



Devonport High School

No. 90

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No. 154 – December 2005

December 1945

The Devonport High School Magazine.

No. 90.

DECEMBER, 1945

Editor: L.W. TUCKER
Sub-Editor: D. PARSONS

(All contributions for publication should be addressed to the Editors, Devonport High School Magazine, c/o the Headmaster, Devonport High School, ; and should be written legibly, and on one side of foolscap paper only)

Editorial.

Last July the School bade, what was for most of us, a regretful farewell to Penzance – regretful for many and varied reasons. The majority of us had become quite fond of our “place of exile,” to which we were at first so indifferent, after being hustled off from our homes. However, I am sure we have all treasured memories of Penzance and distract. We can only hope that Penzance, too, will remember us kindly, and, in the summer, miss the familiar sight of D.H.S. with manly bosom bared, and sporting an amazing variety of “shorts.”

A pleasant chapter – one is tempted to say the most pleasant chapter – in the history of the School thus came to a close. We have, in a sense, been demobbed – we have returned from our wartime way of life to the normal routine of a secondary school. Not only have we received a new building more fitting for a modern school, but more importantly we have received a “gratuity” of over three hundred “new” boys and many new members of the staff. To these we extend a sincere and hearty welcome.

The School, too, like nations, has its post-war problems, and the one immediately facing us is that of the fusing of the two elements of the School into one. This is not merely a matter of actual practice, but one of feeling; we must regard ourselves not as Penzance boys on the one hand, and emergency School boys on the other, but as Devonport High School, a strong and united whole.

Just as England must regain its position among the nations, so must we regain our former position amongst the schools of Plymouth. Into this task we must put every ounce of energy, from the proverbial “Great Men” of the Sixth down to the “Babes” of the first form.

This post-war period will not be easy, and we can have no passengers – it must be a perfect example of co-operation of boys with staff, with everyone pulling his weight.

A good school is not one which produces budding geniuses by the dozen, nor yet one which is composed of muscle-bound young Titans – we must aim for the golden mean. Our School should be a many-sided institution, where healthy, intelligent pupils work and play in congenial surroundings.

Devonport High School For Boys



School Magazine 2005

**WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO
The Old Boys Association
Pepper Communications
Dr. Pettit**

The Debonport High School Magazine.

No. 154.

DECEMBER 2005

Editor: P. WILCOX
Sub-Editor: A. HALLEY

(All contributions for publication have hopefully been acknowledged with the true author's name. If not, please accept our apologies. If that is not good enough, all written complaints to the Editor and all verbal complaints to Sub-Editor)

Editorial.

"Education is when you read the fine print. Experience is what you get if you don't"

Peter Seeger

When I first applied to be on the magazine team for 2005, I did not have a clue how much it meant to the school. I even thought they had only started making DHSB magazines since the 1990's. However, after being shown into the Headmaster's office and noticing that he had (in pristine condition) every magazine from every year since even before the 20th century, I realised that maybe the school did care about it more than I had expected. It was also the moment that I realised that if, in 20 years time, someone took a look at the even more extensive collection, the missing 2005 edition would stick out like a sore thumb ; and the slip of paper saying 'sorry, but the football was on TV last night' would not suffice either. So, with that in mind, we began our journey to making a magazine.

Now here's a tip for all you budding DHSB journalists and editors : do not let the front cover of your magazine get the better of you. A month into production, I and many others had spent the first 30 days fascinated by what it could look like. I had ideas coming from left and a few from the right and watching each one be tried and tested and knowing one of them may be on the front of over 600 copies of our publication, it, sadly, took over my life. So much so that one day, it occurred to me, that behind this cover were to be over 40 pages of text and pictures. It was a revelation that saved the magazine from being a flop.

Soon, I was getting into full editor mode ; that state you get in when you know that nagging someone for an article for the seventeenth time on one day will probably leave you with two broken legs, but, you just cannot help yourself. As the deadline came nearer, certain people, higher up in the authority

tree of the school, started to ask questions. I and other members of the team tried to answer them all best we could ; hoping it would calm down any growing hysteria that, for once, was not in our minds. With one week left till our work was to be sent off to be printed, we were working flat out (flat out on the sofa... one liners eh?). With the sub-editor barking orders out, and the journalists wondering where he had got the ability to bark from, the magazine, slowly and surely, came together. Finally, a week before it was due to be released to the public, the 154th edition of the DHSB Magazine was completed.

I am writing this editorial, as you may have noticed, minutes before it is sent off to the printers. If there is one thing I have learnt from the experience, then it is to never think that how something looks on the outside is important. It is what is on the inside that counts. Amen.

P. Wilcox - December 2005

The Team

Paul Wilcox (Editor-in-Chief)

Adam Halley (Sub-Editor)

Will Liu (Engineering Specialist)

Tom Ward (Culture Guru)

Will Balsdon (General Writer)

Joe Cunningham (Sports Editor)

and lest we forget...

Simon Webber (Writers Corner)

Mike Neal (Constant Pain)

Messrs. COOMBES,

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Contents

Headmasters Report ...	6-7
Art Trip to London ...	8
Media Studies trip ...	9
Old Boys Association ...	10-12
GCSE Results 2005! ...	13
DHSB Engineering News ...	14-19
The Story of Emergency High ...	20-21
Engineering College ...	22
Vive La Vie France ...	23-25
Writers Corner with Simon Webber ...	26-28
Duke of Edinburgh ...	29-30
Sport ...	31-36
Girls Football! ...	37
True Champion ...	38
Visit the Gym! ...	39
Oliver Twist at DHSB ...	40



Headmasters Report

December 2005

2005 has been another successful year for the school with fine GCSE and A-level results helping the boys to secure the opportunities that reward their hard work. We have also made further progress in the development of maths, science and technology teaching as a key element of our Specialist Engineering programme. To balance this academic work has been the ongoing expansion of extra-curricular opportunities for the boys: expeditions; cultural trips within the UK and overseas; chess and maths teams 'away fixtures'; 'F1' model car racing; school productions and lots of sports fixtures. The keys to all of this are the members of staff who are generous with their expertise, time and energy, and I am pleased to acknowledge this and to thank them.

These thanks come in a year when we have said farewell to three prominent long-serving members of the teaching staff. Mr Farrow retired after 40 years as Head of Music at the school – 40 years that were summarised in a surprise "This is your life" that family and friends arranged for him at the end of the summer term. We learnt much about our energetic and charismatic colleague during the evening, but the summary from one guest that stays in mind is "Trefor - 60, going on 16!" What a compliment to his energy and commitment after 40 years teaching! Mr Watson left us after over thirty years at the school and his contribution to the maths department, both as a teacher and Head of Department, was recognised, as was his part in maintaining competitive tennis in the school.

The most senior master retiring was Mr Faulkner who had been the Deputy Head at the school for 20 years. His prominence in the school was based on an exceptional commitment and loyalty, an extraordinary capacity for work and a willingness to put his hands to anything that needed doing. It would be impossible to list all his achievements, but examples range from helping the PTFA in many ways (putting in the wiring for the first telephone system in the school and providing the commentary for the annual fireworks) to leading the bid team as they wrote the successful application for Specialist Engineering Status. He helped my predecessor, Mr Peck, find and establish our very special residential centre in Uzel, Brittany, and over the subsequent thirteen years, ran and maintained the centre and directed the enriching trips that over 4,000 boys benefited from. More recently he demonstrated an entrepreneurial streak in establishing local management of our catering when we had built the Gibbons Refectory. And all the time he was an impressive teacher of RE, disciplinarian, a respected pastoral figure and a significant member of the school's Leadership Group.

I wish them a long and happy retirement.

As I look to the future I am delighted by the impact that our 21 new members of staff who joined us in September are already making. Leading these developments are my deputies Dr Rintoul (in charge of the curriculum and timetable) and Mrs Bowden (who oversees our increasingly supportive pastoral programme) and our two new Assistant Headteachers, Mr

Adams and Mr Fletcher, who have a focussed responsibility on Teaching and Learning. This means that they are ensuring that lessons are purposeful, that homework is relevant, that the teachers training needs are met, that the pupils are working hard and clearly understand what they need to learn to be successful. We have a school-school focus on behaviour so that the boys understand that courtesy and hard work are keys to life success. To support this, the opportunities for travel, adventure, sport and participation in a wide range of activities continue to enrich the lives of us all.

On the capital project front, we are on the brink of commissioning the works on the new Foulston Sixth Form Centre, a £300,000+ project to give our older students an impressive base. We are also well in to the design for the theatre complex that will be the next priority, to convert the old Edgcumbe Hall and stage in to two versatile modern performance spaces. The Devonport High School for Boys Trust will be launching an appeal for this exciting £350,000 project in the Spring.

As we come to the end of 2005 I would also like to thank the parents and friends of the school for their support and encouragement. To illustrate this support I am pleased to report that the PTFA have reached their target and have just bought us a new minibus (to replace our K registered bus) that will be delivered in January. I am also grateful for the support of the local community, schools, the LEA and employers who, in so many ways, support our work.

Dr N M Pettit December 2005.



Art trip to London

Mrs. Cushing organized another fabulous art trip up to merry old London during October this term. The group visited both the Tate Gallery and the British Museum, both in the center of London, with congestion tax, red buses and a Starbucks on every corner.

The Tate gallery contains mostly classical work, the sort of art you would NEVER catch me doing. This stuff actually manages to keep the paint on the canvas. All the pieces were very neat and tidy, proper shading, nice use of colour and all that. But I'm afraid with no Art History they would only manage a C grade at A-Level. The Tate also included works that have won the Turner Prize in the past, but us, being silly students, got a bit lost and couldn't find the Turner room. Which was a shame, the Turner prizewinners are supposedly quite good. The British Museum was a lot bigger than the Tate, and had some interesting artifacts, including some real mummies. The museum was separated into separate sections depending on what culture the artifacts came from. Some of the most interesting pieces on display were from the ancient civilizations and the Far East, plenty of dead people, big swords and fancy costumes. (Not much art in the museum, clues in the name) we also got very lost trying to find the back door out onto Starbucks. But hush, Starbucks was out of bounds.

However, the absolute highlight of the trip, and come to think of it, any school trip so far, had to be the coach journey entertainment. All credit to Mrs. Cushing, she planned a really good trip, but nothing compares to 8 6th formers, 3 acoustic guitars, 2 bongo drums and a harmonica, all playing in unison, lyrics and all. Songs ranged from the old classics, Johnny Cash with Ring of Fire, I Feel Just Like A Child by someone I don't know, to the more recent stuff by James Blunt. Definitely the best part of the day, having a troupe of 6th formers, all relatively brilliant musically, singing and clapping and strumming and blowing for a 5 hour coach journey definitely made the whole day more worthwhile. Its funny how I can go from writing a piece on the art trip to London to commenting on the musical prowess of our 6th formers in less than 3 paragraphs isn't it? Mrs. Cushing: next time you organize an art trip, bring some musical instruments!

Tom Ward



Media Studies Trip

Tom Ward's trip to Uzel for media went how well?

In the first week of November a group of year 12 media students went with 4 teachers on a trip to the school's house in Uzel, France, to prepare us for the indecently huge amount of coursework that is to be done over the Christmas break. Throughout the week each group had to direct, shoot, and edit three short films – two drama pieces and a music video.

The week would have been a complete success, had it not been for a lack of experience with shooting a proper film, with aim to get top marks in the media side of production, not just to make a funny film. (Although the majority of the pieces were completely hilarious, especially the music videos). But when you consider the aim of a music video is to make the viewer buy the music, and I'd buy a CD if the video was as funny as some of the pieces we made, I can't see how we didn't receive top marks.) This lack of experience, coupled with a couple of Apple computers that brought many of the students close to tears, meant that the week was extremely stressful, with everyone rushing around and staying up late to meet deadlines with the teachers piling on extra work just when we don't need it. So really, it was your ordinary school week only with less uniform and more Français.

Each group produced some fantastic pieces, with highlights being Will Balsdon's sublime effort with the western-themed nightclub scene, and Alex Hutchings with his superbly charismatic performance for his music video. Surprisingly, neither of these filmmakers picked up any awards at the prestigious Uzel Academy Awards ceremony. Maybe the corrupt judges fixed the outcome from the start.

Unfortunately, most of the group left Uzel feeling disheartened at having produced such "low quality" material in the eyes of the teachers, and although a lot of lessons were learned in terms of editing, shooting, and staying away from any sign of an Apple Mac, the overall feeling as we left France on the return journey was one of relief that the whole experience was over.

Tom Ward

Old Boys Association

An update by the Old Boys Association

DHS Old Boys' Association

President	The Headmaster, Dr Nic Pettit
Chairman	David Cole
Treasurer	Tom Orchard
Membership & Social Secretary	Peter Fielding
Minute Secretary	Alan Porter

Chairman's Letter

Internet and Website Contacts

Both the school website www.dhsb.org and the Old Boys' Forum website www.dhsob.co.uk are still proving useful. Peter Fielding finds the Friends Reunited facility increasing useful for notifying Old Boys of meetings and general publicity. Currently efforts are being made by the Membership Secretary to establish a more comprehensive Old Boys database. His home address is 22 Berry Park Road, Plymstock, Plymouth PL9 9AG. His e-mail address is pete-pam@pfielding.fsbusiness.co.uk. DHS Old Boy ties at £12.50 each (incl postage and packing) can be obtained from him by cheque (not cash) made payable to DHSOBA.

Social Events

The Dinner Dance on 25 September 2004 to mark the 75th anniversary of the DHSOB Rugby Football Club was highly successful, thanks especially to Geoff Simpson, Club Secretary. A similar number of 120 Old Boys from various parts of the country attended the Reunion held on 30 April 2005 in the School Refectory. This commemorated the school's return to Plymouth from Penzance in July 1945 and featured (on film) the subsequent filling in of Stonehouse Creek. Particular thanks are due to the Headmaster, Sheila DaSilva (nee Cresswell), John Yates, Peter Williams and his wife, and Ron Faulkner assisted by an MC and several student helpers for organising this event.

A provisional date of Saturday 29 April 2006 (during a bank holiday weekend) has been proposed for a Reunion to commemorate the 110th anniversary of the founding of the school in 1896. The School Refectory may be used with a suitable speaker to accompany the dinner. An initial deposit of £5.00 may be requested to firm up commitments.

Many Old Boys attended a memorable 'This is Your Life' style send off for Trefor Farrow on 15 July 2005 at the school to celebrate his retirement as Head of Music.

Annual General Meeting 7 July 2005

A disappointing number of Old Boys attended this meeting in the School Refectory. Existing committee members were willing to carry on, but involvement by younger members is clearly needed. Once again Jack Parry and a member of the Angle family represented the 'old stalwarts'.

Sponsorship

On Speech Day, 15 December 2004, two DHSOB Association prizes of £50 each were awarded to students who displayed all round improvement during the school year. As approved by the OB Association committee on 19 May 2005 the sports sponsorship to DHSOB Rugby Football Club has been increased from £100 to £150 per annum to reflect the addition of a 3rd XV playing regularly, plus an under 16 junior section now established.

On 22 September 2005 the OB Association committee approved a new award of a £50 prize to 'the most promising school athlete of the year' (irrespective of age) in order to strengthen the school's commitment to the 'Sports Mark'.

The School Magazine

On 29 September 2005 the Chairman met Sarah Nicholson (Headmaster's Secretary) and students of the editorial team at the Refectory in order to discuss a business plan for the magazine. The related contents, layout and funding, plus selling factors were also considered. An emphasis was placed on the need for financial accountability, one member of the Editorial Team offered to act as Honorary Treasurer. Both he and the Editor in Chief are due to attend the DHSOB Association committee meeting on 10 November 2005 (and later in January 2006) in the Headmaster's Office in order to discuss matters arising.

Obituary

Jeffery H Lakeman

It is with regret that we report the death of Jeff Lakeman in the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, on 2 June, aged 74 years.

Jeff joined DHS at Penzance in September 1941 and left school in 1948. He represented the school at both Rugby and Cricket and was an active member of the Old Boys Rugby Club whilst living in Plymouth.

His first job was with Plymouth City Council but shortly after returning from National Service in the REME he joined National Provincial Bank in 1953, serving in branches at Plymouth, Liskeard, Taunton and Swindon.

Early in 1963 he began looking for work in Child Care Services, gaining experience in an Approved School at Apethorpe. After a training course at Selly Oak College, Birmingham, he returned to Apethorpe as a Housemaster. He moved to other schools and also to a Remand Home before moving to Sedbury Park School, near Chepstow, as Housemaster in 1973. He remained there until his House was closed in October 1984, when he took early retirement.

Jeff was an active person all his life enjoying rugby, cricket, squash, badminton, jogging, hiking, hill walking, cycling and camping. He was involved in the Scout Movement for many years and most of his holidays between 1959 and 1996 were spent in Scout Camps.

The attendance of a couple of Old Boys at Jeff's funeral was much appreciated by his twin brother and the attendance of some of his former Scouting friends also some of his former Approved School pupils gave an indication that his work in those spheres was successful.

The Lakeman Family

Many Old Boys can remember Jeffery Lakeman during the evacuation period at Penzance, particularly during his stage at the (then) Hotel Royale with his twin brother Peter. We offer our sincere condolences to the Lakeman family in their sad loss.

Thanks and Acknowledgements

Many thanks are due to Dr Nic Pettit, Ms Sharon Davidson (who replaced Mr Jon Starkie on his teaching transfer) and Mrs Sarah Nicholson for their support during the year. Peter Fielding has helped the Association to make significant progress due to his Internet and Website expertise. Alan Porter, Dennis Rowe and Michael Bennett have valiantly soldiered on despite health problems. Tom Orchard has helped to keep the Association financially sound. The credit balance as at 31 March 2005 was £2,362.53.

Thanks are also due to the magazine Editor in Chief and his Editorial Team for producing a well devised and interest reading and for including contributions from the OB Association.

David Cole (1939 – 1947)

If you would like further information on the OBA, you can visit the following:
<http://www.dhsob.co.uk>



GCSE Results 2005!

How did they do it?

This year 99% of all pupils taking GCSE's passed at least five of the exams, with 87% of us gaining at least eight or more. I, as one of the lucky pupils with nine good results gained over the summer, would like to thank all of the teachers whose only goal was seeing us through these examinations and ensuring that we had a decent start to life. (Insert abusive comment about me being a teacher's pet here).

But this phenomenal pass rate also opens the debate of whether our examinations are getting easier, or are the kids getting smarter. I am whole heartedly supportive of the second answer, the exams in June took all of our mental ability to see through properly, and many of us walked out of Hansom Sports Hall completely knackered and in need of a cool beer. Did I say beer? I meant cola, of course. The question is, without the help of the school staff over the past five years, would we have walked out and gone "oh my goodness gracious me, I've failed"? I know I would have. And yes, I do have myself a bit of an inferiority complex.

Back to the point I was trying to make, I don't think many students in my year would have passed with such flying colours as they did without the help of some superb teaching and academic supplies that made us all the super-smart, well spoken, rule abiding members of society we are today. Cough.

So, next time you decide to have a go at your math's teacher because he's set you six exercises from chapter 11 on complex algorithms, bite your tongue and try to realise that it all adds up in the end to some rather smashing exam results which you WILL need in the future, and a good night down the pub celebrating. Pub? Youth club, of course.

With thanks to all the teachers who helped me through lower and middle school, I wasn't the best of pupils but I know when to appreciate what you do.

Tom Ward



DHSB Engineering News

William Liu gives us the inside on the drill bits...

Engineering

“The mission of Devonport High School for Boys is to pursue academic excellence and to nurture the skills and gifts of individual in preparation for future success and happiness.

As an Engineering College we shall strive to be at the forefront of technological initiative within education in the 21st Century. We will become a UK leader in the approach to engineering practice for young people, preparing them for what industry sees as the future requirement. Our principal aims are to improve the quality of teaching, learning and raise standards for all our pupils and those in our partner schools.

We shall enable pupils to experience an original, exciting and creative climate for learning with an engineering focus underpinned by a broad and balanced curriculum.

We shall seek to actively promote innovative, integrated practice in the teaching and learning of applied science, science and technology that leads to an understanding and vision of engineering”.

This was the engineering mission statement set by the school in 2003. Looking back, it is amazing to see how much progress the school has made in the engineering sector. In reality, it not just the specialist areas such as Maths, science and design and technology which benefited, but it raised standards through out the school and enhanced all areas of curriculums. All this was achieved by improvements in the following 3 areas.

New Facilities

In the systems and control laboratories, there is now a fantastic new array of hi-tech equipments, especially CAD-CAM.

Mainly to aid the year 11 and 6th form systems and control coursework, the school has purchased 2 lasers cutter costing £30,000 together. Although this seems

a ludicrous price for a piece of school equipment, it has infinitely saved time. Previously, cutting out large designs using saws would take hours; the laser cutter can do this in 5 minutes, as well as providing a professional finish (which is unachievable using a saw). This piece of equipment is the main reason for the high marks achieved in systems and control projects over the last year.

A large number of new and faster computers were purchased over the last 2 years. These greatly increased the efficiency of the students' work.

Also, over the last year or so, every single classroom in the school has been fitted with projector, which can be linked directly to a computer. This introduced a new high-tech style of teaching in the classrooms, thoroughly raising its standards.

New Courses

For the 2nd year running systems and control is an option available at A-level. Generally, high grades are difficult to achieve in this subject, as it is such a broad and new subject. Although with our highly trained staff, backed a superb range of equipments, I can't see why we can't achieve the best grades. Knowing they have every chance to succeed, many of the current 6th form systems and control students are already taking on extra-curriculum engineering activities such as the Engineering Education scheme.

New Opportunities

The Engineering Education Scheme

This year, 7 of our 6th formers decided to participate in the Engineering Education Scheme. This participation offers students a unique opportunity to experience at first hand and in some depth, the challenge and excitement of a career in professional science, engineering and technology. The students will meet and work with practicing industrialists on an issue relating to the company's operating practice. The aim of this scheme is to help its participants in choosing a career in science, engineering and technology-a professional that requires many highly intelligent young graduates to design and create an environment fit for the 21st century.

Our 7 6th formers are split into 2 teams, each working with a different organization to produce a unique project, which will be assessed at the end by a group of engineers. The teams will be expected to present the project formally and informally to a range of people. The quality and sophistication of the project will determine the award given to each team.

Team 1(Working with DML)

The challenge presented by DML is that the bottom of ships at the dock will require constant inspection to ensure that it is in good state. Previously, this was done by divers. However this technique of inspection is highly impractical and can often be dangerous. Therefore the team is asked to build a ROV (Remote operated vehicle), which will go underwater and do the checking on the base of the ship. The project is only at its primary stage, and only basic ideas are presented. However, it is confirmed that a camera will be installed on the ROV, and powerful thrusters will be used to drive the ROV. Generally this is a highly sophisticated project that will require in-depth planning, application of numerous scientific laws and precise mathematical calculation. One area that the team will probably find difficult to build is the ballast tank (controls the floating and sinking of the ROV), where the operation of the weight and the up thrust must absolutely be spot on. Or else the team may have a very different challenge; fishing the ROV from the bottom of the dock!

This exact challenge was presented to a 6th form team of DHSB 4 years ago. All 4 members of the team went to Cambridge, to read engineering. Yet they never completed the project owing to its complexity. It seems that the current team will have some tough water ahead, although backed with brand new equipments and facilities; there is no reason why they can't achieve their goal.

Team 2(working with Gleason Corporation)

For the second time in two years, Gleason Corporation has supported the school in the Engineering Education scheme. This year the challenge they presented to our second team was to create a display cabinet demonstrating how a differential works. This is not just any cabinet, but one which co-ordinates electronics as well as mechanical operations. In certain aspects it is a Systems and Control project. This display cabinet will be placed in the Gleason's workshop in Plymouth. It will be used as an interactive display piece, which introduces and shows the visitors how the gears are made in a differential, as well as telling them about the machines which cut them.

The basic idea of this project will be to have two monitors on left and right side of the cabinet showing videos of how the gears are cut and the machines that cut them. The videos will be synchronized with displays on the differentials. Another idea is to cut hole into the gears on the differential and insert LEDs into them, which will be connected to a central circuit. The circuit will be precisely timed, so when the video is showing for example, how a bevel gear is cut, the LED inserted on the bevel gear in the differential will light up, allowing viewers to link the video to the actual gear.

The Arkwright Scholarship

It all started around November last year, when I was still in year 11. Timothy Morris, then a year 12, came into our year group assembly and introduced us to the Arkwright Scholarship Award. Tim is first DHSB student to be awarded the Arkwright scholarship. This is a prestigious award given to those young people every year, who are ready to show commitment towards engineering, science and Mathematics related areas. Along with the award, every scholar receives £500 over 2 years. This money is to be used for educational purposes. As well as this, the school also receives £400.

The process of selection for this award is very similar to that for particular job. The first thing I had to do was fill in an application form, which asks you questions on why you would like to be an Arkwright Scholar. The questions require you to explain your inspirations in engineering, and also ask you to explain the range of skills that you possess. From this, The Arkwright committee will determine whether a candidate's interest in engineering is genuine.

Then after a small percentage of the candidates are eliminated, I was then asked to take test, which is engineering and design related. Although it resembles greatly to a system and control paper, it is more challenging in context of creativity rather than knowledge. In simple terms: it assesses the way you analyze a problem, and the quality and detail of your solution. A selection of questions is available, so the candidate can specialize in a particular area which they are more confident with (i.e. electronics, mechanical).

Around February, the Arkwright committee gave me feedbacks on the test. They informed me that I passed and that I will be called up to an interview. I did not really know how I should feel after I received the letter. On paper, the test would seem like the most difficult of all the selection processes, hence I had a certain right to feel relieved that I passed this obstacle. However, an interview can be very probing, and the necessity to come up with an ideal response to questions is key to successful interviews. The fact that it was my first formal interview only made matters more difficult.

The actual interview was at Bath's University during a half term. Once I arrived, I was put into a group with several other candidates, and we were taken around the University to look around the technology and their new facilities. On another day I would have found the tour fascinating, but on that particular day, I would be lying if I said I enjoyed it. For me it only prolonged the build up to the interview, and succeeded only in creating more tension inside me. Looking around at some of the other candidates, I think they probably felt the same way.

My interview was allocated to the afternoon, when we were put into groups to build a small-scale team project. One person from each group would then be called up to be interviewed with different panels.

I was interviewed by 2 people, both of whom were friendly to a certain degree. Although they often had smiles on their faces, I could tell that they were analyzing

every single word I was saying. The formality was incredible, and the interviewers would place questions upon responses, followed by consistent note making. The thing which really aggravated me was fact I didn't know if their notes were positive or negative. The questions were mainly on my answers to the test that I took. They also asked in huge detail the range of engineering abilities I put down in my application, as well as my career aspirations. Although I answered most the questions under severe pressure, I felt overall at the end that it was a job well done.

In March I was informed that I was awarded the Arkwright scholarship. Fortunately enough the letter arrived just a few days before my Systems and Control exam, and consequently it gave me a huge boost for the exam.

Overall of the experience I have gained some invaluable experience in interview techniques, and most importantly, I now know that I have the ability to perform under pressure. Personally this experience has given me a huge boost in confidence and I now have a taste of the sort of atmosphere that I could expect at a job interview. Of course, not forgetting the 500 pounds, which would no doubt help me succeed academically. It seems that over the last two years the school has set increasing expectations in the Arkwright Scholarship award. One student was awarded this prize last year, and two this year. Maybe three next year?

William Liu



DHSB Old Boys **Rugby Football Club**

*An update by the Old Boys
Association*

The 2004/05 season saw the club celebrate its 75th anniversary. The occasion was marked by a dinner dance at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel on September 25th. Many past players attended and a most convivial evening was enjoyed by all. The after dinner speeches took the form of reminiscences from a number of former stars and included numerous amusing anecdotes.

On the field, the Club went from strength to strength. In Devon League One the first team improved throughout the season and, with a win against table topping South Molton in the final match, securing a mid table position. The second team won the local merit table again and third team successfully managed a limited fixture list. The newly formed youth section, Stonehouse Sharks, made good progress and is the basis of the clubs future. Over twenty members of the club now have a coaching qualification.

Off the field, a number of social events were organized including end-of-season awards dinner at the Stonehouse Creek Leisure & Social Club. This is now firmly established as our after match home and is a superb facility where we have been made most welcome. The "Little Britain" Tour to South Wales provided much amusement if not a great deal of success in the three matches played.

However, the highlight of the season for many was the Plymouth combination finals night at the Rectory, alongside the school. The 1st XV won the coveted Lockie Cup and the 2nd XV made it a clean sweep by winning the Roy Ellis Trophy. Quite an anniversary!

Geoff Simpson, Vice Chairman

The Story of Emergency High

Rear Admiral Gilbert Hitchens explains how Devonport High School for Boys coped with keeping the school routine, during the Second World War

Many of you will know that in 1939 war broke out across Western Europe. Devonport High School for Boys evacuated half of the schools population down to a Penzance boarding school. However, what many do not know is what happened to the other half that stayed in Plymouth; a city which suffered one of the most devastating attacks, from the air, out of the many British cities bombed during the war. Rear Admiral Gilbert Hitchens was one of the many that stayed in his home city during the conflict. "The decision for whether a child stayed or went with the group down to Penzance was entirely up to the families. There was no ordering from the school stating whether you had to go or not"

So as many waved good-bye to Devon, not knowing if they were to return in a month or maybe even a year, Hitchens' first year at Devonport High was to involve many against-the-routine changes. The first, quite major change was where the remaining staff and pupils went to teach and learn, respectively.

Sutton High School for Boys, situated near the centre of the city, had also gone through the same proceedings as Devonport High, and saw half of its staff and pupils evacuated away to St Austell on May 14th 1939. The Headmaster of Devonport High saw the danger of attending a building situated on Albert Road, as it was rather too close to the potential strike site of the Dockyard. Therefore the two schools combined, with Devonport pupils attending Sutton to create what many called the 'Emergency High School'. As it was his first year, Gilbert Hitchens was not able to attend the original school, but as he entered Emergency High for the first time in 1941 he and the other members of Devonport High strolled through the Sutton crowd sporting the true green blazer; for the Headmaster did not want Plymouth to forget Devonport High was still strong within the community. "It is quite interesting to note that we were among a community of people of which one half had a loyalty to the school which we were in whilst one half did not" However, the group happily mixed and soon Hitchens and the rest of the pupils were into a strict routine.

"If there was a Blitz, my family and I would make our way down to the air-raid shelter, and wait till the horrendous noise and explosions stopped. Then at 4am or so, I would go back into the house and have breakfast and get ready for school. Most people travelled by bus or walked each morning to school with the only principle being that you made every effort you could to get to school. I used to have to get from Stoke to what was called the Harvest Hoe, which was the name of a pub right at the centre of Plymouth just where the library is.

Much of the area had been blown up and destroyed but that was where the buses arrived and then moved on to where the next people were waiting. Of course we made sure we had a quick visit to the local sweet shop, which managed to stay running everyday, to the delight of many children” The staff were so adamant as to make school life as normal as possible regardless of the war. They made sure all members of the Emergency High School community met a specific routine.

Homework. A bane of many a students’ life, and it was no different during the war. “I remember a particular incident that summed up the attitude of the school. I was doing homework one evening and our house was bombed. The first thing I looked for among the rubble was the piece of work that I had been working on 10 minutes earlier. You couldn’t walk in the next day and use the excuse ‘Sorry Miss but my house was bombed’. It was not a reason for not doing work in their eyes” However, Hitchens claims that the strict attitude that the school took during the war helped him overcome the horrors occurring in the world. “The experience in school during the war felt no different to if there had been peace across Europe. It definitely helped keep my work at the standard needed to progress in life and I owe it to the staff”. The staff themselves consisted of mainly either women or old males because many young athletic men had headed off into war. “I do specifically remember a young Physics Mistress who caught the attention of us young men. She certainly caught mine, and our Physics scores shot up [laughs]”

By the end of the conflict, in 1945, life seemed normal. However it changed once more and they were moved again to another school. The Penzance half of DHSB merged with the Emergency High half and created a newly renewed Devonport High School for Boys at the old Stoke Military Hospital in Paradise Road.

Paul Wilcox



Engineering College

Drills, Bills and Deals

Engineering

Devonport High School for Boys is a technologically flourishing establishment, always seeking to implement the latest and greatest methods to further the learning of its students.

It is no surprise then that a large number of classrooms are now equipped with digital multiple function projectors, computers with DVD capability and electronic whiteboards that optimise every pupil's learning. There are also five computer suites, two Design and Technology laboratories and our Engineering College status grants the school access to some of the best equipment available. However, with all of this high grade machinery comes the usual problem; money, and with that the bills.

In the last financial year, DHSB's electricity was a staggering £18,000. However, Mr. East, the Estate Manager of school believes that the little things are to blame. One of the main contributors to the school's energy bill is due largely to lights being left on in classrooms when there are no lessons and computers being left on standby during lunch hours. Mr. East and the 57 support staff members of the school often find themselves turning lights off after school has ended. It's not just electricity either. The cost of gas last year was £17,000 and water was £6,000, bringing the total utilities bill to £41,000.

The problem lies in energy awareness. The support staff has propagated campaigns to raise awareness among students about the substantial waste on the campus, but they have had little effect. Mr. East says that the solution may lie in innovations such as automatic lighting systems (already present in the Sports Hall).

In any case, the school and its students are now in the process of levelling itself against the increased energy conservation problems which will arrive with the new features set to arrive in the school.

Adam Halley



Vive La Vie France

Will Balsdon reminisces his time abroad...

Waking up to a bright cloudless day was a promising sign for the days sailing ahead. A brief rendezvous at Plymouth ferry terminal and we were off for the week. Well, nearly. Two nights in absolute luxury at the house in Uzel, two more nights in Paris and finally another night in Uzel before the return journey home.

It really was a fine day, and spirits were high. The voyage was smooth and easy going, a trip to the cinema and plenty of time to sunbathe, the holiday had begun. We all deserved it too, after months of slaving away at our GCSE's. Most of us knew we would reap the rewards, and now was the time to shake it all off.

The sail seemed brief before we were stuffed back into the minibus for the hour and a half drive to Uzel. En-route we had a break and a chance to stretch our legs at a picturesque lakeside. We were bundled into the mini bus once more for the last leg to Uzel.

Upon arrival we all became familiar with Uzel, many of us not visiting the house since year seven, over four years ago. The bright weather retained itself and we took the opportunity to spend the time bathing under the sun in the garden, talking about old times, and bangers. Mr Faulkner and Mr Walsh rustled up some rather tasty chicken breasts and after a second offering, we were spent. A quick visit to a local bar for a chilled beverage, and it was soon time to turn in for the night.

The next day we found ourselves on the way to the town of St. Malo, where most purchased a large set of bangers, to use at our disposal at various times in Uzel, and to take home. The town also had an array of sandy beaches, most took this as an opportunity to sunbathe, and wade into the water to cool off from the very hot sun. It really is a very nice town, built behind a defensive high wall, and containing many small side alleys. On the way back from St. Malo, we opened every conceivable window of the minibus, in a bid to cool off.

When we returned to Uzel, we were ready for a nice hot meal, which Mr Faulkner and Mr Walsh prepared once more for us. The sun was setting, and the group headed away from the house to watch the sunset and have a brief play with the bangers. We decided not to leave it too late for this night, as tomorrow we would be up early for the trip to the French capital.

We rose early to arrive in Paris around lunchtime; we took a small rucksack with us and piled on the minibus again. We were feeling good, most had never visited Paris, but two hours into the journey the heavens opened, and dampened our spirits no end. Before long we arrived on the outskirts of Paris. The skies had cleared and the searing heat we were used to returned again. We duly arrived on

the main roads leading onto Paris, and sought this fine opportunity to fly to the Union flag from the minibus window. It did not take long to round a bend and the great tower itself was in sight, anticipation rose again. It took us a short time to arrive to the hotel where we soon settled in, but in no time we were ushered into the lobby where we would start our sight seeing. Clothing option for Paris? An England rugby top. The Paris metro would become our main mode of transport around Paris, and the first noticeable thing was the distinct lack of air conditioning, it would have been cooler to travel in a sauna. We arrived at a station a considerable walk from the Eiffel Tower, but this gave us the opportunity to picture it from some distance, and compare the scale. We then trotted off towards the structure, and when we drew nearer, were able to laugh at the huge logo on the side "Paris 2012, Ville Candidate", of course London winning it just a few days before. The queues for the tower were bearable, unlike the heat, but the views from the top were magnificent, with widespread views all over Paris.

After the tower we were back on the sweltering metro, where we were off to "La Defense". Upon arrival most were taken back by the sheer size of "La Grande Arch", it really was enormous.

Another ride on the metro and we were off this time to the Seine, where we would see Paris by boat. We were all surprised, first by the low brides that brilliantly echoed certain phrases, and secondly, the American girls we somehow managed to entice. From out of nowhere they appeared left right, and sometimes centre to take pictures of us all, we happily posed while most reckon up to 30 different cameras were taking pictures of us. I blame my Mohican at the time. It then wasn't so much as Paris by night, but now all it was, was a chance to make some new friends, which we all did.

Our legs were really starting to ache; we had been walking all day, and had little opportunity to rest, when we got to the hotel, that was the time.

The next day also had a large line up of landmarks and places of interest. The first to be visited was Notre Dame. The cathedral was impressive, and the detail in architecture was quite amazing. It did not take long, once more for us to be shoe horned into another oven and be on our way to the Sacre Coeur. This was another impressive religious building, built on top of a high and steep hill. Luckily the climb was worth it, and after battling your way through the street dealers, the view was another classic.

Not much time to rest! We were on the metro again, and on our way to another famous landmark, the Arc De Triumph. We were soon again underground as we passed under the notorious roadway encircling the Arc. We arrived underneath and it is apparent just how big the arc is, more than you might think. A long trek up a tight spiral staircase led us to the top, where we were able to watch the mayhem beneath unfold. Traffic lights really would go down well here. From our position we were able to look right down the Champs Elysees.

After quite sometime on the Arc, we then went for a "stroll" down the Elysees. Many took this opportunity to look in some shops and get some food, the

Peugeot showroom attracting the most attention. Not much time to hang around; we were on our way once more, to the Louvre. We had no time to queue, so we had a brief look at the glass pyramid, and moved on to the Pompidou, but not without a bite to eat first, a Pizza and a well-deserved beer soon followed. The Pompidou is quite a structure, with all of its utilities on the outside of the building, in a brilliant multicolour array.

It was back to the hotel one last time, our last night in Paris. We all congregated in a hotel room, where we sipped a few beverages, and had a general chat.

We woke up early the next morning, for the trip back to Uzel. The trip passed without any event, until we were about 30 minutes from Uzel and the minibus had a blow out. The incident meant an hour and a half wait on the roadside where we relaxed a little in the sun. The bus had to be towed away, and we all got lifts back from the caring residents of Uzel. Our last night in Uzel and in France gave us time to reflect on the previous eventful nights, and to sip the last of our beers.

We rose to yet another promising and sunny day, we had our bags packed and were ready for the off. The journey passed quickly, and we stopped off at a wine store to pick up some wine and beer for the parents. Within a short amount of time we were on the ferry, and we were on our way home.

Our arrival to Plymouth was at dusk, and stories soon came flooding out to parents. We said our thanks to Mr Walsh, but we also said our goodbyes to Mr Faulkner, as this would be the last time many of us would see of him. What a fine way to relax after our GCSE's.

Will Balsdon

WRITER'S Corner

with your host...



simon webber

The Predator

The predator is swift and fast
The prey's death has come at last
All of them have a thing to say
Watch the track never stray.

The tiger strikes
The tiger moves
The tiger bites
The tiger chews.

The bears old
The bear's quick
The death he causes
Is really slick.

The predator is swift and fast
The prey's death has come at last
All of them have a thing to say
Watch the track never stray.

The shark comes from the ocean deep
He never has a chance to weep
For the blood that it has spilled
For he is the one who truly killed.

The giant squid is truly pale
It has its own mysterious tale
From the shadow its arms shall crawl
For its touch is thick and brawl.

The predator is swift and fast
The prey's death has come at last
They all have a thing to say
Watch the track never stray.

The falcon from the sky above
For the sky is its true love
Even though a stylish meat

Always comes to its strong feet.

The vulture with its curing eyes
Always looks for a meaty surprise
Then he glides then he sweeps
And at last he has to leap.

The predator is swift and fast
The prey's death has come at last
All of them have a thing to say
Watch the track never stray.

By Tim Orman 7S

Where is my stuff?

Where is my pencil?
Where is my pen?
Where is my pencil case?
Where is room number 10?

Where is my rubber?
Where is my book?
Where is my dinner?
Money that someone?
Took?

Where is my textbook?
Where is my chair?
Where is my table?
Stop pulling my hair?

Where is my teacher?
Where is my pair?
Where is the classroom?
No really stop pulling my hair!!

Where is the classroom?
Where is B04?
Where is B block?
I'm lost forever more!

By Jack Ayland 7C

Burning in the Basin

“You are in the centre of a rainforest, surrounded by luscious green vegetation, the massive trunks of breathtaking tropical trees, the sweet and tangy odours from hundreds of possible sources. The area is filled with the soothing sound of songbirds, the rustling of life in the canopy, the majestic roar of a waterfall. Flowers bloom, monkeys leap and butterflies flutter through the canopy. The vibrant coat of a jaguar flashes through the undergrowth. You are at peace... Suddenly, you hear a buzzing which quickly becomes a deafening drone. A tree crashes down nearby with an almighty smash. There is an uproar as wildlife flees for its life. Another trunk splinters on contact with the ground, and another. Soon you are surrounded, not by a life filled rainforest, but by a barren wasteland, filled with the smell of death and decay. Animals lay dead amongst branches and crushed under trunks. It is most depressing landscape. Such is the cost of mans stubborn greed.”

The rainforest is the most beautiful possible place there is, full of colossal, tropical trees, breathtaking flowers and fascinating wildlife. They once stretched all over North South America, West Africa and Southeast Asia, sharing their radiance and abundance of life with the world. However, mankind sees this wonderful place as little more than a form of profit. A shocking number of acres have been demolished for the sake of cattle ranches and rice paddies. Large areas of Indonesia have been slashed and burned. Three quarters of the Ivory Coast's trees are gone. An area the size of Belgium goes every year. Ecosystems are destroyed and landscapes ruined. Is this what we want? The irreplaceable rainforest gone so that we can have Big Macs and Curries? I think not. A wise man once said, “Only once we have cut down every tree, burnt every orchid and slaughtered every beast, shall we realise the error of our ways”. And unless we take action while we can, that is how it will be...

By Phillip Wright



Duke of Edinburgh

Six men, no maps and a lot of land

Group: Lawrence Avent, John Barnfield, John Caley, Joe Gardener, Jake Rowley, Paul Wilcox

Friday 10th October:

We set out from B&Q on the Marsh Mills estate feeling confident. We had completed the Practice Expedition with ease. Also, I had managed to fit all my equipment into a smaller more comfortable bag, and so I felt I was going to enjoy this expedition better than the last.

It started rather well and we were going at a brisk but comfortable pace so we managed to reach the first checkpoint 5 minutes early. We didn't even use our map because John Caley had ridden his bike along the route many times and recognised many objects such as bridges and signs. I had noticed that the route was very linear and we were kept constantly on a bike path, very much like a road. We didn't make many turnings and reached the 2nd checkpoint without any trouble.

As we relaxed and ate a few snacks, we noticed the second group coming over the hill and they reached us within a minute. They agreed to wait 10 minutes after we left and as we got up to leave, Jake (leader of the pack) called for a map. We had been told to carry two for that extra security. The two people who had them both began scrambling around in their bags. However, the news that followed was not good. Not just one, but both maps had been left in the warm living room of our map carriers. A bit of a situation if I ever was in one. When we left we had looked at the other groups map and using that brief knowledge and our route cards we headed on. We had seen no assessor so far and so no one knew (no one with the potential to court marshal us anyway). To be on the safe side we had made sure, what it said on the route card description matched that of the map.

Between these two checkpoints we came across a viaduct of which John knew well. This is where we had to stop and soon the other group caught up with us again. We again checked details and headed on, not too quickly though as we both were struggling to find the right turning. We soon hit the fourth checkpoint. Many of the group members were extremely worried we would fail as soon as we told the assessors and foolishly we all agreed to carry on as usual. When we met the assessors, at this checkpoint, they asked if we were alright and we all said yes. As we left, the other Minibus arrived and the assessor asked us few questions, gave us that stern look and soon he knew we

actually had no maps. They kept us there for awhile and soon asked us if we could tell him, using one of their maps, where we would go for the rest of the journey. After 5 minutes of conferring, we had told him. They let us go ahead and we all instantly agreed we were put 100% into the rest of the expedition. Suddenly, we all started to work together and we managed to finish the journey without any mistakes. Though we did have to ask a farmer on the 5th checkpoint where we should head next, as we didn't realise there was a public footpath through his farm.

The first day had been bad but we finished feeling sure that we were going to finish the rest of the journey perfect.

Saturday 11th October:

Our group headed out early in the morning. We walked to checkpoint 1, 2 & 3 with no problems. Also, we had seen the assessors and they had told the other group to go on ahead as it was obvious they were quicker. I took some photos with my mum's camera, which hasn't been processed yet. They, I thought, captured the "real" essence of exploring Dartmoor; Joe struggling to open a tin with Lawrence's pen-knife after breaking the safety pull and then, after 10 minutes, finding a substance inside which even an A-Level scientist could not determine. I noticed again that we were mainly kept to a road with the odd crossing the moor here and there.

Blisters are horrible, as I found out in the practice expedition. Though this time I didn't get one, it may have been me, logically thinking that two layers of socks would be better than one but we may never know.

Something I did notice was how much the group was praising each other. It was as if we were all best mates, which was great, as I, at first, hardly knew any of them. What did make the second day easier though was that it was downhill and sunny (also we had map). When we reached the 4th and 5th checkpoints I felt pleased with my self, we were near the end.

As we trekked to the finish, which was mainly under wood and quite steep, I saw the other group, sitting on a bridge. It was the end. We had crossed moor, walked on roads, argued and apologised, rested and moaned, been worried and felt despair, been lost and found camp and ultimately, I had found that if I at least put my mind to an objective I did have the patience and fitness to complete it. Any regrets... none at all.

This report was used to gain Paul Wilcox's Bronze award in 2004.



SPORT

Joe Cunningham rounds up sport at DHSB

Football

Football has been well represented this year by all years including the sixth form, who have recently been entered into the Devon Wednesday League. The team has started the season tremendously with 5 out of 6 games played in the league resulting in victory. The team has also progressed to the second round in two out of three cups. The team is growing stronger every week and has many great players at its disposal. Top scorer for the current season is Reece Small.

Years 7-11 have also been well supported with some great victories especially for the younger years. With the amount of up and coming stars DHSB's football teams are on the way up.

Results to date

- DHS 1- 0 Police force
- DHS 5-1 HMS Raleigh
- DHS 0-1 Navy (Cup)
- DHS 1-0 Plymouth University
- DHS 2-0 Exeter University OTC's
 - DHS 5-2 Ivybridge CC
 - DHS 9-0 Marjon B
 - DHS 2-3 RM Band

Cricket

With the cricket season well and truly over and winter sports like rugby and football taking centre stage the cricket front does not have a lot to say for itself, however winter nets will soon be starting for upper and lower school. This should give the teams a good opportunity to use the sports hall to its full capabilities and get ready for the new season.

Rugby

Rugby is another sport in which the school excels regularly at, especially in the younger age groups, with as many as three DHS teams making the Devon finals in their respected age groups. The first XV have also been performing extremely well winning a large percentage of their games, including a thrilling 10-5 victory over Mr Salter's new school, Kevics of Totnes.

Basketball

The sixth form basketball team have recently started to play matches, however losing their first match to Plymouth College by 12 points. However the lower school have had more success in their respective matches clocking up several victories on the way. Special mention must go to Jamie Davies who has recently moved to America on a basketball scholarship, and also to Gareth Cooper who has been selected to represent the south of England.

Swimming

With the school boasting three of the country's best under 17 swimmers in the form of Anthony James, Matt Cross and Robbie Adams there is a lot to shout about on the swimming scene. The lower years are also packed with great swimmers including the hugely talented Matt Collier. The school did extremely well in the regional round of the national championships with the intermediate team of Matt Cross, Anthony James, Callum Amos and Robbie Adams almost certainly securing automatic qualification to the finals. Great performances also from Mike Best and Joe Cunningham enabled the sixth form team to put in another great performance.

Volley ball

Last season the year 11 team represented the school in volley ball and did extremely well in the league they were in. Volley ball club has recently just started up again, and is available for anyone who wants to come along!

Fitness suite

The new fitness suite has been a huge success with the school and demand is so high that it is now open on some evenings after school. With top of the range machines the fitness suite is a great way to keep fit and forms can be obtained from Mr Orkney.

Devonport High Vs Marjon B **23/11/05**

The sun shone brightly on a cold November afternoon and a confident DHS team were ready for their next challenge. The visitors today were Marjon B a side who are quite capable of the occasional upset.

This was not the case however, as straight from the kick off DHS ran riot over their opponents, who did not only look phased by their opponents, they looked completely outclassed. The first goal came from a lovely through ball, which Finneron ran onto and calmly rounded the keeper to slot the ball into the empty net. 1-0.

It soon became two when a wicked corner from Small picked out Finneron unmarked at the back post, who controlled with his first and sweetly struck with his second touch, to take his personal tally to two. Finneron was now hunting for his hatrick.

It was Small who made it 3-0 to the home side however, after a nice through ball, Small did extremely well under pressure to lob the oncoming keeper with a lovely weighted right footed chip.

DHS were creating chances every time they touched the ball, the use of Barter down the right and Ashford down the left made it almost inevitable that DHS went 4-0 up. This was proved correct when Small went through 1 on 1 and slotted the ball through the keepers' legs. Marjon didn't know what had hit them.

Ashford then earned the home side a corner, which was swung in from the right hand side. From the corner, Captain Lock cleverly managed to escape his attacker before swivelling and thundering in a deadly volley into the bottom corner. 5-0.

Reece Small then left the field with an injury, to be replaced by Osgathorpe. A shame as Small was searching for his hatrick.

Locock then joined in the party football DHS were playing by making a surging run through the middle, before overpowering his defender and striking the ball low into the bottom corner. The score was now 6-0.

Finneron then finished off the hatrick he was so desirably chasing. Again being sent through, Finneron sweetly struck the ball again into the bottom corner to cap off a thoroughly deserved hatrick. 7-0.

Locock then again showed great strength whilst running to the by-line before being tripped inside the area. The resulting penalty was to be taken by Neal. He struck it hard and high to the keepers' right, it looked destined for the top corner, however most unluckily it struck the bar.

The half time whistle blew, and a truly outclassed Marjons left the field feeling well and truly out of the game already. Half time. 7-0.

After being shouted and screamed at during the half time interval Marjons came out for the second half with a new team spirit about them. They began to play football at a half decent level and almost pulled on back, however the header was narrowly wide of Sandell's goal.

Marjons again began to create chances with the use of the two substitutes brought on just after half time, however McDonald was superb at centre back helped by the ever-present Lock who seemed to win every header he went up for.

DHS then began to find their way again. With Finneron being replaced by Nicholls during the second half, DHS again began to look threatening. Nicholls looked destined to score, although a great tackle prevented this from happening, leaving Nicholls gracefully pirouetting in mid air.

DHS then scored again, Ashford sending a beautifully weighted ball into the path of Barter who superbly flicked the ball, from the left side, over the oncoming keeper into the empty net to make the score 8-0.

The game was then well and truly sealed when Aaron Gates rounded the keeper only to be brought down unnecessarily by the keeper. Gates himself decided to take the resulting penalty, which he struck into the top right hand corner, in front of the whole school, making up for his penalty miss the previous week.

The final whistle blew, and although Marjon scraped some pride in the second half, they were well and truly beaten by a superb DHS team.

Man of the Match

Finneron

Score

9-0

Scorers

Finneron x 3

Small x 2

Lock x 1
Locock x 1
Barter x 1
Gates x 1

Bookings

None

DHSB vs RM Band

30/11/05

With confidence oozing from the previous weeks nine nil thrashing of Marjon B DHS were extremely confident going into this league game against a team with variable results so far this season.

However the home team were caught cold in the first couple of minutes and Sandell's first task was to pick the ball out of his own net after a powerful header from RM's central midfielder sailed into the net.

RM soon made it two when another cross resulted in another header which nestled in the bottom corner. DHS looked intimidated to say the least. A third was added soon after from another header this time from a corner, another powerful header finding the net. RM band were in full control of the match.

DHS began to find some rhythm towards the end of the first half however the final ball lacked conviction and chances were few and far between. The half ended 3-0 to RM Band.

DHS came out with a new passion about them in the second half and started to play some much better football, and soon began to dominate the proceedings. Chances began to come at much more regular intervals with efforts from Finneron and Small going close.

Midway through the second half DHS found that crucial goal they were looking for. A half volleyed cross by Ashford was cleverly flicked on by Bushnell to find Osgathorpe at the back post to side foot DHS back into the match.

DHS then began to chase the game and continued to dominate their opponents in every aspect of the game. However it wasn't until only ten minutes to go that DHS scored their second goal. Tucker springing up at the back post to finish of a scrappy goal by managing to squeeze the ball into the bottom corner. DHS were now chasing an equaliser.

However it was not to be, the only chance being wasted by Substitute Mr Jones who struck a left footed toe poke over the bar. RM band came away with the victory, however the home side felt unlucky not to receive a point let alone three.

Score

2-3

DHS Scorers

Osgathorpe,
Tucker

Man of the match

Ashford



Girls Football!

Tom Ward describes a girl's football match

Staying in school after its finished is bad for two reasons: you spend far too much time there anyway, and it always has the vague whiff of eggs about it. But on the other hand, you can also stay and watch a bunch of lovely ladies scrap it out over a bag of leather filled with air. That's right kids, girl's football rules!

I was invited along by a close friend of mine who plays up front for the Devonport High Girls team (she scored in the match!) and, like most male teenagers, approached the match with some skepticism, thinking that football is a mans game! These girls know nothing! They should be on the netball courts, not the boggy, muddy football pitch! Clearly, I was wrong.

The match was played on the boggiest surface in the history of all mankind, making it hard for the girls to pass along the ground. However, both teams managed some impressive strings of passing; with most of the play in the Exeter half of the pitch and eventually, Devonport got through clear on goal, twice in a short period. Game over? When is it ever game over when girls are concerned? Exeter hit back in the second half with a superb strike from the edge of the eighteen-yard box, but couldn't hold on as Devonport's striker claimed her second of the match from a blunder by the keeper.

And here I am writing like a sports reporter who's had to much Cola. Well, it certainly is interesting writing the sports bit, I think ill leave it to Joe though. I'll stick to my mildly funny (I hope) and skewed look on school life. So anyway, yes, girl's football, really not as bad as many people think it is. And next time the girls have a match on our fields, can we have more than just one person (me) cheering them on from the sidelines? I'm sure they would score a lot more goals if half the school turned up to support them.

Tom Ward



True Champion

Jake Rowley's story of fencing at the highest

To date, Jake Rowley has been fencing for over five and a half years, ever since he joined at the school-fencing club when he was in year 7. Since then, he has worked his way to holding fourth position in the British under 17s championship rankings, from his position at 11th at the start of this season. His current ranking earns him a position as a reserve on the under-17 team heading to Korea this year to compete in the World under-17 Cadet Championships. He is currently striving to move up one rank in order to be part of the primary team.

Jake has already clashed sabres (his preferred school of expertise) with last year's reigning champion, Alex O'Connell, scoring an equal number of hits as Alex's opponent in the final of last year's world championship.

Jake's other fencing achievements include coming first in the Southwest Under 16 Men's sabre competition and second in the Bolton Cadet International Under 17, losing to a young Hungarian fencer named Aron Szilagyi making him the highest ranked British fencer in that competition. Jake has been selected to fence in Pisa, Germany and Hungary (unfortunately he will be unable to attend the Hungary event), and is ranked 18th in the British Under 20 league, as well as being 113th in the British men's rankings (all ages).

Adam Halley



Visit the gym!

Fancy looking stunning?

The school's marvelous facilities were expanded yet further a few years back by the addition of the new gym, open nearly every lunchtime and some after school hours for students and teachers alike. The venue for our gym is the old music room, in the basement of E block, which gives us plenty of room to vent some pent up aggression and keep (or in my case, get) fit. Each of the school sports teachers is responsible for the running of the gym and keeping its wide range of equipment running well, and adding more machines as the school's budget grows bigger.

The gym is another example of how far the school has advanced since the days of being hit with a ruler of various heavy objects of pain. Why, back in my day, the closest we got to a proper gym was a run round the field and a spanking from Mr. Manley's Rod o' Pain. Now with the new gym, students can enjoy pain-free exercise every lunchtime, and a few days after school as well.

So, I, urge you all to sign up to your schools gym post haste, give more money to the sports department so they can buy us some more football posts. Go! Quick! Now! And to all parents, if your son comes to you tomorrow morning asking for fourteen pounds, it isn't because he needs to go and buy FHM and a big bag of crisps (this time) its because he wants to be a part of the schools rapidly expanding gym.

With a few more members and perhaps some more funding from the good old government the school's gym should be a valuable asset and a reliable source of money for years to come.

Tom Ward



Oliver Twist at DHSB

The school to perform a musical...

The Drama & Theatre group at DHSB are planning a three night performance of *Oliver Twist* in March 2006. The Head of Drama, Mr Norris, said, "We are hoping to perform the play on the 28th, 29th and 30th of March". Having already enjoyed the success of another work of Charles Dickens, *A Christmas Carol*, which was performed pre-Christmas, it looks set to be a highlight of the academic year.

Charles Dickens is considered by many people to be one of the greatest English novelists. His own childhood had much unhappiness in it: his father was imprisoned for debt and Charles was taken out of school and sent to work in a boot-polish factory when he was only 12.

When Dickens wrote, he wanted not just to entertain his readers, many of whom had plenty of leisure and money to spend on reading novels; he also wanted to make them aware of social problems such as poverty and child labour. He believed that his readers could help improve society if they agreed with the moral viewpoints shown in his novels.

Paul Wilcox

