

# CHATTERBOX

## THE MARY HARE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



JULY 1994

### CHAMPION

Fourteen year old Duncan Rowley, from Year 9, raced home to victory in the Under 15 400 metres race at the Berkshire County Schools' Athletics Championships with a time of 54.5 secs. In winning he broke the school junior and senior records and has qualified for the All England Championships at Telford in July. Keep on running, Duncan, we're proud of you.



Duncan takes the lead in the school 400m

### SPEAKING OUT

Congratulations to the pupils who have succeeded at various levels in the English Speaking Board exams.

**Senior Introductory Distinction:-**

Nicola Deverson, Jonathan Evans

**Credit:**

Bryony Booth, Laura Coull, Mary Slater, Katy Wood

**Very Good Pass:-**

Laura Atherton, Deborah Cochrane, Katie Fleming, Yasir Haniff, Gavin Lilley, Radha Manjeshwar, Anna McCabe, Aaron Miller, Emma Rawson, Stephen Russen, Beth Sewell, Julia Spencer

**Good Pass:-**

Emma Clarke, Lucy Clark, Fergus Cooke, Elizabeth Culver, Davina Davies, Sarah Gallagher, Helen Gillespie, Kirsty Graham, Nicholas Gregory, Simon Handyside

**Pass:-**

Sheeza Ali, Alex Gomes, Jonathan Nelson

**Grade 1**

**Distinction:-**

Jordan Fenlon, Michael Penfold, Katherine Roach, Sophie Stone

**Very Good Pass:-**

Yvette Eyo, Nicola Hewish

**Good Pass:-**

Kathy Foden, Claire Fox

### A WORD FROM THE ADJUDICATOR

It is always a delight to head for the M4 on my way to Mary Hare. This year was no exception and the youngsters enthralled me with their E.S.B. talks. Some were outstanding, others 'interesting' but all had been challenged and responded accordingly. I have learnt how to wear a saree correctly, to preserve my environment and also have been taken to numerous holiday destinations.

The group presenting Senior I were magnificent. They had really researched their topics and their standard was extremely high and I had the pleasure to reflect this in my marking.

Thank you to all the youngsters involved for such a pleasing two days.

Anita Downey

# THE MARY HARE GRAMMAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## BEAT THIS!

Thanks to the help of Ray Bulpit and the Thatcham and District Rotary Club, all costs have been covered for the Mary Hare Band's three week tour of Eastern Australia. Over £1,000 was raised at a recent band concert alone and Australian Rotary Clubs have helped with accommodation, transport and concert dates.

The itinerary includes dates in Sydney and Canberra (at a reception with the High Commissioner). Bob Warren and Elaine Cookson have also organised a visit to Forster High School, so the musicians can experience life in an Australian School first hand (they'll be able to tell us if 'Neighbours' is realistic!).

The main aims of the tour are: to promote the advantages and needs for music for deaf children; to establish links with Australian schools; act as ambassadors for the U.K.

Every opportunity will be taken to appear on T.V. and radio and there is already media interest.

Repertoire for the talented and versatile band is very wide ranging and Mrs. Rocca arranges pieces for the ensemble of flutes (Ruth Montgomery, Michelle Hall, Yvette Eyo); clarinets (Suzanne Clubley, Danielle Gill, Kirsty McMullan and Melanie Pitts); violin (Natalie Smith); keyboard (Nicola Hewish); trumpet (Jamie Wilson); bass guitar (Sam Pitts) and percussion (Bryan Moore, Justin Smith).

We wish them every success.



Ruth and Danielle

## CODA

The last concert before the departure was on 2nd July at the Immanuel U.R.C. Church, Bournemouth (as part of the Bournemouth Music Makers Festival). Michelle Hall (flute) plays in the praise group at the church. Mrs. Rocca would like to record her thanks to Michelle's parents for promoting the event.

## COMMENDATIONS FOR COMMUNICATION

Richard Higgins, Sam Seaver, Lee Stickings, Tom Wilson. Well done! Keep it up.

## BANANAS AND DOUGHNUTS!

West Bay, Bridport, was the location chosen by the Snorkelling Club for a long weekend of watersport activities. Eleven Mary Hare pupils and nine other youngsters camped under canvas and spent two exciting days afloat on six metre inflatable dinghies. Many thanks to Bruce for all the effort he puts in (he says he recommends the Freshwater Park camp site!).

## HOW OLD?

Dr. Tucker had a birthday,  
One sunny day in June,  
How old he was he wouldn't say  
But the rumours spread quite soon.  
Some said he's getting old,  
Despite the fact he's nifty.  
And after some enquiry  
We found out that he's twenty-two.

ANON

## MURDER!

In May science students from Year 10 once again joined with seven other Newbury schools to solve problems set by local companies. The Mary Hare pupils were designated to different groups, which visited local companies and sites, toured plants and were then presented with a task that illustrated the work of scientists, technicians and engineers. Problems included disposing of a nuclear facility (A.E.A., Harwell), designing a mobile 'phone network (Vodafone), clearing up a chemical spillage (Fire and Rescue Services) and investigating a murder (Thames Valley Police).

All of our students acquitted themselves well, especially Lee Stickings who presented his group's report at the end of the day (Lee's own account is in the Inside Pages).

## ON A CAROUSEL

You may have seen or heard of the carousel in the Year 10 timetable. So what is it? Carousel is an opportunity to pursue cross-disciplinary projects including art, music, technology, business and media studies and one of this year's projects has been to produce and market "ARTEFACT" jewellery. This raised £47 on Open Day, which is to be donated to charity.

# INSIDE PAGES

## Being Deaf

I am deaf,  
In a quiet world,  
You are hearing,  
In a world where sounds are.  
Please help me,  
To hear the sounds that you can hear.

I am deaf,  
And I am good at crossing roads,  
You are hearing,  
But you are careless at crossing roads.  
You want help, from me,  
No, only if you help me to hear the sounds that you can hear.

I am deaf  
And I am talking to you.  
You are hearing  
And you don't understand me.  
What can I do to make you understand me?  
I just write them down.

I am deaf  
And you are hearing.  
Can we be friends?  
And if we are,  
You can help me to do things that you do.

Matthew Fenlon (Year 8)

## Deafness

I walk along  
Seeing people walk past me,  
And stare curiously  
At me.

I walk on  
Ignoring the coldness  
Of people walking past me.  
Eventually, people will see  
The hearing aids that I wear.

Soon, old ladies shall  
Be whispering and nudging each other,  
Pointing as they talk  
About me.

The way I don't notice sounds  
Such as an ambulance siren  
And a shout meaning  
For Me.

I ask myself,  
I never have been  
Horrible to them,  
So why are they  
Treating me like this?

Reaching home,  
I forget my hurt feelings,  
As I talk with my family  
Of the same problems  
As me.

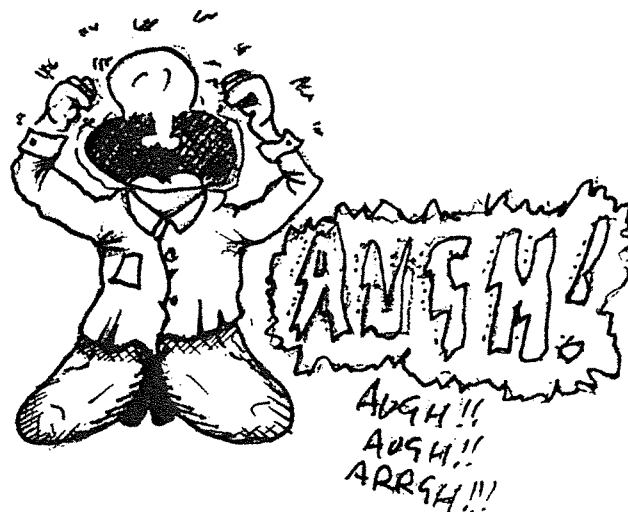
I feel a lot better  
Being my real self,  
I'll never pretend  
To be my false self  
(Everybody notices anyway!)

Shana Grummitt (Year 8)

## Anger

Anger is like a match, something  
Simple, but complex. One spark to  
Begin with - but starting a paroxysm of  
Rage which ravages through my body,  
Agitating round the cavities,  
Reds and yellows and oranges reflecting off its prison  
of glass,  
The dry, musty heat triggers off sweat,  
The jagged knife-like flames piercing and penetrating  
my flesh,  
In a desperate effort to escape.  
The crackling reverberates in my ears,  
Inciting me to let it all free,  
To let the flames wreak havoc on all those around me,  
Thus bringing my vexation to a conclusion.  
But, if I should conceal it,  
Make it succumb to my will,  
That fury should turn to ashes,  
To sit, like lead, in my paunch  
As a painful reminder of my past-gone fury.

This is the anger of love.



But another sort of rage  
Is black, hard and ungiving  
It refuses to speak  
It sits, prowling round,  
To the beat of the horseshoes  
Pulsating in the atrocious shadows,  
Decaying all realities, into concoctions of the imagination,  
The dry, musty smell defies all salvation.  
It sits in your abdomen, like a huge weight,  
Contracting your stomach muscles,  
It refuses to come out - no matter how much you coax it.  
It prefers to sit there, to envelop more hate in its  
billowing, rotting, black smog,  
Where it waits, and prepares, to take its final objective,  
To take over, and control the body's last hope - its soul.

This is the anger of depression.

Tom Wilson (Year 10)

# INSIDE PAGES

Photograph taken by Russell Basey (Year 12) from Newbury Bridge



## Memory From Childhood

I can still remember my first day when I came to Mary Hare. I remember waking up, dreading to go to a place miles away from the home I loved best. I lay in bed for what seemed a lifetime, when I got out, I slowly put on my school uniform, slowly hoping that it would take all day.

When the time came to leave, I had to stand and look around in my bedroom, saying 'farewell' to my favourite things for several minutes before I was sure that I wasn't ever coming back home. It was the worst feeling that I have ever experienced in my life.

I can't remember anything about driving all the way here, but I can imagine what I must have felt. Loneliness and neglect because I must have felt my parents were sending me away to some kind of detention centre because I had been so bad.

When I got there, I can remember, so clearly, being introduced to my form teacher who seemed really nice, which I was pleased about. I had imagined the form teacher to be a huge and horrible man, but I was glad it was a nice woman. I saw lots of children with their parents having a drink of tea or lemonade. I wanted some, but I was too shy to ask for one.

The strongest memory is my Mum edging me on to mix with my new classmates, but I refused because I was very scared being with new people that I had never met before.

When my parents were about to drive away, my Dad came up to me and said 'See you' and pretended to punch me on the chin like he always does. He walked over to the car and got in. I thought 'Is this it? They're going now?' The car started up and drove away. I had expected my heart to drop to my stomach but this did not happen. I felt a smile spread, peculiarly, on my face. I walked through the Manor to Mansell, everything was so big and I really felt alone.

That night I remember seeing my dormitory-mate across the room, sleeping. It was then I looked out of the window into the sky, thinking of home, my cats and my family. So many happy memories and none here. It was shortly after that I cried.

I still remember these memories after 4 years because moving to this school had changed my life drastically and the feelings which I experienced were so unique, that they had a huge impact on me. I still think about home but there are no more tears or feelings of loneliness and despair.

I sometimes look back to this day and laugh.

Matthew Tonks (Year 10)

## Chemistry Made Easy

Add chemical A to tube B. Now add the blue powder C. (A very nice colour, eh?) Now run like mad. After the loud explosion, return and if the lab is still standing, repeat with twice the amounts. If the lab is not standing, then add liquid D to remaining rubble. (Note \*Suspension has turned green.) What do you mean, it hasn't? Oh No! That gas now burning off is cyanide and we don't have an indemnity policy. By now your exposure is fatal. There is now no point in leaving, so please attempt to clear as much as possible, before you die. Thank you.

Richard Addison (Year 12)

## Why Me?

A false accusation,  
Unreasonable consequence,  
A crime is done,  
And I get the blame - Why me?

I sit in my prison cell,  
Deliberately suffering,  
For a crime I didn't commit,  
Why is there so much injustice? Why me?

Here I am,  
Secluded from society,  
Suffering due to  
Another man's wrongs - Why me?

But there is new light,  
Shining through old windows,  
And the projection of hope,  
Gives me strength, and the will to carry on - Why me?

Jamie McAlley (Year 10)

## Why Me?

'Aaw Miss, Why me?'  
'Why can't he do it?'  
'I did it yesterday',  
'I took the headphone lead to the staffroom',  
'Why me?'

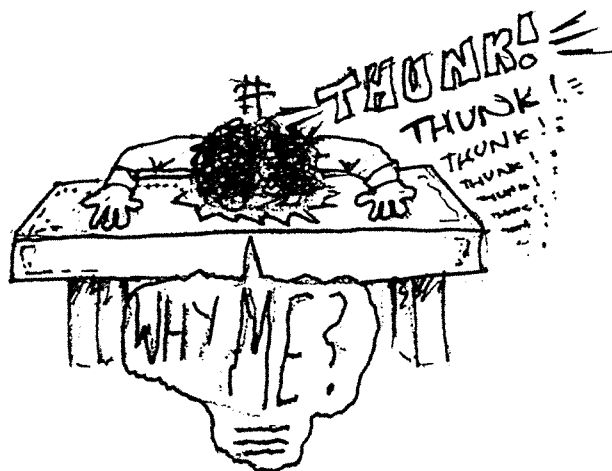
'Aaw Mum, Why me?'  
'Why can't Sarah take the rubbish out?'  
'I did it last Saturday',  
'Why me?'

'C'mon Dad, can I have some pocket money?'  
'No, because you didn't earn it!'  
'Why me? Why not him?'  
'I did more than he did, honest',  
'Why me?'

'Why me?'  
'Why can't he take the blame?'  
'I'm not in the wrong',  
'He did it not me',  
'Why me?'

James May (Year 10)

## Why Me?



Tom Wilson (Year 10)

## Why Me?

I hate the way people just stare at me  
And whisper 'What's that thing in her ear?'  
It really makes me mad  
That I find it difficult to hear.

Afraid to walk down the street,  
Without someone pointing, noticing me,  
Unable to prove that I'm equal to them,  
It's the way everything has to be.

I can't change what has happened,  
Have to accept the fact,  
People will always think I'm different,  
There's no changing that.

The urge to be included  
In an interesting conversation,  
Wanting to express my views,  
Leads to undying frustration.

### Why Me?

Get out there  
And prove all those people are wrong,  
Show everyone you're just as good  
And don't take too long.

Have confidence in yourself,  
Don't be afraid to shout  
That you want to be included,  
It's bound to work out.

Katrina Tobin (Year 10)

## Quite a Problem

A pupil's view of the Science Problem Solving Day

My science group set off with Mr. Wright and Mrs. Leonard to the Waterside Centre in Newbury where other participating schools were to meet and sort themselves into groups.

In my group there was a mixture of different schools to have a mixture of ideas, opinions, etc.

We then proceeded on to British Gas equipped with plush facilities. We were shown a video and had a tour around the 'shop floor'.

British Gas then set us a problem which recently they had come across. The problem was that pipes in London are made of cast iron and the methods of constructing them in the late 19th century weren't very good so we had to come up with a way of relaying pipes without digging up the roads or smashing the pipe! In between, we had a banquet fit for kings!

When we had solved the problem, I was unlucky enough to present and explain my solution to the problem. It was pretty nerve-wracking and at the end of the day we were presented with booklets and pens, courtesy of British Gas.

All in all, it was a good end to a super day!

Lee Stickings (Year 10)

## D-Day

On Tuesday, 14th June, all Year 9 and several teachers went on a History trip to the D-Day Museum in Portsmouth and the Museum of Army Flying in Middle Wallop. The journey was quite long and it was very hot in the coach, despite the sunroofs being fully opened.

When we got to Portsmouth, we went into the museum area and after a quick snack we went in and the first thing we saw was the Overlord Embroidery, a 272 feet long tapestry.

I wouldn't really say there were many other people there, but the museum was quite small so it seemed crowded. There were a lot of old people there, presumably veterans or relatives of soldiers who died in the war.

It made me angry thinking of all the lives that were lost in the war, just because of Hitler's lust for power. 50,000,000 people died in the Second World War, 40,000 were Allied, who died on D-Day.

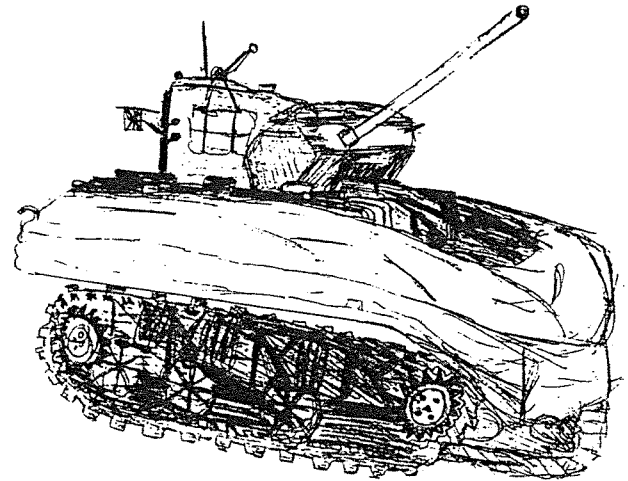
There were many interesting exhibits in the museum and the ones I found most interesting were the landing craft in the large hall. We were allowed to get on them and they were smaller than I expected them to be.

After we left the museum and had lunch, we went to the Museum of Army Flying in Middle Wallop. I was a little disappointed because there weren't as many exhibits of planes as I had hoped. The displays were mostly about helicopters and D-Day. Still, it was interesting especially the glider exhibits. We didn't stay very long and when we got out I watched several 'Chipmunk' training planes take off and land at the nearby airstrip.

The journey back to school was short but it was still very hot! I enjoyed the trip and it gave me a chance to learn more about D-Day and the consequences.

Richard Higgins (Year 9)

## Sherman DD Tank



Michael Connolly (Year 9)

## All The King's Men

On Saturday, 11th June, The Mary Hare Band performed with 'The King's Singers' at the newly opened Anvil (a concert hall) in Basingstoke. The whole concert was in aid of the Mary Hare Foundation, but it was also a grand opportunity to state that the band is raising money towards the trip to Australia.

The band performed three pieces, 'It Don't Mean a Thing', 'Englishman in New York' and the third piece was a stunning performance with The King's Singers of 'Tears in Heaven'. The Band played extremely well but full credit to The King's Singers who also had a successful concert! The buckets for donations for Australia were promptly filled with money well over £1,000. So thanks to everyone!

Justin Smith (Year 11)

When we arrived The King's Singers were already on stage rehearsing so we brought our instruments in to practise 'Tears in Heaven' with them. We all were nervous and worried that we might play the wrong notes as The King's Singers sing in tune, but rehearsing was not as bad as playing in front of 800 people.

We had to wait on stage with all the lights (but there was one advantage of the lights - we couldn't see anyone in the audience!).

Michelle Hall was sweating so much she thought she was going to end up standing in a puddle!

It was very nerve-wracking and most of us couldn't stop shaking!

When it was over we all could not wait to get off the stage as we were worried that the audience might actually notice how nervous we were, in fact, how terrified we were about going wrong!

After we had finished the concert, one member of The King's Singers came up to us and said, "It was a pleasure to sing with you as you keep us all singing in tune!" - We keep them in tune - we were worried about keeping ourselves in tune!

Natalie Smith (Year 10)

# THE MARY HARE GRAMMAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## FOOT PEDAL



Over 60 cyclists helped to raise £2,000 for the Australian tour and the band are very grateful to them all, especially John Boyd. It was interesting to note that Danielle Gill (retired due to punctures) and Jamie Wilson (retired at the bottom of the drive!) are both going to Australia! We were also puzzled about how Rebecah Taylor ended up in Hungerford and why Caroline Ward cycled up the M4 slip road!

## G.N.V. WHAT?

In May 1991 a new qualification was announced (in a Government white paper) - the GENERAL NATIONAL VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION. Mary Hare has made submissions to become an approved centre and has already been recognised to run G.N.V.Q. Intermediate and Advanced courses in Business.

We will also offer G.N.V.Q. Art and Design in a franchise arrangement with Basingstoke College. It is hoped soon to receive acknowledgement as a centre for any B.TEC G.N.V.Q./N.V.Q. courses.

So what does this mean? An end to A-levels? No, these remain as academic qualifications. A soft option? No, G.N.V.Q.'s stand on their own merit, as an alternative vocational route to a career. The intermediate level is equivalent to four G.C.S.E.'s at grade A-C and the advanced G.N.V.Q. is equivalent to two A-levels. Contact Mrs. J. Coombes for more details.

## OUT ON THE TOWN

Immediately after exams, on a very hot day, Year 8 undertook two geography projects in the locality. The first was to examine the changing profile of uses of buildings, walking through Newbury from north to south. The second was mapping of a stream. Meanwhile . . .

## CROSS CHANNEL

All of Year 7 enjoyed a brief trip to France. Rising at 5.30 a.m. and returning at 11.10 p.m. they dashed round the M25, crossed from Dover to Calais, and visited Boulogne to explore the different types of shops.

The return crossing held a surprise special invitation to visit the bridge, as the crew had noticed the exceptionally good behaviour of the pupils. And also . . .

## D-DAY

Year 9 joined in the Commemoration of D-Day, at the museum in Portsmouth. Richard Higgins' report is in the Inside Pages.

## SLIGHTLY LATE

The sixth form centre is almost ready, but will not quite make it for September. There may be some short-term accommodation problems, but we hope pupils will understand as they eagerly await their new rooms.

## PHOTOGRAPHS

Many of the photographs we use are by John Boyd, who spends long hours slaving over hot developer. Thanks, John.

# THE MARY HARE GRAMMAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## TIME, PLEASE (A note from the editor)

I joined the staff at Mary Hare just eight years ago and spent my first few residential duties teamed up with Jim Wright (somebody's idea of a joke, two Wrights . . .?). Jim firstly helped to allay my fears at joining this new world and soon taught me the ropes. I was immediately impressed by his manner with the pupils - clearly commanding respect and yet offering an approachable, friendly person to all ages. I have also seen over the years his balancing acts of diplomacy with staff, coping with the demands of the school day to day and yet understanding the personal needs of staff and their families.

Twenty-seven years is a long time and I would hope that, should I still be teaching at Mary Hare in nineteen years' time, I would leave with the same love and affection that is clearly expressed throughout the school for Jim.



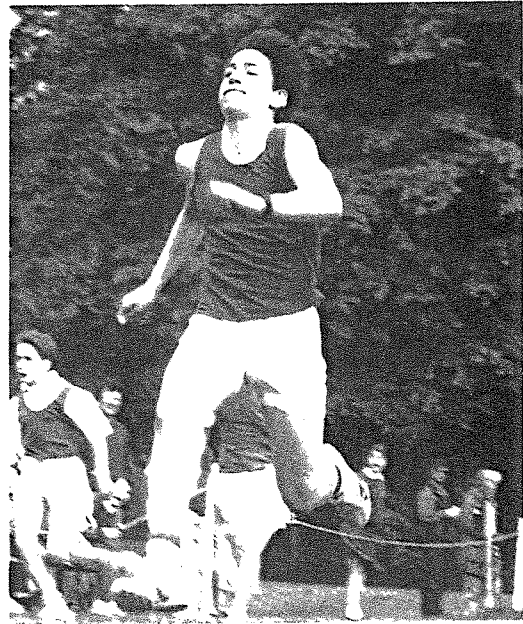
## KEEN COMPETITION

Preparations for school Sports Day were rudely interrupted by unseasonal wet weather. The day itself was cold and blustery and not conducive to record-breaking feats. However, individual awards were keenly contested and finished like this:

Junior Boys' Victor Ludorum:	Alistair Dalziel (Year 9) Duncan Rowley (Year 9)
Junior Girls' Victrix Ludorum:	Elizabeth Jenkins (Year 9) Louise Pitchers (Year 9)
Senior Boys' Victor Ludorum:	Mark Eminowicz (Year 13)
Senior Girls' Victrix Ludorum:	Lisa Mingay (Year 11) Corinna Simmons (Year 13)

The Kenneth Bayliss Trophy for effort in athletics was won by Duncan Rowley with Paul Hull in second place. The overall House Trophy was won by Mary Hare House. The Year 7 100m races were won by Jonathan Evans and Emma Clarke. Stars for the future . . . who knows?

Alistair Dalziel puts on the pressure



## AN ENGLISH SUMMER

The cricket season has been interrupted by bad weather. However, enthusiasm and interest in this great game remains high. Practices are always well attended. Despite our practices we have only won one game (U15 v St. Barts). There have been encouraging performances from Andrew Reid (batting and bowling), Henry McDougall (batting and bowling), Daniel Webster (bowling), Vineet Gupta (batting), Lee Stickings (batting). There are still a few games to be played and many more different skills to be practised and absorbed. Keep on playing.

## ALL ROUND

The girls have enjoyed several rounders matches against other schools and have played well in local tournaments. Many of the juniors show good ball-handling skills. As part of our P.E. curriculum, we include "ball skills" to develop and encourage skills needed for all ball games. Ask Year 7 about this.

## THANKS

The P.E. department wishes to thank all the pupils for their time and effort in sport this year. We have enjoyed taking you. We are particularly grateful for, and impressed by, the hard work of the House Captains. Next term . . . Be Prepared.

## OVER TO YOU

Do you like Chatterbox? What do you think of the Inside Pages? Any comments please to Mr. K. Wright (editor) or Mrs. C. Ward.