

## Speech Day 1961

**The Head Boys and Girls' Speeches** on Speech Day started in 1958 with Gloria Farnsworth and Jim Wild. **Jacqueline Leonard** and yours truly had to give our speeches in 1961 to the audience in the Hippodrome. Sadly my speech has not survived. I do remember spending a lot of time preparing it. I just about memorised it, but you could take it onto the stage.



Jacqueline went first and was very professional. We were followed by Mr Hamilton. To say the least, it was quite stressful but we got through it and enjoyed the rest of the year.

We had to lead off the dancing in the Prefects Ball. From memory, I had to organise it, book the band, get the tickets ordered and be the "compere" - e.g. *Ladies and Gentlemen, please take your partners for a waltz .....* &c.!!! Different times.

### **Head Girl's Address for Speech Day 1961**

I am pleased to report that the girls during the year 1960-61 have been successful both outside and inside the classroom. We had their enthusiastic support in most school activities, and their keenness is shown by the numbers turning out to team practices, choir rehearsals, and other activities connected with the School.

The girls have been successful in the academic sphere. Two girls are furthering their education at universities, one of them gaining a County University Exhibition. No less than 13 have gone to Teacher Training Colleges. We hope they will enjoy this training for their future careers.

The sporting activities have been successful on the whole. The 1st Hockey XI had a good season, winning 7 matches, losing 4 and drawing 1. In addition they were runners-up for the shield in the Hemsworth District Hockey Rally. This successful season culminated with the **record defeat of the Staff by 8 goals to 1** at the end of the Easter Term.

### **SPEECHES AND DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES**

The Chairman of the Governors, Canon A. E. Duckett, LL.M., B.Sc.,  
will take the Chair.

- 1 Opening remarks by the Chairman.
- 2 Address of Welcome (Page 14 on Programme)  
English: Kaye, P.  
French: M. Birkin.  
German: Lascelles, A. D.  
Latin: Street, J.
- 3 Report by the Head Girl, V. B. J. Leonard.
- 4 Report by the Head Boy, McKenzie, D. S.
- 5 Headmaster's report for the year.
- 6 Distribution of Prizes and Certificates by Mrs. C. Machin.
- 7 C. Machin, Esq., J.P., will address the School.
- 8 Vote of Thanks:  
Mover: Councillor A. Richards.  
Seconder: Councillor J. F. Starling.
- 9 School Song.

The 1st Tennis team also had a successful season. They won 7 matches and lost 2, but the 2nd Tennis team, like the 2nd Hockey team, were less successful. Nine members in the 1st Hockey XI and 4 members in the 1st Tennis XI received colours or repeat colours.

The Rounders Under 15 and Under 14 teams had only a fair season, in spite of well-attended practices. The enthusiasm for athletics among the Senior Girls has been confined to just a few, but the Juniors and Intermediates were keenly interested. The highlight in Girl's Athletics was at the Huddersfield Sports when the Senior Girls won the Shield, and the Juniors and Intermediates were runners-up for their respective divisions. 8 girls were selected to represent the Ackworth area in the Yorkshire Schools' Championships.

Not only on the playing field do we see the successes of the girls. The choirs have been well supported and both the Main Choir and the Madrigal Choir won shields at the Pontefract Music Festival. There was no competition from other schools, however, much to our disappointment, **for the satisfaction of gaining a high percentage of marks is somewhat lessened when there is no opposition.** Several members of the choirs took part in the Leeds Festival Choir, and thoroughly enjoyed singing Vaughan-Williams' "Sea Symphony" with 400 6th Formers from other schools. The musical evening at School was a great success and well attended. Other school activities have had enthusiastic support from the girls. The Seniors have enjoyed the 14 meetings of the Friday Club which was formed for the first time last year, and the Juniors enjoyed the evenings spent at the Film Society.

In conclusion I would like to thank the Headmaster, the Deputy Headmistress, Miss. Smith, and members of staff for the limitless amount of help and encouragement which the girls have received. Without their support the girls could not have had such a successful and rewarding year.

#### **Geoff Cartledge 1955-60 (HGS Head Boy 1959-60)**

Dear Sheila,

I visited the "school" site and found the information and news on it very interesting. Certainly brings back memories and also the very real feeling of how much our time at HGS meant to us. I belonged to Talbot House. The reason for that is that I transferred from Wath Grammar School in the 3rd year and already possessed a green rugby shirt. Rather than spend money I asked to go into the house which sported those colours - never regretted it for a minute! I came across the picture of the shield that Dave received as Head Boy. Coincidentally, I have a version of the same thing. Somewhere in the attic, I have my Head Boy badge, which, if you remember was silver-plated and bore the word "DUX". I will try to find it and e-mail a photograph of it if I can. Anyway, I hope these titbits have helped and that the site grows and grows.

**Geoff (November 2002)**

