Desperately Seeking...

The Development Office is continually seeking to find Former Pupils whom we have lost touch with and are delighted to report that with your help our database is growing.

If you are in touch with an ex-CEO who is not receiving Quadrangle please either contact us or ask them to get in touch with us and we will be happy to add them to our database to receive regular mailings.

If you have any information we would be most grateful to hear from you. Can you help find?

GEORGE ELDER 1940
THOMAS FISHER 1947
DONALD J MACKIE 1952
A SCOTT Ewart 1959
COLIN GWILLYN 1950
DOUGLAS HORN 1958
DAVID M ALEXANDER 1959
RICHARD G BROWN 1959
DAVID M CLYNE 1961
THOMAS GORDON 1961
STUART HUISH 1961
IAN A. ROTH ERMINGHAM 1961
PHILIP G. HANDLEY 1964
THOMAS M'Ccool 1964
ANGUS ORR 1964
ALAN ERENWICH 1965
ROGER W BISHOP 1966
GEORGE S EVANS 1966
GILBERT C NIBLET 1967
CHRIS SCOTLAND 1968
JACK TAYLOR 1969
DAVID H GRAY 1970
ANDREW HAXTON 1970
ALEXANDER DONALD 1971
GRAHAM A LAMB 1971
ALAN MAIN 1972
RONDON BROCK 1972
KENNETH A. EGGLESTON 1973
DAVID M MEEKISON 1973
STEPHEN YOUNG 1973

JOHN CANDREWS 1979
PETER BROWN 1977
STEPHEN HARRIS 1977
ROBERT G CATTO 1978
FRASER ALLAN 1979
KEVIN M GLASS 1986
LYNN THOMSON 1986
AMANDA S.F. ZENTIL 1987
IAN D DOWLING 1988
RACHAEL PARREL 1988
RICHARD FLOCKHART 1990
RACHEL DONNELLY 1990
MARK J PRINGLE 1991
WASIM ASHRAF 1992
RICHARD DAVIES 1992
KENNETH A WALKER 1993
PAUL LESLIE 1993
SARAH A PATION-BUTLER 1993
ALICIA M DESANTIS 1993
RICHARD K PRINGLE 1998
NICOLA A WIGHT 1995
DAVID J AIRD 1970
NICOLA A WIGHT 1995
GEORGE S EVANS 1966
SARAH A PATON-BUTLER 1994
RICHARD K PRINGLE 1998
ANDREW HAXTON 1970
STEWART WOTHERSPOON 1995
TORR M MARVIN 1996
MARTYN J CRICHINGTON 1996
LOUISE J DAWSON 1997
GILLIAN L JACK 1997
STEVEN M MACKIE 1997
FIONA C WHEDLEY 1997
KAPIL RATH 1998
MICHAEL WYER 1998
RICHARD D MACKIE 2000

All Your News, Views and Photographs

We would like to thank those of you who have been in touch with us to share news, memories of days at Heriot's and make suggestions for future editions.

Grateful thanks are due to all those who have contributed articles for this edition of Quadrangle and please keep them coming in for future editions.

We have also been delighted to welcome many visitors both from former pupils and families from near and far who have dropped in to the School and reminanced with us.

If there are any particular items you would like to see in future editions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

EASTON AND MARGARET PEAT
DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
GEORGE HERIOT'S SCHOOL
100 BOX STREET
EDINBURGH EH3 9WZ
TEL: 0131 229 7263
FAX: 0131 229 6363
EMAIL: development@george-heriots.com

Legacy

Heriot's exists today due to the generous bequest by George Heriot. The George Heriot's 1678 Society exists for all those who have pledged a legacy to the School. We are most grateful to those of you who have responded to our Legacy Brochure for your support. If anyone has made provision for the School in their will and would like to let us know, we would be happy to offer you honorary membership of the 1678 Society.

Should you wish to receive a Legacy Brochure, or would like to discuss the possibility of leaving a legacy to the School, please contact the Development Office.

Forthcoming Events:

Further details may be obtained from the Development Office:

1-3 March, 7.00pm
Junior School Musical
Bugy Malone
George Heriot's School

Wednesday 22 March, 7.30pm
Greyfriars Concert
Greyfriars Kirk

Tuesday 28 March, 7.30pm
Band Concert
Queen's Hall

Thursday 25 May, 7.30pm
Junior School Concert
Queen's Hall

Friday 2 June, 7.00pm
50th Anniversary Reunion for the Class of '56
George Heriot's School

Monday 5 June, 10.00am
Queen's Hall

George Heriot's School
Saturday 17 June
Sports Day
Goldencare

21-24 June, 7.30pm
Senior School Play
Carousel
George Square Theatre

Saturday 28 October, 7.30pm
25th Anniversary Reunion for the Class of '81
George Heriot's School

For more details, please contact the Development Office.
T he School was saddened to hear of the death of Allan McDonald, former Headmaster, just before the end of last term. Sadly for me, as his trusted and valued colleague and Associate from travelling to join us as Allan’s occasions in recent years, I had not had the opportunity to get to know him during my time as Head. I wish I had, but through the tributes paid to him on his death, through meeting his family and people who knew him well, I feel I know him much better now, and it is easy for me to see why he was held in such affection and esteem in the Heriot’s community.

The tributes have brought to mind the stormy times through which it was his task to guide Heriot’s from the 1970s and early 80s. The removal of local authority grant aid, the inexorable rise in fees, the political machinations that sought to bring Heriot’s under local authority control – all the change to co-education at Heriot’s; was a momentous period in the history of the School. It was, essentially, the time when the modern Heriot’s, a fully fledged independent co-educational day school, was born.

With this identity Heriot’s is Flourishing. Academic standards are high and the achievements of Heriot’s pupils in extra-curricular activities are wide-ranging and impressive. The Heriot’s ethos of encouraging excellence without arrogance is strong. But the School cannot rest on its laurels, and we will continue to ensure that the School remains as we know it, as a place of a high-quality education for the future.

We cannot afford to relax in our investment in the staff and facilities necessary to meet the needs of education in the 21st Century. Exciting developments are afoot with regard to buildings at Lauriston Place, about which I hope to be able to write to you in detail very soon. With the Trust’s ongoing commitment to the Foundation, expanding its provision of bursaries and scholarships for less well off families, and encouraging the most able pupils with scholarships, the financial challenges are considerable. Fee income alone will not be enough to enable the School to achieve its aims in the coming years, and this is why we have turned to generating additional income streams for the School, such as the Annual Fund. To those of you who are supporting the 2005/2006 Annual Fund, whether through continuing your giving from last year or as a new donor, may I take this opportunity to express the School’s heartfelt thanks for your support. If you are not yet participating in the Annual Fund, please will you consider joining us? We are grateful for all contributions, no matter how small – all are important and will help benefit our pupils. A Gift Form is enclosed with this issue should you wish to make a donation.

ALISTAIR HECTOR

From The Headmaster

Forming a new Heriot’s Business Owners Club

CALLING ALL BUSINESS OWNERS, I KNOW YOU’RE OUT THERE SOMEWHERE!

Last November I attended a 25-year reunion and bumped into an old friend, Cameron Robertson. We discovered that our lives had followed similar paths, leaving school for university (where we became very good at snooker and drinking beer but not much else), dropping out and having a go at several jobs. We returned to further education and decided that employment was not for us and started up our own businesses.

Having made contact with a number of former pupils at 25-year reunion, it turns out that there are a few entrepreneurs among us! We wondered if there was a club for ‘Dragons’ – turns out there isn’t. You’re well catered for if you play golf, but not if you run a business. So, in true entrepreneurial spirit, having spotted the opportunity, we decided to see if it would be worthwhile filling the gap in the market by launching a new club.

We identified a number of mutual benefits in creating a forum for connecting business owners and the professions. We could also support those in the Heriot’s community thinking of starting up businesses and perhaps pass on our experiences. We have found, there is an alternative to the school-university-profession career pathway. There are bound to be some budding entrepreneurs just dying to get into the ‘Dragons’.

We approached the School, and they are keen to help. So if you are at all interested in forming a Business Owners Club, please pass on your contact details to the Development Office and they will pass them on to me.

ALAN BRADshaw, Class of ’80

The HERIOTER

The Development Office is most grateful to RennieMcElroy who has kindly donated his copies of The Herioter to us. Rennie attended Heriot’s from 1957 to 1963 and has passed over a complete set of Herioters from December 1958 to Summer 2005. These will be tremendously useful for research purposes for enquiries we receive. It is wonderful to have all this information right to hand.

Rennie said, “I’ve always enjoyed reading The Herioter. When I was at School, I would turn first to the satirical ‘Culled from the class’ (Sadly, no more. What about a revival?), then I’d read the society and House reports, then the prose and verse contributions of my contemporaries. Since I left, it has been a welcome source of information on many fronts: developments at Heriot’s generally, news of former teachers, how Castle House is fairing, and the doings of fellow PPs. And it has been good to look back at old issues occasionally and to reminisce. So, I read my Herioters and kept them. I didn’t build a collection consciously – just added each issue to the pile in the bookcase until, almost by default, I had a collection worth keeping. My working background is in libraries and that might have a bit of the anorak in us!"

“But over the years, bookshelves have all but taken over our house and it became more and more difficult to withstand my wife’s argument that we needed a ‘review’ (ie, a clear out!). One day, she pointed out that, the older I became, the further back in time I looked for them to go! But it was hard to commit them directly to black plastic sacks, so I asked Margaret Peat, The Development Office in the file of Herioters I would go each time I looked at them. It was time for them to go! But it was hard to commit them directly to black plastic sacks, so I asked Margaret Peat, The Development Office in the file of Herioters I would go each time I looked at them. It was time for them to go! But it was hard to commit them directly to black plastic sacks, so I asked Margaret Peat, The Development Office, to take my Herioters to wish us to publicise in future editions.

Please contact the Development Office if you would like further information about the Annual Fund, Legacies or other ways of investing in the School.

The Development Office Christmas Cards designed by four junior School pupils sold well and over £1000 was raised to benefit the Annual Fund.

Quadrangle is your magazine – please keep in touch with us with your news and stories and let us know of any events which you wish us to publicise in future editions.

Jo Easton and Margaret Peat

The Development Office goes from strength to strength – welcome to our ninth edition.

It has been a busy few months in the Development Office. A number of Reunions have taken place, it is always good to welcome former pupils back to the School to reminisce and catch up together. Planning has begun for this year’s 25th and 50th Anniversary Reunions and we hope that many former pupils will attend. We receive many emails/letters from former pupils and relations of those who attended the School with various requests from putting them in touch with others to researching history – if you have any such requests please do not hesitate to contact the Development Office.

The 2005/06 Annual Fund was launched in October. Now in our third year we hope to build on the success of previous years and increase both funds raised and donor participation. We are grateful for all contributions, no matter how small – all are important and will help benefit our pupils. A Gift Form is enclosed with this issue should you wish to make a donation.

Please contact the Development Office if you would like further information about the Annual Fund, Legacies or other ways of investing in the School.

The Development Office Christmas Cards designed by four junior School pupils sold well and over £1000 was raised to benefit the Annual Fund.

Quadrangle is your magazine – please keep in touch with us with your news and stories and let us know of any events which you wish us to publicise in future editions.

Jo Easton and Margaret Peat
Many will have been saddened on hearing of the death on 10 December, 2005, of Allan McDonald, former Headmaster of the School from 1970 to 1983.

Allan was born in August 1922 in Glasgow and was brought up in Edinburgh and Glasgow, attending the Royal High School, Giffnock and Eastwood Academies. He was much influenced by his language teacher in his senior years at Eastwood and determined to study French and German. Allan’s time at the University of Glasgow coincided with service as a lieutenant in the 21st Army Group Signals, serving in France, Belgium and Germany.

Following post-graduate study at Glasgow and a year at the Sorbonne, Allan trained as a teacher at Jordanhill College and took up his first post at Johnstone High School in 1948. He had been encouraged to consider an academic career at Glasgow University. However, at this juncture, he married Margaret Adams and opted with enthusiasm for the more financially viable alternative of school teaching, earning the princely sum of £400 per annum! He was soon tempted back to his old school, Eastwood, before moving to Fortrose, teaching modern languages. However, the appeal of a larger department led him to apply to George Heriot’s School for the post of Principal Teacher of German, to which he was appointed in 1959. The German language had never been seen as an easy option by pupils but Allan’s enthusiasm for his subject and pupils was infectious and he rapidly gained respect from pupils and staff alike for the way in which he made an inherently hard subject interesting and manageable. He made his mark as being helpful and encouraging, praising rather than criticising, making things happen for staff and pupils – for them, he had always been a real Christian gentleman.

Despite strong competition, Allan McDonald was chosen to become Deputy Headmaster of the School in 1967, while retaining, as was custom, leadership of his own German Department. Three years in this new post was long enough to show he could more than cope with a top job. He was a hard-working and effective worker and a meticulous teacher in detail. These characteristics, allied to his warmth of relationships and marked sincerity and approachability, proved a powerful combination. Allan welcomed the chance to create openings for colleagues in order to enable them to develop and achieve professionally. He genuinely cared about people in general and his staff in particular.

Allan, of course, had other major issues to tackle during his Headmastership: the Green Paper, Promoted Posts in 1972. He persuaded the Governors to accept its recommendations which reorganised the structure of the School and gave a number of younger staff the opportunity to take on more responsibilities. Allan welcomed the chance to create openings for colleagues in order to enable them to develop and achieve professionally. He genuinely cared about people in general and his staff in particular.

Allan believed that it was possible to climb too long a position of authority and felt it best to go when he had accomplished certain cherished plans. With the future of the School safe and co-education a success, Allan, although only approaching sixty, determined to retire in 1983. Throughout his career he had been both the consummate professional and, with his constant good-nature and unfailing sense of humour, had won many admirers. The Parent’s Association made Allan and Margaret their first honorary members – and he would be the first to admit how much he owed to his beloved Margaret. The Governors on their thanks to him for a job well done.

Allan and Margaret moved to Dalbeattie where they enjoyed many happy years. Allan pursued avidly his life-long interest in the country and spent many happy days on his farm, which he had purchased in the early 1950s.

When my time at Heriot’s comes to an end I intend to study Sport and Exercise Science at Strirling University. I hope that Heriot’s will continue to provide me with all the opportunities that it has given me in the past.

When I look back on my thirteen years at Heriot’s and think about all the wonderful things that I have experienced I feel very privileged to have spent such an important part of my life in a school which is so dedicated to helping its pupils fulfill their full potential.

I join the Junior School in Primary One. As I progressed through my primary years I developed new interests which play leading roles in my life today. I played rugby for the first time in Primary Five, and by the time I reached the A’s coached by Mr Adams it was quickly discovered what I wanted to do all day every day, and who can blame me after receiving my first taste of the luxurious lifestyle of a professional rugby player – being paid in Coke and crisps after beating Dollar Academy.

I cherish my early memories of rugby at Heriot’s and also my first performance on stage as one of Fagin’s boy thieves in the Upper Primary production of Oliver! in Primary Six. I also got the chance to perform musically in my first Man of House Music Competitions and I remember feeling slightly nervous about competing against classical players who had been taught their instruments having taught myself the guitar, sitting in my room and trying to figure out how exactly Jimi Hendrix made the guitar sound the way it did... I later realised he had been playing with his teeth.

When I complete my last school year in June, there will be bittersweet aspects of the School which I am sure I will always value. For example, the great variety of friends I have made here – many of whom I will almost certainly keep in touch with for many, many years ahead. Additionally, the number of activities I have taken part in such as choir, swimming, hockey, art; Duke of Edinburgh and most importantly drama – now a possible career path into an influence in my life. On writing this article, I found it hard to express exactly what aspects of the School I admire and after attending the School for thirteen years, I assumed this would come easily.

Perhaps this new perception of the School began with the film production project I have embarked on with Mr Scott in which my classmates and I are making a film about Heriot’s – its another Private School in many ways, I agree with this title. Heriot’s has never been an average school.

Senior School allowed both my academic and extra-curricular activities to progress. In Second Year I joined the C.C.F. and I was impressed by how much was on offer to me at such an early stage. From my first summer camp, I was hooked, and I will never forget what the C.C.F. has done for me. My involvement with Drama also increased and led me to being a part of some breathtaking productions such as The Caucasian Chalk Circle and Much Ado. Rugby also began to pick up, and I am lucky enough to have embarked on rugby tours to England in 2002 and Australia in 2003 which helped prepare me for XV rugby in Fourth Year.

Among the things I look forward to most in my Sixth Year are this year’s production of Carousel, in which I will play the role of “Billy Bigelow” and making the most of my final games of school rugby.

When my time at Heriot’s comes to an end I intend to study Sport and Exercise Science at Strirling University. I hope that Heriot’s will continue to provide me with all the opportunities that it has given me in the past.
HERIOTERS AT GALLIPOLI 
90th Anniversary

n September 2005 I journeyed to Turkey for the first time to visit an area which, now, as was the case 90 years ago, is little known or visited – part of the memorial made it impossible to leave any token of remembrance. However, quite fittingly, the most sheltered spot was that opposite the names of the missing Royal Scots, the regiment most closely associated with the School. It was at this spot that I decided to say a few words to the small gathering before laying a wreath from the School. On my journey to Turkey, I had struggled to think of the right words for such an occasion but, on seeing the number of former pupils’ names, it was the words of the old school song which flooded back to me and which prompted me to say the following:

“I in June every year, the staff, pupils, parents and a number of former pupils gather at George Heriot’s School in Edinburgh’s Old Town to pay tribute to the founder of the school, George Heriot. Floral tributes are laid and the school song is sung, the opening lines of which read as follows:

‘In the merry month of June of sunny days and flowers;
Sets every heart in tune and leads the lightsome hours’.

In June 90 years ago this year 26 former pupils of George Heriot’s School laid down their lives in the service of their country here in Gallipoli. By the end of that year a total of 46 Herioters were destined never to return to Scotland from these shores.

I lay this wreath in tribute to the fallen on behalf of the School and all of its former pupils”

One of the members of the tour party then read the exhortation and I laid the wreath at the base of the memorial.

I hope that this article is of some interest to pupils and former pupils of the School and would thoroughly recommend a trip to Gallipoli as it is not only a striking place but also one which gives an opportunity to remember a past generation, without whose sacrifice we would not enjoy the world in which we live today.

EUAN CLUNESS,
Class of ’96

Remembering the Fallen

Thanks to Robert Dickson who edited Euan’s article for Quadrangle. Euan’s complete article can be viewed on the School’s web site under PP News - www.george-heriots.com

BATTLE OF BRITAIN Commemoration Ceremony

On Friday 11th of November, the George Heriot’s Combined Cadet Force had the honour of commemorating those who died in the “Battle of Britain” in 1940. The focus of the ceremony was to remember the three Heriot’s former pupils: Henry Britton, Alexander Laing and Bruce Sharp, who bravely died whilst serving in the Royal Air Force.

Heriot’s extended a warm welcome to all who attended the parade, including the family members of Henry Britton, before the ceremony commenced in the Council Room. I was assigned to creating a commemorative display of photographs depicting the George Heriot’s Combined Cadet Force, which I thoroughly enjoyed as it gave me an insight into military life 70 years ago. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Mr. Simm from the Heriot’s Trust for his support and expert knowledge with regard to the preparation of this event.

To further honour the men, the CCF was privileged to have as guest, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh and Wing Commander Beaton from No. 603 City of Edinburgh Squadron, both of whom inspected the cadets in the RAF and Army Sections, as well as the Pipes and Drums. All 123 cadets, who paraded on the East Lawn adjacent to the War Memorial, were of the highest standard of turnout and drill, which was admired by all, particularly by the Wing Commander.

After the inspection, Mark Andrew, of the Battle of Britain Historical Society, who accompanied the tour, which portrayed the lives of the men and their courageous contribution to the Second World War, I was then honoured to accept on behalf of the Heriot’s CCF, the Senior RAF cadet on parade, the Commemoration Plaque, from the Lord Provost, The Right Honorable, John Simm, and then addressed the visitors with a moving account of the importance of the RAF during the Second World War, highlighting the significance of each individual’s involvement during such a time.

The Combined Cadet Forces were very privileged to have had this opportunity to express their gratitude to the web of schoolboys who lost their lives for Great Britain and to have been an integral part of the Commemoration Ceremony. On a personal level, I felt deeply moved by the experience, and I’m grateful to all of the guests who made our Act of Remembrance such an especial occasion.

FLIGHT SERGEANT MICHAEL RICHARDSON, 56 Pupil

HERIOTERS BOYS AND THE War Effort

I attended Heriot’s during secondary school from 1939-1945 – precisely the duration of the Second World War.

Senior boys took turns at fire watching. This consisted of sleeping for a night on camp beds in the Council Chamber complete with steel helmets, gas masks, buckets of sand, long shovels and stirrup pumps. I still have a set of cigarette cards called “Air Raid Precautions” which show all the equipment particularly memorable one in an open cockpit, biplane, torpedo bomber – the Fairy Swordfish (the “Stringbag”) because of the wires between the wings – like the ones that torpedoed the Bismarck.

The other service boys could give was to spend a month or so each summer at either hatch camp or timber camp. Because so many men were in the forces there was a great shortage of labour and accordingly the work of schoolboys was badly needed on the farms at hatch time. And it was sometimes hard, uncomfortable work. Timber camp was more exciting, with all those big axes and two handled saws, and also more fun – especially when we could organise a ceilidh with the local Land Army girls!

From about the age of 15 nearly every boy was expected to join one of the cadet forces – army, navy, or air. I joined the air cadets because my burning ambition was to be a Spitfire pilot. So I learned drill, Morse code, aircraft recognition, navigation and how to shoot small bore rifle. After many weeks at Easter and summer camps at air force bases, during which I got several flights, including one particularly memorable one in an open cockpit, biplane, torpedo bomber – the Fairy Swordfish (the “Stringbag”) because of the wires between the wings – like the ones that torpedoed the Bismarck.

RONNIE CRAMOND,
Class of ’45

Flights Sergeant Michael Richardson, 56 Pupil

‘Proud of our Past, Focused on our Future!’

Thanks to Robert Dickson who edited Euan’s article for Quadrangle. Euan’s complete article can be viewed on the School’s web site under PP News - www.george-heriots.com
The highlight of the evening was a group rendition of various liquid refreshments, and the occasional burst of dancing to the sports days, this time confining their efforts to the relaxed consumption of Fiona, now a noted operatic tenor, were up after his over enthusiastic performance. During the evening £55.32 staff. They came from far and wide: the furthest travelled was Munro, who had just returned from South Africa. Stories of the first few months of university or college courses along with news of employment and gap year adventures were shared. 

On W ednesday 14 December the Development Office hosted a reunion for all those who were left Heriot's in 1956. We gathered names from the School Class Lists of those who are the Class of '56, which is those who left from Fifth Form in 1955, Sixth Form in 1956, and also those who left from Fifth Form in 1956 as we understand this was the main point of leaving school. Part of the success is down to valuable help from FPs in gathering names and addresses for their classmates. The Development Office is seeking help and would ask everyone to spread the word – please let us know if you hear of anyone not receiving Quadrangle. There is a full list on the School website FP Section under Reunions of all those from this year group we are seeking to find. We would greatly appreciate your help if you know of their whereabouts. We will be gathering names and addresses, and plan to send out invitations mid-April.

Message from James McVicar, 55 leaver in 1956

On receipt of the last excellent Quadrangle newsletter, I realised that in 2006 I became a 50 year ago “leaver”… a sobering thought. I unframed four class photographs…the jewel in the crown Miss McKenzie’s class for 1944-45. I can fully name all but one of the 28 boys, and would implore all you to come along on the 2nd June in the hope that one of you can help me get a full night’s sleep!!!

I was surprised to discover, from the School’s latest list that 20 of these “wee boys” completed the course and left in 1956… I also recall that 3 left to elder brothers at (whisper it quietly) Watson’s.

If anybody is interested, I also have Miss Redman’s Class C 1944-45, where we seem to have grown from 28 to 38 in number. I cannot name 5 and wonder if my memory was already starting to fade?

I also have Class A 1950-51 and whatever Class 4? I was in in 1953-54. I cannot name many of 1A and even less of 4?…. You can, perhaps, spot the progression that has continued ever since!!

I, of course, realised eventually that Mark’s witty speech reminisced, updated us on those unable to attend and then, sadly, acknowledged those who had passed away. A quiet moment in an otherwise exuberant evening.

After a brief visit to a deafening, subterranean bar in Chambers Street, turned out to be confident and outgoing and I even recognised some of the newer parts of the school emerging from what, in our day, was the front door of the Senior | janitor’s house!

On to drinks and a speech from the new | headmaster in the Staff Room. No one of the catering staff asked if I was all right, given there were so many men, but I was able to reassure her that that’s what it was like 25 years ago, I reckoned I could cope. Besides, there were three (out of the six) of us, Fiona Wilson (Leckie), Susan Ferguson (“Giggly Sue” Lindsay) and myself.

Then to a lovely meal and catch up session, with both fellow pupils and staff. Mark’s witty speech reminded, updated us on those unable to attend and then, sadly, acknowledged those who had passed away. A quiet moment in an otherwise exuberant evening.

It was a shock to be invited to the Reunion of the First Girls after 25 years last November, but it had time to get used to the idea for the Class of 1980 Reunion, although, of course, I haven’t yet turned 30! On arrival, the first thing to hit me was the volume of chatter and laughter coming from the Pend. Twenty-five years on, the “boys” had certainly turned out to be confident and outgoing and I even recognised some of them, generally the ones with hair! We started the evening with a tour of the school, David Stott’s old classroom, the chapel (where Mark Watson and I got married, but not to each other!), and then round some of the newer parts of the school emerging from what, in our day, was the sound of a kickin’!
HERIOT CLUB OF TORONTO

Celebrates 25 Years

The 25th Anniversary Dinner took place on the 21st October 2005 at St George’s Golf and Country Club appropriately held in the “Founder’s Room” and was attended by club members and their wives.

Following a most enjoyable and well received evening by all, we were treated to the humour of our Founder, Sir Henry Raeburn, the Montreal 50th group, the Heriot Loving Cup and then passed the control to Alastair who followed on with a series of group photographs of the Toronto Group over the 25 years. The presentation ended with Bill explaining the new format of Founder’s Day this year and showing slides of same including the Headmaster, Norman Baum, past member of Toronto, the Pipe Band and Toronto Drum, the Cadet Force and assembled School on the last lawn.

Next Bill reminisced about school days we could all relate to and gave some examples of the fun times. He spoke of the success of well-known Heriots, for example Raeburn, Norman Dort, at least four Scottish full back foundations in our own group, etc. The legacy which we seek for granted after 350 plus years, the forefathers of Heriots, the survival of the School in political times, and the contribution to Scotland. As one age passes and we pass on Bill and Norman were very impressed, during their recent visit to the School, by the people they met, the traditions which survive and the contributions to society still being made by the Heriot community.

Joe Howleson was reminded of an event that happened during his final year at the School whilst on fire watch on the lawns. He amused us all by recounting the event, whereby a bell chiming reminded, and terrified, his group of a horror movie they had seen. He also explained to the group that he knew of at least two ghosts still reputed to haunt the Hospital.

The men then formed a choir and sang both School songs, which the ladies enjoyed.

The evening ended with a social mingling and agreement to repeat the event with spouses again in the not-too-distant future.

BILL KIRKPATRICK
Class of ’55

H eriot’s FP Cricket Club

Heriot’s has succeeded in the top flight of Scottish cricket for decades. Illustrious internationals like George Goddard, Hamish More and Euan McIntyre, who provided the back bone of Heriot cricket for over 30 years, have retired and passed the mantle to a young and talented team. Gavin McIntyre and Robert More, for example, will continue to make a lot of runs for the club.

We are open to non-Heriots and attract many excellent players. We currently have two players in the national Sarries team – Sean Weeraratna and Dewald Nel. The picture shows Gill Gray, Sales and Marketing Director of CALA Homes, and the XI, which has been sponsored by CALA Homes for the past two seasons.

Please visit Goldenerace to support the team. There’s nothing better than enjoying a drink at Goldie watching the cricket fixtures. Fixtures can be accessed via – www.georgeheriotsplay-cricket.com.

We run three senior teams and are looking for new players, members and sponsors. If you want more information please contact the Club Secretary, Gavin McIntyre (gavin.mcmtyre(at)calahomes.com), or myself (petercraigie(at)aoi.com).

We also have under 13’s and under 15’s teams and plan to organise Kwik Cricket for the Under 11 age group. Ex-President, Andy McKinlay runs this, and is keen to recruit more young players. We do winter and summer coaching (pre-season – 4 Sundays in March 11am-1pm). We would love to hear from you if you could assist in running any aspect of youth cricket. Please contact Andy (andy.mckinlay(at)edition.com) for further details.

Here’s to another successful season in 2006. I hope to see you at Goldenerace

PETER CRAIGIE, President.

HERIOT’S FP RUGBY CLUB

George Heriot’s FP Rugby Club

All Heriots, their relatives, friends, neighbours, work colleagues, parents of school children and their friends, colleagues and so on are invited to join the Rugby Club. Still interested in playing? We run three sides catering for the serious and social player alike. For information on the club, membership, news of this season’s fixtures and how to book hospitality for our league matches contact secretary - contact the Secretary. George Lambie, on 0131 352 9593 or 07720 749040 or email: george.lambie(at)heriotsrugbyclub.co.uk

Please visit our websites www.heriotsrugbyclub.co.uk

H eriot’s FP Cricket Club

Heriot’s 2006 season began on 10th May with a drawn club versus club fixture with St George’s at their new facilities. The fixture was played in aid of the Firefighters charity and was Sponsored by Deloitte. The following week saw the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.

The 2006 season began with the 3’s having a great victory over St Andrews, and the 2’s (in the Pink) giving a great account of themselves against Paisley Academicals.
But participation in the school plays under the inspired direction of Carnegie’s morning announcements to the assembled senior school. Including the last two of Gentle and the first of Dewar, my nine years saw three headmasters – all great individual characters, their only similarity being the shared christian name of W. These were the days before a Combined Cadet Force: so Fridays were very colourful with a large number of days without significant need for laundry. It would have been wonderful of the pitch as the ball and I frequently ended the game on the most muddy Turf. In the gym, just as I was about to succeed in vaulting over the long jump. In the quad, I experienced little feeling of ever having been captaining the fourteenth XV, but I never seemed to be on the same part of the horse, its legs were raised an inch every time. From time to time I caught reassuring glimpses of ‘The Wark’ but never quite became adjusted to the sight of Herioters in skirts. However, walking again on round the terrace and into the quadrangle, I experienced little feeling of ever having been away. Such is the power of an institution that has been thriving since 1659.

I became a Head Boy in September 1939, the year and month that the war started. With only some of the School’s Halls and shelters ready, we younger pupils (I was 11) met for the first few weeks in teachers’ houses, half the class in the morning and the other half in the afternoon. But, apart from practice air raid alerts, something approaching normality was soon resumed – even swimming, initially suspended in the interest of fast classroom evacuation to the shelters, soon restarted. However, the names of FJs killed in action were almost a daily feature of Headmaster Cannon’s morning announcements to the assembled senior school. Including the last two of Gentle and the first of Dewar, my nine years saw three headmasters – all great individual characters, their only similarity being the shared christian name of W. These were the days before a Combined Cadet Force: so Fridays were very colourful with a large proportion of senior pupils in naval, air force and army uniform. Otherwise, Herioters then looked much the same as they do now except that we carried gas masks.

I found some difficulty in embracing the School’s sporting traditions. I tried, I really did. I played rugby, even ascending to the dizzy heights of the fourteenth XV, but I never seemed to be on the same part of the pitch as the ball and I frequently ended the game on the most muddy Turf. In the gym, just as I was about to succeed in vaulting over the long jump. In the gym, just as I was about to succeed in vaulting over the long jump. In the gym, just as I was about to succeed.

I opened the doors of her Heriot Drama powerhouse. I then experienced another rather different, but still very special, sensation. This was the tingle of déjà vu when I once again strutted the stage upon which, sixty years ago, I made my acting debut as Covetousness, one of the Seven Deadly Sins in Marlowe’s Dr. Faustus. The previous year’s school play had been Shaw’s St. Joan, perhaps not the obvious choice for boys but dramatically wasn’t taking risks. That production made such an impression that I was determined to be part of this mystic world.

I sat my Higher in the year of the very first Edinburgh Festival and sitting in the gods of the King’s, Lyceum and Usher Hall at 16. I was perp of discovery of the world of the performing arts. During my final school year, with a permanent booking (B13) in the Lyceum gallery, I saw a different play every Saturday night. A life in the theatre was becoming inevitable and the decision was made easier by failure to graduate after reading biology for four years at Edinburgh University – something of a record for a Herioter, I suspect! Throughout my life, I have been constantly aware of just how extremely lucky I was to be educated at Heriot’s. It was a happy and stimulating experience and a great springboard into life’s jungle.

I first came to China in 1986 when it was still called “Red China”. In one of those curious pieces of serendipity one of the first people I bumped into was a fellow Scot who lived in the same street in Edinburgh. China then was strange and, culturally, completely alien. Though a tourist, I found that I was often the centre of attraction and a stroll after dinner would usually find me accompanied by up to 20 spectators fascinated by the first sight of a real “big nose”. Now, nearly 20 years later, China is a second home for me with a Chinese wife, half-Chinese daughter and enough understanding of the language and culture to make my way around. My path to China started in my last year at Heriot’s. It was then that I read a book about China which fascinated and set me to thinking about travelling there. China was only just opening up after nearly 20 years of self-imposed isolation. Very little was known about it – Lonely Planet barely lifetime. I have been constantly aware of just how extremely lucky I was to be educated at Heriot’s. It was a happy and stimulating experience and a great springboard into life’s jungle.

Francis Reid, Class of ’48

Andy was Head Boy at Heriot’s in 1979/1980. He was recently awarded the Dunhuang Prize by the Government of Gansu Province, China for his work in basic education in Gansu. In 2003 he was named Individual Consultant of the Year by the British Construction and Consultants Bureau (BCCB) for his work in Gansu. Here, he reflects on his path to China.

I first came to China in 1986 when it was still called “Red China”. In one of those curious pieces of serendipity one of the first people I bumped into was a fellow Scot who lived in the same street in Edinburgh. China then was strange and, culturally, completely alien. Though a tourist, I found that I was often the centre of attraction and a stroll after dinner would usually find me accompanied by up to 20 spectators fascinated by the first sight of a real “big nose”. Now, nearly 20 years later, China is a second home for me with a Chinese wife, half-Chinese daughter and enough understanding of the language and culture to make my way around. My path to China started in my last year at Heriot’s. It was then that I read a book about China which fascinated and set me to thinking about travelling there. China was only just opening up after nearly 20 years of self-imposed isolation. Very little was known about it – Lonely Planet barely

Francis Reid, Class of ’48

Andy was Head Boy at Heriot’s in 1979/1980. He was recently awarded the Dunhuang Prize by the Government of Gansu Province, China for his work in basic education in Gansu. In 2003 he was named Individual Consultant of the Year by the British Construction and Consultants Bureau (BCCB) for his work in Gansu. Here, he reflects on his path to China.
ALISON RANKIN, Class of ’81 TAKES A NEW CAREER PATH

I joined Heriot’s in 1979 – the first year that girls were admitted to the School – and was therefore fortunate to witness and be a part of a new era in the history of Heriot’s. It was a daunting experience for me; as I joined to complete my Fifth and Sixth years, having spent my previous school year at an all girls’ school! However, after the initial shock of discovering that I was one of six girls in a year of 120 boys, I soon settled into my new life and, now looking back, enjoyed the best two years of my entire school life.

It took a bit of time for both staff and pupils to adjust to the demands of the new female arrivals, as for one, I wanted to study four languages rather than sciences and so a fairly amount of curriculum shuffling went on! In the end, I concentrated on French, Latin and a craft course in Spanish in my Sixth Year – a great class as it was just two of us. Mr Buchanano also enjoyed the part-takings in the school drama productions and the choir which, along with the orchestra, took me to Switzerland.

After leaving Heriot’s, my career path was to study French (and a smattering of Italian) and to make it my degree. I spent a year abroad in Tours and the Lothians Tourist Board which has afforded me the opportunity to travel far and wide and meet so many different people. I focused on the marketing side and I can honestly say that Edinburgh has to be one of the best destinations in the world to travel to and can say that Edinburgh has to be one of the best destinations in the world to see. I focused on the marketing side and, to this day, I still get a lump in my throat when I hear the skirl of the pipes during an overseas promotion – who says we should give up our tartan and shortbread image! We ignore these strong images at our peril. It still makes me smile, though, when I am reminded of one comment from a US visitor to our Tourist Information Centre who said: “I think it’s really quaint the way you built your castle so close to the railroad station!”

This led to a 14-year career with Edinburgh and Lothians Tourist Board which has afforded me the opportunity to travel far and wide and meet so many different people. I focused on the marketing side and can honestly say that Edinburgh has to be one of the best destinations in the world to promote – it really makes me proud to be lyrical on the charms of Edinburgh to a wide variety of audiences and, to this day, I still get a lump in my throat when I hear the skirl of the pipes during an overseas promotion – who says we should give up our tartan and shortbread image? We ignore these strong images at our peril. It still makes me smile, though, when I am reminded of one comment from a US visitor to our Tourist Information Centre who said: “I think it’s really quaint the way you built your castle so close to the railroad station!”

Having enjoyed such a varied and challenging career I am now moving on to pastures new and striving to find a better work/life balance with my career. However, I will always continue to “sell” Edinburgh to anyone who’ll listen and, when on a guided tour of the city with visitors, never fail to point out the Heriot’s building from the ramparts of Edinburgh Castle – a part of Edinburgh’s history and a part of my own.

I am very much looking forward to catching up with class mates at the 25th Anniversary Reunion for the Class of ’81 on Saturday 28 October – hope to see you there.

MICHAE DENH OLM, BVMS MRCVS, Class of 2000 WORKING IN NEW ZEALAND

I have been quite lucky in that I have always known which career path to follow. Since I was very young I have always wanted to be a vet and Heriot’s gave me the opportunity to progress University and achieve my lifelong goal. I enjoyed school and have great memories of it, especially of the D.O.E. expeditions and being part of the swimming club. When it came to the end of 6th year though, I was really not too sure whether I would go on! I found it difficult to choose which University to go to – to stay at home in the ‘Burgh’ or move to the ‘Wee’ and therefore, my decision was made easy as I was accepted by Glasgow and not by Edinburgh! So I packed up and off I went.

Universty was brilliant. Vet School is small, so everybody knows everybody else and I made a really close bunch of friends who will remain my friends for life. During my time at vet school, I decided I wanted to be a mixed vet, one that deals with all animals, and true to my history, I decided not to go.

This had changed in final year (albeit a practical one) when I decided to do equine work, then cattle work, and then I was confused again. I was January, five months prior to qualifying, before I made my final decision.

I had previously undertaken vet work in South Africa and I found the work there extremely rewarding. However, it was probably my summer job in the Tourist Information Centre in Edinburgh that really gave me an insight into the world of tourism and selling Scotland’s number one destination to the world.

I returned to live and work in Edinburgh and met my husband, Ian, there – although he actually went to Aberdeen at the same time but our paths didn’t cross until we both ended up in Tours and C Chion in France which may well have planted the seed for my future career in tourism (although at the time I was considering teaching – I think 40 wild French kids soon put me off that idea!). However, it was probably my summer job in the Tourist Information Centre in Edinburgh that really gave me an insight into the world of tourism and selling Scotland’s number one destination to the world.

I returned to live and work in Edinburgh and met my husband, Ian, there – although he actually went to Aberdeen at the same time but our paths didn’t cross until we both ended up in Tours and C Chion in France which may well have planted the seed for my future career in tourism (although at the time I was considering teaching – I think 40 wild French kids soon put me off that idea!). However, it was probably my summer job in the Tourist Information Centre in Edinburgh that really gave me an insight into the world of tourism and selling Scotland’s number one destination to the world.

This led to a 14-year career with Edinburgh and Lothians Tourist Board which has afforded me the opportunity to travel far and wide and meet so many different people. I focused on the marketing side and can honestly say that Edinburgh has to be one of the best destinations in the world to promote – it really makes me proud to be lyrical on the charms of Edinburgh to a wide variety of audiences and, to this day, I still get a lump in my throat when I hear the skirl of the pipes during an overseas promotion – who says we should give up our tartan and shortbread image? We ignore these strong images at our peril. It still makes me smile, though, when I am reminded of one comment from a US visitor to our Tourist Information Centre who said: “I think it’s really quaint the way you built your castle so close to the railroad station!”

Having enjoyed such a varied and challenging career I am now moving on to pastures new and striving to find a better work/life balance with my career. However, I will always continue to “sell” Edinburgh to anyone who’ll listen and, when on a guided tour of the city with visitors, never fail to point out the Heriot’s building from the ramparts of Edinburgh Castle – a part of Edinburgh’s history and a part of my own.

I am very much looking forward to catching up with class mates at the 25th Anniversary Reunion for the Class of ’81 on Saturday 28 October – hope to see you there.

OLY MORTIMER, Class of 2000 MOTOR RACING UPDATE

Oly had another successful season this year racing in the Auto Trader Mini Cooper Challenge. He raced in Scotland, England, Ireland and Italy. He was crowned champion in October, winning this televised championship in his first year. He received his championship trophy at the Balmoral Hotel in November; he was also presented with the Border Motor Racing Club Champion of Champions Trophy for the second year in Edinburgh. This is the trophy for the most wins in a season in Scottish Motor Racing. The first person to receive this trophy was Formula One driver Jim Clark in 1957. Part of his championship prize was an invitation by BMW to take part in the Mini Cooper S World Championship – a 3 day event in Milan in Italy, representing Scotland. This was a multi discipline event which included Karting, Quad Bike, Race and Slalom in 220 bHP Works Cooper S Minis. The 21 drivers who took part were all champions who were representing countries from all over the world. Although Oly was disadvantaged because of his lack of experience in left hand drive cars, he finished 6th overall which is the nearest English opposition finished 12th overall. Oly thoroughly enjoyed this experience, especially driving at night at 145mph.

Oly still has ambitions to race in the British Touring Car Championships. These successes will hopefully help him along the way.