

ABINGDONIAN

June 1976



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Headmaster's Letter

'The Spring comes slowly up this way,' wrote Coleridge, and indeed I think it must be true in Abingdon. Last term had its trials, as well as its good moments; most of the people in the School suffered, at one time or another, from the 'flu which was ravaging the country, and some had the misfortune to experience it twice or even three times over. Other illnesses were of a more serious nature; the Second Master, Donald Willis, was absent for most of the term with blood pressure trouble, and Nicholas Rice of Form 1P, suffered a serious injury to his neck in the course of a rigger game, and spent a good many weeks in hospital. The great gale early in the New Year did a good deal of damage around the School; in particular, a large chimney stack fell through the roof of the Grundy Library, and the famous holm-oak on the Waste Court lawn was riven from top to bottom—and the remains have since had to be felled. In addition, we suffered the usual crop of winter difficulties with buildings and boilers. Another troublesome 'B', and this time much more serious, was the Bursar—Wing Commander Harrison left for Shrewsbury at the end of the term, to our great regret, but amid many congratulations on a well-deserved promotion. His 'obituary' appears elsewhere in this issue. Last, but not least, Her Majesty's Government seem to have it in particularly for Abingdon; not content with continuing the campaign against us by legislation, in the shape of the Education Bill, Mr. Harold Wilson deprived us, by the timing of his resignation, of two of our principal guest speakers in one week.

Now, at the start of the Summer Term, all these difficulties have been overcome—with the possible exception of the Education Bill, about which more shortly. The sick have been restored to us, the buildings have been repaired, a new tree is on order, a new Bursar is installed, and fresh speakers are on their way.

Without letting things get out of proportion, we can perhaps say that these experiences have helped us to confirm our commitment to certain basic ideals. The effort involved in overcoming problems, both great and small, has underlined the School's belief in an ethos of endeavour and determination. This is perhaps particularly important at a time when there seems almost to be a national reluctance to face up to the facts of hardship, an unwillingness to work, an aversion to achievements won in the face of odds. At Abingdon, at least, we know we stand for a very different tradition—a tradition which seeks excellence at the cost of discomfort if necessary, a tradition which believes in long-term benefits, not short-term gains.

If the School is going to succeed, it will do so very largely by virtue of its remarkable unity. This unity is to be seen not only within the community, but in the association which parents and O.A.s have with the School. At the time of writing, parental contributions, through T.A.S.S., are about to reach a peak in the shape of the great Summer Fête—and over a longer period of time, many parents have contributed valiantly to the Development Fund, which is consequently in excellent shape, and poised to make possible a fresh effort. O.A.s, of course, have an even longer tradition of helping and supporting the School, and at the London O.A. Dinner earlier this year, I was enormously impressed by the vigour and loyalty of the large numbers who were present.

Once again, it is instructive as well as comforting to draw a contrast between the School and the wider world—Abingdon stands as a shining example of what can be achieved when there is solidarity. We are not all the same, but we pull together. The Education Bill referred to above is only too typical of the opposite approach currently popular in other circles—it is a serious attempt to impose uniformity on the education system, and in doing so it is creating even deeper divisions.

Of one thing at least there can be no doubt; the School must continue to develop and move forward if it is to be healthy and survive in an increasingly hostile environment. We must continue to improve our buildings and other facilities, and although Abingdon is a School which is not ashamed to admit to a practical and even spartan style, it is equally a place where nothing but the best should be regarded at good enough. In accordance with this policy, the old Strange Room has recently been completely refurbished as a Lecture Theatre, and during the coming summer the Art Room will be doubled in size, and the Workshop brought back into use under a newly-appointed, qualified Instructor. We must not try to do too much at once, we must not overstrain our resources; but there will be no faltering in our determination to improve.

M. ST. JOHN PARKER

School Notes

Visits and visitors

The new Tuesday afternoon lecture scheme, started this year, is proving very profitable. Speakers to the Sixth forms in the Michaelmas Term ('75) have included Sir Maurice Laing (Chairman of the Laing Construction Co. and ex-chairman of the C.B.I.) who spoke on careers and the directions of ambitions. Dr. Harry Judge (Director of the O.U. Dept of Education and ex-Headmaster of Banbury Comprehensive School) spoke on modern problems in education. Mr. Christopher Ward (familiar to *Daily Mirror* readers, he is also a solicitor)

spoke on 'Europe'. He was an active 'Britain in Europe' supporter. Dr. C. E. Ford (F.R.S.) spoke on 'The Social Relevance of Scientific Research' which resulted in a lively discussion.

Talks in the Lent Term included Mr. Graham Turner (formerly BBC Industrial Correspondent), who spoke on 'Industrial Problems' facing the World and on general attitudes to work. The Music Department hired a Jazz band as their contribution to the series—certainly a memorable afternoon! Unfortunately Sir Knox Cunningham was taken ill, but the day was saved by the Headmaster who spoke on Architecture. The Headmaster, Mr. Hammond and Mr. Biggs have also spoken to the Sixth Form on subjects ranging from Politics, Freud and Plato, to Art and the educational system. The resignation of Mr. Harold Wilson caused the cancellation of two lectures which would have been given by Mr. David Holmes (BBC Political Correspondent) and Lord Chalfont. Dr. Richard Thorne spoke on the history of the National Health service, while Dr. M. Drew of Reading University spoke on 'Symmetry' with relevance to Arts and Sciences. Mr. J. E. Gregory (of Aston University) spoke to the Lower Sixth on U.C.C.A. and the complicated procedure of entry to University.

Five members of the Lower Sixth attended a course organized by the Oxford University Mathematics Dept. during the Easter holidays. In March, 40 fifth and sixth formers entered the National Mathematics Contest. With the usual high standard those scoring over 50 deserve special mention: Graham Nayler, Paul Gibbons and Ian Thackway.

The Lower Sixth Computing Studies group has planned a visit to British Leyland at Cowley and to A.E.R.E. Harwell, and a visit is planned to the computing gallery at the Science Museum. Another sixth form group visited the Nimrod accelerator at the Rutherford Laboratory.

The Art Department took a group to see the Constable Exhibition.

Miscellany

Boarder's entertainment films have included *The French Connection*, *Live and Let Die*, *How to Steal a Diamond*, *The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly*, *Sleuth*. The Lent Term saw the screening of *Innocent Bystanders*, *When Eight Bells Toll* and *Rider in the Rain*.

There has been much drama presented by the School during these two terms. The Junior Drama Club presented *Androcles and the Lion*; the John Roysse Players presented *Ross*; the third and fourth forms presented *The Magistrate*, and Crescent House presented *The Long, the Short and the Tall*. *The Boyfriend* was presented by the Music Department in association with St. Helen's School. Full details of these productions appear later in this edition.

Voluntary Service has continued to send boys of the middle and upper school to visit old people in and around the town. A sponsored litter collection was organized on Field Day in aid of 'Shelter' (£43 was raised). The V.S. also sold its paper for £12 which went to Teasdale House School for the Handicapped.

In the Summer term John Whittington organized a School 'Mufti Day'. Boys were allowed to wear mufti to school on payment of a fine, and proceeds were donated to Amnesty International, a charity which seeks to relieve suffering to political prisoners. Some fiercely hot weather encouraged at least two-thirds of the school to pay up and keep cool.

Mr. Barrett has had two books published recently by Ward Lock: *Feelings into Words* in three volumes, and *The Storyteller*, a selection of short stories. He has also continued to make the school's young writers some of the best broadcast. Here is a sample by Gareth Hoskin:

WHERE I LIVE

Where the gardens are small
and reticent.
Where the weeds luxuriate in
overgrown grass from the winter.
Wooden oak fences segregate
lawn from lawn, flower from flower.
Where women confabulate through
breaches in the fencing.
Where little boys scold
and little girls cry.
Where the blackbird is heedful
and the sparrows are many.
Where the women are all sunburnt
and the husbands are white as snow.
Where all the birds sing, even
the bulky black crow.

and another by Richard Thompson:

TOY CARS

My brother
Sits,
Engrossed in his toy cars.
He is
Oblivious,
Of time,
Or place, or people,
Almost
In a trance.
Little man, little cars,
A whole little world:
All made by his
Mind.
Lost
In his dream world;
Nothing matters;
Except his car:
Fantasy.

Robin Kermode has won a place at Central School of Drama, amid intense competition. Robin has been a stalwart of school drama over the years, and patrons will remember his performances in *Badger's Green*, *The Winslow Boy*, *Journey's End* and in the title part in *Ross*.

Bryon Johnson is the new County under-16 table-tennis Champion—a fair achievement for a boy still in the first form.

The Common Room

There have been few changes in recent months, but we are happy to report increase, and congratulate Richard and Catherine Webber, on the birth of a daughter Rebecca, and David and Marion Hughes, on the birth of their son Richard. Congratulations also to Angus Alton, on his wedding at Easter to Miss Sandra Pettitt.

Donald Willis was unfortunately taken ill during the Lent Term, and spent a little time in Hospital, but is now thankfully back in the Common Room. It is a measure of the school's dependence on Donald for being in several places at once, that at least five of his colleagues united to do what he did, and the insipid nature of this particular edition of the *Abingdonian* is not unconnected with Donald's absence.

Trevor Cale who taught some History and was resident House Tutor at the Lindens, was unfortunately forced to leave us at short notice, and we send him our best wishes. In a hastily reshuffled History Department, trojan work has been done by Edward Jenkins, Clare Johnson, Philip Cowburn and Richard Weatherill, to all of whom we are grateful.

With the departure at the end of the Lent Term of Ron Harrison, the School lost not only an outstanding Bursar but a very good friend. Wing Commander Harrison was appointed in 1973 so his stay at Abingdon was a brief one but in that time he gained the respect and affection of us all. We admired the quietly efficient way in which he introduced computerization into the School accountancy system, the improvements made in School meals—especially perhaps those truly splendid lunches for visiting lecturers or the dinners for special occasions—and the many other effective organizational changes. Above all however, we shall miss for a long time his friendly cheerfulness and his laconic 'no problem' when faced by a seemingly difficult request. Wing Commander Harrison has gone to join Mr. Anderson at Shrewsbury and we wish him and his wife, Maureen, all good fortune there.

Luckily for the School, another R.A.F. man has succeeded and in welcoming as our new Bursar, Group Captain Danny Head, M.B.E., A.M.B.I.M., we can count ourselves extremely fortunate that the School administration is in safe capable hands. We wish Danny Head and his family a long and happy time with us.

Chapel Notes

A new Headmaster and a new Chaplain have obviously had their effect on the Chapel not in terms of good or bad but rather in terms of the blind leading the blind. There are both advantages and disadvantages in having a Chaplain who holds a joint appointment with the School and the Parish. One of the disadvantages is that the burden for taking the Morning Service Sunday by Sunday falls on the Headmaster, my thanks to him for shouldering the burden.

The Morning Service on a Sunday is arranged so that it is followed immediately by a shortened Holy Communion. This arrangement seems on the whole to be a welcome one, certainly as far as numbers are concerned.

One of the advantages of the joint appointment is that I have a reasonable amount of time to spend on pastoral matters. This has been greatly helped by the fact that I have now moved into 6 Park Road, giving all a chance to visit me. On the pastoral side things move slowly, the school had not had a Chaplain for nearly two years before I was appointed, therefore the idea of a Chaplain is new to certain groups within the school and had been forgotten by the rest. The challenge, however, is not just to the Chaplain but to us all, for the question that we must all face is 'What is my ministry within the School?'

I must finish by saying a very large thank you to all who have helped me in my work, and thank you to all who work behind the scenes to make the chapel and its services worthy of God.

A. H. J. L.

Music Notes

To include in an article short enough to satisfy the Editors a worthy account of all musical activities that have taken place during the two winter terms is impossible. Hence many must pass unrecorded, many with the briefest of mentions. The writer apologizes in advance for any ruffled feelings he thus causes.

The first of four concerts given in Trinity Methodist Church was on November 15th, when the programme comprised Britten's *The Golden Vanity*, Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, Handel's *Fourth Organ Concerto* (ably played by Graham Bint) and four items for the Wind Band. The programme on December 16th ranged from Bach and Vivaldi to music specially written by Bryan Kelly. The concert on February 28th was particularly praiseworthy, for the high standard of Chapel Choir, Brass Ensemble and Orchestra in works by Monteverdi and Gabrieli, Brahms's *Alto Rhapsody* (soloist: Mary King) and Vivaldi's *Gloria in D* was achieved when influenza was at its worst. Finally, on March 23rd, orchestras, wind bands and choirs provided mixed fare of ancient and modern, from Handel to Richard Rodney Bennett.

On December 7th, the Choral Society sang Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*. This performance, in which the soloists were Rosemary Lang, Elizabeth Butler, John Nixon and Antony Shelley, was enjoyed both by performers and by the capacity audience, though marred for some by untoward noises off, a serious disadvantage of the magnificent Old Gaol's Great Hall and Little Theatre, rooms that would otherwise be a great boon to Abingdon's music.

From five performances attended, in all, by many hundreds, we turn to two that drew all too few listeners. What others missed, the few enjoyed—recitals of great charm and quality by the Abingdon Consort (of ten voices). The first, on October 11th, was of madrigals of the sixteenth and early-seventeenth centuries, music for which the Unicorn Theatre provided a suitably archaic setting. The second, on February 21st, in the Old Gaol's Little Theatre, ranged wider: Bruckner and Hinemith contrasted with sacred music by di Lasso, Schutz and Lotti, and with works by Telemann and Mozart, sensitively played by Messrs. James, Goulding, Johnson and Deacon.

Some say that schools should leave musicals well alone: the voices of those still at school are too weak to be heard; those who can sing can't act, and vice versa. Such a view is unlikely to be shared by those who enjoyed the joint production by the School and St. Helen's of *The Boy Friend*, performed on four evenings in March. The small size of the Unicorn met the first objection, while the gusto with which the cast sang and acted more than adequately compensated for such defects as those who wished to find them doubtless discovered. Mr. Johnson (violin), Mr. Deacon (piano) and David Blackburn (percussion) constituted an effective orchestra. Hearty congratulations to all concerned, not least to those who provided the excellent refreshments!

The Music Society continues to flourish. It presented a lecture in each term. On October 18th, ninety minutes flashed by as James Blades, helped by Mr. Deacon at the piano, gave in a packed Trinity Methodist Church his talk, 'A World of Percussion', which was as informative as it was entertaining. Jack Brymer's 'My Life with the Clarinet', delivered in the Little Theatre of the Old Gaol on January 24th, was very different in style, but just as enjoyable. Some however, were disappointed that he did not play more, instead of illustrating his talk with records, good though these were. Social activities included Major Rance's lecture on French cheeses, carol-singing just before Christmas, and a visit to *Idomeneo* in March.

Chapel Choir, working very hard under Mr. Johnson's energetic direction, with Mr. Gordon (assisted by Mr. Deacon and Simon Williams) as organist,

is growing in confidence. The lessons that many of its members now receive are having a marked effect on the quality of the singing. Some of the anthems tackled have been very ambitious for a choir containing no adult members, and we look forward to the result of hours of very cold recording in St. Michael's Church. At the Carol Service on the last day of the Michaelmas Term, voices sounded a little tired. So it is as well that the tour of Germany in April (for which fund-raising activities included an admirable talk in January by John Cutforth 'The Life and Music of G. F. Handel') should come after a fortnight of holiday. Useful preparation for this has come from singing services elsewhere, most recently in Peterborough Cathedral. Such visits (the musical equivalent of away matches) are a valuable experience for any choir, as are the informal expeditions to attend choral evensong in Oxford that are becoming increasingly frequent.

Even from this selective review of two terms of musical activity, it must be apparent that an enormous amount of hard work goes on in Music School and Chapel. Of this, and of the Informal Concerts that tell the listener so much about this work, perhaps someone else will write another time. All that can be said here is that at least one listener is very grateful for hours of enjoyment, not only to the performers, but also to Mr. Johnson, Mr. Deacon, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Jones, all their part-time colleagues, and the many parents whose support for the School's music goes far beyond what might reasonably be expected. It was fitting that, near the end of two terms of such varied activity, those most closely associated with it should meet for a happy evening of refreshment and conversation in the School Dining Hall.

H. T. R.

Drama

The year so far has produced four plays, all staged in the recently-adapted Court Room. The Junior Drama Club, under the skilful hand of Mr. Barry Taylor, performed Shaw's *Androcles and the Lion*, and the older section of the Club put on Piner's farce *The Magistrate*, produced by Mr. Webber. The John Roysse Players staged their production of Rattigan's study of Lawrence-in-exile, *Ross*, and Crescent House set a very high standard in House Drama, with their performance of Willis Hall's *The Long, The Short and the Tall*. In addition, the first and second forms, under the management of Mr. Drummond-Hay, laid on a series of six home-brew sketches, and there have been theatre trips to *Uncle Vanya* and *Othello* in Oxford, *Hamlet* in Swindon, *Henry IV* part I at Stratford, and *Macbeth*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* and *Othello* again in London. The Summer Term promises even more dramatic entertainment, with *Waiting for Godot* and *Relatively Speaking* in the offing, and the usual collection of short plays and sketches on Founder's Day. At the moment the intensity of activity is so great that sets have to be cleared on the night of the final performance in order to make room for the dress rehearsal of the following production the next day.

'Androcles'

At the end of Michaelmas term, the Junior Drama Club put on, under the supervision of Mr. Barry Taylor, Shaw's *Androcles and the Lion*. The venture provided a great deal of amusement and interest to those taking part, and their enjoyment seems to have communicated itself to the audience on both nights. Anthony Polack, a newcomer to the school, was an engagingly pacific animal-lover, and with Megaera (Toby Screech) provided some witty domestic squabbling in the forest. Ferrovius (Mark Richardson) was dauntingly aggressive, and the entire cast gave convincing portrayals. What rough edges there were in the production—especially the fact that the new curtain, six inches short, revealed rows of little

Thespian ankles waiting to come on—only increased the evening's entertainment value. All in all, a great success.

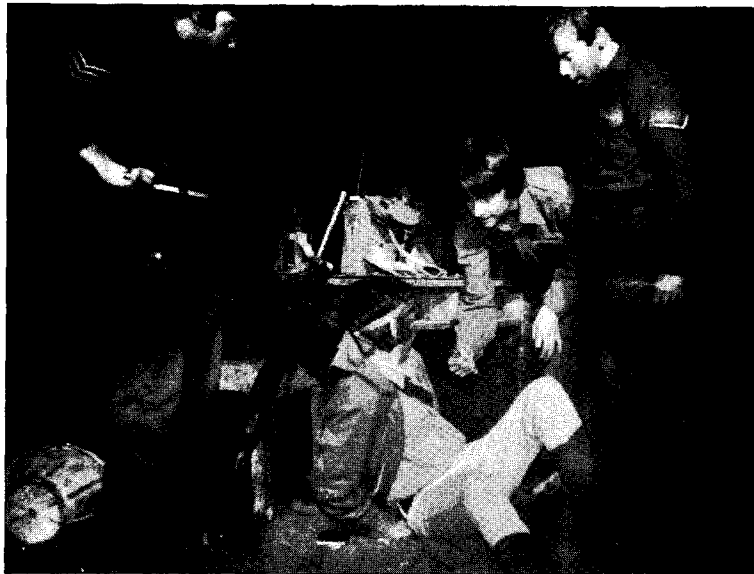
'The Magistrate'

The Magistrate, a late 19th century comedy by Arthur Pinero, was performed by members of the 3rd and 4th forms in the last week of the Lent term. The plot concerns an absent-minded Magistrate, Mr. Posket (ably performed by Timothy Screech), who is faced with the prospect of convicting his own wife of unwittingly drinking after hours on a licensed premises whilst he has been doing likewise in the room next door. Mrs. Posket and her sister Charlotte were played with imagination and suitable extravagance by Patrick Tidmarsh and Peter Lovering. Peter Ireland, as the Postet's precocious son 'Cis', showed the right mixture of innocence and worldliness, whilst of the smaller parts Anthony Polack's portrayal of Mr. Wormington, the adenoidal Clerk to the Justices, was particularly memorable.

What the production lacked in polish it made up for in enthusiasm, and both cast and audiences enjoyed each hilarious, if inevitable situation.

'The Long, the Short and the Tall'

Crescent House performed *The Long, the Short and the Tall* in the Court Room with great skill. The young cast maintained concentration and involvement well, and although movement was sometimes confined and the friendly gallery welcomed being played up to, the general standard was extremely high. Much praise must go to Kirt Peterson, whose attention to detail and enterprise as producer was almost professional. The set was imaginatively conceived and suitably realistic, the front-of-house ran smoothly and undistractingly, and the sense that the entire production team knew where it was heading was powerful. Mark Chapman was convincingly annoying as the barrack-room lawyer Bamforth, and the point about the complete reversal in moral argument that the play suggests was neatly made. Malcolm Legget, as Sergeant Mitchell, was tigerishly earnest, and the rest of the platoon sustained its variety of character-parts extremely well. This was a production of high standard, and all the more merited because it was the outcome of the enthusiasm of the boys alone.



'The Long, The Short and the Tall'

'Ross'

In *Ross*, Terence Rattigan leads us to an overwhelming question. The character of Lawrence of Arabia is notoriously contradictory, and does not yield up with any ease to orthodox analysis. Rattigan obviously does not wish to force any facile 'interpretation' of this character on to us, and consequently, in dramatic terms, presents us with aspects of Lawrence, rather than with a more clearly-rounded figure. This is intellectually honest, but dramatically, hazardous. The consequently rather fragmentary part of Lawrence is a technically challenging, but ultimately ungracious one for the lead actor.

It is to Robin Kermode's considerable credit that he did so many fine things in his Lawrence. I enjoyed his portraiture in the early scenes of *Ross*, the Aircraftman with a difference. He was impressive from the very outset, his own natural poise and dignity suggesting the gulf between *Ross* and his colleagues. Equally, he did justice to the more quirky military aspects of our hero: the studiously incompetent salutes and the slightly overgrown 'Tommy Atkins' quality of Lawrence when faced with top brass were conveyed with relish and clearly found an appreciative audience. I liked his portrayal of the later Lawrence, dogged with both doubt and opposition, a completely different character (yet again) from the clever and witty young officer we saw in the first scenes with *Allenby* (which were superbly done). Indeed, it was in the more uncertain and even neurotic moments that I felt many of the strong points of the performance lay. Kermode was most convincing in the whipping scene, excellent in his malarial nightmare earlier on, and highly effective at the very end in preventing the play's rather subdued conclusion from becoming mere anti-climax. However, we should not forget that Lawrence is described in the play as a 'colourful figure', and I wish that Kermode's interpretation could have made him a little more such.

A colourful character in a very literal sense, was Noah Franklin's *Sheik Auda Abu Tayi*. A relative newcomer to the Abingdon boards, he gave a finely balanced performance that was at times not only *Othello*-like in true dignity (a hint for someone there?), but richly comic in injured dignity. Aided by carefully-calculated furrowed brows and staring eyes, we saw brooding intensity on the one hand, coupled with just the right amount of crass stupidity on the other.

The phenomenal *Brian Shelley* overcame, by dint of his natural technique the fact that he doesn't normally look, or sound, very much like a General. The *Allenby* scenes, though, certainly went with a gusto, and *Shelley* with his usual fecundity of gesture, and innate sense of timing instantly took over the whole stage despite diminutive stature and gave us not only the decisiveness but the quirkiness of the great General.

Moving down the ranks I enjoyed *Guy Colquhoun's Colonel Barrington*. The part clearly suited him and whilst, perhaps, this Colonel remained very much within the bounds of the archetypal, he was none the worse for that, and I was always cheered up when he appeared. I enjoyed *Colquhoun's* range of facial expression and I am pleased that its characteristic mixture of the deadpan and the mildly astonished could find such a congenial outlet on the stage. He clearly enjoyed himself.

As *Ronald Storrs*, the English diplomat, *Charles Hobson* was characteristically impeccable in motion and ingratiating in voice. It is a pity that this is such an uninteresting part (*Rattigan's* fault rather than *Hobson's*), though he should nevertheless be aware of over-seriousness: I found his interpretation of the urbane *Storrs* rather intense in places.

The *Turks*, similarly, had parts which were not easy to make much of. They looked good, of course, resplendent in navy and red, and in red light but even so I felt that of the various groups they were the least well-defined, ethnically. I enjoyed *Dudley Phillips's* portrayal of the epicurean General. He seemed about

a foot taller and ten years older than when I last saw him and this gave him an enormous advantage in the decisive and authoritative aspects of the part.

R.A.F. Uxbridge got the play off to a good start. It was pleasant to see the Morden-Walker comedy team back in business again (and as usual they brought their own audience with them). Simon Morden battled manfully with an intransigent Welsh accent, and communicated a genuine warmth to the part of Aircraftman Evans which certainly convinced me. Tim Walker brought his large frame, voice and personality to the stage and as usual handled his throwaway comic lines with perfect timing. Martin Dennis, deputizing with conspicuous success at very short notice emphasized the calculating suspiciousness of Dickinson, and Chris Wyatt gave us a most professional portrayal of the Flight Sergeant. Full marks, too, to the ubiquitous David Stephenson, particularly in his great moment as 'poor old Higgins'.

In addition to the acting, there was clearly much more going on which contributed to the success of this technically demanding play. Who would have thought that the Court-Room stage could be made so versatile? The small apron which was added gave two advantages: it lessened the tyranny of the proscenium arch, and, despite its small size, managed to make the stage look cavernously deep. Jon Gabitass worked wonders with his space. He managed to make the stage a variety of shapes and sizes. (I enjoyed particularly the arch within an arch of the Turkish scenes and the brilliant placing of Ross's bed on the apron during his nightmare.) I have seldom been aware of a cast and a technical staff so confident in what their business was and how it should be done. Everyone's contribution had an obvious commitment. Special mention should be made of Miss Sobrerajska's make-up. It was not overdone, but its aim was always successful. But then, this was typical of the whole evening. A notable triumph for the John Roysse Players.

MARTIN BLOCKSIDGE

School Music Society

The Society continues to thrive and ends its second season with over 150 family members. The last two terms have been crowded with activities and fund-raising events. Major Rance entertained us with an evening on 'French Cheeses' in October and James Blades brought a vast array of percussion to Trinity Church for his lecture recital in the following month. Over 100 people went carol singing on December 20th and twice that number enjoyed an informal evening with Jack Brymer (clarinet) in January. The Society went on a coach trip to London to see Mozart's opera *Idomeneo* in March which was much enjoyed by all. Many items have been bought for the Music Department with funds raised, ranging from book shelves to camping stoves!

The Fête

For the second time in recent years the school put on fancy dress and held a Fête, in this case to raise nearly £4,000 worth of funds for a minibus. Once again, some capricious weather succeeded in soaking the bunting, but failed utterly to dampen spirits.

There was plenty to do: strapping young men were invited to battle manfully with pillows on a pole; to beat the batsman or the goalie, or to throw a Wellie; to knock off tins, kick footballs through tyres, ride a deathslide and have bales of hay; and finally to collapse exhausted on the sodden turf, or hop fully to stagger gamely to the Dining Hall for one of Josie's cream teas—before wilting anew at the sight of an insatiable horde queuing for a never-ending supply of

scones and cuppas. The more sedate could cruise in veteran cars, look stylish in a Lightning cockpit, or ride in a donkey-cart, while the more ambitious could gaze reverently at motorbikes, drive Go-Karts, or wobble on Space-hoppers. The least inhibited smirked as an endless succession of French mistresses was tipped rudely out of bed.

There was also plenty to see: the martial art of Aikido was demonstrated, but squally gusts deterred the Robins from plummeting to certain death. Those still avid for sensation, however, found ample satisfaction in the medieval barbarousness of the stocks. Here the popular sport of Drench-the-Master was in progress, to the delight of an ever-growing queue of schoolboy sadists armed with brimming buckets of ice and sporting glazed expressions as they watched the auld enemy turn from pink to blue to purple. In the gym, the non-stop soccer-players were battling out the last few hours of their marathon, weary of limb, and pale of face; and outside, a continual relay of cyclists, with the occasional cadaverous figure stretched prone on the verge of Albert Park beside a collapsed bicycle, pedalled grimly on. The spectacle of the Fête was completed by the superb agility and team work of the gymnasts on Waste Court lawn, to the background of the school band.

For those fortunate enough to survive this dizzying riot of delights unscathed, there were still many things to touch their purse-strings. Rows of ever-hopeful customers queued patiently to try their luck at the bottle-stall, and the Court Room was packed with those eager for bargains at the excellent bazaar. Thanks must go especially to all those parents, and friends of the school, who gave so much time to help put together a Fête that gave fun to all, from the first balloon that rose aspiringly to Oxford and perhaps Iceland, to the last immaculate step of Beat-the-Retreat. At the centre of operations was Generalissimo Len Robinson, and his colleagues Anthea Tattersfield, Diana Wilson and Margaret Dennis, Josie Ashby and Vera Jefferson; while from the school end all those staff who lived to tell the tale will know of the great effort made by David Crawford, Chris Biggs and Ron Harrison.



French Mistress tipped

C.C.F. Notes

Most of our efforts in the Lent Term were concentrated on the regular training, and there is not a great deal to report. The Naval Section spent an enjoyable day at Portsmouth on Field Day, even if some of the activities were a little extempore. They have also continued to enjoy the help of C.P.O. Kettle, to whom we are as always most grateful.

The Army section were without Capt. Willis, who, we are delighted to say, is now back with us (how we missed him on Arduous Training), but the Artillery passed the remaining part of their classification exam, and the fourth forms made further progress towards proficiency. They passed a very worth while Field Day at Aldershot, firing on the cinematograph range, and tackling a fairly fearsome assault course with courage. We are most grateful to the O.U.O.T.C. and to B.S.M. Emmanuel for their help.

The R.A.F. Section goes from strength to strength. The proficiency exam results which came through during the term were very good indeed; three cadets, Watson, Hobbs and Lewis D. M. have won flying scholarships (and we are still awaiting news about two other boys)—and Under-Officer Sealy became the second cadet in two years to be selected for an International Cadet Exchange (he will go to America this summer) and in addition was the first cadet for many years to be awarded the A.O.C.'s Certificate. Their Field Day was, for a change, on the Downs, and was much enjoyed. We are grateful to Flight-Sergeant Bamber for his continued help.

Holiday activities were many and varied—apart from Arduous Training (report elsewhere)—four cadets went to Malta; the R.A.F. spent their Annual Training in Germany, and twelve cadets (eventually) had a very instructive week; two R.A.F. cadets attended a gliding course, and are now qualified gliders; and several cadets went on R.N. courses, including a Royal Marine Commando Course, Naval Aviation, gunnery, sailing and a visit to Navy Day.

Finally I should like to thank all those who have helped in many ways with the C.C.F. this term—particularly Capt. Fox who coped magnificently despite having to take over the duties of Head groundsman while Mr. Bagshaw was ill.

L. C. J. G.

Out and About

Many worthwhile activities have taken place during the holidays, and we include three brief accounts.

Hammerbank

For the third year running a party of nearly fifty boys in the second form left school for a week of fell-walking and compass navigation in the Lake District. Based at an almost improbably beautiful hostel site on the banks of Windermere, the four groups experienced some extremes of weather—driving rain, brilliant sunshine, snow and howling gales—and learnt a great deal about safety, but for most the really memorable moments included a sudden view of the snow-capped Crinkle Crags, after crossing them in thick cloud; walking down the Dove Valley in almost unbelievable peace; and, for some, an unexpected rock traverse around Great Gable. Mr. Haynes once again organized this outstandingly successful venture with efficiency and humour.

Hammerbank: A personal view

Rain, rain, rain . . . and wind and wind and wind . . . rain and wind . . . rain, wind, hills . . . rain, wind, hills, and Hammarbank.

The rain lashed cold against our faces like little stones, and the wind hurled real stones against our faces.

Then there was the hard slog up, with those moments of relief—the stops.

But on the top of a mountain the sun comes out. It seems a paradox: the sun, glinting on snow drifts, laced with bare rocks. Then you look further afield and see that the long slog up was worthwhile: you see mountains, not the sharp-topped mountains of childhood, but smooth mountains, craggy mountains, bulbous mountains . . . the list is endless. You see lakes, glistening in the now brightly shining sun. You see everything, almost.

Then comes the descent. The wind eases. It slaps gently at your kagoul, giving you invisible support. You feel like running, but you can't, you're not allowed to.

Now as you go lower still, the snow drifts are just dirty, trodden black marks. It becomes warmer, but then it's up again: up, up, up, to the top of what seems to be Everest, but when you're there it's all worthwhile. Dinner. Picnic! Picnic on a mountain! At first it seems almost stupid, but then you realise how hungry you really are and how much better the food tastes up here than down there, so far below.

Then you're off again, another mountain or two before tea, tea at Hammarbank. Hammarbank, home of pillow fights, ransacked beds, table-tennis . . . and sleep.

RICHARD SCHOFIELD

Chapel Choir Trip to Germany

The Chapel Choir undertook a highly successful trip to Germany, with a small group of accompanying instrumentalists. There were six performances, including two in Altenburg Cathedral, which were well received, and plenty of time for sight-seeing. Memorable incidents were visits to the Hohenschwongau and Neuschwanstein castles, once the seat of the mad King Ludwig II of Bavaria, some additional amusement afforded by American tourists, and Mr. Johnson's rainbow-coloured hat.

Arduous Training at Carsphairn

Arduous training, held as usual at Carsphairn this Easter, lived up to its name. With rain on everyday and extremely strong winds many of the walks were tough going. The walk up to Afton on the first day was the most difficult with visibility down to next to nothing at windy standard. Thankfully the weather improved a little from then on, and the last walk—over Beninner—was experience, with some very good views.

Societies

Although the major activities catch the headlines, School societies have continued to flourish in small paragraphs.

The **Film Society** varied its programme interestingly, and managed to include some highly notable films. In the Winter term *The Poseidon Adventure*, *Goodbye Columbus* and *Vanishing Point* were shown to aficionados, together with *X*—a film that proved to be as intriguing as its title. *Zabriskie Point* and Robert Altman's *Images* were shown, the latter being thought-provoking and visually beautiful. Finally Michael Apted captured magnificently both the bizarre tension and relaxed beauty of H. G. Wells's *The Triple Echo*. Martin Dennis and Dudley Phillips projected the films, and Mr. Alton sensitively sponsored the Society.

The **Scientific Society** met five times, to discuss matters ranging from the problems of farming red deer to the feasibility of large scale liquid hydrogen production to supplement oil reserves. David Howarth (O.A.) spoke on 'Ecology in the Highlands of Scotland', with many interesting insights into interaction of

plant and animal life. Dr. Lister, Mr. Loxdale and Dr. Stubbs spoke on 'Safety and Nuclear Power', and Dr. Stubbs returned to talk on 'Harwell Today', a meeting notable for its lively debate. Three films were shown, and David Torrens was elected Ball Science Essay Prizewinner.

The Philatelic Society has bought and sold stamps continually, including some from inter-school approval books. The classic documentary *Night Mail* was shown to society members and some from the Railway Society, and also *After the Arrow* and *From Picture to Post*. This year also marks the retirement of secretary Simon de Lusignan, whose energies have been invaluable.

The Railway Society is a newcomer on the society scene, arising from a visit to the new National Railway Museum at York, led by Mr. Parker and Mr. Aspinall, and a conducted tour of the York locomotive sheds. Thanks to T.A.S.S.'s generosity the Society has gathered steam, purchasing a filmstrip on signalling, and during the Easter holidays a successful excursion to the Torbay Steam Railway took place.

The Abingdon Inter-Sixth Form Society has flourished. Representatives Roger Humm and David Lewis report (rather suspiciously) that 'reorganization' has left them with 'a large bank balance'. This has been sufficient, however, to sponsor such disparate activities as the John Mason Folk Evening, a Six-a-Side football tournament, and a special showing of *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*.

The Literary Society held two meetings, both attended by large numbers, including guests from St. Helen's. Dr. Stephen Gill gave a talk on D. H. Lawrence which was widely appreciated, and one of the Society's best floor discussions followed, until the eventual rescue of the speaker. Later in the term Bruce Mitchell, another speaker from Oxford University, gave a highly entertaining talk, illustrated by slides, about the literature and culture of the Anglo-Saxons. Further meetings, and a writing competition, are planned.

The Junior Mathematical Society, another newly-formed group, has met every week in the Wantage Laboratory, where thanks to a T.A.S.S. grant boys have enjoyed a feast of games and puzzles, including Mastermind, Press-Ups and Thoughtwave. An open Mastermind competition was won by Mark Round.

SPORT

Hockey Notes

Truly an extraordinary season—never has so much hockey been played and so few matches been cancelled through bad weather—in fact only one—but what a pity that it had to be the Hockey Association match! It would be good to be able to record that the results were as good as the weather, but alas it was not so.

In other ways, too, it was an unusual season. Mr. Bagshaw was away, through illness, for most of the term—it is very good to see him back among us now. During his absence Mr. Fox filled in the gap with his usual cheerful efficiency, and we are most grateful to him and to the ground staff for rallying round. Then there was the 'flu—which played havoc with practice games, but which affected only one match seriously, when the colts could not play Warwick, since four of the side were ill, and four others were filling gaps in the 2nd XI. There were two innovations and one revival. No house matches were played this year; and for the first time for many years, the staff XI played the first XI—and suffered an honourable defeat by 2—0. The other innovation was that the third form XI was formed, largely from boys who had played representative hockey

at prep. school, and played two matches against a Junior Colts 'B' side, and won them both. This augurs well for the future.

Finally I should like to thank all those who have helped with taking games this term—in particular two of our students—Tim Norfolk (who also helped Oxford to beat Cambridge) and Roy Hyde.

L.C.J.G.

First Eleven

Fourteen matches, only 4 wins; not, on the face of it, a very impressive record. Yet there was no shortage of enthusiasm; equally, there was no shortage of effort. Perhaps there was, in general, a shortage of basic skills and natural flair. Indeed, apart from three or four positions, there was not a significant difference, as there has been in some years, between the strengths (and weaknesses) of the 1st and 2nd XIs. The reality was that some of the opposition was unarguably a class or two superior to us, and better sides than this year's would have been defeated. Magdalen (who later beat Kingston G.S., no less), St. Edward's, Radley, Bradfield and Bloxham were all clearly more talented teams, man for man, and it was no disgrace to go down to any of them. Four of these fixtures occurred early on in the term and this, too, was a problem; the team was under so much pressure with the forwards helping out a gallant, but stretched, defence that it was difficult in these early games for us to get together and dictate the game tactically. Unfortunately, too, we often failed to convert half (or even full) chances in front of goal; until the last few matches this applied also to short corners, the conversion of which is so vital in the current hockey world.

In our '2nd division' fixtures, Pangbourne, Newbury and Solihull took their chances; we didn't. Reading equalized with 3 minutes to go. Welcome victories were achieved against Oxford School (3—0), King Alfred's (3—0), High Wycombe (2—0)—a good result, this one, and a Staff XI was put in their place (2—0) to conclude the season.

Tony Allen kept goal splendidly and thoroughly deserved his full colours. Simon Morden's tackling was consistently strong and reliable and he and Miles Hitchcock played steadily at the back. Charles Lowe did much to hold the side together at centre-half; his square crossfield passing to either wing was particularly impressive. Dennis Lanham and Steven Lawson (who finally took over from Bill Homewood) were competent and competitive wing-halves. Charles Hobson, leading goalscorer, got through a remarkable amount of work from inside-left and, together with Lowe, did much to keep morale high, despite disappointments. The standard of stickwork was rather limited this year, perhaps, but Hobson showed that he could take on and beat defences on occasions. David Thomas and Laurence Jones-Walters tried hard but lacked that elusive goalscoring touch. Nicholas Kay's comparative lack of finesse was compensated for by his aggression and tenacity. David Rimmer often took the eye with his speed on the right wing, but somehow his promising and thrustful runs never led to goals. A pass from defence to inside-forward, a through pass to the wing, a run and hard centre and the conversion by an inside-forward; easily said, but so difficult to achieve in practice! One successful set-piece move was the first-time deflection by Charles Hobson from a free hit from outside the circle on the right; three times, I think, this worked and a goalpost thwarted at least two other attempts.

It is to the team's credit that they kept trying in every game to the final whistle; their enjoyment of their hockey matches the remarkable weather; a rewarding season, after all.

Congratulations to Lowe, Hobson, Allen and Thomas for their full colours and to the rest of the team for their half colours. The final eleven was: A. J. Allen; S. Morden, M. Hitchcock; S. J. Lawson, C. R. Lowe (Capt.), D. J. Lanham, D. C. Rimmer, L. M. Jones-Walters, D. A. Thomas, C. W. P. Hobson, N. Kay.

N. H. P.



Mr. Crawford drenched

Results

Pangbourne College	Wed	21 Jan	(a)	Lost	0—4
Magdalen College School	Sat	24 Jan	(h)	Lost	0—2
St. Edward's School	Thurs	29 Jan	(a)	Lost	0—4
Reading School	Sat	31 Jan	(h)	Drew	2—2
Radley College	Sat	7 Feb	(a)	Lost	1—5
Oxford School	Wed	11 Feb	(a)	Won	3—0
Newbury School	Wed	18 Feb	(h)	Lost	1—2
Bradfield College	Sat	28 Feb	(h)	Lost	0—2
King Alfred's School	Wed	3 Mar	(h)	Won	3—0
Solihull School	Sat	6 Mar	(h)	Lost	0—2
R.G.S. High Wycombe	Wed	10 Mar	(h)	Won	2—0
Old Abingdonians	Sat	13 Mar	(h)	Lost	1—3
Bloxham School	Sat	20 Mar	(h)	Lost	0—3
Common Room XI	Mon	22 Mar	(h)	Won	2—0

That match against the Hockey Association was cancelled.

Second Eleven Hockey Report

This has been both a successful and an enjoyable season. The only defeats have been at the hands of M.C.S. Oxford, St. Edward's School—both very good hockey schools, with great strength in depth—and Shiplake College 1st XI, where the side was a bit unlucky not to gain a draw. We gained victories over Pangbourne, Newbury, King Alfred's Wantage, High Wycombe, and finally Solihull in an excellent match.

These encouraging results reflected our feelings at the beginning of the season: we felt we had a reasonably strong 2nd XI pool, though without enough strong players to form a distinguished 1st XI. It was also thought the 2nds would only do well if the forwards were able to keep scoring freely, since the defence would tend to be a little fallible. This also proved to be true, as a final goal tally of 27 for, and 29 against, shows, including 4 goals scored in each of the Pangbourne, Radley, Newbury and High Wycombe games. Individually, Kay showed himself a determined centre-forward before his elevation to the 1st XI, Thomas showed a good deal of control at inside-right, Sibilia had several excellent matches—particularly in the first halves—and Thackwray took to centre-half very well in the closing stages of the season. Sackett has plenty of skill, and though lacking a little in determination picked up a goal in every game he played, and K. Reid improved throughout the season.

The whole team played with plenty of enthusiasm (which sometimes became a trifle too robust in its effects!) and showed some very pleasing touches in virtually every match. In terms of our modest pretensions at hockey, this was an excellent season.

Team included: Reid, C., Reid, K., Hewing, Robinson, Evans, White, Lawson, Thackwray, Hillary, Scibilia, Thomas P., Kay, Sackett, McCreery, Stephen.

A. C. ALTON,

Colts

A lively side which improved as the season progressed but never really produced the performances of which it was capable, with the possible exception of the last two matches. Against St. Edwards—a good side—there was panic, and the result was an appalling exhibition of bad hockey. The three other matches lost could all have been won.

The halves usually played well, though they could have distributed the ball with greater variety and made more use of the square pass. Nonetheless there are three very promising players. The backs were never really reliable enough, and were inclined to strike wildly at the ball and be somewhat aimless in their passing. All the defence could have been tighter in their marking. The forwards were variable. There were some fine individual efforts on occasions, and a few goals came from good movements, but on the whole they tended to be individuals; this was particularly true of the three inside forwards—the wings both did their jobs well enough and were pretty reliable, though they were not given as many opportunities as they might have been. Robinson in goal had a good season—he made some fine saves on occasion and has a good sense of when to come out, demolishing many an attack by so doing. Holding set a good example as Captain, and worked very hard, both as forward and as centre half.

The final arrangement of the team was: Robinson; Stanton-King, Allen; Regan, Holding, Johnson; Benjamin, Hutber, Slingsby, Hobbs, Little. Also played: Burles, Redwood.

Results

A 'B' team match was also played against Radley which was narrowly lost 2—1.

Colts Eleven				
Pangbourne	Wed	21 Jan	(a)	Lost 1—3
Magdalen College School	Sat	24 Jan	(h)	Lost 0—1
St. Edwards	Thurs	29 Jan	(a)	Lost 0—7
Reading	Sat	31 Jan	(h)	Won 4—3
Radley (A and B)	Sat	7 Feb	(h)	Lost 0—1
Warwick	Sat	28 Feb	(h)	Cancelled 'flu
Solihull	Sat	6 Mar	(h)	Drew 2—2
Newbury	Sat	13 Mar	(h)	Won 7—0
Bloxham	Sat	20 Mar	(h)	Won 6—1

Junior Colts Eleven

This was a very interesting term of hockey for all concerned; not least because of the large number of matches played.

As usual, the early performance was marred by inexperience and the lack of even a reasonable practice pitch. This led to several large defeats away from home on small, fast pitches. Anyhow, morale stayed high and the results began to improve. Robson, the captain, dominated mid-field play by the end of the term and was soundly assisted by Hoggarth and Carrie. Coates became a very competent 'keeper in the few weeks after his discovery and everyone, for that matter, improved considerably.

R.C.B.C.

The following represented the team: J. N. Westmore, E. G. Coates, D. G. Merriman, M. A. Hurry, T. P. C. Clift, T. D. Robson, A. L. S. Carrie, W. A. Hoggarth, R. S. Fish, A. R. Thomas, I. M. Bye, W. B. C. Gow, A. R. Dibble, S. R. L. Miller, C. N. Hutton, J. Marsh, P. R. Todd, C. D. Thomas.

Results

Pangbourne College	Wed	21 Jan	(h)	Lost 0—2
Magdalen College School	Sat	24 Jan	(a)	Lost 1—6
St. Edward's School	Thurs	29 Jan	(h)	Lost 0—4
Reading School	Sat	31 Jan	(a)	Lost 1—8
Radley College	Sat	7 Feb	(a)	Won 1—0
Warwick School	Sat	28 Feb	(a)	Lost 1—8
K.A.S. Wantage	Wed	3 Mar	(a)	Won 1—0
Solihull	Sat	6 Mar	(a)	Lost 0—3
Newbury	Sat	13 Mar	(h)	Won 3—0
Shiplake College	Wed	17 Mar	(a)	Drew 2—2
Bloxham School	Sat	20 Mar	(a)	Drew 2—2

Rugby Club Report

This year the Senior teams have fared less well than the Junior ones. The Senior teams won about one third of their matches, whereas the Junior teams won at least two thirds of theirs. The final Club result was Played 89, Won 50, Lost 35, Drawn 4, Points for 1,405, Points against 1,198, % won 57.

The Minors have had an outstanding season winning all of their games. They are a well balanced side and have played some excellent rugby. Mr. Woodgett and the team deserve all praise for the manner in which the team has played and the results achieved.

The Juniors were tipped to be one of the weaker teams before the season started, but they defied their critics and produced under their mentor Mr. Drummond-Hay a very hard brand of Junior rugby. Opposition packs were seen to wince at the prospect of another set scrummage with the pack. There seemed to be no individual stars, this was a team where all played for each other, and combined together in a formidable way.

The most prolific scorers were the Junior Colts, encouraged by Mr. Eden to keep the play as open as possible and to use as much of the pitch as was available. They produced some splendid rugby and promise well for the future.

Mr. Gabitass worked his usual magic with the Colts and the team although lacking in mobility played some fine rugby. Certainly no front row could have looked more fearsome, or taken the short line-out ball better.

The first to fourth XV's did not obtain as good results as the above teams, but they played with determination and were always willing to try to improve their skill level.

The Juniors won the Junior rugby shield and Nicholas Williams won the cup for the best place kicker of the season.

All the teams owe a great deal to the dedication of their coaches, but the 2nd XV owe perhaps more than most to Don Willis, who came back to game One and gave all the benefit of his vast experience. We all wish him a speedy recovery and thank him for all he has done for Abingdon Rugby over the years.

D.G.C.

First Fifteen 1975

The team played 13, Won 4, Lost 7, Drew 2, Points for 133, Points against 188, % Won 30.

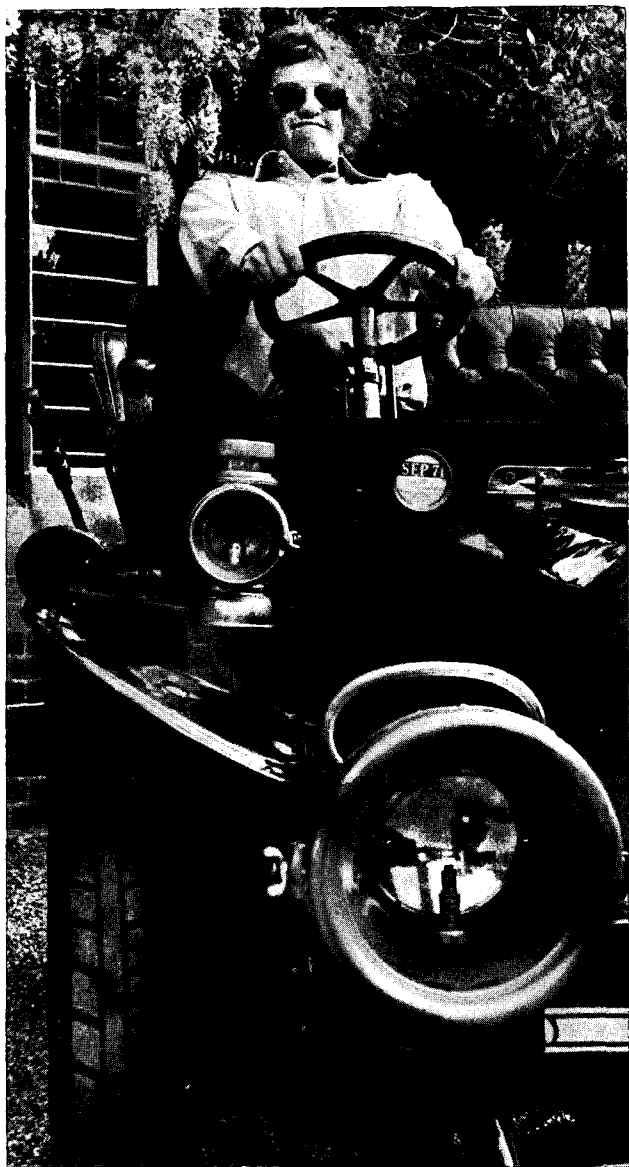
The fixture list was stronger this year with the addition of Berkhamsted, St. Edward's and Marlborough and the exclusion of Dean Close, High Wycombe and Oxford. This however was not the reason for the side faring less well than it should have done.

The first match of the season was against Berkhamsted and we played with a good deal of spirit to draw a game which could easily have been lost. However this strength of character was not to be present on all future occasions, indeed it was missing on most. When the team contrived to find its confidence it played very well indeed, but all too often the work was left to others and the team degenerated into a half-hearted collection of individuals who seemingly did not have enough pride to do itself justice.

Of course there were exceptions, the most noticeable being Lawrence Despres, who gave everything, and then some in every game. He was a tower of strength, a true leader by example who tried his utmost to bring the others on.

The team changed very little throughout the season, a reflection of the lack of depth at the top. Bobby Price was finally played as a full back after trying his hand as fly half. Well co-ordinated and an elusive runner he was always dangerous in attack and effective in defence. He captained the side well, rarely making any erroneous decisions.

Andy Murdock and Stephen Young on the wings did not receive as much of the ball as they would have liked, but when they did they ran effectively. A little more fire would have helped on occasions however. There were problems in the Centre. Tony Allen, a flanker by inclination, was converted to this position and all credit to him for persevering with the job. Simon Johnson started off very well in the centre, but then lost some of his confidence and did not really play at his best in the latter half of the season. However his goalkicking did save us on many occasions. Dennis Lanham was the most consistent threequarter, playing well either at full back, centre or fly half. His play improved steadily throughout the season.



Tony Allen—'just imagining'

At half-back Dave Rimmer showed promise. Tough and elusive, but he will have to learn to kick by next season. Robin Scibilia came into the team rather late and should perhaps have been selected earlier. He kicked and passed well and always did his best in defence.

With 'Jack' Lemoine coming into the team after a lay-off from rugby for a few seasons the front row with Marcus Hurry and Richard Balkwill was beaten by few opponents. They provided a fairly solid platform for the rest of the scrum to push on. Charles Lowe and Lawrence Despres pushed well at lock and Charles developed into a very effective line out jumper at number two. Lawrence provided a great deal of fire and took over the scrum leadership after a few matches.

The back row lacked pace and we rarely beat the opposition to the second phase ball. Colin Robinson, Steve Lawson and Russel Taylor tried their best, but there is little that can be done about a lack of real pace. Their mauling was good however, when they did arrive at the breakdown.

Against Magdalen we played exciting confident flowing rugby, and against Radley we produced a great effort to run out losers by 3 points in a game which was a moral victory for us. However, moral victories do not count in the score-line and we still have to beat them at first team level. Marlborough produced a team of giants and played some incredibly unimaginative rugby. We should have been beaten by a wide margin, but a determined effort kept the score well down.

At the end of the season one was left with a feeling of disappointment. The team could have achieved much more than it did. Other teams in the school lacked the skills that this group had, but had the determination and pride to give nothing away and play with great zest and fire. It was these latter qualities that we lacked. We were too feeble and too unbothered too often, and we failed to try to rectify our individual faults during the week. As a result the enjoyment that the players obtained was less than it should have been, and their satisfaction at the end of the season cannot have been high.

These who played: Price, Lanham, Murdock, Young, Noble, Johnson, Allen, Scibilia, Rimmer, Despres, Hazeldine, Balkwill, Hurry, Lemoine, Lowe, Peck, Taylor, Lawson, Robinson, Holding, McCreery, Holding.

Results

1st XV	v	Berkhamsted	Away	Drew	4—4
	v	Bloxham	Home	Won	13—3
	v	St. Edwards	Away	Lost	0—31
	v	Magdalen	Home	Won	24—12
Tour	v	Henley	Away	Drew	16—16
	v	Radley	Home	Lost	6—9
	v	Reading	Home	Won	12—9
	v	Solihull	Away	Lost	6—22
	v	Marlborough	Home	Lost	9—17
	v	Thame	Away	Lost	4—13
	v	Newbury	Home	Lost	13—15
	v	Pangbourne	Away	Won	26—6
	v	Warwick	Away	Lost	0—31

Second Fifteen

This proved an enjoyable season with some very good matches played; and for me, personally, it was a pleasure to return to more vigorous training of Game I. As is normal, the side lost players from time to time to the First Fifteen and in this respect, Hobson, Kay, McCreery, Peck and Scibilia are to be congratulated. We

also had our share of injury and illness, both Driver and Thomas being sadly missed for part of the term.

The standard of play was generally good although defence left something to be desired in the tougher games. A poor start against Berkhamsted and heavy defeats by St. Edward's and Radley, against both of whom we played indifferently and suffered injury, certainly spoiled the team's record but were, to some extent, redeemed by a run of victories in the second half of the season against Thame, Newbury, Pangbourne and John Mason.

In addition to those who received promotion to the First Fifteen, mention must be made of Semmence, a fine scrum-half in the making; the greatly improved play of full-back, Jones-Walters; the hard running of Hammond and Noble on the wings; the defensive play of Olliffe, and the sterling work in the pack of Hazeldine, Cook, Holding, Bartlett and Williams.

The team was normally captained, most effectively, by Nick Kay although on occasion Hazeldine or Noble deputized.

The team was selected from: L. M. Jones-Walters; D. J. Driver, S. P. Hammond, C. W. P. Hobson, N. P. Kay (Capt.), P. A. Noble, J. Baragwanath, T. D. Olliffe, R. M. Tourret, D. A. Thomas, T. C. Semmence, R. Scibilia, A. H. Cook, N. J. Hazeldine, M. Holding, C. J. Bartlett, B. A. L. Peck, S. F. Williams, A. J. Furley, R. N. Freeman, P. J. Eccles, R. J. Humm, C. P. Sowden and G. A. McCreery.

D.O.W.

Results

Berkhamsted School	(h)	Lost	0—36
Bloxham School	(h)	Won	38— 4
Shiplake Coll.1st XV	(h)	Lost	7—35
St. Edward's School	(a)	Lost	3—56
Magdalen Coll. School	(a)	Lost	8—14
Radley College	(h)	Lost	4—58
Reading School	(a)	Lost	6—12
Solihull School	(a)	Lost	6—12
Marlborough College	(h)	Lost	0—41
Thame School	(h)	Won	20— 3
Newbury School	(a)	Won	26— 9
Pangbourne College	(h)	Won	17—11
John Mason 1st XV	(a)	Won	12— 9
Warwick School	(h)	Lost	3—38
Old Abingdonians	(h)	Won	

Third Fifteen

Although the results this season seem to suggest a somewhat mediocre performance this is far from the truth. The quality of play achieved was at times quite outstanding, and it can only be a matter of conjecture to muse on what might have been if the original squad had stayed together.

However, Rugby is a game of realities and four of our best players were destined permanently to fill places in the more Senior teams. An unusual number of injuries at the top also meant that the 3rd XV provided the pool of players called upon to fill the gaps. It is therefore not surprising that the same combination of boys seldom played together consecutively.

Despite these handicaps, every player responded willingly to the challenge. This was a team who never gave up, no matter what the points situation or the prevailing conditions, and I can think of no greater commendation than this.

It would be appropriate to pay individual tribute to each player since everyone acquired himself with honour, but space will not permit this luxury. I should like to mention three individuals who in their different ways played a key role in the team's style of play. Morden captained the team for most of the season and was a tower of strength in the pack. He was supported by J. Johnson playing at scrum-half who was initially responsible for much of the creative flair around the scrum and gave a quiet air of confidence in many a tight situation. Finally, P. Eccles, at full-back must be considered the most improved player of the season. His play matured steadily and he rapidly reached the position of being considered the most reliable player by the rest of the team. His running from deep positions, taking the opposition cover to pieces in the process, was a fine sight to behold, as was his immaculate catching of the ball from high kicks.

C. J. BIGGS

Results

3rd XV	v	Marlborough	(a)	Lost	6—34
	v	Berkhamsted	(h)	Lost	4—18
	v	Bloxham	(a)	Won	19—6
	v	St. Edward's	(a)	Lost	0—32
	v	Radley	(h)	Lost	6—21
	v	Cokethorpe 1st XV	(A)	Lost	9—50
	v	Reading	(h)	Won	10—0
	v	Solihull	(h)	Lost	3—16
	v	Bearwood 2nd XV	(h)	Won	14—10
	v	Thame	(a)	Won	28—0
	v	Newbury	(a)	Drew	12—12
	v	Pangbourne	(a)	Won	44—0
	v	Warwick	(a)	Lost	0—14

Fourth Fifteen

To some extent against expectations, the team completed its best season for some years, both in terms of actual results and also in quality of play and degree of sportsmanship.

N.K.H.

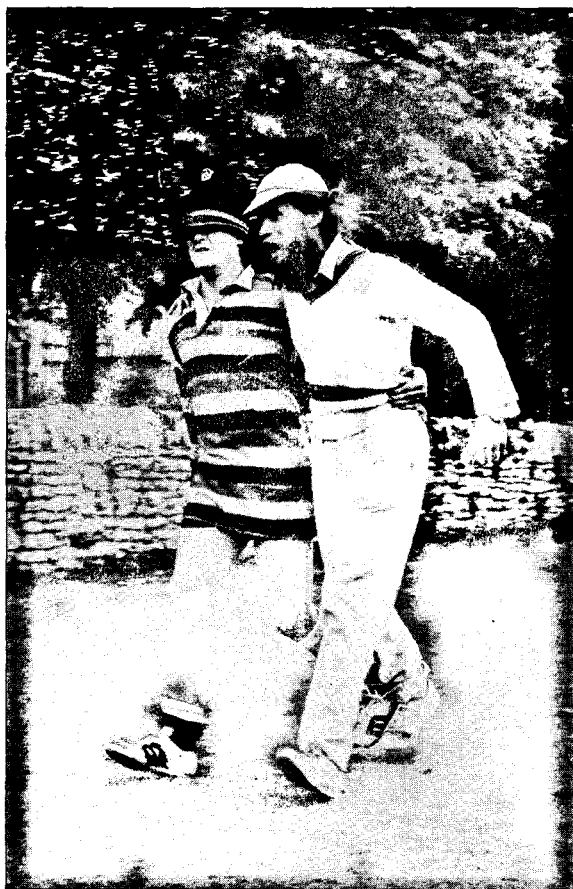
4th XV	v	Marlborough	(a)	Lost	0—76
	v	Shiplake	(h)	Won	30—0
	v	St. Edward's		Cancelled	
	v	Cokethorpe	(a)	Drew	8—8
	v	Reading	(h)	Lost	6—17
	v	Solihull	(h)	Won	10—4

Colts' Fifteen

This year's Colts' side began its season against very stiff opposition. Oratory, unbeaten for two years, were overcome, but three 'gift' tries allowed a first-half supremacy over Marlborough to crumble rapidly into a firm defeat. Seven of the first eight fixtures were away, and the side was slow to settle. There were problems in finding a fast, mobile back row, and also at full-back, after Holding had moved up to number 8 and become one of the season's successes. Some exceptionally skilful open rugby began to emerge, however, and although the side never sustained such play throughout a match, there were episodes, against Magdalen, John Mason and Warwick when Abingdon completely controlled the game.

The pack usually reigned supreme. The tight five, although slow in the loose, dominated the set pieces, and the formidable, indeed bionic, front row of Slingsby, Gnapp and Spittles was never bettered. The latter figured improbably in two sixty-yard dashes along the wing in the match against Warwick. Behind the scrum the play was erratic. Newbury paid them the compliment of being the best set of Backs they had seen all season, but there were some moments of absurdity and bathos: a great deal, and occasionally, everything, was owed to the tremendous courage of Mitchell. Burles looked a useful prospect, and Robinson often ran well, especially against Bloxham. In a year that met with strong opposition the side played well and promised great things for the future.

J. R. GABITASS



Three-legged limber-up

The following played: Spittles, Regan, Robinson, Burles, Jones, Edwards, King, Mitchell, O'Driscoll, Larsen, Holding, Hodkinson, Joy, Harris, Slingsby, Crapp. The team also included: Howes, Emerton, Scriven.

Results

v	Marlborough	(a)	Lost	10—29
v	Oratory	(h)	Won	8—0
v	Bloxham	(a)	Won	21—4
v	St. Edward's	(a)	Lost	12—16
v	John Mason	(a)	Won	55—0
v	Magdalen	(a)	Won	37—7
v	Radley	(a)	Lost	0—15
v	Reading	(a)	Won	16—12
v	Bearwood	(h)	Won	21—12
v	Newbury	(h)	Won	26—10
v	Pangbourne	(a)	Lost	0—33
v	Warwick	(h)	Won	54—0

'B' XV Fixtures:

v	Marlborough	(a)	Lost	6—36
v	St. Edward's	(a)	Lost	6—19
v	Radley	(a)	Lost	0—70

Junior Colts

It was expected that this year's Junior Colts would have a good season and the only matches lost were against Marlborough and St. Edward's, fairly early in the season, in each of which it was physique which was the deciding factor.

The team was a well balanced one—particularly strong in the front five and in the backs—but lacked real power and flair in the back row.

Most of the practices were devoted to the basic skills, particularly passing, and the benefits of this will hopefully accrue in the Colts' squad next year.

However, how a team can be coached out of a persistent determination to 'snatch defeat from the jaws of victory' is another matter. It seems to be an Abingdon trait which even the best sides succumb to.

H.E.

Team: Cameron, Ashley, Robson, Madgick, Carrie, Halsey, Messer, Williams, Robertson, Merriman, Rogers, Hurry, James, Douglas, Drew, Dacre.

Results

Marlborough	Lost	12—30
Berkhamsted	Won	64—0
Bloxham	Won	35—3
Solihull	Won	18—8
St. Edward's	Lost	12—31
Magdalen C.S.	Won	28—3
Radley	Won	22—10
Reading	Won	24—16
Thame	Won	19—12
Newbury	Won	28—0
Pangbourne	Won	29—0
Warwick	Won	24—8

Junior Fifteen

With so many first formers playing in the Minors XV last year, the problem at the beginning of the season was, not only to fill the gaps left by these boys, but also to blend together the best possible combination up front and in the three-quarters.

Only three changes were necessary in the pack. Graham Radford-Smith provided the extra strength to the front row. Tim Reenan adapted extremely well to his new position at blind-side wing forward, and Bryn Rhys improved with every game at No. 8. The excellent record of the Junior XV owes a great deal to all eight forwards. They certainly came up against heavier packs, so their task was by no means easy. Drive and sheer determination accounted for much of their success. Sound scrummaging technique and total commitment in all phases of loose-play demoralized the opposition, and resulted in good quality possession in all the battles up front.

The three-quarters took rather more time to settle, and even by the end of the season it was difficult to finalize the 'A' XV line. Michael Fulwell eventually settled at fly-half, combining well with Geoffrey Lanham and Adrian Round. It is not possible in this report to give mention to all players who gave so much to Junior Rugby this season. However, Talbot Peterson's tackling in the centre was a decisive factor in every game, as was Ian Viney's and Robert Starway's determined running.

The 'A' XV ended the season winning 15 of the 19 matches played, and in doing so, well deserved the award of the Junior Rugby Shield for 1975. The 'B' XV played with purpose, and in spite of their poor record before Christmas, individual skill improved considerably during the Lent term.

The following played in the side: J. A. Littlewood, A. P. Jones, J. H. Kingston, R. I. Stanway, J. Cook, T. Jefferson, T. R. Peterson, I. F. Viney, M. S. Fulwell, G. P. Lanham, A. J. Round, G. L. Radford-Smith, G. E. S. Wilson, D. J. Darnborough, F. W. Charlton, P. J. Burren, C. F. Hubbard, A. N. Trigle, T. J. Reenan, D. A. Game, A. H. Linley, D. C. P. Griffith, R. F. Benjamin (Capt. Michaelmas term); B. R. J. Rhys (Capt. Lent term).

Results

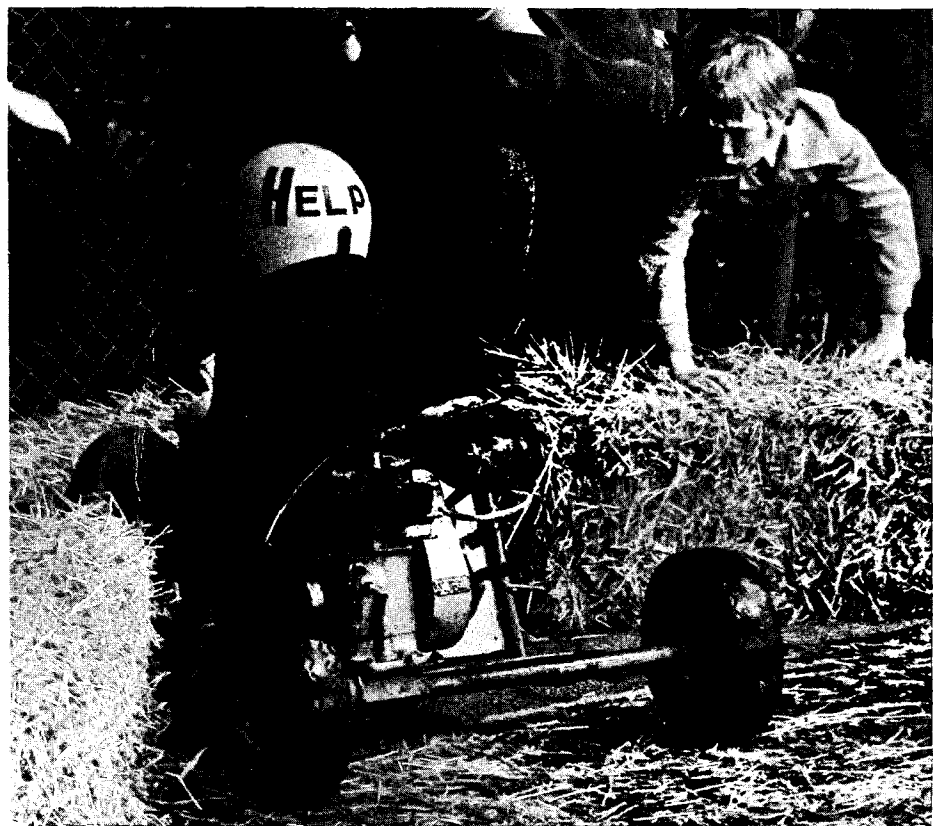
Played 19, Won 15, Lost 4, Points for 294, Points against 60.

Marnborough College	Thurs	25 Sept	(h)	Won	18—6
Oratory School	Sat	27 Sept	(h)	Won	32—0
Bloxham School	Wed	1 Oct	(h)	Won	8—0
Solihull School	Sat	4 Oct	(h)	Won	3—0
St. Edward's School	Wed	8 Oct	(h)	Won	4—0
Magdalen College	Sat	18 Oct	(h)	Won	58—0
Radley College	Wed	5 Nov	(h)	Won	8—0
John Mason School	Mon	10 Nov	(h)	Lost	4—12
Reading School	Sat	15 Nov	(h)	Lost	4—6
Thame School	Wed	26 Nov	(a)	Lost	7—8
Newbury School	Sat	29 Nov	(a)	Won	18—0
Pangbourne College	Wed	3 Dec	(n)	Won	10—0
Warwick School	Wed	10 Dec	(a)	Lost	0—16
Oratory School	Sat	24 Jan	(h)	Won	15—0
Sir William Borlase School	Tues	10 Feb	(h)	Won	8—0
Matthew Arnold School	Thurs	12 Feb	(h)	Won	22—0
Cokethorpe School	Wed	3 Mar	(a)	Won	18—0
Newbury School	Frid	5 Mar	(h)	Won	19—4
Henley R.F.C.	Sun	7 Mar	(a)	Won	19—8

J.D.E.D-H.

Minors Rugby

Once again over 60 boys represented the School during the season, and one of the most encouraging features has been the evident progress made by so many of these, not only the all-conquering First XV. In the last two matches, against



Help!

Prior Park and Pangbourne, two scratch sides played purposeful and well-organized 15-man Rugby, without any practice as a team; the success of the coaching in Form-games, and the enjoyment so evident in our play, makes mine a very rewarding job.

The First XV was bound to be good, we knew, but we did not really anticipate a 100% record. Indeed the major disappointment of the season for all of us was that no School was able to produce a team able to give us a worthwhile challenge. St. Bartholomew's unbeaten, and big, team came nearest, and even they lost by three clear scores. The best matches, in retrospect, were the first major test against Thame, and a marvellously exciting, end-to-end, match against Oratory Prep. In the Easter Term the team was inclined to relax concentration and ease up in the Second Half, understandably in view of their obvious superiority.

This is indeed an outstanding side, with players of real class in almost every position; they have size, speed, skill and flair; they handle brilliantly (the passing is less impressive!), and not least they are unusually unselfish. Their style of play can be best judged by their record: in 16 matches, 97 tries were scored,

77 of these by the backs. It is not possible to name every player, but the team would agree that two stood out even in this company. Ian Graham made a fine Captain, a thoughtful and inspiring leader, who 'read' and controlled the game as a fine fly-half should. Just as the backs pivoted round him, the forwards were dominated and led by Paul Capelin, whose confidence developed throughout the season, and whose strength is proverbial.

The Second XV took a long time to develop and gain confidence, and it was unfortunate that the matches against Reading and St. Bartholomew's coincided with the height of the 'flu outbreak; six of the scrum were missing against the latter School. However they finished on a winning note, looking a much more proficient and knowledgeable team than at one time seemed likely.

A number of 'extra-friendly' matches were played, in which the result was immaterial, the playing all-important, and these served to emphasise that next year's Team will be workmanlike rather than brilliant, but not without promise.

Final Teams: 1st XV: R. J. Adair, R. M. Hawes, T. J. C. Haworth, G. D. Harper, D. J. Bell, I. C. Graham (Capt.), A. C. Newman, R. D. Hignett, P. C. Boobbyer, N. A. L. Ward, N. C. H. Wormell, R. A. F. Simpson, P. A. Capelin, G. D. Brown, M. E. Emerton.

2nd XV: (from) A. Tomlinson, J. H. G. Driver, A. J. R. Cullen, S. J. Minter (Capt.), C. C. Newmark, D. K. Robinson, A. D. Wilmore, J. Warchus, B. R. P. MacIntyre, T. A. J. Skinner, J. E. Cox, R. G. Hooley, A. J. Colgan, N. G. Rice, N. Roberts, L. V. Casey, R. K. Thomas, R. James, T. P. C. Wilson.

Results

1st XV:

Oratory School	Wed	8 Oct	(a)	Won	58—0
Lord William's, Thame, West	Sat	11 Oct	(h)	Won	18—6
Pinewood School	Sat	18 Oct	(a)	Won	31—12
St. Hugh's Faringdon	Wed	22 Oct	(h)	Won	34—0
Audley House School	Wed	19 Nov	(a)	Won	23—4
Millbrook House School	Wed	26 Nov	(h)	Won	29—6
Dragon School 2nd XV	Sat	6 Dec	(a)	Won	15—4
Larkmead School	Wed	28 Jan	(a)	Won	30—4
Matthew Arnold School	Thurs	12 Feb	(h)	Won	28—0
John Mason School	Fri	20 Feb	(h)	Won	40—4
Reading School	Sat	28 Feb	(h)	Won	26—4
St. Bartholomew's, Newbury	Fri	5 Mar	(h)	Won	14—0
Berkhamsted School	Sat	13 Mar	(h)	Won	35—0
William Borlase, Marlow	Tue	16 Mar	(a)	Won	50—0

'A' XV:

Prior's Court School	Sat	8 Nov	(a)	Won	8—0
Oratorv Prep. School	Wed	3 Dec	(a)	Won	30—20

2nd XV:

Lord William's, Thame, East 1st XV	Sat	11 Oct	(h)	Lost	4—32
Oratory School 1st XV	Sat	22 Nov	(h)	Lost	11—20
Dragon School 4th XV	Sat	6 Dec	(a)	Won	8—4
Cothill School 1st XV	Sat	21 Feb	(h)	Won	18—3
Reading School	Sat	28 Feb	(h)	Lost	6—8
St. Bartholomew's, Newbury	Fr.	5 Mar	(h)	Lost	0—30
Bearwood College 1st XV	Wed	10 Mar	(a)	Lost	4—12
Berkhamsted School	Sat	13 Mar	(h)	Won	40—0
William Borlase, Marlow	Tue	16 Mar	(a)	Won	54—0

Other matches:

3rd XV v Josca's School 1st XV	Tue	24 Feb	(h)	Won	10—4
3rd XV v Christchurch C.S. 1st XV	Wed	3 Mar	(a)	Lost	6—22
3rd XV v Summer Fields 2nd XV	Sat	6 Mar	(h)	Lost	4—13
Waste Court v Pangbourne 1st XV	Sat	20 Mar	(h)	Won	40—0

The First-Year boys played practice matches against Larkmead School (winning 10—0 and 8—0), Bearwood College (winning 10—8) and Prior Park (losing 4—14).

Crosscountry

Michaelmas Term

First Team

This term we had a strong nucleus with Hingley (captain), Cullen (secretary) and Geere established as full colours, and Morfey and Owen as half-colours. Supporting them were Heard, Byfield and Hillary, who all earned their half-colours, and Chapman, a very promising fourth-former, and also Allen and McKenzie.

At Millfield we won our first medal for some years due to Hingley's third individual placing. Confidence was high for the next match at Westminster and Hingley, Cullen and Geere finished 1—2—3 in an easy win. In the Freshmen's match the first two teams simply outclassed us but we nearly beat Dr. Challoner's for the first time: we each gained 150 points but they won due to the higher sixth scorer rule. So we went to Marlborough hoping to repeat our 1972 victory there but they proved to have the greater depth. However, they said it was the highest standard race there for some time, and in fact Hingley broke the course record, no mean achievement considering who has raced there in the past.

At Bradfield Hingley, Cullen and Geere again produced a 1—2—3 with Morfey and Owen running for the Colts that day. Victory was soured by an unfortunate incident when Morfey, some 200 yards ahead, was misdirected, went way off course and finished a most dispirited fifth; he was later reinstated as first but it did not mean the same. In our first visit to the St. Nicholas' Relay we finished a creditable fifth after being second at halfway; one of the good things about these events is that we meet top class opposition, including, for the first time, Sevenoaks and King's, Canterbury. Finally we had an easy win at Wycombe due to another 1—2—3, this time by Hingley, Geere and Morfey.

All in all this was a satisfactory term with many pleasing results. Curiously all seven matches were away, and they were a balanced mixture of the easy and difficult. Hingley was an inspiring captain as he kept winning his races by large margins. The future looks bright with many good runners in the middle of the school, and this is best illustrated by the team composition in the Wycombe match where the 8 runners included boys from each of the five year-groups: 4th, 5th, 6th, VIth and Oxbridge.

Results

Sat	4 Oct	Millfield Road Relay (at Street) A Team 6th, B Team 16th (27 teams)
Thur	16 Oct	v. Westminster School and Winchester College (at Putney Bridge) 1. Ab. 12, 2. West 25, 3. Win 44
Wed	22 Oct	Oxford University Freshmen v. Schools (in Oxford) 1. Oxf. Univ. Fr. 49, 2. Sir Thomas Rich (Glos) 54, 3. Dr. Challoner's 150, 4. Abingdon 150, 5. St. Edward's 207, 6. Haberdasher's Askes' 213, 7. Magdalen College School 322
Thur	6 Nov	v. Marlborough (away) 1. Marl. 35, 2. Ab. 45

- Sat 8 Nov v. Bradford and Stowe (at Bradfield) 1. Ab. 53, 2. St. 59, 3. Brad. 63
- Sat 29 Nov St. Nicholas' Relay (at Northwood) A team 5th, B team 23rd (26 teams)
- Wed 3 Dec v. R.G.S. High Wycombe (away) 1. Ab. 28, 2. Wyc. 53.

Other Matches

- Sat 4 Oct v. Oxford City and Swindon *et alia* (at Cutteslowe) U/16 Colts 3rd, U/14 Colts 3rd.
- Thur 16 Oct U/16 Colts v. Westminster School and Winchester College (in London) 1. Ab. 16, 2. Win. 32, 3. West. 32
- Thur 6 Nov U/16 Colts v. Marlborough (away) 1. Marl. 21, 2. Ab. 62
- Sat 8 Nov U/16 Colts v. Bradfield (away) 1. Brad. 39, 2. Ab. 41
- Sun 9 Nov Mike Sully Memorial Races (at Bristol): highest finishers only
U/19 Juniors: 39th Hingley (101 ran)
U/16 Youths: 91st Morfey (179 ran)
U/14 Boys: 134th Chapman (246 ran)
U/12 Colts: 92nd R. W. Baker (259 ran)
- Wed 19 Nov v. St Edward's (home)
U/16 Colts 1. Ab. 18, 2. St. Ed. 20: U/14 Colts 1. Ab. 10, 2. St. Ed. 34
- Sat 13 Dec Oxon County A.A.A. Crosscountry Champs (at Shotover)
U/16 Y9uths: 1. Abingdon 22, 2. Burford 29, 3. Warriner's 45
U/14 Boys: 1. Cowley St. John 16, 2. Abingdon 50, 3. Oxford City 64
U/12 Colts: 1. Abingdon 31, 2. Carterton 46, 3. Oxford City 57
Medallists: U/16 Cullen (2nd), Morfey (3rd)
U/12 Bell (3rd)

This term 41 boys competed for the school, including: M. I. Chapman (10 times), A. G. Morfey, P. Edington (9), R. C. Hingley, M. Owen, J. A. Heard, A. G. Hillary (8), R. G. Geere, I. S. Cullen (7), D. M. Byfield, C. P. McKenzie (6), S. W. N. Rogers, C. H. Allen (5), P. M. Wilson, S. M. Woodhall (4), M. B. Smith, J. Stapleton, R. W. Baker (3), W. G. Baker, A. M. Garrett, S. R. Haynes, J. V. Parsons, R. J. Short, M. R. Green, C. E. Garrett, J. C. Geere (2).

Inter-Form Cross Country

First Form Race: 1. A. J. R. Cullen (7: 36), 2. C. C. Newmark, 3. T. P. C. Wilson, 4. G. J. Francksen, 5. R. W. Watson, 6. P. A. Tauwhare, 7. D. A. Thompson, 8. H. D. Mulvey, 9. G. C. East, 10. J. M. Steeds. (65 finished)

Second/Third Form Race: 1. M. B. Smith (9: 37), 2. D. J. Bell, 3. R. W. Baker, 4. P. M. Wilson, 5. B. R. J. Rhys, 6. G. L. Radford-Smith, 7. T. Jefferson, 8. D. A. Ellis, 9. R. M. Hawes, 10. D. K. Robinson. (150 finished)

Fourth/Fifth Form Race: 1. A. G. Morfey (17: 06.5), 2. M. Owen, 3. M. I. Chapman, =4. G. Mitchell, =4. G. N. Gnapp, 6.P. N. C. Gale, 7. T. D. Robson, 8. P. Edington, 9. R. Emerton, 10. R. P. A. Martin. (172 finished)

Sixth Form Race: 1. R. C. Hingley (16: 10), 2. A. G. Hillary, 3. N. R. Lemoine, 4. J. A. Heard, 5. P. A. Noble, 6. R. J. Price, 7. T. D. Walker, 8. S. R. Haynes, 9. P. Aston, 10. R. J. Short. (15 finished)

Teams' 1st Form 1. 1 W 824, 2. 1 P 764, 3. 1 G 557
2nd/3rd 1. 2 G 2155, 2. 2 B 1944, 3. 3 W 1591
4th/5th 1. 5 K 2121½, 2. E 1914½, 3. 4 B 1887



Gym—display

Cross Country: Spring Term

After so many good results as recently as last term it really is extraordinary how things have changed. We knew that Geere (left), Byfield and Heard (rowing), Hillary and McKenzie (hockey) would be missing from last term's squad, but we thought we had the depth to cope with this. How wrong we were! Poor Iain Cullen missed out on every single race due to firstly a foot injury, then 'flu. Richard Hingley missed three matches due to a university interview and then pneumonia, and worse still in his match at Winchester he went off course when in the lead. This 'flu epidemic played havoc with the drafting in of replacements. Usually boys were away for 7 to 14 days and then had a further week off games. However, we have plenty of promising youngsters, such as Mark Chapman, Paul Edington, Mark Smith, Peter Wilson, Richard Baker, Peter Lovering and others, but they often had to compete against boys two or three years older. It was very embarrassing for me to have to explain to other schools why, for instance, we came 34th out of 39 in the Tortoises Relay or why our highest runner was only 13th in the seniors match at Cheltenham. Having built up a tradition over recent years, we really came down with a crash this term.

But not all is gloomy. Chris Allen and Richard Baker ran for the Vale of White Horse team in the Inter-area event, whereas Alistair Morfey and Mark

Owen represented Oxfordshire in the All-England Championships at Havant, finishing 78th and 267th respectively out of 320. Richard Hingley ran the third fastest time in the Dr. Challoner's Relay out of 138 boys. Mark Chapman (twice) and David Ellis scored individual victories in Colts matches. In the Old Abingdonians match all 11 boys set personal bests at Sunningwell. Alistair Morfey smashed the Colts course record at Cheltenham by 16 seconds and beat all the redoubtable Sir Thomas Rich's runners into the bargain. This record will presumably stand for ever as a ring road is to be built across this course.

Two boys received full colours: Alistair Morfey, who climaxed an outstanding term with the highest position that I can remember by an Abingdonian in the All-England race, and Mark Owen, who never gave up trying despite showing 'flu symptoms. Two boys received half-colours: Mark Chapman, whose major breakthrough was his third place for the seniors at Magdalen College, and Chris Allen, who was loyal and helpful when others were dropping out of the team. The following represented the school: Owen, Chapman (9 times), Morfey, Allen, Ellis (8), Edington (7), Short, Baker, Wilson P. (6), Smith (5), Hingley, Eccles, Garrett A., Haynes (4), Geere, Lovering, Buckley (3), Mitchell, Booth, Wood, Shirlaw, Stapleton (2), and Hillary, Bell, Cullen A., Thompson D., Newmark, Wilson T., Francksen, Passmore, Young A., Blanksby, Olliffe, Hamberger, Peterson T. (once).

Results

Sat	24 Jan	Dr. Challoner's Relay (at Amersham) A team 10th, B team 23rd
Wed	28 Jan	Vale of White Horse Champs (at King Alfred's) 1. King Alf. 101, 2. Fitzharry's 170, 3. Abingdon 182 Individuals: Cullen A., Bell, Morfey (all 4th)
Sat	7 Feb	Oxon Inter-area (at Shotover) Baker (16th), Morfey (2nd), Owen (4th), Allen (15th)
Wed	11 Feb	v. King Alfred's (away) Seniors: 1. King Alf 34, 2. Ab. 46 Colts: 1. King Alf. 34, 2. Ab. 47
Wed	18 Feb	Oxford University Tortoises Relay 34th (39 teams)
Wed	25 Feb	v. Magdalen College School and R.G.S. High Wycombe (at Oxford) Seniors: 1. M.C.S. 50, 2. Ab. 60, 3 R.G.S. 68 Colts: 1 Ab 14, 2. M.C.S. 33, 3. R.G.S. 34
Thur	4 Mar	v. Winchester (away) Seniors: 1. Ab. 30, 2. Win. 49 Colts: 1. Ab. 35, 2. Win. 43
Sat	6 Mar	Colts v. M.C.S. and Bradfield (at Oxford) 1. M.C.S. 42, 2. Ab. 49, 3. Brad. 95
Sat	13 Mar	v. Old Abingdonians (home) 1. Ab. 38, 2. O.A. 40
Sat	20 Mar	v. Cheltenham and Sir Thomas Rich's (at Cheltenham) Seniors: 1. S.T.R. 31, 2. Chel. 50, 3. Ab. 101 Colts: A. S.T.R. 57, 2. Chel.:58, 3. Ab. 58 (!)

Road Relay (Monday, 23rd February)

I deliberately conducted pre-race publicity on a low key this time to gauge the demand fairly, as this event does cut across practices in other games. As this is an inter-form competition, the teams are inevitably unbalanced with the first-formers bound to be overlapped by the sixth-formers. Yet 20 teams entered signifying more boy-involvement than ever before. Since the demise of the inter-house

competitions boys really do appreciate internal, as opposed to inter-school, matches. I wish some other sports would take this up.

The overall winner was Hingley who ran all four laps himself, an incredible achievement. Next was the Staff team. Then came 5E, comprising Gale, Gnapp, Martin and Owen, and they won the Smart Cup. Fastest time was 8:30, Hingley's opening lap, then 8:50 by Morfey (5R), and 8:55 by Mitchell (5K).

1. Hingley (37:04), 2. Staff (R.H.B., D.N., W.B., R.H.B.) (37:15), 3. 5E (37:46), 4. 5R, 5. 6X, 6. 6J, 7. 6K, 8. 40, 9. 3G, 10. 3W, 11. 5P (I), 12. 5K, 13. 2V, 14. 2B, 15. 3C, 16. 3T, 17. 1W, 18. 2H, 19. 1G, 20. 1P.

N.A.F.P.

Badminton

This has been a most successful and encouraging season, though in the end it finished on an unfortunate note, as we shall see.

It was a season during which, in several ways, the club took a new direction. Firstly, we lost Adrian Luto, who left school in December, after dominating school badminton for several years. This could have been a disastrous loss, but in fact our results held up remarkably well. Secondly, we had to leave the Berkshire Schools League, and break new ground in Oxfordshire; and thirdly, we were able to hire the Old Gaol courts for two afternoons a week. This gave us much more court time, and helped us to get the sport on a proper basis for the first time for several years. Now, everyone who plays badminton has a regular session twice a week, and one of those sessions is devoted to a competitive league. The result has been that morale in the club has never been higher, and there are keen young players coming on who should form the basis of a very good 1st VI for some years to come.

As far as outside results are concerned, the 1st VI was unbeaten throughout the season, and reached the final of the Oxfordshire Schools League. However, after a most unfortunate sequence of events, the match, against Banbury School, was abandoned. The organizing committee has been asked to adjudicate the result, but at the time of writing we do not know the outcome. The Under 16 VI won the Junior title, beating Banbury School 7—0. The Under 16's also reached the Regional Finals of the Top Schools Tournament, but the opposition at that level was too strong, and we lost in the first round to John Hampden School, 3—4.

The new School League was won by Yeo Wee Liam, who beat Nigel Talboys 15—5, 15—6 in the Final.

Finally, I should like to wish a rather belated God-speed to Adrian Luto. I dealt at greater length with his career in my last report; I simply wish to repeat that he leaves an irreplaceable gap, and it will be a very long time before we see such an outstanding player. It is to the very great credit of Wee Liam, who succeeded Adrian as Captain, that the 1st VI kept up such a high standard of play during the Easter Term. Several other players, particularly Nigel Talboys, have shown outstanding improvement this term, and this bodes very well for the future.

My thanks to Ravi Navsaria, for his efficient handling of the duties of Secretary, in the face of all sorts of difficulties, and also to Tom Ayling for all his help and support during an exacting term.

Full Colours are held by: Yeo Wee Liam, Nigel Talboys.

Half Colours are held by: Ravi Navsaria, John Hester, Simon Talboys, Mark Taylor, Patrick Gale.

D.C.T.

Results

1st VI

Oct 9	v Oxford School	(a)	Won	8—1
Oct 17	v Sir William Borlase	(h)	Won	6—1
Nov 7	v High Wycombe	(h)	Won	7—0
Nov 12	v Henley Grammar School	(a)	Won	5½—1½
Dec 4	v Wallingford	(a)	Won	4—3
Mar 5	v Wallingford	(h)	Won	6½—½
Mar 11	v Oxford School	(a)	Won	7—0
Mar 19	v Banbury School (Oxon Schools League Final)			
	Match to be adjudicated.			

2nd VI

Oct 15	v High Wycombe	(a)	Won	8—1
Nov 20	v Sir William Borlase	(a)	Won	4—3

Under 16 VI

Oct 20	v Desborough School	(a)	Lost	4—5
Oct 24	v John Mason	(a)	Won	7—0
Nov 14	v Sir William Borlase	(a)	Won	5—2
Nov 26	v Matthew Arnold	(a)	Won	5—2
Jan 29	v Fitzharry's	(a)	Won	7—0
Feb 19	v Larkmead	(a)	Won	4—3
Mar 4	v Banbury (Top Schools)	(a)	Won	7—0
Mar 18	v John Hampden (Top Schools Regional Final)		Lost	3—4
Mar 19	v Banbury (Oxon Schools League Final)		Won	7—0

Rowing

Boat Club reports for the Lent term seem traditionally to be full of different sorts of frustration and gloom, and this Lent term has done its best to continue the tradition. Exceptionally kind weather and river conditions allowed everybody to get off to an encouraging start, but then 'flu started working its way through the Club and the term's achievements were lower than expected.

The senior squad was soon divided into the First VIII and a First IV—the IV have the pleasure of using the new 'Eric Anderson', which was bought out of the money raised in last year's sponsored row and the appeal to old members of the Boat Club and with the help of a kind donation from T.A.S.S. The VIII showed itself capable of sustained high speeds at an early stage and settled down to a demanding training schedule, in which it recorded better and better times. 'Flu struck first immediately before the Henley Head of the River Race for Fours, so that the Upper Sixth IV from the VIII had to scratch, but the Lower Sixth IV won the Junior division convincingly. Misfortunes continued and 'flu struck again just before the Schools' Head of the River Race, so that the crew's position of 15th out of the 120 or so crews was very pleasing indeed and was one of the best results ever achieved by an Abingdon First VIII. The same crew did well ten days later at the Avon County Head of the River Race to come third, showing again their determination and resilience. The First IV patiently looked after themselves for most of the term and put up with endless 'borrowings' from the First VIII, but they did reasonably to come 25th at Henley, 27th at the Schools' Head, and 4th at Avon.

The two Colts' VIIIs were even more disrupted by 'flu and illness throughout the term and were rarely able to boat the same crew twice. The depleted 'A' crew came a respectable 45th in the Schools' Head and went on to do better at Avon,

coming 11th overall and second in their class. The 'B' crews suffered from lending its members to the 'A' crew, so that its Putney performance of 78th was understandable, though disappointing. Both crews show promise, though, so we hope that the Summer term will allow them more ample opportunities to do themselves justice.

The Junior Colts also had their illness problems and they had to scratch from the Schools' Head altogether. A IV from the VIII rowed on Easter Saturday in the Abingdon Head of the River Race and won their class, so that offered some consolation and suggests that the Junior Colts' rowing is coming along well. There have also been a considerable number of third formers and below rowing in their spare time, and their increasing sculling skills and their enthusiasm all look encouraging for the future of the Boat Club.

As usual we are indebted to Nobby Essex for his hard work on the boats and equipment, and we are pleased to welcome Mr. Aspinall to the coaching strength. We were also grateful to London Rowing Club for letting us use their facilities at Putney on the Schools' Head day and for a practice outing and we hope that it is the beginning of a long connection with them. Finally, we hope that next term's report will be recording more successes and will be less concerned with illnesses and misfortunes.

G.G.B.

Crews

1st VIII: *Bow*, T. Walker; 2, R. J. Perkins; 3, *J. J. W. Breckon; 4, *S. F. Williams; 5, B. A. L. Peck; 6, N. R. Lemoine; 7, *D. M. Byfield; *Str.*, *M. R. Lintott; *Cox*, *D. F. Lindsay. (The Captain of Boats, M. Holding, was ill for all fixtures.)

Asterisks denote the crew for the Henley Head of the River Race for Fours.

1st IV: *Bow*, J. A. Heard; 2, A. Cook; 3, C. P. Sowden; *Str.*, R. D. Tauwhare; *Cox*, M. A. Forsyth.

Colts 'A' VIII: *Bow*, S. Holdoway, 2, P. Johnston; 3, P. G. Spittles; 4, R. S. Harries; 5, J. M. Sowden; 6, R. A. Joy; 7, P. A. Younge; *Str.*, R. Emerton; *Cox*, M. T. L. Rivers.

Colts 'B' VIII: *Bow*, D. W. Stewart; 2, E. Parker-Jervis; 3, R. J. E. Steed; 4, D. J. Crook; 5, B. R. Hodkinson; 6, K. C. Peterson; 7, A. J. Bryant; *Str.*, R. V. Scriven; *Cox*, D. N. Angwin.

Junior Colts VIII: *Bow*, J. A. Higgs; 2, N. T. Wright; 3, J. N. S. Lintott; 4, H. M. L. Doherty; 5, R. P. Hamlin; 6, S. J. Mulvey; 7, C. P. S. Bromhall; *Str.*, S. M. Hills; *Cox*, S. W. N. Rogers.

Squash Report

This year there has been a concerted effort to gain the club recognition as a sport. A weekly coaching session was started where the better and more enthusiastic boys had a chance to play each other regularly, and to gain a little more experience from an older, if not more skilful, player. This became so popular that the squad had to be divided into senior and junior sections: unfortunate, though in a sense highly encouraging. The climax—if such be the word—came with a match against Radley, where many useful lessons were learnt—though not, I fear, from the coaches' match which was notable for its shortage of basic skills.

The main drawback for the club remains a lack of court time, which means that no-one can play regularly enough to learn the intricacies of court craft, or even indeed simply become familiar with the feel of a racket in his hand. But the standard of play, particularly among the juniors, is encouragingly high and augurs well for the future of the game at the school.

Barry Burles is to be congratulated for playing in the County under-16 squad.

A. C. Alton

Orienteering

Orienteering is a family sport and those boys whose families take part regularly obviously have more opportunities to make a name for themselves. As in so many other things, experience and the ability to learn from one's mistakes count for much. However, orienteering can hold the same fascination for the unathletic as for the very fit, and most of us tend to judge our performance by totting up our 'minutes lost' rather than by comparing our time with that of the winner.

During the last two terms, Roger Geere (M19 gold) put up some good times on a number of MS1A courses; William Baker (M15) qualified for a gold badge in the M17 class; Richard Thompson (M13) was 2nd at the North Glos. Badge; Richard Baker (M12), 4th in the British Champs, also gained his Championship Badge; David Thompson (M12 gold) took 1st place in the North Glos. Badge and was 3rd in the November Classic. It has been good to see the improvement of Simon Moore and David White, and we hope that the interest being shown by other boys, both senior and junior, will be maintained.

A number of other schools are now taking up the sport and Radley College held an inter-schools competition in Bagley Wood in October. The result was: 1. Abingdon, 2. St. Edward's, 3. Cheltenham, 4. Radley.

R.H.B.

Table Tennis

For the first time in the school's history a team was entered for the County Schools Table Tennis Championships. The fact that the 1975 English Schoolboys Under 11 champion, Bryon Johnson, had just entered the first form was not entirely coincidental.

The entry alone ensured, as it turned out, our appearance, during the Michaelmas Term, in the Oxfordshire Boys Under 13 semi-final, and the Gym was the site of our defeat of Wallingford School (6—2) and then South Oxford Middle School (5—3) in the Final. Oxfordshire Champions! Off, in the Lent Term, to Birmingham for the Area Finals and defeat 5 matches to 3.

Meanwhile, interest in the game, particularly in the Junior School, was growing and a new table, thanks to the generosity of T.A.S.S., has been purchased. The club functions during lunchhour and after school and provides a welcome new facility.

The following represented Abingdon in the Under 13 Championships: Bryon Johnson, Peter Druett, Simon Minter, Richard Hawes and Stephen Vaslet.

N.H.P.

Chess

The big disappointment of this season was that our entry for the *Sunday Times* Tournament was lost; with the same team that had reached the Zone Final last year, we had hoped to win another Clock! With very few Schools in our section of the Berkshire League, and those all very weak at present, our Seniors had no worthwhile Chess to speak of, and it was hardly surprising that they performed below par against Reading School, the favourites, in the Berkshire Finals.

A glance at the results will show that there was considerable depth of talent at the top, and at the bottom, of the School, and it was particularly encouraging,

even if embarrassing, to have so many keen Seniors playing Chess, and challenging for places in the Final Team. Even this year, though, the Senior tournaments within the Club were unfinished, because of other activities.

The Under-15s were thin on the ground, by contrast, and had an undistinguished season; it was lucky that Tim Hunt returned from China, as without him we could hardly have put out a team. At Under-13 level, things went very well indeed. As expected, we won the Oxford League, losing only four individual games in the season; unfortunately three of them were on one day, given to the Dragon School in an amazing exhibition of mass-suicide. The Second Team surpassed expectations, and there are enough Under-12s in the two teams to give us hope of further success at this level next year. In the Berkshire Congress during the Christmas Holidays we gave an impressive demonstration of our strength at this level, 'packing' five players in the top 13; among these were Richard Baker, who took the trophy, and Geoff Brown, who was runner-up; both were unbeaten.

In other respects the season went well enough, with respectable results for all teams, at the Berkshire Jamboree for example. It should perhaps be explained that, while High Wycombe would have beaten us in any case, the margin of the defeat was so large because the match coincided with a full range of Rugby fixtures, which removed about half of our players.

In the Christmas Term, the Leagues were won by Richard Baker and Ian Sadler; the Venning Cup and the Hoyle Cup were badly hit by 'flu; however Philip Harries, an under-age First-former, won the former, and may also win the latter, if he can win his game against Andrew Smith or John Perry next term.

M.W.

Results

Berkshire League (Western Section)

First V	beat St. Bartholomew's	4 — 1	beat Larkmead School	4½ — ½
	beat John Mason	4 — 1	beat Carmel College	4 — 1
	beat Abingdon 2nd V	3 — 2		
Second V	beat St. Bartholomew's	5 — 0	beat Larkmead School	3 — 2
	beat John Mason	3 — 2	beat Carmel College	4 — 1
	lost to Abingdon 1st V	2 — 3		
Under 15s	lost to St. Bartholomew's	1 — 4	beat King Alfred's	3 — 2
	beat John Mason	4 — 1	beat Carmel College	4 — 1
Under-13s	drew with St. Bartholomew's	2½ — 2½	beat King Alfred's	3½ — 1½
Second V			beat Carmel College	5 — 0
	lost to John Rankin	1½ — 3½		

In the semi-finals, the First V lost to Reading School 1—4

Oxford Schools League

Under-13	beat Magdalen College	4½ — 1½	beat Marlborough School	6 — 0
First VI				
	beat Larkmead School	4½ — 1½	beat John Mason	5½ — ½
	lost to the Dragon School	2 — 4	beat Harlow School	4½ — 1½
	beat Fitzharry's School	6 — 0	beat Northway School	6 — 0
	beat Temple Cowley	5½ — ½	beat Bayswater School	5 — 1
	beat Gosford Hill School	5½ — ½		

Other Matches

An all-age team lost to R.G.S., High Wycombe, 2—13;

beat St. Birinus, Didcot, 8—4;

beat Wood Green, Witney, 10½—1½

beat Berkhamsted School, 4½—3½.

An Under-13 team beat Christ Church C.S., 7—3

1st V: (from) J. J. Stephen (Captain), M. E. Spoor, K. M. Fenelon, I. R. Holding, R. S. Harries, M. D. Andrews, S. de Lusignan.
 2nd V: R. S. Chapman, R. Allen, G. P. Alcock, P. A. Gregg, J. M. Murray.
 Under-15: J. P. F. Davies, T. C. N. Hunt, H. de Lusignan, S. J. Moore, G. M. V. P. Carey.
 Under-13 1st VI: G. D. Brown, R. C. Baker, A. H. Smith, P. G. Harries, W. J. Passmore, N. M. Chisnall.
 Under-13 2nd V: (from) R. T. Schofield, A. J. Perry, D. J. Crozier, J. R. Parker, A. M. Suckling, J. Warchus.

Officers of the School

School Prefects:

Michaelmas Term:

P. A. Noble and A. P. S. Luto (Joint Heads of School)

P. A. Noble (Head of School House)
 T. Walker (Head of Crescent House)
 M. J. Hurry (Head of Larkhill House)
 D. A. Thomas (Head of Waste Court House)

R. A. Balkwill	S. de Lusignan
P. J. Brodie	D. J. Torrens
P. M. Evans	R. J. Price
R. G. Geere	N. R. Lemoine
M. G. Howat	C. W. P. Hobson
R. W. Kermode	R. Gunaratnam

Lent Term:

N. R. Lemoine and R. W. Kermode (Joint Heads of School)

N. R. Lemoine (Head of School House)
 T. Walker (Head of Crescent House)
 M. J. Hurry (Head of Larkhill House)
 I. M. Sealy (Head of Waste Court House)

D. A. Thomas	D. C. Homewood
S. de Lusignan	R. Scibilia
D. J. Torrens	B. A. L. Peck
R. J. Price	C. R. Lowe
C. W. P. Hobson	R. C. Hingley
R. Gunaratnam	M. N. K. Saunders
M. Holding	S. P. Thompson
J. A. Heard	

House Prefects:

School House (Michaelmas Term): R. S. Chapman, B. A. L. Peck, C. R. Lowe, N. P. Kay, C. J. Bartlett, Johnson, C. Robinson, I. S. Thackwray, S. J. Clift, W. J. Homewood, K. Reid. (Lent Term): N. P. Kay, C. J. Bartlett, J. C. Johnston, C. Robinson, J. S. Thackwray, S. J. Clift, W. J. Homewood, K. Reid, M. Beers.

Crescent House (Michaelmas Term): J. A. Brett, M. J. Abines. (Lent Term):
 M. J. Abrines, K. C. Peterson, P. Aston.
 Waste Court House (Both Terms): M. G. Lintott, A. Furley.
 Lacies Court (Michaelmas Term): A. G. Noble, J. V. Parsons.

Games Officers:

Michaelmas Term:

Captain of Rugger: R. J. Price
 Secretary of Rugger: A. J. E. Allen
 Captain of Cross-Country: R. C. Hingley
 Secretary of Cross-Country: I. S. Cullen
 Captain of Badminton: A. P. S. Luto
 Secretary of Badminton: N. Tattersfield
 Secretary of G.G.C.: C. R. Lowe
 Captain of Chess: J. J. Stephen
 Secretary of Chess: M. E. Spoor

Lent Term:

Captain of Hockey: C. R. Lowe
 Secretary of Hockey: G. A. McCreery
 Captain of Cross-Country: R. C. Hingley
 Secretary of Cross-Country: I. S. Cullen
 Captain of Boats:
 Secretary of Boats:
 Captain of Badminton: W. L. Yeo
 Secretary of Badminton: R. A. Navsaria
 Secretary of G.G.C.: C. R. Lowe
 Captain of Chess: J. J. Stephen
 Secretary of Chess: M. E. Spoor

Abingdonian

Editorial Board: R. W. Kermodie, C. W. P. Hobson, S. J. Clift, G. D. Morris;
 and D. O. Willis and J. R. Gabitass
 O. A. Editor: A. A. Hillary. Treasurer: D. O. Willis

Left Christmas 1975:

VIH	P. J. Brodie	VIG	C. J. Cunninghame	6K	J. Baragwanath
	R. S. Chapman		P. M. Evans	3G	J. C. Wilders
	M. G. Howat		G. N. Green		(two terms' leave)
	M. V. Lewis		N. J. Tattersfield		
	A. P. S. Luto		S. Wilson		Left Easter 1976:
	P. A. Noble		J. A. Brett	VIG	C. J. Scott
VIT	R. A. Balkwill	VIP	R. G. Geere	5P	M. A. Kelly
	A. Murdock		J. N. Sackett	4M	M. E. Legget
			R. W. T. Stockwell		
VIC	J. C. Barnes		R. M. Whittingham		

O.A. Notes

Births

CHARLETT: on 18 September 1973 to Susan, wife of Colin Charlett (1965) a daughter, Karen.

DAVIS: on 27 October 1975 to Carole, wife of John Davis (1965) a son, Alexander Richard.

EWING: on 14 March 1974 to Christine, wife of Lindsay J. W. Ewing (1962), a son, Nicholas James Washington.

GREGSON: on 23 December 1974 to the wife of Roger K. Gregson (1964) a second son, Alexander Steven.

MORSE: to Veronica, wife of Julian R. Morse (1961), three sons: 19 August 1971, Duncan: 23 February 1973, Richard: 12 June 1974, David.

PEARSON: on 3 December 1975 to the wife of Stewart Pearson (1966) a son, Frazer Stewart, brother for Alexander and Claire.

PEPLER: on 13 March 1976 to Muriel, wife of David R. Pepler (1961) a son, James William George.

PRATT: on 9 March 1974 to Margaret, wife of Robert D. Pratt (1958) a son, Simon Mark.

TALBOT: on 17 April 1976 to Lynn, wife of John M. Talbot (1962) a son Joseph Charles, brother for Tara, Mathew, Kyle and Duncan.

TOMPSON: to Margaret-Ann, wife of Conal Tompson (1962) a son, Douglas, on 4 January 1974 and a daughter, Caroline on 11 December 1975.

Marriages

BAILEY—DEY: in July 1975 Stephen G. Bailey (1972) to Karen F. Day.

BROWN—FARREN: on 16 August 1975 Alan M. E. Brown (1971) to Anne Farren.

HAVELOCK—ALLINGHAM: on 16 June 1973 Trevor J. Havelock (1965) to Christine Allingham.

SEARLE—CAMPBELL: on 28 October 1974 Russell J. Searle (1971) to Sharon Campbell.

SHELLARD—BROOKES: on 14 June 1975 Julian J. Shellard (1971) to Julie Brookes.

WILLIS—BARTABY: on 19 April 1976 Richard G. Willis (1971) to Ann Bartaby.

Deaths

R. C. BATEMAN (Staff 1930–1935) on 3 March 1976, suddenly but quite peacefully in hospital.

E. G. LANGEFORD (1918–1928): We record with regret the death on 23 April 1976 of Geoffrey Langford. An outstanding games player at School—a member of the 1st Football XI, Captain of Boats and Captain of Athletics—he won the Pembroke Scholarship in 1928 and an Oxford Golf Blue in 1931. During the war he became a Lt-Col. in the Intelligence Corps and then returned to his pre-war occupation as a solicitor, joining the British-American Tobacco Company, of which he became a director in 1956. As an O.A. Geoffrey served the club and the school well, being President in 1939 and one of the original Trustees of Waste Court. (My thank to J. B. E. Alston for the above information. A. A. H.)

N. P. LOUKES (1955–1963) on 18 April in London. With great sadness James Cobban wrote the following obituary:

NICK LOUKES. Peter Loukes ('Nick') made his mark in the School in so many ways. He was a pillar of the Dramatic Society from the time that he played a youthful Maria in *Twelfth Night* in December 1957. Nearly six years later he found himself Head of School in the year of our Royal Visit. Others will speak of his subsequent career at Oxford and on the stage. I shall always remember him as an intelligent and sensitive young man of great integrity, with an unusually sweet and kindly nature, who neither shirked responsibility nor allowed it to go to his head.

E. L. PARRY (1909–1917) on 21 August 1975. Senior Prefect, Captain of Boats and Captain of Football. Commissioned in the Lancashire Fusiliers, he served in France and was blinded in 1918. After training at St. Dunstan's he farmed until 1954 and in retirement he gained a wide reputation as a carpenter, specializing in church furniture. We extend our sincere condolences to his widow, and to his brother-in-law, R. E. EASON (1920), to whom I am indebted for the above information.

N. V. H. RICHES (1900) on 6 November 1975. Norman Riches was Glamorgan's first captain when they joined the first-class list in 1921 and he continued to represent the county until 1934. Thereafter he was for sixteen years vice-chairman of Glamorgan. He also had the honour of playing in the Gentlemen v. Players match at Lords. Although his stay at Abingdon was a short one he renewed his relationship with the school very cordially at the time of the Quartercentenary celebrations in 1963.

R. A. TROTMAN (1912–1917): Reg Trotman, an active magistrate on the Abingdon bench until his seventieth birthday and a founder member of the John Roysse Lodge, died as he would have wished in March 1976 after his customary early morning start in the bakery. We send our sympathy to his daughter, and note with relief that the firm of Trotmans will continue to run as a family business.

J. M. VINEY (1928–1935): it is particularly sad to record the death at such an early age of Wing-Commander John Viney. After a distinguished career in the Second World War John Viney returned to Abingdon to build up the family business into the flourishing concern which it is today. Our sympathy goes to his widow and four children.

W. H. WEAVING (1898–1905). We record with regret the death in his eighties of Willoughby Weaving, a familiar figure for many years to residents in the Park area of Abingdon.

It was good to hear news from his sister of HERBERT MEREDITH (1908) and that he was proud enough of being an Old Abingdonian to want a new O.A. tie. He claims to be the oldest surviving O.A.

One who has recently renewed his connection with the School and who was much in evidence at the London Dinner is HENRY MEDD (1910). Having qualified in London in 1915, he joined the office of Sir Edwin Lutyens and then went to India as Sir Herbert Baker's representative in New Delhi. When the city had been completed in 1931 he returned to build two churches in U.K. before returning to India in 1935. In 1939 he was appointed chief architect to the Government of India, a post which he held until Independence in 1947, when his services were rewarded by an O.B.E.

ALAN CLARK (1919), a widower with grandchildren, wrote to maintain his link with the Club.

From CHARLES MORLAND (1921), a regular correspondent and contributor, came two letters, one expressing great interest in the *Abingdonian*, the other adding his tribute to Mr. Rudd's qualities as an all round schoolmaster. He also gave news of his brother JOHN MORLAND (1917), who is keeping fit but at seventy-five is a little less mobile than he once was. Charles himself still manages 36 holes on a Saturday and some trout fishing during the week.

JACK STANILAND (1923), B.E.M. and A.R.I.B.A., was another who had no outstanding news, but who is fit and well after a lifetime of travel all over the United Kingdom.

At the end of 1976 LEE BAUMANN (1927) plans to retire from his various directorships and chairmanships in the pulp and paper industry. He is recovering from an arthritic hip operation and we wish him and his wife every happiness in retirement, to be spent partly in their villa in Malta. He also sent news of his elder brother C. F. BAUMANN (1926) who retired last year from the Executive Presidency of the Singer Company in Italy. He now lives in Lugano in Switzerland but retains some business interests in a British company based near Venice.

KEN EWING (1930), descended from a Washington, is planning a lecture tour later this year, in America, on the illustrious George of that name. He has 'more or less' retired and sounds very fit on it. He remarried in 1961 and has three children by his second wife. Further news about LINDSEY EWING (1962), the son of his first marriage, appears later.

A word about STANLEY PAIGE (1930), who organized a very fine London Dinner yet again, this year at the Inn Holders Hall, just off the Embankment. The setting was perfect, but as Stanley said in his speech, a club of over two thousand recorded members ought to need a bigger place to meet. As it was, seventy-five O.A.s and staff welcomed the Headmaster to his first of these excellent functions. It was a strange coincidence, but a very happy one, that it should fall to James Cobban to preside on this occasion.

PHILIP WALKER (1930) is a partner in a very large legal firm of Toronto, having graduated LL.B. in 1948 at Dalhousie University, Halifax. He has two grown up children by his first marriage and married a second time in 1967. He sent news of PETER BLOOMER, at Abingdon in the late thirties, also a graduate of Dalhousie, now practising law in Hastings, New Zealand. Peter is married, with five children. Peter's brother, BASIL BLOOMER, another O.A., is now living at Calgary in Alberta. PHILIP WALKER recalled his days at Abingdon as happy ones and ran through an impressive list of his fellow pupils, including a head prefect called Sinclair and his deputy, Mosdell. There were also some evocative memories of Miss Grundy's kindness to the young and of the importance to him of games and woodwork.

DOUGLAS WOOLF (1934) has retired from the Navy and has found a new occupation as Bursar of the Ditchley Foundation at Enstone in Oxfordshire.

After sixteen years in the timber trade in West Africa, MARTIN LEFTWICH (1942) is now based in Singapore in the lumber business, travelling extensively in Borneo and Indonesia. He has two grown up children and two grandchildren.

JIM (or GORDON) MYALL (1942) wrote from Canada where he is a chemist involved in testing road surfaces designed to stand climatic extremes. He has two grown up children and, having taken an Economics degree at Toronto University, just for fun, he is now working on a course in Arabic.

GORDON DODGE (1944) has been loaned by the Ministry of Overseas Development to the Government of Botswana to produce basic topographical mapping for development purposes. He too paid tribute to Mr. Rudd's skill as a teacher of mathematics.

Another Canadian resident is JOHN SANSOM (1945), who has lived for the past nine years in British Columbia with his wife, son aged ten and daughter aged seven. He is vice-principal of a five hundred strong secondary school and has

recently completed a Master's Degree in Education at U.B.C. in Vancouver. His most nostalgic memory of Abingdon is lining up at the old tuck shop—now demolished—for 'one of Mr. Holmes's fresh buns'.

JOHN WALTERS (1946) is teaching at Langstone Middle School, Portsmouth, and spends some of his spare time in managing the Portsmouth Schools' Cricket Association's Under-12 XI.

The Reverend DAVID WHEATON (1948), principal of Oak Hill College, Southgate, is this year's chairman of the Conference of Theological College Principals. He has just succeeded in securing C.N.A.A. approval for a new programme of ministerial training for his college, offering an integrated academic and pastoral training leading to the Dip.H.E. He is hoping later in the year to arrange for a degree course.

PETER LUCAS (1950 is at present desk bound in the Ministry of Defence, but he recently served for more than two years with David Riddick (1961) in the 1st Battalion Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, mostly in Londonderry.

A very long letter to Jo Talbot from PAT SALE (1953) has provided welcome news from New Zealand. Pat himself is a Horticultural Advisory Officer in the Bay of Plenty district, advising commercial horticultural producers, who produce a wide variety of sub-tropical and temperate crops. He has three children, girls of nine and eight and a son aged two, who are lucky enough to be brought up in rural surroundings, with their own oranges, mandarins, kiwi fruit etc. around them. Pat would have been a member of the New Zealand Athletics team for the Mexico Olympics had it not been for a virus infection, but over the last few years he has contented himself with running to keep fit. He keeps in touch with FRANK BARTLETT (1952), who was over here recently on a visit, and with RICHARD PAXMAN (1954), both professionally and socially.

Someone from whom we have not heard for some time was TED BROWN (1954), who is farming at Mellor, near Stockport in Cheshire. He has two daughters aged ten and eight.

MICHAEL BURDGE (1954) is working in Cheltenham with the Countryside Commission. He has two daughters, aged eight and six.

DAVID JONES (1955) is now a Lt-Col. and working as Military Assistant to the C. in C. B.A.O.R., having been, until last July, an instructor at Sandhurst where he met a number of O.A.s. He has two daughters aged fourteen and nine and a son aged eleven.

ERNEST WESTBROOK (1955) is working for the European Space Agency at Noordwijk in the Netherlands as the Finance Officer on the Aeronautical satellite programme. He was married in 1963.

After an exciting year in San Francisco BRIAN SMITH (1957) found England's economic gloom a little trying last August. His plan then was to return to the Middlesex Hospital as Senior Registrar and hope to find a consultant's post somewhere. I regret to say that the atmosphere at the London Dinner was such that I quite forgot to enquire how successful he had been, but he did at any rate appear to be very cheerful.

FORBES WASTIE (1957), with three sons aged twelve, ten and six, is still a house-master at Eastbourne College and interested in C.C.F. affairs.

MARK BRETSCHER (1958) was Visiting Professor, Dept. of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Harvard University for the academic year 1974-1975. This must have been a great achievement and an exciting appointment.

WALTER COURAGE (1958) played for M.C.C. against the School again last June after a few years' gap. He is currently a Major in the Royal Enniskillens and serving in Berlin. Some how or other he also manages to run his own furniture exporting business at the same time.

ROBERT PRATT (1958), having achieved his Bachelor of Chemical Engineering degree at Melbourne in 1966, is now employed by Dow Chemical (Australia) Ltd. as a senior process engineer.

It was very pleasant to meet ROGER GREEN (1959) again at the London Dinner. He has two sons, lives at Wolvercote near Oxford and commutes daily to London.

From CHRIS GOSLING (1960) came the information that he owns a Chevrolet/Oldsmobile dealership in Wingham, about a hundred miles to the west of Toronto. He would welcome contact with any other O.A.s within reasonable travelling distance. He also owns his own single engined aeroplane, which he flies for a hobby and he has aspirations for a twin-engined machine within the next few years.

TREVOR HENSON (1960) appears to be still working for I.B.M. in Newcastle as a customer engineer, travelling regularly to London and Birmingham. He has taken a B.Sc. at Bradford University in Electronics and is currently studying Maths/Technology with the Open University. He sent news of his brother Malcolm, who has two children and is working at the International Language School in Shaftesbury Avenue.

JULIAN MORSE (1961), with a formidable string of professional qualifications as a surveyor, auctioneer and valuer, is now joint managing director of a London firm specializing in advice and management for companies in need of help over problems with property.

DAVID PEPLER (1961) is still working as a legal executive with a firm of solicitors in Fleet Street and he devotes much of his spare time to his work as a member of the Dorney P.C.C. and the Burnham Parish Council.

A change of direction for DONALD APLIN (1962) who has given up farming on his own account in favour of acting as herd manager on a large estate in Hampshire. He has two children, Neil aged nine and Elaine aged four.

DAVID BOBIN (1962) has also moved, not only from Abingdon to the South Coast but also from Radio Oxford to Southern I.T.V. He is a Sports Reporter, based in Southampton, working for the daily regional magazine programme in which you can see him any weekday evening at 6 p.m.

LINDSAY EWING (1962) now married with one son, is an Area Manager for Manpower (U.K.) based on Hayling Island.

PETER HUTCHINSON (1962), who is employed by a large Dutch publishing firm and is concerned with the publication of biology encyclopaedias and school text books, is now working in Oxford for two days a week. As he lives in Cambridge, where he does research in the University Zoology Department, he can be said to be having the best of both worlds—except for the commuting in between.

CONAL TOMPSON (1962), having spent the last ten years in Saskatoon, is an assistant professor at the University of Saskatchewan.

DAVID FRENCH (1963) has recently left his partnership in a firm of West End solicitors and is now working as an international legal adviser with the Midland Bank Ltd.

It was very interesting to see that R. A. HAYWARD (1963) was Conservative candidate for Caermarthen in the latest general election, losing—not dishonourably—to the Plaid Cymru candidate. He is now a personnel officer with Esso.

ROGER PARSONS (1963) is fortunate indeed in the location of his job, for he is a lecturer in Electronics at Cable and Wireless's college at Porthcurno in Cornwall. He obviously deserves his good luck, because he last year achieved a First in Computer and Communications Engineering as a mature student at Essex University.

NICHOLAS COE (1964) is working at Harvard Medical School, Boston, until October 1976 when he returns to Guys Hospital. He is hoping to make contact with Mark Bisby, who is in Canada, some time this year.

Working in Oxford as an assistant solicitor, specializing in family law, is RICHARD CRUMLY (1964). Having got a degree in History at Birmingham in 1967, Richard went on to qualify as a solicitor in 1973.

ROGER GREGSON (1964) went out to Malawi as a Ministry of Works mechanical engineer, responsible for the design, installation and maintenance of Government building services. He loves the country and revels in the opportunities to travel about in such beautiful surroundings.

NICHOLAS ATKINS (1965) is now the Securities clerk at the Amersham branch of Lloyds Bank.

After graduating in Civil Engineering at Churchill, Cambridge, JOHN DAVIS (1965) spent three years working on site in London for Taylor Woodrow. He has now come back to Faringdon, where he helps to run the family building business.

TREVOR HAVELOCK (1965) read Electrical Engineering at Imperial College, London, and then went as a Post Office electrical engineer to Canterbury. He is now living in Dover.

From ALAN WILLIAMS (1965) comes the news that, while continuing to teach History and British Constitution at Hornchurch, he is successfully reading for the Bar in his spare time. He has passed the Part 1 exams and we wish him luck with the remainder of his course.

JULIAN ARUNDEL (1966) is working as Commercial and Industrial Development Manager for Trident Construction Ltd., based in Slough, having joined them in 1974, after working for estate agents Healey and Baker and A. C. Frost & Co.

After three years with I.B.M. PETER CLARGO (1966) spent a year hitch hiking round the U.S.A. and Canada. He went down to Panama on a motor cycle and spent another year hitching round South America. At the moment he is a freelance systems analyst/programmer, on contract to I.B.M., and at the end of this year he intends to emigrate to Australia.

STEWART PEARSON (1966) is now firmly settled in Canada, working enthusiastically for a Canadian insurance company preparing studies of the social and economic structures of the major Canadian cities. Much exhausting research is involved but he has plenty of opportunity for travel.

DAVID TANNER (1966) has done wonders as coach to his Ealing Grammar School coxless fours, which won a silver medal in the World Junior Rowing Championships in Montreal in August 1975. His descriptions of the final race leave one in no doubt as to the calibre of his crew and the involvement of their coach. Congratulations to them all and may this be the first of many triumphs.

From KENNETH BLAIR (1967) came interesting news of a change of direction in his studies. Having given up an arts course in 1972 he travelled for a while and is now working for a degree in Biology at the Technical College in Canberra. He would particularly welcome visits or letters from contemporaries at school and his new address is recorded elsewhere.

Congratulations to ROGER MORGAN (1967) on another advancement. He is now Senior Research and Planning Officer to Kent Social Services Department, with time to continue his own psychological researches.

ANTHONY CHAFER (1968) having graduated as B.A. in French in Nottingham in 1973, M.A. at Reading in European Studies in 1974, L.-es L. English at the University of Nantes in 1975, is now back at Nottingham reading for a Doctor's degree in Drama.

MARTIN COOK (1968) is back in Scotland, after a spell of teaching in Australia and an interesting journey via Bali, Malaysia, Thailand, Burma, Nepal and India. He is, at the moment, teaching Biology at Fraserburgh, just north-west of Peterhead, and is due to be married on 30th March, 1976.

ROBIN MERRITT (1968) got his private pilot's licence at the Oxford Air Training School in 1974 and was hoping to start his flying instructor's course in March 1976. He is presently working on shift at S.R.C. Rutherford Laboratory but his ambition is to make a career of teaching other people to fly.

RICHARD WHITTINGTON (1968), having qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1974, is now working with Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Co. in London. Congratulations on his engagement and impending marriage in the summer. He sent news of PAUL HOPKINS (now stationed with the R.A.F. in South Wales) and of brother JOHN WHITTINGTON (1970), married to another medical student and both due to take their final exams in March.

A typically entertaining letter from MICHAEL BAKER (1969) seeking to fill in the gaps of several years. After leaving University—in 1972 presumably—he toured Britain and Europe, performing in a small theatre group, which he and some friends had founded, aided by an Arts Council grant. He has since dabbled in journalism, writing books, and teaching, on which he has finally settled as a career. Brother TIM BAKER (1971) has been accepted for an M.A. course in English at Leeds, concentrating on Films and T.V.

WILLIAM CHISLETT (1969), now married and a fluent Spanish speaker, was teaching English to Spaniards in Madrid until July. After a holiday in Italy and a visit to England, he is back in Madrid as deputy to the Madrid correspondent of *The Times* and doing some free lance journalism as well.

MICHAEL HARFIELD (1969) graduated at Bristol with a top second in Business Studies and is much enjoying his work with Shell Mex in London.

TONY IRELAND (1969) is now working for H.M. Factory Inspectorate in Derby as an inspector, class II. Since graduating with a B.Sc. in 1973 he has worked at Rolls Royce and W. J. Furse, advising on theatre equipment and stage lighting installations.

ALASTAIR ROSE (1969) has ambitions in the world of films. He is at present working for a B.Sc. in Photographic Sciences at the Central London Polytechnic, having already a B.Sc. in Zoology and having spent some time doing a great many very varied jobs in British Columbia.

Well embarked upon a teaching career—and enjoying it—is JOHN WALKER (1969). He gained a Certificate in Education at St. Paul's College, Cheltenham, and is in his second year as a teacher of English and games at Tockington Manor School, near Bristol.

News of GEORGE HARTNELL (1970) is that he is coming up to the final part of his M.B., Ch.B., having got his Honours B.Sc. in Anatomy in 1973. His hobby is sailing, along the South Coast and occasionally across to France, in between his duties as a locum house physician or surgeon. He had recently met Kevin Brown (1970) who has just taken up a house surgeon's post at Barnstaple.

Congratulations to CHRIS HOUSTON (1970) who has recently graduated with a First in Zoology from the University of British Columbia. At the moment he is working for the government of British Columbia on a history of fish hatcheries in that province. He is to be married on 14th August 1976 to Jean Sheppard, a Vancouver born school teacher, and in the following September he aims to go back to university to start on a post-graduate degree course.

GEOFFREY MAUNDER (1970) gained an H.N.D. at Oxford Polytechnic after leaving school, and has now been awarded an M.Sc. at St. Andrew's University in Computing. He is shortly to take up an appointment with London Transport.

ALAN BROWN (1971), with a degree in Theology at Durham, spent a further year in that city doing all kinds of jobs and is now doing a Certificate of Education course, at Southlands College, Wimbledon, while his wife does a nursing course at St. George's. They hope to use their respective skills, under the auspices of a

missionary society, in Nepal. David Brown (1966), Alan reports, is running the business side of Lucas experimental electronic vehicles in Birmingham.

Another graduate is RICHARD GYSELYNCK (1971), in Geography from Downing, Cambridge, and he is a trainee accountant with Price Waterhouse in London. One of his spare time activities is the T.A.V.R., and after two weeks in Germany last November he hopes to go to Canada this summer.

Congratulations to DAVID HOWAT (1971 on his first class honours in Ecological Sciences at Edinburgh. By June 1976 he will have graduated at Magdalene, Cambridge, with a B.A. in Land Economy, and he then plans to enter the Civil Service as an administrative trainee.

I am indebted to Hugh Randolph for news of FRANCIS MAUDE (1971), who is well into his fourth year at Corpus, Cambridge, after getting a II 1 in History last June. He is doing a crash one-year course in Law, to be followed by a year at the Inns of Court Law School, leading to his being called to the Bar in July 1977, assuming that all goes well. Brother Charles Maude (1969) is in his third year of research and thinking perhaps in terms of a career in design work, having done a lot of graphic and theatre design in Cambridge.

RICHARD WILLIS (1971), after spending six months with the British Caving Expedition in Papua, is taking up a post to teach Biology at Parkfield Comprehensive School, Derby, where he will also help to run the outdoor pursuits course.

DERMOT MURPHY (1971) is very happy with the job he landed in August 1975 as assistant to the Export Manager of Calor Engineering, based in Slough. He reported also, somewhat facetiously, that he has reapplied himself to the problems of bowling off spinners and demoralizing opposition bowlers with a judicious use of the long handle, apparently with considerable enjoyment.

Congratulations to ROY POLLEY (1971) on his appointment to the London head office staff of Cable and Wireless, with plenty of scope for his abilities as a linguist.

RUSSELL SEARLE (1971), having spent a short time at Britannia R.N. College, Dartmouth, was sent up to Liverpool University by the Navy, where he got a second in Chemistry, specializing in his final year in materials and achieving membership of the Institute of Metallurgists. He has subsequently served in Japan, Turkey and several other interesting and diverse parts of the globe. He should, by now, be Navigating Officer, H.M.S. *Nurton*, as a Lieutenant, Portsmouth based.

STEPHEN BAILEY (1972) is in his final year at Surrey University, having done a year of the four year sandwich course at Mullard Research Labs, and should emerge soon with a degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering. Details of his marriage appear elsewhere.

CHRISTOPHER LEONARD (1972), now promoted Lieutenant in the Fusiliers after finishing a tour in South Armagh, has been posted to Belize, where he met Flying Officer David Lewington, R.A.F. (1974). They both expect to be back in England later in the year, but meanwhile are enjoying sunshine and a more relaxed atmosphere.

ANDREW ROWLEY (1972), with a Law and Accountancy degree from Cardiff, is now working for a well known London firm of Chartered Accountants.

After a year with a merchant bank, part of his course in Business Studies, MALCOLM TAYLOR (1972) will be returning to Plymouth Polytechnic in October to complete his B.A. studies. He spent the summer of 1974 in the U.S.A., working in a camp for under-privileged children from New York, and plans to visit India and South Africa when he has got his degree.

Also in the U.S.A., but for the summer of 1975, was HERWARD TRESIDDER (1972). He spent a month working in Washington, D.C., and two more travelling

ten thousand miles by Greyhound buses, returning with strong pro-American feelings. Hereward is now in his third year at King's College, London, as a Law student, and his plans are to enter Chartered Accountancy after taking his finals.

At the moment across the Atlantic is SIMON GREENING (1973), who is spending a year in North Carolina as part of his course in American Studies at East Anglia. He won a scholarship to study at Davidson College and he has managed to travel quite extensively, being particularly impressed by Philadelphia. At this moment he is probably somewhere out West, making use of the magic Greyhound services, spinning out his resources to put off the day of return.

Congratulations to JOHN HALLIDAY (1973) who has won an Exeter University travel scholarship to the University of Mainz for the next academic year.

NIGEL HUGHES (1973), having done his A levels at Windsor Grammar School, is now doing a B.Sc. course in Estate Management at Reading University.

Congratulations to HOWARD RUSSELL (1973) reading Classics at Queens, Cambridge, on the award of a half blue for boxing in the featherweight class.

JULIAN SPOONER (1973) is doing his industrial year, the third in his C.N.A.R. Honours B.A. degree course at Ealing in Business Studies. He occasionally sees Paul Greenwood (1972), who is working in Jersey as a hotelier, and bumped into STEVEN KIRKBY (1970) an R.A.F. officer.

STEPHEN BAILEY (1974) is now at Bath University reading for a B.Sc. Honours degree in Business Administration, a four-year sandwich course. He is loud in the praises of both city and university of Bath.

A Christmas card, with little news inside it, was a welcome renewal of contact with CHICO GHORPADE (1974). He has settled down pretty well in California but is upset by the complete absence of facilities for playing squash. Since he was playing for Berkshire senior team while at school here his dismay is not surprising.

Finally JOE POXON (1975) wrote to say that he is happily settled at the Cassis College of Further Education in Watford, travelling to and fro by motor bike and thoroughly enjoying a surprising variety of activities outside his academic work. One of these is the founding of a college newspaper.

A.A.H.

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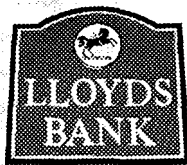
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