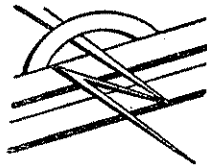


RAYNES PARK COUNTY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

THE

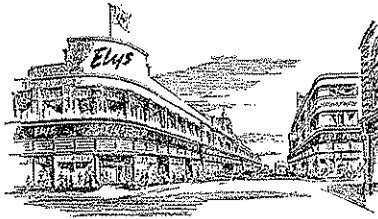
SPUR

AUTUMN TERM 1963



VOLUME XIX

NUMBER 1



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THE SPUR

RAYNES PARK COUNTY SCHOOL

" To each his need, from each his power "

Vol. XIX

Autumn Term

No. 1

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IN MEMORIAM

The School, and particularly those nearer to him in form 4I and Cobbs House, heard with genuine grief and shock of the death by drowning on September 9th of Robert F. Hall. He was swept away and lost after a boating accident in the Medway on the last day of the holidays. He was a promising and intelligent boy, whom everyone liked—one cannot often say this, with such general truth—for his candour, effective good nature, and pleasant personal ways. He will be missed and remembered here, and we can feel for his family in their sense of loss. We shall be proud to accept, at the proposal of his mother and father, a cup to bear his name and be awarded annually among the cross-country runners, in which sport, among others, he showed both talent and spirit.

R.I.P.

SCHOOL OFFICERS

AUTUMN TERM, 1963

Head Boy : I. P. Jackman.

Deputy Head Boy : M. Chandler.

Prefects : A. J. Barber, C. R. Blackwell, A. J. C. Brazier, S. J. Butler, R. C. Cottrell, A. D. Crowe, B. M. Emmings, J. Evans, G. A. Featherstone, A. S. Gorman, E. A. Goulding, A. T. Hedley, K. E. Jackson, R. A. Lancaster, S. G. Lewis, P. V. Mallett, S. J. Mawer, J. Nisbet, A. D. Robinson, B. J. Spanós, I. Thomas, J. F. Venham, P. G. Williams.

Captain of Rugby : G. A. Featherstone.

Secretary of Rugby : R. A. Lancaster.

Captain and Secretary of Cross-Country : K. E. Jackson.

Prefect of Library : I. Thomas.

Secretary of Games Committee : A. J. C. Brazier.

Monitor of Hall : B. G. Butcher.

EDITORIAL

Meetings of the Literary and Mathematical Societies among Sixth-Formers (the former a revival, the latter an innovation) mark, one hopes, a new appreciation in School of the real value that may be gained from cultural activity. Overshadowed as we are by examinations, which seem, indeed, to take the value out of everything, we are swiftly in danger of losing any early-found enjoyment of reading and of speculating. We are not obliged to form Societies, so it is a most heartening sign when people make an enthusiastic first attendance. Let us look forward to equal enthusiasm in the fields of Modern Languages, of History, of Chemistry, and not just among Seniors, either. Gatherings outside School hours, when there are no

compulsory questions in the offing, help to keep alive the feeling that, in the end, it has all been worth our while.

HEADMASTER'S NOTES

We are unlucky, in mid-year, to have two farewells to make to masters, Mr. Gibson resigns on appointment to the charge of the Mathematics department at George Abbot School, Guildford. Though he has been here only since 1961, he has made a very lively and agreeable mark on the School and his pupils. His zest for Mathematics has been infectious for many, and not only the most able, of those he taught; his music we have all been able to appreciate. He will be remembered with affection and we should all have liked to keep him had not wider scope beckoned. And Mr. Venning returns to his native West Country, where he can practise his craft on a wider basis and in more agreeable scenery. We shall remember not only the high standard to which he brought some potters, but his running of the press and two successful Junior Play productions, "Noah" and "Androcles and the Lion." Best wishes from the School go with them both.

By the time this note appears we shall have welcomed in their respective places Mr. S. Taylor, B.Sc., and Mr. F. J. Stafford, whom we have been fortunate to find.

General School Fund

Hitherto our funds have been balanced after Easter, at the end of each financial year. For conformity we have been asked to work on the academic year instead, and the present accounts cover the transition period of four terms, Easter 1962—July 1963. They are therefore unusual, and liable to be deceptive in that they include, for example, two garden parties, concerts, library bookstalls, and show a temporary balance from these on which we have partly to live for the next two terms. The detailed accounts have been kept in proper form by Miss Woodhouse, and audited by Mr. Billingham, (to both of whom we are much indebted), and accepted by the Governing Body. It may be plainer, for juniors certainly, to pool the various separate accounts and list the "Ins" and "Outs" in one table each, as is done below. Most of the proceeds of the second garden party have been put on deposit, to bring a little return. Various minor funds—for the stage, the printers, puppets, etc.—use the General Fund as a banker; they are on balance overdrawn to a total of over £80. Figures below are, for simplicity, to the nearest pound. The "minor items" include accessories for the telescope, for the garden, frames for pictures, repairs to javelins, donations to the A.T.C., the Model Railway, etc. We are indebted to the parents and friends who, by their support of subscriptions or functions, have enabled us to spend at the rate of about £500 per term on amenities. This is nearly £40 for each school week, including £8 on games, £7 on the magazine, papers, etc., over £7 on plays, nearly £7 on music (grouping the principal items), besides the items large or small bought for permanent use, from the cine-projector to a lens for the telescope.

G.S.F. Easter 1962 — July 1963

INCOME.	£	EXPENDITURE.	£
Termly Subscriptions	793	Games—Team Expenses	383
Garden Party 1962	512	Sports—	
Garden Party 1963	495	Tracksuits, Programmes	29
Sale of Diaries; and "Spur"		"Spur" and Diaries—Printing	312
Advertisements	82	Library Books, Papers	62
Library Bookstall 1962 and 63	54	Prizegiving	84
Tuckshop Balance	68	Scouts	150
Takings at Plays ("Noah"		Orchestral Tuition, Fees paid	270
"The Shrew" "Androcles")	182	Music expenses, repairs	82
Takings at Concerts	53	Hymn Books	50
Parents' Orchestral Fees	197	Cine-Projector, half cost	104
Hire Fees for Instruments	35	Stage—Loudspeakers, etc.	33
Donations	15	Cost of three Play productions	283
	—————	Conferences, Visits	32
Total Receipts	2,486	Subscriptions	30
Less Expenditure (opposite)	2,009	Total of minor items (under	
	—————	£10)	105
Balance	477		—————
Of this, £435 is on deposit and £42		Total Expenditure	2,009
in current account.			—————

T.H.P.

PRIZEGIVING 1963

Professor W. R. Niblett, Dean of the Institute of Education, University of London, was the guest speaker at the annual Prizegiving held on Monday, 28th October, at Wimbledon Town Hall.

After Mr. E. F. Dakin, the Chairman of the Governing Body, had opened the proceedings and introduced the guests on the platform, the Headmaster, in his report of School activities over the past twelve months, said that the School had maintained the high standard of previous years both in the field of scholarship and of sport. While G.C.E. results could have been improved if some people had not delayed their final preparations until the eleventh hour, they nevertheless compared favourably with those of other schools, and seven Distinctions had been obtained. He said that School teams in general had met with a fair measure of success, and had upheld their reputation for being consistently worthy opponents; clubs and societies flourished, and increased every term; and discipline within the School was firm without being oppressive. To members of the Staff who, by their constant efforts and enthusiasm, were mainly responsible for this success, he expressed not only his own debt, but that of the whole School too.

Professor Niblett then presented the prizes and trophies. In his subsequent address, he went on to say that since many things happening in Britain today, such as the growth of an affluent society and an increase in

the coloured population, had already happened in America several years ago, we could profitably "learn from their experiences what is good and what is not so good." But there was a tendency in America for popularity and success to be the ultimate goals, and he urged his audience that, while they should receive what America had to offer, they should at the same time try to find something better, and avoid conformity.

Mr. J. Hood Phillips proposed a vote of thanks to Professor Niblett. This was seconded by the Head Boy, and with the National Anthem the evening closed.

M. D. Chandler.

PRIZES

Form Prizes :

1X	I. D. Ness, K. C. Reeve.
1Y	P. J. Dufty, T. M. Adams.
1Z	J. S. Milton, S. J. Finch.
2C	D. J. Ventham, R. E. Pengilly, D. V. Miles.
2D	J. R. Parker, A. B. Powell.
2H	G. C. Gosling, R. M. Peet.
3A	R. J. Hendry, C. Q. Colombo, H. L. Tan.
3 Geog.	N. R. White, G. E. Emerick.
3E	D. R. Green, I. P. Greenaway.
4I	A. J. Ring, C. E. Hingston.
4K	A. J. Aloof, P. J. Lovell.

For performance in "O" level G.C.E.:

4F	M. A. Coppen, S. G. Morris, P. Mottershead, M. J. Reeves.
5th Forms :	R. W. Higgs, R. J. Nelson, P. R. Silver, G. C. Vincent, D. L. Ammann, D. Andrews, J. D. Miskin, A. Pottinger, A. A. Russell, K. H. Russell.

Lower Sixth :

Arts :	C. R. Blackwell, A. L. J. Jenkins, P. K. King, P. V. Mallett.
Science :	D. F. Blunden, R. C. Cottrell, G. A. Kiddell, G. C. Raison, R. H. Terry.
Economics :	B. M. Keen.

Upper Sixth :

Arts :	N. C. Boreham, M. Chandler, J. M. Crocker, R. F. Gill, A. S. Gorman, I. P. Jackman, I. Thomas.
Science :	Norman Prize—S. J. Mawer ; Whitman Prize—R. Pease ; B. Archer, R. A. Burgess, S. J. Butler, G. R. Myers, R. J. Smalley, R. C. Uden.
Economics :	D. L. Gent, R. G. Osborne, J. R. White, G. B. Wilcox.

General Prizes :

Outside Effort Prizes :	J. M. Ashmole, A. J. C. Brazier, R. C. Brown, G. R. Capper, N. D. Catton, P. Keen, B. J. L. Saxby, D. A. Seager, P. G. Williams.
Hobbies :	J. M. Ashmole, B. G. Pearce, J. Salisbury.
Music :	D. L. Clarke, A. D. Crowe, R. H. Terry.
Art :	J. R. Watts, G. Nutting, N. W. Rennie.

Craft: B. J. Rance, A. D. Crowe, C. Ward.
 Beaverbrook Bennett: A. F. Barnett, M. A. Bedford, R. J. Biellik,
 S. H. Gebbett.
 Kilburn Prize: R. A. Cordey.
 Old Boys' Prize: D. L. Gent, G. M. Bradshaw.
 L. A. G. Strong Prize: C. J. S. Waugh, C. R. Blackwell.
 John Robbins Prize: Junior—A. P. Howard; Senior—C. R. Blackwell.
 Leaving Prize to Head of School: R. J. Crittenden.

Advanced Level Certificates:

- 6 Arts: N. C. Boreham (Distinction in English Literature), M. Chandler (Distinction in Latin), R. V. Cossins, R. J. Crittenden, J. M. Crocker, B. M. Emmings, J. Evans, J. Faulkner, R. F. Gill, A. S. Gorman, I. P. Jackman, J. Nisbet, A. D. Robinson, J. Sinfield, B. J. Spanos, I. Taylor, I. Thomas, P. H. Waters, G. H. Windsor.
 6 Economics: A. J. Alsbury, E. J. Banks, A. J. C. Brazier, D. L. Gent, R. W. Jones, S. G. Lewis, R. G. Osborne, A. R. Peters, N. A. Twite, J. R. White (Distinction in Economics), G. B. Wilcox, D. Williams, M. J. Woodhall.
 6 Science: G. R. Capper, D. E. Esau (Distinction in Pure Maths.), J. R. McGaw, R. J. Smalley, B. Archer, M. J. Auger (Distinction in Pure Maths.), J. F. Bothams, R. C. Brown, R. A. Burgess (Distinction in Applied Maths.), S. J. Butler, R. H. L. Catt, R. J. Gillian, R. E. Gravestock, N. Johns, J. B. King, S. J. Mawer (Distinctions in Pure and Applied Maths), G. R. Myers, G. R. Parks, R. Pease, P. C. Saunders, T. J. Turner, R. C. Uden, R. M. Vince.

TROPHIES—FROM OPEN COMPETITION

Epsom and Ewell Harriers Selwyn Trophy—under 17 Cross-Country.
 Wimbledon and District Athletics Junior Shield.
 Surrey County A.A.A. Relay Cup—under 15.

FROM SCHOOL COMPETITION

Eric Parker Cup	.....	I. Taylor
Michael Welby Debating Cup	.....	Cobbs
Weightman Chess Cup	.....	Cobbs
Parents' Rugby Cup	.....	Cobbs
Governors' Cricket Cup	.....	Cobbs
Spur Society's Hockey Cup	.....	Gibbs
Cray Swimming Cup	.....	Gibbs
S. H. Marshall Cross-Country Cup	.....	Cobbs
John Garrett Athletics Cup	.....	Gibbs
T. W. Powys Cobb Tennis Cup	.....	Cobbs
B. C. Michez Cup for Gymnastics	.....	Gibbs
Junior Shield	.....	Gibbs
P. W. Garrett House Play Cup	.....	Cobbs
John Timpson Music Cup	.....	Newsoms
B. T. King Cock House Cup	.....	Cobbs

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

A School production of "The Importance of Being Earnest" seemed a more than hazardous proposition. It lacks classical independence of time and language; it is parochial, limited in cast to the effete fin de siècle society of the 1890s. It seemed improbable that the modern schoolboy could reproduce the inbred foppery and triviality of the period, that he could successfully compete with the vivid memories of polished, professional productions for stage, screen and radio, and lastly that he had the sense of timing and finesse for Wilde's lines.

This play must stand or fall on the performances of Jack, Algy, Cecily and Gwendoline. Rhodes, as Jack, had becoming gravity and convincingly mourned his dead brother. Like others, he was sometimes unaware of the humour of his words. Dudley, as Algy, was properly affected, but at times seemed reluctant to give himself fully to the part, so that self-confidence bordered on nervousness. These criticisms notwithstanding, the performances were good attempts at very difficult tasks. Neither Pollak as Gwendoline, nor Isaacson as Cecily, ever quite fulfilled the promise they always offered. The former looked and sometimes sounded the part to perfection, and the latter, not blessed with the most alluring coiffure, gave, for a second former, a competent performance. They managed the garden tea party scene quite well and generally gave above average schoolboy performances for these taxing roles. Unfortunately, both at times were exceptions to the general rule in this production of clear diction.

Blackwell as Canon Chasuble and Elliott as Miss Prism had parts less important only for the relative rarity of their stage appearances. Blackwell successfully conveyed sacerdotal pomposity in a polished piece of acting, which varied from the traditional impression of the Canon. Elliott in his earlier scenes seemed not always to comprehend Miss Prism's sententious pedantry, but rose to a fine standard in his narration of the adventures of the handbag. As he matures, he will become a great asset to School drama. Humphrey triumphed by virtue of experience and skill in an energetic and successful rendering of the termagant, Lady Bracknell.

The cast, skilfully made up, acted against bright attractive sets. Of recent senior school productions this was the one apparently enjoyed most by the audience. Might it not be possible to forsake Shakespeare more often?

J.W.

CAST

JOHN WORTHING, J.P. (of the Manor House, Woolton, Hertfordshire)	G. R. RHODES
ALGERNON MONCRIEFF (his friend)	M. P. DUDLEY
REV. CANON CHASUBLE, D.D. (Rector of Woolton)	C. R. BLACKWELL
MERRIMAN (Butler to Mr. Worthing)	T. E. LOVERING
LANE (Mr. Moncrieff's man-servant)	D. C. VENESS
LADY BRACKNELL	L. F. HUMPHREY
HON. GWENDOLINE FAIRFAX (her daughter)	A. S. POLLAK

CECILY CARDEW (John Worthing's ward) . . . P. R. ISAACSON
MISS PRISM R. M. ELLIOTT

CREDITS

Sets Designed by Max Greenwell and executed by the Stage Guild
(N. Catton, B. Saxby, D. Seager, M. Adams, J. Carroll, M. Baker)
Programmes designed by Max Greenwell and printed in School by
the Light Craft Department under Dick Venning
Stage Manager: C. R. Blackwell Assisted by: N. D. Gilbert
Lighting and Effects: P. G. Williams
Assisted by: B. Stanley and M. Cowling
Furniture by The Old Times Furnishing Co.
Costumes and Wigs by Nathans
Front of House arrangements by John Carter
The play produced by Peter Smith and Norman Poulter

CAROL CONCERT

The annual Carol Concert came upon us on the last Thursday of term,
19th December.

It is never a routine production and there were several innovations.
The readings in part one were illustrated by tableaux staged behind a
newly-acquired gauze curtain. These were colourful and added a gentle
solemnity to the occasion.

The orchestra, denied the stage, had to join the choir, so that even more
of the floor-space than is usual was occupied by performers. The front row
of the audience consequently could not have been far from the mid-line.
The lighting effects made it necessary to darken the house frequently and
this added to the performers' difficulties. These were all triumphantly over-
come however, and with few noticeable hitches the evening proceeded from
the solemn part one, through the enjoyable part two, to the jovial, almost
carnival conclusion.

Miss Hurst, Mr. Ayton, and Mr. Aldersea are offered our congratulations.

D.D.G.

THE OLD BOYS' MEMORIAL SPORTS GROUND

The Old Boys have been using the Memorial Sports Ground at
Chessington for two years but the development which has been undertaken
almost entirely with the voluntary labour of members had only recently
reached the stage where a Formal Opening could be arranged. This notable
landmark in the Society's history was in fact reached on Sunday, September
29th, and the attendance of about 500 gave ample evidence of the interest
of parents and friends in the project which many had thought over-ambitious
when the purchase of the Ground was originally mooted in 1957.

The proceedings were opened with a few words of introduction by the
Society's Chairman, Mr. D. Thompson. There followed an extremely

moving short service of dedication conducted by the Rev. H. Burns Jamieson, Minister of Trinity Presbyterian Church at Mansel Road, Wimbledon. The words chosen by the Minister were apt in the extreme, and the sincerity of his feelings communicated with remarkable success to both sensitive and robust alike.

The Headmaster then declared the Ground formally open and directed the attention of all present to the 1st XV pitch to watch what proved to be an outstandingly good game of open rugby between the Club and a representative side drawn from eight other London Old Boys' Clubs. The result remained in the balance until the last few minutes of the game when the visitors finally forced a win with a try between the posts which was duly converted to total 19 points to 14. The Raynes Park side included two of the recent Blues, Barry Spencer and Richard Higham, whilst the latter's younger brother, John, who has appeared in the Oxford side also took part.

The same University was again represented in the opposition team in the guise of J. J. McPartlin, the previous season's captain, who has also played for Scotland on various occasions. He indeed showed his class in scoring two tries, but no player impressed more than our own stalwart, Mervyn Smith, who without doubt proved to be the outstanding player of the match.

There can rarely have been a game conceived more ideally for the occasion than this, and it served to emphasise yet again that the Old Boys' Clubs will usually prove to be better spectator value than the games played in the higher spheres.

D.T.

We thank Mr. Thompson for this report and again invite Old Boys to write to us about their activities.

HOUSE NOTES

COBBS

Captain: A. J. C. Brazier

Prefects:

C. R. Blackwell, R. C. Cottrell, A. S. Gorman, J. F. Ventham

We have at the end of this term to say good-bye to Mr. D. D. Gibson, whom we shall all miss, for he has always been cheerfully prepared to help us in almost every activity. We wish him luck for the future.

Our house supper in November was well supported; masters, senior boys, and mothers who spent much time arranging such an enjoyable evening, all deserve our thanks.

Rugby has been this term's major contest, and with the programme half-completed we have an unbeaten record. In spite of being handicapped by lack of correct kit, the Senior team defeated Newsoms (12-0) and Halliwells (14-5). Our captain, John Ventham (who also spent much time organising practices), deserves our congratulations as do Parks and McCubbin who both played very well. The Colts won all their matches by convincing

margins, against Gibbs (8-3), Halliwells (24-5), Miltons (26-0), and Newsoms (12-3). Colombo has led them with considerable energy and skill and has been well supported, particularly by D. Ventham, Tickner, Palmer, Adams, Tuley, and Schwartz. We look to the Juniors, to emulate the fine example of the Colts, in the Spring Term.

Basketball has gone well considering that four of the five members of last year's victorious team have left. We have beaten Miltons (18-17) and Halliwells (42-13); drawn with Newsoms (25-25), and we almost beat Gibbs in a very close match (30-31). Thus we have come second, equal with Newsoms, in the competition—our congratulations to Dave Heaton (captain), Anderson, and Jones who, among a good team, have been outstanding.

Our Senior chess team—Blunden (captain), Raison, Whitaker, and Feline—have won all four of their matches, although one or two games remain undecided. Next term our Juniors must make the maximum effort, for we have high hopes of retaining this cup.

Although our tennis team under John Ventham's able captaincy has won two matches, we can still finish first, second or third—there should be a complete report in the next edition of "The Spur."

The gymnastics competition has gone better for us, than in the past. Our VIth Form have done well in coming second in their section: we have few outstanding gymnasts, and our position is due to a good all-round effort. Overall we have come second in the competition.

Thus our standard this term has been high; our effort in the future must match it.

A. Brazier.

GIBBS

House Captain: I. P. Jackman

Prefects:

J. Evans, P. V. Mallett

Despite the departure, at the end of last term, of a number of our Seniors, many of whom were talented and loyal, we have a greater chance of winning Cock House this year than we had a year ago. Even so, many members of the House seem to be unaware of our potential and lacking in the drive which, together with their skill, will bring success.

At present, the rugby competition is half completed. The Colts are the only side to have played all their matches and have gained six points by overcoming Halliwells, Newsoms, and Miltons, the latter when eight regular members of the team were absent. Cobbs, unfortunately, proved to be just a little too strong. Nevertheless, we congratulate the Colts on their successes, and, in particular, Callander on winning a Surrey cap, thus bringing confidence to his side and glory to the entire House. The Seniors have played two matches and have won them both, beating Halliwells and Miltons. No single player has been outstanding, but the whole team has played good, co-ordinated rugby, and as long as the players remain fit and free from injury, then we ought to win our remaining matches. The Juniors have not

yet started their games. They have proved that they are a keen and spirited team, but one that lacks exceptional individuals. Since the result of the rugby cup will depend upon them, it is important that they should practise hard and play together as a team. I feel sure that, given the will to win, they can do so: nevertheless, provided they play to the best of their ability, then we shall look upon their results with satisfaction.

Our most notable achievements this term have been in the minor sports. The Basketball Cup was won by virtue of the fact that all our players represent the School. Victory, if not unexpected, was nevertheless very pleasing, and we thank the team for their efforts! Even greater pride may be taken at the winning of the Gymnastics Cup. Certainly, most of the best Senior gymnasts of the School are in our House, but they were very well supported by enthusiastic qualifying amongst the other Seniors. Ammann and Gray were our most outstanding performers. The Juniors and the middle school, too, must have been working hard during their gymnastic periods and deserve our congratulations.

So far there is no result in the tennis competition. Our team, ably led by Evans, had success against Halliwells, Miltons, and Newsoms and have a slight lead in the uncompleted game with Cobbs. If we win this match, then the cup will be ours. Our hopes and best wishes are with the players. Whatever the result, the high position we have obtained in the tennis cup is a tribute to the consistent performances of the team.

The Chess Cup, too, is uncompleted. However, we seem likely to take fourth place. This is not to say there has been a lack of effort. Mallett and Brookes have both played continually well, but were unable to find sufficient support from the rest of the House.

We can see then, that we have made a fine start to the year. However, the Spring term is traditionally a hard time for Gibbs, and if we are to maintain our position, then the effort on the part of every House member will have to be colossal.

By the time these notes are printed, Mr. Venning will already have left us. Here is no place for excessive eulogy: I am sure he knows how we feel towards him. I would like to say a final word of thanks to him for all he has done, and wish him the best of luck at his new school. When we remember him, it will be with pleasure.

I. P. Jackman.

HALLIWELLS

House Captain: M. D. Chandler

Prefects:

G. A. Featherstone, A. T. Hedley, R. A. Lancaster, A. D. Robinson,
P. G. Williams

At the beginning of term four Seniors in the House were made Prefects, and to them we offer belated congratulations.

In the major competition of the term, rugby results were disappointing. The Seniors, with a nucleus of five 1st XV players, were expected to do

well, but injuries to key players and absence owing to other causes resulted in only one match (v. Newsoms) being won; those who did play gave a good account of themselves. Featherstone, as captain, deserves praise for his efforts on and off the field, and Robinson is to be congratulated on his selection for the county: it is unfortunate that he was unable to play for the House team. The fortunes of the Colt team took a similar turn: Bedford, their captain, after being injured in a practice match, was a spectator for the rest of the term, and there was a tendency for certain players to offer 'excuses' before crucial matches. Only Newsoms were beaten, but at least one other game could and should have been won. As the results of Junior rugby matches are now to contribute towards the winning of the rugby cup, it is all the more gratifying to report that prospects for success here seem bright. Led by Murphy, the Junior team had a resounding victory against Gibbs in a trial game; it is to them that we look for hope in the future.

The lower and middle sections of the House performed well in the gymnastics competition, and Standish with a top score of eighty-six points was outstanding. Their efforts however were once more nullified by the Seniors; their attendance at the Gym on Mondays was pathetically meagre, and accounted for our final position of fourth.

As an experiment, the tennis competition was held this term. This, as yet, is unfinished; so far, two defeats and one victory have resulted. Lancaster was well supported by the first doubles pair, Maskell and Woodley, who staged many fighting recoveries. We were unfortunate in having only two School players in the Basketball team, and consequently were able only to draw with Miltons. The defence must be tightened up and more experience gained if we are to be successful in this sphere of activity.

The Chess Cup is still undecided. The team, led by Myers, contains some talented middle school players, and it seems that we have a fair chance of finishing near the top.

This term has not been too successful, then, but I believe that, with greater co-operation between the different levels of the House and greater advantage being taken of latent talents and energies, we could still cause a few surprises. As these are my last notes, I should like to wish the House the best of fortune in the future.

M. D. Chandler.

MILTONS

House Captain: J. Nisbet

Prefects:

A. J. Barber, S. J. Butler, E. A. Goulding, S. J. Mawer

As usual, with the end of the School year, we have lost several enthusiastic and hard-working Senior members of the House: we especially miss such Seniors as J. Sinfield, R. Osborne, J. Auger, and G. Windsor, and our best wishes go with them into the future.

We started this term with hopes of above average success, and this success can still be ours if every member of the House (including those members of the House who appear to enter into a dormant period on

reaching the sixth form) pulls his weight in all of the House activities. I hope that the spirit shown in last term's athletic sports is a pointer to an improved outlook by everyone in the future.

This term's major concern has been rugby. The Seniors have played three matches and won two, and the Colts have played four and won two. This year the Seniors were able to field their strongest fifteen for several years, and in spite of having key members of the team missing in each match, the team has played well. We scraped home against a weak Newsoms side by 13 points to 12, but lost to Gibbs, who exploited a weakness in our defence which allowed them to score five times, by 15 points to 5. Our most distinguished performance was against Halliwells whom we beat by 8 points to 6. In this match Goulding, who had missed our two earlier matches, scored both our tries, and Marsh led the scrum brilliantly. The whole team has played well, and the fact that we relied upon teamwork and not upon individuals was an important factor contributing to our two victories. The Colts also beat Halliwells and Newsoms, but were heavily defeated by Gibbs and Cobbs. Perryman has proved a capable captain, but it is a great pity that he was not given more support by other members of the Colts—in fact, our loss to Gibbs was partially because we did not field a full team. This defeat may well have lost us the Rugby Cup.

Those members of the House who took part in the tennis competition enjoyed themselves but were far from successful.

Basketball provided little more success, for we lost three matches and drew one. We lost only narrowly to Cobbs and Newsoms, but Gibbs proved to be too strong for us. With Alexander as captain, the team has played to the best of its ability in every match, although the unorthodox methods of one member of the team caused considerable controversy. The team drew with Halliwells, and our match with Cobbs was lost by only one point. We took fourth position in this competition.

We were placed third in gymnastics. We were lying second in the competition until the Seniors' qualifying points were added on. In spite of threats and pleas, few members of the sixth form bothered to qualify, whilst Cobbs with a massive effort from their sixth form managed to take second place away from us.

The chess competition has not yet been concluded, but at present it seems likely that we shall come third. In the matches that have been finished, we drew with both Gibbs and Halliwells, and lost to Cobbs. Congratulations must go to Peet and Podgorney, both of whom remained undefeated. Neither of the Senior members of the team has yet won a match.

Next term will see the conclusion of the rugby competition in which the Seniors will play Cobbs, and the Juniors will play all their matches. This Junior team boasts seven School players and through them we could win the Rugby Cup. In all the other competitions to be undertaken next term—hockey, dramatics, swimming, cross-country, and Junior chess—the prospects are much brighter than for several years.

J. Nisbet.

A Career in the Bank

Never before have opportunities for young people been as promising as they are today in Barclays Bank. Here is a brief outline of the career that awaits you there.

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Write for further particulars
to the Staff Managers,
54 Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

BARCLAYS BANK

NEWSOMS

Captain: B. J. Spanos

Prefects:

A. D. Crowe, B. M. Emmings, K. E. Jackson, S. G. Lewis, I. Thomas

The end of the summer term saw the departure of many Seniors; we wish them well in their future careers, and thank them all for their work in the various fields of House activities.

Rugby, the major activity of the Autumn term, and gymnastics, have both proved unsuccessful from our point of view. The Senior rugby team lost all its matches, though none by an overwhelming margin: we came near to beating Miltons, being robbed of victory only in the last minutes of the game. The Colts too were unlucky to lose their four matches. In the Gymnastics Competition our chances of a reasonable placing were ruined by not enough Seniors participating in the qualifying sessions. I hope that this will not happen in other activities this year, in which adequate qualifying is essential to gain a good position in the Cock House competition.

The tennis and chess competitions have not yet been completed: although it seems unlikely at the moment that we can do particularly well in chess, the tennis is going rather better, with two of our three fixtures won, against Halliwells and Miltons.

Basketball, a newly introduced House competition, has been most successful; we beat Miltons by 26 to 18, and Halliwells by 31 to 14, drew against Cobbs, but lost to Gibbs' strong side by only 11-16. We therefore gain second equal place (with Cobbs) in the competition, and our congratulations go to the team, generally, and S. G. Lewis, in particular, for proving an able and enthusiastic captain.

This term, then, has been one of mixed fortunes for us. Next term sees several competitions in which we could do much better: the Debating, Dramatics and Music Cups are well within our grasp. Cross-country too, depending as it does on qualifying from all members of the House, calls for a more determined effort from everyone, particularly as our Senior and Colt teams should be strong; they deserve the support of the rest of us.

On a rather different note, thanks are due to all who helped in the successful organisation of the House Supper.

B. J. Spanos.

ON REFLECTION

C. R. Blackwell, VI Arts 2.

I think that I could tolerate a prison cell,

Given a mirror

And a tape recorder.

Oh yes, I hear the laughter that this new request would bring;

It wafts between the bars

That symbolise captivity—

"He is an egotist!"

But once I hang that mirror on the rough brick wall,
Once I plug the tape recorder into straggling socket
Dangling from above ;
I become a free man.
The flick of a switch,
The glance of an eye,
And all at once the four cell walls become protective ;
The very laughter from without
Becomes the laughter of mad prisoners,
While I become the only self,
Remaining in the freedom
Of a cell.

When those who laugh together
Look at one another
All they see is self.
Each one is heart and mind
And soul and strength.
They're all alike !
All, images of God !
Their laughter dries
To be replaced by laughter from a prison cell.

Within my solitary cell
I have some friends
With whom to talk and smile :
They are not like myself.
The one called mirror has a semblance of my physical
appearance,
Yet he is flat and smooth and shiny
Which myself is not.
The other, tape recorder,
Has a voice I might have heard before
But cannot place,
And which myself is not.
Therefore these two companions,
Though they earn for me the name of egotist
And may at first remind me of myself
With scaring, pleasing shock,
Are quite, quite different
From the one and only me.

So now the universal cry
Of suddenly illuminated selves goes up :
" Please let me in."
The prisoners crowd around the six-inch door
To press their laughter-saddened mirrors 'gainst the bars,
To croak in tape recorded accents
" Let me in !"
But I cannot ; for only they possess the key,
Yet in their haste forget.
I turn my back on captive space,
To revel in my limited square freedom
Knowing that conformity is egotism.
While the prisoner, the master of his mind,
Has none to see or hear
But only shadows and an echo :
Truthful hints at a reality.

SANCTUARY

G. M. Bradshaw, VI Arts 2.

I laugh.
It reverberates in the emptiness :
This is my sanctuary ;
This is my solitude,
Within myself,
With myself,
Alone.
The walls shine with slime,
Or diamonds,
Depending on myself ;
Pit or palace,
I am my architect ;
I have built,
And I will destroy.

THE THEME AND THE DREAM

M. P. Dudley, VI Arts 2.

It was in summer . . . I am one of those people who, when they meet people in the street, can never remember their names . . . in Great Moulton Street. The sun was, hot reflecting off the cars lying snug against the

meters : the dark shops, black and stylistic, were inviting ; the breeze wafted roasting coffee and oil-paint along the street. Hard sounds of hurrying vans and the surge of a coffee machine, the sound of a door being closed, filled my ears. The frame of the painting cut into my fingers, slimy with sweat forced by heat and apprehension. Somebody says hello. Returning from thoughts of opening words, hello, then remembering as the figure passes I don't know who it was. Pangs of soon-to-come trials hit me.

Then there are the familiar black railings, the black door, and the black sign—black for death, for the destruction of hopes, the rejection of fruition : "Gimpel Fils." The world is shut out by the heavy door and the funereal silence inside. I am, however, immediately reassured, and the familiar sculptures—that Hepworth, dully green—those same gritty paintings, those ever-present metallics in the sterile case, all are there. Desperately trying to appear nonchalant, to appear an external observer, I stroll, too casually, out of the first chamber, and stand at the door of the office, and notice for the first time the rain-stain on the sheet which diffuses the light from dirty windows above.

"Can I help you?"

Words flush out, tumbling over each other in orgies of self-confusion, and I proffer my work. Meanwhile an aroma of Gitanes drafts in, and a M. Gimpel is here. The woman, a secretary, secret in the knowledge of Klee and Miro, explains, and the kind, warm, enigmatic, important, supernatural M. Grimple examines my painting. Reticence is followed by a murmur as his face betrays nothing. Then he turns and stands under the stain and turns the oil this way and this way again. I begin to despise him, fearing my respect for his judgment. And then, as in a dream, he is taking the painting, calling to another Grimpel, ordering his secretary—I feel below her she is so knowledgeable—and his elliptical mouth opens and shuts. I begin to see his face as a composition, see its tonal values, its delicate line ; I wish I could sign his chin and claim it for my own.

When everything is made legal, as art once more becomes a business, I feel once again re-assured and confident. I feel this secretary is on my side, helping me to achieve my aims. A hit from her, and I can leave the gallery, admiring with new feeling the paintings of my compatriots. I spring out of the carpet into the entrance hall, and survey my world from the stone step. Jogging efficiently down, I turn in the direction of Brook Street, and am lured into the Italian ice-cream bar. I am so happy.

MOUSE

G. M. Bradshaw, VI Arts 2.

Once was a mouse who
Came to the town oh,
To seek his fortune where the alley cats prowl,
Where the luminous specks in the slime of the black pit
Are the eyes of the cat and not of the owl.

You, the mouse who came to the town oh,
You with the coat slick oily black,
Before your coat comes dry, tangled, tufted,
Turn, little mouse, and never look back.

Instinct can't deal with death in the town oh,
Death lies not only in the alley cat's prowl,
Death comes quick with the snap of the rat trap
And the shriek of the motor wheel, not of the owl.

You could only live in the big, big town oh,
In the concrete chasm you could only run,
Outside your world lay the big, big town oh,
Lit by the light of the neon sun.

Lie squashed in the road, flat little town mouse,
With the rain beating down your coat oily black,
In this, the reward of those who follow
The road to the town and never look back.

THE SHATTERING SILENCE

C. R. Blackwell, VI Arts 2.

Half-circled round by high, black hills of night,
Stiff, waxen lip sheltering from winds the light
Of human habited small homes which huddle
In shadows of the wooded wall, by puddle
And beneath the silver streaking sky of rain
Which splashes the tumbling torrent once again :
The little town of Lynmouth breathes a sigh
With warm, wet breath, lulled by the night sea's cry.

Tonight the street lamps beam and twinkle, through
The misty veil of spotting showers ; and to
Salt seas the fresh foamed river runs its pounding course,
Rushing incessant from the Exmoor hills with force
As mighty as the man-made walls allow
To this, the one-time victor : frightening now.

For one safe night like this, half-circled round,
With on the open side, the unseen Channel's sound
Of slow and steadfast swash security,
Backed by the beaming lights from Wales ;
One cool, warm night of darkest dark
And lightest light, at peace in safety of the mark

Of time-fed ease and quiet charity,
But ruffled by a few sharp gales ;
On such a night as this, the pounding river changed its soothing
drone

Into a crashing, smashing, gulping, echoing tone
Which tore its frenzied way from Exmoor's heights
Into the heart of peaceful Lynmouth's lull,
Knocking the gentle dreams into horrific frights,
Drowning all : all save for its own roar, dull.

No longer can that little town feel sure,
Although the hand of man now rests secure ;
No longer can the little Man look up to that black wall around,
And then look down into the shadowed mass, and hear the
sound

Of natural power in rushing river water,
Without imagining he hears the moorland mortar,
Bursting again, as water piles on watery wall.
The very lack of sound makes dreadful call,
Reminding those who share Man's confidence,
He still is pupil to experience.

WOT PHUN IN 3-D !

C. Stevens, 3D.

There was once a plumber but he couldn't grow plums, so his mate gave him the bird and his foreman gave him the sack. He put the bird in the sack and took it home. As it would have suffocated in the sack, he put it in an empty cereal packet. The serial had eight episodes and he got bored with it before it was finished, so he went for a walk. He walked to Loch Ness and put the key in the lock, going through the door to the bank of the lake. At the bank he drew all his money out. He was tired, so he sat down on the bench. The first case to come up was a red one and he put all his money in it. Then he tried to put it in the boot of his car, but the boot was only size nine and the case wouldn't fit in, so he gave the case—being of skin—to a taxidermist who strapped it on the roof of his taxi. The taxi took him home, and, when

they arrived, the plumber gave the driver a tip. The tip was a load of rubbish, just like this story.

AUTUMN TATE

The Cognoscenti.

This term Mr. Riley took a party to see the Soutine/Modigliani exhibition at the Tate, an exhibition which was much talked about when first opened. The gallery itself was very crowded and noisy, which distracted somewhat from the paintings which were grouped according to the artist. The Modigliani's were much as we had expected—not particularly exciting but executed with a certain eye for mood; the painter seemed to have captured, particularly in his nude studies, the very essence of composure and the boredom of the models with a simpleness and deftness which was to be admired. On the whole, however, we were not struck by the paintings which seemed to be rather one of a kind, the repetition of which produced lifelessness in many of his portraits. Soutine, on the other hand was new to us all, and provided much more interest in the party. There was a variety of subjects here—great red carcasses, somewhat warped portraits, landscapes, and semi-abstracts of chickens hooked to butchers' rails—but very few of them seemed to come off with any definition or real clarity of colour. We were much more interested in some of the more recent permanent exhibits, an interest which culminated (twice) in Mr. Riley being told not to touch the paintings.

Afterwards the cognoscenti, plus Mr. Riley, retired to a shady café to drink tea and discuss the future plans of the school art department, which included the collection of a large number of orange boxes. Any offers?

SAINT JOAN

P. V. Mallett.

As one who believes this to be Bernard Shaw's best play, I had considerable hopes for an enjoyable and satisfying evening at the Old Vic. I did indeed enjoy the play, as did most of those from the School who went to see it. On the other hand, I did not feel that the production had done justice to the play.

This play was written in the light of new evidence regarding Joan's trial, so that Shaw knew exactly what was said and done on that occasion: those who tried Joan fought till the last to save her from her fate, but when she repented and found that she was therefore to be "let off" with life imprisonment, she chose to be burned as a heretic rather than endure a living death in a cell.

Joan, in the play, is a village girl (though not in fact a mere peasant) who is gifted with extraordinary visionary powers, supreme confidence in God, and a vigorous personality: she is, in fact, more than a mere mortal. The production and Joan Plowright who took the part, failed to make this clear, and Joan of Arc never seemed like a saint, but only like a peasant girl who was remarkably shrewd and had great faith in her intuition, which, by way of reference, she called "Voices." Shaw makes a tragic heroine of Joan, but this aspect of the play was never fully developed. Joan was seen as a girl who had denied that man was utterly sinful, who had claimed to be in direct contact with God, and had placed faith in her own communion with God rather than in the instruction of the Church. As such she was a heretic, and was therefore excommunicated.

The "dream-scene" at the end of the play is surely to be interpreted as farce, or at any rate near-farce. It was here played with apparent seriousness and an unsuccessful attempt at making it dramatic. What else can it be but comical, when the soldier who gave Joan a wooden cross as she was burning, comes from Hell on his day-off, given him as a reward for his one good deed? This scene in particular was wasted by this production. If a dramatic ending was required, this scene could well have been left out, but throughout the play there are passages which demand to be interpreted as comedy: as such, these passages emphasise Joan's final comment that the world is not yet ready to accept saints, but must, through fear, execute them as hereto.

Despite these two objections, the play was still both amusing and interesting, though I wish Shaw had left more of the political discussion and explanation to the already inordinately long preface. "Charlie," as Joan calls the Dauphin, was excellent: Warwick, de Beaudricourt and Dunois also lived up to my expectations. I found the play enjoyable, then: perhaps I expected too much, but I remain convinced that Shaw's play is better than this production of it was.

MURDER IN THE VANBRUGH

C. R. Blackwell.

"If murder be the food of interest, read on." The little Vanbrugh Theatre, home of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, housed an illuminated Cross on the 29th of October, 1963; and round this fundamental symbol of the Christian faith the moving drama "Murder in the Cathedral," by T. S. Eliot, was re-created. I am quite sure that this play, as with probably most of Eliot's work, does not produce any standard reaction. Subsequent discussions with people who saw this performance revealed the diversity of its effect. Therefore my remarks can only be absolutely personal.

For me, as a Christian, this production of the play was very impressive indeed. There were minor technical and interpretative faults in the production; and there are, of course, certain faults in the play itself.

The play follows the events concerning Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, in the Twelfth Century, from the time of his return from refuge in France, until his martyrdom in his own cathedral. The Chorus of women is used to maintain an atmosphere of dread expectancy and to reflect the feelings of "the ordinary people." Thomas is tempted to look to his own interests in several ways by the Tempters; but emerges with a clear vision of what lies ahead, and prepares for it peacefully. The Knights eventually murder the Archbishop, then suddenly try to justify their action in modern language and manner. Thus for a while the play leaps forward eight hundred years before springing back for the epilogue.

I would have preferred a more Christ-like Becket, more monastical Priests and possibly a use of the Chorus constantly, as a body not, as in this production, distributing selected lines to individual actresses. The real impact for me lay in the continual recurrence of parallels with the Gospels and the life of Jesus Christ, which sprang to mind throughout the play. I experienced quite deep emotional reaction.

Tension was well maintained up to the climax of the killing of Becket—which was a farce. I am sorry to have to admit this, but at the point of the Archbishop's death I spontaneously laughed out loud because, with swords poised over his body, Becket commends himself to numerous saints while the murderers, with unnatural self-control, wait patiently. This for me is the sole important fault in the play itself.

Certainly I enjoyed the play. It can produce a tremendous atmosphere of sanctity, and I found that "Murder in the Cathedral" was more valuable as a form of divine worship than many a Church service. Unfortunately I cannot speak for atheists or apathetics; but I would find it hard to believe that this production of a unique poetic drama, failed to produce some stirring of the soul in all—I speak from experience—participants.

THE BACCHAE

M. P. Dudley.

The London Academy of Musical and Dramatic Art gave a production of "The Bacchae" which a party of sixth-formers and masters visited this term. A modern approach to the famous tragedy of Euripides, the production moved with considerable pace, largely brought on by the imaginative staging of the chorus who swirled around the floor to the rattle of the tambourines; I feel, though, that this is a dangerous practice as the gymnastics could lead to a division of attention between plot and spectacle—the chorus seemed just a little too animated even for women in Bacchic ecstasy. The whole of the play, however, I found very enjoyable, if not particularly tragic, and the impression left was of a good play ably performed. I think, too, that the whole party enjoyed the production, even if the staff were likely to be more critical in their viewpoint. Especial thanks to Dr. Morgan for arranging the trip, which was the only one to a classical play this term.

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THE DUCHESS OF MALFI

P. V. Mallett.

This play was performed by pupils of the Wimbledon School of Art, in their new experimental theatre, which gives more room to lighting equipment than to the audience. Those who went to see the play (by the Elizabethan dramatist John Webster) had the rare pleasure of seeing something for nothing, and of paying a mere sixpence for a cup of coffee. But the evening was more worthwhile than might appear from such a comment.

The play tells how Ferdinand, Duke of Calabria, and his brother, the Cardinal, plot and eventually, through the agency of a discontented ex-soldier, Bosola, achieve the murder of their sister, the Duchess of Malfi, who has incurred their hatred by marrying her steward, Antonio. The play is supposedly a tragedy, but there is no "conflict" (such as there is in the Shakespearean tragic heroes) in the Duchess. As Ferdinand begins the play slightly mad and is finally entirely so, it is difficult to name him as the tragic hero. Bosola's shifts of feeling are not violent enough, and he has not the power—in this production at least—to be the hero. However, such attempts to classify the play are of little value.

The characters, with the possible exception of Antonio, were marked more by the intensity of their feelings than by the subtlety of their portrayal: Antonio, by accident or design, was comparatively naïve, and throughout his hopeful sincerity served to contrast with the ferocious hatred of the brothers.

The weak point of the production was, to my mind, the Duchess herself, played by the only professional in the cast. My first impression of her as somewhere between a giggling, dumb-blonde-to-be schoolgirl, and a shrewd, experience-hardened tart, never fully left me. Despite this weak point, there were several harrowing scenes—such as those of the Duke's first mad outburst and the execution by strangling of the Duchess—which made one wonder how much tension could be borne by the audience.

The play is loosely constructed, held together only by its moments of high tension; possibly a radio production could do more justice to several of the scenes than the stage. Be that as it may, one could not help but be impressed by the vitality of the play itself and the mind and age it sprang from; the production was always lively and forceful. It came very close, if it didn't fully succeed, to leading the audience to exclaim, "Oh this gloomy world! In what a shadow or deep pit of darkness doth mankind live."

I doubt if one can actually enjoy a tragedy: but this was a thought-provoking production, and, as such, a successful and worthwhile one.

THE DA VINCI SOCIETY

The first meeting of the Autumn term marked the beginning of the eleventh year of the Society, and it was supported by a large audience who came to hear Mr. Ayton give a talk entitled "Do, Re, Mi." In his talk, which was illustrated by recordings, Mr. Ayton explained methods of voice

production and gave examples of various types of singers. He pointed out that at an early age we are able to make "a good noise" but that at a later stage we become inhibited and seem to lose the ability to produce good sound. He maintained that this ability was still there but required developing, that inhibitions had to be overcome.

In conjunction with a visit to The Tate Gallery recorded above, of the Edinburgh Festival Exhibition of the works of Modigliani and Soutine, Mr. Venning gave a talk on October 14th entitled "Distortion in Art" in which he pointed out, with the use of reproductions, the use artists have made of distortion in their paintings in order to emphasise the particular emotions they are trying to convey. Many works by a large number of artists were shown and particular attention was paid to Modigliani and Soutine, which proved very useful and instructive for those who subsequently visited the Tate Exhibition.

During the Summer holidays M. P. Dudley, of the Arts V1th, visited Norway, where he was able to see a large collection of the works of Edvard Munch. On October 21st, Dudley gave an illustrated talk on the life and work of this famous Norwegian artist and ably conveyed the excitement he had felt on seeing this artist's work. Munch is an Expressionist painter, growing in popularity as one of the giants of this movement.

Mr. Johnston, who joined the Staff in place of Mr. Kilburn this term, carried on Mr. Kilburn's good work for the Society, by giving us an excellent talk, illustrated by many of his own coloured slides. He chose for his subject Celtic Art, and on November 18th gave a talk entitled "Behind the Gorgon." Mr. Johnston is a keen archæologist and was obviously well versed in his subject and we feel he has a passionate interest in it. He showed many examples of Celtic Art and emphasised how at its zenith it was a most virile period. Viewing these works we realised how strong is the sense of design in British art, which from time to time becomes submerged, but runs as a strong thread throughout the story of British art.

The final meeting of the term, held on November 25th, was devoted to the Da Vinci Art Competition, the subject this term being "The Dream." This proved to be quite a difficult subject, when one got down to it. The best works, perhaps, came from the Middle School.

The Judges for this competition were Mr. Johnston, Mr. Venning, and Dr. Morgan, and their task was by no means an easy one. They finally awarded C. J. Hill of the Econ. V1th First Prize in the Senior Section, with a surrealist work in plaster and hardboard; N. D. Gilbert of 4I in the Middle School, with a painting, and T. M. Adams of 2 Geog. also with a painting. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the judges for the time and thought they placed at the disposal of the Society.

Finally, as Head of the Society, I would like to thank Mr. Venning, on its behalf, for all the work he has done for us and in particular for his enthusiasm and encouragement. During his stay at Raynes Park Mr. Venning has made the Craft Room a vital part of the School, and many boys have discovered the excitement of Art under Mr. Venning's tuition.



Sculpture in a park in Oslo

M. P. Dudley, 6 Arts



M. H. English, 6 Sci.

The Forth Bridge, Scotland

A. Jackson, 2 Geog.





The Importance Of Being Earnest, 1963

*Top photograph by N. D. Catton
Bottom photograph by Max Greenwell
Processing by M. A. English*

He will be greatly missed and we wish him and Mrs. Venning every success in the future.

A.C.R.

DO YOU CUM?

No, this is not a misprint. CUM is the name derived from the initial letters of the Christian Union Magazine, which was published this term and has sold about eighty copies, raising well over £1 10s. 0d. in profit for the "Freedom From Hunger" campaign. But it means more than this. The word "come" was the theme of our magazine; and this remains the most sincere invitation of our Christian Union to all members of the School. We ask: "Do you come?" Perhaps you would reply: "Why should I?" For us one very powerful argument is to point to things achieved.

This term we have had a most interesting and, in some ways, experimental programme. Our series of outside speakers has for the first time been integrated with our Bible Study meetings. The series was "Christian Belief" and we were privileged to hear four Reverends speaking under the titles "What's Wrong?"; "Before and After"; "Is That All?"; and "Honest to Whom?" on sin, salvation, sanctification, and that controversial paper-back by the Bishop of Woolwich, respectively. The week following each of these meetings we had a discussion and Bible Study on the same theme, led by one of the Committee members.

Other meetings have included talks by two members of staff (the Headmaster, and Mr. Brunt), and "Voice of the Deep," a colour Fact and Faith film, which was attended by about seventy boys.

Once again Prayer Letters have been produced and circulated to Old Boys who still support the work of the C.U. in this vital way. Our own weekly Prayer Meetings remain a source of real, experienced strength to those who attend them and to the C.U. in its work and witness.

Another answer to the question "Why should I come to C.U.?" is to point to the future. Everyone who attends our Termly General Meeting has ample opportunity to exercise his vocal chords, and every criticism, congratulation, and suggestion made is carefully considered shortly afterwards by the Committee when planning the next term's programme. If you have any fault to find with the C.U.—such as a dull programme—you will be welcomed with your many constructive reforms and original ideas. If you are not held back by anything more than apathy or the lack of physical strength necessary to drag your weary feet up to Room I (or the History Room, as we hope it will be by the time you read this), once again we challenge you: "Do you come!" "Will you come?"

"We ought to see how each of us may best arouse others to love and active goodness, not staying away from our meetings, as some do, but rather encouraging one another" "Come to me all whose work is hard, whose load is heavy; and I will give you relief" (Hebrews 10: 24, 25; and Matthew 11: 28—N.E.B.).

C. R. Blackwell.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY

Debating is somewhat akin to religion. By this, I mean that the joy of debating belonged this term, as it now does virtually by tradition, to a select minority; and the only real argument to put to prospective converts, besides pointing out the usefulness in practising public speaking, preparing logical arguments, conducting research into current affairs, and looking at all aspects of a statement, is to say: "I have experienced the joy of debating (painful as the crucial moment may prove) and I recommend that you give it a trial."

Probably the most exciting achievement of the Debating Society this term has been its success in an external competition—the Metropolitan Schools' Debating Tournament organised by the London University Debating Union and the "Evening Standard." The School team, Ian Thomas and Chris Blackwell, have been surprised and pleased to reach (at the time of writing) the semi-finals, with phenomenal ease. The original number of participant schools was 120. The motions encountered were: "Patriotism is the refuge of scoundrels" (proposition) and "Popular taste is the best guide to good music" (opposition).

What a kaleidoscope of motions our speakers at home have verbally constructed and demolished! We commenced the term's debating on an elevated, one might almost say sublime, plane, with a Balloon Debate. The motion was, in this case, oscillating. For the benefit of the uninitiated, this assumes that five famous characters are in a balloon of the Montgolfier type (full of hot air), and since it is sinking and only one passenger can possibly be saved, the other four must be ejected. Each speaker pleads his case with the Ultimate, in this case a sizeable audience. On this occasion our galaxy of stars (forgive the ethereal description), comprised Billy Butlin, "the man who presses the button," a Latin master, Hitler, and the Queen who was, in the final vote, the remaining passenger. No doubt all Royalists are greatly relieved; but I should point out that this does not necessarily represent a swing to Tory in Merton and Morden.

Thereafter we came down to earth somewhat with the motions: "Education is the root of all evil," "Work is the lowest form of self-expression," "Art censorship should be abolished," "The Eleven Plus is the cause of a new class division in Britain," and "The Establishment is a barrier to progress."

As the Debating Society disintegrates into House teams for next term's Welby House Debating Competition, we hope that the experience gained from this term's debating will produce some lively House debates. Let me conclude with an anonymous quotation: "It is better to debate a question without settling it, than to settle it without debate."

C. R. Blackwell.

THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

Dr. Morgan's back-room was filled to its capacity when, on 22nd September, the largest assembly in the Society's history (an estimated

thirty-six) attended for the first meeting of the term. It had been hoped to read the "Thesmophoriazusae" by Aristophanes, but sufficient texts were not available, and recourse was had to the inevitable substitute, "The Frogs." This play lacks the uproarious fantasy and farce of Aristophanes' other works, and the contest between Aeschylus and Euripides, which occupies the latter half of the action, requires some knowledge of the original works of both playwrights before it can be fully appreciated. Nevertheless, much of the comic effect came through: M. A. G. Evans brekekekex-coax-coaxed passionately, while A. S. Gorman as Hercules blustered and raged violently; Euripides suddenly acquired an Old Etonian accent; and Mr. Gibson played the roguish Dionysus with imperturbable calm. The play-reading finished, the atmosphere of joviality and bonhomie was further increased as the wine flowed, and it was not until the early hours of the morning that some departed.

To the second meeting of the term, held on 8th December, the Society was pleased to welcome Mr. Tank from Rutlish to give a talk on "Vergil the Countryman." In showing how Vergil's mind and art were influenced by his life in the country, Mr. Tank covered many aspects of the poet's work. With profuse quotations from the original Latin, he succeeded in illustrating the detail and vividness with which he depicted his pastoral scenes, the extensive knowledge he possessed of farming methods, and his ability to transform a description of the routine business of the farm into something more than a mere handbook. Besides discussing his treatment of myths and legends, military personifications, and the audial aspects of his metaphors and imagination, he had some interesting remarks to make about his views on apiculture. Since this was the fiftieth meeting of the Society, refreshments were on a more lavish scale; Turkish sausage meat and the Beatles occurred for the first time.

We express our thanks to Dr. Morgan for the hospitality and abundant supplies of wine, gherkins, olives, and nuts he continues to supply.

M. D. Chandler.

THE SIXTH FORM LITERARY SOCIETY

As a move to encourage people to read, write and even think, voluntarily, the revived Literary Society seems notably promising. Generously accommodated in Mr. Dudley's front room, we used Shaw's "Geneva" as a pretext for eating Mr. Dudley's provisions and sitting in his armchairs. Needless to say, we are vitally indebted to our host, and I am pleased to take this opportunity of thanking him.

Our most long-term act on that evening was to decide what we are going to do in the future. Consequently all Sixth-Formers interested would be most welcome to our meeting of January 2nd (the fact that you will be reading this too late does not make it any the less true), when we hope to hear members read some of their own poetry. I can only say that I sincerely hope that the Society's warm-hearted and friendly activities will never again be lost as a thing of the past.

A. S. Gorman.

THE MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

The after School meetings of the newly formed Mathematical Society have provided members of the Upper School with an enjoyable opportunity of seeing some of the more advanced and interesting branches of mathematics and physics. The meetings have taken the form of films introduced and narrated by the scientific and mathematical members of the staff, whose invaluable help brought almost every film to a successful and convincing conclusion.

Our thanks and appreciation must go to Mr. Brunt for his work and organisation, and to the other members of the staff, particularly Mr. Gibson, who have contributed their time and energy to the launching of this new Society.

S. J. Mawer.

THE STAGE GUILD

The Stage Guild's activities this term were rather more ambitious than usual, owing to the necessity of three completely different sets in the School production of "The Importance of Being Earnest" This created difficulties as far as scene changes were concerned—only overcome by the ingenuity of Mr. Greenwell who designed the sets.

After picking up a few useful hints from R.A.D.A.'s production of the play, work on the scenery commenced, and continued on Monday evenings until shortly before the play, when we found it necessary to put in some extra time. The main constructions required were the new window flat, and the fireplace. The four large canvas drops and the two smaller ones were painted by the Guild, under the direction of Mr. Greenwell, and turned out pleasingly well.

When the three sets were erected, only two days before the dress rehearsal, there proved to be a small problem as far as lighting them was concerned; but eventually, despite slight differences of opinion between technicians, producers, and designer, the play went off almost without a hitch.

P. G. Williams.

PRINTERS' GUILD

Owing to the increase of work done by boys during craft periods, the Printers' Guild now meets only on two nights a week, and membership has decreased.

Our work this term has included the prize-giving programmes, the menu and record cards for the Rugby Club supper, some catalogues for Richmond Art Gallery, tickets for Coombe Scouts, tickets and posters for the School dance, tickets and programmes for the School play, and some Christmas cards.

This term, work has also continued on "Oberon," and by the end of term, 30 pages will have been completed.

Our stock of type has been greatly increased by that rescued from Bushey School. We have also acquired two hand-presses, from the same source, which, with minor repairs, could be rendered serviceable.

Next term we hope to finish "Oberon," though with Mr. Venning's departure, it is doubtful whether the Printers' Guild will continue.

P. Keen and M. R. Earl.

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

The repairs and modifications made to the telescope in the last one or half years have transformed it from a glorified drain-pipe into a precise scientific instrument.

Early in the term we completed the replacement of the old slow-motion work with a new worm-drive fitted with a large Bedford steering wheel, which enables the observer to train the 'scope with surgical accuracy. This along with other mechanical improvements, has enabled us to take full advantage of the telescope's excellent optics, the mirror showing no defects even at magnifications of 500 plus.

This term's clear nights have provided ample opportunity for the observation of the favourably placed planets, Saturn and Jupiter. We have obtained fine crystal images of these and were able to see the shadow of one of Jupiter's satellites on the planet's cloudy surface! We have also conducted some very profitable observation of the moon's craters at maximum magnification (about 500 times). At this power they are a breath-taking spectacle.

The refracting telescope now has a lens and a tripod(!) but so far its performance has not been encouraging. We hope to buy a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch focal length eye-piece which would be a great asset both to our lunar and planetary studies.

Important jobs that remain to be done include the repainting of the telescope and the provision of facilities for photographic astronomy. Any persons willing to work as well as peep will be welcome on Friday afternoons in the General Science Laboratory.

J. D. Miskin.

THE SPUR MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

At the beginning of term, we were informed by Rutlish School that the planned rail trip to the Somerset and Dorset Joint Line had had to be cancelled because of lack of support from all the schools concerned. More successful among our ventures, however, was the first of the Model Railway Club's film shows in the library, which, on the whole, went quite smoothly despite the cacophonous interruptions intermittently emitted by the projector. We hope this activity will become a regular event.

We have succeeded in preserving all meetings this term as full club nights, although towards the end of term we encountered some opposition in the form of House Suppers and similar activities. Operation of the layout has gone well this term—particularly that of our new power system installed immediately before the Garden Party—the only exception being the appearance of a short circuit on one of the tracks which took two meetings to trace and one minute to remedy.

We hope that next term our meetings will not be affected by the weather as they were at that time last year. We would also like to emphasise the fact that new members will be welcome at our regular meetings at 7-30 on Wednesdays. Full details of any meeting changes will be displayed on the Club's notice board opposite room H, which members are advised to consult from time to time.

D. Andrews.

THE SPUR RAILWAY MODELLERS' SOCIETY

"...depending on its success or failure, either its second report or its post mortem will be presented in the next issue of 'The Spur'." That was the close of the Society's first report, and this is the "next issue of 'The Spur'." Subsequent to the writing of that report, we found it necessary to abandon work on most of the layout, and concentrate on one circuit only. There are more difficulties than one would imagine in wiring this layout (consisting entirely of home-made track) as a two-rail system, particularly since it was formerly a three-rail system. Every few minutes, a platform short-circuit would make its presence known, and not only would these short-circuits require an hour's work to trace, but they would also entail the removal of the previous hour's work. Before Open Night (the day before, in fact), we realised that it would be impossible to finish our task, and all the rolling stock was returned to those of our eight members who had not taken refuge in Austria.

In the Autumn term, the Society was not properly revived, and consequently, at a meeting on October 4th, those members who were present agreed that the Society should be disbanded. Since this meeting, all the Society's assets have been disposed of, and so, after this report: Requiescat In Pace.

D. Andrews.

MODEL-AERO CLUB

The revival of the Model Aero Club after an absence of three years is most welcome to all those who are interested in this subject. Its rebirth is due chiefly to the enthusiasm of P. Marsh. Originally it was hoped to run a formal club but through lack of numbers (at present about six) it was thought to be impractical.

It is hoped that enough boys will be interested to run the Club in a more ambitious way. With sufficient members subscriptions could be made to buy a 'plane for use by members whose planes are out of commission, or for those who are joining and "Want to see what it is like," before spending two or three pounds on their own models. Anyone who is interested in model aeros and wants to attend the meetings should come to the Craft room after School on Fridays, or see Mr. Greenwell.

The Club has its meetings on Friday evening after School either for control-line flying—when weather conditions permit—or for constructing models, for repairs, and running-in engines. At present members have between them about half-a-dozen models with several more on the drawing board or under construction.

A. P. Trundley.

THE STAMP CLUB

The philatelic department of the School has flourished considerably during the term, and membership at meetings for the inevitable "swapping" has been as high as twenty-five. It is hoped that interest will still be high during the Spring term, for the frequent weekly gatherings have already added many new and exotic stamps to our albums.

M.J.S.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Under the guidance of Mr. Riley and Mr. Greenwell this new Society made its appearance this term. At the moment the Society is composed mainly of Seniors, but anybody in the School who possesses a camera will be welcome. He will be able to develop his films and make enlargements using the Club's equipment.

It is hoped that in the future talks will be given, and that we will be able to obtain various films dealing with certain aspects of photography. We also hope that eventually we will possess equipment to undertake almost any photographic process.

We would like to remind all the School of the photographic competitions that are held each term, which are open to all the School and not only to members of the Society.

N. Hall.

THE RADIO SOCIETY

The School Radio Society had its inaugural meeting on Wednesday, 25th September, when it was decided to meet every Thursday evening in the General Science laboratory. A committee was appointed from the Senior members to deal with the general running of the Society. Mr. Ayton kindly consented to supervise the meetings. The Society consists mainly of boys from the upper forms of the School at present, but all members of the School are very welcome to attend the meetings next term.

The highlight of the term was a filmshow on 14th November when two films from Mullard Ltd. were shown: "The Manufacture of Radio Valves" and "Transistors." These were well received, and plans are in hand for further filmshows next term.

D. A. Seager.

THE JAZZ LISTENING GROUP

This term the Group has almost ceased to exist: we have had few meetings with fewer members. We hope that, next term, we will have better support for our Thursday lunchtime sessions.

M. P. Dudley and R. A. Charlton.

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THE CHESS CLUB

After a shaky start to the season, the chess team has performed creditably despite the unfortunate loss of four members of last year's team. Of the eight matches played five were won.

At the beginning of the term the Senior Inter-House Tournament was held. Most of the matches have been finished, but there seems to be a certain reluctance on the part of one or two contestants to play.

Next term should see the innovation of a Junior Inter-House Tournament, also counting towards the Chess Cup.

Chess has been flourishing well in room D during the lunch hours, although we would like to see more Seniors there.

Finally I would like to congratulate G. R. Myers on being a most efficient Secretary, and, on behalf of the Chess Club to thank Mr. J. Wyatt for sponsoring us this term.

D. F. Blunden.

I must add that the success of the chess team may, in no small way, be attributed to the able captaincy of D. F. Blunden.

G. R. Myers.

RESULTS.

		Seniors	Juniors
v.	Surbiton	lost	0—6
v.	Tiffin Girls'	won	4½—1½
v.	Rutlish	drawn	3—3
v.	Mitcham	won	5½—½
v.	Wimbledon Co.	won	5½—½
v.	Coombe Girls'	won	5—1
v.	Kingston G.S.	won	4—2
v.	Hinchley Wood	lost	3—5

REGULAR MEMBERS.

Seniors.

D. Blunden.
G. Myers.
G. Raison.
H. Saunders.
R. Whitaker.
P. Fischer.

Also—

P. Gorton.
S. Lewis.
P. Mallett.

Juniors.

T. Felinc.
G. Brookes.
R. Peet.

Also—

M. Podgorney.
C. Ainger.
R. Myers.
J. Needle.
G. Ward.

THE TABLE TENNIS CLUB

This term has seen the foundation of a new School Society, the Table Tennis Club.

Owing to the popularity of this game outside school hours, it has received official recognition, thanks to the sponsorship of Mr. Lovatt and the approval of the Headmaster. As yet it has been necessary to restrict membership to the Senior School, but we hope to obtain another table, and

thus allow a larger section of the School to attend our weekly meeting after four o'clock on Friday.

When the game has taken a firm grip, a team will be formed which, we hope, will be developed to represent the School against other schools.

E. P. Higham and R. M. Page.

19th WIMBLEDON SCOUT GROUP

S.O.S.

S.O.S.

S.O.S.

During the last School year, three of our four Scouters have resigned, leaving the writer the sole survivor to carry on the functioning of the Group. I am appealing to Old Boys of the Group and of the School to contact me at the School if they can possibly assist in one way or another in the running of the Group. I am particularly seeking a Scoutmaster and two or three assistants to look after the Boy Scout Troop (11-15 years).

The Senior Scouts have been responsible for many varied troop meetings in the Autumn term and their help has been invaluable: Rod Smith, a former member of the Group, has lent a regular hand with meetings as well. Next term, Mr. Rogers will take charge of the Senior Scout Section, and I am sure he will prove to be a great asset to the Group.

The standard of badgework has improved considerably with many second class badges being awarded. P/L Paul Trundle has been presented with his First Class Badge, whilst Philip Williams and Nick Boreham have both gained the coveted Queen's Scout Badge.

The future of the Group is uncertain at present, and I trust help will be forthcoming for the sake of the boys we have.

M.J.S.

No. 565 SQUADRON, AIR TRAINING CORPS

As mentioned in last term's report, Cadet Anderson represented Eastern Region in the Under-15½ 880 yards race at Royal Air Force, Uxbridge; he won his event, and thus became the first Corps Champion this Squadron has ever had.

We offer our congratulations to Pilot Officer Gates, who was married at the end of the Summer holidays, and to our Commanding Officer, Flight Lieutenant Jeffs, who was awarded a Clasp to the "Cadet Forces' Medal" that he already holds.

On Saturday, 26th October, sixteen Cadets, accompanied by Flying Officer Manger, went to Royal Air Force, White Waltham, for flying experience, but, unfortunately, owing to low cloud and ground mist during the morning, flying was cancelled. Two days later Flying Officer Price took a party of ten Cadets to the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough and, although there was still low cloud and some mist, this had cleared by 11 a.m. and all Cadets were able to get airborne, flying in Sycamore Helicopters and Varsity crew trainers.

Later in the term the Squadron was again successful in examinations, when, on 4th November, Cadets Richardson and Maskell passed the Leading

Cadet Training Examination, Cadet Richardson gaining a pass with Credit, while Cadet Anderson passed part one, thus completing the examination. In the Basic examination set at Squadron level, Cadets Flude, Lovering, and Tuley all gained passes.

On 19th October, an aircraft recognition team, consisting of Flight Sergeant Faulkner, Corporal Mercer, and Senior Cadet Haw, represented the Squadron in the Third International Aircraft Recognition Contest organised by the "Air Britain" Society. Although they did not excel, they did quite well for their first attempt at the recognition of aircraft on cine film. On the 17th November, this team, with Corporal Goulding replacing Corporal Mercer, represented Surrey Wing in the Regional contest, and while, again, they did not win, their performance was creditable.

Two Cadets, Belcham and Hyman, qualified for their Air Training Corps Marksmanship Badges, while Cadet Haw succeeded in requalifying for his. These awards were gained with .22" rifles at the Stonecot Hill Territorial Army range.

We also owe our congratulations to Flying Officer Manger who attended a gliding course at Royal Air Force, Swanton Morley from 24th-29th November, and successfully gained his Proficiency Gliding Certificate.

Other events in the term included, on 1st November, a very interesting talk on an overland journey to Thailand, and, on 22nd November, a showing of the film, "Antarctic Crossing," concerning the Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition. Two weeks later we were to have held our Annual Christmas Dinner, but this unfortunately had to be postponed until January. Since we had already ordered the film, "The Dam Busters," it was decided that it should be shown in any case.

Unfortunately, during this term we received the resignation of Warrant Officer Cole, who had to leave because of pressure of work, after nearly ten years' unbroken service with the Squadron both as a Cadet and as a Warrant Officer. Also leaving us this term, to join the Royal Air Force as a pilot, was Corporal Winhall, who has been with the Squadron since 1958. We wish him every success in his new career.

In the early part of the term the following promotions were made:

Sgt. Marsom, A. K. and Sgt. Faulkner, J. to Flight Sergeant;

Cpl. Castle, S. M. to Sergeant;

S/Cdt. Bambridge, B. M. and S/Cdt. Burgoyne, D. to Corporal.

Next term it is hoped to hold a Recruiting Evening, when all parents and boys of the School will be welcome. In the new year, four members of the Advanced Training Group will commence work for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. 1964 will see the reorganisation of Annual Camps, these being transferred from the Summer to the Easter vacation. In addition to the normal camps, Surrey Wing has been allocated twenty places for a camp with the 2nd Tactical Air Force at Bruggen in Germany, and of these, two places have been granted to this Squadron.

J. A. Haw and M. A. Hyman.

RUGBY

Master-in-Charge: A. R. Pannell, Esq.

Captain: G. A. Featherstone

Hon. Secretary: R. A. Lancaster

RESULTS OF SCHOOL MATCHES

Opponents				Colts	U-14	U-13
	1st XV	2nd XV	3rd XV	XV	XV	XV
Wimbledon County	5-3			5-11	8-3	34-0
Elliot's 1st XV		8-5				
Shene	27-0	37-9		20-6	8-0	25-0
Mitcham	19-8	8-0				
Beckenham	6-20	15-6		13-10	23-5	
Beverley 1st XV			5-37			
Bec.	11-15	0-11		14-9	5-14	
Surbiton	11-8	0-13		11-8	9-14	
Wallington	3-20	6-15		3-19	5-14	9-5
Harrow	0-18	3-12	0-21	11-5	19-6	11-3
St. Nicholas	6-8	0-28	0-22	3-0	29-6	14-3
Thames Valley	3-11	13-3		0-0	8-3	0-3
Beverley 1st XV			3-23			
City Freeman's 1st XV		16-14				
Reigate	3-10	0-17	0-0	21-0	5-3	21-0
Wimbledon College	3-6	0-21				
Pinner	3-3	Cancelled				
R.G.S., Guildford	6-3	3-12				
Chiswick			Cancelled			
Tiffin School	0-12	3-11	0-11	11-6	18-0	
Hampton	8-21	9-11		11-3	6-6	5-0
Old Boys	5-16	11-5				
Merton R.F.C. Colts			0-15			
Rivermead 1st XV			6-3			
Hinchley Wood				5-0	23-0	Cancelled

RECORD OF TEAMS

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	
					For	Against
1st XV	17	5	1	11	119	182
2nd XV	17	7	0	10	132	193
3rd XV	8	1	1	6	14	132
Colts XV	14	11	1	2	133	77
Under 14 XV	14	10	1	3	189	74
Under 13 XV	8	7	0	1	119	14

1st XV

A look at our record would seem to indicate that we have not played very well this season, but if we had had fewer injuries, and therefore a regular team, we could have given a better account of ourselves. As it was, our backs were always below strength with both wingers, the fly-half, and

one centre out for over half the season; in fact, we ended the season with Castling at fly-half instead of his usual position of wing-forward. Because of this, and because one or two other forwards missed matches through illness, or injury, the forwards were not able to reach last year's standard. But credit must go to the whole team for sticking to their task throughout the season.

The season began well with three successive victories, but then a somewhat dispirited team lost badly against Beckenham. We recovered against Bec, but just lost a close match. Then came the best match of the season, when we beat Surbiton for the second year running. Although we lost Jennings soon after the start with a broken wrist, the team put in a great effort to gain a well deserved victory.

The loss of Jennings, and also Spanos, who was injured in a practice match, proved costly, and in the next two matches we were beaten convincingly by Wallington and Harrow. In our next match against St. Nicholas, played without Hedley, the team combined really well, and had the opposition in trouble several times, but the loss of Rance near the end proved costly, and we lost narrowly.

We were unlucky to have had these injuries at the same time as some of our hardest fixtures, and after half-term, we had three further defeats at the hands of Thames Valley, Reigate, and Wimbledon College, the last match being a very good, hard-fought game which was decided by a try in the closing minutes. Our next match was against Pinner when we ended our losing run with a well-earned draw, and then followed this with a victory against Guildford, where the team again fought well to earn the win.

Our last two inter-school matches were against Tiffins and Hampton and both ended in defeat, partly owing in the latter case, to our own attitude.

Our last match was against the Old Boys, and again we were defeated. The first half was a tough one, and we opened the scoring with a try by Ventham, converted by Lancaster. In the second half the Old Boys threw the ball around to great advantage, and with the full-back coming into the line, they often had the extra man. Their score came through two goals and two tries.

PEN PORTRAITS

Lancaster (Colours '62). His safe handling and kicking have got the team out of many a tight spot, and his place-kicking, although sometimes inaccurate, has been a great asset. Selected as reserve for Surrey. Deserves the team's thanks for the smooth running of fixtures.

Rance. Unlucky to have sustained a broken nose half way through the season just as he was showing himself to be a first-class winger. Should prove his worth next year.

Shrubb. A renegade from cross-country, has stepped almost straight into the 1st XV, replacing Rance, and proved a tough, fearless winger.

Hedley. Converted from scrum-half, he was tackling hard, and combining well with Featherstone and Rance, before his illness.

Spanos. Fitted well into the three-quarters and often used his speed to advantage, before dislocating his shoulder.

Heaton. Coming in instead of Jennings, and later moving to centre, then wing, he played well both in attack and defence.

Jennings. Made a very promising start to 1st XV rugby, and then had his wrist broken, but returned at the end of the season. Could be first-class fly-half next year.

Lane (Colours '63). When he recovered from a finger broken early in the season, his service to the numerous fly-halves who played and his defensive work were very good.

Castling (Colours '63). Our "jack-of-all-trades," he started at wing-forward, and nearly got a Surrey place there, but was later converted to fly-half where he has played admirably in attack and defence.

Jackman (Colours '63). Although not a spectacular player, he has always worked hard and tirelessly, and on occasion led the pack.

Barber A tough, hard prop, he has played well throughout the season, and often bulldozed forward to gain valuable ground.

Higham. Following in his family's tradition, he has shown himself to be a fast-striking hooker, although a little slow in the loose.

Anderson. Proved an able replacement for Higham, when he fell ill, and worked well in the loose and set scrums.

Parks (Colours '62). Has played very well this season, jumping tirelessly in the line-outs, first in at the loose, and tackling well.

Robinson (Vice-Captain, Colours '62). He has successfully led the pack for most of the season, and has played very well himself, always being among the first in at the loose. Fully deserved his Surrey place.

Morris. Came in early in the season instead of Castling, and although unspectacular, has filled the vacancy very well.

Nisbet (Colours '62). In his fourth year with the 1st XV is the most experienced member in the team. His play has been first-class, whether in the scrum, or when showing the backs how to make an outside break.

Ventham (Colours '63). Has succeeded in adapting himself as a wing-forward, and although dropped at one stage, fought his way back, and has improved considerably since.

Mallett. Earned his promotion to the team through good work both in attack and defence.

Also played: Lewis, Page, Chandler, Zerfahs, Marsh, Tickner, McCubbin.

Colours to: Lane, Ventham, Castling, Jackman.

Half-Colours to: Chandler, Shrubb, Barber.

G. A. Featherstone.

Featherstone (Captain, Colours '62). Frequent injuries have not prevented his leading the team in a most inspiring manner. He has proved the only centre to penetrate effectively in attack, and his covering and tackling have often saved points.

A. D. Robinson.

2nd XV

Captain: M. D. Chandler

The fortunes of the 2nd XV have fluctuated considerably throughout the term. The season began in grand style; the first four matches were won, and it was evident that the training sessions during the holiday were now paying early dividends in the form of fitness and morale. Our first defeat occurred in the rain at Bec, and this marked the beginning of a disastrous run of defeats, during which we had eighty points amassed against us, and were crushingly defeated by St. Nicholas. However, some of the old fighting spirit revived to enable us to beat Thames Valley, and this paved the way for a fine display against City Freemans 1st XV. Arriving at the ground late, we were six points down at half-time, but in a storming second half, aided by a hat-trick of tries from Marsh, the team rallied magnificently to record an exciting victory by two points. Thereafter followed another succession of reverses, and although the team was thoroughly reshuffled, it was not until the end of the season that it once more settled down to play hard, skilful rugby. This brought deserved success against the Old Boys and a good performance against Hampton.

While admitting that a large crop of injuries once more handicapped the efforts of the team, it must be pointed out that many tries were too easily conceded as a result of bad tackling and poor covering; once these departments of the game had been tightened up, there was a noticeable improvement in our results. The pack has yet again been the backbone of the team. Its weight further increased by a miniature scrum in the person of "Bo," it held its own against most sides; Croft and Jones did good service in the line-outs, while Anderson exhibited his customary aggression in the loose mauls. The back row in particular was often fast and dangerous, and Marsh acquired many opportunist tries. The threequarters, playing for the most part against opposition bigger and faster than themselves, have my sympathies; they seldom looked comfortable, but, to their credit, never gave up trying. Tickner showed good positioning and kicking ability at full-back, and captained the team competently in my absence.

Finally, I should like to express my thanks to Mr. Pannell for the many hours he has devoted to coaching and training us.

The team has been represented by:

Anderson, Benée, Chandler, Croft, Culpin, Evans, Fisk, Fulbrook, Greenman, Hall, Heaton, Hicks, Higham, Hutchings, Jones, Lewis, Maidment, Major, Marsh, McCubbin, Mercer, Morris, Preece, Raison, Ribolla, Rutter, Shrubbs, Tickner, Ventham, Zerphas and Mallett.

3rd XV

Captain: I. Alexander

The team was chosen from Rutter, Preece, Culpin, Page, Catton, Tuffin, Fisk, Gebbett, Alexander (Captain), Raison, Mercer, Hutchings, Mann, Lindsey, Rosser, Saxby, Hicks, Mawer and Gillian.

The 3rd XV have not had one of their best seasons this year, largely owing to the number of injuries in all teams, the effects of which, of course, hit the 3rd XV more than others.

The season started with heavy defeats at the hands of Beverley, Merton R.F.C., and Harrow, but in a hard game the team showed new unity in beating Rivermead. The outstanding match of the season was against Reigate, played in terrible conditions, when an exciting match ended in a draw, probably the fairest result.

Players meriting special mention are Rutter (scrum-leader), Catton and Page in the line-out, Culpin in the loose and Mercer, particularly, in the threequarters.

Colt XV

Captain: C. Colombo

This season has been our most successful so far; we were the only side unbeaten at home this year and lost only twice away. Many new players have been added to our ranks, notably Hutchings, who has been a skilful as well as an adaptable player. Our two defeats were due to the poor attendance of many players; indeed we beat Tiffins and Bec with sides of thirteen and fourteen players respectively. Perhaps our best victory was that against Surbiton. Though not fielding our strongest team, the team played extremely well, especially Schwartz and Biellik.

Callander has played well throughout the season and fully deserved his Surrey cap. Perhaps the most improved players have been Newman, Pearce, Standish and Tuley, while Perryman's tackling as always, has been very good.

Other players have done good service to the School, amongst them Vincent, who has held his place at hooker despite his lack of weight and the strong opposition from Schwartz. When he played, Griffiths's place-kicking was extremely accurate.

Our success has been largely due to Mr. Venning, whose coaching will be sorely missed. Despite the lack of co-operation during practices he has produced a fine team.

Those who have played this season are, Pearce, Vincent, Moffatt, Tuley, Newman, Early, Palmer, Callander, Perryman, Colombo, Malam, Standish, Hutchings, Howard, Griffiths, Marsh, Salter, Clutterbuck, Schwartz, Biellik, Ridler, Freeman, Whittamore.

D. C. Callander adds—

Chris Colombo has, as always, been the main inspiration to the team. He is the leading try-scorer this season and his hard tackling brings results.

He was extremely unlucky not to get into the Surrey team this year, but he tried hard against very tough opposition.

Under 14 XV

Captain: S. R. Hall

This season has been moderately successful. We have only been beaten three times in thirteen matches, Bec, Surbiton, and Wallington being our conquerors. We should not have lost to any of these teams, for potentially we were superior to any team we met, but owing to inconsistency and the inability to hit form at the right time, we lost these matches.

Various positions have been contested throughout the season. Not until the end of the season did we have a fairly settled team.

The scrum-leader was changed in mid-season, Ventham taking over in an effort to bring more fire into the forwards. Ventham has led the pack well since then, and has fulfilled all asked of him.

The last match of the term against Hampton, was our best game. Hopper was moved to his original position of fly-half and his tactical kicking proved very useful. The whole team played well and we were unlucky not to do better than draw 6-6.

We have had more than our share of success this season, and next year in the Colts, we should fare even better.

The team has been chosen from :

Thomson, Ventham, Barton Dawn, Adams, Cordey, Wingate, Whitten, Page, Parsons, Brunton, Seeley, Lusby, Hopper, Hall, Vaughan, Jones, Naylor, Rennie, Brookes, Butcher.

Under 13 XV

Captain: C. Pearmine

The following have played for the team :

Beardsmore, Brewer, Burgen, Cocks, Collins, Coppen, Cox, Cumie, Frost, Harper, Kail, Moore, Mullins, Murphy, Murrell, Pearmine, Poste, Potten, Reeve, Rissen, Taylor, Williams.

This has been an extremely promising team with only one defeat. An extremely strong defence has emerged, and much praise must go to full-back Reeve. Towards the end of the season we lost Taylor through injury, but Poste is to be congratulated on proving a capable deputy.

SWIMMING

Master-in-Charge: L. R. King, Esq.

Captain: P. V. Mallett

There is rarely a report on swimming in the Autumn term edition of "The Spur," for the excellent reason that there is rarely anything to report. This term, however, there has been a regular swimming training and

qualifying session on Thursday evenings at Wimbledon Baths. Few people have taken advantage of this opportunity of swimming for nothing: perhaps House captains should emphasise that the Gala will be held at the very beginning of the Summer term, so that there will be few opportunities for qualifying. Can I then, for the (N)th time, beg people to support this?

Half of the people who come to this School cannot swim a stroke—the present writer being one of them, many moons ago. Thus some twenty non-swimming first formers have been going swimming every other week for games: of these, eight can now claim in all honesty "I can swim," and all have managed a few strokes. In fact, these people have shown definite signs of progress after perhaps four or five sessions. This surely should give encouragement to all other non-swimmers; they too can share the privilege of Mr. King's new teaching methods in the small learners' bath . . . if they come on Thursday evenings.

There are many good swimmers in this School; it is foolish that the School should have no reputation for swimming. Again, I ask for support.

CROSS-COUNTRY REPORT

Master-in-Charge: M. C. Gleed, Esq.

Captain and Secretary: K. E. Jackson

The cross-country club offers its deepest sympathy to the family of Robert Hall, who died so tragically during the summer holidays. With his determination and ability he was becoming one of our best runners; he will always be remembered with affection by those who ran with him. The cup presented by his parents in his memory, to be awarded annually to the best performer in the Colt team, will encourage the enthusiasm and sportsmanship he showed.

This first half of the season has proved to be interesting and fairly successful. The Seniors, having only a small nucleus of people from whom to choose, have shown up very creditably, losing only one home match (to Tiffins who fielded a much stronger team). The Juniors have had more success, remaining undefeated at home throughout the term. Training has been consistently well attended, especially by the Juniors and the investment has been realised in the good performances put up throughout the term.

One of the Juniors' achievements was to finish 6th overall out of fourteen teams in the Selwyn trophy, a series of three runs, organised by Epsom and Ewell Harriers. Staged in differing weather conditions—ranging from pouring rain to frozen ground—the three runs saw Ness, in the under-thirteen age group, finish fourth overall, after taking second place in the first two runs.

As for the Senior team, their two most notable races were both relays. The first was the Belgrave Harriers' sixteen to eighteen road relay. This was the first time the School had entered for this type of event. Forty-six teams entered, with many of the leading club teams from all over the

country taking part. Our position of twenty-first meant that we were the first school home out of the ten who entered, including Tiffins, who had beaten us the previous week. Our position was due in no small way to a good run by Brazier on the second leg, which gained us many places. The course for this race was flat but included a rough stretch of road for about a mile, which slowed up times considerably.

The second relay, where we again beat Tiffins, was the Richard Haskell trophy organised by the Royal Grammar School, Guildford. This provided us with our greatest talking points of the term: first, we beat Tiffins by one second and secondly, on account of the strange experience of Keen. Keen started off on the first leg, and at the end of it was informed, by our "unofficial" time-keeper, Mr. Brunt, that he had clocked eight minutes fifty. At the end of the day this left him with second fastest time, which greatly pleased him and even induced kind comment from him about our time-keeper, which normally is an impossibility! Thus, when two weeks later he found that by "official" timing he had done the slowest lap of nine fifteen, he was, to say the least, somewhat put out. I am glad to say relations between Mr. Brunt and Mr. Keen are now back to normal—hostility! Seriously though, Keen's time was not so bad, as our last team to visit Guildford only had one runner capable of doing faster, Keen and the rest of the Senior team have put in some good runs and they wound up the season by defeating Purley G.S. for the first time in several seasons. In winning this match Jackson brought the School record into line with the course record of eighteen minutes and thirty seconds. There is a fervent hope that the freezing and icy conditions prevalent for this race are not indicative of weather similar to that of last spring, when even Chapman's suspected totipalmate feet had no effect, for next term.

Last, but by no means least, our thanks are due to Mr. Glead for organising everything so competently, and enduring the icy blasts of the common on Saturday mornings to do so. We must also thank the markers and Mr. Warner for their aid. All that remains is to give a summary of our achievements this term.

Match	Age Group	Result	Individual Successes
v. Rutlish	..... O16	Won 26-53	Jackson 1st
v. Rutlish	..... U16	Won 23-59	
Selwyn Trophy (1)	U15	6th/17	Parr 13th/75
Selwyn Trophy (1)	U13	No team	Ness 2nd/90
v. Tiffin	..... O16	Lost 50-27	Jackson 1st
v. Tiffin	..... U16	Won 8-29	
Belgrave H. Relay	..... 16-18	21st/46	Fastest lap, Jackson
v. Bec	..... O15	Won 21-61	Jackson 1st
v. Bec	..... U15	Won 26-59	Parr, Borland, Thompson equal 1st.
Surrey A.C. Schools	Open	8th/23	Jackson 6th/150
Selwyn Trophy (2)	U15	5th/16	Parr 16th/87
Selwyn Trophy (2)	U13	No team	Ness 2nd/90
Selwyn Trophy (2)	U17	No team	Cottrell 25th/76

Guildford Relay	Open	13th/50	Fastest lap, Jackson
v. Kingston G.S.	O15	Won 35-44	Jackson 1st
v. Kingston G.S.	U15	Won 28-57	Parr, Borland equal 1st
Judge Cup	O16	6th/16	Jackson 4th/105
Judge Cup	U16	10th/16	Parr 22nd/109
Judge Cup Overall.....	—	8th/16	
v. Mitcham G.S.	U15	Won 26-60	Borland 1st
Selwyn Trophy (3)	U15	6th/14	Parr 14th/75
Selwyn Trophy (3)	U13	No team	Ness 14th/110
Selwyn Trophy (3)	U17	No team	Cottrell 21st/75
v. Purley G.S.	O16	Won 16-24	Jackson 1st
v. Purley G.S.	U16	Won 16-25	Parr, Borland equal 2nd

The following ran regularly :

Seniors—Brazier, Chapinan, Cottrell, Putland, Goulding, Blunden, Keen, Jackson.

Juniors—Parr, Stimpson, Wilson, Thompson, Barnett, Fischer, Ainger, Stevens, Ness, Dallaway, Burns, Warner, Fields, Borland.

BASKETBALL 1963

Master-in-Charge : A. R. Pannell, Esq.

Captain : M. J. Bennée

Secretary : D. Castling

The School Basketball teams have just completed their first half season in the Surrey Basketball League. Although the 1st team results may not seem over-impressive after their initial successes last year, the fact should be taken into consideration that they have now come up against teams of near County standard. The Colts however have fared comparatively well against new opposition in winning six out of their ten matches.

House Basketball now thrives, and this term the results have contributed towards the Cock House Cup Competition. Support for these matches has been very good from all quarters of the School.

Members of the 1st team completed their matches this term with a friendly match of netball against the 1st and 2nd netball teams from Coombe County Girls' School.

RESULTS

Opponents		1st	Colts
Glyn	(A)	24-92	24-50
Ainswick	(A)	30-38	—
Shene	(H)	48-12	—
Sutton	(H)	23-83	35-76
Warlingham	(A)	12-42	21-30
Garth	(H)	26-22	45-44
Wimbledon County	(A)	36-40	16-20
Southborough	(A)	48-29	37-36

Hinchley Wood	.....	.....	.....	.....	(H)	40-47	35-32
Pollards Hill	.....	.....	.....	.....	(A)	—	48-22
Mitcham	.....	.....	.....	.....	(H)	36-24	—
Morden Farm	.....	.....	.....	.....	(H)	—	48-22
Purley	.....	.....	.....	.....	(H)	—	70-36

Coombe County (H)—

1st	.....	64-31
2nd	.....	52-18

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points : For—	Against	
1st	10	4	0	6	311	441
Colt	10	6	0	4	383	364

HOUSE MATCH RESULTS

Miltons v. Halliwells	.....	13-13
Cobbs v. Newsoms	.....	25-25
Halliwells v. Gibbs	.....	W.O.(Gibbs)
Newsoms v. Miltons	.....	26-18
Gibbs v. Cobbs	.....	31-30
Newsoms v. Halliwells	.....	31-14
Miltons v. Cobbs	.....	17-18
Gibbs v. Newsoms	.....	25-16
Halliwells v. Cobbs	.....	13-42
Miltons v. Gibbs	.....	13-29

Final Position :

1st—Gibbs ; 2nd—Newsoms/Cobbs ; 4th—Miltons/Halliwells.

Colts

Captain : B. Early

The term has been one of mixed success ; we have played 10 matches, won six and lost four. Amongst the numerous changes Colombo has changed from pivot to guard and Hutchings taken over at pivot. Fitter, when in form, has been outstanding as has Salter in defence, and Standish has always proved an able deputy. Our thanks are due to Clutterbuck, Perryman, and Marsh for turning up at all matches even if they did not play.

The team has been picked from :

Salter, Early, Colombo, Hutchings, Fitter, Standish, Moffat, Clutterbuck, Perryman and Marsh. Whittamore has been our regular scorer.

P. Salter adds :

Early, our captain, has been a great asset to the side and has often scored baskets when we have most needed them. He is still the top scorer although absent for several games through injury.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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