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Editorial

In the summer of 1973 this town—minus the two direct grant schools—will become comprehensive. The idea is that these schools will provide for the education in the town which the state cannot at present provide. This eventuality will call for a closer examination of our relationship with the town, for already we appear as introverted and isolated and this feeling of aloofness will be accentuated by our standing outside the new system. Now without advocating our own inclusion within the system and bearing this situation in mind one should consider the possibility of extending the scope of the School to include the people of the town at the same time making best use of the comprehensive situation.

Now at sixth-form level especially there has been continued activity directed towards what could be called a social and perhaps a cultural (although that is really implicit) synthesis between the schools maintaining a sixth-form. This has been exhibited at various levels of interest in the form of clubs and more generally (and less successfully) in the sixth-form society. This latter sought explicitly to produce "evenings" of joint interest as defined by its "social" and "cultural" aspects. The reasons for its at least partial failure rest fundamentally on the inability to create lasting friendships during one or two nights a term. These societies do not perform the functions of a sixth-form college, nor can they hope to. In order to bring about a closer affiliation between the respective sixth forms it would be necessary to link curricula and have closer working patterns. By linking teaching between the schools one could not only allow a wider variety of study, but could use particularly well developed faculties of one school for a larger number of people. This would be of special value in the sixth form where study in greater depth is necessary and the facilities not always what they could be. Not only this but, to cater for the distances between schools, one could arrange the period on more of a lecture basis allowing a given time for students to pass between buildings. In fact the schools would become a campus, at least at sixth-form level, allowing greater individuality of study.

For this School the advantages of such an agreement would be manifold. The academic potentialities would be broadened and one day there might be a chance of collectively avoiding 'A' levels and their restrictions and consequently being able to concentrate on more specialised, meaningful and less abstracted studies. The danger of undue isolation from the town would be averted and the boarder would benefit doubly—from the sense of inner community which can be so strong and also from expressing himself in the greater structure of the town. Life outside school and family could become a greater reality.

But not only are there benefits for the School—for have not the School and especially the people of the School something dynamic to offer the town? A "union" in this way of schools at any level could do much to strengthen the bonds of community in the town. JDCT

It is with regret that we record the death on Friday 6 October of Dr Ian Ramsey, Bishop of Durham, parent of two Abingdonians and friend of the School. Dr Ramsey was the first President of TASS—many of us remember with delight the party he gave for TASS members in the House of Lords—and preached at our Founders' Day Service in 1967. The School has lost a most valued friend and the Church and nation an inspiring leader.

School Notes

Salutations and Congratulations

It often seems that the School rewards sporting achievements, by giving colours ties etc., rather more publicly than academic prowess. For this reason we are even more pleased to congratulate Peter Davies, Robin Wait and John Pierson on their election to Sixth Form Scholarships. All three are on the science side but their intellectual interests outside their A-level curricula were taken into account in their selection.

A further set of TASS Initiative Awards were given out this term. The successful candidates were D Spong, R Bowkett, D Lewington, G Hamlin and D Potter. Spong and Lewington are using their awards for the well established practice of getting extra flying tuition to qualify for their Private Pilot's Licence. Bowkett won his grant for a project to build some computer logic circuits.

Our CCF had its Annual Inspection last term, when we played host to Lt-Col WW Bailey of the Ordinance Corps and, though it is reported elsewhere, we must congratulate the winners of the section trophies. Sgt Bowkett won the Army trophy, L/S Cox won the Navy Section trophy, and S Hills was presented with the RAF sword as the most promising cadet.

Two Duke of Edinburgh Silver Awards were won last term by MWJ Carr and M Jones. A fine achievement indeed.

Alarmed perhaps by the quality of school spelling, the Headmaster inaugurated a 'Grand Spelling Bee' in which the three lower forms all competed. They were given six weekly tests from fifty word lists and those fortunate spellers who made no mistakes went on to the final which was held with all due pomp and ceremony at the music school. Contestants

were eliminated until Allen of the Second Form finally stumbled in the fifty-first round giving victory to Bradford of the First Form after this tremendous verbal marathon. Let us hope that the performance of the Third Form, (only one in the first three) is not an indication of what Abingdon can do to you!

On a more serious but no less happy note we are pleased to record Mr Rudd's ninety-fourth birthday, which was celebrated with ninety-four strokes of the School bell before lunch. We wish Mr Rudd many more such happy birthdays.

We have to say farewell to Mr Brodie after his short but eventful stay with us. He was of course the 'Project Co-ordinator of our Heart Performance Analyser' as featured on 'Young Scientists of the Year', as he modestly states in his latest publication sold on Founder's Day. We wish him every success.

We also welcome Miss Watson who is the Headmaster's new Secretary.

Visitors

The season of Lower Sixth lectures finished at the beginning of last term with two fine lectures for scientists. Dr John Albery of University College, Oxford gave a talk on University Chemistry, while Dr Stafford from Harwell gave an illustrated lecture on the work of the Rutherford Laboratory, Lt-Col JJ Wise talked to Lower Sixth parents on UCCA and university entrance. His both informative and dryly witty talk was well received.

Last term saw a change in the Saturday morning chapel routine. Instead a series of speakers came to talk about their jobs. Expecting the usual type of careers talk, I was pleasantly surprised by the content of these presentations which usually dealt with social and moral problems which the speakers came across in their jobs. These talks were given in the chapel and although this perhaps forced some of the speakers into an unnatural mould, the surroundings, I thought, gave rise to some revealing speeches. The guests were Mr GH Whalen who talked on Industrial Relations, Dr JGH Norris (Local Government), Mr JT Cullen (Business) and finally Mr JH Hooke who talked about Community Service. Archdeacon Roberts of the New Guinea Mission was unfortunately unable to come because of doctor's orders to reduce his engagements; we wish him a speedy recovery.

Ripon Hall students again led Sixth Form Divinity lessons and instead of the usual rambling discussions, there was a more fixed programme. Most people recognised the advantages of this but found the subject of 'Textual Criticism' rather removed from the urgency of daily life.

In last term's calendar there was an event mysteriously billed as the visit of the British Olympic Weight Lifting Squad. Mr Brodie and Mr Woolnough had arranged some experiments to examine the team's lifting techniques. Photographs were taken every eighth of a second during the lifts enabling faults in technique to be spotted more easily. Although it was just a light training session, a record of 335 pounds was set by Precious Mackenzie, a bantamweight, to win a one pound bet.

During the course of last term, the School played host to two groups of foreign visitors, both as the second half of an exchange.

The first party, from Bielefeld in West Germany where a number of boys went at Easter 1971, came in the first half of May. For most of the time, the visitors were under the charge of their respective hosts, but group outings were arranged to Blenheim Palace, Bath and Wells, and Stratford and Coventry. In addition two football matches between hosts

and visitors were played, and the Germans attended a performance of 'A Man For All Seasons'.

Just before the end of term, a group from Béziers, in Southern France, came on a similar visit. This time, however, the party was mixed, and the girls were billeted off with pupils from St Helen's School. One outing, to Stratford and Warwick, was arranged

Kenyon College Choir, of Gambier, Ohio, graced us with a visit on their lightning tour of five countries in typical camera clicking-fashion. They were given a tour of the School which included the usual attractions, plus a display of precision marching by the Corps, which both amused and evoked sympathy. Mounds of suitcases were cheerfully carried by the tour guides showing that the age of chivalry is not yet dead, when there is sufficient reason for it. Their concert at John Mason was highly praised.

The Lower Sixth were given a 'presentation' of China by a student of Chinese at Oxford. We were shown two contrasting views of China, by Mao Tse Tung with readings from his 'Thoughts', and by a tenth-century poet Mr Cold Mountain. The visual content was provided by a film taken by Kurt Mendelssohn last year in China. Two other slide projectors were used to complement and contrast with the film and there was an exciting sound track made up of music and readings. There was good contrast of tempos and texture and the crisp black and white stills contrasted with the varied speed of the colour film, appealed to me in particular. The presentation, besides being informative and revealing, was also an artistic experience in itself.

Outside Visits

This term brought its usual crop of theatre visits with members of the Fourth Form visiting Stratford to see 'Julius Caesar'. This play was set at O-level and the outing was naturally a great help to the candidates, giving them new interpretations of the characters as well as the experience of seeing a top quality performance. A party from the Sixth Form went to see 'Journey's End' at the Mermaid, and found the play, usually relegated to lower school English, well worth seeing. A small group of German scholars went to see Oxford University German Club perform Max Frisch's play 'Andorra'. Some of the performers were better German speakers than actors, but the play was most enjoyable.

The now traditional outing to see the Harlem Globe Trotters make fools of their opposition was as popular as ever. The match was an all-round entertainment including things indispensable for good basketball, such as trick cyclists, a pipe band and a small orchestra. The outing was not for basketball aficionados.

Mr Brodie took a small party to visit the Bioengineering Department of the Medical Research Centre. The group was taken round by Heinz Woolf (a judge on the BBC Young Scientists of the Year programme) who showed them some miniature electrocardiograph amplifiers and a computerized system for analysing blood samples. Professor Woolf presented the School with a new pen recorder and amplifier which he had obtained from the company and we are most grateful to him.

Barclays Bank invited members of the School to visit the Abingdon branch where they were shown round and talked to cashiers, the security officers and the manager (Mr Minshall) about their jobs. The people who went were told about the various services a bank provides and were given a free students kit on leaving. It was a most instructive evening, not least in the ways that banks attract customers.

A minor option set, Computer Appreciation, visited the IBM computer at Harwell. After security checks the group were shown the two computers and a member of the staff tried to convince them that anybody who is anyone and has a few million to spare should have a computer in the back room. Another group of Lower Sixth Formers visited the Metallurgy department where they were given a lecture on Strain Ageing and were allowed to borrow some equipment to help in a project.

Thanks to the kind invitation of Mr EB Fossey, three Sixth Formers, Stephen Bailey, Peter Davies and Paul Taylor spent two weeks at the end of term working at the Atlas Computing Laboratory.

Towards the end of last term Form 1W went on an outing to the villages of Childrey and Goosey as examples of medieval villages. The brick kilns and the old Wilts and Berks canal were of special interest.

Miscellany

Three dramatic productions took place this term which is perhaps indicative of the disappointment caused by the collapse of the Drama Festival. All were of a very high standard. 'A Man for All Seasons' was performed by members of the Fifth Form in the magnificent setting of the Unicorn Theatre. In contrast, Waste Court put on 'Toad of Toad Hall' and raised money for charity and house funds. The make-up, so important in this particular play for the characterization, was very good. The third play, 'Son of Man' by Dennis Potter, was delayed several times but we were kept feverishly expectant by notices such as, 'He is Coming' around the School. The performance was well worth waiting for with fine acting by the principal characters and good use of a tripartite stage arrangement.

The Headmaster gave lectures on 'Julius Caesar' and 'The Merchant of Venice' to O-level candidates and was very helpful in giving a different view of the play, to stimulate thought. The Headmaster's book, 'The Journal of Sir Walter Scott' which he edited, was published last term, but is, at twelve pounds fifty, rather beyond the reach of the average adoring pupil. It has been highly praised by the critics. A review of it will appear in the next edition.

While on the subject of literary works the second issue of ARK was available on Founder's Day, interestingly presented in a folder. If you were there, ARK's high pressure salesmen no doubt sold you a copy.

Members of the School helped at the Friends of Abingdon Fête held one sunny evening in the Abbey grounds. We ran the side shows, and Stephen Bowkett generously offered his face to be pelted with wet sponges while he was firmly held in a pillory. Almost everyone enjoyed themselves and the success of the sideshows is no doubt largely due to one person's self-sacrifice.

There must be something about Abingdon that attracts headmasters and that in itself cannot be totally devoid of significance. Whether it offers a challenge or . . . anyway last term we were visited by twenty-five Direct Grant school headmasters. Besides this benevolent invasion we also received visits from the following headmasters, Mr Langton of Holme Grange, Mr Thompson of Hillcrest, Kenya, Mr Das of Mayo College, India and Mr Andrews of Accra High School.

One disappointment of last term was the failure of the School's Council to get off the ground. A constitution was approved during the term, but the bright hopes conceived then seem a bit tarnished now. However, elections have now been held and the first meeting has now taken place. The Council can be valuable to both staff and pupils but only when

backed by majority opinion. Let us hope that it will do something to earn this support and dispell any sense of disillusion resulting from its long drawn out birth.

Chapel Notes

The hot, sunny weather often appears far removed from Church life, yet the Chapel this term has continued to provide varied forms of service, the Vicar of Abingdon opening the batting at the beginning of term service at St Helens with a memorable if unorthodox practical demonstration.

Sunday Mattins have included addresses from Rev David Burgess, Chaplain of University College; Mr Malcolm Harper, Regional Administrative Officer of OXFAM; Mr CH Christie, Warden of St Edward's School, Oxford. On two other occasion, the Services have been conducted by a group of students from Ripon Hall, led by Mr Leonard Pepper. The Headmaster gave an interesting sermon at the ritualistic Leaver's Service held in St Nicholas' Church, and the Preacher on Founder's Day was Rev Dr Anthony Dyson, Principal of Ripon Hall.

A fairly normal term, one says? Possibly, but normal may well be worthwhile. Saturday morning services were considerably improved in interest by a series of talks given on Jobs and Decisions. We have been privileged to welcome the following: Mr GH Whalen (Industrial Relations Officer of BLMC); Dr J Harcourt Norris (The Mayor); Mr Jeremy Cullen (of the Abbey Press); Inspector James Wakefield (Police); Mr John Hooke (Governor).

Chapel Collections for the term have been as follows: Beginning of Term Service (St Helens), £5-78; Chapel Funds, £4-44; Christiana Connell Appeal Fund, £11-49; RNLI, £6-59; New Guinea Mission, £5-56; Christian Aid, £5-73; SPCK, £5-66; Leaver's' Service (St Nicholas), £15-11; Founder's Day Service (St Helen's), £77-35. Lent boxes for the Feed the Minds Campaign totalled £20-57; a good effort.

It has been nice to retain contact with John Rowley and his work at Kariti Primary School. One letter included a note from William Njonoge Njonjo, Chairman of the Christian Union at the School, including thanks for our gift to aid with the provision of books. Another heartening note is that it is hoped there may be a small increase in the number of Confirmation Candidates. They will be presented to the new Bishop of Reading, the Right Rev Eric Wild, on Advent Sunday, 3rd December at 3 pm.

The flowers were beautifully arranged again this term, and our sincere thanks to Mesdames Anderson, Eden, Reenan, Taylor, Varley, Woolnough, Hasnip, Hillary, Potter and Willis, and Miss Farr and Miss Mayatt.

Our thanks to Bryan Clublely, who retires as Senior Sacristan to leave the job in the able hands of Chris Williams, supported by Trevor Roberts, for the next year.

BAC

GRF Bredin . . . by JM Cobban

Prize Giving took place this year at the North Berks College where Mr GF Bredin, the retiring Chairman of the Governors, presented the prizes. The following speech is our previous headmaster's eulogy to Mr Bredin.

It is in a way a sad privilege I am enjoying, for not only do I have, sir, to thank you for presenting the prizes and for what you have said this evening, but I have also been commissioned with the duty of thanking you, not only on behalf of myself, but on behalf of the School, past and present, for everything you have done for Abingdon School during your twenty-one years on the Governing body and the many years during which you were chairman.

This is not the occasion for an obituary. Nor am I concerned tonight with the services which George Bredin rendered to the State in the Sudan and since his return to the Church and the University. But this I can say. I have talked to those who worked with him in the Sudan and in the Church Commission, and I know how highly they thought of him. And that is one of the best testimonies he could have.

I was extremely fortunate in the three chairmen under whom I had the honour of serving, Admiral Clifton-Brown—how unnerving it was when he used to snore loudly as I was reading my report to the governing body, then open one eye and make a devastatingly acute remark that cut me down to size; then Mr Stow, whom so many of us remember with respect and affection, and then George Bredin. It was a wonderful trio. Only a headmaster knows how much he owes to his chairman of the governors—and he doesn't tell because headmasters have the habit of claiming all the credit for themselves. But if the School has prospered since nineteen forty-seven (and in our less guarded moments we do get around to admitting that it may have done) it has largely been due to George Bredin. He is happy in the dates with which he was associated with the School. He has made it quite clear that he came after me and so cannot be saddled with any responsibility for my appointment. On the other hand he can claim a considerable responsibility for the appointment of Eric Anderson (not that there was much arm-twisting necessary before it was made).

I must not embarrass George Bredin by trying to analyse those qualities of character which he added to that long experience of men and of affairs. I could say much about his patience, his devotion, his sense of responsibility, his concern for people, his absolutely shining integrity—but really there is no need for me to say anything about it at all. For anyone who comes into contact with him, feels the better for it, and we can leave it at that.

Thank you, Mr Anderson, for allowing me this privilege. Thank you, Mr Bredin, for all you have done. JMC

Founder's Day 1972

The School on Founder's Day owns a different air to the one it wears on other days. Already it seems open to summer with its promises. But just as the day anticipates the newness and thrill of future life, so it recalls the past: old friends are met again, faces seen and many faces missed. So many; brightly clad, queuing for teas on Waste Court field, talking in

groups in front of the School, watching the cricket from beneath the trees, as evening approaches. On this day the School shows its most communal, friendly face.

As if by spell, Founder's Day seems to hold a guarantee of perfect weather. And this year the day broke, a clear July morning, without a trace of cloud.

The afternoon was packed with activities and exhibitions. Displays filled the classrooms representing facets of regular school life, amongst which Mr Brodie's parting gift to the School, the culmination of his work here in physical fitness, 'Sports-science Fantasia', shone out. Practical demonstrations of learning and creativity took place in the scientific experiments and dramatic workshop productions respectively. So numerous were these activities that audiences, especially for the latter, were considerably diluted. The number of dramatic productions (including a poetry reading on Waste Court lawn), and confusion over where they were to take place, proved more than many could bear. These people eventually took refuge in tea queues where they could listen to the band strike up such heroic melodies as 'If I were a rich man'. Moreover, these footsore parents were accosted by the usual amount of distributive literature, the most significant of these being *Ark*, an imaginatively produced literary magazine, and *Vox*, the peoples' voice, in Founder's Day tabloid form containing much valuable information.

Following tea, exhibitions slowly closed down, and, since the end of term had sensibly been put forward to five-thirty that afternoon, the School wound down quietly into the evening, leaving empty chairs and discarded magazines on the lawns. Everyone seemed to have run away to summer.

'A Man for All Seasons'

This was the first time for three years that a School drama group had appeared at the Unicorn although by a double coincidence our last production there was of another play by Robert Bolt and several of the present Fifth Form cast appeared in it. Now that this delightful theatre can be used earlier and later in the year, thanks to the installation of heating at the instigation of the Headmaster and the School Governors, it is to be hoped that our appearances will become considerably more frequent. It is a special experience for School actors to play here and each new production brings one of Abingdon's finest amenities to the notice of a wider audience.

Even the seats in the pit seem less uncomfortable than usual when a play holds the attention as well as this one did. It moved rapidly and lightly, its pace admirably sustained by two fine performances in long and taxing parts. The applause that the rest of the cast gave to Paul de Lusignan at the curtain call is an eloquent comment on his achievement. He was a most convincing More, breathing integrity, scholarship and confidence with a distinct tang of saintliness. He also handled less characteristic aspects well—the hesitant uneasiness in family relationships, the joke about selling one's soul for Wales—and he turned arguments which one can barely follow when reading them now into the very soul of virtuous good sense.

Christopher Jones had the harder job of the two, for, after all, Fifth formers are nearer to idealists than to ruthless power politicians. His early Cromwell was just big and bluff—for example he rushed the scene

where he **should** have enjoyed burning Rich's hand in the candle—but he developed a nice line in steely menace after the interval and was particularly good at throwing away some marvellously amusing lines. Richard Rich, the perjured whizz-kid, was nicely handled by Simon Marsden, good in moments of anxiety and pleading, but again the actor could not find it in himself to plumb his character's nastiness. Nick Francis was fortunately exempt from this demand in his well-spoken Roper, as was Andrew Carlisle, a blustering but always sympathetic Norfolk. Patrick Cook made a good, lively shot at the King's swagger and arrogance, the guest actresses from Our Lady's Convent supported their males well and Gordon Woods as the Gaoler just failed to steal the show from everyone.

Bolt is a playwright who respects historical conventions. His characters are thoroughly sorted-out in their beliefs and the play tends to stay two-dimensional, without any real conflict. One misses the alarming and sudden penetrations into man's murkier subconscious, the glimpses into the sheer horror and cruelty of political life that even the BBC's Tudor series exploited. This play holds us most firmly through its dialogue, the superb epigrams about the capacity of the nobility of England to sleep through the Sermon on the Mount, the perfect ripostes and the usual anachronistic incongruities. (I don't know who first wrote 'A nod is as good as a wink' in an English historical play, but TS Eliot certainly beat Bolt to it by twenty years, and in the end I was quite disappointed to go home without hearing anyone told to Save his breath to cool his porridge.)

Consequently Messrs Blocksidge and McKinnon were able to treat the play lightly without in any way devaluing it. The pace was excellent, alert scene changing included, and the cutting was helpful and sensitive. Stage arrangement and grouping were most successful. They opened with a brief scene that made the stage look twice its usual size as well as providing a most effective full-frontal More and thereafter they were never huddled or short of room in their very tiny space. There were some excellent touches, like the plants in the Chelsea garden, although it was a pity that Alice and Margaret More arrived at the Tower with a bottle and basket that derived from mid twentieth century King's Road. The actors were always audible and projected themselves well. Movement was not so good; many people stooped badly and gestures were poorly co-ordinated but time and experience will put this right. Although the characters did not age forty or fifty years, the simple make-up was effective, and the costumes were a treat, but before next time could someone please devise a way of putting weight on the actors legs or of taking in their tights? CO

'Son of Man'

One way and another, Jesus Christ has been a lot in the news in the past few years. A spate of plays and musicals, not to mention movements and revivals have placed Him squarely before us in a manner highly blasphemous to some, but relevant and contemporary to many others. Only a decade ago it was still considered irreverent to play the role of Christ on the stage; now scores of hopefuls queue at the auditions.

'Son of Man', originally written and produced for BBC television, was one of the first of the current wave of such plays and consequently had a very mixed reception when it was first shown in 1969. It may be that time, and its successors, have mellowed my attitude to the play, but I

was far more moved by Mr Owen's production than I was by the original. I think the reason for this lies in what Dennis Potter is trying to say in 'Son of Man': his message is about the humanity of Christ; he is above all concerned to show that the Son of Man was a real man, and in this Fourth Form Drama Group production the doubts and anxieties, anger and frustration, compassion and courage of a down-to-earth Christ were movingly portrayed.

The setting was very simple but effective with three separate acting areas—one for the Romans, another for the Priests and the forestage for the Disciples—used in turn. There was slight distraction in being able to see the whole cast backstage all the time—blackout and better lighting would have helped—but usually the action held one's attention too well for this to matter.

The scenes involving Christ and his disciples carried great conviction. The main catalyst was David Mushens as Peter who was type-cast in his impetuosity, but also had a sensitive influence on the pace of the action. He was ably supported by Richard Bosley (Andrew), Alan Arm (James) and Peter Brodie (John), who had obviously all put a great deal of effort into understanding their parts, as indeed had every member of the cast. Christopher Applegate, who played Jesus in the first half gave a strong yet highly sensitive portrayal of a Christ who went through agonies of doubt and introspection before he accepted His Father's will, but who, once he was convinced of his Messiahship, took hold of his task with both hands regardless of the consequences. His delivery of the Sermon on the Mount, which in Potter's version requires marked change of pace and mood was highly effective. Aidan Cairns in the second half was not quite so convincing. His was a quieter strength of character and we missed the ends of some of his lines, but he too had worked hard on his role; he handled the money changers with authority and he showed dignity and calmness in accepting his inevitable crucifixion.

The battle of wits between Pilate (Nigel Tait) and Caiaphas (Scott Wilson) which is promised early in the play never really emerges because they discover a common interest in eliminating Jesus, but this Pilate is very different from the picture in the Gospels of a Roman governor who did not condemn Jesus himself, but merely allowed Him to be put to death in accordance with the sentence of the Sanhedrin. Tait suffered his slow-witted Military staff (Andrew Jackson and Christopher Cuninghame) with stoic patience while he tried to outwit Caiaphas and at the same time remove the threat to peace that a Messiah with popular support would pose. These scenes went too slowly; cues were slow and the pace too even. In contrast, Chapman (Judas), Kochan, and Wilson would have gained more dignity had they spoken more deliberately. We did not quite appreciate how cleverly Caiaphas kept both Pilate and his restless followers happy, though we saw his authority clearly in the trial scene.

The play ends with Christ dead on the cross. A satisfactory end perhaps for a play about Christ as a man, but one about which Christians must be unhappy. Much will be achieved if 'Son of Man', 'Godspell' and all the other plays put Christ's person before us and show the relevance of His teaching to our lives, but its full meaning will be lost unless we can see that he was not just a man. This production steered the difficult course between Jesus the man and Jesus the Son of God with moving success. Congratulations and thanks are due to this talented group, to Mr Owen and all who helped behind the scenes. PVM

Musical Opinion

Congratulations to Bernard Hall-Mancey on his appointment as Director of Music at Hinchingsbrooke School, Huntingdon. His departure is a fact which I have had to accept but one which I have been, frankly, dreading.

We arrived here together: green. We had to get to know procedures quickly. Moments mixed tension with hilarity when two uninitiated music masters exchanged unanswerable question marks in reaction to an unexpected peal of school bells, or the sudden surge of boys towards an unidentifiable fixed point. It seems incredible that this was as long ago as five years and more.

We soon learnt that running the music department demanded from us the ability to be musical jacks of all trades. There is no aspect of the school's musical life with which Bernard has not been identified. To meet the challenge of the diversity of activities abounding within the classroom is a feat in itself; activities ranging from the junior world of minuets and chime bars to giving a David Murphy a push towards the comparatively esoteric world academic music at university level. (Jeremy Pike's A level is still very much fresh in the mind). Bernard created the Junior Choral Society and brought them up to the heights reflected in his two operatic performances—Britten's *Golden Vanity* and Rodney Bennett's 'All the King's Men'. He ran the band in the days of the Tromans (pre Robbins era; he couldn't wear a uniform either!) He runs the senior orchestra now. Then there's the Chamber music coaching, private pupils—helping with administrative chores.

It's a long list of activities, yet I have still left untouched his first love and most impressive musical forté—the St Helen's Church scene. There he has shown his talents with choir and organ; the latter he built on as well as played. Remember the expertise of the Correllian Singers? And did you know that Rush Common and the junior musical school benefited from his weekly visits, where his ability to enthuse the under ten year olds was as strong as the gratitude of many a parent whose children he patiently guided through the first hurdles of piano playing?

On top of all this, I shall miss most of all Bernard's friendship. We have shared the same office for several years, both shared the good times (like producing four children between us!) Very few people can have had the opportunity of appreciating the extent of his courage and resilience in the face of two major operations on his knee, resulting in months of considerable pain. This would be hard enough to bear, but think how it must be for an organist and you'll know what I mean.

The end of the Summer term saw a break from the traditional projects week pattern which used to culminate in a concert on Founder's Day. For musicians, the change is to be regretted. A whole week devoted to the intensive rehearsing of the Entertainment produced an exciting if controversial musical patchwork quilt.

However, we were still able to finish the term on a succession of cheerful notes, beginning with a TASS evening at Nuneham Courtenay on July 5th. A beautiful summer's evening in an enchanting setting provided just the right background for a happy combination of jazz and madrigals. The same week several boys took part in a charity concert in the new Methodist Church in Kennington. A performance of Bach's 6th Brandenburg Concerto stands out in the mind. We finished the term with the Fairhead/Hall-Mancey productions of 'All the Kings Men', at the North Berkshire College of Further Education. 'Childrens' operas are all the rage, these days (like last night Prom diversions) and there are some

pretty indifferent ones floating about. The Rodney Bennett avoids the kind of frightful results common to composers who arrogantly talk down to children in musical terms—and, for that matter, the sophisticated self-consciousness of Britten's *Golden Vanity*. He employs a large orchestra as well as choirs which meant our largest ever operatic venture.

The band, under David Robbins, is more and more sought after, and not only from prospective members and listeners in this school. It visited Carswell and Caldecott Schools as well as lending colour to the Abingdon Fete. The effect of David's far reaching pied-pipe has really made itself felt through the number of boys entering the school this term with Grade V trumpet. He is now starting a second band.

We held a musical evening for parents of string players during June. The event was excellently handled by Mrs Harmsworth (violin) and Mrs Gottfeldt (cello) who demonstrated topics ranging from how to hold a bow to the problems of playing in a string quartet. Then there was the composers' concert—particularly interesting for the range of styles displayed. Both Nicholas Talbot and Jeremy Pike produced highly talented work (songs and a piano sonata respectively) surrounded by items from Andrew Faunch, Chris Hey and a group of improvisations; the latter a thoroughly laudable body of musical iconoclasts who are filtering their way into the life of the music-school.

ARLEF

Concert in St Helen's Church

The School's Choral Society, with assistance from St Helen's School, gave a most enjoyable evening's music with a programme of three works in well-balanced styles. Purcell's tuneful and jovial *Ode for St Cecilia's Day*, *Welcome to All the Pleasures*, came off successfully to whet the appetite for sterner things to come. How good it is to hear the School's unbroken voices in this sort of context, even when they sound uncertain, perhaps from lack of experience as well as practice.

The totally inadequate duplicated programme listed next the four German titles of the parts of Hindemith's *Plönermusiktag*. These orchestral pieces proved to have strong melodies and interesting rhythms, but were not easy to take in at a first hearing, especially without explanation, introduction or translation; *Morgenmusik*, the first piece, is scored for brass ensemble alone, and was exceptionally well played. It was unfortunate that, since Mr Robbins was directing as well as performing from the brass section at the back of the orchestra, the string players showed that they knew as little as the rest of us when the second piece was due. If Mr le Fleming had conducted throughout, he might also have made it easier for the players to keep their ensemble. The remaining pieces went well, and the last was a rousing *Marsch* which left most of us wanting to hear the whole thing again.

The grand work of the programme, however, was Mozart's C Major 'Coronation' Mass. Here the performance was disciplined, stylish, moving. Choir and orchestra combined well and the four soloists—Marilyn Jones, Pat Crittall, Harry Eden and Simon Crittall—sang with assurance, audibly and in tune, greatly enhancing the complete effect.

St. Helen's Church was a good setting for this concert, especially the Mozart, despite the inconvenience to the audience of sitting side-on to the performers, and the programme was a good one, not too difficult and not too long. But the publicity was very poor and the audience was very small: it seems a shame that so many people should put in so much work

to perform only to themselves and their loyal families! It is also absurd to deter members of the School by asking them to pay a relatively high price, indeed anything at all, to come to this kind of rewarding but unfashionable concert.

DAH

Composers' Concert

It is a heartening and healthy comment on a school's cultural life that invention is not concentrated too exclusively on 'Star' events. Most certainly the 'school play' and the 'school concert' are important in showing standards as much as in providing entertainment, but the fundamental vigour of a school's aesthetic interests can often best be appreciated in the comparatively small-scale and informed atmosphere of an occasion like the 'Composers' Concert' held in the Music School at the end of last term.

By all appearances, composers abound in Abingdon School, not only in every shape and size but in just about every form and medium. Chris Cuninghame, like many other of the School's musicians, clearly conceives his compositions in terms of his own performing abilities. No-one would claim that his piece for violin and piano was original music, based as it was on very traditional tonal and thematic material, but it lay well on the instrument, and indeed I think its virtuosity even taxed its very confident performer a little, though he was helped by an accurate accompaniment from the piano.

Before this, we had been given more composer-performed music from Nick Talbot and his group, hot foot from successful auditions for Radio Oxford, and now making a very refined and ingratiating sound indeed. The 'protest song' medium in which the group works, does, to my mind offer little of interest in the way of lyrics (sentiments always being rather stereotyped) but the command of melodic line in the numbers was mature and sensitive, equal in sophistication to Chris Hey's harmonic control in two new pieces for piano. No stranger to Abingdon School composers' sessions it has been interesting to watch the growing assurance of Hey's 'mood music' which is emotionally convincing enough though essentially backward-looking. Indeed it is by emotional rather than formal means that he makes his point, as his sentimental 'song without words' type pieces have no strong structural backbone, even though their aim is always abundantly clear.

Of our younger performers, Andrew Fauch gave us firstly a pleasant guitar solo, competently played (without score), and secondly a duet with recorder, played by Simon Clift. Both pieces showed a happy but controlled melodic invention that was never allowed to flag or to become undisciplined. The pieces, however, served as a prologue to the item which no music school concert can now ever afford to be without. The 'Junior String Group' (Sounds Exploratory) presented to us their latest 'exploration'. Anthony le Fleming whose brain-child this group is, remains unwilling to categorise the performances simply as 'improvisations', but this essentially was what their 'Saturday afternoon' piece was, proving all the same that improvisation is fundamentally the most disciplined form of music-making. A musical collage, rendered with immense concentration led us into a variety of Saturday afternoon 'experiences', from watching Wimbledon on the television, to standing in the Abingdon rain. The assemblage of strings, some percussion and piano attacked the business with determination and purposeful cacophony on all sides.

Our jazz musicians no less than our young experimenters were active also. Andrew Carlisle (and microphone) sincerely but rather too huskily sang Alan Davies's 'The Wonders of the World', quite an original piece, both in lyric and in the virtuoso band-playing in the background. The jazz instrumentalists then gave us a blues, 'Blue Adrian', which judging from the panache of his trumpet playing did not refer too directly to Mr Rayson!

I think that the laurels at any Abingdon School Composers' Concert must inevitably go to Jeremy Pike, another of our musicians who has become known to Radio Oxford. He gave us the première of his Piano Sonata, which proved clearly the most substantial item on the programme. Perhaps the slight hesitation in the composer's performance betrayed lack of rehearsal, but the cogency of the musical thinking was still evident. Jeremy Pike has clearly absorbed atonalist techniques sufficiently to build up around his basic tone-row a substantial Chaconne (the work's first movement) and, at the end, to work to a large climax. Despite his own brief introduction to the work, I feel that this is the kind of performance from which an audience might profit if we had had a second hearing later in the programme (often the procedure in concerts of contemporary music) so that more of the material might be accurately assimilated.

Still, it will be clear that all in all, Abingdon School composers provided food for thought (and pleasure) in many ways. I, for one, found the evening extremely encouraging and hope that we may hear more from our existing composers, and from new talent in the future. It will be appreciated in one quarter at least. MB

All the King's Men

Mrs Anderson who attended the end of term Concert at the North Berks College has kindly written this record of her impression.

This fast-moving lively opera, written expressly for young people by Richard Rodney Bennett in 1969, was an ideal choice for the Junior Choral Society to perform. The story is based on a real incident in the Civil War; the siege of Gloucester by the King's army. Dr Chillingworth, an expert in warfare, persuades the Royalists to build a huge tortoise-like siege engine, nicknamed 'Humpty Dumpty', and we see the unsuccessful attempts to take the city from the viewpoint of both armies.

The North Berks College Hall was a most suitable one for the production, and full use was made of it by imaginative grouping and unexpected entrances, helped by excellent but unobtrusive lighting. It is by no means easy to sing and act at the same time, and on the whole the cast, with the aid of Mr Fairhead, showed themselves to be relaxed and confident performers. The start was slightly shaky—the Roundheads appeared just as apprehensive about an audience as about the approach of the Cavaliers—but with the arrival of the messenger, excellently played by Graham Lennox, the opera came to life.

Richard Rodney Bennett's music is a joy to listen to. There are a number of very good choruses in widely differing moods, from the marching optimism of the Cavaliers to the puzzled resignation of the citizens, and the boys tackled these with zest and confidence.

To be a member of the chorus can be as difficult as taking a solo part—one must be still for long periods on stage, keeping in character all the time without stealing the thunder of the principals, and the various citizens, soldiery and ladies should be congratulated on their efforts. Their

singing was usually good, if sometimes marred by an indistinctness in the words.

The principals performed well; most of their solos are not easy to sing, and they attacked them manfully. The part of Dr Chillingworth is particularly long and difficult, and Christopher Sowden made a very creditable attempt at it. Colonel Massey and King Charles, played by Martin Hingley and Jeremy Breckon respectively, sang convincingly, and Ian Holding, the drummer boy, handled his beautiful solo well.

The chief praise, however, must go to Mr Hall-Mancey, who skilfully welded together orchestra and singers into a well-balanced whole. This was no mean feat, and the orchestra, playing as it were blind behind a curtain, gave a skilful and sympathetic performance of a tricky musical score.

Opera is by far the most difficult of the arts to stage, combining as it does so many skills and so many performers, and everyone connected with this most enjoyable evening can be proud of it, and rest assured that the many hours of practice which lay behind it were well worth while. PA

TASS

Reference is made elsewhere to the untimely death of Dr Ian Ramsay, Bishop of Durham. Dr Ramsay was the first President of the Society in 1967-68 and we remember the interest and enthusiasm with which he helped to get the Society on its feet. We owe him a great deal.

On July 5th last, over two hundred members visited Nunham Park at the invitation of the Chairman, and enjoyed the most perfect summer's evening at this lovely mansion. Mr Howat gave a talk on the history of the house, wine was served and Mr le Fleming and members of the School played light music in the ballroom.

More Initiative Awards were granted and the award winners will be giving an account of their achievements on the evening of November 2nd in the Court Room.

The Ladies of TASS have again provided splendid teas for the 1st XI cricket matches throughout the summer and also for the new dayboys at the beginning of Michaelmas Term.

An Autumn Ball was held in the Abbey Hall on Friday, 13 October and the Christmas Bazaar will be taking place between 10.30 am and 12.30 pm on November 18th.

Anyone wishing to join the Society should write to the Treasurer, Mr RE Eason at 3 St James Road, Radley, Abingdon for an application form.
MEW

Euratom

Thanks to the good offices of Dr Vaane of the Euratom Centre at Karlsruhe, the School has for some years enjoyed the privilege of taking up a research studentship at the Centre. This opportunity is admirably suited to the successful Oxbridge candidate wishing to occupy himself between School and University to good advantage. Christopher Marley was our latest nominee for this interesting post and he seems to have gained considerable benefit from the experience.

The research project assigned to him involved the testing of desimeters of different types for accuracy, these being used to monitor atmosphere radioactivity, and the writing up of a report on his findings. Work apart,

Christopher had a very active and enjoyable time in Karlsruhe, meeting students from many nationalities and backgrounds and becoming well integrated into the social round. Having lived with a German family during his six months stay, he was stimulated into becoming fluent in the language, an additional bonus. He seems to have impressed his hosts too as the following extract from Dr Vaane's letter shows—

"He made a great impression with his chess playing abilities, became a member of the Institute's Chess Club and beat our director who happens to be our best player.

I had the pleasure to have a game of chess or two with him at my house, got beaten, and at another evening I invited some colleagues and they also received a lesson; the strength of him is the charming manner he has, to excuse our lack of ability in the game. You feel as if by chance he won this time! He is a great example of understatement of his own abilities, one of the characteristics of the British, they say."

Christopher has now gone on to Caius, Cambridge to study Natural Science; his successor at Euratom will be John Hills who has already secured his place at St John's College, Cambridge for 1973. JT

Arctic Norway

Simon Whipple (on TASS Grant) on British Schools Exploring Society Expedition to Arctic Norway, 14th July—12th August, 1972, writes:

Gradually, by a discernable effort of will, I progressed from the state of semi-sleep in which I had passed the night, to full waking. I sat up, trying not to put my elbow into the face of the person sleeping next to me, but I hit the roof of the tent, which sent a shower of rain down my neck, and so I retreated into my sodden sleeping bag. I reviewed my situation. It had been a bad night, without any doubt. The rain, at times running into sleet, and driven horizontally across the glacier, over the lava flows, across the little lake with icebergs floating upon it, and straight up against my back pressed hard against the tent wall. So now my sleeping bag was soaked, yesterday's clothes had not dried, the spare clothes I had put on for the night were damp, and my boots, socks, overtrousers and cagoule were hardly likely to have dried. Lack of space within the tent meant that they had to be left outside at night. Reason asserted itself over the primeval desire to lie down and die. I got up. That was no easy task in itself, with the other three occupants of a tent that possessed the floor area of a good-size bathtub, swearing drowsily at me as I stepped unsteadily over them.

Fumbling with fingers that had lost all feeling beyond the slight tingling that messages frostbite, I undid the tent flap and poked my head outside. Surprisingly, the rain had stopped. The sun was even trying to come out. But the wind was as strong as ever, and wind, more so than rain or frost, is what arctic explorers fear. Perhaps the wind was drying my clothes, but the process was more than a little chilly.

I succeeded in lighting the primus at the fifth attempt, and then felt in my rucksack for some food. My hand felt only soggy biscuits and toilet paper in the puddle of water that had been my personal rations. But finally I found a tin of porage oats—and only forty minutes later the four of us shared a meal that looked like babyfood but which would leave even the average baby ungorge.

The primus had gone out now and the rain had begun again. I crawled

back into the tent and lay shivering against the tent wall, my teeth chattering despite the warm food inside me. My three tent companions, two boys from Barry Comprehensive and a police cadet from Liverpool, were complaining softly about how cold they had been during the night, and decided what they intended to eat when they returned to civilisation, but I preferred to suffer in silence. The horrifying thought was growing on me, 'What if it rains non-stop for six weeks? Why should one assume that the weather is bound to improve soon? Will my sleeping bag rot if it is soaking wet for forty days? Will I get trench feet if I put on soggy socks every morning? Wet socks, mushy boots, soaking heavy breaches, clinging wet cagoule. Six weeks.'

But the weather did get better, and we learnt a lot about existing in any conditions. We learnt to use polythene bags for every purpose in the struggle to keep our food, matches and clothing dry. We learnt to eke out our rations and improve their flavour by careful cooking. We made cigarettes out of teabags, made jam from bilberries—jam which fermented, if left overnight in a tin, to produce a crude intoxicant. We began to enjoy life in the arctic.

There were mistakes of course. My own memories are of the day when I left my boots by the fire while I went to clean my teeth for the first time in three weeks, and returned to find one boot in flames. Then there was the day when I collapsed with my heart rate approaching 200—which is what is liable to happen when you walk too fast carrying sixty lb uphill on a hot August afternoon.

But undoubtedly enjoyment did break through the sweat and strain of all those hours of marching and the weeks of existing on insufficient and monotonous rations, of sharing claustrophobic tents with companions, some of whom one inevitably dislikes. I will always remember the day when, walking with one friend alongside beautiful Lake Virihavre, we stumbled on a Lapp fishing encampment comprising a teepee and a modern frame tent—a strange juxtaposition of transistor radio and open cooking fire, Levi's and sealskin jacket, daughters at Stockholm University and subsistence farmer father. The Lapp family, with their Swedish au pair, treated us to the most delicious coffee I have ever tasted. An expedition to the arctic makes one appreciate such luxuries. MSW

Schongau '72

I don't suppose Gloucester Green Bus Station in the rain is the ideal place to say one's goodbyes, but this is where we (three members of the School) joined up with five other young Abingdonians to depart for a twelve day holiday with our Bavarian, French, Belgian and Italian counterparts. Schongau, which lies on the R Lech is a pretty town of 12,000, about 20 miles north of Garmisch Partenkirchen and Füssen, and also about an hour's drive from Munich and Augsburg. Thus it is ideally situated and a pleasing place to be twinned with.

Each year groups of 10 young people from Lucca—Italy, St Niklaas—Belgium, Colmar—France and Abingdon congregate in Schongau. (The same thing happens in all the towns) for what can only be called a Festival of Youth. It is everything a festival should be—perfectly happy, spontaneous and with all nationalities mixing together, though at the same time retaining their own peculiarities. To illustrate this point I'd like to bring to the fore a certain incident in Schongau a few years ago. One member of the English group (a member of the School who shall

remain nameless) found himself in a seething queue all pushing. In retaliation he waved his inevitable umbrella saying 'Do you mind, I'm a British citizen!'

The journey there is long—24½ hours long in fact. Bus to Victoria, train to Dover, boat to Ostende, train to Augsburg (I could tell lots of stories about the journey from Ostende to Augsburg, which is overnight, but space does not permit it). Finally after another train from Augsburg one goes over a rise and there it is—those two onion-domed churches mean the end of the line.

In the warmth of the welcome the journey was soon forgotten, and then we went to meet our hosts. Accommodation was given free by Schongau families. Meals were also included free at local restaurants, as were drinks with the meals. After the reception with the Mayor, where presents and messages of goodwill and general 'Gemütlichkeit' reigned, the first main event was a big dance. This is where one first really gets to know the other groups. There were two of these, both open to the public, and both great successes.

The Schongau organisers were kind enough to arrange the visit to coincide with their Volkstest—the beer festival. This is where they only sell it in litres. The experience is quite fantastic. A tent of football pitch dimensions is full of tables full of glasses and Germans full of Bier (that's how they spell it). At one end is a stage with the Schongau Town Band blasting music you only read about in travel brochures. Everyday for two weeks!

With 'ein' Rosie' still ringing in our ears we had to assemble at 8.30 the next morning to visit some famous churches. The programme is formidable, in the French sense of the word. One day for visiting mad Ludwig II's fairy castles, another for an exhilarating walk in the mountains above Garmisch. Then a day in Munich—a visit to Schlos Nymphenburg and up the Olympic tower. Other activities varied from swimming to bowling.

The penultimate evening features entertainments by all the groups. As usual, it was the English in the form of an infamous female who shall also remain nameless, who stole the limelight.

On the last night there was the official farewell from the Mayor. Some nocturnal celebrations in the market square fountain by the Italians and French apart, that was the end. There simply remained the journey home.

It was not so simple however. After a tearful farewell from the station, one or two misunderstandings led to the group arriving home six hours late. But the least said about that the better.

I'd like to end by quoting Siegfried Müller, the Schongau Youth Leader, who did a superb job. He said, 'I think there are three reasons why people come on these exchanges. One to learn something about that country and people; two for the girls; and three, just to have a damned good time!'

JDH

Anyone who will be seventeen or over next summer and who would be interested in visiting either Schongau, St Niklaas or Lucca next year for only twenty pounds should contact John Halliday for further details.

Dolgoed Summer 1972

We left the Abingdon sun to greet the misty Dolgoed evening, everything was quiet and beautiful. The 17th century farmhouse stood amidst the Welsh Highland splendour. We certainly enjoyed ourselves with projects including stream life, ornithology, the Corris Slate mine and many more

Biological and geographical projects. Projects were carried out with enthusiasm. We payed our respects to Cader Idris, saw the forestry commission, and some of us even visited Harlech Castle.

No-one could complain about the food, and some of us might even have liked to stay there! Most parties had some rain although there was also some brilliant sunshine.

The Dolgoed venture was a great success, whether you judge it by the detail and presentation of many projects, or by the experience of living with others. An article on Dolgoed would not be complete without mention of the efforts of the various members of the staff, too numerous to mention here, but the demand on the staff for a project such as this is more than most people imagine. RK

Sports Reports

Cricket

First Eleven

The cancellation due to rain of the first three matches was hardly an auspicious beginning to the term, but when at last bat was put to ball a fine victory over the Berkshire Gentlemen launched what was to become a most rewarding season. With five fifth formers and only one upper sixth former in the side the Eleven must have been the youngest ever to represent the School and their success in winning seven of their fixtures was most encouraging. In a year in which wickets on the whole did not favour the batsman (the dry spell came too late for schools cricket regrettably) results were more likely than not, and a glance at the averages shows the success of the five main bowlers who took their wickets relatively cheaply. On the other hand, the batting was rarely convincing and a number of victories when batting second were not quite as easily achieved as the figures suggest. The adage that bowlers win matches, provided they are supported by good fielding, was well demonstrated. However, there were a number of good individual batting performances, notably from Paul Abraham and the five fifth formers, all of whom batted in the first seven places in the order, to encourage one to look forward with confidence to 1973, particularly as all the bowlers are available for selection again.

After an exciting debut by Chris Driver of 72 in the defeat of a not very strong Berkshire Gentlemen XI, the local club won our second match off the last ball of the game. Rain caused the abandonment of the next fixture, and then the pattern of Anthony Baumann's leg-breaks complemented by Andrew Clift's off-breaks was set against the Oratory who were fortunate to survive with a draw with nine wickets down. Baumann and Clift quickly developed into a fine pair of schoolboy spin bowlers against all but the strongest opposition and were well handled by their captain. Meanwhile in the early matches Jonathan Seaver was giving notice of his ability to contain even the better batsmen by simply bowling a length at the stumps, easily said but not so often achieved. Baumann

took 6 for 18 against the Oratory, and, after a batting failure at Douai and a dismal all-round performance against Westminster College, Carl Atkinson with 6 for 22 shattered the Incogniti and the morale of the side was further restored by an excellent victory over the MCC in which every member of the team made a positive contribution. Thus the Eleven became the first to complete a hat-trick of wins over the Berkshire Gentlemen, the Incogniti and the MCC, a remarkable achievement for so young a side.

Philip Evans found his form during the next two games, and another win at Magdalen completed a sequence of five victories, Baumann and Clift again being among the wickets. Then Radley, batting first, were actually 27 for 6 with another batsman retired hurt, but a sound stand of 60 for the seventh wicket saw Radley to a working score of 119 and then Abingdon's batting collapsed without recovery against a strong Radley opening attack. Paul Abraham batted well at Bloxham who could make little headway against the bowling of Seaver and Clift—this was Abingdon's seventh victory and a decisive one, too. Clift bowled very well again for his eight wickets in the two OA innings, and the paradoxical fragility and promise of a young batting side was reflected by the two innings in this match. In the first, Penny and Dickinson were too good for our early batting and the school had to be helped to their first innings total, but a draw was finally merited, and a good omen, one hopes, achieved for next year by the exhilarating partnership of 155 in the second innings between Paul Abraham and Jonathan Seaver. Abraham did not always enjoy the best of fortune with the bat but looked a much improved cricketer this year. As a captain he was very competitive, quick to learn, shrewd in his handling of his bowlers and generally sound in his field placing. Much of the team's success was due to his enthusiasm and example. His opening partner, Philip Exans, although not yet a powerful stroke maker, showed a promising method and an ability to concentrate; he should do well next season. Seaver's contribution to the side was a telling one; his control, both in technique and temperament, was best shown in the MCC match. His vital three wickets before lunch and patient two-hour innings were instrumental in setting up this victory. Peter Price was something of a disappointment as a batsman and only played one major innings, against Abingdon CC, but he developed into a fine cover-point. He and Simon Hobson were consistently the outstanding fielders. Hobson's contributions with the bat were good while they lasted, but he has something to learn about adjusting his natural game to the needs of the moment. Chris Driver, too, had problems in building an innings but once he got into the twenties he looked twice the player and was an exciting striker of the ball. His 48 against the MCC was a very competent and important innings and reflected his improved concentration this year. Angus McPhail had few chances to build a big innings batting at No. 7 but he looked well organised and showed a sound technique. As a wicket-keeper he improved greatly as the season progressed and twice claimed four wickets in a match.

Richard Griffiths and Carl Atkinson opened the bowling. Both were great triers but had similar problems with their direction. Griffiths' five wickets against the Berkshire Gentlemen and Radley were his best performances and mention has already been made of Atkinson's effort against the Incogniti. Unfortunately he could not find the same control again and Abraham was quick to turn to the steady Seaver and his two spinners who rarely let him down. Both Baumann, who topped the averages once

again, and Clift, the first genuine off-spinner for Abingdon for many a year, bowled with intelligence and were not afraid to give the ball plenty of air. McPhail rarely failed with a stumping chance. In the OA match Driver showed up well as a sixth bowler and if the wickets had been as hard and plumb a few weeks earlier he would have been used with advantage much more. The ground fielding was not always as aggressive as it should have been; two or three members of the side were at fault too often in this department. However, the important catches were generally held. It remains to be seen whether a talented young side who achieved good results despite scoring only a modest number of runs can develop next year into a strong schoolboy eleven. Nevertheless, they are to be congratulated on what they achieved in 1972.

During the holidays Abraham, Griffiths, Seaver, Clift and Atkinson represented the Berkshire Bantams on occasions. In the game against Warwickshire Colts Andrew Clift returned the remarkable analysis of 6 wickets for 7 in 11 overs.

The Senior and Junior Knock-outs were won by Blacknall and Reeves respectively. Driver won the Fletcher Cup for topping the batting averages and Seaver the Morris Cup as best all-rounder. Baumann and Driver were awarded the Henderson cricket prizes.

Mrs Deane's team of TASS mothers excelled themselves once again with the teas and Miss Bellamy-Law and her staff are also to be thanked for their splendid lunches. It was kind of the Rev John Boatright to offer his services as umpire in a number of 1st XI matches. I am grateful, too, to the Rev Hugh Pickles and to all the staff who helped with cricket at all levels throughout the school, to Mr Bagshaw in both groundsman and coaching capacities, to Richard Griffiths, an excellent Secretary, and to Ian Thackwray for his neat and efficient scoring.

During the term full colours were awarded to PM Abraham (capt), AW Baumann, JP Seaver, RHD Griffiths and PD Price. Half colours went to CDG Driver, PH Evans, SMJ Hobson, AC Atkinson, AC Clift and AW McPhail. These made up the final eleven. PJS Harris (4), RJ Frost (3) and CB Terry (2) also played. NHP

Played 14; Won 7; Lost 3; Drawn 3; Abandoned 1.

Berkshire Gentlemen Wed 17 May (h) Won by 47 runs.

A 184 (Driver 72, Hobson 33); BG 137 (Griffiths 5 for 51).

Abingdon Cricket Club Sat 20 May (a) Lost by 3 wickets.

A 142 (Price 54 no); ACC 143 for 7 (Seaver 4 for 37).

NH Payne's XI Wed 24 May (h) Abandoned

NHP's XI 160 for 6 dec; A 7 for 0

Oratory School Wed 31 May (h) Drawn

A 134 (Abraham 56, Seaver 34); O 64 for 9 (Baumann 6 for 18)

Douai Sat 3 June (a) Lost by 5 wickets

A 46; D 50 for 5

Westminster College Wed 14 June (a) Drawn

WC 173 for 4 dec; A 88 for 8

Incogniti Sat 17 June (h) Won by 6 wickets

I 74 (Atkinson 6 for 22); A 75 for 4

MCC Wed 21 June (h) Won by 3 wickets

MCC 143; A 145 for 7 (Driver 48 no, Seaver 36)

Reading School Sat 24 June (h) Won by 7 wkts
 R 73; A 76 for 3 (Evans 44 no)

Etceteras Sat 1 July (h) Won by 4 wkts
 E 174 for 5 dec (AA Hillary 87, D Bagshaw 48); A 175 for 6
 (Evans 60, Seaver 34)

Magdalen College School Mon 10 July (a) Won by 4 wkts
 MCS 88 (Baumann 4 for 14); A 90 for 6

Radley Tues 11 July (a) Lost by 74 runs
 R 119 (Griffiths 5 for 31); A 45

Bloxham School Wed 12 July (a) Won by 76 runs
 A 141 for 8 dec (Abraham 46); B 65 (Seaver 4 for 16)

Old Abingdonians Fri 14 and Sat 15 July (h) Drawn
 OA 196 (P Shellard 71, Clift 6 for 76) and 140 for 7 (G Pike 53)
 A 145 (D Penney 5 for 32) and 177 for 5 (Abraham 83, Seaver 63,
 J Dickinson 4 for 26)

1st XI AVERAGES

Batting Averages (Qualification 5 completed innings):

	Innings	Not Out	Runs	Highest Score	Average
CDG Driver	13	3	228	72	22.8
PM Abraham	15	1	303	83	21.6
JP Seaver	14	1	254	63	19.5
PD Price	13	3	160	54*	16.0
PH Evans	15	2	176	60	13.5
SMJ Hobson	13	0	133	33	10.2
AW McPhail	10	3	69	18	9.8
AW Baumann	11	2	87	29	9.3
RHD Griffiths	8	1	52	17	7.4

Bowling Averages (Qualification 4 wickets):

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
AW Baumann	89	24	234	22	10.6
AC Clift	115	29	372	32	11.6
PJS Harris	30	10	66	5	13.2
AC Atkinson	75	15	154	11	14.0
JP Seaver	166	48	394	25	15.7
RHD Griffiths	120	20	370	17	21.7
CDG Driver	30	7	99	4	24.7

The Alligators' Week

Considering the rest of the season's weather we were fortunate to have good conditions for the week, with the pitches as good as ever thanks to David Bagshaw's preparation. The highlight of the week was undoubtedly Tony Hillary's fine century on the first day which rescued the side from a disastrous start of 36 for 5. But the final total of 212, like our other totals during the week, was insufficient in the face of the strong batting



1st XI playing.

1st XI posing.





In to the water . . .

. . . and out of it.



line-up of the opposition. The Town defeated us again (our last 7 wickets going for only 15 runs) and even the Bantams scored a notable victory. On the other two days honours were more even, with the BGs only getting home after three wickets fell with the scores level, and a good win against Burntwood. Andrew Varley, Julian Shellard, and Robin Ogg all played good innings, but once again the lack of two good quick bowlers every day during the week put too much pressure on batting line-ups which somehow didn't seem as strong as in previous years. Still it was good to see old faces from the past ten seasons or so, and our thanks are due to Miss Bellamy-Law for her supervision of our gastro-nomic needs and to Abingdon Town Cricket Club for their post-match refreshment facilities.

The following played during the week: JJ Shellard, P Abraham, JM Bunce, RA Jackson, DAM Bent, PN Shellard, AA Hillary, MS Ford, JL Cox, J Dickinson, R Griffiths, RS Ogg, AR Snodgrass, MC Varley, R Matthews, GF Pike, NH Payne, SEW Boyers, A Rose, D Bagshaw, P Harris, DS Partridge, AJ Varley, DM Goodwin, MJ Heading, PG Henderson. PNS

South Oxford Amateurs 17 July Lost
 Alligators 212 (AA Hillary 111)
 SOA 216/4 (CM Edwards 116, J Dickinson 3-45)

Abingdon Cricket Club 18 July Lost
 Abingdon CC 253/6 (CM Edwards 91)
 Alligators 143 (RS Ogg 58, D Williams 7-58)

Berkshire Gentlemen 19 July Lost
 Alligators 184 (JJ Shellard 62)
 BGs 185/9

Burntwood Cricket Club 20 July Won
 Alligators 219/5 (AJ Varley 85 no)
 Burntwood 167 (AJ Varley 3-14, S Boyers 3-7)

Berkshire Bantams 21 July Lost
 BBs 183 (MC Varley 4-41, AJ Varley 4-42)
 Alligators 145

Second Eleven

The first three matches were cancelled: Edmund Campion's transport broke down; then rain prevented the games with Newbury and Brentwood. So the season did not get under way until 17th May, when we narrowly lost a low-scoring match at Oratory. We did well to dismiss Abingdon Cricket Club for 140, but, despite excellent innings from Terry (42) and Frost (39), the Club's bowling was too good for us to make the runs in time.

After Half Term, Smith and Mason bowled out Magdalen. We were outplayed at Shiplake but had an excellent drawn game at Wantage. At Reading, eight of the team got into double figures and Mason (off whom Terry stumped three batsmen) was largely responsible for our getting Reading out. Rain again intervened to cancel the game with High Wycombe, but we had lovely weather for our last three, all in the final week of term. The Radley match (rearranged after torrential rain on the original date) was a disappointment: early batsmen failed, and only when we had no chance of winning did Wojciechowski (39) show

what a good reply we should have made had we batted sensibly. Next day, Roberts (52), Harris (40), Wojciechowski (30) and Terry (22) gave us a score that proved quite out of Bloxham's reach, especially as Mason and Smith bowled so well. Finally came an extraordinary match with the OAs (led, as usual, by Roger Bampton, who travelled from Devon for the game). At 40 for 5 (30 of the runs having come from Terry) disaster threatened, but friendly bowling enabled Frost (40) and Wojciechowski (20) to take us to 133—not nearly enough, we all thought. But the OAs found Wojciechowski's occasional straight balls devastating and we gained an unexpected victory.

Well over half the side's runs came from Terry (214), Frost (163, in only six innings), Wojciechowski (126) and Harris (115), who all hit the ball hard and batted entertainingly. Of the remaining batsmen, Roberts and Stimpson (who both joined the side after Half Term) showed the most promise.

After last season's wealth of quick bowlers, we were very short of these, especially as both Harris and Frost sometimes had to fill gaps in the 1st XI. Harris bowled the most overs, but without the accuracy or success for which he tried so hard. Cook and (at the end of the season) Wojciechowski opened the bowling with Harris, but neither achieved enough control of length and direction to be impressive. The best bowlers were Smith and Mason, both slow left-arm.

Except at Shiplake, the fielding was good. Wojciechowski's performance against Magdalen was the best fielding that I have seen in four seasons with the side. Terry improved enormously behind the stumps, where he had much less chasing of wild throwing than last year.

Once again, the team played with an excellent spirit. This was all the more commendable in view of the late start. Terry's willingness to lead the side for a second season was a great help, as was Harris's enthusiastic approach to every department of the game. These two thoroughly deserved their half colours.

The following twelve players appeared in at least half the matches: CB Terry (Captain), JE Carrington, PD Cook, RJ Frost, PJS Harris, DS Mason, JN Oakley, TG Roberts, DPC Smith, PF Stimpson, J Wojciechowski and GW Woolley. KPM Taylor, AJ Walter and RG Wood played twice and GN Green, RW Holder, GM Horwood and RJ Price once.

HTR

RESULTS: Played 9; won 4; lost 2; drawn 3.

Oratory School 17th May (a) Lost by one wicket.
Abingdon 63; Oratory 64 for 9.

Abingdon Cricket Club 20th May (h) Drawn.
Abingdon CC 140; Abingdon 124 for 7.

Magdalen College School 14th June (h) Won by 47 runs.
Abingdon 134 for 8 dec; Magdalen 87 (Smith 5 for 14).

Shiplake College 1st XI 17th June (a) Lost by 95 runs.
Shiplake 177 for 6 dec; Abingdon 82.

King Alfred's School, Wantage 1st XI 21st June (a) Drawn.
Abingdon 146 for 8 dec; Wantage 135 for 9.

Reading School 24th June (a) Won by 79 runs.
Abingdon 164; Reading 85 (Mason 6 for 27).

- Radley College 11th July (h) Drawn.
 Radley 164 for 4 dec; Abingdon 90 for 9.
- Bloxham School 12th July (h) Won by 102 runs.
 Abingdon 162 for 4 dec (Roberts 52); Bloxham 60.
- Old Abingdonians 15th July (h) Won by 57 runs.
 Abingdon 133; Old Abingdonians 76 (Wojciechowski 6 for 40).

Third Eleven

The season was not the most successful ever, but thanks to some exciting cricket and fine weather in the latter stages, it was most enjoyable. After two early heavy defeats, the side recovered to win an amazing match at Oratory by two runs, after we had been put out for thirty-seven. At Carmel College the batsmen were at their best, but we were unable to win. The next two matches were lost to older and more experienced sides, though the bowlers did very well to remove Cokethorpe 1st XI for a low score. The season ended on a high note with an easy win over Reading thanks to a fine innings by Taylor.

Walters, Horwood and occasionally Taylor and Ward, made up a good bowling attack, but they were not backed up by resistance in the batting. The side was enthusiastic, which resulted in some good fielding and a happy season.

The team was made up from JD Peirson (Capt), AJ Walters, GM Horwood, DI Lewington, PF Stimpson, CJ Williams, RA Ward, JH Taylor, DCB Herbert, TG Roberts, IC Gillis, AS Clift, AG Johnstone, NA Litchfield, SEG Young, DJ Luther, GR Terry, PJ Francis, PAW Rogers, MJ Carr, WA Pickup, GF Woods and JN Oakley. JDP

Results:

- 3 May v Westminster College 2nd XI (h) Lost
 WC 154-5 dec; A 92.
- 6 May v St Edward's (h) Lost
 ST 154-6; A 73.
- 17 May v Oratory (a) Won
 A 37; O 35 (Walters 5-11, Ward 4-5).
- 31 May v Carmel College 2nd XI (a) Drawn.
 A 148 (Horwood 40, Roberts 34); CC 131-5.
- 3 June v Pangbourne College 2nd XI (a) Lost
 A 53; PC 54-4.
- 17 June v Cokethorpe 1st XI (a) Lost
 C 80 (Ward 4-28, Walters 3-20); A 49.
- 24 June v Reading (h) Won
 R 94 (Taylor 4-40, Horwood 3-22); 3 95-5 (Taylor 41).

Junior Colts

Although the Junior Colts cricket this year was, in general, successful and enjoyable, it did suffer its share of irksome frustrations. Particularly frustrating, on occasions, was the conduct of players of talent who often failed to attend practices or opted for detention in favour of a game. This clearly undermined the morale of the side and went right against the spirit of the game, but in spite of these difficulties the side came through with considerable credit. It was certainly noticeable how a number

of players improved their game as the term progressed, and the approach of many became much more vigorous and thoughtful.

As Captain of the side, Stimpson started with some uncertainty, but with match experience, developed into a confident and thoughtful leader of the side. His control of the field-placing was particularly impressive—always forcing the bowler to keep a line and length, and thereby keeping the field changes to a minimum. He also showed promise with the bat, however, and made a valuable score of 37 against Reading, when the side seemed in danger of collapse. The batsman with most flair, though, was certainly Johnson who produced some superb shots on occasions to make a number of good scores, but at present lacks the necessary self-discipline and dedication to be outstanding. Betts became a proficient wicket-keeper as the season progressed, but still needs to move more quickly to the loose ball; as a batsman he possesses the potential to be very powerful, but his promise was never truly fulfilled except in the match against Radley where he played a magnificently commanding innings—an unbeaten 61—to win the game for the side.

The most successful bowler was Howat whose pace and accuracy constantly had the opposition groping for runs. He moves the ball away with a late swing which is highly deceptive and often took wickets with the batsman moving in quite the wrong direction. Davies, as first change bowler, kept a very good line and length, and batsmen found him very difficult to get away—an extremely valuable bowler for any side. Noble bowled well at the beginning of the season, but seemed to lose his concentration towards the end, but with both off-breaks and leg-spin at his command he could develop into a very useful player.

The rest of the side was drawn from the following players who made very promising contributions to the games: Barton, Baumann, Walters, Cowan, Campbell, Wartke, Holder and Green. RMcK

Results: Played 10; won 6; lost 3; drawn 1.

17th May v Oratory School (h) Won/26 runs.

A 121/9 dec (Davies 31); O 95.

20th May v Burford School (a) Won/6 wkts.

A 142/4 dec (Johnson 56, Stimpson 51 no); B 40.

3rd June v Pangbourne College (a) Lost/23 runs.

P 82 (Howat 5-10); A 59.

7th June v Bearwood College (h) Match abandoned.

A 13/1.

14th June v Magdalen College School (h) Lost/3 wkts.

A 125 (Johnson 39); MCS 127/7.

17th June v Shiplake College (a) Won/3 wkts.

A 161/7 dec (Noble 43 no, Johnson 35); S 93 (Davies 6-17).

21st June v Douai School (a) Lost/8 wkts.

A 118/5 dec (Johnston 31; Barton 30 no); D 122/2.

24th June v Reading School (a) Drawn.

R 107/7 dec (Howat 4-28); A 88/7 (Stimpson 37).

5th July v Carmel College (a) Won/4 wkts.

A 112/6 dec; C 81 (Davies 4-14).

11th July v Radley College (a) Won/4 wkts.

R 128/9 dec (Howat 5-53); A 129/6 (Betts 61 no).

12th July v Bloxham School (h) Won/3 wkts.

B 75 (Howat 5-21); A 76/7.

Junior XI

In spite of the awful weather, we managed to play ten matches, of which we won five, drew two and lost three. On the whole, the victories were decisive, and the defeats excusable, either because the opposition was strong, or because we were lacking some of our key players. So, all in all, it was a very satisfactory season. If I have a complaint, it is that we depended too much on the achievements of a small number of people, and if they failed or were not playing, then we were in trouble.

The batting was dominated by three very promising batsmen, Gerald Lowes, Charles Lowe and Dennis Lanham. Lowes in particular grew considerably in maturity and self-confidence during the season, reaching a climax with a memorable 60 in 35 minutes (43 balls) against Oxford School. His near-namesake Lowe showed a lot of promise early in the season, but tailed off as time went on. He moves too slowly and reluctantly to the line of the ball, especially when it is on or outside the leg stump. He will have a lot to offer if he can cure this fault. Lanham contributed some of the most elegant batting of the season, but he is an uncertain starter, and was out too often for low scores. However his innings against Bloxham, when he made 40 in very fast time, stays in my mind as one of the most attractive of the season. Apart from these three, very useful innings came from Peter Hallum, Marcus Hurry (rather agricultural, but murderous against mediocre slow bowling), and Simon Morden. Charles Hobson looked very good almost all the time he was at the crease, but found it very difficult to score runs, and rather lost confidence towards the end of the season. In time, he will make a lot of runs.

For bowling, we relied heavily on our opening pair, Hurry and Hobson, who picked up 27 wickets each, or 54 out of the 78 that fell to bowlers. Our spinners Hallum and Lowe backed them up successfully on occasions, and Lanham and Allen showed some promise, but we had very little else, and it was lucky that we could depend so much on our main attack. Hurry is an aggressive pace bowler with a good action. If he can learn to pitch the ball further up to the batsman, he will be a dangerous fast bowler in years to come. Hobson bowls at medium pace and moves the ball a lot in the air. Towards the end of the season, I thought he sacrificed some of his accuracy for the sake of speed. I hope that next season he will regain some of the nagging accuracy that gave him a lot of success early on.

This was one of the best fielding sides at this level that I can ever remember. Very few catches were put down, and the ground fielding and throwing were often excellent. Hallum headed the list of catches with 12, and Scibilia with 6 catches showed a very safe pair of hands.

The team was well led by Peter Hallum, whom I thank for all the help he gave me during the season. I should also like to thank the Reverend Hugh Pickles for devoting such a lot of time and energy to helping to coach the junior sides. Without his invaluable help, we should find it much more difficult to run them.

The team was: PD Hallum (captain), SW Morden, DJ Lanham, CR Lowe, CW Hobson, CD Robinson, MJ Hurry, R Scibilia, JC Barnes, A Allen, WJ Homewood, M Bevan, NJ Tattersfield, AG Noble. DCT

Results:

Oratory 17 May Lost by 40 runs.
Oratory 81 for 7 dec; Abingdon 41.

Burford GS 20 May Won by 96 runs.
 Abingdon 123 for 4 dec (Lanham 50);
 Burford 27 (Hurry 4 for 10, Hobson 4 for 12).
 Pangbourne Coll. 3 June Won by 130 runs.
 Abingdon 160 for 5 dec (Lowe 72, Hurry 31 not out)
 Pangbourne 30 (Hurry 6 for 14, Hobson 3 for 8)
 Magdalen CS 14 June Won by 66 runs.
 Abingdon 82 (Hallum 46)
 Magdalen 16 (Hurry 4 for 11, Hobson 5 for 3)
 Cokethorpe School 17 June Drawn
 Cokethorpe 58 (Hallum 4 for 3)
 Abingdon 34 for 9
 Douai 21 June Drawn
 Abingdon 126 for 5 dec (Lowes 65)
 Douai 108 for 5
 Reading School 24 June Won by 36 runs
 Abingdon 149 (Lowes 33, Hurry 31)
 Reading 112 (Lowe 3 for 17, Hurry 3 for 46, Hobson 3 for 28)
 Oxford School 28 June Lost by 5 wickets
 Abingdon 107 (Lowes 60)
 Oxford School 108 for 5
 Radley College 11 July Lost by 12 runs
 Radley 99
 Abingdon 87
 Bloxham 12 July Won by 97 runs
 Abingdon 149 for 8 dec (Lanham 40, Allen 31)
 Bloxham 52 (Hobson 4 for 22, Hallum 3 for 1)

Minors

This proved to be a very good year for Cricket, with a considerable depth of talent. The Minors remained undefeated, although it must be admitted that they never quite achieved the domination of the opposition of which they were theoretically capable. Three matches might have been lost, and were as a result the most enjoyable and exciting. Against the Dragon School Carl Sheldon steered the team to a narrow victory after some disappointing batting higher up. Bearwood and Cothill should have been beaten fairly comfortably, but there was shortage of time, and in trying to beat the clock they almost gave away both matches. Their best performance was the comfortable victory over a good-looking team from St Hugh's, and this result gives the best idea of the team's potential.

Andrew Young made an excellent captain, handling his bowlers particularly well, and could always be relied on to score runs. Rex Harmer was probably the best allrounder, and was outstanding in a first-rate fielding side. All the eight bowlers were given their chance, even when the opposition scored low, and it was good to see spinners in action, and tying down the opposition, so often. Special mention should be made of Martin Hills, who as opener always bowled to the best batsmen, and yet returned overall figures of 39-13-49-20, a handsome reward for consistently good length and direction.

Considering the depressing weather, the enthusiasm of nearly forty second-formers was most heartening, and this was reflected in the considerable progress made by many of them. There were many good

cricketers who were unable to establish a place in the Minors team, and so a few fixtures were arranged for the Second team; this proved a success, and players such as Ralph Howell (who averaged over 40, and has some handsome shots) have a very promising future as they grow in confidence. MW

Played 8; won 5; lost 0; drawn 3.

Dragon School 2nd XI 20th May (h) Won by 2 wickets.

Dragon School 74; Abingdon 78 for 8.

Carmel College Preparatory School 31st May (a) Won by 65 runs

Abingdon 95 for 6 dec (Sheldon 36); Carmel 30 (Hyman 3-4).

Millbrook House School 3rd June (h) Drawn.

Abingdon 125 for 6 dec (Young 44); Millbrook House 44 for 7 (Harmer 3-2).

Bearwood College 7th June (a) Drawn.

Bearwood 84 (Young 3-24, Holding 3-10); Abingdon 75 for 8.

Magdalen College School 14th June (h) Won by 7 wickets.

Magdalen CS 34 (Harmer 3-3); Abingdon 35 for 3.

St Hugh's School 17th June (h) Won by 85 runs.

Abingdon 125 for 4 dec (Young 53 no); St Hugh's 40 (Young 3-7).

Summerfields School 'A' XI 1st July (h) Won by 51 runs.

Abingdon 99 (Franklin 56 no); Summerfields 48 (Harmer 3-12, Holding 3-13).

Cothill School 5th July (a) Drawn

Abingdon 113 (Harmer 57 no); Cothill 102 for 7 (Hills 3-9, Harmer 3-25)

The Second team matches were as follows:

Carmel College Preparatory School 31st May (a) Won by 77 runs.

Abingdon 108 for 5 dec (Howell 50 no); Carmel 31 (Hills 8-6).

Bearwood College 7th June (a) Won by 83 runs.

Abingdon 99 for 9 dec (Cook 40 no); Bearwood 16 (Hills 3-1).

John Mason High School 1st XI 3rd July (h) Won by 41 runs.

(20-over match)

Abingdon 113 for 6 (Howell 29 no); John Mason 72 for 7 (Haverson 4-20).

Final teams were:

Minors: AMJ Young (Capt), RJ Harmer, CR Sheldon, NFK Franklin, MP Hills, IR Holding, PA Evans, M Hitchcock, MA Kelly, DF Rimmer, GM Uttley. MR Hyman played in many games.

2nd XI: M Herring (Capt), R Howell, AH Cook, AP Crooks, AG Hillary, NJ Holder, RA Hobbs, NGC Harverson, MS Brown, CC Barnham, KMR Forsyth.

Rowing

In terms of success this has been a mixed season for the oarsmen, with the best results in small boats rather than eights. It was also the first season for the new ARA status rules for regattas, and it does not appear so far that these have been helpful to the small school boat club. Possibly in future years when everyone is used to them they will prove to be of

greater value. It is debatable whether the present tendency to link all rowing activities to the demands of the international scene will assist the majority of schools, however helpful this may be for the select few.

The 1st VIII, consisting of those boys over Colts age and not required in the 1st IV, had a very disappointing season, mainly because they were forced to row in events for which they were not ready. They certainly did their best and tried hard, but the competition was just too strong.

The Colts VIII from whom great things were expected, never quite achieved the standard of which they were capable, although they collected some noteworthy 'scalps' at various regattas and put up a good show at the NSR at Pangbourne. At all events, they gained useful experience for next year, and began to understand how much is required from our crews if they are to excel in competition with other schools. The Junior Colts VIII were the best we have produced for some time. They raced extremely hard and it was always a pleasure to observe their enthusiasm and effort. Their races at the NSR were particularly encouraging, and they should do well in future years. It was good, also, to have two keen scullers in Tresidder and Davies competing in Novice Sculls. We look forward to the day when we can provide good sculling-boats for our scullers, though at present prices this must be some way off.

The 1st IV enjoyed a particularly good season, and fully maintained the excellent standard they had set themselves in the Head of the River races. The crew attended the ARA training weekend at Radley on the 4th and 5th of March, and as a result of races held then were selected to represent the Upper Thames region in the Regional Youth Championships at Nottingham on the new six-lane international course at Holme Pierrepont on May 21st. We did not do particularly well, achieving only 4th place out of 5. However, the Upper Thames region won the Championship and the crew were given regional green rowing vests! RG Godfrey rowed at 'bow' and ECJ Lilley at '3' on this occasion. On the previous Saturday the 'main' crew, as listed, won Senior 'B' fours at Wallingford, beating a Hampton GS crew, Bristol and Severn Dockers and Hereford RC, all fairly easily. At Half Term we went to Cambridge, beat Gladstone Warwick in the semi-final and Broxbourne RC on a disqualification in the final to win Senior 'A' Fours. Hoping to repeat this success we went to Oxford the next weekend, beat Broxbourne comprehensively in the 1st round, Bedford RC by $\frac{1}{2}$ length in the semi-final and then met Gladstone Warwick in the Final. A piece of bad luck, in the form of an illegally parked eight and a marker buoy caused a disaster by the OUBC and despite making up $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths deficit in 300 metres we lost by a canvas. The following Saturday, June 10th, at Reading we again lost the final of Senior 'A' Fours to Hampton GS by $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths, after beating Furnival Scullers, Shurdington Sports Ferrets, and Molesey BC. At National Schools Regatta, held for the last time at Pangbourne, we again succumbed to Hampton GS, this time by $\frac{1}{2}$ length in the Final of the Heden Cup, beating on the way Becket, Canford, Monmouth, Bedford Modern: we were 3 lengths clear of Becket who were 3rd.

It was decided to enter for the Britannia Cup at Henley, but a very powerful Oriel College crew beat us in the qualifying round which was annoying, since several crews we had previously met and defeated had easy races and went through to the regatta. This is a drawback of Henley which the Nottingham course overcomes.

And so to the National Rowing Championships at Nottingham. Amongst the senior crews we were able to see the Olympic squad in

action. The juniors—under 18—were not only fighting to win, but for selection to represent Great Britain in the World Youth Championships at Milan. The uninitiated may not think that our 4th place in the Final was particularly remarkable, but a glance at the full results and times which are appended, will show that this was a very good achievement. We were very sorry that our '3', Nigel Pollard, was over the age-limit to compete, but we were extremely fortunate in securing Simon Woods, Captain of Boats at Westminster School, to row in his place. His experience and skill were much appreciated and we are indeed grateful to him for joining us in this endeavour. We hope that we shall see him again and that he will enjoy his honorary membership of the Gryphon BC.

In order to allow the 1st IV to race we needed a shell four, and were lucky to be able to buy a Stämpfli only three years old from Leander. We are extremely grateful to Mr SA Paige OA for organising an appeal amongst those present at the London OA dinner for new oars, and then allowing us to put the £153 raised towards the cost of the boat. The following contributed and we hope they consider the money well spent: RJ Conibear, WM Marshall, A Howell, K Cleeve, K Haarhoff, J Light, RR Bailey, John Bury, Richard Cox, N Holmes, Mr Hutchings, Sir George Sinclair, DC Woolf, G Livingstone, SD Plummer, SE Clarke, SA Fabes, TA Libby, JC Attree, P Light, WEK Anderson, WA Rudd, JB Alston, RE Eason, JM Cobban, PEP Jones, JW Rayson, N Corby, Guy Wilson, HM Gray, TD Paige & Co, PN Arthur, J Talbot, LAG Hendley, DH Blake, Dr BL Smith, M Iredale, J Hullett, JN Paige, SA Paige, Jim Wood.

So far we have been too busy using the boat to think of a name for it. Any suggestions will be gratefully received.

As always we are very grateful to those parents who support us in so many ways, to the Captain of Boats, Derwent King, and the Secretary, Peter Scott, and last but not least our boatman 'Nobby' Essex, without whose help and skill we could not survive. RGM

Crews:

1st IV—(Bow) ECJ Lilley, (2) DB King, (3) NRH Pollard, (Str) PE Scott, (Cox) IM Sealy.

Scullers—HT Tresidder, PAG Davies.

1st VIII—RM Bowkett, G Homewood, TC Parker, MI Kendall, RG Godfrey, G Habgood, DM Binks, CF Vernon, M Holding.

Colts VIII—M Ormerod, JP Jordan, CM Jones, S Walker, PRJ Lilley, PAW Rogers, JD Griffin, PR Forsythe, PC Jones.

Junior Colts VIII—NJ Tresidder, GAN Pott, AJ Thresher, AG Capel, PC Moore, SR Martin, DP Lynn, PR Clark, JM Tauwhare.

The crews as listed above rowed in the National Schools' Regatta, except for the scullers. Additionally: CM Clayton rowed in the 1st IV at Reading and Henley Royal Regattas, and RG Godfrey in Area Youth Championships. JG Walker rowed in the 1st VIII. At Wallingford Regatta the Colts and Junior Colts rowed as Fours, with SR Gough and D Eccles as coxes.

Fixtures:

May 10 Chalmore Regatta. Colts 'A' IV won Colts event. HT Tresidder won 'C' division sculls.

May 13 Wallingford Regatta. 1st IV won Senior 'B' Fours. 1st VIII beat Keble College, lost to Lincoln College.

- May 21 ARA Youth Championships at Nottingham. 1st IV representing Upper Thames Area came 4th out of 5 entries. Upper Thames won Area Championship.
- May 27 Cambridge Regatta. 1st IV von Senior 'A' Fours. 1st VIII competed in Senior 'C' Eights. Colts VIII competed in Colts Eights.
- June 3 Oxford Regatta. 1st IV lost Final of Senior 'A' Fours after hitting an obstruction
Reading Junior Regatta. Colts VIII beat Winchester and Bedford Modern School Colts, lost to Radley and Pangbourne Colts.
- June 10 Reading Amateur Regatta. 1st IV lost Final of Senior 'A' Fours to Hampton GS by 1½ ls.
- June 16/17 National Schools' Regatta. 1st IV lost Final of School Coxed Fours to Hampton GS by ½ l, and were awarded runners-up medals. 1st VIII competed for Child-Beale Cup, Colts VIII beat Canford, St Edward's, Shiplake, Winchester, but failed to reach the Final. Junior Colts VIII beat Winchester and St Paul's, but failed to reach the Final.
Henley Royal Regatta. The 1st IV was entered for the Britannia Cup, but lost to Oriel College in the qualifying round.
- July 21/23. National Rowing Championships of Great Britain at Nottingham. The 1st IV was entered for Junior Coxed Fours. S Woods of Westminster School BC rowed at '3' in place of NRH Pollard who was over-age for the event.

Full Results for the event.

Friday. Heat 'A'		Heat 'B'	
1 Hampton GS	5.05	1 Abingdon/Westminster	5.09½
2 Durham Sch	5.07	2 St Pauls	5.12½
3 UCS	5.11½	3 Hereford	5.18½
4 Nottingham HS	5.19	4 Star	5.23½
5 Monmouth Sch	5.30	5 Derby/Burton Leander	5.35½

1st crews to Final — remainder to Repechages.

Saturday. Repechage 'A'		Repechage 'B'	
1 Durham Sch	5.20	1 UCS	5.18
2 Nottingham HS	5.23	2 St Pauls	5.26
3 Hereford	5.24	3 Monmouth	5.33
4 Derby/B. Leander	5.43	Star	

1st 2 crews to Final.

Sunday. — Finals.

1 UCS	5.06½	4 Abingdon/Westminster	5.12½
2 Hampton GS	5.07½	5 St Pauls	5.14½
3 Durham	5.10	6 Nottingham HS	5.22

As a result of this event, UCS was selected to represent Great Britain in the International Youth Championships in Milan, in the Coxed Fours, and Hampton GS in the Coxless Fours.

It was not possible to hold the Boat Club Regatta this term, but M Holding was the winner of the Junior Sculling Competition.

Tennis

The most appropriate word to describe the performance of the various teams throughout the season is 'mixed'. The 1st VI won only half of their fixtures, their losses being mainly a result of lack of determination, and a reluctance to play those shots executed so well in practice.

Philip Mohtadi did much to hold the team together, and his early departure contributed to the lack of success in the last few matches. Despite the reliance on a single player, the other members of the VI improved noticeably as the season progressed, and those who remain for another year will no doubt put their experience to good use next season.

The 2nd VI suffered, as always, from too few fixtures, and of these, half were cancelled by our opponents. Needless to say, the lack of match experience will handicap them for next year, but now that we have three all-weather courts, use must be made of them during the winter and spring to try and offset the deficit.

Of the three matches played by the U16's, they won two and lost the other. The U15's won three and lost two, and the U14's lost their only two.

Full colours were awarded this season to RI Macdonald (Capt) and PAH Mohtadi, and half-colours to CM Leonard, DM Lewis, IL Manning and JMG Taylor.

Teams were from:—

1st VI: RI Macdonald (Capt), PAH Mohtadi, CN Leonard, DM Lewis, IL Manning, JMG Taylor, JH Bosworth,* CDN Morris.*

* Played once.

2nd VI: JH Bosworth (Capt), N Jefferson, RE Taylor, CDN Morris, TJ Gresswell, CW Lawson.

U16's: RI Barton, AN Plant, AR Mushens, RA Woods, ADS Luto, MJ Savastano, NJA Shephard, S Wilson, SC Comerford.

U14's: NP Kay, DA Blackburn, CJ Madin, AL Knibbs, PJ Alder, SF Wakefield, RW Kermod, JTK Whittington.

The Buckley Cup was well supported again, the eventual winner PAH Mohtadi beating PD Price, who was later to represent the School in the Youll Cup. The Junior Knock-out Competition, introduced this year, attracted a large entry, with M Bevan winning in three sets, over CJ Madin.

Youll Cup. Wimbledon, July 24th-28th. Despite the loss of PAH Mohtadi, mentioned earlier, the team of RI Macdonald, PD Price, IL Manning and JMG Taylor looked in good shape at the end of the practice week, but were eliminated in the third round by Aldenham.

Thomas Bowl. Wimbledon, July 24th-28th. Perhaps our best chance for some years in this competition lay with RI Barton and AN Plant, who whilst being as good as the Tonbridge pair, did not settle quickly and allowed their opponents to dictate the play. As a result they went out without putting up their best performance. They did however reach the third round of the Plate event, beating Marlborough and Rugby I, only to be defeated by Charterhouse.

This year we say goodbye to RI Macdonald, CN Leonard, DM Lewis, PAH Mohtadi, RE Taylor and M Bevan, and wish them well for the future.

We were again doubly fortunate to have the services of Mr J Gardner, who took the 1st VI under his wing, and Mr RJ Lay, who concentrated on the Juniors. Both groups of players benefited from their efforts, and on behalf of those concerned, I extend to both our thanks.

No club can run efficiently without the help and co-operation of numerous people, and with this in mind, I would like to thank Messrs RCB Coleman, JC Harcourt and CET Moore for the parts they played during the season. The duties of captain were carried out admirably by RI Macdonald, for which I am grateful, and I would like to express my appreciation to JH Bosworth, who as Club Secretary, enabled the match side of the season to run so smoothly. JEV

Athletics

From the point of view of inter-school matches and area championships this would appear to be one of the poorest seasons ever. For instance, an all-time low must have been reached at the North Berks Championships, with no competitors at all chosen to represent the area in the Berkshire Championships (though admittedly one boy had to turn down an invitation due to it clashing with the Southern Counties event). Normally at North Berks we expect 3 or 4 first places, let alone several seconds and thirds, with about 10 boys gaining selection. And the 3 inter-school matches ended each time with Abingdon last. One of the reasons must be the almost complete lack of Upper Sixth athletes, and this meant that our athletes competed against boys one or even two years older. Also there were the usual crop of injuries, but the loss of JSP Mushens (all season) and A. Murdock (first 6 weeks) both due to glandular fever, was particularly cruel. And the gaps left by the departure of Chris Jordan and Andy Barrett from last year's team were particularly hard to fill, especially as they used to do 4, or 5, or even 6 events each, though in fact AJ Madin made creditable attempts to emulate them when he was asked to do 4 events. However, one good thing was that several younger boys gained experience, and in 2 years time with a nucleus of AH Courtenay, ND Francis, SK Fables, A Murdock, GN Green and PS Ashby, we could have a very strong team. Another point to notice is that next year the team should hold its own, certainly in the track events, but it looks as if it will be very weak in the field events department.

Results:

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| Oxford City AC Schools Medley Relays | Thursday, 11th May |
| U/20 Abingdon 2nd, 3:54.2. U/17 Abingdon 5th. | |
| North Berks Schools Championships (Radley) | Saturday, 20th May |
| Winner: AJ Madin U/20 400m. | |
| Runner-up: JD Halliday U/20 1500m. | |
| Westminster College Schools Meeting | Wednesday, 24th May |
| Winner: AH Courtenay U/17 High Jump. | |
| Runners-up: AH Courtenay U/17 100m; ND Francis U/17 400m; AH Courtenay U/17 200m. | |
| Radley/Cheltenham (away) | Thursday, 25th May |
| 1. Cheltenham 109; 2. Radley 93; 3. Abingdon 63. | |
| King Alfred's Wantage (away) | Wednesday, 31st May |
| 1. King Alfred's 74; 2 Abingdon 56. | |

Bloxham (away)

Wednesday, 7th June

1. Bloxham 66;
2. Abingdon 42.

Southern Counties AA Championships

Saturday, 17th June

AJ Madin and AH Courtenay ran in the U/20 400m and U/17 400m respectively, and Courtenay reached the final.

Dragon School Meeting (Iffley Road)

Wednesday 12th July

U/14 Long Jump, GA Light 5th; U/14 High Jump, AMJ Young 6th.

There were 36 schools and over 475 competitors at this meeting.

(In the 200m alone there were 21 heats plus 4 finals.)

The most regular members of the team were AJ Madin (captain), DC Hares (secretary), MJ Jones, J Wojciechowski, JD Halliday, JA Urban-Smith, CP Hey, AH Courtenay, ND Francis, SK Fabes.

Of these Madin was awarded his full colours, and Jones, Wojciechowski, Courtenay and Francis were awarded their half colours.

5 Star Award Scheme

This internal competition is now very popular, with thirty-one boys (from Upper Sixth down to 1st Form) earning an award. The object of the scheme is for the athlete to try constantly to better his own performances. Points are awarded for each of his best three events and, whereas a 3 Star Award is a good target for most boys, the 5 Star Award only goes to the boy who has supreme natural ability or who trains really hard throughout the term.

5 Star: A Murdock.

4 Star: MD Andrews, AC Atkinson, AH Courtenay, IS Cullen, SK Fabes, ND Francis, GN Green, RC Hingley, GA Light.

We had fewer top grades than last year—three 5 Star, eleven 4 Star—but several boys entered the decathlon section of this event, and, though some fell by the wayside, eleven earned an award. The best were:

5 Star: AH Courtenay, ND Francis, GN Green, GA Light.

4 Star: IS Cullen, SK Fabes, DC Hares.

Club Championships

There was a slight void in the athletics programme after the last school match, since several boys were committed to exams, and so to fill this another competition evolved. For each of the last 3 weeks, 4 events took place, usually 2 track and 2 field. They were on the Mondays and Wednesdays, with the rule that if a boy was unavailable on either of these days then he had a second chance on the Fridays. This made a total of 11 separate events, as on one Wednesday only the 5000m was held. This proved a dramatic and exciting event with fortunes constantly fluctuating, and the final result all depended on the last few high jumps. The most successful competitors were those who went in for all 11 events, and one of the benefits was that many boys entered events other than their specialities, and did them under competitive conditions. Result:

1. JD Halliday	229	4. BC Waters	191
2. SK Fabes	228	5. DC Hares	190
3. ND Francis	226	6. A Murdock	182

Sports Days

The Senior Sports Day for 4th, 5th, 6th and VIth Forms was on 15th June; this was the most convenient date due to 'O' and 'A' Levels later in the term. The Junior Sports Day for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Forms was on 10th July; this had to wait until the Dolgoed parties had all returned. Both occasions featured an inter-house competition, with two boys from each house in each event. Spectators were kept informed over the loud hailer of the progressive scores of each house. Both days had fine weather and spectators enjoyed some closely fought events. Perhaps Atkinson's high jump win by five clear inches stands out, but the biggest drama was reserved to the last event, when a surprised spectator was added to the Reeves Junior relay team and they beat Tesdale by one point.

		Bennett	Blacknall	Reeves	Tesdale
Senior House:		222 (1)	126 (4)	202 (2)	137 (3)
Junior House:		163 (1)	131 (4)	146 (2)	145 (3)
House Cup:		385 (1)	257 (4)	348 (2)	282 (3)

Event	Winner (A)	Time	Winner (B)	Time
100 m				
6/VI	AJ Madin	—	J Wojciechowski	12.2
4/5	ND Francis	12.4	A Murdock	12.0
2/3	MJ Hurry	13.4	IS Cullen	13.5
1	DJ Crook	14.4	PJ Newby	15.7
200 m				
6/VI	AJ Madin	25.4	CP Hey	25.9
4/5	AH Courtenay	25.6	A Murdock	25.5
2/3	IS Cullen	27.8	GM Uttley	27.5
1	MD Andrews	28.8	SJ Hobbs	30.2
400 m				
6/VI	AJ Madin	54.9	JA Urban-Smith	55.9
4/5	[AH Courtenay	57.7]	ND Francis	55.9
2/3	PD Hallum	62.7	RC Hingley	61.4
800 m				
6/VI	DC Hares	2:11.1	JDC Turner	2:15.5
4/5	=SK Fabes	2:30.8	=AH Courtenay	2:30.8
2/3	RC Hingley	2:22.7	RW Taylor	2:39.4
1	PNC Gale	2:42.5	M Owen	2:42.7
1600 m				
6/VI	JD Halliday	5:04.9	CF Vernon	4:50.0
4/5	GW Woolley	5:24.0	AH Courtenay	5:52.8
2/3	GA Light	5:43.4	TF Booth	5:48.8
4 x 200 m				
6/VI	Reeves	1:43.6	Tesdale	1:43.7
4/5	Reeves	1:42.3	Bennett	1:45.1
8 x 200 m				
2/3	Reeves	4:01.0	Tesdale	4:06.0
1	Bennett	4:20.4	Blacknall	4:32.0

Event	Winner (A)	Time	Winner (B)	Time
Shot				
6/VI	MJ Jones	10.90m	HT Tresidder	—
4/5	PS Ashby	9.65m	GF Woods	—
2/3	KR Reid	7.63m	CJ Scott	7.55m
Discus				
6/VI	MJ Jones	27.91m	M Lawless	27.40m
4/5	GF Woods	26.32m	MM Poole	20.41m
Javelin				
6/VI	PAW Rogers	36.44m	CN Leonard	33.55m
4/5	SK Fabes	32.16m	PS Ashby	31.09m
2/3	RJ Harmer	27.03m	AJE Allen	25.42m
High Jump				
6/VI	AC Atkinson	5ft 6in	MA Reid	5ft 1in
4/5	CDG Driver	4ft 9½in	AN Plant	4ft 9in
2/3	AP Marsden	4ft 2in	CJ Scott	4ft 1in
1	CJH Wort	4ft	MPG Swan	3ft 9½in
Long Jump				
6/VI	DC Hares	18ft 6in	AC Atkinson	18ft 4in
4/5	SMJ Hobson	17ft. 1in	ND Francis	16ft 9in
2/3	DR Brownawell	4.29m	PV Thomas	4.28m
1	NS Edwards	4.30m	JBF Jones	3.85m

Orienteering

Although results were not outstandingly good, it was encouraging to see how many of the School tried orienteering last term—often for the first time. A total of forty boys braved the summertime nettles and brambles at one or more of the seven events where Abingdonians competed.

At the Bagley Wood event in May, the School was naturally successful, competing on home territory, and gained six of the first ten places on course B. While an OA, Andrew McMillan, took first place on course A.

Then at the end of June the CCF sent a team of seven to the Army Junior Orienteering Championships, held near Stafford. It was extremely disappointing that we did not manage first place, but we did repeat our double success of last year, Whipple taking second individual place and our team second overall. Nick Searle also did surprisingly well as a virtual novice to finish well-up in the field. An unexpected bonus here were substantial cash prizes. The incentives to go orienteering are becoming irresistible.

Finally in July a number of fourth formers competed at Kingham Hill School, where a course has been laid out for testing CCF cadets in a clause of their proficiency test. It was encouraging that most of those who took part (none of whom did so voluntarily) seem to have enjoyed themselves. It was disappointing that the course was not a suitable test of navigation, being set entirely in open countryside.

The two Bakers, father and son, continue to dominate the sport. WG Baker is rapidly improving his times as he gets more experienced, and is well on the way to a silver badge. Mr RH Baker is consistently achieving excellent times. Thanks are due to him for his energy in organising the sport at Abingdon.

MSW

The British Orienteering Federation

The British Orienteering Federation exists solely to 'encourage, promote, and control' the sport of Orienteering in this country, and since its foundation in 1967 there has been a steady improvement in the standard of event organisation—particularly in the quality of map used—and a great increase in the number of people attracted to the sport.

Several organisations, such as CCFs and Scouts, have realised that orienteering is a sport that could well be part of their training programme and are organising their own competitions. It is good to see this new growth of interest but it is sad to find them often making the same mistakes as we did five years ago, seemingly unaware of the experience and ready help that would be available to them through the BOF and the local Orienteering Clubs.

The very existence of the sport depends on the goodwill of landowners and the BOF is most anxious that nothing should be done which might prejudice the excellent relationships that have been built up over the years. It cannot be desirable for a landowner to receive requests for permission to orienteer from several different bodies—bodies which may have different rules, insurance cover or codes of behaviour—nor can it be good for those bodies to be unaware of each others' plans. The solution is simple. All organisations interested in the sport should work together within the framework of the British Orienteering Federation—a policy we have always practised at Abingdon School. RHB

Swimming

This Summer term was the first term that we had heating in the pool, and hence Swimming started earlier than usual, but not as early as was hoped due to very dull weather.

The term came to a climax with the inter-house swimming sports, won by Reeves. The weather was good and the pool was warm, and several magnificent individual performances were put up.

Larsen won the Elliot Cup for the most individual points, and also the Becker Cup for Freestyle Swimming. A very good performance because he was only a second former. SE Bowkett won the cup for 250 yds Breaststroke. I would like to record my thanks to all those who helped with the sports and especially to Mrs Brodie for presenting the prizes.

The School entered for the Bishop Stortford Swimming Festival, but the only swimmers available to make a team were in the junior school and did not stand a chance. We hope to take a more competitive team this coming year.

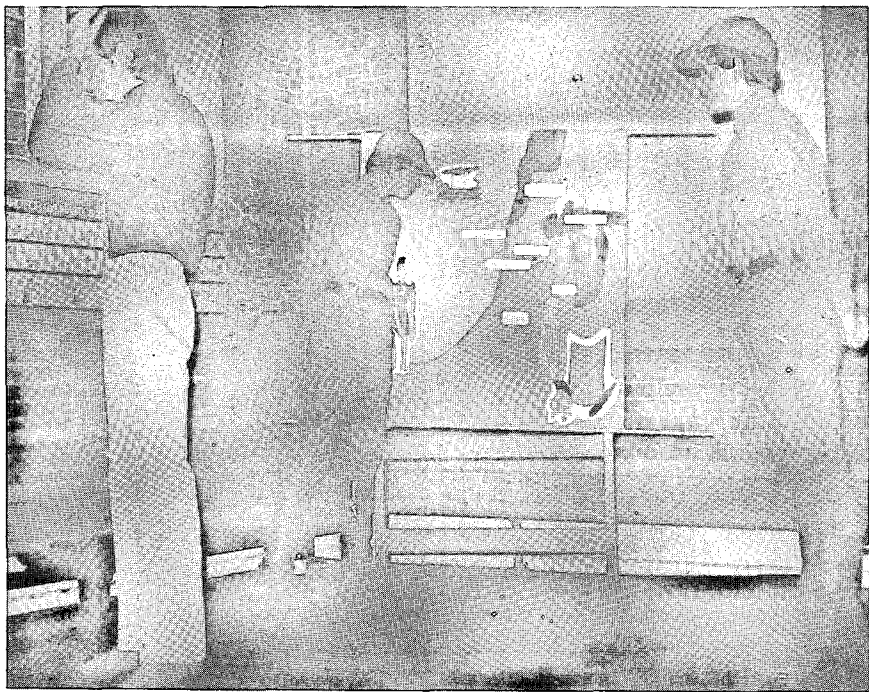
Lifesaving examinations took place again this year and we were once again successful, with several people gaining Award of Merit, Bronze Medallion and Intermediate passes.

In addition to this the School also ran Personal Survival examinations, and many were successful in these.

No report would be complete without a few lines thanking Mr Coleman for his marvellous work in maintaining the pool and in instructing the swimmers and non-swimmers. I would also like to thank M Webster for the help he has given me. RMB

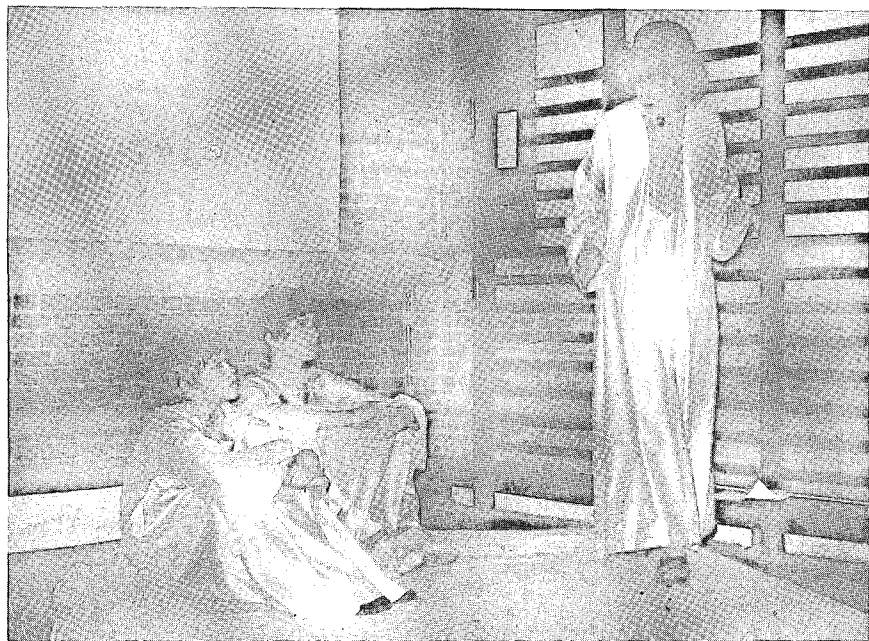
Swimming Sports:

Open Freestyle — 250yds: 1—K Larsen, 3min 22.4secs (record); 2—DG Sloss; 3—H Tresidder.



Pilate and

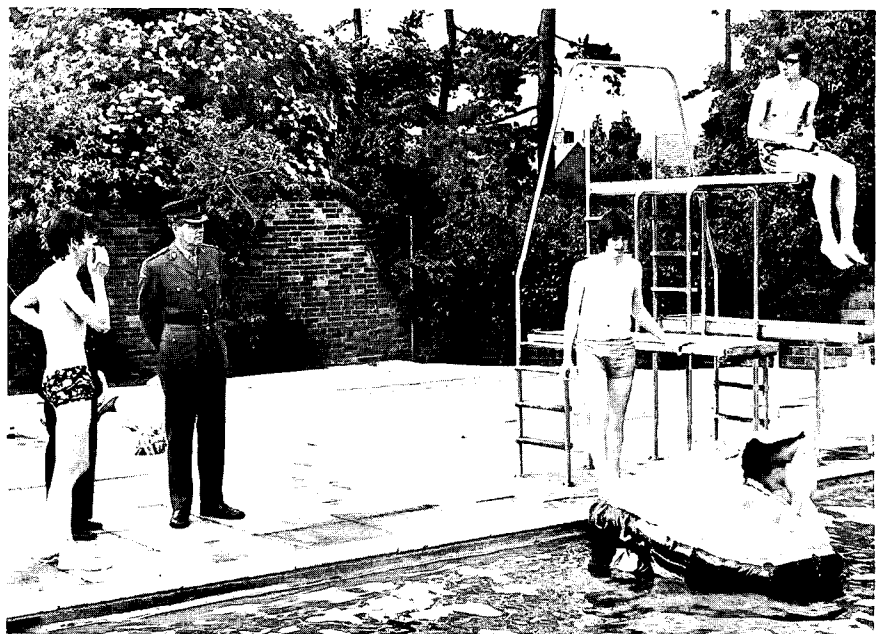
Caiaphas plots Jesus's death. (Son of man)





Presentation of RAF sword.

Inspection of pool warfare.



- U/16 Breaststroke — 50yds: 1—N Tressider, 34.2secs (record); 2—RH Geere; 3—AR Mushens.
- U/14 Backstroke — 50yds: 1—R Taylor, 38.8secs (record); 2—KW Larsen; 3—JA Brett.
- Open Butterfly — 50yds: 1—JH Taylor, 26.7secs (record); 2—MR Freeman; 3—DG Sloss.
- U/16 Butterfly — 50yds: 1—SP Johnston, 38.8secs; 2—RH Geere; 3—N Tressider.
- Junior Diving: 1—JC Johnston; 2—D Scott; 3—GN Green.
- U/16 Backstroke — 50yds: 1—DG Scott, 40.3secs; 2—K Larsen; 3—DJ Clayton.
- Open Backstroke — 100yds: 1—M Crofton-Briggs, 1min 25.9secs; 2—MS Webster; 3—MR Freeman.
- Senior Diving: 1—DG Scott; 2—CF Vernon; 3—JC Johnston.
- U/16 Freestyle — 50yds: 1—N Tressider, 32.4secs; 2—KW Larsen; 3—A Thresher.
- U/14 Breaststroke — 50yds: 1—AJ Furley, 44.6secs; 2—M Lintott; 3—PG Bingham.
- Open Freestyle — 100yds: 1—JH Taylor, 57.0secs (record); 2—DJ Clayton; 3—MR Freeman.
- U/14 Freestyle — 50yds: 1—BR Hodgkinson, 31.2secs (record); 2—K Larsen; 3—AJ Furley.
- Open Breaststroke — 250yds: 1—SE Bowkett, 4min 14.3secs; 2—M Crofton-Briggs; 3—RH Geere.
- U/16 Relay Freestyle (4 x 25yds): 1—Tesdale, 62.6secs; 2—Reeves; 3—Bennett.
- Open Relay Medley (4 x 25yds): 1—Reeves, 66.1secs; 2—Bennett; 3—Tesdale.
- Open Relay Freestyle (4 x 25yds): 1—Reeves, 55.4secs; 2—Tesdale; 3—Bennett.

The Blackburn Cup for 250yds Breaststroke went to SE Bowkett, the Elliott Cup for the most individual points to Larsen and the Becker Cup for Freestyle Swimming to Larsen. Reeves House took the Green Cup for House swimming.

Societies

With unflinching monotony the Summer Term continues to be the period in which the metabolic rate of the school societies sinks to its lowest. Indeed last term many societies showed no sign of life whatsoever and it must be presumed that they passed beyond the state of hibernation and have entered the great unknown. It is well known by now that this lack of activity is due almost completely to the need of Society Secretaries to concentrate upon obtaining their 'A' levels. However it seems a pity that the functioning of some societies should completely cease due to the absence of the secretary. Of course concentration upon academic work at this time is completely understandable; however what is more open to criticism is the lack of initiative shown by the membership of most of the societies in organising functions in the secretaries' absence. This surely underlines one of the major weaknesses inherent in the organisation of the school societies? In far too many cases the level of activity is totally dependent upon the enthusiasm and efficiency of a solitary secretary who is sadly missed when the examination season arrives. To prevent this weakness we should hope to see a fundamental change in the way the school societies are run. The work involved must either be distributed amongst a number of people or must be carried out by an individual not involved with exams at the end of the school year—in most cases this would presumably entail appointing lower-sixth formers as secretaries. Whatever the solution it is clear that unless some changes are made in the system of society organisation then cultural and social activities in this school will continue to fluctuate in a cyclical manner.

It therefore seems needless to note that the activities described below were rather few in number and not particularly ambitious in nature.

The **Royse Society** as usual proved to be one of the more active societies and held three meetings during last term. At the first Peter Hingley delivered a paper on 'Dreams' which was followed at the second meeting by a paper entitled 'Psychic Phenomena' read by William Peck. The last meeting was less intellectually straining and was devoted to the discovery of the sport of croquet.

The **Portfolio Society** maintained its eccentric image but not, one feels, without a certain amount of effort on the part of the members. At the first meeting Charles Nasmyth delivered a paper entitled 'General Howe—General Extraordinary' which covered a wide range of topics. Survivors were entered for the marathon Wagner opera 'Gottedamerung' which was enjoyed by all. The term ended with a medley of papers and speeches presented at a modest celebratory dinner in Oxford.

The **Literary Society** held only one meeting this term at which the secretary read a wide ranging paper on 'The Arthurian Legend and its development'. An interesting discussion followed on the origins of this legend and those of the Holy Grail.

Similarly the **Critics** only produced the one meeting at which a paper was read on the Victorian Poet Gerard Manley Hopkins. For many this was a useful introduction to the works of this significant poet.

The **Athenaeum** attended only one theatrical production this term which was the play 'Jumpers'—this was enjoyed by all who attended.

The **Historians** were another Society which only arranged one meeting. At this William Peck delivered a well-prepared, if slightly acid, paper on 'Oliver Cromwell'.

Interschool activities were rather restricted this term. The **Joint Club** failed to meet at all, whilst the Interschool **Sixth Form Society** seems to be degenerating after a promising start, managing to hold only three rather mediocre meetings. At the first of these held at Our Lady's Convent the film 'Blowup' was shown. The 'dance' held at John Mason High School faded into a rather insignificant concert although well attended. The final meeting of the term took the form of a Folk evening held in a barn near Radley.

The School music societies remained active through the term. The **Cullen Society** held three fairly informal meetings. The first of these consisted of a somewhat impromptu talk by Tim Parker and Richard Griffiths under the general heading of 'Modern/Popular Music', a lack of continuity was compensated for by lively discussion. The next meeting took place at the home of Mr and Mrs Hall-Mancey, Jeremy Pike exhibited not only his competence on the piano but also his extensive knowledge of the piano concertos of Mozart and Beethoven. Finally another relaxed meeting was held at which Mr le Fleming played a selection of music, and the intelligent discussion which followed made a pleasant end to the terms activities. The **Jazz Club** remains one of the most popular school societies, and the concert given by Bono was undoubtedly its most successful meeting held last term. However the club secretaries continue to complain of apathy amongst the membership. Last term saw an attempt to revivify the **Folk Club** and members of the School attended Folk meetings at John Mason; however there seems to be a general lack of talent displayed in this direction by members of our own School. Hopefully this term the club will be able to arrange visits to local concerts and folk meetings as well as trying to persuade pupils of the School to come forward and perform.

Reports

Corps

Naval Section

Activities carried out by the Naval Section during the summer term were on very much the same pattern as usual. The section's HQ was continually used throughout the term as a centre for instruction to train cadets in preparation for the proficiency exam. Instruction included rope work and drill, as well as some rather more challenging projects such as the construction of a gyn (a type of tripod used in the building of rope-bridges).

Most of the section spent field day on the downs carrying out a novel type of orienteering-cum-navigation exercise. Although this proved fairly enjoyable it is felt a change is in order, so this term we hope to visit a naval establishment of some description. Another smaller party carried out work on the section's fibre-glass dinghy which, it is hoped, will soon be operational.

Looking into the future there seems a shortage of capable NCO's, but a little dedication on the part of section members particularly fifth formers should suffice to keep future activities interesting and enjoyable.

Army Section

As far as the Army Section goes the summer term is normally the busiest and most enjoyable of all, yet for some reason last term did not go as well as it could have done. Perhaps however enthusiasm will pick up next term.

Some of the section spent Field Day weekend under canvas in the New Forest. We all tried our hand at orienteering and many of us were surprised to find out what we could or could not do.

Inspection Day went well with 'A' company canoeing on the river and 'B' company doing some drill and weapon training. The recruits had a pleasurable time bivaouacking on Upper Field, Orienteering around the School grounds and also going over the assault course.

Congratulations to those who passed the first part of their Apex Proficiency Exam—especially those who gained a credit.

Lastly we come to the Summer Camp which was held at Penhale near Newquay. A good time was had by all. An Orienteering team led by U/O Fowler came in a close second in a competition against five other schools. There were a few slight injuries to feet, knees and arms on the camps assault course, but most of these were forgotten by evening. Two nights were spent by the cadets on Bodmin Moor, although the plastic bags provided for sleeping in were barely conducive to such an activity. A Night exercise was carried out, but was finally abandoned when the enemy unoblingingly failed to turn up (they were found the following morning little worse for wear).

This term sees a change in senior NCO's though hopefully the section will continue to thrive under new leadership.

RAF Section

As is usual during the Summer term, Field Day took place away from an RAF Station. On this occasion it was in two parts; a weekend camp for

some at Chidcock in Dorset, and a map-reading exercise for the remainder on the Berkshire Downs between Lambourn and Letcombe. Some members of the Section visited RAF White Waltham for Chipmunk flying, but the quantity of flying available to cadets is much reduced now that RAF Abingdon and RAF Benson no longer have flying squadrons, and it is with their departure that much of the distinctiveness of this RAF Section has disappeared, for we tended to exist to enable our keen cadets to have plenty of mid-week long-distance flying in Andovers. At the same time, the run-down of local RAF Stations, and the insistence of HQ Air Cadets upon Field Days being held at RAF Brize Norton, which have been usually of indifferent interest, has further helped reduce the variety and interest the Section can offer.

Nevertheless, it has been a term of solid achievement in other spheres. Duke of Edinburgh Silver Awards were gained by Michael Carr, Michael Jones and Clive Corner, while a Gold Award will be presented to Anthony Madin at Buckingham Palace in October. Flying Scholarships were completed during the year by Nicholas Allington, Michael Carr, David Spong, Michael Jones, Ashley Smart, David Lewington and Anthony Walters, which equals our record of seven awards reached four years ago. During the holiday five cadets attended proficiency gliding courses at various gliding schools, and again numerous cadets took advantage of Royal Naval hospitality by attending their Camps and Courses.

Finally a warm word of thanks to P/O Michael Wiltshire and the NCO's of the Section, for without their help and co-operation over the last few years, the success of the Section would not have been possible.

34th Abingdon Scout Group

Junior Troop: The term started well with a record response to Scout Job Week (all but one Scout contributing to the total of £72), enabling us to buy another patrol tent after the capitation levy had been paid. (The tent didn't arrive until after summer camp—but that's another story!) A good contingent turned out for the St George's Day Service; and subsequently on Field Day enjoyed either the traditional outing to the Scout Boating Centre at Longridge, or (for most 4th formers) a weekend at Dolgoed. This weekend also saw Michael Poole and Russell Taylor competing in the Mount Trophy for cyclists. The PLs were able to take one weekend off from Ten Tors training for the District Patrol Leaders' dinner at B-P House. However, by now the Troop seemed exhausted, and there was only limited support for the District swimming and camping competitions, and we surrendered both trophies this year. The patrol leaders this year have been Michael Poole, Chris Wait, Martin Doble, David Clayton, Nigel Tattersfield, David Eccles, Nicholas Tresidder and Mark Weston.

Summer Camp: BIC '72. This was the second of the Berkshire International Camps, which are being held every ten years in the grounds of Windsor Great Park. This year there were over 2000 scouts in camp, including several hundred from overseas. Some people treated this camp as a Butlins-holiday-on-the-cheap, but many found a variety of activities and excursions to interest them. Robin Kermode and the Hingley brothers are to be congratulated on winning the 'Windsor Quiz' organised by the local paper. Three German Scouts were billed on us, and although they followed their own programme much of the time, they always turned up miraculously for meals! At the end of camp Mr Keith le Page returned

to Guernsey until his term at Oxford starts. We thank him for his help with the Troop over the past year and at camp, and we hope that we shall see him from time to time.

DRS

Ten Tors Expedition

The morning of the 19th of May dawned bright and clear, and the journey down to Okehampton army camp was generally sunny—although we later encountered the difficulty of putting up twelve-man tents in a strong, cold wind. After a short briefing in a large hall we saw that the expedition was indeed over-subscribed. We returned to our tent and made the first 'Compo' meal of the trip which was received with varying degrees of despair depending on the amount of cheese eaten with it. An early night was had by all (despite an attempt at musical entertainments) to prepare for the morrow.

In the morning all two thousand people rose early for the massed start at 7.00 am, a rather peculiar method of beginning, considering that it was frequently stressed that it was not a race. There was one group wearing bowler hats and toppers. We were on the shortest course, a mere thirty-five miles on the map with straight lines between the tors. There was a short prayer by the moor Chaplain and we were off.

There seemed to be many people going to the same tor as us. Just below the first there was a wide and deep bog. It was not quite narrow enough to jump and the scene seemed to resemble that of Dunkirk: men with packs jumping across a morass, some not making it. Three of our party did not make it and were soaked up to the waist in a mixture of moss and ice cold water. We regrouped and checked in for the first time.

After this the groups thinned out and a mist closed down. There was drizzling rain but we kept in good spirits, because we could get no wetter, by singing hymns. The mist cleared and we discovered that our position on the map corresponded to our actual position. Soon we made our second tor, continued, and at 1.00 pm passed the ready-made tent camp for the ladies on the expedition. The tors seemed to come more quickly now as did the blisters on our feet. The group slowed down so it was decided to camp early and we stopped in a small but deep valley of the River Tavy. Gallons of sweet coffee with condensed milk were drunk, and at 7.00 pm the rain came down in earnest. The night was spent miserably, our sleeping bags proving most absorbant. When I had poured out the pool of rain water from my sleeping bag at 4.00 am, I realised it was hopeless and roused the rest of the party. The packs were lightened appreciably by the absence of tinned foods, and so we moved more quickly, but a mile on a clear day is two or three miles in a fog, and our overall progress was slow. On reaching the edge of an inspiringly deep valley and crossing it, we were pelted with rain and hail born on the teeth of a sharp wind. Despite the weather getting better our pace became slower, several people possessing large and painful blisters. We finally reached the finish and were presented with our medals and cups of scalding tea. Then we went and ate our free bowl of army stew. PFT

Chess

Chess Club has, as usual, been suspended during the Summer Term, but there are a few matters to report. We have recently heard that the fine record of the 1970/71 team has been recognised by the British Chess

Federation, which has awarded the School a BCF Shield. These shields are very sparingly awarded, and Abingdon was one of only two Schools so honoured this year. While the whole of the team can share the credit for this, undoubtedly the main responsibility for putting Abingdon 'on the map' for Chess belongs to Gareth Pearce; we are very grateful to him, and hope that the present generation will keep the School there.

After a marathon semi-final with Paul Thomas, Iain Holding eventually met John Stephen in the Final of the Hoyle Cup (no Third-former was involved in the final stages!), and the latter won the Cup. Meanwhile Robert Harries spent his half-term competing in the Southern Counties Under-12 Championships at Bournemouth, and did pretty well to come fourth. All these will be involved in what should be a very successful Under-15 team next season. MW

Grundy Library

This term we expanded the system of younger boys acting as librarians, and this is beginning to prove a good idea—certainly books are now returning to their proper places on the shelves much more rapidly.

Peter Rigby has now left after some years of hard work in the Librarian's office, we shall miss him and it will take time to find good substitutes for such different jobs as organising the filing system or winding the library clock.

The new filing cabinet for the Author Catalogue has now arrived and will keep us busy for some time to come.

Gifts were received from the Headmaster, Dr Hingley, who both gave their recent publications, an Old Boy, who gave part of his first salary, but wishes to remain anonymous, and many Old Boys, parents, and governors who bought books from our Dene Bookshop exhibition on Founder's Day, to a total of twenty-seven pounds. To all of these we are most grateful. KGH

Lists

Officers of the School

School Prefects

M Evans (Head of School)

J Hills (Head of Dayboys)

C Clayton (Head of Boarders)

P Abraham

P Barton

R Godfrey

J Halliday

C Hey

BE Jones

A Madin

P Scott

J Spooner

A Tammage

H Tresidder

R Wardroper

House Prefects

Crescent House: BC Waters, DC Gourlay, TJ Gresswell

Larkhill: M Carr, A Kelly

School House: J Wojciechowski, AC Atkinson, AW Baumann, AC Clift, RHD Griffiths, AN Rayson, IR Greaves, NM Newport, DMA Binks, TC Parker

Lacies Court: JRH Hutchins, JB Marriot

Waste Court: DC Hares, C Williams, S Pallett

Dayboys: JH Bosworth, RM Bowkett, SE Bowkett, GB Butcher, AW Davies, JM Evans, GR Fowler, AG Johnstone, RP Klepzig, CW Lawson, DI Lewington, TB Niblett, DM Paine, JD Peirson, PAW Rogers, AW Smart, ME Thompson, JDC Turner, PR Wait, JG Walker, MS Webster, PDB West, MS Whipple, MG White

Games Officers

Captain of Rugger: M Evans

Secretary of Rugger: M Carr

Captain of Cross Country: CF Vernon

Secretary of Cross Country: BC Waters

Secretary of GGC: RHD Griffiths

Abingdonian

Editors: Julian Turner, Paul Rutishauser, Michael Thompson

Photographic Editor: Peter Noble

Cover Design: Jonathan Cowlin

OA Editor: AA Hillary

Treasurer: DO Willis

Ark

Editors: George Butcher, John Evans, Alastair Johnstone, Chris Lawson, Tim Niblett, Julian Turner, Robin Wait

Treasurer: CJW Owen

Prizes 1972

The Endowed Prizes

- The Morland Prize for all-round merit: M Evans
- The Ellis Prize for Character: CB Terry
- The Quartercentenary Prize for all-round Merit: PAG Davies
- The St Catherine's Prize for Intellectual Initiative: JR Hills
- The Headmaster's Prize for Service: JR Cowlin
- The Freeman Memorial Prize for Service: PE Rigby
- The TASS Prize for Service (Shared): WD Peck and JSP Mushens
- The Mayor's Prize for Service: NMR Crosse
- The Smith Chemistry Prizes: VI, BE Jones, JR Hills; 6, PR Wait
- The Ball Science Prize: VI, RGM Godfrey; 6, JM Evans
- The Ford Biology Prize: M Kendall, CS Crocker
- The West Biology Prize: PR Wait, PD West
- The Ingham Physics Prize: PAG Davies, JR Hills
- The Ingham Music Prize: M Evans
- The Duffield Local History Prize: RM Thomas
- The Initiative Cup: CEV Stockwell
- The Fourth 'Science Times' Cup: PJ Brodie
- The Larkhill Trophy: AM Carlisle
- The Drama Cup: RW Kermode and SJ Clift (representing those concerned with Badger's Green)

The School Prizes

- The Old Boys' Prizes
 - Classics: PR Wait
 - English Essay: JR Hills
 - Modern Languages Essay: A Clarke
 - Mathematics Essay: PAG Davies
 - Divinity Essay: PR Wait
 - Geography Essay: MS Whipple
 - History Essay: J Bosworth

Music Prizes

- Choral (presented by EHF Sawbridge Esq)
 - Senior: DB Spong
 - Junior: PG Bingham
- Pianoforte
 - Senior (presented by Miss Sheldon Peach): J Pike
 - Junior: G Bint
- Organ: BJ Bignold
- Brass: AW Davies
- Woodwind: CJ Todd
- Strings: PAG Davies
- Composition: J Pike
- The Art Prize: CA Nasmyth
- The Handicraft Prize: MR Perry
- The Modern Languages Reading Prizes
 - French
 - Senior: J Wojciechowski
 - Junior: G Green
 - 1st Form: MEJ Screech
 - Russian: M Milanovitch

The Form Prizes

Sixth Form Upper

Classics: NM Crosse

English: MS Whipple

History: JSP Mushens

Modern Languages: A Clarke, PJ Berry

Mathematics: JR Hills

Sixth Form Lower

Classics: HC Russell

English: JDC Turner

History: AW Baumann, ME Thompson

Modern Languages: CP Hey, ME Thompson

Mathematics: TB Niblett

Fifth Forms: 5E, PD Marley, 5H, BJ Polley, 5R, S Walker

Fourth Forms: 4M, APS Luto, 4P, PAH Mohtadi, 4R, PJ Brodie

Third Forms: 3B, JS Thackway, 3D, NR Lemoine, 3V, NP Kay

Second Forms: 2B, JJ Stephen, 2G, ME Spoor, 2F, GC Barnham

First Forms: 1S, MD Andrews, 1H, PS Buttar, 1W, HD Atkinson

'O' and 'A' Level Examinations

Contrary to the expectations of many, this was a very good year. The 'O' level results, by almost any statistical test that Mr Baker could devise, worked out as the best since records were kept, and at 'A' level the overall standard was also close to the School's best-ever performance, although the Arts candidates could not match the excellent grades obtained by the scientists and mathematicians.

In 'A' level Mathematics 27 candidates out of 33 passed, no fewer than 12 of them at Grade A. In Biology 21 candidates out of 23 passed, 8 of them at Grade A. In Chemistry 19 passed out of 23, 9 of them at Grade A, and in Physics 22 passed out of 29, 5 of them at Grade A. On the Arts side 22 candidates out of 28 passed in English and 22 out of 27 in History.

At 'O' level there were, for the first time, 100 passes at Grade 1 (12% of the total); and at the opposite end of the scale an equally gratifying 'first': no Fifth Former failed in all his subjects. Out of 90 Fifth-form candidates, 46 passed seven or more 'O' levels, all but nine of them passing in every subject they sat.

Judged by percentages, German took the prize this year with a 100% pass rate for its 13 candidates at 'O' level on top of its 100% record at 'A' level. Hard on its heels was Mathematics with 94% for SMP Maths and 87% for Additional Maths (35 and 31 candidates respectively). English Language had an 88% pass rate from 86 candidates. All the other subjects had pass-rates between 73% and 87% except for Russian (67%), Geography (68%) and Ancient History (70%).

Fourth Formers were allowed to take English Literature at 'O' level so that they could extend their reading and enjoyment of the subject in a year where other examination pressures were not so immediate: the 'O' level itself was of secondary importance. Nonetheless 68% of Fourth Formers passed the English Literature 'O' level, and it was generally felt that the experiment had worked well enough to be repeated.

Exam Results

Advanced level results are given below. The names appear alphabetically. Abbreviations are clear except in the cases of N (German), K (Chemistry), T (Ancient History) and PS (Physical Science).

BP Ashcroft-Jones (P K B†); SG Bailey (Ec M P); CJ Bennett (Ec); PJ Berry (F N H); JCM Binks (B); MS Broughton (M); ME Burton (E); SJ Cantwell (M P); A Clarke (F N H†); BA Clubley (Ec M PS); CL Corner (M B PS); PM Cowley (N R); JR Cowlin (T E*); CS Crocker (P K† B†); NMR Crosse (H† Ec); NK Darroch (P K B*); PAG Davies M* fM P* K); MG Smith (M B† PS); M Evans (T E† H); GR Fowler (B); RGA Godfrey (M P K†); DA Gould (M B PS); DP Greenwood (E H); G Habgood (E† A); GW Hamlin (P† K B†); JR Hills (M* fM P* K); PJ Hingley (M B* PS); GW Homewood (E B*); JN Jacques (P K B*); BE Jones (M P† K†); MI Kendall (M B† PS*); RP Klepzig (H Geog* Ec); M Lawless (E H Ec); J Lay (E); CN Leonard (Geog); DM Lewis (H Geog); ECJ Lilley (H Ec); RI Macdonald (F H); M Milano-vich (R E H); JSP Mushens (E† H†); CA Nasmyth (H Ec A); TB Niblett (M); DM Paine (M* fM P K); WdeF Peck (E† H); JD Peirson (M); FJ Pike (Mu); SN Potter (R E H); PD Price (H); JR Rawlinson (P K B*); MJ Rice (H); PE Rigby (E); RC Rogers (M P K); AD Rowley (M B PS); N Rutishauser (M† P K†); PE Scott (P K); DPC Smith (E Geog Ec); DB Spong (M P K); JRA Spooner (E); KGW Sykes (Ec M); AA Tam-madge (M K† B†); NJA Talbot (Ec P); CP Taylor (M P K); JH Taylor (H); MP Taylor (E H); CB Terry (M); DJ Tissier (E K B); HT Tresidder (E fM); CW Vigers (M); RA Ward (B); RK Wardroper (H A); P Webb (M P K); PDB West (M B† PS*); MS Whipple (E† H); DM Williams (E† H); J Wojciechowski (E); RG Wood (P K B†); T Wright (E† B PS).

* denotes distinction in special paper; † merit in special paper.

Hello Goodbye

Left Summer Term 1972

VIH: PJ Berry, A Clarke, NMR Crosse, DP Greenwood, CM Leonard, ECJ Lilley, JSP Mushen, CA Nasmyth, WDdeF Peck, PD Price, DPC Smith, MP Taylor, DM Williams.

VIO: CJ Bennett, ME Burton, PM Cowley, JR Cowlin, G Habgood, PJS Harris, M Lawless, J Lay, DM Lewis, RI MacDonald, MJ Rice, PE Rigby, SE Stone, JH Taylor, RA Ward.

VIT: BP Ashcroft-Jones, JCM Binks, CL Corner, CS Crocker, NK Darroch, DA Gould, GW Hamlin, PJ Hingley, G Homewood, JN Jacques, NRH Pollard, AD Rowley, MGE Smith, DJ Tissier, RG Wood, T Wright.

VIM: SG Bailey, MS Broughton, SJ Cantwell, BA Clubley, PAG Davies, TD Johnson, MJ Jones, DB King, RC Rogers, N Rutishauser, DB Spong, KGW Sykes, NJA Talbot, CP Taylor, CB Terry.

6E: BR Morris, TJ Savory

5E: DCB Herbert

5H: JE Carrington

5R: DW Hazledine, GM Horwood, PRJ Lilley, MP Pearce, RE Taylor

4M: HA Rance

4P: PAH Mohtadi

3B: NGH Mohtadi

3V: DR Brownawell, NJ Houghton
2B: MLD Bevan, ME Brownawell
1S: AJL Bevan

Came Michaelmas Term 1972

6X: G Stewart

6W: KS Ghorpade, C Marks

4B: MJ Abrines

4R: RD Tauwhare

3D: J Baragwanath, PJ Eccles, RN Freeman, RG Gilbert, CH Sackett, DGA Stevenson, RM Tourret

3T: JK Dewar, DJ Driver, RH Killingback, AP Shortis, CWF Spense.

3V: LM Jones-Walters, JM Murry, KC Peterson, AM Robinson, McDR Stewart

2R: MR Taylor

IH: AJ Antcliff, DA Betterton, DR Blanksby, IM Bye, EG Coates, JPF Davies, PP Douglas, SE Fenn, CA Fysh, PW Hammond, MW Hills, WA Hoggarth, SW Jones, JM Mackay, PK Milne, SJ Mulvey, CR Neville, JO Rance, AJ Round, SJ Scott, PRJ Taylor, JS Vokins, JN Westmore.

1P: PDJ Ashby, AM Blair, SD Cameron, TPC Clift, AJ Cross, AG de Clerck, RS Drew, RS Fish, MCA Gineva, GRS Grimshaw, AP Hancox, MC Holt, PF Ireland, M. Kindrick, SJ Moore, SD Napier-Munn, MR Nelson, AJF Roberston, SWN Rogers, MJ Round, AH Stevens, CD Thomas, SR West, SM Woodhall.

IS: ONT Bagshaw, PE Booker, MJ Clarke, TR Cook, MJ Dacre, M de Lusignan, BM Edmonds, MA Forsyth, GR Hasley, M Helsby, GJ Hoskin, RP Knight, JNS Lintott, SRL Miller, PCR Morris, SJ Pennifer, TD Robson, IA Sargeant, MN Seyer, AR Thomas, DWB Thomas, NG Williams. GES Wilson.

IW: AF Beasley, PJ Boreham, JMP Cloke, PJ Davidson, RGK Donald, SJ Farrant, AT Forrest, RP Hamlin, CL Hennah, JS Hiles, PH James, MG Knapp, PH Littlewood, DG Merriman, BJ Messer, T Mulford, AJ Pope, G Rogers, DAM Scott, AJ Tapper, PR Todd, PD Wakefield, CDJ Woodyear.

OA Notes

We print, with pleasure, the following report of trans-Atlantic OA activities, which indicate perhaps the importance of Old School ties of one sort or another:

The Lima, Peru, branch of the Old Abingdonian Club met for lunch on 14 June at the "Tambo de Oro", which is billed as "The World's Most Beautiful Restaurant" and is certainly one of the most expensive. In deference to his advanced old age, Mr John B (Jack) Ottiker ('31) was elected President, and Mr Derek Dunn ('62) Vice-President. Also present was Mr Henry Hammond (Ampleforth & Pembroke, Oxford) about the only other inhabitant of Peru who has ever heard of Abingdon.

Toasts were drunk to the Queen, to Pemy, to Abers, to the new Headmaster, to the old Headmaster, to the even older Headmaster, and all the way back to Stonehenge.

Severe criticism was voiced that the list of Old Abingdonians recently received showed wrong addresses for both members of the Lima branch. Mr Dunn, about to leave for England via San Francisco, was charged with purchasing a new Old Abingdonian tie for the President, the hope being that Shepherd and Simpson's has caught on to the fact that wider ties are now being worn.

By a majority vote of two to one, it was resolved that Mr Henry Hammond should pick up the luncheon tab, which was about equal to the national debt. His remarks were struck from the record as not in keeping with the high standard of expression demanded by Old Abingdonians.

Deaths

A Fawdry (1907), who had only very recently renewed his connection with the School, died suddenly on 7 June 1972.

RJ Grant (1970). It is a great sadness to record the death on 13 October, as the result of a road accident, of Robin Grant. Renowned at School as a scholar, rugger player and oarsman, he was reading medicine at Bristol University. He will be sorely missed by his many friends and is a grievous loss to a profession never more in need of good recruits. Our deep sympathy goes out to his parents at this time.

Births

Oxley: on 23 March 1970 to Joan, wife of Geoffrey Oxley (1961), a son, Edward Angus Toby; on 19 March 1972, a second son, Malcolm James Daniel.

Venn: on 18 March 1972 to Susan, wife of Dale Venn (1962), a daughter, Liberty Kate.

Marriages

Goldsworthy-Draper: on 13 May 1972, in Pennsylvania, Brian Ernest Goldsworthy (1967) to Susan Jane Draper.

Hodgetts-Rose: on 12 May 1972, in Toronto, Dr Peter Geoffrey Hodgetts (1963) to Nancy Lee Rose.

Jessett-Christie: on 19 August 1972, at Gosport Congregational Church, Robert P Jessett (1966) to Sandra Anne Christie.

Willis-Pollard: on 8 July 1972, at St Agatha's Church, Brightwell, David H Willis (1965) to Deborah Pollard.

We have heard from Ian Jamieson (1946), who over the past ten years has been drilling for oil world-wide—Nigeria, Portuguese West Africa, Indonesia, Oman and Turkey. His letter came from Saudi Arabia and he was then hoping to return home for a while.

John Evans (1948), home from South Australia to visit his parents for the first time in 18 years, had the same smiling face we knew so well when he was a schoolboy. He is managing a Stevedoring company, is married with two children and still enjoys rugger, in which he has been a junior coach for some years. He would be pleased to see any OAs who get 'down under'.

Roger Acklam (1951), still working with Post Office Telephones, is now living some nine miles from Edinburgh.

Bryan Boddington (1952) has been teaching since 1968 at Haywards Heath Grammar School and sent us a copy of their excellent School Magazine, in the editing of which he clearly played a considerable part.

Dr Brian Smith (1957), returned from Kuwait, is now Senior Registrar in Anaesthetics at the Middlesex Hospital. He lives near his brother Alan (1961), who now edits the 'Miscellany' column of the *Guardian*, and Dr Peter Willis (1960), who has gone into general practice.

Bob Bickers (1961), serving with the RAF in Hong Kong, wrote to say that he has another OA as a rowing partner in Richard Forsythe (1966), who is a pilot in the same squadron. They were hoping to organise a Far East Dinner, so will any OA within range contact them at 28 Squadron, RAF Kai Tak, BFPO 1.

Dale Venn (1962), after working for Sir Frederick Gibbard, has built up his own private practice as an Architect with all sorts of work, but concentrating on conversions of cottages and barns. He has done a lot to his own Victorian house, while at the same time working for a second degree in Town Planning. He sounds very busy.

It is always pleasant when OAs come back for the CCF's annual inspection, and this year it was F/Lt Michael Westwood (1962) who is responsible for liaison with CCFs in thirty Schools in the North.

Bruce Mackay (1964), Captain RAMC with the 1st Bn Royal Regt of Wales, wrote to us recently, in a letter dictated to his wife, from a hospital bed in Belfast. Wounded in the stomach and, apparently very lucky to be alive he is now recovered and back in England. He hopes soon to be entering his son for School.

Sam Marsh (1965) has been travelling and working as a dentist in the East since the end of the Winter Olympics. In Hong Kong, where he worked in the University Dental Clinic, he met a number of OAs—Captain David Emmett (1956) of the Gurkhas, soon to return home and enter his sons for School, Peter Kandiah (1959) working as a Solicitor, and Steve Baker (1965) who is Marketing Director for a firm of importers.

Peter Dowling (1966), now a qualified solicitor and practising in Reading, was recently in Abingdon on a qualifying course at the Parachute School, RAF Abingdon. He is still a very keen Territorial.

Philip Carmichael (1968) has just started teaching at Marcham Primary School having been awarded a Second in Education at Bristol from his training college St Pauls, Cheltenham. He seemed in tremendous form when he called at the School this summer, though his tennis still suffers from an elbow injury sustained in his last term at School.

Ivan Carr (1968) with a two one at Cambridge, has joined Leylands, and is on the way to becoming an industrial tycoon, having abandoned his more serious military ambitions.

Yani Doganoglu (1968), who was an OPOS Scholar six years ago, is engaged to a fellow Greek, and is about to start work for a PhD at McGill University.

Jason King (1968) also with a two one at Cambridge has started working for the National Westminster Bank in Cambridge.

Robert Pickavance (1968), down from York with a First in History, is to start work this term at New College, Oxford on his PhD course. This will involve him in three years work and his subject will be in the area of local history between the exclusion crisis and the accession of James II.

Nicholas Wood (1968) is busy in the evenings running a mobile disco-technique with Peter Healy (1967), based on Amersham, but during the day he is employed by MacMillan, Bloedel Containers Ltd at Southall.

Alan West (1969) is off to Exeter University to study for a PhD, having spent much of the Summer studying mouse deer in the Central Malaysian jungle.

P/O Stephen Kirby (1970) newly commissioned into the RAF, is training as a navigator at Lyneham.

Christopher Short (1971), disappointed in his quest for A level Biology, has deferred his entry to Cirencester to October 1973, and is to study hard at a Technical College in the meantime.

Another recently commissioned recruit to the RAF is P/O Andrew Barrett, stationed at Bawdsey, learning to deal with Fighter Control.

Congratulations to Christopher Gibaud (1970) on his election as Captain of Boats at Bristol University.

Apologies to Roy Polley (1971), whom we inadvertently directed to the wrong college to read the wrong subject! He is in fact going up to University College, Oxford, to read Modern Languages.

The following First Class University Degrees have come to our notice this year:

Carr MTD: Botany, St Andrews.

Flint HT: Biological Sciences, Edinburgh.

King A: Sculpture, Chelsea School of Art.

King C: Civil Engineering, Heriott Watt.

Pickavance RG: History, York.

Shaw PJ: Natural Sciences, Trinity, Cambridge.

Tromans JP: Physiological Sciences, St Peters, Oxford.

Old Boys Day was held last term on Founders Day, Saturday 15 July. The Day was fine, and the cricket and tennis matches were enjoyed by those taking part, and by those OAs at the School who were able to watch. The AGM was held in the Court Room at 7.00pm, but the attendance of members was again disappointing, especially as the Annual Dinner was due to follow immediately after the meeting. It is hoped that more OAs will make the effort to attend in future years.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 15 July 1972

The Annual General Meeting of the Club was held in the Court Room at 7.00pm on Saturday 15 July 1972. The President, JN Paige, took the chair, and twenty-six members were present.

1. The Minutes of the 1971 Annual General Meeting were read, approved and signed, with no matters arising.

2. The Secretary, in his report, welcomed 72 new members to the Club. He congratulated James Cobban upon his award of the CBE. Thanks were given on behalf of the Club to George Duxbury for his work on the address list, to Tony Hillary and Don Willis for similar help, to Germaine Bevir for flowers, and to John Rayson for organising the invitation and welcoming of the official guests at the Annual Dinner. An Old Boy, John Beasley, had endowed a new scholarship for 6th Form boys, to be known as the James Cobban Scholarship. The Secretary regretted that no Dance had been held in 1971, but recommended the TASS Ball to be held on 13 October to Members. The London Dinner had been a great success, and thanks to Stanley Paige were recorded for his efforts in organising it. At the Dinner, Stanley had organised an appeal for the Boat Club, which had raised a total of £152. A film showing the School at work and at play was also shown. This film was the result of one boy's efforts with the aid of a TASS initiative award. 1972 was the first occasion for many years that the Annual Dinner had been held on Founders Day, and the Secretary reported a disappointing response from members. Advance notice was given of the 1973 London Dinner, to be held at the East India and Sports Club on Friday 23 March 1973.

3. SPORTS SECRETARY'S REPORT. John Robins reported upon a disappointing year on the sports field for the Club. The hockey match had been cancelled, the cricket drawn, and the rugger and tennis matches were lost. However, the Club had won the tennis match held earlier that day, the School had won the 2nd XI cricket match, and the 1st XI had drawn. John Hooke reported upon a successful golf match which had been held, which the Club had won.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT. In the absence of the Treasurer, the Secretary read out his written report showing the position as at 31 March 1972. The accounts showed a loss for the year of £103, and although much of this was probably non-recurring expenditure, the position needed watching very carefully. The Treasurer's report and statement of accounts were unanimously adopted, and are appended in the minute book. Following the report of the Treasurer, various suggestions were discussed. John Hooke commented that more personal contact was needed to encourage members to attend functions. It was agreed that the Club should continue to invite guests to the Annual Dinner to say 'thank you'. The Headmaster suggested the possibility of holding the annual Dinner during November.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS 1972/73. The following Officers were elected for 1972/73:

President: JW Rayson.

Vice-Presidents: JM Cobban, RE Eason, GF Duxbury, S Cullen, JH Hooke, WEK Anderson.

President-Elect: RD Gibaud.

The remaining officers were re-elected en bloc.

Of the three committee members due to retire, RN Macdonald and PV Bosley were re-elected. PJ Millard wished to retire, and N Hands-Clarke was elected to replace him. To the great approval of the meeting John Berry was also elected to the committee.

There being no further business, the President declared the meeting closed.

The Annual Dinner which immediately followed the AGM was held in the marquee on Waste Court Field. The President proposed a toast to the Club and the School and the Headmaster in his reply gave a heartening picture of the School. The Head of School, JN Cowlin, replied to the Headmaster's toast to the guests, and the formal part of the evening was completed by the installation of JW Rayson as President for 1972/73.

Addresses

Secretaries' addresses

Hon. Secretary: RR Bailey, 26 Withington Court, Abingdon.

Sports Secretary, Rugger, Tennis: JB Robins, The Boma, Holliners Close, Sydenham, Oxford, OX9 4NG.

Sports Secretary, Cricket, Hockey: JW Dickinson, 27 Blenheim Drive, Launton, Bicester, Oxon.

London Secretary: SA Paige, 67 Blackheath Park, London, SE3 9SQ.

Masonic Lodge Secretary: DO Willis, Kenton House, 1a Abingdon Road, Cumnor, Oxford, OX2 9QN.

Bailey RR: 26 Withington Court, Abingdon.

Barrett TJ: 32 East St Helens Street, Abingdon.

Boddington B: 44 Rose Hill Terrace, Brighton BN1 4JJ.

Clark JEA: 21 Elm Grove, Hartlepool, Co Durham.

Denny WGC: 70 Danville Avenue, Durban North, Natal, SA.

Dodge GW: 12 Tudor Drive, Kingston, Surrey.

Flint F/Lt HF: Dental Centre, RAF Akrotiri, BFPO 53.

Griffiss GL: 109 Peperharow Road, Godalming, Surrey.

Harrison AS: 2 Brook Lane, Charlton, nr Evesham, Worcs.

Humfrey CM: Long Mead, Brixton Deverill, Warminster, Wilts.

Leigh-Parkin ER: 24 Oak Avenue, Enfield, Middlesex EN2 8LB.

Littlewood DJ: 74 Caldwell Street, London, SW9.

Nash MDT: Four Winds, Hilton Avenue, Nuneaton, Warwicks.

Rawlins TJ: 15 Hazell Way, Stoke Poges, Bucks.

Ray RD: Pangbourne College, Pangbourne, Berks. RG8 8LA.

Rowson AG: Anstey, Wood Lane, Gallowstree Common, Reading.

Rowson CI: Anstey, Wood Lane, Gallowstree Common, Reading.

Rowson JR: Anstey, Wood Lane, Gallowstree Common, Reading.
RG4 9BG.

Shellard PH: 14 Webbs Close, Bromham, Bedford.

Smith Dr BL: 18 North View, Eastgate, Pinner, Middlesex.

Stacey BE: 31 Imber Park Road, Esher, Surrey.

Tilby TJ: 28 Chancer Crescent, Newbury, Berks.

Venn D: 145 Ramsden Road, London, SW12.

OLD ABINGDONIAN CLUB
THE LONDON DINNER

will be held at the East India & Sports Club

Friday, 23rd March

Tickets will be available from the London Secretary
in due course

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If we've said anything to interest you, find out more. Your Careers Master has full information, and he can arrange for you to meet your RAF Schools Liaison Officer—quite informally.



Or you can pick up some free leaflets at your nearest RAF Careers Information Office (address in phone book) or write to Group Captain W. D. Rooney, OBE, RAF, Adastral House (25ZE1), London WC1X 8RU, giving your date of birth and details of your present and expected educational qualifications.

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