

THE ABINGDONIAN



MAY 1966

THE ABINGDONIAN

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OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL

April 1966

SCHOOL PREFECTS

R. B. Davis (Head of School and of Boarders) (LC)	
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D. W. Penney (D)	D. W. Tanner (C)
W. M. Marshall (L)	N. P. Bell (D)
D. S. Partridge (D)	N. C. Ware (S)
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A. R. Coffee (S)	P. G. Dowling (W)

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R. A. Chaplin.

Larkhill—R. P. Jessett: A. J. Longstaff.

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M. G. Cockman: A. L. Leaver: T. J. Wood: D. J. Saunders:
A. N. R. Wharton: C. M. B. Wharton.

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Secretary of Cricket—R. A. Jackson.
Captain of Boats—S. P. Sewry.
Secretary of Boats—I. R. Hewes.
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Secretary of Athletics—D. W. Hall.
Captain of Tennis—R. E. N. Bradfield.
Secretary of Tennis—M. G. Cockman.
Secretary of G.G.C.—R. A. Jackson.

"The Abingdonian"

Editor: R. B. Davis.

Assistant Editors: M. J. H. Liversidge, J. D. Evans.

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

EDITORIAL

The preservation of peace is the most important task of our age—upon it depends the future and prosperity of mankind. It should therefore be the aim of civilized man to pursue peace at all times and at all costs. This is the declared object of the United Nations and every nation or combination of nations pays at least lip service to it. It is the ideal of Christendom and of other religions also. Nonetheless the advance of science and the development of materialist philosophies has made the task one of immense difficulty. Byron's particularly nasty phrase "War's a brain-spattering, windpipe-slitting art" is as true today as ever it was in spite of the vastly more sophisticated weapons now in use. The nuclear deterrent in which Western civilization uneasily trusts has not prevented war completely and within the lifetime of many boys still at the School the disease of war has ravaged lands in the Near and Far East. Indeed the Vietnam trouble threatens to involve other Western peoples in addition to the USA. Small wonder therefore that some people despairingly support Ban the Bomb demonstrations or seek temporary consolation in various forms of escapism.

Yet there is another side to the penny which we should not forget at this Easter time. The generation which has known Hitler and Eichmann has also known Pope Paul and Albert Schweitzer. Modern society is not really concerned only with entertainment and the making of money, as some would have us believe, but has done much to destroy poverty and unhappiness, has conquered Everest and the Eiger Wall and displays such youthful enterprise as VSO, Oxfam or the Ockenden Venture. Civilization is beginning to see its way to solving its many problems and the very march of science, so frightening in its horrific possibilities, has also given the world hope that in the not too distant

future major diseases will be eliminated, population and food resources controlled and space mastered in the interests of mankind. Peaceful co-existence is not merely a convenient phrase on the tongues of politicians; it is a possibility—West and East, though still divided, are nearer together than they were, Europe will some day soon be united, and world opinion—usually just and considered—is now perhaps a bigger factor in politics than it has ever been. There are many signs too that the Christian Church is launched upon the great re-unification movement of all time and a unified Church, able to give in a positive and meaningful way the Easter message of Love, may well be the greatest single achievement of this age.

SCHOOL NOTES

For the benefit of posterity, we may note that the recent election campaign was the quietest and least eventful in our memory. But the School, while maintaining its traditional impartiality, was far from uninterested. Apart from our personal connection with our former member, we had two parents and two Old Boys among the candidates—nicely balanced between the two major parties.

Now we can congratulate Mr. Airey Neave on his re-election as the Member for Abingdon (and therefore as a Governor of this School) with a reduced but still comfortable majority; and Sir George Sinclair, O.A., and Mr. Angus Maude on being returned for Dorking and Stratford respectively, in each case with a majority of around the ten thousand. Let us salute too Dr. Alan Matterson, who polled by far the highest Labour vote this division has ever known, and Mr. Michael Jones, O.A. (like Sir George, a former member of Pembroke College), who cut his political teeth in the New Forest Division, where he chipped nearly two thousand off the Conservative majority.

No Mayor of Abingdon can have inspired more universal affection—and respect—than Councillor Percy Lambert. In saying farewell to him we offer an especially warm welcome to his successor as Mayor and Governor, Alderman John Jones. Not only is Alderman Jones a school-master by trade. The position of his home, edged in as it is on both sides by school property, will enable him to keep an unusually observant eye on our goings-on.

Councillor Lambert's mayoralty will be memorable for the opening of the Abbey Hall. Those of us who have already enjoyed the privilege of attending a function there will know what a gracious and useful addition this provides to the amenities of the town: and we much look forward to seeing our own actors disporting themselves on the spacious stage. But perversely, we shall miss the indefinable atmosphere of the Corn Exchange . . .

We send warm good wishes for a speedy recovery to Dr. Mary Watson, who has just undergone an operation in the Radcliffe.

The Headmaster's article on the Direct Grant Schools in the 'Spectator' of January 21st attracted considerable attention. It was quoted *in extenso* in the American 'Christian Science Monitor', and it was referred to in the House of Lords debate on 23rd February.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Woolnough on the birth of a son and heir (13th February); Mr. and Mrs. Iain Murray, now of Edinburgh, on the birth of a second son, Alan Charles (29th March); and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Smithson on the birth of a fourth daughter (15th April).

A strong contingent from Abingdon attended the wedding in Hereford Cathedral, on 9th April, of Mr. John Cullen and Miss Mary Randolph, sister of our own Mr. Randolph. The ceremony was performed by the Archdeacon of Hereford, the father of the bride.

Farewell and good wishes to Miss Winship as she leaves the Headmaster's Office to prepare for her marriage to Major Elrington (our tally is six secretaries in ten years—three married to members of the staff, three to serving officers). And a welcome to her successor, Miss Stainton.

It is far too early for us to start saying nice things about the members of the staff who are leaving us in July. But we can at any rate record, baldly and bleakly, that we shall be losing on retirement two key men, the Bursar and Mr. Duxbury, whose devoted service to the School has been quite incalculable. Then Mr. Lewis will be returning to his native Rhodesia, to strengthen, we hope, the forces of sanity and liberalism in that unhappy land. And no less than three of our younger masters have secured appointment as Heads of Department in larger schools—Mr. Blagden (Head of Science at S. John's College, Johannesburg), Mr. Manly (Head of Modern Languages at Stowe) and Mr. Tyson (Head of Mathematics at Bradfield). We understand that replacements have already been secured for all five.

We shall be losing Mr. Hillary too in September, but only for one term. We congratulate him on his election to a Schoolmaster Studentship at Christ Church, Oxford.

And congratulations too to Mr. Reynolds on being awarded a second degree, B.Sc. (Biological Studies), at Oxford.

It was unfortunate that Mr. Herrman should have to go into the Radcliffe for a major operation just when he was finding his feet here so well. But convalescence, after a sticky start, now seems to be running smoothly, and we shall welcome him back very warmly this coming term.

Mr. and Mrs. Tammadge left by air on 30th March for their visit to South Africa as the guests of the South African Conference of Headmasters and Headmistresses. S.M.P. has now taken the place allotted

by Dean Gaisford to Greek Literature ("which not only elevates above the vulgar herd, but leads not infrequently . . .").

We hear cheerful news from Mr. Montague in Australia. Conversely, Mr. Booth is returning very shortly from British Columbia to take up an appointment at Uppingham.

During the month of May we shall welcome two student masters from Westminster College, Mr. John Cooper (Music) and Mr. Peter Franks (Physics).

We are indeed grateful to Mrs. Duffield for her continued kindness to our archaeologists, who gadded off to Chedworth with her, as her guests, on the Corps Field Day (22nd March); and also to a parent, Mr. J. M. Pearson, for an unusually generous cheque which with his permission has been devoted to the Tennis Appeal.

At the beginning of the Lent Term the number of boys on the School Roll was exactly 600. Gallant fellows!

We congratulate M. C. Johnson on appointment to a direct-entry Commission in the R.A.F. (he was written up in the N.B.H. of 13th January); and M. A. Cockerill and A. McL. King on the award of flying scholarships.

Uncareerwise, so to speak, we were pleased to hear of B. C. Orland's appointment as Organist at the New Road Baptist Church, Oxford; and of A. P. Fawcett's initiative in organising a group of young enthusiasts for *avant-garde* art which was the subject of an article in 'Isis' on 16th February. In the same issue was an article by Fawcett himself describing the activities of Signals Gallery, the London centre of Kinetic Art.

The customary Parents' Evenings were held this term for Third Forms (on 10th February) and for Sixth Special, Remove and Fifth Forms (on 3rd March). The written papers of the School Entrance Examination took place on 21st February, and interviews followed for selected candidates on 8th, 10th and 15th March.

The Saturday Evening Entertainments this term included the following lectures (all illustrated with slides).

29th January—Captain Robert Langford, R.E., F.R.G.S., on 'An Arabian Winter—Oman and Muscat'.

26th February—Mr. Malcolm Fewtrell on 'The Great Train Robbery'.

19th March—Mr. Michael Lawes on 'Sailing Alone to the Mediterranean'.

—together with the following feature films: 'Mister Roberts', 'Tiger Bay', 'Charade' and 'Tunes of Glory'.

The Abingdon School Subscription Concert Society ended its season with two successful meetings. On 13th February the Bernard Brown

Brass Ensemble entertained us, and on 6th March we heard the Bernicia Ensemble of Edinburgh, led by David Wiggins, O.A.

The Study Group of the Abingdon and District Council of Churches met in the Court Room on 17th January, 21st February and 21st March.

Representatives of the Education Section of R.A.F. Abingdon visited the School on 27th January to take a series of photographs.

On 1st February we welcomed Mr. G. K. Barnes of the Public Schools Appointments Bureau and on 24th February Lt. Cdr. R. C. Sturgeon, R.N., our Area Schools Liaison Officer, whose talk on the work of the Royal Navy was illustrated by a film.

We are very grateful to Mr. John Beere, O.A., who came down to talk to the Bruce Society on 'Japan' on 18th March.

Other visitors whom we were glad to welcome included the Bishop of Reading, who talked to the St. Edmund Society on 31st January; Dr. Roger Highfield, who spoke to the Archaeologists on 15th February; Mr. N. N. Gilpin, Senior Chemistry Master of the Methodist College, Belfast (10th March); Professor Howard F. Fehr, Project Director of the Secondary School Mathematics Curriculum Improvement Study of Columbia University, N.Y. (11th March); and the Provost of Eton, Lord Caccia, who spent the greater part of the day with us on 25th March.

Then during the holidays we hear we received a visit (the first since he left us some sixteen years ago) from Mr. Geoffrey Tudor, a former Olympic runner who started his teaching career here and who is now Headmaster of the Thomas Delarue School for Spastics.

With considerable prescience, Mr. Fairhead arranged early in the term for representatives of the three parties to talk in turn to our Economists on the structure of their party organisations. We are extremely grateful to Mr. Smith, the Conservative agent, and to his Labour opposite number, Mr. Murphy, who did their stint on 19th and 24th February respectively. The visit of the Liberal agent had to be postponed because of the announcement of the General Election.

Entertainments outside the School which we have attended include: a talk by the Headmaster to the U.N.A. on 'Iran Today' at the College of Further Education (18th January); the Fourth S. Nicolas' Lecture, on 'William Sanday and H. G. Woods' by Rev. Dr. A. M. G. Stephenson (27th January); a visit to the Slimbridge Wild Fowl Trust, organised by Mr. Truran (5th February); a visit to the Bonnard Exhibition in London, organised by Mr. Fairhead (27th February); a Seminar on Commonwealth Subjects at Rhodes House (3rd March); the North Berks Musical Festival (18th and 25th March); and a lecture by Mr. C. B. Daish, at the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham, on 'Physics and Games' (24th March).

We were particularly glad to be invited to send contingents to the

series of Life Room Lectures organised by the Oxford School of Art. The four speakers we heard were Dr. R. W. Parnell on 'Physique and Behaviour' (18th February), Professor Max Beloff on 'Some Current Problems in British Government' (25th February), Dr. D. Blundell on 'The Wandering Continents', and Mr. Alan Bullock, Master of S. Catherine's, on 'When did the Twentieth Century Begin?' (18th March).

R. A. Balbernie and M. A. Cockerill represented us at a weekend conference on 'Christianity in the World of Today' organised by the Society of St. John the Evangelist at Cowley (11th—13th February); and on 3rd March A. R. Gibbs and G. H. Hallett gave a musical demonstration at Fitzharrys School.

The three School Orchestras gave an informal concert in the Court Room on 27th February. Our Easter offering of music was given in S. Helen's Church on 24th March, the programme consisting of Haydn's Nelson Mass and Handel's Concerto Grosso no. 12.

Other events of the end of term included the fourth annual reunion of Old Boys *in stat. pup.* which was held in Court Room and School Shop on the evening of Sports Day, 26th March. Old hands considered it to be an even more successful function than its predecessors.

On the last evening of term, 28th March, the usual Boarders' Concert was laid on in the Court Room. Especial congratulations to the Head of Boarders for ensuring the maximum of entertainment, the minimum of embarrassment.

Those who were tuned in to the right channel on 24th January could see David Lloyd, O.A., compering a programme about the town of Abingdon, bun-throwing and all.

And we hear that Beverley Marks, O.A., who is also working in Birmingham—with the B.B.C.—is currently involved in a programme about the Midland Cathedrals for which he has borrowed the tape of our Coventry Evensong of 1963. So we may be on the air again soon!

Talking of which, at least one member of the staff, en route to the Cullen wedding, tuned in by chance to a repeat performance of 'The Highway Code' by the B.B.C. The Master Singers—two of whom were at the wedding—have now had their well-known extravaganza published commercially by Parlophone (R. 5428 — The Highway Code/The Rumbletum Song, by the Master Singers, 7/6).

And if we may be forgiven another 'commercial interlude', we have been delighted to see the favourable reviews of Michael Bateman, O.A.'s, first book 'Funny Way to Earn a Living' (Leslie Frewin, 35/-).

We were reconciling ourselves to the disappearance of the Corn Exchange. Now the Queen's Hotel, haunt (perhaps more often than was officially known) of so many generations of Abingdonians, is half-

demolished. But the new Shopping Centre is already taking shape, and some day we shall see that Abingdon has changed its face for the better.

Domestic innovation deserves record. The institution of house-monitors will encourage the morale of the junior athletic houses and give a first taste of responsibility to deserving seniors. The use of members of the Staff for the Lenten addresses was a strikingly successful experiment. We commend the initiative of the senior boy who secured official approval for the institution of a group of blood-donors, and then bullied his friends into joining it. Upper-sixth-formers have been given the privilege of wearing a swagger scarf with longitudinal stripes of cerise and white, which splashes its colour gaily round the street of Abingdon. And two new ties, of very limited distribution, have been added to our range, for members of Alligator Cricket Club and Gryphon Boat Club respectively.

Holiday activities this year are so varied that we summarise them separately—noting here only that in coxing an unofficial Masters' Four in the Abingdon Head of the River Race the Headmaster was following in the footsteps, or rather the wake, of his mid-nineteenth century predecessor Dr. Strange, who once coxed a four which rowed down to Dorchester.

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

We also thank, for the use of photographs in this issue, Mr. Milligan, Photographer; Mr. Lewis; Mr. Manly; *The Oxford Mail*; I. M. Hallett and S. N. Pearson.

* * * *

STIRRING DULL ROOTS WITH SPRING RAIN

Once again the month of April saw a surprising number of our members engaged in worth-while activity more or less under the auspices of the School. Many of the group activities are reported more fully on other pages. Here we present a bald summary of what some of us have been doing.

The members of the 'Devonia' Expedition to Algeria, under Mr. Owen, were the first off the mark, leaving from the Gravel at 5.30 a.m. on 22nd March. Conversely, their picture-postcards are still dribbling in, ten days after their return. The Senior Scouts under Mr. Lewis left for the Lake District on 28th March. By that time the advance party of the Skye Group had already reached Tarbert, in Argyll, to prepare the camp for the main body which arrived two days later. The Arduous Training contingent waited (just!) until we had broken up on 29th

March before setting off for Kirkcudbrightshire in a three-tonner and a couple of Landrovers. Mr. Blagden had only just time to turn round on his return from Tarbert before he was off again with a party of Scouts to Snowdonia (12th April). Shortly afterwards Richard Welch started a training camp at Youlbury for another round dozen of the Group. But there were plenty of Scouts left behind to take part in Bob-a-job Week (11th-16th April). Two members of the Naval Section, R. N. Burbidge and B. M. Johnston, attended a Royal Marine Commando Course at Lympstone (3rd-9th April). Mr. Morelle flew with a small contingent of the Air Section to an Easter Camp in Germany with R.A.F. Bruggen, while one cadet, T. J. Rawlins, struck out on his own for R.A.F. Laarbruck.

Four boys have spent the whole holidays at Outward Bound Courses, G. G. V. Collings and I. P. G. Stevens at Aberdovey, M. A. Balbernie and R. D. Johnson at Eskdale. Five have attended C.A.C.M. Sixth Form Conferences, S. J. Denny and D. W. Penney at Jesus College, Cambridge (4th-7th April) and P. E. Comber, R. A. Jackson, and B. C. Orland at Jesus College, Oxford (12th-15th April). N. D. Brice has been attending the Rolls Royce Easter School at Derby. No less than ten boys have completed Easter Careers Courses—N. G. Burns, R. G. Coulbeck, P. D. Heast (all at the P.S.A.B. Manchester Course), N. D. Keen (the P.S.A.B. Ashridge Course), D. Button (Westminster Bank Staff College), I. Campbell (U.K.A.E.A.), C. N. Cook (Stanton and Staveley, Ltd.), D. M. Dickson (Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd.), D. G. Faires (H. J. Heinz) and M. J. Stilwell (British Aircraft Corporation—Operating Division).

At home, we were again well represented in the Abingdon Holiday Orchestra, which celebrated its twenty-first birthday by a longer course culminating in a public concert in the Abbey Hall. Holiday classes were laid on at school in French and Mathematics. On the day we broke up, our athletes put up a very good performance at the Schools' Athletics Meeting at Eton. At the other end of the holidays there will be nets for the cricketers, and the Gryphon Boat Club plans to enter at least four boats for the Abingdon Head of the River Race on 23rd April. But there is a scratch Masters' Crew which may well play the part of the dark horse.

And ought we to mention the young men who earned an honest penny during the holidays by attending identity parades (voluntarily!) at the Oxford City Police Station?

(And in the event Gryphon I won the Trophy awarded for the fastest School crew, while the Masters' crew, organised by Mr. Butt, had the satisfaction of beating Gryphon IV. Congratulations all round! Ed.).

FROM THE HEADMASTER

It has been a happy and an uneventful term. If there is one thing I shall remember it by more than another, it is the quality of the Lenten addresses that I heard in the Chapel. Many like myself must be grateful to those members of the staff who stuck out their necks each Thursday evening.

Actually I have been even more of an absentee headmaster than usual, for meetings and conferences out of Abingdon seem to have taken up far too much of my time. Add to this the (much more pleasant) requirement of my portrait. It is a fascinating experience sitting for somebody of Edward Halliday's calibre, and now that the picture is taking shape I can see the point in somebody's remark—based on the photograph in the Oxford Mail—that it is more like me than I am myself.

* * * *

It is disappointing that we have not yet made a start with the Ingham Music School. The snag has been to devise some form of heating-circuit which will not break the sound-proofing of the practice-rooms. But I am hoping that the Architect has now got over this one and that we shall still be able to look forward to having it in use in September. A project of less magnitude, the conversion of the Big Dormitory of School House into a range of study-bedrooms, has now been virtually completed; the measure of privacy that this provides for seniors is very much appreciated. Meanwhile the Department are vetting the plan for the new dining-hall—a project which I am desperately eager to see completed as soon as possible. The more help that the Appeal Fund can give, the easier it will be to find a way of financing the project that will be acceptable to the Powers Above. That is why I am quite brazen in continuing to appeal to all friends of the School—parents, Old Boys, and just Friends—to contribute to it.

* * * *

Now that we carry a teaching staff of some thirty-five we must expect to have a considerable number of changes each year. Indeed, something would be wrong if all our masters stayed put. It is never pleasant to say farewell, but we do our best to rejoice when young members of the staff are promoted to posts of greater responsibility elsewhere; and our 'old boys' are now teaching at an ever-increasing number of well-known schools at home and abroad. At the end of next term we shall be wishing good fortune to Messrs. Blagden, Lewis, Manly and Tyson—and a happy retirement to Mr. Duxbury and to Cmdr. Hoyle. More of this next time.

* * * *

Reorganisation is much in the air. This School faces the challenge of the present day convinced that it has a very real and valuable contribution to make to the country's system of education. It must be admitted

that it will not be easy to find a method by which we can reconcile our own ideals and the demands of national policy. It would be as stupid to adopt a completely intransigent attitude as it would to accept an unsatisfactory agreement for agreement's sake. This is a time when we must all keep our nerve. I have said my say publicly in the *Spectator*, more privately to parents in a special letter which I have just circulated to them with my Chairman's permission. I remain reasonably confident that English pragmatism will find an acceptable compromise.

* * * *

Next week, on April 22nd, I am playing host to a considerable number of headmasters, all of them from direct-grant schools with strong boarding components, whom I have invited to meet to confer on common problems. I only hope the weather improves before then, so that they may see how lovely Abingdon looks in the spring-time. It is ironic that my fugitive two days on the South Coast should coincide with the heaviest April snow-fall I can remember. As I write these words, on April 14th, the flakes are falling with heavy determination from a leaden sky. But it will be even less pleasant for Mr. Blagden and his party of Scouts in Snowdonia.

J.M.C.

CHAPEL NOTES

One of the greatest joys in the Chapel this term has been the replacement of the old Public School Hymnbooks with the new Hymns for Church and School. A very generous response to the Headmaster's appeal has enabled us to place two hundred and fifty of them, all inscribed, into the Chapel. The books are well printed, strongly bound, and attractive in appearance, and though we have not yet used them long enough to form a considered judgement on their quality as hymnbooks, the initial response has been favourable. The old hymnbooks were not in good enough condition to have a second-hand value. We have kept the best of them for use in the new Music School and given away the others to staff and boys, those with a family claim to the label having first choice.

We have now had one term's experience with the new arrangement of the Sunday Services. There have been three State Evensongs in place of State Matins, and an evening Holy Communion instead of a morning celebration on three other Sundays. Once again I think it is premature after only one term's experience to try and make any final assessment. Public Schoolboys being what they are, there will inevitably be a certain amount of resistance to change. But on the whole the changes have been favourably received. In particular many boys have appreciated the form of the evening Communions, which have involved a fuller congregational participation in the Service, and have included

three hymns and a short address on the nature of Communion. The evening Communions in the Summer Term will be put back half an hour to 7.30 p.m., which it is thought may be a more convenient time.

Lent started well with a large number present at the Ash Wednesday Holy Communion. For the voluntary mid-week Lent Services I invited lay colleagues on the staff to give an address in Chapel. It is no easy matter for a layman to stand up in chapel and give a reason for the faith that is in him. But when it does happen it is a powerful act of witness. We are grateful to Messrs. H. T. Randolph, B. E. Woolnough, H. Eden, S. C. Parker and R. H. Baker who co-operated so willingly. During the lunch hour on the Thursdays of Lent the Leomark Recordings of readings from the New English Bible were also played in chapel.

Every third week of term the readings at the morning Services have been drawn from Christian writings other than the Scriptures. All members of the Sixth Forms have been invited to suggest at least one non-biblical reading suitable for reading in chapel in order to broaden our field of choice.

The Study Group of the Abingdon and District Council of Churches has continued to meet in the Court Room, and staff and boys have been present. The goodwill and the free and frank exchanges that characterise these meetings have been most noticeable. Those who attended the United Service of Prayer for Christian Unity in St. Helen's Church on January 20th will have realised something of the ecumenical spirit that is abroad in Abingdon. The prayer list produced by the Abingdon and District Council of Churches is in daily use in our Chapel.

The music in the Chapel has continued to inspire our worship, and the Mass No. 3 in D minor by Haydn, which Mr. Cullen produced in St. Helen's Church in the last week of term, was a triumphant and moving conclusion to the worship offered throughout the term.

I should like to thank all who have contributed to the chapel flowers, Mrs. Angela Potter who arranges them week by week, the Sacristans, the chapel cleaners and all who keep the chapel a place of beauty.

Chapel flowers up to the beginning of Lent have been kindly given by the following: Form 5C, Play Reading Society, Form 4A, Form 4L, Photographic Society, Form 4F.

In addition to substantial contributions to our own Chapel Fund and Chapel Furnishing Fund, the collections this term have been given as follows:

Jan. 14th	£6 17s. 4d.	St. Helen's Church (Beginning of Term Service).
Jan. 23rd	£7 0s. 0d.	The Royal School of Church Music.
Jan. 30th	£7 17s. 1d.	The Society of St. John the Evangelist.
Feb. 13th	£8 2s. 0d.	The United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.
Feb. 27th	£6 3s. 8d.	The New Guinea Mission.

Mar. 13th £7 1s. 6d. The Christian Education Movement.

Mar. 27th £8 0s. 0d. Toc H.

We look forward to welcoming the following Preachers here next term:

26th April (Beginning of Term Service in S. Helen's Church)—Rev. R. Berry, B.D., of All Saints' Methodist Church, Abingdon.

8th May—Rev. H. Trevor Hughes, M.A., Principal of Westminster College.

22nd May—Rev. Hugh Pickles, M.A., Vicar of Blewbury.

12th June (6.30 p.m.)—Mr. C. Ralph Allison, M.A., former Headmaster of Brentwood School.

26th June—Mr. H. G. Judge, M.A., Ph.D., Headmaster of Banbury Grammar School.

3rd July (6.30 p.m.)—Rev. S. Birtwell, M.A., Vicar of S. Giles', Oxford.

17th July—Rev. Clark W. Hunt, D.D., Pastor of the First Methodist Church, Westfield, New Jersey.

23rd July (Founder's Day Service in S. Helen's Church)—Rev. J. S. D. Mansel, M.A., Sub-Dean of the Chapel Royal and Domestic Chaplain to H.M. the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

VOLUNTARY SERVICE

It was a great pleasure to be able to help again this term the Oxford Preservation Trust, this time by repairing the 'bus shelter outside Ripon Hall on Boars Hill, work which was most skilfully carried out by P. K. Ablewhite and A. F. Martin. We hope to do further clearing in the Jarn Mound Garden after the G.C.E.

There is a vacancy in the A.F.S. group for someone intending to join in September who would like an extra term. The group is a bit behind with its training this year, but we hope to fit in a couple of extra sessions and take the exams during the final week of next term.

We have visited 29 old people this term and could probably add one or two more to our list. I should be glad to hear of anyone who would like to receive regular visits.

H.T.R.

HAYDN'S 'NELSON MASS'

(St. Helen's Church, Thursday, 24th March)

Haydn's 'Nelson Mass' is one of his greatest compositions, and so difficult to perform successfully that at least one member of the congregation, when on his way down to St. Helen's Church, had in mind that a school performance might perhaps be on a par with Dr. Johnson's dog walking on its hind legs: 'not done well—but you are surprised to find it done at all'. This proved to be a totally mistaken notion, however; the whole thing was a triumph and thoroughly worth while.

From the very beginning, with the splendour and ferocity of the Kyrie well brought out, it was clear that we were in for a spirited account of this powerful music. It is no stuff for the milksop. The blaring trumpets, insistent kettledrums, biting strings, the vigour of the choral writing—it all adds up to an immensely exciting experience. That is not to suggest that this is garish music, or consistently hard on the eardrums, or lacking in variety; it is none of these. Nonetheless the tension is for the most part maintained throughout, even in the quieter passages. An amateur performance might well have been expected to fall short in this respect, but John Cullen secured an admirably taut one for us and brought the best out of both choir and orchestra. The soloists too (Marion Milford, Annette Thompson, Harry Eden, Nicholas Loukes) kept well to the spirit of things. They provided rich and sensitive singing. It was particularly good to see Nicholas Loukes back with us, and to hear how his voice has matured since he left school.

Outstanding in a wealth of pleasant memories are two passages from the Gloria—one the marvellous soft staccato singing of the choir underneath bass and soprano solos in 'Qui tollis', the other the sheer sense of exultation at the end of 'Quoniam tu solus'.

Does this all sound too eulogistic? Well, it is certainly possible to find faults. There were wrong notes and missing notes. There were moments of shaky string intonation, there were uncertain entries. And did one of the choral tenors sing a trifle too lustily? Yes, there were blemishes; but considering the size and complexity of the whole undertaking there were remarkably few, and for me they did not mar the overall effect.

Three movements of Handel's Concerto Grosso (Op. 6, No. 12) preceded the Haydn. The concertante soloists were Anthony Gibbs and Jeffrey Evans (violins) and Francis Howlett ('cello). All honour to them. The most successful movement was the lovely Air and Variation, for in this the ripieno strings produced their best form.

After the Mass the congregation joined in singing the Hymn "Praise the Lord! Ye heavens adore him" to Haydn's tune 'Austria'. The last verse, elaborately and magnificently orchestrated, was accompanied by a soaring choral descant; and so the evening ended with a veritable paean of praise.

J.V.T.

VALETE ET SALVETE

Valete—left 17th December, 1965

Upper Sixth Form Arts (L): P. H. Fletcher.

Upper Sixth Form Arts (H): J. W. B. Dunthorne (*left 29th July*), J. C. Mellor.

Upper Sixth Form Science (B): C. E. I. Day, C. M. Noble-Jamieson.

Upper Sixth Form Science (M): T. R. Giddings, T. J. Havelock, T. C. Tozer, M. F. Wells.

Salvete—came 14th January, 1966

Lower Sixth Form Arts (H): N. G. Martin (*came 21st February*).

4.F: J. M. Mawson (*came 14th February*).

3.N: G. B. M. Milton.

2.X: J. C. Boyd (*re-admitted*), A. C. McMillan.

1.L: J. S. Mushens.

THE TENNIS COURT APPEAL

The Appeal was officially launched at the end of January and was addressed to past and present tennis players and a very limited number of old friends of the School; but if there are others who feel they would like to subscribe, they would naturally be most welcome (cheques please made out to the 'Abingdon School Tennis Appeal').

It may be of interest to recapitulate the objectives of the Appeal. It is hoped to lay down two non-attention hard courts in the northern part of the Crescent House property at an estimated cost of £1,700-£2,000. This will go some way towards meeting the greatly increased demand for tennis facilities, as is only too evident from the number of boys, who may be seen attempting to practice tennis strokes on the open playing field during a fine evening. For the regular player they will be a tremendous asset as the grass courts are soon put out of action by a shower of rain; and show wear very quickly unless they are carefully nursed and play is restricted. To the match player they will provide experience of the high bouncing ball he has to face on the courts of most other schools, where conditions are different from the single 'soft' hard court we now possess.

Private subscriptions have now passed the £300 mark, and as the Governors have very kindly undertaken to pay pound for pound together with an initial grant of £600 this means in effect that a total of £1,200 has been covered.

H.M.G.

There follows a first list of subscribers, in alphabetical order, complete to 31st March, 1966.

Major D. M. Aldworth, J. B. E. A. Alston, R. W. Amey, E. R. Bailey, G. A. H. Bosley, R. E. Bradfield, Mrs. J. M. Cantwell, Misses Challenor, J. M. Cobban, J. A. D. Cox, A. F. R. Crockford, J. T. Cullen, Mrs. F. M. Dixon, G. F. Duxbury, C. F. Fisher, Dr. C. E. Ford, J. V. Gardner, H. M. Gray, Dr. P. M. D. Gray, P. Gresswell, P. B. Godfrey, M. P. M. Hart, Mrs. K. J. Hilleard, A. C. Hoddinott, H. M. Insley-Fox, R. F. Jackson, G. A. Jessett, Major W. R. A. Kettle, C. S. W. King, N. R. Leach, P. J. Leather, W. J. H. Liversidge, J. F. Luttmann, I. Macdonald, J. McPherson, Misses Morland, G. M. Morse, L. P. Mosdell, I. J. Newbold, R. A. Newbold, Mrs. L. J. Norman, T. W. Packer, A. R.

Pezaro, H. J. Polley, S. D. Plummer, C. M. Ruck, H. Sawbridge, J. F. Sinclair, H. P. Tame, D. Wiggins, Rev. M. N. Williams, T. Winnington, S. C. Woodley, H. S. Woods.

HOCKEY

FIRST ELEVEN

The start of the season was marred by bad weather and many of the early matches had to be postponed. Despite this obvious drawback, the team was soon settled and they produced some good attacking hockey.

The defence, though generally reliable, tended to panic when they were really hard pressed. As a result of this the ball was cleared up field rather aimlessly and this proved fatal on several occasions. However, with several brilliant displays of goalkeeping by Painton, and hard direct clearances by the two backs, Coffee and Penney, the goal usually looked safe. Good cross passes and hard tackling from both the wing halves, Parry and Caton, often caught our opponents off balance. The former, especially, has a lot of promise for future seasons. Allen, at centre half generally distributed the ball well but tended to hold on to it too long.

A complete new forward line had to be created as there was only one member remaining from the 1965 season. Various arrangements were tried, and it was not until half way through the season that the positions were finally settled. Partridge at centre forward, and Davis on the right wing, exploited the neat through pass to great advantage and their cross pass to change the attack from the right to the left often had the opposing defence baffled. Although the left wing combination of Parfitt and Chaplin played a subsidiary role in the main attack they continually kept up the pressure on our opponents by good, neat passing and tackling. The main fault of the line was the lack of use of the wings, and the concentration of the attack too much down the right of the field.

The early matches did not produce any excellent hockey, but the team played with great determination, and this counteracted any lack of precise hockey. The match against Pangbourne was played on a wet pitch, and the whole team was quicker to the ball than our opponents and we were unlucky to lose by so narrow a margin. The defeat was by no means a disgrace and we did manage to erase the disastrous defeat of the 1965 season.

Against the Town and K.A.S., Wantage, the forwards showed their potential as an attacking line by scoring 5 and 7 goals respectively. Against Bloxham our superior stickwork showed its worth and many of the goals were scored by neat dribbling of the ball. In all these matches, the defence acted as a second forward line and distributed the ball well to all the forwards.

The annual match against the Hockey Association had its ups and downs. With a good start, we scored first and could have won the match if we had played the same way throughout the game. However, in the second half, when we were one goal down, the team began to tire and the crispness of our play turned into rough tactics and poor hitting. The same thing happened in the match against the Old Boys. The team fell to pieces in the final 15 minutes, and three goals inside eight minutes dispirited the side and we once again turned victory into defeat.

Confidence was restored in the match against Bloxham and we travelled to Sandhurst with a desire to win. This game saw the team at its worst and at its best. In the first half we were overpowered by the speed and sure passing of Sandhurst, but the second half saw us on top, and two good goals gave us that added incentive and rarely did Sandhurst look like equalising.

The final match against Wallingford G.S. was played on a hard, narrow pitch that had not been rolled, and the team never produced anything like its best and we lost.

For the first time in three years we were able to play a match against Oxford High School for Girls, and this match was enjoyed by both sides and produced some interesting shots. It is hoped that this match will continue to be played in future seasons.

We were fortunate in that most of our fixtures, postponed because of the weather, were re-arranged and our thanks must go to Mr. Griffin and to Mr. Payne for their continued efforts in coaching us.

Congratulations to Partridge, Coffee, Allen, Davis, Parry and Painton on the award of Full Colours.

The team was: P. H. Painton; A. R. Coffee, D. W. Penney; E. P. Caton, D. D. Allen, M. W. Parry; T. A. Parfitt, R. A. Chaplin, D. S. Partridge, P. A. C. Roblin (Capt.), R. B. Davis.

Also played: N. V. Moore and J. P. W. Mosdell (once).

Results

v. St. Edward's School (h). Sat., 29th Jan.	Lost	1—3
v. Pangbourne Nautical College (a). Wed., 2nd Feb.	Lost	1—2
v. Abingdon H.C. (h). Sat., 19th Feb.	Won	5—0
v. K.A.S., Wantage (h). Sat., 26th Feb.	Won	7—0
v. Hockey Association (h). Wed., 2nd March.	Lost	2—4
v. Old Abingdonians (h). Sat., 5th March.	Lost	3—4
v. Oxford High School (a). Wed., 9th March.	Won	4—2
v. Bloxham School (a). Sat., 12th March.	Won	10—1
v. R.M.A. Sandhurst 2nd XI (a). Wed., 16th March.	Won	2—1
v. Wallingford G.S. (a). Sat., 19th March.	Lost	1—2

Matches against Solihull School and Pembroke College were cancelled.

P.A.C.R.

(Roblin was a very keen and effective captain who by his own example both on and off the field was an inspiration to his side. L.C.J.G.).

SECOND ELEVEN

The very variable results reflected the difficulties involved in a Second Eleven who rarely played the same side for more than one game. There is no substitute for the acquisition of the basic skills, and the general failure to hit the ball firmly and cleanly, and the tendency to play up and down the middle of the field to the exclusion of the wings were the most glaring faults of the side.

Individuals rather than team performances were, therefore, more noteworthy. Mosdell and Brice, who captained the Eleven with enthusiasm, were the strength of an overworked defence, and of the forwards Ware and Ford tried hard. Ventham and Janz, when they were not playing for the Colts, gave performances which promised well for next year.

Results

v. King Alfred's School (a). Wed., 19th Jan.	Lost 2—4
v. City of Oxford School 1st XI (a). Sat., 22nd Jan.	Won 5—0
v. St. Edward's School 'B' XI (h). Sat., 29th Jan.	Lost 1—3
v. Radley College 3rd XI (h). Sat., 19th Feb.	Lost 1—4
v. Bloxham School (a). Sat., 12th March.	Won 4—1
v. Old College, Sandhurst (a). Wed., 16th March.	Lost 0—6

The team was: J. N. Harper; J. P. W. Mosdell, N. D. Brice (Capt.); P. A. Foulkes, S. S. Coe, F. J. Dobbs; N. V. Moore, D. J. Ventham, B. H. Ford, R. J. Luttman, N. C. Ware.

Also played: M. F. K. Baumann, M. G. Cockman, P. J. Hill, R. Janz, R. P. Jessett and J. L. Sayce.

N.H.P.

COLTS ELEVEN

After only two weeks' practice the team played their first match against St. Edward's School. Here we were very inexperienced and were well beaten by a mature team who made good use of the ball. The following Wednesday we were strengthened by Ventham, who together with Janz, formed a competent striking pair. Nautical College, Pangbourne finally overcame us by five goals to two.

In the next match we soundly beat Wallingford by playing constructive hockey with the forwards finally piercing our opponent's defence. In this match as well as our last match the half-back line played fine attacking hockey. Against Magdalen College the defence proved dependable, especially the two full backs who tackled confidently and showed fine positional play.

It is gratifying to note that towards the end of the season six of the Colts side played for the 2nd Eleven.

The final arrangement of the team was: J. L. Sayce (Capt.); V. A. Ramsay, D. R. Sayce; A. Rose, P. J. Hill, F. J. Dobbs; M. F. K. Baumann, J. Y. McLaughlin, R. Janz, D. J. Ventham, A. R. Cantwell.

Also played: T. R. Paxton (twice) and W. K. Minter (once).

Results

v. St. Edward's School (a). Sat., 29th Jan.	Lost	0—3
v. Pangbourne Nautical College (a). Wed., 2nd Feb.	Lost	2—5
v. Wallingford Grammar School (h). Sat., 12th Feb.	Won	2—0
v. Magdalen College School (h). Wed., 23rd Feb.	Won	2—0
J.L.S.		

(J. L. Sayce proved to be an unusually effective and conscientious captain and his goalkeeping improved much during the season. A.A.H.).

ATHLETICS

A small number of athletes who were not too occupied with other sports managed to get in some pre-season training under Mr. Howard's guidance, and a pleasing number of others also came to Bell's strenuous gym sessions.

Unfortunately the Bloxham fixture had to be cancelled for the second successive year, and the O.A. match very nearly suffered the same fate through lack of support from active O.A.s. Few of those who still keep up their athletics seem to be in training in March and although it was good that a team could eventually be raised, it was sad to see the eclipse of several stars of former years.

A feature of the match against Leighton Park and Reading was the excellent team spirit which contributed as much as anything to our retaining the shield which we won last year. However the long journey to Berkhamsted seemed to affect a number of our athletes and in general our performances were not as good as in the triangular three days before. Berkhamsted were certainly a very competent team (with two outstanding athletes) but the margin of their victory flattered them.

In the Standards Competition, Blacknall kept a slight lead over Bennett nearly all the time with the other two Houses fighting it out for third place. Much credit is due to the House Monitors who were indefatigable in their exhortation both on and off the field. After a double-check it was finally found that Bennett and Blacknall had tied for 1st place with 503 points each, with Tesdale and Reeves having 286 points and 252 points respectively. Many thanks to R. H. Roper and his team for organising the competition so efficiently.

On the last day of term seven boys competed in the Schools' Invitation Meeting at Eton College. On the whole the standard was a good deal lower than we expected, but it is still good to be able to record that Hassett won both the Javelin (150ft.) and the Quarter Mile (54.4);

Blackburn the Shot (42ft. 8½ins.), and Ellis the Junior High Jump (5ft. 3ins.).

During the term Full Colours were awarded to N. P. J. Bell and J. W. Hassett, while T. C. C. Beckett, P. H. Blackburn, P. V. Bosley, N. D. Brice, R. D. Ray and R. C. Wilde received Half Colours.

MATCHES

v. Old Abingdonian Club. Sat., 12th March.

- 100 yards: 1—Corps (OA) 10.7; 2—Wilde; 3—Blair (OA); 4—Bosley PV.
 440 yards: 1—Bell 53.8; 2—Hassett; 3—Marsh S (OA); 4—Corps (OA).
 880 yards: 1—Liversidge P (OA); 2—Jackson; 3—Denny; 4—Avery (OA).
 Mile: 1—Marshall 5:4.7; 2—Liversidge P (OA); 3—Avery (OA); 4—Hewes.
 High Jump: 1—Brice 5:5½; 2—Ellis; 3—Avery (OA) & Diffey (OA).
 Long Jump: 1—Beckett 18:1; 2—Blair (OA); 3—Ray; 4—Woodward (OA).
 Shot: 1—Bosley N (OA) 48:3; 2—Darroch N (OA); 3—Blackburn; 4—Hunt.
 Discus: 1—Darroch N (OA) 120:11; 2—Blackburn; 3—Bosley N (OA); 4—Brice.
 Javelin: 1—Hassett 148:0; 2—Woodward (OA); 3—Avery (OA); 4—Snodgrass.
 Relay: 1—Abingdon 2:26.3 (Record); 2—O.A.C.
 (6 x 220)
 Result: Abingdon 51 pts.; O.A.C. 38 pts.

v. Leighton Park School and Reading School (at Leighton Park).

Wed., 16th March

Senior Match

- 100 yards: 1—Bosley 11.0; 2—Adams (R); 4—Bosley.
 880 yards: 1—Brown (R) 2:08; 5—Jackson; 6—Cook.
 Mile: 1—Scholfield (R) 4:49; 3—Marshall; 4—Denny.
 High Jump: 1—Brice 5:7; 2—Sherwin (LP); 5—Faires.
 Long Jump: 1—Taylor (R) 19:4½; 2—Beckett; 4—Ray.
 Shot: 1—Lockley (LP) 46:3½; 2—Blackburn PH; 5—Bosley.
 Javelin: 1—Pitt (R) 165:1½; 2—Hassett; 5—Blackburn PH.
 3 x 440: 1—Abingdon (Hassett, Ray, Bell) 2:44.2; 2—Reading; 3—Leighton Park.
 3 x 220: 1—Abingdon (Bosley, Hassett, Bell) 1:12.6; 2—Reading; 3—Leighton Park.
 4 x 110: 1—Abingdon 46.8; 2—Reading; 3—Leighton Park.
 Result: Abingdon 82; Reading 80; Leighton Park 48.

Junior Match

100 yards:	1—Cottle (LP) 11.2; 3—Varley A; 4—Harrison.
880 yards:	1—Tompsett (LP) 2:11; 3—Ramsey; 5—Cox JP.
Mile:	1—Tompsett (LP) 4:57; 4—Berry; 5—Hewes.
High Jump:	1—Richardson (R) 5:2; 2—Ellis.
Long Jump:	1—Akinbiyi 17:11; 2—Snodgrass; 3—Burningham (R).
Shot:	1—Hunt 40:11; 2—Fennell (R); 3—Blackburn RK.
Javelin:	1—Rose 124:5½; 2—Hill; 3—Thompson (R).
3 x 440:	1—Reading 2:55.4; 2—Abingdon (North, Snodgrass, Smart); 3—Leighton Park.
3 x 220:	1—Leighton Park 1:17.6; 2—Abingdon (North, Varley M, Varley A); 3—Reading.
4 x 110:	1—Leighton Park 50.0; 2—Reading; 3—Abingdon.
Result:	Leighton Park 76; Abingdon 72; Reading 61.
Trophy:	Abingdon 154; Reading 141; Leighton Park 124.

*v. Berkhamsted School (a). Sat., 19th March.**Senior Match*

100 yard:	1—Walker (B) 10.4; 2—Wilde; 3—Ray.
220 yards:	1—Walker (B) 23.8; 2—Bell; 4—Wilde.
440 yards:	1—Walker (B) 53.3; 2—Bell; 4—Hassett.
880 yards:	1—Coupe (B) 2:7.4; 3—Jackson; 4—Cook.
Mile:	1—Marshall 4:50.1; 2—Crowet (B); 4—Denney.
High Jump:	1—B-Nicks (B) 5:5; 3—Brice; 4—Faires.
Long Jump:	1—B-Nicks (B) 21:1½; 3—Beckett; 4—Ray.
Shot:	1—Blackburn 43:11½; 2—Wise (B); 3—Hunt.
Discus:	1—Lees (B) 111:8; 2—Blackburn; 3—Brice.
Javelin:	1—B-Nicks (B) 164:8; 3—Hassett; 4—Roblin D.
4 x 110:	1—Berkhamsted 47.2; 2—Abingdon.
Result:	Berkhamsted 85; Abingdon 43.

Junior Match

100 yards:	1—Winyard (B) 11.4; 2—Varley M; 4—Harrison.
220 yards:	1—Atkinson (B) 23.6; 3—Varley M; 4—North.
440 yards:	1—Snodgrass 58.4; 2—Bowhill (B); 3—North.
880 yards:	1—Maddock (B) 2:20.4; 3—Ramsey; 4—Berry.
High Jump:	1—Ellis 5:2; 2—Dennys (B); 4—Shatford.
Long Jump:	1—Snodgrass 18:6½; 2—Akinbiyi; 3—Cropper (B).
Shot:	1—Gray (B) 37:1½; 2—Blackburn RK; 4—Snodgrass.
Discus:	1—Cole (B) 108:9; 2—Chislett; 3—Blackburn RK.
Javelin:	1—Ross (B) 128:11; 3—Rose; 4—Hill.
4 x 110:	1—Berkhamsted 50.5; 2—Abingdon.
Result:	Berkhamsted 70; Abingdon 46.

R.H.B.

THE SCHOOL SPORTS

(Wed., 23rd and Sat., 24th March)

This year we included a full set of events at U/16 and U/14 level and were still able to keep (practically) within our time schedule by having 3 or even 4 field events taking place simultaneously. The resulting spread of spectators meant that most of them got a better view of the events in which they were more interested.

Of course it rained and was as cold as most March Sports Days are—(thank goodness the snow held off until April!)—but nevertheless many good performances were put up and five records were broken. Ellis added 2½ inches to what was already a good U/15 high jump record and the charmed life of I. J. Parson's open javelin record was brought to an end when Hassett beat it by 17ft. with his last throw. But the highlight was undoubtedly the U/15 mile. After M. C. Varley had ensured a very fast first lap (70 secs.) the pace dropped but when Smart started to put on the pressure only Crawford could stay with him and these two had a great tussle over the last 600 yards. Smart eventually won by about 5 yards in a time over 10 seconds faster than the previous record which had stood since 1936.

At the conclusion of the Sports, the Challenge Cups were presented from the pavilion by Mrs. D. W. Manly.

Results

100 yards:

- U/12 1—Klepzig RP 13.5; 2—Tressider HT; 3—Macdonald RL.
 U/13 1—Macdonald RN 13.5; 2—Osborn M; 3—Milanovich M.
 U/14 1—Cox JL 11.9; 2—Jordan CJ; 3—Galbraith DW.
 U/15 1—Smart NKA 11.6; 2—Varley MC; 3—Hubbard S.
 U/16 1—Varley AJ 11.3; 2—Whipple DJ; 3—Shatford GR.
 Open 1—Wilde RC 10.5; 2—Ray RD; 3—Bosley PV.

220 yards:

- U/12 1—Tressider HT 31.3; 2—Klepzig RP; 3—Balbernie AMcL.
 U/13 1—Osborn M 29.9; 2—Macdonald RN; 3—Price PD.
 U/14 1—Cox JL 27.0; 2—Galbraith DW; 3—Chalker JWS.
 U/15 1—Varley MC 26.5; 2—Smart NKA; 3—Hubbard S.
 U/16 1—Whipple DJ 26.3; 2—North JE; 3—Carr ILM.
 Open 1—Ray RD 24.1; 2—Bell NPJ; 3—Bosley PV.

440 yards:

- U/13 1—Osborn M 68.3; 2—Price PD; 3—Balbernie AMcL.
 U/14 1—Cox JP 62.3; 2—Wallace CA; 3—Galbraith DW.
 U/15 1—Smart NKA 59.0; 2—Varley MC; 3—Brown KP.
 U/16 1—Snodgrass NR 57.7; 2—Ramsey VA; 3—North JE.
 Open 1—Bell NPJ 53.8; 2—Hassett JW; 3—Jackson RA.

880 yards:

- U/14 1—Cox JP 2:26.6; 2—Jordan CJ; 3—Coulbeck NS.
 U/15 1—Smart NKA 2:22.2; 2—Crawford MG; 3—Marshall DM.
 U/16 1—Ramsey VA 2:25.6; 2—Snodgrass NR; 3—North JE.
 Open 1—Denny CW 2:14.2; 2—Jackson RA; 3—Marshall WM.

Mile:

- U/15 1—Smart NKA 5:9.9 (Record); 2—Crawford MG; 3—Marshall DM.
 U/16 1—Hewes TW 5:25.1; 2—Fairlie S; 3—North JE.
 Open 1—Marshall WM 4:57.6; 2—Denny CW; 3—Hewes TW.

High Jump:

- U/13 1—Semmence J 4:2; 2—Milanovich M; 3—Macdonald RN.
 U/14 1—Cox JP 4:7; 2—Campbell RC; 3—Jordan CJ.
 U/15 1—Ellis AC 5:3 (Record); 2—Allington TA; 3—Bodimeade SA.
 U/16 1—Whipple DJ 4:10; 2—Shatford GR; 3—Snodgrass NR.
 Open 1—Brice ND 5:4; 2—Roblin PAC; 3—Faires DJ.

Long Jump:

- U/13 1—Macdonald RN 13:9½; 2—Milanovich M; 3—Price PD.
 U/14 1—Cox JL 15:7 (Record); 2—Chalker JWS; 3—Snodgrass AR.
 U/15 1—Allington TJ 15:11½; 2—Varley MC; 3—Hubbard S.
 U/16 1—Snodgrass NR 17:2; 2—Shatford GR; 3—Blackburn RK.
 Open 1—Hassett JW 18:9; 2—Beckett TCC; 3—Ray RD.

Shot:

- U/14 1—Cox JP 28:1; 2—Snodgrass AR; 3—Shellard JJ.
 U/15 1—Hamilton RW 31:9½; 2—Smart NKA; 3—Allington TJ.
 U/16 1—Blackburn RK 35:11½; 2—Carr ILM; 3—Wise R.
 Open 1—Blackburn PH 42:6½; 2—Hunt DN; 3—Brice ND.

Discus:

- U/14 1—Cox JP 76:8; 2—Shellard JJ; 3—Snodgrass AR.
 U/15 1—Hamilton RW 95:1½; 2—Marshall DM; 3—Allington TJ.
 U/16 1—Blackburn RK 112:3; 2—Chislett WD; 3—Snodgrass NR.
 Open 1—Brice ND 114:2½; 2—Blackburn PH; 3—Davis RB.

Javelin:

- U/14 1—Cox JP 104:2½; 2—Shellard JJ; 3—Seaver NGW.
 U/15 1—Hamilton RW 115:3½ (Record); 2—Allington TJ; 3—Cox JP.
 U/16 1—Gibbs B 125:5; 2—Blackburn RK; 3—Rose A.
 Open 1—Hassett JW 164:9 (Record); 2—Roblin DN; 3—Hill PJ.

8 x 220 yards:

Junior

- House 1—Blacknall 3:53.8; 2—Bennett; 3—Tesdale; 4—Reeves.

Senior

- House 1—Blacknall 3:25.8; 2—Tesdale; 3—Reeves; (Bennett disqualified).

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

1—Blacknall 3:58.2; 2—Bennett; 3—Reeves; 4—Tesdale.

Inter-House Cup:

1—Blacknall 241; 2—Bennett 155; 3—Reeves 89; 4—Tesdale 77.

Senior Victor Ludorum:

1—Hassett JW 15; 2—Brice ND 12; 3—Ray RD and Bell NPJ 10.

Junior (U/15) Victor Ludorum:

1—Smart NKA 26; 2—Varley MC 17; 3—Allington TJ 16;
4—Hamilton RW 15.

R.H.B.

CROSS COUNTRY

Few members of the team had done much training over the holidays and we got off to a bad start by being trounced by far fitter teams in our first two fixtures. We ran better in the Shiplake Road Relay but a faulty take-over took us half a minute to correct and we just failed to regain 2nd place. These disappointments and another injury to Jackson seemed to sap much of the communal enthusiasm which had been such a strength of the club a year before, but it was encouraging to see how much better we fared against both St. Edward's and Reading in encounters later in the term.

There was rather a muddle in the Under 15 race of the Berks. Schools' Championships when most of the runners were allowed to go the wrong way and an extra $\frac{1}{4}$ mile was added to what was already a terribly severe course on a rain-soaked hillside. J. P. Cox who along with Smart had been in the leading group of 4 runners at the half way stage was among a number of competitors who had to drop out, and so in spite of his win in the North Berks Championships, he was not selected for the "All England". However Smart was selected and on 19th March he had the satisfaction of being the 1st man home for Berkshire (67th overall).

As there was a clash of dates with the O.A. Athletics Match, we were only able to send one team — 3 of whom were juniors — to the Culham Road Relay. Somewhat surprisingly they did very well indeed finishing well ahead of a number of senior teams. On the same day Hall was running for the Berkshire Youth team in the Inter-County Championship at Leicester. He was well up the field until a spike came through one of his shoes and although he struggled on with this handicap and completed the course, this gallantry resulted in a foot injury which prevented him from taking an active part in athletics during the remaining two weeks of the term.

Once again Hall has been our most consistent performer, running with determination and sound pace judgement, and a much improved

Denny has ably backed him up. Marshall, Roper and Hewes, although they have all run creditably at times, haven't quite lived up to the hopes we had for them after last term and Hassett also has seldom been seen at his best. Late in the season Berry began to recover some of his form and Cook, too, began to run with more confidence.

Looking to the future it is good to see the keenness and promise of a number of boys in Middle and Lower School and we are particularly grateful to Mr. Lewis for being such an enthusiastic and active sponsor of the Junior Cross Country Club.

The following have represented the School on more than two occasions this term: C. W. Denny, D. W. Hall, T. W. Hewes (8 times); L. J. Berry, C. N. Cook, W. M. Marshall (7 times); J. W. Hassett, R. H. Roper (6 times); V. A. Ramsey (4 times); J. E. North, N. K. A. Smart, P. J. Wilson (3 times).

RESULTS OF MATCHES

v. Reading School (a). 22nd January. Lost 48—30.

(Scorers: Hall 5, Jackson 6, Marshall 7, Denny 9, Roper 10, Hewes 11).

v. The Queen's College (h). 26th January. Lost 22—58.

(Scorers: Hall 6, Marshall 8, Denny 9, Hewes 10, Roper 12, Wilson 13).

Shiplake Court Road Relay. 1st February.

Senior: 1st—St. Edward's I, 2nd—St. Edward's II, 3rd—Abingdon (Denny, Roper, Marshall, Hall), 4th—Cokethorpe, 5th—Shiplake Court, 6th—Crookham Court.

Junior: 1st—Abingdon (Smart, Berry, Visser, Hewes), 2nd—Crookham Court I, 3rd—St. Edward's I, 4th—Shiplake Court I, 5th—St. Edward's II, 6th—Crookham Court II, 7th—Shiplake Court II.

North Berks Schools' Championships (at Wantage). 9th February.

Under 20: 1st—Abingdon 11 pts., 2nd—King Alfred's 26½ pts.

(Scorers: Denny 1, Hall 2, Marshall 3, Roper 5).

Under 17: Abingdon finished 5th out of 7 teams.

(Scorers: Hewes 7, Ramsey 12, Berry 16, North 30).

Under 15: Abingdon finished 3rd out of 8 teams.

(Scorers: Cox JP 1, Marshall 7, Cox JL 20, Crocker 26).

Under 13: Abingdon finished 3rd out of 7 teams.

(Scorers: Smith DPC 6, Balbernie 15, Sykes 16, Wood 24).

v. St. Edward's School and Radley College (at St. Edward's).

17th February.

1st—St. Edward's 46 pts., 2nd—Radley 53 pts., 3rd—Abingdon 79 pts.

(Scorers: Hall 3, Denny 8, Roper 11, Berry 18, Hewes 19, Hassett 20).

*v. Shiplake Court, Bloxham School and Kingham School (at Shiplake).
19th February.*

1st—Abingdon 36 pts., 2nd Kingham 63 pts., 3rd Shiplake 81 pts.,
4th—Bloxham 142 pts.

(Scorers: Hall 2, Denny 3, Marshall 5, Roper 7, Berry 9, Hewes 10).

Berkshire Schools' Championships (at Thatcham). 26th February.

Under 20: Abingdon finished 2nd out of 9 teams.

(Scorers: Hall 4, Denny 5, Marshall 11, Cook 35).

Under 17th: Abingdon finished 3rd out of 18 teams.

(Scorers: Berry 10, Hewes 11, Ramsey 43, North 49).

Under 15: Abingdon finished 14th out of 24 teams.

(Scorers: Smart 4, Crocker 56, McLaughlan 89, Penny 90).

v. Newbury G.S. and Reading School (at Newbury). 2nd March.

1st—Reading 41 pts., 2nd—Abingdon 51 pts., 3rd—Newbury 85 pts.

(Scorers: Hall 2, Denny 4, Marshall 8, Berry 11, Hewes 12, Hassett
14).

Culham Road Relay. 12th March.

Abingdon finished 25th out of 32 teams (Smart, Ramsey, Cook, Berry).

R.H.B.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

Last year's successful experiment of running a specially selected Under 13 game was repeated this Lent Term. It is from this game that next season's Junior Fifteen will probably be picked and to this end two representative matches were played against other schools. Both matches were excellent affairs and it is certain that we have plenty of very good material from which to choose. The teams selected for these two games were not necessarily the best we could find but were chosen in order to give a taste of things to come to as many promising players as possible. The first match against Christ Church Cathedral School was drawn 3—3; and the second, a very narrowly fought spirited local derby against John Mason School, resulted in defeat by 3 points—a solitary penalty goal! Those playing in the match against Christ Church School were: C. H. Short; R. N. Macdonald, R. E. Deane, A. R. Cunningham, J. Semmence; C. A. Wallace, S. P. Loosemore; D. N. Longdon, R. G. Willis, M. T. Evans, C. J. Jordan, J. A. Clargo, D. K. Rice, R. C. Campbell, T. R. Baker. For the John Mason match the team fielded was: C. A. Wallace; R. N. Macdonald, N. J. Minns, S. J. Cantwell, J. Semmence; I. F. Gardner, S. P. Loosemore; M. T. Evans, J. Q. Rowley, T. R. Baker, R. C. Campbell, J. A. Clargo, J. J. Shellard, C. J. Jordan, A. R. Snodgrass. These Under 13 boys were sponsored

and enthusiastically coached by Mr. Morelle upon whose shoulders the mantle of Rev. M. Williams has most effectively fallen.

The Junior Fifteen, again sponsored by Mr. Holloway, have played three matches. The measure of their quality was amply demonstrated by the large scores they ran up and it looks as if next season's Junior Colts may well be among the best ever. The first match was played on February 5th against John Mason School and resulted in a 19—0 victory; the second on February 16th against Headington County Secondary School in a 37—0 victory; and the third on February 19th in a runaway win 42—0 against St. Birinus' School, Didcot. The Headington game was played at home, the other two away. The team on its last appearance was: S. A. Bodimeade; M. R. Ward, J. P. Cox, M. C. Varley, J. L. Cox; D. M. Marshall, J. R. Comerford; N. S. Coulbeck, D. I. Smith, V. Lacey-Johnson, R. J. Grant, W. H. Cuthbert, N. P. Heading, N. K. A. Smart (Capt.), J. K. Ridge. Also played: K. P. Brown, I. M. Bricknell and J. M. Whittington.

Apart from Junior representative football, coaching this term has been concentrated on the ordinary rugby games of Forms 1—3. Here there has been a great deal of activity seen particularly in the Junior House Matches, where the standard has perhaps not been as high as in the two previous years. These matches are reported below.

Senior rugby has in the main been confined to seven-a-side training and matches and Mr. Eden has had general supervision of this. To relieve the monotony of practice, however, one fifteen-a-side game was played in the middle of the term. This was against Westminster College 2nd XV on Waste Court field on February 23rd. The School fielded a very mixed side of varying ages but the result was a rousing match which ended in a draw—13 points each. The School team comprised: D. N. Hunt; R. D. R. Ray, P. E. Gibbs, M. J. Heading, L. Morgan; D. S. Jackson, D. S. Rogers; P. V. Bosley, M. J. Arundel, P. E. Comber, N. K. Cook, J. F. Goldsworthy, A. J. Longstaff, P. H. Blackburn, T. J. Rawlins.

So far as the Seven-a-side rugby was concerned only two competitions were entered this time, the main Oxfordshire Schools Tournament on Saturday, March 26th, and the Schoolboys' Sevens organized by Reading R.F.C. on Sunday, March 20th. In the former we did not fare very well being knocked out in the first round in the Senior Sections 'B' and 'D' and in the Junior Section 'A'. The School 1st VII (R. D. R. Ray, P. E. Gibbs, R. B. Davis, M. J. Heading, P. H. Blackburn, A. J. Longstaff, P. V. Bosley) lost to Oratory I, 6—11; the School 2nd VII (P. H. Painton, J. A. Cooper, D. S. Rogers, R. J. M. Conibear, P. E. Comber, M. J. Arundel, R. D. Schuck) lost to Bablake School II, 0—11; and the Colts VII (A. J. Varley, L. Morgan, D. N. Hunt, N. J. Booker, J. C. Paddison, A. E. Banes, J. F. Goldsworthy) went down to King Edward's School, Five Ways I, 3—8. The teams were captained respectively by Bosley, Comber and Goldsworthy and reserves who, of course, were

never used were R. W. Schnellmann (1st VII), J. P. H. Bosley (2nd VII) and P. C. McPhail and A. O. Akinbiyi (Colts VII).

Better luck attended the School efforts in the Reading Sevens, in which we had been runners up last year. For this contest the Colts VII were represented by J. F. Goldsworthy (Capt.), J. C. Paddison, P. C. McPhail, A. J. Varley, L. Morgan, D. N. Hunt, and N. J. Booker and in the event they proved a very good side and emerged worthy winners of the *Reading Standard* Challenge Trophy presented to them at the end of the competition by the President of the Reading Club. The results were:

First Round:	v. Forest Grammar School 'A'	Won 24—0
Second Round:	v. Abingdon 'B' — a bye.	
Third Round:	v. Alfred Sutton School 'A'	Won 10—3
Semi-Final:	v. Beaumont College 'A'	Won 3—0
Final:	v. Oratory School 'A'	Won 16—10

The school also entered a 'B' team in this competition. Unhappily this team (A. E. Banes, A. O. Akinbiyi, A. W. Semmence, F. J. Barnes, M. G. Baker, M. C. Varley, M. J. Hill) were so drawn that after defeating Oratory 'B' (8—0) in the first round, they were obliged to play the School 'A' side. Naturally the 'B' side stood down and were virtually out of the contest. As a consolation they were later allowed to play a game against Beaumont College 'B' which they won fairly comfortably 18—3.

* * * *

During the course of the term, P. V. Bosley and R. D. R. Ray have played several games for Oxford Thursday XV whilst the latter has also turned out for Oxford R.F.C. for whom Mr. Eden has been a fairly regular player. Both Bosley and Ray played a lot of rugby in the vacation, Bosley for the Harlequins Colts and Ray for the Saracens Ex 1st XV. Ray moreover distinguished himself as a Sevens player. He helped the Oxford Thursday VII to win the Berkshire Sevens by defeating Wasps 18—14 and also played in the Saracens 1st VII which won the Preliminary Round of the Middlesex Sevens at Southgate thereby qualifying to meet London Scottish in the 5th Round at Twickenham on Saturday, 30th May. Not content with this Ray also turned out for Oxford 1st XV against Rugby, Neath, Cross Keys and Glynneath. Old Abingdonians who have made the headlines in the rugby world since the last issue of this magazine, include Ian Flint now propping for the Wasps 1st XV and Ian Parsons still turning out for the R.A.F. and Oxford R.F.C. It is good to see other Old Boys also keeping up the game. David Bent, Tim Marsh and John Dickinson play for Oxford and quite a number for Abingdon, among them Mike Austwick, George Dimond, Paul Gardner, W. C. Hamilton, Peter Kandiah, Ian Peedell, Barry Roberts and David Willis. It is a pleasure

to record in addition that Nigel Parker and Brian Rosevear regularly represent London University. We should like to hear from any other Old Boy still playing rugger.

JUNIOR HOUSE MATCHES

Once more the Bayley Cup for the Knock-out Competition went to Blacknall House, the fourth year in succession. Decisive victories were scored and a very marked superiority shown over their opponents. In the preliminary round, Reeves were literally routed to the tune of 45—3 and in the final Bennett House, though full of fight, well and truly beaten 34—8. The game between Bennett and Tesdale had also ended in a fairly one sided result, a heavy defeat for Tesdale 0—33. It was an indication of Blacknall's power that they could take 34 points off Bennett in the final and one wonders what sort of result there would have been had Blacknall drawn Tesdale in the opening round. Blacknall's score in the final was made up of 5 tries from Varley, 2 tries from Cox, 1 try from Baumann together with 3 conversions by Cuthbert and 2 by Cox. Bennett's reply came mainly from Smart who scored 2 tries, Bodimeade converting one.

The Candy Cup in the Under 13 League went to Reeves House who defeated last year's victors, Blacknall, by 6 points to 4. Reeves House points came from victories over Tesdale (12—6), Bennett (5—0) and Blacknall (6—3). Blacknall managed to win against Bennett (9—5) and Tesdale (21—6). Bennett House by virtue of a lone victory over Tesdale (13—0) came third in the League table whilst Tesdale failed to gain a single point. The general standard of play was below that of previous seasons possibly because of the small physique of the Tesdale and Bennett sides.

D.O.W.

ROWING

Training this term has progressed rather more smoothly than usual. Only one outing was lost owing to flooding, and illness did not cause any major difficulty. Three senior eights were afloat, as well as a Colts Squad and a number of intermediate and junior oarsmen. The 1st and 2nd VIIIs were entered in the Reading Head, the 2nd VIII in a clinker boat. The 1st VIII went up from 70th to 55th overall and were 9th out of 41 school crews—a very pleasing performance. The 2nd VIII went down from 87th to 96th in the overall placings, but rowed well and show promise.

We hope that the 1st VIII will progress sufficiently to justify an entry at Henley this year.

The new Boat House is proving tremendously useful, and we are still in the process of equipping it. It is to be hoped that the plumbing will have been installed by the beginning of next term.

Sculling continues to be popular, and the new glass-fibre 'whiff' by Banhams has been in constant use. A glass-fibre tub pair is on order.

We are grateful to Mr. C. J. Lewthwaite, one of our student masters, for his assistance with coaching the Colts.

CREWS

1st VIII		2nd VIII	
Bow	R. E. Parkes	Bow	C. D. Le Voi
2	D. Clare	2	R. A. Forsythe
3	R. W. Schnellmann	3	P. K. Ablewhite
4	S. P. Sewry	4	I. L. M. Carr
5	M. A. E. Ballinger	5	R. J. N. Bennett
6	N. K. Taylor	6	J. T. W. Kenney
7	T. D. Paige	7	R. J. M. Conibear
Stroke	D. W. Tanner	Stroke	J. P. H. Bosley
Cox	B. E. Goldsworthy	Cox	C. M. Dobson

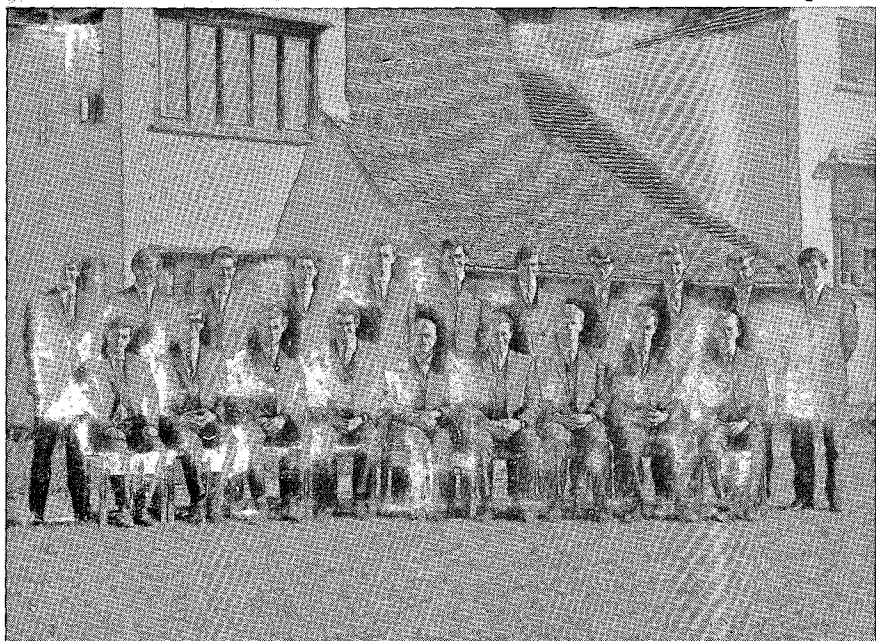
R.G.M.

CHESS

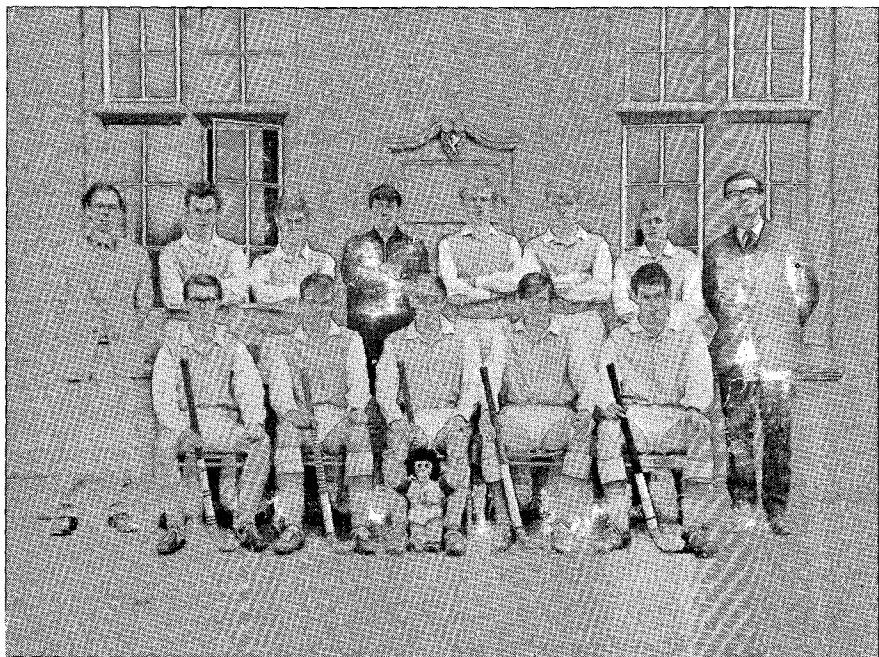
This term has given us little satisfaction. The 1st VI looked young and inexperienced compared with most of the other sides we met. It was not totally surprising in the circumstances that we suffered a number of defeats. It was disappointing that we were eliminated from the *Sunday Times* Tournament by Bicester G.S. and we certainly suffered a resounding defeat at the hands of Carmel College. On the other hand, we were pleased with the way our Oxford League matches went, and there is a good chance that when the result of the adjudications come through we shall find that we have come out on top of the league table.

For the first time this term we have run a knockout competition on a House basis. This is an excellent innovation and I hope it becomes a regular feature of the chess calendar.

This will be my last chess report for the *Abingdonian*, and I write it at what is (for other reasons) a critical time for the club. Harding has left now, and this completes the clear-out of the really well-seasoned players. There could not have been a more dedicated Captain, and I am enormously grateful for what he has done. Thanks also to him for a couple of chess books for the Grundy Library. The new Captain is to be J. R. Burton (awarded the chess tie at the beginning of the term),



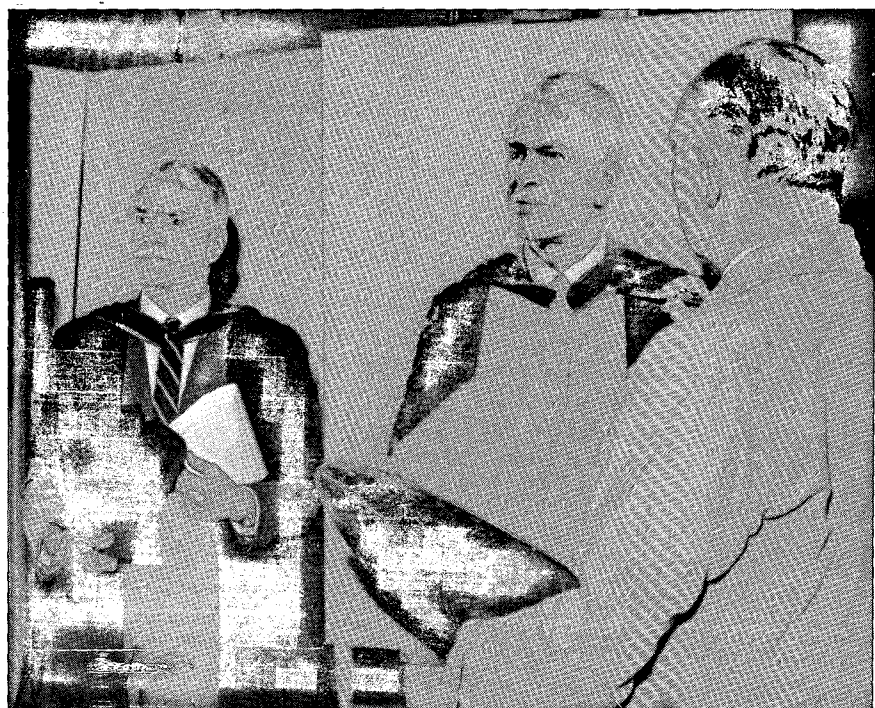
The Prefects



The Hockey Eleven



The Master Singers (page 495)

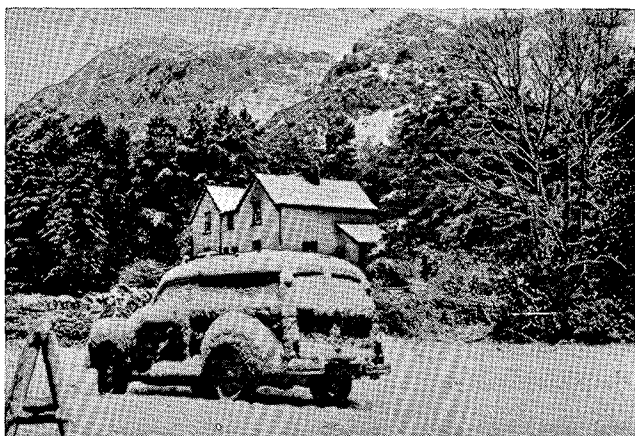


JMC — and JMC — and Mr. Halliday
(by courtesy of 'The Oxford Mail')

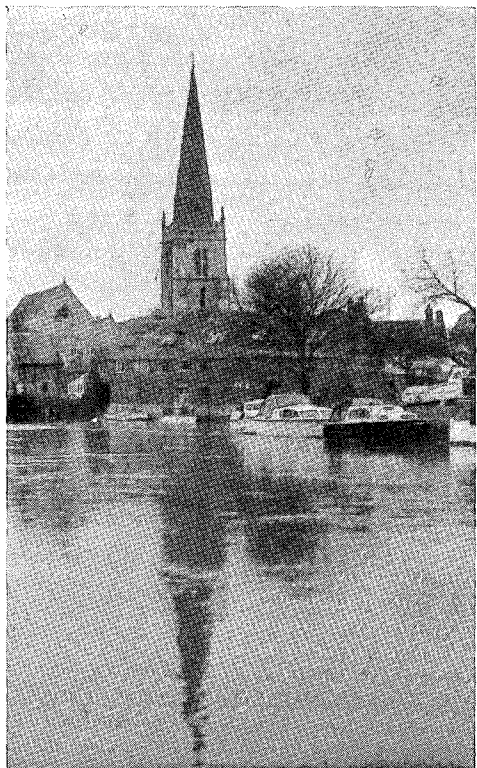


The Senior Scouts
set out —

— but the weather



— changes



... whose silent fingers point to heaven
 (photographs submitted for the new Abingdon Guide)



Arduous Training — preparing for the Long March.

and the Secretary will be J. J. A. King; there is a great challenge facing the pair of them.

In a way, with an almost complete change of personnel, we are back to the situation of five years ago when we had a small number of keen seniors and a large number of talented youngsters. I can foresee that, just as happened before, the 1st VI will be virtually unchanged for another very long period, gradually gaining in age and accomplishment. There is every reason to hope that the team will be formidably strong in about three years time. We shall see.

I wish the club all good fortune for the future.

Results

19th Jan.	1st VI v. Bicester G.S. (h).	Lost	1½—4½
27th Jan.	1st VI v. Salesian College (a).		*2½—1½
4th Feb.	1st VI v. Wallingford G.S. (h).	Lost	2½—3½
10th Feb.	1st VI v. M.C.S. (h).		*3—2
20th Feb.	Junior VIII v. Dragon School (h).	Drawn	4—4
28th Feb.	Junior VIII v. John Mason H.S. (a).	Won	6—2
13th Mar.	1st IV v. Carmel College (h).	Lost	1½—3½
13th Mar.	U/15 IV v. Carmel College (h).	Lost	1—3

* Oxford League matches with results dependings on adjudications.

Individual scores for the term are as follows—for the 1st VI: T. D. Harding 2½/5, J. R. Burton 2/5, J. J. A. King 2/5, P. H. Blackburn 2/4, C. J. Marley 1/2, H. J. Manning 1/3, M. G. Osborn 1/3, B. K. Langmead 0/1; and in other matches: C. J. Marley 3/3, M. G. Osborn 2/3, A. A. Tammadge 2/3, D. N. Longdon 1/2, J. S. Mushens 1/2, D. K. Rice 1/2, N. S. Rutishauser 0/2, C. L. Corner 0/1.

J.V.T.

COMBINED CADET FORCE

ARMY SECTION

Much of the term was spent in preparing the recruits for the Annual Inspection in May, when the inspecting officer will be Rear Admiral P. N. Bayly, C.B., D.S.O. Other Sections continued their specialist training, often aided by outside instructors. The R.A. Section also paid a number of visits to the Oxford University O.T.C. for instruction.

One successful aspect of the training has been the restarting of weekend bivouac camps. With particular help from Lt. Fairhead and Under-Officer Partridge a small party of C Company cadets has spent the weekend on the Berkshire Downs, camping in bivouacs and looking after themselves for two days. The weather was generally kind, and it is hoped that this exercise will be continued next term.

Field Day was spent in various ways, with a field exercise on the Wantage Downs for C Company and those going on Arduous Training, a visit to Portsmouth to the Maritime Regiment, with a trip on the Solent and finally a visit to the ammunition depot at Bramley. For many the day was long and tiring but most of what was done and seen proved useful and interesting.

Towards the end of term we were privileged to lay on a small exhibition for a party from Fitzharrys School under Major Clift.

Promotions during the term:

To L/Cpl.: Cdts. Healey P., Hunt D. N., King J. J. A., Bane's A. E., Morgan L.

To Cpl.: L/Cpls. Bosley J. P. H., Caton E. P., Evans J. D., Stevens I. P. G., Spencer M.

To R.S.M.: C.S.M. Coffee A. R.

D.W.M.

ARDUOUS TRAINING

Once again we revisited the Carsphairn area, Kirkcudbrightshire, for Arduous Training since the site and surrounding countryside provide us with ideal facilities for the type of training undertaken. We left Abingdon at about 11.45 a.m. on the last day of term in a 3 ton truck and two Land-Rovers which turned out to be adequate, though not comfortable. After making good time during the day with only two minor setbacks (the three ton truck ran out of petrol on the M6 and later a fuse blew in its lighting system) we decided to rest near Penrith for a couple of hours. It was a cold night and everyone was glad to move on.

We reached Carsphairn at lunch-time the following day and all three tents were pitched by 2.30. During the afternoon there was a brisk walk up a mountain called Winnieanna which overlooked the Camp Site. On the Thursday morning training began in earnest in weather that did not augur well for the week to come. Three groups of four Cadets were dropped on a road and told to find the source of the Waters of Deugh and then follow it to where we had camped. A few minutes after the last group had been dropped, it began to hail and before long this had turned to snow. Fortunately it stopped after three-quarters of an hour and we had no more snow until our last day. All three groups returned by 5.30 p.m. after walking about 16 miles. The next day there was a walk, similar in length to the first, to Luke's Stone and when it was reached most, but not all, agreed that the view had made it worth-while. Part of the return walk was down a rocky, marshy valley and it was no wonder that by that evening several blisters had appeared.

On the Saturday morning there was only a short exercise followed by a welcome break in the afternoon, which was spent in Ayr.

The first two walks had been preliminaries for the 36 hour exercise

which was the most strenuous part of the course. Each Cadet was given a Carrier Manpack on which he had to strap his Bedroll and Bivouac (or food) and anything else he might need on the exercise. A normal load for an average man is 40 lbs.—nearly everyone claimed he was carrying more! All the groups reached the allotted camp site and bivouacs were pitched by a mountain stream. The evening was spent playing football on a marshy "pitch" and sitting round a blazing fire. The night was not so pleasant and nearly everyone froze—the contents of the water-bottles were solid ice in the morning. On the Monday several Cadets were taken back to Base Camp by Land-Rover because of bad blisters, but those who completed the walk must have covered about 28 miles in all over some very tiring terrain.

On the Tuesday morning we began the journey back in driving snow. Unfortunately the 3 ton truck broke down just after Shap but the Land-Rovers left Capt. Willis and Sq. Ldr. Manly to sort out the trouble and carried on with the remainder of the party. The main party reached Abingdon at 9.30 a.m. after a sleepless, though not uneventful, night at an All-Night Restaurant on the M6.

This year's party comprised Sq. Ldr. Manly, Capt. Willis, Lt. Griffin, Lt. Fairhead, A. R. Coffee, M. J. Heading, R. A. Forsythe, E. P. Caton, C. N. Cook, L. Morgan, D. N. Hunt, A. E. Banes, S. S. Coe, N. V. Moore, J. D. Evans, D. J. Hardwick, N. J. Booker, and D. S. Partridge. Our thanks must go to the Officers who managed to provide some form of meal whatever the weather and everyone agreed that when the blisters have mended the week will be looked on with a certain degree of satisfaction. Without doubt none of us will forget the cold nights, the tiring hills and the marshy terrain, but everyone considers that Arduous Training achieved its object this year.

D.S.P.

ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

A term of some progress—the new edition of the Naval Ratings' Handbook arrived at the beginning of term and this has provided a stimulus which has resulted in seven cadets passing Advanced Proficiency, and ten passing the written part of Proficiency. It is much more heartening to be able to record successes, and this will be a shot in the arm for the Section as a whole.

Quite a lot of the credit for this must go to C.P.O. Kettle who has been to see us on several Tuesday afternoons and been a tower of strength in Instruction. We are sorry that a car accident prevented him from coming for the last two or three parades, but hope that his car will be repaired (fortunately he himself was unhurt) so that he will be able to visit us again next term.

For Field Day the Section was divided into two groups, one going to Portsmouth to spend an instructive day at H.M.S. Daedalus. Unfortunately, the flight which had been arranged had to be cancelled, and we

spent the day listening to lectures and looking at aeroplanes. Most of the lectures particularly those on safety equipment, were interesting.

The other party went to Ravens Air, where, despite the strange desire of three members for an out of season swim, a successful day was spent.

L.C.J.G.

ROYAL AIR FORCE SECTION

This has been a quiet term occupied mainly in preparing for exams and giving the recruits—the largest C Flight ever—their basic grounding. A large number of cadets took Proficiency or Advanced training and several cadets took a very large step towards gaining a Flying Scholarship in that they attended the Selection Board at Biggin Hill and successfully passed this hurdle, thus qualifying for entry into the competition. This is the largest hurdle and they all stand a very good chance—so I wish luck to Rawlins, Jessett, Cockerill, Morgan and King while they wait to see if luck is with them.

For Field Day half the Section, mainly recruits, travelled a long way to see the Shuttleworth Collection of old aircraft—an interesting day—while the remainder strolled through delightful downland country near Lambourn correcting the Ordnance Survey in their more obvious errors.

We welcome Mr. Howard to the Section and we shall also soon be welcoming Mr. Cullen. The section then will have 65 members and 3 officers which will give us plenty of opportunity to diversify.

At the end of term 5 cadets and Flt.-Lt. Morelle left Gatwick in a BAC 111 bound for R.A.F. Camps in Germany—more details next term.

M.R.M.

SCOUTS

34th North Berks

JUNIOR TROOPS

Troop numbers have again increased slightly. We congratulate J. H. Walker and D. I. Smith on their promotion as patrol leaders. At the same time we are sorry that their predecessor resigned from the troop at this stage, instead of carrying on until July.

After a camp for patrol leaders and seconds, each troop camped for a night at Frilford and achieved a good standard. On Field Day we visited a backwater of the Thames on Rye Farm, by permission of Mr. P. S. Wilsdon, O.A., and the day's activities included the construction and use of a monkey bridge across the water, and cooking a tasty lunch in aluminium foil over open fires.

Next term each patrol will have one or two weekend camps before half term. As in past years, we shall then hold our own competition camp at Youlbury to select three patrols for the district competition

camp the following weekend. The emphasis in this year's County Flag competition will be on pioneering.

Holiday activities included Bob-a-Job week. Richard Welch, aided by two seniors, ran a very successful training camp at Youlbury, which was attended by thirteen patrol leaders and seconds. They were under canvas for four nights. The camp was pitched in pouring rain which mercifully eased off in the evening to enable supper to be cooked outside. After breakfast next morning in the rain, the decision was taken to move inside during the day and to use the camp site only for sleeping. Several rafts were built, comprising the Royal Barge, Cecilia, and Rock Bottom (this name was given after the launching ceremony!). These were used daily and provided much enjoyment; ten of the boys actually plucking up enough courage to take a dip, although for some the courage was supplied by others! Several Scouts took part of their Cooking badge and four completed the Backwoodsman badge. This involved, amongst other things, cleaning and cooking a herring without utensils and constructing a tree hut to sleep in. The huts went up on the only dry day and their waterproof qualities were tested fully during the night—and passed. The fine day gave other Scouts the chance to try their skill at cart racing and in the evening a successful attempt was made at Morse code signalling. To conclude, we can say that the weather hindered us but did not halt us.

Mr. Blagden led a four-day hike camp in Snowdonia with a party of six scouts: J. L. Cox, J. S. B. Frere, N. P. Heading, D. C. Henderson, J. L. Hounam, and G. M. Lyons. We are very grateful to Dr. Egelstaff for the loan of his large van. The first camp was established in a commanding position overlooking Llyn Llyddaw and next morning we climbed Snowdon in bitterly cold windy weather. The following day two of the scouts went round by road, while the others climbed Clyder Fawr and descended past the Devil's Kitchen. By now the snow was falling steadily; we climbed again, to camp by a remote tarn 2,200ft. up below Carnedd Dafydd. The tarn gradually froze over and the snow never stopped. Next day some of us got up to the summit ridge in cloud, but conditions were impossible for a ridge walk, so we returned to our tents and the cheerful roar of primuses. The following morning we packed up and came down in high spirits, and drove home. We must emphasise that there was nothing foolhardy about this expedition; despite the snow, wind and cloud, we were never in any danger of being frozen or lost or snowbound. The scouts did not overtax their strength. We had ample food, and our equipment was ideal.

R.P.W./J.B.

SENIOR TROOP

This term saw the promotion of I. L. M. Carr to patrol leader in place of J. R. Poole who, too old to hold this office any longer, has assisted in a general capacity in the running of the troop.

We again this term devoted one meeting to lending a helping hand at Youlbury and feel that this practical help should be repeated. The term's programme included the inevitable Venturer incident journey—this term with the added excitement of one scout receiving an unplanned ducking whilst crossing the Ock on a single rope. Getting half the troop afloat in canoes on the Thames was an effort worth repeating and was enjoyable if somewhat dampening.

A very pleasant afternoon was spent at Mr. Milton's Cothill estate where we started a thinning programme in a small copse. We are very grateful for the opportunity to do some practical forestry and trust that our meeting there in the Summer term will be as useful.

It was a pleasant surprise that in the joint cooking challenge at Youlbury the Scouts just managed to beat the Guides on an overall reckoning. Our fires were perhaps better for the purpose than theirs.

Field Day again started on the Monday night when the patrols set off to try and trace a 'missing agent'. This led them through Buckland and Bampton and we are grateful to Messrs. Balbernie and Street who did so much to make the exercise the success it was.

Our Easter expedition was again to Grange-in-Borrowdale in the Lake District and we were again accompanied by Mr. Baker, who proved a redoubtable walker out to bag as many peaks a day as the weather permitted. There were two occasions on which he and the scouts with him walked upwards of fifteen miles.

The weather could have been worse, and we had everything from snow to sun. For us the snow really started on Friday on the top of Blencathra and we awoke to four inches of snow in Grange on Saturday morning. Descending Blencathra was made easy by the snow as we were able to slide a lot of the way down.

As the schoolroom is the polling station for the area we had to vacate it from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m. on Thursday 31st. We used the long day out to climb the two highest mountains in England—Scafell Pike and Scafell—although there is considerable doubt as to whether we did in fact reach the top of Scafell as the cloud was low at the time. During the ascent of Scafell by Lord's Rake we were glad to have the ice axe and rope.

In spite of the weather we were able to put in a fair amount of rock climbing, Shepherd's Crag again proving very suitable owing to its accessibility and sheltered aspect. This is a popular activity provided that conditions are not cold and wet. We wish to thank Mr. M. Nixon of Keswick who very kindly lent us his copy of the Borrowdale Climbing Guide, enabling us to tackle new climbs.

The weather was a bit cold for canoeing to be very popular, but there were successful expeditions onto Derwent Water by some. Our thanks here to Mr. Poole who lent us his roof rack for transporting the canoe. Lastly, our thanks again to Mr. Baker for coming with us. We hope we have now created a tradition of holding the big Senior exercise at this time and in mountainous country.

J.S.L.

MUSIC NOTES

The subscription concerts, the house music competition, the orchestral concert in the Court Room, the Associated Board music examinations, the North Berks Festival, and the concert in Saint Helen's Church given by Choral Society and First Orchestra have provided a wealth of musical activity and interest this term, and it is fair to say that a high standard of performance has been maintained.

The Bernard Brown Brass Ensemble provided a well balanced mixture of instruction and musical delight at the first of the term's subscription concerts. The second concert was given by the Bernicia Ensemble of Edinburgh, a team of five ably directed by David Wiggins, an Old Boy of the school. Their programme was notable for the modern works it contained—a Concerto da Camera by Thomas Wilson, Lennox Berkeley's Concertino, and two captivating Interludes by Ibert. Their ensemble and expertise were a joy to hear.

The house music competition consisted of the solo vocal and instrumental rounds and we were again most grateful to Mr. Pratt for his authoritative markings and remarks. Some of the best playing came from the various string classes but even for the most junior of instrumentalists this is a valuable opportunity of playing before an audience and winning a few points for a house.

On 27th February the First, Second and Third Orchestras gave their annual concert in the Court Room. The Second Orchestra opened with spirited performances of works by Mascagni, Handel, and Woodhouse, the Third Orchestra followed playing pieces by Beethoven, Dawe, and Mendelssohn in such a way as to demonstrate their accomplishments, but a performance of Haydn's 'Bird' Quartet and the First Orchestra's performance of Schubert's 'Unfinished' Symphony provided the most substantial works of the evening and the most satisfying. Long may these concerts continue, and it is good to welcome so many parents to them.

Halfway through term we welcomed Mr. Alan Davis as clarinet teacher. So great is the demand for tuition on this popular instrument that we now have three people here teaching it on a part time basis. At the end of term we have to say goodbye to Graham Hallett who is going to read law at Sheffield University. In his time here he has given great service to the school, whether as organist playing for chapel services, pianist accompanying house music competitions, bassoonist in the First Orchestra, or bass in the Choral Society. With him go our very best wishes for the future.

At the end of term the North Berks Festival claimed some of our string players who performed Mendelssohn's Octet creditably and some tenors and basses who joined in the massed singing. But the last week was dominated by the performance of Haydn's 'Nelson' Mass and Handel's Concerto Grosso op. 6, no. 12 by the Choral Society and First

Orchestra in St. Helen's Church. For this the Choral Society, by no means over rehearsed, acquitted themselves admirably and were well supported by the soloists and the orchestra playing particularly difficult parts. A. R. Gibbs, J. D. Evans, and F. R. Howlett were the able soloists in the well known Handel concerto.

The Associated Board music examinations resulted in passes as follows: Grade 1: C. Marley (piano); Grade 2: S. Cantwell (piano), B. Sharpe (violin); Grade 3: A. Braunton, J. Dyke, J. Elliott (clarinets), D. Lightfoot (violin); Grade 4: S. Loosemore (piano), N. Pilling (cello); Grade 5: A. Cunninghame (piano), C. Maude, R. Samsworth (cello), J. Hounam (violin); Grade 6: A. Vernède (piano); Grade 7: A. Vernède (cello), C. Denny (viola), J. D. Evans (violin).

Cunninghame, Loosemore, Cantwell, Vernède, and Samsworth all passed with merit (over 120 marks out of 150).

P.B.B.

SKYE GROUP

Skipness, Kintyre: 30th March—8th April.

From Arrochar the road climbs a pass to 'Rest and be Thankful' and then drops to skirt the edge of Loch Fyne. It runs south along this loch to picturesque Tarbert with its harbour and fishing vessels, and from there down the western side of the Kintyre peninsula to Campbeltown. But south of Tarbert we took a small road that crossed to the eastern side of the peninsula, and soon the Isle of Arran came into view with its snowy peaks turning pink in the setting sun. We followed the coast for a mile where the road runs on the lowest of the raised beaches, twisting between the jagged outcrops of inclined mica-schist, and then took the steep bumpy track up to Auchameanach cottage. This was to be the home of the Skye Group for the next eight days.

An advance party of three boys had driven up two days before; they swept out the cottage, painted the kitchen and arranged supplies, which were obtained from Tarbert, twelve miles away. Most of the other members also came by car, and soon we were comfortably installed in the cottage. Most of the boys slept in a large hayloft, occasionally disturbed by the lowing of the cattle below. Cooking was done on primuses in the large kitchen, where there was also a stove which was sometimes kept alight to provide hot running water. Our scientific books and equipment were kept in the other downstairs room, and here the projects were discussed of an evening, and specimens examined.

Each day groups went out, on foot or by car, to pursue their particular projects. These had been chosen months before, so that preliminary studies could be done during the term. A complete duplicated report will be published next term. Some boys were concerned with marine

life; a profile transect was made of one part of the shore, and rock pools were studied and mapped. General studies and identifications of sea shore flora and fauna were made. Another boy was concerned with a geographical survey of the coastline, which was divided into the rocky coast of mica-schist, the sand and shingle beaches of Claonaig and Skipness Bays, and the raised beaches. Of particular interest was Skipness Bay, where the River Skipness, originally diverted by shingle storm ridges, has since breached them and markedly altered its previous course. Two local rivers were studied, and interesting examples of a gorge and river terraces were found.

Two boys surveyed the farms in the area and discussed details with the farmers. Others mapped the forestry plantations and made sketches of the trees. They also planted out about a thousand larch trees. Another pair investigated the variations in pH value of soil samples taken in a straight line from the sea shore inland, which were found to be acidic to a varying extent. Tests for minerals in the soil were also carried out.

Two boys carried out a geomagnetic survey, using a magnetic variometer generously loaned by Birmingham University. Magnetic contours were plotted across basalt dykes, which were found to have different magnetic characteristics from the surrounding rock. A profile was also taken across the vein at an old lead mine, and again there was correlation with the observed geology. Another pair carried out a geological survey and a radioactivity survey of ten abandoned mines south of Ardrishaig, using two scintillation ratemeters kindly loaned by the Atomic Energy Division of the Geological Survey. Two pieces of original survey work were carried out, including the discovery of an unmapped quartz vein containing a twelve-inch seam of iron pyrites. Two mines were internally explored, the rest being either flooded or open-cast. Many samples of lead, iron, copper and zinc ores were collected.

It may be of interest to compare this expedition with previous ones. We had more boys than before, and four masters instead of two. We were not under canvas, and so could safely take with us more books and equipment, e.g. a binocular microscope, and it was easier to examine maps and specimens in the evenings, under electric light and with a good fire in the grate. Yet it may be easier to build up a good group spirit when one is actually camping, and when the numbers are smaller. We did not quite have the camaraderie that we have sometimes achieved in previous years. The main requirement for members of these expeditions is that they should have a devouring interest in their chosen subject. They should enjoy being out and about in most weathers, and should keep their eyes open to observe all that is interesting in these far-off places.

We are very grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Oakes, who allowed us to occupy the cottage on their estate and helped us in many other ways.

In addition, we would thank Prof. D. H. Griffiths, Department of Geophysics, University of Birmingham; J. M. Miller, Atomic Energy Division of Geological Survey; Dr. G. M. Brown, Department of Geology, Oxford University; Mr. D. Blair of Tarbert; Tate and Lyle Ltd.; the 10th and 34th North Berks Scout Troops for the loan of equipment.

The party consisted of: Mr. Blagden, Mr. Eden, Mr. Potter, Mr. Truran, M. J. Arundel, D. J. B. Baker, M. A. E. Ballinger, J. P. G. Bosley, P. V. Bosley, R. J. N. Bradfield, R. A. Egelstaff, P. E. Gibbs, J. N. Harper, J. S. Hutchins, D. S. Jackson, R. P. Jessett, J. B. Lister, A. J. Longstaff, C. P. Ridout, P. J. Sparrow, M. J. Stilwell, D. Ventham.

J.B.

OPERATION OASIS

Many Abingdonians will doubtless make their way into the Sahara Desert and some of them may be lucky enough to share in a lavish Arab banquet, enjoying the "mesch-oui" of whole barbecued sheep. But it still seems incredible that an official School party should have found itself enjoying such an experience nearly two thousand miles from Abingdon on a night when their colleagues at home worked feverishly to put the last touches to the Boarders' Concert.

Oxfam planned "Operation Oasis" so that many of their friends in schools throughout the country should see for themselves the nature and extent of the problems that face a developing country. They chose Algeria as their particular destination because it is a country that has received aid from Oxfam for twelve years, because it is a young country that has only recently won its independence and has a population of whom half are less than twenty-five years of age, and because it is just within the limits of a fourteen-day journey. Nevertheless more than eight hundred students had still to be conducted safely to another continent and it was only by joining forces with British India Steam Navigation Co. that Oxfam could turn their dream into a practical reality.

British India's ship "Devonia" is quite rightly claimed to be a "floating comprehensive, co-educational boarding school". Into the normal pattern of life on board this school-ship was fitted Oxfam's scheme for a fortnight's course on "Developing Countries". As "Devonia" sailed south from Genoa we were prepared for arrival in Algeria, admirably briefed by Bill Jackson, Oxfam's Education Officer and moving spirit of the whole venture, by Ronald Payne, foreign correspondent with the "Sunday Telegraph", and constant reference to Oxfam's superb "educational pack".

Two days' holiday in and around Algiers gave us a chance to see the more affluent sides of the national life. We travelled along the fertile coastal plain to visit the vast area of Roman ruins at Tipusa, a highly

efficient nationalised wine-factory, orange and lemon groves. The capital itself was a city of contrasts. From the harbour it presented a French-Mediterranean face but a little climbing soon brought us into the different world of the Casbah and the mosques. We shall remember, too the frantic bartering in the markets and bazaars and the hordes of young, unemployed Algerians with their time free to follow every move we made.

Then came the climax of the whole visit—the "Operation Oasis" itself. For six hours we drove south from Algiers, descending from the High Plateau of the Atlas to the northern edge of the Sahara, until we finally turned on to a rough track which led us across the sand to the remote little town of Messad. We were escorted on the last lap of the journey by armed Arab horsemen and immediately we arrived were launched into a whirlwind tour of vaccination clinic, children's feeding centre, schools and gardens where apricot and peach trees bloomed in the oases. It was a poor town but one blessed with enlightened rulers and friendly, hospitable people. We spent the evening feasting and enjoying Arab music and slept that night in a huge Bedouin tent strewn with the finest rugs in the village. So much was offered that we all felt guilty and empty-handed but at least we could see that our welcome arose from appreciation for the help that Oxfam and others had given to this community.

We returned to the ship to spend our return journey talking over all we had seen. Listening to Oxfam describing their work in Algeria and the rest of the world and discussing what we in Britain could and should do. But we were not forgetful of home affairs and as March 31st drew near the ship prepared for its own election. We spent polling day exploring Lisbon in glorious sunshine and in the evening went ourselves to the polls on board ship. The Conservative candidate, our own Iain Herbertson, was narrowly beaten into second place by the Liberal candidate whose father won his own seat in the House of Commons that same evening.

Those of us who were privileged to go on this journey are now better able to understand such terms as "developing country, mal-nutrition, poverty, illiteracy, unemployment". Two and a half million children were born into the world between the time we left Gatwick and the time we returned to Tilbury. Unless present conditions improve, at least one tenth of them are destined to starve and four tenths are destined to be under-nourished. One and a half million of them will have been born into developing countries. Half of these will never read or write and it is mainly they who will be the hungry ones. Such figures now mean more to us than they ever did before. That is why Oxfam took us to Algeria.

The Abingdon party: Mr. Owen, J. W. Bosley, A. R. Cantwell, D. P. Dean, I. J. W. Herbertson, N. D. Keen, M. F. Kirby, W. N. McGowan-Docherty, T. R. Paxton and N. Sprent. C.J.W.O.

GRUNDY LIBRARY

We tender our most sincere thanks to Peter Henderson and Timothy Harding for handsome Leaving Bequests—enough new books on history and chess to fill a shelf. Also we thank Alan Fabes, O.A., for endowing Wisden's Cricket Annual and Mrs. Jean Duffield, once again, for two fine editions. We are glad to note that Library discipline and conformity to rules has been much better during the past term.

SCHOOL SOCIETIES

SIXTH FORM CLUB

Chairman: R. B. Davis. Secretary: R. D. R. Ray.
Treasurer: M. J. Heading.

The Sixth Form Club is now well established, and after the first full term's operation the committee has been able to reduce the subscription from the present ten shillings to seven shillings and sixpence. After the initial expenditure on furnishings only minor charges for maintenance have been incurred, but among the new equipment the electric urn has proved to be a most useful purchase.

R.D.R.R.

ROYSSSE SOCIETY

Secretary: R. B. Davis.

The Society 'with giant strides comes on amain'. Last term we welcomed the first visiting speaker to a meeting, and also the first lady to be present. This term we took further steps towards emancipation when two young ladies from St. Helen's were invited to become members of the Society, since when they have confounded even the most ardent conservatives by their contributions to discussion.

The first of the papers read this term was on 'Magic' by P. J. Wilson, surveying the importance of magic through the ages and concentrating on the ritual peculiarities of such strange cults as Voodoo and the Black Arts. The discussion which followed ranged from the ceremonial intricacies of Christianity to witchcraft and was as lively as it was learned. At the second meeting S. J. Denny delivered a paper on a subject very near to all of us—'Education'. The discussion developed into a heated argument in which the speaker defended his personal convictions with courage against a frequently hostile audience. The 'Immortal Bard' provided the subject of P. A. Sugg's erudite paper on 'Shakespeare—playwright and tradition' which proved to be of interest to the whole Society. Indeed, with no fewer than six members present who had all obtained 'A' level English, quotations and scholarly deliberation flew around the room with bewildering density.

I feel sure that the whole Society would wish me to express its deep gratitude to the Headmaster and Miss Cobban for their overwhelming hospitality throughout the term.

R.B.D.

LITERARY SOCIETY

Secretary: R. B. Davis.

Owing to the brevity of the term and Mr. Owen's unfortunate illness, the third meeting of the term was unavoidably cancelled. However, the two meetings that did take place were of an unusually high standard. At the first meeting D. Clare read a paper on 'Robert Browning',

stimulating a lively discussion of great value to 'A' level candidates. At the second meeting A. R. Coffee surveyed the poetry of John Betjeman, a controversial subject which generated a sharply divided discussion afterwards. Betjeman is not as popular today as he was ten years ago, but although he came in for some sharp criticism his apologists were equally emphatic in his defence.

Our thanks this term must go not only to the two members who delivered papers, but also to Mr. Owen for his continued interest and encouragement and to the secretary of the Sixth Form Club for the loan of premises for the meetings.

R.B.D.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

Joint Secretaries: M. J. Adam, A. M. Wood.

Six meetings were held this term, taking a variety of different forms. On Thursday, February 3rd, Dr. J. W. Martin spoke on 'Looking at Metals', illustrating his fascinating account of the science of metallurgy with slides. Dr. K. Trick, consulting psychiatrist at Littlemore Hospital, addressed the Society on aspects of mental illness on February 25th, while our third visiting speaker, Guy Brown (O.A.) spoke on 'Transitional Organo Metallic Compounds' at the last meeting of the term.

At two meetings a forum of members' papers was held: on February 17th R. P. Jessett, M. J. Adam and D. J. Saunders read their entries for the Ball Science Prize, and on March 17th R. G. Coulbeck, R. N. Bradfield and L. P. Halling read theirs for the junior prize. On March 4th three films were shown—'The Undersea Search', 'The Optical Maser' and 'Water in Biology'.

Finally, we should like to record our gratitude to our sponsors, Mr. Gray and Mr. Talbot, for their help throughout the term.

M.J.A., A.M.W.

THE HISTORIANS

Secretary: G. H. Hallett.

Our first meeting, on January 24th, had in fact been held over from last term. Taking the form of a symposium on the Civil War, in which the characters of King Charles, Strafford, Laud, Pym, a Parliamentary squire, a Scot and an obnoxious London merchant were represented by P. K. Booker, D. Tanner, B. E. Goldsworthy, D. J. Brown, M. J. H. Liversidge, R. D. R. Ray and P. A. Sugg respectively, it was followed by stimulating discussion.

On March 15th we joined Mrs. Duffield's archaeology class to hear a lecture by Dr. Highfield of Merton College on 'The Foundations of Oxford University', a fascinating subject of interest to all historians. Regrettably there was a sparse attendance for the last meeting of term, when R. A. Forsythe spoke about Talleyrand, provoking an interesting discussion afterwards.

G.H.H.

THE SYMPOSIUM

Secretary: D. J. Brown.

Attendance has been consistently high at all three meetings this term, encouraging worthwhile discussion of a high standard after each paper. At the first meeting D. J. Brown spoke on 'Leisure', criticising the modern tendency to squander free time and advocating more constructive pursuits to which to direct our attention. On February 28th, following the election of a new secretary, R. Coomber read a paper on

transport, proposing possible measures to remedy the chaos of the existing system. At the final meeting M. J. Adam read a paper on the controversial 'Teenage Cult'.

The Society wishes to express its thanks to Mr. Hillary both for his continued interest and sponsorship and for his significant and entertaining contribution to debate.

D.J.B.

TURNOR SOCIETY

Chairman: M. H. Hampton. Secretary: C. S. Downes.

Two meetings were held this term. On February 11th Mr. Fairhead spoke on his former legal studies in international sea law, making an apparently dull subject interesting and entertaining. On February 25th the Headmaster gave a fascinating account of his experiences in Persia and his impressions of the Persian way of life.

Both lectures deserved larger audiences than they had, and it is to be hoped that future meetings will be better attended.

C.S.D.

ST. EDMUND SOCIETY

Secretary: J. R. Poole.

This term opened with a talk given by the Bishop of Reading on 'The Lighter Side of Church Music', suitably illustrated by tape-recording and piano. On February 24th a large audience saw the Christian Aid film entitled 'The Long March', showing the work done by the organisation in the underdeveloped nations of the world. Finally, on March 10th Sheik Katlan, religious tutor to the Crown Prince of Jordan, spoke on 'The Faith of Islam', after which he answered many questions.

The Society was pleased to welcome parties from St. Helen's to all three meetings.

J.R.P.

THE MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

Secretary: N. D. Brice.

On February 7th there was a joint meeting with St. Helen's School and Didcot Girls' Grammar School which took the form of a problems 'bingo'. In this lively contest couples solved fairly light-hearted problems against the clock. The winners well deserved their prizes.

Dr. Cornish of the Mathematics Department of Leeds University spoke on 'Mathematics at a University' on March 8th. He gave a survey of entrance requirements and spoke of the content of a typical course. He concluded with a fascinating survey of the fields in which modern research is being conducted.

N.D.B.

MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

Secretary: C. W. Denny.

The Society has been particularly active this term and members have enjoyed a variety of attractions. On January 28th a joint poetry reading was held with St. Helen's. On January 28th we went to Culham College to hear a talk entitled 'La France d'aujourd'hui' by M. Helbronner from the French Embassy. On the 18th our German section saw a University production of 'Die Physiker' by Durenmatt at the Taylorian Institute. In addition, small groups saw Oxford productions of plays by Racine and Anouilh, but a planned final joint meeting was not possible because of St. Helen's School exams and musical activities.

C.W.D.

THE CRITICS

Secretary: P. H. Blackburn.

At the first meeting a poetry reading session was held. Poems varied from two original compositions to examples of Yeats, Owen and Cummings. For the next meeting P. G. Dowling produced a paper on 'The Background to Wordsworth', outlining the poet's early life and assessing the effect upon him of nature. Browning was the subject of a provocative paper read by R. J. Bennett at the last meeting. Argument centred round the obscurity and philosophic value of the poet's work.

In retrospect the term has proved highly successful: the papers were all followed by valuable and constructive discussion. P.H.B.

DEBATING SOCIETY

Chairman: P. A. Sugg. Secretary: M. H. Hampton.

Only one meeting was held this term. At this M. Hampton and J. D. Evans proposed the motion that 'This House believes fashion to be merely a means of extorting money from the public'. The sartorial elegance of D. Clare and J. Kenney overwhelmingly defeated the eloquence of the proposition, while a brief, but lively, debate from the floor was inspired.

The precarious existence of the Society is to some extent due to the conflicting loyalties of many prospective debaters, resulting in the last minute cancellation of several debates this term. M.H.H.

PLAY READING SOCIETY

Secretary: A. L. Vernede.

The first meeting of the term was held on January 30th, when Euripides' 'Iphigenia in Taurus' was read, a play which did not appeal to many of us. Anouilh's 'Ring Round the Moon' was received more warmly and had a better attendance. The standard of reading at the last two meetings ('Flowering Cherry' by Robert Bolt, 'Queen after Death' by de Montherlant) was considerably higher, and the Society grows steadily. A.L.V.

THE ECONOMISTS

Secretary: J. Kenney.

At the first of the two meetings held this term Mr. Edward Holloway gave a talk of unusual interest on the balance of payments problem. Mr. I. R. Herrman read a paper at the second meeting on 'The Legacy of Keynes'. A proposed forum planned for our last meeting was postponed to next term.

The Society would like to express its continued thanks to Mr. Milton for his sponsorship. J.K.

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Secretary: M. A. Cockerill. Treasurer: G. B. Edwards.

Although no formal meetings have been held this term, members have been occupied on individual projects and observations. Attempts to time lunar occultations on six different occasions have been frustrated either by adverse weather conditions or by the malfunction of the telescope. However, progress towards remounting the telescope and resilvering the flat is well in hand, and on the whole the term has been successful. M.A.C.

CAMPANOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chairman: J. R. Poole. Secretary: C. I. Rowson.

Practices have continued as usual this term, but without any special services to ring for we have attempted no quarter-peals. However, at the time of writing, a party is leaving to attempt a Bob Minor at North Leigh. In addition, several members have achieved considerable proficiency at handbell practices.

C.I.R.

JOINT CLUB

Chairman: P. V. Bosley. Secretary: T. J. Rawlins.
Treasurer: N. C. Ware.

We had hoped to break out of the traditional social evening this term, but arrangements to visit 'Reading Bowl' were thwarted at the last minute. Nonetheless, both soirees, one each at the Club and St. Helen's, were generally enjoyed despite their stereo-typed pattern.

The Summer Term, however, offers still greater opportunities to wander abroad, and a full programme has been arranged.

Our thanks go once again to Miss Glass and Mr. Sewry, together with our good wishes to the retiring Chairman, Peter Bosley.

T.J.R.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Secretary: P. A. C. Minns. Treasurer: P. D. Healy.

A new and improved dark-room has been opened for general use this term, a task entailing a great deal of work by members. In addition two meetings have been held, one an outing to hear Mr. Ray Stanton King speaking on tape recording and the other an illustrated Kodak lecture. A competition organised for photographs for the new borough guide was won by I. M. Hallett.

P.A.C.M.

ONSLOW SOCIETY

Secretary: A. W. Hills

Two meetings have been held this term. At the inaugural meeting of the Society, on February 17th, D. J. Ventham read a paper on 'Mary Tudor's Marriage', after which A. W. Hills spoke on 'Two Nineteenth-century Queens'. On February 28th the Society welcomed Mr. Sturdy, of the Ashmolean Museum, who spoke about 'Archaeology in the Upper Thames Basin'. The Society has had an encouraging start this term, and during the holidays two members will be engaged on archaeological activities.

A.W.H.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Secretary: J. J. A. King

Two meetings were held this term. At the first Mrs. J. Duffield gave a most interesting lecture on 'Police Forces through the Ages', but other distractions decreased attendance. This situation was amply rectified at the second meeting, when two films, on life in Stuart and Georgian England, were shown. We had hoped to hold a third meeting, when members were to have read papers on the general theme of the Industrial Revolution, but this has been postponed to the Summer Term.

J.J.A.K.

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY

Secretary: S. P. Sewry.

The culmination of this term's work was a very creditable performance of Mendelssohn's Octet at the North Berkshire Music Festival. Unfortunately, owing to unavoidable circumstances, the Society's wind section has been less active this term. Again the Society suffers another serious loss this term: Graham Hallett, as both pianist and bassoonist, has been one of our most accomplished performers. S.P.S.

JAZZ CLUB

Secretary: M. J. T. Theophilus.

Only two meetings have been held this term as the intended visiting speaker was unable to come. At the first A. M. King spoke on 'Jimmy Smith and Georgie Fame'; at the second T. D. Paige read a paper on 'The Blues in Jazz'. Unfortunately the last meeting had to be cancelled as only two members turned up owing to a clash of activities, but it is hoped that the visit of an outside speaker next term will boost members' enthusiasm. M.J.T.T.

TAPE RECORDING SOCIETY

Secretary: C. W. Denny.

Although apparently dormant this term (our only full meeting, when Mr. Chislett was to have spoken on gramophone transcription equipment, being unavoidably postponed), the individual members of the Society have all been very active on a variety of projects. The studio is in use at every free moment, and we pride ourselves in being one of the most continuously active societies. Recordings have been made of major school activities, the 'Nelson Mass' being the most notable. C.W.D.

Many hours of painstaking work can be needed for the production of even a short original tape. This is reflected by the fact that in our competition only two tapes were finished and received by me for consideration. I know others had been in preparation, and I wish I could have heard the incomplete efforts. The winning tape was A. F. Martin's imaginative and technically accomplished Concert relay from Grand Canal Hall, Mars. Lightfoot and Maclean produce an exciting dramatisation of the death of James Bond, but the sound quality was poor. J.V.T.

MECHANICS CLUB

Secretary: I. J. W. Herbertson.

The Lent Term saw the re-equipment of the club with new tools. Much work was done on various machines with the result that there is now a useful body of members able to pass on their experience in the future. A visit to the Borough Offices has probably secured the removal of the old car, while we hope to acquire another car to work on during the Summer Term. I.J.W.H.

GARDENING CLUB

Secretary: R. H. Roper. Treasurer: L. P. Halling.

Formed only two weeks before the end of term, the club has already achieved considerable success in the garden and greenhouse of Larkhill, kindly lent by Mr. Willis. We have also undertaken some work for the Headmaster at Lacies Court, and have been promised the use of the Lodge garden. Our thanks are due to our sponsor, Mr. Potter, for his interest and assistance in founding the club. R.H.R.

RAILWAY CLUB

Secretary: R. W. Speight.

There have been two meetings this term, the first taking the form of an outing to see the signal boxes at Reading and Twyford. On 18th February A. T. Morris and K. Cuthbert showed and explained their photographs.

R.W.S.

JUNIOR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Secretary: K. J. Barnard.

At the first meeting of the term members read 'The Admirable Crichton', which was followed over several meetings by Bernard Shaw's 'Androcles and the Lion', which was also discussed with a view to possible production in December. At the last two meetings we began 'Toad of Toad Hall'.

K.J.B.

O.A. NOTES

BIRTHS

TUCK. On 29th March, 1966, at Somerset West, Capetown, to Peggy, wife of John Tuck (1953), a sister for David.

WORTH. Our apologies to Rose and Raymond Worth whom we credited with a fifth daughter in our last issue. She was of course their first.

MARRIAGES

LIER-ALLEN. On 23rd April, 1966, at the Church of the Visitation, Greenford, Edward F. Lier (1959), to Kathleen Frances Allen.

MORSE-COLEMAN. On 19th March, 1966, at St. Thomas' Church, Goring on Thames, Julian Robert Morse (1961) to Veronica Anne Coleman.

MOSS-BRADSTREET. On 19th March, 1966, at St. Mary's Church, Goring by Sea, Sussex, Ian William Moss (1961) to Jill Bradstreet.

DEATHS

CLAYTON. On 20th December, 1965, after a long illness, Percy James Clayton (1897-99), aged 84.

WEBB. On 23rd April, 1966, the result of an accident, Peter John Webb (1954-62), aged 22.

All of those who knew Peter Webb at School will be grieved to hear of his untimely death. After some disappointments he was well set on a career in Law reading for the Bar and it is very sad that a promising future should be cut short so abruptly. We offer our deep sympathy to his mother and brother Christopher. The Headmaster and

the Head of the School attended the funeral at Waltham S. Lawrence on 2nd May.

Christopher Redknap (1959) has obtained a Teachers' Exchange assignment and will be working in a school in New York during the coming academic year.

David Howard (1956), who has been acting manager of the Royal Victoria Hotel, Nassau, felt the full force of Hurricane Betsy last September. The beautiful hotel gardens were devastated and many windows shattered but fortunately there were no human casualties.

Two O.A.s are serving on the oil-lift to Zambia. F/O Michael Westwood (1962) is with 84 Squadron of Beverleys stationed at Khormaksar and Bob Bickers (1961) is with 511 Squadron on Britannia aircraft.

We congratulate Sir George Sinclair (1931) on his re-election as Conservative member for Dorking and also Michael Jones (1947) who made a good, though unsuccessful, fight as Labour Candidate in the New Forest Division.

Congratulations too to Michael Green (1947) on his promotion to Secretary to the Heinz Group.

Conal Tompson (1951) after three years training at Guy's Hospital is now Lecturer in Physiotherapy at Saskatchewan University.

Derek Dunn (1962) is now in Lima, Peru, with Textiles Generales S.A. A recent journey took him from Lima to Huancayo on the edge of the Amazon jungle in the course of which he passed in 5 hours from a temperature of 90 in the shade to ice and snow on the highest road in the world—15,000 feet—over the Andes. Even at Huancayo, which is 11,500 feet above sea level, it is difficult to keep a cigarette alight.

David Lloyd (1954) of Midland ATV, brought his production team to Abingdon in January and was subsequently seen in his *Today* programme discussing the ancient bun-throwing ceremony with Dr. G. F. O'Connor.

Arthur Hendley (1938) has written from Malta, where he is with Barclay's Bank D.C. & O. He has been almost continuously abroad since 1948, and seems to have seen a large part of the African continent in that time. He says that Malta is by far the pleasantest posting he has enjoyed so far and he spends much of his time in and on the sea. He also plays golf when the weather is cool enough. He had recently been in touch with John Mosdell (1939) also with Barclays in Africa, and was expecting him to holiday in Malta.

John Clarke (1941) is with BP Development Ltd., and is Drilling Superintendent for the drilling barge 40 miles off the Yorkshire coast. He has spent most of the last 17 years as an oilman in Africa and the Middle East, but is no nearer his home in Glasgow now—at any rate in time.

When last heard of Colin Scragg (1957), 2nd Lieut 2nd R. Tank Regt., was serving with the United Nations Force in Cyprus. He claims that he had more beatings than any boy since 1563. Does anyone wish to contest the claim?

Bob Crockford (1953) is now Sales Manager for Cadbury Bros. in Northern Ireland.

Geoffrey Oxley (1961), having graduated at Liverpool University has been appointed Assistant Keeper of Archives to the City of Leicester.

Charles Cox (1965), who is at King's College Medical School, has been admitted to the Active List of the H.A.C. in B Bty. 1st Regt.

David Exon (1958) has now been for three years at the Leopoldville factory of British American Tobacco Co.

A recent visitor to the School, on his first visit to this country, was the son of Vivian E. Cock (1898), who went out to Australia soon after leaving school and spent his life there, fruit-farming being one of his occupations.

We must apologise for omitting the name of Hugh Flint (1965) from the list of O.A.s at Universities. He is studying Dentistry at King's College Hospital.

Peter Willis (1960) who hopes to qualify this autumn at Middlesex Hospital, spent three months at the end of last year in Nigeria at University College Hospital, Ibadan, on a Nuffield Foundation Travelling Scholarship.

John Becker (1957) has just returned from another trip overseas, making a film for the Army in Bahrein.

Ian Stuart-Lyon (1956) is leaving the Royal Navy after nearly 10 years service and will be taking up a business appointment in Abingdon.

O.A. CLUB NOTES

The Headmaster's Portrait

The response to the appeal has been first class. J.M.C. has attended a number of sittings. The progress of the portrait was seen by those O.A.s who attended the London dinner from a newspaper photograph which showed model and portrait (front view) and artist (back view). We understand that there was a failure rate of nearly 50% when the guests were invited to say which was model and which portrait.

It is hoped that the Club will be able to make the presentation at the Annual Dinner in July. The Committee proposes to present, with the portrait, a commemorative book in which will be inscribed the names of all those who have contributed to the cost. This will take

some little time to prepare and the subscription list will therefore positively close on Monday, 20th June, 1966.

The President wishes to take this opportunity of thanking all those members who sent personal good wishes with their donations. They were much appreciated.

The 22nd London Dinner was held on Friday, 11th March, at the Constitutional Club, St. James' Street. Seventy-five members and guests were present; and thanks are again due to Stanley Paige for organising a most successful dinner.

The President, Duncan West, took the chair, and in proposing the health of the School, he congratulated the Headmaster upon the general healthy state of the School, and asked those O.A.s present to do all that they were able to support both the School, and Direct Grant Schools as a whole, which were facing a rather uncertain future. The Headmaster replied, and in his speech, reported a very successful and smooth-running year. The Headmaster told of his debt of gratitude for the loyalty and reliability of George Duxbury, who would be retiring in July, and thanks were also expressed to Mr. Duxbury on behalf of the Club. Mr. Manly, also leaving the School in July, proposed the health of the Club, and John Bury completed the formal part of the evening by replying in a somewhat lighter vein.

Last term, another successful gathering of Old Boys attending Universities was held at the School.

The Committee has been pleased to elect two more ex-members of the Staff to Honorary Life Membership of the Club, in recognition of their valued service to the School. We look forward to welcoming Mr. Phizackerley and Mr. Montague at future Club functions.

The Athletics Meeting on 12th March, although marred by extremely cold conditions, was very much enjoyed, the School winning by a comfortable, but by no means overwhelming, margin.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS, 1966

Please make a note of the following dates:

Old Boys' Day, Cricket Matches, A.G.M. and Annual Dinner:
Friday, 22nd July.

Founder's Day: Saturday, 23rd July.

Rugger Match and Dance: Saturday, 26th November.

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).

SUMMARY OF GAMES FIXTURES

CRICKET 1st XI

May

Sat. 7	v.	Newbury G.S. (a).
Wed. 18	v.	Royal Masonic, Bushey (h), 11.30.
Sat. 21	v.	Brentwood School (h), 11.30.
Wed. 25	v.	Berkshire Gentlemen (h), 11.30.
Sat. 28	v.	Abingdon C.C. (a).

June

Wed. 1	v.	Pembroke College (h).
Sat. 4	v.	Bloxham School (a).
Sat. 11	v.	Pangbourne Nautical College (a).
Wed. 15	v.	Magdalen College School (a).
Sat. 18	v.	Incogniti (h), 11.30.
Sat. 25	v.	M.C.C. (h), 11.30.
Wed. 29	v.	Common Room (h).

July

Sat. 2	v.	Oratory School (h).
Sat. 9	v.	R.G.S. High Wycombe (a).
Tues. 19	v.	King Edward's, Southampton (a), 11.30.
Fri. 22	v.	Old Abingdonians (h), 11.30.
& Sat. 23		2.00.

ROWING

May

Sat. 21	Wallingford Regatta.
Sat. 28	Reading Junior Regatta.
Mon. 30	Hereford Regatta; Windsor and Eton Regatta.

June

Sat. 4	Oxford City Regatta; Walton Regatta.
Sat. 11	Reading Regatta.
Sat. 18	Marlow Regatta.
Wed. 22	National Schools' Regatta, Pangbourne.
Sat. 25	Pangbourne Regatta.
Wed. 29	Henley Royal Regatta—first day.

July

Sat. 2	Henley Royal Regatta—finals.
Sat. 23	Bedford Regatta.

TENNIS FIRST VI

May

Wed. 4	v.	The Common Room (h).
Sat. 7	v.	Radley College (a).
Wed. 18	v.	Pembroke College (a).
Wed. 25	v.	Leighton Park School (h).

June

Wed. 1	v.	Magdalen College School (a).
Sat. 4	v.	Bloxham School (h).
Sat. 11	v.	Culham College (h).
Sat. 18	v.	Reading School (a).
Sat. 25	v.	Berkhamsted School (h).

July

Sat. 2	v.	Pangbourne Nautical College (h).
Sat. 9	v.	R.G.S., High Wycombe (a).
Wed. 13	v.	Bohemians L.T.C. (h).
Mon. 18	v.	Abingdon L.T.C. (h).
Sat. 23	v.	Old Abingdonians (h).

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.

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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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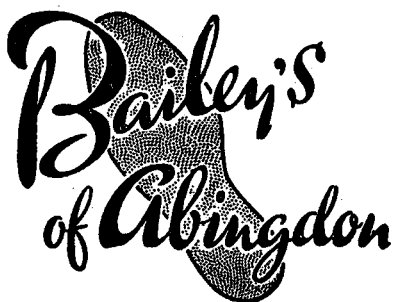
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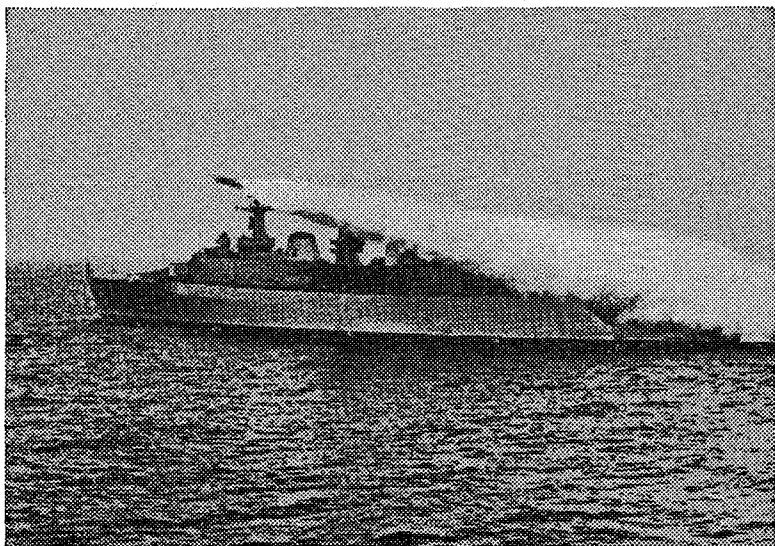
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