



Wycombiensian

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# THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

**Vol. XV    No. 4**

**WINTER, 1973**

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MR. SAM MORGAN



R.G.S. 1ST VI

*Standing (left to right): F. W. Guedeker, K. Guha, R. H. Ault. Seated: A. M. Aston, K. A. Hillier, Esq., G. H. Hunt.*



# THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

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



We apologise to all our readers for the late appearance of the magazine; regret that it was not possible to include everything submitted; hope to publish punctually next Spring.

Nick Roe, Keith Waller, Tim Hardy and Kevin Watson selected and edited.

## MR. S. MORGAN

Mr. Sam Morgan, the Deputy Headmaster, retired in July after serving on the staff for 43 years—the whole of his professional career. His retirement ends the School's last remaining link with the reign of Mr. Arnison, who appointed him in 1930, when he came out of Leeds University with a degree in Geography. His school education had been at Atherton Grammar School and Duke's School Alwicks.

Not many schoolmasters devote themselves entirely to the service of one School, but it was not merely the length of his years of service that enabled 'Sam' to make such an impact on the School he served so loyally and with such single-minded devotion.

The fact that every master and every boy knew him and thought of him as 'Sam' was no derogation of respect for him: rather the contrary—this apparent familiarity expressed a deep and universal affection and esteem felt by everyone from the Headmaster to the latest arrival at the School.

From a young master teaching geography and displaying immense prowess at games—cricket, soccer, hockey, golf—he became Head of Geography under Mr. Tucker. Eventually—by a process which, according to himself, seems to have been of the most casual and informal, he was appointed Deputy Head of the School. The sudden death of Mr. Tucker in summer 1964 laid on Mr. Morgan the responsibility of Acting Headmaster during the year's interregnum until I was appointed in 1965. This unexpected responsibility Mr. Morgan carried through in such a way as to earn general approbation. As Headmaster I testify to Mr. Morgan's unshakable loyalty and support through all the crises, trials and problems that can confront authority; to a courteous deference to which one never felt entitled; to his universal courtesy and kindness, and to a marvellous humility which only enhanced our love and esteem for him. Although very widely read, and possessing a lively mind, he laid no claim to great *academic* standing and in recent years loved teaching mathematics to junior boys. In fact he loved his job altogether, and it is a pity that staffing circumstances beyond the control of the School made it impossible for him to continue teaching here on a part-time footing after his official retirement.

His personal impact on the School was proverbial: riotous assemblies melted away at his approach: he lifted up his voice and the evil-doer ceased from his wickedness. He never sought easy popularity, expecting that unless boys were 'hating his guts' he would not be doing his job properly. And so he earned real popularity and respect. On his contribution to the life of the Staff Common Room, I leave it to Mr. Haworth to write.

In the Annals of the RGS Sam Morgan must, on any reckoning, rank among its great and legendary characters. To the dinner arranged to celebrate his retirement, old colleagues came great distances, and colleagues representing many stages of his long innings at the RGS—including the very first years of all were present to wish him well. His contribution to the ethos and moral excellence of the School is beyond all calculation. There were giants in those days!

To Sam and his dear wife Louise the wishes of many generations of the School will go out for their great and long happiness during a well deserved retirement.

M.P.S.

## SCHOOL NOTES

We welcome the following new members of staff to the School: R. C. Dosser, B.Sc., Ph.D., A.R.I.C.; M. Earl, B.Sc. (Reading), and S. B. Gamester, Dip.P.E. (Loughborough) who is an Old Boy. G. Ryder, B.Sc. (London) comes to us from Malindi Secondary School in Kenya, where he has been on V.S.O.; H. T. Talbot, B.Sc. (London) has been a lecturer at the University of Hong Kong since 1961, and S. J. Edwards, B.A. (London) has come from a post as Assistant in France. A large number of staff left the School in the summer. Mr. Morgan retired as second master, laden with gifts and good wishes from boys and staff. An appreciation of him appears elsewhere in the magazine. R. W. Brown has gone to Gillott's School, Henley as Head of Modern Languages; D. McKnight to Highdown School, Reading as Head of Chemistry. J. F. Samways has returned to teach in Nigeria; C. E. Embrey is teaching Service children in Gutersloh; P. G. Taylor is at Carshalton High School; M. A. Gill is Head of Geography at Chalvedon School, Pitsea, Essex; Mrs. Cooper has transferred to Beaconsfield High School, while Mr. Cooper has been seconded for a year to the Department of Education at Oxford.

A summer concert was given in July, including excerpts from Haydn's *The Seasons* and movements from *Pictures at an Exhibition* by Mussorgsky as well as contributions from the wind band, junior choir and orchestra.

Also in July G. Townsend produced *Arsenic and Old Lace* starring Roger Laing and Keith Ray as macabre drag aunts with a bizarre line in philanthropy.

Finally, congratulations to Simon Gay on winning an alto Scholarship to the choir of King's College, Cambridge.

## SPECIAL PRIZES

HEADMASTER'S PRIZE: A. K. C. Wood.

GOVERNORS' READING PRIZE (Presented by Ald. R. P. Clarke):  
K. D. Ray.

GOVERNORS' CLASSICS PRIZE (Presented by Mrs. R. P. Clarke):  
P. Scott-Dow.

GREAEFE CUP FOR BEST C.C.F. CADET (Presented by the late Ald. W. Graefe): R.S.M. M. T. Adger.

HARTE CUP FOR BEST R.A.F./C.C.F. CADET (Presented by Wing Commander C. S. W. Harte): F/Sgt. K. Douthwaite.

GILES KEEN MEMORIAL CUP FOR BEST NAVAL CADET (Presented by Mr. & Mrs. Keen): P.O. T. J. Bartlett.

P. J. CUTLER SOCIAL PROJECT PRIZE: T. Ahmed and S. G. Clark.

SOCIAL SERVICE PRIZE: S. A. Edwards.  
 ART SHIELD (Presented by A. Hastings, Esq.): R. S. Wesley.  
 HOPE CUP (Presented by Mr. and Mrs. Hope): N. A. Shutt.  
 WESTNEY PRIZE FOR MUSIC (Presented by The Revd. Michael Westney): S. M. Gay.  
 FLETCHER PRIZE FOR GREEK PROSE COMPOSITION (Presented by C. T. Fletcher, Esq.): P. Scott-Dow.  
 STANLEY MALE PRIZE FOR LATIN: R. P. Madelin.  
 SEARLE PRIZE FOR BIOLOGY (Presented by G. D. Searle & Co. Ltd.): J. D. Rose.  
 SEARLE PRIZE FOR CHEMISTRY (Presented by G. D. Searle & Co. Ltd.): A. D. Cockett.  
 BURSAR'S PRIZE FOR SCIENCE (Presented by A. A. Lister, Esq.): M. P. Standing.  
 PHILATELY CUP (Presented by Lt. Col. S. E. Hands):  
 LANCE MEMORIAL PRIZES FOR PERSISTENT PROGRESS (Presented by Bernard F. Lance, Esq.):  
 PHOTOGRAPHIC JOURNALISM PRIZE (Presented by Precision Press): R. A. Clarke.

### FORM PRIZES

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1A: M. G. Knowles      | 4X: P. G. Alison    |
| 1B: P. A. Taylor       | 4Y: A. R. Berendt   |
| 1C: A. D. Wells        | 4A: M. J. C. Paton  |
| 1D: G. H. Milton       | 4S: A. C. Pillidge  |
| 1E: G. T. Barraclough  | 4T: A. B. McElroy   |
| 2X: T. J. K. Griffiths | 5X: P. J. Hoddinott |
| 2Y: M. P. Jolly        | 5Y: D. G. Walbridge |
| 2A: N. L. Dowson       | 5A: H. I. G. Hare   |
| 2S: T. M. Dibb         | 5S: D. K. Green     |
| 2T: A. K. Paterson     | 5T: J. N. Pearce    |
| 3X: J. G. Keeble       | 6O: N. Morgan       |
| 3Y: R. M. Orr          |                     |
| 3A: P. T. Howe         |                     |
| 3S: R. J. Glenister    |                     |
| 3T: J. S. Robinson     |                     |

## FORM 6—1ST YEAR

|                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Greek & Latin:         | W. M. R. Ramsay |
| Modern Subjects:       | P. Flint        |
|                        | P. A. Goodman   |
|                        | N. J. Oakey     |
|                        | N. H. Roe       |
|                        | K. Tanner       |
|                        | I. C. Vale      |
| Science & Mathematics: | S. Amin         |
|                        | S. Bird         |
|                        | S. M. Gay       |
|                        | R. E. Quiney    |
| Biology:               | I. Saunders     |
| Music:                 | M. W. Abbott    |
|                        | N. J. Berendt   |

## FORM 6—2ND AND 3RD YEARS

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Classics:              | R. M. Kramek  |
| French:                | D. J. Peatey  |
| German:                | M. C. Coe     |
| English & History:     | P. J. Burnham |
|                        | T. Hardy      |
| Geography:             | A. K. C. Wood |
| Science & Mathematics: | M. T. Adger   |
|                        | P. J. Austin  |
|                        | N. J. Davey   |
|                        | I. G. Shearer |
| Biology:               | S. Pajovic    |
|                        | P. J. Shaw    |

*New Award:* The Malein Cup & Prize, awarded to S. R. Armstrong of 5A, for conspicuous effort.

## OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATIONS

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### ADVANCED LEVEL RESULTS, 1973

(Italics denote grade A; \* denotes distinction on the 'S' level paper)

M. C. Coe—German, Economics; M. A. Pope—Geography; K. D. Ray—British Constitution, Geography; G. Campbell—Latin, Ancient History; A. D. Whittle—Greek, Ancient History; M. N. Adam—English Literature\*, Greek, Latin; R. M. Kramek—English Literature, Greek, French; M. R. Phipps—Latin, *French*, History; P. Scott-Dow, Greek, *Latin*, Ancient History; R. J. Stoker—Economics; P. C. Blewett—Economics, Geography; N. C. Brothers—History, Economics\*, Mathematics; M. S. Bruffell—English Literature, Economics; A. M. Clarke—English Literature, German, Economics; K. Douthwaite—English Literature, History, Economics\*; S. R. Edwards—English Literature, Economics; M. J. King—English Literature, History, *Economics*; M. R. Scott—English Literature, History, Economics; K. V. Smith—English Literature; I. M. Waddington—French, Economics; D. M. Wagstaff—English Literature, History; P. M. Winter-Taylor—English Literature, History; P. N. Andrews—History, Economics, Geography; R. C. Barber—History, Geography; T. A. Bonfield—Economics; P. G. Brown—Geography; D. A. Czer-

winski—Geography; M. I. R. Dickson—Geography; K. B. Humphrey—English Literature, Geography; K. V. Mash—Geography; D. R. Perks—Geography; R. S. Wesley—Geography, *Art*; A. K. C. Wood—*French\**, Geography. Mathematics; R. K. Holland—Geography; P. J. Burnham—English Literature, History, Economics; I. S. Currie—English Literature, History, Economics; M. R. C. Dudley—Economics, Geography; J. M. Flint—English Literature, *Art*; J. S. Gillespie—French, History, Economics; C. Hall—English Literature, History; T. Hardy—English Literature, French, *History\**; D. Hinton—English Literature; D. K. Sanderson—English Literature, History, Geography; T. J. D. Smith—English Literature, History, Geography; S. C. Winter—English Literature, History, Geography; J. R. Allen—French, Russian, Economics; P. J. Brooks—French, Economics; I. P. Ferguson—English Literature, French, German; T. J. Howarth—French, German; M. A. Hyland—French, German; G. A. Johnson—English Literature\*, French, History; R. J. Maher—French, German; T. J. Orlik—French, German; D. J. Peatey—*French*, German; M. S. Waller—French; K. M. Watson—English Literature, *French*, German; A. D. West—*French*, German, History; M. T. Adger—*Mathematics*, Further Mathematics, *Physics*, *Chemistry*; P. J. Austin—*Mathematics*, Further Mathematics, *Physics\**, Chemistry; P. R. Barrett—Physics, Chemistry; T. C. Chettle—Mathematics, Physics; G. N. Clutton—Mathematics, *Physics*, Chemistry; G. L. Cowell—Physics; N. J. Davy—*Mathematics*, Further Mathematics, Physical Science; A. J. Dodd—Mathematics, *Physics*, *Chemistry*; D. S. Franklin—Physics, Chemistry; N. A. Fraser—Chemistry; G. R. Gorton—Mathematics, *Physics*, Chemistry; S. J. Hall—*Mathematics*, Further Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; N. J. Hansell—Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; D. J. Harvey—Physics; T. J. R. Hill—Physics, Chemistry; S. Kreft—*Mathematics*, Further Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; I. L. Monk—*Mathematics*, Further Mathematics, Physical Science; N. P. Orchard—Physics; R. P. Prior—Physics, Chemistry; S. A. Reiss—Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; I. G. Shearer—*Mathematics\**, *Further Mathematics*, Physical Science; S. G. Waight—Physics, Chemistry; P. B. Zeisler—Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; R. F. Blake—Mathematics, Chemistry; R. A. Cormack—Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; N. R. Davies—Physics; R. J. Dyer—Physics; N. D. Evans—Economics; S. C. Evans—Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; N. G. Hall—British Constitution, Mathematics; S. L. Hunt—Physics; A. S. Johnstone—Geography; D. H. G. Kershaw—Geography, Mathematics, *Physics*; M. E. Rackstraw—Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; C. A. Roberts—Physics; S. M. Roberts—Geography, Mathematics, Physics; N. Upchurch—*Mathematics*, Physics; R. P. Vernon—*Mathematics*, Chemistry; N. D. Warner—Art; S. V. Waters—Mathematics; G. D. Watt—

*Mathematics*, Physics, Chemistry; J. R. Woodbridge—*Mathematics*, Physics, Chemistry; C. M. E. Gregory—*Physics*; C. M. Innes — *Mathematics*, Physics; M. Saunders — *Mathematics*, Physics; N. C. Keen—*Art*; M. Barrett—*Physics*, Chemistry, Biology; P. R. Barrett—*Chemistry*, Biology; T. J. Bartlett—*Chemistry*; M. F. Bedingham—*Geography\**, *Biology*, Physical Science; H. C. G. Browne—*Physics*, Chemistry, Biology; A. D. Cockett—*Physics*, *Chemistry*, *Biology*; S. R. Ebbs—*Geography*, Chemistry, Biology; A. G. Goulds—*Physical Science*; R. D. Hacon—*Mathematics*, Biology, Physical Science; C. A. Long—*Mathematics*, *Biology*, Physical Science; G. R. Martin—*Chemistry*, *Biology*; S. Pajovic—*Physics*, Chemistry, Botany, *Zoology*; J. D. Rose—*Biology*, *Physical Science*; P. J. Shaw—*Physics\**, *Chemistry*, *Botany\**, *Zoology*; D. J. Smith—*Physics*, Chemistry, Biology; J. A. Spencer—*Mathematics*, Chemistry, *Biology*; M. W. S. Stone—*Chemistry*; B. M. Warren—*Chemistry*; J. F. Wootton—*Mathematics*, Biology, Physical Science; S. M. Gay—*Music*; J. T. G. Slade—*History*; R. M. Raja—*British Constitution*, Economics.

### ORDINARY LEVEL RESULTS, 1973

The following boys obtained five or more passes in the G.C.E. Ordinary Level Examinations:—

J. F. Aldous (9); K. J. Bartlett (9); J. P. M. Bureau (7); G. B. Chandler (7); S. G. H. Corrin (9); M. G. Coups (8); P. Darrington (7); B. Darvill (6); N. Davison (8); P. W. Wood (9); M. R. Elliott (8); M. J. Fraser (7); N. P. B. Godden (8); P. P. J. Harvey (7); C. A. Hawtree (5); P. J. Hoddinott (9); N. A. Hurneyman (9); A. S. Iveson (6); D. F. Keen (8); M. G. Lee (8); R. P. Madelin (9); B. R. Newton (8); S. F. Peart (7); C. R. Pendrill (10); P. B. Pugh (8); E. T. Steggle (8); D. J. Suckling (8); S. R. Widberg (8); J. W. Wigram (9); S. N. Woodward (9); A. D. Worboys (9); S. R. Atkinson (9); E. N. Aves (8); S. D. Bainton (8); M. Barker (8); A. B. Bavelja (7); A. Best (9); M. J. Bull (9); S. N. Cousens (9); R. Darvill-Evans (8); M. Dunkley (8); G. M. Haines (7); W. A. Halstead (8); P. J. Harrison (9); P. R. Hawes (9); S. A. Hopkins (9); J. Ireland (9); A. W. Leece (9); I. C. Mawhinney (10); P. Nuttall (8); C. G. Paull (9); D. G. Reed (8); P. C. Robinson (8); R. E. Schramm (8); R. J. Sutcliff (9); P. C. M. Thornycroft (9); G. J. O. Tinn (9); G. K. Turner (9); D. G. Walbridge (10); R. A. Watson (8); M. Whitcombe (8); C. M. White (9); D. B. White (9); G. R. Woodman (9); P. A. J. Allen (7); S. R. Armstrong (9); J. N. W. Barry (10); D. N. J. Bristow (8); A. D. Brown (7); S. J. Crome (9); K. Guha (10); H. Hare (11); P. G. C. Harvey (7); C. M. Hedges (6); H. R. Johnstone (6); T. A. Jolly (10); C. A.

Keen (11); P. G. Lindsay (7); W. H. Mealing (10); G. Noble (10); K. A. Pettit (8); G. J. Philbrick (11); J. E. Rackstraw (10); G. P. Saunders (9); B. F. Stallwood (6); A. D. Tagg (10); E. C. Walker (10); Q. N. D. Wallace (9); M. R. Williams (7); P. R. Andrews (6); R. D. Andrews (6); D. J. Appleton (7); S. D. Baskott (7); M. J. Bradshaw (9); S. E. Britnell (9); D. M. Bucknell (5); J. D. Child (6); S. Clarke (7); D. C. Clemens (5); P. J. Dent (5); R. H. Edwards (10); M. L. Goodman (7); A. M. Graham (6); D. K. Green (10); M. A. G. Guz (9); A. F. Harrold (8); G. J. Hawkins (6); M. J. W. Hooker (8); S. M. Kinvig (5); C. W. Jenkins (7); J. H. Kent (9); M. J. Lamb (7); N. V. Leaver (7); A. J. McCubbin (5); T. Marek (7); R. D. Marshall (5); C. B. Middleton (7); D. J. Moore (9); N. O'Toole (6); D. G. Parker (9); J. N. Pearce (8); S. J. Pearce (7); M. D. Randall (9); P. H. Ross (5); R. P. Smith (6); M. J. South (7); R. I. Stanley (9); P. G. Thomas (5); G. P. Thompson (5); R. J. Wallen (6); C. P. Warren (8); C. D. Wilde (7); I. C. Edwards (5); A. S. Linstead (5); A. Newell (5).

### SAM MORGAN

I have not been hired to write an obituary notice, but rather some kind of tribute from the Masters' Common Room. What are we most grateful for? Support when needed in the ancient war, I suppose. Sam was heroically energetic here: but it could be the other way round, for Sam is a man of individuality and principle. One of our late lamented colleagues (the anti-hero of the Little Red Book; though *we* found him a pleasant enough companion out of school), a Mr. X, would send a boy to Sam for 'having both hands in his pockets during Assembly', looking out of the window during a lesson', or 'hiccuping in a disrespectful manner'. (Mr. Tucker used to tell me, 'We *need* one or two men like X, to make up for people like you and me who don't do half enough in that direction!') Anyway, to prolong a short story, Sam would send such boys to 'walk twice round the field and tell Mr. X that you've had a good beating.' Tolerance to erring colleagues could equally be relied on, whether we had spent a quite imaginary 'free period' shopping and found out our gaffe an hour too late, or knocked him down by riding a bicycle too recklessly round the premises. Resolute chairmanship of the crossword team is something else that comes to mind. Readier still a stentorian shout of 'Boy!!!', or an almost equally stern admonition to the Deity to 'Stretch forth Thy right hand' or 'Bless all our intercourse . . .'

It is a long time since any of us played any game rougher than golf with Sam: though he occasionally indulged in coarse rugby, and even in coarse soccer, cricket and hockey, games at which he excelled. He was never a great man for watching or coaching, too fond of playing himself. But playing any game in Sam's company



was in the wider sense an educational process. If you educate your colleagues, I suppose you are educating their pupils too.

A colleague who was formerly Sam's pupil (and can be relied upon for more or less credible anecdotes), alleges that when asked an awkward question during a geography lesson, Sam would resort to opening the window and shouting reproof to a boy or instructions to a caretaker. For myself I am surprised if he had to take such evasive action, for Sam's knowledge of geography is in fact based on a vast amount of catholic reading. He has, I think, liked nothing better than discussing the problems which crop up in our work here, whether with boys or colleagues. The loud shouts were more startling, but the quiet and courteous conversations far more numerous.

Like the rest of us, Sam could let his thoughts go wandering at a dull meeting. Here is brief conversation piece from a Games Committee Meeting (about 1955?):

Boy: 'We need a third tennis court.'

H.M. (E.R.T.): 'We are discussing the question of match fees, Muggins, not tennis: you really must learn to keep to the point and not ask irrelevant questions,' etc. etc. etc. Don't you agree with me, Mr. Morgan?'

Sam: 'Yes, Sir. A third court has been needed for years.'

Masters are by definition polite, good-tempered, considerate and free from the habit of gossip domestic and intestine strife. Otherwise I should have said that it was largely Sam's presence among us that brought a killing nip of frost to such vices as ill-temper and malice.

C.M.H.

### INSTRUMENTAL RECITAL

*Schumann*: Fantasy Pieces Op. 73

Peter Poskett (Clarinet), Robin Smith (Piano)

*Saint-Saens*: Adagio from the Bassoon Sonata

Simon Gay (Bassoon), Robin Smith (Piano)

*Beethoven*: Piano Sonata in E minor Op. 90

Philip Dodd

*E. Damaré*: Fantasie Polka for Cornet Op. 108

John Kent (Cornet), Philip Dodd (Piano)

*Rossini*: Wind Quartet Set 2 No. 2

Nicholas Berendt (Flute), Peter Cockett (Clarinet),

Clive Abbott (Horn), Simon Gay (Bassoon)

*T. Dunhill*: Phantasy Suite

Peter Goodman (Clarinet), Stephen Armstrong (Piano)

*Poulenc*: Novelette No. 2 in B flat minor for Piano

*Handel*: Flute Sonata No. 5

Mark Abbott (Flute), Philip Edwards (Piano)

On the evening of October 3rd we were fortunate in being given the opportunity of hearing some of the more senior boys perform solos and play together in ensemble. The programme offered a wide range of style, from Handel to Poulenc, and was performed on a variety of instruments. The high technical standard of the performers was apparent from the outset, and their playing thoughtful and musical.

Before the recital began we were informed that this was a new venture, since the regular school concerts are for the larger groups, and that this was very much in the nature of an experiment. The obvious appreciation shown by the audience will, we hope, encourage the organisation of such recitals as this on a regular basis.

S.J.D.

### OSNABRÜCK '73

Everybody, or at least practically everybody, enjoyed their three weeks (which, because of full trains, were cut down to two-and-a-half weeks) in Osnabrück. The journey was uneventful; that is no-one fell overboard, caught the wrong train, or was taken away by customs officials. On arriving at Osnabrück we were hustled off by hospitable families to all corners of the town and surrounding countryside. Our temporary homes ranged from flats to farm-houses.

From then until we met up at the town's Grammar School, when the summer term commenced, we did things such as go to the town centre (especially the record shops), visit such places of interest as the pubs (a rough translation), the zoo (not half as good as London Zoo), the football stadium (Vfl Osnabrück are the equivalent of an average second division team) and the Town Hall. Others went farther afield and someone even spent a weekend on an island at the very north of Germany.

School, there, is six days a week, including Saturday, but only from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. We were lucky in that we spent less than a week of our stay in their term time and therefore had more time with the families than the Germans did when visiting us. A lot of people have said they would like to go back, so the trip was a great success. So many thanks to Mr. White-Taylor, who despite smallpox epidemics, fully-booked trains, and the 5th form, so bravely accompanied us.

GRAHAM MURNAME.

## BELL RINGING

Do you need an intellectual and—possibly—financially rewarding hobby?

If so, why not try the noble art of bell-ringing in your local church? This needs only two-and-a-half to three hours per week and, contrary to popular belief, requires little physical effort—only a little bit of brain power.

Just go along to the practice night of your local parish church and you will be warmly received.

Practice nights (usually 7.30 to 9.00 p.m.):

|           |                      |            |
|-----------|----------------------|------------|
| Monday    | — High Wycombe       | (13 bells) |
| Tuesday   | — Hughenden          | (8 bells)  |
| Wednesday | — Chalfont St. Peter | (6 bells)  |
| Thursday  | — Amersham           | (6 bells)  |
|           | and Lane End         | (6 bells)  |

Further information from G. Philbrick (6.A1).

## THE CYGNET SOCIETY 'Nihil Optimis Satis Est'

The society, recently formed, has had several meetings with some entertaining and erudite guest speakers. Especially thought provoking were the debates with Dr. Puritz and the Rev. Oldring on the role of the Christian Church, and the meaning of the Christian faith. Other topics discussed included education—the eternal problem of freedom of the individual as opposed to the idea of equality, or even equality of opportunity; and the role of government in society, based on a comparative study of present governments, and a discussion of the ideas of great political theorists, such as Plato and Aristotle, Hobbes and Locke, Hegel and Marx. Visits have been organised to places of interest—a day's outing to the Leicestershire castles, and a study of the Battle of Bosworth from an examination of the site. Theatre and cinema excursions are planned, and we have booked for an opera visit later in the term. Future symposiums are planned on 'The Two Cultures—Science v. Art'; a study of Matthew Arnold's 'Culture and Anarchy'; and a critical look at the role of poetry, music, and art in modern life. To end on an encouraging note, meetings have been very well attended.

M.P.W-W.

## MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

This term saw the completion of our second lay-out, which was designed specifically for exhibition use. It made its debut at the

Beaconsfield Model Railway Exhibition early in October, where it was admired by many.

On the 20th October we held our second exhibition, this time in the Young Adult Centre at the College. This was a far greater success than we could ever have hoped for, and the Club is most indebted to all those who helped to make this possible. In particular I should like to thank P. Hunt and J. N. Pearce, without whose work on publicity, the show would have been a disaster. This year we had over seven hundred people through the door, many times more than the number who visited us at school last year.

With no new first year in school this year, we were expecting a very poor membership, as most members are normally from the first year, but we seem to have as many as ever, with older boys joining. Anyone who has an interest in railways is always welcome at the club, which is always open at lunchtime, in the clubroom under the stage in the Old Hall.

A. J. LONGWORTH, *Chairman.*

## HOUSE REPORTS UPLYME

It is always difficult to record the various activities of a boarding house over the preceding term and to give some idea of how the house functions, especially as this term has been dominated by new arrivals.

We would formally like to welcome Mr. & Mrs. Stubbs, who are taking over from Mr. & Mrs. Cooper, to the house. Although we were saddened to see our Housemaster and Matron leave we wish their successors a long and happy stay. Unfortunately the house has not been able to appoint a Matron yet, but Mrs. Stubbs is coping well in the meantime. It was with regret that we heard of Mr. Cooper's sudden illness and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Turning now to a less formal point, the house has done well in terms of sporting activities with R. D. Andrews, B. A. Backhouse, S. L. Hunt, A. N. Jones, I. Price, P. Spencer and T. Dowdeswell all representing Senior teams.

Although our 'A' level results were on the whole rather poor, the 'O' level results were more encouraging, with R. D. Andrews, G. Haines and A. Iveson doing well.

S. HUNT.

## SCHOOL HOUSE

Dear Reader,

Many sweeping changes have taken place since last you heard from us. Radical alteration in the bed-time of the juniors; reductions

on duties in the prefect's study; a smaller number of inmates plus a fine new body of prefects, all add up to the boarding house of the seventies.

At the end of last year we said 'goodbye' to those leaving us, along with the revving of 'motor-scooters', and have said 'hello' to some new friends who have now settled in. Nothing else has happened.

Once again we must thank Mr. Skipp, Mr. White-Taylor, Matron and Sue, without whom the smooth and efficient running of the boarding house would not be possible.

D. Simpson, 'Flashman' Barnes, W. Hawken, A. Jones, N. Roe, M. Toe and 'Bognor-Regis' (the prefect's prefect).

### TYLERS WOOD

The summer term finished on a happy note with the usual entertainment in an unusual manner—a small group of boys producing an excellent comedy play with the dubious title 'Unhand me Squire, or Much Ado about Sweet Fanny Adams.' Then followed a barbecue in which the sausages went 'out of the frying pan into the fire' with a vengeance. The tattered remains of the Raffia then picked up his guitar, gave everyone coffee tins to shake, and did his best. The evening finishing with everyone (Mrs. P. included) performing strange dance routines on the back lawn.

So to the new year. Our numbers total 27, with two new boys and a vast quantity of Keith Rogers. Mr. Embrey, our previous house tutor, has been replaced by Mr. Wilson who does some strange things but has otherwise slotted in very competently. Our cook, Mrs. Westwood, left us at the end of September after a very welcome two terms with us. The Raffia have retired to the lost haunts of the study, where they are picking up the pieces, after West The Knife left for the university life at Southampton. Their reform programme also necessitates the frantic training-up of a new Scottish Jug Player, in spite of the handicap of not being able to use the Middle Dorm. on those duty nights reserved for Mr. Wilson who apparently views the jug with incredulity.

As always, thanks to all the staff for everything: we do appreciate you, although we keep the fact heavily concealed!

R. Peake.

### C.C.F. NOTES

The combined Cadet Force may be viewed as a preparation for service in the Armed Forces, but a more accurate description would probably be an organisation which seeks to encourage and develop those qualities which seem to be lacking in a large pro-

portion of today's youth. The qualities of leadership, discipline, self-reliance and a taste for adventure are not peculiar to the services alone, they are a useful asset in any occupation and will assist the cadet in leading a fuller and more enjoyable life many years after he has left the Cadet Force.

The C.C.F. is also an enjoyable pastime, so where is the harm in a group of schoolboys enjoying themselves if by so doing they do not in any way interfere with other people?

Therefore I fail to see why anyone can be so violently opposed to a peaceful organisation which can only do good by helping its members to be more outgoing and less apathetic than many young people in our generation.

Perhaps, however, I have been mistaken. It could be that no-one is opposed to the C.C.F., and the acts of vandalism committed the day before Speech Day were just manifestations of frustrated persons who strive to denigrate any system which does not advocate a policy of *laissez-faire*?

T. DOWDESWELL (Warrant Officer, R.A.F. section).

## ARMY SECTION

The Summer Camp this year saw a return to Sheepstor, an attractive site on the western edge of Dartmoor.

R.S.M. Adger, travelling in C.S.M. Coulon's private Land Rover which, alas, was fated not to make the return journey, arrived ahead of the main advance party and took over the tentage and camp stores delivered to the site. By the time Capt. R. G. Hollingworth had arrived, the all important Cookhouse had been erected and was quickly put to good use by Bill to supply hot mugs of tea for the eager workers as they busily set about the erection of the complete Camp.

The energetic Signals Section, under Sgt. Rogers, had by night-fall produced electric light for the main tents and the party enjoyed a well earned repast whilst planning the events of the morrow.

Training, after the arrival of the main party, was quickly oriented to the escape and evasion exercise across the Abbots Way, a well trodden route, past disused tin mines, the fascinating stone circles and other relics of the past which leads to the famous Abbey at Buckfastleigh. This was not perhaps as easy to follow as might be imagined, since in one place magnetic attraction caused considerable error in compass bearings. All arrived safely, however, at their destination and after a night under bivouac the party

chased and caught the 'escaped prisoners' after a search operation co-ordinated by radio contact.

The night exercise, as usual, provided plenty of suspense and excitement but perhaps the most memorable part of it will prove to be the meal which prefaced the exercise, a rich hot stew followed by banana flan topped generously with Devonshire cream.

Happily the sun, a little reluctant to appear in the early part of the Camp, emerged for the last two days and left us with pleasant memories of 'It's a Knockout' in the pool made by damming the small stream which supplied the Camp's needs of washing water.

The Camp was struck much more quickly than it was erected and everyone, weighed down with jars of Mrs. Palmer's Devonshire cream, set course for home, with many pleasant memories of satisfying experiences.

R.P.

### R.A.F. SECTION

The end of the last school year saw the departure of the second year sixth N.C.O.s and we wish them luck in their future careers. Despite the loss by our senior members numbers were boosted by an intake of 38 fourth form boys. Pilot Officer Crawshaw and Dr. Fair have joined us to help with activities such as flying, shooting and orienteering.

Speech Day proved a most successful undertaking for the section. The Guard of Honour was of a very high standard and W.O. Dowdeswell and Flt. Sgt. Mansfield would like to thank all those who took part. The section also staged exhibitions of navigation and dinghy drill.

The introduction of 'O' level Elementary Aeronautics into the syllabus proved very successful with 15 out of 17 candidates passing the examination.

Flt. Sgts. Upchurch and Evans were fortunate enough to gain Flying Scholarships which they attended during the summer recess.

The section attended a summer camp under canvas at R.A.F. Oakington. Twelve cadets participated in activities including an escape and evasion exercise and flying in Varsities.

During the summer holiday Flight Lieutenant Smaje and Pilot Officer Crawshaw qualified as primary glider instructors as well as passing the gliding proficiency certificate. We hope to have a primary glider for our own use in the near future. W.O. Dowdeswell, Flt. Sgt. West and Sgt. Stanley also passed their gliding

proficiency, and Sgt. Stanley has joined No. 613 gliding school as a Staff Cadet.

We are now in the process of preparing for proficiency examinations in March. Next Easter we are lucky enough to have six places at a special camp at R.A.F. Bruggen, West Germany, so our future looks busy but very rewarding.

R. A. MANSFIELD (Flt. Sgt.).

### BILL'S SOUP (A Contemporary View)

Sitting in the library—STRAIN, GRUNT—trying—STRAIN, STRAIN, SWEAT—. . . trying to produce something for—UUUHH—. . . for—PANT—the *Wycombiensian*—GASP—. It's no good, I can't—UUUHH—manage it this year—PANT, PANT—. Maybe I'll try again next—GASP, SWEAT—year.

Or I'll at least wait until I've had a cup of . . . Bill's soup!—PHEW!—.

BOB CLARKE—GASP—.

### 'AFORE YE GO

Ambition, that motor racer from Hell  
Drags me up in its pluming exhaust.  
In a rush of choking desire  
I gulp and scabble, claw and snarl—  
Whipped on by time,  
That spectre of a one room rat hole  
And a state aid pension  
Or, worse,  
A medium life in administration  
And a faceless death in Croydon . . .  
. . . Do I hear you talk of treason?  
—Of friends betrayed and spirits broken?  
Friendships stagnate; life moves on, and  
Being mortal, man cannot but appear brutal,  
Carried protesting in its cutting sway.

I've been shown the land where adverts run for real  
And when success beckons her jewelled finger  
And takes my spirit for a sacrifice,  
I'll wave it goodbye and toast it with champagne.

Ross.



## WAR

So I journeyed a journey through the vast  
And limitless catacombs of darkness.  
Living a thousand lives,  
Dying a thousand deaths,  
Space, time, existence; but life?

On and on, through abysmal and dark death,  
Death without form, if hate be formless,  
To a place where men die,  
And the smells of fear lie,  
Death-sponsored fear, spawning death.

Now I walked 'midst the killers and the killed,  
But dead, all, all dead, life losing again,  
And I sank in the mire,  
As my soul screamed, on fire—  
Life is not easy to lose.

The rain and the wind, and the pits filled with flesh,  
The slime, the wire, all the takers of life;  
A head or a bared brain,  
A field filled with dank grain,  
The dead and the rotting, why?

And now I remembered the hails of death,  
The ringing swarms of angry silver bees  
And the men that they claimed,  
And the men that they maimed,  
I left that foul place, alone.

I wandered still further, and all around  
I saw the carnage, the sludge, and the rain,  
Such foul slaughter around,  
The cold dead on the ground,  
These men slept the long sleep now.

## JOIN THE CLUB

There is a golf-course far away,  
Beyond the city walls.  
Where I can wander o'er the greens  
And whack my little balls.

I care not what the weather's like,  
Come rain or snow or sun,  
As long as I play on the gay fairway  
And get a hole-in-one.

I place my ball upon a tee  
And stand there, big and tough,  
I swing, and slice it through the air  
And lose it in the rough.

And when at last I finish my round,  
And at last lie down to die  
I pray to God that my soul will go,  
To that Golf-Course in the sky.

BOGNOR REGIS.

### WHO SAYS THE LOT OF THE VEAL CALF IS A BAD ONE ?

eg Anonymous calf  
Born on Monday  
Boxed on Tuesday  
Grew fat on Wednesday  
Slaughtered on Thursday  
Packed on Friday  
Distributed on Saturday  
Eaten on Sunday

as opposed to  
Anonymous fish  
Born on Monday  
Caught on Tuesday  
Eaten on Wednesday  
And thus wasted the rest of the week.

AYCHE AMBLE.

### ON A SPRING MORN

O what beauty there is to see  
On a fresh and clear Spring morn—  
The mossy turf gives way to grass,  
And greenness the trees adorn.

The chaffinch sings his carefree song  
With a voice like a silver bell;  
Such beauty lies within those notes—  
His idyllic story to tell.

A swallow swoops across the sky—  
Gliding with leisurely ease;  
Returning at last, after cutting the air  
To the restful shade of the trees.

A silver stream commences its course  
 In the heart of the echoing hills;  
 Drifting past the shadowy glades  
 And beyond the dis-used mills.

The mossy turf lies beneath the trees,  
 Whose summits embrace the sky;  
 And over the foxgloves which grow at its feet—  
 A nectar-full bee hovers by.

The fluffy, white clouds drift over the sky,  
 And over the grassy mead;  
 In the deep-blue sky the martins play,  
 Having no care or need.

The reflections of Heaven are down with us here,  
 They lie all around if we look,  
 But to most of us here, Nature's wonderful gift  
 Is as dead as an unopened book.

#### MIXED NUTS (RAISINS)

|      |      |       |      |     |     |
|------|------|-------|------|-----|-----|
| hop  | ooo  | ptg   | og   | nol | aaa |
| la   | al   | wo    | hi   | cli | zla |
| dop  | fie  | sol   | hil  | nis | ttt |
| lay  | te   | un    | im   | lik | b   |
| ptf  | fo   | faire | ot   | ooo | ttt |
| me   | as   | ni    | zi   | mu  | qua |
| hit  | fum  | fff   | on   | ooo | zzz |
| ra   | si   | be    | eez  | ne  | ic  |
| thee | tis  | sss   | no   | ooo | zzz |
| tra  | mi   | ba    | we   | lis | u   |
| no   | ag   | toz   | os   | ooo | mmm |
| tri  | im   | sa    | po   | fo  | oj  |
| on   | ag   | ik    | ik   | aaa | n   |
| kra  | blee | tla   | ow   | pi  | y   |
| os   | syl  | tis   | tis  | aaa |     |
| ko   | dro  | in    | mok  | pee |     |
| ik   | pth  | eee   | twop | aaa |     |
| om   | or   | ha    | broo | a   |     |

(Extract from an epic poem of the same title)

BRIAN STREVSNS.  
 KEITH WALLER.

## IT'S NICE TO BE ABNORMALLY SMALL

Squirrels are small  
not forgetting the badger  
mole  
vole  
and mice  
all live in holes  
so small.  
Great things come in small parcels.  
What's wrong with being small?  
I like being small,  
I'm overjoyed that I'm small,  
small people are the best,  
Hitler was small.

R. J. HIGHTON (2S).

## THE LIFE AND THE SOUL

Insecure like a flickering light  
Avon slipped from scene to scene.  
In glossy friendship he paved his way—  
So many people, so little safety  
He used them as walls to keep back the day.

Avon and Jackie—he's one of the boys  
A frantic pretender, he's empty inside.  
So so exterior  
He lives for the party  
Clings to the wall of acquaintance and Kensington  
Inside to his soul.

But son you're incredible  
Hightailed and wonderful  
Bright eyed and halcyon  
You got the world at your feet.

Ross.

## TIME

Sometimes it rushes upon you like a wave rushing to the shore,  
At other times it creeps like a cat before it pounces,  
Time waits for no-one or anything,  
Time creeps, runs and walks but never waits.  
When you are waiting for something good time creeps,  
When you are going to the dentist time rushes,  
Time never started and will never finish.

A. SENDALL (2X).

## 'WHY I GET A KICK OUT OF VIOLENCE'

I get a kick out of violence  
Because I am able to think of hell  
Where fire reigns the realms  
The devil rules the souls  
Torture, fire, work and labour  
All of them horribly painful  
Think of all those souls in torment  
Tartarus the place of death and pain.

On the battlefield all there is  
is blood and confusion  
Houses torn and shot  
Soldiers shot, wounded and weary  
All people being slaughtered by their own kind  
Men against men, what a bloody sight  
The cold steel of a bayonet being jabbed into horse and man  
alike and cannons ripping man and horse apart.

(All I really like about violence is knocking Highton over the  
head with a pencil.)

S. ANDREWS. (2S)

## GOLFER'S POEM

I must go down to the course again  
To the lonely bunkers and holes  
And all I ask is a day long game,  
Come snow, wind, sun or rain.

A saucy caddy to carry my bag,  
—Take out my balls and lift up the flag,  
All I ask is a friendly club,  
Lots to drink, just like a pub.

Up I get as the alarm bell rings,  
Jump out of bed, take a couple of swings,  
Pick up my tees and away I go,  
—At the first green before you know.

And when my golfing day is over,  
I rush back home in my bourgeois Rover,  
Spread the pro-shot on the floor,  
And golf all night to get some more.

BOGNOR REGIS.

**J. L. BAIRD AND FRIENDS (HAVE A LOT TO  
ANSWER FOR)**

A million maniacs  
    Shriek in their insanity  
A wild rush of voices in the electric void  
    Sin and Salvation  
    Six days damnation  
All rolled into one,  
    Fused  
Into an anguished plea  
    The universal scream of eternal  
    Despair.

A million moving images: the idol  
    In every loving home.  
The colours burn their every dot  
    Into the eyes of everyone,  
    Mocking  
The minds of all they meet with insolent  
    Technology.  
And this, children, is the air  
    We breathe.

WEDNESDAY'S CHILD.

**SPIRAL**

Spiral of life,  
Spiral of me,  
I don't see why it should go  
Round and  
Round and  
Up and up.  
And I can't stop now  
Oh you can't go back  
And you can't go down.

What is round the corner  
Who knows?  
Keep on going, even if you're tired  
Don't stop now.  
'Cos you can't go back and  
You can't go down.

Spiral of life, when can I stop?  
Not till you get right to the top  
And the you can go  
To the great spiral in the sky.

DYL.

## AARDVARK

The mole and the aardvark went to sea  
In a high-powered hovercraft  
They took a turtle  
A wombat called Myrtle  
And a penguin that frequently laughed.

The mole looked up to the smog above  
And sang to a battery-powered moog  
'I fear I must leave  
For I'm going to heave  
Hic, burp, barf, chunder, kabloog.'

They sailed away for a year and a day  
To the land where the skyscrapers soar,  
And there on a pier  
You'll be shocked to hear  
With warrant in hand stood the law.

'We have reason to think' they said with a sneer  
'That you're carrying contraband cargo.  
We heard that a penguin  
Is hid in your engine  
Contravening the current embargo.'

'The game is lost' cried the aardvark in fear  
'That overweight penguin has done it.'  
The turtle expired  
The wombat caught fire  
And blazed from its toes to its summit.

The mole and the aardvark came back from the sea  
Two frightened, subdued little animals  
While leaving St. Louis  
With a parrot called Bluie  
They were sadly eaten by cannibals.

C. M. BESSEMER-CONVERTER.

Twinkle twinkle little aardvark  
Winging swiftly o'er the car park  
Are you flying home to mummy?  
Aged, crippled, toothless, gummy.

C. M. BESSEMER-CONVERTER.

## ODE TO AN EGG

O Egg! My fingers caress  
Your brittle calcite case  
Enclosing white as smooth as silk  
—Transparent magic milk.  
Oh let my eyes behold once more  
The secrets held within—  
Feast my eyes on sunset yolk  
As your shell goes in the bin.

'NICE ONE' CYRIL 'THE POET' OXFORD  
1943

## DUST UNTO DUST

Along the wined edges of my mind  
Peace spreads, whispering reassurance.  
Your face reflected on the silent lake  
fades  
As gathering dusk shrouds the dying sun  
I pondered then  
Over time, and why  
But crashing clouds filled the air  
Orange-mad, swirling to an end  
My final day  
Nothing to hide behind!  
My mind storms and my body sweats—  
You told me I was a hero  
Years ago.  
Darkness then was far away  
And too near  
So near.

B. REGIS.

## EYE BEEZER

Slightly geometric, and sweating like a skeleton  
The wind lay pinned onto the ground  
Heat was helping gravity, and,  
Man he walked so jerkily  
Trying to keep some water for the shade.  
Everything lay murderous:  
White sky blue sea, inanimate and hideous  
—Even staring polaroid scalds with its dividing glare  
Black on white, on white,  
Brighter than snow—this stone  
Sun bleached, and the people sun beached  
Roasted in the name of beauty.

Ross.



## NELLIE MELBA, THE TOAST OF NEW YORK

I met a real tasty girl in a snack bar  
A soda-cream,  
Built-like-a-dream,  
Strawberry-sunday-lunchtime-Suzie.  
I bought her a milkshake  
But all she gave me was  
Cavities.

S. GRAPES (LE WUZZO).

## THIS WAS POETRY

He said his name was Betjeman,  
Our Poet Laureate,  
They asked to see his Licence  
But it was ten years out of date.

## TIME

Time—  
Is a mysterious thing.  
In a year—  
The earth completes a ring.  
But time—  
Never stays—yet always goes—  
But where?  
—No Homo Sapiens knows  
Time flies  
Yet it haveth not some wings.  
A Clock—  
Merely registers its flow—  
Its speed should never grow;  
Although:  
As the great Einstein said,  
In many books we've read—  
That Time  
Goes slower as we speed:  
Space-men are younger indeed! Than  
If there had not been the need  
(Or perhaps for Man's great greed)  
For Travel.  
But—  
If time were to fly away—  
How would we count each year or day?

P. A. TAYLOR.

## EPITAPH TO JESUS CHRIST

Hiroshima 1945

Here lie I now in the dust,  
Conquered, by modern Scientific Power,  
I will not now rise again,  
For the world has advanced,  
And new theories have evolved,  
Which have left me but, at the level  
of a mortal man,  
Whose soul can be destroyed by a bomb.  
My books were wrong  
For the people will not throng  
Round a dead and scarred man,  
Only look, and say he's gone  
and is not worth bothering with,  
As he is now just myth.

Engraved by: President Truman, August 6th, 1945.

(Based on an idea by J.C.H.)

## LOVE POEM

To my dearest,  
Sweet love,  
I am obsessed,  
Your beauty is  
overwhelming.

Your face  
Is a pure  
sea of almond  
coloured skin.  
It is an  
unmarked expense  
of faultless  
purity.

Your lips,  
Are burning  
areas of  
desirable Woolworth's  
lipstick.  
Glistening, sensuous,  
I hate the sight  
of them.

IAN HUTTON.

## SUICIDE SOCIETY REPORT

The fact that there are about 150 fewer boys in the school this year shows the success this society has enjoyed recently. We have had four meetings this term and it is encouraging to note that attendance is always dropping.

B. T. Bolt of 2B gave a very interesting talk entitled 'Nine Funny Ways of Killing Yourself' before trying to swallow a desk. Foulplay of 3A sawed one of his legs off and then strangled himself with it, while Fish of the Upper Sixth ended it all with the rather more mundane act of jumping into a tank full of piranhas.

Feel free to join this society whenever you feel like it, but remember our meetings are always late.

CHARLIE WATTS.

## ECONOMICS FIELD TRIP 1974—NEWMARKET

After a lot of discussion it was decided that it would be more financially beneficial to the school to hold next year's Economics Field Trip this year. A record number of two boys went, along with fifteen masters but unfortunately diminishing returns set in and they didn't all come back.

Valerie Singleton, the well-known coach driver, took them all to Newmarket where a capital week was had by all. Activities during the week included a trip to see some floating pounds and a visit to the Newmarket Old Economists Home, where hundreds of old economists wandered aimlessly around mumbling incoherently to themselves all day. On the last five days activities were cancelled because it was boring with rain.

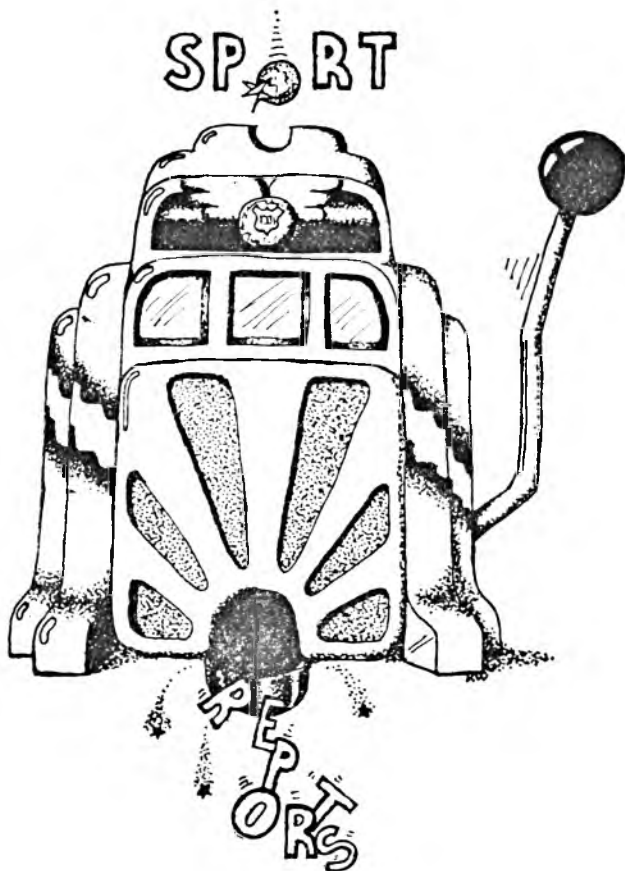
By the way, the rumour going around that economics is more interesting than chartered accountancy is unfounded and probably not true.

CHARLIE WATTS.

## MATHS FIELD TRIP 1973

This year the Maths set didn't go on one.

CHARLIE WATTS.



### 1st XI CRICKET

Played 20 Won 5 Lost 4 Drawn 10 Abandoned 1

We were blessed this summer with fine weather for cricket and not one game was cancelled. This was particularly fortunate in view of the unusually short term—only ten weeks.

However, it meant that to maintain the fixtures we have acquired over the years, 20 games had to be squeezed into those ten weeks, with the amazing result that the team was playing cricket on 12 of the last 19 days of the term. This ought to be borne in mind when assessing their season's record.

The record, in terms of results, shows nothing special—five victories in 20 games—yet it does not reflect the team's strength nor the way it played. That as many as ten games were drawn only indicates how difficult it is on good wickets, such as the school's, to force a result in an afternoon's play.

Of the games lost only one was by a substantial margin—the 9 wicket defeat by Hampton in a remarkable match, at one stage of which we were, we thought, doing quite well, at 102 for 4. One other defeat was to the Staff by the narrowest of possible margins—one run, and, as in that match, in both the other defeats, to Tiffin by 24 runs, and to Queen Elizabeth, Barnet, by 39 runs, the school could be fairly said to have been winning easily.

Of the drawn games, in only one were we really struggling to avoid defeat—against Abingdon, where firstly our fielding and then our batting let us down badly. In all the other draws the school, at the close, was either pressing hard for victory or sharing the honours, the matches against Bledlow C.C. and High Wycombe 'A' being particularly finely poised.

Of the five victories perhaps the most memorable was the one in the two-day game with Emanuel, where we staged a remarkable recovery in the field to reverse the drift of the proceedings and win by 19 runs. Sir William Borlase were crushed by a 148 run margin; R.G.S. Worcester (57 all out) were well beaten by 6 wickets, and Leighton Park were defeated with ease by 93 runs.

The foundations of our batting were built on the opening pair, vice-captain P. J. Brooks and D. A. Czerwinski. Brooks's 521 run aggregate, which included two fine centuries, is believed to be a school record; Czerwinski, whom we had to do without for the last eight games, aggregated 323 at an average of around 30. Together they frequently gave us a solid start; only once in the same match did neither manage to make a notable contribution. While less consistent, the captain P. R. Barrett at No. 3 totalled over 300 runs and three times played substantial innings. M. Saunders, usually in the first five, regularly made vital contributions for an aggregate of nearly 400 runs.

These four made the bulk of the runs and usually assured the bowlers of a reasonable total to bowl at. Of the other batsmen B. M. Warren, in the first half of the season, and the promising Colt Y. P. Russell, in the second half, made useful additions and Warren, against Watford, and Russell, against Dr. Challoner's, both played one big innings. I. S. Currie, promoted from the 2nd XI, made a half-century against Harrow County. The other specialist batsmen, W. A. Trendell and S. L. M. Hunt, failed to play any sizeable innings. Trendell had often to come in and sacrifice himself in search of quick runs before a declaration and Hunt had every batsman's nightmare, a wretched loss of all confidence.

The bowling was handicapped by the fact that the three pace bowlers, H. C. G. Browne, D. P. Worley and R. D. Andrews, never played together when they were at their best. Andrews did

not emerge until the fifth game, Browne left school half-way through the season, and it was not until Cricket Week in July that Andrews, who was at times devastating, and Worley came fully into their own.

As a result of this Saunders often had to shoulder the burden of being 'first change', but his control was not quite good enough to maintain the pressure that, even on good wickets, our opening pair often applied. However, he contrived to pick up a number of useful wickets.

The slow-bowling burden was borne by P. J. Hollingsworth, who, though he began well and later bowled us to victory over Emanuel, could not produce often enough the quick breakthroughs we needed. R. J. Maher's leg-spin was unfortunately not used a great deal; he needs time to develop it. However, in P. G. C. Harvey, who appeared late in the season, we saw great promise as a left-arm spinner for next year.

When bowlers cannot dominate on good wickets only outstanding fielding can force victory, and we very rarely produced it. Occasionally it was good, with Trendell excellent in the covers (before he was lost to us with a broken collar-bone), and several fine catches were held, but all too often chances which might have brought victory were put down. The ground fielding was never less than respectable but rarely reached memorable heights.

Perhaps captaincy worries affected Barrett's wicket-keeping, for it was not always as sharp as it ought to have been, and while Currie, his deputy for a while, generally held his catches, he lacked the skill of experience in standing up to slow bowling.

In view of G.C.E. pressures, which preoccupied an unusually large proportion of the team, and the pressure of such a heavy fixture list, it is not surprising that team spirit and zeal occasionally flagged. In this respect the captain and vice-captain had difficult tasks—and neither was a naturally gifted leader—yet they both worked hard for the team, in this most difficult of games, in their different ways and both deserve credit. I hope that they and all who played with them in 1973 derived satisfaction from their cricket and learnt something in the process.

S.R.G.

#### Leading Averages Bowling

| Bowling               | O.    | R. | R.  | W. | Av.  |
|-----------------------|-------|----|-----|----|------|
| Andrews, R. D. ....   | 166.2 | 60 | 348 | 35 | 9.9  |
| Browne, H. C. G. .... | 101   | 23 | 286 | 23 | 12.4 |
| Hollingsworth, P. J.  | 140   | 41 | 340 | 27 | 12.6 |
| Worley, D. P. ....    | 163.2 | 46 | 464 | 32 | 14.5 |
| Saunders, M. ....     | 83.1  | 17 | 269 | 18 | 14.9 |

### Batting

| Batting                | Inns. | N.O. | H.S. | Agg. | Av.   |
|------------------------|-------|------|------|------|-------|
| Czerwinski, D. A. .... | 13    | 2    | 56*  | 323  | 29.36 |
| Brooks, P. J. ....     | 21    | 1    | 124* | 521  | 27.42 |
| Saunders, M. ....      | 18    | 3    | 51*  | 392  | 26.13 |
| Warren, B. M. ....     | 8     | 1    | 90*  | 156  | 22.29 |
| Russell, T. P. ....    | 8     | 1    | 64   | 146  | 20.86 |
| Currie, I. S. ....     | 5     | 0    | 51   | 80   | 16.00 |
| Barrett, P. R. ....    | 21    | 1    | 78   | 316  | 15.80 |
| Wood, A. K. C. ....    | 4     | 1    | 28*  | 46   | 15.33 |
| Andrews, R. D. ....    | 12    | 4    | 28   | 89   | 11.13 |

Also played (not previously mentioned): C. C. Lloyd (4), H. M. Thomas (3), M. A. Page, D. C. Howorth, G. B. Chandler and G. C. Haynes (all 1).

### 2nd XI CRICKET

Won 6 Drawn 6

What a season! Undoubtedly the best school cricket team for many years (for sociability and team spirit). Unbeaten, except for Tiffin, which doesn't count because Sid Hunt was captain, and in spite of demands on our players from 1st and U15 XI's. The depth of our innate ability can be measured from the fact that only Bill Hawken was outstanding on more than one occasion and only Fiz Andrews failed to convince us that he had any ability, inane or otherwise.

What was the foundation of our success? Fielding? Micky Page's acrobatics impressed the Headmaster, Tim Hardy 'let it go' with unerring accuracy while the Captain's sense of balance, particularly at run-out chances was delicate. 'Other end, Alan.' Tim Russell made wicket-keeping look an effortless task, particularly where removing the bails was concerned while the intrepid Wagstaff patrolled the outside field like a panther. Undoubtedly though, it was 'Glenn' Turner who stimulated our fielding by his example. Although in his enthusiasm he occasionally obstructed other fielders—two victims v. Newbury—and although his technique of bringing the ball down with his stomach before trying to catch it failed to reap its full reward, the power of his throwing arm was terrifyingly demonstrated v. St. Benedicts.

Perhaps it was our aggressive batting. Against QEB's, Dave Coxwell 13 in 50 mins., Howard Thomas 26 in 85, and Mark 'Julien' Bedingplane 12 in 54, not to mention 31 in 112 v. Abingdon. He was also renowned for his running between the wickets—as fast as his braking reactions (the boarding house knows the speed of them) while Tim Hardy was always eager for that second run. Nevertheless Jock Currie scored consistently (top score 52\*

v. Emanuel whom we beat by 8 wickets), Duncan Howorth improved with every match scoring several 30's and during his short stay Tim Russell spooned a quick 42.

Most probably it was our bowling, though it must be admitted that the opposition were not always strong. Several good figures were returned: Sid Hunt 6, 0, 23, 5 and Adam Wood 8, 0, 40, 4 v. St. Benedicts, Pete Harvey 12, 6, 16, 6 v. Watford, Bill Hawken 16, 2, 28, 6 v. Emanuel and 19, 5, 49, 5 v. Abingdon, Chas Lloyd 8, 4, 5, 4 v. Borlase (who amassed 29). But my personal opinion is that it was founded on Mr. File's umpiring—the games Mr. Gibson umpired did seem to last much longer, while Mr. Cook, unmoved by the spectacular, was not forthcoming with the finger.

All-in-all, a season to remember. Although only one person fell backwards into the ladies and the Captain kept his most humorous moments for that late recall to the 1st (alias U15's with a fabulous attitude and Alf Hollingsworth) XI, it was a season of good cricket—exemplified by Rafiq Raja's devastating opening over v. Watford—and much humour—epitomised by Tim Hardy declaring in the last match v. Challoners on 49 not out. Thanks to Dave Wagstaff for scoring. No thanks to Bill Hawken for giving him run out without facing a ball in his only innings. NORMAN.

(Statistics by courtesy of P. J. Hollingsworth)

### UNDER 13 CRICKET

This year's team fulfilled all the promise of the previous year by turning in some excellent all-round performances throughout the season. After narrowly losing their first match, they went on undefeated (under the captaincy of Atkins) for the rest of term.

Such was the enthusiasm of the members of the club that it was necessary to field a 2nd XI who played a series of four test matches (under the captaincy of Shaw), all very closely contested, with the U12 team, finally succumbing 3—1.

Although most matches were won by an all-round team effort, special mention must go to P. Woodbridge, who opened both the batting and bowling with considerable success, Heal, who with his great variety of bowling bemused most opposing batsmen and won the Player of the Year award, Standing, whose performance in the inter-form final with bat and ball confirmed him as candidate for the most improved player of the year, and finally Poskett, who, after a depressing start to the season, finally came to form with several substantial innings. He also won the single-wicket competition, beating Gulliver in the final.

After such an encouraging season, both Mr. Cook and Mr. Wilson look forward to even greater success in the coming season, when it is hoped that we shall win the county section of the national 'Esso' competition. I.J.W.



## UNDER 12 CRICKET

Played 6 Drawn 3 Lost 3

The XI did not have a particularly successful season but by its conclusion a marked improvement had been achieved. Their spirit never flagged despite numerous disappointments, not least of which was their narrow failure to win their last match. Wheeler's confidence as captain grew as the season progressed, and Bristow, despite injury for part of the season, managed to display an aggressive and skilful approach to batting. These and other members of the team show promise which will be fulfilled with hard practice and a preservation of their enthusiasm for the game.

D. R. CHAMBERLAIN.

## ATHLETICS

The School Sports were held this year on Friday 25th May. They were, like all internal school competitions this year, organised on an inter-form basis for Forms 1-4, and an open Competition for boys in Forms 5 and 6.

N. Brothers was again Open Champion with P. Harris in 2nd place. A Lewis broke J. E. Woodward's 1947 Long Jump record, jumping 6 m. 35 c., then M. Page surpassed this in an outside competition.

The Senior Colts Competition was won by R. Edwards with M. Long in second place. 4S was the winning Form. The Colts Competition was won by P. Chapman with M. Fane second. P. Chapman also broke the 800 m. record with a run of 2 m. 23.6 secs. The Junior Colts Competition was won by P. Woodbridge and his twin brother was second one point behind. P. Woodbridge broke the 400 m. records with 62.6 secs. The winning form was 2S. In the 1st Form events 1A was the winning Form, with G. Tregunna Champion. He also broke the 400 m. record at the District Sports with a time of 67.4 secs. A. Birch broke G. D. Long's 1967 High Jump Record with a jump of 1 m. 33 c., and D. Bristow broke the Javelin record with a throw of 20 m. 97 c.

The Senior Cross Country Champion was N. J. Hansell and D. J. Watson was the Junior Champion.

## LAWN TENNIS CLUB

1st VI

Played 18 Won 14 Drawn 1 Lost 3

|                        |       |                    |     |
|------------------------|-------|--------------------|-----|
| v. U.S.A.A.F. Boys     | 5½-½  | v. Halton R.A.F.   | 6-3 |
| v. Magdalen Coll. Sch. | 3½-5½ | v. U.C.S.          | 5-4 |
| v. Radley College      | 8½-½  | v. K.A.H's VI      | 5-4 |
| v. Watford G.S.        | 4-5   | v. Highgate School | 8-1 |

|                      |       |                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| v. Merchant Taylors' | 6-3   | v. R.G.S. Colchester | 4½-4½ |
| v. Stowe School      | 3-6   | v. Abingdon School   | 8-1   |
| v. St. Benedict's    | 9-0   | v. Dr. Challoner's   | 6½-2½ |
| v. St. John's Club   | 7½-1½ | v. R.G.S. Staff      | 5-4   |
| v. St. Bartholomew's | 7-2   | v. Wycombe High Sch. | 6-3   |

We have had some notable successes, making up for some of the disappointments of last year; only one 1st VI match—that against Leighton Park—rained off; players partnering each other in greater harmony; and some very high quality tennis. We played well to beat U.C.S. and draw with R.G.S. Colchester, and we only lost to Watford because Guy was released for club tennis!

Guy Johnson is finally parting company with the 1st VI after six years of terrific service to the club; from a tiny second former, scarcely able to see over the net, he has grown into a powerful player, with no noticeable weaknesses. Luckily we have had a good enough circuit of schools to keep him interested and playing well. He has deserved his place in the Bucks County Team, his position as Bucks Junior Champion, and his many successes in both doubles and singles tournaments outside the school. With full colours awarded to him long ago, and the captaincy for three years, the club has also presented him with a cup as a token of respect for the tremendous part he has played in raising the R.G.S. tennis to a high level outside the school, and helping to maintain probably the best record of all our major sports within the school.

Mark Aston, our captain for next year, has improved considerably after a mediocre 1972 season. His game now has the necessary punch, and his ability is backed by more determination to win. Some of his winners were superb to watch. His weakness is that he must learn to build up to an attacking position first before delivering the 'grand slam'!

Geoff Hunt and Fred Gudeker have been the other two Sixth Formers in the team; both have helped us win valuable sets, but both need, in their different ways, to concentrate even more. We will be relying on them next year to keep our strength up to standard.

Richard Ault, with one eye on the cricket pitch, has produced some quality tennis—e.g. against Halton, Colchester, and Abingdon—often enough to make me hope he will be the nucleus of the team in the next three or four years. If he is willing to practise hard during the year, he could be a very good player. Kumar Guha still lacks the concentration vital to succeed in all conditions, but has also improved impressively and is capable of excellent tennis. I expect great things of him in 1974!

Other players—Chris Gomm, Michael Waring, Adrian Corser—have also proved useful when called upon to play. My thanks must

go again to Mr. Haworth for his great efforts to provide us with the very high quality teas, to Jill for her services behind the hatch, and to Ivor Atkins for his help and experience. Our very best wishes go with him when he leaves. So, forward to 1974, with determination to beat at least Watford, Magdalen, and Stowe, and keeping our racquets crossed in the hopes of our old court(s) being resurfaced.

Full Colours awarded to Mark Aston and Geoff Hunt.

Half Colours awarded to Chris Gomm and Michael Waring, Richard Ault and Kumar Guha, Fred Geudeker and Richard Quiney.

K.A.H.

### 2nd VI

Played 6 Won 3 Drawn 1 Lost 2

The 2nd VI have had a moderately successful season, beating Abingdon  $5\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$ , Leighton Park 7-2, and Sir William Borlase 6-3; losing to Merchant Taylors 3-6 and John Hampden 2-7, and drawing with Slough G.S. 2-2. Michael Waring has captained the side, usually partnering Richard Quiney. Both are useful 2nd VI players, but need to be much more consistent if they are to help the 1st VI next year. Other players included N. Hansell, A. Corser, N. Jones, K. Humphrey, C. Gomm, N. Currie, R. J. Edwards, H. Johnstone, and P. Wilkinson.

The Junior Tennis Knockout Tournament attracted a large entry: in the semi-finals R. Ault (3S) beat W. Halstead (1A) and R. Edwards (4S) beat I. Gibbons (2Y). Richard Ault beat Robin Edwards in the Final 6-2, 6-1. The Winner's Cup was presented to him in School Assembly.

K.A.H.

### Colts VI

Played 6 Drawn 1 Lost 5

The Colts VI have had a very disappointing season losing five of their six matches (v. Watford G.S. 3-6; v. Merchant Taylors' 4-5; v. Stowe 1-8; v. Magdalen College School 2-6; v. Windsor G.S. 2-7) and drawing one (v. U.C.S. 3-3). The standard of the opposition was generally high, as most of the teams played were unbeaten. Nevertheless, I should like to see more enthusiasm at this level, and hope the new opportunities for coaching in the junior school will be taken advantage of next year.

Players included: Auld R. H., Quiney I. D., Morrish C. D., Journet N. C. H., Edwards M., Shepherd N., Noblett C., Edwards R. J., Edwards R. H., Johnstone H., and Hedges C.

P.G.R.

In the annual cricket match between the tennis club XI and the school 2nd XI the 2nd XI just managed to win by 15 runs. After bowling out the cricket team for 120, a last wicket stand of 40 by the tennis club—of which F. Geudeka made 36 and K. Guha 1—was finally broken by a dubious clean bowled decision just when Adam Wood's obvious anxiety was providing a source of amusement for the spectators.

I would like to thank Mr. Hillier for all the work he has done for the tennis team. Not only this year but since he became master in charge of tennis five years ago. His enthusiasm and readiness to give up his time for the team has been the main factor in creating the excellent team spirit. The success of the tennis team over the last few years is due in no small measure to his efforts. I would also like to thank Mr. Raymond for organising the junior side of tennis this year. We are also grateful to the headmaster for the support he has given to the activities of the tennis club. Finally I would like to say how grateful I am personally for the opportunity which the tennis team provides of playing a consistently high standard of competitive tennis.

G. A. J.

### ROWING REPORT

The successful start to the year's racing in the Schools Head and private-match victories over Maidenhead R.C. heralded our continuing success during the regatta season. After a quick dusting down of Sir William Borlase, the 1st IV—bow Mike Williams, 2 Max Adam, 3 Tim Bartlett, str. Ian C., cox Doug Stewart—got down to some serious work and their efforts were duly rewarded in the form of a new club record of six cups.

The first of these was reasonably comfortably collected at the first regatta of the season, Wallingford. A hat-trick of regatta wins had been completed as early as May 28, with pots from Thames Ditton and Brent Regatta (when Hampton Grammar School eventually found their pawn ticket) safely stashed under Mr. Blyth's bed.

The following week we met with our first defeat of the season at Walton Regatta. The absence of our accustomed 'winning-crew syndrome' during the following week was proved to be merely a passing phase when we proceeded to turn in what was perhaps our best performance of the season when we won the National Schools Regatta on the new 2000 metre course at Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham. Next was our home regatta at Marlow. The less said about the underhand dealings concerned, the better—the club funds may be high at the moment but a law suit is a luxury we can ill afford with the impending purchase of a new 'shell'.

Suffice it to say that with half the crew rowing on an empty stomach and the other half bloated with Burgers' patisseries, our performance was understandably below par.

In what was to prove to be our final glory of the season we picked up the cups at the two remaining regattas, namely Reading Town and Egham.

The end of term came and passed, but not a tear did the 1st IV shed at the prospect of having to drag themselves down to Marlow at the crack of dawn merely to have their stuffing knocked out and to be told to come back the next day for more. But why, you may ask, were we selected for such unparalleled brutality? For the second time in three years the Royal Grammar School High Wycombe had been selected to represent England in the Home Countries International at Holme Pierrepont on July 22.

What success, what fame, what heroes, what a triumph!—What bloody wasters! We lost.

On hindsight, we can see that we reached our peak (no reference to this year's bow—he can be reached any time at Tylers Wood 21324) at the National Schools and that our shaky victory at Egham should have been adequate warning. Over-peaking is something which every crew and coach fear at top-level rowing but which is very difficult to legislate for.

No-one was to blame—we had had a hard and indisputably successful regatta season and it is very difficult to stay at such a high level for very long. No excuses could ease the disappointment and feeling of frustration—we had tried our best, yet we knew that we had been capable of better. Needless to say, our coach was not the least *déçu* of us but the comparatively calm way he took it all was much appreciated when we came to our senses. (Here I must add that we were overjoyed to hear that the Nottingham police were dropping the charge of attempted drowning of five young lads.)

Before we leave Nottingham—not in the Mini-bus this time, thank God—and look forward to next season we must express our thanks to Carol and her parents for their much-appreciated accommodation and catering. Not, of course, forgetting little Peter, a source of great amusement and should be so for years to come if he turns out to be anything like his father. (Whatever that means. I.A.B.).

As a final word on behalf of last year's 1st IV, I should like to express my sincere thanks for all the time and effort which Ian Blyth put into the crew last year. Much of our disappointment at the end of last season was for having let him down in the way the final edge was taken from such a successful season—thanks, Chief!

As for the other crews, they were obviously overshadowed by the first IV but nonetheless their general enthusiasm and striving

for improvement, with the odd exception in the 'Senior C' IV, deserved more concrete results than they got, but I hope they enjoyed it anyway.

What do we have to look forward to, to follow such a successful season? Well, with the scars from last season's battles scarcely healed the oarsmen were already back in training by the second week of term. After his careful observation of the German crews at the FISA World Youth championships, our coach has gone to town on a new, improved land training scheme. Fitness, always a dubious claim, is now certain to be first-class come the regatta season if the pulled hamstrings and suspected ruptured blood vessels can stand the strain of Mr. Blyth's master plan. We are constantly assured by a smiling coach that it will get worse—not before it gets better, just that it will get worse!

Although lighter than last year, having lost our main ballast and literary contingent of last year's crew at 3, this year's 1st IV have less of a size discrepancy. Providing bow can successfully change sides, that two can keep an eye (?) on his 'bum-shoving', that three stamps on his tendencies towards a 'mini-Bartlett', that the rest of the crew let stroke do his job and cox can keep awake, next year should see the emergence from the dark and icy depths of the boathouse of a very capable four.

The second IV suffer as did last year's Novices from lack of weight and experience but if Mr. Ferris can temper/moderate their enthusiastic rush up the slide, they should provide some stiff competition.

The intake of new fifth-formers was large if rather motley. It is too early yet to predict their potential but with their enthusiasm, the general high spirits of the boat-club and the never-ending sacrifices and efforts of Mr. Blyth, there is a definite air of optimism in the camp.

IAN C. VALE.

### **TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC 1973** **(or The Rugby Training Camp)**

In the last week of the summer holidays *about* fifteen self-confessed rugby players and one wayward hockey player went down to the woods where they got a big surprise. We can now reveal that Goldithorpe's three bears are alive and well and living down in the Savernake Forest, near Marlborough. For all the uninitiated the three bears were three young hairies of various sexes who 'occupied' a small green tent very near our own corner of the Forestry Commission camp site.

Such was the spirit of the whole camp, that our intrepid campers could not resist the temptation to try their hands at a

bit of bear-baiting. At first the bears did not seem to respond to the unsubtle taunts e.g. concerning the sugared-breakfast cereal they ate. However by the third day we were becoming more adept in our methods and consequently the bears were becoming quite gristly. A few misguided rugby balls caused a torrent of angry and unprintable grunts and growls to fall upon our heads.

It would be quite wrong to think that this was the major activity of the camp. The object of it, or so it was rumoured, was to get fit and to build up team-spirit in preparation for the new season. Team-spirit was certainly stoked-up. A credit to the Geography department. Adam Wood made full use of the many assorted geographical features around Marlborough to whip our mob into shapes—grotesque, distorted shapes writhing on the ground that is.

When we weren't baiting the bears or our bodies in the above way we managed to keep ourselves amused. Nor did we neglect our studies for on the first morning Mr. Goldthorpe gave a very interesting lecture with practical demonstrations entitled 'How to erect an A-frame tent in 978 simple and amusing moves'. This was very well attended and his efforts greatly 'appreciated'. Not quite so popular was the late night discussion between the English teaching tent erector and T. Hardy. Dave Coxwell alias Fanny Craddock demonstrated the art of instant potato making. (By the way Dave, I am now in a 'position' to reveal who trod on your hair.) On the subject of food the gastronomical high-spot of the camp was undoubtedly the curry which everyone enjoyed, everyone that is except Fizz. He did his very own thing with a pan of mince, much, I might add, to Ewen's disgust.

A number of other sports were disorganised. John Child and Adam conspired to win the darts competition. (This was held in the Sun, an inn we acquired for the week, and which surprisingly still stands and still serves a good toasted sandwich—which says a lot for our restraint.) We were also treated to a game of golf played with a lot of fire by Adam and Ewen—not to mention Tim, who also played with a lot of—strokes? Other gay frolics included football matches, rugby/rounders and a terrorist attack on Marlborough swimming pool.

On the Wednesday evening we went *en masse* to test Devizes carnival. This competition deserves a report of its own. Suffice it to say that there were no casualties, and some fine souvenirs were obtained (these can be seen in the 1st XV changing room on match days). Also those were the best bumper cars I've ever been on.

To celebrate the end of the camp, those of us who had lasted the distance were treated to a special meal in the Sun. That last Friday evening was quite eventful. First we were entertained by Rugby

Special, a very skilful, fast and funny game between, or should I say incorporating, some local rugby players among our number. A certain rotund prop scored two tries so the less said the better. When we got back to camp some sober joker (was it resident Harlequin I. Mawhinney?) decided to give the Fuhrer a shower. Adam didn't enjoy that one as much as the one he had with two German frauleins! After this something truly wonderful happened: diplomatic relations were resumed with the bears and over a cup of coffee we discovered that Dr. Dolittle is not unique—a happy evening until the warden arrived but hush! Saturday morning we packed up and left eagerly awaiting the next cricket season.

We would like to thank Mr. Goldthorpe and Mr. Cook, our long-suffering nursemaids. Thanks also of course to A-cting K-ing C-ole without whom the week would have been less exhausting, not as fruitful and not half so much fun. My own thanks to each and every character on the camp without whom this report would not have been possible.

P.S.—Anyone wishing to see the photos of the bears should get in touch with Shaw Taylor, c/o New Scotland Yard.

## OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CLUB

### The Annual General Meeting, July 13th, 1973

As a result of the cancellation of the Annual Dinner which was to have been held in the East India Sports and Public Schools Club in London on March 31st, 1973, the A.G.M. was held on Speech Day, July 13th 1973 in the E. R. Tucker Memorial Room. All Old Boy members of the Club had been invited to attend Speech Day and take tea afterwards before attending the A.G.M. at 5.30 p.m. A small number were able to take advantage of this invitation.

The meeting was very short. The financial position of the Club was considered to be vaguely satisfactory. Thanks were expressed to A. E. Franklin Hole for his kindness in preparing the balance sheet, a task he has undertaken for many years with the greatest readiness. The heating arrangements in the E. R. Tucker Room were now adequate. The Old Boys' Cricket Club was now defunct but would no doubt come to hesitant life again one day. The Officers for 1972-73 were elected *en bloc* for 1973-74. C. R. Rollason (1965-71) was elected a new member of the committee. The future of the School as a grammar school under the Bucks County Education Authority seemed assured at the moment but constant vigilance was necessary. The School magazine would not be published in September 1973. A new type of magazine, printed internally, was to take over from the professionally printed



magazine which had become too expensive. It was hoped to publish the next number in October or November 1973.

Last but not least, the Guest of Honour at the Annual Dinner to be held at the School on March 23rd 1974 would be Mr. Sam Morgan, who had just retired after 43 years service to the School. The Chairman felt sure that Old Boys would support this Dinner. A circular giving all information about the Dinner and a presentation to Mr. Morgan would be sent out at the beginning of February 1974.

## DEATHS

### Old Boys

D. J. HANN (1924–29), on May 16th 1973, in a road accident, aged 60 years.

Douglas James Hann was the head of D. J. Hann Ltd., importers and wholesalers, and was the Mayor of High Wycombe in 1961–62. Before the war he joined the furniture firm of T. W. Mealing but volunteered in September 1939, served with the B.E.F. and was in the Dunkirk evacuation. Later he was commissioned in the Royal Signals and reached the rank of Major.

In 1954 he set up in business on his own as an importer and wholesaler of furniture-making materials and was very successful. In 1954 he was also elected to the borough council as a Conservative. He had many other interests—he was for six years on the committee of Wycombe Wanderers F.C., he was a founder member of the Old Wycombiensians Rugby Club and was a former president and captain of Flackwell Heath Golf Club. Late in life he learned to fly and became a competent pilot. He was also a bowls enthusiast and bowled for Bucks.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Edna Hann, a son and two daughters.

G. F. S. HUSSEY (1923–28), on May 1st 1973, at 128 Main Road, Naphill, High Wycombe, aged 62 years.

George Frank Stephen Hussey served his apprenticeship as a pharmacist with Mr. R. P. Bristow in High Wycombe. He attended Lucas's College of Pharmacy and qualified in 1933.

Thereafter he managed Mr. Bristow's shop in Crendon Street, then the shop in Oxford Street, becoming managing director of the company and finally owner of the Oxford Street shop in 1959. For 20 years up to 1956 he was acting as voluntary pharmacist to the High Wycombe War Memorial Hospital. He later served as a member of the Wycombe Hospitals House Committee. In 1966 the shop in Oxford Street was demolished and he returned to the new Wycombe

General Hospital as Senior Pharmacist and was promoted to Deputy Chief Pharmacist in 1967. He was also a Vice-President of the High Wycombe Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade for many years. He leaves a widow, Mrs. O. C. Hussey.

- A. E. STEEVENS (1916–23) in September 1973, while on holiday on the Isle of Skye, aged 67 years.

Ewart Steevens ran the family building business from 1930 until his retirement a few years ago. He was a fellow of the Institute of Builders. He was a life-long Methodist, a lay preacher for 46 years and was also secretary, trustee and a former Sunday School superintendent at Wesley Methodist Church, Priory Road.

He was a member of the High Wycombe History Society and few historians could match his knowledge of High Wycombe and district. His slide collection of Old Wycombe was unique.

He was a founder member of the Rye Protection Society. He was also chairman of the building and environment group of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health.

He leaves a widow and two sons.

- G. F. FIZIA (1953–56). We have to report the tragic sudden death of Gunther Fizia a few months ago, aged 34 years.

## OLD BOYS' NOTES

### Staff

- W. N. BICKNELL (1930–43) visited the School recently with his wife. He has retired as Headmaster of Tadcaster School and now lives at 'Moongate', 15 Albermarle Road, York, YO2 1EW. Old Boy Group Captain I. M. PEDDAR (1936–42) came to inspect the C.C.F. at Tadcaster School in 1972. Mr. Bicknell was glad to retire—the school had become a vast place with 1700 pupils.

### Old Boys

- ANDERSON, N. B. (1962–69) is to be congratulated on qualifying for the degree of B.Eng.(Tech.) in Civil Engineering at U.W.I.S.T. Cardiff with First Class Honours. Other Old Boys who also gained Firsts last summer are JONES, S. E. (1964–72) in Honour Mods., TOMLINSON, J. D. (1963–70) at the London School of Economics, WOOD, R. M. (1963–69) in Natural Sciences at Peterhouse, Cambridge where his two brothers, WOOD, P. M. (1957–64), WOOD, D. M. (1959–66) are both Fellows of the College. WOOLLEY, J. N. (1962–68), CANNELL, W. P. (1965–72), BARKER, D. G. (1964–70) and HARDY, C. A. (1965–71) gained Firsts in their Part I examinations at Cambridge.

BECKET, A. R. (1966-73) is following vaguely in the family tradition acting as a junior negotiator at Cruickshank, Rhys and Jude, Estate Agents. BROOKS, P. J. (1966-73) and ANDREWS, P. N. (1966-73) had just applied for employment with the same firm. Becket's friend WALKER, S. J. E. (1967-73) opted out of the academic rat-race after one year in the 6th and is now working for J. A. Wallers (Electronics) Ltd. as a test engineer.

BOWMAN, J. C. (1955-61) after working for years with cubs and scouts while serving in the R.A.F. decided that his life lay in the teaching profession. He has relinquished his commission and taken up teaching in a small school in Doveridge, Derbyshire. He got married in July and his best man was M. F. FORRESTER (1958-62) who is now a private secretary to the Prime Minister.

BRIDEN, J. C. (1949-57) has been promoted from Lecturer to Reader in Earth Sciences at Leeds University where he has been teaching since 1968. His researches into the early history of the Earth involves him in field work in Africa and an interest in the Earth's magnetic field brings him into occasional contact with S. R. C. MALIN (1948-55) of the Royal Observatory, Herstmonceaux.

ENGEL, P. G. (1961-67) has been awarded a German Government scholarship to study conducting and piano at the College of Music in Hamburg. He took his degree of Mus.B. at Manchester University and hopes to become a professional conductor. While at Manchester he formed his own Chamber music choir and later orchestra.

GILES, R. G. (1939-45) is now permanently resident in New Zealand—at 24 John Street, Ponsonby, Auckland.

GOULBORN, S. A. (1928-36). Alderman Sydney Goulborn, B.A., J.P. is particularly happy to inform the Club that his son, S. C. R. GOULBORN (1957-64) and Catherine Goulborn presented him with a grand-daughter, Sarah Kathryn, on September 2nd 1973 at Horsforth, Yorkshire.

HANDS, S. E. (1915-20), President of the Royal Philatelic Society, continues to gain remarkable successes with his Bolivian collection—it is considered to be the finest collection of that country in existence. In March 1973 at 'Stampex' he received a Gold Medal at his first attempt. In May he showed at the International Stamp Exhibition at Munich and obtained a further Gold Medal. In August at the Philatelic World Exhibition in Posnan, Poland, his exhibition brought him a large Gold and a Silver. He is to exhibit in the near future in Delhi, Stockholm and Basle.

- HERRING, J. R. H. (1953–60) has gained his Ph.D. in Space Research—Astrophysics at University College, London. He continues to work with the space research team of U.C.L. and is also training youngsters to follow in his footsteps.
- HICKOX, R. S. (1959–65) made his Promenade Concert debut at the Albert Hall on July 31st 1973, conducting his orchestra and chorus in Handel's 'Messiah'—'a daunting task which he undertook with confidence and a fine sense of musical purpose' (*Daily Telegraph* August 1st).
- JUNIPER, P. (1964–68) has just passed his final examinations as a trainee Chartered Accountant in Poole, Dorset. He hopes to be admitted to the Institute and is moving to London to broaden his experience. He has seen a lot of A. D. MANECK (1966–68) who now lives in Dorset.
- KEEN, S. G. J. (1921–25), Chairman of G. H. and S. Keen Ltd. and W. S. Toms Ltd., is now vice-chairman of the High Wycombe and District Hospital Management Committee. He is also chairman of the High Wycombe Hospitals House Committee which includes Wycombe General Hospital, the Shrubbery Maternity Home, Booker Hospital and Marlow Cottage Hospital together with the Day Hospitals.
- KELLY, J. S. (1949–55) is taking command of the Royal Naval frigate H.M.S. *Landaff*. He joined the Navy as a cadet in 1956. He was promoted Lieutenant in 1960 and served as a pilot in 848 Squadron on H.M.S. *Bulwark*. In 1964 he was appointed Flight Commander of the squadron and was awarded the M.B.E. He was promoted Commander in June 1973. He is married with two sons and a daughter. Their home is at Martin, near Fordingbridge, Hants. At school he showed remarkable drive and character as Rugby captain. If he'd only weighed a couple of stone more, Mr. Haworth would have had four Internationals to his credit instead of three.
- KERR, A. I. (1965–71) is spending a year in France as part of his B.A. French and German course at Goldsmith's College, University of London. He is learning to fly as an R.A.F.V.R. member of the University Air Squadron and hopes to gain a private pilot's licence.
- MASON, M. J. (1956–61) is captain of the Harlequins R.F.C. this season.
- MAUN, I. C. (1960–67) got married on August 12th 1973 to a teacher in Cambridge. The inspiration is such that he has given up his work in Heffer's bookshop and is going to Birmingham where he will be doing a year's post-graduate

teacher-training course. He is going to study the application of linguistics to the teaching of English but hopes to teach French and German as well. Applied linguistics in English is apparently a field with great possibilities. He had just heard from M. F. MORRISON (1960-67) who got married on Easter Monday last. Morrison is working in Huddersfield and is very impressed with life in the North.

NEWTON, M. S. (1964-71) finished nine months at the Saxon Inn Motor Hotel and is now studying for an honours degree in Hotel and Catering Management at Surrey University. He sees a lot of G. JARMAN (1963-71) at Croydon Polytechnic and R. MOORE (1964-72) who will have started at the Westminster Dental School by now. Another friend A. WOODWARD (1963-70) has completed his finals at Newcastle University and got engaged at the same time.

OWEN, S. J. (1961-67) was married in May 1973. The Rev. A. J. SKIPP (1929-37) officiated at the Parish Church. He is now installed at the Inspector of Taxes office in Harlow, Essex, 'merrily wringing blood from the local stones.' He passed an examination in March which means that he is now half-way to completing his training as an Inspector.

PERFECT, M. J. (1958-65) who works at the International Telephone Exchange in Faraday House, was married on October 6th 1973 at St. John's Episcopal Church, Aberdeen, to Brenda Jean Thompson of Bridge of Don, Aberdeen.

PLANAS, J. (1965-71) is a Residential Child Care Officer with Oxfordshire Social Services based in Long Hanborough. He started this work in April 1973 and the County helped considerably in making training for qualifications available to him. The work is very interesting and rewarding but very demanding. He is in charge of children from 8 to 17.

PRIOR, J. K. (1934-40) has been elected to succeed Alderman R. P. Clarke as the new Chairman of the Governors. He has been a very active member of the Old Wycombiensians Committee for the past 25 years and a Foundation Governor for nine years. He is married with three daughters, is deputy staff controller of the Prudential Insurance Company and a vice-president of the Institution of Training Officers. Appointed as vice-chairman to succeed Ald. G. H. Baker (1906-12) is G. W. RAY (1917-23), director and secretary of Ercol Furniture Ltd.

RUNDELL, D. J. (1960-67) has moved with his wife to Southall to be near his work at the B.B.C. Television film studios in Ealing. He will not be far from A. J. KNOX (1958-65) in the video-tape department.

- STUBBS, D. W. (1961-63) was captain of the High Wycombe team which won the Bucks Seven-a-side Rugby tournament earlier this year. Six of the team were Old Boys. WHITELOCK, I. R. (1960-66), DAVIES, J. M. (1955-62), BROADWAY, A. P. (1962-68), BASTERFIELD, G. F. D. (1966-70).
- SWEETING (1957-63) writes from Bondi, N.S.W., Australia, where he is trying to settle down. He left England in May 1972 to work in a hotel in Corfu—it wasn't finished and he found himself being paid for pottering around in boats, sailing and swimming. The staff comprised four men and 25 girls. He is still with Heather. In October they 'did' Israel and then flew on to Teheran. They left for Afghanistan in a 'bus and found hippies everywhere—on through the Khyber Pass to Peshawar and then to Delhi, Nepal, Katmandu, Bombay and Goa for the New Year. Sweeting had to get his hair cut when he landed in Penang—the Malaysians are funny about long hair and hippies. In some way they think they are decadent. They finally ended up in Sydney where he is hoping to make his fortune selling for Olivetti. Salaries are double those in England. He is staying temporarily with P. WEST.
- THAIN, J. E. D. (1961-68) is making quick progress with Searle Laboratories as expected. He is leaving soon to be Lagos Manager for Searle Nigeria Ltd. He will be centred in Nigeria but his area will include the West African coast.
- TINN, D. S. O. (1965-71) is to be congratulated on gaining his half-blue for swimming against Oxford early this year. He has been elected Hon. Sec. of the Cambridge University Swimming Club for 1973-74.
- WILSON, A. R. (1960-66) toyed fleetingly with the world of business after very successfully completing his degree in Japanese at Sheffield University—but it was not for him and he and his wife will soon be going to Japan where he will be collecting material for his Ph.D. thesis. R. J. WILSON (1957-63) has been in Canton representing his company, Babcock and Wilcox, Engineers, and will be going to Peking on their behalf in the near future. P. J. WILSON (1954-60) is married and very happily settled in the Borough Engineers Department in Watford.
- WINTER, P. E. (1960-67) is home again after his stay in New Zealand. He is working as an administrative assistant to the Duke of Edinburgh Study Conference 1974, with an office, two telephones and a secretary in the West End. With the help of his father and mother he runs an excellent rest home

for ex-patriate Kiwis. His friend R. J. MARTIN-FAGG (1962-69) who returned with him, is now a Man-Power Studies Officer with the Air Transport and Travel Industry Training Board in Staines.

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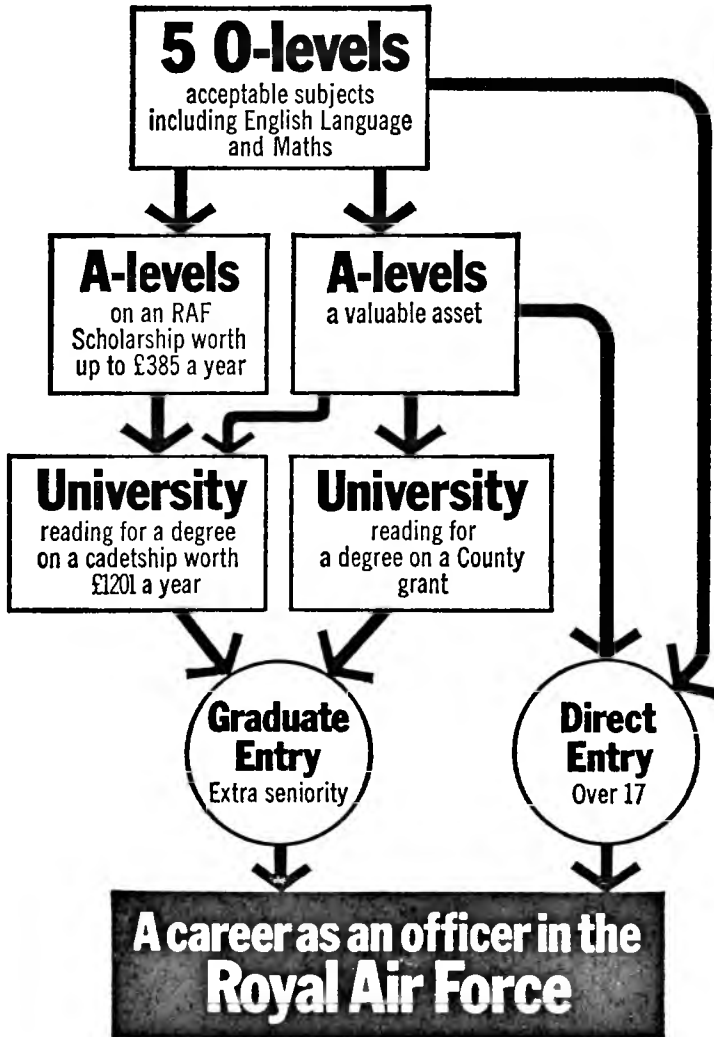
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