

# THE ABINGDONIAN

VOL. X. No. 9

SEPTEMBER, 1955

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## CALENDAR, MICHAELMAS TERM, 1955

### September

Fri.	16	Term begins.
Tues.	27	Field Day—C.C.F. and Scouts.
Wed.	28	1st XV v. D. O. Willis' XV (h).

### October

Sat.	1	1st XV v. Reading School (a).
Sat.	8	1st XV v. Newbury Grammar School (a).
Wed.	12	1st XV v. Pembroke College (h).
Sat.	15	1st XV v. St. Edward's School 2nd XV (a).
Sat.	22	1st XV v. Solihull School (a).
Wed.	26	1st XV v. Radley College 2nd XV (h).
Fri.	28 to Tues.	1st November—Half Term.

### November

Wed.	2	1st XV v. Magdalen College School (h).
Sat.	5	1st XV v. Southfield School (h).
Sat.	12	1st XV v. Bloxham School (h).
Wed.	16	1st XV v. City of Oxford School (h).
Sat.	19	1st XV v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (a).
Sun.	20	Confirmation Service, 3 p.m.
Sat.	26	1st XV v. Windsor County School (h).

### December

Sat.	3	1st XV v. Old Abingdonians (h).
Fri.	9	School Play, "Hamlet", 7 p.m.
Sat.	10	School Play, "Hamlet", 7.30 p.m.
Tues.	13	Service of Lessons and Carols (St. Helen's Church) 6.30 p.m.
Fri.	16	Term ends, 10.15 a.m.

Lent Term begins 9 a.m. Thursday, 19th January, 1956.  
(Boarders return Wednesday, 18th January)

Misericordias  
Domini



in aeternum  
cantabo

## OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER, 1955

### SCHOOL PREFECTS

(Head of School and of School House)

R. D. Gammack

P. O. Older (D)	G. E. G. Campbell-Dykes (S)
N. A. Howard (S)	M. J. Scott-Taggart (D)
T. M. J. Kempinski (C)	I. W. Trenaman (W)
G. E. G. Brown (D)	R. W. Westcott (C)
M. C. Rallings (S)	R. D. Broad (D)
M. B. Enser (D)	D. J. Langton (S)
D. G. Dunkley (D)	I. J. Parsons (D)
A. E. Bush (S)	J. T. Buckland (D)

### HOUSE PREFECTS

School House—J. C. Spinks, M. R. S. Broadway, W. St. A.  
R. Dady, R. J. Paige, M. Q. King.

Crescent House—G. F. Wastie, W. N. R. Stevens, H. C.  
Bowen.

Waste Court—A. G. Caswell, I. J. Glenny.

Larkhill—B. E. Stacey, R. K. Le Voi.

Dayboy—J. L. McLoughlin, F. Jeal, C. Hiles, N. K. Ham-  
mond, A. J. Gardner, B. C. Smith, J. M. Iredale,  
M. B. Culley, W. C. J. White, S. C. Woodley,  
N. J. H. Grant, C. S. Woodruff, P. J. A. Fysh.

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Captain of Rugger—J. T. Buckland

Secretary of Rugger—G. F. Wastie

Captain of Cross-Country—R. D. Gammack

Secretary of G.G.C.—R. D. Gammack

Secretary of Minor Games—A. J. Gardner.

**EDITORIAL**

A year in which we have won a major award in Science at Oxford and the Public Schools' Fours at Marlow and have reached the semi-final of the Youll Tennis Cup at Wimbledon is bound to be memorable. Further mention of our Rowing and Tennis successes is made elsewhere in this magazine, but it is interesting to note here that each of these events was "something new" in our history. This was our first major award in Science (at any rate since the war); never before have we succeeded at Marlow—although we have come very near in the past—and we were competing at Wimbledon for the first time ever. All very exciting and promising!

In other ways, too, the School is very much alive. By the time this magazine is published, Crescent House will have doubled in size through the acquisition of Glyndour; and a start will have been made upon the new Classroom Wing beyond the Science Block and possibly too upon the Upper Field pavilion. The part which the Old Abingdonian Club is playing in the efforts to get a bigger and more imposing pavilion for the War Memorial Field is referred to in another part of this issue. We merely record our gratitude.

Thus progress continues on all fronts. In the little world of Abingdon great things have occurred and are occurring. We do not pretend that they are of the same kind of importance as the deliberations of the statesmen at the Geneva Conference: but they are certainly of some moment to all of us who are or have been connected with the School.

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It was with deep regret that we heard of the death, on 21st June, of the Rev. F. Homes-Dudden, D.D., Master of Pembroke College, Oxford. Dr. Homes-Dudden had been a Governor of this School from 1922 to 1950, and he retained his interest in it until the last. The Headmaster represented the School at the funeral service at the Oxford crematorium on 24th June.

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**SCHOOL NOTES**

Our affectionate good wishes go with our Chairman, the Admiral, as he sets off in September on an official visit to Yugoslavia in company with representatives of the Royal Corps of Naval Architects. We hope that he and Mrs. Clifton Brown (who will be accompanying him) will have a good journey and a happy holiday. This is of course a return to his old haunts, as he was Head of the Naval Mission to Belgrade from 1917 to 1919.

We bid farewell to Mr. Wheaton, as he leaves the Governing Body, with sincere thanks for the services he has rendered to the School during his eight years of office. Farewell, of course, only in an official

sense, for we know that unofficially he will continue to be a very real friend to the School.

As one of their representatives in the place of Mr. Wheaton, the Berkshire County Council have nominated Mr. J. L. West, J.P. We offer a warm welcome to one who is himself an Old Boy of the School and who formerly sat on the Governing Body by virtue of his office as Mayor of Abingdon.

This has been a term of achievement for the Governors as well as for the School. We congratulate Mr. Neave on his re-election as Member for the Division (and therefore as a Governor of this School). Mr. McCallum on his election as Master of Pembroke College, Oxford. Alderman Freeman on his election as Chairman of the Berkshire Education Committee: Mr. Hooke on his election as President of the Oxford & District Master Printers' Association: and Alderman Booth on the award of an Oxford D.Phil for a thesis on the somewhat unusual topic of the removal of wool from sheepskins.

It should be recorded too how pleased we were to see two of our Governors helping to line the streets, as ordinary special constables during the first of the 'Freedom of Entry' parades. Only a radiance of medal ribbons distinguished a former Governor of a Sudan province. An example of public service which senior boys might well take to heart.

Affectionate sympathy and good wishes go to Mr. Thomas, our Vice Chairman who recently broke three ribs as the result of a fall. This alone prevented him from maintaining his long and unbroken record of attendance on Founder's Day.

Those of us who saw the film of 'The Colditz Story' on its recent visit to Abingdon were glad to note that especial acknowledgment was paid to Lieut-Colonel Airey Neave, who was in real life the arch escaper.

The Fine Arts Sub-Committee of the Old Boys' Club, which selects Mr. Bernard Hailstone to paint the commemorative portrait of Mr. Grundy, is preening itself now that its judgment has been endorsed by Sir Winston Churchill. It is Mr. Hailstone whom Sir Winston has specially commissioned to paint the portrait which is being presented to him by the Cinque Ports.

We welcome, warmly but belatedly, Mrs. Snelling, who is vigorously tackling her new duties as Laboratory Assistant: and we look forward to meeting in September the latest addition to the staff, Mr. W. C. Potter. Mr. Potter already has close links with the School in that he was educated at Magdalen College School and at Pembroke College, Oxford. He has just taken the Final Honours School of Natural Science (Zoology) so he will be well qualified to help Mr. Talbot with his Biology. During his national service he was commissioned into the

R.A.S.C.; and he was Captain of Boats at Pembroke. May his stay with us be long and happy.

We congratulate Mr. Hasnip on his marriage to Miss Audrey Leach—no stranger to the School—which took place at Southend on 30th July.

All who remember Mr. Bryan Matthews as a master at Abingdon will join in sending him good wishes on the occasion of his marriage to Miss I. N. Gardner, which took place at Angmering on 30th August.

We wish good fortune to Mr. and Mrs. Talbot as they tackle their enlarged responsibilities at Crescent House and Glyndowr. Mr. Horrex will be moving into Glyndowr as resident house-tutor. To him too, as to Miss Foster, the new matron of the combined house, we offer our good wishes.

During the summer holidays Mr. Hillary has again been playing cricket regularly for Berkshire. We have already noted one useful score of 142 against Cornwall.

A special word of thanks is due to those members of the visiting music staff who at some inconvenience came down to strengthen our orchestra for the Evening Entertainment on Founder's Day.

We were pleased to see that one of them, Mr. Maxwell Ward, as Director of the *In Nomine* Players, gave a recital in the Royal Festival Hall on 15th June.

Thanks—as always—to Mr. Bevir, who steps into the breach so willingly and helpfully, as Invigilator-Extraordinary, whenever external examinations impend.

Of recent student masters we note that Mr. Percival has been appointed to Quarry Bank High School, Liverpool; Mr. Hope-Simpson to Bedford School; Mr. Shaw to Haberdashers' Aske's (Hatcham). We were glad to see both Mr. Percival and Mr. Hope-Simpson in the course of the term. We rather *think* that Mr. Percival was inveigled into taking a form for a period, which must have provided him with a real usman's holiday.

Our grateful good wishes go with Miss Wood who is leaving for fresh pastures after a year's hard work as housekeeper in School House. Thanks too to Miss Ballantyne, who stepped into the breach as lady cook for the greater part of the past term. In September our complement will once again be up to strength when we shall welcome Miss Laing and Miss Isgar as housekeeper and lady cook respectively.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon-Williams, as they leave Abingdon, we offer our thanks for the hospitality they have provided in recent years or a distinguished series of resident students and senior prefects,

We appreciate very much the help that the Scouts have received (and more particularly during their annual camp) from Mr. Peter Lovely of Culham College.

At the beginning of the Summer Term the number of boys on the School Roll was 430 (Dayboys 267, School House 92, Crescent House 18, Waste Court 34, Larkhill 19).

We congratulate the following on Berkshire County Major Awards—

G. W. Crockford (to Queen Mary College, University of London)

D. M. P. Jones (to St. Peter's Hall, Oxford).

R. E. J. Packer (to Pembroke College, Cambridge).

School Foundation Awards were announced as follows on the result of the Common Entrance Examination—

Scholarship—R. B. Blackmore (Abingdon School).

Exhibition—D. J. Griffiths (Great Walstead, Linfield).

We congratulate also A. G. Caswell and P. J. Simmonds on passing the written papers of the Sandhurst/Dartmouth Examination: T. A. Sewry and D. Wiggins on bringing back a good report from an Easter course at the Royal School of Church Music; and all those candidates who gave us an unbroken run of successes in the recent examinations (pianoforte and violin) of the Associated Board. Especial commendation to C. F. M. Kitching who passed with distinction in Grade VI (violin).

We thank P. J. Lay (O.A.) for a generous gift of books to the School.

We are grateful to Mr. F. M. Underhill, F.S.A., Hon-Secretary of the Berkshire Archaeological Society, who has kindly presented to us a copy of the 'Essex Review' for April, 1949, containing an article of the Rev. Philip Morant, F.S.A. the well-known antiquary who was a boy at this School in the early years of the eighteenth century; and also to Mr. S. Allen Warner of Didcot, who has gone to much trouble to obtain and present to the School a photographic reproduction of a print of the old school buildings, now in the Manuscript Department of the British Museum, which was hitherto unknown to us.

The Summer Term started, literally, with a flourish of trumpets, for it was on 28th April, the day the boarders returned, that the Corporation presented the Freedom of Entry of the Borough to the R.A.F. Station, Abingdon. We were proud to lend Lower Field for the Ceremonial Parade, and we were equally proud to welcome the Royal Berkshire Regiment to a similar ceremony on the evening of Wednesday 29th June. On this occasion a strong contingent of the School C.C.F. helped to line the parade ground and the route of march; and their bearing attracted much favourable comment.

There is no doubt that the Borough knows how to put on a show like this. We shall have to look to our laurels in 1963 !

On Friday, 6th May, the fifth and sixth forms were addressed by the Rev. Dr. P. T. B. Clayton, C.H., M.C., M.A., F.S.A., D.D. On that memorable occasion not even fifteen minutes' breaktime was sufficient to divert the attention of the audience and we are grateful to Mr. Clayton for his most moving talk. Later in the term we had the pleasure of showing round the School some members of Toc H in conference at Charney Bassett.

The Orchestral Classes of the North Berks Musical Festival were held on 13th May in the Corn Exchange. Our own orchestra, under Mr. Sawbridge, took part and the adjudicator's comments told us of the great progress which the Orchestra is making.

On 17th May a party of boys attended the performance of Bach's "St. Matthew Passion", given by the combined Musical and Choral Societies of Abingdon and Wantage in St. Helen's Church.

Two representatives of the Standard Life Assurance Company, Mr. L. Longworth and Mr. P. C. Reynolds, I.A., gave a careers talk to some senior boys on Friday, 20th May.

On Saturday evening, 21st May, the Choir gave a performance of Coleridge-Taylor's "Hiawatha's Wedding-Feast" in the Gymnasium and on 9th June, together with other local school choirs, took part in a public performance in the Corn Exchange. Later in the term the enors and basses alone sang in the same work with the choir of Our Lady's Convent. We are particularly grateful to Mr. David Minton, the soloist, who came down specially for our own private performance on 21st May.

A strong contingent of the Corps, including the Brass Band, attended the Church Parade on Empire Youth Sunday, 22nd May. For the first time our band had the honour of leading the parade and playing on the march past.

A parents' evening for parents of boys in the third forms was held on Thursday, 2nd June.

On 3rd June we had the pleasure of welcoming Mr. Zulfiqar Ali Shah, the first Pakistani Principal of Aitchison College, Lahore, a school of almost exactly our own size run on British public school lines.

On the evening of 9th June a number of senior boys attended a performance of "Hamlet" at the Playhouse Theatre, Oxford.

On Saturday 11th June, Mr. Burgess took a small party to the Oxford Diocesan Youth Festival in Christ Church Cathedral.

Mention must here be made of the exciting news which reached the School a week later when the First IV for the first time in its history won the Public Schools' Fours at Marlow Regatta—the premier award in the country for School Fours.

Pleasure at our achievement in the Youll Cup Competition, which was played off in the holidays, was necessarily individual rather than corporate.

Several members of the Athletic Club competed in the Berkshire Championships held on 21st May, T. M. Kempinski gaining second place in the Junior 220 yards and I. T. S. Ashworth third place in the Youths 220 yards.

On 22nd June members of the Tennis Club visited Wimbledon and on the three subsequent days small parties of boys attended the Unicorn Theatre Production of "As You Like It", in which Mrs. Griffin took one of the leading parts and R. D. P. Griffith played the trumpet.

Members of the second form visited the Abbey Press on 28th June. Thank you very much, Mr. Hooke !

We were glad to welcome to the School on 2nd July the Rev. and Mrs. M. B. Hall from New Jersey, U.S.A. In the evening Mr. Hall addressed the Joint Club (which for this occasion alone was augmented by a number of non-members) and answered questions on the American people and their attitude to Britain. Mr. Hall also preached at Morning Service on the following Sunday.

Mr. Newby-Robson, of the Public Schools Appointments Bureau, visited the School on 5th July and on the next day we welcomed two more overseas visitors: Professor Damle, Professor of Philosophy at Poona University and Professor Mistry, Professor of English at Ahmadabad University.

On 12th July members of the Upper Sixth Form visited Morlands' Brewery: always a popular venue.

A party of boys and staff attended a performance of "Oedipus at Colonus" at Bradfield College on 13th July and on the following day some senior boys visited the I.C.I. Grassland Research Station at Bracknell.

The Annual Inspection of the Corps, which took place on 15th July, is recorded on another page. It is sufficient here to say that as a result members of the Corps enjoyed a well-earned half-holiday on 18th July, and to congratulate Major Parker on the first-rate report that he subsequently received, summarised by G.O.C. Salisbury Plain District in the one word 'excellent'.

During the Summer Term, the Play Reading Society read the following plays: "The Skin of Our Teeth" by Thornton Wilder, "St. Joan" by George Bernard Shaw, "The Miser" (Molière) adapted by Miles



Malleson and "A Midsummer Night's Dream" by William Shakespeare. The last two plays were read in the very pleasant gardens of Lacies Court. A poetry reading of comic verse was also held.

19th July was Excursion Day, which this year had an especial significance. For practically the whole school embarked upon a special eight coach train (at Abingdon!) and set out for a day-tour of Bath, Wells and Cheddar.

The programme included visits to the Abbey and the Roman Baths at Bath, the Cathedral at Wells, and the Gorge at Cheddar. Not everything went quite according to plan (though it must have been a particularly malicious fate that led the organiser of the expedition and the representative of the railway company to miss the train at Abingdon). But on the whole the experiment was voted a big success, and everyone returned to Abingdon safely after an enjoyable though exhausting day in which a modicum of instruction had been mixed with their pleasure. Many thanks, indeed, Mr. Toplis.

Siderodromophiles (railway-fans to you) found that not the least interesting feature of the day was the way in which the little tank that normally draws the 'Bunk' gallantly made the effort of its life and drew our special train—the longest ever seen at Abingdon Station—as far as the main line where a full-sized engine was ready to take over.

"No Tumbled House" (the quotation is from George Meredith) is the title of the Photographic Society's full-length documentary film, which received its première on the evening of Wednesday, 20th July. A select audience gave the film the enthusiastic reception which it undoubtedly deserved and we congratulate very warmly all who were concerned in its production.

The House P.T. Competition, held on the last Monday of term, was won by Reeves, thanks to a particularly fine performance by their seniors.

The health of the School was outstandingly good throughout the term. Indeed, on one day, Monday, 4th July, every boy was present; which must be a most unusual occurrence. It was only at the end of the term that a few cases of 'summer influenza' spoiled our record. We commiserate with the four boys who had to finish their elongated term in the local hospital.

It is pleasant to record that one of our parents, Mr. Mogey, while visiting Princeton University, was able to call on our friend across the sea, Colonel Van Wageningen, and give him first hand news of the School.

We do not normally provide escorts for boarders who travel to foreign parts for their holidays: but it did happen this time that Peter Willis found himself in a cabin on the 'Queen Mary' on the same deck as Mr. Sawbridge.

Congratulations to those members of Junior Forms who produced such an entertaining literary magazine—"A Book of Words"—a second edition of which was on sale on Founder's Day. The general standard of the contributions was encouragingly high and we hope that the success of the venture will inspire a similar effort next year.

A warm welcome to the latest out-of-school activity—potting: a pursuit which at its very lowest can serve to sublimate our dormant mud-pie instincts. Now that our wheel has arrived we had better warn juniors that throwing a pot does not mean quite what it seems.

Alas, the thrush in the elm tree gave up the unequal struggle, in spite of all our precautions. But in compensation we can now publish the fact that a belated blackbird hatched three eggs on Old Boys' Day just by the entrance to the Headmaster's House; and that the fledglings safely left the nest a fortnight later.

Congratulations to all those boys who made a special effort to return to time after half term despite the railway strike.

We cannot resist poaching on the preserves of the O.A. Edit r to record our pleasure when we saw in the 'Wish Stream' (the journal of the R.M.A.) the statement that 'the success of the 2nd XV has been due to the excellent captaincy of B. W. T. Leech'.

Finally, if anybody thinks that the age of adventure is dead he is recommended to read Sir Michael Bruce's recent autobiography 'Tramp Royal'; for few of our Old Boys can have had such an exciting life. We liked too the story how he was well and truly punished by Mr. Layng, the then Headmaster, for what Sir Michael himself calls a piece of 'Jacobite effrontery'.

The photographs in this issue are published by kind courtesy of Mr. Milligan, Photographer.

The Editor wishes to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of magazines from the following schools (to 26th July): Aldenham; Chigwell; City of Oxford; Henley; Magdalen College, Oxford; Pocklington; Reading; R.G.S., High Wycombe; St. Bartholomew's, Newbury; St. Edward's, Oxford; Southfield, Oxford; Windsor. And also from Dartmouth Naval College and the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

## SCHOOL AND GROUNDS

*(A Note by the Headmaster)*

I write these words on the eve of the day (5th September) when the contractors, Messrs. Hinkins and Frewin, are due to descend upon the School and start work on the site of the new Class-room block. It will indeed be exciting to watch the walls rising during the coming months. Though there is not much margin, we can now look forward

too with some confidence to being in occupation of the new classrooms in a year's time.

In order to reduce the total cost of the building to the agreed sum it was necessary to introduce certain economies into the plan. But none of these radically affected the design and when the Block is opened (Founder's Day 1956?) visitors will find that it is substantially as illustrated in our last issue.

In view of the further increase in our numbers (we shall be up to 465 this term) we shall be working under some difficulties during the coming year. Shortage of accommodation will be aggravated by the disturbance inevitably caused by a major building project. We are especially sorry for those who live or work in Lacies Court. Bogy for that last-minute dash from the Heylyn Room to the School will have to be raised because of the detours. But all this is a small price to pay when we think of the advantages we shall derive from the extra elbow-room to come.

Meanwhile the builders have substantially enlarged the kitchens of Crescent House and are just completing the adaptation and decoration of Glyndwr. The combined house, which will bear the name of Crescent House, will hold forty boarders. To have a second senior boarding house of normal size provides a further land-mark in the history of the School. As headmaster, I look forward to the day when Crescent House can challenge School House at cricket or rugger: as house-master I look forward to the day when School House will give them a good trouncing!

Glyndwr has adapted very conveniently for its new purpose. The prefects are especially lucky for they will have the turret fastness for their study. We were fortunate too to take over with Glyndwr a first-rate garden, in apple-pie order, and we have no doubt that Mr. Talbot will turn this to good use.

This combination of houses is of course a temporary expedient, though one that should run pretty smoothly. The architects have already begun to draft designs for a new boarding house, and we hope to get plans agreed as soon as possible.

It was a kindly and imaginative gesture of the Old Boys to agree to devote the whole of 'R-B's' legacy of £250 to the Pavilion in Upper Field. This, combined with the replacement value of the old hut already offered by the Governors, should cover the cost. This means not only that the Pavilion can in a very real sense be regarded as 'R-B's' visible memorial (and of course a plaque will commemorate the association) but also that the whole of the balance of the War Memorial Fund will be available to give a flying start to the appeal for the New Pavilion on the War Memorial Field.

Of this so much has been said and written that I need add but little. Perhaps I can say however how deeply grateful I personally am to the

Old Boys for the way in which they have once again risen to the occasion and shouldered the responsibility for building a worthy pavilion on the new field. I am particularly glad too that the O.A. Trust Fund is being used as the medium of the appeal, for the O.A. Trust is a continuing body with a legally recognised existence. Nobody wants to dun Old Boys first for this and then for that. It is far better if they can accept the obligation to say 'thankyou' for what their school has done for them by giving a regular subscription to some permanent fund, controlled by their own elected Trustees, who are in a position to know what the needs of the School are and how they can most suitably be met. If the response to the present appeal is what we hope and expect we shall soon be able to look beyond the Pavilion to something really big—for 1963? It does seem too that in what we are doing we are moving in step with other schools—though we have not yet reached the stage of one school where (as reported recently in the 'Telegraph') the Old Boys were bluntly told that they must accustom themselves to paying school fees throughout their lifetime!

Of minor developments, mention need be made only of the decoration of the Green Room in School House (and the window has been enlarged so as to make it rather less cheerless) and of the new apparatus, of the latest type, which should be installed in the gymnasium during the next month. We have got so used to ragged ropes that it will be a joy to have the gym properly equipped.

\* \* \*

I should like to end on a personal note by saying how much I appreciate the uncommon generosity of all those parents who have responded so readily to my discreet hint about state prayer books and altar cloths. We are now fully equipped in both respects, or rather we shall be when all the goods on order are delivered. This has been a great help to us in our efforts to make the Chapel worthy of its purpose.

J.M.C.

### THE WAR MEMORIAL FUND

Now that most of the covenanted subscriptions to the War Memorial Fund have been completed, we are able to publish a statement of the income and expenditure to date. There is still a certain amount of tax to be refunded and we hope that when the final statement is issued next year we shall find that the total income of the fund has been over £3,000. The net balance still available for distribution will of course be similarly increased.

If it is remembered that the 'output' of Old Boys has until recent years been based on a very small school, and that not a single contribution was outstandingly large, then this result becomes all the more creditable, and the School may well feel proud that the Old Boys have remembered their fellows so generously.

No formal trust was established for the Fund: there has been a gentleman's agreement' that its disposal should be at the discretion of the three signators of the War Memorial Appeal—the Chairman of the Governors, the present Headmaster, and his predecessor, Mr. Grundy. The signators have now agreed to transfer the balance of the Fund, together with any subsequent income, to the Old Abingdonian Trust Fund, so that the Trustees may use it towards the erection of the Pavilion on the War Memorial Field. It is hoped that this 'flying tart' will encourage those Old Boys who have not already done so to take out covenants for the O.A.T.F.

## STATEMENT TO 1st APRIL, 1955

*Income*

Donations: by covenanted			
subscription	1134	15	0
by gift	863	8	4
by sale of clothing	27	2	9
	<hr/>		2025 6 1
Collections in Church and Chapel		111	19 1
Refund of Income Tax		759	15 10
Interest at Savings Bank		73	16 2
	<hr/>		£2970 17 2

*Expenditure*

Purchase of War Memorial Field	808	11	6
Layout of War Memorial Field	1195	7	9
	<hr/>		2003 19 3
Memorial Tablet	147	13	0
Stools in Chapel	133	0	0
	<hr/>		280 13 0
Administrative Expenses		24	13 9
Balance available		661	11 2
	<hr/>		£2970 17 2

J.M.C.

## EXAMINATION RESULTS

Results at 'Advanced' level of the recent General Certificate of Education are appended. An asterisk indicates the mark of distinction. The total number of subject-passes at this level (62) is almost one-third as great again as last year. We congratulate M. J. Scott-Taggart who has been awarded a State Scholarship on the result of the examination; and also M. B. Enser, who was put on the 'reserve' list.

The number of subject-passes at 'Ordinary' level was some 335. This again represents a substantial increase on last year's total.

*Three Subjects:* G. E. G. Brown (G, L, AH); M. B. Culley (Ch, Bot, Zoo); D. G. Dunkley (G, L, AH); M. B. Enser (Ch, Bot\*, Zoo); J. A. Howard (Ch\*, Bot, Zoo); F. Jeal (Ch, Bot, Zoo); T. M. J. Kempinski (E, L, F); P. O. Older (Ch, Bot, Zoo); R. E. J. Packer (G, L, AH\*); J. M. Pulsford (Pure-and-App M, Ph, Ch); M. C. Rallings (Ch, Bot, Zoo); M. J. Scott-Taggart (Ch, Bot\*, Zoo\*); W. N. R. Stevens (Pure-and-App M, Ph, Ch\*); J. J. Swainston (Ch, Bot, Zoo).

*Two Subjects:* R. D. Gammack (E, H); T. C. Glucklich (F, Ger); M. K. C. Grigsby (E, H); J. D. Hall (E, F\*); D. M. P. Jones (L, AH); G. R. H. Slack (Ph, Ch); R. W. Westcott (Ph, Ch).

*One Subject:* W. St. A. R. Dady (Art); B. J. Hiscock (H); D. A. Jones (AH); J. A. Nichols (E); P. J. Simmonds (E); A. A. M. Smith (Pure-and-App M\*).

### VALETE ET SALVETE

#### Valete

*Form 4 General:* P. W. J. Williams (left 19th February)

*Form 1X:* J. D'Helin (left 15th February)

#### Salvete

*Form 4 Science:* M. T. Cooke (came 16th May),

*Form 1X:* D. J. Dalton (came 29th April)  
W. R. Dawson (came 31st May).

### CHAPEL NOTES

The Rt. Rev. Harry Carpenter, D.D., Lord Bishop of Oxford, will conduct a Service of Confirmation in the School Chapel at 3 p.m. on the Sunday before Advent (20th November).

On 26th June, the Sunday after Old Boys' Day, we welcomed many Old Boys to Morning Service. The Choir sang the anthem, "Jesu, thou art ever near me" by Bach, and the preacher was Mr. D. O. Willis. The lessons were read by the Headmaster and the new President of the Old Abingdonian Club, Mr. C. C. Woodley.

We are grateful to the outside preachers who visited us during the past term and particularly to our American visitor, the Rev. M. B. Hall, whose sermon we shall long remember. Visiting preachers for the coming term will include:—

Sept. 25—Rt. Rev. A. G. Parham, D.D., formerly Bishop of Reading.

Oct. 9—Austin Longland, Esq., Q.C.

Oct. 23—Rev. L. P. Smith, M.A., of Culham College.

Nov. 13—Rev. L. J. Hopkins, of the Trinity Methodist Church, Abingdon,

Nov. 27—T. S. Nevill, Esq., M.A., Headmaster of Wellingborough School.

The collection taken at the Founder's Day Service in St. Helen's Church amounted to £22 6s. 6d., and was equally divided between Dr. Barnardo's Homes and St. Helen's Church Funds. The collection taken at St. Nicholas' Church on the following evening, which amounted to £2 13s. 0d., was given to St. Nicholas' Church Funds.

Other collections devoted to outside charities were as follows:

World Council of Churches Refugee Appeal . . . . .	£4 13 0
Historic Churches Preservation Trust . . . . .	£4 10 0
S.P.C.K. . . . .	£5 0 0
National Lifeboat Institution . . . . .	£6 2 0

The remaining collections were divided between the Organ Fund (£8 8s. 10d.), the Chapel Seating Fund (£12 16s. 8d.) and Chapel Funds (£12 7s. 10d.). Chapel Funds benefited also by £1 9s. 0d. from the Alms Box, which included the surplus of 16/- from the Prefects' Dance last December.

The recent appeal to parents for new altar service books and new 'state' prayer books received a most generous response. Already two altar service books and six 'state' prayer books are on order, though there has been some delay through difficulties of reprinting and special binding. We hope, however, that the new books will very soon be in use. Fac-similes of the specially printed labels will be sent to all the parents concerned.

More recently the Headmaster mentioned that altar cloths were in a shocking state and sadly needed replacement. He warned parents that these were expensive things to buy. Undeterred, four parents have sent along handsome cheques which will comfortably cover the purchase of new cloths. We are indeed grateful to all these kind friends.

The Choir sang the following anthems at Morning Service during the course of the Term:

'Jesu, thou art ever near me' . . . . .	Bach
'Blessed be the God and Father' . . . . .	S. S. Wesley
'Let Thy merciful ears, O Lord' . . . . .	Weelkes

R.E.J.P.

The School cannot allow R.E.J.P. to vacate the office of Secretary of the Chapel Committee without a word of warm appreciation to him, not only for the work he has done as Secretary but also for his services to the Chapel as Assistant Organist. Probably it will not be until next term that we shall realise how much we have come to rely on him.

J.M.C.

### FOUNDER'S DAY

This year Founder's Day was held on Saturday, 23rd July, when Abingdon was said to have been the warmest place in the country. Nevertheless, in spite of the heat (or because of the sunshine) it proved to be one of the most successful Founder's Days for a very long time.

The celebrations began in the morning with the customary service in St. Helen's Church, at which the two senior prefects laid a wreath (for which we were once again indebted to Mrs. Bevir) on the tomb of John Roysse. The Choir sang the anthem "Greater love hath no man than this" by John Ireland, and the address was given by the Rev. G. R. Dunstan, M.A., Vicar of Sutton Courtenay, from whom we learned of the true, if not altogether creditable, history of John Roysse, with some interesting and amusing facts about his endowment.

We learned, too, that John Roysse had been only the first of a series of benefactors, without whom the School could never have expanded as it had done. It was therefore right, continued Mr. Dunstan, that we should thank God for the School's great and good tradition which could attract such worthy benefactors and so enable boys to live and work together in a community.

The main event of the afternoon was the Prize Giving and afterwards the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban were "At Home" to a great number of parents and friends of the School on Upper Field. The Brass Band played during tea after which visitors had the opportunity of viewing the many and varied activities in the school and grounds. These included exhibitions of art, maps, C.C.F. activities, stamps and photography, demonstrations by scientists and the scouts and, by no means the least popular, a recital of traditional jazz, given by the Jazz Band in the Gymnasium. In addition many parents went to the Corn Exchange to see the Photographic Society's latest film, "No Tumbled House".

The day closed with an evening entertainment, also held in the Corn Exchange, of which a full-length review appears elsewhere in this issue.

On the evening of the following day the traditional service in accordance with the Cheyney Bequest was held in St. Nicolas' Church, where, because of the limited accommodation left by the fire two-years ago, we were unfortunately not able to welcome many parents or friends. In his address the Headmaster urged those who were leaving



the School to hold fast to the Christian faith, which was founded on the truth, and to remember that wherever they lived they were citizens alike of earth and heaven.

### DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES

The distribution of prizes took place in the Corn Exchange, which, once again, had been admirably decorated with flowers by Mrs. Gray. We were sorry, however, that the Rt. Hon. Earl Winterton, P.C. was unable, through indisposition, to come and present the prizes, but we were most grateful to Mr. S. R. Benson, the Recorder of Abingdon, who so kindly deputised for him.

The Chairman of the Governors, Admiral Clifton-Brown, opened the meeting and then asked the Headmaster to give his report.

In his speech the Headmaster reviewed the academic and athletic achievements of the past year and mentioned the increasing interest in minor games and out-of-school activities. He continued by recalling some of the events of the year which he would particularly remember—the school play, the effects of the national strikes, the excursion day, the series of interesting visitors whom the School had welcomed from so many parts of the world.

After giving warm thanks to the Governors and the Staff he spoke of the recent additions to the School property and the amenities which would be added in the near future. But, he went on, in spite of expansion and increasing numbers it was the boys who remained the central factor; it was the School's aim to combine discipline with freedom, to provide a liberal education for scientist and for arts man alike, to remember the importance of the individual and to inculcate a true sense of values.

After presenting the prizes, Mr. Benson gave a forthright and succinct speech in which he stressed the importance of good manners and the responsibility of teaching them, which rested on the parents even more than on the schools—a reminder which was endorsed by the Headmaster in his informal vote of thanks.

The prize list was as follows:—

**THE ENDOWED PRIZES:** The Morland Prize (*presented by Messrs. Morland in memory of W. T. Morland, O.A., and awarded for all-round merit*)—D. A. Jones; The Thomas Layng Reading Prize—P. J. Simmonds; The Smith Chemistry Prizes—R. M. Marchbanks, J. A. Howard, P. M. D. Gray, M. S. Bretscher; The Ball Science Prize—P. O. Older; The Bevan Essay Prize—R. E. J. Packer; The Bevan Scripture Prizes—H. C. Bowen, B. D. Winkett, W. W. Budden, C. T. Denniford, R. B. Blackmore, C. T. Pollard.

**THE SCHOOL PRIZES:** The Headmaster's Prizes for Efficiency in School and House—R. M. Marchbanks, P. J. Simmonds; The Mayor's

Prize for History (*presented by H. J. Polley, Esq., J.P.*)—B. J. Hiscock; The Old Boys' Prize for English Verse—S. C. Woodley; The Van Wagenen Essay Prize (*presented by Colonel R. W. Van Wagenen of Princeton University, U.S.A.*)—B. J. Hiscock; The Prize for Character (*presented by Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Ellis*)—R. E. J. Packer; C.C.F. Prizes—U./O. Jones, D. A., U./O. Pratt, J. R., C.S.M. Walker, T. A. W.; The Junior Reading Prize (*presented by Mr. C. C. Woodley, Pres. O.A. Club*)—R. M. Carter; The Music Prizes—Senior (*presented by Mrs. Rayson*)—R. E. J. Packer, Junior (*presented by Miss Sheldon Peach*)—D. Wiggins, Choral (*presented by the Director of Music*)—T. A. Libby; The Art Prizes—W. St. A. R. Dady, G. Bromley; The Handicraft Prizes—M. Ryan, J. Brimble, I. A. Oliver.

**THE CRICKET PRIZES:** The Lake Bat (*presented by H. W. Lake, Esq., M.C.*)—D. A. Jones; The Fletcher Cup—D. A. Jones; The Henderson Prizes—N. A. Carter, B. J. Hiscock, P. J. D. Anderson.

**THE TENNIS CHALLENGE CUP** (*presented by Major V. C. Buckley*)—J. A. Nichols.

**THE FORM PRIZES:** Sixth Form (Upper): Classics—R. E. J. Packer; Science—R. M. Marchbanks; Modern Languages—T. C. Glucklich; Physics and Chemistry—R. W. Westcott; Biology—M. B. Enser. Sixth Form (Lower): Classics—B. D. Winkett; English and History—S. C. Woodley; Mathematics—M. R. S. Broadway; Physics—B. P. Kibble; Biology—B. E. Stacey; Form 5 Arts—W. W. Budden, M. G. Nichol; Form 5 Science—C. M. Dunman, E. R. L. Day; Form 5 General—J. Hasthorpe; Form 4 Arts—A. P. Haynes, O. M. L. Rhys; Form 4 Science—I. J. Kirby, P. E. J. Fitzsimons; Form 4 General—C. B. Maloney; Form 3A—R. C. Watts, D. S. Lees; Form 3X—J. E. Knight, P. Kandiah; Form 3Y—A. L. Howell, M. H. Stanley; Form 2X—K. N. Haarhoff, P. J. Ford; Form 2Y—G. Sheppard, T. A. Libby; Form 1X—A. C. Bowker, R. S. Haynes; Form 1Y—G. C. H. Phillips, C. G. Purnell.

### AN EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

Once again we must thank Mr. Griffin and all those who helped him to produce the entertainment which took place in the Corn Exchange on the evenings of 22nd July and Founder's Day. We print below an appreciation of the entertainment written by Mr. William Liversidge, to whom we are most grateful.

"Schools are rather like volcanoes. For considerable periods of time the outside world has little idea exactly what goes on behind the passive exterior and activity, when it breaks out, is often violent and usually unexpected. Schools erupt more regularly—usually at the end of the academic year. The crater of Abingdon School provided the audience at the Corn Exchange on Friday evening with as lively and amusing a display of such activity as I have seen for a long time.

The entertainment, taken as a whole, had its blemishes but they were minor ones. Under the prevailing conditions of almost tropical heat one or possibly two of the items might have been cut and the transition from grave to gay was sometimes a little too abrupt for the audience to re-orient itself successfully. Personally, I would have preferred the cake to have been layered rather than so efficiently mixed for by the time the last item, 'In Windsor Forest', had begun, I fully expected Falstaff, in the person of the ubiquitous Mr. Horrex, to pop up from a trap-door with the ale which he so richly deserved. But enough of such criticism—it was quite obvious that cast and audience enjoyed themselves to the full and that, after all, is the main object of any entertainment.

On the more serious side of the programme, choir, orchestra and brass band acquitted themselves nobly and the playing of the strings in the march from 'Die Meistersinger' and the Toy Symphony was of a high standard for a school orchestra. Members of the staff who played the 'bits and pieces' in the symphony did so with that air of concentration which so befits the schoolmaster—mathematicians who can count so many bars rest are rare. The madrigals, sung so sensibly round a table and so tunefully, were a pleasure to listen to, if so trite an expression may be permitted. I particularly liked 'Matona, mia casa'. The Brass Band played with gusto and very considerable success though, as with all school bands, there was the occasional tendency for what came out at one end not quite to tally with the intentions of the human bellows at the other.

I cannot confess to a personal love for Vaughan-Williams' 'In Windsor Forest' but Mr. Sawbridge had trained his choir and orchestra well though he is probably looking forward to a fresh intake of trebles—they are always the difficulty towards the end of a school year. The tenors and basses were excellent in the Drinking Song and the blend of choir and orchestra in the Epilogue was admirable.

In lighter vein, there was much of a high standard. 'Musica Rariora' could have held its own with anything in professional vaudeville and 'Danish Omelette' was extremely funny, riotously so to one who has both taught and endeavoured to produce school dramatics. The first and third of the 'Three Poems' showed a delightful sense of humour on the part of the producer but 'A Lyke-wake Dirge' seemed somehow out of place—perhaps I am lacking in subtlety.

'Musica Antiqua' and 'Topaze' revealed the familiarity of Abingdonians with tongues ancient and modern and, I suspect, the limitations of the audience in this respect. I was impressed by the fluency of the performers but not, I must admit, by their audibility—this sort of thing must be crystal clear if it is to succeed. 'Hiawatha's Photographing' and 'Tweedledum and Tweedledee' were pleasant bits of fooling in the best Lewis Carroll tradition and Mary Cobban made a most charming Alice.

Lastly, I must pay tribute to the versatility and talent of Mr. J. J. Horrex who seemed to be seldom off the stage and who gave the impression that he could move into the super-tax group of entertainers whenever he chose. His 'American Guide to Abingdon' was beautifully done—to poke fun at all and sundry in such a way might almost be described as 'controlled royssetering'.

I regret that I am unable to hand out individual bouquets to many who deserved them but, to an outsider, the problem of names is insuperable. I can only say 'thank you' to all producers and performers for a most enjoyable evening and assure them that I shall not willingly miss any future opportunity of hearing Roysse's in action again."

W.J.H.L.

## CRICKET

### FIRST XI CHARACTERS

**D. A. JONES** (Captain: Colours 1953). As Captain and all-rounder has borne the bulk of the season's responsibilities. He has managed his bowlers well, and provided a fine example to the team in all spheres. As a bowler he is always steady and often penetrating. His batting is chancy, but aggressive and studded with delightful strokes, and he has often shown his best in a crisis. A very safe fielder.

**B. J. HISCOCK** (Secretary. Colours 1955). His batting has been rather disappointing this season, but he has played several sound and useful innings. A leg-spinner who turns the ball both ways, but whose length and direction are somewhat uncertain. An exceptionally good runner between the wickets, and a good cover-point.

**N. A. CARTER** (Colours 1955). Began the season as a natural hitter, with a prejudice in favour of the leg side. He has developed into a sound and sensible player, though his scoring strokes on the off are still limited. A very good and courageous close fielder, with many fine catches to his credit.

**RYAN M.** (Half-Colours 1955). A fairly sound opening bat, who has usually seen the opening bowlers off. He needs to develop his scoring strokes, and has yet to conquer a disastrous habit of stepping away from fast bowling. A good out-fielder, with a powerful but not always accurate throw.

**SPINKS J. C.** (Half-Colours 1955). A very keen and useful all-rounder. As an opening bowler, he has had some success this season, and has the ability to move the ball both in the air and off the pitch. As a batsman, he has at times played well—usually when most needed—but he is too ready to sweep at the wrong ball. A good and tireless fielder.



**FIRST ELEVEN, 1955**

**M. Ryan, B. Westbrook, J. C. Spinks, Mr. A. A. Hillary, D. J. C. Emmett, A. Maxwell, R. J. Trenaman,  
S. C. Woodley, B. J. Hiscock (Sec.), D. A. Jones (Capt.), N. A. Carter, M. C. Rallings.**

**MAXWELL A.** (Half-Colours 1955). A gifted hard-hitting bat, who always looks like making runs, but has yet to learn restraint and to play every ball upon its merits. His running between the wickets is still a little uncertain. A good fielder at short-leg.

**RALLINGS M. C.** (Wicket-Keeper; Half-Colours 1955). His wicket-keeping has been variable, but on his day he is keen and agile, and is usually reliable. His batting has been disappointing on the whole, mainly because he is reluctant to use his feet.

**WOODLEY S. C.** (Half-Colours 1955). Playing in only the last five matches, he has shown himself to be a very mature batsman, though somewhat deficient in scoring strokes as yet. A very useful change bowler, varying both pace and flight intelligently, and a good fielder.

**TRENAMAN R. J.** A very promising young all-rounder. As a left-arm bowler he has had some good spells, and his Chinaman has been particularly effective. His batting is much improved, and he can score all round the wicket. An excellent slip fielder.

**WESTBROOK B.** He has played some very useful innings, in both 1st and 2nd XI's, but his strokes lack power, and he has yet to overcome a fatal inclination to drive off the wrong foot. A safe catch, and a good outfielder with a strong and accurate throw.

**EMMETT D. C. J.** A very fast bowler, who has had little success this season, mainly because of lack of accuracy. Once he can bowl at the stumps, he should take a lot of wickets. His batting is wild, and his fielding, though improved, is not yet entirely reliable.

**PHIPPS W. J.** A promising young player, who served his apprenticeship in two or three matches with distinction. His strokes lack power as yet, but his defensive play is very sound and he has the makings of a safe and aggressive bat.

Also played:—Bush; Hill, M. R. H.; Glenny; Dunkley.

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The School's first full season on the War Memorial Field has been, in most respects, a successful one. They experienced some difficulty at first in adapting themselves to the very different conditions afforded by a hard fast wicket, which gave little help to the bowlers, and a full-sized field, but by the end of the season they had become the best all-round side for some years. If the progress of the field continues to be as rapid, there is little doubt that in two or three years time it will be first class, and we hope in the near future to have a suitable pavilion erected there. The generosity of the Old Boys, who have undertaken to add the pavilion to their other gifts to the School, is much appreciated.

The side's principal weaknesses were again the opening batsmen, and only on two occasions were the School given a reasonable start. In spite of various experiments, two players who could be relied upon to see off the new ball were not forthcoming. Glenny, who had shown great promise last season, completely lost form, and Ryan, the best of those tried, could not find a partner. However, the solidity of the middle and later batting often retrieved bad situations, and everybody showed at one time or another the concentration and determination of which they are capable.

The brunt of the bowling was again born by D. A. Jones, who bowled very well and consistently to take 40 wickets, for an average of under 10. He was well supported by Spinks and Trenaman, both of whom will be here next season. Many of their wickets were due to excellent catching, and the fielding was, almost without exception, very good indeed. Much of the credit for this is due to Jones, who by example and encouragement instilled a spirit of enthusiasm into the team,

Full Colours were awarded during the season to N. A. Carter and B. J. Hiscock, and Half-Colours to Ryan, Spinks, Maxwell, Rallings and Woodley. Next season's Captain of Cricket is S. C. Woodley, and Secretary M. C. Rallings.

The Second XI again had an enjoyable season, and towards the end of the season several boys graduated to the First XI. They were well captained by Stroud-Viney, who had already shown his worth in that position, and some promising players gained valuable match experience. Their chief lack was of reliable batsmen, but they several times acquitted themselves very creditably, Westbrook being particularly consistent.

This year, a new and so far successful experiment has been tried. To provide a direct stream of experienced players into the First XI, a Senior Colts side of boys under sixteen was instituted, and the Under 15 XI was replaced by a Junior Colts, or Under 14, XI.

The Senior Colts had an unbeaten record for the season, in spite of losing Trenaman to the First XI for practically the whole term, and Phipps for several matches. Their fielding has been very sound, there has been plenty of bowling—particularly of the invaluable left-arm variety—and the batting honours have been shared among several players. Penney, Phipps and Peedell have played some particularly good innings, and Trenaman, Fitzsimons and Thistlewood have been the most successful bowlers.

A more successful season might have been expected of a side as promising as the Junior Colts, but results do not always give a true picture. Many of this year's team are young enough to have another year in the side, and there is plenty of talent coming along to reinforce or challenge them. It was particularly pleasing to see some really talented

young batsmen and fast bowlers, and to find difficulty in selecting a team from some seventeen or eighteen players with little to choose between them. Even more satisfactory was their enthusiasm and the competition to get into the side, and the seriousness with which everyone approached practice games, nets and fielding practices. This must surely produce match-winners of the future, or at least gallant losers.

Senior House Matches were again hotly contested, with high scores being the order of the day. Bennett's defeat of the favourites, Reeves, in the first round was a splendid example of determined batting by tail-enders, and refusal to accept the defeat which appeared to be inevitable at one stage. In the final, however, Blacknall carried the day without much difficulty, thanks largely to the batting of Hiscock (74) and Rallings (70 nt.) and the bowling of Trenaman (6 for 36). The Junior House Match Final was again deservedly won by Tesdale, and both the Senior League Table and the Junior League Cup fell to the same House. The Tesdale Junior Team won nine of the ten games they played. It would appear that Tesdale House is destined for great success for some years to come!

#### *First XI Matches*

*v. Newbury Grammar School (h). Sat., 7th May. Lost.*

Newbury batted first on a fast wicket and scored briskly. Many bowling changes failed to separate the opening pair, who scored their first fifty in forty minutes, and their second in twenty minutes, until at 126 both Parker and Blunden were dismissed. Newbury were able to declare at tea with their score at 183 for 3, and the School's bowling had never looked at all penetrating.

Abingdon began disastrously, losing their first five wickets for only eighteen runs, but the middle batting proved more reliable. The best partnership was between Jones and Spinks, who added sixty runs for the ninth wicket, and Jones was last out for 55, having hit the ball very hard, if rather fortuitously.

Newbury 183 for 3 dec. (Parker 64; Blunden 56).

Abingdon 113 (D. A. Jones 55).

*v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (h). Wed., 11th May, Drawn.*

Abingdon were given a good start by Ryan and Glenny, who put on thirty-nine runs before Glenny was out. The batting throughout was fairly consistent, until the score reached 113 for 6, when three wickets fell for only two runs.

The visitors began their innings confidently, and reached 50 for the loss of two wickets. However, having once broken through, the School bowled accurately and pressed home the advantage, until the Wantage



last pair successfully resisted for the last ten minutes, and indeed might even have won the match.

Abingdon 115 for 9 dec. (Ryan 29),

Wantage 108 for 9.

*v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (a). Sat., 14th May. Drawn.*

The wicket was slow and affected by rain, and High Wycombe, batting first, were soon in trouble against accurate bowling by Jones, whose off-cutters resulted in three good catches by Carter at forward short-leg. Only Harvey really showed confidence, and his excellent innings made the home side's score presentable.

Abingdon were left with about ninety minutes in which to score 102, and Hiscock and Bush were pushing the score along nicely when hail stopped play.

High Wycombe 101 for 7 dec. (Harvey 67; D. A. Jones 5 for 43).

Abingdon 63 for 4 (Rain).

*v. St. Edward's II (a). Wed., 18th May, Won.*

After a very bad start, a good innings by Carter, notable for some fine inside shots, pulled the side together, and with useful contributions by the later batsmen Abingdon's score was made respectable.

St. Edward's, troubled by a damp and difficult wicket, were quickly dismissed by Jones and Spinks, who both bowled very well. Again good fielding played a large part, and some splendid catches were held.

Abingdon 103 (Carter 34).

St. Edward's II 72 (Spinks 5 for 18; D. A. Jones 5 for 32),

*v. Oratory School (a). Sat., 21st May. Won.*

The School again started badly on a wet wicket, and lost five wickets for only twenty-eight runs, but sound batting by Ryan and Maxwell gave them a reasonable total. Had Oratory held their catches, the score must have been very much less, but bad light and unpleasant fielding conditions may have handicapped them.

Oratory were quickly dismissed, mainly by Jones, who produced his best bowling performance of the season, supported by excellent fielding and catching. The innings was also notable for the fact that Trenaman took a wicket with his first ball in 1st XI Cricket.

Abingdon 84 (Ryan 34; Maxwell 31).

Oratory 37 (D. A. Jones 8 for 8).

*v. Reading School (h). Wed., 25th May. Drawn.*

The Reading innings was marked by a good partnership by Merrett and Digby, and by steady and accurate bowling by Jones and Spinks, who kept down the rate of scoring very well.

The School were left with eighty minutes in which to score 119, and after a spirited, but badly judged, attempt to get the runs, wisely decided in the last few minutes to save the game,

Reading 118 for 2 dec. (Digby 51 nt.; Merrett 53 nt.).

Abingdon 86 for 7.

*v. A Parents XI (h). Sat., 4th June. Lost.*

A strong Parents' side scored 63 for the first wicket, but found themselves rather short of time, and lost wickets in attempting to force the pace. The School bowled steadily, and the fielding was good.

A very sporting declaration gave the School ample time in which to get the runs, but they showed a strange lack of initiative against bowling which was never particularly hostile. Only Maxwell really attacked, but he was left stranded at the finish, with nobody to hold up the other end.

Parents 116 for 6 dec. (Mr. Nurton 39; Mr. Hurd 36 nt.).

Abingdon 63.

*v. The Berkshire Gentlemen (h). Wed., 15th June. Lost.*

Batting first on a hard wicket, the B.G.s made quick runs against some indifferent School bowling. Mr. Griffin batted delightfully, and he was well supported by an aggressive inning by C. E. W. Brookes. It is to the School's credit that, despite very hot weather and much leather-chasing, their fielding did not flag.

The School's innings was disastrous from start to finish, and the batsmen were co-operative in the extreme in finding ways of getting themselves out. It is to be hoped that future players will learn from this experience, and make up their minds to 'get their heads down' when in difficulty.

The Berkshire Gentlemen 199 for 5 dec. (L. C. J. Griffin 71 nt.; C. Brookes 68).

Abingdon 87 (A. D. Brow 5 for 12).

*v. The City of Oxford School (h). Sat., 18th June. Drawn.*

After a late start, the School produced its best batting performance of the season. Starting off at a great rate, they scored 157 runs in just

over 90 minutes. Carter and Jones, and later Hiscock, struck the ball very firmly all over the field, Jones scoring his 50 in 35 minutes.

The City of Oxford, left the same time, made little attempt to get the runs, against keen bowling and fielding. The School proved equally unable to dismiss the opposition.

Abingdon 157 for 4 dec. (N. A. Carter 65; D. A. Jones 50).

City of Oxford School 57 for 6.

*v. The Old Abingdonians (h). Sat., 25th June. Won.*

Put in on a drying wicket, the O.A.s fared badly, and only G. Barrett's hard-hit 25 made their score reasonable. Spinks bowled accurately and well, and again good support in the field helped the bowlers to take wickets.

The School started very badly, and at one stage were 28—4. However, vigorous blows by Hiscock, and some sensible batting by Woodley and Phipps, both newcomers to the side, who were content to let the runs come, enabled the School to pass the O.A. total in reasonable security.

Old Abingdonians 71 (Spinks J. 5 for 35).

Abingdon 72 for 7.

*v. Abingdon Cricket Club (h). Sat., 2nd July. Drawn.*

The main feature of the Town's innings was a century by Mr. Hillary, scored in just under two hours. This was the first hundred ever scored on the new field, and the School's bowling was most unkindly treated, by methods orthodox and unorthodox. Mr. Hurd, by now a familiar figure in School cricket, gave a delightful display of hard and rapid hitting.

The School's early batting again failed, mainly because of a fatal tendency to play across the line of the ball, but Woodley and Rallings showed common sense at the end, and both played the straight ball and struck the loose one.

Abingdon Cricket Club 190 for 3 dec. (A. A. Hillary 101;  
S. Hurd 51 nt.).

Abingdon School 101 for 8 (Woodley S. C. 45 nt.).

*v. Windsor County School (a). Wed., 13th July. Won.*

On a fast and rather difficult wicket the School were once more in early trouble, having lost four wickets with the score at forty. The position was restored, however, by a partnership of 55 between Jones and Maxwell, and we were comfortably placed for a declaration at tea.

Windsor began quite comfortably, but once the first two wickets had fallen their batsmen lost their grip on the situation, and only Cleverly offered any really effective resistance. The bowling was steady and accurate, and again some very good catches proved the value of a good fielding side.

Abingdon 121 for 6 dec.

Windsor 86 (D. A. Jones 5 for 23).

*v. Magdalen College School (h). Sat., 16th July. Lost.*

After yet another poor start—1 for 2—the School's position was improved by Carter, Hiscock and Maxwell, who all batted very sensibly but were never able to catch up with the clock. Maxwell in particular batted well, but unfortunately in the quest for quick runs became rather wild and threw his wicket away.

Magdalen, spurred on by a rather late declaration, set about their task of getting 118 in 78 minutes with a will and in fact achieved them with ten minutes to spare. Winstone and Tinbergen attacked and demoralised the bowlers, and aided by a little good fortune and some erratic throwing-in scored the last fifty runs in twenty minutes. A very fine performance, and a well deserved victory for Magdalen.

Abingdon 117 for 9 dec.

Magdalen College School 118 for 1 (Winstone 50 nt.,  
Tinbergen 47 nt.).

#### Second XI Results

*(Opponents' scores first)*

- v. Newbury Grammar School (a). Lost 70; 64.
- v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (h). Lost 78; 61.
- v. Reading School (a). Lost 165 for 5 dec.; 43.
- v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (h). Won 73; 75 for 1.
- v. City of Oxford School (h). Won 63; 64 for 5.
- v. Radley College 3rd XI (h). Drawn 184 for 5 dec.; 40 for 7.
- v. Windsor County School (a). Won 52; 65.
- v. Magdalen College School (a). Drawn 76 for 6; 110 for 9 dec.

#### Senior Colts XI Results

*(Opponents' Scores first)*

- v. Newbury Grammar School (h). Won 13; 87.
- v. City of Oxford School (a). Drawn 85 for 4; 87 for 8 dec.
- v. St. Edward's School (h). Drawn 109 for 4 dec.; 58 for 5.
- v. Reading School (h). Won. 54; 56.
- v. Bloxham School (a). Won 57; 58.
- v. Oratory School (h). Drawn 76; 68 for 9.
- v. Magdalen College School (h). Won 48; 51 for 3.

## Junior Colts XI Results

(Opponents' Scores first)

- v. Newbury Grammar School (a). Drawn 49 for 9; 57.
- v. St. Edward's School (h). Won 35; 37 for 1.
- v. Radley College (h). Won 49; 110 for 9 dec.
- v. Bloxham School (a). Drawn 105 for 9 dec.; 78 for 7.
- v. Col. Bryceson's School (h). Won 15; 92 for 1 dec.
- v. Reading School (a). Lost 46 for 4; 42.
- v. Magdalen College School (a). Lost 70; 69.

A.A.H.

## ROWING

Undoubtedly this has been an exceptionally good and gratifying season for the Boat Club. The amount of hard work done cheerfully and willingly by all members throughout this last year has contributed much to the success of the racing crews. In fact all those who have contributed towards the equipment of the Club over the last few years—new boats, new Boat House, bank tub, oars, etc.—can know that their help has not only been much appreciated, but also put to good use, and that they share in our success.

The bank tub has proved most valuable in the training of the younger members despite certain 'teething troubles' which are now, we hope, eliminated.

Great keenness has developed in sculling. The Club owns one 'best' boat and has the use of another, and these have done much to improve watermanship on and in the river! Unfortunately they are not suitable for beginners as they are extremely fragile. If any kind friend can tell us where we can acquire a couple of 'whiffs' or 'rum-tums' cheaply we should be most grateful. The price of new boats is—alas—prohibitive.

An especial word of thanks is due again to John Bury, O.A., for helping us with the transport of boats and for his unflinching encouragement and support, and also to Richard Millard, O.A., for timely advice to the crew at Wallingford Regatta. We congratulate him warmly on his election as Captain of Boats at St. Peter's Hall.

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For the first time this season we had four crews racing on slides.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
<b>Bow</b>				
P. C. Sarsfield-Hall	J. M. Iredale	R. K. Le Voi	J. H. Thewlis	
<b>2</b>				
J. R. Pratt	J. D. Hall	R. J. Paige	A. J. C stley	

3

J. J. Swainston W. St. A. R. Dady D. J. Meakins B. E. Stacey

*Stroke*

P. J. Simmonds B. L. Smith M. R. S. Broadway J. F. Pridham

*Cox*

M. G. Chambers K. A. Clark D. J. Dalton N. W. Pridham

#### FIRST IV CHARACTERS

**Boat.** P. C. SARSFIELD-HALL. (Secretary. Colours 1954). A neat and polished oarsman who gives much thought to his rowing in and out of the boat. A hard working and efficient Secretary.

2. J. R. PRATT. (Colours 1955). A powerful oarsman who happily corrected early tendencies to be stiff and erratic. He rowed with courage at Marlow.

3. J. J. SWAINSTON. (Colours 1955). A heavy, powerful and reliable oarsman who improved steadily throughout the season.

**Stroke.** P. J. SIMMONDS. (Captain. Colours 1954). He showed first-rate judgement in races and did not allow the burden of his office to upset his rowing. He commanded an admirable rhythm and sense of timing, and the appearance of ease about his rowing showed how fully he had mastered the technique. His cheerful yet authoritative manner did much to make a happy and hard-working crew.

**Cox.** M. G. CHAMBERS. (Colours 1955). Cool-headed and cheerful. Experience will improve his steering which must take first place in his mind in races!

The crew demonstrated to a remarkable degree the virtues of the long, powerful stroke perfectly timed. The rating was never higher than 34 in races, apart from starts and 'tens', and in fact their best pace was achieved at 26—28 strokes to the minute. The finest lesson they learnt and demonstrated was that concentration on the rowing rather than on the opposition is the best method of producing speed with economy of effort.

#### FIRST IV RACES

*May 11th v. Culham College (h).*

*Won easily. Time 3 mins. 20 secs.*

In spite of a bad start, the School soon drew ahead and increased their lead to the finish. Conditions were good.

*May 21st v. King's School, Worcester (h).*

*Won by 4 lengths. Time 3 mins. 35 secs.*

Conditions were tricky, with much wind.

*May 25th v. Reading School (a).*

*Won by 8 lengths. Time 3 mins. 57 secs.*

Conditions were fast, and a good start gave the School an early lead. The time is believed to be a new record for this course.

*May 30th, Whit Monday. Reading Clinker Regatta.*

Although it was a day of hot sunshine for our first visit to this regatta, conditions were not too good, with rough water and a stiff following wind. Pleasure craft added to the natural hazards, despite the efforts of the Umpires and patrol craft.

Our first race was against Ashmead School who snatched an early lead. The School soon recovered the lost ground, and won comfortably by seven lengths.

The second race, against Tonbridge School, was a hard struggle the whole way between two very evenly matched crews. The School won by a canvas, gaining the advantage in the last ten strokes.

In the Final the School beat Reading School by six lengths, to win the Public Schools' Fours event.

*June 1st v. Sir William Borlase's School, Marlow (a).*

*Won by 12 lengths. Time 3 mins. 12 secs.*

This race provided a useful preview of the Marlow Course and the feeling of a strange boat. The crew did not strike their best form although the time was fast.

*June 4th. Wallingford Regatta. Junior Fours.*

The Regatta this year formed part of the Borough of Wallingford's 800th Anniversary Celebrations.

The first race was against Sir William Borlase's School, resulting in a victory by 2 lengths. The course was shorter than usual, but nevertheless strenuous owing to a stiff head-wind

In the second race the School defeated Falcon R.C. by 2 lengths.

The Final was against Wallingford R.C. who led by a length at the half distance. A well-judged spurt gave the School a lead of  $\frac{3}{4}$  length and subsequent victory by 2 lengths.



FIRST FOUR, 1955

J. J. Swainston, P. J. Simmonds (Capt.), J. R. Pratt, P. C. Sarsfield-Hall (Se-  
M. G. Chambers.

*June 17th and 18th. Marlow Regatta.*

*Public Schools' Fours.*

The first race on the Friday evening was against Canford School 'A' and K.C.S. Wimbledon. This was a most strenuous race which resulted in a win for the School by 3 feet over Canford in 5 minutes 3 seconds, after a much delayed start due to an insufficient number of boats.

The second race on Saturday morning was against Eastbourne College and King's School, Worcester. Conditions were not fast, with an increasingly strong head wind. With last year's final in mind, a comparatively easy win by 3 lengths in 5 minutes 7 seconds was somewhat unexpected.

The Final was against Tonbridge School. After the semi-final at Reading a difficult race was expected, and indeed after 2 furlongs Tonbridge led us by nearly one length. A well-placed 'ten' however



brought the crews level and the School thereafter drew steadily away at a lower rating to win by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lengths in 5 mins 7 secs.

We do appreciate much the many messages of congratulation received from Old Boys and friends of the School, and the numerous festive occasions provided for the crew—from champagne dinners, to a memorable visit to Henley Regatta.

*June 25th v. O.A.'s.*

*Won easily. Time 3 mins. 30 secs.*

The last fixture of the season was against the Old Boys, who rowed gallantly but suffered obviously from lack of practice together.

The races against Prince Henry's School, Evesham unfortunately had to be cancelled owing to floods at Evesham,

#### SECOND IV

Judged by performance—and that is the ultimate test—this year's was a very good second crew. They raced hard with plenty of determination, but individual shortcomings made them look rather rough and clumsy. B. L. Smith stroked with much greater confidence and smoothness than last year. Dady made a good '3' and his almost nonchalant style concealed a lot of hard work. Hall made up by solid effort for what he lost by poor sliding and swing. Iredale at bow has several rough corners to smooth off but should be a useful oarsman next year.

#### SECOND IV RACES

- v. Culham College (h). Won easily. Time 3 mins. 55 secs.
- v. King's School, Worcester (h). Won by 1 length. Time 3 mins. 34 secs.
- v. Reading School (h). Won by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lengths. Time 4 mins. 11 secs.
- v. Sir Wm. Borlase's (a). Lost by  $\frac{1}{2}$  length in 3 mins. 32 secs.
- v. O.A.s Won easily in 3 mins. 37 secs.

#### *Wallingford Regatta. Maiden Fours.*

The 2nd crew rowed particularly well, and in a strong entry reached the semi-final.

Race 1 v. St. Edmund's Hall. Won easily.

Race 2 v. Brasenose College. Won by 2 lengths.

Race 3 v. Neptune R.C. Lost by  $\frac{1}{2}$  length.

The crew well deserved their Half Colours after a very good season.

## THIRD IV RACES

A very plucky and promising crew.

- v. King's School, Worcester. Lost by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lengths in 3 mins. 49 secs.
- v. Reading School. Won by 3 lengths in 4 mins. 27 secs.
- v. Sir Wm. Borlase's. Won by 1 length in 3 mins. 50 secs.

## 4th IV RACES

A crew of very promising youngsters who did well to defeat King's Worcester by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lengths in 3 mins. 50 secs.

*Boat Club Regatta*

This was held on 18th July on Wilsham Reach. The course was downstream, from Winterbourne's Boat House to the School Boat House. A stiff wind and dull weather seemed unfortunate after a long spell of fine weather, but the crews lacked nothing in enthusiasm.

*Senior House Fours. The Bennett Cup*

Reeves beat Tesdale by 1 length.

*Day Boys and Boarders. The Pierpoint Cup*

Boarders won by 2 lengths.

*Junior Pairs. The Morrell Cup*

Bennett 'A' beat Bennett 'B' by 4 lengths.

*Senior Sculls. The Mayor's Trophy*

P. J. Simmonds beat P. C. Sarsfield-Hall by 6 lengths.

*Staff v. Leavers*

Leavers won by 3 lengths.

*Visitors' Race. The Visitors' Trophy:*

won by R. D. P. Griffith, R. D. Gammack and T. M. J. Kempinski.

The Prizes were distributed by Miss Wood to whom the Club offers its thanks and best wishes.

## TENNIS

This is the Tennis Club's third full season and undoubtedly its most successful. Only one heavy defeat was suffered—at the hands of Magdalen College School—owing to a weakened team, and the season closed with the defeat of Pangbourne Nautical College to reverse last year's result.

The first pair of Nichols and Lord, and later Nichols and Woodley, were unbeaten throughout the season. Gardner and Woodruff as

second pair had a bad middle patch but finished strongly by winning all their matches against the three Pangbourne pairs. The third pair varied and, lacking experience and a regular partnership, could never establish itself. Great keenness, however, was shown throughout the team and the general standard of stroke play is improving thanks to the help of Mr. Lay who again very kindly came over from Radley to coach.

In the final of the Buckley Singles Cup competition, Nichols defeated Woodley 7—5, 6—0.

### TENNIS CHARACTERS

**J. A. NICHOLS** (Captain: Colours). A class player, capable of raising his game to the greatest heights. A very fine singles player, but never quite at his best in doubles, perhaps due to changing partners—Woodley being available on two occasions only in the term. It is largely due to the example of Nichols that the standard of the School VI has improved so much and his departure will be keenly felt. We congratulate him on his selection for Berkshire and the good form he showed in the July Inter-County Lawn Tennis Championships—an exceptional honour for a schoolboy.

H.M.G.

**A. J. GARDNER** (Secretary: Colours). His lack of hitting power has only in part been counter-balanced by retrieving ability and although he hesitates to move forward and volley, he has nevertheless played consistently in some very arduous matches.

**C. S. WOODRUFF** (Colours). A player whose all round doubles technique has greatly improved. He will improve temperamentally when he builds up confidence in his winning shots.

**WOODLEY, S. C.** A fine all rounder—cricket, badminton, tennis. We were very glad to have his services in the Youll Cup. He needs to develop more power overhead, but his general stroke play and court craft is of a high order.

**LORD, J. P.** He has played some very useful games in the first pairs. Stylish if somewhat erratic ground strokes; a powerful but inconsistent service. He needs to overcome his nervousness.

**WESTBROOK, E. G.** He has not quite fulfilled last year's promise. All his strokes are easy and natural, but he seems to lack concentration and finishing power.

**TRENAMAN, I. W.** What is lacking in stroke play is present in fighting spirit! A great trier, he has played well in the third pair and improved during the season.

**NORMAN, N. G. C.** A hard hitter with a good service and forehand. More doubles play will make him realize the importance of the net position.

## Match Results

v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (h)	14th May	Won	5—4
v. Old Abingdonians (h)	21st May	Won	5—4
v. Reading School (h)	25th May	Won	6—3
v. Magdalen College School (h)	1st June	Lost	2—7
v. Berkhamsted School (a)	11th June	Lost	4—5
v. Radley College (h)	18th June	Lost	4—5
v. Abingdon L.T.C. (h)	1st July	Won	5—4
v. Leighton Park School (a)	6th July	Won	5—4
v. Pangbourne Nautical College (a)	9th July	Won	6—3

J.A.N.

## YOULL CUP COMPETITION

Our entry into the Public Schools' Wimbledon week was a new and stimulating experience. We felt that in J. A. Nichols and S. C. Woodley we possessed players of unusual talent, and so it proved; yet we must not forget the debt we owe to the second pair, Gardner and Woodruff, who raised their game to unprecedented heights and saved the day by defeating the second pairs of Eton, Aldenham, and Felsted. Many of the games were won by narrow margins and we may feel justly proud in coming through to the semi-finals from a field of 62 schools. A selection of the scores is given:—

Abingdon 1st pair	v. Eton 1st pair	Won	9—7, 7—5
Abingdon 2nd pair	v. Eton 2nd pair	Won	5—7, 6—1, 8—6
Abingdon 2nd pair	v. Aldenham 2nd pair	Won	6—3, 4—6, 9—7
Abingdon 1st pair	v. Blundell's 1st pair	Won	6—1, 6—4
Abingdon 2nd pair	v. Felsted 2nd pair	Won	6—4, 6—3

In the matches against Blundell's and Felsted the score in each case stood at 2 matches each and it was left to Nichols to play a single to decide. He won with the respective scores 6—1, 3—6, 6—2 and 6—4, 2—6, 6—4. In the semi final against Charterhouse, the 1st pair lost 6—2, 5—7, 4—6; the 2nd pair did their best, but we had reached our limit!

H.M.G.

(The Editors would like to add their own special congratulations to Mr. Gray. They know that it is to him alone that the establishment of tennis as a recognised sport is due; and it must have been deeply gratifying to him to see the School IV defeat Eton, Aldenham, Blundell's and Felsted in succession in the first four rounds of the Youll Cup).

## SWIMMING

Throughout the Summer Term swimming was encouraged by the weather which continued fine for the Swimming Sports, held on 20th July at the Municipal Pool. On that occasion several records were broken. Standards too, are rising rapidly and the activity of the younger members augurs well for the future. We are indebted to Miss Wood for presenting the Green Cup (won by Tesdale) and the certificates after the events.

The results were as follows:—

- U.14 Freestyle, 2 lengths (Record: J. Kingston, 1954—38.3 secs.)**  
 1. Rosevear, 2. Dalton, 3. Hurd. 39.8 secs.
- U.14 Breast-stroke, 2 lengths (Record: P. A. Smith, 1953—51.6 secs)**  
 1. Wyatt, 2. Mackintosh, 3. Sewry. 53.6 secs.
- U.16 Free-style, 4 lengths (Record: M. J. Scott-Taggart, 1953—1 min. 28.5 secs.)**  
 1. Kibble, 2. Harrington, 3. Scott-Taggart, R. B. 1 min. 24.2 secs.  
 (new record)
- U.16 Breaststroke, 4 lengths (Record: C. J. D. Wray, 1954—1 min. 44.5 secs.)**  
 1. Clark, 2. Wray, 3. Dunman. 1 min. 37.9 secs. (new record)
- U.16 Back-stroke, 2 lengths (Record: B. L. Smith, 1953—47 secs.)**  
 1. Foden, 2. Dalton, 3. Hardy. 50.4 secs.
- Open back-stroke, 4 lengths (Record: M. Grant, 1953—1 min. 53 secs)**  
 1. Scott-Taggart, M. J., 2. Smith, B. L., 3. Smith, A. M.  
 1 min. 45 secs. (new record)
- Open breast-stroke, 4 lengths (Record: M. Scott-Taggart, 1954—1 min. 32.6 secs.)**  
 1. Smith, P. A., 2. Griffith, 3. Wray. 1 min. 33.6 secs.
- Open breast-stroke, 10 lengths, new event**  
 1. Smith, P. A., 2. Wray, 3. Foden. 4 min. 22.9 secs.
- Open free-style, 4 lengths (Record: M. J. Scott-Taggart, 1954—1 min. 20.1 secs.)**  
 1. Kibble, 2. Scott-Taggart, M. J., 3. Bush. 1 min. 28 secs.
- Open free-style, 10 lengths (Record: M. J. Scott-Taggart, 1954—4 min. 24.7 secs.)**  
 1. Becker, 2. Kibble, 3. Foden. 4 min. 22.6 secs. (new record)
- Obstacle Race—1. Smith, B. L., 2. Hall, 3. Pratt.**
- Open Diving—1. Wray, 2. Scott-Taggart, M. J., 3. Kibble.**

*Medley Relay, new event, 1. Plebs, 2. Prefects.*

*Junior Relay (Record: Tesdale, 1954—1 min, 19.6 secs.)*

1. Bennett, 2. Tesdale, 3. Reeves. 1 min. 16.3 secs. (new record)

*Senior Relay (Record: Blacknall, 1953—1 min. 11.4 secs.)*

1. Tesdale, 2. Reeves, 3. Bennett. 1 min. 12 secs.

House points: Tesdale 42, Reeves 33, Bennett and Blacknall 24.

M.J.S.T.

### COMBINED CADET FORCE

The Summer Term, always a busy one for the Corps, has a way of starting off with a bang. This year, indeed, there should have been a major explosion at the outset as the unit was scheduled to take part in the parade for the presentation of the Freedom of the Borough to the R.A.F. on the last day of the holidays. In fact, these arrangements were cancelled so far as the Corps was concerned; but Field Day, which was on 10th May, saw us quickly in action. It is fast becoming a tradition, now, that the day be used so far as Cert. 'A' candidates are concerned for a final revision in open country. In this way, the Recruit Company enjoys a day of exercises designed to meet their standard of training; and considerable benefit is gained by all. So at least we may be permitted to assume from the results of the examination for Cert. 'A', which was held on the Friday of the same week: for the first time in our simple annals, we scored 100% successes in both Parts 1 and 2. Numbers involved were 77 and 35 respectively. It has been stressed already, in the notes last term, that the Corps at the moment is "thin on top". The 35 successful candidates, therefore, have a splendid opportunity—and a challenge. We have come to expect a high standard from our N.C.O.s in recent years; and it is the duty of these comparatively few to see to it that we maintain our standards in the coming year. Good results were also achieved in the R.A. and R.E. Sections' examinations held on the same day.

For the Field Day, the Gunners spent the time at home revising for their exam, whilst the R.E. Section also had a last minute rehearsal under instruction for their examination in watermanship. The P.I. Course again visited their parent establishment at Nuneham Courtenay.

Empire Youth Sunday followed closely on these events. The Corps was represented by a contingent some 80 strong representing all Sections, in addition to the Band which headed the parade. The standard of turn-out and marching was high.

June is a quiet month, with examinations upsetting to some extent our ordered progress towards the Annual Inspection. We were proud, however, to play a part in the parade commemorating the conferment of

the Freedom of the Borough on the County Regiment. Volunteer cadets with those of Wantage C.C.F. and the A.C.F., lined the route and the parade ground for the occasion. All the cadets were pooled for this purpose, but we like to think that many of the smartest wore the cerise flash on their shoulders!

Bisley this year was something of a disappointment—if only because the C.O., for the first time, was unable to accompany the VIII. More seriously, we had hoped for a much improved score from our young entry in the perfect weather which prevailed. In fact, we improved the score by 4 points only, and finished 69th. One consolation is that several schools, with whom shooting is probably more than the spare time avocation that it is with us, were placed lower in the table. A second is that many of the VIII will be available again next year fortified by their first experience on Century range.

The Annual Inspection was held on 15th July in sub-tropical weather. The parade was taken by Brigadier R. N. M. Jones, C.B.E., the newly appointed Deputy District Commander, who was supported by Commander J. Pringle, D.S.C., R.N., and Major G. L. Whitworth, KOYLI; G3 Cadets. The fact that Major Whitworth had been, in Korea, the Company Commander of our Lieut. Sawbridge added a 'happy family' touch to the occasion. The Brigadier was very considerate for the cadets: he allowed each platoon to fall out, in the shade, after inspection. This generous gesture made some of us wonder how well we should manage the unrehearsed Fall-In which was required at the end of the Inspection. It reflects credit on all ranks—and on S.U.O. Jones, who was in charge of the parade—that this went off very well. The March Past suffered a little from the semi-coma induced by the heat, but the standard shown in the training parade—held in shirt-sleeves, thanks to the Brigadier's kindness—was high. The work of the R.A. and R.E. Sections was particularly impressive. The official report, since received, confirms these opinions, and is again described by the G.O.C. as 'excellent'.

As one outcome of this report, we hope to have solved our "teething troubles" over the training of the Signal Section. Three of its members also attended a Signal Course for the period of Camp and have acquired knowledge which should help greatly in the coming year. The R.E. Section has also undergone changes. Major Sackett—to whom we renew here our sincere thanks—handed over in mid-term to the Garrison Engineer, Didcot. Major Hardiman, in a short period of time, trained the Section in watermanship to a standard of smartness and efficiency as high as any that we have seen. As from the beginning of the Michaelmas Term, he is handing over to Capt. Bowers of the School of Military Survey, Hermitage, whom we shall be very happy to welcome into our 'team'.

In the Summer Term, for only the second time we had two Under Officers, D. A. Jones and J. R. Pratt, both most efficient in their appoint-

ments and both intending Regular Officers. To both of them and to B.S.M. Roberts, another intending Regular, we wish all good luck in the future. The same good wishes accompany P. J. Simmonds and T. A. W. Walker who are hoping for regular commissions in R.N. and R.M. respectively. *Vade—atque vale.*

#### *Castlemartin Camp*

A contingent of 4 officers and 101 O.R.s attended camp at Castlemartin in Pembrokeshire from 26th July to 3rd August. History was made in three ways: it was our first experience since the war of a camp outside Southern Command; it was the first time ever that we have topped the hundred (we should have done so more comfortably but for last minute defection and sickness); it was the first time since our last real summer, in 1947, that we have had a camp entirely free from rain. No doubt the experience of adversity—getting wet, coping with mud and flood waters and remaining cheerful the while—is a most valuable form of training; but how nice it was not to have it for once! The other side of the picture? Extremely hot canvas, all but Middle Eastern dust and sand, and horseflies in their thousands! Against these last, we were issued with a noisome, sticky but highly effective repellent, which had to be applied on all training occasions.

The feeding of the cadets is, with the weather, a vital factor in the success of any Camp. Arrangements in this respect were excellent: each contingent had one or more dining tents of its own, feeding was on the family system with queues virtually eliminated. Quality and quantity were both satisfactory and there was no complaint on this score. A feature new to us, which met with general approval, was that, owing to the nearness of the training areas, a hot meal was eaten in Camp each day at 1300 hours. One snag in this—at any rate for middle-aged officers: it was a real effort to turn out again for the afternoon's training.

Another feature which had many advantages, and which probably contributed to the administrative success of the Camp, was the organization into battalions, much more clear-cut and physical than we have been accustomed to. Battalion areas were separated by considerable distances, and each of us was a self-contained unit, for both training and administration. A disadvantage was that it proved less easy to meet up with friends who were not in one's own battalion: we travelled to Camp with our "dear enemies", Magdalen, but met up with them during Camp only once over the potted Sports on the Sunday afternoon. These Sports, held for the whole brigade, gave us the only opportunity of competing publicly since there was no Guard Mounting competition as on previous occasions. Our team, which at one stage, had looked like winning, finished 4th out of the 21 schools engaged.

We did, also, compete more privately against Denstone College on Night Ops. This patrolling exercise, though not many points were



scored on the positive side by either School, must be judged a real success because of the orderly and silent manner in which it was conducted. From the first Verrey light to the last, the only sounds to be heard were occasional shouts of 'Umpire'. Correction—some disturbance did occur but it centred around the Army Commander who, visiting the battlefield and coming upon one of our defensive posts, was for some moments engaged in an animated discussion on fieldcraft and minor tactics with the N.C.O. i/c the post!

Training areas were in general rather more extensive and tactical than normally, but as always one would have liked more room for manoeuvre, and less chance of units becoming involved with each other. Demonstrations were many and lavish, thanks to the presence of a squadron of Scots Greys, aided and abetted by the R.A.F., the Gunners and the Sappers. It was a pity, though, that the jet fighters should have had no supplies of ammunition to loose off during their demonstration of an attack on infantry positions. A pity, too, that the Camp Commandant should unwittingly have sited the R.E. demonstration at a spot where it proved impracticable for safety reasons to provide the 'bangs' and explosions which the Sappers had intended to produce. Gunners were much in evidence, both in an excellent demonstration and in an R.A. cadre for post Cert. 'A' cadets, which worked throughout the period of Camp. As it happened, we were not in a position to take advantage of this, our own Gunners having gone to a R.A. Camp at Larkhill, the first to be organized in Southern Command specifically for R.A. Sections. The eight cadets who attended had an excellent time, as regards both training and living, and the experiment, by all accounts, was a real success. Three cadets at Castlemartin did, however, attend the signal cadre, and three more the Junior Leaders' course, a well organized cadre from which they should have profited much.

Our health record this year, alas, left something to be desired. Harvey, poor fellow, went straight into the MRS on arrival, and came out, rather weak and wan in a sea of sunburnt faces, only just in time to travel home with us. His was the worst case, but we had also a number of poisoned horsefly bites and some tonsillitis cases; at one time, indeed, we threatened to monopolise the sick bay. All's well, however . . . and we did in fact set out for home all together. We failed to arrive, be it admitted, in quite such good order for nine cadets contrived to be left standing on the platform at Swansea in the course of a brief halt.

Looking back over the period of Camp, one is impressed most perhaps by a fact not yet mentioned: if we missed one or two high-lights, we also avoided the doldrums; the weather helped no doubt but there was in fact no grousing, no falling off in keenness, little slacking during the testing time between Reveille and first parade. For these things, much credit goes to the senior N.C.O.s, all of whom under the tireless leadership of C.S.M. Walker did a very good job. All honour, too, to our "babies", the 14 year olds—a whole platoon of them. In Camp, on

training, and on the line of march, when allowed to set their own pace, they showed a pleasing enthusiasm; and it was gratifying that the competition, held over the period of Camp, for the best tent in our lines was won, and won quite handsomely, by a tent-load of these fledglings.

Farewell, then, to Castlemartin or rather *au revoir*. Notwithstanding the long journey and the complications on the administrative side, we look forward to coming back again . . . Fairer than that no man can say.

S.C.P.

#### R.N. Section Notes

This term for the first time the numbers in the section rose to over forty—an encouraging sign.

Field Day was spent boating at the Sea Cadet boating station at Surbiton, and despite the weather, and a certain lack of variety in facilities available, we passed an enjoyable day.

At the end of term we said goodbye to the majority of our senior members and we wish them all luck, especially P.O. P. J. Simmonds who is aiming for Dartmouth, and L/S A. M. Smith who is hoping to do his National Service in the Navy, and has finished his first fortnight's training in the R.N.V.R. in H.M.S. *Ocean*.

During the holidays, several Cadets went to Naval Aviation Courses, and several others to Annual Camp.

#### Annual Camp

This year the camp was in two parts, the first party going to H.M.S. *Glasgow* at Portsmouth, while a second party was due to go aboard the same ship later at Invergordon.

The first party spent a very enjoyable and instructive week at Portsmouth, where a varied and interesting programme went through smoothly. Included in the week were a visit to submarines, and a new aircraft carrier, H.M.S. *Bulwark*, some sailing and boat-pulling, conducted tours of shore installations, including a gunnery range and a radar school, as well as instruction around the ship itself. In all a very successful week, and we must record our gratitude to the Captain and Ship's Company of H.M.S. *Glasgow* for the way in which we were looked after.

L.C.J.G.

#### SCOUT TROOP

Thirteen members of the Troop attended a successful summer camp, held in conjunction with the 2nd Abingdon Troop on the Gower Peninsula, South Wales. Blessed with ten days of glorious sunshine the scouting prospered, and most of those present returned within easy grasp of their second class badge. This augurs well for the future

and we can look forward to the Golden Jubilee of scouting with the prospect of having some first class scouts in the Troop. Thanks must be extended to Mr. Peter Lovely without whose energy and enthusiasm the camp would have been impossible. We are also very grateful to Mr. Gray of the 2nd Abingdon Troop for his co-operation and help.

We welcome W. C. Broad back to the Troop and, judging by his experience at camp, expect him to have a happy and profitable time with us.

Finally we all join in wishing our A.S.M. and Mrs. Hasnip the very best for the future. Certainly we shall expect our cooking standards to improve.

M.N.W.

### "NO TUMBLED HOUSE"

On the evening of July 20th the premiere of the Photographic Society's new film, "No Tumbled House" was presented in the School Gymnasium to a select audience. Later, as part of the Founder's Day entertainment, shows were given to parents and boys in the Corn Exchange on July 22nd and July 23rd. We were fortunate to have Mr. A. W. Hodgkinson, Film Appreciation Officer of the British Film Institute, to review the film and we print below his appreciation.

"A narrow band of celluloid roughly a quarter of a mile long, unwinding its smooth coils for the space of an hour; the summation and summary of countless man-hours and boy-hours, hopes, fears, disappointments, triumphs. How shall a critic from outside assess its final significance, not merely as another film made in school, but as a factor in education, another step in the acceptance of film as a proper subject for study alongside the older arts?

What one looks for above all is *freshness*—not of plot, nor even of treatment, but the young film-makers' sense of, discovery of the world they inhabit, and the imparting of it to the audience. One remembers Flaherty and the Esquimaux, and Grierson's definition of documentary as "the creative interpretation of reality".

Documentary—that much-abused term. Is *No Tumbled House* a documentary? Or merely a factual record, rousing sympathetic murmurs from an audience "in the know" but leaving the outsider on the outside. At the end of the film, with the voices of the choir and the organ ringing in retrospect in the ears, one could say—yes, I was at Abingdon: I know what it was like—the Headmaster's trick of looking upwards and sideways through his spectacles, the fagging, the masters' conferences, Matron's room, the river, the cold washing on wintry mornings, the boy who had already begun to shave, the swotting, examinations, the "Abingdon Bunk" bringing me back and taking me away. These are the intangibles, the "spirit of the school", which only the film—the

good film, the documentary—can convey to the stranger. This is the greatest measure of success. *No Tumbled House* is successful.

Other things delight the "film-man". The cutting—trimmed to the bone, no *longeurs*; the carefully-composed shots; the verve and dash—they knew what they wanted, and who cared if it was technically impossible? And the sound-track: an integral part of many sequences, not a crutch to sustain inadequate visuals. Especially, perhaps in the sequence of the Headmaster's talk to the parents—a respectfully quiet, schoolboy mockery of authority, both of home and school. "The Headmaster speaks of the cadet force . . ."; the quiet school-newsreel voice and, in joyous surprising counterpoint, the cadet force itself, Karno in battledress. One shot and all is told. Economy—the rarest of all qualities in the amateur film. The critic hugs himself.

This economy, this dash, appears in scene after scene. Young John Howard, new boy, bewildered, with admonitory voices in his ears, sinks thankfully into his seat—the wrong classroom! The panicky moment is captured—we laugh, but recall in our laughter our own moments of schoolboy panic. The examination sequence: there in the front row, never emphasized out of proportion but perfectly cameoed, sits our self—unhappy, bothered, clinging pathetically to the paper one hates, yet is so loth to relinquish to authority. And next to us the ineffable swot, leaning back with the smirk of work well done.

Good acting quality derives so much from careful and sympathetic handling by the director. The little boys filling in the foreground in the general shots occasionally glance self-consciously at us, but watch them in the *directed* scenes—the dormitory, the fisticuffs in the Junior Common Room. Their nonchalance is unfeigned, their battle real. More revealing still is the acting of the masters, whose adult self-consciousness ("one must do this for the boys") so often ruins the best intentions of the film-maker. *They've* been properly handled, too, and show it.

This must not become panegyric. There are things which are wrong. Better to name them than to adopt the kindly evasive style which leaves the reader guessing at what strictures have been left unwritten. The Oxford sequence is *wrong*. One hates to say it—it is beautifully photographed and edited, the words which accompany it are noble and well-spoken. But it belongs to some other film. This is the story of Abingdon (one ignores the modest disclaimer in the opening title). Oxford must make its own film.

The hour-glass device is well-conceived but badly executed, and becomes an embarrassment. The "prefect's list" joke is too subtle. The shot of the "third gardener" comes too late and pushes the joke too far. The device of "freezing" the action whilst re-winding the camera doesn't come off—far better to adopt a new viewpoint. And one *must* have a tripod for panning and tilting.

These are niggling technical criticisms, unimportant in relation to the overall picture. Ambition has here o'erleapt itself—no great fault.

What next, Asps? Try something easier, yet more exacting. Let not that lively schoolboy wit be trammelled by the cold and indigestible routine of normal school life—*No Tumbled House* is as good a documentary as you will make. Now let's give creative expression free rein—next time, a fiction film? Please!"

A.W.H.

## SCHOOL SOCIETIES

### ROYSSÉ SOCIETY

At the first meeting of the Summer Term the Headmaster most kindly invited us to accompany him to the New Theatre, Oxford, to hear Miss Joyce Grenfell. After the show the resident members of the society cooked a supper of ham and eggs for all, thus rounding off a most enjoyable evening, for which we are most grateful to the Headmaster.

T. C. Glücklich read a paper at the next meeting entitled, "The Anatomy of Peace". In this authoritative paper the author investigated the causes of war and assigned them to the failure of religion, capitalism and socialism. Subsequent discussion was vigorous and centred around the difficulties of establishing and maintaining international law.

At the last meeting of the term P. J. Simmonds read a paper entitled, "The Fascinating History of Rowing". The paper was elegantly written and gave us a symposium on various aspects of rowing. Finally he gave a graphic account of the race in which we won the Public Schools' Fours at Marlow Regatta. A lighthearted discussion followed in which the theory of rowing was extensively analysed and improvements suggested.

The Society wishes to record its extreme indebtedness to the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban for their very generous hospitality, for which we are truly grateful, and also to those masters who have supported and enlivened our meetings.

R.M.M.

### TURNOR SOCIETY

The Summer Term was such a busy one that only two meetings were held. The first talk was given by Mr. Colquhoun, the Scouting Commissioner of Relationships. In a most interesting talk he outlined the history of the scouting movement and explained that scouting was not merely for youngsters. We were told of the great part it plays in everyday life and of its relationships to similar movements.

At the other meeting Dr. Betz, who is in this country on a lecture tour, kindly came to speak to us on "Religion in America". This was

held in Big School because of the exceptionally good attendance. Dr. Betz outlined the development of the Church in America from the time of the early settlers, telling of the steady increase in church attendance, and illustrating his talk with some weighty statistics. Unfortunately there was insufficient time for him to answer all the many questions.

J.M.P.

### DEBATING SOCIETY

The motion at the first meeting was that "This house considers that the R.A.F. should be the senior service". B. P. Kibble and J. M. Mobbs proposed it, and were opposed by T. A. W. Walker and B. M. Roberts. The debate was marred by the failure of both sides to agree on the definition of the word "senior". The motion was defeated by 22—9 with many abstentions.

At the second meeting the motion that "This house deplors the result of the General Election" was heavily defeated. It was proposed by C. S. Woodruff and C. M. Dunman, while N. K. Hammond and N. J. H. Grant opposed it.

The third meeting proved to be very entertaining; a Mock Trial being held. The Committee were charged with "conspiring to arrange debates prejudicial to the entertainment of the members". D. S. Gerrard and B. D. Winkett, who were respectively prosecuting and defending counsils, and the Judge, S. C. Woodley, all spoke excellently. The defendants were found guilty and were sentenced to the horrible punishment of not being allowed to speak at the society again during the session.

We wound up the term with a masters' debate. Mr. D. O. Willis and Mr. G. M. Helliwell proposed that "This house considers it was born in the wrong century", while the Headmaster and Mr. E. H. F. Sawbridge opposed it. The motion was carried by 63 votes to 55.

C.S.W.

### SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

Unfortunately it was only found possible to hold one meeting of the Society during the Summer Term. At this a film, made by the Electricity Board and called "The Good Old Days" was shown. It was a fantasy about a man who wished for the "good old days" of his great-grandfather's time—and received his wish only to discover the discomforts of living without electricity!

Several meetings have, however, been arranged for the Michaelmas Term, including a lecture by Dr. D. Taylor of A.E.R.E. Harwell on "The Development of Radar", a subject on which Dr. Taylor has done much research.

R.W.W.

## PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The most important event this term has been the completion and screening of 'No Tumbled House', which is reviewed elsewhere in this issue. Everyone worked very hard to have this 65 minute film ready in time for the Première on July 20th and, in fact, pieces were still being removed from the film five minutes before it was given its first public showing in the Gymnasium. It was also shown at the Corn Exchange on July 22nd and on Founder's Day to a total of some 700 people.

Last year's film, 'Thanks a Million', re-edited and with a new sound track, received high praise at the Slough Arts Festival this year but did not win us the cup which 'Ut Proficias' had earned us the year before.

The Society has enjoyed some interesting lantern lectures on Pictorial Photography this term. There was also a high standard in the Annual Exhibition, whilst some of Pulsford's work was outstanding.

We are very sorry to lose Martin Pulsford this term, for he was responsible for much of the technical excellence of 'No Tumbled House'—and also John Hall, Tony Maxwell, Geoffrey Slack and Anthony Smith. We wish them all good fortune. It is noteworthy, incidentally, that Michael Sale, who left the A.S.P.S. last year, already holds a successful position in Ealing Studios.

M.K.C.G.

A word, finally, for Michael Grigsby. It was largely through his initiative and drive that the A.S.P.S. was formed some three years ago. Since then he has put in a tremendous amount of work, both as Director and Secretary, and it is through his enthusiasm and very able leadership that the Society has acquired respectability not merely in Abingdon School but also in Amateur Photographic circles throughout the country. He has already been elected to the, almost exclusively professional, British Kinematograph Society and it is perhaps superfluous to say that we wish him every success in his chosen profession.

J.M.A.T.

## ORCHESTRA

The members of the orchestra now number thirty two. This increase in number has brought a better standard of performance, a standard which bore fruit in the very encouraging remarks of the adjudicator of the North Berks Musical Festival (held early in the Summer Term) and also in the commendable performances on Founder's Day. For this the credit is due to Mrs. Kitching, Mrs. Fry and Mr. Ward under whose guidance the strings continue to thrive; to Mrs. Woolley who is in charge of the woodwind and to Mr. Clack who provides us with competent brass players. We are most grateful to them all and particularly to Mr. Sawbridge who so successfully welds the various sections into a single unit.

There is still, however, much room for improvement and anyone who is interested is urged to apply for entrance to the orchestra or the band at the earliest opportunity.

R.E.J.P.

### MUSIC SOCIETY

Because of the many other activities during the Summer Term, only five meetings were held. Of these three were record programmes and were introduced by M. B. Culley, D. J. Exon and P. Watkiss, to all of whom we are most grateful. The records played were Dvorak's 'Cello Concerto, Schubert's Ninth Symphony and Beethoven's Emperor Concerto. The remaining two meetings, however, were the highlights of the term.

The first was a recital of music for violin and piano which was given by C. F. M. Kitching and M. Q. King (violins) and the Secretary (Piano). Their programme consisted of works by Handel, Schubert, Kreisler and J. S. Humphries and the evening proved very enjoyable for audience and performers alike. This most successful recital was the first of its kind and it is hoped that other would-be performers will come forward in the future and provide a similar entertainment, for music, like charity, begins in the home—and at school.

Some weeks later, Mr. Allen Percival visited us from Cambridge and gave a talk entitled "Spanish Music" at which we were glad to welcome a number of staff and their ladies. In one hour Mr. Percival gave a very concise and comprehensive survey of Spanish music. He himself played some musical examples on the piano and used records for further illustrations. We are indeed most grateful to Mr. Percival for his very interesting talk.

R.E.J.P.

### HOLIDAY CLUB

During the Easter Holidays the Club played three enjoyable table-tennis matches, winning two and drawing the other.

Near the end of the Summer Term we met Cumnor Boys' Brigade in the first round of the Brookes Cricket Cup. For this we were fortunate to have the use of the pitch on Waste Court Field and there had a very fine game, limited to 18 overs each. Our opponents declared at 81 for 5, to which we could only reply with 55.

Once again we should like to thank the Headmaster for his kind permission to use the Gym.

D.A.J.



## O.A. NOTES

*Births*

**BEADLE.** On 19th May 1955, at the Warren Hospital, Abingdon, to Mary, wife of Mervyn Beadle (1944), a son, Paul Andrew, brother for Michael.

**BETTERTON.** On 4th June 1955, to Pamela (née Grant), wife of A. J. Betterton (1945), a son, Michael James.

*Marriages*

**CLAY—TORTISE.** On 21st May 1955, at Lindfield, Sussex, Richard Anthony Clay, R.A. (1948) to Jennifer Tortise, of Eaton Place, London.

**CULLEN—FROST.** On 24th May 1955, at St. Mary's Church, Longworth, Christopher S. Cullen, M.R.C.V.S. (1947) to Lucy Pamela, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Frost, of Draycott Moor, Kingston Bagpuize.

**HEAVENS—GREEN.** On 3rd September, 1955, at St. Michael's Church, Abingdon, David Heavens (1951) to Norma, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Green of Abingdon.

**SCOTT—ROOKE.** On 27th August, 1955, at Summertown Congregational Church, Oxford, Peter Arthur Strange Scott (1943) to Jeanne Erica Rooke.

**STROSS—JAMES.** On 10th March, 1955, in London, Raymond Stross (1933) to Clare Cory James.

**McPHERSON—EDWARDS.** On 25th March 1955, at All Saints' Church, Beirut, Lebanon, James McPherson (1933) to Marjorie Edwards, of Coton, Whitchurch, Salop.

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We have recently received from T. S. Wilding (1905) an interesting reminder of the spacious days some 50 years ago. It is a photographic plate of a School team assembling in a pair-horse brake on the gravel, before leaving for an away match.

C. R. Davidge (1923) of Canton Insurance Co. has been home on leave this summer, but is returning soon to Hong Kong.

Ian Jamieson (1946) has resigned his commission in the Royal Berks. Regt., but is staying on in Somaliland for two or three years with an American Oil Company, Conoco Somal, at Hargesa. By a coincidence the Assistant Superintendent of Police there is also an O.A., R. S. Lynn Robinson (1927).

Alan Mills (1939) after 3 years as Civil flying instructor at Desford, Leics., became personnel manager with an engineering firm, but long hours in an office brought on a breakdown in health. Fortunately he is now recovered and having passed into the permanent Civil Service is Assistant Commissioner for National Savings at Rotherham, Yorks.

Our sympathy goes to Kenneth Walker (1942) who is another victim of overwork. His strenuous work as Hospital Administrator has caused a recurrence of the old trouble and he is at present in Fairfield Sanatorium, York, whither we send him our best wishes for a quick and effective recovery.

David Jones (1944) after qualifying at Guys, did his service in the R.A.M.C. in the Middle East and was for a time at Akaba. He is now looking round for a practice. His brother Michael (1947) after taking his Dip. Ed. at Oxford is going to Nigeria in the Education Department.

T. Warren Green (1946) is a partner in a firm of solicitors at Cheltenham.

W. D. Richardson (1942) is engaged in interesting work at the Seaweed Research Institute at Dalkeith, Midlothian.

David Wheaton (1948) has now been appointed Tutor and Lecturer in Classics and New Testament at Oak Hill College, Southgate. We congratulate him upon the award of his B.D.

Richard Shaw (1946) has emigrated with his parents to New Zealand where they have settled at Palmerston North.

Colin Calvert Fisher (1944) has completed his term of service in the Royal Marines and is turning to farming.

G. L. Jones (1943) is in Sierra Leone with a firm engaged in bridge building.

In the Berks Athletics Championships held at Reading in May, Pat Sale (1953) won the 3000 metres Steeplechase in 10 mins. 24 secs. and Tony King (1952) won the discus with a throw of 122ft. 7ins.

H. A. Lunghi (1939) accompanied the British delegation that recently visited Warsaw.

J. W. H. Beasley (1949) is working with a recording firm in Oxford.

P. J. Lay (1954) has been accepted at King's College, Newcastle to read for B.Sc. in Electrical Engineering.

At Reading University in Finals David Free (1952) gained 2nd Class in Classics, P. R. Sale 3rd Class in Horticulture, and P. J. Downer 3rd Class in Nat. Science.

Richard Millard (1952) has been elected Captain of Boats at St. Peter's Hall, Oxford.

Michael Heavens (1950) having negotiated 2nd M.B. is doing clinical training at Dundee Hospital.

D. McMahon (1947) has passed Part II of the Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents Examination.

### *The Services*

Lt.Col. A. J. Turnham (1934) having completed his tour of duty at the War Office attended a course at the Joint Services Staff College. He is now in the C.i.C.'s. Secretariat, H.Q. Northern Forces Central Europe at Munchen Gladbach.

Major W. R. A. Kettle (1930) is at H.Q. Cyprus District.

Of those who recently passed out from Sandhurst; Brian Leech is with 8 R.Tank Regt. at Paderborn; Hugh Leach with 6 R.Tank Regt. at Munster, and Michael Hudson is posted to R.A., Larkhill.

2nd Lt. P. W. Kemp, R.A. (1954) writes from Taiping, Malaya, where he was camping in the jungle with his independent troop. More irksome than the terrorists was the restriction on free movement.

Barrie Whiteford (1953) R.E.M.E. is at Bremen; R. J. Hines (1954) R.A.O.C. at Bicester, and E. G. Rockall (1954) Oxf. & Bucks. at Osnabruck. He has been getting in quite a lot of match shooting both in Germany and at Bisley.

M. H. Creevy (1953) R.Corps Signals is with 4 Trg. Regt. at Catterick. He is shortly going for W.O.S.B.

Alan Pezaro (1954), Rifleman in K.R.R.C., is also proceeding shortly to W.O.S.B.

Gunner Michael Ralfe (1954) of the Royal Horse Artillery, who will shortly be returning to England for W.O.S.B., recently met Peter Millard (2nd Lieut in the R. Berks) and Stephen Crawley in Germany.

2nd/Lt. John Westall, R.A. (1953) has just completed his two years national service, which has carried him to Egypt, Murittus, back to Egypt again, and finally to Cyprus.

2nd/Lt. M. Grant (1953) is now with the 3rd Battalion of the Gold Coast Regiment.

Of those who left School in July—whose fortunes we hope to record in our next issue—Roger Marchbanks and Roger Packer seem to have been the first to qualify for W.O.S.B.

## IN MEMORIAM

Now that the Old Pavilion has finally been destroyed to make room for its successor, Old Boys may like to have this reminder of the hut which served the School so faithfully for over 50 years.

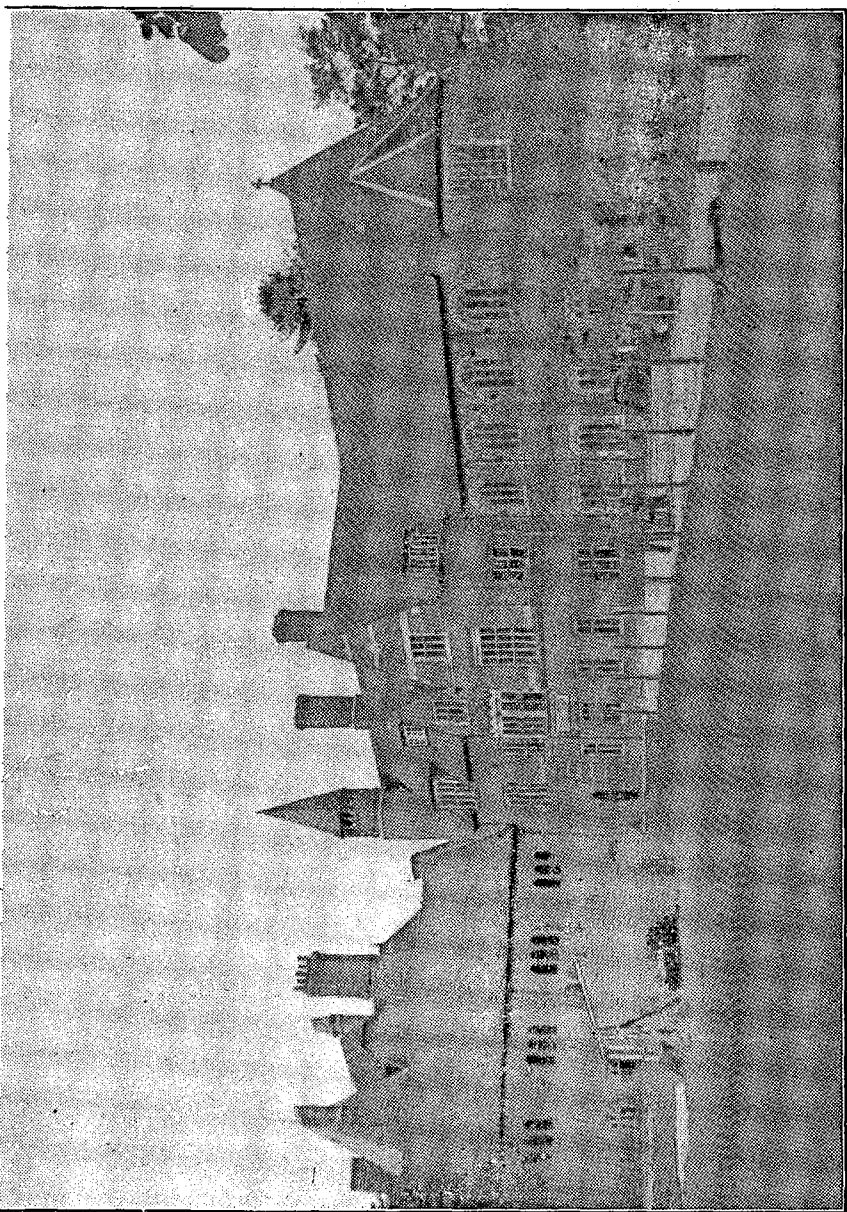
## OLD BOYS' DAY

Old Boys' Day was celebrated on Saturday, 25th June, in beautiful summer weather. A large number of Old Boys, covering many generations of school life, revisited the School and saw the School 1st Eleven defeat the Old Boys by three wickets. Meanwhile the School crews had also been successful on the river, where the 1st Four, fresh from its triumph at Marlow, proved too good for the Old Boys' 1st Four.

Tea was served under the elm trees to the accompaniment of appropriate music by the brass band and the orchestra. After the Annual General Meeting of the O.A. Club (reported below) came the Dinner in the Council Chamber, which was attended by almost one hundred members and guests. The President, Mr. T. E. Gardiner, was supported by the President-Elect, Mr. C. C. Woodley, the Headmaster, and Mr. Grundy; and the guests included the Mayor of Abingdon (Councillor H. J. Polley, J.P.), Lord Glyn of Farnborough, Mr. E. E. Sparkes, Mr J. S. Candy and Mr. J. H. Hooke (Governors of the School) and four of the senior prefects.

After the loyal toast and the toast of John Roysse had been formally honoured, the President proposed the health of the School with which he coupled the name of the Headmaster. Mr. Cobban in reply gave a summary of the School's progress during the past year. He was able to claim that the School had now achieved two of its ambitions, in gaining an open major award in Science at Oxford and in winning the Public Schools' Fours at Marlow—the premier event of its type. It was clear that the School had a big future in front of it but he would do his best to see that development and expansion did not bring with them any change in the essential character of the School.

In response the President-Elect was happily reminiscent; and he in turn proposed the final toast, of the Visitors. Lord Glyn, replying, emphasised the important part that Abingdon School would have to play in providing the next generation of scientists and reminded his hearers of the close and friendly relations that had always existed between School and Town. To follow Lord Glyn was no easy task, but David Jones, the Head of the School, "closed the innings" with a straightforward and competent speech of thanks on behalf of himself and his fellow-guests from the School. The installation of the new President concluded the formal part of the proceedings.



Much of the credit for a highly successful dinner is again to be given to the Dinner Secretary, Mr. Duncan West. Special thanks are due too to Mrs. Bevir who decorated the dinner tables so beautifully. The Guildhall can rarely have looked so attractive as it did with the evening sun streaming in upon the tables.

On the Sunday morning a large number of Old Boys attended service in the School Chapel. Subsequently the visitors were entertained to coffee by Mrs. Cobban in the garden of School House—again in delightful sunshine.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Club was held in the Pembroke Room at 5.45 p.m. on 25th June, 1955. The President, Mr. T. E. Gardiner was in the chair and 51 members were present.

The President called the Meeting to stand for a few moments in memory of their friend and Master, Mr. Ross Barker, who died on 17th March this year.

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were read, approved and signed.

2. The Secretary reported another successful year. The social functions had been very well attended especially the Dance at which was the record number of 178 people. The report was adopted.

3. The Sports Secretary reported a fairly good year, exceptional in Athletics but not so at Cricket. He again urged people to write early if they wished to participate in sporting events. Warm thank were expressed to the Sports Secretary and his report was adopted.

4. The Treasurer's Report which was circulated at the meeting gave balances on 25th June, 1955:—

At Westminster Bank	£85	16	1
At Trustee Savings Bank	£69	16	0
In Hand		20	13 5
		<hr/>	
Total	£176	5	6

With due thanks to the Treasurer and Auditor the report was adopted.

5. The Committee's proposition recommending the election of a President-Elect each year was carried nem con. The prime purpose of this is to provide a stepping stone to the Presidency.

6. After the President had briefly introduced the next item on the agenda, the question of the new Pavillons, the Headmaster explained the needs of the School and Mr. R. E. Eason expressed the views of the O.A.T.F. After full and frank discussion it was agreed with one dissident that the Committee of the Club should be authorised to undertake:—

(a) the erection of a suitable modest pavilion on the Upper Field with R-B's. legacy supplemented by the replacement value of the present structure, as a memorial to him.

(b) an all-out drive to support the O.A.T.F. and if the response is sufficient, as a first project to assume responsibility for providing an appropriate pavilion on the War Memorial Field with money from the Fund.

7. The Officers elected for 1955-56 were as follows:—

President: C. C. Woodley  
 Vice-President—J. M. Cobban  
 President-Elect—G. S. Sturrock  
 Hon. Sec.—N. J. Holmes  
 Asst. Secs.—John Hooke and D. B. West  
 Hon. Treas.—W. Bevir  
 Sports Sec.—E. H. Aldworth  
 Asst. Sports Sec.—J. T. Cullen  
 London Sec.—S. A. Paige  
 S. Cullen, G. F. Duxbury and J. M. Viney  
 were re-elected to the Committee.

8. It was proposed by Mr. Eason that the success of the School Boat Club at Marlow this year be recorded in the minutes and that the Secretary should convey this fact and our congratulations to the Captain of Boats.

There being no other business the President thanked members for their indulgence and declared the meeting closed.

—:—

In furtherance of the resolution passed at the A.G.M. the following letter is being despatched to all members of the Club:

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

The War Memorial Field, given to the School by the Old Boys, is already a remarkably fine sports ground. This summer it has stood the test of 1st XI cricket and both the field itself and the square have won high praise from all those who have played on it. But it cannot serve its proper purpose without a pavilion.

The School, in fact, now needs two pavilions—the one a modest structure to replace the old 'pav' on Upper Field; the other a larger building on the War Memorial Field with changing rooms and washing facilities. Thanks to a generous legacy from the late Mr. Ross-Barker the pavilion on Upper Field is now 'covered'. At the Annual General Meeting of the Club in June it was decided that the Club should undertake to provide the pavilion on the War Memorial Field and that the Old Abingdonian Trust Fund should be asked to collect the necessary money.

It is estimated that a pavilion worthy of the field, the school and the club will cost at least £2,500. Towards this sum we already have £700 left over from the War Memorial Appeal and the present balance—about £500—of the O.A.T.F. The trustees have agreed to devote not only this sum but also their future income, so far as it may be needed, to this purpose. But with the present income of the Fund it would take many years to raise the necessary total and the need is urgent. **WILL YOU HELP US TO BRIDGE THE GAP?**

You may wish to send a single donation to the Treasurer of the O.A.T.F. (Mr. G. F. Duxbury) at the School. But may we remind you that the best way to subscribe is by joining the O.A. Trust Fund and signing a seven-year covenant on the appropriate forms? If you do this, every guinea you subscribe will, by recovery of income-tax, be worth about 35/-.

We need not preach to the converted, but out of some 800 members of the Club only about one in ten is at the moment a regular subscriber to the Trust Fund. We feel that this number is not big enough. There is among the Old Boys an immense fund of loyalty and goodwill towards the School that is easily capable of providing a pavilion that would be the envy of all visiting schools and clubs—provided that we can broaden the basis of the fund. If you already subscribe, please treat this letter purely as information. If you do not, will you consider very seriously whether you can join in and help. Please don't put this letter by and slowly forget it. We want to lay that foundation stone quite soon! All you have to do is send the forms to George Duxbury at the School—now.

There is another point. Our immediate aim is to provide the School with a worth-while Pavilion, but the appeal to increase the income of the O.A.T.F. goes much deeper. It is becoming more and more widely recognised that those who think that a school such as ours has something to offer the English system of education should be prepared to back their beliefs with their money. We have got the means to hand—the O.A.T.F.—by which every Old Boy can contribute each year to his old School. We want to get as many new subscribers as possible who will engage to give, say, one guinea a year. If the response to this



appeal is what we think it will be, the Fund will soon be able to pay for the Pavilion. Then it could devote itself to building up a further sum of money which by 1963 could provide a substantial gift to mark the 400th anniversary of the refounding of the School.

Yours sincerely,

C. C. Woodley (*President O.A. Club*).

R. E. Eason (*for the O.A.T.F.*).

#### O.A. DANCE

The Old Abingdonian Club Dance will be held on 3rd December, 1955. Tickets can be obtained from W. Bevir, Esq., price 10/- each.

#### OLD ABINGDONIAN TRUST FUND

The Trustees have to acknowledge with deep gratitude the receipt of £250 bequeathed to the Fund in the will of Mr. Ross Barker. This they have agreed to devote to the provision of the pavilion on Upper Field, and a plaque will be placed in the building recording the fact as a simple memorial to R.B.

Below are the accounts for the year 1954—55, audited through the good offices and kindness of R. W. Snell.

<i>Receipts</i>				<i>Payments</i>			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance in hand				Magazine Expenses	26	13	4
1/4/54	298	1	0	Postages and Stationery	1	12	10
Donations and				Balances 31/3/55			
Subscriptions	98	0	6	Cash at Bank	22	10	2
Refund of I.T. on				„ at Trustee S.B.	395	14	10
Covenants	45	8	8	„ in hand	1	1	0
Trustee Savings Bank							
Interest	6	2	0				
	<u>£447</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>£447</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>2</u>

In view of the appeal for new subscribers now being launched by the O.A. Club it is thought that readers would welcome up-to-date information about the personnel connected with the Fund. The present trustees are R. E. Eason, G. F. Powell, R. W. Snell and J. D. Wood. With them rests the final and absolute decision on the disposal of the money in the Fund, though they are naturally guided by the wishes of the Club and the School. The Fund is no longer tied to the Magazine subscription though all regular subscribers to the Fund automatically receive the Abingdonian. Apart from a small number of

donations each year the income of the fund is derived from those who have signed Bankers Orders, with or without Covenants, and from Income Tax recovered upon the latter, which provides nearly a third of the annual income. We are particularly grateful to those who have renewed their Covenants as they expire, and also to those who have transferred to the O.A.T.F. on the expiry of their War Memorial Covenants. The present number of subscribers is 118, but it is hoped that as a result of the appeal it will be considerably increased. In the list that follows the figures indicate the number of 7 year Covenants signed.

Covenanted Subscribers: J. B. E. Alston (3), T. G. Austin (2), E. R. Bailey, G. V. Bayley, W. Bevir, J. C. Blackmore, B. N. J. Bosley, G. A. H. Bosley, L. G. Cather, O. E. Clarke, R. C. Clarke, J. M. Cobban (2), A. H. Cox (2), S. Cullen, A. C. Dean (2), N. Duncan, G. F. Duxbury (3), R. E. Eason (3), S. A. Fabes, A. E. B. Foxwell, A. W. R. Foxwell, T. E. Gardiner, J. A. Garner, R. D. Gibaud, J. Graff, H. B. Healy, R. Hedger, G. Hill, A. A. Hillary, N. J. Holmes, J. H. Hooke (2), R. I. Hoyle, J. Y. Ingham (3), W. M. Isbister, R. F. Jackson (2), B. C. Jakeman, A. F. James (2), D. E. Jarvis, W. R. A. Kettle, J. Knowles, L. L. Lacey Johnson, E. G. Langford (3), H. R. Lansdown, F. C. Lucas, W. Memory (3), C. E. T. Moore, K. Mills, R. G. Mortimer, J. N. Paige, S. A. Paige (2), S. C. Parker, E. F. Parks, R. J. Pezaro, S. D. Plummer (2), J. Ranger, Mrs. C. M. Raymont, J. W. Rayson, E. P. Rice, G. F. Rice, W. A. Rudd, J. N. Sanders (3), E. H. F. Sawbridge, R. W. Snell, H. D. S. Stiles, J. L. Taylor, T. D. Thomas, J. M. Viney, D. B. West, J. L. West, W. F. Wiggins, T. S. Wilding, J. D. Wood, J. M. Wood, C. C. Woodley, D. C. Woolf (2).

Subscribers by Banker's Order: P. L. Beckett, Miss Bennell, F. A. Bennett, T. W. Brallsford, D. G. Brown, C. R. Burborough, F. W. Burgess, T. J. H. Charley, H. J. Clarke, J. A. D. Cox, C. V. Davidge, M. A. Drewe, C. Ellis, F. L. England, R. L. C. Footitt, J. W. G. Freeston, G. J. Good, H. M. Gray, J. H. Hill, P. B. Keys, G. R. Kirkby, R. B. Langford, Joseph Lay, Rev. T. M. Layng, A. L. Leigh, H. A. Lunghi, J. McPherson, R. P. F. Mills, C. B. F. Milne, R. Milne, L. P. Mosdell, M. Ogle, D. W. Olliffe, Miss I. S. Peach, J. L. Platnauer, C. A. Ronan, R. H. Shaw, A. N. Tomlin, A. J. Turnham, P. E. Wagstaff, T. A. Wiggins, K. T. Wood, D. C. K. Wright.

G. F. Duxbury.

### Terms of Subscription

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

All subscriptions to the Club or enquiries relating to it should be sent to the Treasurer, W. Bevir, Esq., 36 Park Road, Abingdon, Berks.

### 'The Abingdonian'

Old Boys and others can obtain the Magazine in three ways:

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

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



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