

FOUNDERS' DAY, K. S. G-School, 23/11/1989.



New theme for school tradition

THE ancient Founder's Day tradition at Kirkby Stephen Grammar School this year had a new theme — links with the community.

The annual ceremony in memory of Mr. Thomas Wharton, who first established the school in Kirkby Stephen over 400 years ago, used to be held at the Parish Church but for the last few years has been held in the school hall.

The ceremony began with the peal of church bells and the first year students walked in procession led by the Rev. Desmond Owen, Mr. Peter Hawksworth, head-

master, and the deputy head boy and girl, Gareth Thompson and Nicola Dowson.

In the hall, the school and visitors assembled to hear the school choir and the reading of the historic articles, letters patent and constitution.

After prayers and thanksgiving, the lesson was read by Richard Capstick.

The Rev. Desmond Owen, from the United Reform Church in Ravenstonedale, had stepped in at short notice to address the school because Canon William Greetham was ill.

He spoke about links between the school and the community, particularly in the new context of local busi-

ness involvement in schools.

Mr. John Bainbridge, manager of Barclay's Bank in Kirkby Stephen and adviser to the school's Young Enterprise Company, continued the theme.

Gareth Thompson and Joanna Thornborrow, past and present managing directors of the school's Young Enterprise Company, talked about how local business could help the school, both financially and in an advisory capacity.

A display illustrated the theme of extending links between school and community into the business sector. Many local firms have helped the school with either advice or financial help — recently Heredities Limited

and Glitsch (UK) Limited have helped by sponsoring the new school prospectus. Many other local businesses have helped by providing work experience places.

The choir brought the ceremony to a close with "A Song for Kirkby Stephen".

Guests were treated to a buffet organised by teacher Miss Amanda Tweddle.

The buffet was an innovation and seen as a way of thanking local people and businesses for their help during the school year.

● *Pictured with first year pupils are the Rev. Desmond Owen (extreme left), head Mr. Peter Hawksworth, deputy head girl Nicola Dowson and deputy head boy Gareth Thompson.*