

THE ABINGDONIAN



MAY 1965

THE ABINGDONIAN

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OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL

Summer Term, 1965

SCHOOL PREFECTS

P. G. Henderson (Head of School)

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J. R. Jennings (S)	E. C. C. Crouch (D)
D. A. M. Bent (D)	W. R. Lynn-Robinson (S)
T. R. Morris (L)	P. N. Atkins (S)
V. A. Marsh (D)	R. D. R. Ray (D)
T. B. Moore (S)	A. M. Forsyth (W)
N. A. H. Bosley (D)	A. K. Hodgson (S)
C. W. F. M. Cox (D)	A. R. Williams (D)
P. V. Bosley (D)	

HOUSE PREFECTS

School House—C. J. Corps; A. W. Willis; A. O. B. Akinbiyi; I. Nayler;
B. S. Avery; C. M. N. Jamieson; D. G. Clubley; P. A. Bartlett;
J. Roest; A. R. Coffee; R. W. Schnellmann; T. J. Rawlins.

Crescent House—T. R. Giddings; C. E. I. Day; P. J. Evans.

Larkhill—W. M. Marshall; R. B. H. Becker.

Waste Court—P. A. C. Roblin; R. J. Thornton.

Day Boys—J. A. Rozier; S. J. Baker; P. J. Snowley; D. G. S. Hilleard;
A. G. Fairlie; P. A. Sugg; D. W. Penney; S. A. Marsh;
M. J. H. Liversidge; D. S. Partridge; I. R. Hewes; D. J.
Munson; A. G. Rowson; R. M. Limerick; S. N. Pearson;
D. E. Joyce; R. J. Davis; N. P. J. Bell; D. H. Willis; J. C.
Mellor.

OFFICERS OF GAMES

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Captain of Boats—C. W. F. M. Cox; Secretary—P. N. Atkins.

Captain of Athletics—V. A. Marsh; Secretary—B. S. Avery.

Captain of Tennis—R. E. N. Bradfield; Secretary—M. G. Cockman.

Secretary of G.G.C.—V. A. Marsh.

EDITORIAL

Every Monday morning this term, the shade of Peter Heylyn has been rudely awakened to learn of the manifold dangers that await the unsuspecting young man at school as he reads his newspaper or watches his television without being truly critical. The reverend doctor must have been surprised to find that so many of these gentlemen had survived their eight or so years at the School when he heard them discussing the opinions of a group of English journalists on the popular culture resultant from the mass media of the twentieth century. These writers put forward the view that the modern individual is an individual no longer. He is the object of a continuous and universal bombardment with the second-rate by those whose principal aim is to make money. The psychologists whose motivational research has made advertising a seemingly more penetrating weapon, the cinema producers who concentrate on sex to the detriment of true art, and the newspaper publishers who give unjustifiable prominence to the scandalous and the sensational are undermining his way of life.

This picture of a decadent society is, of course, a deliberately exaggerated one. Its intention is to give a warning — perhaps an unnecessary one — not to accept everything that we see, hear or read. The mass media do give ready access to a somewhat limited field of knowledge and experience, and an even more limited selection of ideas. They do reduce the need for original research and original thought. However, in making this warning, the writers give the impression that they are carrying the torch of true civilization through a barbarian land of darkness; that they alone can see the way ahead. It is an example of the kind of 'de haut en bas' attitude that we just cannot afford to adopt. Sad though it may seem to some of us, this country is no longer feudal. We must beware of using the terms 'them' and 'us'. It is only pseudo-intellectual snobbery to look down on the popular and to place the classical in a glass case inscribed 'Do not touch', and even to regard the accepted middle class standards as the only true guides to what is culture. The true critic does not have pre-conceived ideas; he recognises a bad performance of an opera and applauds a good stage act by a beat group.

Did Peter Heylyn stay with us, or did he slip away to the Prefects' Common Room and listen to Radio London?

* * *

"The Abingdonian"

Editor: P. G. Henderson.

Asst. Editors: G. H. Hallett, M. J. H. Liversidge, J. R. Jennings,
V. A. Marsh (Photography).

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

SCHOOL NOTES

The School flag flew at half-mast on Monday, 29th March, in salute to the memory of the Princess Royal — a very gracious lady who maintained the high standard of service of our Royal Family with characteristic modesty.

In our last issue we were just able to pay our own brief tribute to Sir Winston Churchill. There was no School on the morning of Saturday, 30th January, so that as many boys as possible might have the opportunity of watching the televised record of the Funeral Service. In the afternoon, many cycled to Radley to pay their respects to the special train containing the coffin. On the Sunday evening the Headmaster had the privilege of giving the address at the united service of thanksgiving for Sir Winston's life which was held in St. Helen's Church, crowded for the occasion. And members of the School took a full part in distributing the leaflets for the Mayor's appeal on behalf of the Churchill Memorial Fund.

It is worthy of record that the School was represented in St. Paul's Cathedral not only by 'our' members of parliament but also by the Chairman of the Governors, who had the honour of being in charge of the ushers in one of the sectors into which the Cathedral was divided.

It was a generous and imaginative gesture on the part of Sir George Sinclair, M.P., to invite representatives of the School to visit the Lying-in-State in Westminster Hall in his company.

Perhaps we can add here how pleased we are to learn that Sir George has already been invited to speak from the Opposition Front Bench. The occasion was the Immigration Debate on 23rd March, and his constructive speech in winding up the debate for the Opposition received warm commendation from the Home Secretary who closed the innings.

We are grateful to Councillor Williams for the kindly interest he has taken in the School during his year of office as Mayor of Abingdon; and we hope it is not premature to offer a warm welcome to his successor, Councillor Percy Lambert.

At the end of the term we said farewell, gratefully and affectionately, to the Rev. Mark Williams, who has served the School so loyally for almost fifteen years. We shall remember him as a devoted teacher, as an indefatigable coach on rugger-field and river alike, as a Scoutmaster who has done a first rate job of work with the School Group. Yet somehow he has found time, since his ordination in 1959, to act as part-time curate at Dorchester: and the new housing estate at Berinsfield, where the mission church was his particular charge, will miss him as much as the School. Representatives of the School will make the journey to Essex on the evening of Wednesday, 14th April, to see him inducted and instituted as Rector of the united benefice of Great and Little Braxted, and to give him the good wishes of the School as he begins a

new life — good wishes which extend too to Mrs. Williams and the family.

It is too early for us to start saying nice things about Mr. Iain Murray. Let us merely record the dismay with which we heard that he would be translated to Edinburgh Academy, his native heath, at the end of the school year.

Mr. Williams' destined successor, Mr. Raymond Butt, is already well-known to us, as he has been cutting his teeth on us this term as a student-master. To fill the gap of one term before Mr. Butt can join us in his new capacity we welcome Mr. John Martin, M.A., an Oxford physicist who has felt the call to move over from industry to school-mastering. Rumour, which does not always lie, alleges that he is an enthusiast for veteran cars and that he may well drive up to School each morning in an open Rolls.

We congratulate Mr. Geoffrey Keating, who so kindly adjudicated the House Music Competition this term, on his appointment as Director of Music at Cheadle Hulme School.

The Headmaster will be away from school for the first ten days of the Summer Term. The British Council has invited him to undertake an extended tour of Iran, under their auspices, which will last from April 15th to May 8th. Mr. Willis will once again be acting as Headmaster while he is away; and Mr. Tammadge will enjoy a fore-taste of responsibility as house-master of School House.

Before his departure the Headmaster recorded an interview with the BBC which was transmitted on its Middle East programme on the evening of 15th April.

Mr. Tammadge will have his own *Mädchenjahr* during the second half of the term, when the Governors have given him leave of absence to accept an invitation from the American Association for the Advancement of Science to give a series of lectures in the United States.

Halfway through the term we welcomed a new house keeper, Miss Morgan-Gray. We hope her stay with us will be long and happy.

During the month of May we shall welcome two student masters from Westminster College, Mr. David Sykes (Physics) and Mr. John Trythall (Modern Languages).

We are grateful to the Master and Fellows of S. Catherine's College, Oxford, who have undertaken to cement their alliance with the School by the award of an annual prize for 'intellectual initiative'.

At the beginning of the term the number of boys on the School Roll was 590, of whom the Sixth Forms (including Sixth Special) accounted for 193.

You can't send four sons to the School, and be an active member of the Appeal Committee, without becoming a kind of honorary Abingdonian. That is why we feel justified in congratulating Dr. Charles

Ford on the high honour of his F.R.S. The last F.R.S. whom we can honestly claim as our own was of course Sir William Boxall, who died in 1879.

Congratulations too to Warrant-Officer Stephen Nicholl on securing an A.O.C.'s Commendation for his services to the C.C.F., and on following this up by winning one of the very limited number of awards open to members of the C.C.F. under a scheme for the reciprocal exchange of air cadets. This award will enable him to visit a selected allied country for some six weeks during the summer.

And also to Flight-Sergeant David Munson on winning a Flying Scholarship (the fourth, to date, in our Air Section): and to J. D. Evans, D. G. Hounam, K. G. Robbins and P. J. Wilson, four members of the Trinity Methodist Youth Club team which came first in a Berkshire General Knowledge Quiz.

T. C. Tozer and M. F. Wells were selected to attend a special course on Technology held at the Post-Graduate Education Centre, A.E.R.E., from 19th to 22nd January.

D. H. Willis (2nd N. Berks) was selected to represent North Berks at the Queen's Scouts parade and service at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, on Sunday, 25th April.

There have been two Parents' Evenings this term, on 4th February (for Third Forms) and on 25th February (for Sixth Special, Remove and Fiftths).

The written papers of the School Entrance Examination were taken on 22nd February, and interviews followed, for selected candidates, on 9th, 12th and 16th March.

Saturday evening entertainments this term included the following lectures:

23rd January — Mr. Anthony Hopkins on 'Incidental Music for Theatre, Films and Radio'.

13th February — Mr. J. C. L. Sayer on 'Message from the Past'.

27th February — Mr. Douglas Brown on 'The Freedom of the Press'.

6th March — Mr. Stuart Keen, with a programme of early Chaplin films.

13th March — Mr. Christian Bonnington on 'South Patagonian Adventure' (with slides).

Feature films were 'Across the Bridge', 'The Mudlark', and 'The Marx Brothers at the Circus'.

The Abingdon School Subscription Concert Society sponsored two very successful meetings this term. On 24th January the programme was provided by the Arion Quartet, and on 28th February we heard the Baccholian Singers.

Visitors to the School during the past term included — Mr. J. S. Wingate-Saul, H.M.I., and Mr. C. B. Priest, H.M.I. (5th February): Mr. Jeffrey Archer, who came down on 8th February to talk to us about the Oxfam expedition to Algeria: Colonel A. M. Field, O.B.E., M.C., of the United Society for Christian Literature (16th February): Lt.Cdr. Roberts, our Naval Liaison Officer (4th March): Mr. Seru, a Fijian Headmaster who spoke at the School under the auspices of the Commonwealth Youth Movement (11th March): and Mr. M. G. Segedin, of the University of Auckland, and Mr. J. P. Keeves, Senior Research Officer of the Australian Council for Educational Research, who came to watch our New Mathematics being taught on 19th and 25th February respectively.

Then we have had two invasions in force — a party of three mathematicians, Mr. R. M. de Cruz of the University of Singapore, and Mrs. A. M. Villamil and Mrs. E. C. Villaneuva, from the Philippines, who visited us on 5th March; and a much larger party of educationalists from all the countries represented in the Council of Europe who were attending a conference in Oxford under the auspices of the Centre Européen de la Culture and who came over to the School on 23rd March. In this case the brunt of entertainment fell on our own senior prefects, supported by their opposite numbers from St. Helen's, all of whom seem to have made a very favourable impression.

Conversely, Mr. Fairhead has escorted our artists on a tour of the London galleries (11th February): Mr. Sewry has taken some prospective mariners up to a party on sea-board organised by the British India Company (21st February): our Choir sang Evensong in Dorchester Abbey on Ash Wednesday (3rd March): we were represented at the Service of Unity held in St. Helen's Church on 21st January and at the Salvation Army Centenary Service on 4th April: and outside entertainments which we have attended include performances of 'Don Pasquale' (Opera for All — 14th January): 'Trial by Jury' (Our Lady's Convent — 6th February): 'The Schoolmistress' (Abingdon Drama Club — 5th March): and a Russian play 'Father Unknown' at the Taylorian (5th March): together with the S. Nicolas Lecture (the Ven. C. A. Plaxton, Archdeacon of Wiltshire, on 'St. Richard of Chichester — 16th March) and a lecture on 'Abingdon during the Civil War' given by Mr. C. Hughes Hartmann under the auspices of the Friends of Abingdon on 19th March.

The production of Benjamin Britten's canata 'S. Nicolas' in St. Helen's Church on the evening of 21st and 23rd March was the musical high light of the term. Apart from organ and orchestra this involved a choir of 200 of our boys, supported by a smaller number of St. Helen's girls, and this in itself raised tremendous problems of organisation. The whole thing was a most moving experience, and thoroughly deserved the warm commendation it received in the local press.

Other events of the end of term included the third annual *soirée*

for Old Boys in *stat pup.* which was held in the Court Room and the School Shop on 26th March, the eve of Sports Day. The Headmaster waited until 63 Old Boys had turned up before asking the President of the Old Abingdonian Club to welcome them . . .

And also the Boarders' Concert, held in the Court Room on 29th March, the last night of term. Informed opinion was that it was of a uniformly high standard — the best production of its type, indeed, for many years.

On 19th February we hit the headlines in the *Oxford Mail* with an illustrated article on the School Mathematics Project.

All members of the Lower Sixth Form were interviewed individually at the beginning of February, by a visiting expert, in the interests of educational research. We await the findings with interest.

Once again our chapel silver has been on its travels — this time to Manchester, where it has formed a part of an exhibition of Modern Church Plate organised by the City Art Gallery. T. B. Moore represented us at the opening ceremony on 19th March. The London Design Centre wanted it for a similar exhibition, but Manchester got in first.

It is a joy to find that the historic eighteenth century wall-clock in the Library now keeps excellent time — thanks to the good work of a parent, Mr. I. H. Foulkes, to whom we are duly grateful.

And talking of antiques, we raise our hats in memory of the Corn Exchange, where so many of our actors have disported themselves, so many generations of boys have received their prizes. Any time now it will share in the general holocaust which is the first step towards the rebuilding of the centre of the town. But meanwhile a new Civic Theatre is rising behind the Roysse Room whither we look forward to transferring our patronage.

The School recording of what is by far the best known extravaganza of the Staff Quartet — John Horrex' 'Highway Code' (set to an Anglican chant) — was broadcast by the BBC in their programme 'This Time of Day' on 31st March. We gather that this attracted so much attention that it was made the subject of discussion in another programme the following week.

Innovations this term included the abolition of formal Mock 'O' levels (though in some subjects they crept back under another name) and the institution of a system of form prefects which promises to be a most helpful development.

As we are not having a Nevers exchange this year we hope to be able to give modest support to the Exchange with Argentan organised by the Abingdon Town Friendship Society.

We guard our property very jealously. But as one good neighbour to another we are allowing the R.D.C. to use a small corner of Lacies Court as an additional car-park until we need it for our own purposes.

And again as good neighbours, we were glad to lend the Court Room to the Governors of Fitzharry's School on the evening of 1st April for a party in aid of their proposed new swimming bath.

Nor did all these activities cease with the end of term. On the day we broke up our athletes put up a very good show competing with eleven other schools at the Radley Open Meeting, B. S. Avery winning the 880 yards and R. E. N. Bradfield the Junior 440. Eighteen members of the Skye Group made their way as far north as Lochinver in Sutherland, where they combined tough camping with scientific research. A contingent of the C.C.F. engaged in 'arduous training' in the neighbourhood of Carsphairn, Kirkcudbrightshire. The Senior Scouts camped at Grange-in-Borrowdale. Later a strong party of the Air Section went off to camp with the R.A.F. at Marham, in Norfolk. We were again well represented in the Abingdon Holiday Orchestra. Four boys attended 'careers courses' — J. J. Burn (with Simpsons of Piccadilly), M. G. Cockman (with B.O.A.C.), T. C. Tozer (with the G.P.O. Engineering Department), M. F. Wells (with Ericsson Telephones). A. R. Coffee was selected to attend a Cadet N.C.O. Leadership Course at Tofts Camp, near Ely. Three boys (D. J. Brown, M. C. C. Hunter and R. W. Schnellmann) spent the whole of April at the Outward Bound Moray Sea School. J. W. Hassett, who had been allotted a vacancy at the Devon Outward Bound School sponsored by the Abingdon Rotary Club, was unfortunately prevented at the last moment from taking it up because of a leg injury.

Conversely, for those who stayed at home there were holiday classes in Latin, French and Mathematics. On 24th April we shall be putting five 'fours' on the water for the Abingdon Rowing Club's annual Head of the River Race; and the first and second VIIIs will be returning early in order to get a little practice before the term starts.

We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of many contemporaries, all of which are duly displayed in the Library.

The photographs in this issue are by Mr. Milligan, Photographer; V. A. Marsh and The Oxford Mail.

The frontispiece in our January issue was a reproduction of an etching done when at School by Richard Millard, O.A. We apologise for our tardy acknowledgement.

FROM THE HEADMASTER

Excellent progress has been made with the Dayboys' Changing Room. When completed (and we hope to have it at any rate partially in use by mid-June) it will not only be a tremendous addition to our amenity, but also much less of an eye-sore than some feared. The new Boat House has been erected and is now being fitted out. There will be lots of room in it to store boats, swing cats, and generally stretch oneself.

The latest plans for the Dining Hall Block are on my table as I write, and very exciting they are. The Music School has reached the stage where we are niggling about the best method of heating.

Recently there has been a new development. Another large house in Park Crescent, Whitefield, which marches with the School property, came unexpectedly on the market. The Governors have been able to acquire it, with the help of the Appeal Committee, and a few days ago we entered into possession of this highly desirable property. The acquisition of Whitefield is particularly important in view of the re-organisation which is bound to take place when I come out of School House in August. The Governors have agreed that I shall occupy a part of the upper floors of Lacies Court. The remainder will be used as a 'sixth form house' where about a dozen seniors, who are just not prefects, can have a spell in rather more civilised surroundings. In these days when practically every boy does the full sixth form course we headmasters are very conscious of the fact that many boys, however deserving, are bound to leave school without holding a post of responsibility. This development may do something to compensate them. More positively, it will help to bridge the gap, which is still too great, between the discipline of school and the comparative licence of the university. On the ground floor, the Heylyn Room and the Hall will become my study and waiting room and the other three rooms will be equipped as sixth-form common rooms, for use by boarders and day-boys alike. For the time being, the ground floor of Whitefield will provide additional teaching space for sixth-form sets, and the upper floor will be used as accommodation for staff. When the building of the new dining hall makes the present kitchen of Crescent House superfluous we shall be able to consider a more radical re-organisation of our property in Park Crescent, so as to provide better accommodation for the boarders, a more compact 'teaching area'.

* * * *

I must add my own word of farewell to Mr. Williams as he leaves us to take up the work of a parish priest. He has left his mark on so much of our school life, and we can, and do, thank him for a job well done. In Mrs. Williams he has one who will be the ideal help-meet for his new life and I wish them all happiness in their parish.

* * * *

The details of the 'State Calendar' for the coming year are now taking shape. The Archdeacon of Oxford, the Ven. C. Witton-Davies, M.A., has very kindly agreed to come and preach again at the service on the morning of Founder's Day (Saturday, 24th July). The Prize-Giving will be held on the afternoon of Thursday, 23rd September, when the guest speaker will be General Sir Randle Feilden, K.C.V.O., C.B., C.B.E. Formal invitations for the combined celebration of Old Boys' Day and Founder's Day will be sent out later to all parents and to all members of the Old Abingdonian Club. The Prize-Giving will

be of a more domestic nature, with the present boys as the focal point, but as soon as the prize list is firm we shall invite the parents of all prize-winners to attend it.

* * * *

It has been a good term — in spite of the vagaries of the weather and of a mild epidemic of measles which did not spare even senior prefects. Fortunately it spent its force before the end of the term. My own abiding memories of the term range from the televised record of the exequies of Sir Winston Churchill to the magnificent production of 'St. Nicolas' at the end of the term; and will include two uncommonly good Old Boys' Dinners, one formal and one informal, which provided further evidence of the vigour and the loyalty of the Old Abingdonian Club. And now, in little more than a week, I fly off to Iran, at the invitation of the British Council, for an extended lecture tour which will take me from Tabriz in the North West to Meshed in the far East. I am grateful to the Governors for agreeing, indeed insisting, that I should accept this invitation, and I know that the School will be in good hands until my return.

J.M.C.

L.S.D.

When the Appeal Committee met on 14th February the Secretary was able to inform the members that several 'expiring covenanters', if I may use the term, had already renewed their agreements. As a result, the total amount 'covered' now stood at just over £60,000, of which almost two-thirds represented cash received. We are therefore in the last lap before reaching our revised target figure of £63,000. It would be pleasant if we could succeed in this aim before Founder's Day — the seventh anniversary of the launching of the original Quatercentenary Appeal.

Contributors may be interested to be reminded how their money has been spent. Expenses have accounted for rather less than 2% of the money covered — an uncommonly low figure. When the final payments have been made on Swimming Bath and Library, these, together with the School Shop, will have amounted to almost exactly £35,000. It had been planned that the Appeal Fund should make a substantial contribution towards the cost of the new Dining Hall Block, but the news that Whitefield was on the market introduced a new situation. The Committee unanimously agreed that by and large it would be more satisfactory to devote a large part of the balance of its assured income to the purchase of a specific property rather than to earmark it for the Dining Hall Project. After all, you can put a plaque on Whitefield. You cannot very well do so on two-fifths of a dining-hall. The corollary is, of course, that the School will have to pay for the Dining Hall project entirely from its own resources.

This will bring the commitment of the Appeal to £53,000. If we allow another £500 for expenses, then there will be a balance of £9,500 available from the total of £63,000 for the Ingham Music School which forms the fifth and final objective. I think our friends will agree that the Fund has been wisely expended. And if we go beyond the £63,000 (as I confidently hope and expect) then there will be no shortage of good uses to which the surplus can be applied.

Now for the Boat House. A well-disposed Old Boy saved us much money by levelling the site for us. Money is still dribbling in, though of course more slowly: that is why we are postponing the list of subscribers until next time. We now hold something over £3,500 in cash (half gift, half loan) which should cover the entire cost. The Governors have very properly authorised the erection at school expense of a simple plaque on the new building, to commemorate the circumstances of its erection. Thank you one and all for your magnificent help!

J.M.C.

CHAPEL NOTES

Term started with the Beginning of Term Service in St. Helen's Church on 15th January, at which the Chaplain preached. On the first Sunday of term the Holy Communion was celebrated with hymns and an Offertory Procession and a short address. There was no Matins to follow, and Evensong replaced the short evening Service. The highlight of the World Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was a Service of Unity in St. Helen's Church on the evening of 21st January. This proved a most impressive Service, well attended by all the churches in the Abingdon and District Council of Churches, and the school was well represented.

As an experiment we decided that for a fortnight the readings in sixth form chapel should be from writings other than the Scriptures. This was well received and many said that the freshness of the readings was a greater incentive to listen. We shall extend this practice next term to each of the three daily chapels as a variant to the normal biblical lectionary.

Lent started with a good attendance at the Ash Wednesday celebration, and the series of most helpful addresses, which were given by Brother Cyril, S.S.J.E., at the mid-week Lenten Services, were also well attended. We are very grateful to him for this course which dealt with "The Practice of the Presence of God in this Day and Age".

General attendances at Holy Communion have been down this term, and this may in part be due to the fact that I have not been constantly reminding those confirmed of their obligations. This raises an important pastoral question for every School Chaplain who has to maintain a prayerful balance between importunity and (apparent) neglect.

Our Chapel Silver has again been on display — this time in Manchester — for a large part of the term. With or without the silver the Chapel always looks beautiful and this has been due in no small measure to the devoted work of Nicholas Atkins as Sacristan. He will still be with us for the Summer term, during which he will be training and gradually handing over this important work to two younger boys, Andrew Vernède and Lester Halling.

On 24th February we were hosts to the Abingdon Ruri-Decanal Conference, as we have been throughout this year to the Study Section of the Abingdon and District Council of Churches.

Our Preacher at the last Sunday of the term was the Reverend M. N. Williams. We shall miss him greatly and our prayers go with him and his family as he begins his new ministry in the United Benefice of Great Braxted and Little Braxted in the Diocese of Chelmsford.

The Chapel Choir sang Evensong in Dorchester Abbey on Ash Wednesday including the Anthem *Miserere* (Psalm 51) — Allegri. The following anthems and introits were sung during the term:

Jan. 31st: The Three Kings (Cornelius).

Feb. 7th: Thou must leave thy lowly dwelling (Berlioz).

Feb. 14th: The heavens are telling (Haydn).

Feb. 28th: Let all the World (Vaughan Williams).

Mar. 14th: O Saviour of the World (Goss).

Mar. 21st: Jesu, Word of God, Incarnate (Mozart).

In addition to our Chapel, Chapel Furnishing, and Organ Funds, collections have been given as follows:

Jan. 15th: £7 0s. 3d. St. Helen's Church (Beginning of Term Service).

Jan. 24th: £6 11s. 6d. The Missions to Seamen.

Feb. 7th: £6 16s. 6d. Royal School of Church Music.

Feb. 14th: £6 14s. 0d. New Guinea Mission.

Feb. 28th: £7 5s. 6d. United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.

Mar. 7th: £6 9s. 8d. Student Christian Movement.

Mar. 21st: £6 7s. 3d. Society of St. John the Evangelist.

Chapel flowers in the early part of the term were kindly provided by Forms 3A, 3X, 3Y, 4A, 4L, 4F and 5G, and we are grateful to Mrs. Potter for their beautiful arrangement.

On Sunday, 14th March, Edward Blagden was baptised in the Chapel.

We look forward to welcoming the following visiting preachers next term:

27th April (Beginning of Term Service at St. Helen's) — The Rev. F. C. T. Lancaster, Vicar of Drayton.

30th May — Mr. B. M. S. Hoban, M.A., Headmaster of Bradfield College.

13th June — Mr. P. W. Martin, T.D., M.A., Headmaster of Warwick School.

4th July — Rev. William Keys, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Warren, Pa., U.S.A.

18th July — Mr. R. S. Stanier, M.A., Master of Magdalen College School, Oxford.

24th July (Founder's Day Service in St. Helen's) — The Ven. The Archdeacon of Oxford.

D.G.S.

VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Both the visiting of old people and the Auxiliary Fire Service training have continued to go well this term. Our visitors have made over 350 visits, while the A.F.S. group has trained during C.C.F. time on Tuesdays and at greater length on Field Day.

We shall need a few more recruits for visiting next term, particularly from the Fourth Form. In addition, I shall need to know in July how many boys would like to join the A.F.S. in September. Since the minimum age is 17, A.F.S. is likely to appeal mostly to those who will be retiring from the C.C.F. in July but staying at School for a further year.

There must be many boys in the School who, because of heavy games or other commitments, cannot take part in Voluntary Service during term. To them I should like to recommend the Work Camps run during the holidays, in this country and on the continent, by various organizations. Details of these camps are posted on the Chapel notice-board from time to time, and either Mr. Sewry or I can frequently provide further information about them.

H.T.R.

BRITTEN'S "ST. NICOLAS"

On the evenings of Sunday, 21st March, and Tuesday, 23rd March, the combined choirs of St. Helen's School and our own Choral Society gave a magnificent performance of Britten's Cantata "St. Nicolas" in St. Helen's Church. We are indebted to Mr. C. J. W. Owen for the following appreciation:

"Anyone who entered St. Helen's Church last Sunday evening to see the two hundred strong Choir of Abingdon School ranged over the southern aisle, the School's String Orchestra below them and the Choir of St. Helen's School before the chancel screen, must have realised at once that this was to be a vividly memorable evening. Benjamin Britten's Cantata, "St. Nicolas", which is scored for string orchestra, piano duet, percussion and organ, is both powerful and impressive. Furthermore its vitality is infectious, so much so that the audience are delighted when Britten, following a frequent practice in his compositions, enables them to take part in the performance by joining in the two hymns that occur during the course of the work.

This was not, however, an evening marked for its power and gusto alone. Mr. Kenneth Woollam's tenor solos certainly displayed these qualities but they were also notable for their dignity and his sympathetic mastery of their different moods. It was a delight to hear him singing in this church once more. There was a breathtakingly moving moment when the three trebles representing the "Pickled Boys" whom Nicolas has raised from the dead, moved slowly across the church singing their "alleluias". One remembers the splendid effect of the controlled percussion that accompanied Nicolas' solo during the storm at sea and percussion and organ in vigorous mood urging the singers to greater heights. One thinks, too, of the delightful introduction to the evening's recital provided in the five anthems sung by the immaculately drilled Choir of St. Helen's School. They were followed by Mr. Graham Hallett, who was accompanied by the Abingdon School Orchestra in his sure and sensitive interpretation of Handel's Second Organ Concerto.

Mr. Cullen's enormous choir included every boy who is in his first or second year at Abingdon School while many of its older members were also new to choral work. The complete control which he exercised over his singers and orchestra, one of the outstanding features of the evening, is thus all the more commendable. Choirs, orchestra and instrumentalists were always beautifully integrated and there was never any impression of untidiness, as there so easily might have been. This was an ambitious undertaking which succeeded. The rousing strains of the 'Old Hundredth' and the final hymn of the evening surely stand as testimony to its success."

VALETE ET SALVETE

Left 18th December, 1964

Upper Sixth Form Arts (L): J. C. R. Burbank; M. J. Giddings; E. D. J. Hunter; M. S. Livingston.

Upper Sixth Form Arts (H): P. N. Shellard.

Upper Sixth Form Science (B): P. R. F. Morgan (left 20th September); J. L. Walton.

Upper Sixth Form Science (M): M. S. Southern.

Lower Sixth Form Arts (L): M. G. Topham (left 3rd October).

Lower Sixth Form Science (B): D. G. Halstead (left 17th October).

Lower Sixth Form Science (M): C. H. Portman.

Remove: J. A. Carter.

Form 5C: C. A. P. Charlet.

Form 1Y: M. E. Salo (left 9th December).

Came 15th January, 1965

Form 4A: A. C. Pollock (re-admitted).

Form 3Y: P. Teillac.

Form 1Y: D. G. W. Murphy.

HOCKEY

FIRST ELEVEN

With six of last year's team still 'in residence', our first problem was filling the gaps. Most of them were soon settled, but the inside right position proved difficult to fill. Various arrangements were tried and the final answer was found by 'drafting' Moore from left-half.

The goal was well defended by Evans, who often moved quickly to intercept dangerous cross passes and made several very good saves. He has still, however, to learn to time his interception of the lone raider. Evans was ably supported by Brice at left-back and Coffee at right-back. Both these players hit the ball very hard and cleared well, and once they had mastered the technique of covering, proved a formidable pair. Both, however, must learn to run round the ball to take it on the right side, to keep calm under pressure, and to mark their men more closely. The half-backs, Allen on the left, Roblin on the right and Rowson at centre proved an effective line, supporting attacks well and covering well in defence. Rowson was particularly good in defence but is not yet sufficiently scheming in attack. Allen is a good stick player and promising all round, but he must learn to make his passes more quickly. Roblin is a very balanced player, difficult to beat, who developed a good understanding with his wing. The main fault of the whole defence was a tendency to muddle under pressure.

Of the forwards, the left wing combination of Ford and Morris, remaining from last year, seemed rather muddled for the first few matches. Ford was sometimes trapped in the corner, when a quick cross-pass earlier would have been more effective, but usually he drew his man well and centred first time. He was speedy and picked up his passes very well. Morris began the season by relying too much on stickwork, but later learned to exploit the cross-pass and towards the end of the season was playing very well. When the centre-forward, Davis, had cured a tendency to wander to the left, he became a quick and elusive player; he has a powerful shot, but takes a little too long to shoot. Moore, being new to the position of inside right, looked rather lost at first, but soon became accustomed to his new surroundings and developed into a thrustful forward. He was, however, rather impulsive and sometimes spoilt his chance of scoring through over-eagerness.

Our first match, against K.A.S., Wantage, was unfortunately cancelled, but we profited by the extra practice and beat Wallingford 2—0. Against St. Edward's we came up against some quick, clean passing and were 4—0 down at half-time. In the second half, however, we rallied, and were on to the ball much more quickly, so that we scored twice and the final score was 4—2. This slowness in the first half was noticeable in several other matches and it was a great pity that we could not play with the same speed and determination from the start.

Our confidence was restored when we played Solihull. On this occasion the team played as one, and not as eleven individuals, and deserved their win.

We fell to the might of the Old Boys who gave us a sound thrashing with glimpses of some very good hockey and we learnt several lessons which helped us to be the oppressor instead of the oppressed against Pembroke. At the end of a hectic half against Pangbourne we were trailing 8—0, but this proved to be another case of fighting back, and although the final score was 9—3, this margin could have been greatly reduced had we snatched up all the opportunities of goal scoring.

The local fixture with the town had to be played on Lower Field as War Memorial was being used for Athletics. An enjoyable match ended in a draw. Despite the magnificent buildings of R.M.A. Sandhurst we were not dominated in quite the same way by their second eleven. The pitch was very greasy, but play was good, the team combining really well and producing some fast-thinking and defence-piercing movements, however we were constantly eluded by the equalising goal.

Much of the season's success is due to Roblin who has been a very efficient secretary. Our thanks go also to Mr. Griffin, who has shown great patience in coaching us, and to Mr. Smithson who has always ensured that we have played on a very good pitch. A.M.F.

Forsyth was himself a very able player, very swift and determined and very difficult to beat with a very hard shot. As captain he was quietly effective. He could, perhaps, have been a little more vocal in encouraging his men. L.C.J.G.

Congratulations to Roblin, Ford, Rowson, Moore and Morris on the award of full Colours.

The team was: P. J. Evans; N. D. Brice, A. R. Coffee; D. D. Allen, A. G. Rowson, P. A. C. Roblin; C. C. Ford, T. R. Morris, R. B. Davis, T. B. Moore, A. M. Forsyth (Capt.).

Results

v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (h).	Sat., 23rd Jan.	Cancelled
v. Wallingford Grammar School (h).	Wed., 27th Jan.	Won 2—0
v. St. Edward's School (a).	Sat., 30th Jan.	Lost 4—2
v. Solihull School (a).	Sat., 6th Feb.	Won 3—1
v. Old Abingdonians (h).	Sat., 13th Feb.	Lost 4—1
v. Pembroke College (a).	Sat., 27th Feb.	Won 8—1
v. Hockey Association (h).	Wed., 3rd March.	Drew 4—4
v. Pangbourne Nautical College (h).	Wed., 10th March.	Lost 9—3
v. Abingdon Hockey Club (h).	Sat., 13th March.	Drew 2—2
v. R.M.A. Sandhurst, 2nd XI (a).	Wed., 17th March.	Lost 3—2

PUBLIC SCHOOLS HOCKEY FESTIVAL

We were very glad to be invited to take part in the Festival at Oxford again this year, and although our results on paper do not look very impressive, the team played rather better than the scores suggest, and improved very much in the later games. The first and last matches, against Cranbrook and Monkton Combe respectively, each of which we lost 4—3, were very hard fought games, which we could have won. Quicker and more accurate shooting by the forwards could have made all the difference. On the second day we came up against Framlingham (7—1) and The Leys (6—0), and by both of these we were outclassed and lost heavily. Here again, however, we had our chances, but failed to take them. Our one victory was after a close game when we beat Wrekin 1—0.

Altogether it was a valuable experience, and those who played learned much. It was a pity that the unavoidable absence of Ford meant that Morris had to move out to the left wing and Davis had to play inside left. Neither of them was quite so happy in these positions as in their normal ones.

L.C.J.G.



THE HOCKEY ELEVEN

SECOND ELEVEN

It was fortunate that this year's 2nd XI started with six members from last year, around whom a new team could be built. The first match showed up weaknesses, but it also showed that the team had considerable promise. The chief defects were the lack of co-ordination between defence and attack and lack of thrust forward. The co-ordination improved during the season as was shown by the match against Westminster College.

The defence was experienced and strong. Henderson and Penney were in good form and Painton showed great promise in goal. The attack depended too much on the captain, Partridge. His play gained more than one victory, but when he was required for the First XI, the remaining forwards had little penetration.

The team to play against Old College, Sandhurst, lost five members due to illness. Their places were filled by members from the Colts XI, and the match which followed was very closely fought and rounded-off a successful season. Much of the credit for this must go to Mr. Tammadge who has coached the team.

Congratulations are due to Partridge on the award of half-Colours.

Results

v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (h).	Sat., 23rd Jan.	Cancelled
v. Wallingford Grammar School (h).	Wed., 27th Jan.	Won 3—1
v. St. Edward's School (a).	Sat., 30th Jan.	Won 4—1
v. Solihull School (a).	Sat., 6th Feb.	Lost 3—2
v. Radley College 3rd XI (a).	Sat., 20th Feb.	Cancelled
v. Westminster College (a).	Sat., 27th Feb.	Won 5—2
v. Masters' Common Room (h).	Mon., 1st March.	Drew 1—1
v. Old College, Sandhurst (a).	Wed., 17th March.	Lost 1—0

The team consisted of: P. H. Painton; D. W. Penney, P. G. Henderson; T. R. Giddings, R. J. Thornton, J. R. Poole; R. A. Chaplin, A. C. Hoddinott, D. S. Partridge (Capt.), R. J. Luttman, N. C. Ware.

Also played: Mellor (three times); Caton (twice); Dobbs, Moore N. V., and Parfitt (once).

COLTS ELEVEN

The Colts XI was a new venture this year and most of the players available were in their first season of hockey. The choice was limited by the small number of boys in this under-sixteen age-group who opted for Hockey and weather conditions seriously cut down the time available for practice.

In the first match, against M.C.S., the opposition's technique and superior tactics, derived from at least four seasons' experience, overwhelmed us. We were further handicapped by a cycling accident to our goal-keeper and were grateful to Minns who stepped into the

breach virtually at a moment's notice and without any practice at all. Caton at centre-half played very well but complete lack of shooting power among the forwards wasted any attacking movements. Much was learned, but in a rather humiliating manner.

The second match, against Pangbourne, was less disastrous and we did manage to score one goal, though again the forwards proved quite unable to shoot quickly and accurately. The defence showed considerable promise, and when they have Sayce behind them should in future make a formidable combination.

This was a worth-while experiment, which we hope to continue. It underlines the handicap of not starting Hockey earlier, but this can still be a valuable apprenticeship for senior team play. It is interesting to note that the winning House team contained no less than seven Colts players, who supported their four First XI team-mates admirably.

Results

v. M.C.S. (a). Sat., 27th Feb. Lost 10—1

v. Pangbourne Nautical College (h). Wed., 10th Mar. Lost 4—1

The Team was: P. A. C. Minns; J. P. W. Mosdell (Capt.), S. S. Coe; F. J. Dobbs, E. P. Caton, M. W. Parry; T. A. Parfitt, N. V. Moore, B. H. Ford, M. J. Adam, G. J. Froggatt.

L.C.J.G.

ATHLETICS

Once again the bad weather in early March interfered with athletics training, and the matches against Bloxham and the Old Abingdonians had to be cancelled. The start of the Standards Competition had to be delayed and the muddy tracks left by the builders' lorries going to and from the new Dayboy Changing Room did not make things any easier on Waste Court Field. Particularly when the weather is uncongenial, success in the competition is as much a reflection on organisation within the house as on individual athletic ability. The Result was 1—Blacknall 265; 2—Reeves 202; 3—Bennett 198; 4—Tesdale 131. Many thanks to A. R. Williams and his team for running the competition so efficiently.

In spite of a track which was a veritable quagmire in places we had an enjoyable and exciting contest in a new fixture at Berkhamsted — the result depending on the last event. We found things easier in the triangular match against Reading and Leighton Park and after Avery and Marsh S. had taken the first two places in the half mile the result was never really in doubt.

Five boys competed in the Radley Schools Invitation Meeting on the last day of term. Bell and Corps failed to reach the final of the sprints but Avery won his half mile race in 2:7.6, Bradfield won the Junior quarter mile in 58.0, and Blackburn was second in the Junior Shot with 41:3½.

MATCHES

*v. Berkhamsted School (a), Wed., 10th March**Senior Match*

100 yards:	1—Walker (B) 10.7; 2—Bosley P.; 3—Corps.
220 yards:	1—Walker (B) 23.3; 2—Bosley P; 4—Corps.
440 yards:	1—Marsh S 57.0; 2—Gibbs (B); 4—Hassett.
880 yards:	1—Avery 2:14.3; 2—Watson (B); 4—Bartlett.
Mile:	1—Avery 4:54.8; 2—Maclean (B); 4—Owen.
High Jump:	1—Coulter (B) 5:4½; 2—Davis; 4—Ray.
Long Jump:	1—Asgill (B) 19:0½; 2—Ray; 4—Corps.
Shot:	1—Bosley N 46:11½; 2—Blackburn; 3—Ross (B).
Discus:	1—Bosley N 109:2; 2—Ross (B); 3—Davis.
Javelin:	1—Hassett 152:0; 2—Davies (B); 4—Davis.
Relay:	1—Abingdon 49.6; 2—Berkhamsted.

(4 x 110)

Result: Abingdon 66 pts.; Berkhamsted 64 pts.

Junior Match (Under 16 on 1st January, 1965)

100 yards:	1—Wilde 11.1; 2—Froggatt; 3—Wise (B).
220 yards:	1—Froggatt 24.8; 2—Wise (B); 3—Wilde.
440 yards:	1—Gibbs 62.0; 2—Vieary (B); 3—Carr I.
880 yards:	1—Bradfield 2:21.6; 2—Crowe (B); 3—Berry.
High Jump:	1—Fisher (B) 4:8½; 3—Gibbs; 4—Rogers.
Long Jump:	1—Wilde 18:1½; 2—Wise (B); 3—Morgan.
Shot:	1—Blackburn 45:5½; 2—Cook; 3—Drew (B).
Discus:	1—Drew (B) 124:6; 2—Blackburn; 3—Cook.
Javelin:	1—Bone (B) 122:2; 2—Cook; 4—Blackburn.
Relay:	1—Abingdon 52.1; 2—Berkhamsted.

(4 x 110)

Result: Abingdon 70 pts.; Berkhamsted 48 pts.

*v. Reading School and Leighton Park School (h), Wed., 17th March.**Senior Match*

100 yards:	1—Cath (R) 11.0; 2—Bosley P; 3—Corps.
880 yards:	1—Avery 2:6.0; 2—Marsh S; 3—Fitter (LP).
Mile:	1—Avery 4:50.6; 2—Ede (LP); 4—Owen.
High Jump:	1—Johnson 5:4; 2—Braithwaite (LP); 4—Davis.
Long Jump:	1—Taylor W (R) 18:5; 2—Ray; 5—Akinbiyi.
Shot:	1—Bosley N 44:10; 2—Ruddle (R); 5—Johnson.
Javelin:	1—Pitt (R) 139:0; 5—Hassett; 6—Bosley N.
3 x 440:	1—Abingdon 2:47.6; 2—Leighton Park; 3—Reading.
3 x 220:	1—Abingdon 1:14.0; 2—Reading; 3—Leighton Park.
4 x 110:	1—Abingdon 47.8; 2—Reading; 3—Leighton Park.

Result: Abingdon 89 pts.; Reading 64 pts.; Leighton Park 57 pts.

Junior Match

100 yards: 1—Adams (R) 11.2; 2—Wilde; 4—Froggatt.
880 yards: 1—Holding (LP) 2:12.8; 2—Bradfield; 6—Berry.
High Jump: 1—Sherwin (LP) 4:11; 4—Ellis; 5—Faires.
Long Jump: 1—Terry (LP) 17:2; 3—Wilde; 5—Morgan.
Shot (10lb): 1—Blackburn 43:0; 2—Adams (R); 4—Cook.
Javelin: 1—Langley (R) 129:0; 2—Ford; 3—Cook.
3 x 440: 1—Leighton Park 2:56.8; 2—Abingdon; 3—Reading.
3 x 220: 1—Abingdon 1:18.4; 2—Leighton Park; 3—Reading.
4 x 110: 1—Abingdon 50.2; 2—Leighton Park; 3—Reading.
Result: Abingdon 71 pts.; Leighton Park 65 pts.; Reading 53 pts.
Trophy: Abingdon 160 pts.; Leighton Park 122 pts.; Reading 117 pts.

THE SCHOOL SPORTS

(Wed., 24th and Sat., 27th March)

For once we had reasonable weather — warm and fine although there was a strong wind at times. It was unfortunate that the only shower caused spectators to dash for the pavilion just as N. A. H. Bosley produced a gigantic standing put to beat A. C. Dean's 26-year-old record in the Senior Shot.



THE SENIOR ATHLETICS TEAM

This year we experimented by having many more events taking place at the same time. Although a few competitors found this a handicap, there was general approval of the change, and we hope that as a result we will be able to introduce some new events next year and still keep within our time schedule.

It was unfortunate that the Oxford Seven-a-Sides clashed with Sports Day, as this considerably lowered the standard in several events and could easily have made a mockery of the House Competition. However as it turned out, interest was maintained to the end as it was only by winning the last relay that Bennett made sure of the House Cup for the fifth successive year.

At the conclusion of the Sports, the Challenge Cups were presented from the pavilion by Mrs. M. N. Williams.

Results

- 100 yards (U/12):
1—Macdonald RN 13.2; 2—Osborne MG; 3—Deane RE.
- 100 yards (U/13):
1—Galbraith DW 12.9; 2—Jordan CJ; 3—Cox JP.
- 100 yards (U/14):
1—Varley M 11.8; 2—Smart NKA; 3—Herdman NW.
- 100 yards (U/15):
1—Varley AJ 11.6; 2—Carr ILM; 3—Allen CJ.
- 100 yards (Open):
1—Corps CJ 10.8; 2—Bell NPJ and Marsh SA.
- 220 yards (U/12):
1—Macdonald RN 31.2; 2—Osborne MG; 3—Deane RE.
- 220 yards (U/13):
1—Cox JL 29.2; 2—Cox JP; 3—Galbraith DW.
- 220 yards (U/14):
1—Varley M 27.5; 2—Smart NKA; 3—Ellis AC.
- 220 yards (U/15):
1—Carr ILM 27.4; 2—Semmence AW; 3—North JE.
- 220 yards (Open):
1—Marsh SA 24.9; 2—Marsh VA; 3—Corps CJ.
- 440 yards (U/13):
1—Cox JP 67.9; 2—Cox JL; 3—Galbraith DW.
- 440 yards (U/14):
1—Smart NKA; 61.3; 2—Varley M; 3—Ellis AC.
- 440 yards (U/15):
1—Carr ILM 61.4; 2—North JE; 3—Snodgrass N.
- 440 yards (Open):
1—Marsh SA 53.7; 2—Avery BS; 3—Hassett JW.
- 880 yards (U/14):
1—Smart NKA 2:28.4; 2—Brown KP; 3—Cox JP.
- 880 yards (U/15):
1—Hewes TW 2:35.5; 2—Carr ILM; 3—McLaughlan JY.
- 880 yards (Open):
1—Avery BS 2:6.8; 2—Marsh SA; 3—Bartlett PA.

Mile (U/15):

1—Hewes TW 5:38.3; 2—Carr ILM; 3—Snodgrass N.

Mile (Open):

1—Avery BS 5:0.4; 2—Barlett PA; 3—Owen JR.

Shot (U/15):

1—Snodgrass N 31:2½; 2—Blackburn RK; 3—Carr ILM.

Shot (U/16):

1—Cook NK 43:4½; 2—Hunt DN; 3—Goldsworthy JF.

Shot (Open):

1—Bosley NAH 47:5 (Record); 2—Blackburn PH; 3—Cook NK.

Discus (U/15):

1—Paxton TR 99:10; 2—Carr ILM and Blackburn RK.

Discus (U/16):

1—Cook NK 114:5; 2—Sagar JWW; 3—Hunt DN.

Discus (Open):

1—Brice ND 112:8; 2—Avery BS; 3—Bartlett PA.

Javelin (U/15):

1—Gibbs S 99:6½; 2—Paxton TR; 3—Shatford GR.

Javelin (U/16):

1—Cook NK 134:0; 2—Matthews R; 3—Hill PJ.

Javelin (Open):

1—Hassett JW 119:0; 2—Kenny JTW; 3—Avery BS.

High Jump (U/13):

1—Cox JP 4:3; 2—Galbraith DW; 3—Jordan CJ.

High Jump (U/14):

1—Ellis AC 4:8½ (Record); 2—Watts AL; 3—Allington TJ.

High Jump (U/15):

1—Snodgrass N 4:9; 2—Whipple DJ; 3—Ellis AC.

High Jump (Open):

1—Brice ND 5:2; 2—Davis RB; 3—Faires DJ.

Long Jump (U/14):

1—Ellis AC 14:5½; 2—Allington TJ; 3—Herdman NW.

Long Jump (U/15):

1—Varley AJ 16:6; 2—Snodgrass N; 3—North JE.

Long Jump (Open):

1—Hassett JW 18:5½; 2—Ray RD; 3—Akinbiyi AOB.

8 x 220 yards (Junior House):

1—Blacknall 3:54.2; 2—Bennett; 3—Tesdale.

8 x 220 yards (Senior House):

1—Bennett 3:31.7; 2—Tesdale; 3—Reeves.

Senior Medley Relay (880, 440, 220, 220):

1—Reeves 3:59.9; 2—Bennett; 3—Tesdale.

Inter-House Cup:

1—Bennett 144½; 2—Blacknall 130; 3—Reeves 98½; 4—Tesdale 73.

Senior Victor Ludorum:

1—Avery BS 19; 2—Marsh SA 15½; 3—Hassett JW 14.

Junior Victor Ludorum:

1—Carr ILM 19; 2—Snodgrass N 17; 3—Varley AJ 11.

RECORDS

Much research has gone into producing the following list of A.S.A.C. School Records, but we quite realise that there may be other better performances which have not as yet been brought to our attention. For interest the A.S.A.C. Track Records are also listed.

A.S.A.C. Track Record (Best performance by a boy in in a home match or on Sports Day)			A.S.A.C. School Record (Best performance by a boy in stat. pup. in any match or championship recognised by A.S.A.C.)		
100 yards:					
10.2	N. Duncan	1906	10.2	N. Duncan	1906 (Abingdon)
	D. G. Brown	1934		D. G. Brown	1934 (Abingdon)
220 yards:					
23.5	J. M. Talbot	1961	23.5	J. M. Talbot	1961 (Abingdon)
				P. J. F. Blair	1962 (Palmer Park)
440 yards:					
53.3	R. D. Gammack	1955	51.8	R. M. Kirby	1963 (Radley)
880 yards:					
2:3.4	D. T. L. Eke	1960	2:0.8	P. W. Liversidge	1964 (Ifley Road)
Mile:					
4:28.6	R. W. Harvey	1960	4:28.6	R. W. Harvey	1960 (Abingdon)
High Jump:					
5:6½	M. J. Nelson	1962	5:7½	M. J. Nelson	1962 (Pocklington)
Long Jump:					
21:3½	G. H. G. Shepherd	1909	21:4	P. J. F. Blair	1963 (Radley)
Shot:					
47:5	N. A. H. Bosley	1965	49:4	N. A. H. Bosley	1964 (Radley)
Discus:					
143:11	A. G. B. King	1952	143:11	A. G. B. King	1952 (Abingdon)
Javelin:					
147:7	I. J. Parsons	1955	163:4½	T. A. Marsh	1963 (Radley)
				R.H.B.	

CROSS COUNTRY

Our first match was only a week after the beginning of term so it was just as well that (for once) the good intentions about keeping fit during the holidays had been put into practice. In particular Berry and Jackson, both of whom had been on the fringe of the team last term, had trained very hard and so the loss of our Boat Club members was not as keenly felt as it might have been.

Brian Avery has been a most efficient secretary and has set a fine example both on and off the field. Much of the success of the team has been due to his quiet but infectious enthusiasm and of course to his own superb performances. He finished first in all the Cross Country races and also received the medal for the fastest Youth in the Culham Road Relay. Against the Old Abingdonians he was given a hard fight by R. W. Harvey and P. W. Liversidge, and this rather unusual pressure spurred him on to a new Course Record of 19 mins. 2 secs. His proudest moment came when he was invited to run for Berkshire in the Schools' Inter-County Championships at Colchester, but it was heartbreaking that at the last minute he was prevented from doing so by officials who refused to allow Berkshire to substitute his name for another which had appeared in the County's original entry. Such blind adherence to the letter of the law does not make for better understanding between officials and athletes.

Unfortunately Owen's leg injury kept him out of the team for a long time so Diffey regularly became our second man home, but behind him there was usually a great struggle between Bartlett, Evans, Jackson, Berry and Marsh. This friendly rivalry resulted in personal records being broken week after week and if one goes solely on Sunningwell Course times then this is certainly the fastest team we have ever had.

During the term full colours were awarded to B. D. Diffey, and half-colours to P. A. Bartlett, L. J. Berry, C. D. Evans and R. A. Jackson.

The following represented the School on more than one occasion: B. S. Avery, P. A. Bartlett, L. J. Berry, C. D. Evans, R. A. Jackson (10 times); B. D. Diffey (9 times); S. A. Marsh (8 times); J. W. Hassett, M. J. F. King (3 times); J. R. Owen (twice).

The club wish to thank all those who have helped to mark the course this year — especially A. M. E. Brown, D. J. Brown, T. D. Harding, A. T. B. Herbert, M. I. Johnstone, S. J. King and R. A. Lyons.

RESULTS OF MATCHES

v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (h), 23rd January.

1st—Abingdon 26 pts.; 2nd—King Alfred's 54 pts.

(Scorers: Avery 1, Diffey 2, Berry 3, Jackson 4, Marsh 6, Hassett 10).

v. Reading School & Newbury G.S. (at Reading), 27th January.

1st—Abingdon 49 pts.; 2nd—Newbury 65 pts.; 3rd—Reading 66 pts.

(Scorers: Avery 1, Diffey 4, Jackson 9, Berry 10, Bartlett 12, Marsh 13).

North Berkshire Schools Championships (at Wantage), 3rd February.
Under 20 Age group: 1st—Abingdon 22 pts.; 2nd—King Alfred's 28 pts.; Wallingford G.S. 29 pts.

(Scorers: Avery 1, Bartlett 5, Jackson 6, Evans 10).
Under 17 Age group: Berry finished 7th.

v. Westminster College (h), 6th February.
1st—Westminster 36 pts.; 2nd—Abingdon 43 pts.
(Scorers: Avery 1, Diffey 4, Jackson 8, Bartlett 9, Berry 10, Evans 11).

v. Kimbolton School (h), 10th February.
1st—Abingdon 30 pts.; 2nd—Kimbolton 51 pts.
(Scorers: Avery 1, Diffey 3, Bartlett 4, Evans 6, Jackson 7, Berry 9).

v. Old Abingdonians (h), 13th February.
1st—Abingdon 36 pts.; 2nd—Old Abingdonians 42 pts.
(Scorers: Avery 1, Diffey 3, Bartlett 6, Evans 7, Jackson 9, Berry 10; O.A.'s: Harvey 2, Liversidge 4, Bowthorpe 5, R.H.B. 8, Hann 11, Kirby 12 and Bisby).

v. Radley College & St. Edward's School (at Radley), 18th February.
1st—St. Edward's 46 pts.; 2nd—Radley 54 pts.; 3rd—Abingdon 77 pts.
(Scorers: Avery 1, Diffey 10, Bartlett 14, Marsh 15, Berry 18, Evans 19).

v. Shiplake Court (h), 20th February.
1st—Abingdon 26 pts.; 2nd Shiplake Court 56 pts.
(Scorers: Avery 1, Diffey 2, Berry 4, Bartlett 5, Evans 6, Marsh 8).

v. Cokethorpe School & Henley G.S. (h), 24th February
1st—Abingdon 21 pts.; 2nd—Cokethorpe 77 pts.; 3rd—Henley 107 pts.
(Scorers: Avery 1, Diffey 2, Bartlett 3, Owen 4, Evans 5, Berry 6).

Culham Road Relay, 13th March.
Abingdon A finished 11th (Owen, Bartlett, Diffey, Avery).
Abingdon B finished 21st (Marsh, Berry, Jackson, Evans).
28 Teams took part.

R.H.B.

ROWING

The main feature of the training this term has been the introduction of weight-training twice a week in the gymnasium. We have followed the schedules of exercises recommended by Mr. J. R. N. Railton, who is in charge of the out-of-boat training of A.R.A.'s National Squad, and whose methods are widely used by the largest clubs. As a result our

crews certainly seem stronger and tougher than at this stage in the past. Our thanks are due to Mr. Booth for his enthusiasm and help with this training.

We had hoped to enter three eights for the Reading Head on 13th March. Unfortunately measles struck, and our 3rd VIII was forced to scratch, while two of its members rowed as substitutes in the 1st VIII. The results were not very good, but in the circumstances are not too depressing. The 1st VIII dropped from 43rd to 76th and the 2nd VIII from 52nd to 96th. Both crews should be able to look forward to a good season in regattas.

The new Boat House has been built. Indeed we have already had boats in it, although the racks and partitions have not yet been installed. It is obvious already that the extra 'elbow-room' provided is going to make things much easier for us in future.

Finally, we are hoping to enter four crews in the Abingdon Head on 24th April under our pseudonym for holiday rowing — the Gryphon B.C. Our thanks in advance to kind friends who are offering hospitality to some of our members.

CREWS

	1st VIII	2nd VIII	3rd VIII
Bow	A. J. Longstaff	R. E. Parkes	T. D. Paige
2	D. G. Clubley	D. W. Hall	C. D. Le Voi
3	D. H. Willis	D. N. Roblin	R. A. Forsythe
4	P. N. Atkins	J. J. F. Burn	W. M. Marshall
5	I. R. Hewes	N. R. Taylor	R. J. N. Bennett
6	C. W. F. M. Cox	D. W. Clare	L. R. Llewellyn
7	R. W. Schnellmann	R. J. M. Conibear	A. W. Willis
Stroke	S. P. Sewry	D. W. Tanner	I. Nayler
Cox	P. G. Dowling	A. J. Iddles	M. Geary

In the Reading Head Llewellyn and Nayler rowed at '2' & '4' respectively in the 1st VIII.

R.G.M.

In the Abingdon Head, the Gryphon A (D. H. Willis, C. W. F. M. Cox, I. R. Hewes, S. P. Sewry [str.], P. G. Dowling) won the Jones Cup for the fastest school crew — a very fast race in 11.01 secs. — and retained their position (No. 5) in the over-all order. The other three crews rowed well but did not manage to hold their starting positions. The Gryphon B (R. J. Bennett, L. R. Llewellyn, A. W. Willis, D. N. Clare [str.], A. J. Iddles), finished 20th, the Gryphon C (D. M. Dickson, J. B. Lister, D. Button, J. D. Evans [str.], C. M. Dobson) 24th and Gryphon D (N. J. Booker, R. A. Lyons, J. P. H. Bosley, R. A. Egelstaff [str.], N. F. Soffe) 27th. In addition, D. G. Clubley won the trophy for Schools Sculls.

(Edit.).

RUGBY FOOTBALL

Last Lent Term's practice of restricting rugger apart from senior Sevens to juniors under 14 has been continued. This had the big advantage of enabling us to concentrate coaching on the younger boys: Mr. Holloway sponsored the Under 14 side and Mr. Williams an Under 13 XXX from which was selected towards the end of term a representative team to play against John Mason High School. The game gave us some idea of next season's Junior XV and was drawn 8—8. Those playing in it were: J. P. Cox; K. P. Brown, D. N. Baumann, T. J. G. Healy, J. L. Cox; R. O. Plail, J. R. Comerford; N. P. Heading, D. I. Smith, D. A. Cerow, K. L. Blair, V. Lacey-Johnson, N. S. Coulbeck, W. H. Cuthbert, N. K. A. Smart.

One Junior Colts match, fixed up before we decided to confine rugger to the younger boys, was played. This was against Headington County Secondary School on Wednesday, 17th February, at home. Our victory of 39 points to 8 was particularly good as most of those playing had switched to hockey for the term and had had very little practice. The team was: D. N. Hunt; L. Morgan, J. F. Goldsworthy, J. C. Paddison, F. J. Dobbs; B. H. Ford, J. Y. McLaughlin; R. L. Matthews, A. E. Banes, A. W. Semmence, J. C. Bourlet, D. Sayce, P. B. Harrison, P. K. Ablewhite, T. R. Paxton.

The Junior side played two games. On 17th February, they too beat Headington at home fairly decisively — 35—0 — but on the following Saturday, 20th February, they travelled to St. Birinus' School to be defeated by a useful side (0—12). The team against St. Birinus was: M. J. Harfield; F. J. Barnes, P. K. Blackburn, M. C. Varley, A. C. Ellis; A. J. Varley (Capt.), A. J. Cowley; R. W. Hamilton, P. C. McPhail, C. E. J. Lilley, M. A. Fletcher, K. G. Cuthbert, A. L. Watts, M. G. Baker, A. E. Lewis. Against Headington J. E. North played and Lewis stood down. The side had plenty of spirit and talent but with exceptions such as full back Harfield, lacks finesse. There is also a lack of combination which must be set to rights before the team can play at its best. M. J. Hill, whose fragility alone kept him out of the side this term, is possibly the most promising player.

Seven-a-side competitions provided the stimulus for what senior rugger was played. This year, Mr. Booth trained four Sevens, two senior and two junior, and in general the venture was both enjoyable and successful. In the Oxford Schools Sevens, held on Saturday, 27th March, these four teams all did well. The 1st VII (A. E. Johnson, J. J. Burn, J. R. Jennings, C. C. Ford, N. A. H. Bosley, S. J. Baker, P. V. Bosley) reached the Quarter-Finals of the Senior Section B, defeating Lord Wandsworth College 19—3 and St. Nicholas G.S.I. 10—5 but losing to Caerphilly G.T.S. (0—9).

The 2nd VII (P. B. Godfrey, P. H. Painton, D. A. M. Bent, B. E. Goldsworthy, A. O. B. Akinbiyi, T. B. Moore, P. E. Comber), playing

in the Section C contest, went down to the eventual winners of their Section in the Quarter-Finals. They defeated Haberdashers Aske's II 14—0 and Hampton 3—0 but lost to King's, Macclesfield II 3—5.

In the Junior contest, both the Colts VII (L. Morgan, P. Gibbs, R. E. N. Bradfield, D. S. Jackson, M. A. Ballinger, N. K. Cook, P. H. Blackburn) and the Junior VII (N. J. Booker, D. N. Hunt, J. C. Paddison, B. H. Ford, E. A. C. Crouch, T. J. Rawlins, J. F. Goldsworthy) had the misfortune of having to play in preliminary rounds. The Colts defeated Windsor G.S. 13—0 in this and then went on to dispose of Portsmouth G.S. I 13—0 in the First Round only to fall victim in the Second Round to Stowe (0—14), the eventual winners. The Juniors were knocked out in their first game by Littlemore G.S. (0—6).

Reserves who also acted as touch judges for the four teams were Schnellmann (1st VII), Longstaff (2nd VII), Rogers (Colts VII) and Conibear (Junior VII).

Very much better success attended the Colts when they went to Holme Park, Sonning on the afternoon of Sunday, 28th March, to play in the Schoolboys' Sevens organized by the Reading R.F.C. This was of course a smaller competition but there was tough opposition and the Colts did extraordinarily well to reach the Final. It was generally agreed that had not Morgan broken his collar bone in the opening minute of the Final we would assuredly have won. As it was, playing for 20 minutes with only six men the Colts did well to lose so narrowly (11—16) to Stoneham School. Throughout the contest the team, ably led by Blackburn, played in a masterly fashion which was a delight to watch. D. S. Rogers came in in place of Ballinger, otherwise it was the same as at Oxford on the Saturday. Results were: v. St. George's, Weybridge, won by walk over; v. Southfield School, won 25—0; v. Maidenhead G.S. 'A', won 13—3; v. Oratory School 'A', won 13—0; v. Stoneham School, lost 11—16.

The Junior VII who also entered the competition lost their game in the opening round to Leighton Park School 3—10. They then entered a losers' competition in which they defeated Douai 'B' 13—3 but lost to Orchard School, Slough 3—5.

The season was completed on Monday, 29th March, when a senior Seven drawn from A. E. Johnson, N. K. Cook, B. E. Goldsworthy, R. H. Blackburn, J. R. Jennings, J. J. Burn, A. O. B. Akinbiyi, and P. Gibbs were invited to take part in a tournament of Seven-a-side matches arranged by Dauntsey's School. In this, four matches were played and very much enjoyed in spite of the fact that some of our players were feeling the effects of the two previous days. Results were: v. Dauntsey's I, lost 0—5; v. Prior Park, lost 8—10; v. Dauntsey's II, won 5—3; v. City of Bath School, lost 0—23.

* * * *

During the term, P. V. Bosley has played a few games for the Saracens Club and A. E. Johnson for the Oxford Club. Mr. Booth, who has continued a successful season for the Saracens, was joined after Christmas by Mr. Carey who now plays regularly on the wing for the same Club. In the holidays, P. V. Bosley and N. A. H. Bosley again played for the Saracens' Schoolboy XV and at the end of the season Mr. Carey assisted the Saracens to gain the odd victory in the Middlesex Sevens.

JUNIOR HOUSE MATCHES

Blacknall for the third year in succession retained the Bayley Cup in the knock-out competition and did so by decisive victories over Reeves (33—3) in the preliminary round and over Tesdale (27—0) in the Final, played on 24th February. From the point of view of those who lined the touchlines greater excitement was provided by the Bennett v. Tesdale match which in the first round resulted in a draw (19—19) and in the replay in a win for Tesdale 13—8.

The Under 13 League also saw Blacknall victors for — in this case — the second time in succession. Blacknall gained maximum points by defeating Bennett (49—0), Reeves (14—3) and Tesdale (32—0). Runners up were Bennett with 4 points secured by victories over Reeves (18—5) and Tesdale (14—8). Next came Reeves with a single win over Tesdale (14—8) which gave them 2 points and last without the consolation of a point came Tesdale.

D.O.W.

COMBINED CADET FORCE

Apart from one or two liaison visits, this has been a quiet term but we look forward to two big events in the summer when the Band and a representative contingent will attend the re-opening ceremony of the T.A. Centre and we have our Annual Inspection on 28th May.

We say farewell to W.O. Nicholl who has now left School although his association with us is maintained because he has been selected for a 'Reciprocal Visit' in the summer. He has been an outstanding senior cadet and will be replaced by C.S.M. Partridge, with the rank of R.S.M.

ARMY SECTION

One party of cadets attended a weekend camp with Oxford University O.T.C. at Larkhill ranges and regular assistance was given again by 16 Bn. R.A.O.C., Bicester, with infantry work. The post Proficiency Company has been re-organized and received help from a student master, Mr. R. B. Smith who holds a T.A. Commission in the Liverpool Scottish Regt. It is hoped that cadets who failed their Proficiency exam. will be given a re-test during the Summer Term.

HISTORIC EVENTS



January 24th



Prof. D. Hodgkin, O.M.,
March 16th



Vale,
Corn Exchange

SCHOOL PREFECTS



Once a year



Every Break

MASTERS AT PLAY

M.N.W.
referees
his last School
match



Rehearsal for
"St. Nicolas"
(J.G.C.)

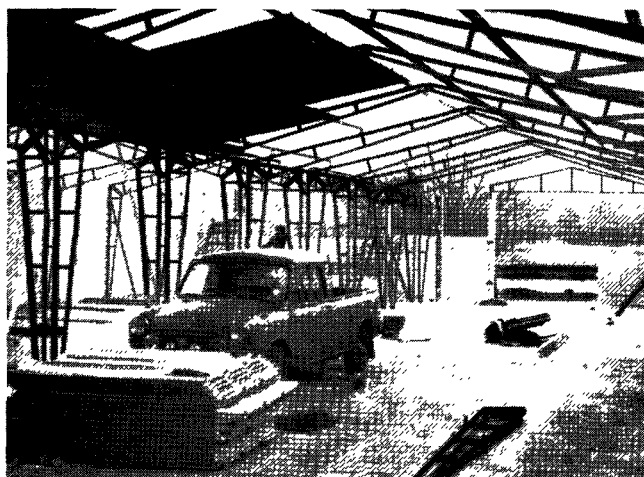


School Maths Project
(J.V.T.)

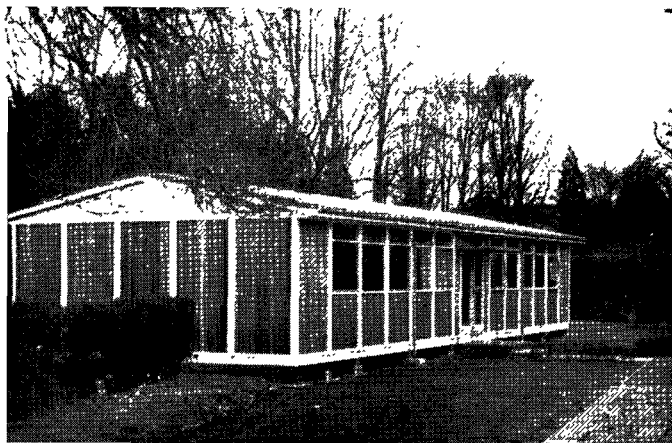


NEW BUILDINGS

The
New Changing Room
— preparation of site



The
New Boat House
— under construction



The
New Class Rooms
— on completion

On Field Day, R.A. Section spent the day with the O.T.C. in Oxford, R. Signals Section had a scheme on the Downs in the morning and an instructor from 3 Sqdn. 14 Sig. Regt. gave them lessons on Morse Code in the afternoon. Rescue Section went to Kidlington C.D. Range.

B Company travelled to Bicester and received small arms instruction from 16 Bn. It was a pity that the organization broke down somewhat at lunch time and the cadets had a meal but no 'eating irons'.

C Company along with a few R.A.F. cadets had what amounted to half a day on the Downs. A series of heavy storms had them scurrying back to Abingdon after the morning's map reading march. This is not the pointless exercise that some think as those who went to Carsphairn found out when small inaccuracies added many miles and many blisters.

B.J.M.

ARDUOUS TRAINING

Arduous training resorted to familiar ground this year when the Carsphairn area, Kirkcudbrightshire, was once again chosen as the venue for the scheme. The party consisted of Major Montague, Captain Willis, Lieut. Fairhead, Mr. Booth, Mr. Garry Pilgrim, D. S. Partridge, D. E. Joyce, T. R. Giddings, J. C. Randall, J. C. Mellor, J. W. T. Kenney, M. Heading, D. Clare, P. H. Blackburn, D. W. Tanner, A. M. Jell, K. Mein and P. G. Tooze.

One fault with the chosen area is its distance from Abingdon but this problem was overcome by our flying to R.A.F. Leuchars in Scotland from R.A.F. Abingdon and travelling to Carsphairn by road from Leuchars. We flew in a Beverley which carried both us and our lorry, trailer and landrover. The flight proved eventful. We took off at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, 31st March, only to return to Abingdon after 30 minutes flying because one of the engines overheated. Airborne again at 6.30 p.m. we arrived, after an exhilarating trip, at Leuchars by 8.48 p.m. Here we were kindly given accommodation for the night and on the following morning set off for the camp site passing over the Forth Bridge on the way.

We arrived at the site on Thursday afternoon and pitched camp in brilliant sunshine. The site was nestled beneath mountains with a picturesque stream just below it. Training started the next day. Obviously walking is the major factor in any arduous training scheme and we enjoyed several good long marches through the most beautiful countryside. Most of us found it hard going at first but as we grew fitter and more accustomed to the Scottish mountains so our enjoyment and appreciation of what we were doing increased. Apart from being an ideal way of getting fit these walks proved a means of testing our map and compass reading skills and we all learnt that it is easier to read a map in a classroom than out in the country. Valuable experience was gained here.

But there is more to arduous training than just walking. Each of us will have his own private memories; yet several things stand out for mention. The journey by Beverley has already been described, as has the magnificent Scottish scenery which has to be seen to be believed. Camping itself — in our case in two 160lb. tents — is an experience but not even our sturdy tents and sleeping bags could keep out the bitter cold of one or two frosty nights. The quality of food needs to be good to keep up the spirit of the camp and all praise here to our cook, Major Montague, who handled this side of affairs wonderfully. Camp spirit was in fact at a very high level as everybody helped each other out, although the game of soccer near the end, played to "Booth" rules, came dangerously near to provoking a mutiny.

The party was divided into two groups for the journey home, a road group and a rail group. Both travelled through the night and at least four people can vouch for the fact that a landrover parked in a service station on the M6 is not the most comfortable way to spend part of a cold night. It suffices to say that everyone returned to their homes in safety, with memories of a most enjoyable week in Scotland which will not be quickly forgotten.

D.E.J.

ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

A term of little excitement. We have been pleased to have the help of Petty Officer Batchelor from H.M.S. Sultan, who has visited us several times and taken some of the senior classes in Parade Training. We are most grateful to him and to Lieut.-Cdr. Dobson for arranging his visits.

For Field Day the whole section went down to Portsmouth and spent the night in R.N. Barracks before splitting up into two groups, one going to H.M.S. St. Vincent for some boatwork and seamanship, and the other to H.M.S. Collingwood in the forenoon, and H.M.S. Dolphin after lunch. Both parties spent a pleasant and instructive day.

L.C.J.G.

ROYAL AIR FORCE SECTION

This year the Lent term has been a very busy one for the Section. More than half of the cadets have taken the Proficiency and Advanced examinations and are now awaiting the results. Three cadets, Munson, Clare and Rawlins, represented the Section at the National Air Recognition Competition in London, and although they did not win the experience was a useful one, and we can hope for more success in future years. A large number of cadets have also visited R.A.F. Abingdon for shooting practice and the best eight targets have been entered for the Assegai Trophy competition.

For Field Day the main party visited the National Air Collection, housed in the Science Museum, and then the Imperial War Museum.

A smaller party joined Lt. Fairhead in an outdoor exercise on the Berkshire Downs. A further nineteen cadets, accompanied by Flt.Lt. Manly and Plt.Off. Morelle, have just returned from annual camp at R.A.F. Marham, once a busy Valiant station, near Kings Lynn in Norfolk. However, although it was regrettable to see these giant aircraft all grounded, the camp proved to be very enjoyable. Parts of the programme were interrupted by bad weather conditions, but everyone flew in a Chipmunk aircraft, and some also in an Anson. A well arranged outdoor exercise gave ample opportunity for the cadets to see the wonderful countryside around the Sandringham estate, with additional visits to Cambridge, U.S.A.F. Mildenhall and Kings Lynn to add variety to the camp programme.

Once again we are pleased to record the award of a Flying Scholarship, which has been won by Flight Sergeant Munson. He hopes to complete the course during the summer holidays at Kidlington airport. Next term he will also become the Senior Cadet of the Section, and it is with regret that we must say farewell to W.O. Nicholl, who has achieved so much in the Section. To add to his outstanding record, including a Flying Scholarship, W.O. Nicholl has been awarded the A.O.C.'s Certificate of Good Service, and he was then chosen as one of only twelve C.C.F. cadets to represent R.A.F. Sections in the United Kingdom in the International Air Cadet Exchange scheme, visiting the U.S.A., Canada, Israel and a number of other countries participating in this scheme. We hope that his application for an R.A.F. University Cadetship, to be taken up at Pembroke College, Oxford, will be as successful.

Finally, promotions announced during the term were:

To Flight Sergeant: Munson D. J.

To Corporal: King S. J., Medland A. E., Penney D. W. and Wells M. F.

D.W.M.

SCOUTS

34th North Berks

JUNIOR TROOPS

Term began with the formation of a seventh patrol which enabled S. Fairlie to be deservedly promoted to patrol leader. Patrol activity was much increased and after a camp for patrol leaders only, each patrol had a one night camp at Frilford.

Field Day was one of the best for a long time. The patrol leaders spent the previous night under canvas and the patrols were brought out to Frilford by the Seconds. The morning was occupied in setting up camp kitchen sites and cooking a three course meal. The standard as yet is below last year's high one but much was learnt from the

exercise. In the afternoon three pioneering projects were successfully completed — a monkey bridge, an aerial runway and a swinging derrick. Considerable amusement was had by all as each patrol in turn was allowed to operate the finished product.

Next term we hope that all patrols will have at last one weekend camp before half term. On 12th/13th June we shall be holding our own competition camp at Youlbury from which our four entries for the district camp on the following weekend will be selected.

This year the now customary Easter camp was held in the week before Easter at Youlbury. Richard Welch together with two seniors and eleven scouts had an excellent camp during which emphasis was put on the cooking and service of food, the theme of the competition camp this year. Everyone realized that there is a lot to learn before we are up to standard although a three course lunch towards the end of camp — including roast chicken — showed us that something had been learnt even if in one case it was only to light the fire. Other projects in camp included short one act plays on a wet afternoon, two very successful camp fires, a full day hike covering some fifteen miles, a night wide game and a popular swing boat, the first we have built but certainly not the last.

By the end of the holiday, 260 nights had been camped since January. Our thanks must go to all parents who have provided transport — their continual help solves what would otherwise be a very difficult problem.

M.N.W./R.P.W.

SENIOR SCOUTS

The canoe which was given to us last year by Mark Bisby was completely re-covered and tested in the swimming bath — it is hoped to put it to good use in the summer. Apart from this, activity has included forestry at Wytham and a Venturer Incident journey which proved as popular as usual. Considerable success was achieved in the Fireman's and Ambulance badges but only one senior succeeded in passing the Dispatch Rider badge.

We are sorry to lose M. A. Bisby at the end of the Lent Term: he filled the position of Troop Leader most competently and we wish him well.

The climax of the term's activities was the Easter Expedition. A party of twelve seniors with Mr. Lewis and Mr. Baker spent some ten nights based at the Old School at Grange-in-Borrowdale, just south of Derwentwater. In view of the glorious weather the precaution of having a solid roof over our heads was unnecessary but nevertheless the amenities were much appreciated.

We were particularly fortunate in being so close to Shepherd's Crag with its varied and interesting rock climbs and Egelstaff's enthusiasm ensured that Mr. Lewis' experience with ropes on Table Mountain was

put to good use here. Other climbs were done on the Napes Buttress of Great Gable and on Dovenest Crag. The canoe was well used by everybody, the most ambitious trip being carried out by Poole and Ramsey who paddled from Grange to the foot of Bassenthwaite Lake.

We were fortunate too to be able to watch a demonstration of crag work by the Keswick Mountain Rescue Team who had no difficulty in persuading Egelstaff to act as a casualty and be lowered over a 70ft. precipice on a Thomas Stretcher. Later we joined in a practice search near Bishop's Rock above Thornthwaite. It was an amazing sight seeing six boys with their loaded stretcher sliding down the steep scree braked by three members of the Keswick team on a 100 foot rope.

Two parties journeyed to Ullswater and climbed snow capped Helvellyn via Striding Edge and all returned to Glenridding by Catstye Cam except for Snodgrass and Langmead who continued straight over and hiked back to camp having spent a night near the head of Thirlmere.

The longest excursion turned out to be when Mr. Baker, Egelstaff, Langmead, Lyons, Osborne, Poole and Ramsey made the double ascent of Scafell Pike and Scafell. The clouds were down but the former was climbed by the Corridor route without difficulty and the clearing mist encouraged an attack on Scafell by roping up Fat Man's Agony and Broad Stand. However visibility deteriorated rapidly and the party are still not absolutely sure that they reached the true summit. It is difficult to believe a compass in such conditions when one's common sense says that North is in the opposite direction. Coming down on the Wasdale side good use was made of the rope and the two ice-axes.

Blencathra, the Langdale Pikes and other peaks were also climbed by small parties and of course the more local attractions such as the Bowder Stone, Watendlath, London falls and Cat Bells were also visited.

All voted the camp a great success and it is hoped to arrange a similar venture next year. Our thanks are due to Poole and Egelstaff who acted as treasurer and quartermaster respectively and also to Mr. Baker who so kindly joined us on this occasion. J.S.L.

At the end of term we said farewell to Rev. Mark Williams, who has been Scoutmaster of the School Troop for the past eleven years. During that time he has really put Scouting "on the map" here, and the numbers in the Troop have grown steadily to a present strength of 55 scouts. We are all deeply indebted to him for his hard work and wise leadership. J.B.

CHESS

The disappointments of the Michaelmas term are now all forgotten. The 1st VI was back in proper form this term, and excelled itself by winning every single match. This is a splendid record, and it reflects the experience and strength which reach down to even the lowest

board. Non-players may be amused to read of 'team-spirit' in chess, but I am bound to add that the spirit of this team has contributed in no small part to its success.

The highlight of the term was, I think, our third win, this time at home, over Eton College. There were some extremely interesting positions reached in this match, Harding's game on board 1 being especially exciting. Another notable victory was that over Magdalen College School.

Two more ties were awarded, to R. J. Davis and M. F. Wells.

The juniors did not have such good fortune. Salesian College and the Dragon School proved too strong for them, but on the other hand they were able to defeat the John Mason High School in convincing fashion. We have some potentially good players at this level, but they will have to study rather more if our results are to improve.

Outside the school, Harding has been playing regularly for Worcestershire, for whom he has acquitted himself well; and both he and Medland have been on the Abingdon Town side. Burton too has now joined the ranks of county players — he has represented Oxfordshire. It is most pleasing that we have had no fewer than five county players from amongst our members in the last two years.

Results

4th February: 1st VI v. Bicester G.S. (h). Won 4—2.

17th February: School v. Masters' Common Room. Won 8—1.

25th February: 1st VI v. Eton College (h). Won 4—2.

8th March: 1st VI v. Magdalen College School (a). Won $3\frac{1}{2}$ — $2\frac{1}{2}$.

11th March: 1st VI v. Bicester G.S. (a). Won 5—1.

18th March: 1st VI v. King Alfred's School (a). Won $4\frac{1}{2}$ — $1\frac{1}{2}$.

28th January: U/16 VI v. Salesian College (a). Lost $2\frac{1}{2}$ — $3\frac{1}{2}$.

28th February: U/16 VI v. Dragon School (h). Lost $1\frac{1}{2}$ — $4\frac{1}{2}$.

8th March: U/16 VI v. John Mason H.S. (a). Won 7—1.

25th March: U/16 VI v. Salesian College (h). Lost 3—5.

Individual results for the 1st team are as follows, in board order: T. D. Harding, $5\frac{1}{2}/6$; R. J. Davis, $3\frac{1}{2}/6$; M. F. Wells, $4/6$; A. E. Medland, $3/4$; T. R. Giddings (Capt.), $3\frac{1}{2}/5$; J. R. Burton, $5/5$; P. H. Blackburn, $2\frac{1}{2}/3$; J. J. A. King, $1/2$; T. C. Tozer, $0/1$; B. K. Langmead, $1/1$.

In other matches they are: J. R. Burton, $2/4$; J. J. A. King, $2\frac{1}{2}/4$; C. J. Marley, $2/3$; M. G. Osborn, $2\frac{1}{2}/4$; H. J. Manning, $2/3$; B. K. Langmead, $1\frac{1}{2}/3$; A. Rose, $1\frac{1}{2}/2$; R. Samsworth, $0/2$; A. T. B. Herbert, $0/1$; A. D. Chafer, $0/1$; N. Tozer, $0/1$.

SKYE GROUP

1st — 11th April.

The Inverpolly Nature Reserve, Sutherland, N.W. Scotland.

(650 miles from Abingdon by road).

The party of 18 went in five cars, but some hitch-hiking was necessary. All but two had arrived on the evening of the 1st and these two were fetched from Ullapool next morning.

Tents were pitched a few yards from the sea, at the mouth of a glen running back among the hills, with Cul Mor beyond (2786ft.). This glen led to a great many lochs and along it a large stream came to the sea close to the camp. Many small brown trout were caught in it. In the bay seabirds showed little fear of humans and their calls were incessant. Oyster-catchers, curlews and eider duck were there every day; and about twice a week a seal popped its head out of the water and had several good circumspections.

The scenery within ten miles provided mountains of fantastic shapes. To the south was Stac Polly with its precipitous craggy crest. Five miles east Suilven (2399ft.) was by far the most impressive and astonishing — a perfect dome of sandstone with 800ft. vertical all round except for a ridge leading to a pinnacle almost a mile beyond. From the coast Suilven towered over the rock foreground hiding its ridge, a gigantic cylinder with dome on top. From far inland the eastern pinnacle seemed higher and was also sheer. Further to the north-east was Canisp (2779ft.) and north of it Quinag, a range of peaks, the highest 2643ft. All except Canisp were climbed and also Conival and Ben More Assynt (3273ft.), highest in Sutherland.

Life under canvas makes weather important, and the expedition was favoured except for the last two days. Generally days were sunny with frequent cloud, nights were showery. The wettest 24-hour period was just over half an inch. The thermometer rose to 60°F one day and sank to 30°F one night. The east wind felt very cold, funnelled down the valley, and there was considerable inversion of temperature at night when it was clear and still. Most wind was west or south. Finally, low pressure from the sea caused violent westerly squalls. One felt very cold and moist, while the tents made alarming noises and primuses blew out. Hail descended in the worst of these squalls. The mountains collected plenty of snow. Generally rainfall is greater inland where some of the mountains claim 200 inches annually, the shore having about 50 inches.

The geology of the region is Lewisian gneiss near the coast, Torridon sandstone over this inland making the bulk of the five mountains, and beyond Loch Assynt range of Cambrian limestone. The Torridon sandstone is or was 2000ft. thick and tells the story of a vast inland lake receiving the drainage of a central plateau which experienced desert climate and loss of water by evaporation. Wind, water and ice

erosion have left their mark; and where a cap of quartzite has remained above the sandstone it has apparently retarded erosion so that a vast column such as Suilven towers vertically.

The Cambrian limestone must be as ancient as limestone can be, for life 500 million years ago cannot long have developed shells. These limestone slopes provided countless swallow holes, in one area huge, cavernous and deep. Near here a lively stream disappeared in the fissure caused by one limestone mass thrust over and along another dipping 45° and emerged a few hundred yards below.

The Inverpollly Estate aims to preserve the ecology of the Nature Reserve and there is only a little reafforestation. A species of birch tree is peculiar to North West Scotland and it has decreased recently, so that here are areas fenced off to encourage it. Plantations are much more evident eastwards towards Inverness. Deer were often seen and some solitary stags had magnificent antlers. At this season they are not very shy. The Warden of the Reserve has to kill off about thirty of the poorer beasts each year to maintain the quality of the rest. The wild cat kept himself unseen. One had recently been found dead, weighing 13 lbs. and measuring 27" from nose to tail. Locals say the creature is more leopard than cat! The golden eagle was also elusive, but buzzards, kestrels and sparrow hawks were plentiful. Above 2000ft. two uncommon types of grouse were seen. The white ptarmigan would soon change colour with the nesting season; its call is a loud croak, like a harsh old-fashioned motor horn in slow motion. The black grouse were also to be seen high enough to be free of all enemies but the golden eagle. Probably the rarest of the seabirds observed was the greater black-backed gull. This lives and breeds on the far western rocky islands. Perhaps the stormy weather drove them to the mainland shore.

Trout and salmon are abundant in the rivers and lochs. Many trout were caught and eaten. Brown trout live always in fresh water, but salmon and sea trout come up the rivers to spawn, being good to fish on the way up; returning they are called kelts and are not to be caught, being in very poor condition. None this time exceeded half a pound, but trout can be as large as salmon to judge from the two-foot-long ten pounder in one hotel show-case, caught in Loch Assynt. Mr. Murray had heard of one of 27 lb.

Lochinver was the metropolis, one street at the end of a deep inlet of the sea, with two kirks, good stores and shops, and river mouths at each end of the one-street town. The grandiose Culag hotel stands over the quay where six local fishing boats are moored. The hotel used to be the Duke of Sutherland's castle.

There is local history of the romantic kind along the Loch Assynt road. Ardvreck Castle is on the neck of a tiny peninsula on the loch. It was built in the late 16th century and here the Marquis of Montrose fled after his defeat at Carbisdale (near Bonar Bridge) in April, 1650. Neil Macleod gave him sumptuous hospitality and then betrayed him.

A very good neighbour, who also offered hospitality but without betrayal, was Mr. Murray. His little croft, Pollan, is four miles north-west of Lochinver, high up among the rocks. Michael and Christopher Day and John Cooper were his cheerful helpmeet guests. Here some experienced their first haggis and none were disappointed. The drive from the road up to Pollan is excessively steep, rocky, slippery and perilous for cars, but the view from the top is glorious — all five mountain masses are on the horizon.

The main interests were geological, meteorological, ornithological, the most energetic pastime mountain climbing. Some experience was unique delight, some discomfort grim. A few were glad to return home, having had enough, but glad they came nevertheless. There is something about the wilds of Scotland which makes the perfect holiday. Many return again and again.

The Skye Group, 1965: Mr. Blagden; Mr. Moore; M. J. Arundel; S. J. Baker; D. A. M. Bent; M. A. Bisby; N. A. H. Bosley; P. V. Bosley; E. C. C. Crouch; R. J. Davis; C. C. Ford; J. N. Harper; R. P. Jessett; L. R. Lewellyn; A. J. Longstaff; S. A. Marsh; M. J. Ridehalgh; D. H. Willis.

C.E.T.M.

MUSIC NOTES

The last two Recitals in the Subscription Concerts series provided a most rewarding second half to this season's concerts. A group of advanced students from the Royal College of Music directed by Colin Kitching gave us a fascinating programme, with a very high standard of playing. The ensemble opened with Schubert's 'Trout' Quintet, then followed a programme of 'music in miniature' with works ranging from the first movement of Beethoven's Trio in C minor, to an unpublished Trio by Michael Tippett, first performed the previous week by this ensemble at a Royal College Concert before the Queen Mother. The final Recital was given by a vocal ensemble, the Baccholian Singers, whose versatile and varied programme, from motets and madrigals to negro spirituals and songs with guitar, concluded a very satisfying series of Subscription Concerts.

One of the most interesting events recently for the Chapel Choir was to sing Choral Evensong at Dorchester Abbey on Ash Wednesday. The Anthem was Allegri's famous setting of the Miserere, in which the solo treble has repeatedly to reach top C. On this occasion S. Fairlie was the soloist and sang these very high notes with commendable control.

We welcomed Mr. Keating once again from Clayesmore to adjudicate the second round of the House Music Competition — House choirs, orchestras and compositions. Standards on the whole were high and Mr. Keating was very helpful and encouraging in his comments. Much credit for the fine results of many of the performances goes to the

House Music captains and conductors, particularly as they often had to put up with many difficulties of rehearsal organisation. When we have the new Music School, the arranging of rehearsals for these competitions will be a great deal easier.

At the North Berks Festival this year we entered a Wind Ensemble, the Second Orchestra, and the Male-Voice Choir, all of whom acquitted themselves very well.

As for the other music societies, although there have been no particular highlights this term, they have all been actively engaged mainly in preparation for performances in the Summer Term. The Orchestral Concert in which all three orchestras were to perform has been postponed until May. The Band has been adding new music to its repertoire, and members of the Chamber Music Society have been practising assiduously on Friday afternoons.

The main musical event of the term was, of course, the joint Recital with St. Helen's School, the principle work being Britten's Cantata 'St. Nicolas'. To have so many boys taking an enthusiastic part in this work, who would otherwise be deprived of a musical experience of this sort, made the project worthwhile in itself. But when you were able to give two good accounts of the work on comparatively little rehearsal time, and under rather difficult seating and acoustical conditions, this, in my opinion, made it the memorable occasion it certainly was. A report on the performances appears elsewhere, but I wish to add my thanks to all who performed in this Recital, and in particular the members of the sixth-form who did so much extra work in preparation for the performances.

We bid farewell to Mr. Desmond Cecil, our oboe teacher, who, owing to academic commitments, has had to leave us this term. We are very grateful indeed to the most valuable service he has given to the music department, and his pupils in particular will miss his patient and thorough teaching, infused with really fine musicianship. In his place we welcome Mr. Charles Waterfield.

Results of the Associated Board Music examinations were:

Passes: R. Lang—Violin, Grade I; M. J. Andrews—Violin, Grade II; K. Poole—Violin, Grade IV; P. Shaw—Piano, Grade IV; T. Spencer—Piano, Grade V; A. Vernede—Piano, Grade V; M. Fletcher—Bass, Grade V; D. Allen—Oboe, Grade VIII.

With Merit: C. Short—Violin, Grade I; N. Pilling—Cello, Grade III; S. Loosemore—Piano, Grade III; S. Fairlie—Violin, Grade IV; R. Samsworth—Cello, Grade IV; A. Cuningham—Piano, Grade IV; A. Vernede—Cello, Grade VI; J. Evans—Violin, Grade IV; J. Lister—Piano, Grade VI; F. Howlett—Cello, Grade VIII; S. Denny—Oboe, Grade VIII; P. Fletcher—Clarinet, Grade VIII.

With Distinction: D. Galbraith—Piano, Grade V; T. Tozer—Piano, Grade VIII; A. Gibbs—Violin, Grade VIII. J.G.C.

OLD ABINGDONIANS AT WESTMINSTER

As was mentioned in the last issue, we have been preparing some notes on the twelve Old Abingdonians who have sat in the House of Commons. What follows is a brief summary of these. We are extremely grateful to Sir George Sinclair for his assistance and for providing us with the basis for research.

The first of the Members of Parliament was Sir Thomas Smith (1556?–1609). He first came into national prominence as secretary to the Earl of Essex, and through his patronage became clerk of the Privy Council in 1587. In the Commons, he represented Cricklade in 1588–9, Tamworth in 1593, and Aylesbury in 1597–8; and on the last occasion he was also appointed Clerk of Parliament for life. On the accession of James I, he was knighted and became Latin Secretary to the new King. He was involved in the unsuccessful negotiations for a closer union between England and Scotland. Then in 1608 he became Master of the Court of Requests, where he showed great sympathy for the poor. His will includes a grant of £100 to the poor of Abingdon.

Sir Edward Turnor (1617–1676), a pupil of Thomas Godwyn, sat in the Parliaments of 1654, 1656, 1658 and 1660 as a representative for Essex. After the Restoration, he became a king's counsel and attorney-general to the Duke of York, and received a knighthood. In the Parliament of 1661, in which he sat for Hertford, he was elected Speaker of the House of Commons, an office that he filled with marked loyalty to the Crown. He became solicitor-general in 1670, and sergeant-at-law and lord chief baron of the exchequer the following year, though it seems that his involvement in some dubious transactions with the East India Company led to his leaving the Commons. He became well known in London for his assistance to the City after the Great Fire.

Sir John Holt (1642–1710) was also a distinguished lawyer. He was a counsel in many famous cases during the troubled years of 1678–1685, including the impeachment of Danby (1679) and the trial of Russell (1683). In 1686 he was appointed Recorder of London, was knighted and became King's Serjeant. However he resigned the Recordership soon afterwards rather than comply with the King's wishes in a case involving military discipline. After the Revolution, he was concerned in the legal side of the settlement, and for this purpose he was elected M.P. for Beeralston in 1689. Later in the year he became Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench and a Privy Councillor. Throughout his time in supreme legal office, Holt refused to be intimidated, even by Parliament, and achieved nation-wide fame for his scrupulous fairness.

During the fifty years after Holt's death, no less than seven Abingdonians found a seat in the Commons. The first of these was James Jennings (1670–1739), son of the seventeenth century Headmaster Robert Jennings. He was high sheriff for Oxfordshire in 1695, and became the Member for Abingdon in 1710, when Sir Simon Harcourt was appointed Lord Keeper. He sat for three years in this Parliament, and then again from 1715 to 1722. He failed in further attempts to regain his seat, largely because of the strong financial backing of his Whig opponent.

The next M.P. was Sir James Dashwood (1715–1779). He represented Oxfordshire from 1740 to 1754, and later from 1761 to 1768. Kirtlington Mansion House, with its grounds laid out by Capability Brown, was built by him, and was considered second only to Blenheim Palace in the whole of Oxfordshire. He achieved national fame as one

of the Tory candidates in the great Oxfordshire election of 1754, when after a long and expensive campaign the Tories eventually secured a majority in the six days' poll. However, the sheriff made a double return, and Parliament was busy with petitions for some forty days before declaring, in a political vote, that the Whigs had been elected. It is interesting to note that he took quite an interest in his old school: he was the principal individual contributor to the School Library fund of 1743, and became one of the stewards of the Old Abingdonian Club in 1746.

By a strange coincidence, the other Tory candidate in 1754 was also an Abingdonian — Philip, 3rd Viscount Wenman (1719–1760). He represented Oxford City from 1749 to 1754, before his unsuccessful candidature for a county seat. Like Dashwood, he too was an important contributor to the Library fund, and he was the very first steward of the Old Abingdonian Club to be elected, at its first meeting on 6th August, 1743. His title (now extinct) was in the peerage of Ireland, so he was not precluded by it from sitting in the Lower House.

The longest serving of all the M.P.s was John Morton (1714–1780), who sat at Westminster from 1747 to 1780, with only two very short breaks. For the first 23 years he represented Abingdon, but during hearings about the disputed election of 1768, which he won by only 2 votes, he gave up his seat, and secured a vacancy at New Romney in the Government interest. He was not a candidate in 1774, but was returned a year later at Wigan in the interest of the Duke of Portland. In Parliament, he became noted for his ability in legal matters, and was in the running for election as Speaker in 1761. His other appointments included chief justice of Chester and attorney-general to the Queen. In Abingdon, he was Recorder from 1753 till his death, and responsible for acquiring the town's new Charter in 1774 — a document intended to bias the electoral rolls. He was twice a steward of the Old Abingdonian Club, in 1749 and 1766, and not only voted for Dashwood and Wenman in 1754, but supported them in Parliament during the hearing of the petitions.

The other three M.P.s of this period were all related. They were the Dawkins brothers, James (1722–1757) and Henry (1728–1814) and their cousin Edward Morant (1730–1791). They all came from a wealthy family trading in Jamaica. James Dawkins was perhaps the best known. He was an active Jacobite, involved in several intrigues, and only dropped his support of the Pretender when the Government issued a warrant for his arrest. He travelled fairly extensively in the East, assisting in studies of some oriental architecture. He sat for Hindon in the interest of William Beckford, the merchant, from 1754 to his death. Samuel Johnson said of him: 'The only great instance that I have ever known of the enjoyment of wealth was, that of Jamaica Dawkins'.

His brother Henry was a more orthodox character. He was a member of the Jamaica assembly and council, and on returning to England secured a seat at Southampton in 1760. He later sat for Chippenham, in 1769–1774 and 1780–1784, and, like his brother, for Hindon, in 1776–1780. By buying up property in the borough, he was able to secure his own interest in Chippenham, and to hand over the seat to his son when he retired. He was an Old Abingdonian Club steward in 1769.

Edward Morant, whose family name has been given to several parts of Jamaica, returned to England with Henry Dawkins. Like his cousins, he sat for Hindon, in 1761–1768. In 1774, the Duke of Bolton gave

him a seat at Lymington, and in the next Parliament, in 1780, he sat for Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, under the patronage of Clarke Jervoise. As these changes show, he was a truly independent member.

In the shadow of this eighteenth century glory came the eleventh of the line, George Knapp (1754–1809). A local grocer and banker, he was four times Mayor of Abingdon, and closely involved in the investigations into Lemprière's Headmastership. The year 1807 saw him a steward of the Old Abingdonian Club, Mayor, and finally, at the third attempt, M.P. for the borough by 7 votes. His death two years later, by a fall from a gig in London, robbed him of a chance to establish his name outside the town.

As can be seen, these were great days for the School. To have four Members of Parliament at one time was no mean achievement, and it reflected the position of Abingdon as one of the leading boarding schools in the country. However, whilst the period of 155 years between Turnor's first election and Knapp's death saw ten Old Boys in the Commons, it was exactly that period that then elapsed before another Abingdonian followed them.

It was Sir George Sinclair (1922–31) who finally ended this blank run. He won the Abingdon Scholarship to Pembroke College, Oxford, in 1930, and entered the Colonial Administrative Service. He was closely connected for many years with the government of British West Africa, and the Gold Coast in particular, becoming a District Commissioner in 1943. By 1950, he was Principal Assistant Colonial Secretary. From 1955 to 1960 he was Deputy Governor of Cyprus during the difficult times leading up to the independence of the island. Having already received the O.B.E. (1950) and the C.M.G. (1956), he was knighted on his retirement in 1960, when he turned to political work. In October 1964, he was elected Conservative Member of Parliament for Dorking. Sir George returned to the School to present the prizes in 1960, and was President of the Old Abingdonian Club in 1964.

— And perhaps we can make up the baker's dozen by brief reference to one who though not technically an Old Abingdonian was at any rate born in the Headmaster's home. Charles Abbot, son of Dr. John Abbot (Headmaster 1753–1758) was born in 1757, and elected Member for Helston in 1795. He was Speaker of the House of Commons from 1802 to 1817, being subsequently ennobled under the title of Baron Colchester. He died in 1829. His main claim to fame was that he was largely responsible for the institution of the decennial census. There was an interesting article about him in *The Times* of 22nd April, 1961.

P.G.H.

SCHOOL SOCIETIES

THE ATHENAEUM

Unforeseen circumstances prevented the Society from attending a second outing this term and holding the proposed discussion meeting at which it was hoped to compare seventeenth century and contemporary comedy. Nevertheless, the Society's visit to the Oxford Playhouse to see the Meadow Players' production of Ben Jonson's 'The Alchemist' proved an entertaining and rewarding evening. The Lent Term seldom provides a wide variety of dramatic productions, but it is hoped to

redress this term's disappointments by holding three outings during the Summer, one to London.

Our thanks are due this term to S. M. Nicholl for so ably discharging the office of Treasurer, undoubtedly the most onerous post in the Society. Our gratitude to our sponsors, Messrs. Griffin, Fairhead and Cullen, should also be recorded. M.J.H.L.

THE BRUCE SOCIETY

Illustrated lectures are an indispensable addition to the bare facts as presented in the text-book, and so the four evening meetings held this term were primarily designed to supplement the 'A' level Geography syllabus.

Mr. Fielding spoke on 'Aspects of Sabah' at the first meeting held on 1st February. Our guest had gained first-hand experience as a district officer in Sabah, and his carefully prepared talk covered many economic and social problems. On 2nd March Mr. Griffin performed an invaluable service by giving a pictorial view of Italy, allowing us to pick out geographical features for ourselves.

Mr. Pollock, from St. Edmund Hall, Oxford, has recently returned from a six month tour of North America and kindly agreed to talk on 'American Landscapes' on 8th March. This superbly delivered and well illustrated talk introduced us to a region of which we know little. At the final meeting, on 22nd March, the Society welcomed Dr. J. M. Houston, one of Europe's most distinguished geographers, who spoke on 'Problems of Mediterranean Landscapes'. The topic is one of the more difficult aspects of geography, and Dr. Houston's explanations clarified what had previously been an obscure chapter in a text-book. S.N.P.

CAMPANOLOGICAL SOCIETY

We have, as usual, held weekly practices throughout the term on tower and hand-bells. These have been fairly well attended despite the difficulties of some members as a result of games commitments.

The membership has again increased this term to seventeen, of whom twelve can ring rounds and eight plain-hunt.

It has been an uneventful term with few special occasions requiring ringing. Only one quarter-peal was attempted on 26th March, when the ringers were: J. Rowson, J. Poole, C. Rowson (conducting), M. C. E. Hodge (O.A.), Elaine Dixon, and L. Halling. The methods were St. Martin's Doubles, St. Simon's Doubles, and Plain Bob Doubles. Although the striking was fairly good the quarter was lost after five extents (six hundred changes). C.I.R.

CLARENDON SOCIETY

Two meetings were held this term. On Thursday, 4th February, Mr. G. Lewis spoke on 'Polymorphism in Snails', giving a delightfully lucid account of his investigations into this phenomenon. Specimens (alive and dead) and colour slides added further interest.

On Tuesday, 16th March, the Society was honoured by the visit of Prof. D. Hodgkin, O.M., Winner of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1964. With the aid of models and slides she explained the techniques of X-ray crystallography and how she deduced the structures of the Vitamin B12 and Penicillin molecules.

We are most grateful to Mr. Baker for accepting the joint sponsorship of the Society with Mr. Talbot. M.A.B.

THE CRITICS

Unfortunately owing to illness and other unforeseen circumstances we were only able to hold two meetings this term. At the first meeting T. D. Harding read a paper on the somewhat mystifying subject of "The Modern Metaphysicals". However thanks to a very lucidly explained paper we were soon quite familiar with the "ins and outs" of the literary gentleman included in the title, and a very spirited and lively discussion ensued. The next meeting produced a paper by D. W. Tanner on the subject of "Gerard Manly Hopkins". This was a very well prepared paper, and also proved most interesting and informative.

At the mid point of the term P. G. Henderson retired from the post of secretary, having rendered the society sterling service for which we are most grateful to him. N. C. Ware was elected as the new secretary and a number of new members were also elected.

It is hoped to hold the proposed third meeting as soon as possible next term and we look forward to hearing D. N. Clare talking on "The Influence of Television on Jean-Paul Sartre and Jean Anouilh".
N.C.W.

DEBATING SOCIETY

This has been a most satisfactory term, partly because attendances have risen and partly because of the new ideas that evolved at a special general meeting on 26th February. At the beginning of term A. R. Williams succeeded to the Chair and M. J. H. Liversidge and M. H. Hampton were elected to the Committee.

On 29th January, the Society debated capital punishment which, although an old subject, provoked many speeches from the floor following the excellent arguments of G. J. R. Lewis and D. E. Joyce, whose case for the abolition of the death penalty was, however, narrowly defeated by P. J. Snowley and J. A. Rozier. The motion 'That this House believes cigarettes should be placed under the Dangerous Drugs Act' was defeated by the wit of C. W. F. M. Cox and S. J. Baker after a hard fight against M. A. Bisby and T. R. Morris on 19th March.

Undoubtedly the most important event of the term was the special general meeting and the subsequent discussion of the Secretary's report with the Headmaster. It is hoped that many of the new ideas that have been approved will be put into operation next term: we hope to fulfil our role as one of the School's major societies by greater efficiency.
P.A.S.

THE ECONOMISTS

The Society has now been going for a term and a half. Meetings, which have been well attended, have generally taken the form of papers read by members followed by valuable and informative discussions, although we have also been fortunate in having a visiting lecturer.

Our thanks are due to our Sponsor, Mr. Carey, who enthusiasm has been of particular value in establishing the Society.
R.D.S.

THE FORUM

This term the Forum has only held two meetings: we had hoped to have an evening meeting on the last Thursday of term, but this unfortunately had to be cancelled at the last moment. We did, however, have two very successful afternoon meetings.

The first meeting of the term was held on 5th February. At this the results of the Nuneaton and Leyton by-elections were discussed at some length: the result of the latter was discussed in the light of whether or not the Government should go ahead with their plans to nationalise steel.

The next meeting, on 19th February, provided lively discussion on a variety of topics. The subject of most relevance was doctors' pay, and on this opinion was divided. But on the subject of the Common Market we were of the unanimous opinion that Britain should aim to join and attempt to reopen negotiations at the earliest opportunity. Also discussed was the case of Mr. Duffy before the Committee of Privileges, and the use of teaching history in schools.

Our thanks must go to the Sponsor for contributing to the Society's discussions, and to the Chairman for so ably guiding our sometimes heated opinions. A.R.W.

THE HISTORIANS

This year, with an increased number of historians in the Sixth Form, it is difficult to cover topics within the periods of both sets. Therefore the first meeting of the term on Friday was particularly valuable because J. Randall's paper on 'Benevolent Despots' was of interest to both seventeenth and nineteenth century historians. Randall surveyed several leading politicians and provided many interesting points for the discussion that followed.

The second meeting, on Friday, 19th March, took the form of a visit to a meeting of the Friends of Abingdon. It was a lecture by Mr. Hughes Hartmann on 'Abingdon in the Civil War' and provided an interesting study of local history. We should like to thank Mr. Montague for sponsoring the Society and Mrs. Macklow for allowing us to use the School Shop. T.R.M.

JAZZ CLUB

Further proof of the Society's growing popularity is provided this term by the increased membership, now standing at forty-five, and another joint meeting with St. Helen's, when we were privileged to hear the Hon. Gerald Lascelles on Oscar Peterson.

It is with regret that the Society bids farewell to its faithful and enthusiastic Sponsor, the Rev. Mark Williams. Mr. Williams has done a great deal for the Society and we shall always remember him. We do, however, look forward to welcoming our new Sponsor, Mr. Manly, who we hope will enjoy a long and pleasant association with the Society.

This term's meetings have been most interesting and worthwhile, although one unfortunately had to be postponed. Three outings to Oxford were held, while some members of the Society are attending a concert in London.

The Society has now accumulated a sizeable sum of money for the formation of a record library. This is yet another sign of the Society's expansion which we hope will be maintained in the face of impending examinations. R.D.S.

JOINT CLUB

At the beginning of term we entertained some of the more musically minded young ladies in the School Shop after they had joined the boarders in listening to Mr. Anthony Hopkins and his piano. This provided an excellent 'net practice' before the real thing a week later

— a social in Lacies Court. The evening was considerably enlivened by the short entertainments that each side produced. Some remarkable new talent was revealed during the course of a boxing match, several songs and what must be called a 'dancing act'.

The second full meeting took the form of a St. Valentine's Party, held at the Manor, on 13th February. The wearing of masks for at least some of the evening added something of a new dimension to the proceedings, and together with the magnificent refreshments enabled us to have a very pleasant time. On 6th March we were back in Lacies Court, after once again joining the boarders for an Evening Entertainment, this time provided by Mr. Stuart Keen presenting an early Chaplin film. Nothing could have been better calculated to put the whole club into a perfect mood for the remainder of the evening.

Finally, two thank yous — to Mr. Sewry and Miss Glass for continuing to bear with us so patiently, and to Nicholas Wharton, who has worked extremely hard to provide mural decorations for the meetings, as well as a supply of first-class masks for the St. Valentine's Party.

P.G.H.

LITERARY SOCIETY

This term only two meetings were held. At the first, on 28th January, P. J. Evans read a provocative paper on 'D. H. Lawrence'. In it he dwelt almost entirely on Lawrence's works rather than on the events of his life and provided a great deal of material for the discussion that followed. It was argued that his real claim to greatness lay in his descriptive powers, and it was decided that his short stories were generally more successful than his better-known full-length novels.

At the second meeting on Thursday, 18th February, S. N. Pearson read a paper entitled 'Yeats: the man, the poet'. He traced the development of Yeats' unique contribution to English literature by giving a wealth of example from his poetry. The ensuing discussion centred around the extent to which Yeats was influenced by events in his own life and by the work of others.

The success of the Society depends to a large extent on the generosity of parents, for whose lavish hospitality during the term we are most grateful. Our thanks must also be extended to Mr. Owen for his continued support of the Society.

A.G.F.

LOCOMOTIVE SOCIETY

This term the Society held two meetings and one excursion. The first meeting took place on 15th March when Mr. Butt gave a talk on 'The Rise and Decline of the Broad Gauge'. At the second meeting, held on Thursday, 25th March, P. J. Snowley spoke on 'The Cam Brea and Cawder Model Railway'.

An excursion took place on Wednesday, 31st March, when members of the Society visited locomotive depots at Birmingham and Wolverhampton, where an enjoyable time was had by all.

This term we bid farewell to our Sponsor, the Rev. M. N. Williams, for whose enthusiasm and interest we are most grateful. We welcome Mr. Morelle next term as his successor.

K.G.R.

MATHS SOCIETY

This term the Society has carried out an entirely new venture which has proved a great success. On as many Friday afternoons as possible Mr. Tammadge gave a series of talks on 'Matrices', an important subject not at present included in the school syllabus. These interesting and

extremely valuable lectures have shown the way for similar projects in the future.

On Monday, 22nd February, Dr. J. Rollett of the Oxford University Computer Laboratory spoke on 'Computer Hardware', a fascinating lecture in which the mechanics of modern electronic computers were explained and the various designs of machines compared.

For the final meeting Mr. Wheedon of the Muldivo Calculating Machine Company gave a demonstration of advanced techniques for the hand calculator on the afternoon of Friday, 5th March. This talk, despite its rather specialised appeal, was of great value and interest.

S.M.N.

MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

The Society has had a subdued, yet useful, term. Four meetings were held and one excursion took place. Three evenings were spent in conjunction with St. Helen's French Club. At the first meeting on 5th February, Moliere's 'L'Avare' was read as a background to 'A' Level, and on 19th February Mr. and Mrs. Manly kindly organised a conversational evening in German for which we should like to express our gratitude. In the following meeting which took place on 11th March we entertained the St. Helen's girls to French discussion and on the 18th both schools joined forces to attend a lecture on 'Paris' at Culham College. The final meeting took place at St. Helen's when we listened to a recording of 'L'Avare' which proved most valuable.

The Society would like to thank Mrs. Macklow for the use of the School Shop during the term.

J.A.R.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

This term has been most profitable: the darkroom has been redecorated and new equipment installed, membership has increased and fortnightly meetings held. Members can now purchase photographic supplies very cheaply through the Society.

At the first meeting society-made films were shown, some still unfinished. Those we hope to complete shortly. Two illustrated talks, by Hounam and Wilson, followed, on 'Abstract Photography' and 'A History of Photography' respectively.

The final meeting was undoubtedly the high-spot of the term, when Mr. Tom Denniford, O.A., and sometime Secretary of A.S.P.S., spoke to ciné-minded members on various aspects of amateur film making. We hope to revive the Ciné Section next term.

Various projects are under consideration for the summer, including a visit to a film studio.

C.N.C.

PLAY READING SOCIETY

At the beginning of term A. R. Coffee became secretary in succession to A. G. Fairlie, who must be thanked for all he has done over the past two years. The first meeting of the term, at which Brecht's 'Life of Galileo' was read, was very well attended, and it was especially pleasing to see so many ladies from St. Helen's present. R. B. Davis gave a fine rendering of the title role and the general standard of reading was high. The remaining two meetings were not so well attended, but were nevertheless enjoyable: the plays read were 'Arms and the Man' by Shaw and John Whiting's 'Penny for a song'. Further entertainment was provided at the second meeting when Mr. Griffin showed the slides he had taken at last term's School play, which were of great interest to all.

As we hoped, there was a large attendance at the fourth meeting, the last to be held in Lacies Court, which has been the Society's home for over ten years. All the readers combined to make the play, André Obey's 'Frost at Midnight' a fitting end to the term's activities.

Finally, we are much indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Griffin for the excellent hospitality, both this term and throughout our many years with them at Lacies Court. A.R.C.

ROYSSE SOCIETY

The meetings this term were all of a very high standard, both the papers and the ensuing discussions being some of the best the Society has had in recent years.

At the first meeting, on Wednesday, 10th February, we began by welcoming four new members — J. R. Jennings, V. A. Marsh, C. W. F. M. Cox and P. A. Sugg. H. J. N. Wharton then read a paper entitled 'Man, Mysticism and the Occult'. This was a well planned survey covering a great deal of ground and it was obvious that much extensive research had gone into it. It was pleasant to see that everyone took part in the lively discussion, which ranged over the whole field of religion and belief in the supernatural.

On Thursday, 4th March, T. B. Moore spoke on 'Subtopia' in another excellent paper. He covered the problems of architecture and planning in metropolis, town, suburbs and country, and suggested several possible lines of improvement. There was some disagreement about the effects on the mind of both shoddiness and large-scale uniformity. It was agreed that action was urgently needed, but the nature and the extent of reform was argued at considerable length.

Finally, on Wednesday, 7th March, P. B. Godfrey began a discussion of the British aircraft industry with a very clear account of a complicated situation. Not the least interesting part of this was a history of early aviation, but inevitably discussion centred on the present difficulties. The strange title of his paper, 'The 51st State', proved fully justified, as the increasing reliance on America was the subject uppermost in everyone's mind. Fuller co-operation with Europe was generally agreed to be the most acceptable solution.

We should like to thank the Headmaster and the Misses Cobban for their hospitality and refreshments that never fail to sustain us throughout the rigours of discussion. S.M.N.

SAILING CLUB

The greater part of this term has been spent in an attempt to get the club's two Graduates ship-shape for the season's activities. On the whole, only varnishing has been necessary this year, but a few minor modifications proved necessary for one of the yachts.

Negotiations have been carried out with R.A.F. Abingdon S.C. and as from the beginning of the summer term we have been allowed full use of their facilities, including four storage berths, for which we are most grateful.

Two away matches have been arranged for the summer term, so we look forward to an encouraging and, we hope, successful season's sailing. A.N.R.W.

ST. EDMUND SOCIETY

The term opened with an 'Any Questions' evening on 27th January, when we were honoured to have a distinguished panel of experts consisting of a Roman Catholic (Fr. Columba Ryan), a Baptist (Rev.

W. H. Cox), a scientist from Harwell (Mr. W. G. Busbridge) and our own Mr. Baker, who put the Quaker point of view. The panel dealt with each question fairly and frankly, while many valuable comments were made from the floor, making this a most stimulating evening.

On 17th February, Mr. T. E. F. Carr, father of two pupils, spoke on 'Religion — a personal point of view'. He outlined his own opinions on religion in general, dealing with it under three headings: cosmology, ideals and ethics. Vigorous discussion ensued, and the Chaplain closed the meeting with some difficulty.

Finally, on 10th March, a film, 'Speaking About Missionaries', was shown, but proved to be rather disappointing.

Our enjoyment of the first and last meetings was enhanced by the presence of some young ladies from St. Helen's. Next term will see a new Secretary, P. J. Snowley, and a much younger Committee take over: we old gentlemen who are leaving expect great things for the future of the Society!

M.A.B.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

The three meetings held this term were very successful and well attended.

At the first meeting, on 5th February, M. A. Bisby gave a most interesting talk on 'Viruses'. He catered for all levels in the School by including both the fundamental facts of virology and some of the most up to date theories. At the second meeting on 18th March, an Old Abingdonian, Dr. B. P. Kibble, gave a talk entitled 'Optical Pumping', dealing with a new polarization effect on the vapour of certain metals. By the use of circularly polarized light the vapour can be magnetised and used as a highly sensitive magnetometer. Among other things the instrument has been used to locate a buried city. After the meeting refreshments were served in the School Shop.

The final meeting of the term took the form of a film show, at which 'Panorama No. 11', 'Energetically Yours' and 'Chlorine' were seen. All three films were interesting, if not very advanced technically.

C.C.F.

THE SYMPOSIUM

The first two meetings of the term were held in the History Room. On 1st February D. E. Joyce read a paper on 'Education' in which he gave a comprehensive survey of the state of education today from kindergartens to universities. On 27th February R. J. Thornton read a paper entitled 'Waste' which dealt with the drop in quality and durability of many goods — the result of an ever increasing production rate and hence the saturated markets.

The final meeting of the term was held by kind invitation of J. C. Mellor at his home, and we are extremely grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Mellor for their warm hospitality. C. J. Corps read a paper on 'The Right to Live and Die' in which he discussed such topics as abortion, suicide and euthanasia. Mr. Murray kindly sponsored this meeting in Mr. Hillary's absence.

Discussion following the papers has been both entertaining and profitable, with an increasing tendency to remain relevant to the subject matter of the paper. It is to be hoped that this trend will be maintained.

Lastly our thanks are due to Mr. Hillary for continuing to act as our sponsor this term.

R.J.T.

TURNOR SOCIETY

The three meetings this term were of great variety and all proved to be most enjoyable and stimulating. The society opened with a Brains Trust on the 22nd January, with a panel consisting of P. J. Snowley, M. A. Bisby, T. R. Morris, J. C. Randall and D. G. S. Hilleard and chaired by A. R. Williams. Topics dealt with ranged from pirate radio stations to British Railways but, although there was active participation from the audience, attendance was unfortunately low. This factor, however, improved for 12th February when Mr. D. H. Fielding gave us a most interesting talk on 'University Life'. His recollections and snippets of information, I am sure, proved most useful for those amongst us who depart next Summer for these establishments.

Our final offering on 19th March was kindly given by another member of the staff — Mr. D. W. Manly — who spoke on 'Berlin'. After describing the city and its many problems Mr. Manly told us of the entertainments to be found in the city — Berlin, it appears, rivals London in respect of the number of public houses!

D.G.S.H.

LIBRARY NOTES

GRUNDY LIBRARY

We are most grateful to Mrs. Raymont for the gift of some books on horsemanship which belonged to her son Major O. T. M. Raymont (1922–27) who was killed in action in Flanders in May 1940. Many thanks also to Cavell Portman for Lady Bonham-Carter's *Churchill as I knew him*.
G.F.D.

O.A. NOTES

BIRTHS

BROWN. On 5th September, 1964, to Janet, wife of George E. G. Brown (1956), a daughter, Helen.

BATEMAN. On 24th April, 1965, to Jane, wife of Michael Bateman (1951), a son, Daniel.

CANDY. On 31st March, 1965, to Jill, wife of Philip S. Candy (1957), a daughter, Caroline.

MARRIAGES

BRIMBLE-GRESSWELL. On 6th February, 1965, at St. Michael's Church in the North Gate, Oxford, John Brimble (1959) to Judith Ann Gresswell.

WIGGINS-WIDDOWS. On 6th March, 1965, at St. Helen's Church, Abingdon, Walter F. Wiggins (1934) to Miss Mary Joyce Widdows.

DEATHS

INSLEY. On 24th January, 1965, Ernest Eccleston Insley, 1896-97, aged 86.

SHORT. On 2nd February, 1965, at Chichester, Herbert William Short, 1907-11, aged 70.

GRAFF. On 28th December, 1964, suddenly at his home in London, Cuthbert Edward Cousins Graff, 1900-04, aged 78.

Ernest Insley, uncle of Hugh Insley-Fox (1926), during his short time at the School was a member of the soccer and cricket teams and also a School prefect. On leaving he qualified as an architect. In World War I he served in France and rose to the rank of Capt.

William Short spent most of his life in the Navy serving in both World Wars and retiring with the rank of Paymaster Lieut. Returning to Abingdon he was for many years the popular landlord of the Ox.

Stanley F. Wiggins (1921) is this year serving as Provincial Grand Master of the Oddfellows.

John Hooke (1924) has been elected Captain of Frilford Heath Golf Club.

Patrick Mosdell (1931) now hold an administrative post with the Law Society in London.

Dr. Paul Cope (1954) is in General Practice in Worcester.

Tom Brailsford (1943), whose *Nylons Unlimited* enterprise seems to flourish exceedingly, has acquired a large mansion at Box, near Chippenham to cope with the business.

Meyer Thomas (1932) is Manager of the Ogogo Club, Newcastle upon Tyne, which 'owns' *The Animals*.

John Amies (1937) is now Manager of the Pitsea, Essex, branch of Lloyds Bank.

Basil Margrave (1947) has left Southern Television in favour of Pye Records Ltd. He lives at Whitton, Middlesex.

David Langton (1956) has been appointed to a post at Bedford School, and William Dady (1956) goes to Stowe in September as an Art Master.

Christopher Coble (1957), Lieut. R.N., is now in *H.M.S. Bastion* but still operating round the Persian Gulf. Midshipman Simon Richardson (1963) recently joined him, so that half the ship's officers are O.A.s.

James Milne (1950), Lieut. R.N., with 819 Naval Air Squadron based at Ballykelly, has qualified for the Goldfish Club by ditching in the Moray Firth from a Wessex aircraft.

Capt. Clye Aylin (1952), D.E.R.R., is attached to the Army Apprentices' School at Arborfield, Berks.

From overseas we were very pleased to see Richard Carter (1956) and his wife from New Zealand. He is doing a Ph.D. course in Geology at Clare, Cambridge: Michael Blythe (1959), home for a short time from Australia, where he is at present a stock-grader, assessing the quality and value of sheep and cattle. He is also a paratroop officer in the Australian equivalent of the T.A.: Bryan Perry (1950) with his family and John Mobbs (1957) without his cars, on leave from Malaya: Peter King (1945) on what may be his last leave from Kenya; and Richard Van Wagenen (1963) on a flying vacation trip to Europe.

Paul Beckett (1934) has abandoned business for the Civil Service and is with the National Assistance Board.

Alan Costley (1959) now married, is Lecturer in Zoology, Parasitology and Microbiology at Harper Adams Agricultural College, Newport, Salop.

Tom Denniford (1958) has qualified as Chartered Surveyor and Land Agent, and is Personal Assistant to one of the partners in the Cambridge firm to which he was articled.

Graham Morse (1959) has been appointed Assistant Sales Manager, Southern Region, for T. Wall & Sons, an Associate Company of Unilever with whom he has completed four years training. He and his wife are now settled at Henley on Thames.

Anthony Gresswell (1959) has passed the Final Exam of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and is working for a firm in London. His brother Christopher (1961) has just finished his course at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester.

Another farmer David Hewison (1963) is at Seale Hayne College, studying for the National Diploma in Agriculture. Brother Robert (1964) is with the B.B.C. in London.

Keith Duly (1959) has passed the H.N. Diploma in Engineering and is working with an aircraft firm.

John Comfort (1961), B.Sc. Leics., is joining the British Iron and Steel Research Association.

Peter Davis (1959) is doing a three-year tour under the Army Education Department as Metalwork teacher at St. George's School, Hong Kong. He and his wife find life there very pleasant.

George Darroch (1959) has an executive post with British Railways.

Gerald Farrington (1960) has been appointed Planning Assistant in the Wilts County Planning Dept. at Trowbridge. He proposes to qualify as A.M.T.P.I.

Peter Merriman (1962) is a Senior Under-Officer at Henlow R.A.F. Technical College.

Roger Parsons (1963) is training with Cables & Wireless at Zodiac House, Porthcurno, Cornwall.

Peter Webb (1962) has been working as an Assistant Examiner in the Estate Duty Office, and hopes to start reading for the Bar.

Keith Pilling (1963) is a Junior Executive, Data-processing, with A. C. Neilsen, the Market Research people of Oxford.

Cavell Portman (1964) has started a 5 years training with John Smedley, the large textiles firm at Matlock.

John Goodman (1962) in the Costing Office of Simms Sons and Cooke, Contractors, of Nottingham, has decided to qualify as a Costing Accountant.

Michael Giddings (1964) is now on his way to Katmandu, as one of a party of 30 travelling overland by bus. The trip there will take two months in camping style, and he will no doubt have some good tales to tell when he returns.

O.A. CLUB NOTES

The 21st London Dinner was held on Saturday, 13th March, in the Harcourt Room at the House of Commons by the sponsoring of Sir George Sinclair. There was a gratifying response to Stanley Paige's efforts and nearly 100 members and guests were present, and it was generally voted one of the pleasantest and most successful Dinners held in London. We are very grateful to Sir George also for conducting a party through both Chambers. His lively commentary was most interesting and entertaining.

The President, Duncan West, was in the Chair at Dinner, supported by the Chairman of the Governors, Mr. C. G. Stow and the Headmaster, and he made what must have been the shortest Presidential speech on record. As he explained, he had already circulated his views and comments by letter to all members of the Club. The Headmaster replied to the toast of the School at more normal length and gave a heartening picture of the present state and hope for the future — as far as that can be foreseen. Mr. Montague proposed the health of the Club in a racy vein and Sir George wound up proceedings with some well-directed words.

At the end of term another gathering of Old Boys at Universities and comparable institutions was held at the School. Sixty-three Old Boys were able to attend to meet one another and members of the Staff. It was a most enjoyable evening and the response shows that such occasions are well worth perpetuating.

It was very unfortunate that weather and track conditions caused the cancellation of the Athletics Meeting with the School, but we might take this occasion to urge Old Boys who can compete in any of the events to support the Club's team more readily than they have done in recent years.

We give advance notice again that Old Boys' Day, the A.G.M. and the Annual Dinner will be held on Friday, 23rd July. The 1st XI Cricket Match and the Tennis Match will start on the Friday and continue on Saturday, which will be Founder's Day.

The Secretaries addresses are:

Club Secretary: R. R. Bailey, 10 Whites Lane, Radley, Abingdon (Abingdon 1097); or 6 Bath Street, Abingdon (Abingdon 266).

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

Sports Secretary (Cricket, Hockey): P. J. Millard, 56 Worting Road, Basingstoke, Hants.

Masonic Lodge Secretary: J. A. D. Cox, 51 Northcourt Road, Abingdon (Abingdon 449).

From time to time, the School needs photographs of School buildings or activities taken before 1950, and it has been suggested that the School's photographic collection be augmented by an appeal to readers of this magazine to send any photographs (negatives or plates preferred) taken before 1957 to Mr. Duxbury at the School, together with any information on the scene that might be useful to us. Such photographs would only be kept a week or two for duplication and filing, before being returned, with thanks, to the owner. If the response is good, an exhibition may be arranged for Founder's Day, which should be of great interest to all friends of the School. We are very anxious to obtain photographs taken before 1900, especially of the Roysse Rooms, and if possible of the site of the School before its construction in 1870, but let this not discourage our readers from sending us any other photographs of unusual or historic interest in their possession.

(Edit.).

OLD ABINGDONIAN TRUST FUND

Work on the second fives court which is the next objective of the Fund, proceeds slowly but steadily. We are most grateful to J. A. D. Cox for increasing his Covenant and to J. N. Paige and E. P. Rice for renewing theirs. We hope others will follow their example.

SUMMARY OF GAMES FIXTURES

CRICKET — FIRST ELEVEN

May

- Sat. 8 v. Newbury Grammar School (h).
 Wed. 19 v. Royal Masonic School, Bushey (a), 11.30 a.m.
 Sat. 22 v. King Edward VI School, Southampton (h), 1.45 p.m.
 Wed. 26 v. Berkshire Gentlemen (h), 11.30 a.m.
 Sat. 29 v. Bloxham School (h).

June

- Wed. 2 v. Pembroke College (a).
 Sat. 5 v. Abingdon C.C. (h).
 Wed. 9 v. Solihull School (a), 11.30 a.m.
 Sat. 12 v. Pangbourne Nautical College (h).
 Wed. 16 v. Magdalen College School (h).
 Sat. 19 v. Incogniti C.C. (h), 11.30 a.m.
 Wed. 23 v. Brentwood School (a), 11.30 a.m.
 Sat. 26 v. M.C.C. (h), 11.30 a.m.
 Wed. 30 v. Common Room (h).

July

- Sat. 3 v. Oratory School (a).
 Sat. 10 v. R.G.S. High Wycombe (h).
 Tues. 20 v. Haarlem C.C. Juniors (h), 11.30 a.m.
 Fri. 23 v. Old Abingdonians (h), 11.30 a.m.
 Sat. 24

ROWING — REGATTAS

May

- Sat. 15 Thames Ditton.
 Sat. 22 Wallingford.
 Sat. 29 Reading Clinker.

June

- Sat. 5 Walton and Oxford.
 Mon. 7 Hereford.
 Sat. 12 Reading Amateur.
 Sat. 19 Marlow.
 Wed. 23 Pangbourne—National Schools.
 Wed. 30 Henley Royal—first day.

July

- Sat. 3 Henley Royal—final day.
 Sat. 10 Kingston and the Reading Working Men's.
 Sat. 17 Molesey.
 Sat. 24 Bedford.

ATHLETICS

May

- Wed. 19 v. Cokethorpe School (a).
 Sat. 22 v. N. Berks Schools Championships.
 Tues. 25 v. Westminster College (a) — evening.

June

- Wed. 2 v. Wallingford Grammar School.
 Tues. 8 v. Pocklington School and Stamford School. (provisional).

TENNIS FIRST SIX

May

- Sat. 1 v. Common Room (h).
 Sat. 8 v. Radley College (h).
 Sat. 15 v. Berkhamsted School (a).
 Wed. 19 v. Magdalen College School (h).
 Sat. 22 v. Leighton Park School (a).
 Wed. 26 v. Culham College (h).
 Sat. 29 v. Bloxham School (h).

June

- Wed. 9 v. Reading School (h).

July

- Sat. 3 v. Pangbourne Nautical College (a).
 Sat. 10 v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (h).
 Wed. 14 v. Bohemians 'A' (a).
 Mon. 19 v. Abingdon L.T.C. (a).
 Fri. 23 v. Old Abingdonians (h).
 Sat. 24

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 70% to the value of all subscriptions to the Fund of 10/- and over will gladly be accepted.
2. By compounding for Life Subscription: 5 guineas maximum 2 guineas minimum, according to age.
3. By subscription to the Magazine at current price, at present 7/6 per annum.

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



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