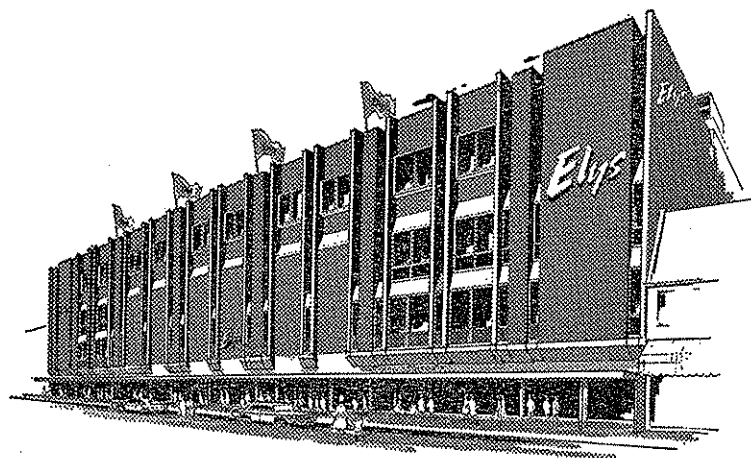


SPUR

EASTER 1968



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VOLUME 23

NUMBER 2

THE SPUR

RAYNES PARK GRAMMAR SCHOOL

"To each his need ; from each his power."

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IN MEMORIAM

STEPHEN HALL Raynes Park 1961-8

When Stephen Hall died on Easter Sunday as the result of a climbing accident, a young man, who had a great contribution to make with his life, was deprived of the chance of making it. If we look into the future we see nothing but loss; but if we look to the past, to what he had already achieved and given, we can indeed be grateful for all he had managed to cram into his few years.

One thinks first, perhaps, of the way he threw himself into life. Everything he did he did with immense vigour and his contemporaries were amazed by the way he would (to quote one of them) "do athletic training on Monday evening, practise senior rugby on Tuesday dinner time, play in a house match on Wednesday, train the juniors on Thursday and find time to play squash on Friday;" but as like as not, this was only a small part of his week's total activity, which might well have included a debate, rehearsing for the School or a House play and taking a House assembly, to say nothing of a full whack of academic work and a busy week-end. He paid for it sometimes by complete exhaustion.

But mere activity was not his greatest contribution. He had to think things out for himself, to question, to find his own way and to pursue it with courage. His integrity was what claimed from me the greatest admiration. But again he paid, for one who is really determined to go his own way, not out of cussedness, but because it is right, does not necessarily make life easier for himself or for others.

His activity and integrity made him outstanding, but he will be remembered most of all for his generosity and capacity for friendship. None of us knew of his death until the Tuesday after Easter, and it was in the school holidays. But the word went quickly round and on the following Saturday morning at St. Peter's Church, Iver, Bucks, some fifty of us from the school, over forty of them his contemporaries, were at his funeral. It was a fitting tribute to one who was both admired and beloved.

All our hearts go out in sympathy to his parents, sister and brother. We are grateful that they lent him to us for eight good years.

H.A.P.

SCHOOL OFFICERS

Head Prefect : G. A. Hopper

<i>Prefects :</i>	C. P. Ainger	J. N. G. Down	R. E. Pengilly
	R. D. Barton	S. J. Finch	S. J. Potten
	G. Borrett	J. C. C. Graham	K. C. Reeve
	G. B. Brookes	B. Green	R. W. Seeley
	S. L. Buckingham	S. R. Hall	S. F. Silver
	K. A. Butcher	I. Masters	J. E. Street
	T. J. Cook	J. Milton	D. S. Vahali
	R. Cordey	J. D. Needle	

Library Prefects : I. Dallaway I. D. Ness

Hall Prefect : M. A. Bedford

EDITORIAL

The majority, when asked the purpose of a school magazine, would probably reply that it is to set down the activities, sports and functions which happen within a school. However, this is not, or should not be the only purpose. A magazine, whether it is realised by the contributors or not, reflects the character of the school in which it is compiled. Teaching methods, student interests and recreational enthusiasms within a school can all be ascertained by the casual reader. Thus, for example, the sports reports written in a lively and interesting manner will illustrate the enthusiasm of both writer and team; the actual results are less significant. Similarly, the number of original contributions illustrates the extent of overall intellectual keenness—or apathy, as the case may be. The subject matter of these contributions assumes slightly less importance, provided they are of an acceptably high standard that adequately reflects the scholastic level of the school.

Of late, there has been discussion amongst select circles within the school as to the nature and composition of "The Spur." Since its introduction in 1936, it has undergone little significant alteration, and therefore its character and composition have remained somewhat static. Indeed, it is very largely true that the character of and interests in the school have not changed markedly over the years. Naturally, changes in staff, pupils and teaching methods will alter the school, but only peripherally. The basic core of the school has lived on for thirty years, if only in the tangible form of the building itself and the intangible traditions associated with it.

The future bodes change and so it is the feeling of many that the magazine should reflect it. A lively comprehensive school would appear to demand an equally lively journal. The design of the cover is pertinent; a modern, lively and colourful exterior could do much to promote a sense of upsurging liveliness, but only on the condition that the contents showed a similar trend. The success of a venture of this sort is solely in the hands of the contemporary students.

A major factor often in short supply in everyday life is money. A magazine costs money to print and any sophistication in its layout must involve a proportionate increase in the cost. A new, progressive magazine will cost more ; you will have to pay its price and it would seem irrefutable that value for money will stem only from more imaginative contributions from you who subscribe to it.

What are we asking? One annual original contribution from each student would yield 130 contributions to each issue. In other words, each of you can take a whole year to prepare your article. The mathematicians could provide puzzles and their solutions, a statistical analysis of situations of interest to the school. The scientists could explain simply any item that has caused interest during the year. The historians could try the almost unattainable task of making interesting (and intelligible) in 100 words an account of the rise and fall of any custom, superstition, fashion or society of their fancy. The geographers ; how has the flyover affected local transport? What is the effect on people of the new-style railway crossing in Burlington Road? The artists should try to explain some of the numerous terms they use to appreciate a work of art. The linguists should undertake short translations for those of us less broadly educated and the craftsmen and musicians should pass on their "Wrinkles" and give information on meetings and local successes. Or must the editors write them as well as list them?

J. L. Richards.

SCHOOL NOTES

Only a year ago we said goodbye to Mrs. Joan Miller, who had for seven years been one of the School's Laboratory Assistants ; she left to help look after her grand-daughter and the family. It was with great sorrow that we heard that she had died. We knew that she had been very ill for a long time and that she had shown tremendous courage and fortitude. To all those who worked with her, she gave a fine example in the face of adversity, and we send our condolences to her family.

* * * *

A further appointment to Raynes Park High School has now been made, and it is with very great pleasure that we can announce that Mr. T. Horler will become Deputy Headmaster of the High School. This will give all those who know Mr. Horler's contribution to this school great comfort, and we look forward to the part that he will play in setting up the new school.

* * * *

At the beginning of the Spring Term we were able to welcome Mr. A. W. Matthias from Allyn's School, as Head of Classics. His experience in drama will, it is hoped, even further strengthen this area of activity and already plans are afoot for a production in the summer.

The delay, which was announced by the Government, in raising the school leaving age for two years, will inevitably make some difference to the total numbers attending the High School ; possibly the most damaging effect it will have, is that some of the boys who will be coming to the school in 1969 need stay at the school only for five terms, hardly enough time for them to become known. Nevertheless, when the raising of the school leaving age does operate from 1973 onwards, the school will then reach the numbers of 800 or so, as planned. The Bushey Primary School will be empty from September 1969, and already plans are in hand for setting up the workshop centre which, if money will allow, could greatly increase the facilities at the school for engineering, workshop experience, technical drawing, art and woodwork rooms, with plenty of other space planned for technical projects.

* * * *

The Parents' Association has run two successful money raising events this year which have brought in something in the region of £245. As a result of an advertisement in the evening paper, the school was able to buy 1962 Bedford Utilabrake 12-seater. Since the vehicle had done a comparatively low mileage, it was felt to be a worthwhile purchase. It is now undergoing its tests, and we hope to be using the minibus regularly from the beginning of the Summer Term. The Parents are to be thanked for their efforts which make such purchases possible.

* * * *

At the end of this term, we are looking forward to welcoming pupils from the Lycée Marceau School in Chartres. Mr. Atkin has been anxious to have a connection with a French School for some time, and we hope that this link will begin to make a real contribution to friendly interchanges between us.

* * * *

The Social Service Group is now sufficiently underway to form itself a Committee and has visited a variety of groups and individuals who can put it in touch with need where it is present, and where our students can personally make a contribution. The Committee has extended its activities well beyond Wednesday afternoons and has now a formidable list of help needed ; they are encouraged by the response in the school to appeals to assist old people, and to help in gardens and in hospitals.

* * * *

For the House Plays this year, we were very pleased indeed to welcome as adjudicator Miss Barbara Murray (Mrs. W. P. Holmes) who is well known for her television, film and stage performances. It was pleasing to have such a distinguished visitor and we were very impressed with the adjudication she gave, and thank her for giving up further time to write a report on the competition. This follows later in the magazine.

One of the results of the activities of the School Council which requires special note, is that a committee has been set up to organise a Common Room for the Sixth Form. At the present moment, rooms L and M have been allocated, and the hope is that they will be able to establish themselves there securely and not be forced to move year in and year out. Their appeal to the parents for help with furniture has met a very generous response.

* * * *

The L. A. G. Strong Prize was once again kindly judged by Mr. Charles Wrinch who was delighted to see so many poetry entries. The winners this year were L. P. Pearce (5th Year) and A. T. Isaacson (2nd Year) who particularly impressed him, and I look forward to seeing many more poetry entries in the years to come.

* * * *

The School Computer is developing well. All the major purchases have now been made and over 20 members of the Sixth form are engaged busily in working out circuits and designing particular sections of the Computer. It is hoped to have the Computer in working order by the end of the Summer Term for the Open Night in July.

* * * *

Hockey in the school continues to go from strength to strength, and although the 1st XI was unable to retain the Cup in the London Schools' Hockey Festival, being knocked out in the semi-final, congratulations are due to the Under Thirteen and Under Fourteen teams who won Cups in the Junior Festival and who, therefore, were able to uphold the school's tradition in this event. The following, in addition to those mentioned last term, are congratulated on representing the London Schools XI's: R. J. Dudman in the Senior Team and P. G. W. E. Meller, S. K. Young and C. B. Mayer, all of the fourth year in the Colts Team. G. Borrett, who has been selected to play for Surrey, also deserves our congratulations.

* * * *

The school was again successful in the Merton and District Cross Country Championships coming 1st in the Under Fifteen and Under Twenty age groups. Six runners were selected to represent the District in the County Championships and from this event M. K. Lucas was selected to represent Surrey at the National Cross Country Championships, held this year in the Midlands. He came fourth in the Surrey Team and 71st out of the 300 runners: a fine performance.

* * * *

D. W. Evans is to be congratulated on being selected to represent the London Borough of Merton on an Outward Bound Course at Ullswater. Reports from him indicate that he is greatly enjoying the experience even though tramping around the Lake District in all weathers has had its unpleasant moments.

The School has twice this year been Host for Junior C.E.W.C. Conferences to which over 300 pupils from 10 schools of the Borough have been welcomed. The subjects of the two Conferences have been (1) the Arab/Israeli Conflict and (2) The American and Russian Schools. The School Prefects much enjoyed entertaining visitors from the American School in Regents Park, and comparing notes as to their and our way of looking at education.

* * * *

The School Concert Choir has had the honour of being invited to take part in the Passion Play "Who Killed Jesus of Nazareth?" which is being performed on Good Friday at Wimbledon Town Hall. The music specially composed by Kenneth Jones for this play is being sung by the Choir; the difficulty of some of the music is prodigious, but the Choir is manfully tackling the problems and already is sounding confident.

* * * *

We are pleased to record the birth in March of a son, Adam, to Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Brunt.

* * * *

Finally it is pleasing to report that one of the old boys of this school, P. V. Mallett, who left in 1964 to read English at King's College, Cambridge, has achieved great academic distinction. After a 1st class honours in Part I of his Tripos when he was awarded a Senior Scholarship, he gained the B. W. Rylands University Prize for the best paper in Part I and has recently been awarded the Charles Oldham University Prize for Shakespeare.

INTER-HOUSE DRAMA COMPETITION

I am glad to have this opportunity of writing for the 'Spur' about the House plays last term because it gives me a chance to clarify certain points which in trying not to drivel on about for hours and keep you from the result, I may not have made clear enough.

First, let me say that I tried to judge you, and not the playwright. There are, however, obvious risks in the choice of play. One is that by picking a straightforward, easy-to-act piece of writing you will not have set yourself a sufficient challenge; another is that in choosing a 'way-out,' difficult play you will fail in the challenge by not understanding it sufficiently. For challenge is essential to living, growing drama. Another essential is entertainment—it is what the author sets out to provide and what the audience is there to receive through the efforts of the actors, producer, set-designer, electrician and everybody else backstage.

As a result I decided to allot twenty possible marks to the challenge represented by the play and twenty to the entertainment it gave, out of the total of one hundred.

And so to the productions themselves. Before dealing with the two pairs of plays most closely comparable—'Strife' and 'The Widowing of Mrs. Holroyd,' and 'The Story Teller from Flea Street' and 'The Gas Heart'—I should like to add to what I said at the adjudication about 'One way for Another.' Marking this piece gave me the most qualms of all, mainly because I enjoyed it so much—and from the entertainment point of view it succeeded, gaining seventeen marks. However, M. Tardieu's humour was more visual than vocal, and for the production to have succeeded on the other counts a much greater style and technique would have been necessary.

They say familiarity breeds contempt. I certainly don't feel contempt for Mr. Galsworthy, but I am less enchanted with him after an unsuccessful run in a play of his! The plain truth is that in 'Strife' he was tub-thumping. So was Shaw in most of his plays, and they still stand up as entertainment because they are witty and well constructed. Not so, I feel 'Strife': a whole act was omitted and I don't feel we lost much. Newsom's had an impossible task trying to breathe life into the platitudes. The workmen were the best acted, but compare their characters to those in 'The Widowing of Mrs. Holroyd.'

This was early D. H. Lawrence, naïve in many ways, with the theme he developed so much better in his novels. Why are his characters so relevant today when Galsworthy's are not? Surely because they are experiencing real and powerful human emotions. Lawrence's theme is non-communication: the challenge was to convey the frustration and agony of this without histrionics, and I thought it well taken.

Somebody said to me after the adjudication, "I could see that 'The Gas Heart' was extremely well done, but why did it win by so many marks? After all, it was just a load of self-confessed rubbish." I think that to compare it with 'A Story Teller from Flea Street' might help that person and perhaps a few others to understand why the gap was so large.

'Flea Street' was a witty piece, well produced and containing some very good performances. It had a beginning, middle and end. It meant something. Its challenge was for the cast to hold the audience's interest through a series of anecdotes and violent outbursts and arguments leading up to the resolving climax. Had it succeeded it would have earned high marks indeed, but our involvement was allowed to fall off because an interesting set was not used enough and the actors' concentration flagged. 'Gas Heart' had no tracks to run on, for its intention was to be shapeless. To be shapeless, pointless *and* entertaining seems to me to be very difficult indeed. A really daring challenge! Well, I thought it brought off all three aims, and above all didn't fall into the trap of being pseudo-intellectual. The set showed ingenuity and lightness, with the make-up providing valuable colour missed in 'Flea Street.' I thought all the actors very good: they played together as a team, picked up their cues well and were surefooted, in contrast to the uncertain swayings of other productions. The slanging matches of Mr. and Mrs. Holroyd, based on emotion,

are so much easier to act than a slanging match composed of an illogical succession of adjectives. While admitting the sound effects went on far too long, I thought the whole production was packed with imagination and theatricality, which, if it had only worked in part, would have been a sad mess.

And that is why 'a load of rubbish' succeeded where a noble social study failed, because I had to judge the players not the playwright. A daring gamble was taken, and a challenge achieved. Perhaps this is a lesson for life that the seemingly inconsequential subject of drama can offer us.

I thank everyone who contributed towards a most enjoyable and rewarding two evenings. I look forward to coming again next year as a simple member of the audience and enjoying it all the more, unfettered by the responsibilities of being your adjudicator.

B.M.

THE SCHOOL COMPUTER

The School computer will be of the digital variety, that is, it will perform Mathematics with exact numbers and produce exact answers as far as its accuracy allows: it has been designed as a demonstration machine in that everything which happens inside it is displayed on the front panel by means of flashing lights—it can consequently, and we hope it will, be used to teach pupils the basic principles of computer techniques and the binary system of counting.

Basically the Computer can add, subtract, multiply or divide any numbers up to 2^8 or 256, although it will be possible to increase this limit to 2^{16} or 65,536; it can also store the result of any calculation in one of three 'stores.' Hence, if two numbers are multiplied together, the answer may be stored while other calculations are performed and may then be re-introduced into another calculation.

In order to operate the computer, three basic items of information have to be 'fed' into it—two numbers on which a calculation can be performed and an instruction to the computer, 'telling' it what to do with them.

Information of this sort is conveyed to the machine by pushing buttons or flicking switches. The result of a calculation, which is done almost simultaneously, can then be read from the 'read out' display of indicator lights.

An extra facility has been incorporated in the design which, for the aid of teaching, allows the computer to operate at three speeds: very quickly, very slowly, and step by step—hence pupils can actually follow the working of the computer by watching the front panel indicator lights flick on and off.

The completed Computer will be about table top size and will incorporate something in the region of 450 transistorised circuits wired together in such a fashion that they form the complex network of circuitry required to perform the required mathematical functions.

We are building the computer (the original design was published in a well-known electronics magazine) more or less from scratch, and it should be a valuable and interesting experience for those constructing it as they discover basic problems of modern electronics, and learn to solve them.

D. M. Roberts.

SIXTH FORM LECTURES

The following lectures were given during the term:

- January 15th—Rt. Hon. J. Boyd-Carpenter, M.P. for Kingston, on 'Politics and Politicians.'
- January 29th—Dr. M. E. Yapp of The School of Oriental and African Studies on 'Arab Nationalism.'
- February 5th—Thomas Barman, Esq., former B.B.C. Diplomatic Correspondent.
- February 27th—Dr. M. Mitchard, of Chelsea College of Technology, on 'The Living Cell.'
- March 4th—Professor H. R. Tinker, of The School of Oriental and African Studies, on 'South East Asia.'
- March 11th—Commander J. Starritt, of New Scotland Yard.
- March 18th—Walter Birmingham, Esq., on 'Quakers.'
- March 25th—Robert Arvill Esq., on 'Man and his Environment.'
- April 1st—Professor A. Crisp, Psychiatrist at St. George's Hospital, on 'Psychosomatic Disease.'

We should like to thank all the above gentlemen for their entertaining visits to us.

HOUSE NOTES

COBBS

House Captain : S. J. Potten.

School Prefects : J. D. Needle, I. D. Ness, S. F. Silver, D. S. Vahali.

House Prefect : J. Salisbury.

Yet again the Spring Term has turned out to be a prosperous term for us. Sustained effort and a high standard of teamwork have enabled us to win three cups.

At the beginning of the term we won the Gymnastics Cup which over the past few years seems to have been continually ours. On this occasion the result was not certain until the last heat when we beat Miltons into second place. Thanks go to Cocks who put in much work.

In the middle of the term, we won the Hockey Cup, thanks largely to the excellent results of the Colts who won all their matches. In the Seniors what we lacked in skill we made up for with enthusiasm, and won two matches. Rissen and Pepperrell were outstanding; the former's tactics of "get-rid-of-it-anywhere" proved highly effective and the latter's method of kicking the ball without informing the umpires resulted in several goals! Hammett deserves mention for his excellent leadership in the Colts.

Then, on the last Saturday of term, we won the Dramatics Cup for the seventh consecutive year. This was a brilliant performance, by all concerned, of a modern play which, I am told, had not been performed before. This different approach to House Plays must surely be the shape of things to come. Congratulations go to Roberts for all the effort he put into "The Gas Heart" and also to the small cast, especially Humphreys who gave a great performance.

For the rest, results have been disappointing. In Chess and Debating we came last and in Basketball, which we could well have won, we came a mediocre third. In Cross-country, which has never been one of our strong points, we came third and in the Junior Shield, despite a noble effort, we came fourth. These are departments on which we must work next year.

Thus, we are still in with a chance of the Cock House Cup, but it will require a great effort in amassing qualifying points. It only remains to thank our House Masters, particularly Mr. Atkin, for their great help in all our activities.

GIBBS

House Committee: S. R. Hall, R. Seeley, T. Cook, S. Finch, G. Brookes, I. Dallaway.

We have been only relatively successful this term if success is measured by the number of cups secured. We did win the Debating Competition after being fortunate to draw the most interesting debates and to speak on the more favourable side. Chess was again in the hands of Brookes and inevitably we did very well—we won. Special mention should be made of Szanto and Reece who won all their matches in the Junior section. Brookes, too, once again gave none of us any peace until we had qualified for Cross-country, resulting in a very creditable second place.

The Rugby Competition was completed with the Senior team (about six players) heroically conceding their last game and with the enthusiastic and ever-willing Juniors gaining third place in their competition. In Gymnastics, Hockey and Colt Basketball we came third, fourth and fourth equal respectively.

Finally we had the House Plays in which as usual, with a week to go, everything was chaotic and the star of the show—our very own Cook—was threatening to abandon it. On the night, however, it was considered a success and was placed third, even though the performance was interrupted by long agonising silences except for the plaintive whispers of the prompter.

If anything distinguished this term it was a certain iconoclastic attitude, perhaps as an answer to that ever-present disease—apathy. It was even suggested that the House be abandoned for a period: although not practical, the idea was at least relevant.

The problem of generating some community spirit, some collective effort of imbibing each individual with a sense of participation and responsibility is such a real one that it seems right that the value of competition, the position of authority, and the system in general be challenged as an answer to it is sought. If there is a will, perhaps there is a way: at least we should be able to find it in Gibbs through our Housemaster.

HALLIWELLS

House Captain: C. P. Ainger.

Prefects: J. Street, S. L. Buckingham, M. A. Bedford, I. Masters.

This has been a very disappointing term for the House; there has been a constant lack of enthusiasm when it came to taking to the sports field. Our only 'successes' of the term have come in Drama and Chess, with second place in both. In the House Play Competition J. Street decided against using his own acting talents and, instead, devoted all his time to producing a good set and a well acted play. In the Chess Rand was able to ensure first place for the Seniors by astute board placings amongst the

team; the Juniors had insufficient talent to emulate their elders and we consequently finished second.

As for the many failures of this term, they are best forgotten; once again, it is a series of 'hard-luck stories.' If however the apathy of the fifth formers towards qualifying can be overcome in Athletics and Swimming next term, then I believe the House is capable of avoiding last place in the Cock House Competition, but, as things stand at the moment, the outlook is none too bright.

MILTONS

House Captain : R. Cordey.

Deputy House Captain : R. D. Barton.

School Prefects : K. A. Butcher, K. C. Reeve.

House Prefects : D. N. Clutterbuck, E. T. Wingate.

The Spring Term is always the shortest term of the School year but usually the busiest. This year far from being an exception, it has proved busier than ever before, with less time but more activities.

In spite of this lack of time, we have been surprisingly successful. It would seem that once again the 'old house spirit' has been revived. In fact, I have been inundated with volunteers throughout the term.

In activities such as Gymnastics, Hockey and Basketball we rose from our 'normal' position of fourth or fifth to a much improved one of second. This has been due, firstly, to much better organisation by the captains of these sports, and secondly to the Seniors having at last decided that the Juniors cannot win by themselves.

The Juniors showed up very well in the Junior Shield Competition. Despite not being an exceptionally strong team on paper, they played with great enthusiasm under the stalwart leadership of Hosier, attaining the position of second overall.

Of course we have had disappointments. In Debating we came fourth, but this was due to lack of experience—next year we hope it will be a different story.

The Chess Competition still has not been completed after two terms, but it seems that we are fighting Cobbs for last position.

Once again Cross-country qualifying was left until the last minute, and this went against us in the final result . . . it is surprising how many people manage to 'sprain' an ankle before games day, isn't it?

Our last activity this term was the House Play Competition. Although we came fourth, after speaking to many people including the adjudicator, after the performance, I felt it was a pity that the plays were not judged purely on entertainment value, for then we would have most certainly finished higher.

There are so many people in the house that I would like to thank for their help this term that the names would be too numerous to mention. In fact all I can say is . . . THANKS TO ALL MEMBERS OF MILTON'S HOUSE.

NEWSOMS

House Captain : G. A. Hopper.

House Prefects : G. A. Borrett, J. C. Graham, S. N. G. Down, J. S. Milton.

This term has once again produced for Newsoms a series of results of which any house would be proud. We hold a commanding position in the Cock House Competition with a six-points lead over our nearest rivals, and with our strongest term to come, it seems unlikely that we can be robbed of the Cup.

There were only two competitions this term in which we did not have a striking success: these were the Gymnastics and the Drama. In Gymnastics, despite the fact that the event was well supported by members of the house, we came fourth owing to the comparative lack of gifted performers. In the House Plays, however, our last position was due to the apathy of the cast. Rehearsals were never fully attended; lines, even on the night, were not properly known, and this was reflected in a performance which rather blackened the otherwise successful term.

The Basketball and Rugby Competitions have now been completed and in both we have walked away with the coveted first place. In Rugby the Juniors needed to win only one match to give us overall first, but they won all four matches in fine style without conceding a point. In Basketball, the clear lead gained by the Seniors was gradually eaten away in the Colts, but they managed to hold on and gain a narrow one-point victory.

Chess and Debating, the more passive "sports," did not give us great hope at the beginning of the year, but in both we have risen admirably to the occasion and shocked the opposition. In Debating we gained second position with two exceptionally well-prepared performances, and it seems likely that we shall gain the same position in Chess. For the work put into these two spheres I feel that Jackson and Ansari deserve special mention.

Hockey house matches have been going on all through this term and, although we had hopes of being victorious, we met our betters and had to be content with second place. There was, however, a separate Junior Competition, not included in the Cock House Cup, but counting towards the Junior Shield, in which we asserted our skill and came first.

After many years of winning the actual Cross Country race but being ousted out of final first position by poor qualifying, we have at last gained overall first. We went into the race with a slender lead which was considerably increased during the races. I must thank Milton for seeing that our victory came off so smoothly.

Overall, then, this has been a very prosperous term with the immediate result that we gain the Junior Shield. Next term I am sure we shall see even greater things, and Cock House Cup must be ours for the third consecutive time.

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ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS

WENN MAN EINE REISE TUT, HAT MAN ETWAS ZU ERZÄHLEN

J. L. Richards, 6 Arts I.

Die erste Reise, die man mit dem Eisenbahn tut, kann ein einzigartiges Erlebnis sein. Man kauft die erste Fahrkarte und liest die Regelungen, die auf der Rückseite gedruckt sind. Man erreicht die Sperre, zeigt dem böseaussehenden Beamten die Fahrkarte und geht hoffnungsvoll den Bahnsteig entlang. Bringen Sie viele Koffer mit, so laufen die Gepäckträger sehr schnell vorbei, und wenn man das Glück hat, einen zu halten, kostet es sehr viel, ihm die Koffer zu geben. Glücklicherweise habe ich nur einen leichten Koffer mit. Ich gehe zu dem Kiosk, wo die Zeitungen und Illustrierten verkauft werden. Nichts Besonderes! Der Verkäufer sieht so müde aus; er sitzt in der Ecke auf einem Orangenkasten und raucht eine schmutzige Zigarette, die er selbstgemacht hatte. Ohne Frage, kaufe ich mir nichts.

Zunächst beschliesse ich, das Restaurant zu besuchen. Auf einem Tisch stehen Kuchen und Torten mit gelber Schlagsahne darauf und seltsame Insekten spielen ungestört darin. Ich kaufe eine Tasse Kaffee und ein Brötchen mit Käse. An einem Tisch sitzend, sehe ich die anderen Leute an. Alle sitzen vollkommen unbequem auf Holzstühlen und die meisten lesen Fahrpläne oder Zeitschriften, während sie auf den Zug warten. Meine Tasse Kaffee schmeckt wie heisses Wasser und das Brötchen schmeckt nach Seife. Ich bin fertig und gehe hinaus. Ein Mann liegt auf dem Boden neben der Tür und schmatzt Brot, während er sich in einem Spiegel ansieht. Draussen bemerke ich, dass der Zug neunzehn Minuten Verspätung hat.

Nach langer Zeit kommt der Zug an. Ich steige ein und versuche, ein freies Abteil zu finden. Ich setze mich auf einem Platz und warte.

Während der Reise wage ich nicht das Abteil zu verlassen, weil der Wagen so schwer und unangenehm rollt. Ja, sogar eine Reise mit einem Zug ist eine gefährliche Sache. Je schneller der Zug fährt, desto schlechter fühle ich mich.

Endlich kommen wir in London an; ich steige aus eile nach der Sperre und aus dem Bahnhof. Jetzt pocht mein Herz wie zuvor.

Ich habe eine Reise mit dem Zug zu beschreiben versucht. Offensichtlich gibt es andere Arten vom Fahrten. Man kann auch mit dem Autobus oder mit der Strassenbahn fahren, oder einfach zu Fuss gehen. Oder wenn man stark genug fühlt, könnte man mit dem Fahrrad fahren aber das ist ja auch gefährlich.

Die erste Reise die man tut, kann eine einzigartige Erfahrung sein, und man wird sie ohne Zweifel nicht vergessen. Wenn ich alt genug bin, werde ich ein grosses Auto mit einem Gewehr auf dem Dach kaufen.

With the poem that follows, L. P. Pearce of 51 won the Senior section of the L. A. G. Strong Poetry Competition.

TWO DIMENSION CHRISTMAS

Ere long, the rising tempo of a horse-
Drawn hansom might well echo across the
Forgotten darkness of an empty street.
You see, it will be Christmas tomorrow.
Now, as the snow-white snow flakes fall on a
Snow-laden land, the people dress for Mass.
And old Mrs. Penridden herself throws stones
At others who, too, live in glasshouses.

The cacophony of diffused light,
Which, falling from the Christmas tree, shadows
The guilty glances flicked at still parcels.
All this, while the family feud is waged
For generations, time 'memorial.
The Queen of the English is not amused.
And old Mrs. Penridden, creeping from key-
Hole to key hole, eavesdrops on tired people.

The work-worn people, trudging home from hard
Day's shopping will have an eve of hard work ;
The forced gaiety and polite smile put
On to hide the heart-felt frustrations and
Anger slowly disappears ; the overfed,
Wet, Boxing day sees instead, a cold stare,
And old Mrs. Penridden throws dry, crumbling,
Home-made cake at a hairy, unkempt cur.

The red, light-reflecting tors stand out in
The blaze of sunset glory, like bloody
Wounds on a war-scarred war-ground, covering
The openly, actively, hostile moor.
This Christmas day, as the bells ring out the
Child-birth, a hunted man runs far from Princetown.
And old Mrs. Penridden, after thinking on
Deep thoughts, has jumped off the New Bude Bridge.

Instead : as if in a bounteous dream,
The delicate baby Jesus is sprung
On a hateful, avaricious world.
Bursting with health and vitality the
Young Saviour is delivered, immersed in
Brilliant light, to breathless humanity
And slowly but surely mortal sins are
Beginning to be thought as "forgiven."

Three infinitely Wise Men, determined
To show devotion to a baby king,
Ride far with gifts of inestimable
Value towards a brilliant shining star.
The hardy babe of Royal David's line
Is meanly wrapped in soiled swaddling clothes.
And slowly but surely mortal sins are
Beginning to be titled "forgiven."

Amidst a noise like that of a thousand
Powerful turbines, the faithful angel,
Gabriel, brings tidings of joy. In a
Clear-cut, quiet voice he exclaims with the
Heavenly host, of great deeds, to Three Men,
Three sleepy but watchful Canaan shepherds.
And, slowly but surely, mortal sins are
Already regarded as "forgiven."

Herod, dressed in the blackness of blackest
Night, typifies the carnage, hate, and whole
Destruction we know all too much about
In the wicked world outside the manger.
The disillusioned innkeeper, thrusting
Back a woman heavy with worldly light,
Is noted down in an all-seeing Log,
And his mortal sins are termed "forgiven."

As grey humanity and decadent
Civilisation fall into the depths
Of apathy and gloomiest hell, Our
Young Lord Jesus comes down from heaven to
Pit his mighty weight against the forces

Of evil and earth-bound gravitation.
Like a brilliant strategist, a cunning
Bridge-player, or a natural Chessman, He
Manoeuvres the cards, or pawns, of His huge
Plan, into position and, of course, wins.
Mortal sins are "forgiven."

The following four poems, amongst others, were entered in the
Competition by J. Street, 6A2.

MOTHER NATURE

The sea breaks softly on the shore
And mottles this sandy plain
Broken by seaweed and driftwood,
Brought from invisible corners of the globe.
The soft, black rocks gently shield Sister-sand
From the harsh biting teeth of Brother-wind,
Ancestor-sunshine restrains its soothing ways
And caresses the heads of the clouds
As they whisper love poetry across the sky.
Children-rock hold hands
And dance among the sea's
White-capped fingers.
Golden lances pierce puppet clouds
And send down streaming softness
To satisfy our insignificance.

SPECK OF RED IN MY LIFE'S WHITE

What are you,
My friend in red,
On whose bench I sat
in the park
one sunny summer's day?

Although we were strangers,
I felt we were on
the same wave-length.

The same magnetic force
that pulled me,
subconsciously,
to this park,
that pulled me
from the far corner
to the speck of red
sat on wood that's dead
in the park—
It was that same force
that told me
I need not speak,
that stopped me from speaking,
because I knew
that you
with your pad
sketching imaginary girls,

and I
with my bare feet
and paint-stained jeans
knew each other—
Perhaps not the superficial details
but certainly the deep motivations
of our souls.

And then,
when the schoolboy shouted
“‘Ave yer got the time?”
and I answered, “Five to one,”
You got up
and walked
away.

Please come back,
you speck of red
in my life of white.

ACCIDENT

The other day
I saw a child's small bike
 Impaled
 on some railings.
Red and blue paint covering rust-flaking metal.
And as I looked at its only wheel
 suddenly
 somewhere between the iron spikes and the splayed spokes
I heard the screech of tortured lorry brakes
 shrieking,
 screaming,
 grinding,
 grating,
 crushing,
and I saw twisted metal hurled fifty feet
 to clang,
 impaled,
 on a railing,
and I saw the twisted face
of a young body
no longer able to cry.
And somewhere amongst his metal-lashed limbs
I thought how this young child
was suddenly as useless
as his twisted bike.

AN OVERDUE ESSAY

Wake,
Ache,
Shirk-quake,
Scribble-break,
Pseudo-flake,
Might make
'A'-Levels.

A. T. Isaacson, 2Y, won the Junior Prize in the L. A. G. Strong Competition with "HAPPINESS LANE," an extract from which now follows:

The noise is forming big and loud
and round about there is a crowd.
The pneumatic drills
turn the road into pills,
little fractions of pills,
small, minute.
The road is now a hole,
One big sandsmothered hole.
The main engine forms a background
to the never-ending, black sound
of the drills
and the hand-used shovels
that dig the hole,
the hole that heavy-handed men dig.
The careless crowd is becoming big,
careless because they don't watch where they're going.
They'll be sorry soon ;
they'll soon watch where they
go in future,
"Watch out! The drills'll hurt ya!"
The voice is lost ;
drills are going full blast, blaring out,
vibrating the street. Suddenly someone
falls in the dark deadly hole ;
earth falls ;
she calls ;
she bawls,
but earth still falls ;
drills don't stop at the top
of the death-dealing pit.
Earth goes in ; the careless crowd back away,
glad they'll see the light of day.
The drills stop at last.
Everyone looks at the pitiless pit.
Everything stops.
Silence.

The following two poems were part of an entry in the Competition by P. J. Orr, 3H, entitled "*The Young Generation.*"

HIPPIES

With rucksacks on their backs,
Bells and beads round their necks,
Red, Paisley shirts,
Blue denim jeans,
Perhaps five bob,
Maybe five quid,
Depending on the last job,
Depending on the last meal,
Maybe at the Ritz,
Probably at the Chippery.

Why do they roam this way,
From Portsmouth to London,
London to Glasgow?
Have they no homes?
Yes, they have homes,
But they want to escape from rules,
From conformity,
Vietnam, devaluation and strikes.

THE PROTESTERS

Three thousand beatniks,
Banners,
And feet.
A thirty-mile walk,
Hyde Park, Marble Arch and Trafalgar—
The venue where peaceful protest ceases.
Five hundred boys, girls
Sit down in front of the cars.
Trouble!
Police, perhaps military,
Remove these teenagers.
A ten pound fine ;
And costs of ten quid—
Ten quid to express what they want :
To get rid of Wilson,
L.B.J., the Common Market,

And De Gaulle.
They are like hippies,
But hippies behave.
Nothing'll be done
Until beatniks behave.

MIDNIGHT IN A COUNTRY LANE, NEW YEAR'S DAY

M. Pickstone, 2Z.

He staggered, drunk,
Stone drunk, dead drunk:
A whimsical tune, tottering steps,
Drunk in a country lane,
Drunkard on New Year's Day.

Heavy steps, thudding steps,
Deliberate, meaningful steps,
Hard breath and looming,
Came from the mist a sober, very sober man.

He closed in on the drunkard, blind drunkard.
A flash of steel, a faint cry of pain,
A heavy fall, a roll and squelch,
A sound of running . . . quick running . . . silence,

He staggered! Dead, dead,
Stone dead, dead dead,
A cruel death, an evil death,
Dead in a country lane,
Dead man on New Year's Day.

THE WRECKERS

I. S. Evans, 22.

When in the darkened hours at sea,
There shines a guiding light,
This aid to honest seamen brave,
Should lead them through the night,

But pity honest seamen who,
By this false light do steer,
For unto death it lures them ;
It is the wreckers' gear.

Into the rocky shore it calls
An unsuspecting craft.
The roaring, rearing, raging waves,
Will do the wreckers' task.

And, so, upon the jagged rocks,
The ship apart does break.
And evil eyes are watching there,
The wreckers call it "Fate."

And, when upon the shore is cast,
A seaman who does breathe,
He back into the sea is cast
For none must tell the tale.

When dawns the morn the wreckers come,
Surprised they are, they say,
To find a wreck upon their rocks
And loot around the bay.

The wreckers weep and go to church ;
They mourn the poor remains,
Then to the bay they run with carts,
To load up all their gains.

SILENT DRIVE

K. Merton, 3C.

A quiet night,
in a car,
driving by the sea.
It's almost sunset,
as crimson clouds
gather over the sea.

Past Lyme Regis,
on our way,
towards our destination.

Pointed rocks,
far below,
where the quiet waves roll.
The sun is going
into the sea,
which burns a brilliant gold.

No sound from gulls—
black-head gulls ;
only our own quiet car.

Vales on left ;
cliffs on right ;
we are betwixt them both.
Occasional cars,
with big bright stars,
out of the dark appear.

Not far to go,
before we reach
our venue for the night.

One last look,
at the scene
of the burning sea,
as silent waves roll
on rocks below ;
I close my eyes and rest.

THE SEA

N. Devine, 3C.

At Newhaven the sea was rough,
grey and forbidding,
pounding the beach and harbour wall.
Inside the wall, the sea was calm.
On the wall, the fishermen fished,
hopefully,
wet,
soaked to the skin by every wave,
but still fishing.

The sky turned grey ;
the wind got up ;
the waves reared and roared.
The fishermen went home.

Only I was left high on the cliff,
Alone with the sea.

IL FLAMENCO

I. Fordham, 3C.

Flashing colours of every kind ;
Agile dancers twist and wind ;
Sweat pours down their dark brown faces,
And Raphael Cruz Maria chases
In a dance of ancient times.

With reds, yellows, greens and blues,
An exciting atmosphere quickly grows ;
The guitarists fingers, unrivalled as yet,
Blend with the rattle of a castanet.
As the dancers draw near to the end.

DESERT SCENE

P. Szanto, 3C.

Jagged rocks, like broken glass,
Litter the deep red landscape.
The dry sand moves with the breeze.

Stunted shrubs grow here and there ;
Tufts of grass are sparse.
The wind begins to bend the brown blades.

The mountains lie blue and hazy in the distance ;
The heat rises from the road ;
The wind begins to whistle.

Then, as though an oven door opened,
The hot wind tears down upon the bleak scene :
Clouds of red sand swirl ;
Throats become dry and parched ;
One is blind in the turmoil.

The wind dies down ; the sand
Settles on this ever-changing landscape,
And the lizard begins the slow task of
Burrowing out of his blocked hole.

YEAR OF LOVE

M. Lucas, 3H.

Plastic flowers ;
Dead-man hippies ;
Gaudy bare thighs ;
Golds and reds and blues ;
Spare-part men ;
Glassy-eyed junkies ;
'67—a year of love.

Refugees living in tents ;
Faces mutilated by war ;
Arms missing ;
Legs missing ;
Bodies still twitching ;
Still holding rifles,
'67—a year of love !

O, QUAM TE MEMOREM, VIRGO? — O DEA CERTE

J. Chappell, 4A.

I lie in my bed
Algepan burning my shoulder,
I drift away into the realms of sleep.
Then, through an unfocussed frame,
I see her.
Hers is a beautiful face, made up
Of the best parts of all the faces I've seen.
Her blonde hair hangs over her shoulder,
Enhancing even more the wonderful face.
The unfocussed frame becomes clearer—
I see she wears a
Short, soft, sweet silver slip.
Her legs emerge—
Tinted brown by sheer stockings.
She sees me on my bended knees.
Her arms outstretched, she runs towards me.
Closer, closer,
She's in reach . . .
She passes—
Knocking me into the profound depths of an
Unfathomable chasm.
I see a glimpse of another man
Embracing her dearly . . .
I fall and fall,
Seeing multi-coloured sparks.
THUD !
I lie on the cold bedroom floor—crying.

AN EXPRESS TRAIN

I. C. Marcoussé, 4K.

Out of the station,
At slow speed,
The wheeled monster
Rolls. An iron steed.

Slow puffs of smoke,
Then faster ones,
The funnel hurls—
Like firing guns.

Faster and faster
The long metal pile,
Rushes headlong—
Devouring each mile.

Now slower and slower. Its fiery soul
Calms, as it nears its journey's goal.

SEARCHING FOR AN ANSWER

J. Bulmer, 5G.

Alone,
Alone in a room
Of uncertainty,
A room of guilt, disturbance,
Fear and anxiety.

Alone,
Alone in a prison
Of questioning light.
My room has no turnings;
No far destinations
To mark my journey.
Instead a questioning signpost
Is staring,
And begging
For something to point to.
At last I find a door,
Locked and barred,
But there is hope
And I strain
To find an exit.
I excuse my inabilities,
Resolve my doubts,
My brain floats clear,
The door drifts open,

And I open my mind
To the longsought answer
(I care not
That the door has slammed
And is again locked.)
I am in another room
Where the light,
(Although it seems a slightly different shade)
Is still asking questions.
I see a pointer
And move
To an accusing signpost
That does not know where it is going.
A nauseating breeze
Of uncertainty,
Drifts through me,
And I am alone.

Alone,
Alone in a room
Of uncertainty
A room of guilt, disturbance,
Fear and anxiety.

PEBBLES

J. Bulmer, 5G.

He sits on the grey rock,
watching yachts on the lake ;
smaller boats in the harbour
occasionally rise with a ripple
from a passing steamer
and fall,
varnished wood colliding.
It is easy for him
in his sandals and shorts
to watch through
the flowing window
where all things are clean.
The dusty dry pebbles
creeping with black weeds
on the shore are dead,

He likes

To know he's got a good start to his working life.

To earn a good salary while he learns and gains qualifications that will be a benefit later.

To have time for outside interests and sport.

Being with a successful company.

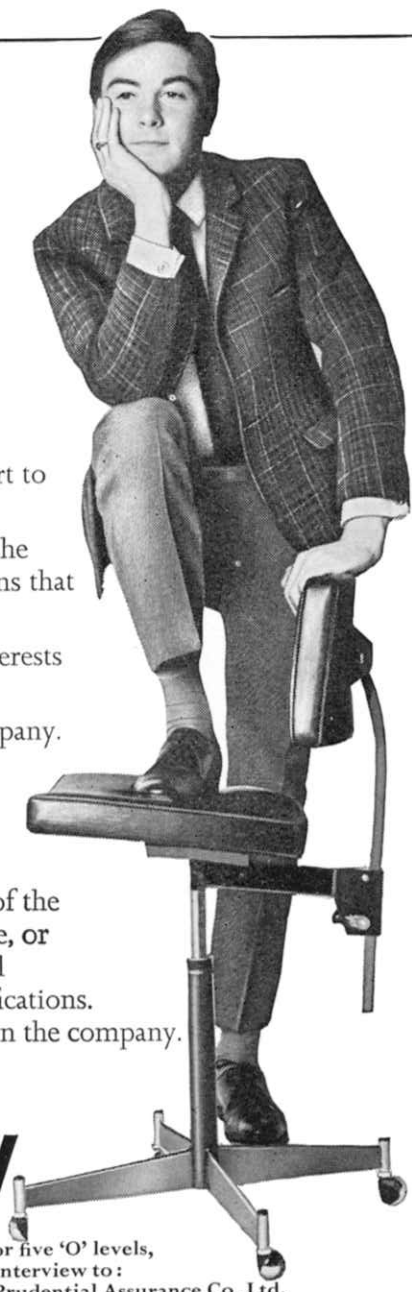
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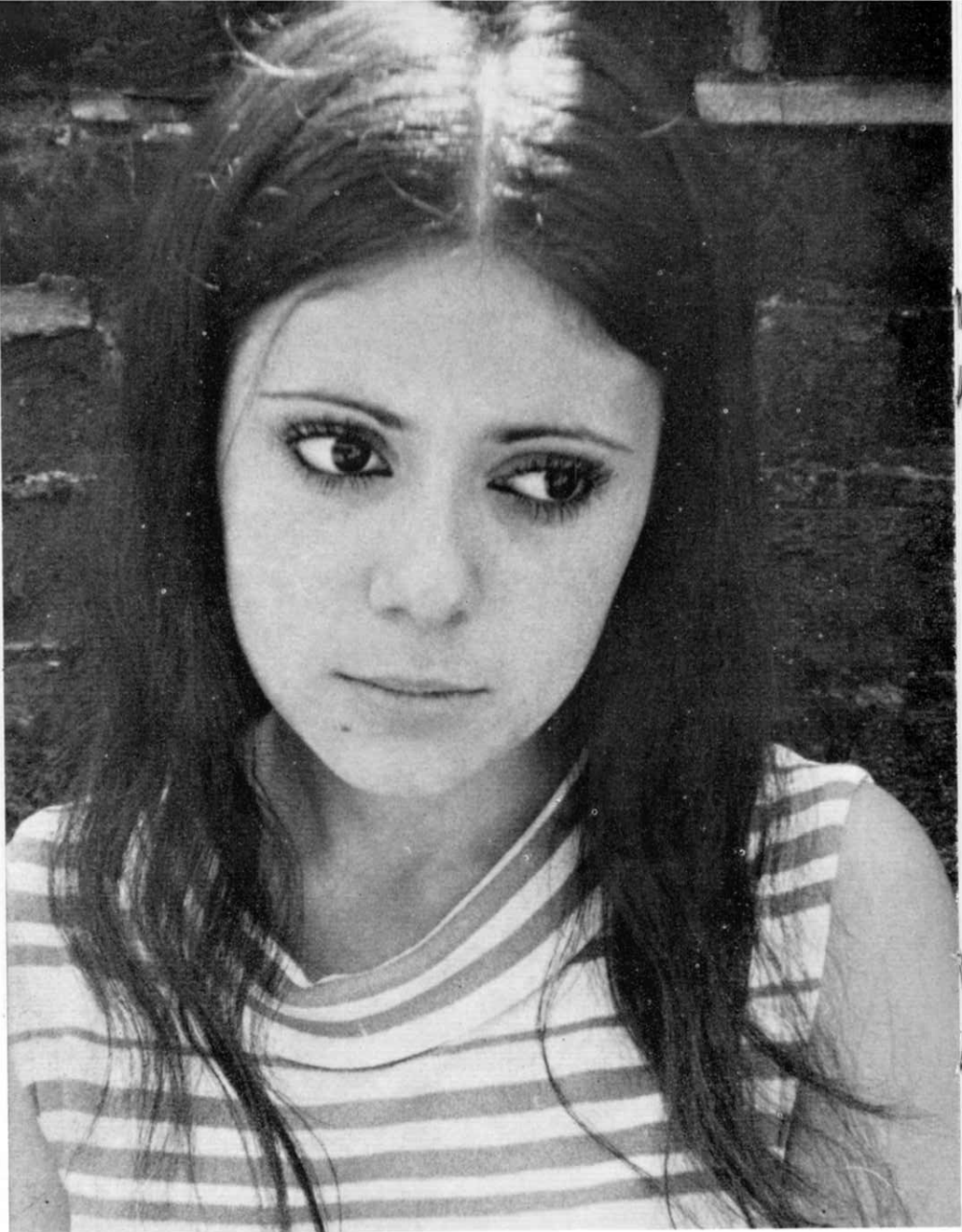
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P. Keen, 6 Sc. 2.

Da Vinci Photographic Competition 1st Prize.

but those beneath him
shimmer and shape
tiny, sliding amoeba,
red, orange and yellow jewels.
A quick dart,
the flashing hand,
frothing turmoil,
and he has caught
a sparkling pebble.
He holds it to the sun,
turning it to find
reflections of light
which soon disappear
along with the wet.
The worthless stone
is dropped back
and sinks to the bottom,
the sand disrupted.
Then, seen through
the increasing eye
of water,
the pebble soon recovers.
He quickly jumps up
and begins shovelling
pebbles from the beach
into the lake.

A NORFOLK SUMMER

R. Wiles, 5G.

Nestling in the East Anglian meadows,
Soaking up the morning's golden sunshine,
Is the country mill, with millwheel beating
With groans and knocks as it swishes the water

By the whitewashed wall of the thatched cottage.
The water froths with flecks of bubbling foam
As it heaves over the wooden wheel.
The black stream is roughed, and it races on,
Each drop trying to outspeed the others.
The crowded water leaves the wise wheel far behind.

At the back of the cottage there stands a
Proud garden ; green lawns with fresh buttercups
And a rose-lavished pergola, forming
A rustic archway, looking down on the
Pretty path beneath, and bordered by
Colourful flowers, painting the garden
With nature's own brush. The lattice windows
Of the cottage reflect on the sown grass,
Now a rich, velvet, green carpet, unspoiled
By destructive work of nature or man.

At the bottom of the short garden is
A millpond, silent, without a ripple,
Though reflecting the sun's silvery rays.
Three graceful yellow-beaked swans preen themselves
On the watery mirror, their dark eyes
Perceiving any movement in the grass.
The far side of the lake shimmers in the
Heat-haze of a lazy July day's sun.
The woody green on the opposite bank
Hides the dusty track that leads to nowhere.

Birds gabble happily in the treetops,
Soaring in the never-ending deep blue
Of the sky. They are supreme in their flight,
Winging over the rural countryside
That rushes below their tails as they fly.
Smoke rises from a charcoal-burner's fire.
It curls lazily up towards the sky,
Reaching for the clouds on the blue background.
It whirls, caught in a sudden gust of wind ;
Now hesitates, then is lost forever.

THE PERFECT END TO AN IDEAL HOLIDAY

J. Nakar, 6A1.

I'm just coming back from a lovely space cruise—
Give a party tonight with plenty of booze.

Visited planets, all dead or dying.
Pity it's over. So sorry—I'm crying.

All that remains of one planet, a city:
The people are dead.
We watched it exploding. Such a pity!

On another planet, poor devils—how crude! —
The people are starving.
And it's so easy to make synthetic food.

Ah, there is our planet, shining brightly below;
Can't wait to land, my heart's all aglow.

But, just look, for what was that flash?
The area it struck has been turned into ash.

O surely they can't be! They can't be! They are!
My people! They're starting a hydrogen war!

Please help us somebody. Please help us—you must!
You can't let our planet be turned into dust.

FIRST THOUGHTS OF A SPACE-SHIP CAPTAIN ON RE-VISITING A NEWLY DISCOVERED PLANET

J. Nakar, 6A1.

I came here last three years ago,
But now, we dare not enter the atmosphere.
We dare not enter the atmosphere,
It's so full of radiation.
But then, the planet was bustling,
Primitive,
Yet full of life.

It doesn't seem much changed in three years :
Still looks the same as before ;
Still as quiet, serene, and peaceful.
But, then, it was a facade!
Beneath the atmosphere, a crowded planet ;
A new science just emerging.
But, now, the silence is real ;
The clouds hide only desolation.
Desolation. And death.

I can't understand what went on below.
Where, O where did the people go?

TO WINTER

G. H. Roberts, 6Sc.1.

Season of mists and icicled conifers,
Well may your bloated snowflakes flush
Down gently, swirling, pirouetting on their way,
To lay a blanket, thin, white, glistening,
Contrasting with dark skeleton trees, stark but natural,
On the tableau.

This is as it was: now the flakèd mass lies
Dashed with parallel horror as dark tyres flay
The myriad crystals into dirty slush.

AWAY TO LIVERPOOL

G. H. Roberts, 6Sc.1.

The team coach rattles past Goodison Park,
Through crowds, in red and white, streaming 'long
To the match, orderly now, but who'll soon be
Clamouring, screaming, baying for our blood,
And blaming all Liverpool failure on the referee.

In the back the players laugh at some outworn joke,
To ease the tension already building up ;
The directors sit tense, grim, in the front.
Anfield: the coach grumbles to a halt.
We get out ; then through long, low, white-washed corridors,
To the dressing-room ; dump the kit, troop
Through the tunnel to be greeted by a blaze of light
And an orchestra of faces.
The Kop is already massed, swaying, terrifying,
"Liverpool! . . . Liverpool! . . . Liverpool!"
We're spotted—the chant changes—"Go home, you bums,
Go home, you bums, go home, you bums, go home!"
The players grin widely and turn, chuckling,
Back towards the dressing-room.

Getting changed, we can hear the Kop still,
Warming up—"St. John! . . . St. John! . . . St. John!"
Each whispers encouragement ; the tension grows.
"Don't let them rattle you . . . watch the man."
"Confidence, lads ; play football, and we can win ;
Don't let it become a physical battle."
Five minutes ; the tension rises to a maximum.
The vigil over ; we get up, along that tunnel again.

Suddenly we emerge into an onslaught, the noise deafening,
The glare blinding. We kick the balls around, try to relax ;
Then line up ; the whistle goes ; the contest commences,
A battle of skill and finesse, of physical strength.
Hopes and fears live still, centred on that leather sphere
Passing from one man to another, until you hold your breath
In a second of silence before Bedlam breaks loose
As the ball screams into the back of the net.

SOCIETY REPORTS

THE CHRISTIAN UNION

The main event of the term was the publication of C.U.M.—The Christian Union Magazine. This contained articles, written by members of the school, on subjects which included "What's Wrong?", "The Meaning of Easter," and "Evolution and Creation." All this was offered to members of the school for the amazingly low price of one penny. Well over a hundred copies were sold, and they became a focal point for discussion. It is hoped that this magazine will be published once a term, and letters, making comments on any of the questions raised, can be handed to any Christian Union member.

Just after half term, Mr. Brian Windsor, an 'Old Boy' of the School, came to speak about his work as a mission hospital manager in Udayagiri, N.E. India. He is home for a few months, having spent several years working in India, and hopes to return there in September. Other meetings included discussions on "Genesis," and "Gambling" and Bible studies on I Peter.

The Juniors' programme this term consisted of talks and Bible studies on various subjects including "The Quiet Time" (personal Bible-reading and prayer), "Christian Living," "The Twenty Third Psalm" and "The Parable of the Talents." In addition to the main meeting, on Mondays at 12.30, informal discussions were held during third lunch; some of these proved quite profitable.

B. Green.

THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

This 'season' the Society has held no fewer than three meetings. As expected, the reading of Aristophanes' "Lysistrata" proved a 'crowd-puller.' The plot is one of the most inherently interesting of all Aristophanes' comedies—a 'love-strike' by the Athenian women in order to force their menfolk to halt the war with Sparta; add to this the usual wealth of his double-meanings (and of course those inferred by the deeper intellects); add also unfortunate 'misreadings' and occasional female hysterics and the final result is an hour of good, clean (?) fun.

Mr. Brian Emmings' talk, "Greek Music," brought home well both the intricacy and the diversity of the theory of Greek music, which indeed was regarded as a branch of Mathematics.

Mr. T. W. Melluish, speaking on Martial at the most recent meeting, not only gave a full survey of Martial's work and times, but also, in his own translations of Martial's epigrams, displayed a cynical wit which considerably enlivened the proceedings. This cynicism is indeed a prerequisite of translating Martial successfully, since just as Aristophanes is 'modern' because of his innuendo, so Martial is modern because of his satirical wit.

G. C. Bond.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY

This term's activities were highlighted by the series of Welby Cup House Debates. The Society is deeply indebted to Mr. Giles, Mr. Horler and Mr. Doig who gave their time to the no mean task of judging. As in previous years the Welby Cup debates bring forth a wealth of unknown talent. The standard of debate was as high as it has ever been, and Gibbs are to be congratulated in amassing what may well be a record total of points. Speeches brimming over with quotations, points, counter-points, complete honesty, and even a sonnet showed clearly the amount of work put in to the preparation of speeches in those three desperate weeks between the Lower Sixth examinations and the 'Mock' G.C.E. Perhaps next year some debates could be held before Christmas.

THE WELBY CUP HOUSE DEBATES

Motion	Proposers	Opposers	Points
"That you should not walk on the grass."	Halliwells	Cobbs	85½—80
"That we believe in Revolution."	Miltons	Halliwells	86½—109
"That wine maketh merry, but money answereth all things."	Newsoms	Gibbs	100½—111½
"That we believe in Youth"	Gibbs	Miltons	105½—77½
"That the majority is always wrong."	Cobbs	Newsoms	80½—98½

FINAL PLACINGS

1st Gibbs	2nd Newsoms	3rd Halliwells	4th Miltons	5th Cobbs
217	199	194½	164	160½

Despite entertaining debates audiences have been disappointingly small, even during the House Debates. The fact is that people will not stay at school one minute after 4 p.m. either to debate or listen. Unless more join the ranks, the same people—Hanlon, Brewer, Hickish, Ansari, and Jackson will be left to help save the society. I appeal to all juniors and House debaters to come to future debates so that the school may once again become formidable opposition to other local schools.

A. R. G. Jackson.

SOCIAL SERVICE REPORT

The beginning of this school year saw the introduction of a new games option, in the charge of Mr. Riley, for the 5th and 6th forms. This group was formed to give those with little interest in the normal sporting activities the opportunity to spend Wednesday afternoons doing some form of community service.

Various organisations were approached, and the most successful venture has been an association with the Merton and Morden Guild of Social Service. A group of about ten has been working since then under the auspices of the Guild on such activities as delivery of harvest festival gifts and Christmas parcels for the elderly. This group's main job, however, has been a survey, for the Guild, of old-age pensioners in the area to find where help is needed so that it may be provided by the appropriate organisation. This is a mammoth task, and the work is still not completed.

The success of this venture led to the formation, at half-term, of the Social Service Committee with the object of involving any member of the school, willing to give up some of his spare time, in community service work.

The most obvious need in this area at the moment is gardening help for the elderly and handicapped and so a start was made with an appeal by the Headmaster for people willing to spend a few hours fortnightly in gardening. The response was pleasing, if not overwhelming, and within the last few weeks of this term the work has been started. The volunteers work in pairs and the time spent on the job is entirely up to the people directly involved.

There were a number of others willing to do 'indoor' work and the committee, with the aid of the Merton and Morden Guild of Social Service, is now in touch with Cheam Hospital and the Atkinson Morley (Wolfson Centre). It is hoped that the beginning of next term will see the formation of a group of hospital visitors.

There is always plenty of work to be done, and everyone willing to do voluntary work or knowing any organisation requiring help which we might supply should see any member of the Social Service Committee: S. L. Buckingham, P. F. Goldsmith, J. G. Hoare, P. R. Isaacson and P. G. Sharpe.

THE SPUR MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

This term has been a very profitable one for the club, with much useful work being done, in addition to a film show, and a visit to a signal box. Attendance this term was not up to last term's record level, but most meetings were still well attended. The area behind Milton Park Station

received new scenery, and the electrical department were kept fully occupied connecting two extra controllers, in addition to several point solenoids and numerous isolating sections. Perhaps the most important achievement of the term was the completion by the permanent way department of the viaduct line. A small goods yard was incorporated at Halliwell Green, and a start has been made on a locomotive depot at Newsom Vale.

The film show, held just before half term, featured two films made by the Malden and District Society of Model Engineers Limited, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. A month later we organised a party to Surbiton Signalbox and Relay room. For this interesting and informative afternoon, and for the film show, our thanks go to M. W. Baker.

Next term we hope to have a talk on British Rails' modernization programme and to arrange a visit to Woking Signalbox, in addition to our Wednesday evening meetings, at 7.30 p.m., when any new members will be welcome. We would also like to hear from any father who would be willing to give up his time one evening a week to help supervise our activities.

S. L. Buckingham.

THE COMPUTER SOCIETY

Meetings have been frequent and well attended this term, with the result that progress in the design and construction of the computer has forged ahead. The Society has been divided into small groups each of which is responsible for the design and construction of one of the units of which the computer is comprised. Incidentally, the first unit to emerge from the design stage was the power supply, which is now being constructed on an experimental basis by Shaw and Jackson. Next term it is hoped that most of the other ten units will commence.

We are indebted to Mr. Brunt for his constant help, and supervision of our meetings.

D. M. Roberts.

THE 'SPUR' VENTURE SCOUT UNIT

Since this Regional Unit was formed in October 1967 the main objective has been to erect a new hut for the Unit within the Scout Reservation. Although it might appear on the surface that little or nothing has been done, much has been happening behind the scenes. Planning permission has to be obtained, and with it the consent of the free-holder of the land; the functional design of the hut has to be agreed, and many other factors have to be considered, all of which takes time. It is particularly important that no hasty decisions be taken because we are entering into a new adult conception of scouting, whereby Venture Scouts play a more active and responsible part in managing their own affairs.

Arrangements for erection are nearing completion although there are one or two difficulties still to be resolved. We hope to have the concrete base laid before the end of the Summer term and, if no unforeseen circumstances arise, the hut should be erected during the summer vacation. It will be divided into two sections. One section will become a "sound studio" and the other a workshop. The necessary equipment to enable Venture Scouts to pursue these two activities will obviously be expensive, but we hope that efforts to raise the money required will be supplemented by a grant from the Merton Youth Committee.

The Unit is of course sponsored by the School and we are extremely indebted to the Headmaster, as sponsor, for his help and encouragement in the development of the Regional Venture Scout Unit, especially during this transitional period.

The fact that the hut has not yet materialised has not, however, prevented the Venture Scouts from organising many in-door and out-door activities. A successful Dance was held at St. Matthew's Church Hall on 23rd December, 1967, and talks and discussions have taken place in the existing Scout Hut. Many competitions such as piano-smashing and hand-ball have been held as well as a London Mystery Tour, when, to obtain the required information, Venture Scouts had to visit many places including the House of Commons. A very successful "night activity" found Venture Scouts attempting to "seize" positions held by members of the Regular Army who readily co-operated and joined in the fun. On Sunday 7th April a successful Table tennis Tournament was organised in the Scout Hut, when teams from the Venture Scout Units in the District competed.

These are just some of the activities. To list all of them would occupy far too much space.

Our congratulations go to Martin Creasey (Kingston Grammar School) who gained the highest training achievement for a Scout when he was recently awarded the Queen's Scout Badge.

We would like to see more boys from the School joining the Unit. It is adult in conception and you can be sure of a warm welcome. The Unit caters for a wide variety of activities, and is supported by an even wider variety of interests in the Wimbledon and Merton District, from ice-skating to gliding and from talks by Specialist Speakers to photography, tape recording et cetera.

So please come along. The Venture Scouts meet on Monday evenings to discuss, organise and take part in various activities, and on Thursday evenings to play table tennis. Mr. Beeney, the liaison officer, will be pleased to give you further details and Venture Scouts, Malcolm Warner, Duncan Woodcock, or Tony Williams would be happy to bring you along.

T.W.

Mr. T. Williams, who is Chairman of the Sponsoring Committee, is to be thanked for compiling the above report.

SOLO-WHIST SOCIETY

This Society has the distinction of being the most exclusive one in the school (which probably explains why you have never heard of it before or are never likely to again). It consists of only four full, distinguished members, all of whom belong to the Upper Economics Sixth, which, itself, is an exclusive body.

The Society is also one of the most active in the School, as all morning breaks and an hour of every lunch-break are devoted to this fascinating game. The tournaments are so well organised and exciting that almost without fail an audience collects and is then held, absolutely enthralled by the proceedings until the end of the session.

All games are played with the utmost honesty, but occasionally one becomes suspicious when two players exchange their cards with each other. This usually results in the other players launching the pack of cards across the room in disgust. However, this is merely regarded as 'high spirits.'

Unfortunately, many of the results of past tournaments have been accidentally mislaid, but from the last 15 tournaments the following accumulated totals appear: J. Bodnarchuk 391 points, G. Gosling 354 points, N. Walker 342 points, D. Clutterbuck 339 points.

Our thanks go to O. S. T. Smith-Boyes, R. Pengilly and G. Fry for their support as associate members.

We would also like to record our sincere gratitude to Mr. H. A. Pratt for his gallant efforts to clear his desk promptly after the bell, so that the Society may go into immediate action.

N. W. Walker.

THE CHESS CLUB

Master-in-Charge : B. Cosens, Esq.

Captain : G. B. Brookes.

Hon. Secretary : R. M. Peet.

Attendance at lunch-hour meetings has been disappointingly low this term and largely confined to members of the first and second year, who, on the whole, have shown great enthusiasm. It is hoped they will continue to support the club in the future.

Both sections of the House Chess Competition have been completed this term. As expected, Gibbs, possessing five school team players in their eight representatives, recorded a runaway victory. The battle for second place, however, was close, with Halliwells just finishing ahead of Newsoms and Miltons. As usual, there were some embarrassing results for members of the school team.

The results were as follows:

SENIORS

			C	G	H	M	N	Total
Cobbs	...	...	—	0	2	3	5	10
Gibbs	...	...	10	—	2	7	7	26
Halliwells	...	...	8	8	—	7	8	31
Miltons	...	...	7	3	3	—	5	18
Newsoms	...	...	5	3	2	5	—	15

JUNIORS

			C	G	H	M	N	Total
Cobbs	...	...	—	2	8	5	5	20
Gibbs	...	...	8	—	10	8	5	31
Halliwells	...	...	2	0	—	5	3	10
Miltons	...	...	5	2	5	—	5	17
Newsoms	...	...	5	5	7	5	—	22

FINAL POSITIONS

1st	Gibbs	...	...	57
2nd	Halliwells	...	...	41
3rd	Newsoms	...	...	37
4th	Miltons	...	...	35
5th	Cobbs	...	...	30

The most noteworthy achievement for the School Chess team has been its complete success in the Briant Poulter League 2nd Division. Competing for the first time, we gained four convincing victories this term against St. Joseph's II, Tiffins II, Mitcham and Rutlish. With the match conceded by Glyn II, this creditable record resulted: P8, W6, D1, L1.

The team seems certain to finish at least in second place, if it does not win the division.

Brookes, who rediscovered his true form, played some brilliant games, and together with Marshall shared the distinction of winning all five matches this term. Marcousé proved a more than adequate reserve, achieving better results than anyone in the team.

SCHOOL MATCH RESULTS

	John Fisher I	Wim. Coll. I	Whitgift II	Trinity II	St. Joseph's II	Tiffins II	Mitcham I	Rutlish I	
	W4-2	D3-3	L1-5	D3-3	W4½-1½	W4-2	W4-2	W3½-2½	Total
Brookes	0	½	0	0	1	1	1	1	4½
Peet		½	1	1	1	1	0	0	4½
Ansari	1	0	0	½	1	½	0		3
Rand	1	1	0	½	0	½	1	½	5
Marshall	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	4½
Oatway	1		0		½	0		0	1½
Marcousé	1	1					1	1	3
Rees				0					0

The win against Tiffins was particularly pleasing, as this was the first time for at least seven years that any of our teams had beaten them.

Ansari entered the Surrey U.16 championships and came 3rd out of about 20.

A Junior school team consisting of Rees, Santo, Szymanski, and Pickstone lost 1-3 to a very much older Rutlish team, the last named recording our only success. Next season it is hoped to enter a second team in the lower division of the league, so that the Juniors may have an opportunity of obtaining much needed experience.

In closing, on behalf of the team I should like to thank Mr. Cosens for sponsoring us this term and providing invaluable support.

Half-colours: Ansari, Rand, Marshall.

SPORT

HOCKEY

Master-in-Charge : M. J. Shaw, Esq.

Captain : G. A. Hopper.

Secretary : I. D. Brewer.

	1st XI	2nd XI	3rd XI	U.16 XI	U.15 XI	U.14 XI	U.13 XI
Eltham Green	5-0						1-0
K.C.S.	0-2	3-2		2-1	1-2	0-4	1-0
Trinity	2-3	2-1		0-3	0-3	1-0	
Waford	1-4	1-0		0-1	8-0	4-2	
Owens	0-2				2-2	4-3	
Sir Wm. Collins	0-2				3-1	0-0	
Sir Wm. Collins		1-1			1-2	0-2	
Beckenham					0-6	0-4	1-5
Beckenham							0-2
Epsom	1-3						
Crown Woods	3-3				2-0	5-0	
Eastfields		1-1(1st XI)	0-3(1s XI)		1-0	2-0	0-3
Thames Valley I				1-4			
Elliott	0-0						
Merton H.C.	1-2	0-2					
Windsor	0-2	0-0					
Kingston					4-1	1-2	
George Abbot I	2-1(2nd XI)	0-0(3rd XI)	0-10(4th XI)		0-3	1-8	0-6
K.C.S.	1-2	1-2			3-0		
Reigate	1-1	1-0	2-1				
Whitgift	2-4	10-0	3-0		8-0		
St. George's III		0-0					
Wandsworth I		1-2					
Slough I		1-0					
Fullbrook I			1-5				
Parkside						0-1	0-2
Parkside						0-1	
Sam. Pepys							4-1
Westminster U.14							1-4

RECORD OF TEAMS

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals	
					For	Against
1st XI	15	2	3	10	19	31
2nd XI	15	6	6	3	22	11
3rd XI	5	2	0	3	6	19
Under 16 XI	4	1	0	3	3	9
Under 15 XI	13	7	1	5	33	20
Under 14 XI	13	5	1	7	18	28
Under 13 XI	8	2	0	6	7	23

LONDON SCHOOLS HOCKEY FESTIVAL

	Group		Semi-Final	Final
1st XI	Southgate	2-0	Owens 0-0	—
	Crown Woods	1-0		
	Winchmore	3-0		
	Eltham Green	0-0		
U.15 XI	Crown Woods	2-0	Eastfields 0-1	—
	Sir Wm. Collins	1-0		
qtr.-final	Forest Hill	1-0		
U.14 XI	Woolwich Poly.	1-0	Eastfields 3-0	Sir Wm. Collins
	Sir Wm. Collins	0-1		2-0
	Eltham Green	3-0		
U.13 XI	League basis:			
	Eastfields	1-0	1. Raynes Park	6 pts.
	Eltham Green	4-1	2. Sir Wm. Collins	5 pts.
	Tulse Hill	2-0		
	Sir Wm. Collins	0-1		

HOUSE HOCKEY COMPETITION

COLT

1	Cobbs	8 pts.
2	Gibbs	6 pts.
3	Newsoms	3 pts.
4	Miltions	2 pts.
5	Halliells	1 pt.

FINAL POSITIONS

1	Cobbs	12 pts.
2	{ Miltions	9 pts.
	{ Newsoms	9 pts.
4	Gibbs	7 pts.
5	Halliells	3 pts.

SENIOR

1	Miltions	7 pts.
2	Newsoms	6 pts.
3	Cobbs	4 pts.
4	Halliells	2 pts.
5	Gibbs	1 pt.

JUNIOR SIX-A-SIDE

1	Gibbs	7 pts.
2	Miltions	6 pts.
3	Newsoms	5 pts.
4	Cobbs	2 pts.
5	Halliells	0 pts.

Resultwise, this has been a fairly unsuccessful season for many of our sides. The successes of last season caused us to stiffen our fixture card considerably so that our standards might be matched with those of the best hockey-playing schools in Surrey. The outcome for the first eleven has been a string of narrow defeats in some very good games of hockey; this is not only a break-through into a higher grade, but also a confirmation that our standards have risen. The composite results are as follows:

		P	W	D	L	Goals For	Goals Agt.
1967	...	58	30	10	18	166	85
1968	...	73	25	11	37	108	141

The first eleven has also been handicapped by an embarrassing plethora of players. It was unfortunate that Hopper was the only player to remain from last year's eleven because there was no basic structure around which to build this year's side. No less than twenty-four players have worn 1st XI shirts this season; thus it has been difficult to infuse the team spirit developed by last year's side. Hopper has done a difficult job well, helping to lay the foundations for, what we hope will prove to be, a more successful and skilful first eleven next season. Our players still have much to learn: agility to avoid obstruction, development of the reversed stick tackle, ball control in the centre, while pushing, flicking and scooping can all be improved upon, and we hope to be able to master these skills more effectively.

At half-term it was decided to disband the Under 16 XI and to give the opportunity to those in the fifth year to achieve positions in the senior elevens; as a result, four of the former under sixteens ended the season as regular first eleven members.

The second eleven has had a thoroughly successful season and great credit is due to the leadership which Rissen has given to the side.

We are planning the first school hockey tour on the Continent at the close of the next hockey season. Mr. Beeney is doing most of the preparatory work and a progress report appears later.

From the festivals organised by the London Schoolboys' Hockey Association, we were again successful in capturing two trophies—in the Under Fourteen and Thirteen sections. The First and Under Fifteen teams were both eliminated in the semi-finals.

Once again we are deeply indebted to Merton Hockey Club for providing us with umpires on Saturdays throughout the season. Without their aid, it would be most difficult to run so many school sides.

Finally our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Warner for their gratefully accepted help at Oberon. The pitches continue to improve and the teas are first-class—thank you both!

Representative Honours and Competition successes at Festivals have been enumerated in School Notes.

Colours: G. A. Hopper (re-awarded), I. D. Brewer.

Half-colours: G. A. Borrett (re-awarded), T. N. Collins, M. W. Bellamy, K. M. Rissen, K. C. Reeve, C. J. Newport.

M.J.S.

FIRST ELEVEN

Goalscorers (including Festival games): Hopper 8, Dudman 6, Newport 2, Brewer 2, Murphy, Marsh, Pepperrell, Jackson, Kaill, Marshall, Borrett, 1 each.

As our results indicate, in terms of actual successes we have not been a great side. Despite our losses, however, we have never allowed the opposition to walk off the field feeling that they have had an easy match.

Two vital ingredients were nevertheless missing from this season's play: real team spirit and an ability to score goals. The first was probably due to players having no sense of security in view of the numbers who played during the term, resulting from an abundance of individual skills which could not be easily moulded into a team. The inability to score goals is much harder to explain. On numerous occasions we were presented with almost open goals yet we still failed to score. Lack of confidence and experience seems the only real explanation.

An amazing quality about this team was its dependence on the opposition to set the standard of play. We almost seemed to play slightly worse than the opposition, regardless of the opposition's strength or weakness. The only time we broke away from this pattern was against Kingston when, for a change, we scored first and took control of the play. This was undoubtedly our outstanding performance of the season.

On the last Saturday of the season we took part in the London Hockey Festival. This is arranged on a league basis to find the semi-finalists and as a knock-out after that. We won our league gaining a place in the semi-final but here we very narrowly lost to Owens, the game eventually being decided on the number of short corners. This showed that when playing London schools, the schools that have provided the major part of our fixture list in the past, we still have one of the top ratings.

Next season, I am sure, will provide a better set of results as we will be fielding almost the same team, and I wish them good luck.

The following players have represented us in over half our games: Hopper, Brewer, Williams, Potten, Collins, Borrett, Reeve, Dudman, Bellamy, Newport. Others who have played include: Smith-Boyes, Marsh A., Murphy, Cox, Clutterbuck, Kaill, Hughes, Pepperrell, Marshall, Jackson, Jones, Pashby, Russell, Taylor.

FIRST ELEVEN HOCKEY TOUR, EASTER 1969

It is hoped that the 1st Eleven will go on a tour of the Continent next Easter, playing two matches in Holland, two in Germany and one in Belgium. So far, three of the matches have been arranged.

We hope to leave England on Good Friday, 4th April, and return on the 16th April.

Four members of staff will accompany the squad of sixteen players in two minibuses.

R.J.B.

SECOND ELEVEN

Master-in-Charge : P. O'Driscoll, Esq.

Captain : K. M. Rissen.

Goalscorers: Rissen 7, Jones 3, Murphy 3, Cox 3, Healey 2, Kaill, Butcher, Marsh, Marshall, one each.

This term saw the development of two strong hockey elevens in the Senior School, the strength of the Second Eleven being due mainly to the inability of the First to win matches. The latter's reluctance to taste success meant the promotion of players from the former and the Under 16's with the consequent relegation of First Eleven players. A strong Second Eleven could therefore be fielded which equalled and sometimes, in the opinions of many, surpassed the First's defence and attack.

Apart from the growth of this match winning ability, there also evolved a will to win and a genuine team spirit. This Eleven has generated in itself a real mania to crush the opposition and a general desire to out-do the senior team. The first three wins may be claimed to have been lucky, but we believe, that owing to our ability to control the pace of the game, and to break quickly out of defence, we deserved the successes. There followed a very lean period, where we experienced all six draws and the four defeats. The main reason for this poorer spell we attribute to the constantly changing composition of the team. The season concluded with three splendid wins. The K.C.S. match removed any doubt about the result earlier in the season, and the fixture against Reigate was played on the day when everything went right for everybody.

Although it is difficult to single out individuals, Pashby in goal hardly ever faltered and thoroughly deserved his short promotion to the First. In defence Jones and Smith-Boyes could always be counted on to clear the ball off the line at opportune moments and midfield play was dominated by Taylor, who, although reluctant in many cases, to cross into the opponents' half distributed the ball to either wing with much skill, finally earning himself a First place. Cox and Murphy, as the "twin-strikers," found it difficult to score goals themselves, but many times provided the final pass which ended with somebody else's putting the ball in the net.

PEN PORTRAITS:

Pashby: "Underneath the padding something stirred."

Hughes: Wielded his stick like a second Arnold Palmer . . . unfortunately.

Smith-Boyes: Despite playing for the Firsts at the beginning of the season, his hockey had not deteriorated to such an extent that he was incapable of a place in the Seconds.

Taylor: Ankle tapping and tripping were his métier.

Jones: After scoring a goal in the first match, he appointed himself Vice-captain and thenceforth collected match-fees.

Butcher: First played fullback, then played half-back, and finally played wing—the team is grateful he did not play anywhere else.

Clutterbuck: "Mr. Backsticks" owing to his skill in reverse-stick hitting.

Cox: Has a tendency to play hockey with anything but the stick.

Murphy: Never quite recovered from St. Patrick's Day!

Jackson: Not much can be said about this reliable player, except that he played his best game for the staff against the 2nd XI.

The team thanks Mr. O'Driscoll for his continued attention during the season, and the representatives from Merton H.C. who often came to umpire our matches.

* * * *

Rissen:

He achieved the distinction of being the only member of the team to play in every game, and not play for the Firsts. He covered every position on the field, was the leading goal-scorer, inspired confidence and spirit into the team, and played excellently . . . Were we sick of him!

R. W. Jones.

Last season it was possible to make flattering comparisons between the 1967 Seconds and previous Seconds. In 1968 we had a greatly strengthened fixture list, which included only one easy game; however the increased depth of experience in the School made a reasonably good season again likely. All hopes were however exceeded and it could be said that few, if any, teams of comparable status could approach our record, we always played as a team—partly owing to the inherent defensive strength of the 4-3-3-1 system, but even more to the steadying example and influence of the Captain. Defence was clearly the strongest point of the side—attack after attack foundered on its amalgam of hard hitting, close tackling and backing-up. The forward line was less happy—and more subject to the changes noted above. There was no great shortage of skill and combination in approach play, but the decisive scoring shot was either not made or just "fluffed." This seemed to be due to a lack of the aggressive temperament: something will have to be done to encourage aggression next season, when the team may be retaining six or seven of this season's regulars and could even put the achievements of 1968 in the shade.

P.O'D.

UNDER 16 ELEVEN (January 13th – February 24th)

Master-in-Charge : W. P. Holmes, Esq.

Captain : M. W. Bellamy.

After last year's successes the Under Sixteen's results were disappointing. The season started well with a satisfying 2-1 victory over K.C.S. From then on for reasons of absence and unfitness sub-strength teams had to be fielded, and morale dropped badly. A defeat by 3 goals to nil at Trinity, Croydon was followed by a visit to Watford where a nine-man team fought hard and were unlucky to lose 1-0. The other two games were of a very poor standard and were deservedly lost.

Congratulations must go to Newport, Pepperrell, and Marshall who secured regular places in the Firsts after the reorganisation of the hockey teams, and thanks to Mr. Holmes for the time and patience he gave the team.

* * * *

Congratulations, too, to Bellamy for his gaining a First place, and thanks for the steadiness of his leadership in victory and defeat.

W.P.H.

THIRD ELEVEN (February 28th – March 31st)

Master-in-Charge : W. P. Holmes, Esq.

Captain : A. H. Blakeburn.

Goalscorers: Russell 2, Carpenter, Ball, Feist, Roberts.

The Third Eleven was brought into being halfway through the term. The first results were poor, the team being defeated by Eastfields and overwhelmed by a strong Kingston side.

A policy of greater attack, which involved bringing Russell out of goal to play on the wing, brought some successes, and victories over Reigate and K.C.S. followed. One notable win was over the Staff XI, the Thirds being the only school team to beat them.

* * * *

Besides the captain's steady performance throughout the season, the playing qualities of Milnes and Noquet are worthy of mention: both were in the Under Sixteen and Third Elevens from first to last, and made much improvement during the term.

W.P.H.

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— REMOVALS UNDERTAKEN —

UNDER 15 ELEVEN

Master-in-Charge : H. A. Pratt, Esq.

Captain : G. J. Hammett.

Goalscorers (including Festival games): Feist 12, Hammett 7, Smith 5, Williamson 5, Lloyd 4, Pinnock 2, Bartlett, Mayer, 1 each.

This season the team has had seven players given London Schools Hockey trials and of them Meller, Mayer and Young were finally selected. Four of the team were selected to play for the Thirds, namely Feist, Hammett, Young, and Bartlett.

A high spot in the season was the match against the Staff who played much better Rugby than we did and won 2-0.

The team has shown good spirit and vigour throughout the season, even in defeat.

The following players have represented us: Meller, Antonowicz, Bartlett, Young, Loxton, Brammall, Moss, Bridgeman, Mayer, Sharpe, Smith, Pinnock, Williamson, Lloyd, Hammett, Feist.

Finally our thanks are given to the reserves and parents for their loyal support. They won the games on several occasions from the touch-line.

* * * *

I should like to add my thanks to Hammett, whose modesty forbids him to say how much of the vigour which he mentions came from himself. Seldom can any player have thrown himself into the game with such demonic energy. I would also like to thank Sharpe for his reliability and cheerfulness as Secretary.

The team developed a strong sense of togetherness (strengthened I am sure by the parental support) and want to go on together next season as the Under Sixteens. With their energy, courage, and individual skill they could go far, but they would go still further if their excellent team spirit showed itself more often in terms of practical co-operation on the field. At times they did keep the game really open and passed intelligently to one another, and then, as in the first half of the Reigate game, they carried all before them. They certainly made very considerable progress, but, if they are to be unbeatable next year, they must carry the subordination of the individual player to the team much further. It is for this reason that I personally am not too keen on mentioning individual goal scorers. A goal is usually due to the combined effort of several players and it seems invidious to select the one who happens to complete the joint movement for special mention. The team's the thing!

H.A.P.

UNDER 14 ELEVEN

Master-in-Charge : M. J. Shaw, Esq.

Captain : N. A. Holmes.

Goal scorers (including Festival games): Seeley 7, Cossey 6, Lovett 5, Russell 3, Marjoram 3, Kerse 2, Holmes 1.

This was our first full season of hockey ; although the results have not been outstanding, it has been a successful season because the team spirit has reached a high standard and on several occasions, the team produced creditable performances. At the beginning of the season, no definite team had been selected, but after each player had shown his talents, we adopted successfully a 4-3-3 system, upon which we were able to pick a regular team. Out of the sixteen matches arranged, three were cancelled owing to bad weather, and seven were lost—four by the odd goal.

At the end of the season, we took part in the London Schools Hockey Festival. We won this by playing a very high standard of hockey, and showed our superior fitness to other teams. Eight teams entered the competition and were split up into two groups, the winners and runners-up of each group qualifying for the semi-final. By finishing runners-up to Sir William Collins in our section, we qualified for the semi-final in which we beat Eastfields. In the final, we played Sir William Collins, who had previously beaten us, defeating them by two goals to nil to win the cup. We have never played better than in the semi-finals and final, and the whole team deserves credit for its performance.

With greater concentration on the game, Orr could become one of the best goalkeepers in the school. Bates, Miles and Chapman have developed a competency at full back which has inspired confidence in the defence. Kerse and Holmes have had the lion's share of the work at half back prompting the forwards and helping the defence. Seeley has proved a great danger to opponents' defences on the right wing, and has great potential. Russell, Cossey, and Marjoram have provided our central attack but have suffered on several occasions by their size, and frequently missed chances. Lovett and Petley have been our utility players, the former developing into a left winger at the end of the season.

Others who have played are: Devine, Lovell, Maguire, and Rees.

Our thanks are also due to Mr. Shaw, who expertly coached, organised and rewarded the team, and to members of Merton Hockey Club, who willingly gave up their time to umpire our home matches.

* * * *

Holmes has proved a most successful captain and has set a fine example on the field by his tenacity and drive.

M.J.S.

UNDER 13 ELEVEN

Master-in-Charge : R. J. Beeney.

Captain : C. N. Dodd.

Goalscorers (including Festival games): Hosier 5, Onraet 4, Dodd 2, Gaffney 2, Vipond 1.

The season started well with a 4-1 victory but owing largely to influenza, the team went through a bad period, losing five out of the next six matches.

On 23rd March, the team entered the London Schools Hockey Festival Under Thirteen Section. This was run on a league basis and our team returned with winners medals and cup.

Thanks particularly go to Hosier who is always to be found where the "fighting" is thickest; Vipond who is skilled at tackling and dribbling; Brown, Wood, Gaffney, Kelly, Humphreys Saunders, Onraet and Lee who have consistently set a sound standard.

The team wish to thank Mr. Beeney, Mr. Kelly, and Mr. Saunders for their support and encouragement to the team.

The following have played for the team: Gaffney, Wood, Humphreys, Saunders, Brown, Hosier, Gagen, Sharpe, Onraet, Dodd, Marsh, Kelly, Vipond, Lee, Becket, Syzmanski, Wilcox.

* * *

Dodd has led his team on and off the field with great enthusiasm.

R.J.B.

STAFF ELEVEN

P	W	D	L	Goals for	Goals ag.
4	3	0	1	9	4

Towards the end of the Spring term the staff played a number of games against the School's hockey sides, and to the surprise of many sceptics had a remarkably successful run.

The results were as follows:-

Staff v. Colts—Won 2-1.

Staff v. 3rd XI—Lost 0-1.

Staff v. 2nd XI—Won 5-2.

Staff v. 1st XI—Won 2-0.

Much thought and planning went into the team, so, if the star-studded Staff set-up had been studied and the pre-match tactical discussions had been known, different views would have been held.

The first game, against the Colt XI, posed many problems, the most difficult of which was who could be left out of the team, bearing in mind the abundance of talent available. Eventually it was decided that we should play with 12 players, even though this would give an immediate advantage to the opposition!

With the team selection now settled, serious thought had to be given to tactics, bearing in mind that this was the first outing of the season. The first decision was to play on the smaller of the pitches, where the closer order of play would benefit the rugger players. It was realised, however, by arch schemer and Captain M.J.S., that scoring chances would appear only if space could be found to work in our opponents' circle. With this in mind, our two most magnetic players, M-F.X. and D.V.Z. were placed in the wing position, their job being to attract the opposing defence to the extremities of the pitch, so leaving the centre clear for our less glamorous but deadly frontrunners and sharpshooters, B.W.J. and R.J.B. This, coupled with a solid 4-3-4 formation, we felt sure would see us through.

The Staff XII won that game 2-1, the goals coming from R.J.B., a superb shot from an extremely acute angle, and D.V.Z. who followed up strongly and nonchalantly to push the ball into the net after a goalmouth scrummage. Apart from the overall team tactics, the win was largely attributable to the artistry of W.P.H., the superb scrummaging and heeling of D.F.A. (sadly missed in future games due to injury) and the magnificent goal-minding of S.E.L. Although the Colt XI played with great spirit, they never really took full advantage of the fact that they were playing against twelve.

The second game, against the Thirds, proved to be the Staff's only defeat. Suffering from over confidence and considerable injury problems, they were defeated by the only goal of the match, a really good effort by Healey.

For the games against the Seconds and Firsts it was necessary to reinforce the Staff side owing to injury, and in this respect we were most grateful to Merton Hockey Club players and umpires, Messrs. C. Lobo, I. Vials, and G. Davis who kindly agreed to help out. We hope they learned something from their experience!

Although the Seconds were defeated 5-2, they fought well and the game was closer than the score may suggest. They were defeated mainly because of the superb stickwork of C. Lobo, the cunning penalty flick of W.P.H. (maiden goal) and the solid performance of new full-back discoveries, rugger star B.W.J. and golfer B.C.

The final game, against the Firsts, produced the best hockey, and tactical play by the Staff XI was in evidence. In the first half, a tight 4-3-3 formation was predominantly on the defensive, lulling the opponents into a false sense of superiority. In the second half an attacking 5-3-2 formation set the enemy back on their heels, and two winning goals were rammed past them by C.L. and V.K.

The Spring term was certainly most successful for the Staff hockey team. They now look forward to next year, when they are sure a 100% record can be achieved.

B.C.

CROSS COUNTRY

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

Captain and Secretary : G. B. Brookes.

This term proved to be without doubt most disappointing. All teams received many setbacks, particularly the Juniors, although the results in no way represent the enthusiasm with which all runners have contested the matches.

After the string of defeats towards the latter part of last term—three for all age-groups—prospects appeared more encouraging after the Merton District Championships in which the School provided the individual winners in three out of the four sections and convincingly and competently won the team events in the Under Fourteen and Nineteen age-groups. Milton, Brookes, Nicholls, D. Evans, M. Lucas, and Goddard represented Merton in the County Championships at Milford. Notable performances were achieved by Milton—sixteenth in the Under Nineteen race—and M. Lucas—eighth in the Under Fifteen. The latter was selected to compete in the all England Championships in which he was the fourth Surrey runner to finish, holding his place in the first quarter of a field of 300.

Our early expectations, however, were soon found to be shortlived. The Seniors' fate against strong Kingston, Tiffins and John Fisher squads was identical—defeat! Although good individual performances were recorded, support from the remainder of the team was not sufficient to convert these advantages into ultimate success.

The only wins followed, against Mitcham and Bec, the latter achieved with the assistance of Goddard and Lucas from the Colts.

We provided Roan, the champion cross-country school in South London, with little difficulty over their hilly course in Greenwich Park, which contained two seemingly near-vertical slopes.

The team, however, did very well in the last fixture, even with several leading members absent, holding Glyn.

Throughout the season Milton has run exceedingly well and with much skill, being placed first no less than a dozen times, with Brookes and Ness often finishing amongst the leading runners. Tovell came on very well as the season progressed. Ansari, Salisbury and Nicholls all had a few good races but inconsistency has been their downfall.

The Colts were rarely able to field a full team, and their chances of success were thus limited. D. Evans, beaten only once in inter-school matches, had another particularly commendable season, climaxed by breaking the Colt course record, previously held by Parr and Ness, by one second—16m. 6 sec. for 2½ miles. Lucas also proved a great asset, whilst Goddard put up some courageous performances. The rest of the team gave good support—Arthur, Randall, Shephard and Brown generally performing well.

The young and inexperienced Junior team ran with enthusiasm and gained victories against Tiffins, Rutlish and Glyn.

I. Evans invariably occupied the leading position and was usually well backed-up by Wells, Lucas and Simmons. Wells together with Feline, Grylls and Males should, however, provide a solid nucleus for a formidable team next year. Thanks are offered to our faithful band of markers at all home matches.

The following ran regularly:

0.15—Ansari, Boxall, Brookes, Finch, Milton, Ness, Nicholls, Salisbury, Tovell.

U.15—Arthur, A. Brown, Bush, D. Evans, Goddard, Goldsmith, M. Lucas, Petrides, Randall, Shephard, Tupper.

U.13—Baker, S. Brown, Elliott, I. Evans, Feline, Fraser, Grylls, Ives, P. Lucas, Males, Simmons, Wells.

Full Colours: Tovell.

Half Colours: Ansari, Boxall, D. Evans, S. J. Finch, Salisbury.

Robert Hall Cup: J. Goddard and M. Lucas.

RESULTS

SENIORS

<i>Match</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Individual Successes</i>
District Championships	1st/5	Brookes/Milton 2nd
Kingston (A)	Lost 44-34	Brookes/Milton 2nd
Tiffins (H)	Lost 54-33	Milton 1st
John Fisher (H)	Lost 42-37	Brookes/Milton 1st
Mitcham (H)	Won 23-37	Milton 1st
S. L. H. Densham Cup	9th/14	Milton 7th/95
Bec (A)	Won 34-43	Milton 2nd
Roan (A)	Lost 50-31	Milton 1st
Glyn (H)	Lost 39-39	Milton 1st

COLTS

District Championships	U.16 2nd/8	D. Evans 1st
	U.14 1st/10	M. Lucas 1st
Kingston (A)	Lost 33-25	D. Evans 2nd
Tiffins (H)	Won 37-41	D. Evans 1st
John Fisher (H)	Lost 45-39	D. Evans 1st
Battersea (A)	Lost 46-34	D. Evans 1st
Mitcham (H)	Won 21-66	D. Evans 1st
Roan (A)	Lost 71-21	Goddard 8th
Glyn & Teddington (H)	1st 38-43-39	Goddard 2nd

JUNIORS

District Championships	U.12 5th/8	Wells 1st
Kingston (A)	Lost 47-31	I. Evans 1st
Tiffins and Rutlish (H)	1st 43-56-81	I. Evans 1st
John Fisher (H)	Lost 53-29	I. Evans 3rd
Battersea (A)	Lost 48-32	I. Evans 2nd
Bec (A)	Lost 54-30	I. Evans 2nd
Roan (A)	Lost 59-21	I. Evans 7th
Glyn & Teddington (H)	2nd	I. Evans 1st

INTER HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUNIOR			COLT			SENIOR		
1st Newsoms	...	441	Newsoms	...	390	Gibbs	...	367
2nd Cobbs	...	323	Gibbs	...	338	Cobbs	...	335
3rd Gibbs	...	321	Halliells	...	307	Halliells	...	312
4th Miltons	...	276	Cobbs	...	271	Newsoms	...	229
5th Halliells	...	141	Miltons	...	197	Miltons	...	222

QUALIFYING

1st Newsoms	...	611
2nd Gibbs	...	595
3rd Halliells	...	511
4th Miltons	...	499
5th Cobbs	...	484

INDIVIDUAL

Junior—1st I. S. Evans—Newsoms.

Colt—1st D. W. Evans—Newsoms.

Senior—1st J. Milton—Newsoms.

CHAMPIONSHIP

1st Newsoms, 2nd Gibbs, 3rd Cobbs, 4th Halliells, 5th Miltons.

RUGBY

UNDER TWELVE FIFTEEN

Master in Charge : D. F. Alldridge, Esq.

Captain : A. Feist.

RESULTS

v. Garth, won 9-0.	v. Gunnersbury, lost 3-14.
v. Hinchley Wood, lost 0-9.	v. Surbiton, lost 0-24.
v. Beverley, lost 0-18.	v. Wimbledon, won 10-9.
v. Wimbledon Coll, lost 0-22.	v. Western, won 6-3.
v. Garth, won 9-0.	

The 1st year Rugby group has had to choose from 28 boys. Their performances have been excellent, considering these small numbers.

Skills have developed well, particularly that of tackling, and while the team has had limited attacking ability, its defence has been sound against bigger and stronger opponents. The forwards are beginning to understand that it needs hard work to be successful and Stephens, Harris and Brown have shone. Totterdell at scrum half has been a fierce tackler and courageous player. Captain Feist has set a good example and has made many fine runs and kicks from fly-half. Outside him Jordan and Campbell showed considerable attacking flair, while Engall's tackling has been superb.

The team needs to discipline its enthusiasm somewhat and then it will win many more games. The most exciting games were those against Wimbledon and Western when the team won in the last few minutes. Against a powerful Beverley team they showed great spirit and tackled fiercely.

Practices were held regularly on Wednesdays and all the team are to be praised for their keenness and punctuality.

Boys who played were: Stephens, Philpott, Nicholls, Jones, Pitcher, Brown, Harris, Foster, Totterdell, Feist, Jordan, Daley, Campbell, Engall, Silburn, Dow, Smith, Haines, Frohnsdorff.

D.F.A.

GYM CLUB

Master-in-Charge : D. F. Alldridge, Esq.

The club has met on Friday of most weeks this term, only to be interrupted by House Basketball. The House Championships were the highlight of the term with Cobbs narrowly winning. Routines on floor, beam, rope and boxes were set and most performers did themselves great credit. There has been much promise amongst first-year boys, particularly Engall, Feist, Martin, Totterdell, Jordan, and Harris, whilst standards amongst older boys continue to improve with Nicoll and Lee showing the lead. Next term the club will meet to prepare for a gymnastic display at the end of term.

D.F.A.

BASKET BALL

Master-in-Charge : D. F. Alldridge, Esq.

Captain : G. A. Hopper.

Hon. Secretary : K. M. Rissen.

RESULTS

<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Home</i>	<i>Away</i>
Sondes Place ...	W 120-28	W 53-22
Eastfields ...	W 105-30	W 87-18
Reigate ...	W 52-30	L 19-31
Wimbledon ...	W 75-46	W 42-33
John Ruskin ...	W.O.	W 46-41
Southborough ...	W 74-30	W 58-32
Mitcham ...	L 30-51	W 60-49
Glyn ...	L 23-44	L 37-41
Sutton ...	W 31-28	W 36-20
Warlingham ...	W 44-22	L 18-23
George Abbott ...	L 35-40	L 20-40
Purley ...	L 30-60	L 33-77

COLT

<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Home</i>	<i>Away</i>
Pollards	W 19-13	W 48-18
Carshalton	W 50- 8	W 24-20
Redstone	L 21-32	L 10-25
Glyn	L 23-40	L 15-27
Sutton	L 15-18	L 7-13
Warlingham	W 24-17	L 6-24
Purley	L 15-25	L 19-22

SENIOR SIX

The efforts of the Senior Basketball team this season have deservedly been rewarded by a series of very fine results. In the League our final placing is fourth, but, when one realises that there are teams of the calibre of Glyn and Purley also playing, it becomes clear that this is no mean feat.

At the beginning of this term we suffered a great loss when Salter, who has been a stalwart of the first team for four seasons, at last decided that it was time he joined the ranks of the unemployed. This loss caused us to go recruiting for a right guard, and as a result of our activities, Cordey, a Colt star of three years ago, was brought out of retirement. I must say that he has played extremely well and deserves our thanks.

I feel that the team has enjoyed their basketball this season and has put a great deal into it. Training sessions, as usual, were difficult to arrange with so many other activities going on, and as a result the team often went very short of shooting practice. During the season, both for training and for matches, Mr. Alldridge has given up a great deal of time and effort, and I would like to take this chance to thank him.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank the following schools for copies of their magazine: Aldenham, Bec, Bryanston, Fettes, Northampton, Radley.

We have also received from S. H. Gebbett, who was a 'Spur' Editor last year, a copy of the University College of Swansea's "Greffit." He is the Features' Editor.

EDITORS

S. E. Lovatt, Esq.
C. P. Ainger.
J. D. Needle.

G. C. Bond.
J. L. Richards.

J. J. Humphreys.
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