

November 1971



ABINGDONIAN

THE ABINGDON SCHOOL SOCIETY

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ABINGDONIAN

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Editorial

If I were asked, 'Is Abingdon School a community?', I would immediately answer, 'Yes'. Any school appears to be a corporate body, but initial reactions are often deceptive. Abingdon School is a boarding and a dayboy establishment. Although the rivalry between boarders and dayboys is traditional, only apparent in the termly boarder versus dayboy matches, there is an obvious difference between the two. Boarders live in School and so reap more benefit from it than dayboys. What they miss from the family circle is another matter, but the well worn phrase 'in loco parentis' should not be scorned. However the boarders are not in themselves a corporate body; neither are the dayboys. The real communities are in the five Boarding Houses, where the barriers imposed by the curriculum disappear. Boys from the third to the sixth forms actually talk to each other. But for dayboys these barriers cover most of their school career, only disappearing in the Sixth forms, if at all. There is little communication between dayboys of separate years. Sports and societies attempt to break the stranglehold, but most dayboys only know a few of their immediate contemporaries. And 'know' means more than recognising a face and putting a name to it. This is not to say that boys should walk around school looking solemn and gloomy, having heart-to-heart talks with anyone in sight, but no harm can come from a greater, less inhibited exchange of ideas.

The cry for student participation, in my view, is more a cry for student involvement: involvement with affairs rather than responsibility for major decisions. A senior boy may represent the School on a committee (the Abingdon School Subscription Concert Committee for example) and the School is supposedly taking an active part in the making of decisions by that committee, but the amount of involvement felt in the School for the decisions is practically nil.

The weekly newsletter **Vox** has tried to bring this sense of involvement to the School, but has failed where newspapers often fail. The rush to publish fresh news leads to a lack of critical reports examining its consequences. National papers avoid this by publishing the initial reactions to news as it is printed; the detailed reports appear later. **Vox** does not have the capacity for such organisation. It prints the occasional letter or review of the Corps but these are few and far between. Any healthy institution should have the capacity to examine itself, to discuss openly its purpose, in terms of the individual, as well as the community. Perhaps Abingdon School is unhealthy?

The School's unofficial press has been attempting to produce a magazine which would enable boys to voice their opinions for the past three years. There are several reasons why such a magazine has not become established, but the major problem has been money. The School Literary magazine, **ETC**, which used to appear at sporadic intervals but has not had an outbreak for over a year, will probably amalgamate with the **Abingdonian**. This would leave a serious void. There seems little reason why a more comprehensive magazine should not take its place. The new magazine could be run on similar lines as **ETC**, receive official recognition, if not official backing, but leave the organisation to the boys.

At this point, no doubt, the cynic will sit back and smile to himself if he has not already done so. How can an officially sponsored magazine knock the system? The idea that a magazine exists just to knock the system is a limited outlook anyway, but regardless of that, it is even more limited to expect an anti-establishment article to be published merely because it is anti-establishment. All periodicals have standards. It is easy to be critical in a negative manner (anyone can destroy something for the sake of destruction) but it is much more difficult to be critical in a constructive manner. True critical appreciation is definitely constructive.

The **Abingdonian** is not cast as a critical magazine. It is a chronicle. But the news is often distorted by the purely factual reports which disregard the views and opinions side. At long last it is gradually moving away from this role. Opinions can now be heard through its pages. Unfortunately the variety of opinions published are necessarily limited but if you have any comments to make on the magazine, or any other subject, they would be very welcome. The word community is inseparably linked to the word communication. Communication cannot help but improve relations within a community; strengthen bonds which already exist and create new ties to replace the former indifference. ME

From the Headmaster—a personal view

One year has gone, almost before I have had time to notice it, and the Editor of the **Abingdonian**, unfailingly courteous despite my dilatoriness, has been in five times to request a few notes on my first impressions of the School.

First days at Abingdon seem a long way in the past now, but my wife and I still have vivid memories of the friendliness of new colleagues who arrived with cakes or invitations to meals last August when Lacies Court was being pulled to pieces around our ears, and of James Cobban trying to tell me in three weeks all that he had learned in twenty-three and a half years. Nothing could have been kinder than the way in which

both he and his sister made us welcome. One of the pleasures of this new school year is that James Cobban's self-denying ordinance need no longer apply, and that he may allow himself to pay the school an occasional visit once again.

The highlights of my year must all, I think, have been recorded already in the pages of this magazine, for they have been the highlights of the School's year. The most exciting moment was on half-term Saturday in the summer term, watching the VIII in its brand-new boat on its very first outing coming from behind to beat Kingston by a few feet in the Cambridge Regatta. The saddest moment was seeing no break in the cloud cover over Abingdon and having to announce to a wildly expectant lower school that the Falcons' free-fall demonstration could not after all take place. The most heart-warming experiences were watching the many efforts made this year for charity—the bible-reading marathon, the table-tennis marathon, and best of all the First Forms toiling round and round and round the Upper Field to earn more than a hundred pounds from their sponsors. The most unexpected pleasant moments were the arrival of Mr Woolnough to say that Instron wished to present us with the prototype of their award-winning tensile testing machine, and the visit of an old boy governor to arrange the endowment of a James Cobban Scholarship. The most amusing? Difficult to say. The talks given to the Sixth Form by Dr Marshall, the Director of Harwell, and by Dr Hugh Sinclair of Magdalen College were delightfully witty; nonetheless the prize goes to the notice I was asked to read out at Assembly one Saturday morning: 'Will the Sixth-former whose dog bit a member of Waste Court while he was walking it on the field yesterday evening please see Mr Hasnip at once.' Boy, dog and Sixth-former all survived.

What has really impressed me about the School in my first year is its variety. Hard work goes on (by boys as well as masters—and my goodness how they work), but at the same time the school hums with other activities. Best of all, a number of things have been done excellently this year—science projects done well enough to earn a Television spot in 'Young Scientists of the Year', chess played well enough for the team to beat the holders in the Sunday Times tournament before losing only in the last eight, a boat rowed fast enough to reach the Friday at Henley, orienteers failing by only a few minutes to come first for the whole of Britain. Were they out to prove that the school can do two things at once and do them well—can do distinguished academic work and also cultivate the excellencies of the all-rounder and the whole man? Long may it continue to do so.

WEKA

School Notes

Salutations and Congratulations

Once again we begin by congratulating a member of staff on an addition to his family, it being the turn this time of Mr and Mrs Payne on the birth of a second child, a daughter, Lindsay Susan.

During the holidays, Messrs Brodie, Harmsworth and Taylor of the Common Room gave up their bachelorhoods for wedlock, the latter two, after engagements announced in an earlier issue, with Miss Hubbard and Miss Wells respectively.

The holidays also saw one or two changes being made in preparation

for the coming term. We were sorry to note the departure of Mr Lewis who is now continuing his studies at Oxford. His cheerfulness inspired many and, at a time when the Apartheid issue was at its height, he was an extremely useful exponent of the South African point of view. Three new masters joined the staff. Mr Martin Blocksidge, educated at Stockport, gained an Open Scholarship to St John's, Oxford, where he graduated in English Literature. He has succeeded Mr Harmsworth as a School House tutor and has become a member of the English Department. Mr WG McGowan joins the Modern Language department and replaces Mr Lewis as Lacies Court tutor, having gained a BA in French at Lancaster, spent a year in France as deputy English master at Lycée Pothier, Orleans, and read for an MA in French Studies, again at Lancaster. Mr R McKinnon, educated at King's College, Wimbledon, and Christ's College, Cambridge, will be teaching History and English.

Besides changes in the MCR there were also changes in Boarding House staff: apart from those already mentioned as being new tutors, Mr Randolph left his position as housemaster of Glyndwr to succeed Mr Taylor as a School House tutor. He, in turn, was replaced by Mr Hammond, who vacated Heathcot so that it could be turned into an annexe house to Waste Court, with Mr Woodgett as housemaster.

Several changes were made on the Board of Governors: Mr John Hooke resigned as Vice-Chairman, though we are happy to learn that this most loyal of Old Abingdonians, who has been a governor for many years, has agreed to continue to be a member of the Board. He has been succeeded in his post by Sir George Sinclair, CMG, OBE, MP, another loyal OA. We also welcome the new Mayor of Abingdon, Councillor Dr Norris, to the Board.

Turning to other matters, we record the following achievements: Adrian Chalker (OA) has gained a scholarship to the Berks College of Agriculture to study for a National Degree in Agriculture; Bdr CL Corner was presented with the Cannon Award for best proficiency marks during the CCF's past year on Annual Inspection Day, the first time this particular award has been given, whilst Jnr Cpl D Lewington won the RAF sword. Leading Seaman R Searle gained a Naval Scholarship during the term, and a record number of Flying Scholarships, seven in all, were won by RAF and Navy cadets. In Rowing, last year's Colts Eight, graduated to being this year's First Eight, had another very good season, their successes being recorded elsewhere in the magazine. Further TASS Initiative Awards were made to J Rawlinson and C Terry and, finally, mention should be made of the fact that for the second time, a group of our Sixth Form scientists have been chosen to appear on the BBC 'Young Scientists' programme.

Lectures

For our edification and further education, several lectures to specific forms and groups were arranged during the term. Classicists of the School were given a talk on 'Rome, Yesterday and Today' by Professor DR Dudley early in the term, whilst Sixth Form scientists heard about 'Crystallography' from Dr CK Prout of Oriel College. The Sixth Form as a whole heard lectures on 'Nutrition' by a world authority on the subject, Dr HM Sinclair, on 'Law' by Dr MR Freedland of St. John's College, and on 'Sociology' by Mr Stephen Lukes of Balliol. The Middle School were lectured on 'Smoking' by Dr Karlsh of Reading University and just after half-term, the Headmaster gave four lectures on 'Macbeth'

to members of the Fifth Forms, who were struggling with it for O-level.

Visitors

Besides those already mentioned, another distinguished visitor during the term was Mr Zahler, Managing Director of Instron Ltd who, after a recommendation by the Rutherford Laboratory, Harwell, with whom the Sixth Form Scientists has been collaborating in certain experiments, presented the school with a tensile testing machine for use in experiments with resins and which many parents will have seen on Founder's Day. The term also saw the visits of a number of student masters, namely Mr P Hellsby, of Westminster College, Oxford, who brought his decidedly fresh point of view and style of teaching to the English department during his two week stay, and four more students from Ripon Hall, Messrs Michael Ackroyd, David Howard, Stephan Leach and Brian Strevens, who were able to gain some experience in teaching Divinity to some not wholly responsive forms and sets.

Outside Visits

The majority of outside visits this term were purely for pleasure rather than academic instruction, the two exceptions being a trip to the Don Valley at Sheffield by the Upper Sixth Geographers and the annual visit by Upper Sixth Economists to Morland's Brewery. A contingent of senior boys accepted the invitation of the local branch of Barclays Bank to a Careers Evening on Banking in general and that banking company in particular, and found it interesting. In the field of sport, the annual trip to the Harlem Globetrotters, at Wembley, was made by the Physical Education Society and the pilgrimage to Wimbledon undertaken by the Tennis Club. Once again, visits to the theatre figured prominently amongst the outings, with members of the school seeing the Peter Brook/RSC production of 'Midsummer Night's Dream', 'The National Health', 'Little Malcom and His Struggle Against the Eunuchs', 'Much Ado About Nothing' and 'Twelfth Night' (the latter two at Stratford). A party from Waste Court went to see an Oxford University production of 'The Hobbit'.

Miscellany

The School starts the year with a roll of 626 pupils, 191 of whom are boarders, 435 dayboys, 175 in the Sixth Forms and 110 New Boys.

A scheduled visit by the school en masse to RAF Abingdon, combined with a 'private' display by the Falcons' Free-Fall Parachute Team in mid-term, unfortunately had to be cancelled because of bad weather.

Form 1M put on a special entertainment for parents and friends early in the term as a final fling at fund-raising for the Cheshire Homes.

Once again we record Mr Rudd's steady journey towards one hundred. He has passed the ninety-third milestone and is still going strong. It is a sobering thought that someone in the present First Form could be the one to ring out that centenary on the School Bell (if the Headmaster doesn't!).

JSP Mushens represented the school in a minor way in the Far East during the holidays, being chosen to play in the Singapore chess team and coming third in the competition concerned.

As an aid to winning a Duke of Edinburgh Award, but also as a very valuable public service, ten Upper School boys took a course in First Aid with the local St John's Ambulance Brigade to pass the requisite Red Cross Exam.

Mr Brodie, in conjunction with Mr Petita L Kamburoff succeeded in having an article, 'Spirometric Values in 540 Healthy Schoolboys', published

in the British Journal of Sports Medicine, the school having provided the testing ground (and healthy schoolboys) for the various experiments.

The Headmaster continued to be closely concerned with the celebrations of Sir Walter Scott's Bi-Centenary Year, firstly compiling with others the Scott Catalogue for the Exhibition and secondly, giving the commemorative address at the Anniversary Service at Greyfriars Church, Edinburgh.

Finally, it is hoped that with the Science department's current ferment of activity, one or two of the projects upon which it has been engaged will be reported on in various journals and magazines (including this one!).

Chapel Notes

This has been my final term at the end of an eight year stay at Abingdon School under two headmasters, three chaplains and three hymnbooks. Chapel affairs have undergone extensive changes in this time—mostly for the better, some for worse. The numbers of communicants has dropped considerably—one notes in the chapel register the occasional eighty and regular forty in 1963, whereas this last term produced a total of about 260, or twenty a week, of whom six or eight are servers. This cannot be viewed too objectively since the social pressures existing in 1963 no longer operate and may indeed be said to have been reversed. It reflects that boys and staff alike are less ready to take things for granted, which can be no bad thing, unless people shy away from this central act of faith at the very time when they are feeling a little unsteady on their spiritual legs and most need its comfort and strength. Even so, if we are honest, many of us will admit that the communion service means very little to us in real terms and its implications are difficult to grasp. How little faith we have if we do not persevere and seek the truth which others have certainly found and which surely must be there.

We have seen the introduction of the Series II Communion service which, though not simple, at least releases us from the tangle of the old but beautiful language of 1662. We have two servers at each celebration which of course involves far more welcome participation from a wider range of boys and staff alike. Also the Ante-Communion has occasionally been made the main Sunday service—an innovation which could well be extended gradually. Our Matins have been further brightened by Mr le Fleming's Abingdon School settings of the *Te Deum* and *Jubilate* and a few modern hymn tunes.

Our regular weekday services have been increasingly taken by the boys themselves—how well I remember the first such week in 1965 terminating in a vast collection for Christian Aid. (Boys in cassocks cycled down the aisle to the Altar only to be shouted down and chased out . . .) We have seen many interesting events since then. Sometimes we have been thoroughly bored, sometimes amused and sometimes highly stimulated, but I feel that all who have participated have benefited in a very real way, if only by discovering how difficult it is to communicate religious feelings. But it is not only the boys—the staff too have succeeded admirably in making their contributions far more meaningful to those prepared to listen. We are at last gradually escaping from the age of clichés, which make one groan within, into the wider field of more meaningful self-expression and, though the future is in no way certain, those still at

the School have a marvellous scope for innovation and experiment in communicating fresh ideas in new and vital ways.

My hope for the future is that the Christians throughout the School will begin to feel the need for a more active fellowship among themselves, and that one or two leaders will emerge to translate such feelings into practical terms. This would supplement the immensely valuable weekly Bible studies initiated by Mr Leake, firmly established by Mr Lewis, and now devotedly continued by Mr and Mrs Eden. Those who have benefited from the time and effort which they have devoted to us are all extremely grateful.

These then are a few scattered thoughts from my years at the school. I hope many others will be able to give thanks, as I do, for the faith which has been nurtured here, and for the opportunities for witness and fellowship which I shall never have again in quite the same way. Regrets abound, but are fruitless. The future is not yet here. The present is one great opportunity for good.

During the Easter holidays Bryan Clubley and Paul Greenwood spent what appeared to be a highly stimulating week at Lee Abbey, attending a Sixth Form Conference run by the Abbey community. More recently Jonathan Binks, Jeffrey Mushens, William Peck and Anthony Tammadge went to Swanwick for a more broadly based conference on 'Authority', led by the Bishop of Liverpool (see below).

We are grateful to the following visiting preachers: Mr Harold Loukes; Rev FE Busby, Vicar of Fyfield; Fr Herbert McCabe, OP; Rev Dr EUN Goetchius and Rev Roger Smith, both from the USA; Rev Bruce Hartnell, Chaplain to Ripon Hall Theological College. The Rev Prof Maurice Wiles, Regius Professor of Divinity at the University of Oxford, preached at our Founder's Day service in St Helen's and the Headmaster preached at the well-attended Leavers' Service in St Nicolas Church the following day.

Collections during the term were as follows: beginning of term service for St Helen's Church £6.65; RNLI £9.31; SPCK £5.69½; New Guinea Mission £4.48; Christian Aid £8.82½; India-Pakistan Disaster Fund £32.57½; Feed the Minds Campaign £4.90; Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind £3.35; Founder's Day (for St. Helen's Church) £70.85; Leavers' Service (for St Nicolas Church) £12.35.

It is good to see so many people helping with the day to day work in the chapel under the able leadership of John Rowley and Bryan Clubley, and our sincere thanks are due to them all.

Our prayers and best wishes remain with the Confirmation candidates, many of them very young, and we exhort them to utilise to the full the wide range of opportunities open to them during their school careers. And our prayers and good wishes go with all those who participated in the traditional Leavers' Service at St Nicolas Church on the last Sunday of term.

AMEB

Conference on Authority at the Hayes Conference Centre, Derbyshire (28 June-2 July).

Four members of the Lower Sixth attended a Christian Education Movement Conference on 'Authority'. This took the form of three lectures by Dr Dyson from Ripon Hall on the authority of the Bible. Each of these lectures were followed by discussion groups who formulated questions on this subject to be asked in the plenary session which ended the first half of the conference. It was felt that the title of Dr Dyson's lectures

was too restricting and this was the cause of his latter two lectures 'sagging' a little: but he redeemed this with some excellent answers in the plenary session.

The second half of the conference took the form of four main discussion groups each led by some very good leaders who included Douglas Rhymes and David Head. Each of the four groups dealt with a particular subject, which were: (i) Modern Literature; (ii) Moral Judgements; (iii) Society; (iv) Institutions: all these were considered with an emphasis on their relationship with authority. Each group formulated a method of putting over their ideas and decisions reached for the final plenary session. This final plenary session was the most lively of all the full sessions with the 'floor' exceptionally active and with most people's inhibitions no longer present.

The main drawback of the conference was its size. Altogether some 250 Sixth Formers attended and this was too many for the short time allowed. Thus there was not really time to reach a final conclusion and the conference tended to die quietly. But apart from this defect the conference was most enjoyable and interesting and had a lot to offer.

AAT

'Romance May Come Your Way'

Robin Griffin, senior lecturer in Education at Culham College, came to the Founder's Day Concert. This was his reaction:

It was to be my first visit to a Founder's Day Concert of any sort. It was the end of yet another term, another year, and now it was the turn of the School Concert to slot into its appropriate place in the unchanging school calendar. The year was 1971. It was the week that the 'Little Red School Book' finally came to grief and the Oz trial dragged to its inevitable conclusion.

Unexpectedly I had been invited to the Concert and the subject was to be that four letter word, LOVE. I had arrived in good time and found invitingly upon my seat a copy of a Special Bumper 'School Kids Ish' or the 'Little White School Book'. I must admit I momentarily discarded the official programme and became engrossed in this Special Bumper Publication. It took me back to my own secret school days, when, at extreme risk on a gelatine base, a group of us attempted to produce our own subversive and indistinct class journal. I was thoroughly enjoying the contents of this Abingdon School edition and had reached my horoscope, 'Romance may come your way although you may not be aware of it', when the concert started.

The introduction immediately captured our attention. There were voices all around, there was humour, a film flickered uncertainly and then died. The concert was to be about Love we were told. We turned coldly towards the dictionary, as dutiful scholars searching for a definition, but thankfully we heard too that 'music could also be the food of love' and so the scene was set.

During the next two hours we were to hear about the 'Effort of Love', 'The Mess of Love' and the 'Art of Love'. We were to be charmed with 'First Love', and entreated with 'Come Again Sweet Love'. We were to be soothed with an Elgar Lullaby and Shakespeare Sonnett. We warmed to Joan Hunter Dunn and Micky Spillane. Some words of Thomas Moore

exploded on the stage. We relaxed, we laughed and in a trice we were off again in time to the world of Mirabell and Millament, surely an early sign of Women's Lib. We ranged in time from Purcell, to Lennon and McCartney, from 'The Prophet' to 'A Kind of Loving'. In thirty different ways the question was posed 'Love is . . . ?' and writers, playwrights, composers and poets down the ages echoed their answer.

It was a varied diet, a critic might say it was a well balanced programme. It was the sort of programme that would gently please the conventional audience to a Founder's Day event. The parents and friends were obviously delighted and the performers, after a strenuous list of end of term events and examinations, had reached a high standard of presentation. My only criticism would be in the selection of material. I was looking for something which really reflected the actual thoughts of the turbulent, caring and compassionate youth of today. Perhaps I expected more protest, more contemporary writing, but it was all rather reflective of a past age and very respectable.

The selection of an anthology of ideas around a central theme is a splendid idea and naturally there are always certain items which please more than others. Of course this is a very personal selection, but I was much impressed by the reading of 'The Art of Love' by John Suckling and Holbrooke's 'The Unholy Alliance'. Micky Spillane has never been one of my favourite authors, but I really warmed to the 'I The Jury' extract, which was performed with relaxed humour and style. The dramatic interludes from Congreve and Barstow were excellently presented and attention was held. The use of a recording of the Shakespeare Sonnet was an interesting device. It was beautifully spoken and perhaps we were then better able to concentrate upon the words and meaning of the passage.

The musical section of the programme was, as I am sure you have all now come to expect, of a very high standard. It was pleasingly varied with a wide range in its selection of material. The orchestra and choir performed on this last night with confidence and assurance, under the most able direction of Anthony le Fleming. The special arrangements by the Director of Music brought freshness and new interest to many well known and well-loved pieces. And perhaps the highlight of the evening for me was the singing of the Prevert/Anthony le Fleming arrangement 'Je suis allé'. Here at last I began to hear the voice of today's young people.

I reflected again on my horoscope from the 'School Kids Ish', 'Romance may come your way'. It was true; we had been presented very much with a romantic picture of love, of Shakespeare, of Clare, of Elgar and the theme of 'Love Story'. But, if this was to be an escape from the real world of 1971, it was interesting. It was well presented by the Chaplain, excellently stage managed and an event I will remember.

Musical Opinion

Taverner—a word which springs readily to mind when looking back to the beginning of the Summer Term. Significantly, two events precipitated by the word, gave much pleasure to all too few. The Cullen Society listened to a recording of 'The Whale' by the young English composer, John

Taverner. A 'collage' of trendy contemporary technical effects, one was forced to wonder at the increasing gulf which renders us passive spectators of a scene beyond the scope of we more mortal 'men' in terms of practical performance . . . And so to a rare feast of delight given us by the Taverner Music Group under Stephen Fairlie when audience and performers revelled alike in a superb performance of Mozart's serenade for thirteen wind instruments, given in St Helen's Church.

Such infectious spontaneity of enthusiasm is often shown in the classroom activities of first and second formers. It was good to see this quality spill over into the Junior School's concerts in the Church Hall on 12/13 June. Sandwiched by a demonstration of ensemble playing—brass groups, form orchestras and the like, a performance of Britten's opera, 'The Golden Vanity', was one of the highlights of the School's musical year. Since the piece was written for the Vienna Boys' Choir, the combined achievement of Tom Fairhead (producer) and Bernard Hall-Mancey (conductor) speaks for itself in their setting it alight on this occasion. I await eagerly the Junior Choral Society's follow up—'All the King's Men'—by Richard Rodney-Bennett, planned for the coming summer.

This seems to be a good moment to touch further on the work of the lower forms in the School. Those who have seen form orchestras at work will appreciate the conflict which has to be resolved between the apparent freedom of such efforts with the down to earth discipline which anybody needs to apply to the learning of the ABC of musical theory. The balance is delicate. It is very easy to oppose the theoretical with the practical aspects, which can lead to the handing out of practical tit-bits as a reward for academic endeavour. For those who might well imagine that the Music department is untied or unshackled by the influence of an examination system which can, at its worst, becalm a teacher's enthusiasm to near impotence, let me assure them that we music teachers can be as handcuffed to the sometimes questionable criteria by the Associated Board (of the Royal Schools of Music) as those put out by the GCE machine. Why? The first step of the instrumentalist's climb to musical emancipation is the Grade V hurdle. Now comes the first major stumbling block. To continue upwards, he must first pass a specific theoretical and aural test. It is the nature of the latter which is ill-conceived. Only an exceptionally imaginative teacher coupled to an above-average-gifted pupil can synchronise the development of aural response as defined by the AB with the idiosyncratic technical problems which confront students of any musical instrument. The result? Humming a melody, tapping a rhythm, pitching an interval and such-like has to be thrown into the trash-can whilst true aural sensitivity, i.e. that which is truly aligned to the making of music in the practical sense, must be acquired from scratch. The unhappy result is that Stage two—acquiring a Grade VIII pass—is wildly imprecise as a test of general musicianship. The examiner who judges candidates in the higher grades of practical musicianship should be a specialist on that particular instrument. This is seldom the case. Hence one performer could well be given a distinction by one examiner and a minimal pass on an equivalent performance by another. Yet an affirmative reply to the often asked question, 'Have you passed Grade VIII?', can still have an almost magically deceptive ring to it—a passport to disappointment in many cases. I have seen too many Grade Fivers scrape through Grade VIII as though this were the ultimate and conclusive test of technical competence.

I hope that parents and others 'listening in' will read this debunking of the AB System in the philosophical light of 'a thought for the day'. Both parents and teachers of instrumentalists are often faced with the problem of whether or not to enter a candidate for an exam. Sometimes a date-line target proves a constructive incentive to a hesitant pupil. The syllabus for any year can be a useful pointer in the choice and publishers of certain music. A drastic revision of the system is urgently needed, and one solution seems obvious to me; viz. regional music centres staffed by experts in each instrumental field. An assessment of a musician's progress on a more universally accepted scale would be but one of the advantages of such a scheme. May it not be long in coming.

Returning once more to the retrospective vein, I am happy to relate that the term ended with an enterprising festival of small orchestral music, an idea launched by Alastair Cuninghame, which will become, I hope, a permanent fixture. It provided a platform for several outstanding musicians on their way out—including Alastair (flute) and Stephen Loosemore (oboe). Richard Pike—one of our best pianists/violinists in recent years—will also be missed, especially for carrying the task of managing the music society during the past year. And to the future? Even now, two brand new pianos are being heaved past my window into their positions and these lists—more applications from would-be instrumentalists than even our large staff can handle. A good sign. ARLEF

Trip to Russia, 71

M Kendall

Malcolm Kendall was one of a large party of eighteen boys accompanied by three masters which visited Russia in the summer holiday. The venture appeared successful.

I was in a deep sleep when shouts and blows brought me round to semi-consciousness. A brief image of a uniformed guard made me grope for my passport and hand it over silently. In fact my fellow travellers had been trying to bring me round and the border guard was only saying, 'Pass Control!', in a very Russian accent. I found out later the guards searched our cabin and next door slit some peaches in half so that they had to be eaten. The bringing of fresh fruit into Russia is strictly forbidden.

The countryside on the way to Moscow was flat as far as the eye could see and was mainly cultivated or forest. Small wooden cottages gave the impression of primitive agriculture but the fields weren't so split up as in Poland. However, countryside eventually gave way to city. The station where we arrived was crowded and we had to stand in a large marble hall whilst waiting for our guide. This hall with its symbolic murals and idealism was one of many such buildings, grandiose in style, and very distinct from the actual style of life. Our hotel, a comfortable monstrosity, looked like something out of the 1920s but was in fact built in the early fifties. Red carpets, marble floors and electric chandeliers adorned the place.

The general tour, organised by Intourist, proved very interesting and Moscow's centre is very attractive. However the outskirts are drab, monotonous and uninviting which perhaps set off the centre. Generally litter was very scarce; the Russians are a very tidy people. On visiting the Underground, although no smoking was the rule I never saw any notices

to that effect. The stations were very impressive and seemed to be dedicated to some aspect of life such as sport and youth. The government likes to elevate certain ideals and give wide advertisement to these. These advertisements appear in the form of slogans on factories and displays of Lenin in the streets and other ways. We even saw slogans along the railway track. There seems to exist a kind of hyper-nationalism and this is evident in the Exhibition of Economic Achievements. The Exhibition is very large and interesting and there are fountains dedicated to the fifteen Soviets. I suspect a genuine fear that the Soviets with minority groups will cultivate a nationalism of their own, as with the Lithuanians and Estonians.

Nearer to the heart is the stomach and Russian food proved interesting if not pleasant. The meals were generally large and liquid. For instance at dinner there was cucumber, sour cream and spring onions for an aperitif, then a large bowl of chicken and noodle soup with chicken bones left in, and mainly red cabbage, potatoes and beef. Afterwards was 'kompot', a fruit drink with fruit, and white or black bread. The black rye bread had a strong taste and could only be managed in small doses. Water was provided though sometimes this was fizzy mineral water which is very popular. Sour cream proved my greatest enemy, spreading itself over a variety of dishes. Once sour cream was served neat. Soups were mainly thin but often it was anybody's guess what one would dredge up next. To compensate for this we each had a spoonful of Russian caviar at tea time.

By Russian standards we must have eaten well because the price of food in shops was extortionate. In fact a walk in the streets was very enlightening. The shops did not have 'JT Jones, Butchers' on the outside but just simply 'Meat'. All shops are state owned therefore no one has the right to put their name above it. Shops appeared very drab and the window displays were feeble, if present at all. Advertising is an expenditure wasted since people must buy from the state. The method of buying is worthy of note. After choosing something you receive a chit of paper saying how much it is and then pay this into a till where the chit is countersigned. Then, having taken your chit back, you receive the goods. Besides creating employment I can see no good in this system and although fine in theory it is poor in practice. This is one of many such things in the Soviet Union.

We again travelled by Russian train from Moscow to Leningrad and I must give credit to the railways. Since the track is wider the carriages are that much bigger and are very well designed and put the Euston to Perth night sleeper to shame. Other forms of transport also provided good services. Trolley buses, trams and buses all charge about two and a half pence for any distance. One group were taken for a one and a half hour ride in Leningrad for their two and a half pence because they mounted the wrong trolley bus! There are no conductors, only a voluntary collection box and self-ticket winder. This says much for Russian honesty.

Leningrad at once felt better than Moscow. Being close to the sea its air was very fresh and not at all stuffy as it had been in Moscow. It also has a very beautiful centre, more appealing than Moscow. Its name, 'Venice of the North', is true and the canals are distinctive and well ornamented. Leningrad was created from nothing by the Tsar Peter and contains several palaces in its environs. All of these were extensively damaged by the Germans and are not yet fully restored. Petrodvorets

palace needed an unusual trip by hydrofoil down the Neva river and was well worth the experience.

One evening three of us made the trip to a cinema. The film 'On Ice' was being shown, though it sounds better in Russian. It is a French comedy of mediocre quality but was well received by the audience. The seats were not tiered or sloped and were extremely hard. Moreover there were no attendants or ice cream saleswomen and smoking was out. This gave the feeling that one couldn't make it a night on the town.

To write anything about a visit to the Soviet Union and not mention the Beriozka system is like not mentioning the Reptile House at London Zoo. Beriozkas are foreign currency shops where Russian goods and souvenirs can be bought very cheaply. This attracts tourists and earns foreign currency for the Soviet Union. However, imagine a Russian coming to England and buying Wedgwood Pottery at a third of the price we pay. The obvious answer is to buy roubles at more than exchange rates and still make a profit. The exact opposite happens in Russia: dollars and pounds are worth two to three times their official rate on the black market. Economically the government loses and the practice is very illegal. We ourselves were accosted many times in the streets by black marketeers wishing to buy money. Not only money is bought but other items that are expensive or unobtainable to a Russian. One person was offered twenty-five pounds for a five pound jacket and another nine pounds for a pair of sunglasses and I was told chewing gum fetched one rouble (forty p) a stick. The black market is bad and a symptom of an unhealthy society. Also the clothes bought usually go to the teenagers thus widening the generation gap.

In writing about Russia one must always remember that at the beginning of the century the society was almost feudal and they have achieved much in such a short time. Anyway the trip was very interesting and of great value.

TASS Report

About one hundred members met at the Abbey Hall and Roysse Rooms for a sherry reception and buffet supper in June. They were received by the President, Mr WA Rudd.

The Abingdon School Society Initiative Award scheme was launched and applications were invited from boys for grants under the scheme. These were carefully considered by a committee and the following awards were made:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------|
| 1. Mark Evans | Archaeological Course | £7.50 |
| 2. Chris Terry et al. | Film on Dolgoed | £40.00 |
| 3. R M Thomas | Archaeological Card-index system
for Abingdon Museum | £5.00 |
| 4. Malcolm Taylor and Stephen Lambert | Athens.
Photography and study of architecture | £20.00 |
| 5. T Brook and C Chafer | Lausanne. Linguistic
Survey in two areas | £20.00 |
| 6. John Rawlinson | Pilot's Licence grant | £20.00 |

Extracts from some of the reports are given elsewhere in this issue of the magazine (see following articles and RAF report).

A TASS Awards Social evening is to be held on November 18 from 7.30pm onwards in the Court Room. Exhibits will be on view. Short talks

will be given by the award winners and it is hoped that the film will also be shown. This will be preceded by a sherry reception and followed by coffee and savouries prepared by the ladies of TASS. The evening will be free.

Preliminary plans have been made for a Christmas bazaar which will be held from 10.30am – 12.30pm in the Court Room on 27 November. The proceeds will be distributed in two ways. A sum of money will be set aside for the 1972 TASS Initiative awards while the remainder will go to TASS's contribution towards a squash court for the school. Any gift will find its way on to one of the stalls or cheques in lieu will be received most gratefully by the Treasurer, Mr RE Eason, 3 St James's Road, Radley, Abingdon; they should be made payable to The Abingdon School Society and crossed Bazaar Account.

It is hoped that many parents of new boys will join the Society so that they may get to know the school more intimately and enjoy the social and educational activities of the Society.

MW

Take me to a Swissman

Clive Chafer

Englishmen are commonplace in Geneva, centre of French-speaking Switzerland. So too are Spanish and Italians; and Americans as well. But the Swiss are scarce—or maybe we just passed them all by. . . .

We went to Geneva to tape the dialect of the area, you understand, and to compare it with the Parisian dialect. But it was not quite as easy as we had hoped. Although the first gentleman we spoke to was English, the balance was restored by an effusively helpful lady from Geneva who took us under her wing soon after our arrival. Spirits thus uplifted, we were left with nothing to show after two days' fruitless wandering in the city. It was not, however, for lack of opportunity that we failed. The list of 'clients' starts with a Spanish lady, continues with an Italian chef, an American tourist or four, and a German. It was only on the way out, literally, in a car between Geneva and Morges that we were able to get what we required from a pure, native Genevese.

Morges proved to be more fruitful, and we were able to move on towards Paris, armed with tape recordings by a nun, an office clerk, and a secretary, and a dissertation on the dialects of the area by a lorry-driver, less than a day later, as planned. This in itself was a little disappointing, for Morges was by far the most beautiful place at which we stayed in Switzerland.

Moving to Paris proved to be more than just an academic exercise in itself. After hitching only forty kms in a day, we were very lucky to arrive in Paris the following day.

Here, however, our problems were solved. In the space of a single day we managed to complete all the recordings, and see the city by day and night. Our luck remained healthy as we returned towards England, for we arrived only twelve hours after leaving Paris on a wet Sunday afternoon. The work of tape editing and consolidation of our discoveries began, and conclusions were drawn. Briefly, although neither area had a definite dialect, the slow Swiss drawl made excellent contrast with the swift-spoken Parisian.

Enough of academia, let me give a few words of advice to any further intrepid discoverers there may be, like ourselves. There are certain qualities that are vital for any degree of success: patience, nerve, a sensitive

ear, and a sixth sense—to pick out the native. Do not be daunted, as indeed my engineer and I remained undaunted, if opportunities do not arise, or if you persist in choosing foreigners. Just look for someone in a boiler suit—surely he will not be far from home? . . . or will he? If not, don't worry. Just say 'Take me to a Swissman!' It might work.

Our Journey to Athens

Malcolm Taylor

The morning of the 10 July 1971 was a very clear one, and the white cliffs of Dover looked marvellous. The sea was very calm and we had a pleasant trip to Calais, but to our dismay we found it engulfed in mist.

We were soon on our way to Versailles; the tendency to drive on the left did not leave us for an hour or so. We arrived at about six and soon found a camp site, near Louis XIV's vast palace. After a meal of beans, steak and creamed rice, we walked around the great palace and its beautiful gardens.

The next day saw an early start. We were on our way to Geneva, on the great autoroute that stretches from Paris to Marseilles. We reached Geneva in the evening and pitched tent next to Lac Léman. The next morning we woke up to discover that the car had a puncture. On went the spare wheel and we journeyed to Lausanne where we had it mended. From there we went to Brig and again pitched camp, this time amongst mountainous terrain. Monza was our next resting place, after a drive across the beautiful Simplon Pass in Switzerland south into Milan. We camped near the famous Monza race track.

The following day we motored to Venice, where we spent several hours sight-seeing. It was an effort to leave such a lovely city, especially after three days driving, but we pressed forward only to start what turned out to be a marathon journey through Yugoslavia. Tales of the bad Yugoslavian roads certainly lived up to their reputation—one stretch between Titograd and Pec, near Albania, was no more than a sheep track and speed was reduced to five mph and we were appalled by the number of begging children.

We were relieved to reach the Greek border where the customs officials welcomed us in a friendly manner. From there we travelled the length of Greece, visiting Thessalonika en route and reached Athens by late evening. The next day we took photographs of the Acropolis and made notes for our project. Although we enjoyed our seven-day stay in Athens, we were disappointed with the city itself. Apart from the Acropolis it had little to offer.

For the remaining seven weeks we travelled across Europe, visiting Corfu, Italy (Rome was fascinating) on to France and Spain.

Dolgoed

The Summer Term's activities at Dolgoed were mainly devoted to the third form visits. This year, however, they very nearly had to be cancelled. The Land Rover, having limped back from Wales in April after demolishing an American tourist's car (but fortunately not the driver or anyone else), was found to have a bent chassis. Three chassis and seventeen weeks later it was repaired. In the meantime it was only a chance remark by the Headmaster at a parents' evening which led to the very generous

offer of an identical vehicle on loan from Dr and Mrs Lennox that enabled the ventures to proceed.

This year also we were able to call on fewer staff—not a reflection of lack of support for these activities, but an indication of the number of commitments outside normal teaching time. Here again generous help was forthcoming and Mr M Ackroyd of Ripon Hall and Mr AW Davies, of Culham College, student and parent respectively, bravely took on responsibility for unknown boys in unknown territory. The Headmaster also visited Dolgoed for the first time and, although his stay was brief, he was able to see the place well and truly in action.

The projects were perhaps a little disappointing in view of the experience we now have of this part of Wales. We have however tried to get a little further afield and we have added literary and sociological projects to the repertoire. Founder's day came upon us quickly enough to have an excuse for a somewhat limited exhibition, but it is quite clear that we have not realised Dolgoed's potential yet.

During the summer holiday three parties made visits. Mr Lewis took a group of fourth formers down to find out what the place is really like without the pressure of projects. Mr Moody took a party of lower sixth formers, mainly biologists, and Mr Skinner celebrated the end of the holiday there with some of the Scouts. HE

Projects and the Oxford Science Fair

Abingdon School was again represented at the Oxford Science Fair in 1971, but the Science Fair projects were only a few chosen from an increasing amount of project work within the School, as Mr Woolnough here explains:

I wonder what your picture of science is? A vast mass of facts that must be learnt? It is true that there is a corpus of knowledge that must be understood before a mature scientific education is achieved, but this is only one side of the coin. Much of science is tied up with discovery, personal investigations, and creative invention which lead to a more exciting involvement with the subject being studied. And it is this side which has become increasingly meaningful to Sixth Form scientists doing project work, and which was suitably summarised at the Oxford Science Fair.

Project work has continued to grow over the last year in the physics, the physical science and the physical welfare courses. Pupils are faced with a genuine practical problem of investigation and have to devise, design, construct and execute methods of solving these problems. They are often small pieces of real, original, scientific research. Projects have varied from making and studying fuel cells to an investigation into rusting, from the analysis of movement during a weight lift to testing the properties of resins to be used in superconducting magnets (a project linked with the Rutherford Labs), from photographing a golf ball on impact to measuring a person's heart response with a home made electrocardiograph (see following article). And, though the essence of much project work is 'the string and sealing wax' approach, we have been fortunate in having advice and apparatus loaned to us from the real professionals in the area, so that pupils have been able to use modern, sophisticated apparatus and techniques. Such items as photo multipliers, Resascopes, clock gauges,

Polaroid cameras and liquid nitrogen, as well as the materials testing machine, have all been involved in the labs over the last six months. Perhaps it would be appropriate here to express our thanks to our contacts and benefactors, particularly at the Rutherford Lab, at the Clarendon Labs, and at Instrons.

In many ways the Oxford Science Fair epitomised something of this fun and excitement of science as we and forty-four other schools, along with twenty other exhibitors, showed something of our work in the School over the past year. The Fair was held in Oxford Polytechnic from the eighth to the thirteenth July. It was opened by Patrick Moore—who proved to be even larger in life than on a twenty-one inch screen—and was visited by something like 11,000 people, both school children and adults. The exhibits, and the exhibitors, proved a fascinating mixture, ranging from junior schools, through secondary schools to the Polytechnic and research establishments. It is impossible to capture much of the flavour of the kaleidoscopic variety of projects which included expanded polystyrene go cards, mallard and trout breeding, remote controlled helicopters, holography, mouse genetic experiments, laser roulette, stream pollution studies, linear induction motors and electromagnetic bombers for model aeroplanes. Our own exhibits were the Rutherford resin project, a photographic analysis of golf, and a study of human movement based on the weight lifter and incorporating the electrocardiograph (ECG).

Abiding memories of the fair are many; the fascination of liquid nitrogen to 'grubby junior school kids', the unusual and lengthy interest shown by some rather attractive young ladies for some of our 'exhibits', Mr Brodie stripped to the waist demonstrating the ECG, a ten year old whizz-kid explaining the operation of his computer to our mathematical experts, two tons of straw bales being brought in to form the mallard lake, the magnetic attraction of the statistical analysis of a 'one armed bandit', and of course the suspense and then the exhilaration of being chosen by the BBC team to appear on the TV programme, 'Young Scientists of the Year', again. This time the ECG project is to be shown.

Is this project work, was the Science Fair, all worth while? It certainly involved a lot of time and energy. The answer that you would get from all those involved is certainly 'yes'. There is nothing like the exhilaration of success when your experiment, despite all the problems and all the early failures, does, through your own efforts and skills, actually work! And the awareness that others, both young and old, are genuinely interested and impressed by your projects at a Science Fair, can be very satisfying too. On top of which you learn what science is all about—it's great fun really!

BEW

Human Performance — a new concept of physical education

Mr Brodie arrived two years ago, together with a Physical Welfare Department. Both are flourishing and since their debut have made great strides.

In many teaching situations the master-dominated lesson is being substituted with a student-project approach. This equally applies within Physical Education where the questions why, how and what are being asked by senior boys.

If the reader has observed a mysterious green mini van (soon to be replaced by a Fiat 500) being driven around Waste Court field with a lone runner seemingly attached to it by a flexible tube, he probably does not appreciate that the volume of expired air and respiration rate was being monitored continuously. From these readings, and the percentage of oxygen in this expired air, the subject's energy expenditure can be calculated.

In conjunction with the Physics Department an electrocardiograph has been built which enables the heart rate (exercise or resting) to be monitored remotely. This particular project has been selected by the BBC to appear on the programme 'Young Scientists of the Year' as a result of the successful appearance in the Oxford Schools Science Fair.

A recent addition to the PE Department is a bicycle ergometer which is a stationary bicycle in which the force on the pedals can be varied, and thus the work load can be accurately calculated. This enables boys to be tested under conditions which are highly repeatable and their performance from both a physical and physiological aspect can be assessed.

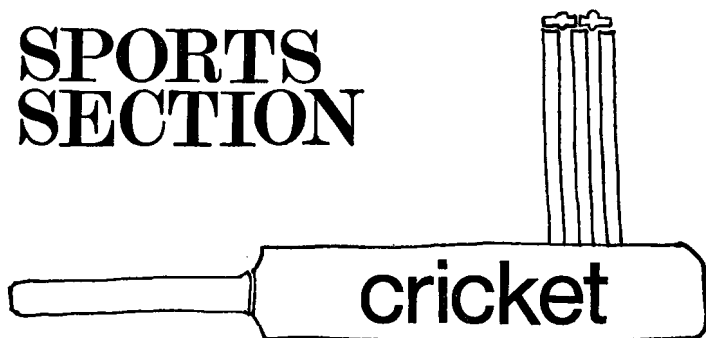
The bicycle ergometer can also be utilised to push a boy to the limits of his physical endurance (defined by his inability to maintain a pedalling rate of fifty revolutions per minute minute). This tremendous overload of his cardio-respiratory systems may carry over to other sporting activities and indicate the suitability of his organic function for top level participation. We have already had a member of the Henley rowing crew reaching a heart rate of 216 beats per minute!

As the lung function testing programme enters its third year the mass of data is beginning to be organized and analysed, and the results to date are proving of interest to many people involved in sports medicine.

The next stage is to establish a permanent Human Performance Laboratory, Heathcot Studio being the likely choice. So if the reader should pass the laboratory and be concerned about mysterious groans, grunts and gasps, don't creep away on tip-toe but come in and volunteer to be a subject—you may surprise yourself.

DAB

SPORTS SECTION



This year we were very glad to welcome David Bagshaw as our new groundsman in succession to the late Gerald Smithson. Aided by OAs Stephen Boyers and 'Jerry' Godfrey, David Bagshaw has done a fine job on the grounds as a whole and on the cricket squares in particular. His cheerful help in the nets, as an umpire and as a member of the MCR

XI has also already proved to be most valuable. War Memorial Field took on a slightly new look, too, with the resiting of the nets and the acquisition of the new sight screens, in memory of Gerald, which were purchased with the proceeds of the TASS Appeal. We are most grateful to all those who contributed so handsomely to this fund. A third cricket square is now being developed on Lower Field; this will help to ease the pressure on Upper Field in the future. Thanks are due, too, to Miss Bellamy-Law and her staff for once again providing excellent lunches, and to Mrs Deane and her TASS team of mothers for maintaining the growing tradition of giving us 'the best teas this year', to quote one of the First Eleven. We are sorry that Ross Clayton and Robert Lewis will not be with us next season; I am personally most grateful to them for their help with the Junior Colts and the Minors respectively, and to all those too numerous to mention individually who helped to organise and coach cricket throughout the school. A 3rd XI was revived this year in place of the Colts.

First Eleven:

As the record shows the 1st XI had a very disappointing season as far as results are concerned. A new attack had to be found (only Julian Shellard and Richard Savory, who unfortunately lost both form and confidence, remained from last year's experienced bowling side), and it was clear that in order to achieve a winning score a lot would depend on the individual success of the major batsmen. While the bowling predictably improved in accuracy as the season progressed (in the early matches how sorely Michael Varley and Stephen Boyers were missed!), runs were in sadly short supply as Julian Shellard, Graham Pike, Paul Abraham and Andrew Snodgrass struggled to find their form. As it happened the last fortnight of term—was it freedom from exams or the even plumber batting wickets?—brought a change of fortune for Julian and Graham. It was perhaps ironic that what must have been one of the most stimulating and brilliant school partnerships for many years (134 for the second wicket between Shellard and Pike in the last match against the Old Boys) should have come so late in the season. Shellard showed then, and in the Alligators week, what one knew he was capable of, but with what was perhaps a combination of the cares of captaincy, a tendency towards losing concentration and a too-often fatal weakness on the leg stump, he was inclined to lose his wicket for a modest rather than a commanding score. No one would have begrudged him the half dozen runs which would have given him a fine century in the OA match. Graham Pike, too, showed his true worth rather belatedly. He, like Andrew Snodgrass, who threatened much but achieved little with the bat, showed a strange reserve and lack of confidence for much of the season. Nevertheless, Pike's fine 64 not out against High Wycombe and his 68 off the OAs were memorable innings. Paul Abraham made one half century, against the MCR XI; he will make more next year. James Cox, playing sensibly within his limitations, chipped in with a number of useful scores and Peter Price, happily back to the game after missing all last season, began and ended with a flourish but ran into an unproductive patch in the middle. Michael Bennett, no mean performer, and Richard Griffiths showed an unexpected defiance by surviving almost an hour for the last wicket to thwart the Incogniti.

It was nice to see a leg-spinner topping the bowling averages. Anthony

Baumann, well handled by his captain, kept his head, line and length and deserved his successes. He has learnt a lot and it will be interesting to see next year if he can contain the good batsman who uses his feet to him. Another fifth former, Richard Griffiths, came into the side at the beginning of June and bowled his inswingers with intelligence and distinct promise. He will remember the season for claiming five MCC wickets, including a certain ER Dexter's for a modest 9 runs. Griffiths should do very well next year. Julian Shellard, although he was inclined sometimes to bowl too long, took most wickets and bowled with great heart; he was supported with the new ball by Michael Bennett and David Longman. Bennett bowled a much better length but his line was often astray. His 5 for 23 against Incogniti was his personal highlight. Longman impressed by his sheer enthusiasm and determination and improved greatly. His marathon spell for over two hours against Bloxham was a remarkable effort and reflected his strength and persistence. He would have been a considerable schoolboy bowler, if he had maintained his improvement, were he to have stayed on to the sixth form. Nigel Matthews showed glimpses of his talent with both bat and ball on occasions but his day is yet to come.

If any side needed the support of outstanding fielding this inexperienced attack did. What in fact happened is a mystery. The standard of ground fielding (Graham Pike and Andrew Snodgrass were outstandingly good in this department) was generally first-class, and the throwing in equally so; all but two of the eleven had an excellent 'arm'. All sides, of course, drop catches, but some more than others. From the point of view of forcing a win in half-day games far too many were, regrettably, put down. On the other hand, Shellard achieved an unforgettable caught and bowled against Radley—a remarkable diving catch to his left. Paul Abraham kept wicket quite competently and Angus McPhail, on his one appearance as a reserve, showed his youthful promise.

Two other individuals must be mentioned. Firstly, James Dunkerley. It was a tragedy both for him and the side that his shoulder trouble prevented him from playing. His left arm bowling (how good he looked in the early net sessions) and his aggressive batting would have been valuable assets. And, secondly, our scorer, John Hills, who once more kept us fully informed to the second decimal place.

During the holidays Julian Shellard played regularly for the Berkshire Bantams, and Graham Pike, Andrew Snodgrass, Paul Abraham, David Longman and Nigel Matthews also represented the Bantams on occasions.

The Senior Knock-out was interrupted by rain and the cup was therefore shared between Tesdale and Blacknall. The Junior Knock-out was also shared, this time between Tesdale and Reeves after an appalling muddle over the true score at the end of an exciting match (John Hills was not in attendance). Tesdale, however, definitely won the Junior League. Shellard won the Fletcher Cup for batting and the Morris Cup as best all-rounder.

During the term full colours were awarded to GF Pike and AR Snodgrass. Half colours went to MT Bennett, AW Baumann, PD Price D Longman, N Matthews and RHD Griffiths.

The final eleven were: JJ Shellard (captain), AR Snodgrass (secretary), GF Pike, JL Cox, PM Abraham, MT Bennett, PD Price, AW Baumann, DJ Longman, NE Matthews and RHD Griffiths. RHL Savory, MC Harding and AW McPhail also played.

NHP

Played 14; Won 0; Lost 7; Drawn 7.

Newbury Grammar School	Sat 1 May (h)	Drawn
N 161/7 dec (Baumann 5.75)	A 67/5	
Radley	Sat 8 May (h)	Lost/40 runs
R 198 (Shellard 5.46)	A 158 (Price 40)	
Oratory School	Wed 12 May (a)	Lost/6 wks
A 64 O 65/4		
Brentwood	Sat 15 May (a)	Lost/3 wks
A 131 (Shellard 48)	B 135/7	
Berkshire Gentlemen	Wed 19 May (h)	Lost/175 runs
BG 258/7 dec (Baumann 4.110)	A 83	
Abingdon Cricket Club	Sat 22 May (h)	Drawn
ACC 188/2 dec A 122/8 (Cox 46, Shellard 33)		
NH Payne's Common Room XI	Wed 2 June (h)	Lost/8 wks
A 152/7 dec (Abraham 54)	NHP 155/2 (AA Hillary 79 no)	
Pangbourne College	Sat 5 June (h)	Drawn
P 155/7 dec (Bauman 4.49)	A 143/8 (Abraham 35, Pike 34)	
Incogniti	Sat 12 June (h)	Drawn
I 161/9 dec (Bennett 5.23)	A 111/9	
MCC	Wed 16 June (h)	Lost/133 runs
MCC 226/8 dec (Griffiths 5.47)	A 93	
RGS High Wycombe	Sat 3 July (h)	Drawn
A 171/5 dec (Pike 64 no)	HW 125/6	
Magdalen College School	Mon 5 July (h)	Lost/56 runs
MCS 214 (Longman 4.42)	A 158 (Shellard 85)	
Bloxham School	Wed 7 July (h)	Drawn
B 111/9 dec (Shellard 5.34)	A 91/5	
OA	Fri 9 and Sat 10 July (h)	Drawn
OA 211/8 dec (Jackson 64, Baumann 5.67) and 205/7 dec (Bent 46, AJ Varley 44)		
A 211/4 dec (Shellard 94, Pike 68) and 191/5 (Price 51 no, Cox 39, Shellard 38, Pike 38)		
Matches against Pembroke College and Reading School were cancelled.		

1st XI Averages

Batting Averages (Qualification 6 innings):

	Innings	Not Out	Runs	Highest Score	Average
JJ Shellard	15	0	444	94	29.6
GF Pike	15	1	340	68	24.3
JL Cox	15	2	221	46	17.0
PD Price	14	3	168	51*	15.3
PM Abraham	14	0	186	54	13.1
MT Bennett	11	5	75	22*	12.5
RHL Savory	6	2	48	17	12.0
NE Matthews	9	3	70	17*	11.7
AR Snodgrass	15	0	155	26	10.3
DJ Longman	8	2	36	15	6.0
AW Baumann	9	3	25	10	4.2

Bowling Averages (Qualification 6 wickets):

*Not out

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
AW Baumann	116	13	444	25	17.7
JJ Shellard	185	54	532	26	20.4
MT Bennett	79	12	275	13	21.1
DJ Longman	162	37	474	18	26.3
RHD Griffiths	73	15	282	9	31.3
NE Matthews	38	2	231	6	38.3

Abingdon Alligators

Alligators Week was made memorable by some superb weather, good wickets and three very good games of cricket. We recovered well against South Oxfordshire Amateurs to be within striking distance with David Bent going great guns, but his old impetuosity was his and our downfall. Against the Cricket Club we were in a commanding position at 120 for 7 with Andrew Varley still to come but again we failed to take a proper grip on the situation. Probably the best game of all was with Burntwood CC, a new fixture. Tremendous batting by Nurton and Hill enabled us to declare after two hours forty-two minutes, leaving our opponents three hours and five minutes. They chased the runs furiously but some tight bowling at the end enabled us to hold up what looked like being a winning onslaught. The School players did well, whether playing for or against us. Our thanks are due to all those who have made this week possible and we are particularly grateful to David Bagshaw for giving us such splendid playing conditions in the best Memorial Field tradition.

AAH

- v South Oxfordshire Amateurs 12 July 1971 Lost
SOA 206 for 9 dec (S Boyers 3 for 51)
Alligators 180 (P Abraham 31, DAM Bent 36)
- v Abingdon Cricket Club 13 July 1971 Lost
Abingdon CC 134 (J Shellard 4 for 31, S Boyers 3 for 31)
Alligators 129 (J Shellard 52, M Varley 5 for 39)
- v Berkshire Gentlemen 14 July 1971 Won
Alligators 218 (AJ Varley 60, MJ Hill 56)
Berkshire Gentlemen 148 (M Varley 3 for 40, S Boyers 3 for 29)
- v Burntwood Cricket Club 15 July 1971 Drawn
Alligators 259 for 4 dec (MD Nurton 127, MJ Hill 103 no)
Burntwood CC 240 for 7 (GF Pike 69 no, M Nurton 3 for 44)
- v Berkshire Bantams 16 July 1971 Drawn
Alligators 239 for 6 dec (MD Nurton 65 no, MJ Hill 50)
Berkshire Bantams 183 for 7 (GF Pike 53 no, P Abraham 39).

Second Eleven:

Apart from a wet spell in the middle of the term (which ended a run of thirty-four matches since the last game cancelled by rain—in July 1968!) the team was very lucky with the weather and played eleven of its thirteen fixtures.

After having rather the better of a draw at Newbury, the team easily defeated Oratory and recovered from a bad start to win handsomely the all-day match at Brentwood. We made too few runs to have much chance against Abingdon Cricket Club and the target of 197 in under two hours proved beyond us at Radley, but we were much too strong for the

weakest side that Wantage has had for years. Then came the only really unsatisfactory game of the season, when, after doing well to bowl Shiplake out on an excellent pitch, we ignored a large pavilion clock and dismally failed to achieve the victory that should have been ours. After a fort-night's break for the GCE, we were unable to dislodge High Wycombe, narrowly lost a splendid all-day game with a touring side from Yorkshire and easily defeated Bloxham. It was a pity that the side kept its worst batting for the last match, but fortunately the spectators had already enjoyed the most impressive batting produced by the OAs for many years.

The batting was brittle. Although Deane, Maude and Terry all played some good innings, only Harding scored a fifty. The most pleasing feature of the batting was the improvement of those played for their bowling (notably Harris and Wojciechowski) who several times rescued the side from the prospect of a meagre total.

The bowling was much better: Atkinson took twenty-three wickets at trivial cost (and will be very good when he gains better control over his length and direction) and few sides contain four left-arm bowlers. Indeed, such was Terry's embarrassment of riches that Wallace (playing in his third and last season for the team) could be given only nineteen overs in seven games and it was not until the last few matches (when the fast bowlers had been reduced from five to two) that Walters and Clift had a chance to bowl their off-breaks.

Although we were outshone by several of our opponents, the fielding was quite good for a side that contained several players not noted for fleetness of foot. Harding was outstandingly good and some excellent catches were held. But the throwing was more enthusiastic than accurate and neither Terry nor Deane had a very happy time behind the stumps.

Changes in the 1st XI and anxiety about 'A' Levels meant that only four people played in all the matches. This made Terry's task as captain a difficult one. Much credit is due to the team (especially its senior members) for the way in which they rallied round and cooperated with him and with each other. The result was a most enjoyable season, of which all who played or watched will have happy memories.

The following played in seven or more of the matches: AC Atkinson, AC Clift, RE Deane, MC Harding, PJS Harris, FAA Maude, RHL Savory, DPC Smith, CB Terry (Captain), CA Wallace, AJ Walters and J Wojciechowski. RHD Griffiths played four times, and SMJ Hobson, DJ Longman, NE Matthews, RA Ward and RG Wood once. HTR

Results: Played 11; Won 4; Lost 3; Drawn 4.

St Bartholomew's, Newbury	1 May (a)	Drawn
A 119/8 dec	N 79/7 (Longman 5.16)	
Oratory School	12 May (h)	Won/7 wkts
O 63 A 65/3		
Brentwood School	15 May (a)	Won/73 runs
A 176 B 103 (Griffiths 5.34)		
Abingdon Cricket Club	22nd May (a)	Lost/8 wkts
A 100 ACC 104/2		
Radley College	5 June (a)	Drawn
R 196.5 dec A 120/7 (Harding 52)		
King Alfred's School, Wantage, 1st XI	16 June (a)	Won/10 wkts
Wantage 47 (Atkinson 5.11) A 48/0		

Shiplake College 1st XI S 96 (Atkinson 6.36)	19 June (a)	Drawn
A 74/6		
RGS, High Wycombe A 121 HW 82/5	3 July (a)	Drawn
Oakwood School O 118 A 114	6 July (h)	Lost/4 runs
Bloxham School B 78 (Savory 6.17)	7 July (a)	Won/9 wkts
A 79/1		
OA	10 July (h)	Lost/94 runs
OA 200/5 dec (Neilan 66; D Morris 65)	A 106	

Third Eleven:

A successful and enjoyable term's cricket. Three matches, it is true, were cancelled through rain, but of the four that were played, three were won, and the other drawn—the last against St Edward's, when, after three wickets for eight runs, a long rearguard action saved the day. The team made up in enthusiasm and enjoyment what it lacked in expertise, and was ably led by G Pearce, who backed up considerable skill in handling his team on the field with some fine batting. His men managed to take their cricket seriously without ever taking themselves seriously, and this gave them just the right attitude to the game. Ward's four off the last ball of the match against Westminster College, and Jones' two catches against Pangbourne are for me the best memories of a happy season.

The team was made up from Pearce (captain), Carrington, Clift, Chafer, Stimpson, Ward, Walters, Gould, Corner, Wood, Jones, Cole, Murray, Moth, Hanney and Tammadge. Clift and Walters were stolen from us by the Second Eleven quite early in the season. LCJG

Results:

28 April	v Westminster College 2nd XI (a)	Won. WC 64 (Ward 7.19)
	A 66/6 (Ward 30 no)	
1 May	v St Edward's a)	Drawn. SE 123 (Gould 3.1) A 53/8
12 May	v Oratory (a)	Won. O 110 (Chafer 5.38) A 111/4
5 June	v Pangbourne College 2nd XI	Won. P 86 (Chafer 6.45, Cole 4.29) A 87/3 (Pearce 37 no)

Junior Colts:

This side had such an impressive record as Juniors that much was expected of them this year. The early results were good but it was not altogether surprising when the team disintegrated in the second half of the season. The players seemed to lack the application to make the most of their talents or to turn themselves into an aggressive match-winning side. Several of their victories in the previous year had been by such wide margins as to make the matches almost non-contests and consequently they did not know how to get the better of sides who were technically their inferiors but less impressionable than the younger opponents of the past.

The batsmen felt that opportunities to practise their art were too few, as indeed they were, but we still compared favourably with most of our opponents in this respect. A bigger problem was that they were mentally unprepared, lacking the concentration necessary to get on top of an attack. The bowlers, too, must take much of the blame for their failure. In practice, as in matches, they pitched on the stumps two or three times

an over to our opponents four and the batsmen were consequently tied down against accurate, but otherwise ordinary, opposition. The faster bowlers particularly neglected line and length, two of them spending energy on run-ups longer than that of one current Test match opening bowler. Had we played both in the side our over-rate could have averaged about fourteen per hour, absurd in any class of cricket.

Had more coaching time been available the team might perhaps have been as well engaged with Mr Brodie as with Mr Bagshaw. Cricketers need to be as fit as other games-players and the poor running in the field and between the wickets on which Mr Taylor commented in last October's *Abingdonian* was still a feature of the play. The healthier bodies might also have nurtured wits sharp enough to cut down on the regular visits to the Detention Room on match afternoons.

Nevertheless these boys have an abundance of skill and talent and if their gifts can be stiffened with application and character they will make a superb First Eleven when the time comes. Jonathan Seaver, the captain, is a delight to watch, as are many of his batsmen on their day. Sound and orthodox in defence, he times the ball beautifully, and in addition he was the most accurate and persistent of the bowlers. Patrick Cook also caught the eye. He was the batsman who best knew how to deal with a bad ball and as the season advanced he made himself into an extremely hostile fast bowler.

Choosing a composite eleven from the six Junior Colt sides I have known, I find two of this year's side in the line-up of M Varley, S Hobson, M Hill, A Varley, J Dunkerley, J Seaver, R Griffiths, S Boyers, M Harfield, N Cook and R Nancarrow. If Mr Clayton could arrange an Australian tour two more would join the touring side, now completed by A Baumann, P Evans, N Matthews, A McPhail, J Nichol and R Savory. These are the players who seemed to play the most effective and attractive cricket as Junior Colts. The lesson behind this exercise lies in the realisation that some of them never reached the First Eleven in which many of those omitted enjoyed distinguished careers.

This year's team was: JP Seaver (Captain), CDG Driver, PH Evans, DS Mason, KPM Taylor (played 11 times), PD Cook, ARP Mushens (10), RJ Frost, SMJ Hobson, AW McPhail (9), GW Woolley (7), JN Oakley (3), IC Gillis, D Herbert, G Horwood (2), IB Cowan, N Litchfield, G Terry (1) [Bloxham match not included]. CJWO

Results:

Newbury GS	1 May (a)	Won/7 wks
N 68 (Driver 4.17)	A 75/3 (Seaver 48 no)	
Shiplake College	5 May (h)	Won/39 runs
A 166/3 dec (Hobson 46, Evans 56, McPhail 34 no)		
SC 127 (Taylor 3.10, Mason 4.37)		
Oratory	12 May (a)	Won/6 wks
O 91 (Mason 3.30)	A 92/4	
Burford	19 May (a)	Won/101 runs
A 127/8	B 26 (Driver 6.16, Taylor 3.9)	
Blessed Edmund Campion School	22 May (h)	Drawn
A 114.8 (Frost 42)	EC 97/9 (Taylor 4.18)	
Carmel College	26 May (a)	Won/8 runs
A 101 (Driver 31)	C 93 (Seaver 4.10)	

Pangbourne College	2 June (a)	Drawn
A 117/5 (Driver 39) F 113/5		
Radley College	5 June (a)	Drawn
R 166/4 A 113/7 (Mushens 34)		
Bearwood College	9 June (a)	Lost/5 wkts
A 70 B 71/5		
Magdalen College School	19 June (h)	Lost/8 wkts
A 103/8 M 104/2		
RGS High Wycombe	3 July (h)	Lost/25 runs
HW 94 (Cook 4.15) A 69		

Details of a good performance at Bloxham on 8 July are unfortunately not available.

Junior Eleven:

In many respects, this was a disappointing season. Although we knew that our attack would be suspect, our batting looked powerful—at least as powerful as in the two previous seasons.

In fact, the early part of the season seemed to confirm, and even exceed, our hopes. We won the first four matches easily, indicating first that we had a strong, dependable opening pair, and later that we could bat in depth. The first seven batsmen had all made respectable scores by the end of the fourth match. Even more encouraging, the attack had each time dismissed our opponents very cheaply. Our opening bowlers, Price, Cowan and Howat, looked aggressive, even intimidating; Davies promised to develop into a very useful change bowler, and our slow bowlers looked hopeful, if erratic.

Then something seemed to happen. First, we lost the ability to get sides out, then our batting became more tentative, less self-confident. We drew two matches, against Bearwood and Magdalen, which we should have won easily, and were comprehensively beaten by Oxford School, who adapted much better to miserably cold conditions and a spongy wicket. We were given a lesson in that match in batting technique and teamwork in the field, which unfortunately we did not benefit from. We lost two more matches before the end of the season, and only won (with a very depleted side) against a weak Cokethorpe team.

It seems to me that there were several reasons for this rather disappointing performance; firstly, our batsmen, although extremely talented and promising, lacked the technique, and sometimes the temperament, to apply themselves to awkward conditions. Secondly, our bowlers tended to lose heart, and with it their length and direction, if they were pressed. Thirdly, in the field we dropped far too many catches. And fourthly, the team failed too often to rise above themselves and drive home an advantage.

But there was plenty to remember with pleasure. Simon Johnson will be a very exciting batsman when he cures his tendency to lift his head when playing forward. Jeremy Taylor steadily increased in confidence as the season progressed. Paul Betts hits the ball as hard as I have seen any Junior in recent years. Tony Davies, Michael Stimpson and Robert Price all played innings of great promise. The bowling of Iain Cowan, Robert Price and Michael Howat in particular was sometimes aggressive and exciting to watch.

We tried both Michael Stimpson and Paul Betts as captain during the season. Both handled their fielders and bowlers competently, but neither

really managed to inspire their team at critical moments. However, they were very willing to learn and very cooperative, and I am grateful to them for all that they did.

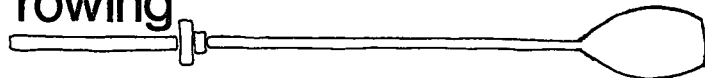
I should also like to thank Mr Lewis, Mr Hillary and the Rev Hugh Pickles for all the valuable assistance that they gave us during the season.

The team was: M Stimpson, P Betts, S Johnson, J Taylor, R Price, A Davies, M Howat, J Barton, I Cowan, P Noble, R Holder, H Rance, G Walters. Also played: M Wartke, C Baumann, G Green, S Cromie, A Allen. DCT

Results:

1 May	Newbury GS	Won/10 wks.	N 59 (Price 4.5)	A 60/0
	(Johnson 42 no)			
12 May	Oratory	Won/8 wks.	O 76 (Cowan 5.10)	A 80/2
	(Johnson 44 no)			
19 May	Burford GS	Won/92 runs.	A 137/5 dec (Davies 36)	
	B 45 (Cowan 4.16, Price 3.6)			
2 June	Pangbourne	Won/83 runs.	A 131/5 dec P 48 (Price 4.15, Howat 3.11)	
9 June	Bearwood	Drawn.	A 109/7 dec (Betts 37)	B 65/7
16 June	Oxford School	Lost/93 runs.	O 148/3 dec (Lonregan 91 no)	
	A 55			
19 June	Magdalen CS	Drawn.	A 138/5 dec (Taylor J 62 no) M 76/8 (Cowan 4.11)	
23 June	Cokethorpe U15	Won/17 runs	A 81 C 64 (Taylor J 4.16)	
3 July	RGS High Wycombe	Lost/7 wks.	A 89 (Betts 43)	HW 90/3
7 July	Bloxham School	Lost/1 wkt	A 121 (Price 30)	Bloxham 122/9

rowing



It is very pleasant to record that this has been a highly successful and satisfactory year for the Boat Club. Three eights, a sculler and a four competed at regattas with a fair measure of success, and some thirty youngsters joined the ranks and were initiated into the mysteries of rowing. The new eight arrived after an agonising delay, was named Gryphon after her honoured but defunct predecessor, and took to the water amidst the customary libations to the river gods. We were delighted to welcome Mrs Anderson to the Boat Club to perform the naming ceremony, and to mark the occasion by installing Mr Anderson as a member of the Gryphon Boat Club.

Pride of place in the account of this season belongs of course to the First Eight. The heavyweights in the stern opened the proceedings by winning the Schools section of the Abingdon Head and the School Fours at the delightful Chalmore Invitation Regatta, hotly pursued by the light-weight bow four. The eight was then formed and sallied forth, together with the Colts Eight, to Thames Ditton Regatta, so often a happy hunting ground in previous years. Alas, both crews were defeated in the opening round of their respective events and returned home suffering mild shock! The First Eight went to Chiswick Regatta the following week in a mood

of aggressive determination and won the Junior Eights, in two races rowing their opponents down from behind. The new boat arrived on this day, and the crew had four outings to get used to her before setting off for Cambridge Regatta. They achieved a measure of control over this very lively craft, and again demolished the opposition to win Juniors for the second time; an excellent performance. At Reading Junior Regatta the following weekend they lost the closest of races to Shiplake College in the School Eights, having defeated a Radley crew in the first round. At this regatta the Colts Eight, determined not to be outdone, covered themselves with glory by coming second to Bryanston in the Colts Eights event and defeating both Radley Colts Eights in the process. Tim Hughes was a finalist here in Novice Sculls and the Novice Four reached their final also.

Then came the National Schools Regatta. A week of rain ruined this event, because on a four-lane upstream course most of the races were decided by the draw. The First Eight did well to reach the final of the Child-Beale Cup and the Colts the semi-final of their events. The Junior Colts were pleased to beat their opposite numbers from Westminster. At Pangbourne and Whitchurch Regatta the First Eight had their first appearance in Junior-Senior Eights and again reached the final, but conditions were as bad as ever and so the results were again inconclusive. The Colts, knowing that this would be their last appearance of the season, pulled out all the stops, took advantage of what luck went their way, and won the Novice Eights event in a thrilling and decisive manner, thus retaining the cup which the senior crew had won last year. Tim Hughes came second in the final of the Novice Sculls, a splendid effort.

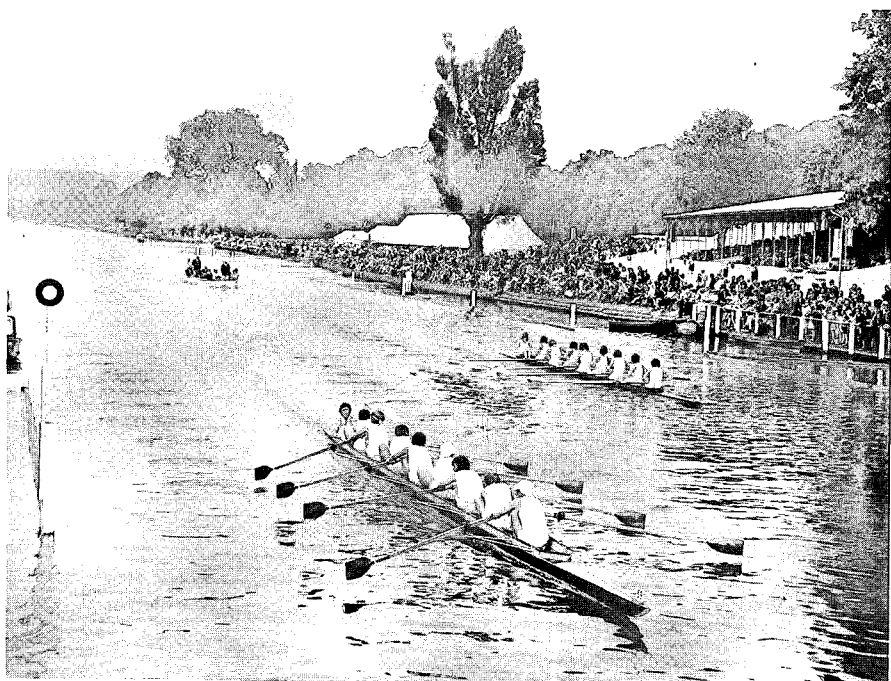
And so to Henley. Despite some 'A' and 'O' level examinations it was found to be possible for the Eight to enter for the Princess Elizabeth Cup for the first time since 1963. How well the crew rose to the occasion! On Thursday they defeated Kings School Chester, to record the school's first win at the Royal Regatta. On the Friday they met Tabor Academy USA and lost by $1\frac{1}{4}$ lengths after a most magnificent race. Tabor took the immediate lead and were $\frac{2}{3}$ length up at the Barrier. It seemed that the race might turn out to be a procession. But not a bit of it. The Eight fought every inch of the way, never dropping below 38, and at the Mile and Eighth signal there was only half a length in it, Abingdon at 39, Tabor at 38. Here the Americans managed a final effort, and putting up their rating to 41 gradually took a little more of a lead past the enclosures and in a final thrust opened up clear water. This race reminded us of that other splendid race against Oundle in 1961. Doubtless readers of this report saw the complimentary remarks made about the Abingdon crew in the national—if not the local!—press, and some may have heard of the umpire's comment—"What a good crew and splendid stroke Abingdon have!". It was a great occasion, to round off a marvellous season, and shows what can be done by a crew which trains hard, rows intelligently and is determined to enjoy its rowing.

Two members of the crew had the honour of being invited to join the Pangbourne College crew, winners of the PE, with a view to entry for the National Youth Championships. Disappointingly this came to nothing owing to injury—but it was a nice idea!

The Boat Club regatta took place at the end of term, and we are grateful to Mrs Anderson for distributing the prizes. It is hoped that in future we shall be able to think up some other way of conducting these races since the lack of support the regatta attracts makes it some-



The 1st VIII . . .



. . . at Henley

The Instron Material Testing Machine

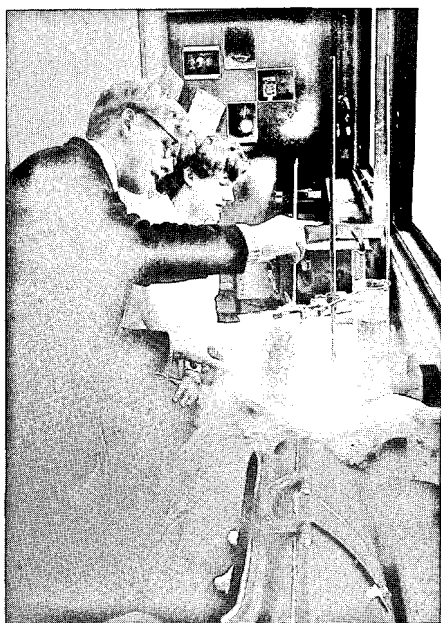


The teachers are taught . . .

Photos by R. G. Jones by courtesy of The Rutherford Laboratory



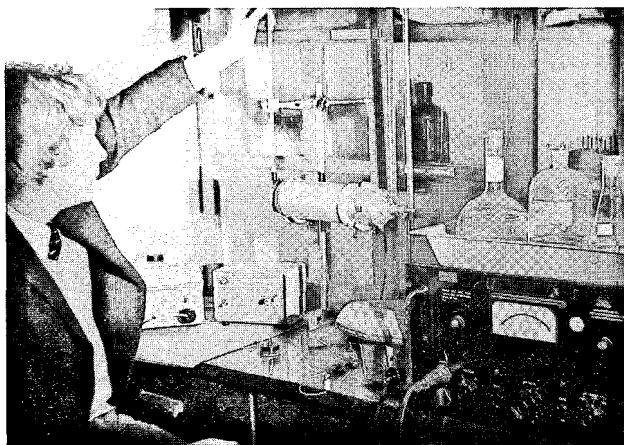
. . . then teach the pupils



*Using Liquid Nitrogen in the
Rutherford Resin Project*



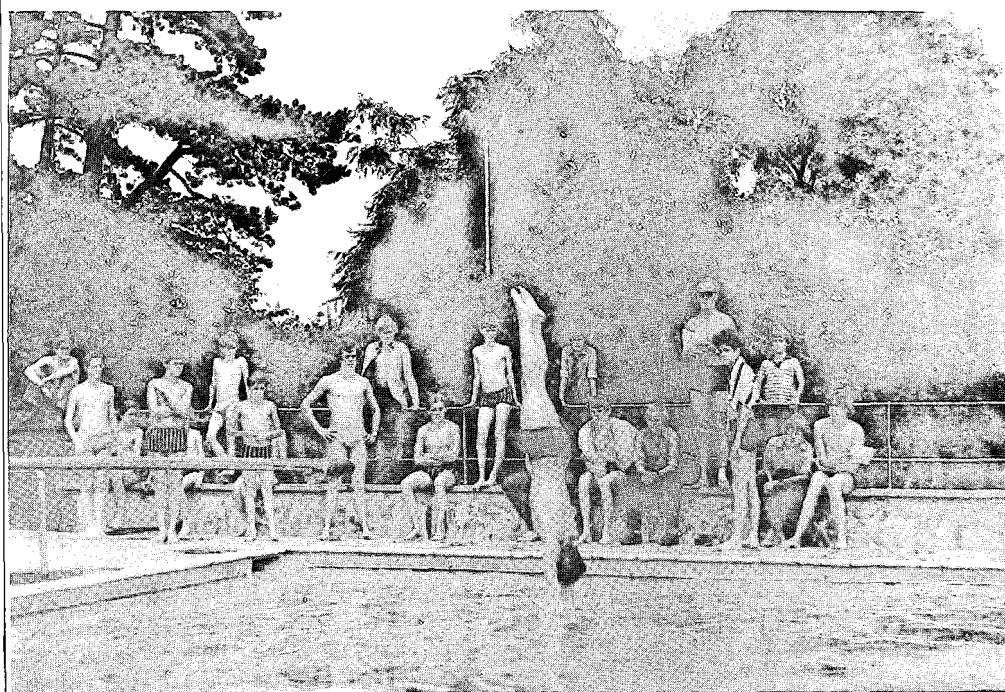
Final checks on the E.C.G. Amplifier



Studying luminol with a photomultiplier



Brass Buttons . . .



. . . and Flat Out

thing of an anti-climax to the season, and scarcely justifies the hard work put into it by the officers of the Boat Club. RGM

1st VIII: B: M Milanovitch; CM Clayton; MS Paddison; ECJ Lilley; NRH Pollard; DB King; AM Higgs; Str: PE Scott; Cox: JRA Spooner.

Thames Ditton Regatta—Junior eights 15 May
round 1: Lost Winchester College I $\frac{1}{4}$ 1

Chiswick Regatta—Junior eights 22 May
round 1: Beat Eton College II $\frac{1}{4}$ 1
semi-final: Beat Reading University $\frac{1}{2}$ 1
Beat Thames RC $\frac{3}{4}$ 1
final: Beat St Paul's School II $\frac{1}{2}$ 1
Beat St John's College $\frac{2}{4}$ 1

Cambridge Regatta—Junior eights 29 May
round 1: Beat Norwich School I /easily
semi-final: Beat King's School, Ely I /easily
final: Beat Kingston RC $\frac{1}{4}$ 1

Reading Junior Regatta—School eights 5 June
round 1: Beat Radley College III $\frac{1}{4}$ 1
final: Lost Shiplake College I $\frac{1}{2}$ 1

National Schools' Regatta—Child-Beale Cup 12 June
round 1: Beat Shiplake College I $\frac{1}{4}$ 1
Beat King's School, Ely I /easily
Beat Winchester College I /easily
semi-final: Beat King's School, Worcester I $\frac{1}{2}$ 1
Beat King's School, Canterbury I /easily
Beat Winchester College I /easily
final: Lost St Paul's School I $\frac{1}{2}$ 1
Lost King's, Worcester $\frac{1}{4}$ 1
Lost St Edward's School $\frac{1}{4}$ 1

Pangbourne and Whitchurch Regatta—Junior/Senior eights 19 June
round 1: Beat Kingston RC $\frac{1}{4}$ 1
Beat Churchill College I $\frac{1}{4}$ 1
final: Lost Pangbourne College I $\frac{2}{4}$ 1
Lost Churchill College I $\frac{1}{4}$ 1
Lost Bedford Modern School I $\frac{1}{4}$ 1

Henley Royal Regatta—Princess Elizabeth Cup 31 June–3 July
round 1: Beat King's School, Chester $\frac{1}{4}$ 1
quarter-final: Lost Tabor Academy USA $\frac{1}{4}$ 1

1st IV: B: AM Higgs; DB King; NRH Pollard; St.: PE Scott; Cox: JR Spooner.

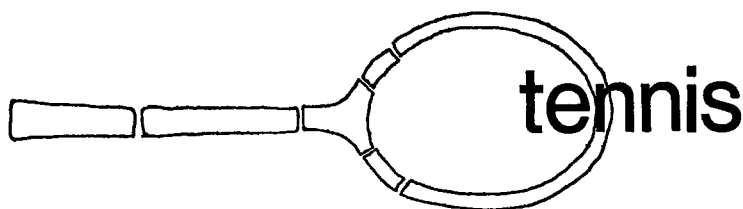
Chalmore Regatta—'A' crew event 12 May
round 1: Beat Windsor GS /easily
semi-final: Beat Wallingford GS /easily
final: Beat Carmel College 'A' /easily
—thus winning the event in record time.

2nd IV: B: M Milanovitch; CM Clayton; MS Paddison; Str: ECJ Lilley; Cox: CA Nasmyth.

Chalmore Regatta—'B' crew event 12 May
semi-final: Lost Maidenhead
3rd IV: B: MI Kendall; G Habgood; RGA Godfrey; Str: GW Hamlin; Cox: DM Harvey.

Chalmore Regatta—'C' crew event 12 May
round 1: Lost Maidenhead $\frac{1}{4}$ 1

Reading Junior Regatta—Novice Lightweight fours	5 June
round 1: Beat Bedford Modern GS $\frac{1}{2}$ 1	
Beat Tonbridge School /easily	
final: Lost Pangbourne $\frac{2}{2}$ 1	
Beat Radley $\frac{1}{2}$ 1	
Reading Town Regatta—Novice fours	26 June
round 1: Lost Reading University	
Lost Radley College	
TJ Hughes sculled for the school at Chalmers, Reading Junior and Pangbourne and Whitchurch Regatta in attempts to win Novice Sculls but lost each time in the finals.	
Senior Colts VIII: B: RM Bowkett; AM Jones; TC Parker; JD Griffin; PRJ Lilley; PAW Rogers; DM Binks; Str: CF Vernon; Cox: TW Hallum. Also rowed: IR Greaves at bow at Thames Ditton with Griffin at 6 and Rogers at 4.	
Thames Ditton Regatta—Colts eights	15 May
round 1: Lost St George's, Weybridge $\frac{2}{2}$ 1	
Reading Junior Regatta—Colts eights	5 June
round 1: a bye	
semi-final: Beat Radley College 'A' $\frac{1}{1}$ -3 1	
Beat Canford School $\frac{2}{2}$ 1	
final: Beat Radley College 'B' /canvas	
National School Regatta—Junior Colts eights	11/12 June
round 1: Beat King's School, Canterbury $\frac{1}{1}$ 1	
Beat Monmouth School /easily	
semi-final: Lost St George's, Weybridge $\frac{2}{2}$ 1	
Lost Emmanuel School $\frac{1}{2}$ 1	
Pangbourne and Whitchurch Regatta—Novice eights	19 June
round 1: Beat Trinity College $\frac{2}{2}$ 1	
Beat King's School, Worcester /easily	
final: Beat Pangbourne College $\frac{1}{2}$ 1	
Beat Kingston RC $\frac{1}{1}$ 1	
Beat King's School, Worcester $\frac{2}{2}$ 1	
This victory meant the retention of the Cup won by the Colts VIII of 1970.	
Junior Colts VIII: B: SK Fabes; JP Jordan; HC Gibaud; CJ Murison; SG Boatright; SI Walker; M Ormerod; Str: Forsythe; Cox: JF Hamlin.	
Reading Junior Regatta—Junior Colts eights	5 June
round 1: Lost	
National Schools Regatta—Junior Colts eights	11/12 June
round 1: Lost Pangbourne College	
Lost Reading School 'B'	
Beat Westminster School	
repechage: Lost	
Boat Club Regatta:	5 July
Senior Fours	Reeves House
Intermediate Fours	Bennett House
Junior Fours	Bennett House
Senior Sculls	ECJ Lilley
Intermediate Sculls	JRA Spooner
Junior Sculls	TW Hallum
Eason Cup for House with most points	Bennett House
Pierpoint Cup—Boarders v Dayboys	Boarders



Tennis

For the second season running the 1st VI have enjoyed considerable success by winning eleven of their thirteen fixtures, and reaching the last sixteen in the Youll Cup at Wimbledon. Under the influence of the captain, IF Gardner, the standard of the tennis improved greatly, resulting in every member of the team gaining his full colours.

In contrast, the 2nd VI have had a lean time, winning only one of their matches, but the experience gained should be of use next year.

The U/16s were strengthened by two promising new members, N Jefferson and RE Taylor, who in combination with IL Manning and CDN Morris, produced some good tennis in which they won two and drew one of their three matches.

With the exception of an U/14 win against Burford GS, the junior teams were unsuccessful, but their keenness to practise and play was encouraging—a good sign for next season.

Youll Cup—Wimbledon July 19-23

Our performance in this competition this year was the best for some time. En route to the last sixteen, we knocked out KCS (2-1) and Ardingly (2-0), but Stowe, the eventual runners-up to UCS, put us out in an efficient display of power and placing. Nevertheless the team played well, in particular our first pair, IF Gardner and HJ Manning, who dropped only two games in two rounds.

Team: 1st pair: IF Gardner and HJ Manning.

2nd pair: JRD Oswald and PR Clarke.

Thomas Bowl

It was a disappointment to be knocked out of the Thomas Bowl by Hampton and then from the Plate Event by Eltham, but both our opponents seized opportunities to score points as a result of our indecision and poor use of the court. Our pair, IL Manning and CDN Morris, were however younger than most, and the experience of playing in the competition will be valuable.

Throughout the season, the following have represented the school:

First VI: IF Gardner (Capt), JRD Oswald (Sec), HJ Manning, PR Clarke, DK Rice, MD Bricknell.

2nd VI from: GR Smith (Capt), RI Macdonald, RP Klepzig, MP Taylor, DM Lewis, DM Howes, CN Leonard, PJ Todd, PJ Berry.

U/16s from: JH Bosworth (Capt), TJ Cresswell, CP Hey, ARH Lang, IL Manning, CDN Morris, N Jefferson, RE Taylor, RA Wood, JR West, CW Lawson.

U/15s from: IL Manning (Capt), CDN Morris, N Jefferson, RE Taylor, SR Greenwood, AM Carlisle, RA Woods, CJ Todd.

U/14s from: S Wilson (Capt), RI Barton, AC King, ADS Luto, SC Comerford, N Shepherd, AN Plant.

The whole of the 1st VI and one or two other members of the club leave us this year, and to them we extend our good wishes for the future and hope that they keep up their tennis. I extend again my thanks to all who helped the club to run smoothly; in particular Messrs RCB Coleman, JC Harcourt and CET Moore. JEV

Athletics

Once again we have had insufficient regulars to make a team but this has enabled some boys to enjoy representative athletics as well as their major sport. It was unfortunate that both the Stamford Paarlauf and the King Alfred's match had to be cancelled, but in addition to the fixtures mentioned elsewhere we have had a 'friendly' against Culham, and have competed as guests in a match at Fitzharry's.

The Oxford City AC Schools 1600m medley relay attracted more entries this year and heats had to be run. As our best longer distance runners were all still U/17 we decided to field our strongest team at this age group rather than ask them to run against older boys in the Senior Event. Both our teams successfully qualified for the finals. In the U/17 race some exceptionally fine sprinting by Marlborough took them into a commanding lead at the half way point with Eton, Magdalen and ourselves some 20m behind, but Griffiths ran a superbly judged 800m and a typical sustained burst over the last 300m took him to the tape well clear of the opposition. Jordan narrowly won the individual 100m thus repeating his success of last year.

Six boys competed in an inter-schools meeting organised by Westminster College and amassed seven first and three second places. Jordan and Barrett took full advantage of a strong following wind in the 100m, returning times of 11.0 and 11.2 respectively. Barrett also had a 19.10 long jump.

As Jordan declined his invitation, Madin was our sole representative in the Berkshire team at the All England Championships at Crystal Palace. Though eliminated in the heats he had the satisfaction of returning a personal best of 53.6 for the 400m and of running a fine leg in the relay.

During the term full colours were awarded to AJ Barrett; half colours to AC Atkinson, RH Griffiths, DC Hares and AJ Madin.

Thanks to Mr Pritchard's enthusiasm, a large number of boys have taken part in the AAA 5-star Award Scheme. The highest awards were gained by AC Courtenay, GA Light and ND Francis, and 4-stars by PS Ashby, AJ Barrett, DG Light, SK Fabes, MJ Jones, CJ Jordan, PRJ Lilley, AJ Madin, A Murdock, JDC Turner and S Wilson. Twenty other boys also obtained awards for their achievements which, though not so outstanding, may well have represented just as much effort and perseverance. One of the great advantages of the scheme is that it caters for different ages and a large range of ability. RHB

Results:

Oxford City AC Schools Medley Relays	Thurs 6 May
U/20 Abingdon 6th U/17 Abingdon 1st 3:53.1	
North Berks Schools Championships (Radley)	Sat 15 May
Winners: U/20 CJ Jordan, MG Osborn, AJ Barrett.	
U/17 AJ Madin, GW Woolley.	
Runners-up: U/20 S Chislett. U/17 AC Courtenay, DC Hares.	
U/15 PS Ashby, S Wilson, RD Woolley.	
Cheltenham/Radley	Thurs 27 May

1: Abingdon 99; 2: Radley 96; 3: Cheltenham 88.

AJ Barrett, RH Griffiths and CJ Jordan were individual winners.

Berks Schools Championships (Palmer Park) Sat 19 June

U/20: CJ Jordan 1st 100m 11.2; 1st 200m 23.4

U/17: AJ Madin 2nd 400m 54.9

ND Francis 3rd 800m 2:12.1

In addition to those listed above, the following have represented the school on a number of occasions: AC Atkinson, AME Brown, JD Halliday, MJ Jones, JP Jordan, JSP Mushens, JDC Turner, JA Urban-Smith.

Sports Day

6 July

In an attempt to get wider interest and participation in sports day it was decided to make it primarily an Inter-House competition with the various age groups being replaced by four groups of forms—1st, 2nd and 3rd, 4th and 5th, and Sixth Houses could enter up to two boys per event.

The whole programme was confined to one afternoon. Several events were always in progress at the same time but the skilled spectator could just about manage to keep tabs on the progress of the Field Events in between watching some excellent racing on the track. It was a pity that Senior Houses were not always fully represented, but those who did compete all seemed to enjoy themselves.

RHB

	Bennett	Blacknall	Reeves	Tesdale
Junior House:	131 (2)	96½ (4)	141 (1)	124½ (3)
Senior House:	218 (1)	98½ (3)	134½ (2)	80 (4)
House Cup:	349 (1)	195 (4)	275½ (2)	204½ (3)

House Points

Event	Winner	Time/Distance	B	K	R	T
100m	1 A KMR Forsythe	15.1	3	7	8	5
	1 B GM Utley	14.3	2	4	1	6
	2/3 A PD Boon	13.2	5	3	7	8
	2/3 B JP Gotelee	14.2	3	1	3	6
	4/5 A AJ Madin	12.5	7	5	8	3
	4/5 B AC Courtenay	12.9	4	6	—	—
	6 A RI Macdonald	13.0	5	3	7	8
	6 B RP Klepzig	14.0	—	6	4	—
200m	1 A DM Byfield	28.5	7	5	8	3
	1 B GM Utley	29.5	4	1	2	6
	2/3 A DM Green	25.7	7	3	8	5
	2/3 B A Murdoch	25.8	2	4	6	1
	4/5 A AJ Madin	24.2	3	7	8	5
	4/5 B ARM Kelly	26.3	6	4	—	2
	6 MG Osborn	24.9	8	—	7	—
400m	1 A DM Byfield	66.6	5	7	8	3
	1 B GA Light	68.2	6	1	4	2
	2/3 A RD Woolley	62.4	3	—	8	7
	2/3 B PD Hallum	67.2	2	6	1	4
	4/5 A AJ Madin	53.9	5	3	8	7
	4/5 B AC Courtenay	54.0	1	6	4	2
	6 MG Osborn	56.5	8	7	5	—
800m	2/3 S Wilson	2:19.6	11	6	12	4
	4/5 RH Griffiths	2:05.3	14	—	7	5
	6 MG Osborn	2:20.5	15	—	—	—

1500m	4/5	CF Vernon	4:55.8	12	6	—	12
	6	MS Whipple	5:58.7	15	—	—	—
8x200m	1	Tesdale	4:22.3	11	3	7	15
	2/2	Reeves	3:47.2	11	3	15	7
	4/5	Blacknall/Tesdale		11	7½	—	7½
	6	Bennett		22	—	11	—
High	1	NC Bezant	3:9	5	7½	15	8½
Jump	2/3	AN Davies	4:5	9	9	8	9
	4/5	MWJ Carr	4:5	8	—	—	—
	6	JH Taylor	4:9	6	7	13	—
Long	1	DG Light	12:7½	14	12	3	7
Jump	2/3	TJ Savastano	15:5½	11	12	2	10
	4/5	AJ Madin	15:9½	—	—	8	7
	6	MJ Jones	17:3½	8	5	11	6
Triple	4/5	ND Francis	34:0	7	—	8	—
Jump	6	PAS Davies	36:7	8	—	—	—
Shot	4/5	JD Halliday/AJ Madin	29:10	6	—	7½	7½
	6	RI Macdonald	36.7	—	7	—	8
Discus	4/5	PAW Rogers	20.82m	7	8	—	—
	6	MJ Jones	27.10m	8	11	11	—
Javelin	2/3	AN Davies	27.98m	10	2	15	8
	4/5	GF Woods	22.50m	15	—	—	—
	6	MJ Jones	30.30m	8	—	7	—

Orienteering

A report on a term's orienteering is bound to stress 'the results' and this tends to give the idea that the sport is highly competitive and that you have to be a runner to take part. This is very far from the truth. The sport is essentially one to be enjoyed, and whether you get your enjoyment from getting round a course as fast as you can or from quietly taking your time and appreciating the scenery is entirely up to you. (One of the joy is being overtaken twice—by the same runner!) Family groups, over sixties, and under tens can be seen at most events. There are few spectators simply because everybody takes part. So if you enjoy the countryside and fancy you have some idea of how to use map and compass you ought at least to try the sport.

David Howat planned and organised a successful 'closed' event for The Oxon Orienteering Association at Shotover on 9 May. Abingdonians filled the first three places and the event served as a useful introduction for many others. The Chiltern Whiteleaf Event formed part of a weekend exercise for boys going on Ten Tors. Tresidder and Allington finished second and third on Course B, while Godfrey and Hamlin, competing as a pair, won on Course C by a most convincing margin.

In spite of having only two experienced orienteers in their team, the CCF carried off the Southern Command Junior Orienteering Championship with Whipple taking the individual honours. As a result they were selected to compete for the Army National Junior Title in Scotland. Whipple organised a crash training programme which included taking part in a Badge Event at Ludlow—in which he himself came third and we finished fourth out of eight teams. In Perthshire they excelled themselves finishing in second place only a few minutes down to the winning 'local'

team. Special congratulations to Whipple (2nd) and Fowler (3rd). Kendall, McMillan and Rawlinson completed the team.

On the last Sunday of term six boys competed in the Bournemouth National Event in the New Forest and gained the team prize, while Whipple, McMillan and Fowler gained second, third and tenth places respectively. RHB

Swimming

Conditions for swimming were excellent this summer: the weather was good, there was little wind, and for the first time the heating system got into stride, ensuring 70° F all term.

Only one match was arranged, owing to the comparatively late return of other schools, and their early GCE exams. It was held against Leighton Park School, and proved to be a very exciting event; the result was in the balance until the last race, which Abingdon won, to win the match 46-44.

The RLSS Awards were disappointing—the first set of exams was cancelled due to a lamentable lack of enthusiasm. However, some of the keener boys were allowed to take the exams later: all of these passed.

The annual Swimming Sports were held on a brilliant July afternoon in front of a very large and excited audience. Competition was keen, four records were broken (by J Taylor and Crofton-Briggs), and Reeves at last took the House Cup from Tesdale.

I am very grateful to Mrs. K. R. Clayton, who presented the cups and certificates, and to Messrs Baker, Willis, Grey and Pritchard for their help as judges and timekeepers. My especial thanks to Mr Coleman, who looked after the pool and arranged the RLSS exams, and to Mr Brodie, who helped so greatly in organisation throughout the term. HTT

Swimming Sports:

(*Denotes record time)

U/16 Breaststroke, 50 yds: 1—Crofton-Briggs (T) 38.8 secs*; 2—ARP Mushens (T); 3—C Jones (R).

U/14 Backstroke, 50 yds: 1—Taylor (T); 2—Thresher (T); 3—Scott (B).
Open Butterfly, 50 yds: 1—Taylor (R) 30.1 secs*; 2—Jones (R); 3—Halsey (K).

U/16 Butterfly, 50 yds: 1—R Taylor (R) 32.6 secs; 2—Freeman (K); 3—A Mushens (T).

Plunge: Equal 1—Parker (K) and Jones (R) 49ft; 3—Freeman (K).

Junior Diving: 1—Johnston (R); 2—Freeman (K); 3—Hallum (K).

U/16 Backstroke, 50 yds: 1—R Taylor (R) 33.9 secs; 2—Freeman (K); 3—C Jones (R).

Open Backstroke, 100 yds: 1—J Taylor (R) 1 m 8.6 secs*; 2—R Taylor (R); 3—E Lilley (T).

U/16 Freestyle, 50 yds: 1—A Mushens (T) 28.9 secs; 2—R Taylor (R); 3—Freeman (K).

U/14 Breaststroke, 50 yds: 1—Johnston (R) 41.4 secs; 2—Waterfall (K); 3—Tresidder (T).

Open Freestyle, 100 yds: 1—J Taylor (R) 1 m 6.7 secs; 2—R Taylor (R); 3—Bowkett (T).

U/14 Freestyle, 50 yds: 1—Clayton (R) 33.1 secs; 2—Tresidder (T); 3—Lawson (K).

Open Breaststroke, 100 yds 1—R Taylor (R) 1 m 24.5 secs; 2—Crofton-Briggs (K); 3—Osborn (B).
 Senior Diving: Equal 1—Scott (B) and Johnston (R); 3—Vernon (B).
 Open Freestyle, 250 yds: 1—J Taylor (R) 3 m 30.5 secs*; 2—Bowkett (T).
 Open Breaststroke, 250 yds 1—Hamlin (T) 4 m 9.7 secs; 2—Crofton-Briggs (K); 3—Jones (R).
 Relays—U/16 Freestyle 4 x 25 yds: 1—Blacknall 58.2 secs; 2—Tesdale; 3—Reeves.
 Open Medley, 4 x 25 yds: 1—Tesdale 59.7 secs; 2—Reeves; 3—Bennett.
 Open Freestyle, 4 x 25 yds: 1—Reeves 53.0 secs; 2—Tesdale; 3—Blacknall.
 The Blackburn Cup (250 yds Breaststroke): G Hamlin.
 The Elliott Cup (Individual Points) J Taylor.
 The Becker Cup (Freestyle Points): J. Taylor.
 The Green Cup (House Points): Reeves.

Societies



Nearly every **Abingdonian** report on societies that has ever been written has complained of apathy on the part of those who are potential or actual members of societies, and there is a great temptation for this report to repeat that wail, for the statistics support the view; of the thirty registered societies, fourteen failed to meet at all last term. The most obvious explanation for this was, of course, exams. With so many societies organised by upper sixth formers it is actually surprising that so many managed to keep going, especially those that are exclusively Upper Sixth. A second reason for a poor 'score' of meetings was simply that it was summer; and if boys prefer outdoor activities to sweating indoors in intellectual discussion that is not really an indication of apathy. But the most obvious reason is organisational. Whenever reasonably interesting meetings are arranged and suitably advertised they are well attended. So it is merely a matter of arranging interesting meetings. There are problems here. The secretary/sponsor partnership must work, and also it is very difficult to persuade people to speak; outside speakers are difficult to find while internal speakers generally attract smaller audiences. The problem particular to the summer term is that secretaries have not the time spare to organise meetings. In those societies (eg St Edmund, Scientific) where secretarial powers have been handed over to a lower sixth former they have continued to function throughout the summer term. The moral is obvious. Lower sixth formers must be encouraged to play a full part in societies, so that they can take over the work of organisation by the beginning of the summer term.

In the last edition of the **Abingdonian** we remarked that the inter-school societies are very numerous for the amount of activity that takes place.

We are now pleased to record that several of these societies have decided to combine to form the **Abingdon Sixth Form Society**, which presents great possibilities. Last term the **Rostrum** and **Gallery** failed to meet, the **Social Society** held only one meeting (a concert held at John Mason High School, made memorable by one member of the group being spectacularly electrocuted by his amplifier) and the **St Edmund Society** also had one meeting, a steamer trip on the Thames, and so there was obviously room for rationalisation.

Of the other two inter-school societies, that are intending to continue a separate existence, the **Debating Society** was the most successful last term. In a closely contested debate held jointly with St Helen's, vigorous not to say hysterical speakers persuaded the chairman to use his casting vote in favour of the motion 'This house believes that this house is dying'. The successful speakers were Mushens and Whipple, while Price and Peck contested the motion. Although the debates have now lost Mr Lewis's sponsorship they promise well for the future.

Facilities for less formal debate were provided by the **Scientific Society** and **Royse Society**, the **Economists** being dormant. The **Scientists** held two meetings, both well attended despite impending exams. Professor JP Roberts, of Leeds University, gave a talk on Glasses and Ceramics (which conveniently happened to be a topic in the Physical Science course) and Mr JG Cunningham from AERE Harwell introduced us to the new 'super heavy element', number 112, which has recently been produced at Harwell, and this led into a discussion on the general question of nuclear stability. The **Royse Society** held three meetings. Stephen Loosemore read a paper on 'History and Religion', a symposium was held on 'Civilisation', and the term was ended by a punting trip on the Cherwell. The members of the society are grateful for the hospitality extended by the Headmaster and Mrs Anderson.

The **Historians** went into summer recess, and hope to have more meetings in the autumn, while our English scholars had a fairly busy term. The **Literary Society** were told about Sir Walter Scott by the Headmaster, and the **Critics** finally revived themselves. At their inaugural meeting William Peck read a paper on Philip Larkin, the popular movement poet, and later in the term John Hills spoke about 'Escapism in Literature'. The society also visited the Playhouse to see 'Butley', by Simon Gray, the Pinter-produced study of a disillusioned but brilliant homosexual university lecturer. Other facilities for playgoing were provided by the **Athenaeum** which had a generally enjoyed outing to see 'Hair', and by the **Modern Languages Society** which saw 'Amphitryon 38' at the New Theatre. Acting and play reading have ceased to be regular society activities, but theatre—and cinema—going remain popular. The **Film Society** remains active, arranging a showing of 'Wait until Dark', starring Audrey Hepburn and 'The Trip' starring Pete Fonda during the term, and an attractive selection of films has been arranged for the new season.

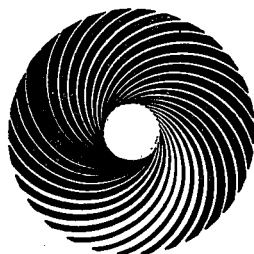
Music seems to require too much adult organisation to be successfully arranged by societies, and the **Music Society** held only one meeting, arranged by James Bosworth, which took the form of an evening concert, but was very badly attended. Folk Music, previously very successful because of the social attraction of being inter-schools and because of the ease of organising informal concerts, has been having difficulties with finding a venue for its meetings, but hopes to start up again this term.

The practical societies have been having frequent meetings. The **Sailors**

have still failed to get afloat in the club boats, and consequently no matches were held, although members with their own boats have been sailing regularly. The **Tape and Electrical Society** is temporarily dormant. The **Photographers** held no meetings but have been using the darkroom regularly. The **Builders** have continued their work with the much-needed renovation of the Upper Field pavilion. The **Philatelists**, which have become almost exclusively a junior school society, run by a senior school boy, a unique but apparently admirable arrangement, have held regular 'swap-ins', both internally, and externally with Eton and Rugby, as well as organising the distribution of two first day covers. Finally the **Model Railway Society** came into its annual prominence (and popularity with younger brothers!) on Founder's Day with their exhibition on the Science Block roof of the society's 'O' gauge layout containing a model of Abingdon Station.

At the beginning of this section we suggested that societies made sure that they have Lower Sixth form members. There are some obvious rationalisations that can be made here, the amalgamation of the Critics with the Literary Society being one. And we mentioned the reorganisation of inter-school societies that has already been carried out. The important thing here is that it would be better if such reorganisation was not imposed or even suggested from above, but arose from below. For these are our societies, ideally run by us and for us, and not a sort of status symbol to prove what a wide range of extra-curricula activities are available. Institutions such as the Cultural Coordinating Committee should do as little work as possible (as is usually the case). But the Abingdon Sixth Form Society has been largely organised by local Headmasters, and however fair their motives have been the end result may very well be an increase in the influence of staff in our activities. Which is a pity. Societies should be viewed not only for their intrinsic interest but because they provide an area in which we can learn how to conduct our own affairs: a sort of introduction to the world outside.

REPORTS



ccf

Perhaps the most pleasing remark that the Admiral made at the Annual Inspection in June was that he was struck by the number of 'things' the boys were doing—and he was right. A large number—and on the whole it seems to be an increasing number—of cadets are 'doing things'. Ten Tors, Sailing Weekends, Orienteering, Weekend Camps (fewer than usual)

—all during the summer term; Flying Scholarships, Loch Ewe, Army camps in Germany and at Crowborough, Gliding Courses, six different RN courses—all these in the summer holidays—altogether involving something like 125 boys. It would be nice, but quite untrue, to say that they were 125 different boys—and this is the point. The opportunities are almost endless—and a lot of boys are taking advantage of them—but there is still a large number who are not—we could have taken twice as many cadets to Germany as we are taking—and it is among those who ignore the opportunities that the discontented are to be found. The moral is obvious.

One other point. A great deal of the efficiency of any CCF depends on the efficiency, enthusiasm and integrity of the NCOs. The end of the summer term inevitably means that we lose a number of senior NCOs who have served the Corps well. We have several of the right quality left to carry on; we have some who, frankly, have so far been a disappointment. We shall need more to fill in the gaps. Verbum sapienti.

LCJG

RN Section

The summer term has been a very full one for the Naval section, beginning with preparations for Inspection Day and culminating with a record number—twenty-three cadets—attending annual camp at Loch Ewe as well as a total of four cadets on various naval courses. The section had a full part to play on Inspection Day in providing the Guard of Honour, as well as taking part in the usual activities of assault course, navigational work, signalling and the construction of a working derrick. Many boys in the section had their first, unforgettable taste of camp cookery on an army type field day on the Downs. But as usual it was those who were prepared to give up some of their leisure who had the most interesting time. It is strongly regretted that no boatwork whatsoever took place in normal corps time. But several boys did go sailing, on the Hamble River with Sub/Lt Bell in his own yacht, and five cadets were lucky enough to have a week's leave off school to take part in the Royal Sovereign Ocean Yacht race, as crew of the sail training ship 'Marabou'. As it turned out the weather was too bad to permit us to leave the protection of the Solent, but nevertheless all the party enjoyed their taste of the seafaring life. Thanks are due to Sub/Lt Bell, who is now leaving us to take up a teaching post at Winchester, for arranging these trips.

Rather less naval activities have taken some of our cadets walking over Dartmoor on Ten Tors, Orienteering as members of the CCF team, and flying, largely at White Waltham as guests of the RAF section, while L/S Whipple has gained a Royal Naval Flying Scholarship. Thanks are due to Lt Reynolds, and to COXN McMillan and CPO Alder, who are now leaving the section, for their organisational work. ACMCM

Loch Ewe

Due, no doubt, to the growing popularity of the annual Loch Ewe camp, a large percentage of the party of 23 cadets were from the Army and RAF sections. Unfortunately, Commander Griffin and Lieutenant Reynolds were unable to attend the camp this year, and so Sub/Lt Bell presided over us.

Three cadets spent a whole day on a visiting navigational training frigate, HMS Ulster, and messed with some of the ratings in their quarters, thus gaining an extremely enlightening insight into naval life at their level. All cadets spent half a day on the frigate HMS Palliser, where a demonstration of mortar firing was given. There was also the usual trip on the coastal minesweeper HMS Dee, where everyone had a chance to navigate and steer the ship.

The two-day expedition was made in two parties, one having a relatively easy twenty-five mile walk, and a dry night in a barn, whereas the party I was in walked about 22 miles from Ardessie Falls via An Teallach (although we could not climb the actual mountain due to a very low cloud base) to Gruinard Lodge. The weather was very poor, especially in the evening when we bivouacked, which we did by the side of Loch Na Sealga at a height of about 400ft, which meant that the temperature was not too low. Before we reached the loch we had a descent of 1500ft to make which, had it been much steeper, would have required climbing equipment!

Sailing, canoeing and pulling were done during the rest of the week.

Most people attending Loch Ewe for a first time have mixed feelings about going, but ninety per cent of them usually want to go again, which is a good measure of a successful camp. DBS

Army Section

The Army Section has been represented in a wide range of activities this term, including the Ten Tors competition, flying with the RAF section, and the Army orienteering competition. Field day was again a three day operation, starting with a twenty-five mile overnight hike for the first two days, ending with a night evasion exercise.

The training of this year's recruits is well under way; lunch-time shooting for small groups of cadets continues under the expert eye of Mr Harmsworth; and the four cadets in the signals (restarted by Mr Cadwell) all passed their proficiency, enabling us to enlarge this section.

One encouraging thought to face the new year with is that, so far, fewer cadets have left the Army section to join the Police Cadets than from either of the two other sections.

Our thanks and good wishes go to RSM Cowley and CSM Cantwell, who both left the section this term.

Two Army camps were held, at Crowborough, Sussex, and at Detmold, Germany. GRF

Crowborough

The main party arrived by train on the Wednesday afternoon, the advance party having arrived the previous day to sort out the equipment and organise the camp. The following two days were spent with the Queen's Regiment watching displays of section and platoon attacks, which they carried out fervently despite the hot weather. The following day, Saturday, we orienteered in the morning, with all the cadets finishing well within the time limit. The afternoon was occupied by some very interesting and ingenious initiative tests, which most groups conquered without losing too many points. Sunday's activity was a cross country march to the training area, where we bivouacked, and carried out a night exercise that lasted

well into the next day. On Monday we went rafting and canoeing, with everyone getting well and truly soaked. That night a group of volunteers stood guard over the assault boats and canoes in the training area. On Tuesday we went shooting with the Queen's and fired most of the army's small arms and even an anti-tank gun. On Wednesday we did the senior orienteering course and packed our kit in preparation for the homeward journey the following day. NS

Detmold

When one joins the Corps one thinks of joining the Army section, the Navy or the Air Force rather than the Combined Cadet Force. The significance of 'Combined' was brought home to me when as a newly joined member of the Naval section, unable to attend the Navy camp, I was offered the opportunity of spending ten days with the 9th/12th Royal Lancers stationed at Detmold, Germany. Issued with Army kit I was transformed overnight from Ordinary Seaman Clark to Private Clark of what came to be known as the 1st Abingdon Lancers.

On arrival at Detmold after eighteen hours journey we were met by one of our hosts, a friendly lieutenant, and introduced to what was to be our usual form of transport, a 'three tonner'.

A short drive brought us to the camp, an ex-Luftwaffe barracks, which we entered through the back gate. The impressive main entrance had been blocked by road works for the previous six months! We were taken to our billets and left to 'settle in', finding that our sleeping quarters were two rooms each containing eight beds. Having been regaled with stories of life in the forces during the last war, I was pleasantly surprised to find the beds were supplied with pillows and sheets. Below was 'C' squadron bar but the sergeant who later showed us round the camp quickly revealed that this was out of bounds.

The general atmosphere was friendly. I wondered if the troops would tend to resent fifteen schoolboys in their midst playing at soldiers but they went out of their way to be helpful.

Our activities were widespread. They ranged from watching an air assault and practising judo to swimming in a large pool and playing football. We were instructed in the practical use of explosives and the intricacies of armoured fighting vehicles.

Various sightseeing tours were arranged, one being to Hamlin of 'Pied Piper' fame.

If one could criticise any aspect of the trip then it would be that we were given too much free time when we would have preferred more military training such as the map reading exercise we carried out. However I, for one, enjoyed my ten days in the Army. PRC

RAF Section

During another fairly active and successful term, we have again been awarded six Flying Scholarships—equalling the 1969 award, which was then a national record for an RAF Section. J/Cpl Rawlinson completed his flying training at Easter, while Sgt Terry, Cpls Webb, Hamlin, J/Cpl Neville and Cadet Binks did theirs in the summer holiday. Nine cadets completed either proficiency or advanced gliding courses at a selection of gliding

schools and numerous others have done Naval camps or courses—in Aviation, Electronics, Gunnery and Leadership among them.

Field day was spent between the Imperial War Museum and Shuttleworth Collection for some, while a substantial group spent three days camping on the Dorset coast at Chideock, and mapreading and completing initiative tests—an experiment we certainly hope to repeat.

So far as individual achievements are concerned, F/Sgt Madin has obtained the Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award and is well on the way towards the Gold. Other members of the section who are in on the scene all successfully completed a St John's Ambulance First Aid course which they arranged for us at school, J/Cpl Lewington was awarded the RAF Sword and had it presented to him on inspection day. The sword, which has been on loan since 1969 has now very kindly been given to us by Mr Clarke. We shall continue to award it annually to a member of the senior flight or to a junior NCO who shows all round merit and potential in the section.

We held a weekend camp at Lyford for the recruits; forty cadets flew in RAF White Waltham's Chipmunks, while several others flew from RAF Benson and RAF Abingdon.

The officers, too, have been improving their RAF knowledge, for P/O Wiltshire attended an Administration course at RAF Upwood, Flt/Lt Hammond a Theory of Flight course at RAF Leeming and Navigation course at RAF Finningley—the official (and unofficial) flying included Dominic, Sioux and Jet Provost. NKH

Flying Scholarship

I left Oxford Station on the afternoon of Saturday, 20 March, for Wolverhampton and after an uneventful journey arrived at 4 o'clock. After waiting two hours I caught the bus out of Wolverhampton for Halfpenny Green, arriving at six thirty. I was the only cadet to start with, others arriving at different times during the next three weeks. I was immediately shown to my hut and then went up to the bar where we had our meals during the period of the flying scholarship. I commenced instruction the following day, Sunday, on the Cherokee 140, with the basic manoeuvres, external and internal checks, and primary and secondary effects of controls. In the next two or three lessons I was taught climbing, descending, flying straight and level, and turns. Once this was completed I moved on to the circuit, preceding this with some circuit planning. After two hours on the circuit, with take off and landing mastered along with the earlier lessons, I was sent on my first exhilarating solo for one circuit of the airfield. During this circuit one was concentrating too much on flying to realise that the instructor was no longer present.

After the first solo another three hours solo flying have to be completed on the circuit. This was punctuated by check flights with the instructor who taught you glide approach, flapless approach, short field landing and take off and then sent you off solo to practise them. After having completed the three compulsory solo hours of the circuit, you then were ready to move on to forced landings with and without power, and steep turns. Having been shown how to do these, I was sent up to practise them.

Up till this time the weather had been marvellous and in less than two weeks I had completed two-thirds of my course. The weather turned inclement very suddenly and we only flew about half an hour in the next week. By this time the number of cadets had risen to eight, everybody

being at different stages on their course. During the week of bad weather ground theory was studied for the civil aviation law and meteorological examinations required to obtain the Private Pilots Licence. Most of us took and passed these exams during that week.

When the weather improved I went on to cross-country flying, which requires a minimum visibility of three miles. After completing two dual cross country's I did my first solo cross country flight. The course lasted for one hour, from Halfpenny Green to Shobdon to Worcester to Halfpenny Green. After the cross countries, both flown solo, were completed I was taught advanced stalling and spinning, along with high speed stalling (stalling in a steep turn). After this I had revision for my Flight Handling Test, the test lasting for approximately an hour. Having completed my FHT I was left with fifteen minutes flying which I spent on two solo circuits.

I flew home two days later in a Piper Navajo from Kidlington.

On the completion of my flying scholarship I considered it would be a sensible idea to obtain the Private Pilots Licence as only five hours more flying were required. It is also useful to obtain the PPL as it helps if you wish to enter a University Air Squadron. For this purpose the TASS Committee granted £20 towards the cost of the extra five hours. At Whitsun weekend I went up to the airport at Halfpenny Green and stayed for two nights. On the evening I arrived, after a briefing and route planning, I completed the triangular cross country leg dual. This involved landing at Staverton in Gloucester, then flying to and landing at Oxford and then returning to Halfpenny Green. The next morning, with excellent unlimited visibility I completed the same course solo, having the cross country certificate signed at Staverton, Oxford and Halfpenny Green. These two flights took 1 hr 50 mins each. With the remaining 1 hr 20 mins I flew solo over into Wales, along Lake Vyrnwy, over the top of Cader Idris and back over the Welsh mountains and hills to Halfpenny Green. I flew home the following day in a Piper Navajo from Oxford, newly qualified as a private pilot.

JRR

Band

Mr Robbins has been at Abingdon School now for two years. In that time he has succeeded in raising the Band from its former oblivion and made it a showpiece of the Music School. Here is his first report.

Today the aim of the Band is not only to provide music for the CCF, especially on such important occasions as Remembrance Sunday and Inspection Day, but also to give boys an opportunity to learn and enjoy the art of playing together as a group with the musical stimulus of experiencing specialist ensemble music. From this point of view we are fortunate to have the one and a half hours on Tuesday afternoons in which to give ensemble instruction. So far we have made the best use of this time, extending the repertoire to the mutual advantage of music and the CCF.

Until last year our 'public' appearances had been confined to school functions—CCF parades, Founders' Day, the Christmas concert—but in the summer term we were asked to represent the school at the Friends of Abingdon Fete. The performance was a great success. As a result we have been invited to play at a local primary school in order to stimulate interest in brass music at an early age. Perhaps the children will become future Band members themselves!

DMR

Scouts

Junior Scouts

Once again a full term's activities for some—especially the patrol leaders who, in addition to running their patrols, formed themselves into a team for Ten Tors. For this they were out most weekends before the event—hiking, map-reading and orienteering—and subsequently had a very successful expedition over Dartmoor.

The term started with a very good turnout for the St George's Day service; and this resulted in a large expedition to the boating centre at Marlow for the traditional summer term Field Day. A small party of second-formers spent a working weekend at Dolgoed; and whilst the PLs were hiking over Dartmoor most patrols camped at Youlbury or Northmoor under the APLs. Just before half-term the troop reclaimed the District Swimming Shield at the annual gala held at the school's pool, and later in the term the Puma patrol, under Michael Poole, regained the District Flag (for patrol camping). Thence they went on to represent Abingdon District at the county competition held near Twyford—in the middle of school exams—and although coming sixth overall they did manage second place in some rather strange competition that was being run concurrently. Much of the time towards the end of term was used in preparation for summer camp.

Of the PLs, Adrian Courtenay joins the Venture Unit, Andrew Catton has transferred to the Dauntseys' School Troop, and Michael Poole, Chris Wait, Martin Doble and David Clayton remain with the troop. All have worked very hard, and the present healthy state of the troop is due to their enthusiasm and energy. Nigel Tattersfield and David Eccles will join them as PLs in September. We have also been pleased to have the assistance of Mr Bill Hobson, Mr Owen of Culham College and Geoffrey Maunder, OA, during the term. Unfortunately the first two have now left the district, but Mr Maunder remains and has now been warranted as an Assistant Scout Leader.

DRS

Junior Scout Camp

This year we revisited the hilly site at Misserden. The Land Rover being out of action we travelled in style in a double decker bus and in spite of narrow roads and overhanging trees we found this means of transport very satisfactory.

We enjoyed the usual camp activities and are indebted to Rev Peter Doble, Bill Hobson and David Howat for their able assistance. We welcomed a visit from Mr JS Lewis who originally found this site six years ago. Mr Baker's orienteering expertise was sorely missed but the course set, although difficult, was eventually followed by most scouts. The night wide game, curtailed by a slight mishap, was later repeated and much enjoyed. Each patrol completed an overnight hike which was pronounced 'Good fun' by at least some. Other activities included incident journeys, camp fire, Church parade, aerial runway, swimming, parents' day, sports—and a visit to the Sinclairs' garden to help ourselves to strawberries and raspberries.

GHM

Venture Scouts

The summer term was for the most part uneventful and the emphasis was mainly on hutwork. After spending two afternoons tidying and burning

rubbish, Mr Skinner thought the place tidy enough to transfer the Junior Troop meetings down there; the removal of the piles of newspapers with the inventory and reorganisation of the stores having turned the hut back into what it was always meant to be, a functional unit.

Hingley took part in the Ten Tors expedition, and Field Day for the others was spent in sorting out camping equipment. Homewood and Rowley helped organise a camp for the Juniors at Appleton over the weekend of May 22, but unfortunately it became a washout. A successful swimming gala was held with the help of the Ventures, and one member of the troop helped run the Juniors' Summer Camp at Misserden, Gloucestershire.

Therefore it was a term of basic groundwork and liaison, with hope of building something more solid for the future. PJH

Ten Tors Expedition, 1971

A week before Whitsun seven six man teams from the school coached down to Dartmoor to take part in the Annual Ten Tors hiking expedition. This is an exercise in stamina and map reading in which the teams have to complete a set course, calling at checkpoints on ten of the Dartmoor tors, within a maximum of thirty-two hours.

The school party included three teams for the thirty-five mile course, and four for the forty-five mile course. These were entered either by the CCF or Scouts.

The party arrived late on Friday afternoon and pitched their tents at the base camp with at least five hundred other teams from all parts of the country. The next morning, after the starting speech from the Mayor of Okehampton, the teams set off in fine weather. The going was very easy because the moor was dry from several weeks of good weather. Later on however it got colder and the initial enthusiasm faded and everyone felt the power and enormity of Dartmoor, through their feet! However all our teams made good progress before nightfall, and settled down to a hot meal of Compo rations, and a kip in the open before continuing the next day.

Our first team completed the course in twenty-eight hours and were among the first of their class to return. All our other teams completed the course in time, but one of the forty-five mile teams lost two of its members on the way round. Everyone who had completed the course was given a bronze medallion and a bowl of hot stew, after which the party broke camp and coached back to civilisation and a hot bath.

Thanks must go to Mr RH Baker for organising and to Mr NK Hammond for helping to make the event successful and enjoyable (?). BA-J

Chess

The Senior team continued its season into the summer term this year for three important matches. The first of these was against Dulwich College, the holders of the Sunday Times Trophy; a most exciting match ended, after adjudications, in a 3-3 draw, fine wins being recorded by Gareth Pearce, Howard Manning and Timothy Niblett. We went through to the quarter-finals on Board count, and were drawn against Ilford High School. In this match Gareth Pearce recorded his third successive win against

top-class opposition, and the middle boards all achieved draws (two of which had at one time looked like wins for us), but Ilford's lower boards had more experience and enabled them to pull off a deserved victory. However we believe that our team progressed four rounds further than any previous Abingdon team, and it is almost certainly the strongest team we have ever had.

In the meantime the First Five, although rather off form, won the Berkshire championship for the third year in succession, and also retained the Berks and Bucks Shield, as no Buckinghamshire school could be found to challenge us for it!

Of this team only Howard Manning is leaving this term, after remarkably long service; he has been in the First Team for six years, and has developed into a reliable and inventive player of considerable promise, and has been a cheerful travelling companion; we wish him well.

During the holidays Jeffrey Mushens came third in the Singapore Open Chess Championship and Gareth Pearce, who has already become Welsh Open Champion, captained the Welsh team in the British Open Championships. Congratulations! MW

Teams: 1st V: GD Pearce (Capt), CJ Marley, HJ Manning, JSP Mushens, TB Niblett. 1st VI: the above, plus PW Evans.

Results: 1st V, Berkshire League Final, Berks and Bucks Shield—beat Maidenhead GS $3\frac{1}{2}$ – $1\frac{1}{2}$. 1st VI, Sunday Times Trophy—drew with Dulwich College 3–3; lost to Ilford CHS $2\frac{1}{2}$ – $3\frac{1}{2}$.

Grundy Library

On Founder's Day the librarians put on a display from our archives and for the second year gave visitors the chance to contribute to the purchase of new books—this enabled us to add books to the value of £28 to our shelves. In addition, gifts have been made by Mr Liversidge, Mr Hammond, Mr Hingley, Professor Falconer, the Headmaster and various Old Boys—Ian Attree, Stephen Loosemoore, Ian Browne and Alan Brown; our grateful thanks to all of these who take an interest in our work. Also to the nameless Old Boy of six years standing who returned three books with an apologetic note saying he had found them on his shelves—perhaps a useful reminder to other readers.

This term Mr McGowan will be helping in the library and we hope for some keen recruits to our younger staff. KGH

Lists

Staff, September 1971

Headmaster: WEK Anderson, MA (St Andrew's University), BLitt (Balliol College, Oxford)

Assistant Masters

DO Willis, MA, late Scholar of Pembroke College, Oxford (History; **Second Master**)

HM Gray, MA, late Scholar of Jesus College, Oxford (Chemistry)

CET Moore, TD, MA, Hertford College, Oxford (Geography)

SC Parker, TD MA, Edinburgh University, Lanfine Bursar (Languages)

FJ Sewry, BSc, Southampton University (Chemistry; Careers)

LCJ Griffin, MA, Jesus College, Oxford (Classics)

RG Mortimer, MA, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge (Languages)

J Talbot, BSc, Birmingham University (Biology)

AA Hillary, MA, late Exhibitioner of Jesus College, Cambridge (History)

KG Hasnip, MA, Caius College, Cambridge (Languages)

WG Potter, MA, Pembroke College, Oxford (Biology)

CDB Milton, BSc (Econ), ARCM, LRAM, London University (Economics)

RH Baker, MA, Queen's College, Oxford (Physics)

TGK Fairhead, BA, Downing College, Cambridge; Chelsea College of Art (Art)

CJW Owen, MA, late Exhibitioner of New College, Oxford (English)

HT Randolph, MA, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge (Classics)

BE Woolnough, BSc, Reading University (Physics)

CM Reynolds, MA, BSc, late Scholar of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge (Mathematics)

H Eden, MA, late Exhibitioner of Caius College, Cambridge (Geography)

NH Payne, MA, Jesus College, Cambridge (History)

PV Moody, MA, St John's College, Cambridge (Mathematics)

DC Taylor, MA, Clare College, Cambridge (Languages)

JE Varley, Nottingham College of Education (Physics)

M Woodgett, MA, late Exhibitioner of Exeter College, Oxford (Classics)

NK Hammond, BSc, London School of Economics (Economics)

DR Skinner, MA, late Exhibitioner of St. John's College, Cambridge (Mathematics)

AR le Fleming, BA, late Organ Scholar of Queens' College, Cambridge (Director of Music)

BD Hall- Mancey, GRSM, ARCM, ARCO, Royal College of Music (Music)

KR Clayton, BA, Adelaide University (English)

SC Bodey, BSc, Reading University (Physics)

JC Harcourt, BSc, Edinburgh University (Mathematics)

Rev PG Osborn, BA, Sydney University and Cuddesdon College (**Chaplain**)

DA Brodie, BEd, Nottingham University (Physical Welfare)

PA Dunn, MA, Durham University (Languages)

NAF Pritchard, BA, late Scholar of Balliol College, Oxford (Mathematics)

Mrs C Harmsworth, ARCM (Music)

Mr DM Robbins, GRSM (Music)

RCB Coleman, MA, late Abbot's Scholar of Keble College, Oxford (Physical Science)

DA Harmsworth, BA, University College, Oxford (Classics)
M Blocksidge, BA late Scholar of St John's College, Oxford (English)
WGP McGowan, MA, Lancaster University (Languages)
R McKinnon, BA, Christ's College, Cambridge (English)
RH Coleman, late APTC (Physical Training and Woodwork)

Visiting Music Staff

Piano: Miss M Puttick; Mr B Kelly
Strings: Mr R Mitchell; Mr G Davies
Woodwind: Miss J Fisher; Miss C Powell; Mr F Butterworth
Bursar: Captain IG Mason, RN
Medical Officer: Dr JH Fisher, MA, MB, BCh (Cantab), MRCS, LRCP, JP.

Officers of the School

School Prefects

RK Gyselynck (Head of School)	WDdeF Peck
KJ Barnard (Head of Dayboys)	CL Corner
JQ Rowley	M Evans
AW Wood	PD Price
JR Cowlin	DB Spong
DB King	NMR Crosse

House Prefects

Crescent House: HT Tresidder, M Lawless, CA Nasmyth
Larkhill: MJ Jones, PE Rigby
School House: CB Terry, DPC Smith, AA Tammadge, SG Bailey, JRA
Spooners, DP Greenwood, ECJ Lilley, CM Clayton, J Wojciechowski
Lacies Court: JSP Mushens, RK Wardroper
Waste Court: BA Clubley, CN Leonard, RGD Christmas.
Dayboys: SJ Cantwell, PM Cowley, CS Crocker, PAG Davies, GR Fowler,
RGA Godfrey, DA Gould, PJS Harris, JR Hills, PJ Hingley, JN
Jacques, TD Johnson, BE Jones, MI Kendall, J Lay, M Milanovich,
NRH Pollard, SN Potter, RC Rogers, MJ Rice, N Rutishauser, PE
Scott, CP Taylor, RA Ward, P Webb, MS Whipple, T Wright

Games Officers

Rugby Football: Captain: PD Price
Secretary: DPC Smith
Cross Country: Secretary: JSP Mushens
Secretary of GGC: PD Price

Abingdonian

Editors: Mark Evans, Peter Rigby, Simon Whipple
Photographic Editors: David Spong, Christopher Stockwell
Cover Design: Jonathan Cowlin
OA Editor: AA Hillary
Treasurer: DO Willis

A Levels and O Levels, 1971

On the whole a good year. Ninety-four Sixth-formers sat a total of 271 subjects at 'A' level. Fifty-five of them passed in three subjects, thirty-three passed in one or two, six failed completely.

A pleasing feature was the evidence of excellence at the top. The number of Distinctions+Merits in the S papers was a new record for the school. So was the high percentage (20%) of passes at Grade A.

Of particular note were the results in the new subject of Physical Science. It is true that only the better scientists had been encouraged to take on the subject, which aims to cover much of the ground previously divided between Physics and Chemistry, but nonetheless the results reflect credit on all concerned. Of the sixteen candidates, nine were awarded Grade A, six Grade B, and one Grade C. The Biologists also did exceptionally well with twenty-three passes out of twenty-six (ten of them at Grade A and six at Grade B), and on the Arts side the candidates in English scored twenty-six passes out of a possible twenty-eight.

At 'O' level records tumbled all over the place. The particular feature was the great increase in the number of top-grade passes—evidence not only of native intelligence but of good hard work as well. A great number of candidates had the satisfaction of knowing that they did their job as well as it can be done, for 12% of all the papers taken were awarded Grade I (against the national average of 5%). In all, twenty-one of the ninety-six Fifth-form candidates finished the year with ten or more 'O' levels, thirteen with nine, four with eight, twelve with seven, twelve with six, and ten with five. Of the less successful candidates three got no passes, four got only one, and the other seventeen got within touching distance of the Sixth Form by passing in three or four subjects.

We now await with interest the Oxford and Cambridge entry examinations in November. Certainly our candidates have given themselves a flying start this year.

Exam Results

The Advanced Level results are given below in alphabetical order. The abbreviations that are not self-explanatory are N (German), K (Chemistry), and T (Ancient History). The new Physical Science exam is abbreviated PS.

MW Aberly (M); TR Baker (E K); KJ Barnard (L† G* E); AJ Barrett (Geog); SB Barrett (M); MT Bennett (Geog); P Bobin (N); PA Bosworth (P K† B†); LD Bradshaw (M B† PS†); MD Bricknell (H† Ec†); TJ Brook (K); AME Brown (K B); SJ Cantwell (K); CD Chafer (F† R H); S Chislett (T H); RGD Christmas (L G T); PR Clarke (B†); RA Cole (E H); RS Conibear (E H† Ec); JL Cox (T Geog); AJM Crocker (M B* PS†); AR Cuninghame (M B† PS); WH Cuthbert (P K B); RE Deane (T H); JC Dunkerly (H* Ec A); SR Embrey (T); MT Evans (P K); IF Gardner (E†); JC Griffith (P K†); RK Gyselynck (E Ec); GR Halstead (M P K); PJ Harden (M P K); MC Harding (L); AG Hardy (E H); RA Hazeldine (E); AM Higgs (E H); DB Howat (M B† PS); DM Howes (M B† PS); TJ Hughes (P B); I S Jackson (G T R); DN John (E H); CJ Jordan (K† B); RA Landy (E† H Ec); CJ Lightfoot (E); DN Longdon (M B* PS); SP Loosemore (E† H†); HJ Manning (M† fM P† K);

CJ Marley (M B* PS†); FAA Maude (F E H*); DW Mayall (H); AC McMillan (M K B); NJ Moth (L E† M); DGW Murphy (N R H); CJ Murray (H M PS); MA Neville (M K† B†); AG Nockels (M); MG Osborn (H Geog Ec); JRD Oswald (Geog M P S); MS Paddison (E H); GD Pearce (E* H* M); SC Pegram (E H Ec†); GF Pike (H); RJ Pike (E M fM PS); WJ Pollard (Ec† M PS); RJ Polley (F† R Ec†); RC Potter (H); GP Radley (M B* PS); SV Radnor (E Geog); DK Rice (E H); JC Rowden (E); JQ Rowley (M K† B*); RHL Savory (N H); RJ Searle (M P); NGW Seaver (P K B†); BA Sharpe (M B† P*); JJ Shellard (E H Geog); CH Short (E); GR Simpson (M); GR Smith (HA); AR Snodgrass (H Geog B†); CM Stake (M P K); PGK Staniland (T H); DM Steele (T N); HT Tresidder (H M P); PJ Todd (M B† PS); CA Wallace (M fM PS); JM Waters (B*); RG Willis (Geog K B); AW Wood (Geog M PS†); SJ Wood (E H A).

*Distinction in special paper. †Merit in special paper.

Hello Goodbye

Left Summer Term 1971

VIH: MD Bricknell, S Chislett, R Deane, JC Dunkerly, IF Gardner, MC Harding, AM Higgs, SP Loosemore, D Mayall, DGW Murphy, MS Paddison, CJL Pfeil, RC Potter, DK Rice, JC Rowden, GR Smith, AT Winnington, SJ Wood.

VIR: PT Alder, AJ Barrett, RJN Barwood, P Bobin, CD Chafer, RA Cole, JL Cox, SR Embrey, AG Hardy, RA Hazeldine, IS Jackson, DN John, CJ Lightfoot, MG Osborn, SC Pegram, CJ Penny, SV Radnor, JJ Shellard, AR Snodgrass, RHL Savory, PGK Staniland, DM Steele.

VIS: TR Baker, MT Evans, GR Halstead, PJ Harden, RJ Jones, HJ Manning, CJ Murray, JRD Oswald, GF Pike, RJ Pike, WJ Pollard, RJ Searle, GR Simpson, CM Stake, CA Wallace.

VIT: MT Bennett, TJ Brook, AME Brown, PR Clarke, AR Cuninghame, WH Cuthbert, JC Griffith, DB Howat, TJ Hughes, CJ Jordan, DN Longdon, AC McMillan, NG Seaver, CH Short, PJ Todd, JM Waters, RG Willis.

6M: DN Plail.

5M: DJ Longman.

5R: DM Harvey, DW Lucas, NE Matthews.

5H: HS Buss, RA Eastgate, RWV Hall, ARH Lang, JSR Leach, HDS Rennie.

4P: HC Berryman.

4L: TJF Wallis.

3V: AJ Catton.

2B: R Whyte.

1M: CLT Goetchius.

1H: JL Friedman.

Came Michaelmas Term 1971

6G: PJE Kafka, MG White.

4P: PAH Mohtadi.

3B: MRR Beers, MJ Hurry, CR Lowe, NGH Mohtadi, BAL Peck.

3D: NR Lemoine, JJ Matthews, T Walker, A Barlow.

- 3V:** SMK Bagshaw, DN Blomley, NJ Houghton, JV Parsons, PR Williams, KR Reid.
- 1H:** DN Angwin, JR Benjamin, SJ Brouard, PS Buttar, MA Crofts, PNC Gale, WJ Hammond, RS Harries, DJ Hutber, RA Joy, PJ Maggs, PJ Malein, RP Martin, G Mitchell, AG Morfey, P O'Driscoll, M Owen, AJ Phillipson, DJ Redwood, RV Scriven, JC Simmonds, PG Spittles, KD Stanton King, RJE Steed, MPG Swan, NJS Teesdale, SP Weatherall, CJH Wort, CJ Wyatt.
- 1S:** R Allen, MD Andrews, WG Baker, MV Bell, NMG Clohe, PA Cowlett, DJ Crook, NS Edwards, RG Feltham, G Findley, AW Fisher, NFK Franklin, GH Gnapp, SJ Hobbs, BR Hodgkinson, SD Holdway, ARA Johnson, PM Johnston, JBF Jones, JM Julyan, JD Killeen, MS King, NC Lewis, PJ Newby, AP Perks, JP Rice, MEJ Screech, JW Slingsby, NJ Talboys, JL Williams.
- 1W:** GP Alcock, RW Allen, HD Atkinson, SJ Berry, PG Bingham, PD Corina, PJ Corina, JP Dowling, PA Gregg, MJ Howes, SP Hunt, TCN Hunt, PGN Johnson, AM Lawton, GG Lennox, RJ Little, NA Marsh, SJN Murphy, RN Piercey, PA Reed, MTL Rivers, JJGS Rolley, ML Side, RC Smith, JS Sowden, DW Stewart, ME Tims, SA Wood, MR Wise.
- 6H:** JMH Hutchings.
- 6X:** MA Reid.
- 2B:** CT Reid.

O A Notes

Births

- Brimble:** to Judy (née Gresswell) on 12 June 1971, wife of John Brimble (1959), a daughter, Jennie Ann.
- Burton:** on 12 September 1970 to Christine, wife of Roy Burton (1960), a second daughter, Brenda, a sister for Kaye.
- Cunningham:** on 19 November 1970 to Sally, wife of Ian Cunningham (1960), a daughter, Emma Louise, niece to John Williamson (1952).
- Gray:** on 9 August 1971 to Doreen, wife of Peter Gray (1958), a son, Allan David Ross.
- Manly:** on 11 August 1971 to Ingrid and David Manly (formerly staff), a son, Jason Jonathan.

Marriages

- Bampton-Manlove:** on 7 August 1971, at Ringwood Parish Church, Roger Bampton (1967) to Hilary Manlove.
- Clubley-Groves:** on 28 August 1971, at Uffington Parish Church, Lt. David Clubley, RA (1965) to Louise Groves.
- Ewing-Jacob:** on 17 April 1971 at Tournon St Martin, Indre, France, Lindsey Ewing (1962) to Christiane Jacob.
- Hayward-Lucas:** in July 1971, at Merthyr Tydfil, David Hayward (1964) to Deirdre Lucas.

Heast-Slupek: on 31 July 1971, in Kensington, Paul D Heast (1969) to Janina Slupek.

Liversidge-Barrett: on 11 September 1971, at Long Compton, Warwickshire, Peter Liversidge (1964) to Mary Gay Barrett.

Newbold-Mullins: on 31 July 1971 at St. Giles, Horspath, Ian J. Newbold (1964) to Susan Lindsay Mullins.

Pollard-Cook: on 12 June 1971, at Charlton Kings, Gloucestershire, Derek Pollard (1962) to Sandra Julia Cook.

Welch-Hailey: on 5 August 1971, at Harpenden, Richard Welch (1962) to Janette Margaret Hailey.

Deaths

Amies: We regret to record the death on 26 July 1971 of JP Amies (1932-1937).

Dean: On 27 February 1971 Anthony Cyril Dean, 1935-40, after prolonged illness, aged 49. His countless friends were deeply grieved to learn of Tony Dean's untimely death. He had a most distinguished career at School—Head of School and School House, Captain of Rugger, Cricket and Boats, Athletics Colours, gaining third place in the Weight at the Public Schools Sports in 1939. Finally he was awarded the Pembroke Scholarship in History in 1940, and during his shortened course he won the Weight and Discus in the University Sports. In 1943 he was commissioned in the Royal Artillery and saw service in Field Regiments in India and Burma, where he was wounded, and ended in the rank of Captain. After the war he joined the firm of Andrew Weir, Shipping and Trading Company, and continued with them to the end. Among his many interests, perhaps the most absorbing for him in recent years was wood-carving, in which he excelled as a craftsman. The beautiful Crib and Nativity figures which he presented to the Church of the Good Shepherd, Pyrford, are a tribute to his memory locally. Married in 1956 to Camilla Garment, he leaves a daughter and two young sons, to all of whom we offer our deep sympathy.

Shepherd: On 25 September 1965 Rev Henry Frampton Shepherd, 1892-1902, aged 82. Henry Shepherd was a School Prefect, in the Cricket XI for five seasons and the Soccer XI for two. He was awarded the Pembroke Scholarship in 1902 and represented the College at Hockey and Cricket. He also played Hockey for Oxfordshire. After a few years teaching he was ordained in 1912, he held curacies in Sussex and was a Chaplain to the Forces. Subsequently he was Vicar of Frindsbury, near Rochester, Wilmington, Kent, and finally Lydiard near Swindon. After retirement he lived for many years in Sandown, IOW.

Warren-Green: We have also heard of the death, on 28 December 1968, of Terence Warren-Green (1940-46). He was Head of the House in 1945 and Captain of Rugger and Boats. He also won the Pembroke Scholarship in History in 1946. After graduating he qualified as a solicitor and was partner in a firm at Cheltenham.

Mr Rudd was delighted to receive a visit during the summer from GRD Estcourt (1926), an accountant in California on a visit to England. Many of Mr Rudd's old pupils do visit him regularly, but he is always particularly glad to see anyone from so far afield who is in Abingdon.

It would be most ungenerous not to record in these notes the tremendous gratitude which OAs feel to Duncan West (1939) for all his work as treasurer of the club. He has done this job with cheerfulness and efficiency for many, many years and has now felt that it ought to pass to a younger member. Martin Iredale (1956) has taken on the job and he is exceptionally well qualified, as an Accountant, to do it.

Congratulations to the Rev David Wheaten (1948) on his appointment as Principal of Oakhill Theological College, Southgate. In recent years he has been incumbent of St Paul's, Onslow Square.

Jim Penning (1949) wrote to say that he had left the sea in 1961 and in recent years has been importing food into Canada. He retains an interest in the sea, though, and is active in the REME and is on various nautical committees.

Michael Howes (1952) has finished his course at Culham College and has got a job in a primary school at Henley.

Norman Shurrock (1953), an executive in British Road Transport, has moved to London to be Assistant Manager of the Contracts Division.

Michael Stockwell (1959) and Roger Wiggins (1961) are running the Abingdon Office of Allen and Harris, Estate Agents.

John Sabel (1961), after graduating at LSE, is now a Solicitor with the National Coal Board in London. He is married and his wife's name is Hannah.

Congratulations to Robin Ogg (1962) on his engagement announced recently. It was a great pleasure to see him and his fiancée down at Abingdon for the Alligators' Week.

David Clark (1964) has just come down from the University of Surrey, where he got a first class honours degree in Physics, and we offer him our congratulations. He is now off to Manchester Business School to read for a Master's Degree in Business Administration, and in the meantime he has married.

David Hayward (1964) has transferred from Plessey's research centre to the company's Chemical and Metallurgical Division in Towcester as a sales liaison engineer giving a technical back-up service to the sales force. He has done very well in the world of squash, being Northamptonshire Group II handicap champion.

John Harper (1966) is now working for the development section of the Bradford and Bingley Building Society and playing rugby for the Bradford 2nd XV. Last season he met Barry Gibb (1960), who was playing for York.

A long letter from Martyn Holloway (1966) about his life in the Navy. He made it all sound very exciting and he certainly gets around. By now he is 1st Lieutenant of HMS Kellington, a mine hunter, engaged largely on fishery protection work.

Michael Liversidge (1966) spent his summer vacation teaching a course in Baroque Art at a Summer School at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. A bit of a busman's holiday, perhaps, but he enjoyed it immensely.

David Tanner (1966) will by now be well into his first term at Ealing Grammar School, teaching history throughout and thrilled at the thought of being at a rowing school.

Another valuable recruit to the teaching profession is David Allen (1967), who has married and gone to teach biology and act as a house tutor at Cranleigh. Congratulations on both counts.

Jeffrey Evans' (1967) great performance in getting a first in English at Cambridge is recorded elsewhere. He is now going back to Cambridge

to do a teaching diploma course: he will be a valued acquisition to the profession as much for his all-round personality and dynamism as for his academic distinction. He is also to be congratulated on the award of an Honorary Senior Scholarship and a series of prizes.

Paul Heast (1967) has had an interesting four years since leaving school, ranging from experience on the shop floor at Harrods and two years at the College of Distributive Trades to work as Administrative Assistant to Harrods Staff Managers. He is now married and living at Abingdon; his wife has a job at St Birinus School, Didcot.

Congratulations to Jeremy Theophilus (1967) on achieving his Dip.A.D. with upper second class honours at Portsmouth Polytechnic. He has been accepted for a year's post graduate course in theatre design at Sadlers Wells, which sounds an interesting and unusual course.

Neil McGowan-Docherty (1968) has graduated at Southampton University with a second class in law and has now joined the Central Electricity Generating Board as a trainee in Personnel Management.

Peter Annett (1969) is working with the Southern Tree Surgeons Ltd before going to college in September 1972 for a three year sandwich course in Arboriculture. He was not far from Derry in Northern Ireland, but at the time of writing had had no trouble, he said.

Congratulations to Roger Matthews (1969) who has completed his training and has now joined BOAC as a qualified pilot.

Nicholas Smart (1970) is going up to Lancaster to read Philosophy, Psychology and History: when he wrote he was working in a mental hospital.

Finally a list of first class achievements of which we have heard:

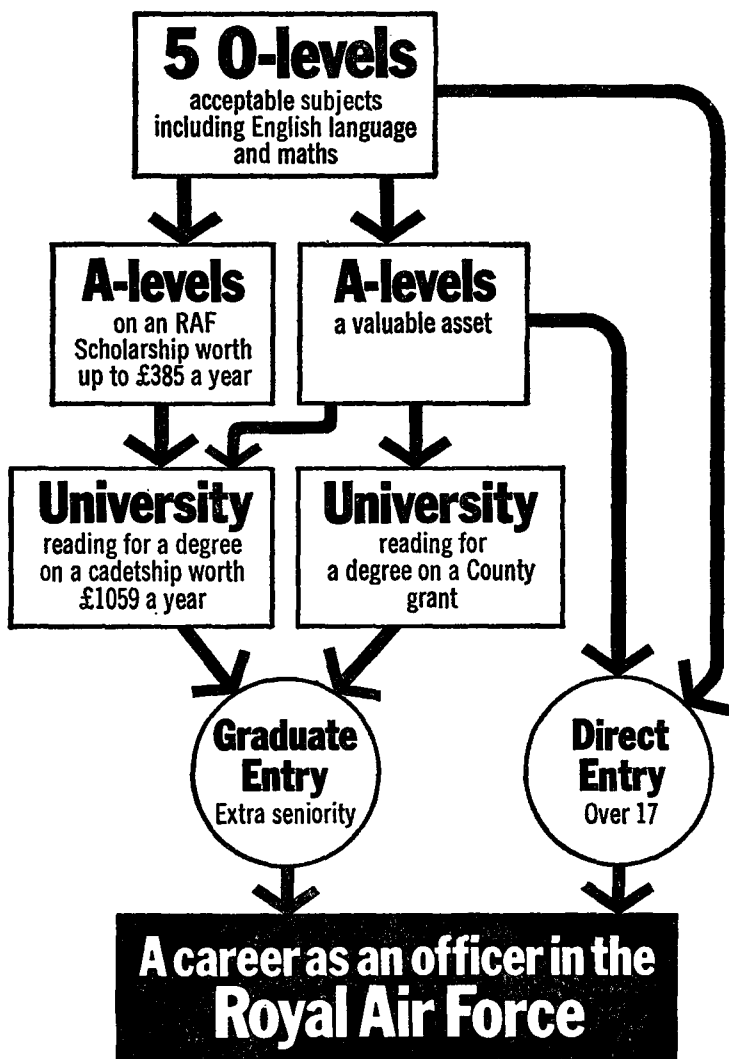
Cambridge: EAC Crouch, Theoretical Physics, Part II; JD Evans, English, Part II; AW Hills, History, Part II; I Blair, Medical Sciences, Part I. Oxford: J Lister, Physics.

Others who graduated this year of whom we have heard were Andrew Rendell in German at London; Peter Sparrow in Chemistry at the City University; Tim Addison in Technology at Brunel; Peter Foulkes in History and Politics at Reading; Anthony Bretcher in Physics and Lester Halling in Chemistry at Cambridge; Michael Tajfel in Maths; Jon Lister in Physics; David Murphy in Music; DA Baker, Richard Bradfield, Christopher Downes, David Saunders in Biochemistry, all at Oxford; Richard Coulbeck in Economics at Belfast. There must be a good many more of whom we have not heard and we congratulate them all.

Addresses

Allen DD: 4 Horseshoe Flats, Horseshoe Lane, Cranleigh, Surrey.
Andrews DRG: Heatherbank, Plymouth Rd, Barnt Green, Worcs.
Bovey CJ: Moorstones, 80 Wigton Lane, Alwoodley, Leeds LS17 8SJ.
Brimble J: Strathellin, Seymour Plain, Marlow, Bucks.
Budden BG: 4 Marlborough Crescent, Woodstock, Oxford. OX7 1YH.
Chaplin RA: 12 Patrick St, Punchbowl, NSW, Australia.
Cherrill Maj AH: 138 Green Lane, Shepperton, Middx.
Clubley DG: 90 Upham Rd, Swindon, Wilts.
Doganoglu Y: Sisli Kodaman Cadd, Kontes Appt 144/3, Istanbul, Turkey.
Ewing LJW: 12 Clarendon Rd, Havant, Hants.
Faires MA: 21 Oakwood Ave, Cyn Coed, Cardiff. CF3 7EY.
Harrison PB: 1 Harris Drive, RAF Catterick, Richmond, Yorks.
Hayward D: 688 Obelisk Rise, New Boughton Green, Northampton.

Humfrey CM: c/o J Cripwell, Esq, Manor Farm, Brixton Deverill,
 Warminster, Wilts.
 Iredale JM: 105 Connaught Rd, Reading. RG3 2UE.
 Keeyes GF: Trespassers Will, 3 Haltmoor Close, Aughton, Ormskirk, Lancs.
 L39 4UQ.
 King TJ: 28 Hayfield Rd, Oxford. OX2 6TT.
 Kirby MF: 1 Hawkhurst, Cobham, Surrey. KT11 2QX.
 Kirby RS: 1 Hawkhurst, Cobham, Surrey. KT11 2QX.
 Kirkby Rev GR: Oak Cottage, Bay, Gillingham, Dorset.
 Leatham AJC: 7 Highmoor Rd, Caversham, Reading. RG4 7BN.
 Leatham RC: 97 Haddon Drive, Woodley, Reading. RG5 4LY.
 Liversidge MJH: Dept of Art History, Bristol University, 93 Woodland
 Rd, Bristol. BS8 1VS.
 Marshall AC: Tudor Lodge, Burchetts Green, Maidenhead, Berks.
 Penning JA: 40 Bassano Rd, Willowdale 444, Ontario, Canada.
 Sale PR: Cambridge Rd, RD1, Tauranga, NZ.
 Vernède AL: New Place, Ladder Hill, Wheatley, Oxford. OX9 1HY.
 Williams J: 63 Portland Road, London W11.
 Worth RA: 9 Desborough Close, Bengoe, Hertford.



If you are interested — in flying, engineering, logistics or administration — now is the time to do something about it. Your careers master has full information and, if you like, he can arrange for you to meet your RAF Schools Liaison Officer; this is quite informal, and an excellent way to find out more about the RAF.

Two more ideas: Write to Group Captain E. Batchelar, RAF, Adastral House (25ZD1) London WC1X 8RU, giving your date of

birth and details of your present and expected educational qualifications; or pick up some leaflets at the nearest RAF Careers Information Office — address in phone book.

Royal Air Force



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If you are going up to University (or on to Polytechnic or College of Technology on a full-time C.N.A.A. degree course) you

could get an award worth £1,132 a year (fees paid) while you're an undergraduate. The award itself depends on your convincing us that you'll make a naval officer—and, of course, on your success in getting that University place. This opportunity is open to all sixth formers in their last year at school.

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