

# THE ABINGDONIAN



JANUARY 1964

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JANUARY 1964

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# THE ABINGDONIAN

Vol. XIII No. 1

January, 1964

Price 2/-

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*Lent Term, 1964*

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P. W. Liversidge (Head of School)

R. J. Ormerod (C)	D. J. Jessett (S)
E. N. Broadway (S)	I. R. Flint (C)
B. G. Mackay (L)	J. Bowthorpe (D)
M. J. Evans (C)	P. N. Shellard (S)
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G. J. Bailey (D)	

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*Crescent House*—H. F. Flint; P. B. Godfrey.

*Larkhill*—A. T. Barrett; M. P. S. Wood.

*Waste Court*—M. J. Giddings; W. I. M. Webb.

*Day Boys*—R. J. Crumly; M. C. E. Hodge; T. J. King; R. K. Gregson; M. L. Thorpe; I. A. Walkinshaw; S. D. Thornton; M. A. Bisby; N. A. H. Bosley; C. C. Ford; M. C. Johnston; D. A. M. Bent; J. A. Simms; E. C. C. Crouch; F. J. Stiff; J. W. Dickinson; A. R. Williams; R. D. Hall; S. J. Baker.

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Captain of Boats—J. Bowthorpe; Secretary—B. G. Mackay.

Secretary of Athletics—P. W. Liversidge.

Secretary of G.G.C.—E. N. Broadway.

*"The Abingdonian"*

Editor: F. C. A. Exon. Asst. Editors: M. R. Giddings, G. H. Hallett, P. W. Liversidge.

O.A. Editor and Treasurer: Mr. G. F. Duxbury.

## EDITORIAL

*"No man is an Island, intire in it selfe"*

— John Donne.

Responsibility comes to men in varying degrees. On the broad shoulders of the President of the United States rests more power, more responsibility, than any other man has to bear. It is only at moments of crisis that the full weight of this burden is revealed — and then we thank God that we have not got to make the decision on which the peace of the world may depend. The tragic death of President Kennedy brought home to us even more forcefully the debt the free world owes to his courage, his vision, his judgment. This year we have mourned too the death of a great Pope, who also devoted his life to the ideals of peace and goodwill amongst men.

Great men such as these are lonely figures. Yet even the least of us has certain responsibilities. Donne continued "Any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in Mankind"; but too few of us feel personally responsible for the plight of the poor and needy, the hungry and the underprivileged. It is true that Oxfam can collect its millions. But financial help by itself is not enough, nor do we have to go out on safari to discover where need is. Even here in Abingdon there are plenty of jobs to be done for those less fortunate than ourselves. We, like so many other schools, have woken up to the fact that within our confines there lies a vast reservoir of untapped aid. Most boys could play some part in our social service scheme. The leisure time we enjoy is greater than most of us would care to admit, certainly great enough for us to give up a couple of hours every fortnight. It is obviously much more exciting to join our proposed Auxiliary Fire Brigade than it is to go and chop wood or weed the garden for an old lady, perhaps just to chat with her in her loneliness. All honour to those boys who are doing this job so well at the moment. The touching letters we received from some of their clients at Christmas are their reward. But there are not enough of them. It has been suggested that some of the senior cultural societies of the School could take a corporate part in the scheme. Perhaps some day these good intentions will be translated into deeds.

Whether we like it or not, we cannot contract out of the community in which we live, of the world in which that community is set. On the one hand we have an obligation to help those of our immediate neighbours who are less fortunate than ourselves. On the other hand we have a duty to make it perfectly clear where we stand on the big moral issues of the day. This country is fortunate in that by and large we are not split by any deep question of principle. This is a boon which we perhaps take too much for granted. Certainly we never thought we should record with pride that an Old Boy of this School, one who only last term was one of our own editorial colleagues, should

have been sent to prison for propagating his beliefs. To comment on the internal problems of a great and friendly nation would be presumptuous on our part. But we hope we may be forgiven if we reproduce a part of the Editorial of the issue of *The St. Albans News* (the magazine of St. Albans School, Washington) published on 1st November, 1963 —

"One St. Albans graduate has become involved in the conflict. Richard D. Van Wagenen '62 joined a group of fellow Yale students in a campaign for Negro registration in Mississippi. They were working for Aaron E. Henry, Negro pharmacist in Clarksdale, Miss., president of the state's NAACP chapter, and write-in candidate for governor.

"As the group stepped from their car to enter their hotel in Clarksdale, two of the students were immediately arrested for loitering and breaking the curfew. The next day, October 23, two more were arrested for distributing *The Mississippi Free Press* without a license. Van Wagenen was arrested on Thursday for littering, a charge which he claims is false. He spent Thursday night in the Clarksdale jail.

"Van Wagenen believes that the publicity given the event will help in a small way to awake people to what he considers the injustices in the South today. Whether or not Van Wagenen aided the civil rights cause is irrelevant. The point is that he acted on his beliefs."

### SCHOOL NOTES

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Francis Clifton-Brown, Vice-Admiral, former Chairman of the Governing Body, was held in St. Denys' Church, Stanford-in-the-Vale, on 3rd October. The Master of Pembroke College represented the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, and other members of the Governors, and he was supported by Mr. and Mrs. Eason, the Headmaster, the Bursar and Mrs. Hoyle, Mr. D. B. West (representing Sir George Sinclair and the Old Abingdonian Club) and by representatives of the Staff and of the Prefects.

Mrs. Clifton-Brown has now removed to Kingsfold, Uffington, near Faringdon. We are pleased that she is still near enough to the School for us to keep in touch with her. Meanwhile we are grateful to her for entrusting to us the Admiral's trumpet-banners, which he used as High Sheriff, and a couple of magnificent heads of stags which he stalked late in his life.

We heard with regret of the death in Oxford on 3rd October of the Rev. G. R. Palmer, formerly Chaplain and Bursar of Ely Theological College, who while Vicar of Marcham with Garford (1924-1950) acted as part-time Chaplain of the School until the Rev. F. W. Burgess was appointed as full-time Chaplain in 1947. Many generations of Old Boys will remember Mr. Palmer not only as a priest of simple integrity and of single-minded devotion but also as a popular vocalist at the old-time Boarders' Concerts. The reading-stand on the altar of the

Chapel, which he presented on his retirement, is a more visible memorial of him.

After lengthy gestation, the new Scheme of Government for the School was finally sealed by the Ministry of Education on 12th November. The main purpose of this complete revision was to provide the School with a valid legal basis. It will be readily understood that the Scheme of 1910, although it had been amended in certain details, bore little relation to the current educational set-up. For the most part, therefore, the new Scheme represents a *de iure* recognition of what has been *de facto* practice for some years. There are however two amendments of moment. By the first, the School officially reverts to its original name of Abingdon School, by which indeed it has been generally known outside the town throughout its history; but we hasten to add that we have no intention of correcting those who prefer to think of us affectionately by the name of Roysse's. And by the second, we add two new members to the Governing Body, the one representing the Master and Fellows of S. Catherine's College, Oxford, the other being, *ex officio*, the Chairman of the Abingdon Rural District Council. As the RDC already nominates one member of the Governing Body, this effectively doubles the representation of what is now one of our most important 'constituencies'. At the same time the curious electoral body which has hitherto nominated our two Oxford representatives has been replaced by the Master and Fellows of Pembroke College.

With all due respect to the Camden Professor of Ancient History and the Savillian Professor of Geometry, we are bound to feel that it is more satisfactory to have our ancient link with Pembroke strengthened in this way. We welcome too the opportunity of establishing a close friendship with a new foundation such as S. Catherine's.

And more personally, we welcome our two new Governors — Dr. Alan Tayler, M.A., D.Phil., Tutor in Mathematics of St. Catherine's College, and Mr. E. J. S. Parsons, B.Litt., M.A., J.P., who succeeds Alderman Cornish as representative of the R.D.C. now that the latter, as Chairman, has become an *ex officio* member of the Governing Body.

Conversely, we say good-bye, after all too short a time, to Mr. A. C. Bulger, who vacates his appointment as Recorder of Abingdon (and thereby a Governor of this School) on his nomination as a County Court Judge. We shall look forward to welcoming in his stead his successor, Mr. P. W. Medd, O.B.E.

We congratulate Professor Cormack on his appointment as Acting Vice-Chancellor of Reading University in the place of Sir John Wolfenden.

We noted with pleasure in the New Year's Honours List the names of the Hon. David Smith (CBE) and of Mr. Harry Wheaton (MBE). Mr. Wheaton, some-time Governor, has been a staunch friend of the

School for many years. It was thanks largely to the co-operation of the Lord-Lieutenant that our recent Royal Visit passed off so successfully.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Emms, now of Rugby, on the birth of a daughter, Katharine Margaret (7th October), and Mr. and Mrs. Pratt on the birth of a son and heir, Christopher Nigel (3rd November); also Herr Osterholz, whom many of us remember with affection, on the birth of a fourth child and first son, Frank Achim Holger, which took place in Finland on 19th August (and was duly announced to us in German, Swedish and Finnish).

The School was well represented at the wedding of Mr. Blagden and Miss Roberts, which took place at S. Nicholas' Church, Burton, Cheshire, on 21st December.

It is with a regret approaching dismay that we say good-bye to Mr. George Pratt, who leaves us to take up an important and challenging appointment as first Director of Music at the University of Keele. Mr. Pratt, fresh from a triumphantly successful musical career at Oxford, took over the School music from Mr. Sawbridge when the latter was posted to Haileybury in 1960. In the course of the last three years he has not been content with the difficult feat of maintaining the Barker-Sawbridge standard but has achieved the apparently impossible by improving it still further. The breath-taking beauty and precision of this year's Service of Lessons and Carols — his final production at Abingdon — provided a fitting climax to his time with us. We shall remember him too in mood ceremonial (the Quatercentenary Concert) and comical (the Highway Code), or in less-accustomed guise on his all-too-rare appearances as one of the more amateur stalwarts of the Common Room XV. In bidding him a grateful farewell, we should like to extend our good wishes too to Mrs. Pratt, who has always been so closely associated with Mr. Pratt's musical activities, and to George's father, Mr. Ernest Pratt, himself a top-line organist, who has on several occasions come down to Abingdon and given us of his talent.

To succeed Mr. Pratt, we welcome Mr. John Gavin Cullen, B.A., F.R.C.O., A.R.C.M., sometime Organ Scholar of Christ's College, Cambridge, who studied also at the Royal College of Music and at Moray House College, Edinburgh, before returning to his native city to start his professional career as Assistant Director of Music at Aberdeen Grammar School. During his time at Aberdeen he has also held the appointment of Organist and Master of the Choristers at St. Andrew's (Episcopal) Cathedral while at the other end of the scale he acted as a Senior Instructor in the Band of the Royal Corps of Signals during his national service. His name alone will certainly give him a flying start in Abingdon: but there is no truth in the rumour that he and Mr. Murray are already planning to start a Gaelic Option (for Sassenachs).

Those who remember Mr. Geoffrey Tudor will hear with pleasure that he has been designated for appointment as Headmaster of the Thomas Delarue School for Spastics at Tunbridge.

This term we welcome no less than five student masters — Mr. T. E. Brand, of Leicester University and the Oxford Department (Mathematics); Mr. M. J. Day, of Reading (French); Mr. H. Leigh, of Christ Church (Chemistry); Mr. M. A. C. Relle, of Trinity, Cambridge (Classics); and Mr. J. A. Trewin, of S. Catherine's, Oxford (French). Mr. Day and Mr. Relle alone will be resident; we welcome in Mr. Relle the son of an Old Boy, Vernon Relle, who was at the School from 1917 to 1924.

In addition, the School Mathematics Project is sponsoring the attachment to this School, in the first instance for a year, of a Rhodesian schoolmaster, Mr. J. S. Lewis, who read Mathematics at Cape Town University and wants first-hand experience of the New Dispensation. Mr. Lewis will be able to stand in for Mr. Tammadge during the second half of March when the latter flies out to West Africa, at the pressing request of the Department of Technical Co-operation, to help to organise the training of Nigerian teachers.

Two items of staff news reach us as we go to press. It is with mixed feelings that we congratulate our Chaplain, Rev. G. R. Phizackerley, on his appointment as Rector of Gaywood with Bawsey and Mintlyn in the Diocese of Norwich. He will be instituted in Gaywood Church on Sunday, 26th April, at 6.30 p.m. There are no reservations about the pleasure with which we congratulate Mr. R. G. Mortimer, Senior House Tutor of School House, on his engagement to Miss Y. F. Kinder.

We are again grateful to parents and others for many generous and imaginative gifts. Here we would thank especially Alderman Mrs. Cox, Miss Evelyn Davenport, Mrs. Longstaff, Angus Fraser and Christopher Winfield, for substantial gifts to the School Library; Mrs. Geoffrey Bosley, for the gift of a piano; Mr. Geoffrey Bosley for a silver challenge cup, to be awarded for place-kicking; Mr. Sidney Cullen for a handsome collection of bound 'Punches'; Mr. A. W. Hall for a copy of a full-length film 'The Pyrethrum Story'; and Anthony and Dale Venn for framed reproductions of a couple of magnificent Mondrians (how square can you be?).

The number of boys on the School Roll this term was 588, but with the sudden defection of C. J. Dean and R. M. Kirby — spirited away by the final clear-up of UCCA — this total was reduced by two.

We congratulate F. A. Bisby on the award of an Open Exhibition in Botany at St. John's College, Oxford; A. S. Harrison on the award of an Open Exhibition in Chemistry at Jesus College, Oxford; M. J. I. Day on the award of the Abingdon Scholarship in Medicine at Pembroke College; M. Spencer on the award of a reserved cadetship to R.N.C. Dartmouth; Paul Ramsey on winning his Queen's Scout Badge; A. R. Gibbs on being selected to play for the National Youth Orchestra; and finally J. R. Burton on winning the Oxfordshire Junior (U/15) Chess Championship.



Congratulations also to P. G. Henderson and to B. G. Diffey who have been awarded Sixth Form Scholarships, known *pro hac vice* as the Bennett and the Blacknall Scholarships respectively.

To date we have secured eleven vacancies in all for Oxford and Cambridge, and we have still high hopes of one or two of our Cambridge candidates.

We regret that the name of M. C. E. Hodge (P, K\*, B) was inadvertently omitted from the list of 'Advanced' level successes in our last issue.

Almost all the new boys were represented by one or both parents at a Parents' Evening held on Thursday, 24th October. Full marks to the father who took his seat in the House that afternoon, as the victor of a bye-election, and then evaded the Whips in order to come down to Abingdon. First things first.

The Ruridecanal Conference met at the School on 13th November. Throughout the term too we have provided hospitality in Lacies Court for the Study Group of the Abingdon Council of Churches and (a new departure, this) the Abingdon Chess Club. On the evening of 20th October the Heylyn Room and the Hall were packed for a Soirée in aid of the British Sailors' Society.

Saturday evening entertainments this term have been as follows —  
5th October — Mr. James Hall, B.Sc., F.R.G.S., — 'Tristan da Cunha'.

12th October — The Band of Oakmead School, Bournemouth.

19th October — Mr. Tony Smythe — 'Highway to Alaska'.

8th November — Mr. David MacGregor, M.A., A.R.I.B.A., F.R.Hist.S., — 'Sailing Ships of Today'.

— with the following feature films: '20,000 Leagues under the Sea; 'Left, Right and Centre'; 'The First of the Few' and (in a special programme compered by Mr. Stuart Keen) 'Volcano' and 'Sherlock Junior'.

We have welcomed the following visiting speakers this term: Mr. John Hills, M.C. (4th October, on 'The Times'); Mr. J. G. Mitchell (18th October, on 'Toc H'); Mr. F. N. Mattin of the Headmasters' Employment Committee (also on 18th October, on 'Careers'); and we have also welcomed, on 6th November, our new RAF Liaison Officer, S/Ldr. J. E. Maitland.

Entertainments at which we have assisted outside the School included: a lecture by Dr. Butterfield to the Oxford Historical Association on 'The Balance of Power' (28th September); a conference at Reading University organised by the British Institute of Management (2nd October); a meeting of U.N.A. in Abingdon (4th October); an Inter-Schools Conference of S.C.M. at Faringdon (10th October); Oxford

University v. New Zealand (23rd October) and 'Major Stanley's Match' at Oxford (14th November); an Exhibition of 'Atoms at Work' at the Oxford College of Technology (15th November); a lecture on 'Ashbury Manor' sponsored by the Friends of Abingdon (on the same evening); and a lecture by Mr. Luard on 'The Problem of the Underdeveloped Countries', sponsored by C.E.W.C. (5th December).

Social life among the Top People centred round two Christmas dances, to which we were invited to send strong contingents, the one at Faringdon Girls' School on 6th December, and the other the following evening at the Abbey School, Reading. We offer our very warm thanks to our respective hostesses.

The term had its athletic excitements quite apart from the run-of-the-mill matches. Never before can such a galaxy of rugger talent have assembled on the Waste Court Field as we saw for the Quatercentenary Match on 26th September. We were particularly pleased too to welcome on the touchline Mr. Geoffrey Butler, the President of the English Rugby Football Union. At the other end of the term the Boarders defeated the Dayboys by 18 points to 8 and the Third Fifteen defeated the Common Room Harlequins 8—0.

The House P.T. Competition, held on 2nd December, was adjudicated by Mr. Stoughton-Harris, of Radley, who awarded the trophy to Tesdale, with Reeves a close second.

To commemorate the visit of H.R.H. the Princess Margaret, an extra day was added to each end of the half-term weekend. Good use of the time was made by a party of Scouts who climbed Snowdon with Mr. Blagden, and by a couple of Seniors who set out to climb the highest peaks in each of the Three Countries. They would have done it too if one of them had not remembered that he was due to play for the 1st Fifteen against Bradford G.S. on the Monday.

The Prefects have been unusually busy this term. Over the half term weekend they entertained the Headmaster to dinner at Shillingford. Subsequently they accepted a challenge to play the Common Room at chess (there was more in this than met the eye) and they went down with flags flying on 29th November. A challenge to Russian Roulette seems to have come to naught.

Details of our more orthodox musical activities are given elsewhere. The breadth of our musical education was shown on 8th October when Mr. Pratt took a form down to Abingdon Fair to examine a remarkable specimen of a 'steam' organ (now, alas, converted to electric power), which was alleged to be the biggest and best in the country, and which indeed had already 'starred' in three films. Its rendering of Rossini's 'William Tell' delighted connoisseurs of the (musically) curious.

Before the meeting of the Roysse Society on 9th October, members were invited by the Headmaster to watch Thomas Kempinski, O.A.,

playing the part of a particularly smooth villain as a guest artist in 'Z Cars'. Talking of Societies we should like to welcome the resurrection of the Film Society and to congratulate the members of its first cousin, the Tape-Recording Society, on the hard work they have put in to the conversion of the old Green Room at Lacies Court into a recording studio.

There was again a very good turn-out of CCF and Scouts for the Remembrance Day Parade; the members of the Guard of Honour stood as four-square as ever; and our buglers, D. W. Penney and J. D. Pickavance maintained the high standard we have grown to expect on such occasions.

We are glad to record that Mrs. Macklow has settled in very happily as the Manageress of the School Shop. The Boys' Committee has been re-established and we hope that it will provide a satisfactory channel of communication for the suggestions and comments of the consumers.

One pleasant thing about the Library this term has been the apparently inexhaustible supply of posters advertising the latest wares. Credit is mainly due, we believe, to M. P. S. Wood.

The chemists of the Lower Sixth had their usual Christmas treat when they visited Messrs. Morland's brewery in two parties, on 12th and 16th December respectively.

On the last night of term came the turn of the Boarders, who sat down to their traditional Christmas dinner of turkey, plum pudding, fruit salad and ice-cream. Later Crescent House joined School House in the Gym for the Headmaster's no less traditional Gentle Games.

To show that we do not think entirely of our own amusement, let it be recorded that on 16th October eight of our number packed over one hundred sacks of clothing for Oxfam, much of it contributed by the School: that we presented our former television set to the Mayott House Hostel for the Aged: that we realised £11 15s. 0d. for Oxfam by the sale of Christmas Cards: that we sent a number of Christmas parcels to boys incarcerated in Borstal Homes; and that during the holidays one party of senior boys tidied up the grounds of Dorchester Abbey, others decorated Lacies Court (to the profit of the QCA), and Richard Welch raised over forty pounds by a jumble sale, which will be divided between Caldecott House and our own Scouts.

Many of our number have just been playing in the Abingdon Holiday Orchestra. Three boys have been taking part in a Toc H working party in the slums of Liverpool. P. J. Leather has been attending a Short Works Course organised by Lloyds Bank.

On Tuesday, 14th January, we had the pleasure of watching John Kelly when he represented T.C.D. in 'University Challenge'.

A fitting ending to a year of celebration was provided by the House-prefects, who rang the School Bell 1563 times (but of course!) immediately after we had broken up. It took 27 minutes to accomplish the feat. Those taking part, in relay, were M. A. Bisby, N. P. Coe, M. C. Johnston, R. C. Leatham, V. A. Marsh, T. R. Morris, P. N. Shellard, and P. J. Leather, Head of School, who was invited to ring the last 63 strokes. A. G. Fairlie and P. G. Henderson acted as official scorers.

— And Richard Van Wagenen's private telephone number at Yale? 6300. Curious.

We acknowledge with thanks permission to use photographs that has been given to us by Mr. Leake, Mr. Milligan, M. J. Giddings, A. W. Hewison and the *Daily Telegraph* (for the photograph of Mr. Booth in action).

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of magazines from the following schools: City of Oxford, Magdalen College, Oratory, Radley, Reading, R.G.S. (High Wycombe), S. Bartholomew's (Newbury), Southfield, Wallingford; and also the R.A.F. College, Cranwell, and the Nautical College, Pangbourne.

### FROM THE HEADMASTER

A wonderful year of celebration ended with a second crescendo of activity. The Old Boys' Dinner in the Council Chamber attracted a far larger number of guests than ever before. The School Play was one of our best productions. St. Helen's was packed to the doors for a Service of Lessons and Carols of quite unearthly beauty. More generally we can look back on a very good term. We have coped with the special problems presented by a substantial increase — and what must surely be the final increase — in the number of our sixth-formers; there can be very few comparable schools with over 180 boys in that category. The rugby team, stimulated by the memorable exhibition game played at the beginning of the term, and kept in a state of galvanic enthusiasm by Mr. Booth, has had a very successful season. We have already secured eleven Oxbridge vacancies (including three awards) and there may be one or two more to come. And somehow there seems to be a new spirit in the School (perhaps it is the result of our celebrations?) which makes it a very exciting place to work in.

With QCY behind us, we must now think seriously of the future development of the School. The Governors have recently got round to the task of implementing the phased development plan which they accepted in principle twelve months ago, and they have made some very important decisions. We had hoped to build a dual-purpose Assembly-Dining-Hall as the final objective of the Appeal. Reluctantly however,

we were forced to the conclusion that the cost of such an ambitious project would be beyond us, and that in any case this particular combination of functions would not wear very well. The Governors therefore decided to build instead a central dining-block, for boarders and dayboys alike, which will be conveniently sited in what is now my own garden. The site we had at one time had in mind, in Lacies Court, will be left free for the erection at some future date of an Assembly Hall *per se* — which might incidentally be used also as a gymnasium.

But even more urgent is the construction of a new Dayboys' Changing Room, and it is to this project that the Architect is giving the first priority. Once we have reached agreement on site and plan we hope this can be erected without further delay. At the same time the Governors have asked the Appeal Committee to make itself responsible for the erection of the new Music School, to be named after John Ingham, which will be strategically sited at the bottom of the Lacies Court property. On top of all this the Governors have authorised the expenditure of a reasonable sum on the improvement of the present Gymnasium and of the boarding accommodation. Of course it will take a little time to get all these projects moving. But if all goes well I foresee that in a few months the School grounds will once again be cluttered with builders — a distraction which we shall welcome unreservedly.

Buildings are not everything. They are not even the most important thing. What ultimately matters is the development of the individual boy. Like so many schools, we are asking ourselves some pretty searching questions at the moment. Are we *giving* enough to our senior boys, by way of freedom and opportunity? Are we *asking* enough of them, by way of responsibility, and hard work, and service? There is scope here for radical rethinking. I hope to share some of the ideas we have in mind with the parents whom I meet at Fifth and Sixth Form Parents' Evenings in the course of the year. But meanwhile we have agreed on some minor relaxation of the uniform rules for senior boys which will come into force straightaway.

\* \* \* \*

I suppose that in theory a school could have been more fortunate in its succession of Musical Directors than we have in recent years: but I am quite sure no school ever has been! It would embarrass George Pratt, that most modest of men, if I said here what I thought of him. But I can at least add my own thank-you to him for all that he has done for the music of the School. We shall miss the Pratt family very much indeed, and we wish them well as they move north to Keele. But we must not be selfish over these things, and we do know that in John Cullen we have a worthy successor.

\* \* \* \*

My Christmas this year was largely 'made' by the Old Boys, whose cards of greeting, soon to be displayed in the School, reached me in

greater profusion, and from a wider variety of outlandish places, than ever before. A constant succession of Old Boys, too, found their way to my door. Fortunately my sister, who has just arrived to keep house for me, was in the trade herself for forty years so she shares my own views on the matter of keeping an open house. I was equally grateful, of course, for the many lovely cards I received from parents, past and present; these are now on the high seas, en route for a school at Tsolo, in the Cape Province, run by the Wantage Sisters, where they will be put to very good use.

\* \* \* \*

Lastly, a brief word about my own position. It is now generally known that the Governors have agreed with my suggestion that I should give up School House and move over to accommodation in Lacies Court in August, 1965. I shall still have the ultimate responsibility for the boarders, of course; but I am sure that it will be in the interests of School and of House alike that I shall be tied down a little less closely during my last five years of office.

J.M.C.

### QUATERCENTENARY APPEAL

Looking back over 1963 one's principal emotion is one of gratitude to all who have combined to make it such a great year in terms of hard cash. On 1st January we had reached a total of £38,000, and the Appeal Committee decided to raise the target figure from £50,000 to £63,000 — in other words, to double the amount which had still to be collected. We haven't yet managed to achieve the magic figure but we had reached on 31st December the figure of £56,500 — exactly half way between the original and the revised targets. There will be no further Appeals to all our loyal and generous friends, but the fund will remain open for the inevitable and none-the-less welcome late contributions. And as they come along, new parents will be invited to help us bridge the remaining gap.

Probably the highlight of this term's Appeal activities was the Christmas Fair with which it was brought to a close. Mrs. D. O. Willis, with her gallant and imaginative team of parents and masters' wives, organised the whole thing superbly. The artistry of Mrs. Gray and a great deal of preliminary hard work, in which a group of boys, led by I. W. D. Matson, played a large part, converted the prosaic Court Room into a Christmas fairyland, almost unbelievably beautiful. The generosity of everybody connected with the School produced enough 'raw material' to fill the ample stall space. Delicious refreshments, possible only because of marathon cooking sprees by a large number of people, were served by Mrs. Ford and her helpers. A group of boys had volunteered (yes, volunteered) to wash up, little knowing what they had let themselves in for. As one of them remarked when, arms indignantly akimbo,

he emerged for a few moment of fresh air, "Who's drinking all this tea, anyway?" The actual takings in the Court Room on 17th December were £200. Thanks to donations by kind friends who were unable to be there the total profit was something just over £350. What a magnificent climax to our year, and what a satisfying tribute to all the willing toil which went into putting it on!

A.A.H.

A.A.H. has already indicated how grateful we are to all who contributed to the success of the Christmas Fair. I should like if I may to add a special word of thanks to a group of Old Boys, all of them already covenanted subscribers, who sent me a special cheque for the Appeal just before Christmas in acknowledgement of the happy weekend they spent as the guests of the School earlier this year. I shall have more to say, by way of epilogue to the Appeal, next time.

J.M.C.

*Seventeenth List of Subscribers, 24th July, 1963—31st December, 1963*

* Covenanted Subscription	F Further or increased Subscription
Abingdon School R.U.F.C.	G. Lewis
W. D. Allen	F. A. Light
H. C. Armstrong*	H. A. Lunghi and others
M. F. Atkins	Mr. and Mrs. P. B. McPhail
E. Barrett	C. J. Marchbanks
The Borough of Abingdon	L. P. Mosdell
A. W. Burridge	Mrs. M. Munnoch
The Christmas Fair	J. A. Nicholls*
J. R. Clargo* (F)	O.A. Q.C. Ball
P. V. Collings (F)	O.A. Trust Fund (F)
Rev. J. H. Cook	J. E. Pegram* (F)
J. Dean	N. C. Pollock*
P. Dean	M. C. Rallings*
R. A. Dugdale*	C. H. W. Ridge*
Mrs. E. M. Ellaway	J. E. Roblin
A. J. Elliott	A. Rowles
T. G. Evans*	K. Rutherford
H. K. Flint	S. J. Samsworth*
J. Grant*	School House Trunk Party (F)
Miss A. Hart	J. S. Skelly
F. G. Hartnell*	J. H. Spearing* (F)
C. R. T. Heard*	B. E. Stacey
R. P. Henderson*	J. G. Stevens*
Mrs. M. Iddles	Mrs. L. Tombs
Dr. and Mrs. J. E. Johnston	R. C. Watts
Mrs. R. Lang	R. Williams*
B. J. Leonard*	A. M. Wood
G. H. Lewington	

## NEWS FROM EAST AND WEST

We hope we may be forgiven if we publish extracts from private letters the Headmaster received over Christmas from two Old Boys who left in July.

Roger Burrige, who is doing a year with V.S.O. at the Punjab Public School, Nabha, Punjab, prior to reading Law at Birmingham, wrote as follows on the back of his Christmas card —

"I am very much enjoying my life here, but it always seems to be very busy. School ended today. Last term I was teaching fifteen periods a week of Maths and English to boys of eleven and twelve. Next term I shall have another set of Maths which will give me about 24 periods a week. We have just finished the final examinations of the year and it has been very strange for me to set and mark papers and to write reports so soon after being on the receiving end. I also have plenty of games and I have taken over a poultry unit of 100 birds started by my predecessor. Next term we have plans to incubate another 500 eggs and together with a Peace Corps boy who is working here we have been given leave to go ahead and start a school zoo. There are plenty of animals around — if we can catch them. I never imagined before I left either having to teach Maths (never a strong subject of mine) or becoming a part-time farmer, but I am finding both parts of my job are interesting . . . Please do impress on the School the value of V.S.O. I am gaining so much from it."

Now for Richard Van Wagenen, who would seem to have written this before his Alabama escapade — from Yale rather than gaol, in fact.

"This morning I was waiting for a book at the Library desk when someone asked me 'Where did you get that scarf?' Somewhat surprised, I told him I had bought it in England. 'That is my old school scarf', he said, 'and someone took mine last year'. I proved my innocence by showing him my name on it, and we moved on to discuss our common links with that far-away school. His name was Ben Lifson, and he was at Abingdon around 1956, revisiting the School in 1961. Now he is a second-year graduate student here, with a not-bad-looking beard. We talked for only a few minutes, but he asked to be remembered to you.

"I'm finding the scarf very useful, though the cerise clashes with most of my jackets. Unfortunately the straw hat was crushed in transit, but I managed to get the full value from the insurance company. And the hat is sitting on a peg in my room at home, a battered trophy of an assault on Albion.

". . . The assassination of the President came as a great shock to everyone, and as a reminder of how much hinges on one fragile life and how meaningless all the trappings of power really are. That such a thing can happen in 1963 is a sad comment on our civilisation . . . Now we are forcibly made aware of what we had but never appreciated, and what we could have had if he had put the top up on his car or driven a little faster or even just moved his head a few inches. Still



we are, in my judgment anyway, lucky to have Lyndon Johnson instead of some of the men who might have become Vice-President. Before the 1960 Convention, Kennedy was asked if he thought any of his rivals for the Democratic nomination was qualified to be President, and he named Johnson . . . He is not the international expert Kennedy was, but our greatest problems right now are in the domestic field, and it looks as though Johnson will do more towards solving the racial question than Kennedy could have done.

" . . . When does the Quincentenary Appeal start?"

### CHAPEL NOTES

The high standard of the music in Chapel is always something upon which visitors comment and which we ourselves so often take as a matter of course. That we should be so complacent is not necessarily a good thing, but it is certainly an eloquent testimony to our various Directors of Music. It is safe to say that the standard has reached a new height during Mr. Pratt's régime. There is a crispness about the Chapel Choir, an eagerness and sensitivity which make a Service at once a worthy offering and an aesthetic delight. Perhaps the greatest achievement is the confidence of the trebles — you can really hear them, and this, except in a Cathedral, is rare. The Choir's high-spot this term was, of course, the Festival of Lessons and Carols in St. Helen's Church, at which the Readers were as follows: C. J. A. Maude (New Boy), A. J. Fairlie (Chorister), J. J. Mackenzie (Head of Boarders), P. J. Leather (Head of School), K. M. D. Holloway, Esq. (Master), The Chaplain, The Vicar, D. A. Kitto, Esq. (Governor) and the Headmaster. Musically, the old favourites were there such as "Adam lay ybounden" and "Past three o'clock" (incidentally, has the latter ever been sung with such precision?); but there were new items too like "The King's Birthday" and "Tres Magi de Gentibus". Altogether a most satisfying conclusion to Mr. Pratt's time with us. We thank him, and wish him well at Keele. At the same we offer a very warm welcome to Mr. Cullen, his successor.

But we have not quite finished with Mr. Pratt. Record must be made of the Baptism of his son Christopher Nigel. This took place during Matins on 8th December. We followed here the Prayer Book rubric that the Sacrament be administered "when the most number of people come together". Christopher behaved himself perfectly and a Sixth Former not usually given to rhapsody described the Service as "lovely". Also baptised this term were: on 6th October Gillian Mary, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Murray; on 1st December C. M. Howlett and, conditionally, A. Rose.

After Baptism, Confirmation. There were 36 candidates this year who received the Laying on of Hands by the Bishop of Oxford. A greater number of parents and friends than for some years past wished

to be present; in the event, the Chapel was just able to hold them all. At least one parent was deeply impressed by the Service. He wrote: "It was a wonderful experience to be able to join with those young people on their big day last Sunday. It made me very proud to know what Abingdon School does for our young — if only the State Schools could do the same, what a better country we should be. They will certainly take something with them when they go out to the big world ahead." (Splendid — provided it's not the Chapel silver!).

The candidates were: S. P. B. Allen, T. C. C. Beckett, N. G. Burns, E. P. Caton, M. G. Cockman, G. G. V. Collings, N. K. Cook, C. M. Dobson, P. A. Foulkes, G. J. Froggatt, C. B. Grierson, D. W. Hall, P. J. Hill, C. M. Howlett, D. N. Hunt, M. C. C. Hunter, R. Janz, P. D. Johnson, D. N. Laybourne, D. B. Loach, R. J. Luttmann, G. J. Mackereth, M. G. Martin, N. V. Moore, R. E. Parker, R. G. Pickavance, J. R. Poole, A. W. Rendell, A. W. Semmence, K. J. Shepard, M. J. T. Theophilus, A. L. Vernede, G. P. Webb, Hilary L. Cobban, Margaret E. Griffin, Mr. John Blagden.

The flowers in Chapel this term have been a constant delight. We are grateful to the following for providing them: Tesdale House Seniors Larkhill House, School House Junior Dormitory, the Matrons, Form IX, the Joint Club, Tesdale House Juniors, Form IX, the Symposium, the 1st and 2nd Fifteens and the Film Society. We thank also Mrs. Willis, and those who have assisted her, for their valuable help in arranging the flowers.

The following outside causes have benefitted during the past term from our weekly collections —

St. Anne's, Limehouse ...	...	£10 6 0
Hostel of God ...	...	£12 17 0
Oxfam ...	...	£10 15 0
S.P.C.K. ...	...	£8 18 5
British Legion ...	...	£10 12 8
St. Mary and St. Berin's Church ...		£9 7 0
The New Guinea Mission ...		£7 6 0

In addition, the collection at the service on the first day of term (£8 6s. 6d.) was given to St. Helen's Church, which also shared the collection at the Service of Lessons and Carols (£43 0s. 1d.) with the C. of E. Children's Society. The Society benefitted too to the extent of £10 9s. 0d. from the collections taken by our vagrant carol parties. The collection at the New Boys' Service (£13 19s. 6d.) was devoted to Chapel Funds, and the retiring collection at the Confirmation Service (£18 14s. 0d.) was divided between the Bishop's List and the Chapel Furnishing Fund.

In all, our collections for our own domestic purposes amounted to £61 12s. 8d., just under one-third of the total (£202 17s. 4d.) collected in the course of the term.

We are now building up the Chapel Furnishing Fund against our

next major expense, the provision of a carpet for the aisle. Any help towards this will be warmly appreciated.

This term the increased numbers in the Sixth Form necessitated the institution of a third Morning Chapel. Experimentally, the Sixth Form of 180 had their own service at 9.0 a.m., the Fourths, Thirds and Seconds filled the Chapel at 9.45, and the Fifths joined with the First Forms at 10.30. The co-ordination of teaching periods imposed an additional burden on Mr. Sewry, the Guardian of the Timetable, but his wizardry proved equal to the test. Next term we hope to arrange for the Fifths and the Fourths to be joined together, which would seem to be rather more logical.

A public school chapel should not become too much of a peculiar. On 13th October the Boarders attended Sunday morning service at St. Helen's Church, at the invitation of the Vicar (though they did find that it was the Headmaster who was preaching to them). We were well represented at the traditional Communion Service held at St. Nicolas' Church on 15th October to commemorate the birthday of our benefactor John Blacknall. On the evening of 20th October the Headmaster led a large party of senior boarders to the Annual Education Service at All Saints' Methodist Church, where Dr. Vick, the Director of A.E.R.E., gave the address. And on a lighter note, our own Male Voice Quartet provided the high-light of the entertainment at the St. Nicolas' Eranos held on St. Nicolas' Day, 6th December.

The Sunday Evening Service this term has taken a variety of forms. Throughout October film strips on the Catechism were shown in Chapel. There have been excursions to the Court Room for television's "Meeting Point" — these have usually been a little dull and disappointing. The Headmaster, in accordance with his tradition, read "Christmas Carol" on the last two Sundays. The only illumination was the Christmas Tree and the Headmaster's torch, but any temptation to somnolence was prevented by the amused anticipation of the stentorian delivery of "Bah! Humbug!" in the first instalment and Scrooge's "Ha, ha, ha!" in the second. On two other Sundays new ground was broken by an Open Forum in which all were invited to air their opinions, and many did. The observance of Remembrance Day was the topic of discussion in the one, while in the other questions from the floor exercised the Headmaster and the Chaplain. There is something here for future development.

We look forward to hearing as preachers next term:

February 2nd — The Revd. J. G. Williams, M.A., Education Officer of S.P.C.K.

February 16th — The Revd. Charles Watts, A.L.C.D., Rector of St. Anne's, Limehouse.

March 1st — Cedric Bower, Esq., M.A., Headmaster of King Alfred's School, Wantage.

March 15th — L. M. Carey, Esq., T.D., M.A., J.P., Headmaster of Bromsgrove School.

## VOLUNTARY SERVICE

This is a really exciting Scheme. We started tentatively some two years ago wondering whether we should have a sufficient number of interested boys; or if we had, whether we should find enough old people for them to help. In fact, there is no lack of either. About 200 visits have been paid during the Michaelmas Term — coal has been carried, furniture moved, pensions collected, walls decorated and a sick cat cured; these are just a sample of what our boys have been doing. It is obvious that their visits are really welcome; equally obvious that it is a good thing for young people to be sympathetically and practically concerned in the welfare of an older generation.

It is not only the "Voluntary Servants" themselves who have been identified with this work. A suggestion was made by one of the boys that it would be a pleasant gesture to give a Christmas present to each of our old people. The Chapel Box was made available for contributions during one week. Over £9 was given by boys of all ages. With this — and with the generous co-operation of Messrs. Baylis — useful and attractive parcels were made up and delivered. Another suggestion was also carried out — several of our friends came to the play, transport being provided by the boys. This was quite an event for one old lady — it was the first time in 22 years that she had been out in Abingdon after 10.30 p.m.!

If there are any who doubt the value of Voluntary Service, let them think again after reading this letter to the Headmaster.

"Kindly accept my sincere thanks for your kindness in sending me the lovely Christmas parcel, inviting me to the nice play last Thursday evening, and for your extreme kindness in sending the young Gentleman to help us. He is most kind and thoughtful and helps me in things I cannot manage myself. I am very grateful for his kind help. I'm afraid I only know his name is —, and it's a Blessing these young are so good to us."

G.R.P.

## LIMEHOUSE 1963

It is true to say that none of us really knew what lay in store as we entered Paddington about 4 p.m. on Friday, 27th September. Some may have seen photographs taken by the parties which visited St. Anne's parish in previous years — but these were the visits of other Abingdonians, not ours.

A tube and a bus brought us to Limehouse where we were met by the Rector, the Rev. C. G. Watts, who nimbly escorted us between the fast and noisy traffic constantly flowing past the Rectory. This is a dockland Rectory, set in the midst of soot-covered trees and hemmed in on one side by motor vehicles. The Regents Canal cuts its way past the end of the terraced garden.

When Mrs. Watts had entertained us to tea, our first trek — round the parish — began. Beyond a brewery in the process of demolition,

we came to the Thames and saw a German coaster leaving the Regents Canal lock. Nearby was the "Bunch of Grapes", reminiscent, inside as well as out, of a Dickensian novel. Back in the Rectory garden a barbecue had been arranged at which we met our hosts, listened to records and ate beefburgers.

Our accommodation could hardly have been more intriguing — one of us was in a flat over a warehouse with a view of the constantly changing Thames, another was in the only house in a block that endured the bombing some 20 years ago.

Late to bed, early to rise was the pattern behind both nights at Limehouse. At 8.30 a.m. on Saturday, the party, supplemented by several parishioners, were at the Crescent wine vaults of the Port of London Authority, just downriver from Tower Bridge; then to Tower Hill with a visit to All Hallows by the Tower, the Toc H Church. The sense of pride in the Tower and Tower Bridge soon disappeared as we walked through the slums off Commercial Road. There was a consensus of opinion that "Something should be done about this area." It was gratifying to hear that the L.C.C. do hope to rebuild much of the East End in the next few years. A bus took us to lunch at the Mariners Hostel — just opposite the Rectory. Afterwards we walked round some blocks of flats which have been developed recently. Even so, they were already covered with London grime.

Greenwich was our destination in the afternoon. A bus took us past docks to the Isle of Dogs and we walked through the Greenwich tunnel to see the Cutty Sark, the Naval College with its painted room and Chapel and St. Alphege Church which is very similar in its design to St. Anne's, Limehouse.

Meanwhile Mrs. Watts and others had prepared tea for us in the Church Institute after which Evensong was said in St. Anne's.

We then returned to the Rectory but not for long: we spent the evening until 9.15 p.m. wandering through the neighbourhood with the Rectors. Tower Hill was again our destination at 10.00 p.m. when we observed the very colourful ceremony of the keys — the closing of the Tower gates by the Beefeaters.

Sunday was St. Anne's Harvest Festival. The Chaplain certainly had a full morning, taking the 8 a.m. Communion and preaching at the 10 a.m. Family Communion. After collecting our luggage from our hosts' homes we again went to the Mariners' mission for lunch. The final kindness was shown by Mr. and Mrs. Hagerty who transported all of us from the Rectory to Paddington in their Land-Rover.

The train journey back to Oxford was a time for reflection, for some a time of sleep. The visit certainly left a lasting impression on us all. It will take some time to assimilate what we saw on our weekend. But already we can see the value of weekends such as this in helping to broaden our perspective. For all this, our gratitude must go to the Chaplain, for all those who acted as hosts to us and especially to the Rector and Mrs. Watts.

P.S.McR.

**VALETE ET SALVETE***Left 30th July, 1963*

Upper Sixth Form Arts (L): R. H. M. Burridge; C. Carter; R. N. Carter; R. W. Ellaway; G. F. Keeys; N. P. Loukes; A. R. F. Redgrave; J. D. Urwick and A. J. Elliott; J. Fairlie; C. J. Leeson; A. F. Stewart.

Upper Sixth Form Arts (H): D. J. French; P. R. Munson; T. J. Pegram; N. A. G. Spackman and R. Dowson; D. M. Edelsten; A. W. Foster; R. A. Smith; R. D. Van Wageningen; C. J. Westell; M. E. F. Willey; D. H. Williams; S. R. Wilson.

Upper Sixth Form Science (B): P. E. Cable; A. C. L. Fraser; T. A. Marsh; R. C. H. Moorshead; H. R. Morris; R. G. Parks and M. S. Ford; D. J. B. Hewison; T. J. Mortemore; J. D. Spencer; R. B. Topham.

Upper Sixth Form Science (M): S. J. Opie and I. G. Burns; R. L. Cripps; M. A. Faires; R. M. Kirby; P. J. Mann; P. G. D. Matthews; R. J. Parsons; D. W. Taylor; T. J. Tilby; A. E. W. Willey.

Lower Sixth Form Arts: E. C. Hodgetts; R. L. Staniland.

Lower Sixth Form Science (B): P. J. F. Blair.

Form 5B: P. H. Firth; A. Rogers.

Form 5C: H. Foster; J. Kandiah; J. K. Pilling; D. V. Reinger.

Form 4A: P. G. Hodgetts.

Form 4L: J. B. Morgan.

Form 4F: P. N. Hayes (left 20th June).

Form 3A: J. N. Clarke.

Form 2Y: F. W. Bidgood (left 7th July).

Form 1X: P. J. Hind (left 30th May); M. D. Killeen.

Form 1Y: C. L. Prickitt.

*Came 20th September*

Lower Sixth Form Arts(L): K. D. Bowen; C. D. Evans.

Lower Sixth Form Science (M): A. K. Hodgson.

Form 4A: P. B. Cubley; M. J. H. Cook; N. D. Keen; P. A. C. Minns; J. C. Paddison.

Form 4L: C. J. Allen; P. J. Bellchambers; R. N. Burbidge; J. L. Sayce; I. P. G. Stevens.

Form 4F: P. D. Healy; J. P. W. Mosdell; D. S. Warburton.

Form 3A: P. J. A. Hopkins; P. C. McPhail; C. J. A. Maude; A. C. Pollock.

Form 3X: J. D. Arundel; J. C. Bourlet; A. S. I. Loudon; R. C. Stevens.

Form 3Y: D. R. Sayce.

Form 2X: J. M. Bowles.

Form 2Y: R. R. Chaundy; D. H. Parry.

Form 1X: M. K. C. Allen; M. J. Andrews; S. B. Barrett; K. L. Blair; S. E. W. Boyers; A. T. Braunton; K. P. Brown; N. G. Coulbeck; J. L. Cox; R. A. Deane; R. J. Dugdale; J. M. Dyke; S. H. Frost; R. J. Grant; G. G. Hartnell; N. P. Heading; D. J. Heard; R. D. Hodkin; J. L. Hounam; M. I. Johnstone; G. M. Lyons; J. P. D. Mitchell; A. J. Packford; R. D. Plail; J. K. Ridge; R. Samsworth; M. G. Simpson D. I. Smith; S. R. F. Soffe; C. R. Sparrow; M. P. Stevens; J. H. Walker.

Form 1Y: T. J. Allington; D. N. Baumann; M. H. Bellinger; S. A. Bodimeade; J. W. Bosley; I. S. Bowden; A. M. E. Brown; I. C. Browne; J. W. S. Chalker; J. A. Clargo; J. R. Comerford; J. P. Cox; R. J. Crane; D. P. Dean; J. S. B. Frere; C. J. Green; J. C. Griffith; D. A. Hacker; T. J. G. Healy; D. C. Henderson; V. Lacey-Johnson; R. G. Leonard; A. R. Long; D. J. Martin; R. S. Moore; J. A. F. Ridge; R. H. L. Savory; N. K. A. Smart; N. A. G. Smith; P. G. K. Staniland; D. M. Steele; M. C. Varley; J. Wheatcroft.

## **"CAESAR AND CLEOPATRA"**

*(December 12th, 13th and 14th)*

This year the Dramatic Society presented its seventeenth production and first GBS play. The choice of 'Caesar and Cleopatra' was in the event a good one and there is no doubt that the co-operation once again of St. Helen's School enabled us to put on most successfully what would otherwise have been an impossible production. In the opinion of many who saw the play this was without doubt the best example so far of joint acting between the two schools.

We are indebted to Mr. Richard Balbernie, M.C., Research Fellow, Department of Education, Bristol University, for the critique which follows:

"The choice of Shaw worried me. A bony dried up Irishman lacking the earthy humour and fire in the guts of his race. A man with deep insight into human relationship but using this in a superficial and intellectual manner. On the whole he seemed to me irritatingly brittle, cerebral, and somewhat of a social poseur rather than as a genuine article in terms of social feeling and conscience. A man blessed with his gift surely has an obligation to be more than just clever in the use of them? I expected an evening of bloodless drama and social froth and prepared myself to have to endure the sort of performances in the sort of rôles that could only be coped with off the top of an actor's head. Also, since it was Shaw and therefore 'must be good', and since

this was a tame and captive audience, it was likely that there would be much pseudo laughter at what was clever but not understood, and much deferential clapping of the bogus and attitudinal. The Society was punishing itself with theatrical pack drill and was going to punish me. I hoped sincerely that it would be possible to say some very nice things indeed about the costumes and stage sets.

Bothered by these assumptions I read the play over in advance. Shaw's Caesar was a success not a failure, a sensitive man and not a man of blind and single-minded courage. He saw him as a great and 'various' man, a man of wisdom, humour, experience, and personal maturity. And Cleopatra? Caesar, he says, was no hog and Cleopatra no Circe. He felt the play was for puritans as he neither wished to vulgarise nor to idealise his central characters. Cleopatra he felt neither turned heroes into hogs nor hogs into heroes. She is adolescent to Caesar's advancing years and at the stage in her own development when the contradictions in her feminine nature are boiling away — suddenly child, suddenly woman. Caesar is captured but never possessed and remains reliable, tolerant, and good humoured. He is as human and yet as responsible as the sort of teacher of feelings we so badly need to support the adolescent safely through to maturity and wholeness. Cleopatra blows hot and cold but one feels is in safe hands from the start. He remains realistic about himself, about her, and about the general state of public affairs within which the play is set, and he never withdraws concern. The play in fact had more fire in it than I expected but seemed very difficult to produce with a youthful cast.

The essential human striving towards dignity and self-realisation in what Strindberg has described as 'the battle of the sexes for the preservation of personality' is honoured by Shaw in his characterisation, and, unlike other versions of the same story, this is achieved without recourse to emotional withdrawal or to the debasement of human instinct and feeling. The risk was justified. The whole production could so easily have been a shambles. The play has so many threads and no really dominant dramatic theme. It could so easily have lost all continuity and sense of purpose and one would have been left with all the characters babbling away inconsequentially. Philip Sugg as Caesar portrayed this demanding part consistently and characterised Shaw's elderly general superbly well throughout. Sally Minford seemed to have been specially minted for Shaw's Cleopatra. This was an outstandingly poised, controlled and skilled performance and she was well within her own length in responding to the demands of the part. The range demanded was large and she remained at ease and graceful even at the most tempestuous extremes. Diana Cobban carried the difficult complexities of Ftateeta's rôle convincingly. This seemed to me an untidy part as written by Shaw, she seemed to be governed by so many contradictions without much of a central core to hold on to; stiff and proud family nanny, witch, primitive, murderess, proud yet a slave, with God knows



what dark fires burning inside. Robert Pickavance gave an intelligent portrayal of the ill-used Ptolemy, petted, petulant, browned off and messed about, he remained appealing and one felt concerned for the little beast. Nicholas Wharton managed his rather unenviable part as Ptolemy's guardian well. He was a bit stiff at first but warmed to the part as it warmed up itself as the play developed. The difficult edges of characterisation in Act II were rather important and with all these bobs chatting each other up on the stage right at the beginning of their parts this was bound to be a sticky patch. It came off well though. Richard Thornton brought off a splendidly animated and spastic Theodotus. A very funny librarian indeed. Achilles was tackled efficiently by Andrew Vernède. The husky Rufio came naturally to life in Tony Wedgwood and was played well with the rough dignity and directness the part demanded. Michael Giddings earned applause as an agitated British gentleman in all this foreign carry on. Lucius was played by Nicholas Coe but the part was of short duration and in Act II, as I have said, there was much complexity and clutter and no time to bring this part to life. Apollodorus (Richard Leathem) moved easily and languidly into action and fitted the part of the smooth, debonair and sophisticated Sicilian well. He remained (after a moment of worry) golden voiced and relaxed without loss of the masculinity demanded. These were the main parts. The remainder of the cast did their respective jobs well, the delicious nut brown maidens from Abingdon on Nile, and the sturdy Beatles who lugged the carpet around, and the others.

The producer, Mr. Griffin, is to be congratulated on his courage and in having mobilised his resources so well. No mean resources at that. The essential edges of differentiated characters in interaction that could have sunk the whole thing by being blurred in the second act were held. If this discipline had been lost the play could have been just a rag bag of bits and bobs. The costumes and colours had the audience spellbound at times and were dramatic and arresting throughout. Cleopatra is obviously a challenge and the costume followed the part from softness and informality to the breathtaking ceremonial. There was sensitivity and boldness behind this. The sets, by Mr. Fairhead, caught the climate of the middle east and the sea in colour, simplicity, and line.

After several days I find myself returning to what was a very rich and rewarding evening. The whole level of production and performance was of a high order and the performances of Caesar, and Cleopatra, especially will stay with me for a long time."

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*Copies of GRIFFIN and CHURCH AND SCHOOL may still be obtained from the Headmaster price 7/6 (the pair), post free.*

## RUGBY FOOTBALL

### FIRST FIFTEEN

The chief aim of the season was to improve on last season's disappointing results and to try to establish a more ordered pattern of play. On the whole these aims were achieved and it would have needed only a little more luck or a little more finesse on several occasions to have turned a defeat into a victory. The pattern of play has been one in which forward domination was needed and was provided. The set pieces were used to create loose 'ploys' mainly through the kicking of the half-backs followed by intensive forward support. This pattern was most successful in operation despite early teething troubles.

The chief strength of the side lay in the pack but the backs made considerable progress during the season as their confidence grew. Flint, Baker and Cox settled down quickly in the front row and were never beaten throughout the term. Baker, besides giving the backs a good supply of the ball, was a terrier in the loose. Flint and Cox gave good support in the line-out and the former made a number of powerful runs in open play. The Bosley brothers formed a strong second-row, pushing well in the set pieces and controlling the line-outs. The back-row was generally sound though perhaps more destructive than constructive. The keynote of the pack was indeed their domination of the loose play; if not always giving our outsides the "good" ball they needed, they usually either denied the opposition the ball completely or forced them to receive it under pressure. The pack, too, responded well to Flint's leadership and trained hard and with spirit.

The half-backs were more than adequate. Ford possessed a good, firm pass which usually gave Barrett enough room to work in and he stole away successfully from the scrum to bring tries on several occasions. Barrett played his part well enough. His kicking was sound and helped the pack enormously, his taking and giving of a pass good and he had the ability to break — but was late in developing the confidence to use it.

Unfortunately the threequarters suffered from injury but were all adequate. Johnson, until his knee injury, and Marsh were hard running wings. Stiff, coming in late in the season, ran well and proved a useful place-kicker. Jennings developed well in the centre but tended to spoil good breaks by turning away from his wing. Bent, always sound with a good football brain, needed to be quicker off the mark and Godfrey more forceful. At fullback, Shellard went from strength to strength, his tackling and falling being first class.

All in all, this year's Fifteen were a good team. The team spirit was excellent and although they lost matches they were never beaten. Flint was a really good leader, always in the thick of it, and he was ably backed up by Mackay and Barrett. The whole team set a high standard of fitness and discipline which overcame their technical deficiencies — future sides would do well to emulate them! A good side who with

"that little bit of luck" could have been outstanding — but that's Rugby Football.

The season began with the special Quatercentenary match reported below in full. This was an excellent beginning but unhappily was followed a day later by a somewhat poor game against St. Edward's, possibly the result of tiredness following the Q.C.A. match. Against Reading, too, the School should have won more convincingly — they had enough chances to score but finished poorly. The Newbury game, played in very wet conditions, revealed the real potential of the pack for the first time: a pointless draw was a fair result but on several occasions the pack nearly won the game on its own. On the whole, we were unlucky to lose to Leighton Park. Thirteen points down in the first quarter of an hour, the team fought back to 11—13 and Barrett only just missed a drop goal and Flint hit the corner flag in an attempt to score — either of these would have meant victory over a side which went on to have a good season. In the Solihull match, the pack rose to magnificent heights and effectively prevented the Solihull backs who were always dangerous from scoring except on the one occasion which proved decisive. Unluckily our own backs were not good enough to penetrate the Solihull defence. This game gave us tremendous confidence in our forwards so that victories over Pembroke and Magdalen were not surprising, although the latter game proved an extremely tough forward battle.

At half term, the unbeaten Bradford side — on tour in the Oxford area — were given a very close run. Excitement at this game was intense especially after a good orthodox try from Marsh, converted by Jennings, had given us the lead until an opportunist try in the last minutes of the game enabled Bradford to get safely home. Pangbourne proved another interesting match. They scored early in the game through the individualism of a very good fly half but after the interval, Moore effectively blocked this player and the School pack began to dominate, Mackay scoring for Bent to convert. Unfortunately our backs did not have the speed to exploit their openings and Pangbourne scored again late in the match from a good handling movement. By contrast, the Radley game disappointed, several scores being thrown away by carelessness. Oratory was another excellent game and the season closed with four good games. That against High Wycombe almost resulted in their losing their unbeaten record, while the Southfield match, dull in the first half, saw some good football in the second when fine tries came from Mackay and Moore. The Bloxham game was won quite comfortably and the season rounded off by a good win over a useful Old Boys' side.

During the season, Full Colours were awarded to Baker, Barrett, Bosley NA, Bosley PV, Cox, Mackay and Moore; and Half Colours were gained by Bent, Bowthorpe, Ford, Jennings, Marsh, Shellard, Simms and Stiff.

The final arrangement of the team was: P. N. Shellard; F. J. Stiff, P. B. Godfrey, J. R. Jennings, S. A. Marsh; A. T. Barrett; C. C. Ford; I. R. Flint (Capt.), S. J. Baker, C. W. F. M. Cox, P. V. Bosley, N. A. H. Bosley, J. Bowthorpe, B. G. Mackay, T. B. Moore.

Also played: D. A. M. Bent (10 times); R. M. Limerick, J. A. Simms (6 times); A. E. Johnson (5 times); P. H. Davis (3 times); G. J. Bailey and T. R. Morris (once).

#### Results

v. Mr. F. Booth's Quatercentenary XV (h).		Lost 13-49
Thurs. 26th Sept.		
v. St. Edward's School 2nd XV (a). Sat., 28th Sept.	Lost	6-14
v. Reading School (h). Wed., 2nd Oct.	Won	6-3
v. Newbury Grammar School (a). Sat., 5th Oct.	Drawn	0-0
v. Leighton Park School (a). Sat., 12th Oct.	Lost	11-13
v. Solihull School (a). Sat., 19th Oct.	Lost	0-3
v. Pembroke College (a). Sat., 26th Oct.	Won	6-5
v. Magdalen College School (h). Wed., 30th Oct.	Won	3-0
v. Bradford Grammar School (h). Mon., 4th Nov.	Lost	5-8
v. Pangbourne Nautical College (a). Wed., 6th Nov.	Lost	5-6
v. Radley College 2nd XV (a). Sat., 9th Nov.	Drawn	3-3
v. Oratory School (a). Wed., 13th Nov.	Lost	5-12
v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (a). Sat., 16th Nov.	Lost	5-8
v. Southfield School (h). Wed., 20th Nov.	Won	12-6
v. Bloxham School (h). Sat., 23rd Nov.	Won	8-3
v. Old Abingdonians (h). Sat., 30th Nov.	Won	3-0

The Old Boys' team was composed of the following: R. W. J. Bampton; B. Phillips, K. Clark, C. M. Davis, D. G. Morris; J. M. Bunce, D. Free; G. Dimond (Capt.), R. F. W. Budden, R. T. Hook, K. Haarhoff, B. Gibbs, R. J. C. Bampton, P. Mitchell, P. J. Blair.

F.B.

#### THE QUATERCENTENARY MATCH

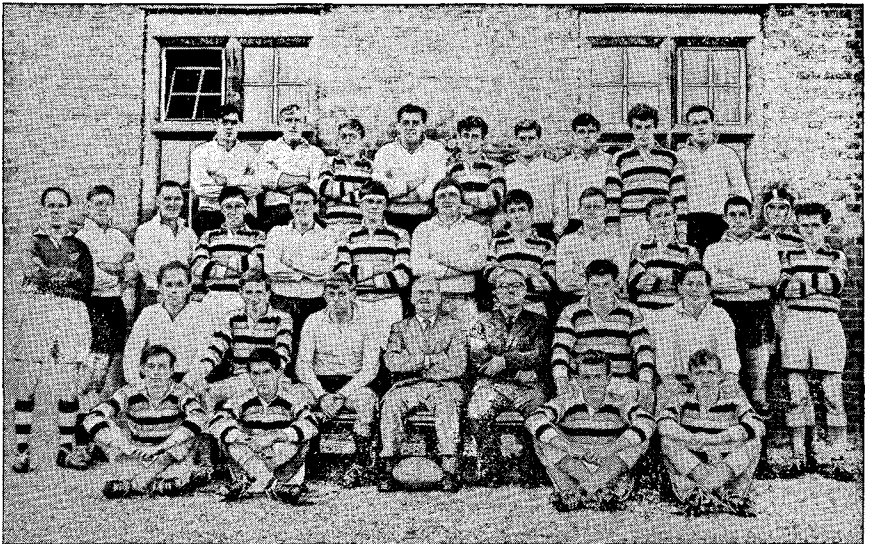
As part of the year's celebrations, the Rugger Club decided to open their season by staging a special exhibition game. The idea was not so much to raise money for the Appeal — although some £33 was in the event contributed through collecting boxes at the match — as to put on a show for the entertainment of rugger enthusiasts and friends of the School. The result exceeded expectations. We met with sympathetic co-operation from everyone from the President of the Rugby Union down to the officials of local clubs. The invited players themselves were most keen to turn out and of those originally approached only two cried off and had to be replaced, and one of these, our own John Buckland (Cheltenham and Oxfordshire) only did so because of a broken arm. The School is most grateful to all of them.

The game was scheduled for 5 p.m. on Thursday, 26th September, and this proved to be a delightful late summer's afternoon. Waste

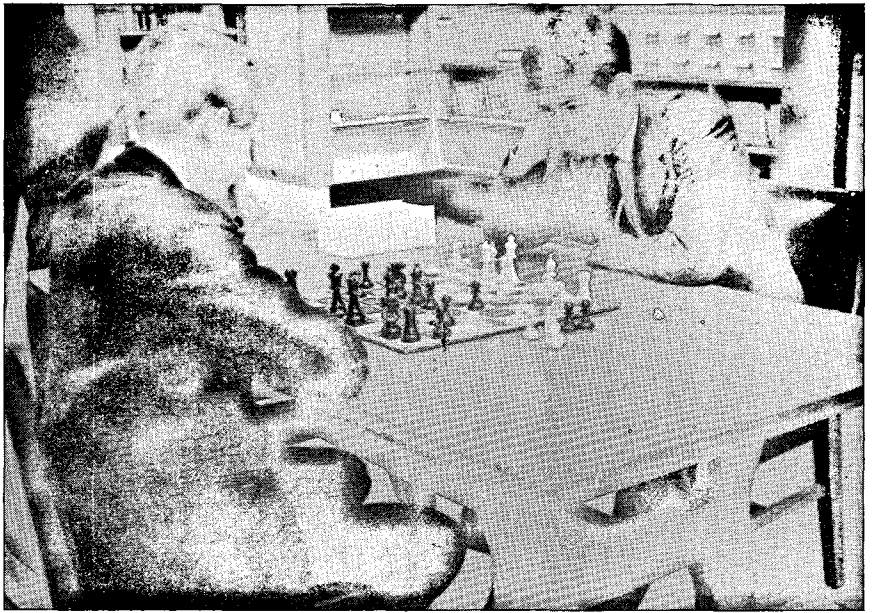
MR. BOOTH



— plays the All Blacks

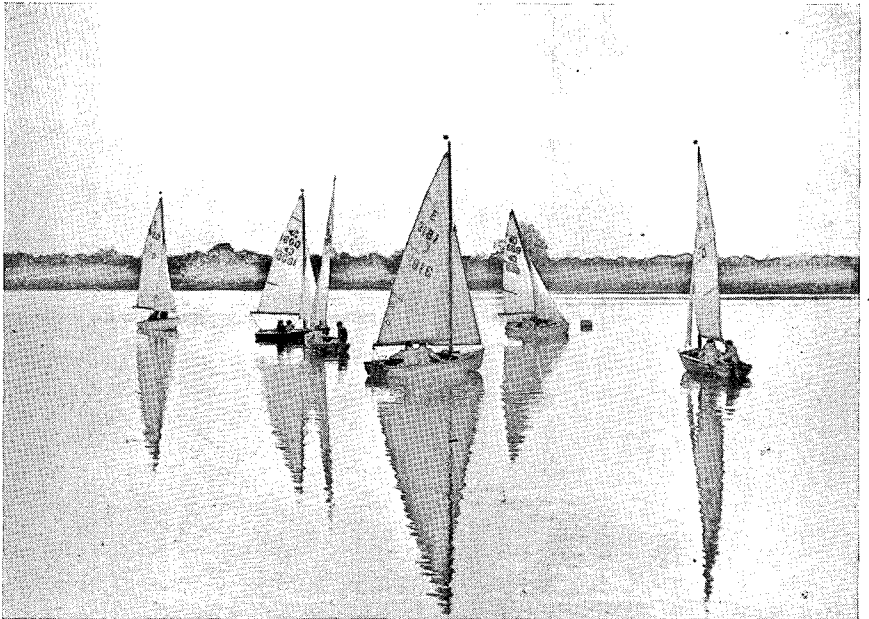


— and (with some friends)  
THE SCHOOL  
26th September, 1964



OUT OF SCHOOL

6



Court field was in superb condition and a goodly crowd of some 2,000 people turned up to watch. We were honoured by the attendance on the touchline of Mr. Geoffrey Butler, President of the English Rugby Football Union, Mr. C. J. O'Connell, President of the Oxfordshire Union, Mr. C. L. F. Whittaker, President of the Berkshire Union, Sqn. Ldr. Cropper, representing O.C. R.A.F. Abingdon, as well as representatives from many local rugger clubs and the schools against which we play our fixtures.

The team which Mr. Booth led on to the field against the School was indeed a formidable one and included six Internationals. The game proved to be a wonderful spectacle for those watching, who were treated to a veritable feast of fast, open rugger. Everyone enjoyed it both on and off the field. The visitors played exciting rugger moving the ball about with great éclat and giving many near brilliant displays of movements and skills. Their score of 49 points against the School's 13 was a fair one and reflected not only the ability of the 1st Fifteen to give their powerful opponents a game worth playing but also the generous approach to this particular match that our visitors had adopted. The comment in the *Times* report next day that our opponents had been too hard on the School was shared by few of us at Abingdon. Inevitably, Mr. Booth's XV dominated the set pieces and this enabled his backs to do a great deal of running and passing but the 1st Fifteen, although outclassed, never gave up: indeed they scored three times through Bosley NA, Barrett and Johnson. Johnson's try ranked with our opponents' best — gathering the ball near the touchline well inside his own half, he beat several players including Hosen in his sprint for the line.

After the game, the players, VIPs and specially invited guests were entertained to a buffet supper at the Crown and Thistle Hotel. This enabled the 1st Fifteen to mingle with and talk to their famous opponents, an experience which rarely comes to schoolboys and which can only have had the most beneficial outcome. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent, a fitting end to a perfect day of rugger entertainment.

The International and County Fifteen was composed of: R. Hosen (Northampton, Cornwall and England); P. C. Sibley (Blackheath and Oxfordshire), J. J. McPartlin (Harlequins and Scotland), G. Windsor-Lewis (Richmond, Oxfordshire and Wales), I. J. Parsons (O.A., Saracens, Oxfordshire and R.A.F.); D. A. Webster (Richmond and Lancashire), F. Booth (Saracens and Lancashire); D. T. Wellman (Saracens and Middlesex), J. J. D. McBean (Saracens), D. J. O'Brien (London Irish, Cardiff and Ireland), S. K. Mulligan (London Irish, R.A.F. and Ireland), V. J. S. Harding (Saracens, Middlesex and England), S. H. Wilcock (Harlequins, Lancashire and English Trials), B. E. Morgan (R.A.F.) and P. J. F. Charteris (Richmond, Middlesex and Royal Navy).

The referee was Mr. A. E. R. Cotterill (North Midlands Panel of Referees).  
D.O.W.

## SECOND FIFTEEN

This has been a good season — the record of 6 games won and 4 lost with 73 points for and 68 against is a fair summary. All matches were keenly contested and several very gratifying victories were achieved, notably that over Wallingford 1st XV. Perhaps our best games though were those played against Oxford Colts and Bloxham, the one a close defeat by a strong determined team and the other an exciting win after a ding-dong struggle.

The team was enthusiastically led by Newbold and displayed at all times a vigorous, spirited enjoyment of the game which was in no way marred by the usual demands for players from the 1st Fifteen. Of those, who began the season with us, Bent and Stiff of the backs and Bowthorpe and Simms of the forwards found places in the senior side and thoroughly deserved promotion. Bailey and Morris also had the odd game for the 1st Fifteen, while by contrast Davis, 1st Fifteen full-back in their initial games, joined us for our last two games when he had recovered from injury.

The strength of the side lay mainly in the pack, where the front row of Newbold, Willis and Portman played together in every game and became a most effective trio in the set scrums. Ormerod and Kitto, sound second row forwards, were very good in the line-outs and it was a blow to the side when a broken collar bone put Kitto out of the game after the Leighton Park match: fortunately Bartlett proved a useful stand-in. The back row was always lively but suffered from the fact that, apart from Booker, it was constantly changing. At its best, with Simms, Bowthorpe and Booker, it was as good as that of the 1st Fifteen; yet it was fated to have no less than five changes during the season.

Behind the scrum, we had competent half backs in Ray and Bailey and reliable three-quarters in Crumly, Corps and Sutton. All of them were capable of scoring and Crumly was especially good in defence. Henderson played a sound game at full back. The remaining players varied their positions during the season. Akinbiyi began the term on the wing, where he had played for 1st Fifteen last season, but ended it as a very effective lock forward. Morris played at scrum-half in the absence of Bailey but became wing forward on the latter's return — and he was equally dependable at both! Stiff and Bent were outstanding backs until taken into the 1st Fifteen and together with Ray were the best goal kickers.

The final arrangement of the team was: P. H. Davis; F. M. Sutton, R. J. Crumly, P. G. Henderson, C. J. Corps; R. D. R. Ray, G. J. Bailey; I. J. Newbold (Capt.), D. H. Willis, C. H. Portman, R. J. Ormerod, P. A. Bartlett, T. R. Morris, A. O. B. Akinbiyi, R. D. Booker.

Also played: F. J. Stiff (6 times); D. A. M. Bent, J. Bowthorpe,



M. F. Kitto, J. A. Simms (4 times); A. J. Cheary (twice); M. J. Evans, B. E. Goldsworthy and M. C. G. Holloway (once)

Half Colours were awarded to I. J. Newbold.

#### Results

v. Reading School (a). Wed., 2nd Oct.	Won 14—3
v. Newbury Grammar School (h). Sat., 5th Oct.	Won 3—0
v. Oxford R.F.C. Colts (h). Sat., 12th Oct.	Lost 8—11
v. Solihull School (h). Sat., 19th Oct.	Lost 0—9
v. Leighton Park School (h). Wed., 23rd Oct.	Won 11—3
v. Magdalen College School (h). Wed., 30th Oct.	Lost 3—13
v. Wallingford Grammar Sch. 1st XV (h). Sat., 9th Nov.	Won 12—5
v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (a.) Sat., 16th Nov.	Lost 3—11
v. Southfield School (h). Wed., 20th Nov.	Won 6—3
v. Bloxham School (a). Sat., 23rd Nov.	Won 13—10

D.O.W.

### THIRD FIFTEEN

The team was lucky to start the season with five players from the previous year, including the captain, P. J. Leather. He proved to be an excellent leader once again and it is a matter of some pride that he was awarded Half Colours. Much of the credit for an unbeaten record must go to him.

We began with a well balanced side which included two outstanding backs in Ray and Stiff. Their promotion half way through the season caused problems, but luckily Dixon KWR, returned at stand off. The centre position was not satisfactorily filled until Leathem was transferred from the pack for our last match against Marlborough. Rowson at scrum half showed great promise. The pack developed remarkably well and three forwards in particular, Leathem, Evans and Hall were consistently good while James improved steadily. Holloway had an excellent game against Abingdon Harlequins but never showed up so well later.

The team played ten matches, some were cancelled, and scored 195 points against 29. Credit for an excellent defence must go principally to Penney but Cheary and Dickinson also did good work. Altogether the team showed excellent spirit and played attractively.

The final arrangement of the team was: D. W. Penney; R. B. Davis, J. W. Dickinson, R. C. Leathem, A. J. Cheary; K. W. R. Dixon, A. G. Rowson; C. E. I. Day, P. J. Leather (Capt.), P. E. Dixon, A. S. Harrison, P. J. Evans, M. C. G. Holloway, P. G. James and R. D. Hall.

Also played: R. D. R. Ray (5 times); D. S. Partridge (4 times); F. J. Stiff (3 times); P. R. F. Morgan, S. M. Nicholl (twice); P. A. Bartlett, S. H. Broughton, A. M. Forsyth, S. P. Sewry and J. L. Walton (once).

## Results

v. Newbury Grammar School (a). Sat., 5th Oct.	Won 3—0
v. Radley College 4th XV (a). Sat., 12th Oct.	Won 16—3
v. Magdalen College School (a). Wed., 16th Oct.	Won 27—5
v. Abingdon Harlequins (h). Thurs., 17th Oct.	Won 8—0
v. Leighton Park School (h). Wed., 23rd Oct.	Won 61—0
v. Stowe School 4th XV (h). Sat., 26th Oct.	Won 23—6
v. Shiplake Court 1st XV (a). Sat., 9th Nov.	Won 14—5
v. Cokethorpe School (h). Wed., 20th Nov.	Won 12—6
v. Stoneham School (h). Sat., 23rd Nov.	Won 14—0
v. Marlborough College 4th XV (h). Thurs., 28th Nov.	Won 15—3

J.T.

## COLTS FIFTEEN

This has been an enjoyable season despite a lean period in mid-term when we ran into unaccustomed conditions and blotted our copy-book. Term began with an easy win over Reading and a frustrating loss to Radley. It was evident that we lacked thrust on the wings which dissipated the constructiveness of halves and centres and we lacked a really good back row in the scrum.

Wet conditions in mid-term produced a sharp reverse at Pangourne and loss of confidence meant that we allowed a lively Oratory side to beat us. However the return to better things was evident in the exciting game against Stowe where the team played to its strength — the pack in set pieces and the use of the up-and-under attack. The last three games were won with comparative ease by continuing the good work.

Le Voi proved to be a useful full-back — a little slow and with a short kick but dependable all the same. Painton had a successful season with 'the boot' and with a little more zest would be a very good centre. Burn, the other centre, on more than one occasion made useful breaks only to find himself unsupported. Louth, playing in the unaccustomed position of fly-half, proved what a fine footballer he is and had a good season. The captain, Goldsworthy, went through a patch when his play became uncertain and slow but Mr. Booth soon put that right and as a captain he usually set a good example.

It is difficult to pick out individual members of the pack for mention. Schnellmann became a very good leader; Wood improved beyond all recognition in tight and loose as the season progressed; Longstaff who will probably find his niche in the front row next season, was the liveliest forward in the loose and Jell was a grand utility player, at times full back, wing, wing forward and No. 8.

The lack of really destructive power in the back row meant that the opposition were often given too much room in which to move and this put undue strain on the defence in the centre. Another fault was the lack of hard running already mentioned. But all in all, the side can be fairly happy with its season.

The final arrangement of the team was: C. D. Le Voi; R. Coomber, P. H. Painton, J. J. F. Burn, G. Walkinshaw; M. R. Louth, B. E. Goldsworthy (capt.); D. Clare, J. R. Poole, M. H. Hampton, N. D. Brice, R. W. Schnellmann, A. M. Jell, A. M. Wood, A. J. Longstaff.

Also played: D. N. Roblin (6 times); D. G. Halstead (3 times); P. H. Blackburn, L. R. Llewellyn (twice); R. G. Coulbeck, R. W. Purbrick and M. Spencer (once).

#### Results

v. Reading School (a). Wed., 2nd Oct.	Won 24—6
v. Radley College (a). Sat., 12th Oct.	Lost 8—14
v. Pangbourne Nautical College (a). Wed., 6th Nov.	Lost 3—31
v. Cokethorpe School (a). Sat., 9th Nov.	Won 28—3
v. Stowe School (h). Sat., 16th Nov.	Lost 8—13
v. Oratory School (h). Wed., 13th Nov.	Lost 0—17
v. Berkhamsted School (h). Thurs., 21st Nov.	Won 11—0
v. Bloxham School (h). Sat., 23rd Nov.	Won 36—8
v. Newbury Grammar School (h). Sat., 7th Dec.	Won 20—0

B.J.M.

#### JUNIOR COLTS FIFTEEN

The scoring of the 200th point in the last match was a fitting crown for an outstanding XV. The forwards have always been quick and effective in the loose and latterly have been overwhelming in the tight with the power of Cook, Ballinger and Blackburn behind the compactness of Crouch, Arundel and Bosley. The wing forwards, Coulbeck and Wood, have combined superbly with the backs, and Bradfield and Gibbs in the centre have had the thrust and skill to make full use of their ample opportunities. Coulbeck is the power player of the side, which is talented, intelligent, fit, and a delight to train.

The team was: C. M. B. Wharton; T. C. C. Beckett, P. E. Gibbs, R. E. N. Bradfield (capt.), G. J. Froggart; D. S. Jackson, R. J. M. Conibear; E. A. C. Crouch, M. J. Arundel, J. P. H. Bosley, M. A. E. Ballinger, N. K. Cook, T. J. Wood, P. H. Blackburn, R. G. Coulbeck.

Also played: M. A. Cockerill, M. J. T. Theophilus (3 times); M. Sprent (once).

#### Results

v. Southfield School (a). Sat., 8th Sept.	Won 25—0
v. Newbury Grammar School (h). Sat., 5th Oct.	Won 19—3
v. Leighton Park School (a). Sat., 12th Oct.	Won 36—5
v. Magdalen College School (h). Wed., 16th Oct.	Won 29—5
v. Solihull School (a). Sat., 19th Oct.	Won 12—10
v. Shiplake Court (a). Sat., 9th Nov.	Won 22—3
v. Oratory School (h). Wed., 13th Nov.	Won 12—0
v. Radley College (h). Sat., 16th Nov.	Won 25—3
v. Wallingford Grammar School (a). Sat., 23rd Nov.	Won 20—6

K.M.D.H.

## JUNIOR FIFTEEN

This has been a happy and successful side, a side with considerable potential and well led by Goldsworthy, the captain, and Carr, the pack leader. The firm grounds and dry ball gave the backs every chance to show their paces and they seldom disappointed. Both wing threequarters scored many tries to round off good team movements, whilst the strong running of Booker in the centre was quite outstanding. The pack did its job to feed the backs well and of late its play in the loose rucking was much improved. Against Oratory the whole side showed defensive powers which augur well for the future. Their main weakness was a lack of urgency and drive in the first quarter of a match.

## Results

v. Southfield School (a). Sat., 28th Sept.	Won 29—5
v. Magdalen College School (h). Wed., 16th Oct.	Won 29—0
v. Solihull School (h). Sat., 19th Oct.	Lost 6—14
v. Cokethorpe School Junior Colts (a). Sat., 9th Nov.	Won 27—3
v. Oratory School (a). Wed., 13th Nov.	Won 22—0
v. Radley College (h). Sat., 16th Nov.	Won 14—0
v. Berkhamsted School (h). Thurs., 21st Nov.	Lost 5—9
v. Wallingford School (a). Sat., 23rd Nov.	Won 43—0

The team was: D. N. Hunt; M. C. Varley, J. C. Paddison, N. J. Booker, F. J. Dobbs; B. H. Ford, J. Y. McLaughlan; R. L. Matthews, A. E. Banes, J. R. Burton, J. C. Bourlet, I. L. M. Carr, J. F. Goldsworthy (capt.), P. K. Ablewhite, P. B. Harrison.

Also played: T. R. Paxton (5 times); D. R. Langmead, R. Janz (3 times); J. L. Sayce (twice), D. R. Sayce (once).

M.N.W.

## HOUSE MATCHES

Good weather and firm grounds enabled all matches to be played off on time and we were able for the first time since their institution to complete two rounds in both the Senior and Junior Leagues. A further innovation was attempted when the Senior Houses were asked to raise 'B' League teams to play in a secondary league. In the event, this did not prove as simple as expected and although most matches were played and a result of sorts reached, we shall have to think again next season.

The Senior Knock-out competition was well up to recent standards. In the preliminary round, Bennett defeated Reeves fairly comfortably 19—0 and Blacknall disposed of Tesdale somewhat less easily 12—3. The final, played on Wed., 4th December, produced a very exciting and close game. Conditions underfoot were a little wet and play for the first twenty minutes scrappy. Bennett took an early lead when Stiff kicked an easy penalty but it was not until just before half-time that Corps after a spectacular run scored a try, which Stiff converted,

to put them 8 points ahead. In the second half, Blacknall's scrum took over and as a result of much hard pressure scored two penalty goals through Penney. But this was as near to success as Blacknall were to get for shortly before time, Barrett made a good run and passed to Jessett DJ, who scored to make the final points 11—6 to Bennett, who thus retained the Lin Cup.

The Senior League for the Toplis Cup produced many very good games. Blacknall showed themselves worthy champions by winning all their matches, most of them by large margins, and by retaining the Cup for the third year in succession — in fact since the Cup was only presented in 1961, no other House has yet held it! Results are tabulated below. The experiment of running a secondary Senior League, to which reference has already been made, though not wholly successful, produced a tie between Blacknall and Reeves.

*Results of Senior League — 1st and 2nd Rounds*

Bennett v. Blacknall	—	6—26 and 8—33
Reeves v. Tesdale	—	19—5 and 0—14
Bennett v. Tesdale	—	8—31 and 5—27
Blacknall v. Reeves	—	19—6 and 9—0
Bennett v. Reeves	—	5—41 and 11—16
Blacknall v. Tesdale	—	34—5 and 9—6

Points: Blacknall—12; Tesdale—6; Reeves—6; Bennett—0.

*Results of Senior 'B' League*

Bennett v. Tesdale	34—13	Blacknall v. Reeves	9—19
Reeves v. Tesdale	43—26	Bennett v. Blacknall	3—46
Bennett v. Reeves	—no play	Blacknall v. Tesdale	13—6

The Junior League resulted in the Robinson Cup going to Tesdale, winners for the second year in succession, who won five of their six matches, the sixth being a drawn game with Blacknall who were runners up. Reeves unhappily failed to win a game.

*Results of Junior League — 1st and 2nd Rounds*

Bennett v. Blacknall	—	16—32 and 3—25
Reeves v. Tesdale	—	3—25 and 0—15
Bennett v. Tesdale	—	0—6 and 3—27
Blacknall v. Reeves	—	38—3 and 17—0
Bennett v. Reeves	—	17—9 and 24—3
Blacknall v. Tesdale	—	6—6 and 0—3

\* \* \* \*

The Annual Dayboys v. Boarders match was played off on Sat., 7th December, before an encouragingly large crowd of spectators. The game which was played in a commendably spirited way resulted in a good win for the Boarders by 18 points to 8. The two packs were fairly evenly matched but behind the scrums the Boarders were superior.

This was particularly so in the first half when Matson on the right wing used his speed to score two very nice orthodox tries, the first of which was converted by Jennings. Later in this half, Flint scored a fine try the result of much good work by his pack. Jennings again converted. In the second half, the Dayboys came into the picture more and Marsh scored a try rather similar to those of Matson. This was converted for the Dayboys by Stiff. Shellard then scored for the Boarders, Jennings once more adding the extra points; and towards the end of the game, Henderson dived over for the second Day-boy try.

\* \* \* \*

The School has again basked in the reflected glory of the wider fame gained by some members of the Fifteen playing extra rugby in the holidays, by the achievements of rugby-playing Old Boys, and particularly by the growing reputation of Mr. Booth. With the departure at the end of last summer of Mr. Keating, Mr. Booth undertook the training of the 1st Fifteen and we have all admired the dedicated proficiency which he brought to this task — the achievements of our team are ample proof indeed of his success. He has nonetheless found time to continue his own rugby and has played regularly this season for the Saracens. He has, too, been much in demand for County representation. Few players can have represented so many Counties — this season alone he has turned out for Oxfordshire, Cornwall and Berkshire. When playing for Cornwall against the R.A.F., he successfully partnered England's captain of last season, Richard Sharp, and he appeared as scrum half for the Southern Counties against the All Blacks, playing according to the London press, a very fine game. (See photo. opposite page 26). His example has been catching. During the Christmas holidays, no less than six of the 1st Fifteen received Schoolboy County Trials and subsequently Flint and Cox represented Berkshire. Further afield the Bosley brothers and S. A. Marsh have been playing for the Saracens Schoolboys' Fifteen. All this is most encouraging and is proof of the lively, energetic spirit present in School rugby.

This fact has been reflected too in the greater touchline attendance at School matches — one of the many good results possibly of our Quatercentenary match — and in the efficient carrying out of touch-judge duties by in particular M. C. Bowen (1st XV), J. B. Percival and T. J. Havelock (2nd and 3rd XVs), D. N. Roblin (Colts), M. A. Cockerill (Junior Colts) and D. R. Langmead (Juniors).

Mention must be made also of the administrative work of Hugh Flint, brother of the Captain, who has looked after rugby equipment more efficiently than it has ever been done before. Thanks too to Mr. Smithson and his assistants for wonderful care and preparation of the pitches.

\* \* \* \*

One last item. This year for the first time we officially held a Senior Place and Drop Kicking Competition. The idea is to improve the

general standard of kicking throughout the School — we intend to extend it into the Junior teams as soon as possible — and we are extremely grateful to Mr. Geoffrey Bosley for presenting a cup for this contest. Entries were not very numerous this year but the standard was fair. The cup was won by J. R. Jennings with B. G. Mackay runner-up. D.O.W.

### CROSS COUNTRY

At the beginning of term we thought that we would have a very strong team but two of our number were soon offered places at University and left, the Secretary Gregson was taken to hospital with anaemia and Liversidge had a recurrence of knee trouble.

The main responsibility therefore fell on Avery and Matson and although they ran well they were not up to the very high standard of the leading runners among our opponents. (No fewer than five of whom bettered or equalled the previous Sunningwell Course Record). Of the other members of the team, Bisby, Crouch and King, although running creditably, failed to improve on their four previous seasons; Hunter, Owen and Light all gave hints of what they could do if they were fully fit; Diffey ran with great determination and Marks showed considerable promise towards the end of term.

Full colours were awarded to B. S. Avery and I. W. D. Matson.

The following represented the School on more than one occasion this term: B. S. Avery, F. A. Bisby, I. W. D. Matson, J. R. Owen (6 times); E. D. J. Hunter (5 times); E. C. C. Crouch, T. J. King (4 times); F. A. Light (3 times); B. D. Diffey, R. K. Gregson, P. W. Liversidge (twice).

### RESULTS OF MATCHES

*v. Westminster Training College (away). Saturday, 5th October.*

1st—Westminster 29 pts.; 2nd Abingdon 49 pts.

(Scorers: Matson 3, Avery 5, Bisby 8, Owen 10, Diffey 11, Crouch 12).

*v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (away). Saturday, 19th October.*

1st—High Wycombe 32 pts.; 2nd—Abingdon 46 pts.

(Scorers: Avery 3, Matson 6, Bisby 7, Hunter 9, Owen 10, King 11).

*v. Reading School (home). Wednesday, 23rd October.*

1st—Reading 36 pts.; 2nd—Abingdon 44 pts.

(Scorers: Avery 3, Matson 4, Bisby 7, King 9, Owen 10, Hunter 11).

*v. Culham Training College (away). Wednesday, 30th October.*

1st—Culham 26 pts.; 2nd—Abingdon 53 pts.

(Scorers: Avery 5, Matson 7, Bisby 8, Hunter 9, Owen 11, Crouch 13).

v. R.A.F. Benson (away). Wednesday, 6th November.

1st—Abingdon 34 pts.; 2nd—Benson 49 pts.

(Scorers: Avery 3, Hunter 4, Liversidge 5, Matson 6, Owen 7, Bisby 9).

v. The Queen's College (home). Wednesday, 27th November.

1st—Queen's 25 pts.; 2nd—Abingdon 33 pts.

(Scorers [only 5 to count]: Avery 4, Matson 5, Bisby 7, Marks 8, Owen 9).

### INTER-HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

Wednesday, 11th December.

This year we reverted to the Abingdon Lock course (which we first used two years ago), and we are very grateful to Peter Wilsden (O.A.) for giving us permission to use his land. The weather was distinctly cold but perhaps not quite so bitter as last year.

There was a very fast start in the junior race and the leading group kept going well — the first five all beating the previous record. In the intermediate race the leading group of about ten runners got well away from the rest of the field and it wasn't until the last few hundred yards that Coulbeck managed to draw away. Owing to scholarship examinations and injuries there were a large number of non-starters among those who had been expected to do well in the Senior Race. Avery was always out in front but Bowthorpe had a keen tustle with Matson before gaining second place. Bennett won the House Cup for the seventh successive year but there are signs that their long run of victories may be drawing to a close.

The first-form race — 2 laps of Albert Park — was most convincingly won by Blacknall House who took 6 out of the first 8 places. The individual winner, M. C. Varley, broke the record by half a minute and J. L. and J. P. Cox were second and third.

#### *Details of the House Competition*

Junior: 1st—Reeves (176); 2nd—Blacknall (198); 3rd—Bennett (208); 4th—Tesdale (250).

Intermediate: 1st—Bennett (172); 2nd—Tesdale (198); 3rd—Blacknall (205); 4th—Reeves (254).

Senior: 1st—Bennett (421); 2nd—Reeves (459); 3rd—Blacknall (471); 4th—Tesdale (498).

Over-all Championship: 1st—Bennett (801); 2nd—Blacknall (874); 3rd—Reeves (889); 4th—Tesdale (944).



The first ten home in the races were:

Junior: Carr (9:45), Ford, Berry, Banes, Booker, Burton, Osborne, Paxton, McPhail, Douglas.

Intermediate: Coulbeck (19:26), Bradfield, Jessett, Sprent, Tanner, Roblin, Roper, Goldsworthy, Forsythe, Denny CW.

Senior: Avery (17:50), Bowthorpe, Matson, Hunter, Owen, Marks, Ford, Diffey, Bartlett, Bisby M.

R.H.B.

## COMBINED CADET FORCE

### ARMY SECTION

The reorganisation of the C.C.F. has affected us less than many schools but its main provision — that a cadet will join for nine terms only, except 10% of strength who may be kept on as instructors beyond that limit, will mean that by next September when the reorganisation will be complete, the School force will be more streamlined and the majority of cadets will spend two years in the arm of their choice doing work up to Proficiency standard and will then specialise for one year in the section of their choice. The new organisation will mean that a boy will be doing something useful the whole of his time in the C.C.F.

Specialist help from O.U.O.T.C., which terminated abruptly in the summer, began again after half-term and our thanks are due to the instructors who are taking the R.A. and R. Signals Sections — especially to 2nd/Lieut. Rose who has been exceptionally helpful to the gunners. The Signals had fallen in number to a mere handful and so the N.C.O.'s Cadre was combined with it and instruction is now going on apace.

16 Bn. R.A.O.C. are now the unit responsible for helping us in other training and we had a visit from the liaison officer, Major Stiles, who has promised us regular help with drill and weapon training. Since the visit a C.S.M. and one other instructor have been taking a Senior N.C.O.'s Drill Squad and in particular teaching the *new* arms drill, using the *old* rifle (we had been reliably informed that this was impossible). The instructors brought one example of the 'real thing' with them and when our own N.C.O.'s saw how the drill should be done, they 'caught-on' fairly quickly despite bruising of the fingers on the trigger guard at the first movement of the 'shoulder arms.'

It is hoped that an interesting Field Day will be arranged next term when a large contingent will visit our sponsor unit at Bicester.

Field Day this term was mainly a domestic affair, only the C.D. Section venturing far when they spent a day in the Uffington Area. The rest of us went to the Downs at Wantage, A & B companies taking part in a map-reading march and C Company doing a day's training in the field admirably organised by Sgt. Ormerod.

We have tried to smarten up the Fall-in this term. The Markers take their place and at a bugle-call, the whole contingent springs to attention and when the drums roll, everyone gets on parade at the double. It certainly gets the parade moving in the right spirit. A word of praise to R.S.M. Mackay who has been a tower of strength in his new appointment.

We say farewell this term to Mr. Pratt who has taken great pains with the band. I should like to thank him for all that he has done and in particular for composing the fall-in bugle call.

Over 100 cadets took part in the Remembrance Day Parade and we were the largest contingent on parade at the War Memorial. The Guard of Honour and Buglers performed their part quite admirably. The Band gave us a good rhythm and the march back to school from St. Helen's Church was the best marching seen for a long time. Well done!  
B.J.M.

#### ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

The Michaelmas term saw several changes in the structure of the Section. The new constitution of the Corps meant that we had to absorb some twenty-five recruits, with the result that some of the seniors were given the opportunity to leave the corps. Even so the Section is still more than sixty strong.

We are now re-organised into three watches, in charge of a completely new set of N.C.O.'s, and most of the term has been spent in training. Four of the Seniors passed the practical part of Advanced Proficiency, and we are still awaiting the results of the written exam. Six out of nine candidates passed the written part of Proficiency, and will take the oral next term.

Field Day took the form of a mild initiative and endurance test involving a hike over the Downs, each watch being required to locate and report on certain landmarks in the locality.

We are most grateful to Lieutenant J. H. Arkell, R.N.R., for his help during the term.  
L.C.J.G.

#### R.A.F. SECTION

With the introduction of the new system of entry into the C.C.F. much of our time has been spent equipping and training the new recruits. In the past year the Section has doubled in size and the organization has become correspondingly more complex, but offering more opportunities of responsibility and promotion for the senior cadets.

Field Day was spent at the Initial Training School at R.A.F. South Cerney, in Wiltshire. Despite the somewhat late arrival at the School, the cadets were soon gaining practical experience of the varied activities and exercises which the officer cadet must undergo before continuing to flying training.

The Section was divided into teams and taken to the assault course, aviation medicine centre or a water-filled quarry. The latter was to provide the greatest interest, with each team trying to construct a raft from a minimum amount of equipment in a simulated escape across a canal in Berlin. Many of the cadets found this particular exercise a damp one, but some of the rafts showed signs of great ingenuity.

Next term we hope to report the award of further Flying Scholarships and that more cadets will be able to take advantage of the Air Experience Flying scheme. It is also hoped that some of the cadets will take part in the arduous training camp in Scotland during the Easter holidays.

D.W.M.

## SCOUTS

### *34th North Berks Group*

During the term the Scout Group in general has been extremely active in training, camping and working on the hut and surroundings. We are particularly indebted to Richard Welch (O.A.) who together with Lyons and Dickson spent so much time decorating the inside of the hut during the Summer holidays. Now that electricity has been installed, we have been able to hold all Group meetings in the Headquarters.

Both the Scout Troops have increased in number and many of the Scouts have done well at scouting and proficiency tests. These include first class badges to Ivan Carr and Rose and awards of the Swimmers, Cylists and Stamp Collectors proficiency badges to a dozen recipients.

At the beginning of term a Senior Scout Troop was formed. This consists of eleven scouts of whom seven have been invested as Senior Scouts. Activities have been varied and included a small amount of Social Service. Seven members passed the Ambulance badge course and our thanks are due to Superintendent Butler of the St. John's Brigade who arranged it for us. Later on in the term we had a twenty-four hour hike on the Downs from Isley to Uffington.

At half term Mr. Blagden took a patrol hiking in North Wales, where amongst other things they found themselves first on the scene in a mountain rescue operation. Field day was spent usefully at Youlbury, and there was a particularly good turn out for the Remembrance Day parade.

For the second time in six months we were able to ask the District Commissioner to come and present a Queen's Scout badge. Our congratulations go to Paul Ramsey on this notable achievement and our good wishes as he leaves us. Farewell too to a younger scout, Graham Mackereth, as he goes to another school, where we hope he will be able to continue with his scouting.

M.N.W.

## CHESS

The team's inter-school matches began and ended with 6—0 victories over Bloxham School II and King Alfred's School respectively. Of our other four matches, only the away match against Forest Grammar School was lost. In this, our good start was nullified by erratic play on the lower boards, and so although four games were sent up to be adjudicated, our only points came from the top three boards. This loss knocked us out of the *Sunday Times* Chess Tournament, dashing our hopes of reaching beyond the zone semi-final, our turning point for the past two years.

Special mention must be made of our Junior (U/15) team who came first equal this year with the Dragon School and Magdalen College School, in the Oxfordshire and District Jamboree at the Dragon School, Oxford. They scored four points out of a possible six; ten teams competed.

This term we were glad to welcome the Abingdon Chess Club to new club rooms in Lacies Court, where they now meet every Tuesday evening. After attending several times, two boarding members of the school team were invited to play for Abingdon Town second team, both winning in a drawn match against Cowley Community Centre Chess Club. We hope that this step will promote further interest in senior chess. While team members are invading the local team, Mr. J. B. Goodman, O.A., our previous club secretary and captain, is playing for Berkshire.

Since the opening of the new library, the new chess boards have seldom been lying idle; even recalcitrant members of the sixth form have been seen pondering over the board. Doubtless a Russian Chess Tournament can be organised for their benefit!

An extremely friendly match between the School Prefects and the Masters was won 8—1 by the Masters after several long see-saw struggles and unusual final positions.

The termly net of school knockouts has presented us with a few surprises in the quarter-finals; for instance, Thornton's win over Blackburn PH, and Davis RJ's win over Wells. The final results have still to be decided.

### Results

1st VIII v. Newbury Chess Club (h). 5th Oct.	Won 4½—3½
1st VI v. Bloxham School II (h). 16th Oct.	Won 6—0
1st VI v. Forest Grammar School (a). 12th Nov.	Lost 2½—3½
1st VI v. Bedford Mod. School (a). 13th Nov.	Won 3½—2½
1st VI v. Southfield School (h). 21st Nov.	Won 4—2
1st VI v. King Alfred's School (h). 27th Nov.	Won 6—0
U/16 VI v. Park House School (a). 9th Nov.	Lost 2½—3½
U/15 VI at Oxfordshire Jamboree. 23rd Nov.	1st equal

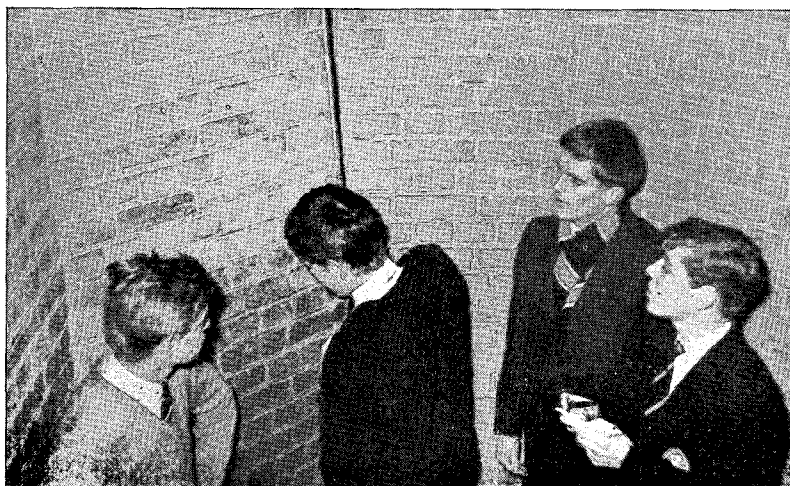
END OF TERM



THE PLAY

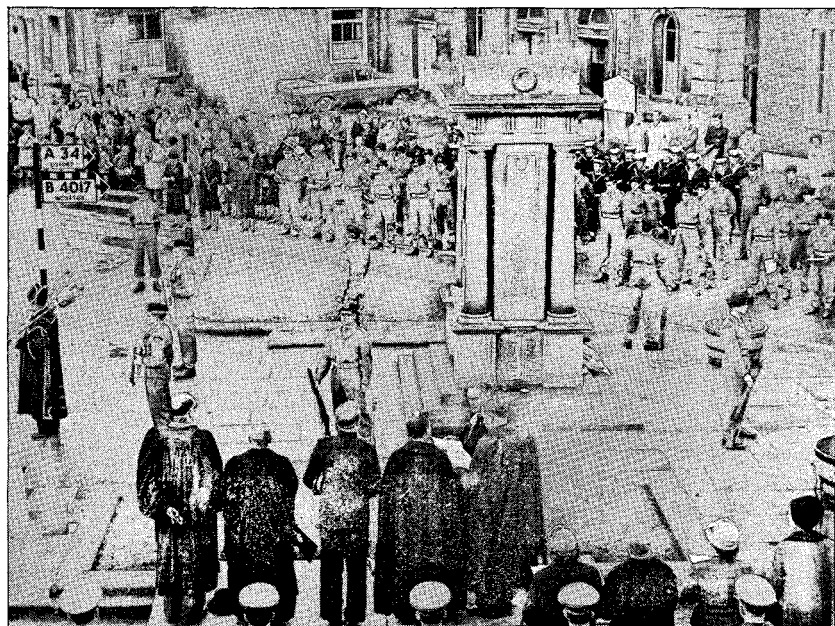


THE FAIR

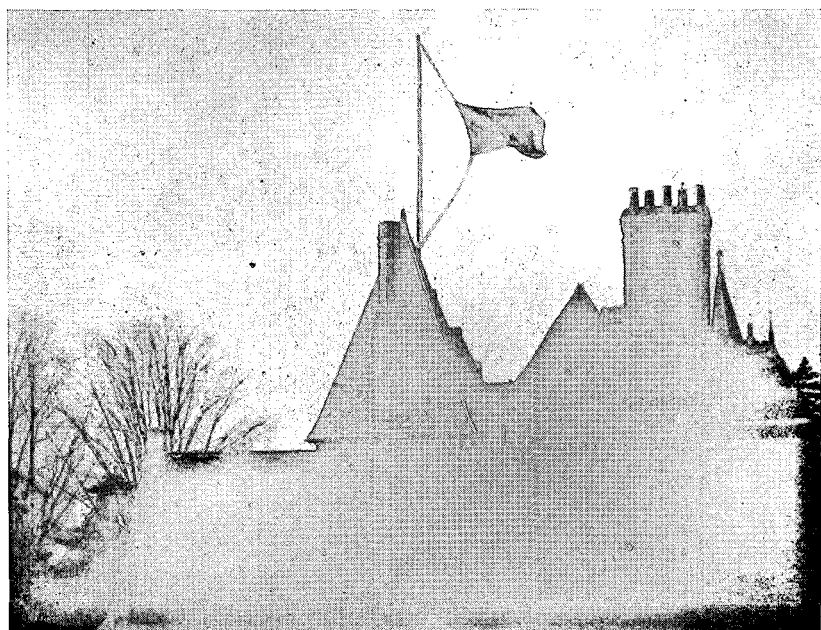


1563!

IN GRATEFUL MEMORY



10th November, 1963



22nd November, 1963

The School team, unchanged in members or board order until this term, is (in revised board order and with total match scores this term): T. J. King (capt.) 5/6, A. E. Medland 3½/6, M. F. Wells, 5½/6, R. J. Davis 4½/6, T. D. Harding 3/7, T. R. Giddings 5/7. A.E.M.

## MUSIC NOTES

The House Music Competition began the term's musical activities. Mr. Olleson, a Research Fellow of Christ Church, came to adjudicate, and proved to be one of our most sympathetic and helpful critics. In this, the piano and organ section, Reeves won by a short head from Bennett, with Blacknall third and Tesdale a rather better fourth than in previous years. Hallett, G. H. walked off with both Senior Piano and Organ prizes, Galbraith, D. won the Intermediate Piano section and Coe, N. P. won the Junior Piano section.

Oakmead School, Bournemouth, sent their band to Abingdon one Saturday, to provide an astonishingly good Evening Entertainment, and spurred on, perhaps, by this, our own band gave its first ever concert in the Court Room towards the end of term. Much of their playing was secure and confident, and it is a great credit to our bandmaster, Mr. Clack, that so young a band can acquit themselves well in an hour's programme.

The Subscription Concerts Society is going from strength to strength. An increased membership has given us the opportunity of putting on four really first-class concerts, of which we have already enjoyed two. The first was given by the Alberni String Quartet, a young quartet of men who have just completed their courses at the Royal Academy of Music and have now become a resident quartet at Harlow. At this early stage in their career as a quartet, they showed considerable maturity in their playing, and individually they are very gifted indeed.

The Melos Ensemble provided our major concert, for which we combine with Radley College. To hear six soloists of international renown, with the ensemble experience of these, was a tremendous experience. The Sea Shanties by Malcolm Arnold stand out for sheer technical skill, and Poulenc's Sextet introduced many of the audience to a fairly new work, played with great polish and brilliance.

Mrs. Kitching gathered together a very good group of players for the Staff concert, for which the audience was the largest we have ever had, overflowing from the Heylyn Room into the Hall of Lacies Court. With a suite by Boismortier and a Mozart quintet, they played the sixth Brandenburg Concerto of Bach, using two violas da gamba for the inner parts. The audience was awed to hear that one of the gambas was probably played by Bach himself, shortly after it was made.

The Music Club tackled the fourth Brandenburg Concerto the following week — a most convincing performance, and a great credit to Fairlie, A., Ford, C., and Gibbs, A., who played the solo parts.

Carols have occupied the Chapel Choir's time in the latter half of the term. The Carol Service is the most exciting and stimulating event in the choir's programme, and they produced some polished singing this year, particularly in the quieter carols. The evening before the carol service, two groups of singers, and the band, went round the town singing and playing carols and collecting for the Church of England Children's Society.

And finally, a more personal note. It is not without sincere regrets that I leave Abingdon. When I came to the School, I found a vital and flourishing music department and, if I leave it in as healthy a state, it is thanks to the immense support I have received not only from my visiting staff and the assistant music masters, but also from the less musical members of the staff and, most of all, from the boys. I am relieved to know that I am handing over to a man whose aims are fundamentally the same as mine, and I look forward with complete confidence to seeing music at Abingdon going from strength to strength.

**Associated Board Examinations:**

*Passes:*

- Davis, J. H. T. — Violin — Grade I.
- Fairlie, S. — Violin — Grade II.
- Gilbert, P. — Piano — Grade III.
- Howlett, C. M. — 'Cello — Grade IV.

*With Merit:*

- Vernède, A. — Piano — Grade IV.
- Murphy, D. — Piano — Grade V.
- Wedgwood, P. A. — Organ — Grade VI .

*With Distinction:*

- Hallett, G. H. — Organ — Grade VIII.

Gibbs, A. R., has been given a place in the National Youth Orchestra, as a violinist.

G.M.P.

## SCHOOL SOCIETIES

### ROYSSÉ SOCIETY

At the first meeting of term on 9th October, the Society had the pleasant task of welcoming E. N. Broadway, M. J. Evans, F. C. A. Exon, A. S. Harrison, P. G. Henderson, J. J. Mackenzie, P. N. Shellard and D. F. K. Smith as new members. P. W. Liversidge then read a paper on "Nuclear Disarmament", dividing the subject into three parts. He first asked whether the Bomb was still a deterrent, then outlined the progress made at recent disarmament Conferences. Lastly he summarised the consequences of an agreement to restrict or abolish nuclear weapons. Discussion flowed freely; the increasingly more civilised attitude of the Soviet Union and the possibility of an alliance with the West against Red China were mentioned.



Having recently returned from the New World, P. S. McK. Ramsey read a paper entitled "The American Way of Life", on 30th October. The reader dealt with the Negro integration problem and American educational methods; he touched upon the American attitude to religion, the transport system and the Credit System. Unfortunately the Society lacked enough knowledge for discussion to be really successful; hence the evening because a session of questions and answers.

For the last meeting of term, on 20th November, K. W. R. Dixon read to the Society a very interesting and thought-provoking paper entitled "1984 — Bang on Schedule?" Basing his work upon the novel of Orwell, the reader first explained the nature of Oceania, the political and social structure of the State, the process of mind-manipulation. The view was expressed that our society must some time undergo a radical change. In Oceania worship of Big Brother replaced all other religions and state-control was absolute. This, the reader said, was becoming more of a reality. A very interesting discussion ensued, everyone expressing an opinion.

Finally we should like to thank the Headmaster and his household for their very kind hospitality in the past term.

P.J.L.

#### ST. EDMUND SOCIETY

Early in the Michaelmas Term S. M. Nicholl was elected to the committee, filling the place vacated by R. G. Parks.

The St. Edmund Society is a Society with a difference, in that, although it has an open membership, it meets in the evening.

The first meeting of the term was well attended when two more "Fact and Faith" films were shown. These as usual were popular because they appeal to a person in both his scientific and his Christian outlook on life. The two films were "Time and Eternity", and "The Glass Eye that Sees", the latter referring to the photo-electric cell.

Once a term the Society aims to run a meeting on its own, without films or outside speaker. Accordingly, a discussion was arranged for the second meeting. To provoke discussion, E. D. J. Hunter read a paper, frankly expressing his views on "Religion in School", and the Secretary read a paper entitled "New Morality."

For the last meeting, an outside speaker was invited to address the Society. Mr. Peter Anderson spoke on "An Evangelist's Work." He was well suited to the task as he is on the staff of the National Young Life Campaign, an organisation which preaches to young people outside the Church the Gospel of Christ in modern and simple terms. The interest he stirred up in his audience was indicated by the number of widely ranging questions asked.

J.B.

#### LITERARY SOCIETY

At the beginning of the term elections were held to fill the offices of Chairman and Secretary, which were taken by F. C. A. Exon and M. F. Kitto respectively.

A large number of new members were welcomed to our first meeting at which F. C. A. Exon read a paper of exceptionally high standard — "Keats; Potential Genius or Dilettante Poetaster." There was considerable divergence of opinion as to this poet's literary merits but all were agreed that there was some value in his writing. "Hemingway; the Man, His Style and His Influence" was the title of the second paper of

the term, read by A. G. Fairlie. The discussion which followed ranged from American culture to James Bond, and the meeting proved very lively. The final paper, "The Rise and Fall of English Poetry", read by M. F. Kitto, provided food for discussion and argument, giving all a chance to air their views.

Life would be dull indeed if we were not an extra-mural society, and so we should particularly like to thank those parents who have been kind enough to offer us their hospitality during this stimulating term.

M.F.K.

### THE TURNOR SOCIETY

At the Annual General Meeting on the 27th September, 1963, F. C. A. Exon was elected Secretary. This term's unusually full, but ill-fated programme opened with the cancellation of the first meeting of the term, because of the speaker's illness.

However, on the 25th October, Dr. Abshagen, the distinguished German writer spoke to us on 'Berlin, the Bulwark of the Western Alliance'. Briefly outlining the city's history, he then emphasised her importance to the West, looking forward to her future unity and freedom.

Mr. R. F. Hill, the traffic manager of the Western Region, spoke at the third meeting on the 22nd November on "The Effect of the Beeching Plan", and with a wealth of detail showed the advantages of the plan. He inspired so many intelligent and critical questions, that the meeting continued well after the scheduled time of closure. It is to be hoped that this enthusiasm will not in the future merely coincide with blue moons.

The ill-luck of the beginning of the term returned when M. J. Giddings, through ill-health and in the interests of the School Play, had to cancel his talk on Nigeria, projected for 6th December.

F.C.A.E.

### DEBATING SOCIETY

At the A.G.M., held on 27th September, T. R. Morris was elected Chairman, M. F. Giddings Secretary, J. Bowthorpe, P. G. Henderson and P. N. Shellard Committee Members.

The first debate of the term was well attended when R. C. Leatham, seconded by P. N. Shellard, proposed that 'Honesty is not the best Policy', attacking the 'puritanical creeps' of this world so successfully that the Opposition, J. Bowthorpe and J. Rozier, were only able to prick the consciences of the minority of the House. The highlight of the term's activities was the 'Staff Debate', held on 8th November, when Mr. J. J. Horrex, seconded by Mr. J. V. Tyson, supported Henry Ford's assertion that 'History is Bunk' while Mr. A. A. Hillary and Mr. H. T. Randolph did their utmost to oppose it. After speeches of wit and wisdom, the House (over 160 in number) overwhelmingly opposed the motion.

It was encouraging to see the high attendance sustained in the last debate of the term, when E. C. C. Crouch, seconded by M. A. Bisby, proposed that 'A man has the right to take his own life', which S. J. Bailey and J. W. Dickinson successfully opposed.

I should like to thank all who have participated in debates this term, but would add that more active support from the 5th and Lower 6th is necessary to make a Society, such as this, a thriving one. I hope this will be remedied next term.

M.F.G.

### THE CRITICS

The term was started with the election of T. R. Morris as Secretary, and appropriately he read the first paper on Edmund Spenser. The discussion that followed was enlivened by Mr. Holloway who read some interesting though often gory extracts from Spenser's "Faerie Queene." At the second meeting P. E. Dixon read a paper on Dylan Thomas which for the first time in the Society's history was augmented by gramophone records, and members were held spellbound by a recording of "Under Milk Wood." At the last meeting of the term the increased membership made the discussion quite lively, and C. R. Wood's paper on William Blake provided plenty of scope.

Although meetings have gone well this term it has been necessary to increase the membership and next term it is hoped that the Society can become a more out-of-school activity by meetings being held in members' houses. T.R.M.

### THE SYMPOSIUM

This term the Society welcomed Mr. Hillary as its new sponsor, hoping that he would find his position neither arduous nor unrewarding.

The first meeting was held in the School Shop on 14th October, when a successor to the retiring secretary, M. A. Bisby, was elected. The latter then read paper on 'Status', which proved to be an interesting one, providing many topics for discussion.

At the second meeting, which was also held in the School Shop, on 28th October, E. C. C. Crouch read a paper entitled 'The Way We Learn', dealing with the process of memorisation.

The final meeting, on 18th November, was held in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Ford, to whom we are extremely grateful. R. C. Leatham read a paper called 'The March of Communism' and the discussion was aided by the first-hand knowledge of Mr. Manly, who very kindly acted as sponsor for this particular meeting. J.R.J.

### SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

This term the Scientific Society has held four well-attended meetings. The first was on 4th October, when F. A. Bisby talked on "Wood", tracing the development of a woody stem, from a bud, and then discussing the 'cohesion theory' for the movement of the water up the xylem. The cohesive power of water, demonstrated by two experiments, surprised everybody, and microscope slides of woody tissues were exhibited.

Our guest speaker was Dr. C. E. Ford, who talked on "Mendelian Genetics and Molecular Biology — an attempt at synthesis", on the evening of 8th November. After surveying Genetics, the speaker described the research leading up to our present understanding of Molecular Biology. Then he connected genetics with the structure of the D.N.A. Molecule. Dr. Ford's talk, which was illustrated with lantern slides, was the highlight of the term's activities.

On 22nd November two films — "Prospect for Plastics" and "Magic Window" were shown. Both were interesting, but not as informative as had been hoped.

At the last meeting of the term, on 6th December, D. R. Sheard spoke entertainingly on "Spaceflight." He covered Astronomy, Astronautics, Rockets, Spaceflight Dynamics, and past and present space exploration.

Finally, this term's speakers must be thanked for their very successful lectures. T. J. K.

## HISTORIANS

An increase in membership and a high standard of discussion were two welcome features of this term's meetings.

On the 29th of October, I. J. Newbold spoke on "The Decline of the British Empire and the Future of the Commonwealth." Discussion revolved mainly around the Commonwealth and the speaker's seemingly cynical attitude was widely attacked by a lively and authoritative audience.

The Society, meeting again on the 21st of November, assumed itself to be gathered on the eve of the monastic dissolution and debated the motion that "Henry VIII was justified in dissolving the monasteries." The motion was proposed by P. N. Shellard and R. C. Leatham and opposed by M. J. Giddings and T. R. Morris. The vehement oratory of the main speakers created a realistic atmosphere in which the motion was carried by one vote.

"Medieval Rebellions" were the subject for the final meeting, the speaker being Mr. John Mason, Librarian of Christ Church, Oxford. Some unorthodox theories backed up by a wealth of interesting detail gave us a valuable insight into a somewhat neglected age.

I.J.N.

## THE MUSIC SOCIETY

This term has been a busy one, and a variety of works have been studied, the most important of which was the Brandenburg Concerto No. 4 in G major. To add variety to the meetings, the players were split into a string quartet and a wind ensemble. The string quartet played through works by Dvorák and Schubert, while the wind ensemble studied works by Haydn and Mozart.

The term's meetings culminated in a concert given at an open meeting of the Society held on Friday, 6th December. In his the wind ensemble played the Divertimento by Mozart, solos were played by F. R. Howlett, cello, and A. R. Gibbs, violin, and the concert ended with a performance of the Brandenburg Concerto with A. G. Fairlie and C. C. Ford, flutes, and A. R. Gibbs, violin, as soloists. The Society is grateful to Mrs. Kitching for her help in the practice and performance of the Brandenburg Concerto.

N.P.C.

## MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

For the first evening meeting, we were addressed by Professor Thwaites of Southampton University on "The Use of a Mathematical Model". His talk described the analysis of physical situations by Mathematical Models, with particular reference to his own work on blood flow through the artery.

At the second meeting on the 26th October, Mr. Wheedon of the Muldivo Company demonstrated the uses of manually and electrically operated calculating machines. Dr. Howlett provided a very appropriate sequel on the 26th November, when he spoke on the New Atlas Computer Laboratory, a £11½ million project which will prove a mathematical service for research workers in all branches of science.

We were pleased that members of St. Helen's School and Radley College were able to attend two of the meetings. S. M. Nicholl has been elected Secretary of the Society for next term, with T. R. Giddings as his Assistant.

C.J.D.B.

## MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

Three meetings have been held during the past term, each one completely different but very enjoyable. At the first, on 11th October, E. D. J. Hunter read to the Society a paper dealing with the lives of Bodmer, Gottsched and Herder — names which before meant very little to most of us. As light relief, the paper was divided into three parts and the intervals were filled by gramophone records, which ranged from Chinese to modern French.

J. J. MacKenzie very kindly volunteered to lead discussion, in French, at the second meeting on 25th October. With some thought-provoking questions he stimulated even the most reticent member to speak and by the end of the proceedings all were sorry that the evening had to finish.

It had been hoped to fit a film into the programme of events for the term, but this proved impossible. However the term was rounded off on a very high note when St. Helen's French Club invited us to a Joint Meeting on 29th November. The meeting took the form of a record evening and very quickly old friendships were renewed and new ones were being made. Afterwards all agreed that the meeting had been a great success and must be repeated in the near future.

P.J.L.

## THE FORUM

There has been a welcome revival of enthusiasm for the Society this term. Ten new members were elected to the Society, after the first, and only open meeting.

The A.G.M. was held on 27th September, K. W. R. Dixon was elected Chairman and G. J. Bailey Secretary. Two major national events were the basis of much discussion. The Denning Report and Mr. Macmillan's illness and resignation. On 11th October the Turnor Society were invited to attend the third meeting. F. C. A. Exon took the chair and a strong argument about political powers of Trade Unions ensued. Also discussed was the question of who should succeed Mr. Macmillan. The division of the group was comparable with that of the Press.

The final meeting on 15th November gave an opportunity for discussing the effects on the chief parties, of the results of the Luton and Kinross Bye-elections, and the pros and cons of Trading Stamps.

In giving good wishes to those who are leaving we look forward to next term when G. J. Bailey will be the new Chairman and J. W. Dickinson Secretary.

G.J.B.

## THE PLAY-READING SOCIETY

This term four plays were read. At the first meeting we read Pirandello's "Six Characters in Search of an Author", when for the only time in the term we had a good attendance of older members of the society. Consequently the reading was of a very good standard. At the next meeting Thornton Wilder's "The Matchmaker." Here we were lucky to have Mrs. Griffin and Mr. Horrex reading and they lifted the play above our normal standard. For the third meeting we read Brecht's "Mother Courage and Her Children", a very brutal portrayal of events in the Thirty Years War. At the final meeting James Bridie's "The Anatomist" was read. We found this play rather weak on the whole and so the reading was not up to the standard of the previous meetings.

However, on the whole the term was successful and this must be due a great deal to the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Griffin.

A.G.F.

### THE CAMPANOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Practices were held weekly this term, on tower-bells and hand-bells, and many members went to the Abingdon and Radley practices. During the term our membership more than doubled, and all our beginners have been doing well.

On 16th November, with the help of two Abingdon ringers we rang a quarter-peal (1260 changes), of St. Clements and Bob Minor spliced, at St. Nicolas' Church. The ringers were D. G. Clublely, J. R. Rowson, Anne Rowson, Philippa Dixon, M. C. E. Hodge and C. I. Rowson (conducting).

The same band with Kirsty Grant in place of Philippa Dixon attempted a quarter-peal of Bob Doubles at the same time as the School Confirmation Service was held, but this was unsuccessful.

An attempt was made to ring a quarter-peal before the Carol Service. The method was Plain Bob Major, and the ringers of whom four were present members, one was last year's secretary, and three were members of the Abingdon band, were M. C. E. Hodge, J. R. Rowson, Anne Rowson, D. G. Clublely, C. Carter, O.A., W. A. Smith and C. I. Rowson (conducting).

C.I.R.

### JAZZ CLUB

At the first of the four meetings we held a discussion on the subject "What is Jazz." The answer — man's need and outlet for expression — proved both interesting and thought-provoking. At the second meeting we studied the difference between the original New Orleans style of jazz and its white variant, Dixieland, as portrayed by two of their greatest exponents Kid Ory and Jack Teagarden respectively.

The third meeting was devoted solely to appreciating the work and talent of Duke Ellington. To close the term's meetings the recently formed jazz band gave a concert in the Music Room. The band, consisting of K. W. R. Dixon — clarinet and alto-sax, S. P. Sewry — trumpet, C. J. Corps — trombone, L. R. Llewellyn — piano, and R. N. Spencer — drums, played a selection of traditional and modern numbers which were warmly accepted. Although Dixon, the leader, is leaving it is hoped to continue the band next term.

C.J.C.

### THE ARTS CIRCLE

The Society has not been very active this term, as our only projected meeting was postponed due to the illness of the speaker. We hope, however, that this can be held next term.

On 5th December, some of the Society visited Cambridge, where we looked round the Fitzwilliam Museum and some of the colleges and their chapels. It was an extremely pleasant outing, and we came away quite favourably impressed with the other University City.

M.J.H.L.

### THE TAPE RECORDING SOCIETY

The highlight of the Michaelmas term was the visit to the Garrards Engineering Company of Swindon. The party had to be limited to twenty members (society membership now stands at 40), but to all who were able to go it was both fascinating and stimulating to see the mass-production methods used in the manufacture of tape decks and gramophone turntables.

The chief activity of the term has been the recording of the sound effects for the school play 'Caesar and Cleopatra.' This presented many new problems — such as recording a 'bucina' — and much was learned from the experience of having to produce sounds on a split-second cue.

Plans have finally been settled for the Society to have its own recording studio. The studio is in the old 'Green Room' in Lacies Court, and throughout this term members have been assisting the Building Club in the main stage of construction — the building of a concrete-block wall to divide the studio from the control room. It is hoped that the Studio will be in full operation by the end of the Lent Term. A very exciting project.

M.C.J.

### AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY

The Society's meetings this term were on the whole well attended after a somewhat subdued period during the latter half of the previous school year. The first was the Annual General Meeting on 4th October at which a new committee was elected. This was followed by a discussion on the proposed activities for the term.

The term's highlight was a film show on 15th November which was very well attended. The film was entitled 'Air Parade', being the story of Britain's aviation. There were some rare shots of aircraft in combat in both World Wars, the earliest flying machines, the airline pioneers of the thirties and the jet-powered machines of the late forties.

In all the Society enjoyed a quiet but active term.

D.R.B.

### THE JOINT CLUB

A revival in the fortunes of the Joint Club has taken place during the three meetings of the past term; even if we have been doing the same things — the Twist, Shake and Jive (by kind permission of the Beatles, or so it seemed) — we have spent some pleasant evenings.

A progressive faction in the Club has been urging reforms and to appease them we did once play tiddlywinks. However the Heylyn Room is not really large enough for ambitious projects — indeed there isn't enough room for the more mobile dances, hence the decline of the waltz and quickstep.

We have enjoyed the meetings; we hope St. Helen's have too!

P.J.L.

### HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This term the Society has met three times. The first meeting was on Friday, 27th September, when we discussed plans for the remainder of the term and next Founder's Day. These plans included ideas for the archaeologists among us, as we are hoping to help with digging at Dorchester Abbey in the near future.

On Friday, 11th October, Mr. B. Hurd, Headmaster of John Mason High School, gave a very interesting lecture to the Society. This was entitled: "Pirates in the 15th Century", and soon a book is to be published on the subject by Mr. Hurd and his colleagues.

Later on in the term some members attended the 'Friends of Abingdon' lecture on 'Ashbury Manor'.

A.P.F.

### FILM SOCIETY

The Society's constitution was changed this term in an attempt to counteract a feeling apparently prevalent in the Society last year that only films which had achieved box-office success were worth the attention of the Society.

Mr. Horrex kindly agreed to retain his sponsorship, while M. Wood was appointed Secretary and Mr. Fairhead, J. R. Jennings and H. J. N. Wharton were appointed to the committee.

The society is now restricted to Sixth formers and will, in future, meet four times a term in the evenings.

The first meeting was held on Sunday, 24th November when 'Vitelloni', directed by Federico Fellini, was shown. The general feeling of the society was that this film, which deals with Italian layabouts, was not amongst Fellini's best works.

This meeting was followed on Sunday, 1st December by 'Black Orpheus', directed by Marcel Camus. The film is concerned with the legend of Orpheus, being set in the present day in Rio de Janiero. The discussion after this film was lively and the film was obviously enjoyed by all who saw it.

M.P.S.W.

### SAILING CLUB

This term we had our first match against the Dr. Barnardo's Sailing Club, racing against boys from Abingdon and Kingston-on-Thames. This match took place during the half-term holiday, and consequently we could not field as strong a team as we would have liked. This did not detract from the racing however, and the Wharton brothers won both races, although our opponents won overall.

Oherwise we have spent our time sailing on Sundays and weekday afternoons, and generally building up the club. It is hoped that by next term we will have a second Graduate which is certain to bring more enjoyment to all members of the club and encourage class racing in the club.

E.J.R.

### LOCOMOTIVE SOCIETY

This term the Society held three meetings:

At the Annual General Meeting on 3rd October, K. G. Robbins was elected Secretary, and P. J. Snowley, P. G. James and M. T. Woodley were elected to the committee.

At the second meeting, on 11th November, Mr. Leake very kindly showed some of his train photographs.

The last meeting of the term took place on 25th November, when the Secretary gave an illustrated talk entitled "How not to take train photographs."

K.G.R.

### HOLIDAY CLUB

The two matches arranged for the Summer holidays were both very enjoyable. On the thirtieth of August we put out a strong side against Mr. Polley's XI in an evening match. Enthusiastic play by both sides meant that, despite the shortage of time, the scores were high. The opposition made 79 for 8 wickets, whilst we made 81 for 5.

The second match was the annual fixture with Wootton Tennis Club. This was a very close match, played with a great deal of spirit. A draw four each was a very fitting finish to a most enjoyable afternoon.

Looking forward to the next holidays, we have a Rugger match against the Town on Boxing Day and hope to have a Social early in the New Year.

C.C.F.



**O.A. NOTES****BIRTHS**

- AITCHISON.** On 12th April, 1963, to Rosemary, wife of Alan T. Aitchison (1958), a son, Jeremy Stephen.
- EDELSTEN.** On 26th October, 1963, to Jean, wife of John Edelsten (1952), a second son, James Douglas.
- GUIMARAENS.** On 22nd October, 1963, in South Africa, to Heather, wife of John Guimaraens (1952), a son.
- JUGGINS.** On 8th October, 1963, to Joan, wife of Ivor Juggins (1950), a son.
- LITTLE.** On 16th February, 1960, to Marion, wife of Peter Little (1947), a son, Clive Adrian, brother for Duncan.
- PENN.** On 1st March, 1963, to Pamela, wife of Michael Rodney Penn (1949), a second son, Andrew Michael.
- WASTIE.** On 13th August, 1963, to Diana (née Bailey), wife of Forbes Wastie (1957), a son, Jeremy Forbes.

**MARRIAGES**

- ANDREWS-CAMPBELL.** On 14th September, 1963, David R. G. Andrews (1952), to Ann Campbell of Chigwell.
- HARVEY-WHITELOCK.** On 7th December, 1963, at Orpington Parish Church, Kent, Richard W. Harvey (1960) to Patricia White-lock.
- HAWTIN-WADEY.** On 12th October, 1963, at St. James' Anglican Church, Crown Hill, Ontario, Keith W. Hawtin (1952) to Lovera Anne Wadey.
- IREDALE-JEWELL.** On 14th September, 1963, at All Saints Church, Reading, Martin Iredale (1956) to Anne Jewell, of Reading.
- MOODEY-CHARLOTTE.** On 2nd November, 1963, at St. Leonard's Church, Sunningwell, Berks, Timothy Charles Moodey (1957) to Rosemary Florence Charlottes.
- SHURROCK-FYFE.** On 28th September, 1963, at St. Nicolas' Church, Abingdon, Norman John Shurrock, M.A. (1953) to Helen Fyfe.
- WORTH-WOODS.** On 28th September, 1963, at the Church of St. John in Bedwardine, Worcester, Raymond Alan Worth (1957) to Rose Cecilia Woods.
- WRIGHT-STEVENS.** On 21st December, 1963, at Canford Magna Parish Church, Dorset, Christopher R. Wright (1960) to Judith Stevens, of Walton-on-Thames.

## DEATHS

CARSLAW. On 9th December, 1963, James Alan Mathison Carslaw (1959), aged 22.

CHALLENGER. On 5th November, 1963, at Abingdon, Bromley Challenger (1889-98), aged 84.

DUNCAN. On 4th April, 1963, John William Duncan (1900-03), aged 77.

ENGLAND. On 7th December, 1963, in Taunton Hospital, Somerset, Francis Leonard England (1900-02), aged 79.

TOMBS. On 16th September, 1963, Harold Tom Tombs (1909-14), aged 64.

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With the death of Bromley Challenger Abingdon loses one of its best-known personalities and the Club a Past-President and leading member at the turn of the century. The eldest of four brothers at the School he was prominent in all games and a member of the Soccer XI for five seasons. When he went up to Pembroke College he distinguished himself on the track and also rowed. He qualified as a solicitor in 1904 and spent the rest of his life in the family firm in Abingdon. He succeeded his father as Coroner for North Berkshire and Clerk to the Abingdon Justices, and held numerous other offices with Local Government Bodies. For many years — indeed at the time of his death — he was a Churchwarden of St. Helen's Church, and he was regularly to be seen at Henley Regatta with parties of friends. To Mrs. Challenger, a former Mayor of Abingdon, and his family we offer our sincere sympathy.

By an unhappy coincidence we also record the death of Mrs. Challenger's brother, John Duncan. He came to the School from Chard with Rev. C. F. Wimberley when Tesdale House, in Marcham Road, was started. He gained his colours for Cricket and was in the Football 2nd XI. On leaving School he served with a Cardiff Shipping firm for four years before joining his father's firm, J. T. Duncan & Co. On his father's death in 1921 he became Chairman of the Company and held that office till his death in April. A serious motor accident a few years ago had left him with impaired health. He was a first-class hockey player and was capped for Wales on many occasions.

During the 1914-18 War he was commissioned in the A.S.C. Horse Transport, and between the Wars he hunted regularly. During the last war he was Deputy Director of Coasting and Short-Sea Trades at the Ministry of Transport, where, according to the head of his department, he saved the Country millions of pounds thanks to his thorough knowledge of the work and his readiness to make decisions. In South Wales he presided over numerous bodies connected with the Shipping and Coal Industries.

He was married in 1914 and leaves a widow and son and daughter. His son, who farms in S. Rhodesia, is an M.P. and was Minister of Education and Public Services in Welensky's Government.

Francis England, who was a School Prefect and in the Cricket XI, took up banking when he left school. He was manager of Parr's (now Westminster) Bank at Bournemouth and Bridport, but for many years, before his retirement he had been manager of the Westminster Bank at Taunton.

Harold Tombs served in the 1st World War in the Royal Flying Corps but apart from that he had spent his life in the family firm of Sanitary Engineers and Decorators.

James Carslaw spent a year in the Sixth Form after leaving Wellington College, and those who remember his engaging and original personality will be deeply grieved at his untimely death. He had only recently qualified as Barrister at Law.

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T. E. Gardiner (1926), Coroner for Oxford City and Mid-Oxon, has been elected President of the Coroners' Society of England and Wales — the first Oxford Coroner to be so honoured.

Dr. Peter Jones (1944), Senior Surgical Registrar at Moorfields Eye Hospital, has qualified as F.R.C.S. His brother Michael (1946) who is head of the English Department at a London Comprehensive School has been admitted to the Bar.

A welcome visitor recently was H. F. Graham (1893) who is probably our Senior living Old Boy. He came in 1887 with the eldest of his five brothers who were all at the School between the years 1887 and 1907. All except H.F. migrated to Canada around 1908, and the only other survivor, his youngest brother Bruce, is still living there.

Another visitor was C. W. Lloyd, F.C.A. (1918) who is still with a firm of Accountants, Ford Rhodes Parks & Co., in Bombay. His brother L.A. (1920) is living in Bournemouth.

Geoffrey Good (1946), Assistant to Controller of Purchases in Richard Thomas & Baldwin's Ltd., has been promoted from Wales to the London office.

Peter Little (1947) in the Drawing Office of Rolls Royce has moved back to Derby from Nottingham.

Peter King (1945) at present at Limuru, Kenya, will be staying on for a few more years. At present he is busily engaged in the formation of a Shadow Institute of Education, to be taken over later by the University of Nairobi.

I. L. Lakatos (1946) is on the staff of Cybernetic Developments Ltd., which is producing the latest language teaching equipment.

David Andrews (1952) is Manager of the Financial Analysis Dept. in the Sales Group of Ford Motor Co.

In the Services:

Peter Simmonds (1955) is in H.M.S. Berwick.

Paul Cross (1960) at H.M.S. Excellent.

James Milne (1960) in H.M.S. Victorious.

Colin Scragg (1957) has recently been commissioned in 2 R. Tanks and is at Lisanelly Camp, Omagh.

David Riddick (1961) 5 Fusiliers is stationed at Lemgo, Germany; among other duties he is Unit Education Officer.

Capt. D. M. Aldworth (1949), R.A.P.C., is with 1 Tanganyika Regt.

Roderick Campbell (1960) is with 37 Sqdn. R.A.F. at Aden and Kenneth Painter (1955) at R.A.F. O.C.T.U., Feltwell.

In the Merchant Navy, Martin Chambers (1958) is 3rd Officer in MV British Sportsman of BP Tanker Co.; Peter Sheppard (1954) is still with the Port Line on the Australasia trade, and will be sitting for his Master's Certificate in 1965; Stuart Long (1961) is Ass. Purser in MV Oriana.

The Carter brothers in New Zealand seem to be flourishing: David (1951) with a growing family is farming; Robert (1956) has just graduated and been appointed Junior Lecturer in Geology at Auckland University and hopes to come to Cambridge this year to read for a D.Phil. He has recently been geologist in a Survey Party visiting Pitcairn Island.

P. G. Davis (1956) is teaching Handicrafts, Metalwork and P.E. at Charters Secondary School, Sunningdale, but may be moving to the R.A.F. School in Cyprus.

John Thewlis (1959) has been working in Middlesbrough and living in the same house as Peter Downer (19583). He has now entered St. Andrew's University to read Mathematics and Astronomy.

Barry Budden (1948) has recently qualified A.R.I.C.S., and has joined a firm in Shrewsbury. He is mainly concerned with new buildings for Bangor and Aberystwyth Universities.

G. A. Gingell (1956), after four years with Inland Revenue has now taken a post with the Co-operative Permanent Building Society at the Oxford office.

From Malaya comes news that Peter Kibble (1956) is at Kuala Lumpur as Imports Manager of the Borneo Co.; John Mobbs (1957) is on an estate at Kuala Ketil, Kedah, making a name with his vintage car at a number of race meetings; while John Nichols (1955) is in Transport Command St. Seletar, Singapore, when he isn't playing tennis.

Roger Antrobus (1960) and Barry Hiscock (1955) are both at Shell-Mex Computer Centre, Hemel Hempstead. The former, married with an infant son, has passed H.N.D. in Business Studies.

Anthony Crockford (1958) has entered the firm of Fox & Sons, Estate Agents in which his uncle Hugh Insley-Fox (1926) is partner.

Christopher Wray (1957) is currently appearing in 'Pickwick', at the Savile Theatre.

David Lloyd (1954) now has a post with ATV at the Birmingham Studios.

A. J. Cook (1961) is an Assistant in the Pathology Dept. at St. George's Hospital Medical School.

Michael Yarkoff (1959) now married is proprietor of a coffee-bar in Coventry.

To the best of our knowledge the following are now in residence at Universities and Medical Schools:

Oxford: *Pembroke*: I. J. Kirby (B.A.), R. G. M. Johnston, R. W. J. Bampton, J. M. Talbot, P. L. Hedges, M. R. Mole, A. C. L. Fraser, T. J. Pegram, T. A. Marsh; *Balliol*: G. A. Brown; *Christ Church*: N. P. Loukes; *New*: P. J. Ford; *Wadham*: G. Sheppard; *St. John's*: C. R. Winfield; *Merton*: A. J. Varney; *Magdalen*: G. S. Howlett; *Keble*: R. E. Moore, G. C. H. Phillips; *St. Peter's*: A. M. Q. King, C. G. Purnell; *St. Catherine's*: R. J. Hutcheon.

Cambridge: *Corpus*: R. S. Ogg; *Gonville & Caius*: M. S. Bretscher, B.A., K. N. Haarhoff, P. A. Bretscher; *Emmanuel*: R. G. Havelock; *Jesus*: I. A. D. Martin; *Trinity*: A. C. Bowker; *Trinity Hall*: E. G. Jones; *Fitzwilliam House*: D. Weir.

Edinburgh: T. H. Day, A. G. D. Matson.

St. Andrew's: T. A. Libby, C. D. Turnbull, J. H. Thewlis.

Trinity College, Dublin: G. R. B. Farrington, D. T. L. Wright, J. S. Kelly, A. H. Smith, M. E. F. Willey.

London: *King's*: A. F. Selwood; *Imperial*: T. I. Silvey, E. Lier, D. C. Pollard, M. A. Hedges; *L.S.E.*: A. J. Oxley, J. D. Sabel, D. J. French; *Northampton*: J. M. Beere, C. R. Scott, P. F. Booth; *Queen Elizabeth's*: P. E. Cable.

Birmingham: R. G. Simmonds, A. J. Mackenzie, L. A. Edwards, I. G. Burns, M. R. Morris.

Bristol: D. R. Gerring, C. J. Dean, P. R. Munson.

Durham: *St. Cuthbert's*: G. G. Ganf; *St. Chad's*: R. W. Ellaway, M. P. M. H. Hart; *King's, Newcastle*: A. J. Costley.

East Anglia: M. S. Ford.

Exeter: C. T. Pollard, A. R. F. Redgrave, I. Keele, E. W. Firth (B.Sc. Soton).

Leicester: D. H. Bragg, B.A., N. G. Mackenzie, R. B. Blackmore, J. V. Comfort, R. Dowson.

Liverpool: G. W. Oxley, N. A. G. Spackman.

Loughborough: J. M. Bunce, C. M. Davis, R. F. Budden.

Manchester: G. F. Keeys, D. C. Dunn.

Reading: R. J. L. Hewison.

Southampton: J. B. Friend, P. Rainey, D. J. Hoddinott, R. C. White, R. M. Kirby.

University of Wales: *Aberystwyth*: G. W. Jones, D. I. Southern; *Cardiff*: P. P. Hutchinson; *Bangor*: F. Jeal (B.A. Oxon.).

Medical Schools:

Middlesex: P. J. V. Willis, J. A. R. Willis.

St. Mary's: R. A. Lucas.

Royal Veterinary College: S. M. Womar, J. P. G. Butt, D. J. Aplin, B. R. Rosevear.

Birmingham: P. D. Exon, A. J. C. Leathem, J. D. Spencer.

Bristol: R. G. Parks.

Trinity College, Dublin: R. G. Lockton.

The following are pursuing full-time courses at Technical Colleges or other institutions:

Oxford: D. C. Venn, S. P. Bowen, R. J. Parsons, J. K. Pilling, A. F. Stewart, A. E. W. Willey.

Holborn College of Law: A. A. Venn.

Isleworth: R. N. Carter.

Manchester: D. W. Taylor.

St. Luke's, Exeter: M. D. Nurton.

Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester: C. B. Gosling.

Rutherford College, Newcastle: A. W. Foster.

Welsh C.A.T.: M. A. Faires.

Westminster College: M. J. Wareham.

West Ham: R. C. H. Moorshead.

At Universities overseas are Roger Marchbanks (1955) finishing his Ph.D. Thesis at Cornell; W. M. Jamieson (1962) at Rutgers University, New Brunswick; Robert Johns (1960) at Acadia, N.B.; Robert Capstick (1961) at Macdonald College; Peter Mann (1963) at Oberlin College, Ohio and Richard Van Wagenen (1963) at Yale.

Of others who left since last July we have the following news:

P. J. F. Blair has a Commercial Apprenticeship with B.M.C.

R. H. M. Burrige is doing Voluntary Service in India.

D. M. Edelsten is with Mobil Oil Co.

- A. J. Elliott is with Messenger & Kirkman (Accountants), Oxford.  
J. Fairlie is at Lloyds Bank, P. H. Firth at Westminster Bank and R. A. Smith at Barclays Bank, all three in Abingdon.  
A. D. Gardner is a Scientific Assistant at A.E.R.E., Harwell.  
J. F. Hann is with Nestles.  
I. G. Moore is an Apprentice in Electrical Engineering in the Post Office Telephone Service.  
T. J. Tilby is apprenticed with Central Electricity Generating Board.  
S. R. Wilson is with Dunster & Norton (Surveyors), Reading.

## LONDON LETTER

Dear Sir,

Now that there are over twenty O.A.'s at various Colleges in London, it is certainly time to have a letter from the University which is, after all, the Country's largest.

The main activity of the University's O.A.'s was held last April in the bar of the University Union where ten of us including a School Prefect, enjoyed an informal evening.

However it is on the river that several of us seem most active, and since London has the foremost crew in the country, this is perhaps a good thing. Don Aplin (R.V.C.) has just obtained his trial University Rowing Cap, Derek Pollard has rowed for I.C. 2nd VIII and James Willis (at Middlesex Hospital with his brother Peter) has been spotted eyeing the Boat House racks, while your correspondent has himself been making physical exertions on the river regularly.

On dry land too we are equally alive. At L.S.E. Andrew Oxley has an executive post of a prominent political Society, and John Sabel is active in the University O.T.C.

Down in Kensington at I.C., I have heard that Silvey regularly flies in the University Air Squadron, and Lier gets out occasionally to wield a hockey stick, while at Camden Town, R.V.C. sees Brian Rose-vear active on the sports field, and Womar engaged with his somewhat ancient automobile. Back in central London at N.C.L. Chris Scott is Treasurer of the Engineering Society, and as a result appears to be comfortably off at his luxury flat.

This year too we welcome several freshers, including Paul Cable (Q.E.C.) whose eagerness for learning is so great that he was at one stage trotting in from Reading each day.

Ending on a statistical note, it is of interest that over thirty-five per cent of us at present in London were at one time members of that small outpost at Larkhill holding a mere three and a half per cent of the School's boys.

Wishing all readers a happy and successful New Year,  
I remain, Sir,

YOUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

## O.A. CLUB NOTES

The innovation of holding the Annual General Meeting and the Annual Dinner on the day of the Rugger match, 30th November, 1963, instead of in the summer, proved an unqualified success, even if judged only by the number attending the Dinner. Whether thanks to the special "beat-up" by the President and the Headmaster, or to the change of date, far more new Old Boys attended than ever before and all appeared to enjoy the function to the full. No less than 123 members and guests sat down to dinner and for the first time the Bear Room was needed to cope with the numbers. It is even rumoured that seats in the "Bear Garden" have already been bespoke for future occasions. The only thing to mar the occasion was the absence of the President, Sir George Sinclair, who had slipped a disc on the previous day.

The afternoon was fine and the Rugger match provided a very even and well-fought struggle, the School winning by 3 points to nil. After tea in the Court Room the Annual General Meeting, of which the Minutes are appended, was held in the Pembroke Room. We might appeal for a larger attendance at these meetings — the only occasion in the year when the ordinary member can personally give his views on the running of the Club.

At the Annual Dinner, held in the Guildhall Suite, Mr. R. E. Eason, the immediate Past President presided, in the regrettable absence of the President, but we must express our hearty thanks to Sir George for providing the company with pre-prandial sherry. The Chairman was supported by the Mayor of Abingdon (Alderman J. H. Stanley), the Headmaster, J. H. Hooke and D. A. Kitto, in their dual capacities of Governors and Old Boys, and Peter Leather and Jonathan Mackenzie, Heads of School and School House respectively.

After the Loyal Toast and the toast of John Roysse the Chairman proposed the health of the School coupled with the name of the Headmaster. He congratulated all those whose efforts had contributed to the success of the Quatercentenary Celebrations and said how pleased he was that the Old Boys had been able to take such a full and enjoyable part in them.

The Headmaster in his reply outlined the events of a wonderful year and went on to announce the very important building programme that the Governors had undertaken to carry out during the next few years, including a Central Dining Block, a new Day Boys' Changing Room and a Music School to be linked with the name of John Ingham. He repeated his thanks to all those who had contributed so generously to the Appeal Fund, which stood at some £55,000.

Responding for the visitors Peter Leather treated us to the wit and fluency we had come to expect from these young speakers, and with this the formal proceedings concluded.



There is general agreement that this, the final Old Boys event of 1963, was the most successful Annual Dinner to be held since the war. For this credit must go to the organisers Norman Holmes, Duncan West and John Rayson, and especial thanks to Mrs. Bevir for the floral decorations.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1963

The Annual General Meeting of the Club was held in the Pembroke Room at 5.00 p.m. on Saturday, 30th November, 1963. The President was unfortunately indisposed and unable to attend. He sent, together with his apologies, his sincere wishes for a successful Meeting and Annual Dinner.

In the absence of the President the immediate Past-President Mr. R. E. Eason took the chair, and forty members attended.

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were read, approved and signed. There were no matters arising from them.

2. The Secretary reported a memorable year in the Club's history. 130 new members including a few elderly gentlemen joined the Club during the year. The social functions of the Q.C. Year were a great success and together with the School's celebrations have given the Club new life.

3. The Sports Secretary reported that regardless of results the sporting fixtures against the School were enjoyed by participants and spectators alike, in particular the Cricket Match on the day of the Royal Visit.

4. The Treasurer's Report given in the usual efficient manner and adopted without question is appended in the minute book. Main items as follows:

Income for the year	...	...	£305	2	2
Excess of Income over Expenditure			£66	4	3
Total Assets	...	...	£954	13	11

5. *Quatercentenary Appeal.* Mr. Hillary told the Meeting how very grateful the School was for the O.A. Contribution to the Appeal and through their own generosity the Old Boys could see the new Library as their own memorial to W.M.G. Mr. Hillary also said, the Appeal would close in January 1964, but the fund remain open to receive any further subscriptions.

6. The following officers were elected for 1964:

President — Sir George Sinclair.

Vice-Presidents — J. M. Cobban and S. Cullen.

President-elect — D. B. West.

The existing officers of the Club were re-elected en bloc. A. A. Hillary was re-elected and J. M. Iredale was elected to the Committee. A further member was to be co-opted on to the Committee. It was the recommendation of the Committee that Mr. Sidney Cullen be elected a Vice-President for life, in view of the great work he did for the Club and the School immediately after the war. This was carried nem. com.

7. The Headmaster thanked the Club and the officers in particular for their work in furthering the progress of the School and said that he felt the School and the Club as a result of the past year were now even more closely united.

There being no other business Mr. Eason thanked the members for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS: 1964

Cross-Country Match: Saturday, 15th February.

Hockey Match: Saturday, 29th February.

London Dinner: Friday, 13th March. (See special notice).

Athletics Meeting: Saturday, 14th March.

Old Boys' Day, Cricket Match and Dance: Saturday, 13th June.

Rugger Match, A.G.M. and Dinner: Saturday, 28th November.

The Secretaries' addresses are:

Club Secretary: N. J. Holmes, 100 Ock Street, Abingdon. (Abingdon 184).

Sports Secretary (Rugger, Athletics, Tennis): J. T. Cullen, Frilford End, Frilford, Abingdon. (Frilford Heath 205).

Sports Secretary (Cricket, Hockey): P. J. Millard, 14 Chequers Road, Basingstoke, Hants.

#### OLD ABINGDONIAN TRUST FUND

With a new year beginning we would wish all our subscribers good health and prosperity and thank them for their loyal support. Since our last report we have to acknowledge increased Covenants from A. L. Leigh and G. H. Lewington, renewals from E. H. Aldworth, D. W. Olliffe, S. A. Paige and G. F. Rice and new Covenants from G. A. R. Boyd and R. P. F. Mills. To all many thanks. *G. F. Duxbury.*

P.S. The Boat Club is in urgent need of additional accommodation. Two good friends have already offered to lend £1,400. Another £1,100 is needed. If any others could make up the deficiency by loans on reasonable terms and good security please contact George Duxbury.

## SUMMARY OF GAMES FIXTURES

## HOCKEY — FIRST ELEVEN

*January*

- Sat. 25 v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (a).  
 Wed. 29 v. Wallingford Grammar School (a).

*February*

- Sat. 1 v. St. Edward's School 'A' XI (h).  
 Wed. 5 v. Pangbourne Nautical College (a).  
 Sat. 8 v. Abingdon Hockey Club (h).  
 Sat. 15 v. Solihull School (h).  
 Sat. 22 v. Bloxham School (h).  
 Wed. 26 v. Hockey Association (h).  
 Sat. 29 v. Old Abingdonians (h).

*March*

- Sat. 7 v. Pembroke College (a).  
 Wed. 18 v. Old College, Sandhurst (a).

## ATHLETICS

(Cross Country and Track)

*February*

- Sat. 1 Cross Country v. Newbury Grammar School (h).  
 Sat. 8 Cross Country v. Westminster College and Culham College (h).  
 Wed. 12 Cross Country v. Exeter College (h).  
 Sat. 15 Cross Country v. Old Abingdonians (h).  
 Wed. 19 Cross Country v. Kimbolton School (h).  
 Thur. 20 Cross Country v. St. Edward's School and Radley College (at St. Edward's).  
 Sat. 22 Cross Country v. Wallingford Grammar School (h).  
 Wed. 26 Cross Country v. The Queen's College (a).  
 Sat. 29 Cross Country v. Shiplake Court (h).

*March*

- Wed. 4 Cross Country v. Cokethorpe School (h).  
 Sat. 7 Track Meeting v. Bloxham School (h).  
 Culham Road Relay.  
 Wed. 11 Track Meeting v. Reading School and Leighton Park School (at Reading).  
 Sat. 14 Track Meeting v. Old Abingdonians (h).  
 Wed. 18 Preliminary Sports Day.  
 Sat. 21 SPORTS DAY.  
 Tues. 24 Track Meeting v. Radley, Malvern and St. Edward's (at Radley).

## Also

- Sat. 28 March Midland Public Schools' Meetings (Birmingham).  
 Tues. 31 March Radley Schools' Invitation Meeting.

*Terms of Subscription*

*The Life Membership Subscription to the Old Abingdonian Club which covers all the privileges of the Club but does not include receipt of the Magazine is Three Guineas.*

*All subscriptions to the Club or enquiries relating to it should be sent to D. B. West, Esq., 1 Norman Avenue, Abingdon.*

*"The Abingdonian"*

*Old Boys and others can obtain the magazine in three ways:*

- 1. By Banker's Order (minimum 7/6) payable to the Old Abingdonian Trust Fund. Forms of Covenant which will add over 60% to the value of all subscriptions to the Fund of 10/- and over will gladly be accepted.*
- 2. By compounding for Life Subscription: 5 guineas maximum 2 guineas minimum, according to age.*
- 3. By subscription to the Magazine at current price, at present 7/6 per annum.*

*All subscriptions to the O.A. Trust Fund and "The Abingdonian", or questions relating to them should be sent to G. F. Duxbury, Abingdon School, Berks. He will also be glad to receive news from and concerning O.A.'s for inclusion in the magazine, and particularly prompt notice of all changes of address.*

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## O.A. CLUB LONDON DINNER

will be held on

**Friday, 13th March**

AT THE UNITED SERVICE CLUB, PALL MALL

Reception 6.30 p.m. Dinner 7.30 p.m.

Tickets £3

(including sherry before and wines during dinner, port and cigars)  
obtainable from Mr. S. A. Paige, 21 Watling Street, London, E.C.4

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A coach will be running from Abingdon, leaving the School at 3.30 p.m.

Please let George Duxbury know as soon as possible.

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*Please send me a copy of 'Why not become a Chartered Accountant?'*

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necessary for your entry to Henlow or Cranwell where a place will be reserved for you. If you would like to know more about the life the R.A.F. can offer you, write, giving your date of birth, details of education and mentioning which subject most interests you (Henlow cadetships, Cranwell, University cadetships, or R.A.F. scholarships) to: Air Ministry M.10 (SCH), Adastral House, London, W.C.1., or ask your Careers Master to arrange an informal meeting with your Schools Liaison Officer.

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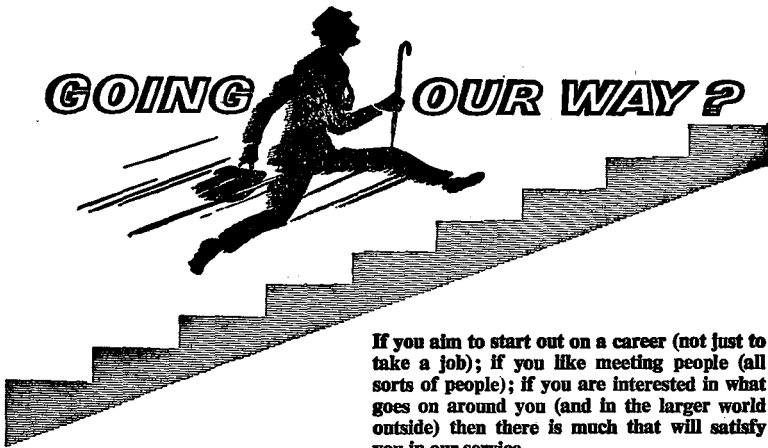


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<b>Provinces</b>	<b>£320</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>965</b>
<b>Central London</b>	<b>£420</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>685</b>	<b>1,065</b>

But do remember that these are only the *basic* figures. Every young man of promise is given practical help and encouragement and those, for example, who move into a Special Grade will receive at least £160 above the figure quoted.

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