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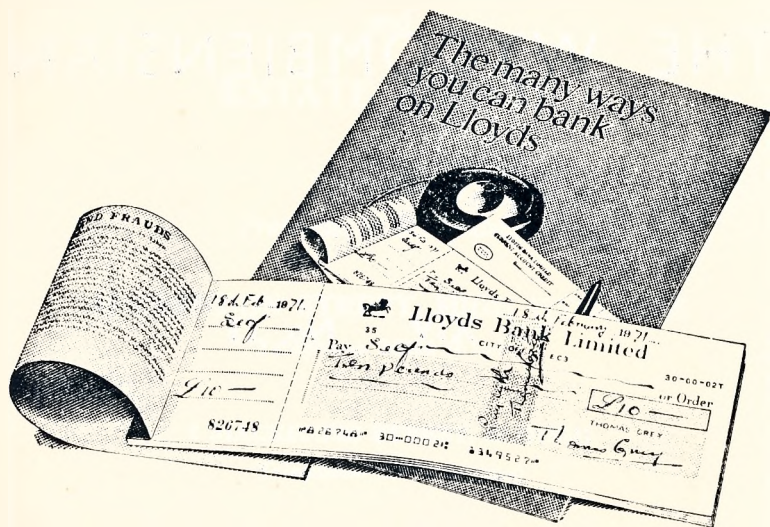
INVENTORIES AND INSURANCES

# THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

Vol. XIV      No. 13

MAY, 1972

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*The Gondoliers*



RUGBY 1ST XV 1971—2

*Back row:* G. D. Long, J. R. Woodbridge, J. A. Sunley, D. I. Wicks, A. K. C. Wood, A. G. Miller, D. J. Stubbs Esq.

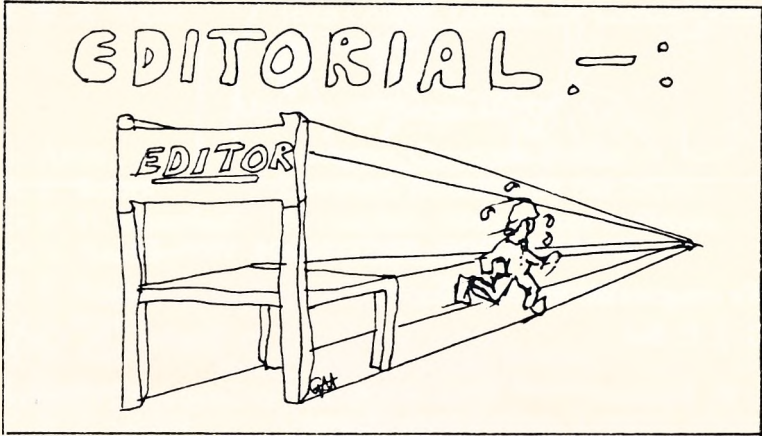
*Middle row:* R. S. Shearer, T. P. M. Carroll, M. Saunders, D. J. Howland, J. W. Lewis, J. M. Dowell, R. A. Moore.

*Front row:* J. L. Vernon, G. D. Morris, J. W. R. Walne, R. E. Nicol.



# THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

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



This issue has attempted to adhere to three precepts previously untried in R.G.S. literature. The first has been to dispense with a tyrannical overall Editor, and leave each of those formally indicted below with complete freedom of action within their appointed sections. Whether this has been successful is for you to judge (leniently). The second has been to resist the temptation to which some recent numbers have succumbed to include a liberal slice of the collected poetical and critical works of those directly involved at the expense of the wealth of talent with the misfortune not to be on joking terms with the Editors. The third has been to confine the Editorial burlings to an aesthetically delightful 119 words.

Those responsible for this and what follows were: HENRY RUSSELL and NEILL MONAGHAN who conglomerated the Poetry and Original Composition section; JOHN LEWIS who extracted Games Reports from the innumerable captains; DAVID LOWE who edited the Society Reports; and GRANT HOLLAND who designed the cover and did the incidental drawings.

# SCHOOL NOTES.



## EXAMINATION SUCCESSES 1971-72

We congratulate the following on gaining Open Awards:

G. J. E. Bell	Open Scholarship in English, St. Catherine's College, Oxford
J. W. Burrows	Open Scholarship in Geography, Hertford College, Oxford
I. Cole	Open Scholarship in Natural Sciences, Churchill College, Cambridge
S. R. Crisp	Open Scholarship in Modern Languages, St. Catherine's College, Oxford
C. J. Head	Open Exhibition in History, Churchill College, Cambridge
C. R. Rollason	Open Scholarship in English, Trinity College, Cambridge
D. S. O. Tinn	Open Exhibition in Natural Sciences, at King's College, Cambridge

Places at Oxford and Cambridge for 1972:

M. T. Barlow	Pembroke College, Oxford, for Natural Science
W. N. Champion-Smith	St. John's College, Cambridge, for Economics
W. P. Cannell	Peterhouse, Cambridge, for Engineering Science (for 1973)
P. D. Evans	Pembroke College, Cambridge, for Geography
C. A. Hardy	Trinity College, Cambridge, for Architecture
D. W. Maxwell	Jesus College, Cambridge, for Engineering Science

N. J. Moon	Magdalen College, Oxford, for Modern Languages
S. J. Partridge	Selwyn College, Cambridge, for Natural Sciences
A. Simmons	Pembroke College, Cambridge, for Natural Sciences
A. W. South	Hertford College, Oxford, for Modern Languages
J. W. R. Walne	Jesus College, Oxford, for Classics/Oriental Studies

### University Places 1971

T. Amin	Lancaster, Computer Studies
R. F. Barnes	Liverpool, Biochemistry (for 1972)
G. F. D. Basterfield	Birmingham, Mathematics & Physics
D. K. Battsby	Liverpool, Law
B. S. Boulton	Manchester, Town Planning
D. J. Brown	Sussex, Law
A. N. Carr	Brunel, Computer Science
J. Chalmers	Manchester, Social Studies
P. N. E. Collins	Queen Elizabeth College, London, Mathematics
S. Cooke	Bristol, Economics
P. Darvill-Evans	University College, London, History
J. O. Doughty	Bristol, Chemistry
N. O. Fenner	Manchester, Geology
P. M. Fogg	Durham, Economics
I. M. Grice	Loughborough, Civil Engineering
S. J. Godfrey	Imperial College, London, Mining
L. W. Hobbs	Imperial College, London, Physics
P. B. Jay	Southampton, Chemistry
P. E. Jee	Loughborough, Chemical Engineering & Management
C. D. Johnson	Birmingham, P.E. & Geography
P. W. Kern	Loughborough, Chemistry
A. I. Kerr	Goldsmiths College, London, French & German
D. Lewis	Imperial College, London, Physics
D. G. Lowenhoff	Manchester, Architecture
J. K. Marcinkiewicz	Liverpool, Medicine
P. V. May	East Anglia, English
P. J. McMillan	Royal Free Hospital Medical School
D. J. Moore	Bristol, Physics

A. R. Morley	Essex, Computer Science
C. J. Marrant	Sheffield, Chemistry
C. J. Newby	Keele, French & History
G. A. Nicol	King's College, London, Physics
M. C. Parfitt	Reading, Classics
M. C. Perry	Brunel, Computer Science
M. J. Rawlins	Bristol, Economics & Accountancy (for 1972)
T. A. V. Rees	Liverpool, Botany
P. W. Robinson	Southampton, Biochemistry/Physiology
C. M. Rose	York, English
B. D. Rowland	Bristol, Electrical Engineering
D. J. W. Sandles	City University, Systems & Management
C. D. Schlaefli	Exeter, Economics
M. G. Simpson	Essex, Electronic Engineering
D. G. Stone	Royal Holloway College, London, Computer Science
M. Thomas	Bedford College, London, Dutch
M. R. G. Taylor	St. Mary's Hospital Medical School
C. R. Walton	London Dental Hospital
G. M. Wilson	Imperial College, London, Civil Engineering (for 1972)
A. P. Woolhouse	Durham, Economics
S. Woosey	Imperial College, London, Chemistry
G. S. Wye	University College, London, Electronic Engineering
E. J. Youens	Imperial College, London, Chemistry

### **Polytechnics (Degree courses)**

R. C. Cobb	South Bank, Applied Biology
W. L. Harris	Bristol, Economics
G. C. Heuser	Hatfield, Applied Chemistry
R. Hipgrave	Leeds, Information Science
M. P. Runnacles	Huddersfield, Marketing (Engineering)
T. V. Puddephatt	North Stafford, Business Studies
S. J. Wright	Portsmouth, Economics

### **Service Colleges**

V. R. Gubbins	Royal Britannia Naval College, Dartmouth
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The Editor apologises for any mistakes or omissions, and would be glad to hear of any corrections or additions.

## 'ELIJAH'

'Help, Lord!', the combined choirs began the opening chorus of Mendelssohn's *Elijah*; to be honest they could at that point have done with it. . . . The overture had contained some timid orchestral playing. Nevertheless, in its role of accompanying the choir and soloists its playing was more competent. The sixty High School girls were an improvement visually on the RGS Choral Society, yet their contribution to the vocal ensemble was perhaps unsure. The 'Baal' choruses, one of the high spots of the first part of the oratorio, were exciting and precise; the orchestra handled this difficult part of the score confidently and the choir invoked the heathen gods with conviction.

The choir was ably supported by the soloists; Su Dunnett sang in a tender and moving manner, David Flinders performed the tenor solos, and Stephen Varcoe sang the bass solos with confidence. Thanks must go to Mr. Holmes and Miss Brown for organising this successful joint venture, as one member of staff commented, 'one of the highlights of the school's musical year'.

*Elijah* was performed as a tribute to the late Elsa Martin, who for many years had taught the 'cello in both schools and who was to have played for this performance; it was a wise decision that we were spared speeches on this occasion.

The Seniors,  
D.R.K.S.D.

## 'GONDOLIERS'

The musical highlight of the Autumn term this year was a performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Gondoliers*. The production in all respects was extremely effective bearing witness to the hard work of all those responsible.

The soloists, selected from members of the school, sang well, although by Saturday evening some slight strain was evident in parts, but this was counteracted by the acting ability of these boys. (It is rare indeed in opera to find a singer who can act as well!)

Worthy of special mention among the soloists are David Lowe (Duke of Plaza Toro), also Keith Ray (Don Alhambra del Bolero), whose portrayals were superbly well-rounded, and full of mature humour, so confidently put across to the evident delight of the entire audience. The parts of the two principal gondoliers, sung by Duncan Lord and Richard Lloyd, were competently handled, and the famous 'Take a pair of sparkling eyes' was very beautifully sung, despite its attitude at times. Moreover, the part of Luiz was ably played and sung by Simon Gay, The 'girls' also managed their parts extremely well—their roles having, of course, the extra difficulty of trying to portray female characters—a task which they accomplished most effectively, and without any apparent hint of shyness! The main female roles were sung by Phillip Edwards

(Duchess of Plaza-Toro), who entered into the spirit so fully, Paul Copas (Casilda), Simon Drew (Grametta), and Graham Murnane (Tessa).

The Chorus produced a very fine sound, reflecting well upon those responsible for training them, and indeed themselves, for it is not an easy task to memorise music for operatic performance in chorus.

Visually, also, this was a spectacular show—the sets, not over-elaborate, were very colourful and effective.

Profuse thanks go to everyone involved with such a success, especially to Geoffrey Holmes, its musical director, Messrs. Prue, Lyons, Heath, White-Taylor, who formed the production team; also to Clare Cooper, Teresa Cocksedge, and the team of parents and friends who made the splendid costumes; to Mike Eaton for sets, Denis Smith for make-up; and finally to the Stage Team. The Orchestra played competently and served to augment the quality of the singing.

COLIN BEESON

(DAL helped).

### IN MEMORIAM—'CORTES'

. . . And so, to the sound of muffled drums, yet another school production opened before a packed three rows. Although the audience increased on both the following nights, I still had the feeling that perhaps the coffin was significant in a way other than that intended?

Some of the acting, however, was superb; next time the BBC are auditioning for one more monster to terrorise *Dr. Who*, then Mokte-woteveritwas should certainly apply—with a voice like that he can't miss! Unfortunately some of the casting was less good . . . or were Aztec warriors *really* that much smaller than their sad-looking womenfolk?

On a more serious note though, I thought it a pity that some of the RGS actors were not up to the standard of their Lady V. colleagues, whose part in the Aztec ceremony in Act 3 was the high spot of the performance. I could not help wondering why the Aztec warriors who attended the ceremony were chanting in such high voices!

One last comment—why do our 'dramatists' seem to feel compelled to be 'trendy' and 'creative'? Let's try something that's not original for a change next time. I'm sure Wycombe Bookshop could help, good plays are not so rare.

P.S.—Although 'otherwise engaged' during all three performances, I was there, and enjoyed *most* of what I saw.

By . . .

TIMI

## SIXTH FORM DANCE 1971

The School Dance was held on December 17th, the last day of the Autumn Term, and featured the Mick Abrahams' Band and Phillip Goodhand-Tait. Despite the magnificent reputation of both groups—Abrahams was formerly with Jethro Tull, and Goodhand-Tait was being spoken of highly by those with an eye to the future—the usual difficulties were encountered when it came to actually trying to sell the tickets. Three hours before the doors opened only 80 people had placed their financial faith in our enterprise, and the Committee was trying desperately to book early flights away from England.

This lack of support forced us to adopt again the 1970 principle of giving people tickets which were to be paid for in the event of their deciding to come at the last minute. The fact that by 9 p.m. we had miraculously covered our expenditure suggests that a huge number of RGS 6th-formers fitted into that category.

The final profit amounted to the princely sum of £14.38 which was placed in the Common Room account.

The 1971 Committee, which consisted of John Burrows, Justin Adam, Graham Bell, Chris Head and myself, wishes to thank the following profusely for their help: Messrs. Moffat, Ward, Gill, Learmonth, Goldthorpe and Cook; Mr. Brown; Grant Holland; Roger Davison; the fifth-formers; Niall and Manny (bushmen); you if you came.

HENRY RUSSELL.

## ASSEMBLY

Those who have decided to read this after seeing the title I would like to thank. Such is the expected reaction to the word 'assembly', which used to mean that we were all herded into the hall (9.01, standing room only!). Up for a hymn, down for the lesson, up for prayers and down again for the notices!

Now, in the 'split' assembly everyone gets seats, and we can look forward to a varied selection of things going on. Speaking for the 1st to 4th year assembly, and judging by the choruses of 'Humble' heard around school recently, this has been very successful. At least it has made an impact. . . . The things which have happened have included negro spirituals and choral pieces, humorous and prose readings. Among the more popular schemes were those conducted by Mr. Davies and Mr. Browning. Thank goodness someone realised that 'variety is the spice of life'. I hope that this form of assembly will continue to be received as favourably as last term.

JOHN PEATEY.

## COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATION

The last Government decided to force upon sometimes unwilling local authorities a system of Comprehensive education. This action was undeniably unjustified for two reasons: firstly the local authorities were coerced into abolishing time-honoured systems of Selection, against their will and, in many cases, their better judgment; and secondly, in its stead an untried and un-proven non-selective system, the advantages of which were doubtful, was thrust into their hands.

First of all, however, what does 'Comprehensive' mean? The long-established Grammar Schools, with their distinctive names, like our own, are to be put in the melting pot with the 'Modern' School, and there shall come forth the New, Better School, like the New Phoenix arising from the ashes of the Old, with a characterless name, and in a glass-and-aluminium wonder. No such luck, I'm afraid. Principle in education is one thing, but sufficient money is something completely different.

Let us examine first of all the effect on the less bright pupil. He will be in the same school as some of the most clever people in the nation, possibly with future leaders of the country. He will hear felicitations being poured on those who have gained academic successes at both G.C.E. Levels, and at 'Oxbridge' and at other universities. He will see G.C.E. Lists published in the newspapers, with other pupils, when he knows that he can never attain these dizzy heights. Surely after a time this pupil must develop an inferiority complex, and his mind become a quagmire of emotions and complexes?

As with everyone else, these pent-up emotions sometimes burst forth, with occasional tragic results, as was seen last year, when in a Comprehensive school in South London, an unfortunate boy who was bright, was knifed to death by a slightly deranged boy whose feelings overcame him. In the U.S.A. there has recently been an upsurge of violence in schools: as with every trend in America, it is spreading over here. In some High Schools, there has to be a policeman in each form-room, in order to protect teachers' property, and in some cases, limb. Analysis of this thuggery has shown that the knifings were committed by the less academically-inclined on the more academically-inclined ones. Until recently, non-selective education has been universal in that land, but the authorities have found, that in order to maintain their primary position in the world, the cream has to be skimmed off and educated elsewhere. The other country which reigns supreme in the world, the U.S.S.R., has also had the non-selective system until a few years ago when 'Academic City' was built to educate the top 2 per cent. of the country's youth. When we see a reversal in other countries of a system which we are about to



adopt, then we should stop and think whether we are doing the right thing for the future generations.

Whether or not one agrees with the Comprehensive system of education, surely one's educational principles, however strong they may be, have to take second place to the welfare of the children concerned, especially as those who concern themselves most with Comprehensive education are the Socialists, who claim to hold the welfare of the people closest to their hearts. However, it is precisely these people who seem willing, by pursuing a policy of inconvenient, merciless, and damaging mergers, to impair and affect pupils' whole lives. What is meant is this: that when two schools are merged their relative geographical positions do not seem to matter: in London, for example, some schools have two buildings one mile apart, and the Inner London Education Authority has had to pay for a thrice-daily return taxi-service for the Masters and Mistresses, the pupils have to walk. When pupils are shifted around from one establishment to another, a feeling of insecurity develops, and this jeopardises their opportunities in later life, if their education be not built upon rock. However bad the present system might be, which it is not, in my opinion, it is surely better than this system which depends upon traffic lights for its smooth running.

J. CHADWICK.

### WHEN THE CANDLESTICK-MAKERS WENT ON STRIKE

So scarce had candles become that people at great inconvenience were tending to resort to Mr. Edison's methods. However, the light which was obtained from this illuminated glass bulb was harsh to the eyes and seemed unreal.

Public opinion was against the candlestick-makers. People felt that as the butcher and the baker did not upset the tub, and lower themselves to this useless occupation, there could be no need for their other partner to do so. They could not understand why it should be them that went on strike, as opposed to anyone else, and least of all why theirs was a special case. While Mr. Gladstone urged for a public enquiry, Benjamin Disraeli, the Prime Minister, insisted fiercely in the House of Commons, that this new mode of uncivilised behaviour was a definite decline rather than an advance in the common decency of the British people. He maintained that they had only recently had a pay rise of 5d. per week, and that to ask for an extra three days holiday each year was sheer audacity. He said that they had a tremendous amount for which to be thankful. And he therefore issued strict orders to the companies concerned not to grant any pay rise to the candlestick-makers.

But these workers were stoical in their cause, and to this end they refused to allow the minority who wished to go back to work

to do so. They even tried to prevent people from using electric lights, saying that this was an unfair advantage that the populus had over them. Eventually the police and troops were called in, and although many workers were brutally mutilated, law and order was restored, and the people were no longer intimidated by so frightful a breed.

Gradually the country began to realise that both gas-lighting, although expensive, and likewise electric-lighting were far more efficient and effective methods. The people were of a unanimous mind that there would never be a use for candles again.

WILLIAM RAMSAY.

## GANIFF

There was once a man named Ganiff who lived with many other people on an invisible island called Garshe, in the rough green Atlantic Ocean, and he was a very wise man. One day one of his friends, a young man named Gremo, ran up to him and, panting, said 'Ganiff, all the shops on this island have disappeared!' The two companions rushed to the place where the shopping centre had been, but the path leading to the shops just faded away into the playful green sea. 'Gremo,' said Ganiff, 'I believe the shops have been submerged.' Ganiff realised that an awkward situation had arisen. If the sea were advancing across the island there would soon be no island for the people of Garshe to live on. Ganiff sent out a ship to pick up the survivors, and soon it returned with all the shopkeepers. By this time everyone else on the island had assembled around Ganiff, and when everybody was silent, he said: 'People of Garshe, a great peril is endangering us. If we don't act quickly our island might be taken away from us by the threatening sea. I want Gremo and Garoff to go across to the other side of the island, where there are no houses, and to tell me whether or not the sea has advanced there.'

A little bewildered, the two caught a bus (for the opposite side of the island was 20 miles away). On arriving they realised that the sea had not covered any of the undeveloped land there, and so they returned and told Ganiff.

'Fine,' said Ganiff. 'In that case I would like a word with Gerome' (the manager of the bus company).

Gerome stepped from the crowd, who were still standing around chatting to each other. Ganiff and Gerome talked somewhat earnestly with each other, until Ganiff called for silence. 'Gerome has agreed to bring out his whole fleet of buses to take us all over to the other side of our island. It is really a fine gesture.' There was a murmur of agreement, until people started to wonder *why* in fact it was a fine gesture. 'You'll see,' said Ganiff.

After about one hour, everyone was ready on the other side of the island (where, you will remember, there were no houses or shops), and the buses were parked a little way away.

After he had checked that the 1,000 people of the island of Garshe were all present, Ganiff said, 'What we are about to do is of the utmost importance, and we should overcome the problem we have been subjected to. Now follow me.'

Ganiff led them all to the very edge of the island. 'Now,' he said, 'would you all please jump up and down.'

Some of the people started to laugh, while others looked embarrassed. But Ganiff urged them on, 'Come on, to save your island.' So they jumped. Up, down, up and down. The combined weight of one thousand people pushed that end of the island further into the water, and while the islanders were talking to each other in a fairly jerky fashion, they were simultaneously burying what turned out to be about 15 square miles of undeveloped land. What some of them did not realise was that while they were pushing that end of the island down into the water, they were lifting the other side with the shops on it, out of the water. And when they returned in the buses, and discovered this, they found they had raised beautiful tall white cliffs out of the water as well!

The inhabitants were ecstatic. They had only lost a small amount of their island; but it had no buildings on it, and was of no real importance.

The island was now sloping a bit, but nobody minded. Happy and tired, the people of Garshe made preparations for a feast to celebrate their wise favourite Ganiff, and the saving of their dear island of Garshe from the sea.

FRASER PEARSON.

## THE FACE AT THE WINDOW

The darkness was so intense and deceiving that he had to put his hands to his eyes to see if they were open. He winced as his rough hands grazed his sore pupils. He had to keep doing this as it was the only way he could tell whether he was awake or asleep. He had done it so often during the night that the dirt from his hands had become lodged under his eyelids which scratched his eyes every time he moved them.

It seemed as if he had been tossing and turning in a bed of eternity. Perhaps if he got up and moved around time would begin to move once more. He flung back the bed-sheets and swung his

legs over the side. He felt his way to a chair, pulled on his dressing-gown and sat down.

Although the darkness seemed thick and heavy, it was icy cold. He began to shiver almost at once and so he got up again. All he could see was a weak, pale fluorescence from the curtains. He threw back the thin cloth, put his face close to the pane and looked out. Light flakes of snow were drifting past the window but when he looked down he could not see the ground. It seemed as if he were looking out from the top of a tower high above the earth. As the flakes passed his window they turned grey and then slowly black, blending in with the vast nothingness beyond the penumbra of his window.

He was now shivering violently and stepped back to close the curtains again. But as he moved back, a cloud of silvery vapour appeared on the other side of the glass. Slowly the cloud and the snowflakes dissipated and a face began to take shape. The face had no eyes but tiny golden daggers which glinted deep inside the empty sockets.

The silvery features seemed to plead with him; the face wanted to come in out of the bitter cold. He closed his eyes to try to make the face go away, but it was no good. The eyes and soft mouth still pleaded for warmth.

No matter what he did he could not get the silvery features out of his head. His hand reached out frantically and his fingers closed upon a heavy colume. He seized it quickly and raised it, poised to throw. Golden splinters of tears were streaming from its eyes as he heaved the volume at the face.

As the pane in front of him shattered, his whole head seemed to explode into tiny fragments. When he opened his eyes again it was day and the sun was flowing into his bedroom through a jagged hole in the window.

IAN C. VALE.

### IS THIS A COINCIDENCE?

These facts were published at the time of President Kennedy's assassination—it might be a coincidence, but:—

Lincoln and Kennedy were both concerned with the Civil Rights issue.

Lincoln was elected in 1860, Kennedy was elected in 1960.

Both were assassinated on a Friday, both were shot from behind, both were shot in the presence of their wives.

The successors were both Johnson, both were Senators, both were Southern Democrats.

Andrew Johnson was born in 1808, Lyndon Johnson was born in 1908.

John Wilkes Booth was born in 1839, Lee Harvey Oswald born in 1939.

Both Booth and Oswald were killed before they went to trial.

Mrs. Lincoln and Mrs. Kennedy both lost children during their husband's term of office at the White House.

Lincoln's secretary, named Kennedy, advised him not to go to the theatre.

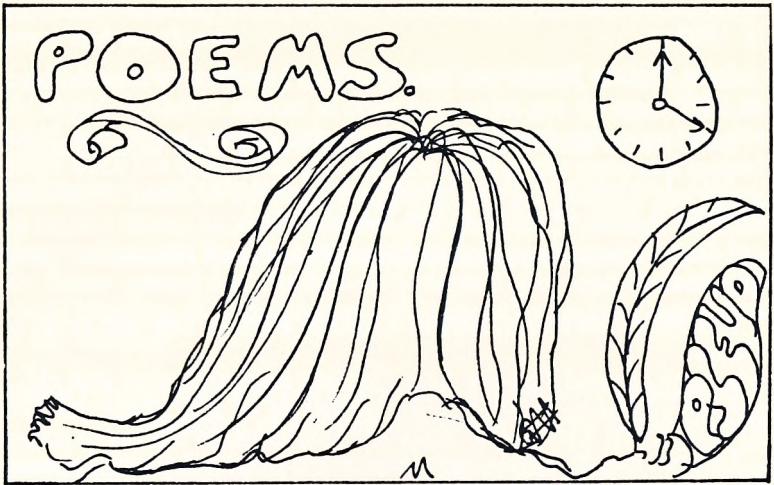
Kennedy's secretary, named Lincoln, advised him not to go to Dallas.

Booth shot Lincoln in a theatre and hid in a warehouse, Oswald shot Kennedy from a warehouse and hid in a theatre.

Lincoln and Kennedy each have seven letters; Andrew Johnson and Lyndon Johnson each have thirteen letters; John Wilkes Booth and Lee Harvey Oswald each have fifteen letters.

Kennedy was shot in a Lincoln car made by the Ford Motor Co., Lincoln was shot in a Ford Theatre.

The surname of the killers of both John Wilkes Booth and Lee Harvey Oswald was Ruby.



### A PREFACE TO THE POETRY SECTION

Were it not for the poetry which follows, this magazine would be nothing more than a 1972 Directory for Old Wycombiensians. The original contributions are the *esprit* of the publication, the sole characteristic by which it can be distinguished from an extremely exclusive and orotund personal column. That being the case, we believe that the sad duplicity which surrounds the reader's attitude to these contributions should be inveighed against. It has been our experience that many *ex gente Wycombiensis*, whether past or present, look upon the latest poetry rather as U.C.C.A. applicants are led to believe the Universities look upon their extra-curricular interests—a valueless but necessary part of the whole. Moreover, it is clear that this attitude is not restricted to us palsied few who buy the magazine, but is prevalent in everyone's reactions to effete traditions everywhere. You have only to recall the uproar which was caused by the demolition of the intrinsically useless Doric arch at the old Euston station. While we support the retention of protocols which are of some value (e.g. those which support our parliamentary system), we believe that those which have arisen from lack of thought should be destroyed and replaced by something more conscious (and, hopefully, more utile). That should be the lot of the *ce ne fait rien* attitude to this important part of the publication.

However, that is not to say that it will henceforth suffice merely to read quickly through the poetry, recall perfunctorily that some precocious fools in the Summer 1972 edition had emphasised the importance of taking the children's lispings in numbers seriously, smile a savant's leer and pass quickly on to the Old Boys' Notes. On the contrary, it is essential that the following poetry be studied

with an awareness of the possibility that the next Milton, the next Tennyson or the next Shakespeare may be crying his poetical teething-troubles onto this paper. For, while it might not require a Saintsbury to deduce that a boy of eleven who wrote 'Go, and catch a falling star' had promise, it is probably more difficult to discern a talent in the modern trend away from poetic diction. While it might have been relatively easy to see merit in the work of a nineteenth century youth who copied one of the major Romantic poets, assessing the potential of a child influenced by the flat and sometimes unmetrical poetry of Eliot and early Auden is a different matter. That the 'Waste Land' is poetical is clear because it represents the full expression of a talent in its mature state. Remove that maturity and you are left with work of the standard of some of the contributors to the pages that follow. Remember as you read that, if they continue to write, one day they will free themselves of the convention of their predecessors, and write exactly as they feel. If that thought makes you see promise where once you saw only rearranged or arithmetical prose, this article will have served its purpose.

HENRY RUSSELL & NEILL MONAGHAN.

*Footnote:* Our widespread appeals and gimmickry evoked what we believe was a record response in terms both of numbers of contributors *and* words written. Unfortunately, the limits of the magazine prevented the inclusion of everything which merited it. We would like to thank all those who made serious contributions and apologise if their names do not appear.

### A SCEPTIC'S REPLY (after Sir Walter Raleigh)

Fountain of youth bubbles only once,  
Sparkling, splashing, clear streams of awakening  
That, by godly forces, must ebb  
And leave a rough bed of memories.

Cool waters flow past, flashing images  
Of an incomplete loom, whilst the sun sinks.  
If true love subsides it matters not, you think,  
But tomorrow you are old.

Waste not your time on fruitless toil  
If no harvest can ever be reaped,  
But open your tearful eyes, look further,  
For there true contentment lies undisturbed.

H.O.B.

Listen, old man,  
Your children have stopped laughing at you  
And now their words come bitter from the tongue  
And, we can see  
That though you might try to be like them on the outside  
And grow your hair  
You cannot grow your mind.

We are discontented.  
All paths have been trodden,  
Most songs have been sung  
(And you do not like us singing the ones that remain).

We want:  
Virgin soil to create mankind again, to begin  
A Rebirth of ourselves.  
To spread the wings furred inside our minds  
And leave the sad, sombre valleys for snowblue peaks.  
But you seem to want to stop us.

He ran away far into the night  
Across dewed fields and tracks,  
Her cold worlds all around him  
Throbbing.  
He felt he wanted to go mad  
And wander aimlessly for the rest of his years  
And have people point and stare, as at a deranged fool.

He tripped and fell over nothing,  
And lay, wet and shaking, for days.  
Nothing was worth moving for.

On the fourth day the sun rose  
And he looked up,  
And she was walking towards him  
A golden summer maiden blended in the corn  
And she drew his head to her breast,  
Speaking words of needing, and fullness.

That day they lay in the corn together  
And he was once more a happy blindman.

S. EDWARDS.



## EPIGRAMMATA

### (i) Her Promise

He hopes to reap the fruits of his endeavour  
By giving tokens with the words *for ever*.  
He might equally aspire to fly  
When leaping at the void on high.

### (ii) Fragment of a Song

I listened to the siren song  
Of a pair of fluid eyes.  
I landed there and tarried long.  
When did I realise that her sighs  
Were stark lies?

She lay beside me listening to  
My tender, ill-wrought verse  
And entreated me for some new  
Ones, neater yet less terse—  
Length fills the purse.

### (iii) Dance Routine

Dance on, young spirits of the wood, and never stop  
To see the weeping face behind the tapered ferns  
For soon enough your own tears from this coin will drop  
And no elf sadness from another learns.

### (iv) Untitled

In search of his true lady might a man  
Scour the whole globe and only find his end  
Or, tired of searching, rest with someone else  
To discover what his quest was to forfend.

### (v) Love

Love is a deeply-rooted secret told  
And not upon the whispering news-stands sold.

F. SEMPER.

## SPRING

Casting away the vales of Gloom,  
The vales of winter's cold  
Letting the hand of yellow in  
Is Spring.

The fingers of Spring are warming the ground,  
Nature is waking  
With a sip from the cup of Life.

S. RICHARDS.

## TIME RUNS SHORT

The bane of our lives is industrial growth,  
To economists stability is sloth,  
To prosper, our land is endlessly developed,  
People in concrete and chaos enveloped.  
G.N.P.'s a god, expansion essential,  
This world is finite, yet growth exponential.

Our dear land bears an irreparable scar,  
Because man is obsessed with the motor car.  
The front doors of millions open to the din,  
And there's profit with obsolescence built in.  
Easy access, rapid communication,  
Is not remoteness an asset to the nation?

We import half our food, yet our numbers rise,  
—Birth control is politically unwise.  
We trust in farming intensification,  
Resulting in soil deterioration.  
Suburbia sprawls at a frightening rate,  
To selfish demands to over-procreate.

Countryside inspires a stirring symphony,  
Accompanying cities—harsh cacophany.  
Fight against political myopia,  
Which contends we're striving for Utopia.  
Pastoral scenes unspoilt we yearn to savour,  
And inhabit a land rich in God's favour.

P. M. SIMPSON.

## DEVIL

When he appears by ponds and rivers,  
The cool, clear water ripples and quivers,  
But his bloody water  
Thick and still,  
Is not disturbed by the wheel of a mill.  
For he is the Devil,  
Almighty of Hell,  
With crackling fires  
And the great deathbell.

R. B. WESTBROOK.

The pungent past pervades my sleeplessness,  
Invokes another world, perhaps more real than this;  
Each captured remnant of one's preterite,  
In termitic unison erodes the mind.

Oft seen visions once more conjured up,  
To rectify this present mundane farce of life;  
A Proustian parasitic *cri de coeur*,  
That echoes '*la recherche du temps perdu*'.

Oh! Halcyon youth remain and gild  
This restless hour with bygone memories;  
Unveil, light up this twilight of the mind,  
Recapture and preserve . . .

But should one then corrode reality,  
Submerge the truth with glamour's rosy hue?  
What matters that the truth's besmirched with guilt,  
If guilt it be, for time so heavenly spent?

No, rather walk the long tight-rope of time,  
Than split the all-pervasive glass of grace,  
And down the long, o'erwhelming paths of night  
Turn the full cup of sunshine overthwart.

Can one man only overturn his mind?  
Or should we all be bold, and in reverse  
Strain the heart's backbone to the very last—  
Finally rolling, down the planks, the world?

What of John Clare, the poet of a cat?  
Or William Blake, who talked with God, alone?  
And come to that, what of Long-Barrow Sid,  
The arch-priest of the mighty, might-have-been?

John Clare is past, crazed with his love of life,  
And Blake is now a lunatic at bay;  
And Sid, the mighty, now is stuffed away,  
In the long barrow of the universe.

Alas, the unceasing winding of the sun,  
Has carried Clare and Blake, and Sid afar,  
Feet between hands, and pockets inside out,  
They roll below the parapets of joy.

THE PIED PIPER.

*The following poems won 1st and 2nd Prizes respectively in the recent Wycombe Arts' Festival Poetry Competition for under-16s.*

### AFTERMATH

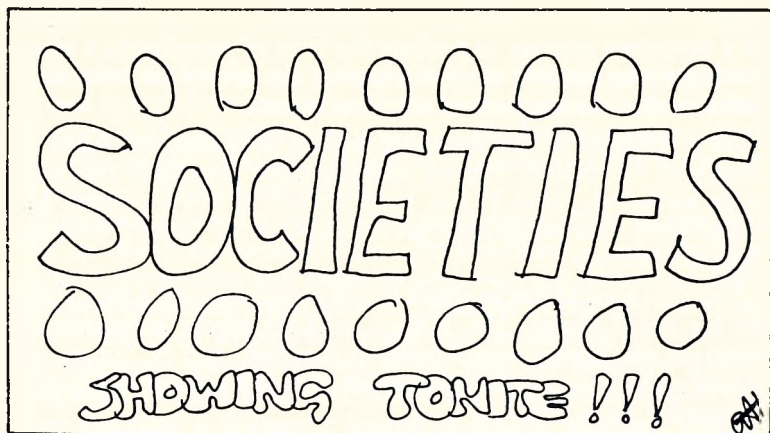
Now as we sit here  
With the wine stains mellowing on the tablecloth  
And the pleasant scent of a good time filling our heads  
We look back, discuss in slow soft voices  
Events of the fabled night, already gently diffused  
And laugh at the desperations and excitement.  
And with coffee mugs warming our hands and staving off  
the headache  
We sit sunning, lazy like cats, and maybe,  
Drawing slowly on a cigarette,  
We begin to plan the next one.

T. J. Ross.

### A FATHER OF WORDS

Will you ever read the book  
that I've started a thousand times  
but never reached  
the end before  
you moved  
and I had to start  
again to trace the lines  
of your sullen face  
with words which came  
to mind  
with every passing second  
and then lost  
what meaning they had once held  
for me  
when I saw them on the page  
which no longer looked  
like your face  
but like  
the thousand poems  
that you wrote  
about our meeting  
with a famous man;  
an author of great renown  
and numerous books  
—the father of words,  
but somehow  
not of faces.

PETER FLINT.



### CHORAL SOCIETY

Contrary to popular belief we do not just appear at concerts. We practise hard on two lunchtimes a week with such demanding works as Mozart's beautiful *Solemn Vespers* and *Hymn to St. Cecilia* by Britten. Although we shall not be performing them this term, we are preparing them for future concerts.

An especially good opportunity for us is a concert in the Purcell Room on May 13th, at which we have been invited to participate. The magic words 'a London concert' are more than most choirs hear. We shall be singing a song-cycle for four-part choir by Geoffrey Bush and the trebles some attractive Lace Making songs called 'Tells', collected from Buckinghamshire and neighbouring counties.

This term we have sung in assembly to the whole school, 'our most critical audience', including works ranging from Purcell to Vaughan Williams. I think this was generally appreciated. 'They must enjoy it' somebody said. We certainly do, and if that is not a good reason for joining a society, what is?

PHILLIP EDWARDS.

### THE LIBRARY

I shall not pretend to conceal my ignorance regarding the functioning of the junior library. Nevertheless, I should like to thank the librarians—both sixth form and junior school—who ably assist Mr. Perfect in the everyday running of that lofty, and constantly draughty establishment.

The foremost change in the organisation of It has been the replacement of the diligent Mr. James by Mr. Hillier as the master-in-charge. (The increase in Tudor history books in preference to English literature is presumably to be expected!) The

number of books continues to rise while the shelf-space decreases. In a desperate attempt to prolong the lives of paperbacks a simple but ingenious method of strengthening the covers has been introduced under the auspices of the Headmaster.

As a solution to the invading hordes who descend upon the library at lunchtime, thereby causing more reputable characters to be excluded, room 25 has been opened as a work-room. It is unfortunate that sometimes an atmosphere of 'hush'd learning' does not prevail.

Finally I should like to thank 'ex-Wycombiensian' Adam Hardy for his florid mural; Mr. Hillier, without whose assistance and direction the library would cease to function; and N. Jones, who should make a worthy head-librarian after the present upper-sixth 'hierarchy' have left.

NEILL MONAGHAN.

### THE STAMP CLUB

This has been another rather inactive term for the club, and there is little hope that, with the warm summer months, next term will be any more exciting.

The term was started with a rather large debt which was, as usual, settled by the ever-generous Mr. Hills. The annual trip to 'Stampex' was held on March 1st, when we were happy to be joined by the Headmaster. The trip moreover served to augment our funds.

Finally, any new members would be more than welcome, especially the ones who pay their subscriptions!

### MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

This term our new secretary is P. Hunt, replacing N. J. Moon who has left.

We are slowly building up our layout at the moment—much of the work being done by our members—after its previous misfortunes. We hope that this invaluable help will continue together with the enthusiasm which it engenders. Members are encouraged to bring along their own stock to run on the layout if they are not otherwise helping with construction or modification work.

We are hoping to hold a Model Railway Exhibition on Saturday July 15th at school. Other layouts from local clubs are to be exhibited along with part of ours. We hope that the school will support us in this venture which is in itself an innovation here.

R. DAPLING      A. LONGWORTH  
P. HUNT          J. PEARCE  
THE COMMITTEE.

## SCIENCE SOCIETY

So far the re-birth of our society has been painless; we set about our task in the summer term last year, and we intend to re-establish ourselves in the summer this year. We also had misgivings about possible size and thought it should be restricted to fifty members. At sixty we changed our minds.

Arranging successful showings of films, about thirty to date, and trips to Rank-Hovis-McDougal, Perkin-Elmer, Radiochemical centre at Amersham, and Dataskil have kept the committee busy. Lecturers have been found with Mr. Mander's help, but also many letters have been written by myself and the secretary.

Perhaps our greatest success of the year has been the fruitful co-operation with LVHS and WHS. This resulted in a lot of talk about founding a Wycombe branch of BAYS, although whether it gets off the ground is another matter.

PAUL GIBSON.

## RIFLE CLUB

During the autumn term the 1st team shot outstandingly well in the postal matches which took place under 'Tin Hat' conditions. They set a record score of 733 out of 800 and in all eight matches never scored less than 720. The house matches also took place. Youens won with 489 out of 500 while Tucker came a close second with 488.

We are sorry to lose two of our better marksmen, A. Simmons and D. S. O. Tinn who left at Christmas, having taken Scholarship exams.

For the first time we entered the Oxfordshire Rifle Association's Cadets' Small-bore Competition. The club fielded two teams of four for this. At present our 1st IV is at the head of the league in this competition.

Next term we commence regular Friday .303 practices at Otmoor. Although we will not be sending a team to 'Bisley Week' we will still be going to Colchester and Otmoor. Our sincere thanks go to Messrs. Cooper, Moffatt, and Taylor, who give up so much of their spare time to enable us to shoot.

J. PEPPER.

## THE MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

The society was formed during the Christmas term with the intention of providing a place for people to meet to discuss mathematical ideas, and to make mathematical models—from cubes to harmonographs. Membership of the society is free. In the Summer term we hope to build an exhibition for Speech Day.

The committee would like to thank Dr. Puritz for his help in creating the society.

## THE ASTRONOMIC AND AEROSPACE SOCIETY

The society was formed in early October as a revitalised version of the Astronomical Society.

However, owing to mistrust of anything new, and probably apathy as well, we have not been doing as well as hoped. The only meetings held so far have been to play a tape about the Crab Nebula, and to show a film on Apollo XIV. Other films were ordered but we were informed that they had all been withdrawn. Nevertheless we have been able to keep a steady flow of information by using our notice-board in the Science Block.

A. H. MASSEY.

## WYCOMBE ACTION GROUP

Push a bed 20 miles—you must be mad! Nevertheless, despite several disasters of a minor nature, that is what Wycombe Action Group did. They collected a 'fair amount of money' on the way and it appears enjoyed themselves in the process.

Forever active in their praiseworthy efforts, WAG held a concert featuring Al Stewart on December 3rd. Among the music which took place was 'RAN', 'A heavy electric sweat band', also, 'Tamlin', for fans of 'electric' folk.

Members of WAG include girls from LVHS, and all must be thanked for their efforts.

BERNARD WARREN.

## CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Our society has had an eventful Spring term with a fair number of new members. We have had several talks—in particular two very well attended ones by Mr. Oldring. We are planning a trip for next term and hope that as many new members as possible will come.

P. J. APPLETON.

## RGS RUGBY TOUR 1972

Many ingenious methods of collecting money were thought of to enable the tour to take place. The tedium of the journey was lightened by hearty 1st XV singing, and after a quick tour of the outside of Gloucester Cathedral, and the procuring of half a 'Guardian' for the 'beloved Head Boy', the party proceeded to Ledbury G.S. rugby pitch and from thence to Malvern. The night was 'not without incident', but the next morning they were engaged in a match on top of a mountain in a gale-force wind against rather sheepish opponents.

The team spent an enjoyable if somewhat singular evening at the local hostelry. They also played rugby—results can be found elsewhere.

'HAYSTACK'.



Last August a party of boys (together with some girls from LVHS) travelled to Kristiansand in Norway, where they spent a highly interesting time. Apart from being 'overwhelmed by the incredible scenery' they went on expeditions, swam, climbed mountains, went deep-sea fishing, and figured in a Norwegian local paper.

They would like to thank staff at LVHS for arranging the holiday and especially Mr. Cook 'for being so understanding and helpful during moments of extreme stress.'

'THE HERBS'

### SOCIAL SERVICE REPORT

As there have previously been no reports from the Social Service group, it is necessary to explain what we do. Social Service is a Thursday afternoon activity—an alternative to the C.C.F. About seventy boys go by coach, car, or on foot to visit old people in the Wycombe area. They may dig the garden, clean the windows, or perform other manual tasks, but perhaps the most important work done is simply providing company for lonely people. Specific work is done occasionally, such as delivery of Christian Aid envelopes or special gardening projects. Something done this year, for instance, has been the delivery of free coal to some of the poorer people on our lists.

Our lists of addresses are unhappily not always as comprehensive or accurate as we would wish. There is, for instance, a married couple in their eighties living in a damp and dirty semi-detached house in the Dashwood-Desborough area. The husband is blind and the wife a hunchback—both are often ill. They are now being visited, but only on the recommendation of a neighbour who is on our list already. One asks oneself how many other similar cases there are?

Seeing such people and smelling the places in which they are living casts serious doubts on the moral state of the society that produced them. George Orwell, although writing 35 years ago, has a valid comment to make about similar people he encountered in Wigan: 'It is no use saying that people like this are just disgusting and trying to put them out of mind. For they exist in tens and hundreds of thousands; they are one of the characteristic by-products of the modern world. You cannot disregard them if you accept the civilisation that produced them.'

Social Service can only hope to temporarily alleviate loneliness or hardship. What emerges from a year's working in the group, however, is the feeling for a need for fundamental changes in the structuring of society, in order that people are no longer required to live in conditions like these.

Meanwhile, given that the function of Social Service in the school is to give a few people a little pleasure and help make their lives a little more tolerable while at the same time giving boys the opportunity to try social work and see conditions as they really are, there is room for improvement. It is hoped to revise the lists before the end of the Summer term and perhaps next year there will be a larger influx of new members. It is laudable that some people have been working extra in their spare time—we hope that more will take this initiative. Hopefully, next year, numbers will rise and more people will be motivated towards an interest in the work that we are doing rather than a ‘soft-option’.

DAVE STEELE.

### JUNIOR WAR GAMES SOCIETY

This year all society activities have been geared towards our speech-day exhibition next term in mind. At the present time a great deal of time is being spent in organising and preparing ‘Waterloo’, the central display in the exhibition.

Unfortunately attendance has decreased, but happily several regular members have kept the club active at all times. As always new members are welcome to join the club.

C. R. Webb and G. Jamison have just started to fight a campaign on maps in the same manner as the latter and J. M. W. Edwards completed at the beginning of this term.

I have been informed by the club treasurer C. J. Paul that at the moment financial funds are fairly high despite the purchase of various scenery and equipment.

Sad to say, because he was unable to devote sufficient time to the club, Mr. J. Roebuck has handed over his post to Mr. B. L. Jones, who agreed to help us in this direction.

In short, the club is flourishing and hopes this year to present an exhibition of even greater success than last year’s.

C.J.P.

### CHESS CLUB

The last year has been a very successful season for all the school’s chess teams, and the following results were achieved:

	WON	DRAWN	LOST
Senior	3	1	3
U.16	9	1	1
U.14	10	1	0

The U.16 and U.14 teams in particular showed great promise for the future, and Bower and Austin should prove to be very good players in the coming years. The Junior team also won

all but one of its matches. Hoy and Carless in particular achieved fine records.

The House competition was closely fought, with Arnison coming out as expected winners.

The school had a good run in the *Sunday Times* National Schools Competition, only to be halted by Enfield G.S. in the semi-final due to bad form throughout the team.

The school also participated in the Bucks League, entering one team in the first division and one team in the second division. Both teams exceeded expectations, and our first team did well to come third in their division.

Mr. I. R. Clark, with his energetic enthusiasm, has ensured the smooth running of all the teams, and we are much indebted to him because of it.

During the season, first team colours have been awarded to R. C. S. Newton, D. M. Edwards, P. J. Austin, A. C. Pearn, and half-colours have been awarded to K. Guha, M. G. Tordoff and A. D. Cockett.

B. A. COWAN.

## HOUSE REPORTS

### SCHOOL HOUSE

Last September saw many changes in School House. A larger number of newcomers than usual filled us to capacity but we accepted their arrival with less comment and concern than that of the new matron, Mrs. Beauchamp, and the new cook, Susan Bullock. These are two key positions and our comfort and contentment depend upon their being suitably filled. All our doubts and misgivings were soon allayed and we heartily welcome these two newcomers.

We may modestly claim a high degree of success in both the academic and sporting worlds. We were particularly pleased that our Head Boy, C. J. Head, crowned his school career with a richly deserved Open Exhibition at Churchill College, Cambridge.

We are well represented in various school teams and provide two senior N.C.O.'s and many lesser mortals for the C.C.F. Our contributions, both on and off stage, to the school's cultural activities have been quite considerable. In short, we are still making our presence felt as widely as possible.

Finally, we thank Mr. Skipp (whom we congratulate upon his recent appointment as Justice of the Peace) and Mr. Stubbs for their continued care and concern for our welfare.

## FRASER

The House competition is suffering from a fatal disease. The last rites have not yet been effected; however, one feels it will all be over soon. The disease of apathy has struck down the patient once more, and I, for one, will not be sorry to see it go.

The streamlining of the competition a few years ago has not been an effective tonic and it is only in the junior school that it flourishes. The only cure is to wipe out apathy—or to terminate the house system in the upper school and let it live on solely in the junior school. The same people play for the School representative teams that have to turn out for the House. The remainder do not and will not participate; so why do we continue with this lame duck?

P. J. HOWLAND.

## TUCKER

Despite the loss of that great organiser and enthusiast, Mark Newton, the house has still managed to distinguish itself in several fields. The house managed to retain the senior rugby trophy but it is noticeable that the same boys were representing the house in the other sports too. This shows that only a few people really concern themselves with house activities; the rest, I'm sorry to say, do not participate and show signs of apathy.

As to the Summer, the house could well distinguish itself in athletics as long as more people are willing to commit themselves and do something for it. In spite of this lack of enthusiasm Mr. Scott has maintained a lively interest in the house, for which we are very grateful.

J. W. LEWIS.

## YOUENS

At the moment, Youens House is lying third in the House championship; this is not surprising when one considers our results—we have come bottom in half the competitions held this year—chess, hockey, 2nd, 3rd and 4th form rugby, and 2nd and 3rd form cross-country. However, we did not come last in gymnastics or basketball, and even dared to win the badminton! The seniors have also done well in the cross-country, where a good team effort enabled us to gain second place, and in the rugby where we were beaten narrowly in a very exciting final against Tucker. Our 4th-formers also came second in their cross-country, and our 1st-formers seem to be doing very well also. But all round, we cannot help but feel dissatisfied and are hoping we can pull up in the competitions to be held in the Summer term.

I cannot end without endorsing the comments of many of my predecessors concerning the enormous amount of apathy within

the school as a whole with regard to house competitions; indeed, I believe that the time will come (if it has not already) when all competitions will be held on an inter-form basis only.

J. W. R. WALNE.

Because of the limited space allocated to Society reports etc., it has been necessary to abridge some articles. I regret this, but hope that no one 'takes umbrage'.—EDITOR.

## UPLYME

This term has passed very smoothly, and here all credit must go to the competent work of Mr. Cooper, Mr. Holt and Mrs. Connolly.

This year has seen the arrival of a new force in the world of table tennis. Uplyme decided to enter a team in the High Wycombe and District Table Tennis League. They were unbeaten all season in division II and have reached the final of the knock-out competition.

So successful have the team been that a new table is now needed since the team is to be promoted to a higher division (V or VI). So the enterprising lads of Uplyme arranged a table tennis marathon to raise the money, which they succeeded in doing.

I am sorry to report that this term, for the first time in living memory, Uplyme was beaten by Tylers Wood at football. And in this respect I'd like to thank, on behalf of the whole house, our trainer-manager and loyal supporter Mr. Lingard.

A. G. JONES.

## TYLERS WOOD

When writing a House report, the first thing one has to do is to write down a list of topics and notes to be included, like this:

Mr. Embrey—our new house-tutor—arrived in September.

Fire doors—two doors upstairs, one downstairs—cut down noise in house—more difficult for most to hear rising bell—most other doors have been fitted with springs to keep them shut.

Telephone—old phone moved from Staff dining room—new phone installed in hall—an extra room now available for working.

Football—a very good victory over Uplyme—offer of a game against the boarders from Sir William Borlase School.

Tree blown down—one of a group of four evergreens in front of house—now one goalpost short for football practice.

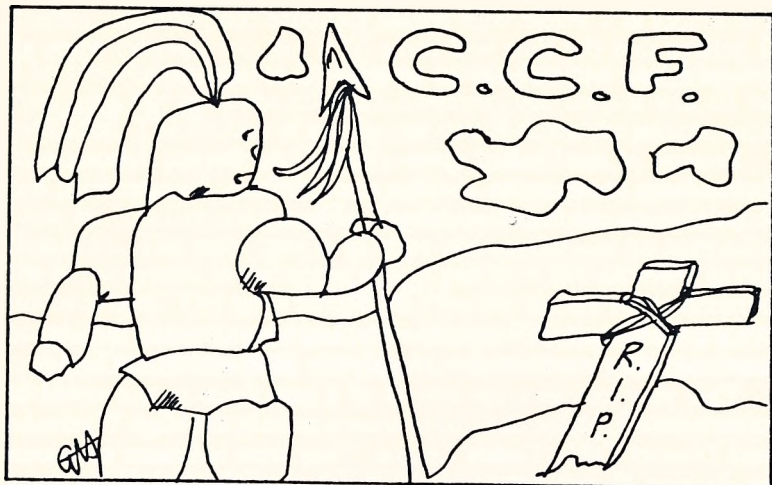
Number of boys—maximum capacity in September—now numbers are beginning to decline again.

Next term—looking forward to G.C.E.'s!

Thank all staff—especially Matron, Brian and Walter.

Special thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Pattinson for all they have done for us.

D. I. WICKS.



### ARMY SECTION

The absence of Annual Inspection this year enabled all sections of the C.C.F. to concentrate less on ceremonial and more on Proficiency and outdoor training. The higher percentage of passes in the examinations was a just reward for this policy.

Whilst numbers in the Army Section are low compared with those of a few years ago, morale and enthusiasm have seldom been higher. During the last two terms there has been an excellent liaison with the Royal Green Jackets and several Cadets have taken part in exercises with the Company based at Aylesbury to the mutual benefit of both C.C.F. and T.A.

Thirty cadets made the annual pilgrimage to the Peak District for Adventure Training, and whilst it must rank as the wettest Camp in recent memory, probably since Trawsfynydd of about 13 years ago, the good spirit and enthusiasm which prevailed overcame all difficulties and training was little affected by the weather.

It is always pleasing to record the successes of former Cadets and in this connection the acceptance of J. P. Wallen and A. C. H. Bolton for regular Commissions was a reward for their hard work and enthusiasm in the C.C.F.

R.P.

### R.A.F. SECTION

Having taken over the section, still without an officer, in June, we have fought through the change of syllabus and winter weather to arrive at our present state. Simon uses the office for test flights

and Paul for private study. Next year we might have an officer to deal with the mountains of paperwork which piles up.

Exam results in December revealed hard work on the part of cadets and instructors alike, but with typical 'efficiency' the training programme is held up because of lack of exams. A couple of AEF visits to RAF White Waltham brought welcome relief from classroom work. More outdoor activities will take place during our Easter Camp.

Next term's activities will include gliding courses at Halton for Cpl. Douthwaite and Cdt. West, who also has a flying scholarship in the Channel Isles over Easter.

Fl/Sgt. Green is awaiting news of his flying scholarship and cadet exchange, while I am waiting for an overseas flight. We both extend our thanks to Col. Patinson, without whom nothing is possible.

E. P. GIBSON.

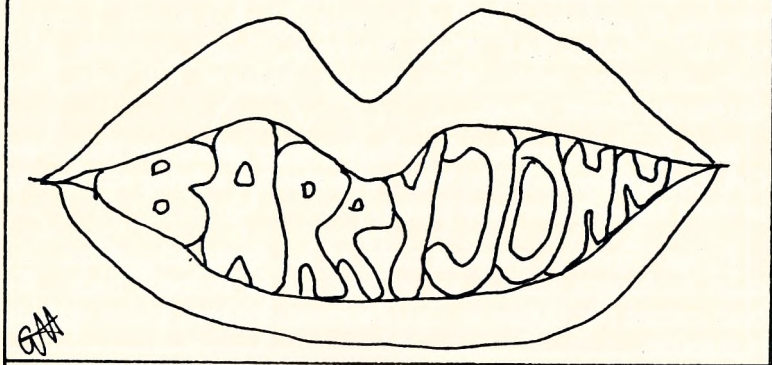
### R.N. SECTION

This year the section has been particularly active. We have been on two field days with the Royal Navy, the first to H.M. Dockyard at Chatham, where we practised lifeboat drill and visited the frigate H.M.S. *Aurora*. We also went to H.M.S. *Arthur* at Bath, where the section attempted to cross the Royal Marine assault training course. Thursday afternoon has included rigging sheer-legs, pilotage, theory of sailing, and basic seamanship. At Easter twelve boys will be going on courses with the Navy—some are joining H.M. ships for a week, while the others will be attending courses ranging from diving at H.M.S. *Vernon* to electrical engineering at H.M.S. *Collingwood*.

We are hoping that our trailer and motor launch will be ready for us to use at Longridge on the Thames during our Summer training on the river. Finally our thanks go to C.P.O. Kettle, P.O. Ponsford, P.O. Tongs and Mr. Waller for their excellent help and encouragement.

G. ROSS.

# SPORTS REPORTS.



## RUGBY—1st XV

Played 30, Won 24, Lost 6. Points for 676, Against 248  
In this instance figures do tell everything for the 1st XV won more matches than ever before in a season, and thus the final record reflects the tremendous amount of effort and preparation that was put in by the team to achieve its success. For the first time training was held in the summer holidays and although there were many experienced players present, i.e. five with full colours and upwards of a dozen who had 1st XV experience, coaching improved the players' skills no end. Mr. D. J. Stubbs laid the foundations of the team's pattern of play, and the success of the 1st XV was due in no small way to the tremendous encouragement that he gave. The players greatly appreciated his smooth running of the team.

The team from the outset endeavoured to play attacking rugby and to reap the full rewards of the revaluation of the try. This the team did to the tune of 676 points in the season—a school record. Throughout the season the emphasis was on teamwork and all the best results were obtained in the matches where this shone.

Nearly a hundred and fifty points were scored in the first five matches, yet two defeats were contained in these results. Too much emphasis on attack had resulted in defensive weaknesses. However the team learnt its lesson for it did not lose another game until three months and 14 victories later. The Old Boys brought their downfall with a particularly strong XV and later defeats were to Saracens, Monmouth School and High Wycombe 1st XV—all formidable opponents.

However, strong opposition was defeated during the season, notably St. Benedict's, Abingdon, Wasps School XV, and Hamp-



ton which was the highlight of the season for they had only lost to two school teams. The match was won by 22—15 and the forwards and backs combined to give their best display of the season.

The results obtained by the team reflected well the capabilities of the players. The three-quarter line provided great inspiration for the forwards to win as much ball as possible as a high proportion of scoring chances were turned into tries. T. Carroll was the arch-exponent of this and although lacking in confidence in the opening matches he succeeded in scoring 26 tries, thus equalling the existing school record. M. Saunders fell two tries short of the record, but was usually the team's best three-quarter. R. Shearer played in every position in the backs bar fly-half and although possessing more attributes than most, he does lack confidence in his own ability. G. Long appeared at centre and full-back and was competent in all he did, as was G. Morris, until he lost his place to J. Woodbridge after a reshuffle of positions. The latter gave subtlety to the attack, yet was slightly vulnerable in defence.

The link with the forwards was provided by A. Miller and J. Powell. The former was a fine scrum-half by the end of the season, his service and defensive capabilities improving out of all recognition. The latter's performance was often linked with the team's and at times too much was expected of him. Yet he managed to score 187 points, including a record number of nine drop goals.

The forwards won much good ball during the season with J. Walne, prop, outstanding on the mauls. Along with P. Howland, the hooker, and J. Vernon, the other prop, a good number of strikes against the head were taken. The second-row of J. Sunley and D. Wicks combined excellently in the scrums and were the hub of the forwards. The back-row revealed many contrasts. J. Lewis was by far the best attacker and scored 12 tries. A. Wood scored 2 tries; yet if lacking in attacking sparkle, his defensive covering saved countless tries. R. Moore was always in the thick of the action and when injured his deputy, R. Nicol showed up well.

Finally one should mention the short tour to Herefordshire in February. Well over £200 was collected in fund-raising activities by the members of the 1st and 2nd XVs so that a tour could be undertaken. This effort was truly reflective of the spirit within the teams and the enjoyment that they derived from their rugby.

P. J. HOWLAND.

## 2nd XV

Played 23, Won 19, Lost 4. For 685, Against 97

At the end of last season it seemed as if most of 'the crowd' was to be sapped from us by the 1st XV. Our fears did not fortunately materialise, and at the beginning of the season we had both the

ability and enthusiasm from which to construct one of the best ever 2nd XVs.

As the weeks passed we went from strength to strength. By half-term a very high standard had been achieved and excellent rugby had been played.

After half-term difficulties began to appear. We were dogged by injuries and cancellations, and in the absence of one or two players we often found our play was restricted. The problems were never resolved, with the result that 2nd XV rugby was sometimes frustrated, especially in the latter part of the season. We some times did play poor, unattractive rugby during this period, but we also played some of our best games, notably against Henley, Harrow, Hampton and Monmouth.

Despite the drawbacks the season was outstanding for enthusiasm and spirit; and it was fitting that a tour was arranged. The members of the two senior XVs worked together to finance what proved to be a very enjoyable venture. With regard to this I would particularly like to thank Mr. Stubbs. It was only through his perseverance that the tour was successfully organised.

On behalf of all those who have played for the 2nd XV this season, I wish to express our very sincere gratitude to Mr. Samways for giving so much of his time, his thought, and his energy to the 2nd XV. Thanks also go to his wife and little Roger for letting us 'borrow' him, and to our regular supporters.

It is perhaps a reflection of the tremendous success of this year's 2nd XV that it is the only team ever to have persuaded the coach to buy himself a new jacket and tie.

R. NICOL.

### 3rd XV

Played 20, Won 18, Drawn 1, Lost 1

In many respects this was a typical 3rd XV. It was studded with affably roguish characters who frequently indulged in tactics calculated to turn a rugby purist's hair white, although it needs to be added that this side had an astonishing knack of getting away with it. What was quite untypical was the consistency with which this 3rd XV registered victory after victory with as often as not an embarrassingly high score—35 points for being the average per game, 700 *in toto*.

The great strength of the side stemmed from a well balanced pack which was indecently mobile and confident for a 3rd XV, especially the back row and even prop-forward Warren. Perks, who was greatly appreciated for his fast hooking, was able to spend most of his time as a subsidiary threequarter with increasing effect.

The half-backs in the first team, Lowe and Floyd, were an accomplished pair and made many telling breaks. In the second team West and Bruce, the latter out of position, were slower but still showed themselves to have some real talent for the game and

were good value to the team. Of the three's, Whyment-Morris was much the most dangerous, and with his loping in-field runs and exaggerated side-step scored thirty tries, no less; Costello and Harris had some fine games in the centre and Wesley was always reliable at full-back.

Lastly, Steve Thompson is to be congratulated on making such an ideal captain of a very good 3rd XV.

R.C.F.

### UNDER 15

The Under 15s have had a poor season as far as results were concerned, winning only four matches. They were unfortunate in the second game of the season to have D. Bucknell (their captain) injured. R. Edwards, the vice-captain, took over, and his defence often stopped the opposition and he went on to represent the County at full-back.

It was not till mid-October, when Bucknell returned, that the team recorded its first win against Leighton Park School. The forwards were good at set pieces with J. Kent being an outstanding hooker and R. Marshall, I. Mawhinney and K. Hayward playing well in the loose.

Of the three-quarters S. Pearce was the best runner of the ball but J. Child with H. Johnstone's assistance scored the best try of the season. As for the future, quite a number will grow during the next six months, for they were smaller than is usual for a R.G.S. team, and this extra weight will help them to overcome their present limitations.

J.R.L.

### UNDER 14

Played 20, Won 14, Drawn 1, Lost 5. Points for 446, Against 225  
Until very near the end of the season the U-14s had lost only three games, to Emanuel, St. Benedict's and Lord William's, Thame. But then they had to play four games in the space of eight days (an unfortunate congestion of fixtures) and it proved too demanding, for after a narrow and frustrating defeat against the touring Southport G.S. they went down heavily, with a somewhat weakened side, to St. Nicholas G.S.

However, they reserved one of their best performances of fluent team rugby for the last game of the season against Mandeville School and thus successfully concluded what had been a long winter's programme.

There were a number of match-winning individuals, but they faltered against highly organised teams such as Emanuel and St. Benedict's and, if they are to realise their great potential, they must take to heart the season's lesson, that only 15-man combined rugby is the formula for success and true enjoyment.

Lipscombe and Price shared the season's captaincy duties.

S.R.G.

## UNDER 13

Played 12, Won 10, Lost 2. Points for 384, Against 59

The Under 13s had a particularly successful season as their playing record indicates. After an initially shaky beginning when they lost two of their opening three matches, they improved considerably and won their last nine matches generally by very convincing margins. Their match average of 32 points a game was highly commendable and shows their attacking potential. The team contained a number of very good prospects and these should prove to be the nucleus of equally successful teams in the future. The side was well led by R. Ault, and although it is somewhat invidious to single out individuals in what was essentially a team performance, special mention must be made of C. Hoggett whose scoring feats helped the team on numerous occasions.

L.G.

## UNDER 12

Played 7, Won 7, Lost 0. Points for 178, Against 14

Enthusiasm on and off the field has been the keynote of the U.12 XV's success. The team developed rapidly into a strong-running unit with a fierce determination to maintain its unbeaten record and proved itself far too irresistible a force for its opponents.

It is to the credit of the Under 12s that, in their first season, they have managed to forget themselves as individuals and play 'team rugby'.

M. J. DONE.

## HOCKEY

From the results point of view this has been a mixed season. The first team's results were good against the weaker schools and included an exciting win over the Apeldoorn M.H.C. of The Netherlands. Results in the Spring term were disappointing being unable to convert midfield superiority into goals. Matters were not helped by a tendency to discourage rather than encourage each other and the best results were obtained when the side concentrated on its play for the full seventy minutes.

Cowin, Czerwinski, Cliff, Rose, Coe, Jobes and Lowe have been chosen to represent the County, with Czerwinski being particularly outstanding in the game against Surrey. When he controls his doubtful temperament he could have a bright future in the game. It was a pity he mis-read the train time-tables at Christmas as he would probably have made the divisional South (East) side. As it

was along with Cowin and Jobes he failed to report for duty at the Beckenham tournament—not a good advertisement for the school.

Only three of this year's side are likely to return next year but there are some promising players in the 2nd and Under 16 XIs. The junior Under 15 and Under 14 teams have produced some useful performances and the future prospects look reasonably good. At the junior level we are always more skilful than the opposition but lack the weight with the heavier boys being taken for rugby.

In conclusion I must thank Mr. G. R. Clark for his invaluable help and encouragement during the year, just one of his many contributions to the life of the school; Mr. Frank Wheeler for his help with the umpiring and Mr. R. Page, a student teacher from Reading University who has taken training this last term. He is joining the staff in September and will take charge of the 1st XI.

M.W.C.

### 1st XI

Won 14, Drawn 4, Lost 7

The 1st XI this season promised much but only rarely fulfilled these expectations. Although individual players shone frequently good team performances were few and far between, especially during the harder winter conditions. The most notable successes were against Kingston G.S. and the Dutch touring side, whilst the team was unlucky to lose to Stowe in a very close game.

Goal-scoring chances were hard to come by and lack of success brought frustration. Despite his hard efforts Jobes could not get anywhere near his record 31 goals of last season. Lane and Rose proved very useful but seldom saw enough of the ball. On their day Coe and Wheeler proved very effective inside forwards and Hardy at half-back improved steadily throughout the season. Czerwinski, probably the team's most consistent player repeatedly turned in excellent performances at right-half and the full-backs Lord and Abbot found they could break up the opposition's attacks when they put their minds to it. The standard of goal-keeping was good with Cowin, ably and frequently deputised for by Clark or Campbell.

With the exception of the captain Cliff at centre-half the team's size or lack of it was an obvious handicap against bigger and heavier opposition. As usual the school pitch proved incapable of allowing the team to play skilful hockey.

The team, ably supported by reserves White, Bolding and Evans, finished the season with two rousing wins, the most rewarding against Maidenhead G.S. with P. Coe scoring the vital goals to finish equal top scorer with Rose, 12 goals apiece.

Cliff, Czerwinski, Coe, Cowin, Jobes, Lowe and Rose were chosen to represent Bucks Schoolboys.

N. M. CLIFF.

## 2nd XI

Played 18, Won 4, Drawn 4, Lost 10. Goals for 40, Against 36

Nobody could claim that the team had a successful season from the results achieved. Indeed the last eight matches were lost, though five of them were by a single goal. The forwards failed to take a number of vital chances, and the defence were not strong enough in the muddy conditions to make good long clearances.

Nevertheless an outstanding feature of the season was the tremendous enthusiasm which pervaded the team and its reserves, and for this the two captains, David Abbott in the Autumn term, and Richard Lloyd in the Spring term must take a lot of the credit. The numbers turning up for practice regularly twice a week, and the spirit with which they continued to play even in defeat, are hopeful signs for next year, when most of the team will still be here.

## UNDER 16

Played 6, Won 5, Lost 1. Goals for 19, Against 9

Apart from a heavy defeat at Merchant Taylors when five regular players were not playing, the team had a successful season, the highlight being the trip to Portsmouth which brought two wins in a single day.

I.R.C.

## BASKETBALL

### UNDER 19

With the disbandment of the Bucks Schools' Basketball League which the school had won for the past three years, much of the gloss was removed from the season even before playing had started in earnest. Squad practices were arranged, but attendances were not good thus reflecting the limited enthusiasm.

However, a number of matches against local schools were organised as well as the annual fixture against the Old Boys. Both team and individual performances in these matches were of quite a high standard, seeming to contradict the old saying that 'practice makes perfect'—not that they were perfect! The game at Portsmouth against Southern G.S. in the National Schools' Basketball Competition which the team lost by only one basket was perhaps the outstanding team showing of the season, although a strong Old Boys team including most of the better players of the past few years was defeated by one point—a margin that did not flatter the school. The best individual performances came from M. Spencer, R. Moore and M. Saunders, and R. Thorne, A. Lewis and A. Clarke showed promise for next season. S. Halson and A. Miller were probably the two keenest players in a season where enthusiasm did not run high. Finally Mr. Learmonth is to be thanked for his effort in running the team.

P. J. HOWLAND.

## UNDER 16

The U.16s have had a very successful season, winning all but two of nine inter-school games. We have had two matches against the Staff's 'All Stars' team, winning one and losing one by the same margins.

We narrowly lost the first match of the season against Slough G.S. (away), but more than amply avenged this defeat at home.

Later on in the season we played Cestreham in two *very* exciting legs of the Bucks 'Knock-out' semi-finals—losing by 39—40 away and winning 32—29 at home and so going on to the final on aggregate. This game is to be played at a later date.

Our thanks to Mr. Gill for unerring refereeing and good, solid advice.

The squad was:—W. Hawken, W. Lewis, Quiney, G. Prior, Y. Dowdeswell, P. Whitelock, Simpson, Andrews, C. Keen, W. Trendell, S. Clarke, P. Hoddinott.

P. HODDINOTT.

## UNDER 15

Played 10, Won 9, Drawn 0, Lost 1. Points for 414, Against 232 Having won eight matches (three of which were the 'Dr. Challo-ner's Rally', which we easily won) we lost to Pembroke in the quarter-finals of the Bucks knock-out 58—45. It was a pity the round hinged on one match, as it might have been a different story at home.

The rest of the season, however, was very successful with C. Keen scoring one third of the points and strong backing-up from S. Clarke.

Our thanks to Mr. Learmonth, all the scorers and timekeepers, and last but not least, the teams we played.

Lastly, my thanks to the whole squad which included. C. Keen, S. Clarke, S. Pearce, J. Pearce, D. Bucknell, R. Smith and H. Johnstone.

P. J. HODDINOTT.

## UNDER 14

The team has had quite a successful season, frequently making up in skill what they lacked in height. Their teamwork has improved immensely in a few months, largely thanks to the efforts of P. J. Hoddinott, for which I am most grateful. The following have played for the team: T. Ahmed (capt.), I. D. Quiney, T. C. Clark, K. J. Jonhar, A. J. Edwards, S. D. Roe, N. McL. Diack, C. D. Morrish, W. J. V. Moore, R. J. Edwards.

P.M.G.

## CROSS-COUNTRY

The 'fast set' sixth form cross-country is the team. Narrowly based but burgeoning with steady ability, it has survived the two-term season with honour intact. Despite the loss of the captain, John Crowley, for most of the first term, the rest of the team has taken on fearful opposition and, even in defeat, never failed to gain credit for something.

In fact the season's record looks good on paper. In straight matches the team only lost to one school and we are still trying to work out how Maidenhead did it. One major match triumph was a victory over St. Nicholas G.S., but it has to be admitted that on the day Ramadan, or some such occasion put paid to three of their best runners.

As far as the relays were concerned, the team was always amongst the top ten to finish and the average finishing position was 7th. This might not sound much to the uninitiated, but with the far flung, high level opposition that is encountered at these races, the RGS performance was good. King Henry VIII School, Coventry, proved to be unbeatable at the meetings, breaking most of the records. The London schools made less impression on the results of the relays than they had clearly hoped and had to, invariably, give pride of place to Dr. Challoner's who, incidentally, won the RGS relay in a record time.

One of the most enjoyable relays was the Oxford University Schools Race, in which the chief joy was to see different faces amongst the competitors. It also gave the team a taste of wider opposition from as far away as Bath (Kingswood, who won) and the Midlands (Rugby, who were a place behind us). Amongst about 25 teams, the RGS's 7th equal with Malvern was most laudable.

At the other end of the scale, perhaps the most unsatisfactory relay was Alleyn's Stevenage, for which we arrived late. It was a very demoralised RGS team that ambled round the course, a lap behind everyone else. Apart from this occasion, the standard of coach transportation has been generally approved and 'Bob' of Hyltone coaches, who got us to Harrow in 35 minutes, has been awarded 'driver of the season'.

As far as the team goes, the most encouraging aspect of the year has been the persistent improvements in times made by most of the runners. Johnson, Hansell and Humphrey all achieved significant breakthroughs and full colours in addition. I hope the good times of Waller (in House cross-country) and Thorne (at Alleyn's) are good pointers to their possible form next year. Thanks also go to Jenkins, the 'anchor man' of the team (whatever that should mean) and Crowley who, on many occasions, has been literally only a split second away from an individual medal.



The district trials showed that many fifth-formers have something to offer to RGS cross-country, which I hope they will do. Thanks also go to those below the fifth form who ran in the district and county trials, with creditable results.

Next year we should have a good season again and I hope many more sixth-formers will attempt to run in the school team rather than, in apathy, opt automatically for the slow set.

Finally, Crowley, Johnson and Hansell must be congratulated on their selection to run for Buckinghamshire in the All England Race at the end of March.

J. R. ROEBUCK.

## BADMINTON

1st VI Played 12, Won 10, Lost 2.

With the whole of last season's 1st VI returning at the beginning of the year, the Badminton team was looking forward to a successful season. And so it proved to be; perhaps the one main feature of the year was the ease with which the badminton team won most of its matches. After narrowly losing against a strong John Hampden side, the school went on to win its next ten matches. The team's experience, with Spencer and Cannell in their third year and Smith, Tappin, Bergson and Wilson in their second, proved useful in many matches, but meant that the team lacked its usual keenness and enthusiasm. Upchurch, the only new arrival, and Miller were different in this respect, both were able and willing reserves. Upchurch improved tremendously throughout the season and earned his first team place on Wilson's departure at Christmas. However there has been little other talent available and places in next year's team are still wide open.

Junior badminton like senior badminton, although enthusiastic, suffers from the fact that there is only one court for the whole school. Despite this, as the House Badminton competition has shown, many people find badminton a very enjoyable game and the badminton club should continue to flourish next year.

Finally thanks must go to Mr. White-Taylor, who gives up much of his time to the Badminton Club, especially the juniors.

M. SPENCER.

## ROWING CLUB

As we may have said before, last year saw the club's most successful season ever. Cups were won at Reading Junior, National Schools, Reading Town, Egham, and the season culminated in selection to row for England in the Home Countries Championships. It is always difficult for succeeding teams to rise to the high standards of their predecessors, and our case is no exception, for this year's

1st IV is drawn from the Lower Sixth, a situation unprecedented in the club's history. Not only does this mean that there is a year's less experience than usual to build on but furthermore the crew is bound to find itself competing against crews which will hold the advantage because of their greater weight and strength. Size and experience are not, however, everything. Technique and fitness are the most important requirements of a winning crew. To ensure that his crews, especially the 1st IV and the Colts 'A', do possess these, Mr. Blyth finds himself involved in rowing six days a week. For this devotion to what is, after all, the interests of the boys the club is very grateful.

The prospects of the 1st IV are bright for this summer. Early success was earned at the Schools Head in London on March 9th, when we came 6th in a field of 53. This result and frequent victories over the 2nd IV have helped promote an air of optimism in the camp. There is certainly no lack of enthusiasm and the crew is beginning to work together as a unit. Bartlett, who represents our sculling strength this year, at 14 stone helps to make up for the lack of weight and provided that under the pressure of a race bow doesn't row too short, 'two' keeps time, 'three' doesn't chop in or hit stroke in the back, and stroke finds that elusive rhythm there is no reason why the 1st IV shouldn't collect a couple of cups and at last find an excuse to throw cox in.

The 2nd IV, in its present form, was not on the water until October. They too are hampered by lack of experience and weight but under the coaching of Carol Blyth they have been able to provide the 1st IV with racing opposition since Christmas, and provided that every member of the crew is fit they could do well in the summer.

The 3rd IV more than any other suffers from being too light. Under the coaching of Mr. Ferris four novices have made up a crew which is now moving along quite well.

The Colts 'A' are, at this stage of the season, recording times which are as fast as the 2nd IV. They are as heavy, if not heavier, than the latter. At 'three' Vale, so we are told, is a very able and powerful rower—a fact which his corresponding number in the 1st IV finds somewhat discomfiting. The fitness of the crew as a whole means they must surely be a force to be reckoned with this summer.

The Regatta season is in the Summer term but rowing is an all-year-round sport. The basis of success in June is to be found in the training in the winter months. Whilst members of the Slow Cross-Country set are at their more dubious pursuits, rowers are working hard—most weeks until 4.30 p.m. or later. The crews which have worked hard will reap the rewards for there is a real sense of achievement in arriving at the finishing post first, or so they tell me.

R. M. MAWHINNEY.

## CRICKET

Whilst the cricket fixtures are similar to previous years (Hampton G.S. being, perhaps, the most notable addition) the coming season has a number of points of interest for all levels within the school.

The season for the seniors culminates in a cricket week with five matches (including a 2-day game) at home on successive days. At the end of term a senior party will be returning to Skandeborg, Denmark, for a week's tour.

A major change at junior level is the reorganisation of the U.15 XI and U.14 XI into two Colts XIs which will be selected on merit. This will occur after Whitsun and among other benefits it is hoped this will enable our school coach, Mr. Bill Yates, to divert more of his attention to the juniors.

In addition, at the end of term, there will be a junior 'single wicket' competition, the winner being presented with a cup kindly donated by Woodward Stalders.

Finally, the 'Best Performances' information will be continued this year—and we are looking forward to the time when the first century is scored!

J. F. SAMWAYS.

## LAWN TENNIS

We have our usual full fixture list—with home games against Radley College, Highgate, U.C.S., and Magdalen College School, to ensure that the new court ought to have its full share of good tennis! Last year we recruited the new court, this year welcome help comes in the form of two new members of staff—Messrs. Prue and Raymond. With three major teams now running the job is too much for one person to cope with and the spreading of the load will be gratefully received!

Two full colours are still with us, captain Guy Johnson (we wish him well in the Bucks County team this year), and vice-captain John Lowe. Both have given sterling support in the past and their experience ought to help us this season. Only one space remains to be filled in the 1st VI (Neil Cliff, Mark Aston and Geoffrey Hunt being members last year): although we have plenty of talent in the lower school, the middle and upper school unfortunately lack any real quality at the moment.

No matches were cancelled last year through poor weather: we pray that Jupiter will look as kindly on us in this coming season—at least until tea!

K. A. HILLIER.

## GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP—ABERYSTWYTH 1972

This year, we left Wycombe in bright sunshine, Mr. Samways rubbing his hands in prospect of the week ahead, but the weather turned so bad that the day up Cader Idris was cancelled. We stayed in a Hall of Residence at the University, where the food was highlighted by the bread and butter sandwiches in the packed lunches, but there was a football table which drew a large crowd. The extra master, Mr. Hillier, could not last the pace of coastal work, but others on the coast at Borth, which provides an excellent example of coastal erosion and deposition, got particularly drenched, except on the last day when the sun shone and existing piggy back and forward roll records on the sand dunes were broken by rugby players.

For once both coach and driver remained intact and Alan, the driver, will be remembered for his self-control and his darts. He and Mr. Moffatt formed a formidable pair, but the second team of Samways/Cook were no match for their powerful opposition. Little of the scenery could be seen from the coach as the windows misted up, but if the conversation was boring, you could always listen to holes in the floor or the incredibly grown-up singing from the back.

Mr. Gill's polite conversation led to many cups of tea and although he was not always allowed into pubs his rural studies were a particular success. One group had tea with the Vicar of Bow Street's wife, while another discovered a real character in Talybont—'Dai the Glow'—who was asked some difficult questions by A. Lewis. The villages of Maccynlleth and Tre-Taliesin were also studied. In the urban studies one group found Alderman Price, Chairman of Entertainments Board, who knew all the facts about Aberystwyth past, present and future. Urban zones were mapped, the sphere of influence found and its tourism studied, similarly with Dolgellau. Mr. Moffatt trotted around studying various rivers and made some astute observations, such as: 'These rocks do not come from here at all, so we must talk in terms of their coming from somewhere else.'

Tragic news reached us on Saturday night: Watford had been relegated. On Sunday we went to Devil's Bridge and saw the superb Mynach Falls. En route, Mr. Moffatt was all but run over when trying to photograph an incised meander and A. Raja tried hard to commit suicide at Parson's Bridge. Here a sheep was rescued and subsequently gave birth to a lamb. One person was so overwhelmed that he could not find a suitable quote from Sparks. We returned to Aber by the Vale of Rheidol railway, except Mr. Cook who went by 'buzz'. One passenger in wellingtons, pacamac, waterproof cape and sou'wester caused a certain amount of mirth.

By the end of the trip everyone was exhausted, but there was a great deal to be learnt and enjoyed.

A. K. C. WOOD.

### The Annual General Meeting

The A.G.M. was held in the Masters' Common Room at 6 o'clock on Saturday, March 18th, 1972. Twenty-three Old Boys were present. The Chair was taken by the President, Mr. Malcolm Smith.

Before the business meeting began, all stood in silence as a mark of respect for Mr. Emlyn Jones and Mr. L. T. Hollingworth, who had both died so suddenly at the end of the summer term in July 1971.

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

- (a) The Financial Report—the balance sheet drawn up by the Hon. Auditor, A. E. Franklin Hole, was accepted. The finances were considered satisfactory although the Club seemed to be losing money.
- b) The E. R. Tucker Memorial Room—the Headmaster reported that the County Architect had been asked to do work in connection with the heating system and other minor repairs.
- (c) The Cricket Club had had a short but good season.
- (d) The Public Schools Club—the School was now affiliated to this Club but in May 1972 the Public Schools Club would merge with the East India and Sports Club. The new club is to be known as the East India, Sports and Public Schools Club and the address St. James' Square. Old Boys are eligible for membership of the new club and the Hon. Sec. reported that many Old Boys had written and shown interest in joining it.
- (e) Buffet Dance—it had been decided that the moment was not opportune to organise a Buffet Dance in the Queen's Hall.

### The Election of Officers

The officers for 1972-73 are:—

*The President:* Malcolm P. Smith, Esq.

*The Chairman:* S. A. Goulborn, Esq.

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

*Committee:*

The Rev. A. J. Skipp (1929–37)	S. E. Hands (1915–20)
R. W. Bartlett (1900–07)	G. W. Ray (1917–23)
J. K. Prior (1934–40)	J. P. Lord (1934–38)
G. C. Rayner (1937–45)	G. E. Green (1940–46)
S. A. Goulborn (1928–36)	G. W. West (1935–40)
W. A. C. Knowles (1951–58)	R. S. Wombwell (1960–67)

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

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

Any other business:—

(a) The Rev. A. J. Skipp brought to the attention of the meeting the fact that at the Wycombe Divisional Education Executive meeting on March 15th, 1972, the following resolution had been passed by 12 votes to 10:

‘That the Authority be informed that the Divisional Executive favours gradually converting the existing system of secondary schools into a 12–16 mixed non-selective system with some existing schools becoming the basis of a 6th Form College or “mushroom” system.’

John Skipp felt that this should be resisted and said he had drafted the following resolution on behalf of the Old Boys’ Club to be sent to the Divisional Executive with a copy to the Chief Education Officer:—

‘We were shocked to learn of the proposal accepted by the Wycombe Divisional Executive last Wednesday for the future organisation of secondary education in the district. Such organisation must result in the destruction of this school which has done so much to enhance the reputation of High Wycombe, and has been such an inestimable benefit to so many boys in this district. We shall do our utmost, both as an association and as individuals, to frustrate any attempts upon the continued existence of this school in its present form.’

He moved that this letter be sent, it was seconded and carried unanimously. He also moved that a letter be sent to a governor of the Royal Grammar School expressing amazement at the leading part he had played in bringing about the passing of this resolution which would destroy everything the school stood for. This was carried.

(b) J. K. Prior felt that for the record Old Boys should know that since the death of Norman Theed, he had been the new Chairman of the Youens V.C. Fund. Three members of the Old

Boys' Club were trustees working with three trustees from the Governing Body (two of these were also Old Boys). With the Headmaster this made a total membership of seven.

(c) The Hon. Sec. was asked to publish the fact that Old Boys' ties could be obtained from S. C. Willott and Hull, Looseley and Pearce but no longer at Peace's.

The Chairman of the Club, S. A. Goulborn, thanked the Headmaster for conducting the meeting and then all retired to the Junior School Dining Hall for the Annual Dinner.

### **The Annual Dinner 1971**

The Annual Dinner was held on Saturday, March 18th, 1972 in the Junior School Dining Hall at the Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe. Eighty-two Old Boys gathered to welcome their Guest of Honour, Alderman R. P. Clarke, C.B.E., M.A., B.C.L.

Alderman G. H. Baker (1906-12) proposed the toast to the Guest of Honour and paid tribute to the extraordinary contribution which Mr. Clarke and his family had made to the welfare of the School. Both Mr. Clarke's grandfathers, Alderman J. G. Peace and Daniel Clarke Esq. and his father, A. J. Clarke Esq., J.P., had been governors. Mr. R. P. Clarke had been a governor for 41 years and Chairman of the Governors for 17 years. When the School gave up its independence and became voluntarily controlled, Mr. Clarke with the clarity of his legal mind had steered the Governing Body through the maze involving Trust Funds and Charity Commissioners. Mrs. Joan Clarke had given her husband unstinted support throughout the years and all knew how close the Royal Grammar School was to her heart. The School and the Town were deeply grateful to them both.

In his reply Mr. Clarke made it clear that the Royal Grammar School had given him far more than he had given it. He would always be in the School's debt. He had been personally involved in the appointment of the last two Headmasters, the late Mr. E. R. Tucker in 1933 and Mr. M. P. Smith in 1965. As a result of his friendship with these two men his life and that of his wife had been enriched. Mr. Clarke, as was only right, reminisced and particularly about the Queen's visit in the quatercentenary year 1962, a highlight in the School's history. He concluded with sincere thanks to the Old Boys for honouring him.

R. S. Wombwell (1960-67) proposed the toast to the School and Club in a short polished, sincere speech. All present were deeply indebted to the School for what it had done for them and the School would always have a place in their hearts.

The Headmaster was introduced by the Chairman, S. A. Goulborn (1928–36). Mr. Malcolm Smith made mention of the sad loss of Mr. Emlyn Jones and Mr. L. T. Hollingworth. G. W. Ray (1917–23) was the new foundation governor taking the place of the late Norman Theed. It had been in many ways a quiet year but the very considerable success of Old Boys made him realise that the School was still making a vital contribution. He was, however, apprehensive about the future of the School arising from the very recent decision of the Wycombe Divisional Education Executive. He thought the introduction of this comprehensive system was a grim prospect because standards would undoubtedly be impaired. It did not take long to bring down a great school. He hoped that Old Boys would do their utmost to help the School survive. Mr. Smith concluded with these words: 'I profoundly hope that we shall be permitted to go on providing the same type of high quality education which is our own justification for existing.'

### Deaths

W. L. AVERY (1921–27), in March, 1972, at School House, Wheeler End, aged 61 years.

W. L. Avery was an accountant with Ercol Furniture Ltd. when he died. He played football and cricket for the School and was well known as a fast bowler for the Lane End club. He leaves a widow, Mrs. W. L. Avery, and a daughter.

A. W. TILLING (1925–30), in March, 1972, at 4 Westover Road, High Wycombe, aged 57 years.

Arthur Watson Tilling was a well-known businessman and a member of an old Wycombe family. He was a director of the well-known Becket building firm. He was for many years a worker for the local Boy Scout movement. He was an active Freemason and a past Master of the Wycombe Lodge. He leaves a widow and one son.

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A short time ago a copy of the *South Bucks Free Press* for Friday, July 27th, 1917, was sent to the School for safe keeping. Among local casualties there appeared:

Lieut. F. Youens, killed on July 7th, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Youens, formerly of Gordon Road, High Wycombe.

Old Boys and present pupils might like to read what one of his brother officers wrote to his mother:—

'He did one of the finest acts of bravery that has been done in this war. He was on patrol and was wounded. While he was



being dressed in a dug-out with his tunic and shirt off, the word came down that his company was being attacked. He immediately rushed out as he was and rallied a Lewis gun team and commenced firing. The enemy threw a bomb into the middle of the team, he picked it up and threw it away. Another bomb was thrown in the same place, your son picked it up and was throwing it away when it exploded in his hand. He undoubtedly saved the situation by his display of coolness.'

For this F. Youens (1906-11) was awarded the Victoria Cross. The Headmaster, Mr. G. W. Arnison, wrote:

'Those of us who were privileged to teach him and to know him well, share with his relatives most treasured memories of a fine character. He was immensely keen in all he undertook, very thorough and absolutely reliable. He left behind him a record of chivalrous courage and devotion to duty which will be an inspiration to every succeeding generation of Royal Grammar School boys.'

## Staff

Old Boys will be sorry to hear that Mrs. Grant died a short time after she and Mr. G. A. Grant had celebrated fifty years of marriage.

## OLD BOYS

ANDERSON, N. B. (1962-69) is in his 3rd year at Cardiff University following a 4-year Civil Engineering degree course. He has spent six months as Site Engineer working on the Mersey Tunnel as part of his industrial training.

AXTON, J. A. (1922-26) is with the Ministry of Defence in the N.A.T.O. Defence Codification Authority having relinquished his business in Watford about seven years ago. If W. G. CARDEN (1923-27) sees this, will he write to 2 Eaton Road, Sidcup, Kent.

BIRD, M. A. (1944-50) had an enjoyable reunion last November with R. H. (Willy) WHEELBAND (1944-49) who lives a few miles outside Toronto. He was over on business and Willy and his family took him to see the Niagara Falls.

BOLTON, A. C. H. (1965-71) has realised his ambition. He starts at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, in May. For the last year he has been a Police Constable stationed at Chesham and Amersham.

BRINN, A. (1956-58) gained his first Rugby International Cap when he played for England against Wales last January. He is a giant of a man who plays in the 2nd row for Gloucester. It is a pity that it was inevitable that he should be on the losing side in his first international.

BROWN, M. J. (1964-70) passed out of Dartmouth Naval College and was appointed to the frigate *Argonaut*. He flew to Singapore and was packed off to Jungle Warfare School in Malaysia. He spent only four hours in the actual jungle but that was plenty! He then sailed to the Philippines, straight into typhoons 'Fay' and 'Gloria'. Engine trouble took them back to Singapore. When he wrote he was on his way out of the Persian Gulf to join *Eagle*. He met J. R. SKINNER (1960-66), a Sub-Lieut. on *Intrepid*, in Bahrein.

CAVEY, M. J. (1963-70) came to school and showed slides of a fascinating journey he had made in a jeep to out-of-the-way places in Turkey and Persia.

COLGROVE, R. (1952-58) is working as Senior Development Engineer at Perkins Engines Co., Peterborough, engaged on the development of pistons and rings for diesel engines for truck and tractor applications. He is married with one child, a daughter, and lives in Peterborough.

DINGLE, A. W. (1958-63) writes from the Department of Economics, Monash University, Victoria. Australia is getting an increasingly pleasant country in which to bring up children. He has been infected by the publish or perish syndrome recently and has managed to get several pieces accepted. A couple of efforts on Australian urban history will appear in the Australian Economic History Review. Also the Economic History Review in England has accepted something on working class living standards in late 19th century Britain.

DODGSON, A. (1913-18) writes his annual very alive letter. His daughter from Sweden spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Dodgson—with her husband and five small daughters. Three developed chicken pox within hours of arriving—Allan Dodgson wrote off last Christmas as a family reunion. His younger daughter in Vancouver managed to produce the first son in several branches of the family last October. The Dodgsons fly out there in July to celebrate.

ESSEX, F. W. (1927-35) was a member of the Pearce Commission in Rhodesia.

- GARDHAM, M. M. (1927–33). Air Vice-Marshal Gardham was made a C.B. recently. He is Air Officer in charge of administration at H.Q. Training Command, R.A.F. Brampton.
- GARRETT, T. K. (1929–36). After 14 years of editing a technical journal called 'Automobile Engineer', he is now a free-lance writing for his living. He has just had the new operation entailing removal of a vein from the leg and grafting it on to the heart to by-pass blockages in the two coronary arteries. The result has been little short of miraculous.
- GASH, R. (1960–67) is leaving Cambridge after completing his degree in Law and will work in the Town Clerk's Department in Exeter. The winds of change were blowing in Cambridge when he wrote in December 1971. The Alma Mater was then doing battle with the Amazons—Churchill and Clare had already capitulated and St. John's had been invaded by the Women's Lib and an armoured corps of perambulators.
- GRAY, D. E. (1942–46) who lives at 29 Cedar Avenue, Hazlemere, has just had his first hard-back book published by Seeley Service & Co. It is entitled *A Damned Un-English Weapon* and is a factual history of British submarine operations in the 1914–18 war. His second book, *The Killing Time*, which deals with the U-Boat of the same war, will be published later in the year. He has been writing for about 20 years and is proud of the R.G.S. especially for having taught him how to write. In the potted biography on the dust-cover he has made sure that mention has been made of the R.G.S. as his main place of education. His book is priced at £3.15 and he hopes his contemporaries will order it from their local libraries.
- GREEN, D. G. (1960–62) called in recently and joined the Old Boys' Club. He followed a two-year Business Course including computer studies at Bournemouth and in 1970 he joined the German company, Nixdorf Computer Ltd. He was trained in Germany and is now Sales Executive for Middlesex, Bucks and Oxon.
- HADDON, J. S. (1943–47) writes from Parramatta, New South Wales. He had to leave Whyalla because the bentonite and magnetite fumes from the works brought on asthma. He is a member of the Institute of Metallurgists and hopes to find a suitable job soon. Parramatta is very rich in Australian history—it has the oldest standing buildings, three of them dating from 1793.

HAMMETT, R. W. (1954-61) had hoped to be working for the Department of Overseas Development in Asia by now but the job did not materialise. While he was in Uganda he made a study of the language spoken in the part where he was. He showed his notes and tape-recordings to a professor at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London University and was offered a place there. He is now busy licking all his material into shape. This consists of the answers to 75 questions on a variety of phonetic, phonological, grammatical and lexical items put to 138 informants scattered across an area about 100 miles by 40 miles.

HANDS, J. (1937-42). For the year 1971 John Hands was President of the Furnishing Trades' Benevolent Association, High Wycombe and District Area.

HATHAWAY, I. R. (1963-65) was married on August 14th, 1971, at St. Mary's Church, Hitchin, Herts., to Miss Rosalind Smith.

HERON, R. L. (1960-66) has a degree, a wife and daughter, a three-bedroomed suburban semi and a depressingly low bank balance. He also has a job which consists of administering the estates of the dead and managing the investments of the living. He wonders how long he will be able to go on working for the profit of others rather than his own. He and his friend J. M. DARVILLE (1960-66) made a special effort to be at the Annual Dinner this year.

HOBSON, F. J. R. (1947-54). The Hon. Sec. attended his uncle's funeral in Llangyndeyrn, Carm., recently and the Vicar was pleased to see him. His daughter had married F. J. R. Hobson who is now Personnel Manager of a paper mill and living in Andover. He still sings.

HUGHES, J. T. (1962-69) has been elected treasurer of the Cambridge University Liberal Club. All donations will be thankfully received.

INSHAW, P. A. (1969-71) is pursuing a course for the H.N.D. in Business Studies at Trent Polytechnic. He would be happy to help any boy from the R.G.S. who might apply there.

JOHN, S. A. (1964-71) is working hard at the College of Air Training, Hamble. He is doing a great deal of flying and life is exciting. If any R.G.S. boys come to Hamble for selection, Stephen John will be delighted to help. His room number is Dorado 18.

JONES, G. D. B. (1947-54). Dr. Barri Jones was appointed the first Professor of Archaeology at Manchester University shortly after his father, Mr. Emlyn Jones, died so suddenly. He has just produced a pamphlet 'The Roman Gold Mines at Dolau-cothi.' This summer he will lead a team to Carmarthenshire to re-work the mine with volunteer labour to obtain funds for the full excavation of the old mine and the associated Roman Settlement.

JONES, G. D. (1955-61) goes from strength to strength in Tokyo. He is a languages consultant and some time ago started up an Export-marketing business with four Japanese as partners.

JUDGE, F. W. (1916-21). G. C. LACEY (1916-21) rang the School up recently to ask if the F. W. Judge who had been made chairman of the Lawn Tennis Association was the Judge who had been in his form. He was. Group Captain Judge left school to join the R.A.F. He occasionally played tennis and hockey and ran a few half-miles for the R.A.F. He was invalided out in 1956 and went to the R.A.F. Sports Board. He was appointed the R.A.F. representative on the L.T.A. Council in 1957. In 1967 he became a member of the committee of management to the championships at Wimbledon. Now he is chairman of the L.T.A.

KEEN, S. G. J. (1921-25) is Chairman of the Wycombe Hospital House Committee. He is responsible not only for Wycombe's new hospital but also for the Shrubbery Maternity Home and Booker and Marlow Hospitals.

KEFFORD, M. H. (1959-65). We heard indirectly that he and his Gurkhas did guard duty at Buckingham Palace. We also heard that the Officer of the Guard is sometimes called in for a cup of tea. We'd like to know what really happened.

LORCH, R. P. (1962-66), an old 'Uplymer', has just completed a 3-year Higher National Diploma in Production Engineering. He is now working for the Engineering Institute's examinations but on August 28th last year he found time to get married. J. R. WHEEL (1961-67) was his best man.

MAUN, I. H. C. (1960-67) completed his degree in Modern Languages and is now working in the brand new Heffer's bookshop in Cambridge—in the Foreign Department. He says the shop is well worth a visit.

MOISEY, C. U. (1958–60). Dr. Moisey became Mr. Moisey in November 1969. He gained his F.R.C.S. at his first attempt. He is now specialising in Urology at the Royal Hospital in Sheffield. He is married with two daughters. F. R. MOISEY (1958–64) has gained his Ph.D. in Agriculture sponsored by the Sugar Beet Growers' Corporation.

MORTON, J. (1961–68) took part in University Challenge on I.T.V. this term. He was in the London School of Economics team which defeated Sheffield but got a hiding from the girls of Lady Margaret Hall.

NASH, G. D. (1954–59) has made a great success of hockey umpiring. He was given his first international to control this season—Wales v. Scotland at Wrexham.

NEWTON, M. S. (1964–71) writes from the Saxon Inn Motor Hotel, Ainley Top, Huddersfield, where he is gaining practical experience before going to Surrey University to take a degree course in Hotel and Catering Management. With the Dinner-Dance season in full swing, life was very hectic for him.

NORTH, D. M. (1956–60) is one of the two officers chosen to read for the Bar in the Royal Navy.

OLIVER, A. J. (1959–66) left Bristol University with a B.Sc. in Chemistry. He then went to Canada and gained his Ph.D. at Alberta University. He came back to England for a year at Sussex and has now returned to Canada for a year at McMaster's University, Hamilton, Ontario.

PATTINSON, M. R. (1953–60) is now Head of the Biology Department at Rugby School. I. R. H. PATTINSON (1962–69) has been elected Captain of the Cambridge University Golf team.

PEARSON, A. G. (1960–67) is in his final year of the German Course at University College, London. He spent his last academic session in Marburg and met A. P. HIPGRAVE (1960–67) who had finished his Law degree at Cambridge but was working at a children's home in Simmern.

**PEDDAR, I. M. (1936–42).** The R.A.F. Section of the C.C.F. went to R.A.F. Chivenor for Easter Camp and discovered that the C.O. was an Old Boy. Group Captain Peddar, O.B.E., D.F.C., was a founder cadet member of No. 708 Squadron A.T.C. at the R.G.S. He joined the R.A.F. through the Oxford University Air Squadron and was commissioned in 1945. He became a fighter pilot and was awarded the D.F.C. in 1949 for operations during the Malaya emergency. He was awarded the O.B.E. in Singapore in 1963. He was appointed to command R.A.F. Chivenor in March 1972.

**PENDER, W. L. (1953–58)** wrote early in November 1971 from a quiet little town somewhere between Belfast and Londonderry. Captain Pender had just spent six unpleasant weeks in the latter. Since being commissioned in 1961 he has served in Cyprus, Germany, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii, U.S.A. and Jamaica. He sees Old Boys B. J. BULL (1952–58), a successful garage owner, P. J. HOLTORP (1954–58) a Captain in the R.A.O.C., and D. J. M. RENDALL (1954–58) who flies V.C. 10's for B.O.A.C.

**PRIOR, D. C. (1962–68)** writes from Bremen where he is spending a year in a German Gymnasium as part of his degree course. Bremen is a very alive town but when he wrote in January it was very cold and the river Weser was frozen in several places.

**PRIOR, P. J. (1929–36)**, managing director of Bulmer's Cider, used to sit on Wycombe Station as a little boy and watch the trains. Recently he made a sentimental return journey bringing with him the famous G.W.R. King George V steam locomotive pulling the Bulmer's Cider exhibition train. Bulmers have restored the engine to full working order. Mr. Grant wrote to him on reading about this and Prior promised to call in on him the next time he passed. He kept his promise—he was on his way to Buckingham Palace to have tea with Prince Philip. His firm Bulmers gives very active support to the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

**RENNIE, K. J. (1956–61)** is now the proud father of a son, born on 23rd December, 1971. He is progressing well in his job and was recently on a Unilever Managerial Course.

**ROSE, C. A. (1940–44)** is British Rail's South Eastern Division Manager now. He is responsible for the Region's rail services into Cannon Street, Charing Cross, Holborn Viaduct and Victoria from South East London, the whole of Kent and from Hastings via Tonbridge.

SABINE, C. R. (1957-66). After an abortive year doing Law at the Bristol College of Commerce, he spent four years at the Philippa Fawcett College of Education in London. He left in 1971 with a B.Ed. degree in English and Drama and took up a teaching post in Southampton. He claims to be the only Old Boy to have spent five years in the Biology 6th and then gone on to write a thesis on Aristophanic Comedy. He spent the summer of 1971 touring with the Shoestring Children's Theatre. This is a group of Hampshire teachers who spend their spare time performing plays and doing creative work with children. He is now running the finance and administration of this group and they have appeared several times on T.V. and radio.

SAUNDERS, N. W. (1957-64) writes from the North Sea German Spa Cuxhaven where he is teaching English at the Girls' Grammar School there. Teachers' salaries in Germany are very attractive and he and his wife and son will be there for some time. He is being employed by 'The Centre for British Teachers in Germany' who have a particular liking for the German-speaking products of the R.G.S. Apparently they mention the name of M. R. FERGUSON (1956-63) with awe. Neil Saunders would be happy to receive any boys or staff who care to drop into Schillerstrasse 71. His brother J. C. SAUNDERS (1963-70) has written too from Selwyn College giving news. He is playing chess for the University. D. R. S. HEDGELAND (1959-65) is back there after his ill-fated Rolls Royce venture, having been awarded a Research Fellowship. Another Old Selwynite A. T. LUDGATE (1956-63) had just defeated the reigning British Chess Champion when he wrote.

SCOTT, E. G. (1936-41) lives with his wife and three children at Stour Court, Stoke-by-Clarke, Suffolk. He is now Company Director and Company Secretary with a firm which is part of the Delta Group. He would be very pleased to hear from any old classmates or even any masters who remember him. He remembers Mr. Bicknell and Mr. Morgan only too well apparently.

SHARP, D. J. (1959-64) is teaching junior officers to fly at R.A.F. Church Fenton, Yorkshire. As all the initial flying for the R.A.F. and Royal Navy takes place there, Fl/Lt. Sharp would be only too glad to advise any boy who is contemplating a career in military aviation.



SMITH, J. R. (1939–45). Lt. Col. J. R. Smith was awarded the O.B.E. for his work in the Education Branch of the Army in the New Year's Honours List.

SNODIN, D. N. (1959–66) had a short play on B.B.C. 2 in November 1971 and very recently played Cassius in the Oxford and Cambridge Shakespeare Company's production of *Julius Caesar* at the New Theatre. Jonathan Miller directed. *The Times* wrote: 'The Cassius of long-haired David Snodin dominates the opening scenes with his supple movements and delicately emphatic speech. He is rebellious youth.'

STEPTOE, R. (1961–69) has obtained his M.A. degree in Comparative Literature at Manchester University. He gained his first degree there in German in 1970 and is now studying for the Certificate of Education in preparation for a career in teaching.

STEVENS, J. A. (1959–67) writes from Paderborn in Germany where he is happy in his new job. On a business trip, he met Hartmut Siewert who was a German assistant at the R.G.S. Herr Siewert said J. A. COLLAR (1948–54) had made an impression on him as a linguist.

STONE, R. N. (1929–33) writes from Durham City which he finds very beautiful—small with narrow streets. He was a student there. He still lectures in physics and electronics at Sunderland Polytechnic where he is a Senior Lecturer. He would be pleased to see any Old Boys who are students at the University there.

TERRY, R. C. (1943–49) has completed his Ph.D. at the University of London. He is an Assistant Professor at the University of Victoria, British Columbia, which he joined in 1965. He returns to London in August this year to research a book on the novelist Anthony Trollope. His brother J. H. TERRY (1938–42) was noted in the last edition of the magazine as having settled down as the new manager of the National Westminster Bank in Beaconsfield. Recently his wife died and we extend our sympathy to him.

THAIN, J. E. D. (1962-68) completed his H.N.D. in Business Studies at the Wycombe College of Technology and Art and in the face of fierce competition got a job with G. D. Searle of High Wycombe. He is their representative in the Hants area and lives in a cottage belonging to W. J. SEYMOUR (1961-66) who has given up his flourishing career with Marks and Spencer and is doing even better in something else.

THOMPSON, L. J. (1912-17) wrote asking for information about the Public Schools Club like very many other Old Boys. It is quite remarkable how all Arnison Old Boys look back almost with reverence to their days under Mr. G. W. Arnison. L. J. Thompson was Captain of Cricket and Soccer and Mr. Arnison always discussed with him all aspects of School life in which he was involved. He found it inspiring. How we envy today Mr. Arnison with 224 boys in 1917.

THORN, A. C. (1929-31) is Managing Director of Polystyle Publications, the Argus Press Company which publishes various comics and annuals for children. His weekends and some evenings he devotes to the Baptist Church. He is currently President of the London Baptist Association. He has been a lay preacher for 30 years.

TINN, D. S. O. (1965-71) has taken on the captaincy of the Old Boys' swimming team. If any Old Boys would like to take part in a swimming match against the School this summer or officiate in any way, would they contact him at 'Silvanus', Uplands Close, Gerrards Cross.

VARNEY, D. G. (1945-48) is the new Manager of British Rail's Travel Centre in Lower Regent Street. He will also look after British Rail's other Travel Offices in London. He will have more than 60 staff under his control.

WADSWORTH, M. E. J. (1953-59) has written a book. It is called: 'Health and Sickness; the Choice of Treatment. Perception of Illness and Use of Service in an Urban Community.' It is the result of his work at Guy's Hospital. He is now on the scientific staff of the Medical Research Council's unit for the Study of Environmental Factors in Mental and Physical Illness, based on the London School of Economics. He took his M.Phil. at Leeds in 1969.

WAKEFIELD, D. A. (1958-65). Lieut. Wakefield has been chosen to run the Devonport Field Gun Crew for 1972 and will appear at the Royal Tournament in July. He and his men will be sweating to secure the fastest time for a complete run. He naturally expects a lot of R.G.S. support for his crew especially if a party from the School visits Earls Court. If anyone from the School is visiting Plymouth while the crew is under training, he will be only too pleased to invite them into H.M.S. *Drake* to watch a practice run.

WALKER, G. P. M. (1953-60) is now all set. He has a very good position in the Bodleian in Oxford, he bought a flat near Oxford and then rounded it all off by finding himself a wife, Miss Anne Snow, who teaches French at the Headington School for Girls. D. R. WALKER (1955-62) is living in Romsey with his wife and two children and is using his artistic talents in advertising in Southampton. T.E. CHANDLER (1954-61), who is writing in Cambridge, visits him. D. G. WALKER (1957-64) has a year-old daughter and works for the Wiltshire County Council Library Service.

WALLEN, P. J. (1960-68) is now at the Mons O.C.S. and hopes to be commissioned into the Royal Engineers in May.

WARD, J. R. (1956-62) now Lecturer in Economic History at Edinburgh University, was invited earlier this year to read a Paper to Professor Peter Matthias's Seminar for Advanced Students at Oxford. He and his brother M. R. WARD (1959-65) spent a month travelling in Germany last year. He found it very interesting and hopes to develop an interest in German Economic History.

WILLIAMS, S. C. (1958-64) gave news of himself at the Annual Dinner. After taking a degree at Cardiff he went to the Business School at Warwick University. Out of an intake of 43, three were Old Boys, R. C. BONNETT (1958-64), D. A. RUTHERFORD (1960-66) and himself. At the end of the one-year course three good jobs were advertised and the three R.G.S. boys were offered them.

WILLIAMS, T. C. (1947-52) did 13 years with the Bank of West Africa but has left the sunshine and the good life to settle down in Great Kingshill and work for Miles Druce and Co. in Castle Street.

WILSON, R. H. (1934-39) has been appointed National Westminster's new manager at West Gate, Harlow.

WINTER, P. E. (1960-67) flew to Bangkok with his friend R. J. MARTIN-FAGG (1962-69) on the start of a world tour some months ago. When he left Cambridge with a degree in Classics he couldn't find the sort of job he really wanted. He became a postman, a temporary Prison Officer in a Borstal, a porter in Wycombe Hospital. Here he found that he would dearly like to be a doctor—he hopes to realise this ambition when he returns.

WRIGHT, B. R. (1949-54) is now employed in the Ministry of Defence as Military Assistant to the Assistant Chief of Defence Staff (Operation), who is a General. It is quite a change for him, a simple sailor, who has spent the last two-and-a-half years with the Fleet Air Arm, to talk about battalions and tanks. They are becoming very Joint Services minded and he wishes now that he had concentrated more on Cert. A Part I while at school!



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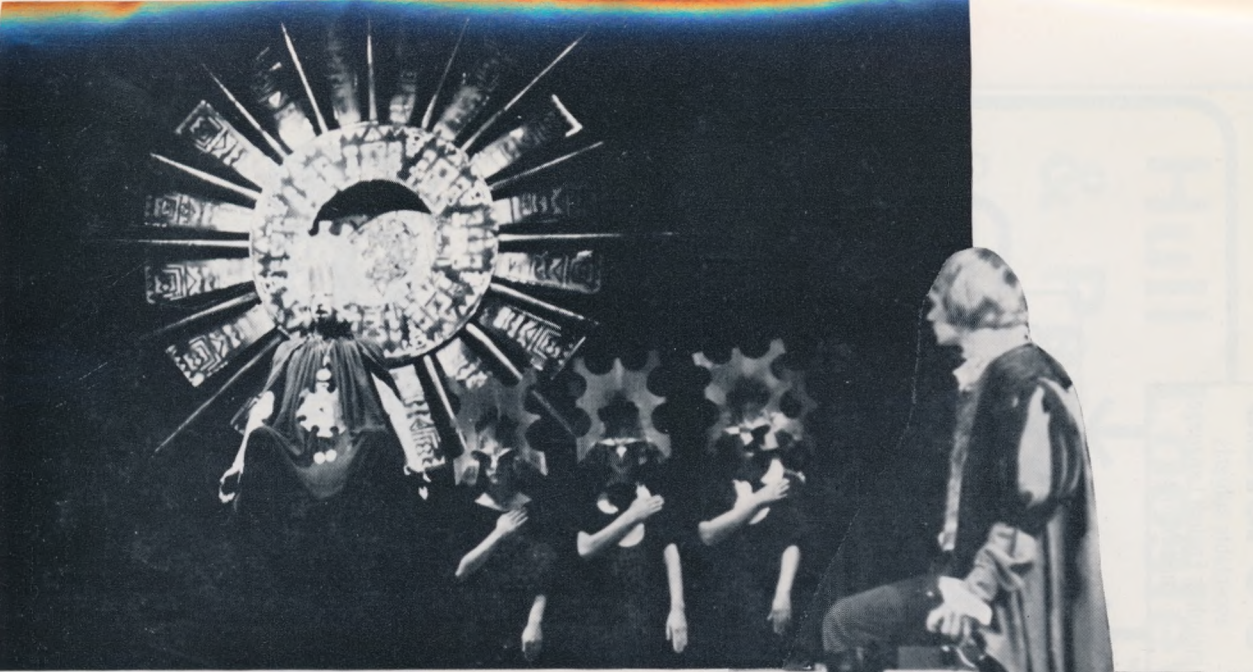
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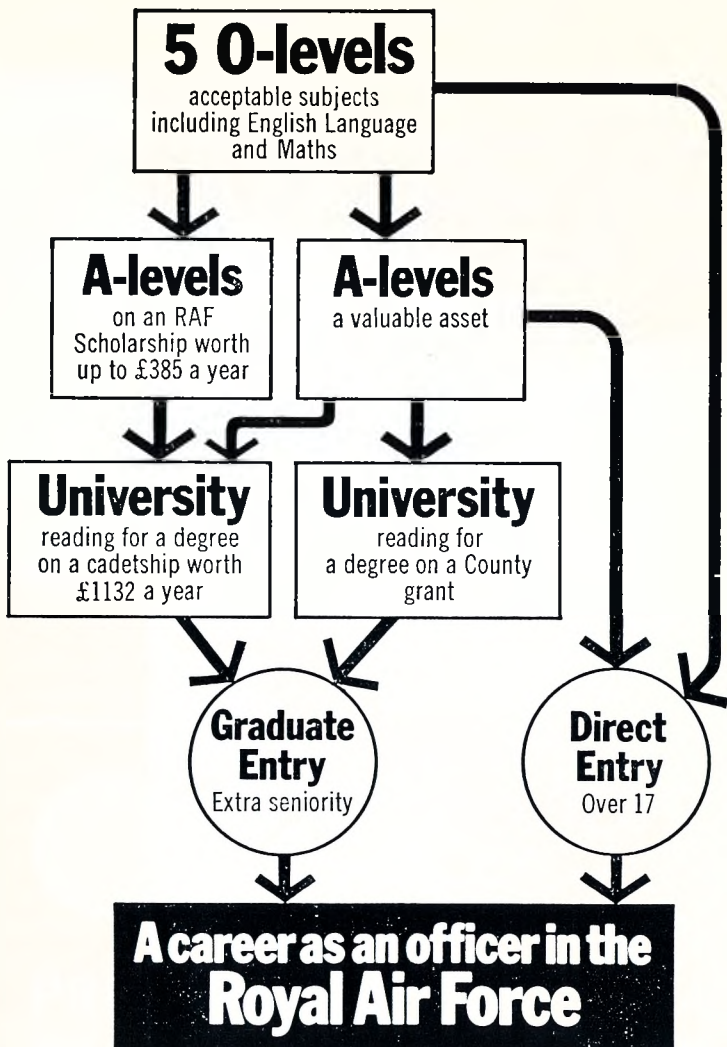
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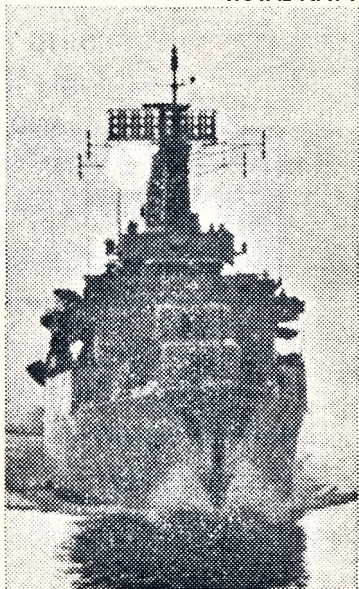
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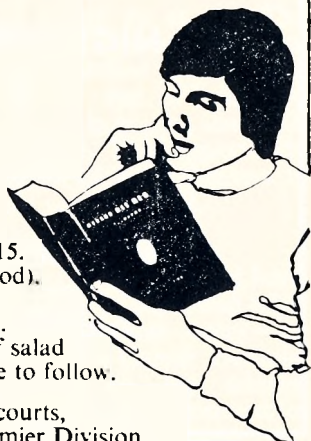
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