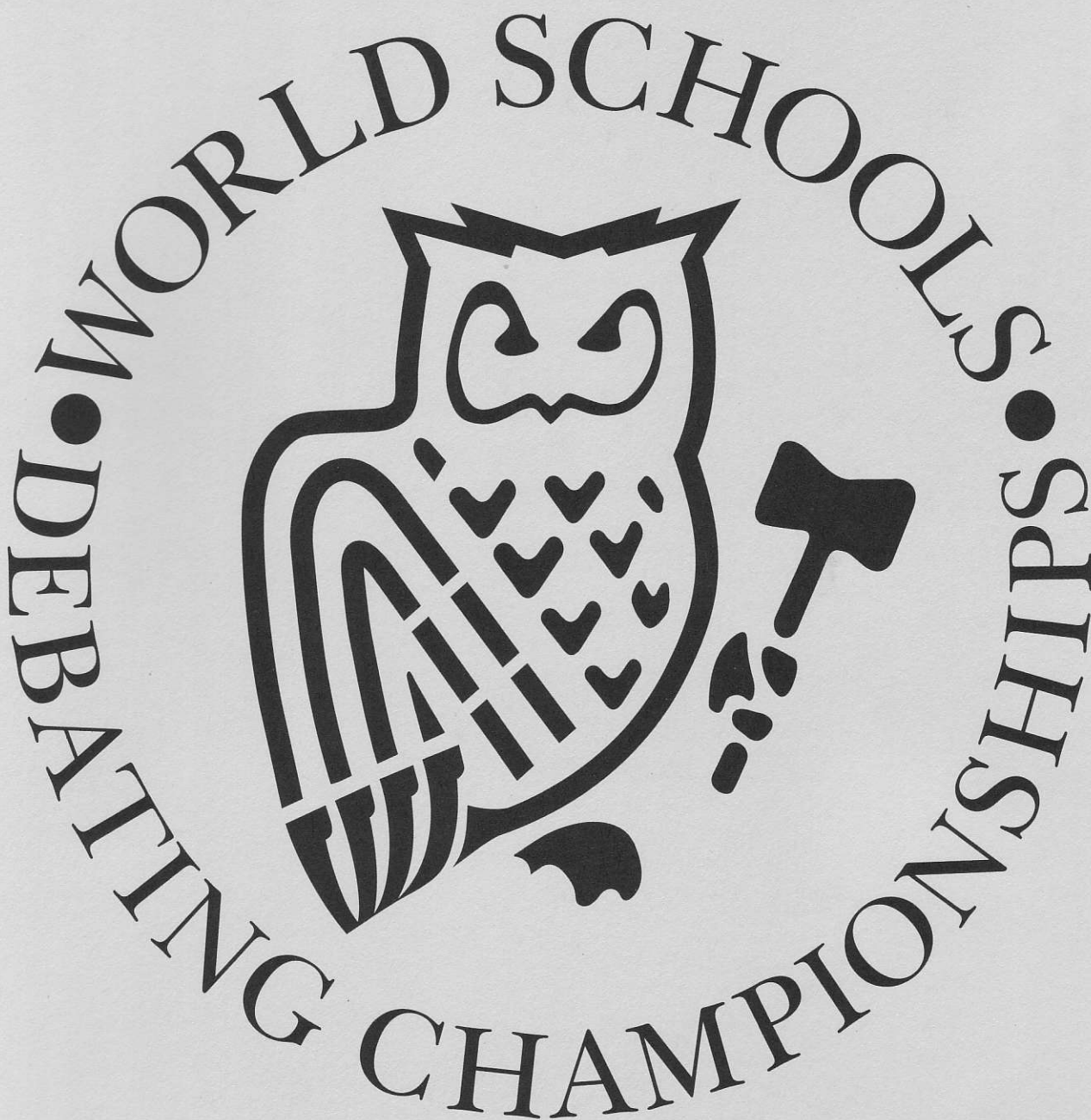


*Patron*  
*H.R.H. The Princess Royal*



**London**  
**8-15 February 1992**

*Sponsored by*

**THE OBSERVER**



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

I would like to offer a warm welcome to everyone coming to London for the 1992 World Schools Debating Championships. This competition is the culmination of months of hard preparation in countries all over the world, and I do not doubt that it will be an outstanding and keen contest. A special word of congratulations is deserved by those teams for whom English is not their first language but who will be debating in English alongside the others.

Many of the visitors will be spending their time in London as guests of English families, and I hope that everyone will take the opportunity to see something of Britain's capital city, despite a demanding programme of over sixty debates to complete in just one week.

Some teams will inevitably prosper more than others in the competition itself, but all the debaters can look forward to forming new friendships and learning to respect and understand different points of view worldwide.



## FOREWORD

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By **Kenneth Harris of The Observer**

It is nearly forty years since *The Observer* was asked to sponsor a national debating tournament for students at places of higher education, and, soon after, a national debating contest for schools. *The Observer's* objective is the same now as it was then: to encourage young people in the presentation of well-argued pros and cons, the process by which an educated democracy should come to its decisions.

The contribution which *formal* debating, such as debates in Parliament, make to the running of a democracy, though immensely important, is relatively small compared with the role played by *informal* debate. Within the Cabinet there is no *formal* debate but the *informal* argument presided over by the Prime Minister that goes on there may decide what is done in the greatest of matters of state. Diplomats of one country debate with those of other countries informally about treaties, trade union leaders debate wage demands with employers, teachers debate the assessment of their pupils, and so on. When one stops to think about it, informal debating is going on almost everywhere at all times, the common factor being the use of the process to arrive at a decision on a course of action. It is the great and civilised alternative to people doing things simply because they have been told to do them.

Being able to debate, therefore, is a skill which all true democrats will want to acquire. To have some practice in it will not only increase their own chances of getting agreement to a course of action which they, themselves, believe to be the right one, but to maintain and strengthen the democratic process in itself.

Apart from these considerations, debating is a good training for the mind, a sharpening of wits, an exercise in self-confidence, a discipline in the use of language and, last but not least, fun. Looking back on forty years of sponsorship, *The Observer* is proud to have been associated with the higher aspirations of the debating process; but it is also grateful for the amount of fun which its sponsorship seems to have brought about.



## THE WORLD SCHOOLS DEBATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

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The World Schools Debating Championships were first held in Australia in August 1988. Since then there have been competitions in Canada and Scotland. The London tournament is the fourth in the series. No host country has won as yet and no country has won the competition twice. The winners of the first three contests were Canada, Scotland and New Zealand.

Each year the size of the competition has increased, and there will be thirteen countries participating in the London event. Several teams have been chosen from national competitions specially arranged with the world championship in mind.

Every team debates eight times during the preliminary rounds, which are followed by quarter-finals, semi-finals and the Grand Final, on Saturday February 15. The debates are being held in schools all over London, in Sussex and in Cambridge. There is a separate contest to select the best individual speaker, and a special award will be given to the best team for whom English is not the native language.

### COMPETITION RULES

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There are three speakers on each side for each debate. Each of the six main speeches lasts eight minutes, with points of information from members of the opposite team permitted during the middle six minutes. After a two-minute pause, there is one reply speech of four minutes from each side, beginning with the opposition.

This completes the competitive part of the debate. The judges retire to consider their verdict and a short floor debate is held. Members of the audience are encouraged to contribute to this. When the judges indicate that they are ready, the floor debate is concluded and a vote taken on the motion. Finally, the verdict is given, which may be unanimous or a majority decision.

Some debates are on topics that were sent to the competitors in December, although the side on which each team is speaking was only announced at the beginning of the tournament. Other debates are on topics announced at one-and-a-half hours' notice and prepared by the teams with no assistance from their coaches.



## The Teams

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### Australia

THE QANTAS SCHOOLS DEBATING TEAM

Coach Christopher Erskine      Team Michael Harris  
Kate Kelly  
Matthew Richardson  
Declan Roche  
Tamara Somers

### Bangladesh

THE BANGLADESH DEBATE FEDERATION TEAM

Coach Mainuddin Ahmed      Team Zaved Ahmed  
Golam MD. Chowdhury  
Talita Chowdhury

### Bermuda

THE BERMUDA JUNIOR SERVICE LEAGUE TEAM

Coach Ziad Dajani      Team Janita Burke  
Michelle Correia  
Koshea Scott  
Charles Sousa

Sponsors: British Airways, Heddington Insurance Limited, The Bank of Bermuda Limited, Shipping Development Co Ltd, Applyby Spurling and Kempe, and Mr Arthur Lea.



### Canada

THE AIR CANADA SCHOOLS DEBATING TEAM

Coach Tom Lawson      Team Matthew Cohen  
David Gratzer  
Julie Labbe

### England

THE SCHOOLS DEBATING ASSOCIATION TEAM

Coach Mark Malcomson      Team Julian Bell  
Nicholas Boys Smith  
Dominic Johnson  
Trevor Sather  
Neil Sheldon

### Ireland

THE BALLYGOWAN SCHOOLS DEBATING TEAM

Coach Clare Higgins      Team Jacqueline O'Hara  
Therese Higgins  
Laura Joyce  
Natalie McDonell

### Israel

THE ISRAEL DEBATING SOCIETY TEAM

Coach Lorna Berlin      Team Liat Barcai-Goodman  
Roy Klajman  
Allon Messenberg



## The Teams

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### The Netherlands

THE HOLLAND DEBATE TEAM FROM ALOYSIUS COLLEGE

Coach Tony Verhoeven

Team Hella Borking  
Bibilotte Duyvesteyn  
Martijn Koenders  
Andreas Ligtvoet  
Joost van der Spek

HOLLAND  
DEBATE



### New Zealand

THE CATHAY PACIFIC NEW ZEALAND SCHOOLS DEBATING TEAM

with generous support from the ANZ Bank

Coach Rosemary Dixon

Team Vina Arait  
Susannah Bridge  
Alexandra Gillespie  
Richard Suhr



CATHAY PACIFIC



ANZ Bank

### Pakistan

THE ESU PAKISTAN TEAM

Coach Iffat Shah

Team Amna Naseer  
Aisha Ahmed  
Aftab Alam  
Syed Muhammad Ali Abbas  
Shandana Khan



### Scotland

THE ESU SCOTLAND TEAM

Coach Cameron Wyllie

Team Antonia Love  
Sarah Napuk  
Shehzaad Sacranie  
Derek Sloan  
Richard Wilkins

### United States of America

THE MANCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL DEBATE TEAM

Coach Timothy C. Averill

Team Max Arnaud  
Amanda Bafaro  
Owen Davis  
Matt Graves  
Colleen Melia

### Wales

THE WELSH CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DEBATING TEAM

Coach David Pritchard

Team Ruth Howells  
Eirian Hughes  
Rachel Protheroe  
Caroline Ashton



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The Championships could not have been organised without the help and support of many people, all of whom responded very positively to the considerable favours that were requested.

*The Observer*

The Department of Education and Science

The Host Families

The Host Schools

The Cambridge Union

The Judges

Kenneth Harris

Joanna Crone

Richard Calland

Matthew Christmas

Jenifer Ball

Matthew Gould

London Regional Transport

BT Phonecards courtesy of BT

Official Tournament Cars Loaned by Capital Rover, Colindale

Venus pencils courtesy of Berol Ltd.

A special note of thanks is due to The High Master, The Bursar and my colleagues at St Paul's School, not only for taking on responsibility for the final and several other events during the week, but also for so readily making time and resources available over the months of previous organisation.

David Bussey

(Tournament Convener and Hon. Treasurer of the Schools Debating Association)



## JUDGES FOR THE GRAND FINAL

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**The Rt. Hon. Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone**

K.G.,C.H.,F.R.S.,D.C.L.,L.L.D.  
Former Lord Chancellor; Presiding Judge

**The Rt. Hon. George Younger**

T.D.,D.L.,M.P.  
Chairman, The Royal Bank of Scotland

**The Hon. George Gair**

Q.S.O.  
New Zealand High Commissioner

**Kenneth Harris C.B.E.**

Director of *The Observer*

**Karyl Nairn**

Representing Tournament Adjudicators

## CHAIRMAN OF THE GRAND FINAL

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**Graeme Halkerston**

President of The Oxford Union







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