

ABINGDONIAN

STAFF LEAVING

58

4 MB

3 CP

Chris Green

Brian Southworth

Pete Moody

John Hiscord

Malcolm & Fleming ✓ ~~Pete~~ David
Rob Gars

september 73



ABINGDONIAN

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School Buildings—a Progress Report by the Headmaster

A school is a living organism, and it either develops or deteriorates. Three years ago, when the Governors looked at the needs of the School as they were likely to emerge in the 1970s, they saw three main areas where development was necessary. First, something had to be done about the Kitchen and Dining Room area, housed in a Victorian half-basement. Secondly, although the School could just manage with its classrooms and laboratories, it was hampered in efforts to make classes smaller and teaching more efficient by the lack of rooms into which to expand. Thirdly, the School needed a centre or small hall for numerous purposes like films, lectures, plays and concerts.

In October, after nearly two years of planning, work begins on the new Dining Hall. We hope that it will be completed within a year, so that meals can be served there from the beginning of next September term. It will seat two hundred boys at a time but will be able to serve a lunch for the whole School. Boarders—who are at present divided between Crescent House Dining Room and School House Dining Room—will come together in the new Dining Hall for breakfast and tea. The design allows us, if we want, to have 'family service' at both these meals.

In the last two years we have made some quiet progress on the provision of teaching rooms. This has involved one building project of some size—the extension to the Biology Block to give us an extra laboratory and an extra classroom. We have put up one Terrapin beside the existing ‘temporary’ classrooms, and we have gained another good-sized classroom in the main building by shifting Art to better quarters in the Dayboys’ Changing Room Block. As a result we have been able this term for the first time to split the Fifth Form, Fourth Form, Third Form and Second Form into four groups instead of three. We hope that Third Forms of 33 boys are now a thing of the past and that 25 or 26 will be normal in future. We could still use more space and we shall be looking soon at the possibilities opened up by the removal of the kitchens and the dining room from the main building.

As yet, there has been no progress on the provision of a hall. The Development Fund, although generously supported by our parents, can only hope, with present-day prices and high interest rates, to pay for the Dining Hall and Kitchens. Unless a benefactor appears, it seems unlikely that the Hall can go forward in the near future.

A fourth major scheme, foreseen for nearly twenty years, suddenly became possible this year when the owners of *The Lindens*, the last privately-owned house in our part of Park Crescent, decided to sell. The acquisition of the property by the School means that the whole island of land bounded by Bath Street, Faringdon Road, Park Road and Park Crescent now belongs to the School, which thus safeguards its boundaries. Furthermore we have a substantial new house on the boarding side. The intention is to run the three adjacent properties (Crescent, Glyndowr and Lindens) as one House, accommodating fifty-six boys. The younger boys will sleep and study in Crescent House, while most of the seniors will have dormitories in Glyndowr and studies in The Lindens. There is also room in The Lindens for a flat for a married house tutor and for two common rooms for the use of all boys in the House. The new House allows us to expand a little on the boarding side to help meet the national demand for boarding places in Direct Grant and independent schools, and it will make Crescent House a much more spacious place with greatly improved study facilities for all its boys. This term only the common rooms and a small number of study spaces will be in operation, but in the course of the year we shall carry out the necessary modification in the hope that the new House can be in full operation by September 1974.

* * *

The Chairman of the Governors, Sir George Sinclair (aged sixty), led a walk of the Young Conservatives into Europe, starting at Westminster and ending in Brussels. Sir George walked the first half mile from the Palace of Westminster.

Hard though it is to know where to put in news about James Cobban this seems the best place for congratulations on his election to the new Vale of White Horse District Council. He fought an energetic campaign against tough opposition and did well to get in.

Ronald Buchanan McCallum

The sudden death of Mr McCallum from a heart attack on Friday 18 May deprived the School of a great friend and one of its best-known Governors. Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, from 1955 to 1967, Mr McCallum valued the connection between College and School, and was on the Governing Body from 1950 until his death. A noted exponent of the history and philosophy of the Liberal tradition, he served his university and college with great devotion and will be greatly missed by the many Abingdonians who are also Pembroke men. The School was represented at the Service of Thanksgiving for his life, held in St Mary's, Oxford, on 23 June by the Headmaster and Mr Willis.

Mabel Lockhart-Smith

We record also with great regret the death on 3 July of Mrs. Lockhart-Smith, at one time matron of Larkhill and of School House and later until 1959 sister-in-charge of the Lodge. It is not easy to express in a few words the debt of gratitude the School and countless Old Abingdonians feel for Mrs Lockhart-Smith. Professionally first class at her job, it was perhaps more her great kindness and what Mr Cobban has described as her 'passionate loyalty to the School' that made her so popular. Thus it was most appropriate that on Monday 10 September a thanksgiving memorial service was held in the School Chapel, attended by many friends from family, School and the nursing world. The service was conducted by the Chaplain, Mr Cobban gave the address, Mr Willis read the lesson, Mr Payne played the organ and the Headmaster and a number of Staff were in attendance—a fitting tribute in itself to her memory. We convey our deep sympathy and appreciation to Mrs Lockhart-Smith's son, John (OA), and to her daughter, Mrs Valerie Lumley.

Summer Diary

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Crawford on the birth of their second child, a daughter, Elizabeth Jane.

We apologise to Mr Crawford and to Mr Green for failing to include them on the staff list in the last issue. We now rectify this.

D Crawford, DLC Loughborough (Physical Welfare).

H Green, BSc Leeds (Biology).

The Head of School rang the bell ninety-five times in celebration of Mr Rudd's ninety-fifth birthday. Waste Court sang 'Happy Birthday to you' to him on his way over to breakfast.

We congratulate Mr Dangerfield, the School caterer, on his recent marriage.

The Corps was inspected this year by Group Captain RM Jenkins from RAF Abingdon. He presented the Army trophy, the Navy trophy, and the RAF sword to Sgt R Kenyon, L/S S de Lusignan and J/Cpl K Halsey respectively.

Our thanks to WJ Packer for designing the new cover.

Duxbury ties were awarded this year to P Barton, C Clayton and Mr HM Gray. Mr Gray is only the second member of the School's staff to receive this award, Mr Cobban being the first.

In finishing 12th overall, WG Baker was the leading British competitor in his age group in the huge international 'Swiss 5-Day' Orienteering Competition in August.

Mr Baker was one of the survey team whose map of part of the New Forest received the 'Chichester Trophy' as the best orienteering map produced in Britain in 1972.

Clive Crocker, left July 72, now studying medicine at Birmingham University, has presented the Biology Department with a number of valuable textbooks which he no longer needs.

Visitors

The Lower Sixth Form had two lectures during the term. Mr Ronald Amey (from the highly successful local business) talked on a wide range of subjects connected with industry. Mr. Minshall gave a most informative talk on the facilities provided by banks in general.

Ripon Hall students took over the Sixth Form Divinity lessons during the term, thus easing the Chaplain's burden. In the Chapel we were given a very interesting series of talks by various people. These included Mr J Willis (from The Liverpool Housing Trust), the Rev R Ramm (Samaritans), Miss R Carruthers (Cheshire Homes), Mr J Howard (Oxfam), Lady Herschel (The Red Cross) and the Rev P Doble (Christian Aid).

Dr Vaane made his second visit here from Euratom, where John Hills was doing research before going up to Cambridge. Dr Vaane lectured on 'Health Physics' and held the attention of everyone either with the slides of John Hills or his attractive female research worker.

A talk on Christian Aid was given to the Sixth Form Divinity sets. The talk was accompanied by a film strip and was followed by a lively discussion.

Towards the end of last term a French party from Béziers arrived. The visitors spent most of their time being entertained by their own hosts but one outing was made.

Outside Visits

For 'A' level English students the culmination of a term's work on 'Macbeth' was a trip to the National Theatre's production of the play at the Old Vic. Unfortunately the actors seemed tired, consequently the play lacked the necessary bite and gusto. But seeing the play much improved everyone's overall understanding. Many Classicists were able to see Bradfield's excellent production of 'The Bacchae'. The play has been made the closest possible reconstruction of the way the Greeks originally performed it.

About twenty Lower Sixth Formers went to Barclays Bank as part of a careers evening. This could be thought of as a recruiting drive but, coupled with Mr Minshall's lecture, boys were able to realise that banks exist far beyond the cash desk.

Five biologists visited St Mary's Hospital Medical School, London, to attend a Sixth Form Conference on 'Medicine as a Career'. They heard several lectures, one of them given by Andy Iddles (OA), who was able to tell the group more about the social side of medicine.

Miscellany

We record the latest addition to the School's transport facilities. The money laid aside for the ill-fated squash courts was spent on a 'Mini-bus'. The vehicle is stripped of all unnecessary (and expensive) equipment. With seating for seventeen people it should prove very useful for small team fixtures and Dolgoed. Our thanks to TASS.

A new publication from Novello is *Abingdon Carols* by Bryan Kelly, who has taught piano here for the last five years. The dedication of this collection reads: 'For Antony le Fleming and the boys of Abingdon School'. We hope to sing at least one of his carols at this year's Carol Service.

The Prefects held their annual dance in the Courtroom on Saturday, 5th May. Everything went well, especially after the recovery of their lost parachute just before it started! The dancing was helped by special training sessions held in the Gym towards the end of the Lent term.

The Friends of Abingdon Fête was held in June, and as usual boys from the School ran the side-shows. The stocks of earlier years could not be found, so someone was saved from a wet evening.

Several films were shown to various groups in the School. Zeferelli's 'Romeo and Juliet' was also attended by other schools. Other films included 'Electra', 'The Caretaker' and 'King Henry V'.

In July the Headmaster attended a Government luncheon held by Mrs Thatcher for the Columbian Minister of Education, and accompanied by Mrs Anderson, Sir George and Lady Sinclair he went to the Royal Garden Party.

Summer means cricket for many, and on the first Sunday of term School House took on the Rest. School House won, Mr Hillary scoring ninety not out. Ridley College, Canada, played the School 'A' XI. The match was drawn but Ridley had the edge on us. Their oarsmen won the Princess Elizabeth Cup at Henley later on in the week.

Not only cricketers but also baseballers were to be seen practising on Upper Field during the fine weather. A fixture between the School and the Staff was won convincingly by the School, led by Glenn Stewart (an American). Those who have sampled the game have found—the hard way—that baseball is not a game of rounders played by puerile Americans.

Ringing the Changes

Welcome . . .

Because of retirements and promotions, we have the chance of welcoming this term an unusual number of new members of staff.

Tom Ayling, who becomes Head of the Chemistry Department, is a Portsmouth man and a graduate of Oxford. He has taught very successfully for seven years at Emmanuel School in London, where he was also involved in work on the timetable and on examinations. His interests are badminton, squash and tennis, music and travel.

David Haynes, who becomes Head of the Physics Department, is a Londoner and an Oxford graduate. He has a Dip Ed from the Open University. For the last seven years he has taught at Solihull School. His many outside interests include cross-country running, stage-lighting and photography, and at Solihull he ran very successful outward-bound courses for younger boys which included a week each year climbing in the Lake District.

The English Department is now in the charge of **Jonathan Gabbitass**, a Plymouth man who took his degree at St John's College, Oxford. He is a

rugger Blue and an England trialist and has played stand-off in recent seasons for Bristol and Gloucestershire as well as coaching Clifton College 1st XV. His other interests include drama and cricket.

Jeffrey Drummond-Hay, who will replace Ron Coleman when he retires in December, is an ex-Parachutist who has recently qualified to teach Physical Education. Apart from all games, he has a particular interest in Drama. He does not ride, he says, quite as well as his cousin.

The places of the Mathematicians who left to become Heads of Departments have been taken by **Roger Fletcher** and **David Dodwell**. Mr Fletcher was at school at Brecon Grammar School and Atlantic College, before reading Maths at St Catherine's College, Oxford. His two years of Voluntary Service Overseas in Uganda were cut short by President Amin, and he returned to this country to take a Cert Ed at Bristol University. He is keen on rugby, rowing and all outdoor activities. Mr Dodwell, from Cheltenham, St John's College Oxford and Birmingham University, is interested in computers, with which he has had some experience, and in rowing. He is acting as House Tutor in Waste Court this year, and the Boat Club is looking forward to his help.

Geoffrey Graham comes to us, via schools in France and Germany, where he has been teaching English, to help with French and German. He is a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, and was resident in our own college, Pembroke Oxford, while studying at the Oxford Department of Education. His interests include singing and drama, badminton, tennis and riding.

Peter Dick, a New Zealander teaching at Melbourne Grammar School, has driven overland with his wife in a Volkswagen to join us for one year. Rowing and rugby are his sports, and he will teach Biology and General Science until Howard Green returns from his year in Australia.

The Music Department adds to its strength. **David Robinson**, from Swindon and the Royal Academy of Music, who will teach strings, and **John Frith**, from Dartington College of Arts, the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and the LSO, who will take on responsibility for brass.

The School also warmly welcomes Mrs Haynes, Mrs Gabbitass, Mrs Drummond-Hay, Mrs Fletcher, Mrs Graham, Mrs Dick, Mrs Robinson and Mrs Frith, and the young Misses Gabbitass and Miss Drummond-Hay. Four of the ladies will be helping the School for a few periods a week—Mrs Drummond-Hay with Art, Mrs Frith and Mrs Robinson with Music, and Mrs Graham, who is French, with French conversation. The other new part-timer this term is Mrs Charlotte Whalen, who is teaching in the English Department. We wish all these people a happy time at Abingdon School.

. . . and Good-bye

The end of Summer Term saw the departure of no less than eight members of the staff, two on retirement, the remainder on promotion to other establishments. We wish good fortune to all of them: it was nonetheless a sad occasion to have so many leaving us and we are going to miss them greatly.

Two of our 'leavers', both mathematicians, have gone to take up Heads of Departments—**Peter Moody** to Kingswood School and **John Harcourt** to Aylesbury School. Both will be difficult to follow—Mr Moody as house-tutor at Waste Court, master in charge of Colts rugger, rowing coach and stage manager for School plays, Mr Harcourt as a first-year formmaster and badminton coach. Perhaps even bigger gaps were created with the departure of **Brian Woolnough** and **Chris Owen**. As Heads of their respective depart-

ments, they have had a deep influence on the School. During his eight years as Head of Physics, Mr Woolnough expanded and updated an already flourishing department, initiating new links with research establishments and fostering project work so that the School appeared in two successive years in the TV Finals of the 'Young Scientists of the Year'. Largely responsible for the introduction of Physical Science into the curriculum, the first chairman of Oxford Physics Centre and an author, he will be best remembered by the boys for his enthusiastic coaching of the Second XI Hockey. He leaves to become Physics Tutor at the Institute of Education in Oxford. Mr Owen also built up his Department into a major position in the curriculum. Over eleven years, his sympathetic and imaginative teaching attracted a large number to the study of English. His influence carried into all corners—on the games field, especially in cricket, and more recently into School drama at all levels. In moving to Eynsham School, he follows his growing urge to move into the Comprehensive field. We are going to miss his quiet and generous friendliness. Fortunately, both he and Mr Woolnough will continue to live near the School.

Two musicians have also gone. **Anthony le Fleming** becomes the new Assistant Director of Music for Birmingham and **David Robbins** moves to Intake School, Leeds. Mr le Fleming's talented and colourful Directorship of Music will not be easily forgotten and the School will seem a strange place without him. Mr Robbins, too, will be remembered for his work for School brass and especially for his revival of the Band—as well as for his keenness at games, even though soccer was hardly part of the curriculum. Mention of both again appears elsewhere in this issue.

We leave to last mention of **Mervyn Gray** and **Stuart Parker**, both long-standing members of the Staff. They move to well-earned retirement, Mr Gray after 43 years, mostly as Head of Chemistry, and Mr Parker after 27 years. Both have contributed much to the School. Colonel 'Sam' Parker will undoubtedly be best remembered as an excellent OC of the Cadet Force, but he also played his part as one-time Head of Modern Languages and as master in charge of cricket. His dry humour will be greatly missed by Common Room and boys alike. Mr Gray, whose zest for teaching Chemistry never flagged—as exam results of recent years fully prove—also did his share of CCF work and was for a number of years Housemaster at Larkhill. Many an OA must be grateful to HMG for that pass in Chemistry which at the time seemed so impossible and the School for his devotion to tennis. As master in charge of tennis, Mr Gray undoubtedly put it on the map and had his special triumph in 1955 when the School IV reached the semi-finals of the Youll Cup. We owe him too our gratitude for the hard tennis courts laid down in 1968. To both Mr Gray and Mr Parker and to Mrs Gray and Mrs Parker we wish all good fortune for a long and happy retirement.

Chapel Notes

The Summer Term opened with our customary beginning of term service in St Helen's Church. Once again the Vicar of Abingdon, the Reverend WEG Payton, CB, gave the address and we are grateful to him not only for the warmth of his welcome but also for his words of wisdom. Chapel services have continued their usual pattern. We have experimented with the Series III Communion service as well as the normal Series II, and have also returned occasionally to the ancient and dignified language of 1662. All the junior forms have played their part in presenting vivid and varied form chapels once a month.

The Christian Fellowship has met in Chapel on Mondays at lunchtime and confirmation classes have started up again on Monday and Tuesday evenings; at present there are twenty-eight candidates with a higher proportion of boarders than usual. Bible-reading groups continue to meet regularly on Wednesday evenings at 25 Park Road, thanks to the kindness of Mr and Mrs Eden.

The Chapel is going to miss tremendously our Director of Music, Anthony le Fleming. We are particularly grateful to him for his three original settings of the Te Deum, the Jubilate Deo and a shortened version of the Benedicite, the Song of Creation. These 'Abingdon' settings (it is the composer's wish that they should be known as such), have now been performed on many occasions and are always fresh, lively and vigorous. We very much hope that one day they will be published. As well as a number of anthems on Sundays the choir, reinforced by the Junior Choral Society, sang Benjamin Britten's austere and beautiful Missa Brevis within the context of the 1662 Rite. On Founder's Day, as a swan-song, the choir sang 'Achieved is the glorious work' from Haydn's Creation under the direction of Mr le Fleming. He was accompanied by Mr Procter on the organ at St Helen's. Tribute must also be paid to the splendid help of Jeremy Pike and Barrie Bignold on the Chapel organ during the week. We wish them well in their further musical studies at Cambridge and London respectively and particularly congratulate Jeremy on winning the premier musical scholarship at King's College. We are also grateful to Mr McGowan for his unstinting help on the organ on numerous occasions.

We have been fortunate to have the following visiting preachers during the term: the Reverend D Coulton, Assistant Chaplain of Radley; Mr AOH Quick, Headmaster of Bradfield; the Reverend G Phizackerley, a former chaplain and now Vicar of Gaywood and Rural Dean of Lynn; and a memorable sermon from our former headmaster, James Cobban Esq, preaching in the Chapel for the 239th time and just as stimulating as ever. The Headmaster preached the customary Cheney Bequest sermon at St Nicolas at the service for leavers and he and the Chaplain shared the other preachments.

Collections during the term have been as follows: Shelter, £10.11; Oxford Samaritans, £8.67; New Guinea Mission, £4.53; Christian Aid, £10.13; the John Masefield Cheshire Home, £9.93; OXFAM, £9.08; the British Red Cross, £8.60; Christian Education Movement, £7.98; Chapel funds, £10.09; St Nicolas (Leavers' service), £11.50; and St Helen's (Founder's Day service) £78.97.

Chapel flowers have been arranged by the following: Mesdames Anderson, Eden, Mortimer, Potter, Reenan, Taylor, Varley, Walsh and Woolnough, Miss Farr (to whom we are also grateful for her continued care of the fair linen) and the Chaplain. Special mention should be made of the lovely arrangement of flowers for Founder's Day by Mrs Potter; as has been the custom for a number of years the flowers were provided by the generosity of Mrs EA Willey, in memory of her son Stanley (OA), the father of Adrian and Michael.

In conclusion, tribute must be paid to the consistently reliable work of Christopher Williams as Senior Sacristan and to his assistant, Trevor Roberts, both of whom have worked diligently and unobtrusively to ensure that services and servers continued to make their offering of praise and thanksgiving. We lose a dozen Upper Sixth Formers who have served loyally at the altar during the past four or more years. There is no reward

for this labour of love save the satisfaction of service and the gratitude of future generations for this good example. This duty humbly offered fulfils one of the School's mottoes—*Ingrederere ut proficias*. PGO

Swanwick

In July four Lower Sixth Formers (Simon Greenwood, Stephen Boatright, Malcolm Waterfall and Graham Terry) attended the annual Sixth Form Conference at Swanwick, Derbyshire. The organisers were the Christian Education Movement, but the atmosphere was not purely religious. The intention was that groups of young people from different parts of Britain should live together in a close community and discuss frankly the morals and values of life together with personal opinions.

Seminars ranged from Buddhism and Hinduism to Marxism and radical politics. This gave us the opportunity to learn about the lives of different people who had firm beliefs in a life totally different from our own. We were free to question and criticise their beliefs. Then we were divided up into seven commissions to discuss more fully our own views, ideals, hopes and frustrations in life.

I was in the commission 'Commitment and self—being yourself'. We looked into the meaning of life for the individual, to what extent he was an individual or relied on others and how one can personally fulfil oneself. The discussion was frank, honest and free. Classroom inhibitions were cast aside as fresh ideas from different people were put forward and involvement was complete for everyone. The success of the discussion was largely due to the CEM representative, who genuinely involved himself in our own personal ideas. For him enjoyment in life and with other people was paramount.

Discussions were not limited by a timetable and a room but by interest. One would involve oneself during free time, during mealtimes or whenever interest demanded it.

Social facilities were good. During the week a film and 'discos' were held. Swimming, tennis and television were also available. Talking in free time with the other hundred people there was made very easy because of the relaxed atmosphere.

By the last night I felt as if I had known the people there for a long time. The success of the conference lay with those who attended it and organised it. Five enjoyable days of discussion had passed, stimulating much personal thought and a lasting impression. SRG

TASS

The social event of the Summer Term took the form of a barbecue and musical evening in the grounds of Abingdon Abbey. Wine and coffee were served and the weather was superb. The two hundred or so members who came along thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

Once again the ladies of TASS came forward to help with cricket teas throughout the summer under the organiser, Mrs Ashby, who was also responsible for providing teas for new dayboy parents at the beginning of this present term.

In the six years since its formation, the Society has gone from strength to strength. The boys themselves take part in its activities and will soon be helping with the Christmas Bazaar, towards which the members are now working. The Bazaar will be held during the morning of 24th November in the Court Room and we hope that parents, friends, OAs and their wives

together with staff and boys will come along, enjoy the occasion and help to raise the £400 which is this year's target to help School needs.

The Initiative Awards Evening, scheduled for this term, has been postponed until Michaelmas Term, when it will take place after the AGM on 31st January. MEW

School Council

At the beginning of term Patrick Cook and Alan Davies both resigned after two terms in office. They were replaced by Chris Jones (Chairman) and Simon Walker (Secretary).

The Council continued as a channel through which the School's opinion could be voiced. Subjects discussed included the use of the Library, the CCF and swimming times (on which a committee later reported).

The meeting with the Headmaster was held at the end of term, when various Council proposals were discussed. Corporal punishment was discussed with the Headmaster 'off the cuff'. Many will be surprised to read that there was an overwhelming majority against its abolition. This must shake those that believe the Council is out to change everything at a stroke.

The Council has not faded out after the disillusion felt by some but has taken its place in the School as a very important advisory body. SW

Business Seminar

On May 2nd Mr Clifford Barclay gave an informal sequel to his lecture on Business Management to a small group of Sixth Formers. He is a highly successful entrepreneur and founder of the Oxford School of Management. The discussion covered a wide range of topics. 'Can a business man be honest?'—a seemingly paradoxical question to which the answer was in the affirmative, whatever the situation. The answer to the most captivating and naïve question—'How do I make a million?'—is simple: 'By doing a great deal of hard work and by having a little luck'. We were, however, assured that making your second million is far easier.

At this stage the discussion was interrupted by the entrance of a breathless courier, none other than the Headmaster himself, who delivered to Mr Barclay an urgent telephone message from a far-flung corner of his business empire. The reply was dictated and despatched—the discussion resumed.

We discussed not only the more fundamental issues of management (such as the relationship between management and trade unions and the need for greater understanding) but also sought personal career advice and his opinions on various projects.

When the seminar came to a close he revealed the vital qualities of all entrepreneurs (so ably displayed by himself), shrewdness and observance, by suggesting that he had learnt far more from us than we had learnt from him. Perhaps he was right—I still have not made my first million! MO

Scrabble?

To start from the beginning, I scraped into the National Scrabble Championship Final, emulating a certain master who achieved the same distinction the previous year. I must confess that I was rather more looking forward to the three-course meal (plus wine) at Quaglino's, who were staging the Final.

The date set out for the Final was, by a stroke of genius on the part of

the organiser, the day before my 'O' levels started. Ignoring this warning of Fate, I was there on the day, nonetheless.

While my confidence was still reasonably high, I casually yet probingly asked a lady sitting near me how well she did last year. Looking up momentarily from her laboriously prepared list of two-letter words, she replied frankly: 'I won it'.

My confidence shattered, I proceeded into the first game. Unfortunately I reckoned without those kind gentlemen of the press wearing flash cameras, who had been informed (incorrectly) that I was the youngest competitor present, and wasted no time in taking advantage of that fact. I was then helped to the dubious distinction of last place after two games, and a total of eight words correctly challenged.

In the afternoon the air-conditioning failed, and I took advantage of the soaring temperature to which I was accustomed (schoolboys work under all pressures nowadays) to achieve a fairly respectable score in my third and last game, raising my position 14 places. I still had time to record a Radio Oxford interview before leaving for school again.

And that was that for the year. For interest, the winner scored 1,226 points in 3 games, 36 got over 1,000 points, 3 points separated the first four and I scored 806!

Two words of warning to prospective finalists; you need 800 points in two games (approximately) to qualify; and Quaglino's is 30 minutes walk from the nearest Tube station. RSC

Projects Week and Founder's Day

It seems to have become traditional now for the Oxford and Cambridge boards' examinations to encroach partially or fully on our annual projects week, thus preventing many senior members of the School from contributing to the Founder's Day displays. In the past, Founder's Day has been more and more a Fourth and Lower Sixth Form show, particularly in the laboratories, with the Fifth and Upper Sixth tied up with exams, and the more junior forms working in the last week to a special timetable that combined ordinary periods with only a few others that were less formal, leading to something for Founder's Day.

This year a new attempt was made to spread the heavy burden, largely carried by the Fourth and Sixth Formers in preparing for Founder's Day, over a larger proportion of the School. The projects week previously given mainly to the senior School was experimentally extended to cover the whole School from First to Sixth Forms alike. Here was a real opportunity for the Junior School to show themselves by spending a whole week on an unusual diversion partially of their own choice and to prepare something worthwhile for Founder's Day. The large number of youngsters who took full advantage of this made the experiment a clear success and one hopes that it will be repeated.

The annual guarantee of a sun-drenched day for Founder's Day was unfortunately broken and the threat of rain succeeded in frightening many parents and OAs from visiting the School. However, it takes more than the threat of rain to prevent an Abingdon School Founder's Day from being a success and over two and a half thousand parents, Old Boys and friends of the School visited the day's activities to prove the point.

By far the most popular attractions of the day, as always, were the science exhibitions in the School's laboratories. In the chemistry labs. a splash of colour was added by experiments on the chemical spectrum, fluorescien and

luminol, whilst the usual impressive apparatus layouts continued to attract attention.

In the physics department many people were mystified by the transmission of their voices by a light beam. Others became interested in projects on linear induction motors and photographing the smashing of light bulbs. Some gory exhibits in the biology laboratories succeeded in turning a few stomachs: a dissected rabbit and some dissected sheep and bullock's eyes topped the menu. Next door in the third biology lab. there was a very impressive and extensive series of projects from this year's Dolgoed-goers and next door the other way was a well-collected and displayed coin exhibition.

The lack of sun failed to deter hundreds of cricket enthusiasts from watching the Old Boys playing the First and Second XIs, whilst tennis fans watched their sport on the grass courts. The literary magazine 'Ark' had a rival this year in the form of a Second Form magazine called 'Blot'. There was also a collection of 33 photographs from Mrs Thatcher's visit for parents to look at or purchase copies for a more permanent record.

Many parents, Old Boys, friends and present members of the School took the opportunity of saying their personal good-byes to the members of staff who were departing at the end of the School year. We hope that this year's Founders' Day displays made one more happy memory for them and that they may return many times in the future to see us and the School again.

Founder's Day Concert

A review by the Rev P Doble

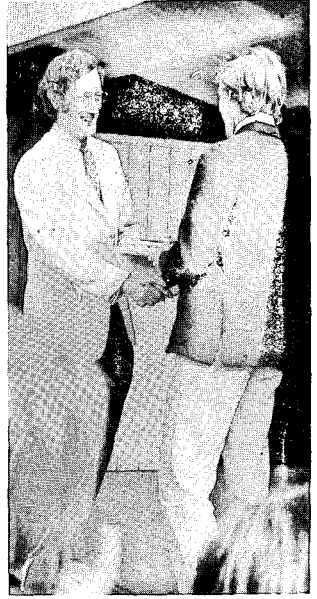
It may be that people say, 'The best ever', at the end of every Founder's Day Concert: a poll among some friends confirmed my impression that this was the best that I had ever attended. It had a slickness to which practised attenders were unaccustomed. We usually caught up on a year's gossip between items, but a new dispensation decreed that not only were the performers present, but in the right place and ready to play. The greater pity, then, that the management was about to leave.

This was an evening of farewells. The somewhat coy Adagio from Haydn's Symphony No. 45, happily arranged by Jeremy Pike, saw the candles snuffed one by one, and the chiefest exit man of all move confidently to a rest before the last bar, or was it a bar before the last rest? The departed luminaries had left a warm glow in the overheated hall, and had good reason to reflect that their work had been of a very high quality indeed.

We were told during the evening of the aim of the Music Department—to make music. 'Music is not a selfish pursuit, but a social activity,' is a principle which would justify a strong music department in any school. That Antony le Fleming had been a strong and good Director will be questioned by none, and I much admire what he has achieved. 'Erratic, colourful and brilliant,' the Head once called the School's Music Making, and during this evening he assured us that if Antony le Fleming was a member of an organisation then one knew it! (I longed for the anecdotes that would provide supporting evidence.) Now that he is going, he will be sorely missed, and by Abingdon as much as the School. The Director paid a generous tribute to his staff, particularly to David ('the most modest man who ever blew his own trumpet') Robbins, commending not only his huge musical skill, but his collegueship. In that combination there must have been much caring about music and about how boys might best enjoy it. So they left, and the remaining duo were a testimony to know how much the departed had been of the fabric of the School. Vale.



Departing Staff





The Government Inspector

This concert grew in Projects Week, and much hard work had obviously been done.

The Brass offered us three pieces of very differing kinds, two of them by Antony le Fleming, and I hope that it will not be thought unkind to say that I found them less than compelling. It may well be more an expression of liking than a judgement of value, but I found them neither attractive in themselves nor vehicles to say anything that I heard. Clearly, my own deficiencies may preclude my hearing what the composer wished to communicate, but I suspect that the performers were happier with Gabrieli's *Buccinate* for nineteen parts in which their musical skills were deployed fully. It was ambitious to tackle the Gabrieli, but it was a measure of how good the ensemble is that we had a most pleasurable performance.

The strings, too, were ambitious and convincing. Few schools would have attempted the Vivaldi Concerto for Four Violins and Strings, but here it was, and it worked. One was carried along by the joy of seeing and hearing four determined and musical soloists who listened to each other and conversed in a sensitive way, while the orchestra supported the interchange. This was good, and marks what has been and can be done. The *Elegy for Four Cellos* shewed lovely instruments sensitively played; there was a delicacy of structure and gentleness of tone that promised well for the future. Stephen Fairlie's arrangement of the *Lament for George Campbell* was a marvellous vehicle for shewing how a musical sound, poignant but not maudlin, might be made on strings by boys who plainly enjoyed what they were doing. Stephen Fairlie had done more than persuade a McDonald to play for a Campbell: he had arranged that there should be music making of a high order that evoked a deep response in the hearers.

'Genesis' by Pehkonen was 'formal but unusual', and although one grew used to the sight of a piano played from the inside (why not?), it was sad that Creation moved so shortly to Babel. The mixing of voices, instruments and tapes clearly engaged performers and audience alike. It was fun and it was liberating, so presumably the boys were discovering that here was one way of expressing what they felt about something.

The Jazz Club treated us to two pieces by Antony le Fleming. I find it hard to believe that he developed an interest in this genre only after coming to Abingdon, for he performs far beyond my praise and writes in a way that takes me with him. The club gave a vigorous, skilled performance, as only technically competent performers can, of two deeply moving compositions.

So to Papa Haydn and Jeremy Pike; it could have been sickly, but good humour made its point. This was a good evening, and I am grateful to all those who made it so, and who, by making music, make better people.

PD

The Government Inspector

A review by Mr GH Whalen

Many years ago I concluded that it was very difficult to make people laugh. Very few people are good at it; and school actors are no different from the rest of us. So Messrs Blocksidge and McKinnon, whether they realised it or not, had, as far as I was concerned, quite a job on their hands with Gogol's 'The Government Inspector'. They were lucky. A number of the cast had genuine comic talent; and this helped to prevent the pace from flagging and the comedy from becoming heavy and artificial.

The play started off slowly as the town dignitaries learned of the rumoured visit of inspection by a high official from St Petersburg. Andrew Carlisle, William Packer and Graham Terry had little scope for humour; but they provided a useful foil for John Griffin, whose larger-than-life performance as the extrovert rabbit-shooting Judge gave an indication of how easily the play could have been turned into a knockabout farce.

Christopher Jones as the Mayor had the biggest and perhaps the most taxing part in the play. He achieved a fine blend of pomposity and confusion as the small-town Mayor with pretensions to higher things, struggling to maintain the dignity of his office. His delivery was strong and his fellow actors obviously found him utterly dependable.

Brian Polley as the Postmaster was beautifully obsequious and indecisive: what Abingdonians would no doubt call 'wet'. It was just right.

The lisping Dobchinsky played by Peter Watson was excellent. With the other half of the comedy act—Simon Marsden as Bobchinsky—he guaranteed us amusement whenever he appeared.

Not having seen any previous Abingdon School productions and knowing none of the cast I was surprised that someone of Paul de Lusignan's obvious ability should not have had a bigger part. I was told later of his triumph last year in 'A Man for All Seasons', so I assume he had other commitments this time. Although he never succeeded in looking remotely old enough for the part of the long-suffering Ossip, he showed a maturity and presence which marked him out.

Inevitably Gogol saw to it that the Mayor's wife had even greater pretensions to refinement and advancement than her husband. Have wives always been like this? Are they the same today in Russia? in Abingdon? Carol Hancock, whether bullying the Mayor or charming the Government Inspector with her mature charms, was forceful and compelling. But she didn't look any older than her daughter, played by Kate Woodall! Caroline Molesworth obviously enjoyed the brief explosion as the locksmith's wife.

Finally, Patrick Cook as the Government Inspector. He started hesitantly but gradually became more purposeful as if stirred by his own fine Petersburg phrases. He seemed particularly at home during the sofa scene with the ladies—and everyone in the audience, except me, seemed to know why! Was this an 'in' joke; and why did Mishka (Anthony Mushens) get a laugh every time he appeared? An outsider doesn't appreciate these private understandings, which is of course no reason why they should not continue to be an integral part of school plays.

Apart from the last scene, which was too static, the production was full of life. The small stage was never allowed to cramp movement; and the audibility of the actors was uniformly good. I wish, though, that more care had been taken with the make-up. Like costume, it is an artificial aid to be used, sparingly and effectively. The cast and the producers are to be congratulated on a lively and amusing performance. GHW

'Country Justice'

The Junior Dramatic Society performed a trio of one-act plays (under the general title of 'Country Justice') in the Unicorn towards the end of last term.

The first production ('Birds of a Feather') was most enjoyable. As much of the stage as possible was used, the actors were able to maintain their Welsh accents and generally showed ability and promise. The young actors were understandably a little over-aware of the audience but showed their

true colours when the play carried them away. It was an admirable effort coming complete with sound effects, which may have gone down better in a production of 'Macbeth' than a light-hearted comedy!

The second play ('Shivering Shocks') was not as successful as the first but it did have its highlights. One was the entrance of Kysh (Martin Clarke) looking like a bouncer fresh from the Mecca ballroom. Another was the shooting of Granville-Hughes (Simon Pennifer), a loud report was followed by clichéd, staggering and groaning—then the big question: 'Hughes! Are you hurt?'

The third and final play ('A Dog's Life') was the pièce de résistance, despite the loss of Rover the dog beforehand. The scenery was simple but impressive and the stage was used well by the cast. The play was a hit right from the start mainly because of the bravery of Wynne Thomas, Christopher Thomas, Andrew Forrest and Bruce Edmonds who were in drag for the evening. On stage everyone looked and played their part from Ellis (Michael Dacre), the local 'bovver boy', to Mrs Owen, the gossiping post mistress. Andrew Cross, the police inspector, handled his case very well and if the Metropolitan do not have him, 'Z-Cars' will! Michael Kendrick handled the bench well and Simon Moore's defence of the dog was also commendable. It was, however, due to the whole cast that this play was a success.

'Country Justice' displayed great potential. Not only the acting but almost the whole show was run by willing hands from the First and Second Forms. Next year we look forward to a move from the comparative sterility of one-act plays to a full scale play—the talent is not lacking. PMW

Ten Tors

Thick mist and torrential rain made the 1973 Ten Tors Expedition the toughest ever, and only 105 out of 358 teams completed their courses. So especial congratulations to:

- (a) PAW Rogers, CF Vernon, RM Bowkett and M Kendall (OA), the first Abingdonians to successfully complete the arduous 55-mile route,
- (b) S de Lusignan, R Hingley, M Saunders, R Scibilia, M Twine and FW Woollen who successfully completed the U/16 35-mile route as a complete patrol,
- (c) S Walker, PR Forsythe and M Ormerod (U/18 45-mile route) who also received their coveted Ten Tors medals.

Commiserations to those who were refused permission to continue because of surprisingly early crash times rigorously enforced at certain controls, and also to those who were prevented by injury from continuing.

Commendations to those boys who 'walked for Spastics' and collected £48.93 from their sponsors. RHB

An account of his experiences by R Hingley appears below.

'We arrived at Okehampton Camp at about 4pm, put up the large base camp tents, cooked a meal and tried to get an early night—but 12 per tent was a terrific squash. We got up at about 5 the next morning, ate breakfast, packed our rucksacks and walked up to the Start along with 2,000 others.

'At 7 o'clock we were off and climbed the first hill, but then there was a real cloudburst and I soon discovered that my waterproof clothing was not as waterproof as I had thought. Then we made our first mistake—we followed a group that we thought was going the right way and found they were not. We were lost. However, at about 9 o'clock we got to our first tor

only about 2½ miles from the Start. We were soaked and had little hope of finishing, but as we started off downhill for the second tor it stopped raining briefly and I found that my waterproof clothing was really quite good at keeping water in. After an adventure in an unmarked bog we got to the tor, more confident now.

‘On the way to the next tor we came to the Dart, heavily swollen by rain, and could not cross it, so we walked about 1½ miles up it to where it splits into 3 smaller streams, but these were still too large to jump as we found out—and we’d been drying out nicely from the rain. We carried on for the third tor, but we were wet, miserable and convinced that we were not going to finish and started to have stupid arguments. A late lunch and tor 3 helped to revive our hopes, but only three tors done in nearly nine hours meant that we had a lot to do.

‘Now was our best period of walking and we made two tors before 5 o’clock. At tor 5 they checked our compasses, first-aid kits, torches and emergency rations. The clouds were coming down again but we decided to try for one more tor that evening. Half way there the drizzle turned into hard rain and visibility was getting worse and worse. Some of us were getting rather tired and shoulder straps seemed to be digging in harder than ever. We met up with another party also heading for tor 6 and did a very silly thing. In the mist and not knowing exactly where we were, we left our compass bearing in favour of some rather mixed-up views from members of the other party. We soon succeeded in convincing ourselves that we were hopelessly lost, and so at half past six in pouring rain and freezing weather we decided to pitch camp—not knowing it but in fact only half a mile from tor 6.

‘We got out the soaked tents and found we had forgotten the pegs for one of them, so had to improvise with stones. We lit a stove to warm ourselves up but did not have the energy to do any cooking. We didn’t get much sleep; stupidly we had pitched the tents in what became a water course and it carried on raining until 4 in the morning! We got up early to an almost clear day, but one of the party, having got soaked in his sleeping bag, was looking distinctly pale and was shivering. Exposure, we thought, so we wrapped him up well, cooked him some sausages and beans and were just about to fetch help when the victim declared that he had stopped shivering and was feeling fine, and proved it by getting up and doing most of the work in taking down the tent and packing up.

‘So we started the second day. The group we had met up with set off towards a distant tor, but we took a longer look at the map and went straight to tor 6 in a different direction. In our cold wet state this did a lot to encourage us. We then came to another swollen stream and repeated our procedure of making a detour upstream before getting soaked again. Tor 7; a fleeting glimpse of the sun; tor 8 and lunch. We ought to be able to make it!

‘Then the mist came down again, but we were able to use a road and then a track to guide us nearly to tor 9, which we finally reached after a nasty and exhausting climb to the alarming news that we were 15 minutes outside our crash time, and I think we were rather lucky to escape being compulsorily retired. We hurried down and kept a good pace, going over several ridges before we tackled our last tor—the highest on Dartmoor. In spite of frequent rests and yet more rain we arrived in front of our crash time. Our morale was now very high and we had no trouble going on down to the finish at Okehampton Camp. For the last few hundred yards we were

cheered on by many onlookers and even some members of other Abingdon School teams from whom we learned that we were the only one to finish intact. We were presented with our medals, badges and certificates, and went and ate our bowls of hot stew which the Army thoughtfully laid on for all competitors.'

Dolgoed

The Third Form visits followed much the same pattern as in previous years and the results of the projects were displayed on Founder's Day. Here are some extracts from a report by one of the year's Dolgoed-goers.

'We left the minibus at the end of the driveway to the farmhouse: quite normal, we supposed, until we discovered that it stretched for one and a half miles! And there, further from civilisation than you can imagine, stood a musty, off-white farmhouse: the walls and rooms were dark, the staircase looked treacherous, and the whole house looked like it ought to be demolished that week.

'Then, of course, that inevitable change of attitude occurred in everyone's eyes. Here was a peaceful, homely, non-artificial little place, enveloped, almost, by mountain and lying next to a trickling stream which knew the clearest waters on earth.

'The long-awaited projects were begun the following day and with nearly everyone out on the hills, the house became a lifeless part of the scenery basking in the morning sun.

'The days passed quickly. We climbed Cader Idris: to most of us an epic achievement. We all arrived at the top with aching feet. A pause for thought and a couple of garibaldi biscuits ensued as the view in all directions took hold of the imagination. . . .

'Dolgoed, for all its unattractive name, means one of the greatest experiences one is likely to encounter at school. I can't explain why. Perhaps it is only the fact that you are enjoying yourself whilst still technically in school. Maybe it is the opportunity it gives for those whose skills lie outside Physics to prove themselves. Maybe, but I can genuinely say that I did enjoy the six days we were there.

'And for those who still think it is a hovel, it is . . . a nice one!'

DAB

Sports Reports

Cricket

First Eleven

We had been looking forward to the 1973 cricket season with particular anticipation with the promise of a vintage summer, according to the weather experts, and of a strong 1st XI, with eight of the previous season's successful young side returning. In the event we were not to be disappointed. True, some of the best weather came after term had finished (but not in time, unfortunately, for Alligators week), but 14 matches were completed and the Eleven are to be congratulated on achieving an unbeaten record, having won 6 and drawn 8 of them—the first post-war Invicti XI. 'It remains to be seen,' I wrote this time last year, 'whether a talented young side can develop

into a strong schoolboy eleven.' It was pleasing to see that even in the last week of term the side was continuing to improve and achieve the sort of convincing results one felt they were capable of. With batting down to No 9 (Nos 10 and 11 would argue, rightly, that they were never given a chance to show their talents!), an outstanding wicket-keeper, and with an experienced and varied attack, Paul Abraham would be the first to acknowledge his good fortune to captain this side—which he did very capably.

There were, perhaps, three main questions to be answered. Was the lack of a genuine fast bowler going to be a handicap? Not, as it turned out, more than once when it came to the taking of wickets; John Seaver and Andrew Clift usually had the penetration necessary, although the Wycombe game must rule as an exception—a quick bowler would probably have taken the final wicket which held out for half an hour. But the lack of familiarity with pace in the nets was a problem when it came to facing a fast bowler in the middle. In fact, few of the opposition had one either. Brentwoods, who played in the Public Schools XI, bowled rather moderately in his first spell, but Andrew Varley in the School's second innings in the OA match caused a scare and showed up a potential weakness.

The fielding won praise from a number of quarters, and certainly it looked sharp and efficient when wickets were falling; in particular, Abraham, Driver and Griffiths won many good marks. But at times one had the impression that fielding was more a chore than a pleasure. It is, of course, a question of attitude, and the Ridley College, Canada's sparkling performance in the field against an 'A' XI was an eye-opener to what can be achieved by a combined wholehearted approach to what is, after all, one-third of the game's skills. Nevertheless, it is fair to say that on balance the standard of the fielding exceeded expectations.

Thirdly, would individuals do themselves justice? Good fielding should be a joint, team effort; so, in a more subtle way, is batting and bowling—the giving of the strike to the man in form, the backing-up for the quick single, the good calling for a run and so on; the exceptional catch to give the bowler a wicket, the correct placing of the field in any given circumstances (and how good, incidentally, was Abraham in this respect), the gaining of a wicket due to the frustration of a batsman whose best shots have been fielded for no runs, and so on; but the averages, in the last resort, do reflect the individual batting successes of Paul Abraham, John Seaver, Philip Evans and Paul Betts, all of whom averaged over 30, and of Andrew Clift and John Seaver, who took over 80 wickets between them. Chris Driver scored a couple of 50s, but will otherwise be glad to forget his disappointments with the bat this year, Angus McPhail batted stylishly, although he never made the big score one expected from him, and Simon Johnson and Michael Stimpson, like Paul Betts, showed their youthful promise when given the opportunity. One refreshing characteristic of the batting was its positive approach; they were not afraid to hit the ball hard and as a result were an attractive side to watch. On the other hand, the running between the wickets left much to be desired; this feature was the team's greatest weakness. This was surprising, for in most other cricketing respects they were a thinking side with a natural feel for the game, combined with a strong desire to win and led by an exceptionally competitive captain.

As for the bowling, Andrew Clift's 52 wickets was a post-war record. In no less than seven matches he took four wickets or more, a just reward for his ever-improving control of line, length and flight allied to his unusual powers of spin. John Seaver was again what one has come to expect of him,

steady and economical, always hard to get away; he opened with Chris Driver, a much-improved bowler whose figures do not reflect his value. He often had batsmen playing and missing without getting a touch and can fairly claim to have not had his fair share of luck. The same could be said of Richard Griffiths, happier this year as a change bowler. Nevertheless, he was a great trier who refused to get dispirited and whose enthusiastic fielding was a revelation (he took a number of splendid catches at short-leg off Clift's bowling). Anthony Baumann had less opportunities and less success than in previous seasons, but added variety in both senses of the word, and 'Chico' Ghorpade showed his considerable skills in his appearance in the last week of term. It is a compliment to Angus McPhail that one took his competent wicket-keeping for granted; we were not surprised that Worcestershire CCC showed an interest in him.

What, then, were some of the highlights of the season? Abraham's 140 not out v Reading (which won him a Slazenger award) will long be remembered, but his 83 at Brentwood was a more important and testing innings; Seaver's 131 not out v UCS, his first century but surely not his last for the School; Evans's 86 not out v Douai to pull us out of trouble; Ghorpade's 7 for 35 to shoot out Bloxham; Clift's demoralisation of the Incogniti batting. One remembers, too, the staving off of a last match defeat by Abraham and Betts in the OA game. In the same match Clift took his 50th wicket of the season to equal Michael Varley's record. The Berkshire Gentlemen and the Incogniti were beaten for the second consecutive year. The strongest school sides we played were Brentwood, Radley and St Edward's and all produced fine matches with a draw the right result at the end. A major disappointment was the cancellation of the MCC match due to rain.

During the holidays Abraham captained the Berkshire Bantams, for whom Seaver, Clift and Evans also played. Abraham won the Fletcher Cup for topping the batting averages and McPhail won the all-rounder's Morris Cup. Abraham and Clift were awarded the Henderson cricket prizes.

Grateful thanks to Mrs Ashby who undertook the organisation of the excellent teas so efficiently and to her helpers of TASS mothers. 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 Angus McPhail, an extraordinarily good Secretary, and to Ian Thackwray and Andrew Noble for their help in the scoreboard. What with an unbeaten Junior Colts and Minors, too, a vintage year indeed.

The team was: PM Abraham (capt), JP Seaver, RHD Griffiths, AW Baumann, AC Clift, AW McPhail, PH Evans, CDG Driver (full colours), and P Betts, MW Stimpson and SP Johnson (half-colours). M Howat (3), K Ghorpade (3) and DS Mason (1) also played. NHP

First XI Results

Played 16; Won 6; Lost 0; Drawn 8; Abandoned 2.

Newbury GS 9 May (h) Won by 73 runs

Abingdon 157 for 8 dec (McPhail 38, Seaver 36); Newbury 84 (Clift 5 for 19)

Brentwood 12 May (a) Drawn

Abingdon 197 (Abraham 83); Brentwood 166 for 8 (Seaver 4 for 42)

Berkshire Gentlemen 16 May (h) Won by 7 wkts

BGs 186 (NH Payne 76); Abingdon 190 for 3 (Seaver 64 no, Evans 54)

Abingdon CC 19 May (h) Abandoned

Abingdon CC 166 for 7 dec; Abingdon 76 for 3 (Abraham 44)

NH Payne's XI 23 May (h) Abandoned
 Abingdon 152 for 3 (Evans 53, Seaver 45)
 Oratory 30 May (a) Drawn
 Oratory 119 (Clift 4 for 30); Abingdon 102 for 8
 Douai 2 June (h) Drawn
 Abingdon 146 for 7 dec (Evans 86 no); Douai 85 for 6 (Clift 4 for 29)
 Radley College 9 June (h) Drawn
 Radley 228 for 7 dec (Clift 4 for 107); Abingdon 192 for 7 (Betts 37 no,
 Seaver 34, Abraham 33, Driver 31)
 Incogniti 16 June (h) Won by 7 wkts
 Incogniti 96 (Clift 5 for 30); Abingdon 99 for 3
 Reading 23 June (a) Won by 171 runs
 Abingdon 255 for 4 dec (Abraham 140 no, Evans 44, Johnson 36 no);
 Reading 84 (Clift 6 for 12)
 St Edward's 30 June (a) Drawn
 St Edward's 175 (Clift 6 for 49); Abingdon 105 for 6 (Abraham 30)
 RGS High Wycombe 7 July (h) Drawn
 Abingdon 154 for 9 dec (Driver 53); Wycombe 74 for 9
 Magdalen College School 9 July (h) Drawn
 Abingdon 210 for 7 dec (Abraham 80, McPhail 41 no); MCS 112 for 6
 Bloxham 11 July (h) Won by 9 wkts
 Bloxham 88 (Ghorpade 7 for 35); Abingdon 91 for 1 (Evans 33 no)
 University College School 12 July (h) Won by 155 runs
 Abingdon 227 for 5 dec (Seaver 131 no, Evans 36, Betts 34 no); UCS 72
 Old Abingdonians 13 and 14 July (h) Drawn
 OAs 247 for 8 dec (Pike 87, J Shellard 61, Seaver 5 for 91) and 130
 (Seaver 4 for 35); Abingdon 201 for 3 dec (Abraham 77, Driver 62 no)
 and 90 for 6

'A' XI Results

Ridley College, Canada 1 July (h) Drawn
 Ridley 162 (Ghorpade 4 for 41); Abingdon 'A' XI 93 for 7

First XI Averages

Batting Averages (Qualification 6 innings):

	Innings	Not Out	Runs	Highest Score	Av.
PM Abraham	17	1	628	140*	39.2
JP Seaver	17	3	473	131*	33.8
PH Evans	17	2	472	86*	31.5
P Betts	9	4	152	37*	30.4
AW McPhail	16	6	222	41*	22.2
CDG Driver	16	4	224	62*	18.7
SP Johnson	10	1	140	36*	15.5
AW Baumann	8	4	60	28	15.0
MW Stimpson	8	2	85	28	14.2

Bowling Averages (Qualification 6 wickets):

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Av.
K. Ghorpade	30	5	86	12	7.2
AC Clift	209	57	589	52	11.3
JP Seaver	202	67	484	30	16.1
AW Baumann	77	11	273	15	18.2
CDG Driver	135	48	324	12	27.0
RHD Griffiths	78	18	223	8	27.9

The Alligators Cricket Week

Sunshine greeted the first game, against the SOAs, but the fixture with Abingdon CC had to be called off because of heavy rain, we started the Burntwood game late, and the Bantams match was abandoned in mid-after-

noon. One draw, one win, and one defeat was the net result of the week. We batted well enough against the BGs, but when asked to make 270 by the SOAs to win, we failed to respond to the challenge, and against Burntwood our batsmen did not set a big enough target to make a game of it. Our thanks to David Bagshaw for the wickets, to the ladies for their culinary efforts, and to Abingdon CC for the use of their refreshment facilities.

Second XI

In some respects this was a disappointing season. Two of our three victories came in the first three games and a variety of misfortunes meant that we fielded a different side for each of the first ten matches. Had Cowan, Frost and Woolley been fit all term and Wojciechowski not missed four games because of athletics, this would probably have been the great season for which I had hoped at the outset. On the other hand, only the Wantage game was rained off, the side generally played in an entertaining manner and all its members seemed to enjoy themselves—which is the most important thing.

A close game with Newbury and an exciting finish at Brentwood (where Frost's dogged batting saved us from disaster) were followed by the best batting that I have seen from our Second XI for many years, after which Davies, simply by bowling straight, took eight Oratory wickets for six runs. Rain ruined the game at Abingdon Cricket Club, time was against us at Douai, and Radley (not for the first time) set us far too stiff a task for either side to have much chance of winning. We outplayed Magdalen but were ourselves outplayed at Shiplake. Against Reading, a courageously proper declaration made up for tedious batting and gave a splendid finish. The next two games shewed how sadly our bowling lacked penetration, but the season ended on a high note: after RB Davis (51), DJ Ventham (49 not out) and JP Cox (49) had batted splendidly for the OAs, a stand of 101 in 43 minutes between Mason (50) and Woolley (47) made up for a sedate start and gave us a chance of winning, only for JW Dickinson (6 for 43) to come close to snatching victory for the OAs with some characteristically clever bowling.

Only against Shiplake's good bowling did the batting crumble. Wojciechowski had the highest aggregate (249); Frost, Mason, Roberts and Woolley all made at least one good score. This was a side that I had always expected to make runs and usually it made them attractively.

The bowling was disappointing. Cowan (seldom fully fit) and Howat all too often bowled short. Mason took 29 wickets in ten games but, thanks to the congenial weather in which we generally played, never had a really responsive pitch on which to reveal his match-winning qualities and was too easily disheartened. Davies was steady and had the great merit of bowling straight. His 19 wickets cost him under 11 runs each.

Most of the fielding was quite good, but several players tended to droop in warm weather and to endanger their concentration by excessive chatter. Beginning the season without a wicket-keeper, we were rescued by Barton, who learnt the job from scratch and will be good when he acquires the agility needed to cope with the unexpected.

Stimpson too had to learn his job, but he made a good captain, handling his bowling with skill and rightly refusing to risk ruining games through over-cautious declarations. I am very grateful to him, as also to Mason for looking after the kit so well and to JN Westmore (and his deputies, AM Robinson, AG Hillary and M Herring) for scoring.

The twelve regular players were: JP Barton, CJ Baumann, IB Cowan, AN Davies, RJ Frost, MG Howat, DS Mason, PA Noble, TG Roberts, PF Stimpson (Captain), J Wojciechowski and GW Woolley. GN Green, DJ Lanham, MW Stimpson and NJ Tattersfield played twice, and MWJ Carr, ASQ Clift, PD Cook, MJ Hurry, NA Litchfield and CR Lowe once. HTR

Results:

Played 12; Won 3; Lost 3; Drawn 5; Abandoned 1.

- St Bartholomew's, Newbury 9 May (h) Won by 19 runs
Abingdon 118; Newbury 99
- Brentwood School 12 May (a) Lost by one wicket
Abingdon 141 (Frost 64 not out); Brentwood 142 for 9 (Mason 5 for 45)
- Oratory School 16 May (h) Won by 113 runs
Abingdon 179 for 6 dec; Oratory 66 (Davies 8 for 6)
- Abingdon Cricket Club 19 May (a) Match abandoned
Abingdon C.C. 160 for 6 dec; Abingdon 57 for 5
- Douai School 2 June (a) Drawn
Abingdon 138 for 4 dec (Roberts 50); Douai 52 for 9 (Mason 6 for 21)
- Radley College 9 June (a) Drawn
Radley 203 for 6 dec; Abingdon 91 for 6
- Magdalen College School 13 June (h) Won by 67 runs
Abingdon 172 for 5 dec (Wojciechowski 83); Magdalen 105 (Howat 5 for 23)
- Shiplake College 16 June (a) Lost by nine wickets
Abingdon 74; Shiplake 78 for 1
- Reading School 23 June (h) Lost by three wickets
Abingdon 102 for 8 dec; Reading 103 for 7
- Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe 7 July (a) Drawn
Abingdon 149 for 9 dec; High Wycombe 79 for 5
- Bloxam School 11 July (a) Drawn
Abingdon 129 for 7 dec (Wojciechowski 73); Bloxham 104 for 9
- Old Abingdonians 14 July (h) Drawn
Old Abingdonians 218 for 8 dec; Abingdon 198 for 9 (Mason 50)

Third Eleven

This side, a genuine 'club' side with headquarters alternating between the Layng Room and places of social resort nearer the river, was renowned for its excellent team spirit. The eleven were good ambassadors for the School and made many friends with their uninhibited enthusiasm.

There was also a fair degree of cricketing ability. Walters, the cricketing brain of the team, put the Indian sign on most opposing batsmen. Lewington is a very accomplished wicket-keeper. Pallett should score 200 runs in a full season; Clift scored a lot this year. Campbell is a useful discovery; he has a straight bat, bowls well and his temperament is good.

The season ended with a mystery. St Edward's received a 'phone call advising them to field a weakened side. It was not from Mr Payne, Mr Griffin or Mr Owen. Was it from Radley, easy winners the week before? Or does captain Peirson, snapper-up of four prizes on Speech Day, use his formidable brain in unexpected ways?

Fixture-making is a problem. The third elevens of strong cricketing schools (with players who generally get two competitive matches each week) are too good; on the other hand, many schools cannot field a third eleven. Perhaps it would be worth trying the idea of playing some village sides, possibly on Sundays or in the evenings.

CJWO

Results :

Played 9; Won 5; Lost 4.

Oratory Colts 16 May (a) Lost by 65 runs

Oratory 107 (Walters 6 for 37); Abingdon 32

Carmel College 2nd XI 30 May (h) Won by 43 runs

Abingdon 77; Carmel 34 (Walters 6 for 8)

Douai 6 June (a) Won by 87 runs

Abingdon 146 for 4 dec; Douai 59 (Walters 5 for 12)

Cokethorpe 1st XI 16 June (h) Lost by 3 wkts

Abingdon 147 for 6 dec (Williams 40); Cokethorpe 148 for 7 (Walters 6 for 48)

Reading 23 June (a) Won by 6 wkts

Reading 83; Abingdon 84 for 4

Radley Colts 2nd XI (a) Lost by 5 wkts

Abingdon 58; Radley 59 for 5

St Edward's (a) Lost by 1 wkt

Abingdon 39; St Edward's 40 for 9 (Luther 5 for 12)

The Music School 10 July (h) Won by 42 runs

Abingdon 139 for 7 dec (Walters 50); Music School 97

John Mason 1st XI 12 July (h) Won by 50 runs

Abingdon 122 for 9 dec (Roberts 60); John Mason 72

Junior Colts

The team this year, in general, played determined and enthusiastic cricket, and their unbeaten record was well-deserved. Despite their success, however, the team never really overcame a certain lack of confidence which they started the season with, and this accounts, I think, for the large number of draws we had when most were decidedly in our favour. If that dexterous bravura of the team at Shiplake could have been invoked more often (145 runs in 105 minutes), so many more decisive victories could have been achieved, but this is not to disparage the overall standard of the cricket which was most encouraging, and I am sure that a good number of the side will go on to make very capable cricketers in the future.

The strength of the side lay more in its batting and fielding than in the bowling, so that on the dry, firm wickets which we had throughout the season, the team could never really be confident of bowling the other side out, although scores were often well-contained, as was particularly seen in the Oakwood and High Wycombe matches. Fortunately, most of the side were capable of making runs, but so often lost a great many through bad running between the wickets. In Lowes, however, the team had a sound opening bat who produced some valuable innings for the side. He is a good stroke-player of the ball, but had difficulty in finding the gaps in the field towards the end of the season. Allen, with less technique, was an able supporter and made some good scores, as did Lanham at number 3, but his concentration tended to be poor so that he was often out rather early. Lowe is another capable stroke-player who can hit the ball very hard, but was rather impatient at times and got out playing across the line. Hobson played very straight, but lacked power, unlike Hurry, who was the complete reverse, but whose mighty, agricultural blows really produced some match-winning scores. Hallum, always on the look-out for runs but with a limited technique at present, produced a number of valuable innings in the course of the season.

The chief weakness in our bowling was its lack of penetration, although this was not altogether surprising during a dry season with wickets of little life. Hurry bowled very fast throughout the season and achieved a well-

deserved success with 26 wickets. He rarely moved the ball, however, and tended to be inaccurate, but with perseverance I think he should overcome this and go on to make an effective pace bowler. Hobson, without Hurry's speed, however, was more accurate and controlled, and was unlucky not to get more wickets. Hallum produced some good overs of well-flighted off-breaks which often proved most effective in containing batsmen who looked like gaining control. Allen, Lanham and Robinson supported the bowling very usefully, and behind the stumps Morden, after a hesitant start, grew in confidence and became a very capable 'keeper by the end of the season.

Our fielding at the beginning of the season was extremely good indeed, but it did tend to become rather scrappy in the last few matches, although Scibilia was consistently reliable. As Captain for most of the time, Hallum led the team with determination and assurance but he does need to keep a tighter grip on his temperament at critical moments, but, overall, a keen and useful all-round player.

The following played for the team: PD Hallum (Captain), RG Lowes, AJE Allen, DJ Lanham, CR Lowe, CWP Hobson, MJ Hurry, SW Morden, CD Robinson, R Scibilia, JC Barnes, WJ Homewood (3), AD Byrne (1).

RMcK

Results:

Played 11; Won 6; Lost 0; Drawn 5.

Oratory School 16 May (a) Won by 3 wkts

Oratory School 69 (Hallum 3 for 32); Abingdon School 70 for 7

Oakwood School 30 May (h) Drawn

Oakwood School 85 for 6 (Hurry 3 for 22); Abingdon School 60 for 7

Douai School 2 June (a) Drawn

Douai School 104 for 9 (Hurry 3 for 28, Lanham 3 for 23); Abingdon School 104 for 7 (Allen 36)

Bearwood School 6 June (a) Won by 19 runs

Abingdon School 62; Bearwood School 43 (Hobson 4 for 4, Hurry 3 for 14)

Radley College June 9 (h) Won by 7 wkts

Radley College 124 for 6 (dec); Abingdon School 128 for 3 (Lowes 74, Allen 45 no)

Magdalen College School 13 June (h) Won by 117 runs

Abingdon School 151 (Lowes 44, Hallum 37); MCS 34 (Hurry 3 for 2, Hallum 3 for 5)

Shiplake College 16 June (a) Won by 3 wkts

Shiplake College 143 for 8 (dec) (Hurry 3 for 28); Abingdon School 145 for 7 (Hurry 33, Lanham 31)

Reading School 23 June (h) Drawn

Abingdon School 138 for 8 (dec) (Lowes 59 no); Reading School 94 for 8 (Hallum 5 for 22)

Burford School June 30 (h) Drawn

Burford School 80 (Allen 4 for 3, Robinson 3 for 23); Abingdon School 79 for 6 (Lowe 37 not out)

RGS, High Wycombe 7 July (h) Won by 3 wkts

RGS, High Wycombe (120 for 6 dec); Abingdon School 121 for 7 (Hurry 36)

Bloxham School 11 July (a) Drawn

Abingdon School 141 (Hallum 57); Bloxham School 95 for 9 (Hobson 5 for 27, Hurry 3 for 15)

Junior Eleven

It is difficult to know what to write of a team that carried so much promise, and included so many cricketers with excellent prospects for the future, but in the end yielded such disappointing results.

If we look for the reasons for the side's relative failure, we must start with the internal weaknesses. Firstly, we never managed to find a solid opening pair. Time after time, half the team were out for a low score, and the side had to be rescued by the tail-enders. Secondly, our bowlers generally were much too erratic and lacking in penetration. Of the opening bowlers, only David Driver achieved any real consistency of line and length. Thirdly, and perhaps most important of all, our batsmen never learnt to take their chances and punish the bad ball. If only we had managed to hit even half the long hops outside the leg stump, we might have won all our matches. As it was, we were treated to a succession of hopeful swishes across the line, which almost always missed by a mile, and the scoring rate was painfully slow.

However, I must add in justice to the players that the conditions under which we played this year were not good. In the first place, we lost a number of our best players through injury. The most serious loss was Rex Harmer, who because of an injury to his back was only able to play in the first two games. In the second place, the repeated absence of two or three players at Dolgoed during a crucial period in the term made a very obvious difference to the performance and morale of the side.

Turning to the players, our most successful and consistent batsman was Miles Hitchcock. His strength lay in the fact that he always had plenty of time to play his shots, and could steer them clear of the fielders. He played several innings of great character, and saved us from disaster more than once. George Gilbert and David Driver both looked very promising, but they suffered from lack of size and power. They will both score a lot of runs in the future. Noah Franklin looks impressive on the offside, but must improve his leg shots. Andrew Young is a powerful hitter of the ball, but has not yet learnt to decide quickly whether to go forward or back. Andrew Evans can also hit the ball very hard on the leg, and has a very good straight bat if he decides to use it.

Our opening bowlers, Andrew Young and Martin Hills, were both inclined to be too erratic. David Driver maintained a better length and direction, and got a lot of pace off the wicket. Michael Hyman was a mystery. He has a good, economical action, and when he is on form drops the ball on an immaculate length. But all too often he gets disheartened and loses length and direction. Andrew Evans kept a tidy length and flighted the ball well. George Gilbert is an interesting prospect for the future. He bowls left-arm off-breaks, and is developing a good variation of pace. Andrew Hillary and Iain Holding could become effective slow left-arm bowlers, but at present they lack variety and experience.

Carl Sheldon kept wicket very competently, and at times showed considerable flair.

Other players who made useful contributions include Peter Eccles and Adrian Johnson (who came from the Minors to save our faces against Radley).

In spite of the mediocre results, this has been a happy season, and a rewarding one, I hope, for the players. Andrew Young has been a most co-operative and hard-working Captain, who, I am sure, has learnt a lot from his experiences. I should like to thank him for all he has done.

I cannot close without thanking the Rev Hugh Pickles, whose cheerful and invaluable advice (and Mars Bars!) were much appreciated by everyone.

DCT

Results:

- Oratory School 16 May (a) Tie
Abingdon 72, Oratory 72 (Hyman 5 for 24)
Burford GS 19 May (a) Won by 106 runs
Abingdon 125; Burford 19 (Hills 3 for 2, Harmer 3 for 5)
Douai 2 June (h) Won by 7 runs
Abingdon 111 (Hitchcock 33); Douai 104 (Evans 3 for 10, Driver 3 for 14, Young 3 for 25)
Bulmershe 4 June (h) Won by 17 runs
Abingdon 89 for 9; Bulmershe 72 (Evans 3 for 20)
Bearwood College 6 June (a) Drawn
Bearwood 129 for 6 dec; Abingdon 49 for 8.
Radley College 9 June (a) Lost by 6 wkts
Abingdon 103 (Young 52); Radley 104 for 4
Magdalen CS 14 June (a) Lost by 3 wkts
Abingdon 70; Magdalen 71 for 7
Reading School 23 June (a) Lost by 66 runs
Reading 97 (Gilbert 3 for 10); Abingdon 31
Radley College 26 June (a) Lost by 9 wkts
Abingdon 85 for 7; Radley 88 for 1
Oxford School 27 June (h) Lost by 3 wkts
Abingdon 82 for 7 dec; Oxford 83 for 7
RGS, High Wycombe 7 July (a) Won by 14 runs
Abingdon 110 (Hitchcock 36); RGS 96 (Driver 6 for 13)
Bloxham School 11 July (h) Lost by 5 wkts
Abingdon 75; Bloxham 79 for 5
The Juniors 2nd XI played one school match against Radley College, and narrowly lost a very well-fought match. Result:
Abingdon 87; Radley 88 for 8 (Clift 5 for 17) Lost by 2 wkts

Minors

There was little depth of talent this year, and I was expecting a lean season, only to be pleasantly surprised: every match was won but one, and in that it was the Captain's arithmetic that failed us! More surprisingly, each of the matches was dominated by a different player, and one of the best cricketers, John Slingsby, failed to achieve one good innings. There was, therefore, much character about this team, and tight bowling, by the spinners mainly, and fielding made up for the inadequacies of much of the batting.

Adrian Johnson made a good job of being Captain and wicketkeeper, and looked a most promising batsman—until he got out! Like Slingsby, he has a good technique but finds it very difficult to score runs at a reasonable rate. Tim Clift started most promisingly for a First-Former, but lost confidence and started playing some bad shots later; his bowling was always dangerous if liberties were taken, and he is learning to vary his attack very well. Nigel Marsh and Simon Hobbs also won their 'caps'—Nigel for his sensible and sound batting, Simon for his action and his wickets rather than his accuracy! Both have tremendous potential as all-rounders.

Of the remainder, Nigel Talboys won the first match almost unaided, but failed to adapt to the quicker wickets later. Philip Spittles and Mark Andrews have potential as batsmen, but were really chosen for their fielding; both took fine, crucial catches to justify their selection. The remaining three worked very hard at their cricket, and made tremendous progress in three months, so that each played an important rôle in one of the later matches.

Chris Wyatt and Robert Harries looked the best of the other players but fell short in batting and fielding respectively, and it was not a distinguished

Second Team; perhaps it was a good thing three fixtures fell through! I am very grateful to the Rev Hugh Pickles for his skilled help in the nets, which enabled me to give some worthwhile cricket to a larger number of boys.

MW

The team was: ARA Johnson (Captain), JS Slingsby, TPC Clift, NA Marsh, SJ Hobbs, MR Taylor, NJ Talboys, JBF Jones, PG Spittles, MD Andrews, SP Hunt.

Second XI: PM Cowlett (Captain), CJ Wyatt, RS Harries, MR Wise, JR Benjamin, GP Alcock, M Owen, BR Hodgkinson, SJ Brouard, R Allen, RJ Little.

Results :

Played 6; Won 5; Lost 0; Drew 1.

New College School 30 May (a) Won by 6 wkts

New College School 62 (Talboys 5 for 8); Abingdon 63 for 4 (Talboys 37 not out)

Bearwood College 6 June (a) Won by 77 runs

Abingdon 129 for 6 dec (Clift 50 not out, Marsh 30 not out); Bearwood 52 (Clift 5 for 9, Slingsby 3 for 5)

St Hugh's School 16 June (a) Won by 4 wkts

St Hugh's 44 (Taylor 3 for 9); Abingdon 46 for 6

Brockhurst School 27 June (h) Drawn

Abingdon 121 for 8 dec; Brockhurst 47 for 8 (Hobbs 5 for 11)

Magdalen College School 30 June (h) Won by 65 runs

Abingdon 84 for 5 dec (Taylor 31 not out); Magdalen 19 (Taylor 5 for 9, Hobbs 4 for 7)

Cothill House School 4 July (h) Won by 19 runs

Abingdon 65; Cothill 46 (Hobbs 4 for 13, Jones 3 for 6)

'A' team matches :

Millbrook House School 2 June (h) Lost by 3 wkts

Abingdon 37; Millbrook House 38 for 7 (Hobbs 3 for 14)

Carmel College Junior School 3 June (a) Won by 34 runs

Abingdon 96 for 6 dec; Carmel 62 (Marsh 5 for 6)

Other matches :

Carmel College Junior School 3 June (a) Tied

Abingdon 3rd XI 54; Carmel 2nd XI 54 (Findlay 4 for 15, R Allen 4 for 15)

Brockhurst School 27 June (h) Won by 74 runs

Abingdon 2nd XI 108 for 9 dec; Brockhurst 2nd XI 34 (Cowlett 5 for 3)

John Mason School 9 July (a) Lost by 5 wkts

Abingdon 2nd XI 52 for 8; John Mason 1st XI 56 for 5 (Cowlett 4 for 16)

Rowing

In terms of results the Boat Club has had an unsuccessful season, but this is not to say that it has been either unenjoyable or unprofitable. Our First Four, handicapped by illness, rowed well and fought out some close races. Their best day was undoubtedly at the Reading Junior Regatta when they rowed excellently, only to be beaten in the Final of their event by two really good crews from Maidenhead and Pangbourne. We had great hopes for the National Schools Regatta, but illness struck again and the crew had to withdraw. Given the determination and fitness, this crew could do very well next year. The Colts VIII never came up to expectations, although they rowed hard: if a little more of their enthusiasm had been devoted to the acquisi-

Mrs Thatcher's Visit to Abingdon School

1. Lifting the Turf

Clean suits, combed hair, polished glass and cut grass. The School awaited the Secretary of State for Education and Science, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, MP. By lifting a turf she would signify the start of the new Dining Hall's existence. The old legend of Abingdon School that one day a great new eating-house would arise was being fulfilled, though many had not believed it until the very last moment.

The whole School gathered expectantly at the back of School House. Our resident nonagenarian, Mr Rudd, came to sample the excitement in the carnival atmosphere of that hot July afternoon. The band played while we waited; ties were loosened from their strangleholds as the well-tryed tunes floated through the air. The Head of School stood easy with a new spade substituted for a rifle. The Press arrived fully equipped, one of the photographers getting a light-hearted welcome, in appreciation of his style of dress. Then 'Hello Dolly' was played by Mr Robbins's musical ensemble; it was the signal that our Guest of Honour had arrived. Trooper Clayton stood to attention; ties were straightened.

Mrs Thatcher, dressed in yellow and accompanied by the Headmaster, the Chairman of the Governors, Mr Airey Neave and others had arrived to a burst of applause. She looked at the plans after speaking to a few people, then the Headmaster talked briefly, adding the final chapter to the Dining Room saga. The original intention was that Mrs Thatcher would lay a foundation stone but building difficulties had made it necessary for her to to start digging the foundations instead. A carefully prepared square of turf lay waiting for the ceremonial spade. It was duly removed by Mrs Thatcher to the applause of the School and clicking cameras. Then she went on to cut a turf of her own and with a little help from her husband she at last removed her own sod, triumphantly declaring: 'I don't know what significance can be read into this but let it be said that the Secretary of State for Education cut deeper than the man who prepared the first turf.' Mrs Thatcher then went on to say how much she enjoys being part of something and starting something new. We must be as thankful, she said, to our predecessors for building the present School as will future members of the School be grateful for our efforts in making a new Dining Hall. Tradition is important and we all help to make it.

The two youngest boys in the School, twins Mark and Adrian Round, presented Mrs Thatcher with a bouquet of flowers. The job was done, so the Minister left with the Headmaster and party for Lacies Court. The School dispersed, leaving the garden in peace, a peace soon to be shattered in October by mechanical diggers and pneumatic drills. Meanwhile a small rectangle of ground waits, patiently.

The turf-cutting was followed by tea on Lacies Court lawn for the Guest of Honour and other VIPs. Various members of the School were also invited to make intelligent conversation and eat the food. Between declining sandwiches and cakes ('If I was to eat everything I was offered . . . I would be absolutely enormous!') Mrs Thatcher revealed that she normally did her visiting on a Friday, calling on up to eight or nine schools. She felt that this had made her something of an expert in sounding out the atmosphere of the schools that she visited.

The pumpkin hour drew near and Mrs Thatcher, together with the other guests, left to prepare for the Prize-giving marathon. Mrs Anderson was left

in the garden wondering how she could serve strawberry flan up for breakfast. . . .

2. The Prize-Giving

The presence of a very large and very attractive flower arrangement on the front of the stage and numerous flags and banners adorning the walls set the special occasion atmosphere in the Abbey Hall. There was also an unusual but pleasant abundance of button-holes and gaily-coloured summer hats among the members of the audience.

In opening his annual report, when invited to do so by the Chairman of Governors, the Headmaster pointed out that there was one great advantage in having such a distinguished and attractive Guest of Honour as Mrs Thatcher—no one was going to pay much attention to him. He spoke briefly of the unbeaten cricket and badminton teams and the School's promising athletics and cross-country clubs. He mentioned the drama revival, and the music scene, at the same time saying thank you and farewell to Mr Le Fleming as he leaves for Birmingham. The prize for the best excuse for a day off school, he originally thought, would go to Robin Chapman who was the youngest finalist in the National Scrabble Championships. However, in the last few weeks of term this excuse had been thoroughly beaten by Simon West, a first-former, who was at the time in the Lake District spending six weeks acting in the film of 'Swallows and Amazons'. The Headmaster went on to talk briefly about Ten Tors, the School's overseas link with Mayo, and the new buildings. He thanked Mrs Thatcher for starting the work on the new Dining Hall and paid tribute to the members of staff who were leaving at the end of the school year.

Sir George Sinclair then introduced the Guest of Honour, Mrs Thatcher, to the audience and called upon her to distribute this year's prizes. Having done so, Mrs Thatcher then made a special presentation to Mr Gray, in recognition of his forty-two years and two terms of teaching in the School. The presentation was a Royal Doulton dinner service, of which one plate was presented to Mr Gray on behalf of the School Governors. Mrs Thatcher then congratulated Mr Gray and all the other prize-winners, especially John Evans, who managed to get several members of staff back to School four days early in January for an English seminar. 'If you can get people to work for four days without pay,' said Mrs Thatcher, 'there is a great future for you in industry.' She then went on to address the audience.

The main theme of Mrs Thatcher's speech was that Britain needed all its good schools. She said that direct grant schools had often come under attack. She disagreed with most of their critics and thought that there was always a place for good direct grant schools in the British educational system—as there was for good schools of any type. 'Any school which is doing a magnificent job should be encouraged and enabled to do so.'

Education must encourage people to think for themselves and give them a factual knowledge to build on. Academic knowledge must be used to solve human problems. Mrs Thatcher said that we had to break down that idea of the stereotype and try and look at all of us as people with the same characteristics, with similar wishes; to feel we matter in the scheme of things. She thought that this was perhaps the most difficult thing to do. 'But in a school of this kind you have a chance to do this because education does not start or end with lessons. You are learning now how to deal with other

people, to react to their requirements, gifts and talents. This is particularly true in the case of boarders who have to learn to live together.'

Mrs Thatcher's speech, thirty minutes in length and delivered without a single note other than two quotations from Disraeli and Byron, reflected the views of many parents in the audience and was warmly received. At the end Mr Airey Neave, MP, presented Mrs Thatcher with a biography of King George III, as a token of the School's thanks to her for spending so much of her valuable time with us.

Governors, masters and wives met Mrs Thatcher less formally at the sherry party which followed in the Council Chamber, and it was time for her to leave. Outside, the English summer had turned to rain; quick farewells, a car slipped into gear, then disappeared through the misty curtain of rain. Inside, glasses were emptied, opinions of the visitor were exchanged, many were unaware of her departure. The room slowly emptied. It was all over.

Rowing—continued

tion of technique they would have achieved the extra 'run' they so badly needed. It must also be added that they were giving away a stone a man to other Colts VIII's, a handicap which is always difficult to overcome. The Junior Colts VIII was also a light crew compared with the opposition they encountered. In the eight they therefore fared badly despite good technical work and enthusiasm. The stern four reached the semi-final of their event at Chalmore and the Final at Wallingford. It is to be hoped that in a year or two they will all have increased in size. A large number of Junior Colts started rowing this season and many show considerable promise. Amongst them are several who look likely candidates for the engine-rooms of crews in future seasons.

Sculling has increased greatly owing to the larger fleet of boats available. A sculling competition at the end of term was a great success and showed the value of work in small boats. The standard was commendably high and several boys caught the eye of the 'selectors'.

In conclusion, we congratulate the many OAs observed rowing this season at Henley and elsewhere, particularly members of last year's four. Derwent King earned membership of Leander by rowing in their Junior VIII; Ed Lilley has rowed for, at or with Kingston; Nigel Pollard, who had to turn down an invitation to join the Leander squad, has his eyes fixed on great things for the future; and this year's Captain, Peter Scott, has been rowing with Abingdon RC and Wallingford RC this season. Perhaps we shall see an OA four at the next Olympics!

Finally, we are sorry to bid farewell to Mr Moody and to thank him for his enthusiasm and coaching during the last few years. We hope that he will be able to introduce his new school to rowing, even if he has to dig a 2,000-metre course himself!

RGM

Crews:

First Four: Bow CM Jones; 2 S Walker; 3 JD Griffin; Str PR Forsythe; Cox D. Eccles.

Competed at Wallingford, Reading Junior (Final), Reading Town Regattas. Stroke and 3 competed in a pair at Reading Town Regatta.

Colts Eight : Bow MH Longdin; 2 AJ Capel; 3 NJ Tressider; 4 GAN Pott; 5 AJ Thresher; 6 PR Clark; 7 PC Moore; Str RJ Price; Cox MT Rivers. Competed N.S.R. and Reading Town Regatta.

The stern four competed at Chalmore and Wallingford (semi-final), in one event; bow four had similar results in another.

Junior Colts Eight : Bow JA Heard; 2 IM Sealy; 3 J Clarke; 4 M Holding; 5 JK Dewar; 6 MR Beers; 7 T Walker; Str NR Lemoine; Cox RJ Short.

Competed at NSR and Reading Junior.

In fours at Chalmore and Wallingford. The 'A' four reached the Final at Chalmore.

Sculling Competition : Senior Sculls—CM Jones; Junior Colts—J Clarke; Under 14—R Tauwhare.

The Eason Goblet for the House gaining the most points was won by Blacknall.

Tennis

First VI

My pessimistic expectations of the season's performances by the various teams were soon changed to those of optimism. I must therefore begin with an apology to the 1st VI, not for anything said, but for my thoughts of impending failure. As a result of pre-season practices, and for the first match or two, I anticipated a lean season, but as each fixture passed, the team settled to produce better and better tennis. Out of their fourteen fixtures, they scored nine good wins and two very close losses, and their play was memorable, except perhaps for the last two matches, for the self-control displayed in difficult situations.

The First VI team members were drawn from : JMG Taylor, IL Manning, CDN Morris, N Jefferson, AR Mushens, AN Plant and TJ Gresswell.

Second VI

The season was again short on fixtures, due to cancellation by our opponents and the lack of Second VI teams to play. Although they only managed one win, the losses were all by one point, and in particular those against Leighton Pk School and MCS could, with an equal share of the luck, have been good wins. Nevertheless, the experience was good and can only help next year.

The Second VI team members were drawn from : JH Bosworth, TJ Gresswell, PD Cook, APS Luto, P Kafka, RA Woods and SR Greenwood.

Junior VIs

The U16 and U15 teams both won half their fixtures and the U14s lost the only two they had. The wins were good and an encouragement for future seasons, whilst the losses were useful in that they highlighted weaknesses which must be worked on before next year.

The U16s were from : MJ Abrines, N Shephard, G Walters, NP Kay, SF Wakeford, S Wilson, R Balkwill and CJ Madin.

The U15s were from : SF Wakeford, CJ Madin, DA Blackburn, NP Kay, AL Knibbs, PM Aston, RJ Kermode, JTK Whittington, PJ Alder and PM Mills.

The U14s were from : DA Blackburn, J Hester, C Reid, JJ Stephen, PG Spittles, CJP Wyatt and MS King.

Competitions

Buckley Cup (Open Competition)

This again attracted a good entry (48) and the standard of play in the closing rounds was good. At the semi-final stage, the Walters family had two of the four contestants, but both were eliminated, the eventual winner, JMG Taylor, beating IL Manning in the final.

Intermediate (Open competition for 4th and 3rd Forms)

Here again, a good number (32) entered and some good matches ensued. The final was contested by SF Wakeford and MJ Abrines, the latter, a recruit to the club this season, winning in three sets.

Junior (Closed competition for 1st and 2nd form club members)

All junior members were involved in this competition and some of the matches were closely fought. In the final MJ King beat CJP Wyatt in the best of three fiercely contested sets. I regret that MJ King lost his place in the U14s owing to a misunderstanding—your performance in this competition has, however, been noted!

Colours and Officials

Full colours were awarded to JMG Taylor and IL Manning, to complete the half-colours gained last year. Half-colours went to JH Bosworth, N Jefferson, CDN Morris, AN Plant, AR Mushens and TJ Gresswell.

I would like to thank JH Bosworth for his captaincy and JMG Taylor as secretary of the club during the season, and, in addition, all those who at various times accepted the occasional captaincy of their teams.

I am grateful yet again for the help from Messrs RCB Coleman, JC Harcourt, CET Moore and HJP Green, and also for the coaching of Mr J Gardner and Mr RJ Lay. We look forward to seeing the latter two gentlemen on the courts next year, and extend to Mr Harcourt our good wishes for the future in his new post, and to Mr Green the hope that he has an enjoyable year in Australia.

We are fortunate this year in not losing too many team members as leavers, but our best wishes go to JH Bosworth and TJ Gresswell, hoping that they continue with their tennis.

JEV

Athletics

In last year's notes I commented on poor results with a weak team and hoped that those younger boys who had to step in would form a strong nucleus in later years. This to a great extent came true. Again we relied on certain athletes, eg AC Atkinson and J Wojciechowski, to compete in several events, but there was more depth this year, and with the advent of more matches for the Colts came several new faces from the Fifth Form and below, and for the final match at Eton 33 boys competed. The field events showed welcome improvements with Mr Crawford teaching the basic principles, and if boys work hard at practising the techniques—it is not just brute strength that will propel the shot, discus or javelin—then the results will come. MR Freeman and JM Evans are two who deserve mention in this respect.

We enjoyed good weather and no injury problems (for a change), and this year could use the RAF Abingdon track on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The

facilities there were good and we in fact held the King Alfred's match there, but we found that it was a little far for attracting spectators and transporting equipment, and we hope to set up a base on Lower Field next summer. As can be seen from the results below, there was a varied programme of matches with teams going to Area Championships and Open Meetings as well as the inter-school fixtures. Apart from these there were the 5-Star Award Scheme, Sports Day and the Club Championships, which were all organised internally.

In the inter-school matches the seniors won against 4 out of 5 opponents. Losing the Cheltenham match was unfortunate as originally we were informed that we had won. The Colts won 1 out of 4. In the area events there was some success with the team finishing first overall in North Berks Championship and 14 boys then gained selection and competed for North Berks (as opposed to none last year). One of these, Atkinson, earned selection for Berkshire and competed in the All-England Championships. Next year we compete in Oxfordshire, where the standard is lower, and we hope for more county representatives then.

Results:

- Oxford City AC Schools Medley Relays Thursday, 10th May
Colts 6th; seniors (two teams) 4th and 6th
- v King Alfred's (h) Saturday, 12th May
Colts won 62-58; seniors won 70½-58½
- North Berks Schools AA Championships (Radley) Saturday, 19th May
Winners: SD Cameron U/13 200m, A Murdock U/17 100m and 200m,
PS Ashby U/17 Javelin, JD Halliday U/20 1500m, BC Waters U/20
3,000m, J Wojciechowski U/20 Long Jump, AC Atkinson U/20 Triple
Jump
- v Cheltenham and Radley (at Cheltenham) Thursday, 24th May
Colts: 1st Cheltenham 130, 2nd Radley 87, 3rd Abingdon 78
Seniors: 1st Cheltenham 112, 2nd Abingdon 106, 3rd Radley 89
- v St Edward's (a) Wednesday, 30th May
Seniors won 75-68
- v Bloxham (h) Wednesday, 6th June
Colts lost 62-65; seniors won 65-62
- Berkshire Schools AA Championships (Bracknell) Saturday, 9th June
Winners: AH Courtenay U/20 400m, CF Vernon U/20 5,000m
Runners-up: PS Ashby U/17 Javelin, BC Waters U/20 5,000m, AC
Atkinson U/20 Triple Jump
- Eton Open Meeting: v Eton, Harrow, Wellington and St George's,
Weybridge Saturday, 23rd June
Winners: SD Cameron U/15 High Jump, A Murdock U/17 100m and
200m, JP Gotelee U/17 800m, MG Wartke U/17 Long Jump and
Triple Jump, U/17 4 x 100m Relay, AC Atkinson U/20 110m Hurdles
and High Jump
- All-England Schools AA Champs (Bebington, Cheshire) Saturday, 7th July
AC Atkinson U/20 Triple Jump 10th
- London Athletic Club Schools Meeting Fri/Sat/13/14th July
AC Atkinson U/20 Triple Jump 1st, A Murdock U/17 100m 3rd
In the 5-Star Award Scheme the following achieved top grades:
5-Star: AC Atkinson, SD Cameron, A Murdock
4-Star: PNC Gale, IS Cullen, GA Light, AG Morfey, SD Napier-Munn,
M Owen, R Tourret, MD Andrews, GN Green, RC Hingley, J Madgwick,
MG Wartke

Twenty-seven boys achieved some grade this year; also AC Atkinson gained a 5-Star grade in the Decathlon.

The Club Championships were again held at the end of term, but after a busy season only a few boys attempted several events with the scores well

down on the winning 229 of last year. The winner, a Third Former, was well rewarded for much hard work, especially in the field events.

1st GA Light 144; 2nd DG Light 133, 3rd MG Wartke 129, 4th MR Freeman 122, 5th AH Courtenay 97, 6th GN Green 89.

The Captain of Athletics was AJ Madin and the Secretary was DC Hares, both for the second time. Full colours were awarded to AC Atkinson, who had a quite outstanding season, and half colours to JD Halliday, SK Fabes, MR Freeman, A Murdock, MG Wartke, and PS Ashby.

Counting all meetings, the following represented the School at senior level: AC Atkinson (10 times), ND Francis, SK Fabes (8), DC Hares, AH Courtenay, JD Halliday (7), AJ Madin, J Wojciechowski (6), JM Evans, KPM Taylor (5), MR Freeman (4), A Murdock, CF Vernon (3), A Urban-Smith, BC Waters, JP Gotelee (2), and PS Ashby (1).

Thirty-six boys competed for the School for the colts or other teams, the most regular being: A Murdock (8 times), PS Ashby (7), DP Lynn, RA Balkwill (6), MG Wartke, GN Green (5), JP Gotelee, RC Hingley, GA Light, RM Tourret (4), MRD Waterfall, IS Cullen, DG Light, SD Cameron (3) and JV Parsons, RG Geere, SR Martin, M Owen, AG Morfey, PNC Gale, G Mitchell, CJH Wort, J Madgwick (2).

Sports Days

The senior sports, held on 13th June at the RAF Abingdon track, featured the full-time athletes but few others besides, making most of the events rather dull and colourless. The junior sports on 2nd July were switched to Waste Court Field, and, with each house fully represented, were highly competitive and provided much interest for spectators. A very close contest, which appeared on the day to give a 5-point win to Bennett, in fact, resulted after closer scrutiny in a 4-point win for Tesdale—my apologies to all.

INTER-HOUSE COMPETITION

	Bennett (B)	Blacknall (K)	Reeves (R)	Tesdale (T)
6/VI	85 (2)	101 (1)	45 (4)	69 (3)
4/5	11 (4)	37 (3)	107 (1)	70 (2)
2/3	143 (1)	86 (3)	95 (2)	84 (4)
1	109 (2)	104 (3)	87 (4)	129 (1)
overall	348 (2)	328 (4)	334 (3)	352 (1)

Event	Winner	Time/ dist.	Second	Time/ dist.
100m				
6/VI	AC Atkinson (T)	13.1	JM Evans (B)	14.2
4/5	A Murdock (R)	12.0	GN Green (R)	12.7
2/3	RM Tourret (B)	13.2	D. J. Crook (T)	13.6
1	J Madgwick (K)	13.6	RS Drew (T)	13.8
200m				
6/VI	ND Francis (R)	25.6	MR Crofton Briggs (K)	27.5
4/5	A Murdock (R)	25.1	RA Balkwill (R)	26.1
2/3	RM Tourret (B)	26.9	GA Light (B)	30.0
1	SD Cameron (T)	29.5	J Madgwick (K)	30.9
400m				
6/VI	AH Courtenay (K)	53.8	MR Freeman (K)	59.1
4/5	GN Green (R)	56.0	JV Parsons (R)	61.8
2/3	PN John (K)	63.1	DG Light (B)	64.3
1	SD Napier Munn (T)	69.5	AJF Robertson (T)	72.5

800m

6/VI	JD Halliday (T)	2:11.0	SK Fabes (B)	2:15.5
4/5	JP Gotelee (T)	2:11.0	RC Hingley (K)	2:15.2
2/3	IS Cullen (T)	2:19.4	M Owen (B)	2:28.8
1	SD Napier-Munn (T)	2:41.1	AJF Robertson (T)	2:49.8

1500m

6/VI	SK Fabes (B)	5:22.8		
4/5	JP Gotelee (T)	4:45.6		
2/3	IS Cullen (T)	5:01.2	M Owen (B)	5:16.3
1	SD Cameron (T)	5:44.1	AR Thomas (B)	5:52.1

High Jump

6/VI	AC Atkinson (T)	4' 7" /1.39m	SG Boatright (B)	4' 5" /1.35m
4/5	MG Wartke (T)	4' 5" /1.35m	PM Evans (B)	4' 0" /1.22m
2/3	MC Besant (R)	4' 7½" /1.40m	CJH Wort (K)	4' 4" /1.32m
1	SD Cameron (T)	4' 4" /1.32m	GJ Hoskin (B)	4' 3" /1.29m

Long Jump

6/VI	SK Fabes (B)	16' 8" /5.08m	SG Boatright (B)	15' 8" /4.77m
4/5	MG Wartke (T)	19' 6½" /5.95m	A Murdock (R)	18' 7" /5.69m
2/3	IS Cullen (T)	15' 1" /4.60m	MD Andrews (B)	14' 7½" /4.47m
1	PRJ Taylor (R)	12' 11" /3.94m	J Madgwick (K)	12' 9" /3.88m

Triple Jump

6/VI	AC Atkinson (T)	38' 10" /11.84m	ND Francis (R)	35' 11½" /10.96m
4/5	PS Ashby (R)	38' 2½" /11.64m	CS Orchard (R)	31' 9" /9.67m
2/3	GA Light (B)	29' 5" /8.97m	G Mitchell (T)	29' 1" /8.88m
1	PDJ Ashby (T)	28' 3" /8.63m	MJ Dacre (B)	27' 5" /8.35m

Javelin

6/VI	AW McPhail (K)	99' 5" /30.30m	JN Oakley (K)	98' 11" /30.15m
4/5	PS Ashby (R)	110' 11" /33.80m	CJ Bartlett (T)	77' 10" /22.73m
2/3	SJ Hobbs (B)	97' 3" /29.64m	CJH Wort (K)	90' 1" /27.42m
1	TD Robson (B)	68' 2" /20.78m	G Rogers (K)	66' 1" /20.15m

Discus

6/VI	MR Fr'man (K)	94' 11" /28.93m	ND Francis (R)	87' 10" /26.76m
4/5	IR Lucas (K)	43' 10" /13.35m		
2/3	BR H'kinson (R)	62' 9" /19.13m	RA Joy (K)	61' 11" /18.87m
1	RS Drew (T)	59' 6" /18.13m	MJ Clarke (B)	53' 8" /16.35m

Shot Put

6/VI	JM Evans (B)	29' 8" /9.05m	MR Freeman (K)	29' 4" /8.96m
4/5	JP Gotelee (T)	29' 2½" /8.90m	JV Parsons (R)	23' 5" /7.13m
2/3	DG Light (B)	28' 2" /8.56m	GA Light (B)	26' 3" /8.00m
1	G Rogers (K)	27' 6" /8.38m	NG Williams (B)	21' 11" /6.67m

NAFP

Swimming

There has been a great deal of splashing and shouting in the pool and some serious swimming. A better blend of the two sides of swimming will be aimed at next year.

The one match against King Alfred's, Wantage, provided competition for the keen swimmers. The juniors did very well to win, but the senior team lost, mainly due to lack of numbers.

A junior team went to Bishop's Stortford and fared a little better than in previous years. Most of the boys in this team will have two more years in the age group and so could do well in the future.

The Swimming Sports took on a new form this year and 46 competitors took part in first- and second-string races. If House competition is to mean anything there must be equal numbers in the teams, and this year this was achieved. There was some good swimming particularly by Mitchell, Larsen, Hodkinson, Johnston and McGreevy.

Mrs Gray presented the prizes most graciously and I would like to thank her and her husband for their unflinching support over the years.

No mention of swimming would be complete without sincere thanks to Mr Ron Coleman for his help in looking after the pool and teaching boys the finer points of the art. Abingdon swimming owes him a lot and we shall miss him greatly next year.

The fact that 21 people won life-saving awards indicates that there is plenty of swimming talent. Perhaps next year more people will swim with greater purpose, and find a new sense of achievement in so doing.

DGC

Senior Events:

Backstroke 100yds 'A': Taylor, 1min 23sec; AJ Allen; S Walker.
Backstroke 100yds 'B': CJ Scott, 1min 27.8sec; Oakley; PD Cook.
Breaststroke 100yds 'A': Johnston, 1min 25.6 sec; Waterfall; Polkinhorne.
Breaststroke 100yds 'B': Forsythe, 1min 26.6sec; DA Thomas.
Butterfly 50yds 'A': McGreevy, 35.2sec; CM Jones; AJ Allen.
Butterfly 50yds 'B': Johnston, 37.8sec; Scott; Crofton-Briggs.
Freestyle 100yds 'A': McGreevy, 1min 6.2sec; CM Jones; Sloss.
Freestyle 100yds 'B': Forsythe, 1min 17.1sec; S Walker; Scott.
Breaststroke 250yds: Crofton-Briggs, 4min 3sec; CM Jones; Freeman.
Diving: Freeman and Scott (equal); Allen and Forsythe (equal).
Relay (4 x 25): Blacknall House; Bennett House; Reeves House.

Junior Events:

Backstroke 50yds 'A': Larsen, 36sec; Hester; Joy.
Backstroke 50 yds 'B': Mitchell, 37.5sec; Hoggarth; Holdaway.
Breaststroke 50yds 'A': Hodkinson, 36.8sec; Furley; Freeman.
Breaststroke 50yds 'B': A Johnson, 45.1sec; Bingham; GA Light.
Butterfly 50yds 'A': Hodkinson, 33.8sec; Mitchell; Spittles.
Butterfly 50yds 'B': Larsen, 36.9sec; Hunt; Hester.
Freestyle 50yds 'A': Larsen, 31.4sec; Hester; Malein.
Freestyle 50yds 'B': Hodkinson, 29sec; Mitchell; Furley.
Diving: Gnapp; McCreery; Olliffe.
Relay (4 x 25): Reeves House; Bennett House; Tesdale House.

The Green Cup for House swimming went to Reeves House (115 points). Second place was won by Blacknall House (87½ points) and third place by Bennett House (84½ points). Tesdale House gained 74 points.

The Blackburn Cup for the 250yds race went to M Crofton-Briggs, the Freestyle Cup to RL McGreevy and the Elliott Cup for the highest individual points to K Larsen.

Reports

Combined Cadet Force

It is very sad to have to record the death in August of Mr W Joyce. 'Wilf' came to us in the middle of March—as mentioned in the May issue of this magazine—to take over temporarily Mr Cadwell's job. Soon after returning from Arduous Training his health deteriorated and it was this illness which finally caused his death. Although he was with us for so short a time, he quickly endeared himself to us and we shall remember his kindness and good humour. It is sad to think that he is no more.

* * *

As we start a new year, it is good to be able to welcome a permanent replacement for Dick Cadwell. Flight Lieutenant R Fox, MBE, BEM, is now installed in the CCF office which he occupies every afternoon and we extend to him a most hearty welcome. As an ex-Parachute Instructor his RAF experience will be of great value to us.

The Summer Term took its course much as usual. The Corps was inspected by Group Captain RM Jenkins, AFC, MBIM, RAF, Commanding Officer of the Royal Air Force Station at Abingdon, on 14th June, and he expressed himself well satisfied with what he saw. On the advice of Major Blackmore, Commander of the Training Team, we departed from tradition and instead of the whole CCF parading and marching past, contented ourselves with a Guard of Honour only. Many of us felt this was a sad thing, but in the event it worked well and allowed more time to see the training.

Seventy-two recruits joined in May—there has been a marked improvement in the pass rate in Proficiency Tests, while all in the RA Section passed their Qualification Tests. A fair number of cadets went Air Experience Flying during the term and still more went on various courses and to the RN Camp at Loch Ewe and the Army Camp at Cultybraggen during the holidays. Both of these camps were highly successful and it is to be hoped that those who went will tell others how much they enjoyed it so that we can take still more.

One cannot end without thanking all those who help to keep the flag flying—the officers within the School, too few of them unfortunately, and the visitors, Mr Wiltshire, CPO Kettle, Sgt Gibson, Sgt Bamford, Flt/Sgt Burn, and at OUOTC, BSM Jenkins; all have contributed a great deal. There is one other faithful member of the CCF, a member of long standing, now, alas, it seems, due at last for retirement, having seized up on the way back from Cultybraggen—I refer, of course, to CMO 320B. LCJG

Signals Section

The three NCOs making up the Signals were this term supplemented by a further five members, all of whom require signals classification to go towards their proficiency. To this end instruction was provided throughout the term on basic voice procedure and the use of the simpler radio sets as well as line-laying and field telephone operation.

Field day was spent enlightening the recruits as to the mystic art of signalling, and they were able to practise using field telephone equipment set up on Upper Field. At the Annual Inspection the section operated a

radio network within the grounds, shadowing the Inspecting Officer and keeping a fix on his movements Group Captain Jenkins was most interested and undertook the repair of our larger sets which are used on the Inter-Schools network, but unfortunately broke down during the term. On Founder's Day a static exhibition of radio equipment took place. The section looks forward to greater things in the future. RWK

Army Camp

Army Camp this year was held again at Cultybraggen, situated in the wilderness around the Stirling region. The weather, in true Scottish style, proved to be excessively wet for most of the time, although this did not prevent a number of varied activities taking place.

These activities included a display of modern gun-firing by the resident Artillery detachment, learning techniques of infantry attacks, 303 shooting, orienteering, paddling assault boats, crossing a raging torrent in home-made rafts which had a habit of disintegrating in mid-stream, and a two-day exercise consisting of some strenuous walking plus a rather interesting night exercise.

Spare moments in the proceedings were filled by signals instruction from the two members of the signals section present, and operation of the small radio sets produced considerable enthusiasm.

Even the less energetic and military-minded of the contingent managed to have a reasonably enjoyable time, and towards the end of our week's stay the sun managed to put in an appearance, showing that the location was in fact habitable after all. RWK/PFT

Library Report

The Library tends to be used very much as a common room at break times and after school by those without alternate facilities. This generally results in an excessive volume of noise, to the annoyance of those trying to work. To combat this, the somewhat defunct rule of silence in the Library has recently been reinforced. The result has been encouraging, but there is still a long way to go towards total silence.

Throughout the term a dedicated band of librarians have kept the Library running smoothly—some thirty books a day are borrowed and checked-in, apart from the routine of covering new books and bringing the catalogues up to date.

Projects week provided a good opportunity for carrying out a number of outstanding jobs. The backlog of new books was cleared, the filing system re-organised, and the archives catalogued. Preparations were also made for Founder's Day, when visitors were able to view an exhibition of books on the theme of the sea, and invited to purchase a book for the Library from among those on display loaned by the Dene Book Shop. This produced a good response, and over £25 worth of books were donated to supplement the Library's own limited budget.

Our thanks to J Hills (OA), Mr Lay, and to many parents, old boys and friends on Founder's Day for gifts to the Library. RWK

Lists

Officers of the School

School Prefects

Head of School: CP Hey

Head of Boarders: BC Waters

AM Carlisle

MWJ Carr

PD Cook

CDG Driver

JM Evans

SR Greenwood

JD Halliday

AW McPhail

PD Marley

SAJ Pallett

S Walker

PM Watson

SEG Young

House Prefects

Crescent House: PR Forsythe, CM Jones, RA Woods, CJ Todd

Larkhill: MR Crofton-Briggs, I Cowan

Lacies Court: SJH Cromie, RW Kenyon

Waste Court: TG Roberts, A Clift

School House: AW Baumann, TC Parker, SG Boatright, KS Ghorpade, GR

Terry, JN Oakley, MR Freeman, DN Polkinhorne, RJ Frost, HC Gibaud,

SK Fabes, RL McGreevy.

Dayboys: JR Allen, A Courtenay, NJ Dawson, P de Lusignan, ND Francis,

N Jefferson, IL Manning, CN Morris, T Niblett, BJ Polley, AP Reimer,

JP Seaver, CEV Stockwell, JMG Taylor, J Turner, CF Vernon, GF

Woods, PF Thompson, ME Thompson, MA Kafka.

Games Officers

Captain of Rugger: PD Cook

Secretary of Rugger: ND Francis

Captain of Cross Country: CF Vernon

Secretary of Cross Country: JD Halliday

Secretary of GGC: AW McPhail

Abingdonian

Editorial Board: PD Marley, PM Watson, DO Willis

OA Editor: AA Hillary Treasurer: DO Willis

The Prize Winners 1973

Form Prizes

1P, SR West; 1S, PE Booker; 1W, PH James and PD Wakefield; 1H, PP Douglas.

2B, DJ Hutber; 2F, MD Andrews; 2R, GB Alcock.

3D, RG Gilbert; 3T, JJ Stephen; 3V, ME Spoor.

4B, MJ Hurry; 4G, RW Kermode; 4M, AJ Capel; 4R, RD Tauwhare.

5E, APS Luto; 5H, PJ Brodie; 5R, MM Poole.

The Lower Sixth Prizes

Classics, PF Thompson; English, JN Oakley; History, SJ Cromie; Mathematics, JMG Taylor; Modern Languages, BJ Polley.

The Upper Sixth Prizes

Classics, HC Russell; English, JDC Turner; History, JH Bosworth; Modern Languages, ME Thompson; Mathematics, TR Niblett and JD Pierson; Art, AC Atkinson.

The Music Prizes

Choral: 1. Junior—SWN Rogers, RGK Donald. 2. Senior—JRA Allen. Pianoforte—1. Junior—NJS Teesdale. 2. Senior—FJ Pike. Organ, G Bint; Brass, MP Doble; Woodwind, PF Thompson; Strings, JH Bosworth; Composition, FJ Pike.

French Reading Prizes

Senior, PD Cook; Intermediate, DS van Griethuysan, DA Halliday; Junior, PJ Corina.

The Old Boys' Prizes

Art, AC Atkinson; English Essay, JDC Turner; Modern Languages, CP Hey; Mathematics, TB Niblett; Divinity, PR Wait; Geography, PA Barton and DC Hares; History, JH Bosworth.

The Special Prizes

Duffield Local History Prizes, BJ Polley, NA Litchfield, S Drew; Bevan Scripture Prizes, SP Thompson. MP Hills, JJGS Rolley; Ingham Music Prize, BJ Bignold; Van Wagenen Prize, ME Thompson; Ingham Physics Prize, TB Niblett, JD Pierson; Ford Biology Prize, PR Wait; West Biology Prize, PD Marley; Ball Science Prize, BC Waters, N Polkinhorne; Smith Chemistry Prizes, JD Pierson and BC Waters; Initiative Cup, JDC Turner; Fourth 'Science Times' Cup, S Wilson; Larkhill Trophy, GB Butcher; Drama Cup, 'The Government Inspector'; Henderson Cricket Prizes, PM Abraham and A Cliff; The CCF Prizes, SE Bowkett and AW Smart; Mayor's Prize for Service, CP Hey; TASS Prize for Service, PA Barton and RM Bowkett; Headmaster's Prize for Service to the School, AN Rayson and CM Clayton; Freeman Memorial Prize for Service, MJ Rice and CJ Williams; St Catherine's Prize for Intellectual Initiative, JM Evans; Quatercentenary Prize, JD Pierson; Ellis Prize for Character, PA Rogers; Morland Prize for All-round Merit, PM Abraham.

'A' Levels and 'O' Levels

The prophets of doom had forecast a bad year both at 'O' Level and 'A' Level. In the event they were confounded, thanks to the large number of weaker candidates who had stuck to their task and done just well enough to get the qualifications they needed. The results illustrated, as was expected, that there was a shortage of real quality this year, but disappointment over the smaller number of high grades was tempered by pleasure at the success of so many average candidates.

At 'A' Level, 81 per cent of all papers submitted reached pass level and 62 per cent of candidates passed in every subject they took. Both figures are new records for the School. Most pleasing of all, however, was the fact that no 'A' Level candidate left empty-handed. Usually a small number in every school throw in their hands or convince themselves during the run-up to the exams that they have no hope. This year, however, no Abingdonian failed all his 'A' Levels.

At 'O' Level there was inevitably comparison with last year's record results. This year was nowhere near so good, although results were still above the national average. There was disappointment over the three boys who failed everything, but some relief that the vast majority did well enough (in some cases, just well enough) to qualify for the Sixth Form.

Biology had a clean sweep at 'A' Level, with twenty-four passes out of twenty-four; so did Physical Science and Geography with eight out of eight and Latin and Greek with five out of five. Maths had thirty-five out of thirty-seven, and English thirty-one out of thirty-three. French, which has not been a popular subject at 'A' Level, had more candidates this year—thirteen of them, of whom ten passed. At 'O' Level, Chemistry edged ahead of Biology with forty-seven passes out of fifty-six; English Language did very well with eighty passes out of ninety-one unselected candidates and Latin and Greek produced twenty-five passes out of twenty-nine. The twenty-six Fourth Formers who took Maths a year early all passed at Grade 4 or better.

On the whole the results suggest that hard work made sure in many cases of passes which would otherwise not have been achieved.

Hello Goodbye

Left Summer Term 1973

VIH: AC Atkinson, PA Barton, JH Bosworth, SE Bowkett, CM Clayton, IR Greaves, SL Greening, RHD Griffiths, JMH Hutchings, GK Leedham, J Peck, AN Rayson, P Rutishauser, JF Sawyer, JR Spooner, CJ Williams, J Wojciechowski.

VIO/E: ASQ Clift, D Hurley, AG Johnstone, AJ Madin, SJ Maunder, NT Morgan, FJ Pike, MA Reid, MJ Rice, DA Sibbet, PF Stimpson, JA Urban-Smith, P Williamson, PE Scott.

VIM: PM Abraham, AM Bainton, BJ Bignold, RM Bowkett, AW Davies, TJ Gresswell, DC Hares, MJ Loach, JB Marriott, JNB Minshall, JD Peirson, AW Smart, MC Weeding, T Wheeler, ABJ Wise.

VIT: DL Adams, NP Allington, DM Binks, RG Butcher, GR Fowler, AC Glass, DC Gourlay, ARM Kelly, DI Lewington, DJ Luther, NM Newport, WA Pickup, PAW Rogers, JG Walker, AJ Walters, MS Webster, MG White.

Other forms: GM Stewart **6X**, PH Evans **6E**, NA Hughes **5R**, AGP Cairns **5E**, A. Shortis **3T**, MR Stewart **3D**, V Thurston **3T**, NC Lewis **2F**.

Came September 1973

IH: J Aguilar, KB Angwin, AG Baird, JA Batchelor, JH Beaumont, RF Benjamin, NRL Burd, PJ Burren, GMVP Carey, MJ Flood, JC Geere, MH Hooper, G Lancaster, KM Lovegrove, NA Luker, GI McLauchlan, RJ McMahon, WK Mellor, CG Pattison, BRJ Rhys, MB Smith, AN Trige, GJ Wigmore, JC Wilders, RW Woodley.

IP: P Annells, J Buckley, NES Bugg, JSE Carruthers, J Cook, JWJ Franklin, MJ Green, DCP Griffith, PR Harris, T Jefferson, GA Khakoo, GP Lanham, J Littlewood, P Lovering, MW Murray, JV Partridge, TJ Reenan, PJ Reynolds, PJ Rushton, TBM Screech, PG Slade, AH Smith, AG Stimpson, RJE Taylor, IF Viney, MB Willett.

IS: JAW Alcock, KJ Brown, TR Burles, JW Dubenski, CG Ege-Istaff, GH Fenton, T Fryer, MS Fulwell, DA Game, CE Garrett, CF Hubbard, CJ Hutber, DA Lewis, AH Linley, AP Megann, MP O'Shea, PJ Paddon,

JD Prentis, C Price, KS Schmaltz, IM Simpson, JH Stapleton, MRJ Taylor, RJ Thompson, MA Venning, PN Wilson, NCJ Yaxley.
Third Form: RJ Bradley, AJ Bryant, BW Burtles, MJS Dennis, RP Emer-ton, AJ Griffin, JW Henshaw, C Holding, DF Lindesay, JNB Milton, DNA Phillips, SJ Payling, RJ Regan, BD Shelley, AJ Sloss, RP Taylor, RJ Tourret, PA Younge.
Fourth Form: CP McKenzie, JE Palmer, AO Adebajo.
Sixth Form: H. Kellett, RP Faulk, GKM Fenelon, IT Jones, SD Marshall, DG Palmer, JD Robinson, SM Simpson, M Taylor, MJ Torrens, ADA Walker, S Young.

OA Notes

A Letter from Mervyn Gray

Mr Gray writes about the July OA Dinner and after:

'This proved a most happy occasion and a memorable climax to my 42 years and two terms at Abingdon. May I thank the OA Club for giving me such a splendid send-off on my retirement and especially for the golf bag and fine set of cut glasses which are now fully in service!

May I also take this opportunity to express my great appreciation of the many kindnesses shown me over the years by the Governors, Headmaster(s), the Staff, the Parents, Boys and Old Boys, and for the most generous gifts marking my retirement.

May the O.A. Club and the School continue to flourish—I shall hope to be present for some of the "cheering", sporting and otherwise!

MERVYN GRAY

Births

Bisby: on 29 April 1973 to Isabel (née Poulton), wife of Mark Bisby (1965), at Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, a son, Adam Paul.

Carter: on 27 January 1972 to Sally, wife of Richard Carter (1963), a daughter, Rachel Louise.

Cooper: on 17 January 1970 to Lillian (née Dewhurst), wife of John Cooper (1953), a daughter, Amy Elisabeth, and on 12 April 1973 a son, William John.

Gregson: on 28 April 1973 to Paula (née Malzard), wife of Robert Gregson (1964), a son, Gavin Paul.

Harvey: on 8 February 1971 to the wife of Michael Harvey (1958), a third child, a son, Michael Anthony.

Henson: on 23 September 1970 to the wife of Trevor Henson (1960), a daughter, Judith Sarah.

Humby: in December 1967 to the wife of Michael Humby (1953), a daughter, Victoria, sister for Robert, born in November 1965.

King: on 21 May 1973 to the wife of Tim King (1964), a daughter, Sally Antonia Fiske.

Midwinter: on 12 January 1968 to Susan (née Grant), wife of Errol Midwinter (1954), a daughter, Eileen Rachel; on 23 December 1969 a daughter, Katherine Isobel; on 26 July 1971 a son, Duncan Grant.

Newbold: on 3 February 1973 to Sue, wife of Ian Newbold (1964), a daughter, Katie.

Smith: in June 1972 to Jennifer (née Rickards), wife of Anthony Smith (1955), a second son, Andrew.

Warburton: on 10 August 1967 to Margaret (née Turnbull), wife of William Clayton Warburton (1959), a daughter, Claire Elizabeth Louise, and on 13 November 1969 a son, James Clayton.

Wilson: on 1 May 1973 to Angela, wife of Stephen Wilson (1963), a daughter, Emma.

Wood: on 29 February 1972 to Christine (née Still), wife of Adrian Wood (1966), a daughter, Eleanor Katharine.

Marriages

Carter: on 7 June 1969, Richard Carter (1963) to Sally.

Cook—Foote: on 20 May 1972, Anthony John Cook (1961) to Linda Foote, SRN, SCM.

Cooper—Dewhurst: on 5 September 1964, John Cooper (1953) to Lillian Dewhurst.

Galbraith—Powell: on 2 August 1973, David William Galbraith (1969) to Lynn Powell.

Gregson—Malzard: on 29 January 1972, RK Gregson (1964) to Paula Jean Malzard.

Gresswell—Tattersall: on 17 February 1973, Anthony Peter Gresswell (1959) to Ann Rosemary Tattersall.

Kenney—Thomas: on 8 September 1973, Julian Kenney (1966) to Linda Mary Thomas.

Libby—Atkinson: on 25 August 1973, Terence Libby (1961) to Carolyn Atkinson.

Midwinter—Grant: on 20 August 1966, Henry Errol Midwinter (1954) to Susan Rosemary Grant.

Minns—Nectoux: on 25 May 1973, Philip Minns (1968) to Mlle Sylvie Nectoux.

Newbold—Hood: in October 1972, Robert Newbold (1966) to Ann Hood.

Parsons—Crook: in March 1968, Robert E Parsons (1962) to Margaret Ann Crook.

Shatford—Hancock: on 1 September 1973, Guy R Shatford (1969) to Linda Jean Hancock.

Smith—Rickards: in October 1967, Anthony M Smith (1955) to Jennifer Rickards.

Turner—Kerr: on 21 July 1973, Robert Anthony Cureton Turner (1969) to Elizabeth Clark Kerr.

Varley—Rother: on 28 April 1973, Andrew John Varley (1969) to Jane Rother.

Warburton—Turnbull: on 27 August 1966, William Clayton Warburton (1959) to Margaret Elizabeth Mary Turnbull.

Wood—Still: on 21 June 1969, Adrian Wood (1966) to Christine Still.

Deaths

N Duncan (1900–1907): We record with much regret the death on 20 July 1972 of Norman Duncan, one of our most loyal old boys. A distinguished sprinter in his time—he won the Public School Hundred Yards in 1906 and 1907—he maintained a deep interest in the School, always turning up at the

London Dinner and generously supporting any appeal to the pockets of OAs.

TH Hodgson (1925-1929). We regret to record the death of Terry Hodgson on 3 April 1973 at his home in Canada.

The duplicated proformae have produced some very interesting replies and I shall hope to repeat the procedure from time to time. It is strange that a form, however rudimentary, elicited more response than a mere request for information but please do not wait for the next pink form to let me know your news. There is still an overwhelming number of OAs receiving the magazine who have made no effort to keep in touch with the School. They presumably enjoy reading about us: could they not be persuaded that we enjoy hearing from them?

Charles S Morland (1921) wrote to say that, whilst visiting England after 50 years absence, he called to see Mr Rudd who taught him Maths between 1915 and 1921 but, unhappily, missed him, because he was away! He was here to visit his brother Ben (1920), who was having an operation in Truro Hospital and who is now progressing well. Charles offers to take on at golf any OA who is passing his way—55 Long Street, Stutterheim, Cape Province, SA. It sounds as if Mr Rudd has passed on some of his own resilience and energy to at least one of his former pupils.

Harold Bosley (1934), now Headmaster of Minchinhampton Primary School with 430 on the roll, is to be congratulated on holding this year the Presidency of the St Luke's Club, his old college, where he was from 1934 to 1937. Harold is married with two grown-up children and three grandchildren.

Richard Cox (1934) has retired from his fruit business and is devoting an industrious retirement to developing the Leisure Industry and Continental Property, with a London office in Regent St.

Durnford Newman (1935) is the first electrical engineer to hold the post of Chief Engineer at Heathrow Airport. Previously this job has always gone to a civil engineer and we congratulate him on breaking new ground. He is also deputy director, British Airports Authority, which sounds a responsible and interesting appointment in which we wish him every success.

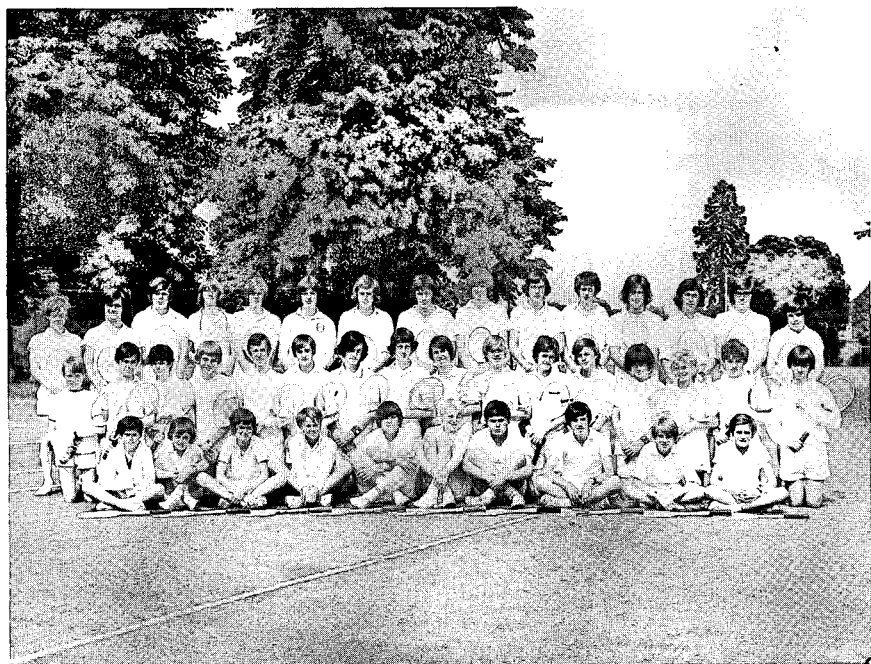
Congratulations to John Bury (1937) on his election to the new Oxfordshire County Council, and also to Tony Cherrill (1948) on his promotion to Lt-Col. He is currently a RAPC staff inspector with the Ministry of Defence, due to be posted to BAOR in September as staff paymaster, HQ 1st Division.

Philip Emerton (1952), whose elder son Richard has just entered the School, is now senior partner in a firm of accountants with offices in Slough and Reading, with eight partners and a staff of 80. Younger son Mark hopes to come in 1976.

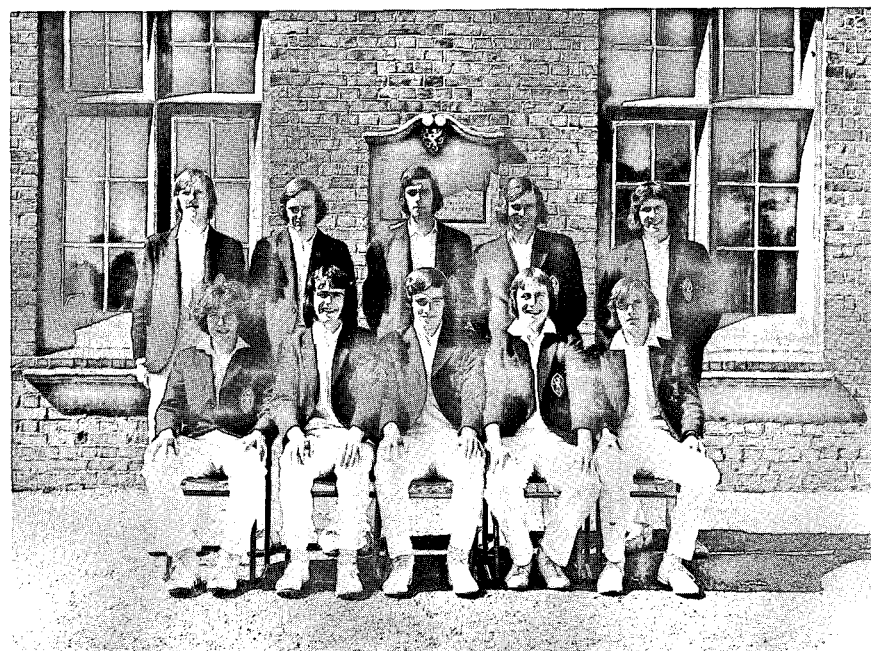
Richard Millard (1952) has just left his post as Headmaster of Wellingborough Preparatory Department to go as Head of the Junior School, St Lawrence College, Ramsgate. He has three daughters under twelve and has this year run his 19th Scripture Union Camp.

John Cooper (1953) moved in 1964 to Thurso in Scotland to take charge of the Medical Laboratory at Dounreay. He married a former head girl of Faringdon Girls' Grammar School in 1964 and now has a daughter and a son.

Michael Humby (1953), having been area freight manager for Thomas Cook's shipping division, has recently become a director of an international



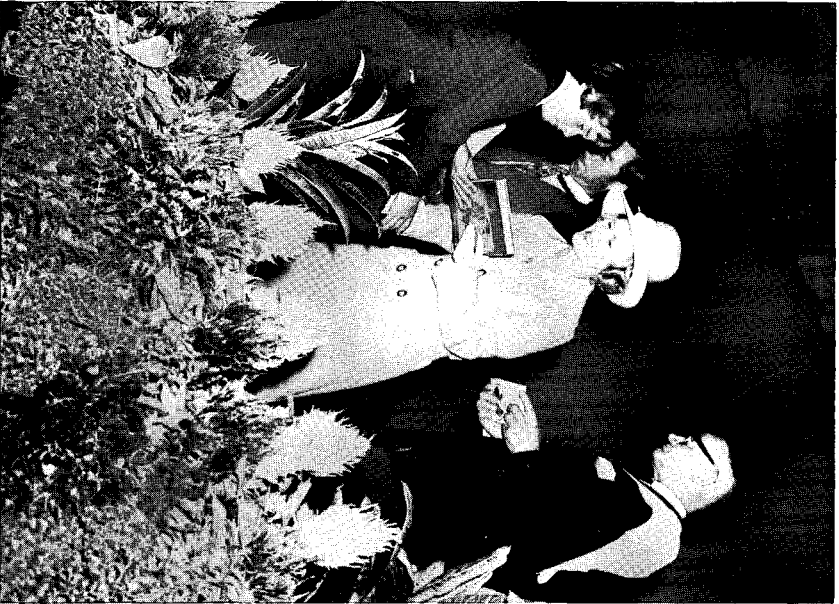
The Tennis Club



The First XI



Mrs Thatchers Visit



freight hauliers and is also general manager of five other companies within the group at Halstead in Essex.

Richard Griffiths (1955) has a son who has just entered the School. He worked for the Wellcome Foundation until November 1971, but is now running his own property business. His spare time is occupied in offshore power boat racing, which has taken him and his wife Susan to many places around the coasts of Europe.

Anthony Smith (1955), married with two sons, has been working for Whitbread Flowers, based at Cheltenham, as management accountant since 1972.

Barry Cork (1957) obtained his Masters' Certificate in 1968 and spent four years in command of various types of vessel throughout the world. Since January 1973 he has been Operations Manager (UK) for a company with an expanding fleet of ships engaged in the offshore oil industry and based in Scotland. He says that he still finds himself 'doing a fair amount of sea time and cannot really admit to having swallowed the hook'.

Michael Harvey (1958) is at present serving with the Thames Valley Police and now has three children.

Richard Morse (1958) is now managing director of Lane End Films Ltd specialising in film editing services in Europe and the Middle East and in hiring out of equipment. He has two children, Robert aged six and Suzanne aged four.

Derek Privett (1958) is still working for Kodak Ltd at Harrow and since he left school has been in various departments, currently in the Film Sensitizing department. He has been a member of Kodak Rugby Football Club, the Judo Club and Golf and Car Clubs, in all of which at various times he has been active.

Brian Trinder (1958) is prospering in his own company at Longworth, specialising in Life Assurance, Investment and Mortgages.

Trevor Davies (1959) has made yet another step up, after three years as Registrar of the East London Polytechnic, having recently been appointed Chief Administrative Officer of the Southall College of Technology.

William Warburton (1959) qualified in 1966 as a heating and ventilating engineer and is now managing director of WP Spearman Ltd of Oxford. He claims that his proficiency in building stems from service in 'Squad X' at School and this helped him to build his own house and swimming pool. He still sees a lot of Gary Kent (1959).

Graham Morse (1959) is married with four children, and in addition is Deputy Managing Director of Marden-Kane, UK, at Epsom Downs, Surrey.

Anthony Gresswell (1959) married in February this year, gave up full-time accountancy to concentrate on his property business in Oxford, which appears to be successful.

Keith Haarhoff (1960) is managing the Singapore office of Selcom, Scientific Controls System Ltd.

Trevor Henson (1960) joined Vickers Ltd Shipyards in Barrow-in-Furness in September 1971 but returned to Newcastle in January 1972 to work as a systems analyst for IBM at their data centre for the North-East region.

Alan Pritchard (1960) is now Sub-Librarian (planning and development) at the City of London Polytechnic. The second edition of his book 'Guide to Computer Literature' has recently been published.

Another author is Paul Briten (1961), who has had several mathematics books published and has three more awaiting publication. He is now Deputy

Head of a Primary School in Teddington and is still in the Middlesex 1st XI Hockey Squad.

Anthony Cook (1961) joined the London Ambulance Service in 1969, with whom he is a control officer. Married to a SRN in 1972, he became editor of the magazine of the London Region of the Federation of Ambulance personnel in May 1973.

It is very pleasant to see the name of Mike Nurton (1961) so often among the scores for Oxfordshire in the Minor Counties championship. Now happily settled at Canterbury, he has had one of his best seasons ever. Alas, he could not manage the Alligators Cricket Week this year!

David Pepler (1961) is working as a legal executive for a leading firm of London solicitors and has recently bought a house in Maidenhead.

Anthony Wood (1961) has been working in High Wycombe for a firm of Quantity Surveyors since 1967 with Michael Neilan (1960) and is now fully qualified and at present engaged in a large hotel project in London. He has just helped to stage the fourth Cookham Festival and is still playing hockey for Maidenhead.

Derek Dunn (1962) has been manager since 1968 of an Anglo-Peruvian textile distributing company, which involves him in a lot of travel in South America, including occasional visits to some remote Amazon jungle areas. He would be happy to welcome any OAs who happen to visit Lima.

Robert Parsons (1962) is now Management Services Manager with Hunt and Broadhurst in Oxford responsible for all work methods and machine buying in the factory. He finds the job rewarding and testing and was recently able to spend some time in Germany studying various factories. He gave news of Ian Routledge (1970), who works in Robert's department, and David Tinson (1967), who is PA to the sales director.

Richard Carter (1963) works for United Drapery Stores Ltd.

David Edelsten (1963) is Shipping Manager for Burmah Oil, whose offices were recently moved to Swindon.

David Smith (1963) has just taken up a new appointment as Assistant to the General Manager for Gillette in South America and will be moving to Rio for two or three years. He has just completed a Portuguese Total Immersion Language Course but would still welcome news of any OAs in Brazil or Argentina!

Richard van Wagenen (1963) describes himself as a non practising lawyer in New York, researching on crime and criminal justice. This involves him in quite a lot of travel in and out of the USA. He will be in New York for the next two years and would welcome a visit from any OA of his vintage who happens to get there.

Tim King (1964) is now Head of Biology at Westminster and a House Tutor as well. He is particularly pleased to have taken up Tennis, Chess and Cross Country again. The only OA whom he sees at all often is Jonathan Burton (1968), who is articulated to a solicitor nearby.

Capt David Joyce RMP (1965) has been posted to Canada on a RMP exchange appointment from June 1974.

Brian Bradley (1966) is now working in the Exmouth office of his firm of Surveyors and Estate Agents. He regrets the decline of his own cricket from the days of the glorious and then unbeaten Third XI but seeks consolation in motor rallying.

Graham Hallett (1966) is now based at Hampton Court, selling computer time to industrial clients, and apparently very successful. He is about to

embark on several years of foreign travel and working abroad in South Africa, Canada, USA and Hong Kong.

Lt Martyn Holloway RN (1966) has just left HMS Kellington after two and a half years of fishery protection and is now at HMS Vernon instructing clearance divers. He has bumped into various OAs in Portsmouth and will welcome any others who pass that way.

Kenneth Mein (1966) is now a fully qualified accountant.

Robert Newbold (1966), after spending three years at AERE on Biological research and a further three at Aston University, where he achieved an Upper Second, is planning to do research in the field of cellular biology for his PhD degree.

David Ray (1966) is still at Pangbourne College, where he now runs the Rugger and has charge of the First XV, and is still playing himself for Esher RFC and the Public School Wanderers.

Adrian Wood (1966) with a degree in Chemistry from Exeter University is now second brewer at Whitbread-Fremlins at Faversham.

Michael Corkerill (1967), who graduated in 1970 in Physics at Southampton University, is now Factory Departmental Production Manager at Bird's Eye's Grimsby factory—apparently the youngest technical manager in the company.

Brian Johnston (1967), having graduated MB ChB at Aberdeen University, will be working for the next year in Aberdeen, six months in medical, six months in surgical house jobs.

David Ventham (1967), with a History degree from Exeter University, has joined the P and O Shipping Company and is a management trainee in their European Container Section, latterly operating in Dusseldorf and in October moving to Hamburg for one year.

Roger Wharton (1967), defiantly 'still single and enjoying it', is with the RAF based in Cyprus, working all over the world from Kenya to Australia, after an eight months' tour in Malta.

Richard Wilde (1967) went into local government in Oxford when he left School and, having done very well in his four years' work for the Diploma in Municipal Administration, went up to Nottingham University to read Social Administration. He is keeping his options open at the moment but may well go back into local government. While at Nottingham he met and has recently married his wife Joyce, who is now teaching in Nottingham.

Tim Wood (1967) gained his BEd (Oxon) from Culham College this year—well done, Tim: many a critic confounded there!—and is now teaching at Woolpit Preparatory School, near Cranleigh. Congratulations, too, on qualifying as an Association Football referee: I can remember Tim sportingly giving up several Sunday afternoons to referee various unofficial School soccer matches.

Alan Banes (1968) is also teaching, though in a rather different kind of school. After getting his degree in History at Manchester and achieving a Certificate in Education at Loughborough, he now teaches History at Tulloch Comprehensive School. He is also playing regular club rugby with Thornton Clevely's RFC.

John Beyer (1968) has just come back from a trip to China, with his wife. He hopes ultimately to teach there.

Charles Maude (1968) has just graduated well at Cambridge, ultimately in English for he changed subjects for Part Two of the Tripos. He hopes to go back to research in English for a PhD Degree. He has occupied his leisure hours—and some others, one suspects!—in designing posters and

printed things elegantly and apparently successfully and in things theatrical, notably with the ADC. He reported that Brother Francis, also at Corpus reading History, had done well in his Prelims.

Peter Annett (1969) wrote very happily to say that he has just started work as Assistant Parks Superintendent (Arboriculturist) for the Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, which makes him responsible for all trees, old and new, in the Borough. He has just taken on the secretaryship of the South-Eastern Branch of the Arboricultural Association: even more important, he plans to marry next March.

Peter Bennett (1969) has just graduated in Psychology at University College, London, and after a holiday in Canada is planning a career with one of the giant aircraft establishments.

Kenneth Cuthbert (1969) left Leeds in 1972 with second class honours in Metallurgy and is enjoying his job with Nchanga Copper Mines at Kitwe in Zambia, where he has been since January this year.

Richard Evans (1969), with a two one in History at St David's, Lampeter and a Certificate in Education at Cardiff and having kept goal for the University of Wales and South-West Wales hockey sides, has just begun his teaching career at Berkhamstead School.

Ian Hallett (1969) has left IBM, for whom he worked until last year, and is now Company Secretary to a printing group based in South London and living at Caterham in Surrey. His hobby is vintage cars and he has an MG, a Riley and an Alvis—all very time-consuming.

Robert Lang (1969) has just graduated at York in Biology and is staying to do his PhD in Biochemistry.

Guy Shatford (1969) graduated from Sussex University in Biology and is now working for the Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley in Yorkshire. This involves inspecting sports grounds and golf courses, and he finds the variety of turf and its problems fascinating. Congratulations on his recent marriage, recorded elsewhere.

Charles Utley (1969) has just landed what sounds a most interesting job as Agent to the Conservative candidate for Maldon and Rochford in Essex. This involves him in the great controversy over the Maplin Airport, the proposed site for which is in his constituency.

Michael Allen (1970) is a student apprentice at the Jaguar factory at Coventry, having just completed the first year of his Loughborough University Course for a BTech in Automotive Engineering. He is in private life, too, a car enthusiast and he is working hard on his Mini with a view to driving in some of next season's International events.

Stephen Bodimeade (1970) has graduated with an Honours BSc Degree in Architecture and is now working in a London architect's office as part of his BA (Arch) course while thinking of taking a Master's degree in Industrial Management.

Jonathan Frere (1970) is now in his third year at Bristol reading Russian as an Army University Cadet, having spent six months with the Royal Artillery in Hong Kong.

Stephen Lambert (1970) is now at Keighley in Yorkshire working with Mariner Wools, having completed his managerial training in London with Union International Ltd.

Timothy Brook (1971), enjoying his course and playing regularly for the College hockey team after doing a year's practical farming at home, is now at Seale-Hayne Agricultural College, Newton Abbot.

Robert Cole (1971) hopes to return to England in 1974 when he has com-

pleted his degree course in Economics and Psychology at Natal University in Durban. He has an evening job in a local newspaper at the moment.

It was nice to see the name of Mick Hill (1971) in the report on the Hampshire v. West Indies match in June this year, though we commiserate with him on a not very successful match. So far this is his only taste of the first class game but it must have been quite an experience to keep wicket while Kanhai and Lloyd were at their most ferocious best.

Chris Murray (1971) returns in October to Imperial College, London, Chemical Engineering Department. He is currently secretary of the fencing club and is hoping to play some rugger.

Peter Cowley (1972) is having a magnificent time at Leeds University, where his course includes a visit to Russia and a lengthy stay in Germany. He is this season's Secretary of Fives.

Finally, congratulations to Neil Coulbeck and Howard Manning (1970) on achieving firsts in part one of their respective English and Natural Science Tripos.

Addresses

Banes AE: 48 St Alban's Road, Blackpool, Lancs.

Bradley B: 14 Parkside Drive, Exmouth, Devon.

Carter R: 89 Kynaston Ave, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

Clay Lt-Col RA: Willow Tree Cottage, Castle St, Ludgershall, nr Andover, Hants.

Conibear RJM and RS: Mile House, Lansdown Road, Bath, Somerset.

Cook AJ: 5 Grover Court, Sunninghill Rd, Loampit Hill, Lewisham SE13 7ST.

Cook CN: Flat 19c Greenway Close, London N4.

Cork BP: 91 Willowbank Rd, Aberdeen.

Cuthbert K: 52 6th Avenue, Nkana West, Kitwe, Zambia.

Dickinson JW: 4 Home Farm Close, Ambrosden, Bicester, Oxon.

Earl J: Netherdale, Rockland St Mary, Norwich NOR O8W.

Edelsten D: Sweet Briar Cottage, Eastington, nr Northleach, Glos.

Emerton P: Silverdale Cottage, Wargrave, Berks.

Evans P: Jasmine Cottage, Brook St, Elsworth, Cambs.

Gresswell AP: 22 Plantation Rd, Oxford.

Haarhoff K: Podium 610, 1 DBS Building, Shenton Way, Singapore, 1.

Harvey MR: 3 Littlehay Rd, Cowley, Oxford.

Hill MJ: 3 South Drive, Harwell, Didcot, Berks.

Jell AM: 131 Roman Rd, Luton, Beds LU4 9DL.

Joyce Capt D: HQ RMP HQ 1 (Br) Corps, BFPO 39.

King TJ: 6 Dean's Yard, Westminster, London SW1.

Lang RDA: 55 Regent Rd, Altrincham, Cheshire.

Martin D: 11 Henning St, London SW11.

Morse G: The High Croft, Rudgwick, Sussex.
Morse J: 4 Heathfield Close, Binfield Close, Henley.
Mortleman EA: Mary's Meadow, Stonequarry Rd, Chelwood Gate, Sussex.
Murray C: Quatre Vents, Barbican Rd, Looe, Cornwall.
Opie SJ: 22 Wellfield, Hazlemere, High Wycombe, Bucks.
Parsons RE: 21 Havelock Rd, Cowley, Oxford OX4 3EP.
Pepler D: 54 Hag Hill Rise, Taplow, Maidenhead, Berks.
Pritchard A: 4 Knutsford Ave, Watford, Herts WD2 4EL.
Robins J: Windy Ridge, Reading Rd, West Hendred, Berks.
Sagar J: Windrose, Honeywell Lane, Ilstington, Newton Abbot, Devon.
Sarsfield-Hall P: 3 Tufton Warren, Whitchurch, Hants.
— Smith BR: 3 Clairview Road, London SW16.
Tinegate E: Flat 3, Kenelm Court, Kenelm Rd, Sutton Coldfield B73 6AD.
Trinder BJ: Brook House, Longworth, Abingdon OX13 5EL.
Wedgwood A: 141 Newmarket Rd, Norwich.
Wharton F/O ANR: Officers' Mess, RAF Akrotiri, BFPO 53.
Wilde R: 57 Lime Grove, Stapleford, Notts.
Wood AM: 64 Stonebridge Way, Faversham, Kent.
Wood TJ: Little Dolphin, Woolpit School, Ewhurst, Cranleigh, Surrey
GU6 7NS.
Wolf Capt DC (RN): Curtesy, Mill St, Islip, Oxon OX5 2SY.

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part of it will be at sea. The award itself depends on your convincing us that you'll make a naval officer – and, of course, on your success in getting that University place. This opportunity is open to all sixth formers in their last year at school.

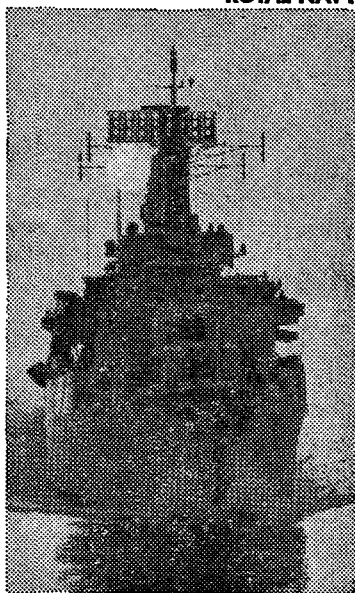
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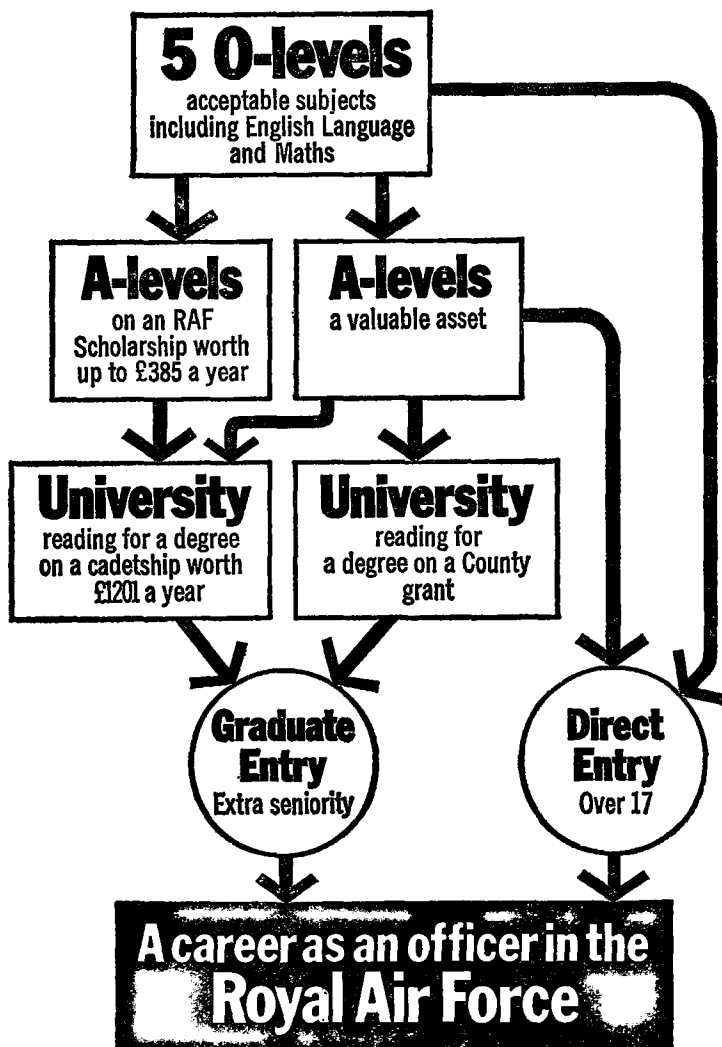
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R.N. & R.M. Careers Service,
Officer Entry Section, (25FC1).
Old Admiralty Bldg.,
Whitehall, London,
SW1A 2BE.

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Two more ideas: Write to Group Captain F. Westcott, MBIM, RAF, Adastral House (25ZD1) London WC1X 8RU, giving your

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



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