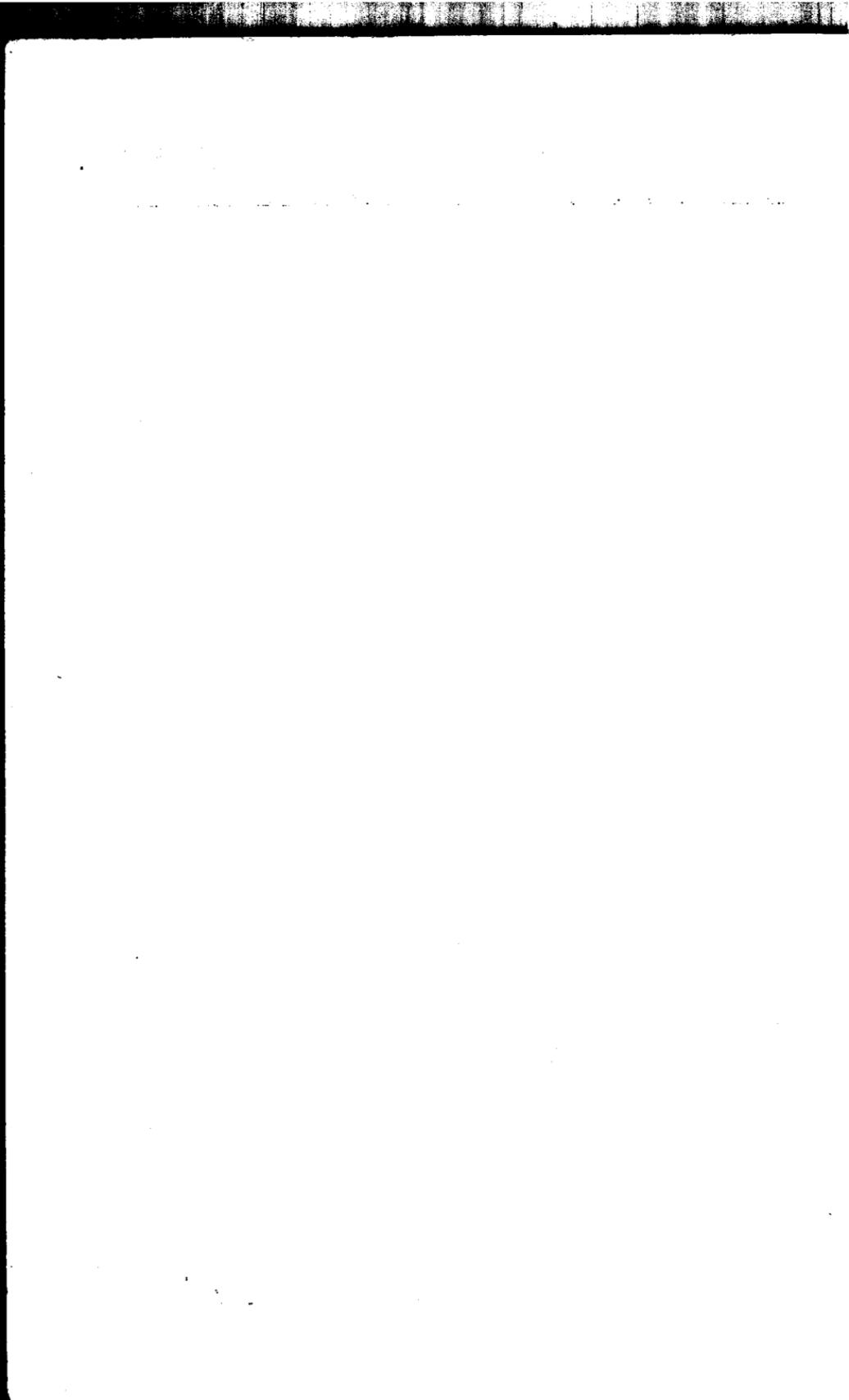


ABINGDONIAN

November 1974



ABINGDONIAN

Volume sixteen, number six

November 1974

Contents

School Notes	195	Societies	207
Further Staff Changes	197	Combined Cadet Force	207
Chapel Notes	198	Sport	208
School Music	199	The Gymnastics Club	224
End of Term Events	201	Orienteering	225
The King's Army	202	Chess	225
Russia '74	203	Lists	226
TASS and the Summer Fete	204	GCE	227
School Council	205	Hello Goodbye	228
Ten Tors	206	OA Notes	229
Dolgoed	206		

School Notes

We congratulate Mr and Mrs Harmsworth on the birth of their second child, another daughter, Katie Ann; and Mr and Mrs Payne on the birth of twin daughters, Nicola Fleur and Juliet Deborah. Congratulations also to Mr Howard Green, back at School after a year's sojourn in Australia, on his recent marriage.

The School bell was rung ninety-six times last term on the occasion of Mr Rudd's ninety-sixth birthday. We wish him many more happy birthdays and pleasant recollections.

The School made another mark in the political world with the selection of Mr Nigel Hammond, teacher of Geography and Economics, as Conservative candidate for Aberavon. His spirits did not appear dampened by the stiff Labour majority he faced in the constituency and were possibly heightened by the prospect of a safer seat at the next election.

Visitors

One of the most remarkable talks for some time was given in the summer term by Mr Christopher Friend, a blind person, to Sixth-formers on the subject of the Churchill Memorial Trust. Mr Friend, who has been awarded a Churchill Memorial Award to help his work, spoke about the rehabilitation facilities for blind people in America, England and India and he then went on to relate and show a short film about the work of a group of eye specialists in Indian villages. We were interested and informed and by the end of his talk full of admiration and respect for this remarkable man.

Third, Fourth and Fifth-formers were given a lecture by Mrs Marter of the Cancer Information Association on the subject of cancer with particular reference to lung cancer and smoking.

A French party from Beziers again came to School towards the end of the summer term. For the most part, the visitors were entertained by their respective hosts but one outing was made, to Coventry and Warwick, before they returned, together with our own party, to Beziers.

The Junior Colts Eleven had the privilege of playing against a team of masters and parents led by Faroukh Engineer, Lancashire and Pakistan wicket-keeper. Although the School lost, those who braved the elements to watch enjoyed a splendid 96 by our star visitor, and also a stubborn 9 not out by our other star player, the Headmaster.

Outside Visits

The Summer Term saw a deluge of theatre outings, coach loads of avid play-goers making the journey to Oxford, Stratford and London to see a total of five plays. Trips to 'Tis a Pity She's a Whore', 'Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead' and 'Much Ado About Nothing', all in London, were very much enjoyed by Sixth Form parties, 'Much Ado' being particularly admired for its presentation. Third-formers joined Sixth Form English sets in a visit to see a rather disappointing production of 'King Lear' in Oxford, while Fourth-formers travelled to Stratford to see 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' in connection with their 'O' Level studies.

While their fellow pupils were still at Hammerbank during the first few days of the term, the remnants of the Second Form made trips to various places, including Slimbridge, Lords, Madame Tussaud's and the Science Museum—certainly an agreeable way to start the term if nothing else!

The Headmaster and Mrs Anderson attended one of the Royal Garden Parties in July.

Miscellany

The big event of the Summer Term was, of course, the Fete held on Saturday, 11th May. Organized by Tass, it was the first ever to be put on by the School and the School grounds presented a carnival appearance inspite of heavy rain for the many parents and friends who came along. It was a great occasion and netted a handsome profit for School funds. An account appears under the Tass report later in this issue.

In these days of apathy and cynicism it was refreshing to see people breaking out of their normal reticence and writing for 'Ark', of which two issues appeared last term. The two issues, one edited by Third-formers and the other by members of the Sixth Form, were remarkable not only for their content but also for the artistic work put into them.

Meanwhile, local shops were feeling an acute shortage of balloons after the occasion of the annual Prefects' Dance, which otherwise passed off, I understand, as successfully as ever.

Philip Marley had the rare opportunity to represent the School at a lecture given by the Duke of Edinburgh in London last term. The lecture was in honour of the distinguished scientist, Sir Harold Hartley, GCVO, CH, CBE, MC, FRS and was attended by an audience which included representatives from schools all over the country. The Duke spoke on the theme of 'Research and Prediction', covering the essential parts of the former—observation, experiment and conclusion—that are needed before prediction can be achieved with any degree of accuracy. At the informal reception that followed, our representative had the chance to talk to the Duke.

As mentioned above, our French visitors from Beziers returned home at the end of Summer Term accompanied by our own Beziers party. This was the first time we had gone to stay at Beziers in the summer vacation and although the time was partly spent as on previous visits—reception by the Mayor and various organized trips—the weather this time was really hot, we saw more of the sea, and our visit coincided with the Beziers Festival so that many of us were able to see the Tauropscine, a kind of bull-fight. Mr and Mrs Dunn were in charge of the party.

Christopher Cuninghame was one of fifty lucky people who won a three week holiday sponsored by Barclays Bank Limited which took him by coach to many of the big cities of Western Europe. He met many other young people whose company he seems to have enjoyed, and sampled luxury hotel life. Far from the holiday being the restrained affair he expected it to be, it turned out to be very lively and interesting.

John Henry Sladen Dixon: 1915—1974

It is with very great regret that we report the death on September 8th of the Reverend John Dixon. John Dixon was a well loved figure in Abingdon and the surrounding countryside and, when Vicar of Abingdon, a true friend of the School. A Pembroke College man, John Dixon knew the School well and was a parish priest of wide experience, making his mark perhaps most notably as the first Ecumenical Officer of the Oxford diocese. He was latterly the Vicar of Aston Rowant and Crowell. It was fitting that the address at his funeral should have been given by Mr JM Cobban.

Further Staff Changes

There were further departures from the Masters' Common Room at the end of the Summer Term. Two of these were Peter Dick and Charlotte Whalen, both of them after an all too brief stay of one year. Mr Dick had filled in on the Biology staff while Mr Green was in Australia and will be missed especially on the river where his help was much appreciated by the Boat Club. We understand that Mr and Mrs Dick are spending at least another year in this country before returning home to New Zealand and we wish them well, Mrs Whalen who had assisted the English Department on a part time basis left with the appointment of new full-time staff but, as a local resident, will still be around. This is nice to know as in her short time with us she endeared herself to staff and boys alike.

The really big farewell, however, was that of Tom Fairhead who joined the staff as Art Master as long ago as 1960. After so many years at the School, Mr Fairhead had become very well known to so many people in town and School that it is difficult to visualize life without him. His charming and amusing personality gained for him a very special place and he is bound to be sorely missed in a great number of ways. Mr Fairhead's tremendous versatility—he was equally at home with paint brush, on the stage as an actor or as a producer of plays, in musical concerts, in the class room teaching English, History or Art, helping out on the games field or leading cadets over the fells of Kirkcudbrightshire—was such that it is true to say 'they don't come like him very often'. Perhaps his own special love was drama but he showed a rare competence in all that he did. The School's loss is the gain of the Cambridge School of Milan where he goes to teach English

literature in a land he loves greatly. All good wishes go with Mr Fairhead in his new venture.

New arrivals number four. Angus Alton and Graham Barrett join the English Department, Christopher Biggs takes over the Art and Jeremy Goulding comes to teach mainly Divinity. Mr Alton graduated in English from Exeter College, Oxford as recently as 1972 and promises to be of great help to cricket and hockey. Similarly Mr Barrett is a keen oarsman and is very welcome in the Boat Club. Before joining us he taught at King's School, Canterbury, having gained his degree at Corpus Christi, Cambridge. The Art Department is fortunate to have Mr Biggs to succeed Mr Fairhead. Educated at Bede College, Durham, he has already been head of Art and Drama at Reed's School, Cobham so the job is not new to him. His arrival has meant, of course, that Mrs Drummond-Hay who helped out with the Art teaching last year has had to return to housewifely duties. Mr Goulding, already known to us from his spell as student teacher last year, is from Magdalen College, Oxford and will also be helping out on the river.

We welcome, too, Mrs Biggs and Mrs Goulding and also, of course, we welcome back Howard Green from his year away in Australia along with the newly married Mrs Green. We hope that all our new arrivals will find Abingdon a happy place and enjoy their time with us.

Chapel Notes

It was a great pleasure to welcome back on two occasions Mr Osborn, who twice celebrated Holy Communion for us and also conducted the Leavers' Service. We are very grateful to him, to the Vicar and to the other clergy who have kindly celebrated for us: the Rev JV Andrews, the Rev MWH Kirby, the Rev JR Packer, the Rev JW Reynolds and the Rev LP Smith. We have used Series 3 on Friday evenings and Series 2 (occasionally 1662) on Sundays.

The Rev JR Packer, of Ripon Hall and St Nicholas Church, had some stimulating and provocative things to say when he preached at the Term Service. The following preached on Sundays: the Rev P Thomson, Chaplain of Timbertop; the Rev JE Platt, Chaplain of Pembroke College; Mr JS Woodhouse, Headmaster of Rugby; Mr JM Cobban, Headmaster from 1947 to 1970; the Rev GR Phizackerley, Rector of Gaywood and Chaplain from 1957 to 1964; the Rev Professor JH Burtness, from the United States; the Headmaster, who preached also at the Leavers' Service in St Nicholas Church. On Founder's Day, the Very Rev R Selby Wright, former Moderator of the Church of Scotland, gave us a sermon most suitable for the occasion.

The flowers in Chapel have been beautifully arranged by Mrs Anderson, Mrs Taylor, Miss J Hasnip, Mrs Wijetunge, Mrs Reenan, Mrs Eden, Miss Myatt, Mrs Harrison, Mrs Jackson and Mrs Potter. Those for Founder's Day were presented by Mrs EA Willey in memory of her son Stanley (OA). Mrs Wijetunge has most kindly looked after the fair linen.

Chapel Collections were for the following causes: The Muscular Dystrophy Group, £10.84; The New Guinea Mission, £6.24; Chapel Funds, £6.33; Christian Aid, £6.65; The Leprosy Mission, £7.31; The John Masefield Cheshire Home, £7.34; The Royal National Life-boat Institution, £6.89; Holidays for the Disabled, £8.11. The collection at the Leavers' Service (£10.64) went to St Nicholas Church and that on Founder's Day (£93.68) to St Helen's Church.

Finally, among the many leavers whose presence in Chapel will be greatly missed GR Terry, this year's Senior Sacristan, deserves mention for his help and advice. He leaves behind the indefatigable AF Jackson to lead a new team of helpers.

HTR

School Music

The Music Department had another good term consolidating the work done during the Lent term. There was a busy activities programme and all groups were featured in one concert or another. The Chapel Choir and Brass Band working overtime with extra services and garden parties respectively.

There were the usual Associated Board exams at the end of term. Some 47 boys took exams and 45 passed. There were some very pleasing results, Patrick Gale (3B) and William Mellor (IH) achieving distinctions. Among the many merit passes were Andrew Antcliff (2B), Jonathan Doble (4R), Martin Doble (6X) and Carl Fysh (2B).

There were five public concerts held during the term and four informal evenings held in the Music School. One very successful event proved to be the Musicians Parents Evening on June 26. At this gathering parents were able to meet the resident and visiting music staff and were also told about plans for the new Abingdon School Music Society which is to commence activities in the Michaelmas Term.

A number of senior boys went to London on June 19 to a Concert at the Royal Festival Hall given by the New Philharmonia Orchestra with Claudio Arrau as soloist. The evening proved to be a most enjoyable one. One other event proved to be as enjoyable for the music as for the food; namely the Pembroke College Garden Party on June 29. Members of the Brass Band made the most of what seemed to be an unlimited supply of strawberries and cream!

Programme of Music and Poetry, May 11

A short programme of music and poetry was given to a small but appreciative audience in Trinity Methodist Church on Saturday May 11. It was given by the Abingdon Ensemble, the School Brass Ensemble and the Jazz Band. The Concert began with a brass fanfare by Leonard Bernstein and this was followed by poetry by Laurie Lee and Edmund Spencer. The general theme of the evening was spring, and the programme also included 'Sumer is Icumen' in", an anonymous piece from about 1220 and Morley's madrigal 'Now is the month of Maying' There was also a choral nonsense piece, a work by one Wencelas Mimm, of rather doubtful existence! The work at least fully justifying its speed marking-allegro non serioso! The programme was of necessity extremely varied with other works by Schubert, Poulenc and Vaughan Williams. The concert ended with two numbers from 'Godspell', arranged very successfully for the Jazz Band by its director, John Frith.

Spring Concert, May 31.

Trinity Methodist Church was again the venue for a very successful concert given later the same month by the Chapel Choir, Chamber Orchestra, Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Band and Brass Ensemble. Again the accent was on variety and ranged from music by William Boyce to Bryan Kelly. The Boyce work was the Concerto Grosso in B minor, played by the Chamber Orchestra with Neil Halliday, Christopher Cuninghame and Adrian Courtenay the three accomplished soloists. The Kelly piece was his 'Half a Fort-night', seven songs for small choir, percussion and piano. These are most delightfully written and Kelly's excellent writing for voices combines very

well with attractive words by John Fuller. Several distinguished members of staff could be observed 'doing their thing' during this piece. The performers gave a strong account of the music and were warmly applauded, as was the composer who was present in the audience. The Chapel Choir sang works by Bach, Mathias and Mendelssohn—his well known anthem 'Hear My Prayer', in which the long treble solo was sung by Simon Napier-Munn. The Jazz Band was also in attendance and played three accomplished arrangements by John Frith—Blues in F, Catwalk and Satin Doll. One rather different item was Elis Pehkonen's 'Three symphonies for 10 players' played by the Percussion Ensemble under Mr. Procter. A modern work in which the performers have the satisfaction of knowing that even if they play a wrong note or rhythm it will never be noticed by the audience! In fact the performance proved to be a very accurate one.

Concert by the Abingdon Singers and Abingdon Ensemble, June 22

Under their new name, the Abingdon Singers gave their second concert this term on June 22 in St Helen's Church. The Choir of 40 voices consists of parents, staff, boys and friends of Abingdon School. The Choir, conducted by the Director of Music, sang madrigals by Gibbons and Dowland, Mozart's beautifully simple 'Ave Verum Corpus' and ended their programme with Britten's lively 'Jubilate Deo', a setting of Psalm 100 written in 1962. The main work of the evening was Purcell's moving 'Music for the Funeral of Queen Mary'. In between the choral items the Abingdon Ensemble made its second public appearance with music by Dvorak and Lennox Berkeley—the latter's Horn Trio, a very taxing work, enthusiastically performed by Messrs. Frith, Johnson and Procter.

Concert in St Helen's Church, June 28

The full School Choral Society gave their own concert on June 28 to a very large audience. Besides the 160 strong choir there were also items by the Chapel Choir, Chamber Orchestra and Brass Ensemble. The Choral Society performed three works; Purcell's anthem 'Rejoice in the Lord alway', Haydn's dramatic motet, 'Insanae et Vanae Curae' and ended with Parry's triumphant coronation anthem 'I was glad'. In all these pieces Mr Procter accompanied on the organ in a most accomplished manner. We also heard music by Sweelinck, Monteverdi, Purcell and Pezel played by the Chamber Orchestra and Brass Ensemble. The Chapel Choir gave a stylish account of a Sanctus by Schubert a lively performance of Sidney Campbell's difficult anthem 'Sing We Merrily'. In this the taxing organ part was well managed by Mr McGowan.

Founder's Day Concert, July 12

Perhaps the most successful event of the term was the Founder's Day Concert held in Trinity Methodist Church on the penultimate day of term. Nearly all the Schools' many musical activities took part in a very varied programme which was given to a packed and very enthusiastic audience with almost as many performers. The First Orchestra opened the programme with Rossini's 'Tancredi' overture and continued with polished performances of works by Delius and Mathias. Junior group items occupied most of the second part of the programme which included performances of 'Yesterday', (arranged by Mr Procter) by the Wind Band and 'Remember you're a Womble!' played in an arrangement by the Director of Music. After a stylish performance of a Richard Stoker brass piece by the Brass Band, the third and final part of the concert consisted of choral pieces. The Junior Choral

Society let rip with a lively performance of Michael Hurd's popular cantata 'Swingin' Samson' in which Mr Fairhead made his final appearance as a very distinguished narrator. The concert ended with everyone taking part in Vaughan Williams' noble setting of the Old 100th Psalm Tune which provided a moving climax to a busy term's music making.

Informal Concerts

There were four informal concerts during the term at regular three weekly intervals held in the Music School. These were in the same pattern as in the Lent Term, their purpose being to give as many boys as possible an opportunity of performing in public at any standard, no matter how elementary. Some 56 items were performed and there were many promising performances which deserve mention. Some notable ones were played by Colin Todd (VIT) on the clarinet, Mark Hooper's (IH) trombone solo, Mozart's 'Fantasia for piano' played by Nicholas Teasdale (3B) and a stylish account of a Sammartini oboe sonata played by Mark Murray (IP).

MDJ

End of Term Events

Prize Giving: 5th July 1974

This year saw another new setting for Prize Giving, which was held in the recently redecorated Trinity Methodist Church. The close proximity to the School gave the event a friendly air with parents and boys alike walking to the Church in the afternoon sunshine.

The presentation of books by Lady Pickering passed off with no hitches save the presence of one or two gentlemen who had more books to collect than they could carry!

In his address, Sir George Pickering, FRS, MD, FRCP, Master of Pembroke College, Oxford stressed the importance of endeavour in life today. Using the life of Nansen, the explorer, as illustration, he emphasized the fact that adventure should have a place in every boy's education.

'The Lindens'

On the evening of Friday, 12th July, the OA President, John Light, presided at a sherry party for OAs and their wives and friends in the grounds of 'The Lindens' to mark its presentation to the School by the Old Abingdonian Club.

Founders Day

'It never rains on Founder's Day' but this year it did. Nevertheless, everybody was determined that the programme of events should go as planned and even the traditional cricket and tennis matches were played.

As is usual, St Helen's Church was filled to capacity for the morning service, a somewhat dampened spattering of 'boaters' being in evidence as the School walked through the town. An innovation was singing by the revitalized Choral Society during the service. The address was given by the Very Rev R Selby Wright, former Moderator of the Church of Scotland.

During the afternoon, there was no shortage of exhibitions both indoors and outside. A central attraction was 'Anything goes THUZ', the ocean going powerboat kindly loaned by Mr RDP Griffith, OA, which certainly dominated the gravel in front of the School.

Over two hundred copies of the Literary Magazine 'Ark' were snapped up by enthusiastic parents and Old Boys within an hour. The School has obviously produced its fair share of good salesmen.

In the Court Room the first and second forms performed their own composition entitled 'The Peasant Revolt of 1381'. This was followed by selected extracts from 'Twelfth Night', called 'Malvolio' and played by third and fourth formers. On Waste Court Field, the Gym Club presented a fine and energetic display which included somersaulting over a Mini car.

In the Art Room, Mr Fairhead conducted a sale of art created by boys during the year.

Fortunately, the weather was good enough for tea to be enjoyed from a large marquee on Waste Court Field in mid-afternoon, while Mr Frith's jazz group provided background entertainment. And for those with more serious musical tastes a Founder's Day Concert (reported elsewhere) rounded off the day.

'The King's Army'

Royse's Company—Sir Bevil Grenville's Regiment

There can be few people in the school now, who have not heard of the 'Royse's Company'—perhaps, even, who are fed up with hearing about it! What on earth induced 25 boys to don 17th Century uniform and take part in what one cynic termed 'rugby in fancy dress'?

It all began with a notice appearing on the board at the beginning of term, appealing for 20 stout hearted volunteers, to form a Pike Company to fight for the King's Army at the Battle for Abingdon 1645. The King's Army is a Society of 20th Century Cavaliers, who, along with two other similar Societies, restage the battles of the English Civil War. Such a life appeals to those with a love of the unusual and the comradeship of like minded people. The Civil War is surely one of the most exciting and eventful periods in our history and the Civil War Societies of today have done much to encourage an interest in and research into the period. At the same time, they provide a useful release valve for many who find life increasingly colourless and monotonous.

Abingdon became Royse's 'baptism of fire' and one suspects that our Historic town took some time to recover from the onslaught of renewed Civil War! The whole of the Abbey grounds, Close and meadow, saw remarkable scenes of fire and sword—windows shook to the sound of cannon and smoke shrouded the Abbey ruins, as the Royalists fought their way at push of pike to the Abbey gates. Regrettably, historical accuracy dictated that the Royalists be broken and we were thus forced back across the meadow in defeat.

The tattered remnants of the Royse's Standard bear witness to the really splendid stand made by the Company. One is reminded of the original Grenville Regiment, who, at the Battle of Lansdowne in 1643, stood 'as upon the eaves of an house for steepness, but as unmovable as a rock.' Time and time again, Roysses came up against the Yorkshire Lifeguards, the most lethal of the Roundhead Regiments, but the Company wavered not, to the admiration of all.

On Whit weekend, we were called again to put down rebellion, at Chilmark near Salisbury. Eight of Royse's turned up and though it was only a small muster, we had three very enjoyable and eventful days in a beautiful part of the country. On the Monday, we refought the 1643 Battle of Fonthill, though a tragic note was struck, in the foul execution by cannon, of Royse's brave and distinguished Officer!

During the morning of 15th June, the entire Company set forth for Hambleton near Henley, there to take their stand in a two day defense of Greenland House (1644). It was a blazing hot weekend, but fortunately, the Thames was only 200 yards from the campsite, so the rowing lanes for the Regatta were used for a purpose for which they were probably not intended!

A 17th Century Faire kept everyone amused when the battle was not in progress. The heat was intense and everyone was shattered after 2 hours of hard fighting. Light relief was afforded, when 14 of Roysse's were detailed (no compulsion needed) for a bit of 'rape and pillage'. They were seen streaming across the field toward the Roundhead women and were only stopped in their 'work', by the arrival of who else, but the Yorkshire Life-guard! Some 700 took part and it was estimated that 20,000 spectators were present on the Sunday. Roysse's fought many single engagements and the Southern Forces Commander was heard to remark, that Roysse's 'were b— marvellous!'

The weekend was undoubtedly huge fun—that was clear, judging by the boisterous return of the Company to school!

The keenness, enthusiasm and good humour of every individual in Roysse's, has given no end of satisfaction both to myself and to other members of the Society and hopefully, we will continue to raise our Standard against all future manifestations of rebellion, by malignants and discontents.

Our Sergeant is presently Alan Arm and Stephen Young and Nicholas Tresidder are Corporalls. Though not really wishing to mark out individuals, it is only right to record, that Alan Arm's enormous enthusiasm and zeal, go a long way toward keeping alive the spirit of the Company.

The King's Army presents for many, 'living history' and it is noticeable how, within the Company, many individuals have been encouraged to take a lively interest in the Civil War by reading and discussion. This fact alone, must surely influence the opinions of those who choose to dismiss the Society as pointless and timewasting.

A certain gentleman of quality, had this to say to his son, in 1658 . . .

'Be conversant in the speeches, declarations and transactions occasioned by the late wars, out of which more natural knowledge may be sucked than is ordinarily to be found in the mouldy records of antiquity.'

'One and All'

TJC

Russia '74

The crack of dawn, or so it seemed, on September 17th. Twenty boys and four staff—Mr and Mrs Taylor, Mr Dunn and Mr Hammond—assembled to start the marathon trip to the USSR.

The trip really began at Tilbury, where the good ship 'Baltika' slipped her moorings at 3.30 am, leaving us to stare aghast at the tiny four-berth cabins and meagre facilities. Even so, by the time we arrived in Copenhagen, most of us had grown very fond of the ship, seasickness and overdoses of vodka notwithstanding.

We had twelve hours in Copenhagen, a beautiful city, where most of us went on tour and later took in the Tivoli Gardens. A relaxing couple of days on the Baltic Sea then took us to Helsinki, a small and more personal city. Again a sightseeing tour and time for a quick walk round, most of us managing to get bewildered by the language which is quite unlike any other major language in the world.

The next afternoon we arrived in Leningrad. We were sorry to leave the ship and the crew with whom many of us had become very friendly.

Having settled into our hotel rooms, which were very pleasant, we went for a walkabout. First impressions were of wide streets and overpowering buildings. Russia has very few private cars, less than one per hundred people, and consequently the public transport system, using buses, trolley buses, trams and Underground, is incredibly efficient and cheap. After some initial reluctance, we became seasoned users of these amenities. The people were generally stolid and not very well dressed; many of us had exorbitant offers for our clothes, a month's salary for a fairly ordinary jacket, but we had been warned against this.

The following day the sight seeing started. There are a great number of museums and churches in Leningrad, all beautifully maintained, a feat all the more impressive when one remembers winter temperatures of minus forty and the German siege of 900 days in the last war when many of the buildings were razed to the ground. One very moving experience was a visit to one of the functioning Orthodox churches. We did not stay for the whole two and a half hours service but while there we heard magnificent choral singing in the setting of a packed church.

When we left Leningrad at midnight on the 26th, I had the impression that there was so much more to see but also a depressing feeling that it was a city concerned too much with the past and not enough with the quality of life.

By comparison, Moscow was a much more lively, forward looking city. It has less 'history' but seems rather more dynamic. In general, I found it a beautiful city, more open than Leningrad despite the comparative lack of places to go to. While in Moscow, we paid various visits to Russian entertainments, to a play and two operas. The Russians are very culturally orientated, perhaps in this way filling a gap caused by the absence of Western-style amenities.

Unfortunately, Red Square was closed off, along with Lenin's tomb, recovering—we gathered—from a bomb! Still, we were able to tour the Kremlin and the wonderful cathedrals therein. However, much of our Moscow time was taken up with shopping, mainly in the foreign currency shops—a great anomaly in this socialist state of equality.

Too soon it was time to leave Moscow. An excellent sleeper took us out of the USSR and across Poland and East Germany. Elaborate customs formalities and we were in West Berlin for the night. Here the most depressing thing seen on our day of sightseeing was the Wall, separating one people with a common heritage, the victims of something much greater and more international.

Cologne was the next stop for breakfast and then the train for Ostend and home. We found ourselves at Abingdon at 11.00 pm on September 2nd, tired from the long journey but happy and with many marvellous memories.

AMC

Tass and the Summer Fete

The main event of the Summer Term was the Fete on 10th May. A full School calendar had made it impossible to choose a more suitable date and the weather, as we had feared, was not kind. But in spite of persistent rain the occasion was a great success and well attended. The staff and boys had worked hard and the amount of enthusiasm and expertise displayed by

parents and even outsiders was most heart-warming and the result—£1230—certainly made the whole experiment well worthwhile. The thanks of Tass and the School must go to Mr and Mrs Slingsby and their committee for organizing the Fete and, of course, to all those who helped. Side shows, mostly provided and managed by the boys, were dotted around Waste Court Field and Upper Field while a variety of stalls run by the ladies of Tass were set up in the Court Room. In addition, many extra attractions were organized—gymnastic displays by Mr Drummond-Hay's new gym class, Morris dancing by a local group, a fly-in and parachute landing on Waste Court by members of the RAF 'Robins' and a display of veteran cars by British Leyland. All in all, it was a great occasion.

The money raised at the Fete was put to the following uses—£500 for improvements to the Court Room including a stage and blackout curtains; £250 towards Outward Bound equipment; £400 for the provision of musical instruments for the Music School; and £80 for a public address system.

The other event of the term was a very lively Brains Trust held on June 20th. The panel for this was made up by Dr David Butler, Professor Michael Screech, Dr Gordon Lennox and Dr Walter Marshall.

The School uniform scheme is now very well established and a great help to parents and Tass thanks to Mrs Dennis and Mrs Jones-Walters. Parents who would like to help with cricket teas next Summer Term are asked to contact Mrs Ashby at 12 Nuneham Square, Abingdon. The School is grateful to her and her helpers for coping with First Eleven teas this summer season.

The Society is pleased to welcome Andrew Jackson, Andrew Noble and Simon Hills as the School representatives on the Council.

Initiative Awards to the value of £150 have been made and the Society would like to encourage yet more applications. £80 has also been given in the form of Recreational Grants.

Forthcoming events: Annual Dinner/Dance in the Abbey Hall on November 22nd 1974 and Annual General Meeting in the Court Room on January 30th 1975 at 7.30 pm.

MEW

School Council

The Council had a very mixed term with some meetings lasting more than two hours. At the other extreme, one meeting had to be cancelled due to an unfilled agenda.

However, when the Council did meet some lengthy discussions led to useful if mundane recommendations. The lavatory block at Whitefields has for instance been redecorated and more electric bells installed since these matters were raised in the Council.

The Summer Term also saw a development of 'Staff-Pupil' communications. During the term the Bursar and Mr Dangerfield, the Head of Catering, both visited the Council to talk about their part in the school machinery. Lively question sessions followed both talks and helped 'iron out' some of misapprehensions and complaints which were raised. Such exchanges of ideas are valuable and should be encouraged.

Nevertheless signs of boredom and sterility are appearing in the School Council meetings, many boys feeling it has no real function. The Council does have a purpose as a limited advisory body, but sensibly an amendment to the Constitution was made at the end of last term. This made provision

for 3 meetings per term with the proviso that if insufficient items were put forward for the agenda the Council would not meet. One meeting a term is now statutory instead of three. This places the ball firmly in the pupils court—the Council will only meet if and when the boys wish it to. Messrs Crawford, Fletcher and Graham represented the staff.

NPK

Ten Tors

In spite of the terrible conditions encountered by participants in 1973, this year's expedition was heavily over-subscribed and the Army had to cut down the number of patrols from each establishment. We had six patrols in training but with only three being accepted there was keen rivalry before the final selection was made.

Dartmoor was its fickle self. On the first day, patches of low cloud, mist and rain tested navigational techniques and general morale. Hot sun on the second sapped waning energy further. For boys new to the area, Dartmoor is nearly always a very real challenge, and the seventeen boys who successfully completed their courses (2x35 miles, 1x45 miles) certainly deserved their Ten Tors medals.

RHB

Dolgoed

There has been a welcome expansion in the use of Dolgoed. Most of the visits have been of the hill walking or outdoor adventure type. The Third Form visits this term, however, ran into trouble in that a number of boys were prevented from going by an epidemic of German measles. Nonetheless, we were fortunate that only one party was badly effected being reduced to three-quarters of its intended strength. Such, too, are the increasing duties and activities back here in Abingdon that once again we had to call upon outside help to staff the parties and we are particularly grateful to Mr Christopher Swan of Culham College and to Mark Osborne, OA for giving up their time to help us.

The projects this year were something of a disappointment and many boys did not have very much to show for the time spent at Dolgoed. But some very good work was done. Notable projects were a beautifully produced photographic study of Dolgoed; a very thorough ornithological treatise; a number of original and diverting literary contributions and a most impressive relief model of the Cader Idris-Corris area. There were numerous other projects which all too often disappointed by either having no specific aim or conclusion or by being too much derived from the text book. However, many of these showed an impressive amount of time and in some cases money expended.

Fortunately, the acquisition of the west side of the valley by the Economic Forestry Group does not seem like restricting our activities as was at first feared. Mr Baker's visit coincided with a visit of the Managing Director and our activities on their land were given the Group's blessing. However the scenery has been radically altered by the scars of the forestry roads which zig-zag up the hillside and no one much looks forward to the regimented lines of spruce or larch which will soon cover it.

Nevertheless, Dolgoed remains a fascinating area to be associated with, especially as these empty mountain areas are very much at a cross-roads in terms of their economic and social future. The School is lucky to have such a grandstand view of its progress and development.

HE

Societies

Society secretaries have not been very forthcoming with reports for this term's magazine. This is a pity, since Societies do seem to have been active in recent terms.

Definitely flourishing is the Film Society which held four meetings during the Summer Term, receiving varying degrees of support. The first film shown was 'Death in Venice' an excellent production which deserved better than the mere six members who stayed until the end of the film. Secondly it was planned to show 'Triple Echo'. However, the film company saw fit to despatch 'Carry on Matron' instead! At the end of term, 'The Mechanic' was shown as a replacement. An open meeting to see 'The Graduate' was undoubtedly a success, drawing a capacity audience. Members also enjoyed seeing the less well-known 'Alice's Restaurant'.

The Literary Society confined meetings to discussions and papers on 'A' Level texts. Mr Haig gave a paper on 'The Winter's Tale' followed by a general discussion. At another meeting three short talks were presented illustrating different aspects of 'The Franklin's Tale'. This term meetings will again be of a more general nature.

Scientific Society members assembled only once last term, when they heard the history of 'Radiation and Man' from Dr J Vennart of the Radiobiology Unit at Harwell. The talk concerned the measures taken during the last 50 years to protect Man and Nature from the harmful effects of ionising radiation.

Bridge Club players kept their hand in through an occasional trip to play at Harwell Social Club, for which Mr England of Harwell must be thanked. This term it is hoped to revitalise the club.

Last year's Lower Sixth formers revived the Historians in the Summer term. Two meetings were attended by a small group of enthusiasts. The first was a lively discussion as to the merits or otherwise of Mary Tudor who was championed by Peter Brodie and attacked by David Eccles. The second meeting took the form of a paper on 'The Jews in English History' from Benjamin Kochan.

Combined Cadet Force

The end of the Summer Term is naturally the time for farewells, but last term was exceptional in that we had to say farewell to someone who has been an officer in the CCF for a long time and has given a great deal to it. Capt Fairhead joined thirteen years ago and commanded the Army Section for eight years. Among his many services to the Corps three things stand out especially—the Guard of Honour at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday, which he commanded on all occasions except one; the army camps in the summer and the Arduous Training at Easter. It was at these last two that he was most in his element, and his leaving has created a gap which it will be very difficult to fill.

For the rest, the Summer Term took its usual course. The contingent was inspected on 13th June by Rear-Admiral TR Cruddas, CB, when the Guard of Honour, supplied by the Naval Section, was particularly smart. Seventy-six recruits joined at the beginning of term and ten of them came—along with twenty-five others—to the Army Camp at Sennybridge. Eleven other cadets went to Loch Ewe or on courses—a smaller number than we should have liked. Three fibre-glass canoes have been completed and, we hope, will be used in the near future.

Finally, we thank most warmly all those, too many nowadays to mention individually, who have given up much time to help us.

LCJG

Army Camp

For the first time for many years, the annual camp was held in Wales at Sennybridge. It was a new experience for most of us and a very comfortable permanent camp set in lovely countryside. The weather, too, was reasonably kind and we had a fair share of sunshine.

The activities available were not only varied but interesting and very different from those of other camps. Apart from purely military ones such as shooting on the .303 range, map reading exercises and the assault course, we had a day of orienteering, much strenuous walking, a very good morning rock climbing and abseiling under expert instructors and a most enjoyable day spent pony-trekking and dry skiing.

On one occasion—during a map reading exercise—we were visited by General Sir Roland Gibbs, commander UK Land Forces, who spoke to several cadets and delighted us all by recognising Mr Fox as a former colleague and his ex-parachute instructor.

All in all one of our better camps—and a nice 'last camp' for Captain Fairhead.

DOW

SPORT

Cricket

First Eleven

The final week of term, as last year, saw the XI at its best, with clear-cut victories over High Wycombe, Bloxham and UCS. It also produced three notable centuries. Paul Betts hit his maiden hundred v. UCS, sharing in a memorable partnership of 171 with Chris Driver which took us from 9 for 3 to a 7 wickets victory. Angus McPhail, for the school, and Peter Shellard, for the Old Boys, both made hundreds in the first innings of the O.A. match.

The six wins against schools were all achieved by convincing margins; indeed, Pangbourne, Newbury, High Wycombe, Bloxham and a successful Reading side were all dismissed for under 100. St Edwards, 76 for 9, were morally beaten and the draws against Douai and MCS were in our favour. Although we struggled to 185 for 7 dec. Brentwood deservedly beat us early in the term; our other two defeats were at the hands of the Oratory—a classic batting collapse chasing an apparently simple target of 117, and by Radley when at ten past five an Abingdon victory looked likely; 100 for no wicket, 83 wanted with time to spare. 1½ hours later Radley had won a pulsating game by 21 runs. Perhaps this was a failure of nerve and in view of the experience of the XI this was disappointing. However, cricket, as with golf, granted a measure of technical ability, is very much a game of 'the mind'. In the club matches it was no disgrace to lose to the Berkshire Gentlemen, who won in the last over after a school declaration of 231 for 9, and to a very strong SOA side. The exciting win over the MCC (for the third time in four

years) was a morale-booster and proved to be the beginning of an excellent run of 8 matches, 5 of which were won and 3 drawn.

We had a sound pair of opening batsmen in Michael Stimpson and Angus McPhail, sound, that is, in all but their running between the wickets. They rarely failed to give us a respectable start, not least in the Radley match. Stimpson, calm and unflappable, was a much improved off-side player who ought to do very well next year if he remembers to move his feet. McPhail hit the ball hard with an almost cavalier approach; his century, too, was a maiden one and a splendid conclusion to his school career. John Seaver was a model of consistency; to score over 600 runs in a schoolboy season was a fine achievement. At the same time he will be disappointed that he only topped 60 twice. Chris Driver, although he just headed the averages (with the help of a few not outs), was consistent only in his inconsistency. It is perhaps fair to say that at different times he contrived to make the bowling look easier and more difficult than anyone else. Paul Betts's hundred against UCS redeemed an otherwise rather modest season but it will have given him justifiable confidence for next year; he, too, ought to make a lot of runs in 1975. Few schoolboys hit the ball harder, but he could afford to relax rather more and keep the ball on the ground. Both he and Simon Johnson were caught out nine times—please note! Despite his considerable natural talent Johnson has still to play a big innings for the school after two seasons; however, his concentration improved to some extent. The remaining batting places were shared between Rupert Frost, whose tenacity made up for a limited technique (his 33 not out v. Abingdon CC was particularly valuable), and four fifth-formers. Charles Lowe, Dennis Lanham, Gerald Lowes and Charles Hobson all played a few times with the gaining of experience for next year in mind. Lanham and Lowes did well to score the last tense few runs against the clock to take us to victory over the MCC after Seaver and Betts had put on a valuable 77 for the fifth wicket. Hobson's 23 on a difficult pitch at High Wycombe was an important effort.

There was no shortage of experience among the bowlers. In the twelve fixtures against schools only Brentwood, Radley and UCS made over 120 runs against us. If anything was lacking it was a bowler of real penetration to discomfort the club sides, but the bowling was nearly always tidy, especially so, that by Chris Driver whose contribution as a stock bowler was considerable. His figures do not reflect his remarkable accuracy and more than a fair share of his best deliveries failed to get wickets; he was a model of line and length. John Seaver was as economical as ever while Michael Howat made great strides as a medium-fast bowler and is a splendid prospect for the future. So too are Anthony Davies, an effective substitute for Driver in the Abingdon club match, and Marcus Hurry when he is fully fit and keeps the ball up, both of whom played mostly for the 2nd XI. Ravi Guneratnam and David Mason both took a few wickets with limited opportunities, but the bulk of the slow bowling was done by 'Chico' Ghorpade whose 47 wickets was not far behind Andrew Clift's record 52 last year. Ghorpade was irresistible against the weaker opposition, if perhaps something of a '4-an-over' bowler in the club and stronger school matches when his tendency to bowl too short was punished. All the bowlers were very well handled by Seaver, who captained the side quietly and competently as one expected he would with his experience of 1st XI and club cricket. Angus McPhail's wicket keeping was, once again, a pleasure to watch. In common with the best keepers one hardly noticed him unless he made a mistake, and mistakes were rare. He must be one of the best keepers the school has produced and I was sorry that he did not gain selection for the Public Schools XI. However he, like

Seaver, played regularly for the Berkshire Bantams and is to be congratulated on having a game for Worcestershire CCC 2nd XI in the holidays. Driver and Stimpson played a number of times for the Bantams, too.

In general the XI played positive cricket and were an enjoyable side to watch. The fielding was competent with Chris Driver an outstanding cover point; he caught a stupendous catch in the St Edward's match. But the running between the wickets could have been better. I made the same comment 12 months ago. There are eleven players who had at least some experience of 1st XI cricket back next year and I hope the 1975 side will improve on their predecessors in at least this respect. They will be fortunate, though, to enjoy such an uninterrupted season again; only forty minutes play was lost to rain. Our other, more consistent, good fortune is to play on such a fine War Memorial Field wicket. Many thanks to David Bagshaw and his groundstaff for their work in this respect.

Grateful thanks, too, to Mrs Ashby for again organising the splendid teas, to Phil Dunthorne for umpiring a number of times, and to the Rev. Hugh Pickles and to all the staff who helped with cricket at all levels throughout the school; also to Michael Stimpson, an extraordinarily good Secretary. John Seaver won the Morris Cup as best all-rounder and Chris Driver won the Fletcher Cup for topping the batting averages. Seaver and McPhail were awarded the Henderson cricket prizes.

Regular members of the team were: JP Seaver (capt.), AW McPhail, CDG Driver, MW Stimpson, P Betts, K Ghorpade (full colours), SP Johnson, MG Howat and RJ Frost (half colours). DS Mason, R Guneratnam, AN Davies, CR Lowe, RG Lowes, MJ Hurry, CWP Hobson and DJ Lanham all played on occasions.

NHP

An appeal—1st XI photographs, 1964—1973, wanted!

The intention in future is to hang team photos of the 1st XI in War Memorial Pavilion; it would be nice to go back as far as possible. I have copies of XIs up to 1963, but not of those from 1964 to 1973. Unfortunately the negatives of these years have been destroyed. I would be most grateful if any OA could send to me at the school either a framed or unframed photo which he no longer requires in order to make the record complete.

NHP

First XI Results

Played 18; won 7; lost 5; drawn 6.

Pangbourne 4 May (A) won by 7 wickets.

Pangbourne 96 (Ghorpade 7 for 29); Abingdon 98 for 3 (Seaver 41).

Newbury GS 8 May (A) won by 6 wickets.

Newbury 86 (Ghorpade 4 for 24, Guneratnam 4 for 23); Abingdon 92 for 4. Brentwood 11 May (A) lost by 5 wickets.

Abingdon 185 for 7 declared (Driver 78 no, Seaver 58); Brentwood 189 for 5 (Driver 4 for 46).

Berkshire Gentlemen 15 May (H) lost by 4 wickets.

Abingdon 231 for 9 declared (Driver 39, Johnson 39, Betts 33); BGs 233 for 6 (AA Hillary 63, NH Payne 60 no).

Abingdon CC 18 May (A) drawn.

Abingdon CC 219 for 5 declared; Abingdon 158 for 7 (Seaver 51, Frost 33 no).

NH Payne's XI 22 May (H) drawn.

NHPs XI 187 (Seaver 4 for 41); Abingdon 187 for 7 (Stimpson 73, Seaver 32).

Oratory 29 May (H) lost by 39 runs.
 Oratory 117 (Seaver 6 for 33); Abingdon 78.

Douai 1 June (A) drawn
 Abingdon 170 for 3 declared (McPhail 59, Driver 52 no); Douai 109 for 7
 (Mason 4 for 10).

South Oxfordshire Amateurs 5 June (H) lost by 124 runs.
 SOA 233 for 4 declared; Abingdon 109 (Seaver 40).

Radley College 15 June (A) lost by 21 runs.
 Radley 182 for 9 declared (Driver 5 for 55); Abingdon 161 (McPhail 52,
 Stimpson 48).

MCC 19 June (H) won by 2 wickets.
 MCC 210 for 6 declared; Abingdon 211 for 8 (Seaver 75, McPhail 42,
 Betts 36).

Reading 22 June (H) won by 9 wickets.
 Reading 87 (Ghorpade 7 for 29); Abingdon 90 for 1 (Stimpson 52 no,
 Seaver 34 no).

St Edward's 29 June (H) drawn.
 Abingdon 166 for 9 declared (Seaver 47); St Edward's 76 for 9.

RGS High Wycombe 6 July (A) won by 47 runs.
 Abingdon 96; Wycombe 49.

Magdalen College School 8 July (A) drawn.
 Abingdon 139 (Seaver 43); MCC 120 for 8 (Driver 5 for 13).

Bloxham 10 July (A) won by 118 runs.
 Abingdon 194 for 3 declared (Seaver 67, Johnson 34 no, McPhail 33);
 Bloxham 76 (Driver 4 for 14).

University College School 11 July (H) won by 7 wickets.
 UCS 176; Abingdon 180 for 3 (Betts 101 no, Driver 65 no).

Old Abingdonians 12 and 13 July (H) drawn.
 Abingdon 203 (McPhail 107) and 129 (Boyers 5 for 8); OAs 195 for 8
 declared (P. Shellard 117 no, Ghorpade 4 for 43) and 101 for 8
 (Abraham 37, Ghorpade 4 for 42).

First XI Averages

Batting Averages (Qualification 6 innings):

	Innings	Not Out	Runs	Highest Score	Av
CDG Driver	17	6	372	78*	33.8
JP Seaver	19	1	601	75	33.4
AW McPhail	19	0	453	107	22.8
MW Stimpson	18	1	375	73	22.1
P Betts	16	2	297	101*	21.2
SP Johnson	17	4	211	39	16.2
RJ Frost	7	1	89	33*	14.6
K Ghorpade	8	4	45	15*	11.2
MG Howat	12	3	95	27	10.5
DS Mason	8	0	55	20	6.9

Bowling Averages (Qualification 6 wickets):

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Av
DS Mason	29	9	57	10	5.7
K Ghorpade	213	39	639	47	13.5
JP Seaver	233	65	516	34	14.2
CDG Driver	178	56	427	27	15.8
R Guneratnam	50	13	146	6	24.3
MG Howat	180	53	472	18	26.3

The Alligators

The Alligators' Week was more successful this year than for a long while—three good wins, one draw and one defeat. The South Oxfordshire Amateurs were decisively beaten by five wickets, the Berkshire Gentlemen by three wickets and Burntwood by eight wickets. An extraordinary 27 runs off the penultimate over of the game with Abingdon Town meant that we went down again in the local 'derby'. And at the end of a long, hard week we once again failed to produce our best against the Bantams and had to hold on for a draw. But it was pleasant to see both new and familiar faces in the sides and we look forward greatly to the Tenth Anniversary of the Week in 1975. Thanks must go to all those who so kindly helped out with the catering, to Abingdon Town CC for the use of their bar, and to David Bagshaw for his preparation of the wickets. The scores were:

PNS

SOAs 132 (Bagshaw 5—34); Alligators 134 for 5.
Alligators 165; Abingdon CC 166 for 7 (Child 104 no).
Berkshire Gentlemen 171; Alligators 172 for 7 (Abraham 77).
Burntwood 208 (Boyers 6—70); Alligators 213 for 3.
Berkshire Bantams 196 for 6; Alligators 150 for 9 (Collis 5—43).

Second Eleven

It was an unusual side this year: only six regular players but no fewer than eight who were sometimes with us and sometimes in the 1st XI. Strangely and happily, however, this did not prevent an excellent team spirit. The weather was kind—there was not one interruption in fourteen matches—and Mr Bagshaw's wickets gave no excuse for shortcomings.

In the first match, our batsmen, led by Roberts (48 not out) and Lowes (41), were in excellent form against kindly bowling, but our bowlers could not prise Newbury out. A good effort by everyone gave us our usual splendid all-day game at Brentwood. We mistimed our innings at Oratory and were lucky to meet little resistance. Our bowlers did very well to dismiss Abingdon Cricket Club for 99, but we then found theirs too good. After Barton had made a slow 49 and Frost a quick 40 not out, a 6.30 finish again deprived the Douai match of a result. Hobson and Cowan saved the game against competent bowling after we had let Leighton Park score more runs than they had expected. For the third year running we beat Magdalen. Then came a really splendid game: Frost (53) and Lowes (34) led a fine team effort whereby we recovered from 4 for 3 to come closer to defeating Radley than we had done before, the eleventh man having to face the last five balls of the match. A tie was the appropriate outcome of a bad game at Wantage in which both sides played well below their best. Next, a very good, even game at Reading was followed by our first victory over Shiplake since 1967. As against Radley, early disasters (1 for 3) at the hands of High Wycombe were impressively retrieved, this time by Roberts (68), Davies (44) and Baumann (40), and, fielding splendidly to support good bowling by Lanham and Davies, we gained a convincing triumph. After we had offered Bloxham the worst bowling that they had encountered all season, only for them badly to mistime their innings, not even sound batting by Noble (45) and Baumann (36 not out) made a result likely. Finally, the Old Abingdonians' good bowling gave us little chance of reaching our target.

Lacking a recognised spinner until Guneratnam came down from the 1st XI, our bowling was the weakest department. Cowan had a poor season, Hurry was soon incapacitated by back trouble, and most of the wickets fell to Davies (23 in 8 matches), Guneratnam (23 in 8) and Lanham (21 in 10).

The batting was impressive. Certainly not in recent years has the 2nd XI scored so many runs (1,828) or played so stylishly. Of the regulars, Barton (239) and Roberts (236) were the most prolific, with Noble (161) and Baumann (154), both enormously improved players, finishing the season strongly. Although often in the 1st XI, Hobson (173), Frost (160) and Lowe (156) also had substantial aggregates for us.

The fielding was never bad, generally good and at least once outstanding. The imperturbable Barton continued to improve as wicket-keeper.

Although the problem of handling his meagre bowling resources sometimes defeated him, Roberts was a most acceptable captain. His uninhibited stroke play and unselfish declaration in the first match did much to set the tone of an enjoyable season.

Finally, I should like to thank Barton for looking after the kit so well and JN Westmore, JV Partridge and their assistants for their cheerful efficiency with scorebook and scoreboard.

Our regular players were TG Roberts (Captain), JP Barton, CJ Baumann, IB Cowan, MJ Hurry and PA Noble. Shared with the 1st XI were AN Davies, RJ Frost, R Guneratnam, CWP Hobson, DJ Lanham, CR Lowe, RG Lowes and DS Mason. AJE Allen played five times, RW Holder and SAJ Pallett three times, and MWJ Carr, SW Morden, GAN Pott, GC Walters and MRD Waterfall once.

HTR

Results

Played 14, won 4; lost 3; tied 1; drawn 6.

St Bartholomew's, Newbury 8 May (H), drawn.

Abingdon 183 for 4 declared; Newbury 65 for 8.

Brentwood School 11 May (A), lost by four wickets.

Abingdon 172; Brentwood 173 for 6.

Oratory School. 15 May (A), won by 78 runs.

Abingdon 150 for 6 declared; Oratory 72.

Abingdon Cricket Club. 18 May (H), lost by 32 runs.

Abingdon CC 99; Abingdon 67.

Douai School. 1st June (H). drawn.

Abingdon 150 for 5 declared; Douai 77 for 5.

Leighton Park School 1st XI. 5 June (A), drawn.

Leighton Park 142 for 7 declared; Abingdon 88 for 8.

Magdalen College School. 12 June (H), won by 105 runs.

Abingdon 146 for 6 declared (Barton 59); Magdalen 41 (Lanham 5 for 13).

Radley College. 15 June (H). drawn.

Abingdon 143 (Frost 53); Radley 123 for 9.

King Alfred's School, Wantage, 1st XI. 19 June (A), tied.

Abingdon 116; Wantage 116 (Davies 6 for 31).

Reading School. 22 June (A), lost by three wickets.

Abingdon 137 for 8 declared (Lowe 60); Reading 141 for 7.

Shiplake College 1st XI. 29 June (A), won by four wickets.

Shiplake 75; Abingdon 77 for 6.

Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe. 6 July (H), won by 74 runs.

Abingdon 168 (Roberts 68); High Wycombe 94 (Lanham 6 for 41).

Bloxham School. 10 July (A), drawn.

Bloxham 142 for 8 declared; Abingdon 123 for 6.

Old Abingdonians. 13 July (H), drawn.

OAs 156 for 4 declared (JR Jennings 50 not out); Abingdon 108 for 8 (AC Clift 6 for 34).

Third Eleven

The team had a reasonably good season, meeting opposition of varying standards as the results show. Fielding was in general good but apart from the consistent Lynn Campbell, batting was poor and we lacked a fast bowler. Nonetheless, there was plenty of team spirit and all matches were thoroughly enjoyed.

The team was picked from: RW Holder (capt); LR Campbell; IC Gillis; GC Walters; NJ Shepherd; AJ Thresher; MR Waterfall; AP Luto; SD Hills; MR Osborne; GA Pott; B Kochan; RM Whittingham; CL Applegate; Taylor; CD Robinson; SP Marsden; PD Hallum; NJ Tattersfield; GR Terry; Sheldon.

RWH

Results

Pangbourne (A): School 120—8 declared; Pangbourne 86.

Oratory (A): School 65; Oratory 67—4.

Radley (A): School 134—6 (Hallum 73); Radley 96—4.

Douai (A): School 125—7 (Campbell 54); Douai 120—6.

Cokethorpe 1st XI: School 97 (Campbell 32); Cokethorpe 97—4.

Ripon Hall (A): School 44—3; Ripon Hall 42.

Reading (H): School 173—9 (Campbell 52); Reading 104—5.

St Edwards (A): School 56; St Edwards 113.

Junior Colts Eleven

After being bowled out in their match for 31 runs by a mediocre Pangbourne College attack, the prospect of a successful season looked very bleak indeed. However the XI managed to iron out their weaknesses and enjoyed a good season, winning five, drawing five and losing only four of their four-teen matches.

George Gilbert established himself as the team's most competent batsman. He is a very correct player who times the ball well and is particularly strong off the back foot. Carl Sheldon, who opened the innings with George Gilbert, is a forceful batsman and is quick to punish any ball short of a good length. Noah Franklin played several good innings and finally emerged as the most improved batsman in the team. Miles Hitchcock never really came to his peak in the season. He is a very good stroke player but often loses concentration and is reluctant to treat the good ball with the respect it deserves. Andrew Young and Rex Harmer are very forceful batsmen. Both use their feet well, and when in form are capable of scoring runs quickly. David Rimmer and Mark Kelly also performed very well with the bat on occasions, and Peter Eccles, Guy McCreery, David Driver, Andrew Evans and Andrew Hillary made useful contributions when called upon to do so.

Andrew Young was the most successful opening bowler. His speed and movement off the wicket combined to produce a very good ball and against Reading School he won the match for the side with an excellent spell of 8—18. Miles Hitchcock also bowled very well. His accurate and good length deliveries accounted for 32 wickets during the season. George Gilbert, Rex Harmer, Mark Kelly and Andrew Hillary gave the ball plenty of flight and would have taken more wickets between them had the opposition been

made to chase higher totals. Andrew Evans is the most promising spin bowler. His accurate off-breaks delivered on a very good length were always a problem to the batsmen. His best performance was against Shiplake College, taking 7—26 on a good batting wicket.

Andrew Young proved a very competent captain of the side and Miles Hitchcock as vice-captain was always willing to offer him every assistance.

The highlight of the season was the visit of Farokh Engineer to the School, who played in Andrew Young's XI against Len Robinson's XI. My thanks to Len Robinson for all his efforts in raising such a good XI! and to Farokh Engineer for giving up a free day in the midst of his season.

The following played for the team: AM Young, M Hitchcock, RG Gilbert, C Sheldon, N Franklin, RJ Harmer, MA Kelly, DC Rimmer, PJ Eccles, AG Hillary, A Evans, GA McCreery, DJG Driver.

JDED-H

Results

Played 14; won 5; lost 4; drawn 5.

Pangbourne College 4 May (H) lost by 106 runs.

Pangbourne 137 (Hitchcock 5—33). Abingdon 31.

St Edward's 9 May (a) drawn.

St Edward's 136 (Kelly 4—10). Abingdon 92—6 (Kelly 34 no).

Oratory School 15 May (H) won by 94 runs.

Abingdon 139 (Hitchcock 64 no). Oratory 45 (Hitchcock 4—16).

Oakwood School 29 May (H) lost by 56 runs.

Oakwood 170—7 (Hitchcock 5—48). Abingdon 114.

Douai School 1 June (H) drawn.

Abingdon School 130—9. Douai School 92—9 (Young 4—8).

Bearwood College 5 June (A) won by 29 runs.

Abingdon 109. Bearwood 80. (Evans 3—16).

Edmund Campion School 8 June (H) won by 5 wickets.

Edmund Campion 115—7. Abingdon 117—5 (Franklin 32).

Magdalen College School 12 June (H) lost by 6 wickets.

Abingdon 60. MCS 61—4.

Radley College 15 June (A) drawn.

Radley 219—1. Abingdon 139—4 (Sheldon 57, Harmer 39 no).

Reading School 22 June (A) won by 62 runs.

Abingdon 104. (Franklin 32). Reading 42 (Young 8—18).

Shiplake College 29 June (A) lost by 53 runs.

Shiplake 120 (Evans 7—36). Abingdon 67.

RGS High Wycombe 6 July (A) drawn.

RGS 169—9. Abingdon 54—5.

Bloxham School 10 July (H) drawn.

Bloxham 121 (Evans 3—34). Abingdon 86—5 (Franklin 42 no).

Andrew Young's XI v. Len Robinson's XI 28 June. Andrew Young's XI won by 1 wicket.

Len Robinson's XI 155 (Mr AA Hillary 50).

A Young's XI 156—9 (F Engineer 84).

Abingdon School 3rd XI 3 July. Match won by Junior Colts XI.

Junior Eleven 1974

We can look back on a very satisfactory and happy season—satisfactory for the best of reasons, because the team finished the term on a high note of achievement and a feeling that the early promise had been largely fulfilled. This is a team with some extremely promising players, and it was good to see most of them come good at some time during the term.

There was, however, a certain fragility about the batting, and once or twice the side collapsed badly. This happened particularly when we were missing players through injury or because of Dolgoed. The effect of Dolgoed this year was not so serious as in previous years, but still we found a falling away in performance in the middle of the season. We were also hit by German measles and injury. It was particularly unfortunate when Martin Dennis was injured and had to miss several important matches. As opening batsman and opening bowler, his contribution to the team was very substantial, and we missed him a great deal.

This year we again entered the Esso Knock-out competition, played on an overs basis. We beat Ashmead and Desborough to reach the regional Final, where we played Radley. Although we lost this match, it was in many ways the most encouraging game of the season. After Radley had scored 147, we replied with 71 for 1, with Burles and Jones going great guns. The running between the wickets of these two was the best I had seen for a very long time, and at this stage Radley were clearly rattled and looking ragged. Unfortunately we collapsed and were all out for 100, but we proved that it is quite possible to beat a team like Radley on merit, provided we approach the game in the right spirit.

I should have liked to discuss individual players and their achievements, but unfortunately space will not allow me. I can only single out for mention the captain, Adrian Johnson. Adrian shouldered the multiple responsibilities of captain, opening bat and wicket-keeper, and carried them out admirably. The fact that the team ended the season a better and more balanced side than it started is in large measure due to his efforts.

The second XI played two matches. They were outplayed by Radley 2nd's (though the day was almost saved by a remarkable last wicket stand which lasted for 50 minutes!) and they may have been beaten, in a rather uncertain result against King Alfred's Wantage. There are some promising players there, too, and no lack of enthusiasm.

I hope everyone enjoyed this season as much as I did. I am very grateful for all the help and co-operation I got, and especially to the Rev Hugh Pickles, who gives so generously of his time and energy in the cause of Junior Cricket.

Results

Pangbourne May 4 (A), won by 51 runs.

Abingdon 87—7 declared (Slingsby 25).

Pangbourne 3—13, Jones 3—2).

St Edwards May 9 (A), lost by 5 wickets.

Abingdon 31.

St Edwards 35—5 (Hobbs 3—13).

Oratory May 15 (H), won by 6 runs.

Abingdon 97.

Oratory 91 (Dennis 4—18).

Douai June 1 (A), won by 50 runs.

Abingdon 133—5 declared (Johnson 49, Dennis 36).

Douai 83 (Phillips 4—12, Taylor 4—20).



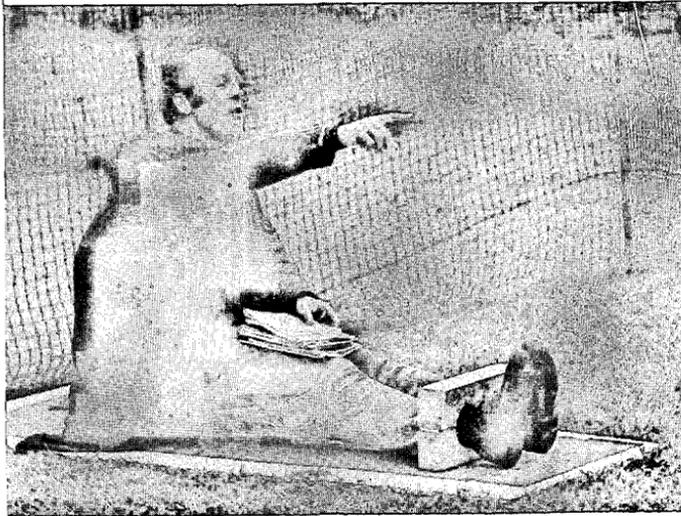
Founders
Day

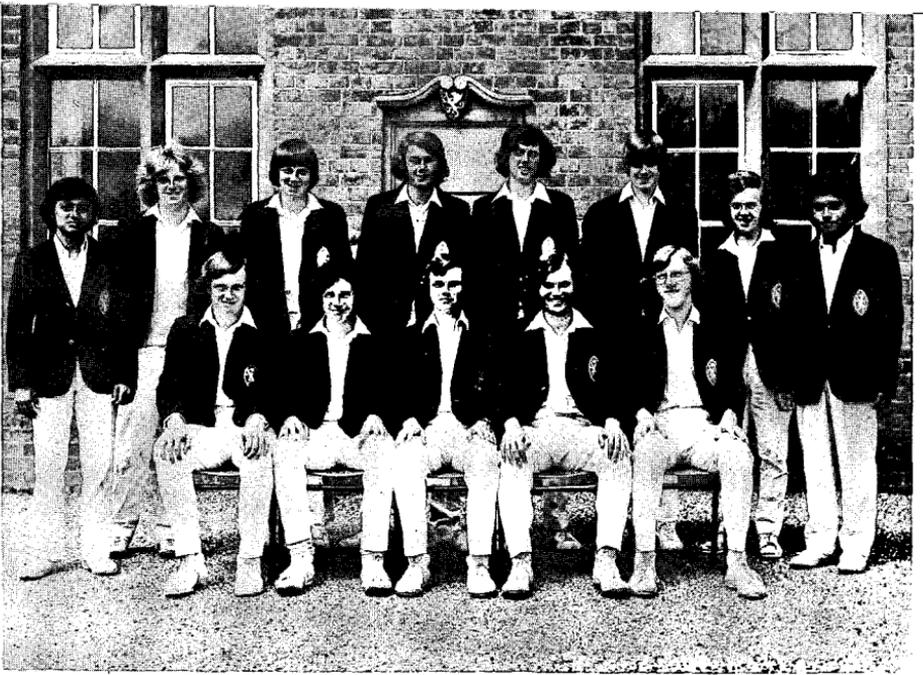




Founders
Day

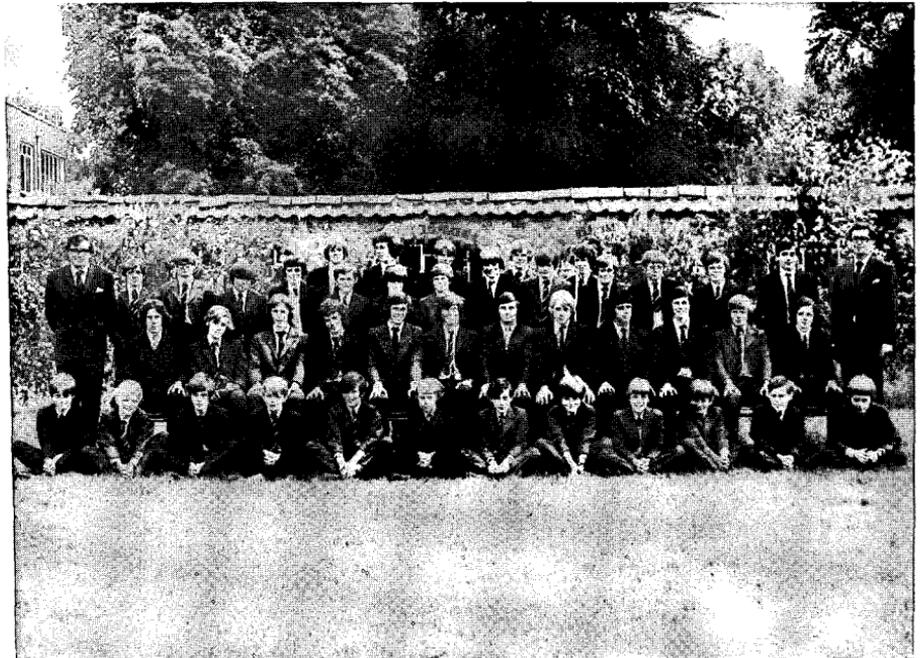






1st X1

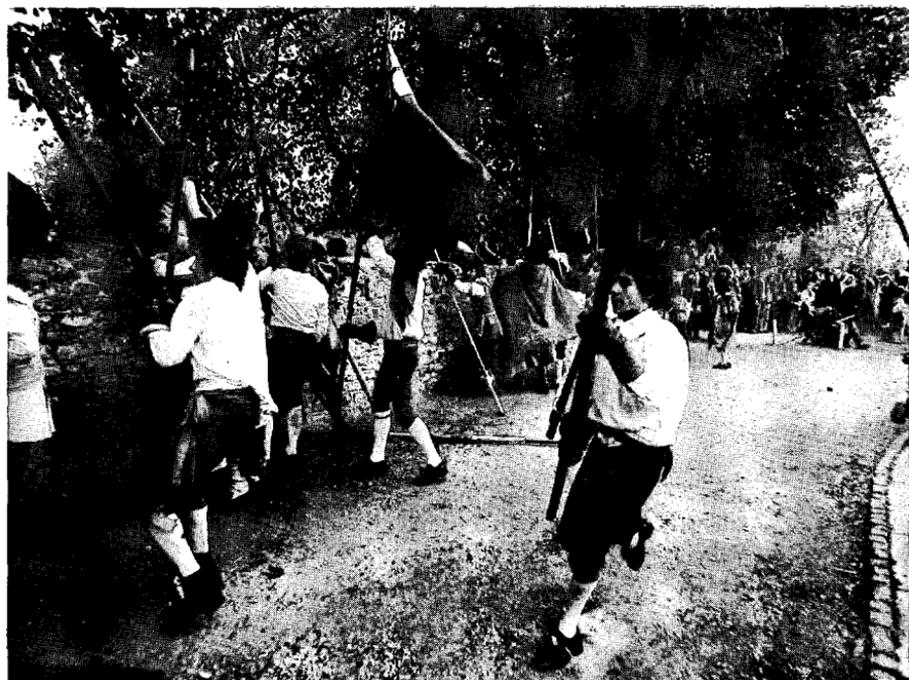
Choral Society





Royse's Company

Battle of Abingdon



- Bearwood June 5 (H), draw.
 Abingdon 122—5 declared (Dennis 44, Regan 21).
 Bearwood 118—7 (Swan 3—30).
- Magdalen CS June 12 (A), lost by 4 runs.
 Magdalen 44 (Dennis 8—24).
 Abingdon 40.
- Radley June 15 (H), lost by 125 runs.
 Radley 174—7 declared (Taylor 3—31).
 Abingdon 49.
- Cokethorpe June 19 (H), lost by 5 wickets.
 Abingdon 128—8 declared (Johnson 23, Slingsby 40).
 Cokethorpe 129—5 (Taylor 3—33).
- Reading June 22 (A), draw.
 Abingdon 169—6 declared (Johnson 74, Jones 45).
 Reading 106—7 (Jones 4—13).
- High Wycombe July 6 (H), won by 3 wickets.
 High Wycombe 107 (Taylor 4—11).
 Abingdon 113—7 (Greig 28, Slingsby 21).
- Bloxham July 10 (A), won by 35 runs.
 Abingdon 93 (Slingsby 28, Burles 20).
 Bloxham 58 (Hobbs 5—14).
- Rev Hugh Pickles' XI July 11 (H), won by 88 runs.
 Abingdon 137—7 declared (Johnson 36, Slingsby 35, Taylor 24).
 Rev Hugh Pickles' XI 49 (Hobbs 8—23).

ESSO COMPETITION

- 1st round** Ashmead June 13 (H), won by 8 wickets.
 Ashmead 73—9.
 Abingdon 74—2 (Johnson 36, Dennis 23).
- 2nd round** Desborough July 5 (H), won by 1 wicket.
 Desborough 68 (Slingsby 3—24).
 Abingdon 71—9 (Johnson 20).
- Final** Radley July 9 (Abingdon CC ground), lost by 47 runs.
 Radley 147 (Dennis 3—21, Phillips 3—20).
 Abingdon 100 (Burles 41, Jones 22).
- Record: P 15 W 8 D 2 L 5.
- 2nd XI Results:**
 Radley Yearlings 2nd June 15 (A), lost by 117 runs.
 Radley 160—6 declared.
 Abingdon 43.
- KA Wantage June 21 (A), lost by 3 wickets.
 Abingdon 71—4 (Holding 21).
 KA Wantage 72—7.

The following have played for the Juniors 1st XI:
 A Johnson, M Andrews, M Dennis, J Slingsby, M Swan, B Jones, S Hobbs,
 D Greig, R Allan, D Robinson, D Phillips, R Regan, M Taylor, C Holding,
 B Burles, J Benjamin.

Minors Eleven

This has proved another good season, in which the Minors extended their unbeaten record to a third year, and yet they were rarely as convincing as I had hoped.

On paper a very strong batting side, they reached their peak in the innings against Radley Yearlings, a veritable tour de force, especially as our opponents were a year older. Subsequently, however, the weather changed, and in the unseasonable wet practice was impossible and the quality of the batting deteriorated. Fortunately our opponents batted even more badly than we did, and our bowlers, the spinners especially, bowled a good line and length, and kept cool in the two critical finishes. Reading needed 13 runs to win with 7 wickets in hand but managed to score only 9; Cothill collapsed after a good start, and fell two runs short in an extraordinarily low-scoring game for July.

Two other games linger in the memory, one against a much-improved Millbrook House, the other a new fixture with High Wycombe. In the former some mighty blows from Jeremy Westmore brought us a thrilling one-wicket victory; against High Wycombe Nigel Marsh had the incredible figures of 11-9-2-6—all his victims were bowled (plus a seventh when the ball passed between the stumps without removing a bail!), and one of the singles was off a hard chance to leg slip. The two draws are best forgotten; our opponents achieved the result that they had clearly come for.

The outstanding players were, not surprisingly, Nigel Marsh and Tim Clift, the surviving 'caps' from last year; both averaged over 20, scoring their runs at a quick rate, both bowled intelligent spin. Nigel made an excellent Captain after a rather undynamic start: he set good attacking fields, changed them unobtrusively when necessary, and had the happy knack of making the right bowling-changes; his enthusiasm for the game is most infectious! There were so many other good players this year that it would be invidious to pick out any by name; all of the First and Second Teams showed real promise, and it was for this reason that so many 'A' team matches were played—all of them won except a rather unsatisfactory 25-over match played in appalling conditions at Wantage. My successor's biggest problem next year will be occupying to the full over twenty 'class' cricketers.

MW

First XI: NA Marsh (capt.), TPC Clift, AR Thomas, MR Nelson, MJ Clarke, GR Halsey, AJF Robertson, JS Madgwick, SP Hunt, PH Littlewood, MJ Dacre. The first seven were awarded 'caps'.

Second XI: SRL Miller, RGK Donald, GJ Hoskin, TD Robson, SD Napier-Munn, PJ Davidson, GP Lanham, AM Blair, IA Sargeant, DG Merriman, JN Westmore.

Results

Played 7; won 5; lost 0; drew 2.

New College School. 29 May (H), drawn.

New College 106 for 9 declared; Abingdon 72 for 1 (Nelson 35+).

Bearwood College. 5 June (A), won by 5 wickets.

Bearwood 79 (Clift 3—10), Abingdon 82 for 5.

Radley Yearlings 3rd XI. 15 June (A), won by 70 runs.

Abingdon 177 for 3 declared (Marsh 54+, Clift 42, Nelson 33+); Radley 107 (Clift 5—48).

Reading School. 22 June (H), won by 3 runs.

Abingdon 63; Reading 60 (Clarke 4—8, Halsey 4—16.
Magdalen College School. 29 June (H), drawn.
Abingdon 116 for 8 declared; MCS 66 for 7 (Clarke 3—14, Clift 3—15).
High Wycombe RGS 6 July (H), won by 68 runs.
Abingdon 98 for 8 declared; High Wycombe 30 (Marsh 6—2).
Cothill House School. 10 July (A), won by 2 runs.
Abingdon 49; Cothill 47 (Marsh 4—2, Clift 3—15).

'A' team matches

Oratory School 1st XI. 15 May (A), won by 7 wickets.
Oratory 35 (Lanham 5—7); Abingdon 36 for 3.
St Hugh's 1st XI. 18 May (A), won by 78 runs.
Abingdon 93; St Hugh's 15 (Robertson 6—9).
Carmel College 1st XI. 19 May (H), won by 71 runs.
Abingdon 97 for 9 declared (Napier-Munn 34); Carmel 26 (Clift 5—4,
Miller 3—1).
Millbrook House 1st XI. 1 June (H), won by 1 wicket.
Millbrook 92; Abingdon 96 for 9 (Miller 34).
King Alfred's Wantage 1st XI. 4 July (A), lost by 3 wickets.
Abingdon 79 for 9; King Alfred's 80 for 7 (Napier-Munn 4—22).

Other matches

Bearwood College 2nd XI. 5 June (H), won by 8 wickets.
Bearwood 27 (Blair 5—2); Abingdon 3rd XI 28 for 2.
Summerfields School. 12 June (A), lost by 10 runs.
Summerfields 101 (Dacre 7—22); Abingdon 2nd XI 91 (Donald 33).
Oratory School 1st XI. 19 June (H), won by 39 runs.
Abingdon 'B' XI 93 for 6 declared (Merriman 32+); Oratory 54 (Lanham
3—0, Blair 3—8).
John Mason School 1st XI. 1 July (H), won by 15 runs.
Abingdon 2nd XI, 83 for 7; John Mason 68 (Sargeant 3—12).
Josca's 1st XI. 3 July (A), lost by 5 wickets.
Abingdon 3rd XI 32; Josca's 33 for 6.

Rowing

The Boat Club has enjoyed an encouraging season which has been particularly note-worthy for the enthusiasm of our oarsmen, seniors and juniors alike. We seem to be weathering a rather lean period and once again to be moving in the right direction—upwards!

The 1st VIII—and what a joy it is to be able to report that the School produced one this year—really excelled themselves during the course of the season. Having started the year as one of the slowest first eights around, they went faster and faster and put up a really good performance at the National Schools Regatta, winning the Petite Finale of the Child-Beale Cup, an event we entered with some trepedation. The other high-light of their season, despite disappointment, was their dead-heat in Juniors at Reading Junior Regatta in the Final of the event. The re-row over half the course did not suit us and we narrowly lost to Sir William Borlase's good crew.

The Colts VIII, still lacking in horse-power owing to having no really big men in the 'engine room', rowed with tremendous spirit at their various regattas but with so many good Colts crews about a deficit of some two stone per man could not easily be overcome. Perhaps as light-weights their chance may come in two years time.

The Junior Colts rowed in fours this season and promise well as they are heavy and powerful, and the 'A' crew worthily reached their Final at Reading.

No new boats were bought this year: indeed the horrifying rise in prices of boats and oars is going to present difficult financial problems as the fleet grows older. Fortunately, 'Nobby' is doing sterling work in keeping us going and we are as always very grateful to him for his expertise and hard work.

Our thanks also go to TASS for enabling us to equip the 1st VIII with 'stripey' blazers. At least for a few more years we shall be able to appear suitably clad in what the 'Oxford Mail' once described as pyjama tops. A new rowing top with a suitable design is also now in use and received the enthusiastic welcome of the oarsmen.

Finally, we are indeed sorry to lose the services of Mr Peter Dick who has helped coach the Junior Colts so enthusiastically and successfully and we hope that he will be able to continue coaching rowing in his new appointment. We look forward to welcoming back Mr Goulding next year and to the arrival of Mr Barrett. Both will add greatly to our coaching strength.

RGM

Results

1st VIII: Bow—PR Clark; AJ Capel; M Ormerod; S Walker; CJ Scott; JP Jordan; CM Jones (capt); Str.—RJ Price; Cox—MTL Rivers. Also rowed: J Tauwhare.

Competed at Chiswick Regatta, at Wallingford Regatta (semi-final) and at Reading Junior Regatta (dead heat in final, lost in row-off). At National Schools Regatta won Petite Finale of the Child-Beale Cup.

At Reading Town Regatta, Clark, Capel, Scott and Price competed in a four and Clark and Capel in a pair.

Colts VIII: Bow—JA Heard; MRR Beers; BAL Peck; M Holding; T. Walker; JK Dewar; DC Homewood; Str—NR Lemoine; Cox—RJ Short.

Competed at Chiswick, Reading Junior and the National Schools Regattas and also as two fours at Wallingford.

Colts IV: Bow—J Clarke; RD Tauwhare; AD Byrne; Str—IM Sealy; Cox—D Lindsay. Also rowed: S de Lusignan.

Competed at Chalmore, Reading Junior and the National Schools Regattas. Junior Colts IVs: 'A' Crew: Bow—DA Halliday; DM Byfield; RJ Perkins; Str—P Williams; Cox—JJ Philipson.

'B' Crew: Bow—PD Cook; PM Johnson; ME Lintott; Str—CWF Spence; Cox—MPG Swan.

Competed at Chalmore and Reading Junior Regattas ('A' Crew finalists at Reading. Also rowed at Chalmore—MR Hyman; DM Lewis; JJW Breckon; RJ Humm.

The Senior Sculling Competition was won by RD Tauwhare and the Junior by DM Byfield.

The Eason Goblet for the House gaining most points went to Blacknall House.

Full Colours for Rowing were awarded to AJ Capel, PR Clark, CM Jones, JP Jordan, M Ormerod, RJ Price, CJ Scott and S Walker.

Half Colours were awarded to J Tauwhare, and Full Coxing Colours to MTL Rivers.

Tennis

The fact that the complete 1st VI of last season were with us this year provided the stability and continuity necessary for a successful season. Overall, the teams won seventy five percent of their matches but in particular the 1st VI is to be congratulated on winning 14 out of its 15 fixtures. Their standard of play was good, due in part to our being in the fortunate position of having more players of first team quality than team places available. The combination of competition for a place, experience and determination to win carried them to half-term without a defeat.

The 1st VI was from: JMG Taylor (Capt), IL Manning (Sec), AR Mushens, CDN Morris, RI Barton, AN Plant, GC Walters, N Jefferson.

The 2nd VI had a disappointing season, winning only one of their matches. Of the original seven fixtures, three were cancelled—and they would probably have been wins for us—by our opponents. Nevertheless, the team played some spirited tennis and never gave up trying.

The 2nd VI was from: N Jefferson, AN Plant, APS Luto, PD Cook, PJE Kafka, RA Balkwill, NJA Shephard.

The U/16 VI had a successful season and won 4 out of 5 fixtures. Their good performance which promises well for next year was again partly due to the fact that more players were competing for team places than there were places available.

The U/16 VI was from: MJ Arbrines, SF Wakeford, NP Kay, AL Knibbs, CJ Madin, PM Aston, SP Thompson.

The Junior VIs (U/15 and U/14) had mixed fortunes, both teams winning half their matches. As a group they show considerable promise and we can look to future seasons with confidence. Many of the players turned out for both teams and included the following:

PM Aston, RV Thomas, DA Blackburn, CT Reid, L Jones-Walters, CP Mckenzie, JJ Stephen, MS Brown, PNC Gale, RP O'Driscoll, SJ Brouard, CJP Wyatt, MS King, NJ Talboys, MJ Howes, GR Halsey, TD Robson, NG Williams, PJ Davidson.

Full Colours were awarded to AR Mushens and CDN Morris and Half Colours to RI Barton and GC Walters.

Competitions

Again there was good support for the two open knock-out competitions and a considerable number of matches required all sets to be played before a winner emerged. JMG Taylor won the senior competition (Buckley Cup) with CDN Morris as runner up and TD Robson eventually triumphed over NG Williams in the junior competition.

In the Youll Cup (Wimbledon July 22—26), the standard of tennis generally was high. We were lucky to have a bye into the second round in which we beat Monkton Combe 2—0. In the third round, we lost to Aldenham 1—2, Jeremy Taylor playing the singles for us after a 1—1 result in the doubles. He took the first set 6—4 having been down 1—4 but eventually lost in the third set.

The Youll Cup Team: JMG Taylor, CDN Morris, GC Walters, RI Barton.

As term finished with the 1st VI beating an OA VI on Founder's Day, we said good-bye to Morris, Mushens, Manning, Jefferson. Kafka, Barton and Madin and extend to them our best wishes for the future.

I am indebted to Mr Ayling for stepping in and running the club during my absence in the first part of the term and also to Messrs Moore and Coleman for their help in the day to day supervision of practices and in accompanying teams to matches. And we were again fortunate to have the services of Mr RJ Lay as coach to the younger members and hope to see him again next year.

JEV

Athletics

Teams were entered this term for four types of athletics meeting—relays, area championships, inter-school matches, and an open meeting—and four age-groups were catered for. As last year we used the RAF Abingdon track on several Wednesdays and Saturdays, but we were based on Lower Field, storing the equipment in Mr Coleman's hut there. For the last time we competed with the Berkshire schools, and we now go into Oxfordshire with our area called the Vale of the White Horse.

In the Oxford City AC relay the senior team won their heat in 3:49.1 with SK Fabes running the 800m leg in 2:06, a few yards ahead of Marlborough and Radley, but the effort had taken its toll and in the final the time was seven seconds slower.

The North Berks Schools AAA Championships were held as a selection trial for the area team and not as an inter-school match; this meant that there were fewer entries in each event making the meeting lack-lustre and rather disappointing. Ten boys won their events, and five were second, which meant that eleven were selected to compete in the Berkshire Schools Championships. At Wallingford, G Rogers did not compete but nevertheless was selected with the help of a last-minute phone-call and he did very well to win the shot against boys a year older. Also at Bracknell MG Wartke won the long jump with a personal best on the Tartan run-up that was 6.24m or 20'6". PS Ashby was second in the triple Jump with 13.09m or 42'11". A Murdock was second in the 200m with 23.2.

However, the highlight was the high jump win of SD Cameron with 1.70m or 5'7", quite remarkable for a second-former. He practised very thoroughly using the school's big new foam rubber landing area under the direction of Mr Crawford, a former high-jumper himself, and he attended a regular training group at Iffley Road. The results were astonishing. He won the Berkshire Schools event with a record jump. He flew to Scotland at the end of June and won the Scottish Boys Championship on the Saturday and another gold medal on the Sunday. In the All-England he placed 7th out of 35 entries. Next year, being in the same age-group, he could be even higher.

The results were very encouraging in the inter-school matches with wins over Radley, Cheltenham and Bloxham and one defeat against St Edward's. Both the captain AH Courtenay and the secretary A Murdock scored a lot of points by doing other events as well as their specialities. The pick of the other runners were GN Green doing 53.4 in the 400m and SK Fabes with 4:23.5 in the 1500m. Outstanding in the field events were MG Wartke (long and triple) and PS Ashby (javelin and triple).

The following boys competed for the school: AH Courtenay (9 times), SK Fabes, RC Hingley (8 times), GN Green, SD Cameron, A Murdock (7), IS Cullen, PS Ashby (6), MG Wartke, JP Gotelee, CF Vernon (5), MR Freeman, RM Tourret, AP Marsden, CD Robinson, NJ Tresidder, G Rogers (4), ND Francis, DP Lynn, M Owen, AG Morfey, SD Marshall, MD Isahak,

GA Light, DG Light (3), DA Thomas, JS Madgwick, MD Andrews, CJH Wort, MNK Saunders, JV Parsons, RD Watson (2), RJ McMahon, T Jefferson, G Mitchell, AMJ Young, JD Griffin, MC Bezant, CR Lowe, RP O'Driscoll, PNC Gale, S Wilson (1).

Full colours were awarded to AH Courtenay, A Murdock, MG Wartke, SK Fabes, and PS Ashby. Half colours were awarded to CF Vernon, GN Green.

Results

Thursday 9 May. Oxford City Relays. Seniors 5th, Colts 5th.

Saturday 18 May. North Berks. Championships (Wallingford).

Winners U/13: T Jefferson (200)

U/15: SD Marshall (80m H), SD Cameron (HJ)

U/17: DA Thomas (LJ)

U/20: A Murdock (100 and 200), JP Gotelee (800),

SK Fabes (1500), MG Wartke (LJ), PS Ashby (Jav), Mr Freeman (Disc)

Thursday 23 May v. Radley and Cheltenham (at Radley)

Seniors: 1 A 86½, 2 R 60½, 3 C 60

Colts: 1 A 77½, 2 R 62½, 3 C 50

Saturday 25 May. Achilles Relays (Oxford)

4×200: 3rd (Heat)

4×800: 2nd (Heat), 8th (Final)

Saturday 8 June. Berks Schools Championships (Bracknell)

Winners U/15: SD Cameron (HJ), G Rogers (Shot)

U/20: MG Wartke (LJ)

Wednesday 19 June v. St Edward's (Home)

Seniors: 1 SE 83, 2 A 58

Saturday 22 June. Open meeting at Eton with Harrow and St George's, Weybridge

Winners U/15: SD Cameron (HJ), G Rogers (Discus)

U/17: RC Hingley (800 and 1500)

U/20: A Murdock (100 and 200), AH Courtenay (400), DP Lynn (2000 S/C)

Wednesday 3 July v. Bloxham (Away) Seniors: 1 A 188, 2 B 176

Sports Days

INTER-HOUSE COMPETITION

	Bennett(B)	Blacknall(K)	Reeves(R)	Tesdale(T)
5/6/VI	100(2)	71(4)	114(1)	93(3)
3/4	146(1)	108(2)	60(4)	87(3)
2	97(=3)	120(1)	97(=3)	115(2)
overall	343(1)	299(2)	271(4)	295(3)

Victores Ludorum

5/6/VI	1 MG Wartke (T) 23	2 CF Vernon (B) 22	=3 A Murdock (R) 21	RJ Price (K)
3/4	1 IS Cullen (T) 23	2 DG Light (B) 22	3 GA Light (B) 21	
2	1 JS Madgwick (K) 22½	=2 JPF Davies (R) 21	=2 G Rogers (K) 21	

event	form	winner		second	
100m	5/6/VI	MG Wartke (T)	12.0	PD Boon (T)	12.0
	3/4	RM Tourret (B)	12.7	DJ Crook (T)	12.9
	2	JS Madgwick (K)	13.4	RP Faulk (R)	13.6
200m	5/6/VI	A Murdock (R)	24.6	MG Wartke (T)	24.9
	3/4	RM Tourret (B)	26.4	DJ Crook (T)	28.5
	2	JS Madgwick (K)	29.0	RP Faulk (R)	29.1
400m	5/6/VI	GN Green (R)	54.8	MD Isahak (B)	58.1
	3/4	GA Light (B)	62.1	PN John (K)	65.5
	2	JPF Davies (R)	69.2	SD Napier-Munn (T)	69.3
800m	5/6/VI	SK Fabes (B)	2:13.0	RC Hingley (K)	2:14.5
	3/4	IS Cullen (T)	2:21.6	M Owen (B)	2:26.7
	2	AJF Robertson (T)	2:36.0	SD Napier-Munn (T)	
1500m	5/6/VI	CF Vernon (B)	4:36.5	DP Lynn (R)	4:51.7
	3/4	IS Cullen (T)	4:50.1	PNC Gale (B)	5:10.9
	2	SJ Moore (K)	5:40.0	SJ Mulvey (R)	5:40.5
High Jump	5/6/VI	CF Vernon (B)	1.57m	MJ Andrews (K)	1.34m
	3/4	MJ Howes (B)	1.48m	BW Burles (K)	1.42m
	2	M Helsby (B)	1.32m	JS Madgwick (K)	1.27m
Long Jump	5/6/VI	MG Wartke (T)	5.94m	A Murdock (R)	5.84m
	3/4	RD Watson (B)	4.75m	PV Thomas (K)	4.67m
	2	PDJ Ashby (T)	4.40m	AJF Robertson (T)	4.19m
Triple Jump	5/6/VI	PS Ashby (R)	12.00m	MG Wartke (T)	12.00m
	3/4	GA Light (B)	9.61m	CJH Wort (K)	9.05m
	2	JPF Davies (R)	9.54m	MJ Dacre (B)	9.43m
Shot Put	5/6/VI	RJ Price (K)	9.14m	PS Ashby (R)	9.03m
	3/4	DG Light (B)	10.59m	DM Byfield (R)	9.59m
	2	G Rogers (K)	11.18m	RS Drew (T)	7.71m
Discus	5/6/VI	RJ Price (K)	21.53m	NJ Tresidder (T)	21.01m
	3/4	DG Light (B)	26.46m	RA Joy (K)	24.35m
	2	G Rogers (K)	22.16m	TD Robson (B)	20.30m
Javelin	5/6/VI	PS Ashby (R)	38.55m	MG Wartke (T)	36.12m
	3/4	RA Hobbs (B)	32.95m	IS Cullen (T)	32.88m
	2	TD Robson (B)	31.12m	SJ Mulvey (R)	20.72m
Relay	5/6/VI	(4×200m) R	1:44.3	T/T/T/K	1:47.5
	3/4	(8×200m) B		T	
	2	(4×200m) T	1:59.4	K	

The Gymnastics Club

Growing interest in gymnastics in the School led to the launching of the Gym Club in the Lent Term. My original intention was to provide an extra after-School activity for those boys who were not regular team players but it soon became apparent that many team members were also keen. As a result membership grew from 16 to 40 but numbers had to be reduced to 20 and this was maintained throughout the Summer Term.

As the boys' interest in gymnastics grew so did their skill to such an extent that it was possible to perform three displays during the Summer

Term. A high standard was reached in all three displays but it was not until the final display on Founder's Day that all the intensive and often frustrating hours of practice finally paid dividends in an excellent performance.

Gymnastics is an activity which encourages self expression and, in the main, perfection in a particular movement comes from hours of experiment and practice. Boys have been willing to practise on their own without continual supervision and much help has been given to the juniors by the more experienced boys of whom special mention must be made of Chris Vernon, Mark Green and Garry Mitchell.

For their dedication to the Club and their high level of performance in the three displays, Colours have been awarded to Chris Vernon, Mark Green, Kirt Peterson and Garry Mitchell.

The display team was: C Vernon, M Green, K Peterson, G Mitchell, R Freeman, T Oliffe, G McGreery, C Wort, S Murphy, G Gnapp, M Rivers, P Gale, S Pennifer, S Rogers and J Rance.

JDD-H

Orienteering

Events have tended to clash with other activities this Summer term and though a large number of boys—mostly from the CCF—have competed in the odd event with enjoyment and no little success, only a few have competed at all regularly. The most successful have been: R Geere (U/17) with 2 gold times including a very pleasing 5th place in the 2-day 'White Rose' event in the holidays; WG Baker (U/13) with 4 gold times including a win in the U/15 clan at the 'Bucklebury Badge'; and RJ Thompson (U/12) with 3 golds and a couple of 2nd place prizes at the Lakeland 'Mammoth' and 'White Rose'.

These three made up our first ever team to compete in the National Relays, and they finished a very creditable 7th against considerably older opposition in the U/19 section.

RHB

Chess

Chess Club was not operative this Summer Term, as usual, but our Under-fifteen team had to play in the Finals of the Berkshire Schools Chess League. In the first leg they defeated Bearwood College 3—2, and when we heard that Bearwood had beaten Strode's School 3—2 in their second leg we were, perhaps, over-confident of success. Needing a draw to win the title that had looked on the cards all year, we managed to lose 1½—3½. There are two good reasons for our poor display: we had to wait four months after completing our programme until Strode's were ready to play, and then they refused to play on any day other than the one on which three of our team had to take 'O' level Maths. Even so, this was a major disappointment, and it underlines yet again the need for constant practice for those who consider themselves members of School teams. The team was: JJ Stephen, ME Spoor, RS Harries, MD Andrews, PV Thomas or IR Holding.

MW

LISTS

Officers of the School

School Prefects

Head of School: S Walker

Head of Dayboys: JRA Allen and PD Marley

CJ Baumann	PA Noble
PD Cook	JN Oakley
AH Courtenay	BJ Polley
SJH Cromie	GN Pott
SM Hills	JMG Taylor
APS Luto	NJ Tressider
AW McPhail	PM Watson

House Prefects

School House: AP Arm, JC Barnes, RS Chapman, DC Eccles, JP Gotelee, GN Green, AF Jackson, MSJ Phillips, JM Tauwhare, MRD Waterfall.
Crescent House: SC Comerford, R Guneratnam, DJG Mushens, SA Young.
Larkhill: JP Barton, NA Clark.

Waste Court: JC Johnston, IM Sealy, DA Thomas.

Dayboys: PS Ashby, RA Balkwill, P Betts, PD Boon, PJ Brodie, AJ Capel, PR Clark, CJ Cunningham, AN Davies, MP Doble, PM Evans, R Geere, NR Halliday, KD Halsey, RW Holder, MG Howat, IB Lennox, A Murdock, NJ Shephard, RWT Stockwell, MW Stimpson, NI Tait, NJ Tattersfield, MW Taylor, AJ Thresher, CM Wait, GC Walters, MG Wartke.

Games Officers

Captain of Rugger: PD Cook
Secretary of Rugger: PS Ashby
Captain of Cross-Country: DP Lynn
Secretary of Cross-Country: JP Gotelee
Captain of Badminton: APS Luto
Secretary of Badminton: J Samsworth
Secretary of GGC: MW Stimpson

Abingdonian

Editorial Board: RS Chapman, APS Luto, DO Willis
Photography: DP Lynn, OA Editor: AA Hillary
Treasurer: DO Willis

Form Prizes

IH NA Luker; IS IM Stimpson; IP MW Murray; 2B PRJ Taylor; 2G SJ Pennifer; 2F SJ Moore; 2W PH James; 3B DJ Hutber; 3D JM Julian; 3C MSJ Dennis; 3T IGN Johnson; 4G ME Spoor; 4K DA Blackburn; 4M DM Lewis; 4R DF Home; 5E AJ Capel; 5H S de Lusignan; 5G IS Thackwray; 5R SP Thompson.

Lower Sixth Prizes

English and History: PJ Brodie; APS Luto

Mathematics: JN Sackett; Modern Languages: PM Evans

Upper Sixth Prizes

English: CM Jones; Classics: PF Thompson; History: SJH Cromie and R Frost; Modern Languages: BJ Polley; Mathematics: JMG Taylor

Junior Art Prizes

BM Edmonds and AH Smith

Music Prizes

Choral: AM Carlisle; AR Thomas; SD Napier-Munn; NG Williams; Piano: JM Julyan; SF Williams; Organ: G Bint; Strings: G Mitchell; GL Nayler; Woodwind: DJ Hutber; PD Wakefield; Brass: PA Cowlett; MB Willett; Ingham Music Prize: CJ Todd

Old Boy's Prizes

Van Wagenen: M Crofton-Briggs; English: JN Oakley; History: SG Boatright; Modern Languages: BJ Polley; Mathematics: JMG Taylor; Music: CJ Cuninghame; Art: LWJ Packer; Ball Science Prize: PD Marley; Geography: SAJ Pallett

Special Prizes

Duffield Local History Prizes: NJ Dawson; JRA Allen; IK Weatherall; WF Woods; Bevan Scripture Prizes: PWS Cox; S de Lusignan; RJ Saunders; MD Andrews; SW Jones; Ingham Physics Prizes: DN Polkinhorne; RM Whittingham; Ford Biology Prizes: PD Marley; ND Francis; West Biology Prizes: CM Wait; IB Lennox; Smith Chemistry Prizes: RL McGreery; CM Wait; Initiative Cup: Editors of 'Ark', A Sloss; BD Shelley; D Phillips; MJS Dennis; Larkhill Trophy: WJ Packer; Drama Cup: The John Roysse Players; Fourth 'Science Times' Cup: BD Shelley; Henderson Cricket Prizes: JP Seaver; AW McPhail; Hammerbank Prizes: S Mulvey; SM Woodhall; SJ Moore; CCF Prize: PWS Cox; Mayor's Prize for Service: CJ Todd; TASS Prize for Service: GR Terry and AW McPhail; St Catherine's Prize for Intellectual Initiative: PD Marley; Quater Centenary Prize: AH Courtenay; Ellis Prize for Character: NJ Jefferson; Morland Prize for All-Round Merit: S Walker.

GCE

At 'A' Level this was a highly successful year. Throughout their school career, last year's Upper Sixth had had the reputation of being bright as well as lively, and the results confirmed that assessment. One in five of every paper taken was given a Grade A, two out of every three candidates passed in every subject and overall there was a pass-rate of 83 per cent. There were 22 Distinctions and a combined total of 48 for Distinctions and Merits. All these were, narrowly, new records, except for the percentage of A Grades which only equalled the record figure of 1971 and 1972.

On the Arts side 28 Candidates out of 28 passed in History, half of them at Grade B or better. In English 35 people (including a number who had taken a half-time course as an optional extra) passed out of 37, no fewer than 10 at Grade A. French too, showed welcome signs of returning strength with 11 passes out of 13.

On the Science side the Mathematicians had 35 passes, 17 of them at Grade B or better, and the Chemists, with 10 A Grades out of 24 candidates,

proved that the Gray tradition is being worthily kept up by Mr Ayling and Mr Sewry. The Biologists were disappointed by this year's results: most people passed but nearly all of them at one grade lower than we expected. Results in the bottom Physics set were unfortunately as poor as we had feared.

At 'O' Level no-one expected any records to tumble, and in the event the results confirmed what had been said all along—that this Fifth Form was a year without many outstandingly able candidates. We were, therefore, reasonably pleased with how things turned out. 74 out of 94 Fifth-Formers qualified immediately for the Sixth Form with five others only one 'O' Level short. Of that 74, 50 had eight or more 'O' Levels. The subjects with the best pass-rates were English Language, Geography, French, Chemistry and Biology.

The brightest 'O' Level results came from lower down. The entire Fourth Form now takes English Literature a year younger than is customary in most schools. This year 93 out of 103 candidates passed, 33 of them at the top three grades. In Mathematics, which is taken by the top set only, there were 16 Grade 1's among the 31 candidates and not a single failure. We can confidently look forward, therefore, to some very good 'O' Level results next summer from the new Fifth Form.

Hello Goodbye

Came September 1973

6B: JS Richards, MM Smith.

6P: RA Navsaria, CA Palairet.

4M: JM Goldstein.

3D: SN Forrester, JA Higgs, MJ Howlett, MA Hurry, CN Hutton, JS Saunders.

3M: AJ Byfield, AR Dibble, P Edington, WB Gow, AT Kermode, RC Morrison, RP Shelley; AA Shirlaw.

3T: ALS Carrie, HML Doherty, AM Garrett, PJ Jones.

2C: E Brois, ASJ Patchett.

IG: RJ Adair, MS Baker, AJ Colgan, MJ Derry, RJ Dykes, BW Fail, TG Fellows, IC Graham, PT Hall, GD Harper, RG Hooley, GBC Hunt, JRL James, JCW Marshall, JH Mercer, AC Newman, MAJ Newton, MH Nixon, ND Roberts, DK Robinson, TDL Screech, TAJ Skinner, RJ Titcombe, JC Walker, NAL Ward, NCH Wormell.

IP: DT Anderson, PA Capelin; PJ Cheek, ARB Cooper, PJ Couling, CP Cross, SAJ Dennis, PJ Dubenski, SJ Foster, CB Gibbins, RD Greenhalgh, MWM Harrison, TJC Haworth, DM Hudson, SA Hughes, JCL Kowszun, AM Lennox, FD Makin, SJ Minter, GH Neville, IT Owen, DE Round, RT Schofield, RK Thomas, RK Wilden, CPS Wilson.

IW: SR Allinson, RW Baker, DG Bell, AT Black, PWR Blackburn, GD Brown, DR Butler, LV Casey, NM Chisnall, DJ Crozier, PK Druett, ME Emerton, AC Enevoldsen, RM Hawes, RD Hignett, SC Jones, MGA Llewellyn, BRP MacIntyre, AJ Perry, AT Rowe, RAF Simpson, TM Spittles, MJ Stott, AM Suckling, A Tomlinson, S Wijetunge, AD Wilmore.

Left Summer 1974

VIB: SM Bailey, JG Black, IC Gillis, JD Griffin, CM Jones, JP Jordan,

DS Mason, WJ Packer, DG Sloss, PU Webster.
 VIE: AD Challis, IB Cowan, PWS Cox, MR Crofton-Briggs, N Jefferson, A Millar, CJ Murison, AP Reimer, CF Vernon.
 VIH: SG Boatright, CDG Driver, PR Forsythe, RJ Frost, HC Gibaud, SR Greenwood, PJE Kafka, WJ Little, SA Marsden, SAJ Pallett, TG Roberts, RA Woods.
 VIC: AM Carlisle, MWJ Carr, KD Cross, PL Dell, NP Gale, KD Ghorphade, SRI Gough, SV Harries, RL McGreevy, IL Manning, ARP Mushens, M Ormerod, DN Polkinhorne, KL Rigby, NQ Searle, GR Terry, IK Weatherall, GB Woollen.
 VIT: NJ Dawson, SK Fabes, MR Freeman, JM Hamlin, PC Jones, RW Kenyon, NM McGuire, MJ Matfield, CDN Morris, DJ Scott, JP Seaver, PJG Stevens, KP Taylor, CJ Todd, JS Valentine, GW Woolley.
 6E: MM Poole.
 5E: RIT Barton.
 5H: LR Campbell, MA Macdonald.
 5R: PJ Alder, R Brown, PD Hallum, PJ Kingston, CJ Madin, JM Steele.
 4M: KM Lewis.
 3T: SP Hunt.
 IH: G Lancaster.

Left September 1974
 6B: JS Richards.

O.A. Notes

The retirement of Richard Bailey (1954-59) from the job of OA Club Secretary will take some getting used to. He has always given himself unsparingly to the organization of functions and brought both imagination and courage to some difficult decisions. His unflinching courtesy and calm appraisal of a situation have been much appreciated by successive presidents and others who have had to work with him. The Club owes Richard a deep debt of gratitude, expressed by the President at the Abingdon Dinner. We have indeed been fortunate to get Vic Harfield (1937), now retired from the RAF, to take his place and we offer him a warm welcome. You will find his address printed at the end of the retiring Secretary's report.

Births

Barrett: on 8 August 1974 to Alison, wife of Tom Barrett (1964), a son, Mark Thomas, brother for Deborah.

Bosley: on 19 August 1974 to Sheila (née Cooper), wife of John Bosley (1970) twins, Asa Jon and Melanie Claire.

Button: on 17 November 1971 to Gillian (née Hoare), wife of Richard Button (1961) a daughter, Sarah Nicola and on 1 February 1974 another daughter, Teresa Jane.

Clubley: in April 1974 to Louise, wife of Capt David Clubley (1965) a son.

Libby: on 21 August 1974 to Carolyn (née Atkinson), wife of Terence Libby (1961) a son, Alexander James.

Lockhart-Smith: on 1 June 1974 to Brenda (née Knibbs), wife of John Lockhart-Smith (1954) a son, Richard Benjamin.

Nurton: on 1 July 1974 to Katherine, wife of Michael Nurton (1961) a son, James Michael.

Marriages

Cantwell—Whittington: on 3 August 1974 at Christ Church, Northcourt, Stephen Cantwell (1972) to Hilary Whittington.

Dunthorne—Taylor: on 16 August 1974 at Blofield, Norfolk, John Dunthorne (1969) to Maggie Taylor.

Habgood—Peacock: in September 1974 in Oxford, Glen Habgood (1972) to Mary Peacock.

Johnston—Stopper: on 3 May 1974 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Robert Johnston (1961) to Sunny Stopper.

Marsh—Apthrop: on 24 May 1974 Stephen Marsh (1965) to Marion Joyce Apthrop.

Nicholl—Tucker: on 27 April 1974 Flt Lt Steven Nicholl (1965) to Susan Margaret Tucker.

Semmence—Lovell: on 15 July 1974 Adrian Semmence (1969) to Susan Ruth Lovell.

Deaths

P Bobin (1968-1971): It is sad to record the death of one as young as Peter Bobin and one whose zest for life was so intense. He was always keen on cars and motor cycles and he died after a motor cycle accident in Belgium

on June 8th 1974. Those who knew him will remember his friendly cheerfulness, his eager willingness to help and his sense of humour. Our sincere condolences go to his brother David (1962) and to his parents.

K Cleave (1917-1922): we record with regret the passing of another old friend, Kenneth Cleave, a loyal Old Boy and regular attender for many years at School functions. He died on 11th July 1974 and will be much missed. The OA Club was represented at his funeral by Hugh Insley-Fox (1926) and Roy Davidge (1923).

TA Wiggins (1918-1923): Tom Albert Wiggins died suddenly at his home in Oxford on 20th September 1974. A quiet but very loyal OA, ever ready to support the School and the Club, Tom Wiggins leaves a widow and a son, to whom goes our sincere sympathy.

It was good to hear from Eric Whelpton (1906-1909), author of a well reviewed 'Concise History of Italy' and 'The Making of a European', now in his eighties and in good health. Having been brought up in France by English parents and having spent quite a lot of his life in Italy, he can justly claim to be one of the first of the Europeans.

Congratulations to Hugh Leach (1953) who is now First Secretary at the British Embassy in Cairo and to Brian Smith (1957) who has recently moved to San Francisco as Assistant Professor in Anaesthetics at the General Hospital. His contract is for a year in the first instance and he will decide later whether to stay or to try Australia next.

We were pleased to receive a visit from AR Scott (1958) who left us to go to King Alfred's School, Wantage. He is now a successful dentist in Nottingham, having qualified from Birmingham University in 1968.

Trafford Taylor (1959) after four years as President of a clothing company has now become a Warden in the Yoho National Park, west of the Great Divide in the Canadian Rockies. He would be glad to see any OAs who find themselves in his area.

The Reverend Robert Johns (1960) was on holiday in England in July with his wife before taking over a large Presbyterian parish in Manitoba.

George Ganf (1961) after living for a year in Austria, having won a European Fellowship from the Royal Society, has married and is now in Australia where he is to lecture in Botany at Adelaide University. He and his wife had hoped to return to Africa, which they both love and regard as best suited to their particular interests but were unable to do so.

Tom Barrett (1964) has been back from his Agricultural work in Botswana on a course at Bradford University and is now in the Yemen conducting a land use capability study.

It was interesting to see that Charles Cook (1966) appeared in a Radio programme on August 18th in a discussion with the Bishop of Kingston about the Independent Commission on Transport.

Richard Jackson (1966) and wife are in Nairobi for two years, both teaching at Kenton College, a prep school.

Brian Goldsworthy (1967) has appeared in Abingdon recently on leave from USA with his wife. He is still doing well with Heinz. Another visitor was Nicholas Jotcham (1967) who is leaving his teaching job at Haileybury to lecture at a French University.

John Earl (1968) was married at Easter and is now teaching at King's School, Tynemouth.

Raimund Janz (1968) has gone on from Queen Elizabeth College to study at the Royal Veterinary College and he hopes to qualify in March 1975. In addition, he is to be congratulated on his engagement this summer.

Robin Blackburn (1969) wrote in May of the excitements of teaching in Sierra Leone. He has certainly had some strange experiences but has extracted maximum enjoyment from his exile. He may indeed be home by now after two years away.

Stephen Fairlie (1969) sent welcome news of all three Fairlie brothers. James (1963) is a Lloyds Bank Inspector, based in London. Aidan (1965) spent six months at Vienna Conservatory before joining a small provincial orchestra near Salzburg where they play a lot of Strauss waltzes. Stephen himself is moving to Bath to acquire a teaching diploma which his teaching experience has shown to be necessary.

Congratulations to Martin Geary (1969) who has graduated in History at Edinburgh and has also received his commission in the RNR. Also to Ian Browne (1970) on his Oxford degree in Geography and on his decision to go to Westcott House in Cambridge to train for his chosen career in the Church. Also to John Dyke (1970) on a similar Oxford degree and his plan to take two years at Nottingham on a Post-graduate course in Town and Country Planning.

John Wheatcroft (1970) is teaching Geography at Wallingford Comprehensive School.

James Dunkerley (1971) is to be congratulated on getting a good second in

History at York: he was hoping to go to Oxford to do a post-graduate course with the possibility of some sort of lectureship ultimately in view.

Congratulations, too, to Charles Pfeil (1971), now happily settled in Bath with a job which he enjoys, on his engagement.

Richard Willis (1971) having got his degree in Zoology in doing an educational course at Bristol with a view to possibly teaching. His main interest is caving and rock climbing and part of the summer holiday was spent pot-holing in Ireland.

Anthony Madin (1972) is off to Hong Kong soon where he will be working as an Inspector of Police. We wish him every success as we do Ian Routledge (1972) who is now at Sheffield Polytechnic studying Urban Road Economics.

Paul Williamson (1973) is now at RMA, Sandhurst.

It was nice to hear from John Sawyer (1973) that he had persevered with his work and had done very well in his A Level retakes. He now plans to go to Warwick this year to read Law.

AAH

Retiring Secretary's Report

Last term there was a departure from the tradition of recent years in that the Club Annual Dinner and AGM were held on Saturday 22nd June, rather than following the OA Cricket and Tennis Matches on Founder's Day.

The AGM was held in the Roysse Room immediately before the dinner and twenty-five members were present. At the meeting the Secretary reported that the Committee's main activity during the year had been the organisation of the Club Appeal for 'The Lindens', which had raised approximately £25,000 in donations, covenants and promises.

Support generally for Club functions had only been adequate, and better support from Members was hoped for in the future. The Club's gratitude to Stanley Paige was recorded for his efforts in arranging the London Dinner. The value of the OA Prize had been increased from £5.25 to £10.00 on account of inflation. Derek Slingsby had been elected by the Committee as the Club's representative on TASS. In conclusion, the Secretary thanked the various Officers of the Club over his years of office, the Committee and those OA's present for the support which he had received, and he hoped that his successor would receive similar support.

The Treasurer's report gave a statement of accounts as at 31st March 1974, which showed a surplus of income over expenditure of £78. £1,500 from Club funds was on loan to the school in connection with the purchase of 'The Lindens'. The Treasurer then reported upon the progress of the appeal. The gross amount raised of £25,000 had been from approximately 150 members, and it was hoped to raise the remainder of the sum required from OA's who had not already contributed.

The following Officers were elected for 1974/5

President: JO Light.

President-Elect: JM Cobban.

The remaining Officers were re-elected en bloc with the exception of the Secretary, who had expressed his wish to retire. VA Harfield was unanimously elected as Hon Secretary. Two members DG Nasmyth and PN Shellard were due to retire from the Committee, and were duly re-elected. Three remaining vacancies on the committee were filled by the unanimous election of JW Vayson, JB Robins and RR Bailey.

The President and the Treasurer made some very kind remarks to the retiring Secretary, which were much appreciated.

The Treasurer carefully examined the finances of the printing and distribution of the Abingdonian, together with Life Subscriptions to the Club. In view of the growing deficit, after much discussion, the following Resolution, proposed by the Treasurer and seconded by JO Light was unanimously passed:

In view of the greatly increased costs in recent years of the production and distribution of the Abingdonian magazine,

IT BE RESOLVED THAT

- a. The offer made to boys leaving the school of Life Membership of the Old Abingdonian Club together with Life Subscription to the Abingdonian magazine be rescinded.
- b. Boys leaving the school after the date of this AGM be offered Life Membership of the Club together with five years subscription to the magazine.
- c. Subscription to the magazine be offered to all members of the Club whose period of membership has at the date of this AGM exceeded five years and to all other members upon the expiry of five years membership of the Club.
- d. Such offers as regards both membership and subscriptions shall be on such terms as shall from time to time be agreed between the Club Committee and the School.

At the Dinner which followed, the President was supported by the Mayor of Abingdon, and the Headmaster. The recurring theme throughout the speeches was that in spite of the present very encouraging healthy state of the School, support from Old Boys was still very much required. The Head of School, Simon Walker responded to the Headmaster's toast to the Guests, and the formal part of the evening was completed by the installation of JO Light as President for 1974/5. The immediate Past President made some further kind remarks to the retiring Secretary, and made a very handsome presentation to him, which was very much appreciated.

At 6.00 pm on Founder's Day the Committee organised a sherry reception in the grounds of The Lindens for staff and all OA's and their wives. Some 120 people were present, and the function seemed to be most successful.

Secretaries' Addresses

Hon Secretary: VA Harfield, Musbury Croft, Watery Lane, Clifton Hampden, Abingdon.

Sports Secretary (Rugger and Tennis): IF Gardner, 9 Letcombe Avenue, Abingdon.

Sports Secretary (Cricket and Hockey): JJ Shellard, 77 Station Road, New Barnet, Herts.

London Secretary: SA Paige, 'Suva', Dean Lane, Harvel, Meopham, Gravesend, Kent, DA13 OBS.

Masonic Lodge Secretary: DO Willis, Kenton House, 1a Abingdon Road, Cumnor, Oxford, OX2 9QN.

OLD ABINGDONIAN CLUB LONDON DINNER

will be held at the Public Schools Club
on Friday 21st March 1975

Tickets will be available from Stanley Paige.

Addresses

- Aitchison AT: 12 Danes Court, Dover, Kent CT16 2QE.
Bloor T: 112 Meadow Lane, Coalville, Leics.
Bradfield REN: 157 Westmead Road, Sutton, Surrey.
Button RJ: 9 Sympson Close, Abingdon.
Clifford JS: 60 West St Helens Street, Abingdon.
Coulbeck NA: 7 The Paddox, Banbury Road, Oxford.
Courage WJ: 15 Crieff Road, London SW18 2EB
Coxeter CR: Busfield House, Wootton, Boars Hill, Oxford.
Earl J: 2 Westbourne Terrace, Seaton Delaval, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear
Fairlie A: Haus Abendfried, Gaduanerstrasse 4, 5630 Bad Hofgastein,
Fairlie J: 54b West Valley Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.
Foster AW: Highbury, Peartree Lane, Doddinghurst, nr. Brentwood, Essex.
Foster JM: Gurnett Cottage, Blakes Road, Wargrave, Berks.
Ganf G: Botany Dept., Adelaide University, Adelaide, South Australia 5001,
Australia.
Howard DW: PO Box 2574, Delray Beach, Florida 33444, USA.
Janz R: 25 Longfellow Drive, Abingdon.
Kirby RS: College Hall Mess, RAF College, Cranwell, Sleaford, Lincs.
Madin A: Police Training College, Wong Chuk Hang, Aberdeen, Hong Kong.
Millard J: 2 Hillbury Road, Balham, London SW 17.
Morris DG: 55 Park Place, Cardiff, CF1 3AT.
Moss GS: General Stores, Llandago, Mon. NP5 4TA.
Pfeil CT: Parkside, 11 Marlborough Lane, Bath, Somerset.
Ramsey PSMcK: 15 Threkeld Road, Bolton, Lancs. BL1 7IN.
Stiles HDS: 33 The Martlett, Hove, BN3 6NT.
Taylor TM: Box 91, Field, British Columbia, Canada.
Thistlewood JM: 37 Cameron Drive, Ancaster, Ont., Canada, L9G 2L4.
Wilson SR: Elm Cottage, Littlefield Green, White Waltham, Berks.
Wood APH: Woodbank, Worster Road, Cookham Rise, Maidenhead.

Good Shoes

by **K, Trickers,**
Lotus and Barkers
skilfully fitted by trained staff

Good Shoes

. . . deserve good repairs
Bailey's own craftsmen have
been repairers to Abingdon School
for over half-a-century

BAILEYS

12 BATH STREET, ABINGDON
and at Wantage and Oxford

BURY'S (PLANT HIRE) Ltd.

Stanton Harcourt

Standlake 246

BURY'S TRANSPORT (OXON) Ltd.

TRANSPORT CONTRACTORS

Adderbury 536

Standlake 246

IVOR FIELDS *Photographic*

APART FROM TAKING YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS
DEVELOPING YOUR FILMS
AND SUPPLYING YOU WITH CAMERAS, ETC.

WE HAVE A WELL-STOCKED

ARTIST'S MATERIALS DEPARTMENT, with Paints, Pads, Brushes,
Drawing Instruments, Letraset, Etc., Etc.

All at 21 STERT STREET, ABINGDON

Shepherd and Simpson

Tailors and Outfitters

Appointed Outfitters to Abingdon School

**The Young Men's Department Caters for
All School and Out of School Clothing**

★

Stockist of all O.A. Items

★

Agency for Dormie Dress Hire Service

MARKET PLACE, ABINGDON

Telephone: 216

DENE BOOKSHOP ABINGDON

**GENERAL, EDUCATIONAL, SECONDHAND
BOOKSELLERS**

5 East Saint Helen Street

PAPER-BACKS AND MAPS AT

9 East Saint Helen Street

STATIONERY AT

3 East Saint Helen Street

ABINGDON 741

Are you fit to be a flying man?

Head

You have a head start if your qualifications are above the minimum—5 O-levels, including English language and maths, or equivalent. A-levels or a degree will certainly tell in your favour.

Voice

If you are interested in an RAF career—flying or on the ground—talk to your Careers Master. He can arrange for you to meet your RAF Schools Liaison Officer. This is quite informal and an excellent way to find out more about the RAF.

Staying power

As an RAF Scholar, you can stay on in the Sixth Form with 'your place booked' for a University Cadetship. Scholarships are worth up to £385 a year.

Standing

How are you at taking responsibility? It comes early in the RAF. If you have held down a responsible job at School—say as form captain or games captain—it all helps.



Vision

Do you see yourself going to University? Go as an RAF Cadet and your annual income could be £1,201 a year. Join the RAF with a degree and you get extra seniority.

Heart

If you can put your heart into everything you do—at play as well as at work—the RAF will welcome your enthusiasm.

Hand

If you prefer, write to Group Captain H. E. Boothby, OBE, RAF, RAF Careers, Government Buildings (25ZG1), London Road, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 4PZ. Give your date of birth and educational qualifications. (Or pick up some leaflets at your nearest RAF Careers Information Office—address in telephone book.)



RAF officer

The way ahead



University Sponsorship Outstanding 'A' level recruits, after one year's accelerated training in the Bank (on full pay), take part in a sponsored three-year degree course in banking and finance at Loughborough University. That course is then followed by a two/three-year accelerated training programme prior to first executive appointment.



Study Leave Staff with G.C.E. 'A' levels or in some cases 'O' levels (or equivalent), are among those who could qualify for Study Leave, to assist with their professional qualification, the diploma of the Institute of Bankers.



Special Grade Potential in men and women is recognised by selection in their early twenties for Special Grade. This scheme, open to all recruits, ensures additional financial remuneration and appropriate career planning of staff who have both the character and the personal attributes for top management.



Training Training courses are provided at all stages of career development. Responsibility and challenge come early. An executive appointment can be reached in the mid-to-late twenties and a managerial position in the early thirties.

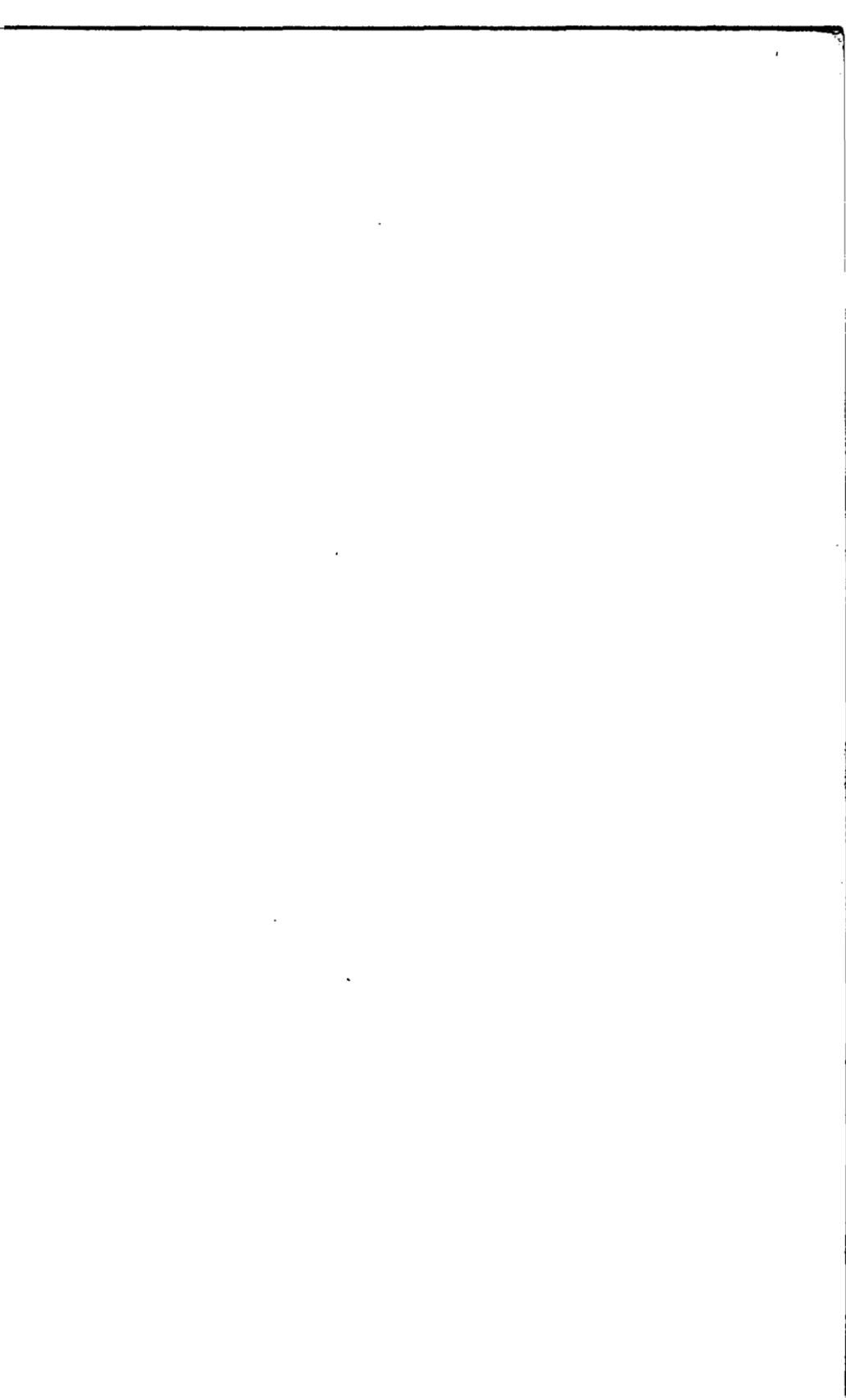
If you want to know more about a rewarding and worthwhile career, please write to:

**The District Staff Supt., Midland Bank Ltd.,
15 George Street, Oxford, OX1 2AU.**



Midland Bank

A Great British Bank
and a great place to work.



Bocardo Press Ltd., Oxford