He can't escape the harvester's  
    knife.

And if this far you have read  
You must know my little friend is  
    dead.

This story was, to give you a clue  
So this is what you have to do.  
Now that we have, Reached the end  
Would you please identify my  
    friend.

If you understand the sotry and  
    know the name

Please sign his name in the bottom  
    space.

.....  
By Sharon McKenna (c ass 102)

### Record Review Bruce Springsteen The River

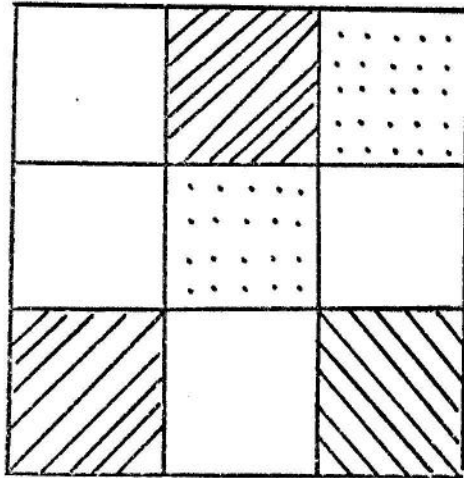
After a break of over two years Springsteen has come back with a bang with his brilliant double album. This is only Bruce's fifth album in his eight year career and it has already received massive critical praise.

Side one's highlights are "Sherry Darling", an old-fashioned rock n'roll song, and the marvellous "Independence Day", a sad tale of the inevitable break between child and father. Side two opens with the new single "Hungry Heart", and ends with one title track "The River" which has been performed by Springsteen on T.V.

The third side's highlights are undoubtedly "Fade Away" and "Stolen Car" two of the most beautiful songs I have heard. The second track on the last side is one of the best "Pride you Pay", but undoubtedly the next track is the album best. "Drive all Night" is Springsteen's best ever song. Over eight minutes long, it must be one of rock n'roll's best ever love songs. This album is great value and well worth it.

Edward Graham

# RUBIK PUZZLE



The sequence of moves, WNE, WNE, WNE, is repeated, starting from a completed cube. How many times must the move, WNE, be repeated to return the cube to its original position? Answers to Mr Merrick before Friday. The first correct solution drawn on Monday wins £1 cash or 3 maths puzzles.

## J'ACCUSE

Complaints regarding this publication should be referred to any or all of the following people:

Editorial Committee: Edward Graham (alias Winston Smith 101), Gerard Boyle (alias Pa Ubu), Graham Teaz, Martin Pieroni, Paul McMahon (alias Norman Anon).

Sports Editor: Anne-Marie Hart

Typist: Frances Traynor

Staplers: Julie Hunter, Vicky McCourt, Louise Griffin, Brian Johnson, Keith Reilly, Thomas Guthrie

Editorial Adviser: Mr Lucchesi

# ST. MICHAELS ACADEMY RAMOIRS & TALES

No. ~~79~~ 81

14 SEPT. '81

## CHRISTMAS IS COMING . . .

And with Christmas, St Michael's will be presenting its first ever spectacular pantomime for pupils, parents and friends. The title will not be known until later today (Monday), so it was ~~too~~ late for this issue, but it will not be one of the usual ones. The title and the leading members of the cast will be announced later this week. 150 seats have already been booked and further bookings are expected this month.

There will be three performances: an afternoon matinee for primary schools on Monday 14th December and two evening performances for pupils, parents, friends & staff on Tuesday and Wednesday 15th and 16th December. Tickets will go on sale in November.

The Drama Club started 10 days ago and has 40 members from 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th years, meeting on Wednesdays. This years producers are Mr Dickson, Miss MacFadden and Mr Farrell. Mr Gow will be pantomime musical director. Several other staff have already kindly agreed to help.

## FUN AND FRESH AIR

Are you interested in sampling the outdoor life? If so, read on - this is for you.

The school plans to organise hostelling weekends throughout the year to enable pupils to become acquainted with and appreciate the beautiful countryside and the mysteries and challenges of nature. Plant-life, water-sports, climbing, pony-trekking - all may be available depending on the location of hostel and time of year.

Hostel accommodation is inexpensive, clean and healthy and provides pupils with the opportunity of sampling their own cooking and meeting people of their own age from all countries of the world! (And independence.)

Small groups of pupils, about 13, will go at a time, leaving Friday and returning Sunday night (or Mon. morning).

Anyone interested should contact Mr Cassidy. The first trip is planned for October.

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## RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK

Raiders is an all-action super-exciting adventure set in 1936 and featuring Harrison Ford (ex Star Wars) as "Indiana Jones", an archaeologist and adventurer who goes in search of the "Ark of the Covenant" which will give him great powers. Unfortunately the Nazis are also after it. There are some amazing stunts, especially on the truck chase sequence and plenty of fights (real Errol Flynn and Douglas Fairbanks stuff!), especially a giant Nazi who comes to a messy end. It is overall a highly enjoyable film for anyone who goes to see it (so go and see it!).

Brace yourself for the special effects at the end.

Paul McMahon

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Apologies to those whose articles/letters/humour has been held over to the next issue owing to lack of space. Items for the next issue are being accepted now. Hand them in to room 28 (Mr Lucchesi).

## SMART TO BE SMARTER!

This is the new-look revolutionary school mag, masterminded by a band of 5 rebellious fourth years, intent on escaping from the image created by our predecessor "SMART". The name still remains for this issue, but since a great deal has been changed, we feel the old name must also go. Ideas for a new name are being sought after. Any suggestions are to be given to Mr Lucchesi. The best suggestion will be adopted as the new name and a prize of 50p will be awarded to the winner, whose name we'll publish in the next issue.

## MAILBOX

As this is the first edition of the new style school magazine there will undoubtedly be countless critics with comments to make on the contents of this issue. If you feel like saying anything, then write to me. Your letter may contain not only criticisms of the magazine, but views on life, the universe or anything, if you're into that sort of thing. Letters can be handed to Mr Lucchesi (room 23) and addressed to me for the compiling of the Letters Page.

## A TALE OF TWO ONIONS: A SHORT STORY

It was Friday afternoon, last two periods. The Art Room was quiet and orderly. One of the reasons for this was that Shaun had taken his usual Friday afternoon holiday and Wee Denis had twisted his ankle at the Third Year disco. M. La Tentecloche had issued the paper and we had collected our paint trays and brushes. He called out to the pupils, "Attention boys and girls! Today, we are going to paint a French onion. Hands up all those pupils who have never seen a French onion."

All the pupils began to laugh when Dough-heid put up his hand. You see, Dough-heid was the joker in the class, and hardly a period went by without him trying to take the mickey out of every teacher. M. La Tentecloche eyed him suspiciously. "Yes Hovis. Don't tell me you have not seen a French onion?"

Hovis replied, "No sir. Ma maw uses Spanish onions."

The class howled at this and M. La Tent cloche tugged at his artistic beard. He straightened his beret and said firmly, "Really Hovis, do you think I am as daft as you?"

Dough-heid scratched his head and the whole class giggled. However, M. La Tentecloche, being the artist he was, decided

## POP GOSSIP

Bad news hits the world today with the announcement that Britain's top pop group, the Royal Family, are to split. Britain's first lady of pop is to leave the band due to the tremendous pressures of being a superstar.

"Man, these one night stands and whistlestop tours are too much," she told me, "I can no longer stand the strain of travelling in a cramped limousine with three bodyguards in the front and 65 corgis in the back, it would be too much for anyone."

To mark the passing of the group, EMI are releasing a compilation album of some of their greatest hits, such as "My husband and I", "Christmas message to the nation", and of course, that classic rock'n'roll song "You ain't nothing but a Corgi".

Winston Smith 101

## RECORD REVIEW: MEAT LOAF BAT OUT OF HELL

Despite their having been in the BBRB top 75 Album chart for over three years, Meat Loaf's debut album, "Bat out of Hell" has only just achieved the top ten status it so richly deserves.

The album is notable not only for Meat Loaf's astounding vocal style, but also for a clutch of fine individual performances from the musicians on the album. The title track is opened by a breathtaking guitar solo from Utopia's Tedd Rundgren. Roy Bittan of the E Street Band contributes some beautiful Piano work and Ellen Foley pitches in with some marvellous, gusty backing vocals.

The songs on the album were written by keyboardist Jim Steinman, and they tend to reflect his self-confessed hobby of chasing women. Sometimes the results are dramatic (Bat out of Hell), sometimes sad (For Crying out Loud) and sometimes, as on "Paradise by the Dashboard Light" downright vulgar.

I look forward to the release of Meat Loaf's new album "Deadringer", hoping that it can achieve the high standards "Bat out of Hell" has set.

Ed Grehan IV

## A TALE OF TWO ONIONS (contd)

Decided to get a Spanish onion so that the class could draw one as well as a French onion. "Right then class," he said, "Just sit quiet till I go next room to the Cookery Room and ask Miss Ogden for a Spanish and a French onion."

No sooner had he left than Wee Blackie started to make funny remarks about M. La Tentecloche and Miss Ogden, for it was common knowledge that the Great French Lover fancied Miss Ogden. But Paddy the Sleeper woke from his daydreams, in which Miss Ogden had left him for M. La Tentecloche. In a fit of temper, he shouted "Wrap up Blackie. That's not true!"

However, this had no effect on Wee Blackie, who began to chant even louder about Miss Ogden and M. La Tentecloche. His rude remarks really incensed Paddy. In retaliation Paddy picked up his paint tray and hurled it at Wee Blackie. When Dough-head saw Blackie's multi-coloured face, he screamed with laughter. This was a signal for the whole class to join in the battle.

Paint brushes and trays began to fly around the room. Paddy the Sleeper grabbed Wee Blackie by his skinhead and proceeded to paint his face like Adam and the Ants. Dough-head jumped on Paddy's back and squeezed a tube of green paint all over his head, until he looked like someone out of Doctor Who.

Suddenly the door flew open and a flustered M. La Tentecloche came bounding in with a French onion in one hand and a Spanish one in the other.

"Boys! Girls! Control yourselves! This is outrageous!"

Before he could utter another word, a blob of tartan-coloured paint splashed his face and he caught a glimpse of Ginger Rodgers guffawing at his predicament. Forgetting his French charm, which always made him so popular with the female pupils, he took aim and fired the Spanish onion at Ginger, scoring a bullseye on her red hair.

Just at that moment the head of Miss Ogden appeared at the open window. M. La Tentecloche, mistaking her for reinforcements, took aim and smacked Miss Ogden right between the eyes with the French onion. She squealed out in anger. "You French pig." And I thought you were like Sacha Distel. That's you and I finished.

(Contd Page 6)

## A TALE OF TWO OXIONS (contd)

When M. La Tentocloche managed to restore order, he was almost in tears. Blackie, Dough-heid, Paddy the Sleeper and Ginger were despatched to the Rector's room. The rest of the class were given an essay to write on Rembrandt. However, from that day on, M. La Tentocloche never left his class to chat up any young female teachers.

by Foundation 3 - room 22

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## BURDEN OF SHAME

In the early 1970's a group of nuclear scientists set up a clock to represent the imminence of a nuclear holocaust. The time of midnight was to represent a nuclear war. The clock was originally at nine minutes to midnight. A few months ago the scientists moved the clock to two minutes to midnight.

None of our so-called "moderate" politicians have put up a valid alternative to unilateral nuclear disarmament. Their shallow reason for keeping these monstrous weapons is that they act as a deterrent; no-one in their right mind could possibly use them. These so-called responsible people seem to forget the events of 6th August, 1945, when the American bomber "Enola Gay" dropped a package over the Japanese city of Hiroshima. This package was to result in the deaths of over 100,000 innocent people.

In the event of a nuclear war, the government have released a pamphlet advising us how to stay alive. We must not try to escape into the country or anything; all the roads will be blocked by government soldiers. This is to prevent the loss of many needless lives????!! Our only chance is to whitewash our windows and hide in the broom cupboard. We should be able to come out of our hiding places in about three weeks - to find the world's food supply totally contaminated. In other words, if it

(BURDEN OF SHAME . . continued . . )

ever happens, you've had it.

The prospects of such a war happening have been brought immeasurably closer by the election of Ronald-warmonger-er-Reagan as President of the United States. We can all content ourselves with the fact that the world's most powerful man is so intelligent and wise that he once said "99% of America's pollution is caused by trees and flowers". If he hates flowers that much, what's he going to think of the Russians?

In 1984, our government intends positioning American Cruise missiles on British soil, thus making us a greater nuclear target than ever. (Mr Reagan also intends deploying the Neutron bomb in Europe. This bomb kills people but leaves buildings standing. Very American, isn't it?)

By the year 1990 Trident will have taken over from the now obsolete Polaris submarine missiles. It is surely a terrible indictment on our society when we can spend billions of pounds on such monstrosities as Trident, while three million people are unemployed in our own country, and worldwide almost two-thirds of the world's population are living below the starvation level.

Perhaps Thatcher and Reagan don't care about a nuclear war. After all, they have lived the best years of their lives. They should spare a thought for the young people of this earth. We are the ones with our whole lives ahead of us; we have something to contribute to mankind; we do not want to die at the hands of a cruel and unseen enemy.

The only way we can prevent this terrible thing happening is to stand united to fight for nuclear disarmament. There must never be another Hiroshima.

Ed. Graham IV

(Expressions of opinion on any controversial topic will always be considered for publication. Anyone wishing to reply to this article or give an opinion on any other subject should hand in his/her article to room 28. - Editor.)

--ooOoo--

## INTERVIEW

Mr Farrell is the new 6'5" (or is it the other way round?) English teacher. He is married with one little boy and an old Renault called (yes, called!) Hesperus. He lives in Prestwixk and his interests are gardening, swimming (occasionally), making Beer and wine, and body-building (?). He used to teach at St Joseph's in Kilmarnock but if he were not a teacher, he would like to be . . . idle and rich (what's the difference? The money!). When asked what, cosmically speaking, he thought he could do to benefit mankind, civilization and the universe as we know it, he was not really sure.

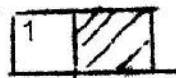
He is not superstitious and has no pets. He likes: War and Peace and Anna Karenina, both by Tolstoy, Casablanca, starring Humpty Gokart!, Fleetwood Mac, the Chieftains and Mozart.

He used to be a "Meany Man" (Social Security) and had to investigate a couple of loonies who thought that devil worshippers lived below them. They put tin foil on the floor to keep the evil away. The man wrote letters to Doris Day (so much for Gladys Knight!)

He looks forward to working in St Michael's and will rely on Essays and Interest (?) to keep his classes happy. He thinks the school uniform is very "smart" and when he was asked if he smoked, drank or indulged in any other form of entertainment, he replied "I don't smoke . . ."

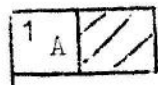
by Paul McMahon & Gerard Boyle

## EASY CROSSWORD:



Clue across: 9th letter of alphabet  
Clue down: the thing we see with

Last week's solution:



Compiled by  
Roman Totale XVIII

## THE BOOK CLUB

What is the Book Club? It is basically a set-up for people who are interested in reading, started off last term by Mrs Leiper, the school librarian.

Anyone interested may come to the club which meets every Tuesday in the library, immediately after school. At present the membership consists of mainly first and second years with a couple of third years bringing the total to 11 members, which admittedly doesn't seem a lot, but then you have to consider the problems involved if you tried having discussions on books with a library full of pupils waiting to air their opinions.

It is hoped that a few seniors will find time to attend, as the book review sessions planned for this term can be arranged to involve books by such authors as Tolkien, Solzhenitsyn, and any others which may appeal to them. There is also a video available for viewing in the library concerning books by Leon Garfield and Ian Mark, the work of the latter being more for seniors as it is fairly complicated for the likes of first and second years.

For the benefit of younger pupils who have as yet not progressed beyond the stages of reading Enid Blyton stories and Hardy Boys Mysteries, membership of this club would be considered a good decision on their part.

## NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

101 Way to Cook Corgi - Queen Elizabeth  
An Introduction to Grecian 2000 - Ronald Reagan  
Pioneers of the Woman's Movement - Ayatollah Khomeini  
My nights of Passion with a Cheeseburger - Elvis Presley  
How to lose and Keep Smiling - Sebastian Coe

...we interrupt this magazine to bring you some very important news on the future of civilisation as we know it... we interrupt this very important interruption as it has been declared too depressing and disturbing to be told.

Instead here's something very fishy from our shark-witted correspondant Sharkin' Stevens...

Q: What do you call a 50 foot long shark with 250 teeth?

A: SIR!

Q: Which city has the greatest population of sharks?

A: Sharkago!

Q: What is a shark's favourite hymn?

A: Shark! the herald angels sing!

Q: How do you feed a shark?

A: Very carefully!

Q: What is a shark's favourite TV programme?

A: M.A.S.H.

Q: When swimming in the ocean how do you stop a shark seeing you?

A: Kick him in the eye!

Q: Which side of a shark is the worst to see?

A: The inside!

Q: ... and finally, which is the most dangerous shark?

A: The one swimming around your left leg!

Chess Magazines going cheap - see Mr Smith in the Art Eut.  
Badminton Club - Fourth year Badminton Club meets every Thursday at 4 o'clock

..... we were so poor that one Christmas my father gave me an empty shoe-box and told me it was an Action Man deserter.

## MATHS CLUB

For the last few weeks a group of around pupils have been taking part in a maths club organised by Mr Merrick at Wednesday lunchtime. The club at present concerns itself mainly with Rubik cubes, but in the future Mr Merrick intends to introduce members to some other mathematical problems and puzzles. At the moment the members come mainly from first and second year, but in the future it is hoped that more pupils from the senior school will join, so giving Mr Merrick a chance to give them some more complex puzzles.

If any pupil is having trouble completing his Rubik cube, Mr Merrick is selling solution sheets at 20p each, the proceeds of which go to Mrs McKinley's Mission fund. Almost £10 has already been raised from the sale of these sheets. Mr Merrick would like to express his annoyance at a certain member of James Hamilton Academy's teaching staff, who appropriated a solution sheet and published it in their school magazine, thus depriving the missions of much needed money.

Finally, if any pupil's Rubik cube is very stiff, Mr Merrick recommends WD 40 lubricant.

PS A Rubik cube puzzle created by Mr Merrick appears on the back page.

Ed Graham IV

Kevin O'Neill passed his tests  
for an Army career on Thursday.

## "MATHEMATICAL PIE"

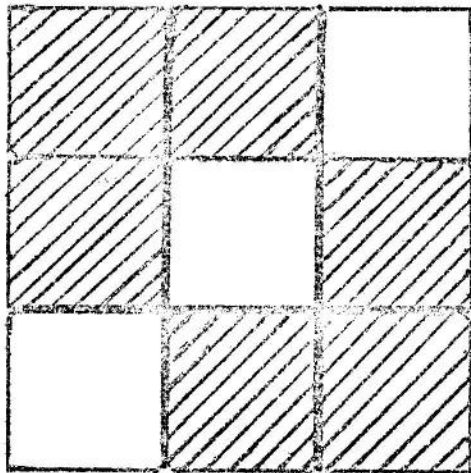
A magazine for pupils interested in mathematics and puzzles of all sorts is being distributed by members of the Maths department. Cost 12p. Special item in this issue is a curve-stitch drawing of a yacht at sea (VERY suitable for Christmas presents!).

## CALLING ALL SENIORS

Contrary to false information, the spare seats on the Drama Club's visit to a hilarious comedy in Glasgow on 23rd September are open to all seniors. Further details and booking forms from Mr Dickson.

### CUBE CORNER

S1 prize to the shortest method of obtaining the pattern so that each face looks like this:



Answers to MR MERRICK before Friday.

#### S1 and S2 Puzzle

An absent-minded bank teller switched the pounds and pence when he cashed a cheque for Mr Brown giving him the pounds instead of pence, and the pence instead of pounds. After buying a 5p packet of Polo Mints, Mr Brown realised he now had twice as much money as his original cheque. What was the value of the cheque?

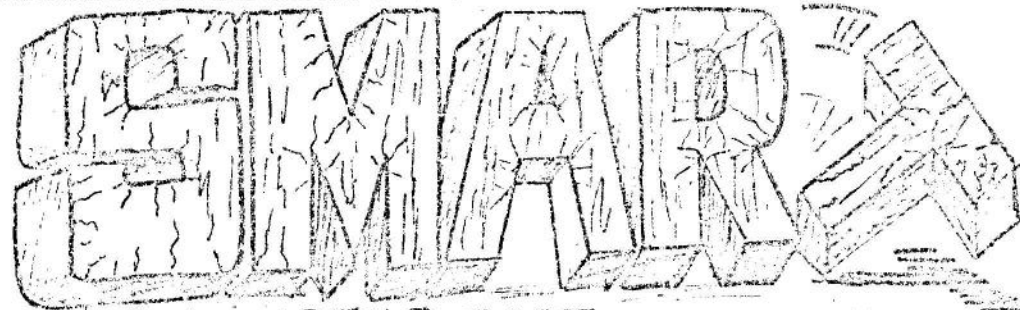
Answers to Mr Lucchesi, R.28, by Thursday, first correct answer drawn receives 50p prize.

#### S3-S6 Puzzle

A sheet of paper 0.005 cm thick is torn in two. The two pieces this forms are placed together and torn again. This process is repeated 40 times in all. How thick is the resulting pile of paper?....Answers to Mr Merrick in room 8, the winning answer will be drawn on Thursday.

#### The Credits!

Editorial Committee: Paul McMahon, Edward Graham, Teaz and Gerard Boyle



ST MICHAELS ACADEMY

ST MICHAELS ACADEMY

RELIABLE

TABLOID

OCT. ISSUE '81

NO

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And so it came to pass that on the Seventh day after having toiled for six days Moses came down from the mountain and even unto his registration class to fetch hence his SMART for the nominal sum of 3p. But hence, on the way back he did tarry by the wayside to read the fab mag.

"Lo" he declared - for he was the excitable type - "record and concert and film reviews, a teacher survey and, wonder of wonders, a word chase with teachers' nicknames. I fear my heart will burst with joy!"

And so Moses did joyfully wander home, but his brother Aaron did wax exceedingly angry saying, "Where hast thou been brother? I have been tarrying here waiting for the NEW SMART." Whereupon Moses did poke Aaron in the eye and send him to bed without any cocoa!

And so read on with St Michaels Academy's answer to the Ten Commandments!

#### MIRACULOUS REPORT

On Tuesday night, between half past nine and ten o'clock, the school was set on fire in the staff room. There is expected to be thousands of pounds worth of damage although the report cards were saved (no doubt a great relief to everyone!) There may be a connection with a similar incident at St Winning's Primary school on Monday night. Various people have already "helped the police with their enquiries", but as yet, no

(contd.)

## FINAL REPORT (contd)

details have been released of any conclusions they may have reached. Pupils are asked to give any information they may have about either incident to the local police, keep your ears peeled and your nose to the ground!!

Paul McMahon (not guilty) 403

## INTERVIEW WITH MR GRAY

How many years have you been at St Michael's?

Six years.

Do you like the school?

Yes, considering.

How many janitors are there in the school?

At the moment there is one part-time janitor and one full-time janitor. In the future we will have two full-time janitors.

In the past has anyone put stinkbombs in the cloakrooms?

Yes, it seems to be a common occurrence. If the children were kept out until 9 o'clock it might not happen so often.

Do you have any idea who does it?

It usually happens when the first crowd comes off the buses but as I don't know which bus gets in first, I can't be sure.

Do you think the school needs changed in anyway?

Structurally yes. A bit more order. Once the whole school was moving at the bell but now it's chaos.

Do you like working with children?

Yes (as long as I can swing them at the end of a rope).

Do you think pupils are untidy in anyway?

Yes, because they drop their papers where they stand and they drop remainders of packed lunch anywhere instead of putting them in the bins, and if they did it would help us.

Message from the janitor: we will try to fix the taps in the toilets.

## "Living together" by Alan Yekbourn

On October 23rd, the Drama Club went to see "Living Together" at Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

The action for the play takes place in and around a Victorian house during a week-end in July. The time is the present.

The room in which the play was set was the living-room. It gave impression of being a very lazily cared for room - sloppy; There were books piled on top of the piano, and the books on the shelves were all squint; records were lying on the floor next to the record player. The furniture didn't match at all; and the curtains matched neither the furniture nor the wallpaper.

This messy, uncared for look was for effect, to emphasize that Annie held no time for domestic chores, when she had "mother to look after". Everyone talked of mother as "the big bad dragon", although we never saw her.

Annie's costume was not really what you would expect a girlfriend of a Vet to be wearing high shoes (unfashionable wedges!), white socks, strait jeans and a hideous old brown cardigan. Her hair style did nothing for her. Later she changed into a rather low necked dress with her hair in pigtailed(!) and lots of red rouge? Perhaps this was to contrast her to Ruth who was the "career girl style" - job before husband.

Sarah's dress was rather staple - dark blue dress and pearls. The overall impression of Sarah, was a rather prim and snobby woman. This actress was not totally convincing she spoke up stage often and "posed" too often, which did not appear natural.

Personally, my favourite, and the best portrayed character, was Stephen Bullatrat played the scatty school-boy image well - hands in pockets, and always replying "Huh...??". He was made more appealing by his naivety the way in which Norman made fun of him how he couldn't grasp the situation.

Some of the most memorable humour was when Reg pointed out that chess wasn't a realistic game - horses jumping sides ways and bishops walking diagonally. Some of the funniest things were the unintended misaps - like turning out all the lights!!

ont)

enjoyed the play, although I found it more amusing than well  
ne.

Anne McMillan VI

ran the Hard Day

h Year Geography Trip to North High Corrie Croft

ter a fairly uneventful boat trip from Ardrossan, our team of  
were rounded up at the bottom of the gangway at Brodick,  
shuffled into the back of a Transit van and carted up the coast.  
Corrie, our hostess, out of kindness of their hearts, removed  
our chains to let us ramble up a little 1 in 2 track to the croft.  
nce it was only about 1/2 a mile long, our resident superman,  
olin and Gaffers made short work of it. Half an hour behind the  
atter two, we finally arrived at the croft exhausted. We settled  
n, ate and went to bed.

at night at about 2 o'clock, the boys received a brief visit from  
mysterious walking tree, which Rosser slept through, while the  
roy lady and the gamekeeper, the 'local' ghost, failed to pay their  
xpected visits to the girls dorm, much to the girls disappointment. . .

he following day we set out over the hills to make an ascent on  
he N.E. face of Goat Fell.

through wind rain and mist we battled, across raging...er...  
streams we went, marching under the guidance of a dauntless  
herpa by the name of Nigel.

ired and hungry, we made base camp, while Mr Corrie slithered  
through the undergrowth, aimed and took a shot at a stag with his  
LR (an Olympus OM-1). On we went, forcing our way up the hillside  
undeterred by frequent attacks of cramp and loss of breath. On the  
stroke of 3 o'clock we finally penetrated the mist and reached the  
summit. After a short stay, we pelted along the Stacach Ridge,  
leaping over 2500ft hills and broad valleys in time to hear the ol!!  
firm score on the radio. (Actually, I'm exaggerating a bit - the  
hills were only about 200ft high). After hearing the score, we  
got into good spirits, which Mr Eddie gladly confiscated (oops!  
only kidding, really!) They were short lived anyway, since we found  
out that the Hydro had come while we were away, a 22000 volt

## SING A SONG OF SIXPENCE

Details have now been reached concerning St Michael's  
Academy Drama Club's latest weird and wonderful cultural off-  
ering. It is to be a new pantomime by Gordon Robbins entitled  
"Sing a Song of Sixpence". The main characters include the  
handsome Prince Valantine of Utopia played by John Hamilton  
and the beautiful Princess Rosemary of Cornucopia played by  
Carol Delany. Brian Higgins has a starring role as panto  
dame and his escapades include certain things which I at be  
considered rather 'X' certificate.

Many members of staff have offered to help with the production  
and it will no doubt take a lot of hard work from all  
concerned to make it a success.

The performances arranged so far are Monday 14th December -  
Afternoon matinee for primary pupils Tuesday 15th December -  
another afternoon matinee and an evening performance for you  
your parents and your friends. Wednesday 16th Dec. box - an  
other evening performance.

Already 500 seats have been booked which gives us cause to  
believe that the pantomime will make a profit.

Watch this space for more details.

Edward Graham IV

## Jane of Lantern Hill By L M Montgomery

"Jane of Lantern Hill is a novel written by the same author as  
"Anne of Green Gables".

It is about Jane who lives at 60 Gay Street with her Grand  
mother who is extremely strict and does not love her, and as  
with her mother who is very scared of Jane's Grandmother.

Jane's parents are separated. One day, Jane receives a letter  
from her father who she has never known. Jane is torn between  
her mother and father, not wanting to hurt either of them.

I would advise any person who likes to read the "Anne of Gre  
Gables", and those who haven't to read "Jane of Lantern Hill".

STAFF QUESTIONNAIRE - SURVEY CONDUCTED by Gerald Boyle, Edward Graham & Graham Teak (SA)

| Name                               | Favourite<br>Popstar/Group | Favourite<br>TV Programme          | Favourite<br>Film                       | Most Disliked<br>Person/Type<br>of Person | Most Admired<br>Person/Type<br>of Person |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Mr McCutcheon                      | Rainbow                    | Current Affairs                    | Guns of Navarone                        | Triants                                   | Pope John Paul                           |
| Mr Lobodzinski                     | Eric Clapton               | Panorama                           | Never go to films                       | Extremists                                | Myself                                   |
| Mr Pentleton                       | Abba                       | Tomorrow's World                   | The Express File                        | Extremists                                | Pope John Paul                           |
| Mrs F Leiper<br>(School Librarian) | Emerson, Lake<br>& Palmer  | Fawlty Towers                      | Jacques Bati films                      | War-mongers                               | My husband                               |
| Mr A Ritchie                       | J L O                      | Fawlty Towers                      | Dr Zhivago                              | Mrs Thatcher                              | Mr McClure                               |
| Mr Merrick                         | The Beatles                | Tiswas                             | IF                                      | Mrs Thatcher                              | Galileo                                  |
| Mr Addie                           | Gerry Rafferty             | Soap                               | The Hunter                              | Geoffrey Howe                             | John F Kennedy                           |
| P Dorrian                          | Genesis                    | Blake's Seven                      | The Goodbye Girl/<br>Adventure & Comedy | Mrs Thatcher                              | My former<br>playmates                   |
| I J Dickson                        | Debbie Harry               | The South Bank Show                | Viridiana                               | Traffic<br>Junkies                        | Anyone who<br>tried their<br>best        |
| M Gill                             | The Beatles                | Tom & Jerry                        | Come with the Wind                      | Mrs Thatcher                              | Myself                                   |
| T P Murphy                         | UB 40                      | Not the Nine<br>O'Clock News       | Magnificent Seven                       | Girl Friend's<br>Mother                   | Mother Teresa                            |
| Sr Bernadette                      | Planxty                    | Cosmos & Good<br>Detective Stories | One Flew over the<br>Cuckoo's Nest      | Dictators                                 | Voluntary Social<br>Workers              |

PART TWO OF THIS TEACHERS SURVEY NEXT ISSUE

Apollo Glasgow 12/3/81

First on was the support act poet, Lynton Kwesi Johnson a black Jamaican who sang of the troubles and oppression in the black ghetto of inner city Britain. Lynton prefers not to be regarded as a reggae act but as a singer poet accompanied by background reggae type music. His recitals included "England is a Bitch", which proved popular among a Scottish audience, and "Reggae for Posh" dedicated to Blair Peach, clubbed to death during the Southall riots. Lynton was well received by most of the Banshees fans, but there were a few narrow-minded gits who never gave him a chance.

The Banshees opened with the classic "Israel" and followed up with "Halloween" from the new album "Juju", a powerful combination to open show. Siouxsie & Co battled on with "Spellbound", "Arabian Knights", "Into the Light", "Night Shift" and haunting "Voodoo Doll", helping "Juju". From the L.I. "Walden" the band delivered favourites as "Happy House" and "Kristine" and the lesser known "Elephant".

At one point guitarist John McGeoch and bassist Steve Severin exited stage to leave Siouxsie to accompany the thundering drums of Budgie in "Better Than Them", soon to be recorded on a 5-track LP by the aforementioned duo. The fans were also treated to the first ever sight of Siouxsie attempting to play guitar on stage, which was ... well, unique.

The performance finally ended with 2 encores, namely "Supernatural Thing" and "Love in a Void".

Gerard Boyle 403

A Rag, a Bone and a Hank of Hair By Nicholas Fisk

A story about future man. Really quite interesting. The main character is a boy about 13 named Brin. In this time young people were very rare and precious and did not matter. They feared that life on earth would disappear as a nuclear accident had caused birth rate to drop. They invent "Reborn". A production of people made chemically. Truly science fiction again for the ages of 12-13yrs Brand new under 18.

Mona McMillan 204

cont)

power line overhanging the boys dorm. So they promptly cut off our electricity supply for the rest of the weekend.

It was quite dark that night in the croft, but fortunately the ghosts forgot to come again.

With surprise, we packed Frazer into his coffin and went down for a sloe cooked breakfast. After a quiet night Mr Dorrian embarked on an orienteering course in which I hasten to add, Mr Dorrian got lost.

That evening we finished filing through the bars on the windows and escaped onto the boat back to the mainland. Messrs Eddie and Dorrian were sighted on board but we managed to avoid them for our own good and reached Adrossan again.

Callus Nairobi, Shah of Iran  
a k a  
Gerard Boyle IV

Aer Lingus Schools Golf Tournament

St Michael's Golf team made up of

Tom Gilligan (46)

Douglas McGuire (33)

Laurie Lollachi (32)

played in the Aer Lingus Tournament at Brassie Golf on Tuesday October 6th. The boys played quite well and finished quite well up the field of Twenty schools.

Although they did not win they enjoyed the day and felt the experience will be helpful in the future.

Golf Correspondant  
- Putt

Fear! Fire! Foes! Tell one of them at least!

A few Mondays ago, as you know, we were all evacuated due to a strange smell lurking in the darkest recesses of Mr. Harris's corridor. In our position as super SMITH detectives, we decided to investigate the cause of this unusual occurrence. Was it caused by a spy sent from Mars to undermine our society? (H.D. 101) or has the janitor turned into a Farin pyromaniac?

Various theories have been circulated around the school including one which said that the smell was caused by an untraceable fault from the lights, or a short circuit in the electrical system.

However, the Rector made an emergency phone call to the Fire Brigade, but when they arrived they couldn't find anything wrong. The smell persisted and in the afternoon, Mr. McCutcheon again phoned the Fire Brigade who still could find nothing wrong.

The following day, a representative from Strathclyde Regional Council and an electrician arrived, investigated the smell but again couldn't find the cause.

Another more plausible theory is that the smell was caused by an unknown chemical reaction from the Science Department. Another piece of evidence which lends weight to this theory is that the smell gradually travelled down till it reached the Technical department. However, as yet no definite answer has been found to the mystery.

And to the end on a depressing note, the janitor would like to assure us that the school, due to its construction, would never burn down.

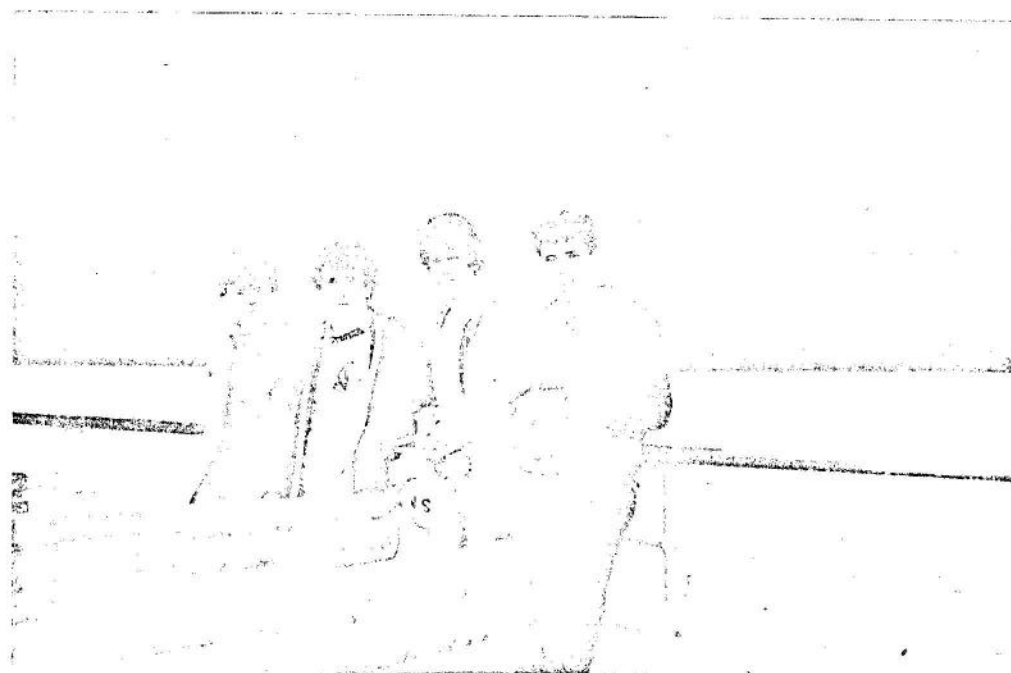
G Boyle IV E Graham IV

Info. supplied by Mr Gray and Mr Farrell

ARRAN TRIP



On top of Old Smoky (Golfell)



Returning by steamer