

ABINGDONIAN

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Editorial

One could be more conscious of the importance of recent events in the wide world than we are; and doubtless many of our readers are expecting us to comment on Czechoslovakia, Newsom, Biafra, Persian earthquakes or (possibly) Vietnam and student violence. But would they seriously expect us to say anything that has not already been said many times by far more able pens? For that reason, retiring to our ivory tower and locking the door, we are writing about school magazines—possibly an unwise course at the best of times; but at a time of experiment and change we want to raise some questions about school magazines, even if we cannot answer them; and we want what we are trying to do, and why, to be understood. Of the two basic kinds of school magazine—literary and chronicle—the latter, fairly obviously, is the traditional. Exclusively. This is our traditional 'as it is many others' (though it is a more recent tradition than is often thought), but it is being challenged today more and more. We must ask ourselves why.

Consider for a moment the job of a school editor. Many readers will be surprised to find that in any other field would be regarded as a subeditor's job—getting material together, cutting it to size, bringing it into line with such rules as you may or may not have, pushing it through the press—and also adding a termly collection of innocuous platitudes to go underneath the reports of prefects, plus the occasional equally platitudinous report on, say, prizegiving. Such a magazine is, in two words, a shattering bore: dull to write, dull to look at, and dull to read.

Sometimes or later someone has a fit and swears to reform it or burst it. Some of them burst; others make a mess of the whole thing and then leave. The trouble is that unless you are sure of what you want your end-product to be like, it will turn out like nothing on earth. All too often we have the problems tackled in two stock ways. Either a more or less

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effective redressing temporarily conceals that neither the product nor attitude towards it has changed at all; or the magazine abandons or cuts chronicling activities and presents bewildered parents, outraged Old Bo and scornful outsiders—that impossible combination all of whom we have to cater for—with an often incoherent collection of childish poems; ugly, incompetent drawings. Quite apart from the fact that this low standard not raises the standards, to fail to chronicle completely the life of school is to cheat the future historian of his raw material—which is inexcusable.

We accept, then, our role as the School's chronicle. 'Gad!' you will (misquoting Carlyle), 'You'd better!' But the question is, what next? Having reached this stage, we cannot stop: there are no laurels to rest on nor can we beat a retreat. But there is more to the way forward than merely doing the same as always only slightly better. One must of course be accurate and thorough, and we believe we are reasonably so. The freedom from competence to excellence lies in the application of imagination in the ability not only to break new ground but also to adopt a detached critical view of things. Within the narrow traditionalist framework provided by those vital but not outstanding pages in the middle parts of the magazine, we are trying to create something new, something worthwhile—something to get us out of a rut.

One of the several very good reasons for not including Literary Etc was that we already have a flourishing 'literary' magazine, Etc, which has a voluntary circulation (as opposed to the automatic sales of the magazine) of about 400. Always in the past it has been a duplicate collection of necessarily unrelated pieces of poetry and prose, appearing once a year to be flogged to long-suffering parents on Founder's Day. Clearly the situation was unsatisfactory, and when with the advent of offset-litho it became economically possible to print the magazine (an immeasurably improving its appearance), this was leapt at. At the same time the editors decided to publish at least once a term and to make it more of a political animal, hoping thereby to bring the magazine to life, provide continuity and to fill the need for a topical, creative magazine within the School. The idea was that it should not be recognisable as School Magazine at all, but as a magazine produced by young people for their contemporaries. The objections to this plan were that without Founder's Day in two terms of the year, there would not be a market for 400 copies, and to print less is simply not economic. The first step was a rather half-hearted attempt to sell the thing to other schools; which of course didn't buy it. Who, after all, except a fool (or a parent on Founder's Day) would pay two shillings for a production which has nothing to do with him and is produced by perfect strangers essentially for their amusement? But if Etc could be made a magazine of all nearby schools suddenly a vast prospect of exciting possibilities opened up, with new views and dreams of something entirely new and unconventional, breaking down barriers, and giving thousands of people, if not a voice, at least a piece they can shout through if they want to. It is too early yet to say whether the scheme will get off the ground—it needs at the outset the support of a lot of possibly (and rightly) cautious Heads—but should it do so, it then needs enthusiastic work from a great many people, and that is perhaps as difficult to find as it is to find genius—though as has been observed, genius is above all the product of hard work. The same applies to our return to our original topic—goes for a good school magazine.

was after we had closed this issue of the magazine and sent it to the printers that we heard of the sudden death, on Sunday 22 September, of Mrs Frances Kitching. Even now the sense of shock cannot be overcome; it quite simply, we are left with a void in the musical life of the town and school which nothing can fill. Anyone who has ever come into contact with the vigorous and exciting musicmaking in Abingdon will know that it was, and always will be, centred on the name of Kitching. Far abler pens than mine have recorded her widely-known work in the field of Handel operas, her magnificent achievements with the Abingdon Holiday Orchestra, the Junior Music School and the 'How to Practise' courses, and for all these, members of the School have cause to be grateful to her. More recently she had been teaching nearly full time at the School, quite apart from all her other work; anyone who heard the superbly confident playing of her younger pupils in a Founder's Day concert last term will realise the scale of her achievement in this sphere. What we will remember, and what cannot die, is the use of aim and creation she imparted to all who came into contact with her, not just her formal pupils. Her energy, enthusiasm and interest in everyone, from the future professional violinist to the first former just turning one end of the instrument from another, were boundless. Generations of Directors of Music who depended on her capacity for organisation and unstinting extra work as well as her unique teaching abilities, and hundreds of her pupils, will testify that to be able to say 'I knew and worked with Frances Kitching' is a privilege and honour for which we can only be grateful.

The funeral took place privately on 26 September; and at a memorial service on 5 October organised by the School, an orchestra of Frances Kitching's friends and pupils played a Chacony by Purcell, and a similar choir sang a chorus from Handel's Messiah:

'Their sound is gone out into all lands, and their words unto the end of the world.'

the memory be green

As, rightly, the RAF's day when the Queen visited Abingdon on the occasion of the jubilee celebrations on 14 June. But the School turned out and made a brave show as it lined Bath Street.

We were sorry to hear of the serious illness of Alderman Freeman, the former member of the Governing Body, and we hope that by the time these lines appear he will once again be fighting fit.

We congratulate Mr Robert de la Mare, so lately a member of the Governors, on the award of the OBE in the Birthday Honours. His services to the School are not specifically mentioned, but we should like to think they helped.

On 3 July we celebrated the ninetieth birthday of Mr William Rudd, former teacher at the School from 1904 to 1947, who is now living in retirement on the grounds of Lacies Court. The Head of School House, David Hunt, the youngest boy, Malcolm Waterfall, conveyed to him the School's wishes, good wishes we heartily endorsed by sending our team of congratulations to visit Mr and Mrs Rudd—the results of which can be seen

in the centre pages of this issue. Late the same week Mr Rudd attended a Assembly in his honour.

We were shocked to learn at the beginning of August of the death after very short illness of Mr Harry Milligan, who had been the School Photographer for so many years. In a letter to the North Berks Herald 15 August the Headmaster wrote:

'The position of a school photographer is never an easy one for gam secretaries (bless them!) are often demanding, sometimes inconsiderate. But whatever the demands that were made upon him Mr Milligan never let his quiet courtesy. He served the School well and we join with the many people of Abingdon who will remember him gratefully and affectionately.

'It may be worth putting on record that a very kindly pen-picture of him appeared some little time ago in the Sunday Times Colour Supplement, written by an Old Abingdonian, Michael Bateman, who is now working in Fleet Street.'

Changes of staff are featured elsewhere, but we do want to say here how much we shall miss our Chaplain, the Rev David Street. In sending him the School's best wishes we welcome his successor, the Rev Peter Osborne whom we were pleased to see at many end-of-term functions.

Congratulations to proud parents: Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Howard (second daughter, Joanne Mary Louise, 15 June); Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Leake (a first child, Ian Richard Hamilton, 12 July); and Mr and Mrs Hugh Sawbridge (a first child, Julia Mary, 5 July).

The wedding took place in the School Chapel on 20 July of Mary, eldest daughter of the Headmaster and the late Mrs Cobban, and Mr Margaret Gostelow. The ceremony was performed by the Rev Gerald Phizacker former Chaplain of the School, and music was provided by a choir under Mr Antony le Fleming, who composed the Wedding March, played himself. Nearly 250 guests then attended the reception, held in the grounds of Lacies Court, at which Mr Donald McLachlan proposed the health to the bride and groom.

On another page will be found a photo to commemorate this, the wedding of a Headmaster's daughter to take place in the Chapel. With our warm good wishes to Mr and Mrs Gostelow as they drive across Europe to the Lebanon where Mr Gostelow holds an appointment in an American School in Beirut.

More wedding bells followed on 13 August, this time in Oxford where Judith, daughter of Mr and Mrs DO Willis, was married to Nigel Payne, who until July was senior tutor in School House. To Mr and Mrs Payne too our sincere good wishes as they start their married life in Steventon, a village that seems to hold some sort of attraction for schoolmasters.

We congratulate also Miss Diana Cobban on her engagement to Andrew Sheridan May.

The Headmaster had the honour, once again, of being invited to the Royal Garden Party on 23 July with his daughters Diana and Hilary.

It was with mixed feelings that we heard of the selection of the Alan Davies for appointment as one of the Home Mission Secretaries to the Methodist Conference, for we shall not forget that it was largely due to him that we were able to establish our working arrangements with the Methodist Church. Our thoughts will go with him and Mrs Davies as he takes up his appointment next year.

We are grateful to two parents who have given substantial sums to

Dolgoed Fund (thirty and fifty pounds respectively), and to several who have given money to the Library which has enabled us to buy books we could not normally afford.

Last term, we noted an interesting article by the indefatigable Mr Hammond on 'Berkshire—its clocks and clockmakers' in the June issue of Thames Valley Countryside; and we were amused to see that Mr Woolough, after writing an article for the School Science Review in March, replied to it himself in the June issue. And one of HM's articles in the Country Churchman was recently reprinted in the Christian Science Monitor.

We look forward to welcoming in October two students from Westminster College, Geoffrey Northin (geography and French) and Christopher Will (history and economics).

It is doubtless symptomatic of modern society that having put ourselves in a position where we could no longer call this part of the magazine by its uninspiring name of School Notes, we were totally unable to find a satisfactory alternative. Probably we shall end up trying a new one each term, which will make life interesting for everyone.

One suggestion was The Blunder Column, or that, failing that, we should add our fearless, trendsetting column with a list of all our mistakes, including the missing school prefect; however, modesty prevailed, and corrections will be found in a discreet corner at the other end of the magazine. In general the reception we got was favourable, the commonest objection being 'About time too', and the commonest complaint being the smallness of the type. Well, there's nothing we can afford to do about that, but we do suggest that a brief comparison will show that this type is in fact larger than that in the old layout.

It's common knowledge, or it ought to be, that this term marks the centenary of the Society's twentieth anniversary, and to mark this we shall be producing a SUPPLEMENT, for which the short one in this term's issue is held out, so to speak. If anyone has any material, photos, or reminiscences of the Society, we shall be very glad to hear from him. All material received will be promptly copied and returned. This term also marks the centenary of the Society's twenty-first, and the twentieth of the Joint Club, the Field Club, the Chess Club and the Playreading Society; and the tenth anniversaries of the St Edmund Society, the Modern Languages Society, the Jazz Club, and the Building Club.

Visitors to the School last term included representatives of the Nuffield Mathematics Project (Miss Tobias, 6 June) and of the Cambridge Classics Project (Miss Story, 10 June); and Bishop George Ambo of New Guinea, England for the Lambeth Conference, who talked to the fourth forms in the afternoon of 28 June.

We congratulate Andrew Leaver who at the end of his first year at New College, Oxford, has been awarded an Open Exhibition in English; also John Parry on being awarded the prize for Greek Reading in the annual competition of the Oxford Classical Association; and in a slightly different way David Steele and Jon Wheatcroft on successfully completing, in ten days, their ambition to cycle the 974 miles from Land's End to Holywell Groats—a project amply covered in the Oxford Mail.

Mostly let us salute our Russian party, who, in Moscow during the Czech crisis, behaved admirably in testing circumstances. All of them came back; even managed to elude the KGB for long enough to write an article for the School.

From the Headmaster

Every term has its own individual flavour. Remembering as we do how often the First Eleven was frustrated by bad weather, and with the disappointing 'A' level results fresh in our minds, we might well feel like writing off the Summer Term of 1968. But it had its moments. I can thin back to that happy occasion at the beginning of the term when the new tennis courts were opened with an exhibition game in which John Nichol, just home from Hawaii, put up such a gallant show against Stephen Woodley. The singing of the Kenyon College choir still rings in our ears. W.A.R.'s birthday party was a quite unique gathering. Founder's Day passed off very happily, very smoothly—and it is quite clear that the experiment of laying on lunch in the marquee proved itself. I have more private memories too—of being 'shod' as guest of honour at the Hungerford Hock-tide Feast, of having to chair a press conference in Fleet Street, of the marriage of a daughter just after we broke up, of the engagement of my second daughter.

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The visit of the gentlemen (and ladies) of the Press was a stimulating experience. The object of the exercise was to give them some idea what made an ordinary direct-grant school tick, against the day when the D system became news. If they learned nothing else, they at any rate realised that we encourage a reasonable freedom of speech among our seniors. In fact they learned a lot more, as an article in *The Times* of 4 July indicated. If any parent or Old Boy missed it, I can let him have an offprint if he will send me a stamped, addressed envelope.

* * * *

One of the disadvantages of being such a closely-knit community (as we still are, in spite of our size) is that when masters leave us, then it is the parting of friends as well as of colleagues. I must not repeat what is said elsewhere about the current changes in the Masters' Common Room. It would be all wrong if I did not say how grateful I am personally to Mr Chaplain, David Street, for all that he has done for the School and for me during his stint at Abingdon. And there is one internal change to be recorded. Mr Gray, who has looked after the School Tennis Club for many years, has decided that the time has come to hand his racquet office to Mr Moore. If you want a visible memorial of Mr Gray's work, you need look no farther than the new hard tennis courts, for which he had sweated and schemed. But far more important, though less tangible, is the fact that so many hundreds of Old Boys must owe their introduction to serious tennis to Mr Gray's devotion and skill. I speak for them as well as myself in thanking him for what he has done.

* * * *

I heard Professor Donnison say recently that whenever he visited a public school he found cranes and bull-dozers at work. Here at Abingdon our good friends Messrs Amey are at this moment completing the job of levelling and making good the area surrounding the Music School. This will provide room for a new range of cycle-racks, to replace those which are to be demolished to make way for the Biology Block. Work on this project, for which we have planned so carefully, waited so long, should start any day now. And during the holidays the old coke boiler in School House, which has broken the hearts (and the backs) of so many generations

of house-prefects, has been replaced by an oil-fired machine. At the same time the old coke-hold has been converted into a compact pantry for the use of senior members of the house. Next on the list will come the refurbishing of the gymnasium—but that is looking ahead.

* * * *

This term the winds of change blow open two more windows. The virtual abolition of the School cap and the extension of mufti privilege to the whole of the sixth form will present a challenge to those concerned to show that they can use their new freedom properly. And the introduction of two 'long-leave weekends', in addition to half-term, will help to break down still further that barrier between school and home which is a legitimate point of criticism of the boarding system. Educationally too we can look forward to further progress. From September, 1969, we are planning to introduce the combined subject of Physical Science into the lower Sixth Form as an alternative to the two traditional sciences. A paper discussing the implications of this in detail will shortly be available.

* * * *

In spite of the well-nigh unanimous chorus of disapproval which greeted the First Report of the Public Schools Commission, it is to be hoped that it will at any rate provide a basis for positive discussion, based on educational rather than doctrinaire grounds, and will not just be quietly geon-holed. It is a pity, of course, that the Commission was precluded by its initial terms of reference from considering the wealth of experience in co-operation with the state system which the direct-grant schools could have provided. It is for this reason that the second stage of the Commission's work, in which it is going to deal with the independent day schools and the DG schools, may prove the more interesting and significant. If I am to declare my faith, I am quite confident that a way will be found by which the DG School can continue to make a real contribution to the national system of education under the New Covenant, without loss of integrity or of intellectual standard. The provisional agreements already made with our two main 'customers', Berkshire and Oxfordshire, are an encouraging pointer. But it does mean that for the foreseeable future a large amount of my time will have to be given up to DG 'politics' rather than to this particular school. If I don't fall down on my job here it will be largely due to the loyalty and devotion of Mr Willis. No headmaster could wish for a better duty.

* * * *

My life has its lesser compensations. Recently I have entertained, almost on successive Sundays, two of the editors of what must have been the best official magazine this School has ever produced, Roger Green, who has just returned after an extended stay in Greece, and John Sheard, who has been teaching for some years in Libya. Their visits impelled me to look again at my file of Octopus and it still reads very well. Some of the windfalls against which they tilted their lances have since been demolished. Others remain, to provide a target for their successors ten years later. My sixth former who feels inclined to try his hand at this sort of thing would get hold of a copy of Octopus (it ran to some 25 numbers in all). He will find there an example of one way in which it can be done. JMC

Ringin the changes

From the Marines to a Kibbutz in Jerusalem, from Liverpool Dockland to Abingdon School Chapel and now, like a Romany caravan, the Rev David Street has moved on again. In four years here he has built up respect among the boys for his sincerity and devotion to duty that will make us remember him for a long time to come. A School Chaplain does not have the advantage of examination results, good or bad, to use as a guideline; his work is not so clear-cut. But without being pious about it, David Street has, just by plain sincerity, humility and dedication, got his message through and made it mean something to so many of us. We wish him the best of luck as he pitches his caravan somewhere else in the secular field, where he so sincerely believes the true mission of the Church to belong.

The term beginning September 1965 brought us three new members of staff whose characters we will now miss greatly around the school as they take their leave of us. Mr Raymond Butt has contributed not only in the classroom, teaching physics, but also physically on the river. His determined enthusiasm acted as a driving stimulus to our oarsmen. We hope that his experience here will prove valuable in his new post at King's, Canterbury. The SMP brought Mr John Truran from Australia to teach Maths at Abingdon. He has made his mark in a range of activities varying from Dolgoed with the Field Club to helping regularly on the games field. His fresh character will be missed around the school and we wish him luck in his new appointment, back 'down-under' at Melbourne Church of England Grammar School. The third 1965 entrant to the Masters' Common Room was Mr Geoffrey Howard. Popular with his colleagues and pupils alike, Geoffrey Howard fulfilled an ambition in teaching Russian at Sixth Form level (after a tough twelve-month crash degree course). His wit and dedication as a form-master will be remembered throughout the school. Modern Languages, athletics and the RAF section made him a very busy man here; we feel Stamford would be very lucky to have him as one of all three. One year after Messrs Howard, Truran and Butt, Mr John Pryce arrived to help our flourishing SMP department. We wish him the best of luck as he progresses from n-dimension vector spaces to an appointment as lecturer at Aberdeen University. This past year, Mr Howard, from California, USA, has adapted to Mr Morelle's timetable with assurance. On his return to San Diego we thank him for fitting in so well here and for enduring being known as 'the other Mr Howard.' We hope he takes back pleasant memories of his year at Abingdon.

We welcome the flush of five new masters and hope they will settle and enjoy their stay here as much as their predecessors did. Mr AA Briggs is from St Edmund Hall and the Oxford Department of Education. He joins us in School House as junior House Tutor and in the Maths department. We also expect to see him on the badminton court and taking a part in choral activities. Mr JC Harcourt, educated at Exeter School and Edinburgh University, completed his training at Churchill College, Cambridge. During his hours he will be working in the Maths department; and we hope to see him in the field in athletics, tennis and hockey. Mr SC Boddy, who teaches Physics and is also a keen rugby player, comes to us from Westminster College, after the City of Oxford School and Reading University; and as a temporary replacement for Mr Geoffrey Howard we welcome Mr AD Williamson from Churchill College, Cambridge.

'Thy firmness makes my circle just, And makes me end, where I begun

Our new chaplain, the Rev Peter Osborn, has, like David Street, done a considerable amount of travelling. After collecting a first at Sydney University, he came to London and took the juvenile lead in several West End productions just before the War. The war led him on to a permanent commission in the Instructor Branch of the Royal Navy and, a few years ago, he trained for ordination at Cuddesdon. He joins us from the Assistant Chaplaincy of Geelong Grammar School. We wish him the best of luck as he takes on the difficult task of succeeding David Street.

'The rain is over and gone . . . '

. . . A belief, which however beautifully sung by the choir on Founder's Day, was unjustifiably optimistic. At one time the rain looked as if it was here to stay, but the Day, Saturday 13 July, though not in the finest tradition of Founder's Days, was passable. And, as always, it brought to a head the hard work of many many sweating minions and non-minions who somehow contrived to see that the service, the lunch in the marquee, the exhibitions, the activities and finally the concert not only happened, but were good enough to keep thousands of parents and Old Boys amused.

The preparations for this annual piece of exhibitionism are hard enough in a normal year; this year the revised timetable of the GCE made them practically impossible—something those who complained about there being less to look at and do would do well to bear in mind. In fact for about fifty boys Projects 'Week' amounted to a day and a half, hardly long enough to do anything worthwhile in. In his report on the period after the exams, Mr Randolph wrote:

'Despite this difficulty, Projects Week passed happily and profitably. As is now our custom, the bottom four forms worked to a special timetable that combined ordinary periods with others that were less formal, and lower sixth-formers busied themselves in the labs or, if Arts men, wrote papers on topics of their own choosing. Meanwhile, as the number sitting their exams in the Court Room grew smaller daily, those released joined in the preparations for Founder's Day, did sundry good works, or produced written projects.

'Of the week's many activities only a few can be detailed. 1Y rehearsed a play for Saturday, and 4Y, when not in normal periods, worked on the clearance of the Biology Block site. For the fourth successive year a party worked in the Jarn Mound Garden on Boars Hill, and a group of Larkhill boys showed equal public spirit by redecorating their own dayroom, thus saving the School quite a lot of money. But most enterprising of all were FJ Dobbs and Kim Richardson, who went to the Hardy Festival in Dorset . . . ' They in turn wrote:

'We were most surprised to get permission for two days' skiving . . . most of the lectures and plays were booked up already, so our choice was limited. We arrived in Weymouth at midnight on Wednesday (10 July). On Thursday we went to Maumbury Rings for the Children's Folk Dancing, which was simple, but effective because of the large numbers taking part. We then visited the exhibition of Hardy's MSS and drawings at the Dorset County Museum and a Wessex Artists' Exhibition, both of which were very interesting, and a carnival of Hardy's characters, which wasn't as good as it might have been. That evening we saw the dramatised Return Of The Native, which was extremely good.

'Next day we unexpectedly got tickets for a lecture by Lord David Cecil on Hardy the Storyteller, which turned out to be very good on Hardy generally. Last we visited the centre of the Festival, a series of excellent exhibitions at Kingston Maurwood Park, its beautiful setting so intimately connected with Hardy. We were only too sorry to have to leave that evening.'

'For men may come and men may go, but I go on for ever' . . . might well be the motto of Founder's Day. Each year its essential ingredients remain the same, its spirit is unchanged; while on the fringe mere mortals try to do something different. The parish church was more crowded than ever for the Service, so much so in fact that the overspill were unable to keep up with the hymns. But the anthem, My Beloved Spake (Purcell—setting of part of the Song of Solomon) was very much appreciated by all—all, that is, who could hear it. In his sermon the Archdeacon of Hereford spoke about the continual search for truth and the difficulty in holding to it in daily life. The lunch in the marquee was very popular—people were seen staggering forth until about three o'clock. By that time the three matches against OA sides were well under way: the first and third XIs and the tennis VI. The thirds on Upper Field provided the perfect excuse for those wanting to sit down, or unable to face another exhibition until, possibly, revived by tea; so they had a better audience than the firsts, a quarter of a mile away on War Memorial Field.

And, of course, the main exhibits were the labs, which really do seem to go on and on for ever: once you get inside the Science Block, you can't get out again until you've seen everything. The physics lab was the big attraction, with Icarus, a light-controlled vehicle, getting much attention. Other special features we saw were the Field Club's live mouse, the Beziers slide show (and local colour—inhabitants specially imported from France), the Scouts' aerial ropeway, and the CCF's strenuous obstacle course in the Dell. Worth seeing; it's difficult to imagine how funny people look trying to get over a twelve-foot wall . . .

But although these were thought by many to be 'a pleasant break with traditional exhibits' the real show stealer was the 1Y performance of Captain Scuttleboom's Treasure, a completely home-produced effort which was not only well worthwhile in itself, with energetic performances and careful direction, but filled the gap so many parents feel about that time in the afternoon. And during tea the band, and in particular a section of it playing Tijuana Brass music, brought practically everyone to Waste Court Field, thus providing certain individuals who shall be nameless with a happy hunting ground to flog Etc in . . . as a matter of interest some 250 copies went within the hour. The TASS tent, strategically sited on a junction of most of the main lines of communication, also did brisk business, though no statistics are forthcoming. After tea many left, leaving a hard core watching cricket, clearing up . . . or recuperating before the concert.

A list of the winners of the project prizes will be found in 'Another term'.

A tune on an ice-cream cornet'

Norman Evans

Norman Evans, a parent and ex-headmaster, has plenty of experience from which to write about school concerts. He is at present on the staff of Culham College, and he came to the Abbey Hall to hear the concert on Founder's Day:

End of school year concerts are often so unsatisfactory: pretentious, pompous, trivial, irrelevant, there's no end to wearying possibilities. The entertainment which, combined with the Service in St Helen's Church, lunch in the marquee and all the various activities, made up the Founder's Day celebrations, was refreshingly appropriate. It took the musical life of the School, both official and unofficial, so to speak, added some choral speaking, and arranged a programme to enable the audience to live that life vicariously for a couple of hours.

The concert began expectantly. There were extensive blank spaces in the programme for study. There was a remote self-effacing beginning to the National Anthem. And then an explosive beginning to the Overture in F minor by Malcolm Arnold's Little Suite No 2 got orchestra and audience going well and true. Time was strong and reliable so that the rich tone from the strings in the Ballad was a pleasing contrast, though patches were a bit heavy, and the ending a bit uncertain. Both were more enjoyable than the dance where the percussion section was a bit too anxious to establish an uncompromising rhythm.

Musically of course we were waiting for the First Movement of the Mozart Flute Concerto. Those of us who have been fortunate to attend the admirable series of Sunday Evening Concerts in the Music School, arranged by the boys, knew what to expect from Peter McPhail, and we got it. The range of tone, now caressing, now firmly authoritative, the nimble phrasing, the surprising volume, all were delight. It was as if the orchestra responded in delight, too, as we heard them collectively and singly. If the flutes were a little nervously thin at being exposed by the precise and delicate orchestration, confidence flowed back when there was the flute to accompany. Soloist, conductor and orchestra were properly pleased with their contributions. And if there was doubt in anyone's mind that the more an adequate school orchestra has a promising future under its new Director of Music, then Mrs Frances Kitching's string pupils, spaced intriguingly across the entire stage immediately afterwards to show their faces, declared those doubts unreasoning.

Part I ended with The Seasons, a sequence of music and words selected by Antony le Fleming and Mr John Griffin, who produced it. Choral speaking moved through The Seasons underpinned by a jazz quartet playing Johnny Dankworth; and it was agreeable. Lines were spoken intelligently, and the sequence built from Yeats, Wordsworth, Shakespeare and Dylan Thomas reached a clear climax with 'rage, rage, against the dying of the light.' The ensemble could have been larger, I thought, so that the oscillation of single and grouped voices was more marked, using more lines more, but verse speaking in such a hall poses considerable problems.

After the interval came a series of virtuositics. First Antony le Fleming's Founder's Day Festival Chorus gave a polished, beguiling version of Les Moutons, again with the flute adding the unmistakable lines and the piano played by Antony le Fleming himself giving his own imprimatur. Then the Bunyon College Choir put on a pastiche, presumably with felicitations from the Kenyon College Choir who visited the school only weeks previously.

Heralded by a deafening assorted band there was a Shakespeare ski produced by Mr Tom Fairhead, the dying expired suitably, the School Clothing List was given Weather Forecast psalm-chant treatment (for the uninitiated listen to Parlophone R5523: Weather Forecast by the Maste Singers). A guitar group coped with both music and microphone, and Hello Dolly in boaters got Bunyon College off the stage.

The first performance of the School March by 'an anonymous composer was an excellent ending because it gave all sections of the orchestra opportunity to show off their various talents. An anon announcer warned us of the long introduction, and he spoke truth, so that when the main theme was introduced by three notes on the flute, and imitated on the glockenspiel, it might have been all or part musical joke, until the whole orchestra played it through at marching pace. Then a second theme flowed against the first, working up to a musical frenzy, the like of which the Abbey Hall had never heard. Well worthy of Hall, Founder's Day Orchestra, and the School.

Abuja 1968

David Ventham

David Ventham has been teaching in Nigeria, under the Schools' Africa Linking Scheme, since he left the School last December.

Abuja is a small town, seventy miles by laterite road from Minna, the nearest big town. Here was my nearest bank, hospital and railway. I went out to Nigeria not really knowing what I was going to do. Initially I was rather disappointed. The school was very surprisingly overstaffed and for the first term I did very little indeed. Furthermore the school was very short of money indeed and I received no financial support except my board and lodging.

However gradually I found more to do, and during the second term spent most of my time teaching Geography and English Language; I also coached the hockey team. I was pleasantly surprised by the level of education in the school. Abuja Government Secondary School has about three hundred boys, all of whom have free places and board at the school. It is well-equipped, with a woodwork shop and chemistry and physics laboratories which are a real credit to the school. Its exam results in West Africa School Certificate, the equivalent of O level, are among the best in Northern Nigeria.

Unfortunately the present crisis is just beginning to affect education in Nigeria. The annual school grant was cut by half in April and the school has had to economise drastically. Furthermore more than half the staff have just left and it is doubtful whether they will be replaced for some time. This is all a great shame because Abuja is one of the few schools in that area which has a strong school spirit and a sense of discipline. Unfortunately many boys are becoming disillusioned by the recent turn of events, especially since it is they that are now affected.

Sports are a major feature of life at the school. At present basketball is the favourite game. Last year the school won the Northern Region Basketball Championships and they look all set to win it again this year. Hockey and Football are very popular but Rugby is thought extremely crude and unskilful. It was a great shame to see cricket pads and balls lying unused in the central store. It is no longer played and has an incredibly small following. I often wondered why it had become so popular in the West Indies. But it was very pleasant to see boys playing games for enjoyment and not in order to get into the side to gain status. Everyone in the school

played at one sport or another. It made such a change from the lethargy that is plaguing so many English schools.

Every boy at the school was a character and never lacking in amusement. I shall always remember the day when an American was dwelling on the modern way of life in the United States. A small boy looked very pensive and suddenly asked, 'But are you happy?' I often wondered.

There were moments that I shall remember all my life. The expression on a man's face when he saw a colour photograph of himself for the first time in his life, or boys sitting the 11-plus exam startled at the flickering of a neon light and jumping out of the windows in fright.

The boys at Abuja gave a lot to me: I only hope I gave them something in return. I found it tragic to live in a country with such potential and see it destroy itself, but I feel confident that Nigeria can solve its problems. I will never forget those eight months in Nigeria and I only hope that the schools' African Linking Scheme, which has started off in such difficult conditions, will continue and prove of benefit to both schools.

It's not as simple as it sounds

Alan Lewis

The author spent his summer holidays in South Africa. Obviously any impression of such a visit would be meaningless if it did not pay attention to the political aspect of the country. Since some of our readers may not be accustomed to finding articles that are not entirely innocuous in this magazine we feel this note is called for. Alan Lewis's opinions are not necessarily ours.

South Africa—August '68. I could quote figures showing that the black South African is financially better off than his counterpart anywhere else in Africa. Or I could point out that the blacks from the neighbouring 'free' states will do anything to obtain a work permit for South Africa, but that would hardly satisfy the opponent of Apartheid who thinks that it is morally wrong.

Of course it is morally wrong to discriminate purely on the grounds of colour against one section of the community. However, before condemning the policy of the South African Government out of hand, one must first try to put oneself in the position of a white man living in the country. He has one of the highest standards of living in the world; he has grown up in the country and considers it his homeland (whereas the English colonists always had a country to which they could return if conditions deteriorated); he has put a lot of sweat and tears into developing his country and making it the richest in Africa; so to talk to him about giving the African, who is uneducated in the extreme, equal rights, is to risk ridicule.

But if one accepts that until the African is better educated he should be kept from obtaining power in South Africa (one has only to look at black Africa today to see what chaos can result if he is allowed to seize power before he is able to use it properly) there still remains the enforced segregation and discrimination against the black South African which causes such protest throughout the world. In this respect Apartheid is defensible, based as it is upon the idea that the African is basically inferior to the white man, which stems from the Afrikaner's idea that he is one of a chosen race, appointed by God to lead the African. The oppressive measures that I saw taken to maintain the African's inferior status render the white man's attitude untenable.

Fortunately, however, as the country becomes increasingly industrialised and more of the Afrikaans-speaking population moves to the cities, enlightenment seems to be starting to erode prejudice to the extent that there is dissent in the governing National Party about whether this liberalism of thought should or should not be allowed to continue. One can only hope that enlightenment will win through and that the day will arrive when the black man and the white will work together on a harmonious and equal basis in this country.

'Living — 68 style'

John Beye

A report of the fourth British Conference of Christian Youth, which the author attended as representative of the Abingdon and District Council of Churches.

'From now on you will have power—you will have to exercise it and learn its rules.' So spoke Albert von der Heuvel in his keynote address. How should we use this power? What does 'Living 68 style' involve? These questions were to be answered by the assembled youth. There were invited to the Edinburgh Conference some 900 delegates from the various British Churches, twenty members of the Young Communist League and one hundred young people from overseas. Work was divided into three sessions. The most fruitful discussions arose in small groups of seven or eight. Here personal problems and experiences were exchanged in a very sincere atmosphere. These groups then combined in fours to draft formal resolutions on the ideas that had emerged. Distinct from these were the Worldshops. These likewise talked and drafted proposals for the plenary session but on a set topic. A committee was to choose proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the plenary session.

However on the first day members of the World Poverty Workshop distributed printed leaflets urging that the Conference should use all its energy on this subject. Although this was rejected after a vigorous debate it did stir most of the delegates to investigate this problem more deeply. It also showed how a small determined group can affect policy dramatically.

The ensuing plenary session became very turbulent and it was proposed that the Conference should terminate, as it had decided nothing and achieved nothing. The unruly behaviour caused a general feeling of humility and regret. We realised that the young must not be arrogant but must learn from those with more experience. Nevertheless the Conference decided that young Christians must act; the structures of the Church and prevalent attitudes would have to be changed radically. Young people must lead a 'responsible revolution'. If this could not be achieved through existing channels of communication in the Churches, then action groups would have to use more militant methods. For this purpose regional meetings will soon take place.

The tall ships race

David Whipple

'Can you fly to Sweden on Saturday?' An urgent phone call heralded our trip on the Sir Winston Churchill in the Tall Ships Race. On the evening of 28 July the seventy-eight trainees flew to Gothenburg to join the Sir Winston and the Malcolm Miller. After a night's rest we spent the next day learning the ropes and setting every sail in turn, much to the delight of our Swedish audience.

The next day we set out for a three-day cruise, getting used to a Naval four-hour watch system. We returned on Wednesday, by which time most of the other sailing ships had assembled, making a fantastic sight among the docks and cranes. We spent the time until Saturday at receptions, sauna-baths, a funfair and on board in front of TV cameras. At noon on Saturday the ships left Gothenburg in procession. The race was due to start at 1430, and the time till the start was spent in setting sail and avoiding some of the 5,000 small craft which had come, packed with sight-seers, to watch.

We crossed the line one minute late, making a bare four knots in the light breeze. As we sailed on the small craft thinned out, and soon there were just the competitors left. For four days there was near calm and most of the schooners remained in sight of us, but when we rounded the Naze the wind got up and we drew apart, the Swedes getting ahead and the French and windjammers being left behind. We rounded Fair Isle on Thursday afternoon, and then made good speed back to Kristiansand, crossing the finishing line at 1300 on Saturday. But we never caught up the Swedish ships Gladan (twenty-four hours ahead) and Falkan (nineteen hours ahead), and also Malcolm Miller (eight hours ahead). Our welcome, an anticlimax after the sendoff, came from only a few hundred small boats!

At all times we took turns at steering, sailhandling, and as day-workers to the Galley, the Bosun and the Engineer. When the other competitors had arrived (the square riggers having had a shortened course because of lack of following winds) we had all sorts of activities with their crews, such as pulling-races, tug-of-war, dances and visits. On Wednesday we had to leave, before the prizegiving, so as to be back in Leith in time for the next cruise. By evening there was a Force 9 wind and we were sailing, lee rail under, on mizzen sail and two jibs out of a possible fourteen sails. But soon the storm abated and we were becalmed. We arrived at Leith at 0700 on Sunday, under power, and after cleaning the ship and holystoning the decks, we left, richer for our experience, to catch the Flying Scotsman home.

We note that John Davies preceded David Whipple on the Sir Winston Churchill: but no race, so no article . . .

German Outward Bound Rhys Hamilton/Alan Cowley

Although we were led to believe that we were going on an Outward Bound Course, we discovered that the Kurzschule is in fact a separate body from the Outward Bound Trust. The organisation behind the Kurzschule has arisen very recently, and is largely due to a need for more discipline among the German young. Many adults feel strongly that the fear of militarism and nazism after the War led to a state of lax discipline which they feel should be corrected somewhat; hence the Kurzschule.

On the course were sixty-five boys from sixteen to twenty years old, and nationalities including Silesian, Czech, Yugoslavian, German, French, British and American. Luckily most of the instructors and German boys spoke English, which enabled us to have several interesting discussions on such topics as German politics and economics in comparison with English systems.

The activities of the course consisted mainly of mountain walking, rock climbing, swimming and first-aid instruction. We were taught these subjects by highly qualified instructors, one of whom had made a solo ascent of

the North Face of the Eiger. Apart from these major activities we also took part in an orienteering exercise, a cross-country run, several agility tests and in volley ball, all of which are comparable with the activities of an English Outward Bound Course.

The one major difference between the Outward Bound Trust and the Kurzschnle Organisation is discipline. There are no rules forbidding alcohol or smoking and punctuality was almost non-existent. There was plenty, if not too much, free time in which to admire the local scenery and attractions such as the salt mines and Hitlers Haus. But despite the lack of discipline the school was run very efficiently at all times. The washing, eating and sleeping facilities were excellent as was the equipment with which we were provided. We both feel that our month in Germany has been interesting both socially and actively.

London-Moscow-London

Anthony Chafer

Seventeen boys and two masters boarded the 'Nadezhda Krupskaya', a modern ship named after Lenin's daughter, in the early afternoon of Saturday 10 August, bound for Copenhagen, Helsinki, Leningrad, Moscow and Berlin. With only sixteen days in which to visit five major cities, this promised to be a very interesting and exhausting trip.

The voyage to Leningrad lasted five days, with one-day stops at Copenhagen and Helsinki. Copenhagen fully justifies its reputation as one of the world's most beautiful cities: it is clean and well-planned with an array of modern buildings that blend very well with the older, historical buildings. The picturesque Tivoli gardens are in the very centre of the city, and there are large, beautiful parks on the outskirts. Helsinki, on the other hand, I found less impressive. To this day the influence of Russia on the city is evident (Finland did not gain its independence until after the Russian Revolution) not only in the buildings but also in the people who appear to conceal a violent temperament beneath a quiet and reserved exterior.

We disembarked in Leningrad at 8.30 pm on Thursday 13 August, to find that we were staying in the Leningradskaya Hotel right in the centre of the city. The hotels in which we stayed were adequate, though somewhat primitive; the more modern hotels are generally to be found on the outskirts of the city.

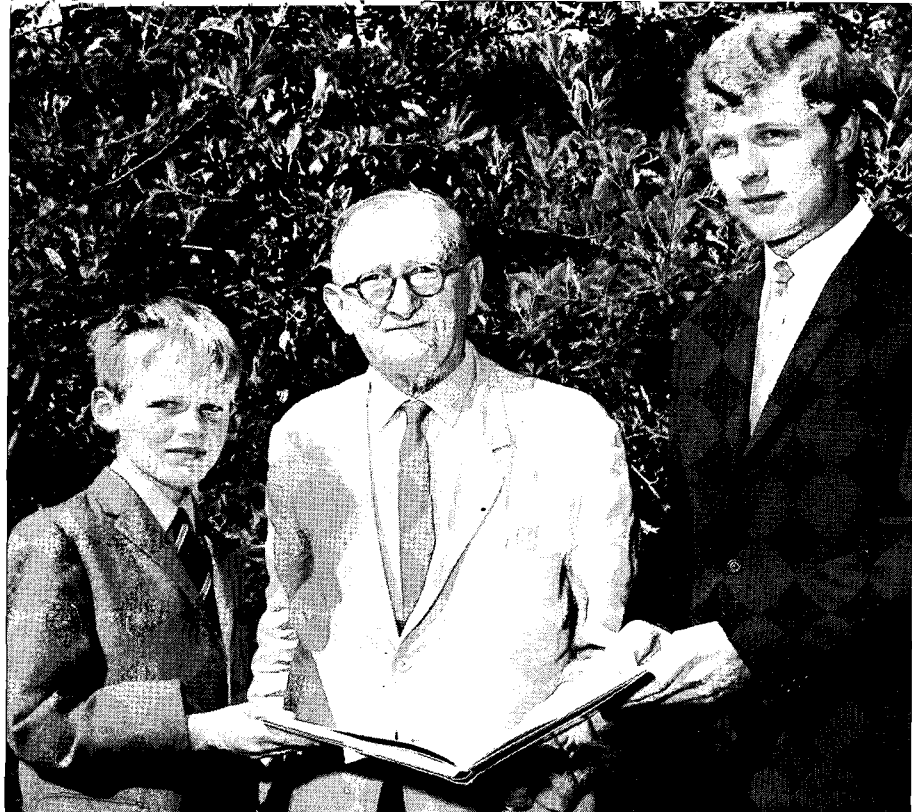
On arrival in a Russian hotel there are two things that immediately strike one as different from an English hotel. The first of these is the custom in Russia for a middle-aged lady to sit at the end of each corridor 'to look after the keys and the welfare of the guests'. The second is, of course, the food, which is of variable quality. Even allowing for this, there are various dishes for which it is very difficult to develop a taste. Characteristic Russian dishes are red cabbage soup and sour cream (bortsch), salads, served with sour cream instead of salad cream, savoury pancakes, and various forms of fish. Russian tea is served without milk and with lemon and is very refreshing.

During our stay in Leningrad our guide was a plump young lady called Anna, who will probably be remembered for her favourite phrase 'Come on, boys', which she used whenever we lagged behind! She told us much about the background of the city as well as merely showing us round, which contributed greatly to the interest of our stay.

Leningrad was capital of the Russian empire from 1703 to 1917 and

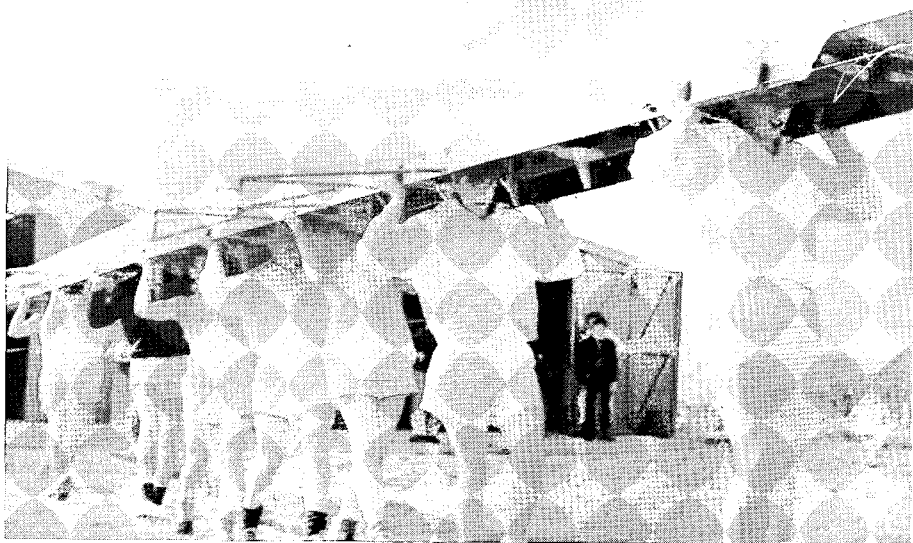


Holding them on in the winds of change?



Malcolm Waterfall and David Hunt with Mr Rudd—see Supplement

Below: The First Eight



has a more interesting, and far more violent, history than Moscow. The gloomy Peter and Paul fortress, where, during the reign of terror, political prisoners were incarcerated and frequently died, is a constant reminder of the atmosphere of oppression and fear in which all Leningraders were living then. The 1917 Revolution broke out here when the cruiser 'Aurora' fired a blank shot to mark its beginning. The 'Aurora' now stands in the River Neva and is used as a naval museum. It is interesting to note the discrepancy between the Russians' present claim that the 'Aurora' simply fired a blank shot and the former reports which said that it bombarded the Winter Palace. This city also survived a 900-day siege in the Second World War, an event still remembered with bitterness by many older Leningraders.

During our four-day stay in Leningrad we were able to visit only a few of the places of interest. It would take several days to look round the Hermitage Art Museum alone, with its two million exhibits! However, perhaps the two places that we will remember most are Peterhof and the Winter Palace Square. Peterhof is about 20 miles outside Leningrad and is a former summer residence of the Tsars. Although almost destroyed in the war, it is being restored from photographs taken in the 1930s. It is situated on the Gulf of Finland and is set in an attractive park, famous for its many fountains. The palace itself, although modest by Russian standards, is still of great historical interest as it shows us much about the conditions in which the Tsars used to live. The Winter Palace Square must surely be one of the most beautiful squares in the world. It was built on a characteristically vast Russian scale and the beauty of it must be seen to be believed. On one side is the majestic Triumphal arch, built in the classical style and topped by a monument to Victory. It is adjoined by the former army headquarters buildings, built in yellow brick, which together form an exactly symmetrical half-moon shape. Opposite is the magnificent Winter Palace, which was built in the Baroque style with grey brick and white pillars. In the centre of the square is the 200 feet high Alexander Column, with the monument to Alexander at the top.

In Moscow, although it dates back further than Leningrad, there are fewer places of interest, the only exceptions to this being the Kremlin and Red Square. The latter, although very large, I found much less impressive than the Winter Palace Square. The buildings surrounding it are neither as symmetrically arranged, nor as attractive as the buildings in the Winter Palace Square. Its only remarkable characteristic seemed to be its size!

In only an eight-day stay it was very difficult to gain a fair impression of the country or the people. However, there were certain effects of lack of competition that were immediately obvious in our trips round the town. Food, clothing and all luxury goods are expensive, and there are few restaurants, those that do exist being very crowded and often with long queues waiting outside. Street kiosks and branch post-offices advertise working hours which seem to be about double the actual hours worked!

The Russian people are not an easy race to get to know and are not generally forthcoming at first, a trait which can easily be mistaken for coldness if you are not prepared for it. However, it was noticeable how friendly and hospitable the Russians could be, particularly aboard the 'Nadezha Krupskaya'. The rift that has opened in places between the old and young generations was very striking. During our visit, many young people came up to us in the street, either merely wanting to talk with us and find out something about the West, or wanting to buy an item of

clothing, probably for the Black Market, for which they would offer fantastically high prices. Several of us even had offers of double the exchange rate, or more, for our English money, which, incidentally, we did not take up! It was also interesting to note that many young people did not believe what they were told in their newspapers any more than we do. This fact was highlighted when one of the party was offered one rouble (nine shillings) for a copy of the New York Times so that they could find out what was really happening in Czechoslovakia. (Foreign newspapers can only be bought with foreign currency in Moscow, and therefore the Russians can only get hold of them through tourists.)

The party boarded the Moscow-Berlin express at 4.10 pm for the 30-hour journey back to the West. It was astonishing how backward the rest of Russia was in comparison with the two major cities. Most houses in the country were simple wooden huts, roads were few and far between, those that do exist being mostly unmetalled, and we saw cows generally in ones and twos rather than in herds!

After a three-hour stop at the Russia-Poland border at 3 am on August 24, the train moved on across Poland. This country's economy relies almost entirely on its agriculture, and it is therefore far more intensively cultivated than Russia, although there is very little modern equipment: nearly all the ploughing is done by horse-drawn ploughs and, while crossing Poland, we saw fewer than eight tractors in use.

Our arrival in East Germany was marked by a humorous incident with an East German Passport Control Officer. Vivian Ramsey, when asked by the official if he had any foreign currency to declare, replied that he had one Finnish mark, a coin worth about 2/-.) When the official asked him to produce the coin, he found that he had to turn out everything in his case to find it. On going through his case, the official found it very odd that he should be carrying all his English money wrapped up inside a cravat!

We arrived in Berlin at 8.10 pm on the 24th, and after a thoroughly enjoyable 24 hours there, moved back behind the Iron Curtain in order to cross East Germany. After a crossing of the Channel that proved much rougher than expected, the party passed through Dover customs without any trouble and arrived in London, intact but exhausted and somewhat travel-worn, at 8.15 pm on the 26th.

In conclusion, on behalf of the whole party, I should like to thank Mr Taylor for all the work that he put into the trip to make it such a success.

Lightning holiday

Akinkunmi Akinbiyi

After a hair-raising trip from Stowmarket railway station in a RAF Mini we arrived at RAF Waltisham. We were shown to our billets (officers' billets!) and with that our star camp had begun. There were only four of us, complete strangers from different school CCFs, but after a game of billiards Philip, Richard, Ian and I were like class mates. The other three had been awarded flying scholarships so I felt a bit out of things. Apparently a flying scholarship is one of the conditions of acceptance for a star camp, so I was extra lucky. After billiards and a superb three-course dinner we relaxed for the rest of the evening watching colour tv.

The next day, Monday, we were split into two groups; Philip and I were allocated to 56 Squadron, the others to 111 Squadron. After briefing by the station commander and a medical we went to our respective squadrons. Philip had ear trouble so I was down to fly first, but the prospects looked

grim. Some Group Captains, Wincos and Squadron Leaders had come down to visit the station from the College of Air Warfare (CAW) and they were down to fly first; there were about ten of them with only two trainers available on the station. The first day slowly drew to an end. At 1800 I changed and strolled over to the officers' mess with Philip. As we entered a smartly-dressed corporal approached and asked us if, after we had eaten, one of us would like to fly in the trainer. Within the hour, my dinner rumbling in my stomach, I was in a flying suit being briefed on how to use an ejector seat. As I walked towards the mighty Lightning two-seat trainer with my helmet (bone dome) under my arm I felt like an astronaut.

A fellow African who was working in the ground crew strapped me in and I was left alone in the small yet vast cockpit. My pilot joined me a little later and within seconds was strapped in. I tried to catch his preflight checks but all I got was 'Oil ok, plenty of fuel trimswitchonradiooncheck-
blablablacheckoxygenonI'mstrappedinfine . . .' He let me start both engines in turn, and very soon we had taxied to the marshalling point awaiting clearance from the control tower (ATC). A slight delay gave us time for some more preflight checks, so when the 'all clear' was given we took off at once. At about 180 knots we left the ground and our undercarriage came up, we climbed almost vertically to about 3,000 feet, did a 270 degree turn and then flew towards our target. Twenty minutes later we were some 36,000 feet above the North Sea being guided by ground radar towards a Victor bomber which was the 'enemy' aircraft attacking the country. After a remarkably accurate guide path we intercepted the bomber which was just a dot on our radar screen. Soon we were within firing range, and let the bomber fly past and then accelerated after it using heat (which feels like a bad gear change). Soon we were supersonic; we fired our imaginary rockets and pulled sharply away, slowing down at the same time. We had plenty of fuel so we did two more attacks, and on the second as we pulled clear I could see the bomber some 10,000 feet above us. With very little fuel left we literally shot through the clouds, pulling up just above the glide path for landing. It was now dark and below red, white, yellow and blue lights winked at us. Visibility was very good but for my sake the pilot did a 'talkdown' landing, using only the voice of air traffic control and his instruments. He let me pull the brake chute and with a jerk we slowed down by about 160 knots in 200 feet.

My next two flights came on Thursday, the first being the same as on Monday, and the second being a low altitude attack on a Lightning from 11 sqn. This was more fun as I could actually see the target. For the actual attack we came in from above, pulling out of the dive vertically, with reheat for that extra boost. This, coupled with a few loops and steep turns, made AEF Chipmunk flying seem like child's play. On the Wednesday we visited RAF Bentwaters which is an American station equipped with USAF Phantoms. Also on star camp we were entertained with an air display, a scramble, an operational turn round, numerous visits to air traffic and radar control as well as films on nuclear warfare.

One of the best opportunities the Corps can offer has left me fully 'jenned-up' on the modern RAF and its new 'Strike Command'.

Sport

Cricket

First Eleven: Only two sunny Saturdays in a cricket term—frustrating enough, but the First Eleven had also to put up with a succession of inconclusive matches and, as a look at the results will show, a number of games so nearly won which ended as tantalising draws. Two school matches were completely washed out and three others abandoned. What was equally disappointing was that the games which were played were often on damp and slow wickets. This was not conducive to the development of schoolboy batsmen who were put into a frame of mind of defending their wicket rather than attacking the bowling. Consequently what had looked to be a promising batting side never really did itself justice. As an opening pair Sayce struggled on the slow wickets and never got going, but McLaughlan whose off-side play improved greatly, played a number of good innings his fifty-seven against Pangbourne being a highlight of the season. Andrew Varley, after an unhappy and over-anxious start, came good and showed his undoubted class with a tremendous and all but match-winning ninety five at High Wycombe; brother Michael also suffered mixed fortunes starting aggressively but running out of confidence in the last few games. Next year he should do very well. Hill, too, showed a welcome inclination to hit the ball and, despite his limitations on the leg-side, looked a player of real ability. Parry, Parfitt and Rose also made useful contributions on occasions, as did the entertaining Mathews who, with Boyers, thwarted the Berkshire Gentlemen by batting out the last twenty-five minutes.

The school bowling, well handled by Varley, was generally tidy and hard to get away. MC Varley in particular bowled successfully and took twenty-eight wickets with his intelligent slow-medium style. JP Cox worked hard to add more control to his pace and is a fine prospect for next season. The wet wickets were not suited to leg-spin, but Matthews showed his command of flight and spin with his seven for eighteen against the Old Boys. It was not to be expected that Boyers would repeat his remarkable eight for twenty-three in his debut against Pembroke College, but he too is a real prospect for the future once he has mastered his direction. AJ Varley handicapped by injury, did not achieve quite the success he enjoyed last year but he, Parfitt and Rose added variety to a well-balanced attack.

Parry in the covers and Matthews at short-leg were exceptional members of an enthusiastic fielding side, Hill kept wicket competently throughout and it was to the credit of Andrew Varley, a thoughtful and sound captain, that despite disappointments the morale of the eleven stayed so high. One's final thought is one of sympathy for Mr Smithson and his staff who spent many hours optimistically preparing and marking wickets just in case the sun decided to shine; they deserved a better reward.

The Senior and Junior Knock-Out competitions, played on an overall basis, were both won by Blacknall. Blacknall also won the Junior League competition.

* * * *

For the first time each of the three First Forms produced an eleven to play outside fixtures. 1Y beat Fitzharry's by 27 runs; 1X beat John Mason by 1 run; and 1Z beat John Mason by 9 runs. A full First Form Under-17 team was then chosen to play Moultsford Prep School and was victorious by 66 runs. Thanks are due to Mr Woodgett for arranging these matches.

which gave a number of very promising youngsters, notably JMG Taylor, Seaver, McPhail, Evans, KPM Taylor and Mason a chance to show their paces.

A word of thanks, too, to Mrs Sandford and the kitchen staff for their catering at cricket lunches, and finally to Mrs Marsh and her TASS team of mothers who provided magnificent teas for all the matches on War Memorial Field: their efforts were much appreciated and will have launched, I hope, a long tradition. NHP

Played 14: Won 0: Lost 3: Drawn 8: Abandoned 3.

Pembroke College 1 May (a) Drawn

Abingdon 78 (AJ Varley 20)

Pembroke College 49 for 9 (SEW Boyers 8 for 23)

Newbury GS 4 May (a) Abandoned

Abingdon 99 for 7 (MC Varley 30 no)

Radley College 11 May (a) Abandoned

Radley 170 for 9 dec

Oratory School 15 May (h) Drawn

Abingdon 155 for 9 dec (MC Varley 50; JY McLaughlan 36; MJ Hill 34)

Oratory 110 for 6

Berkshire Gentlemen 22 May (h) Drawn

Berkshire Gentlemen 181 (MC Varley 5 for 49)

Abingdon 133 for 9

The Common Room 29 May (h) Drawn

Common Room 163 for 8 dec (NH Payne 53; MC Varley 4 for 45)

Abingdon 163 for 6 (JY McLaughlan 57)

Abingdon CC 1 June (a) Lost

Abingdon CC 177 for 6 (TG Evans 93 no)

Abingdon 87

Manchester GS 5 June (h) Drawn

Abingdon 142

Manchester GS 83 for 9 (MC Varley 4 for 16)

Pangbourne Nautical College 8 June (a) Drawn

Abingdon 112 for 8 dec (JY McLaughlan 57)

Pangbourne 101 for 7 (AJ Varley 4 for 23)

Magdalen College School 12 June (a) Drawn

Abingdon 140 for 4 dec (AJ Varley 62; MC Varley 38)

MCS 90 for 7

Incogniti CC 22 June (h) Abandoned

Incogniti 104 for 4

MCC 29 June (h) Lost

MCC 186 (RL Matthews 5 for 37; MC Varley 5 for 77)

Abingdon 119 (AJ Varley 28)

GS High Wycombe 6 July (a) Drawn

High Wycombe 170 for 5 dec

Abingdon 167 for 8 (AJ Varley 95)

Old Abingdonians 12 and 13 July (h) Lost

Abingdon 160 and 47 (J Dickenson 6 for 20)

OAs 75 (RL Matthews 7 for 18) and 133 for 4 (P Henderson 52 no)

Matches against Brentwood and Bloxham were cancelled because of rain. The final eleven were: AJ Varley (Capt), RL Matthews, JY McLaughlan, MC Varley, MJ Hill, MW Parry, A Rose, DR Sayce, TA Parfitt, JP Cox and SEW Boyers, DH Marshall, L Morgan, and J Shellard also played. Full colours: RL Matthews, JY McLaughlan, MC Varley and MJ Hill. Half colours: A Rose, TA Parfitt, JP Cox and SEW Boyers.

* * * *

Batting Averages

	Innings	Not out	Runs	Highest Score	Average
AJ Varley	13	0	329	95	25.3
JY McLaughlan	13	0	249	57	19.2
MC Varley	12	1	173	50	15.7
MJ Hill	13	0	189	34	14.5
TA Parfitt	9	0	111	39	12.5
RL Matthews	8	3	61	17	12.2
MW Parry	12	1	121	29	11.0
A Rose	13	1	108	25	9.0
DR Sayce	13	0	97	22	7.5
JP Cox	11	5	35	14	5.8
SEW Boyers	8	6	11	7	5.5

Bowling Averages

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
RL Matthews	87.2	21	265	24	11.0
MC Varley	158	50	358	28	12.8
AJ Varley	127	44	234	16	14.6
SEW Boyers	106	27	290	16	18.1
JP Cox	89	18	228	8	28.5
TA Parfitt	65	27	141	4	35.2

The Alligators' week was again a great success and we enjoyed seeing so many old boys returning to scenes of former triumphs. In terms of result it was a barren year for us—though a moral victory against the BGs must be recorded. It is ironical to note that Peter Shellard was instrumental in winning the match for Glyn Evans' Eleven and both Michael Nurton and John Bruce recorded centuries against us. We must try to be less generous in lending players in future! However we are extremely grateful to those stalwarts who spend time and trouble in raising such strong sides to play us and also to the Headmaster, the Bursar and Mrs Sandford for making the whole thing possible. Please do come and play if you possibly can.

AAI

Moreton CC 26 May

Alligators 136 for 6 dec (AA Hillary 68; M Lay 4 for 31)

Moreton 80 (M Varley 6 for 55)

TG Evans' XI 15 July

Alligators 132 (F Morgan 5 for 39; C Brooks 4 for 22)

TG Evans' XI 134 for 7 (PM Shellard 40 no)

JM Bunce's XI 16 July

JM Bunce's XI 211 for 6 dec (J Millard 81)

Alligators 66 for 2; rain stopped play.

Berkshire Gentlemen 17 July

Alligators 210 (JM Bunce 53, M Hobbs 4 for 68)

Berkshire Gentlemen 153 for 9 (AC Revill 79)

BG Bowden's XI 18 July

BG Bowden's XI 233 for 9 dec (MD Nurton 109)

Alligators 100 (F Longshore 8 for 42)

C Roper's XI 19 July

C Ropers XI 248 for 3 dec (J Bunce 113; J Millard 120 no)

Alligators 199 for 8 (M Nurton 57; D Penny 47 no)

Second Eleven: The pre-season net promise proved fruitless owing to the large number of matches affected by adverse weather conditions.

As its best the batting was only moderate, JC Bourlet being the only one who really attacked the bowling. He also proved an efficient wicket keeper. The bowling was steady in all departments, but the team lacked a genuine fast bowler, only AJ Cowley showing any variation in flight and speed. The team lacked any urgency in the field, and as a result many chances were thrown away.

The most enjoyable match was, yet again, the fixture with the OAs. Thanks to enterprising captaincy by the OAs, the game moved to an exciting finish, the school losing by a mere four runs.

A close result against RGS High Wycombe, a bad defeat at the hands of King Alfred's Wantage, these and many other things were the ingredients of an enjoyable if frustrating season. LM

In Lloyd Morgan the team was fortunate in having a Captain whose desire to play attractive, attacking and enjoyable cricket was never dampened even by the appalling weather that dogged their every effort. It says much for the whole team that, though lacking the depth of former second eleven seasons, it nevertheless was able to rise to the challenge of those very OAs whose tradition it sometimes found difficult to maintain. CDBM

St Bartholomew's Newbury 4 May (a) abandoned

Shiplake College 1st XI 18 May (a) cancelled

Abingdon CC 1 June (h) lost

Abingdon 75; Abingdon CC 175 for 5

KAS Wantage 12 June (a) lost

Abingdon 62 (DH Parry 20); Wantage 63 for 0

Magdalen College School 22 June (a) abandoned after 1 over

Reading 29 June (a) lost

Abingdon 62; Reading 63 for 1

RGS High Wycombe 6 July (h) lost

Abingdon 53; RGS 54 for 7 (AJ Cowley 4 for 13)

Bloxham 10 July (h) cancelled

OAs Sat 13 July

OAs 136; Abingdon 132

Third Eleven: Unusually competent play in the nets and a victory over practice-starved Oratory gave promise of a season that would see the team restored to its former glories after the poor results of 1967. But the best players then went to the Second Eleven or fell ill, rain cancelled the match with St Edward's, and Magdalen and Westminster College both beat us soundly. However, the season ended on a high note when a well-timed declaration by Langmead produced an exciting finish at Reading.

Except at Reading, the batting was irresolute—apart from that of 'Slogger Bill' Chislett, whose hefty heaves, although not enjoying the

success they deserved, were so much less alarming to his own side than the prodding and sparring of most of his colleagues. (Why has no one hit a six for us since the opening match of the 1966 season?)

Of the bowlers, Chislett and Langmead looked much the most likely to get wickets, since the openers usually pitched too short. The fielding was well up to the standard of previous years, Langmead was a splendid captain, both on and off the field, and once again the team's obvious enjoyment of the game was the most pleasing feature of the season. HTR

Oratory School 15 May (a) won

Oratory 80; Abingdon 82 for 6

Magdalen College School 9 June (h) lost

Abingdon 62; MCS 66 for 2

Westminster College 19 June (a) lost

Abingdon 86; Westminster 87 for 5

Reading School 29 June (a) drawn

Abingdon 116 for 4 dec (Kilgour 42); Reading 106 for 8

The team was: DR Langmead (Captain), RS Barrett, RK Blackburn, WD Chislett, RA Deane, S Fairlie, HJ Flint, HI Kilgour, JR Rowson, RW Speight, JH Walker, NJ Booker, FJ Dobbs, GR Evans, MJ Harfield, RS Kirby and JL Sayce also played.

Colts Eleven: A season very much spoilt by bad weather, so that two matches were cancelled. A pity, for this was a promising side, and much progress was made during the season.

A fine victory over Oratory promised well, but our own inability to make runs quickly hampered our chances of victory in the last two games. Our only defeat, by Cokethorpe, was the result of a very closely fought battle, the final stages of our opponents' innings being in torrential rain.

The batting was promising and several players made runs on occasions—Shellard with an average of 45, Kirby and JL Cox, neither of whom managed to reach double figures, were the most consistent but good innings came also from Snodgrass, while Milton and Loosemore showed promise.

There was a wealth of bowlers; six regulars and a couple of others who could be called on in an emergency. All bowled well on occasions, but all needed to bowl tighter, and the bowling on the whole needed more bite. The fielding was usually keen and good, but on more than one occasion failure to hold catches almost certainly cost us the match.

Loosemore kept wicket quite well, though he is apt to reach for the wide ball instead of getting behind it, and Shellard was a good captain, calm and setting a fine example by his own all round play. LCJG

Oratory 16 May (h) won

Abingdon 155 for 6 dec (Shellard 69 no; Snodgrass 36; Kirby 20)

Oratory 95 (Murphy 5 for 23; Cash 2 for 25; Bennett 2 for 25)

Cokethorpe 1st XI 5 June (a) lost

Abingdon 143 for 9 dec (JL Cox 28; Kirby 23)

Cokethorpe 148 for 8 (Bennett 3 for 30; Shellard 3 for 28)

Pangbourne 2nd XI 8 June (a) drawn

Abingdon 97 for 6 dec (Shellard 43)

Pangbourne 88 for 5 (Shellard 3 for 25)

Douai 19 June (h) drawn

Abingdon 103 for 7 dec (JL Cox 31)





Educational visit—the national press

Abuja



The team was: JJ Shellard (Capt), JL Cox, SP Loosemore, GB Milton, DI Smith, DG Murphy, RC Cash, RS Kirby, AR Snodgrass, RA Cole, MT Bennett, and PH Ayres, JP Cox, WH Cuthbert and AG Muff (1 each).

Junior Colts Eleven: The Junior Colts had an unsettled and disappointing season. Rain was particularly severe on their list, causing the complete abandonment of four of the nine fixtures. Consequently some of those selected as batsmen did not score their first run until 29 June!

This side has great potential but needs to grow more competitive and develop greater fighting spirit in its cricket. Three times the cheap loss of early wickets led to full-scale batting collapses and bowlers often waited for the opposition batsmen to make silly mistakes instead of directing a consistent, good length attack at their stumps.

Nichol (77 runs in 4 innings) was the most successful batsman owing to his strong concentration and eagerness to punish the bad ball. Savory was the most accurate and consistent bowler and Dunkerley captured 14 wickets.

CJWO

Newbury GS 3 May (h) won

Newbury 27 (Longman 3 for 4; Dunkerley 3 for 10)

Abingdon 28 for 0

Oratory 15 May (a) lost

Oratory 76 (Savoury 6 for 19); Abingdon 11

Bearwood College 12 June (h) drawn

Abingdon 112 for 3 dec (Nicholl 56); Bearwood 80 for 3

Salesian College 29 June (h) lost

Salesian 72 (Dunkerley 7 for 9); Abingdon 49

RGS High Wycombe 6 July (h) lost

Abingdon 63; RGS 54 for 2

The team was MC Harding (Capt), JP Nichol, FAA Maude, GF Pike, PD Price, JC Dunkerley, RE Deane, GD Pearce, RHL Savory, DPC Smith, and DJ Longman.

Junior Eleven: The weather was indescribable, but by dint of playing through the rain on several occasions, we managed to play seven matches, of which four were won and three drawn. We knew we should have a strong batting side, although it proved brittle in the middle order. We did not realise how strong a bowling and fielding side we should have.

The batting honours belong to Abraham. It was a remarkable achievement to score 287 runs in only 7 games. He is a batsman of very great promise and an unusually mature temperament. When he develops his technique to deal with the bad ball on the leg side he will be even more effective than he is now. Baumann made an admirable opening partner to Abraham, although he lost some of his adventurousness towards the end of the season. He is, nevertheless, a very promising batsman. The rest of the batting was variable, but Tammadge, Matthews and Corner all made good scores, and could hit the ball hard if they made up their minds to do so.

Our bowling improved as the season progressed. By the end of the season Tammadge was a genuinely hostile opening bowler. Matthews had his off-days, but at his best was steady and consistent. Clift also improved considerably, bringing the ball in to the batsman, and moving it in the air and off the pitch. The most interesting development, however, was

Baumann, who switched from innocuous medium pace to slow leg-breaks, and immediately took a lot of wickets. We had some other promising slow bowlers, notably Walters and Stimpson, but unluckily for them, they did not get much of a chance to bowl.

The fielding was usually lively and sometimes very good indeed, especially the throwing-in.

Apart from being our highest-scoring batsman, Abraham also made an excellent captain. He used his bowling intelligently, and became more confident and knowledgeable with every match.. The team responded admirably to his example.

DCT

Newbury GS 11 May (a) drawn

Newbury 101 for 8 dec; Abingdon 87 for 9 (Corner 21)

Bearwood College 12 June (h) won

Abingdon 81 (Abrahams 21); Bearwood 74 (Clift 4 for 21)

Moreton CC 15 June (h) won

Abingdon 153 for 2 dec (Abraham 70 no); Baumann 51; Tammadge 27 no); Moreton 89 (Baumann 5 for 6)

Cokethorpe School 19 June (h) won

Abingdon 148 for 9 dec (Abraham 87 no); Cokethorpe 108 (Baumann 7 for 33)

Magdalen CS 22 June (h) abandoned

Abingdon 41 for 1

Magdalen CS 26 June (h) drawn

Abingdon 129 for 5 dec (Abraham 49, Baumann 22); Magdalen 61 for 8 (Clift 4 for 5)

RGS High Wycombe 6 July (a) won

Abingdon 71 (Abraham 32); RGS 62 (Tammadge 5 for 10)

Rowing

In some ways this has been a disappointing season for the oarsman. More regattas than usual have been spoiled by rain, and our successes have not been as frequent as we had hoped.. The Eight, certainly one of the best we have had, never managed to rise to the heights when it mattered most, and despite victories over St Edward's at Reading and Oundle at the National Schools' Regatta, it was finally decided that we should not enter at Henley.

The Second Eight, after early success in Novices at Thames Ditton, found Junior Eights as difficult as their seniors. The Third Eight rowed valiantly, but spent too much time providing substitutes for members of the First and Second crews to have sufficient practice together. The Colts Eight rowed with fire and determination and the Junior Colts Four reached two finals of events for Colts, one of them at the National Schools' Regatta; this was particularly praiseworthy since they were rowing against boys a year older than themselves.

As always, we are grateful to our friends and supporters for braving the elements to cheer us on at regattas, and for more tangible support from some!

Finally, we have to say goodbye to Raymond Butt and to wish him good luck at King's Canterbury and with his own rowing. His enthusiasm and slide-rule will be much missed!

RGM

First Eight:	Bow MCG Stevens	
	2 PRM Sherwood	
	3 JR Burton	
	4 PJ Munnoch	
	5 RG Whittington	
	6 PK Ablewhite	
	7 CEJ Lilley	
	Stroke PJA Hopkins	
	Cox AJ Iddles	
Hammersmith Regatta—Junior eights		Sat 4 May
Round 1:	L Thames Tradesmen RC/½ 1	
Thames Ditton Regatta—Junior eights		Sat 18 May
Round 1:	Rowed Over	
Semifinal:	B Twickenham RC/½ 1	
Final:	L Thames RC/½ 1	
Wallingford Regatta—Junior eights		Sat 25 May
Round 1:	L Eton College BC/2½ 1	
Reading Junior Regatta—Junior eights		Sat 1 June
Round 1:	B Harrow School/easily	
Semifinal:	B St Edward's School BC/2 1	
	L Monkton Coombe School BC/1 1	
Staines Amateur Regatta—Junior eights		Sat 8 June
Round 1:	B Bryanston School BC/2 1	
Round 2:	L Kingston RC/1 1	
Reading Amateur Regatta—School Eights		Sat 15 June
Round 1:	L Eton College BC/1 1	
National Schools Regatta—Childe Beale Cup		Sat 22 June
Round 1:	L Shrewsbury School BC/3 1	
	L Nautical College Pangbourne BC/2 1	
Repechage:	B Oundle School BC/½ 1	
Semifinal:	L Eton College BC/3 1	
	L Nautical College Pangbourne BC/2 1	
	L Latymer Upper School BC/½ 1	
Second Eight:	Bow NJ Pilling	
	2 DG Nasmyth	
	3 AE Lewis	
	4 CJ Bovey	
	5 MA Fletcher	
	6 JAF Ridge	
	7 JE North	
	Stroke CMcI King	
	Cox JL Hounam	
Thames Ditton Regatta—Novice eights		Sat 18 May
Round 1:	Rowed Over	
Semifinal:	B Kingston GS BC/1 1	
Final:	B Bedford School BC/1 1	
Oxford City Royal Regatta—Junior eights		Sat 8 June
Round 1:	B Canford School BC/3 1	
Round 2:	L Magdalen College School BC/1 1	

Reading Amateur Regatta—Junior eights	Sat 15 June
Round 1: B RMA Sandhurst/easily B Wadham College Oxford/½ 1	
Round 2: L Wycliffe College/2½ 1 L Magdalen College School/½ 1	
National Schools Regatta—Elsenham Cup	Sat 22 June
Round 1: L Wandsworth School (disqualified) Wycliffe College (disqualified)	
Repechage: L Radley College BC/3 1 Bryanston School BC/1 1	
Third Eight: Bow PD Holmes 2 AJ Ireland 3 RJ Crane 4 JCV Wise 5 MM Clift 6 JW Jefferson-Loveday 7 CF Rock Stroke CA Alford Cox PM Annett (DP Dean rowed at 3 in the National Schools Regatta)	
Wallingford Regatta—Novice eights	Sat 25 May
Round 1: Magdalen College School/3 1	
Reading Junior Regatta—Novice eights	Sat 1 June
Round 1: L Imperial College BC/5 1 L St Edward's School BC/4 1	
Oxford City Regatta—Novice eights	Sat 8 June
Round 1: Rowed over	
Round 2: L Radley College BC/1 1	
National Schools Regatta—Secretary's Cup	Sat 22 June
Round 1: L Radley College BC/5 1 L Shrewsbury School BC/5 1	
Repechage: L Eton College BC/1 1	
Colts Eight: Bow JC Griffith 2 V Lacey-Johnson 3 MR Mackenzie 4 RJ Grant 5 JPD Mitchell 6 MI Johnstone 7 NP Winton Stroke CR Gibaud Cox GW Hamlin	
Cambridge Regatta—Cadet eights	Sat 18 May
Round 1: Rowed Over	
Round 2: B Norwich School/½ 1	
Final: L Hampton GS BC/3 1	
Reading Junior Regatta—Colts eights	Sat 1 June
Round 1: B Magdalen College School/3 1 B St Edward's School/2 1	
Round 2: L Radley College/2 1	

Hereford Schools Regatta—Colts eights Wed 5 June
 Round 1: B Clifton College BC/11
 Round 2: L Shrewsbury School/21

National Schools Regatta—Colts Cup Sat 22 June
 Round 1: L Eton College 'B'/21
 L Shrewsbury School/31
 Repechage: L Eton College 'A'/21
 B Canford School/11
 B Emanuel School/21

Junior Colts Four: Bow MS Paddison
 2 TR Baker
 3 NJ Minns
 Stroke TJ Hughes
 Cox AJM Crocker

Reading Junior Regatta—Colts fours Sat 1 June
 Round 1: B Wellington College BC/21
 Round 2: B Shiplake College 'B'/11
 B Reading School BC/121
 Final: B Shiplake College 'A'/21
 L St George's College BC/11

Hereford Schools Regatta—Junior Colts fours Wed 5 June
 Round 1: L Hampton GS/121

National Schools Regatta—Colts fours Sat 22 June
 Round 1: B Nautical College Pangbourne 'B'/easily
 L St George's College BC/121
 Repechage: L Nautical College Pangbourne 'B'/21
 B Eastbourne College/21
 B Eton College BC/31
 Final: L Nautical College Pangbourne 'A'/31
 L St George's College BC/11
 B Nautical College Pangbourne 'B'/11

First Four: Bow MCG Stevens
 2 PJ Munnoch
 3 JR Burton
 Stroke PJA Hopkins
 Cox PE Scott

Reading Town Regatta—Junior fours Sat 6 July
 Round 1: B RGS High Wycombe/canvas
 L Windsor GS/21

Second Four: Bow CJ Bovey
 2 AE Lewis
 3 MA Fletcher
 Stroke NJ Pilling
 Cox JL Hounam
 (DG Nasmyth also rowed and AJ Iddles coxed at Reading Town Regatta)

Wallingford Regatta—School fours Sat 25 May
 Round 1: B Emanuel School/21
 Round 2: B Wellington College/11
 Semifinal: B St George's College/11
 Final: L Nautical College Pangbourne/canvas

Reading Town Regatta—School fours
Round 1: B King's School Rochester/6ft
B Wallingford GS/21
Final: L Windsor GS/½ 1
L Sculloars/3 1

Sat 6 July

Boat Club Regatta—Tuesday 9 July

The regatta was held on Wilsham Reach as usual. The standard of the racing was lower than in previous years, owing to lack of time for practice, and some House crews were prevented from appearing because crew members could not make themselves available to row when required. We are grateful to the handful of spectators who supported the regatta, and to Mrs Potter for presenting the prizes.

Bennett Cup: Senior House Fours—Blacknall.

Pixell Cup: Senior House Second Fours—Tesdale.

Pixell Bowl: Intermediate House Fours—Reeves.

Morell Cup: Junior House Fours—Tesdale.

Eason Cup: House gaining most points—Tesdale.

Pierpoint Cup: Boarders v Dayboys Eights—Boarders.

Haarhoff Cup: Sculling—PRM Sherwood.

Pixell Cup: Crescent House v School House Eight—Crescent House.

Tennis

The season started most auspiciously with the opening of the new hard courts, reported elsewhere. One of the advertised merits of these courts was their drainage properties, which meant they could be played on almost immediately rain had ceased. As it turned out the courts were to be weather tested to the full, and they proved a tremendous asset; but it must also be recorded that on too many occasions the rain never ceased and the weather had the last word.

The First Six were weaker than usual, lacking any established tournament players, but with the benefit of continued coaching by Mr Clayton, they put up a very fair showing, winning or drawing six matches and losing four. The first pair partnership of DN Hunt (Captain), and MFK Baumann (Secretary) never quite fulfilled last season's promise, possibly because they tended to become over anxious. Hunt had a strong backhand and powerful first service, but like his partner Baumann, he was far too weak with his second service. Baumann's play was always intelligent and he placed his shots well, but his volleys lacked power and penetration. In fact Baumann proved better in singles than doubles.

The most improved player in the First Six was AR Cantwell and it was pleasing to see the punch he got into his volleys and his general determination and steadiness. His partner CG Day never looked completely comfortable, especially with his volleys, and he was handicapped by an unreliable service; though he must be credited with some good ground strokes and fine cross court drives. The remaining pair, NS Coulbeck and JA Clargo, were both under 16 years and should come fully into their own next season. Coulbeck showed great potential, with beautifully produced ground strokes and volleys, but lacked steadiness under pressure and was never quite sure of his service. His partner Clargo always looked very good and confident in a practice session, but in a match too often allowed his concentration to slip and errors to creep in, especially at a critical stage. It is hoped that he will get over this with more experience.

The Second Six was again ably captained by AW Luff, who was usually partnered with CJ Woods. Both these players had the power and the strokes to qualify them for the First Six, but never achieved sufficient consistency. Of the younger members of the Second Six IF Gardner and RO Plail formed a strong partnership and should be strong candidates for a place in next year's First Six.

The Under Sixteen side was captained by AJ Winnington. He and his partner PR Clarke are our most promising juniors. It was unfortunate that Clarke injured himself and was out of action for much of the latter half of the season. The best new recruit, who went straight into the Under Sixteen side, was HJ Manning, who has all the strokes but has still to develop some power. While the Under Sixteen side seemed full of promise, the reverse might be said of the Under Fifteen side. It is true that the Under Fifteen team was composed very largely of the new intake, and it can only be said that they were too inexperienced to achieve the consistency needed for successful match play.

In the Buckley singles championship, MFK Baumann finished very strongly, defeating NS Coulbeck 6—0, 6—2 in the final. We thank Baumann for all his conscientious hard work as secretary; and of course we must also express our gratitude to Hunt for his initial work as secretary and his graduation to the post of Captain in which he did a particularly good job.

We again owe much to Mr Lay for the trouble he has taken coaching the juniors; and to Mr Ruck for the very valuable match coaching sessions he has held for some of the seniors. Finally we congratulate AR Cantwell on the award of full colours and CG Day, NS Coulbeck, JA Clargo, on receiving half colours

HMG

First six

The Common Room 24 April (h) Won 5—4

Culham College 1 May (h) Lost 3—6

Radley College 4 May (a) Unfinished 2—4

Magdalen College School 15 May (a) Lost 0—9

Oratory School 5 June (h) Won 9—0

Berkhamstead 8 June (h) Lost 3—6

Reading School 12 June (a) Drawn 4½—4½

Pembroke College 15 June (h) Drawn 4½—4½

Bloxham School 29 June (h) Won 7½—2½

RGS High Wycombe 6 July (a) Lost 3—6

Old Abingdonians 13 July (h) Drawn 4½—4½

The matches against Leighton Park School, Pangbourne NC and Abingdon LTC were rained off.

Second six (1st pair AW Luff, CJ Woods; 2nd pair IF Gardner, RO Plail; 3rd pair KP Brown, JR Comerford. JM Whittington and RK Blackburn also played).

Culham College 1 May (a) Lost 2½—6½

Radley College 11 May (h) Won 5½—1½

Magdalen College School 15 May (h) Lost 3½—5½

Douai School 29 May (h) Won 7½—1½

Oratory School 5 June (a) Won 9—0

Reading School 8 June (h) Lost 3½—5½

Staff and Ladies 3 July (h) Drawn 4½—4½

The matches against Salesian College, Leighton Park School and Wallingford GS were rained off.

Junior six (U/16 from AJ Winnington, PR Clarke, SA Woods, HJ Manning, JM Dyke, PJ Todd, RA Joseph, RN Macdonald).

(U15 from RN Macdonald, PJ Todd, BW Mayall, RI Macdonald, BE Jones. Also played in U/15 or U/14: RP Klepzig, DM Lewis, KN Darroch, SC Parks, NJA Talbot).

Shiplake Court 1 May U/16 (h) Lost 0—5

Magdalen College School 15 May (h) Lost 3—6

The Dragon School 22 May (h) Lost $\frac{1}{2}$ — $\frac{8}{1}$

Douai School May 29 U/16 (a) Won 6—3

Cheney School June 5 U/15 (a) Lost 1—8

Leighton Park School 12 June U/15 (a) Lost 1—8

Oratory School 19 June U/15 (a) Lost 3—6

Salesian College 25 June U/15 Lost 1—5

Bloxham School 29 June U/16 Won 9—0

Wimbledon 68. Clargo and Coulbeck won their way through four rounds of the Thomas Bowl at Wimbledon on 23 August and the next two days. In spite of nerves they were clearly superior to their opponents, until they met Sutton Valence on the Thursday in the Quarter Final. These opponents were better in all respects, but it was a pity that they so demoralised our two. Even so, it was a most creditable three days and the Quarter Finals meant four victories.

1st round	Repton II	won 6—1, 1—6, 6—3
2nd round	Bloxham	won 3—6, 6—3, 6—4
3rd round	Bedford	won 6—3, 6—1
4th round	Solihull	won 6—2, 6—2
5th round	Sutton Valence	lost 1—6, 1—6

The hard tennis courts

On Saturday 27 April the new courts were opened with an exhibition match between Stephen Woodley and John Nichols. Woodley, who won 6—2, 6—2, was formerly Captain of Cambridge and is now on the Committee which runs the Public Schools Tennis Championships (Youll Cup) at Wimbledon. Nichols was champion of the RAF and plays for Berkshire.

The weather was squally, but a large number of spectators watched with enjoyment and went on to tea in the Court Room.

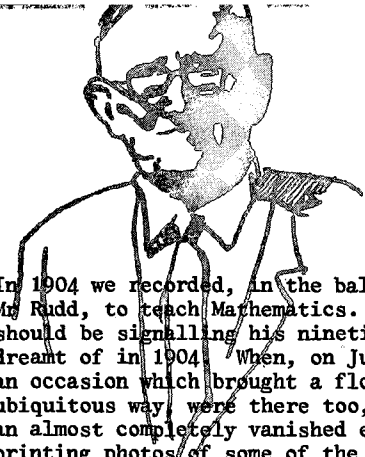
The formal opening of the courts was done by Mr WA Rudd, ready for a game himself in defiance of his 90 years. He had been keen on school tennis for many years. Mr Gray introduced and welcomed the guests and players, but the Headmaster needed to remind us that the courts were the triumph of Mr Gray himself, who had battled for them for ten years. He had collected from parents and old boys and friends of the School half the cost, persuading the School to stand the other half from a school fund.

Two other former members of the staff were present: JBE Alston (1921-1963) and RC Bateman (1929-1935).

The day ended with a cheese and wine party in the evening, in the tuck shop. Pioneers of school tennis such as Tony Gardner and Cyril Woodruff were there, helping to make it memorable as one of the friendliest of school occasions.

CETM

WA Rudd



In 1904 we recorded, in the baldest of terms, the arrival of a certain Mr Rudd, to teach Mathematics. Little did we think that this year we should be signalling his ninetieth birthday, and in a fashion so undreamt of in 1904. When, on July 3, Mr Rudd celebrated his birthday, an occasion which brought a flood of visitors and cards, we, in our ubiquitous way, were there too, to talk about the School as he knew it an almost completely vanished era. To accompany this record we are printing photos of some of the school buildings in about 1910 and now. For although he retired twenty-one years ago - not to mention coming here before most of the present staff were born - Mr Rudd is no relic. While holding no brief for the 'good old days' he has some fairly pungent comments to make on this modern, progressive, Top School. 'It's too big now,' he says. Nor does he think boys work any harder: 'I see boys out there on the lawn playing croquet all the time, and on half-holidays too...they might as well be playing some proper game or watching the teams. In my day there was always a splendid turnout to watch the first team play; these days there's hardly ever many there.' He admits that there wasn't the same race for university places then 'but we did quite well in Higher Certificate, and got some distinctions, and we got a few opens to Cambridge in Maths; and there haven't been many of those in the last seven years, I should think.'

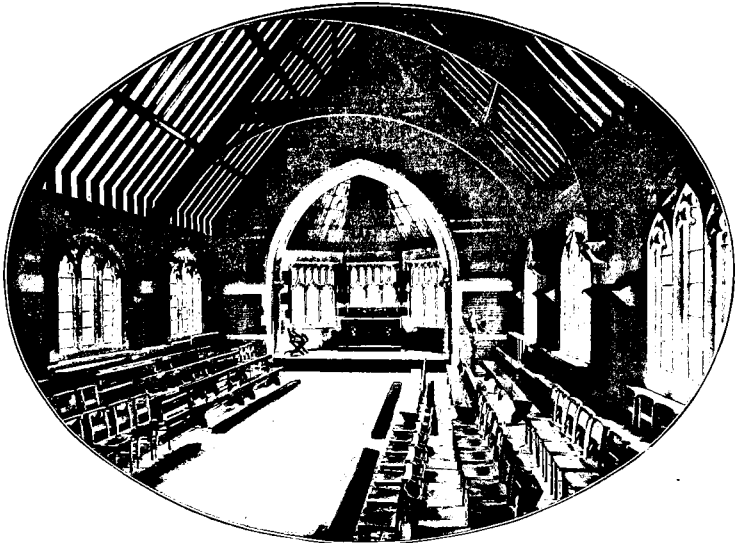


Mr Rudd came to Abingdon from Heidelberg, after going down from St John's, Cambridge, where he was himself an open scholar. A present-day Abingdonian might recognise the school grounds of 1910, but that would probably be all. 'We had the main buildings up to the Chapel; that was the only building the School possessed, with the drive going down to the Lodge. And then the next development was the buying of Waste Court. That came after the First War, about 1925 perhaps they started negotiations, but the house wasn't any use till 1930, when it was first used as a boarding house; my wife and I were the first people to take charge. That was in '29 or '30, but we only stayed there a year. Before that the junior boarders were in the Lodge, though there weren't very many, and the Sanatorium was in School, on the first floor where the Matron had her quarters.'

Mrs Rudd brought us coffee; outside the sun and wind quietly dappled the beech trees in the Nuns' Garden. We talked about the days before 1914, when for the School as for all Europe an era was ending. But, as the saying goes, 'Plus ca change...': 'Before 1913 there was an

arrangement for free-place boys. The rule was that twenty-five per cent of the boys had to be free-place boys; no account was taken of the academic ability, only of the numbers, and these were at compound interest, so to speak: if one year it was a quarter of 100, the next year it would be a quarter of 125, and eventually there were more free-place than fee-paying.' It seems this precursor of the DG system was not popular with the School or prospective parents who found the place full of...non fee-payers! 'In the end the School couldn't carry on; they couldn't get boarders, the situation was impossible. When Grundy came he protested and the percentage was cut to twelve and a half, and the School could get boarders once again. It was a most extraordinary situation, because the free-place boys at the School could stay till eighteen, whereas at an elementary school they would have left at fifteen.'

"Plus ca reste meme." Plenty has changed, though, in the years between the wars. We tend - not unreasonably - to regard all the change as having come since 1945, but a lot of the old order had gone by 1939.

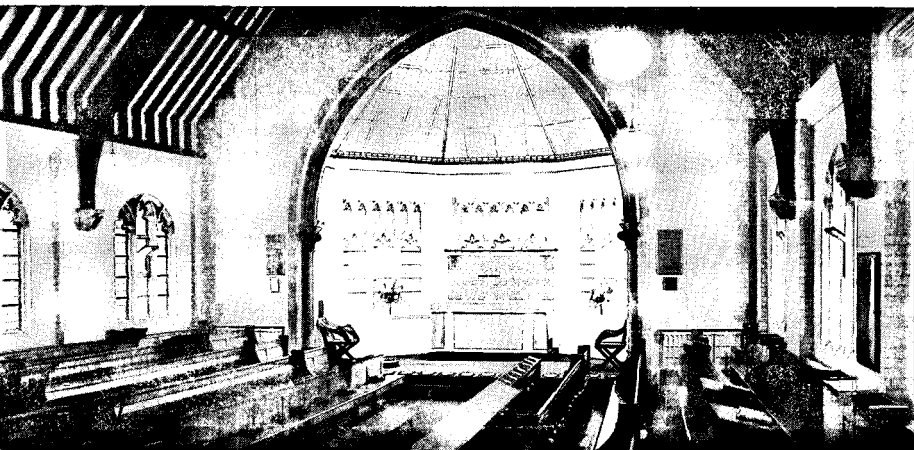


'In the old days all the headmasters were in orders, and held the appointment as reader in St Nicholas' Church; they used to take the boys across from the old buildings in Bridge Street, and took the Sunday service there. Layng was the last of these, though since 1869 the School had been using its own Chapel. Layng used to take the Sunday evening service in Chapel. This changed when Grundy came, because of course he wasn't in orders. He didn't have a chaplain; Mr Cobban appointed one when he first arrived. Another change that came in with Cobban was that Grundy never used to preach - I think I would say that with Mr Cobban the emphasis on religion went up, though of course with Grundy there was always chapel on Sunday evenings - but there were few sermons, and certainly not regular ones.'

In 1913 the School numbered 120 at the most; by 1947 there were 230 boys. 'In those days five masters were resident, out of a total of eight; three in the Lodge, and two in School. One lived in the rooms at the top of the Tower stairs; and then the room at the end of what we used to call Study Corridor - the steps by the arches were not there then - was also a master's bedroom, and he had a sitting-room in the little room next to the dining hall - now the Reading Room. The present dining hall was open to the weather; you can still see the steps which led down into it. The boys used to have a great game of cricket there, played with a tennis ball and a stump. The

wicket was marked in chalk on the south wall - the marks were still there when they put the radiators in and when I retired, and for all I know they may still be there. It was what was known as an underground playground...it was Grundy's idea to turn it into a dining hall because it was the right size and on the same level as the kitchens. They used to get the food up to the Reading Room by a lift in the right-hand corner as you went in. I remember one day there was a terrible catastrophe - the liftrope broke and the lift crashed down full of china! Then as you went through into School House you came to what is now the Hillarys' kitchen...it used to be the headmaster's study. I remember Layng had a turkey carpet down; it was a very comfortable room. Then when Grundy came he messed it up by putting in that partition and the lift up from the kitchens.

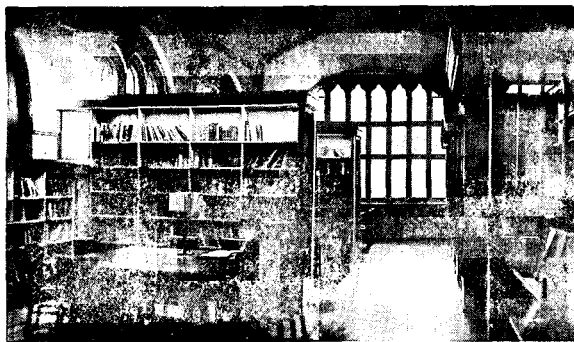
'In 1911 we bought Lower Field - before that it had only been rented. It was two fields then; on the left were tennis courts, and on the right two pitches for playing soccer sixes on. Between them was a deep ditch running down from the shed, which was big enough then to hold farm carts - it was twice the size it is now, extending down into the field. It was pretty delapidated, so we demolished half of it. The right hand field was ridge and furrow, very uneven, and also



twelve to eighteen inches below the level of the other half. The idea we had was to make it all into one field. We ripped out a hedge by the ditch and a big tree, and filled the ditch in. Then we started to fill up the lower half of the field, and a fund, the Playground Improvement Fund, was started, to pay for the tools. We were still doing it in 1939; when war broke out it was almost finished, but then it was mucked about with trenches and things - which were never used. The boys did all the work...some wouldn't do it, but there were some who weren't athletic and who spent hours working there. We left them to it - they knew what was wanted and got on with it.'

Today's exactly similar Building Club is probably unaware of its illustrious forerunners, not to mention their mammoth work, and might be a little non-plussed if left with as little supervision. With this in mind we asked what staff/pupil relations were like before the last War. 'I think they were always good; masters took part very keenly in the out-of-school activities. There was no music master, you know, when I was first here, but we were lucky to have a Mr Martell with us who did most of it. He had the most lovely tenor voice - he had been a choral scholar of St John's, Cambridge. He could play anything; he used to conduct the school concerts. He got up an orchestra of townspeople - and any boy that was capable; they used to perform a Concert in the Christmas term, which was very good....I'll never forget his voice; I think it was the finest I have ever heard.

'I think the School was more like a big family then; it's too big now. When I came there was a staff of eight, and Layng was the only one married, except for Wright, the drawing-master. He was a real artist. Because most of the masters were bachelors, and living in School, they really knew boys in and out. My impression now is that



they don't know them at all. We took a real interest in the boys and all they did. For instance, on my first holiday with my wife, in Devon, I had a sixthformer staying with me for three weeks to be coached before going up to Cambridge. That was after 1921...the relationship between master and boys always seemed closer. Academically, of course, we taught many fewer subjects then: in the sciences, for example, we taught only maths, physics and chemistry...no biology.'

Which probably goes to show something or other, as Mr Rudd starts his tenth decade and work begins on the foundations of the new Biology Block....



Prepared by Charles Maude and Alan Lewis; 1968 photos by Anthony Cowlin; 1910 versions by Paton.

Athletics

A successful season. In addition to the matches listed at the end, we have had two friendlies—one at Culham and one triangular with Radley and St Edward's when Radley's excellent track spurred us to many personal best performances and twelve first places. On 25 May Crawford and Akinbiyi became County Champions in the Junior Half Mile and Junior Triple Jump respectively while Smart was runner-up in the Youths' Mile.

Things did not go so well for us at the Stamford Paarlauf this year with a dropped baton in one race and a nasty collision in the other—both on the first lap. We never really recovered and our times were not as good as those we had been putting up in practice.

Selection for the County Schools Championships had to be done by special committee this year as rain had caused the cancellation of the North Berks Championships. Eight of our boys were selected, six of whom finished in the first 3 in their events. Akinbiyi, Crawford and Smart later represented the County at the All England Championships at Portsmouth but none of them produced his best form and all three failed to survive the early rounds.

In recent years several OAs have indicated that they would prefer an athletics match in the summer rather than in the cold wind of March, so this year we arranged an unofficial match in June. One might have guessed that it would rain almost continuously but all credit to the nine OAs who kept their word and turned out in spite of it.

In an attempt to put the scoring of the Decathlon on a firmer footing, we used the scoring tables produced by the AAA for their 5-star award scheme. These certainly emphasise how dreadfully weak we are in throwing events but perhaps fail to give sufficient differential for our purposes in track events. The result was: 1—Hunt 424; 2—Akinbiyi 417; 3—Blackburn 407. There were 13 competitors.

During the term full colours were awarded to PM Osborne and DJ Whipple; half-colours to PC McPhail. RHB

The following competed for the Senior Team on a number of occasions: Prints: AO Akinbiyi, MG Crawford, DN Hunt, DJ Whipple.

Distance: MG Crawford, JR Gough, PC McPhail, PM Osborne, NKA Smart.

Hurdlers: AO Akinbiyi, AC Ellis, NR Snodgrass, DJ Whipple.

Throws: RK Blackburn, Y Doganoglu, DN Hunt, BK Langmead, PC McPhail, JN Tyrholm.

The following Juniors competed on a number of occasions: TJ Allington, CJ Jordan, AJ Madin, CJ Nicholl, MG Osborn, J Semmence, NKA Smart, CF Vernon.

StAS Wantage Th 16 May (a) Seniors Won 75—51 Juniors Won 65—61

John Mason Fri 24 May (h) L6 and below Won 67—65

Vallingford & Stoneham Fri 7 June (a) Won 111½—91½—70

Stamford Paarlauf Wed 12 June Seniors 8th out of 14 Juniors 10th out of 14

StAs Sat 22 June (h) Won 69—52

Berks Schools Championships Sat 15 June (Bracknell)

U/15 440 yards: 2nd—Madin 58.4

U/17 Mile: 2nd—Smart 4:33.1

U/20 880 yards: 1st—Crawford 2:1.4

2000m Steeplechase: 3rd—McPhail 6:56.0

Long Jump: 1st—Whipple 20:1

Triple Jump: 2nd—Akinbiyi 43:7½*

* A new school record

Swimming

'It's warmer in after it has rained . . . ' That's what they say. Whether it is true or not, this term's bad weather does not seem to have affected the attendance at the pool. The nonswimmers have been working hard all the term and so have the life-savers, as was shown by the results of the RLS exams held on 11 July. The following were successful:

Award of Merit

Y Doganoglu

JC Griffith

T Healy

V Lacey-Johnson

C Spearing

P Teillac

Instructor's Certificate

AO Akinbiyi

RK Blackburn

Y Doganoglu

JC Griffith

I Johnstone

R Kirby

C Spearing

Scholar-Instructor's Certificate

Y Doganoglu

AME Brown

Bronze Medallion

B Ashcroft-Jones

T Baker

A Balbernie

S Barnard

N Beeching

M Bricknell

B Clubley

S Conibear

M Crocker

M Hamlin

P Harden

D Harvey

A Higgs

C Houston

C Jordan

D King

P Lenny

C Leonard

D Longden

N Luker

D Murphy

J Neville

M Paddison

N Pilling

P Scott

M Taylor

H Tresidder

D Vennor-Morris

A Ward

M Ward

Intermediate Certificate

N Allington

R Bowkett

C Crocker

C Hares

D Hey

M Lawless

P Lilley

M Waterfall

M Webster

P Webster

The two matches last term were most enjoyable. The team beat KAS Wantage and lost to Wallingford GS, both by very narrow margins. Our thanks go to one of our French visitors, Jean-Manuel Rossi, who was largely responsible for the success of the Junior Team.

Almost the last event of term was the Swimming Sports which were held on Monday 15 July. The standard of swimming was very high and most of the new records should stand for a long time.

Open freestyle, 50 yards:

1—Lenny, 29.56 secs; 2—Lacey-Johnson; 3—Blackburn

U/16 breaststroke, 100 yards:

1—Tresidder, 1.42.4; 2—Houston; 3—Kirby

U/14 backstroke, 50 yards:

1—Lilley, 39.4 secs; 2—Webster; 3—Waterfall

Open butterfly, 50 yards:

1—Rossi, 34.2 secs; 2—Blackburn; 3—Nicholl

Open plunge:

1—Egelstaff, 46ft; 2—Luker; 3—Lacey-Johnson

U/16 backstroke, 50 yards:

1—Tresidder, 38.6 secs; 2—Hallum; 3—Paddison

Open backstroke, 50 yards:

1—North, 1.17.8*; 2—Blackburn; 3—Blair

U/16 freestyle, 100 yards:

1—Rossi, 1.2.2*; 2—Tresidder; 3—Ward

U/14 breaststroke, 50 yards:

1—Lawless, 48.1 secs; 2—Parker; 3—Webster

Open freestyle, 100 yards:

1—Lenny, 1.10.0; 2—Lacey-Johnson; 3—Blackburn

Open breaststroke, 100 yards:

1—Parfitt, 1.24.7; 2—Blair; 3—Tressider

U/14 freestyle, 50 yards:

1—Lilley, 31.9 secs; 2—Hey; 3—Weedy

Open breaststroke, 250 yards:

1—Parfitt, 4.10.4; 2—Blair; 3—Egelstaff

Open freestyle, 250 yards:

1—Rossi, 3.12.8*; 2—Lenny; 3—Blackburn

Open medley relay

1—T, 53 secs; 2—B; 3—R

Junior freestyle relay:

1—K, 1.8.0; 2—T; 3—B

Senior freestyle relay

1—T, 52.0 secs*; 2—K; 3—B

Junior diving:

1—Hallum; 2—Ward; 3—Harris

Senior Diving:

1—North; 2—Kirby; 3—Lenny

* New record

The new Blackburn Cup for the 250 yards breaststroke went to TA Parfitt, and the Elliott Cup for the most individual points and the Becker Cup for Freestyle Swimming went to P Lenny. Tesdale House held on to their early lead, which increased steadily throughout the match, to win the Green Cup from Blacknall by 77 points to 48.

After a very successful afternoon's racing the Cups and Certificates were presented by Mrs AG Howard.

Our warmest thanks go to Mr Willis, Mr Baker and Mr Howard for the part they played in the Swimming Sports, and to Terence Parfitt for giving me, personally, the benefit of his experience throughout the season. Lastly, I should like to say thank-you to Mr Coleman for the work he has done for us all through the term. I think that members of the School who have swum in away matches will best realise just how great is the contribution he makes to the swimming season. PL

Badminton

The summer term is officially out-of-season for badminton, but although only one match was played, a score of boys continued to do badminton as their major activity.

On 11 July the First Six played the Old Abingdonians who fielded an extremely strong team which contained several county players. Although defeated 0—9 the team played reasonably well considering the standard of the opposition. Indeed both sides felt it to be a far harder fought and more enjoyable match than the previous one in July 1967.

Next season both First and Second Sixes will again have full fixture lists and despite the loss of AR Cantwell, JY McLaughlan, and WN McGowan-Docherty, all of whom have served the team well since its instigation last year, the club can look forward to another successful season.

The recent decision of the General Games Committee to give half-colours for badminton this season should indeed act as a further catalyst to the development of the sport. WNMCGD

The First Six was: JR McLaughlan (capt), WN McG-Docherty, AR Cantwell, CJ Spearing, JM Elliott, DN Baumann. The OA Team was: B Wiggins, D Jones, A Pickford, G Bailey, D Saffin, P. Firth.

Bridge Club

A fairly active term, with members meeting most lunch hours to play amongst themselves. The term also saw our second match against St Edward's School, which our first and third teams won by large margins, and our second lost only narrowly despite depletion due to illness. RJAB

First Four: RJA Butland (capt), JT Stafford, JL Cox, K Brown.
Won 86—51 IMP.

Second Four: T Healy, N Coulbeck, D Heard, J Weir.
Lost 62—68 IMP.

Third Four: JA Clargo (Sec), AP Long, MD Bricknell, AJM Crocker.
Won 72—45 IMP.

Reports

CCF

The highlight of the term, details of the activities of which will be found below, was the Annual Inspection by Brigadier JD King-Martin CBE DSO MC who confirmed the complimentary things he said at the end of the Inspection by a very good report. Attendance at Summer Camp was reasonably good and a sprinkling of boys have been on courses, but in general there are still too few boys making use of their opportunities in this direction.

Some sixty-five boys have volunteered to join the Corps next term. Meanwhile, we say goodbye with regret to Flight-Lieutenant AG Howard, who has looked after the RAF Section so well this last year, and we thank him for all he has done and wish him well. LCJG

RN

This term must have set a record where extraneous activities are concerned. On Field Day one half of the section visited HMS Phoenix (fire-fighting) where they spent a busy and interesting day. The other half took part in an exercise on the downs.

The highlight was, of course, Inspection Day when the Section featured unusually well. Later, there was a day at sea for a dozen cadets on HMS Hampshire and then a rather wet overnight camp. We are grateful to CPO Kettle for all his interest and help, also to L/S King for his work with the whaler. It is with much regret that we have said farewell to P/O Brett and P/O Bourlet, both of whom have done so much for the section.

CMR

Army

The greater part of the term was spent in preparation for the Annual General Inspection, which, in event, passed-off most satisfactorily. I would like to thank all members of the section who worked so hard both at their 'turn-out' and for the equally important practical training demonstrations. In particular the Guard of Honour were excellent.

Field Day was also successful with parties visiting the School of Military Survey, The Hermitage and Horley Lake Bridging Camp, and Proficiency candidates training on Shotover Hill. TGKF

RAF

With the departure of Flt Sgt Halling, Sgt Matthews was promoted to that rank at the beginning of term, and Cpl Nicholl promoted to Sgt i/c 'B' Flight.

The term began well with the results of Advanced Proficiency showing a 100% success, with no less than eight distinctions and ten credits out of a total entry of twenty-five. The term's work was spent either on individual or joint projects, which were to form part of the section's contribution to the Annual Inspection, and some very good work was done.

Field Day was again a divided activity, with 'A' Flight going to RAF Little Rissington where, instead of the expected competition for the Wright Jubilee Trophy, we saw a display by the Red Arrows and then visited the Central Flying School Museum. 'B' Flight took part in a local exercise on

Shotover Hill, together with members of the Army Section. At the Annual Inspection the Section was praised by the RAF officer accompanying for its varied programme. During the summer holidays ten cadets were involved in gliding courses at Swanton Morley.

As I am now leaving the Section, I offer it and my successor, Mr Hammond, every good wish for the future. AGH

Band

Eight years ago, the Abingdon School CCF Band boasted nine trombones amongst its ranks; this year we have only boasted one. Nevertheless, with the average age almost three years lower, the results have been very encouraging. In public, the band blew loud and clear on Remembrance Day and were 'mentioned in despatches' as it were, on Inspection Day.

The CCF can also be proud of its corps of eight drummers who, although all new to the ropes at the beginning of the year, progressed to perform an original solo piece during the Annual Inspection.

We look forward to next year, again under the patient baton of Mr. Hall-Mancey and the invaluable Mr Clack (who has been helping our band since before the majority of the present CCF were born) with an increase of confidence, an increase of personnel and a new silver mace flashing ahead. MGB

Loch Ewe camp (Navy)

Despite a rather disheartening start through the absence of three cadets and four days of rain, morale was extremely good and everybody thoroughly enjoyed it. The last four days were magnificent and the party covered twenty-three miles on a two-day expedition, including climbing the highest peak of An Teallach. The climaxes of the week were a 200ft dive in a submarine, an afternoon aboard HMS Kingsford and a pulling regatta on the last day in which we lost in the final. With Commander Griffin, P/O Geary and L/S Shield were L/S PM Annett, Cdt CG Hartnell and Cdt PG Henry. It is a pity that so few cadets take advantage of one of the most picturesque, interesting and active camps available. MCG

Annual camp

The five officers and thirty-two cadets who attended Annual Camp at Penhale in Cornwall were lucky to have beautiful weather for the training; the latter was organised entirely by our own officers except for one excellent demonstration by 24th Infantry Division. Despite the very limited facilities at the camp and the lack of training by Regular soldiers, a fairly full programme was organised centring on expedition training and platoon attacks, interspersed with surf riding and sun bathing. Credit is due to the cadets, whose spirit and morale remained excellent, even throughout the arduous walks, and helped to make the camp memorable and worthwhile. JME

Police cadets

This first course of our Police Section has succeeded admirably in providing an entertaining and profitable alternative to a third year in the CCF. For this we are particularly grateful to Sergeant B Long, the Police Liaison Officer, who devoted a lot of time and trouble to giving us as enjoyable a

course as he possibly could, while at the same time bearing in mind the main object of the scheme. Thus, although the programme for the year was slightly upset by the absorption of the Royal Berkshire Constabulary into the new Thames Valley Constabulary—as a result of which several lecturers were unable to come to us—the general standard of activities has been exceptionally high for the founder course of a section.

The impression of our visit to the Police College at Bramshill, on our first Field Day, will remain with us as that of a very fine historical building where those on the various command courses are trained in all the most up-to-date techniques of their profession. Similarly, on the following Field Day, our visit to Wapping Police Station served as an instructive insight into the workings of the River police—a rather 'off-beat' section of the Force about which very few of us had any definite knowledge previously.

During the course we were all able to fulfil ambitions of travelling in a patrol-car, and a few were fortunate enough to take part in high-speed dashes to minor trouble-spots in and around Abingdon.

The main object of this course is to give members the opportunity of getting to know and sympathise with the work of the Police Force in this country. (It is an unfortunate fact that the Force is frequently maligned by the general public, chiefly because of the ignorance of the latter.) It may happily be said that all who leave this year's course do so with a real understanding of the tremendous job of work carried out on behalf of the general public by the Police Force. For giving us this understanding our every warm thanks go not only to Sergeant Long and the many lecturers who have spoken so ably to us, but also to Chief Superintendent Brown, whose enthusiasm for the scheme was the mainstay of the launching of the section.

JGD

Musical notes

Who reads this article? Certainly past members of school and staff, and is chiefly to them that I address this report. Amongst present members of school, I imagine that about thirty per cent get further than paragraph one, and thinking retrospectively over the past year, this figure assumes a far greater significance than a piece of statistical guesswork. For, say, seventy per cent of boys, music at school means turning to this or that hymn number first thing in the morning, and perhaps noticing that there is a band playing on CCF Inspection Day. Music masters are at times seen emerging from the new and closely-guarded music school, to excite comment only when, untrue to form, a cricket bat is carried in lieu of a fiddle.

Reading back over my Music Reports in the last two editions of *Abingdonian* makes me feel that now, at the end of a school year, is a good moment to reflect on, as well as itemise, past activities. Paragraph one is meant neither as a surprise nor an expression of pessimism. Quite the reverse. The music department has recently been blessed not only with a luxurious new building, but also with the benefits of an increased music allowance for building up equipment and the introduction of music exhibitions for outstanding pupils. We have been given the encouragement and financial aid to expand and our aim must be always to give that seventy per cent (or is it 60 per cent?) a real chance of discovering that the music school is theirs as much as anybody's. The attitude that you are a musician or non-musician (ie instrumentalist or not) is nonsense. Anybody capable of a musical response is a musician.

As I write this, I am still in process of unwinding after the Founder Day Concert. The intensity of its preparation, concentrated almost entirely into the last full week of term, has been an anxious-making time for many. The sustained and willing efforts of all the participants served to make the week's hard work enjoyable, and I am grateful to all of them for the cheerful and heartening co-operation.

Although this was undoubtedly the climax of the term's musical operations, there was no fallow period preceeding it. There are reports of the activities of the Music and Cullen Societies elsewhere in this issue. The Kenyon College Choir (Ohio) paid us a visit on 24 June and the forcefulness of their singing in a light and varied programme, and the infectiousness of their musical vitality, will long be remembered, as Messrs Fairlie Howells and Joseph reminded us on Founder's Day. Members of staff, parents and boys present and past combined to give a TASS concert in Lacies Court Garden on 6 July. A mixture of wind music, fine weather, claret and a beautifully arranged second half entertainment by Francis Kitching, made a very successful evening.

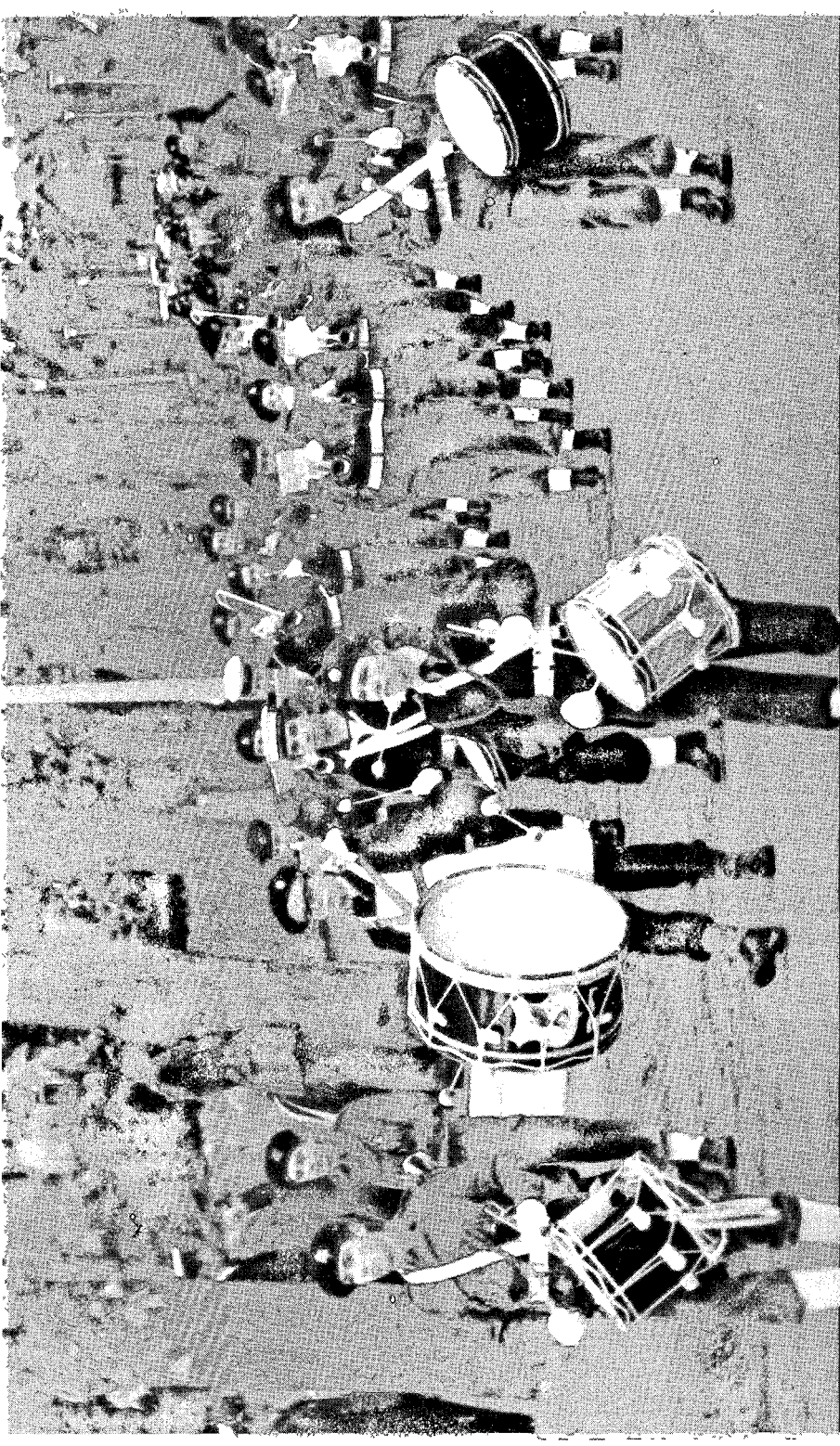
Enthusiasm and variety were the keynotes of a Junior Concert. This was really a workshop programme, with the different activities of First and Second Formers on display—orchestra, chamber music groups, soloists interspersed with form orchestra projects, creating a spirit of healthy rivalry. There will be more independent music-making in the lower part of the school in future. Starting this term there will be a junior as well as a senior choral society.

Amongst the leavers, we are particularly sorry to be losing Mr Clive Pafford, who has been with us teaching violin for eight years, and who has contributed much to school music over and beyond his work with individual pupils. We wish him and his wife health and happiness for the future and look forward to keeping in touch with him. There are many boys we shall miss—Nigel Keen, Graham Webb, Philip Minns (who left earlier in the year) have all shown a real example in taking responsibility and being prepared to put into their music as much as, if not more than they wish to take out of it. In the running of a large department, where only two full time staff rely so much on the co-operation of boys, what more could you ask? In this respect, David Murphy's is a quite exceptional loss, both as an outstanding musician and because he has shown in abundance the qualities mentioned above.

Now that I have completed my first year at Abingdon, I should like to conclude by expressing my gratitude to all members of the music staff for their work and enthusiasm which has helped to create such a happy atmosphere in the music school. We have had many concerts and high spots, but looking back, one of the highest is the memory of a West Court boy practising his instrument day after day before morning school—if ever there was a case of a duck taking to water—here it is! ARLE

Chapel notes

I write these Chapel notes for the last time on the eve of my holiday in Eire, but with a heavy heart. It is not easy to leave any place or job where one has been as happy as I have been at Abingdon. I have enjoyed every moment of my stay there, made very many friends, learnt many useful lessons, and for all of these I thank God. I thank Him too that He has restored me to health and vigour after my illness in February, and





The Opening of the Hard Tennis Courts



Lacies Court—any afternoon

ow that this speedy and complete recovery was due in no small measure the prayers and kindness of many people. There were many who cheer-ly bore the extra burden that my absence laid upon them. My own mediate future is not yet determined, but I believe that it will continue lie in School Chaplaincy work. My only consolation at the moment is e hope that the links that I have forged with Abingdon will be main-ened in the years to come.

I was delighted that the Headmaster was able to appoint my successor fore the end of term, and I am confident that The Reverend Peter born will come to feel about Abingdon School as I do now. He spent e last few days of a very busy term at the School, and I was able to gin to appreciate his qualities. An Australian with experience on the est End stage and twenty-two years as an Instructor in the Royal Navy, eological training at Cuddesdon and an assistant chaplaincy at Geelong rammars School—all this will stand him in good stead. But above all he a man of God. A school chaplain is one of the staff, a member of a am, and the Christian ministry in any good school is one that is shared r all. The Chaplain is a specialist; his training has fitted him to exercise rtain specific functions, to give a lead and sense of direction in the affairs e chapel; but he has the joy of knowing that his day to day pastoral ork in his personal contacts with boys is work which he shares with his ristian colleagues. No School Chaplain's work is easy anywhere: if it is it would not be worth doing. There are ups and downs, successes and ilures, joys and disappointments, but if it is always centred on God the ue can be left in His hands. All this and much more Peter Osborn will d at Abingdon. He will find too a responsive school. I wish him God's essage as he starts his new and exciting ministry, and I hope that those o read this will pray for him and for me as I seek my next assignment. The Confirmation Classes are well under way and thirty boys are at esent being helped to prepare themselves at School. Mr Eden's Wednes-ey evening bible classes have continued to flourish. For three weeks last m both the senior and junior chapels were conducted entirely by boys. ries II Holy Communion has now become firmly established, and seems e be universally approved for its directness and greater all-round partici-ation. The Ante-Communion on two occasions replaced Matins as the ain School Service on Sundays and this too has proved a welcome change. Finally I want to thank the very many who have done so much for the apel in a great variety of ways whilst I have been Chaplain. DGS

The collection at the Beginning of Term Service (£5 15s 3d) was given St Helen's Church. The collection on Founder's Day (£57 6s) was shared ually between St Helen's Church and Dr Barnardo's Homes. The llection at the Leavers' Service (£15 8s). Those collections in Chapel ich have not gone towards Chapel Funds went to these good causes:

RNLI	£9 1s 9d
New Guinea Mission	£5 13s 4d
Christian Aid	£20 0s 0d
SPCK	£5 17s 11d
The Elmore Committee	£7 12s 8d
British Council of Churches	£3 15s 8d

Th Chapel flowers were provided by and arranged last term by Forms L, 6H, 6L; RN section, Onslow, Literary and Playreading Societies; Golf

Club, Dayboy House Prefects, Scouts, Mrs Willey and an anonymous friend.

A list of this term's services, collections and preachers is available either directly, or through a stamped addressed envelope, from the Chaplain.

Voluntary Service

Unlike some schools, we do not have a Voluntary Service Unit that is an alternative to the CCF and can meet as a group. Consequently our activities are unobtrusive, and what is involved in visiting an old person is now widely known.

Over the years the emphasis has changed a good deal. Fetching coal and chopping wood, once the commonest tasks, seldom feature in visitors' reports now that many homes no longer use solid fuel. Gardening, cleaning windows and shopping are the jobs that visitors are most likely to be asked to do. Many volunteers, however, find that it is a few minutes' chat that their old people want most of all. To pop into a home for ten minutes or so, perhaps on the way back from rowing or during the boarders' walk on Sunday afternoons, is not a demanding task; but the pleasure that such a visit gives is often out of all proportion to the time spent by the volunteer.

During the year twenty-seven old people have been visited by members of the School, some of them regularly, others during a blitz on gardens that was organized after the examinations by JC Bourlet. This term we have lost an unusually large number of visitors: NJ Attwood, JC Bourlet, MJH Cook, AS Jackson, ND Keen, DCL Murphy, JL Sayce. To them we offer our very warm thanks for what they have done for the old people of Abingdon.

HT

Scouts (34th North Berks)

Venture Unit: Amongst the term's activities, the return of both caving and an incident journey proved the most successful.

On a caving expedition to the Mendips, the beginners explored Goat Church Cavern, and a more adventurous party reached the bottom of Sidcot Swallet.

Although the standard of activities this term has been up to the award standard, no specific award work has been undertaken. Next term we feel that by making everyone aim for the Venture award, the activities will prove even more enjoyable.

VA

Junior Scouts: A very satisfactory Field Day was held at Longridge Boating Centre again. After winning the District swimming sports and a Flag (subsequently the Tigers came fifth in the County camping competition) there was insufficient opposition to make the athletic sports worthwhile! The Oakley House site no longer being available, the offer from Mr Homewood of a site at Peach Croft Farm was gratefully accepted and several successful weekend camps were held. The Founder's Day display included a demonstration camp-site (hot-dogs cooked while you wait) and an aerial runway—in continuous use!

For two years Polley, Howat, Bosworth, Jordan, Howes, Sharpe and Egelstaff have led their patrols through the transition into 'new-look' Scouting: we thank them for their leadership and wish them success in the Venture Unit.

Summer Camp: Six patrols (including one from Mr Welch's troop), dry and sometimes hot weather, and the rugged site in Misarden Park (by kind permission of Wing-Commander Sinclair) produced an enjoyable camp. The indefatigable Richard Welch (OA) devised and executed a full and varied programme; Ramsey (food) and Loach (equipment) quartermastered extremely efficiently, and Osborne and the other Venture Scouts maintained the remaining unexciting but essential 'services'.

Mr Baker's ingenious orienteering course was eventually traversed by all; each patrol completed a 24-hour expedition; incident journeys, trails, camp-fires, church parade, aerial runway, swimming, lunch-hunt, parents' day, banquet, sports day, . . . but for many the highlight was the night wide-game—one of the most satisfying yet. Otters (PL Bosworth) were rock patrol. DRS

Grundy Library

Once again the librarians arranged a display in the Library for Founder's Day, not only of some of our valuable books in the archives, but also many of our recent additions, including leaving books presented by GP Gill and MA and MS Dukler, and two members of staff, Mr Street and Mr AG Howard. KGH

Societies

It is always a tragedy that in the summer term, with imminent A levels as an excuse, so many of the School's societies either give up the ghost for the term or else limit themselves to only one or two meetings. When one realises that half the potential membership of these societies consists of lower sixth formers, comparatively exam free, the frequent cry of 'exams on the offing' simply fails to hold water and we are left to face that once again the demon Apathy has led people to take the easy way out and make no effort to take advantage of the many opportunities open to them.

On the other hand, the minority who do take an interest in the activities of one or more societies have found themselves frustrated again and again by different meetings on the same night, which lends force to our campaign for some sort of co-ordinating body, as indeed does the constant in-fighting over who does what, which often results in no one doing anything, thus detracting from many societies' scope. (Who could say that the aims of the Literary, Critics, Athenaeum and Play Reading are not broadly the same?) It would seem that some sort of rationalisation of the society structure is sorely needed, with a view to some amalgamation of societies and co-ordination of meetings.

However, despite the tendency to cease operation in the face of exams, several societies have continued to function normally. The **Royse** is an example, with two meetings and an outing during the term. At the first Robin Balbernie read a paper on the Arthurian legends entitled *The King Who Will Return*, which, though considered esoteric by some, provoked a lively discussion on the relevance of legend and myth in society. The other meeting heard a paper by John Earl on the different nature of the young and adults and the difficulties of compatibility, entitled *The Generation Gap*; while the outing, at which the Society was the Headmaster's guest, was to the Oxford Playhouse to see the revue *Four Degrees Over*,

an amusing evening co-starring Nick Loukes, whom many of us remember as a formidable Head of School.

The **Economists**, which always manages to get excellent outside speakers lived up to its reputation. At the first of its two meetings, both well attended, Mr DV Holmes, BBC political correspondent, spoke about his job and his privileged view of politics and politicians. Although the meeting lasted well over two hours the interest was such that many people's questions had to remain unasked. David Butler, the psephologist spoke at the very successful second meeting. His professional knowledge of elections, his direct answers to questions and his subtle use of statistics to support his arguments were appreciated by all. The **St Edmund**, however, only managed one meeting, though this is a society with a large lower sixth membership—an outing to Stanton Harcourt where they toured the grounds of the manor and the church and where, despite the bad weather an enjoyable time was had by all. That this society has developed into one of the most popular is due largely to the efforts of the Chaplain, to whom go our gratitude and best wishes.

The **Symposium** did manage one solitary meeting, at which Robert Lang spoke on the Film as a Philosophic Essay and a Propaganda Medium. In his talk he related the director's power to use the film as a method of indoctrination, and contended that the film provides the modern art form combining as it does drama, music, and visual art.

But the **Literary** is unfortunately one of those which collapsed during the term, as, with little excuse, did the **Critics**. This, I am sure, would not have happened had these been sections of some larger society, for there are many in the School with a very real interest in literature. This is shown by the fact that the **Athenaeum** achieved two outings, both to Shakespeare productions. The first, at the very beginning of term, was Frank Hauser's production of *The Tempest*, to which he added WH Auden's *The Sea* and *The Mirror*. The inclusion of this collection of speeches put into the mouths of *The Tempest's* characters provided a focal point for criticism many felt it was an anticlimax, though some enjoyed it and thought it enhanced the production. The second outing was to Stratford to see *King Lear*, which lived up to all expectations. The producer's skill created an atmosphere in which any scenery would have been superfluous, and amongst a wealth of scenes that of the battle in the final act stands out.

The **Historians**, this time reasonably as it is a solely upper sixth society held only one meeting owing to 'the oft-quoted but nevertheless real "pressure of exams",' at which Mr F Lambert spoke on Spanish Colonial History, a dramatic discourse as spiced as its opulent and romantic subject. The Society has been struck, as have others, by the throttling urge not to move outside the syllabus; but members reaped some benefit from the resulting smaller discussion group—namely the absence of 'pomposity's loud tones' which, in the mass meeting, drown the individual truth and render discussion without substance or value. But while The **Historians** had ample excuse for not holding meetings, the **Onslow**, as its lower sixth counterpart, had none whatsoever, and its failure to hold any must render its future doubtful, to say the least.

At its only meeting the **Scientific** heard Professor HM Powell, of Oxford University, give an absorbing talk to a large audience at a joint meeting with St Helen's. He illustrated his subject, *Chemical Crystallography*, with a film and several specimens, including a crystal 'worth its weight in platinum'. The **Mathematical**, which offers its members an excellent chance

to extend their knowledge beyond the confines of the syllabus, failed to hold any meetings. The **Modern Linguists**, without a rival in their field, held two meetings. Starting with a pre-oral evening at St Helen's (to which members undoubtedly owe their good marks in the exam soon after), they also saw Hebel's *Herodias* und *Marianne*, at the New Theatre, which despite discouraging character changes proved more entertaining than was anticipated. The **Bruce**, however, has been dormant for the second term in accession, and looks pretty dead—dead of neglect.

But the **Debating Society** has once more blossomed forth with two very successful debates. The motion at the first, 'This House deploras coloured immigration and believes that our "coloured friends" should be encouraged to leave' was (deplorably!) carried. Both Alan Banes and Mr Eden spoke excellently and that the motion was only narrowly won was in no small way due to the latter's passionate opposition. The second debate saw the Headmaster opposing Mr Fairhead's contention 'that the Vote should be lost to sixty'. At this amusing and enjoyable debate, with such formidable speakers, the motion was narrowly defeated. All in all the term has shown that where people are interested in the motions debating has a very real part to play in the School's activities. The **Lower Sixth Debating**, though it did manage one meeting, seems to be on its last legs and I feel that here is an obvious example where amalgamation of a society with its 'big brother' would be for the better. The third of the debating societies, the **Fifth Form Society**, held a discussion on 'the best sport' at which tempers reached boiling point, and which ended in a free-for-all. They also had an outing to the EMI recording studios where they viewed equipment worth millions. But the proposed mass discussion of the School Rules failed to materialise. Perhaps this year's Society will take the opportunity to let off steam on this subject on which there is so much popular feeling.

Of the cultural societies the summer term saw a great decline in the activities of the **Rostrum**, the **Junior Knowledge**, and the **Cullen**, though this last held a very jolly symposium of members' favourite pieces of music on the last night of term. The **Fine Arts**, too, had a bad term, with only one disappointing outing to the Thame Antique Fair, but the **Folk** and **Play Reading** continue as strongly as ever. The one held two meetings, one internal and the other with St Helen's and John Mason, as well as contributing to folk meetings at John Mason and the Unicorn Theatre. The PRS read its customary four plays: *East Lynne* (Brian Burton), *Antigone* (Anouilh), *La Malade Imaginaire* (Molière), and *Timon of Athens* (Shakespeare). Here is a very worthy society, and it is pleasing to note that the membership, both from ourselves and from St Helen's, is on the increase.

The **Film** and the **Jazz** had a successful term too, though the former suffered badly from the failure of senior members to put in an appearance at many meetings. There seems to be a feeling abroad that this society is merely a cheap substitute for the cinema, and although the range of films (*Alphaville*, *The Man Who Had His Hair Cut Short*, *Accident*, *Blow-up*, *Carface*, *Lord of the Flies*) was very wide only the more commercial of these were generally appreciated. The Jazz Club held three meetings: a discussion of John Mayall's *Diary of a Band*, a first-rate talk by Hans Visser on the classical aspects of jazz, and a visit to Culham College to hear the Graham Collier Sextet. A specialist society, it is one which without making much fuss does a tremendous amount to satisfy the interests of its members.

Still, though boys have every opportunity to take advantage of what these cultural societies offer, membership is by and large limited to a few faithfuls, and the majority are not doing themselves or their intellectual justice, merely attending the occasional meeting but for the most part content to sit back and let others do the work.

The 'doing' societies, too, had a poor term with only eight of the much larger nominal number actually doing anything. The **Sailing** had a lot of bad luck, with both boats out of commission by the end of the term and the proposed **Mirror Dinghy Kit** failing to arrive. Despite all this the club recovered sufficiently to race against **Leighton Park**, losing by the narrow margin of one quarter of a point. The **Tape Recording** made a recovery and recorded several concerts and debates, as well as providing the sound effects for the end of term concert. It is still, however, having trouble organising any activities on a corporate basis. The **Philatelic** is also experiencing this problem, for although members often get together to swap and discuss stamps, formal meetings are difficult to arrange, and ill attended when they do take place. This happened to **Mr AK Bosworth** talk on 'Forgeries that have fooled me', an impressive display of knowledge to which only a handful of members came.

The **Music Society** not only carried on with its main aim of mounting concerts but also, with a larger committee, practically took over the Music Department and thrashed out the form and content of **An Entertainer** of which more than enough has been said elsewhere. Of the two concerts it gave, the first had two performances, slightly different in content, on 25 May at **Culham College** and 26 May at **School**. Both featured two works for eight celli: a well-known and beautiful **Villa-Lobos** and a new piece by **Antony le Fleming**. The first performance began with **Handel's F major Organ Concerto** (**David Murphy**, organ), and the second with **Bach's sixth Brandenburg Concerto**. This concert, incidentally, was so popular that it is being repeated this term, on 9 November at **Radley College**, and 10 November at **School**. End of commercial. The other concert, stage-managed by the Society's secretary, **Stephen Fairlie**, took the more normal pattern of a variety of comparatively short pieces featuring flute ensembles, starring **Peter McPhail** and **Andrew Cuninghame**.

The **Change Ringers** continued to practice regularly throughout the term, ceasing only when exams were actually in progress. Of the five quarter-peals attempted, three were successful, and the support given to other schools during practices was greatly appreciated. The **Photography** on the other hand, was dormant for most of the term, and it was only the excellent **Founder's Day** exhibition which saved the society's name. The **Anglers**, still under the shadow of foot and mouth at the beginning of the term, however managed several competitions and lectures, whilst the **Aeronautical** still holds the interest of many, although the term's only outing was to the local **RAF** open day.

All of which leads one to the conclusion that while there are many excellent societies at present, changes are badly needed if some of them are not to disappear while the position grows steadily more intolerable for the remaining ones. Administrative changes, however, will have no effect unless the hard work of the core of enthusiasts is to be actively supported by the interest and participation of the ordinary member or potential member. This is a perennial cry, but it does not appear that the situation is improving; on the contrary, it grows worse.

Other term

At the beginning of last term there were 598 boys in the School, of whom 173 were boarders and 425 were in the Sixth Forms.

Two Parents' Evenings were held, for the second forms (16 May—new, 19 May) and the fourth forms (13 June). The Supplementary Entrance Examination took place on 27 June.

The Abingdon Council of Churches Study Group met in the Court House on 22 April and 20 May, as did the Berks Bucks and Oxon branch of the Law Society (7 May).

The School photograph was taken on the first day of term (17 April) before the CCF's Annual Inspection (Brig JD King-Martin), postponed because of the Royal visit, was on 21 June.

As always, many speakers visited: among them were Mr D Headley of the PSAB (11/12 June); the American preacher, the Rev G Clayton (17 July); and Capt KS Davidson of the British Shipping Federation who talked to the fourth forms (8 July).

And the term was enlivened by several corporate visitations. The most noteworthy of these was the two-day visit of eight of the educational correspondents of the national press (23/24 May). The School played fair in a genuine confrontation between press and boys (and not only the representatives of the Establishment, either) took place. The immediate results of the form of various articles in the press, notably a long and synthetic picture of the School which appeared in *The Times* of 4 June. A similar though less elaborate programme was laid on for Nicholas Gifford of the *Sunday Telegraph*, who paid a lone visit on 27 June.

The School also welcomed Manchester Grammar's First Eleven in the course of their Whitsun tour, the ebullient choir of Kenyon College Ohio who gave a vigorous concert in Larkmead School (24 June—arranged by the Abingdon Schools Music Association) a party from a British Council International Summer Course (12 July) and the boys from Beziers, who arrived on 9 July. We are particularly grateful to all the parents who so generously housed and fed our visitors.

Individual overseas visitors included Pierre Teillac, without whose annual visit the summer term would seem to lack something, and who stayed at Lacies Court from 19 June to the end of term; Jean-Manuel Rossi (from 22 June) and Philippe Leder (25 June) who were lodged by Mrs Stimpson; Jean-Baptiste Denint, guest of Mr and Mrs Cresswell; and Hans Berling, guest of Dr and Mrs Seaver.

The Dolgoed project has been somewhat quieter than last holidays, perhaps a sort of second wind, but this has meant that the builder has not been able to complete the basic job of making the farm house dry. He has now mended chimneys and the roof and renewed a number of windows as well as reflooring one of the upstairs rooms.

Two small parties went there towards the end of the holidays. First a small working party has started the considerable job of painting the exterior of the house, and just before term Mr Fairhead led a sketching party.

In addition, though we have no space to print it, we received a report from Mr Truran on the Field Club visit to Dolgoed over half term. As well as furthering the work on the road and the house, the party, under the leadership of Messrs Clayton, Taylor, Truran and Woodgett, achieved some success in its research, though much less than was hoped for. What-

ever the environmental handicaps, however, the resulting display Founder's Day was lively and well attended.

The School was represented in or at the following activities: Ama in the Abbey Hall (21 April—see last term's issue), a middle school conference on South Africa and Apartheid at John Mason (7 May), a Fris of Abingdon lecture on Palaces by Richard Walker (10 May), Aristoph Frogs, in Greek (21 May), a visit to the Weed Research Institute Kidlington (11 June), Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice* at Brad College (13 June), a field course at Charlbury (21–23 June) and a visit the National Physical Laboratories (26 June).

Charity last term: many toys were collected for the Oxford Aid Ba for children in Vietnam; first form activities, mostly spontaneous, ra £15 12s 4d for Oxfam; books and £5 2s went to the Ranfurly Lib Service; and the School provided manpower for the fetes of Dr Barnar and the Friends of Abingdon.

Socials last term: multitudinous unofficial or semi-official socials t place; officially, the annual Prefects' Dance (30 May) was graced by la from St Helen's, Queen Anne's Caversham, Didcot and Faringdon Sch

The prizes in the following Supplementary List were awarded at the assembly of term:

Cricket: the Fletcher Cup (highest batting average in the 1st XI): And Varley.

The Morris Cup (in this instance for the best all-rounder): MJ Hill Henderson Cricket Prizes: Andrew Varley, John Cox.

Tennis: the Buckley Cup (Open Singles): Michael Baumann.

Athletics: the Decathlon Cup: David Hunt.

Golf: the Mather-Jackson Cup: Geoffrey Legouix.

Croquet: the Tournament Cups (presented by Miss Cobban): I Richardson and Paul Butcher.

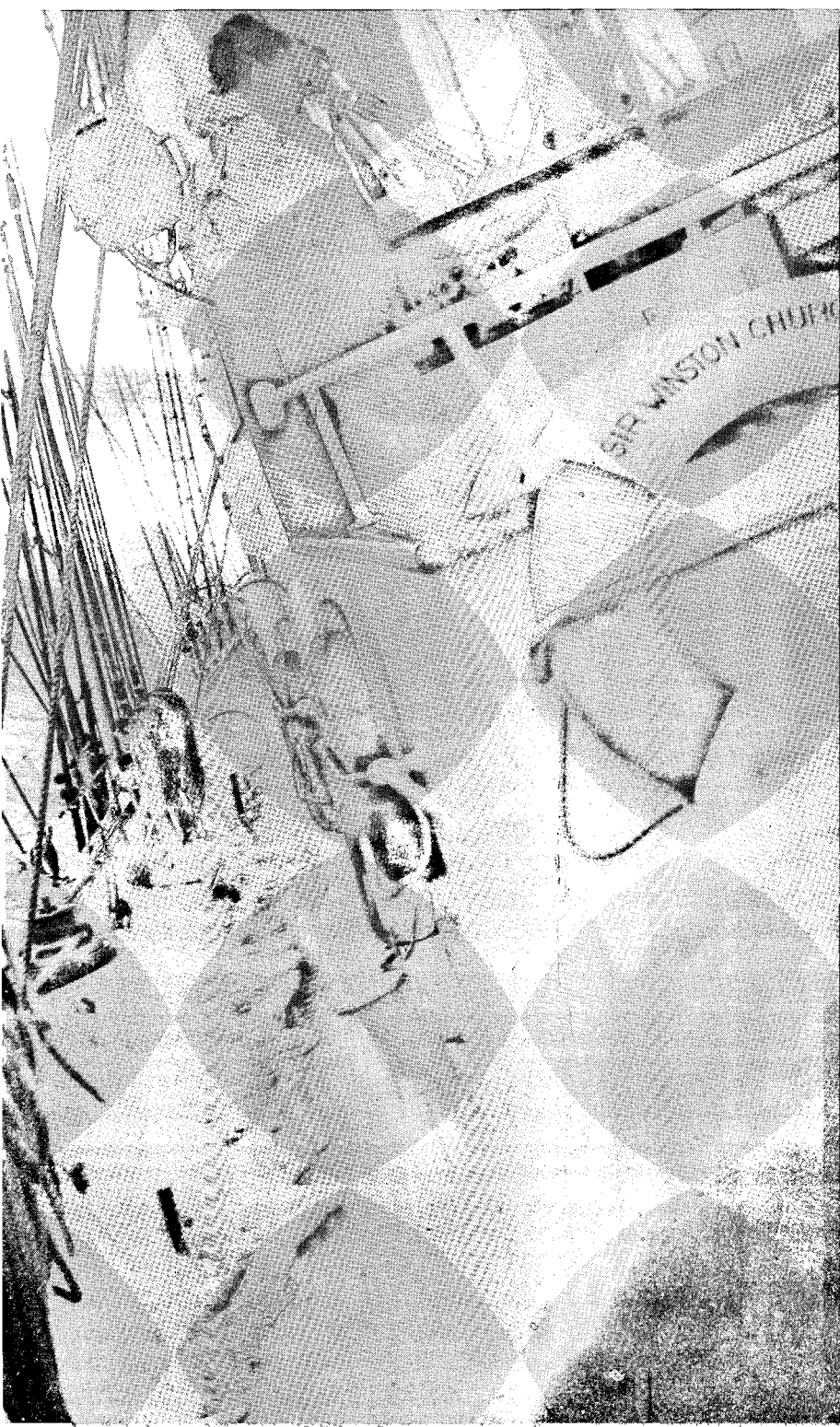
Projects prize: the first prize went to IC Browne for his outstand survey of all the places in various parts of the world that bear the n. Abingdon; other prizes to DE Cox and DB Loach for their work on growth of fish, GH Maunder for his superb map of the Thames, N Brett for his collection of wild flowers, NJ Booker and GR Shatford their collection of brass-rubbings, and the Larkhill group of decorator

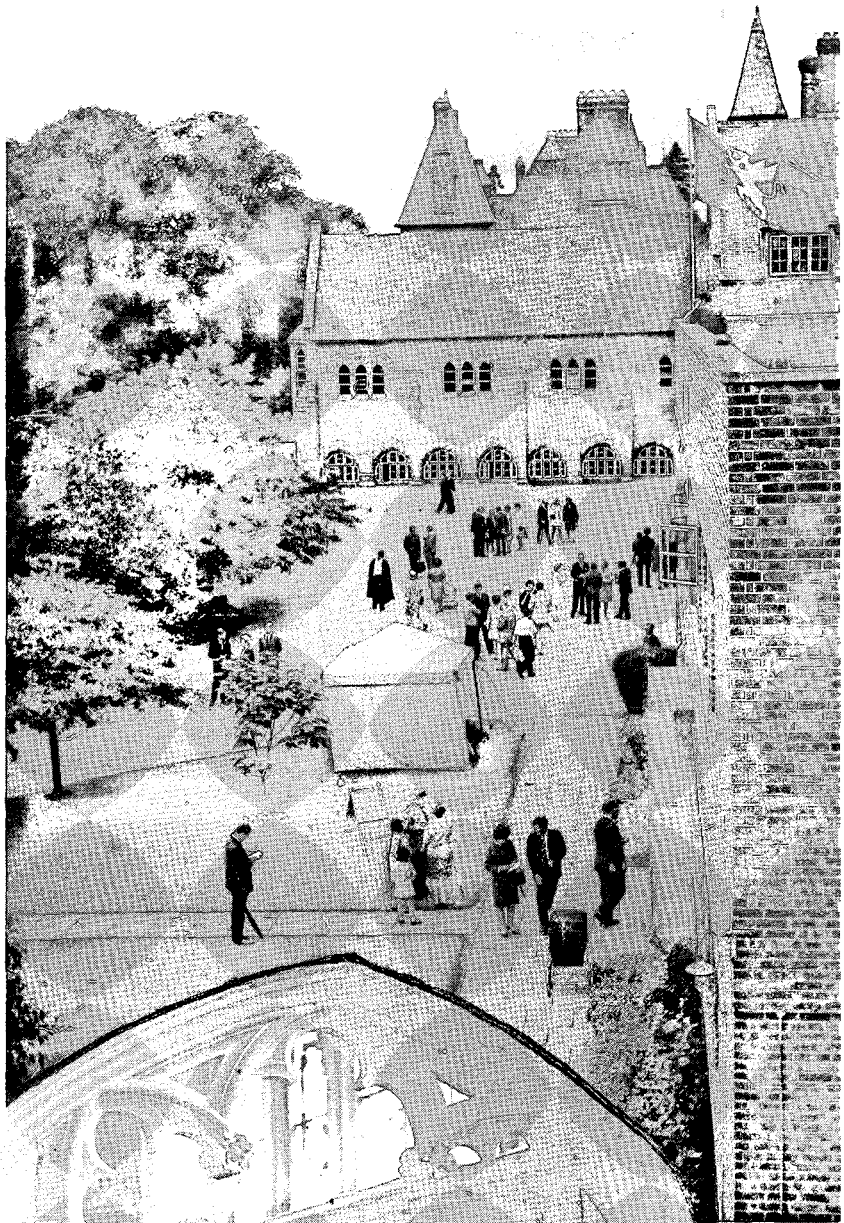
No sooner had exam stupor been shaken off than life was made ha bright and gay by Radio 350, a low-power transmitter in the bowels School House. We are not sure whether the 'advertisements' for break were appreciated in the kitchens.

The Founder's Day celebrations, believe it or not, are recorded c where. On the Sunday (14 July) came the Leavers' Service, and the pref party at Lacies Court. On Monday evening, after the usual end-of-t suppers the boarding houses amused themselves, School House and La Court taking a rest from the traditional Headmaster's Gentle Games watching *Lord of the Flies*; while a few individualists went to the Cu Society meeting chez le Fleming.

And, of course, after the end of term, the school prefects (a re number this time) turned out for the obligatory walk with the Headma to Sunningwell Church, which all completed within the allowed half h

Holiday activities not reported elsewhere included: N Jefferson (JP Seaver (1Y) JRA Allen (1Y) at the Welsh Schoolboys' Camp Moven Summer Camp (Bosherton, 29 July–10 August); parties from 1X at Camp (Walhampton School, 9–19 and 19–29 August); DLR Howell:





Founder's I

anger University, and WD Chislett at Lausanne University; and Careers courses: JR Gough (Brush Electrical Co Ltd), MJ Harfield (Midland Bank), CMcI King (British Rail), and MA Pressland (Supermarket Assn Great Britain Ltd).

The Editor wishes to express his gratitude to the Editor of the Oxford Mail for permission to print the photos of Mr Rudd and the wedding on 1 July. He is also grateful to his many contemporaries who have sent in photos and the School their magazines.

This issue contains the last products of a long stint—two years—as photography editor by Robin Balbernie. It would be ungracious of us not to record our appreciation of the hard work and considerable talent he has devoted to the magazine.

ata

As promised, here is a list of all the mistakes in the last issue that have been pointed out to us. We are not too proud to admit to six mistakes, because we are quite certain that they could not happen again . . . I think it is as well as we now have a double check of the most stringent sort. And in any case, we don't think an average of one mistake per 5,000 words is at all good; it just looks worse to those accustomed to a stony silence at the mention of error. To all the hapless and rightly infuriated victims we offer our profoundest apologies, and hope that this will in some sort make amends:

The worst first. On p 311 we omitted the name of D Button from the list of school prefects, in which it should have appeared after the Head of School's.

279: The Breast Stroke Ten Lengths Cup was presented by Peter Blackburn; Miss Ruth Tobias did not in fact visit the School as she was then ill, and her postponed visit (6 June) is elsewhere recorded.

282: For 'Scotland and the Lake District' read 'the Lake District and Scotland'; also Mr Truran did not take a party to Dolgoed that vacation.

283: For 'Martin' read 'Martyn'; for 'Elliot' read 'Elliott'.

285: The Beziers article should have carried the initials of DC Taylor.

308: The Tape Recording Society consider that our comments on them amounted to misrepresentation. That's what comes of not submitting a report.

308: We suspect that the 32 lb 14 oz pike was in fact rather smaller, to go further than that would probably involve more mistakes. Pike do not come at over forty pounds, though only very rarely.

The Staff, September 1968

Headmaster: JM Cobban, TD, DL, MA, JP

MA Cambridge (late Scholar of Jesus College); MA Oxford (Pembroke College); Sandys Student, Thirlwall Medallist, and Gladstone Prizer of the University of Cambridge. Formerly Classical Sixth Form Master at Dulwich College; and Lieutenant Colonel, Intelligence Corps.

Assistant Masters

DO Willis, MA, late scholar of Pembroke College, Oxford (History)
(Second Master)

HM Gray, MA, late scholar of Jesus College, Oxford (Chemistry)

CET Moore, TD, MA, Hertford College, Oxford (Geography)

SC Parker, TD, MA, Edinburgh University, Lanfine Bursar (Language)

FJ Sewry, BSc, Southampton University (Chemistry; Careers)

LCJ Griffin, MA, Jesus College, Oxford (Classics)

RG Mortimer, MA, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge (Languages)

J Talbot, BSc, Birmingham University (Biology)

AA Hillary, MA, late exhibitioner of Jesus College, Cambridge (History)

KG Hasnip, MA, Caius College, Cambridge (Languages)

WG Potter, MA, Pembroke College, Oxford (Biology)

CDB Milton, BSc (Econ), ARCM, LRAM, London University (Economics)

RH Baker, MA, Queen's College, Oxford (Physics)

TGK Fairhead, BA, Downing College, Cambridge; Chelsea College of
(Art)

CJW Owen, MA, late exhibitioner of New College, Oxford (English)

HT Randolph, MA, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge (Classics)

MR Morelle, MA, Jesus College, Oxford (Chemistry)

BE Woolnough, BSc, Reading University (Physics)

CM Reynolds, BA, BSc, late scholar of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge
(Mathematics)

H Eden, MA, late exhibitioner of Caius College, Cambridge (Geography)

NH Payne, MA, Jesus College, Cambridge (History)

PV Moody, BA, St John's College, Cambridge (Mathematics)

DC Taylor, MA, Clare College, Cambridge (Languages)

JEG Varley, Nottingham College of Education (Physics)

M Woodgett, MA, late exhibitioner of Exeter College, Oxford (Classics)

NK Hammond, BSc, London School of Economics (Economics)

DR Skinner, MA, late exhibitioner of St John's College, Cambridge
(Mathematics)

AR le Fleming, BA, late organ scholar of Queen's College, Cambridge
(Director of Music)

BD Hall-Mancey, GRSM, ARCM, ARCO, Royal College of Music (Music)
A Dean, BA, Manchester University (English)

KR Clayton, BA, Adelaide University (English)

SC Bodey, BSc, Reading University (Physics)

AA Brigden, BA, St Edmund Hall, Oxford (Mathematics)

JC Harcourt, BSc, Edinburgh University (Mathematics)

Rev PG Osborn, BA, RN (ret), Sydney University and Cuddesdon College
(Chaplain)

RH Coleman, late APTC (Physical Education and Woodwork)

Sitting Music Staff

anoforte: Mr VW Jones, LRAM, ARCM; Mr B Symons, LRAM; Mr Colin Gordon

ings: Mrs F Kitching, Mrs J Fry, ARCM

oodwind: Mr F Butterworth; Miss MJ Barnwell, ARCM; Miss S Freeman, GRSM, LRAM

ass: Mr George Clack; Mr Anthony Gladstone, LRAM

nging: Mr David Johnstone

rsar: Captain IG Mason, RN

edical Officer: Dr JH Fisher, MA, MB, BCh (Cantab), MRCS, LRCP, JP

Officers of the School

School Prefects

M Carr (Head of School)

JJA King

A Ramsey (Head of boarders)

EJ Hadley

F Booker

MG Baker

FK Baumann

PJ Munnoch

Hopkins

DW Galbraith

Burton

DLR Howells

W Luff

TCC May

Varley

RK Blackburn

A Maude

PC McPhail

Morgan

DG Nasmyth

Martin

House Prefects

escent: CG Day, CEJ Lilley, MC Eagle

cies Court: AT Cowlin, MC Geary, JP Tromans.

arkhill: JHT Davies, MG Crawford

hool House: CMcI King, CJ Nicholl, HI Kilgour, AO Akinbiyi, WD

islett, P Lenny, I Blair, NJ Pilling, CJ Bovey

aste Court: SR Shield, RDA Lang

yboys: RL Matthews, GR Evans, NG Hands-Clarke, A Rose, GR

atford, AW Semmence, JC Beyer, RW Hamilton, MA Fletcher, TW

ewes, RAC Turner, S Fairlie, JM Elliott, JE North, JT Stafford, DH

rry, AE Lewis, ASI Loudon, AKP Poole, ARN West, NS Coulbeck,

C Varley, DJ Whipple.

Games Officers

gby football: Captain: ILM Carr. Secretary: RK Blackburn

oss country: Secretary: MG Crawford

ecretary of GGC: PJ Hopkins

Exam results

sults at Advanced level of the GCE this year were disappointing. Not
ly did more marginal candidates fail than the law of probability had
l us to expect; one or two of our high fliers failed to become airborne.
o keep some sense of proportion it must be mentioned that we still
atched up a total of 187 subject passes, that just one half of our ninety-
e candidates from the Upper Sixth form passed in all their subjects, and
at the number of marks of distinction and merit gained in the Special
pers equalled the record total (thirty-two) of last year.

At Ordinary level on the other hand our results were good, by any criterion. 709 subject passes out of a possible total of exactly 1000 represents a percentage very easily worked out. What is more important is that out of ninety-one Fifth form candidates no less than forty-three passed in all subjects or all but one, and that the proportion of passes in grades one and two gained by these ninety-one candidates was almost twice the national average. The level of achievement in the French and Mathematics papers taken a year early was again high. Biology, in which fifty-seven of one hundred candidates received grade one passes, also calls for mention. So these results did much to console us for our disappointments at high level; though we still feel chagrined about the two Fifth formers who failed every single subject. JM

The Advanced level results are given below in alphabetical order. The abbreviations are normal: the only ones that are not self-explanatory are N (German) K (Chemistry) and T (Ancient History).

PK Ablewhite (P); NJ Attwood (E H† Ec); AE Banes (E H Ec); MF Baumann (T H† Ec); RA Balbernie (P); JH Batey (M M P*); JC Beynon (L† G T); I Blair (K); NJ Booker (B); NRJ Brett (E† H J); JR Burtch (T H† Ec); RJA Butland (K); D Button (M); AR Cantwell (E H Ec); P Carmichael (H J); ILM Carr (P† M); AD Chafer (F R E); PB Clubley (E M JH Cook (Zoo Bot); PC Cooper (MPK*); MH Cullen (E); JHT Davidson (F E* H*); FJ Dobbs (E H Ec A); Y Doganoglu (MPK); JH Earl (FN GR Evans (E); HJ Flint (P K* B*); BH Ford (H Ec); DW Galbraith (K MC Geary (F H†); EJ Hadley (N R Ec*); NG Hands-Clarke (M P K† PJA Hopkins (M M P†); CM Howlett (M P K); DN Hunt (E); JE Hesketh (K); AS Jackson (Ec); R Janz (P K B*); PM Kerry (P K); JJA King (T Ec*); DR Langmead (P K B*); MG Lewis (E H Ec); DB Loach (B†); AL Loudon (P K B†); AW Luff (T E H); WN McGowan-Docherty (E H Ec JY McLaughlan (M P); PC McPhail (E Zoo* Bot); AF Martin (P CJA Maude (E† H); TCC May (T E H†); PC Medley (F E H); W Minter (E† A); JPW Mosdell (E); PJ Munnoch (P); DCL Murphy (N Mus); CJ Nichol (K); PM Osborne (J Ec Ms); TA Parfitt (E); MW Parry (K B†); RG Pickavance (T E† H†); AKP Poole (M P); MA Pressland (E VA Ramsey (M M P); MF Rothwell (M K); GC Ruck (E H J†); F Sandall (F N H); DR Sayce (H J Ec); JL Sayce (H J Ec†); AW Semmens (E); GR Shatford (B); PJ Shaw (K); PRM Sherwood (E); SR Shield (K TG Spencer (J Ec); ST Stafford (K); MCG Stevens (P K B); PC Steve (M M P); JP Tromans (P K B*); GP Webb (M); ARN West (K); I Whipple (M P K); RG Whittington (J); JH Wilson (Ec); RL Deuchar (M)

* distinction † merit in Special Papers

Hello goodbye

Left 4 May: BV Cox (4Z).

Left 17 June: MA Dukler (6M) and MS Dukler (3X).

Left 16 July

VII: AE Banes, JC Bourlet, NRJ Brett, PL Butcher, AR Cantwell, M Cullen, SP Dorman, JH Earl, I Gibbons, DN Hunt AR Jackson, ND Kee MG Lewis, WK Minter, DCL Murphy, PM Osborne, AC Pollock, M Pressland, KC Richardson, FN Sandall, DR Sayce, PRM Sherwood, R Whittington, JH Wilson, NAR Wood.

H: NJ Attwood, PR Carmichael, PB Clubley, FJ Dobbs, BH Ford, N McGowan-Docherty, PC Medley, JPW Mosdell, TA Parfitt, GC Ruck, Sayce, TG Spencer.

M: PK Ablewhite, JH Batey, D Button, PC Cooper, RL Deuchar, Y ganoglu, CM Howlett, PM Kerry, JY McLaughlan, RMF Merritt, TR xton, MF Rothwell, RC Stevens, GP Webb.

B: RA Balbernie, RN Burbidge, MJH Cook, DE Cox, HJ Flint, JF Oldsworthy, R Janz, DR Langmead, MW Parry, MCG Stevens, HA tton, DR Woodward.

: JN Tyrholm.

: NR Snodgrass.

ell: RD Egelstaff, AC Ellis, AR Hall, PD Holmes, DS Skelly, RW eight, RP Taylor.

: JY McLaughlan.

: RG Hallum.

: GP Gill.

: PA Rowe.

: KJ Willis.

me 5 June: G Habgood (3X).

me 13 September

H: J Zawidowski.

f: RJ Searle.

v: JBA Godfrey, CJL Pfeil.

ell: AJ Barrett, P Bobin, MA Holberg, RJ Pike.

f: MJ Jones, ARM Kelly, DB Spong, JR Spooner, J Wojciechowski.

: CJ Bennett, JR Hills, GA Steamer.

: DC Gourlay, SL Greening, TJ Gresswell, NT Morgan, NQ Searle, C Turner.

: IR Greaves, RH Griffiths, NM Newport, AN Rayson, ABJ Wise.

: AC Atkinson, MA Barrett, DWJ Hanney, AM Jones, GK Leedham.

: SMJ Hobson, N Malein.

: TG Roberts.

: ID Morris.

: M Andrews, PS Ashby, PA Betts, JR Boulton, CB Cambray, RS apman, SC Comerford, RG Geere, AMS Gotch, NR Halliday, SM Hills, Johnson, AC Kurz, MV Lewis, D McCutcheon, JEM Mason-Clark, Noble, RJ Price, MF Savastano, BC Sneddon, CM Wait, GC Walters, Wilson.

: CL Applegate, CJ Baumann, RC Bosley, L Campbell, AJ Capel, MP ble, BD Elwyn, PM Evans, GN Green, KD Halsey, MG Howat, AF ckson, IB Lennox, NJ Lyons, MR Osborne, AN Plant, MM Poole, PL Roe, TJ Savastano, MW Stimpson, NJ Tattersfield, NJ Tresidder, G Wartke, ME Weston.

f: PA Arm, RA Balkwill, PD Boon, PJ Brodie, AGP Cairns, PR Clark, Cunninghame, DBA Godfrey, JP Gotelee, TW Hallum, SCPL Hutchins, Lawson, DP Lynn, RL McGreevy, SR Martin, DC Moore, DJ Mushens, Samsworth, NJA Shepherd, NI Tait, RM Thomas, T Wheeler, RM nittingham and GK Jones (30 September).

OA s ction

May I first express my gratitude once again to George Duxbury, who has done a tremendous amount of hard work in compiling the new address list which should have reached everyone by now. It is an unbelievably difficult and exacting task and would never have been done without George's unflagging efforts. It is depressing, but inevitable, that no sooner is it published than it is out of date. I have already had a good many amendments and should be grateful to hear from anybody else who finds errors or inaccuracies; also postcodes as they become available.

Births

Burdge: on 17 May 1968 to Tanya (née Pierce) wife of Michael C Burdge (1954) a daughter Fiona Marie.

Burton: on 13 February 1968 to Christine wife of Roy Burton (1960) daughter Kaye.

Conway: in March 1967 to Valerie wife of David Conway (1953) a son Mark David.

Cowles: on 14 March 1968 to Christine wife of Jimmy Cowles (1954) daughter Samantha.

Cullen: on 30 June 1968 to Tove wife of Jeremy Cullen (1950) a son I Christian.

Davies: on 3 May 1968 to Judith wife of Trevor Davies (1959) a son Gareth.

Jones: on 2 August 1968 to Carol wife of Arthur Jones (1954) a daughter Sarah, sister to Nicola (aged four).

Long: on 27 August 1968 to Sylvia wife of Stuart Long (1961) a son Michael Richard.

Moll: on 29 March 1968 to Elisabeth wife of Randall Moll (1960) daughter Alexandra Margaret.

Southern: on 6 January 1968 to Valerie (née Ebers) wife of James Southern (1959) a daughter Lisa Ann.

Marriages

Bisby-Boulton: on 20 July 1968, at Milton Methodist Church, Mark Ainslie Bisby (1965) to Isobel Mary Boulton.

Bowthorpe-Bartlett: on 6 July 1968, John Bowthorpe (1964) to Wendy Bartlett.

Gunn-Stephenson: on 2 October 1965, at St Bartholomew's, Wilmslow John Martyn Gunn (1959) to Anne Margaret Stephenson.

Lockhart-Smith-Knibbs: on 4 June 1968, C John Lockhart-Smith (1960) to Brenda Joan Knibbs.

Simmonds-Jefferson: on 15 June 1968, at St Nicolas, Abingdon, Robert Simmonds (1960) to Jill Mary Jefferson.

Talbot-Humphreys: on 19 September 1968, at Kingston Bagpuize, John M Talbot (1962) to Marjorie Humphreys.

aths

ll: on 25 June 1968, Christopher Rushton (Kit) Hall (1922-27), aged 59, Oddicombe, Brook Farm Road, Cobham. Kit Hall was a Prefect and yed cricket for the Second Eleven. He was also a generous benefactor the Appeal Fund. Our deepest sympathy goes to his widow and three dren.

yd: recently in Bombay, CW Lloyd (1916-18).

ng: in March 1968, Robert Bishop Long (1897-1901) at Chailey, Sussex. bert Long, who farmed at Garford and later in Oxfordshire and Sussex, a keen sportsman. He hunted with the Old Berks and in his time tained both Marcham and Garford Cricket Clubs. His brothers, Walter Philip, were also at the School.

ne: on 13 May 1968, suddenly in London, Colin Fraser Barrington ne (1936-43). A contemporary at School writes: 'All who knew him be saddened by the news of the tragic death of Colin Milne. When he Abingdon he was Head of School and of School House, Captain of ts and Captain of Rigger. He also had Athletics and Cricket colours was CQMS in the JTC as well as a member of the Home Guard chment. He did very well at Aberdeen University and in the army, hing the rank of Captain before being demobilised in 1947. Soon after- ds he started his own business, which he built into a highly successful ern. But it is for his individual qualities that he will be remembered ounred. His easy-going friendliness and his tolerance earned him y friends, all of whom will join in offering sincere condolences to his ow and two young daughters. The cruel stroke which has deprived n of husband and father has robbed many more of us of a staunch, friend.'

What a joy it was to meet and listen to Percy R Taylor (1899) who was on a visit from Saskatchewan recently. Uncle of Charles Taylor (1916), t-uncle of Richard Taylor (1951), he is proud to be the oldest surviving and at eighty-four is very hale and hearty. Perhaps it is the pure air Canada, where he has lived since 1904, apart from his service in the adian Army in the 1914-18 war. We hope that he will be back here ore long and that we shall be able to welcome him again to a John sse Lodge meeting. He rowed in the School IV in 1899 and claims that set a new record in that year, and he also held the record for putting shot.

tremendous amount of pleasure was given to a great many OAs and ivers of staff by a generous gesture on the part of WA Rudd (1904-47) celebrated his ninetieth birthday in style. He gave a wonderful dinner y at the Upper Reaches Restaurant for about seventy guests, and what scinating evening it was. We congratulate him on passing yet another stone and look forward to seeing his familiar figure watching cricket rigger for many a long day. Our very best wishes to him and to Mrs d, who is now recovering from an unfortunate illness.

ongratulations to CV Davidge (1919), now retired from his position as ar and Sub-Warden of Keble College, Oxford, upon the award of an orary Fellowship.

Returning to Abingdon for the first time in many years AF Bragg-Sn (1926) was a welcome visitor. He is now working at the Institute of A Space at Toronto University.

Hugh Insley-Fox (1926), a past President of the OA Club, sent a n interesting brochure on his firm's centenary celebrations, which include banquet for over four hundred guests. Hugh is now the Senior Partner Fox and Sons, Auctioneers and Estate Agents, and is rightly proud of th achievements and of the continuity in management by his family s: 1868. It appears to be an enormous and expanding concern: may the r hundred years be as successful.

Another family business which has received publicity lately—this t in the Birmingham Post—is that of HA Light Ltd, who manufacture export all kinds of things but principally jewellery. Two of the Direc are familiar figures in Abingdon—John (1950) and Peter (1954). They grandsons of the firm's founder and their father still works with them Senior Director. Their ambitions are expressed in the desire to exp their exports over the next two or three years by some thirty per cent.

Conal Tompson (1951) writes from the School of Physiotherapy, Sa- toon, to say that he has now been a lecturer at the University Saskatchewan for the past two years. He finds canoeing a good substi for the rowing which he is apparently unable to get there.

David Conway (1953), now married to a girl from Sydney and the pr father of a son, has left his original job with Spillers' experimental pou unit and is working in a large deep litter poultry breeding unit Gloucestershire.

Congratulations to Arthur Jones (1954), whom many will remember : keen long distance runner at School, who has been selected for the Bri team at the Mexico Olympics in the 20 kilometre walking events in wh he has had much success recently. We are proud to have an OA compet and wish him a very successful contest. Arthur is the Sussex champion c seven, ten and twenty miles.

David Shaw (1954) has just landed what sounds like a very interes and challenging job. After teaching at Dartington Hall and latterly Alderman Newton's, Leicester, he is now head of music at Wood G Comprehensive School.

Barry Cork (1957) writes to say how much he enjoys receiving **Abingdonian**. In the last ten years he has served in passenger and ca ships as well as tankers and received his copy in such distant port Singapore and Valparaiso. For the past two years he has been Sec Officer in liquid methane tankers running from North Africa to the and between trips enjoys family life at home at Ickwell with his wife small son.

News came from his father of David Southern (1957) who graduate Aberystwyth, got his PhD at Birmingham and has since April last been Assistant Lecturer in Cyto-genetics in the Botany Departmen Manchester University. Several papers on his research in cyto-gene have been published in a German scientific journal, Chromosoma.

Congratulations to Stephen Woodley (1957) on his engagement. fiancée is a good enough tennis player to have played at Junior Wim don. The wedding is planned for December.

Alan Aitchison (1958) has now two children, Jeremy (5) and Nigel and he is still seconded to special work on systems analysis for

stoms and Excise. He has managed in his spare time to take a commission as Flying Officer in the RAFVR (T).

Keith Clark (1958) is working for British Olivetti, who have a branch in Ford, but is not certain that he will stay in the area. Particularly in a firm any promotion involves a move.

Captain Walter Courage (1958), having completed a year's tour in Ughazi flying helicopters, is now Adjutant of his Regiment. His cricket has gone from strength to strength: he was top of the regimental batting averages this year.

It was interesting to hear from John that his brother Nigel Pridham (1958) was now working for the Vono furniture people.

Our warm congratulations go to Richard Bailey (1959) on his appointment as Justice of the Peace. Just how much this was the result of his work as Secretary of the OA Club we shall never know but he is now among the youngest JPs in the business.

Martyn Gunn (1959) is a research biochemist with Allan and Hanburys Ware. He takes his final exams shortly. He and his wife spent a very pleasant evening recently with Alan Gardner (1962) and his wife, who are enjoying life and doing very well as Managers of Ye Olde Kings Head, Chester. Much, apparently, was said of their happy days at school.

A massive letter, full of interesting information, arrived from Peter Sandiah (1959). He is now well settled as a solicitor in Freeport, a modern American-style city, where most of his work is conveyancing. Beautiful weather, fishing, swimming, water-skiing, with a flourishing Rugby club with the town's draught beer laid on, seem to add up to an idyllic life. But the cost of living is very high and it is quite hard to make ends meet. He had a letter from David Howard (1956) who is hoping to work in Freeport; Peter Robertson (1957) on holiday from his work with a Montreal bank; and John Potter (1959) also on holiday.

Christopher Redknapp (1959) appears to have enjoyed his camping holiday in Pembrokeshire whither he, John Bowthorpe (1964) and Eric Crouch (1955) took a party of youngsters including three of our juniors.

Martin Moge (1960) appeared this summer on his way back to America. He graduated at Nashville University in 1964, became a US citizen in 1965, and served in Germany in 1967 having been drafted into the Army the previous year. He appears quite unchanged!

Anthony Bowker (1961) has found a job which fascinates him. He is working for a firm of London stockbrokers and is running their vast new computer for them.

After some years we have news of Michael Culm (1961). He is at present at the BMC College, Hazely Manor, on a Works Study course. David Willis (1965) is on the same course.

Congratulations to Michael Nurton (1961) who has made at least two runs for Oxfordshire this season and to John Bunce (1962) who made a century for Berkshire against Devon. We remember that 1961 side was very well.

John A (Jos) Hall (1962), having completed three years in the Intelligence Corps, followed by a course in Spanish, is now teaching for a year in a Private Language Institute in Barcelona.

Keith Hawtin (1962) who has for some years been Manager of Walker's, a large department store in London, Canada, has recently been made buyer of the same concern in Toronto.

Andrew Oxley (1962) has continued his meteoric rise in local govern-

ment. After only one year's experience he has been appointed Dep Chairman of the Sheffield Town Planning Committee. In this capacity chairs the Sub-committee which deals with all building and demolit work in the city.

Congratulations to Richard Welch (1962) who has just been appoin Deputy Head of St Augustine's Primary School, Kilburn.

Congratulations to Adrian Burn (1963) who, in addition to being engag has passed his final examination and is now a fully qualified Charter Accountant.

Roger Parsons (1963) has left Cable & Wireless, after several ye working for them in Kenya, and intends to study now for a HNC qu fication in Electrical Engineering. Future plans will probably lead h abroad again.

Pleasant indeed to hear from John Burbank (1964) that he got a sec in History at Bristol and is now embarked upon a law course in the sa city.

Richard Crumly (1964) has had less happy experience in his p university business career in London but has ended up also studying at the Bristol College of Commerce. We wish them both every success

Congratulations to David Haywood (1964) who graduated with a 1 class honours degree in Chemistry at Bath. He is now working as a resea scientist for the Plessey Co Ltd at Towcester.

Peter James (1964) is doing well in the academic world. He has 1 more years research to do for his PhD at Southampton University after that he has to decide what form his future will take. At the mom he inclines towards a job in industry.

Ian Lamberton (1964) wrote from Bagnole-de-l'Orne, where his train with Trust Houses has led him into very pleasant areas and habits. The surrounding country is beautiful and historic and he rather likes the i of wine with every meal. One feels that these must have been some co pensions for missing Founder's Day, for which he expressed profou regret!

John Sheard (1964) has taken up a teaching appointment in Wol hampton.

Stephen Thornton (1964) got a second in Biochemistry finals at Oxf and has won a Science Research Council award to study for a D.Phil.

Nicholas Atkins (1965) has gone into Lloyds Bank as a potential mana ment trainee. This is a complete change of occupation but one which feels will be for the best.

Mark Bisby (1965) was awarded a Second in Physiology at Oxford. this brought him a Medical Research Council Scholarship which will all him also to read for an Oxford D.Phil. He may do a year at L University in Sweden before returning to Wolfson College, a magnific new graduate foundation.

Nigel Bosley (1965) having successfully passed his Intermediate Ex for ARIBA, is also 'going foreign.' He is to work in Basle for a y before completing his course.

Peter Fletcher (1965) is to be congratulated on his First Class Hono in Classical Mods at Oxford.

James Randall (1965) is now with BEA and began work at Heath Airport last April.

Keith Robbins (1965) has started teaching in a Primary School at Asp Heath near Woburn in Bedfordshire. He is in charge of forty 'nine and

...r olds who are supposed to be quite bright.' He is one of the few who
ve raised a protest at the new form of Abingdonian.

Andrew Willis (1965), whom we congratulate on his recent engagement,
n for a busy year. He is a Social Secretary of his Hospital Union, has a
of work to catch up on and also hopes to fit in three months in Persia
ore getting married in May.

It was exciting to hear from Richard Chaplin (1966) that he has been
led up into the Australian Army for two years and that he will serve
ner in Vietnam or Malaysia. He also gave recent news of Barry
ontague (Staff: 1965) upon whom he called recently when up in Queens-
d.

Paul Ridout (1966) appears to be progressing well in the precarious
rld of artistic achievement. He is still studying at Winchester Art School
t has already sold quite a few paintings and several pieces of sculpture.
Advancement in the brewing business has come to Richard Schnellmann
66) who is now assistant to the Essex area manager for his brewery.
gather that he is still a very keen watcher of rowing though there is
mention of his personal participation at the moment.

It was pleasant to hear from Kenneth Blair (1967) and to learn that he
settled well at Campbell High School, Canberra, where he will be
ing his School Certificate (O levels) at the end of the year.

David Clark (1967) has been working with the Guardian Assurance
oup at their Pall Mall offices since April this year.

Alex King (1967) has left University and is now attending the Berkshire
ool of Art at Maidenhead.

Roger Morgan (1967) is enjoying life at Aberystwyth, and making good
of his holidays, too. He has been helping to run colony holidays for
ldren, which provide a twelve-day community holiday for a wide cross-
tion of the community.

We were all glad to see David Ventham (1967), back from his six
nths in Nigeria, on his way down to Exeter University. He has gained
ot of useful experience and must have given much to those whom he
ght out there.

David Woodward (1968) has been appointed to the technical staff of the
ne Research Laboratory at the Churchill Hospital in Oxford. AAH

A Club notes

October 1968 the publishing firm of Seeley, Service and Co Ltd are
olishing a reference book, *The Book of Ties*, which will enable all the
t-known ties to be identified. OAs interested in ties will find this quite
cinating, especially the introduction by James Laver and the notes on
h school and club.

The attention of OAs is also drawn to the facilities offered by the Public
ools Wine Club, an insert about which accompanies this issue, and
mbership of which needs no fee or subscription.

Last term, Old Boys' Day and Founder's Day were held on Friday 12 July
l Saturday 13 July. Those OAs who were at the School were rewarded
some exciting play in the Cricket and Tennis matches, reports of which
ear elsewhere in this issue.

Due to the poor attendance at the Annual General Meeting in recent years, the timing of the Meeting was altered to 7.00 pm immediately prior to the Annual Dinner. The AGM was held in the Music School, and the President took the chair and 33 members (double last year's attendance) were present. The Secretary reported a flourishing year for the Club, with 94 new members, bringing the total membership to some 1,500. The social functions had been well attended and successful, although more support for the Annual Dance was hoped for. George Duxbury was thanked for his efforts in producing the latest address list. The Treasurer's report gave a statement of accounts as at 31 March 1968. The excess of income over expenditure, at £201, was a big increase over the previous year. The following Officers were elected for 1968/69:

President: GF Duxbury.

Vice-Presidents: JM Cobban, S Cullen, RE Eason, JH Hooke.

President-Elect: AJ Foden.

The President reported that it was the Committee's recommendation during the year of the Headmaster's retirement, one of his own boys should be President. Accordingly, John Foden was proposed by DB West, seconded by JH Hooke, and was unanimously elected. Greetings were sent from the Meeting to Mervyn Gray, who was not well enough to be present.

The Annual Dinner which followed, was held in the Court Room, on the invitation of the Headmaster. 120 members and guests were present, with a good proportion of younger OAs in evidence, and a record number of Governors. Thanks are due to Mrs Bevir for providing some beautiful flower arrangements. The President was supported by the Chairman of Governors, the Mayor of Abingdon, and the Headmaster. In proposing the health of the School, the President encouraged OAs to give back, through the Club, that with which they were equipped while at school. He also complimented the Headmaster, and remembered WA Rudd, who had recently reached his ninetieth birthday. In his reply, the Headmaster welcomed the guests, and gave a very heartening picture of the School. The Head of School, PK Ablewhite, replied for the guests, and the formal proceedings were completed by the installation of George Duxbury as President.

We give advance notice that the First XV Rugger Match will be played on Saturday 23 November. This will be followed by the Annual Dance, to be held in the Abbey Hall, Abingdon. Tickets for the Dance will shortly be obtainable from the Secretary. The London Dinner will be held on Friday 7 March at the Public Schools Club, Piccadilly.

Public Schools Club: The Committee has appointed John Saywell as the Club's representative at the Public Schools Club. The Club, which is open to all OAs over 18, is situated at 100, Piccadilly, London W1, opposite the Green Park, halfway between Green Park and Hyde Park Corner Underground Stations. The Club has a ladies annexe. There are 10 bedrooms for the use of members at remarkably low terms. There are no entrance fees, and the annual subscriptions are:

Town: Age 25 to 27, 12 gns. Age 27 to 30, 18 gns. Full members, 25 gns.

Abroad: Three gns.

Junior: Age 18 to 25, 5 gns, unless joining within six months of leaving school, when for a special payment of 7 gns, membership can be obtained for seven years.

Secretaries' Addresses:

Club Secretary: RR Bailey, 10 Whites Lane, Radley, Abingdon (Abingdon 097): or 12 Bath Street, Abingdon (Abingdon 266).

Sports Secretaries:

Cricket & Hockey: JW Dickinson, The Lodge, Sunningwell, Abingdon (Oxford 35501).

Rugger & Tennis: JT Cullen, Frilford End, Frilford, Abingdon (Frilford Heath 205).

Sonic Lodge: DO Willis, Larkhill, Faringdon Road, Abingdon (Abingdon 4).

Changes of address — September 1968

Allen, CP: Chelsea House, Duke of York's RMS, Dover, Kent.

Atkins, RS: 4 Chantry Mews, Chantry Road, Maidenhead.

Bailey, PN: Highways, Town House Road, Old Costersey, Norwich, NOR 51X.

Baker, LS: 2 Abbotts Drive, North Wembley, Middx.

Barnes, RS: c/o Barclays Bank DCO, Oceanic House, 1 Cockspur Street, London SW1.

Bartlett, HS: Rock Cottage, Lower Heyford, Oxford.

Bathorpe, J: 121 Hopton Road, Streatham Common, London SW16.

Begg-Smith, AF: Glen William, Ontario, Canada.

Bell, DJ: 9 Alexandra Road, Andover, Hants.

Bell, ND: 9 Alexandra Road, Andover, Hants.

Bell, JPG: 1 London Road, Wellingborough, Northants.

Benton, NFA: Stivers Wood House, Doggetts Wood Lane, Chalfont St Giles, Bucks.

Berlin, RA: c/o Staff Dept, Commonwealth Banking Corporation, Box 2719, GPO Sydney, NEW 2001, Australia.

Birke, JH: 1279 Lampman Crescent, Ottawa 5, Ontario, Canada.

Burage, WJ (Capt): Stock Place, Coleshill, Amersham, Bucks.

Cox, AH: King Harry Cottage, Feock, Truro, Cornwall.

Cowan, PJ: 42 High Road East, Felixstowe, Suffolk.

Cowan, JM: 140 Cozens Road, Ware, Hants.

Crawfords, MAC (Dr): 37 Hainault Road, Chigwell, Essex.

Crawford, AW: Barbary End, Speen Lane, Newbury.

Crawford, MD: 35 Queens Ave, Wallingford, Berks.

Crawford, A: Little Preston Street, Brighton, Sussex.

Crawford, P: PO Box 75, Freeport, Grand Bahama Island, Bahamas.

Crawford, BP (Dr): 81 Burtons Road, Hampton Hill, Middx.

Crawford, AMQ: 6 Shinfield Road, Reading.

Crawford, HLG (Col): Glen King, Brockhill Road, West Malvern, Worcestershire.

Crawford, MS (Sub Lt RN): HMS Bossington, BFPO Ships, London.

Crawford-Smith, CJ: 2 Islip Road, Oxford.

Crawford, SR: Wanaka Hotel, Lake Wanaka, South Island, New Zealand.

Crawford, IAD: 29 Somerville Close, Waddington, Nr. Lincoln.

Crawford, RSM: Ladywell, Veitch Park, Haddington, East Lothian, Scotland.

Crawford-Scott, G: 115 Lansdown Road, London W11.

Crawford, MO: 249 Summit Avenue, Brookline, Mass. 02146, USA.

Crawford, RJ: The Haven, Radley Road, Abingdon.

Crawford, RWJ: 12 Radley Road, Abingdon.

Prebble, PD: Faculty of Psychology, University of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
 Ranger, J: Numero 20, Calle del Mar, Fuengirola, Malaga, Spain.
 Reeve, AE: 4 Sydney Close, Perham Down, Nr Andover, Hants.
 Roberts, DE: 4 Greville Drive, Edgbaston, Birmingham 15.
 Saunders, DJ: Beverley, Addiscombe Road, Crowthorne, Berks.
 Schnellman, RW: 49 Ashworth Mansions, Elgin Avenue, London W9.
 Smith, W: The Cedars, Harwell, Berks.
 Taylor, PR: Box 153, Bethune, Saskatchewan, Canada.
 Vines, KAR: Marina, St Helen's Close, Benson, Oxon.
 Wade, MA, 52 Thurleigh Court, Nightingale Lane, London, SW12.
 Whiteford, BA: Chy Munys, North Moreton, Berks.
 Willey, AEW, has changed his name to Wiley.
 Winkett, BD: 78a Radnor Road, Harrow, Middx.

Summary of Rugby fixtures

First Fifteen

Fri 20 Sept Harlequins (home) 1715 hrs
 Sat 28 Sept Radley College (away)
 Sat 5 Oct Oxford School (away)
 Wed 9 Oct Warwick School (home)
 Sat 12 Oct Solihull School (away)
 Wed 16 Oct Magdalen College School (away)
 Sat 19 Oct Pembroke College (home)
 Wed 23 Oct Leighton Park School (away)
 Sat 2 Nov Newbury Grammar School (away)
 Mon 4 Nov Gillingham School—tour (home)
 Sat 9 Nov RGS High Wycombe (away)
 Wed 13 Nov Pangbourne Nautical College (home)
 Wed 20 Nov Oratory School (home)
 Sat 23 Nov Old Abingdonians (home)
 Wed 27 Nov Bloxham School (away)
 Sat 30 Nov Dauntsey's School

Abingdonian

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