

# THE ABINGDONIAN

VOL. XI No. 7

JANUARY, 1959

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## CALENDAR, LENT TERM, 1959

### January

Fri. 16	Term begins.
Wed. 28	1st XI v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (h).
Thur. 29	Cross Country v. Radley College & St. Edward's (a).
Sat. 31	1st XI v. St. Edward's School (a).

### February

Wed. 4	Cross Country v. Reading School (a).
Wed. 11	1st XI v. Radley College 2nd XI (h).
Sat. 14	1st XI v. Abingdon H.C. (h).
Sat. 21	1st XI v. Solihull School (a).
Sat. 28	1st XI v. Old Abingdonians (h).

### March

Sat. 7	1st XI v. Wallingford Grammar School (a).
Wed. 11	Athletics Meeting v. City of Oxford School (h).
Thur. 12	Field Day—C.C.F. and Scouts.
Sat. 14	1st XI v. Old College, Sandhurst (a).
	1st and 2nd VIIIs at Reading Head of the River Races.
	Cross Country team in Culham Road Relay (a).
Sat. 21	Athletics Meeting v. Old Abingdonians (h), 2 p.m.
Wed. 25	First Sports Day, 2.15 p.m.
Sat. 28	Athletics Meeting v. Radley College (a).
Mon. 30	Final Sports Day, 2 p.m.
Tues. 31	Term ends, 10.15 a.m.

Summer Term begins Tuesday, 28th April, 1959.  
(Boarders return Monday, 27th April).

Misericordias  
Domini



in aeternum  
cantabo

## OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL

January, 1959

### SCHOOL PREFECTS

A. J. Costley (Head of School and of Crescent House)	
A. J. Foden (Head of School House)	
J. H. Thewlis (Head of Day Boys)	
C. J. Redknap (D)	G. M. Crow (L)
J. A. Sheard (S)	D. G. Darroch (S)
D. H. Bragg (D)	D. G. Morris (W)
D. S. Lees (D)	R. Dickenson (D)
P. P. Wintle (S)	R. S. Green (S)
J. J. Day (D)	D. E. Camplin (D)
C. D. Loukes (D)	P. E. Perry (Cres. H.)

### HOUSE PREFECTS

*School House*—D. T. L. Eke, N. G. Mackenzie, M. G. Yarkoff, T. A. Libby, E. E. Lier, A. L. Howell.

*Crescent House*—A. Rowles, D. W. G. Riddick, C. P. Wyatt.

*Larkhill*—S. M. Womar.

*Waste Court*—R. W. Harvey, R. J. Baldwin.

*Dayboy*—L. J. Kirby, P. J. Ford, A. P. Haynes, J. Fry, P. Kandiah, G. M. Morse, G. S. Howlett, G. W. Jones, A. F. Pritchard, D. P. Kirk, R. R. Bailey, M. A. C. Stockwell.

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Captain of Hockey—D. G. Morris.

Secretary of Hockey—R. J. Baldwin.

Captain of Athletics—D. G. Darroch.

Secretary of Athletics—D. T. L. Eke.

Secretary of Cross-Country—J. A. Sheard.

Captain of Boats—A. J. Costley.

Secretary of Boats—P. P. Wintle.

Secretary of G.G.C.—D. G. Darroch.

Secretary of Minor Games—D. H. Bragg.

### "The Abingdonian"

Editor—R. S. Green.

O.A. Editor and Treasurer—Mr. Duxbury.

Asst. Editors—J. A. Sheard, A. J. Costley.

## EDITORIAL

There is a well-known story of a conversation between an American and an English schoolmaster. "Do you let them smoke?" asked the former, "Good Heavens, no!" was the reply. "Do you let them drink, then?", "Of course not". "Well, then, what about dates?" "Oh that's all right, we let them eat as many as they like so long as they're not ill". So much by way of irrelevant introduction. There is prevalent among certain people an idea that schools of our type are particularly narrow-minded when it comes to Wine, Women and Smoke; but, let us hasten to add, we consider that this school is pretty reasonable in such matters, though we did think it would be a good idea to set down clearly a few editorial thoughts on the problem.

It was with interest that we noted the recent installation of a bar at a certain public school. This was, strangely enough, not a legal innovation whereby justice might be meted out more efficiently to the boys, but a place where all over sixteen might enjoy a maximum of two pints of beer or cider a day. Such an institution seems to us, in theory, a remarkably good idea though, even to those who agree with it, certain overpowering pecuniary objections suggest themselves. Those of us who are over eighteen are no more alcoholic than the next man, and we understand and accept the school rule that forbids us entry to a public house. Otherwise, to be frank, we should like to take advantage of the privilege offered to us by the law, and we should derive great enjoyment from a pint or two at one of the thirty-two 'locals'. But we deplore the sight of any person or persons under the age of eighteen propping up the bar with his or her elbow.

About smoking, however, we are more dogmatic, even though we realise we are laying ourselves open to the charge of 'damning sins that we've no mind to'. Firstly ten cigarettes cost more than a pint of bitter. Secondly by the time you are a hardened smoker your palate will no longer be able to appreciate good beer. Thirdly and most convincingly, while it can be said that beer is good for you, it has been scientifically proved, at least to the satisfaction of non-smokers, that smoking is bad for you. Not only does it empty your pockets and dull your senses, but also, far far worse, the causal connection between heavy smoking and lung cancer is too convincing to be laughed off. For this last reason it is obvious that the habit should be discouraged amongst boys who are still at school, for if they can be kept from smoking at school there is a far greater chance that they will never become addicts.

And dates? Well, stick to the rules and don't eat too many . . .

### SCHOOL NOTES

We are happy to record that our Vice-Chairman, Lord Glyn, is now restored to full health and vigour; we only wish we had similar good news of Mr. H. J. Thomas, who is still seriously ill.

Our good wishes go to South Africa in pursuit of Mr. G. R. F. Bredin, another member of the Governing Body, who is alleged to be enjoying a sabbatical term. We hesitate to believe however that he has managed completely to cut himself off from his many responsibilities.

We offer a warm welcome to the three new members whom the Abingdon Corporation has nominated as its representative Governors, Alderman C. G. Barber, Colonel L. K. Ledger, C.I.E., O.B.E., I.M.S. (retd.), and Councillor J. H. Stanley.

We congratulate Mr. Austin Longland, Q.C., a former member of the Governing Body and a very dear friend of the School, on the award of the C.B.E. that was notified in the New Year's Honours List: Mr. John Hooke, O.A., on his appointment as Master of Christ's Hospital—a worthy successor in line to the first Master of 1553, Sir John Mason; and Mr. Airey Neave, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., M.P. on his translation to the office of Parliamentary Undersecretary of State for Air.

His many friends will have heard with deep concern of the serious and prolonged illness of Mr. Bevir. But his fighting spirit has stood him in good stead, and we can confidently hope that he has now turned the corner. Warm good wishes to 'Bill'—and to Mrs. Bill.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Hasnip on the birth of a son (Michael Keith, 24th September), and Mr. and Mrs. Prosser on the birth of a daughter (Eluned Mair, 22nd November).

In the course of the term we were glad to welcome two old friends, the Rev. Bernard Mayes, to whom we wish every success now that he has been ordained, and Mr. Neil Rattee. Later we heard with pleasure of the safe arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Rattee's first child, Carol Mary (21st December).

We congratulate Mr. Montague on his engagement to Miss Margaret Pilgrim.

Although Mr. Mark Williams has officially been translated for a year to another place, he has been very much in evidence at School, both on the rigger field and elsewhere, and we have always been very glad to see him.

We are grateful to two Old Boys, Mr. Tony Gardner and Mr. Martin Scott-Taggart, who lent us a helping hand respectively at the beginning and the end of the term.

Thanks too to Mr. A. K. Boyd, formerly of Radley, who very kindly devoted the better part of a week to giving 'interview practice' to many

of our senior members. An interesting experiment this, for which the co-operation of an experienced outsider (if Mr. Boyd will forgive the term) was essential. It was so successful that we hope to repeat it in future years.

During the coming term we look forward to welcoming no less than four student masters—two 'dayboys' from Oxford, Mr. T. R. Ward (Univ.—History) and Mr. M. C. Wright (Wadham—English), and two residents, Mr. A. W. Allen (St. John's, Cambridge—Classics) and Mr. P. W. Clifford (Reading—Modern Languages).

We say farewell, with regret and with gratitude, to Miss Penston, Housekeeper of School House, who is leaving to take up a similar appointment at Harrogate Ladies' College; and we offer a warm welcome in her stead to Miss Cobbold.

We are grateful to Group-Captain M. Wyatt, D.F.C., for the gift of 200 plotting compasses and a sextant for use in the Physics Laboratories.

Once again we have to thank the Headmaster of the City of Oxford School for kindly entertaining our candidates for the December G.C.E.

The number of boys on the School Roll at the beginning of the Michaelmas Term was 524, of whom 188 were boarders. It is interesting to note that the increase on last year's figures was almost entirely in the upper half of the School; and it reflects the wholly admirable tendency to leave boys at school longer rather than a deliberate policy of continued expansion.

We congratulate I. J. Kirby on the award of the Abingdon Scholarship (in Natural Sciences) at Pembroke College, Oxford; and J. S. Kelly on the award of this year's Sixth Form Scholarship (known *pro hac vice* as the Blacknall Scholarship).

Congratulations too to those who have been granted County Major Awards since our last issue—E. R. L. Day (Berkshire—to Southampton); M. Q. King (Berkshire—to Reading); D. J. Lanham (Gloucestershire); D. J. Meakins (Berkshire—to Bristol); R. B. Scott-Taggart (Berkshire—to T.C.D.); and D. C. Shaw (Berkshire—to the Royal Academy of Music); and also to W. J. Phipps on securing admission to R.M.C. Sandhurst.

On Friday, 26th September, Colonel J. W. Hills, M.C., gave a fascinating talk on "The Times" to the Top People of the School. Those who thought they had heard it before were soon disillusioned—to their vast entertainment and edification.

A Parents' Evening was held on Thursday, 16th October for the parents of all boys who had entered the School since January, 1958. Once again that good old war-horse "No Tumbled House" was brought out to show its paces. It wears well, and it is very entertaining for the

*cognoscenti* to identify today's prefects in yesterday's small fry, playing walk-on parts; but the time will soon come when the Film Unit will have to make us another and more up-to-date documentary. If they can maintain the standard of N.T.H. they will do well enough.

Parties from the School attended two extremely interesting lectures organised by the Friends of Abingdon. On Friday, 17th October, Mr. W. O. Hart, Clerk to the London County Council, spoke on "New Towns", and on Friday, 28th November, Councillor J. Jones brought us nearer home with a complementary talk on "Abingdon in the Future".

Middle School welcomed in the course of the term two visiting speakers who were able to talk with first-hand knowledge of work in the mission field—the Rev. A. V. Comley (Monday, 27th October—"The Mission to Lepers") and Canon J. D. Bodger (Wednesday, 12th November—"The New Guinea Mission").

Other visitors included Mr. Scrivener of the Headmasters' Employment Committee on Monday, 20th October; an Army Lecturer, Captain J. R. Moss, on Tuesday, 18th November; and the County Fire Prevention Officer, Mr. Puddephatt, on Wednesday, 10th December.

The Ruridecanal Conference was held in Lacies Court, after a short service of intercession in the Chapel, on 18th November. Attendance was markedly higher than usual, to hear the Bishop of Oxford speak on "The Lambeth Conference".

On Friday, 24th October, a small party of sixth-formers visited the Medical Research Council's Establishment at A.E.R.E.

Entertainments in the town at which the School was represented included the first production of the newly formed Abingdon Amateur Operatic Society, "Iolanthe", on 28th and 30th October; the Dramatic Society's production of "The Mask and the Face" on 21st November; and the Christmas Concert of the Abingdon Musical Society on 4th December.

On Remembrance Sunday, 9th November, a large contingent of C.C.F. and a token force of Scouts represented the School at the ceremonies in the town. As usual, we had the privilege of providing the Guard of Honour and the Buglers (C. D. Loukes and J. R. N. Ogle) at the Cenotaph. It is the first time, we believe, that both buglers have appeared in naval uniform. In the afternoon they performed the same office at Sutton Courtenay by invitation of the British Legion.

The Corps enjoyed the half-holiday granted at the request of this year's Inspecting Officer on Thursday, 20th November. As so often, it happily coincided with the match between Major Stanley's XV and O.U.R.F.C., which was watched by a large party from the School.

I met a traveller from the Antique Dealers' Fair in the Corn Exchange who said that it was visited by a small party from the School on 28th November.

On 5th December a small group of boys who had been receiving driving instruction (an extra-mural activity, incidentally, which reached the columns of the national press) visited the Vauxhall factory at Luton as the guests of their instructor, Captain Wellam-Jones.

On the same day sacred and profane went their different ways in the evening, some to the Sixth Form Dance at St. Helen's School (thank-you, ladies!) and others to the annual *Eranos* of St. Nicolas. All enjoyed themselves immensely: though whether Mr. Horrex's four-part rendering of the Highway Code in canticle form at the *Eranos* comes under the heading of sacred or profane we would not know.

On the following Sunday, 7th December, a small party attended the annual meeting of the local auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society in the Church Hall, where the Headmaster was in the chair, and an address was given by Dr. Erik Routley on "The Bible in the Modern World".

On Monday, 15th December the Church Hall was again a popular venue, this time for the Prefects' Dance. Everyone agreed that it was bigger, better and darker than before. As usual Eric Potter and His Band played superbly.

It should be recorded that on 29th November the First Forms made their traditional pilgrimage to the Roysse Room—like Germanicus, for the sake of studying antiquity: while on 2nd December the two Very Top People of the School had the great privilege of accompanying the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban to have lunch at the House of Lords with Lord Winterton and subsequently of listening from below the bar to a most interesting debate on the administrative control of nuclear projects.

We are very grateful to Major Walker, the awards officer for Berkshire, for coming down on the last morning of term to present certificates and badges to those boys who had passed the test for the Duke of Edinburgh's silver award. We congratulate R. M. Campbell, K. N. Haarhoff, R. W. Harvey, G. W. Jones, T. A. Libby, and A. H. Smith on their success.

Saturday lectures during the term were as follows: 18th October—Mr. Bernard Brown, on "Sound the Trumpet"; 25th October—Mr. Lee Kenyon, D.F.C., on "The Undersea World"; 15th November—Mr. E. Prins, on "The Dutch Landscape" (with slides); 22nd November—Mr. Jurgen Anderson-Rosendal, on "The Friendly Islands" (with film). Feature films shown were, "The Long Arm"; "The Caine Mutiny"; "Ill Met by Moonlight".

We regret that General Sir John Glubb was unfortunately prevented by illness from visiting us, but we look forward to welcoming him on 29th January.

A newly-recognised out-of-school activity is bell-ringing; and we are grateful to Mr. Lock for initiating some of our middle-school members into the complicated art of campanology.

In order to provide a more cogent incentive for the Massed P.T., it has been decided to hold the House P.T. Competition at the end of each term and to change the ribbon on the House P.T. Cup accordingly. We are very grateful indeed to Mr. Fearon, the County P.T. Organiser, who came down on 5th December to inaugurate the new system by judging the Competition. Congratulations to Reeves House, the winners, who were especially commended on the quality of their leadership and on their evident enjoyment of the exercises.

We welcome the developments that have taken place in the sporting life of the town, amongst them the foundation (long overdue!) of a Town Rowing Club, in which Old Boys of this School are playing a prominent part, and the opening of a new Pavilion for the Abingdon Sports Club. It was Mr. D. O. Willis who presided as Chairman of the Club at the opening ceremony on 22nd November.

Plays read by the Play Reading Society this term have included: "Seagulls Over Sorrento"; "An Ideal Husband" (Oscar Wilde); "Escape" (Galsworthy); and "Henry the Fifth".

The Building Club (stout fellows!) continue to make heartening progress with the new Fives Court. There have been inevitable delays, but we hope that the court will be available for play before Easter. And then? Meanwhile, warm thanks to Mr. Hasnip who has taken over this particular province of Mr. Helliwell's empire.

Social historians of the future may regard as a minor revolution the fact that boarders of the Upper Sixth have recently been allowed to wear mufti on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. We welcome the privilege, and we hope that it will continue to be exercised as sensibly as it has during the past term.

The usual Christmas suppers were held in School House and Crescent House on the last night of term, and again we were able to enjoy roast turkey and plum pudding. Afterwards the juniors dispersed to their own houses, while School House entertained Crescent House in the Gymnasium. Last year we said in this column "Next year we hope to shake our meal down rather more actively"—and we certainly did. "Sixes and Sevens", "Brothers", and even an allegedly gentle game of waffing a balloon with newspapers, left us with the sweat pouring from our brows, and with the wistful hope that some day somebody would put the H.M. on to a really gentle game.



During the Michaelmas holidays several of our members were again playing in Mrs. Kitching's Holiday Orchestra, which gave its public concert on the evening of 6th January.

The Headmaster's mail this term has included one letter addressed to "The Secretary, The Mothers' Union, Abingdon School": another to "The Royal School of Church Music, Abingdon Palace, Abingdon": and a third (appropriately enough, from Novellos, the music publishers) to "Abingdon School, Bachshire". (You may think we make these up, but we don't).

We congratulate T. I. Silvey and D. M. Spragg, who have been awarded Flying Scholarships under the auspices of the local A.T.C.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of magazines from the following schools (to 19th Dec.): Aldenham; City of Oxford; Henley; King's, Worcester; Magdalen College; Pocklington; Radley College; Reading; R.G.S., High Wycombe; St. Bartholomew's, Newbury; Southfield, Oxford; and also from the Nautical College, Pangbourne; R.N. College, Dartmouth; and R.N. Engineering College, Manadon.

Finally, we welcome two new-comers to the field of unofficial journalism, "Gryphon" and "Roundabout"; and we offer fraternal congratulations to the editors of "Octopus" which has now well and truly established itself as a first-rate newspaper and which has become a force in the School that cannot be disregarded.

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHOOL

*(At note by the Headmaster)*

It has been a busy term and on the whole an uneventful one, though not immune from those minor crises which occur in the best regulated schools—and families—but which loom so largely at the time. Nor, alas, did we gain the success for which we had hoped in the scholarship stakes. But a headmaster, like everybody else, has to keep a sense of proportion and to accept the fact that things don't always run according to plan and that the occasional lean term or year, the occasional let-down, has to be seen in context. There has been much, too, to put on the credit side. As I write these words (in a Cotswold village, by the way, where crisp sun and a thin mantling of snow combine to give a Christmas-card effect) I remember with thankfulness the smooth way in which the big change-over to the new fifth-form curriculum was carried through; the healthy spirit shown by the First Fifteen when foemen worthy of their steel drew out the best that was in them; the almost unearthly beauty and dignity of the Service of Lessons and Carols; the broad humour of Petrucio and his Katharina; some admirable performances in the Cross-country races; and a strenuous but happy end of term in the School House—never surely can welkins have

rung more loudly than they did when School and Crescent were competing in some silly game!

But the events of the term are fully recorded elsewhere. It is my job rather to deal with structural developments. Here of course the extension to School House takes pride of place. The new wing—if we can use that term of what is really a link between two existing buildings—is now up to first-floor-window level. The contractors have gone out of their way to interfere as little as possible with our daily life, and somehow or other we have managed to adjust ourselves. Perhaps the worst sufferers have been the stoking prefects (bless them!) who have had to find their way to the Trianco each night through a maze of scaffolding and brickwork. We can confidently hope that we shall be in full use of the new block in September. Meanwhile the Governors have agreed that Messrs. Organ should be asked to go straight ahead with the second half of the project—the rebuilding of the School House changing rooms—on finishing the present job. There will probably be some overlap between the two operations. It will indeed be to our advantage if work can start on the changing rooms during the summer term when it will be rather easier for us to make do with alternative accommodation.

What is more, the Governors have looked ahead to the next stage of our development and have agreed that the subsequent programme shall comprise a block of four class-rooms. The addition of these four rooms will not only enable us to allot special teaching rooms for mathematics and for geography but will also give us a little elbow-room against the day when Big School is converted into a Library. This project has already received the approval of the Ministry in principle. The School architects are at the present moment considering the question of site and design. It is of course supremely important, particularly now that our land available for building is becoming more and more restricted, that every project, however small, shall fit in with our long-term development plan.

So life promises to have further excitements for us in future years. Meanwhile, the alterations at Waste Court have now become a part of our history; but it should be recorded how much the House has been improved by the addition of the new wing and by the ingenious alterations to the existing structure. Over in School House the Christmas holidays have seen one major work of redecoration, and that is in the Dining Hall. Ceiling and window frames have been painted white, with beams in brown. Primrose hatches and a turquoise door add a splash of colour. The general appearance is immeasurably lighter and brighter. We had hoped to do something about the brick walls but the working time of the holidays was not long enough. This particular job remains on the agenda.

Mention is made on the next page of the Quatercentenary Appeal and its objectives. So it only remains for me to add another pat on

the back for the Building Club whose ambitious plan for building a fives court with practically no outside assistance has now been brought almost to fruition.

\* \* \* \*

—And of course to say how grateful my wife and I were for the hundreds of greeting cards we received at Christmas. It gave us deep pleasure, and we felt very humbled to think that so many people should remember us in this way. Cards came from parents (past and present) from places as far apart as Bermuda and Belgrade, Hong Kong and Harvard, Moscow and St. Helena. Old boys remembered us from Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia, India, Aden, Dar-es-Salaam, Rhodesia, the Transvaal, Nigeria, Ghana, Canada—and the list is far from complete. It was pleasant to be reminded from their cards that we have Old Boys at McGill and Melbourne Universities, at the Middle East Centre for Arabic Studies and at the Metropolitan Police Training School, as well as at the more usual universities and colleges. Cards from Old Boys will as usual be displayed in School so that others may share in their good wishes. The others have already been sent to a northern primary school to provide material for scrap books and the like. To all our kind friends—our very warm thanks.

\* \* \* \*

Lastly, I should like to add a personal word to the obituary notices of Kenneth Prentice and Tony Riggott which appear on another page. Some day we shall see how the broken threads fit into the larger web. Meanwhile we cherish the memory of two young men, one of whom made his mark so notably in the School dramatic productions, while the other seemed clearly destined to go so far in the Service to which he was devoted. Both of them I regarded as personal friends. We offer our sincere sympathy to their parents in their bereavement.

J.M.C.

## THE QUATERCENTENARY APPEAL

The Appeal has made very good progress since the last issue of the magazine was published. If we include the full value of covenanted subscriptions and allow for the expected repayment of income-tax, then the total sum contributed, promised or assured has risen from just over £8,000 to just over £17,000. We record below an alphabetical list of those who have subscribed between 7th September and 31st December, 1958. To all of them we express our warmest thanks. As the information has already appeared in the Press, it may not be out of place to make particular mention of two munificent gifts from big local industries. A contribution of one thousand guineas (coven-

anted over seven years) from Messrs. Morland & Co. was followed by a cheque for £2,500 from the M.G. Car Company of Abingdon, representing the Nuffield Organisation. We are just as grateful, of course, for the humble postal order from the very young Old Boy, but it cannot be denied that there is a special thrill attached to the receipt of donations of this order.

It will be remembered that the Governors had already decided that the first call on the Appeal Fund should be to pay for the reconstruction of Big School as a School Library, to form a fitting memorial, in the very heart of the School buildings, of the quatercentenary of our refoundation. They were naturally reluctant to commit themselves beyond this until it was known what kind of a response there would be to the Appeal. Now, however, they feel able to look a little further ahead; and at their last meeting in December it was agreed that the second and third objectives of the Appeal should be respectively a School Shop and a Swimming Bath. Both of these are much needed, and their construction would add enormously to the amenities of the School. It should be emphasised of course that the School Shop would not be an emporium to compete with local tradesmen but rather something in the nature of a club-room—what I myself should call by the old name of Tuckshop—where boys could go and drink tea or coca-cola in a pleasantly relaxed atmosphere. The site provisionally suggested for it is immediately to the north of the Jekyll Garden, but a final decision cannot be made until it is seen how this would fit in with the over-all development plan of the School.

We have waited so long for a proper 'Tuck Shop' and a Swimming Bath that we—the School—are very much hoping that these projects, as well as the reconstruction of Big School, can be put in hand very soon. But the other commitments of the School are such that the Governors are unable to build in anticipation of the Appeal: and of the £17,000 covered on paper, only a very small proportion is as yet represented by hard cash. That is why I am venturing once again to ask all those who have it in mind to help the Appeal, but who for one reason or another have so far put off doing so, to take the plunge now. If you have lost the appeal literature, a post card addressed to Mr. A. A. Hillary at the School will bring you a further copy. You will see from the list below that the Covenanted Subscription has established its popularity with subscribers and the Committee is still firmly of the opinion that this is the most effective and economical way of helping the Appeal. 1963 may still seem a long way off, but the plain fact is that if we are to have a library, a shop and a swimming-bath (possibly other buildings too) ready to open and use in that year, we need your initial subscriptions as soon as possible.

J.M.C.

## APPEAL FUND

Second list of subscribers: 7th September, 1958 to 31st December, 1958.

## † Covenanted Subscriptions

## \* Annual Subscriptions

Abingdon Cricket Club	P. B. Dunthorne†	E. G. Lockton
C. R. Allison	Dr. M. H. Dyson	O. J. Luker
J. B. E. Alston†	D. H. Edelsten†	W. J. Luker
W. F. Aplin	J. Edelsten†	W. J. Lynn-Robinson
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L. W. Budden†	R. D. Hall	M. Ogg
R. H. Burns†	Dr. T. A. Hall†	Gp/Capt. J. N. Ogle
J. S. Button†	E. R. Hallett†	C. S. Orland
N. A. R. Carlton	Dr. G. E. Harrison†	W. J. Overton
R. T. Chapman	Lt.Col. A. T. Hatfield†	E. L. Parry
Dr. J. Cherry	G. E. Havelock†	E. W. Parsons†
C. G. Clack	Dr. M. A. C. Heaven†	J. N. Pearson†
S. E. Clark†	J. W. Hewison†	Pembroke College,
J. W. Cloney	Hinkins & Frewin	Oxford
Miss K. M. Cobban†	J. A. Howard†	G. S. C. Peplert
V. Comfort†	P. L. Howard	Rev. G. R. Phizackerley†
A. H. Cornish†	R. C. Howell	Mrs. P. O. Portman
Cottrells Ltd.†	J. L. Iredale	William Press & Son
The Misses Cornish	Mrs. E. Jarvis	Ltd.
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R. C. E. Cox†	T. B. Johnson†	A. J. Ray
Dr. A. C. M. Coxon	C. M. Johnston†	Dr. D. C. S. Rendall
L. Cracknell	G. F. Joyce†	Dr. P. C. Richardson†
Critchley & Co.†	Dr. J. C. C. Kendall	Lt.Col. G. R. Riddick†
Inst. Capt. R. G. Cross,	M. King*	C. W. Robbins
R.N.†	Mr. & Mrs. N. Kingston	G. F. Robbins*
R. H. Davis	A. V. Kirby	C. J. Robey†
K. S. J. Day†	Mrs. Lamberton	C. W. Robinson†
R. W. Dier	C. R. Lawson†	F. J. Robinson
Mrs. P. E. Dillabough	Miss R. Layng	R. A. Rogers†
W. R. Dixon†	T. P. R. Layng	S. G. Rozier†
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F. R. Scott†	A. C. Vivian	S. A. Wilson†
H. L. Silvey	P. E. Wagstaff†	A. M. Wood†
V. W. Staniland	G. N. Walton†	Douglas & J. D. Wood†
Capt. H. B. Stevens†	R. C. J. Ware†	R. J. Woodley†
J. Stewart	D. B. West†	W. A. Wooldridge
J. Stiff†	J. L. West†	Miss E. J. Wright
Ald. F. Stimpson	West & Pritchard†	Gp/Capt. M. Wyatt
G. A. Stone†	J. L. Westall†	Wyman & Sons, Ltd.
Cdr. S. G. Taylor		

### VALETE ET SALVETE

*Valete—left 29th July, 1958*

Upper Sixth Form Arts: K. A. Clark; G. Dimond; J. M. Foster; N. D. O. Hall; P. M. C. Hampson; L. T. Harrington; M. R. Harvey; R. M. Kennedy; M. Q. King; A. P. Paxman; I. R. Peedell; N. W. Pridham; J. A. T. Saywell; R. B. Scott-Taggart; R. H. Simpson.

Upper Sixth Form Science: A. T. Aitchison; M. S. Bretscher; M. S. R. Broadway; E. R. L. Day; C. M. Dunman; D. J. Exon; P. E. J. Fitzsimons; S. H. Freedman; M. Freeman; P. M. D. Gray; R. K. Le Voi; D. J. Meakins; I. A. Oliver; B. G. Phillips; D. J. Privett; A. W. Thistlewood.

Lower Sixth Form Arts: P. J. D. Anderson; R. F. Branch; B. J. Trinder.  
Lower Sixth Form Science: E. R. J. Jouault; J. E. Knight; N. G. C. Norman; W. J. Phipps.

Form Sixth General: C. J. Bailey; B. P. Gardner; A. M. Hedges; P. S. Horrey; R. Leach; P. J. Liles; C. B. Maloney; P. N. North; M. D. Shaw; R. J. Trenaman.

Form 5A: G. Bromley; J. Kingston.

Form 5S: D. de B. Bennett; I. A. Browning; K. J. Pulley; R. D. Sladden (died 10th July); R. W. Slater; S. R. Turner.

Form 5E: M. G. Chambers. A. M. Crockford; S. M. Cuddy; D. G. L. Davies; T. P. N. Greaser; R. J. Keen; J. W. Pritchard.

Form 4B: H. W. Moorshead.

Form 1X: K. T. Blewitt.

*Salvete—came 19th September, 1958*

Lower Sixth Form Science: R. F. Burton; C. D. Louth.

Form 5A: P. Rainey.

Form 4A: C. J. D. Bailey; C. Carter; S. J. Opie.

Form 4B: D. J. French; S. A. J. Richardson.

Form 4C: D. M. Edelsten; R. A. Stewart; G. G. Stone; J. D. Taylor.

Form 3A: N. H. Finney; J. J. Mackenzie; I. W. D. Matson.

Form 3X: M. J. I. Day; W. I. M. Webb.

Form 3Y: R. P. G. Craik; R. K. Heavens; P. G. D. Matthews.

Form 2X: C. W. F. M. Cox; R. B. Davis; R. K. Gregson; T. B. Moore.

Form 2Y: D. S. Partridge.

Form 1X: A. O. B. Akinbiyi; R. S. Armsden; B. S. Avery; R. B. H. Becker; P. V. Bosley; K. D. Bowen; N. D. Brice; N. I. Broad; S. H. Broughton; R. A. Chester; J. A. Cooper; J. V. Crawford; D. J. Creese; R. J. Davis; S. J. Denny; B. D. Diffey; J. W. B. Dunthorne; P. G. Evans; P. H. Firth; G. H. Hallett; T. D. Harding; T. J. Havelock; I. R. Hewes; M. C. G. Holloway; D. G. Hounam; F. R. Howlett; P. G. Hurford; R. A. Jackson; C. M. N. Jamieson; S. A. Janisch; D. E. Joyce; M. J. F. King; I. C. Lamberton; T. H. G. Lester.

Form 1Y: P. J. Evans; S. J. King; F. A. Light; R. M. Limerick; M. R. Louth; S. A. Marsh; W. M. Marshall; A. E. Medland; C. J. Mellor; B. C. Orland; W. J. Overton; S. N. Pearson; R. J. Beckham; D. W. Penney; C. H. Portman; J. C. Randall; R. D. R. Ray; D. V. Reigner; M. J. Ridelagh; K. G. Robbins; P. A. C. Roblin; A. Rogers; S. P. Sewry; R. N. Spencer; M. G. Topham; T. C. Tozer; N. C. Ware; M. S. Wells; P. A. Williams; D. H. Willis; P. J. Wilson; A. M. Wood; M. T. Woodley.

### CHAPEL NOTES

This term will undoubtedly be remembered by the installation in the East End of the Chapel of the new oak pews; they do add enormously to the loveliness and comfort of the Chapel. We are extremely grateful both to Messrs. Viney for the truly beautiful craftsmanship they have achieved, and to the Governors for the generous grant they have offered towards the cost of the new oak benches. Of a total cost of £450 the Chapel Committee is now faced with a debt of only £37, which we hope to clear by the end of the school year.

On the Second Sunday in Advent, 7th December, the Lord Bishop of Oxford held a Confirmation Service in the School Chapel. Those confirmed were: G. C. Alabaster, M. T. Batt, C. H. Bellinger, B. A. F. Burn, J. V. Comfort, J. H. Cook, C. J. Dean, R. Dowson, D. C. Dunn, L. J. W. Ewing, A. C. L. Fraser, C. B. Gosling, C. T. Gresswell, J. V. Grimes, A. M. Q. King, R. M. Kirby, A. J. C. Leathem, C. R. Llewellyn, N. P. Loukes, A. J. Mackenzie, W. G. Marchbanks, P. R. Munson, R. S. Ogg, R. G. Parks, R. E. Parsons, D. R. Pepler, A. R. F. Redgrave, S. A. J. Richardson, B. R. Rosevear, P. G. Sheard, D. F. K. Smith, N. A. G. Spackman, A. F. Stewart, J. M. Talbot, C. R. Webb, R. H. Wiggins, J. A. R. Willis, C. R. Wright.

After the service the 38 confirmands and their parents and god-parents were invited to meet the Bishop and to have tea in the School House Dining Hall.

We gratefully acknowledge the gift of several hymn books and psalters presented by parents of this year's confirmands: and especially a gift of £5 from Mrs. A. W. T. Parks and an anonymous donation of two guineas.

At a meeting of the Chapel Committee on Thursday, 9th October, it was decided that there should be some memorial to Rupert Donald Sladden in the Chapel. General opinion was against a brass plaque and so we look forward (with the kind approval of Mr. and Mrs. Sladden) to seeing within the near future two new hymn boards at the East End of the Chapel. The approximate cost of these has already been covered by the contributions of staff and boys.

The Headmaster preached at the School Service held in St. Helen's Church on the first day of term, 18th September.

Our own Harvest Festival was held on 4th and 5th October, and the produce was as usual sent to Dr. Barnardo's Home at Oakley House.

On the 15th October a strong party from the School attended Holy Communion in St. Nicolas' Church to commemorate the birth of John Blacknall.

Collections that we ourselves have allotted to outside charities this term have been as follows:

Trinity XVII: Bishop's List—£6 8s. 9d.

Trinity XIX: Hostel of God—£7 18s. 5d.

Sunday before Advent: Methodist Church Extension Fund—  
£7 3s. 0d.

Advent II: C.M.S.—£6 0s. 0d.

Advent III: Summerfield Children's Hostel—£7 8s. 4d.

The collection at the Service of Lessons and Carols, amounting to £19, was divided equally between St. Helen's Church Funds and the Church of England Children's Society. The latter organisation also received the collection made by the carol party during its tour of the town on the evening of Wednesday, 17th December, amounting to £5 10s. 0d. St. Helen's Church had previously benefited from the collection taken at the terminal service on 18th September (£6 18s. 4d.). The retiring collection at the Confirmation Service, which totalled £10 6s. 2½d., was divided between the Bishop's List for the Diocese of Oxford and our own Chapel Funds. £12 1s. 4d. was collected for the British Legion over the week-end of Remembrance Sunday. The proceeds of the alms box this term, £1 13s. 0½d., have been devoted to the Organ Fund to meet the inevitable day when the organ will need a complete overhaul.



During the Lent Term we look forward to hearing the following outside preachers:

January 25th—J. A. Garner, Esq., M.A. (O.A.), of Wallingford School.

February 1st—Rev. A. V. Comley, of the Mission to Lepers.

February 15th—Rev. D. G. Bowen, M.A., of the Anglican Church of Canada.

March 1st—Rev. John Moore, of Abingdon.

March 15th—A. L. Maycock, Esq., M.C., M.A., of the C.U. Appointments Board.

The preacher at the School Service on 16th January will be the Chaplain.

The Chapel Council held a very lively meeting on 27th October when discussion ranged widely, from Chapel seating (that perennial problem) to the singing of the responses.

We have experimented this term with a smaller Chapel Choir with the result that the singing has reached a far higher standard. During the term the Choir sang the anthems, "How Glorious God's Courts Appear" by Tye; "Turn Thee Again O Lord" by Attwood; and "Break Forth O Beautiful Heavenly Light" by Bach; and the Introit, "God Be in My Head", by H. Walford-Davies. A report on the Service of Lessons and Carols held in St. Helen's Church on Tuesday, 16th December, follows these notes.

Owing to the increasing pressure upon the limited seating accommodation of the Chapel, we have introduced a system of admission by ticket to Sunday Mattins. We should like to state here that it is with the greatest reluctance that we have taken this step, and to assure visiting parents and Old Boys that they will be as welcome as ever—up to the limits of our accommodation; but clearly the present members of the School have the first claim and there comes a point at which they cannot with propriety be sardined any more. So if you wish to come to Mattins, will you please apply to the Chaplain for tickets by the preceding Wednesday? Seats will then be reserved for you until three minutes before the hour after which all unoccupied seats will be available for casual visitors. Special arrangements will be made for the two recognised "Old Boys' Sundays" in the year.

As far as week-day Mattins goes, there is not the same pressure (meiosis?). But in order to make sure that there is someone to say the responses to the Chaplain, a voluntary rota has been introduced, on a fortnightly basis, and so far this has worked very well.

#### Christenings

On Sunday, 23rd November, by the School Chaplain, Michael Keith Hasnip, son of Mr. and Mrs. K. G. Hasnip. On Sunday, 30th November, Christopher Bruce Gosling.

## SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

*(Tuesday, 16th December, 1958)*

This year's service was by general agreement more impressive and more enjoyable than ever before, a verdict applicable to the readings as well as to the musical items. Of course, there are two of the performers, if one may use the term, who carry a special burden and therefore deserve special mention. One is the soloist who has to grapple with the first verse of "Once in Royal David's City" while standing at the vestry door with the congregation still shuffling in their seats and the vastness of St. Helen's stretching before him. In this Cook did well once he had gained confidence. And the other is the first reader—a new boy—who has to cope first with the large lectern and then with a very tricky lesson. How lonely he must feel! But once again all was well—Hallett did not falter. The Chorister, another new boy, also read beautifully whilst the other readings went according to plan.

A brief appreciation of the musical items by Mr. Hugh Fowler, A.R.C.O. appears below. It may be of interest too to note that this year for the first time our own bell-ringers rang for us both before and after the service—an innovation which we owe entirely to the initiative of K. R. Duly—and that (again for the first time) practically the whole service was recorded on tape by Mr. Horrex.

"It is with very great pleasure I write this year's commentary on the School's Carol Service in St. Helen's Church on 16th December.

I thoroughly enjoyed it, and as I have been to all the School Carol Services in the last few years since they were first started, I can honestly say I have never heard the Choir to better advantage. The Trebles' tone was excellent and the Choir's balance was good. The Basses' tone was splendid in some of the Carols, and especially was I charmed with their ending of 'In Dulci Jubilo'. After all, the Bass takes a very important part in Choral singing—(please do not think I am decrying the others)—and it has been said if you cannot write a decent Bass part, you ought not to attempt to compose. Think of three great composers: (Bach, Beethoven, Brahms)—and you will know what I mean, and if a choir can really make that part well sung, you have a real foundation for good Choral Singing. When the Trebles sang alone they were a joy to hear and the other parts also were beautifully controlled. I will not pick out any Carol specially, but I have tried to give a general survey of what I heard down in the Congregation and I congratulate the Director of Music in bringing his choir to such a high state of perfection. To John Thewlis, too, I add my congratulations—his accompaniments were most tastefully played and his closing Voluntary, Bach's Chorale Prelude on 'In Dulci Jubilo' was very much enjoyed. It was splendid team work."

H.H.F.

*Order of Service*

- |          |  |                |
|----------|--|----------------|
| Introit  | Once in Royal David's City<br>The Bidding Prayer   | Congregation   |
| Lesson 1 | God announces in the Garden of Eden that<br>the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's<br>head (Genesis III 8-15)<br>A New Boy (G. H. Hallett) | Choir          |
| Carols   | Adam lay y-bounden<br>Ding, Dong! merrily on high  | Choir          |
| Lesson 2 | Isaiah foretells the coming of Christ's Kingdom<br>(Isaiah XI 1-9)<br>A Chorister (W. I. M. Webb)  | Choir          |
| Carol    | In Dulci Jubilo  | Choir          |
| Lesson 3 | Jeremiah prophesies that Christ will be of the<br>House of David (Jeremiah XXIII 5-8)<br>Head of Dayboys (J. H. Thewlis)                         | Choir          |
| Carol    | The Sussex Carol   | Choir          |
| Lesson 4 | Micah proclaims that Christ will be born in<br>Bethlehem. (Micah V 2-4)<br>Head of School House (A. J. Foden)                                    | Congregation   |
| Hymn     | O Little Town of Bethlehem   | Congregation   |
| Lesson 5 | The Angel Gabriel Salutes the Blessed Virgin<br>Mary (Luke I 26-33, 38)<br>Head of School (A. J. Costley)  | Congregation   |
| Hymn     | Angels from the Realms of Glory  | Congregation   |
| Lesson 6 | St. Matthew tells of Christ's Holy Birth<br>(Matthew I 18-23)<br>A Master (Mr. G. F. Duxbury)  | Choir          |
| Carol    | A Babe is Born   | Choir          |
| Lesson 7 | The Shepherds go to the Manger<br>(Luke II 8-16)   | The Chaplain   |
| Hymn     | While Shepherds Watched  | Congregation   |
| Lesson 8 | The Wise Men are led by the Star to Jesus<br>(Matthew II 1-7)<br>A Governor (Alderman S. Freeman)  | Choir          |
| Carol    | Three Kings from Persian Lands Afar  | Choir          |
| Lesson 9 | St. John unfolds the Great Mystery of the<br>Incarnation (John I 1-14)   | The Headmaster |

## Prayers

## The Blessing

- |             |                              |              |
|-------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Recessional | Hark! the Herald Angels Sing | Congregation |
|-------------|------------------------------|--------------|

## THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

(December 11th, 12th and 13th)

The productions of the Abingdon School Dramatic Society always reach a high standard, and the faithful patron has only to run his eye down the list of past productions on the back of his programme to evoke memories of delightful evenings' entertainments. Perhaps in an interval (for his attention will not be allowed to wander at any other time), he will attempt to place in order of merit such plays as 'Richard the Second', 'Tobias and the Angel', even 'Journey's End' or 'The Critic' if his failing mind can recall the distant past; at all events we can be sure that the plays of William Shakespeare performed by the School will come high on his list. Yet every good writer produces some things which are not up to his normal standards, and were it not for his tremendous popularity and genius, 'The Taming of the Shrew'—Shakespeare's light bauble, this play within a play—would probably gain scant recognition today.

Even when not at his best Shakespeare lends himself to school productions—large casts mean that all the 'honoris causae' can be comfortably catered for and the fact that the principal girl was always a boy at 'The Globe' means that bachelor establishments need have no qualms about donning whimples, farthingales and the like. However it needs a producer with more than usual skill, and perhaps a touch of clairvoyance too, to raise school Shakespeare from mediocre to good and from good to superb. Abingdon is fortunate in having such a producer in the shape of Mr. Griffin, who keeps the School plays at such a high standard that anything short of his best is considered mediocre. The over-all effect of this production could be summed up as a combination of Shakespeare's mediocre and the Dramatic Society's good; though the impression gained by those who did not see the performance might have been more favourable had it been attended by the Press on the Saturday and not the Friday night.

\* \* \* \*

"Well, we'll see it. Come, madam wife, sit by my side, and let the world slip: we shall ne'er be younger". So speaks Christopher Sly at the beginning of this strange piece of Shakespeare. Certainly the fact that 'we shall ne'er be younger' is a good argument for a school production of 'The Taming of the Shrew'. The motley assortment of back stage men always deserve a big bouquet and this year their work saw fruition in another of those excellent sets which we have come to expect from Mr. Cooper and his helpers. Against this background a large cast did its best to 'let the world slip' with, it must be admitted, only mediocre material as a basis, and hampered still further by the rabbit-warren design of the Corn Exchange (an obstacle which was well

over-come by the vigour and ingenuity of the Stage Manager and his confrères).

Mr. Sawbridge's musical 'ensemble' served well to put the audience in the mood before the play opened with that odd appendix commonly known as the Induction. This was reasonably performed (though not all the words came across the footlights) and Trevor Davies sticks in the memory as an amusing Christopher Sly, especially when quietly clowning with the tassel of his nightcap. However the Induction was in the full sense 'hors d'œuvres' and it was with pleasant anticipation that the audience settled down to the main course. They were not disappointed.

Christopher Loukes and Randell Moll gave good solid performances, though they did not really seem to live their parts all the time, a criticism which could also be applied to Geoffrey Keeys' Biondello and George Darroch's Hortensio; the latter, labouring under the double disadvantage of heavy examination commitments and a failing voice, persevered manfully. Jonathan Utin's Baptista was very sound and showed confidence and he handled the suitors well. John Kelly's Gremio was a remarkable and largely successful study of crabbed age by youth, and we hope that this performance heralds greater things. David Heather-Hayes was convincing as Vincentio and he spoke out with force. Anthony Martin as the pedant was suitably bewildered and compliant. The servants were fun, they really enjoyed their slapstick scene, and their leader, Grumio, Petrucio's servant (Christopher Pickup) acted well and spoke with just the right mixture of awe and disrespect for his master, while he maintained his pose of slight superiority over the other servants excellently. James Fairlie's Bianca—Shakespeare's dumb blonde—was a good effort, though a little wan, and she was bound to be eclipsed by her more dynamic sister.

But, as pointed out in the producer's note, the play centres round the characters of Petrucio and Katharina and these two actors, Mark Rhys and Peter Loukes, were outstanding. The latter was truly shrewish up to the end, and when the time came for the change over to meek submission, it was professionally done by almost unnoticeable degrees. With the entrance of Mark Rhys, the whole play rose from mediocrity to something far better. He was Petrucio, all his gestures and words (and his diction was excellent) were not those of Mark Rhys, but those of a real Petrucio; he really appeared to enjoy the part and managed to infuse some of his zest into other members of the cast. He showed good understanding of the part he had to play and his 'taming methods' were perfect as were the responses of Katharina. This pair set the tone in a mediocre comedy which was made into a pleasant revel by the School Dramatic Society.

## CHARACTERS

*in order of appearance*

## In the Induction

Christopher Sly, a Tinker	Trevor Davies
Hostess	Roger Burridge
A Lord	Peter Dawson
His Huntsmen and Servants	Michael Bett, Eric Campbell, John Kitto, Robert Shepard
His Page	Richard Paige

## In the Play

Lucentio, son to Vincentio, of Pisa	Christopher Loukes
Tranio, his servant	Randell Moll
Baptista, a wealthy citizen of Padua	Jonathan Utin
Katharina his daughters	Peter Loukes
Bianca	James Fairlie
Gremio	George Darroch
Hortensio } suitors to Bianca	John Kelly
Biondello, page to Lucentio	Geoffrey Keeys
Petrucio, a gentleman of Verona	Mark Rhys
Grumio, his servant	Christopher Pickup
Servant to Baptista	Richard Welch
Curtis	Tim Morgan
Nathaniel	Robert Shepard
Philip } Servants to Petrucio	Eric Campbell
Joseph	Michael Bett
Peter	John Kitto
Nicholas	Alan Smith
A Pedant	Anthony Martin
A Tailor	Clive Evans
A Haberdasher	Alan Potter
Vincentio of Pisa, father to Lucentio	David Heather-Hayes
An Officer	Paul Cross
A Widow	Lindsay Ewing

## RUGBY FOOTBALL, 1958

## FIRST FIFTEEN

By no stretch of the imagination can we be said to have had a good season. We began with considerable promise of things to come—five of last year's team to provide the experience and a number of other promising players—but in the event, we failed to produce winning form except for a short spell in mid-season. The final analysis of our matches—two won, two drawn and ten lost—makes pretty dismal reading although as the match reports prove many of our defeats were extremely

narrow, especially in the second half of the term. There is consolation in this fact as also in our two victories, one of them over Magdalen College School, as well as in the magnificent struggle we put up against R.G.S., High Wycombe. The detailed reports given below tell their own stories but it is only fitting to note here that the Wycombe game played by both sides with tremendous spirit and no quarter given must go down as one of the best ever.

Perhaps the fairest verdict on the season's play is that the team has lacked penetration in attack whilst, in defence, tackling—always excepting Ford and Ganf—has never been decisive enough. The scrum was adequate and certainly Costley's leadership deserved success but the back division rarely worked smoothly or according to plan. Morris at scrum-half, tough and gallant at all times, was really too slow and this was in all probability the root of the trouble especially as he was not always given full protection by his wing forwards. Cross is obviously a stand-off half of considerable skill and with more experience should do well next season: as it was, he played a number of very good games although too frequently harassed by the opposition. What ought to have been a good threequarter line broke down more often than not because of the reluctance of Ford in the centre to get the ball out to his wing. Individually a very good player with great determination, Ford might have been a match winner with a little more thought—or perhaps some would say luck. Unhappily his potential was rarely realised and the wing threequarters saw little handling of the ball. Threequarter positions indeed were not firm until late in the term but with the possible exception of Kandiah, Ford was the only back with any real pace. Womar played well within his limitations, Bragg reasonably so, but Neilan, after a very promising start, disappointed. At full-back, Baldwin played several excellent games but must not wait for the bounce. In the pack, Kent played consistently well as hooker and also worked like a Trojan in the loose, Costley excelled in the line-outs and always set a Captain's example (yet I could have wished for more vocal encouragement and less criticism of his pack on the field of play!) whilst Foden, Campbell, Louth and Redknap all had their moments. Of these, Foden must surely hold the record with 39 games played for the First Fifteen, a fact which deservedly contributed towards his Full Colours. The two wing forwards, Ganf and Wyatt, were fast and useful. Ganf, brought into the pack from wing threequarter, proved a valuable destructive agent, his tackling and backing up generally being first class: in spite of a tendency to get offside, he gave tremendous punch to a scrum which tended to be somewhat gentle. Wyatt, his partner, was very fast and backed up extremely well but proved rather ineffective in his tackling.

During the season, the following Colours have been awarded: Full Colours—Foden, Ford, P. J., Ganf and Kent. Half Colours—Baldwin,

Bragg, Campbell, Cross, Camplin, Louth, G. D., Kandiah, Morris, D. G., Redknap, Rhys, Womar and Wyatt.

The final arrangement of the team was—Baldwin; Kandiah, Ford, Neilan, Womar; Cross, Morris; Foden, Kent, Campbell, Louth, Redknap, Ganf, Costley (Capt.), Wyatt.

The following have also played: Bragg (6 times); Wintle (4 times); Milne (3 times); Corps, Hamilton, Johnson, C. T. (twice); Bailey, R. R., Gibbs, Perry, Rhys, Utin (once).

D.O.W.

### FIRST FIFTEEN MATCHES

*v. D. O. Willis' XV (h). Wed., 1st October. Lost 11—23.*

The opposition in this game was not as formidable as it was last year; nonetheless, it included a number of good Club players as well as two members of the staff, Mr. Willis and Mr. Montague. In the first half, it looked as though the School were going to win—they scored a good try in the corner through Corps and this was neatly converted by Ford who shortly afterwards added two penalty goals so that the School led at half-time 11—0. In the second half, however, the opposition, having settled down, played with determination and in the face of poor tackling, scored 2 tries and a goal in fairly quick succession. Thereafter, the School pack tired and the School grew somewhat dispirited, a fact which enabled D. O. Willis' team to add 4 more tries before no-side.

*v. Reading School (h). Wed., 8th October. Lost 3—16.*

This was a good game played against a heavier and more efficient team. For most of the time Reading dictated the play but the School showed great spirit in fighting back and by half-time Reading had only managed to score a try and a goal—it looked as if the School could hang on. Unfortunately, poor tackling by the School in the second half enabled Reading to add a further 8 points to which the School could only reply with a penalty goal from Ford. The School showed plenty of spirit but were obviously not as fit as Reading and displayed too many elementary faults.

*v. Newbury Grammar School (h). Sat., 11th October. Lost 3—5.*

The School kicked off and for the first ten minutes definitely held the initiative, the pack binding and heeling well so that the 'threes' had plenty of the ball. Not surprisingly they drew first blood with a penalty goal by Ford from the Newbury '25'. Newbury then took over and were unlucky not to score after a fine bout of passing. Just before half-time Ganf had a good run which almost brought a try. In the second half, a lively struggle developed. Newbury, after taking the ball up to the School line, scored from a blind side movement from a set scrum 5 yards out. The kick succeeded. Even then, the School might have scored again had not Cross attempted unsuccessfully to drop a goal with two men outside him and only the Newbury full-back to beat. A narrow defeat and a very good game.



*v. Pembroke College (h). Sat., 18th October. Lost 0—19.*

Pembroke brought along a fit and fast side which proved too good for us. The game, however, was by no means one-sided and the School played with spirit. The College led at half-time by 8 points and at this stage the School looked capable of holding on in spite of their proneness to high tackling. In the second half, Pembroke put on the pressure and scored a further 11 points to which the School had no reply although a late rally nearly succeeded. A feature of the match was the fine display of Baldwin at full-back whilst on our opponents' side, there was one delightful try from one of their centres.

*v. St. Edward's School 2nd XV (h). Wed., 22nd October. Lost 6—9.*

With a 6 points lead at half-time, the School ought to have won this game. Admittedly these points had come from two penalty goals kicked by Ford but the School pack played extremely well against the heavier Teddy's scrum, Costley and Kent being particularly prominent. Unhappily the backs did not settle down and the centres seemed devoid of ideas, preferring to die with the ball rather than pass it to either Ganf or Womar on the wing. Deservedly therefore St. Edward's won. In the second half, they seized every chance—and faulty play provided not a few—and scored two good tries as well as kicking a penalty goal.

*v. Solihull School (h). Sat., 25th October. Lost 11—15.*

Poor defence in the opening stages of the game probably cost us this match. Within fifteen minutes of the start, Solihull had scored 3 tries, all luckily unconverted, and it looked like being a rout. The School then woke up and play was concentrated in the Solihull half for much of the time. A penalty goal by Ford gave us our first score although the Solihull right wing, gathering a mis-kick to touch, gained a try sooned afterwards. From this point on, the game developed into a grand struggle and, for the first time, the School began to play like a balanced side. Ford kicked another fine penalty goal which became the signal for an all out effort. A kick ahead by Cross, who followed up to catch the Solihull full-back in possession, gave Wyatt the chance to score between the posts. Ford converted. There was at this stage only one point in it and excitement was great. Solihull then sustained two injuries and the hold up unfortunately caused the School attack to cool off. Solihull went on to score a penalty goal and although Ganf nearly saved the day with a magnificent run, it was not to be. Altogether, this was a very encouraging game.

*v. Magdalen College School (a). Wed., 5th November. Won 3—0.*

The improved form of the Solihull game was again apparent in this traditionally needle match and the School managed to snatch their first victory. The School try came in the opening minutes of the game. Ford kicked off, a Magdalen player fielded the ball, was smothered by a quick follow up and the ball was put into touch. A line-out infringement led to a scrum from which the School gained the ball to start a picture book movement. All the backs and several forwards handled and Ganf, playing his first game as wing-forward, came up fast on the outside to take the ball up to the line and pass inside to Cross who scored wide out. This was however the only score of the match. Both sides strove valiantly and both were unlucky not to score on several occasions. Towards the end, M.C.S. forwards began to get the upper hand but the School held on to their slender lead.

*v. Bloxham School (a). Sat., 8th November. Won 8—3.*

Full of confidence and determined to beat Bloxham who had defeated Solihull, the School went hard from the start, early gained the initiative and dominated the first half. There was however no score at half-time and the heavier Bloxham pack had begun to wear the School down. Excellent hooking by Kent nonetheless gave us plenty of the ball and the School backs kept up their attack. Play was taken into the Bloxham '25' and, the ball running loose, Wyatt grounded it beneath the posts for Ford to convert. Shortly afterwards Ford kicked a penalty goal. This inspired Bloxham to begin a series of dangerous attacks from one of which they gained a penalty. A ding-dong battle ensued but there was no further score.

*v. Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe (h). Sat., 15th November.  
Drawn 0—0.*

The real victor in this game was the mud which turned Waste Court field into a brown sea. However both teams rose above the difficulties of the ground and the game was an epic struggle. A draw was probably the fairest result but the most pleasing feature was the way in which both sides endeavoured to the last to keep the game open—and some surprisingly good movements were seen. The tackling and covering on the part of the School was first class and it would be invidious to single out individuals for mention. This was a grand game to watch.

*v. City of Oxford School (h). Wed., 19th November. Lost 0—3.*

Defeat in this game by a penalty goal in the first half was a bitter pill to swallow after the recent run of success. The School played in a half-hearted fashion throughout the greater part of the game, made innumerable silly mistakes and allowed the C.O.S. pack to capture and retain the initiative. A late rally proved ineffective in the face of determined C.O.S. defence and the match ended with C.O.S. unlucky not to have scored again.

*v. Radley College 2nd XV (a). Sat., 22nd November. Lost 0—3.*

There was some recovery of form in this game and in a sense the School were unfortunate to lose. When they settled down the School backs were obviously capable of scoring; yet they somehow failed to do so and added to their troubles by mis-handling and too much kicking. The Radley pack was too big and too well led for our scrum who found things tough going. Nonetheless, Radley's try right at the end of the game was a lucky one, especially as no-side was blown soon afterwards.

*v. Southfield School (a). Wed., 26th November. Lost 0—3.*

Playing on a very wet pitch, the School again failed to hit form. No really determined effort was made until too late to gain the mastery of a team which was not markedly superior. The School pack allowed Southfield to break through the line-outs and indeed to dominate this part of the game whilst the backs made little or no attempt to vary their play and continually kicked on to the opposing full-back who was safe. The Southfield try was scored some ten minutes before the end and gave them a victory which on the whole they thoroughly deserved.

*v. Old Abingdonians (h). Sat., 29th November. Drawn 3—3.*

Possibly because of the very wet conditions this game was a dull one, enlivened only by bouts of good threequarter play every now and again when Brackley and Free, the O.A. half-backs, returned for all too brief spells to their skill of former days. For the most part, however, it was a somewhat dreary struggle between the packs with far too much kicking from the backs of both sides. The O.A. score came from a penalty goal by Brackley in the first half and the School's from a neat try by Cross from a blind-side pass from Morris towards the end of the match. The O.A. XV was: N. Carter; R. Spring, R. D. P. Griffith, A. W. Thistlewood, R. Redknap; M. J. Brackley, D. Free; R. J. Paige, E. R. Jouault, P. S. Candy, G. Dimond, A. P. Paxman, W. J. Phipps, K. Taylor, J. A. T. Saywell.

*v. Windsor County School (a). Sat., 6th December. Lost 0—6.*

Again the School by starting off in a diffident manner allowed their opponents to look the better side for a large part of the game. Windsor were much quicker on the ball and took advantage of a number of tactical mistakes persistently made by the School. In the second half, the School play improved and Ford had several powerful runs which with better luck would have succeeded. Both Windsor tries came from line-outs near our goal-line and could have been stopped by intelligent forward play.

P.J.F./D.O.W.

## SECOND FIFTEEN

Despite those changes in the team which inevitably occur in any 2nd XV, the season has been promising and not unsuccessful. Redknap led well until promoted to the 1st Fifteen and thereafter Rhys took over the captaincy proving from his first match a very fine leader—and this leadership was as apparent in practice and training as in matches.

Quite a few players turned out on occasion for the 1st Fifteen. Of the more permanent members, Bragg proved a first-rate full-back having previously been a wing-threequarter whilst Johnson, C. T., and Morse always went hard and tackled well. Inside these two, Corps and Utin were generally safe, though the latter was at times hesitant. Morgan, T. I. improved as the season progressed and Perry came up from the 3rd XV to prove a most promising scrum-half in place of Denniford, who later appeared in the team as a wing forward. The pack, especially towards the end of term, showed drive both in the set and loose scrums and the front row usually outplayed their opponents. Camplin was as good as ever in the line-outs and together with Gibbs made a sturdy second row. Milne's position fluctuated but he made a nippy wing forward. Farrington was a useful lock while Rhys in addition to leading the scrum was a versatile winger, often joining in a run with the backs and always bringing down his man.

Although only three matches were won, all games were hard-fought and in none were we disgraced. Bragg and Camplin thoroughly deserved their Half-Colours after the Windsor game and Rhys' award earlier in the season was acclaimed by all.

The final arrangement of the team was: Bragg; Johnson, C. T., Corps, Utin, Morse; Morgan, T. I., Perry; Dillabough, Cook, D., Wintle, Camplin, Gibbs, Rhys (Capt.), Farrington, Milne.

Those who also played were: Hamilton (7 times); Denniford (6 times); Lewis, B. M. J., Tuck (5 times); Kandiah (4 times); Longworth, Parsons, R. W. J., Redknapp (3 times); Crow, Darroch, Evans, D. R. M., Kent, Neilan, Womar (once).

#### Results

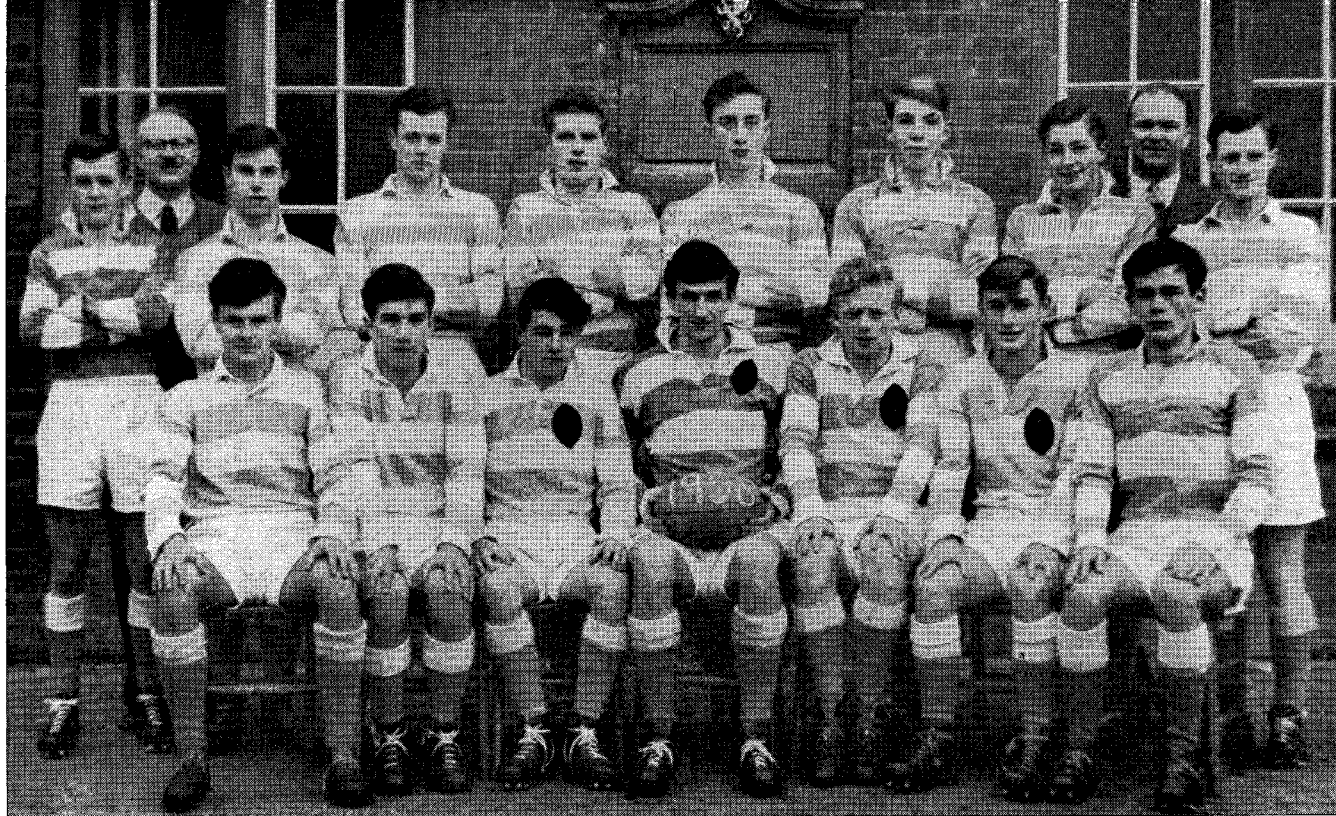
v. Newbury Grammar School (h). Wed., 11th Oct.	Lost	3—21
v. Oxford R.F.C. Colts (a). Sat., 18th Oct.	Lost	0—14
v. Solihull School (a). Sat., 25th Oct.	Won	10—3
v. Thame Grammar School 1st XV (a). Sat., 8th Oct.	Lost	3—19
v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (h). Sat., 15th Oct.	Drawn	3—3
v. Radley College 3rd XV (a). Sat., 22nd Oct.	Lost	0—8
v. Southfield School (a). Wed., 26th Oct.	Won	11—0
v. Windsor County School (a). Sat., 6th Dec.	Won	11—3
v. Henley Grammar School 1st XV (a). Wed., 3rd Dec.	Lost	0—11

E.H.F.S.

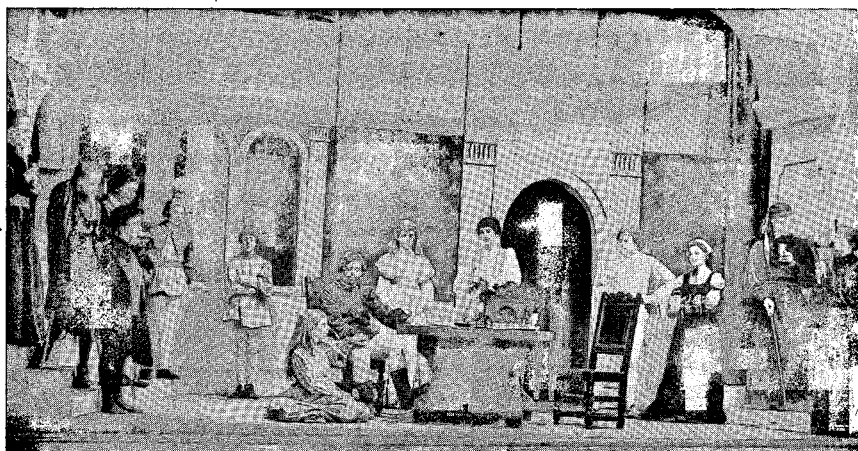
#### THIRD FIFTEEN

It would be best to describe the season as a strange one. We were not able to field the same fifteen for more than one match but throughout the team played with great spirit, particularly the pack. The best performance was against Wallingford 1st XV although here it must be admitted that we had the assistance of three members of the 1st XV. Outweighed in the tight and loose and outjumped in the line-outs, the pack—all of them genuine 3rd XV players—harassed the opposition into making mistakes and almost won the game in the last few minutes. This alone spoke highly for the fitness of the team however much they objected to the circuits of Waste Court field at the beginning of the season.

Crow was a good Captain without being spectacular. Parsons was a most dependable player, especially in the game against Magdalen College School, in which he did much to show his colleagues how to position, how to kick, how to catch and, most important, how to tackle. This player should do well in higher spheres next year. The backs as a whole were weak (except for Parsons) although Morse and Perry played very well when they were with us and were deservedly promoted to the 2nd XV. It would be hard to pick out any stars from the pack. I just hope that they all play as well next year.



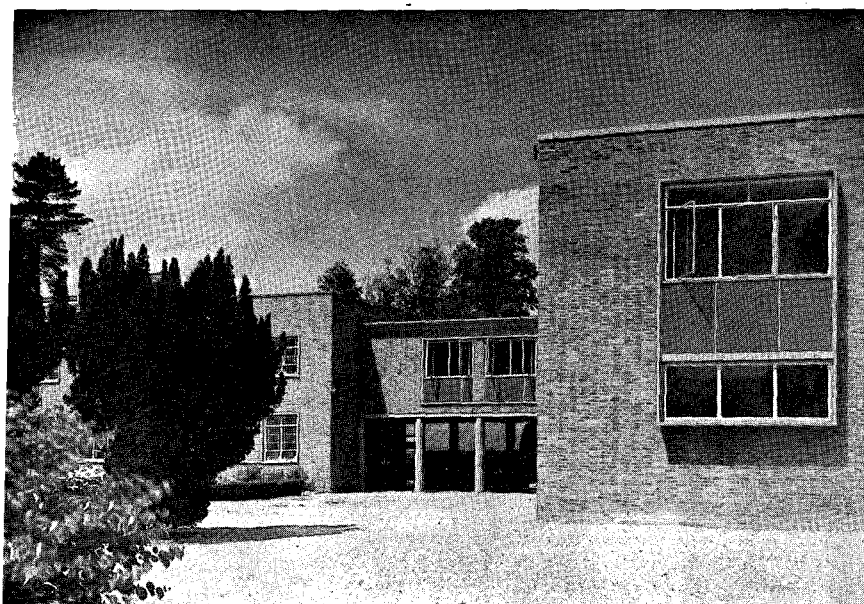
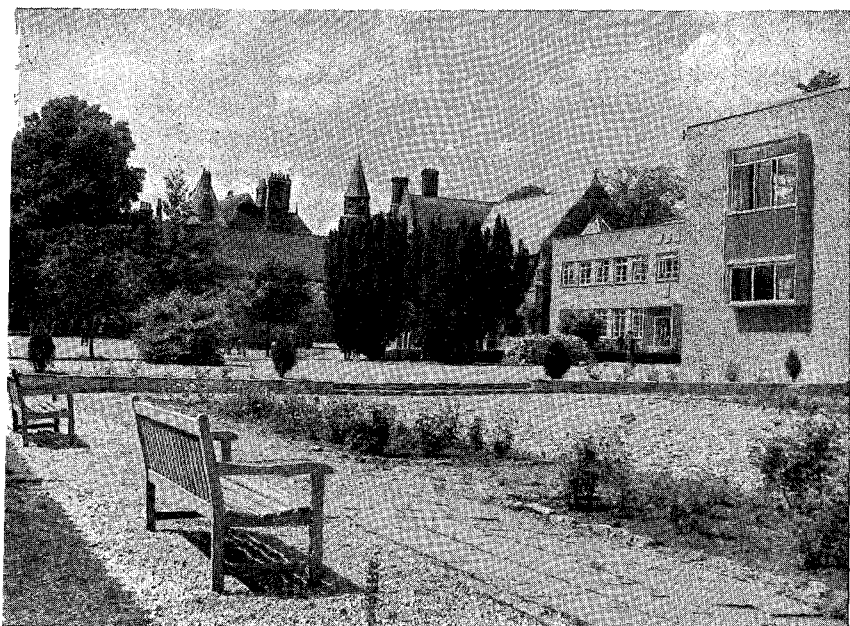
D. G. Morris, Mr. D. O. Willis, P. Kandiah, M. J. Neilan, R. M. Campbell, C. J. Redknap, G. D. Louth, C. P. Wyatt,  
Mr. J. Talbot, S. M. Womar,  
M. P. Cross, R. J. Baldwin, G. L. Kent, A. J. Costley (Capt.), P. J. Ford, G. G. Ganf, A. J. Foden.

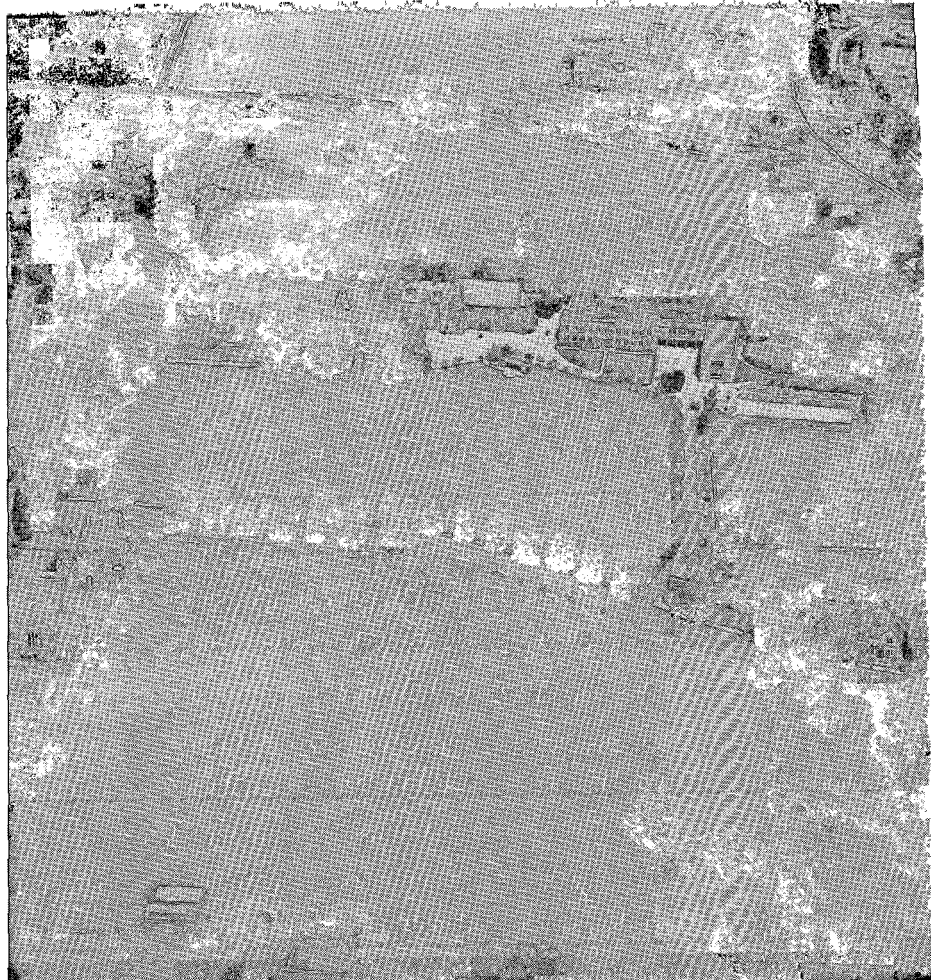


**THE SHREW TAMED**  
(13th December)



**ENCORE !**  
(15th December)





### A NOTE ON THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The photograph of the last scene of the School Play, given on the second page of the inset, was taken by Mr. L. C. J. Griffin. Below it is a photograph—of frozen immobility—taken by Mr. Milligan at the Prefects' Dance on the following Monday. We are grateful to him for allowing us to reproduce it.

The photographs on the following page are two of the many views of the School buildings taken by Messrs. Ramsey and Muspratt for the album presented to the Admiral on Founder's Day, and are reproduced here by their courtesy.

The above photograph, taken by Messrs. Aerofilms Ltd., shows not only the expansion of the School in recent years but more particularly the extent to which the rebuilding of the Jekyll Garden has opened up that part of the School grounds.



The team as it played in the final game was: Parsons, R. W. J.; Loukes, Cain, Tuck, Southern; Evans, D. R. M., Denniford; Rowles, Crow (Capt.), Howell, Kirk, Kelly, Barrett, Wooldridge, Shepard.

Also played include: Bragg, Morse, Longworth, Farrington, Womar, Cross and Wyatt.

#### Results

v. 'Abingdon Harlequins' (h).	Mon., 10th Nov.	Lost	3—20
v. City of Oxford School 2nd XV (h).	Wed., 19th Nov.	Won	5—0
v. Wallingford Grammar Sch. 1st XV (a).	Wed., 3rd Dec.	Lost	3—6
v. Magdalen College School (h).	Sat., 13th Dec.	Drawn	9—9

B.J.M.

(Readers may be interested to learn that the 'Abingdon Harlequins' XV was in point of fact a full Staff XV under the captaincy of Mr. Montague. Quite an achievement, we feel, to get fifteen more or less fit members of the Staff on to the rugger field—Ed.).

#### UNDER 16 FIFTEEN

The Under 16 XV, launched last season with a single game against Pangbourne, enjoyed an expanded fixture list this year. The members of the side were mostly drawn from last year's Under 15 XV which had had a disappointing record. It was therefore to their especial credit that they got together keenly and worked hard by individual and group practice so that by the end of term a team of considerable promise had been welded together. This success was largely due to the Captain, Haarhoff, who by his untiring efforts as a second row forward and by his thoughtful approach to the game on and off the field set an example of true captaincy and control.

With few exceptions, the team played a hard, attacking game in which individual prowess became the servant of the team's strategy. It was particularly good to see many boys developing a critical attitude to their own play—there was no seeking for scapegoats or excuses when weaknesses became evident, but all got down to the task of remedying defects. This approach augurs well for the future.

Packing 3, 4, 1, the scrum was splendidly led by Henson, M. K., at open wing forward. He and Booth on the blind side were indefatigable and combined well with the backs. Houghton, although still a little slow, was invaluable in the line-outs whilst Goodwin by his good open play established himself as hooker in preference to Stockwell whose play was far too variable. Marchbanks won his place as a prop by all round determination. Carpenter on the other hand was surprisingly out of touch with his kicking and seemed to lose confidence as a result. At scrum-half, Hurd was excellent in defence and worked well with stand-off Riddick who came in in place of an injured Matson after the first game. Whitton, withdrawn from the pack, played at

centre and was one of the most powerful and improved players in the side. Hossent, Robey and Knight, C., completed the back division and here Hossent's covering and tackling was specially worthy of mention. Long, a promising full-back, handled coolly and kicked well, especially under pressure.

Others who played were: Mackenzie, A. J. (3 times); Ganf, Gerring and Weir (once).

#### Results

v. Reading School (a). Wed., 8th Oct.	Lost 3—16
v. Oratory School (a). Sat., 18th Oct.	Won 6—3
v. Radley College (h). Wed., 22nd Oct.	Lost 3—8
v. Stoneham School (a). Sat., 15th Nov.	Lost 0—6
v. Pangbourne Nautical College (h). Wed., 3rd Dec.	Won 18—0

C.D.B.M.

#### UNDER 15 FIFTEEN

The season, with six victories to our credit, may be said to have been a reasonably successful one. The strength has been forward with a heavy pack which has also shown ability at handling. The backs have disappointed. We have not found a scrum-half who can be relied on for a quick, accurate pass, and the threequarters have lacked thrust in the centre and determined running on the wings. However, Marsh is showing promise in his new position at stand-off half and Bunce has been a very good full-back. More generally, the season has shown that we have not yet learned the value of quick thinking. Finally (beginners please note!) if one day we have fifteen determined tacklers we can really begin to learn the game. There is no doubt that the heavy scores against us in our three defeats were largely the result of poor tackling and falling on the ball.

The final arrangement of the XV was as follows: Bunce; Smith, M. J., Davies, C.M., Ford, M.S., Nelson (Capt.); Marsh, T.-I., Moss, I. W., Rosevear, Budden, Pegram, Talbot, Hall, P. J., Winfield, Wood, K., Pollard, D. C.

Also played: Watts, J. C. M. (4 times); Day, T. H. (3 times); Hall, G. A., Roberts, J. A. (twice); Cable (once).

#### Results

v. Reading School (h). Wed., 8th Oct.	Won 20—3
v. Newbury Grammar School (a). Sat., 11th Oct.	Lost 8—20
v. Solihull School (h). Sat., 25th Oct.	Lost 0—29
v. Thame Grammar School (h). Sat., 8th Nov.	Won 35—11
v. Southfield School (a). Sat., 15th Nov.	Won 6—5
v. Magdalen College School (a). Wed., 19th Nov.	Lost 6—16
v. Stoneham School (h). Sat., 22nd Nov.	Won 16—0
v. City of Oxford School (h). Wed., 26th Nov.	Won 14—0
v. Henley Grammar School (a). Wed., 3rd Dec.	Won 8—6

K.M.D.H.

## UNDER 14 FIFTEEN

Despite one very heavy defeat at the hands of Solihull, the season has been quite successful if not entirely satisfactory. The team played well against weak opposition but did not have the stamina or power to hold a really good, big side such as Solihull.

Redgrave was a good Captain and was outstanding among the backs, being a dangerous runner and a useful kick. Hounslow also played quite well in both attack and defence. The forwards were better after Foster took over the leadership of the scrum; Fraser hooked well and Willey, M. E. F., was particularly good in the loose. Evans, M. J., is very difficult to stop and Blair shows signs of being a good wing forward.

The final composition of the team was: Jennings; Cheary, Redgrave (Capt.), Mackenzie, J. J., Hounslow; Fairlie, J., Broadway; Willey, M. E. F., Fraser, Flint, I. R., Foster, A. W., Kirby, R. M., Matson, I. W., Evans, M. J., Blair.

Also played: Cook, J. H. (3 times); Harrison (twice); Dixon, K. (once).

## Results

v. Reading School (a). Wed., 8th Oct.	Won 15—0
v. Solihull School (a). Sat., 25th Oct.	Lost 3—53
v. Bloxham School (a). Sat., 8th Nov.	Won 18—6
v. Magdalen College School. Wed., 19th Nov.	Won 12—6
v. Stoneham School (h). Sat., 22nd Nov.	Won 22—0
v. City of Oxford School (h). Wed., 26th Nov.	Lost 3—8
	M.W.V.

## VACATION RUGGER

The School was again represented in both the Senior (Over 15) and Under 15 County Schoolboys' Trials held at Holme Park, Reading on 22nd December. In the junior game, Bunce, Marsh and Hall were selected to play although Hall was subsequently found to be too old; in the senior game Ganf played. After the Trials, Ganf played for the County against Sussex on 30th December, and was picked to play against Dorset and Wilts but this game was cancelled.

It is good to learn of O.A.s who have kept up their rugger to some purpose. In particular, we congratulate John Buckland who has been playing regularly as lock forward for Gloucester—some of us saw him play against the Varsity at Iffley Road. Also Ian Parsons is now playing in the centre for United Services, Chatham, whilst the "Bombay Times" informs us that Robyn Grant's outstanding play as full back enabled Bombay to reach the Final of the All India Rugger Tournament.

## HOUSE MATCHES

The Senior Inter-House Knock-out Competition this year provided even greater enjoyment than last season. Played on Wednesday, 29th

October, the opening round saw Bennett defeat Tesdale by 11—3, not as comfortable a victory as the score would suggest, whilst Blacknall disposed of Reeves rather more easily to the tune of 13—0. A feature of both games was the much better support all four Houses received from the touch-line than has been customary in the recent past.

The final between Bennett and Blacknall on Wed., 12th November, was a very close thing. Blacknall were perhaps the favourites and indeed for most of the game looked the more dangerous. But it was Bennett who produced a brilliant move towards the end of the match—Rosevear following up a kick across scored under the posts—and so gained the Lin Cup for the second year in succession.

The Under 14 League Competition comprising some twelve games in all provided the juniors of Bennett House with a chance to emulate their seniors but although they began well, they failed to maintain the pace and eventually finished at the bottom of the table. The winning House proved to be Reeves who gained a total of 12 points over Tesdale, who were second with 6 points. Blacknall managed 4 points but Bennett could only get 2. The Results were:

Reeves beat Bennett 6—0 and 20—0; Tesdale 12—0 and 22—0; and Blacknall 47—3 and 12—3.

Tesdale beat Bennett 6—0; Blacknall 14—8 and Bennett 9—3.

Blacknall beat Tesdale 15—12 and Bennett 21—18.

Bennett beat Blacknall 12—9.

The annual Dayboys v. Boarders match held on the afternoon of Wednesday, 10th December showed that the Boarders were the superiors of their fellows at any rate on the football field. The game was a good one and the result at 12—0 victory for the Boarders' XV led by Costley.

D.O.W.

## GROSS COUNTRY

This year, for the first time in the Michaelmas Term, there has been a small group of senior boys engaged exclusively in Cross Country running. The object has been partly to relieve pressure on the rugby facilities but largely to train the Cross Country team which will be competing in a number of matches during the Lent Term. Two exploratory matches have been run this term and the results are most encouraging. Results of these two races appear below.

*v. Culham College (a). Sat., 18th October. Won 22—37.*

After a fairly slow start along the road in front of Culham College, R. W. Harvey and B. Apps (Culham) took the lead along the towpath past Culham Lock. Next came Duly, Sheard and Mills (Culham),

with Jones and Crocker (Culham) some twenty yards further behind. Never did more than a few yards separate the two leaders, and with a quarter of a mile left of the  $4\frac{1}{2}$  mile course, the pace increased. 50 yards from home Harvey was a few yards down, but a brilliant effort put him inches ahead at the finish.

The other runners made less dramatic finishes: Sheard and Mills had overtaken Duly, who was being hindered by a bruised foot a mile from the finish. Sheard proceeded to drop Mills and Duly did well to take fourth place.

Our scorers were: Harvey 1, Sheard 3, Duly 4, Jones 6, Bett 8, while Watts, R. C. and Bretscher increased the margin of our victory by taking 9th and 10th places in front of the 4th and 5th men in the Culham team.

*v. Exeter College (a). Wed., 26th November. Lost 40—39.*

As Exeter College had been unable to obtain a strong team for their own ranks they had enlisted the services of several Brasenose College men. All the runners kept together for the first mile of the  $5\frac{1}{2}$  mile University Course, but then Harvey, Eke and Duly increased the pace and ran right away from the rest of the field. At the half-way mark these three had a lead of some 100 yards over a group of five runners which included Jones. Then came three more of our opponents followed by Sheard, Bett, Watts, Bretscher and a Brasenose man.

Unfortunately for the School Sheard's brand new running shoes were not a good fit, and he had them sucked off his feet several times in the thick mud. As it happened those new shoes almost certainly cost us the match.

At the finish our first three ran in together to tie for first place in a fast time but Jones found the course too long for him and he dropped back to tenth place, just ahead of Sheard, who had pulled back two places. Bett also overtook one runner to finish thirteenth, but this was not quite enough to bring us victory.

Our scorers were: Harvey, Eke and Duly=1, Jones 10, Sheard 11, Bett 13.

### INTER-HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

The annual races were held on the afternoon of Wednesday, 17th December. The ground was distinctly muddy, but there was not so much water as had at one time been feared.

In the Junior race, C. T. Gresswell, wearing rigger boots, gained the lead immediately and never lost it. A group of about ten runners kept with him for some of the way, but they gradually dropped back and he was not challenged at the finish. He clipped 24 seconds off the old record and S. R. Wilson also had the satisfaction of beating the old figures.

A fast start in the Intermediate race put Luker in the lead, and again a group of about ten boys stayed with the leader. However, after about a mile, Bretscher took over the lead and held it to the finish though he was strongly challenged by Marchbanks in the final stages.

(Marchbanks was afterwards found to be over-age and so was disqualified from the intermediate race).

In the Senior race Harvey, Eke, and Duly almost sprinted into the lead hotly pursued by Sheard, Jones and Bett. But going into the marshy field the leaders began to spread out, Harvey going away from Eke, and he from Duly. This order did not change. About a mile further on the second group split up: Jones set after Duly with Bett close behind. Sheard's unavoidable lack of training over the previous weeks had its effect over the second half of the course, and he was overtaken by Wyatt who, as the first non-full-time Cross Country runner home, ran extremely well indeed.

Harvey beat his own course record by nearly one and a half minutes while Eke, Duly and Jones all bettered the old figures. There were few close finishes to thrill the spectators, but the times were good and nearly every runner gave of his best.

#### *Details of the House Competition*

Junior: Bennett (136), Reeves (179), Blacknall (255), Tesdale (323).

Intermediate: Blacknall (137), Bennett (205), Tesdale (256), Reeves (295).

Senior: Bennett (406), Tesdale (409), Reeves (515), Blacknall (546).

Over-all Championship: Bennett (747), Blacknall (938), Tesdale (988), Reeves (989).

The first ten home in the Junior race were: Gresswell, C. T. (16 min. 47.2 secs.), Wilson, S. R., Willey, M. E. F., Kirby, Dean, Crumly, Keays, Joseph, Barrett, A. T., Kitto, M. F.

The first ten home in the Intermediate race were: Bretscher (24 min. 59.1 secs.), Nelson, Bunce, Gerring, Stuart-Lyon, Millard, Moss, I. W., Smith, M. J., Luker, Matson, A. G. D.

The first ten home in the Senior race were: Harvey, R. W. (21 min. 46.8 secs.), Eke, Duly, Jones, G. W., Bett, Wyatt, Sheard, Rowles, Cross, Costley.

J.A.S./R.H.B.

## MINOR GAMES

The Senior House Fives Competition was won for the second successive year by Blacknall House after some very keen matches. The Junior Fives Competition will be held as usual in the Lent Term. The fives ladder has again stimulated play a great deal, and a further stimulant in the future will be the new fives court, which is making good progress under the supervision of Mr. Hasnip, who has ably carried on where Mr. Helliwell left off.

Useful tennis practice by senior members of the tennis teams has taken place on the hard court earlier in the term when both time and

weather has permitted, and it is hoped that further practice will be possible next term.

#### *Senior House Fives Competition*

1st Round: Blacknall beat Tesdale 2—1; Bennett beat Reeves 2—1.

Final: Blacknall beat Bennett 2—1.

1st pairs: Kirby/Utin beat Yarkoff/Rosevear 15—7, 15—5.

2nd pairs: Cross/Wiggins lost to Bampton, R. J. C./Bailey, G. J.  
13—15, 11—15.

Singles: Kirby beat Yarkoff 15—4, 15—8.

D.H.B.

### COMBINED CADET FORCE

Recruitment this term has been very steady and our numbers have now passed the 300 mark. In these circumstances, we are more than happy to welcome Mr. G. J. Joyce as our new Quartermaster. It has been a struggle in recent years to survive administratively without one.

The change of syllabus for Cert. A Part 2 has involved some re-organisation of our training cycle. Mufti parades in midweek have gone; and much of the training previously undertaken by officers is now in the hands of cadet instructors during normal parade hours. It is up to all concerned to see that these new arrangements work in terms of examination results. Exceptionally last term's Cert. A "failures", having come down then in Drill only, were given a second chance this term. With two exceptions, they passed—on the new Syllabus.

Field Day was held on 7th October, on a day which began well as to weather but finished as a steady drizzle. The work was divided up into penny—or at any rate shilling—packets as follows:

Specialist Sections (R.A., R.E., Sigs.) held their own training exercises; Senior N.C.O.'s did an Endurance Test in small groups; Cert. A candidates and Recruit Coy., commanded by N.C.O.s from the Cadre, staged Platoon and Section exercises in separate areas; and C Coy. was taken out on a Map Reading march, by Sections, under arrangements made by Lt. Montague, whom we welcome warmly into the Corps vice Lt. Helliwell.

Remembrance Sunday was this year an even bigger occasion than usual so far as we were concerned: our Band, the only military one on parade, played all contingents past the Saluting Base. The young Guard of Honour achieved, in the timing of their arms drill, a very high standard; while the buglers—both, for the first time, in Naval uniform—were very good indeed. Thanks and congratulations must go

to Mr. Montague who trained and commanded this Guard. A strong volunteer contingent of one Navy and two Army Platoons was on parade too, to round off a memorable event.

We were glad to have a visit from Major-General Swinburn during term on the occasion of a lecture by Capt. Moss, of the Army Team of Lecturers, on "The Army of today and tomorrow". We have been much indebted as in the past to the Os.C., School of Military Survey and Oxford University O.T.C. for their continued assistance with post-Cert. A specialist training.

Annual Camp next year is to be held at the Wessex Bde. Depot, Topsham Barracks, Exeter. 'Nuff said . . .

During term the following appointments were made:

To be C.S.M.—B.Q.M.S. Thewlis.

To be C.Q.M.S.—Sgt. Dickenson, Sgt. Morris, Sgt. Wintle (and 2i/c).

To be Sgt.—Cpls. Day, Ford, Kandiah, Nurton, Redknapp and Yarkoff.

S.C.P.

#### ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

The Michaelmas Term was not a very exciting term, and most of the time was given to preparation for exams. These were held at intervals during the term, and five boys passed Proficiency Test Part I, while out of the candidates for the A.B. exam. only one failed, though three others were borderline and are to be re-examined next term. Of the signalling tests results were not so happy, and we must think of some way of making these less of a hurdle than they are at present.

Field Day was held this term in two sections, the senior half going to the boating station at Surbiton, while the juniors went to Portsmouth and spent a useful and pleasant day looking round the dockyard, and in particular, H.M.S. Chichester, one of the newer frigates. The Surbiton party were not so lucky, being prevented by a very strong current from carrying out the boatwork which was the main purpose of their visit.

We have been very pleased to welcome to the section this term S/Lt. Tammadge, who has shown us already what a tremendous asset he will be. We have also had much, unofficial, help from Mr. Prosser, to whom too we are most grateful.

L.C.J.G.



## SCOUTS

(34th North Berks)

This term we had a good intake of recruits which has enabled us to keep our numbers at just below thirty. Six of the recruits were invested during the term and one second-class badge and one cook's badge were awarded.

Field Day was held on the School grounds so that a start could be made on training the recruits. The opportunity was also taken to check equipment and begin reproofing our canvas—a fairly expensive and messy operation.

We have now seen the North Wiltshire A.D.C.'s report on our camp at Pewsey; it was very favourable, particularly complimenting the cheerful reception he received from the Patrol Leaders, the success the Patrols had in overcoming the difficult conditions and the way in which Ian Cunningham conducted the Camp Fire.

Next term we still have vacancies for one or two keen recruits.

K.G.H.

## SCHOOL MUSIC

A report of the Carol Service appears elsewhere in this issue. On Saturday, 18th October, Mr. Bernard Brown gave his Lecture/Recital, "Sound the Trumpet" to a large and enthusiastic audience. His virtuosity on the Trumpet, Post Horn, Hunting Horn, Bach Trumpet and valveless Horn proved that he is one of the leading exponents of the Brass Instruments in Britain today. He showed the beauty of legato playing in Handel's Largo from "Xerxes", and his versatility in Büsser's Andante e Scherzo. His explanations were well delivered and Montbrun's "Marche" added a not-too-serious touch to the evening. Leroy Anderson's "Trumpeter's Lullaby" is well-known, and again draws out the player's technique. Köenig's Post Horn Galop, with its intricate triple-tonguing, deserved the applause it received; and Haydn's Trumpet Concerto promoted even more interest among the School's younger trumpeters, some of whom ordered copies of the music the next day! A suitable finale was Clarke's "Trumpet Voluntary"—the pièce-de-resistance in a trumpeter's repertoire. It was good to have another artist from Mr. Charles Gregory in London—the first being Jimmy Blades—and one hopes that he and Mr. Bernard Brown have paved the way for more similar visits.

Mr. Allen Percival, of Magdalene College, Cambridge, adjudicated the Piano and Organ sections of the House Music on 16th November. There were 9 entrants for the Organ, and 27 for the Piano, which is

encouraging enough in itself. His comments were most helpful and the standard was generally a high one. The first three in each group are given below:

Organ (Open): Thewlis (Bl); E. R. Henderson (T); A. P. Haynes (B).

Piano (Junior): Dowson (T); equal: Hallett (B) and Harrison (Bl).

Piano (Intermediate): Goodman (Bl); Hutcheon (T); Gifford (B).

Piano (Open): J. J. Day (B); Thewlis (Bl); A. P. Haynes (B).

House Points at present are: Bennett 66; Blacknall 74½; Reeves 43; Tesdale 53.

Small parties went to each of the Oxford Subscription Concerts, and a large one to the Abingdon Music Society Concert on 4th December. On 28th November the Chapel Choir went to Oxford to hear Evensong in Magdalen College, and returned for supper at the Bridge Restaurant. The Choir appreciated the fine quality of the singing, and possibly the Trebles based their recent work on what they heard that evening! It was a thoroughly worthwhile visit.

Last and by no means least, congratulations to D. Wiggins, A. P. Haynes and C. C. Ford who all passed with Distinctions in their recent Associated Board Examinations—Wiggins in Grade VIII (the highest Grade) in 'Cello; Haynes in Grade VII (Trombone) and Ford in Grade I (Piano). Haynes passed Grade VII Theory earlier in the Term. Wiggins is the first boy from the School to gain a distinction in Grade VIII—a standard for others to attain.

We are grateful to Mr. Blagden for the following critique of a Musical Evening held on the evening of Sunday, 7th December.

"Perhaps the most noticeable features of the Musical Evening which took place on the last evening of the term were the range of composers represented, and the obvious vitality which each orchestra displayed.

This energy, however, was kept very well under control. This was exemplified by the Senior Orchestra in its opening item, Thomas Arne's "The Judgement of Paris" Overture, which was delightfully played, and set the high standard which was maintained throughout the evening. There was a satisfying richness of tone, and the changes in tempo and mood were well managed. This Orchestra watched their Conductor! Albeniz's "Tango" came by way of contrast, and the orchestra made much of its strong rhythms—but made them rather too jerky in places—and flowing melody. The violins were really made to sing.

The Bartok Rumanian Dances (with unpronounceable names!) were shown to be eminently playable. There were a few lapses in the time, but these did not last long; members of the Wind Section especially played their parts with feeling.

The Junior Orchestra, in its turn, displayed a surprising unanimity (there being no conductor), and a good quality of tone. Mrs. Kitching helped by playing with the violins, and they got away to a confident start with a brisk performance of Weinberger's Polka. "Marche Militaire" was also played with evident enjoyment, and the different qualities of the soft and the loud passages were well achieved.

Two soloists featured in the programme—A. J. Williams (Violin) and M. P. Cross (Clarinet). A Mozart Sonata requires great precision from the performer, and Williams did very well in this respect, although at times a few semi-quavers were slurred over. Starting a little nervously he soon settled down and played with a very fine tone which was a joy to hear. Cross managed a really difficult solo with apparent ease, paying great attention to expression marks. The actual tonal quality became somewhat harsh in forte passages—these were perhaps played too loudly for the size of the hall—but was otherwise pleasant.

Eight boys who began to play the violin this Term (mostly First Formers) also contributed to the programme. Mrs. Kitching accompanied them on the piano (a very full and encouraging kind of accompaniment!) in a series of six very short and simple pieces, which they played in unison from memory. The result was most creditable. Most of them are already able to hold the instrument and manage the bowing quite presentably, as well as getting the notes approximately correct. For this we thank Mrs. Kitching, with her lively lessons and constant encouragement.

This highly successful Concert was enterprising in its scope; obviously much time and effort had been spent on it by Mr. Sawbridge and the performers. It is encouraging to find in the School two Orchestras of adequate size, each able to give the polished performances we heard that evening; and encouraging, too, to find so many boys in the Lower School already taking up some orchestral instrument."

E.H.F.S.

We are very grateful to Mr. H. H. Fowler for his generous gift of the records of Brahms' Fourth Symphony.

### SCHOOL LIBRARY

The chief acquisition last term was the considerable collection of books bequeathed to the School by Oswald Couldrey, O.A. They cover a wide field but particularly valuable are the many books dealing with art and Greek vase painting. We shall treasure them all. We are also very grateful to Miss Couldrey for the gift of three of O.J.C.'s water colours on classical subjects which adorn the walls of Lacies

Court. Our thanks also to R. E. Eason, O.A., for dictionaries and many leather-bound prizes to add to our collection: to Mr. Alston for a large number of books, principally fiction: to J. A. T. Saywell and J. M. Foster for 'leaving books' and to Mrs. Green, Mr. Rudd and W. H. Stevens, O.A., for periodicals. Finally we welcome Mr. Hasnip as Assistant Librarian and thank him for all the hard work he has already done.

G.F.D.

## SCHOOL SOCIETIES

### ROYSSÉ SOCIETY

This term we welcomed the following new members: A. J. Costley, J. A. Longworth, D. H. Bragg, D. S. Lees, C. T. Denniford, D. G. Darroch, R. Dickenson, D. T. L. Eke, I. J. Kirby, P. J. Ford and A. P. Haynes.

At the first meeting, R. S. Green read a paper on 'Some aspects of translation', which provided an excellent model for the new members. Among other topics, he dealt with a translator's license—should he be faithful or free?; and the problems facing a translator of poetry. In the course of his paper, he ranged from the translation of the great Russian novels to classic howlers like 'pas de deux'—'father of twins'. The discussion was sustained, but more subdued than usual.

At the next meeting, R. Dickenson read a paper entitled 'Past and present—an examination and defence of the study of history'. The speaker discussed the meanings of the words 'history' and 'the study of history' and gave his own views as to the value of history in any educational curriculum. He emphasised that for history to be of true value as a subject for study its political, social and economic aspects should be integrated as far as possible. Two topics in particular appeared in the discussion; the first was the question to what extent one could prophesy the course of future events in the light of the past. The other was an attempt to discover at what stage history ceases to be a subject learnt, parrot fashion, and becomes a subject requiring a great deal of intelligence as it does at University level.

The last paper was an extremely controversial one on 'Hypnosis' by D. S. Lees. He first of all gave a short history of hypnosis and then attempted a definition of the word. The remainder of his paper was taken up with a discussion of methods of inducing hypnosis and the use it has for doctors and psychiatrists. Two major issues emerged in the discussion about which no general agreement was reached: first "Is it morally right to attempt to change a man's character using hypnosis?" and second "Exactly when do auto-suggestion and high-powered advertisement become a form of hypnosis?" Discussion was lively, and by the end of the evening, though some doubts remained, it was generally agreed that hypnosis, carefully and sensibly employed, had much to recommend it to the medical profession.

Once again we should like to thank the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban for their generous hospitality towards the Society.

J.A.S.

## TURNOR SOCIETY

Five meetings have been held this term. At the Annual General Meeting the following officers were elected: President—the Headmaster; Chairman—R. Dickenson; Secretary—D. H. Bragg; Committee—D. G. Morris and O. M. L. Rhys.

The second meeting took the form of a General Knowledge Quiz, the panel consisting of R. Dickenson, M. J. Blythe, C. T. Denniford and J. J. Day. They acquitted themselves well in the face of varied and amusing questions and the meeting proved both entertaining and instructive.

On the 7th November, Sir Reader Bullard spoke to us on "Changes in the English Language in my time". Sir Reader traced the origin of many common English words and explained how their meanings have gradually changed. His talk contained many witty and amusing examples of the use and misuse of the language.

At the fourth meeting on 14th November, Mr. A. S. Rogers spoke on "The Commonwealth and China". Approaching the subject from the point of view of trade relationships, he discussed China as a rapidly developing trading and industrial country and said that it was to be hoped that both commercial and political relations between Britain and China would improve. Mr. Rogers did not agree with those who deplored British trade with China but considered it foolish to allow the trade of this vast country to be captured by the Communist world.

For the final meeting on 28th November we enjoyed an address by Dr. D. M. Lang of the London School of Oriental Studies on "Soviet Colonialism". Dr. Lang summarised the theory and development of the Soviet political world and then went on to show how Soviet expansion had taken the form of 'liberating surrounding peoples from themselves'. Finally he spoke briefly about the various parts of the U.S.S.R. and emphasised the characteristics of each, thus ending a most interesting and informative talk.

An encouraging increase in attendances this term has coincided with the attraction of some very good outside speakers. Let us hope that this improvement will continue in the future.

D.H.B.

## DEBATING SOCIETY

At the first meeting of the term the Society elected officers for the coming year. J. A. Sheard was elected Chairman and C. T. Pollard as Secretary. R. Dickenson, R. T. Moll and D. G. Morris were elected as Committee members.

At the next meeting D. G. Morris, seconded by J. A. Longworth, proposed that "In the opinion of this house, the present system of class distinction is to be favoured". The motion was opposed by C. T. Denniford, seconded by D. G. Darroch. The result of an eloquently contested debate was that the motion was carried by 39 votes to 20.

A School issue was contended at the third meeting which was the best attended of the term. R. Dickenson, seconded by A. H. Smith, proposed that "In the opinion of this house, the School Corps does not

achieve its aim". The motion was opposed by M. J. Blythe, seconded by J. S. Kelly. The motion was carried by 66 votes to 20, but many of the members seemed to have made up their minds beforehand.

A mock election was held at the last meeting of term. There were six candidates and J. S. Kelly (Empire Deviationist) was first home with 32 votes with R. T. Moll (World Salvationist) runner up with 25 votes. Strange and varied were the policies proposed and the election was cheerfully conducted in a frivolous vein.

Although the term's meetings have been well attended, the number of speakers from the floor has been very low; once again we put forward a plea for more loquacity from the back and even the front benches and add that thus members will derive more than mere entertainment from the debates.

C.T.P.

### LITERARY SOCIETY

At the beginning of the term elections were held as a result of which J. A. Sheard was elected Chairman, and R. S. Green Secretary of the Society. Under our new sponsor Mr. Vallance, whom we thank very warmly for all that he has done for the Society, we enjoyed an interesting and varied term.

At the first meeting we read "A Winter's Tale"; the leading roles were ably filled and the general standard of reading was very high. Everyone derived enjoyment from the play despite the fact that Acts 4 and 5 had to be drastically cut.

On 23rd October was had a 'hotch-potch' which is by now a well established and popular form of meeting. Contributions ranged from Arnold's views on literary criticism to Jane Austen's views on novels, from Chaucer to Robert Frost, from Burns to De La Mare. The discussion was ardent and all had their say.

At the third meeting the Secretary produced some 'Random thoughts on Reading', mostly other people's. Among those whose ideas he mentioned were Sir Winston Churchill, E. B. White, Jean Cocteau and Lord David Cecil. It is to be hoped that after this meeting members were 'full men' in more than one sense.

At the last meeting Mr. J. B. Bamborough of Wadham College, Oxford, discoursed learnedly and authoritatively on 'The New Criticism'. He pointed out that the epithet 'new' was misleading as the trend had been started about 50 years ago by such men as Ezra Pound and T. S. Eliot; and proceeded to outline the views of the New Critics, stressing the fact that their criticism was polemical and that anything said by them had not the infallibility of an *ex cathedra* statement. We all learnt much from Mr. Bamborough and the Society is very grateful to him for giving up his time to come and speak to us.

R.S.G.

### SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

At the first meeting of the term a lecture was given by Mr. J. J. Horrex entitled "An Introduction to Astronomy". He gave an excellent account of methods of observing the stars, the distances involved and the major constellations. This talk coincided with the presentation of

the eight-inch reflecting telescope, which next term we shall be using to good purpose.

At the next meeting Dr. G. E. Harrison gave a lecture on "The Turnover of Strontium in Man". Despite the title this proved to be a very interesting talk, concerned with the dangers incurred by eating food which has been contaminated by atomic ash.

At the third meeting on 14th November Dr. T. A. Hall spoke on the "Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy". This was an account of the recent Geneva Conferences, held under the same name as the title of the talk.

The last meeting of the term was held on 21st November when an Old Boy of the School, J. M. Thistlewood, Esq., spoke on "Theories of Drug Action". This was followed by a vigorous discussion, which gives a good indication of the interest shown in the talk.

I.J.K.

#### MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

Three meetings were held this term. At the first we read Racine's "Andromaque" in French. Mr. Hasnip, J. J. Day, C. T. Denniford and R. S. Green read well and enjoyed themselves in the leading rôles.

At the second meeting R. S. Green recounted his experiences in the French Alps last Summer. He spent three weeks camping in a farmhouse 5000ft. above sea level, the only English boy among 50 French boys. The camp was sponsored by a religious organisation, but as we discovered the organisation was pleasantly lax and the camp had other interests too. This, a most fascinating evening, was lamentably badly attended, and we do hope that more would-be linguists will be forthcoming next term.

Later in the term A. P. Haynes gave an interesting and informal talk on "The Classical and Romantic Period of German Music and Literature", very liberally illustrated with excellent gramophone records.

The Society particularly wishes to thank Mr. and Mrs. Hasnip who, with a growing family, still found time to provide us with generous hospitality for two of our meetings.

J.J.D.

#### MUSIC SOCIETY

Though no recitals were given by outside performers the Music Society has had another busy term. Three gramophone programmes were held which included Schumann's Piano Concerto, Schubert's Octet and Serenades by Beethoven, Tschaikovsky and Elgar.

After a gap of more than a year the orchestra again amalgamated with the City of Oxford High School for Girls and spent a most enjoyable afternoon in Oxford. The work played was Beethoven's 2nd Symphony.

A programme of solo items was held in the Heylyn Room where a delightful afternoon's entertainment was given us by Fairlie, J., Loukes, N. P., Wiggins, D. ('Cellos), Haynes, A. P. (Trombone) and Day, J. J. (Piano).

The last meeting of the Society was held in the Gymnasium where works were performed by the two School Orchestras, a beginners violin class and two soloists. A critique of this musical evening is included elsewhere in this magazine.

J.H.T.

#### "THE FORUM"

Once again our Annual General Meeting was held in conjunction with those of the Turnor and Debating Societies. R. Dickenson was re-elected as Secretary and M. Yarkoff, A. H. Smith and R. T. Moll were elected to the committee.

Two other meetings were held this term. At the first the question of America and the offshore islands of Quemoy and Matsu occupied much time. Shorter discussion took place on money for games equipment and the revival of capital punishment.

The second meeting suffered in numbers because of the Scholarship examinations, but discussion on the problem of juvenile crime and the decrease in respect towards Sixth-formers by lower school boys was heated and lengthy.

Although attendance at meetings has been fairly satisfactory, it must be pointed out to members that they are under an obligation to attend all meetings, and should present their excuses to the Secretary if they cannot do so.

Finally, a word of thanks to Michael Yarkoff for taking the chair at both meetings this term when the Secretary was unable to do so.

R.D.

#### THE MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

This term saw the formation of a Mathematical Society in the School. Three meetings were held this term, the first being a general business meeting, in which proposals were put forward for future meetings and also the officers for the year were elected. W. A. Rudd, Esq., kindly accepted the post of President and the Headmaster the post of Vice-President. D. Cook and G. L. Griffiss were elected Secretary and Assistant Secretary. The second meeting consisted of the showing of two films, "The Transfer of Power" and "The Simson Line". The third meeting of the term was held on Tuesday, 9th December and members were fortunate in being able to hear a very interesting talk given by J. W. Peskett, Esq., on "Mathematical Models".

There are at present 28 members and it is hoped that, after the initial impetus given by Mr. A. R. Tammadge, the Society will continue to flourish as well as it has this term.

D.C.

#### PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Work goes on apace even though we have nothing to show for it. Behind the scenes planning for the next School film is now reaching its final stages and shooting should begin in January.



For our script we have chosen Chaucer's "Pardoner's Tale"—a suggestion of Mr. J. A. Pole, who has reset the story in the twentieth century with contemporary characters. Although the tale has been brought into this modern setting the situations remain the same: a transport cafe is substituted for the mediaeval alehouse, but the three wastrels still go out to look for Death—and find him.

C.T.D.

### JOINT CLUB

At our first meeting of the term, which was held in the Heylyn Room, we welcomed Mr. Tammidge who takes the place of Mr. Helliwell, and also many new members. In spite of this the ice was soon broken and we had a very agreeable evening's dancing.

At both our second and third meetings, held at St. Helen's and in the Heylyn Room respectively, we again passed most of the evening in dancing, and had a number of Scottish country dances which seemed to be very popular.

It was pleasing to notice this term that very little persuasion was necessary in order to ensure that everybody took an active part in the meetings.

At the end of term the Club was well represented at the two main 'functions' of the year. The St. Helen's Sixth Form Dance was tremendously enjoyed by all of us who went; and our own Prefects' Dance was voted a great success by all. This was in no small way due to Mr. Eric Potter and his band who played as usual with skill and aplomb.

A.J.C.

### THE SKYE GROUP

This year the Group is planning to carry out a scientific survey of the Isle of Arran in the Firth of Clyde. In the Christmas holidays an advance party was sent to make a short reconnaissance in order to find a suitable camping site and to arrange for the supply of provisions and transport for the heavy baggage.

Six boys in three pairs hitch-hiked up to Fairlie from where there is a ferry to Arran. They arranged to meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 7th January, but in the end only two pairs arrived by this time. The crossing of the Firth of Clyde is reputedly one of the roughest in the country, but it was kind enough to be exceptionally calm for our pioneers.

P. A. Bretscher, B. Lewis, A. L. Howell and P. J. Ford spent one night on the island and managed to find an empty cottage to sleep in. The next day they met the other pair, D. Kirk and P. Davis, cycling along the coast road, and discovered that they had already made the necessary arrangements for site, supplies and transport.

We are very grateful to our friend Dr. Brown of the Geology Department, Oxford University, who gave us much valuable information about camping sites on Arran and geology on the island.

P.J.F.

### JAZZ CLUB

The Club held three meetings this term. The first was a selection of traditional records including some of Sidney Bechet, Chris Barber and Humphrey Lyttelton.

The next meeting was a talk given by A. F. Pritchard on "Chicago Blues". Aided by records he traced the development of the small Chicago groups from 1937 up to the present day blues of Muddy Waters and Little Walter.

The final talk of the term was given by our sponsor Mr. J. A. Pole, entitled "The Cool So Cool". This was a talk on the West Coast modernist movement and was illustrated by some of the more prominent groups including Chet Baker, Gerry Mulligan and Miles Davis.

We are a Traditionalist Club and it does a lot of good to have talks on what is considered to be the opposite form of Jazz as otherwise one loses a sense of perspective.

A.F.P.

### BUILDING CLUB

After the good work of the Summer Term, during which nearly half of the Fives Court was completed, we do not seem to have progressed as well this term. There are many reasons for this, the main ones being that supplies of material did not arrive until half-term and that we lost most of our bricklayers at the end of the previous term. However the end is now in sight and all being well we hope to hand over to the professionals who will do the plastering and put the roof on, about half way through the Lent Term.

We were sorry to have to say goodbye to Mr. Helliwell, our original sponsor, in July. Although none of us knew much about building when we started it was his tremendous enthusiasm that set us off to a good start. Mr. Hasnip has now taken over and we notice that he has managed to persuade several other masters, notably Mr. Williams and Mr. Vallance, to forsake the warmth of the Common Room in order to come and help us.

Finally we should like to thank Mr. Drew who did a lot of work on the Court in the early stages and who corrected many of our mistakes.

M.A.C.S.

### HOLIDAY CLUB

During the Summer Holidays the Club's proposed activities consisted of a cricket fixture and a tennis match. Unfortunately many days of heavy rain caused the cricket to be cancelled as the ground of our opponents, the Boars Hill Cricket Club, became water-logged. However a most enjoyable tennis match was played against Wootton Tennis Club, our opponents finally overcoming our inexperienced, but enthusiastic team by 6 games to 3.

Activities for the Christmas Holidays include a football match, a rugby match and the annual social evening.

D.H.B.

## OXFORD LETTER

Oxford University.  
December 5th, 1958.

Dear Sir,

It is a sign of the increasing good fortune of the School and the wisdom of those who guide the steps of young scholars to places of greater learning that the number of O.A.'s at Oxford is the highest since those happy days before the merciless legislation of 1854 when the most part of numerous Abingdon fellowships and scholarships was swept away. There are twelve Old Boys in *statu pupillari* and it reflects the strong scientific bias of the School that two-thirds are scientists in a university renowned for its prowess in the arts.

The doyen of our number is John Westall who has surmounted Part I of Chemistry Schools. In the summer he was seen inspiring Pot Hall oarsmen to achieve excellence and actually took an oar in eights. As a chemist he is joined by Humphrey Bowen who is reported to oscillate at regular intervals between Pembroke and Dyson Perrins. Michael Enser, third year of Pembroke, and Roger Marchbanks, second year of Magdalen, read Biochemistry and it is understood that both lead a full social life; the latter is seen regularly in local hosteleries. Dick Stevens of Pembroke is the senior of the three physicists and takes Schools this year, Brian Kibble of Jesus shines in the glory of a First in Mods, whilst Robert Westcott of Pembroke is preparing for Prelims—as is Frank Jeal of St. Cath's.

There are at least two O.A.'s who enjoy the unrivalled reputation of the Oxford School of Literae Humaniores. Norman Shurrock takes Greats this year and Brian Winkett, also of Pembroke, is reading for Mods. Both are keen members of the Railway Society in a manner peculiar to classicists. D. M. P. Jones is reading Modern Greats at St. Peter's Hall and Bill Budden of Teddy Hall combines Jurisprudence with rowing in the summer and squash and badminton in the winter.

This term Oxford has seen a galaxy of distinguished visitors including President Heuss and Vice-President Nixon who come like many others to discover the wealth of the senior university and Sir, it is because your correspondent hopes that the young scholars of his old school should share in this and should maintain the strong Abingdonian tradition that he wishes success to all those who come up to attempt entrance scholarships.

Yours sincerely,

Your Oxford Correspondent.

## O.A. NOTES

## BIRTHS

HEAVENS. On 25th November, to Elizabeth, wife of Dr. Michael A. C. Heavens (1950), a son, James Michael.

PERRY. On 19th September, 1958, to the wife of Bryan Perry (1950), a second daughter, Amanda Jane.

WIGGINS. On 13th January, to Jennifer, wife of Dr. C. S. Wiggins, a son, James.

## MARRIAGES

**GRANT-O'MALLEY.** On 9th August, 1958, at the Interdenominational Church, Choma, N. Rhodesia, Assistant Inspector Michael Grant (1953), N. Rhodesia Police, to Jenny O'Malley.

**HILES-SMITH.** On 26th October, 1958, at Drayton Parish Church, Christopher Hiles (1956) to Janet Smith.

**LAY-HARDY.** On 25th October, 1958, at the Congregational Church, Weybridge, Peter J. Lay (1954) to Jean Mary Hardy.

**MARGRAVE-ALLWORK.** On 1st February, 1958, at Broad Clyst, Exeter, Basil N. Margrave (1947) to Doreen Allwork.

**REDKNAP-HEAPS.** On 15th February, 1955, at Narberth, Pems., Richard H. Redknap (1954) to Margaret Elizabeth Heaps.

**ROFF-JONES.** On 27th September, 1958, at Holy Trinity Church, Pelinfol, Roland H. Roff (1951) to Mary Jones.

**SIMS-MORGAN.** On 27th July, 1957, at St. Aldate's Church, Oxford, Capt. Peter R. Sims, R.T.R. (1946) to Patricia Joan Morgan.

**TREACHER-HOLDEN.** On 14th August, 1958, at St. Mary's Church, Thame, David Llewellyn Treacher (1950) to Pamela Ann Holden.

## DEATHS

**DURELL.** On 24th November, in London, John Brydone Oswald Durell (1922-27), aged 50.

**PRENTICE.** On 24th December, 1958, suddenly, Kenneth Hugh Steel Prentice (1946-54), aged 21.

**RIGGOTT.** On 2nd January, 1959, in the British Military Hospital, Hanover, Anthony William Hugo Riggott (1941-50), Capt. R.H.A., aged 27.

We have also received news, without further details of the deaths of Roy Wareham-Smith (1922-24) and John Comber Raybould Gardner (1922-27).

John Durell was a School Prefect and Head of the School in 1926. He went up to Pembroke College and rowed in the 1st VIII in 1929 and 30. He was a schoolmaster for some years but latterly had been working with the British Council.

John Gardner, son of the manager of the Midland Bank, Abingdon, was a School Prefect and rowed in the 1st IV. He entered R.M.A. Sandhurst in 1928 and was commissioned to The King's Regt., serving in Egypt and India in the 30's and on various fronts in World War II when he rose to the rank of Major.

The untimely death of Kenneth Prentice will come as a great shock to all his friends at the School. A boy of cheerful and charming temperament he entered fully into the life of School but his chief interest lay in drama. His performances as John of Gaunt and Tobit will long be remembered, and it was a disappointment to others as well as himself that he could not pursue a dramatic career. However he cheerfully set off on another course and at the time of his death was preparing to enter London University.

No less to be deplored was the news that Tony Riggott had fallen a victim to poliomyelitis while serving in Germany. He was a School Prefect and a good all-round games player—especially hockey. He entered R.M.A. Sandhurst in 1951 and was commissioned in Royal Artillery in the following year. He soon showed that he was cut out for soldiering and was twice selected as A.D.C. to the G.O.C. Malta before returning to his regiment, 1 R.H.A. It is a tragedy that a promising career should be so soon cut off. To the families of both we offer our profound sympathy.

Tony Riggott was buried at Hanover on 5th January. Among those present at the funeral was L/Bdr. Barry Westbrook, of the same regiment, representing the Headmaster, the Staff and the School.

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Old Boys will join in congratulations to their indefatigable Secretary Norman Holmes on his appointment as Justice of the Peace for the Borough.

C. M. Humfrey (1920) has returned from a long sojourn in India and is at the London office of A.E.I. in Grosvenor Place.

Peter Downer (1953) is at McGill University, Toronto, acting as demonstrator in the Zoology Dept. He recently met Keith Hawtin (1952) who is with the Hudson's Bay Co.

John Sansom (1945) is another immigrant to Canada. After teaching in Nigeria for some years he is now settled at Medicine Hat, supervising a boarding house for High School Students and teaching in a new Junior High School just completed about 15 miles from the town.

Basil Margrave (1947) has a thoroughly satisfying job as Assistant Head of Programme Planning with Southern ITV.

John Thistlewood (1954) after taking his B.Sc. Special in Physiology is now embarked on 3 years clinical study at University Coll. Hospital. He also has a research project in hand in a lab. at University College—and gets his exercise playing hockey for the Hospital.

Michael Penn (1949) is with Napper, Stratton & Woolley, Advertising Practitioners and plays cricket regularly in the season for the Nomads. Harold Williams (1954) is also in advertising with Willings.

Geoffrey Crockford (1952), after taking his B.Sc. London, secured a B.I.S.F. (Iron & Steel) Research Bursary and is working at the Anatomical Laboratory in Oxford.

John Pridham's (1955) new address is Deepling Tea Estate, Assam India.

Tony Maxwell (1955) in the Bank of West Africa is at Lagos, Nigeria.

R. B. Smith (1958) has joined Colin Scragg (1957) in the Metropolitan Police.

John Becker (1957) has transferred to Tower of London (Productions) Ltd. as 1st Assistant Film Editor.

Martin Pulsford (1955) is in the Civil Service working with the Photographic Unit at the Geology Museum.

D. W. Howard (1956) is at the Lygon Arms Hotel, Broadway, pursuing his Hotel Management studies.

D. J. Lanham (1956) has been accepted for admission to the Law Department of Leeds University in October, 1959.

We were very sorry to hear that John Greenaway (1952) was in the Osler Hospital, Oxford, suffering from a tubercular infection, and his stay was likely to be prolonged. It is very bad luck when he had just got started at Swanley, and we wish him a complete—if not speedy—recovery.

Christopher Wray (1957) appeared in the ITV production of "Frenzy" on 23rd November, as one of the young students, and the knowledge of Latin he displayed was most gratifying. His time is well filled with work behind the scenes and cabaret and conjuring engagements.

Clayton Armstrong (1952) has passed his finals as Chartered Accountant and is now doing his National Service in R.A. at Oswestry.

Michael Creevy (1953) is with Hall Engineering (Office Furniture) Co. as a Trainee Representative.

Richard Banwell (1954) is at Ripon with Robert Kearsley & Co. who provide the Training School for Technical Sales representatives for the Pinchin Johnson (Paint) Group of Companies.

There are at least seven O.A.'s in the B.M.C. offices at Cowley—Colin Calvert-Fisher (1944), Derek Slingsby (1944), John McMahon (1942), Neil Darroch (1952), Richard Redknapp (1954), Eddie Rockall (1954) and Bill Broad (1957).

Christopher Hiles (1956), who is with the Southern Electricity Board, has qualified for the full Honours Course at Southampton University under the 'Sandwich Course' Scheme.

Our latest news of David Gerrard (1956) is that he is teaching music (among other things we hope) at Sarum House School, Purley.

Michael Randell (1956) in Ministry of Transport, is now in Traffic Control Office at London Airport.

Barry Hiscock (1954) is working for Shell Mex & B.P. with his base at Southampton.

Noel Buxton (1952) has passed Law Society Finals.

#### *The Services*

S. P. Austin (1929) is now Wing Cmdr. stationed at H.Q. Technical Training Command, Brampton.

Tony Clay (1948), Capt. R.A., is back in Hong Kong with 32 Med. Regt.

Lt. Hugh Leach (1953), R.T.R., is doing a year's course in Arabic at the M.E. Centre for Arab Studies, Shemlar, Lebanon.

Lt. Michael Hudson (1954), 5 Fd. Batt., R.A., is at Aden.

Capt. Peter Sims (1946), R.T.R., is just finishing a Technical Officers' Course at Shrivenham.

His brother Kenneth (1943), Capt. R.A., is at School of Artillery, Larkhill, where Alan Bush (1956), lately commissioned, is doing a course.

P/O John Nichols (1955), as well as performing creditably in the R.A.F. Championship, was a member of the R.A.F. VI which won the Inter-Services Tennis Tournament.

Lt. Brian Leech (1952), R.T.R., now married and with a small daughter, is stationed at Tidworth.

Alan Caswell (1956), R.A.F. Regt., is with 34 L.A.A. Sqdn. in Cyprus. D. C. Adams (1954) is in R.A.F. at El Adem, Libya, and Ian Parsons (1955) is P.T. Instructor at West Malling.

Brian Jakeman (1945), Staff Sgt. Instructor, R.A.P.C., is still at Waller Barracks, Devizes, with hockey as his main distraction.

John Pratt (1955), 2nd/Lt. R.A.S.C., has been posted to Germany and his place at Sandhurst will be filled by W. J. Phipps.

P. J. Emerton (1952) and J. H. Pinniger (1952), R.E.M.E., have recently passed W.O.S.B.

Ian Ashworth (1955), recently commissioned to Royal Military Police, is at the Depot, Woking.

Peter Kibble (1956) is in R. Signals at Catterick.

\* \* \* \*

The following are, to the best of our knowledge, at present in residence at Universities and Medical School:

**Oxford:**

Pembroke—N. J. Shurrock, M. B. Enser, W. N. R. Stevens, H. C. Bowen, R. W. Westcott, B. D. Winkett.

Magdalen—R. M. Marchbanks.

Jesus—B. P. Kibble.

St. Edmund Hall—W. W. Budden.

St. Peter's Hall—J. Westall, D. M. P. Jones.

St. Catherine's Society—F. Jeal.

**Cambridge:**

Clare—M. S. R. Broadway.

Gonville & Caius—M. S. Bretscher.

Jesus—S. C. Woodley.

King's—M. J. Scott-Taggart, C. M. Dunman.

Pembroke—R. E. J. Packer.

Queen's—P. M. D. Gray.

Fitzwilliam House—D. G. Dunkley.

**Dublin:**

Trinity College—R. B. Scott-Taggart.

**London:**

King's—G. F. Wastie.

L.S.E.—T. C. Glucklich, N. K. Hammond.

Queen Mary's—I. A. Oliver.

Northampton Engineering College—G. R. H. Slack.

**Birmingham:** C. J. Marchbanks, B. E. Stacey.

**Bristol:** D. J. Meakins.

**Reading:** M. Q. King.

**Hull:** J. C. Ivatts.

**Sheffield:** J. Furby.

**Southampton:** J. D. Hall, C. Hiles, E. R. L. Day, B. P. A. Cork.

**Medical Schools:**

Guy's—J. A. Howard, P. O. Older, M. C. Rallings.

King's College—R. K. Le Voi.

London—S. H. Freedman.

Middlesex—P. G. Cope.

Royal Veterinary—J. J. Swainston.



St. Mary's—B. L. Smith.

Birmingham—P. D. Exon.

Edinburgh—G. S. Strachan.

B. L. Buckland and P. A. Smith are at St. Luke's Training College, Exeter.

Of those who left in July last, and since, apart from those mentioned above, we have the following news:

R. M. Kennedy is training as Assistant Land Surveyor with the Opencast Division of the National Coal Board in Durham.

I. R. Peedell is with Critchley, Ward & Piggot, Accountants in Oxford.

J. M. Foster is articled to a Solicitor.

N. D. O. Hall is at the Oxford School of Architecture.

Peter Hampson is with the British Automobile Co.

A. P. Paxman is with County Fire Office in London.

R. Powell is a trainee at Harrods, as also is Peter North in the furniture department.

Nigel Pridham and Martin Chambers are in B.P. Tankers bound for the Persian Gulf and Aden.

John Saywell and Robert Simpson found themselves, by strange coincidence, articled to the same firm of accountants in London, Fincham Vallance & Co. John also belongs to the Harlequins R.F.C.

Alan Aitchison, in Customs & Excise, has been doing Distilling Theory in Dumbarton, and hopes to do Brewing Practical—happy thought—in Abingdon.

David Exon is with Permutit Ltd., Acton.

A. M. Thistlewood is doing accountancy with the firm of A. W. Miles (O.A.) & Watson, Bournemouth.

Brian Trinder is with Ocean Insurance Co. at Oxford.

J. E. Knight is in Westminster Bank in London and has been rowing in the Junior VIII in preparation for the Head of the River Race.

E. R. J. Jouault is articled with Deloitte, Plender & Griffiths.

Nigel Norman is doing a 3-year course at Brighton Technical College.

A. M. Hedges is farming at home.

Peter Horrey is a building trainee with Richard Costain Ltd.

P. J. Liles is studying Quantity Surveying.

Geoffrey Bromley is in an architect's office, hoping ultimately to become a motor designer.

S. M. Cuddy is with Smith's Advertising firm in Holborn.

Timothy Greader is with Day, Shergold & Herbert, Estate Agents, of Newbury.

Jeremy Kingston is taking a course in Furniture Design with Heals Ltd.

## O.A. CLUB NOTES

The Annual Dance held on Saturday, 29th November and organised by Norman Holmes was generally voted the most successful of recent years. Enlarged accommodation made bar and buffet arrangements for the 217 guests much more comfortable, and the band gave general satisfaction. Our sincere thanks go to the Secretary for his efforts and to Mrs. Bevir for providing floral decorations as beautiful as ever. There were more very young Old Boys present than usual and we were delighted to see them but the Secretary would issue a warning that next year he will not be prepared to sell tickets at literally the last minute. Buffet arrangements cannot be altered at the last moment and it is neither considerate nor fair to those who book early to leave things so late.

A large number of Old Boys attended Morning Chapel on Sunday and were afterwards entertained to coffee by Mrs. Cobban, to whom very many thanks.

Arrangements for the coming year, 1959, are as follows:

Hockey Match—Saturday, 28th February.

London Dinner—Friday, 13th March.

Athletics Meeting—Saturday, 21st March.

Old Boys' Day—Saturday, 13th June.

Rugger Match and Dance—Saturday, 28th November.

Stanley Paige has again very kindly agreed to arrange the London Dinner at the Constitutional Club, Northumberland Avenue and we ask members to make a real effort to attend and to apply early for tickets. His address is: S. A. Paige, Esq., 77 Watling Street, London, E.C.3.

Also will any 'locals' who would like to join the coach party notify George Duxbury as soon as possible, please.

*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.*

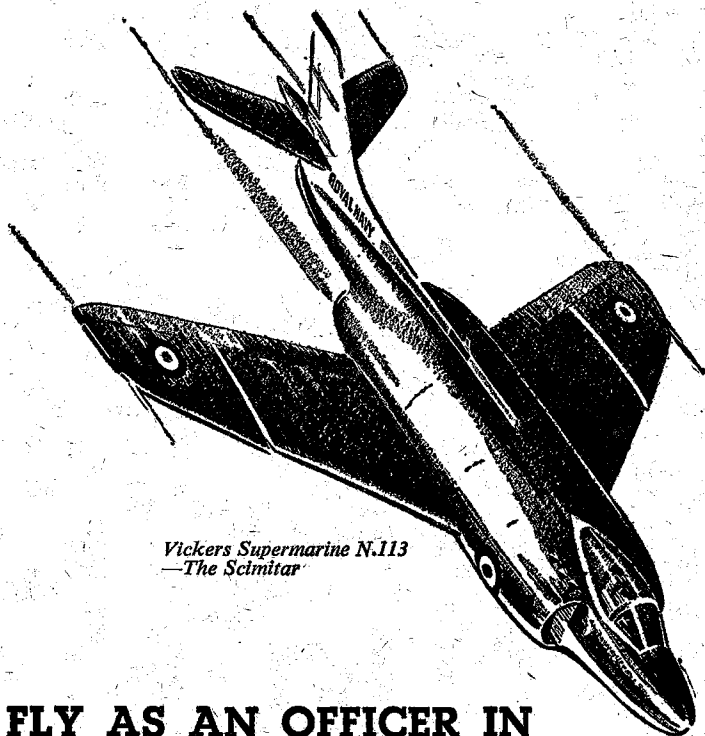
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- 3. By subscription to the Magazine at current price, at present 6/- per annum.*

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



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