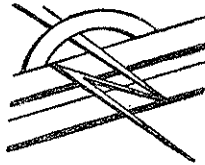


RAYNES PARK COUNTY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

The

SPUR

SUMMER TERM 1957



VOLUME 12

NUMBER 3

# THE SPUR

RAYNES PARK COUNTY SCHOOL

*"To each his need, from each his power"*

Vol. XII. No. 3

Summer, 1957

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## SCHOOL OFFICERS, Summer Term, 1957

**Head Boy:** A. J. Fowles.

**Second Boy:** D. J. Creasey.

**Prefects.** B. G. Barker, B. P. Betts, G. Boiling, J. H. Brugger, M. R. Burke, G. D. Crocker, A. M. Emmerson, B. H. Finch, C. F. W. Higham, G. A. Hill, B. G. Hope, J. W. Jameson, P. R. Johnson, M. Loveday, D. J. Mayer, P. Seaman, D. C. Spencer, A. J. Stevens.

**Captain of Cricket:** G. A. Hill.

**Secretary of Cricket:** B. G. Hope.

**Captain of Athletics:** D. J. Creasey.

**Secretary of Athletics:** A. M. Emmerson.

**Captain of Tennis:** A. J. Fowles.

**Captain of Swimming:** G. D. Crocker.

**Prefect of Hall:** D. C. Spencer.

**Prefect of Library:** M. R. Burke.

## FAREWELLS

Our loss this summer from the Common Room is exceptionally heavy. Mr. Townsend will be sadly missed from many things besides his English teaching: orchestras — and calypsos — will always be associated with him in our minds. Mr. Vyse too leaves musical memories as well as French — and German — ones. Mr. Sweetland has not only carried on the Classics, but that comforting and lucrative institution the Tuck Shop. Mr. Jones and Mr. High, though both of them have been here for only two years, have done much for pupils and for the School generally. In every case we are sorry to say goodbye, shall remember them with gratitude and affection, and hope that they are both happy and successful in their new posts.

Not all these vacancies had (at the end of June) been filled: it appears at least likely that we shall not succeed in replacing Mr. High with a qualified Mathematician at present. We can, however, look forward with confidence to new strength in September. Mr. Norman Stephenson, who read English at Oxford, comes from the William Ellis School, Highgate to the Senior English post; Dr. Gareth Morgan, M.A., D. Phil., and Mr. K. Kilburn, M.A., after taking degrees and doing research at Oxford and Liverpool, come from Royal Wycombe and Hampton Grammar Schools, respectively, to take over our Classics; Mr. A. P. Firth, B.A., of London, who was a lecturer at Alexandria until a few years ago, but has taught in English schools since, takes over Mr. Vyse's work; and as an addition we shall have the help, part-time, of a specialist music master for the first time in Mr. Denis Aldersea, G.R.S.M., L.R.A.M., etc.

## GENERAL SCHOOL FUND

The recent audit shows that we spent £155. 17s. 7d. more than our income in the year 1956-7.

Income consists of boys' terminal subscriptions, totalling £303; a share of the 1956 Garden Party, £250 (the Scouts taking the remaining £175); and £12 odd from the Carol Concert. So we had £565 to spend.

Main expenditure was as follows. The 'Spur' and term diaries cost £158 more than receipts for sales. Games expenditure, including team fares and expenses, despite the contribution now made by players, came to £206. Periodicals etc. for the Library cost £19, and subscriptions, for the Library and for games clubs etc., over £18. There were a large number of other items: £30 to the A.T.C., £7. 10s. 0d. on a sprinkler for Oberon and £28 on plants, hose and gear for the garden here; £23 odd on the telescope; £37 on various items for the Film and Film Club, £10 to the Model Railway Club, and smaller such items to a total of £34 more. There was also expenditure of £35 on Conferences, theatre visits and similar expeditions, and of £33 on miscellaneous items, music, for example, to a total of £11 odd, bank charges, piano tuning, and minor prizes. At present bills for £82 for flooring and insurance to the Scouts' Hut have been paid by G.S.F., the Scouts owing to recent transitions having resources eventually available but no ready cash. Add all this together, and it comes to over £720.

So with only £565 income we had to draw £155 from reserves, which virtually halved them. The £82 spent on behalf of the Scouts may be repaid and reduce the year's deficit. On the other hand, things would have looked far worse had we had to meet from general income the cost of prizes and prizegiving, which was £54, or that of subsidising the orchestra, its tuition and equipment, which was £135. Both these were covered completely by the Tuck Shop — but the Tuck Shop cannot repeat generosity on this scale.

The moral is that we may have to look harder at requests to G.S.F. than we have in the past. The County is now to give some help to orchestral tuition, and that expenditure will be less but still necessary. We do not expect to buy any more telescopes, but the year usually brings some unexpected need or opportunity. We have, however, to limit expenditure to income. Reserves are depleted, and must be increased rather than further eroded. When the builders leave us alone with our extensions, sometime in the next couple of years, we shall need pictures, trees, plants and much else to mitigate their bareness. We have to look forward to, and save up for, such needs now.

## HOUSE NOTES

### COBBS

Captain: G. A. Hill.

Prefects: B. G. Barker and G. Boiling.

The only competition from last term which was not reported fully was the hockey. The one remaining Senior game was against Miltons. This we won by 3-0, thus assuring the Seniors of third place in the Senior section. The outstanding players this term have been Boiling, Thomas and Coney, who have striven skilfully and energetically to hold the team together. The Colts had only played two games when last term's *Spur* was written, both of which they won. They also won their two remaining games, which gave them first place in the Colts section. They have had a very strong defence this year, particularly Clay in goal, and although they generally defended for as much as five sixths of the game, they only let in four goals in all their matches. Most of the goals scored by us came from breakaways, generally by Foulsham. When the results of the Senior and Colt hockey were combined, we were placed first, which was very satisfactory.

I should like to make a correction to last term's *Spur*: in it I referred to Clay as the Colt hockey captain, when in fact it should have been Foulsham. I apologise to the people concerned.

This term, as is usual, has been a very busy one, with the cricket, tennis, athletics, swimming, Junior Shield and chess competitions to be decided.

In the cricket the Seniors have so far played three games and won them all. In our first game against Newsoms we bowled them out for 31, Lea taking 6 for 10. We knocked up the 32 required for victory with the loss of 2 wickets. Next came Miltons. Miltons batted first and scored the very respectable total of 83. We scored 84 for 2 to win by 8 wickets. The last game played to date was against a very strong Gibbs side. We went in first and scored 118 for 7 declared. When Gibbs batted we managed to dismiss them for 99. Thomas and Lea have bowled well and Hill has shown promise as a batsman.

The Colts have finished all their matches, winning three of them. In their first game against Newsoms they scored 67 for 9 and dismissed Newsoms for 37; Clay taking 5 for 20 and Gibbons 3 for 9. In their second match they were dismissed by Miltons for 105, Clay scoring 31. When Miltons went in, good bowling by Furminger resulted in their being all out for 53. Against Halliwells they were dismissed for 56, and Halliwells went on to win by 9 wickets. In their final game against Gibbs they scored 77 for 9 declared, Pacey-Day scoring 21; then some good bowling by Furminger resulted in Gibbs being skittled out for 25. The three outstanding players have been Clay, Gibbons and Furminger. Clay has captained the side intelligently, and has batted and bowled well on occasions. Gibbons has batted quite soundly and has bowled accurately. Furminger has bowled well at times, but tends to be erratic. The Colts were placed second, and this result, coupled with the Seniors' results so far, assures us of the Cricket Cup.

In the Junior Shield competition the Juniors of the House have proved to be less skilful with the cricket bat than they were with the Rugby ball and have lost all their matches. Cobb (captain), White, R. and White, P. have proved the most promising and the most consistent players. The cricket and Rugby results combined put the Juniors in fourth place.

In the tennis we have finished fourth equal, having won only one match. This was against Gibbs. Gibbs have quite a strong team, with two 1st VI players in the side, and so we expected to lose. To our amazement, and I think his, Brown beat the School tennis captain in the singles. To top this, the two doubles were also won, giving us a surprise 3-0 victory. Against Newsoms we lost narrowly by 2-1. Newsoms won the singles quite easily, and we won one doubles; the other doubles game we lost narrowly by 4 games to 6 in the third set. Against Halliwells we were outclassed, and beaten by 3-0. Against Miltons we lost 2-1. They won the singles and one of the doubles quite easily, and we won the remaining doubles. The team was chosen from Hill, Brown, Hewitt, Clay, Gibbons and Rolf.

In the athletics we came last, being narrowly beaten into fifth place by Miltons. Winners for the House were: Barker in the Senior discus, Gibbons in the Colt 880 yds., Bower in the Colt 100 yds. and in the Colt high jump.

The Swimming Sports have not taken place yet, so little can be said about the swimming, except that qualifying is going quite reasonably and if things go well on the night we should be among the first three.

In the chess we have unfortunately lost our last two matches and so are placed fifth in the competition.

Before finishing these notes I should like to thank Messrs. Atkin and Pratt on behalf of the House for all the time that they have spent in endeavouring to make our various teams good enough to win the cups. The fact that they have been only partially successful is no reflection upon them, but illustrates the woeful lack of talent in the Senior part of the House. Next term, however, things should be a little brighter with a lot of promising talent from the present fourth forms taking part in Senior games.

G.A.H.

We shall be losing many of our Seniors this year, among them our captain, G. Hill. In a year when talent has been scarce he has inspired the Seniors by his example, and we shall greatly miss him.

G.J.A.

## GIBBS

**Captain:** A. J. Fowles.

**Prefects:** B. P. Betts, B. H. Finch, B. G. Hope, P. R. Johnson, M. Loveday.

The spring term was a good term for Gibbs, and in winning the Dramatics Cup and finishing second in the hockey we had little to complain of. The hockey position was resolved by the Colts and Seniors both winning their final matches and the Headmaster cutting the Gordian knot which unfortunately developed. The Colts, thanks to a Venison hat-trick, defeated Miltons 3-0 with reasonable ease. The Seniors, meeting in Miltons (again) their most dangerous rivals, rose to the occasion superbly and played well up to School Eleven standards. Happily Fowles chose this match to score his maiden goal, and with Lintill (twice as good in house matches), Weston and Finch surprising by their dash and skill, we were seldom worried.

By a great piece of team-work we duly completed the hat-trick in the house-play competition, when once again we had the satisfaction of beating off truly determined and praiseworthy challenges from Miltons and Newsoms. The enthusiasm of all "extras" (of whom I must mention Barfoot, J., Weston and Barfoot, R.) probably proved our best asset in the midst of all the usual theatrical strains that attended the "Duchess of Malfi". Of the main performers. Ayres pleasantly concealed Webster's rather anaemic treatment of Antonio, and Venison achieved something

unique in my experience. He succeeded in the part of a woman whose chief characteristic was not her youth but her poise and nobility. Finch probably worked harder on the play than anybody. He capably solved all the minor (but so important) production details and again costumed the cast splendidly. His performance in the wickedly difficult part of Ferdinand with his neurosis developing into insanity was masterly. Undoubtedly it made Finch's last appearance at Raynes Park a worthy climax.

Nor has this tide of success yet slackened, for our Juniors, although going down to Miltons' cricket team, have otherwise lived up to the superlatives bestowed upon them last term. With Nicholls nonchalantly knocking up an undefeated 52, they easily won their remaining three games to secure the Junior Shield. We look to the future. The Colts, with the burden of the game falling on Bond and Loryman, beat Miltons and Newsoms with conviction, but went down to the strong Halliwells and Cobbs sides by as unconvincing a margin. If the Seniors win their final match against Cobbs, they will share top place in their division. They had already defeated Miltons in a conventional game and Halliwells in a farcical one, and then, in the best match of the three, lost to Newsoms by one wicket. We may well be runners-up in the competition. At any rate, the colours awarded to Hope, Loveday and Wearn have brought us a certain lustre.

The athletics, usually our Achilles' heel, served this year to bring out the best in our tradition. We had two assets, the talents of our Juniors and the grit of everybody else. Thanks to them both, we held our own in qualifying and in the field events, and entered on Sports Day determined to hand on that wooden spoon. In a very exciting competition we played cat and mouse with Halliwells and Newsoms, generally losing on the Senior and Colt swings what we gained on the Junior roundabouts. We won all minor track events. Roylance brilliantly took the hundred and furlong and Burgess the quarter before combining with Eastwood (a high jump winner) and Uden to smash the Minor relay record. The Majors—Nicholls, Wood, Clark, Dalton—, not to be outdone, repeated this feat and we thus had this year's only two records. Elsewhere, only Fowles and Lintill could win, though Finch gave Creasey a fright. If general performances were low, excitement ran high. Beaten into third place by nine points, we had the satisfaction of an honestly worked up sweat.

Inevitably there are good-byes to be said. Denton and Johnson depart to brighten the outside world, as do our swimming and cricket captains, Betts and Hope. Finch leaves for the world's stage, and Loveday, our number one gamesman, also goes. All leave for university careers. To these and our departing fifth formers we wish all the very best.

Numerically this is a small loss, and in spite (cynics will say "because") of it I feel sure that next year, with our strength more easily distributed throughout the House, Gibbs will improve on present performances. Our current fifth formers promise to rise to the occasion and lead us to the top. As regards this year it does not seem pessimistic to prophesy that the Cock House is beyond our reach. Nor can we deny that it would be nice to win the cup. It is bright and shiny and a tangible acknowledgement of achievement. But it is not the main thing. As the poet (and apparently Mr. Bentall) says, the great thing is to be

"strong in will  
To strive, to seek, to find and not to yield."

Those of us who have tried to do this will know what he was talking about.

A.J.F.

## HALLIWELLS

**Captain:** D. J. Creasey.

**Prefects:** P. Seaman, A. M. Emmerson, C. F. W. Higham.

This has been a very successful term, and members of the House can congratulate themselves on putting Halliwells in the running for Cock House Cup. Our main strength has been in our Colts, whose efforts at tennis, cricket and athletics qualifying have been very successful. The Colt cricket team has won all four matches; the Seniors on the other hand have been handicapped by a lack of talent and practice. The match against Miltons resulted in a narrow loss for us, the team sacrificing five first choice members to the School Concert rehearsal, which ought not to have been arranged to clash with the house matches.

Paxman and his tennis team have won two matches and drawn one match out of the three so far played. The drawn match against Miltons resulted from a misunderstanding of the rules of the competition by the organisers. Kingham and Crowe, two fourth formers, have played exceedingly well, and should be a great asset to the House in future years. Housego's skill has won him a permanent place in the School tennis team, and both he and Kingham have been awarded their School tennis colours.

In the gymnastics competition the sixth formers made a great effort, and they managed to supplement the points gained by the fifths and below to give the House a clear points victory for our third trophy this year. The Juniors did not fulfil their early promise, and failed to consolidate earlier victories, but nevertheless they obtained a third place in the Junior Shield. The Athletics and Swimming Cups have yet to be competed for. In the athletics qualifying a great all-round effort by everybody has given us a thirty-point start for Sports Day. However, the swimming team, in spite of valiant efforts by Seaman to get people to qualify, will have no such lead. Emmerson, the House athletics captain, is the only athlete at School to break a School record this season, and we expect him to lead the team to a victory on Sports Day.

As usual, the end of this term will see many of our Seniors leaving, but our greatest loss will be Mr. Townsend, our faithful housemaster these past four years. We give him our best wishes, and humble thanks for his encouragement and his witty dinner-table talk.

D.J.C.

### Postscript

After a very exciting Sports Day, the House managed to win the Athletics Cup, a cup which we have come to regard as our own personal property which we lend occasionally to another house. This year, however, we were given a very hard fight by Newsoms and Gibbs. The whole team deserves to be congratulated on a fine effort.

D.J.C.

## MILTONS

**Captain:** M. R. Burke.

**Prefects:** J. H. Brugger, G. D. Crocker, J. W. Jameson.

Although last term's notes were quite hopeful, we have since been disappointed in most activities. The Seniors did well in the Hockey, but in their final match they lost to Gibbs and came second. The Colts, however, drew one match, against Newsoms, lost all the rest, and came fifth in the competition. The result was that in the whole competition



we only gained fourth place, which was most disappointing considering the ability of our Senior team. In the gymnastics, on the other hand, the Seniors failed to pull their weight in qualifying, and we did not do at all well. It was hard work by Halliwells' Seniors that won them the cup. In the house-play competition we again did not do so well as we had hoped. Our production was a very worthy effort, and all those concerned deserve to be congratulated, especially Adams, who took on the long leading part and was on stage throughout the whole play. But although we won the approval of the audience, we nevertheless did not please our adjudicator so much. In the chess again we originally stood a good chance, having strong players in Cohen, Brugger and Davie. In the end, however, we came third, with 25 points against the 29 of Halliwells and the 30 of Gibbs.

In the cricket, though the Juniors did excellently by winning all their matches, thereby gaining second place in the Junior Shield competition, the Colts again fared very badly, for they succeeded in losing every match. Moreover the Senior team, though they beat Halliwells, lost both to Gibbs and Cobbs, and thus the final match, against Newsoms, will only decide whether we take fourth or fifth place. The tennis is as yet undecided. So far we have gained a dubious draw with Halliwells and a convincing victory over Cobbs. If we won the remaining matches we should win the competition, but Gibbs have a strong team which we will probably be unable to defeat. In the athletics, once more we took an undistinguished fourth place. Lack of qualifying points was the main reason for this; at the actual Sports we did not do too badly. Brown is to be congratulated on winning the Major 440, and Davie for trying for first place in the Colt 100 yds. As regards swimming qualifying points we have done well; we tie second with 183 against Newsoms' 191. This gives us a good basis to work on in the Sports, and we can only hope that our team will make use of it.

Thus in nearly all the inter-house activities this year we seem to have started with reasonable prospects but have finished up with all our hopes disappointed. However, though the House has won no cups this year, we must congratulate J. H. Brugger, who has been awarded the Eric Parker Cup. This term the House loses a number of Seniors whose absence will be felt, notably Brugger, Jameson, Shelley, Bayly, Cohen, Davis and Gower. Mr. Sweetland also is leaving to take up a post in Nottingham. To all these I wish every success for the future, and to those staying on good luck in their House activities next year.

M.R.B.

## NEWSOMS

**Captain:** D. C. Spencer.

**Prefects:** D. J. Mayer, A. J. Stevens.

There are several events left to report from last term. In the final hockey matches, the Seniors lost 2-0 to Cobbs in what was a very close game, and the Colts beat Halliwells. These results combined to give us third place in the competition, which is a satisfactory result, since we cannot pretend to have great hockey teams.

In the gymnastics we finished second to Halliwells, and had the Seniors been less occupied with the House plays, we might possibly have given Halliwells a closer race, but by far our greatest success was in the house play competition. Our offering of *Reluctant Heroes* was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience, the charming judge, and the actors themselves. Stevenson, Vickers, Partridge, Yeldham and Cottee, N. are

to be congratulated on very polished performances. Special mention must be made of Partridge and D. J. Mayer, who directed the whole proceedings so ably in what must be the most exacting, and in this case the most rewarding, task of the School year. The stage-hands did fine work too.

The results this term have been poor on the whole, and we seem certain to finish low in the cricket competition. A victory against Miltons was our only victory in Junior cricket, and we duly finished last in the Junior Shield. Wheeler and Spencer are to be congratulated on consistent performances throughout.

In the cricket competition, the Colts have completed their programme, claiming one success only, against Miltons, and thus finishing fourth in their section. The Seniors have played two games. Against Cobbs, poor batting left our opponents with the simple task of scoring 32 runs in 24 overs. The match was over so quickly that a combined practice was held afterwards. Next followed a thrilling match against Gibbs, who have the strongest all-round team, which we won by 1 wicket. Gibbs batted first, and were dismissed for 46 runs, due to fine bowling by Thorpe, Kearsley, and our captain, Stevens, and competent wicket-keeping by Yeldham. Once again our early batsmen failed, but a good partnership by Townsend and Kearsley put us back into the battle. A second batting collapse left our eleventh man with the uncomfortable task of having to bat with 2 runs needed to win. He survived, however, and the winning run was claimed on a bye. Thorpe is to be congratulated on the award of School cricket colours.

Swimming and tennis are, as yet, uncompleted. In the former our chances are good, as most of last year's victorious team are available. Mr. King and Hall have kept qualifying progressing steadily, and we should emerge victors on the day. Our tennis team have met with medium success, having beaten Cobbs 2-1, but having lost to Halliwells by the same score in a close match in which we lost the final set of the deciding match 6-5. Halliwells are the favourites, however, and we can look forward optimistically to the two remaining fixtures. The team is Stevens, A. J. (captain), who must be congratulated on the award of School tennis colours, Cottee, N., Yeldham, Thorpe and Townsend.

The athletics competition has just been completed, and we finished second to Halliwells after a close struggle for this position with Gibbs, whose fine effort was the feature of the afternoon's sport. Had the Colts not failed so dismally in qualifying, our task would have been made easier: this is the more disturbing for the fact that the House will soon be looking to them for leadership. We must congratulate Partridge, Scott and Elsdon on winning their events, and Stevens, D. C. on leading the team to this satisfactory result.

The final note, as always in the Summer term, must be a sad one. The loss of time-honoured servants of the House always leaves a wound which is slow to heal. Of those leaving, special mention must be made of Alan Stevens, whose aptitude for every sport has contributed in no small part to Newsoms' successes in recent years. David Mayer, whose eloquence and flair for organisation, in debating and house plays respectively, have been of infinite value this year, is also leaving. Others deserving our thanks are Martin Reeve, a fine cross-country runner and chess player; P. Vickers, a most competent and popular fifth-former; D. J. Thornley; S. Hall; R. West; J. A. Kearsley; M. J. Forbes; R. S. Cole. The final loss is that of Mr. High, who has selflessly given much of his time to coaching our Colts in hockey, cricket and tennis. We wish them all health, happiness and success in the future.

D.C.S.

## HOUSE PLAYS

It was a great pleasure to have the opportunity to judge the entries in this Festival and I would like to begin this brief report with a word of congratulation to all who took part for their hard work and enthusiasm. In a school where drama has such a free and joyous flowering there can be no danger of humanity being lost in the race for technical education.

**Halliwells House**, who gave a contracted version of *Richard II*, performed with intelligence and considerable stage sense. The actual adaptation of the text was excellent and the technical side of the production showed care except in the matter of wearing the costumes. Richard, played by J. Colmer, a long and challenging part, was well sustained though a trifle light in vocal interpretation. All this cast were excellently audible and achieved a good standard of verse-speaking. C. F. W. Higham in the shorter role of Bolingbroke played well, but needed a little more authority to convince fully, and M. McLean gave a good account of himself as the elderly Duke of York. The use of music and effects was pleasing also. In general the cast showed a certain reluctance to "take the stage", and movement could have been improved by using a little more imagination in staging "ceremony" and presenting a company of men who after all must have spent much of their waking day on horseback.

**Miltons House** chose a short modern play, *Simeon Stylites*, which gave scope for the exploitation of some gentle social satire. However this opportunity was lost through a bad standard of speech and audibility and by a general lack of pace in the production. St. Simeon was played by J. M. Adams, who bore the brunt of a character never off-stage, but his tendency to identify the role with his own personality, rather than the other way round, robbed his work of much effectiveness. All the other parts were much less difficult, being short and concise, but N. Green (*Procla*) and J. Davie (*The Devil*) merit special mention for the way they grasped their chances and the spirit of their attack. The set was cleverly designed and well executed and the stage staff did very well, though erring on the side of over-enthusiasm in the use of sound effects at one point. This House needs to train some of its actors in speech and stage-sense if they mean a serious challenge to the cup-holders next year.

**Newsoms House** courageously offered a cut version of *Reluctant Heroes*, and though I understand the production of farce is a tradition of this House I feel nevertheless that they have earned warm praise for an undertaking so fraught with peril for the amateur and inexperienced player. To remove one's trousers in full view of the audience and retain one's essential dignity is

a task to daunt any actor: congratulations to the cast both sans-et avec-culottes! In general the adaptation of the play was neat and intelligible, the sets were good and the clothes and dressings authentic. All the players showed a pleasing vitality and spoke well, though in the matter of regional accents more consistency could have been achieved. P. Vickers (Trooper Morgan) and S. Partridge (Sergeant Bell) were especially effective in their characterisation, and R. Stevenson (Gregory) showed a good sense of comic timing. The production on the whole had speed but flagged seriously by slowing at a climax in the complicated final scene.

**Gibbs House** adapted *The Duchess of Malfi* and presented it with a flourish. Once again it is a pleasure to record an excellent standard of speech and audibility, and an imaginative use of the stage and general effects. This House had, however, other good points most essential to the stage-worthiness of any theatrical enterprise — very good casting and a thorough understanding of the best sense of “theatricality”. From the moment when Bosola stepped through the tabs and declaimed his exposition of the theme the audience were firmly gripped and not released again until the tragedy had found its final resolution. A. J. Fowles gave a first-class performance as Bosola and was admirably supported by B. H. Finch and R. M. Cook as the proud and malicious brothers. P. J. Venison is also to be commended for the sincerity of his playing of the Duchess. This House had paid better attention to their make-up than any of the others, and it was this sort of professional attention to the details of staging that made them an example to be followed.

In coming to a decision about the award one is often embroiled in a conflict between a bad play well-done and a good play badly done, but in this case the choice lay between an inferior play well done and a good play done a little better so there could be no hesitation in recommending Gibbs House for the cup. I hope they will continue their good work next year and that the other Houses will be spurred on to wrest the prize from them.

Joan Richardson.

### SCHOOL FILM

The School film “Knife-Edge” evolved from the John Robbins’ Essay Competition of 1955. Mr. Basil Wright, who sponsors the competition, awarded first prize to M. Gordon’s script and, after his meeting with entrants, it was agreed that Gordon (then in the Third Year Sixth) should direct our first film with this script as a basis. The script, however, was now drastically modified, and only after it had undergone an incredible number of alterations did shooting begin. A high standard was

set and progress was accordingly slow. Shooting was carried out during the summer of 1955, lapsed during the subsequent bad weather, and was continued the following year. Credit titles completed production at the end of the spring term and the film was first pre-viewed by those connected with its making during the Easter holiday. Its first public showing was before the School in the summer of 1957.

The following review is reprinted by the kind permission of *The Times Educational Supplement*:—

For their first venture in film-making, the Raynes Park County Grammar School for Boys attempted ambitiously a story in which crime and the chase were counterpointed by the idyll of a boy's fishing expedition on a summer's day.

A first showing of *Knife Edge* last week revealed that the difference existing between the two themes — unrelated during the first half of the film — permitted a nice contrast between rapid tracking of a camera through urban streets and more leisureed panning shots of a home-made boat drifting on a disused pool. If the railway bridge sequence was a little over-familiar, a cunning use of camera position served to provide it with fresh interest. Again it might be noted that shots of reeds silhouetted against a sun can, if not severely cut, translate the whole into the province of an art-film.

A serious defect in camera work, marring the film itself, was a habit of shooting people in motion from the waist down. Though this device can effectively stimulate curiosity, it tends, if used too often, to diffuse interest. But these shortcomings should be forgiven for the sake of some shots of the young fisherman who, pausing among a tangle of undergrowth, knows himself to be seen by a hidden killer. The atmosphere evoked at this point could not have been bettered by any amateur team blessed with 10 times the modest budget of £20.

### SCHOOL CONCERT

Perhaps "concert" is too formal a word to be applied to the delightful evening that was experienced by all who attended the performances given by the School orchestra, instrumental groups, the School choir and various soloists. I would prefer to suggest that we attended an informal musical evening of outstanding excellence.

Before delving into the particular, perhaps a few general comments will not be amiss. At the end of the evening one was left with a feeling of aesthetic satisfaction. There were few of those little niggling memories of amateurish incompetence that so often spoil school concerts. As a whole, then, the performances were good technically and satisfying aesthetically.

When one considers for how short a time the School orchestra has been in existence the more remarkable its achievements seem to be. The various orchestral works performed were handled with extreme sensitivity and none of them was technically beyond the abilities of the players. It must be admitted, however, that the Bourée from Handel's *Fireworks Music* was not perhaps all that it should have been. This was entirely due to the fact that owing to the complexity of the music many players were staring fixedly at their parts without paying proper attention to their conductor. This resulted in an absence of proper co-ordination, and the music consequently sounded somewhat ragged. This is really my only adverse comment on the orchestra.

Gluck's *Che Faro* was most beautifully played. This was the orchestra's most outstanding performance. This work was excellently handled and it is difficult to imagine that any school orchestra could have done better.

No instruments playing together, to my way of thinking, make such a sad sound as do recorders. If I had to listen to very much recorder music I should, I am sure, find life a most tedious business. Messrs. Brooks, Lee, Smith and Vyse most expertly put the clock back a few centuries, and it was pleasant to sit back and enjoy the charmingly sad music that they produced. I thought that the three pieces from the Dolmetsch collection were well chosen and excellently performed, and I was left feeling that I would like to hear the rest of the collection played by our four exponents of the recorder if those three charming little works were representative.

It is very rarely that one is able to listen to the viol these days, except at connoisseur concerts, and it was therefore an added treat to hear the treble viol that Richard Lee made for himself. He must be congratulated on making it, which must have entailed a great deal of research and skill, and also on playing it so expertly.

The male voice choir provided us with a rich and varied repertoire. Their balance was good, but they must be wary of a snag that is omnipresent in choirs of broken voices when unaccompanied — a tendency to go flat. This was most obvious in their rendering of *Virtute Magna* by Croce. The performance of Ravenscroft must be a rare thing these days. Mr. Vyse must be complimented on rediscovering these works from a manuscript in the Westminster Central Library.

The excellence of Mr. Loveday's voice is such that whatever he sings sounds good, and I wish that we had more opportunities to hear him. His sensitive rendering *O Mistress Mine* by Roger Quilter was outstanding, and the other songs he sang delightful. Mr. Townsend's accompaniment was up to its usual high standard.

To slip a calypso into a programme of serious music could be a very dangerous, even a hazardous, thing to do. Messrs. Townsend, Ayton and Hindle carried it off, however, to the delight of all. Mental images were evoked of birds bringing off a brood in the Art Master's nesting bush; of the Biology Master being fired from the telescope to the moon. Besides all this the conductor was re-named Sir Adrian Bert, which seemed to be unanimously accepted, even by Sir Adrian Bert himself.

Cooke, Shelley and Knapp gave interesting piano solos during the evening. Cooke played us a Nocturne and a Valse by Chopin which were pleasant to listen to, and the audience gave him the hearty ovation which he deserved. Knapp played us his *Sonata in C Major*, which was easy and satisfying to listen to. He is a very able young pianist who has gone quite a way towards taming his very difficult instrument. We look forward to hearing his next sonata. Shelley performed one of the *Forty-Eight Preludes and Fugues* by J. S. Bach. These are always very difficult to perform and Shelley must have put in quite a lot of work in order to play his choice so well. He showed that he has a good understanding of Bach's keyboard music and that he can manage a fugue of considerable complexity with little difficulty.

In the final item of the programme both orchestra and choir combined to give us Bach's Chorale *Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring* and it was quite a considerable success. Mr. Ayton controlled his orchestra and choir skilfully and the result was a highly satisfying sound. Had the trebles lifted their heads and their voices a little more, the result would have been even more satisfactory.

Now none of this amazing display of talent would have been possible had it not been for the efforts of three members of the staff, namely Mr. Townsend, Mr. Vyse and Mr. Ayton.

The orchestra owes its very existence to Mr. Townsend, who was the first person to suggest that a School orchestra should be formed, and who has given so much of his own valuable time and has worked so hard to make it what it is today. When he leaves us at the end of the term he will leave behind him something which both he, and the School as a whole, can be really proud of.

Mr. Vyse is also leaving us at the end of the term, but I am sure that all the enthusiasm and effort which he has put into the building up of the School choir and the recorder group will mean that long after he has left us the traditions which he has established here will be carried on and will serve to remind us of him.

Mr. Ayton is most happily not leaving us. He has shown that he is a most talented conductor, capable of co-ordinating quite large groups of performers. Upon him has fallen the task of setting the music to be played to suit the School orchestra. This he has accomplished with great skill and success. His own

orchestrations are always original and imaginative and are really of a high musical standard. More important, however, than anything else is the fact that Mr. Ayton, as our conductor, has won the confidence and respect of all who work under him.

Mr. Tucker, Mr. Piper and Mr. Hall are the three people who were able to turn the enthusiasm and potential skill within the School into practical reality, for they have trained most expertly, in their own instruments, all members of the orchestra, both staff and pupils. Heartiest congratulations and thanks to them. Mr. Piper and Mr. Hall actually played in the orchestra for its concert, and Mr. Cattermole kindly deputised for Mr. Tucker, who was unable to be present. The orchestra at the moment lacks a percussion section, and so in the concert this section was managed by Mr. Roberts, to whom we are very grateful.

Various other members of the staff and boys and parents have contributed much of their time in order to make this, our first concert, such an outstanding success. Our very sincere thanks to them all.

P.D.T.

### GARDEN PARTY

The fact that the General School Fund spent over a hundred pounds beyond its income last year, made the more mundane aspect of the Garden Party as an economic necessity to "out-of-school" life more apparent. And the fact that, at the end of it all, well over £400 were added to G.S.F. as a result of that one day's activity, might well seem cause for self-congratulation. It certainly was cause for thanks to all those parents and members of the School who worked so hard to achieve this result.

Probably the most successful contributor was the weather-organiser. For the first time for a number of years, things were set so fair that, even at morning assembly on the day before the Garden Party, the Headmaster was congratulating the School on its choice of the day that was to come — a statement that in normal years would have been judged unwise indeed. The sun shone out of a cloudless anti-cyclonic sky, and the people rolled in and spent their money with abandon.

Attractions were numerous: Halliwells' Bottles, Cobbs' Toys, Miltons' Lost Property and Newsoms' Garden Produce were all selling at judiciously cut prices and securing buyers — while a newcomer to the school named 'Alfredo' ran a coffee-bar in the Biology Lab which attracted large queues, attributable more to the curious rhythmic sounds that emanated from a dark corner of the bar than the quality of the test-tube coffee.

Outside on the field there was a great variety of entertainment, if that term can be applied to the multitudinous organisations all dedicated to the task of relieving you of your small change in as gentle, if relentless, a way as possible. Some



appealed merely to the baser sides of man's nature, such as the urgent desire to smash up as much of Mother's crockery in as few blows as possible; others feigned pride of accomplishment as their attraction, large sums being paid for the glow that comes when a six inch nail is driven firmly into a resisting log; in addition, games of chance, legal and illegal, profitable and impossible, active and passive, abounded.

Nevertheless, while some large house activities, such as the perennial Gibbs refreshment contractors, raked in their fifties, and many small form activities only as many pennies, the total slowly grew throughout the afternoon; and if comparison were odorous between participants, the combination of their efforts proved fragrant indeed, and all deserved the glow of satisfaction at a day whose success will be felt throughout the School Year.

J.D.T.

### HOCKEY

With the failure of the Belgian college team to materialize during the Easter holiday (they had missed their connection at Dieppe and not fancied the walk), our fixtures for the season were completed with matches against Beckenham and Cheam Hockey Club. These were in marked contrast. The goal-less draw against Beckenham enabled our defence to prove itself to the hilt, with its firm tackling being matched only by its stoicism in the face of some questionable tactics from the opposition. With Thorp and Alan Stevens playing very well, Beckenham, for all their territorial advantages, seldom seemed likely to score, and our own more sporadic (but more direct) raids promised more. In the second half we entered into Beckenham's spirit of the game and finally left the battlefield feeling able to look the "Old Contemptibles" in the eye.

Our fixture against Cheam is always one of our most pleasant, and their greater experience always a stiff challenge. On this occasion they were ably supported by Housego, making good a vacancy in their side, and for the first half our defence (now a little bored with the situation) again found itself fighting a rearguard action. Our goal was intact at half time, and after the whistle we realised our clever but less fit opponents had shot their bolt. Without becoming over-confident we pressed home attack after attack and two goals came through Creasey and Emmerson. Then, with his eye neatly on the dramatic, Fowles scored our last goal of the season with a shot that gave us a 3-0 victory. It was a nice way to finish things.

A few footnotes to last term's summary are perhaps required. Stevens, faced in goal during these last two matches with shots from every angle, answered by giving us his two best performances. Emmerson was unlucky to miss his colours and Fowles, after caustically taking himself to task in the last edition of the *Spur*, hit a final streak of pure gold. Housego, selected for the first team against the Belgians, became the discovery of the term, and while deprived of his first "cap" by the absence of a channel tunnel, should make ample amends next year. Indeed with R. K. Stevens, Thorp (possibly), Thomas, Lintill, Bown, Holmes and Morely on hand as well, the future of Raynes Park hockey would seem distinctly healthy.

#### Opponents

Beckenham C.G.S. ....	Drew .....	0-0
Cheam H. C. ....	Won .....	3-0

Goal Scorers: Hill (4), Brugger (2), Gower (2), Emmerson (2), Creasey (2), Bown (1), Thomas (1), Kearsley (1), Fowles (1).

A.J.F.

# CRICKET

## 1st XI

At the end of last season most of the 1st and 2nd XI's left, and with very little material in the fifth and sixth forms it looked as if we were in for a bad season. This has proved true up to a point. In actual matches won we have had a poor season, but most of the drawn games have been in our favour, and of the losses, only one was of an overwhelming nature.

### Results :-

v. Hampton .....	Drew
v. Tiffins .....	Lost
v. St. George's .....	Drew
v. Mitcham .....	Lost
v. Wallington .....	Lost
v. Salesian .....	Drew
v. Tooting Bec .....	Won
v. St. Mary's .....	Drew
v. Wandsworth .....	Lost

### v. Hampton

The openers got us off to a good start, scoring slowly but steadily, and it was not until the score had reached 44 that they were separated. After this runs came steadily, but wickets also fell steadily, so that at tea we were 83 for 6. After tea, the captain, in hopes of having a few quick runs added, decided to bat on. Ten minutes later we were all out for 83. Hampton started off badly against good bowling from Thorp and Wearn and had lost four wickets cheaply before the fifth wicket pair stopped the rot. When we did eventually part these two, there was very little time left, and at the close Hampton were 78 for 9. Stevens took three difficult catches behind the stumps in this game.

### v. Tiffins

In this match we again started well, the openers putting on 35 before a stupid run-out parted them. Then just as the number three batsman was settling down he also was run out. We were then 59 for 2. The next four batsmen all collected ducks, all in one over, and were all yorked. Fortunately, the remaining opener (Stevens) was able to score steadily, so that we had 106 before the last wicket fell. Stevens was undefeated for 51, a very creditable performance. The Tiffins batting proved too strong for our bowling, and they passed our total with nine wickets in hand.

### v. St. George's

When the first wicket fell we were once more in a very promising position, with 48 runs already to our credit. The score mounted quite rapidly with all the remaining batsmen knocking up a few, and we eventually declared at 113 for 9. Owing to the light worsening at the beginning of the St. George's innings, we were unable to use our two stock pace bowlers. This left us in an unenviable position with only relatively inexperienced bowlers to use. However, the players in question proved to be quite good, although a little erratic. At the close, St. George's were 111 for 9. Brugger distinguished himself in this game by taking two wickets and three catches and scoring 11 runs.

### v. Mitcham

Thorp and Wearn were on top of their form in this game and soon dismissed Mitcham for 89. Thorp returned figures of 5 for 39 and Wearn 4 for 36. For the fourth time running, the openers got us off to a good start and we were 32 before the first wicket fell. The re-

maining opener and the number three bat consolidated this good start and we were 80 before they were parted. Then with the game "in the bag", the remaining seven batsmen collected ducks, so that we were all out for 80. Stevens got 44 of these 80.

v. Wallington

For the first time the openers failed, and the rest of the team (which included two players new to the 1st XI) showed what it was capable of. Hope and Loveday took us from 2 for 5 to 3 for 27 and Brugger then helped Hope to add a further 33, during which scoring he displayed some glorious strokes, in particular an on-drive for six and an off-drive for four. Morley was next in and in ten minutes he hit 15 before being bowled. Two wickets now fell quickly — one of them being that of Hope, who had scored a slow but valuable 23. Yeldham, next in, was soon using his cut to good effect. When we were eventually all out for 116, Yeldham was undefeated for 20. Wallington went in, two wickets fell quickly, but a long third wicket partnership assured them of success, and they eventually won by 4 wickets.

v. Salesian

In this game we started poorly and were 47 for 5 before Yeldham (30 n.o.) and Morley (23) stopped the collapse. When Morley went, Creasey (24) helped Yeldham in an undefeated seventh wicket stand. We eventually declared at 136 for 6. Unfortunately, our bowling was unable to dismiss the opposition quickly enough, and at the close they were 92 for 5.

v. Tooting Bec

Against a moderate attack on an easy paced wicket the openers scored freely, and the score was 59 before they were separated. The score continued to mount rapidly and we declared at tea with the score at 173 for 5 (Hill scoring 100 n.o. of these). When Bec went in, Thorp and Wearn bowled accurately and ferociously, and Bec were soon dismissed for 28. Thorp and Wearn both took 4 for 13.

v. St. Mary's

St. Mary's batted first and were soon well on their way to amassing a large total. This, however, should never have been the case; at least three easy catches close to the wicket were missed, and several harder chances were also downed. If these chances had been taken, St. Mary's would never have scored the 135 for 7 declared that they did. When we went in to bat the light was appalling, and the match was eventually abandoned when we were 49 for 4.

v. Wandsworth

The batting, apart from Hill (41), was terrible in this game, possibly due to the hot weather. We were all out for 81 after ninety minutes' batting. To make matters worse, Wearn had blisters on his feet and was unable to bowl. Fortunately, however, Loveday was on form and bowled superbly for most of Wandsworth's innings. It looked as if we were going to bring off a shock victory when Wandsworth's ninth wicket fell at 66, but the last wicket pair (with a fair amount of luck) managed to take their total past ours. Loveday returned figures of 5 for 29.

The main weakness this year has been in the middle of the batting: it has always looked promising, but has somehow never managed to score many runs. If it had managed to score as many as it did against Salesian and Wallington, I feel sure that the result of many games would have been different.

#### Hill, number 1 bat

He has batted with great determination throughout the season and met with no small measure of success. At the start of the season he played second fiddle to Stevens, but later came into his own and played some really fine innings which proved invaluable to the side. He had more than his share of luck at times, but on form deserved all the runs he got. His outstanding innings was his undefeated century against Bec.

#### Stevens, number 2 bat

He started off the season in brilliant form, scoring 150 runs in his first four games. His glancing to leg has been immaculate, and he possesses a very fine array of shots all round the wicket, although he would do better to develop a more powerful drive than he possesses at the moment. As a wicket keeper he is sound, and sometimes brilliant.

#### Hope, number 3 bat

Hope looks a brilliant batsman, and has proved in club cricket that he is, but, alas, he has never been able to score many runs for the School. He tends to start very slowly, and generally needs a little luck to see him through the first few overs; unfortunately he has not had this luck, and therefore has made many scores around 8. When he has survived these few overs he has batted very soundly. He has carried out the duties of secretary very efficiently this year.

#### Loveday, number 4 bat

His defence is very sound, although his scores have been low due to a lack of scoring strokes. He has done most this year as a bowler. When he bowls a good first over he continues to bowl extremely accurately, but if his first over is poor, his lack of confidence causes him to bowl very erratically. If he could cure this lack of confidence he would be an extremely good bowler.

#### Brugger, number 5 bat

He possesses many beautiful scoring shots, but has little or no defence. He is a good close-to-the-wicket fielder and a useful change bowler.

#### Yeldham

Although possessed of only one scoring shot (the cut), he has proved that he can score as fast and as often as other members of the team.

#### Creasey

With a lot of practice, Creasey would be a good batsman. At the moment, however, he relies mainly upon a quick eye to see him through. He is a very energetic fielder.

#### Morley

He possesses a good eye and a pair of broad shoulders, both of which he uses to good account. Against slow bowling he has been able to hit most balls to the boundary; against fast bowling, however, he is unable to last long. He must be congratulated upon his appointment as cricket secretary for next year.

#### Thorp, opening fast bowler

Thorp is very fast, and many of his balls are first class, but he does tend to pitch short rather too often. If he could manage to pitch his bowling up a little he would hit the stumps much more frequently than he does now.

Wearn, opening pace bowler

Wearn is not as fast as Thorp, but makes up for this by bowling much more accurately. If he could learn to vary his bowling a little he would develop into a very fine pace bowler.

Ayres

He has played several times for the 1st XI but has never made certain of retaining his place. He possesses some very fine shots, but he is unable to use them as much as he ought since he does not use his feet sufficiently. If he could learn to position himself better for his shots he could develop into a useful batsman.

Lea

Lea could be a fine batsman if he concentrated more instead of adopting the lackadaisical attitude he has now when he is at the wicket. His running between the wickets is appalling and he is very slow in the field. All these faults could be remedied.

Colours were awarded to: B. G. Hope, M. Loveday, P. Thorp and D. Wearn.

#### AVERAGES :

		Batting				
		Inns.	N.O.	Runs	H.S.	Ave.
Hill	...	10	2	297	100*	37.1
Stevens	...	10	1	201	51*	22.3
Yeldham	...	6	3	63	35*	21.0

\* Not out.

		Bowling				
		Overs	Mdns.	Runs	Wkts.	Ave.
Loveday	...	42	15	123	16	7.1
Thorp	...	131	34	324	25	12.96
Wearn	...	107	26	290	21	13.81

#### Catches

Stevens 8 and Hope 7.

G.A.H.  
B.G.H.

#### 2nd XI

The 2nd XI has not met with a great deal of success this season owing mainly to the lack of batting in the side. Of the batsmen tried, Gower, Lea, Fowles, Holmes and Ayres have been the most successful, but Lea and Ayres have often been called upon to play for the 1st XI, so that in many matches we have been below strength. The bowling has been quite good throughout the season, particularly King's and Hayhoe's bowling, and has often proved to be the only thing between us and an ignominious defeat. Howsden has kept wicket quite well and Boiling has become a brilliant close-to-the-wicket fielder.

Team chosen from: Fowles, Boiling, Holmes, Gower, King, Hayhoe, Lea, Ayres, Yeldham, Williams, Lintill, Davis, Wright, Howsden, Frank-Keyes, Townsend.

A.J.F.

## COLTS

We started this season with a lot of raw material which has knocked itself into shape through enthusiasm and match practice. The first two matches were lost (though not disastrously) and of the following three two were won and the third was an exciting draw.

Much of the credit for the improvement must go to Kingham, who by his own batting and capable leadership has set an example for others to follow. In batting there is much promise marred by specific defects: Clay now plays straighter down the wicket, but is uncertain in running; Farmer plays some shots hard and well but lacks confidence in coming forward; Crowe watches the ball well but sometimes lifts his head at the moment of playing his shot. Others who have improved noticeably during the season are Furminger, Cumes, Redshaw and Miller, and Bond has been a reliable stand-by.

In bowling we started with very little and have steadily improved — Bond has worked hard as an opener. At times he has bowled really well, at others with more heart than head, but always with great determination. Burgess has given useful support, and latterly Cumes and Farmer have greatly improved.

Our probable wicket-keeper (Bond) having turned to bowling, three other players have taken the gloves, by no means unsuccessfully. These are Foulsham, Wooding and Crowe. The standard of fielding has been reasonably good.

One word of criticism — few, if any, players take the opportunity during matches of practising at the nets which are now available at the Oberon.

The following have played for the Colts so far this season:—

Kingham (Capt.); Crowe; Cumes; Foulsham; Furminger; Redshaw; Thompson; Barnard; Bond; Clay; Farmer; Gibbons; Hart; Miller; Savage; Strutt; Wooding; Clarke, G. F.; Burgess; Slater.

G.J.A.

## ATHLETICS

*Master i/c:* R. Hindle, Esq. *Captain:* D. J. Creasey.

*Secretary:* A. M. Emmerson.

With the loss of most of our Senior athletes at the end of last year — athletes among whom were three county schoolboy champions — the School was not expected to repeat last year's successes. However, the lower school did provide us with one trophy when they won the Wimbledon and District Schools Under 15 Shield. Stevens, D. C. in the Surrey Secondary Schools Championships gained a very creditable second place in the Intermediate 440 yards, but his time of 54.6 seconds was not good enough for him to be picked for the Surrey team in the All-England Championships.

Two triangular inter-school matches were arranged, the first against Tiffin and Surbiton, the second against Tiffin and Latymer Upper, all schools of greater numbers and hence greater potential strength. Raynes Park teams did not perform well enough to get us out of last place. In the first match Emmerson broke the School javelin record with a throw of 162 ft. 8 in.

In the Surrey Grammar School Sports, against other two stream schools we came fourth out of seven, with the following gaining places in the first six:—

Emmerson	3rd Senior Javelin.
Paxman	5th Senior Shot.
Millington	6th Under 16 Shot.

In the Under 16 Relay we came 4th.

## SCHOOL SPORTS

In the School Sports Halliwells were again successful.

### Results of the School Sports

	<i>1st</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>Time or Distance</i>
<i>Long Jump</i>	Senior	Emmerson (H)	Thomas (C)	Brugger (M)
	Colt	Kingham (H)	Redshaw (G)	Miller (M)
	U.16	Brown (M)	Clarke (G)	Hall (H)
	U.14	Scott (N)	Flynn (H)	Eastwood (G)
<i>High Jump</i>	Senior	Partridge (N)	Edwards (G)	Thomas (C)
	Colt	Bowern (C)	Cottee (N)	Crowe (H)
	Major	Mawer (M)	Spencer (N)	Wood, M. K. (G)
	Minor	Eastwood (G)	Greenwood (N)	Swain (H)
<i>Shot</i>	Senior	Paxman (H)	Lintill (G)	Thorp (N)
	Colt	Frank-Keyes (G)	Clay (C)	Wooding (H)
	Major	Powers (C)	Nicholls (G)	Wheeler (N)
<i>Discus</i>	Senior	Barker (C)	Morley (M)	Paxman (H)
	Colt	Burgess (H)	Fowler (N)	Page (C)
<i>Javelin</i>	Senior	Lintill (G)	Willis (N)	Hill (C)
	Colt	Crowe (H)	Lorryman (G)	Slater (M)
<i>Pole Vault</i>	Senior	Emmerson (H)	Willis (N)	Thomas (C)
				8' 0"

Results of the School Sports—continued.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Time or Distance
Senior	Creasey (H)	Finch (G)	Crocker (M)	11.2 secs.
Colt	Davie (M)	Bowern (C)	Hopper (N)	11.4 secs.
Major	Elsdon (N)	Wright (M)	Stevenson (H)	12.5 secs.
Minor	Roylance (G)	Spanos (N)	Osborne (M)	13.8 secs.
Senior	Creasey (H)	Crocker (M)	Stevens, D. C. (N)	25.2 secs.
Colt	Davie (M)	Foulsham (C)	Hopper (N)	25.9 secs.
Major	Nicholls (G)	Elsdon (N)	Hall (H)	28.2 secs.
Minor	Roylance (G)	Swain (H)	Spanos (N)	31.3 secs.
Senior	Creasey (H)	Stevens, D. C. (N)	Stevens, R. K. (M)	55.4 secs.
Colt	Kingham (V)	Foulsham (C)	French (M)	60.0 secs.
Major	Brown (M)	Huggins (N)	Powers (C)	64.8 secs.
Minor	Benges (G)	Peters (N)	Wilcox (C)	71.3 secs.
Senior	Fowles (G)	Hodgson (H)	Spencer (N)	2 mins. 14.5 secs.
Colt	Gibbons (C)	French (M)	Burgess (H)	2 mins. 22.6 secs.
1 Mile	Senior	Hodgson (H)	Coney (C)	5 mins. 4 secs.
4 × 110 yd. Relays	Senior	Halliwell	Miltons	48.9 secs.
	Colt	Halliwell	Newsoms	51.0 secs.
	Major	Gibbs	Miltons	57.0 secs. (New Record)
	Minor	Gibbs	Halliwell	58.6 secs. (New Record)



Qualifying points gained before competition:

Halliwells 437; Gibbs 411; Newsoms 400; Miltons 374; Cobbs 351.

Final Positions:

1st Halliwells 1047; 2nd Newsoms 940; 3rd Gibbs 931; 4th Miltons 709; 5th Cobbs 686.

Colours were awarded to the following for consistent and outstanding performances during the season:—

A. M. Emmerson, Paxman, T. A. C., Stevens, D. C.

R.H., D.J.C., A.M.E.

## ROWING

Rowing started as an additional sport in the School on Thursday, 20th June, 1957. The occasion was not marked by any ceremony: one rather leaky boat manned by two boys and a master edged its way out into midstream from amongst the swans and sunbathers at Kingston Bridge, and Raynes Park was a Rowing School.

As is generally known, the School is about to be increased in numbers, and although it is easy to erect new buildings it is not so easy to lay out new playing fields. It was therefore decided to try and make use of one of the more obvious local facilities — the Thames. Negotiations began with various local rowing clubs in January, 1957, and continued intermittently until June, when an agreement was reached with Kingston Rowing Club.

The School now rows weekly from the Albany Boat House, Kingston, Headquarters of Kingston R. C. So far, training has been limited to sliding seat pairs, but it is expected that the School's eight will take the river for the first time in the Autumn term.

At present, it is felt that the number of boys who do rowing must be small, in view of the expense and limited facilities. It is understood, however, that the Surrey County Council has a "Plan" for the development of the river bank below Teddington lock as a Centre for Water Sports. Part of this plan is the building of a number of boat houses for hire at nominal rents to Surrey schools who already have rowing clubs. It is therefore hoped that the small beginning made this term will result, in time, in Raynes Park becoming established as one of the many new rowing schools.

A.G.W.

## TENNIS

This year, in its own humble way the situation of School tennis would seem to mirror that of the world. While there is an unusually high proportion of "useful" players up to second VI standard the skill (and numbers) of those at the top is less than in past years. The highly precocious Kingham, who has probably already done enough to oust Loveday from his number one ranking (the seedings for the tournament were made during the holiday and have been proved hopelessly inaccurate), will compensate for this top flaw very soon, and in any case the School has enjoyed a season which, with qualification, can be called successful.

We began with a qualification when, travelling to Purley, an under-strength and untried first team went down by three matches to six. An instant revenge was gained, however, by the second VI winning its only match by the same score, our general strength showing in the two victories gained by all three pairs. Then, thanks mainly to the treble win of Loveday and Stevens, we overcame Tiffin 5-4 in a match notable

for its poor standard of play. This form was improved sufficiently for us to beat the Purley first team in a return match on our own courts by the same score. Crowe, playing as a reserve, performed well in the crisis of the vital ninth deuce set. Between these two matches, though, we had stepped out of our class when in the Rootham Shield competition we drew King's College. On the whole they summarily dismissed us, but due to Kingham's fine, if isolated, singles victory, we improved on our last performance against K.C.S. in only allowing them a 4-1 win. Our confidence was completely restored against Stroud School, whom we now smashed in a ruthless 9-0 blitz.

Of the pairings, the best has been that of Loveday and Stevens, who have invariably laid the foundation of our totals. Loveday's consistency and placid temperament mask an ability to force the pace when required — especially on his forehand wing. Steady, always adequate, he is more than a retriever. Stevens, who performs better in doubles, invariably responds to the challenge of a School match with something extra. He further exploits his left handed play with a sinister use of top-spin, chop and pace alteration. His speed of reaction needs no comment. Kingham, lately playing with Housego, is potentially (indeed already) brilliant. His game in all departments is grounded in such orthodoxy that, with practice, improvement is inevitable. A question mark against his temperament should not, if he is sensible, last long, and we look forward to his adding higher honours to the county title he now holds. Housego, like Loveday, gets a lot back, and much of it more venomously than would appear: attention to his service should be his priority. With it he will do well next year. Brugger generates a reasonable pace off his drives but is both physically and mentally erratic in touch, while Hill, a good ball player with steady nerves, is a fine cricketer. Fowles, this year's captain, is a gaunt shadow of the bygone highly promising Colt player and, fallen from first team grace, walks the court in various Byronic poses, sadly enjoying it all.

If the tournament is finished this term the doubles should be won by Loveday and Stevens and the singles by one of these two or (more probably) Kingham. All three and Housego are to be congratulated on the award of tennis colours.

A.J.F.

## ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

I regret having to report that hardly any of the plans and ideas which were being formed when the last report was published have materialised this term. Indeed, most of them have been quite deliberately postponed. The meetings during the latter half of the term have also had to be cancelled, and the Society feels that none of its members have had the full value of their subscriptions. This will be rectified by reducing the subscription for next term.

This term opened with a series of observational meetings in the evenings, at which members had a look at the comet Arend Roland. The comet, most inconveniently for the Society, was at its best when the telescope was locked up in the School for the holiday, and was comparatively insignificant at the time of the first meeting. However, it was observed. Sunspot observations were made during consecutive lunch hours, principally by N. E. Cole and C. R. Shute, and a series of excellent diagrams were made as a record of the changes in appearance of the sunspots from day to day. The eclipse of the moon on 13th May, for the observation of which the Society held a late meeting, was also interestingly studied. N. E. Cole made a set of fourteen diagrams showing the appearance of the moon at different stages during the eclipse, and M. V. Mansi experimented with a camera attached to his own telescope and was able to show us some prints which indicate considerable possibilities.

One evening's meeting was devoted to the copying of star charts, and several members made slides of constellations so that they can be projected on to a large screen for clarity. As a background to this practical work, two talks have been given, one studying the first four of the Zodiacal constellations and the other the making of lenses and mirrors for astronomical telescopes.

After half term, the Seniors were unable to help arrange or even attend meetings, owing to examinations, and the lateness of the sunsets precluded the possibility of further observational meetings. Because of this and the fact that there are so many other engagements at the end of the Summer Term, it was impossible to complete the rest of the term's programme. This, however, must be regarded not as a cancellation but merely a postponement. The darker evenings of autumn and winter will make possible once more the observational work which is so important to the Society.

R.M.C.

### DA VINCI SOCIETY

It is not usual for a report of the activities of the Society to appear in the magazine this term, as meetings are not generally held at this time of the year. But it is necessary, in order to keep our readers up-to-date, to report on a meeting held at the very end of the Spring Term which was too late for inclusion in our last report. This meeting was held to hear a talk by Paxman, who chose for his subject "Design and the Motor Car", and who ably illustrated his lecture with pictures of "Vintage" and modern cars and showed us how the present trends in contemporary car design have evolved. The well attended meeting was testimony to Paxman's reputation as something of an authority on his subject and he ably upheld this belief.

The one meeting of this term was something of an occasion. We presented our Fourth Dinner-Hour Concert, again under the direction of Mr. Vyse. This, we are sad to report, is the last such concert that Mr. Vyse will have arranged for us before taking up his new appointment. Mr. Vyse has been a good friend to the Society and we are all greatly indebted to him for the excellence of the music to which he has introduced us. The concerts presented by him have called for a lot of unseen hard work which has been willingly given for our enjoyment. It was therefore most appropriate that the last meeting of this term should have included what we might call Mr. Vyse's "Swan Song". The meeting was well supported and the performance was perhaps the best we have had, maintaining an excellent evenness throughout. We wish to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Vyse for all the work he has done for us and of wishing him every happiness in his new appointment. Below is an account of the programme of this Fourth Dinner-Hour Concert held on Wednesday, 24th July, 1957.

Old French and Netherlandish Dances for three Recorders and 'Cello	
Round à 3	<i>Margerie feed well the Black Sow</i>
Round à 4	<i>Loth to Depart</i>
Consort for three Recorders or Viols	
Minuet and Country Dance arranged for Flutes, Clarinets and 'Cello	
Ballet à 4	<i>O Happy he who liveth</i>
Terzetto for Flutes or Recorders	
Sonata for three Flutes or Recorders	
Motet à 4	<i>Virtute Magna</i>

The Society has now completed its fifth year and we look forward to continued energetic support in the coming year. A welcome is extended to all boys from the Fourth Form upwards. It is by your keen support that the Society can continue to flourish.

A.C.R.

## CLASSICAL SOCIETY

At the end of the spring term, we were fortunate in securing the services of Mr. O'Driscoll, who addressed the Society on the subject of the early geographers. After a brief welcome from the President, Mr. O'Driscoll began by giving a definition of the words "early geographers". He went on to explain that early man was driven to travel in the quest for food, while in later times the chief impulse was trade, so that those whose country was poorest were often the most widely travelled, despite such basic difficulties as a complete lack of instruments and maps.

The earliest records of travel come from Egypt, as early as 3200 B.C., where voyages were made for trading purposes and not through any urge for discovery. After the collapse of the empire of the fairly widely travelled Minoans of Crete, the Achaean pirates dominated the scene, pushing into the Black Sea, to give rise to the Homeric epics. About 800 B.C., the Greeks began a period of colonial expansion three centuries long, which was in reality little more than a vague drifting forth of the surplus population. In the Western Mediterranean, Carthaginian opposition prevented widespread colonization, but the Eastern end became predominantly Greek, and the Black Sea was completely opened up.

In the Atlantic, the first records concern a Massiliot sailor of about 530 B.C. who discovered Ireland and the lesser neighbouring island of the Albiones, a description which caused Mr. O'Driscoll some delight. Most Atlantic voyaging was done by the Carthaginians, however, who probably sailed as far as Brittany and Cornwall. Nevertheless, while Carthage was locked in mortal combat with Syracuse, Pytheas, another Massiliot sailor, took the opportunity to sail to Britain, where he made contact with the tin miners of Cornwall and sailed around the island. His measurement of over four thousand miles for the perimeter of the island is a little generous, but of the inhabitants he says that they are "simple in habits and far removed from the cunning and knavishness of modern man". To the south, the earliest record is of Hanno's voyage along the coast to Sierra Leone, about 500 B.C., though Euthymenes, yet another Massiliot, claimed to have seen the upper Nile, which was in fact probably the Senegal. Another expedition was made by Sataspes, a cousin of Xerxes. Sent westward by the Great King about 475 B.C., he brought back such fantastic tales that he was disbelieved and executed. But the most famous African voyage is that recorded by the historian Herodotus. The Egyptian king sent a Phoenician fleet southwards, with orders to return by the Pillars of Hercules. After being away for three years, the fleet returned, having sailed a distance of thirteen thousand miles. The journey has been often discredited, but in modern times the tendency has been to accept it as true. After his talk, Mr. O'Driscoll was given a short but amusing vote of thanks by J. H. Brugger.

Earlier in the term, a brief visit was paid to the school by Professor Catley, of the university of New Brunswick, who, in the past, spent some time lecturing at King's College, London and teaching at this school. Professor Catley spoke to members of the sixth form on his experiences in Greece, and we are indebted to him for a lively and entertaining insight into the country and the people.

On Friday, 19th July, the Society set out by coach for a twelve hour tour through Dover, Deal and Canterbury. After taking the longest possible route, Dover was eventually reached, a stop having been made for coffee and light refreshment on the road. The long climb up the hill to Dover Castle was then attempted, and with many sighs, prods and

encouragements everyone arrived at the top. The Society was then shown round the Castle by a very amusing guide who inserted subtle jokes into his otherwise serious lecture. The coach was then once again boarded and we set off for Deal. Here a stop was made for a few minutes while members had a short look round this charming old town. The intention was then to make for Richborough, situated a few miles from Deal. After we had driven a long way through deserted fields, over toll bridges and past derelict buildings, it dawned on those in authority that we were going the wrong way. Tracks were retraced and another, successful, attempt was made to reach the castle. The castle itself, although very confusing at first owing to the bad way in which the Ministry of Works had labelled the ruins, proved to be very interesting, and it is hoped to make another, longer visit at some time in the future. While at Richborough, the termly meeting of the Society was held, the main business of which was to elect new officers as both the president and the secretary are leaving this term. Dr. Griffiths Morgan was proposed as president and C. J. How as secretary. Both were seconded and elected. The resigning president, Mr. A. J. Sweetland, thanked the resigning secretary, D. S. D. Shelley, for his work during the year, and especially in connection with the outing. Then the Society set off for Canterbury, where St. Augustine's Abbey and the cathedral were visited. On returning home, D. S. D. Shelley thanked Mr. Sweetland for his work in the School and the Classical Society. We all wish him every success in his new post, and hope to see him at our meetings in the future.

D.S.D.S. C.J.H.

## CACTUS SOCIETY

This term the Cactus Society reopened after its period of inactivity during the winter months. There has been some reorganisation, the main item of which is that the meetings are now held on Tuesdays at 1.10 p.m. in the biology laboratory. The Society has also welcomed three new members, and we wish them every success with their plants.

In the meetings held this term the notes on the classification and identification of cacti have been continued, and lectures have been given on the naming of plants, their natural habits, and their growth and care. In addition, areoles and plant cells have been studied, thus revealing the very interesting botanical structure of cacti. Owing to the rigours of the climate in which they live, cacti have very thick cell walls, large nuclei, etc., and these are clearly visible when viewed under a microscope. Once again, on Open Night the Society staged a display of plants which proved as popular as always. Not so many plants were exhibited as usual, but the quality was decidedly better than in previous years. Those of you who, when visiting other people's gardens, have been informed that "It was much better last week" or "You should have seen it in May" will understand if you read here that Open Night never coincides with the flowering season of the more beautiful cacti. Indeed this year we could only show off one or two very small flowers. Nevertheless it has been a very good year so far for cacti, and some of the members of the Society have had a fine display of blooms.

Next term we will be doing some practical work with the plants — propagation from cuttings and seeds, grafting, etc. We also hope to welcome some new members next term: may I impress on any one who is at all interested in cacti that he will find our meetings enjoyable and informative.

C.J.H.

## GRAMOPHONE CLUB

Having exhausted our supply of sonatas, this term's programmes have been of a miscellaneous nature. At our first meeting *Love, the Magician* by Manuel de Falla, and Rimsky-Korsakov's *Spanish Caprice* were played — two works full of the warmth and colour of Spain.

The following week R. Lee presented three works by Bach. The A minor Fugue for organ, played by Albert Schweitzer, was followed by the C minor Concerto for oboe, violin and orchestra. In this work Pierre Pierlot, often held as the world's greatest oboe player, gave us an exemplary performance. The third work was the *Brandenburg Concerto* No. 5 in D.

At our next meeting the 8th Symphonies of Beethoven and Schubert were played. The following week we heard the recording by Alexander Brailowsky of Saint-Saens' Piano Concerto No. 4 in G minor and Chopin's No. 2 in F minor. Immediately before the half term holiday we played *Le Coq d'Or* by Rimsky-Korsakov and Borodin's *Polovtsian Dances*.

Examinations then put an end to our meetings for the next five weeks. There remained only two Tuesdays in the term and these were taken up by Open Night and the Staff Match.

Since this is the last report we shall be writing for the *Spur*, may we hope that someone will come forward next term with some new ideas for running programmes, and wish them every success in that task? Although the meetings have never been overcrowded, those who do attend are enthusiastic, and it would be a pity to let the Club disappear, for it is a very necessary part of the School.

B.G.B. M.R.B.

## SIXTH FORM JAZZ LISTENING GROUP

There seems to be singularly little to report this term, but stifle the urge to cheer, for the notes will be as long as usual. The reason for this unaccustomed lack of activity is mainly the School Certificate Examinations, which have understandably attracted the larger part of most Sixth Formers' activities. Despite these set-backs, we have held six programmes this term, and should with luck get in another two before we break up, whether literally or merely symbolically.

The trend this term has been rather directed by the emergence of a vocal minority in favour of modern jazz, and it is difficult to see how this trend can be reversed as in the summer it would appear that all but the most enthusiastic supporters of the traditional school go into hibernation. It would appear that the heat-wave which has just passed was more conducive to 'cool' music than the 'hot' variety, for during this time we had three modern programmes to only one traditional.

The majority of this term's programmes have been of the personal choice variety, with M. A. Sutcliffe leading the way. He presented a programme on Duke Ellington and secured a fairly large audience despite a certain measure of difference of opinion as to whether it was Ray or Duke Ellington who was being featured. J. G. Bayly was charged with presenting two modern jazz programmes and was found guilty but insane by the majority of those attending.

Having left the best wine until last, it can be reported that on the credit side we had an excellent programme on George Lewis, the coloured clarinetist, which was followed by a personal choice, presented by G. A. Currie, featuring Bunk Johnson. Another of these programmes was presented by B. Denton, and it inevitably featured the clarinet of Jimmy Noore, including about half the records this great jazzman ever made.

Once again I, on behalf of the group, would like to tender my thanks to the Inmate of the Art Room for enduring us each Friday during Junior lunch, and also to those people who have lent us records or presented programmes at our meetings. An invitation is extended to those Fifth Formers who will shortly graduate to a life in the Sixth to find out what goes on behind that creaking door each Friday.

B.D.

### IV 3 MODERN MUSIC APPRECIATION SOCIETY

This club was formed at the end of last term by several members of IV 3 to provide modern music for all who appreciate it.

At present there are eight permanent members, with usually one or two visitors, and meetings are held in the Art Room during second lunch on alternate Fridays.

All types of modern music are played, and during this term we have played a total of fifty-seven records, consisting of twenty-four Rock-and-Roll, one Country and Western, five Jazz, five "Pops" and twenty-two Skiffle. At the end of each term we plan to hold a mammoth meeting when we will invite all the Fourth Forms (next year's Fifth Forms).

C.R.G.

### RECORDER CLUB

The past term has been a successful one for the Recorder Club. In the Orchestra Concert we performed three pieces written on plainsong melodies by W. Byrd, and three anonymous 16th century pieces from the Dolmetsch collection. These were not all however, for one of our members, Richard Lee, played a sonata by Handel for treble recorder, accompanied by Mr. Vyse at the piano, and then proceeded to give a delightful rendering of an anonymous late 16th century dance *Spagnoletta* on his treble viol, supported by muted 'cello and tenor recorder.

With the Orchestra Concert behind us, our next public appearance was at the meeting held for parents who helped at the Garden Party, and at this meeting we performed three Mozart songs (on two tenor recorders and 'cello), followed by a descant recorder solo by D. P. Brooks (accompanied by Mr. Vyse) — a Minuet and Bourrée by Handel. Later on a trio of recorders played a suite by J. Faber, and then the meeting was rounded off musically by R. W. Lee, who played *Le Rossignol en Amour* and several dances by W. Lawes on a soprano recorder, again accompanied by Mr. Vyse.

At Open Night we performed a trio sonata by M. Locke and a piece by G. Holst. There were also two solo items — a suite by Chédeville played by R. W. Lee, and the Brahms Cradle Song played by D. P. Brooks, both with piano accompaniment.

On the 13th July several of us went to Haslemere to listen to a very enjoyable concert given by Carl Dolmetsch and the Dolmetsch Ensemble, and there we made arrangements about the Da Vinci Concert to be given this term, for which two pieces are prepared.

We must finish on a sad note, however, for at the end of this term we shall lose our enthusiastic, hard working sponsor, Mr. L. W. Vyse, to whom we wish the best of luck in his new post. We hope that he will keep in touch with us.

D.P.B. R.W.L.

## SPUR MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

Once again, the Spur Model Railway Club was one of the now regular features of the School's Garden Party, and its popularity amongst the boys and their parents was an indication that interest in this particular field of the School's activities is in no way waning. We are now speedily approaching the end of the Summer Term, and in view of other forms of recreational activities, resulting in smaller Club attendances, we are taking advantage of this respite to re-lay part of the track. Nevertheless, there is still sufficient interest amongst the older members of the Club to inspire us with plans for the future and continued development of the Club's activities.

We would like to thank Mr. Trapp for giving up an evening to come along to the Club and photograph the general lay-out of the track. Photographs were taken in various positions so as to include all sections, which in turn represent the School houses. The results, proofs of which were displayed at the Garden Party, were very enlightening, but the sales, we regret to say, were not very encouraging. Nevertheless, thank you again for your efforts, Mr. Trapp.

May we take this opportunity of extending a cordial invitation to any of the new pupils who will be joining the School after the Summer recess to come along and take part in one of the Club's meetings before actually becoming members? The Club meets every Monday from 7.15 p.m. to 9.0 p.m. and we can assure you that if you have an interest in model railways you will find the Club's activities a very entertaining way of spending your leisure hours.

R.L.F. S.G.C.

## CHESS CLUB

The inter-house competition has now at last been concluded, with Gibbs emerging the winners by a very narrow margin over Halliwells. Gibbs was in fact the only house not to lose any matches — and Cobbs the only one not to win any! Newsoms was perhaps the most unlucky contestant, in that the absenteeism of one of their key players during the first round robbed them of the chance to beat Halliwells.

Of all the individual performances, Loveday's was the steadiest, giving nothing away. He is, however, a far better tactician than a strategist!

Below is a full analysis of all games played.

Points	v.	v.	v.	v.	v.
Awarded to	G	H	M	N	C
1. Gibbs	—	8	6	6	10
2. Halliwells	4	—	8	8	9
3. Miltons	6	4	—	8	8
4. Newsoms	6	4	4	—	8
5. Cobbs	2	3	4	4	—

The totals were: Gibbs 30; Halliwells 29; Miltons 26; Newsoms 22; Cobbs 13.

S.J.C.

## CRAFT NOTES

At this end of the Summer Term the Craft Room is as usual alive with feverish activity. People who will shortly be leaving us are working against time to complete unfinished jobs, the printers are always busy trying to keep pace with the unending flow of work that seems to come their way, pottery is gradually coming to a halt as the end of term batch



of glazing and firing starts, and book-binders are trying to do just one more job before it is too late and the opportunity has been missed. All these activities still flourish. The last named is the youngest of the crafts to be seriously tackled at Raynes Park, but already the Library has on its shelves a number of books bound in the School workshop. One thing missing this term is the rush and bustle of last minute activity for the Junior School play. The Stagecraft Guild however has not been entirely idle, doing small jobs on the stage from time to time this term, having done its main job of producing a set for *Twelfth Night* earlier in the year.

All craft activity requires one common virtue — that of patience; patience not only in exercising care over each separate operation, but patience in waiting to see what the time and energy involved will produce. To a craftsman, the finished product is always in his mind's eye. He knows that by exercising care, doing each small part with infinite patience and exercising restraint, everything will unite in a satisfying whole. The student, however, in addition to patience needs faith; faith that what he is being taught to do will produce worth while results. The construction of a piece of woodwork or the throwing of a pot or the binding of a book merely give the job its form, and although the hard labour has been done at this stage, the need for patience grows with each stage of the "finishing" process. As "finishing" proceeds one sees very little for one's care and attention and many a person tires of the continued self-control required to be painstaking, but at last the stage is reached when the final polishing is done, the gold leaf is on or the pot has received its glaze, and the craftsman sees his reward. His creation has come to life, suddenly, it is complete, his efforts are rewarded and he feels a little glow of pride at his achievement.

The feeling of satisfaction is, however, short-lived as he looks at his creation analytically and sees the errors and realises his shortcomings. Next time the design must be changed, the polish improved, the impression made clearer, the 'squares' set squarer, and so he is well on the way to exercising his patience again on the next attempt. Eventually experience teaches him to 'see' his goal, and through faith and the exercise of patience he will come a little nearer that perfection which is always elusive.

R.G.A.

## 19th WIMBLEDON SCOUT GROUP

Since last term, the troop activities have taken on a more settled pattern in spite of slight interruptions caused by examinations and the irregular attendance of a few boys.

During the Easter holidays two camps run by the Seniors were held at our private camping ground at West Hoathly in Sussex, and, as always, these were extremely popular. At the beginning of the holidays Mr. Pratt also organised a ramble from Box Hill station which was very well attended.

At the beginning of term most of our hut was completed, although there are still a few minor adjustments to be seen to, and we started well with the arrival of some very enthusiastic members from the first form. As I have already said, we settled down to more orthodox activities, with the usual passing of proficiency badges, and towards the latter half of the term, a special test course was organised to enable some of the younger boys to reach a reasonably good standard. Courts of Honour have also been held regularly, and are a great asset in deciding the future activities of the troop.

We have also to welcome the arrival of Mr. Wedderspoon, who has very kindly agreed to become the official Scoutmaster of our troop. His energy has already been of great value to us since his arrival. We must also remember to thank Mr. Pratt for all that he has done for us during his comparatively short stay as temporary Scoutmaster, and we greatly appreciate all his help over the past six months in rescuing the troop from extinction.

The Annual Garden Party was held again this term, and as usual met with the kind support of many of our parents. Most of the stalls were similar to those of other years, with the exception of the Hot Dog Stall. This was a new venture and proved extremely successful, in spite of a few minor accidents, and was one which everybody found enjoyable owing to the expert cooking of our Seniors!

Looking a little way ahead we find that for the first time the troop will not be having its annual summer camp. This of course is because of the lack of a regular Scoutmaster to organise the camp. Many boys, however, can look forward to a few weeks at West Hoathly during the summer. We have also two boys going to the World Jamboree at Sutton Coldfield for the first fortnight of the holidays, so that the handicap of not having a summer camp will be little felt.

A.E.B.

### A.T.C. NOTES

The main event since the last edition of these notes has been the week spent on Annual Training. This year the Squadron was at R.A.F. Fazakerley on the outskirts of Liverpool from 5th-12th April.

The week's training was organised by the West Lancashire Wing of the A.T.C., who provided visits to Liverpool Docks, Mersey Tunnel, Port Sunlight and North West Signals Centre, as well as a full instructional programme. Two days were spent in flying at R.A.F. Woodvale, and whilst at this airfield the Squadron was inspected by Air Vice-Marshall Satterly, A.O.C. 64 Group, during his Annual Inspection of the station. An afternoon was spent at Altcar long ranges where marksmanship badges were gained by Flt. Sgt. Mayer and Ldg. Cdt. Fussell. Lectures, films and .22 shooting filled in the remainder of the programme and five Cadets were attached to the M.T. Section helping on the major overhauls of vehicles. Generally the week was enjoyed and the food was some of the best yet experienced by the Squadron.

This term the training has been spent in an all-out effort to gain the Surrey Wing Training Cup. This cup is awarded each year to the squadron gaining the most certificates in the year's four Advanced and Proficiency Examinations. At the present time, with three examinations completed, the Squadron is in the lead with 27 certificates against Surbiton's 26 and Esher's 24 (though these are unofficial figures). Certificates were gained during the term as follows:

Advanced (Aircrew)—Cdts. Loveday, Groves, King, Davey.  
Proficiency (Aircrew)—Cdts. Barfoot, R., Chapman, Dafforn, Gould, Yeldham, Howsden, Brookes, Pond. (Signals)—Cpl. Barley. (Engines)—Cpl. How (credit).

The annual Wing competitions were held this year at R.A.F. Kenley on the afternoon of Sunday, 22nd July. The main items were the finals of the band, drill and shooting competitions, and in addition there was flying and a gliding demonstration. This Squadron entered for the private section of the shooting and was placed third.

Congratulations are due to Flt. Sgt. Hope on the award of a reciprocal visit to Canada starting on the 17th July.

As is usual at the end of the summer term, the Squadron is losing a large number of Cadets, and it is hoped that a correspondingly large number of recruits will be forthcoming next term. Any member of the School aged 13½ or over will be welcomed from 7.00 p.m. onwards any Friday evening.

D.L.B.

## OLD BOYS SOCIETY

"I grow old, I grow old, I shall wear the bottoms of my trousers rolled."

Each fifth and sixth form sees it happen. They leave School and vanish from consciousness; each time they reappear the processes of spreading and thinning are more apparent. Some begin to draw National Health benefits—glasses, dentures and surgical supports; some compound a marriage, and are transformed from single, active atoms to heavy stable molecules with a surrounding swarm of smaller particles. No longer having to chase it brings to them increasing weight and sedentary dullness; the basic elements of their environment are armchairs, television screens, diapers and gardens. Seedy and slowly stagnating, carboned-up by Tobacco or steeped in Alcohol, declining into a docile dotage—You might become one of them.

To precipitate such alumni from their state of dissolution, the Old Boys Society exists. Many of you would miss with regret the weekly game of rugger: we provide four teams of different standards with high reputations amongst rival Old Boys Societies. There is opportunity for those who want good club rugby and we cater equally for those who prefer the rough and tumble of the weekly beer match. There is a good cricket fixture list, and an active hockey circle; new players are always needed and welcome.

For those of you who have actually flirted with the Muse in House or School plays, and especially for those who were active in that esoteric organization the Stagecraft Guild, there is a chance of following your own interests and giving the Old Boys Dramatic Section the help they require in their November production by joining the Saints, who have won the Wimbledon Drama Festival in three successive years. If you are a Chess Fiend, a Music Fanatic, a Polished Debater, or a Hypo-stained Photographer, or a Skill-less Rabbit at any of these activities, groups of enthusiasts pursue these occupations under the auspices of the Old Boys Society.

Most to the point, you remain amongst old friends . . . or enemies. Not only the scholastically illustrious and the outstanding sportsmen fill our ranks, but we boast the presence of certain notorious "criminals" who recall with morbid relish defiance of authority throughout their years of incarceration. In moving into new circles after leaving School you not only can maintain your present friendships, but may get to know your predecessors and successors.

The Old Boys Society flourishes: a sports ground has been bought and is being developed; membership increases; our Dinner is more successful every year and the *Old Spur* is very much alive. But all things that grow need new strength and energy; we have only one source: we hope that you will step from the society of those who are now at School to the Society of those who have been. Although this may resemble an advertisement inviting you to take out a Life Assurance Policy, or a Salvationist's plea to come and join us, I hope that in the facetiousness of the first paragraph you see the underlying truth, that the real function of the Old Boys Society is to make possible for us a more varied and satisfying life.

C. R. WEIGHTMAN.

## AN EXPERIMENT WITH TIME

The recorder is only one of many instruments of the past which have seen a revival of interest in the 20th century. Like the harpsichord and the clavichord, it was out of fashion well before 1800, while the lute and the viols had had their day a whole century before, and some may ask why it has been thought necessary to bring these instruments back.

It is essential in the first place to understand that the recorder is not the forerunner of the flute, any more than the harpsichord is a primitive piano, or the viol an elementary violin. If these instruments were nothing more than the earlier models of those we possess to-day, there would be no point in playing them, except as curiosities. The recorder player is commonly misunderstood to be a musical antiquarian, but this is the opposite of the truth. Each of these instruments, or groups of instruments, is entirely individual, and the best examples of each are masterpieces of the musical craftsman's art. If the modern ear finds them inferior, this is because it takes the piano, the violin and the flute for granted, and uses them, quite unconsciously, as a standard by which to judge. This deception of the ear, or rather of the judgement, is very subtle; it often surprises people to learn, for example, that the piano is not, as they think, richer in colour than the harpsichord — the grandest of grand pianos possesses only two possible tone-colours, whereas a large harpsichord may command at least a dozen. A sensitive player can modify these basic colours, but not more so on the piano than on the older instrument. Similarly, we must accept the recorder as a recorder, and not as a flute; then we shall begin to appreciate it, and only then shall we understand the ecstatic remarks made about it by musicians and non-musicians alike during 400 years or more of its popularity. Its tone is not only one of the purest in the whole range of musical instruments, but has an essentially serious character, which was recognised from the earliest times. Those who have heard the bass, tenor, treble, descant and soprano recorders sounding together will understand why a full consort of recorders was considered to be "unsurpassed in dignity and reserve". The recorder was often called for in music of great solemnity, and it is not surprising that of all the many instruments available, it is the recorder that is most often played by those multitudes of angels that throng the religious canvases of the Renaissance and the Baroque. (Seriousness, by the way, should be thought of as a positive quality, not as the absence of life and movement; most recorder music is secular, and much of it is very fast and difficult to play, but the serious character remains. It follows that recorder players should not ask their instruments to do more than they are able, that is, to play arrangements of music for which their particular expressiveness is totally unfitted.)

An instrument cannot be separated from its music, and it is the music, even more than the superb instruments which inspired it, that is our justification for playing recorders, viols, harpsichord, clavichord, and the like. Until recently, the great Bach was supposed to have sprung up like a mushroom in the night, and to have been the first man to deserve a chapter to himself in the entire history of the art; the preceding 500 years of harmonised music were got over in 30 pages. The idea was widely current (and in some quarters still is) that the music of this vast period was nothing more than a preparation for the glories that were to come, whereas a real acquaintance with the style and technique appropriate to each age will soon convince anyone that great musicians do not become less, but more numerous as one goes back into the past. Nor is this music merely quaint and charming; the impression gained is rather one of enormous richness, variety and power. We are dealing, in fact, not with one period, but with several. Besides, how is it possible that the generations which produced the best in literature, painting, sculpture and architecture should have been able to attain to only a humble level in the art of music, which they cultivated more than anything else? It is especially important for Englishmen to know this; they will then realise that there is no need to suffer from a musical inferiority complex, nor to presume that any attempt to sing the praise of English music of the past derives from a feeling of inadequacy. The predominance of German music and the eclipse of English music are comparatively recent.

The playing of "early" music on "old" instruments should not be regarded as a fad which occupies its devotees to the exclusion of all later music. On the contrary, it illuminates the work of the Classical and Romantic schools as nothing else can. The stature of more modern composers is not thereby diminished; their achievements are simply seen more clearly by contrast or by comparison with what has gone before. What is objectionable is the limitation of one's idea of music, which is as Protean as any of the arts, to the models furnished by modern music, however perfect they may be. Art is not a science, and perfection is liable to appear at any time. Moreover, it should be recognised that an interest in Mozart, or Beethoven, or Bach, is an interest in the past. If it is to be the past, why not the whole of it? Certainly an incomplete picture leads to absurdities — 19th century editors brought 16th century harmony "up to date", a practice happily discontinued, and even Bach's orchestration is still tampered with in the belief that it is immature, the wrong instruments being used, or the right ones in the wrong proportions, so that the detail is swamped in the mass of sound.

All these arguments, however, can never do what the music can do, which is to speak for itself, if given a chance. It must not only be listened to, but played and sung. It offers unrivalled

opportunities for small ensemble work and does not demand that every player be a virtuoso; an increasing number of people, especially young people, have found this out, and in so doing have brought music back into the home, whence it has virtually been banished through the indiscriminate use of the radio, the television, and even the concert-hall. If it is not possible for everyone to be a performer, it should be remembered that the individuality of an instrument such as the recorder and the essence of an unfamiliar style cannot be grasped on a superficial hearing; these reveal themselves only gradually even to the sympathetic player, who is in the best position to make a judgement. As with so many other things, 'l'appétit vient en mangeant'.

Arnold Dolmetsh, one of the foremost pioneers in this work of rediscovery, once said that no instrument could live entirely on its past; if it is a good instrument, it must have a future too. Many modern composers, realising the truth of this, have contributed to an ever-growing repertoire of modern music for the harpsichord and the recorder. As it becomes more generally recognised that the standardisation which has taken place in the world of musical instruments has resulted in a somewhat poverty-stricken musical palette, and that improvements in the technique of individual instruments have been achieved only at the expense of a coarsening or an alteration of the tone, so the musical world will realise what it has lost, and will seek to remedy this situation, not only for the sake of the fine music which is deprived of its rightful utterance, but also because of the music to come.

L.W.V.

### PARIS TRIP, 1957

#### The Journey Out

This year, as we were to go to Paris on the Newhaven - Dieppe route, we had to meet at Victoria at 8 o'clock on the 9th April. The whole party gathered in time, with one exception, and at 8.40 we left platform 15 bound for Newhaven. We were full of the usual excitement of inexperienced travellers, but we settled down to the games we had brought and the journey passed quite quickly.

The 'Brighton Belle' left the harbour amidst the usual cheers, and pulled out into the open sea, where it was a bit fresh and the boat rolled a little. Before the end of the voyage, however, this was to cause much unpleasantness amongst some of the people on board. None of our party actually suffered from any complaint, although some were a little off-colour. By the fitter members of the party, the journey was spent exploring the ship and singing at the ship's rails. We finally drew into Dieppe, noticing the war damage, and docked by the rear of an extremely long train which was to take us to Paris. We disembarked in the usual con-

fusion which follows docking, and made our way to our compartments. Here we proceeded to eat our lunch. Then the train pulled out, and we settled down to look at the scenery; soon this became boring, so we formed our own choral society, but under "persuasion" we were forced to disband it. Finally we arrived amidst cheers at our destination, and were met by a member of the travel society. He looked somewhat like Nasser, but spoke with a strong American accent. We were taken to our coach, and it nosed out into the swirl of Paris traffic. We were very amused by the method of driving here and enjoyed our ride immensely, especially when a gendarme had his foot run over by a Moped. We crossed over the Seine and up the Boulevard St. Michel. From this main road we turned off into the poorer student quarters, in which our hotel was situated.

#### **Paris—9th - 16th April**

We arrived in Paris on an evening during which the most lavish entertainment and spectacle had been prepared to greet a British Queen. At nightfall the Royal visitors from Britain sailed in a luxurious glass-domed launch on the Seine through the heart of Paris; past the floodlit buildings of the Invalides, the Louvre and the Ile de la Cité, the historic centre of Paris. At every stage of their journey, from bridges, embankments and squares, could be seen and heard singers, dancers and instrumentalists in picturesque tableaux representing the history and folk culture of France. The end of the Royal trip was brought to a climax by a twenty minute bombardment of fireworks from the Pont Alexandre II near to the vast Place de la Concorde. Hundreds of thousands of Parisians had flocked to every possible vantage point overlooking the river, swarming perilously up the many monuments and statues. Republican Paris was in a wildly Royalist delirium.

In order to see something of all that was going on, our party left the hotel promptly after dinner and proceeded to the local Metro through the narrow, badly lit back streets of the Latin Quarter. Every few yards we all but stumbled over beggars sleeping on the pavement and on the steps leading down to the Metro station. Most of the party were using the Metro for the first time, and though uncomfortable, all agreed that it was an efficient system. But no system, however efficient, could have coped with the crowds that were trying to make for the Metro station at the Place de la Concorde. The platform and exits were so crammed that it was impossible to get off the trains as they arrived. Amidst such crowds it was inevitable that half our party was temporarily detached from us. We finally struggled into the cool night air to join the vast crowds thronging the brightly lit Place de la Concorde who were watching a magnificent display of fireworks. We then walked back past the Tuileries

gardens and the Louvre, through the crowds still thronging the banks of the Seine, and then to our hotel and bed.

The next morning the majority went through Paris to the Arc de Triomphe, where we saw the tomb of the unknown warrior and the perpetual flame. The afternoon of glorious weather was spent in rowing on the main lake of the Bois de Boulogne. Thursday passed with visits to the Hôtel de Invalides, Napoleon's magnificent tomb, and the Louvre. Unfortunately the Greek and Roman section of the Louvre was closed to us, an official State Banquet having been held there on the previous evening in honour of the Queen. We were impressed by the Winged Victory of Samothrace and somewhat puzzled at the world-wide fame of the Mona Lisa.

Our visits the following day were to the Eiffel Tower and to Versailles. On the very top of the Eiffel Tower we had our first sight of snow this year ! Some members of the party walked down from the second floor to meet the others at the bottom, while Mr. King went on to make arrangements for the visit to Versailles. At Versailles we had a surprise when Mr. Trinder walked out of the main gates. After greetings had been exchanged, we walked on to the palace and gardens.

The party set off early next morning for Notre Dame and the Conciergerie on the Ile de la Cité. From the tower of Notre Dame we enjoyed a wonderful view over Paris. At the Conciergerie we saw the prison halls where the victims of the Terror had been herded before execution during the period of the French Revolution. We saw the knife of the guillotine and the cell of Marie Antoinette. From here we went to La Sainte Chapelle, a church built by Saint Louis, King of France during the 13th century, to enshrine supposed relics of Christ, and in particular the Crown of Thorns. Saint Louis redeemed the latter for a large sum of money from the Venetians, to whom it had been pawned by Baudoin, Emperor of Constantinople. The main features of La Sainte Chappelle were the lovely high stained glass windows on all sides, specially enhanced by the shining sun.

We went the next day, Palm Sunday, to see and hear parts of the services at the Russian Church and then at the Church of Sacré Coeur. The memorable features of the Russian Church service were the continuous and beautiful singing from a hidden choir and the tightly packed congregation all standing in the body of the church, which was without chairs or pews.

For our last full day in Paris we had our own Seine river trip organised in the morning, shopping in the afternoon and a visit for all to the Mogador theatre in the evening. For some of us this was our second theatrical night out in Paris, as we had been previously to the Opéra Comique to see a performance of *Carmen*, a truly memorable occasion. The show at the Mogador



was on the lines of our pantomime, the story providing an excuse for exotic transformation scenes and colourful settings, costumes, music and dancing. In terms of pure statistics, there were in all some one hundred and eighty performers making use of eight hundred costumes. This show was thoroughly enjoyed by everybody and was a fitting climax to a very full and varied week of Paris visits. Thanks are due to Mr. King for the wonderfully smooth way in which the whole visit was conducted and to Mr. Ayton and Mr. Hindle for sharing the burden of responsibility.

### **The Return Journey**

On the 16th April, a Tuesday, we had to get up early to pack our baggage. This, however, was not done without encouragement from the masters, who spent the early morning beating on the room doors. Finally we were all up. Washed and dressed, with our things packed, we went down to our continental breakfast, which was a little larger than usual. After this came a last minute look at the shops and a wander round the streets, which were just beginning to wake up. At last it was time to board the coach for the station, and with a final look at the hotel, we once more joined the flow of traffic, not as excited as a week ago.

The train left without ceremony, right on time, and for want of something to do, we were obliged to reorganise our choral society, which managed to function right up to Dieppe. At Dieppe we stepped off the train and walked straight up the gangway of the waiting ship. It was fairly hot now, so we piled our luggage together and made our way to the ship's side to watch a dockside crane. As the ship drew out of the harbour, we looked with regret at the train with its Paris boards up, and then set about finding a place against the rails or on the hold covers. It was on the latter that we decided to have our lunch and pass away the afternoon basking in the sun. This journey was more boring than the previous one, for then we had the roll of the boat to combat, whereas on the return journey the breeze was slight and the sea placid — highly unentertaining. The time passed slowly, but at last we found ourselves in the Customs Shed at Newhaven. No bloomers were made. We passed from there direct to the platform and on to the train.

The train was pulling us on the last leg of our journey while we played various games, thinking with regret of the city we had left, and yet looking forward to meeting our parents again.

With a final hiss of steam the train drew into Victoria. The whole party assembled on the platform. There were the usual acknowledgements, and then the party disbanded, each individual making his own way home. Thus the Paris Trip, 1957 ended.

R.I.M. S.F.P.

## BLUE DENIM TROUSERS AND MOTOR-CYCLE BOOTS

The number of girl-friends and families and, all too often, the amount of homework being "widowed" by motor-cycles is increasing daily. The term "motor-cycles" is an all-embracing one, covering everything from motor-assisted cycles, through scooters to the 1000 c.c. giants of the road. Isn't it amazing how we seem to graduate in sound through this scale from "pop-pop" to "phut-phut" and so to just plain "rooaar"? How amazing too it is how narrow-minded these motor-cycle types get. Once they were such witty conversationalists, but now one doesn't get much choice of conversation topic — gears or speeds, crashes or skids. And what a proud possession a battered "skidlid" has become: the fruit of glory won in a fair fight !

Of course in these modern "civilized" times the snake of class distinction still seems to manage to rear its ugly head; motor cycling is no exception, and three main divisions have sprung up. There are the burn-around-the-roads-on-hot-rods-at-week-ends types, and it is these who usually have petrol flowing through their veins and are all valves and compression ratios. No "skid-lids" for these characters: a chequered cheese-cutter and sometimes perhaps a pair of goggles are made to suffice, the latter only if the owner is above the half-a-crown a week income bracket. No P.V.C. suits for them either: their outfit consists of faded blue jeans and sawn off wellington boots (the latest fashion), not forgetting the typical open-necked shirt. Their philosophy when in a jam is always to accelerate, never to clap the "anchors" on (they probably don't work anyway). I don't advocate this as being good advice for any would-be speedsters: it never seems to work — not for me anyway. Perhaps it's because I'm not a "type". Oh I nearly forgot the machine: a 1936 Douglas side-valve twin (cubic capacity undeterminable) lashed to a 1928 frame with best string, with a 1935 front tyre and a 1931 rear (no tread of course), no "speedo" and no silencer (these are points of principle). Then there are miscellaneous valve lifters, a hand pumped oil system, and, of course, masses of wire, usually over five miles of it, all leading nowhere and culminating in an enormous knot under the frame. The lights are a special feature: two hurricane lamps insecurely tied on.

Then we come to the we-take-it-seriously-with-all-our-money types. We have all seen them, clad in black P.V.C. suits from head to foot, tearing about as if they hadn't a moment to lose on glittering machines plastered all over with badges (badges on helmets too). They believe speed limits don't apply to them, and that anyone who doesn't have at least one 500 c.c. Speed Twin isn't worth talking to, and that any breakdown they come across

is just not important enough to waste their precious time and energy on.

Lastly we come to the we-are-just-out-to-have-a-good-time types, who are often to be seen chugging to the coast at week-ends on labouring steeds carrying all the family and everything but the kitchen sink on their willing, if loaded, backs. These I have found to be the most considerate people on the road, always willing to help. But that's just how it always is, isn't it?

What class do I belong to? I wouldn't like to say. I would like to speed but I can't (I must be too heavy). I wear a skidlid, not because I have a 500 c.c. Speed Twin — far from it — but because somehow I am very prone to falling off. I suppose I am just a scooting schoolboy — er, without a girl friend.

B.G.W.M.

### QUOTES OF THE YEAR

To the Editor

Dear Sir,

In view of the recent claim that the *Spur* is desperately dull, we have decided to liven it up by including a few statements by members of the staff.

“Please do not play on the annexe, and keep the asphalt quiet.”

J. D. TIMPSON, Esq.

“Today the School will be visited by a visitor.”

J. D. TIMPSON, Esq.

“The trouble with people today is that they are too d--mn--d modest.”

H. DENNIS-JONES, Esq.

“I was only speaking to my wife last Wednesday.”

L. W. VYSE, Esq.

“The goodly Aeneas, his breast-plate on his back . . .”

A. J. SWEETLAND, Esq.

“.....”\*

P. A. TOWNSEND, Esq.

Yours Respectfully,

“R.I.P.”

\*In this case the Editor's decision was final.

## FINAL ASSEMBLY

“LET us now conclude by singing the School Song.”  
And you rise to meet the strangely-familiar melody  
That locks within its bars the ghosts  
And reminiscences of eight uneven years.  
The specks that swirl in the sunbeams of  
The Hall are no less real than those that  
Dance now between your memory’s camera and the past,  
And, though it was not so, that past seems golden  
And idyllic in such care-free retrospection.  
Preferable to that to come ?  
Of course you have met with “failure  
And successes”. (And there have perhaps  
Been three to be called “friends”.)  
There has been the cross-country race  
When sneering at yourself you cracked,  
And the “half” where your brain did not betray you.  
The cover-drive always elusive and the jokes freely come by.  
But the other — academic — thing,  
The one that brought the future, never so truly important :  
A knack too easy, lacking the honesty of  
A vital tackle. But failure, your teacher too, smiles now  
As it emerges from the past unchanging (for the second)  
“Time’s utter changes”.  
You have, you suppose, changed.  
You remember the second former that was once you,  
And feel more generous, compassionate: better.  
But is not this a chronological distortion  
Or are not personalities inviolable to “utter change”  
And rather gentle improvisations planted in time ?  
“I am a part of all that I have met.”  
And it of you.  
You remember, too, the faces of the leavers you used  
To watch. Glad ? Tearful ? Their faces unbetraying,  
But now you.  
And so now, whistling, you walk out out of  
The School into the busy street,  
Eager on the whole for a change  
And running your over-casual cane along life’s railings.  
But whistling sadly.

A.J.F.

## A MOTH

A moth flutters drunk in the light  
Of my lamp, and as he flakes down  
And spirals around,  
And hurls blindly into the night,  
I cannot but wonder, for how can it be  
There exists such a creature, as feeble as he ?

My room is but one in a whole town  
Of rooms; this village a tear  
In England's sphere  
Perched on top of the world — a crown !  
But what crown is this in the galaxy's train.  
Where something is nothing, invisible grain ?

The moth comes again, and pounds  
Through the window, and pecks at the light,  
His sole delight,  
And flaps, a twin leaf, to the ground.  
Yet how can I wonder that such things must be,  
Since I am as tiny and brittle as he ?

J.H.B.

## O WONDROUS CROSS

O wondrous cross on which our Saviour died !  
O wondrous blood that from His thorn-pricked head,  
From hands, from feet so willingly was shed  
For souls like yours and mine, where sins abide.  
They killed Him there upon the mountain side  
To which in agony He had been led;  
New life He gave there to the living dead,  
For on that cross were hell and death defied.  
My Lord be near in all I think or say,  
My life assist to play its destined role,  
Keep me upon the straight and narrow way,  
And when death comes at last to take its toll,  
To stand with You in that eternal day  
I ask may be the judgement on my soul.

A.T.R.

## FROM THE CITY'S DUSTY WAY

IN vain do I seek the blossoms, and lightning  
Gleaming and weaving along wind-tossed bushes  
Then fading, dying with the breeze;  
Bricks and traffic,  
City sights that bore my city stare.

For if you've never ploughed through leaf-snow,  
Nor felt the soft-drink quench of backwaters,  
Cool with weeds so fresh and lush,  
Water plashing with the paddle-slush,  
You have missed God, unless,

With a heart thankful and watchful,  
You have peered over rag-and-bone yards  
At maid's-blush sunsets, or heard the sparrow  
Chirp as it busked on gutter-moss  
In frozen-pipe weather.

J.D.

## A VISION OF EXPULSION

SAINT P.A.T. sat o'er his dinner plate,  
His quill was rusty, his heart with sorrow full,  
He had received so little work of late:  
The Spur, in fact, was "desperately dull".

The editors were humming out of tune,  
And hoarse with having little else to do —  
Excepting A.J.F., who very soon  
Would crack the wind of a poor phrase or two.

Saint P.A.T. alone and brooding sat  
And nodded o'er his quill, when lo! there came  
A wondrous noise he had not heard of late  
Which had made aught save A.J.F. exclaim;

But ere he could return to his repose,  
An angel raised the lids of those dimmed eyes,  
At which Saint P.T. yawned and rubbed his nose;  
"Saint Editor," exclaimed he, "prithee rise",

(Waving a sheet of scripture, verse not prose,  
A doubtful piece of work, of doubtful prize),  
To which the Saint replied, "Well, what's the matter?  
Is H.D.J. come back with all his clatter?"

"No," quoth the angel, "he is next in queue,  
So guard yourself 'gainst everlasting slumber,  
But to my business — articles for you,  
Material, in fact, for this term's number."

"Well, when you're ready," quoth the eager Saint,  
"I'll read your work — Thanks, many thanks indeed  
— Correct me if I'm wrong, you can't write 'aint',  
Besides, it's far too vague, you must RE-READ."

The next in line a bold step forward took,  
Presenting Saint P.T. with works on Greece;  
He cast around a 'too damn modest' look:  
"See Guthrie. Oh my God! The Golden Fleece."

The time passed by, and then a lengthy pause.  
The editors, in leisure, played at cards,  
Save he, with glasses and protruding jaws,  
Already proved of the immortal bards:

"'Fair Maid of Astolat' is not enough,  
Nor sparkling house-notes, be they ne'er so good . . .  
I'll write the *Spur* myself, however tough  
The task may seem to be, I'm sure I could . . ."

Saint P.A.T. sat o'er his dinner plate,  
His pen was rusty and his heart was full  
Of sorrow for the articles of late:  
Now A.J.F. was desperately dull!

G.B.

(With apologies to Lord Byron, and with the kind permission  
of A.J.F.)

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#### EDITORS

P. A. Townsend, Esq.      J. H. Brugger,      J. Davie,      A. J. Fowles.

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