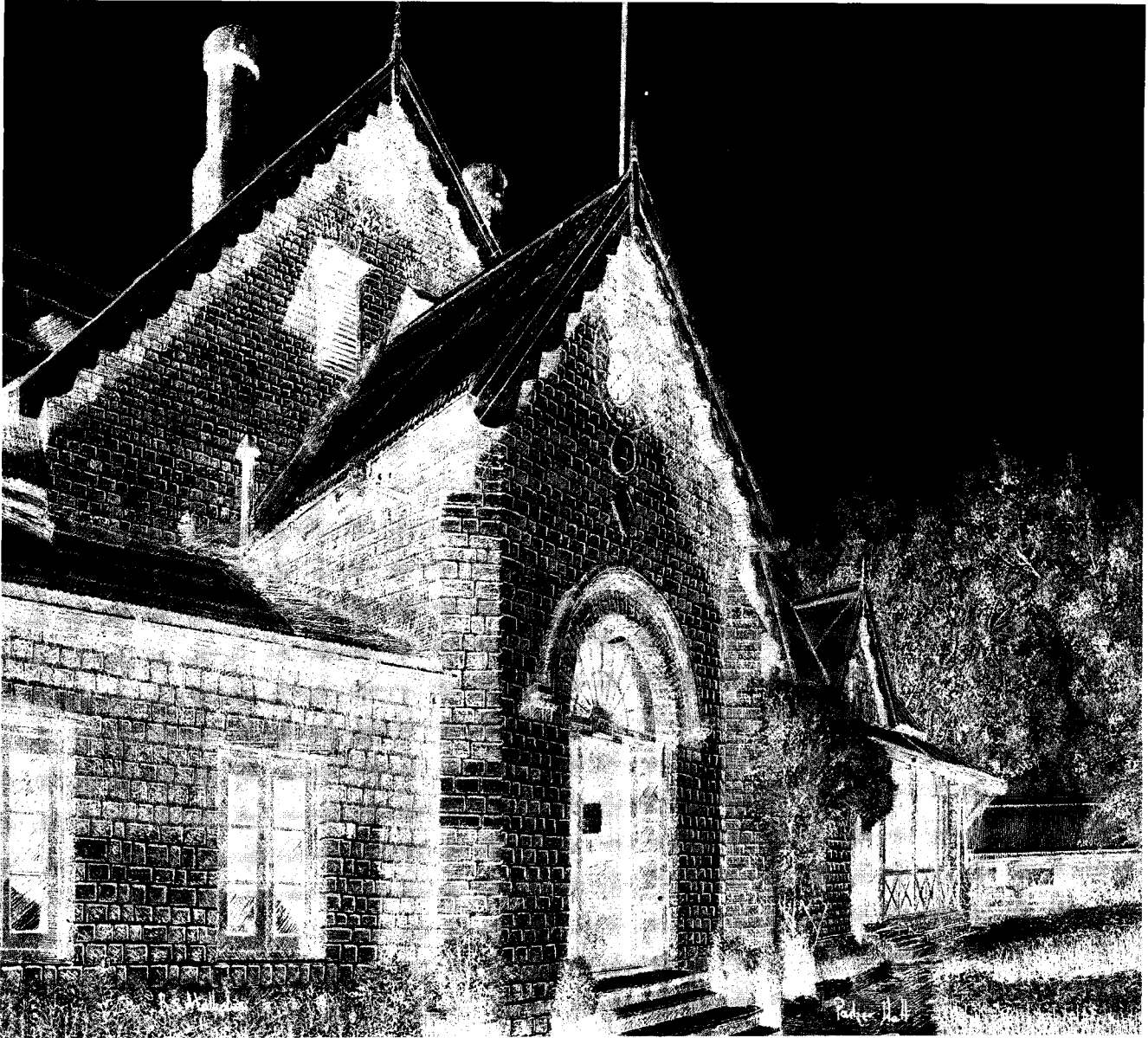




Vol : 3

December, 2001



# The Sanawar News Letter

**The Lawrence School**

**Sanawar**

**Founded 1847**

## SECTION I: FROM THE HEADMASTER

### *A Fourth Open Letter from the Headmaster to all within the Sanawarian Family.*

(An abridged version of the speech made by the Headmaster at Founder's this year.)

On behalf of the Chairman of the Lawrence School (Sanawar) Society, "Welcome", to the 154<sup>th</sup> 'Founders Celebration', in particular, to our Chief Guest, Rana Talwar, Chief Executive of Standard Chartered Bank and an Old Sanawarian.

This year saw the introduction of a School Development Plan. Senior staff and I wrote down what we proposed to do in order that we might be held responsible for progress towards defined goals. Objectives for 2001, actions, timescales, responsibilities and success criteria were defined. While this may seem a small and less than exciting development, it is of the most profound significance. For too long, the future of this great school has not been sufficiently clear and a vision of strategic development has not been identified. We have now set a precedent.

I want to take this opportunity to tell you a little about the work we have started and then to ask for your help in a matter which concerns me.

1. We cannot start other than with academic results - Class X results this year were a considerable improvement. Top place went to Ankit Jain with an overall score of 91%, 99% in mathematics and 100% in science! Twenty-six students (out of 83) scored over 90% in at least one subject, there were 58 distinctions in English, 67 in science. The average mark in science rose from 67% last year to 84% with similar rises in English, up from 55% average to 76% and mathematics from 51% to 64%. Results of this quality have not been seen in Sanawar for some time. We should congratulate all those concerned, pupils and staff.
2. Prep school classes have been integrated into senior school, to the delight of our younger students, who now have no fear of the unknown to hold back their enthusiasm. Applications for places in all Classes has grown while withdrawals have plummeted. Sanawar is on the move and the fact is becoming well known.
3. After many years we have again a fully functioning pool and a swimming coach. We have also employed professional coaches in

football and hockey this term. Unfortunately, we did not succeed in regaining the trophy of the B. Singh Memorial Tournament – what I can say though is that of our 1<sup>st</sup> XI squad, two boys were in Lower V and one was in Upper IV and they carried themselves admirably.

4. A concern has been the well-being of our site and buildings. I hope you will agree that there have been many improvements. Parker Hall is now the Learning Resource Centre - a magnificent refurbishment with new computer, internet access and library facilities as well as general working space for pupils and staff. We are also pleased that we can now exhibit some of the history of this magnificent school.
5. We have started to manage our water resources and have begun harvesting and recycling schemes. More baths and maybe even grass on Barne Field!
6. 'Human Resources' have also been developing over the last year. A number of new posts including an Estate Manager have significantly expanded our ability to manage the demands of the institution. We have created a Faculty of Commerce, and added Cultural Development to the brief of the Faculty of English along with European languages.

What of the coming year? We have many other targets; a cyber café; western music; more outdoor education and international opportunities; all of this, and more, will be funded through the ordinary revenue of the school - fees. Better financial management has done the job for us, that and some hard work. But this is small fry when it comes to the challenges of building for the future in the way we now must.

Many more of last years' Class X decided to stay on into Class XI and many of them have opted for science subjects. However, 'science' has moved on - it's now 'technology', 'computer aided design', 'digital engineering', all sorts of wonderful new concepts - I'm talking about science and technology beyond the CBSE syllabus. Sanawarians can 'deliver the goods' if provided with the facilities to do so: a completely new, state of the art science, mathematics and technology Resource. A purpose built, inspiring, technological environment which will be the envy of schools all over the world. We have identified a possible site for a new building and an initial drawing has been produced. I need also to tell you that this development is not just about science, maths and technology. These subjects are currently taught in

areas of the school which will be vacated if we have a new building and which will release further potential for refurbishment and development. However, such a resource will require "considerable funding" and is beyond the financial resources that the school generates. I am looking for successful corporate partners, willing and able to join us in planning and funding this exciting development.

However, my second project is where I want assistance from you all as individuals. Many of you have commented favourably on the refurbishment carried out to the Nilagiri House boys dormitories over the summer. What I want to do now is the complete refurbishment of the children's domestic areas – the whole of BD, GD and PD dormitories, bathrooms and toilets and the Central Dining Hall (CDH) - within a time scale of two years - from today. To do this, I need to have at my disposal a sum of Rs. 1.5 Crores. Our funds can supply this, but at a cost - no cyber café, no western music, no resurfacing of playing fields, no more new books in Parker Hall, no further extensions to our computer facilities. You get the picture – complete go slow!! I do not want this to happen and neither, I believe, do you.

I need your help to ensure that the momentum of progress is maintained, to ensure that we continue to improve at a rapid rate, and to ensure that we fulfill our duty to do our very best for every pupil in this school, now, not in ten years time!

I am therefore announcing to-day, with the approval of the Board of Governors, the launch of a '**Development Fund for Dormitories & Pupil Facilities**' This fund will be administered under the Rules of the Society and the supervision of our new auditors, PriceWaterhouse.

A complete statement of account will be sent to each and every donor. I know that the domestic arrangements for every child is a matter close to the heart of every parent sitting here. The target is 1.5 Crores, and I ask you all, Parents, Old Sanawarians, friends of the school, each to give; by this personal generosity I know we will achieve our target.

Sanawar has been dogged by a mentality of 'take'. I must make it clear that my expectation is that we all start to 'give'. In whatever way, in financial help, in working as a teacher that little bit harder, as a student "Never Giving In" – all of us, if we are not 'giving' to Sanawar then we are 'taking' from it and that is no longer acceptable.

I want action from you on this and I am prepared to do my part. I have here a personal cheque made out to the 'Development Fund' and in a sum equivalent to my salary for one month. May I ask Col. Pannu to come forward and collect this from me as the first donation. Join me. Every one of you. Show your support by making a gift to the 'Development Fund' I have just announced, make it as generous as you can within your means. Thank you.

**Andrew S. Gray**

Headmaster

**From The Headmaster's Notice board**

***'Development Fund for Dormitories & Pupil Facilities'***

We have now set up a 'Development Fund for Dormitories & Pupil Facilities'. A number of donations have already been received and I am confident of receiving many more.

I am writing to all current parents and Mr. Rajveer Gulia, the recently appointed OS President for 2002/4 will be writing to all 'known' OS. All donations should be made out to 'The Headmaster, The Lawrence School, Sanawar' and will be acknowledged by a signed receipt. Should you not receive a letter inviting you to contribute, please do let us know and we will be happy to rectify this oversight immediately!

**Diwali Holiday 2002**

Would all parents please note that from 2002, there will be no break for Diwali in the school calendar. The reasons for this are three fold. Firstly, the Dewali holiday was a relatively new development. I think I am correct in saying that prior to 1996 there was no holiday at this time. It came about then as a response to a not entirely creditable episode in the history of the school. ie. indiscipline on the part of some senior boys letting off crackers in the Birdwood.



Secondly, many, many parents have pleaded that a second holiday coming so soon after the Founders break is a disruption to family and school life. I am inclined to agree.

Thirdly, and possibly most importantly, we do not deliver the recommended number of teaching days as per the CBSE Rules & Regulations. I am working to rectify this situation and the Dewali break seems to me to be an obvious contribution to this movement.

### Western Music at Sanawar

From next February Sanawar will, once again, have a 'Composer in Residence'. Chris Williams has worked in school before when he wrote the musical 'Kim' which was toured by Sanawar pupils in 1982 and performed in Delhi, Mumbai, Pune, Chennai, Kolkata and Jamshedpur.

A chorister at St. Paul's Cathedral, Chris was educated at Oxford and the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London from where he was awarded the Wainwright Scholarship in 1980. He has held a number of posts including at Denstone College and as Musician in Residence at the Beaford Centre (UK). Since then he has worked as a freelance composer and teacher including a term at the Terezin Festival in Zurich. He has also won a number of awards including: 'The Royal Philharmonic Society Prize' (1979); the 'Capital Radio Prize' (1980); the 'Elgar Choral Festival Composition Prize' (1988), and the 'Best Musical Performace' at the 1990 'Barclays Youth Music Theatre Awards'. In 1993 he won the 'Amadeus Choir Composition Competition' in Canada.

Chris has always written music for children. Apart from 'Kim', he wrote the musical 'Brother Jacques' for the Theatre Royal, Plymouth which was subsequently performed at the 'Teatr Muzyczny' in Gdynia, Poland where he set up their Youth Music Company. 'Monkey' was commissioned by the UK Arts Council and performed at Dartmouth College (1993) and the Theatre Royal (1999) while other musicals for children have included 'Starchild' (1995), 'The Hot Rock', 'The Lost Domain' and 'Korczak' (1997) which was performed in Zurich and Warsaw and which was the subject of a documentary produced by West Country Television in 1998. Other works for children have been broadcast on UK television and performed in the Millennium Dome. In recent years he has also directed children's productions of 'Sweeney Todd', 'Oh, what a Lovely War', 'Bugsy Malone' and 'The Threepenny Opera'.

### A date for the Diary: The Old Sanawarian Polo Ball

The Old Sanawarian Polo match will be played (next year – 2002!) on the afternoon of Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> of February, 2002 at the Jaipur polo ground in Delhi. The match will be followed in the evening by The Old Sanawarian Polo Ball at a venue yet to be announced.

The OS President, Mr. Rajveer Gulia, has asked me, on his behalf, to extend a warm welcome, not only to Old Sanawarians, but to all **parents and other friends of the school** who might care to attend this event. I will also take this opportunity to add that since taking over as Headmaster, I have been warmly supported in my work by the sentiments and actions of the Old Sanawarian fraternity. In my turn, and to support them, I will be attending this function, their annual 'bash' in Delhi. It's a great event, please show your support for the school and the OS family by coming along and helping to make this occasion the great and glittering success it deserves to be!!

## SECTION II: FROM THE SCHOOL

### Study Power

*By Sarah Vogel & Shivaani Maediratta*

A Workshop on 'Study Skills' was organized on the 25<sup>th</sup> of August, 2001 exclusively for the Upper V. Twenty two students volunteered to attend the session by Dr. Navita Mahajan. Conducted in an informal manner, with students allowed to sit on the floor to get comfortable, we were exposed to five general study skill: Self-Awareness, Self-Evaluation, Methods and Strategies, Confidence, Practice and Habit.

We learnt about specific study techniques, note-making styles, PQ4R (Preview, Question, Read, Reflect, Recite and Review) and MURDER (Mood, Understanding, Recall, Digest, Expand and Review), Planning and Time Management. Dr. Mahajan was a very inspiring and enthusiastic leader. The workshop was practical and we were able to exchange our views on various topics, such as factors that distract teenagers from their studies! We were also taught to plan our day-to-day activities in an organized manner, and how to make our learning effective.

We would like to express our gratitude to Ms. Mehta for organising this workshop, and extend our thanks to Dr. Mahajan for conducting it so effectively. We are looking forward to more similar workshops which will help us to deal with every aspect of our life. (HM please note.)

## Visit of Stephanians

Sanawar had the pleasure of welcoming a group of some forty students from St. Stephen's College, New Delhi on Friday and Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of August. Accompanied by a number of their Faculty members, the students were on a long weekend visit to Himachal. The highlight for the Upper Sixth was the dinner which the Headmaster hosted at his Residence on the Friday night. We had a wonderful opportunity to interact with the Stephanians, to ask them about which schools they had been to, the grades they had managed, the subjects they were studying and their plans for the future after leaving St. Stephen's College. All in all, a great opportunity to gather information which will help us in thinking about what we want to do next year. Some real food for thought!

## My Exchange Experience at St. Suthian College, South Africa.

*By Ankit Setia*

South Africa, the unknown place where I descended on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June, 2001 after an exhausting flight of 9 hours. From Joberg airport I was taken to the College, which was in Randburg. Mr. Keet, the exchange co-coordinator, introduced me to staff and students. Students and teachers were very helpful and friendly and I had no problem in settling down.

Classes were very different from Sanawar. Teachers had their own Laptops and students are allowed to use calculators during classes. The classrooms were carpeted, and had heaters and projectors. Though I felt that their academic standards were low, a lot of stress was laid on practical work. Students could use the internet at any time and they mostly worked on computers. After classes, students were allowed to go off site until supper. On weekends, they were free to go anywhere.

The school provides excellent sports facilities, though the main game was Rugby! I played hockey for my house, 'Mount Stevens'. The school had a big campus, a beautiful Church and eight huge fields. I visited Sun City and Durban during my weekends and went to Cape Town for my

mid- term break. I even went for a night Safari in Pilanisberg.

The whole exchange programme was the best experience of my life and I will never forget it. Thank you Sanawar for this great opportunity. I would personally like to thank the 'Round Square', our Headmaster, Mrs. Saisha Khanna and Mr. Gautam for selecting me for such a beautiful and lovely exchange experience.

## Inter School Athletics Meet held at Bishop Cotton School, Shimla

10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2001

The following results were achieved by members of the Sanawar team at this event our congratulations to them all on such fine performances and for winning so many medals:

### BOYS

**Kunnal Dadwal** - 3<sup>rd</sup> in 100m., 3<sup>rd</sup> in 200m., 3<sup>rd</sup> in Long Jump, 2<sup>nd</sup> in 4x200m. Relay

**Karandeep Singh** - 1<sup>st</sup> in Long Jump, 3<sup>rd</sup> in Triple Jump, 3<sup>rd</sup> in 400m., 3<sup>rd</sup> in 800m.

**Neeraj Grewal** - 2<sup>nd</sup> in 200m., 3<sup>rd</sup> in 100m., 1<sup>st</sup> in 4x200m. Relay

**Jatin Mehra** - 2<sup>nd</sup> in Triple Jump, 2<sup>nd</sup> in Discuss, 2<sup>nd</sup> in 4 x 200m. Relay

**Shejver Brar** - 3<sup>rd</sup> in High Jump

**Parthiv Baharli** - 2<sup>nd</sup> in Long Jump, 2<sup>nd</sup> in Shot Put, 2<sup>nd</sup> in 4x200m. Relay

**Himanshu Bhasin** - 2<sup>nd</sup> in 100m., 2<sup>nd</sup> in 200m., 2<sup>nd</sup> in 400m., 2<sup>nd</sup> in 4x200m. Relay

**Abdul Salim** - 2<sup>nd</sup> in Javelin

**Pavel Sharma** - 2<sup>nd</sup> in 100m., 3<sup>rd</sup> = in 200m., 1<sup>st</sup> in 4x200m. Relay

**Harzorawar Gill** - 1<sup>st</sup> in 1500m., 1<sup>st</sup> in 800m., 2<sup>nd</sup> in 400m., 1<sup>st</sup> in 4x200m. Relay

**Veer Singh** - 3<sup>rd</sup> in Long Jump, 1<sup>st</sup> in 4x200m. Relay

### Girls

**Daman Thandi** - 1<sup>st</sup> in 100m., 2<sup>nd</sup> in 200m., 3<sup>rd</sup> in Long Jump

**Avantika Singh** - 3<sup>rd</sup> in 100m.

**Alisha Charak** - 2<sup>nd</sup> in High Jump, 3<sup>rd</sup> in 100m., 3<sup>rd</sup> in 4x200m. Relay



**Deepali Sharma** – 2<sup>nd</sup> in Long Jump, 3<sup>rd</sup> in 4x200m. Relay

**Aanchal Chandel** – 1<sup>st</sup> in 800m., 2<sup>nd</sup> in 400m., 3<sup>rd</sup> in 4x200m. Relay

**Taran Bhattal** – 1<sup>st</sup> in High Jump

**Hemika Gill** – 3<sup>rd</sup> in 800m.

**Neha Jhala** – 3<sup>rd</sup> in 4x200m. Relay

### Our First Impressions of Sanawar

*By Kim Field and Jessica Stack*

Our exchange program so far has been an experience from day one: the whole environment- sights, smells, sounds have been different and exciting. We are both in upper dorms: Jess in Himalaya and Kim in Nilagiri. We have been really well looked after by the girls and staff and we've been really impressed by Indian hospitality. In a week we are feeling settled and have become accustomed to the beds, baths, CDH food and even the monkeys. Morning PT is not what we would call fun but it has been interesting - so different from our normal school routine.

We have both taken subjects which we have not been able to do at St. Stithians - Psychology, Sculpture and Home Science, where we have been learning Indian recipes. Sanawar is a very beautiful school and it has a lot of character. We are taking part in the Himalaya house play, which has kept us busy. Sunnyside School is also becoming part of our weekly routine. We are especially hoping to see as much of the surrounding areas and attractions as possible because India has so much to offer!

### The Royal Geographical Society (UK): World Challenge The Colbayn's Expedition team at 'Sunnyside'

*By Philippa Stennings & Suzi Thomas*

We are a group of 9 British students and 3 adult leaders from a UK organisation called 'World Challenge', which sends groups all over the world for month-long expeditions, which include both a trekking phase and a community project. Our team, consisting of nine 16-18 years olds, comes from Colbayns High School in Essex, and we have been planning our trip and raising the money needed for two years, with a variety of team and individual fund raising events.

We arrived in India 3 weeks ago and since then we have visited Mandi, Kaza and Shimla and completed a 2 week trek, including a climb of the Baba Pass, which is 5000m high. The trekking was physically and mentally demanding, but we found it very

rewarding, and especially enjoyed the stunning views of the Himalayas through which we travelled.

For our community project, in which we aim to give something back to the country we visit, we decided we wanted to work in a school in same way, yet we only found out where we were going and what we were doing the day before we left England. We arrived here in Sanawar on Saturday, the 4<sup>th</sup> of August, 2001 from Shimla and were greeted by Mr. Gray and received an impressive tour of the school by some of the students whom we found to be very helpful and polite. We discussed the project with Mrs. Khanna & Mrs. Verma, and were shown the area at 'Sunnyside' which the school wished to turn into a usable area for children. When we arrived the ground was unsuitable for use as it was covered with glass and sharp stones.

We began on Monday by removing the glass and some of the biggest rocks, after which we sorted out the equipment we needed. We then found that the ground was going to be very difficult to make completely safe in the time we had, judging by the number of rocks in the spot, so instead we decided to cover it with a layer of shingle which was suitable for children to play on, and a task we could complete. We also created a flower bed and filled it with plants generously donated from the school gardens. The shingle we had ordered arrived first thing Tuesday morning, allowing us to cover the ground in just a few hours, although it took all nine of us and also hopefully to the children, who now have a nice, safe area to play in.

Since our arrival we have noticed many differences between Sanawar and our school in the UK, the main one being that Sanawar is a private boarding school, whereas Colbayns is a state day school. The school hours vary greatly as back in England, the school day doesn't begin until 9am and finishes at 3.15pm, and there is no PT at the crack of dawn, although we do have Physical Education classes in our timetable. Also, despite the size of the school grounds, the number of pupil at Colbayns greatly outnumbers Sanawar – we have nearly 2000 students as opposed to 650 here. We study many of the same subjects, with the notable exception of Hindi!

We leave the country on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of August, and although we are all looking forward to going home, we shall carry fond memories of India back with us. From our arrival we found people to be very friendly and welcoming – for instance, when we found ourselves with nowhere to sleep in Kaza, we were offered the use of someone's dinning room floor! We have had some wonderful experiences

here, and we shall never forget the kindness and hospitality shown to us by this country and its people. We look forward to our return to India, a country which we have grown to know and love during our fantastic stay here.

### My South African Exchange

By Rishma Gill

Blaring music, strapped up in harness, I stand on the edge of the highest Bungee jump in the world, 216 meters! What on earth am I doing here? 5-4-3-2-BUNGEEEE! 7 seconds of free fall, 7 seconds that seemed to stretch on till eternity. Speed and the force of gravity had never hit me this hard before and probably never will again. The ultimate adrenaline rush was definitely more than worth it! (For those of you who find this hard to believe... I have the video to prove it.)

This is my most vivid memory of my exchange to Cape Town, South Africa. Vineyards, beaches, harbours, gorgeous sprawling gardens....and of course, the famous Table Mountain. The Capetonians are justified to be proud of all that their city offers.

A four days safari at the Kruger National Park was absolutely awesome! We spent our first night at a tribal village learning tribal dances around a huge fire. Teaching the locals the Bhangra and the Birdie dance was quite a task. Waking bright and early around 4 every morning wasn't particularly exciting....but it was well worth the effort.

Cavendish Square – home outside home! Raiding the shopping stores and gorging down chocolate cake was my favourite pastime. The craft street markets at Cape Town are bustling with people on Sundays. Beads, African masks, body piercing outlets, hair braiding experts, little fluorescent buildings... all of this way too much to take in at one go. And yes, how could I forget the clothes; search for the label and strain your eyes to look at the fine prints, it says- MADE IN INDIA!!! Embroidery, Kurtas, Mirror work.... I felt so much at home!

Herschel; our school... ummm... as for classes - they were fun... but the extra strong bond Mrin and I managed to build with the library

is more than worth mentioning. I am making us sound like scholars, but the bottom line? – that's where the computers were! It figures why our loyalties to that place are still this heartfelt. Jokes apart – I had the most fantastic time ever. I know I have a home in Cape Town and I've left a part of my family behind.



### Results of the Inter House P. E. Competition

22<sup>nd</sup>, September, 2001

BD		GD	
1 <sup>st</sup> :	Vindhya	1 <sup>st</sup> :	Nilgiri
2 <sup>nd</sup> :	Himalaya	2 <sup>nd</sup> :	Vindhya
3 <sup>rd</sup> :	Nilgiri	3 <sup>rd</sup> :	Himalaya
4 <sup>th</sup> :	Siwalik	4 <sup>th</sup> :	Sivalik

### At the End of the Tunnel

By Arjun Singh, L4A

Death is a thing causing sorrow,  
Someone has died today,  
Someone may die tomorrow,  
But you will meet that person again  
someday,  
Never feel afraid of death,  
For death is what waits.  
Death is what you can never run from,  
Because, it will catch you someday.

You may die in a storm,  
If it wasn't yesterday then may be today.  
Never feel afraid of death,  
For death is what waits.

Death can only kill you,  
But not the soul.  
The soul doesn't control you,  
But has an important role.  
Never feel afraid of death,  
For death is what awaits you.

Life is what tortures you,  
Death is what saves you.  
Never feel afraid of death,  
For death is what awaits you.

1. Results of Inter House Hindi Poetry Recitation competition held on 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2001 for Classes V and VI.

1 <sup>st</sup> Position	Nilgiri
2 <sup>nd</sup> Position	Vindhya
3 <sup>rd</sup> Position	Siwalik
4 <sup>th</sup> Position	Himalaya

**Individual Positions**

1 <sup>st</sup> Position	Khwab Sanghavi	Nilgiri
2 <sup>nd</sup> Position	Parth Goyal	Vindhya

2. Results of Senior Inter House Hindi Debate held on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2001.

1 <sup>st</sup> Position	Nilagiri
2 <sup>nd</sup> position	Siwalik
3 <sup>rd</sup> Position	Himalaya
4 <sup>th</sup> Position	Vindhya

**Individual Positions**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Sumi Sharma	Nilagiri
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Devika Bhargava	Siwalik
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Anupam Pandey	Vindhya

Results of IX Himachal State Squash Championship held at Shimla

27<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> October 2001.

Age groups (Opens)	Dushyant Malik	3 <sup>rd</sup>
(U-17)	Dushyant Malik	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Himanshu Sud	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Sagar Bhasin	3 <sup>rd</sup>
(U-15)	Hit Pal Sandhu	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Rohit Punnani	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Navjot Jammu	3 <sup>rd</sup>

Before the end of last term the Editorial Board met Mrs. Solomon.

She says she is very nervous about the interview...

Q. *Well ma'am, we've always known you as Mrs. R.A.Solomon. The R.A. is a mystery...*

A. My full name is Renni Asha Lata Solomon.

Q. *How do you feel about leaving Sanawar?*

A. We, as in my family- have always regarded Sanawar as home. There is no other place for us, so it's very traumatic for me to be leaving. It is not at all easy to detach myself from Sanawar, but I have to face it. Even for my kids, this has always been home.

Q. *Where exactly are you from?*

A. Allahabad – that is my birth- place and where I was educated. I was married in Palampur, Distt Kangra – so that way I'm also Himachali!!

Q. *Well ma'am, you joined Sanawar when and as what?*

A. In 1969. Mr. Somdutt was the Headmaster and I joined as a geography teacher. At that time, there was a two-year confirmation period although before my confirmation could come in, I was appointed House Mistress in 1972. From 1972-1990, I was a House Mistress. Then in 1990, I became the Dean of Studies.

Q. *Any tough times you remember?*

A. There was always a lot of work. It was tough when my kids were small - but at that time there were a lot of servants here. Then the Senior Mistress - Ms. Chaterjee - was too demanding. But I was young, so I managed being a House Mistress, the teaching load, my kids. Then in '82, my husband died. That was a big transition period.

Q. *You were also Officiating Headmistress for a while. What was the experience like?*

A. Well, it was definitely tough. The school was going through a difficult phase – especially where discipline was concerned. The Headmaster left very quickly and I was not prepared mentally to take on such a challenging task but I survived.

Q. *Do you have any regrets?*

A. Regrets? No. I did have to ask a few boys to leave, but that was after enough warnings in writing to the parents. During my first year I had to take serious steps to ensure that a lot of





prevailing negative practices would be curtailed.

Q. *Have you noticed any major differences over the past 30 years?*

A. Over the last 8 or 9 years teaching has been less than it used to be. Earlier, in the 70's and 80's, the kids were willing to study more. It is not that the kids are bad - I think there are just too many activities introduced with no balance. They are probably too tired. At some stage the children began to take life easy. Now the teachers want to teach, but the children don't want to study and are too dependent on tuitions.

Q. *You are aware that you are known as a very, very strict teacher?*

A. Yes. (Laughs) That is my reputation - which is quite sad!

Q. *Are you naturally so strict, or are you strict because you have to be?*

A. No, I'm not. I like jokes. I love to laugh and have fun - but I'm too particular about my responsibilities - maybe I shouldn't be. I think it's because of my training and secondly because of my religious upbringing. On these, I cannot compromise. I guess these are what gave me such serious roots. I demand too much - I criticise myself for that all the time. But I don't want to compromise on my teaching.

Q. *Out of all the staff, whom have you worked with the longest?*

A. I'm not sure. Must be Mr. K.J. Parel, then Mr. Puri .....

Q. *At present, there are many new staff. Do you think the School is in the right hands?*

A. It all depends. People come and go - it's the School that stays forever. The character should not change. Change is always necessary, but not if it means leaving it's roots. Schools have to be progressive, but a School like ours has to hold on to its traditions.

Q. *What exactly do you think is the School's depths? Roots?*

A. That's difficult to define. I don't mean marching and P.T. As far as I'm

concerned, these are just things done if required. It's the character. A Sanawarian has his own character. It comes from the system - the values that are taught. We have to make sure that remains. Sanawarians cannot become like any other school children.

Q. *You have headed both B.D. and G.D. Any great differences?*

A. Truthfully, I liked being with B.D. more than G.D. There were not as many B.D. problems as expected. There were very long hours involved, but I didn't mind. I learned a lot about B.D. although I don't think B.D. accepted a woman heading them that willingly, but otherwise there were no problems.

Q. *Do you think that the proper functioning of a school depends on its' Headmaster? On the Prefects? Or both?*

A. The Headmaster - and the decisions he takes. Everyone has to co-operate. But, everyone should not just keep saying, "Yes" to everything he says. People should discuss things openly - and a Headmaster should listen to all their views, and then take a decision.

Q. *What has been your greatest achievement in Sanawar?*

A. Well, I really enjoyed the teaching. I got a lot of professional satisfaction.

Q. *One last thing - you've always been known as the "lady who never laughs" (we all laugh) any comment?*

A. Well, I love to laugh, have fun. I told Gautam Mighlani last year - "You've made me forget how to laugh!" and he had quite a laugh out of that!! But it's not true. I love to laugh and be happy.

Igoli.....Place Of Gold.....  
Jo'burg...Johannesburg

By Tanya Buddhiraja L6

There are many names for the South African city that is rich in cultural diversity. From the shantytowns of Sophia town, to the northern suburbs, a wide spectrum of people of different races dwell. South Africa has quite a large Indian population, most of whom reside in Durban, which is not far from Johannesburg.

As my plane glided smoothly onto the tarmac at Johannesburg International Airport, earlier this year, I was filled with a sense of anticipation. My exchange was to be for a period of 7 weeks and my host family was to be the Stacks. During my stay, I attended St. Stithians, which was an enriching experience, as it has beautiful grounds and offers many opportunities. Here, I was kept busy attending Debates, Darwinian society meetings, both Netball and Rugby matches, as well as Candle-making classes.

The second weekend I was there, the school organized a trip to a rural school called Nalatsane, in an area called Brits, on a community service project, the object of which was, to paint the ablution blocks! After several hours in the bush under the bluest blue sky you could imagine, we were finally done.

The Game watching in SA is brilliant, because there are many...many reserves, and certainly no shortage of Game. A girl at Stithians (a.k.a 'Saints'), Megan, whose family owns one such game farm, invited us to stay with her at her farmhouse one weekend; it was an experience I shall never forget. Her farm happens to be the second largest game farm in Southern Africa, not South Africa, but southern Africa, with a total area of about 100,000 acres!! What makes it even better is, that in order to get to this massive farm, you have to fly, and so her family has their own plane that seats eight people! The flight was quite eventful, because we took with us the family pets, two huge Alsatians, a Cocker Spaniel and a Hornbill!

On another weekend, my family took me to a Game reserve at Pilansburg, which was equally, if not more impressive, where...I must have taken a zillion pictures of Giraffes, Elephants, Warthogs. We had a lovely time, stayed at a quaint chalet, went for game drives and had loads of braai's!! (SA term for a barbecue)

The best trip of all, however, was during my last week in SA; we travelled down to the coast, a place called Ramsgate, which was absolutely stunning. We had a house right on the beach, with view of soft sparkling white sand, and a sapphire blue sea. We sighted a few dolphins and even a solitary whale! On our last day at the beach, we got up early and watched the sun rising, slowly but surely, and from the horizon it seemed to illuminate the sky with a kaleidoscope of colour.

There are indeed many differences between the country and ours, despite our both being developing countries, the cultural aspect probably is the most

prominent. I was asked a bunch of questions about India, which I tried to answer as diplomatically as possible. One that struck me as a little unusual was whether I'd seen a mobile phone before arriving in Johannesburg! Another priceless one was, whether we still ride on elephants to get around!!

My family gave me a wonderful time, and I had a terrific summer! Wasn't really looking forward to leaving the place, as I'd become so attached to it. Nevertheless, my exchange proved to be a learning experience, one that I shall never ever forget

### Sanawar Nature Club

*By Sonal Ahuja- President*

The Nature Club of India movement was started in 1976, to inculcate an interest in nature amongst the students in order to motivate them to help conserve the environment. A nature club consists of a group of young people, who spread conservation awareness in the society. Some of the nature club activities consist of poster- making, nature study projects, tree planting, paper recycling, articles and other material for nature news, talks and slide shows etc.

The Lawrence School, Sanawar, is a member of the WWF. The elected office bearers for the year 2001 are: (a) President- Sonal Ahuja, (b) Vice- President- Misha Manhas, (c) Secretary- Ayush Aggarwal, (d) Treasurer- Shraddha Dadwal, and the Club Advisor- Ms. Ashali Solomon. The club consists of 51 members in all.

During the spring term – 2001, the Club was involved in the following activities:

- We had a talk and slide show by Mrs. Thaplayal, Programme Officer WWF. She spoke about bio diversity and about the varied flora and fauna found in Himachal Pradesh.
- Five students visited 'Shivpuri' to participate in the 'SAVE PROGRAMME'. On their return they put up a presentation for the club members.
- The 31<sup>st</sup> of May, was Non- Tobacco Day and the 5th June, was the World Environment Day. The club celebrated these days, by putting up a display of posters and slogans in Birdwood.
- A number of articles, cross words, sketches and posters were published in the WWF magazine 'Harit Prema'.

The following students contributed to the WWF magazine:

- Articles by- Pallavi Phogat and Vasudha Sahgal.

- Cross word by- Anna and Jennifer (Exchange students from Herschel Girls School, South Africa.)
- Sketches by- Joban Ghuman and Anureet Viridi. Poster by- Amanat Bawa and Damneet Kaur.

The other activities included were cleaning the campus and collection of pine needles to prevent forest fires. For Founder's Term 2001, quite a few activities have been planned which include making cards from recycled paper. We will also be identifying trees and installing new nameplates, so that it's easier for us to learn the names of these trees and to spread this awareness amongst others. We plan to landscape the area around Lily Pond and to introduce new birdhouses. The birdhouses put up the year before have new residents. Encouraged by this, students Rosie Gray and Arjun Singh gave new designs.

The Club members will be pleased to invite anyone, who wishes to contribute any ideas, suggestions or extend their help in any way. They may do so in writing to the Headmaster or to the Editor.

### Some Like it Hot and Some Like it Cold

*By Kim Field and Jessica Stack*

It was such a difference to move into Rajasthan from cool, hilly Sanawar. What struck us first into the journey were the landscape, flat dry lands and the great heat.

We enjoyed our whole trip to Ajmer. It was wonderful to see a different school and to meet so many people from schools scattered all over India. We stayed in the dormitory with the Mayo girls that gave us the chance to make friends with them and observe their routine. The food too was different and we were introduced to some Rajasthani dishes.

We really loved watching the activities of the Cultural festival, the highlight being the Indian dancing with their beautiful costumes and make up. We even got to help out painting the dancers' faces before their folkdance. There were lots of other events including Indian and Western songs, dumb charades, a Quiz and English Creative Writing, which we participated in.

On our last day, we ventured out into Ajmer and Pushkar. We saw the Dargah and the

Pushkar Lake, both of which are amazing and unique. Shopping in the Pushkar market was fantastic and we picked up a few souvenirs. Thank you Mrs. Roberts and Mr. Das for looking after us through out.

### Soccer 1<sup>st</sup> XI V's APS Dagshai

The soccer season this term kicked off with the 1<sup>st</sup> XI playing APS Dagshai on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August. We took the lead 1-0 as Samyukt Mangat scored in the first fifteen minutes itself. In quick succession came a goal from Harzoravar Gill taking our lead to 2-0. Somewhere around the middle of the first half APS scored their 1<sup>st</sup> goal and thereby reduced our lead to 2-1. We reacted quickly as Devan Daniel scored from our side. Towards the close of the first half APS retaliated by scoring a second goal taking the score to 3-2.

The second half witnessed a few goal opportunities on both sides but no goals were scored, 3-2 thus remaining the final score.

### Atoms Held to a Draw

Atoms soccer team took on the team from BCS Shimla in their home ground on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August. The match was played at a fast pace with both teams creating openings but failing to capitalize on these openings.

Rock solid defending by Sanawarians in general and goalkeeper Inderveer Gill and Ajaypal Randhawa in particular thwarted many attacks by the BCS forward line. Bhavuk Behl and Jaiveer Chandel were unlucky as their shots just missed the bars on a couple of occasions. The end result was a goal less draw with both teams failing to score.

### The 34<sup>th</sup> International Round Square Conference, 2001

*By Nalin Agarwal*

This year, five students – Sourabh Arora, Bandana Sodhi, Leepika Saikia, Ayinla Chuba and myself, escorted by Mrs. S. Khanna and Mr. R.P.Gautam, had the honour of representing our school and India at the 34<sup>th</sup> International Round Square Conference held at Alice Springs, Australia. It was an enlightening experience, and it was wonderful how our Australian hosts had



managed to blend fun with learning. Though I am supposed to write a report on the Conference itself, I feel it would be appropriate to write something about the journeys we undertook to reach Alice Springs, as a great part of the trip was spent driving through the Australian outback.

### Round Square

As quoted by Mr. John Howard, Prime Minister of Australia, "the Round Square is a world-wide association of schools which follow the principles of education formulated by Kurt Hahn and focus on personal development and responsibility through service, challenge, adventure and international understanding".

### The Journey to Alice Springs

After arriving at Melbourne and spending a very enjoyable day there, along with pupils from Ivanhoe Grammar School, Melbourne and Birklehof Schule, Germany we took a very comfortable bus which eventually took us to our destination in 30 hours. During the journey, I came to know a boy from Birklehof, whose mother was a fan of the actor Lawrence Olivier, and so had named her son after him. Most of the journey after bypassing Adelaide was characterized by the famed Australian outback. At night it became very cold. The roads were very good, and there were no complaints about the bus or its very helpful drivers. Our flights getting cancelled were indeed a mixed blessing, as although a lot of time was spent on the road and the travel plans had to be rearranged, we saw a lot of Australia, which we could never have done otherwise.

### The Theme

The theme of the conference was "Footprints in the Sand, a Journey to the Center", a topic most thoroughly discussed during Baraza group sessions (about which, more later). Essentially, we agreed that its meaning lay in finding out more about yourself, your goals, and in the process, leaving your mark, or impact on your surroundings- be it family, friends, or the environment.

### The Venue

St. Philip's College is quite a new school, and its most striking aspect was its eager, hospitable staff and the way the whole conference was organized. We had to register, and they immediately told us about our accommodation. Students from St. Philip's, both girls and boys helped carrying the luggage, and this was a contrast, as I can imagine few girls in our schools who'd be able to offer help in carrying someone's luggage. The computer labs are

wonderful, with a stable, all-day connection to the Internet. Their swimming pool is small compared to ours though!

### The Accommodation

Some of us were lodged at the boarding houses at the school itself. However, the rest, including myself and Sourabh, were billeted with host families whose children were students at St. Philip's. We were with a family called the Lohmeyers, whose two sons were at the College. This gave us an opportunity to actually live in an Australian home and experience their way of life. It was a most comfortable stay, although we couldn't interact with them much due to the packed schedule. However, we gave them a taste of Indian food when one night we cooked them 'paranthas', which took us 2 hours instead of the 1/2 hour we had originally expected. Our meals were almost always at the College.

### The Program

#### Day 1 (23<sup>rd</sup> Sept, 01) :

The first day was spent in all the member schools arriving and settling down in their accommodation, and at night was an orientation program for each delegate to join his/her own discussion or activity group. I was not present for this as I was resting at home after I had contracted a slight fever on the bus. However, joining a group turned out to be simple matter.

#### Day 2 (24<sup>th</sup> Sept., 01):

The day started with the opening ceremony, which included speeches by the St. Philip's Headmaster, native aboriginal dances and a few songs. This was followed by the conference photo and a Baraza group discussion, where a predetermined group of about 20 students and staff sat together and discussed the conference's basic theme. However, this first meeting was an activity, in which each group was given a box full of balloons, rope, string, and a bucket, and two wooden poles as well. The aim was to erect the poles on opposite banks of an imaginary 'river' using rope and pegs, and deploy a kind of a flying-fox (the bucket) with a pulley, whereby one balloon at a time could be transported between team members at each pole. There was no competition as such, just an activity to know each other before discussions actually began in the evening. After lunch, we went on the first of our three main excursions - to Desert Park. Here, we were shown Australia's birds of prey, and other wildlife, and we got to stroll about in the natural outback. That evening was the Australian theme night, which was

predominated by native aboriginal dances and songs, and later by very entertaining Aussie songs.

#### Day 3 (25<sup>th</sup> Sept., 01):

The day started off with the Hill Reflection walk. During assembly, a mountaineer who scaled Mt. Everest gave a lecture about his experience. Then came the Baraza groups followed by the AGM (Annual General Meeting), where prospective member schools are admitted into the Round Square family. This year, 3 schools joined the ranks. After lunch, we had our second excursion, this time to a place called Simpson's Gap. We biked 17 kms through a park to the gap. Most of the vegetation at the park was burnt, and this was apparently due to shifting agriculture which the aboriginals practice, and partly due to forest fires in the arid climate.

Back at school, we had Riika groups, which were similar to Barazas, but more activity oriented. Dinner was at the Oval, the school ground. Separate barbeque grills had been setup. I went to the buffet table where they were serving meat, and I got some frozen meat on a skewer. Next to that were sausages, which could be eaten without cooking. I thought the one on the skewers could be eaten without cooking but it turned out you couldn't - it was raw meat that I bitten into! Anyway, I had lots of fruits after that, nothing else. After dinner, there was a Bushdance to digest all that food. Most of us then slept the night out in the oval in sleeping bags.

#### Day 4 (26<sup>th</sup> Sept., 01):

The next day, people who went for Round Square projects around the world were given certificates. I had a vague idea about the projects, but this and subsequent presentations informed me much better. This past year, there were projects in Kenya, Orissa, Ladakh, and in the coming months, there are more to Thailand and Agra. Most of the work that students can do as members of the Round Square is during the projects, and the conference is an annual summit where people can interact. So it is a good idea for people who have already been on a project to also go for the annual conference, as was done by many schools.

The day's excursion took us to Trepshina Gorge, a beautiful gorge of a presently dried up river (Alice Springs is full of dry rivers, as is the rest of arid Australia). After this we went to Arltunga, which was hub of the gold rush in Australia. We visited a ghost town of the miners' community, and learnt of their tough life and the way gold was panned and extracted. On the way back, I saw a kangaroo hopping along, the only time I saw a kangaroo. (Just as misleading as my perception of kangaroos hopping along the Australian outback was that of a boy from St. Philip's who was traveling with us and quite earnestly inquired, "Do you like to ride elephants in India?"). Back at school, we had the cultural evening, where all five of us went on stage and performed the bhangra for the rest of the school, and which was much appreciated. Most schools presented something, and mostly it was something connected with their own culture. The Greek delegation's dance was specially elegant.

#### Day 5 (27<sup>th</sup> Sept., 01):

Day five's assembly was a lecture given by Dave and Bess Price, who specialize in cross-cultural training, as is their own marriage. After morning tea, we had Baraza groups. By now, each group was given a disposable camera to capture images that reflected the groups discussions, and furnish the photos with a motto, and later present the slide. After lunch, each delegation had to plant a tree at the College's Peace Garden. This symbolized harmony with the environment and peace. In the evening was the RSIS (Round Square International Services) presentation, where different projects' presentations were shown. It was indeed impressive to see the way students had made contributions in the less fortunate areas of the world. Dinner was at Simpson's Gap, where there was the Aboriginal theme night, with dances and their native instrument, the Didjeridu, being played. This was followed by whole kangaroo being roasted, which I preferred not to watch, but which I did taste.

#### Day 6 (28<sup>th</sup> Sept., 01):

This day's assembly had a lecture on Kurt Hahn by one of his close comrades. It was



here we learnt of his eccentricity and his strong principles. The rest of the RSIS presentation was followed by this - a project in Scotland and one that happens each year in Kenya. This day was when we exchanged e-mails and addresses of our new friends. In the evening was the closing ceremony - new member schools were welcomed, the banners were passed onto the Schule Schloss Salem, which hosts the conference next year. After this, everyone traveled to the Telegraph Station by bus, which is one of the oldest structures in Australia. There was a formal dinner here, which was a rare pleasure indeed. After this, the conference was over and everyone returned home or the boarding houses, but not before dancing socials.

Day 7 (29<sup>th</sup> Sept.,01):

We left Alice Springs at 8.00 in the morning, bidding goodbye to everyone except the Birklehof people, Ivanhoe, Doon, Welhams, Lovedale who were traveling with us and in an accompanying bus.

### The Journey from Alice Springs

After starting on the 29<sup>th</sup> morning, we visited the famous Ayers rock, or Uluru. We also passed through Adelaide city, where we had lunch. After quite a tiring 40 hours on the bus, we reached Melbourne at around 12.30 on the 1<sup>st</sup>, and immediately took another bus to Sydney - overall, we were on the bus 56 hours at a stretch, having traveled around 3400 kms.

### Overview

1. During the conference, I came to know of other schools which had a certain Round Square Committee, which basically aimed at service in and around their school. The main aspect of such a committee would be
  - *Initiating service projects in and around the school*
  - *Recycling*
  - *Fund-raising for projects inside the school, as well as for the Prince Alexander Fund for the Round Square*
  - *Excursions to places near the school*
  - *Educating poor children*

Such a committee may consist of both experienced Round Square delegates, as well as those aspiring to go for conferences or projects. Leaders may be assigned spreading awareness for each of the six pillars of the Round Square. Classes should be fitted with recycle-bins, in which only paper, or only

material which can be recycled in school or nearby, is thrown.

So, the people of Australia are a remarkable lot. One aspect of their culture which is striking is the way they mix work and fun, yet do not lose out on efficiency. Maybe we could learn something from them?

## SECTION III: FROM THE STAFF

### The Exchange and Placement Programme

By Mrs. Saisha Khanna

After a period of relative inaction, the year 2001 has seen the beginnings of a new and successful exchange and placement programme. As planned:

- Taanya Bhudiraja and Unnati Madan visited St. Stithians Girls School, South Africa.
- Ankit Setia was able to visit St. Stithians' Boys School, South Africa.
- Reet Sidhu visited St. Cyprian's School, South Africa.
- Mrinalini Aggarwal and Rishma Gill visited Herschel Girls' School. Their exchange partners - Sarah Whitehead and Jessica Glass are here with us until the end of term.
- The Round Square International Conference was held at St. Phillips College, Australia. The students' delegation comprised of Sourabh Arora, Nalin Aggarwal, Bandana Sodhi, Ayinla Chuba and Leepika Saikia. Mr. R. P. Gautam and I attended as the teacher escorts.
- Gap Placements: Mr. Sahil Rishi is here with us and will be remaining with us for the rest of the term. He has finished school at Haberdashers, UK. We also had a short placement visit from Mr. Oscar Higgins, an Old Etonian who is going up to Cambridge next year to study mathematics.

In the coming year we intend to continue the exchange programme with St. Stithians College for Boys and Girls, Herschel Girls' School and St.Cyprian's School, as they have been extremely successful and proved to be an educational experience for both our and their students. I am also in correspondence with the following schools and hope I am able to offer a place for an exchange visit to all the candidates selected for the exchange programme in the year 2002.

- Lakefield College, Canada.
- Sedbergh School, Canada.
- Mejiro Gakuen Senior High School, Japan.

- Aiglon College, Switzerland.
- St. Anne's School, Windermere, UK.
- St. Philip's College, Australia.
- Westminster School, South Australia.
- Ballarat Grammar School, Australia.
- Schule Birklehof, Germany.
- Louisenlund, Germany.

The Round Square International Conference for the year 2002 will to be held in the month of October, in Salem, Germany. For all those schools interested, the host school has offered a pre-Salem Conference tour, which will start from Aigion on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October 2002 and finishes at Salem in time for the conference. The post-Salem Conference tour will be for a period of seven days – exact dates of the tour are awaited.

Two Gap volunteers Sarah Hobden and Elenanor Ruth Hayward, will start with us from the 1<sup>st</sup> of March, 2002 to the 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2002. They will teaching music and games in the Prep school and in 'Sunnyside' – the staff children pre-primary and primary education project in Sanawar.

In the coming year, we intend starting a Round Square Committee comprising students and staff. I hope, it will grow into a strong and effective working group, living out the Round Square mission statement, sharing their commitment to personal development through service, challenge, adventure and international understanding.

I would like to request all those who participated in this years programme that when you return next year you will be expected to continue to share your stories and valuable experiences with others. The link with the experience does not end with this year - the impact will be long lasting and in some cases even 'life' changing!

### ICT (Information & Communications Technology) in School

*By Mrs. Malika Nanda*

The Faculty of ICT has finally made it!! Parker Hall with computer facilities is available to all on the campus. The need is to make not only the students but the teaching staff of the school internet savvy!

This is a part a Training Programme organised by the Faculty of 'Information & Communication Technology' under the supervision of myself as the Head of Faculty with my team: Daniel Francis, Meena Bhalla, Mr. D. Saha and Anil Kumar. This is being done Faculty wise and beginners training is being imparted so that staff can carry on using the internet before the second round of training which will be an advanced course on Internet & MS- Office.

**The School Web Site** - The Faculty is soon going to start looking into the regular updation of the school web site and I have organised two training sessions for faculty members. This training has to be imparted to other staff members also who will be playing an important role in this task. There are a few proposals in the pipe line to be finalised and acted upon such as sports results, student' progress reports and results etc. to be made available as promptly as possible. This would also mean putting up students' work, the news letter and all other possible information that should be there to make the whole site very user friendly and interactive.

**Multimedia classrooms** - The latest advancement in upgrading the classroom teaching methodology will encompass multimedia paraphernalia under full security arrangements. This kind of a teaching environment will have a better audio and visual impact and break the monotony of listening to lectures alone. A serious thought is being given to this proposal which will mean furnishing one sample classroom with this facility to reach a final decision of establishing the same in all classrooms. This way the tentacles of the network will reach to every classroom and in due course of time establish connectivity to e-classrooms at a global level.

Campus networking - Spade work for the new project has already begun. What remains is the survey of the sites to be connected on the network. Various technical proposals have been looked into to which will establish connectivity between all departments working on the student system. The data base management system will also be more centralised and secure in this way.



## Faculty of English and Cultural Development

*By Ms. Ashima Bath*

The Faculty of English was expanded this year, with Cultural Development being added to the portfolio. We also now have the German language residing comfortably alongside English in the Faculty being taught by Mr. Raja Sen who has also taken over as the School Librarian.

Cultural Development absorbs within it, aspects of subjects that are being broadly outlined and discussed the world over these days. With this thought in mind, 'Cinematique' was started last term. Kurosawa has found it's way in to Sanawar, as did Fellini. We now hope to introduce an ACADEMIC JOURNAL sometime next year. This concept found its seed in the thought of giving recognition to Sanawarians who have excelled in their particular fields of expertise. The aim of this journal is to inspire professionals within the Sanawarian community, to write and share with everyone the extent of their knowledge, which may have brought about radical change. Dependant on the enthusiasm of the people writing for it, I extend a warm invitation to everyone within an academic genre extending itself to the world of theatre, art, music, astronomy, languages, or any other subject for that matter.

This Faculty also proposes to start a Music Club and a Book Club next year. The intention behind these clubs is to expose the children to a world that exists outside Sanawar. The Music Club will introduce children to various forms of music that they can consider and discuss. The Book Club will also be run on the same ideology. If there is anyone reading this who knows an author or a music person in their field, who wouldn't mind coming up and meeting the children, please get in touch and help us to broaden their horizons.

At the end of last term, a reading list was issued to every child in the school. This was a sort of a guideline for them to channelise their reading. Please help us to ensure that your children learn to cultivate this fascinating habit.

Our Faculty extends its' hands to all those who can enable us to fulfill this vision.

## Commerce Faculty

*By Mrs. Anita Sharma*

The Headmaster's vision took practical shape when the Faculty of Humanities was divided into two - a Faculty of Humanities and a Faculty of Commerce. I am pleased to have been given the responsibility of

heading the latter Faculty under its new name from Founder's, 2001. May I also extend my warm welcome to Miss Sukhpal Kaur who joined this Faculty this term and will be teaching Commerce and Accountancy. We all wish her a very happy and fruitful stay at Sanawar.

The rooms allotted to this Faculty are being refurbished in the near future and in the meantime we are all trying to motivate the students to display their syllabi related works.

The Sixth Form needs to do serious work, and we, are trying to ensure that they realise the importance of studying with enthusiasm at this point. Extra classes have been started for children identified as having difficulties in Commerce, Accountancy and Economics. Faculty members are being encouraged to attend workshops and enhance their knowledge. The students will be taken to business establishments, in order to give them an idea of the practicality of the subjects. We will keep the Sanawarian community informed of all the progress within the Faculty and look forward to exciting times ahead.

## List of New Appointments: Founders Term

1. Mrs. Baduni: Executive Officer to Headmaster
2. Mr. S R Radhakrishnan: Faculty of Mathematics
3. Mrs. S Chauhan: Head of Faculty Humanities
4. Miss S Brar: Faculty of Commerce
5. Mr. R Sharma: Faculty of Science
6. Mr. Gill: Faculty of Sports

## Internal Appointments

1. Mrs. A Sharma: Head of Faculty Commerce
2. Mr. Sukhbir Singh: Officiating Housemaster Himalaya BD

## A License to Aim

*By Mr. Daniel Francis*

Shooting was introduced as a new activity in Sanawar after Founder's last year. It has added a new dimension to the variety of choices that already exist and offers an exciting area for students to discover their talents and acquire a skill that necessitates the development of concentration, physical fitness and healthy life habits. The response to this activity has been overwhelming especially from the girls!

A vital part of the program is to emphasize that shooting is a sport and should be treated as such. This seems particularly relevant in the present times





keeping in view the growing level of violence projected by the media and the interest that it has generated in guns among youth the world over. It was felt that it is wiser to expose our students to shooting as a sport, because this activity provides us with a platform from where we can inculcate the right values about the use of firearms and assist students to develop discrimination between striving for excellence in a skill such as shooting that requires precision and the misuse of it. This influence extends automatically to the whole school whether they take the activity or not.

Sanawar boasts of having one of the best shooting ranges among schools in Northern India. This activity was opened to Prep School last year and by this year we have students upto classes U4 participating. In choosing to start with the younger pupils we plan to build up standards of excellence and hope to enter our students in completions nation wide.

We are happy to report that our students participated in the State Shooting Championship held in Dharamshala from August 4 to August 7, 2001 where they represented the Solan District and secured the following results:

#### Girls

The Sanawarian Girls Team came 1<sup>st</sup> in the Rifle Shooting

1. Manreet Sidhu – 1 Gold Medal
2. Shana Sandhu - 1 Gold Medal
3. Niharika Chawla- 1 Gold Medal

#### Individual positions

1. Simrith Sidhu 1<sup>st</sup> Gold Medal
2. Manreet Sidhu 2<sup>nd</sup> Silver Medal

#### Boys

Rifle	Pistol
1. Shantanu Yadav	1 Bronze 1 Silver Medal
2. Jigme Wangchuk	1 Bronze 1 Silver Medal
3. Vaibhav Yadav	1 Silver Medal
4. Uday Virk	1 Bronze

Many thanks to our coach Mr. Manish Giri and Mr. Sukhbir Singh, HOF Sports.

Learning is a life long process for everyone. I believe there is so much to experience in one lifetime that it is impossible to teach everything there is to know in a school. Today formal education has an obligation to encourage children to continue experiencing the world around them keeping proper academic standards. Students should be at the center of the learning process. A teacher is a guide for the students, rather than someone to make all the decisions.

Studying social studies can become more interesting if a teacher presents information in an enthusiastic manner. When students see a teacher is not interested in what is being taught, it is that much harder to learn. I believe a teacher needs to integrate the subjects. I would like to develop knowledge related to real situations. I envisage that the more people involved in the activity, the more ideas will emerge.

There should be goals instead of objectives when creating a lesson plan to support cognitive development. I propose to start an activity which is designed to bring students and faculty from all over the world to create dynamic exploration of modern day India and the colonial legacy that modern India has inherited.

The first step in carrying out an international project is to see what the content of the project might be. Simply working with others abroad might not carry one very far. Take for example; in History the content focus can be on Britain's rule of India during the so-called "Raj", Modern India after Independence, and how colonial rule of India may have impacted modern India.

The internet has the potential to create a global classroom in which students and teachers from different countries work together to enhance their understandings. This project would explore how a group of students and teachers at the Lawrence School Sanawar can work with their counterparts in the world to come to a better understanding.

One may obtain free e-mail accounts from a

number of web sites including <http://mail.yahoo.com/> or [www.hotmail.com](http://www.hotmail.com). While e-mail certainly fosters the exchange of information between the parties abroad and the parties in our country, the ability to carry out research on the internet and then to publish the results on one's collaborative work online boosts such international projects immensely

I intend to establish contacts with educators abroad, one invaluable source is ePALS located at [www.epals.com](http://www.epals.com). Epals provides contact information for educators in different countries who are interested in fostering educational exchanges via e-mail and the internet. Contacts abroad may conveniently be searched for by and combination of city, country grade level and language. Using personal contacts within the school or area community can be another good means of making contact with teachers and students abroad.

A good way to start the communication is to work out the scope of any collaboration and a timeline for the various steps in the collaborative endeavor. Responsibilities for carrying out these steps might be divided in a number of ways between participants in India and those abroad. We can create a historical web site, maps, timelines, historical introduction, in-depth essays, photographs, videos, poems, short stories, multimedia, slide shows and interviews as part of the project.

Material needed for such a project: Computer with internet connections, a digital or a regular camera with a digital scanner, a web page design programme, e-mail, and image editing software such as Microsoft TM image composer

I feel a teacher is not the sole director of the lesson; students must be encouraged to generate the questions. It also shows a student that the teacher is a learner along with the students. I want to allow students to experience the world around them; this will produce a life long learner.

### A Thought from the Senior Master

By P Vasisht

It seems just the other day when last year I had decided to leave S'na to be a Principal in a school in Mussorie, when the Headmaster offered me the job of 'Senior Master' in S'na. I had been to Mussorie twice and apart from the school "Manav Bharati India International", I liked the town a lot. It took me some time to decide in favour of S'na for two reasons. Firstly, having committed myself to another place (and having been introduced in assembly there

as new Principal), how to now reverse that decision, and secondly, the fact that I did differ with the Headmaster on a number of issues, especially about how one brings about discipline in school.

Anyway, here I am, having almost completed one year as Senior Master in S'na. I may not be the right person to judge myself or the Boy's Department, but it gives me a lot of pride when people, (parents, OS and teachers) say there is a 'marked' improvement in the discipline of the school. Whenever we have had problems in school in the past, it has invariably been in BD, and it was this challenge which motivated me to stay.

I am a great believer in 'Team Work', and this starts with the Headmaster at top, Housemaster in middle, going down to the prefects. All have to work in tandem, and my job is only that of a 'pivot' who tries to get the best out of each one and keep them focussed for the betterment of school. There was a time when leadership meant 'muscle', but in today's world, it is all about leading from the front, mixing with people and carrying them along. There will be shortcomings in people (like there are so many in me) but one works on positives through reinforcement. There has to be a sense of belonging in all for the school, a burning desire to put in that extra bit for this historical school. "To seek, to strive, to struggle, and not to yield" - Ulysses.

Bringing some amount of improvement in discipline is not such an achievement as compared to how we have brought it about. Corporal punishment, force and drill is out, and in its place is counselling, persuasion and other such methods which does take a lot more time, is taxing on one's patience, but is also long lasting. Only heart can change the heart. There has to be self realisation within each child through introspection, and not external force, of what is right and what is wrong. I don't rule out some mistakes happening here and there, and unless well explained and justified, suitable action is taken against all, be it a student or a teacher. On no other point do I find the Headmaster stronger than on this one, that children should not be beaten or bullied in any way.

The task before us is not easy, but the desire to improve things further is far greater. Having come to grips with the bigger, broader issues of in-discipline, one would like to move to finer details of better dress sense, manners, cleanliness, language and better relations between seniors and juniors. Nothing motivates me personally more than the words of our school song: " The light is bad and our hearts are sad, and it is hard to see the ball. Never give in S'na,

for it's a cricket motto too - Somebody has got to stop the rot, and why not you ?" The 'you' - applies to all of us.

In the end I'd like to thank the Headmaster for the faith he had in me by making me the 'Senior Master'. Last but not the least, I also thank all the Housemasters and prefects of 2001/2002 batch for their tremendous efforts and support to me.

### A Visit to the Purewal Watch Factory

By Mrs. A Sharma

On the morning of the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2001, a group of 42 boys and girls of class XII, led by myself and Mr. G. Sood, left for the Purewal & Associates Watch Factory at Jubbar. It is a well maintained factory, situated in the center of few local villages.

The bus left BD Quad at 10 am and was stuffed with children full of enthusiasm and happiness, mainly because they missed the rest of the day's classes. Once there, Mr. Manjot Purewal, an OS, greeted us and then he divided us into three groups. He, along with his managers, showed each group how wristwatches were manufactured and then assembled. It was fascinating to see how minute-pinions were made with absolute accuracy though we did not understand much as far as the technical aspect was concerned. However, we did understand the distribution of labour, allocation of raw material and how generally the work is done to optimise profits. We were also made aware of the policies and schemes implemented by the firm for the benefit of its employees. The factory has a residential area for the workers where they have active social life and apart from this they have five "Lungers" (free food from company's side) every year, which brings about the feeling of belongingness and togetherness among the workers. However, Mr. Purewal admitted that the best incentive always remained in cash! After going around the factory we had a question and answer session and Mr. Purewal's answers remained very informative.

This visit was both interesting and educational and we owe a debt of thanks to Mr. Purewal for taking the trouble to show us around.

### Obituary: Mr. Raymond Longman

*Raymond Longman, a prosperous farmer from Somerset, came to Sanawar in 1974. With him came Catherine, his wife and their children Roger and Sandra. They were working around for residential schools in India where they might work as a change from their farming life in the United Kingdom.*

*Catherine was offered a job to teaching Chemistry and General Science on condition that Raymond started a Poultry Farm in Sanawar. He had no experience of poultry farming, although he went down to Chandigarh, picked up few books on the subject and taught himself poultry and mushroom farming. By the end of 1974 Sanawar poultry produced enough and more eggs to feed the whole school and mushroom pickle was available for sale in the Tuck Shop. Raymond himself cooked the pickle and bottled it.*

*Raymond was an outstanding tennis player (Davis Cup) and outdoor man. He and Catherine together organised a variety of outdoor activities at Sanawar. His two children Sandra and Roger studied in the Prep school. By the end of their two year tenure at Sanawar the poultry and mushroom farming flourished and the Longman family became an integral part of Sanawar family.*

*After their return to England they visited Sanawar and their Indian friends once every three years. Raymond's last visit to India was in 1997.*

*Catherine Longman passed away in 1993. Raymond wanted a memorial for her in the Sanawar Chapel they loved so much. His wish was fulfilled in 1994 when a memorial plaque was placed there in memory of Catherine. As a gesture of gratitude to the School Raymond established an endowment for an award for the House which comes first in the Public Speaking Contest. This is the now popular Catherine Longman Award, the winning house eat a dinner in her memory and enjoy the additional privilege of a dance.*

*Mr. Raymond Longman passed away last week after a period of long illness in Somerset.*

K. J. Parel

1<sup>st</sup> December 2001



## SECTION IV: FROM THE OS

### O S News

1. Lt.Gen. M.S. Shergill, Director-General, Mechanised forces, retired on 31 July, 2001. Son of the late Major Gen. Rajinder Singh 'Sparrow' and a product of Sanawar, and the NDA, he was commissioned from the IMA, Dehradun, into the 7<sup>th</sup> Light Cavalry in 1962. He went on to command the 7<sup>th</sup> Light Cavalry and was also Colonel of the Regiment. He was awarded the Vir Chakra during the Indo-Pak war of 1971, an AVSM in 1996 and a PVSM in 2000. We wish him well for his retirement.
2. Harinder Chohan is a true trailblazer. This Chandigarh girl with an army background didn't have a care in the world and was happy to study at The Lawrence School, Sanawar. 'Harry' as she is better known, is the Area Manager of the organisation Viv's International Education Center Pvt Ltd. which has 18 offices all over India. She is also the Proprietor of Chohan Tours and Travels at Woodburn Court, Elgin Road after her husband's death in 1998. Her motto in life is her school motto: 'Never Give In' and this is exactly what has kept Harry going.
3. Sunaina Lowe, 1965-1975, Siwalik House, Head girl. Presently with United Nations, Department of Peacekeeping Operations based in New York. In her words, 'Sanawar set me on the road to achievement and independence.'
4. Vijayendra Rao, 1977-1981, Siwalik BD. He is a Senior Economist with the Research Department of World Bank. He says, 'My Sanawar experience was mixed in that I rebelled against what I saw as the excessively and British Rajist orientation of the school at the time. However, I will forever be grateful for the teachers I had. In particular Mrs. Manjari Khan taught me all I know about good writing and helped me to realize the value of creative thinking. Mr. M Parel gave me an understanding of Philosophy and Logic that in some ways laid the foundation towards how I now approach Science. I also have very fond memories of Mr. K J Parel and the hikes that he led, our Housemaster Mr. Malviya and Dr. Dhillon who supervised the School Newsletter that I helped edit.
5. Maj. Gen. B. S. Takkar (Poona Horse) has been promoted to the rank of Lt. Gen. and taken over a corps in the Western Sector. Congratulation and we wish him well in the new appointment.
6. Maj. Gen. Sarbjit Chahal (Sikh Regiment) has been promoted to the rank of Lt. Gen. and taken over as Director General Military Operations in the Army Headquarters.

Congratulations, we now know that we are in safe hands.

## SECTION V: FROM THE POSTBAG

### Letters to the Headmaster

From: *Col. Kr. V. S. Lalotra, SM (OS, Headboy, 69')*

My Dear Mr. Gray,

As I write this letter, I have few words to describe our warm feelings of nostalgia and gratitude. Nandita and I returned from Founders with a deep sense of pride and satisfaction.

In a short span of time you have initiated a large number of reforms and brought about many changes. We are glad to note that in your march towards progress and modernization you have only discarded what was obsolete and no more relevant but have retained the strong traditions which are the heart and very foundation of Sanawar. In this chaotic world it was indeed a pleasure to see an island of orderliness.

With Warm Regards & Best Wishes, Vijay.

From: *Mr. James Wedgebury OS (39')*

Dear Sir,

Out of curiosity and nostalgia, and past remembrances, and having just recently obtained a computer I searched the web for Sanawar and was surprised and exhilarated to see that the old school was shown.

When I say 'Old School' I am going back to 1938 when my sister and I were resident for a year in the junior school. I was aged five and my sister was six years old. I have little memory of the school other than that a new swimming bath was being built, the boys dormitory was on the third floor, with the girls just below, and a major part of our clothing was a short legged combination underwear with a flap on the back. Now 69 years old, I was born in Karachi where my father was a soldier in the army. You are a part of me and part of my history, and I am just a tiny piece of yours, and as I write this there is a lump in my throat and tears in my eyes as I remember the wonderful bitter sweet time I had in that beautiful part of the world. My very best wishes to you all, and thanks for the memory. The school motto has sustained me and supported me through difficult times.

James Wedgebury

From: *Mrs. Bela Sahgal*

Mr. Andy Gray,

Kudos! Mr. Andy...for defying time ,speed , for believing in action and bringing 'Sna' from 'Then' to 'Now'....I am a happy parent and a proud O.S. at last. My daughters Nayantara and Vasudha often regale us with your 'straight from the heart'

speeches'...whether in praise of the students or reprimanding them. I believe in magic and I believe it is 'happening' right now in Sanawar.

Bela.

**From: Mr. Daljit S. Rajput (OS 57-66)**

Dear Sir,

Rarely have I missed an opportunity of attending Founder's. The hilltop stirred not those embers of memory that could burst into a flame of laughter but those that could evoke a glow of a somewhat sad, sentimental smile. The school was fresh from the monsoon rains and basked in the occasional sunshine beneath a lightly overcast sky. Charles Dickens once wrote – 'it was the worst of times and the best of times' and started a chain of paradoxes that made the story that followed unique. Founder's was the same. The best and the worst, the worst being only that the children had to remain clean for the longer period than usual.

Athletics at Barne's on the morning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> was extremely interesting, and despite only a few records being broken the overall standard of performance was very high.

After a considerable period of time the swimming pool with its solar heating is functional. The swimming gala was a welcome addition to this year's Founder's and the participants and visitors thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The torch-light tattoo in the evening preceded by the grand P. T. display, enthralling acrobatics, diving through the fire and the marvellous girls bugle band had the visitors applauding repeatedly. Here I would like to mention that finer technical skills in P. T. and Gymnastics were, I thought, lacking. The Bhangra could also have done with a little bit of improvement.

The highlight as usual was the 'Trooping of the Colour' on the 4<sup>th</sup> morning and remains the most inspiring item at Founders. The troop leaders with their caps and swords were most impressive. But for sheer vim and vigour one could not beat the prep school and the OS squad who swing their arms head high and in merry disarray. They provided a suitable slight and light aiding to the truly smart parade. The occasion of speeches and prize distribution was first class.

Taking the salute was Mr. Rana Talwar CEO Standard Chartered, a student of this school having passed out in 1964. For him being invited as Chief Guest to his Alma Matar was the "proudest moment of his life". The

loudest applause was reserved when he declared an additional day's holiday!

Parker Hall which once housed the first dining hall has been converted into a museum and study centre. Artistically done, the hall now depicts moments from Sanawar's past and the credit for this goes to Col. & Mrs. Vijay Lalotra.

The concert in the evening opened with the school orchestra followed by a Hindi song and Hindi play 'Darwaze Khol Do' – conveying a message of religious tolerance, ever so important in today's world. The English play 'Black Comedy' was wonderful with the audience as mixed up as the characters. The band filled in between items & had the audience tapping to their beat.

The 'Coupe de grace' of the evening was a dance ballet 'Ugupta' based on the poem 'Abhisar'. The story was most touching with some first class dances. Special mention must be made to Mandakini Ghai who played the title role of 'Vasudatta'.

Thus ended a wonderful Founders. The school is fortunate in having a Headmaster of the calibre of Mr. Andrew Gray. He and his team have done a tremendous job and improvements in the school have to be seen to be believed. Let us all extend our full co-operation and support to him in the realisation of his 'vision' for the school. There is a song in 'Tannhauser' – "Even the bravest hearts may fail ....." and an Old Sanawarian must be forgiven should he find that "Even strong men weep".

Thank you Sanawar for making each one of us proud.

*Daljit Singh Rajput*

**From: Mrs. Mala Anand (OS)**

My Dear Andy,

Thank you very much for the Sanawar Newsletter which I have received after I don't know how long. I loved the new format with the chapel door on the cover. I have enjoyed reading all the articles, especially, your open letter, Better World and Expedition to Manali, SAVE Programme, the interview with Valerie and 'By the Ocean'. Also 'Veteran Old Sanawarians visit School-April 9, 2001', made very interesting reading. Look forward to receiving all the newsletters.

With regards, Mala.

**From: Col. Rajesh Dua**

Dear Andrew and Val,

1. It was a great pleasure to be up at Sna'



for founders this year. Every bit of this gala festival was immaculately planned and executed with perfection. The Parker Hall and the Computer facility established under your guidance is undoubtedly one of the best in the country. Who else can appreciate this better than me as I am currently running the Defence Institute of Information Technology at Chandimandir!

2. The cleanliness of the site was of the highest order available only at Army Cantonements. Your vision of things to shape up in times to come will surely be a success; this was clearly visible from your emotional attachment to your mission.
3. Last but not the least, the lunch we had at your place was very welcoming and sumptuous. Anuradha and Aparna join me in thanking both of you.

With regards, *Col Rajesh Dua*

**From: Mr. Derek Gaw (OL)**

Dear Mr. Gray,

Thank you for the splendid arrangements for our visit on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Col. Pannu was very kind and patient, as were all the teachers and pupils we met. If Sir Henry lives anywhere, it is at Sanawar!

With Kindest Regards

*Derek Gaw*

(Note: Mr. Derek Gaw recently led a visit to Sanawar of 'Old Lawrencians', the past pupils association of the Lawrence School, Lovedale.)

**From: Mr. Jock Howie (OS)**

Dear Mr. Gray,

I am delighted to take up pen to write to you - a course of action brought on by the receipt, this morning, of a copy of the Sanawar News Letter, with which I was greatly impressed. A Sanawarian friend of mine, Jim Walker, who recently visited the school and who lives in Australia sent it.

The Newsletter is well laid out and presented, and contains much of great interest to me as an OLD SANAWARIAN. The picture on the cover is instantly recognizable. It was, originally, the Headmistresses House, a Miss Baxter, in the 1920's. It has changed its identity a number of times. Is it not the school office now? I don't know.

I am approaching you as, I think, the record holder of time spent as a pupil on our beautiful hill top. I was there as an Infant in what was the Infants Department (ID) in 1922, and stayed until I reached the prestigious rank of Head Boy in 1937. So I was there for the reigns of two Principals, Reverend G.D. Barne, and the Reverend E.A. Evans, whose wife's obituary is covered in your News Letter. I am, at present writing an article on George Barne for

inclusion in our next years 'Sanawarian' Magazine. He was educated in the Public School, Clifton College, Bristol, from whom I have received very courteous and interesting information pertaining to George Barne as a pupil. A phrase that stands out in the report is: - "His school career was, of course, distinguished".

There is much evidence that "Jamey", as he was affectionately known incorporated quite a number of features in our school life that were taken from life in Clifton College. One interesting fact is that as a small boy in the College he was selected to act as "Fag" to one older boy, named William Birdwood, who later in life became Commander -in- Chief in India as Sir William Birdwood. In 1927 he agreed to "Barney's" request to be the Chief Guest at our Founders Day Parade and at the Prize giving ceremony. It was at this ceremony that "Barney" revealed that he had been the C-in-C's "Fag". He said, "I received no pay for the Job", so as an act of kindness, in memory of those old days the C- in-C agreed to get the Board of Governors to agree to build a new Educational Block. The C-in-C laid the foundation stone, hence Birdwood School in 1927.

For me, I am saturated with Sanawarian Spirit. I loved, and still love the School, was happy to attend our Annual Reunion on the 9th June here in the UK. Some 130 people were there; the school song was sung with gusto.

I remember, with the greatest joy my year as Head Boy. A veritable "Annus Mirabilis". Apart from all the privileges and prestige, I achieved the distinction of having scored 1000 runs in the 1<sup>st</sup> XI Cricket Season, also the highest score of 211, the highest ever scored by a boy (the ground record of 214 was scored by a member of staff) I was going for a boundary to get the record, but was caught!! Also in that year I established the record distance in the Shot Putt, which still stands, I do believe, and then the real "Piece-de-resistance " was when Hodsun (Green) won the Cock House Championship Trophy, Marvelous! All this sounds like self-glorification -not true, I relate the events with pride and not conceit and still retain them in my memory as such.

There were 3 of us Howie boys (I was the youngest). On the Monday of founders back in 1928, unbeknown to us before hand, my mother arrived in Sanawar. She had been appointed by "Barney" as head of the Domestic Science Department, in the Senior Girls Department. She was given the nice quarter called 'Stone View' below the hospital to which we were allowed to go on Sunday and stay on the longer weekly holiday periods. School life took on a new look for us Howies. I still remember the excitement. Once again, kind "Barney" persuaded the Board of Governors to accept us as free boarders. From the year 1921 to 1947 when my mother left, there was always a Howie in Sanawar. Is it any wonder I'm proud to be a Sanawarian boy? By the way I remember the Kemps very well. I hope you don't mind my writing to you. My best wishes to

all in Sanawar. Never Give In  
Jock Howie

## SECTION VI: ENDPiece

### A Final Letter to the Editor

From: *Sandip Singh (OS 1986)*

Dear Editor,

I studied at Sanawar for 10 years and after leaving school, one question that baffled me for a while and which persists still, is to know the exact origins of our school motto, 'Never Give In'. Can you procure this information for me? I would be grateful.

Sandip Singh

Dear Sir

After much ado and reading, I have the pleasure of sharing some information with you which I think should answer your question. Below is an extract from the book 'Lawrence of Lucknow' by Sir John Lawrence, great grandson of Sir Henry, describing the last moments in the life of our Founder.

Editor

### 'Never Give In'

Henry had chosen a room at the top of the residency so as to direct the defense. Already the main building had received special attention from the enemy's guns. And on 30<sup>th</sup> of June an eight-inch shell burst in the room where Henry and his secretary were sitting. Evidently the enemy knew just where to aim. On being pressed to change his quarters, he said in jest 'he did not believe the enemy had any artillerymen good enough to put another shell into the small room'. However he promised to change his room on the next day, which was 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Captain Wilson describes what happened next:

Towards 8 a.m. Henry returned greatly exhausted, the heat was dreadful, and he lay down on his bed with his clothes on and desired me to draw up a memorandum as to how the rations were to be distributed. I went to the next room to write it but, previous to doing so, I reminded Sir Henry of his promise to go below. He said he was very tired and would rest a couple of hours and that then he would have his things moved.

In about half an hour I went back into the room with what I had written. His nephew, Mr. George Lawrence, was then lying on a bed parallel to his Uncle's, with a few feet between them. I went between the beds and stood on the right side of Sir Henry's, with

one knee resting on the bed. A coolie was sitting on the floor pulling the punkah. I read what I had written ... and he was in the act of explaining what he wished altered, when the fatal shot came. A sheet of flame, a terrific report, a shock and dense darkness is all that I can describe. I fell down on the floor and for perhaps a few seconds was quite stunned. I then got up, but could not see for the smoke or dust. Neither Sir Henry or his nephew made any noise, and in great alarm I called out, 'Sir Henry, are you hurt?' Twice I thus called out without any answer, the third time he said in a low tone, 'I am killed'. The punkah had come down and the ceiling and a good deal of plaster. And the dust and smoke were so great that it was some minutes before I before I could see anything but, as it gradually cleared, I saw that the white coverlet of the bed was crimson with his blood.

The coolie who was pulling the punkah lost a foot but Captain Wilson was only slightly wounded and George was unscathed. A small fragment of the shell had struck Henry right at the top of his thigh. Dr. Fayer was called and, in answer to a question from Henry – "How long do I have to live?" – he answered, "I hope some time". To which Sir Henry replied, "I want a distinct answer. How long shall I live? I have a deal to do". Dr. Fayer said, "I hope about forty eight hours". Henry was surprised that it was so long. He then sent for Brigadier Inglis and Major Banks to whom he gave his last order. Foremost among his last instructions was 'Never Give In'.

As a postscript, the Headmaster received the following e-mail from Mr. Derek Gaw (Old Lawrencian) whose first letter is quoted earlier in this edition of the Newsletter.

Dear Headmaster,

The visit to Sanawar on 13th September still features as a high point of our tour to India. We were much impressed with the importance given to history and tradition at Sanawar and the welcome by your staff and pupils was both gracious and friendly. Sir Henry's "children" are certainly in safe hands at Sanawar.

We paid our respects at Sir Henry's grave in Lucknow on 25<sup>th</sup> of September and three floral tributes were offered by us on behalf of Sanawar (red and white ribbons), Ghora Ghali (blue and yellow) and Lovedale (maroon and blue). Each member also placed a rose on the grave to round off the visit. As a matter of interest, the Residency is being restored as a museum and the cemetery is due to be cleared and listed within the next year. Kindest regards, Derek Gaw.

