



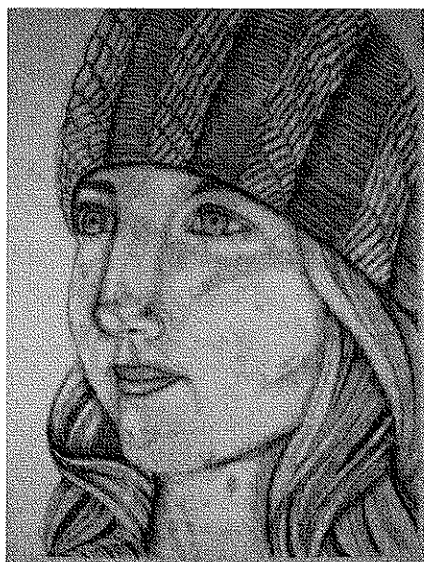
# Easter Newsletter

Madras College Newsletter

March 2008

## The Lumsden Competition

The Lumsden Competition is a local art competition run by St Andrews University students. The club is named after Louisa Lumsden (1840-1935) the first prominent female figure within the University of St Andrews. The Lumsden Club is a group of female students who share a commitment to supporting women's and children's charities and promoting the arts.



'Chloe'  
by Zia Donaldson

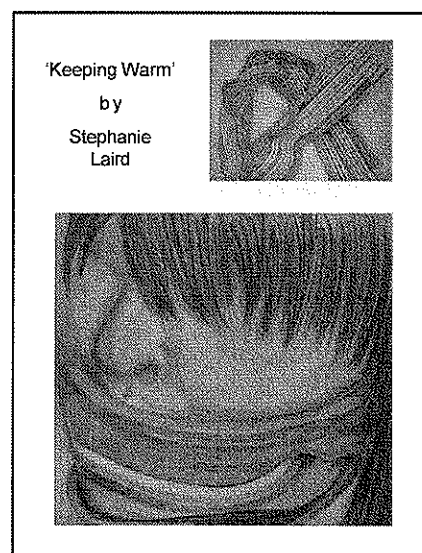
Eleven Madras College students put forward their art pieces for the theme of *Winters*. The prize ceremony was held at the Byre Theatre with all entries displayed.

The event was sponsored by the Harbour House where the winners and some of the runners-up had their work displayed.

Zia Donaldson (S4) won first prize with her charcoal portrait titled *Chloe*. Stephanie Laird (S6) won second prize with her colour studies titled *Keeping Warm* and Elliott Parry (S4) won third prize with his photograph titled *First Snow*.

The three Madras students were presented with chocolates and art materials as prizes.

There were also medals for second and third place with an engraved cup going to first place.



## Rector's Note

This has been a busy term, punctuated by prelim examinations for senior pupils, assignments, SQA deadlines and course choice. Despite the appropriate emphasis on preparation for forthcoming examinations, we have achieved much in the wider school. The Burns Supper was a great success with excellent speeches and high quality entertainment. It was good example of departments collaborating to produce a very enjoyable event showcasing some of our very talented pupils and staff. Our recent Talent Show raised in excess of £800 for Sports Relief and Maggie's Fife and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

We are preparing for our annual Great Assembly that takes place in the Holy Trinity Church. The twin themes of the assembly will be reflection and celebration. We will have the opportunity to look back over the year, to celebrate our successes and to look forward with optimism and confidence to the future. I am very grateful to Rev Rory MacLeod for allowing us the use of the Holy Trinity, and for playing an important part in the assembly.

The follow-through inspection report is now published and a copy is enclosed

with this newsletter. We are pleased that HMIE recognised the substantial amount of work that has been done since the 2006 report and the positive changes that have resulted. In this I am grateful to all members of staff for their hard work in taking the school forward to address the action points, and in ensuring that good progress was evident in those areas over which we have a direct control.

Our focus next term turns to planning for session 2008-09. During the in-service day, time will be spent on gathering information that, along with

other evidence, will allow us to identify school development priorities for next year. Time will also be spent discussing the implementation of a praise, success and reward scheme that we will introduce in June. More information will be provided about this in our Summer Newsletter.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your support and to wish you an enjoyable Easter break.

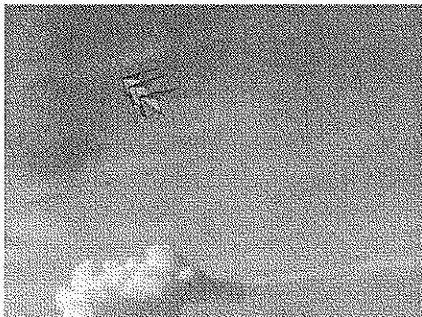
## Telegraph Photography Competition

### 'The Spirit of the Age'

Are today's children growing up too fast? Do they spend their summer holidays slumped in front of video games bored rigid by the thought of outdoor exercise and constructive play? These were the questions that inspired the competition.

More than 500 youngsters entered the contest, which was jointly run by the Telegraph newspaper and Radio Children, an internet radio station.

The second prize winner of the national competition was S4 pupil Elliott Parry, who photographed a triple kite being flown on the West Sands beach. Writer, poet and broadcaster Michael Rosen said Elliott has called his photograph 'Freedom' which is absolutely right. The kite represents the sense of escape that we all want in the summer. He has been bold to fill the frame with space, making the eye focus on his extraordinary sky sculpture. Elliott won £300 plus a Kodak C603 digital camera.



## Careers Convention



There was a good turnout at the annual Careers Convention with much positive comment from the advisers from industry, the professions and tertiary education about the quality of the questions asked and the politeness of the Madras pupils.

Vocational advice is provided throughout the session from Mr McKenna and other Careers Scotland advisers, from outside experts coming into school to provide current advice, by visiting job fairs and open days and through work experience. More placements within our catchment area are needed for S4, S5 and S6 pupils and if you are willing to enable a pupil to job shadow or gain work experience for an afternoon, day or week, please contact Mr Bennett.

## Stock Market Challenge

A Madras team comprising of five S3 pupils competed against 25 schools from the East of Scotland in the regional heat of this UK national competition. Shrewd dealing enabled the team to make a £55,000 profit and to come second overall. The team was Joshua Hughes, Ann Philpott, Callum Sinclair, Andrew Whyte and Timothy Woollins.



## Burns Supper

Madras College hosted its annual Burns Supper on Thursday 24th January this year. The evening, which was open to all, included the beautiful recitations and singing of Burns' acclaimed work by winners of the Burns Competition, judged by St Andrews Burns Club. Those who attended were also treated to new twists on traditional speeches from the S6 top table, an updated (and local) version of Tam O'Shanter (written and recited by Mr Lyden of the Biology Department) and a wonderful display of dancing. The Madras College Pipe Band demonstrated their substantial skill with a number of pieces. Deemed a huge success, everyone is looking forward to next year's celebration!

## Staffing Update

We would like to welcome Mr D Grewar who has joined the Maths department from a school in New Zealand and welcome back Mr S Forbes to the Business Education department after his secondment to Kirkland High School. We thank Mrs N Smith and Mrs G Wright for covering Mr Forbes' classes during his absence.

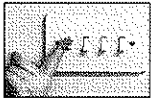
We have to say farewell to a few members of staff who have left us during this term. Ms V Muir has moved on to the Business Education department of Baldrigon High School in Dundee and Mrs S Phillips to the Maths department of Balwearie High School. Mrs J Brittain has been covering Ms Hyslop's maternity leave in the Drama department but is leaving us at the end of the term to take up a new post in England.

We would like to congratulate Mr W Kay who has been appointed as Principal Teacher (2nd Post) within the Department of Design and Technology and thank Miss F Paterson for her period as Acting Principal Teacher of Biology during Miss M Glancy's absence.

Two members of our teaching staff are retiring at the end of this term. Ms A McGregor is leaving after 20 years

service to the school. Her employment began in 1988 originally as a class teacher in the Department of Special Education Needs and thereafter as Principal Teacher. She had a sabbatical for one year working with disadvantaged youngsters in Albania. Throughout her career Ms McGregor has been a highly creative and innovative teacher and ably supported pupils and their families. Her leadership, dedication and professionalism are widely recognised by colleagues, parents and pupils. We wish her all the best and will miss her contribution to the life of the school.

We also bid farewell to Mr B Craib, Music Instructor, who attended his final concert this month. Mr Craib has given distinguished service to the school, lending his detailed knowledge of repertoire and extensive arranging skills to the instrumentalists taking part in the orchestra, as well as training individuals in the art of playing double bass. To mention but two of the successes, Mr Craib has led his orchestra through the complexities of a Mozart Piano Concerto and taken the honours at the Fife Festival of Music. We wish Mr Craib well in all his future projects and thank him for all he has done for music within Madras College.



# What is Eco Schools All About?



You might have heard some faint mutterings about something called Eco Schools recently. What is this all about, you might ask? Eco Schools is an international initiative designed to encourage whole-school action for the environment and Madras College is hoping to acquire its first Green Flag this summer. The Green Flag award is only granted once a school has fulfilled specific criteria and it requires a long-term commitment to improve our immediate environment. Permanent status is only achieved after the fourth Green Flag and this should take us about four years.

For our first Green Flag, we have to concentrate on:

- litter,
- waste minimisation,
- school grounds.

At Madras College there are a number of different parties involved with improving the environment and helping the school to become more energy efficient. Established just at the end of October our two Eco Clubs have been involved in a number of initiatives including the planting of daffodils at both sites, the designing of window boxes for classrooms, the regular recycling of our paper waste, trying to reduce our energy costs with all sorts of ideas, learning the gardening basics, and sowing seeds as well as planting bulbs for the spring and summer months.

One of our main goals is to discover the relevance of nature to the different subjects in the curriculum and finding ways we can work together in innovative

ways. For example, Home Economics are going to benefit from a herb greenhouse maintained by pupils so they can better appreciate where food comes from and what a difference fresh herbs can make.

The senior Pupil Councils have been collaborating with the Eco Clubs and have formed a committee called the Creative Space Group who have been busy designing a new communal area where the old PE area is; to do so, they've been working very closely with our Design and Technology department to make the idea a reality. The CSG have

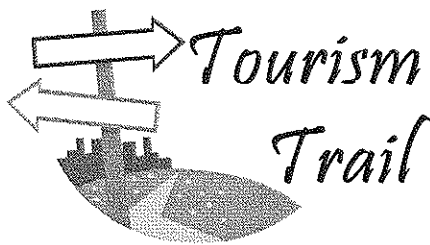
come up with the most amazing model, which we hope to make a reality very shortly.

The Department of Special Needs and the Skills for Work group have to be praised for their phenomenal contributions also. The DSE have been busy planting, gardening and growing the most amazing plants. We have a fully functioning greenhouse with an expert gardener from our local community training us and helping us out. Our Skills for Work groups have refurbished and built picnic benches and workstations from scratch! And that's not all, we're thinking up new ideas all the time!

We've been very busy at both the Kilrymont and South Street sites and, with spring around the corner, what Eco Schools is about is going to become more obvious as the school bursts into colour. So, to answer the question again, what is this Eco Schools thingy anyway? – just you wait and see!



Check out our progress on our new Eco Schools website: [www.madras.fife.sch.uk/ecoclub/index.html](http://www.madras.fife.sch.uk/ecoclub/index.html)



On Tuesday 4th March sixty-five S3 pupils accompanied by nine S6 pupils and three staff navigated their way around St Andrews by answering clues which led each of the nine teams to their next zone where they attempted tourism related challenges.

This was a fun day with experiences raising the awareness of the wide range of employment opportunities available in the hospitality and tourism sector.

## Modern Languages

### French

Sixth Year student Meriel Bunney won the Franco-Scottish Society's prize for the best essay in French from a pupil in North-East Fife. Her award was presented in the St Rule Golf Club. Runners-up were from St Leonard's School. The society commended Madras College for the three entries submitted by Madras College pupils.

Meriel also represented Madras College in Strasbourg in February when she visited the European Parliament under the auspices of the Euroschola scheme, which is sponsored by the Rotary Club. She had an enjoyable and worthwhile visit.

### German

- Over 30 senior German pupils enjoyed a performance of *Die Spielverderber* (The Spoilsparts) at the Buchanan Lecture Theatre in St Andrews. The play was performed by the University of St Andrews German Society. We look forward to returning to the university in June to take part in the annual German Recitation Competition.
- Preparations are now under way for the 51st Madras-Kiel Exchange visit. S3 and S4 pupils will travel to Schleswig-Holstein in June.

## The UK Schools Intermediate Maths Challenge 2008

The UK Mathematics Trust runs three annual UK Maths Challenge contests, Junior, Intermediate and Senior. This year saw 120 Madras College students from S3 and S4 participate in the Intermediate competition held on Thursday 7th February.

The students of Madras College once again achieved exceptionally good results maintaining the level of performance we have come to expect from our talented students. This year the students achieved a total of 60 certificates, the second highest ever. The haul included 8 Gold, 28 Silver, and 24 Bronze certificates. We would like to congratulate all our students on their magnificent performance.

Special congratulations go to S4 pupils Ian Johnston, Robert Woollins and Katie James who have all gained entry to the 'Pink Kangaroo' competition (a European follow-up paper). The 2008 Kangaroo Competition will take place on Thursday 24th April. Robert and Ian achieved an outstanding 101 out of a possible 135 to jointly win the best in school award.

The Intermediate paper our contestants sat may be found on the UK Mathematics Trust site.

### Gold Certificate Winners

Robert Woollins	Katie James	Rachel Weir	Adam Fleming
Ian Johnston	Padraig Davies	Alina Popa	Neil Beattie

### Silver Certificate Winners

Seunghye Kim	Alice Borchers	Charlotte Evetts	Callum Sinclair
Charlotte Sloan	Michael Payne	Luke Driscoll	Naomi Laing
Christopher Valentine	Alice Tavakoli	Joe Thompson	Fraser Prentice
Iain Cuthbertson	Anya Tonne	Nell Glen	David Ford
Rachel Gillespie	Ewan Gray	Tom Fairlamb	Michael Shaw
Peter Silvera	Lucas Plummer	Zak Maas	Emily Brodie
Michael Weir	Calum Frame	Alice Morrison	Stuart Aitken

### Bronze Certificate Winners

William Johnston	Polly Wright	Greg Jackson	Edward Dillon
Alice Herrington	Chloe Donaldson	Scott Imrie	Robert Paterson
Cameron Scott	Catherine Carson	Alice Rhodes	Emma Bousie
Paul Anderson	Martin Seenan	Melanie Fleming	Rory Burt
Joseph Sutherland	Daniel Charlton	Ross Henderson	Nikki Gordon
Shona Sutherland	Iain Ronaldson	Katherine O'Donnell	Andrew Whyte

## Modern Studies Society

One of Madras College's newest clubs has recently established itself in the Kilrymont Road building. This term, topics ranging from EU legislation about what goes into our food to age ratings for video games have been enthusiastically discussed and debated. I would like to take this opportunity to invite all S1-3 pupils to come along and join in. Keep an eye out for important notices in the daily sheets.

## Springboard Tourism Internship

Springboard, an umbrella organisation for the tourism industry, has been providing training for S5 and S6 pupils both within and outside school.

This week employers will not come to provide advice but to interview the remaining nine pupils for paid or voluntary jobs at local attractions or in hotels.

# Madras Allstars Talent Show



Sixteen acts, a full house equals total entertainment!

On Wednesday 12th March pupils from first to sixth year – singers and dancers alike – held the Kilrymont Road Assembly Hall spellbound for two hours with their exceptional talents.

The judges (Miss Birmingham, Miss Griffiths, Mr Dewar, Mr Jones and former pupil Suzanne Shaw) had a difficult task to decide who the winners would be.

The first year band, Addiction comprising Leo Gordon, Calum Grewar, Cameron Mackay, Paul Sinclair and Rory White, who performed after only three rehearsals, were awarded fourth place and will have an encore at the first year assembly next term; in third place was Amy Rayner with Euan Campbell and Jamie Dunleavey; Plot 51 comprising Johnathan Elmer, Ben Raeside, Cameron Smith and Alastair Stark took second place; and with Charlie McMonagle, Ben Raeside and Andy Scott, Derek Dishington stormed the hall with his rendition of 'Bohemian Rhapsody'.

However, everyone who took part was a winner. It just goes to show the wealth of talent we have in the school.

Over £800 was raised for Sport Relief and Maggie's Fife!



Above Tips from Mr Latona

Below The judging panel



Derek Dishington



## MADRAS COLLEGE (ST ANDREWS) TRUST SCHEME 1968

The above Order in Council was made by Her Majesty the Queen on the advice of her Privy Council on 16th October 1968. The Trust makes grants to Madras College which enhance activities in sport, art, music, IT, library, etc, and pupils benefit (probably unknowingly) from this support. It also makes awards to pupils going on to higher education courses, providing bursaries, each for up to four years, for approximately ten students per year. The school puts pupils forward for these awards. Another aspect of the Trust's work is in awarding travel grants to former pupils (particularly useful for those taking a 'gap' year) and pupils should be aware that they need to **apply by letter** for such grants. Further details of the history and work of the Trust are given at:

<http://www-history.mcs.st-and.ac.uk/~edmund/MadrasTrust.html>

Douglas P Hamilton, Chairman (1995-2007)

Edmund F Robertson, Vice Chairman (1985-)



# SPORTS NEWS

## Badminton

Several pupils from Madras College took part in the Fife Schools' Badminton Championships held in February at the Fife Institute:



- **U19 Boys**  
Singles 1st David Birrell (S6)  
Doubles 2nd Ian Stewart (S6), Gordon Hill (S4)
- **U14 Boys**  
Singles 1st Ross Lamond (S3)  
Doubles 2nd Aidan Flegg (S2), Jack Le Feuvre (S2)
- **U13 Girls**  
Singles 2nd Eleanor Cruickshank (S2)

## Boys' Hockey

The senior boys' hockey team beat Craigmount High School, Edinburgh 16-1 to reach the semi-final of the Scottish Schools' U18 Plate Competition.



## Cross Country

The Fife Schools' Cross Country Championships were held at Beveridge Park in February. The senior girls' team were placed second (Fiona Bracegirdle 2nd, Fiona Duncan 8th, Emma Hodge 9th and Charlotte Sloan 22nd).



At the Scottish Schools' Cross Country Championships Madras achieved 4th team place. Representing the school in U17 category were Fiona Bracegirdle S5, Kirsty Duncan S2, Fiona Duncan S4 and Fiona Callaghan S5.

## Football

Jordan Davies (S4) represented Fife Schools' U15 Football Team in a match held at Recreation Park against East and Midlothian Schools, losing 3-0.



## Swimming



Mathew Charnley (S6) won first place in the Boys' 15-16 years, 100 metres Butterfly at the Scottish Schools' Swimming Championships, held in Glasgow on Saturday 26th January. Mathew swims for Dundee City Aquatics.

## Tennis



The boys' tennis team, who are the current holders of the Scottish Schools' Cup, recently beat Nairn Academy 5-1 and now face Strathallan School in the quarter-final. The girls' team unfortunately lost 4-2 to Glenalmond in their Scottish Schools' cup-tie match.

## Achievement Awards

The following pupils gained an achievement award in their sport, in an activity which is not offered at Madras College or not having a recognised link with Madras College:

- Daniel Linney (S1) represented Scotland U12 in roller hockey.
- Alex Anderson (S1) and Callum Walker (S2) were selected for Caledonia Region U14 in cricket.

## Ski



## Club

After a fantastic start to the Scottish ski season the snow sadly disappeared. Fortunately the Ski Club braved road closures early one Saturday (before the snow went) and had a very successful day at Glenshee. Much fun was had by all those who got their forms back in time, a good reminder to everyone of the benefits of prompt returns.

## INFORMATION

### HOLIDAYS

<b>Good Friday</b>	Friday 21st March 2008
<b>Easter</b>	Monday 31st March to Friday 11th April 2008
<b>May Day</b>	Monday 5th May 2008
<b>June</b>	Monday 2nd June 2008
<b>Summer</b>	Monday 7th July to Friday 15th August 2008

### IN-SERVICE DAYS

Tuesday 6th May 2008

### EXAMINATIONS

S3 Exams Friday 2nd May to Monday 19th May 2008

### PARENTS' EVENINGS

S1 Monday 19th May 2008

S3 Wednesday 4th June 2008

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St Andrews, KY16 9EJ  
Telephone (01334) 659402

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Telephone (01334) 659401

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