



From the Headmaster

As another school year comes to an end we still seem to be operating at full-tilt, with reports to be written, exams to be marked, work experience, army camps, sports fixtures, music concerts, hobbies exhibition etc etc etc still taking place. Whatever faults the school may have, surely no-one can accuse us of sticking to a narrow academic curriculum, nor of lacking in energy!

At the time of writing, it is clear that these energy levels are starting to flag for the boys as well as the staff. Thanks to the lunar calendar, the very early Easter has given us a very long summer term, and just as it draws to its end so we start to prepare for next year. We have just had a very successful induction day for the new Y7 pupils, giving us a wonderful opportunity to see again just how much progress the boys make in just a few years with us. The day was organised to a large extent by our senior students, who never fail to impress. The prefects were as smart, efficient, well-organised as ever, and our Community Sports Leaders ran the afternoon sports activities with great success. I have said it before, but if you ever doubt whether the school is the right place for your son, please do come in and see how our senior students conduct themselves in situations such as this – not just those who have been specially chosen, but the overwhelming majority.

As ever, this newsletter contains reports just some of the activities and successes of the boys over the past few months; others are recorded in the East Way Echo, an excellent publication which Mr Ruffer started earlier in the year (copies are available on the web site). The birth of the Echo is, I am pleased to report, likely to lead to the demise of this newsletter, at least in its current form. I hope to be able to issue more regular, and therefore more up to date, newsletters through our web site and via the Schoolcomms e-mail system. If you have not yet logged your details on Schoolcomms I really would urge you to do so – many parents have commented on how useful it has proved to be since we set up the system, and I am not aware of any disadvantages. We will, of course, continue to communicate with you by conventional means, but it will help you and us if most parents can start to use electronic communication. If you need help to log on to the Schoolcomms site, please contact us and we will be pleased to help.

May I end by thanking you all for your ongoing support of the school and by wishing you all a very happy and restful summer. You may now have your sons back for six weeks!

Examination Results

GCE Results – 14th August 10.00 am

GCSE Results – 21st August 10.00 am

Staff will be available to advise any students who have concerns arising from their results.

Staff Changes

As ever at this time of the year we must say goodbye to members of staff, some of whom have been at the school for many years. Our thanks and best wishes go to them all:

Mr Baker	Mrs Franklin	Miss Meegan
Mrs Brady	Dr Hill	Mrs Pernetta
Miss Boggi	Mrs Lose	Mr Sanders
Mrs Carter	Mr Lovegrove	Mrs Villiers

Mrs Villiers has been one of our Librarians since 1991 and the success of our Library is due in no small part to her skill, enthusiasm and hard work.

Mrs Franklin joined the MFL department in 1986. Over the intervening years she has been Assistant Head of Lower School and has had a central role in the MFL department, latterly learning Italian so that she could teach it and hence provide a further opportunity for the boys to learn a language.

Dr Hill has served the History department since 1975, becoming Head of Department in 1989. The popularity of the subject, and the success of our history students both at the school and, later, at leading universities, is due in no small part to Dr Hill's leadership and love of his subject.

Mr Sanders – 'BJ' to generations of pupils – has served the school for even longer, being on the staff for a total of 42 years! Mr Sanders joined the Mathematics department in 1966. During his time at the school he has been the total schoolmaster, teaching his subject well but also giving so much to the boys outside the classroom. He will go down in the annals of Bournemouth School for his services to the CCF (for which he was awarded the MBE), for the legendary annual Switzerland trip, for the Hobbies Exhibition, for leading Newton House so successfully and for so much more.

Our thanks and best wishes for long, happy and thoroughly well-deserved retirement go to all four.

Senior Prefects

The following senior School Prefect appointments have been made:

School Captain:	James Gibson
Deputy School Captains:	Richard Felton Isaac Fredericks

House Captains:

Darwin:	Kian Gheissari
Elgar:	Peter Navey
Newton:	Sam Hoyle
Scott:	James Hutchings
Turner:	Jonathan Hoggins

The new team has already shown itself to be every bit as strong and effective as any of our recent Senior Prefects.

Appointments

The following teachers have been appointed for September:

Mr J Allegre (MFL)
Mrs F Barton (IT/Business Studies)
Ms Y Costa (Spanish)
Mrs J Cox (Mandarin)
Mr J Herbison (Music)
Dr H Jolly (Psychology)
Miss H McKeating (Biology)
Mrs K Potten (Mathematics)
Miss L Richardson (MFL)
Miss L Seilhean (History)
Mrs O Watson (Mathematics)

The following support staff have recently been appointed:

Mrs M Brunet (Administrator)
Miss J Chapman (Finance Officer)
Mrs M Gibbons (Teaching Assistant)
Mrs H Lambon (Teaching Assistant)
Mr A Player (Caretaker)
Miss J Reynolds (Librarian)
Mrs S Spears (Pastoral Administrator)
Mr T Worgan (Caretaker)

Internal Appointments

Ms Gillen has been appointed Director of Language Specialism.

Mr Bonds takes over as Head of History from Dr Hill.

Mr Gibson takes on the role of Sixth Form Co-ordinator from Mr Bonds.

Mr Moggeridge takes over as Careers and Work Related Learning Co-ordinator from Mrs Wall. Our thanks go to Mrs Wall, who has held this position for a number of years; she steps down at Christmas, giving us the Autumn term for the handover to take place.

Mr Viney has taken on the role of PSHCE Co-ordinator.

Miss Darwin has taken on the role of Teacher i/c French.

Mrs Cruz-Saez has taken on the role of Teacher i/c Spanish.

ACTIVITIES/ACHIEVEMENTS

IFS Student Investor Challenge 2008

In this national competition four Year 10 boys - Nathan Holder, Henry Schofield, Jeremy Ferguson and Christian Brunet - competed against teams much older than them (sixth formers almost exclusively) but competed well. They did not progress to the National Final but were ranked in the top 100 out of nearly 4000 teams.

JP Morgan ICTomorrow Competition Dragons Den Theme

Our team of Josh Cox, Shamil Nunhuk, Robie Choudhury and Jay Cadman took third place in this year's competition. They developed a website forum called ThinkTeen for teenagers to exchange their views and offer support to others. The prize money from the competition is already being put to good use in the development of a podcast extension to the website and will keep the site running for a further year.

Victoria School

Following an urgent call for help from Victoria School, on Wednesday 21st June a group of our Y10 students accompanied students from Victoria School to assist them as they competed in the South West Regional Games. Our students were needed to fetch and carry, blow whistles, officiate etc to help these severely disabled young people. I have received a letter from the Head of Victoria School, praising our students for the service that they gave so willingly at very short notice.

Karate

Congratulations to Albert Preston who has attained his black belt in karate.

Art Department

We have had a very busy term with regards to exams and marking! The annual exhibition took place at the end of June and was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the work of our GCSE, AS and A2 students.

A group of year 9 able art students successfully produced two large batik panels (in excess of 7 metres long each) for the 'Footprints of South Africa' performance at the lighthouse at the end of June.

The South African Marimba Quartet recently visited us and performed for/with Year 9 students who have opted for music next year.

Year 12 students kick-started their A2 course by visiting Goodwood Sculpture Park; fortunately the rain held off and students were able to photograph the sculptures in their natural environment. A very enjoyable day for both staff and students.

Miss C Lister

Newton House Fundraising

A cheque for £1011.11 was given to Round Table Children's Wish appeal at the beginning of May. The money had been raised in various activities ranging from Xmas and Easter raffles, a cake sale, Class photo sales and computer game competition. The boys involved ranged in age from 11 to 18 and the charity had been chosen by the House captain - Greg Adamson.

Valter Prize

Tom Lands (U6) has just won the Valter Prize for his 'Handy Ipod' A-level D&T project. The final judging and awards took place at Bournemouth University on 4th July.

Arkwright Scholar

Nathan Au and Andrew Argyle have been awarded Arkwright Scholarships after successfully passing the Arkwright Aptitude Paper, demonstrating flair and originality in solving Engineering Design problems and presenting GCSE work to a panel of interviewers earlier in March and April.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers 2008

Many thanks to all those who contributed vouchers for the Sainsbury's Active Kids this year. There have been enough collected to allow the School Scout Group to purchase 5 new tents.

Junior Maths Olympiad

Some 1000 pupils nationally from the original 240,000 Challenge entrants were invited to compete. Four boys took part and for the first time in the history of Bournemouth School participating in the Challenge/Olympiad series of events across the age ranges (20 years!), we have a Silver medal winner in Damian Aries (for essentially quality solutions to three of the tough Section B questions after a competent performance in Section A), as well as a Certificate of Distinction winner in Daniel Chatfield putting him in the top 250 of the 1000. Sam Steele gained a Certificate of Participation for a solid performance. However, Joshua de Gromoboy performed **outstandingly**, and for his place in the top 50 of the 1000, is awarded a Gold medal and a book prize.

Intermediate Mathematics Challenges and Olympiads

Across the nation approximately 220,000 pupils in years 9-11 took on the Intermediate Mathematics challenge, with high scorers receiving invitations to take part in the Olympiad and Kangaroo events.

Liam Garrison was placed in the top 400 within his age group in the Challenge round, and then achieved a position in the top 200 of the Olympiad event, which marks out his performance as particularly notable. He receives both a Gold award for the Challenge, and a Certificate of Merit for the Olympiad.

Five boys achieved Gold in the Challenge round, and a place among three plus million pupils across Europe in the Kangaroo event:

Jowan Barnes (also Best In School)
William Saunders
Robert Samuel
Robie Choudhury
Daniel Chatfield (competing above his age! Still eligible for the Junior Challenge).

In the Kangaroo event all 5 were placed in the top 25% of their age group.

Tesco Vouchers

Many thanks to all those who contributed vouchers for the Tesco Computer for Schools this year.

Visit to Andalucía

Mr Hatch and Ms Gillen made a short visit in mid June to IES Clara Campoamor School in Huelva, Spain, as part of our twinning project. They met with staff from the school and provided them with materials from our technology, music, geography and PE departments to support their immersion project.

A joint project has been set up for the 2008/9 academic year between a year 8 Spanish class and a similar group in IES Clara Campoamor.

Year 6 Primary Visits

At the end of June large numbers of year 6 pupils – from the majority of Bournemouth's primary schools – visited us to celebrate the French that they have learnt over the past two years. They took part in video conferencing and in a play which year 8 and 9 pupils presented. They were also treated to a French snack which they had to order from the Deli Bar in French.

Year 4 Mandarin Visits

Pupils from our partner primary schools have attended a morning enrichment session learning some Mandarin and about Chinese culture.

Japanese

All current Year 11 GCSE students entered the Japanese poem competition organised by Amnesty International. The topic was Human Rights. Michael Moazami won the one of the top prizes.

St Walburga's School Visit

Six Y8 pupils recently visited St Walburga's school to run taster lessons in Spanish.

Year 10 pupils are about to visit Linwood School to assist in teaching some French lessons.

Earthquake Appeal

The school came together magnificently to raise funds to support the victims of the Chinese earthquake. Mrs Liu and members of the local Chinese community came into school to cook traditional Chinese dumplings, which were sold to the school as part of the school meal service. We also ran a non-uniform day and were able to send over £1,000 to the relief agencies. As a very worthwhile spin-off, we also strengthened our links with the local Chinese community.

SPORT

Cross-Country

The cross-country season saw many successes for the school. At the Bournemouth Area Championships our Year 7, 11 and 6th Form teams were winners and our Year 8/9 teams were runners-up. Congratulations to individual winners Stanley Parker, Fergus O'Reilly and Richard Felton.

The school had a record number of boys at the County Championships where our Year 7 team were winners and our 6th Form team were runners-up. Stanley Parker, Fergus O'Reilly and Richard Felton were once again individual winners.

The school was then represented at the South West Championships again by a record number of boys. All performed extremely well at such a high level of competition and Fergus O'Reilly, Richard Felton and Stephen Barratt were all selected to run at the English Schools Championships, with Fergus O'Reilly achieving an excellent 36th place and Richard Felton a very good 111th place, with Stephen 3 places behind Richard.

Athletics

Congratulations to the following boys who were selected for the County Athletics Championships 2008:

Oliver Teenan, Fergus O'Reilly, Edward Yorke-Saville, Thomas Pettitt, James Southard, James Edwards, Theo Gray, Steven Butters, Charles Spencer, Adam Kay, David Smitten, Curtis Watton, Joseph Simons, Richard Felton, Sam Chappell, Richard Galloway, Alexander Brain, Stanley Parker, Nathan Merridew, Josh Parsley and Harvey Darby.

Sam Chappell (Hammer) and Fergus O'Reilly (1500m) have been selected to compete in the UK Schools national championships

Year 7 Football

Congratulations to the year 7 football team on their impressive 5-1 victory in the Town Final against Ringwood. Goals were scored by Richard Galloway, Charlie Birchall and a hat-trick from Sammy Brichard. They also won the Town 5 a-side competition and the County Cup 11 a-side trophy, beating Emmanuel School in the final who were the County Cup winners in year 6! This has proved to be an excellent sporting year for the year 7's who have now won all Town/County football trophies that they were entered for as well as winning the County Rugby Championship - the first year group to win the quadruple in a long time!

Year 8 Football

Congratulations to the year 8 football team on their 2-0 victory against Portchester in the Town Final. Goals from Chris Speers and James Howard secured the victory.

Year 10 Football

Further congratulations to the year 10 football team for winning their Town Final against Twynham 1-0. The game went to extra time but an impressive volley from Theo Gray secured victory over a talented Twynham side.

Year 11 Football

The year 11 football team played an excellent Winton side in the Final of the Town Cup at the Fitness First Stadium. At full time the score was 1-1 with BS having dominated the second half, hitting the post and having a chance scrambled off the line. In extra time they conceded with 1 minute of the first half remaining and then, trying to win the game in the final period of extra time, they conceded twice more. The final 4-1 score flattered Winton School in a game they were extremely lucky not to lose in normal time. Congratulations to the whole squad on their excellent attitude and commitment throughout.

Tennis

Each year clubs and schools around the country run a knockout event, the winners of which go on to compete at a County Final. The 44 County winners and the 20 best 'runner-up' go forward to compete on the hallowed grass at Wimbledon for the eventual title in the Road to Wimbledon challenge for players under 14 years of age.

The school stage of the competition this year attracted 24 entries, with the two pupils (Peter Musson and Daniel Ross-Willmore) battling it out to be the Bournemouth School representative. Peter eventually won and went on to the County Final.

CCF Report

Mr McAulay, who has successfully completed his first year as Officer Commanding the CCF, reports another very active year:

The RAF are thriving and doing well in their respective competitions, whilst also providing flying experiences which a few from other services were able to participate in. Two Cadets have been awarded a Gliding Scholarship.

Excellent Field Days enjoyed by all of those that attended. Many competitions and challenges entered with successful teams in the Ten Tors. A brilliant Nat Net Competition that we won for the first time in our history. Numerous Cadets taking part in courses run by the Navy for a myriad of different activities.

I think though that for me the highlight was, amongst others, getting over 60 cadets down onto Dartmoor and its environs to experience, for many, climbing, caving and walking for the first time in such an environment. This could not go on without the assistance from members of staff who gave of their free time for which I and the Cadets are indebted.

I am also very proud of the way in which the Cadets have taken on the challenge of the Btech in Public Services with Kate Davis getting a Merit. I am sure that the latest cohort will also achieve well with this award

Earlier this month we managed to get 16 Cadets out onto Poole harbour for quite a rigorous days Canoeing and Kayaking during which they all achieved their BCU 1 star award. Incidentally the Chief Instructor for this was an ex Cadet Lizzie Turner.

The CCF is all about offering the Cadets the challenge of developing their Leadership Communication and Team work skills in a fun environment. The Government and the Forces each have their own slant on what they want our young people to get out of it. By looking at the young people that keep coming back year after year you can see that they are obviously getting a lot out of it and that what they are getting is good for us all.

KS3 Results

We were due to receive KS3 results by 8 July, but as you will be aware from press reports there has been a significant delay at national level. It is now most unlikely that we will be in a position to send out results before the start of next term.

Parents' Association Lottery

<u>Ticket</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Drawn by</u>
March 2008 - Amount: £87.00 each		
165	Mr Ball	Adam Rossano (U6N)
213	Mrs Clarke-Kehoe	Ronak Patel (U6S)
481	Mrs Johnson	Matthew Carrington (8N)
April 2008 - Amount: £87.00 each		
390	Mr and Mrs Smith	Dr Taylor
668	Mrs A Dean	Mr Dean
17	Mrs C Blaszczyk	Sam Cooke
May 2008 - Amount: £87.00 each		
583	S A Lewis	Ron Miller (9N)
501	B Cowles	Shaun Hurley (10E)
15	S J Saunders	Jay Cadman (9N)
June 2008 - Amount £88.00 each		
042	Mr and Mrs Hiscock	Mrs Fisher
200	Mr and Mrs Duffy	Mrs Davies
586	Mr P Twitchin	Mrs Chapman

End of Term Arrangements

Friday 18th July 2008
School finishes at 12.10 pm

Canteen will only be open until mid-morning break.

Packed lunches will be available for boys entitled to free school meals.

Shamrock 36 & 89 will run am and pm
Shamrock 54 – will run am only
Shamrock East Dorset 87 will run am and pm

Ten Tors Expedition 12th - 13th May 2008

After several practices on the Purbecks and weekends on Dartmoor, both the junior and senior set off on Friday 11th May to Okehampton to take part in Ten Tors.

On arrival we set up our base camp with tents and went off to be scrutinised – all our kit was examined to check it was sufficient. We were then given our maps and planned our routes giving estimated times of arrival etc. Having a filling bbq, we settled down to cram in some last minute revision (many of us had important exams the morning of our return) before trying to claim a few hours sleep for the challenge ahead.

However, some people had different ideas. At roughly 4am we were awoken by the racket made by other campers as they prepared an early breakfast. We were not happy. In an effort to lift morale for the start line, we jogged to the café for tea and bacon baps. Upon heaving our packs onto our backs for the first time that day, we began to comprehend the challenges ahead of us. 300 teams gathered on the hill made an intimidating site against the backdrop of beautiful scenery but there was a great hum of excitement and anticipation among the crowd.

At precisely 7.30, the sound of a horn announced the expedition had begun and the whole hillside was instantly covered in teams scrambling for a head start. It was very crowded on the main paths as most teams began in the same direction but throughout the day this problem diminished and we left more and more teams behind.

At the top of each Tor we were greeted by an army officer who checked we were all together as a group and offered us fresh water which we were all extremely grateful for due to the weather being so hot.

During the next twelve hours of traipsing up and down what seemed the endless moors and tufts, hardly catching glimpses of any other teams, moral started to drop but we all encouraged each other by yelling 'Get a move on!'

We had planned to hike till 9pm on our route plan but had failed to take into account the steep terrain we would walk on, so as we gradually grew more weary and grumpy with each other, we agreed to stop sooner and get up early on Sunday at 4am to get started on the 8th Tor. We crawled into our sleeping bags after a welcomed meal of ration packs as we were all fed up of eating our melted chocolate that day.

Waking up the next day and putting our rucksacks on our backs yet again did not help our spirits but when we finally reached the 10th Tor, the end was in sight and we could not wait to see the familiar faces of our family's cheering us to the end.

Seeing the giant 'FINISH' arch was one of the best sights we have ever seen, and we all marched through it beaming, we were then ushered away to receive our medals on a platform and most importantly our free pasties and soup. After both teams returned, completing the expedition within the time, we compared blisters and set off home amazed at what we had all achieved together and not at all ready for our exams the next day.

Ten Tors Team

Star Awards

150 Stars

7D

Christian Donohoe
Stanley Parker
David Roberts
Peter Vincent

7N

Mohammed Al-Wasity
Joshua de Gromoboy
Thomas Donnelly
Thomas Hardy
Jack Hunter
William Sargeant
Ben Sharpley
Jake Tkaczuk
Liam Weight

7T

Edward Coulson
Harvey Darby
Alexander Earth
James Gray
Dominic Heatley
Oliver Payne
Mathew Stoneman
Stephen Whalley

7E

Lukas Gierlichs
Joseph Ranger
Alexander Sampson
Luke Staton

7S

Cameron Adams
Adam Carter
Adam Collins
Arran Dhoot
Adam Gibson
Harry Horton-Hill
George Hunt
George Kirkpatrick
Robert Loader
Jonathan Nicholls
James Pearson
Torinn Powles
Christopher Richards
James Ryan
Brett Thomas
Matthew Trickett

8N

Aaron Cocker

200 Stars

7S

Andrew Blair
James Hooker
Peter May
Oliver Morgan

7N

Mohammed Al-Wasity
Luke Harvell
Jack Helyar
Jack Hunter
Philip Mylankal

7N

Michael Boucher
Philip Mylankal

7T

Edward Coulson
Harvey Darby
Alexander Earth
James Gray
Thomas Kidman
Oliver Payne

7E

Alexander Sampson

250 Stars

7S

Oliver Morgan

7T

Thomas Kidman

300 Stars

7N

Michael Boucher

Philip Mylankal

Start of Term Arrangements

Wednesday 3rd September 2008

Timetable is Week 1

9.00 am New Year 7 Start
9.00 am New Lower Sixth Start
9.30 am Lower Sixth Start
11.00 am Rest of School Start

Pupils choosing to arrive early will need to bring work to study in the Library which will be open from 8.30 am.

School buses will run as normal am and pm

BOURNEMOUTH SCHOOL SCOUT GROUP

35th Bournemouth Scouts, Sea Scouts and Explorer Scouts
RN Recognised Sea Scout Unit No 47

The very long term after an Easter Camp on Dartmoor for the older Scouts. Similar in format to last year's 'Summer Camp' some ten Scouts plus three leaders spent a week hiking, exploring, rock-climbing and boating on Roadford Lake. JP and Mr Phillip Nye joined the camp for the last day to help out with sailing and kayaking but unfortunately some of this had to be restricted due to very strong winds. We have been very pleased to have Mr Nye join us as an additional kayaking instructor this term and thus enabling us to double the number of 'paddlers' afloat on Friday evenings. The new Tera sailing dinghies have been put to good use for basic rowing practice for the younger Scouts.

Our Annual General Meeting took an unusual form in April when it was combined with an Open Evening for parents, friends and several potential members from next term's Year Seven. The evening activities included the 'Official Re-Opening' of the Scout Hut at Bournemouth School. This was carried out by Explorer Scouts Emily and George Randall as the most senior members of the younger membership. Mr Cudmore was on hand to explain his Sponsored Floor Tiles scheme for covering the Hut floor – and there are still a few tiles left for anybody who has not yet bought one. Please contact him via the School. The tiles cost £10 each and will be laid with the donor's 'Message to Posterity' on the underside. Several past members of the Troop attended the evening, one coming all the way from Worthing for the event.

After several false starts due to adverse tides, the needs of some Inverness Scouts, and the danger of the evening ending early due to darkness, our 2008 Royal Navy Inspection finally took place at Perch Pool on Friday 16th May. The Inspecting Officer was Lt Cdr David Griffiths RN, Staff Officer Sea Scouts, and an old friend of the School Group. As is traditional he was rowed down the river from Iford waterworks in our gig 'Sea Scout' under the command of PL Alex Bell and piped ashore at Perch Pool by Michael DuLieu and James Taylor. A formal inspection of the Scouts followed the colours ceremony before Cdr Griffiths was whisked by car to Hengistbury Head to see two of the Tera dinghies drifting on a windless harbour. Back at Perch Pool the two squads of kayakers were devising new ways to fall in (ASL Jeremy Sullivan) and dodging between the legs of Tuckton Bridge (Mr Nye). A new gig's crew attempted to navigate through the resulting traffic jam.

Cdr Griffiths praised the Scouts for their efforts and for supporting all the activities arranged by the Royal Navy throughout the year. He produced a very pleasing report, the only adverse comment being about two Scouts who had gained badges but not bothered to get them sewn onto their uniforms!

We were also pleased to welcome Mr David Sturdee who has taken on the role of Sea Scout Adviser to Scout HQ and Mr Jonathan Jones, Sea Scout R.N. Liaison Officer and an old friend of the Troop.

20 year service Certificates were presented to ASL Jeremy Sullivan and ESL Andrew Sherriff. Twenty years? I remember them joining as First Formers – which is probably where forty years of my life went to!

A week later and eight Scouts (and the even more Ancient-feeling Scoutleader) were back on board HMS BRISTOL for the RN Recognised Troops' Summer Camp. (Yes I know that

officially we can only take six – but we do seem to have friends in high places – and the well known Irish Terrorist PL Ciaran O'Connell was one of the extras. The Scouts had a great week afloat in everything from tiny bat canoes to sea-going motor vessels. They also explored the great mystery of West Sussex; why are they not called Ups instead of Downs?

Joshua de Gromoboy baffled the RN science exhibition and won a prize for rocket design and everybody ate too much food as usual.

We even did our bit for the Trading Standards Institute National Conference by spending a Sunday afternoon walking in line round a long table in the BIC. During each lap every Scout picked up twenty-seven leaflets, brochures and a pen before dropping his or her collection into bags held open by Josh Brown and Andy Sherriff. Everybody lost count of the number of laps done but Joe West cheated by overtaking me at one point – or possibly twice. There was a sort of pit lane for crisps and drinks and those who survived to the end got a free ice cream. Not quite enforced Scout slavery – a pleasingly large donation was made to Group funds. Several Scouts found it hard to walk in a straight line afterwards and BIC management cannot explain the odd way in which their carpet was worn down.

Saturday 5th July split the Scouts into two groups when the National Sea Scout Pulling Regatta and the Bournemouth Music Festival Concert occupied the same time slot.

As usual the Concert helpers spent an afternoon and evening playing the Grand Piano Shifting Game. In a programme of twenty acts the rule is quite simple; if the piano is on the stage take it off and the other way round. No two pianists/accompanists want it in the same place so please shift it three inches to the south and rotate it four degrees clockwise. PL Ben Farmer had an extra responsibility when a minor hitch during the trophy presentations ended up with him as a stand in for the Mayor and handing a cup to a young lady who just happened to be his cousin.

Meanwhile at Kingston on Thames Mr Cudmore was supervising our first time at the Sea Scout Pulling Regatta. This included gig races, dinghy rowing, the devilish 'Sculling over the Stern' and several kayaking events. The junior Scout gig team was badly let down by two Scouts who failed to turn up whilst the Explorer Scouts managed to get into the semi-finals and finals of most of their events. Everybody returned home convinced that with our new experience we could be amongst the trophies next year.

Perhaps we could persuade the Headmaster and Governors to accompany us next year to see Kingston Grammar School's boating facilities.....

The next national event is the RN Six-a-Side football competition in the autumn and again we have a keen Explorer Scout team whilst the Scouts seem reluctant to have a go.

Summer Camp this year will be in the Cotswolds and, in addition to revising our traditional camping skills, there will be boating on a nearby sailing-club's lake together with our traditional night activities, patrol expeditions and a chance to update badge work. Highly recommended!

J. Preston Scouter in charge