

THE
WYCOMBIENSIAN



Vol. XIV No. 11

MAY, 1971

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Vol. XIV No. II

MAY, 1971

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Cooking the evening meal



Relaxation after the day's search



1ST RUGBY XV, 1970-71

Back row: D. Wicks, G. J. Bayley, M. Weston, J. Surley, J. Marcinkiewicz, A. Wood, J. Powell, G. Jarman, A. Miller.

Front row: G. Morris, W. Harrison, P. Howland, J. C. Cook (*captain*), M. Saunders, J. Lewis, R. Shearer.

THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

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



Your friendly May 1971 issue of *The Wycombiensian* was compiled by the enigmatic Natasha (who is she?) with help from Peter Darvill-Evans, who masterminded it all; Andrew Day, who did a lot of the actual work; Mark Newton was responsible for all the House and Sports Reports; and Graham Bell flitted in and out. Time enough, I think, for a small Latin verse:

*Natasha puella erat nullo modo dissimilis ceteris;
Tunica demissa atque cruribus erectis
In cathedra sedebat . . .
Maximam habebat Devam.*

(Adolf, Drag, Mole and Dave the Rave)

But enough of this gay banter: on to the serious bits! Not really a lot to say, except that we should like to thank everyone who wrote for us, and to apologise humbly and sincerely to everyone whose contributions we have omitted or hacked about. As with every school magazine, we have nowhere near the number of pages we should like, in this case owing to rising costs; but we would have needed a separate magazine to accommodate all the Original Compositions, particularly the poetry, that was written for us: as it is we can only include a very small percentage of the poems we received. We understand that every poem is a personal statement of the soul, and that in comparison everything else in the magazine is monumentally irrelevant; but we hope that you understand that as Editors we are bound by Tradition and can do no more. It seems that *The Wycombiensian* is not the ideal vehicle for the Muse . . .

PETER DARVILL-EVANS.

SCHOOL NOTES

Industrial Strife Hits the R.G.S.!! . . .

Owing to the Caretakers' Strike the entire school had a day off on November 4th; and, this term, the Postal Strike kept many of us University hopefuls in agonising suspense until Mr. Hills made a mercy dash to Oxford for U.C.C.A. information.

At the end of the Autumn Term there was the usual rash of concerts:

The Choral Society and the choir of Wycombe High School performed Haydn's *Creation* on November 24th; the annual Gilbert and Sullivan opera was *Trial by Jury*; on December 16th the Wycombe Action Group presented *Gordon Giltrap* (quiet) and *Curved Air* (noisy). On the last day of term *Medicine Head* and *Chameleon* were both noisy.

Unhappily, Mrs. McVey left the teaching staff, but she has our congratulations on the birth of a son, Andrew James.

She was replaced by Mr. M. J. Craddock (B.A. Oxon), who teaches English, and we welcome him to the school along with the student teachers: Mr. A. MacKay, Mr. Watt, Mr. Madge and Mr. Spalton, and the Modern Language Assistants Fraulein Marischen and M. Augeron.

Congratulations also to Dr. C. W. Puritz on receiving his Ph.D. from Glasgow University; we understand he will not be buying a new bicycle to celebrate.

The former History room has been partitioned into wooden and glass segments and infested with electrical equipment in order to serve as a Language Laboratory; the door is permanently pad-locked so that no one can get in.

On March 25th the annual consignment of German boys from Osnabruck arrived in England to live at the homes of some of the R.G.S. students; three weeks later, they took our boys back with them for a holiday in Germany.

At the end of last term: The Choral Society gave a recital of works by Bach and Vivaldi on March 31st at Amersham Parish Church; Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* was performed (in the round!) by the R.G.S. and L.V.H.S.; the Staff once again made an exhibition of themselves in *Nos*—a distant relation of *Loochs*—and, on the same day as the second showing of *Nos*, the boarders sweated through a twelve-hour basketball marathon to raise money for charity.

And, speaking of money for charity, the Benevolent Fund for the Spring Term totalled £50.

On the recommendation of the Bucks Schools Swimming Association, the Education Committee has awarded a County Swimming Badge to David Tinn in recognition of his high performance in the 1970 National Championships.

EXAMINATION SUCCESSES 1970-71

We congratulate the following on gaining Open Awards:

D. G. Barker	Open Exhibition in Natural Sciences, Trinity College, Cambridge
H. A. Becket	Choral Exhibition (to read History), Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge
C. J. Chapman	Open Exhibition in Mathematics, St. Catherine's College, Cambridge
P. L. Clarke	Open Scholarship in Natural Sciences, Pembroke College, Cambridge
P. M. J. Costello	Open Scholarship in Classics, Brasenose College, Oxford
R. Davison	Open Scholarship in Chemistry, Pembroke College, Oxford
C. D. Hardy	Open Scholarship in History, Balliol College, Oxford
S. E. Jones	Open Scholarship in Classics, Balliol College, Oxford
R. C. Leegood	Open Scholarship in Natural Sciences, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge
P. G. Morris	Open Scholarship in Natural Sciences, Churchill College, Cambridge

Places at Oxford and Cambridge for 1971:

J. C. Dixon	Downing College, Cambridge, for Natural Sciences
J. C. Saunders	Selwyn College, Cambridge, for Law
J. M. Stagg	Churchill College, Cambridge, for Mathematics and Physics
D. C. Stevenson	Churchill College, Cambridge, for Mathematics
J. A. Tiller	Trinity College, Cambridge, for Mathematics
I. Johnson	Brasenose College, Oxford, for Classics
A. J. Reiss	St. Catherine's College, Oxford, for Natural Sciences
R. B. Simons	Exeter College, Oxford, for Law
E. P. J. Staynor	Oriel College, Oxford, for Law

This has been the school's most successful year in gaining Open Awards and Places at Oxford and Cambridge since 1959.

UNIVERSITY PLACES 1970

C. J. Andrews	Southampton, Engineering
J. E. Bailey	Aston, Administrative Science
D. A. Beasley	Warwick, History
R. S. Bell	Exeter, Law
R. D. Bennett	Brunel, Computer Science
M. E. Blaxland	King's College, London, Chemistry
S. R. Bruffell	Bradford, Engineering
C. J. Chamberlain	Newcastle, Architecture
C. P. Cobb	Nottingham, Pure Science and Physics
R. M. Cole	Bristol, Mathematics and Physics
M. P. Cops	Sheffield, Social Sciences
D. Crowther	Bristol, Biochemistry
J. R. Davies	Bradford, Sociology and Psychology
P. H. J. Davies	Manchester, French
M. G. Dawe	Manchester, Liberal Studies in Science
C. D. J. Edwards	Sheffield, Economics and Accountancy
P. C. Ellingham	Bristol, Geography
F. C. L. Ellul	Lancaster, English
R. W. Elvery	University College, London, Electrical Engineering
J. L. England	Exeter, Chemistry
R. P. Gamble	Bath, Engineering
A. P. Gee	Birmingham, Biological Science
R. I. Hamilton	Exeter, French
A. G. M. Haynes	City University, London, Civil Engineering
D. J. Hodges	Nottingham, Production Engineering
K. P. Jacomb	Bradford, Business Studies
N. P. G. Hunt	Manchester, Classics
M. S. Jay	Leeds, English
P. M. Kaczmar	Imperial College, London, Botany
A. E. Kramek	Reading, Microbiology
A. N. Lee	Birmingham, Chemistry
D. R. Lishman	East Anglia, Economics
R. J. Long	Cardiff, Industrial Chemistry
C. E. Lowe	Exeter, History and Politics
G. C. Lunn	Newcastle, Mechanical Engineering
C. J. Marshall	Newcastle, Civil Engineering
S. K. Mayo	Royal Holloway College, London, Maths & Physics

M. K. Miller	Bradford, Materials Science
R. B. Mitchell	Aberystwyth, Zoology and Philosophy
I. M. Orme	Royal Free Hospital Medical School
G. R. Parkins	University College, London, Chemistry & Physics
D. R. Pugsley	University College, London, History
P. W. Robinson	Southampton, Biochemistry (for 1971)
P. F. Rundell	Exeter, French and German
B. L. Scott	Sheffield, History
G. D. Singleton	Imperial College, London, Electrical Engineering
P. J. R. Sealey	Aberystwyth, English
P. R. Somers	Exeter, German
L. B. Starling	Kent, Chemistry
J. D. Tomlinson	London School of Economics, Economics
L. D. D. Tracey	Lampeter, French
N. P. Trimmings	St. Mary's Hospital Medical School
J. F. W. Vince	Bath, Economics & Financial Administration
F. A. Waters	Strathclyde, English
P. F. Whiten	Birmingham, Geography (for 1971)
M. H. Whittaker	Loughborough, Industrial Chemistry & Management Studies
P. Wilkins	King's College, London, Chemistry
K. L. Williams	Newcastle, Geography
R. V. Wood	Southampton, Commerce & Accountancy
A. Woodward	Newcastle, Geography
S. L. Wright	University College, London, Astronomy

POLYTECHNICS (Degree Courses)

G. Black	Teesside, Instrumentation & Control Engineering
A. Miller	Kingston-upon-Thames, Applied Chemistry
P. F. Moloney	Sunderland, Chemistry, Biology & Physiology
D. J. Morris	Kingston-upon-Thames, Applied Chemistry

COLLEGES OF EDUCATION

R. O. Davies	Borough Road, Physical Education & English
N. J. Miles	Borough Road
A. M. Turner	Brighton, English

SERVICES COLLEGES

K. J. Anderson	Royal Air Force College, Cranwell
M. J. Brown	Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth

The Editor apologises for any mistakes or omissions, and would be glad to hear of any corrections or additions.

'THE CREATION'

In November a performance of Haydn's *Creation* was given in the Queen's Hall. Under the direction of conductor Geoffrey Holmes, soloists Lynda Richardson, Neil Darby and David Flinders combined exceptionally well with the chorus and orchestra to realise the unity Haydn so brilliantly conceived.

The chorus consisted of the Wycombe High School choir, under the direction of Miss Millicent Brown, and the Royal Grammar choir. It was a surprise to newcomers to learn that this was the first joint performance of the two choirs and it is to be hoped it will not be the last.

Despite lack of practice together, the orchestra, which contained only a few pupils, gave a sound performance. Particularly enjoyable were the many descriptions of nature contained in the work.

The chorus, orchestra and particularly the soloists very effectively conveyed Haydn's deep love of the Universe and profound faith. It was a memorable evening which those fortunate to attend will not easily forget.

CURVED AIR CONCERT

The concert had to be rearranged after the split of the Humblebums, a well-known Scottish duet, who had originally been booked to appear. With consummate skill, typical of WAG concert-organisers of the past, the people organising the date managed to book Curved Air—a band which were soon to come to the fore in a blaze of publicity. This seems to be a recurring feature of groups booked by WAG. Gordon Giltrap seemed to have been overlooked by many people, who had been obviously overawed by the presence of a band so trendy as Curved Air. Nevertheless Gordon was, and still is to our knowledge, an acoustic guitarist with amazing talent.

The concert itself drew a crowd of some 800 people who packed the School's main hall. Gordon Giltrap was first to appear and gave a truly excellent show of guitar technique, although this was spoilt for some by the bad manners of a few.

Curved Air's performance was greeted with enthusiastic approval throughout, yet some people seemed less than overcome by the originality of the music. All but a few of the audience, however, were totally zenned by the band's stage act and the atmosphere created, not to mention zonked by the primitive, tribal movements of lead singer Sonja Kristina.

WAG made about £150 out of the concert, a third of which was spent on a number of windows which were accidentally broken.

ABSTRACT JOTTINGS

Oh gentlemen listen I pray, though I know
On occasions your interest wanes,
I'm about to relate the last opera's fate
At some very considerable pains.

I am not going to bore you with relevant facts,
But with woolly and meaningless waffle:
My knowledge of scansion could do with expansion—
And my rhyming is perfectly awful!

The trouble with writing in verse, you'll agree
Is the danger of leaving the scheme,
And amidst reader's curses proceeding with verses
Of totally different theme.

The principals lack'd what was needed, they said—
It was obvious 'they' didn't know,
For the rabble (you see) weren't in *Trial by Jury*,
And can guess, therefore, where they can go.

The Defendant sang strongly, as did the Usher—
The Council was splendid as all could predict—
The Plaintiff, perhaps, thought they wanted to shush'er,
Concerning the Judge I withhold my verdict . . .

The Jury and Public supported with zest—
Their keenness was truly infective,
Everyone filled with genuine interest,
Especially convincing, the Bridesmaids' subjective.

It's the least I can do (and not perfunctorily)
To echo the audience's gratitude—
And thank both cast and Messrs. Holmes and Rooke
Without quoting a single platitude!

DAVID LOWE.

MEDICINE HEAD & CHAMELEON

If some great oracle had approached a member of the School Dance Committee at any time during the months of November and December and told him that the End-of-Term function was destined to be memorably successful and would realise a profit of some £20, his immediate reaction would probably have been to

do the sage irreparable damage. A diary of the events leading up to December 19th reads like an ABC of Disasters. It was not until mid-October that the Dance was sanctioned at all, officialdom being wisely reluctant to rush blindly into a repetition of 1969's 'Spirit of John Morgan' fiasco, and as soon as tickets became available, all the people who had previously complained because of the likelihood of a permanent veto upon the Dance suddenly decided that they were not prepared to attend one on which so many 'petty' restrictions had been imposed (the fact that the conditions were the same as those laid down for previous years was conveniently shoved under the metaphorical carpet). However, a slight stretching of the rules enabled us to give away tickets which were to be paid for on arrival at the door, and, unbelievably, the impossible happened, and £20 was deposited into the Common Room's bank account the following day. Not a single item was damaged (save one coke bottle), both groups enjoyed performing, and each member of the Committee is still (to a greater or lesser extent) in full working-order.

We would like to thank the following people for their invaluable assistance: Messrs. Westrup, James, Craddock, Ward, Moffat and Taylor; Mr. Brown, Dave Stopps, and a multitude of decorators, floor-scrubbers, etc.

THE COMMITTEE.

CHORAL SOCIETY RECITAL AT AMERSHAM

On Wednesday 31st March the School Choral Society journeyed to Amersham to give a much appreciated recital in the parish church.

It was an ambitious programme, as both the works presented are major both in scope and difficulty; and the Society is to be congratulated on an excellent performance. Some of the singing in the Bach motet 'Jesu, Priceless Treasure' was the best we have heard from the school for a long time. The chorales in particular were a rich body of sound in which all the parts were perfectly blended—heard to advantage in the lovely setting.

In Vivaldi's 'Gloria' perhaps the choir was not quite so assured—the work is very demanding; but there was some excellent singing here too, which gave great pleasure to the many listeners.

Between the two choral works Mr. Heath played most competently and with delightful registration three of Bach's best known Chorale Preludes.

Mr. Holmes and Mr. Rooke are to be congratulated on presenting such a very worthwhile evening of enjoyment.

OUR TOWN

This year's school production seemed doomed a few days before the performance. Tickets were not selling very well: this was probably caused by the sale of tickets for the Staff Revue at the same time. Fortunately, most tickets were sold and I am sure that all those who went were overwhelmed by the superb production of this play *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder, which was directed by Mr. Dennis Smith and Mr. James. It was a play in the round, something that hasn't been seen at the R.G.S. since *Jericho*.

Our Town is a play about a small American town called 'Grovers Corners.' It is really a play in a play, and being based in America this called for American accents, which were very realistically 'drawled' by all the cast.

As in previous years, the girls of Lady Verney High School graced us by their appearance, adding much colour and a great deal of realism into the play. Harriet Hague played Emily very well and with some passion (too much could have been dangerous) towards her lover (in the play!) played by Trevor Cromack. I think most of us who went will remember most the Stage Manager, played so well and with great accent by Paul Walker. He managed to hold the audience throughout the whole play. Keith Ray, Adam Hardy and their 'wives' Angela Edmondson and Judy Holly gave us top-class performances (anyone would have thought that they had had experience at being husbands and wives respectively).

Without doubt, this was one of the best school plays ever produced, and of course a great deal of the credit must go to Mr. James and Mr. Dennis Smith for persevering throughout the whole term, taking up most of their spare hours and many more, in order to produce a play more than worthy for our eyes. Thankfully, they were truly rewarded with almost full houses every night.

J. PLANAS.

'I'LL BE FURRY' REVUE

This year's Staff efforts on the boards, building on the enormous success of last year, played to two packed houses, both eager to witness the Staff displaying their various talents yet again.

The audience were doubly rewarded this year by both the 'Dramatic Cantata' in One Act' (producer's description) entitled *I'll be Furry*—what a wonderful ending when the long-haired 'Hairy! Fairy! Worst of creatures!' turned out to be the newly appointed member of Staff—I forgot to which department he belonged, and secondly we were treated once more to the daunting prospect of Mr. Westrup's muscular physique(?), to the unshaven glory of Mr. White-Taylor's legs, to Mr. Blythe's lilting Irish accent—or was that Mr. Cook's accent?—and above all to the delicate, rapier-like, refined, sensitive wit, and extravagant cavortings of Mr. Hillier.

Sitting in the audience makes it difficult to appreciate how frantically all members of the cast are working to achieve the smooth, fast flow of each succeeding item. For the most part this continuity was well maintained, though some sketches lacked the urgency necessary for their full impact to be realised, and there also seemed to be less forceful, direct appeal to the audience this year, though some sections of the audience were determined to participate anyway.

It would be impossible to mention all those who contributed, both on and off stage, though it was good to see some new faces—well, you can almost see Mr. Ward's face—and to hear some new regional accents—Mr. M. Moffatt appeared by kind permission of W. D. & H. O. Wills.

Returning for a moment to *I'll be Furry*, great was my amazement to hear the clear, booming tones of Mr. Goldthorpe as an assistant master, whilst the headmaster himself was played with great panache and much flashing of teeth by—yet again—Mr. White-Taylor. Mr. Embrey gave of his all as a heavily disguised Senior Master whilst Mr. Flinders' 'Normal' was everything we should expect from one so talented—he did have some difficulty in avoiding swallowing his wig.

Perhaps there was again too little attempt to gain audience involvement—everyone seemed so serious and a little remote—after all they are teachers—for so much of the time.

It would be impossible to end without paying tribute both to Adam Hardy's magnificent re-writing of the original words of *Trial by Jury*, and to the headmaster's (Mr. M.P.S. not Mr. D. W.-T.) flamboyant entrance to the second part of the performance sporting a proud mass of auburn locks—far exceeding the regulation length.

Altogether, with thanks especially to Mr. Hillier, and to Mr. I. A. Blyth, a 'super' evening.

W A G R E P O R T

As usual, Wycombe Action Group has had a thoroughly enjoyable time this year, raising a lot of money in the process. This year the fund-raising activities have been various, including some old favourites as well as some new, forward-thinking ideas.

There have been two highly successful concerts during the past year: *Hawkwind* and *Formerly Fat Harry* at the Town Hall and *Curved Air* here in the Queen's Hall. We all hope the Concert on April 17th at the Town Hall will be equally well supported. This features *Skin Alley*, *Sweet Thunder* and the *Half-Human Band*. Also in respect of concerts etc. we have been promised some of the

proceeds of *Our Town* by Mr. Dennis Smith and the proceeds of *Breakout*, the prefect's review; if it ever takes off.

The Walk this year, although not as well organised, was just as much fun. Thanks go to all the people who put up/took down and altered signs as well as to Checkpoint 4—for those who found it.

There have been two 'mixed' rucker matches, one of which we staged for the Chiltern Cheshire Homes. The girls won on both occasions. Thanks to Bananna for his excellent refereeing.

We have also during the year helped to collect toys for under-privileged children. We are as usual taking some of these on holiday. Any parents or masters willing to help with transport, please contact any WAG member. The caravan is being redecorated at Easter, and we have just acquired another.

My thanks go to all the masters who have helped along the way; as well as to all those other people who have assisted us.

B. M. WARREN.

THE R.G.S. & L.V.H.S. TRIP TO NORWAY

Summer 1970

With a party containing 10 boys and 28 girls going to Norway it seemed the R.G.S. were in for a good time. The night of August 15th was spent on an uncomfortable passage to Norway. On arrival at Kristiansand we were greeted by our coach driver, 'Tom,' later to become a firm favourite with the group.

After a night's stay at Byglandsfjord Y.H. we moved on to the Solfonn Hotel (nothing but the best for the R.G.S.) where we stayed for four nights. Various activities such as dancing, climbing, walking, and a trip on a chair-lift were enjoyed by everyone. Awe-inspiring rides up sheer-cliff sides by coach and a walk to the Folgefonn Glacier also proved unforgettable.

From here we went to the Rygjeheim Y.H. where a game of football organised by one of the Staff (I wonder who?) proved exciting. A walk to a nearby trout farm ended up being an aimless walk over the hillocks(?) of Norway, while some of the more lazy members travelled to the farm by coach.

The next stop was at the Mosvangen Y.H. in Stavanger (one of the more thriving centres of activity) where activities included a trip up the beautiful Lysefjord, deep-sea fishing (six fish between 30 people isn't bad, is it?), a visit to a fish-canning factory, and a local school. The local press seemed delighted by our presence and produced a picture of the group in the papers. This was soon followed by various invitations from Norwegian families to entertain groups of us for the evening.

After Stavanger the holiday soon came to a close and it was with a few red-eyes that we waved good-bye to 'Tom' and Norway. The passage over was brightened up by the arrival of a 'bunch of skinheads' from Slough (small world) who insisted on tormenting us. However, members of the R.G.S. soon quelled the rioters. It was a sad welcome home for one of the Staff when he heard that Watford had lost yet again but apart from this upset the rest of the group arrived home in good spirits.

All that remains is for us, on behalf of the group, to thank Mr. Thompson, Miss Corney, and Mr. and Mrs. Samways for a well-organised and thoroughly enjoyable holiday.

PHILIP INSHAW.
STEPHEN WRIGHT.

ORIGINAL COMPOSITION

Poems: A Play: A Piece of Prose. It's a dismal prospect that the powers of expression of over a thousand young men and boys going through their most idealistic and formative stage of life limit themselves to forty sides of poems. The trouble is it's nearly all been said before. I don't want to know what Yevtushenko said except by reading Yevtushenko; likewise with Ginsberg or the multitudinous poets and writers whose works have been rehashed by those schoolboy minds that are active enough to produce anything at all for this magazine. I suspect the best literature never reaches this official organ of expression. We're not surprised. The medium is unsatisfactory—but that's not the point. That's complaining about the obstacles to aspiring genius when real genius would only ignore them. All this sounds rather harsh criticism of schoolboy literature; apologies if it hurts anyone's feelings, but it's only said in the hope that it will help. In short—original (or highly unoriginal as it seems to the omniscient editor) literature would be much better if the individual authors analysed their own reactions, and wrote about their own genuine experiences rather than distorted prurient fantasies.

Still, there's nothing like the real thing . . .

GRAHAM BELL.

SIGHT

Black intricacies on the moon
A blue-cobwebbed reality
The tree grows dark and high
Splitting with life to the years above.

Dawn comes like a dancer
In quarter tones of lightning orange
Aura of power, sad spectral death-knell
Sprinkles pure light on a whole forest.

C. J. HEAD.

TECHNOLOGICAL POETRY

GOLDEN HEART

GLOWING AIR . . . BIRD REJOICES SKY WORLD SKY SLOWLY BLUE
GLORY DEAD SONG DIES GRASS?

WHITE?

RED WHITE HAIR FACE SUN . . . KNOWING FACE SLOWLY GREEN
BIRD GREEN THE BIRD.

WELCOME IS GLORY LOVE SORROW REJOICES CLOUDS CHILD IS
KNOWING . . . KNOWING FADES THE DEAD.

CLOUDS LOVE RED HEART REJOICES LEAF SKY BIRD . . .

SLOWLY

SONG IS SONG . . .

SIGHING AIR IS GRASS?

KNOWING THE RED IS CLOUDS IS . . . WALKING GLOWING
SORROW AIR

LEAF IS BIRD A . . . RED IS GOLDEN IS HOME REJOICES SUN

LEAF

I.B.M.

Through the entrance
Which is, I think,
Satirically called
The Mouth of Hell,
Comes a sight for
Sore eyes.
Every springtimedramatime,
At five past four,
A sea of green
Fertile, budding
Actresses.
And the tired, leaving
Red wine people
Stare
And then run for
An overcrowded bus.

A QUESTION UNANSWERED

The wind sings as it flows through bare branches
a night hawk cries, as it hovers on the breeze
Tranquillity reigns, the world sleeping gently
all is in blackness, in the depths of the night.
But look! Something is moving, slipping through the air
a glimpse of perfection?

. . . is it really there?

Darkness regains, the apparition has vanished
was it merely a dream

. . . now so utterly banished?

BILL JOSS.

SOMEWHERE

Through the walls
That bind and shackle my desires,
A new dimension calls,
And I will follow
In despair.

 The fifth dimension calls;
The forest bends with unseen
Force, and shifts and falls,
 And lances through a violet green
Intangible of time.

And there is peace;
Warm images of unions
That will cease
When daylight comes.

WILLIAM RAMSAY.

A DRAINY DAY

sludge a snuffle up the sky
grasses on the raindrops lie
hedges sigh a leafy blur
pussies wet is all a-fur

sodden sod and pathen path
flowers whistle in the bath
wink is treeful tears and drip
flawthorns drizzingly sip

sponges damp like holey air
how wondrous lovely passing fair
the fuddlepuddlemuddlemud
reflects the dripping-happy bud

(or would if it were spring) squelch leaves
groaning hedgebog gruntles heaves
waddlespuddles airs the sniff
and thistles spined and backens stiff

freshed muchly with the dewy dew
or rainy rain ah! blithe to view
the gasping grass (just chlorophyll)
as green as green green green as ill

now verdures ill the rays' sun dries
and tears brim in its burning eyes
and leaves in puddles fiddle stir
and pussies dry is all a-fur.

C. R. ROLLASON.

A VISION

'Let us ride on the winds of time, my love,
Let us ride, let us ride. On the winds of time let us rove.'

'Oh, how can I ride on the winds of time
To feel the power of that breeze sublime,
When they clatter on the casement, hour upon hour
And my eyes are blind, and my wings are numb
And my heart is cold in the depths of the tomb
And my mind is sour?
How can I ride on the winds of time
In the flash of the foam as I rush with the tide
In the gushing dash of the waves as I roam
As I thrash up the spray with my wings as I glide—
When my spirit sinks to engulfing gloom
And darkness deepens the impending doom?'

ADAM HARDY.

POPPY DAY

Everywhere poppies, nowhere to hide from them.
Money for the dead—
The voluntary dead, the conscripted dead,
Something to wear, to pretend you care.
But who remembers:—
The Great War? The Hitler War? Any war?
Why poppies?
Where the money goes—the money for the poppies?

Poppies everywhere,
Cannot escape them—poppies,
Lapels, poppies, lapels.
Poppy goes the weasel—jingle goes the money,
Snap, crackle, poppy—all day long—
Standing in the cold, poppy on lapel.

One Minute Silence.

Poppies on the ground,
Poppy-red, blood red, grey and red pavement.
Come next day—come the dustmen,
Poppies vanished—who remembers?
Who wants to remember?

PRO PATRIA MORI VELLE

Transport me to the Psyche of the Great
Who send their souls in chase of ancient prize,
For much they tell of beauty of fair war
And healthy lust for sure and vast prestige.
Yet none can tell what Helen crusade may win;
They let suffice to seek Medusa's head
So long as higher rank negates all doubt.

Who then dares say: 'We owe our lives to them,
The ones who drive the heathen from our shore?'
For well I know the motives of the men
Who follow leaders' call without complaint
Where'er the demon piper may induce them.
Beware the man who mouths: 'My country's cause',
For he must surely be a fool or brigand.

ODO.

EXIT AFTER THE SHOW

Death is as wide as the sky:
his maniac grin from
horizon to horizon:
death is as all-encompassing as the sky.

Death is for everything:
field and forest, fish and fowl,
tramp and tycoon, ant and elephant:
'I live, therefore I die.'

Death is everywhere
and whether it comes
as a sudden bullet or cancerous parasite,
surrender of a shrivelled brain or overloaded heart,
the mangled mincemeat in a crashing car,
or more prosaic accident,
It comes.

Death is.
Take time to think about it; and,
having thought about it,
waste no more time.

PETER DARVILL-EVANS.

But see, like kites in the sky
They float on and off
Anchored to the only earth
Lonely, high, they few fly.
Golden hopes in fields of corn
Blow gently in the wide
Seen by badgers trotting
Neatly through human lives
Of swing-door crash

Out on a hill clouds glide by
And by, living their lives of imagined shapes
Fantasies.
Screams and cries of dead men walking
Sing to heaven's years
Not touching clouds which
We know have two sides.

In the stations the passengers
Don't think of riding rails to purple distances
But only biting nails
And this and that.
They shuffle foot-hot heavy sweat head
Down deep tunnels turning
Dreams desired, illusions wondered smashed
Hang by the side of sight.
Don't bump into the man who hurries
Clutching bulging brief brown case
To grey nylon chest.

(The clouds form by
Smiling for the happy homicide)

Pumping silver-needed life
For crash-broken limbs of car
And rub with wool the vital spot and
Smile and be a villain
 or a tin of treacle
Like ships that slip over Atlantic bars
They gleam to see the freedom feel
And, oh best beloved, know they cannot touch
The sky or sea or hollow love.

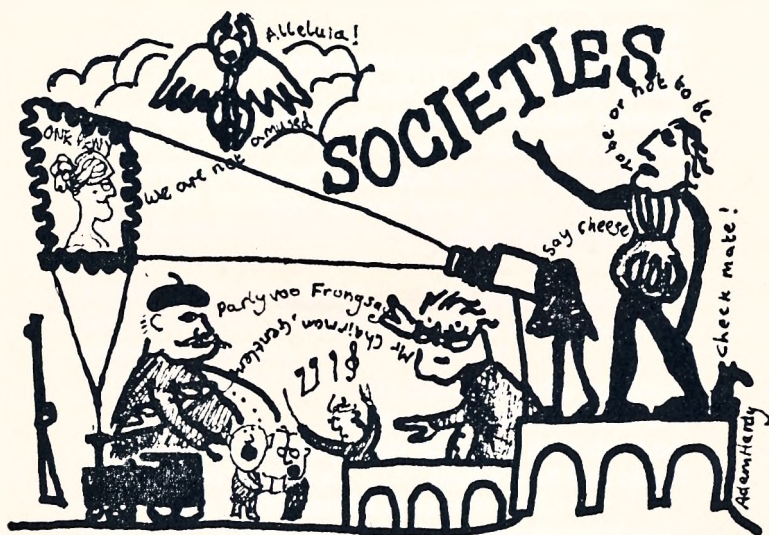
The clouds roll on
Condensed in higher air
Fantasies unfelt by little pigs
Conglomerain to manate on again.

C. J. HEAD.

Flying over disused mines
 Over railway tracks
 The Flutterbye wings its way
 Between the chimney-stacks.
 CO₂ and sulphur fumes
 Descend upon the wing,
 The Flutterbye ignores their smell
 And moves across the stream.

The stream is dead,
 No fish survive
 The oil is thick and black,
 Town sewage pours out of the pipe,
 And mingles with the bank.
 The Flutterbye is now half dead,
 There's not much we can do.
 It's finished, like the human race
 Unless we act quite soon.

P. A. INSHAW.



THE CHORAL SOCIETY

Shortly after one o'clock on Tuesdays and Fridays a small animated crowd gathers outside the music room. An accident . . . pagan rites . . . no; just a Choral Society meeting, soon to evaporate into their post-prandial lair. A casual stroller in the quad, a few minutes later may hear certain sounds floating over the grass. This is the object of their meeting—their music. Let us go inside . . .

The initial chaos dies down at last, leaving everyone seated. 'Can we have quiet please . . . give out the 'Bach' . . . another copy to the basses . . . there's your keynote . . . open the door . . . why are you late?' 'Can we have some air . . . let's sing ourselves in with the second chorus . . . you phrase it like this . . .' The ensuing sound is greeted by an exasperated remark. 'Try again and do try to watch. Look out for dynamics and pay attention to your tuning.'

The meeting proceeds, interspersed with frequent intervals of mild abuse and of advice. At five to two the bell sounds. 'We'll just do that once more from letter "B".' (There are suppressed expostulations of impatience from the basses.) On the stroke of two an exuberant torrent bursts forth into the quad., reminiscent of the rush-hour at Piccadilly Circus. The Choral Society return once again to the hard life of maths, physics, and Latin.

Most people become aware of our activities at concerts etc., but our main objectives—be they selfish—are enjoyment and satisfaction. Enjoyment from singing and satisfaction from having achieved an effective sound. Although we have over sixty members representing all levels at school, we are always in need of more tenors and basses to balance out the rather larger contingent of juniors.

Even our most severe critics cannot deny how the standards of musicianship within the society have improved. 'Improvement' is our keyword. This is unquestionably as a result of the unique atmosphere which prevails, one which as near as possible fits the cliché 'team-spirit'. It is to this atmosphere that any success can be ascribed, and *vice versa*.

FILM SOCIETY REPORT

After many dilemmas we managed to get enough members to make the society viable. We tried to make our programme of films as varied as possible and contrived it so that there would be at least one film to everybody's taste.

The Wages of Fear provided a good start and seemed to satisfy most people. Then came *If*, the highlight of the programme, which was undoubtedly the best attended. *King Kong* followed and this produced the most laughs. The thought-provoking satire *The Exterminating Angel* was certainly appreciated by the sixth-form, but was too heavy for the younger boys and it is hoped that the last film *Shane* will compensate for this.

After so much success in its initial year, it is hoped to expand the society next year. The more members we get the more films we can show.

D. BATTISBY.

THE JUNIOR WARGAME SOCIETY

This newly formed Society has, in its short history, flourished. Our equipment is growing, thanks to many of our members who have supplied us with boards and models. We also extend our sincerest thanks to Mr. J. J. O. Roebuck who has given us full support in historical details.

There is a W.W.1 campaign being fought alongside a Roman campaign and an American Civil campaign. A W.W.2 campaign has just ended.

BATTLE 1 *German* *British*
 Webb Paul
 and v. and
 Jameison Tomson
 Adjudicator: Edwards
 German victory

BATTLE 2
 Commanders: as last battle
 Adjudicator: Horner
 German victory

BATTLE 3 *German* *British*
 Burnand Ahmed
 and v. and
 Dodd Newman
 Adjudicator: Edwards
 British victory
 Outcome of campaign: German victory

MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

As it seems is the fate of many school societies this year, membership and consequently funds (standing at less than 10p at the time of writing) are running at a very low ebb with little sign of improvement, as the slack summer season is fast approaching. This situation was also worsened by the flooding caused by a burst radiator, which put much of our electrical equipment out of action. On a brighter note, however, it is hoped that the club will soon, if not before the time you read this, be functioning normally once more.

Our thanks go to our treasurer, Peter Hills, our 'chief engineer' Paul Barrett, and the rest of the committee, for their financial as well as practical help in keeping the club going, and to Mr. D. White-Taylor for filling the vacant post of chairman.

Finally, we make an appeal to as many of our members who are willing to help in this regard, to make financial contributions to the club's funds to help it weather this difficult period.

N. J. MOON (Secretary).

PUBLIC TRANSPORT SOCIETY

After a slow start to the year because of a delay in receiving films, the Public Transport Society had a much better term last term, although membership has been rather smaller than was hoped and the financial situation of the society has become steadily more precarious. It is hoped, however, that this coming term will see a turn for the better with more films and perhaps even a trip, if support is forthcoming. Our thanks go to our projectionists Peter Hills and Paul Barrett for keeping the society going and also to Mr. D. White-Taylor for stepping into the breach as chairman on Mr. Lane's departure.

N. J. MOON (Secretary).

STAMP SOCIETY REPORT

Every society report is much the same as its predecessor—'Fairly inactive year . . . talks have been held . . . membership . . . finance . . . look forward to the future.' None of this phantom procession can hide the essential drabness of meeting-by-meeting society life.

Time, in fact, is the Stamp Club's enemy. Since our last report we have had to fill up two lunch-hours a week, for two terms. I could blare out that we've had two trips, two film-strips, a quiz and a talk, that we converted our accounts to decimal currency, that on September 15th a committee meeting was held to discuss the year's programme. . . . You see how desperate I'm getting. Time, the '*reductio absurdum* of all human experience' (Faulkner), makes our efforts laughable. Our sound and fury signifies nothing.

We have had over 40 meetings in the last two terms. Despite occasional enlivenment their pattern has been identical—perfunctory sale of approvals, even more perfunctory 'swapping', i.e. selling, and troublemaking followed by essays or ejection.

In fact, the Stamp Club cannot be called lively. We are not helped by the seeming dearth of collectors in the school at present. Nevertheless, we are still alive and living in Room 14; and, as ever, our sincere thanks must be extended to Mr. A. C. Hills for his valuable help and interest, as well as to N. J. Moon, the current secretary, and R. F. Barnes, the active one-fifth of the committee.

C. R. ROLLASON (Treasurer).

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

At the start of the Spring term a Zoological Society held its first meeting. Thirty imminent young zoologists met in the lower lab.; and delighted in the chance to make use of its various facilities—the extensive library, the collecting and preserving equipment, aquaria, livaria, exhibition cabinets and much more.

The society is now well established. It meets on Thursday evenings, and we are all engaged on our own field of study.

Mawhinney is studying bird flight and mounting bird wings for exhibition; Savage and Dapling are classifying the insect collection; Edwards and Jamieson are working on the bird egg collection, Hazelwood and Burton are setting up fish aquaria. Kinvig is studying badgers and their activities at night, Parks is engaged on a bird survey. Some await the Spring and Summer in the hope of studying some of our native reptiles (now in winter hibernation).

We anticipate a weekend trip to Minsmere on the Suffolk coast later in the year, and one or two visits to the more accessible Tring Reservoir—a haunt of numerous waterfowl.

All our thanks to Mr. Lingard who has devoted much of his spare time and energy in promoting the society and stimulating an interest.

S.M.K.



ARMY SECTION

Inspection

Annual Inspection this year was carried out by Air Vice-Marshal P. G. D. Farr, C.B., O.B.E., D.F.C., M.B.I.M. R.A.F., accompanied by an Old Boy of the School as A.D.C., Pilot Officer D. G. Wilson. Staff Officers in accompaniment were Major C. J. Batchelor from H.Q. Eastern District, Lieut. Cmdr. D. M. Taylor from Dryad and Sqdn. Ldr. J. H. W. Davis from R.A.F. Brampton.

The Air Vice-Marshal was received with a guard of honour and alas only a token band, consisting of the Drum Major, two buglers, and two drummers.

The inspection of normal training followed without the threatened deluge which the skies portrayed, thus enabling outdoor activities to be shown off to their best advantage.

The Inspecting Officer in his address complimented everyone on the enthusiasm and efficiency displayed.

Adventure Training Camp

A record number of cadets made the pilgrimage to Leek and the party got off to a good start at High Wycombe station by receiving the unsolicited compliments and approbation of three different individuals, all strangers to the School, each of whom expressed approval that such a goodly number of modern youth was embarking on such worthwhile activities.

The road and rail party arrived practically simultaneously and lost no time in disposing of a mug of hot tea whilst exchanging views with the Advance Party on the accommodation provided at the Training Centre situated on the fringe of the Peak District.

The first twenty-four hours were spent in demonstration and concentrated instruction to prepare the party to face any eventuality from tropical heat to mountain blizzard. Whilst engaged on its 'task of searching for survivors from a crashed aircraft on Kinder Scout'.

Departure from Camp on Friday morning found everyone in high spirits equipped to rescue a dozen survivors suffering from all manner of ailments and able to supply from their individual 'compo' rations anything from steak and kidney pudding to six pints of 'Sgt. Major's Tea'.

The journey through Buxton led towards Chapel-en-le-Frith, thence eastwards midst some of the best of the rugged scenery of the Peak District, the distant hills of which shrouded in the haze of the morning sun looked at the same time inviting yet forbidding to the unwary or unprepared traveller, their slopes studded sparsely with trees leaning precariously in mute acquiescence to the power of the prevailing wind.

The road led on towards Castleton, passing the famous 'Blue John' Caverns whence is mined the beautiful Fluorspar mineral some of which inevitably finds its way into the gaudy gift shops which seem so out of place midst walls and houses built of the local Millstone Grit.

Shortly the route turned northwards along the Lady Bower Reservoir, which supplies drinking water to most of Derbyshire, then along the famous Snake Pass. Here at various points three search parties set off on foot to comb the heights of Kinder Scout and Edale Moor, and the three parties found a 'survivor', each one

of whom gave an account of a highly confidential document case which must be found as soon as possible.

The various parties, however, were all bound for a Camp Site near the 'Snake Inn' and had a most urgent problem of their own to cope with, that of setting up Camp for the night and dealing with the braised steak, sultana pudding or other rations they had chosen for their evening meal. Soon all were able to relax in contemplation of the gurgling river threading its way down the valley to feed the thirsty reservoir below.

After a well earned rest the party made a successful search for the 'lost documents' and arrived at Edale to be met by transport to return them to base camp where roast beef and Yorkshire pudding was followed by cherry tart and custard and then briefing for the following day.

The 'lost documents' revealed a hidden 'Arms Dump' guarded by a few desperate characters in the form of three former members of the C.C.F. now at university—2nd Lieut. P. Grafton, A. Boreham and Arnold, together with three Senior Cadets Gubbins, Simmons and Pepper, determined to defend their position to the last. Recce Patrols during the day prepared the ground for a midnight attack on the position and a 'Commando' party successfully captured the position.

A full day was then spent in a map-reading 'treasure hunt', followed by team activities in river crossings, cliff rescue operations, rope bridges and other initiative exercises, and back to base for roast pork and all the trimmings, followed by an unending supply of sherry trifle topped with whipped farmhouse cream supplied by the local farmer. The evening was concluded with free drinks and bars of chocolate for the winning teams, short speeches and presentations in appreciation of a happy and successful Camp.

R.P.

C.C.F.

R.A.F. SECTION

During the summer holidays four senior cadets successfully completed their Proficiency Gliding courses, Sgt. Butler being recommended for an Advanced course. Fifteen cadets also spent a very exciting week at R.A.F. Leuchars in Fife, experiencing the R.A.F.'s active role in fighter defence.

The section was fortunate in being able to visit R.A.F. White Waltham on four separate occasions for Air Experience Flying, during which most cadets were given at least one flight in a Chipmunk. Other visits included seeing a Mosquito and Spitfires at Booker.

The General Inspection saw the culmination of the Section's training programme and the successful completion of several projects.

In April 1971 eight cadets will be spending a week at R.A.F. Guterslöh in Germany.

To complete a very successful year, W.O. Gillespie was awarded the certificate of Good Service and is now awaiting details of his overseas flight to Singapore.

On behalf of the Section I would like to thank Lt. Col. Pattinson, F.O. Bell and Fl. Sgt. Tanner for their invaluable assistance and advice.

W. O. BARNEY.

R.N. SECTION

The section got off to a good start this year, the general state of training having been raised considerably. The proficiency class have been doing their bookwork all term and their efforts came to fruition when four cadets passed their proficiency exam.

The term was enlivened by a field day at Portsmouth which involved an overnight stay in H.M.S. *Victory* barracks. The more senior cadets were able to go to sea and the remainder had a good look round some Portsmouth shore establishments.

The main activities of this term were directed towards the General Inspection which took place on the penultimate Thursday of term. The section is always hampered by being a sea-borne service on land, but it was possible to rig the dry land whaler, jackstay and sheerlegs. The jackstay is a method for transferring stores from ship to ship at sea, and sheerlegs are used to hoist heavy stores such as ammunition on deck from below.

At the time of writing Cox'n J. Burrows has just returned from a one-and-a-half week long cruise on H.M.S. *Tenby*, an anti-submarine frigate, which involved sailing out to Gibraltar, enjoying the Mediterranean sun for two days and then being flown home by the R.A.F. Join the Navy and see the world indeed!

V. R. GUBBINS.

HOUSE REPORTS

SCHOOL HOUSE

Once again the time has come to write the various House reports. Being Head Prefect of School House, it is my job to write the report concerning the events that occur in this House. However, owing to extreme pressure from the right-wing element in the prefects' study I have been bullied into destroying three previous attempts, on the grounds of unoriginality.

According to the right-wing element referred to earlier, 'you' (the reader) are no longer concerned about the large contribution that this House continues to make to the sporting activities of the school. Nor are 'you' interested in the creditable performances of those who took part in the mock 'A' and 'O' Levels. These, however, are supposed to be the two major ingredients of school life, and, this being a school, one begins to wonder what 'you', according to the right-wing element, are interested in; surely it can't be the fact that some of the rooms on the top floor have been re-decorated; or that the majority of doors in the House have had their banging potential removed by the installation of springs. And so I must attempt to find something that 'you' are interested in.

After some deep thought, I decided that it can only be one thing: 'you' are all waiting for me, on behalf of everyone, to thank the Staff of this House; that is Mr. Skipp, who is now coming to the end of a most eventful year as Mayor; Mr. Stubbs, who in Mr. Skipp's absence has borne the brunt of the duties; and finally Matron who has continued to look after the sick in her usual manner.

N.B.—M. S. Newton does not wish to remain anonymous as the 'right-wing element'.

UPLYME

With Easter coming fast upon us it is time again to record our various deeds and misdoings. At last the boarding house has grown in size and so unfortunately have our fees! This could be explained by the appearance of lino on our dormitory floors or even to the increase in the quality of our food?? To the ordinary boarder however neither of these suggestions seems very plausible and one begins to wonder, when our house tutor buys a new car, the second within twelve months.

Uplyme can however be proud that once again we resoundingly beat our old rivals, Tylers Wood, at football. I'm sorry to say though, that this is the grand total of inter-house rivalry this year. As usual we manage to fill quite a few places in the various school teams, a record which we hope to continue in the summer.

I must extend my thanks, however, to Mr. and Mrs. Cooper, Mr. Holt and Conny for always being willing to further the house's enjoyment. This fact was well illustrated in our night exercise, in which, I'm happy to say, nobody got lost . . .

J. W. LEWIS.

TYLERS WOOD

A time of change this term has been
We've lost our culinary Queen;
Mrs. Duck has left our throng,
To Brian now the meals belong.
Lane Clarke has left as well
And with him's gone a feety smell,
He was renowned for painting things—
The study now is fit for Kings.
Our prefects six have played their part;
Asleep and waking learned their art.
Matron's done more than her share
For all the patients in her care.
Once more Walter's been our friend
From term's beginning to its end.
The only change to night affairs
Have been Chris Embrey's 'sit-down' prayers.

Now thanks again sincerely due
To both our benefactors true.
Mr. and Mrs. Pattinson
Our place of rest have ably run.

ARNISON

The position of Arnison in the House Championship this term is rather disappointing as we are supporting the other three houses. However, this means that next term, when our potential will be realised, we can only improve.

Our position at the bottom of the table seems strange, when we have obtained one 1st position (Bridge) and five 2nd places (Rugby, Basketball, Gymnastics, Shooting and Hockey). In the Cross-Country we had some very good individual results with J. Crowley winning in a school record time. However, owing to an unfortunate piece of bad management our true position in this event was not obtained, and I apologise for this mistake.

I must, however, comment upon the support for these House events. In the House Competition a large entry will often beat a smaller but more efficient entry. For this reason I hope that support, at all levels, will increase and that everybody will have taken part in House Competitions of one sort or another. The continuing good name of Arnison is in your hands, for support is the essence of success.

J. C. COOK.

FRASER

At this stage last year, the House captain was able to say that 'we are off to a wonderful start'. This year we are again in first place, but the response for participation in the teams has been anything

but wonderful. The gymnastics competition is perhaps typical of the response found within the House. Our juniors performed excellently to establish a big lead for us at the start of the competition, but the seniors soon made their presence felt when only one competitor could be found for a competition that required four; as a result we were nowhere to be seen in the final reckoning.

Thanks to superb organisation (surely one of the main factors in deciding who wins the House championship) by Jenkins, nonchalant running by 'Jacko' and good 'professional' tactics in removing Arnison's threat, Fraser managed to secure a victory in the cross-country. The basketball competition was won for the second successive year and in the senior rugby we achieved a creditable third which might even have been a second if a few unmentionables had put themselves out.

As we are now leading the field at the turn, Fraser must have a better than even chance of being first past the line. It all depends on whether those unmentionables devote one iota of time to the House.

P. HOWLAND.

TUCKER

The halfway stage has been reached in what could turn out to be a very closely fought house championship. At the moment we are lying second behind Fraser but the margin is 13 points which is quite a large lead to have. A monumental effort is needed during the summer term to win the championship. We won the gymnastics with an excellently drilled squad as well as the senior rugby trophy. However, disappointing results came in the basketball and hockey competition. A basis has been built for an all-out attack on the trophy but a far greater effort is needed by everybody in the house. Mr. Scott still continues to support us in all competitions despite the house's lack of success during the last few years. This support is invaluable to us and we extend our thanks to him.

M. S. NEWTON.

YOUENS

For a while now Youens has been an undistinguished house, but this year there have at last been indications of a change to success. However, it has certainly not been a year without its failings. Very surprisingly we came fourth in the senior rugby, and disappointingly the same in the shooting. The basketball was so close that even though we finished fourth our hopes of something better were really quite justified. We failed in the gymnastics despite our excellent Intermediates, who in fact prevented us from finishing last in the cross-country. However, there have been the successes. A good second place in the bridge was bettered by excellent firsts in hockey, badminton and (it seems, at the time of going to press) chess. I only hope that those who have participated have enjoyed themselves, and that the rest will prove keener next term.

SPORT REPORT



SCHOOL GAMES

'Fairness corrupts the soul of competitiveness.'

P. INSHAW.

1st XV RUGBY

Played 29, Won 14, Drew 2, Lost 13. For 290, Against 277

The degree of inexperience in the 1st XV this season can be measured by the fact that only two members of the team had colours and only three others had previously played 1st team rugby. For this reason the team got off to a rather shaky start by losing seven of the first nine games, suffering rather heavy defeats at the hands of St. Benedict's and Emmanuel School. At this stage the team was dispirited and the captain a worried man.

However, the match against Leighton Park heralded a new era. From this point onwards the team won 11 of the next 15 games, gaining some excellent wins against Harrow County and St. Nicholas G.S. There were, of course, still some poor performances, such as the match against Hampton G.S. in which we threw away our chances of victory. However, in the second half of the season the 1st XV began to fulfil its potential and play like the team we knew it could be. With the raised spirits, due to several victories, came an increase in enjoyment, and the rugby became more fluent and more attacking.

The threequarter line, in which M. Saunders, J. Powell and G. Morris were prominent, suddenly began to master the art of scoring tries, and became a very effective unit. With Jarman's added attacking flair they scored many excellent tries and were sound in defence. R. Shearer at full-back was safe and often produced valuable sorties into enemy territory. At half-back Powell was always dangerous, if prone to disappearing upfield. His kicking was outstanding and led to high points. Weston and Miller were both at scrum-half for half the season. Weston was excellent in defence whereas Miller was more effective as a link between pack and fly half.

Of the forwards, Lewis was prominent in the loose and was always first to the ruck. In the tight Howland (a vociferous pack-leader) won many useful heels and relieved dangerous situations. In the lines-out Marcinkiewicz and Wicks were outstanding. However, their strength lay in their work as a unit, rather than as individuals.

To sum up, this season has been most valuable in giving many players experience for next year's team, for which eight or nine players are certain to return. It is pleasing for me to look back over the season and feel that the team has improved so much. However, the pleasure belongs equally to Mr. J. R. Learmonth for his endless efforts and enthusiasm in coaching the team, and our thanks must go to him.

J. COOK.

2nd XV RUGBY

Won 18, Drew 2, Lost 6—a very satisfactory result indeed and appropriate reflection on the team as a whole. And still the crowd was there.

At times amidst the injured and the dying the team's morale shone on through the mud and rain, while on other occasions flashes of brilliance and sheer hard play brought victory after victory.

And still the crowd was there.

At least two games that were lost should have been won: these were the two occasions when shirts felt heavy, and the mud clung strongly to our feet, and just about everything went wrong. They were the only times we'd all but given up.

And still the crowd was there.

But then every team has its off days, but only good teams keep them down to so few, and the major reason was the crowd.

And so the whole team would once again like to express their sincere thanks for the great enthusiasm shown by our crowd, giving us that little extra, that was invaluable.

Mr. Samways—thank you very much and I hope the next season is even better.

R. MOORE.

3rd XV RUGBY

Played 19, Won 12, Drawn 1, Lost 6. Points for 287, Against 148 We have had an enjoyable season, with rather more talent available than usual; hard work, disappointment (often over infuriating 2nd XV requirements), satisfying wins, constructive rugby, and, above all, matches which were a pleasure to watch. The main feature, however, has been the spirit within the club. Players have evinced a degree of co-operativeness, of enthusiasm, and of

adaptability, which transcends the bounds of the rugby pitch; and which has resulted in improved skills all round.

The pack often won matches for us through sheer determination, and sometimes rugby skill; Glenister was a most reliable hooker, winning many against the head; he was solidly backed up by Warren and Sadler. Sandles, Allnutt and Flintham all proved very keen and useful players, while Froude, at No. 8, played some match-winning games—when Davison joined him the result was a joy to watch!

Miller, until his call-up to the higher echelons of the game, gave good service at scrum-half, while Lowe showed remarkable terrier-like qualities as his replacement. Newton, at fly-half, could, through a series of shrewd kicks, win us yards at a time in some matches. Our 'threes' had their moments but rarely passed quickly and smoothly, letting the ball do the work, and sometimes tries were given away to the opposition through mistakes: however, Spencer, Bailey, Holland (an excellent game against Great Marlow), Thompson, and Floyd all proved reliable in defence on the whole. At full-back, Costello was usually, with a succession of good kicks or well-judged runs, an excellent spur to the rest of the team.

The side was well captained by Miller, Newton, and Glenister, and the other players owe much to their encouragement on the field, and their organisation off it.

(Other players: Bell, Edwards, Goff, Jefferies, Jones, Hunt, Simpson, and Walne.)

K.A.H.

JUNIOR RUGBY

Junior School Rugby has had a season of mixed success with some appalling results, compensated for by some very encouraging results. The U.16 lost many of their players to the senior teams, resulting in several disastrous defeats. When the full team was fielded, however, some excellent rugby was played, culminating in a 39—0 defeat of Henley School.

The U.15 had a fair season while the U.14 had a very disappointing time, only winning four games. The team suffers from a lack of height and strength resulting in very little possession. However, the side has potential and could prove itself over the next season or two.

To offset these relatively poor years, the U.13 and U.12 have had a considerable amount of success. The U.13 only lost four of their twelve games and convincingly beat Windsor 21—0. There are many promising individuals in this team and with the right guidance they could be outstanding. The U.12 had more fixtures than usual and showed themselves to be very strong. They lost

their first game 3—0 and thereafter did not lose a game, recording some excellent victories.

The future of rugby in the school is variable. The next two years should be very successful but unless many new boys are found, the following two years will be very lean. The increasing competition of hockey is also threatening to affect the standard of rugby in the school. The long-term prospects do not appear to be all that healthy.

Under 16: Won 5, Lost 6, Drawn 0.
Under 15: Won 7, Lost 9, Drawn 3.
Under 14: Won 4, Lost 14, Drawn 1.
Under 13: Won 8, Lost 4, Drawn 1.
Under 12 'A': Won 5, Lost 1, Drawn 0.
Under 12 'B': Won 1, Lost 1, Drawn 0.

1st XI HOCKEY

Played 30, Won 22, Drawn 1, Lost 7. Goals for 101, Against 31
Goalscorers: Jobses 31, Czerwinski 23, Staynor 14, Lowe 10, Rose 8
For the 1st XI this has been a season of records and failings. The record score was broken when St. Albans G.S. were annihilated by 14—0. The record for the number of goals in a season was broken after only eighteen matches. S. Jobses broke the individual goal-scoring record before Christmas. More wins have been recorded this season than in any previous season. But there have been failings. Twice as many matches have been lost this season as last, and our superiority in some aspects of the game has not always given us wins we deserved.

Cowin became first choice goalkeeper after only a couple of weeks of playing the game, and played so well that Stone was never really able to recover the place he lost through injury. Lord and Evans spent most of the season at full-back, though occasional reshuffles meant their playing at wing-half. Kern replaced Evans towards the end of the season and proved solid and reliable. The half-back line of Fogg, Cliff and Marrant was what one would expect of such experienced players. They all showed genuine class and reached a high level of performance. Rose kept the right-wing position for himself all season, and his speed was an asset. He should be a very useful player next year. Czerwinski in his first full season often showed a skill which promises even more from him in the years to come. His goals particularly proved a highlight of his performances. Jobses has been a sensible and relentless player and has earned himself the goal-scoring record for his instinctive play when near the goal. Staynor, the captain, has occasionally moved back to a more defensive position, but has still scored some useful goals. Lowe on the left-wing improved all the time and has

been a trifle unlucky, I feel, not to represent the County school-boys. Coe's limited opportunities for the first team have shown what an asset his useful skill must be for the 2nd XI. He should earn himself a more permanent place next year. Ross, Gore, Puddephatt, Lloyd, Hodgkins and Bolding have also stood in capably when required.

Staynor, Fogg and Marrant represented Bucks at U.22 level.

Staynor, Fogg, Marrant, Jobes, Cowin, Czerwinski, Cliff and Rose played for Bucks U.19.

Staynor and Fogg were selected to represent the South-West Counties U.19, as a result of which Staynor has been given an England Trial.

R. STAYNOR.

2nd XI HOCKEY

Played 15, Won 7, Drawn 2, Lost 6. Goals for 40, Against 26

The 2nd XI has had a somewhat varied season, winning well before Christmas, but rather struggling afterwards. However, this can be explained by the loss of certain players, notably Costello and Barker, at Christmas. In the second half of the season also, Kern, the captain, and Coe were often called in by the 1st XI, and their loss was considerable. Apart from these four, other 2nd XI players have more than carried their weight this year. Stone, in goal, has often been a rock behind the defence. Gravett's hitting has curiously resembled that of a golfer's, but has often broken up opposition attacks, and his full-back partnership with Puddephatt has been at times successful, and at others somewhat humorous. Chalmers, Lloyd and White have all played regularly, all with contrasting styles, and Kerr played in goal quite often. Others to have played are Hardy, Burke, Fry, Bolding, Reiss, Morris and Evans.

BOAT CLUB

As usual in this sport, the Christmas, and most of the Easter, term is solely taken up by training. However, the result of all this blood and sweat is usually worthwhile when the competition actually arrives. The 1st IV found this on March 23rd, when they raced in the Schools' Head of the River, and finished 5th. This proved enough to win the 'Restricted' division, and enough to push Radley College 2nd IV (half of their 1st VIII) to a three-second deficit. Moreover, it also gained mention in the *Daily Telegraph*, no mean feat, if you know their correspondent!

What it showed, in more widely comprehensible terms, is that this coming term should see the best IV we have yet put out, possibly the best in its class in the country. I do not think that is exaggeration. The other crews are also looking powerful; in

particular, the Colts 'A', who are looking immensely promising—only partly because of their stroke's size!

By the time this is published, we shall have raced at Abingdon, in the Head of the River race there, though with an altered crew, thanks to the Biology and Geography field trips. When the complete crew reappears, in the term, a few tins of silver polish might be a worthwhile investment.

I.A.B.

BASKETBALL

Record to date: Played 12, Won 8, Lost 4

After the successful seasons of previous years, inspired by the redoubtable Beasleys and Colleys, a new basis had to be formed for the school's first basketball team this season. All of last year's 'first five' had left, leaving P. Howland, J. Marcinkiewicz, G. Jarman and R. Moore to lay the foundations. M. Saunders and R. Thorne, through consistent practice, added their weight to the cause.

Under a cloud of apprehension, the team took on Woodside B.B.C., and with the aid of two old boys, won their first victory. Their next fixture was against Dr. Challoner's G.S., the old enemy, when the team hoped to prove their true worth. Helped by their opponents' relative lack of skill, the R.G.S. triumphed by the margin of thirty points to proceed into the next round of the Nationals. In order to increase confidence for the next hurdle, a fixture was arranged with Wycombe College and won by eight points.

However, their next opponents, the Pirates, brought the team's first downfall when they lost by two baskets in extra time. Yet in a return match, the Pirates were defeated by 52—45 and the team went into the Nationals game with hopes high. Southern G.S. were to provide the opposition—and what opposition! They had won the Nationals, the highest honour in schools' basketball, the previous year, and contained many excellent players who were well versed in the skills of competitive basketball. The R.G.S. began confidently enough and though never in the lead, the deficit was only one or two baskets. However the match was fated, for soon after the tip-off a power-cut occurred, not infrequent in those troubled times, and Southern took advantage of the bad light to increase their lead. By the final whistle they had scored 54 points to our 35 and the R.G.S. were not to continue in a competition in which they had already proceeded further than on any previous occasion.

The highlight of the season was our victory in the Bucks League Final against Slough, by 75 points to 31. The School has carried

off the trophy for the third consecutive year, and as yet no other school has had its name engraved on the trophy since its inauguration.

As the figures below illustrate, the team relies greatly on the tall Marcinkiewicz for many of its baskets. Jarman, although small for a basketball player, has adapted himself well to the team's needs and has been consistent without being spectacular. We all hope he will recover from his injury in time to play against Slough G.S. Saunders, at guard, has developed well throughout the season. His great asset is his ability to gain the defensive rebounds and, allied to his spectacular long-shots, he has become an accomplished player. Perhaps, though, the player who has made the greatest improvement during the season is R. Thorne. Although still only a fifth-former, he has managed to hold down a place in the 'first five' and score 25 points in one match. The substitutes could be chosen from A. Clarke, M. Spencer, M. Newton, R. Moore, S. Wright and K. Beare, and all gave of their best when required. Clarke and Spencer, who are both under 16, should develop into even better players when they become more experienced.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. Stubbs on behalf of all those who played basketball this season for the great deal of effort and time he has devoted to the development of the game in the school.

Full colours were awarded to: G. Jarman, J. Marcinkiewicz and R. Moore.

Half-colours were awarded to M. Saunders, R. Thorne, A. Clarke, M. Spencer and M. Newton.

P. HOWLAND.

MARATHON

It was very noticeable how a number of boarders were walking with their legs straight and twinges of agony on their ever-cheerful faces on Sunday 4th of April. All this is probably due to the fact that on Saturday 3rd of April they succeeded in playing a 12-hour basketball marathon being sponsored to raise money for the Oxfam charity.

The game began, after lengthy preparation, at 7.15 a.m., and continued throughout the day at a very lively and fatiguing pace. The presence of many spectators was a valuable spur to the squad of 20 players of whom all but two managed to complete the 12 hours. Many thanks from all the players go to Marie Anne, Julia, Deborah and Barbara who prepared the nourishment and refreshment for the tiring players, and I have it on good authority that you are an excellent masseuse of ankles and knees, Marie Anne. Thank you, too, Mr. Samways, for all your help in preparation and giving up your Saturday for us.

Now the aches subside and we have the memory of an enjoyable experience. So far the venture has been very successful, thanks to the enthusiasm and co-operation of all concerned, especially Mark Newton who excelled himself in the organisation and we hope is looking after the money safely for us. Now I hope the collection of sponsor money goes smoothly and efficiently, as the raising of money is after all what it was all about.

W. F. HARRISON.

U.14 BASKETBALL

Played 12, Won 11, Lost 1. Points for 464, Against 233

This has been a highly successful and enjoyable season which reached its climax with the defeat of Pembroke School by 60—36 in the final of the Bucks Championship.

The strength of the squad has been built around the nucleus of boys from last year's team, but there has been loyal and very able support from the other members. Training and practice sessions have been held twice weekly throughout the Christmas and Spring terms, and much of the success and also the excellent spirit within the team, must be attributed to the seriousness with which these have been taken by all. The success of the season must also be attributed to Peter Hoddinott who has been a very able captain both on and off the court.

Although there has not always been the strongest of opposition during the season, the strength and potential of the team has been very apparent. The outlook for next season is clearly very promising.

Team from: P. Hoddinott (capt.), S. Clarke, R. Andrews, C. Keen, M. Bradshaw, S. Baskott, S. Pearce, J. Pearce, R. Edwards, R. Smith, J. Child, D. Bucknell.

E.L.W.

THE U.14 BUCKS FINAL

R.G.S. 60, Pembroke 26

This was a satisfying end to the season with the U.14's winning the Bucks League comfortably.

The game started slowly with only six baskets being scored in the first ten minutes; however, we soon warmed up and by half-time were winning 27—10.

At the beginning of the second half, Pembroke began to play man-to-man. The second five were inexperienced in such tactics, and Pembroke closed the gap to three points in four minutes. Then, with a time-out and substitution the first five were reinstalled and, knowing how to combat this, quickly showed superiority and drew easily away with C. Keen scoring 30 points and R. D. Andrews 14.

P. J. HODDINOTT.

BADMINTON

Although this year's first VI was both young and inexperienced, the badminton team has enjoyed much unexpected success, such as the defeat of Watford, who were last year's champions of the West London Schools League, and the team can look forward to a very good season next year, when all but one of the present team will be returning.

All three of this year's regular pairs were of roughly equal playing ability. Cannell and Bergson were the only pair to play together throughout the season, and they did well to reach the semi-finals of the Bucks championships. Smith and Wilson also settled down well towards the end of the season, whereas Spencer and Tappin did not play often enough together to get consistently good results. This is largely due to the lack of facilities for practice, there being only one court and one evening for first VI practices. The juniors also suffer in this respect, but even so, it is noteworthy that a fourth-former, Bergson, is already playing for the first team. The club is still flourishing and with Mr. Hillier coming next year to help Mr. White-Taylor, everyone can look forward to one of the best ever seasons for the badminton team.

M. SPENCER.

CHESS CLUB

		P	W	D	L	F	A
Seniors ....	....	16	12	2	2	70½	32½
U.16 ....	....	21	13	2	6	92	93
U.14 ....	....	11	8	2	1	53	28
<i>Sunday Times</i>		4	3	0	1	17½	6½
Bucks League		6	4	1	1	23½	12½

During the past two terms, the Chess Club has continued to enjoy a large membership, and a large degree of success, as can be seen from the results.

Despite continually fielding weakened sides in the friendly matches, and the additional blow of Saunders and Stevenson leaving at Christmas along with Chapman, who joined us at the beginning of the year, the senior team has won nearly all its matches, and several of the U.16 team have gained valuable experience in the senior team, more than holding their own in their matches. The U.16 and U.14 teams have played consistently well throughout the season although, owing to lack of opposition (which is increasingly becoming a hindrance to our fixture list), they have not had many good schools to play.

In the *Sunday Times*, the school was unfortunately drawn in a different and more difficult group than last year, and were beaten in the semi-final of the zone by a strong team from Bedford Modern School. In our first venture for some seasons into the

Bucks League, the senior team have played well against good opposition, and look set for promotion to Division I.

The House competition, which was vastly changed from last year in form, was won by Youens. Second were Arnison, third Fraser, and fourth Tucker. In the annual Staff match, the School won $7\frac{1}{2}$ — $3\frac{1}{2}$, which shows that certain members of the opposition must know how to play.

Our thanks, as usual, go to Mr. I. R. Clark for his endless enthusiasm and interest, and also to Messrs. Gibson and Embrey for their help on several occasions. My thanks to all members of every team who have made this such a successful year.

Full colours were awarded to I. M. Waddington.

Half-colours were awarded to: D. Edwards, R. Newton, A. Pearn, P. Austin and R. Lockwood.

CROSS-COUNTRY

A very lean season. The best thing about it has been the promise of great future achievements. We started the Autumn term with Ian Johnson as captain, ably supported by J. Crowley, J. Planas, S. Jenkins, all of whom received their full colours, and Adam Hardy who has improved steadily through the year and won for himself half-colours. Hudson, Sherriff and Solomon also ran bravely, but our full team was not strong enough to win any of the major races.

Early in the season a small squad of first and second form boys trained hard for a match at St. Albans where they competed well against two other schools. On that day too, three other teams represented R.G.S., and although the success was not great, our enthusiasm for the sport shone through undeniably.

Our strength lies in the rump of sixth-formers, mentioned above and the potential of our fifth-form runners, Humphrey, Hansell, Hills, Town and Waller who have put in some promising appearances from time to time.

Nearly all the big relays were won by the supermen from Haberdashers Askes, Elstree, and ours was no exception. Unfortunately the day was spoiled by torrential rain and the beauties of Hughenden Park were not appreciated. The trophy, which Peter Berks donated to the school three years ago, had been stolen from St. Nicholas' School, Northwood, and we had difficulty finding a satisfactory replacement.

J. Crowley who took over the captaincy, when Ian Johnson left, and S. Jenkins were chosen to represent the county. I look forward eagerly to next season when I feel sure that the first six, or even the first eight will merit this honour.

R.W.B.

TENNIS CLUB

Since July 1970 several events have taken place which augur well for the future of tennis at the R.G.S.—those cross-country runners who have glanced through the now rather large gap in the School House hedge, may have puzzled over a solitary bulldozer eating its way into the rhubarb, sprouts, and chickweed, and even that hallowed path well-known to the Sixth Form! After over a decade of heartbreak for a succession of tennis masters and teams, the vital third hard court has arrived, and should be ready for use by early May. We thank especially the Headmaster for his efforts in this direction.

We have also gained the services of the Beaconsfield Lawn Tennis School for coaching our 1st VI, and look forward to a summer under the well-known, and very successful, ministrations of the Principal, Miss S. Livingstone. The Public Schools L.T.A. have also provided a grant for junior coaching in the school.

We have lost our first pair—Ian Johnson and Richard Simons—which does leave a large gap to fill; but we will, I'm sure, be well served by the new captain Guy Johnson (regularly in the 1st VI since the 2nd Form!). Other colours returning are David Gillespie, Chris Newby and Johnny Lowe. We have a large number of boys, certainly of 2nd VI standard, who should provide us with a good reserve when the 'A' and 'O' Levels call on our established players.

Finally, what is most encouraging is the sheer pitch of enthusiasm shown by the 1st and 2nd forms for the sport—tennis will continue to be a major, and popular, game at the R.G.S. '*ad infinitum*'.

K.A.H.

CRICKET

Unfortunately the Summer term is somewhat shorter than usual this year. However, most of the traditional fixtures have been retained and there are one or two new ventures.

In July the 1st XI are playing a two-day match against Emanuel School—an advantage here being that junior teams will accompany the seniors and fulfil new fixtures.

It is to be hoped the U.12's will enjoy a successful season. There are a number of fixtures after Whitsun for both 'A' and 'B' XIs, including matches against Tiffin School.

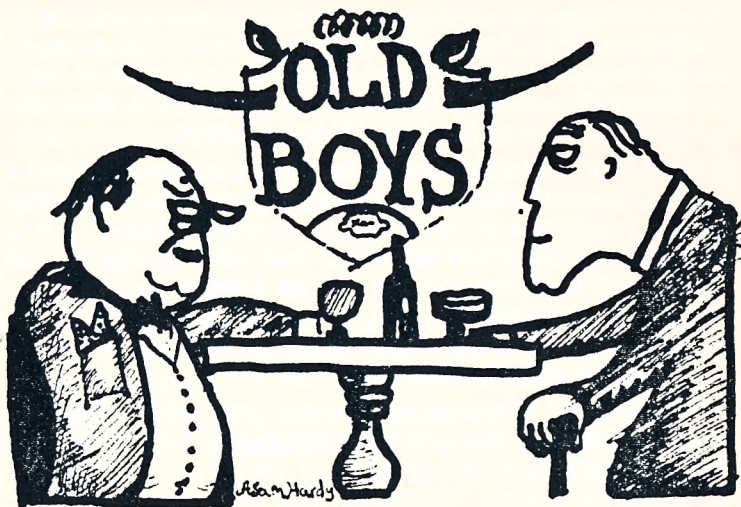
In addition to inter-school fixtures, a short coaching course for juniors will be held immediately before Whitsun.

Finally, in the first week of the summer holidays, we are entertaining a school side from Skanderborg, Denmark, where our senior team was so hospitably received last summer. The team will be staying with us for four days, playing two local matches, before travelling to London.

J.F.S.

HOUSE COMPETITION

			Arnison	Fraser	Tucker	Youens
Chess	....	....	3	1	2	5
Basketball	....	....	12	20	12	6
Gymnastics (Senior)	....	....	2	1	5	3
(Mid)	....	....	3	5	2	1
(Junior)	....	....	2	1	5	3
Rugby 1	....	....	2	5	1	3
2	....	....	1	5	2	3
3	....	....	3	1	5	2
4	....	....	2	5	1	3
Senior	....	....	6	4	10	2
Cross-Country (Senior)	....	....	0	6	10	0
(Mid)	....	....	4	6	2	10
(Junior)	2	10	6	4
Shooting	3	5	2	1
Badminton	1	3	2	5
Hockey (Senior)	5	5	2	10
Bridge	5	1	2	3
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			56	84	71	64



THE OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CLUB

The Annual General Meeting and the Annual Dinner 1971 were to have been held on March 20th but the postal strike made it impossible to circularise Old Boys in good time. They will now be held on May 22nd and the reports on them will appear in the next edition of *The Wycombiensian*.

DEATHS

Masters:

Mr. P. L. JONES (1916–64). On December 22nd 1970, in Amer-sham Hospital, aged 78 years.

Mr. Peter Lewis Jones was born in Carmarthenshire and educated at Carmarthen Grammar School. He gained his B.A. degree in Mathematics at Aberystwyth University College in 1913. He came to the Royal Grammar School in 1916. He served in the Artists' Rifles from 1917 to 1919 and then returned to become resident assistant housemaster at School House under the Headmaster, Mr. G. W. Arnison. When he married in 1925 he left the boarding house but in addition to his teaching, he took on the job of Headmaster's secretary and careers master. When Mr. W. J. Bartle retired in 1935 he became Honorary Secretary of the Old Boys' Club. To this he gave his constant and devoted attention. He was Headmaster of the Junior School formed at 'Uplyme' after the last war and after his official retirement he taught in the mornings at the School until 1964 by which time he had completed 50 years as a schoolmaster.

On December 29th many friends, colleagues and Old Boys gathered at St. Margaret's Church, Tylers Green, to pay their last respects to him. At the service the chairman of the Old Wycombiensians' Club, G. W. RAY (1917-23), paid tribute to the memory of Mr. 'Piljy' Jones. He said:

'Mr. P. L. Jones was a dedicated and sincere tutor and had that rare and great ability of respecting other people's thoughts and minds and of being highly respected himself. His academic teaching was first class but his building of young people's characters by this mutual respect was unique, not only in the classroom and on the playing field and at all School functions but also after one left school. He was then a constant and kind friend.'

Mr. P. L. Jones leaves a widow, Mrs. Phyllis Jones, who will continue to live at 'Nutwith Cottage', Tylers Green, with her sister Mrs. Marjorie Elsom.

Old Boys:

J. D. BENNETT (1919-23). On July 22nd 1970, at St. John's Hospital, London, aged 63 years.

John Duncan Bennett was at the Royal Grammar School with his brother V. A. Bennett (1919-23). He stood up to his three years of illness with great fortitude.

L. S. KENNEDY (1959-64). On August 17th 1970, killed in a car accident in France, aged 22 years.

Laurie Kennedy was principal flautist with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra when he died so tragically. The Press Officer of the orchestra said of him:

'He was an outstanding young player, one of immense promise, and his death will be a great loss to the musical life of the nation.'

He had his first flute lessons at the School from Mr. Geoffrey Hall. He also appeared on the stage and was the original flute player in the Old Vic production of *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*.

He was an only child and we extend our sympathy to his parents at 'The White Cottage', Speen.

R. H. NORRIS (1904-10). On June 8th 1970, in the St. George's Nursing Home, Milford-on-Sea, Hants, aged 77 years.

Reginald Henry Norris joined the old County and Westminster Bank when he left school and rose to be Premises Manager of the Westminster Bank, Threadneedle Street, in 1941, the youngest official ever appointed to this particular

job. During the war it was a tremendous struggle for him to keep going with very many branches bombed in one night—but customers were always accommodated even if it was through a hole in the Bank wall. His health suffered and he had to retire at the age of 54.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Olive G. Norris, who lives at 'Bykanor', Barton Court Road, New Milton, Hants.

J. H. READER (1918–22). On December 10th 1970, in Tyndall Hospital, Aylesbury, aged 66 years.

John Hemmings Reader was a Life Member of the Old Boys' Club as was his father John William Reader, the Aylesbury auctioneer. He was at the School as a boarder in Mr. Arnison's time and was always interested in the School's activities. Ill health dogged him for many years and he could not take an active part, but he read *The Wycombiensian* from cover to cover. He had the greatest respect for Mr. P. L. Jones. He was one of Tring's best known personalities. He lived there for 32 years, retiring from the National Provincial Bank 11 years ago after 37 years on the staff. For 25 years he held the office of honorary treasurer of the Tring Parochial Church Council.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Kathleen G. Reader, who lives at 10 Grove Park, Tring, Herts, and a son and daughter.

N. H. THEED (1912–19). In February 1971, very suddenly at his home 'Mentmore', The Greenway, High Wycombe, where he lived alone, aged 69 years.

Norman Harry Theed was a popular Wycombe personality and sportsman. He played for the High Wycombe Cricket Club and Hockey Club for many years. He was one of only eight honorary life members of the Cricket Club and a member of the Bucks County Cricket Club.

Before his retirement he worked at the London Stock Exchange as a stock jobber.

He was a devoted and generous supporter of the School, he was a foundation governor and a faithful member of the Old Boys' Committee. He will be greatly missed.

OLD BOYS' NOTES

ALDRIDGE, M. J. (1944–48) has been appointed manager of the big Kodak Processing Laboratories in New Zealand. After leaving school he gained a Higher National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering at the High Wycombe College of

Technology and Art. He started his working life with Broom and Wade Ltd. and went on to British Tools and Pressings in Slough. He joined Kodak (New Zealand) in London in 1968. He has gained rapid promotion and has been elected a Fellow of the Institute of Works Managers in New Zealand.

AMIN, A. (1964-69) is very happy at Nottingham University. He has passed his Physics Part I, plays hockey and bridge and would be pleased to show anyone from the School around the University.

ANDERSON, N. (1962-69) passed his 1st year Civil Engineering examinations at U.W.I.S.T. Cardiff and last Easter went into industry for six months. During the summer he worked on the M.40 extension around Beaconsfield as a Site Engineer.

BECKET, G. A. (1936-40) received a Christmas card from C. G. F. WILLIAMS (1935-40) an old friend from 5 UM days. Cliff Williams seems to have got on very well in America where he lives at 324 Roger Avenue, Westfield, New Jersey 07090. He is the Vice-President (Finance) and Treasurer of Transamerican Trailer Transport Inc.—very exacting work but quite remunerative. Gerald Becket has, however, gone one better—he has already retired. His brother, L. M. BECKET (1953-57) has a hardware shop (Hampshires) in Wendover.

BENNETT, V. A. (1919-23) writes from Dorset, Vermont, U.S.A. He visited England three times last year and was able to see his brother frequently before he died.

On May 28th Victor Bennett attended a banquet of The Beefeater Club in the Officers' Dining Room of The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, H.M. Tower of London. The gourmet dinner beggared description and The Ceremony of the Keys he will never forget.

He still does consultancy work but spends more and more time in Vermont—Dorset could well be a small village in England. On his trips to England he usually manages to see J. W. K. TAYLOR (1918-24) and on his last visit he spoke with Mr. P. L. Jones.

BERKS, J. G. (1961-68) and his brother P. M. (1961-68) explored Europe in a Land Rover last summer and covered 4,000 miles mostly along the Mediterranean and Adriatic coasts. They spent some time in Bulgaria which they found very interesting but also depressing—people seemed frightened to talk. They finish their degree courses in Manchester this summer.

BONNETT, R. C. (1958-64) left to follow a four-year sandwich course in Chemistry at Hatfield College of Technology, where he gained an Honours Degree. He was then offered a place at Warwick University on a Business Study and Operational Research Course. He followed this successfully and obtained his M.Sc. Last November he joined a firm of manufacturing chemists. He was married in April 1970 and lives in Hitchin.

CHORLEY, S. I. (1958-66) completed his law degree at Oxford and is now working for an M.Sc. in Town and Country Planning.

CORNWELL, B. (1960-67) graduated from Imperial College in Physics and is now working on production and development for E.M.I. Electronics.

DODGSON, A. (1913-18) writes faithfully once a year. He and his wife spent six weeks in Canada last summer with their younger daughter. West Vancouver seems to be a lovely place—one day he fished for salmon in a boat in the sunshine and the next he was 6,000 feet up in the mountains strolling through flower-covered alpine meadows. He will soon be visiting his other daughter in Stockholm. Dodgson at 70 lives an extremely full and almost exciting life but he says that he finds far more interesting the achievements of the young Old Boys who are obviously upholding the name of the R.G.S. (three letters which have always meant so much to him).

EDWARDS, J. P. J. (1947-54) sent his brother's C. M. J. EDWARDS (1946-53) new address in Dollard des Ormeaux 980, Quebec, and gave news of himself. He has been working with a Canadian company of Consulting Engineers in London for nearly two years and is now living in Watford (near the old rival Watford G.S.—as he puts it).

ELLERTON, J. J. (1957-62) is proving elusive at the moment. When last contacted he was on an assignment in Texas, but mail sent to Texaco Exploration Company, Calgary, Alberta, would be sent on to wherever he was.

ELMS, P. R. (1940-44) has been appointed company secretary of Jacksons Bourne End Ltd. and subsidiary companies.

FARMER, A. S. (1958-66) has no news except that his Ph.D. on Scampi is going well.

FARMER, P. B. (1957-63), D.Phil. Oxon, has gone for 18 months to the Albert Einstein Medical Centre, Dept. Bio-organic Chemistry, York and Tabor Roads, Philadelphia, Pa. 19141. He is working on the effects of anti-biotics.

FLETCHER, P. R. (1960-62) left Bahrein in January 1970 for two months leave in England. In April he sailed for Australia and after a five-week period at the Training School in Melbourne to learn about upside-down meteorology he was posted to Queensland. On his way to Brisbane he spent three days in Sydney and visited M. J. SOUTHAM (1951-57) who came out there four years ago.

HADDON, J. S. (1943-47) writes from Whyalla, South Australia, to say that he has successfully completed his S.A. Institute of Technology Certificate of Ordinary Metallurgy. He is working in the B.H.P. Foundry Dept. and he is particularly proud of his firm's achievements.

HALL, E. (1944-53), a senior pilot with Trans World Airlines, called in recently. He is still a big man but with a soft American accent now. He married an English stewardess and their son Christopher was born on October 9th 1970. They have a beautiful home on Long Island—15 Blinker Light Road, Stony Brook, New York.

HALLASEY, F. (1913-19) writes from 400 East Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60611. He is in charge of the Foreign Patents section of the Borg-Warner Corporation in Chicago.

HATHAWAY, I. R. (1963-65). After two years at a Comprehensive school in Slough, Hathaway is now teaching at the Grove School for Boys, St. Leonards, as 2nd master in the English Department. He finds it a pleasant change to rural surroundings after the urban pressures of Slough. He became engaged to another teacher last New Year.

HEAPS, D. I. (1963-67) has been awarded an Honours Degree in Electronics and Electrical Engineering at Birmingham University.

HEDGELAND, D. R. S. (1959-65) wrote last August to say that he had finished at Cambridge, for the first time round anyway, and was returning to Derby to work for Rolls-Royce. He had just returned from shooting at Bisley where the School had taken part in the Public Schools' Veterans' Competition and finished 12th out of 70 entries. Hedgeland would very much like to hear from any Old Boys still shooting so that he can perhaps raise two teams next year. He called in at School in April 1971, no longer working for Rolls-Royce, but with some very good irons in the fire. His brother N. M. S. HEDGELAND (1961-68) has finished at Ealing and is working for Whitakers, of *Almanac* fame, in London.

HODGE, W. F. (1952-56). If you watched a B.B.C. T.V. film showing Mohammed Ali's preparations for his fight with Joe Frazier, you might have noticed that Frank Hodge was responsible for all the camera work.

HORLEY, G. F. (1920-28). 'Gerry' Horley, who has been Secretary of the Old Wycombiensians' Lodge for 10 years, retired as Headmaster of Chalfont St. Peter's School recently and is now living in Lee-on-Solent. Members of the Lodge are very indebted to him for all he has done. Pending the election of a new Secretary in October, the Assistant Secretary, J. P. LORD (1934-38) is acting as Secretary and Old Boys and Staff requiring information concerning the Lodge should contact him at 10 Keep Hill Drive, High Wycombe, Tel. H.W. 23339. The latest Old Boy to join is P. F. RAY (1926-34) who makes the long journey to Meetings from Chard in Somerset. If the recent applications from a considerable number of Old Boys are accepted then it is understood that the Lodge will have a good Rugger team!

JONES, A. W. M. (1960-63) is back from West Africa where he worked in the Standard Bank there. He is now in Hull with the U.D.T. Finance Company. His brother P. G. JONES (1961-68) is a Panda car driver with the Thames Valley Police in Abingdon. He hopes to join the C.I.D. when his training is complete.

JONES, F. A. (1957-64) rolled up to see the Hon. Sec. in his M.G.B. G.T. plus a charming young wife. The Hon. Sec. in the years 1957-64 had often told him he was going nowhere fast—'Frankie' Jones made his point! He is now living in Langley, works for a computer consultancy in London and spends most of his spare time helping with youth club activities or under his car.

JONES, G. D. (1955-61) recovered from his illness in Australia and in order to make a financial recovery as well he went to work in a bauxite mine out on an aboriginal reserve. He got his basic pay plus heat and isolation money. The company supplied air-conditioned accommodation and food and there was a beach near—but plenty of sharks too.

He has now left Australia in the direction of Japan. His last news was that he intended to drop off in Hong Kong and spend a few weeks with D. A. ('Sandy') GLASS (1956-61).

JUNIPER, P. (1964-68) has settled with his family in Poole, Dorset, and passed his first accountancy examinations.

KEFFORD, M. H. (1959–65) is now married and living in a flat half-way between the New Territories and Hong Kong. He has seen ex-R.G.S. master Mr. Garry Roberts who is very prosperous, living in a four-bedroom flat and driving an M.G.B. G.T. He also meets D. A. GLASS who is an accountant out there. The new government at home in England has given a new lease of life to the Brigade of Gurkhas and Kefford, home on leave last October, was in good spirits. He had just finished a two-and-a-half month trek in East Nepal paying pensions to ex-Gurkha soldiers. These ex-soldiers collect a year's pension at fixed points along the route and then go back to their villages where they can live fairly well for another year. Kefford, with two Gurkha officers and six soldiers armed with shotguns (just to frighten!) carried 3 million rupees on this tour.

LEVIN, D. S. (1961–67) has won a minor Harmsworth Entrance Exhibition at the Middle Temple. He completes his finals in Law at Cambridge this year.

MILES, J. T. (1942–46) has been appointed to the editorial chair of the *Daily Mirror* at the age of 40. He started in journalism in 1946 fresh from the R.G.S. and joined the *Daily Mirror* in 1953 (he was given a three months trial as a feature writer). 'Atticus' of *The Sunday Times* says that Miles has been responsible for much of the change which has raised the tone of the paper. *The Times* on September 17th 1970 wrote of him: 'He is a persistent and dogged professional. The reward which now awaits him, feel his friends, seldom goes to so nice a man.' Tony Miles says that he went to the Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe, which was straining to be a public school.

MITCHENALL, N. D. (1961–66) has returned to live in Bucks and wrote a short letter from 'Cobblers Cottage', Chalfont St. Peter.

MOORE, J. E. (1961–66) passed his LL.B. finals in June 1970 and has now started his two years Articles with one of the big City firms of solicitors.

MORRISON, M. F. (1960–67) writes from London, Ontario. He is following an M.A. course in Classics at the University of Western Ontario. He is very impressed by the enormous support which students give to their sports teams. University stadiums are packed for all the big games. Morrison ran in the Cross-Country team in the autumn and trained harder

than ever before but it was not enough to get him into the team for the Canadian Varsity Championships. Snow puts an end to all outdoor running—they've had snow since November—130 inches of it. He came out to Ontario via New York where he stayed with J. S. THROWER (1966–68), a former R.G.S. cross-country runner who was spending the summer working in New York. S. THROWER (1966–68) was in the U.S.A. at the same time making a living by selling ice-cream. Morrison returns to England in July and has no desire to live in the U.S.A. or Canada.

PATTINSON, I. R. H. (1962–69), studying Law at Pembroke College, Cambridge, is to be congratulated on gaining a blue for golf in his first term. His brother M. R. PATTINSON (1953–60) is now Head of the Biology Department at Rugby School.

RACKSTRAW, T. (1957–65) has now passed part II of the Graduateship of the Royal Institute of Chemistry and is working in the Quality Control Dept. of Merck, Sharp and Dohne Ltd. in Hoddesdon. He and his wife have moved to Buntingford, Herts.

RENNIE, K. J. (1956–61) called in at School when returning from his honeymoon. He was married last November at St. James' Church, Christleton, Chester, to Miss Caroline Mary Dally. He is still a serving member of the T.A. V.R. with the 4th (U) Bn. Parachute Regiment and attended annual camp last year at Sennelager, Germany. He and his wife will live in Hoole, Chester.

SCRUTON, R. V. (1954–61) is for the moment a fellow at Peterhouse, Cambridge. He has made some success of writing revues on works of Philosophy for *The Spectator*.

SEYMOUR, R. J. (1961–64) is still at Ferranti's on computer work and frequently goes to Holland for the firm. His brother W. J. SEYMOUR (1961–66) is departmental manager at Marks and Spencer in Ilford.

SIMPSON, P. F. (1959–65) left Oxford last summer and misses it very much. He was at the College of Law until last February when he completed his Part II Law Society Examination. He has got articles with a firm of City solicitors of Stephenson, Harwood and Tatham, who are pretty substantial and where he should get a very varied experience.

SNODIN, D. N. (1959–66). David Snodin's play *A Game Called Arthur* was put on at the Edinburgh Festival last summer. Snodin said he wrote it because it gave him the biggest part and enabled him to hold a pretty girl for one-and-a-half hours. At the time Harold Hobson of *The Sunday Times* said that he had a voice of delicate and powerful range and of devastating attack. He predicted that fame might well come to Snodin. On March 7th 1971 Harold Hobson had this to say about Snodin's play, now on at the Royal Court Theatre: '*A Game Called Arthur* is that rare thing, a modern tragedy, and as tragedy should, it braces and strengthens the spirit.'

STEVENS, D. W. (1931–38). Denis Stevens, Professor of Music at Columbia University in the City of New York, was good enough to send the Hon. Sec. a card from Geneva where he is on leave and working on a book.

SULLIVAN, J. V. (1950–55) is now the Bucks, Beds and Northants representative of the University Life Assurance Society, 34 Market Square, Aylesbury. He is still a keen cricketer and captained Kimble C.C. last summer.

SWEETING, C. (1958–63) resigned from Shell-Mex and B.P. Ltd. and studied full time for a year in Business Management. He then spent a two-month holiday touring the U.S.A. and Canada. On returning he accepted a job with International Computers Ltd. as a computer salesman. He captains the Tabards R.F.C. and has bumped into C. FEWTRELL (1959–65) and R. FOUNTAIN (1959–65) on the field—both seem to be doing well and enjoying life.

TELFORD, A. H. (1959–66) left Hamble in 1968 and was with B.O.A.C. for two-and-a-half years on Boeing 707's. He then changed to B.E.A. and in October was on a Trident course. He hoped to be line flying by January 1971. R. D. HELYARD (1964–66) and R. J. S. CALCUTT (1959–66) who were on his course at Hamble are still flying for B.O.A.C. on VC10's and 707's respectively. In October he was renting a large house along with three other pilots and two stewardesses. Hamble, here we come!

TERRY, R. C. (1943–49) has become manager of the National Westminster Bank in Beaconsfield.

THIRLWAY, R. H. (1945–50) writes from Derby giving news of the birth of his son Taymour Henry on 19 September 1970. His brother T. P. THIRLWAY (1954–58) married Miss Margaret Malcolm on 11 July 1970.

THOMAS, A. F. (1960-66) has been awarded the Sheffield Polytechnic Associateship in Metallurgy.

THORNE, R. W. (1951-57). Lt. Cdr. Thorne joined H.M.S. *Glamorgan*, a guided missile destroyer, last March. He will serve on her for about two years.

UPPARD, P. G. (1957-62) made his London debut at the Wigmore Hall on 30th September 1970. The music critic of the *Telegraph* wrote:

'Peter Uppard played musically and attractively last night, tackling the problems of the Liszt Sonata sensibly and poetically. Some of the more taxing bravura threw him a little off course on one or two occasions but the overriding impression was of large scale thinking and of clarity in articulating textures, which brasher artists often sacrifice to effect. His Haydn's Sonata No. 49 in E flat was immediately instinct with musicianship.'

Many of Uppard's friends from the School were there, to wish him well in the punishing career that lies ahead of him. J. R. H. HERRING (1953-59) was there with his head full of space research unmanned satellites. He has been responsible for putting a solar X-ray telescope in a satellite. S. MERINGTON (1956-63) was cheerful. He has fled from Modern Languages and found refuge in Town Planning with Islington Borough Council. P. JONES (1957-64) is now a jobber on the Stock Exchange. R. WATSON (1958-63) is a professional photographer with a studio in Hanson Street, W.1. Others present were Peter Fry, M.P., Paul Roberts, Nicholas Simons, Christopher Griffiths, Clifton Hughes, D. Payne, B. J. Brindley, L. R. Berryman, Peter Merrington, M. J. Payne and of course M. R. Horrex, as flamboyant as ever.

WAKEFIELD, D. A. (1958-65) flew out to H.M.S. *Fearless*, an assault ship with helicopters, last year and stayed for a while with M. H. Kefford in Hong Kong. When H.M.S. *Fearless* went to Bahrein in the Persian Gulf, Flying Officer G. A. MONAGHAN (1959-66) dropped in by helicopter. Wakefield, whose eyes were not up to standard for ordinary submarines, now hopes to join a Polaris submarine, possibly in 1973. Polaris subs have no surface watchkeeping, and his eyes are quite good enough for this work.

WALKER, M. G. (1945-52) has been awarded the degree of M.Sc. in Entomology from Birkbeck College, University of London. Old Boys will remember that he went to Cambridge many years ago as a linguist with an Open Award. He found out later that he was not fulfilling himself and started from scratch again to become a scientist.

WILKS, T. G. (1934-39). Captain T. G. Wilks wrote from Penzance in November to ask for his School Certificate results. He took his examination in December 1939 and the Headmaster's secretary found them. During the war he was evacuated from Burma as a casualty and finished up in hospital alongside R. L. CUTLER (1932-38). Later while commanding a company in India one of the McQueen boys came out to him as a subaltern. Wilks has been back in Cornwall three years and has met Mr. Stanley Aldridge who taught him English at the R.G.S.

WINTER, P. E. (1960-67) has completed his Part I at Cambridge and Part II looms up in a few weeks. He has been specialising this last year in Greek Lyric Poetry and Latin Erotic Elegy. Early last summer he did a stint at Wycombe Hospital as a porter to prepare himself financially for a trip to Iran to climb the 18,934 ft. Mt. Demarend.

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