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THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

Vol. XV No. 9

MAY, 1970

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THE JOYS OF ROWING

Photograph by M. G. Simpson

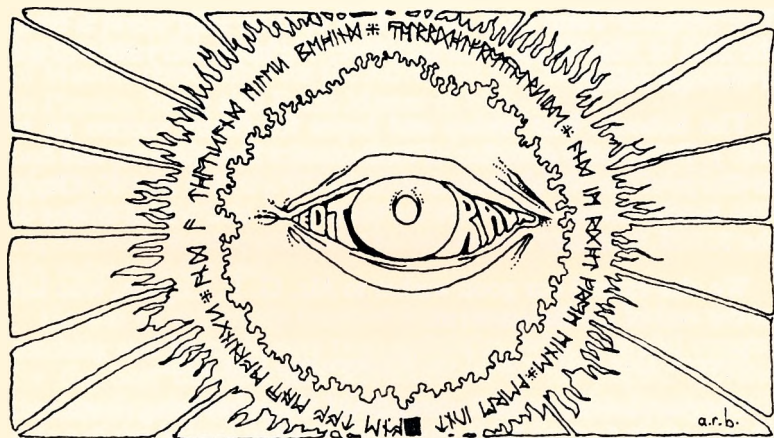
THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

(THE MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL, HIGH WYCOMBE)

For that we han preparen thisse booke,
We hopen ye wil deeme it worthe a looke,
But if ye wil ne calle it mor than folye
Thanne ye wil ne us maken melancolye.
For it we doe, to al that gav, giv thanks
And nam ovr noms beloe inne serryed ranks,
We, that thes worke of art doe giv to yow
Thoos lvyng in the past in six c twow.

Peter Costello, Ian Johnson, Simon Jones, Malcolm Parfitt, John Saunders, Richard Simons, Richard Staynor, James Stonham, Dom Tracey and Jon Walne.

* * *



Let us begin by telling you why all the other *Wycombiensians* have failed: and inevitably that age-old phenomenon, apathy, caused by puerile inhibitions and censorship, is the key to it all.

To quote a former editor who himself used this statement of Jean Cocteau, in order to clarify his position, 'The aesthetics of failure are alone durable. He who does not understand failure is lost'. We're sure Fanny Craddock had this in mind when she explained, 'This kind of failure can only be achieved with practice'.

To clarify our own position: if Pooh Bear with his head inextricably stuck in his honey pot had stopped to ponder the positive nature of his affliction he might have given a thought to Hercules who managed to 'sail the length of the ocean' in a vessel similar to Pooh's in order to save Prometheus and maintain the sanctity of human nature.

And so those who have not yet seen the light, as it were (we admit it's not easy) and who perhaps feel that by subjecting their minds to the whims of censorship (the vessel with which we are concerned) they would be tying their tails to the gate-post, we urge to consider the simple but nevertheless useful functions even a dog could perform in such a restrictive position.

And now that we have said our bit, it nevertheless remains for us to follow tradition by mentioning this year's incredibly high standard of apathy, the extraordinary disillusion which overwhelms everybody, and the magnificent number of grievances that one comes up against. Well, whatever you, we, I think, about the harmony of this community we hope you enjoy this edition which has some fair things to say.

SCHOOL NOTES

The Summer Term ends on the 17th of July. Half Term is from the 25th of May to the 29th inclusive. We hope everyone will see it through safely.

The School's best wishes and hopes for future success go to Mr. J. E. Burnell, a teacher of mathematics here for six years and in charge of the Naval Section of the C.C.F., and to Mr. K. Clegg, who taught mathematics here for three years and was in charge of the R.A.F. Section.

We also extend our good wishes to Mr. G. L. Copson, who left at the end of the Easter term.

Speech Day will be held on Wednesday, July 15th.

Congratulations to the Reverend A. J. Skipp on being nominated Mayor-elect. Let us hope that his speeches are as good as his sermons.

The sixth form common room still manages to delight all its members—when it is open.

We welcome to the school the following masters who have joined our happy throng—Mr. J. E. Waller, R.N. retired, to teach mathematics; and Mr. B. N. Ward to teach science.

We were very sorry to hear of Mr. Learmonth's accident in the gymnasium and extend him every best wish for a good recovery.

The major event of the past term has been 'Festival '70'—a full account of which appears elsewhere.

This has been a most successful season for sport—the rugby team has been the best for years; the basketball team has won the county championship for the second year running; and the hockey team has continued to flourish.

Mr. R. J. C. Farrell

On return from the Autumn Half Term, the School was greatly shocked to learn of the sudden death on October 31st of Mr. R. J. C. Farrell.

Born in 1912 Mr. Farrell was educated at Whitgift School, Croydon, and King's College, London, where he took Second Class Honours in the B.Sc. Special Physics course in 1934. He was a man with a very wide background, who served for 26 years in the RAF Educational Branch. In the course of this he was a Director of Studies to the Royal Pakistan Air Force College, and Senior Education Officer in the Engineering Science Department at RAF Halton. He was also in command in Training H.Q. Technical Training Command.

He was appointed to the Staff of the R.G.S. by Mr. Tucker in September 1962, and at the time of his death was one of the team of Masters responsible for the Advanced and Scholarship teaching in Physics, being also Form Master of 6S3.

Although only a few years short of retiring age, he was a man of progressive forward-looking ideas on the teaching of Physics: the efforts he made to advocate new ideas and introduce new experiments were quite remarkable: he showed keen interest in his subject to the last.

He was an extremely conscientious man, both in his particular teaching and Form Master responsibilities, with a careful concern for the best interests and advancement of his pupils. He also displayed a marked sense of general responsibility for the well-being of the School at large. When the RAF Section of the C.C.F. was left without an Officer, he was seriously considering, even shortly before he died, taking over responsibility for the Unit; despite having had a very serious illness two years previously.

He was a very gentle and gracious man, universally liked and respected by colleagues and boys; he always saw the best in others, forgetting their faults. The loss of a man of such high professional and personal quality is profoundly felt. We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow and to his son (himself a former pupil of the R.G.S.).

M.P.S.

EXAMINATION SUCCESSES 1969-70

We congratulate the following on gaining Open Awards:

P. J. Bedwell	Choral Scholarship, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge
M. J. Cavey	Open Scholarship in History, Balliol College, Oxford
S. M. R. Hill	Open Scholarship in Classics, Pembroke College, Oxford
P. M. Richards	Open Exhibition in History, Emmanuel College, Cambridge
T. W. Smith	Open Scholarship in Natural Sciences, Pembroke College, Cambridge.

Places at Oxford and Cambridge for 1970:

D. J. Clare	Churchill College, Cambridge, for Natural Sciences
P. A. Muckley	Trinity College, Oxford, for English
I. R. H. Pattinson	Pembroke College, Cambridge, for Law
R. M. Wood	Peterhouse, Cambridge, for Natural Sciences

University Places 1969

A. Amin	Nottingham University
G. M. B. Arnold	Essex University
P. J. Baker	University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology, Cardiff
G. D. Beare	King's College, London University
S. T. Bradford	University College, London University
R. P. Brook	Leeds University
P. R. Brown	Loughborough University
P. A. Burgoyne	Lancaster University
J. M. Carter	Sussex University
J. A. Clarke	Newcastle-upon-Tyne University
K. C. Clarke	Warwick University
D. Crowther	Bristol University
C. C. Cutler	Birmingham University
T. F. Dean	Sheffield University
R. A. Denning	Aston University
A. D. Dickson	Imperial College, London University
F. Duckworth	University College, London University
I. C. Freestone	Reading University
A. D. Gray	Sheffield University
P. M. Hagger	Leeds University
I. T. Hickman	University College of North Wales, Bangor
D. J. Hodges	Nottingham University
R. W. Huggins	Loughborough University

M. T. Jones	Keele University
J. C. Lord	Birmingham University
J. S. McBride	Birmingham University
T. T. McCormick	Essex University
A. D. Manecki	Durham University
D. P. O'Hanlon	Manchester University
B. M. Phillips	Loughborough University
D. C. Prior	University College of Swansea
M. Richardson	Leicester University
P. N. Ross	Reading University
C. Saunders	Nottingham University
E. E. Sloan	Durham University
N. Smith	Southampton University
D. C. Stevens	Nottingham University
T. R. Toms	Queen Elizabeth College, London University
C. A. Vecchi	Nottingham University
P. A. Wagner	Newcastle-upon-Tyne University
B. J. Woodley	Imperial College, London University
R. A. Woodman	York University
C. A. Worboys	Brunel University
R. J. Worley	Exeter University
J. K. Wylot	Leeds University
R. M. Zahler	Exeter University

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Most successful year.

Lots of support, so caravan bought.

This to provide holidays for whole families: 15-20 of them.

There will be the usual holiday for 24 children at St. Mary's Bay.

Those aided can be classed as OUR community's responsibility.

Account of terrible condition of these families.

Philosophising: activities assessed by experience gained, not results.

Other activities: children to circus; firework party; river trip for 50 old people; Christmas party and concert at Tech.; decorated Almshouse at Christmas.

Estimated total expenditure £1,000. And a lot more that had been forgotten.

Dance, raffle and barbecue.

Pop concert raised £200. Town hall packed.

Grand sponsored walk (daffodil pick) will happen on April 5th.

Any takers?

Thanks to Messrs. Smith, Jones, Brown, James, Moffat and Nilsson.

Thanks to the secretaries.

Thanks to everyone.

THE FIRE RAISERS

It is a little unfair to the cast and the producer of *The Fire Raisers*, by Max Frisch, that only a brief notice of their excellent production appears, and so long after the event, in an issue of *The Wycombiensian* so full of the varied events of Festival '70.

But this venture, jointly undertaken with girls from the Lady Verney High School, was an ambitious and successful production of a play which is not easy to produce; and it augured well for a year in which drama was to play an important part in the life of the school.

The play stands or falls on the performance of Herr Biedermann the householder and Schmitz the self-invited guest. A. Gay and J. Woodhouse captured exactly the qualities of suspense and the sinister beneath normality which these parts require: and they were adequately supported by a cast which from the opening of the firemen's chorus managed to create effectively the mood and atmosphere of the play.

Mrs. J. McVey is to be congratulated on this highly successful production.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

A most enjoyable Christmas Concert was held on Friday, December 12th, under the direction of Mr. Geoffrey Holmes, when an interesting and varied programme was presented. In the first part the Choral Society and the Junior Choir each sang groups of songs pleasingly and effectively; the orchestra and the wind band played with vigour and conviction; Simon Cochrane showed how well he could play the guitar; and that appropriately named group the Mastersingers delighted the audience once again, especially with their performance of de Koven's 'The owl and the pussycat'.

After the interval, appropriately enough to the season, the choir sang four carols, the most ambitious of which, Sweelinck's 'Hodie Christus natus est', showed their high level of technical competence and fine tone.

The pièce de résistance to conclude the evening was Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols, written for boys' voices and harp. The accompaniment was beautifully played by Elinor Bennett, and the boys, including the four soloists Malcolm Taylor, Simon Drew, John Peatey and Simon Gay, showed themselves quite able to cope with Britten's exacting demands both in pitch and rhythm. It was indeed a most pleasurable performance, and Mr. Holmes deserves our thanks for a delightful evening.

FESTIVAL RGS

This issue of *The Wycombiensian* might well be entitled 'Festival '70 Wycombiensian'. The mammoth undertaking which dominated school life for so long has come and gone. As an isolated phenomenon, it was an unqualified success; but as a community event it may have prompted an accusation of ill-timing. Should it have been put on at a time when it clashed with Wycombe Arts Festival? Did the numbers attending the performances seriously affect attendances at the Arts Festival? It's a good wind that blows nobody any ill. Either the abundance of talent at the RGS is such, or boys, parents and friends felt so duty-bound, that while the RGS Festival '70 was playing to packed audiences, the poor, lonely Wycombe Arts Festival was forgotten, abandoned. I cannot really believe that the Wycombe Arts Festival was turned from a tremendous success into a dismal failure by certain clashes in programme with the school venture. Let us hope, however, that a repetition will be avoided!

LOOHCS IS A BACKWARD SCHOOL THE STAFF REVUE

At 10 p.m. on the 14th March, the yawns of the audience were quickly dispelled by the opening of the staff revue when Mr. K. E. N. Hillier gave his impersonation of the music-master Mr. Holmes, on the conductor's rostrum. He impatiently tapped his baton for order until a strident key-note was established by the

tempestuous entrance of Messrs. Cook and Brown as cross-country runners, setting the tone for the evening. There was another interruption to come—a bumptious late-comer, although peremptorily turned away, succeeded in delaying the proceedings further and stimulated the audience's interest.

The first sketch depicted a newspaper editor only interested in topical events to fill his columns. To provide hot news one of his reporters shot him. The next sketch, 'Lion Tamer Wanted', ended up 'Lion Wanted' after Bob Brown's tender ministrations. The live 'gargle impressionist painting' (I drink, you gargle, he spit) followed. A good opening trio.

All this showed an unexpected insight into the boys' position, especially in the 'Just a shade' sketch, which ridiculed the present sarcastic trend, and in 'Attention, staff meeting', which involved a pin-point knowledge of school trouble spots. Other sketches satirised the pop scene, 'Going for a Song', and the police force.

I must also mention the 'Tender Reminiscences of the Noble Corridor at R.G.S.', written by Adam Hardy and recited by Mr. James. For me this was the highlight of the whole performance.

To complete the show, there was a chorale finale on every aspect of school activities, featuring all the cast. This was suggestive of the Black and White Minstrel Show, and provided a fitting climax to an inspired production.

Finally, I should like to congratulate all who took part in this venture, especially Mr. Blyth and Mr. Hillier, who directed and produced the show with enterprise and imagination. I am sure it will not be forgotten for a long time.

I. JOHNSON.

THE REVUE

On the contrary, Loochs was a very forward school, and the enthusiastic applause it engendered showed how the revue made its mark. Its success was even more pleasing after an obviously well thought out advertising campaign which was every bit as enjoyable as the show. (Did YOU get your ticket, sonny?)

A late-night revue is a difficult concept to bring to successful fruition both in terms of original material and in terms of technique, but this the directors did. Ken Hillier and Ian Blyth produced a series of sketches—including some written by Sixth formers—with a high degree of skill and flair.

From the moment when the audience was wrong-footed at the beginning, the action and the wit followed quickly, perhaps too quickly to hear and enjoy all the material—but only just a shade! The script was bound to be more significant to the cognoscenti: however, it was nonetheless acclaimed with wide approval.

The visual impact of 'Mad Carew' (a multidexterous M. W. Cook) and 'Supermaster' (a purple rather than blue E. L. Westrup) was matched by the sharper wit and style of M. P. James 'In the

Corridor', and the new school song(?). There was also a measure of enlightenment and erudition—what about that enthusiastic vocal response to the call of the Arch Druid?

As an entertainment the whole was refreshing for its crispness and its shunning the temptation to permissiveness. At the end the feeling was that the audience had had its ribs tickled and that the Establishment had laughed too.

M.J.M.

LOOHCS

Oh, let me now once more repair
To R.G.S., High Wycombe, where
On passing through the double door
There lies upon the dusty floor,
Neglected, but for all to see,
In style of public lavatory,
Beneath the doormat, a mosaic:
A Neo-Georgian scene to make.

There's Mr. Samuel Morgan's tower.
Nearby, at some unearthly hour,
Great prefects of this ancient Wycombe
Bring notices, and here they stick 'em.
These are, I'm told, most interesting
(For those who like that sort of thing).

Ahead's the tall and stately gym.
Once, long ago, I had a whim
To peep inside this aged hall
To watch them playing basket-ball.
Too soon I left: 'twas such a bore
I couldn't bear it any more.
Yet some there are who have the powers
To watch it there for hours and hours.

O noble corridor, oh, why
Art thou so pleasing to the eye?
Thy notice boards and windows tall;
Thy paint—which peels upon the wall.
The shady walks of Babylon
Weren't half as good to walk upon.
I'd swear those gardens had no sights
Like all those smashed electric lights;
And Hades' gloomy dungeons ne'er
Had such a feeling of despair.

Such mighty souls have never been
In Athens' marbled Temples seen;
Nor in Elysium, I'm sure,
As those who tread this corridor.

It is, I know, at least as clean
As any Grecian urn I've seen;
And smells as sweet, no matter what,
As any Grecian chamber-pot.

Those blameless souls who clean the place,
They all have such outstanding grace.
Some cavern underground is where
They dwell—Deuce knows what happens there!
I've only been there once, you see—
Oh, what a lot of cups of tea!
These aged ones, at ten to four,
Ascend into the corridor,
With aromatic dust, and brooms,
They clean the floors in all the rooms.

Now to the Southern end repair
To visit such a 'beau water'.
I beg you, don't be too forlorn
To find, once more, the door-knob's gone!

This noble corridor affords
A fine array of notice boards;
And several have a sheet of glass—
But most of them have none, alas!
Of most of them I take no heed.
The rest I very seldom read.
Some are for sport, I've heard it said;
But they're the ones I've never read.
One board, in letters bold and wide
Said 'FORUM LIVES'; but Forum died.

And, last of all, I ought to mention
What has come to my attention:
Of late I saw exhibited
By writers uninhibited
(‘The Purple Mole’, I think they're called)
Some works at which I was appalled.
And here's a typical example:

Down by the gas works

Plastic

Plastic

Plastic

Plastic

Love Mackintosh!!?!??

is just a sample.

At such we mustn't quite despair.
Such tragedies we ought to bear,
With grateful hearts to thank the Lord,
That he on us his love hath poured,
To let more worthy poets bless
The corridor at R.G.S.

ADAM HARDY.

I MUST GO DOWN TO THE RGS

I must go down to the RGS, to the neo-Georgian tower,
And all I ask is a crusty teacher droning for an hour,
And the desk's creak and the pen's squeak and the B.A. gown
shaking,
And a grey fog on the master's face and a sore backside aching.

I must go down to the RGS, for the call of the rugby field
Is a foul call and a shrill call that lets no skivers yield,
And all I ask is a biting day with the dirty ball flying,
And the flung mud and the sharp sweat and the scrum-halves
crying.

I must go down to the RGS, to the Sergeant's snappish bark,
To the hot brown clothes and the drill-parade and all that Army
lark,
But all I ask is an easier sum from the algebraic ogre,
And loud TV and a sweet dream when the long prep's over.

'SHADOWS'

Surely never before can a production of this school have had a greater responsibility than *Shadows*. Firstly, this was a play written and produced by members of this school, but, as if the originality of the production was not sufficiently adventurous, this play was to be the curtain-raiser to a vast undertaking by the school: a week of entertainment under the title 'Festival 70', the Royal Grammar School's contribution to the High Wycombe Festival of Arts. However, these responsibilities proved in the end to have been an incentive rather than a burden, for on both nights *Shadows* was played to a full audience, and on both nights received warm applause.

The plot of *Shadows* was one which dealt with the theme of moral responsibility, and although it had no new aspect to offer it revealed a great deal of understanding of the principles at hand, showing great sympathy for what was involved on behalf of the authors as well as the actors. Undoubtedly the play's strong point

was the scenery, especially the contrast between the barren front of the stage, representing military headquarters somewhere in Afghanistan, and the luxurious front room of a mansion in England. The drama in the play was perhaps a little unbalanced: there was far too much secrecy in the last scene, and too many lapses into a dramatic silence throughout the play; but these are minor points when one considers the size of the undertaking at hand. The acting was quite ordinary, with the exception of S. Hamlin as Mrs. Elliott, H. Bayley as Dr. Willoughby, and J. Burrows as Dr. Morton, none of whom, significantly, tried to shout out their lines.

Hearty congratulations must be given to Mr. M. P. James, as co-author and producer, for an eminently successful production. The truest test of any production such as this is how much it was enjoyed, by which criterion *Shadows* passes with honour.

R. STAYNOR.

THE CHORAL SOCIETY AND WIND BAND CONCERT

Every year that I have been here, there have always been one or two concerts of music of the higher calibre, and few of them have had packed audiences. This concert was no exception and what a pity it was so, because the performances were surprisingly accomplished. Indeed at the end of the concert, the impression I had was one of amazement at the capabilities of both the young and old who performed.

The wind band sounded as sparkling as it looked when the right harmony was struck, which was for most of the time and in parts sounded inspired. I think most of us enjoyed more the music we knew, and so when the Trumpet Voluntary was sounded I could almost hear people humming along. It was quite a professional performance and our congratulations go to Mr. Tiedeman whose work must have been very rewarding.

The rest of the concert was devoted to song and it was remarkably enjoyable. I expected the choral society's performance to be conscientious but it was also very polished. 'The Wilderness' gave us an idea of the marvellous sound it could produce and the Requiem fulfilled our highest expectations. Fauré's work is in itself beautiful music and the choral society did it great justice. I know some people came out of the Queen's Hall feeling stunned by such a wonderful sound.

Altogether it was a concert worthy of high praise and the audience showed their appreciation with applause that could rival any in Festival '70. I congratulate especially Mr. Holmes and Mr. Rooke for their very entertaining enterprise.

RICHARD SIMONS.

A PLAY READING: 'OUR TOWN'

by Thornton Wilder

The play takes place in a small town in the U.S.A.

It is clearly divided into three parts. The first describes the daily life of the Gibbs and Webb families; the second deals with the love and marriage of George Gibbs and Emily Webb; the final part tells of the death of Emily Gibbs in childbirth and of how the dead look upon the living.

The play differed in several ways from a normal play. Firstly, the scenery was limited to two groups of chairs, one on either side of the stage, representing the homes of the two families; the chairs were later reformed as a church and then as a graveyard. Secondly, the stage manager set the scene in the imaginations of the audience, for there were no visual effects. Finally, the most important difference was that the actors did not learn their parts, but merely read them out. Contrary to expectation, this fact did not, once one grew accustomed to the idea, detract from the pleasure of watching the performance.

Now to the acting: John Burrows and Keith Ray were ideally cast as the solid, dependable heads of the two families; Geraldine Eldridge as the ageing and experienced Mrs. Gibbs provided a strong contrast with the innocent young lovers played with flair by Andrew Gay and Sheila Martin; and David Marlow as the relaxed stage-manager helped to bridge the gaps in time and keep the action moving. Every member of the cast developed and maintained an American accent with surprising consistency. All the emotion of the play was suppressed rather than over-acted, and produced all the more effect for this.

The message of the play was only revealed right at the end: the living pass through life in such a hurry that they do not savour it and only the dead can see how blindly the living live.

To conclude, the action of the play was swift and the message clear and powerful—a definite success.

P. COSTELLO.

WORDS, WORDS, WORDS

Polonius: 'What do you read, my lord?'

Hamlet: 'Words, words, words.'

Although one might assume that we are a school of Philistines, 19 poets had the courage to read their creations to an appreciative audience in the 'Words, words, words' production on the Sunday morning.

Poems were read about nature; there were happy poems and cynical poems; peaceful and aggressive poems; poems containing

rampant images and poems with bare thoughts; and there was a protest piece in prose.

The majority of the poetry was in free verse; but some was rhyming and some contained metre.

Some of the creations were accompanied by music, some by pictorial decoration.

Finally, may we thank Mrs. McVey for selecting and arranging the works; Nigel Gravett for conferring immortality on all with the tape-recorder; Chris Head for compering the production; and especially those of you who attended, and, we hope, enjoyed the programme.

N.B.—Selections from 'Words, words, words' are printed in this issue.

MUSIC FOR TENOR AND GUITAR

A thoroughly delightful recital was given as part of Festival '70 by Mr. D. J. Flinders and Simon Cochrane. On the afternoon of a crowded Saturday that also included the Concert and the Late Night Review, this programme perhaps escaped the attention that its outstanding quality deserved.

Simon Cochrane chose a varied selection of pieces especially written for the guitar, mostly Spanish, and charmed the audience with his remarkable skill and virtuosity. In an age when every pop singer plucks at the instrument, here is a boy who can really play it.

Mr. Flinders' songs formed an exceptionally well balanced programme: Elizabethan, French eighteenth century Bergerettes, Schubert Lieder, and folksong arrangements by Benjamin Britten; and he was equally at home in all the varying styles. The beauty of tone, perfection of pitch and clarity of diction delighted us all: it was impossible to say which group was the best!

Mr. Holmes and Mr. Rooke were the perfect accompanists—and how important this is in the Schubert songs. For one listener at least, in a festival full of excellence, this was the crowning performance.

NOYE'S FLUDDE

On the last night of Festival '70, a packed Queen's Hall saw a very good R.G.S. version of Britten's *Noye's Fludde*. The only two characters from outside the school were Nigel Bevan, whose faultless performance as Noye must have been a great inspiration to the younger members of the cast, and Malveen Eckersall, who was very good as Mrs. Noye. Sem, Ham and Jaffert, played by Graham Murrane, Philip Edwards and Paul Darrington respectively, sang very well together, but their voices were difficult to hear when they were singing solo. Adam Hardy gave a convincing performance as

God (except that he could unfortunately be seen reading his script); the rest of the cast are too numerous to mention, but they all put every effort into their singing and acting. The orchestra, under the watchful eye of Mr. Holmes, played very well, especially the recorders (if any one section is to be singled out). Mr. Eaton is to be complimented on his fine settings and masks, which added greatly to the general effect of the performance, as is Mr. Smith for his competent production (an understatement).

This was an evening which I myself thoroughly enjoyed, and, to judge from the applause at the end, so did the audience.

J. W. R. WALNE.

THE FESTIVAL '70 CONCERT

The Folk Festival, according to the *Bucks Free Press*, went 'like a bomb'. It was praised, very highly, for the variety of folk songs, both British and foreign, which were sung and accompanied by boys and girls from the Lady Verney High School, Wycombe High School, the John Hampden School and, of course, the R.G.S., despite the criticism (mentioned earlier) that it clashed with other productions in the Wycombe Arts Festival.

Although it is impossible to name so many talented people in such a short space, special mention must be made of Chris Head, acclaimed by so many as the star turn, the boys from the John Hampden school who, after coming into the programme so late, delighted the audience with their own compositions, and of Howard Jones' outstanding piano solo which demonstrated his early inspired talent.

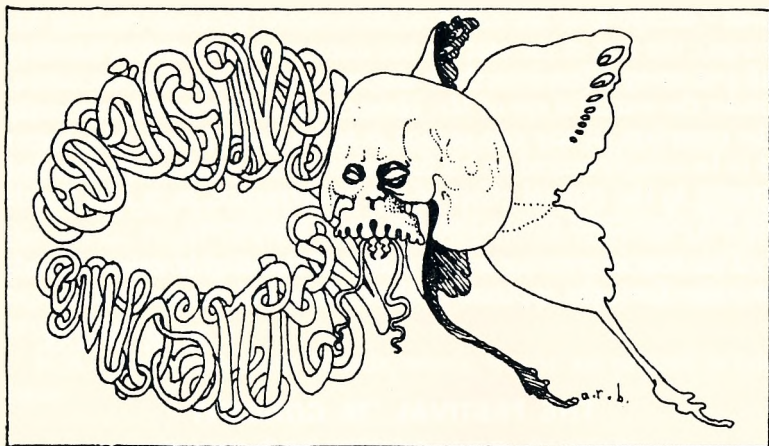
Thanks go to the many boys and few girls who performed so well, to Paul Zeisler and friends who provided such valuable equipment, to the lighting team, who excelled themselves on the night, and special thanks to Mr. Bob Brown, whose originality, organisation, energy and good temper brought the production to such a successful conclusion.

S. WRIGHT.

SPAIN AND RUSSIA IN WORDS AND MUSIC

Another fascinating feature of the Festival was the inclusion of two expositions on Spain and Russia. These were composed of readings from Spanish and Russian poetry and prose, recorded music, and slides. Both expositions were attended by appreciative audiences, and certainly deserved the applause they received. Exhibitions of the Spanish Civil War and Russian Revolutions were also mounted, but, being isolated at the peak of the Junior Block, were visited by only a few.

A. LE VIEN.



'Tis a fact about writers
Of prose and of verse,
That though some could be better,
They all could be worse.

ADAM HARDY.

BRITANNICA

School productions in recent years have suffered from American thinking—each one is bigger and better. *Jericho* was a large scale production with original words and music. Then came *Century*, a whole series of productions in drama, art and music. Now comes 'Festival '70', a whole week of plays, poetry, songs, revue and opera, involving a lot of the school and an all-staff production.

But what comes next? What grandiose scheme is forming in the fertile mind of Mr. Denis Smith? No one knows for certain yet, but rest assured it will be bigger and better than even 'Festival '70'. Perhaps something like this . . . ?

Britannica is a completely original oratorio, involving absolutely everybody in the school. The text is a rendering in poetry, by the English VIth, of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, set to music by the Music VIth, with special sound effects by the Stage Lighting Team and action from the Drama Society.

The performance lasts six days. Beds are provided for the breaks between sections and excitingly original food will be prepared by the catering staff. (Sixteen boars' heads will be roasted on spits in the quadrangle, and rice pudding will be prepared in the swimming pool). It is hoped to involve the audience in the performance by putting them on the same level as the cast and the action will need a large area. For this reason the performance will not be in the

Queen's Hall, which will not be large enough, but on the school field. The Queen's Hall will be used as a snack-bar.

The orchestra will be supplemented by a few professional players (the LSO) and the 3,000-voice choir will be composed of boys and girls from many schools in the South-East.

As an added attraction the Chemistry VIth will enclose the school clock-tower in multi-coloured polystyrene foam.

Unfortunately, response to this very exciting venture has been disappointing . . . in fact abysmal. Only one ticket has been sold (to the headmaster). A lot of hard work has gone into the production of *Britannica* and it is to be hoped that boys will want to come themselves and bring their parents.

Tickets cost only 30 guineas, including full board and *cordon bleu* school meals for the six-day performance. Please support this exciting venture!

P. M. STEVENSON.

A BURIAL

cold the night and cold the stone
bare the trees and bare the bone
pale the moon and pale the cere
black the sky and black the bier

lay him in his mother's clay
let the worms his carcase flay
let his dust decay unsung
in the bowels whence it sprung

let his bones return to earth
with the stones that gave them birth
let them mingle in the tomb
that second and more lasting womb

let the grass grow wild and rank
let the thistles choke this bank
let the willow-herb proclaim
here lies he without a name

set no headstone to his grave
for he lived and died a knave
keep no vigil, make no moan
cold the night and cold the stone.

C. R. ROLLASON.

THE STUDENT REVOLUTION

'The imagination of a boy is healthy, and the mature imagination of a man is healthy; but there is a space of life between, in which the soul is in a ferment, the character undecided, the way of life uncertain, the ambition thick-sighted: thence proceeds mawkishness, and all the thousand bitters which those men I speak of must necessarily taste.'

Students of this country are in revolt. They are embittered against authoritarian rule and every kind of manifestation of power. They are suspicious (take the recent row over the keeping of files on students as an example). They feel the system of administration both of universities and of governmental posts is inadequate. They support the principle of 'Little Englandism', whereby Britain should contract her responsibilities for colonies and dependencies. In fact, moralising both on the political and on the social front, they support the free development of the 'ego'.

The rigid, rationalist, ideological spirit associated with the Catholic and the Protestant religions, the strict centralisation policy employed by the present government which tends to stifle freedom and originality, the mechanistic belief in order, and social hierarchies as the essence of human society—all this is condemned and gives place to a trust in the moral and physical advantages of a COMPLETELY free society. The idea of heredity and environment as a vital factor in the development of mentalities at present is appreciated, and steps are taken to commence a campaign against social inequality. Quasi-revolutionaries, with banners flying, campaign against South Africa's racialist policy, creating utter havoc and confusion, and everywhere, scrawled on walls, are the words 'Down with Imperialism' and 'Freedom for the Individual'. The student is protesting.

But, amidst all this criticism of inhuman pedagogism on the part of the authorities, the student himself must draw up a code of ethics, indeed a system of administration as a replacement, or at least a suggestion for the future. For, without this, the violent passions and excitement will prevail, bringing on in turn amorality and anarchy, and, doubtless, this destruction of social formalities, precedence, and tradition, coupled with a return to coprology in all forms of art and literature, will mean the brutal re-emergence of 'le gorille féroce et lubrique . . . qui subsiste, indéfiniment, dans l'homme'. So we must realise that we can only make sense of our life by vigorous commitment, by stamping the impress of our own will on its absurdity, and finally by creating our own destiny.

I. JOHNSON.

ON NOT GOING TO THE CHORAL SOCIETY MEETING

I wandered past the music room
Just thinking how the time to kill,
When all at once I heard a sound:
It was, I trow, a ten-bar trill,
Inside the room, beneath those tiles
The trill went on for miles and miles.

Continuous as the rules they print
And stick on every classroom wall,
The trill continued without stint,
Reverberating round the hall.

The altos all ran out of puff
And yet the glorious noise went on,
But as I thought I'd had enough
I tiptoed out and soon was gone.

But oft when in the quad I stroll
More oft than not in vacant mood,
From o'er the way the basses roll
Making me yearn for solitude;
And so I sigh and think: oh dear—
Because by right I should be there.

D. A. LOWE.

THEY MAY BE DEAD, BUT THEY'RE NOT LYING DOWN !

This edition has been prepared by the classical sixth and we were told we could give it a classical slant if we wanted. However, speeches by Cicero or Latin epigrams would not, we are sure, go down very well, but please forgive this small indulgence that we are about to exercise now. Every few years a classicist feels he has to justify his existence, if not for his own conscience's sake, then for the overwhelming abuse cast upon him for learning a couple of languages that will hardly ever be used and are dead to the 20th century. It is also said that a classicist learns a period of history that is not only thousands of years old but too obscure to be of any value. We are constantly being asked, 'What use are they?'

Well, apart from the small fact that we might enjoy the subject, let me evade the question by replying with another—what use is any subject at school? Yes, we know that science A level has a direct bearing upon a future career in science, but I wonder how many have found that the job they are now doing could well have been done without the aid of the A level natural sciences.

The point I would like to make is that whatever subject you are doing you are provided with a general education. In most cases, apart from the professions, employers like to see that you have

had an education, and specialisation is of secondary importance to the standard one has attained in it. For example, can an English student honestly say that his education has been better, more useful, and put him more in touch with what his future will be than that of a classicist? Even in the case of modern languages students, many will find that their studies were nothing like so helpful in their present job as they once thought. Likewise with classics, because not everyone learns classics just so that they can teach it to others and so perpetuate a sphere of learning that to many intelligent but blind people seems to be a dead-end subject caught up in a vicious circle of boring academics.

To be more precise, and strengthen a case that really needs no strengthening, classics teaches one to be analytical, to be impartial, and to be able to stand back and see both sides to the question (and if I am not doing justice to other subjects and their side of the argument, it is not out of malice or shortsightedness, but because space is limited, a very convenient excuse I admit, but still true). I do not dispute that certain other subjects do the same as I have mentioned above, but where else can one find and learn about art and architecture that has had and still does have influence over their respective counterparts today, the philosophy of men who first began to question their life and existence, and whose thinking has shaped the ideas of philosophy today, and a near-perfect constitution, the idea of which now rules half the world, the original democracy?—all in one subject. The ancient Greeks and Romans might be dead but their legacy still lives on.

A COLD OCTOBER EVENING

Crimson sun darkening the sunset clouds
Above a deep black forest of spear-head pines;
Dark shadows captured behind an undulation of stubble,
Silhouettes of poles of power-lines bare
At the reddening dusk;

The sky is afire with cold dragon-flame
From caverns of night; on a star-studded carpet;
Legs rigid; haunches high; eyes of livid green
From the darkling East like a shadow
Of Death stalking over the naked fields
With hideous cautious strides
Warning its coming with torch-breath
As the vague wind blows around me,
Clutches my coat for comfort,
And murmurs worried among the trysty trees
Who watch and wait and huddle
And I feel alone, trapped
Between the fierce fowl monster at my back
And the last scarlet glimmer of his herald,
Lighting to the last Druidic meeting of the pines.

BLUE VERSUS RED WITH WHITE PRESIDING

If you ever want to know what it is like to take part in battle in the ancient and uncivilised sense of the word, you should try your hand, preferably gloved, on the school field when the weather has been so kind as to blanket all with that substance which for some of the time is painful, for a lot of the time beautiful, and for all of the time cold. The event is almost a ritual now; it happens every year and sometimes, whether you like it or not it happens more than once, for the weather is as unpredictable as the outcome of the battle it causes. Life is not safe when it snows, especially for a prefect when all the moral implications of retaliation come to a head: shall I bury the little — in it or not? Is it personal vindictiveness, totally unacceptable by both boys and masters alike? Or is it summary punishment justifiable on grounds of attendant circumstances? Well, the argument could go on for ever. Anyway, whatever it is, it is fun because you do not have time to philosophise especially in mass battle on the school field.

To rally together with your fellow blues or reds, shout your head off to create Dutch courage for yourself and fear in the enemy and charge like hell with weapons poised—wait till you see the whites of their eyes—and meet the enemy's volley of missiles with your own, is as exhilarating an experience as any. Childish? Not at all, adults have been doing it for centuries, except with more deadly weapons, and because we know we are not going to get killed it is great fun.

The last time battle was engaged the blues had their own castle although Mr. File soon locked the terrapin because he felt that school finances did not run so far as to include funds for war. During these battles you can get rid of all your pent-up emotions and come out with totally new ones. You either end up feeling sorry for yourself because what you intended to do to others happened to you, or you feel really satisfied with life because you have half-killed the fifth-former you don't like. It is barbaric but at least it is a change from football.

RICHARD SIMONS (6C2).

BUTTERFLY

He is the world's eternal Butterfly,
A gaily-tinted darter, free of flight—
Who swirls for ever gazing at the sky,
But ne'er aspires to its vaulted height.

He carries beauty with him like a smile,
His restless soul would beauty fain create—
Yet just to hover, flit a little while,
And fail to capture beauty, is his fate.

Deep has he drunk the nectar-draught of Art,
With clouds of wondrous dreams inebriate:
But soul and body cannot live apart,
And soul is shackled with the earthly weight.

In his soul's cellars still, not killed by time,
There lurks, to block the sky of every hope,
The grovelling Caterpillar, thing of slime,
The tainted self that thwarts each wishful grope.

When will the Butterfly attain the clouds,
The real, not the mists that fill its dreams?
Ah, when its wraith smokes upward from the shrouds,
And when its beauty is, not only seems.

C. R. ROLLASON.

SIXTH FORM AND SOCIETY

I think that one only realises the true value of a grammar school education when one reaches the sixth form, and, with a more mature relationship with the staff, can appreciate the solid basis of the system. The foundation of the grammar school lies in its insistence on the principles of life and, above all, on discipline. One of the most sorry manifestations of the 'permissive society' is the total lack of discipline in social behaviour among young people. One aspect of this is the frantically immature behaviour of leftist students at our universities, where democratic discussion of issues of the day is becoming well-nigh impossible. The sixth-form student is made to know his place and his responsibilities. There is no talk of participation; what right have students to dictate the policies of the educational establishments which they attend? The grammar-school student is made to steer a middle course through the extravagant excesses of modern youth and take his place in society, a responsible critical individual who has no time for hypocrisy or political nonsense.

Respect for the wisdom and experience of the older generation is something inherent in the centuries-old tradition of the grammar school, and it is only through mutual respect that society advances.

D. R. LISHMAN (6M2).

DAS KAPITAL

Fervent verses scratched by a Communist militant in the year 4000 A.R. (After Revolution), on hearing the legend that, in the shrouded mists of the past, the great Founder of the Faith visited the land of Britain.

And did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon England's streets unclean?
And was the holy Beard of Marx
On England's dismal slagheaps seen?

And did the Foe of private wealth
Light up those capitalist hills?
And was the Comintern built here,
Among those dark heroic mills?

Bring me my hammer wrought in Gold,
Bring me my sickle bathed in fire!
Bring me my Red Flag to unfold,
Bring me my partisan attire!

I will not cease from violent fight,
Nor shall my gun sleep in my hand,
Till we have brought the Comintern
To England's black and filthy land.

C. R. ROLLASON.

CRITICISM

'Leave me alone with the conviction that there is not a fiercer hell than the failure in a great object.' (*Keats*).

Failure, to my mind, is inter-related with, and dependent upon, criticism. Take as a striking example of this the venerable poet whom I have just cited. He wished to 'try once more the beautiful mythology of Greece' through his intentions of writing a poem on the fall of Hyperion. He began the poem, but, falling foul of the fervent denigration of the critics, he became so disheartened that he refused to continue it, leaving only a fragment which was published in 1820. The critic, lurking, ready to leap out and seize the author on the slightest provocation, is the final arbiter of any work of art—it is he who, either by condemning or praising, decides its merit. As in all of us, the shades and levels of his personality which respond to stimuli cover all fields of life: intellectual, emotional, moral; and so, in the same way, the sources of interest from which the stimuli originate must also be numerous: historical, aesthetic, psychological. The good critic will base all his opinions and feelings on personal reaction, on the degree to which he considers his own aesthetic experience has been enriched, or his knowledge extended. In this way he will avoid being too rigid or narrow in his observations and deductions, and he should come

to a reasonable, unbiased conclusion of the worth of the work he is assessing.

The writer, on the other hand, must imbibe all the political, philosophical, and scientific ideas of his generation, and concentrate them into one book, one treatise, one fixed point, which will influence and burn a way into the critic's mind. He must give expression to his own experiences and attitudes, while, at the same time, governing his work by one underlying principle or theme, and propounding this surreptitiously under the cloak of orthodoxy. Admittedly this is all subjective, my personal opinion, but I feel that a book without some form of heterodoxy is like an arch without a keystone. Writing is a form for expressing one's viewpoint without restraint, but bearing in mind that it is the critics who apply the terms success or failure.

So, by this theorising, I have tried to justify the views expressed in the articles in this magazine. This is the time of revolt, of breaking from tradition. But, for future contributors to this magazine, I will say one word of warning. Remember that verbage, wordplay, a feast of intellectual fantasy, without any fundamental reasoning or psychological basis (this, I feel, has been a fault of past magazines) are 'stimulants for the intellect, but poor nourishment for the soul.'

I. JOHNSON.

OUTSIDE

And now
What luck, what fortunes
Wait for us
Outside this snow swept house?
Inside,
I sit
And watch you,
A drink in your hand,
Sitting in the corner,
Staring at the wall.
Our conversation
Is exhausted,
Unlike the snow
That whirls and falls
In the night
Outside.

We have spilled out words
That still linger,
And hang in the air
To stare at us.

PAUL ANSCOMBE.

THE PEACE MACHINE

They brought the Peace Machine out into the sight of the great crowd, and the inventor stood up and shouted:

‘This is the fulfilment of the dream which mankind has for millennia dreamed! By this machine, comrades, the curses of violence, discrimination, and exploited labour, and their offspring war, genocide, and slavery, will be banished from the earth.’

At this point a man shouted from the crowd: ‘You think I’m going to believe that, you Marxist-Leninist—’

The Guardians of the People’s Democracy seized the man, and would have removed him for questioning had not the inventor raised his right hand and said:

‘Bring him here, and let him be the first to test my Machine.’

Amid cheers from the crowd, the man was dragged before the Peace Machine, still shrieking and cursing. But as the Machine hummed into life, his imprecations turned into gentle reason; and as its power grew stronger, his angry gestures were subdued into calmness.

But as it grew stronger yet, his talking tongue stopped assaulting his teeth, and his stomach acids his food, and his cells no longer discriminated against invading bacteria, nor his blood against carbon dioxide, and his brain and heart ceased their incessant unrewarded labour.

And he died.

SIMON JONES.

A girl
Swung on an iron gate
At dawn,
To the music of the green-clad piper
And the white weird harpsichord.
She saw the level lake come and go
As she glided
Over the ground.

But her vehicle slowed
As the clouds crossed the sky,
And a loud squeaking came
From the hinges.
Unhappily
She descended,
And walked wearily to the trees
Of her favourite field.

The unexpected roar that followed
Shook the earth,
Pounded the hills,
Threatened the tall trees,
Swept thru' the valley
To the graves.
The lightning
Split the sky,
Scarred the heavens
In blood red.
The lake swelled
And plunged forward,
Cascaded over the gate,
Flooded the field,
Drowned the piper,
Smashed the harpsichord.

And then
A sudden lull.
The earth ceased vibrating.
The hills stopped rumbling.
The air fell silent
And the trees stood still.

The sky darkened.

And as all light was drained from above
Everything was muffled and quiet—
Save
For the wind
Blowing
Through twisted gate bars.

PAUL ANSCOMBE.

FINGEL'S CAPE

A play on warts for 93 or less voices

The action, or lack of it, takes place in the drawing-room at Old Oakhampton Manor. It is noon on a hot summer's day. Through the window stars can just be seen twinkling bravely through flurries of snow.

Jill O. Teen (rubbing Sir Gerald Cornabie's artificial leg): 'Tis a cold knight, forsooth.

Oscar Mild (with some blue cards in his hand): I'll raise you one sooth.

Lord Frowning (polishing his eyeballs): When I was in Indonesia, I remember the natives used to do the most extraordinary things. Why, I saw one man lie stark naked (he blushes violetly)

on a bed of nails while his wives piled rocks on him and then drove a herd of elephants over him.

Jill O. Teen: Whatever happened to him?

Lord Frowning: Killed the blighter of course. Don't ask stupid questions.

(He rambles on about his experiences in Indonesia, his voice becoming quieter and more and more incoherent until all that can be heard is an occasional grunt and the words 'British Empire', 'Queen Victoria', and 'Trench foot'.)

Eric Frowning (son of Lord Frowning): Father's arm has dropped off, so he must be asleep.

Spiro S. Agony (D.S.O. and Bear, fiend of the family, and amateur hangman): Did I ever tell you the story of how I sank a Japanese battleship using nothing but a pair of pliers and two squadrons of the Fleet Air Arm?

56 redundant nuns } (In venison if not unison) No (sigh). Oh
A Greek Chorus-girl } please tell us (sigh, cough) Oh Spiro,
our hero.

Spiro S. Agony: Well, it was in 1959, and—

Lord Frowning (waking soddenly): Odd's balls and barrels!

Fanny Frowning (O.B.E. for no apparent reason, sister of Lord Frowning, seethingly): There, there, you old fool. (To Eric) He's been reading Sheridan again! You know how it excites him.

Spiro S. Agony: Leave him to me. (To Lord Frowning) Come on, sir. Strap on your legs and come for a walk on the beach. The tide's in, and you know you enjoy half-drowning.

(Exeunt; then they leave to the strains of Hank Lee Marvin's 'Crippling Star'.)

(A knock is heard.)

Eric Frowning: Who can that be? (Opens door.)

Stranger at door: Good morning, I'm a bore-to-bore sailman.
I sell the Tower of London.

Eric Frowning: No thank you, I've already got one.

(Shoots sailman with a sawn-off longbow which he had concealed under his kilt.)

Jill O. Teen (visibly unmoved): Oh Eric, what have you done.
Oh crumbs.

Eric Frowning (blithely): One has to be cruel to be fined. Anyway, I need food for my pet Puma, Taff.

Oscar Mild (beating himself about the head with a brick): You swine, sir. That was my long-lost brother, Adolf. Yes, (as the others stir at him in bored amazement) I am a Nazi spy, the

notorious Heinrich Tschunke. But you won't get me. (Draws his revolver and points it at his heart. There is a loud 'pouff' and he falls down dead.)

(Exeunt all but the Greek Chorus-girl.)

Greek Chorus-girl (with tears of happiness in her eyes): Woe to all spies! Woe to all revellers. Woe to all pumas. Woe!

The evil deeds of this man nearly destroyed British Democracy, doubled the coloured population of Africa, caused Ford workers to come out on strike and ruined Aston Villa's chances of promotion.

(She staggers offstage with a bottle of meths in one hand and Taff the Puma in the other.)

Pink Corduroy Curtain falls.

A. D. DAY.

ENVOI

I shall proceed to write a verse of rebellious adolescent poetry.
The kind they print in *The Wycombiensian*.

'We can't smoke
We can't wear our hair long
We can't live.'

What piffle; I have better things to do.

D. LOWE.

SENIOR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP SOCIETY

This year, it is pleasing to note that our membership has increased to more than ten. However, despite this encouraging fact, it is still depressing to realise that, in a school of over 1,000 boys, many of whom attend church regularly, that not more than 10 or so seek Christian fellowship in this school.

Our meetings have been held on Thursday lunchtimes and have included outside speakers, discussions and Bible studies. It is interesting to note that the best attended meetings have been when we have invited a speaker.

Halfway through this term an Inter-School Christian Fellowship Meeting was held in the Common Room, and was attended by representatives of two Amersham schools, a school from Chesham, and the R.G.S.

Many thanks must be conveyed to Mr. White-Taylor who helped to organise this event, and has helped us in many ways. We also pray that he will recover fully from his recent illness.

G. BIGGS.

DEBATING SOCIETY

The egregious Debating Society has finally hit the headlines! Since its time and venue were changed from the Upper Library at 4.15 to the Geography room at 1.20 the attendance has risen, and from a slightly unsatisfactory average of ten it has actually quadrupled. Indeed, for the debate on whether or not the South African Cricket Tour should take place, no fewer than 55 lucky individuals came to listen.

Now no one can dispute the success of the Debating Society. It charges no membership fees, does not expect its fans to remain behind after school, and, more important, boasts the atmosphere which so many other clubs strive so hard to achieve without any success whatsoever. So, the next time you and your 'crowd' are moaning about the lack of activities during lunchtimes, remember that there is always the warmth of the Geography Block where you can hear the most wonderful debates on controversial motions absolutely free of charge!

H. G. L. RUSSELL.

R.G.S. MAFIA CLUB

Once again this term the club has proved itself to be one of the most active in the school. Despite the pressure of examinations and of Rehearsals for Festival '70 the club succeeded in meeting at least once per week.

For those who may not know, the club was inaugurated several years ago with the dual purpose of gaining control of the school and promoting the more unusual interests of the boys. We were very sorry to lose four of our members through expulsion at the end of last term; nevertheless membership has continued to increase, with, we are very happy to say, more interest being shown by the lower school.

Apart from the satisfaction of a job well done, members receive a share of club profits each month and are secure in the knowledge that they will obtain good exam results.

Of the ten members of the sixth-form committee, nine are now club-members. Pressure from the committee did not, however, succeed in halting closure of the sixth-form common room for a short period this term. The room was closed after a 'raid' by the authorities. Quick-thinking saved several valuable roulette wheels from confiscation and no club-members were actually accused of complicity in the gambling activities. Over this issue certain confusion has arisen—we should like to state now that the colour of official club cards is red, not blue as was rumoured. In connection with card playing it was pleasing to hear that the school team recorded a victory in the inter-schools bridge tournament—Eton,

the other finalists, were forced to retire after a member of their team accidentally tripped and broke the fingers of both hands. Bad luck Eton!

It is hoped club funds may reach a record level this term, successful fund-raising activities included a very profitable 'rugby club' jumble sale. The theme of raising money for a continental tour proved to be an efficient front. The Tuck-shop, always an area of club influence, again provided the largest contribution to funds. It is expected that 95% of shop profits will find their way to the club cash-box.

An area of opposition to the club and all the principles it stands for, has always been the C.C.F. An invitation to a 'shoot out' on the school field was declined by the cadets on the grounds that they were no longer an active military force, but merely peace-keepers—not a very valid reason, we think.

The armoury has once again proved a useful source of equipment.

The only real loss incurred this term was the seizing of our home-made drugs factory, ingeniously designed by a club member who wishes, for personal reasons, to remain anonymous, from the green mamba tank in the Biology department.

The highlight of the term was undoubtedly the visit from our organisation's area manager. He gave an enthralling talk, illustrating it with slides of gambling and vice in Italy and New York. It is hoped that a visit will be arranged to these places in the summer holidays.

In conclusion, the club committee have asked me to express their satisfaction with the work done this term. As a special token of thanks profits from the magazine will be distributed among members. Well done, men!

MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

As indicated in our last report, work has continued on the baseboards and scenery. At the beginning of the year a new baseboard was constructed in the committee's area, forcing the committee to move out, and later a second baseboard was built on the site of an old baseboard, which had supported the last bad section of track, after it had been ceremoniously demolished.

Work is now commencing on relaying the inner track of the main line, which had to be lifted when the new baseboards were built, and the branch line. All these improvements cost money, and fortunately quite a few donations were made, and at the moment the funds are in a healthy state.

M. E. BLAXLAND.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT SOCIETY

Although this is the society's first year of existence, and at the present time the membership is not very big, I think that I can safely say that the club should continue to exist in the years to come.

In the Autumn term the club ran a trip to Pendon Museum, which was highly successful, and it is hoped that the club will run a trip either to the Bluebell line, with perhaps a visit to the Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch railway included, or to the Dart Valley line.

Films have been well supported and it is hoped that a further ten films will be shown in the Summer term.

M. E. BLAXLAND.

MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

Following a successful first year of revival, during which the Society attracted over 100 members, the committee has endeavoured to maintain this interest by continuing with a wide selection of films dealing with Europe and its peoples. It is unfortunate that the Upper School still seem to be generally unaware of our activities and the main part of our audience has consisted of Juniors. The committee has again been unable to find a suitable substitute for the film show, as the major activity of the Society, but despite this the films shown have been well attended on most occasions. Although the Society is doing quite well it is in danger of extinction because of a scarcity of new committee members. We would therefore appreciate offers of help from first-year Sixth-formers studying modern languages to take over the duties of committee members.

Once again we would like to thank Mr. D. J. Flinders for his help in the organisation of the Society and also our former secretary R. I. Hamilton. Our thanks also go to the other committee members and the projectionists whose help we have found invaluable. To prevent this from being the last M.L.S. report in *The Wycombiensian*, would any prospective committee members please contact either of the undersigned.

M. P. COPS, C. D. J. EDWARDS.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The society has been very active this term. The numerous school activities, such as rowing, Festival '70, cross-country and the C.C.F. inspection, have led to some interesting photography. Festival '70, especially, provided an excellent opportunity to give the society greater prominence, by means of the exhibition in J1 and the photographs on display at the performances.

Within the society are several keen members, and earlier this term we acquired the two cabinets in the main corridor for displaying prints, where any member of the school may place photographs of good quality. The Society also has an excellent darkroom, fully equipped, and with a large selection of chemicals and paper.

To look forward to the new term, a speech day competition and exhibition, a weekly display of prints, and modelling sessions are all possibilities. So, members, please participate and make the club worth while.

With the treasurer, I should like to thank the headmaster, A. Paine, P. Whiten and J. Greenough for their help during festival week.

DICK MARTIN.

STAMP SOCIETY

This past term has proved a little disappointing for the Stamp Society. The planned and long-awaited visit to Stampex, the big annual exhibition and mart for stamps, had to be called off at the last moment because of a heavy fall of snow which disrupted our transport arrangements and made the visit impossible. Also, this term, we have lost our secretary, S. M. R. Hill, and our treasurer, P. F. Rundell, who had both served the Society for some time and given immeasurable help in its activities.

This term the Society is hoping to organise a trip to Harrisons to see the printing processes involved in the production of stamps. Hopefully the range of approvals will be further extended to meet with the varied requirements of the Society's many members.

I should like to extend my personal thanks to Mr. A. C. Hills who has been a tremendous asset in the running of the Society. N. J. Moon has stepped forward to take over the accounts in the capacity of treasurer, a post which he is filling admirably. My thanks also to the other committee members for their help in the day to day running of the Society.

C. D. J. EDWARDS.

HOUSE REPORTS

ARNISON

This year the House has not done so well in the various competitions held this school year. One of the main reasons is the prevalent apathy shown by the majority of House members. These are the people who are content merely to sit back and watch other people trying to do their best for the House. They do not participate in House competitions and if asked to compete in some event usually have a meeting or some vitally important function to attend.

Despite these members there are some who endeavour to support the House to the best of their ability. This aspect was particularly noticeable in the cross-country where the majority of juniors and seniors volunteered to run. As a result of their keenness we came a creditable second. In other activities this year we have not done particularly well: we came third in basketball and third in chess. The senior team did well to win both its sections in basketball and rugby. At the present moment the non-participants come mainly from the Middle School where people will only enter events that they themselves like, if they enter at all. Unless the fourth and fifth formers put a little more effort into the House competitions Arnison will not win the House Championship; unfortunately too many people could not care less.

D. BEASLEY.

FRASER

With the winter term sports competitions now finished we are off to a wonderful start.

After being rather lucky with the draw in the rugby tournament we finished second to a very strong Arnison team. Next came the gymnastics competition in which, despite a certain amount of apathy, which, I think, was common to every house, we finished a close second to Tucker. In the Basketball competition there was a great deal of enthusiasm. The senior team did not fare too well, but thanks to fine efforts by the U/16 and U/14 teams we eventually tied for first place with Youens. The teams for the play-off were made up of one member of each age group and in a very exciting match we won by 21 points to 17, thus winning the competition. Our finest win was in the cross-country, taking the first four places in the junior tournament and four of the first five in the senior tournament, beating our nearest rivals by nearly 100 points.

So with two firsts and two seconds to our name, we look forward to further success in the coming term!

TUCKER

During the last two terms Tucker House has not had as successful a time as has previously been experienced. This has been mainly due to the lack of depth in any of our teams. There have been several outstanding individuals, namely Nick Miles, Kev Pickering, Michele Nublat and Jake Parkins, but lower down in the school these individuals have been lacking.

Cross-country was disastrous for us: we came last in each age-group. Chess and rugby have both suffered the same fate. Basketball has been the one bright spot in the year. In the senior section Tucker came second but owing to poorer performances by the junior team our final overall position was somewhat lower than this.

However, next term holds more promise with the cricket, athletics and swimming competitions to come. May I, on behalf of the whole house, thank Mr. Scott for his help with the house duties. It has been noticeable that he is one of very few masters who turn up to support their house during the competitions and let us hope that within the next year we can turn out better performances for him and the house.

M. S. NEWTON.

YOUENS

I find that like many of my predecessors I have to report that there is a considerable amount of apathy in the House, particularly in the middle and senior levels. The Juniors have as usual reacted with youthful enthusiasm but apart from a small nucleus of willing competitors in the upper reaches of the school, Youens were nearly always hard pressed to put out a team. In the rugby, gymnastics and cross-country competitions the athletes of Youens were somewhat slow to come forward and offer their services and it is not surprising that in these competitions our results could hardly be called good. However, the efforts of our basketball and chess teams must be mentioned, the former narrowly losing by 17 points to 21 points in a play-off for first place, whilst our chess team gained us our one success when they won the house championship easily. I should like to thank all those who have taken part, and hope that they will continue to do so and not lose heart. To the non-combatants of Youens, all I can say is that I hope their attitude will change, and that they will find it in themselves to make a contribution, however small.

A. M. TURNER.

SCHOOL HOUSE

The beginning of the school year in September saw the return of several familiar faces after the trials of G.C.E. examinations in the summer. Two of last year's prefects returned, much to the delight of the inmates, and were reinforced by six new prefects. Of last

year's prefects P. Brown successfully reached Loughborough University, D. Child is retaking his 'A' levels at a Birmingham College and J. Evans is taking a Business studies course at High Wycombe College. Three of last year's fifth-form performed creditably to reach the relative sanctuary of the first-year sixth.

The House provided numerous members of the school teams, mainly to the rugby and basketball teams. The new baths have provided a major change in boarding-house life. The boarders look cleaner and some members of the senior rugby teams have been seen wearing clean kit.

Mr. Skipp and Mr. Stubbs have survived yet another perilous term in the boarding house, and we thank them for their moderation in adversity. We also congratulate Mr. Skipp on being High Wycombe's Mayor-elect.

D. BEASLEY.

UPLYME

D—Day Boy U—Uplymer

D: 'Who were the guests of honour at your Christmas party?'

U: 'They were the distinguished "Lord Mervyn Davies and his gracious Lady".'

D: 'I hear that you played Tylers Wood at football.'

U: 'Yes, I remember it well, especially that brilliant sliced pass by our Head of House which gave THEM the winning goal! However, we are not all that bad: in fact, 80 per cent of the house have been in one school team or another.'

D: 'That's nothing spectacular, as you have only 16 boys in the house, which I believe can accommodate 22.'

U: 'True enough, and with only two 6th formers we have been compelled to appoint 5th form prefects, for the first time in Uplyme's history.'

D: 'How did the House Exercise go?'

U: 'Oh, I think everyone had a good time, even the team which got lost, led by none other than C.C.F. trained . . . oh I had better not say.'

D: 'I didn't know you had an internal steam railway system.'

U: 'That's no steam engine, that's our ultra-modern space-age industrial boiler—"Rocket" for short.'

D: 'You know, you don't do so badly really, thanks to Mr. Cooper, who supports you in everything you do, as long as it is in writing!!'

U: 'And thanks also to Mrs. Connolly, we receive virtually every species of sock imaginable.'

D: 'Not forgetting your Mr. Holt of Loochs fame who, as Mr. I. A. Blyth said, is such a good bloke!'

U: 'But really, we couldn't do without any one of them.'

MHW???
CAR!!!

TYLERS WOOD

Since last July, Tylers Wood has been reduced to a small, homely community of 22 boys, with, of course, a new generation of juniors and prefects.

P. Richards and T. Smith both became overcome by the lure of Cambridge and will be migrating there later in the year. There is now a shortage of 6th formers, our only four being in the prefect's study.

Mrs. Upton arrived at the beginning of the school year to become our new Matron, giving Mrs. Pattison a well-earned rest from her labours, which everyone greatly appreciated. She is also to be thanked for supplying the study with various odds and ends.

Again Tylers was represented in school sport, especially in junior rugby. Praise here for Mrs. Upton for learning so soon how to disentangle herself from piles of sports shirts and George's suits!

Redecoration of the house has recently been completed and, thanks to Mr. Pattinson, some new chairs have been added to the study. We also appreciate the help from our house tutor, Mr. Hancock, and the staff, notably Mrs. Duck and Walter.

Not far ahead are those dreaded exams., but also there are the pleasant aspects of summer at Tylers to look forward to.

P. WHITEN.

C.C.F. NOTES

The C.C.F. has survived a difficult term with credit. Difficult because the departure of Mr. K. Clegg and Mr. J. E. Burnell at Christmas left both the Naval and R.A.F. Sections without an officer. Credit because the senior cadets of both sections shouldered the additional burden nobly and Cadet P.O. V. R. Gubbins and Cadet F/Sgt. M. R. Anscombe are to be commended for their efforts.

It is pleasing to record that Mr. R. W. Brown has given invaluable assistance, and P/O. G. B. Bell of Dr. Challoners G.S. has been officially attached to the section to give assistance.

ANNUAL INSPECTION

Annual Inspection was again held this term, and the Inspecting Officer, Brigadier F. W. J. Cowtan, O.B.E., M.C., of the Ministry of Defence, carried out the 'one in four' Whitehall Inspections.

A departure from custom was observed this year in that he was received by a Guard of Honour for the General Salute, and not the whole contingent on parade as in former years.

The usual variety of training was provided and included this year a series of team event initiative exercises such as rope

bridging, crossing the 'electrified fence', evacuating stretcher cases, recovering a 'ditched' vehicle etc.

Whilst the official report is not yet to hand, the Inspecting Officer in his address inevitably commented on personal appearance but commended the enthusiasm and efficiency of the contingent.

A record number attended the Adventure Training Camp on the edge of the Peak District at Easter, and a full report on this appears elsewhere. The Army Section will be in Camp on the Sussex Downs for the summer, and present indications are that it will be as well supported and enjoyable as usual.

R.A.F. Camp will as usual provide opportunities for flying experience and allocations for training at sea are already made for summer training with the Navy.

SUMMER TRAINING

It is hoped that the Summer term will provide plenty of opportunities for outdoor training. The Naval Section can look forward to some boatwork on the river, the R.A.F. Section to gliding, and the Army Section to a number of exercises of wide variety and interest.

R.P.

ARMY SECTION

This year has proved to be a turning point for the C.C.F. The intake of new recruits this year exceeded the supply of uniforms available, and apathy was replaced by enthusiasm. This year we have tried to increase the number of cadets with proficiency, with limited success. The spirit of General Inspection was very quickly aroused in all concerned, culminating in an extremely successful occasion which everybody, including the inspecting officers, enjoyed.

This Easter arduous training camp is being held at Leek. Demand for attendance far exceeds the number of places available, therefore I feel very confident that we will leave for our annual summer camp with the majority of our cadets.

A. C. H. BOLTON (W.O.I.).

R.A.F. SECTION

Last September the section had a large intake of new recruits which increased its size by almost a 100 per cent. This undoubtedly put an extra burden on the N.C.O.s, and this burden was increased when Mr. K. C. Clegg left the school last year. Mr. Clegg returned to his native Australia at the end of the

Christmas term. The section is deeply grateful to him for his help in running it and for obtaining more flying time for us than ever before.

With the loss of Mr. Clegg the section was without a full-time master in charge. However, Mr. Bell from Dr. Challoner's School, Amersham, has been able to help by coming over Wednesday lunch-times. Next year this arrangement should be improved when he will be able to attend parade days.

The section is also very grateful to Flight Sergeant Tanner, whose advice and help has also been greatly appreciated.

The Annual General Inspection was held on March 19th when the section emerged with its fair share of the credit. One of the high spots was the victory recorded by our team in the inter-service Shoot.

M. R. ANSCOMBE.

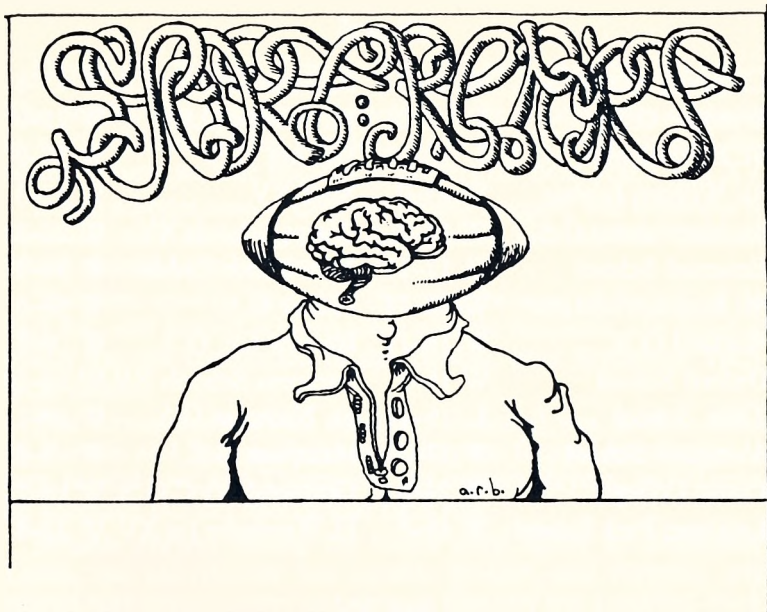
R.N. SECTION

During the Christmas term the R.N. section occupied itself chiefly with classroom work and the basic training of the New Entries, the Christmas term being the only term in which it is possible to take written exams since the remainder of the year is taken up by outdoor training.

The General Inspection on March 19th was the main consideration during the Easter term. The Royal Naval display consisted of a light jackstay, sheerlegs and the rigging of the whaler, the most spectacular of which was the jackstay which was a representation of the method employed at sea for moving personnel and stores from ship to ship. The inter-services initiative tests clearly showed the superiority of the Navy, the six-man team negotiating the obstacles in record time under the leadership of Petty Officer Burrows. Because of an increase in numbers in the naval section it was possible to put on a bigger display than in previous years. This year the naval section provided a 12-man contingent for the guard of honour and these cadets were able to attain a standard of drill which was a credit to the Senior Service, through their willingness to sacrifice some of their own time to practise. The inspection was on the whole a success from a naval point of view and all who took part are to be commended for their performance and turn out.

During the Summer term it is hoped that the section will be able to go to Longridge and that the motor boat can be taken down to the Thames to form an integral part of the training programme.

V. R. GUBBINS (Cox'n).



RUGBY—1st XV

Played 26 Won 22 Drawn 1 Lost 3

The team has scored 621 points and conceded 206, remaining undefeated since 5th November. The success this year has been due mainly to a combination of untiring coaching from Mr. Learmonth (to whom the team wish a quick recovery) and personal desire to achieve fitness and team spirit, which has proved the deciding factor in many victories. This spirit was also instrumental in helping to raise the £150 needed to go on a tour to Merseyside at Easter. The team is indeed glad that Mr. Learmonth can come on the tour, for, with Mr. Samways, who has helped the team through recent weeks, he should bring us home with three more victories to end this memorable season.

As it would be difficult and perhaps unfair to single out individual players, I hope the team will forgive me if I merely say that it has been an enjoyable season and a great team effort.

1st XV colours have been awarded to:

1967 S. Gamester. 1968 D. Beasley, J. Tomlinson.

1969 J. Cook, P. Beasley, M. Nublat, C. Woodbridge, G. Black.

1970 K. Pickering, K. Anderson, G. Parkins, C. Cannell, P. Howland, R. Davies.

RESULTS

Chipping Norton Sch.	W 41-3	Rickmansworth G.S.	W 43-8
Windsor G.S.	L 9-21	St. Albans G.S.	W 21-0
St. Bartholomew's G.S.	L 16-29	Hitchin G.S.	W 35-0
Sir William Borlase	W 43-0	Staff XV	W 32-3
St. Marylebone G.S.	W 14-3	Wasps Schools XV	W 12-3
Emanuel School	D 17-17	Met. Police Cadets	W 39-3
St. Benedict's School	W 23-13	Pinner G.S.	W 58-0
Watford G.S.	W 18-11	Harrow Co. G.S.	W 9-5
Oxford School	W 16-3	Saracens Schools XV	W 14-10
Tiffin School	L 6-17	St. Nicholas G.S.	W 19-11
Abingdon School	W 17-3	Hampton G.S.	W 9-5
Luton College	W 24-8	Gunnensbury C.G.S.	W 16-14
Leighton Park School	W 48-8	H. Wycombe 1st XV	W 22-8

2nd XV

Played 25 Won 17 Lost 8

Despite the exclusion of 5th form players from all Wednesday matches except two each term, the team put up a very creditable performance. The sixth-form-only matches were invariably below standard and hardly a credit to the school.

Although outclassed by Abingdon and St. Benedict's, fine wins were recorded over Tiffin, St. George's, Harpenden 1st XV and St. Nicholas G.S. Several members of the 2nd XV, for a variety of reasons, played for the 1st XV. No doubt the experience of 1st XV Rugby will stand them in good stead next season. This year's team was, on the whole, remarkably young, a large number of under 16s appearing at one time or another. Owing to injuries early in the season and sixth-form-only matches, no less than 45 people played for the 2nd XV. In spite of the lack of continuity in the team, everyone played his best, even under the most disheartening circumstances.

Finally I would like to thank Mr. Samways, on behalf of the 2nd XV, for the time and energy which he has never ceased to devote to our training and management.

The following played regularly for the 2nd XV: Brown, England, Moore, Harrison, Marcinkiewicz, Davies J., Basterfield, Brufell, Bayley, Lewis J., Weston, Saunders, Hutcheon, Morris, Powell, Ellingham and John.

M. J. BROWN.

3rd XV

Played 14 Won 6 Lost 8 For 172 pts. Against 189 pts.

The 3rd XV can congratulate itself on fully justifying its existence as a school team. It has supplied many 2nd XV players and also seems to have an able nucleus of players for next year's 2nd XV.

It had a better season than the results suggest, but weakness in handling and covering, and thoughtless kicking lost matches which should have been won.

The three-quarter line, ever changing because of the call of the 2nd XV, still helped achieve some notable successes, the finest of which was the completion of the 'double' over Wycombe Technical School.

The scrum worked well together: Horswell was hooker, aided by Vernon and Sadler; Beare and Simpson formed an effective, if lazy, second row; and Thompson, the captain Haynes, and Martin, an adequate but not spectacular back row.

Notable players among the backs were Miller at scrum-half, Lewis, the unorthodox but capable fly-half, and Newton, who played both inside-centre and winger. Battisby was a safe full-back, whose tackling and kicking steadily improved. The whole team wishes to express its gratitude to Mr. K. A. Hillier for his organisation and support.

A. G. M. HAYNES.

I must congratulate Haynes on his splendid captaincy—efficient, vociferous and (usually) tireless: he has worked wonders with a motley crew. His personal tally of 104 points is remarkable.

K.A.H.

UNDER 15

Before our first match the team was confident of a successful season. Our first seven matches weren't very encouraging, winning one and drawing one. However, there was plenty of enthusiasm, and one very good match was against St. Benedict's where the R.G.S. were 13-0 down at half-time, and after a few encouraging words from Mr. Davies we pulled up to 11-13 by the final whistle.

After some reshuffles in the forwards, the team settled down very well and out of a final 19 matches, we won 7, lost 8 and drew 3.

Carroll and Lewis shone in the threequarters, scoring between them 139 points of the team's final 338.

The team recorded some very high scores, such as the 49-6 thrashing of Leighton Park School. Other high scores were 33-9, 37-3, 38-0 and 42-0.

Wood was selected to play for Bucks at No. 8 and Spencer reached the final trial only to be deprived of a place by Akerman,

the England International. All the forwards played well in both attack and defence. Of the rest of the team, the half-backs Hunt and Woodbridge showed good understanding. Costello and Whyment-Morris showed good sense on the wings both in attack and defence.

UNDER 14

Played 17 Won 11 Drawn 0 Lost 6 Points for 307 Against 147

This has been quite a successful season which has seen some very convincing wins, while those games lost were generally to much stronger sides. The success has been largely attributable to a good team spirit which has been highlighted by regular attendance of everyone at training sessions. It is difficult to pick out any individual, but particular mention should go to Trendell who as well as being a very able captain, contributed nearly half the points scored.

Team from: W. Trendell (capt.), G. Hunt, N. Jones, K. Rogers, T. Ross, I. Vale, N. Young, R. Lawrie, R. Quiney, R. Garrett, P. Harris, M. Atkins, T. Barrett, N. Fallon, C. Gomm, S. Jarlett, P. Mawe, G. Prior, S. Andrews.

BASKETBALL

Played 17 Won 14 Lost 3

Basketball is an easy game to play badly, and to be a successful team practice is essential. This season practice was even more necessary because of the higher standard of basketball which we encountered.

This season we played in three competitions. The Bucks League, which we won last year, was won again. In the final of the League we had to play Aylesbury G.S. and Dr. Challoner's G.S. twice. We won both matches against Aylesbury G.S. convincingly and trounced our old rivals Dr. Challoner's G.S. by 20 points each time. In the Home Counties League (for which we qualified by winning last year's Bucks League competition) we were drawn against Raines G.S. and Glyn G.S., both of whom were finalists in last year's Schools' Nationals. We won both matches against Glyn, and the team played fast, skilful basketball to win by 10 points in each game. But in Raines we met our match. They were more experienced than us and managed to harass us into mistakes. In the Nationals we beat Slough G.S. by 1 point in extra time but lost disappointingly in the next round to Millfield.

We had three returning colours this year and the two other places were filled by G. Parkins and J. Bailey. Anderson and Parkins combined well in attack. Anderson's best points were his

aggressive driving in the zone and his accurate shooting from outside. Parkins was less aggressive but had a fine jump shot and a somewhat flamboyant lay-up shot. At pivot, P. Beasley used his height and sense of anticipation to great effect in both defence and attack, and scored 145 points, a considerable achievement. J. Bailey and D. Beasley, at right and left guard, made up for their lack of inches with their aggressiveness (they were 1st and 2nd in the fouls chart). Bailey drove powerfully in attack, and scored many vital points. D. Beasley played more defensively and concentrated more on setting play up. Mention must also be made of N. Miles, J. Marcinkiewicz and P. Howland who all improved greatly throughout the season. The remaining squad members played well in the limited time they had on court.

Finally I would like to thank Mr. Stubbs on behalf of all those who played basketball this season, for the considerable amount of time he has spent in running the teams this year.

Full colours were awarded to: J. Bailey, G. Parkins, P. Howland.

Half-colours were awarded to: J. Marcinkiewicz, N. Miles, G. Jarman, R. Moore, P. Ham.

Averages

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Fouls</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Average</i>
K. Anderson	13	26	153	11.7
G. Parkins	17	34	184	10.9
P. Beasley	17	27	145	8.5
D. Beasley	17	44	113	6.6
N. Miles	10	12	57	5.7
J. Bailey	16	51	88	5.5
J. Marcinkiewicz	16	19	41	2.5
P. Howland	14	17	32	2.2
R. Moore	14	6	30	2.1
P. Ham	16	7	17	1.2
S. Gamester	8	1	8	1.0
G. Jarman	15	7	14	0.9

UNDER 15 BASKETBALL

Played 10 Won 8 Lost 2 Points for 346 Against 14

The Under 15 team played well this year and succeeded in reaching the final of the Bucks Schools Championships, after some close fought games, especially with Mill End School. In the final the team lost to Cestreham School by 20 points to 19.

The whole team exhibited a consistency of skilful play throughout the season which augurs well for the future first team. Worthy of particular praise was R. Thorne, the captain, for his ball-handling and unerring accuracy in shooting.

D.J.S.

UNDER 14 BASKETBALL

Played 10 Won 8 Lost 2 Points for 281 Against 88

Playing in the newly formed Under 14 Bucks Schools Competition the school team won their district pool easily, scoring more than three times the number of points of any other school in the competition. In the final the team lost mainly due to a lack of height. However, as four of the team were under 13 this year, the standard will undoubtedly rise next year.

D.J.S.

HOCKEY 1st XI

Played 24 Won 18 Drawn 3 Lost 3

Goalscorers: Bailey 24, Turner 13, Jobs 12, Peterson 6, Staynor 4.

This year the School 1st XI has had an extremely successful season, the measure of which success can be seen by the results, and also by the fact that six players (Turner, Marrant, Peterson, Staynor, Jobs and Bailey) have played for Bucks, and two (Staynor and Bailey) for the South-West division. A greater achievement still was that of Bailey who was selected as reserve for the England trial.

In goal, Taylor improved throughout the season, and his kicking became much more consistent. Kramek played well as sweeper, and his hard hitting often helped the defence out of awkward situations; Lord, who replaced him for the latter end of the season, owing to an injury, also proved very useful. Dawe, playing at right-half, played consistently, running hard and tackling with great determination. Marrant, at left-half, was invaluable, even though he had an air of indifference. Turner was indeed the stalwart of the defence, and set a very good example to the rest of the team. Cliff and Fogg, who played as linkmen, improved vastly as the season progressed. Cliff made up for his slowness with his skill in beating any oncoming players. Fogg's persistent running and hard tackling were an outstanding feature in the school's play.

The school's attack was very good this year and scored 61 goals. Peterson made use of his speed and had a tremendous shot. Staynor, at inside-right, had tremendous stamina and skill, and played a large part in the team's success. Jobs also made use of his speed and stamina, and promises to be even better next year.

Our thanks to Lowe and Evans, who proved useful reserves in times of need, and also to Mr. Westrup and Mr. Taylor whose advice, devotion, and experience were invaluable.

Results

Slough T.H.S.	A	W	1-0	Abingdon	H	W	2-0
Burnham G.S. 'A'	H	W	2-0	Langley G.S.	A	W	6-0
Arborfield A.A.S.	A	W	3-0	Magdalen C.S.	A	L	0-2
Halton Apprentices	A	W	7-1	Aylesbury G.S.	H	W	2-1
Rickmansworth G.S.	H	W	4-1	Marlow H.C. II	H	L	1-3
Kingston G.S. 2nd	A	W	3-1	Southern G.S.	H	W	4-0
Slough G.S.	A	W	1-0	Burnham G.S.	H	D	2-2
St. Albans G.S.	A	W	3-2	Aylesbury G.S.	H	W	4-2
Rickmansworth G.S.	A	W	3-1	Ranelagh G.S.	A	W	3-2
Oxford Tech. Coll.	H	W	1-0	King Alfred's G.S.	H	D	0-0
Slough T.H.S.	H	W	5-1	Staff XI	H	D	1-1
St. Albans G.S.	H	W	3-1	Watford G.S.	A	L	0-2

HOCKEY 2nd XI

The team has had a fair season, winning about half the matches and drawing half the rest. There were many changes in the early part of the season, but the team became more settled later on.

In goal, David Stone has played well apart from a shaky spell in mid-season. He has been well covered by a strong defence in which the offside trap was worked effectively.

The half-backs have given the forwards good service but tended to stay too far behind them. The forwards made good use of the ball at the beginning of the season, but the scores dropped towards the end, as is shown by four consecutive 0-0 draws. The last match was against Watford G.S., and we lost unluckily 2-1.

P. KERN.

CROSS COUNTRY REPORT

Everything looked promising at the beginning of the season, with three old colours returning and an influx of good runners into the first team. Successes were recorded early in the season when the team took 4th place in the Bilborough relay, held at Nottingham, against some of the top teams in the North of England, and 2nd places in the Harrow and Walton-on-Thames relays. This set the trend for the rest of the season, with the team winning the majority of its matches, but unable to record many relay successes in a season which was dominated by Haberdashers Aske's team.

During the season all the runners have produced consistent performances at a very high standard, most of the team recording times which only our best runners had done previously, the most outstanding being J. Crowley who broke the course record for the senior course during the Autumn term and, more recently, the intermediate course record during the House Championships held

at the end of the Spring term. Along with Crowley, R. Elvery and P. Ham filled top positions, with our captain Hunt, who left after the Autumn term, Blaxland, Ikin and Chamberlain filling in the mid-field positions not far behind.

Unfortunately, unlike last year, this winter was harsh, and as a result matches had to be cancelled during the Spring term, but fortunately it was fine when we held our Annual Relay, with the school team finishing a creditable second.

In the School Championships Ham, who is representing Bucks in the All England Schools Championships, and Elvery came first equal with Blaxland coming third. The intermediate race was won by Crowley, who is also representing Bucks but in the intermediate age group, with Planas and Jenkins coming second and third respectively. The junior race was won by Jarlett with Harris coming second and Fallon third.

Finally I wish to thank, on behalf of the team, D. Ikin for arranging the fixtures, and Mr. R. W. Brown for all the time he has given to the team.

M. E. BLAXLAND.

It is encouraging to see the talent growing up in the lower school. This seems to ensure our continued success in the seasons to come. Cross-country runners belong to a special breed of people, and this season, as always in the past, I have had great pleasure in the company of the boys representing R.G.S.

R.W.B.

CHESS

RESULTS			<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Drawn</i>	<i>Lost</i>
Seniors	....	....	18	12	1	5
Intermediates	....	....	13	10	1	2
Junior	....	....	8	8	0	0

In the past year, the school chess club has been making progress in several ways. Firstly, we have had eight more matches than in the previous year, and fifteen more than the year before that. Also, several other matches have been held to give match experience to other juniors who would not otherwise have gained a place in any team. These two improvements have helped to build up a large number of experienced players, especially in the lower school, as shown by the outstanding record of the junior team. Unfortunately, few seniors have made use of our excellent facilities in the new pavilion, and there are, in fact, only four sixth-formers in the chess club.

Last summer, we lost Tom Bradford, the last remaining member of our successful *Sunday Times* competition team in 1967, and a tower of strength for over five years. However, the senior team has

remained strong, and, indeed, reached the quarter-finals of the zone in the *Sunday Times* Tournament, after a fine 5-1 win against our old rivals Dr. Challoner's. However, we then lost narrowly to Sir Wm. Borlase, who had little difficulty after that in winning the zone competition. Next year we are hoping for a better performance.

The House Chess competition this year proved an easy victory for Youens, with a team which included half the senior side; they won by nine points. However, no senior player has distinguished himself in matches or in tournaments; two small prizes have been won in rather mediocre competitions; however, the juniors promise greater achievements in the coming few years; indeed, it would not be too conceited to say they are the best in Bucks. Perhaps the most improved senior player of the year was S. M. R. Hill; after having suffered the indignities of playing for the intermediate team, he became a consistent first-team player.

Our thanks go to Mr. I. R. Clark, who is responsible for most of the bright ideas which have so improved the chess club's running, and Mr. K. G. Hyde who has again done adjudications for us.

Full colours were awarded to J. W. R. Walne and B. A. Cowan.

Half-colours were awarded to G. F. D. Basterfield.

Stevenson and Saunders played regularly for the county senior team, Cowan and Walne also played in some matches.

J. C. SAUNDERS.

RIFLE CLUB

We were glad to see the arrival of the builders to repair the range. The courses of solid blocks, the arrangements for draining and the new roof will mean an end to the flooding and should add years to the life of the range. The arrangement for a partition in front of the firing point will mean the heat is kept where it is most needed. However, such major repairs have naturally curtailed our activities though we were able to shoot some postal matches and the *Country Life* Competition with two teams. The results of the *Country Life* will be out in May.

On the last weekend of term we had an invitation from the Public Schools Small-bore Rifle Association to shoot .22 at 50 and 100 yards in Richmond. It was interesting but we learnt that if we are to take this at all seriously we shall have to invest in telescopes, match sights and ring foresights.

For next term we are trying the experiment of shooting .303 regularly at Otmoor on Friday evenings from 5 p.m. to dusk in preparation for the Ashburton week starting on July 15th.

R. C. BUTLER.

ROWING CLUB

We are now at the beginning of the competitive season after the usual long hard winter training. The days spent rowing up and down the Marlow reach have not, however, been in vain, and the 1st Four have attained a reasonably high standard, despite the constant quibbling on stroke side as to who is pulling hardest. The club did interrupt training to enter the Schools' Head of the River race at Putney but were unfortunate enough to have their rudder removed in a collision with an over-anxious crew whose cox was apparently unable to grasp the fact that it was not a good idea to collide repeatedly with our stern. We were naturally very disappointed as hopes had run high as to being able to finish in the first five.

Apart from this the club has had no other chance for competition apart from M. Gellatly's appearance in the Marlow Long Distance Sculls, finishing a creditable 112th (the entry was large and of high standard).

The 2nd Four have been worried by injury this term but are now starting to work well together and may often be observed travelling at incredible speed when attempting to avoid a race with the 1st Four. They are, however, somewhat 'restricted' by the heavy clinker they are forced by necessity to use.

The Colts are getting on well under the able instruction of Mr. Tony Grant and appear to be on their way to mastering the basic techniques of rowing.

Thanks to the Parents' Committee who organised fund-raising activities, among which the jumble sale proved successful in collecting over £70.

As usual Mr. Blyth has been working tirelessly in his efforts to raise the 1st Four to the heights he hoped for at the beginning of the season.

P. MACMILLAN.

BADMINTON

The 1st VI lost some expert players after last season, which is reflected in our position in the West London Schools League. We enjoyed the season, doing our utmost against strong opposition.

M. Spencer and W. Cannell, our new 3rd pair, played enthusiastically and well against boys both older and taller than them; and they were rewarded in winning surprisingly against opposing 1st pairs who had until then been the victors.

The 2nd VI also has been changed, but this was necessary for as many as possible to represent the school.

The Juniors have responded well: a team from them played a match against St. Nicholas School, Northwood. We were sorry to

lose Mr. Coldham, who had done much for us; however, we thank Mr. White-Taylor, our new master-in-charge, for promptly helping with the organisation.

Though not a major school sport, badminton is obviously from last season very popular, which is reflected in the requests to play in sixth form games and the Friday night training session. The club now has a large membership and should be increasingly important.

We need a coach for team practices to improve our play, and hope that we will have one before next season.

Full colours this season have been awarded to C. Andrews, W. Cannell, R. Davison, R. Hamilton and M. Spencer.

P. F. WHITEN.

BRIDGE

As most of last year's team have left the school, a new Bridge team has had to be formed. An enthusiastic Upper Sixth has provided several budding players, and it has been arranged for a team of twelve to play schools in the district during the coming months, thus gaining valuable match practice.

In the *Daily Mail* Schools Cup, a team of four (comprising C. A. Andrews, P. N. E. Collins, P. G. Morris, J. M. Stagg) enjoyed a comfortable win in the qualifying round at Eton. Andrews and Collins were playing in their first duplicate match. This win means that the team will go on to play in the final, to be held at the Rembrandt Hotel, London; 24 schools out of 223 have qualified. The 1968 team came second, and it is hoped that the 1970 team will do as well, if not better.

J. M. STAGG.

THE OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CLUB

The Annual General Meeting

The A.G.M. was held in the E. R. Tucker Memorial Room at 6 o'clock on Saturday, March 7th, 1970. Twenty-three Old Boys were present. The Chair was taken by the President, Mr. Malcolm Smith.

The Minutes of the last A.G.M. were read, confirmed and signed. Arising out of the minutes:—

(a) The Financial Report—the Hon. Auditor, A. E. Franklin Hole explained the balance sheet and expressed satisfaction with the finances of the Club. For Income Tax purposes the Club is now treated as a Corporation.

(b) The E. R. Tucker Memorial Room—Mr. Smith once more expressed the gratitude the School felt to Old Boys who had

helped to provide such a useful building. The heating system had proved to be inadequate but that was being seen to.

(c) The Cricket Club had had another very quiet season in 1969 but Ken Maslin (1954–60) had taken on the job of resuscitating the Club and was tackling this difficult task with great determination. He would be very pleased if Old Boys who were prepared to play would contact him at 25 Beech Road, Chinnor. Telephone: Kingston Blount 382.

The Election of Officers

The officers for 1969–70 are:—

The President: Malcolm P. Smith, Esq.

The Chairman: G. W. Ray, Esq.

Vice-Presidents: Col. L. L. C. Reynolds, Messrs. G. A. Grant,
P. L. Jones, S. Morgan.

Committee:

S. E. Hands (1915–20)

R. W. Bartlett (1900–07)

G. W. Ray (1917–23)

N. H. Theed (1912–19)

J. P. Lord (1934–38)

J. K. Prior (1934–40)

G. E. Green (1940–46)

G. C. Rayner (1937–45)

G. W. West (1935–40)

S. A. Goulborn (1928–36)

R. S. Wombwell (1960–67)

W. A. C. Knowles (1951–58)

The Rev. A. J. Skipp (1929–37)

Hon. Secretary: M. M. Davies, Esq.

Hon. Auditor: A. E. Franklin Hole, Esq.

After the election of officers A. E. Branch (1919–23) presented to the School a framed sketch of the original Royal Grammar School in Easton Street. Mr. G. W. Arnison had given it to him some years ago and it is believed to be the only one in existence.

There being no other business the Old Boys repaired to the Junior School Dining Hall for the Annual Dinner.

The Annual Dinner 1970

The Annual Dinner was held on Saturday, March 7th, 1970, in the Junior School Dining Hall at the Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe. 95 Old Boys gathered to welcome their Guest of Honour Peter Fry (1941–49), M.A., M.P., and to enjoy the atmosphere and splendid meal provided once again by Mrs. Doris Rich.

R. Pattinson, Esq., T.D., E.R.D., M.A., proposed the toast to the Guest of Honour with polish and wit. He gave him advice (?) on how to avoid the alarming pitfalls which await Members of

Parliament and in his more serious concluding remarks expressed the hope that Peter Fry would use his influence to preserve the Grammar School tradition in our educational system.

The Guest of Honour in his reply reminisced and paid tribute to the influence the School had exerted upon him. He was proud of the privilege of having been to a Grammar School and would do all in his power to preserve such an institution in these days of the comprehensive policy.

J. P. Lord (1934–38) proposed the toast to the School and Club and very humanly tried to bridge the gap which separated the majority of Old Boys present from the boys attending the School at the moment. The School and Club were one indissoluble whole and patience and understanding were required of all.

The Headmaster was introduced by G. W. Ray (1917–23), the new Chairman of the Club. Mr. Malcolm Smith replied to the toast and outlined the very successful academic and sporting record of the School throughout the year. He was particularly proud of the effort made by the masters and boys in the organisation of 'Festival '70', a week of great cultural activity. There was much talent and goodwill in the sprawling giant of the Royal Grammar School and Old Boys could rest assured that it would continue to play an important role in the life of the town and surrounding districts.

Births

BURNELL, J. E. (1954–60). On February 4th, 1970, in Melbourne, to Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Burnell, a daughter, Samantha Joy, a sister for Richard and Julian.

FILE, R. C. (1945–52). On July 25th, 1969, to Mr. and Mrs. R. C. File, a son, a brother for Simon and Jo.

HAWKINS, F. E. J. (1948–56). On September 8th, 1969, to Mr. and Mrs. F. E. J. Hawkins, a son, Timothy Joseph Clark, a brother for Sally.

JONES, J. T. (1936–41). On December 10th, 1969, to Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Jones, a son, Matthew William.

SHACKELL, W. E. (1952–59). On February 25th, 1970, to Capt. and Mrs. W. E. Shackell, a son, Charles William.

TOMES, I. M. (1951–57). On October 10th, 1969, to Capt. and Mrs. I. M. Tomes, a son, Sacha Christopher.

WATERS, I. H. C. (1943–50). On July 1st, 1969, to Mr. and Mrs. I. H. C. Waters, a daughter, Philippa Mary Charlotte, a sister for Andrew, Stephen and Sarah.

Marriages

- BARRETT—MAY. On October 18th, 1969, at St. Michael's Garrison Church, Tidworth, E. L. Barrett (1954-60) to Miss Meralynn Ann May.
- BONNETT—DORRELL. On October 25th, 1969, at High Wycombe Parish Church, J. K. Bonnett (1956-59) to Miss Susan Dorrell.
- CHERITON—GARRETT. On July 26th, 1969, in Manchester, L. W. Cheriton (1958-64) to Miss Pat Garrett.
- DUNN—COWGILL. On October 18th, 1969, in St. Margaret's Church, Bentham, A. Dunn (1954-62) to Miss Joyce Cowgill.
- FERGUSON—KNECHT. On July 26th, 1969, in Wollmesheim, Landau, M. R. Ferguson (1956-63) to Miss Ingeborg Knecht.
- IREMONGER—COOKE. On July 26th, 1969, at Finchley, M. J. Iremonger (1954-62) to Miss Helen Cooke.
- JONES—CLARKE. On August 9th, 1969, in Trinity College Chapel, Cambridge, A. J. Jones (1959-61) to Miss Julie Clarke.
- JONES—DARVILL. On December 20th, 1969, in High Wycombe, T. R. Jones (1960-65) to Miss Rose Darvill.
- KEFFORD—COBBAN. On September 5th, 1969, in Hong Kong, M. H. Kefford (1959-65) to Miss Fiona Cobban.
- MEMBRY—LIVESEY. On August 16th, 1969, in St. Silas' Church, Blackburn, D. A. J. Membry (1958-66) to Miss Rosalind Livesey.
- MITCHENALL—STEVENS. On October 11th, 1969, in St. Paul's Church, Harrow, N. D. Mitchenall (1961-66) to Miss Christine Stevens.
- MOISEY—CRAIG. On September 17th, 1969, in Worksop Parish Church, Notts., F. R. Moisey (1958-64) to Miss Christine Craig.
- RACKSTRAW—JARVIS. On August 9th, 1969, in St. Margaret's Church, Tylers Green, T. K. Rackstraw (1957-64) to Miss Lynne Jarvis.
- TILLING—MAKEPEACE. On October 25th, 1969, in St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Lillington, Leamington Spa, D. R. Tilling (1957-61) to Miss Pauline Makepeace.
- WILLATTS—WOOLTON. On August 2nd, 1969, at St. Paul's Church, Hoddesdon, Herts., D. C. Willatts (1950-57) to Miss Eileen Woolton.

Deaths

L. S. BAKER (1918–23). In June, 1969, in Honiton Hospital, while on holiday, aged 63 years.

L. S. Baker of Manor Farm, Seer Green, was a very successful and popular member of the farming community. He had suffered with heart trouble for many years. He leaves a widow, Mrs. Doreen Baker.

E. L. BURROUGH (1913–16). In March, 1969, aged 69 years.

Eric Lewis Burrough was president of James Burrough Ltd. and his death was announced in Harper's wine and spirit gazette. He served an apprenticeship to a wine firm in Bordeaux and began work in the family company as a dock clerk. He became director in charge of export after World War II, and began to re-establish Beefeater gin throughout the world. James Burrough have twice been awarded the Queen's Award to Industry for export achievement in 1966 and 1969. Motor racing was one of his main interests and as a young man he drove at Brooklands. He leaves a widow.

J. K. GOODEARL (1919–23). On August 16th, 1969, at Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex, aged 59 years.

John Kenrick (Ken) Goodearl was well known in High Wycombe sporting circles. He was a keen cricketer and rugby player. He was one of the first members of the Old Wycombiensians' R.U.F.C. He entered the family business of Henry Goodearl and Sons, furniture manufacturers, of West End Road, High Wycombe, until it was sold, when he joined Murrays Ltd. He was a loyal supporter of the Methodist Church. He is survived by two sisters.

C. G. MILES (1907–14). In August, 1969, suddenly at his home in Bournemouth, aged 70 years.

'Charlie' Miles started with his uncle H. J. Cox, the tobacconist and hairdresser in Church Street, High Wycombe, and later inherited the business. He leaves a widow and step-daughter.

D. F. PACKMAN (1923–30). On October 16th, 1969, in hospital, aged 57 years.

Donald Frank Packman, B.E.M., of 'Amesbury', Manor Park Avenue, Princes Risborough, was very well known in the Risborough area. He was one of the senior experimental officers in the chemical processing group at the Forest Products Laboratory in Risborough. He was well known as a leading saxophone player and at one time ran the popular band, 'The Black Aces'. He was awarded the British Empire Medal for the development of an improved method for the

use of mortars, while engaged on Home Guard activities during the war. He was greatly interested in sailing which he had been actively pursuing right up to the day before he entered hospital for the last time. He was one-time Commodore of Aylesbury Sailing Club. He had had open-heart surgery in the previous March, and although he fully recovered, he contracted a blood infection.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Mollie Packman, and two sons, Geoffrey and Christopher, both Old Boys of the School, in which he was always keenly interested.

H. A. TRENDALL (1910–15). On March 17th, 1970, at Wycombe General Hospital, aged 71 years.

Horace Avery Trendall was for 22 years headmaster of the Church of England School in Loakes Road, High Wycombe. His great interest was music and he was organist and choir-master of St. John's Church for 40 years. He leaves a widow, Mrs. Edith Mary Trendall, and a son.

OLD BOYS

ANDERSZ, A. (1963–68) says he left school as an academic failure. He went to a firm of Chartered Accountants as an articled clerk but while he found the work interesting, the financial remuneration wasn't. He left the profession and is now establishing himself as an internal auditor in the motor trade.

ANTHONY, C. W. (1950–56) has gained his M.Sc. in automation engineering at the City of London University. Previously he had graduated at Leeds University with an honours degree in physics. He now has a post with the British Steel Corporation as senior research officer in the physics and instrument department of the Spencer Works in Newport.

BAILEY, J. N. D. (1931–36) has been elected Worshipful Master of the Old Wycombiensians' Lodge. The secretary is G. F. **HORLEY (1920–28).**

BANHAM, A. (1915–18) recently retired from London Transport after 38 years service. He was acting chief inspector at High Wycombe Garage.

BARRATT, A. (1959–66) was in Russia when the Americans landed on the moon and found that the Russians were almost as enthusiastic as the Americans over the astronauts' success. Barratt is studying Russian at Durham University and was attending a course in Minsk, capital of White Russia. He found the Russian people very kind and generous.

- BARRETT, E. L. (1954–60). Captain Barrett is in Bielefeld, Germany, in charge of the only Ambulance Squadron in the British Army. He met J. C. BOWMAN (1955–61) in a field with his scout troop near Sennelager. He saw M. J. DALLEY (1959–65) with his R.A. missiles in Paderborn.
- BERKS, J. G. (1961–68) and his brother P. M. (1961–68) spent the summer working at Prestwick Airport. It was very hard work but they earned enough to buy a 1950 Volkswagen. The hardest cargo to handle was ‘Singer’ sewing machines—each box weighs over 100 lbs.—and they had to unload 3,000 of these each week. They would be only too willing to show any boy from the R.G.S. around Manchester University—just contact them at Hulme Hall, Oxford Place, Manchester.
- BURNELL, J. E. (1954–60) has emigrated to Australia with his wife and children. His private address is 11 Yeovil Street, Burwood, Victoria, and his school is Camberwell Grammar School, Canterbury, Victoria.
- CHERITON, L. W. (1958–64) obtained his B.Sc. at Hull University and is now an Assistant Chemist working for Associated Portland Cement.
- CUTLER, M. C. (1948–52) is Assistant Branch Manager of the City Branch of Equity and Law Life Ass. Soc. Ltd. If any Old Boys are short of money, just contact him.
- DARRINGTON, S. (1960–66) tried Sussex University for a year but found the academic climate unsuitable. He worked for the *Bucks Free Press* for another year until the opportunity he had been waiting for presented itself. He joined forces as a professional musician with J. R. MACKAY (1964–66). They hadn’t seen each other since the 6th Form but they found their musical paths had converged. Darrington joined Mackay’s group ‘Mahogany’ just in time to record their first L.P. released last March in the States and shortly on sale over here. They have been playing cabaret in the Northern clubs and hope soon to play for the B.B.C. They have also started a music publishing company—any Old Boys interested in trying their hand at song writing are welcome to contact them at Amersham 5148.
- DINGLE, A. E. (1958–61), now lecturing in History at Monash University, Melbourne, has written an article for the *Historical Journal* with Brian Harrison, Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. The title is ‘Cardinal Manning as Temperance Reformer’. His brother A. W. DINGLE (1958–64) is working in the Victoria and Albert Museum and studying part-time for a degree in the History of Art. He took a degree in English at Oxford in 1968.

DODGSON, A. (1913–18) left the School more than 50 years ago. He was amused to see the sketch in the last magazine of an Old Boy in a bathchair running downhill. He is capable of running uphill. He visited his daughter in Sweden last summer. The weather was tropical—he boated, fished, picked blueberries and fought off hordes of mosquitoes. He plans to go to Vancouver to his other daughter this summer and tour widely there.

DOUGLAS, R. W. (1958–64) writes from W. Australia. After leaving school he lost himself in England for a while, before meandering slowly through Europe, the Middle and Far East and S.E. Asia to Australia. He hopes to enter a Teachers' Training College and settle in Perth.

DRAPER, P. (1948–55) has left his flat in New York. He has been promoted Market Research Director for Far East Asia. His firm is Richardson-Merrell Inc., formerly 'Vick' Chemical Company. His territory will cover India, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Hong Kong, S.E. Asia, the Philippines and Japan. He is living in Osaka just in time for Expo '70 and when he wrote in January was learning to speak Japanese at a Berlitz school.

FARMER, A. S. (1958–66) started a research project on Scampi at Port Erin Marine Biological Station on the Isle of Man last October. With luck he should get a Ph.D. out of it.

GARRETT, T. K. (1930–35), C.ENG., F.I.MECH.E., A.F.R.A.E.S., has been editor of *Automobile Engineer* for about 10 years. He broadcasts occasionally mainly on Bill Hartley's programme 'Motoring and the Motorist'. B.O.A.C. invited him to visit Japan recently and he found it a fascinating country. It actually looks like the strangely unreal prints we see—he realised this as he went from Tokyo to Osaka at a steady 130 m.p.h. in their new train. He gave news of E. L. RIPLEY (1930–37) who is now Deputy Chief Scientific Officer and Deputy Head of the Structures Department R.A.E. and Head of the Strength Division with special responsibility for structural aspects of 'Concorde'.

GILES, R. N. (1934–38) 'took the plunge' in 1964 and got married—he is now the proud father of two daughters. In 1966 Battersea College of Technology received its charter as the new University of Surrey, and in the summer of 1968 half the College moved to the Guildford site and this included the mathematical department in which Giles is a Senior Lecturer. He is also chairman of the 'Board of Studies' in mathematics which plans the courses of the department. His latest honour

is to have been elected to serve as one of the representatives of the academic staff on the Senate of the University. He finds it interesting and challenging to be part of a 'New University' and he will be pleased to see any R.G.S. boy, past or present, who happens that way.

GRIFFITHS, C. A. (1919–25). The Rev. C. A. Griffiths wrote regretting he could not attend the Annual Dinner. He lives in 41 Bath Road, Banbury, and is Priest-in-charge of two village churches outside Banbury. Opportunities of meeting Old Boys are few and he would welcome news of two who were at school with him—F. J. ELFORD and N. D. OXLADE.

HAMPSON, A. J. M. (1961–68). In 1968 he joined British and Commonwealth Ltd. (Clan Line) and completed a course at the Nautical College, Southampton. He travelled far and wide as a navigation cadet, which in his case meant that he spent a lot of time chipping rust. He is now 4th Officer and life is much more interesting. He has met J. R. SKINNER (1960–67) who had just left H.M.S. *Eagle* and gone back to Dartmouth as an acting sub-lieutenant. D. I. HEAPS (1963–67) is at Manadon R.N. Engineering College as part of his electrical engineering course at Birmingham.

HANDS, S. E. (1915–20). Members of High Wycombe Rugby Club gathered last November to pay tribute to Sydney Hands. In 1928 he was one of a small group of enthusiasts who founded the Old Wycombiensians' R.U.F.C. He was the first treasurer, an office he held until 1961, when he took over the presidency from Mr. Arnison. Mr. John Bruce, his successor, presented him with a silver salver on behalf of the Club. Sydney Hands in his reply spoke with nostalgia of the early days. He said the actual founders of the Club were Mr. G. W. Arnison and Mr. H. G. Brand, Assistant Headmaster. Mr. Arnison was the first president, Mr. Brand the first Secretary, with E. J. READ (1915–20) as Assistant Secretary. N. BARNES (1918–26) was the first Captain and T. K. McAUSLAND (1918–22) the Vice-captain. The committee comprised D. REDINGTON (1922–26), C. G. LOCKE (1916–21), G. L. E. EYLES (1915–22), J. H. HUNT (1917–22), J. F. WALTER (1923–26), A. V. KEEN (1915–21). G. F. HORLEY (1920–28) was still at College but played for the Old Boys at Christmas 1928 and can be counted as a co-opted founder.

HANNANT, M. (1962–66) is still at Chipping Norton School and played against the R.G.S. at rugby last September. He hopes to enter a Teachers' Training College. His brother P. HANNANT (1961–66) is at an agricultural college in Berkshire, having finished his two years practical farming.

HARLEY, P. E. (1958–65) has gained his B.Tech. at the University of Technology, Loughborough. He read Chemistry and Management Studies.

HARRIS, G. T. (1942–49). 'Rowing Blue' Harris got married in December 1968—his friends say 'about time too'. He is a solicitor working for the firm of Lucas and Bailey in Fleet Street.

HIPGRAVE, A. G. (1960–67) is reading Law at Jesus College, Cambridge, but next year on completing his degree he is going to Vienna for a year to try to set up a permanent European base for an organisation called 'Children's Holiday Venture'. This organisation provides holidays for distressed and deprived children and contends that it is vitally important for these children to form constructive relationships with caring adults. Hipgrave says that the public is largely unaware of the magnitude of this problem and he is anxious for Bucks people to know about it.

HOPKINS, T. (1961–63) left after his 'O' levels to continue his studies in Swanage Grammar School. He gained a B.Sc. (Economics) London, and now, looking back on his academic life he can write that the three years he spent at the R.G.S. were the happiest and most meaningful. He is now training as a computer programmer working for an insurance broker in Shoreditch.

HORTIN, C. L. (1944–51) is playing the French Horn in the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and nearby in Weymouth D. J. CRUMP (1944–52) is a church organist.

HUGHES, J. T. (1962–69). Before going up to Cambridge next October he is working in the Programme's Analysis Unit at Harwell.

IREMONGER, M. J. (1954–62) is still working for the Plastics Division of I.C.I. Recently he has been concerned with the computerisation of plastics design data. He lost his freedom in July but apparently this loss is outweighed by home cooking.

JARMAN, M. (1951–58). Dr. Jarman, who works at the Chester Beatty Cancer Research Institute, wrote after attending the wedding of J. P. BAKER (1953–60) who recently gained his Ph.D. in Bio-Chemistry and who has since gone to Saudi Arabia to lecture. M. G. BAKER (1957–66) was at the wedding of his brother and apparently he is enjoying his Education Diploma year at Cambridge and doing his practical teaching (Economics) at the Leys School.

JONES, A. J. (1959–61) is now B.Sc., Ph.D., and is a lecturer at Nottingham University.

JONES, G. D. (1955–61) continued his journey from Java over the Timor Sea to Darwin, where really bad luck hit him. He was taken ill with nephritis and spent three weeks in hospital. When more or less recovered he gained a lift by car to Sydney—a ghastly journey of 2,500 miles which did him no good. He has recovered and is now settling down.

JUNIPER, P. (1964–68) left school and became an articled clerk with a firm of accountants in Bournemouth. He works all day and carries on at night with a correspondence course—he finds it very exhausting. He joined the Rowing Club at Christchurch but hasn't time to take it seriously.

KEFFORD, M. H. (1959–65) was promoted captain on 8th August 1969. He is still with the 2nd Battalion, 7th Gurkha Rifles, in Hong Kong on border duty.

KIMBER, R. M. (1919–23) was invited to judge the Ayrshire cattle section in the National Kenya Agricultural Show in Nairobi last October. Prior to this he was 'on safari' as a guest of the Kenya Government. He has been a noted member of the Dairy Society for many years.

KNOX, A. J. (1958–65) successfully completed his final examinations in May 1969 and spent the rest of the summer firstly as temporary mathematics teacher in a secondary school in Leith and then as Acreage Checker for the Potato Marketing Board in S.E. Scotland. In September he joined the B.B.C. as an engineer and is working at the Television Centre.

KURREIN, S. E. (1958–64) gained a B.A. in Business Studies at the Lanchester College of Technology in Coventry. He married in December and has emigrated to Canada.

LOWE, M. J. (1960–67) is living a full life at Oxford. He has made speeches at the Oxford Union and at the beginning of his second year gave a Paper Speech on the motion: 'May Pop and Culture never meet'. He was kidnapped by well-wishers to enhance his speech and when they were returning him at the last moment their car broke down and he had to hitch his way back dressed in his Robin Hood outfit. Simon Dee and Emperor Rosko were speaking at the same debate. He sees D. N. SNODIN (1959–66) who is secretary of O.U.D.S. and reported that J. E. HAVARD (1958–64) has spoken at the Socratic Club. To the elite this means something.

MITCHENALL, N. D. (1961–66) wrote giving news of his own marriage and the marriages of two other Old Boys. P. L. HUDSON (1961–66) married 'Joan' on September 27th, 1969, and J. M. E. GRIEG-GRAN (1959–65) married 'Maggie' in December 1967. They now have a daughter, Louise, and Mitchenall thinks she's beautiful (boys do change when they get married—women are worth their weight in gold sometimes).

MOISEY, F. R. (1958–64) has completed his degree in Agriculture at Leeds University and won the Yorkshire Agricultural Society Silver Medal for the best all-round student in Agriculture at Leeds. During his final year he was Senior President at Bodington Hall—a Hall of Residence for 600 students. After his recent marriage he has taken up a post at Sutton Bonington—the Nottingham University School of Agriculture—to study for a Ph.D.

MUCKLEY, J. W. (1961–66) has been a Navigating Cadet in the Merchant Navy for four years, working for the Avenue Steam Shipping Company of London. The normal voyage lasts five months and he has seen most of the world. During the first two years of cadetship one does all the dirty work and this can be disheartening, but if one has the right temperament then prospects are excellent. Minimum requirements are three 'O' Levels usually including Maths and English.

NORTH, L. C. (1961–67) is enjoying every minute of his year in Germany as assistant at the Gymnasium in Geseke, about 70 km. east of Dortmund. He plays for the town football team and has made many friends. He says life is 'great'. The children at first only wanted to know about the Rolling Stones, mini-skirts and Bobby Charlton, but North has now progressed to such topics as Enoch Powell, Northern Ireland and the relationship between the English and the Welsh! The last time he wrote, the pupils were discussing whether to strike because of the lack of teachers.

PEARSON, A. N. J. (1962–69) writes from Commonwealth Hall where he lives while studying at University College, London. He is at present caught up in the hectic world of 'Student für Europa', a voluntary organisation which provides holidays for children from broken or otherwise poor homes. Last summer he worked in one of these camps in the Harz mountains where six students (three English and three German) were looking after 36 children aged 11–16 from East London and West Berlin. Some children were from orphanages and were often unwilling to return home especially to Berlin. Pearson spends next year in Germany as part of his degree course.

PRIOR, P. J. (1929–36) is Managing Director of Bulmer's Cider.

RACKSTRAW, T. K. (1957–64) is studying at Northern Polytechnic, Holloway. He takes his final examinations in June, these being for Graduate of the Royal Institute of Chemistry.

ROBERTS, H. J. (1918–23). 'Robbie' Roberts has just completed 21 years at the Earls Court furniture show and a special celebration to mark the event was staged for him by Avalon Furniture. After a presentation, he cut a cake bearing 21 candles. He was the first representative to join Avalon and his present area includes Bucks, part of Herts, Middlesex and Oxfordshire.

ROGERS, P. N. (1948–55). Dr. Rogers writes from his new address, 3525 Pinesmoke Crescent, Mississauga, Ontario. On finishing his Ph.D. at Leicester, he taught for two years in a technical college and then left to join Mars Ltd. in Slough. In 1967 he was recruited by William Neilson Ltd. in Toronto and moved to Canada. He is now employed by Laura Secord Candy Shops as Vice-President, Production. In October 1969 his firm opened its first four agencies in England—in Harrods', Selfridge's, The Army and Navy Stores and Robert Jackson's. He is married and has two children, and is very satisfied with the life Canada has to offer.

SCRUTON, R. V. (1954–61) was offered three Fellowships at Cambridge at the same time. He chose Peterhouse, the oldest Cambridge College, and is Fellow for Moral Philosophy. His brother-in-law B. A. J. QUIRKE (1953–59) is doing particularly well in the computer world. Scruton sees a lot of T. E. CHANDLER (1954–61) who is at Cambridge working on Latin and Greek documents.

SEYMOUR, R. J. (1961–64), wearying of Chemistry, is now trying his hand at Systems Programming with Ferranti, Bracknell.

SHELTON, P. M. J. (1958-63) wrote in September just before leaving with his wife for Canberra, Australia. He had completed two years of his Ph.D. at the Getty Marine Laboratory, Scotland, when his professor was appointed to a chair at the Research School of Biological Sciences in Canberra. He was asked to go with him and complete his Ph.D. out there. His brother R. G. J. SHELTON (1955-61) is working for H.M. Government on Marine Pollution as Scientific Officer at the Ministry of Ag. and Fish. Brother G. A. B. SHELTON (1966-68) has completed his 1st year at St. Andrew's University and gained a 1st rank certificate in Zoology.

SIMPSON, P. F. (1959-66). When he wrote in January he was busy looking for articles as a solicitor in London. He changed from Classics to Law at Oxford and found it suited him. He gained an Open Scholarship in Law and won £25 for a University Essay.

SKIPP, A. J. (1929-37). We congratulate Councillor the Rev. A. J. Skipp on becoming High Wycombe's new Mayor. He is the first ordained minister to become Mayor of the borough in over 150 years. He is school chaplain, teaches English and is Housemaster in School House.

SMITH, B. P. (1942-47). After training at Newland Park College he has taught for nearly 20 years in the Wycombe Division as Assistant Teacher, Deputy Head and Acting Head. In January 1970 he was appointed Headmaster of Flackwell Heath County Junior School.

SMITH, C. P. (1961-68) finds Durham a very beautiful city. It has an ancient atmosphere which suits him well and helps with his law studies.

SMITH, J. R. (1939-45) went to Culham Teachers' Training College and then made Army Education his life. He is now Lt.-Col. in charge of education in Hong Kong and is married with two children. His next brother, D. SMITH (1942-47) went into local government service, but after military service joined the Police Force. He is now Assistant Chief Constable of Somerset and is married with two children. The next brother, A. J. SMITH (1945-50), went into the Trustee Savings Bank and, like his brother, joined the Police Force after military service. He is now an Inspector in Canterbury and is married with two children. N. SMITH (1962-68), the last of the line at the R.G.S., is studying Law at Southampton University. Their father, Mr. 'Joe' Smith, was gardener at the School for some years before leaving to become Head Gardener at Wycombe Abbey.

SMYTH, R. L. (1955–61) is still writing with success. He contributed Part 5 of the 'After School' series in the *Sunday Times* coloured supplement—'“You too can invent Miracle Ingredient X”—Bob Smyth looks at the prospects of a career in industrial chemistry.'

SNELLING, R. C. (1959–63) is in Canberra on a Commonwealth Scholarship continuing his research.

STEVENS, D. W. (1931–38). Denis Stevens, Professor of Music at Columbia University in the City of New York, is being granted a sabbatical leave from July 1970 until September 1971 and for most of the time he will be in Europe. He hopes to visit us.

STEVENS, J. A. (1959–67) had an exciting eight weeks abroad last summer. He flew to Tel Aviv as one of 120 volunteers in the Israeli Student Organisation and worked in a kibbutz near Nazareth. He picked pears most of the time, toured Israel at the end of the working period, and then left by boat for Turkey. He took a 'bus to Istanbul from the port and visited magnificent Ephesus. He returned home via Graz in Austria.

TIMMS, D. S. (1942–49) has gone to New York to take up a top United States job. He has been appointed General Manager of Landis and Gyr Inc. of New York. He joined them after 12 years with Ernest Turner Ltd. of High Wycombe. He was a fine player of ball games. He is married with a son and daughter.

TOMES, I. M. (1951–58). Captain Tomes writes from Berlin. He works with American and French troops and has a lot of contact with Russians too. His battalion (2nd Bn. The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers) of which he is Adjutant, had just finished a tour guarding Spandau Prison, where Hess, the last Nazi war criminal, was supposed to be. Hess was then in hospital but because of the political situation they had to guard the empty prison.

TOMKINSON, G. S. (1958–65) has left Trinity Hall, Cambridge, after taking his Mechanical Sciences Tripos. He gained his Blue for Badminton.

TRICK, R. R. (1956–61) was last heard of playing his guitar in French night clubs back in 1962. A very sober-suited almost serious Trick called in recently. He came back from the South of France in 1963, went to the College of Commerce in Manchester and studied French, German and Economics. In 1966 he gained his B.A. and joined the Hawker Siddeley Aviation Organisation and Methods Department.

UPCHURCH, R. S. (1939–43) is Data Processing Manager at Broom & Wade. He joined them at 16, progressed via all stages of production control to become one of the company's key managers. He provides a sophisticated production control service and is steadily extending the use of the computer in accountancy and commercial fields.

UPPARD, P. G. (1957–62) is to make his London début at the Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W.1, on Wednesday, 30th September, 1970, at 7.30 p.m. His piano recital will include Beethoven's Sonata in E opus 109, and Liszt's B minor Sonata as the main works. He looks forward to seeing many masters, old boys and boys there, and warmly invites them all to join him in the Green Room afterwards. He is continuing his teaching as a Sub-Professor at the Royal Academy of Music. During the past year he wrote an orchestral score for a colour-T.V. film and completed a play with music entitled 'One Crowded Hour'. He also finds time to write compositions of a more profound nature. His 'Fantasy for Piano Duet' is to receive its first performance at a Purcell Room Concert in June. At present he is working on a new musical, set during the Russian Revolution, entitled 'Czar and Commissar', envisioned while still at school and much inspired by his friend M. R. HORREX (1955–63). Horrex teaches in Hillingdon and his unorthodox flamboyant methods are observed to produce brilliant results.

WAKEFIELD, D. A. (1958–65) came top of his course in September 1969 and was awarded the 'Lyddon Shield'. This was the first time the award had been made—Vice-Admiral Sir Horace Lyddon died in 1968. Wakefield had to delay his entry into the Submarine Service owing to defective eyesight. When he wrote he was on his way to H.M.S. *Neptune*, the Clyde Polaris base, to join the secretarial staff until Christmas. After that he will be going back to sea.

WARD, T. (1922–28) wrote from Water Street, Whangarei, New Zealand, to enquire about an Old Boys' blazer badge. He has his own business, 'Tom Ward Motors', and in reminiscing he is sure that the spirit of the School has stood him in good stead throughout his life.

WHITE, L. V. (1960–67) is in his third and penultimate year on the Metallurgy course at Leeds University. He shares a flat there with A. C. W. KEEN (1959–66).

WILLIAMS, C. K. (1959–64) is now on a one-year post-graduate course in Personnel Management at Hendon College of Technology. Since leaving the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology two years ago with a Chemistry degree, he has tried Patent work and selling pharmaceuticals, the latter with success but no satisfaction. The latter job also provided a car so that he is now learning to walk again and finding it pleasant. He is living in 'swinging' Hampstead and his short Brillo hair-style is in marked contrast to the predominant species in those parts.

WILLS, T. S. (1963–67), a midshipman at Britannia R.N. College, Dartmouth, was a member of the British tri-service delegation which flew to Bogota in S. America to take part in the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of Colombian independence. British volunteers fought under Simon Bolivar, liberator of Colombia, in the 1800's.

WILKS, D. J. (1942–48) is making a big name for himself in the musical world. He won an Open Scholarship for organ and music to Durham University. He graduated from there with first class honours as a Bachelor of Music and on becoming an F.R.C.O. won both the 'Limpus' and 'Read' prizes. For the last six years he has been lecturer in music at Durham University, and now he is back down south on the staff of Sadler's Wells Opera Company to act as repetiteur and later conductor—a top opera job.

WILSON, A. R. (1960–66) is one of the four young men chosen to go to Japan for Expo 70 and act as guide in the English pavilion. He will spend seven months in Osaka. In a letter home he says, they live in very comfortable flats furnished in Western style, but the dividing walls are made of paper and the doors are all sliding. When he is on duty in the Scientific section, explaining terms like 'hydrostatic extrusion' plays havoc with his control of Japanese.

WINTER, P. E. (1960–67) went to Greece last summer and bumped into D. J. BROWNING (1959–66) in Athens. He was unable to come to the Old Boys' Dinner because he was acting in a play at Cambridge, and during Festival 70 he was going to Ben Nevis to climb for a week. The bar and food at Churchill College are excellent and in 1972 Churchill becomes co-educational. Then they'll have the lot.

WOOLLEY, J. N. (1962-68) is going to teach in Kenya before going up to Cambridge in October. He hopes to spend eight months there, probably near Nairobi, in a parent-financed school in the Kikuyu tribal area.

The next edition of the Old Boys' Notes will be written at the end of the Summer Term—will Old Boys be good enough to contact M.M.D. before the end of term on July 16th.

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