

# THE ABINGDONIAN

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## OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL

*Lent Term, 1963*

### SCHOOL PREFECTS

N. P. Loukes (Head of School)

T. A. Marsh (C)	A. C. L. Fraser (S)
P. J. Leather (D)	T. J. Pegram (D)
B. A. F. Burn (S)	R. H. M. Burridge (S)
C. R. Winfield (S)	R. J. Ormerod (C)
R. W. Ellaway (D)	P. E. Cable (S)
G. F. Keeyes (D)	K. W. R. Dixon (D)
R. G. Parks (W)	R. C. H. Moorshead (L)
A. R. F. Redgrave (D)	M. S. Ford (D)
C. J. Dean (S)	

### HOUSE PREFECTS

**Boylston House**—J. J. Mackenzie; A. W. Foster; P. J. Mann; E. N. Broadway; B. G. Mackay; I. W. D. Matson; J. D. Urwick; C. J. D. Bailey; M. E. F. Willey; D. J. B. Hewison.

**Wentworth House**—D. J. French; M. J. I. Day; M. J. Evans; I. R. Flint; S. J. Opie; A. E. W. Willey.

**St. Andrew's Hill**—F. A. Bisby; S. R. Wilson; I. J. Newbold; D. J. Jessett.

**St. Andrew's Court**—C. Carter; J. R. Jennings.

**St. Andrew's Boys**—(P. S. McK. Ramsey); J. Fairlie; P. W. Liversidge; R. M. Kirby; F. C. A. Exon; A. S. Harrison; M. R. Morris; N. A. G. Spackman; P. R. Munson; R. N. Carter; G. J. Bailey; I. G. Burns; D. F. K. Smith; D. W. Taylor; J. Bowthorpe.

**Captain of Hockey**—R. H. M. Burridge; **Secretary**—A. W. Foster.

**Captain of Athletics**—T. A. Marsh; **Secretary**—R. M. Kirby.

**Captain of Boats**—J. J. Mackenzie; **Secretary**—M. J. Evans.

**Secretary of G.G.C.**—P. J. Leather.

### "The Abingdonian"

**Editor:** N. P. Loukes; **Asst. Editors:** R. H. Burridge, P. J. Leather, A. C. L. Fraser; J. J. Mackenzie; R. D. Van Wagenen.

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

## EDITORIAL

1963 — for us, a year of showing off:-

"In four hundred years this School has grown and developed; its buildings have expanded, and we have almost exactly five hundred more boys than John Royse ordained; we are a more developed generation; we and our forbears have built up a tradition we should be proud to pass on . . ." — the string of platitudes is endless. In the coming year these sentiments will be felt by many an Old Abingdonian and maybe even by a few present Abingdonians. There will be a good deal of metaphorical and literal patting on the back, a "exceeding great joy." In a word, there is a danger of our becoming smug and self-satisfied in this Quatercentenary Year, a danger which we must try to avoid.

The modern boy may be more responsible or responsive, and more may be expected of him but the fact that it is only recently that someone — not a boy — suggested that we ourselves should do something towards the Quatercentenary Appeal shows that we are by no means sufficiently alive to the needs of the School. What we have done in the Christmas holidays is the minimum and we have no right to be satisfied with it. There is limitless scope for us in helping the Appeal — after all, we are somewhat more involved in the School than our parents and Old Boys are!

Yet even after the year is over we ought not to imagine that we have done our bit. Merely because the particular goal of £63,000 will have been reached is not to say that there are no other goals to be reached. Merely because we shall eventually have had a new Library, Boat House, Dayboys' Changing Room, or what you will, is not to say that there is no other way in which the School can be improved. There is a good school not very far away, only a tenth as old as we are, whose pupils are continually raising money in groups for the school or for some other cause. Money, however, need not be the only target. Even if we had all the money necessary there is still room for far greater activity and drive from all of us.

Many aspects of the School require reconsideration, and now is the time for it. Should caning be abolished, should House Prefects be made to wear caps, or indeed should senior boys have to wear uniforms at all? We could go on posing questions such as these, many of which might not be solved; and in doing so we are not trying to dampen the spirits which will inevitably be let off this year. However, it is as well to remember that while we are celebrating, and congratulating the School and ourselves, we should not sit back complacently reaping the fruits of four hundred years but should make an effort to help the School in preparation for the next four hundred years.

**SCHOOL NOTES**

We heard with regret of the serious illness of Alderman Cornish, with relief of his recovery. Now we congratulate him on his election as Chairman of the Abingdon County Bench. With him we congratulate the Headmaster and Mr. de la Mare on election as Deputy Chairmen, while the Headmaster has also been elected Chairman of the Licensing Bench,

Congratulations and good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. C. D. B. Milton on the birth of a second son (Philip Jonathan, 8th November): and to Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Tudor, of R.N.C., Dartmouth, whom many Old Boys will remember, on the birth of a daughter (Lena Marion, 22nd November).

We congratulate Mr. John Pole, now teaching at Westminster School, on his recent marriage.

School House says goodbye with regret to Miss Alison Jones, its assistant housekeeper, who is leaving to broaden her experience.

During the Lent Term we look forward to welcoming three full-time student masters; from Cambridge, Mr. T. G. Page, of Downing College (Chemistry); from Oxford, Mr. P. R. Dendy, of Magdalen College (Biology) and Mr. M. A. Lang, of Jesus College (Mathematics). In addition, we are again co-operating with the Oxford Department of Education by entertaining for the week beginning 11th February two of the schoolmasters who are attending a special short course on Mathematics for the Arts Graduate, Mr. B. R. Blackler, of the Humphry Davy Grammar School, Penzance, and Mr. T. W. Wilson, of Ranelagh School, Bracknell.

We shall be particularly glad to welcome Mr. Lang because Mr. Tammadge, Head of the Mathematics Department, has been given leave of absence by the Governors for the Lent Term to enable him to work with Professor Thwaites, of Southampton University, on the new project for the reform of mathematical teaching. Much as we dislike losing Mr. Tammadge even for one term, we are very glad to think that he should have been specially selected for this important assignment.

We are again grateful to parents and others for many generous and imaginative gifts. Here we would thank especially Mr. and Mrs. James Day (for four music stands): the Rev. H. F. Shepherd (for a large collection of books): and Mrs. Clifford Ellis (who has kindly given the School a large part of Mr. Ellis' own library).

The number of boys on the School Roll at the beginning of the Michaelmas Term was 566 (a record number). Of this number 193 were boarders and 159 were in the Sixth Form.

We congratulate A. C. L. Fraser on the award of the Abingdon Scholarship in Medicine at Pembroke College, Oxford: T. A. Marsh

and T. J. Pegram were awarded places at Pembroke College on the same examination. More recently N. P. Loukes has secured a place at Christ Church and C. R. Winfield at St. John's (Oxford). Other postulants remain in suspense.

We congratulate also James Fairlie on the award of the Sixth Form Scholarship (known *pro hac vice* as the Bennett Scholarship).

On Thursday, 25th October, when a Parents' Evening for parents of all new boys was held, the School was invaded by an army of cars — a total of 93 — all of which parked, in the dark, if not on the gravel in the School grounds. Seven years' faithful service had obviously taken its toll of the quality, but not of the entertainment or instructional value, of the School documentary film "No Tumbled House" which made on this occasion what we imagine will be its last public appearance. Now we look forward to seeing the new School film, which is being produced to mark the Quatercentenary Year.

Artists and scientists alike had a fair share of lectures and discussion this term. On the 29th September, a resolute party of historians attended the one-day conference organised by the Oxford Schools Historical Association, and on 3rd October, another party attended a lecture with slides by Miss Kitson on her visit to Persia, under the auspices of the Friends of Abingdon. Some of the Sixth Form German Set saw Lessing's "Minna von Barnheim" at the Oxford Playhouse on 29th November: and later the more enterprising members went to see "Dr Faustus", performed on 6th December, by the Oxford High School. Three days before this, a few mathematicians attended a discussion "The new Sixth Form mathematics course on B.B.C. television", organised by the Oxford and District Branch of the Mathematical Association. The 11th December saw a few of the "select" visiting the University Match, and in the evening, a party attended a classical lecture at the Ashmolean Museum, "Petra" by Miss Toynbee. More generally, parties attended Abingdon Amateur Operatic Society's "Merry Widow" on 23rd October: the annual rugby match on 15th November between Oxford University and Major Stanley's XV: Abingdon Dramatic Society's presentation of "The Crucible" by Arthur Miller, on 16th November (which was produced by our own Mr. Fairhead, the cast including amongst others, Mrs. Griffin, Mrs. Schofield, and, of course Mr. Horrex): and, on 8th December, the Abingdon Musical Society's Christmas Concert.

The two junior forms paid their customary pious pilgrimage to the Guildhall and the Roysse Room on 10th November. On this occasion they had the privilege of being received in person by the Mayor — himself the father of three Old Abingdonians — who gave a short introductory talk on the history of the buildings.

Once again we saw two parties of the Lower Sixth Form Chemists entering Messrs. Morland's Brewery on allegedly educational visits, on 13th and 17th December respectively.

On Sunday, 11th November, it was pleasant to see such large contingents from the C.C.F. and the Scouts on parade, with boarders and layboys represented in equal strength. A special word of thanks to the Guard of Honour, and to the lone bugler, A. R. F. Redgrave, who performed splendidly in conditions of intense cold.

Mr. Martin, of the Youth Employment Service, came down on 9th November, and gave a general careers talk, with interviews, to members of the Fifth Form. We may note here too that our own careers master, Mr. Sewry, gadded off from 15th to 18th October to visit R.A.F. establishments in Malta and Libya. At Luga he had the pleasure of being entertained by one of our parents, S/Ldr. Parfitt.

The School acted as host to the one-day Sixth Form Conference organised by the Student Christian Movement on 11th October. Out of school, we also welcomed the Abingdon and District Council of Churches, the Church of England Men's Society, and the St. Nicolas' Parochial Church Council, all of which held meetings in Lacies Court during the term. On the evening of 29th October, A.E.R.E. showed some films to their employees in the Court Room, and on 7th November, the Ruridecanal Conference was held there, after a short service of intercession in the School Chapel.

On Sunday, 21st October, all Sixth Form boarders attended the special Service to mark Education Sunday held in the Methodist Church, when Professor Coulson preached. The following day, representatives from the School, including members of the Choir, were present at the Service to commemorate the Tercentenary of the Book of Common Prayer, held in St. Helen's Church.

Mr. Kenneth Boyd, to whom, as author of the School play "Spithead Story", we are so grateful, again carried out a series of mock interviews on prospective university candidates. We hope this practice will continue, now that it has been established as an annual event.

Despite the flurry of educational entertainment, the social life of the School was not neglected during the term. Warm thanks go to the young ladies of St. Helen's, who invited so many of us to their Sixth Form Dance on 29th November; and to those of Faringdon Grammar School, for their dance on 14th December. Now we know why every Tuesday night senior boys were seen trooping round to St. Helen's for their dancing classes.

Under the guidance of Mr. Fairhead, the first forms, on 23rd November, put on an enterprising exhibition entitled "Wood and stone look'ng like other things", selling the programmes in aid of Oxfam; and during the Christmas holidays nine seniors helped the local National Farmers' Union to collect for a tractor to send to the West Indies.

During the term, a new Society, "The Historians", and a new School mathematics magazine "Figure", edited by C. J. D. Bailey, made them-

selves noticed. At a lower level, we welcome too the "Young Abingdonians' Express" — an occasional journal produced — and very attractively produced — by Form 1.Y.

Subscription Concerts and House Music competitions will be mentioned later; but it is pleasant to recall the recital on 11th November, held in Lacies Court, when Mrs. Fry (on the 'cello) and Mr. Pratt (on the harpsichord) entertained us. The choir added to their record of public entertainment when, on 16th December, they took part in a programme entitled "Carols by Candle-light" organised at Caldecott House by the Abingdon Youth Council. Earlier they had had the privilege, on 2nd December, of singing at evensong in Dorchester Abbey.

On the 13th December, the Boarders tried for revenge against the Dayboys at Rugby Football, after they had been defeated (unofficially) 3—1 at Soccer, four days previously. The result, a draw, was fair to both sides. However, the classic game of the term, by common consent, was the match between the Third XV and the Harlequins — a Common Room side which perhaps lacked the speed of their namesakes, though certainly not the spirit.

Since it will not be mentioned later it must be put on record that the Fives team, although hampered by Rugger commitments, were able to engineer a "friendly" against Bristol Grammar School, at Bristol, on 11th November, and, in this, were only narrowly beaten. The team was: 1st pair: Ford, C. C. and Bailey, G. J.; 2nd pair: Ford, M. S. and Barratt, A. T.

The House P.T. Competition was held eventually after a postponement because of fog on the last Monday of term, 17th December. We are grateful to Mr. Booth, who kindly adjudicated the competition. The Viney Cup was awarded to Bennett House, winners by a clear margin.

Saturday evening lectures this term were as follows:

- 29th September: Mr. Gerry Dimond — "Kariba" (with film).
- 13th October: Mr. Godfrey Kneller, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., — "The Brass of the Orchestra."
- 27th October: Mr. Ley Kenyon, D.F.C. — "The Undersea World" (with film).
- 17th November: Mr. Harold Evetts, F.Z.S. — "Foxes and Fallow Deer."

Feature films have been — "The Journey", "To Catch a Thief", "Two Way Stretch", "A Matter of Life and Death."

On 20th December, the last evening of term, the School kitchens once more treated the Boarders, at their Christmas dinner, to turkey, plum pudding, fruit salad and ice cream. Afterwards, Crescent House

and their hosts, School House, played some of the Headmaster's "gentle" games, in the Gymnasium. Even members of the Staff were surprised when they saw the Headmaster conducting a few senior boys for carol singing!

Although O.A. notes have their own place in the magazine, let us add our own word of praise to Christopher Woodley (1956) who was recently invited to attend Abingdon (County) Court to receive a parchment of the Royal Humane Society for rescuing a seven-year-old girl from the river on 22nd April. The acting-Chairman of the Bench (by a happy coincidence, the Headmaster), who presented the certificate, spoke highly of the courage and initiative which Woodley had shown.

We like to record achievement, even if it falls outside the province of the School. Congratulations therefore to P. V. Bosley, of the 10th North Berks Scout Group, who has been selected to go to the World Scout Jamboree to be held in Greece next August; and to G. H. Hallett, who is now well established as the official organist at Marcham Parish Church.

On the evening of our Service of Lessons and Carols the School Campanological Society, strengthened by two or three of the St. Helen's ringers, attempted a Quarter Peal of 1260 Plain Bob Triples (shades of the Nine Tailors!): on this occasion they were unsuccessful but we have no doubt that they will try again.

We were pleased to receive a copy recently of "Grammar Schools in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries", a group thesis recently produced by a seminar of the Bristol Institute of Education. The fact that Abingdon secures frequent mention is not surprising when you see among the list of the group the name of N. K. Hammond, who is rapidly adapting to himself the mantle of local historian worn with such an air by Miss Agnes Baker.

We are assured that the new strong room for the display of the Corporation silver at one end of the Roysse Room is now almost complete. The Committee of the O.A. Club took the opportunity of reminding the Mayor of the old school birch, which was exhibited in the Roysse Room until fairly recently. As a result the Mayor has traced the birch which will be restored as nearly as possible to its former situation.

Connoisseurs of coincidence may like to note the following, vouched for by the Headmaster:

— Sailing for New York in the Summer, William Jamieson found himself sharing a cabin with Fr. Gallos — this year's American preacher.

— Of the 85 boys, drawn from all parts of the country, who were originally on the School lists for admission as eleven-year-old boarders in September next, no less than four had the same, somewhat uncommon, surname of Pike. The odds against a coincidence of this order would seem to be at least quarter-of-a-million to one against!

The special crest displayed on the cover of this issue is intended for use throughout the next twelve months as a symbol of Quatercentenary Year. We are grateful to Mr. Fairhead for its design.

We owe to a parent this true story of some elderly ladies who were seen standing outside the Corn Exchange on the first night of the School Play. On being informed what was on, one of them exploded, "A school play! How positively disgusting! I thought it was Bingo."

And here is the first sentence of a letter recently received by the Headmaster: "Although only three years of age at the moment, I should like to make some arrangements for my son's education." We know our boarding lists are closed until 1972, but there are limits . . .

Photographs appearing in this issue are by courtesy of Mr. Milligan, Photographer; Mr. Ivor Fields, Photographer; and David Jessett.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of magazines from the following schools: City of Oxford; Henley; Magdalen College; Oratory; Radley; Reading; R.G.S., High Wycombe; St. Bartholomew's, Newbury; St. Helen's; Southfield; Windsor; and from the following: R.N. Engineering College, Keyham; R.N. Engineering College, Manadon.

## THE QUATERCENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

The focal point of the celebrations will be the weekend of 14th—16th June. On Friday, 14th June, we shall be honoured by a visit from Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, who has graciously consented to open the new library and to unveil a commemorative plaque. This will be the first royal visit to the School — at any rate the first since its refoundation by John Roysse — and we shall be very proud to welcome Her Royal Highness.

The Old Boys' Dinner will take place the same evening. On the following day a Service of Thanksgiving and Dedication will be held in the morning at St. Helen's Church, when the Bishop of Reading will be the preacher. This will be followed by a luncheon in a large marquee on the School Grounds at which the guest speaker will be Sir Keith Murray, K.C.B., Chairman of the University Grants Committee and sometime Rector of Lincoln College, Oxford. There will be a display of activities, and a specially composed entertainment, produced by Mr. Horrex, will close the day.

A descriptive programme, which will include also particulars of the other commemorative events which will take place throughout the year, will be produced very shortly and will be distributed to all parents, Old Boys and known friends of the School.

J.M.C.



## FROM THE HEADMASTER

We spent Christmas quietly, and (yes, I can say it) happily. Now Twelfth Night has gone. Outside, the grounds are still heavy with snow. Inside the School seethes with activity. There are painters in the Chapel, painters in the Entrance Hall and the Blacknall Room, plasterers, carpenters, electricians, camp-followers and sutlers in what we must very soon stop calling Big School. Old Boys who revisit the School during Quatercentenary Year will indeed find plenty to interest them.

It is worth-while to look back for a moment and consider how much has been done since the War to meet the cumulative demand of three factors — the natural growth of the School, the back-log of the war years, the higher standards which parents rightly expect nowadays. Indeed, the Governors have spent upwards of £175,000 in such projects as the building of the Science Block and the Teaching Block — each subsequently extended — the purchase of Larkhill, Lacies Court, Crescent House, Glyndwr and the War Memorial Field, the extensive improvements to School House and Waste Court, the construction of the School Shop and the Swimming Bath. Now comes the transformation of Big School which will provide us with a library of which any School could be proud.

Much however remains to be done. Of this, the Governors are well aware; and, as parents have already been informed, they have recently agreed in principle to adopt a long-term development plan to cover the outstanding requirements of the School. The speed with which we can tackle the further projects which they have in mind depends partly upon the arrangements we can make with our Bank, partly upon the continued support that is given to the Quatercentenary Appeal. But it is not oversanguine to hope that by the end of 1963 a start will have been made on the construction of the new dual-purpose Assembly Hall which has been adopted as the final objective of the Appeal and on at least one of the projects 'carried' by the Governors themselves — possibly the new Dayboys' Changing Rooms which are so urgently needed.

I myself feel profoundly thankful that on the eve of our Quatercentenary Year the Governors should have shown their confidence in the School by inaugurating a programme of such far-reaching import. It is clear that 1963 — and the following years — are going to be exhilarating times for all of us who live and work at the School.

\* \* \* \*

It does no harm to be taken down a peg occasionally; but it is ironical that the past term should have disappointed our hopes both on the rugger field and in the scholarship stakes. Yet although our record of achievement at the top has been sparse things have run very smoothly for the School as a whole. And the term has provided its own store

of pleasant memories — not only of such high-lights as the carol service and the play, but also of those poignantly beautiful days of late Autumn sunshine which now seem so far away. I personally shall remember too the very happy evenings that I spent at Oxford and Cambridge as the guest of our Old Boys. It is good to think that our people at the older universities are of the number to make it worth while to organise such meetings and of the quality to wish to do so. Then at the end of term I was delighted to receive more cards than ever before from Old Boys all over the world. It is difficult for me to realise that boys whom I admitted as short-trousered youngsters of eleven are now in the mid-twenties. All their cards I shall share with the School on its return. To them, as to all the parents and friends who remembered me, my warm thanks.

I said my say last time about my own approach to Quatercentenary Year. I am glad that the Editor sounds the same note. This should be a year not only of mafficking but of stock-taking. Of course we think this is a good school. But we want to make it even better. And our jollifications will be pretty hollow unless we make this year the occasion for taking a critical look at ourselves, and asking afresh how we can best serve our day and generation, and how we can improve our heritage for those who come after.

J.M.C.

### VALETE ET SALVETE

*Valete — left 31st July, 1962*

Upper Sixth Forms Arts: J. M. Bunce; R. S. Haynes; I. A. D. Martin; R. S. Ogg; P. J. L. Webb; C. H. Bellinger; G. T. Milford-Scott; J. R. Veysey; D. Leather; A. J. Lloyd; M. J. Nelson; A. J. Varney; A. A. Venn; D. Weir; R. B. Hicks.

Upper Sixth Form Science (B): J. B. Goodman; A. M. Q. King; R. H. Meakins; P. A. Merriman; D. J. Aplin; D. C. Dunn; A. J. C. Leathem; B. R. Rosevear; J. A. R. Willis; J. J. Day; J. B. Friend; P. P. Hutchinson; R. G. Lockton; G. C. H. Phillips (left 2nd June); J. M. Talbot; C. D. Turnbull; T. I. Hall; P. R. Mildenhall; M. P. Westwood.

Upper Sixth Form Science (M): G. C. Alabaster; J. M. Beere; S. P. Bowen; R. F. W. Budden; D. J. Hoddinott; E. G. B. Joseph; G. G. Stone (left 18th May); L. A. Edwards; M. A. Hedges; A. J. Oxley; D. C. Pollard; P. G. Sheard; D. C. S. Venn; C. R. Scott; R. P. Welch; R. C. White.

Lower Sixth Form Arts: N. H. Finney.

Remove: L. J. W. Ewing; G. A. Hall; W. M. Jamieson; N. D. S. Kortright; M. H. Culm; R. K. Heavens; M. R. Kelly; G. N. J. Lewis; J. B. Ray.

5A: M. D. Fortescue; P. N. Jenkins.

5B: M. H. Tarran-Jones; J. Y. Candy; E. J. Dorling; C. P. Trinder.

5C: R. J. M. Evans; A. K. J. Baptist; D. Bobin; R. C. Platt.

2Y: J. S. Elks; R. A. Hayward.

1Y: R. C. Stevens; R. J. Smallbone.

*Salvete — came 20th September*

Upper Sixth Form Arts (H): R. D. Van Wagenen.

Lower Sixth Form Arts: E. C. Hodgetts.

Lower Sixth Form Science (M): S. Lewis.

4A: M. J. Arundel; A. J. Barnett; M. G. Cockman; R. J. M. Conibear; P. G. Hodgetts; M. C. C. Hunter; T. Lewis.

4L: D. W. Hall.

4F: G. G. V. Collings; A. R. Gibbs; R. E. Parkes.

3A: J. N. Clarke; R. J. Luttman; M. J. Stilwell.

3X: N. K. Cook; G. J. Froggatt; M. J. T. Theophilus; A. L. Vernède.

3Y: R. J. Howell; A. S. Jackson; M. F. Kirby; R. J. Nancarrow; D. S. Rogers; R. H. Roper.

2X: R. L. Deuchar; M. C. Geary; N. G. Hands-Clarke.

2Y: N. R. J. Brett; A. J. Iddles.

1X: C. A. Alford; M. G. Baker; F. J. Barnes; R. S. Barrett; P. M. E. Beale; A. D. Berlyn; R. K. Blackburn; I. Blair; C. J. Bovey; C. N. Bowker; G. C. Broughton; C. J. Butcher; R. J. A. Butland; M. M. Clift; A. J. Cowley; M. G. Crawford; K. G. Cuthbert; J. G. Dowling; M. C. Eagle; P. S. Edwardson; R. L. Egan-Wyer; R. D. Egelstaff; J. M. Elliott; A. C. Ellis; S. Fairlie; M. A. Fletcher; S. Gibbs; A. R. Hall; R. W. Hamilton; M. J. Harfield; N. W. Herdman; J. E. Hesketh; M. J. Hill; P. J. Hind; P. D. Holmes; M. D. Killeen.

1Y: D. W. Galbraith; D. L. R. Howells; S. Hubbard; J. W. Jefferson-Loveday; H. I. Kilgour; R. D. A. Lang; B. K. Langmead; A. E. Lewis; D. E. Lightfoot; C. E. J. Lilley; M. F. Loudon; A. G. MacLean; J. J. Morgan; A. J. Morris; P. G. Munnoch; J. E. North; N. J. Pilling; C. F. Rock; P. W. Rowland; J. R. Rowson; S. R. Shield; D. S. Skelly; N. F. Soffe; C. J. Spearing; R. W. Speight; J. T. Stafford; R. D. Tammadge; R. P. Taylor; N. Tozer; R. J. G. Trotter; A. J. Varley; P. J. Vaughan; A. R. N. West; C. J. H. Wilkinson; C. J. Woods.

### CHAPEL NOTES

The last Service has been held within the Chapel as generations of Abingdonians have known it. On the final day of term, the workmen moved in to erect the scaffolding. In January we should see those familiar red brick walls bright with paint. We expect that the Chapel will feel bigger, the mouldings of both walls and windows will be clarified and enhanced, and the Nave will match — though not rival — the Sanctuary. Not the least welcome change will be a ceiling which is really white and not shirt-grey. The Sanctuary continues to be a rich delight with the Altar silver appearing to take on new beauty as the eye becomes accustomed to its essential simplicity. We were intrigued to see a photograph of the silver recently in a "sister" publication — "Woman's Realm".

Looking back, the Headmaster preached at the beginning of term Service in St. Helen's, and also at the New Boys' Service in the Chapel. This latter, judging by the packed congregation, is much appreciated and has thus, in two years, become a firm tradition.

At the Confirmation Service, which was conducted by the Bishop of Oxford on 9th December, 44 candidates were presented. We were delighted that Mr. Tyson was one of them. They made their First Communion the following Sunday and we were pleased to welcome the parents of some of them at that Service. We hope that in future years we may welcome many more. After two terms of intensive preparation the candidates realise exactly what is involved both in privilege and responsibility. In previous years it has been a matter of painful observation that as time goes on the privilege is sometimes forgotten, the responsibility shirked. With such an example from some of their elders and "betters", the new candidates have not always had much to inspire them. Perhaps this year the tide has turned and all those confirmed will indeed continue God's for ever and daily increase in His Holy Spirit more and more. If so, a crucial battle will have been won.

There will be an opportunity for a refresher course for us all early next term when Fr. Martin of the Society of St. Francis comes to conduct a Teaching Week, Jan. 28th — Feb. 4th. The primary object will be the presentation of the Christian faith and challenge within the space of one week. In the normal Divinity teaching, this is spread over several years. The main focus will be upon the Services in Chapel each evening at 6 and it is hoped that many — dayboys as well as boarders — will be able to attend each night. Films, a demonstration of early Christian worship, quizzes, question times are all part of the programme.

Fr. Martin will be preaching at Matins on February 3rd. Other visiting preachers next term will be:

January 27th: The Revd. the Hon. Oliver Fiennes, M.A., Chaplain of Clifton College.

February 10th: D. J. Forbes, Esq., M.A., Headmaster of Dauntsey's School.

February 24th: The Revd. L. P. Smith, M.A., Culham College.

March 10th: R. H. Dahl, Esq., T.D., M.A., Headmaster of Wrekin College.

Various outside causes were helped by our collections last term.

They included:

St. Helen's Church (Beginning of Term Service)	£8	10	0
St. Anne's, Limehouse ... ..	£11	3	2
Freedom from Hunger Campaign ... ..	£36	4	9
Hostel of God ... ..	£11	11	6
New Guinea Mission ... ..	£9	10	0
British Legion ... ..	£13	11	5
St. Berin's Church ... ..	£10	9	9
Bishop's Appeal for New Churches ... ..	£11	4	0
Melanesian Mission ... ..	£7	18	6
Church of England Children's Society ... ..	£29	4	10
St. Helen's Church (Carol Service — one half of the collection) ... ..	£20	10	5

This comes to a total of nearly £170. Our collections for our own domestic purposes amounted to £35 19s. 9d. It cannot therefore be said that we have been selfish in the disposal of alms. Shortly, however, we shall have to face the bill for the decoration of the Chapel. One or two parents and friends have already sent generous donations for this purpose; others have promised similar help. We are most grateful as we shall certainly need it. The collection for St. Berin's Church enabled our Mr. Williams (that Jekyll and Hyde assistant curate cum physics master) to purchase a baptismal shell. Richard Ellaway on behalf of the School presented it to the Church at a Service there on 10th December.

We have had two Baptisms in Chapel: Claire Victoria Hillary on 10th October and Jonathan Mark Williams on 11th November.

We were pleased to welcome the Ruri-decanal Conference on 7th November, as also the new Rural Dean, our good friend the Revd. H. S. Dixon. Earlier in the term we acted as hosts to an S.C.M. Sixth Formers' Conference. Somehow ordinary School went on while over 100 guests met in the Court Room to confer, and in the Chapel to pray. Members of the Study Group of the Abingdon Council of Churches have also been our guests. Each month they meet in Lacies Court to learn about the various Christian traditions — so far, the Roman Catholics, the Greek Orthodox and the Baptists have spoken about themselves. This has all the signs of being an excellent and popular series. The School, as a member body of the Council, continues to take an active part via the Headmaster, the Chaplain and the Secretary of the Chapel Committee.

Although the Carol Service does not take place in Chapel, we must put on record the spiritual and musical satisfaction which this year's Festival produced. Perhaps the most memorable point was the pure beauty of Vittoria's "O Magnum Mysterium" which followed the announcement of Christ's Birth; a moment of haunting loveliness, and all that vast congregation held in reverent silence. Other items were Adam lay ybounden, Myn Lyking, Past three o'clock, A Virgin Most Pure, The Cherry Tree Carol and The Three Kings. The lessons were read by J. G. Dowling (New Boy), N. V. Moore (Chorister), C. M. Davis (Head of Boarders), N. P. Loukes (Head of School), Mr. A. A. Hillary, The Chaplain, The Vicar of Abingdon, The Chairman of the Governors, and the Headmaster.

Finally, thanks — to Waste Court, the Matrons, Reeves House Juniors, The Band, Game 1, School House Top Dormitory, Squad X The Film Society and Forms 4 A, B and C for providing the Chapel flowers. These acts of generosity are much appreciated.

\* \* \* \*

The following were confirmed by the Lord Bishop of Oxford on 9th December: D. D. Allen, R. J. N. Bennett, P. H. Blackburn, R. E. N. Bradfield, N. D. Brice, N. I. Broad, J. J. F. Burn, I. Campbell, R. A. Chaplin, B. I. M. Chapman, C. N. Cook, C. J. Corps, C. E. I. Day, P. H. Fletcher, R. A. Forsythe, J. H. Froggatt, T. R. Giddings, T. Grevatt, L. P. Halling, M. H. Hampton, T. D. Harding, J. N. Harper, R. P. Jessett, N. Jotcham, A. MacL. King, W. M. Marshall, J. B. Morgan, J. R. Owen, T. R. Paxton, P. S. McK. Ramsey, T. J. Rawlins, C. P. Ridout, D. N. Roblin, M. A. Roden, R. W. Schnellman, P. J. Sparrow, I. S. Sykes, D. W. Tanner, N. R. Taylor, R. J. Thornton, N. C. Ware, A. N. R. Wharton, C. M. B. Wharton, and Mr. J. V. Tyson.

#### LIMEHOUSE 1962

For the second time the people of Limehouse welcomed to their parish six members of the St. Edmund Society accompanied by the Chaplain. They were C. J. D. Bailey, C. Carter, R. W. Ellaway, M. J. Giddings, S. M. Nicholl, and J. D. Urwick. They arrived on Friday, 28th September and had lunch with the Rector at the Sailors' Hostel in Commercial Road. After a talk on the district and its history, they toured the docks and the riverside area. In the evening they attended a barbecue party and met many of the parishioners. On Saturday an investigation of the Aldgate and Whitechapel area was followed by a visit to the Cutty Sark. In the afternoon the Church tower was cleaned out and an attempt was made to render it pigeon-proof. After an evening Celebration of the Michaelmas Holy Communion at which the Chaplain preached, the Rector led the way to the Tower of London in order to witness the Ceremony of the Keys. After this, while the

Rector and Chaplain were being entertained by the Yeoman Warders, in their Community Centre, other members of the party were experimenting with East End Chinese cooking. In spite of this, there was a full attendance at the Parish Communion on Sunday. After a lunch cooked by parishioners in the Church Institute, the party caught the bus to Paddington. It is hoped that in the near future this very welcome link with Limehouse may be further strengthened by welcoming Limehouse to Abingdon.

### VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Well over sixty jobs have been undertaken by our Voluntary Servants during the Michaelmas Term. These have ranged from rugged garden tasks to the more domestic occupation of 'chatting'. I suspect that the latter is just as important and just as welcome as window-cleaning, digging and carrying coal. Indeed I have heard several times how very much our old people (if I may dare call them so) appreciate the breath of young air which our boys bring them.

We were particularly pleased to be able to help in several emergency jobs — a phone call or a note to me is all that is necessary. We have, in fact, got more senior boys who wish to help than people to be helped. If any reader knows of someone in Abingdon who would appreciate our Voluntary Service, I shall be grateful for the name and address. As we toil up the stairs at Lacies Court with baby/coal/washing/and/or/dustbin, my wife and I often wish that we were old enough to qualify for help!

We are glad to know that the Abingdon and District Council of Churches is inaugurating a similar service known as 'Neighbours Unmited'. We wish our younger sister well.

G.R.P.

### QUATERCENTENARY APPEAL

The Quatercentenary Appeal Fund now amounts in all to about £38,000 (though only just over half of this, of course, is represented by cash received). This sum should cover the three initial objectives (the Bath, the Shop and the Library) and leave a balance in hand of some £4,000. The original target of the Appeal was £50,000. In view of the heartening response, the Committee, after very careful consideration, has decided to extend this target to £63,000 — a figure which would delight the heart of John Roysse; and we confidently hope that in the course of the coming year we shall succeed in 'covering' the balance of £25,000. To do this will involve a united effort on the part of all those, parents, Old Boys, friends of the School, who value the

contribution that this School has made and is making to English education.

If we are successful in our aim then there will be just on £30,000 available for the final objective of the Appeal. This should clearly be a project of some dignity, and both the Appeal Committee and the Committee of the Old Abingdonian Club have whole-heartedly endorsed the decision of the Governors that it shall be put towards the building of a dual-purpose Assembly Hall, which will provide catering facilities for boarders and dayboys alike. The substantial legacy of John Ingham will be devoted to the construction of a new Music School, adjoining the Hall, the practice rooms of which will offer changing accommodation when the hall is used for dramatic productions.

This is an imaginative project which will be of the greatest value to the School. To secure the utmost support we are shortly publishing a new Appeal brochure which will be widely distributed. We hope that it will attract response both from those who feel they can now give a little more generously, and from those who have not yet translated their good will into hard cash. This new brochure, marking the second phase of the Appeal, will be launched at a sherry party to be held in the Court Room on the evening of 25th January. We have invited to it a representative cross-section of our friends; we only regret that for obvious reasons we were unable to invite them all, for we should have liked the opportunity of telling every one of them, in person, how much their help is appreciated.

\* \* \* \*

There follows a further list of subscribers. But first for three comments. At least one name given below was inadvertently omitted from a previous list. We apologise for this as for any other omissions and we do hope that any such errors will be pointed out to us. You will understand that we are running the Appeal on a shoe-string without professional assistance, and such slips are difficult to avoid completely: you can of course be sure that all your contributions find their way to the right place! And secondly, our parents seem to proliferate more than most in service ranks, degrees, decorations. Discrimination is invidious. May we be forgiven, then, if we omit all such *honorificabilia* in these lists? Of course there are limits: benefit to clergy continues.

Lastly I should like to offer a special word of thanks to the School Prefects who have so enthusiastically taken up the suggestion that they might organise a contribution to the Appeal *from the School*. As a result, every boy was asked to *earn* at least one pound of new money during the holidays. It is hoped that the total collected in this way will be big enough to cover the cost of some specific part of the new Library — possibly even the West Gallery. More of this next time.

J.M.C



## APPEAL FUND

*Fourteenth List of Subscribers: 1st August, 1962—12th December, 1962*

J. V. Barnett*	H. A. Lunghi\$
M. A. F. Berlyn*	J. F. Luttmann*
J. Blair*	E. Minter*
Cambridge University Society of O.A.s	K. A. Morgan*
P. V. Collings\$	R. J. Morris*
M. B. Culley	J. H. Nancarrow*
H. Cuthbert	E. A. North*
F. W. Dowling*§	F. D. Pilling*
R. L. Elliott*	A. J. H. Roper
A. H. Ellis*	School House Trunk Working Party\$
W. Galbraith*	L. G. Shield*
F. H. Gibbs†	R. W. Soffe*
J. Gunn\$	J. H. Spearing*
W. R. Hall*	G. H. Stafford*
Mrs. K. J. Hilleard†\$	J. Trotter*
Rev. N. Howells†	The War Memorial Fund\$
F. D. Hubbard*§	R. West*
H. R. Leach*	Whitbread and Co. Ltd.*
E. Lightfoot*	C. S. Wiggins
C. E. J. Lilley*	F. P. Wilkinson
I. S. Loudon*	

\* Covenanted Subscription      † Annual Subscription

§ Further Subscription

(This list does not include contributions from parents 'through the bill').

## SPITHEAD STORY

(December 13th, 14th and 15th)

This year's production of 'Spithead Story' was notable for two reasons. The one was the fact that it was written by a local author, Mr. Kenneth Boyd; and the only previous production had been at Radley College some ten years ago. We are extremely grateful to Mr. Boyd for his generosity in not only waiving any question of copy-right but also in lending us his own typescript copies of the play; and we are glad that he himself was able to see the production on the Friday evening.

And the second reason was — if we may be permitted to say so — the quality of the acting. One or two of our old stalwarts reached new heights: at least a couple of middle school boys revealed themselves as actors of the first class, whom we look forward to using to good effect in future years.

We are grateful to Mr. J. V. Barnett, Principal of Culham College, for the following review of the play.

"The choice of a play for school production becomes increasingly harder year by year. The plays of Shakespeare rightly and naturally predominate and it is equally appropriate that any alternatives to Shakespeare should be period plays; here the unfamiliar dress and customs of another generation help to lessen the difficulties of young actors as they try to present with conviction men and women with so much more experience of life than they themselves can lay claim to. For these reasons 'The Critic', 'The Rivals', 'She Stoops to Conquer', and 'The Importance of being Earnest' are all popular choices but it is significant that all are comedies. It is to the credit of the Abingdon School Dramatic Society that they have wanted to balance their repertoire by including plays which, though they might not stand comparison with the tragedies of Shakespeare, yet deal with the testing problems of men under stress. Such a desire must have influenced their choice in 1959 of 'The Strong are Lonely' and now of A. K. Boyd's 'Spithead Story'.

The navy mutinies at Spithead and the Nore at the close of the eighteenth century are not the most savoury of episodes in British naval history. This play wisely confines itself to the first of these incidents where the issues at stake were simple and clear, the principles involved of universal concern, the conflict of interests dramatic and the outcome sufficiently complete and restricted in time to make a self-contained coherent action out of what might otherwise have been no more than a piece of dramatised history.

The success of the Spithead Mutiny was entirely due to the extraordinary restraint and firmness shown by the delegates of the Fleet in presenting their petitions to the Admiralty and the calm and unhesitating obedience given by each ship's crew to these delegates. Yet firmness, restraint and calm obedience are not qualities which we normally associate with the Navy at that time so that the characters of the delegates themselves are crucial to an audience's understanding of the situation. Here I feel more like a sports writer than a dramatic critic for the qualities which I have to commend are commoner in a rigger scrum than in a play. Though one might justly single out Christopher Winfield and Tony Wedgwood for unusually mature, shrewd and intelligent performances as the two principal delegates it was the outstanding handling by the producer of the whole group of delegates, their sympathy with each other, their ordinariness and yet their individuality which carried to the audience, time after time, the overwhelming conviction that this was an incident which mattered and which concerned fundamentally the dignity of man. That, without their leaders, in the middle of the second act, they should appear uncertain and stupid, the easy victims of glib arguments and the

nawkish sentimentality of their officers' appeals to their loyalty, rang absolutely true and for me this was the most moving scene of the play.

It was skilful of the author to avoid an oversimplification of the rights and wrongs of the story. It would have been so easy for him to have presented the officers as a group of brutalised, if still gentlemanly, outcasts, unaware of their men's grievances, entirely insensitive to their sufferings yet baffled and enraged by their silent determination to see the mutiny through to its logical end. Had this been done the conflict would have been the unreal one of white against black and we should have lost the much more powerful and, for the audience, much more disturbing picture of well meaning, troubled and anxious men, on both sides equally at a loss to comprehend who is the real enemy with whom they are at odds.

This putting of right on both sides restored to the officers the opportunity to be men and not puppets but at the same time called for far greater powers of acting than might otherwise have been necessary. Each in turn rose to the not inconsiderable demands his part made on him even if each at times was a little fumbling and uncertain. Particularly good was Andrew Vernède as Admiral Lord Bridport; with negligible assistance from makeup he carried complete conviction and his measured articulation of his speech was a joy to hear as well as being totally appropriate. His supporting officers looked their parts, succeeded, each one of them, in being an individual and entirely distinct from the others and moved about the stage easily and naturally.

The parts of Lords Howe and Spencer presented difficulties which would have taxed accomplished actors and it was not surprising that Roger Burridge and Nicholas Wharton were often baffled by them. It did not help that both of them were required to act much of the time in front of the proscenium though the advantages which this brought to speed in scenery change were obvious and entirely justifiable. Lord Howe had the compensation of an excellent scene in the final act where his timing was impeccable and his voice convincingly gruff for Black Dick. Lord Spencer, however, had been given little assistance by the author; well meaning ineffectiveness can hardly be portrayed in a dozen lines, half of which seemed to be invitations to his visitors to have a drink. Similarly Lady Howe could do little more than move graciously and appear sympathetic; her lines gave her no opportunity for suggesting the conflict between her sympathy for the men and her jealous regard for her husband's health. Liz and Mrs. Glynn, however, were more sympathetically considered and their lively backchat in the opening and closing scenes helped to widen the scope of the action in an otherwise entirely masculine situation.

The sets rightly received the applause of the audience; the Admiral's cabin and the Forecastle of H.M.S. London were brilliantly and simply conceived and the absence of stage clutter made it so much easier for

the large groupings of actors to move about naturally. I should, however, have liked to see even more ingenuity in presentation to overcome the limitations of what must be a very frustrating stage. Granted that the play demands a realistic production, yet the thirteen scenes, if the play is to gather momentum and build up the appropriate atmosphere of nerve wracking suspense, must move quickly upon each other and any pause between them for scene changing destroys what the actors have worked so hard to achieve.

The naval mutineers asked for fair wages, sufficient food and that of decent quality, security against embezzlement, better medical service and some shore leave at the end of a voyage. I doubt if the boys and girls of Abingdon School and the School of St. Helen and St. Katharine could draw up a similar list of demands but I am sure that their delegates in the play entirely deserve some shore leave at the end of this particular venture." J.V.B.

\* \* \* \*

The following took part in the play:

Delegates of the Fleet—Tony Wedgwood (Patrick Glyn, AB); Christopher Winfield (Valentine Joyce, Quartermaster's Mate); Paul Davis, Tobias Furneaux, Brooke Davis, Trevor Giddings, Aidan Fairlie, Richard Leatham, Francis Howlett, Malcolm Southern.

Admiral Lord Howe—Roger Burridge.

Lady Howe—Angela Cridge.

Mrs. Glynn and Liz—Diana Cobban and Lesley Bradfield.

Admiral Lord Bridport—Andrew Vernède.

Naval Officers—Christopher Ford, Michael Giddings (Admiral Pole), David Caradoc-Evans, Philip Sugg (Admiral Gardner), Michael Kitto (Admiral Colpoys), Adrian Burn.

Lord Spencer—Nicholas Wharton.

Seamen—Steven Nicholl, David Clubleby, Martin Evans, Christopher Davis, Andrew Longstaff, Jeremy Burn, Ian Flint, Jonny Morgan, Michael Livingston, Richard Schnellmann, Martyn Holloway.

Servants—Timothy Harding, Charles Cook, Leonard Llewellyn, Antony Medland, Trevor Havelock.

## RUGBY FOOTBALL

### FIRST FIFTEEN

This has been a very poor season. Of the fourteen matches played, twelve were lost and only two won while points scored by our opponents reached 183 as against 30 from our team.

A disappointing shortage of outstanding players at the top of the School forced us to rely on several younger players, with the result

that the side lacked the experience necessary to deal with some of the more astute sides we met. Our weakness in attack was most noticeable outside the scrum, where we lacked penetration; and in defence, opposing three-quarters were too frequently able to find gaps, which were not adequately closed up by our back row.

Despite these faults, however, the side has played pluckily and cheerfully, often giving the impression that victory was within its grasp right up to the final whistle. The Captain, Marsh, deserves congratulations for his handling of the side, and for his sound play in the centre — he is, in fact, a prop-forward. Other outstanding players were Davis, a centre turned full-back, who saved many desperate situations; Kandiah, an agile scrum-half; Ford, last year's scrum half now playing as hooker; Winfield at number 8; and Flint who has become a very fine second row forward. We were unlucky to lose Blair, an outstanding open-side wing forward, injured after the first game and unable to return until the last.

We defeated Reading and Radley II and were heavily beaten by Solihull, M.C.S., Leighton Park and Pangbourne but the remaining matches, including that against the O.A.s, were reasonably close games. The O.A. match was perhaps the least interesting from the spectators' point of view since heavy fog reduced visibility to fifteen yards, and for long periods the position of play was marked only by shouts from the captains. Players came off the field well satisfied, however, and, announced that it had been a 'tough forward battle'.

During the season, Full Colours were awarded to Ford, Kandiah, and Winfield. Half Colours were gained by Bosley NA, Cox, Godfrey and Johnson.

The final arrangement of the team was: C. M. Davis; S. A. Marsh, B. Godfrey, T. A. Marsh (Capt.), A. E. Johnson; J. R. Jennings, Kandiah; C. W. F. M. Cox, M. S. Ford, P. V. Bosley, I. R. Flint, A. H. Bosley, S. J. Baker, C. R. Winfield, B. G. Mackay.

Also played: A. T. Barrett, J. Bowthorpe (10 times); A. O. B. Kinbiyi (9 times); M. J. Evans (8 times); D. A. M. Bent (6 times); H. M. Burrige, R. M. Kirby (3 times); P. J. F. Blair, A. C. L. Maser (twice) and M. E. F. Willey (once).

#### Results:

D. O. Willis' XV (h). Wed., 26th Sept.	Lost	0—15
Reading School (a). Wed., 3rd Oct.	Won	3—0
Newbury Grammar School (h). Sat., 6th Oct.	Lost	3—11
Solihull School (h). Sat., 20th Oct.	Lost	0—23
Leighton Park School (a). Wed., 24th Oct.	Lost	3—21
Pembroke College, Oxford (h). Sat., 27th Oct.	Lost	0—11
Magdalen College School (a). Wed., 31st Oct.	Lost	0—35
Nautical College, Pangbourne (h). Wed., 7th Nov.	Lost	6—27
Radley College 2nd XV (h). Sat., 10th Nov.	Won	6—3

v. Oratory School (h). Wed., 14th Nov.	Lost 3—9
v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (h). Sat., 17th Nov.	Lost 6—9
v. Southfield School (a). Wed., 21st Nov.	Lost 0—8
v. Bloxham School (a). Sat., 24th Nov.	Lost 0—8
v. Old Abingdonians (h). Sat., 1st Dec.	Lost 0—3

On 20th October, the game with Solihull School was reported by the *Sphere*. Photographs and a short account of the match appeared in the November issue of that magazine. It was nice to see ourselves in print in a national magazine but unfortunate that the Solihull game was far from being our best!

G.M.K

### SECOND FIFTEEN

Although the team had, as is usual with second sides, to provide chopping block and source of replenishment for the 1st Fifteen, a hard core of players was retained in the side throughout the season. This fact together with a second year of enthusiastic captaincy from Foster largely accounted for the good play of the season. The record of three victories, two drawn matches and five defeats is a fair one especially as all our defeats were close ones.

The pack was good with such forwards as Fraser, Foster, Willey, Liversidge, Moore and towards the end of the season ex full-back Wilson always prominent. Outside the scrum, the half-back combination of Bailey and Jennings did well until Jennings' promotion to the 1st Fifteen when scrum half Bailey worked equally well with Barrett. Except in the game against Reading, when the backs had a field day our centres lacked penetration although Burridge on the wing always looked dangerous. Defensively, Crumly with his tackling and Redgrave with his superb kicking were outstanding. Bent, who joined us from the 1st Fifteen at the end of the season, was good value at full back.

In all matches, the team showed a fine spirit, gave a good account of themselves even against such a heavy side as Oxford Colts and above all enjoyed their game. It was a fitting tribute to Foster and his team as a whole when he was awarded Half Colours at the end of the season.

The final arrangement of the team was: D. A. M. Bent; R. H. M. Burridge, J. J. Mackenzie, A. R. F. Redgrave, R. J. Crumly; A. T. Barrett, G. J. Bailey; M. E. F. Willey, A. C. L. Fraser, R. M. Kirby, A. W. Foster (Capt.), R. A. Hall, T. B. Moore, P. W. Liversidge, S. R. Wilson.

Also played: J. R. Jennings (8 times); T. R. Morris (6 times); N. A. H. Bosley, B. G. Mackay (5 times); E. D. J. Hunter (4 times); P. G. D. Matthews, I. J. Newbold (3 times); S. J. Baker, J. Bowthorpe, J. W. Dickinson (twice); A. O. B. Akinbiyi, P. A. Bartlett, C. J. Corps, C. M. Davis, A. S. Harrison, R. J. Ormerod, T. J. Pegram, F. J. Stiff (once).

## Results:

Reading School (h). Wed., 3rd Oct.	Won 26—3
Newbury Grammar School (a). Sat., 6th Oct.	Lost 0—11
Oxford R.F.C. Colts (a). Sat., 13th Oct.	Lost 0—22
Oratory School (h). Wed., 17th Oct.	Lost 0—6
Solihull School (a). Sat., 20th Oct.	Lost 3—14
Leighton Park School (h). Wed., 24th Oct.	Lost 0—9
Magdalen College School (a). Wed., 31st Oct.	Won 5—3
Wallingford G.S. 1st XV (a). Sat., 10th Nov.	Drawn 0—0
R.G.S., High Wycombe (h). Sat., 17th Nov.	Lost 3—5
Southfield School (a). Wed., 21st Nov.	Won 16—0
Bloxham School (h). Sat., 24th Nov.	Drawn 6—6

D.O.W.

## THIRD FIFTEEN

The team settled down into a very useful side which always attempted play to a pattern. The result was a reasonably successful and enjoyable season. One source of strength lay in the reserves which meant that team changes caused little if any weakness.

The main strength lay in the halves, Ford CC and Fairlie, who played in every match. Ford was always impressive and indefatigable — early a scrum half of first class potential. Fairlie, the stand off, proved markedly throughout the season as he gained experience and confidence. He was a source of strength in attack and defence.

The centres, Dickinson and Dixon WKR, also did well although Dickinson always tends to lose direction in attack. Dixon overcame defensive weaknesses and latterly looked very promising. The wing equarters lacked sufficient pace to run round their opponents but both Henderson and Cheary were thoroughly dependable players.

The forwards were well led by Leather, the hooker and team captain. The pack learned to work as a unit and it was never defeated in the scrum, but it was too light to force play back from a defensive position as we saw at Cokethorpe in particular. The backs certainly received few attacking opportunities, failing to score only against Marlborough XV. We had our biggest win against Leighton Park, our toughest victory against Cokethorpe.

The final team arrangement was: F. J. Stiff; P. G. Henderson, J. W. Dickinson, K. W. R. Dixon, A. J. Cheary; J. Fairlie, C. C. Ford; P. E. Ormerod, P. J. Leather (Capt.), I. J. Newbold, M. F. Kitto, R. J. Ormerod, N. Carter, J. A. Simms, T. R. Morris.

Also played: S. J. Opie (5 times); T. B. Moore (3 times); P. E. Booker, R. D. Booker, A. S. Harrison, A. R. F. Redgrave (twice); P. H. Kirby, R. M. Kirby, P. G. Matthews, J. L. Walton, A. E. W. Willey (twice).

## Results:

v. Newbury Grammar School (h). Sat., 6th Oct.	Won 6—
v. Radley College 4th XV (h). Sat., 13th Oct.	Lost 8—
v. Magdalen College School (h). Wed., 17th Oct.	Won 11—
v. Abingdon Harlequins (h). Thurs., 18th Oct.	Lost 6—
v. Leighton Park School (a). Wed., 24th Oct.	Won 41—
v. Stowe School 4th XV (a). Sat., 27th Oct.	Lost 3—
v. Cokethorpe Park Sch. 1st XV (a). Wed., 21st Nov.	Won 11—
v. Shiplake Court 1st XV (a). Sat., 24th Nov.	Won 8—
v. Marlborough College 4th XV (a). Sat., 8th Dec.	Lost 0—

J.

## COLTS FIFTEEN

This age group had been disappointing in previous seasons and the team lacked established players in the centre and back-row of the scrum. The first two matches proved these vital weaknesses and an early win over Cokethorpe lulled them into a false sense of security which was completely shattered in the next game against Stowe in whom they met a fifteen playing as a team.

In the fortnight before the fourth match, practice was concentrated on welding backs and forwards into confident units. As a result the season ended on a most successful note. The pack learnt to play together whatever the situation. They developed a low, hard shove, the tight which brought success against heavier opposition. Even the hooker was persuaded by Mr. Booth to shove as well as strike.

The backs were occasionally upset by the calls of the 1st Fifteen as the conversion of Bosley PV, from forward to centre was only tested in the last game. But with a more than useful half-back partnership the ball quite often reached the wings who were able to show their paces.

Certain individuals stood out. Shellard was a talented stand off and captained the side well: he was well served by Louth, once he had settled down. Bartlett always played his heart out and was quick to learn the art of No. 8. Cooper came into the side when we were looking for a centre dependable in defence. A little slow in attack, but nonetheless always got his man. Sutton, also late into the side, developed into a promising wing forward.

The rest all played hard and although lacking some of the skill they were a pleasant bunch to coach. It is worth noting that they as a team, went to see Oxford University play Stanley's XV to see how it should be done!

The final arrangement of the team was: D. W. Penney; N. P. J. Beal; J. A. Cooper, P. V. Bosley, C. J. Corps; P. N. Shellard (Capt.), M. J.



Louth; S. P. Sewry, D. H. Willis, C. E. I. Day, I. R. Hewes, P. J. Evans, M. C. G. Holloway, P. A. Bartlett, F. M. Sutton.

Also played: R. B. Davis, C. H. Portman (5 times); S. A. Marsh, S. J. Denny (4 times); D. M. Caradoc-Evans, R. D. R. Ray (3 times); S. H. Broughton, C. W. F. M. Cox, P. B. Godfrey, R. M. Limerick, D. S. Partridge (once).

#### Results:

v. Reading School (h). Wed., 3rd Oct.	Lost 3—6
v. Radley College (h). Sat., 13th Oct.	Lost 0—28
v. Cokethorpe Park School (h). Wed., 24th Oct.	Won 24—3
v. Stowe School (a). Sat., 27th Oct.	Lost 0—43
v. Nautical College, Pangbourne (h). Wed., 7th Nov.	Won 11—0
v. Oratory School (a). Wed., 14th Nov.	Drawn 8—8
v. Bloxham School (h). Sat., 24th Nov.	Won 19—0

The match against Berkhamsted School (h) on 8th Dec. had unfortunately to be cancelled. On Sat., 17th Nov., an 'A' team played against Stoneham School (a) and lost 0—22. This 'A' side was composed as follows: D. S. Partridge; R. D. R. Ray, S. H. Broughton, D. M. Caradoc-Evans, G. J. R. Lewis; R. B. Davis, A. G. Rowson; D. N. Roblin, M. A. Bisby, C. R. Wood, A. M. Wood, C. H. Portman, J. W. Dunthorne, M. G. Topham, N. D. Brice.

B.J.M.

#### JUNIOR COLTS FIFTEEN

This was a happy season, for there were ample good players to choose from — the reserve XV being themselves a good side — and they were willing to learn. The half-backs, Goldsworthy and Burn, were a great strength in both attack and defence, and the threequarters combined well in attack, Painton having a particularly good eye for an opening; but the tackling of the backs is not yet reliable enough, with the result that when our light pack came up against a heavy pack we allowed too many points to be scored against us. Jell was dependable at full back, Blackburn led the pack competently, and Goldsworthy was an inspiring captain.

The team as it finally played was: A. M. Jell; P. G. Hodgetts, P. H. Painton, R. Coomber, J. W. Hassett; J. J. F. Burn, B. E. Goldsworthy (Capt.), M. H. Hampton, P. H. Blackburn, J. R. Poole, D. G. Halstead, M. Spencer, J. B. Morgan, R. W. Schnellmann, A. J. Longstaff.

Also played: R. W. Purbrick, G. Walkinshaw, A. M. Wood (6 times).

#### Results:

v. Newbury Grammar School (a). Sat., 6th Oct.	Lost 18—20
v. Southfield School (a). Sat., 13th Oct.	Won 23—6
v. Magdalen College School (a). Wed., 17th Oct.	Won 22—3

v. Solihull School (h). Sat., 20th Oct.	Lost 3—6
v. Leighton Park School (h). Wed., 24th Oct.	Won 13—6
v. Cokethorpe Park School (h). Wed., 31st Oct.	Won 35—0
v. Oratory School (a). Wed., 14th Nov.	Won
v. Radley College (a). Sat., 17th Nov.	Won
v. Shiplake Court (a). Sat., 24th Nov.	Won 48—3

K.M.D.H.

### JUNIOR FIFTEEN

The side enjoyed a successful term, losing only at Solihull, where they played for most of the game with fourteen effective players. The best match was against Radley where an even game was clinched only in the last fifteen minutes. The standard of handling and tackling here showed the considerable potential of the team. The strength of the side lay in its teamwork and fitness, and it has been well led by Bradfield, the captain, and Coulbeck, the scrum leader. Its main weakness has been in a lack of drive in the early stages of a match.

The team was: N. Sprent; T. C. C. Beckett, N. J. Booker, R. E. N. Bradfield, P. E. Gibbs; D. S. Jackson, R. J. M. Conibear; R. G. Coulbeck, I. L. M. Carr, E. A. C. Crouch, N. K. Cook, M. A. E. Ballinger, T. J. Wood, M. A. Cockerill, J. P. H. Bosley.

Also played: M. J. T. Theophilus, M. J. Vowles (4 times); J. F. Goldsworthy, R. Janz (twice); D. N. Hunt (once).

#### Results:

v. Southfield School (a). Sat., 13th Oct.	Won 14—5
v. Magdalen College School (a). Wed., 17th Oct.	Won 30—5
v. Solihull School (a). Sat., 20th Oct.	Lost 0—12
v. Cokethorpe Park School (a). Wed., 7th Nov.	Won 51—0
v. Wallingford Grammar Sch. (a). Sat., 10th Nov.	Won 12—0
v. Radley College (a). Sat., 17th Nov.	Won 14—3
v. Oratory School (h). Wed., 21st Nov.	Won 22—8

The game against Berkhamsted School (h) on 8th Dec. was cancelled.

M.N.W.

### HOUSE MATCHES

All House matches were played off although the sharp frosts at the end of November gave anxious moments. The standard throughout was good especially in the Senior League and Knock-out Competitions: some Junior League games were also good although here the early rounds were marked by the fact that one or two Houses fielded teams two or three players short.

The Senior Knock-out Competition for the Lin Cup was fiercely contested. In the opening round Bennett defeated Tesdale 16—14 in a

very exciting struggle, in which the packs were evenly matched but Bennett had the more constructive backs. Highlights of the game were a superb try by Barrett for Bennett and the excellence of Burridge's kicking for Tesdale. The other opening game between Blacknall and Reeves was perhaps more open and so provided better entertainment for those on the touchline. In the first 20 minutes, the lead changed hands four times after which Reeves maintained a 12—8 lead for a great part of the game until Blacknall forced a try in the closing stages which they were unable to convert. Reeves therefore won by the odd point. Fine kicking by Redgrave contributed much to Blacknall's near success whilst two excellent tries in succession by Marsh SA, clinched the victory for Reeves. The final between Bennett and Reeves was played in windy conditions on Sat., 15th December. Both sides played with tremendous vigour and keen tackling made scoring difficult although good threequarter movements were mounted by both Houses. Early in the first half, a line-out almost on the Reeves goal-line gave Ford CC the chance to score and it was this slender lead which Bennett managed to hang on to in spite of repeated Reeves' attacks to gain the victory 3—0.

The Senior League, with one exception, produced some excellent games and justified the institution last season of this competition. Blacknall repeated their success of last year by winning the Toplis Cup with 5 points — they beat Tesdale 16—3 and Reeves 6—3 and drew with Bennett 3—3. Bennett were runners up, again as last season, with 3 points, obtained by defeating Tesdale 20—14 and sharing the points for a drawn game with Blacknall. Reeves and Tesdale were equal with 2 points each, Tesdale having beaten Reeves 38—3, and Reeves managing a good win over Bennett 11—9.

The Junior League was won by Tesdale, whose lively and skilful XV thoroughly deserved the Robinson Cup for three excellent victories, over Bennett (48—3), Reeves (16—0) and Blacknall (15—0). Reeves by defeating Blacknall (46—0) and Bennett (14—0) came second, and Bennett with a single victory over Blacknall (15—5) third. Blacknall were outclassed in all games and gained no points.

\* \* \* \*

The Annual Dayboy v. Boarders match was played off on December 8th and provided a fine feast of energy and enthusiasm as well as some quite good rugby. Appropriately the match ended in a pointless draw.

\* \* \* \*

This report on School rugby cannot be concluded without a review of "extra-curricular" rugby interests. The national newspapers this term have had much to say about the activities on the rugby field of players, either still or once connected with the game at School. Our own Mr. Frank Booth, for instance, has not only appeared in Berkshire colours but, after one or two opening games for Bath, has regularly

turned out as scrum-half for Bedford — and has still found the time and energy to coach both the 1st and Colts Fifteens. George Dimond, captain of the 1st Fifteen in 1956, has also played for Berkshire although unluckily forced to retire in the match against Oxfordshire with two cracked ribs. He was opposed in this game by two other O.A.s, both playing regularly for Oxfordshire — John Buckland, captain of the 1st Fifteen in 1955, and Ian Parsons. Parsons, in addition, when not playing for the Saracens is a regular winger in the R.A.F. side and represented the Combined Services in their game against the touring Canadians.

Members of the present Fifteen have also competed for County recognition. Several took part in the County Schoolboys' trials at Reading on 20th December — Flint, Evans, Marsh, and Davis, in the Senior trials and Louth, MR and Burn, JJ in the Junior trials. Snow and ice have, of course, interfered with the playing of County vacation matches but Evans was actually selected to play and Marsh and Davis were named as reserves.

One final tribute. This season has seen some quite devoted service to the cause of school rugby by those volunteers for touch judge duties and we acknowledge their support. Thank you — J. R. Owen (at least 10 occasions); D. Clare and A. R. Coffee (at least 8 occasions); D. N. Hunt (at least 6 occasions); and J. G. Bowen, J. Percival, R. J. Saunders, D. R. Brown, R. J. Thornton, C. R. Wood, T. D. Harding, D. Hall, G. Collings among others.

D.O.W.

## CROSS COUNTRY

This has been a disappointing season as far as results of matches go. We have had no outstanding runners, but it is encouraging to report that the majority of the Club improved their personal best times for our course with every race. It is a surprising fact that we have never before had a year when nine of our number have completed the course in under 22 minutes.

It was most unfortunate that in the home match against High Wycombe a key marker was inadequately briefed and the five leading visitors took a wrong turning. We were much outclassed in this race as none of our runners was near enough even to see where they went! Stringent precautions are being taken to see that this kind of thing cannot happen again.

Richard Harvey's course record was beaten by one second by Newsome of Westminster College, but the Dark Blue's president will have a chance to regain it in the Old Abingdonians' match on February 16th. O.A.s wishing to run should drop a line to Richard Harvey or myself.

Half Colours for Athletics were awarded to B. S. Avery, F. A. Bisby, J. F. Hann, G. F. Keeys, R. M. Kirby and I. W. D. Matson.

The following have represented the School on more than one occasion: B. S. Avery, F. A. Bisby, R. K. Gregson (6 times); J. F. Hann, D. H. Williams (5 times); T. J. King, I. W. D. Matson (4 times); E. C. C. Rouch, G. F. Keeys, R. M. Kirby (3 times); C. J. Dean, F. A. Light, J. B. Hewison, N. A. G. Spackman, J. D. Urwick (twice).

### RESULTS OF MATCHES

#### *6th October v. Westminster College (h).*

1st—Westminster 28 pts.; 2nd—Abingdon 52 pts.

(Scorers: Matson 4, Gregson 5, Keeys 8, Kirby 10, Avery 12, Bisby 13).

#### *24th October v. Culham College and R.A.F. Benson (at Culham).*

1st—Culham 44 pts.; 2nd—Abingdon 60 pts.; 3rd—Benson 78 pts.

(Scorers: Matson 5, Gregson 7, Keeys 9, Bisby 11, Avery 12, Williams 16).

#### *27th October v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (h).*

No Race" — some of the visitors took a wrong turning.

(Our first six were: Gregson, Kirby, Avery, Bisby, Hann and King).

#### *31st October v. R.A.F. Benson (h).*

1st—Abingdon 31 pts.; 2nd—Benson 59 pts.

(Scorers: Keeys 2, Gregson 3, Avery 5, Bisby 6, King and Hann = 7).

#### *24th November v. Westminster College (a).*

1st—Westminster 22 pts.; 2nd—Abingdon 59 pts.

(Scorers: Matson 6, Gregson 8, Avery 9, Bisby 11, Williams 12, Hann 13).

#### *28th November v. The Queen's College (h).*

1st—Queen's 38 pts.; 2nd—Abingdon 41 pts.

(Scorers: Gregson 3, Matson 4, Avery 7, Bisby 8, Kirby 9, Hann 10).

### INTER-HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

#### *12th December, 1962.*

This year the races were held on the Oxford Preservation Trust's land on the east slopes of Boar's Hill. A triangular course was covered once by the juniors, twice by the intermediates and three times by the seniors, and spectators were able to see practically the whole of each race from a vantage point in the middle. A conveniently sited sheep

pen gave unusual stability to the finishing funnel. The races were completely staggered and a complicated bus shuttle service transported the runners between School and course.

Frost and fog of the previous few days had gone but competitors and officials alike had to contend with a bitterly cold wind. R. E. N. Bradfield was hard pressed before he won the Junior race for the second year in succession, but in the Intermediate race B. S. Avery was in class on his own, though Owen closed on him in the second lap. The Senior race developed into an all-Bennett affair and they finally took the first four places. Bennett's overwhelming superiority in this race ensured that the House Cup remained theirs for the sixth successive year.

The first form race (2 laps of Albert Park) was won by Fairlie S. I. record time, and Blacknall easily won the House Competition.

#### *Details of the House Competition*

Junior: 1st—Reeves (184); 2nd—Tesdale (213); 3rd—Bennett (227)  
4th—Blacknall (229).

Intermediate: 1st—Reeves (192); 2nd—Blacknall (210); 3rd—Tesdale (211); 4th—Bennett (221).

Senior: 1st—Bennett (316); 2nd—Reeves (432); 3rd—Tesdale (529)  
4th—Blacknall (574).

Over-all Championship: 1st—Bennett (764); 2nd—Reeves (808); 3rd—Tesdale (953); 4th—Blacknall (1013).

The first ten home in the races were:

Junior: Bradfield (4:36), Coulbeck, Sprent, Gibbs, Wharton, C., Carr, Crouch, Clarke, Cook, Ford, B.

Intermediate: Avery (9:36), Owen, Marsh, S., Cooper, Ridehalgh, Jackson, Rowson, Bell, Topham, Heading.

Senior: Gregson and Matson (14:54), Barrett, Hann, Bowthorpe, Ford, C. C., Spencer, J. D., Keeys, Spackman, King, T. J.

R.H.I

## COMBINED CADET FORCE

### ARMY SECTION

The intake of recruits this term, from the Fourth Forms, totalled 7 — satisfactory in quantity and in quality, too, on all the evidence so far. Numbers seem now to have been stabilised, under the new recruiting arrangements, at 260/270. The R.A.F. Section, a new recruit in another sense, has also stabilised at 1 officer and 26; and has achieved some very satisfactory results in their Proficiency examinations. We welcome warmly P/O Manly, as Commander of the Section.



THE FIRST FIFTEEN

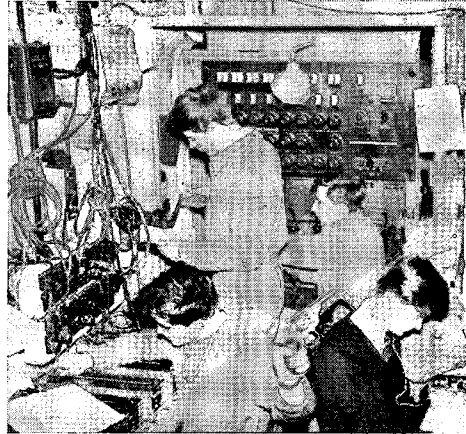


THE GUARD OF HONOUR  
11th November, 1962



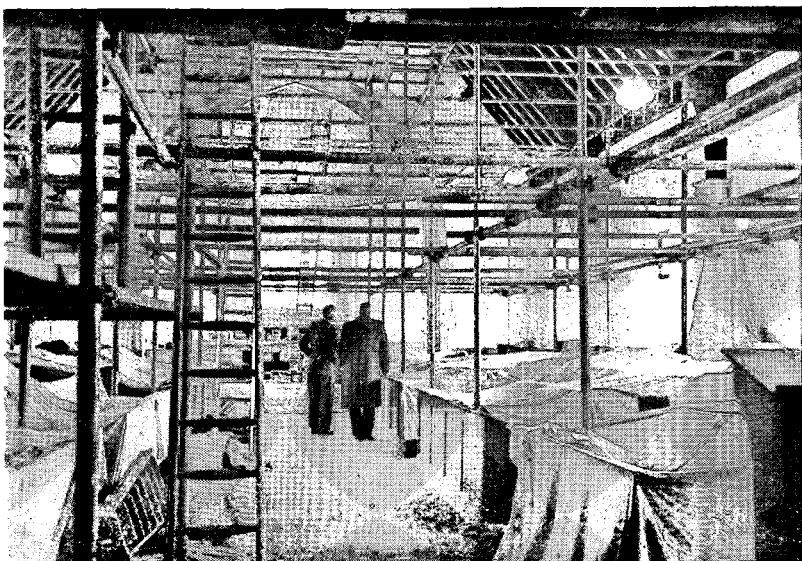
THE CANDY'D CAMEL  
WATCHES AN OXFAM  
COLLECTION  
(with respectful apologies  
to the Mayor of Abingdon)

SPITHEAD STORY  
— POST SCENAM

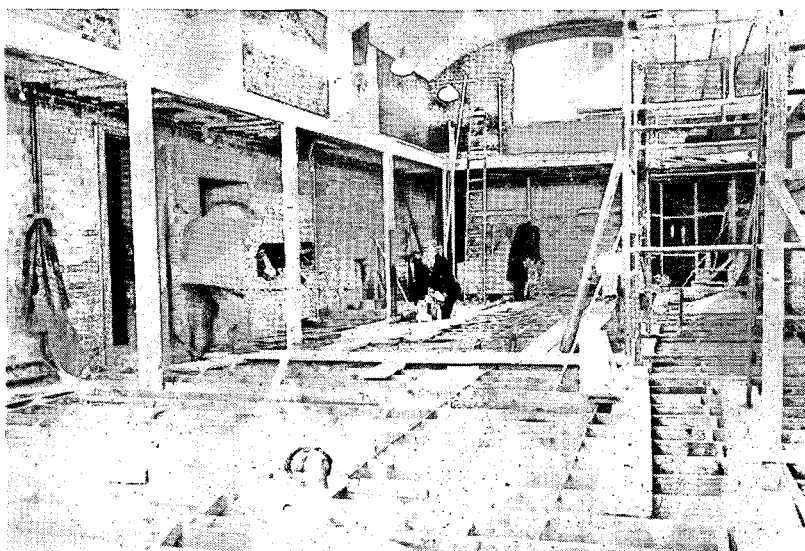


— AND  
POST MORTEM





**WORK IN PROGRESS**  
January 1963





**JUST FOR THE RECORD**  
January 9th, 1963



Three months on, in bleak January weather, many of us find it hard to remember the Indian Summer in which we basked during October. Field Day was held at this time, with considerable success. The only unfortunates were Recruit Company, whose programme for the day should have combined a tour of the Parachute Training School with a flight in a Beverley. On that day only, out of fifteen glorious ones, a heavy mist developed, which did not clear sufficiently to allow for cadet flying. We had to rest content with watching a parachute drop from aircraft. Interesting — but not quite the real McCoy!

The contingent turned out in strength on Remembrance Day. The Guard of Honour, as smart and competent as any that has performed this public service, was commanded for the first time by Lt. Fairhead; for the first time also, all three Service Sections were represented in the sizeable main body on parade. Renewed thanks and congratulations to all volunteers; and last, but not least, to the young Band, who performed most creditably. It is proposed, as from this coming term, to have a Ceremonial Inspection Parade every third week, with the Band playing — which will give a continuous sense of purpose to their military music-making.

Camp in the summer will again be on Dartmoor; not at Okehampton, where the accommodation in '61 was decidedly inadequate, but at the much superior camp of Plasterdown. Opportunities for adventure-type-training are excellent, and it is hoped that the response this year will be good.

S.C.P.

### ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

The Michaelmas term was not a very exciting one. Most of the time was spent in working towards examinations to be held next term, and some progress was made towards this end.

On Field Day, as an experiment, the section was divided into two parts, each given a different starting point and told to carry a large box across country to the other's starting point without being seen by the other side. Both sides succeeded in doing so, and it is likely that a modified version of this exercise may be used on future occasions.

Just after half term we were glad to receive a visit from Lieutenant-Commander Over from H.M.S. Sultan, who is the successor to Lieutenant-Commander Lees, and our liaison officer.

L.C.J.G.

### ROYAL AIR FORCE SECTION

This term the members of the Section spent most of their time preparing for proficiency and advanced examinations. Once again we hope to maintain the high standard of success of the earlier part of the year. However, examinations were forgotten on Field Day, when we had an interesting and instructive time at R.A.F. Odiham in Hampshire.

Once the morning fog had lifted most of us had our first flying experience in helicopters, some of the cadets flying for more than thirty minutes in Belvederes and Whirlwinds.

Next term we hope to continue our visits to R.A.F. Abingdon. We can also look forward to our new hut which should be operational later in the term. At Easter, Corporals Godfrey and Nicholl, and Cadet Sheard will be attending a gliding course with the R.A.F., and in the summer we hope to spend our annual camp in Germany, having been placed on the Air Ministry's provisional list for camps abroad.

D.W.M.

## SCOUTS

### *34th North Berks*

The main item to report this term has been the experimental splitting-up into two troops, one meeting on Mondays, the other on Thursdays. The initial disadvantage of having to find eight patrol leaders and eight seconds was offset by the smaller number of recruits per patrol and the more economic use of equipment. The whole year must pass before the experiment can be finally judged.

The first term of the year is a quiet one. The hut has been made weatherproof and the early meetings of the term were held there. The next step is to have the electricity laid on. One camp fire was held before the cold weather came on, and there was as usual a good turn out for the Remembrance Day parade when F. A. Bisby laid a wreath on behalf of the North Berks Association.

At half term Mr. Blagden took a patrol hiking in North Wales where they spent three days and nights. This, it is to be hoped, will be the forerunner of several more such camps in the coming Spring.

M.N.W.

## MUSIC NOTES

The news that the Governors have decided to give the new Music School high priority in the School's development programme was received with great enthusiasm by musicians and non-musicians alike. The days of teaching and learning the piano in the Gym Music Room and of teaching other subjects against a background of elementary brass noises are numbered. But with the accommodation we have now, the musicians have not been idle this term.

The Subscription Concerts Society has started its fourth season well with concerts by a student group from Oxford and by the Collegium Musicum Oxoniense, that versatile body of singers conducted by Laszlo Heltay. The remaining concerts are to be given by the Amadeus String

quartet and the Handel Orchestra. We cannot honestly hold many regrets that there are no further tickets available for the series.

The Piano and Organ section of the House Music Competition attracted a large entry. Dr. Mackay was unable through illness to adjudicate, but her place was most ably filled at the last moment by Mrs. Millar, a pianist who has just returned from a recital tour of New Zealand. Bennett House won this section, with Reeves in second-place.

Our staff recital was given by Mrs. Fry and Mr. Pratt, with a varied programme ranging from music for virginals to a Kodaly sonata for accompanied 'cello. It was an added interest to have both a harpsichord and a £2,000 'cello for the occasion, though Mrs. Fry was assured that it was not only the value of the instrument which drew an encouraging audience.

We have not confined our interest only to music within the School term. Parties went to the Abingdon Operatic Society's performance "The Merry Widow" and to the Musical Society's Christmas Concert at the Corn Exchange.

The Chapel Choir has been busier than usual. The Michaelmas term always ends with its round of carols, at the Carol Service and in the school Parties, which this year collected £8 12s. 6d. for the Church of England Children's Society. But this term we have had the added pleasure of singing Evensong in Dorchester Abbey at the invitation of the Vicar of Dorchester, and we also joined several other choirs in a service of Carols by Candlelight at Caldecott House.

Thirty candidates were forthcoming for the Associated Board examinations. The results have unfortunately not come through at the time of writing.

Finally we should like to express our very sincere thanks for four new music stands, from Mr. Day (father of J. J. and T. H. Day, O.A.s) — a gift of lasting value, greatly appreciated by the Senior Orchestra.

G.M.P.

## SCHOOL SOCIETIES

### ROYSSÉ SOCIETY

At the first meeting of the term, on 10th October we were pleased to welcome six newcomers to the Society: B. A. F. Burn, A. W. Foster, W. Liversidge, T. A. Marsh, P. S. McK. Ramsey and J. D. Urwick. The Secretary then read a paper entitled "The English Style of Education." This gave an account of the evolution and the problems of the present day system of education in England. The ensuing discussion centred round the extent to which the public school should, and could, be integrated into the national system of education. Every member expressed views of the subject and the discussion ended, unfortunately, still in full spate.

The second meeting, at which P. J. Mann, R. S. Ormerod, and Van Wagenen were welcomed to the Society, was held on 31st October and C. J. Dean read a paper on "The development and extension of Roman Law." Van Wagenen, our American consultant, came to our aid in the discussion which followed, when he described the present judicial system in America, and, with additional help from Mr. Murrill and the Headmaster, a difficult subject was successfully tackled, if not completely mastered.

At the last meeting, on 28th November, C. M. Davis read a very interesting paper concerning "The justification of Mr. Kennedy's action over the Cuban crisis." The reader, who had obviously drawn from a wide range of sources for his material, tried to justify Kennedy's action on military, political and legal grounds. The discussion following it was extremely lively; feeling ran so high on such points as the value of the United Nations, that by the time the closure was applied even some of the more taciturn members of the Society were talking volubly.

Entertaining the Society throughout the term has been no mean feat and for this we are extremely grateful to the Headmaster and his household.

A.C.L

#### ST. EDMUND SOCIETY

At the beginning of the term, E. D. J. Hunter and M. A. Bisby were nominated by the Headmaster and Chaplain to fill the vacancies on the committee.

Before the main programme of the first Society meeting on 4th October, M. J. Giddings was elected a committee member. Then Captain Mason of the Salvation Army continued the series, "Branches of the Church", by presenting a brief outline of the history and work of that organisation. Original questions were answered with humour and clarity.

The second meeting took the form of a visit to Christ Church Northcourt, on 8th November. The curate, Rev. John Moore, gave a talk about the building, and told how voluntary labour had done much to alleviate the cost of its transformation into a church, almost a year ago, for the populous area of Northcourt.

A film, "Red River of Life", was shown at the last meeting on 11th December. It described the wonders of the human blood vascular system, relating it to its creator, God, and presenting the message of the Gospel in convincing and frank terms — "If you refuse to accept the truth about Christ, then more fool you, for God is not going to force you to."

J

#### LITERARY SOCIETY

"Machiavelli: His Influence on Literature" was the title of the paper of the term read by K. W. R. Dixon when the Society met on 11th October at the reader's home. The paper proved to be very interesting and, in spite of its rather restricted subject, a lengthy discussion followed. At this meeting we welcomed our new sponsor, Mr. Owen, and we are very grateful to him for the attention he has paid to the Society. We also welcomed six new members: R. N. Carr, N. A. G. Spackman, M. E. F. Willey, F. C. A. Exon, M. J. Giddings and A. G. Fairlie. The election of N. P. Loukes as Chairman completed the evening's business.

A depleted Society attended Eugene O'Neill's play, "A Touch of the Peter" on 26th October. It was entertaining, but pedestrian in certain places although redeemed by the acting of Ian Bannen and Billie Whitelaw.

On 26th November G. F. Keeyes read a paper entitled "Shakespeare's Conception of History" at his house. This dealt with the ineluctable march of events preceding the reigns of Richard III and Henry VII. This was a fitting end to a quite lively term. We do thank Mr. and Mrs. Keeyes and Mr. and Mrs. Keeyes for their hospitality, without which two of our meetings would not have been possible. R.H.M.B.

### TURNOR SOCIETY

The first meeting of the Society was held on 24th October when Mr. B. Challenor, the Coroner for North Berkshire, spoke on "The Office of Coroner." A brief summary of the duties of his office was followed by an explanation of the Coroner's chief concern — "Did he die, or was he pushed?" The speaker effectively illustrated this problem by reference to his own experiences in the area.

On 30th November we welcomed the Town Clerk of Abingdon, Mr. W. J. Nicholson, who spoke on "Democracy and the African" — a subject with which he has been personally concerned. A concise outline was given of the problems encountered when democracy descends upon an African country — problems of intrigue, corruption, exploitation and violence. These difficulties were underlined by the speaker's personal anecdotes from his stay in Ghana.

We are most grateful to both of our visitors, not only for their time, but also for the interest they have shown in the Society. T.J.P.

### DEBATING SOCIETY

The Society has held three meetings this term, all of which have been well attended. The standard of debate is improving in all respects and the large proportion of young speakers heralds well for the future. The first meeting took the form of a Mock Election in which N. P. Stokes took the chair, and Messrs. Stewart, Ormerod, Exon, V. Marsh, and Leather put forward the cases of the Conservative, Labour, Liberal, Communist and Fascist parties respectively. After a heated debate the Society showed its faith in our Government, though the Fascist contingent was high.

At the second meeting the house decided that Utility comes before duty despite the efforts of M. S. Ford and M. J. Giddings. Both Ford and Messrs. Hardwick and R. A. Hall gave erudite speeches which were answered from the floor of the house.

At the final meeting K. W. R. Dixon and J. D. Urwick proposed that "Britain has more to fear from America than from Russia", and were opposed by R. Van Wageningen and G. F. Keeyes. The economic and political dangers of Russia apparently overrode the potential and cultural differences of the U.S.A. and the motion was defeated. G.F.K.

### THE CRITICS

We welcomed ten new members at our first meeting of the term and the Secretary read a paper entitled "From 'Pamela' to 'Lord Jim' — A Conspectus of the English Novel." The speaker put forward his theory that the novel reached its peak between the writing of Jane Austen and Conrad. Afterwards his more outspoken views were heavily debated.

On 7th November, M. J. Evans spoke on "The Influence of War upon Literature and Poetry." In his opinion war bred apathy among writers; although in wartime the deepest emotions might be affected their expression was usually stultified by sheer horror of the subject.

At our third meeting M. F. Kitto stated his views on "Contemporary Verse." An assessment was made of the twentieth century's contribution to poetry, competently supported with quotations. Although we differed in the following discussion over the sincerity of modern verse, we agreed that in modern poetry the psychological aspect inevitably defies analysis. T.J.]

### THE SYMPOSIUM

With our membership depleted to two, we welcomed seventeen new members to the Society this term. For the first meeting, 22nd October Mr. and Mrs. Keating kindly invited us to their house, where C. J. I. Bailey read a paper on "Gambling", and members unanimously approved of the Englishman's tolerance of the sporting vice.

At the second meeting, on 12th November, P. N. Shellard read a paper on "Advertising", in which he depicted the motives and effects of mass persuasion. We are most grateful to Dr. and Mrs. Ford, who provided very warm hospitality to the Society for this meeting.

The final meeting of the term was held in the School Shop on 10 December. T. R. Morris read a paper entitled "Modern Christmas in which he compared our Christmas with Christ's birth and Dicker caricatures of Scrooge and Pickwick, and made us realise that our modern festivities contain goodness despite the growth of materialism. C.J.D.

### SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

At the first of four meetings this term, the Society welcomed back Mr. P. M. D. Gray (O.A.), who enlightened us on the subject "Relativity." Keeping strictly to the General Theory, he was able to show us, with the aid of four-dimensional space diagrams, some of the complications arising today as a result of relativity. A large attendance served to show the popularity of the meeting. Later in the term, the Secretary gave a talk entitled "Communications — the Maser", and this was followed three weeks later, by a meeting at which were shown the films "The Principles of Ultrasonics", "The Seeing Eye" and "The Path to Flight."

The term ended up with an interesting and informative talk by Col. H. L. G. Livingston on "Guided Missiles." This acquainted us with the principles of control, propulsion and function of a missile and was illustrated with film of the Thunderbird ground-to-air and the Vigilant anti-tank missiles. A.C.L.

### "THE HISTORIANS"

This new society has been founded to help consolidate the study of history in the Upper Sixth. It is designed to broaden historical knowledge and to provide a further outlet for opinions and ideas. The Society is therefore closed and specialist, as its name implies.

In order to achieve more breadth of approach, Mr. Hillary has agreed to act as sponsor each Michaelmas Term, Mr. Montague each Lent Term and Mr. Willis each Summer Term. J. D. Urwick, w



with the support of Mr. Hillary formed the Society, was appointed Secretary.

At the inaugural meeting the Secretary read a paper entitled "The Origins of West European Expansion", which dealt with factors both inside and outside Europe, and provoked much interest. Dr. Stone of Keble College, Oxford, read at the second meeting a penetrating and fascinating paper entitled "Europe in the later Middle Ages: perspectives in mediaeval history." This provided members with a sound basis for understanding the Middle Ages. J.D.U.

(We are extremely grateful to J. D. Urwick, to whose initiative and enthusiasm the foundation of the Society was largely due and who also set the ball rolling with a thoughtful and provoking paper. A.A.H.)

### MUSIC SOCIETY

The first concert of the Society took place on 19th October before a fairly large audience, and provided us with an opportunity of hearing the excellent violin playing of a new-boy, A. Gibbs. The concert ended with a moving rendering of Mozart's Clarinet Quintet, the clarinet part ably played by K. W. R. Dixon.

At the second concert on 7th November we heard the same strings, this time accompanying the sensitive playing of A. G. Fairlie in Mozart's Flute Quartet. This was followed by two contrasting pieces, a Cat's Fugue by Domenico Scarlatti, and a piano trio by Mendelssohn.

The Society could not have flourished throughout but for the kind and helpful interest shown by Mrs. Kitching and Mr. Pratt, whom we thank most gratefully. J.F.

### MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

The Society had five meetings in the Michaelmas Term. At the first meeting on 26th October, P. E. Dixon gave a talk on "The Trachtenberg Speed System of Mathematics", and on 16th November we had a general discussion on Mathematics Teaching in Schools.

At the third meeting on 6th November, Dr. J. S. De Wet of Balliol College, Oxford spoke on "What is Mathematics?" and described the make-up of Mathematics. "Forces and Frames of Reference" was the title which Dr. H. Davies of Christ Church, Oxford, gave to his very interesting talk on 20th November. He showed how theoretical mathematics is used in the practical world. On 4th December, Dr. Hammersley of Trinity College, Oxford, and A.E.R.E. Harwell, spoke on "Mathematical Research." He outlined some mathematical problems.

Coffee was served in the School Shop after the evening meetings at which we were host to mathematicians from St. Helen's School and from Wallingford Grammar School. P.S.McK.R.

### MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

At a preliminary meeting on 5th October R. W. El'away was elected Secretary. It was decided that membership of the Society should be extended to cultural linguists in addition to specialists, and that the Society's range of activities should be broadened considerably.

The first meeting on 12th October took the form of a continental record evening, with records ranging from French Twist to Beethoven's Choral Symphony, introduced by the Secretary.

On 19th November members of the Society read the comedy by Jules Romains, "Knock, ou le Triomphe de la Médecine", which is one of this year's 'A' level set-books.

To keep the Society's programme balanced between French and German some members visited the Oxford Playhouse on 20th November to see and enjoy the University production of Lessing's "Minna von Barnhelm."

On 30th November, Mr. S. C. Parker read a very interesting paper dealing with the usage and position of English words adopted by the French language, with particular reference to sporting terms of 1939 vintage.

St. Helen's School French Club very kindly invited us to join them in reading "Fantasio", Musset's two-act comedy, on 7th December. It is hoped to continue this association next term with frequent joint meetings.

We should like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Hasnip for making this term's activities possible and so enjoyable. R.W.E.

### THE FORUM

This term three meetings were held but with regrettably low attendances at each. However, those present managed to participate in some very lively arguments.

At the first meeting discussion was centred upon free speech and in particular concerned itself with Sir Oswald Moseley and Colin Jordan. All deplored the ideas of these men but upheld their right to voice them. Their argument switched to the Trades Unions and the lack of principle amongst officials of certain unions.

On the 16th of November the main topic was the thalidomide trial in Belgium; on this, passionate appeals were made both to emotions and sense of justice. Then talk dwelt on divorce in America, and Sixth-form privileges.

At the last meeting of term the patriots amongst us were able to scorn the remarks on Britain, a second-rate power. Others abhorred the lack of religion at Christmas and discussion closed on unemployment and Earl Russell. P.J.L.

### PLAY READING SOCIETY

At the first meeting this term we read G. B. Shaw's "The Apple Cart", when it was encouraging to note some excellent reading from the newer members of the Society.

This was followed by Strindberg's "The Father", when, although the cast was small, the meeting was very well attended. Here the excellent reading of the Giddings brothers must be mentioned.

Next we read a modern comedy, "One-Way Pendulum", by N. F. Simpson. This unusual play was frequently interrupted by long spates of laughter, and was enjoyed by all.

At the last meeting we reached the high-spot of the term in Christopher Fry's "Curtmantle." The changeability of Henry's character was at times brilliantly portrayed by H. J. N. Wharton.

The success of the term must be attributed to a large extent to the unflinching hospitality shown to the Society by Mr. and Mrs. Griffin, to whom we are extremely grateful. A.G.F./C.C.F.

## PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

*Ciné Section*

This term work started on the new School film which it is hoped will provide an up-to-date equivalent to "No Tumbled House", and its first showing should be at the Quatercentenary celebrations.

Despite this time-devouring occupation, nine of us were able to visit the Merton Park Studios on 28th November, where a brief but enlightening tour round the sets left us inspired in our humility and determined to raise the Society's funds. P.A.W.

*Still Section*

This term the accent has been mainly on Darkroom technique. At the general meeting at the beginning of term it was decided to make the Society a closed one and to have a small subscription. This has enabled us to obtain more equipment for the darkroom, which has become more popular.

Unfortunately no outside lecturers could be obtained this term. The secretary gave two lectures: one on "Developing Films" and the other on "Colour Films." D.J.J.

## CAMPANOLOGICAL SOCIETY

At a meeting held at the beginning of term, it was decided that in accordance with the general practice of the Exercise, our Friday meetings should be open to all. The attendance of our own members at the fortnightly practices this term has been very high and the standard of ringing and striking has greatly improved. Methods rung this term range from Minimus to Cambridge Surprise Minor (rung with the help of a visitor from the North).

It had been hoped to ring a Quarter Peal for the annual School Carol Service at St. Helen's Church, held on 18th December, but unfortunately our plans miscarried. However, some well struck Bob Triples were rung for an hour before the Service. The team included J. Rowson, A. Rowson, C. I. Rowson (conducted). R. W. Ellaway, C. Carter, the Secretary of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, the Captain and Vice-Captain of the Abingdon Change Ringers. To them our thanks must surely go, as also to the Reverend and Mrs. J. H. Dixon, and Mr. J. A. Betts of the Culham College Society for their kind co-operation and encouragement. C.C.

## FILM SOCIETY

The Society held its usual five meetings. The first film of the term was "Alias Jessie James" in which Bob Hope took a rise out of the regular western.

The second meeting consisted of three films; the first two were "A Chairy Tale", a Canadian comic short, and "Taxi" a longer, French comedy. The third, "Two Men and a Wardrobe", aroused considerable discussion as to whether or not it could be classed as comedy. It was felt that this film was one of the most bitter shown by the Society and definitely not comedy.

The third film was "Odd Man Out", Sir Carol Reed's forerunner of "The Third Man." Although dated, the film was still very moving. "On the Waterfront". Marlon Brando's award winning film, was shown at the fourth meeting. This was perhaps compatible to "The Angry Silence", both in story and power. The final meeting of the term was

made up of two films which many members had already seen. "The Red Balloon" and "This is the BBC." The art in both these films withstood another viewing. M.J.E.

### JAZZ CLUB

At the Annual General Meeting, held on the 28th of September in the History Room, A. W. Foster was re-elected Secretary and S. R. Wilson was elected Treasurer. At this meeting thirteen new members were elected and duly welcomed. The second meeting of the term was held in the Heylyn Room on 19th of October, when we played some Armstrong recordings to introduce new members to one of the greatest exponents of New Orleans Jazz. Armstrong's career was traced from the time when he was under the influence of King Oliver, to his break-away, and subsequent fall to mainstream (All Stars Band).

It was with great pleasure that the Club welcomed the "K.B." Five, who played for us a large variety of numbers at our third meeting on 16th November. Everyone agreed that it was very encouraging for the School, and the Club, to have a group once again. Unfortunately the meeting planned for the 14th December, when we hoped to play some very special Ory recordings, had to be cancelled because the bad weather prevented their arrival. However, we can look back on an enjoyable and successful term. A.W.F.

### THE ARTS CIRCLE

Society activities have been limited to two meetings this term, at the first of which the officers for the ensuing year were appointed. M. J. H. Liversidge was re-appointed Secretary, J. C. Randell Under-Secretary, and F. C. A. Exon, S. A. Marsh and T. D. Paige committee members. At the second meeting a lively discussion on Modern Art took place. Both meetings were satisfactorily attended.

Guest speakers have been invited to address the Society next term. Tentative arrangements for an exhibition of *objets d'art* during the School's quatercentenary celebrations are in hand.

The Society extends its warmest congratulations to the Patron, Professor E. K. Waterhouse, C.B.E., on his lecturing appointment in America. M.J.H.L.

### CHESS CLUB

Encouraged by last year's success in reaching the semi-final, the School again entered a team for the *Sunday Times* National Schools' Chess Tournament. In the first round we narrowly beat Carmel College on board count, and then received a bye into the third round in which we played Sir William Borlase School at Marlow, winning 3½—2½. In the semi-final we are due to play Magdalen College School.

Several other matches were played; at home we beat the Oratory 5—1 and also Bedford Modern 3½—2½, who beat us last year in the semi-final thereby winning the zone. So far this term our first team has remained unbeaten and in the Oxford Under Fifteen Jamboree at the Dragon School, our junior team came fourth out of nine, three places better than last year.

The Senior and Junior Knockout Tournaments took place inside the School, the champions being as below:

Junior: J. R. Burton (Dayboys) beat F. J. Dobbs (Waste Court).

Senior Semi-Final: A. E. Medland (School House) beat M. J. Stilwell (Larkhill); T. J. King (Dayboys) beat P. H. Blackburn (Crescent).

Senior Final: T. J. King beat A. E. Medland.

A.E.M.

## TAPE RECORDING SOCIETY

The Society has only met twice officially during the course of this term. The first meeting on 28th September took the form of an Annual General Meeting, and was held for members only. At this meeting it was decided to have a small subscription which would be used to buy tape for storing Society recordings, and T. J. Tilby was elected Treasurer. During the rest of the meeting recordings of the Summer Term Evening Entertainment were played.

At the other meeting, held on 5th October, Mr. R. E. Poulton from Garrard's Engineering Company of Swindon, gave a most interesting and extremely well illustrated lecture on stereophony.

Apart from these official meetings, individual members have met throughout the term, and have been responsible for the sound effects of the School Play, and for recording the School Play and the Carol service. M.C.J.

## AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY

The end of last term saw the departure of A. J. Lloyd, the Society's founder and Secretary, and consequently we have had a quiet, although not uninteresting, term.

Four meetings were held in all, at the first of which three new committee members were elected and the many newcomers to the society welcomed.

The lectures given by members were "Flying German Oddities of World War II", by D. R. Brown; "The Use of Winged Space Vehicles", by D. R. Sheard; and finally "Attempts at Man-powered Flight", by A. F. Stewart. All three lectures proved to be most interesting and informative. D.J.S.

## JOINT CLUB

All the meetings this term, when we were hosts twice and the ladies of St. Helen's hostesses once, served to show that there is still something lacking in the Club, despite many attempts to liberate it. The first meeting was lively, but the other two were more dead than alive.

Last year an appeal was made in the January edition of "The Abingdonian" for us to heave ourselves out of the waltz, quickstep, waltz rut. We have now subsided into a twist, twist, madison rut. We must make an effort in the future to extricate ourselves from this. N.P.L.

## HOLIDAY CLUB

The Holiday Club enjoyed two fixtures during the Summer Holidays: cricke. game against B. H. Polley's XI on Saturday, 15th September, and our annual tennis fixture with Wootton on the following Sunday.

Largely as a result of excellent bowling by Keeys, Polley's XI were early difficulties. We failed however to press our advantage and they were allowed to score another fifty runs without further loss. The weather then took a hand and the match had to be abandoned owing to rain at 4.30 p.m. Keeys had figures of 5—20 and the score stood at 80—7. We are very grateful to R.A.F. Abingdon for allowing us to use their pitch.

On Sunday, 22nd September our tennis VI visited Wootton. A six, four of whom were cricketers, put up a gallant fight to result in a 4—5 victory for Wootton.

In the coming holidays we hope to have a social and rugger, hockey and football games against local sides. M.S.F.

### JUNIOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This term the Society flourished and membership has almost doubled itself, bringing the total now to twenty-two. The first meeting of the term, on 5th October, the Secretary proposed a project, now under way, to make a survey of the history of Abingdon; it is hoped it will be finished next term.

At the second meeting of the term the Secretary read a history of the School. This, perhaps the most concise history of the School ever written, was kindly lent by the author, Mr. Moore.

The third meeting took a rather different line, and we diverged into "Tortures used by the Spanish Inquisition." To end the term, a party went down to see the new rooms in the Museum at the County Hall.

Next term the Society is hoping to invite an outside speaker to give a lecture illustrated with slides. A.P.F.

### RECORDER CLUB

This term has been very successful. The Club divided into two, boarders and dayboys, with regular meetings for both. At the end of term a party was held for both sections in the School Shop, where we ate and played. If all goes well next term, the Quatercentenary Founder's Day will see a very flourishing Recorder Club.

### JUNIOR KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY

The only meeting of the term was held in the Pembroke Room on the 19th November. In the first part of the meeting three new committee members were elected. The second part consisted of two interesting talks by members.

Later in the term the committee selected three films for a show next term. R.A.B.

### SCHOOL LIBRARY

We are most grateful to Mr. Herbertson for presenting a magnificent volume *The Treasures of the Vatican* to enrich the new library. Mrs. C. B. Ellis has also sent us a considerable number of books belonging to the late Mr. Ellis, and H. A. Lunghi, O.A., has given us the *Everyman Encyclopaedia of Russia*. Our thanks too to Rev. H. F. Shepherd, O.A., for sending us a collection of his School prizes in their handsome bindings and also some dictionaries; to A. J. Leatham for *Life on the Sea Shore*; to Dr. Howlett for the continued receipt of the *Scientific American* and to W. A. Rudd and W. H. Stevens, O.A., for Geographical and Commonwealth Journals. We have been very fortunate too in securing the latest edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* on very advantageous terms. We are having some of the valuable tomes from the original School Library of 1743 rebound and rest and doing much spring cleaning of the books in greatest detail. Especial thanks are due to Andrew Exon, Michael Giddings and Nicol Wharton for the good work they have done. G.

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

- BANFIELD.** On 10th August, 1962, to Jennifer, wife of David L. Banfield (1953), a daughter, Lesley Clare.
- DEAN.** On 1st June, 1962, to Jane, wife of Anthony Dean (1940), a son, Richard William.
- LUNGLI.** On 27th September, 1962, to Renée, wife of H. A. Lunghi (1939), a third daughter, Diana.
- MILLS.** On 25th February, 1962, to Shirley, wife of Robin Mills (1953), a daughter, Rebecca Mary.
- PAXMAN.** On 10th June, 1962, to Gillian, wife of Richard Paxman (1954), a daughter, Nicola Jane.
- PEZARO.** On 15th June, 1962, to Jane, wife of Robert Pezaro (1947), a daughter, Joanna.
- WIGGINS.** On 25th October, 1962, in New York, to Jennifer, wife of Colin S. Wiggins (1953), a second son, Graham Charles.

**MARRIAGES**

- DUNKLEY-DEAR.** On 1st September, 1962, at St. Helen's Church, Abingdon, David G. Dunkley (1956) to Avril Dear, of London.
- HOWES-HARVEY.** On 22nd August, 1962, at Whiston Church, Rotherham, Michael David Howes (1952), to Dorothy June Harvey.
- MALONEY-TOMLINSON.** On 8th September, 1962, at St. Mary's Church, Long Wittenham, Christopher B. Maloney (1958) to Anne Tomlinson.
- MIELL-INGRAM-HARRIS.** On 1st September, 1962, at St. John's Church, New Hinksey, Laurence Barrie Miell-Ingram (1954) to Anne Cecily Harris.
- MILLARD-GRIGG.** On 17th September, 1962, at St. James' Church, Bramley, Basingstoke, Peter J. Millard (1953) to Mary Grigg.
- ROBERTS-ALDWORTH.** On 6th October, 1962, at St. Peter's Church, Northbourne, Didcot, Barrie M. Roberts (1955) to Linda Aldworth.
- TANILAND-GILBERT.** On 1st September, 1962, at Shippon Church, Timothy W. L. Staniland (1955) to Jennifer Lyne Gilbert.
- TANLEY-WALE.** On 29th September, 1962, at the Church of the Holy Rood, Oxford, Mervyn H. Stanley (1957) to Maureen Wale.
- WOODLEY-SHAW.** On 22nd September, 1962, at Kennington Parish Church, Christopher R. Woodley (1956) to Julie Shaw.
- WRIGHT-LE SOUTER.** On 30th August, 1962, at Grouville Parish Church, Jersey, Geoffrey D. Wright (1957) to Caroline Le Souter.

We congratulate Christopher Woodley (1956) not only on his recent marriage but also on the award of a Parchment Scroll of the Royal Humane Society for rescuing a 7-year-old girl who had fallen into deep water near Sandford Lock on 22nd April, 1962.

H. A. Lunghi (1939), the East European Specialist of the B.B.C., seems to be even busier than usual. After a tour of Czechoslovakia last summer and TV work — he appeared in *Tonight* in November — he is acting as Hon. Sec. for a conference to be held in the Crimea in April sponsored by the G.B.-U.S.S.R. Association whose leading figures are Fitzroy Maclean and Christopher Mayhew.

Kenneth Walker (1942) has moved from Cumberland to become Deputy Secretary of the Newcastle upon Tyne Hospital Management Committee, where he will be dealing with three times as many patients and staff as well as extensive development plans.

Martin Ogle (1929) returned with his family from Malaya but thoughts of retirement were premature and he has returned to do another tour as Headmaster.

Rev. D. H. Wheaton (1949) was inducted as Rector of Ludgershall, near Aylesbury, in November. For the past six years he had been a member of the tutorial staff of Oak Hill Theological College, Southgate.

Martin King (1958), is now at Cuddesdon College preparing for Holy Orders.

It is an interesting fact that since 1947 no less than 196 sons of officers of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell have entered the School of whom just on 100 are *in stat pup.* at the moment, and that at the present time 34 Old Boys are on the staff of the Establishment.

The *Daily Mail* on 26th September last featured Farmer Tony Emms (1934) in an instructive column, describing how he earned £2,000 a year working less than six hours a day on his dairy farm at Grandborough, Bucks. But let no-one be deceived into thinking the money was easily earned!

Michael Green (1947) is now Assistant Secretary to the H. J. Heinz group.

Richard Redknap (1954), who is now settled in Surbiton with his family, is a sales representative of L'Oreal, the Paris cosmetics firm.

Dr. Michael Rallings (1956) is in practice at Rendcomb, near Cirencester.

Tony Maxwell (1955) is now at the Kano, Nigeria, branch of the Bank of West Africa.

Capt. D. C. Woolf, R.N. (1934), is on the Central Staff at Lascaris Malta.



Sub Lts. David Camplin and Christopher Loukes (1959) are at R.N. Engineering College, Manadon.

David Brice (1961) of Britannia R.N. College is on the winter cruise to West Indies.

J. A. Roberts (1959) who went on from School to St. Bartholomew's, Newbury, is entering the College.

Major A. H. Cherrill, R.A.P.C. (1948) is with 1st Scots Guards at Pirbright.

Capt. Roger Hamer (1950), 39 Guided Weapon Regt., R.A., is at Dempsey Barracks, B.A.O.R.

F/O Alan Caswell (1956), R.A.F. Regt., is stationed at Eastleigh, Nairobi. *The Hereford Times* (his home town) last October had a paragraph relating his adventures on a jungle trip with a rescue party searching (successfully) for an R.A.F. pilot lost on a climbing expedition on Mt. Kenya.

F/O Michael Brackley (1954) is at Cosford, Wolverhampton.

J. A. Howard (1956), has taken a Commission in the R.A.F. (Dental Branch) and is at present at Halton.

P/O John Ogle (1959) is at Thorney Island.

M. P. Westwood (1962) has been granted a permanent Commission in the R.A.F.

D. C. K. Wright (1927) who is by profession an Estate Agent at Broadstone has taken up as a hobby the design and production of ingenious folding dinghies described fully in the enclosed leaflet. They attracted much attention at the recent "Boat Show."

Graham Crow (1959), after taking an Honours Degree in Psychology at London University is pursuing a career in Educational Psychology. At present he is teaching in a Secondary Modern School in Crewe, but will be widening his experience later.

Raymond Owen (1942) has moved to Holywell Grammar School, Prestatyn, as Senior History master.

David Dunkley (1956) has taken a post as classics master at King Edward VI G.S., Chelmsford.

John Ivatts (1954) is also a classics master at Jervis County High School.

David Shaw (1954) has a music post at Alderman Newton's Boys' School, Leicester.

David Wiggins (1959), now in his fourth year at the Scottish Academy of Music, Edinburgh has qualified D.R.S.A.M. and A.R.C.M.

Richard Wooldridge (1959) has passed the Certificate Examination of the National Council for Training Journalists and been awarded the Frank Lawrence prize for all-round excellence. He is crime reporter for the *Maidenhead Advertiser* and local Correspondent for the *Daily Express*.

David Howard (1956) in February becomes Manager of the Master Builders House, a fashionable hotel at Bucklers Hard, Brockenhurst.

Paul Tavinor (1950) won the Morland's Prize for the highest marks in the O.N. Certificate Exam in Business Studies at the Abingdon Institute of Further Education.

Roger Wiggins (1961) and John Brown (1951) are both working in the same research laboratory of ICI Paints Division at Slough.

Peter Booth (1960) is doing a 3 years course in Ophthalmic Optics at Northampton College, London.

Peter Perry (1960) is a Management Trainee with Marks & Spencers.

D. G. Saffin (1960) has passed the intermediate examination for a Public Health Inspector.

M. D. Howes (1952), after spending six years in the Royal and Merchant navies, settled in Wallingford four years ago in business as a butcher. He was married last August.

The following are believed to be in residence at Universities and Medical Schools:

Oxford: *Pembroke*: I. J. Kirby, J. A. Sheard, A. P. Haynes, R. G. M. Johnston, R. J. C. Bampton, R. W. J. Bampton, J. M. Talbot, P. L. Hedges, M. R. Mole; *Balliol*: G. A. Brown; *Merton*: R. S. Green, D. G. Darroch, A. J. Varney; *New*: P. J. Ford, R. Dickenson; *Magdalen*: G. S. Howlett; *Wadham*: G. Sheppard; *St. Edmund Hall*: R. W. Harvey; *Keble*: R. E. Moore, G. C. H. Phillips; *St. Peter's*: A. M. Q. King, C. G. Purnell; *Jesus*: P. M. D. Gray (B.A. Cantab).

Cambridge: *Clare*: N. A. J. Antrobus (R.E.); *Corpus*: R. S. Ogg; *Gonville & Caius*: M. S. Bretscher, K. N. Haarhoff, P. A. Bretscher; *Emmanuel*: R. G. Havelock; *Jesus*: I. A. D. Martin; *King's*: M. J. Scott-Taggart; *Trinity*: A. C. Bowker; *Trinity Hall*: E. G. Jones; *Fitzwilliam House*: D. Weir.

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

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

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

Queen's College, Belfast: R. I. S. Walker.

London: Kings: D. G. Morris, A. F. Selwood; University: S. R. Turner; Imperial: T. I. Silvey, E. Lier, D. C. Pollard; L.S.E.: P. W. Kemp, A. J. Oxley, J. D. Sabel; Goldsmith's: D. J. Langton; Northampton: J. M. Beere, C. R. Scott, P. F. Booth.

Birmingham: R. G. Simmonds, A. J. Mackenzie, L. A. Edwards.

Bristol: N. J. H. Grant, D. R. Gerring.

Durham: St. Cuthbert's: G. G. Ganf, King's, Newcastle: A. J. Costley.

Exeter: C. T. Pollard.

Hull: A. F. Pritchard.

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

Liverpool: G. W. Oxley.

Loughborough: J. M. Bunce.

Reading: R. J. L. Hewison.

Southampton: E. W. Firth, J. B. Friend, P. Rainey, D. J. Hoddinott, R. C. White.

University of Wales: Aberystwyth: G. W. Jones; D. I. Southern;

Bangor: G. D. Louth; Cardiff: P. P. Hutchinson.

Medical Schools:

King's: R. K. Le Voi.

London: G. H. Freedman.

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

St. Mary's: B. L. Smith, R. A. Lucas.

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

Birmingham: P. D. Exon, A. J. C. Leatham.

The migration to Universities overseas continues.

Martin Scott-Taggart (1956) is doing a four-months course tutoring Philosophy at Rochester. Roger Marchbanks (1955) is engaged in research for Ph.D. at Cornell, investigating the physiological mechanisms of learning and memory. W. M. Jamieson (1962) at Virginia University is proceeding to Rutgers University, New Brunswick, this year to read Literature and Business Administration, and also to row. Robert Johns (1960) is at Acadia University, New Brunswick. Robert Captisk (1961) has entered Macdonald College and Martin Mogey (1960) is reaching the end of his course at Vanderbilt University.

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

D. Bobin is with Buckell and Ballard, Estate Agents, Oxford.

S. P. Bowen and D. C. S. Venn are at Oxford School of Architecture.

R. F. Budden is at Oxford Technical College, prior to University.

D. C. Dunn is a trainee with Duncan Fox Textiles.

R. J. M. Evans is in his father's building firm.

L. J. Ewing is embarking on commercial jobs which will take him round the world.

G. A. Hall is studying German at the Spöhrerschule, Calw, Schwarzwald.

J. F. Hann is working with Nestles at Hayes.  
 E. G. B. Joseph is with Baker, Todman, Accountants.  
 N. D. S. Kortright has joined the Metropolitan Police.  
 P. R. Mildenhall is a Student Apprentice with Pressed Steel.  
 G. T. Milford-Scott is at Leicester College of Art.  
 M. H. Tarran-Jones is studying Hotel Management.  
 J. R. Veysey is with Schnellpressen, Heidelberg Printing Machine  
 Manufacturers.

## 1913--1963

I have just been reading the special supplement of *The Abingdonian* that was issued to mark the 350th anniversary of the refoundation of the School in 1913. It includes a list of all those Old Abingdonian who were present at the Celebrations. Of these, the following still appear in the Old Boys' list. We publish their names here *honori causa*, and so that they may know that we shall give an especial welcome to those of them who are able to attend our celebrations this year. For those marked with an asterisk we have unfortunately no valid address. Perhaps some of their friends can help us?

They are as follows: T. F. Bowman\*; Rev. B. M. Challenor; B. Challenor (Junior!); S. Cullen; L. E. Edwards\*; (Colonel) C. H. B. Good; E. F. Harvey; H. A. N. Medd; W. D. Price; N. V. H. Riches; G. H. G. Shepherd; Rev. H. F. Shepherd; K. G. Stevens; H. V. Stone; E. H. Thomas\*; R. A. R. Townsend; A. C. Vivian; E. G. Whelpton; T. S. Wilding.

It is interesting to note that in the complete list of those present Challenors have the edge on Morlands by six to five; but both families are outnumbered by the nine Shepherds!

J.M.C

## O.A. CLUB NOTES

The Annual Dance was held after the Rigger Match on 1st December 1962, and despite the thickest fog that Abingdon had seen for many years, 139 people braved the elements. Members and guests were welcomed by the President and Mrs. Eason at the preliminary sherry drinking, and from comments gathered during the evening it was plain that the efforts made to reach the venue had been well worth while.

The band did us proud, especially with some very up-to-date numbers to which the younger members responded very well. The supper proved that by spending a little more money a much improved selection of food was available. In fact the general verdict on the Dance was — a jolly good show.

Members should note now that the next Dance will be "The Quatercentenary Ball" to be held on Friday, 29th November, with dancing from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. We hope the price of tickets will remain the same, and the Secretary will welcome any ideas for adding to the festivity of the occasion.

The O.A.s in residence at Cambridge held their second dinner on Thursday, 22nd November, and invited as guests from the School the Headmaster and Messrs. Willis, Duxbury, Talbot, Hillary and Tambridge. The School party arrived in time to pay calls upon various college tutors before assembling in the Junior Parlour at Caius where both Haarhoff had arranged an excellent meal. All the eleven resident members, with Tom Denniford co-opted, were present, the food and wines were good, the speeches short and everyone, particularly the guests, enjoyed the evening thoroughly. Even the return trip to Abingdon in fog so dense that we passed through Bedford twice failed to dispel the idea that Cambridge was a good place.

The Oxford O.A.s had their gathering in the form of a wine and snacks party in Pembroke College on 7th December. The Headmaster and Messrs. Duxbury, Gray and Talbot were the guests and the crowded scene in the Bampton's rooms showed the strength of the Oxford contingent. Only three of the resident members were unable to attend and it was a great pleasure to meet the jeunesse dorée on their own ground — and indeed for some Oxford O.A.s to meet their fellows from more distant Colleges.

1963 should be — and certainly will be — a busy and notable year for the Club. The Committee has appointed a standing sub-committee headed by the President to further the participation of all Old Boys in the Quatercentenary Celebrations. It is proposed to organise regional meetings in such centres as Maidenhead, Newbury and Birmingham, and also to invite various groups to visit the School at weekends during the year. Members will be hearing more of this from the President, but the first innovation will be John Saywell's inaugural News Sheet, the '63 Magazine.

Meanwhile make a note of the following dates for 1963:

Cross-Country Match: Saturday, 16th February.

London Dinner: Saturday, 23rd February. (See notice on page 413).

Hockey Match: Saturday, 2nd March.

Athletics Meeting: Saturday, 9th March.

Royal Visit and Old Boys' Dinner: Friday, 14th June.

Quatercentenary Celebrations: Saturday, 15th June.

Rugger Match and Quatercentenary Ball: Friday, 29th November.

The Secretaries' addresses are:

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

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

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

## OXFORD LETTER

Sir,

Someone told me that he thought there were now 23 or 24 O.A.s at Oxford at the moment. After some frenzied research I have mustered 22, and can think of at least one reason why my informant might have thought there was one more. Surely this must be a record, and one that is all the more vulnerable because while more goes in at the bottom, less comes out at the top. O.A.s are reluctant to leave Oxford and Oxford is reluctant to lose them; Peter Gray (Jesus), obeying the 'law of kynde', came all the way from Cambridge to join us; Humphrey Bowen (Pembroke) has been seen; and I gather Ian Kirby (Pembroke) is another who has no intention of going down just yet; Frank Jones (ex-St. Cath's), on the other hand, really does seem to have gone.

Although I divide my time, how fairly I will not say, between libraries and parties, I think I am right in saying that I have never met a fellow O.A. in either of these traditional *milieux* of University life. What then are they doing? John Sheard (Pembroke) and Robin Dickenson (New College) were sighted minding a display for the Educational Society at the last Freshmen's Fair in the Town Hall. Richard Harvey (S.E.H.) now has his Blue (or is it only half a one?) for Cross-Count (he was Oxford's captain). Roger Green (Merton), however, bemoans the fact that he has not even received a quarter Blue, although he has now twice played in the annual inter-Varsity Croquet match. George Darroch (Merton) has changed his tweed jacket for a corduroy on which might, in some, be accounted a sign of decadence, but not George who, I gather, is as athletic as ever, and always looks very well when I see him.

Tony Haynes (Pembroke) emerged from his North Oxford musician colony, smoothly clad in a dinner jacket, for what was (I think) the first ever official gathering of Oxford O.A.s. This, a very pleasant informal affair, was held in Pembroke in the rooms of Roger and Richard Bampton. These last, surprisingly enough, are reading different subjects — Richard, who does Agriculture, has just passed his Prelim Roger is a lawyer. Among others spotted there (apart from gate-crasher Tony Martin (Jesus, Cambridge) and the irrepressible Keith Haarhe who always seems to contrive to have a mention in this letter) were Pete Ford (New College); John Talbot and Paul Hedges (both Pembroke); Howard Phillips (Keble), sporting a CND badge as also, believe, on occasion does Andrew Varney (Merton) who has been acting; perhaps Michael Mole (Pembroke) could not tear himself away from a Judo lesson; Charles Purnell (of what we must now call Peter's College) managed to get up in time, and our other S.P. representative, A. M. Q. King, was also to be seen; so too was Rodney Moore, although Keble is rather a long way from Pembroke; Graham Howlett, our Magdalen mathematician, put in an appearance; and I w

ld that on no account should I forget Bob Johnston (Pembroke yet ain), who organised the function.

I have probably not mentioned Blank who is President of the Union, strokes the Blue boat; if so I ask his forgiveness, and the omission ust be ascribed not to his insignificance, but to the recluse-like habits of at humble and obedient servant,

YOUR OXFORD CORRESPONDENT.

#### *Old Abingdonian Trust Fund*

The Trustees have decided upon the disposal of the J. Y. Ingham quest which finally amounted to £2,364. After devoting £200 to the lowment of prizes for Physics and Music they have transferred the ance to the Appeal Fund with the recommendation that it should used to defray part of the cost of the new Music School with which in Ingham's name will be associated. Future generations will have son to be profoundly grateful to him.

As mentioned previously, a large number of covenants taken out in 55 for the Pavilion expired last year, but the response to requests renewal has been quite magnificent. Nearly all have renewed, ny have increased their contribution substantially. To all we offer sincere thanks.

Increased Covenants: G. V. Bayley, M. J. Cullen, R. F. Hamer, H. A. ighi, R. J. Pezaro, V. J. Relle, G. E. Sinclair. Renewed Covenants: E. A. Clark, S. E. Clark, K. Cleave, J. M. Cobban, A. H. Cox, V. Davidge, A. C. Dean, K. W. Ewing, R. L. C. Foottit, A. W. R. well, W. M. Isbister, R. F. Jackson, Rev. J. V. Pixell, J. L. Platnauer, i. Randle, C. N. Rattee, Mrs. C. M. Raymont, E. H. F. Sawbridge, G. Stow, R. W. Snell, H. D. S. Stiles, G. S. Sturrock, A. J. nham, A. C. Vivian, T. A. Wiggins, T. S. Wilding, C. C. Woodley, C. Woolf.

## SUMMARY OF GAMES FIXTURES

## HOCKEY — FIRST ELEVEN

*January*

- Sat. 26 v. Wallingford Grammar School (h).  
 Wed. 30 v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (h).

*February*

- Sat. 2 v. St. Edward's School (a).  
 Wed. 6 v. Pembroke College, Oxford (a).  
 Sat. 9 v. Abingdon Hockey Club (h).  
 Sat. 16 v. Solihull School (a).  
 Wed. 20 v. Hockey Association (h).  
 Sat. 23 v. Bloxham School (a).  
 Wed. 27 v. Keble College, Oxford (h).

*March*

- Sat. 2 v. Old Abingdonians (h).  
 Wed. 6 v. Old College, R.M.A. Sandhurst (a).  
 Wed. 13 v. University College, Oxford (a).

## ATHLETICS

(Cross Country and Track)

*January*

- Sat. 19 Cross Country v. Culham College (h).  
 Wed. 23 Cross Country v. Wallingford G.S. (h).  
 Wed. 30 Cross Country v. Reading School and Langley G.S. (Reading).

*February*

- Sat. 2 Cross Country v. Newbury G.S. (h).  
 Wed. 13 Cross Country v. Exeter College, Oxford (a).  
 Sat. 16 Cross Country v. Old Abingdonians (h).  
 Wed. 20 Cross Country v. Kimbolton School (h).  
 Thur. 21 Cross Country v. Radley College, St. Edward's School and Eton College (at Radley).  
 Wed. 27 Cross Country v. The Queen's College, Oxford (a).

*March*

- Sat. 2 Culham Road Relay.  
 Wed. 6 Cross Country v. Cokethorpe Park School (a).  
 Sat. 9 Track Meeting v. Old Abingdonians (h).  
 Wed. 13 Track Meeting v. Reading School (h).  
 Sat. 23 Track Meeting v. Bloxham School (a).  
 Wed. 27 Preliminary Sports Day.  
 Thur. 28 Track Meeting v. Radley College (a).  
 Sat. 30 SPORTS DAY.

*April*

- Tues. 2 Public Schools' Championships (at Radley).



*Terms of Subscription*

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

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

*"The Abingdonian"*

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

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

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

## OLD ABINGDONIAN CLUB

# London Dinner

will be held on

**Saturday, 23rd February, 1963**

IN THE HARCOURT ROOM OF

**THE HOUSE OF COMMONS**

(by the kind offices of A. S. M. Neave, D.S.O., M.C., M.P.)

*Reception 6.30 p.m.*

*Dinner 7.30 p.m.*

*Tickets 30/- (including gratuities and cloak-room) obtainable from Mr. S. A. Paige, 21 Watling Street, London, E.C.4*

*A coach will be running from Abingdon, leaving the School at 3 p.m. Please let George Duxbury know as soon as possible.*

*Accommodation is limited to 112 so apply early.*

### WHAT HAPPENED IN 1563?

(for we ought to know what we are celebrating)

There had been a school in Abingdon for hundreds of years before the Reformation, probably before the Norman Conquest. Indeed there is evidence for the existence of a flourishing boarding side, with at least two hostels, as early as 1372. The dissolution of the Abbey in 1538 left the school out on a limb. It was clearly still in existence however when Christ's Hospital received its foundation charter in 1553 for one of the main functions of the newly-constituted body was to acquire and hold property *ad sustentationem scholae grammaticalis*. But the School needed better premises than those it occupied just north of St. Nicolas' Church, and a more assured foundation.

Opportunity produced the man — John Roysse, a prosperous London mercer of Abingdon origin, who was himself almost certainly an Old Boy of the School. Like so many wealthy merchants of his day, he wanted to do something for his native town, and as early as 1561 he had sent his friend John Southcote, sergeant-at-law, to discuss with the Governors of Christ's Hospital his project of re-endowing the School. Roysse himself was in no hurry to complete the negotiations, for he wished the refoundation to take place in 1563, when he himself reached the age of 63 — the grand climacteric. It was indeed on January 31st of that year that he signed an indenture with the Corporation by which the former Common Hall of the old Hospital of St. John was placed at his disposal for the School. The indenture provided for the free admission of 63 dayboys; and in addition the headmaster was to be allowed to take his advantage (*sic*) of ten fee-paying boarders. In return (by indenture of February 23rd) John Roysse paid the Borough the sum of £50, and transferred to it property in Birchin Lane, London which brought in an endowment of £13 6s. 8d. a year.

When the new accommodation was remodelled in the course of the year Roysse's (typically Elizabethan) conceit was continued for the school room was made exactly 63 feet long. Apart from this, the Headmaster had the use of one of the adjacent almsmen's dwellings, which would consist of little more than a single room. It was possibly to commemorate the formal opening of the new building that John Roysse obtained (on July 2nd, 1563) a grant of those arms which we today are proud to use. A link between the two foundations was provided by Thomas Tesdale — subsequently the founder of Pembroke College, and one of our greatest benefactors — who had been a pupil at the old School and was now enrolled at the top of the new register.

Those who have read their Preston — or who can remember the Rev. Gordon Dunstan's provocative sermon at Founder's Day some years ago — will know that John Roysse's endowment proved wholly inadequate for its purpose; and the Ordinances reveal both the paucity of his educational outlook and his own naive vanity. Yet withal he was a kindly, well-meaning man, keenly alive to the responsibility to use his wealth properly. He resuscitated the School when it was in danger of foundering; and it is right that we should honour him as the one man above all others to whom we owe our continued existence.

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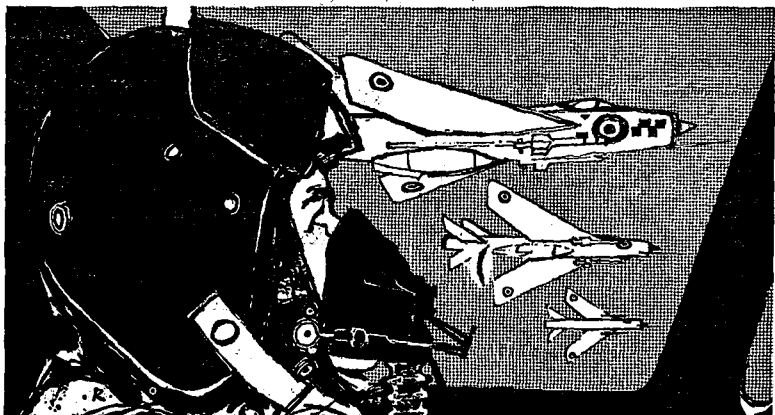
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