

ABINGDONIAN

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Literial

When newspapers and party politicians decide to brand education as an alien thing, they very easily jump out of perspective. Controversy about its form and nature concern us all of course but education is a continuous, evolutionary process which must never be treated as manifesto material. It is a process through all the ideological din about comprehensive schools and the tests about producing over-specialised, fact-sprouting zombies, the evolution moves in its mysterious way. How much publicity was given to the GCE reforms of a few months ago, proposing a system which would be more for wider-ranging study and more flexibility while preserving a necessary national standard? Nor do people appear to take much notice of the creative thinking and enterprise behind say, SMP, the Cambridge A-levels programme, or the newly-launched Nuffield Biology project.

These are developments in the innards of the educational system; at Abingdon particularly we must reluctantly keep facing a possible change in the whole framework. No-one knows for sure what will be synthesised out of the protozoic slime of the Donnison report, but one hopes for a reasonable compromise. The Direct Grant Schools are an anomaly in the present set-up but they have one incontrovertible defence—their own educational efficiency and the worth of their 'produce'. And it is largely the quality of mixture which makes the Direct Grant Schools what they are—lively, enterprising, a catalyst in the country's system, and an excellent preparation for the open fields of university.

The prospect of change is of course brought into sharper focus at Abingdon by the entry of Mr Anderson, who must be greeted 'with one suspicious and one dropping eye.' Under the Cobban régime the School followed a path of rational freedom, coming out of its grey-uniformed isolation and becoming alive to education in all senses, academic, sporting and social—producing a kind of Renaissance 'complete man'. This is not to say that all traces of Medieval Man—or even Caveman—have been eliminated. But it is not pretentious to claim that overall the School has achieved a balance of discipline and uniformity, of participation and individual freedom, of hard work and sheer joie de vivre.

There appears no reason why this balance should not continue, but Mr Anderson comes we must recognise that there are forces which rock it alarmingly, or even, since the outcome of Donnison remains unpredictable, snatch away the fulcrum. There are also important inter-questions which Mr Anderson will have to deal with and which affect this marriage of individual freedom and collective responsibility. Many games for example are at a turning point, as Mr Brodie points out in Sports Section. There are further questions of Sixth Form liberalisation: all of them complicated by the new legal independence of those over eighteen—of which compulsory chapel and smoking are perhaps the most controversial.

Headmastership is very much a cult of personality and we can expect the Anderson era to have its own individual flavour. But if at the moment we seem to be standing not so much at a cross-roads as some complicated clover-leaf flyover, at least the uncertainty should make us look forward—with trepidation possibly, but with excitement well.

The Past Term

Our sincere thanks to Alderman Samuel Jones, the retiring Mayor of Abingdon, for the interest he has shown in us during his year of office. In his stead we welcome, as Mayor and *ex officio* Governor, another parent, Councillor Joseph Paxton.

But Alderman Jones has not finished yet. He will go out of office in a blaze of glory, for before handing over to Councillor Paxton on 20 March he will have inaugurated Abingdon's 'Festival Fortnight'—a play which this School will play a full part.

The Headmaster represented the school at the funeral, on Wednesday March, of Mrs Moore, who, as Miss Dorothy Law, served School House faithfully as assistant matron for many years.

Au Revoir

During the Lent Term we accommodated a record number of six student masters in all, and if we may say so without offence, a very good half-dozen they were. Particular thanks to Mr LC Jones, who was especially chosen to cover that part of Mr Willis' work which Mr Hillary could add to his load.

—And welcome home to Mr Willis, who is obviously good for another thirty years' hard labour!

Salutations and Congratulations

It is worth mentioning here the record number of successes of the Country Club, culminating in the appearance of Jeffery Mushens representing Berkshire in the All England Championships.

Congratulations too to Mark Crocker and Malcolm Bricknell, who the Berks and Bucks Junior Bridge Pairs Championship on Thursday March.

We welcome one student master this summer, Mr Paul White of Westminster College, who has an honours degree in music.

Congratulations are due to four third-formers, Michael Croft Briggs, Paul Francis, Marcus Richards and Jonathan Seaver, who came from Abingdon to Harpenden, Herts, in the holiday on a sponsored tour to raise money for the heating of the swimming pool. A net total of thirty pounds represented a worthwhile contribution.

entertainments

day evening entertainments comprised five films and three lectures as follows—

'Times at Midnight'—(Orson Welles)

'Food on the Sun'—(James Cagney)

'The Trampers'

'The Cow and I'—(Fernandel)

'Francisco de Berjerac'—(José Ferrer)

Lambert Flack on 'The Flute'

Alexander Mckee on 'Submarine Archaeology'

Miss Priscilla Cairns on '30,000 Miles by Catamaran'.

A committee representing all the boarding houses has been set up to organise the entertainment programme. We hope that this will lead to greater involvement on the part of the senior members of the school.

February I

Saturday 28 February the school celebrated a whole holiday in honour of those gallant lads who between them secured a record number of scholarships to Oxford and Cambridge (seven in all—see February 'Salutations and Congratulations') last Michaelmas, thus allowing the whole weekend free for boarders.

It seems that the fame of our young milk-splashing Scientists Jonathan Bell, Roger Plail and Nick Winton was not so temporary as they appeared again on television in all their glory on Sunday 1 February. However, Mr Woolnough does not pass unnoticed this time—his fame in his article on the subject in the Kodak publication 'News for Education'.

Last term saw a host of new publications connected with the school.

Five of the School Mathematics Project (published by Cambridge University Press) has contributions from no less than six past and present members of the staff and one OA. We understand that the next SMP publication will further extend this list of names. Mr Woolnough has recently written in collaboration with a Mr W Llowarch a middle level physics book for use with Nuffield and other modern courses and 'Using Light'. We ought to have welcomed in our last issue one of the best-sellers of the Christmas books, 'The Man who Drew the Twentieth Century' which was our own Michael ('Atticus') Bateman's tribute to his namesake HM (no relation) whose cartoons reproduced the ethos of peace and between the wars with such fidelity. We note too that the Rev D Wheaton OA is one of the contributors to the New Bible Commentary of the Inter-Varsity Press.

We welcome the prolific Mr Hammond's latest little work 'Eight Men of Berkshire' published by the Abbey Press. Mr Hammond has also just issued a pictorial history of Abingdon School from 1870 to 1970. A new edition of Townsend's 'History of Abingdon' is shortly to be published by SR Publishers, with a new introductory chapter by the Headmaster.

The Abingdon Festival nears and on Sunday 1 March the Abingdon Schools met under the baton of Mr Le Fleming to prepare their performance of David Crocker's new choral work 'Agamemnon' . . . TASS held its second careers seminar on Thursday 5 March . . . members of the school heard the Rev Paul Oestreicher talk on 'Fellow workers with Christ' at the second Unity Eat-in on Monday 19 January . . . during the year many of our boys have helped the Abingdon Oxfam Group by their distribution and gift collections . . . the Abingdon District Council

of Churches met on Monday 23 February attended by a few of our Sixth Form . . . nice to see the OA's return on Sunday 15 February the soccer match . . .

The last weekend of term saw the two performances of the Society Concert (which included Mozart's Requiem) which was excellent and moving. And we all welcome the success of the newly founded Drama Festival, held on Monday 23 March in the College of Further Education. The winning producer was Richard Landy. We hope this will soon become one of the highlights of the school year, and we hope that next year we may throw it open to a wider audience.

During the holidays a concert was given in the Abbey Hall on 10 April by the 'Taverner Music Group', which was led by Tony (OA), and conducted by Stephen Fairlie, OA.

From the Headmaster

Yesterday (8 April) I repeated, in company with two former Heads of School, the fifteen-mile walk over the Lambourn Downs which I undertook, with a strong contingent of school prefects, on Monday 14 Thursday two years ago. Our journey was enlivened by a couple of showers of snow and finally by a regular snow blizzard. I wish I had had a photograph of those lonely pilgrims, with two umbrellas between them, battling their way over the hills to Sparsholt. The walk formed a fitting epilogue to a term which had more than its share of frustration and disappointment. We began with tails well in the air; our record performance in the Oxbridge Handicap was suitably improved by the addition of Saturday morning to the second 'Quarter' so that we were able to make a real weekend of it. But the vagaries of the weather led to the cancellation of far too many of our commitments. There was a day when I congratulated the Boat Club for being the only section of the School to carry out their stint—only to find, long afterwards, that they had indeed turned up at the Boat House but had been unable to put a boat on the river. The final blow came when we had to cancel the arrangements for our two Sports Days. I think my successor may well find that the experiences of this year provide a compelling argument for transferring the Sports to a later date in the calendar. This year we shall have to find some way of fitting our events on an *ad hoc* basis into what is going on in any event to be a very busy term.

* * * *

But we finished in much better style. The *Paarlauf* (for the unit it is a kind of free-for-all relay) proved an unexpectedly successful substitute for the Senior Sports. The School Concert (almost an inter-schools affair) was well up to Abingdon standard, and you can't say fairer than that. The Drama Festival, introduced, with some shaking of heads among the traditionalists, to replace the Boarders' Concert, provided an evening of first-class entertainment. Warm thanks to the professional adjudicator, our own Peter Osborn—and the CCC, which was largely responsible for the organisation. Those of us who remember the great days of the Boarders' Concert, with JJ Horrex in 'The Return of Jack', or the dynamic drama group from Larkhill, regret its disappearance; but in spite of the desperate efforts of successive compères, it had not, for 17 years, been good enough to justify its place in our timetable.

* * * *

e my special memories too—of the Cambridge dinner, when all neteen OAs in residence were on parade, decently shorn, groomed, abited. It is good to be reminded that there are still young men are **enjoying** their time at the university. Later came the London linner, when a record number of 105 diners stretched the Public ls Club to capacity. It was especially pleasant to meet some Old Boys as David Wheaton, my second Head of School, whom I had not or years. And if any young OA sheers off the London Dinner se he thinks it will be stuffy, he ought to think again.

* * * *

oy playing school. I enjoy (rather less) playing politics. It is g to do both at the same time, as I have had to do for the last six , that I find tiresome. It started with the leakage of the findings of onnison Commission, which led the BBC to rouse me at 6.15 a.m. comment, to be broadcast in my name at seven o'clock, on was in the morning's papers. There followed a round of meetings press conferences. I missed either hearing or seeing myself on the but that was no great loss. If I do not comment on the Donnison rt here it is because an authoritative statement is being prepared, in ame of the Governors, which will be circulated to parents, prospective its and to any Old Boys who are interested, to explain to them e this school stands. But perhaps I can allay a certain amount of ty by saying two things, quite categorically. If any major changes o be made, it will not be for some years. And if and when they , the position of all boys already in the School will be fully safe- led.

* * * *

Summer Term is always like a steeple-chase in which we race from to fence. This year the Abingdon Festival of 1970 will provide an ional Becher's Brook for us. Domestically, we shall have the excite- of the TASS Summer Ball—of which it would be unbecoming for o say more than that my family and I are looking forward to it ensely. Then on Founder's Day this year (11 July) we shall be having her more formal lunch in the marquee, with the odd speech. Details another page. If this function is oversubscribed, then we shall not lots for tickets until ten days after this magazine is despatched to al subscribers, so as to give Old Boys and past parents an equal ce of taking part.

* * * *

much as I shall enjoy these junkettings—though in a kind of bitter- t way—what I really hope is that the ordinary boy-in-the-back-bench have a good term, that he will work hard and play hard, so that I hand the School over to Eric Anderson in good shape. JMC

d Letter Days

new Headmaster will want to look forward, not back. So the ribution of Prizes, which is largely retrospective, will be brought ard to **Friday 22 May**. The guest speaker will be Mr TEB Howarth, TD, MA, High Master of St Paul's School, and immediate past rman of the Headmasters' Conference. Individual invitations will be to the parents of prize-winners and of other members of the Upper h Form. The rest of the accommodation in the Abbey Hall will be ced with as many boys as possible. The ceremony will start at

1100 hrs, and should last about an hour and a half. Half-term will immediately afterwards.

Founder's Day will be celebrated on **Saturday 11 July**. There will be the usual Service of Commemoration in St Helen's Church at 1100. The preacher will be an old friend of the School, the Bishop of Rea. Afterwards there will be a formal lunch in the marquee, with two or three short speeches. 'Order forms' will be sent to all parents and members of the OA Club. Others may apply for tickets by writing to Mr CM Reynolds at the School. The cost per head will be 12 shillings (including sherry but excluding table wines).

The Headmaster and Miss Cobban will be at home to all parents, boys and friends of the School in the afternoon, and there will be a usual programme of matches and exhibitions for their entertainment. The military band will play during the tea interval, and the performance of the School Concert will be given at 2000 hrs in the hall of the North Berks College of Further Education (by kind invitation of the Principal).

Exodus

It looked as if our 'Up, up and away . . .' balloon might be somewhat deflated this time. The GCE ogre looms ever nearer of course and many spent their time working or nursing a guilty conscience about work. However the hardier types bounded off as usual: on Arduous Training and on two expeditions to Dolgoed (a Middle School Field work party followed by a Scout contingent). Cruising was popular, too. Three first-formers, DM Harvey, CM Clayton and DP Greenwood, went with the Navy, while four third-formers went with Mr Woodgett on the North Berks Broads.

Others were in the air, on a gliding course at RAF Swanton Moor, or, like SC Pegram, doing a Flying Scholarship at Bedford. The latter also travelled to Germany (see 'Luftwaffe' report).

Several boys went on Careers Courses arranged through the Public Schools Appointments Bureau. This is one fruit of public relations work which you can enjoy at school and the courses can help to clarify various ideas about the future, shatter illusions, or simply give interesting knowledge about business management. The following attended:

HP Ayerst at Ashridge: Some Careers in Administration in Industry, Commerce, the Professions and Government Service.

RJN Barwood: Wiggins Teape Ltd.

AR Cunninghame: BP Chemicals (UK) Ltd.

RA Deane: British Transport Hotels Ltd.

V Lacey-Johnson: Barclays Bank Ltd.

CJ Murray: Albright and Wilson Ltd.

RJ Pike: Post Office Telecommunications Headquarters.

WJ Pollard: Institute of Chartered Accountants.

AT Winnington: Guest, Keen and Nettlefold Group.

Some of our intellectuals went to the 'Critical Quarterly' English Conference at Manchester University, where there were wide-ranging features and seminars—from Keats to Sylvia Plath, Jane Austen to James Joyce apparently. Colour television brightened a drab, depressing environment where people seemed 'just overwhelmed by time'. But the experience of university life and the excellent lectures made it worth while for N Minns, Vivian Lacey-Johnson, Richard Landy and Stephen Loosemore

David Dean was at the Sorbonne, fulfilling the Romantics dream of risian study in the spring and lodging by the Pantheon in the 'Rive gauche'—the Paris of Orwell, Hemingway and Beckett. The course itself s comprehensive, thorough. But all was not right: 'Sitting in a pavement café anywhere in Paris, despite the sun and the gay atmosphere ere was always one thing that spoilt the idyllic situation. At the rner of every street there stood a grey and white armoured car filled th the special CRS police that dealt so viciously with the students two ars ago . . . it made me wonder whether Paris is still the free and airy ace one has always imagined it.'

Béziers and Bielefeld exchanges were officially off, but some friends om Bielefeld made an unofficial, informal visit and renewed their quaintanceship with the beer halls of Abingdon.

Finally, on the last day of term M Crofton-Briggs, P Francis, M ichards and J Seaver, all of 3V, set off on a cycle ride to raise money r the heating of the swimming pool. They had good weather and one t tyre in the course of a two-day circuit out through Thame, Aylesbury, ston Clinton, to Harpenden, returning on the second day: 'At the A423 st before they got to Clifton Hampden, the boys parted company, but on't worry sponsors, each of them rode 120 miles! And they grossed out £35.'

Dolgoed

he party which followed the Scouts to Dolgoed this Easter was composed of fifth and fourth form geographers and turned out to be the 20th xpedition that has gone to the house. Unfortunately the short holiday nd its earlier date in recent years make it increasingly difficult for ough people to spend a long enough and warm enough time there. s things are I suspect that there are more parties that have encountered now at Dolgoed than haven't.

Despite this a fairly comprehensive programme of field work was overed albeit at an elementary level. Innovations were the transfer of oastal studies from Borth to Fairbourne and a survey of service unctions in Dolgellau and Madryulleth.

Less formal pursuits mainly concerned the inevitable dam constructed cross the stream. It seems a pity that we can't harness the boys' zeal nd the stream to produce hydro-electricity for the house.

Finally, for the benefit for future parties, it cannot be emphasised too trongly how important it is to leave Dolgoed scrupulously clean and idy. Rats are unpleasant creatures but they won't come if there is no ood for them. HE

Luftwaffe

At 0515 hrs on Wednesday 25 March, Flight Lieutenant Hammond and twelve senior RAF cadets left a darkened Abingdon School for RAF Laarbruck, Germany. Travelling by coach, train and BAC 1-11 we arrived at Laarbruck at 1400 hrs and immediately settled in for our seven day stay.

We found that Abingdon rather dominated the camp, providing the largest party with twelve out of the thirty-five cadets there. We also outranked everyone else with one Warrant Officer and two Flight Sergeants and other schools, such as Harrow and Alleyns, soon knuckled under to the administrative talents of WO Plail.

As RAF Laarbruck is situated twelve miles from the Dutch border this made an excellent excuse for continuous sorties in and out of Holland. One of these was a day in Amsterdam which proved very interesting. It had the added advantage (for those who cared to make use of it) of a Hammond Guided Tour of the sights, including a trip by boat on the canals and the Rembrandt collection in the Rijksmuseum.

Other outings included trips to Nijmegen, the Rhine and Dusseldorf and a visit to the Netherlands National War and Resistance Museum in Overloon.

The stay included the usual visits to the different sections on the station such as the gym and rifle range, but one thing we had never done before was a night exercise. Operation 'Black Jack' gave us experience in this field. We were all transported to a thickly wooded airfield on the Dutch border and split into seven groups of five. Three groups had to simulate crashed Vulcan bomber crews and the other four groups were ground defence forces out to catch the bomber crews. The aim was for the bomber crews to reach a predetermined spot within a given time without being caught. There followed two hours of furtive crawling around in snow and thick bush with nothing to see by except the moon. Most Abingdonians thoroughly enjoyed themselves as we made up two of the Vulcan crews and were the only ones to make a success of the operation.

In the arrangement of messing and billets the camp came out very well compared with other RAF stations. Although this was the first camp at RAF Laarbruck, everyone was impressed with the organisation and the thoughtfulness that had gone into it.

When on Wednesday 1 April at 1140 hrs BUA Flight Number 104 brought the party safely home again, everyone had thoroughly enjoyed a very worthwhile camp.

The Drama Festival

When reviewing School functions there is a tendency to hand round bonbons and pat heads like an amiable uncle; but the aura of professionalism around this Festival invites a different attitude. As adjudicator the Chaplain may have seemed very acute and stringent but he, almost a professional, was able to place three of these almost 'shamateur' efforts in his 'A' category. The five productions were judged on acting (marks for characterisation, speech and gesture), on production (for interpretation, presentation and choreography), on costumes and scenery, and finally on originality and endeavour—whether, like Kevin Barnard, they preferred to choose a mountain or just settle for a presentable mole-hill. After the long gestation and hurried birth of the Festival producers had nevertheless all got well past teething troubles. They kept the School audience, a broad cross-section of the School, alive with four comedies, ranging from the farcical to the absurd and the satirical, and one Japanese 'Noh' drama. Humour is of course the most fertile medium for 'sketch' productions—it pulls the audience on your side in sharing a joke or indulging in simple pathos, it does not demand deep characterisation or deep involvement. But the 'Noh' theatre showed that with a sympathetic, responsive audience high seriousness can impress as well.

Meanwhile, back at the show . . . the elegant hall, soft music, an expectant murmur from the huddled heads . . . Exhibit number one revealed Tim Baker and John Rowley as Ben and Gus in Pinter's *The*

ib Waiter. They created a powerful dress-house atmosphere with literary humour and established a superb pair of interacting personalities. In this they made good use of mime and varied the tempo with lively pauses. The piece was however a long time 'tensing up' before dramatic, cryptic ending which seems to owe something to 'Waiting Godot'.

hekhov's The Bear on the other hand (produced by Clive Chafer) soon rumbling along. It had the advantage of a complete, slick plot the central love-hate relationship between Smirnov, the boisterous one, and Papora the delicate widow was amusingly handled. But farce is deceptively easy—the actor must remain detached from his rôle to have a high technical standard otherwise he creates a lot of noise and little humour. Nick Moth, who produced Sacha Guitry's **A Villa for the Night**, avoided this problem by plumping for slapstick and playing to the crowd. The knockabout humour raised a lot of laughs and the spirit of **'Boarders' Concert** walked abroad—the whole was for 'house consumption only'.

ittle Malcolm and his Struggle Against the Eunuchs not surprisingly used interest in advance. In its uncensored glory it turned out a tight mesh of humour and absurdity, phantasy and drama. The play was full of firm movement and variation as the art students translated their imaginations into reality. In their tense imaginary war against bureaucracy they institute a mock trial and ostracise a 'treasonous' colleague, who without defence has to plead: Guilty . . . or very guilty'. The scene was styled with confidence and this along with the technical skill and teamwork of the actors won Richard Landy (producer), Douglas Henderson, Robert Cash, Christopher Perry and James Dunkerley the cup.

Teamwork distinguished Kevin Barnard's **Atsumori** too. The concept and execution (particularly in the use of lighting and stark costumes) were bold, but confidence failed some of the actors in the end so that the flow of the poetry suffered. But the spiritual simplicity of old Japan, at Expo 70 Japan, came over forcefully.

In the end the Festival was quite a triumph for individualism in the school. People had set off to choose and present their pieces in complete freedom, with only a vetting committee's 'bon voyage' behind them. Far from being a case of ambition overleaping itself, the result was worth its long ovation.

Abbey Hall Concert — 21-22 March

We are very grateful to Mr WA Chislett, OBE, parent and well-known musician, for the following review.

The programme chosen for the concerts in the Abbey Hall on 21 and 22 March was as unusual for a school concert as it was enterprising. In selecting Mozart's 'Requiem' to end it perhaps Mr Le Fleming was anticipating the final decision upon the ominous uncertainties facing Direct Grant Schools at the date of the concerts!

I heard the first of the two performances, when both choir and orchestra acquitted themselves nobly. Perhaps the biggest surprise tonally was the maturity of the girls' voices. Until they have passed their 'teens, sopranos, both sopranos and altos, tend to have an under-nourished tone but here it was rich, full and free.

It may be remembered that Mozart was commissioned to write the Requiem by Count Walsegg, but did not live to complete it. His widow

feared that because of this she might have to return the advance pay that had been made. It was completed by Mozart's pupil Franz Süssrr and as his writing was very much like that of his master she w risked pretending that her husband had completed the score. Exactly much work Stüssmayer had to do is uncertain, but one suspects it was very much.

Notable features in the choral singing were the poignant feeling which the Lacrymose was invested, the lilting rhythm in 'Domine J the splendid vigour of the 'Sanctus' and the genuine exaltation of final 'Lux Aeterna'. It was in the last of these above all else that was grateful for the maturity of the girls' voices already mentioned.

Apart from Annette Thompson the quartet of soloists were, I thou no more than barely adequate.

The orchestra, under the musicianly leadership of Clare Hubb tackled Mozart's dark coloured score (there are no parts for the bright toned instruments such as flutes and oboes, and no horns) with spler confidence, apart from a momentary hesitation at the beginning 'Agnus Dei'. The quite frighteningly exposed trombone solo in 'I mirum' was first class, as was the trombone chording in the 'Benedict And Bernard Hall-Mancey was a tower of unobtrusive strength with organ continuo.

The orchestra was also in excellent form in Gerald Finzi's 'Die Nata a beautiful work which obviously owes much to both Vaughan Willia and Elgar (the latter particularly in the final Salutation), but is a refreshingly individual. The sensitivity of the playing throughout wo be a credit to many an orchestra with far greater experience. This, ho ever, was not matched by the tenor soloist, whose voice often sounded be unfocussed and whose words could, with advantage, have been mu clearer.

As in the Mozart, the choir and orchestra in Purcell's 'Rejoice in t Lord' outshone the soloists who, despite all Mr Le Fleming's effor failed to project any feeling of real rejoicing.

As I have said earlier this was an unusual, adventurous and taxi programme, and I hope that the choir and orchestra, and Mr Le Flemir will feel amply rewarded by the success which attended their hard wor skill and musicianship.

WA Chisl

TASS Report

At the AGM, held in January, Mr GRF Bredin was elected President succeed Sir George Sinclair, and Mr GMD Howat was elected by t Committee to succeed Mr RE Eason who has resigned after so succes fully steering the Society through its first two years. Mrs S Minsha was also elected to the Committee.

Membership now stands at 513 and a healthy bank balance of £798 made up, not only of subscriptions, but of funds raised by the boys then selves in various efforts, as well as proceeds from the Christmas Bazaar The Society is now able to offer considerable help towards the cost of installing heating in the Swimming Pool this summer, and this shoul enable the Pool to be used well into the Michaelmas Term.

Cricket teas for the Summer Term are being organised by Mrs Dean (Park Farm, Radley) who has already received many offers of help. Thank you once again ladies!

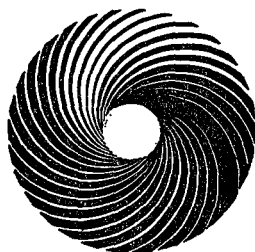
Although the first Teaching Seminar held by TASS was not very we supported, it was obviously a great success since a second Seminar, hel

March, on one of the coldest evenings of the winter, attracted a 'full house'. The Society would like to thank the masters concerned for the work it entailed which was obviously very much appreciated. They are: Mr HM Gray who spoke on Chemistry, Mr BE Woolnough on Exact Work in Physical Science, Mr DR Skinner on the Schools Mathematics Project, Mr J Talbot on Biology and Mr H Eden on Geography.

An invitation has been extended to Mr Cobban and his family to be guests of the Society at a Summer Ball to be held in the Abbey Hall on June 1st.

Friends of the School or parents who wish to join the Society are asked to send a remittance of £1 which will cover the annual subscription both husband and wife, or to apply for a Banker's Order and a Parent Form, if preferred, to the Membership Secretary, Mrs M Field at Abingdon School who will be pleased to send the necessary forms. It is a splendid way of keeping in touch with school activities and of helping each other, as well as helping in so many ways.

MW



Music

We are both grateful and honoured that Mrs Comber has chosen to perpetuate the memory of her son Paul by presenting the department with a cup. After consultation with Mrs Comber, and a good deal of deliberating as to which aspect of musical merit the cup should represent, we decided that the aspect which is most in need of encouragement and recognition in the school is creative musicianship and creative initiative. Musical composition leaves the field too narrow—too specialist—unless the definition of 'creative musicianship' can include not only the composer but also the person who can communicate above all the spirit of music, and in so doing, infect others with a will to do the same. Too often, one's music-making is a private affair. We herd people into orchestras, into bands (I brag of an urge to launch a fleet of saxophones) and try to overcome the introversion into which music can so easily plunge. There is nothing so refreshing, therefore, as the flautist who has the courage of pied-pipering others to join him in unpremeditated musical conversation; nothing so exciting as the indefinable personal contact two people can experience, quite unexpectedly, whilst listening to a gramophone record.

Even elementary composition, musical arranging or improvisation requires a knowledge of technique from those who try it. Insufficient technical experience however is not the main reason why so many instrumentalists don't try their hand at it in between their over-occupation with scales for scales' sake. No, I believe the main reason centres on the courage required to strip oneself bare of any pretence of musical sophistication. Like conducting: you've got to be sufficiently

non-egotistical to be prepared to make a fool of yourself in front of others—especially at first.

I am especially pleased that the Music Society's informal concerts recently shown an increase of experiment and home-spun creativity which certainly fits into my definition of 'creative musicianship'. And, because boys have been prepared to stick their necks out a bit, the musical level of these concerts has increased, and quite untheoretically, standards have risen. I only hope that the lead shown by boys such as Richard Jones (first recipient of the Comber cup), John Hounam, Alastair Cunningham and Tim Baker snowballs down through the school, so that musical levels and Associated Board Exams can be put down into their proper but currently over-emphasised place.

The Concert which the Music Society gave at St Edward's School, Oxford, on 15 February illustrates the spirit of adventure which is happily becoming one of its chief attributes. The programme was sufficiently enterprising to deserve special mention. Part 1 included brass, woodwind and string ensemble music. The second half consisted of two skilful provocative improvisations by John Hounam, a string quartet movement composed by Jeremy Pike, original compositions by Alastair Cunningham and Richard Joseph and two movements of Webern's Concerto (opus 24)—a considerable achievement by any standards.

The Music Society was formed two years ago with a view to promoting chamber music within the school. The role of the Committee has expanded during the last two terms under really able leadership from Roland Samsworth. Practically all items of the school's musical policy are suggested if not shaped by the Committee which consists of some thirty members. Their responsibilities include organising the music for weekday morning services, running the music and record libraries, coordinating the other musical societies (i.e. jazz, folk, 'Cullen') as well as planning the informal Sunday evening concerts.

In terms of communication (how realistic is the modern pop expression 'good vibes') I suppose the highlight of last term's work must have occurred during the Mozart Requiem performances. If not the best, it was I think the most deeply involving musical experience in which I have participated at a school. The choir rose magnificently to the occasion, the orchestra accompanied sensitively—and so on. But the lasting memory will be the audience's positive response during the performances and the sudden awareness as to what it was all about on the part of the singers. I do wish we could have got a chorus treble the size of the basses—something which practically anybody can enjoy. But you need perseverance and staying-power to last a course of two whole term's preparation and perhaps people are sometimes too preoccupied with finding immediate satisfaction and fulfilment. To those who did stay the course, and there I learnt the secret which cannot be told in words, congratulations. Amongst them I am enormously grateful to several members of the staff who, however busy, attended all the weekly rehearsals—without their example and support, we shouldn't have achieved half as much as we did.

The Choral Society, for the first time linked with members of the Convent and St Helen's Schools, also took part in the North Berks Festival on 13 March. The occasion was a significant one, because it was the first time on which the NBF and the Abingdon Schools' Music Association have amalgamated (this idea has been in the offing for years) and to celebrate the liaison and the 'Abingdon Festival 70', a new work had been specially commissioned from Philip Crocker. If we are fortunate

y low on tenors and basses, it appears we are at least the only school in the neighbourhood which can produce any at all. The work, called 'The Amenon', was skilfully written to allow for problems of balance and timing standards of singing experience. Hence, out of a total of some 100 singers who assembled at the College of Further Education, accompanied by the 60-strong North Berks Youth Orchestra, this school provided the mainstay of the tenor and bass section. They came out of it aunted, and I reckon, thoroughly victorious. The work will receive its public performance as a part of the Town's Festival in the Abbey Hall on 18 May.

The North Berkshire Youth Orchestra, to which several of our senior instrumentalists belong, held a Holiday extension course from March 31 to April 2 at John Mason High School. Three boys contributed outstandingly to the success of the course which was as happy, socially, as it was productive musically: Christopher Rock chaired the Committee of members who saw to the administration; John Hounam led the orchestra through a tremendous conviction and Robert Samsworth played two movements of the Elgar Cello Concerto at the Abbey Hall Concert—a highly memorable occasion. We welcomed Tony Gibbs (OA) back once again, this time in the role of string coach. Later on in the holidays, he led Stephen Fairlie's enterprising chamber orchestra, The Taverner Group, in its most enjoyable Abbey Hall Concert.

One of our non-successes has been the poor attendance at Subscription Concerts. I made the apparently over-adventurous step of inviting the Graham Collier Jazz Sextet to give the last in our series of four concerts

(May)—we were specifically requested by Abingdon Borough to incorporate one of the concerts into the Festival fortnight—but this move seems to have been a bad one so I've swallowed my inclination to invite Graham Collier to the London Contemporary Dance Company for next season, and am playing it very safe indeed (programme-wise) since I have been dangerously near financial collapse. The Eastern Authorities Choral Association with Abingdon Borough sponsored an 'extra' choral concert given by the English Sinfonia (conductor, Neville Martinson) on 27th February. An innovation to the Abingdon scene was the Robert Mayor-type schools concert which was held during the same afternoon. All first formers attended this performance along with members from 10 local schools, and for many of them it was the first time they had seen an orchestra 'in the flesh'.

Expeditions both to Elgar's *The Kingdom* (RFH) and to Jazz Expo '70 (featuring Thelonius Monk) were much enjoyed. In the day to day events, the brass players are going from strength to strength, the strings maintain their high level of progress and pianists continue to put toffee papers beside the pianos. Alastair Cunninghame (130, Grade VIII, flute) leads an impressive results of a large Associated Board exam entry-list.

AR LeF

Chapel Notes

Once again the Lent season has been used as an opportunity for self-examination and taking stock. This term a team of mathematical experts, led by senior sacristan Scott Gray, looked into the frequency distribution of the hymns sung in Chapel. It is so frequently said that our morning act of worship in Chapel or in the Methodist Church is "always the same old lesson and the same old hymns". Major festivals apart, there has

been no repetition of lessons in the past two years. So far as hymns concerned a record has been kept of all the hymns sung over the past year. The 'Freq Hymn Report' showed quite conclusively that only a handful of hymns have been sung as many as five times and that the spread of those selected has been surprisingly wide. For the record, the Top hymns were: 'All hail the power of Jesu's name'; 'Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation'; 'Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us'; and 'Christian, dost thou see th

The third forms have continued to show great originality and individuality in their approach to their weeks of responsibility for Junior Chapel. The palm must undoubtedly go to Form 3V for their serious attempt to maintain a single theme throughout the whole week, making us think about 1970 as Conservation Year and about the problems of pollution. The most memorable effect was an audio-visual one with the whole of the aisle littered with bits of paper and used plastic cups—their cru underfoot as we came into Chapel was very telling. Alan Brown continued to shoulder the burden of organising boys for taking ser in Chapel and there was a very effective series of readings from "The Christ died."

We are very grateful indeed to our two visiting students from Rij Hall, Messrs Roger Hill and Robin Morrison, sometimes referred to as Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, not only for their stimulating leadership in senior school divinity periods, but also for the great skill and care with which they presented their series of Lent addresses, entitled 'An invitation to Easter'. A slender attendance gradually—and significantly—increased, and all who heard this series are most grateful for the help received. In this case Rosencrantz and Guildenstern were very far from dead.

Visiting preachers this term have been: the Rev Professor Canon C Dunstan, MA, FSA; The Rev DE Nineham, MA, DD, the Warden of Keble College; Mr Alan Tammadge, MA, Headmaster of Magdalen College School, whom it was a great pleasure to have back with us or more; and the Rev WEG Payton, CB, MA, the Vicar of St Helen's. We are also most grateful to the last-named for the privilege of being allowed once again to hold our beginning of term service in the Parish Church. This is the only way in which it is possible for the whole school to worship together. The preacher on this occasion was the Chaplain.

The choir has continued to give a splendid lead under Mr le Fleming's direction. This term we have broken fresh ground with a new setting of the Te Deum, scored for organ, electric guitars and timpani, with very effective use of the spoken word over the sopranos' singing of 'Holy, holy, holy'. Our Director of Music has generously said that he wants this composition to be known as the Abingdon School setting and we eagerly await a similar treatment of some of the other canticles. The Choir Society concert will be reviewed elsewhere but it is certainly proper to say that the performance of Mozart's Requiem Mass made an excellent devotional opening to Holy Week.

Lent has been carefully observed by a number of members of junior school and this year our Lent boxes have been devoted to the work of the New Guinea Mission where we assist the education of Peter John Gabemara at the Agaun Mission Station. A total of £21-10-0 was collected by fifty-nine boys—a very creditable average of over seven shillings per head. Collections at services have been as follows: opening of term service (for St Helen's), £7-0-2; Chapel Funds, £7-13-10; SSJE £5-18-10; Chapel Funds, £5-16-10; New Guinea Mission, £7-5-1; Chapel Funds, £5-6-1

PG, £4-10-6; Chapel Funds, £4-10-9; Royal School of Church Music, £2-10-0; Chapel Funds, £6-14-0; Feed the Minds Campaign, £5-18-10; Chapel Funds, £6-0-1. Until Ash Wednesday the flowers in Chapel were divided and arranged by the following: the Chaplain; CCF Army Section; 1 Forms 3B, 3D and 3V.

Confirmation classes will start again next term. It is hoped that there will be a small increase in the number of those who are preparing themselves to witness for Christ and that they will be supported by the prayers of all. Post-Confirmation groups have met regularly throughout the term on Monday and Tuesday evenings at 25 Park Road. Mention must also be made of the Bible-reading classes who are most grateful to Mr and Mrs Eden for their kindness and hospitality on Monday and Wednesday evenings.

The Rev Leslie Smith, MA, Honorary Chaplain of St Nicolas, will preach at the School Service on the first day of term, Friday 17 April. Visiting preachers on Sunday mornings during the coming term will be as follows—

10 May: Mr Donald Lindsay, MA, Headmaster of Malvern College.

7 June: Mr David Raeburn, MA, Headmaster-elect of Whitgift School.

21 June (evening): Mr David Hemery, BSc.

28 June: Mr GRF Bredin, CBE, MA, Chairman of the Governors.

5 July: Rev David W Jenks, of the Reformed Church of America.

PGO

Another Term

Outside Visits

Mr Owen took a party of upper sixth formers to see 'Hamlet' on Wednesday 4 March. Mr Le Fleming took all the first form and some third-formers to a Schools' Concert given by the English Sinfonia on Friday 27 February. Six sixth form biologists went to an Oxford lecture on African Wildlife on Saturday 31 January. One of the new events of the term was the visit of our Music Society to St Edward's School, Oxford, to give a concert on Sunday 15 February. We hope to see more of this sort of thing. Finally six members of Lacies Court saw 'Macbeth' at the Oxford Playhouse on Friday 6 February.

Visitors

During the term we were visited by Detective Inspector Strutt, a member of the Oxford police drugs squad, who has had much practical experience on the subject, and who gave a horrifying but convincing lecture to the fifth and Sixth Forms on 11 February (did someone say [H]Ash Wednesday?). Gideons International did their duty by presenting New Testaments to all new boys on Monday 10 January. An informal chamber music concert was given by musicians from St Edward's School, Oxford, on Sunday 8 February in the music school. Mr WM Thomas of King Edward VI School, Southampton, visited the school during the term to see the work of Messrs Woodgett and Randolph using the Juffield Classics Project.

Miscellany II

Almost 600 members of the school were inoculated against influenza last term. The school roll stood at 614 of which 194 were boarders and 185 in the sixth forms.

What Games?



(Now we have a Director of Phys Welfare, we thought it worth w to ask him for his views on sporting activities of the School m generally. This is what Mr Bro exchanging rapier for pen, has say).

A secular change of recent years been the growing interest in individ sporting activities as an alternat to team games. This, combined w increasing academic pressures, ma the major part played by team spc in the school a possible question review in future years.

It is reported, not with an air of complacency, that the school can r up to eleven different representative teams at one time. It is alwa gratifying to know that in a society where non-participation is becom the norm, a school still has a hard core of boys prepared to spend ti in representation at all levels, from junior house to inter-school.

The so called 'professional approach' to sport with its squad traini in rugby football, peak land-training in rowing, and controlled interv training in swimming, must inevitably rub off on the schoolboy. Compe tion has never been keener at the top levels in sport, and with this com the inevitable specialisation. There are boys, however, who do not thri on this competitive atmosphere, and these same boys are finding the niche in the 'individual' sports such as cross-country, orienteerin fencing, and golf.

A further recent development is the growth of the 'social' games th can be continued after leaving school. The appeal of badminton, tenn and swimming comes within this category.

But how do these brief observations apply to members of the Schoo The positive value of rugby football is probably unparalleled, caterin for the full physical, mental, and ability ranges within schoolboys. B should we not attempt to introduce boys to other physical activitie especially those that can be continued at a competitive level after leavin school, and possibly with his girlfriend, his wife and family? Tenni badminton, swimming, and orienteering are already well establishec fencing, sailing, canoeing, and golf are offered, and it is hoped the Dolgoed will give the opportunities for an introduction to a wider rang of outdoor activities.

The achievements of the school do credit to the size of the individua sporting clubs, but it is only by retaining our depth in each individua sport that we can keep up this record. Having a consistent pool of player is thus a vital prerequisite for extending the opportunities within th school.

Each individual member can make a positive contribution to th sporting life of the school. The opportunities are for all.



pretender . . .



and the old guru



the prefects

(by courtesy of Ivor Fields)

the hockey eleven



Hockey 1970

disappointing season weatherwise, but encouraging in that despite constant cancellations of practice games and matches, there is no lack of enthusiasm for the game. Details of School matches will be found below. The House matches brought some enjoyable games, the final being won by Blackhall, who beat Bennett 2—0 and the end of the season saw a staff eleven beaten by the Junior Colts, and a most enjoyable afternoon of 6-a-side games.

I should like to express my own thanks to all those who devoted so much time to taking hockey games, to Mr Smithson and his staff for repairing our pitches, and to the Captain and Secretary for the able and efficient way they carried out their duties. LCJG

First Eleven: One's thoughts inevitably turned, during the frustrating five weeks from the 11 February when only one match was played, to the advantages of 'all-weather' pitches. Although the results of the First Eleven at that stage were only moderate (against schools: won 2, drawn 1, lost 3) one would like to have seen the side in action on the firmer, drier pitches which, alas, arrived too late. As it was the first half of the oilhull and the second half, shared territorially, of the St Edward's matches showed promise which was not fulfilled.

Goals were always hard to come by. This was due to a number of factors, among them the absence of a constructive 'general' among the forwards, the failure of David Marshall to repeat his last year's happy knack of converting half-chances, and the inability of the forward line to hoot hard and cleanly from the edge of the circle. Most would agree that it takes twice the player to shine as a forward and individually, rather than collectively, the attack had its moments. Jeremy Comerford's dash and stickwork were a potential threat to any defence, Jonathan Nicholl worked extremely hard and made up for a lack of speed by valuable tackling back and sound positional sense, and Michael Varley, who scored 3 of the 7 goals, was on his day a much improved performer who would have blossomed in faster conditions.

Although conceding on average two goals a match, the school defence generally emerged with credit. The experienced and capable pair of Ian Smith and Iain Bowden formed a strong back line and Philip Staniland was a distinct find in goal; his performance against the Hockey Association XI was quite outstanding for a schoolboy goalkeeper. David Baumann and Graham Pike were sound wing-halves who covered well; Baumann's hitting and Pike's stopping of the ball were particularly good. So too was the general play of Simon Woods at centre-half. He was a good captain and his thoughtful distribution of the ball set an example to his side. The standard of passing was not, however, generally accurate enough and free hits tended to be wasted.

We were fortunate to have such an able reserve half-back as John Rowley who was perhaps unlucky not to gain a regular place in the Eleven. So too were Raymond Deane and David Mayall, two fast-improving and direct forwards who might have claimed places if the fixture list had been completed. Indeed the overall standard of Game One was higher than in recent years, and as a result practice sessions between the First and a promising Second Eleven were particularly rewarding. The learning and mastery of the basic skills at a young age is a necessary foundation before really constructive hockey can be played,

and it was good to see some enthusiastic juniors making use of t paradoxically dry pitches in the last week of term. To all who ma possible the matches that were played—ground staff, fixture secretar coaches, caterers and umpires—grateful thanks. NF

The following were awarded Full Colours during the season: DI Smit IS Bowden, DN Baumann, JR Comerford, MC Varley and GF Pike.

Half-colours were awarded to JP Nicholl, JQ Rowley and PG Staniland.

The team was PGK Staniland; DI Smith, IS Bowden; GF Pike, S Woods (capt), DN Baumann; JL Cox, MC Varley, DH Marshall, J Nicholl and JR Comerford.

JQ Rowley (3) and T.J Brook (2) also played.

Results

| | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|-----|---------|
| RGS High Wycombe | Sat 17 Jan | (a) | Lost 0— |
| Solihull School | Sat 24 Jan | (a) | Won 3— |
| Pangbourne College | Wed 28 Jan | (a) | Draw 1— |
| St. Bartholomew's, Newbury | Sat 31 Jan | (a) | Won 2— |
| St Edward's School | Wed 4 Feb | (h) | Lost 0— |
| Hockey Association | Wed 11 Feb | (h) | Lost 0— |
| Oxford School | Sat 21 Feb | (a) | Lost 1— |

The following matches were cancelled: KAS Wantage, Oxford Univer sity Occasionals, Pembroke College, Old Abingdonians and Westminster College.

Second Eleven: This competent, enthusiastic team suffered a fate eve worse than the First Eleven, for only three of the eleven fixtures wer played, although an additional match against Westminster College wa arranged at short notice. What is more frustrating is that this was th best Second Eleven for at least five years and many more victories wou surely have been notched up, but for the weather.

Two factors contributed to the success of this side. Firstly, the overal standard was well above average, and the two or three reserves would al have secured places in other years. There were no weak links, this being partially due to the earlier introduction of hockey in the Fourth Forms The second important factor was the play of two or three individuals natural ball players, who brought the fluency of top class soccer to the movements of the forward line. It was a joy to see the ball swung around and the forwards moving swiftly both on and off the ball, which was always struck hard, first time. The play was probably at its best in the first half against St. Edward's—always a very strong and skilful team It is difficult to know who was most surprised when we started the second half 3—2 in the lead, but this was a perfectly fair score. The team's fast, direct and fluid play had completely unsettled the basically more skilful St. Edward's side. If the dash of the three strikers, Mayall, Deane and Savory was the more conspicuous, the distribution of Beeching and Kirby was always good. Deane was undoubtedly the most improved player of the year and his understanding with Mayall should continue to bring a great many goals next year.

The defence must certainly not be overlooked, for it always played soundly and with great enthusiasm. Marshalled and inspired by the captaincy of Elliott, the keenness and happy spirit of this side made it a pleasure to coach, and my only regret is that they had so little opportunity to show their ability and enjoy their hockey. BEW

The team was: TJ Brook; RO Plail, JBA Godfrey; JQ Rowley, JM

ott (capt), SP Loosemore; D Mayall, NJ Beeching, RA Deane, RS
by and RHL Savory.

iR Smith and DK Rice also played.

ults

| | | | |
|-------------------------|------------|-----|----------|
| Bartholomew's, Newbury | Sat 21 Jan | (a) | Won 2—1 |
| Edward's School, Oxford | Wed 4 Feb | (h) | Lost 3—5 |
| Oxford School | Sat 21 Feb | (h) | Won 4—0 |
| Stminster College | Wed 25 Feb | (a) | Lost 3—4 |

The matches against RGS High Wycombe, Solihull School, KAS
ntage, Radley College, Bearwood College, Wallingford GS, Bloxham
ool and RMA Sandhurst were all cancelled.

ird Eleven: If there was a victor this season, it was on every occasion
weather; our time for practice was severely limited by the extremes
frost and wind. All in all this was a tremendous pity, for we had the
cleus of an eleven with considerable zeal and potential, under the
etermined, forceful leadership of Christopher Murray. He was ably
oked-up by the rest of the team, particularly by John Whittington who
yed an imaginative and reliable game at right half, by the speed of
chael Bennett, with Martin Lawless as a nippy inside left.

Our only match against Magdalen was less one-sided than the final score
icates for we were but 2—0 down at half time. The bulk of Magdalen
als came in the closing period when the Abingdon side became some-
at tired.

NKH

The team was: SJ Cantwell; PR Clarke, CJ Murray (capt), JM Whitting-
; RG Leonard; ATB Herbert, AW Wood, M Lawless, MT Bennett,
Wright, H Tresidder.

ults

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Radley College 4th XI | Sat 14 Feb | Cancelled |
| Magdalen College School | Sat 21 Feb | Lost 7—0 |
| Bearwood College 2nd XI | Wed 4 Mar | Cancelled |

ults Eleven: This was a team whose promise was greater than its perform-
ce, and whose skill as individuals was never matched by constructive
amwork. This was particularly evident forward, but the defence too was
tter in breaking up attacks than at using the advantage so gained.
istribution of the ball was too often ill directed, and attacks which
veloped as a result were often in the wrong direction. This is not to
y that the team never played well—one remembers particularly the
cond half of the game against MCS, but more than one match was
st that might have been won had the forwards really combined and
veloped the thrust of which as individuals they were capable.

In the first game, the School completely overwhelmed a team, through
1 unfortunate misunderstanding, a year younger than itself. Against
olihull, it was the more constructive hockey of our opponents which
ave them the victory, and it was very much the same story at Pang-
ourne. In the final match, against M.C.S., our opponents started off
laying extremely fine fast first-time hockey and we were very lucky not
be more than two goals down at half time—and it is a tribute to our
etermined if sometimes was rather desperate, defence, that we were not.
1 the second half the School played much better and scored through
ykes.

Peck was a quiet but capable captain and a tower of strength in defence; his companion back, Houston, is unfortunately leaving in and we hope he will find somewhere to play hockey in Canada.

The final team was: AN Rayson; WD Peck, CJ Houston; RA W DPC Smith, SC Parks; PJ Harris, RG Wood, C Terry, KG Sykes, Jollyman.

Lawless and Rawlinson also played three times each.

Results

| | | | |
|-------------------------|------------|-----|--------|
| RGS High Wycombe | Sat 17 Jan | (h) | Won 12 |
| Solihull School | Sat 24 Jan | (a) | Lost 0 |
| Pangbourne College | Wed 28 Jan | (a) | Lost 0 |
| Magdalen College School | Sat 21 Feb | (a) | Lost 1 |

The matches against St Bartholomew's, Newbury, and St Edwa were cancelled.

Junior Colts Eleven: As with the other School teams, a season full promise has been frustrated by variable weather and it has been possible to consolidate initial progress. Enthusiasm has been keen, with over sixty fourth-formers wanting to play hockey, and we were fortunate to have Mr Bennett-Rees, an Oxford Occasional, to help with the coaching. Many players have shown signs of individual skill and towards the end of the season a few were beginning to get a feel for positional and team play.

The first match was against another team of beginners—but of younger age-group, and so the score is rather flattering. Goals were scored by ASQ Clift, Hares, Hey and Rogers. The match against Newbury was on 'level terms' and goals by Gresswell and Rogers gave us victory. In other matches were against more experienced sides whose teamwork gave them the victories they deserved; it may be significant that in the games all the goals came in the first halves.

The team selection has been varied to give a large number of people match experience, and all that have tried, in particular Baumann (captain) and Abraham (vice-capt) have played consistently good hockey, and worked well together in leading the team.

The following have played: AW Baumann, PM Abraham, AC Atkinson, ASQ Clift, TJ Gresswell, DC Hares (4 each); GB Butcher, AC Clift, CP Hey, PAW Rogers, PF Stimpson (3 each); AJ Walters (2); and JB Bosworth, JE Carrington and JA Urban-Smith (1 each).

Results

| | | | |
|---------------------------|------------|-----|---------|
| RGS High Wycombe | Sat 17 Jan | (h) | Won 13— |
| Magdalen College School | Wed 21 Jan | (a) | Lost 0— |
| St Bartholomew's, Newbury | Sat 31 Jan | (h) | Won 2— |
| Oxford School | Sat 21 Feb | (h) | Lost 0— |

The matches against Solihull School, St Edward's School, KAS Wantage Bearwood College, Wallingford GS and Bloxham School were all cancelled.

Cross Country and Athletics

best season for a long time. Over the two terms the Senior team has won 9 and lost only 1. In addition we have gained 6 team victories in various championships and road relays (amassing a total of 17 cups, medals and trophies in the process!)

The highlights were undoubtedly the splendid team running at St Oswald's, and the Tortoises Road Relay where, in a thrilling finish we got the better of Marlborough and Kingswood. At the North Berks Championships we provided 3 individual winners (AP Marsden, JSP Shens and NKA Smart), and also won the Milton Trophy for the best aggregate for the 3 junior races. Six boys later represented the school, among them JSP Mushens who went on to be second man home in Berkshire in the U/17 race at the All England Championships at Cheltenham.

It almost goes without saying that Smart won all his cross country races. Behind him, Cox, Crocker and Mushens were a powerful trio whose team running was the key to our success. These four made up the Road Relay Team. Brown was not quite so impressive this term, but, like Oswald, Vernon and the rest, he always finished ahead of his opposite number. However, once again, our numbers have been dangerously low and we have been lucky to escape both illness and injury. We hope that the junior fixtures which we have had will have whetted the appetite of the many very promising runners in the school so that we may look forward to a larger senior club in the future.

Full Colours have been awarded to JP Cox, AJM Crocker and JSP Shens.

Half Colours have been awarded to JRD Oswald. Never before have we had as many as 4 full colours in the School at one time. Smart's were, of course, awarded as long ago as 1967, but he can claim some credit for these recent awards too, for our success has been due in no small measure to his enthusiasm, drive and example.

The following ran for the Senior Team: AJM Crocker, JSP Mushens, NKA Smart (8); AME Brown, JP Cox (7); JRD Oswald, CF Vernon, NS Coulbeck, CJ Taylor (3); DM Steele (2); SB Gray, RHL Savory, C Turner (1).

Results

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Walden College School | Wed 28 Jan | (a) | Won | 23-58 |
| Edward's/Bloxham | Sat 31 Jan | (a) | Won | 35-56-89 |
| North Berks Championships | Wed 4 Feb | | (Wantage) | |
| U/13 | 3rd | (7 teams) | | |
| U/15 | 2nd | (7 teams) | | |
| U/17 | 1st | (7 teams) | | |
| U/20 | 1st | (2 teams) | | |
| St Abingdonians | Sat 14 Feb | (h) | Won | 30-51 |
| Joseph's, Swindon | Wed 18 Feb | (a) | | |
| U/13 | Lost | | | 60-26 |
| U/15 | Lost | | | 41-39 |
| U/17 | Lost | | | 47-31 |
| JAC Tortoises Schools | | | | |
| Road Relay | Sat 21 Feb | | 1st | (14 teams) |
| Chilham Road Relay | Sat 7 March | | | |
| A team 10th* | B team 28th | | | (30 teams) |
| Walden College | Sat 14 March | (h) | Won | 27-52 |
| Kingswood School Road Race | Th 19 March | | 3rd | (11 teams) |

* fastest youth team

Inter-House Road Relay, 19 January

This was a close contest. Interest and excitement was maintained right to the end as there was a great deal of over-taking and the race soon became a procession. Discounting the two staff teams (which were disqualified for contravening the age regulations after finishing first and last) a different House was in the lead at the end of each leg. The even winners came through strongly after being in tenth position at the end of the distance.

Results: 1—Bennett I; 2—Tesdale I; 3—Reeves I; 4—Blacknall I; 5—Bennett III; 6—Blacknall II; 7—Tesdale IV; 8—Tesdale II; 9—Tesdale III; 10—Reeves II; 11—Blacknall III; 12—Bennett II.

Inter-House Paarlauf, 21 March

Alas for the Sports Days! The snow and rain of early March put the grounds out of bounds, and first the standards competition had to be cancelled and then the Sports Days themselves. Even a dramatic change in the weather would have left too little time to mark out the field and complete the heats—let alone do any proper training.

However it seemed a good idea to try to fill the gap with some other inter-house competition, so a Paarlauf was arranged. This involved over 200 boys and was trained for largely on the roads round Upper Field and the Park. A paarlauf is a relay race in which the runners may exchange the baton as frequently as they like, anywhere they like, and in any order they like. Ours was for teams of 4, round a 5-laps-to-the-mile track at Waste Court Field. Distances were from 2 to 4 miles. Each House was required to enter several teams and the combined times decided the winners of each race. The proposal had had a mixed reception but it is worth recording that even a number of the more vocal critics confessed to having 'rather enjoyed themselves' after the event. Certainly the male spectators had an interesting and exciting afternoon's sport.

In an exciting finish to the first form race, a Reeves team just piped Tesdale one on the post after the latter had led for most of the race. Bennett were outstanding in the 2nd and 3rd form race, their team finishing 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th. In both these races Blacknall tried an ingenious scheme which unfortunately turned out to be rather a disadvantage. A pity they were unable to test it thoroughly beforehand.

The 4th and 5th form race brought the fastest racing of the afternoon with the leading teams keeping up a pace of well under 4½ minutes per mile. Lack of training together caused several teams anxious moments in the Senior Race, the most serious of which led to baton passing between members of different teams, chaos at the judges' table and wholesale disqualification of the Bennett teams. A rather sad end to an otherwise enjoyable occasion.

| | Bennett | Blacknall | Reeves | Tesdale |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|------------|---------|
| First Form (2 miles: 3 teams) | 31:05 (3) | 32:45 (4) | 30:18 (1) | 30:23 |
| 2nd & 3rd Form (3 miles: 4 teams) | 55:59 (1) | 60:34 (4) | 58:32 (2) | 58:36 |
| 4th & 5th Form (4 miles: 4 teams) | 73:31 (1) | 80:18 (4) | 80:13 (3) | 77:16 |
| Sixth Form (4 miles: 3 teams) | disqualified | 59:15 (2) | 60:45 (3) | 55:45 |
| Over-all | 10 pts (3) | 6 pts (4) | 11 pts (2) | 12 pts |



For oarsmen this term have been divided into three squads: Seniors, Colts and Junior Colts. The emphasis in training has been on physical fitness, in which context we are very grateful to Mr Brodie for his valuable help in organising and supervising training schedules. It must be admitted that the performance of the two senior crews has so far been rather disappointing, but we hope that their determination will result in better things next term. The Colts squad produced an eight which is not only bigger but also more advanced than any previous Colts VIII, and as their technique improves they should give a good account of themselves in regattas this summer. The Second Colts VIII contains useful material, but is still lacking in sufficient skill. We are very grateful to Mr RENNETT, one of our student masters, for his patient and enthusiastic work with the Junior Colts squad. We hope that they will be a credit to them when their time comes for racing. We shall miss his help greatly next term also because shortage of coaches remains one of our greatest problems. It is hoped that a lot of novices will come forward next term, and every effort will be made to give them the necessary grounding. We all look for help in this to the senior members of the Club, and to any oarsmen who can spare the time for this rewarding task.

Finally, our gratitude is due to those long-suffering parents and friends who support us in so many ways: freezing on a tow-path, or making electronic equipment for us, or just generally providing support for their sons however inconvenient the demands of rowing may be.

RGM

results

First Eight:

Bow NJ Minns; 2 MI Johnstone; 3 TR Baker; 4 RJ Grant; 5 CJ Bovey; 6 JAF Ridge; 7 NP Winton; Str CR Gibaud; cox JC Hounam.

Second Eight:

Bow RG Willis; 2 JWS Chalker; 3 MS Paddison; 4 DG Nasmyth; 5 RJ Crane; 6 V Lacey-Johnson; 7 JC Griffith; Str TJ Hughes; cox CA Nasmyth.

Colts Eight:

Bow M Milanovich; 2 ECJ Lilley; 3 NJ Luker; 4 DN Longdon; 5 NRH Pollard; 6 DB King; 7 AM Higgs; Str DJ Scott; cox JR Spooner.

Leading University Head of the River Race Sat 14 March

First Eight started 35, finished 67.

Second Eight started 45, finished 118.

Colts Eight started 82, finished 60.

Schools Head of the River Race (108 entries) Tues 17 March

First Eight finished 26.

Colts Eight finished 23.

Head of the River Race (319 entries) Sat 21 March

First Eight finished 164.

Badminton

This term, most of our First VI opted to play hockey, and so only two matches were played. Against Sir William Borlase's we came up against formidable opposition, and lost 1—8. On the other hand, we beat Oratory School 9—0.

Most of the term's activity was concentrated on internal tournaments (of which there were three) and the Berkshire Junior Championships at Bracknell. For the latter we entered a record number of competitors (16) and could be reasonably satisfied with our results. Nicholas Beech reached the quarter-final of the singles, losing to the third seed, who had already disposed of Jonathan Nicholl and David Baumann. In the Doubles we got four pairs into the third round, but none progressed further than that. Perhaps the most impressive result came from Malcolm Bricknell and Matthew Harding, who reached the semi-final of the U/18 doubles, and very nearly got through to the final. A lot of experience was gained and lessons learnt, and I hope that next year we shall do still better.

The internal tournaments were quite successful and popular. The Open Knock-Out, started last term, ended in a final between David Baumann and Nicholas Beech. This was an extraordinary match which Beech finally won by 4—15, 15—1, 15—6. The Singles Championship, restricted to full-time Badminton players, was won by Howard Manning, who beat Robin Oswald in an exciting and close-fought final by 15—11, 11—15, 15—12. The Doubles Handicap League, which at the halfway stage Malcolm Bricknell and Matthew Harding seemed to have in their pocket was won in the end by Roger Luff and Ian Gardner.

On the whole, we can be quite satisfied with the last two terms. Results have been good. The First VI lost only one school match, and won all the others by wide margins. If the opposition seemed weak, that was largely because we made it appear so by the strength of our play. There has been, and remains, an abundance of natural talent that bodes well for next year. But we suffer from lack of expert advice and practical facilities. We should be able to maintain our present standard, at least for a year or so, but we shall not improve on that until we manage to get regular 'professional' training.

I should like to thank David Baumann and Roger Luff, Captain and Secretary respectively, for all they have done this term, and especially Mr Harcourt for the considerable time and hard work he has so willingly devoted to helping to run the sport.

Half colours have been awarded to Roger Luff and Ian Gardner.

Results

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------|-----|---------|
| Sir William Borlase School | Tues 26 Jan | (a) | Lost 1— |
| Oratory School | Mon 2 Feb | (a) | Won 9— |

DC

Rugby

With the increasing expansion of hockey and the proliferation of other athletic activities it becomes almost impossible to run any meaningful senior rugby. Tentative arrangements for 'A' team fixtures had to be cancelled through lack of support and preparations for the Seven tournament were so inadequate that the two senior and one junior teams which were entered never really stood much chance of success. Whatever the merits of the case for rugby in the Spring term it is rather hard on

use few boys who are really keen to do well and have turned up regularly to the practices.

However the picture is not one of unadulterated gloom, for the report the junior rugby is in direct contrast to what has gone before. This in the first three years, along with a smattering of fourth formers, re divided into two divisions by weight—over or under about seven ones. The 'lights' and 'heavies' then played a House league competition with two house teams to each weight. This meant that every boy had the opportunity of earning points for his house and the enthusiasm with which two lightweight second teams went for each other, despite an almost complete absence of ability and skill, was at least one pointer to the success of the experiment. Results will show that there was still a considerable disparity between the houses and the consistent inferiority Reeves was a little disheartening for them. Nevertheless most enjoyed the arrangement and there were certainly signs that it improved the general standard of the game.

Apart from the Sevens, representative rugby was also confined to the minor teams. After an unpromising start the Minors had a very successful term. There were no really outstanding individuals in the side, which was in fact a blessing for as a result the emphasis throughout was on teamwork and some fine orthodox attacking ruggie was played. The figures for this out for in eight games thirty six tries were scored, half of them by wing threequarters.

Three matches in which tough opposition was expected all resulted in easy victories. The scrum won plenty of possession and the threequarters proved too fast and penetrating for opposing defences. Some of the reserves played well on occasion and so their promise was rewarded with a fixture against Cothill School, the first outside fixture for both teams in fact. The game was scrappy but enjoyable.

The Juniors progressed much more than the solitary and undistinguished win over Newbury would suggest. There are some promising players who show signs of understanding the basic needs of a successful side, particularly in the loose play of the forwards. The most heartening result was that the thirty boys involved showed themselves capable of producing a thoroughly entertaining and competent game of rugby. HE

Results

| | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------|-----|-------|
| Minors XV | v | Newbury GS | Won | 18—0 |
| | | Summerfields School | Won | 27—13 |
| | | John Mason HS | Won | 38—0 |
| | | Cothill School | Won | 21—13 |
| Minor XV | v | Newbury GS | Won | 22—5 |
| Minor House League (win 2 points, draw 1 point) | | Blacknall | 38 | |
| | | Tesdale | 33 | |
| | | Bennett | 20 | |
| | | Reeves | 5 | |

Orienteering

The school has only been represented at four orienteering events this term but this has not led to any deterioration in performance, in fact the overall standard of orienteering has improved.

The first event was at Great House Wood, near Reading. Here a rather mediocre overall performance produced a second place in the tie placings, nearly an hour behind Godalming Grammar School.

The next event was near Ringwood in the New Forest. Mr Baker nearly won this event, being beaten by just ten seconds.

There was a first class turnout from all over south-east England for the Ryden's School Event, where we avenged previous defeats by Egga Grammar School and Godalming Grammar School. On the junior men's course we came first, closely followed by St Paul's School, a good effort by Simon Whipple (3rd), David Steele (10th) and Jon Wheatcroft (14th).

This team repeated their success at the Checkenden Score Event, where competitors from the school also helped to organise and run the event. David Steele and Jon Wheatcroft were equal second and Simon Whipple just beat Michael Allen to eleventh place to complete the winning team.

This term has also seen some success in the badge scheme run by the British Orienteering Association. Silver Badges (the top award for intermediate and junior men) have been won by Michael Elliott, Jon Wheatcroft, David Steele and Simon Whipple and Bronze Badges have been won by Mr Baker and David Howat.

The school will be sending intermediate and junior teams to the South-east Championships near Reading on Sunday 12 April. However we may not have the resources to do well in both events; Robin Grant and Simon Whipple will be overseas at the time and their absence will certainly weaken our position. This situation emphasises our basic weakness. There are only three orienteers who are not in the Sixth Form, which places us in both a weak position for the future and means there are not enough experienced teams for major events.

Orienteering needs your support; come to an event and see if you like it. You probably will. GG

Results

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Reading OC | Sun 8 Feb | 2nd out of 5 |
| Southampton University OC | Sun 22 Feb | 5th out of 11 |
| Ryden's School OC | Sun 8 Mar | 1st out of 2 |
| Oxford OA | Sun 15 Mar | 1st out of 6 |

The following competed: J Wheatcroft, DJ Tissier, MS Whipple, MK Allen, DM Howat (4), DM Steele, AW Wood (3), RJ Grant, GG Hartnell, JM Elliott, HT Tressider (2), AME Brown, AJM Crocker, DM William, RJ Searle, DC Henderson, PF Egelstaff (1).

Chess Club

The only defeat suffered this term was that of the Second Five in its first fixture, against Stoneham School, and they made up for this by their convincing victory against John Mason later in the term. We hope to extend their fixture-list next season, especially as the whole of our successful First Team is returning in September.

The First Team won the Western section of the Berkshire League thanks to a hard-fought draw at Stoneham, and went on to beat the winners of the Eastern section, Strode School, Egham, 3—2, in the Final. This is our second year in the Berkshire League; we have been champion both years and are yet to be beaten, so that we have no regrets about leaving the Oxford Schools' League in 1967!

The Juniors were unbeaten in a variety of fixtures, although they were often handicapped by age; Robin Chapman's run of wins was particularly impressive at this level. There has been, too, a very promising crop of first-formers, so that we can look to the future with confidence.

In the Christmas holidays six players took part in the Berkshire Congress at Reading. Gareth Pearce was outstanding in winning the Junior Open Championship, but it was encouraging that every entrant came in the top ten in his age-group.

Internally, a House Junior Jamboree was won by Bennett House (5/6), followed by Tesdale (4/6), Reeves (3/6) and Blacknall (0/6). The Senior Knock-Out was won by Christopher Marley (after Gareth Pearce gallantly withdrew) who crowned a very successful term and justified his second board ranking by beating Howard Manning in the Final. The Hoyle Cup went to Anthony Mushens, who beat an off-form Philip Evans. Scott Wilson won the Junior Knock-Out. MW

Results

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| The First Team | beat Carmel College 3½—1½ (Berks League) drew with Stoneham School 2½—2½ (Berks League) beat King Alfred's, Wantage 5—1 beat Strode School 3—2 (Berks League) |
| The Second Team | lost to Stoneham School 2—3 beat John Mason 1st V 4—1 |
| The Under Fifteens | beat Carmel College 3—2 (Berks League) beat John Rankin School 4—1 (Berks League) beat Witney GS 1st X 9—1 |
| The Under-Fourteens | beat John Mason School 4—2 |
| The Under-Thirteens | beat Summerfields School 2½—1½ drew with King Alfred's, Wantage 3—3 beat Larkmead School 1st XII 9—3 |
| The Under Twelves | beat Cothill School 3—1 |

The team which won the Berkshire League and the Berkshire Schools' Jamboree was: GD Pearce (Capt), CJ Marley, HJ Manning, JSP Mushens, WJ Pollard.

Bridge Club

This was an extremely successful term for the Bridge Club. All four pairs entered for the Berks and Bucks Junior Pairs Championship did well, particularly MD Bricknell and AJM Crocker who came first out of an entry of forty-four pairs. In a local heat of the Charity Challenge Cup held in conjunction with St Edward's School, Abingdon pairs came first, second and third.

Matches were arranged against Radley (h) and St Helen's (a). The First IV beat Radley although an U/16 IV lost. The First and Second IV fours beat St Helen's and took part in a mixed pairs competition in conjunction with them.

A team of four failed to qualify for the final of the All England Schools' Bridge Competition sponsored by the 'Daily Mail', although JL Cox and KP Brown emerged as individual winners of the heat which was held at Cheltenham. This is the third time that the School has narrowly failed to qualify. MDB

The Houses

House endeavour this term centres around the Standards competition at the twin culminating Sports Days—all of which had to be cancelled this term. But there were plenty of other opportunities for the Houses to test each other's strength in athletics, rugby and hockey.

Blacknall are the House of Fame at the moment. They have had a long period of supremacy in ball games and have only been challenged by Bennett, who from Avery to Smart have had the athletic aces. With seven First Eleven players Blacknall seized the Hockey Senior Knock-Out Trophy, but did not have such an untroubled passage as the expected. In the Final Simon Woods inspired an apparently mundane Bennett team to hold Blacknall off—it needed two own goals to give Blacknall victory. In the Junior Rugby League Blacknall had the big guns too and they steamrollered their way through with Jefferson Courtenay and Co. In the Knock-Out they found life more difficult and lost to a lively Tesdale side in the final, 3—5.

Tesdale had a successful term, particularly in the Junior Rugby League, where they were close runners-up, and in the Junior Knock-Out which they won. Their senior athletics team was potentially strong and had plenty of depth, which is what counts in House competitions when the 'dark masses' come into play as well as the brilliant individuals. They won the Paarlaf on overall placings and came second in the Inter-House Road Relay competition.

Reeves on the other hand appear to be going through a lean period at the moment and achieved only respectable placings in the athletic competitions. Their Captain of Cricket should inspire them next term however!

Bennett's successes were in the Senior Hockey Knock-Out and the Road Relay which they won after a storming last lap by Smart. In the Paarlaf their entire senior section was unluckily disqualified after making a strong start, but the junior teams kept their tail respectably high.

The encouraging thing was that although people were sometimes reluctant to give time to House activities all these competitions thrived and were above all keenly fought. On the last Saturday of term the Paarlaf drew out 100 senior boys in spite of the fact that the Boat Club were at a regatta and the rugby players at a Sevens tournament—and that can hardly be called apathy.

Extracts from St Nicholas and Other Papers (AE Preston)

1868 Oct 14. The foundation stone of the new School was laid by the Mayor and dedicated by the Vicar.

1869 Nov. The new buildings, to accommodate 40 boarders and 80 day-scholars, were completed at a cost of £6,961.

1870 Jan. The new School was opened under Rev E Summers as Head, and with 45 boys. Under him, the School increased to 100 boys.



In general, the societies functioned reasonably well last term, due to the work of the CCC and those keener society secretaries.

As usual the **Economists** held very successful and interesting meetings his term, although sixth-form attendance was a little disappointing. Dr JM Houston gave a paper on 'Recent Developments in the Western Mediterranean' which gave a clear insight into the agricultural problems and development of Italy and Spain. Parliament once again visited the members when Lord Conesford spoke on his conscientious objection to the reform of the House of Lords. The most valuable meeting, however, was a discussion on the future of South Africa, the two main speakers being Professor Manning and Mr Chowbe, a Black African Nationalist.

The **Literary Society** continued its recent revival by holding three meetings. Neil Coulbeck talked on 'Yeats', Jonathan Frere on 'Chekhov' (with a discussion of the film 'Women in Love'), and for the third meeting Dr Alec Blackburn led a discussion on 'Robert Lowell'. Discussion which followed the meetings often lasted long into the night!

The **Critics** seem to be on the decline, having held only one meeting when Steven Loosemore delivered a paper on 'Dylan Thomas', which deserved a larger audience.

The **Royse Society** heard George Nasmyth deal with the very wide topic of 'Conversation' which stimulated a great deal of 'conservation conversation', as did Douglas Henderson's paper on 'Leisure', delivered in true Henderson style. Jon Wheatcroft also read a paper on 'The Flying Saucer Phenomenon'. The society would like to thank Miss Cobban for her hospitality and refreshment throughout the term.

The **Symposium** held one meeting on 'Pop Music' at which James Dunkerley excelled himself and Nick Moth traced the development of popular music. The **Folk Club**, which seems to be prone to so many mishaps, had to cancel two meetings and an outing, but managed to hold one chaotic but well attended meeting at the end of term.

The difficulties of running the inter-school **Joint Club** meant that they could only hold one meeting, which was a highly successful dance to the music of 'Birth' who, despite the name, had the appearance of the demons of Hell! **Joint Societies** thrive (we all know the reason) and the **St Edmund** saw the film 'Alphaville' and heard Anne Ridler on 'Mysticism'—both popular and entertaining.

Modern Linguists saw Racine's 'Andromaque' at the Oxford Playhouse and a film 'Romeo Und Julia Auf Dem Dorfe' (it sounds disgusting) at John Mason during the term, while the **Scientific** visited their Mecca,

AERE Harwell, and heard the Ball Science Prize Essays read by the winners.

The **Astronomical Society** was restarted after a 'period of inactivity' and the eight-inch telescope was refurbished and used a great deal. It would be nice to see some new faces at the **Play Reading Society** which continued its meetings by reading a variety of plays including 'Luther' by John Osborne and 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' by Tennessee Williams.

The **Philatelic Society**, unable to join with that of John Mason School, continued its fortnightly meetings for stamp-swappers, and the newly formed **Drama Club** held two highly enjoyable poetry readings and an outing to see Thomas Middleton's bawdy 'Chaste Maide in Cheapside', a lewd but hilarious evening—not quite fit for the Drama Festival though.

Two very good talks were delivered to the **Rostrum**; by the Rev Williams on 'Anti-Integration in South Africa', and MP Airey Neave on 'Escape Routes from Germany', including his own escape from Colditz Castle.

We wish good luck to a new junior society the **Linguists Club**, which held three meetings, including a talk by Miss S MacIndoe on 'France'.

Two gory horror films were viewed with bated breath by the **Film Society** after considerable trouble with the projector, 'The Birds' and 'Witchfinder General', were marred by the terrible sounds from the speaker. Meanwhile the **Historians** furthered their education by hearing Mr Robert Blake talk on Disraeli, and Dr Francis Lambert on 'The Spanish Colonial Record', light-hearted but informative.

The two musical societies held their quota of meetings. Robert Caspary spoke on 'Evenings in the Orchestra' to the **Cullen**, while the **Music Society** continued its high standard of ill-attended Sunday evening concerts.

The **Onslow** heard Robin Conibear talk enthusiastically on 'Napoleon and Julian Shellard on 'The Russian Revolution', a difficult subject to handle. Both meetings were, of course, marred by ill-attendance.

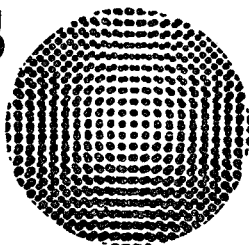
The **Aeronautical** held one meeting, a film show, as did the **Jazz Club** which heard Richard Joseph talk knowledgeably on 'The Bass in Jazz'.

We are told that the **Building Club** is still building—what we don't know—and that the **Angling Club** is still angling. The **Photographic Society** will be making a real effort to get going again next term.

Finally, the **Junior Knowledge Society** held three meetings, at one of which some excellent slides of Pompeii were shown and we hear that a **Brass Rubbing Society** has started.

As a conclusion I would say that the societies still function, but a better job of it could be done by all, including Vox which needs to advertise all societies much more efficiently for the good of one and all.

REPORTS



ccf

is very pleasing to be able to record improvements—and there have been several; the Army Proficiency results are very much better than last year's very poor ones—and we are very grateful to Sgt Gibson of the training team who has had a considerable hand in this, and also to Capt Airhead himself who has kindly given up a great deal of his spare time for extra training and shooting. RN and RAF results are also good. It is so very a healthy sign that more cadets are taking advantage of courses and camps, and I hope this upward trend continues. It is sad that Arduous Training was under-subscribed this year—the first time for several years—but perhaps the fact that it was in the middle of the holidays instead of at the beginning may account for this. At all events, numbers going to camp in all sections are the highest for several years. We have also purchased a second canoe, and we expect to have more cadets using our canoes before very long.

Meanwhile, we look forward to Ten Tors, Field Day, the Annual Inspection, and so on.

We have been very lucky once again to have the help of Mr J Paton and this term we also welcome a fellow-student of his—Mr KA Bell, who is a very keen sailor, and will concentrate on helping the Naval Section in this respect.

The **RN Section** had a successful term with five Advanced Proficiency passes: four of these were rated as excellent by our new liaison officer Lt Brown, of HMS Sultan. On Field Day we visited HMS Phoenix, and were gained an insight into the problems of firefighting and damage control. Much amusement was provided when twelve cadets attempted to prevent the flooding of a mock-up ship's compartment. The section was active over Easter, with L/S A Wood on his Flying Scholarship, L/S AC McMillan at Stamford on a Cadet Leadership Course. Others were on a Hyde MFV, or Arduous Training.

The **Army Section** spent a profitable term preparing for proficiency. Two training weekends were held, and the RAF Abingdon 30yd range was used for regular Sunday morning shooting towards the end of term, a practice which we are continuing: our thanks to RAF Abingdon. In the end 25 cadets passed out of 29, but we would like to see fewer one subject retakes in future, and a higher overall standard of passes achieved. On Field Day apart from practical training for proficiency many cadets had a chance to fire the LMG. During the Easter holidays we were on Arduous Training, and Cdt RS Wilson attended one of the excellent Command Leadership courses.

For the RAF, the term proved the busiest for some years. The section maintained its record at ordinary and advanced proficiency examination we now have so many post-advanced cadets that establishment of special RAF training cadre for potential NCO's is a distinct possibility, and it is pleasant to record that almost two thirds of the section attended a holiday camp or course. The keenness of our seventy-five cadets is a direct reflection of the example and ability of our NCO's.

On Field Day a very senior party were active at No 1 Parachute Training School at RAF Abingdon, while the remainder divided themselves between the British Aircraft Corporation at Weybridge and RAF Brize Norton, where the highlight of the visit, which we shared with Cheltenham College, was a two hour flight in a VC 10 over Wales and the West Country.

We have certainly had our full share of flying from RAF Winton, Waltham in Chipmunks, on field days, and from RAF Abingdon where Squadron Leader Hall has invariably been able to arrange flying on Wednesdays. Every cadet had at least one chance to fly, while the keenest in the section have individually clocked upwards of twelve hours flying time each—that statistic in itself is a tribute to their devotion and initiative.

In Flying Scholarship competitions we have followed our record several awards by awards to Cpl Pegram and Sgt Milton, with several others still in the pipeline.

Easter holiday activities included several cadets doing Arduous Training; four more followed the proficiency gliding course at RAF Swanton Morley; twelve camped at RAF Laarbruch in Germany, which apart from valuable training took us to Dusseldorf, Amsterdam, Nijmegen and the war museum at Overloon. A further twenty-five cadets attended camp at RAF Lindholme and three lucky cadets who had also been to Laarbruch were given the bonus of a flight up to Lindholme in one of RAF Abingdon's Andovers.

It is a pleasure to comment on how well our cadets show up against other sections at camp, for here is a yardstick that measures in relative terms our own standards. The whole Germany camp was under the efficient supervision of WO Plail and Flt Sgts Johnstone and Griffiths while at Lindholme we won the highly competitive trophy for the top flight on a points system covering drill, obstacle course, initiative and map reading exercises and daily inspection. It is the more creditable in that our second Abingdon flight—all junior cadets—came second from the four competing schools.

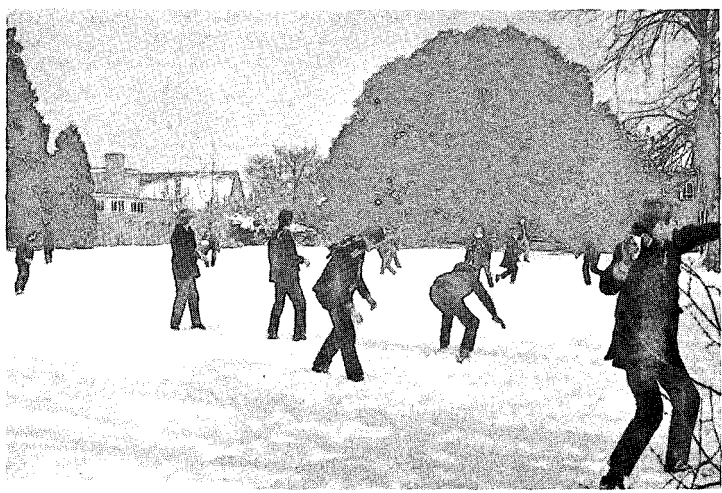
Arduous Training 1970

Arduous Training, which was again at Cairnsphairn, Kircudbrightshire in the Southern Highlands of Scotland, provided cold and wet conditions for the walking and bivouacking. The mountains are very barren and wild, if not dramatic in appearance. The course showed the difficulties in carrying enough kit and food to sleep out and made for a much better appreciation of home comforts.

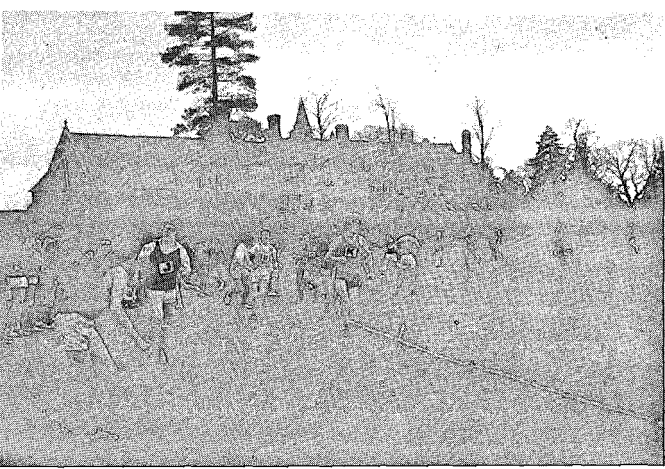
The main party travelled in a three-ton lorry and two landrovers. After an overnight stop in Carlisle where those travelling by train joined the others, the party reached Cairnsphairn in the early afternoon. Camp was quickly set up, and after a meal a short exercise was carried out



orienteering

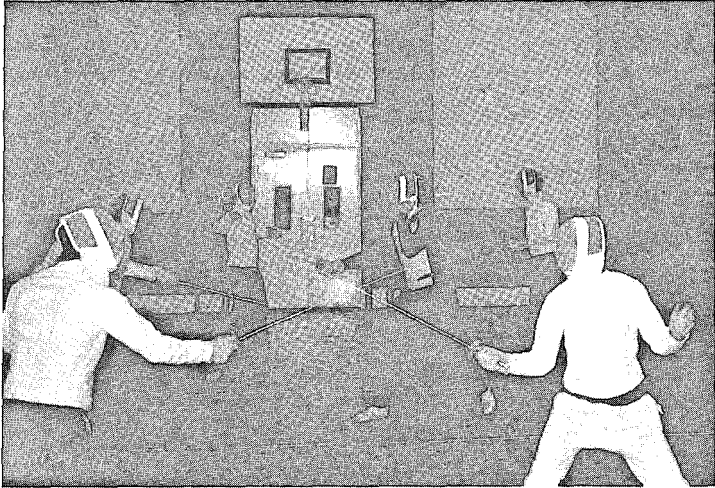


hurling



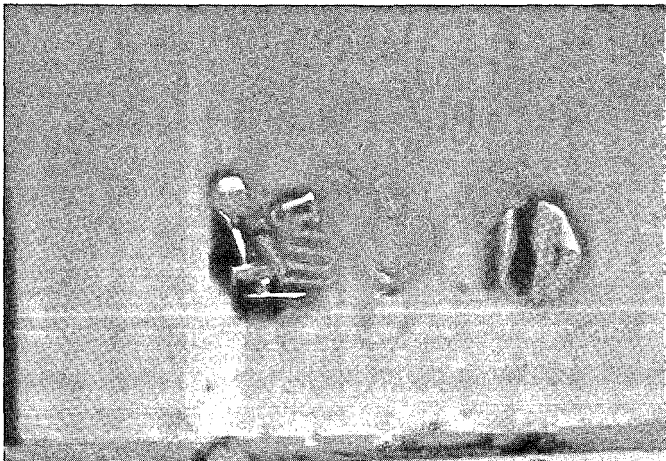
paar lauf

the big drop



cut and thrust

*title Malcolm's eunucks
(the drama festival)*



is took the form of some compass-work and an ascent of Willeanna, e of the hills overlooking the camp site.

The next day a longer walk was undertaken: for this we had a minimum of kit on our backs, the weather was dry, and the walk was considered by all to be a very pleasant start. A still longer walk in driving rain as the following exercise dampened the spirits of everyone, especially in view of the overnight bivouac which was imminent. However on the following day the weather was very pleasant and despite the heavy paths, one or two slips in crossing a stream and the thought of camping out, spirits were very high. We spent the night in the two-man tents at Lorg halfway up a remote and beautiful corrie.

The walk back was made over Cairnsmore (2600ft) one of the highest mountains in the district. The icy summit was reached, in spite of heavy snow showers, and the clouds cleared to allow a view to the Mountains of Arran. This was all the more satisfying after the hard climb up. The turn was made sufficiently early to allow a very welcome visit to Ayr, a very attractive seaside town.

The following day the party set off on another bivouac, this time to a small reservoir. The walk was made over Windy Standard, which lived up to its name. General tiredness and snow in the high wind made this the longest day of walking. After an uncomfortable night the weather got worse and in view of this most of the group were picked up in the lorry for a short road walk. An appropriate conclusion to the course came when John Cox won the local darts competition and a large meat pie on the last evening.

Thanks must be given to the Officers and Mr David Willis for arranging and cooking for the course, for their enthusiasm under all our adversities, and especially to WO CR Cadwell whose hard work provided us with an excellent base camp. AJHC

The party consisted of: JM Elliott, JP Cox, RJ Searle, AM Higgs, DN Longdon, RG Willis, AJH Crocker, HT Tresidder, MI Kendall, ASQ Clift, TJ Savory, RA Hazledine, NQ Searle, DB King, BP Ashcroft-Jones; and was accompanied by: Cdr LCJ Griffin, Capt TGK Fairhead, Capt DO Willis, Mr J Peyton, WO CR Cadwell, and DH Willis, OA.

Police Cadets

Once again this year the course provided was highly successful, largely due to the efforts of Sergeant Brown, who took a great interest in all that went on. As those features which were least enjoyed last year were omitted, every one of the fortnightly meetings was both entertaining and instructive, and we ended the course with a greater understanding of police methods and of the police themselves, besides covering a wide range of topics not directly connected with police work. RHLS/GFP

Scouts (34th Abingdon)

Venture Unit

At the first meeting this term, P Bosworth and D Howes talked about the Leadership Course which they had attended in the holidays at Youlbury. Work on the hut and gym activities have occupied several meetings, and climbing and abseiling practices have proved popular.

On Field Day a small party went to the woods around Youlbury to check the accuracy of the Ordnance Survey map in preparation for an orienteering event which we are helping to organise next term. Another

group went to Cleeve Hill where they climbed under the watchful eye of an experienced rock climbing instructor, Mr Derek Holborough of Abingdon Youth Centre.

The Easter Expedition to Dolgoed attracted 12 venturers and three C scouts. Activities included hill walking, mountain climbing, rock climbing, geological studies, investigating the old slate quarries and mapping. One group spent most of their time re-surveying and re-routing a forest track for the Forestry Commission (the old one was too steep in places and also missed out some of the best views). On the last day most of us had to work with sickle and mattock turning their proposed route into something 'that even Grandma could walk up'. A great deal of work still needs to be done but at least we have made a start. PAB/RF

Junior Troop

We have continued the pattern of dividing the troop on alternate Monday and on these occasions the Middle School section has followed a first aid course under the leadership of Mr F Jones of Radley, whilst the Lower School section has interspersed basic scouting with mapping the town and area with cracking codes. The full troop meetings have included a wide game and practice in orienteering, cooking—and basketball!

On Field Day some of the Middle School section hiked along the Ridgeway in training for next term's Ten Tors expedition, and the remainder attempted to explore the Ock by bicycle and canoe. At the end of term the patrol leaders joined in the District PLs' expedition to London, which culminated in dinner at BP House. DR

The Grundy Library

This term the librarians have been engaged on a complete check of all our books but contrary to usual practice the Library has not been closed to users: it was felt that any increase in accuracy of the check could not be justified if the Library was out of action for several days and in future a book will only be classified as lost if it is missing in two successive annual checks.

Perhaps this is an appropriate time to ask all past and present members of the School to look at their own shelves to see if by chance any Grundy Library books are to be found there . . . KGH

Officers of the School

School Prefects Summer 1970

NS Coulbeck (Head of School)

JM Elliott (Head of Dayboys)

NJ Minns (Head of Boarders)

CJ Bovey

MC Eagle

MC Varley

RO Plail

MR Ward

DA Hacker

JP Cox

JL Cox

DI Smith

JA Clargo

JP Nicholl

AME Brown

MI Johnstone

DN Baumann

MJ Hill

House Prefects

Rescnet House: JM Whittington, GBM Milton, JJ Shellard, AR Snodgrass, RG Leonard.

Facies Court: V Lacey-Johnson, RJ Crane, SA Woods, RC Cash.

Arkhill: ATB Herbert, AG Muff, RK Gyselynck.

School House: CR Gibaud, JWS Chalker, RB Luff, RS Kirby, NP Winton, SB Gray, MR Mackenzie, CJ Murray, JC Dunkerley, JQ Rowley, JRD Oswald.

Waste Court: SA Bodimeade, JC Griffith, PJ Todd.

Dayboys: CF Rock, RJ Searle, DM Steele, J Wheatcroft, RJ Grant, JBA Godfrey, DC Henderson, JAF Ridge, JPD Mitchell, JSB Frere, JL Hounam, NKA Smart, MP Stevens, KP Brown, DP Dean, RHL Savory, JR Weir, IC Browne, GG Hartnell, TJG Healy, DJ Heard, PGK Staniland, SP Loosemore, CA Wallace, CJ Jordan, PCS Bradley, MKC Allen, AT Winnington, NGW Seaver.

Abingdonian Staff, May 1970

Editor: Neil Coulbeck.

Sub-editors: Michael Varley, Nigel Seaver, Tim Baker and Anthony Winnington.

Advisory Editor: Nicholas Minns.

Photographic Editor: Michael Allen.

OA Editor: AA Hillary.

Treasurer: DO Willis.

TASS Committee

The following officers were elected at the Annual General Meeting:

President: Mr GRF Bredin, CBE MA.

Vice President: Prof WD Allen, DPhil.

Chairman: Mr GMD Howat, MA.

Secretary: Mrs M Willis.

Treasurer: Mr AA Hillary.

Committee: The Headmaster, Mr NK Hammond, BSc (OA), Mr RE Eason, MA (OA), Mr GF Duxbury, MA, Dr CE Ford, FRS, Mr JH Hooke (OA), Mr RG Mortimer, MA, Mr JE Pegram, Mr DB West, MBE TD, Mrs KB Minshall, MC Varley (representing PCR), NKA Smart (representing the Sixth Form).

Dolgoed Committee

Chairman: Mr H Eden.

Committee: Mr RH Baker, Mr TGK Fairhead, Mr WG Potter, Mr J Talbot, Mr PV Moody, Mrs M Willis, JM Elliot, J Wheatcroft, JQ Rowley.

Hello Goodbye

Left March: DG Nasmyth (VIT), SA Mackley (5M), AF Gibbs (4L).

OA Notes

OA Notes

Births

- Bailey:** on 28 March 1970 to Marie, wife of Geoffrey Bailey (1964), daughter, Elizabeth Marie.
- Burdge:** on 27 January 1970 to Tanya (née Pierce), wife of Michael (Burdge (1954), a second daughter, Caroline Tanya.
- Lloyd:** on 19 April 1969 to Diana, wife of Andrew Lloyd (1962), daughter, Fiona Jane.
- Long:** on 24 February 1970 to Sylvia, wife of Stuart Long (1961), a Tanmaramui, New Zealand, a brother for Michael.
- Wastie:** on 30 January 1970 to Diana (née Bailey), wife of Forbes Wastie (1957), a third son, William Glanville.

Marriages

- Broadway-Glennon:** on 4 April 1970 at Holy Trinity, Cookham, Edward Nigel Broadway (1964) to Gillian Elaine Glennon.
- Heavens-Kuster:** on 18 April 1970 at St Aloysius RC Church, Oxford Roger Heavens (1962) to Anna Margareta Kuster.
- Joyce-Campbell:** on 18 April 1970, at Chichester, David Joyce (1965) to Tessa Margaret Campbell.
- Partridge-Fairman:** on 27 December 1969 at Shiplake Church, David Partridge (1966) to Carol Fairman.
- Randall-Stevens:** on 26 July 1969 at St Helen's, Abingdon, Jim Randell (1965) to Marilyn Ann Stevens.
- Snowley-Berry:** on 26 July 1969 at Edgware, Paul Snowley (1965) to Gillian Berry.

Deaths

Wilding: Thomas Samuel Wilding (1900-1905) died on March 23 at Folkestone, after a long illness.

Thomas Wilding was a notable figure in the School at the beginning of the century, a prefect, a good soccer player and oarsman and a founder member of the Debating Society.

He went up to Lincoln College, Oxford, in 1905 to read History and played soccer and rowed in the College Torpid. After graduating he taught for a year or two at Bancrofts School and then having decided to read for the Bar, he gained 1st Class Hons in Bar Finals in 1913 as a member of the Inner Temple.

In the 1914-18 war he was commissioned in the Loyal North Lancs Regt and reached the rank of Major and Adjutant after service in France. He was a Machine Gun Specialist and author of the Manual of Machine Gun Training.

After the war he resumed practice as a Commercial Lawyer, and in 1930 Lloyds Underwriters made a special presentation to him in appreciation of his successful effort in a most complicated case spread over nearly three years.

He was President of the OA Club in 1927, and was a most generous supporter of the School. The Boat Club in particular will remember him with gratitude and affection for the great interest he took in its welfare and successes.

GFD

I am most grateful to George Duxbury for his appreciation of the life and work of Tom Wilding.

AAH

For some reason—quite inexplicable—it was a shock to discover that the twenties had their full share of Baumanns, as far as I know unrelated to those of the sixties and seventies. LL Baumann (1927) wrote to say that his brother CF Baumann (1926) had been awarded the CBE in last year's Birthday Honours List. We send him warmest congratulations and are a little envious to learn that, as President of the Italian Singer Company, he lives in Milan.

Another OA who wrote, this time about his brother in law, was Trevor Thomas (1947). After saying something about his own work as a quantity surveyor in Oxfordshire he passed on the information that Robin Mills (1953) is working for BAC on the Concorde project and is living in Bristol.

Tony Cherrill (1948) wrote from Nepal to remind us that he is attached to the Brigade of Gurkhas for two years. By a strange quirk of fate he read the report of Richard Morris' presence there only after he had met and talked to him in an army mess in India. Neither knew then that the other had any connection with Abingdon.

An interesting letter from Richard Paxman (1954) described how he is becoming integrated into New Zealand life and finding it hard to remember some things about English life. He seems very happy there and from his descriptions many things are quite different from their English counterparts.

Tony Wallen (1956) wrote just before his departure for Australia in January to bring us up to date with his life saga. After going to Greenock Academy he became first in 1962 a rubber technologist and then in 1966 a salesman with the International Synthetic Rubber Company. Married in 1967, he and his wife very sensibly want to see something of the world before domestic ties become too strong.

Word has also come out of the blue from another old friend John Grosvenor (1957). He was married five years ago and has one small daughter nearly a year old. We hope that others who have lost contact over the years will be fired to write in with news of their whereabouts and progress.

Humphrey Bowen (1957) is with ICI, in charge of a research team of 8 graduates, working on uses of on-line computers in control of chemical plants and in research laboratories. He announces his engagement and impending marriage in September to Helen Wilson, a bridesmaid at Peter Gray's wedding.

Mark Dunman (1958) is teaching Chemistry at the West Kent College of Further Education, Tunbridge Wells, and aiming to read for a Maths degree with the Open University next year. Married, with a small step-daughter, he is hoping to get back to London in a year or two.

David Camplin (1959), Lieutenant RN, married with a son of three and a daughter (he hopes) due in June, is stationed at Rosyth in HM Caledonia, an artificer training establishment. He teaches Marine Engineering to the apprentices and is beginning to realise what a problem it must have been at school; he might have been worse, actually!

Sampling the tougher side of a clergyman's work is Randell Moll (1960) in Liverpool, where he combines responsibility for a large new estate with an Industrial Chaplaincy. His cry is the oft heard but nonetheless true one of much good human material lacking those to guide and lead into more fruitful and rewarding paths.

It was good to hear of John Kelly (1961) being a success as a lecturer in English and American Studies at the University of Kent at Canterbury.

Christopher Spackman (1961) is now working for British Rail Research at Derby in the track and structure section after doing eight years at Cowley with Pressed Steel. One of his first jobs (he says) was to weigh the Britannia Tubular Steel Bridge in North Wales at midnight. Sound to the non-engineer like a very good party! Incidentally brother Nigel (1965) is now with Thompson Newspapers, specialising in market research.

Andrew Lloyd (1962) is Assistant Personnel Manager with the Meta Box Company at Winsford in Cheshire. Much of his recruiting is done in Liverpool and for various reasons there is a high labour turnover. The birth of his first daughter is recorded elsewhere.

It was pleasant to see Raymond Lockton (1962) in Abingdon with his wife. He is practising in Torquay as a dentist and seems to be doing very well.

From David Williams (1963) came welcome news. He will be qualified as a solicitor in September 1971 having got a degree at Sheffield University where he also met his wife to be. Via Guildford Law College, where he came across Ian Newbold, and Reading, he has now settled in Somerset, having married last October. He finds work as a potential solicitor congenial and life in Burnham on Sea very agreeable.

Stephen Wilson (1963) wrote to say that he is now a qualified auctioneer and estate agent working for a large firm in Wokingham which also employs Michael Hardy (1957) and Roger Platt (1962). Stephen is planning to marry in August and we wish him every happiness. He meets many OAs in his part of Berkshire and they all seem to be flourishing.

Tony Medland (1965) has also qualified: he is a chartered accountant. He too meets many Abingdonians on his patch—this time in London—and he also is engaged. Accountancy sounds a very lucrative profession.

Jim Randell (1965), whose marriage is announced elsewhere, is now with BEA in their flight operations department. He left the Westminster Bank a couple of years ago and is thoroughly enjoying working at Heathrow, where he quite often sees Peter Godfrey (1965), recently married and a First Officer on the Trident flight.

One of our American 'birds of passage' Bob Risher III (1965) is still anxious to get back to England some time. He is at Miami University, Ohio, and his work ranges from American History, through Spanish and Speech to Sociology of the Cities. Obviously enjoying himself he still has time to remember his days at Abingdon and to wish us all a good term!

Even further afield is Richard Chaplin (1966), serving as a radar operator with an Australian Battalion in Viet Nam. He is very much in contact with the Viet Cong and he explained the difficulties of fighting an

any who deliberately infiltrates among the civilian population. He also
and described in graphic terms an air strike on mountains where the
et Cong had gone to ground. Not surprisingly he is looking forward to
end of his two years' conscripted service and a holiday in England.
Richard Jackson (1966), we hear, has got a post teaching history at
avesend School for Boys, starting in September. If the form he showed
en he was with us is anything to go by he will do very well.

David Partridge (1966) is well settled for the time being as Head of
conomics at Shiplake College, where he is also taking charge of cricket,
ting as a house tutor and getting a commission in the CCF. He sounds
sy but we hope to see him, as well as Richard Jackson, in Alligators'
eek.

Congratulations to Philip Sugg (1966) on getting a post-graduate place
Bristol to study radio, film and television technique in the University's
rama Department. He is looking forward to a career in the audio-visual
ld of education.

Congratulations, too, to RA Forsythe (1966) and ANR Wharton (1967)
passing out from Cranwell in their respective departments at the end
February.

Anthony Barnett (1967) missed the 'children's party' on April 17
cause it was his 21st birthday; it's nice to know that people still
lebrate this outmoded festival! He is doing well at Warwick and hopes
go on to Liverpool to do a PhD in Organic Chemistry.

One who did make it, and whom we were particularly glad to welcome
ck from the sea on leave, was Paul Holmes (1968). He was full of terri-
ng stories of what can cause an explosion in an oil tanker and of other
avellers' tales, which inspired the familiar mixture of horror and excite-
ent. Apparently there are compensations in terms of creature comforts
r the dangers of serving in these giants of the sea.

Raymond Janz (1968) has had a good year as Captain of Hockey at
ueen Elizabeth College and is already looking ahead to the end of 1971
hen he may well do a year of VSO before starting to read veterinary
cience.

Kim Richardson (1968) has left the Diplomatic Service and is much
appier down in Dorset in his new career as a journalist, at the moment
a local paper.

Congratulations to Peter Bennett (1969) who, after an anxious time has
een offered an unconditional place at University College, London. Martin
eary (1969) has joined the RNR and is enjoying every aspect of
dinburgh life and work: he generously offers to show round any
otential applicants to the University, preferably in mid-week as so many
uildings are closed at weekends. John Goldsworthy (1969) is married
nd has joined the Thames Valley Police Force. Nicholas Hands-Clarke
(1969) is keeping his hand in as a librarian by taking on the job of
ecretary to the Library Committee of his University Hall of Residence
nd finds the work interesting. David Loach (1969) is not at the Barking
College of Technology but is reading for a HND in Applied Biology at
he Borough Polytechnic, London, S.E.1. Andrew Loudon (1969) and
Richard West (1969) are off on a most exciting summer adventure. The
ormer is treasurer and the latter i/c stores to an Oxford University
Ornithological Expedition to Afghanistan and Kashmir which lasts from
mid May until October. Their chief interests will be general bird biology
of this area and a study of Asian-African and Asian-Indian migrations.

Finally, John Walker (1969) is at the North Berkshire College of Further Education, where he has become captain of the newly formed college Football XI. AA

Addresses

Bobin D: Ibstocks, Old Faringdon Road, Shippon, Abingdon.
Candy DY: Bukoba Tea Estate, PO Box 359, Bukoba, Tanzania, E Africa
Candy MA: 78 Oak Meadow Blud, West Hill 780, Ontario, Canada.
Chester RA: 20a High Street, Charlton, Beds.
Clark JD: Wootton Edge, Old Boars Hill, Oxford, OX1 5JD.
Fry J: 97 Gondcroft Road, Weymouth, Dorset.
Gluchlich TC: 9 Kent Road, East Molesey, Surrey.
Grosvenor J: Japonica, 54 Westfield Ave, Deanshanger, nr Wolverton
Bucks.
Hann J: Widhill, 7 Atherton Close, Off Town Lane, Stanwell, Middx.
Luff AW: The Kings Arms Inn, Stockland, nr Honiton, Devon.
Millard RSM: The Junior School, Wellingborough School, Northampton
NH8 2BV.
Moll Rev RT: 58 Lunar Drive, Netherton, Bootle, Lancs.
Moss IW: 3 Millfield, Mill Lane, Danbury, Chelmsford, Essex.
Rowlandson PE: 22 Priory Avenue, Bedford Park, London, W4.
Spackman CAB: 17 Clover Close, Spondon, Derby, DE2 7QY.
Thompson RP: 21 Laurel Close, Grove, Wantage.

OA Club Notes — May 1970

The twenty-sixth London Dinner, held at the Public Schools Club, on Friday 6 March proved to be a memorable occasion. The fact that it was James Cobban's last London Dinner as Headmaster largely accounted for the record gathering of some 110 Old Boys—the largest meeting of the Club since the War.

The President, John Foden, was in the chair at Dinner, and in proposing the toast to the School he congratulated James Cobban upon his record as Headmaster after twenty three years. On his retirement, James Cobban was leaving Abingdon as a school of which all OAs could be proud. In his reply the Headmaster gave a heartening picture of the School in 1970—a momentous year in which the 100th anniversary of the School's move from the town to its present site would be celebrated. The Donnison Report on Direct Grant Schools was awaited, but the Headmaster stressed that this was not a moment for panic, but asked OAs to play their part in alerting public opinion of the dangers of violent change. The Headmaster was deeply moved to see so many Old Boys whom he had not seen for a long time, the School was very fortunate in its Governors four of whom are Old Boys, and he was confident of the future of Abingdon School. At the conclusion of his speech, Mr Cobban received a most memorable standing ovation from the gathering. Tom Moore proposed the health of the Club, and the President proposed a toast to James Cobban.

The dinner was the eighteenth such occasion organised by Stanley Paige, in his capacity as London Secretary. The Club's appreciation of Stanley's efforts was evident in the reception given to him. The President thanked Stanley warmly on behalf of the Club, and as a token of appreciation, presented him with a tankard. Stanley expressed his gratitude in his usual modest way.

We give advance notice that Old Boys' Day, the Annual Dinner and AGM will be held on Friday 10 July. The AGM will be held at 7.30 pm to be immediately followed by the Dinner, which it is hoped will be attended by a record number of Old Boys. During the evening a presentation will be made to James Cobban. Tickets for the dinner will be available from the Secretary.

Secretaries Addresses

AGM Secretary: RR Bailey, 10 Whites Lane, Radley, Abingdon (Abingdon 297); or 12 Bath Street, Abingdon (Abingdon 266).

Football Secretary (Rugger, Tennis): JT Cullen, Frilford End, Frilford, Abingdon (Frilford Heath 205).

Cricket Secretary (Cricket, Hockey): JW Dickinson, The Lodge, Sunningwell, Abingdon (Oxford 35501).

Music Lodge Secretary: DO Willis, Kenton House, 1a Abingdon Road, Abingdon.

T.A.S.S. SUMMER BALL

(At which the Headmaster and his family will be
the guests of the Society)

Friday, 19 June

7.30 pm — 1.00 am

Single ticket £4.4.0 direct from Mr RG Mortimer at the School

If you are not a member of the Society you can enroll when applying for
tickets)

Summary of Games Fixtures

FIRST ELEVEN

May

| | | |
|--------|-------------------------|------|
| Sat 2 | Newbury GS (a) | 1415 |
| Sat 9 | Radley (a) | 1130 |
| Wed 13 | Oratory (h) | |
| Sat 16 | Brentwood (h) | 1130 |
| Wed 20 | Berkshire Gentlemen (h) | 1130 |
| Sat 23 | Abingdon CC (a) | 1400 |

June

| | | |
|--------|-----------------|------|
| Wed 3 | Common Room (h) | |
| Sat 6 | Pangbourne (a) | 1400 |
| Wed 10 | Pembroke (a) | |
| Sat 13 | Incogniti (h) | 1130 |
| Sat 20 | Reading (h) | |
| Sat 27 | MCC (h) | 1130 |

July

| | | |
|--------|-----------------------------|------|
| Sat 4 | High Wycombe (a) | |
| Mon 6 | Magdalen College School (a) | 1130 |
| Wed 8 | Bloxham (a) | |
| Fri 10 | Old Abingdonians (h) | 1130 |
| Sat 11 | Old Abingdonians (h) | 1400 |

FIRST SIX

April

| | | |
|--------|--------------------------|--|
| Wed 22 | Masters' Common Room (h) | |
| Sat 25 | Culham College (a) | |
| Wed 29 | Reading (a) | |

May

| | | |
|--------|----------------------|--|
| Sat 2 | Leighton Park (h) | |
| Wed 6 | Pembroke (a) | |
| Sat 9 | Berkhamsted (h) | |
| Sat 16 | RGS High Wycombe (h) | |
| Wed 27 | Magdalen (a) | |

June

| | | |
|--------|-----------------|--|
| Wed 3 | Wallingford (h) | |
| Sat 6 | Oxford (h) | |
| Wed 10 | Oratory (h) | |
| Sat 20 | Bloxham (h) | |

July

| | | |
|--------|----------------------|--|
| Wed 8 | Maidenhead (a) | |
| Sat 11 | Old Abingdonians (h) | |