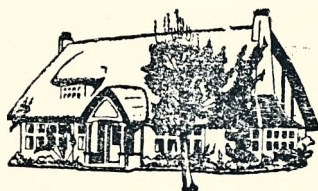


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# THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

Vol. XIV    No. 2

SEPTEMBER, 1966

**PORTSMOUTH COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY**

(THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL COLLEGE)

---

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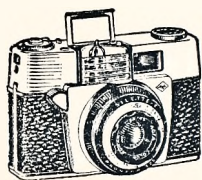
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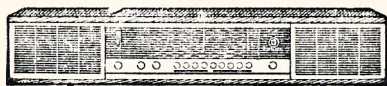


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MR. J. C. R. DAVIES



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*Front row, L. to R.—P. M. COLLEY, J. W. CLARK, J. N. McLOUGHLIN (Capt.), J. R. HAYTER, J. M. RIVERS*  
*Front—J. W. ELDERKIN (Scorer)*

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# THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

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(THE MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL, HIGH WYCOMBE)

*Editors :* DAVID SNODIN, ROGER GASH

*Sport :* JOHN HUME

*Cover and Cartoons :* MARTIN WARD

martyrs  
we shall take the scourge  
of accusation  
of coterie and clique

remember, friends,  
that you  
by creating nothing  
made us what we are

## MR. J. C. R. DAVIES

The School was greatly shocked to learn that Mr. J. C. R. Davies had collapsed and died on Sunday, 10th July, just three days before the end of Term.

Mr. Davies was born in 1906 in Llanfaircaereinion in Montgomeryshire. He was educated at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, where he graduated with First Class Honours in History and Economics. He came to High Wycombe in 1929 to take up his first appointment at the Technical School.

He had a distinguished record as a Squadron-Leader in the R.A.F. in the Second World War, and after the War he stayed on at the Air Ministry where he was responsible for Policy and Staffing of R.A.F. Educational Establishments. For a time, too, he assisted Chester Wilmot, the distinguished Canadian military commentator, in compiling the record of the Normandy Landings in 1944. He kept up his association with the R.A.F. by serving as the Buckinghamshire Representative of the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund.

Mr. Davies joined the staff of the R.G.S. in September, 1959, to teach History. He was a good scholar, and he was successful in conveying to his pupils his own love of History and a respect for academic standards. Typically, he gave generously of his time to other School activities : he helped to run the Hockey XI and he administered the Box Office at School Concerts and Plays with his usual efficiency.

It was, however, his personal qualities, his unflinching and unaffected courtesy, his sincerity and modesty, his concern for the welfare of the School which most endeared him to those who knew him and which will cause them to grieve at his untimely passing. He was a true gentleman, and he will be sadly missed but remembered by his colleagues and former pupils. The School extends its deepest sympathy to his widow, his two daughters and his son, Peter.

D.G.J.

## SCHOOL NEWS

We were delighted to learn at the end of last term that the Headmaster has been elected to the Headmasters' Conference. May we respectfully offer him our congratulations. The number of schools represented on the Conference is limited to 200, and membership of the Conference is probably the only reliable definition of what constitutes a Public School. Mr. Tucker was, of course, a member of the Headmasters' Conference, and we are delighted to rejoin this distinguished company.

The following item appeared in the issue of "*Building*" for 29th April 1966 :

"The award for items of workmanship of outstanding merit forming a part of a building was made to Mr. Richard Mortimer, the foreman of Clark and Fenn, responsible for the precast fibrous plaster ceiling in the assembly hall in the Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe, and for the restoration of a coat-of-arms now refixed in the same building at the head of the main stairs". We offer our congratulations.

The Concert, which took the form of a performance of Vaughan Williams' Sea Symphony, was held on July 9th, and is reported elsewhere in this issue.

Among the many side-shows that added interest to Speech Day on June 30th were the Hey Nonny Players, who presented the Rude Mechanicals from "A Midsummer Night's Dream".

The Annual Leavers' Service was held in the Parish Church on July 11th, and well attended. The preacher was the Rev. D. T. Whitaker, priest in charge of St. Andrew's Church, Hatters Lane.

The School was one of three grammar schools chosen by the B.B.C. to represent the grammar school point of view in a series of broadcasts on education. The programme was broadcast on May 27th, and three masters and a number of boys from various parts of the school took part.

Once again after the examinations were over a party of boys engaged in redecorating houses for elderly people : and letters received by the Headmaster show that this service was much appreciated (and also thoroughly enjoyed by the "workmen").

The Staff lost to the School at cricket, but beat them at tennis.

Because many of the School Societies do not function in the Summer term we have not included any society reports in this issue.

The Benevolent Fund last term amounted to only £55. The previous term's total was a record, £130. But the short summer term, with examinations, is always a difficult one for collectors.

We should like to record our thanks to the donors of two handsome silver cups : Mr. E. H. Frankland has given a cup for the Triple Jump, and Lt. Col. S. E. Hands a cup for Philately.

As usual at this time of the year we have to say goodbye to several members of the Staff. Mr. S. A. Male after twenty years here is going to the Cambridgeshire High School for Boys. Mr. A. J. MacTavish is going to Reading School ; Mr. R. M. Strickland is going to Lawrence Weston Comprehensive School, Bristol, to be head of the mathematics department ; Mr. C. R. Pollard goes to Whitley Abbey Comprehensive School, Coventry, as head of German ; and Mr. J. L. Ditchburn is going to Batley Grammar School as head of biology. Mr. R. Duffield is going to teach at a school in Zaria, Nigeria ; Mr. C. M. Gray is going to Sir William Borlase School, Marlow ; Mr. N. L. Jones is going to the College of Technology and Art in High Wycombe. Mr. J. T. Bertaut is leaving teaching and joining the staff of Messrs. Ibbs and Tillett, the concert promoters. Mr. V. B. Mitford who had a temporary post with us for one term goes to a school near Launceston. To all these masters we extend our very best wishes for the future and our thanks for the very many ways they have helped us during their time here.

We welcome this term to the Staff Mr. D. A. Fromow, B.A. London, and Mr. P. A. Dunn, B.A. Durham, who come to teach modern languages ; Mr. J. D. Lingard, B.Sc. London, and Mr. D. W. Lilley, M.A. Oxford, to teach biology ; Mr. N. S. Gill, B.A. Punjab, to teach mathematics ; and Mr. P. A. Taylor,

B.A. Cambridge, an old boy of the school, to teach classics. Two masters are coming part-time to teach mathematics : Mr. E. Cropper, B.Sc. Manchester, and Mr. J. A. Tucker who is in fact a former member of the staff. He left us 16 years ago to be deputy headmaster at Hatters Lane, and now on his retirement is returning to help us. Mrs. Hill who came to us for a term while Mr. D. G. Jones was in Cambridge is returning temporarily to help us fill the vacancy caused by the sudden death of Mr. J. C. R. Davies. We also welcome as German Assistant Herr H. J. Linkewitsch.

## ADMISSION TO UNIVERSITIES

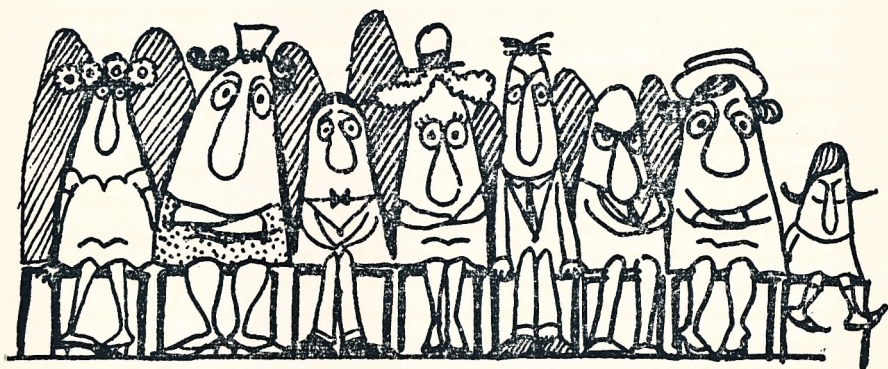
In addition to those whose names were published in the previous issue of the magazine, the following boys obtained places at universities in October, 1965 :

P. J. O'Shea, Hull University (Geology).

D. J. Nuttgens, Leeds University (Psychology).

R. J. Redrup, Portsmouth College of Technology (Zoology).

## SPEECH DAY, 1966



Speech Day was held on Thursday, June 30th, when the visiting speaker was Mr. H. S. Magnay, who was formerly the Chief Education Officer for Liverpool. The Chairman of the Governors, Alderman R. P. Clarke, said how delighted he was to preside on this the occasion of the Headmaster's first speech day at the Royal Grammar School.

The Headmaster in presenting his report said how pleased he was to see the representatives of other secondary and primary schools. This school was always ready to welcome boys from other schools who were able to profit from the kind of education given here. He referred to the wide range of activities and successes which bore witness to the fact that education was



concerned with more than academic results : though of these, too, we could well be proud. They included ten Open Awards at Universities, nine of them at Oxford and Cambridge.

In view of the current debate on secondary school reorganisation the Headmaster said ; “I am no great admirer of the comprehensive idea, as a recipe for universal application. I do not conceal my unrepentant belief in the virtues of selective grammar schools, as they have been developing in recent years. I am convinced that the defects of the selective process have been vastly exaggerated : many of us on both sides of this great divide believe that the present system still works well, and that most of its major snags could be smoothed out with goodwill and common sense.

“Smallish comprehensive schools of 800 pupils such as are envisaged in the Buckinghamshire proposals cannot produce more than quite small sixth forms, of perhaps 50 to 70. Yet one of the most remarkable and encouraging developments of the post-war grammar school has been the emergence of large, strong Sixth forms, such as ours, which was 340 strong last September, highly organised educational instruments, based on carefully gathered teams of highly qualified staff concentrated on able pupils. Sixth forms like these have made possible the kind of results I mentioned earlier on . . . In this vital matter the Buckinghamshire proposals would inevitably dissipate what has so painstakingly been built up over many years.

“I should hate it to be thought that, because we believe in the School we serve, we are unthinking last-ditchers, resisting all change at any price. We are as much alive to new thinking as anyone—and are in process of doing a good deal of it ourselves. But change for its own sake is frivolous folly. We will welcome any change that can be shown to bring real advance and improvements”.

After the presentation of the prizes Mr. H. S. Magnay entertained the audience with what must have been the liveliest speech-day address for many years. Mr. Magnay who had recently carried out a survey of educational systems in many parts of the world said that he did not think that a comprehensive system was the best. He wished with all his heart that the choice facing the country educationally was not a political choice—which he was sure it was.

At the Commemoration Service held in the Parish Church in the evening the preacher was the Rev. Dr. F. W. Dillistone, D.D., Fellow and Chaplain of Oriel College, Oxford, and formerly Dean of Liverpool ; thus completing a trio from Merseyside.

## SPECIAL PRIZES

- HEADMASTER'S PRIZE : M. G. Baker.
- GOVERNORS' READING PRIZE (Presented by Ald. R. P. Clarke) :  
D. N. Snodin.
- GOVERNORS' CLASSICS PRIZE (Presented by Mrs. R. P. Clarke) :  
M. J. Lowe.
- GRAEFE CUP FOR BEST C.C.F. CADET (Presented by the late  
Ald. W. Graefe) : Cadet R.S.M. A. S. Farmer.
- HARTE CUP FOR BEST R.A.F./C.C.F. CADET (Presented by Wing  
Commander C. S. W. Harte) : Cadet Flight Sergeant D. R.  
S. Hedgeland.
- GILES KEEN MEMORIAL CUP FOR BEST NAVAL CADET (Presented  
by Mr. and Mrs. Keen) : Cox'n. A. J. Oliver.
- SOCIAL SERVICE PRIZE : R. J. Mildon.
- ART SHIELD (Presented by A. Hastings, Esq.) : A. C. B. Ping.
- HOPE CUP (Presented by Mr. and Mrs. Hope) : J. M. Brownrigg.
- THORNE PRIZE FOR ENGLISH (Presented by Mrs. A. M. Bailey) :  
A. P. Potts.
- WESTNEY PRIZE FOR MUSIC (Presented by M. R. Westney, Esq.) :  
J. Bush.
- FLETCHER PRIZE FOR GREEK PROSE COMPOSITION (Presented by  
C. T. Fletcher, Esq.) : M. J. Jowe.
- LANCE MEMORIAL PRIZES FOR PERSISTENT PROGRESS (Presented  
by Ald. C. W. Lance, J.P.) :  
1st year : S. A. Morten  
2nd year : C. R. Walton
- PHILATELY CUP (Presented by Lt. Col. S. E. Hands) : R. D.  
Sexton.
- RAFFETY HOUSE CUP FOR SCHOOL WORK : Arnison.

## FORM PRIZES

- |                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| FORM IIA :        | FORM IIE :            |
| 1st C. J. Head    | 1st C. R. Rollason    |
| 2nd C. Langridge  | 2nd S. R. Crisp       |
| 3rd M. P. Nowers  | FORM IIIx :           |
| FORM IIB :        | 1st S. E. Jones       |
| 1st P. J. Coltman | 2nd R. P. J. Staynor  |
| 2nd R. D. Lemon   | 3rd P. M. J. Costello |
| FORM IIC :        | FORM IIIy :           |
| 1st R. F. Barnes  | 1st R. Barrett        |
| 2nd P. M. Simpson | 2nd W. L. Harris      |
| 3rd A. South      | 3rd M. T. Barlow      |
| FORM IID :        | FORM IIIA :           |
| 1st B. Lowe       | 1st A. D. Carthy      |
| 2nd P. D. Evans   | 2nd M. Thomas         |

FORM III<sub>SA</sub> :  
1st W. F. Harrison  
2nd B. C. Kneller

FORM III<sub>SB</sub> :  
1st J. M. Grice  
2nd N. J. Sears

FORM IV<sub>X</sub> :  
1st C. E. T. Lowe  
2nd R. Davison  
3rd S. M. R. Hill

FORM IV<sub>Y</sub> :  
1st A. P. Gee  
2nd S. L. Wright  
3rd J. C. Dixon

FORM IV<sub>A</sub> :  
1st R. J. Robinson  
2nd C. Walters

FORM IV<sub>SA</sub> :  
1st R. J. Long  
2nd M. J. Hollis

FORM IV<sub>SB</sub> :  
1st K. V. Pickering  
2nd M. A. J. Kusmidrowicz

FORM V<sub>Y</sub> :  
1st D. C. Stevens  
2nd I. T. Hickman  
3rd R. M. Zahler

FORM V<sub>A</sub> :  
1st C. D. Nowers  
2nd K. R. Barratt

FORM V<sub>SA</sub> :  
1st E. E. Sloan  
2nd G. D. Beare

FORM V<sub>SB</sub> :  
1st A. G. M. Haynes  
2nd C. A. Vecchi

FORM V<sub>X</sub> :  
1st A. Arbaney  
2nd J. N. Woolley  
3rd I. S. Elliott

FORM V<sub>UY</sub> :  
1st G. M. Stephenson  
2nd C. M. D. Settingington  
3rd B. R. A. Debnam

FORM V<sub>UA</sub> :  
1st P. G. Vernon  
2nd B. J. D. Kerr  
3rd } P.W. A. Limbrick  
      } J. Siddell

FORM V<sub>USA</sub> :  
1st C. Feek  
2nd M. T. Perks  
3rd T. R. Munden

FORM V<sub>USB</sub> :  
1st M. J. Preston  
2nd P. R. Dean  
3rd I. A. Willsher

FORM V<sub>UG</sub> :  
1st A. M. Ames  
2nd A. Andersz  
3rd B. C. Johnston

SPEECH PRIZES :  
VI P. A. Roberts  
VU M. D. Goldring  
V C. A. Vecchi  
IV R. O. Davies  
III J. L. Vernon  
II S. R. Crisp

NEATNESS PRIZES :  
VU P. F. Lambert  
V J. A. Clarke  
IV N. J. Miles  
III D. J. Brown  
II S. R. Martin

FORM VI—1ST YEAR :  
Classics S. J. Owen  
German C. E. Capell  
French &  
Spanish M. G. Miles  
French R. B. Steptoe  
Russian &  
Economics D. Morton  
English &  
Economics M. J. Pickering  
English P. T. D. Fulton  
C. C. Koefoed-  
Nielsen  
History P. G. Darling  
D. S. Levin  
T. T. McCormick

Geography	P. M. Colley	Economics	P. D. Brown
Science & Mathematics	A. P. Dickinson J. E. Floyd B. P. Hills J. S. Robinson D. Sutton	& History	R. D. Hudson
Music	P. Watts	Geography and Economics	J. S. Culley
Economics	K. J. Chamberlain K. Darvill	Geography :	
Botany	R. J. Davis	2nd year	S. C. B. Tinton
Zoology	S. W. Coniam	3rd year	W. Pitchford
FORM VI—2ND and 3RD YEARS		Science & Mathematics	J. W. Herman H. F. Mayo M. R. Myant
Classics	P. E. Winter	2nd year	A. J. Oliver J. T. Wright K. T. Williams
Russian	A. Barratt G. E. W. Thompson	3rd year	P. R. Thornton D. M. Wood
German :		Botany	M. M. Burrell
2nd year	H. T. Courtney	Zoology	K. F. Woodbridge
3rd year	J. A. Stevens	<i>Open Scholarships :</i>	
French :		A. D. Bisset	
2nd year	A. G. Hipgrave	R. W. Bush	
3rd year	D. G. Beattie	S. I. Chorley	
English	D. W. Lewis D. N. Snodin	G. F. Cutler	
Constitution	C. Fewtrell	D. R. S. Hedgeland	
Music	R. S. Hickox	I. D. Hentall	
History	J. W. Clark	P. L. Sears	
History & English	R. Gash	K. N. Simons	
		K. Stenning	
		M. V. L. Turner	

## ADVANCED LEVEL RESULTS, 1966

(*Italics* denote grade A; \*denotes distinction on the "S" level paper).

B. J. B. Fox—Greek, Latin, Ancient History; J. P. Killingley—English, Greek, Latin; M. J. Lowe—*Greek\**, *Latin\**, *Ancient History*; M. F. Morrison—Greek, Latin, Ancient History; A. G. T. Rogers—Greek, Latin, Ancient History; P. E. Winter—*Greek*, *Latin*, Ancient History; M. G. Baker—Economic History; D. G. Beattie—French, *German*; C. East—English, *History*; A. J. Frankland—British Constitution, Economics; J. Hayter—*Economics*; N. Leek—*French*, Russian; J. E. Moore—French; J. J. Roberts—*French*, German; P. D. B. Smith—History, *Economics*; J. A. Stevens—*French\**, *German\**; A. J. H. Wands—*French*; A. Barratt—English, *French*, Russian; R. G. Beckett—Economics; H. C. Brown—Economics, Geography; D. K.

Cave—French; R. W. Collett—French; P. E. Cook—English, French, German; H. T. Courtney—*French\**, *German*; J. Dixon—English, French, Russian; M. B. Freeman—English, French; D. A. Goodall—*French*, *German*, *Religious Knowledge*; R. S. Hickox—Music; R. Hitchcock—French, German; G. T. Huggins—English, French; D. M. Jones—English, Economics, Geography; J. F. Killingley—French; P. R. Lavender—Economics; D. W. Lewis—*English\**, Economics; I. C. Maun—English, *French*, *German*; N. D. Mitchenall—English, Economics; J. L. Mogford—Geography; L. C. North—French, German; A. C. B. Ping—Geography, Art; D. N. Snodin—*English\**, French, History; N. M. Souter—English, French; G. E. W. Thompson—*English*, *French\**, *German*; C. J. Andrew—English; S. J. Barry—French, German, History; P. A. Beasley—English, *History*, Economics; P. D. Brown—*English*, History, Economics; P. D. L. Brown—English, Economics; J. Bush—Music; J. W. Clark—*French*, *German*, History; J. S. Culley—History, Economics, *Geography\**; S. Darbyshire—French, German, History; A. M. Dormer—History, Economics; P. S. Everitt—French, German, History; J. M. Gale—History, Economics, Geography; R. Gash—*English\**, *German*, *History\**; N. P. Hampton—English History, Economics; R. L. Heron—English, History\*; Economics; A. G. Hipgrave—*French*, *German\**, History; R. Hill—English, Economics; B. A. Hills—History, Economics, Religious Knowledge; M. J. Holgate—French; R. F. Houchin—Geography\*; R. D. Hudson—History, Economics, Geography; J. W. Hume—English, History, Geography; R. B. Kenyon—Latin, Economics; P. G. Marsh—French, Geography, Art; G. J. Mitchell—History, Economics, *Geography*; P. N. Mitchell—History, Economics, *Geography*; T. B. Morris—History, Economics, Geography; A. Newman—English, Economics; S. C. Penney—French, *Geography*; I. A. Ross—English; P. P. Simons—*French*, *German*, History; R. J. Stevens—Geography; S. C. B. Tinton—*History*, *Economics\**, *Geography\**; R. J. Wallington—French, German, History; T. Widdess—French; A. R. Wilson—*French*, *German*, History; A. B. Collett—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Physics; C. Fewtrell—*British Constitution*, *Economics\**, Pure-and-App. Mathematics; P. A. Fountain—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; I. J. Fox—Pure Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; M. A. Hailwood—Chemistry; C. Jeffrey—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics; D. A. Low—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Chemistry\*; C. S. Nobbs—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics; P. L. Redican—Physics; J. M. Rivers—Pure Mathematics, Physics; W. J. Seymour—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; J. P. Slater—Physics, Chemistry\*; P. R. Thornton—*Applied Mathematics\**, *Physics\**, *Chemistry*; M. R. Ward—Pure-and-App. Mathematics—H. J. Weiss—Applied Mathe-

matics, Chemistry; D. M. Wood—*Higher Mathematics, Physics\**; A. S. Farmer—Chemistry, Botany, Zoology; J. N. McLoughlin—Physics, *Chemistry, Zoology*; R. S. Pritchett—Botany; C. R. Sabine—Economics; D. Seward—Chemistry, Botany, Zoology; J. M. Bingham—Zoology; M. M. Burrell—Chemistry, Botany, Zoology; A. R. Daines—Chemistry, Zoology; S. G. Fowler—Chemistry, Botany, Zoology; D. J. Gatland—Chemistry, Zoology; I. D. Hentall—*Chemistry, Botany\*, Zoology\**; G. R. J. Monaghan—Chemistry, Zoology; P. H. Pitkin—Chemistry, *Botany\*, Zoology*; A. J. Prickett—Chemistry, Botany, Zoology; T. N. Rees—Chemistry; J. S. Reid—Zoology; J. F. Tapp—Chemistry, Botany, Zoology; K. T. Williams—Chemistry, Botany Zoology; R. J. Williams—Botany *Zoology*; K. F. Woodbridge—Chemistry, Zoology; J. R. Woods—Chemistry, Botany, Zoology; M. Agate—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics; I. P. Butler—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Chemistry; R. J. S. Calcutt—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, *Physics*; J. R. Danbury—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Physics; K. Eyles—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics; I. H. T. Graham—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; P. G. Harford—Pure Mathematics; J. P. Hartwright—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics; J. W. Herman—Pure Mathematics, *Applied Mathematics, Physics*; R. F. Hudson—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Chemistry; M. J. Kerridge—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Physics; A. F. Macdonald—Pure Mathematics Applied Mathematics Physics; P. H. Marsden—Physics; R. J. Mildon—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; A. J. Oliver—*Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics*; A. Pitfield—Chemistry; A. J. Rainbow—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, *Physics*; N. G. Saunders—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics; C. A. Smyth—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; A. H. Telford—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics; J. T. Wright—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Physics, *Chemistry*; I. J. Belsham—Pure Mathematics, Physics; N. I. Bray—Physics; P. G. Brown—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics; G. B. Buchan—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; A. P. Carthy—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; J. Clemens—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Physics, *Chemistry\**; P. H. Green—Pure-and-App. Mathematics; J. M. E. Grieg-Gran—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics; J. M. Haley—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics; R. P. Helyar—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Physics; R. C. Hill—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics; P. K. Hudson—Art; D. C. Lean—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; J. G. Lewis—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, *Physics, Chemistry*; D. G. N. Longley—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, *Chemistry*; H. F. Mayo—Pure Mathe-

matics, Applied Mathematics, Physics; A. J. Mole—Physics; M. R. Myant—Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, *Chemistry*; R. J. Peck—Pure Mathematics; B. M. Phillips—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Physics, *Chemistry*; R. D. Sexton—Physics, Chemistry; A. Turmezei—Pure-and-App. Mathematics, Art; K. E. Wills—Applied Mathematics; B. C. Fitchett—Pure Mathematics, Physics; D. M. Rea—*English*, History; D. R. S. Hedgeland—*Higher Mathematics*.

## ORDINARY LEVEL, 1966

(Number in brackets indicate subjects passed)

Arbaney, A. (10); Arnold, G. M. B. (9); Barnes, P. G. (7); Boreham, A. (9); Broadway, A. P. (3); Carter, J. M. (6); Clare D. J. (10); Davies J. R. (4); Dickson A. D. (5); Elliott I. S. (10); Fraser P. H. (8); Gerrish W. M. C. (5); Hendry J. L. (8); Hoaths D. (7); Hodges D. J. (4); Hughes, J. T. (10); Hunt, N. P. G. (5); Inskip, P. C. (3); Job, D. (3); Le Messurier (7); Marcan, P. (9); Martin, G. R. (6); McBride, J. S. (9); McColl, D. E. (10); Pattinson, I. R. H. (5); Pearson, A. N. J. (6); Pettit, S. R. (6); Savage, P. R. (6); Stocking, C. A. (8); Wagner, P. A. (5); Woodman, P. A. F. (5); Woolley, J. N. (11);

Bartlett, T. W. G. (4); Bridger, C. H. (4); Butler, K. J. V. (4); Cole, M. J. (7); Collins, A. C. (5); Crees, D. R. J. F. (8); Engel, P. G. (5); Goldring, M. D. (4); Harris, R. J. (8); Hemming, R. C. L. (7); Hoing, K. J. (5); Huggins, R. W. (4); Juniper, P. F. J. (7); Kerr, E. J. D. (8); Kitchingham, A. (4); Lambert, P. F. (5); Laxen, D. P. H. (8); Limbrick, W. A. (8); Llewellyn, B. P. (7); Mackie, R. T. (6); Muckley, J. W. (5); Quartermaine, J. P. (3); Rivett-Carnac, T. C. L. (7); Saunders, M. D. (6); Schlaefli, M. (6); Siddell, P. J. (7); Spratley, P. R. (8); Syms, B. (7); Tappin, P. J. (3); Vernon, P. G. (8); Weyer, C. A. (5); Wheel, J. R. (7); Wills, R. P. (5);

Ames, A. M. (7); Andersz, A. (3); Brown, C. (3); Capell, J. C. (6); Charnock, T. F. (3); Johnston, B. C. (4); Nicholls, P. G. (4); Smith, P. J. (4); Spittle, G. G. (5);

Barker, H. (4); Carter, G. (3); Castles, C. J. (5); Clifton, C. J. (4); Evans, I. J. (3); Farnsworth, M. J. (6); Feek, C. M. (7); Gardiner, C. T. (3); Gooch, G. D. (5); Ibbitson, D. (5); Mayles P. J. (6); Morris, M. G. (4); Munden, T. R. (3); Perks, M. T. (5); Redican, L. J. (5); Samways, M. J. (7); Thornberry, R. C. (3); Williams, G. (3);

Ashby, K. J. (6); Caffall, D. J. O. (8); Coysh, M. T. (6); Dean, P. R. (8); Dean, T. F. (8); Dixon, D. (6); Eley, R. M. (8); Falconer, R. T. (6); Gwynett, B. M. (7); Hannant, P. (3); Hedges, S. J. (3); Jacomb, M. S. (5); Jenkins, L. P. (7); Johnston, P. R. (4); Longhurst, A. T. C. (4); Mills, D. C. (9); Pearce, R. M. (4); Preston, M. J. (6); Rees, C. R. (7); Richards, P. M. (5); Searles, P. C. (7); Theophilus, J. P. (3); Williams, P. J. (4); Wills, T. S. (8); Willsher, I. A. (6); Worley, A. L. (5); Wyatt, D. L. (3);

Baddeley, B. D. (9); Barnett, W. G. (7); Bates, G. C. (4); Bedwell, P. J. (10); Brunton, D. J. (4); Clark, S. J. (8); Cowell, T. G. (9); Debnam, B. R. A. (10); Elderkin, J. N. (9); Gilson, C. P. (8); Griffiths, G. (4); Holmes, D. H. (5); Hood, A. R. (10); Hoyle, C. J. (8); Johnson, G. F. (9); Jones, P. G. (5); Knight, P. D. (6); McIntosh, K. J. (5); Morris, D. H. (6); O'Hanlon, D. P. (6); Perfect, S. M. (7); Powell, J. H. M. (8); Settrington, C. M. D. (9); Smith, G. P. (9); Smith, J. B. (10); Snell, D. V. (5); Stephenson, G. N. (9); Stevens, R. B. (9); Thain, J. E. D. (4); Trent, D. R. (6); Wakefield, M. F. (5); Waller, R. J. (6); Wood, B. G. (7); Young, C. J. (9).

## A SEA SYMPHONY

'He was a poet, and he hated the approximate' (*Rilke*)

It was a glorious summer evening which saw the solitary performance of Vaughan Williams' 'A Sea Symphony'. To start the concert, however, the orchestra played 'Soirées Musicales' by Britten, which, with the blue sky outside (the curtains were not drawn in the hall), put everyone in a happy mood. The Britten à la Rossini was very enjoyable, superficially so, and was soon to be forgotten. 'A Sea Symphony' was not to be forgotten.

This work, composed for the Leeds Festival in 1910, consists of four separate movements (which can be played either singly or together) combining the characteristics of a symphony and a cantata.

The first movement, 'A Song for All Seas, All Ships', introduces 'the sea itself' and the ships, and the first section culminates in a breathtaking repeat 'Behold the sea itself', excellently sung by the choir. The second part of the first movement showed firstly how good the brass section of the orchestra were, and secondly the great ability of the two soloists, Margaret Smith (Soprano) and Michael Wakeham (Baritone), who were well backed up by the choir. Justice was done to this lively and powerful movement.

In the second movement, 'On the Beach at Night Alone', Vaughan Williams makes Walt Whitman's words (the words of



the 'Symphony' are part of Whitman's 'Sea Drift' and 'Passage to India') achieve real meaning, and the rich baritone of John Wakeham did full justice to the music. One was left with a perfect impression of 'this vast similitude', which transcends time, embracing all things, 'past, present, future'.

Again in the third movement, '(Scherzo) The Waves', Whitman's lively descriptive poetry is excellently matched by Vaughan Williams' music. Yet, after a very good rendering of the main part of the movement, the choir nullified the orchestra's crescendo with a bathetic ending, unaccompanied, on the word 'following' (just before the end, Vaughan Williams almost composes a new, stately and majestic national anthem). This rather spoils what is an exciting movement.

The fourth movement, 'The Explorers', is very difficult to sustain, and also to understand fully. The soloists were again very good, and, after a little hesitation, the moving 'sad, incessant refrain' :

'Wherefore unsatisfied soul ?  
Whither O mocking life' ?

came over very well (although the balcony of the Albert Hall would have increased the effect !). This movement, perhaps, betrayed most clearly the main 'fault' of the performance. The poetry of Whitman, used by Vaughan Williams, is very rich and difficult to understand. To ask boys of eleven, twelve and thirteen to sing sympathetically to the words of Whitman, the visionary prophet, is really to ask too much. Yet this was a fault inherent all the way through, and the final performance showed just how good a conductor is Mr. Dawes, despite the difficult handicap.

From the very beginning the orchestra was very good, and the soloists excellent. The tenor section of the choir seemed in particularly good voice, but this is not to belittle the performance as the choir as a whole. The final impression, however—the unforgettable impression—was that of the sea itself, both because of the striking back-cloth of the open sea, and the unforgettable words :

'Behold, the sea itself,  
And on its limitless, heaving breast, the ships'

JON CLARK.

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It is the bedbound hour.  
A pale day fades.  
The rivering gnats wail  
Thinly in their wraithed glades  
Thru the sad evening.

CHRISTIAN KOEFOED-NIELSEN.

## POP SINGER

Listen to your top requested,  
scarlet vested,  
Great ! Super ! Fab ! Fantastic !  
Made of op-art Carnaby plastic.  
A cardboard shadow shape gyrating  
Plugged and drugged and always making  
Money-spinning groovy platters,  
Promoters' dreams and D.J's chatter.  
A cardboard manufactured god,  
Chromium image puritan mod  
Likes Billy Graham, Bach, the Queen,  
Youth, jam-butties and Heinz baked beans.  
Loved by kids and mums alike,  
Plebeians ; pin-ups ; debs' delight.  
Begins to swoop on every nation,  
Displays himself on T.V. stations.  
vitaminised, idolized,  
publicized, fraternized,  
patronized, subsidized, sympathized, advertised.  
But now that cardboard smile is sagging,  
And his trendsetting with-it life is lagging,  
His glossy image is getting dirty  
And his teenage looks seem more like thirty.  
As those incomparable records wane,  
The V.I.P. becomes a name.  
And slowly the image fades away  
As he's gently told he's had his day.  
Now the hysteria's gone, all's left of the craze  
Is a whisky glass, and a drug-formed haze.

ROLAND DENNING, 4X.

## WHOLE SCENE GONE '66

Towards the end of the by now proverbial post-G.C.E. Uncle Freddy week, there occurred the usual Pop concert. This inspiring title proved a misnomer since we were treated to an hour's solid blues of varying speeds and noise levels, which to the uninitiated must have been a little trying ; there were, in fact, a few signs of restlessness from the junior members of the audience.

Several hundred aspiring blues fans had assembled in a hot stuffy Queen's Hall and were perhaps intrigued to experience the remarkably casual approach of the entertainers who seemed to spend almost as much time enjoying private jokes as they did providing entertainment for the audience.

The talent of each of the advertised musicians was obvious from the start, and this was sincerely appreciated by the audience. 11 numbers were performed, the best of which were probably the brilliant solo by Nimrod Ping and the very professional duets by Steve Darrington and Trev Jones. This was probably due to the fact that the musicians were a little uneasy about playing together and definitely upset at the random addition of a bass-player, who stated, in his defence that he was using genuine Coconut-Russell equipment.

Throughout the performance the lighting remained simple, but subtly changed in mood to suit the tone of each number which did much to add to the atmosphere that essential ingredient for the appreciation of blues, although the assortment of orchestral accessories scattered about the stage did little to enhance it.

The show effectively dispelled the post-exam depression by its light-hearted approach, although it might be argued that the pianist's Baroque jacket could have done this on its own.

ERIC CLAPTON.

## A 'POPULAR' CLASSICAL MUSIC CONCERT

As part of Mr. David Jones' post-G.C.E. 'entertainment' a concert was held on July 6th before an audience consisting mainly of unappreciative and indifferent five-uppers and sixth-formers. The programme varied from modern jazz to Bach and included some original compositions.

The proceedings started well with a unique and well-received rendering from Goldring, Engel and Cole, alias 'Les Swindle Singers' of that old chestnut—The National Anthem. This initial impetus, however, was lost when Wood and Hickox played a somewhat tedious Bach sonata for flute and piano—the audience were difficult to please and only gave a smattering of applause to what was, after all, a most delightful piece of music. The next performer greeted with a burst of applause was Nimrod Ping, one of the school's more effervescent figures. Playing with Nimrod-Pingered confidence, he executed his own composition—a piece which owed its interest to its oscillation from the ethereal to the vulgar and earned a well-deserved thunderous ovation. Next to swing into action was an excellent little Chamber Group conducted by Mr. Alan Davies, which reappeared later in the programme playing Bach and Corelli.

Unfortunately the howling mob grew impatient at the delays in preparation and gave a very weak applause to the charming pieces.

Undoubtedly the most entertaining piece of the concert was Philip Slater's original composition for piano, drum, cymbal, glockenspiel and oboe on a twelve-tone basis which scored such high marks in the House Music Competition earlier this year. Most prominent in this entertainment was Malcolm Goldring on the oboe, whose superb performance showed promise of greater things to come. Attention was turned to the stage as 'Les Swindle Singers', in bizarre apparel, started a piece by Bach, but alas, they were overcome by their own laughter ; the performance foundered and the curtains closed.

Also in the concert was an original composition by Lodge, playing the piano and a weird assortment of pipes. The piece provided both auditory and visual amusement, with Lodge's head darting mongoose-like from one pipe to another. The actual composition proved to be rather derivative and in some places rather repetitive. Last to appear was a certain tall, bespectacled, debonair musician playing two jazz pieces for piano : 'eleven-four' and 'Back to Earth'. He was accompanied, more or less, on the double-bass by Jonathan Bush, music's gift to the R.G.S. and the kingpin of musical activity in the school. The pianist's dexterous finger-work, subtle execution and impeccable rhythm woke up a slumbering audience in time to hear the concert concluded in fine style. We need more like him.

PHILLIP SIMONS.

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Self-love ripples the placid globe,  
and each pulse lives in the hope of immortality  
and one pulse-pressurised lives, hopes,  
and is . . . Successful.

But I would not lick the taste-buds of an oak-leaf tree,  
I see only love transposed on a silvery plain  
of thwarted shadows  
and my eyes become slits  
as I give way  
to the hour of sleep.

T. T. McCORMICK.

## GEOGRAPHY FIELD WEEK



Somebody once said that you can know everything and still be a bad geographer. Few of us, with the possible exception of Mr. Weeks, would claim omniscience as an excuse, and in order to appreciate the subject's finer points we spent seven days in Newquay in April.

After a gripping 10 hour coach trip, we arrived at the spacious Beaconsfield to find we were the sole occupants except for a party from a school in Surrey. Their effervescent company provided a stimulating diversion during the evenings to come ; their intriguing gymnastic display with bedclothes proving the highlight of the week's entertainment.

The next day heralded the appearance of the leader of our company who arrived just late enough to miss our hike to nearby Pentire Pt. where we inspected various features of coastal scenery and wildlife, in fact the prostrate position on the rocks adopted by one of the grosser senior members led one short-sighted sixth-former to believe that he had sighted the first Cornish walrus.

On Monday we went to Porthleven and trudged through miles of sand to observe Loe Bar, the strange pronunciation of which was the source of many examples of sparkling wit. Then we went to the Lizard where someone insisted on rushing down the cliff to proclaim from the rocks that he was the southernmost person in England. Unfortunately the elements did not look favourably on his precosity and several bathfuls of gurgling foam were poured on him. At the nearest village some of us purchased examples of the local country rock carved into various pots and ashtrays ; the price of each item we discovered varied remarkably, but always seemed more expensive where we brought them.

Later in the week we investigated Bedruthan Steps, an ironic name, since they could only be approached by means of

a cable hung casually down the cliff face which was descended with great ease, although the return journey proved a little more arduous.

That day we also saw some blowholes, which are rock passages through which the sea periodically spurts. Their fickle behaviour proved the source of great amusement and subsequent pneumonia. It was on one of the two free days we were allotted that a small party thoroughly tested their nervous systems by investigating the tortuous and narrow passages of the blowholes. This was done at low tide so as to eliminate the danger of drowning along with the many other perils to be found in the labyrinthine passages. Others investigated sand dunes, measured telephone boxes or questioned farmers about their livestock.

On the last day of our visit we squelched around a china clay quarry and in the afternoon we clambered and slithered about the dismal dripping shafts and tunnels of a tin-mine. We were surprised to find that the acetylene lighting system made so much noise and astonished to discover that the diamond drill gouging a borehole into the rock made even more.

Next day the weather-beaten and suntanned group returned to High Wycombe and pouring rain once again. Our thanks must go to Mr. Weeks' smiling face, Mr. Millican's sinister box of tricks, Mr. Poll's encyclopaedic knowledge and Mr. Goodenough's pipe together with their respective owners for making the trip a success.

NIMROD PING.

---

the midnight runner brought me tales  
of death on the battlefield  
and I cried  
the midnight runner brought me tunes  
the tunes of fire  
on the battlefield  
and I cried  
the midnight runner brought me pain  
brought me the songs of torture  
the midnight runner brought me darkness  
and I cried

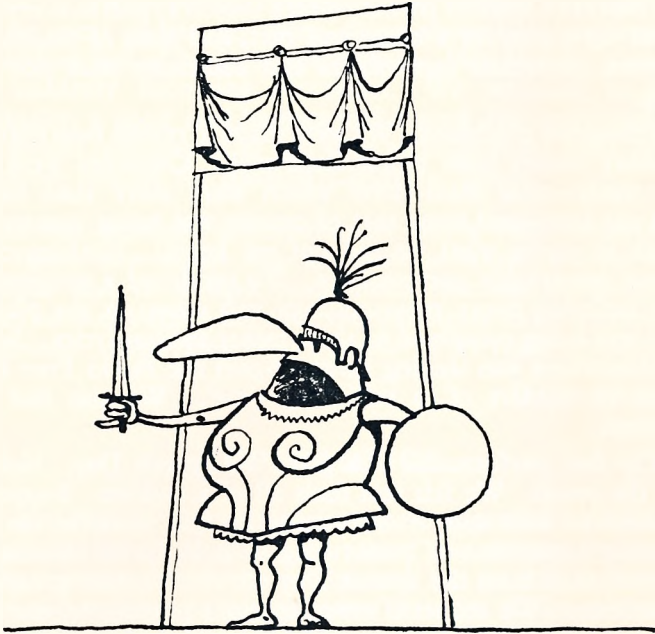
the midnight runner brought me the fragrance  
of my true-love's morning gentleness  
and soft-smelling sweetness  
and sifting whispers  
in my ear  
and I cried no more

## RAIN

With the bustle of life it is hardly seen  
'Till the windows are covered with a sheen  
Of droplets, clear and bright.  
People take cover, under a tree,  
While the puddles join to make a sea  
Of water, dark as night.

PETER EVANS, 3X.

## HEY NONNY NONSENSE



To begin with the group do not take the blame for their title—that was their Road Manager. They are, however, entirely responsible for the production. The idea was formed at the beginning of term as a means of providing post-'A' Level enjoyment for those who spend their Thursday afternoons being inwardly creative. Why not, we said, perform the funny scenes (to more literary minds, the mechanicals) from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'? Why not, indeed, perform them in the open air on a cart and take them round to the masses? Even the grammar school could contribute to instant culture.

So we did—more or less. We never, not until the last moment, thought it was going to come off. Some problems were insurmountable. Before the exams one feels that after the

exams one will do everything. After the exams one feels like doing nothing. As a result, a number of the original cast were not seen again, and we had to recast frantically. Also, quaint plans for a horse and cart were quickly shattered. Where would we have been able to get a horse strong enough (even if he was willing) to carry a cartful of strolling players plus road manager, singer and minstrels and numerous unofficial hangers-on round the villages of Buckinghamshire? It was, of course, obvious, that we would have to use a lorry instead.

We were introduced in the local newspaper as 'The Hey Nonny Players': 'There will be a cast of half a dozen complete with guitar, oboe and side drum. With simple sets they are all out to capture a spirit of comedy which should appeal to everyone'. We put up a plea for a horse and cart, and also, of course, for audiences. Potential cart-owners and audiences were not very willing.

Rehearsals continued. We were made to realize how unfunny the funny scenes were unless done well. Costumes were also being made—near mini-skirts which were more than breezy round the legs—and some sort of canopy was being constructed (though to go on what we did not yet know). Nothing could stop our remarkable perseverance. We produced a programme, which included corny press-cuttings and notes on the players. Music was being composed to some rather tedious lyrics. Someone, somewhere was singing them. Again the Bucks Free Press assured its readers of 'a rollicking time'. We also had had invitations.

The first performance was given on Speech Day. Nobody knew the result. We felt real fools all of a sudden. Supposing they were to walk away? Supposing we had to suffer the embarrassing experience of performing to nobody, of shouting to thin air? God bless the Speech Day crowds for their generosity and patience. We collected seven to eight pounds on one performance. They could not possibly have heard us—but they laughed very politely, and applauded gently, as if to encourage our folly, or perhaps in sheer admiration for our courage.

We also had a lorry, kindly lent by Walkers, the builders of Princes Risborough. On this we drove, fully costumed and very cold, to Bledlow Children's Home, where we gave a performance to a group of about thirty children. We record with pride that one little boy was moved to tears at the mock death of Pyramus. The performer was soon to get up, and benevolently went up to the little boy afterwards and assured the latter that he was still alive.

The next day was a Saturday and we took our little thing to the Aylesbury Horse and Dog Show. On the way we stopped outside Chequers and asked the gate-house keeper if we might



perform on the estate. Bewildered, he politely informed us that for 'that sort of thing' one would really need an audience, and as an audience was hardly available at the time, it would be futile. We never quite knew what sort of audience he meant.

At the Horse and Dog show the people were inevitably more interested in the horses and dogs. We were allocated a small corner, hundreds of yards from anywhere and, after a march round the grounds, we performed to a audience of about five children. Such indifference could not go on, so we moved the lorry to the centre of the ground, were announced by Mr. Bridges over an unguarded microphone, and began to perform to curious crowds of about seventy people. The weather was beautiful, and we spent all the day there, doing about four performances, and adding bits of business everywhere. Hey Nonny, it seemed, was suddenly becoming successful. We returned to school eventually, a good deal happier and a good deal more confident. Our profits (amounting to just over eight pounds) went towards a summer holiday for Bledlow Childrens' Home.

It was certainly an experience, and a very valuable one. It is funny how actors who are quite at home in front of the spotlight and in a dark auditorium, become suddenly self-conscious in daylight. But the experience gave us a very necessary confidence. After Hey Nonny, most of us could do anything.

DAVID SNODIN.

## OPERANTICS

In the May 'Wycombiensian' there appeared a criticism of the school opera. As usual, the report was written by someone closely connected with the production, but on this occasion the writer did venture to suggest some changes in the methods of seating. I myself had nothing to do with the opera and because of this I considered the report to be far too mild.

The first thing I noted on entering the courtyard of the school was a crowd of 'dramatis personae' in various stages of undress painfully visible in the uncamouflaged division rooms. Perhaps this was intended as a novel glimpse behind the scenes or 'cinema verité'; whatever the intention, the sight was not pleasant. I took my seat in the hall and settled down to watch what I hoped would be an enjoyable evening's entertainment. After the orchestra had finished its seemingly interminable and, in my opinion, superfluous overture the curtains parted and the girl chorus tripped onto the stage. Girls' parts just cannot be played by boys. The critics in the last magazine maintained that these grotesque figures with blonde wigs and sometimes

black eyebrows swarming over the stage in a clumsy procession actually caused the audience's amusement 'in the very fact that they *are* small boys and they are so convincing and even angelic as small girls' ; from what I saw, the only symptoms of amusement displayed by the audience were barely disguised sniggers of embarrassment.

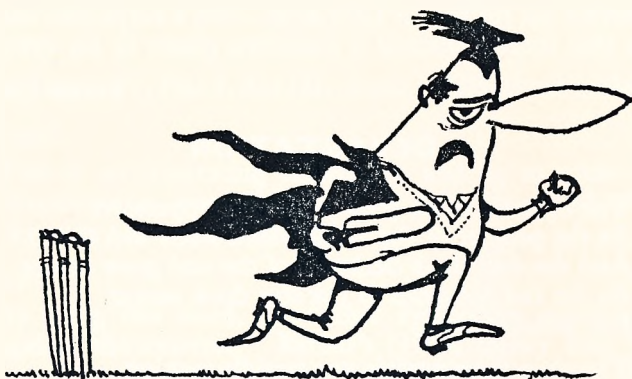
The difficulties in bringing girls from the High School to take part are exaggerated. The transport problem is non-existent, since members of both sixth forms have cars. Communications over the time of rehearsals present no problems, for both schools have telephone. At least if we cannot have an all-girl girl's chorus, could we not have principals of the correct sex ? At the moment we experience nothing but embarrassment. The days when the soprano singing of Coles and Roberts delighted our ears have gone.

As the cast, about fifty in number, crowded onto the woefully inadequate and badly designed stage to produce a deafening and unintelligible final chorus, I came to the conclusion that there are far too many people in the opera. A well-disciplined chorus of ten boys and ten girls can provide loud and intelligible singing, and can move freely about the stage. rather than stand awkwardly gazing at the audience. Having said this I realize that I have brought myself under fire from many quarters, and most would think me ignorant of the work involved in an opera.

But I have performed in operas. I have experienced the pleasures of working with others to achieve something and can appreciate the hard work done by all, yet despite the selfless and admirable efforts of Mr. Dawes and all those involved, what we come to see at Christmas is far from a respectable presentation. Of course the boys enjoy themselves and it is entirely the school's work, but what about the audience ? Sitting on seats which become unbearably painful in about half an hour, craning their necks to get some sort of idea of what is going on, despite sometimes sparse audiences—cannot they participate in the enjoyment ? The 'Pirates of Penzance' had a stiff review in the Bucks Free Press two years ago and a reply was given in assembly to the effect that the opera was a task of love, performed without reward by the boys. What is not taken into account is that the audience pays money to go in—and they pay the same money to see a film or even a well-performed West End Play. It is our obligation to give them a production of high standard, and for this, sacrifices will have to be made in order to obtain a smaller yet so much more effective cast.

PHILLIP SIMONS.

## “ENGLAND THEIR ENGLAND”



To those who cherish and uphold the ethics of cricket, it seemed that the gods were just. The staff, having included,—for the most part with scandalous nonchalance, an alien in their team, on the strength of a brief apprenticeship, were surely paying the price for their distressing breach of etiquette. The controversial member, perhaps as a result of a tortured conscience had fallen for three runs, and Mr. Eaton had followed him regretfully, shortly afterwards; and the score was twelve for two. By a quarter to four it was forty seven for five. The spectators summoned from the four corners of the field to applaud the presentation to Mr. Beeson, had returned to see Mr. Parry-Jones depart, after several blistering boundaries, and a polished straight drive that almost decapitated an imperturbable umpire. Messrs. File and Williams, with a backs to the wall, stop this rot sort of attitude, played with gaining confidence—or, indeed, exuberance on the part of Mr. Williams, who shattered the cynicism of at least part of his audience, with a lofted, and preposterously fortunate ondrive for six. The staff then declared shortly after tea, a hundred and eighteen to the good.

The school tucked into their task with apparent relish. Hayter, with almost indecent aplomb, cracked a boundary off the first ball. Affronted age, however, quickly punished this shameful impertinence. The staff varied their bowlers hopefully, in an effort to seduce some wickets, but even the guile of forty years, delivered by Mr. Mervyn Davies, was driven high over square by Daines for six. Then the captain, who had previously had at best an unhappy game, was promptly and goldenly felled by Mr. Eaton, and McIntosh was out, trying to squeeze a run where no run was available, but the redoubtable Culley, loyally attended by J. W. Clark, effortlessly ‘took the bowling to pieces’. He filled remorselessly Mr. Curtis’s cup of bitterness with a splendid six over the bowler’s head, swept Mr. Eaton round to

leg for four, and cut the leather through the covers for another off Mr. Davies. When the school obligingly declared at 119 for 4, he carried out his bat for sixty-four,—but a suspicious observer records that there remained a malicious gleam in his eye.

ROGER GASH.

## DEVASTATION

The oppressive air grew still more oppressive  
As the peoples of the world stood static and stared.  
And the dull dank darkness of the end grew nearer  
As the red hot gases of the star drew nearer  
But nobody cared.

The time for nostalgia was rapidly waning  
As the fear of death increased still more  
And no hope was there—just as of a sinner,  
With the switch half on, and his life half gone,  
At Hell's vast door.

The white-hot cauldron of the witch's furnace,  
The spectacular light and plutonic heat.  
If only there was someone to see this vision,  
But while the light still shone, the hope was gone.  
Life roasted to meat.

The shattered remnants of the short-lived world  
Melted by the heat formed a molten sea.  
And who was the cause of this catastrophic crime,  
And who the author of this truculent rhyme?—  
Satan, that's me.

ROBERT WOOD, 4X.

## ELEGY TO AN ANT

At the beginning of the school year, the editors of the wall magazine "*Spotlight*" appealed for poems of an intellectual nature. The poem below, written by Toms (alias Shipley) or Shipley (alias Toms) of 4X appeared amongst the flood of replies. The other poem was incomprehensible but this elegy so moved an editor that he produced the first definitive edition, with full notes and detailed comment, and the "*Wycombiensian*" is greatly indebted to the staff of "*Spotlight*" for permission to reprint both works here :

O look ! Here comes an ant so brave  
Peeping out of his own cave.  
But see ! Here comes a man so tall  
Squelch ! Now there is no ant at all.

## Notes on the text

### LINE 1

“*Look*”

cf. Henry IV, Part I, Act III, Scene i, “His cheek looks pale”.

“*An ant*”

This is an interesting alliteration and is, to some extent, characteristic, even if it is, as it may be, a bad example. However, it is not repeated.

“*Brave*”

By using this word, the author symbolizes man’s struggle against the universe. Barker’s (1963) theory that Shipley was inwardly resenting the fact he had not done National Service has been disproved by his biographers, who have shown that he served in the Manual Labour Corps (Caithness Division) from January 1945 until the end of the war—under the assumed name of Lawrence (See “Seven Months with a Shovel : The Life and Times of Arnold Shipley”).

### LINE 2

“*Peeping*”

This is believed to be a reference to “peeping Tom”. At the age of 7, the author underwent a severe emotional experience which affected all his work, especially that composed during his stay at Harwell.

“*own cave*”

The emphasis here is on “own”. The tenet that an Englishman’s home is his castle was very dear to Shipley who himself lived in a cave for 2 years.

### LINE 3

“*But see*”

The Bunt Zee is a small inland lake 56 kms. west of Antwerp in Belgium. While on his Swiss walking tour, Shipley lost his way and it is believed he cooled his feet off in the Bunt Zee before trying to find his way back to Switzerland.

“*Here comes*” Shakespearean. Cf.

- |             |     |     |                            |
|-------------|-----|-----|----------------------------|
| I Henry IV  | I   | iii | “Here comes your uncle”    |
| I Henry IV  | IV  | ii  | “Here comes your cousin”   |
| II Henry IV | I   | i   | “Here comes the earl”      |
| II Henry IV | I   | i   | “Here comes more news”     |
| II Henry IV | I   | ii  | “Here comes the nobleman”  |
| II Henry IV | I   | iv  | “Here comes Sir John”      |
| II Henry IV | III | ii  | “Here comes good Sir John” |

*"a man so tall"*

The father-figure. Shipley's father, a fell-monger, wood-stapler, and hide, skin and offal merchant, was a dominant figure in Shipley's life. Standing 5' 2" and with a massive 7 stone frame, he bullied Shipley mercilessly until the boy was able to stand up to him at the age of 8.

LINE 4

*"Squelch"*

Early MSS give "squilch" (M.I.T.) or "Squach" (Bodleian Library). The latter appears in other poems. The MS giving "Squelch", at present in the Museum of Fine Arts, Las Vegas, is not considered authentic.

*"Now there is . . ."*

In 1951 Shipley wrote to his former tutor at Magdelene College, Slough: "Now there is no light. A darkness has descended. All is blackness and despair. Death is nigh as the last vestiges of shadow creeps over me". It later transpired that the Electricity Board had cut off his supply for non-payment of bills.

*"ant"*

G. S. Fraser suggests Shipley really meant "aunt". From the age of 2 until he was 3, Shipley was cared for by 2 maiden aunts in Bolton.

*"at all"*

A corruption of "Atholl": "Blair Atholl" was the name of the house of the 2 maiden aunts at Bolton. Cf. "Aunt at Atholl" with "ant at all" (or "Aunty Ethel" (Ed)).

This poem is unfinished. The poet dreamt this whilst under the influence of Premium petrol, which he had mistaken for a new drink having seen a T.V. advertisement. On waking, he began to write down what he had dreamt and had completed but 4 lines when he was disturbed by the gasman from Porlock. By the time Shipley had explained why his meter contained 6 Belgian Francs, a button and the end of a spoon, the vision had disappeared. In his rage, he kicked the meter and injured his foot so severely that he was unable to go walking with Hazlitt the next day.

C. R. SABINE, 6B6.

## “BLESS THIS HOUSE”

The school buildings have established for themselves a tradition of bad planning and shoddy design which has been carefully observed since 1914, when the neo-georgian pile which is the main school was erected. In order to make it as imposing as possible the building was stretched out to a prodigious length, and given a pretentious facade which conceals classrooms intended for 205—and 44,150 cubic feet of corridors and stairs.

In 1929 the gym block was built. It was thought fit that this should stand apart from the original building, instead of being integrated with it, as it could easily have been, as the changing rooms, the woodwork rooms, the geography wing and the library wing were not built until 1938. These buildings all pursue separate existences, unfettered by ties to the mother-building (except for the two wings which are just lightly linked to the ends in order to increase the majestic dimensions of the frontage by as much as possible). That these buildings were sited as they were, in spite of the English climate, demonstrates Quixotic boldness on the part of the architects, if nothing else. At the same time, various minor alterations were made to the main building and perhaps the curious concrete moat which writhes round the back of the school, and the two lavatory blocks, at a decent distance from the body of the school, date from this time.

1957 brought the canteen, with its elegant elevations, and 1960 the science block, squatting proud, aloof and very, very plain on the edge of the field. Both these buildings are better planned than the rest—the layout of the canteen is quite efficient, but neither is of any architectural merit and neither is very cleverly sited.

The new buildings were opened in 1963. They were designed to form “a Quadrangle in the tradition of the Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge”, though it is hard to see what relevance Oxbridge architectural traditions have in High Wycombe. As a quadrangle, except in a geometrical sense, it is a failure, for it had to be split into two halves on different levels, separated from each other by a row of bollards, complicated steps in concrete and several sorts of stone, and absurd little fountains. The two buildings do not form an “architectural entity” (as the entertaining description in the programme of the opening ceremony implies). Could this perhaps be because the two are on different levels, are on different scales, are constructed in different ways and faced with different coloured bricks, have windows in different proportions and are not connected in any way? However, whether or not one happens to like the hall ceiling with all its fussy lights, the varnished veneer, the fragmentary cloisters,

the tatty little lawns with their frayed edges, the fermenting, impractical fountains and all the other little touches of "architecture" is unimportant. What does matter is that the form rooms, which after all was the 'raison d'être' of the building of the building, have been pushed as near to the road as possible, with no form of sound insulation, and with their huge windows gazing out over Totteridge, giving a view which second and third formers must find most provocative, when the master's voice is drowned by the traffic. This is the price of an Oxbridge quad.

Since the completion of the new junior school, one of the two blocks of lavatories behind the school that had been out of order, on and off for a year or so, was demolished and a new one built on to the end of the cloakroom (effectively darkening its interior) and also a new common room for school house. A brick wall links the lavatories, the common room and school house, which serves no other purpose than to support the three gateways necessitated by building it. I would not dare to criticise the new canteen because it is obviously unfinished, though the builders are long since departed. As usual no one has bothered to say what is going on and no plans have been displayed—if indeed there are plans, for there is certainly no overall scheme of development. Each new building is placed haphazardly in the most obvious open space, and no attempt is made to relate them to their neighbours. As far as the boys are concerned, buildings just happen, and all their many defects less obvious than cracked plaster and warped doors go unremarked. It is now of course too late to do anything but criticise it, for it would take a great deal to change our buildings.

M. R. WARD.

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To a deaf Judge's court a deaf man summoned a deaf man,  
The deaf man shouted :

“He's stolen my cow” !

“For pity's sake”, shouted the deaf man in reply,

“My late uncle still owned that piece of waste-land”.

The judge decreed :

“To prevent any impropriety,  
marry the young man, even if the girl's to blame”.

*A. S. Pushkin, 1830.*

Translated from the Russian by DAVID MORTON.



## DESIRE

To stroll down Grecian avenues  
of ruined blocks of stone,  
as the shadowing sun sinks seawards,  
fingering a lyre  
singing thru history  
as the azure sky rouges westward  
and a soft wind blows.

To see the vague hand  
tracing fire  
destiny of kings on palace walls  
as fear freezes  
carouselling hearts.

To see the prophet-bard  
plucking the harp, charming the wild king  
spear-hurling reckless,  
in the tawny scrubland  
playing, singing and the sun crying.

To see a quinquireme,  
sunned, scented of sandalwood,  
attar of roses,  
fragrance borne  
on the  
as the sea dances in joy, petal-soft air  
bubbling ecstatically  
beneath its prow.

To hold truth  
in the hand  
to feel the husks of the fruit  
of the land  
of Eden by Ararat  
in my grasp.

As Orpheus to string  
sounds to charm the rocks  
thru the ages  
thru the lands  
to wander eternally  
plucking tears from the trees  
and grasses  
beneath the dancing hurtling sun  
and the leaden skies sobbing wind  
crying  
for eternity  
for Persephone to follow  
and not to look back  
doubting.

CHRISTIAN KOEFOED-NIELSEN.

## SAVING THE DOLLAR

OR

## THE LAST WORK

of one of L.B.J's beloved young compatriots who fell fighting for his Country against our common enemy in a country, which shall remain unnamed, to the east of Cambodia.

Oh mah gawd, I'm gonna die !  
Oh mah gawd, where shall I lie ?  
Shall I then be all alone  
An' nothin' more than rotting bone ?

Oh mah gawd, I've fought an' fought,  
an'  
Oh mah gawd, look what it's brought,  
All we do is moan an' moan  
That we wanna be back home.

(Suddenly, a flash of patriotic lightning strikes our author)

But if I die, think only this of me :  
That there's some corner of a paddy-field  
That is forever worm ridd'n.

(At this point, a nuclear warhead exploded at a nearby village, some fifty miles away, and our hero was transubstantiated immediately to a sheet of stained glass, and the rest of his epic work never written).

S. J. OWEN.

## DREAM AT A MAN'S TURNING

In a watermelon moon a man walks alone among the trees. Silence, the silence before a last turning, covers everything : small noises hide away in shady corners, fearing this bleak hour is over and midnight draws nearer. Dawn is a long way away ; but listen ! the sun sings louder the nearer he gets. Only the moon knows all, and tells his secret to the man in the wind. He whispers these forms to the listening trees, whose birds will fly when the cock crows, and breaks up the night . . . "Our birth is but a sleep and a passing . . ." The wind unravels tales untold, and tells the man . . . "Bury the dead for fear that they walk to the grave in labour . . ." Midnight and all her angels creep into the valley ; in batlight and catlight, owl-light and moonlight, she surrounds the man and all his birds, draws them in under her unknown spell. The feather from her angel's wing, the feather from the wing of death, touches his brain,

sends a dullness through his veins, as drug-taking would. It is a dull delirium ; a dim glow shines from his eyes, softly, burning bright. There is a coruscation in the tear, the crystal tear where all his past flashes, and fades . . . Angels play harps on the long laddered climb ; an old snowy man shoulders his scythe, tells him the neural meaning of his clock, his rhythm regular as his beard is white ; soft lights come and go, soft music in heaven above and earth below ; cherubs sing in the trees, and God on a rainbow strokes a cooing dove . . . "In the gloom and gold gathers the light about it . . ." This timeless dream spins to an end. Steadily, it is slowing. And this is the life's weather, this the dream, this his own cul-de-sac nightmare, the cock at birth, the owl at night . . .

Now the stars lose their glimmer : the breath of the wind subsides, curls round a tree, and dies. The lamp of the moon shines no longer, hides behind curtains of cloud, is snuffed. The birds of memory have flown. A man walks down a crooked path, through the orchard garden of his innocence, through the wicked wood of his past. He passes on through the gates into the kingdom of night, and is gone . . .

M. J. PICKERING.

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What future lies in concrete lies ?  
In concrete lies a man ;  
Gunned down in hope,  
Gunned down in hate,  
As dust blows away the land.

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Where craggy stark and gnarled trees  
And wind-beat boom of southern shore,  
His wild bewitching goddess ran.  
    Beware her !  
    Drifting, smiling the shallows by  
Smiling not a natural joy, but joy of spring  
    The Clockwork spring  
That wound the bound winding binding wind  
Placed in tears it seethed  
and wanton soulless fury ;  
Fury of passion of instinct desire  
Of love under wood and wended way  
And away she wandered—and bewailed—but flown.

If time were not apparent  
Nor would we  
Whose life, not heaven-sent  
But a joke

On the part  
Of some ethereal heavenly-being  
Who created a medium to live in,  
He shook the recipe, rolled it

And waited  
Its only purpose to cause  
Itself misery,

Anger and hate  
And to endure all time.

NIMROD PING.

## COURT

I paid for the coffee and we went out into the hot sun—as yet there was the discomfort of early acquaintance. She drove well. Petrol, she told me, was out. Had I any money? Yes, it so happened I had, enough for a gallon-and-a-half. The petrol gurgled. Sorry about that, when can I pay you back? Slam and off through the fields and the woodland.

It was an early summer's evening and the leaves were still green. The birches were mysterious in the gentleness of the evening's sunlight. Occasionally the sun's glare burst through an opening and her eyes glinted. We stopped and walked a little way. Did I smoke? No, why? She just wondered, some did. How innocent we are, she said.

Those words and the gentle laugh which followed, the feeding glance through my eyes, and the glint of the sun in hers, moved me. We held hands. Barriers broken at last, I sighed.

We walked a little farther to where a miserable stream complained bubbling, and we noticed a flash of red dart from our path. Squirrel, she said, there were hundreds round here. The stream grew, she said, a little farther up, and there the stones cleaned the water.

She pulled me through the prickly bracken. A good thing you're not wearing stockings, I said. She said yes it was. We fought the virgin foliage bravely and for what seemed quite a time. Sometimes we lost the stream, but I noticed it was growing, and the gurgling was no longer gentle. Then it was down a bit and into an opening where the stream glistened in the setting sun. This is it, she said. You see how much cleaner the water is here? I did. Someone had tried to build a dam which had since fallen apart. They say there are tiny little fish, she said, but I've never seen any. But there are plenty of frogs. Did I

like frogs? I said that I did not really mind them but that I was not very fond of them either.

Curiously enough, after all that battling with the bracken, we were still holding hands. She let go and took off her coat, laying it slowly on the scrub beside the stream. She took her shoes off, sat down carefully on the coat and let her bare feet rest gently in the water. It runs very fast here, she said, and I sat down beside her.

Through an opening beyond us and in front of the stream we could see the sun reddening the sky over the Chilterns. I remarked how high up we were, and she said that there was a little waterfall where the stream joined the river. Did I ever go sailing on the river? I said no, I had never done so. How innocent we are, she said again. We talked about the sun, and frogs and fish and stockings, about parents, about school and work, about travel and Monte Carlo and Los Angeles. What did I think of David Warner? And suddenly only the water reminded us of the world, and even that was caught in the warmth and the flow and the sweetness.

How often do you come here, I asked. She told me she didn't know, and she said it had all been great fun, and we took a well-worn shortcut to the car, and I left her where I found her, sipping coffee, and I never saw her again.

DAVID SNODIN.

Lady, that the ants seem to scurry  
as the night creeps in around  
your feet, now and then!  
The ground has you trapped  
in all shadows  
                    your tears  
transferring into years.  
Gravestone spoke and the birds safely  
                    through the sunday gloom;  
your voice is muffled  
through the ant's progress.

### THE LAST FIVE MINUTES

Going now, the sea's whisper  
telling me to go, quietly,  
remembering her first call.  
Her voice is telling me to disband,  
telling me to turn from it all,  
and depart, remembering quietly,  
going now, her soft sea whisper,  
going now, from rock to sand.

M. J. PICKERING.

## **C.C.F. NOTES**

### **R.A.F. SECTION**

The Annual Inspection this year, unusually favoured by suitable weather conditions, was a very successful event and occasioned some most complimentary observation by the inspecting officers. With excellent timing, at the beginning of the parade, 4 Chipmunk aircraft (of the Air Experience Flight at White Waltham) flew low, in tight box formation, over the parade ground. In addition to its normal activities the R.A.F. section planned an "Evasion" exercise which was carried out with great zeal and enjoyment.

The training state of the unit at the end of the School year can be reviewed with satisfaction. Of 80 cadets, 38 have gained the Advanced Training Certificate and, in addition, 12 cadets have reached R.A.F. Proficiency standard. There are three holders of Flying Scholarships in the unit. Gliding Proficiency "Wings" are worn by 15 cadets. This number will be further increased as those cadets who trained at Easter experienced such bad weather conditions that their training has had to be extended. Two cadets have been selected to take a gliding course at the Advanced Level in the near future. These are the pleasing results of this training year.

E.M.

### **CADET WEEK-END CAMP**

Cadet camps are usually organized, planned and supervised by the officers. During the weeks or weekends concerned, the cadets who attend get experience in leadership but they do not have to worry over the larger issues of where to camp, how to get there, what to eat and the like. Usually, too, a cadet writes some report on the training and ends by thanking the officers for running it.

The signal platoon's 72 hour camp at Naphill at the beginning of July was different. Once the go-ahead was given, the cadets of the signals did everything themselves. They contacted the landowners and obtained permission to camp : they reconnoitred the area and planned 2 day exercises : they estimated for rations and arranged 3 day's meals. It can honestly be said that nothing was forgotten.

Obviously officers had to be present with them and the writer and 2nd Lieutenant R. Hollingworth were there. The former was a little surprised when he received 5 duplicated sheets of orders a few days before. Nevertheless he still anticipated the worst and arrived at the wooded site with his own tent, stove, rations, etc. The camp was being set up already along the line of Grim's Dyke with the sleeping 'Arctic Octagonals' at one end,

leading through the Q.M.'s ration store, the communications H.Q., the 'wet weather' training tent and technical stores to a patch of ground where it was suggested the officers pitched.

It was immediately clear that everything was organized. The Q.M. was getting ready to issue the evening rations and menu details were on display: 4 gallon water jerries were neatly lined outside his stores and rubbish pits were being dug. Office staff were fixing up the high power base radio and other N.C.O.'s were being briefed for the next day's scheme. 2nd Lieutenant R. Hollingworth arrived a little later and was immediately issued with a vast array of food ("Yes sir, that's just one meal"). He, too, was surprised at being able to leave it all to the N.C.O.'s, and, fearing it couldn't last, the officers spent a pleasant evening chatting and drinking (issued) coffee. At 9.30 p.m. work finished and an impromptu guitar session started. At 10.30 everyone went to bed: at 12 midnight the muttering stopped. At 3.00 a.m. the sentry going on watch for his half-hour lost his left boot and by the time he had found it at 3.15 a.m., everyone was brewing coffee. As this was not included in the aforementioned 5 sheets of orders, the officers considered they were entitled to some sleep and gave the only command of the weekend—a grumpy "shut up" as the noise rose with the dawn.

The day started at 6.30 ("Good morning, sir. Here's a cup of coffee and your shaving water will be here in 5 minutes") and by morning the first scheme was well under way when the sergeant from our parent unit looked in. It was an involved scheme and while everyone else knew what they were doing, he seemed a little puzzled that everything was going so well. Anyway he gave an excellent de-brief at 5.00 p.m. and left us to our cooking.

Sunday's pattern followed Saturday's. The weather was better: the scheme went better now that everyone had warmed up, and involved coded messages were relayed and passed from our radio net to another in a most proficient manner. The officers drank more coffee and read the papers, feeling rather unwanted. At lunchtime the nets were closed, camp was struck and the site was left far tidier than it had been on arrival. Everyone packed back into the vehicles, vowing to run a similar scheme next year.

Thus it is that it is the turn of an officer to thank the cadets for a most pleasant and restful weekend. In particular this is due to Cdt. Sgr. A. Harrison, who conceived the idea and who carried it through in a meticulous manner, to Cpl. D. Turner, who acted as Q.M., to W.O. II C. Nobbs, who helped with the transport, and to Sgt. Arnold, Cpl. Wombwell and Cpl. Robinson who arranged the schemes. An especial 'thank you' is owed for the anti-mosquito spray they issued us with—we had forgotten to bring one.

## CORPS OF DRUMS

The Summer Term is always the most important period in the Band's year. Unhappily it is also the most important period in the academic year, and our practices for General Inspection, Speech Day and Bourne End Carnival were dogged by 'A' and 'O' Level examinations.

Rehearsals for Annual Inspection took place mainly in C.C.F. periods, and by May 26th all our preparations were complete. Rear-Admiral Maxwell was much impressed by the playing of the Band, particularly by that of Holgate, our piper. The Inspection was blessed with fine weather, as were the Band's other two public appearances.

Examinations made any practice for Bourne End Carnival impossible, and we arrived at Bourne End hoping we could do as well as we had at Inspection. Despite a much-depleted bugle section, we managed to play quite well, and we left Bourne End feeling a little more confident in our abilities than when we arrived.

Speech Day was once again the high-light of the year, and provided the Band with an opportunity for a display of counter-marching and playing which held the visitors' attention for some time.

We are all very sorry to say good-bye to Mr. MacTavish, who has given so much valuable help and support to the Band. We wish him every success in the future.

Next year the Band will not exist in the Autumn Term, but this time will be spent training new recruits in the lunch-time. We hope that we will have the same success next year that we have enjoyed in this last term.

I. C. MAUN.

## C.C.F. ANNUAL INSPECTION

The Annual Inspection of the Royal Grammar School C.C.F. was carried out by Rear Admiral T. H. Maxwell, D.S.C., the Director General of Naval Training. He was accompanied by an old boy of the School, Sub-Lieutenant R. H. Coward, R.N. as Flag Lieutenant of the day and the Inspecting team consisted of Lieutenant Commander R. W. Moland, R.N., Lieut. Colonel N. T. St. J. Williams, R.A.E.C., and Squadron Leader A. A. Pearce, R.A.F.

The commencement of the Inspection was heralded by a "fly past" of four Chipmunks in box formation who timed a training flight to coincide with the start of the Inspection at the precise moment when the Commanding Officer, Lieut. Col.



R. Pattinson had reported to the Inspecting Officer. The Admiral was received with the General Salute played by the school band who played drum, bugle, fife and pipe tunes whilst the Admiral conducted his Inspection.

Following the March Past the Admiral and his Inspecting Officers saw a wide variety of training classes which included various aspects of navigation and seamanship in the Naval Section, Initiative tests, Methods of Instruction and Infantry Section attacks, Radio Operating and Signalling in the Army Section, whilst the R.A.F. Section included Principles of Flight and an Escape and Evasion exercise. The recruits were seen in a wide variety of training which included shooting, canoeing, campcraft and ropework.

In his remarks to the cadets after the Inspection the Rear Admiral complimented most warmly the Cadet Instructors on the excellence of their achievements in the way they handled their classes and the response they made to the responsibility they accepted. This he said reflected very creditably on the school in general and the Officers in particular and all were to be congratulated on a pleasing Inspection performance.

## **C.C.F. ALPINE EXPEDITION, 1966**

Planning for this expedition started three years ago. At that time it was a question of outlining the object of the expedition in order to obtain approval in principle from the military and educational bodies concerned and then searching out the problems to be faced, then giving thought to the vehicles, equipment and controlling staff likely to be necessary.

At a very early stage, the outline plan was for the project to be considered as an arduous training camp with the main exercise taking the form of a "long range Reconce Patrol" following the route thought to be taken by Hannibal and his elephants 2,000 years ago, when his army, almost annihilated by ambush, illness and exposure, reached Italy in an attempt to capture Rome.

### **Reconnaissance**

In the Summer of 1965 R. G. Hollingworth, an old boy of the School and a great enthusiast for the C.C.F., searching for an interesting continental holiday, was offered and gladly accepted the task of investigating the possibilities of following Hannibal's route and the feasibility of supplying such a project and controlling its safety by vehicle. His excellent reconnaissance enabled him to give satisfactory reports on routes both on the French and Italian side of the crossing. His marked maps of suggested camp sites, reports on roads, weather conditions,

average temperatures, rainfall, snowline, etc., dispelled any doubts the C.O. might have had about not being able to make the adequate safety arrangements. First priority being to guard against the tragedies which not infrequently occur through the exuberance and over confidence of youth, whose sole thought is often only concerned with the immediate physical challenge.

## Preparations

Whilst most of the important equipment arrived on time, the last week before departure found everyone desperately short of time for important tasks; and officers were searching relentlessly for items promised but "unavoidably delayed", and the three W.O's set members of the expedition on labours with spanner, brush and rope, C.S.M. Nobbs and Herman making many last minute improvements and necessary adjustments to the vehicles, working long hours right up to the last day. Monday the 25th July saw the loading party trying to fit food, camping gear and the personal kit of 40 people into the space of the 3 tonner and land rover trailer. Inevitably cuts had to be made and equipment returned to store, but by lunch time everything regarded as essential had been packed and hardly a square inch of space was to be found. By 3.00 p.m. the convoy moved off to the good wishes of the Headmaster and Mrs. Smith and a number of other supporters.

## The Journey

The Convoy arrived at Dover without incident and spent the night at an Army Camp and was on the road before 7.00 a.m. bound for the Dover/Calais Car Ferry, and after breakfast on board, the Convoy of Six Vehicles left Calais soon after 10.00 a.m., and everyone felt the expedition was under way.

The party consisted of Lieut. Col. R. Pattinson, Capt. M. M. Davies, Capt. F. N. Cooper, 2nd Lieut. R. G. Hollingworth, Mr. G. G. Browning, Mr. J. G. Goodenough, Mr. M. R. Pattinson and Mr. B. W. Poll.

*Cadets* : P. J. Bedwell, M. J. Bevan, N. I. Bray, A. P. Broadway, D. R. Crees, R. C. Day, J. N. Elderkin, P. G. Engel, A. S. Farmer (R.S.M.), A. R. N. Harrison, J. W. Herman, S. D. Hoath, A. R. Hood, R. W. Huggins, J. C. Lord, J. S. Luty, R. J. Martin Fagg, A. J. Mole. G. A. Monaghan, G. Nash, C. S. Nobbs, D. P. O'Hanlon, I. R. H. Pattinson, C. G. Spittle, R. B. Stevens, T. S. Wills, P. E. Winter, B. G. Wood and K. F. Woodbridge. Mrs. M. R. Pattinson, S.R.N., acted as medical adviser and Mrs. F. N. Cooper helped with the Catering.

The Convoy consisted of an ex-W.D. 3 tonner, an Austin Mini-coach, a Bedford Workabus and a Landrover with trailer.

Two private cars had a roving commission to buy fresh bread, receive midday halts, bivouac and camp sites, etc.

The journey was full of interest, following a route east of Paris through Soissons, Troyes, Dijon when pastoral scenes gradually gave way to the famous vineyards of Burgundy. It was found convenient to take lunch near Nuits St. George where one vehicle was sent to search for the 1955 vintage of the same name and not surprisingly the convoy was delayed for the best part of an hour, whilst (it was discovered later) the searchers were forced, so they said, to sample other vintages of reputed merit.

The camp sites were picturesque and delightfully French but unfortunately insufficient time could be spared to explore and enjoy them as it very soon became apparent that the journey to Guillestre was going to take four days instead of the scheduled three. This was due to some extent, to the slowness of the roads compared with the 'Auto routes' later encountered, to the mechanical troubles brought on by the heat, and to the bottleneck in the lorry in repacking half its contents each morning before departure. Inevitably in the foothills of the Alps, speed became slower and the camp site at Guillestre was a very welcome sight for the drivers and for the maintenance team in the Landrover who had done a great job in keeping the vehicles in action over a tough stretch of road for four successive days and indeed who continued to do so for the whole trip.

### **Base Camp**

Guillestre had been selected as Base Camp in preference to Briancon as it seemed to be about the right place to start the expedition from, and a wise choice it proved to be. Two valuable days had been set aside for "make and mend" preparation and checking of equipment, learning the maps, testing loads, "stretching the legs", etc. A temporary sick bay was set up to cope with cases of sepsis, stomach disorder and heat stroke, but happily the medical chest responded to all demands and only one case required more than 36 hours "out of action".

A short halt was called in these preparations, to accept the hospitality of a local resident who placed his television at our disposal for the World Cup final from which many seemed to derive inspiration and aspiration in the succeeding days.

### **The Expedition**

Monday, August 1st saw everyone packed up early, though illness prevented three members from joining the party for 24 hours. All had packed with the firm principle of "no return to Base" for 4-5 days except for illness, and each of the four

groups of six was to be self contained for 24 hours having access to the next day's ration each evening and the rather heavy army bivouac tents being available on the Landrover. Each Cadet carried a load of about 35 lb., and considering temperature, altitude and state of training this appeared to be a reasonable maximum. Various reasons prevented a start being made until late in the morning, but time of start gradually improved during the expedition as experience and wisdom were acquired.

The party suitably briefed about its route and the reconnaissance tasks required of it, took some time to settle down over the early stages and one party was delayed with a case of "heat exhaustion" necessitating his return to base for a day, but all parties arrived at their destination — Chateau Queyras in good time.

The early morning sun produced a fairyland picture. The Chateau built on a conical rock was sited spectacularly at its summit with towers and turrets which required little imagination to speculate on the witches and ogres its walls may have concealed in the past. It was on this rock that it was alleged Hannibal rested his weary army safe from ambush for a time, though clearly the narrow gorges through which he had just passed must have extracted heavy penalty from him in men and pack animals.

The second day saw a continuation of the journey up the valley of the River Guil, now a mere stream and easily crossed but with obvious indications of the raging torrent which must result from heavy rain and melting snows; fast flowing, carrying cool clean water which the members of the party found refreshing and invigorating to tired and blistered feet as they made their way steadily higher up the valley in the heat of a penetrating though friendly sun. The route lay through the village of Aiguilles and then Abries, the last village from which supplies could be brought. Routes alternative to the road allowed one party to travel along the bed of the stream but the going was difficult over loose boulders, but this was to be preferred to alternative tracks on the mountain slopes which reconnaissance showed to be dangerous and impracticable. Camp for the night was made by the side of the river just short of the deserted village of L'Echalp. Whilst the boys were preparing their evening meal the C.O. was seen to disappear in the direction of the river with improvised fishing rod but unhappily fish was not on the menu for breakfast.

During the day the officers and W.O's who could be spared went ahead to reconce the climb from 6,000 ft. to the 10,000 foot col and reported a good route to the top but bitterly cold winds with snow in sheltered places.

Day three had been planned as a light one physically for three reasons (1) to reserve maximum effort for the 4th day (2) to allow the halt and the lame to keep up with the main body (3) it was not known if the altitude, now being reached, might affect the physical effort of the party and reduce its capabilities. Anxiety on the latter score was however unfounded. Camp was established in the narrowing valley at the foot of the slopes where steep climbing began. Evening briefing contained all the plans for safety, wet weather, fine weather, accident and any eventuality which could be thought of.

Day Four was a memorable and full day for everyone. There were three parties (1) Climbing party under Capt. Cooper, 2nd Lieut. Hollingworth and Mr. Poll (2) Road Advance Party (3) Rear Road Party to stand by for emergencies.

The camp as always was wakened by Capt. Davies, though happily not always at 5.30 a.m. as on this occasion and breakfast of cereal and instant porridge was soon over. The boys were trying out their lightened loads, carrying only emergency rations and survival equipment and were all eager to be off. Shortly after 8.30 a.m. the four teams led by Bray, Monaghan, Spittle and Woodbridge attacked the hillside as though they intended reaching the summit without even stopping to take elevenses. Each team took turns to lead, but not surprisingly, made mistakes in map reading which the officers had to correct, though cairns of stones, vital in bad weather, were a help to navigate. Slowly but surely the party toiled on towards the ridge marking the boundary between Italy and France, taking a short rest here and there, once to throw snowballs at each other; and by midday had reached the summit and made for the Col de la Traversette, the gateway into Italy. The view from the top was magnificent, though perhaps disappointing because low cloud interfered with visibility, the appearance of many peaks above the cloud base, with the majestic snow covered peak of Mount Viso dominating the panorama. The French phrase "c'est formidable" seemed a most apt description and the view generally expressed was that Hannibal must have been mad to have attempted what he did but a genius to have achieved it. With feelings of elation at its own achievements and perhaps of anti-climax at the thought of no more worlds to conquer the party slowly made its way towards the little hamlet of Pian del Re, seemingly miles below, which was to be the R.V. for all parties.

In the meantime the "All Safe" signal had been given to Mr. M. R. Pattinson and R.S.M. Farmer waiting midway between Summit and Camp 3, all safety precautions were relaxed and the road parties embarked on the journey of over 100 miles by road as against about 12 miles on foot.

The advance road party consisted of Capt. Davies and C.S.M. Nobbs in the Landrover with Mr. Goodenough and C.S.M. Herman in the 3 tonner and were to make all speed to provide a base on the Italian side of the Alps for bad weather or any other eventuality. The route crossed the Alps by the Col de Mont Genevre over some of the most testing roads any Alpine rally could wish for, up and down thousands of feet several times to a town called Barge where the 3 tonner bivouaced for the night whilst the Landrover climbed the twisting narrow road to Crissolo and then the last testing climb to Pian del Re. With minutes of daylight to spare Capt. Davies arrived after a journey, the strain of which caused him to take sugar in his tea for at least 36 hours. His vehicle loaded like a Christmas tree with camping necessities, he found the party unconcernedly celebrating the success of their expedition in a little albergo which only saw about 30 travellers a year cross the Alps by that route. It is pleasing to record that a complete stranger bought wine for the whole party and that this warm friendly attitude was typical of the people of Piedmont and Liguria and was found wherever the party went.

It was a fitting climax that the C.O. and the Rear Road party benighted on the village square at Barge with the 3 tonner was discovered by a reporter for the Italian Press and Radio who collected his story from Officers and Boys and brought to the notice of the Italian people the exploits of the members of the Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe.

## Mainly Social

The walking party spent the morning of Day Five on foot down to Crissolo to meet its vehicles when after lunch, with high spirits and pleasurable anticipation, all made their way to the Italian Riviera for a well earned relaxation in mediterranean sun and sea. Many will have happy memories of a Camp Site "a la montagna" near Pietro Ligura where tents were pitched in the shade of olive and fig trees for those who wanted tents; for even R.S.M. Farmer's collection of scorpions failed to deter the cadets from sleeping in the open under the warm Italian skies. Some will have happy memories of the short journey down the hillside to the beach; the road wandered through peach orchards and vineyards frequently gave evidence of a good harvest in the shape of baskets of freshly gathered luscious ripe fruit awaiting either the casual purchaser or the lorry of the wholesale fruiterer.

Our stay in Italy was all too short but we had compensations at the Auberge de Jeunesse near Frejus which proved to be an excellent centre for visits to the Cote D'Azur and the famous towns of the French Riviera—St. Raphael, Cannes, Grasse,

Nice, Monte Carlo. Wherever the party went friendships were soon formed and goodwill established with all nationalities. An "England v. France" football match was lost 5 - 3 with play stopped by bad light and protests of the occupant of a nearby tent. Inevitably came the journey home but even that had its compensations in the form of an afternoon and evening in Paris, a city whose boulevards and buildings many will remember as unique throughout the world for their appeal.

The three week trip cannot fail to have made its impact on all who went. Let us hope that many of those not lucky enough to go will perhaps also think that the C.C.F. has something worthwhile to offer not connected with preparation for war and may be worthy of their attention on Thursday afternoons.

R. PATTINSON.

## BOARDING HOUSES

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### SCHOOL HOUSE

School House is a misunderstood boarding-house. The other two are all right. They do not for the majority of dayboys exist. But School House cannot fail to exist. There it stands, barrack-like, on the way into lunch, and outsiders tend to regard its inmates as spectators would monkeys at a zoo.

We may be misunderstood, but I also feel we are happy, harmonious, and at the same time remarkably diverse. We boast all types : we have one member in the 1st XI cricket team, Peter Colley, four in the 2nd (Christopher Setterington deserves special mention for his outstanding display in the match against Barnet, during which he managed to get 7 wickets for 13), five in the colts (Peter Brown is the captain) and two in the junior colts. Martin Bevan and Nick Thorne make a claim to fame by mentioning that they occasionally play for the Second Tennis Six. We seem to have taken to the water like lemmings, for boarders have taken a very active part in both inter-house and inter-school swimming matches. Robert Hill is in fact the School Captain of swimming, and it should also be mentioned that he has been entered for the South-Eastern Counties Swimming Competition. School House has ventured into the big wide world (three members are fairly active participants in the local drama group).

We are not lacking in genius either. Though the prize list was not quite as full of School House names as it should have been, we have nevertheless obtained for ourselves a remarkable first year six (oh, the intellectual strains that waft from the senior dormitory after lights-out !) in which three prizes (English,

History, and Geography) went to boarders. We have poets, players, musicians, rebels . . . and the amazing thing is that we get on fairly well with each other ! We cannot, of course, deny our minor skirmishes, and sometimes we even come to blows, but there is an overall harmony (though some are not prepared to admit it—those, I fear, who are not prepared to admit anything) which somehow makes School House a pleasant place to live in.

There are many binding factors. There is Mr. Skipp, without whom the ship would never float. There is the new house tutor, Mr. Williams—whom we welcome to our fold—and, almost synonymous with him, the swimming-pool. Not only does this blessing keep the more mischievous out of trouble, but it also ensures haircuts (for further details, apply to N. R. M. Thorne, whose fame as a barber is almost universal). There are many—and who can blame them?—who would rather go unswum than throw their dearest possession to the wind. Lastly there is the food and our new cook, Mr. Bexon, whom we welcome with open arms and eager stomachs.

At the end of the summer term we make numerous farewells—the deputy headboy leaves us for (he hopes) higher things, and we wish him and the other leavers lower down the best of luck for the future. Everybody will no doubt be very sorry to hear that the head boy is returning next term with a stronger contingent of merciless prefects.

To conclude we mourn the loss by our 'duds' team at cricket against Tylerswood, but are only too willing to mention two astounding victories in football and volleyball against Tylerswood and Uplyme respectively. 'God save the foundation'.

D. N. SNODIN.

## UPLYME

I wonder how many people while reading the magazine are put off from reading the section with the austere heading 'boarding house reports', because of their lack of knowledge of the people and situations mentioned in the catalogue of events.

I suspect that the only people who read and comprehend an Uplyme report are those directly concerned with the house.

In fact, Uplyme is an extremely live and volatile institution. While the schoolboys homeward plod their weary way, twenty eight converge on this large redbrick house with its motley brood of huts and outhouses, which might be the central scene in their lives for the next eight years. The intermixing of thirty five personalities who reside in Uplyme provides a potentially explosive situation, as there is no escape from the proximity of



your fellow boarders. The events which take place constantly are the result of the interplay of these characters, each intent on continuing his way of life while at the same time cramped by the broad outlines of the Uplyme constitution. The framework of discipline is essentially a hierarchy with the Housemaster and his assistant at the top. This is where decisions are taken, and is both the supreme court of punishment and appeal. The "Cabinet" of co-ordinating executives consists of the prefects, a rank attained almost solely by age and perseverance, with the head boy often acting as an interpreter between the very different worlds of housemaster and schoolboy. While the house is running smoothly the prefects have a large measure of control, armed with a number of deterrents to misdemeanants. However, at times, even they leave the straight and narrow, and the housemaster must intervene. The bulk of the house, of course, consists of boys, of all shapes and sizes, ages and aptitudes. It is here that the house finds its main strength or weakness, in the talents and skills of its members, and that the encouragement of the staff is necessary to see that the constructive impulses outweigh the destructive.

As people come and go, Uplyme is immortal, always contributing to the school out of all proportion to its size. The House has its own unbreakable spirit *despite* the numerous setbacks received at the hands of other houses in sport competitions.

C. FEWTRELL.

## TYLERSWOOD

Once again I have been asked to write about the boarding house, the exact location of which, everyone knows, is "somewhere up the road towards Penn". Very little time has elapsed since the last report was published and consequently little has happened in the house itself although there have been numerous social and inter-house activities. We beat a top class Uplyme football team by one or two or seven goals, a top class Uplyme cricket team by twenty-two runs, and a School House team by eight wickets in a one innings match.

Immediately after the departure of our beloved cat we were joined by a fatherless baby sparrow, promptly christened Cuthbert, who stayed with us more than a week, succumbing eventually to intensive flying lessons and over-eating, hitherto unheard of in a boarding house.

In contrast to other years only a few people are leaving at the end of this term, four of the 2nd and 3rd year sixth formers, and one second former, R. L. Phillips, who is moving to Scotland

after a year with us. I particularly congratulate him on his choice of residence.

Everyone at Tylers Wood regrets Mr. MacTavish's departure after three years of weekly visits, standing in for the house-tutor on Thursday evenings. We will miss particularly his celebrated 3rd century and famous peoples' prayers, and his stimulating stories over a cup of tea in the study. We wish him all happiness in his marriage and all the best at his new school.

ANDREW WANDS.

## GAMES HOUSES

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### ARNISON

Inter-house activities during the summer term usually suffer because of the exams, but this term many of the competitions seem to have been a vague mystery, particularly the senior cricket competition, which appears to have been forgotten or lost somewhere during the post examination period.

Sports day was, as usual, uncomfortably close to the beginning of term. Perhaps in future the athletics competition could be held after the internal and external examinations, thus giving bored candidates something to do in that shocking void between the end of the exams and the beginning of the holidays. Sports Day could possibly be held on Speech Day thus making it a more important day in the school year.

The unbounded enthusiasm of D. Bridges, Esq. helped Arnison to win the Athletics competition and defeat a strong challenge from Queens House. Gatland and Frank competed for the victor ludorum with the former eventually winning.

In spite of success in the athletics our achievements in other sports may only be described as mediocre. In the first school swimming competition the House only came fifth and did not do much better in the tennis in spite of the formidable energies of A. Turmezei. However, Arnison did win the Raffety House Cup for school work, a commendable achievement.

Our thanks go again to D. Bridges, Esq., and M. Gray, Esq., without whose aid the House could not function.

J. W. HUME.

## DISRAELI

This year we virtually repeated our 1964-65 success, coming second in the House Championship although rumour has it that another house was exalted to share the position. The achievements of Queens and Disraeli shows that a team effort, which must be the ultimate aim of the House system, can triumph.

Disraeli could do still better if we did not suffer from reluctant talent, but in fairness we are less affected by this hindrance than most of the other houses. Even so it is difficult enough to persuade every man to have a go without having to resort to foul play to ensnare modest stars. Boys have to be asked, threatened or trapped into doing the house a favour, which is of course quite wrong. The prevailing attitude in the middle and junior school is more promising as they seem to have shaken off the ingrained senior school ant-house prejudice. The strength of the house undoubtedly lies with the non-senior section and it is hoped that they will not be discouraged by the mediocre performance and examples of their 'betters'.

In spite of the seniors, Disraeli won the school's first swimming competition. In fact, the Colts, Junior Colts and Juniors all won their sections convincingly. Child, McBride, P. R. Beasley, Waddams and Weston were outstanding. The Senior Cricket was cancelled and we floundered in the tennis, suffering the fate of all self-appointed favourites. In the athletics we managed to come fourth, failing though to capitalize on the poor organization in the heats when it was sometimes possible to gain places by virtue of being present. However, Rumens distinguished himself on the track with a treble in the sprints and was duly rewarded by tieing for the Colts championship. The abstention of several speedy but diffident athletes did not further the cause and so it was left to an assortment of less gifted individuals to improvise as shot-putting sprinters and the like. Mr. Perfect is striving to carry through much needed administrative reform whereby each form and year will be effectively represented at regular committee meetings, thus enabling teams to be selected in good time after trials and practices. If Disraeli can be first to get organized, there is no reason why we should not do even better next year.

P. A. BEASLEY.

## FRASER

Fraser did not make a startling revival in the summer term, but our resulting position in the House Championship should not cause too many blushes. The swimming could well have provided us with our first win, as we were 17 points in the lead with only the second forms to swim, but an abysmal turn-out allowed Disraeli to come out on top. This event showed how important a solid representation throughout the school is, in

order to succeed. The same weakness was again evident in the athletics, where we managed to hang on to third place mainly because Arnison and Queens won most of the remaining events. We were poorly represented in all but the open and senior colts sections. Here, I think, is a basic weakness in the House which might be remedied by the institution of a junior committee.

In the tennis our two pairs played competently, without brilliance, to achieve fourth place, but I'm sorry to report that the senior cricket, which might well have given us a good result, was cancelled.

Looking to the future, I hope that more use of the first year sixth will be made in administration, as others are continually hampered by public exams. I would also like to see more effective use made of the House committee, which has tended to be purely nominal in the past.

C. FEWTRELL.

## QUEENS

This has been a very good year for the house, and I must congratulate everybody who helped us to win the house competition. It is strange to be able to write a house report recording victory this year after the dominance of Fraser and Arnison, and it does seem as though for the next few years at least that it will be Queens and Disraeli taking over the battle for first place. There have only been three events this term, owing mainly to the interruption of the exams. The first event was the Athletics which was keenly contested between Arnison and Queens, the result not being known until practically the last event, and we were just pipped by Arnison at the post and we had to be content with second place. The good performance was due to a good turnout by many members of the house, although in the open section we were very poorly represented.

The swimming has been going on throughout the term, and as this was the first competition, nobody knew how to go about things. Hill and Stevens worked very hard with what little swimming talent there is in the House and we managed to gain third place. In the tennis we did exceptionally well in gaining first place. Belsham and Hampton were not beaten at all. They were well supported by Smith and McLoughlin, who made up a good all-round team.

There seems little else to say about the House competition itself, and most of the other house reports contain ideas for improving the system, so I shall not say anything about that. All that remains is to say well-done to the house for this year's performance and to express the hope that the house will continue to keep first place for a long time to come. Our thanks go to Mr. MacTavish and Mr. Parry-Jones for the work they have put in throughout the year.

P. L. REDICAN.

## TUCKER HOUSE

Very few competitions have been completed since the last report, largely because of the pressure of exams. The main event this term was, of course, the athletics. In this the House did very badly, finishing fifth. The reason for this poor result would appear to be a general lack of enthusiasm and House spirit which is all too apparent throughout this school. However, Hudson is to be congratulated on winning the Colts Individual Championship.

The only other event this term was the tennis, in which, led by the School and House Captain, C. East, the team came second. This is a very creditable result.

Cricket was not played this year because, although all the Houses could have supplied teams, no one was able to organise a competition. Had one taken place, we should have finished in a good position, having several 1st XI cricketers in the House.

In the overall Championship, we came equal fourth, a disappointing result which should be improved upon next year.

Finally, our thanks are due to the Housemasters, Mr. Scott and Mr. Leighton-Jones, who have continued to support us throughout the year.

C. EAST.

## YOUENS

Once again I must report on the endless succession of sports events because at the present moment the house system is only a convenient form of providing teams for activities such as sports day. Our position of last is not without hope, however, as future success will depend on the junior school, and it was here that we were most successful.

We started off the term badly in the athletics competition. In coming sixth some boys did not disgrace themselves; for instance J. C. Dixon of 4Y must be congratulated on being joint Junior colts champion, and P. A. Fountain won almost all our points in the senior section; indeed without these two boys our points tally would have been virtually nil. This competition needs mass entrants or outstanding talent . . . Unfortunately we have neither.

Our fortunes began to change with the swimming competition, perhaps owing to the popularity of the new pool. Our position of fourth overall, was mainly due to the efforts of the junior and senior sections who came third and second respectively. In the tennis competition we held the highest position of the year for Youens—second place.

Thus for the second year in succession Youens held the wooden spoon. However, the success of the juniors heralds hope for the future. Finally, I must thank Mr. Fry and Mr. Pollard for the support they have given us this term.

S. C. B. TINTON.

# CRICKET 1966

## 1st XI

Played 12, Won 6, Lost 3, Drawn 2, Abandoned 1

The season has been quite successful in that we have won more games than we have lost ; but with most of last year's team staying at school this year, hopes were high for a good season. The number of fixtures was greatly reduced this year, partly because of the shortness of the term, and partly because of inclement weather at the start of the season. The match against Tiffins School was especially eagerly awaited so that last year's defeat could be avenged. This, unfortunately, was one of the matches rained off without a ball being bowled.

The first game of the season was a new fixture, against Luton Grammar School. The fixture was arranged on the strength of Luton's rugby team, so that we were expecting a hard match. After declaring with the score at 132 for 4, the school bowled out the opposition for 12. McIntosh, who took 6 for 3, and Berks were both playing their first match for the 1st XI. Leighton Park were also bowled out cheaply in the next game after another declaration, Colley being the chief destroyer with 6 for 9.

We have not been dismissed for less than 110 this season, which is a marked improvement on last year's performance. The main difference has lain in the greater success of the middle and tail-end batsmen. The best example of this was against Watford when, after being 95 for 6 we were able to declare at 202 for 8.

Other matches worthy of special mention have been the narrow defeat by Emanuel—by 6 runs, and the victory against Barnet—by 7 runs. The match against Emanuel was really thrown away. After they had scored 129, of which the last wicket pair made 35, we made a good start and reached 66 for no wicket ; but after tea the batting just collapsed against some accurate off-spin bowling, and the last wicket fell at 123.

In the last two years we have been beaten by Queen Elizabeth's School, Barnet, by one wicket in exciting finishes on both occasions. We have now come to expect an interesting game, and this year's was no exception, with the School finishing on the winning side for a change. After being put in to bat we made a disastrous start, and three wickets were lost for one run. Eventually we reached 115, and with the help of some good tight fielding Barnet were dismissed for 108.

If any criticism must be made of the team in general this year it is of the fielding. Far too many catches have been dropped, although some good ones have been held ; but the ground

fielding was of a much lower standard than in recent years. Too many of the team have been content to stand around and wait for the ball to come to them instead of moving towards it. With better fielding I think the matches against Emanuel and Worcester could both have been won.

As for individual players, Jon Clark has been vice-captain and regular opening batsman. Unfortunately last year's form eluded him, and only once did we see a glimpse of his real ability, in the match against Emanuel. On many occasions he got himself out just when he appeared to be getting into his stride.

John Hayter has been the outstanding batsman again this year, and has scored over 50 on four occasions. Very rarely have we seen him out of form ; and having him opening the batting has helped to inspire confidence in the lower order batsmen.

John Rivers was probably the most unpredictable batsman in the side. After scoring 50 in grand style in the first game he had a poor run, followed by another fine 50 against the Old Boys and a good undefeated innings in the Borlase game.

John Culley has kept wicket immaculately throughout the season and it was good to see his aggressive batting paying dividends this year. His 50's against the Staff and against Watford were both scored at a run a minute.

Peter Colley has opened the bowling regularly ; but after a very successful start his bowling began to lack penetration in mid-season, partly through the number of catches put down off his bowling. Towards the end of the season he was regaining his form, and he bowled particularly well in the Staff match.

Andy Barratt has been our other opening bowler, and he has worked harder for his success than any other bowler. The best example of this was against Barnet when he bowled 29 overs for 19 runs, taking 4 wickets.

Arthur Daines improved towards the end of the season after an uncertain start, and began to produce some good-looking strokes.

Stuart Fowler has probably been the most unfortunate member of the team this year. By the beginning of June he had gained in confidence and he played a splendid innings against St. Benedict's, but then lost all form during the examination period when there were few fixtures and never regained his early form. However, his fielding was always of the highest standard.

Bill Seymour's bowling has only been penetrative on occasions this year, mainly because he has not brought the batsman on to

the front foot often enough. One felt that if he had flighted his off-breaks a little more he would have had more success. His batting has often looked good, but runs also seemed hard to come by.

Ken McIntosh has come into the 1st XI straight from last year's Colts side. He has often chipped in with useful wickets and is the only genuine swing bowler in the side. This year's experience will have taught him to pitch the ball further up to the batsmen to induce mistakes. His forceful batting has often succeeded where others have failed so that I am sure that he will be a very useful all-rounder in future years.

Leo North was brought in after scoring 88 for the 2nd XI but has not made a big score for us, although he has often played the bowling confidently.

At the end of the season Debnam and Settingington were both given a couple of games on the grounds of a successful season with the 2nd XI. It is a pity for us that Settingington is leaving for another school at the end of this term, for I feel sure that both of them would be valuable members of next year's 1st XI.

Finally I should like to thank Mr. B. W. Poll, who has been in charge of the team this year, and all the other masters who have umpired for us and given every encouragement to the team. Thanks are also extended on behalf of the team to our scorer J. N. Elderkin, whose often unrewarding job has been carried out with great enthusiasm.

J. N. McLOUGHLIN.

Julian McLoughlin has captained the side with an air of authority gained from his consistent performances both with the bat and the ball. I shall long remember the game with Barnet which he won virtually single-handed: after scoring 70 out of a total of 115, he took 5 wickets for 35 runs in a remarkably fine all-round performance.

He has always brought the best out of his side by his fine example and intelligent leadership, and he will be a very difficult cricketer to replace.

I should like to offer my congratulations to John Hayter, Jon Clark and Bill Seymour who were selected to play in the Bucks Schools XI, and to John Rivers, Peter Colley, John Culley, Andy Barratt and Arthur Daines who were awarded their 1st XI colours.

Finally it is also necessary to say goodbye to our old friend Mr. Ted Beeson. He must be the finest groundsman in the



county, and he has also helped a great deal with the coaching of cricket throughout the school. In his 20 years here he has given enjoyment and pleasure to innumerable boys through the conscientious way he has tackled his job. His standards have always been of the very highest, and his replacement will be almost impossible.

A very big thank you, Ted, on behalf of all the boys who have been lucky enough to enjoy the facilities you have provided ; and our best wishes in your retirement.

B.W.P.

### MATCHES PLAYED

<i>Result</i>	<i>Versus</i>	<i>R.G.S.</i>	<i>Opponents</i>
Won	Luton G.S.	132 for 4 decl. Rivers 52 n.o. ; Hayter 46	12 all out Berks P. 3 for 4 McIntosh 6 for 3
Won	Leighton Park	134 for 8 decl. Hayter 72	63 all out Colley 6 for 9
Lost	Emanuel	123 all out Hayter 32 ; Clark 34 ; McLoughlin 29	129 all out McLoughlin 4 for 33 Colley 2 for 14
Won	Watford G.S.	202 for 8 decl. McLoughlin 45 ; Culley 53 n.o.	132 all out McLoughlin 5 for 42
Drawn	St. Benedict's	129 for 9 Hayter 27 ; Culley 28	157 all out Barratt 5 for 43 McLoughlin 3-38
Aband. (Rain)	St. Bartholomew's	17 for no wicket Hayter 13 n.o.	
Lost	Old Boys	178 all out Rivers 54 ; Hayter 50 ; Daines 27 n.o.	181 for 6 McLoughlin 4-63
Won	Borlase	64 for 4 Rivers 26 n.o.	63 all out Barratt 5 for 16 McLoughlin 3-20 Colley 2 for 19
Won	Queen Elizabeth's	115 all out McLoughlin 71	108 all out McLoughlin 5-35 Barratt 4 for 19
Draw	Abingdon	126 for 5 decl. Hayter 74 n.o. McLoughlin 25	57 for 7 Colley 4 for 17

<i>Result</i>	<i>Versus</i>	<i>R.G.S.</i>	<i>Opponents</i>
Lost	Worcester	111 all out Hayter 50	112 for 7 McLoughlin 5-38
Won	Staff XI	119 for 4 Culley 64 n.o. Daines 25	118 for 5 decl. Colley 4 for 26

Played 12 Won 6 Lost 3 Drawn 2 Abandoned 1

### BATTING AVERAGES

	<i>Innings</i>	<i>Times out</i>	<i>Highest score</i>	<i>Average</i>
Hayter	12	10	74 n.o.	41.8
Culley	11	6	64 n.o.	30.6
Rivers	10	8	54	20.0
McLoughlin	11	11	71	19.9
Clark	11	9	34	15.0
Daines	8	7	27	13.4
McIntosh	8	7	25	11.2
Barratt	6	3	16	9.3
Fowler	8	8	22	8.4
Debnam	2	2	7	3.75
Seymour	4	4	7	3.75
North	3	3	4	2.7

*Also batted* : Colley, P., Berks, P.

*1st XI colours returning* : J. N. McLoughlin, J. W. Clark, J. R. Hayter, J. M. Rivers.

*1st XI colours awarded to* : J. S. Culley, A. Barratt, A. Daines.

### BOWLING

	<i>Overs</i>	<i>Maidens</i>	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Wickets</i>	<i>Average</i>
Colley, P.	93	27	174	21	8.4
McIntosh	79	25	170	16	10.6
McLoughlin	95	18	311	27	11.5
Barratt	107	31	258	20	12.4
Settington	12	0	34	2	17.0
Seymour	38	10	69	4	17.25

### CATCHES

Culley 10, Fowler 7, McIntosh 6, McLoughlin 5, Clark 5, Colley 4, Daines 3, Rivers 2, Barratt 2, North 2, Hayter 1.

### STUMPINGS

Culley 7

## 2nd XI

*Playing record* : Played 10, Won 6, Drawn 2, Lost 2

This has been quite a successful season. A strong, keen eleven often proved to be far too good for the opposition, and with tighter, more attacking cricket at vital moments could well have gained 3 more victories. Perhaps Fox has now learnt that cautious, over-defensive tactics should only be used in a dire emergency.

The successes of the sides have been Settingington and Debnam, newcomers from last year's colts. The former claimed 36 wickets at less than 3 runs each through his ability to bowl to a length and move the ball in the air and off the seam. Debnam scored over 150 runs with attacking batting, providing a long needed stimulus and example to the team.

I would have liked to see more of the bowling of Peter Berks and I felt he was wasted low down in the batting order. His brother George was an excellent slip fielder and played one or two useful innings. Newitt always looked like a class batsman but was usually too inhibited to produce his best. North was mostly required for the 1st eleven but mention must be made of his 88 against Leighton Park. Hipgrave came back into the side later on in the season and batted quite well, especially in the exciting game against Abingdon which resulted in a one wicket win for the school.

The established members of the side, Fox, Chamberlain and Hudson, all made valuable contributions. Fox played several useful innings but was still too defensive. His leg-breaks also claimed a number of wickets and he led the side well on the field. Chamberlain was successful as a seam bowler, but only at the end of the season did he bat as well as he can. Hudson, however, flourished as an attacking batsman, inspired perhaps by the example set by Debnam.

The fielding was good in every department and Hailwood was a capable wicket-keeper. An all-round team effort, in fact, produced the victories. It has given me considerable pleasure to be in charge of the team and I wish all the players every success in the future.

*Colours awarded to* : Fox, Hudson, Chamberlain, Settingington, Debnam.

C.R.P.

## Colts

Won 6, Drawn 2, Lost 2

Once again the Colts have enjoyed a successful season, losing but two of their ten games, and even then by relatively close margins. This record, however, is perhaps rather flattering as several of the games won were by even narrower margins and the draws, whilst honourable, held little prospect of victory.

The main weakness of the side was that our resources were severely limited. The team selected itself from the first match and there was virtually no competition for places in the team. This was a great pity as only five batsmen averaged over five runs an innings. Being three wickets down seemed perilously near to being all out. As for a spell of games Brown was badly troubled with a chest complaint and Chamberlain by the jitters, the batting appeared for a time to end at No. 3.

Fortunately Gamester was the model of consistency and failed to reach a double-figured score only on one occasion when heavy rain clouds were already on their way to take over as saviour of the side. The responsibility he felt no doubt caused him to restrain his natural game of uninhibited smiting and this reduced some of his knocks to some inelegant poking and often seemed to build up a frustration that ultimately led to a sudden reversion to nature in an extreme form and caused his undoing. Even so his 55 against Abingdon and 33 against Tiffin were very good innings and if he can learn to gradually open out as and when he becomes accustomed to the wicket and the bowling he should be a great asset to the 1st XI next year.

Cavey was probably the most improved batsman of the season. From a very uncertain beginning he developed into a very useful opener always prepared to make use of the bad ball. A vulnerability to quick deliveries outside the off stump and well flighted ones at the wicket saw his early dismissal more than once but his 51 against Abingdon was a fitting culmination of a successful season for him. Thorne with plenty of talent and aggression always impressed the opposition. If he can learn to curb his aggression and deploy his talent properly when presented with difficult balls he will make a fine batsman for the Colts next year. Brown, a quietly efficient captain, when fit and in practice was technically the most competent bat and played three good innings of 25, 25, and 28 interrupted by a period of low scores. On a couple of occasions Chamberlain showed real promise and we hope for a greater flowering of it next year.

Potentially the bowling strength was extensive. Beasley, Dainty, Helliwell, Thorne, and even Gamester at a pinch, could all bowl with hostility and some control. In fact, only Beasley consistently realised this potential and in the end was having to do rather more than his share. Only Jarman came into the side as an accredited spinner and although he bowled beautifully at Leighton Park taking 4 for 12 he was usually brought on too late and eventually lost both his confidence and his length. Fortunately Gamester tried his hand at leg spinners early in the season and immediately began taking wickets. In the end he completely forsook his previous slingers and was settling down to be a very promising slow bowler, although, not surprisingly, his tactics and field placing as yet could not be called astute.

The fielding was for the most part pretty tight and the running between the wickets about average for the Colts—i.e. very bad!

R.C.F.

*Colts Colours were awarded to* : S. Gamester (1965), P. Brown, P. Beasley, Cavey, and Thorne.

*Other members of the team* : Barrett, Dainty, Chamberlain, Helliwell, Jarman, Turner and Worley.

### Averages

#### *Batting (qualification 50 runs)*

	<i>Inns.</i>	<i>N.O.</i>	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Highest</i>	<i>Average</i>
Gamester	10	1	210	55	23.3
Cavey ....	10	0	155	51	15.5
Thorne ....	10	0	140	38	14.0
Brown ....	9	1	100	28	12.5
Chamberlain	9	2	57	27	8.1

#### *Bowling (qualification 6 wickets)*

	<i>Overs</i>	<i>Maidens</i>	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Wkts.</i>	<i>Average</i>
Gamester....	79	23	162	24	6.7
Beasley ....	74	22	121	14	8.9
Jarman ....	36	13	93	8	11.6
Thorne ....	39	17	72	6	12.0

*Also* : Brown 5 for 29 and Helliwell 5 for 86.

## Junior Colts

This was a very disappointing season from the point of view of results : five defeats, two draws and a solitary victory—against Borlase School early in the term.

The team's weaknesses were apparent from the start. The bowling lacked penetration, particularly if the opposition got settled in ; while the batsmen too frequently failed through lack of concentration and confidence, rather than lack of ability.

So much is on the debit side. To balance this it must be said that the team always enjoyed the cricket, which is, after all, the most important aspect of the season. And, despite the evidence of the results, some very good cricket was played. Ikin must be mentioned before anybody else. His captaincy sometimes lacked certainty and imagination ; but his batting was the most promising I have seen for a boy of this age for many years. His range of strokes is extremely wide and, despite his slight build he has a surprising strength which, together with good timing, brought him many runs this season.

Newton, John, Floyd and Clift always promised well but failed to settle in to make big scores, though Newton finished the season with a flourish against Tiffin School. The last two mentioned were in their first year in school ; the general youthfulness of the side augurs well for next season.

Of the bowlers Glenister was the most dangerous. Ikin, Newton, Vernon, Costello and Clift all bowled accurately throughout, but I hope they will learn to vary their deliveries more in future. Parkins kept wicket in quite determined style.

Our thanks to the various masters who umpired through the season, especially to Mr. Copson who showed great interest in the team's progress.

A.P.-J.

## GAMES REPORTS

### TENNIS

This season has been one of mixed fortunes for the 1st VI. After an encouraging start was made, albeit against somewhat weak opponents, a decline set in, and the team found it difficult to recapture its winning form. However, the fixture list was made to accommodate a much stronger side than the school can at present field, and this must be taken into account when assessing the team's achievement this summer.

There has certainly been a considerable improvement on last year's performances, and the matches have been much more keenly contested this season ; the result often in the balance until the last rubber.

A. L. Turmezei and I. Belsham played as the regular first pair and were awarded their colours towards the end of term. Although of differing temperament, they managed to combine quite successfully. Turmezei distinguished himself by a powerful service and strong overhead game and a prodigious appetite for cream cakes at tea. Belsham has much improved since last year and was a steady and consistent player this year. A stylish player, one feels that his game could be improved if he put more power into his shots. C. East and Butler formed the second pair, and although they had not played together before, they proved a formidable pair. Butler is another who has matured since last year, and his net play and powerful overhead play were particularly impressive. Beasley and Wilson were the third pair, although Simons and Johnson played intermittently through the season. Although not too successful, Beasley and Wilson fought hard for every point and never gave in without a struggle. Beasley, especially, has performed much valuable service for the first and second VI in the last three years. An accomplished badminton player, Wilson should be a valuable asset in next year's team. Special mention must be made here of Simons and Johnson who made their debut this year for the first six. Although only in the third form, and relatively inexperienced in match conditions, they played admirably well, and in a match against Newland Park, decided the result in favour of the school.

In conclusion, as I am leaving, I should like to offer my personal thanks to Mr. Harry Clark and Mr. R. Wilson for all they have done to help me in my tennis career in the school. They have also earned the sincere thanks of the team for all their efforts this season.

Best wishes to the team in the future.

C. EAST.

## ATHLETICS

It has been claimed that there was a shortage of track and field fixtures this term. But these demands are made by people who underestimate the difficulties of organising such events. A well organised athletics match requires much previous labour, and during the summer term, both staff and students are pre-occupied with examinations,—either fearing their rapid advance, or being horrified during inevitable post-mortems.

However, fewer matches have their advantages and all members of the team competed with great enthusiasm, doubtless encouraged by exhortations of boarders and other loyal supporters of the team. A strong senior team, which won all the inter-school matches in its section, did not compensate for the weakness of the junior teams. This meant that although the seniors often outclassed their opponents, the team lost the match because of the comparative strength of opposing junior teams.

The more prominent individuals in the team were undoubtedly A. J. Frankland and R. Purry. Frankland broke school records in the long jump and triple jump, and was a very able competitor in the shot-put. Purry smashed the old high jump record by jumping five feet nine inches.

There were not many outstanding track athletics in comparison with previous years, although D. J. Gatland's sprinting was extremely consistent, and he could always be relied upon to do his best, in contrast with many of the prima donnas of the running track. Arnison's strength and courage meant many outstanding performances in the mile and half mile. The strong quarter miler, R. Waller will prove to be a valuable asset to the team when he enters the senior age group. A boy who can do a 53 sec. "quarter" without any training obviously has great potential for the future.

In conclusion members of the team would like to thank the senior boys and members of staff who officiated in the school matches, and in particular J. Williams, Esq., for his expert coaching.

*Colours were awarded to :* A. J. Frankland, D. J. Gatland, J. W. Hume, M. F. Morrison, and R. Purry.

J. W. HUME.

## ROWING

This season has probably been the most successful one in the whole history of the Boat Club since its foundation as a school sport.

With its restricted clinker four, which the club has now had for two seasons, the first crew entered a total of six regattas. The second and third fours combined after the Head of River races, to form the second eight which rowed in three events. In the last regatta, the school was represented by a fourth four, which although beaten in its heat finished four lengths ahead of another crew.

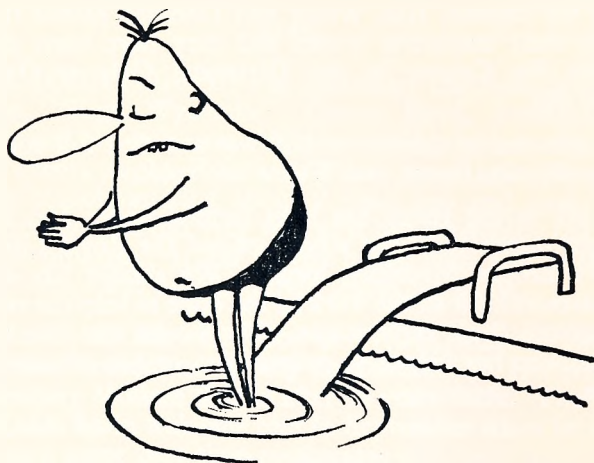
The first four was very ably coached by Mr. J. E. Dormer, while Mr. MacTavish and Mr. Blyth coached the second eight and the fourth. This season's regattas have again been very pleasant occasions with parents and staff supporting all the events, and at Marlow Regatta, we were very pleased to see the headmaster. The highlight of the season was when the first four won their event at the Reading Amateur regatta, beating in the final, King's College School, Wimbledon and Reading University.

It is with deep regret that the boat club has to lose Mr. MacTavish after four years, but it is fitting that the club should have achieved success in his last season. Mr. MacTavish leaves the club in the capable hands of Mr. Blyth, who will be coaching crews to compete against crews from the former's new school in Reading.

R. P. HELYAR.



## SWIMMING



With the arrival this year of the new head of the P.E. Department, Mr. Learmonth, the swimming club received new life. The club was formed to provide a basis from which a team could be picked. Those wishing to enter the club had to reach a somewhat generous time standard in any stroke. Those who completed the required distance in a suitable time were then permitted to attend the training sessions during lunch hours and after school.

Despite rather sparse attendance at these sessions a team was eventually picked to represent the school in three age groups, and despite numerous cancellations, four inter-school matches were arranged. The result of the matches against St. Nicholas and Watford Grammar Schools appear, at first sight, disappointing. It must, however, be noted that the seniors swam well and against St. Nicholas took maximum points and also that all the intermediates have at least one more year in this age group. The weakness definitely lay in the juniors who, unfortunately, never really looked like winning any event.

The result of the match against the Haberdashers Ask's School does not really deserve mention as I do not think that we could have lost more points if we had tried. Our only Saturday match was a welcome change when we beat St. George's School despite keen opposition.

The great thrill of the season was in the District Schools Gala where we retained the boys' trophy for the second year in succession by beating our old rivals Sir William Borlase School. We took first and second places in all senior events to ensure victory. As a result of this most of the intermediates and all the

seniors were asked to represent the district in the County Gala held at Slough on July 1st. Outstanding performances in this gala by the captain, Hill, Waller and Lishman gained them first place in their respective events and they have been chosen to represent the County in the Divisional Gala at Oxford on October 8th.

At the end of the season Hill was awarded full colours and the vice-captain, Purry, and Waller half colours.

A life saving group has been formed under Mr. Maynard and eight members of the school gained the Royal Life Saving Society's Bronze Medallion award. We should like to thank Mr. Learmonth for all the work he has done to help the swimming club through these early stages. We should also like to thank everyone who has helped to prepare for, or has officiated at our matches.

P. G. JONES.

## SHOOTING

The results of the Country Life Competition (.22) finally came through and it was found that the first VIII were third in their class (Hedgeland scoring 96) and the second team won their competition. There were creditable results, but they could so easily have been that little bit better so as to secure a "double first".

In June, the Oxfordshire Schools cup (.303) was competed for and the First VIII managed only fourth place as opposed to winning it in 1965. The competition was shot in atrocious conditions, rain all day, but good scores were obtained by W. J. Seymour and J. Reid.

The school individual competition is nearly completed, with C. J. Andrew at present in the lead with a total of 190 out of 205, and he has an excellent chance of winning. However, there are two or three others who can just overcome this very good total if conditions are suitable.

Now, of course, everyone connected with shooting is preparing for the biggest event of the year, the Ashburton and associated competitions; and hoping to reach the target of 500 points out of 560 for the first time. However, the ninth man and cadet pair teams entered by the R.G.S. seem to be suffering because of the unwillingness of some to make themselves available for these important competitions.

Once again our thanks are extended to Mr. Cooper, Mr. Burnell (and companion) for ferrying us to Bisley, Pirbright and Otmoor ranges; all these trips, with few exceptions, going without any extraordinary incidents.

W. J. SEYMOUR.

## OLD BOYS' NOTES

### Staff

- MR. J. E. JOHN (1918-32) was visited by the Hon. Sec. at his home, "High Wycombe", Gower Road, Swansea. Mr. John and his wife have the most vivid memories for names and events at the R.G.S. so many years ago. He retired from schoolmastering about 9 years ago and took up accountancy. He did very well at it but bronchitis put a stop to his progress. It has played havoc with him during the last 3 years and now he rarely leaves his home.
- MR. J. A. TUCKER. Old Boy (1917-24), Master (1944-50), has just retired as deputy-headmaster of Hatters Lane Secondary Modern School after 16 years there. The R.G.S. will once again welcome him in September when he returns to teach some part-time mathematics.

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### Old Boys

- D. G. ALLSOP (1960-65) has just joined the Royal Navy and is training at H.M.S. Fishgard, Torpoint, Cornwall.
- R. C. ASHBY (1950-54) was guest player on the Harlequins' Pretoria Rugby tour and a great success. Also on the tour and playing as a forward was M. J. MASON (1956-64).
- R. G. ASHFORD (1941-47) has moved to 183 Karepa Street, Brooklyn, Wellington, New Zealand. He would like to meet other Old Boys out there but regrets that few seem to come to "windy Wellington".
- P. G. AYRES (1957-62) obtained a 1st in Botany at Cambridge and is now going to Reading University as a Research Demonstrator. He hopes to work for a research degree in plant diseases. N. H. FREEMAN (1954-62) obtained a 1st in Psychology and R. A. CLEGG (1956-63) an Upper Second in Biochemistry. The Biology Department at the R.G.S. is particularly cheered by their success.
- J. BOVINGDON (1957-61), an Artificer Apprentice in the Royal Navy continues to do well. He has just passed out from H.M.S. Caledonia and is now training at sea. He will complete his course in about a year and be rated Petty Officer. He will then have the full authority of a Senior rating in the Fleet. He gained excellent grades in his examinations and has played Rugby at Divisional level.

- A. W. CUBBAGE (1891-6) heard the broadcast on Grammar Schools in which the R.G.S. took part and just had to write to the Headmaster. A. W. Cubbage was a Foundation Scholarship Day Boy under Mr. Peachell. He obtained his scholarship from Priory Road Board School, paying 2d. a week to the Headmaster on Monday mornings. He feels very indebted to both Schools for the foundation they gave him. He gained from the R.G.S. a sense of true values and moreover appreciation. He retired at 65, after a life mainly connected with engineering and now at 83 is enjoying the countryside and his treasured collection of books and his music. His sense of serenity he attributes to what was instilled into him in his later school years and he pays great tribute to Mr. Peachell.
- G. F. CUTLER (1958-66), K. N. SIMONS (1958-66) and K. STENNING (1959-66) have been impressed and thrilled by what they saw being done in Israel. They have been working on a communal farm—a Kibbutz.
- A. DODGSON (1913-18) met R. E. DOUGLAS (1913-18) at the Annual Dinner and after so many years the talk was fast and furious. They played in the cricket 1st XI in 1918. Since his retirement from teaching Allan Dodgson has been around. He spent last winter in Bangkok and Thailand staying with his married daughter. He hopes to visit another daughter in Canada too and go through to Vancouver and San Francisco where some of his old pupils are waiting to welcome him.
- J. J. ELLERTON (1957-62) wrote from 447, Notre Dame, Apt. 2, St. Lambert, P. Quebec to make his contribution to Mr. Beeson. He was at the time doing a geological survey for the Ontario Government.
- C. P. K. ENGLISH (1961-62) has just completed the honours course in Natural Sciences at Trinity College, Dublin. He specialised in Geology.
- P. R. FLETCHER (1960-62). His tour of duty on Ocean Weather Ships is now coming to an end. He takes 2 months leave and then proceeds to training school for a 17 weeks forecasting course. J. H. PHILPOTT (1954-60) is now in Aden—still with the Met. Office.
- R. P. H. GREEN (1953-61) is doing a B.Litt. at Balliol. His subject is Early Latin Christian Poetry with special reference to Paulinus.
- S. E. HANDS (1918-20), chairman of the Wycombe furniture firm of William Hands & Sons Ltd., which celebrated 60 years of progress this year, is also Hon. Treasurer of the

Royal Philatelic Society. He was recently awarded a bronze-silver medal for his collection of Palestine at the International Stamp Exhibition in Washington, U.S.A. This term a cup he gave to the School for Philately was won for the first time in a competition held on Speech Day.

- A. HANEBECK (1961-65) has returned from 6 months at Vienna University with a Diploma in German and has joined an Export Merchant firm.
- C. M. HOOD (1959-65) left the R.G.S. last Christmas after gaining a place at Cambridge. For 3 months he worked in a car-body repair factory and then spent another 3 months in Morocco, near Tangier. An English family runs a camp-site there and Hood helped them—he did everything from painting the fabric to serving in the bar.
- D. N. HUBBLE (1954-61) wrote to Mr. Hett, from Philadelphia, U.S.A. where he is working at a Boeing plant. When he arrived there he was provided with a "Big Brother" to watch over him while he settled into the aerodynamics department. He brought a new car and this proved quite an experience. He decided on a new 1966 Chevrolet Corvair Monza and then discovered that further decisions had to be made. It has 3 possible engines, 3 types of transmission and a multitude of colour schemes and a list of accessories as long as your arm. Even then you aren't finished—the sale of new cars is somewhat similar to an Arab market. You move around the dealers to find who will sell it to you the cheapest. He found his job boring at the time of writing. Engineers in the U.S.A. don't seem to have an enquiring mind. They will use figures of which they do not know the derivation and they probably don't even know the units. Hubble has been discouraged from asking questions. He has been told he doesn't need to know the answers to do the work and anyway no one has the time or inclination to give the answers. Hubble doesn't care for this.
- J. F. R. JANES (1954-61) and Helena are doing very well in California, enjoying their work, having a wonderful time by all accounts raking in the "lolly". E. H. JANES (1955-63) is at the Oxford School of Architecture and has played a lot of hockey for the county. R. A. JANES (1958-65) is going to Birmingham University in October to read Law. At the moment he is out in France doing a six-months' intensive French course at the University of Poitiers.

G. D. B. JONES (1947-54). Dr. Barri Jones, now lecturing at Manchester University, has just been elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, with its H.Q. at Burlington House. He has also been proposed and elected on to the Council of the Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies. He leads a busy life.

A. T. LUDGATE (1956-62) is to be congratulated on being placed in the Wrangler Class in Part II of the Cambridge Maths. Tripos. C. J. MYERSCOUGH (1957-64) has again done outstandingly well in the Maths. Tripos Part I B, being once more top of the list by a handsome margin. He wrote to give news of himself and the other 2 Old Boys at Churchill College. M. ASHBURNER (1953-61) is now President of the Postgraduate Common Room. C. H. SWORN (1958-65) obtained a 1st in Natural Sciences Part IA and has been awarded a Prize Scholarship by the College for 1966/67 and retrospectively for 1965/66. The College hopes that this will be recorded amongst the School successes in the same way as are Entrance awards.

Myerscough has plunged into College politics ; being on the Catering and Buttery Sub-committee. He is now Captain of croquet and is also busy gingering up the Archimedeans, the Univ. Maths. Society. Soon after writing he was off to the U.S.A. to see his sister who for the last year has been the first ever woman Miller fellow in astrophysics at the University of California, Berkeley.

E. J. MACFARLANE (1942-50). We congratulate him on his appointment to the Headmastership of Letchworth Grammar School. He gained a 1st Class Honours Degree in English at University.

C. U. MOISEY (1958-60). Dr. Moisey continues to work in Leeds Infirmary as a Casualty Officer at the Senior Home Officer Grade. He is hoping to go into surgery. His brother F. R. MOISEY (1958-64) is doing a years' practical farming on a farm outside Leeds.

P. J. MOORES (1957-65) won the British University Sports Federation Tennis Singles Championship at Scarborough in July.

C. J. PACKMAN (1957-64) is at the end of his second year at Merton College, Oxford. His main activity apart from work has been sailing. He is on the committee of the Oxford University Yacht Club and at the end of last term was

selected to sail in the "Varsity" match against Cambridge—this carries a "half-blue". He is also going with the Yacht Club team to North Germany and Denmark. His brother G. R. PACKMAN (1953–60) became a father in the autumn and is doing well in local government.

P. B. PETTITT (1940–46) has just been appointed manager of Claude Fenton (Sales) Ltd. of Reading. He was formerly with Broom and Wade Ltd. for 15 years and for the last ten years was their South Midlands district manager.

P. I. F. THOMAS (1956–61) gained an upper 2nd Class Honours in his Diploma of Technology (Engineering). He studied at Brunel College and did his industrial training with the Metal Box Co. Ltd.

P. J. THOMPSON (1952–61). We were distressed to hear of his very serious injuries in a motoring accident last term at Oxford. He is now making a slow but steady recovery at the Radcliffe Infirmary and has had to give up his plans to join the Hannibal Alpine Expedition—the sort of activity in which he revels.

M. E. J. WADSWORTH (1953–60) has left Guy's Hospital where he was doing research into Social Medecine. He has progressed to Edinburgh University where he is a Research Fellow and honorary lecturer in Social Medecine.

G. P. M. WALKER (1953–60) has just been appointed Assistant Librarian at the University of Kent. In July he completed his Librarianship Diploma at Sheffield University after his year at the Bodleian and his 3 years at Cambridge. Recently he toured libraries behind the Iron Curtain and wrote a short thesis on their techniques. He is now going to earn some real money—and well deserved too.

W. D. WARDE (1953–62) is now working in the statistics Department of Florida State University, Tallahassee, for a Master's Degree in Statistics and hopes to carry on for a doctorate. He find this part of the State very interesting. He has sampled the famous night life of New Orleans and has been further south into the State of Florida proper to find the sun. Tallahassee is in the northern part, which is generally disowned by the rest of Florida and is classed as part of South Georgia, both geologically, in climate and in the outlook of the people. When he wrote, he was preparing to go on a trip to Nassau, sponsored by the University.

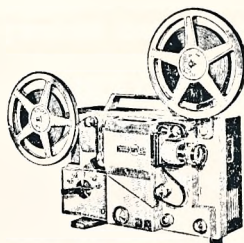
M. R. D. YORKE (1961-65) has just got himself an interesting holiday job. He is a courier showing a group of American schoolgirls around Europe. Yorke reviews his 1st year doing Modern Language at Cambridge with mixed feelings. He has found so much that is unreal in the social and academic life of the University. Fortunately he finds life at his College, Downing, a delight. Last term he went over to Norwich University to visit another Modern Linguist E. A. THOMSON (1957-64) who is doing European Studies there and living a full life. Thomson plans a visit to Czechoslovakia this summer.

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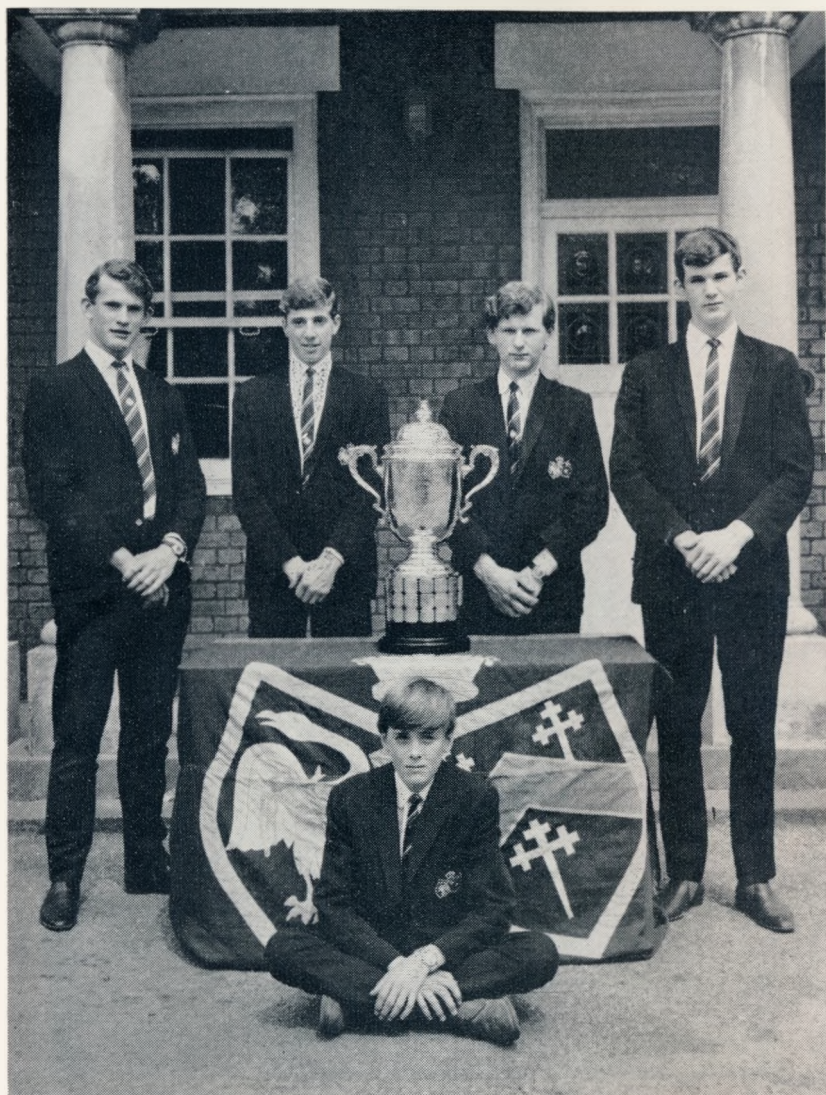
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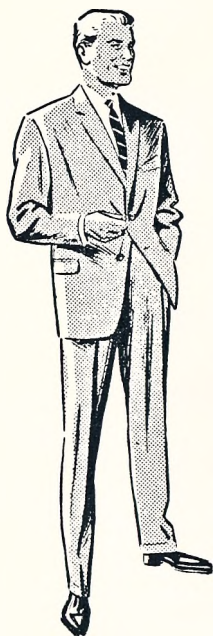
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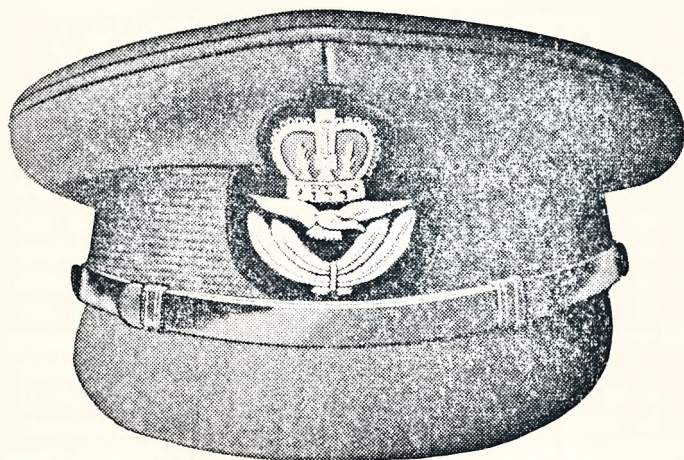
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