THE
GOVERNING BODY
January 1968

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Co-Optative:
THE ABINGDONIAN

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OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL
Lent 1968

SCHOOL PREFECTS

R. E. N. Bradfield (D) (Head of School)
J. C. Paddison (S) (Head of Boarders)
D. N. Hunt (S) J. F. Goldsworthy (D)
P. K. Ablewhite (S) N. D. Keen (LC)
P. A. C. Minns (C) P. J. Hopkins (C)
L. P. Halling (L) B. H. Ford (D)
D. Button (D) V. A. Ramsey (W)
N. R. J. Brett (D) R. A. Balbernie (LC)
T. A. Parfitt (S) I. L. M. Carr (D)
N. J. Booker (D) P. M. Osborne (D)
J. P. W. Mosdell (S)

HOUSE PREFECTS

Crescent House—M. C. G. Stevens; R. G. Whittington.
Lacies Court—M. J. H. Cook; T. C. C. May; M. C. Geary; J. H. Earl.
Larkhill—N. A. R. Wood; A. F. Martin; J. H. T. Davies.
School House—M. F. K. Baumann; M. W. Parry; F. J. Dobbs; A. T. Cowlin; A. W. Luff; C. J. A. Maude; M. G. Baker; D. W. Galbraith; M. H. Cullen.
Waste Court—D. C. L. Murphy; D. L. R. Howells.

The increasing pressure upon universities to provide a sufficient number of places has led to a broadening of the whole field of university education. For the new universities, made necessary by the growing number of sixth formers desiring a university education, have taken the opportunity of revolutionising both the social structure and, more significantly, the educational structure of a university. The introduction of brand new courses of study, with all the immediacy and vitality of modern life, has allowed sixth formers much more freedom of choice in the courses which they will follow.

Thus, a new variety exists in British universities. But this variety must surely be reflected in the education given at secondary level. For it is harmful to expect a sixth former to make an intelligent and sensible choice of university course when he has knowledge only of the standard G.C.E. subjects which he has studied at school. Thus, the schools must widen their curricula to embody the variety offered at university. In the past, editors of this magazine have discussed this broadening of curriculum. We at Abingdon are fortunate in having a varied and exciting choice of sixth form courses.

However, it is gratifying to be able to report the acquisition, with the generous help of parents, of a farmhouse at Dolgoed in Montgomeryshire, Wales. We hope to use this as a place for field study and 'outward bound' work. (Dare we call it a kind of 'Timber-tops'?). And so, at Abingdon, we see this necessary broadening of interest carried much further than before. We can therefore hope to offer university applicants in the future a much more accurate knowledge of the choice which they have to make.
This broadening of interest is also shown, although not perhaps in the academical sense, by the impending foundation of the Abingdon School Society, the society which will unite all those with the interests of the School at heart. This dual trend — a widening of interest both inside the School and outside it — augurs well for the future when it will be the liberal and enlightened schools which will withstand the educational turmoil in which we find ourselves.

**ABINGDON SCHOOL SOCIETY**

It has long been felt that there was room for some organisation which would unite all of those — Governors, Staff, Parents, Old Boys, friends — who had the interests of the School at heart. The success of the Appeal over the last ten years has shown the extent of the goodwill that exists towards the School. This goodwill can to some extent be translated into terms of L.S.D., but it goes far beyond that. Now that they had completed their work, the Appeal Committee felt that their final service to the School could well be to inaugurate such a Society. The Governors agreed and invited the Appeal Committee, strengthened by the co-option of three more parents, to act as a steering committee. This steering committee has prepared a draft constitution for the Society which has been approved in substance by the Governors, the Staff and the Committee of the Old Abingdonian Club. It will be submitted for approval at a meeting to be held in the Court Room at 7.00 p.m. (1900 hrs) on Wednesday, 31st January. Individual invitations are being widely distributed, but any friend of the School will be welcome. If you can come, will you please write to the Acting Secretary, Mr. N. K. Hammond, at the School, so that we can have some idea of the amount of sherry that will be needed? If you are interested but are unable to attend, Mr. Hammond would also like to know, so that he can keep you informed of developments.

It should be stressed that this Society will be complementary to the Old Abingdonian Club and will in no way supersede or conflict with it.

If the meeting approves the constitution, it will then be called on to elect the first officers of the new Society. And it will be the happy privilege of the Steering Committee to put forward as its nomination for election as first President, with his permission, the name of the Lord Bishop of Durham, parent of members of the School past and present.

J.M.C.

**SCHOOL NOTES**

Although Sir John Cockcroft had no official connection with the School, we joined with all of those who mourned his death. As first Director of A.E.R.E. his influence extended far beyond the cantonment. It was he who was largely responsible for inaugurating that close
relationship between the Establishment and the School which has been such an important factor in our post-war history. Perhaps his greatest achievement was to show in his own life that a great scientist could also be a humble man of God. As Dr. Spence said at the Memorial Service in Westminster Abbey on 17th October — “His life was conducted according to Christian principles which have been acclaimed for centuries: dedication and service, love of family and home, love for others”. To Lady Cockcroft, his gracious help-meet for so many years, we offer our respectful sympathy.

When Mr. Stow gave up the office of Chairman of Governors we hoped, as he did, that his business commitments would at any rate enable him to continue as an active member of the Governing Body. But this was not to be, and it was with profound regret that the Governors learned at their recent meeting that he felt compelled to tender his resignation.

Mr. Stow would be the last man to wish us to add to what has already been said about his outstanding services to the School. The presentations made at the Distribution of Prizes were a very inadequate expression of our feelings towards him and Mrs. Stow, to both of whom we wish all good fortune in the years to come. Although our official connection is now at an end, we know that we shall always have in Mr. Stow an unofficial friend of the School, in a very special sense.

We were delighted to hear that one of the first acts of the University of Dundee was to confer an honorary degree on Mr. McCallum, the late Master of Pembroke, who was one of the chief architects of the friendly fission that produced the new University.

We congratulate the Headmaster on his election as Chairman of the Direct Grant Committee of the Headmasters’ Conference for the ensuing year, an appointment of especial significance in view of the machinations of the Newsom Commission. More work, we suspect, for Mr. Willis. But as long as he goes on playing rugger we shall feel that he can take it.

Congratulations too to Miss Mary Cobban on her engagement to Mr. Martin Gostelow, formerly of Marlborough College and now of the American Community School in Beirut. The wedding will take place in the School Chapel on 20th July.

Fraternal greetings, as she relinquishes her appointment as Sister Superior of St. Helen’s School, to Sister Jean Benedict, who has done so much to encourage the right kind of friendly relations between the two schools; and good wishes to Miss Hayward as she takes over as the first lay headmistress.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Ross Clayton on the birth of a son and heir, Andrew Malcolm (8th December).

We were interested to hear that Mr. Butt, partnered by David Tanner, finished 23rd, out of 89 entries, in the Lincoln-Boston Marathon
Row on 17th September, with a rowing time of just over 4 hours 42
minutes.

Mr. Reynolds has also spent a lot of time on, or near, the river. He
is the part-author of a very thorough study of the Mute Swan, which
was printed in the Annual Report for 1967 of the Wildfowl Trust. And
he has recently been appointed Editor for Oxfordshire and Berkshire of
the Oxford Ornithological Society's County Report.

We say good-bye, gratefully and affectionately, to three ladies of the
Staff who have served the School well, Mrs. Topham as a visiting
teacher of music, Mrs. Trotman in the School Shop, Mrs. Simmonds at
the Lodge.

Another change of house-master. After over fourteen years' hard,
Mr. and Mrs. Talbot have earned their remission and are moving from
Crescent House to a house in Spring Road (Shantonagh) which Mr.
Talbot has literally built himself in the scant leisure hours of recent
years. In thanking them for past service we wish good fortune to their
successors, Mr. and Mrs. Potter.

This term we shall be welcoming no less than five student masters.
From Oxford will come Mr. J. T. Ashton (Chemistry), Mr. B. D.
Burton (Divinity) and Mr. I. R. Scott (Russian); from Cambridge Mr.
J. S. F. Pressley (Classics); and from Reading Mr. A. P. West (History).
Mr. Burton, Mr. Pressley, and Mr. West will be resident and will be
accommodated in Heathcot and Heylyns.

We are grateful to parents and friends for many generous gifts to the
School — to Dr. and Mrs. Egon Bretscher and family (£100), and
Mrs. L. M. R. Crosse (£50) (both these gifts will go towards the
Dolgoed scheme, of which more hereafter): to Mr. and Mrs. Tressider
(£25, for the Library): to Mr. and Mrs. Vernède (£25, for the equip-
ment of the Drama Workshop): to Mr. and Mrs. Hunter (a suitably
inscribed teak seat): to Captain and Mrs. Roper (a cup which will be
awarded for an outstanding cultural contribution in Middle School):
and to Professor and Mrs. Murphy and to Mrs. Delafield for further
gifts of roses.

The Headmaster represented the School at the opening of the new
building in the North Quad of Pembroke College on 7th October.

We were pleased to offer hospitality at the School this term to the
Abingdon and District Council of Churches (25th September, 20th
November, 4th December): the Ruridecanal Conference (15th Novem-
ber): the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Naturalists' Trust (17th November):
the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Law Society (27th November): and of
course the John Roysse Lodge (16th September, 18th November). Other
visitors have included S/Ldr. David, R.A.F. (26th September): Miss
Storey, of the Schools Classics Project (9th October): Mr. F. A.
Arrowsmith, H.M.I. (11th October): Mr. Chant, of the Central Youth
Employment Executive (24th October): Mr. D. R. Essah, of Achimota
School (26th October): Mr. Headley, of P.S.A.B. (6th November) and (on the same date) Major-General Cox, our Army Liaison Officer.

And we had one overseas boy who visited us briefly — Hans Luhrman, from the Hague.

At the beginning of the Michaelmas Term the number of boys on the School Roll was 621, of whom 194 were boarders, 192 members of one or other of the Sixth Forms. This number will go down by about sixteen in January because of our Christmas leavers.

Many of our Christmas leavers will be taking up gainful employment, at home or overseas, to fill the gap before going up to the University. Few are likely to gain more, in the widest sense, than D. J. Ventham, who flew out on 4th January to teach for six months at the Government Secondary School at Abuja, in Northern Nigeria, with which we are ‘twinned’ under the African Schools Linking Scheme. We wish him the best of good fortune.

Of our four new boys one, J. N. Tyrholm, will be especially welcome as he will be coming from Norway to join our Sixth Form for a couple of terms.

We congratulate four members of the School who have secured Open Awards at Oxford or Cambridge —

E. A. C. Crouch — Exhibition in Mathematics at Churchill College, Cambridge;

A. W. Hills — Exhibition in History at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge;

D. C. L. Murphy — Organ Scholarship at Keble College, Oxford;

M. J. Tajfel — Scholarship in Mathematics at New College, Oxford; — as also C. C. Ford, who went up to Pembroke as a commoner in 1965 and has now been awarded a Domus Scholarship.

We congratulate also N. W. Herdman and J. J. A. King on the award of Sixth Form Scholarships, to be known pro hac vice respectively as the Blacknall and the Bennett Scholarships.

The pattern of the Parents’ Evenings was altered this term. The Sixth Form Evening was held on 28th September, and the New Parents’ Evening on 12th October. For the latter were resurrected not only “Letters to America” (still in its silent version) but also John Becker’s extraordinarily beautiful colour-film of Abingdon which he made some years ago for the Civic Trust.

Saturday Evening Entertainments this term have been as follows —

7th October — Mr. A. G. Lewis on “Antarctica” (with slides).

14th October — Mr. G. B. Spenceley on “Turkish Delights” (with slides).

4th November — Mr. Alan Pegler on “The Flying Scotsman” (with film and slides).

18th November — Mr. Tony Smythe on “The Length of Chile” (with slides).

— and the following feature films: “The War Lord”; “The Third Man”; “Where No Vultures Fly”; and ”Bandits of Orgosolfa”. 
We are very grateful to Mr. Eason for spending several mornings of hard work (16th—18th and 23rd—26th October) giving practice interviews to members of the Upper Sixth Forms.

On Sunday, 15th October, many masters and boys attended the traditional Celebration in S. Nicolas' Church to commemorate the birthday of John Blacknell.

We may have marched past the saluting base better than we did this year on Remembrance Sunday (12th November), but never has the Guard of Honour put up a better show or the buglers sounded the Last Post more poignantly. Subsequently the Headmaster preached at the official service at S. Helen's Church.

Entertainments outside the School at which we have assisted included (and this list is deliberately selective) — a lecture by Professor Trevor Roper on "The Puritan Revolution" at the Oxford Historical Association's Sixth Form Conference (21st October): the Abingdon Operatic Society's production of "South Pacific" (1st November): the Abbey Sailing Club's bonfire party (4th November): Major Stanley's match at Iffley Road (16th November): the film of "The War Game" in Oxford (2nd December). And select parties of Sixth Formers visited the MG Motor Works (17th November) and Morland's Brewery (11th and 13th December).

It was ill luck that owing to the condition of the ground the informal soccer match against the Old Boys, arranged for the afternoon of Sunday 5th November, could not be played. But we are very grateful to S/Ldr. and Mrs. Parfitt for laying on a tea for the disappointed players.

Other informal fixtures this term included a friendly rugger match on the home ground between the Prefects' Common Room and John Mason High School (26th October), and a return match — at basketball (4th December).

We are grateful to the Sister Superior of S. Helen's School for once again inviting a strong contingent of our Sixth Form to join their dancing classes.

Members of St. Helen's and John Mason were invited to dance in the Court Room on 31st October. Subsequently we danced — more formally — with the ladies of St. Helen's (at Steventon Church Hall on 2nd December); and we sent parties to dances organised by Didcot Girls' Grammar School (1st December) and John Mason (11th December).

On the evening of Sunday, 10th December, the Band and the Choral Society combined to give their informal Christmas Concert in the Court Room. This year the programme included the two original carols which had formed the School's contribution to the competition held at the concert of the Abingdon Schools' Music Association (6th December). Especial congratulations to R. A. Joseph and C. M. Stake, whose carol, to guitar accompaniment, had won first prize in the competition.
Then came the Junior Dramatic Society's double production (11th December) and the Service of Lessons and Carols (12th December). And on Wednesday (13th December), the Choir carolled its way round the town in aid of the C. of E. Children's Society.

On the last evening of the term (14th December) the boarders followed their usual programme of Christmas dinner, community singing in the Court Room, and more private entertainment in their own houses.

And after all this, as soon as term had officially ended next day, no less than seventeen prefects turned out for the customary Prefects' Ramble to Sunningwell — many of whom were limbering up for the last rugger match of the season in the afternoon.

During the last week of the term some of the Oxbridge candidates kept themselves out of mischief by taking part in an experimental crash course in German very kindly laid on for us in the language laboratory of the North Berkshire College of Further Education; and many of their juniors delivered Oxfam literature in their spare time.

The customary mass inoculation against influenza was completed on 3rd November in what was alleged to be record time. Conversely our blood donors came into play at the Church Hall on 9th November. Both these activities are illustrated, for the less squeamish, in the centre of the magazine.

We are very grateful to the group of Old Boys from various universities who supported Mr. Owen at the 'University Seminar' which he organised for the Sixth Forms on the evening of 22nd September.

Academically, we try to be reasonably forward-looking. After S.M.P. comes the Cambridge Schools' Classics Project. One of our first forms is this year participating in the pilot scheme. And although we are not yet fully Nuffield, we are developing our Physics teaching on Nuffield lines against the day when we go the whole hog. Indeed recent issues of 'Education and Science' have contained short summaries of some of the work that our people have been doing in the pretentiously named Physics Project Laboratory (née the Old Dayboys' Changing Room).

And we were amused by the letter from some of our physicists in the N.B.H. about the use of immersion heaters.

We welcome the completion of the new tennis courts and also the news that the Governors are signing an agreement for the lease of a disused farm house at Dolgoed in Central Wales.

The Police Cadet Section represents another innovation. Converted poachers . . . ?

Saturday, 30th September, marked a minor milestone in the history of the School, when our First Fifteen played Radley on equal terms for the first time. It was an excellent game and it received a nice write-up in The Times — curiously headed 'Promising Dulwich'.

One correction to the list of Advance Level successes in last term's issue. B. M. Johnston passed in three subjects not two (B* K P). Apologies!
The observant eye will note that occasionally in this magazine (where contributors have remembered) the twenty-four hour clock is used. This innovation, which has been endorsed by the Governors, represents the School's first step towards the Common Market. It has also practical advantages in formal documents such as time-tables. Doubtless the old system will continue to be used informally, just indeed as it is on the Continent.

In future we plan to produce the 'Abingdonian' rather later. This will enable the Editors to see it to press at the beginning of the term rather than in the holidays. So postal subscribers must not worry if they have to wait a little longer.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of magazines from Schools and other institutions local and distant.

For the photographs in this issue we are indebted to Mr. Milligan (Photographer), R. A. Balbernie, A. E. Banes, A. F. Martin, D. G. Nasmyth and J. A. F. Ridge.

FROM THE HEADMASTER

When the dust has settled, if it is fair to include one conditional and one deferred vacancy, I think we shall find that we have secured at least seventeen places at Oxford and Cambridge. Of these, four are open awards, so it has been a reasonably good year. Add to this that I have completed U.C.C.A. forms for around sixty other boys, past and present, and it will be seen that Abingdon is making a substantial response to the national demand for trained minds.

These results crowned a happy term — a term too that was marked by two developments which are fraught with exciting possibilities for the future. The one of them has a curious history. It is over a year since the Bretscher family offered a substantial contribution towards the cost of any suitable property which the School could obtain in a mountain area. At the time the possibility of our doing this was remote. But more recently, through a personal connection of Mr. Potter, the Governors were able to secure the lease, on very favourable terms, of a disused stone-built farmhouse at Dolgoed, in Montgomeryshire, which promises to meet our requirements very well. It is within ideal country, and just within weekend reach of Abingdon. The map reference, for the curious, is O.S. (1") 116/779126. Initially this will be used as a base for holiday camping parties such as the Skye Group which are used to roughing it. Later, as provision is made for the basic amenities of life, we may be able to develop it for use during term-time as a kind of 'Timbertops' — the comparison is inevitable. The point is that North Berkshire is becoming more and more urbanised. Now we have a lung right out in the wilds. The value we get out of it will depend very largely upon the hard work we ourselves are prepared to put into it.
I foresee that for many years Dolgoed will provide us with both inspiration and challenge.

And the second development concerns the establishment of the Abingdon School Society — but this has very rightly claimed a heading of its own. Here I want to emphasise that it has the full backing of the Governors, the Staff, the Old Boys and the Appeal Committee. I do hope that as many 'friends of the School' as possible — in the widest sense of the term — will come to the meeting on January 31st. The more broadly-based the Society is, the greater the support it will be able to give to the School.

* * * *

No one (except possibly Mr. Gray) can have been more delighted than I to find what a good job the contractors had made of the two new hard-tennis-courts to the north of Crescent House. They will be in full use this year and we hope to have them ceremonially inaugurated with an exhibition match, early in the Summer Term, between two Old Boys, John Nichol and Stephen Woodley, each of whom has achieved some fame in the world of tennis. Details later. And before then we hope to have made a start on our long-awaited Biology Laboratory. The plans for this have been substantially altered (for the better, I think) at the suggestion of the Architectural Branch of the Department. They now provide for a self-contained single-storey block of two biology laboratories, with ancillary accommodation, which will form the northern and eastern sides of a small new court to the north of the Colonnade. The existing biology laboratory will then be available for use as (possibly) a Physics Project Laboratory. We now await the final approval of the Department for the revised plans.

* * * *

I cannot allow Mr. and Mrs. Talbot to leave Crescent House without a personal word of appreciation. Not so many of us now can remember how difficult it was to get the House started in 1953, when the twenty founder-members arrived in September to find they had to camp out in Lacies Court for a month until the structural alterations were completed. Then two years later Glyndowr, next door but one, was added to the Talbot fief, and since then Mr. and Mrs. Talbot have coped, somehow, with administering — and feeding — a divided house of forty boys. It is not just a matter of coping, either — they have built it up into a house of which any public school could be proud: certainly I should have been well content to send any son of mine there. I was glad to hear that at the end of term Mr. and Mrs. Talbot received not only presentations from the existing members of the house but also one from all their former Heads of House. I know they won't be idle in the new home which Mr. Talbot has (somehow) found time to build, but I hope that they will at any rate be able to relax a little.

* * * *
If I was not able to get down to the reports until Boxing Day it was due partly to natural procrastination, partly to the time-consuming fun of opening the many hundreds of Christmas cards that reached Lacies Court in the week before Christmas, bringing me greetings (and news) from Old boys near and far — and from parents and from present boys too. It would have been quite impracticable to acknowledge them all. May I use this means of thanking all those who remembered me in this way? I should not like them to think that their kindness was not appreciated. The cards from Old Boys will be displayed in the School at the beginning of the term so that others can share in my own pleasure.

As I am being personal, perhaps I can add here that I have recently bought a house against my retirement in 1970. I had not expected to be so precipitate, but chance brought my way a delightful pair of houses on Steventon Causeway which a London architect had constructed out of the mediaeval vicarage. While I was negotiating for one I found my neighbour, the School Doctor, was in the market for the other. We were both successful, so we can look forward to being neighbours in our retirement. The big advantage for me is that when I go to live there I shall be far enough from the School not to embarrass my successor, near enough to poke an occasional finger into any local, but non-school, pie in which I am still interested: near enough too to provide a bed for the itinerant Old Boy.

But 1970 is a long time away. Right now I am looking forward eagerly to the new term — my sixty-third!

J.M.C.

THE APPEAL

In the last eighteen months or so the affairs of this fund have moved forward in several crucial ways. First we have seen our final project, the Music School, completed and brought into play with a flourish of trumpets. This has been a source of great satisfaction to the Committee, which has worked hard to provide the School with the money to buy some much needed buildings. Not so satisfactory was the realisation that, with rising costs, there was likely to be a shortage of about £1,500. Thanks mainly to the support of parents of this year's new boys this crisis has now been averted and the fund now stands to collect, by January 1974, over £68,000. This is a magnificent achievement and I should like to put on record my Committee's deep sense of gratitude to all those who have made their contribution. Not the least successful gambit has been the use of those 'stickers on the bill' with which patient parents are so familiar and this we hope will go on. Many a mickle makes a muckle and something like £4,000 has come from this source.

Out of all this fund raising has grown a bigger conception, the Abingdon School Society. Although the Appeal Committee will have
to retain its legal entity for at least another six years, in order to see the remaining covenants through, its intention is to fade into the background. Fund raising is an important aspect of any society which aims to help the School but by no means the only one and the intention is to cover a far wider field with the new Society. There will be much more written about this elsewhere but it remains for me to say that the Appeal Committee has given its full blessing to this venture and that we hope all who have affection for and interest in the School will join in and back wholeheartedly the Abingdon School Society. Our first chance to gauge support will be at the meeting on Wednesday, January 31st, so please come along to hear all about it.

Below is the 21st list of subscribers, running from 1st August, 1966, to 31st December, 1967. Covenedted subscriptions are marked *: those who have renewed their Covenants (R).

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**VALETE ET SALVETE**

Valete: left 23rd July, 1967

Upper Sixth Form Arts.

VI L — S. P. B. Allen; E. P. Caton; J. D. Clark; C. G. V. Collings; M. J. Heading; P. D. Healy; I. J. W. Herbertson; R. E. Parkes; A. W. Rendell; C. I. Rowson; J. N. W. Sagar; I. P. G. Stevens; A. L. Vernède; A. N. R. Wharton; C. M. B. Wharton; R. C. Wilde; T. J. Wood.

VI H — T. C. C. Becket; P. H. Blackburn; S. S. Coe; N. K. Cook; B. E. Goldsworthy; A. McI. King; M. F. Kirby; J. G. Millard; R. T. T. Morgan; C. D. Simmonds; M. J. T. Theophilus.

Upper Sixth Form Science.

VI B — D. A. Baker; M. A. E. Ballinger; J. P. H. Bosley; I Campbell; D. J. Faires; P. E. Gibbs; D. J. Hardwick; A. Hubbard; M. C. C. Hunter; D. S. Jackson; B. M. Johnston; N. V. Moore; R. J. Nancarrow; R. H. Roper; G. Walkinshaw.
VI M — D. J. B. Baker; A. J. Barnett; N. G. Burns; M. T. D. Carr;
M. A. Cockerill; R. I. M. Conibear; R. G. Coulbeck; M. S. A. Davies;
D. M. Dickson; G. B. Edwards; R. A. Egelstaff; J. W. Hassett; P. D.
Heast; R. J. Howell; P. D. Johnson; R. A. Lyons; G. A. Macdonald;
M. O’Neill; P. J. Sparrow; P. G. Tooze; M. J. Vowles; M. G. Wells.
Lower Sixth Form Arts — A. Ahuwan; B. J. Fellows.
Form 5G — A. L. Watts.
Form 5C — F. J. Barnes; S. Gibbs; J. M. Mawson; R. C. Tinson.
Form 4F — K. E. Neilson.
Form 2Y — T. S. Neilson.
Form 1X — O. A. Rastall.
Form 1Z — D. Tetenbaum.

Salvete: came 15th September, 1967

Form 6L — P. Lenny.
Form 6M — M. A. Dukler.
Form 4X — P. J. Harden; N. J. Moth; G. D. Pearce.
Form 4Z — C. J. Murray; C. G. Perry; D. C. Vennor Morris.
Form 3X — S. G. Bailey; B. A. Clubley; M. S. Dukler; S. C. Parks;
W. de F. Peck; P. E. Rigby; C. B. Terry; R. K. Wardroper.
Form 3Y — M. Evans; D. P. Greenwood; D. M. C. Harvey; C. J. G.
Houston; D. R. Jollyman; S. Lambert; N. J. A. Talbot; C. P. Taylor.
Form 2Z — A. M. Calvert; T. B. Niblett; M. E. Thompson.
Form 1X — D. T. Bowles; A. D. Challis; P. D. Cook; P. W. S. Cox;
A. N. Davies; J. F. Hamlin; S. V. Harries; C. M. Horwood; R. W.
Kenyon; N. A. Litchfield; P. de Lusignan; N. W. McPhail; I. C.
Manning; D. S. Mason; M. J. Matfield; A. Millar; B. J. Polley; V. T.
Pugh; D. A. Rowe; J. M. A. Taylor; S. J. Valentine; P. M. Watson;
G. B. Woollen.
Form 1Y — R. A. Allen; S. G. Boatright; A. M. Carlisle; K. D. Cross;
P. L. Dell; P. H. Evans; S. K. Fabes; R. R. Forsythe; P. J. Francis;
I. C. Gillis; J. D. Griffin; D. C. D. Herbert; D. O. Marley; M.
Ormerod; W. J. Packer; M. Pearce; M. Richards; J. P. Seaver; P. F.
Thompson; M. R. D. Waterfall; P. U. Webster.
Form 1Z — S. M. Bailey; A. H. Courtenay; N. J. Dawson; N. D.
Francis; N. P. Gale; S. R. I. Gough; N. Jefferson; P. C. Jones;
P. R. L. Lilley; S. A. Marsden; N. M. MacGuire; C. J. Murison;
A. R. P. Mushens; J. N. Oakley; S. A. J. Pallett; P. Reimer; T. G.
Roberts; K. P. M. Taylor; T. J. Wallis; I. K. Weatherall; K. J. Willis;
G. F. Woods; G. W. Woolley.

CHAPEL NOTES

"If you cannot experiment in a school chapel, where can you?" This
remark has been frequently heard in the Common Room when the
subject under discussion has been some innovation in the Chapel. And
this term has seen a good many. The pattern of three services on weekdays for sixth forms, middle and junior school is now kept for Saturday mornings only. On other weekdays the whole School has started with an act of worship at 0900 hrs, with the fourth forms and above coming together in Holy Trinity Methodist Church and the third forms and below in the School Chapel. This venture has undoubtedly proved itself, and we are most grateful for the very friendly co-operation that Holy Trinity Church has extended to us. At the first of these services the Reverend Alan Davies, the minister at Holy Trinity Church, welcomed us in terms which left no one in doubt about the genuineness of the ecumenical spirit now abroad.

We are fortunate in being very much freer to experiment than a parish church. The New Liturgy has now been in use continuously since All Saints' Day, and those of us who are growing used to it would not want to revert to either 1662 or 1928. To say that we are freer to experiment is true, but it is not to say that authority has foisted new services on to the boys. The Chapel Committee had given careful consideration to the proposals during the first half of the term and were unanimous in deciding for the new service.

But the new services are not just the old services re-arranged or re-worded. There is something very much deeper at stake, for they involve a new appreciation and understanding of what worship is about. Underlying the new liturgy is the realisation that this is the CORPORATE OFFERING of the People of God assembled. There is more real worship because there is far more individual participation. Many of the prayers are said together, the readings are made by the people and the intercession either made by, or informed by, the congregation. We look forward next term to taking this experiment a stage further when, on two Sundays, the Ante Communion will replace Mattins.

The Chapel Committee also organised one week when the morning services in the Methodist Church were conducted by boys completely, and next term this will become the norm every fourth week.

We were very happy indeed to welcome the Bishop of Reading who came to confirm twenty-three boys in the chapel on the afternoon of Advent Sunday. Again we made use of the New Order of Confirmation, which had only been printed a fortnight before. This must have made us one of the first congregations (perhaps the very first) in England to use it. The combination of this greatly improved New Service with the sight of two School Prefects assisting the bishop throughout in the chancel made it a most impressive occasion. A list of the candidates confirmed appears below. Once again we are very grateful to the Society of St. John the Evangelist in Oxford, and Brother Cyril, S.S.J.E., in particular for running two most helpful quiet afternoons for the candidates beforehand.

Mr. Eden's Wednesday evening bible studies continue to flourish and grow in popularity, and one of the fruits has been the formation by the
boys of a Christian Fellowship within the School which will be open to all. They will make use of the lunch hour next term so that dayboys may also join in their programme. A staff bible study has met from house to house fortnightly and wrestled with the Prophet Amos.

The annual visit to the East End Parish of St. Anne's, Limehouse, took place during the last weekend of September. We are most grateful to the Rector for the very full and interesting programme he had arranged, and for the kind hospitality that we received from his people. The party comprised V. A. Ramsey, A. M. E. Brown, P. G. Henry, A. T. B. Herbert, V. Lacey-Johnson, and J. A. F. Ridge.

I should like to thank all who have contributed in many ways to the life and work of the Chapel, and particularly Angela Potter whose arrangement of the flowers has been much appreciated. Now that she is moving to Crescent House she is handing over, and next term the flowers will be done completely by the various groups within the school, who provide them week by week.

We were all saddened at the very end of the Summer Term by the news of the death of Vincent Alastair Marsh, O.A., after a painful illness, which he bore with great fortitude. On Sunday, 17th September, his family and many friends gathered in the School Chapel to give thanks to God for his life.

At the end of term there came the Service of Lessons and Carols in St. Helen's Church. This maintained the high standards of its predecessors and bore the stamp of our new Director of Music who, inheriting a fine tradition, has very quickly established himself within it. Two notable features of the carol service were David Murphy's organ playing and the sight of the school choir in robes. The lesson readers at this service were as follows: M. R. D. Waterfall (New Boy), T. C. Parker (Chorister), B. H. Ford (House Prefect), A. W. Hills (Head of School), Mr. C. D. B. Milton (Master), The Chaplain, The Vicar of Abingdon, Alderman J. E. J. Francis (Governor), and The Headmaster.

D.G.S.

The following candidates were confirmed on 3rd December: S. C. L. Barnard; M. E. Burton; C. D. Chafer; C. G. Clothier; R. A. Cole; R. S. Conibear; M. T. Evans; B. H. Ford; D. M. C. Harvey; G. Homewood; B. E. Jones; R. S. Kirby; F. A. A. Maude; G. B. M. Milton; C. A. Nasmith; G. F. Pike; S. V. Radnor; M. J. Rice; A. D. Rowley; R. Samsworth; J. J. Shellard; P. J. Todd; H. T. Tresidder.

The Chapel Collections have been allocated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collection</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Anne's Church, Limehouse</td>
<td>£9 4 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic Churches Preservation Trust</td>
<td>£5 18 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Guinea Mission</td>
<td>£8 4 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Star Centre for Youth</td>
<td>£13 1 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hostel of God</td>
<td>£10 1 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In addition to these the collection at the Service for New Boys and their Parents (£18 13s. 9d.) was given to the Chapel Furnishing Fund. The collection at the Beginning of Term Service (£7 0s. 8d.) was given to St. Helen's Church, which also shared the collection at the Carol Service (£40 12s. 0d.) with the Church of England Children's Society. The retiring collection at the Confirmation Service (£14 14s. 6d) was divided between the Bishop's List and the Chapel Funds. Four heavy tins were also returned to The British Legion after collections taken over the Remembrance Weekend.

Flowers for the Chapel have been provided by the following: Forms 6M, 5Z, 4X, 4Z, 3Z, 2X, 1X, The Masters' Common Room, The Maths Society, The Symposium, The Roysse Society, The Joint Club, Games 1 and 2.

We look forward to welcoming the following visiting preachers during the Lent Term:

February 4th: Mr. G. L. Willatt, M.A., Headmaster of Pocklington School.

February 18th: Rev. D. J. Lane, M.A., Associate Chaplain of Pembroke College, Oxford.

March 3rd: Mr. J. D. Buchanan, M.A., Headmaster of Oakham School.

Perhaps the simplest way of summarising what is now a pretty complicated calendar for the coming term is to give the time of the services each Sunday. The 'state' service (Mattins, Ante-Communion or Evensong) is underlined. All the other services are Celebrations —

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14th January</td>
<td>0815, 1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st January</td>
<td>1100 (at St. Helen's Church), 1830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th January</td>
<td>1015, 1100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th February</td>
<td>0815, 1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th February</td>
<td>0945, 1830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th February</td>
<td>0815, 1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th February</td>
<td>1015, 1100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd March</td>
<td>0815, 1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th March</td>
<td>0945, 1830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th March</td>
<td>0815, 1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

"St. Helen's Church was filled with boys, parents, governors and friends of the School. The atmosphere was expectant, and the congregation were not disappointed. The Carol Service proved once again an exciting highlight of the School year."
The music was under 'new management', and this was immediately apparent for instead of the usual preparatory organ recital we heard a chamber music recital. We returned to tradition with the poignant solo opening to 'Once in Royal David's City', sung this year, appropriately, from the north aisle next to John Roysse's monument.

The spirit of innovation continued with the carols. Carols like 'Up, good Christian Folk, and Listen' and 'From East to West', with its strangely haunting music by Malcolm Williamson, combined with more traditional carols to make the music both unusual and moving. The climax of the service came with 'Adeste Fidelis' and 'Hark, the Herald Angels sing' when the descants of the choirs and trumpet combined in a thrilling conclusion to the service.

The lessons gave the service its skeleton. These told the story of man's fall and redemption from the Garden of Eden until St. John's revelation of the Mystery of the Incarnation. The lesson readers brought expression as well as clarity into their readings.

A final touch was given to the service by the closing voluntary, which was Messaïc's 'Dieux parmi nous', the final mediation on 'La Nativite du Seigneur'. After this exceptional service the congregation left the Church strengthened for the more trivial and temporal tasks of everyday life.” A.W.H.

VOUNTARY SERVICE

We were sorry to learn in September that the Fire Brigade was no longer able to maintain the Auxiliary Fire Service group. Although the number of boys involved was never large, this had been a most useful and worth-while activity for some of those no longer in the C.C.F., and we should like to record our appreciation of the training given during the past three years.

Happily, we heard at the same time that the Police were able to consider forming a Police Cadet group for ourselves and Radley. It has proved impossible to find a time to suit both schools, so separate groups will start next term. The 24 boys from this school (some of them not in the C.C.F., others seconded from it) will be given a two-term course of lectures, films and demonstrations, together, we hope, with practical experience of police work. This is a most exciting venture, and we are very grateful to Superintendent Brown for all he has done to make it possible.

In July we lost three of our visitors, D. J. Faires, B. M. Johnston and R. H. Roper. This term we say good-bye to A. W. Hills, whose ability to continue his weekly visits despite his many duties as Head of School has set a fine example to any who have held back from offering their services in the belief that they were already too busy. To these four, who were outstandingly faithful visitors for many terms, we offer our thanks for all they did for the old people of Abingdon. H.T.R.
DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES

Prizes this year were distributed on October 5th in the Abbey Hall by Mr. C. G. Stow, who from 1958 to 1967 was Chairman of the Governors. The proceedings were opened by the Vice-Chairman of the Governors, Mr. J. H. Hooke, O.A., who after expressing his regret at the absence through illness of the Chairman, Mr. Bredin, called on the Headmaster to make his report. However, the Headmaster's address was not a report in the normal sense, because of the nature of his audience. He summarised briefly the events of the year and expressed the view that boys were becoming more civilized. Among the most important of the new developments in hand was the foundation of a society for everyone interested in the welfare of the School. He reasserted his firm determination not to allow any falling-off in the School's standards. The School's reputation was good, but its maintenance lay in the boys' hands; they had good cause to be proud of their school, and provided they combined a sense of humility with an unremitting pursuit of excellence, and were always ready to accept the challenge of change, they could have every confidence in the future.

The Chairman then paid glowing tribute to Mr. Stow and to the Headmaster and presented Mr. Stow with an eighteenth century map of Berkshire, while the Head of School presented a bouquet to Mrs. Stow. In his address, Mr. Stow pointed out the necessity of taking opportunities as they arise and the need for selectivity in an age when mass media and the Welfare State tend to induce complacency and mental sloth. But although it was right for young men not to be afraid of the business world, and to chase jobs and success, they should never neglect chances of doing good and helping others. The most important thing was to maintain one's individuality and never let the State — that mysterious They — get one down. Judging from its past record, he said, he too had great hopes for the future of the School.

After the presentation of the prizes, Alderman S. Freeman, O.B.E., the senior Governor, thanked Mr. Stow on behalf of everyone present. He said that Mr. Stow was 'a good chap' and, recalling his own long period as a governor, mentioned the ex-Chairman's high standards, and some of the highlights of his term as chairman. Although he was sorry at Mr. Stow's resignation, he knew that Mr. Bredin was capable of leading the School ever onwards. But in all this, he said, we should not forget Mrs. Stow's contribution; and with that, he called for, and received, a standing ovation for Mr. and Mrs. Stow. The proceedings then closed with the customary three cheers, vigorously led by the Head of School, and the singing of the National Anthem to the harmonious accompaniment of the Abbey Hall's cinema organ. C.J.A.M.

The prize list was as follows:

THE ENDOWED PRIZES

The Morland Prize (presented by Messrs. Morland in memory of W. T. Morland, O.A., and awarded for all-round merit)—P. H. Black-

THE SCHOOL PRIZES


THE FORM PRIZES

SAINT JOAN
(December 6th, 7th and 8th)

The criticism of a school production is far from straightforward. Firstly, one must consider the fact that it is a school production and will therefore rarely bear comparison with a similar production upon the professional stage. In the Abingdon area, we are unusually lucky in having two, if not three, theatres which regularly present productions of a very high standard. The would-be critic of a school production must therefore, in considering his task, forget all, or most of the impressions made by this high-class professional stage.

Furthermore, if the critic is closely connected with the school in question, as I am, he must, one would think, be careful in what he says especially when he is not shielded by the cloak of anonymity.

However, these considerations may easily be laid aside when regarding the production of 'Saint Joan', by Bernard Shaw, at the Abbey Hall in December this year. Surely, this must have been one of the very best efforts of the School Society in recent years. The standard of individual performance was as high as was the general level, and the costumes and scenery were more than adequate.

Before a detailed comment can be made on the production, however, I must say that, in general, I have always found the play itself unsatisfactory. The impression in certain places in the work is one of a Shaw conscious of his reputation for humourous skill, trying to infuse the play with an often childish wit which it is scarcely able to bear. Conversely, Shaw seems unable to express the essentially rural nature of his main character, except by clumsy attempts at rustic speech which are so false as to be laughable, for the wrong reasons. The plot itself becomes obvious far too early in the play, so that some of the later scenes, which are in themselves too long, become tedious. However, the most apparent flaw in the play is the appalling lack of judgement shown in its construction. The play seems to have finished, and the audience has partly relaxed, when Shaw adds an epilogue in which he brings all of his main characters, some of which have already died, others of which are asleep, back on to the stage to point a tiresome moral which the audience has grasped scenes before. This ending smacks both of the morality play and the pantomime, and is the most obvious of a succession of mistakes by Shaw in 'Saint Joan'.

However, this does in no way reflect upon the production which we were given by Mr. Griffin. As always, he had shown a shrewd comprehension of the play and his production was both sympathetic and gifted. We must not forget also the sterling work done behind the scenes by the lighting team, the band of make-up artists, the stage hands and all the other people whose labour does not receive its reward in the programme. Of course, there were mistakes — the total darkness at the beginning of the play at first struck me as a futuristic piece of business, until I realised the accident — but these happen to all companies and
I can say that the play was certainly not spoiled by any occurring in the Abbey Hall.

Some of the individual performances were quite outstanding. John Hounam as the Dauphin was tremendous. His enunciation was first class and his characterisation of a difficult part would have done credit to a much more experienced actor. Equally skilful was Michael Baker as John de Stogumber. Here is a young man who has real comic talent! Although these two must remain as those who impressed me most, excellent performances were also given by David Dean (Archbishop of Rheims), Michael Stevens (Bishop of Beauvais) whose clarity of enunciation made up for a slight nervousness, Paul Hopkins (Dunois) and Charles Maude (The Chief Inquisitor). Philip Minns, as the Earl of Warwick, seemed absolutely at home in his part, as did Ian Bricknell, the English soldier (does he really talk like that, I wonder?).

Catherine Allden, as Joan, had a really difficult task, a task which she surmounted with professional ease. I felt, at first, that she lacked conviction in her part. Certainly, her early bouts of enthusiasm failed to convince. However, as she overcame a natural nervousness, she improved greatly. She suffered from Shaw's inability at writing convincing rustic dialogue but in the final scenes she was magnificent!

Among the more effective scenes was the trial scene. Here Michael Stilwell, Vivian Ramsay and Frank Dobbs, a trio of skilful actors, brought out the agony of the conflict both within the Church and between the secular power and the ecclesiastical power. However, such was the high quality of the cast that no single scene in the whole production stands out as unsatisfactory.

The costumes and wigs were, as always, first class and Mr. Fairhead and his team had provided us with a realistic yet functional set.

If I may conclude on a reflective note, the high standard of this year's performance augurs well for the future. Furthermore, the excellent acting by those who, to my knowledge, have had little or no previous experience of the art shows that the School will have the raw material for good productions such as this for several years to come. 'Saint Joan' was a thoroughly enjoyable effort (in spite of the failings in the play itself) and the cast and all connected with it deserve hearty congratulations.

J.D.E.

**TREASURE ISLAND**

The Junior Dramatic Society gave their annual production to a large audience which filled the Court Room, on December 11th.

This year two features were on the programme. The first was "The Murder of Julius Caesar", a short one-act play by J. Seaver and other members of Form 1Y. The second which was the main item was "Treasure Island", an adaptation by Malcolm Morgan from the novel by Robert Louis Stevenson.
Almost every member of Form 1Y was connected with the production of "The Murder of Julius Caesar" in some way, either as an actor, or by writing it, or as a stage hand. This resulted in a very light-hearted presentation of the well known story, giving an overall effect of comedy.

The main attraction was the production of "Treasure Island". This was tackled with enthusiasm, though not all the actors were quite word-perfect. Jim Hawkins played by D. I. Lewington excelled, as did S. Whipple who played a confident Dr. Livesey. D. Paine playing Mrs. Hawkins added a pleasant domestic touch to the scene, as she sat peeling potatoes, and later as she gave complicated food instructions about Jim to Long John Silver (P. Rutihauser). Special praise must also be given to J. F. Sawyer who played Ben Gunn.

We cannot give enough praise to Mrs. Owen who supplied the magnificent costumes, and Mr. Owen is to be heartily congratulated on such an excellent production.

N.D.K.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

FIRST FIFTEEN

The first match of the season was an innovation which has been voted by all those concerned to have been a great success. It took the form of a reunion match for the Harlequin Football Club and in fact the seven backs were, to a man, regular members of the Club's first team seven years ago, and they were delighted that the School XV was able to afford them the opportunity of meeting and playing together again.

The Club's visit may have stimulated Abingdonians to follow their fortunes in the national Press and to ask themselves why a team which can boast three international forwards and a back line almost entirely composed of internationals or trialists should have such a poor record. The answer may be just the sort of reason which we at Abingdon seem so slow to accept; that the successful rugger side in these days of levelling standards is the one which learns to play as a team and whose members, no matter how good they are as individual players, subordinate their play to fit the pattern of the team. Team selection therefore must always be made on this basis. It is distressing then to note a tendency for boys who are dropped to take it with a bad grace and thereby lose the chance of learning from their disappointments.

Perhaps the most satisfactory feature of the term was the Radley match. Played on the Saturday after the Harlequin game, it proved a most exciting match, lost very narrowly and enjoyed by all. It is good that this long sought after fixture has at last come our way.

Of last year's Fifteen only Button, Semmence and Ablewhite remained in the forwards and Morgan and Booker in the backs. The regular side was neither large nor fast but in teamwork they had no equals and
their defeats — apart from the aberration they suffered against Magdalen College School — were at the hands of sides who were physically much stronger than they were. It was ironical too that a side whose strength lay largely in its skill at handling should play most of its games in very wet conditions.

Once again the team was anchored by a strong and reliable front row in Blackburn, Semmence and Matthews. Behind them, Ablewhite played well without fulfilling last year’s promise and the other second row position was jostled for by Goldsworthy and Ventham until the former was forced out of the reckoning by injury. Button, who failed to hold his form of last year, was unable to keep his place in the second row. The back row of Rose, Paddison and Carr was one of the strengths of the team, being extremely quick on the ball and presenting few gaps in defence. Rose’s play during the term was of a consistently high standard and he is to be congratulated on his great improvement over the season.

McLaughlan and Ford promised well and eventually settled down to be a very good pair of half backs. McLaughlan particularly played outstandingly behind a beaten pack at Berkhamsted and has a lot of talent. In the centre, it was good to see Bradfield back to form and making some telling breaks in the later matches and in Booker we had that rare bird, a centre who can make tries for his wing.

The story on the wings is not one of the happiest aspects of our season. Suffice it to say that four people, Mosdell, Akinbiyi, Parfitt and Morgan shared the two positions. Hunt came into the side at full back late in the term and his deficiencies in defence were finely balanced by his ability in attack, for his size and speed make him a formidable proposition with the ball in his hands and he scored some good tries.

If some were surprised by Jonathan Paddison’s election to the captaincy straight from last year’s 2nd Fifteen, his diplomacy and leadership during the season must have justified it and his zeal and energy on the field are an example to all.

Once again we are grateful to Mr. Smithson for the fine playing surface he provides and also to Mrs. Macklow and Mrs. Sandford whose efforts enable a School match to be an occasion rather than just another game.

Altogether it was a very satisfying season culminating in a feast of Rugby in the last week of term; two games at Twickenham and two on Waste Court Field. The best was at Twickenham — so was the worst!

H.E.


The final arrangement of the team was: D. N. Hunt; T. A. Parfitt, R. E. N. Bradfield, N. J. Booker, L. Morgan; B. H. Ford, J. Y.

Also played: A. O. Akinbiyi (11 times); J. P. W. Mosdell (9 times); J. F. Goldsworthy (8 times); D. R. Sayce (twice); D. Button, N. S. Coulbeck and M. G. Baker (once).

Results

v. Radley College (h). Sat., 30th Sept. Lost 6–8
v. Solihull School (h). Sat., 14th Oct. Won 3–0
v. Pembroke College (h). Sat., 21st Oct. Lost 0–20
v. Pangbourne Nautical College (a). Wed., 8th Nov. Won 9–3
v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (h). Sat., 11th Nov. Won 24–0
v. Berkhamsted School (h). Tues., 14th Nov. Lost 6–22
v. Old Abingdonians (h). Sat., 25th Nov. Drawn 8–8
v. Dauntsey’s School (a). Sat., 2nd Dec. Won 12–9
v. Reading School (h). Sat., 9th Dec. Cancelled
v. Hardye’s School, Dorset (h) — on tour. Fri., 15th Dec. Lost 5–6


Vacation Rugby

Owing mainly to School commitments, we have had no one playing in County Schoolboy rugger this vacation. A number of boys have, however, found holiday games with their local clubs and on Boxing Day morning the now traditional game was played against Abingdon R.F.C. This proved an enjoyable match and was fairly easily won by a strong School side who proved victors by 28 points to 6.

We were pleased to hear of continued success for Mike Nurton and Kendall Carey. Nurton, now playing for Bedford, has represented Sussex again this season whilst Carey, whom many will remember on the staff some three years ago, played in the centre for Hertfordshire. Ian Parsons, as versatile as ever, assisted Oxfordshire in their match against Hertfordshire, this time at full back.

D.O.W.
SECOND FIFTEEN

Another very good season, the second under the captaincy of Peter Foulkes. The pattern of play has been similar to that of last year — no particularly heavy defeat and several extremely good victories. Surprisingly enough, two of the best games were defeats at the hands of Radley and Dauntseys for in both of these every member of the side played to the limit of effort. In some of the easier matches, teamwork shone and play often looked smooth and efficient. That this was not always maintained in the harder games is no reflection on the team spirit, which was excellent at all times, but was due to individual weaknesses and inexperience.

Apart from Foulkes, only Ruck and Sayce remained from last year's team but to these was added Button on his failure to retain his 1st Fifteen place. Foulkes with his experience as captain last season proved invaluable in building up the side and the other three formed a good basis for the new scrum. The eventual pack although a little light was effective and lively. The front row of Button, McPhail and Baker could give that of the 1st Fifteen as good as it got and provided us with a fair share of ball in most games. Sayce, normally at second row, was the best line-out forward in senior football and thoroughly deserved his two games with the first side. He was partnered by Fletcher who is perhaps not yet as effective as he promises to become. Of the back row, Snodgrass and Ruck were very great foragers and the latter responsible for a number of good tries. Snodgrass led the pack extremely well in the last five games. For the earlier part of the term, Harrison gave a great display as wing forward — his tackling was often quite devastating — but injury put him out of the game at the end of November and Cox was brought in from centre to make a useful No. 8.

At half back, Foulkes remained scrum half and played a usefully consistent game. Initially, Hill was tried at stand-off but gave place to Varley who filled the role most effectively and is a player of considerable promise. Hill moved to centre where he did well although inclined to leave his pass too late so that he was often brought down with the ball. The other centre position was filled very efficiently by Cox for most of the term until in the last few matches he was moved to lock forward and Lenny, promoted from the 3rd Fifteen, took his place. Banes was our regular winger and responsible for some good tries — he is an elusive and hard running back, very difficult to stop. The second wing place was moved around between Morgan, Harrison and Akinbiyi depending upon the demands of the 1st Fifteen. At full back, Paxton proved a polished player with good anticipation, and excellent kick and the ability to move into the line in attack; he has much talent and only one real defect — a tendency to wait for the bounce on occasion.

D.O.W.

During the season, Half Colours were awarded to T. R. Paxton, N. R. Snodgrass, P. C. McPhail and G. C. Ruck.

Also played: P. B. Harrison (10 times), L. Morgan and D. J. Ventham (4 times), R. N. Burbidge and A. Rose (twice), J. L. Cox, J. E. North and T. A. Parfitt (once).

Results

Won 12—3
Lost 8—9
Won 54—3
Lost 0—9
Won 22—3
v. St. Bartholomew's Sch., Newbury (h). Sat., 4th Nov.  Won 17—0
Lost 3—11
v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (h). Sat., 11th Nov.  
Won 13—5
Lost 6—11
Won 23—6
Lost 3—6
Cancelled

THIRD FIFTEEN

Although at the start of the season frequent allusions were made to that near-classic of Rugby Football literature by Michael Green — the implication being that this Fifteen could ably supply an appendix to future editions — it was not long before, under the guidance of David Langmead who played a key role at scrum half, many good things were fashioned from the uneven and often changing talent available.

While sometimes out-gunned in every department, notably against Marlborough and St. Edward's, there was rarely a lack of individual determination and only occasionally did the heart gain control of the head. A much rosier score card would have been produced had the team possessed a reliable goal-kicker, a fact which underlines the need for a more serious attitude to training sessions, for victories are rarely won on spirit alone — except in the Coarser Art.

C.D.B.M.

The team was: M. F. Rothwell; G. R. Shatford, R. Janz, P. Lenny, J. B. Lister; M. J. Harfield, D. R. Langmead; H. A. Sutton, N. R. J. Brett, T. W. Hewes, C. E. J. Lilley, R. N. Burbridge, W. K. Minter, M. G. Lewis, J. C. Wise.

Also played: K. C. Richardson (5 times), M. W. Parry (twice), and J. T. Stafford, P. G. Randall, J. E. North, and F. J. Dobbs (once).
FOURTH FIFTEEN

Despite some pretty depressing results early on, this has probably been the most successful season for the Fifteen to date, and increasingly during the term every member of the side, under the captaincy of Jeffrey Evans, played an improving game with vigour, enjoyment and plenty of spirit.

The pack was ably led by North and held its own in set scrums although too often sluggish in the loose. As hooker, Edwardson and Allen alternated with equal competence. But the strength of the side frequently rested in the backs. Parry at full back was always sound, Stafford and Hubbard proved fearless tacklers while Herdman, Cowley and Kilgour (scrum half) played with pluck and determination, always making the very best of their opportunities; we owed much, especially in the Dauntsey's match, to the accurate kicking of Vaughan.

N.K.H.


Results

v. Marlborough College (h). Sat., 7th Oct. Lost 0–19
v. Radley College (h). Sat., 21st Oct. Lost 0–10
v. St. Edward's School (h). Tues., 21st Nov. Lost 0–23
v. Shiplake Court 1st XV (a). Sat., 25th Nov. Lost 6–11
v. Cokethorpe School 1st XV (h). Wed., 29th Nov. Lost 6–11
v. Dauntsey's School (a). Sat., 2nd Dec. Lost 0–6
v. Reading School (h). Sat., 9th Dec. Cancelled
v. Marlborough College (h). Sat., 7th Oct. Lost 0–23
v. Oratory School 3rd XV (h). Sat., 11th Nov. Lost 0–23
v. Leighton Park School (a). Sat., 18th Nov. Drawn 0–0
v. Dauntsey's School (h). Sat., 2nd Dec. Won 44–6
v. Abingdon Wallabies XV (h). Thurs., 7th Dec. Won 8–0
Although potentially a strong team, the Colts this year started in a somewhat complacent mood and it took defeat by a well-drilled Radley side to shake them down. After that, marking and covering improved rapidly to reach a highly efficient pitch. Concentration on speed of thought and foot in the loose often resulted in larger packs being robbed of possession and to many successful attacks. Handling was good amongst forward and backs alike although few players have yet developed enough sense of timing or position.

At full-back Galbraith fielded gallantly but one's heart was always in one's mouth. On the wings both Brown and Nichol ran and tackled hard but gave far too few passes back inside. Cox ran cleverly and successfully in the centre and Ward linked well but needs more speed off the mark and better timing. Varley was the key figure in most attacks, well balanced with — at his best — splendid imagination and technique. Some of his breaks were wasted though by poor support. Coulbeck usually gave him good service but was sometimes made to look slow under pressure. His strong point was a neat break round the scrum, linking well with the back row. Comerford who nagged at the heels of any player temporarily off form looks a very promising serum half and was unlucky to get so few games.

The cohesion of the pack was a little disappointing in the set scrum although the front row was a powerful unit. Grant was outstanding in the loose as well and surprisingly quick to cover. Cuthbert when aroused could be very effective and did some excellent work in the line-out which again in general was disappointingly inconsistent. Day was an invaluable and hard-working discovery, releasing Ridge for service at lock, from whence he developed a menacing break. Bodimeade was full of fire on the blindside and Smart was everywhere.

The standard of rugger was at times of the highest order; when moves went as planned this was a powerful side but all too often the cohesion broke down. Smart as captain was rather too quick to criticise and exhort instead of encouraging but he was an amazing example in energy and drive.

P.V.M.

For most of the season the team was: D. W. Galbraith; K. P. Brown, J. L. Cox, M. R. Ward, C. J. Nicholl; M. C. Varley, N. S. Coulbeck; R. J. Grant, D. M. Steele, V. Lacey-Johnson, W. H. Cuthbert, C. G. Day, S. A. Bodimeade, J. A. F. Ridge, N. K. A. Smart (Capt.).

Also played: J. R. Comerford (3 times), J. R. Weir (3 times) and D. M. Marshall (3 times).

Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>v. Radley College (h)</td>
<td>Sat., 21st Oct.</td>
<td>Lost</td>
<td>8—12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v. Pangbourne Nautical College (a)</td>
<td>Wed., 8th Nov.</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>29—0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
v. Berkhamsted School (h). Tues., 14th Nov. Won 19—3
v. Bearwood College (h). Sat., 18th Nov. Won 27—5
v. Bloxham School (a). Wed., 29th Nov. Won 27—0
v. Reading School (a). Sat., 9th Dec. Cancelled

JUNIOR COLTS FIFTEEN

This has been an average season as the results show. The pack soon settled down to play good and constructive football, more particularly so when they had their heads down in a scrum so that even when out-weighted they had the greater share of the ball. In the harder-fought games it was noticeable that most of the scoring came from the forwards. Rowley has been an excellent pack-leader and hooker; during his absence through injury Shellard deputised as hooker most ably, and such was the forward strength in the set that there has been no difficulty in filling any vacancy in the pack caused by injury.

Behind the scrum the situation has been less settled; a certain slowness off the mark was no handicap in the easier matches but was shown up by the faster oppositions. Several combinations of the players have been tried, but none has proved entirely successful; most people have been reluctant to adapt themselves to new positions.


Also played: T. R. Baker (3 times), M. T. Bennett (3 times), R. A. Cole (twice), G. R. Smith (twice) and P. J. Todd (once). D.R.S.

Results

v. Solihull School (h). Sat., 14th Oct. Lost 6—8
v. Wallingford Grammar School (h). Wed., 8th Nov. Lost 9—14
v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (a). Sat., 11th Nov. Won 9—0
v. Leighton Park School (a). Sat., 18th Nov. Won 23—0
v. Bloxham School (a). Wed., 29th Nov. Lost 0—5

JUNIOR FIFTEEN

The fact that 48 of the 56 tries scored were by the outsiders reflects the all-round strength of this happy and successful side. The best three-quarter line is severely handicapped unless their forwards provide them
with 'good ball', and this the Junior pack did consistently throughout the season from both tight and loose play. The excellent technique of Corner, the hooking of Clarke, the covering and backing-up of Holloway and Lawless, the line-out work of Butcher, the drive of Harden and general utility of Houston together, under Longdon's good leadership, provided the framework for the tactics of this team — namely to play to what became an unusually strong and purposeful back division.

Fearless in defence, Evans provided an increasingly effective link with his partner, Price, who handled surely and kicked very well when necessary. Together they were able to feed the strong and determined running of Parks (19 tries), Semmence (16 tries), Pollard, whose handling of the ball improved greatly, and Sykes. Ward also played a number of games on the wing and tackled splendidly. Parks, too, was an asset as a promising place-kicker, five consecutive conversions from the touchline against M.C.S. being a highlight. Behind them was the reliable and strong-tackling Balbernie.

In defence too-high tackling and sometimes a reluctance to fall on the ball were faults which might have been exploited by stronger opposition, as indeed they were by Cokethorpe Under 15s who were the only side except for Oxford School in the first match to cross our line — a remarkable record in 12 matches.

A Junior 2nd XV (0-23), 3rd XV (0-3), 4th XV (8-9) and 5th XV (33-3) invaded Radley College to play their opposite numbers on the 22nd November, and an Under 13 XV lost to New College School 0-17 on the 25th November.

N.H.P.


Also played: R. A. Ward (7 times), A. D. S. Chalker (3 times), W. de ' . Peck (twice), E. C. J. Lilley and D. M. Lewis (once).

Results

v. Radley College (a). Sat., 21st Oct. Won 11-0
v. St. Bartholomew's, Newbury (h). Sat., 4th Nov. Won 12-6
v. Wallingford Grammar School (h). Wed., 8th Nov. Won 23-0
v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (a). Sat., 11th Nov. Won 11-0
v. Berkhamsted School (h). Tues., 14th Nov. Won 34-0
v. St. Edward's School (a). Sat., 18th Nov. Won 9-0
v. Stowe School (h). Sat., 25th Nov. Won 30-0
v. Cokethorpe School U/15 XV (h). Wed., 29th Nov. Won 9-8
v. Dauntsey's School (a). Sat., 2nd Dec. Won 15-0
AW HATS N THE SNOW

JOIN THE GROUP

ASURE AND
THE FIRST FIFTEEN

— PLAYING RADLEY
MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
600 JABS IN TWENTY MINUTES
The Senior Knock-out Competition this season proved to be something of a walk-over for Blacknall House who after disposing of Reeves House (20—0) in the preliminary round went on to win the Final — held on December 6th — in a most convincing fashion by 32 points to nil. Tesdale House managed to defeat Bennett House in a close game (6—0) to qualify as Blacknall's opponents in the Final. The game was fairly even during the first half when Blacknall gained 9 points through two tries from James Cox and a penalty from Booker. In the second half, the formidable strength of Blacknall — they comprised many of the 1st Fifteen — wore down the gallantry of Tesdale's players. Tries were added by John Cox, Booker, Blackburn, James Cox and Ventham and four of these were converted by Booker (2) and Matthews (2). It was in fact quite a good game to watch and Blacknall were worthy winners of the Lin Cup.

League games never seem to have the attraction that surrounds the Knock-out and this term's leagues, both senior and junior, were on the whole not very inspiring games to watch. The Senior League especially lacked interest and for the first time for many years difficulty was experienced in raising some House sides. It is hoped that next year seniors will approach the whole contest more enthusiastically. In the event, Tesdale House won both the Toplis Cup for the senior League and the Robinson Cup for the junior League — a consolation of sorts for her disappointment in the Knock-out. The score-card for the Senior League was — Tesdale versus Reeves 18—13, versus Blacknall 19—3 and versus Bennett 15—3; Blacknall versus Bennett 11—0, versus Reeves 8—5; Reeves versus Bennett 11—3. In the Junior League, Tesdale defeated Reeves (11—9), Blacknall (14—11) and Bennett (13—6); Reeves had two victories over Bennett (26—3) and Blacknall (3—0); and Blacknall a single win over Bennett (3—0).

The Annual dash between Dayboys and Boarders occurred on the last afternoon of term, December 14th, and once again proved to be an extraordinarily good game. This time the Dayboys were very much the favourites since their team possessed more of the giants of the 1st Fifteen and indeed they proved the eventual winners. Nonetheless the game was keenly fought and the victors had to play hard from start to finish, the Boarders in fact piling on considerable pressure in the second half. At half-time, the Dayboys led by 9 points to nil, tries having come from Banes, Ventham and Carr. During the second session, the Boarders scored — a try from Blackburn which Paddison converted — but the Dayboys managed to add two more to their total, a second try from Banes and one from Paxton. Thus the final score was 15 points to the Dayboys and 5 to the Boarders.

It is good to record that there was a bumper entry for the Place
Kicking Competition this year — the first signs perhaps of a much needed interest in this neglected art. On the whole, kicking was of a surprisingly high standard but it was curious to see some of those with established reputations failing to get very far. Indeed it was typical of this year's contest that the winner of the Bosley Cup proved to be Paddison, skipper of the Fifteen but no goal-kicker so far as we were aware. Actually, Paddison only dropped two points and these were very close misses. The runner-up was a tie between Comerford and Matthews, both of whom dropped three points. Next came R. S. Kirby who scored 8 points out of the possible 12 — another surprise this! — and then a group of four (Cole, Parfitt, Randall and Richardson) all of whom scored 6 points.

D.O.W.

CROSS COUNTRY

This has been rather a frustrating season with Foot and Mouth and human weaknesses causing our opponents to cancel the majority of our fixtures. This was a great pity as we had started off in fine style with our first ever win at Westminster College. Unfortunately King Alfred's Training College were unable to field a full side in this triangular fixture but we still came first (by 2 points) in a 4-a-side count.

The Wantage Course was nearly all on roads this year and included a 400ft. climb up to the edge of the Downs. Comments were not exactly favourable either before, during or after the race!

After half term some personal bests were achieved in time trials before our activities were restricted to such things as the Stone Wall Run, the Jones Run and 2-man paarlaufs round Albert Park. Our only run over the country was in the Berks A.A.A. Championships, at Aborfield. Coming at the end of "Play Week" many felt too exhausted to compete and our teams could hardly be called representative. Considering that the majority of our Junior Boys' team will be young enough to compete in the same age group next year, they did very well and the rest of our contingent also ran with much determination if not great success in the worsening blizzard.

The following were regular members of the club this term: M. F. K. Baumann, L. J. Berry, M. G. Crawford, R. L. Deuchar, H. J. Flint, J. R. Gough, L. P. Halling, P. M. Osborne, V. A. Ramsey.

RESULTS OF MATCHES


(Osborne 3, Crawford 4, Halling 8, Baumann 9, Ramsey 10, Flint 11).


(Crawford 2, Halling 3, Osborne 4, Baumann 5, Flint and Ramsey =6).
The Berkshire Championships (Aborfield). 9th December.

Junior Boys: Vernon 13, Lawson 32, Clayton 46, Talbot 47, Waters 64. (8th out of 15 teams).
Boys: Smart 8. (47 ran).

INTER-HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

In the first form race, which was held as usual round Albert Park, Francis and Mushens were already well clear of the rest of the field by the end of the first lap, and they finally sprinted out the finish over half a minute ahead of their nearest rival.

Foot and Mouth precautions meant that we had to be content with a do-it-yourself course for the other races this year. The start was on Lower Field where the runners did a clockwise circuit followed by similar circuits of Albert Park and Waste Court Field before crossing Roysse's Lane and returning to Lower Field by the drive. The dell provided the only real piece of "country" — and the only bottle-neck too! The snow and ice with which the first formers had had to contend two days previously had all gone by the last Wednesday of term. Conditions underfoot were good and the day was mild and almost windless.

The junior race was keenly contested with Hares just in front for most of the race and it was not until the last few hundred yards that Price came through and successfully held off the challenge of the next three — all of whom are second formers.

Any doubt that Smart would not win the Intermediate Cup for the second year in succession were so on dispelled as he quickly went into the lead and increased it with every stride. His victory by nearly a minute and a half is a measure of his exceptional prowess rather than a reflection on the quality of the rest of the field.

The ranks of those who feel strongly about lady drivers were increased on the first lap of the Senior Race when two cars ignored warning signs held in the middle of the road outside Crescent House. Shouts managed to stop them just in time but suffragette tactics had to be used to prevent them from trying to move off again before it was safe for them to do so. In this race in particular it was evident that end of term activities had meant too many late nights and too little recent training for a number of competitors. In the early stages Crawford tried to break away and only Halling managed to stay with him. However on the second lap Crawford succeeded and Halling, visibly weakening, was unable to resist Baumann's strong finish. Rose, Ford, Nasmyth and Hewes deserve particular credit for successfully splitting up the "professionals" of the Cross Country Club.

The House Cup was won by Reeves (4th in 1966) by over 400 points, whereas the previous holders, Blacknall were relegated to last position. This emphasises once again that it is collective enthusiasm and efficient House organisation that brings success in this competition.

A record 443 boys took part in the races.
DETAILS OF THE HOUSE COMPETITION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bennett</th>
<th>Blacknall</th>
<th>Reeves</th>
<th>Tesdale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>1186 (3)</td>
<td>1346 (2)</td>
<td>1539 (1)</td>
<td>1031 (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermed</td>
<td>1473 (1)</td>
<td>1346 (2)</td>
<td>1089 (4)</td>
<td>1176 (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>1050 (3)</td>
<td>1009 (4)</td>
<td>1505 (2)</td>
<td>1568 (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Form</td>
<td>382 (2)</td>
<td>286 (3)</td>
<td>388 (1)</td>
<td>220 (4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Totals: 4091 (2) 3987 (4) 4521 (1) 3995 (3)

The first ten home in each race were:


R.H.B.

BADMINTON

This term the club's popularity has greatly increased. In fact, at the beginning of term, no fewer than 49 boys applied to play badminton as their major sport. Owing to limited playing facilities, trials proved necessary to find the more promising players. The standard of play has also improved, especially that of the 1st VI, this being partly due to a little coaching from Mr. David Saffin, a county player and Old Boy, to whom we are grateful.

We have also many promising younger players so the prospects of the 1st VI maintaining its high standard are extremely good. With these players a 2nd VI was also formed. Unfortunately the 2nd VI fixtures against the Common Room and Wallingford G.S. had to be cancelled. However in a practice match against the 1st VI they put up an impressive performance which bodes well for next term when the 2nd VI will have a fairly full fixture list.

Internally the club has been running successfully. The singles knock-out cup was won by J. Y. McLaughlan who defeated W. N. McGowan-Docherty in the final; Tesdale won the Inter House knock-out while the Dayboys defeated the Boarders 5—4 in a friendly match.
The 1st VI itself has gone from strength to strength. After a disappointing start due to a large number of forced changes, the team settled down to play some good badminton despite the lack of match experience of several players. Indeed the consequent slump results-wise in the last two matches was due, more to a far better opposition than in earlier matches, than to failing in the team.

As 1st pair, J. Y. McLaughlan and W. N. McGowan-Docherty continued their successful partnership of last term, losing only 3 times in the whole term. Their main fault lay in inconsistency. Often they laboured to beat mediocre opposition while quickly demolishing far better pairs on other occasions.

The 2nd pair was usually A. R. Cantwell and either C. J. Woods or J. M. Elliott. Here the basic fault lay not in lack of ability but in lack of self-confidence. Despite getting some good results, they never seemed to live up to their true potential.

The 3rd pair soon became settled with the surprising combination of C. J. Spearing and Y. Doganoglu, neither of whom had played for the team last term. Despite their completely unorthodox style of play, they obtained many extremely good results.

Also played: P. S. Edwardson (twice), P. G. Randall, M. M. Clift (once).

Played 10, Won 6, Lost 4.

v. Reading School (a). Oct. 11th. Won 6—3
v. Fitzharry's Common Room 'B' (a). Oct. 27th. Won 7—2
v. Dry Sandford Badminton Club (h). Nov. 1st. Won 9—0
v. Wallingford G.S. (h). Nov. 3rd. Won 8—0
v. Magdalen College School (a). Nov. 10th. Won 8—1
v. Fitzharry's Common Room "A" (h). Nov. 17th. Won 7—2
v. Harwell Badminton Club (h). Nov. 24th. Lost 4—5

W.N.McG.-D.

**COMBINED CADET FORCE**

**ARMY SECTION**

Much of the term was routine. Field Day was a mixture. Some visited the Longmoor Military Railway, a rather uneven day though some of it was interesting and it was a pity that a breakdown prevented more than a few from riding on the footplate. Others went shooting and a large number performed various evolutions on the Downs.

Once again the contingent turned out in force — Naval and Air Force Sections as well — on Remembrance Sunday and once again the
March Past was not good: on the other hand, the Buglers, this year Barwood and Howells, have never been better and the Guard of Honour were very smart and steady.

There were two innovations — the first was the formation of the Police Cadets, open to members of the C.C.F. who have passed proficiency and who will retain their status in the C.C.F. while in the Police and may return to it after their training. We welcome this as a means of providing extra interest for those who may feel that they would like a break from ordinary Corps activities, and as a very valuable course of instruction in itself. The other is more a return to past practice than an innovation — we have decided that we cannot really march or drill smartly in mufti, and denims or the equivalent have become the rule for ordinary parades.

A word of commendation is due to those boys who took the Army Proficiency exam. after only two terms' instruction instead of the usual three. Two out of sixteen failed and these only by a few marks, and, although there were no distinctions, the general level of passing was high.

We have had much help from various people and to them all we are extremely grateful: the Rescue Section owes a great deal to Mrs. Coulter of the Red Cross Society, the Artillery to B.S.M. Morley of Oxford O.T.C., the Naval Section to C.P.O. Kettle. The contingent as a whole has had much help from C.O.D. Bicester and especially from Capt. Cliff, our liaison officer, and we are also grateful to Major Mackenzie-Orr who conducted the Army Proficiency Examination.

Finally, I welcome S/Lt. A. Dean to the Naval Section and look forward to having him with us on Arduous Training.

L.C.J.G.

ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

The section started the term with a large intake of new entrants, about twenty in all, which was half of those who applied. On Field Day, they joined in the successful map-reading exercise on the Downs under Mr. Fairhead. The remainder of the section went shooting on the .303 range at Longmoor, an activity which has been rather neglected in the past. The whole section had a generally good parade on Remembrance Day, especially considering how little experience many of them had. The rest of the term was devoted to normal instruction, culminating in the Proficiency and Advanced Proficiency exams. Twelve passed the former, and we await the results of the latter. We would also like to welcome Mr. Dean who is joining the section in place of Mr. Tammadge.

C.M.R.
ROYAL AIR FORCE SECTION

The year began with the inevitable promotions after the loss of almost all the N.C.O. strength; Cpl. Paxton became Flight Sergeant and Cpl. Halling Sergeant, together with Cadet Matthews who had successfully completed his flying scholarship training during the summer holidays. Cadets Akinbiyi and Blair became corporals.

Field Day followed only a fortnight after the beginning of term, with resultant hasty preparations. The obvious choice of a visit to R.A.F. Abingdon proved impossible, and as Benson was also involved in an R.A.F. exercise, ad hoc arrangements were made. Half the section joined the Navy section to shoot at Longmoor and the other half joined some of the Army section in a map-reading exercise centred on Lambourn. The latter seemed to enjoy their day, but the Longmoor party felt that the distance travelled had been too great for the shooting exercise.

Shooting remains one of our problems. With the Assegai Trophy to be competed for in the coming term, our only chance of practice has been the short Monday lunch-hour sessions at the local T.A. centre. We have made approaches to R.A.F. Abingdon, but so far without any positive results, but until we can have more frequent and more prolonged practices shooting must continue as a weak link in our chain of activities.

We have so far not had any success with our entries for flying scholarships this year, the four candidates all having failed on their aptitude tests or board interviews, but we still retain hopes for future successes.

The remainder of the activity of the term has been academic, with all flights preparing for next term's proficiency exams, for which our hopes are high, as the general morale of the section is high.

A.G.H.

SCOUTS

34th North Berks Group

The major changes advocated in the Advance Party Report came into force on the 1st October. The visible effects have been that last term's Junior Troop P.L.s have remained with the Junior Troop although they are now fourth-formers, and at present the uniform situation is even more un-uniform than ever!

Minor changes in the arrangement for the Remembrance Day Service meant that we were asked to supply only a small contingent; thus we were represented by some of the Junior Troop P.L.s and some Venture Scouts. Immediately after half-term a coffee evening was held for parents, and from an excellent attendance a Supporters Association committee was formed to help the Group.
JUNIOR TROOP

Most of the changes have been felt in this section; the most noticeable being a complete change to evening meetings. These have not been without their difficulties, particularly on inclement winter nights. The term started with a "wide game" around Albert Park, and the first half of the term ended with a treasure hunt around the town. Several of the evenings have been devoted largely to instruction groups. These have not been particularly well attended, and obviously more preparation will have to be given to make these successful. One evening took the form of Patrol meetings. The term ended with a Christmas Party in the Court Room.

The P.L.s camped out the night before Field Day, and then laid trails which were followed by their patrols. A period of fire-lighting and "messing about" with flour-and-water cooking seemed to be enjoyed by most, and then an active wide game prepared the patrols for their "hike" home.

We are grateful for the assistance given by a number of Venture Scouts at all the meetings, especially the instruction nights.

D.R.S.

VENTURE UNIT

This term has seen a reduction in numbers in the Venture Unit, but with greater individual responsibility the term's activities have been more successful. The Michaelmas term brings with it a great deal of maintenance work with a large number of dull but necessary chores. Once again we sent a working party to Youlbury and next term we hope to go on a Saturday afternoon to allow us to tackle larger tasks. Two very enjoyable meetings were held when the unit divided for separate activities. These were climbing with the new scout rope on a disused stone railway bridge, and canoeing on the backwaters of the Thames.

As a result of Mr. Baker's enthusiasm we were initiated into the excitements of orienteering. The majority of the unit completed a course at Cothill in times varying from a half to one and a half hours. We hope to hold an orienteering field day next term.

Field day this term was organised on the lines of a 'Lewistan' wide game with the unit demonstrating their skills as under-cover agents.

The Patrol Leaders Council would like to thank Mr. Baker for his continued support.

P.M.O./V.A.R.

CHESS

So far this season we have suffered only one defeat, but this was in the most important match, the first round of the Sunday Times Tournament, against Leighton Park School. The result was an exact replica of last year's Tournament match against Carmel College; needing a 3—3
draw to reach the second round, we went down, on adjudication, by the margin of one pawn. This was unlucky in a sense, but it still remains that this was a match we could, and should, have won.

Otherwise our Senior Team, in spite of its relative youth (the average age is only 15), has proved very strong; the full Under-Fifteen team also proved powerful, although well held by Newbury in an exciting fixture. Every player out of the 22 that have represented the school has performed creditably, but special mention must be made of G. D. Pearce, a new boy in the Fourth Form of undoubted class, who only failed to win once in nine games.

Chess Club has continued to draw an encouraging number of Juniors, from whom the team of the future must come. Of these W. A. Pickup and P. Marley are congratulated on winning their respective Tournaments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abingdon 1st VII</th>
<th>beat the Masters' Common Room</th>
<th>5½-1½</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>beat John Mason High School</td>
<td>6½-1½</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st VI</td>
<td>beat Eton College</td>
<td>4½-1½</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>beat Bradfield College</td>
<td>6-0</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>beat Radley College</td>
<td>6-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>lost to Leighton Park School</td>
<td>2½-3½</td>
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<tr>
<td>'A' VIII</td>
<td>beat King Alfred's, Wantage, 1st</td>
<td>4½-3½</td>
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<tr>
<td>Under 15 VI</td>
<td>beat Lord William's, Thame</td>
<td>4-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>drew with St. Bartholomew's Newbury</td>
<td>3-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 15 X</td>
<td>beat Witney G.S. 1st</td>
<td>6-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 13 VIII</td>
<td>drew with John Mason High S.</td>
<td>4-4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The First VIII was as follows: J. R. Burton (Captain), J. J. A. King (Secretary), G. D. Pearce, C. J. Marley, H. J. Manning, B. K. Langmead, D. H. Parry, D. K. Rice.

**MUSIC NOTES**

The two most prominent events of the term were Operation Stradivarius and the Carol Service in St. Helen's Church. The former, which is a new string teaching system incorporating technique classes and chamber music with individual lessons, culminated in a Parents' Evening at the Music School on November 26th. Great credit must be given to all the string pupils who demonstrated and performed to a large and enthusiastic audience, and special thanks to Mrs. Kitching — now with us three full days a week — who was the inspiration behind us all. Opposite reactions to the Carol Service were due to the inclusion of a number of contemporary carols which the choir brought off very well. Particularly impressive was the organ playing of David Murphy; on this, as on many other occasions in Chapel this term, he played the entire service with the outstanding ability which has recently won him an organ scholarship at Keble College, Oxford.
More carols were enjoyed at an informal concert in the Court Room on the last Sunday of term. Items ranged from the jazz band’s Take 5 to a full blown choral and orchestral Carol Fantasia with audience participation. Three original carols composed by different boys were specially memorable.

On November 19th, Mr. Barrow adjudicated the finals of the House Music competitions (organ, piano, woodwind and brass). There were many good performances and we were pleased to welcome several parents in the audience for what proved to be a stimulating and instructive afternoon’s music making.

Monday and Tuesday evenings have seen the inclusion of girls into both the Choral Society (St. Helen’s) and the First Orchestra (Our Lady’s Convent). The former has been working towards next term’s performances of Handel’s “Zadok the Priest” and Faure’s Requiem; the latter has swollen its rank to include double-woodwind and full brass — this contingent has been working as an independent group during lunch hours.

In Chapel, we have added Donald Swann’s Benedictus to the repertoire of the choir and unison voice settings.

Last but not least, the Subscription Concert’s season got off to a good start with a lecture recital by Leon Goossens and an inspiring performance by the Hungarian String Quartet.

A. R. le F.

THE GRUNDY LIBRARY

A very generous gift from Mr. Tressider has enabled us to order a mobile display trolley for the library, which will be used not only for new additions before they are put into their correct shelves, but also for displays of books on specific subjects which cut across the normal Dewey classification. Mr. R. D. A. de la Mare marked his retirement from the Governors by a gift to the library which has added some ten books to the Archaeology section — a section which despite its interest tends to be neglected in the normal round of library purchases. We have also received gifts of books from Mr. E. J. Parsons and Mr. I. Attree, O.A.

To set against this, the library did suffer this term a serious case of damage which could only have been caused deliberately and is costing a considerable amount of money to make good: and this at a time when the rise in book prices has reduced the total number of books we can purchase in a year.

K.G.H.
THE ROYSSE SOCIETY

Meetings this term took place on October 4th, November 1st and November 29th. At the first of these, J. D. Evans read a paper, with musical examples, on "Twentieth Century Music". Stravinsky, the Second Vienna School, Boulez, Messiaen and Barraqué were discussed. The subject, although esoteric, was presented in such a way as to make it accessible to all.

A few weeks later, C. J. A. Maude addressed us on "The Future of Government in Britain". His paper traced the history of government, and propounded some novel ideas on its future. Unfortunately, banalities marred the discussion that followed.

Examinations prevented many people from hearing P. C. McPhail's illustrated paper on "Spiritualism and Perception", which investigated errors of perception, and Gestalt psychology. This was one of the very finest papers the Society has heard in recent years, and, despite the low attendance (or, perhaps, because of it), the discussion also was unusually satisfactory.

We should like to thank the Headmaster and Hilary Cobban for their hospitality throughout the term. N.J.

LITERARY SOCIETY

This term, the secretaryship was held jointly by B. S. Wallan and J. D. Evans. The first meeting of the term took the form of a group of five papers, each on one poem. The papers were critical, in general, and attempted to spark off intelligent discussion; they were as follows: B. S. Wallan on Yeats's "No Second Troy", J. D. Evans on Keats's "Ode to Psyche", C. J. A. Maude on Donnes' "Nocturnall upon St. Lucies' Day", J. H. Earl on Shakespeare's Sonnet and P. A. C. Minns on a poem by the German poet Ernst Städler. The latter, read in German, proved especially interesting. The second meeting took the form of a paper, read by B. S. Wallan, on "Thomas Hardy". This was fascinating, both for the intelligent remarks made by the speaker, and for the lively discussion which followed. The same may be said of John Earl's paper on "Swift", which formed the final meeting of term. A very real interest in the subject seemed to illuminate the discussion. It remains to thank Mr. Owen for his continued sponsorship, and to bid farewell to the loyal members whom we lose this term.

J.D.E.

ROSTRUM

There have been two meetings of this inter-schools Society this term. The first was held at St. Helen's School and Mr. Angus Maude gave a talk on "Britain for the 80's" which was very interesting and absorbing. The second meeting was again held at St. Helen's when Professor Kitzinger lectured on "Britain with Europe". Finally we should like to thank Mrs. Brett who has organised the speakers for the meetings and without whose help the Society could not run.

D.N.H.

ATHENAEUM

Two meetings have been held this term. The first was an outing to see Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest", at the Playhouse, Oxford. This was a first-rate production, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The second expedition was somewhat more adventurous. While
at Oxford, a member had noticed an advertisement for a production of "King Lear" at the Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham. It was generally decided to go and see this, which we did. We were not disappointed. Although the production left something to be desired, the opportunities for exercising our critical faculties, and the humour which the producer had somehow perceived in Shakespeare's lines, made the evening one which will be long remembered by us all.

J.D.E.

ST. EDMUND SOCIETY

This term has seen the beginning of a new era for the St. Edmund Society which has now become a joint society with St. Helen's School and John Mason School.

Our first meeting took the form of a "University Seminar" and was entitled Moral Issues of our Time. The speakers, three girls and three boys, each dealt with one moral issue and this was followed by group discussion. The speaker at the second meeting was the Reverend Bill Douglas of the Cotswold School, and we enjoyed his exciting and revealing account of life in an approved school. At the final meeting of term we saw the film City in the Kingdom which dealt with the work of the Church in the city of Coventry.

High attendances and outstanding discussions have been the highlights of a most successful term.

P.M.O.

JOINT CLUB

This term, the Joint Club has held two very successful meetings.

The first meeting took the form of an outing to Oxford Playhouse to see the comic-satire play by Jean Anouilh called "Ardèle". Refreshments were had at St. Helen's before departure for Oxford.

The second meeting was a dinner-dance in preparation for the St. Helen's Sixth Form dance. The outing took place at the Chicken-in-the-Basket at Benson. This meeting was a great success.

I was particularly pleased this term in the response for membership to the club. Demand has been great.

Finally the members of the Joint Club wish to thank Mrs. Comber and Mr. Sewry for their help and interest in the club.

J.F.G.

MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

At the first of our two meetings this term, Dr. H. M. Cundy of Marlborough College, spoke on "How to draw a straight line". He showed us several interesting models of the mechanisms he described. On November 8th, Dr. J. A. D. Welsh of Merton College, lectured on "Some Unsolved Problems in the Theory of Graphs". He showed us how to apply this theory to timetables or to finding the most economical route between several towns; but he has not yet solved the 'travelling sales' man' problem.

J.H.B.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

This term there have been two meetings, both of which have taken the form of lectures by outside speakers.

At the first meeting Mr. P. B. McPhail of Oxford University spoke on 'Social Psychology'. After defining the subject Mr. McPhail described
experiments which have been carried out and the difficulties involved in experimentation in this field.

The second lecturer was Dr. J. F. Loutit who gave a very interesting illustrated talk on "The effects of increasing radiation on Man" — a lecture which dealt with the potential dangers of ionising radiation, and included horrific examples of past accidents.

We wish to thank J. B. Lister for his past services to the society and welcome P. Shaw as a new secretary.

P.C.McP.

CULLEN SOCIETY

The Society was founded at the beginning of the term by Mr. Le Fleming in order to broaden and stimulate the enthusiasm of those interested in listening to music. Membership is limited to about a dozen sixth formers.

At the first meeting Jeffrey Evans talked about the symphonies of Sibelius. Later in the term Philip Minns revealed the classical guitar to us, and Nicholas Jotcham read a brilliant paper on Berlioz. All three talks were illustrated and provoked lively discussion.

We are most grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Le Fleming for their hospitality.

G.P.W.

THE CRITICS

Owing to the full calendar this term the Society was able to hold only two meetings. On October 16th A. E. Banes read a paper on "Television and Newspaper Commentating", forcibly expressing his view and provoking wide-ranging discussion. At the same meeting he retired from secretarship, and was succeeded by N. J. Attwood. On November 9th the film "Night is My Future", directed by Ingmar Bergman, was discussed.

The Society is indebted to Mr. Dean for acting as Sponsor this term and inspiring the lively discussion.

N.J.A.

SYMPOSIUM

In the meeting this term — on November 13th — we welcomed the new members of the Society, a number of lower sixth formers included. Alan Banes read a paper entitled "Unidentified Flying Objects". He gave much detail of various appearances of these mysterious objects, and went on to generalize, giving ideas on the intentions of flying saucers (which form a minute proportion of U.F.O.s). At the end of the meeting the house was split in its feelings — convinced believers and definite non-believers.

P.K.A.

BRUCE SOCIETY

There were only two meetings, both in the second half of the term. At the first, on November 3rd, Mr. N. C. Pollock, lecturer at Oxford, gave a very interesting talk on the present situation in Nigeria, illustrating it with slides which he had taken on a recent visit.

On December 8th Graham Ruck gave an informative talk on the effects of Britain's proposed entry into the E.E.C. Two O.A.s will be lecturing to the Society in the Lent Term.

B.H.F.
THE HISTORIANS

Two meetings were held during the term. On October 18th, F. Dobbs, J. Davies, G. Evans, and T. May each contributed a paper on the Dissolution of the Monasteries under Henry VIII — a symposium which provoked heated argument.

On November 16th, M. Baumann delivered a concise and thorough paper on Mary, Queen of Scots, the tragic figure who threatened the security of Elizabeth I’s throne. The paper ably provided the basis for the wide-ranging and often intense discussion which followed, especially over the controversy surrounding the execution of Mary Stuart. Both meetings were well-attended.

T.C.C.M.

PLAY READING SOCIETY

Four plays were read this term — Pirandello’s “Right you are (if you think you are)”, “The Knight of the Burning Pestle” by Beaumont and Fletcher, “Death of a Salesman” by Miller, and Bridie’s “Mr. Balfry”.

Unfortunately, we are losing some of our most loyal members this term, all of whom have contributed to the success of our meetings over the years.

N.D.K.

ECONOMISTS

At the first meeting of the term, on October 23rd, Andrew Hills read an interesting and amusing paper entitled “Constitutional Monarchy in Theory and Practice”. The subsequent lively discussion centred on the monarch’s relations with the Prime Minister and the need for a monarchy.

On November 17th, sixteen economists visited the M.G. factory in Abingdon. We saw production in progress and learnt about pricing, export policies, training facilities and the trade-unions.

The first meeting of the discussion group started by Jonathan Burton, took place on November 27th. Topics discussed included trade union reform and education.

M.F.K.B.

ONSLOW SOCIETY

The Society held two meetings this term. At the first C. G. Day read a very informative paper on “The Abdication of Edward VIII”, and A. R. N. West, in a more detailed study, dealt with “The Rise of the Ottoman Turk” at the second meeting. Both papers gave light on two entirely different periods of history about which very little is known. In the informal discussions afterwards the general movements in history engulfing these subjects were explored widely if not deeply.

R.K.B.

LOWER SIXTH DEBATING SOCIETY

At all three meetings this term attendance has been very high. Although our first motion — “That euthanasia should be made legal” was not entirely original, it provoked considerable discussion.

The willingness of members both to attend meetings and speak at them is a good sign for the future. I hope next term's meetings will be as strongly supported.

J.G.D.
MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

Our activities this term began with an outing, with St. Helen's, to see the film "Les Enfants du Paradis", followed by a highly successful German meeting at which several poems were discussed. Later Mr. Bunyon of the British Atlantic Committee addressed an open meeting, and at the term's last meeting Dr. S. Roe talked on "An Examiner looks at 'A' Level". Next term we hope to have a fuller programme including some Russian meetings.

D.C.L.M./M.C.G.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY

After lying dormant for eleven years the society was revived this term. Because of the enormous response it has been split into senior and junior sections, each with thirty members. All the meetings took the form of 'swopping sessions', but we hope to vary the form next term.

A small subscription was levied in order to establish a small library of stamp approvals — donations for this will be gratefully received.

A.D.C.

JAZZ CLUB

There have been four meetings this term, all well-attended. At the first, Frank Dobbs spoke on the beginnings of jazz, and traced its history up to the 'Golden Age'. At the next meeting the Secretary spoke on Charles Lloyd and Roland Kirk, whom thirty members heard at a concert in London on November 30th. Paul Medley gave a critical talk on some senior saxophonists, and at the last meeting Brian Ford spoke on the Modern Blues Guitar. The jazz band has been meeting regularly, and is going to give a concert next term, with a band from Oxford.

W.D.C.

FILM SOCIETY

We started the term with an open meeting at which Mr. Stuart Keen showed Chaplin's classic, "The Great Dictator (September 17th). On Friday, September 29th, we showed Sergei Risenstein's "Battleship Potemkin" (1925). The most popular meeting was "Birdman of Alcatraz (1962) starring Burt Lancaster (October 20th) — again an open meeting. The last meeting was on November 3rd when we saw "The Pit". and "Night in My Future" (Ingmar Bergman).

On November 30th thirty members went to the National Film Theatre in London to see "Dreamers", a thought-provoking Danish film. We are grateful to Charles Maude for his original posters for our meetings.

M.G.B.

FILM UNIT

We have continued making the film begun last summer. Owing to camera failure, a lot of material was lost, and our schedule has therefore been disrupted; we now plan to complete the film, called "Chameleon", by the end of next term. It has, however, been rush-edited as far as available material allows and work on the soundtrack is proceeding. Although extra filming was done in September, we still have some essential shots to record.

R.A.B.
PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

This term has seen a pleasing increase in the use of the darkroom; indeed it is used almost constantly. Three meetings were held this term. The first two were slide shows with prerecorded tapes. The first, "Impact in Colour", was rather disappointing because of the historical slant; but this was made up for by the quality and brilliance of the slides at the second, "The Role played by Agfacolor".

The last meeting was a practical demonstration of printing and enlarging by Robin Balbernie, for beginners. All present felt it well worthwhile. I should like to thank Robin Balbernie for all the work he has done for the Society.

C.J.H.W.

SENIOR AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY

The term has been one of relative inactivity. We tried to visit Handley-Page at their Radlett factory but were unable to because of a rebuilding programme. (They have offered us a visit next summer). We did get two films on Hovercraft but because of their late arrival, they could only be shown to a limited audience. Plans for next term include a visit to Heathrow Airport.

A.J.I.

FIFTH FORM SOCIETY

At the preliminary meeting, a secretary and form representatives were elected, and ideas for the term were discussed.

The first proper meeting was a debate on euthanasia in which a moving speech by N. K. A. Smart managed to sway the feeling against any form of mercy killing. At the next meeting, Mr. P. E. Rowlandson gave an extremely interesting talk on a return trip to New Zealand in a Morris Minor Traveller. We ended the term's meetings with a showing of some of the school films.

V.L.-J.

SOCIETY OF CHANGE-Ringers

Practices have been held every Friday this term, and have been attended by ringers from other schools. A quarter-peal of Carlisle Surprise Minor was rung for the Confirmation Service. Those ringing were: D. C. Henderson, Melvyn Hiller, Catherine Salter, J. R. Rowson, A. K. P. Poole and C. I. Rowson (conductor). A quarter of Bob Major was attempted for the Carol Service.

An outing was held this term, when sixteen ringers visited six Shropshire churches. We are indebted to Mrs. Salter for the magnificent tea she provided.

A.K.P.P.

BUILDING CLUB

This term, with N. D. Keen as Secretary, the Club has been operating in two different places. The first was Waste Court where a crazy paving path was relaid and the trees were cut down behind one house. The second was Larkhill, where a concrete apron was laid in front of the garages. It was very fortunate that this project was completed before the frost and snow set in.

N.D.K.
ANGLING CLUB

Two competitions were held before the waters were closed because of the Foot and Mouth epidemic. The first was held at Sutton Pits and was won by P. Butcher with 15½ lbs. of pike and perch, J. Grierson running second with a 5½ oz. pike. Many anglers had arrived without their heavy tackle and found that the pike were feeding well but were not equipped to deal with them.

In the next competition, held at Abingdon, C. Penney took first place with a bream of 1½ lbs., D. Rice and A. Percival taking 2nd and 3rd places respectively.

The Committee is sorry to announce the departure of J. Grierson who served actively on the committee for a long period, and we would like to thank the Chaplain for once again acting as our Sponsor.

P.L.B.

SAILING CLUB

This term was employed solely in extending the club and providing better facilities for the members. The affiliation of the Club to the Abbey Sailing Club was achieved thanks to the toils of Dr. Pryce; an advantage to those members short of transport who would previously have had to go to Farmoor. Praise is due to D. W. Galbraith who went to great ends to see that the boats were stored away for their winter painting, and A. M. E. Brown who worked hard to secure films for the Club. Of course the advantages will be long-term.

R.J.C.

FIELD CLUB

The Field Club has been quite active this term; its main activity, as usual, has been bird-watching. There have been several bird walks along the river and old sewage farm, where bird life is strong. During half-term we were given an interesting talk on owl pellets, birds of prey, and conservation, for which we would like to thank Dr. Jeffries, and also Mr. and Mrs. Fowler for providing excellent hospitality. On the Monday in half-term we visited the area around Hermitage, and observed several bird species not normally found near Abingdon. It is hoped next term to conduct a more extensive study of owls and their prey in the area.

P.R.

O.A. NOTES

Please note that in the reasonably near future a new address list is to be issued. If you have not already notified us of your new address will you please do so NOW and also keep us up to date with your moves and your news? A list of addresses which no longer apply is also given. Will anyone who can help by giving information about any of these 'lost brethren' please write to Mr. Hillary or Mr. Willis?

LOST ADDRESSES

J. Bentley (Schwievcynski) — 225 Iffley Road, Oxford.
D. H. Blake — Botley, Hants.
R. F. S. Branch — Lidstone, Oxon.
G. M. Cockcroft — Wallington, Surrey.
P. W. Fay — Burnt Oak Lane, Sidcup, Kent.
P. N. Hayes — Islip, Oxon.
C. N. Hedley — O.M.Q., R.A.F. Catterick.
R. B. B. Houghton — Daventry nor I.O.W.
I. J. Kirby — Headington, Oxford.
Capt. B. W. T. Leech — Barclay's Bank.
D. H. Paley-Battersea — Hamilton Terrace, London N.W.
B. R. Smith — Tadworth, Surrey.
P. S. G. Stevens — Cumnor.
P. G. D. Matthews — Farnham, Surrey.
J. H. Thewlis — Dorchester.

BIRTHS

Frearson. On July 13th, 1965, to the wife of Peter H. Frearson (1951) a son, Benjamin Peter.


MARRIAGES


Benson-Cox. On 16th September, 1967, at St. Helen's, Abingdon, John Michael Benson (1951) to Margaret Elizabeth Cox.


Bunce-Boardman. On 7th October, 1967, at St. Peter's, Rylstone, Yorks, John M. Bunce (1962) to Marilyn Judith Boardman.


Cullen-Galloway. On 18th November, 1967, at Inverleith Church, Edinburgh, Michael J. Cullen (1945) to Barbara Galloway.


MACKAY–WEBBER. On 16th December, 1967, at Holy Trinity, Claygate, Surrey, Bruce G. Mackay (1964) to Beverley Jean Webber.


PICKUP–SPENCER. On 16th December, 1967, at St. Mary's, Willingdon, Sussex, Christopher J. Pickup (1960) to Elizabeth Anne Spencer.


DEATH


Bill Smith (1925) has retired after forty years of teaching in North Berkshire, thirty years of them as Headmaster of Harwell County Primary School. Eight times President of the North Berks Teachers' Association, Bill richly deserves the many tributes paid to him at a recent party organised in his honour. In his school days he was a Prefect, a 2nd XI cricketer, and won his colours for Soccer which was then the School's winter game.

It was most interesting to read in The Times of 27th November that George Austin (1928), Managing Director of Imperial Metal Industries' Eley Ammunition Division, was making such an impact on world markets with the export of waterproof plastic cartridges. I.M.I. is apparently well ahead of its European competitors and devaluation should help them, at any rate.

James MacPherson (1933) has retired after 21 years with the Iraq Petroleum Co. which took him to Iraq, Syria and the Lebanon. He is still fully occupied, though, as Accountant/Secretary to a wholesale meat merchant.

Congratulations to Colin Ronan (1937), the well-known science writer and a senior member of the Royal Astronomical Society who appeared on television's 24 Hours in a recent programme on the Russian probe of the planet Venus and who has had two more books
published on science and astronomy. They are "Newton and Gravitation" and "The Discovery of the Galaxies" and are published by Jonathan Cape in the Jackdaw Science series.

Neville Horwood (1944), after many years with Beechams Laboratories at Weybridge, has now been appointed Chief Laboratory Technician at Reading University.

Major Lionel Lacey-Johnson (1944) has written an article — "The Party will travel on passports" — which appears in the current issue of the journal of the Intelligence Corps.

David Beattie (1947) after many years at Colston's School, Bristol, has been appointed Senior Classics Master at Fraserburgh Academy, and starts there this January.

Always unorthodox, John May (1954) hit the headlines this October by winning the international six hour speed boat race at Wansee Lake, Berlin. John was driving the 125 h.p. Thunderbolt in a field of about eighty, so did very well indeed.

Richard Paxman (1954) wrote a long and interesting Christmas letter from New Zealand. He has two daughters aged five and three and a half and the whole family is obviously enjoying life in the new country. Richard has met Pat Sale (1953) and had news of Frank Bartlett (1952) and 'Jock' Full (1952).

Ian Ashworth (1955) is working for I.B.M. in London: he is married and is expecting a second child in January.

Jim Page (1955), with a family of two daughters, the younger starting school next year, has received promotion. He is now sub-manager of Lloyds Bank, Lydney, in Gloucestershire, and even those of us who bank with Barclays salute him.

A very newsy Christmas letter arrived from John Swainston (1955). He married in January 1966 and had a long honeymoon world tour which took him among other places through Russia, Afghanistan and Thailand. Back in Australia he took up an appointment this April as Veterinary Officer to a company of flour millers. Further news appears in the Births announcements.

Tom Kempinski (1956) is to be congratulated on the favourable notices elicited by his portrayal of the title role in Charles Wood's 'Dingo' at the Royal Court Theatre. It sounds a singularly nasty play but Tom apparently succeeded in making something quite exceptional out of this "hard-eyed professional ranker".

The Antrobus brothers are flourishing, as one might expect. Nich (1957) is about to become M.I.C.E. while Roger (1960) has been computer manager of Woodall Duckham Ltd. for over a year now.

Kenny Blewitt (1958), having done eighteen months National Service at Okinawa, is now in his third year at the University of Illinois, studying chemistry.
David Meakins (1958) is Personnel Officer for the Metal Box Company at their Rochester factory. Robin (1962) is still at Liverpool, working for an M.Sc. degree in Parasitology having got a B.Sc. this July in Zoology.

Chris Loukes (1959) has left the Navy and is now at the Slade School of Art.

Congratulations to Eric Firth (1960) on getting his Ph.D. for a research thesis on Electron Spin Resonance Spectrometers. He is now working for Marconis, near Chelmsford, as a design engineer in their Radar Division.

Ian Graham (1960) has progressed, appropriately enough, in the employment of Messrs. Gallaher Ltd. the cigarette manufacturers, and is now at Head Office in London in the Organisation and Methods Department.

Keith Haarhoff (1960) has gone to Shell International Petroleum Company and is working in their Information and Computing Centre in London.

Lt. James Milne, R.N. (1960) writes of his experiences in the evacuation of Aden, where he was for seven weeks an adviser on the use of R.N. helicopters. While in Aden he narrowly missed seeing David Heather-Hayes (1960) — as elusive as ever! James is now in Singapore and does not expect to be back in U.K. until well into 1969.

It was pleasant to receive a breezy letter from Alan Pritchard (1960). He is a qualified librarian with seven months experience as Information Officer at Hattfield College of Technology. He is at the moment doing research into computer literature and enjoying the life enormously.

David Goodwin (1961) enjoys his work as a lawyer and is to become a partner in his firm in January.

We hear from David Goodwin that his cousin, John Vesey, has married and emigrated to New Zealand to pursue a career in farming. Unfortunately we have no details nor an address for him there.

E. Geoffrey Jones (1962) who graduated at Cambridge, has been appointed trainee instructor in the Mathematics of Computing Department for Rolls Royce Ltd., Derby.

Peter Blair (1963) has just finished four years of training with B.M.C. and is about to burst into the Export Market selling trucks. Apparently this covers anything up to an 18 ton lorry and there is plenty of scope for skilled activity as a salesman.

Especially nice to have news of Robin Dowson (1963) — whom many will remember as a railway enthusiast — commuting between Kent and the City where he thoroughly enjoys his job with S. Montagu and Co., Merchant Bankers.

James Urwick (1963) has accepted a two year teaching commitment
at a school in Sierra Leone. He is another of those who are giving their services to V.S.O. and we wish him a fruitful stay at Bo.

Hearty congratulations to Hugh Flint (1964) on the award of an R.A.F. Dental Cadetship. His commission as a Pilot Officer dates from December 1967 and he should qualify at Kings College Hospital in two years.

Tim King (1964), having graduated at Oxford, and captained his college at tennis, is still at Pembroke doing his D.Phil. in "The Plant Ecology of Anthills in grassland"! He says that Frank (Ainley) Bisby (1964) is also doing a D.Phil. at Oxford — his being on classifying plants by computer. What an exciting subject biology is these days.

Stuart Broughton (1965) is making good progress at Seal-Hayne Agricultural College, Newton Abbot. He now has a seat on the Union Finances Committee and has been elected to the post of shop manager! He claims that his work on the Tuckshop Committee here was an invaluable experience for him.

Remembering Stephen Marsh's (1965) passion for fitness it is not altogether surprising to hear that he is doing well in the world of Boxing. Congratulations on being Captain of Boxing at Guys Hospital this year.

David Munson (1965) has passed all the exacting medical and other tests for the College of Air Training at Hamble and will begin training as a Civil Airline Pilot early next year.

Congratulations to John Cooper (1966) on captaining Oxford Sailing. Doubtless brother Peter, another keen sailor, will be following in his footsteps soon.

It was amusing to hear that on 7th January Midshipman Michael Spencer (1966) was relieved on H.M.S. Shavington in Malta by Midshipman Martin Holloway (1966).

The following went up to Universities and Hospitals in October 1967:
Cambridge: P. K. Booker (Pembroke); Keith Overton (1959) (Peterhouse).
Oxford: D. D. Allen (New College); I. Campbell (Pembroke); C. W. Denny (St. Edmund Hall); C. M. Dobson (Keble); C. S. Downes (Pembroke); A. L. Leaver (New College); D. J. Saunders (Magdalen).
Aberdeen: B. M. Johnston.
Bath: R. H. Roper.
Birmingham: C. I. Rowson.
Bradford: J. W. Hassett.
Bristol: D. J. Hardwick, R. J. Howell, D. W. Tanner.
Cardiff: P. H. Blackburn.
Exeter: S. P. B. Allen.
Hull: M. G. Wells.
Keele: T. C. C. Beckett.

London:
Queen Mary's College — M. A. E. Ballinger.
University College — A. W. Rendell, D. W. Roblin.
King's College — N. D. Brice.
City University — D. J. Sparrow.

Loughborough: D. M. Dickson.
Queen's, Belfast: R. G. Coulbeck.
Reading: D. J. Faires, R. A. Lyons, R. J. Nancarrow.
St. Andrew's: M. T. D. Carr.
Southampton: M. A. Cockerill, M. S. A. Davis.
Surrey: N. K. Cook.
Sussex: P. E. Gibbs, M. O'Neill.

Guy's Hospital: M. C. C. Hunter.

Other information not previously recorded is that Bob Risher III is at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. David Venn (1962) and Ian Hall are both at the Oxford School of Architecture. Robert Meakins, B.Sc. (1962) is doing a postgraduate course at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

The latest news we have of others who left last year is as follows:
A. Ahuwan is at the Farnham College of Art.
D. A. Baker has been working in the Oxford University Botany Lab. and has got a place at Worcester College, Oxford, for this October.
D. J. B. Baker has been working as a beater on the Yattenden Estate and attending evening classes in Reading.
F. J. Barnes has got a job with Pressed Steel.
J. P. H. Bosley is studying accountancy full time at the North Berks College of Further Education.
E. P. Caton is now working for the Commercial Union Insurance Company, Oxford.
P. J. Clargo, also in Insurance, is with the Zurich Insurance Company.
J. D. Clark has been taken on as a trainee by Elliston and Cavell's, Oxford.
S. S. Coe has a very interesting and fairly tough job with the Forestry Commission down in Surrey.
G. G. V. Collings is studying at the College of Estate Management in London.
R. J. M. Conibear has decided that the Navy is not for him and has left the R.N.C. Dartmouth.
R. A. Egelstaff, looking the perfect artist, is at the Wolverhampton College of Art.

B. J. Fellows has taken to a career in Banking with Martins Bank.

A. R. Gibbs is developing his talent as a violinist at Trinity College of Music.

S. Gibbs is working full time at High Wycombe Technical College.

B. E. Goldsworthy has been signed on by Heinz for a four year training scheme.

M. J. Heading is living in the lap of luxury while training on Computers with National Cash Registers.

P. D. Healy thoroughly enjoys his work with an Estate Agents firm in Amersham.

P. D. Heast is training in shop management at Harrods.

P. D. Johnson wants 'A' level Maths in order to get to Imperial College this October to read Metallurgy and is therefore spending a year at Smethwick Technical Institute.

M. F. Kirby is aiming at a B.Sc. Econ. for which he is working full time at Croydon Technical College.

G. A. Macdonald is another who is studying full time at a Technical College. He is at Oxford and his aim is to pass in Physics, Chemistry and Maths at Advanced level.

J. M. Mawson is now a Civil Servant and working for the Inland Revenue Department at Bath.

R. E. Parkes is a trainee solicitor in his father's firm.

T. J. Rawlins is training as a civil air line pilot at Hamble.

J. W. W. Sagar is trying to make up for lost time at a London academic establishment.

M. C. Sheather is employed by Pressed Steel.

C. D. Simmonds appears to be flourishing and very well looked after by Shell-Mex & B.P. with whom he is a trainee.

I. P. G. Stevens started at Sandhurst this January.

I. S. Sykes is a trainee employed by Marks and Spencers.

M. J. T. Theophilus is at the Reading College of Art.

D. J. Tinson has gone into Estate Agency with Messrs. Buckle and Ballard in Oxford.

P. G. Tooze has joined B.M.C. at Cowley.

M. H. Vaughan is a full time student at Oxford Technical College where he is reading Business Studies.

A. L. Vernède still hopes to get to university this October and is taking his French 'A' level again. In the meantime he appeared on television in the National Youth Theatre's production of Zigger-Zagger.

M. J. Vowles-Sheridan (formerly Vowles) is employed as a trainee Civil Engineer with Rendell, Palmer and Tritton.

G. Walkinshaw aims at a career in banking and is studying at Dagenham Technical College with this in view.

A. N. R. Wharton is at the R.A.F. College, Cranwell.

C. M. B. Wharton has joined Neilson's as a trainee.
R. C. Wilde is employed by Oxford City Council.

T. J. Wood, spending a year teaching games at a prep school, is full of enthusiasm for teaching as a profession and intends to go to a College of Education this October.

Brief news culled from the Headmaster's Christmas post:

C. J. D. Bailey (1963) has joined the staff of the Somerset County Council as Civil Engineer in Taunton.

Alan Caswell (1956) has just gone to Singapore as 2 i/c No. 15 Field Squadron, R.A.F.

Tony Clay (1948) is also 2 i/c his Unit — the 19th Field Regiment R.A. — but is shortly moving to a small N.A.T.O. H.Q. near Heidelberg. Anyone travelling in Germany will be welcome at H.Q. A.M.F.(L.), B.F.P.O. 34.

Paul Davis (1964) has nearly finished training as an R.A.F. Navigator at Gaydon, Warwicks, and hopes to be operational in a few months.

Robert Hewison (1964) is assured of a place at the College of Air Training, Hamble, and will start there sometime this year. Brother Richard (1960) was anxiously awaiting the arrival of his first child just before Christmas.

Hugh Leach (1963) sent a Christmas card from the British Embassy at Jeddah.

Nicholas Martin (1966) now a School Prefect at Prince Alfred College, South Australia, hopes to go up to Adelaide University in March.

Ian Nayler (1965) finds his job with the Pergamon Press in Oxford very congenial.

Roger Platt (1962) has been in Canada for about nine months working as a valuer for a firm of Chartered Surveyors. He has spoken on the phone to Peter Mann (1963) in Montreal.

Derek Pollard (1962) is at work in Bristol supervising the construction of an underpass.

Geoffrey Sheppard (1957) is to be congratulated on the award of a D.Phil. He is now working as a Scientific Officer in the U.K.A.E.A. at the Radiochemical Centre, Amersham.

We wish every happiness to David Wiggins (1959) who is being married in March and is moving to Belfast in May to take up a new appointment as Assistant Lecturer in the cello at the City of Belfast School of Music.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

The Rugger match last term was played on Saturday, 25th November, and will be remembered by those O.A.s on the touchline, as a particularly exciting match, with the final result being a draw.

The Annual Dance, which followed, was held for the first time in the Abbey Hall, and was attended by 150 O.A.s and their ladies. The
presence of the Headmaster, unfortunately struck down by a virus, was greatly missed. As usual, Mrs. Bevir provided us with some beautiful flower arrangements, which were greatly appreciated.

In October a successful 'Pub Supper' was held at 'The Flask' in Highgate. Twenty-six O.A.s were present, and it is hoped to hold a similar gathering this year.

We were sorry recently to receive Peter Hillard's resignation as Assistant Sports Secretary. Our thanks are due to him for so ably organising our cricket and hockey XI's over the past years; and we welcome John Dickinson as his successor.

SECRETARIES' ADDRESSES
Hon. Secretary O.A. Club: R. R. Bailey, 10 White's Lane, Radley, Abingdon.
Hon. Sports Secretary: J. T. Cullen, Frilford End, Frilford, Abingdon. (Rugger).
Masonic Lodge Secretary: D. O. Willis, Larkhill, Faringdon Road, Abingdon.

GOLF
The President hopes that it may be possible to reform the Club's Golfing Society. Will anyone who is interested please send their name and address, on a postcard, to the President:
N. J. Holmes,
95 Cumnor Hill,
Oxford.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS — JANUARY 1968
Antrobus, R. L., 34 Lindfield Avenue, Seaford, Sussex.
Atkins, P. N., Lashbrook, Town House Road, Old Costessy, Norfolk.
Broughton, S. H., Glen Farm, Longworth, nr. Abingdon.
Dowling, P. G., 26 Station Road, Wokingham Berks.
Goodwin, D. M., 48b Sydenham Road, Guildford, Surrey.
Graham, I. P., 81 Austin Road, Luton, Beds.
Grant, N. J. H., Dar Teachers' College, P.O. Box 2329, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
Greenwood, A. M., 10 Queen's Road, Leigh on Sea, Essex.
Griffiss, G. L., 3 Dibles Road, Warsash, Hants.
Haarhoff, K. N., 5 Hughes House, Flodden Road, London, S.E.5.
Hann, J. F., 134 Kent End, Aston Keynes, Swindon, Wilts.
Harding, J., Southcroft House, Great Budworth, Northwich, Cheshire.
Harfield, V. A., 9 Northern Avenue, R.A.F. Henlow, Beds.
Hossent, P. D., St. Bartholomew's Vicarage, Burgoyne Road, Sheffield 6.
Humley, M. E., 5a Kennesley Way, Immingham, nr. Swinsby, Lincs.
Jarvis, J. R., Point Neptune House, Fowey, Cornwall.
King, A. G. B., Roundhay, Frolesworth Road, Leire, Rugby, Warwicks.
Kortright, Cdr. J. C. H., R.N. (Retd.), 67 De la Warr Road, Bexhill, Sussex.
Kortright, N. D. S., 67 De la Warr Road, Bexhill, Sussex.
Luker, R. C., 20 Lombard Grove, Fallowfield, Manchester, 14.
McPherson, J., 60 Preston Street, Shrewsbury.
Meakins, D. J., 204 Lonsdale Road, Rainham, nr. Gillingham, Kent.
Meakins, R. H., Georgian House Hotel, 16 Arundel Road, Littlehampton, Sussex.
Neilan, M. J., 64 Springfield Park, Twyford, Berks.
Page, J. T., 24 Woodland Rise, Lydney, Glos.
Portman, 22 The Grove, Hill Head, Hants.
Pritchard, A. F., 6 Brighton Road, Watford, Herts.
Robbins, K., 14 St. Peter's Road, Abingdon.
Saunders, D. J., Beverley, Addercombe Road, Crowthorne, Berks.
Smith, R. B., 6 Norman Avenue, Abingdon.
Spragg, D., 9 Richmond Road, Oxford.
Sugg, P. W., No. 1 Benson Place, Oxford.
Swainston, J. J., R.M.B. 955, Darrell Road, Calala, Tamworth, N.S.W. 2340, Australia.
Thistlewood, A. W., 4 Cherry Tree Court, Dee Road, Richmond, Surrey.
Vowles-Sheridan, J. M. (previously Vowles), The Dolphin, Leighton Buzzard, Beds.
Welch, R. P., Carlton House, Grosvenor Place, Wycombe Lane, Woburn Green, Bucks.
Westall, J., 19 Oakhill Drive, Welwyn, Herts.
Wintle, P. P., 16 Orchard Close, Bushey Heath, Herts.
Woodruff, C. S., 39 Bramcote Road, Wigston, Leicester.
Wyatt, P., 103 Hampton Road, Redland, Bristol 6.
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., M.B.E., T.D., 1 Norman Avenue, Abingdon.

THE ABINGDONIAN

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

1. By Banker’s Order (minimum 7/6) payable to the Old Abingdonian Trust Fund. Forms of Covenant which will add over 60% to the value of all subscriptions to the Fund of 10/- and over will be most welcome.

2. By compounding for Life Subscriptions: 5 guineas maximum, 2 guineas minimum, according to age.

3. By subscription to the Magazine at current price, at present 7/6 per annum.

O.A. CLUB

LONDON DINNER

will be held on

Friday, 8th March, 1968

at the City Livery Club

on the Embankment, near Blackfriars Bridge.

Reception 6.00 p.m. Dinner 7.00 p.m.

Tickets: 37/6 each (including gratuities) obtainable from S. A. Paige, 13-14 Basinghall Street, London E.C.2.

If sufficient numbers notify Tony Hillary by March 1st, 1968, he will book transport to leave Abingdon at 4.00 p.m. sharp.