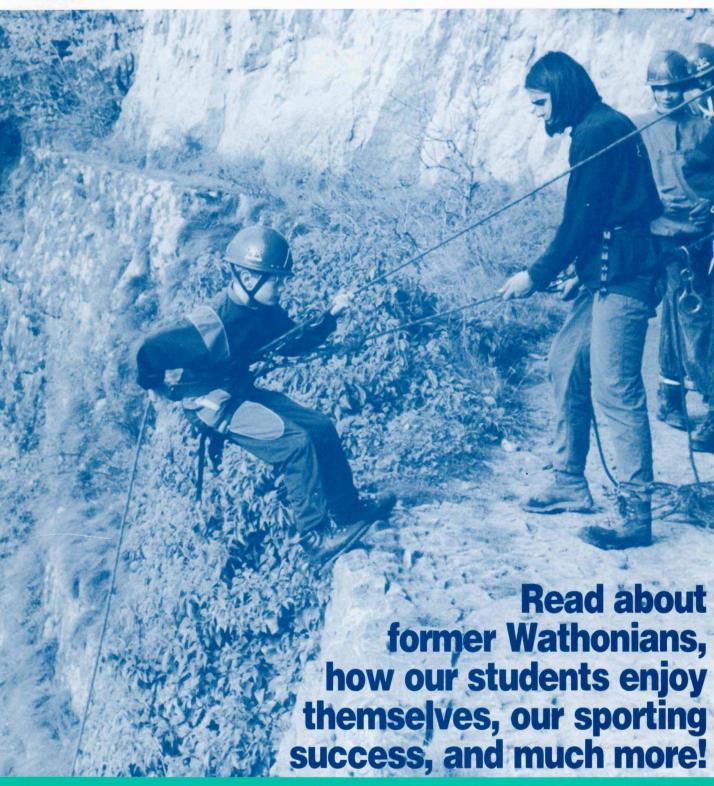
# CONNE ONS 2



Welcome to the second edition of Connexions, the News Magazine of Wath Comprehensive School, keeping in touch with students, parents and friends of the school. Featured inside are items on people, events, achievements.



#### WHAT HAPPENS NEXT Diary Dates

#### **December**

Tu 10 New Sixth Evening 7.15 pm School Hall M 16 Carol Service 7.15 pm Wath Trinity Th 19 Christmas Concert 7.15 pm School Hall

#### January 1997

F 10 Speech Day 7.00 pm School Hall Rt Hon. William Hague MP (WCS:1972-79)

Tu 7 to

M 20 January GCSE 'Mock' Examinations

M 20 to

W 29 'A' Level 'Mock' Examinations

M 27 Y7 Parents' Evening 4.15 pm

#### **February**

W 5+

Th 6 Gym, Dance & Movement Evenings School Hall M 17 Y9 Parents' Evening 4.15 pm School Hall

M 24 to

F 28 Y12 + Y13 Study Visit to Spain

W 26 Y12S Parents' Evening 4.15 pm School Hall

#### March

W 5 'Next 2 Years' Evening (Y9 Parents) School Hall Tu 18 Y8 Parents' Evening 4.15 pm School Hall

W 19 Non-Uniform Day for CharityW 19 Governors' Spring Term Meeting

Th 20 Chamber Concert 7.15 pm School Library

#### **April**

Th 10 Variety Evening School Hall

Week Commencing

M 14 Senior Drama
"Midsurnmer Rotherham Arts Centre
Night's Dream"

W 23 Presentation of National Record of Achievement YII

Th 24 Swimming Gala

#### May

Th 1 Y10 Parents' Evening 4.15 pm School Hall

Tu 6 to

Tu 13 Key Stage 3 Tests Y9

Th 15 Drama Evening John Brothwell Wing
W 21 Y12 Parents' Evening School Hall



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#### "Blasts from the Past"

#### **Brief news of former Wathonians**

Bryan Gray is Chief Executive of Baxi Boilers and Chairman of Preston North End FC.

Michael Clegg works for Barings Bank in Hong Kong.

Neil Allen is owner and chef of the renowned Greenhead Restaurant at Chapeltown, Sheffield.

**Jonathan Bowes** is working as an environmental specialist for the Czech Republic's Institute of the Environment in Prague.

Andrew Dickinson is Assistant Head of Year 9 at Castleford High School.

Rachel Godburn holds the World Record for the fastest 23-mile Loch Ness swim. Her achievement is in The Guiness Book of Records and she is the South Yorkshire Times Sports Personality of the Year.

**Gary Hampshire** is Consultant Manager with Sterling Software, the 6th largest independent software company in the world. He now lives in Berkshire.

Nick Hartley - Head Boy 1984-5. Currently Flight Lt. Strike Command at High Wycombe. Has recently served in Bosnia, the Gulf and Malaysia.

**David Hartley** - Graduate entrant to South Yorkshire Police 5 years ago, now a Sergeant in Rotherham, has passed the first part of his Inspector's exams.

Julia Whitworth - Primary School teacher, Scarborough.

Judith Earnshaw - Teaching English as a foreign language, Cordoba - Spain.

Stephen Day - Tax Consultant for Ernst and Young.

Simon English - Independent Financial Consultant.

Vernon Williams - Solicitor's Accountant, York.

Jason Batty - Maths Teacher.

lan Thompson - Qualified Art Teacher and Portrait Painter.

Stephen Darby - Local Computer Firm after Degree.

Jamie Clamp - DSS in Barnsley

Andrew Clamp - Inland Revenue - Sheffield

Christie Hale - Development Manager for Maplins

Anthony Coward - Assistant Technician in a Rotherham Comprehensive.

Craig Shaw - Assistant Manager Kwik Save, Wombwell.

Joanne Glossop - Secretary - Council Offices, Rotherham.

**Jon Mitchell** - B.Sc. Software Engineering. Living in Oulu, Finland, working for Nokia Telecommunications .

Jodi Mitchell - B.Sc. Business Studies & Economics. Retail Management.

Lindsay Wood - BA French & Spanish. Working for SEAT.

Ted Shaw - Landlord of The Earl Grey in Rawmarsh.

#### A FINE RECORD OF SERVICE TO THE SCHOOL

**IRENE HARTLEY - CHAIR OF GOVERNORS** 

Few people know Wath Comprehensive School as well as our Chair of Governors, Irene Hartley. The longest-serving member of the Governing Body (since 1980), in her eleventh year as "Madam Chairman" and as mother of 2 boys, Nick and Dave, both of whom had successful school careers at Wath (see 'Blasts from the Past') she has a unique experience of the last 2 decades in the school's story.

During this time, the powers of school governing bodies have increased considerably, with many more decisions being taken at school level. Wath has been very lucky, therefore, in having such a supportive and interested Board of Governors and one so ably led by such a dedicated Chairman. Irene involves herself deeply in what is now a very demanding job, chairing meetings of the Governing Body and of its Committees, not to mention active support for just about every school event.

Irene's service to the community goes well beyond the school. In January she will have completed 23 years as Secretary to Peter Hardy, MP for Wentworth, and is an active member of Wath Labour Party. A Co-opted Governor of Wath Victoria School and an executive member of the Association of Rotherham Schools Governing Bodies, her interest in education doesn't stop at our front door. Her fund-raising for Charity is legendary: £1500 for the Mayor's Charity in 1995, and £1000 for the Rotherham Hospice.

One thing you can be sure of: Wath Comprehensive will always have a stout champion in Irene Hartley, putting its interests first and those of all the young people in its care. A true servant of the community.



#### Off to the Land of the Yeti

A chance in a lifetime trip has been won by YII student Lee Gould, to the land of the Yeti and the abominable snowman - the Himalayas.

After a rigorous selection exercise organised by the Yorkshire Schools Exploration Society Lee was chosen for the month long expedition. Flying to Delhi in Northern India, the expedition heads North to Manali to acclimatise before moving on to Ladakh near the Tibetan border and Leh at an altitude of 18,000 feet. It is in Leh where the group will take part in a community project.

The next challenge for Lee is to raise £3,000 sponsorship money - watch out for the fundraising activities over the coming months.



#### Focus on "Friends of Wath Comprehensive."

#### **Barbara Lord**

I have been a member of the PTA since 1985 when my elder daughter started at the school (of which I am myself a former student). I have since been a very active member - rarely missing a meeting. As well as helping at most of the events organised by members I have been responsible for organising two barn dances, a sports-day raffle for students and, in March this year, a 'millionnaires' night. In July I set up a display in the Hall to publicise the activities of the PTA. During the last five years I have been the holder of occasional bar licences for PTA functions. Though my younger daughter left school in 1994 I am still an active member.



#### Jill Rhodes

Hi! I'm Jill, Secretary to the PTA. I am a happily married typical working mum with a great deal of interest in pupils and their education, but with not as much time to devote as I would like - but as I know all too well - everyone is in the same position, so I just do as much as I can!



I have been a member for 7 years, since Becky, our daughter, began Y7, and Secretary for 3 or 4 years. Becky has just left Y13 to go to university but we have a 9 year old son who attends Wath Central, so I am hoping to continue here for some time yet! (unless they sack me!).

I work for Proctor & Gamble as a Sales Merchandiser for Max Factor and Cover Girl cosmetics and in my spare time (what spare time?) I enjoy walking, gardening and laughing - laughing they say makes you live longer? So laugh at every opportunity. Bye.

#### What's in a name?

Wath Parent Teachers Association has long since ceased to have a membership simply of parents and teachers. Amongst our present members we have representatives whose sons/daughters have long since left us, but still work with enthusiasm and good will on behalf of the school at various events; in addition to teachers we frequently receive support from our non teaching assistants. In order to accommodate this change, a proposal has been made to alter the name of the Association to "The Friends of Wath School"; please let us know what you think to the idea; if there are no strong objections we will go ahead.

The New Governing Body -**Elected Autumn Term** 1996.

Mr D.E. Kirby (Headteacher) Mrs I.G. Hartley (Chairman) Mr M.H. Blackburn (Vice Chairman)

Cllr. B. Walker (LEA Representative) Mr B. Tinnion (Parent Governor) Mrs P. Russell (LEA Representative) Mr R. Pearson (Co-opted) Mr G. Marsden (Parent Governor) Mrs B. Lord (Co-opted)

Mr W. Wyatt (Co-opted) Mr S.T. Bailey JP (LEA Representative) Mr S.G. Batty (Parent Governor) Mr S. Bennett (Co-opted) Mrs C. Bennington (LEA Representative) Mrs S. Birkin (Parent Governor)

Mr P. Darby (Teacher Governor) Mr S. Earnshaw (Parent Governor) Mr P. Haynes (Teacher Governor) Rev B. Jenner (Co-opted)

Clerk to Governors: Mrs J. Newell

#### **VI Form French**

In October a party of 20 Sixth-Formers and 2 members of staff had a most enjoyable long weekend in Paris, which included tours of the city by day and by night, a trip along the River Seine, an opportunity to go to the top of the Eiffel Tower and a day at Louis XIV's impressive palace at Versailles. By popular demand the trip will probably be repeated in 1997.





#### On the Piste

This year marks the 20th Ski Trip and brings up the 750th student to ski with the school. A new resort for the school, Serre Chevalier in the French Alps is the venue, January the month, 200 km of piste, plenty of snow forecast wish you were going?

Traditionally the trip is open to Y9 and Y12 students only and has visited places like Marilleva, Bardoneccia, Ravascletto, Plancavallo, Abetone and Colle di Tenda in Italy. Zell an Zee in Austria. Valmorel, Les Sept Laux, Montgenevre, Chatel and La Plagne in France. Someone has to organise the visits and this task has been undertaken heroically by Mr Greaves and Mr Price - heroes!

#### In the Gorge

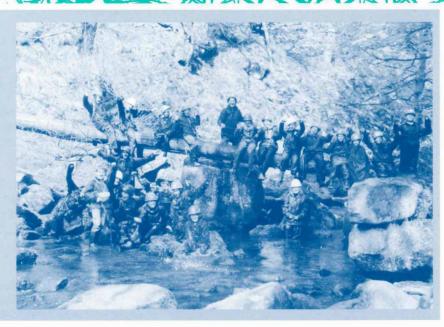
The school prides itself on its Outdoor Education provision and through Mr Ashmore continues to provide all pupils in Y7, 8 and 9 with the opportunity to go climbing, walking, abseiling, potholing, orienteering, gorge scrambling, or to take part in water sports.

It is most unfortunate that Rotherham Borough Council has put its Outdoor Centre at Crowden up for sale, depriving many youngsters in Rotherham of the opportunity to sample the great outdoors.

Keep up the good work Mr Ashmore.

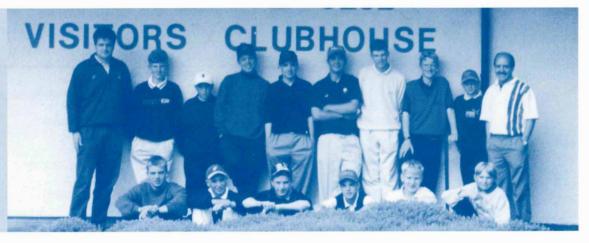
#### **STOP PRESS**

The Headteachers at a number of Rotherham Comprehensive Schools are looking into a rescue package to save Crowden for Rotherham pupils. We wish them luck.



#### Golf Tour to Scotland

A first for the school - a Golf Tour to Scotland playing the oldest course in existence at Musselburgh and also at Dunbar, Haddington, Gullane and North Berwick. A match was played against the Duchess School, Alnwick we drew 7-7. A return tour is planned for '97!





#### Science Eurovisit

On Saturday July 6th 1996, 50 Y8 pupils and 5 Science staff set off on the first stage of our visit to places of special scientific interest in France. We travelled on the overnight ferry from Portsmouth to St. Malo and it was rumoured that some people were actually able to get some sleep! On Sunday we visited St. Malo & Mont St. Michel, and on the Monday we were given a tour of the Barrage de la Rance the only tidal power station in the world! This was followed by a beach picnic, and then we set off for Poitiers & Futuroscope - the museum of the moving image. We spent all of Tuesday at Futuroscope, and in the evening we were treated to a superb firework and laser show that was truly spectacular. On Wednesday we travelled to Paris, and managed a few hours for shopping, whilst on Thursday we visited La Villette - the museum of Science & Industry. In the afternoon we saw some of Paris's famous landmarks & took a relaxing boat trip on the Seine. Friday was our Eurodisney day, where many of the pupils were able to obtain the autographs of famous Disney characters. Strange, but each autograph seemed to be different each time it was written. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the Disney experience. We returned home on Saturday via Le Shuttle & a visit to Eurocity, and arrived back at school exhausted but exhilarated.



# TESTER DE LA COMPANIE DE LA COMPANIE

## The Somme Experience

There is no 'Somme' trip or even 'Battlefield' trip at Wath. There is the 'Somme Experience', because that is the enduring memory of the History visit. The purpose is for pupils to experience the reality of war by visiting the cemeteries, memorials, trudging through the trenches, hearing soldiers' experiences of war, the music they sang and the poems they wrote to explain "the war to end all wars".

There are few pupils who return from Belgium without having reflected on the nature of war, indeed, the nature of life. One pupil wrote, "I never knew what life was about until I had seen all the dead".

The word that best sums up the experience is "moving" rather than enjoyable. As one girl said in 1990, "My mother will ask me if I enjoyed it. What shall I say? Yes, it was great, I cried at every cemetery".





#### **PGL French Watersports July 1996**

The French Watersports Holiday is now in its fifteenth year. It has always been very popular and highly subscribed, offering pupils the chance to sail, windsurf and canoe.

In July 1996 thirty eight pupils and five staff visited the PGL "LES TAMARIS" centre situated on the French Mediterranean coast. Travel was by coach and cross Channel ferry and the pupils and staff were accommodated in tents. In addition to watersports activities the pupils were also able to enjoy a varied selection of evening entertainment including competitions, visits and a disco every night.

As well as giving all pupils the opportunity to develop their expertise in watersports, the benefits of surviving without parents, sharing tents with their friends and generally experiencing nine days organising themselves, are valuable learning experiences.

#### **Spanish Study Visit**

The Spanish department made their fifth annual visit to Northern Spain in October. This year, 33 GCSE students, Mrs Leatherbarrow, Mr Bacon and our Spanish assistant, Rut Martin Artica, bravely boarded the 'Pride of Bilbao' at Portsmouth for the 30 hour cruise!!?? to Spain. The English Channel was rough and the normal lessons that we have on board had to be cancelled because almost everyone was sick! However, once in Spain, we had wonderful, hot and sunny weather and once at our splendid hotel near Santander everyone headed for the sea for their frist dip. During the next five days we visited Bilbao, Santander, Castro Urdiales, Santillana del Mar, Laredo and Cabárceno Safari Park. We had Spanish lessons every evening, a cookery lesson and a conversation class with the Notel Campomar staff and an unplanned visit to Laredo Hospital to sort out Emma Bower's toe which she fractured playing football on the beach (serves her right!).





#### "A SERVANT TO TWO MAFIAS" - A Menacing Success!!

After many weeks of intense and fraught rehearsal, the School Hall played host to "A Servant to Two Mafias" last month.

An ambitious project, the play was written in-house by lan McGrath with help from members of the cast. The production was praised for its break-neck speed and the infectious, enthusiastic energy of the cast, who expertly managed the notoriously difficult medium of farce.

The evening contained many unexpected twists, not only in the roller-coaster plot, but also in the innovative scripting of "prompts" in which members of the cast were lambasted by a "plant" in the audience.

Further audience participation came when Truffeldino (Matthew Guest) "crossed over to the other side" and sat as one of the audience until he was demanded back by members of the cast, and especially by Tina (Kelly Mercer) who later married him.

An exciting evening was enjoyed by both cast and audience!

#### **Environmental Update**

The Mary Addey Garden has now been completed and is in daily use by pupils. It is being used as both a study area on fine days and a place to eat sandwiches during the lunch period. It is proving to be a very valuable asset to the school. The Biomass project is now in full leaf, and much of

the willow is producing new growth. These young saplings will be ready for cropping early next year, and some will be used as material for further willow weaving & curriculum projects, and the rest sold to provide a source of income for further environmental improvements. The paper and aluminium recycling projects are now well underway, and are beginning to generate a steady source of income, and an Environmental Steering Group has been established to try to work out an environmental strategy for the school over the next few years.



#### **CHARITY BEGINS AT WATH**

Pupils at Wath can be relied upon to respond to the needs of others with compassion and practical help. The school calendar is often filled with fundraising events which are inevitably tackled with imagination and commitment. 1995-6 alone saw the following:

- Y7 selling RNIB calendars;
- Y12 and 13 raising money for the NSPCC, Lepra and
- MacMillan Nurses.
- Mr Goodman's Christmas Catalogue for the NSPCC;
- a fashion show for Comic Relief;
- Uniform Free Day for Christian Aid;
  - sponsored aerobics for Help the Aged;
- raising money to complete the Mary Addey Garden;
- the sponsored run, jog and walk;
- Y7 pupils organising 'crusades' for charity as part of their RE work to name but a few.

Ventures like these prove that Wath Comprehensive School is a caring community, working hard to help others on every level. We should be justifiably proud and determined to preserve it. Well done everybody!

#### On yer bike !!

Upper Sixth student, Richard Whitlam, has been peddling, running and swimming his way to fame over the last few years. He has recently made a TV programme with Chris Boardman at Manchester's new velodrome, following impressive results in regional and national competitions.

#### In 1994-5 he was:

Ist in the North of England Mountain Bike Championships
3rd in the National Mountain Bike Championships
1st in the North-East Hillclimb Championships
2nd in the National Hillclimb Championships
The North East representative in international competitions.
In 1996 he was:

1st in the North Midlands Junior Triathlon

Phew! It's exhausting just reading about it, let alone doing it.!!!

### **Britain in Bloom Children's Painting Competition 1996**

Two pupils from last year's Y8, Eve Sanders and Dan Galvin, were regional winners in this competition. They had to paint a picture to depict the flora and fauna of one of three months allocated to their age group.

Deservedly Eve won through to the National Finals and became one of the twelve national winners, with her painting of a view through a window for the month of November. Usually the paintings of the twelve national winners are made into a Calendar, but funding and sponsorship wasn't available this year.

However, Eve did get a trip to Durham Castle for the Tidy Britain Group, Britain in Bloom National Prizegiving in October and a number of Boots' Gift Vouchers and a framed print of her painting.

#### Firsts against the odds

Obtaining a First in your final exams at university is a fine achievement and many Wath students have achieved that distinction over the years, but we have recently heard of three former pupils who have done just that and who have had to show enormous strength of character at the same time.

Katy Auty had to work almost full-time at Burger King in Meadowhall to help 'make ends meet' while studying English at Sheffield University. Her double First in English Language and English Literature was so impressive that the University asked her to stay on to do her PhD and to lecture in the department.

Suzanne Glancy was a splendid student from Years 7 to 11 and she gained good GCSE results but in the Sixth Form almost everything seemed to go wrong for her. She lost all the self-motivation and ambition that we had seen during the previous five years and ended up with just one 'A' level pass at grade E. Desperate to go to university like all her friends, she was eventually accepted on a Foundation course at De Montfort in Leicester. Now, four years later, she has been awarded a First in Engineering Business and was twice named 'Student of the Year'.

Sarah White always wanted to be a doctor but had to go in to hospital for a major operation while in the Sixth Form here; she missed a lot of study and couldn't make the 'A' level grades for Medicine. Instead, she chose to take Anatomy and Physiology at Dundee University. This summer she was awarded a First and the Faculty of Medicine was so impressed by her that they took the unusual step of offering her the chance to stay at the University to study Medicine. She will now achieve her ambition.

Three marvellous young women. We congratulate them wholeheartedly.

## Black Hole disappears during hols!

Nothing seems to bring out the artistic and non-artistic talent of Sixth Formers more than their Common Room. Over the years there have been numerous design changes and colour schemes employed in a desperate effort to hide the fact that it was some years ago one of the school's canteens!

Every couple of years, students feel that the C.R.'s appearance must be obliterated from the memory and in the October half-term a team spent a few days doing just that. Gone forever is the cheery two-tone black and bright blue to be replaced with a spring-like (?) creation in white, yellow, green, red and bright blue. We await the re-appearance of the freshly-dyed curtains to give the room that final touch of radiance and pzazz that makes it such a gloriously relaxing endroit in which to while away a couple of free periods. Many thanks to Aimee, Helen, Helen, Laura, Alexis, Sarah and all the other budding interior decorators who gave up their time so willingly.

RUGBY		0 11 5 6
U15 SouthYorkshire Rugby		Gareth Ravenscroft
		Gary Jones Matthew Jackson
		Chris Plume
U16 South Yorkshire Rugby		Nick Wyatt
		Kevin Kent
U18 South Yorkshire Rugby		Stephen Wesson
		John-Paul Williams
		Adam Sturman
		Philip Burgin
1140 Variabira Otata Cabaal		James Guy
U18 Yorkshire State School		Philip Burgin Stephen Wesson
		John-Paul Williams
FOOTBALL		DOTHET dur Williams
Rotherham Boys Foodball U	15	Brett Davis
CROSS-COUNTRY: Rother		
Junior Boys		John Walker
Inter Boys		Kris Spencer
Senior Boys		Steven Inglis
Y8 Boys Rotherham Cross-C		Runners-up
Senior Boys - Rotherham Cr Junior Girls Rotherham Tean		Runners-up Anna Grant
Junior Gins Hotnernam Tean		Cheryl Ryan
Intermediate Girls Rotherhan	n Toom	Amy Ridsdale
Rotherham League Y8/9 Girl		Runners-up
Y8/9 Winner in League		Anna Grant
Junior Girls Cross-Country Charnpionships Anna Grant 3rd		
WATER POLO		
NE Counties U16		Richard Leighton
Yorkshire U18 Boys		Richard Leighton
NE Counties U20 Womens		Frances Leighton
GB U18 Girls		Frances Leighton
TRAMPOLINING		AP 1 11 B
National U13 Team Gold Medal Michelle Buczek		
CRICKET		
U13 Rotherham Champions		
South Yorkshire Champions		
Yorkshire Post Finalist Played at Headingley		
Individual Representative Honours		
Rotherham	Yorkshire Trialist	Yorkshire
U13 Martin Bray	Martin Bray	
U14 Matthew Kingston	Matthew Kingston	Matthew Kingston
U15 Mark Jagger		
U19 John Gray	John Gray	
Ryan Tingle	Ryan Tingle	
ATHLETICS Y7 Inter Schools		Championa
Y8 Inter Schools		Champions Champions
Y9 Inter Schools		Runners-up
Y10 Inter Schools		Runners-up
Challenge Shield		Champions
Individual Honours		
Rotherham		South Yorkshire
Martin Bray (Hurdles)		Martin Bray (Hurdles)
Andrew Hirst (Shot)		
Chris Plume (Shot)		
Steven Inglis (1500m)		Steven Inglis (1500m)
Steven Wesson (Hurdles)		
HOCKEY U14		Catherine Guy
South Yorkshire		Catherine Dyson
U16		Jody Stinson
Rotherham		Jayne Longden
		Emma Bower
		Jody Shepherd
U16		
South Yorkshire		Emma Bower
1140		Jody Shepherd
U18 South Varkahira		Dobassa Nisali
South Yorkshire U16 Rotherham Girls Hocke	v Tournament	Rebecca Nicoll Winners
U18 South Yorkshire Hockey		Runners-up
NETBALL	. surricimont	τιαπιστο αρ
U14 South Yorkshire		Catherine Dyson
U16 South Yorkshire		Frances Leighton
U18 South Yorkshire		Rebecca Nicoll

#### **Water Babe**

Year 10 student Frances
Leighton is creating quite a
splash in the water polo world.
Having been selected for the
North Eastern Counties U20s
last season, she qualified for
Great Britain trials. After five
training weekends she was
selected for the Great Britain
U18 team and played in the
Czech Republic this October.
Quite an achievement - well

Frances and the GB team are now working towards the 1998

European Championships. We wish her well and hope to report on her progress in future editions of Connexions.

PS Frances also represents South Yorkshire U16s at Netball.

PPS Richard Leighton (Y9) also plays for NE Counties U16s and Yorkshire U18s.

What price another GB cap?



#### **Sydney 2000?**

1996 has been an exciting and successful year for Ben Hollingsworth (a Y10 pupil). Dedicated intensive training as a track cyclist has won him many accolades. This is Ben's first season at this exacting form of cycle racing which is performed on 250m banked track. This necessitates Ben travelling to Manchester where a Velodrome was built two years ago at a cost of £9 million. Competition distances range between the 'flying' 200 metres to 10 miles.

Although still regarded as a juvenile, Ben has raced with adult men in various events and regularly notches up top three placings. Despite being only 14 Ben competed at national level against boys who are 12

months older than himself, as currently the fastest 14 year old in these events. In ESCA events he represents Wath Comprehensive.

In October Ben was selected to represent the Manchester Team in a major national event which they won; he is awaiting the arrival of his Gold Medal.

This winter he will be training with the British Junior Team (16-18 year olds) having been selected by the British Team Coach for specialist coaching.

The future? Ben's immediate ambition is to win gold in the 1997 National Championships and made a determined attack on the British record in the 2km pursuit.

We wish him continuing success!

#### **Atlanta Olympics 1996**

So just how does a boy from little old Wath Comp. end up at the largest sporting spectacle of the Century? Mrs Thompson persuaded me to fill in the entry form which initially consisted of an essay on my opinion of the modern day Olympic movement and a list of my lifestyle and sporting achievements. Over 1000 students entered initially and these were whittled down to 40 from the whole of the UK; as luck would have it I was one of the 40. We were invited to Lilleshall National Training centre for a selection weekend which consisted of initiative, leadership and creativity tests and basic character assessment. It was then left to over 50 assessors to make their choice.

A very simple letter of congratulations arrived a week

later - to my sheer amazement and delight.

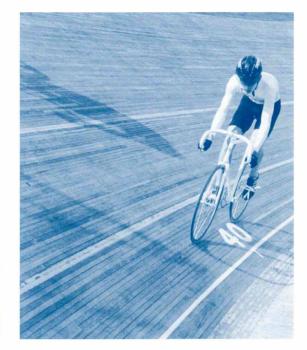
My arrival in Atlanta seemed all the more special after we'd been travelling for a total of 26 hours. The plane journey was definitely a highlight as I was seated next to silver medal javelin thrower Steve Backley. The youth camp was eyeopening, to say the least, with over 500 participants from nearly 200 countries, coming together to promote unity and peace in sport.

A typical day consisted of expert coaching on a chosen sport until lunch time, then a trip to downtown Atlanta. Being able to observe the skills and techniques of so many world class athletes was, for me, the greatest experience of my life. Evening

back at the camp consisted of typical American hobbies and pastimes, which, usually involved eating ridiculously large pizzas.

The changes in my attitude and character as a result of my time in Atlanta, are immeasurable and who else can boast a list of best friends from Bermuda, Jamaica, Iceland, Australia and Cuba.





# 1932 CYS CLUB S IN TOR-FITE

#### **Champions**

The Autumn Term has been a busy one for our golfers. The School Tournament was held at Wath Golf Club, Antony Dickinson Y12 winning the Senior Shield and Chris Clarke (Y8) the Junior Trophy. 36 students participated.

The School Team were runners up to Worksop College in the English Schools Qualifying Tournament held at Lindrick Golf Club - an event open to all schools in Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire.

During half-term the same team, consisting of Antony Dickinson, James Clarke and Chris Clarke, won the Rotherham Schools Championship at Phoenix Golf Club - a first for the school. Well done.

#### **GOLF SCHOLARSHIPS**

Wath Golf Club are offering 4 Golf Scholarships (free membership for one year) to girls in years 7-11. If you are interested in applying for one of the scholarships, contact the P.E. Department.