



Geography Field Trip

Olympic call for Vikki



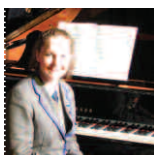
Hockey coach Vikki Bunce has been selected as part of the GB hockey squad for the 2012 Olympic Games.

Vikki, who recently represented Scotland at the Commonwealth Games in Delhi, will spend the coming months training with the squad in England before selection of the final team next year.

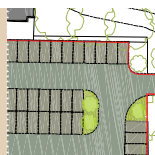
Dr John Halliday, said: "Vikki has been a superb coach for hockey at the High School. We are thrilled for her that she has been selected for the GB squad and as you can imagine the pupils and staff here will be following her progress with great interest. We wish her every success and hope she gains a place in the final team for the Olympics.

Her selection is already a great honour for the school and for Dundee hockey in general. Good luck Vikki!"

Vikki said: "I'd like to give a big thank you to the school for all the support they've given me up until now, and which I know will continue in the future. I'm looking forward to the opportunity to train full-time as an athlete, concentrating on my hockey and working to the best of my ability as we move towards London 2012." While Vikki trains with the GB squad, her place as hockey coach at the High School will be taken by Iain Strachan, an international level hockey coach and sports analyst. Pupils hope to welcome Vikki back to the school after the games in August 2012.



Piano Day
A Grand adventure for budding pianists
See Page 5



Green light for All-Weather Pitches

We are delighted to report that planning permission has been granted on appeal for our synthetic turf pitches on Dalnacraig East.
See Page 3 for a feature on the proposals.

Rector's introduction



The excellent news about the new synthetic turf pitches at Dalnacraig is tremendously exciting. At a time when the national mood is rather down in the light of the economic situation and government cuts, and at a time when there is much concern about growing obesity levels amongst young people, we as a school have the confidence and will to invest in the future academic, social, spiritual and physical welfare of our pupils. The plans will also improve health and safety as we now also have agreement from the council for a new pedestrian crossing between Mayfield and Dalnacraig. That has been a long battle which at last appears to be reaching a very satisfactory conclusion.

The need for synthetic surfaces for our sportsmen and women has been underlined by the inordinately bad weather again this term, which saw so many fixtures depleted or cancelled. Our aspiration is to have the new pitches open and ready for use in time for the new session in August. However there is much preparatory work to be done.

The recent Prelims for F4-6 reminded me that we are of course primarily but not only, a high performing academic school, and indeed how well our pupils perform in national exams. In last summer's SQA exams, for example, our pupils achieved 74% top grades, a level that is way ahead of all schools, including all other independent schools, in the whole of Dundee, Angus, Perthshire and Fife. Judging from the Prelim results, this year's cohort have not been resting on their laurels and I am confident they can match their colleagues from last year!

As the days grow longer, brighter and warmer (mostly), I hope you all enjoy this latest edition of the Pillars, with all it says about our wonderful school.

With all good wishes,

Dr John D Halliday Rector



RGS talk for Matthew

F6 pupil Matthew Wood, who last summer assisted with the Pakistan relief effort after being caught up in the flooding, has given a talk to the Royal Geographical Society about his experiences.

Matthew was taking part in a British Schools Exploring Society expedition to the region when the flooding started. His team quickly switched from their planned programmed of exploration

and scientific experiments to assisting villages with medical care and repairing bridges and irrigation systems.

Matthew made his twenty-minute presentation to the RGS with fellow team member Phil McNally. Several hundred people attended the event, including members of the RGS and the British Schools Exploring Society, and heard presentations from all three BSES expeditions last summer.

Junior School Heads

Junior heads from all over Scotland gathered at the High School in February to discuss Whole School Self- Evaluation.

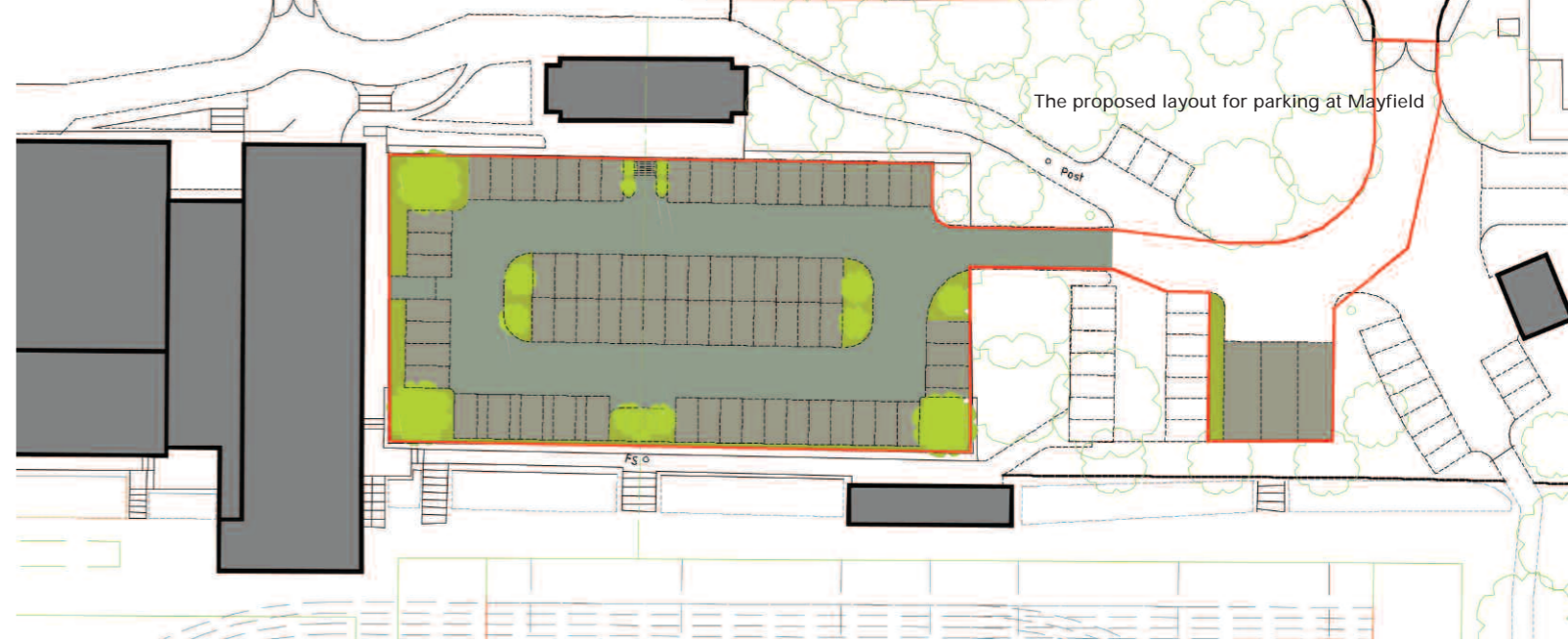
15 head teachers from independent schools attended the event, which included presentations on self-evaluation techniques and resources.



Researcher in Residence supports science club

The F1/2 Chemistry and Biology Club has been supported this term by PhD student Daniel Klotz, currently studying in the Department of Biology and Life Sciences at Dundee University. Daniel is working with the pupils as a Researcher in Residence, running the Bronze CREST awards for club members.

The Researchers in Residence (RinR) programme, funded by RCUK with support from the Wellcome Trust, brings together researchers, young people and teachers via placements in secondary schools and colleges across the UK. RinR enriches the classroom experience, engages young people with real-life research and gives researchers the opportunity to develop new skills.



All-weather pitches for Dalnacraig

Planning permission has been granted for the development of two synthetic turf pitches at our Dalnacraig sports ground on the Arbroath Road.

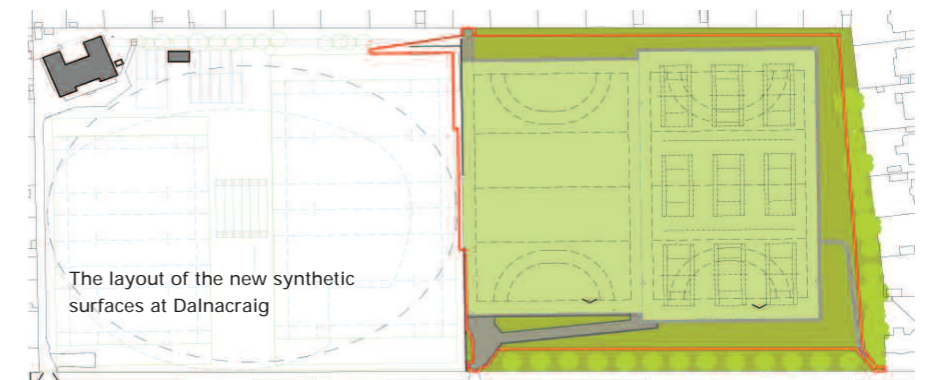
The plans include two all-weather pitches for hockey, one of which will also be used for tennis in the summer months. These pitches will be used extensively by the school but will also be available for use by local hockey and tennis clubs in the wider community. In addition to these pitches, which will be open for use from 9.00am to 9.00pm, the School is extending off-road parking at Mayfield from 41 to some 100 cars and 5 coaches. In addition, a pedestrian crossing will be installed between Mayfield and the Dalnacraig playing fields.

The precise costs of the project are yet to be finalised but are likely to be in the region of £1.2 million. It is hoped that details of the project can be finalised in time to allow construction to start in April, with the facilities available for use from August this year. If necessary,

and to avoid undue disruption to the programme of sporting events, construction will be delayed until spring 2012, although even this will still allow for completion in time for the start of Session in August 2012.

Rector Dr John Halliday said: "As you can imagine we are very excited indeed by this project. We have great confidence in the future of the High School at a fascinating time for the city generally and are pleased to invest in developing state of the art facilities for hockey and other sports. We have a proud sporting tradition and this will help us stay at the forefront of schools sport in Scotland.

"Our aim is to ensure that the city's excellent reputation for hockey is reflected at school level so in addition to our own pupils benefitting from this we hope that we will be able to welcome clubs from the area, and indeed host representative matches at Dalnacraig. The High School FP Rugby Club already hosts first-class rugby at Mayfield so now they will have competition for attention from the hockey teams across the road! Not only that, this move enables us to create two additional first rate rugby pitches, and also develop the cricket facilities at the western end of Dalnacraig. It's a win-win situation for the school and the community."



Integrated Curriculum



Eco-award for pupils

Pupils have successfully completed the Bronze award in the international Eco-schools programme.

The programme aims to make environmental concerns a central part of the life and ethos of the school, and requires pupils to work closely with staff and senior management to work on green issues. With the support of staff, pupils are now working towards the Silver award, and examining the topics of waste minimization and energy use.

£500 for Barnardos

Senior pupils have raised £500 in aid of a Barnardo's project for Dundee primary-aged children.



The money has been raised by Form 6 pupils in the School's Interact club, a junior branch of Rotary International, through various initiatives including a Christmas candy cane delivery service.

The money will go towards Barnardo's SPACE (Supporting Primary Age Children Early) project, which supports Dundee primary-aged children who are experiencing significant social, emotional or behavioural difficulties at school or at home.

Holocaust Memorial Day



Pupils in F1 and F2 marked the international Holocaust Memorial Day recently, lighting a candle and sharing a moment of reflection and remembrance.

Fifteen members of the School's lunchtime reading club discussed the impact of the Holocaust and shared their hopes for the future, before writing messages on green paper leaves, as a symbol of what may grow in the future, for inclusion in a display.

L6 Christmas Card

The L6 Enterprise team has raised £500 for the World Wildlife Fund through its sale of Christmas cards.

Designs for the cards were chosen from entries submitted by Junior pupils, with four winning entries selected for inclusion in the pack.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

55 pupils recently completed their Bronze and Silver level Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

The pupils, most of whom are in F4 or F5, each completed a programme of activities and projects, with sections on volunteering, skills development and physical fitness, as well as completing an expedition.

The Duke of Edinburgh scheme is among the most popular school activities, with 86 pupils currently working towards their Bronze award, 56 towards Silver and 28 towards Gold.

Congratulations to all those achieving an award. A full list of names is available on the website.

Performing Arts



Piano Day

More than 100 pupils have taken to the stage in the School's annual celebration of piano music.

Every pupil who has lessons in school took part in the Piano Day, including a number of seven-year-old L3 pupils who started lessons just six months ago. The event consisted of Performance Classes for all age groups, followed in the evening by recitals for both Junior and Senior pupils.

Our Country's Good

The School is delighted to announce that the end of year theatrical production will be *Our Country's Good* by Timberlake Wertenbaker.

Highly theatrical, often funny and at times dark and disturbing it is the story of convicts and Royal Marines sent to Australia in 1789 as part of the first penal colony there. It follows Second Lieutenant Ralph Clark's attempts to put on a production of the restoration comedy 'The Recruiting Officer', the first play ever to be staged in that country – with only two copies of the text, a cast of convicts and one leading lady who may be about to be hanged...

£3,500 for Tayside Children with Cancer and Leukaemia

Pupils have raised a total of £3,500 for TCCL.



"This is a great day for all our piano-playing pupils to show off their talents, whatever level they are working at," said piano teachers Stephen Armstrong and Avril Evans, speaking before the event. "They have worked extremely hard, and for some of our younger pupils in particular this will be their first performance in public, so this is a fantastic opportunity for them to grow in confidence as performers. This event is great fun for everyone involved, and we hope that everyone involved finds it both enjoyable and useful."

The money was raised during the school's annual Christmas Concert, which took place in the Caird Hall in December. More than 400 pupils took part in the event.

Jean Melville, Head of Music at the High School, said: "Our Christmas Concert is always a wonderful opportunity for us to support worthwhile causes. This is an incredible amount of money to raise in a single evening, and I hope that TCCL find it useful."

Musical success for Alasdair

Following an audition for the NYJOS (National Youth Jazz Orchestra of Scotland), Senior School pupil Alasdair Rennet has again been asked to attend the summer school at Strathallan.

In addition, Alasdair has been offered a place in the Saxophone Ensemble which will be playing at the opening of the 2012 World Saxophone Championships taking place in St. Andrews next year. Well done, Alasdair!

Ski success for Buchan boys

Brothers Fraser Buchan (F2) and Scott Buchan (L7) have had a successful season on the slopes, with a clutch of medals gathered at races across Europe.

At the Anglo Scottish races in France Fraser achieved 3rd overall in the slalom and 5th in the giant slalom against a field of 130 boys. In the same competition, Scott achieved 4th in his age group in the slalom. From France the boys travelled to Champoluc, Italy, to take part in the British Alpine Race Ski Club event, where Fraser achieved 2nd overall in the championships, and Scott again managed 4th place in his age group – outstanding results for both boys against a very strong field.

As a result of his success, Fraser was reselected for the British Children's Ski Team and will travel to Abetone, Italy, for a race during the Easter holidays.

Towards the end of January, Scott travelled to Switzerland and achieved 2nd in the Welsh Championships at Champéry, and 1st in the Children 1 age group at the British Schoolboys competition in Meringen, where he was representing HSD.

Well done to both boys on your successes so far, and we wish you the very best of luck for the rest of the season!

Midlands hockey selection

Six Senior School pupils were recently selected to play in the Midlands hockey squads. Of these, F4 pupils Susan Graham and Georgina Black played both indoor and outdoor hockey with the under 16s and remain in training with an under 16 Scottish squad. Congratulations to the girls.

Brewin Dolphin Scottish Cup

The High School's u16 rugby team made it through to the quarter finals of the Brewin Dolphin Scottish Schools Cup at the end of January.

The team played well in a close-fought match against Edinburgh Academy, only to lose out in the closing minutes of the game. Points were scored for HSD by Alastair Bankhead and Harris Brown, with the game ending 25-12.

Tributes and passings

Steve Barbieri 1923-2011

Steve attended the High School during the 1930s, before signing up with the Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm in 1942. On his return to Dundee, he joined his father's business, the Washington Soda Fountain, before marrying his first wife Dorothy Wallis in 1946. After Dorothy's death, Steve married Barbara Gove in 1968, and set up the Chrome Café in Union Street and the Chrome Rail pub in the Nethergate, on the site that was later to become Marks & Spencer. He retired in 1982 at the age of 59, and after the death of his wife Barbara in 1988 he took up Bridge, where he met his third wife Daphne in 1991. During his retirement Steve enjoyed shooting and fishing, and he was an active member of Abertay Probus. He is survived by Daphne, sons Stephen and David, Daphne's sons Stewart and Simon and six grandchildren. *Steve died on 12th January 2011.*

Denys Carnegie 1926-2011

Denys, a former director of Dundee United, died in January this year at the age of 84 after a long illness. After being educated at the High School, Denys' links with the local community were further strengthened through his involvement with Panmure Golf Club and St Luke's and Queen Street Church in Broughty Ferry, as well as through his involvement with the family construction firm, John Carnegie & Son Ltd. He was also a very good cricketer and retained his links with the school as captain of the Dundee High School Cricket Club, where he was also secretary in the 1950s. Denys is survived by his wife Mori, sons Scott and Grant and grandchildren Glenn, Sasha, Gilly and Lorna. *Denys died on 10th January 2011.*

Douglas Scott (Class of 1965) 1946-2010

Doug was a pupil from 1959-1965 and made many friends here, especially with his love of sport. He played cricket for the 1st XI for several seasons and captained the 2nd X1 rugby team. He also loved football and with some classmates played for the Riverside Wanderers. After school, he studied architecture at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and had a very successful career as an architect, working in Nigeria, Canada and Singapore. In 1996 he retired to France with his wife Pam (nee Petrie, also an FP and a former classmate) where he rekindled his love of golf. He also took up writing and had his first novel, *The Chosen*, published in 2009. *Doug died in France on 2nd July 2010.*

Ronald Campbell Farquharson (Class of 1938) 1920-2011

Ronald Farquharson was one of a family of four children who attended the School. After leaving St Andrews University, he served in India, Burma and the Far East with the Royal Engineers during the Second World War, attaining the rank of lieutenant colonel. Ronald was then appointed resident engineer at Dundee Port Authority and oversaw the construction of the Queen Elizabeth before spending the next 20 years as a consulting engineer on projects across Scotland and Northern Ireland. He retired in 1985. His interests included golf and angling and he was a founder member of Claverhouse Rotary Club. Mr Farquharson was awarded the Paul Harris fellowship for his contribution to international understanding. He was also a member of the Bonnetmakers Craft, one of the Nine Incorporated Trades of Dundee, and was a founder trustee of Dundee Heritage Trust. *Ronald died on 1st February 2011.*

Catherine McLeod (Class of 1972) 1954-2010

Catherine joined the school in 1969 and proved so popular that she became Deputy Head Girl in the 1971-1972 session. Her passion was languages and in particular Italian. Her life as a Civil Servant at the Department of Energy in London moved her closer to her beloved Italy where, as a lifelong AS Roma football fan she was attended as many matches as she was able. *Catherine sadly died on 19th July 2010 and is sadly missed by her family.*

George Welsh (Class of 1926) 1908-2011

George was our oldest FP at almost 103 years old. We were delighted to have a visit from him last Easter when he told us stories about the school and many of the teaching staff from the 1920's! George had a passion for cricket and was at school when the cricket pavilion was erected at Dalnacraig. That love of sport continued throughout his lifetime and when he retired in the 60's he took up golf and until a few years ago was a regular player at Callander Golf Club. *Sadly George died on 21st February this year.*

Louise Barrie nee Gabriel (Class of 1944) 1926-2011

Louise Barrie died peacefully at her home in Broughty Ferry on the 14th January, 2011. She was a Leng Medallist and in her final year at school played the part of the Fairy Queen in G&S's *Iolanthe* to great acclaim. In 1944 she joined the WRNS and following training was sent to the headquarters of British codebreaking at Bletchley Park. She married childhood sweetheart and classmate Mudie Barrie, and they had two children both FPs, Wendy who lives in Dundee and Peter who lives in Norwich."

Sport

Foundation/Alumni News

Dundee Legends

FP Kenny Ross has published a book on his lifelong passion, Dundee FC. 'Dundee Legends' features biographies of the team's best players since 1893. The book is the second from Kenny, whose 2003 debut work, 'Dundee: Champions of Scotland' tells the story of the Club's Scottish League Championship triumph in 1962.

Old Boys' Annual Dinner

The Old Boys' Dinner 2011 will take place on Friday 18 November at the Invercarse Hotel. Each year, around 100 Old Boys attend the dinner, which is an ideal opportunity to keep in touch with old friends. Further details will be published on the website in due course.

Foundation Garden Party

On the 19th June 2011, Dr and Mrs Andrew Reid have kindly agreed to host a Strawberries and Fizz Garden Party at their home in Longforgan. The event is planned from 2-4 pm and guests will have the pleasure of strolling around the Reid's beautiful garden, meeting old and new friends and being entertained with a selection of light music by High School's Avril Evans. Tickets are £10 from the Development Office on 01382 220056 or development@highschoolofdundee.org.uk Please come along and join in the celebrations for the Foundation which over the last ten years, has helped to raise money for the Mayfield Sports Centre, as well as assisting with the financing of pupil bursaries.

Golf Day

Following last year's successful event plans have been made for a second Foundation Golf Competition on Tuesday 30th August 2011. The event called Drive for Dough is to be held at the Scotsraig Golf Club in Tayport, Fife, starting with a light lunch and then the competition in the afternoon. At close of play competitors are invited to a buffet supper, auction and the presentation of prizes by FP Andy Nicol. Entry is £240 for a team of four players and includes a round of golf, lunch and supper as well as great deal of camaraderie and fun. If you are a golfer, this is an event not to be missed. Application forms are available from the Development Team on 01382 220056 or development@highschoolofdundee.org.uk

HSD Community



Photography competition

First prize in this year's Photography competition has gone to F6 pupil Kasia Thomson (winning entry pictured.) The competition attracted a large number of entries this year, with staff and pupils voting for their favourite entry. Second place went to Ryan Wilson of F2, and third to Tom Hayes of F1. Winner of the staff competition was Miss Macleod. A gallery of all entries and winners is available on the website.

Burns Supper



The School community celebrated Burns Night with a supper in the nearby Chambers Suite in the former Chamber of Commerce building. Almost a hundred F6 pupils and staff gathered for a traditional dinner of haggis, neeps and tatties, followed by traditional readings, poetry and Scottish country dancing.

L5 Burns Supper



L5 pupils took part in a Burns Challenge Day, complete with Burns Supper, as part of their work on Language. The pupils spent the morning participating in themed activities for art, maths and geography, before the supper in the afternoon. Senior School pupil Hannah Robb piped in the Haggis, carried by L5 pupil Hamish Birse-Stewart-Bell. Mrs Vannet addressed the Haggis, and pupils delivered the Selkirk Grace and toasts to the laddies and lassies. Every pupil had an opportunity to try the haggis, before the afternoon's programme of bagpiping, Scottish dancing and singing, sword dancing and a rendition of Auld Lang Syne.

World Debating Championships come to Dundee

The High School is among the hosts for this summer's World Schools Debating Championship, taking place in Dundee between 16-26 August. 48 national teams will participate in this annual tournament, bringing nearly 400 guests to the city, with each team made up of the nation's five best debaters of school age. A full report on the event will follow in the next issue.



inspiring education

Euclid Crescent
Dundee DD1 1HU
Tel: 01382 202921
highschoolofdundee.org.uk

Contact the Editor

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