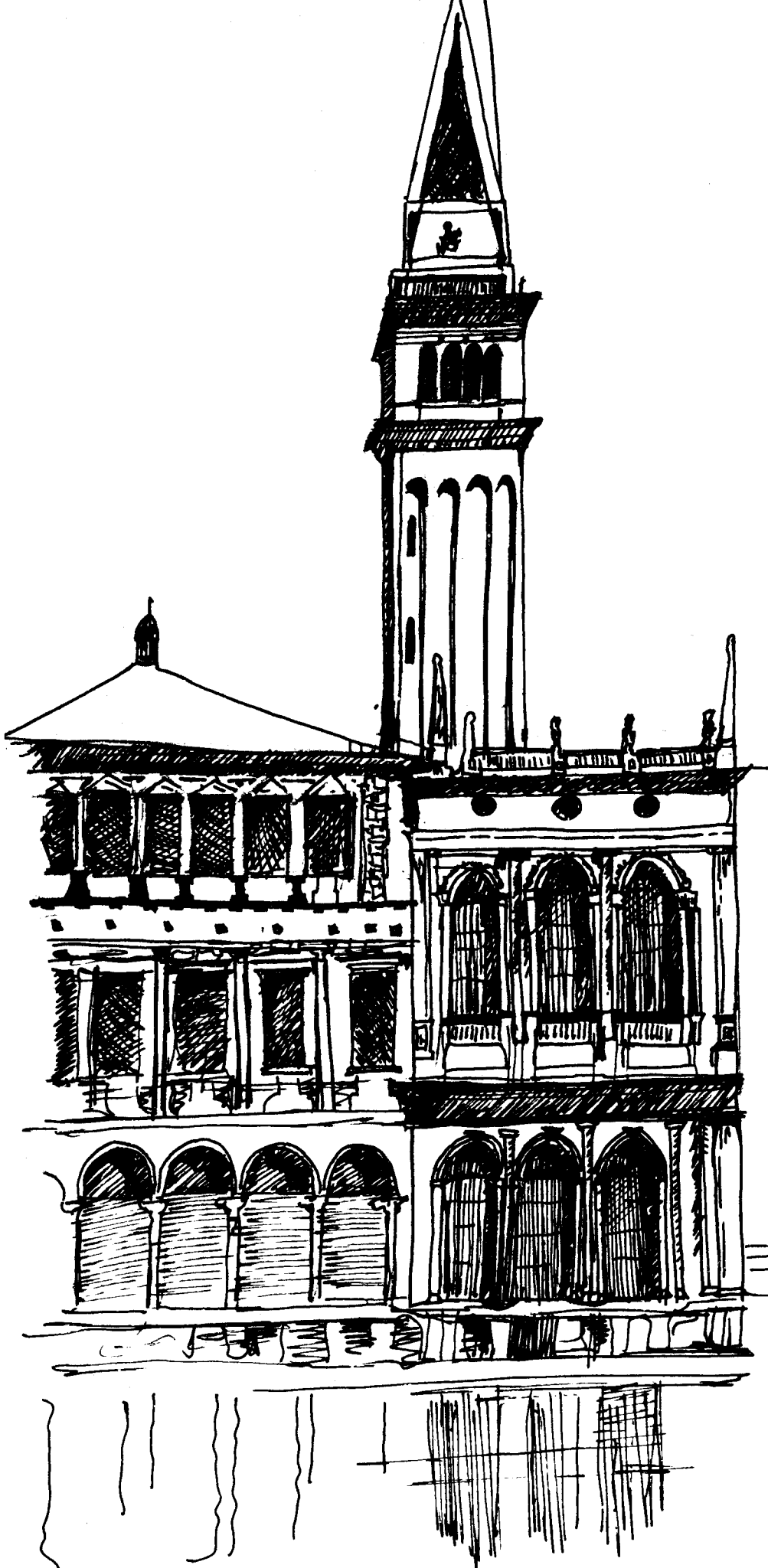




THE COURT

1978



IAN WOOD.

EDITORIAL

For those looking for auguries Speech Day 1978 coincided with one of the finest days of the Summer term. And this was just as well, there being more visitors than ever and the marquee was literally "bulging at the seams".

The one sad thing was the evident illness of Mr. Andrew Southorn, the Chairman of the Governors, who nevertheless made a characteristic and forthright speech, which even included an ironic reference to "The Court". We greatly regret to record his subsequent passing, which is the subject of an obituary elsewhere in our pages.

The Guest Speaker was R. B. Adams, Esq., Vice-Chairman of The P. & O. Shipping Line, and after introducing and welcoming him the Headmaster in his speech reviewed the past and took a hopeful look at the future. He reminded us that the school was entering its twentieth year. In the past 19 short years many developments had taken place. The number of boys had more than doubled to over 300, three small houses had become five substantial ones, teaching staff now numbered over 30, facilities for both academic work and sport had increased tremendously, the Art and Music departments had taken on new dimensions. There is still much to be done. When all the developments planned for the next three years come to fruition the school will have gained immensely in stature and importance.

The increasing length of time since our foundation naturally produces a growing number of Old Vikings who still maintain links with the College. We hope in the future to be able to include a section devoted to their activities.

After a period of virtually no change several members of staff have, alas, left us for various reasons. Mr. Peter Bleackley and Mrs. Nancy Thomas have retired, Mr. David John has returned to sculpturing full time, and Mr. Geoffrey Rowlands and Mr. Brian Jobin have moved on to "fresh fields". Our good wishes go with them. Valedictory appreciations are included in this issue.

Other changes are those relating to Housemasters. In January last Mr. David Welsh gave up the house he had started 12 years before. His pioneer work and the happy atmosphere he and his wife created there have been taken over by Mr. Robert Esau, who we know will develop them in his own particular style. Mr. David Partridge followed Mr. Esau at Orchard House, and we wish him a happy tenure.

Among items in the magazine we would particularly like to draw your attention to a useful and wide-ranging report on the Film Society by Mr. J. W. Whittington. He is unfortunately having to discontinue his running of it, and we are sure everyone appreciates all the work and time he has devoted to it in the past.

The Headmaster referred on Speech Day to the importance of our involvement in the life of the village, and to other aspects of school life—such as estate maintenance—which do not usually get the publicity that is given to the major sports. May we add a plea for a greater involvement too in "The Court", especially by boys? This year there has indeed been a greater influx of material—due to our continuing expansion?—and all those approached for information have been extremely co-operative. This is gratifying because we appreciate that preparing copy is a laborious task, and the material always seems to be wanted at the most inconvenient times. Therefore we sincerely thank all our contributors and collaborators for making this issue possible and, we hope, interesting. As for errors we seek refuge in the Horatian tag "quandoque bonus dormitat Homerus".

J.C.

HOUSE NOTES

Burr House

We started the academic year of 1977/78 with B. H. C. Morris as Head of House, A. D. Nonoo and C. Mordaunt as School Prefects, and M. A. Eaton, H. A. R. Havergal and R. C. Ward as House Prefects. C. R. Gordon Brown was also elected to the prefectorial body during the course of the Autumn term. Shortly after the beginning of the Summer term M. J. H. Avery, S. C. Druce, J. R. Neale, N. P. Whishaw and P. G. Clark joined Morris and his colleagues.

Owing to our limited boarding accommodation, we are still not a unit under one roof. We no longer inhabit Shiplake House, but eight boys live down at 'Riviera' in Lower Shiplake, where they are looked after by Mr. J. M. S. Woodcock and his wife. All of this means that we are still very limited in numbers—this year we total 58, whereas Skipwith numbers over 70—and so, looked at in this light, our sporting achievements have been remarkable. We started the year with fourteen trophies. During the Autumn term we lost the Senior rugby but won the Junior against Orchard House and during the Spring term we beat Orchard in the Junior Hockey. Sadly, we did not fare so well in the Summer term, when we lost both Tennis shields, the Cricket shields, Senior Swimming and Senior Rowing. Even so, we battled hard, won the Senior Football and appeared in both Tennis finals. Academically, we have also had an above average year, especially at 'O' Level, and we look forward to even better results in 1979.

At the end of the Autumn term, with full agreement from the powers that be, we staged our first House concert in the Tithe Barn. Eaton fathered the idea and put on a memorable evening's entertainment, for which each room had been rehearsing for weeks.

Refreshments were provided, not least Mrs. Dinnage's magnificent Christmas cake, and presentations were made. It was a most enjoyable occasion, and at the time of writing the new Head of House, Neale, is already working on the idea of one at the end of Autumn term, 1978.

At the end of 1977 we said a sad but fond farewell to Mr. D. S. Partridge, who had been appointed as housemaster of Orchard House. I should like to take this opportunity of expressing publicly our deepest thanks to him for all he has done for Burr House and so many boys, both past and present. We wish him every success in his new post.

I personally should like to pay tribute to Mr. P. Emerson and Mr. A. P. Hooper for all they have done and continue to do for the house and also to Mrs. Dinnage, whose patience never ceases to surprise me.

Finally, I should also like to pay tribute to Morris, all his colleagues, and all other members of the house for their truly wonderful support during what was to me a year noted for its unity, endeavour, and co-operation.

Our best wishes for the future go out to all the leavers, and we look forward to an equally successful year under new leadership in 1978/79.

Orchard House

This year has been a year of change for Orchard House. At Christmas Mr. Esau left to become Housemaster of Welsh House. It is thanks to his hard work and ideas that Orchard has managed to grow to over fifty boys in number and it is now in most respects on equal terms with the other Houses. There are plans for a new building to replace the two smaller ones and this much needed improvement will mean that we shall have facilities capable of housing sixty boys and three House Tutors. There have already been several improvements to the existing buildings during the year and these include the addition of a new changing room and showers. The House has been completely redecorated—largely by the boys themselves at the end of the Summer Term.

During the course of the year we won the Junior House Rugby, Cricket and Football Shields, and now that we have more seniors we hope to be able to add Senior Shields to these. On the academic side some very pleasing "O" and "A" Level results were achieved and throughout the year the work has been seen to have been improving. Inevitably there have been disappointments and the greatest of these must have been the House Music Competition when most observers considered us to be the favourite. However, the judge did not agree and we had to be satisfied with the knowledge that the whole House had performed with credit.

A House cannot be successful without invaluable contributions from many people. Mr. Barclay and Mr. Webb, the House Tutors, have helped in many different ways and they are being joined by Mr. Andrew Smail, who has many interests that will help the House. Our Matron, Mrs. Bette Clark, has always been on hand to help in numerous ways and her presence in the House is always appreciated by the boys. She has been assisted by Mrs. Alys Gehrman and they have cheerfully put up with us during the year.

A final mention should be made of Mark Broad, who has been Head of House for two years. It has been an arduous and perhaps at times thankless task, but he has emerged with credit and we wish him well for the future.

Welsh House Report

Head of School: I. C. Munday; Head of House: C. S. Rayburn; School Prefect: P. E. Cotton; House Prefects: W. Nettelield, G. Lotto, R. Davies, R. Woodward, T. Chavasse, M. Gray and M. Trevor.

This year our strength stood at 69 with the addition of 17 new boys which made the use of Shiplake House and Tegoni essential until the new extension was finished in the Summer holidays of 1978.

Sadly Mr. Welsh relinquished his Housemastership in the Easter term after 13 years, but he will continue to teach at the College. Mr. Esau, an ex-House Tutor, took his place after leaving Orchard House as Housemaster.

Our number of shields increased during the year from 3 to 7, most of them being obtained during the latter part of the year.

Unfortunately, with an extremely strong senior Rugby side, we came second as usual to Skipwith whilst in the Juniors, both teams saturated with Rowers, we did better than expected.

We won the Senior Hockey shield, but we lost the Junior Cross Country even though Ramsden and Turnbull in the Seniors, and Yorke-Davies and Moy in the Juniors, came high up in the school placings.

Once again the Squash shield was won by Welsh but the Sailing was not contested and the shield is still in Welsh.

The Juniors showed a lot of potential and enthusiasm, giving any opposition a hard game. Regretfully we came second again in the controversial house Music competition, and here praise was due to Chris Cowburn who moulded us into a formidable singing group, but alas we were let down by the difficulty of the classical piece and the inexperience of our musicians.

In the Summer we won four shields in a week; namely the Junior and Senior Tennis, the Senior Rowing and the Golf, we had a narrow miss in the Shooting competition and came second in the Athletics Standards.

On the work side we had a good harvest of 'O' Levels from the fifth form and 6th General, and Chris Rayburn, Bill Nettelield and Giuliano Lotto achieved 'A' Level passes, and Chris Rayburn a place at the University of East Anglia.

Sadly Mr. Geoffrey Rowlands, a house tutor for the past 3 years, left us at the end of the Summer term to take up an appointment in the Royal Navy as an instructor. We wish him the best of luck in his new position, and we would like to thank him for all the valuable work he has done for the boys in Welsh.

M. R. Gray

Everett 1977/78

"And after the seven fat years came the seven lean years". Fairly consistent success has been Everett's good fortune during most of this decade. We are now in a second year of sporting dearth caused by the exodus of the many talented all rounders we had till recently. The sports commentators during the World Cup made derogatory remarks about "No one remembers who came second" but at the moment we are happy if leadership, determination and team spirit gets us into second place. With the lack of all rounders we have at the moment doing well represents a considerable achievement. Charles Eve made sure we kept the Music Shield; the juniors pointed the way by winning the Junior Cross Country and we won the Shooting Trophies for the first time ever. We gave a good account of ourselves in Senior Athletics; Cricket; Swimming and Football. The Junior Oarsmen showed determination as the Junior Hockey XI did in March. The rest is silence! In these difficult times the cheerful leadership of A. L. Barnes raised the level of team performances and kept spirits up when things went badly. He also proved to be a useful coach of junior teams. He was ably supported by U. N. Nabi, a man of unfailing humour, N. J. R. Frewer and D. Saker—our most talented all rounder. C. P. Eve, M. J. Yates, C. Anderson, D. Hibbert, J. C. Sumner, J. F. Shortt all gained experience as prefects during the year and will run Everett during 1978-79.

A special farewell must be said to Mr. B. P. Jobin, who has been a House Tutor for two years. His Thursdays on duty were much sought after by all those who needed help with Maths or Physics. His dry comments on our human failings will be much missed. Fortunately Mr. J. M. S. Woodcock and Mr. Richard Southwood continue with us.

We took over our extension from the builders just one day before the start of the Autumn term and its benefits have been much enjoyed. Five more studies have been appreciated by the seniors and a changing room also became available for them. The largest room in the extension turned out to be unsuitable for a new day room and became a study for five. Accordingly plans were made to improve the existing day room. The cooking area was partitioned off; the TV set resited; a mural of a young lady (and not of the Housemaster as rumoured) was painted during redecoration and the seating much improved. At least things have become more pleasant and comfortable.

What did we do in the Spring term? Everett was not swept by Skateboarding but by Billiards and Snooker. This was due to the gift of a table by Mr. Briggs. During week ends and on wet days this was a great boon. The approach of GCE brought activities to an end but, if there had been inter house Snooker we would have won that!

Skipwith House Report 1977/78

Head of House: Alan Brigden; Vice-Head of House: Andrew Lear; House Prefects: Rupert Clarke, Richard Atkinson, Richard Davies-Cooke, Tim Frewer, Andrew Linsey, Nick Roper-Caldbeck, Tom Fromant, Roger Harrold, John Woodward, Andrew Bainbridge, Alec Ingham Clark. Sub Prefects: Andrew Priest, Toby Burgess, Ashley Guy, Nick Dale, Colin Everett, Bob O'Neill.

There was a record seventy-three boys in the House, with twelve new boys in the winter term, and another four in the spring term.

In Rugby, our Junior House League team was big and useful, but they only managed to beat Welsh. The Junior House team, like the Junior League team, was short in numbers due to our large number of Junior rowers. The Senior team did very well, winning the Shield after beating Welsh in the final, where both teams were hampered by injuries. The final score was 7-4 to Skipwith, with a good try by Richard Pointon, converted by Richard Davies-Cooke. It was a tremendous match, which made a splendid final to the term. For the last four weeks, we had a strange guest—in the form of Andrew Lear's golden labrador, "Honey". It was obvious that she greatly enjoyed her stay in the House. In the School play, "H.M.S. Pinafore", boys in the House, as usual, took the leading roles. By the end of the Winter term, the whole of the House was covered by fire detectors, smoke detectors and fancy flashing lights. It was a long time before we were able to control this system, due to its great sensitivity. Nameless persons on the top landing gained quite a reputation for burning the toast!

In the Spring Term, the House Library was started, and grew rapidly; a games centre in the basement is also planned. The Junior House Hockey League team failed to obtain any link between the backs and the forwards, with the latter being unable to score goals. The Junior House team played well against Everett, winning 3-2 in extra time, but they lost to Burr in the next round. The Senior Hockey team was expected to get through to the final. We played Burr in the preliminary round and lost to a team which played better together than we did. In the House Music Competition, organised by Jonathan Edgoose, we made a good effort, though finished third. Walker was a realistic Elvis in "Blue Suede Shoes", and the House song was "Top of the World". In the Cross Country, the Seniors held the Shield with little trouble, with good performances by Nick Roper-Caldbeck, Rupert Clarke and Andrew Priest. The Juniors did well, with a good performance by Willison, but did not "pack" well enough to win the Shield. The House Play was a great success. On the last night, parents were invited to watch the play, and afterwards were, for the first time, guests at our annual House Party. The play "Rope" was a tense thriller, with a talented cast of eight, which held the audience spell-bound. The actors were John Woodward, Jeremy Hunt, Andrew Priest, Giles Hacking, Clare Charles, Toby Burgess, Cameron Fraser and Alec Ingham Clark. With the 'flu epidemic in the second half of term, the Juniors, in particular, coped well in the difficult situation of never being certain where they would have to sleep next.

In the first half of the Summer term, we kept all three Athletics Shields. The Senior team was much the same as the previous year's, while the Juniors, on paper, did not seem to be so strong, but proved us wrong by doing very well. Good performances were produced by Andrew Lear in the 100 and 200 metres; Andrew Linsey in the 100 metres and Javelin; Nick Roper-Caldbeck, breaking the record in the 800 metres; Richard Davies-Cooke, in the Discus, 400 metres and Shot; Jeremy Roth in the 800 metres; Ashley Guy in the Discus and Shot, and Jeremy Hicks in the 400 metres and the Long Jump. In the Juniors, Mirkhan did well in the 100 metres, 200 metres and Long Jump; Fraser in the 800 metres and mile; Hodge in the 200 metres and 300 metres; Thompson in the Discus, and van Horne in the 100 metres, Long Jump and High Jump. We won the House Chess after Alan Brigden beat Toutouchian. The Senior Tennis team was particularly talented, though surprisingly lost in the preliminary round against Everett. The Junior Tennis was weak, since we had concentrated our strength in the Seniors and, after a good fight by Donne, they lost to Burr. In the Senior Cricket, we won the Shield after a good match against Everett in the final. The Juniors were not so lucky. In the Senior Swimming, we won the shield convincingly, while Burr just defeated us in the Junior competition. In the Rowing, the Seniors lost, whilst the Juniors, due to their size and numbers could hardly have lost! In the Shooting we came third and second in the Senior and Junior Competitions after a closely contested match. In the Golf, despite the talent of Peter Steckmest, we lost to Welsh. In the House Football, under the keen captaincy of Andrew Priest, we deserved to do better than losing in the first round of both competitions.

The Seniors, especially, have had a very good year, and much of this success was due to a large Sixth Form. We must again thank Miss Tomalin, for her efficiency in looking after us; the House Tutors, Mr. Hose, Mr. Woodcock, Mr. Keen and Mr. Caston, for their guidance and advice in a range of situations; finally, we must thank our Housemaster, Mr. Charles, for his over-shadowing help and encouragement.

Andrew Lear

C.C.F.—Army Section

Two Gold groups and one large Silver group took part in successful Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions at our annual Adventurous Training camp in the Lake District at the end of the Spring term. This time the camp was shared with Wycliffe College CCF to make up the numbers of cadets needed to fill the Wayfarers Lodge. The Wycliffe party included two girl CCF cadets.

Annual Camp at the end of the Summer term was spent at Sennybridge. A varied training programme was carried out on the Sennybridge Training Area and the Brecon Beacons. The programme included fire power demonstrations, field firing, rock climbing and a very arduous assault course, on which some of the young cadets performed extremely well showing a lot of courage.

Other notable occurrences were the change of parades from Fridays to Tuesdays and the issue of camouflage and barrack trousers in place of light weight trousers. We also took the bull by the horns and after a long gap, re-introduced Green Jacket drill.

Our senior cadet in the Summer term was CSM H. Morris.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Gold:—A. C. J. Lear.

Silver:—T. J. G. Chavasse, R. M. M. Davies, M. A. Eaton, N. J. R. Frewer, M. R. Gray, H. Morris, A. J. Sheed.

Bronze:—C. A. De Roemer, J. M. Reynolds, M. J. D. Yates.

C.C.F. NOTES—Royal Naval Section

Since we last wrote, our armada has been greatly increased by the addition of Oratory School R.N. Section boats. Luckily we have different Corps. days. We are still short of motor boats, but hope to have our own 16 ft. M.B. back from refit by the time this goes to print.

In May, Commander Duxbury, Royal Navy, the Naval Member of the Joint Cadet Executive (in short, our 'boss'), paid us a visit. All went well, and the Commander has expressed his satisfaction with our turn-out and training routine.

Field days were spent at H.M.S. Phoenix, the R.N. Damage Control Training Centre, H.M.S. Discovery and the British Maritime Museum at Greenwich. We also joined the Army Section in a visit to Aldershot for the Army Display.

In June, three Cadets were invited to watch a "Shopwindow" display of Naval manoeuvres at Spithead from R.F.A. Gold Ranger. Examinations limited choice, the lucky Cadets being Coxswain Chavasse, Petty Officer Cowburn and Able Seaman Maddox.

Royal Naval Courses/Cruises were undertaken as follows: A/B Welsh—R.N. Acquaintance and Boatwork at R.N. College, Dartmouth; A/B Wyn-Roberts—Post Proficiency, Leadership, at H.M.S. Royal Arthur; A/B Glibrand—R.N. Acquaintance, H.M.S. Rame Head, at Portsmouth; Leading Seaman Kennedy—Sea Training in H.M.F.T. Bembridge.

As usual, we sent racing boats crews to the C.C.F. National Regatta at Chatham. Our turn must come some time!

Our Senior Cadet is Coxswain Tim Chavasse. Happily he plans to be with us for this coming year, making him the longest reigning R.N. i/c to date.

R.S.G.

LIBRARY NOTES

During the course of the last year the Assistant-Librarians have continued to give their time voluntarily and usefully to the community under the leadership of J. C. M. Hunt and R. Mackay. To all of them I extend my thanks and am most grateful to our latest batch of volunteers.

Over the past year well over 150 books have been added to the new shelves in the Library, and I am most grateful for the following presentation volumes:

J. Culme (O.V.) and J. G. Strang—Antique Silver and Silver Collecting—
by Miss M. Tomalin

G. E. M. de Ste. Croix—The Origins of the Peloponnesian War—by P. M. Philby (O.V.)

H. T. Dickinson—Walpole and the Whig Supremacy—by Mr. and Mrs. Shaw

H. Morrison—Life in a Long House—by A. Cameron

R. Cowper—The Twilight of Briareus—by R. J. Dand (O.V.)

D. W. Brogan—The Development of Modern France, 1879-1939—by P. Bleackley, Esq.
45 volumes on Careers—by Mrs. Rachel Bleackley

During 1977/78 the Library has, I feel, been used to greater advantage than it has been in the immediate past, but it is still a source of irritation to all of those who try to run it on smooth lines that a minority continue to abuse its facilities.

Librarians and Assistant-Librarians, 1977/78: Hunt, Mackay, H. J. Summers, N. Kennedy, J. P. Hicks, J. M. Bernstein, S. C. H. Walker, R. A. Biart, N. D. Farley-Sutton, N. J. Gatensbury, A. D. H. Hodge, P. T. Horscroft, S. J. Monk.

M.M.G.



Pithead by Rodney Davies

CHAPEL NOTES

This has been a good year; attendance at the Holy Communion seems to be on the increase. At a time when moral values are being questioned all the time, the Christian Faith obviously has a powerful influence, not only in communities such as ours, but also in the country Parishes all over England.

I have particularly noticed the co-operation throughout the School at our Services, both in worship and singing; in fact, the choir under Mr. Woodcock, ably assisted by Mr. Barclay who joined us a year ago and soon made his presence felt, has gone from strength to strength. The Diocese of Oxford has had a difficult year. With the departure of two Bishops, it has not been easy to arrange our Confirmation Services. Last November, Dr. Bulley, formerly Bishop of Carlisle, kindly came for the occasion. This year we hope to welcome the Bishop of Reading.

The Chapel has now got new Choir Stalls made by Mr. Whittington. They serve a double purpose as they are also used as altar rails. They are beautifully made, and light to handle. Amongst visiting preachers, we have welcomed the Headmasters of Ottershaw and Bradfield, the Master of Wellington and Father P. C. Hunting from the Roman Catholic school of St. George's, Weybridge.

Our thanks are due particularly to Mrs. Eggar, who has looked after the Chapel linen all this year. Also to all those who contrive such beautiful flower arrangements and the many staff and boys who contribute to the life of the Chapel.

B.W.W.

CAROL SERVICE 1977

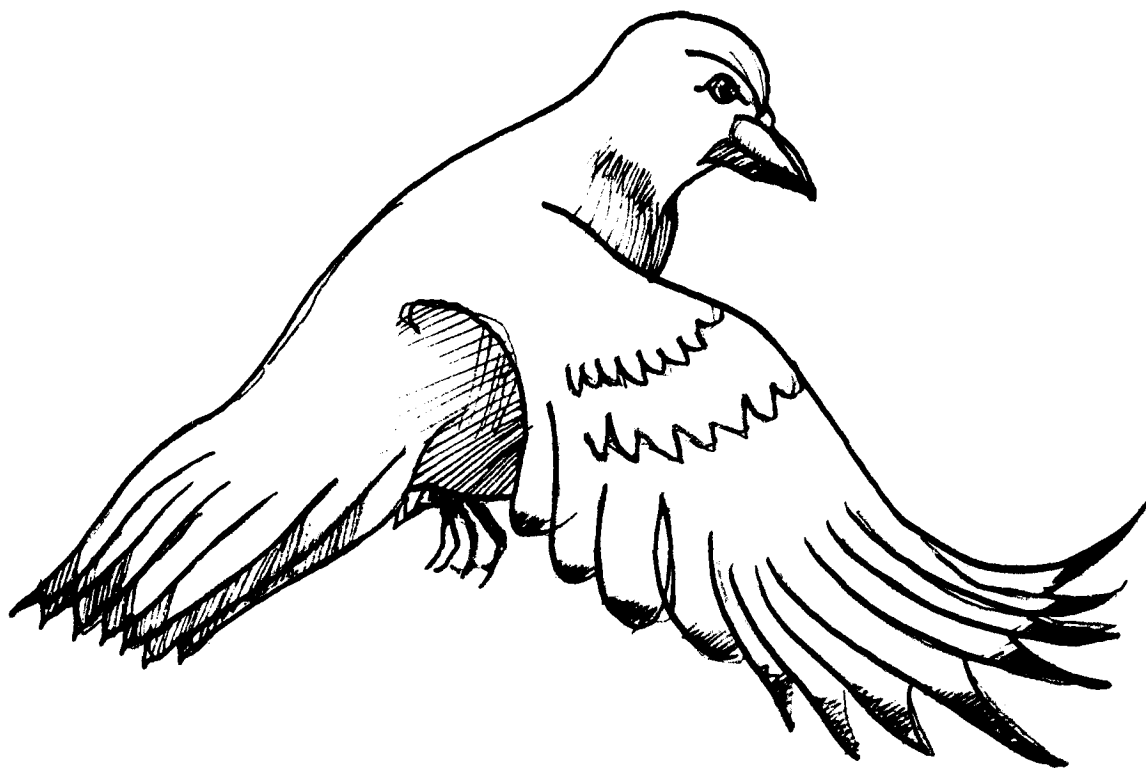
An appreciation of the 1977 school Carol Service, held in the Parish Church of St. Mary, Henley, on Saturday, 10th December, 1977.

- 2.24 p.m. The church is almost full to capacity and the ushers are beginning to look concerned about seating.
- 2.30 p.m. Mr. Barclay is also beginning to look worried: the service should have begun and he has almost completed his repertoire of organ music.
- 2.31 p.m. Mr. Barclay is saved any embarrassment for the Rev. Wilks has arrived to address the congregation. We are informed that this year the school is helping in the education of a deprived boy from Latin America and this is where the collection money will be going.
- 2.35 p.m. The service begins. Now everybody can witness at first hand just what Mr. Woodcock has been doing with the choir. They certainly did not let him down, performing magnificently (could the congregation not be given singing lessons in preparation for next year!)
- 3.34 p.m. The service is over for another year, the slow procession to leave begins, views are exchanged.
- ".....thoroughly enjoyable....."
- ".....the lesson readers were very good"
- ".....who was the master who read the second lesson? I've not seen him before"
- ".....wasn't the choir good?"
- ".....I couldn't hear everything where I was"
- ".....I didn't know all the carols. I must be getting old"
- ".....Your son sang very well"
- ".....Oh! yours was very good too"
- ".....It didn't take long, did it?....."
- 3.45 p.m. The shoppers of Henley are recovering from the mass exodus from the church and the chaos on the roads begins. Parents and boys alike still cannot believe that Christmas is still a fortnight away but "season's greetings" are exchanged and all hurry on their way.

Another carol service over, a few more grey hairs for the organisers and presenters, but congratulations for all.

.....Now, which carols should we include next year?

P.E.



Vlth FORM SOCIETY

From Sparta to China in a year!

We started the year off on an extremely good note by having the President, Mr. Welsh, opening the year with a lecture on 'Sparta'. The lecture was of a high standard and our President showed us the way in which a lecture should be given. The next talk was given by Eddie Barnes and Ian Munday on 'The Old and the New Wave of Modern Music'. In fact this turned quickly into an anti-Punk Rock meeting with Eddie playing records whose message was not seen by the rest of the Society. 'God Save the Queen' by the 'Sex Pistols' came in for a lot of criticism from the Society who agreed it was uncalled for and should be banned. Eddie Barnes insisted that one must remember that although one might not agree with the 'Sex Pistols' view it is the right of every person in a democratic country to be able to voice his opinion; to ban a person from free speech can only let us know 1984 is near.

Next we had two conferences with different schools' Sixth Form Societies: these proved to be very good and were enjoyed by all. The first was with a Comprehensive School from Reading, Highdown School. It proved to be a very useful insight into the different aspects of a public and a comprehensive school's life, an example of which is the fact that Senior Students have no real authority at 'Highdown' and our system is built on it. The second conference was with Queen Anne's School, Caversham. The topic was not really a set one and people just talked generally about each other's schools and how they are run. The most interesting fact we found from this conference was that at Queen Anne's the Lower 6th ran the school!

The next lecture was given by Jock Reynolds and Tim Frewer on their walk over the Pennine Way. As this great fact has already been covered by 'The Court' magazine I will not go into it again here, though I must say that I am sure everyone joins me in congratulating Tim and Nick Frewer and Jock Reynolds on what must have been the hardest challenge undertaken by any boy at Shiplake College in the last 5 years at least. Then came a talk with a lady from the 'Samaritan' organisation. Some members of the Society did not find this lady very convincing and felt she was not really a good advertisement for the 'Samaritans'. We also had an evening with Jenny Welsh and Friends. This was an interesting evening and quite strange really. It involved everyone in the Society, and revealed aspects of the lives of all the members and also their inner feelings to each other, which are usually concealed.

This year we went on three expeditions. 'Breeze Block Park' was a comedy about a group of people in a high rise block of flats. It was light and funny, sharp and perceptive. 'Shut your eyes and think of England' was a comedy also, starring Donald Sinden. It was extremely funny and had everyone laughing throughout. 'The Old Country' by Alan Bennett was a much heavier play and the Society did not really see the reason for all of the rave reviews it had received. It starred Sir Alec Guinness in his first role after playing Obeone Kanoby in 'Star Wars'.

Lastly we had a lecture on China by Miss Makower, MBE, a 75 year old student. A few months previously she had been on a trip to China with a student group. It was a marvellous talk and she completely captivated the Society with her very compelling descriptions.

Eddie Barnes

THE VIKING FILM SOCIETY

It has been a successful year for the Society in that most programmes were well attended. Seven films were shown in both the Autumn and Summer terms and six in the Spring Term. Overall, I would guess that the average audience number was about 100.

The films shown varied a great deal, with science fiction and horror being, not surprisingly, the most popular! Lectures were given by John Raisbeck on these two types of film in the autumn and spring. I thought his approach was excellent; it certainly went down well with the boys, although the number attending his summer term lecture on gangster films was disappointingly small.

Organising the programme for the year is difficult and time-consuming, but it does make it possible to get the best and most popular films and, of course, it also means that sizeable discounts are available! Although the short films were not always popular, I thought the range and variety shown were excellent, from curious oddities like "Eadweard Muybridge, Zoopraxographer", brilliantly photographed 'art' films ("The Seven Deadly Sins") and lovingly-made documentaries ("Paris jamais vu"). In the end, I think the only practical philosophy concerning programming is to try to please most of the people most of the time! (and to accept that it is impossible to please all of the people all of the time). The least-popular film of the year was probably Eisenstein's "Strike"; this was rather sad, because John Smith accompanied it brilliantly on the piano. The most popular were, predictably enough, the rather violent, all-action films of Clint Eastwood and Sam Peckinpah. What then, should a film society be for? It can hardly be enough to say that films are shown to 'fill-in' the boys' spare time, because, if that is the real purpose, then it is not worth wasting any time on it—let alone the several hundred pounds spent in hiring the films. In the Society's constitution it says that the objects are:—

To encourage interest in film as an art and as a medium for information and education by means of the exhibition of films, and

To promote the study and appreciation of films by means of lectures, discussions and exhibitions.

I think that a very good attempt to achieve this was made, although I was disappointed to see how little the boys used the programme notes.

However, the running of the Society does offer the boys a number of useful tasks. Firstly, there is the work of the projectionist;

- (a) There is quite a lot to this with two projectors, interval music, dimming of lights and sound at the right moment. It should also be his job to raise and lower the screen and to make sure that the blinds are working properly. In all, he needs about an hour to prepare for each performance.
- (b) Selling tickets and checking membership cards at the door; this can be quite demanding when there is a long queue impatient to get in on a cold winter's night. Some boys will always try to get in under false pretences!
- (c) The selling of tuck; this has become very popular, but it does involve quite a lot of work in ordering it, storing it, setting it out and making sure that it is kept properly safe after the show has ended. Two boys, at least, are required for this; they must be firm and absolutely accurate in their handling of money.
- (d) Accounting for the money taken; here again accuracy is essential as up to £40.00 may be taken at one performance.
- (e) Publicity; this means pinning up the posters, or getting the Art Department to supply one, writing out times of the performance, producing small notices for each of the houses.
- (f) Selling of raffle tickets; the cost of the posters is largely recouped by raffling them (2p per ticket or six tickets for 10p!)
- (g) Reaction sheets; it is extremely desirable to have these ready for each film so that every boy can be encouraged to think about what he has seen and to voice an opinion.

All these useful functions need to be done if the Society is to work properly. So a team of responsible boys who are prepared to commit themselves to these tasks at each performance is needed. I am convinced that such a scheme would provide valuable training for the boys, too.

It was very encouraging to get a Commendation in the Film Society of the Year Competition; I must say, too, that I have found our membership of the British Federation of Film Societies most useful throughout the year.

In many ways I am sorry not to continue running the Society but, frankly, I am disappointed that so few boys come forward to help. I hope someone will be found soon to take over.

For the moment I will order films and posters for all three terms and leave the actual projection business to Charles de Roemer, whom incidentally I must specially mention. He has proved totally reliable in everything to do with projection.

Profits for the year of the Society amounted to £258.57.

JWW



Lower Peover, Cheshire

A chest presented to the church at the beginning of the 13th Century. It is carved from a solid oak tree and would have contained church valuables.

B.W.W.

KEEPING AN EYE ON THE JOB

"Can I have something for a headache, and a plaster for my left big toe, the nail has just dropped off? Jones has just trodden on my right foot, and it hurts, and I've got spots all over.....! Those pills you gave me yesterday did not work and I've had a sore throat for three days, and diarrhoea for at least two weeks.

"I need to see a dentist, I've lost a filling, and the right lens has dropped out of my spectacles I can't see a thing without it, and I've got an exam tomorrow. Oh, and I'm probably going abroad in the holidays so I'll need some injections.

"Could you have a look at my thumb I think there is a splinter in it, and put something on my back, I've pulled a muscle bowling. Do you think I ought to do Corps this afternoon? When is the doctor in again? May I have a box of Kleenex.....and a safety pin..... and there's one more thing, can I have another plaster, your cat's just scratched me!"

P.N.



.....Pardon?

COURT HUMOURS

The more notable "lapsi calami" of the past year.

Opening sentence of a boy's thriller

One hot summer when the temperatures were in the nighties.....

A new look at literature

Withering Heights.

Psycho-astrology — a boy's definition

With a telescope you can magnify the consolations to study them.

Harebrain soothsayer

Beware the ideas of March.

Tough on Poetry

Heroic cutlets.

Odyssey?

Helen of Troy was an easy-going girl and she went.

Population implosion

We'll let you have some of our little ones then you can procrastinate the race.

Mirabile dictu — The last word!

I had a marvellous opportunity to go skating but decided to stay in and do my prep.



Landscape with Boat by Rodney Davies

WINE SOCIETY

At the instigation of Maurice Dale, Esq., a small group of Vllth Formers met in the Spring term to discuss the possibility of starting a Wine Society and defining aims and objectives. As a result, two meetings were organised, and they proved highly successful. Membership was limited to 10 boys, and Eddy Barnes was voted Secretary. The meetings took place in Mr. Welsh's house in Henley. In the first, Mr. Dale brought 4 red wines, 3 from the Beaujolais district and one Claret. The objectives were firstly to distinguish the Claret from the Beaujolais and then (a difficult task) to distinguish the Beaujolais from each other. Mr. Dale described what we were supposed to be looking for, and towards the end of the evening the Secretary volunteered to identify the four when confronted with 4 unlabelled glasses. He had 100% success! The second evening was similar, but this time with white wines.

The meetings were extremely popular and taken seriously by members. The Society is therefore established on a permanent basis, and it is hoped to extend its activities to visits to wine producers, shippers and merchants in this country and also in France. Our thanks must entirely go to Mr. Dale without whose knowledge, generosity and enthusiasm none of this would have been possible.

1978 ALPINE EXPEDITION

Following a successful Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award expedition at Easter it was decided that it would be an idea to expand Adventurous Training into Europe and within a few short weeks plans for an Alpine Expedition came to fruition.

We set off in the early hours of Monday, 31st July and crossed by hovercraft to Calais—an event some of us faced with more trepidation than the glaciers and crevasses of the Alps! Minor breakdowns near Calais failed to dampen our spirits but caused us to take a day longer reaching our destination than we had planned. However, the night at Montreux proved entertaining and coincided with the celebrations of the anniversary of Switzerland's foundation.

As we drove up the Val d'Aosta the following morning we became aware of the sheer size and beauty of the Alps. Obviously the climbs in store for us were going to involve less mileage, but harder climbing than we had experienced in the Lake District. We drove to the head of the valley to Breuil (also known as Cervinia) 2006m (6581 feet). The lone spartan camp site was obviously not suitable for a base camp although the village provided various necessary amenities. We therefore retraced our steps to Maën, just south of Pâquier, the main village of Valtournanche. Here we found an ideal (or so we thought) and inexpensive camp site. The threat of massive flooding and advice from local experts forced us to move camp at 9.30 one evening to avoid being swept away when the river burst its banks. It never did! We set up our base camp (two Vango's and a large Walker tent) and began the laborious task of checking equipment and planning the initial walks.

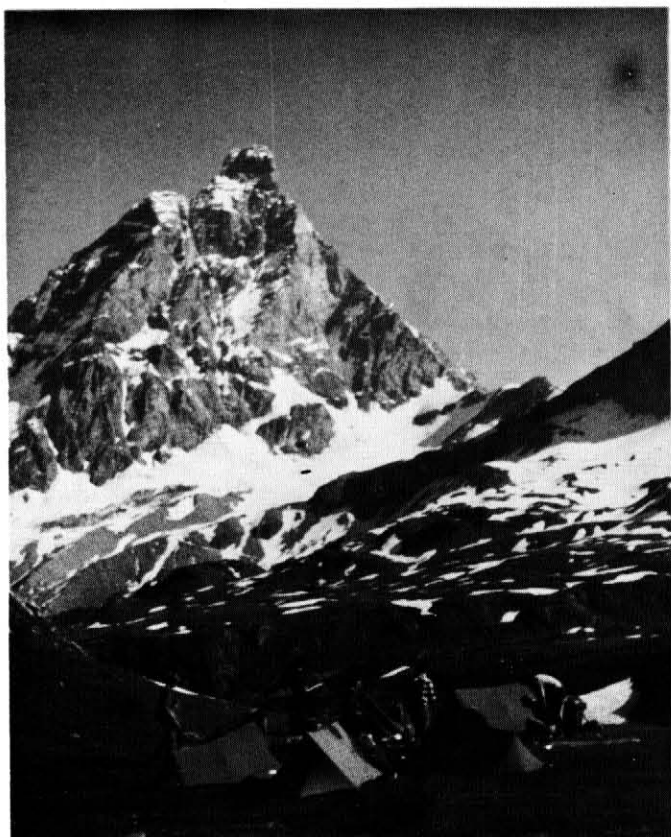
Our first training walk took us towards the Château des Dames 3488m (11443 feet) and past the Lago Cignana. It was on this initial climb that we first saw the famous Alpine flora which was to provide a beautiful backcloth to many of our climbs. It is not possible to describe in detail all the other walks carried out, but there are two that deserve mention. On the sixth day we set out, fully equipped with ice axes, ropes and crampons as well as the normal camping equipment, for the ice-covered Gran Lago 2184m (7165 feet). To reach there we had to start from Les Perrieres and climb through the lush green, wooded valleys and past the isolated Alpine farms. We were constantly on the lookout for the infamous "vipere Italiana", especially the horned viper (whose bite causes death within ten minutes!) It was something of an anti-climax when we survived fifteen days without even seeing a grass snake. We climbed steadily to the Colle Supr. delle Cime Bianche 2982m (9783 feet) and we then realised that our intention to camp at the Gran Lago was perhaps unwise in the prevailing weather conditions with snow and ice all around. We therefore dropped down to Lago Goillet and camped beneath the Matterhorn at about 2710m (8890 feet). It was during this walk that we first became really aware of the effects of altitude on breathing. We had yet to experience pulmonary oedema or acute mountain sickness!

Our enjoyment of this high altitude walking led us to move on to one of the main aims of the expedition—the ascent of the Breithorn (4165m, 13665 ft.). We set off from Breuil at 7.15 a.m. and ascended on one of the first cable cars to the Testa Grigia 3290m (10794 feet). We were amazed by the number of skiers, well-equipped and plastic in appearance, who preceded us. We fitted crampons at the top and began our walk with the memory of a skier being pulled out of a crevasse behind us. The initial part of the walk was almost the most dangerous. Crevasses and glaciers seemed easy when compared with the problem of avoiding skiers and swinging drag-lifts. Progress was slow and, for some, painful with the effects of altitude being felt. We skirted the Kleine Matterhorn 3883m (12739 feet) on our left and continued towards the Breithorn in worsening weather conditions. Behind us was the east face of the Matterhorn, with the Dent d'Hérens to its left. It was here that the effects of mountain sickness began to be felt and one of the party was so severely affected that he had to be taken back to the Testa Grigia. The remaining six reached the summit of the Breithorn and had to return through mist and blowing powder snow.

Hard though the walking was, it was a pleasant relief to be able to relax in a Pizzeria in Breuil run by a young lady from Inverness and in a local hostelry where we were well looked after by Anna and Giuseppe. It was after all partly a holiday!

The members of the expedition—J. M. S. Woodcock, Esq., D. S. Partridge, Esq., Richard Woodward, John Woodward, Rodney Davies, Mark Gray, Tim Chavasse, Chris Cowburn, Ian Munday and James Sheed—would like to thank the Headmaster and C. H. Munday Ltd. for financial help, although the expedition was largely privately financed. This was the first expedition of this kind that we at Shiplake have embarked upon and its success has prompted the formation of a Trekking Society. Already a group is going to Snowdonia at half-term and a major expedition is being planned for 1979 with places such as Mt. Kilimanjaro being discussed. Nepal has regrettably had to be postponed because the Summer holidays coincide with the monsoon period in the Himalayas, but who knows . . . one day?

D.S.P.



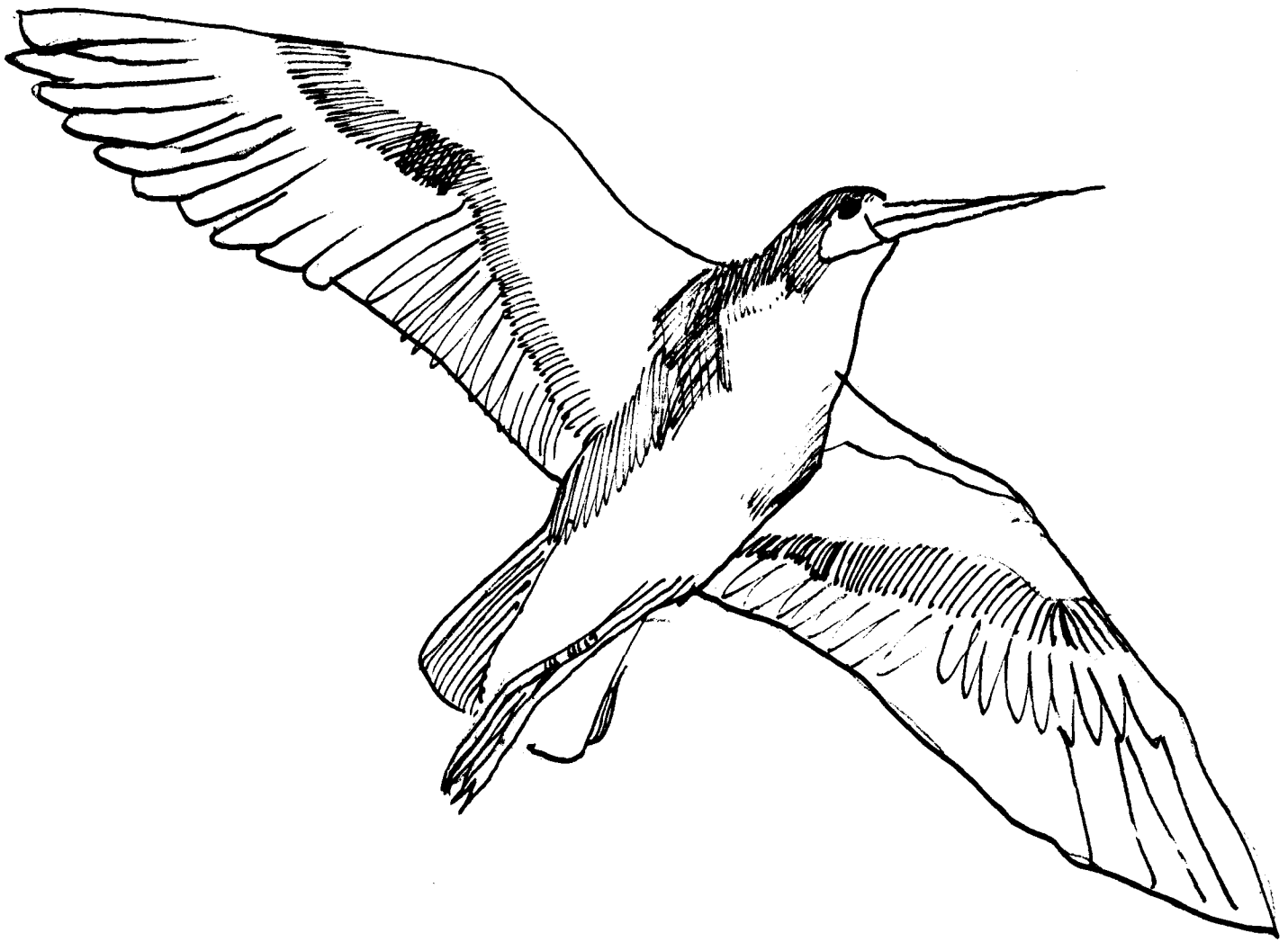
A camp site at 8890 feet with the Matterhorn in the background



Approaching the Breithorn



Roped together at 9800 feet near the "Colle supr. delle Cime Bianche"



SOUNDS OF THE COUNTRY

Deep in the country at the crack of dawn a cock cries aloud to mark a new day beginning. The sun slowly rises and lights up the land. Gentle breezes blow through the trees, making them sway and whistle. Coming down from the mountains into the valley a stream can be heard.

As the sun becomes hotter you are aware of the gentle hiss of evaporating dew. Far and near the birds are singing, exchanging mating calls. A dozen geese fly overhead with a whirl of screeching wings.

Midday approaches, and the cows come out to graze; they canter into the fields, their hoofs hammering on the ground. Here and there you hear them munching the soft, green grass. Over by the trough some of them drink the icy water, making a swish-swash sound as they swallow.

Suddenly the sun is covered by grey, gloomy clouds. There is a flash of lightning and thunder crashes out of the sky. The rain floods down, thrashing the grass below. You hear it sizzling as it hits the newly formed puddles. Slowly it dies down to a busy "splish-splash". It drips off the barn where the cattle have taken shelter. From the hills comes a shrill cry as a hawk hunts.

The day draws in and the sun goes behind the hills. High up in an old oak tree an owl can be heard hooting. There is a rustle in the leaves and a badger appears. He scouts for danger. There is another rustle as he scampers down a hole. Minutes later he reappears with his whining young and idle wife. They hunt for food.

In the distant hills thunder rumbles on, fading away. But here in the valley it is quiet except for the hooting owl, the trickling, splashing stream and a waterfall ringing over hollowed stones.

M. C. Ravenhall

THE CHOIR OUTING

It was a wet and dreary Tuesday when all the choir set off on a journey that was going to end up hopefully at Windsor Castle. It did—and so did the weather! The castle was all closed except for the Royal Family doll museum, which no one really wanted to see.

Instead the whole party went shopping in Windsor to get stocked up for the day.

We met at the transits at 11 o'clock to discuss where we were going next. Eventually we set off for Hampton Court. When we arrived at Hampton Court the weather was considerably better. I think the keeper must have thought we were Americans because we went round at high speed. It was a great pity because Hampton Court has fine rooms and wall paintings and furniture. One thing that has stuck in my mind is the fine chapel. It is rather startling with its magnificent roof of gold, blue and red.

Of course the maze could not be missed. We were told we had ten minutes to go through it but the inevitable happened and it took most of us up to fifteen minutes to get through.

After getting out we went back to the college for a very quick lunch, and then off again, to London. Most of the journey consisted of Irish Jokes, which inevitably got cornier and cornier as we went on.

When we arrived at Madame Tussauds the wind was up and the temperature down, so we all hurried into the museum. The only things I can remember there are first, the talking model of Elton John—done with moving shadows on the lips—and secondly, the Chamber of Horrors. In the Chamber of Horrors were two things I thought very sadistic—the head of Louis XVI on a pike and a gas chamber.

After a wander round Tussauds we went and stocked up with food. Most of us had an iced lolly because the central heating was working rather well. To tell you the truth I was wondering whether the noses and ears of some models might drop off, thus making them good candidates for the Chamber of Horrors! We left the museum still eating our iced lollies, which the passing world outside must have thought was madness, the weather being what it was.

We clambered into the coaches, only too happy to get out of the wind. Once more the problem arose—where to go next. The solution was St. Paul's. The trouble with St. Paul's was that it is in the middle of a ring road, and it took quite a while to get there at the beginning of London's rush hour. However we made it, only to find a service just ending and the Whispering Gallery closed. Pity! But we, well, most of us anyway, got cricks in our necks from looking up and up in this fantastic place.

Soon we were hustled out by Mr. Woodcock. From the Cathedral we went to the London museum. Great place for history, London! Funny to think people lived in London for 1900 years! I only reached the Middle Ages before we were rounded up again, but it was a most enjoyable museum for history lovers and very well set out. What caught my eye was the Roman wall which ran round London still standing just outside the museum, on which you could look down from a window by which was a diagram showing how it looked in the past.

We left the museum and boarded the coach for the last time restocked with grub, only to find that we were having our packed tea, which went down as well. I was surprised I was hungry after eating more tuck in one day than I would in a week. Our way out of London was alongside the Thames. We were heading for Maidenhead, and it seemed the longest journey of the day. We were all drowsy.

We arrived at Maidenhead cinema. The posters outside read "The Deep". Actually this was the only part of the trip, except for Madame Tussauds, which was planned ahead. I recommend "The Deep" to anyone. It is a film which keeps women screaming and boys on the edges of their seats. It is well made and much more of a family film than "Jaws". It was a fantastic round-up for the day. (Come to think about it I still owe Mr. Woodcock 20p which he lent to me so that I could buy refreshment in the interval!) I do not think I will bore you with the story of the film. I will just tell you it is a very good one.

By the time we arrived back we were exhausted, and bed at a quarter past eleven when you have had a day like we had was heaven. The choir are thankful to the school for providing such a wonderful time.

Daniel Badcock

SUMMER CONCERT 30th June, 1978

Take orchestra, choir, marquee on lawn, wine on terrace, supper in hall, conductor Malcolm Woodcock, and you have the ingredients. Add to this a well-dressed Glyndebourne atmosphere and an "end of the Proms" programme and you have Shiplake's Summer Concert.

The orchestra was led by Wendy Dyson and the choir was augmented by singers from St. Peter's Church, Earley, brought by Gary Turner.

The concert opened brilliantly, and indeed correctly, with the National Anthem. This was beautifully sung by Elizabeth Ranshawe. Music for the Royal Fireworks was followed by the ambitious Haydn's Creation sung by Charles Eve and Elizabeth Ranshawe.

The second and exciting half of the programme had the choir singing Rule Britannia, Pomp and Circumstance and finally Jerusalem. An unexpected 1812 with bangs gave the final Woodcock touch.

Elizabeth Cosgrove

6th Form Dance

Perhaps the thank-you letters from the three girls' schools are the best indication of the success of the dance. They all said a little more than the usual, "we had a lovely time". I expect, from the tone of the letters, that they will come again next year without too much arm-twisting (and nail biting at this end).

Munday and Nabi were exceptional organisers and dealt splendidly with the bar, music, food etc. It was a pleasure for the masters involved to be able to relax, man the bar, and bring their wives in relative safety!

The organisers got some useful help from the woodwork department, who supplied wedges and various pieces of 'security' equipment to seal the main school building. They are to be commended for their high standard of craftsmanship.

The dance was a huge success and I am sure that the boys will wish to repeat this event in future years. Masters involved will be only too happy to help and there will be no need to plead for 'volunteers'!

P.J.C.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR SCHOOLMASTERS?

AN IDEA OF MARK WELLBY'S

I would like to see an invention which could teach you all you wanted to know. At 13, for instance, you would put on headphones connected to a computer. Through these would come all the information you needed about life and schooling and your future. At 20, if the job you had bored you, you could return to the headphones and be programmed for a different job. The computer would know all the latest maths, geography, science, physics, etc., but would not supply more knowledge than you needed at a time, otherwise you would get a powerful headache and maybe be driven mad. When you got to 65 you could return to the headphones and learn about knitting or gardening or whatever you thought you would like to do once you had retired from work.



Drummer by Hugo Loudon

H.M.S. Pinafore

I must say at the start that I had never been to a production of H.M.S. Pinafore, and so was in the perhaps fortunate position of being unable to compare it with previous professional productions. Nor indeed was I too familiar with the music, though one was bound to recognise "His sisters and his cousins and his Aunts" and one or two others. It was therefore with a comparatively fresh mind unfettered by preconceived notions of how Gilbert and Sullivan should be played, that I approached Shiplake College Dramatic Society's production of H.M.S. Pinafore.

The set was most impressive. We were on a galley, painted in fairy-tale light blue, complete with rigging, sails and mast soaring up to the apex of the Great Hall, with clouds skidding behind and some strangely metallic sea-gulls grating overhead. This was among the most successful scenery that the College has produced.

The performance itself turned out to be an uncanny blend of two previous productions in the same Hall, 'Oliver' and 'Hip-hip-Horatio'. Andrew Swaine as Captain Corcoran was none other than a reincarnation of Horatio Nelson, and Liz Cooke as Little Buttercup seemed not to have changed since being Nancy in 'Oliver'. There was a crew of juvenile sailors with some amusing routines which I seemed to have seen before; and there was a stealthy escape which could have been Oliver's escape across London Bridge. I cannot make up my mind whether this was caused by the strength of the director's conception of a musical, or whether there really is such a close link between Gilbert, Sullivan and Bart!

Of the characters, Andrew Swaine stands head and shoulders above his fellows. He has a sure stage presence, his voice could cope with the music, he was unhurried and dignified, but managed to produce a good range of emotion. As a result of this, the second Act was to me more effective than the first, purely because Swaine had his major Scenes in this Act.

Henry Summers was nearly an excellent foil as Sir Joseph Porter. He looked just right and used his hands in a suitably foppish manner: unfortunately his performance was ruined by two rather elementary errors. Firstly he wandered about meaninglessly while speaking, and secondly he swallowed his words to such an extent that I could hardly hear a thing he said. These seem to be habits he has recently acquired, as I do not recall them in his part in the 'Murder in the Red Barn'. Alex Ingham-Clark had one of the hardest parts to play, and he succeeded in making Ralph Rackstraw look so disconsolate and woe-begone that one began to wonder what Josephine ever saw in him. The fault lay more with Mr. Sullivan to my mind than Ingham-Clark. A similar comment could be made about Liz Cooke who had to grapple with a ghastly ditty entitled "Poor Little Buttercup" or something of the sort. Clare Charles acted well and moved with assurance but her singing voice was weak—not something she could help. Jeremy Hunt as Dick Deadage recreated Nancy's Bill for us, with suitable overdone villainy, but he too was rather difficult to understand. Of the major parts, one must also mention a competent first appearance by Christopher Dickins as the boatswain. His speaking voice and gestures need more training but he has promise.

One of the most important features of the show is the chorus, and here I think the director had a problem. It is all very admirable to employ as many boys as possible in a school play, but by the time he has lined up what seemed to be the entire 3rd Form his set began to look more like a Prep School Concert, and the acting area, never large, became increasingly constricted. When the sisters, cousins and aunts also joined the throng, the principals were almost squeezed off the stage. The set pieces of the chorus were nice, but between these they were too static.

My main impressions of the evening were a series of beautifully played moments by Andrew Swaine, an attractive set and some competent playing by the orchestra. I feel that the College has now said what it can in the field of musical comedy, and now needs a change of direction in its next theatrical event, above all employing more V1th Formers in its major production.

D.F.K.W.

Dramatic Personae

The Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B.
(First Lord of the Admiralty) Henry Summers
Captain Corcoran Andrew Swaine
(Commanding H.M.S. Pinafore)
Ralph Rackstraw Alex Ingham Clark
(Able seaman)
Dick Deadage Jeremy Hunt
(Able seaman)
Boatswain Christopher Dickins
Josephine Clare Charles
(the Captain's daughter)
Hebe Nancy Thomas
(Sir Joseph's First Cousin)
Mrs. Cripps Liz Cooke
(Little Buttercup—a Portsmouth Bumboat woman)
Chorus of sisters, cousins and Aunts

Chorus of sailors

Betty Cosgrove, Tasmin Baker,
Catriona Charles, Julie Dann,
Alison Simmonds, Mellina Baker,
Sarah Caffrey, Amanda Savage,
Diana Cooke
Neil McRitchie, Peter Clayton,
David Kartal, Richard Castle,
Ian Moorhead, Neil Page,
Ralph Dixon, Alastair Hodge,
Timothy Jones, James Whishaw,
James Roberts, Jerome Dodd,
Gary Pettitt, Alastair Gordon-
Taylor, Daniel Badcock,
Jeremy Roth, Peter Orme,
Nick Jones, Mark Wellby

Set
Wardrobe
Lighting

Choreography
Make-up
Front of House

Orchestra
Gordon Arthur
Jenny Sharpe
Rosemary Seard
Bridget Bowyer
Rosalind Whitcumb
Steve Flook
Pat Noble
Michael Barker
Christopher Cowburn
Robin Pim
Charles Eve
Jonathan Edgoose
Jonathan Daniel
Andrew Barclay
Malcolm Woodcock

David John
Liz Cooke
Brian Jobin, Stuart McAlister
and Michael Rosedale
Heather Gilliat
Rev. Basil Wilks
Michael Charles

Leader
Violin

Viola
Cello
Oboe
Clarinet

Trumpet
Horn
Trombone
Percussion
Piano
Conductor

Rope

To go back to the 20's for a school play which has a somewhat jejune quality could be courting disaster. Patrick Hamilton wrote a number of plays which enjoyed quite a popularity during his lifetime, but they all tended to be of the well made variety, requiring great technical skill on the part of the actors involved to come across the footlights convincingly. This particular play was made into a film by Hitchcock when he experimented with the "10 minutes take" and even he did not make the success of it that was expected. However, the Skipwith production turned out to be quite a success. There were a few weak positionings and occasionally the actors lost their sense of direction and purpose when the play flagged, but fortunately they quickly recovered their poise. The oak chest—almost one might say the silent star of the performance—was perhaps not very well sited as it put up a wall between the cast and the audience. From some parts of the house some of the actors, when seated, must have been out of sight.

Turning to individual performances Alex Ingham Clark managed the cynical young survivor from World War I very well. The studied air of disillusionment displayed in the earlier part gave way to a charged and energetic show of passion in the final scene when he rounded on Brandon to reveal the empty philosophy behind the motiveless murder. John Woodward as Brandon adopted a kind of Bulldog Drummond stance on the stage, trying to hold the rest of the cast at bay and using a bold front, loud voice, and general air of impatience to convey his underlying sense of uneasiness. Perhaps he was too easily abashed by Rupert in the last scene though he used his back expressively.

Clare Charles gave an excellent performance as Lelia Arden, an ingenue of the 20's. Her appearance and acting were all of a piece, and quite convincing. Perhaps the 20's and 70's have more in common than is realised.

Andrew Priest contributed an enjoyable vignette as Sabot though rather more Teutonic than French. He invested his comings and goings with a sinister significance.

Jeremy Hunt "drank" himself successfully through the play, and Toby Burgess coped very adequately with the older man's part of Sir Johnstone Kentley.

Altogether everyone is to be congratulated on a well managed entertainment.

Cast

WYNDHAM BRANDON
CHARLES GRANILLO
SABOT
KENNETH RAGLAN
LELIA ARDEN
SIR JOHNSTONE KENTLEY
MRS. DEBENHAM
RUPERT CADELL

John Woodward
Jeremy Hunt
Andrew Priest
Giles Hacking
Clare Charles
Toby Burgess
Cameron Fraser
Alex Ingham Clark

Backstage

SET

David John and members of his
Art Department

LIGHTING, SOUND

Brian Jobin, Bob O'Neill,
Stuart McAlister

MAKE-UP

Rev. Basil Wilks

STAGE MANAGER

Tom Fromant

STAGE HANDS

Andrew Linsey, Henry Summers

PROMPTER

Richard Davies-Cooke

FRONT OF HOUSE

Peter Hose

PRODUCER

Michael Charles

PETER BLEACKLEY

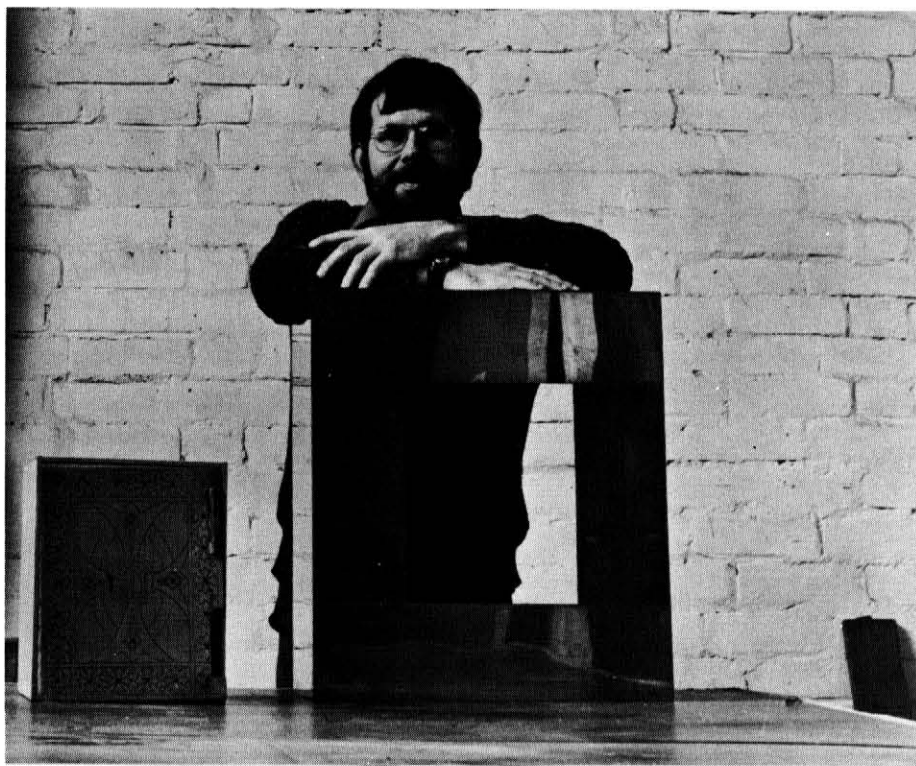
After twenty-four years in the Colonial Service—spent mostly in Africa and including a period in the West Indies as Commissioner of the Turks and Caicos Islands, Peter Bleackley took the plunge, returned to Oxford in 1961, and emerged thence with a Diploma of Education. He joined Shiplake College in September, 1962, as a member of the Department of Modern Languages and in January, 1964, assumed control of the headship of that department from 'Ronnie' Hartley. Shortly after that he took over the running of all examination entries, a post which he held until June, 1978.

Despite all these various academic interests, I feel that he will be best remembered for his air of serenity when organising the seating of Speech Day and the Carol Service and for his role as Chairman of the Common-Room, a post which he held for two terms of office, when his diplomacy and benignity really made themselves felt when occasion demanded it. During his last three years as a member of staff, he was rather handicapped by an arthritic hip, for which he had had two operations, but prior to those, many old boys will remember his active interest in College sport, especially cricket and squash.

Peter Bleackley also set his seal on College life by being the father figure of what has now come to be known as the Shiplake College Annual Summer Ball. Indeed, he mooted, organised, and directed the original one as long ago as 1964.

To him and his wife, Rachel, we wish every happiness in their waterfront home at 'Mariners', Wharf Lane, Henley-on-Thames.





DAVID JOHN

After a fruitful 9 years, during which he contributed so much to the Art side of the College, David John left us at the end of the Summer term. Born in Haiti around half a century ago he lived most of his early life in the West Indies. Coming to England in 1946 he had an extensive training in painting and wood-carving, followed by a highly successful first exhibition at the Ashley Galleries, Victoria. Then for some time he worked with an architect from Liverpool, which proved to be a most demanding job.

In 1969 the Headmaster of Shiplake asked him to come to the College on a part time basis. This very soon became a full time appointment, and David John found the job of working with, and helping, maturing boys a tremendous stimulus which worked both ways. Whilst at Shiplake he contributed much besides merely running the Art department. He was responsible for the decor of many school dramatic productions—The Kitchen, The Long and The Short and The Tall, Antigone, One Way Pendulum, to name a few. He also produced The Royal Hunt of the Sun, together with a sequel—Los Conquistadores—which he wrote himself.

During his time at Shiplake David John obtained a Churchill Bursary. This enabled him to travel in Italy, France, Germany and Holland for two months to study church architecture and sculpture, to renew his ideas and to see how Catholics and Protestants were working together. During this trip he produced over one hundred watercolours which were exhibited by the British Council in Reading.

Up to date David John has executed over 400 commissions in stone, wood, bronze and fibreglass. Examples of his work can be seen at the RC Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool, at Cardiff, and at Salisbury, Rhodesia. Nearer home, at the Norman Insurance building in London Road, Reading, there is a fibreglass panel, 24 feet by 9 feet, for which David John says he owes his inspiration to the Bayeux tapestry. This took him a year to make.

With the demands for his work growing David John found he could not give the full attention that both the boys and his own discipline required. So he felt impelled to resign in fairness to all concerned. It is a pity he had to do so before the new Art Centre to which he has devoted so much thought and care could be fully developed, but we thank him for all he has contributed in the past 9 years, and wish him happiness and satisfaction and success in the future.

NANCY THOMAS

Shiplake sadly said goodbye to Mrs. Thomas. N.T. will be much missed for her concern, patience and kindness with French forms during the last four years.

I, personally, am going to miss her as an alto. A SINGER who can be relied upon to read music and sing correctly is a decided asset.

In the Common Room, the conversation has been enriched by her interest in travel, sailing, and adding to collections.

We wish her a happy retirement in which there may be time for all these pursuits.

Elizabeth Cosgrove

Since the above went to press we have learned of the sad death of Mrs. Thomas's husband. We extend our deepest sympathies to her at this untimely bereavement.

OBITUARIES

ANDREW SOUTHORN

In our short history we have been very fortunate in our three Chairmen of the Governors. Each, in his turn, has assisted the growth of the College and made considerable contributions to each stage of our development.

It is particularly sad that Mr. Andrew Southorn, the third of our Chairmen, died after a long illness at the end of August and before the start of our twentieth year, to which he was so much looking forward.

He and his family settled in Shiplake after a long spell abroad, where he was, first, a member of the Indian Civil Service and then of the Colonial Service. From the start he threw himself into everything local, Parish Council, Rural District Council and finally the new South Oxfordshire District Council, of which he was Chairman for two years until May of this year. He was, therefore, an obvious choice as a Governor and he was appointed in 1969. From the start he was on the Finance and General Purposes Committee—and became Chairman in 1972. During these years he only missed three meetings—all through ill health.

He was a man of the highest standards and put service to others in the forefront of his life. Nothing was too much trouble to him and he would always be willing to visit us or be visited at any time. His advice was sound, his experience vast, his generosity considerable, and he was particularly proud of Shiplake College and his connections with it. We have benefited greatly from his help and are very grateful for all that he did for us. He will be sadly missed.

MRS. HEATHER GILLIAT

Mrs. Heather Gilliat died at the end of the summer term. To many this was a great shock and at any other time of term the shock would have been greater still. For fifteen years her energies had been given to a variety of causes. In Burr House she not only helped with entertaining but also helped some boys in difficulty. As Second Master's wife, she always found time to be present on the big occasions and played an important part in the social life of the school. Old boys will remember her professional skill in arranging the choreography for major drama productions and helping with costumes. Every year she assisted with the summer ball and with anything needing her zest.

Above all she loved her family and had abundant time for everyone. Her circle of friends was extensive. She was always cheerful and usually in a hurry, but there was a smile and a wave for everyone as she moved off to the next of the many things that kept her busy. For a multitude of reasons she will be greatly missed.

Rowing 1977-78

Captain of Boats—Tim Chavasse

Secretary—Nick Whishaw, who has compiled this report.

The College Boat Club has greatly increased in size and competitiveness during the past year. To accommodate the larger club the College has been able to buy more racing equipment with generous donations from parents. During the course of the year the weight room was insulated, refloored and made into a separate department of the Boat Club. Much of the work was done by willing members and coaches. For this we are extremely grateful.

The Boat Club had many more wins this year than ever before, beating previous records by half-term. The regattas entered, with results, were as follows:

Marlow Invitation Regatta	2 wins and 2 finals
Mortlake Spring Regatta	1 win
Lea Spring Regatta	1 win and 1 final
Carmel Schools Regatta	1 win and 2 finals
Monmouth Regatta	1 win
Northwich Regatta	1 win
Birmingham Regatta	2 wins and 2 finals
National Schools Regatta	3rd and 6th
Greenwich Regatta	2 wins and 1 final
Avon Counties Regatta	1 win and 1 final
Reading Town Regatta	1 win and 4 finals
Huntingdon Regatta	1 win

The crews were:

The Senior IV (3 wins) — G. Rowlands, J. Hearnden, T. Chavasse, N. Whishaw, Cox—N. McRitchie

Senior 'C' IV (1 win) — R. O'Neill, C. Cowburn, R. Davies-Cooke, M. Woodcock, Cox—R. Dixon

The Novice squad (1 win) — T. Robertson, G. Maddox, J. Edgoose, C. Everett, A. Ingham-Clark, R. Clarke, C. Cowburn, R. Atkinson, R. O'Neill, Cox—C. de Roemer

The JU16 squad (3 wins) — R. Mackay, S. Arnott, T. France, C. Hunt, P. Leane, P. Davies-Cooke, R. Mealing, T. Robertson; Coxes—J. Bernstein, C. Mosse

The JU15 squad (5 wins) — R. Pim, P. Gardom, G. Willison, T. Hunt, M. Mirkhan, A. Letty, A. Shipp, S. Moy, A. Simmonds; Coxes—S. Brown, R. Dixon

The JU14 squad (1 win) — J. Reed, N. Fox, M. Crichton, S. Berrisford, T. Jones, N. Jones, R. Biar, A. Kayll, S. Monk; Coxes—T. Walker, M. Simkin.

Among the wins of the Senior IV was a Senior 'B' event. This is a standard which the Club has only reached once before. A member of the crew, Tim Chavasse, narrowly missed selection for the National Junior squad.

Congratulations to the JU15 squad, who achieved 5 wins during the season as well as coming 3rd at the National Schools Regatta, missing a silver medal by less than a length. Two of the squad also competed at the National Rowing Championships in July in the JU16 pairs event. Although they narrowly failed to reach the final they performed well against crews a year older than themselves. Three of the JU16 squad rowed for a local club in a coxless IV at the Championships and missed a bronze medal by under half a length.

The JU14 squad only won at one regatta but this does not reflect how good they really were. They came 6th at the National Schools Regatta after winning their semi-final, and were close to winning almost every event in which they entered. On reflection it is clear that they are very competitive and stand in good stead for the future.

It can be seen from the results that wins are now obtained at every level. This has led Shiplake College Boat Club to being respected by all the "big names" in School rowing. The success of the Club cannot only be attributed to the crews, but owes much to the hard work put in by the coaches and boatmen. It is from the coaches and boatmen that not only the successes come but also the great fun and enjoyment which is obtained by every member.

We were sorry to have to say "goodbye" to Mr. Geoff Rowlands this summer. He both coached the Junior crews and rowed in the Senior IV himself. We wish him the best of luck for the future.

SPORTS NEWS

ATHLETICS 1978

This year was the closest contest yet for first place in the Inter-House Standards. In the A.A.A. Star Awards, many boys passed, and although we cannot mention them all by name, the House results are as follows:

Welsh	32
Skipwith	29
Everett	19
Burr	17
Orchard	17

I would like to thank M. Gray, from Welsh House, for all the outstanding hard work he did to help keep all the results up to date. It was much appreciated.

The results were:

Inter-House Standards

1st	Skipwith	8.45%
2nd	Welsh	8.09%
3rd	Orchard	7.57%
4th	Burr	6.03%
5th	Everett	5.93%

Inter-House Shield

Senior			Junior		
1st	Skipwith	160.5 pts.	Skipwith	149	pts.
2nd	Everett	143.5 pts.	Orchard	139	pts.
3rd	Welsh	111 pts.	Burr	104	pts.
4th	Burr	102 pts.	Everett	103.5	pts.
5th	Orchard	36 pts.	Welsh	90	pts.

Individual Records

'A' Group

100m.—A. Lear (S)	11.0
200m.—H. Alireza (E)	23.8
400m.—R. Halbert (S)	54.5
800m.—J. Roper-Caldbeck (S)	2.10.2†
1500m.—R. Halbert (S)	4.29.7
High Jump—J. McGuigan (W)	5' 6"

Long Jump—H. Alireza (E) 20' 2"

Shot—M. Trevor 34' 8"†

Discus—Parkinson (E) 103' 5½"

Javelin—D. Saker (E) 136' 9"†

Relay—4 x 200m.—Skipwith 1.39.1† Orchard—1.46.7

† Records broken in 1978

'B' Group

I. Wood (O)	12.1†
I. Wood (O)	25.4†
M. Crichton (E)	58.7†
C. J. Allen (E)	2.17.8
R. Middleton (B)	4.43
P. Willie (E)	5' 0"
L. Pizzorni (W)	5' 0"
P. J. Soward (E)	17' 9"
A. Porter (E)	37' 11"
B. Bowden (B)	118' 4"
P. Broad (O)	120' 3½"

T.S.M.

SWIMMING 1978

Once again, the Pool was always in great demand, but only two records were broken.

Individual and Team results were as follows:

Individual and Team Records

S 1 x 3 lengths Free Style	Williamson (W)	34 secs.
J 1 x 2 lengths Free Style	Newington (B)	22 secs.
S 1 x 3 lengths Back Stroke	Kingston (W)	41 secs.
J 1 x 2 lengths Back Stroke	Brenninkmeyer (B)	27.5 secs.
S 1 x 3 lengths Breast Stroke	Yates (E)	44.4 secs.†
J 1 x 2 lengths Breast Stroke	Hickey (B)	29.8 secs.
S 1 x 6 lengths Free Style	Horne (S)	1 min. 16.5 secs.
J 1 x 4 lengths Free Style	Newington (B)	51 secs.
S Medley Relay	Everett	1 min. 25 secs.
J Medley Relay	Burr	1 min. 24.1 secs.†
S Free Style Relay	Skipwith	1 min. 32 secs.
J Free Style Relay	Welsh	1 min. 30.2 secs.
S Plunge	Nonoo J. D. (B)	47' 8"
J Plunge	Harrison (B)	40' 5"

† Records broken 1978

Team Results

Senior		Junior		
1st	Skipwith	40 points	Burr	39 points
2nd	Everett	26 points	Skipwith	35 points
3rd	Welsh	25 points	Welsh	27 points
4th	Burr	24 points	Everett	16 points
5th	Orchard	17 points	Orchard	14 points

T.S.M.

1st XV Rugby — Season '77

Results:

Pangbourne 'A'	Won 39 - 12
Redrice	Won 40 - 0
O.V's	Won 32 - 7
Lord Wandsworth	Lost 0 - 50
Ottershaw	Won 24 - 4
Sir William Borlase	Lost 6 - 33
Bearwood	Won 22 - 4
Reed's	Lost 3 - 4
Ranelagh	Drew 22 - 22
Newbury Colts	Lost 10 - 12
King James	Lost 4 - 14
Magdalen	Lost 9 - 14
Theale	Won 21 - 3
Rutlish	Lost 6 - 13
Shiplake Vikings	Lost 9 - 14
Le Havre A.C.	Drew 8 - 8
Won 6 Drawn 2 Lost 8 Points for 257 Points against 216	

Boys who played for the 1st XV:

†Broad, M. (Capt.), *Allen, *Davies, *Davies-Cooke, R.,
†Gray, *Havergal, †Hearnden, *Lear, †Linsey, †Munday,
*Neale, *Pizzorni, *Roper-Caldbeck, *Saker, *Tolputt,
*Toutouchian, †Trevor, *Willies, Hoare, Smith, Duncan.
† Full Colours * ½ Colours

A rugby side is always judged by its final record and at first glance the 1st XV record does not appear to be particularly impressive. However, when the facts are revealed the picture takes on a different light—only 5 boys with previous 1st team experience: 6 boys in the side who played U/15 rugby last season: an average age of 16.5 years—there is no substitute, at first team level, for experience.

Sixteen games in a term is a great deal for a side so young, but we coped fairly well. The season got off to a good start, (which was certainly helped by our pre-season "training" before term began) winning our opening three school matches convincingly, playing open, attractive rugby in scoring 111 points; then we received our only real thrashing of the term by an extremely strong and mature Lord Wandsworth side. Half-term arrived and we had only lost the one game; confidence was high and the attitude was right for the hectic and difficult time ahead. Unfortunately, I, myself was injured and bedridden for a week, at a crucial time in the team's preparations. During this time we were soundly beaten by a strong Sir William Borlase side and I was called from my "death bed" to rally the team before our encounter with Bearwood. What a marvellous tonic—a splendid all team effort in recording a victory on a wet miserable day.

Now we came to the 'big one'—Reed's away—and we were in a confident mood. A well taken drop-goal by John Allen, after tremendous forward pressure and domination, gave us a wonderful start, but from the little possession we granted them Reed's scored an unconverted try on the stroke of half-time. That was how the score remained. What a disappointment! The forwards played better than anybody could have expected—everything started to "click" up-front; we won everything, but lack of experience in the 3's let us down and we could not put any points on the board.

The next couple of weeks saw a dramatic change in the side's mental attitude and it became increasingly difficult to motivate them after the climax of Reed's. 18-3 down at half-time in the Ranelagh match, we eventually managed to salvage a 22-22 all draw, in a game we should have won convincingly. Three defeats followed—Newbury Colts scored in injury time to beat us: 4 all with five minutes to go against King James' Henley, and we lost Jock Roper-Caldbeck who was having the game of his life, and they scored two breakaway tries. We narrowly lost to a well equipped Magdalen College School (a new fixture this year), who were leading 14-0 when we lost Richard Davies-Cooke—only a very courageous performance, as a team, kept us going. Eventually we recorded a win against Theale which put us in a brighter mood for our last two matches—Rutlish School (another new fixture) and The Vikings. We narrowly lost both, not from lack of effort, but if we had only had a little luck!

A very hectic term but a very enjoyable one. My first year as coach and what hard work it has been but if the boys have learnt half as much as I have then it will have been worthwhile. Our policy at the beginning of the season was to enjoy our training and enjoy playing—this, I feel, was achieved and the team spirit certainly helped us out.

One will always have memories of a long hard term of rugger and I certainly have:—

Ian Munday trying to improve his sprinting ability!
Andrew Linsey's incredible stamina;
Brian and John putting us through a training schedule;
watching the Reed's pack front-row lying dazed after a tremendous forward scrummage;
the courage of James Tolputt and John Allen playing against opposition twice their size and nearly always winning;
Mark Broad missing a conversion in front of the post to draw the match versus Newbury, but his equally good kick from the touch-line to draw the Ranelagh game;
Johny Hearnden's thrusting blindside runs against King James's;
myself never being on a losing side in our "touch rugby games"!

Finally, a few thank-you's:—

To Mark Broad for his mature and controlled captaincy. He certainly made my job easier.

To the senior boys in the side who encouraged and helped greatly in looking after the juniors.

To the 2nd XV and Mr. Hose for their help in supplying opposition for practices—never an easy task.

To John Kennedy for being so knowledgeable and helpful.

To Harry Webb for keeping the training areas and pitch in remarkably good condition.

And lastly to the squad as a whole for their enthusiasm.

Congratulations are also in order: to Ian Munday for his selection to the Under 19 Oxfordshire XV and James Tolputt for his selection to the Under 16 Oxfordshire XV.

We now have next year to look forward to, 14 boys returning who have some 1st team experience: an unbeaten 2nd XV to help strengthen the squad: an opportunity to get Lord Wandsworth, Reed's etc. at home and a proposed half-term tour to Le Havre. It could be "our year".....let's hope so.

P.E.

Under 15's Rugby Report 1977-78

This was a season in which a vast improvement in the standard of play from the previous season took place. By the end of term our forwards were scrummaging so well, no team could stand up to them. We gained revenge on some schools we had lost to last year, but in all cases the games we lost were by much narrower margins than the previous year, 2 games being lost by 1 point and another by 3 points. No side had an easy victory over us all season and this was a great achievement considering the number of boys available to choose from. Full marks to Nigel Baddeley who led the side superbly and set a fine example in all aspects of the game. A special mention to Mehrdad Mirkhan who once again managed to score a vast number of tries as well as playing much better rugby. Congratulations to all who were involved with the team throughout the season.

A.P.H.

Rugby U/14 XV

The season was one of transition from junior school Rugby to the somewhat exacting senior school game. Therefore, the earlier results were disappointing. A fine lead was built up in the first half against The Oratory but unfortunately it was not sufficient. After fifteen minutes of the second half we lost our lead and at full time we had lost the game. Our next fixture was a hard one but the performance was most pleasing with the pack working together and winning the majority of the possession. Unfortunately the backs could not capitalise on this and a narrow defeat ensued. This game however, was a turning point as we found it tactically superior to play a 'forwards game'. This created a stable base from which the backs could work, but it took quite a few weeks to establish this mode of play. The outcome was better results and improved individual performances culminating in a fine defeat of Reed's School. I hope that next year we will build on this and turn the tables on the schools who defeated us.

Players: Robinson (Capt.), Jones, Berrisford, Barrie, Malvasi, Reed, Gee, Wall, Fox, Stovold, Marsh, Dickens, Ralph, Yorke-Davies, Field, Kartal, Checketts, Gilbert, Whishaw.

The Oratory	14 - 18
Reading Blue Coat School	4 - 6
Lord Wandsworth's College	6 - 24
Bearwood College	10 - 32
Reed's School	16 - 4
Magdalen College	34 - 6
Rutlish School	9 - 6
Ottershaw School	34 - 6

P.J.F.W.

P.J.C.

1st XI Hockey

In spite of the usual problems with the weather we were able to play most of our matches and this was very satisfying because this year's team was again eager to play matches and improved noticeably as the season went on. One of the most pleasing aspects of the whole season was the ability of the team to cope with an improved fixture list and to achieve notable victories against schools who always provide good opposition. Victories against St. Bartholomew's G.S., Newbury and Windsor G.S. gave us an encouraging start and the standard of hockey was good. Against the latter school we managed to build up gradually from midfield and dominate the game towards the end.

It is always difficult to pinpoint the strengths and weaknesses of a team, but the players worked together and it was this factor that contributed towards the successes. Our major disappointment was against Wellington College when we looked jaded and failed to produce the form of earlier matches.

Roper-Caldbeck in goal proved to be a competent and at times an outstanding player. A. Barnes and I. Munday had played together at the back for some time and their solidity gave confidence to both the midfield players and the goalkeeper. It is a shame that illness forced Ian Munday to withdraw from the Hockey Association match—one in which he was so badly needed.

The halves, L. Pizzorni, P. Willies and B. Bowden were all strong and their stickwork improved rapidly so that once again one of our main strengths lay in the mid-field trio. R. Woodward was a fast left winger and scored one or two memorable goals. R. Davies, at centre forward was a steadying influence and often put defences under pressure with his strong runs. A. Lear scored his first goal for the team for two years (!) from the right wing and he made many more with his fast runs and good accurate crosses.

The inside forwards, J. Hicks and D. Saker, completed a forward line that was always dangerous and they proved to be an effective and speedy link with the halves. All in all it was a good team to coach and with five of the team under 16 it bodes well for the future.

The team consisted of:—I. Munday (Capt.), J. Roper-Caldbeck, A. Barnes, L. Pizzorni, B. Bowden, P. Willies, A. Lear, J. Hicks, R. Davies, R. Woodward and D. Saker. Also played: A. Linsey and M. Broad.

Results:—

v. Reading School	Lost 2 - 3
v. St. Bartholomew's G.S.	Won 5 - 4
v. Windsor G.S.	Won 4 - 1
v. St. Edward's School 2nd XI	Drew 0 - 0
v. R.G.S. High Wycombe	Drew 2 - 2
v. Hockey Association	Lost 3 - 5
v. Old Vikings Society	Won 1 - 0
v. Radley College 2nd XI	Won 6 - 0
v. Abingdon School	Won 2 - 0
v. Masters' Common Room XI	Won 5 - 0
v. Wellington College 'A' XI	Lost 1 - 2

Hockey U/15 XI

The fixtures were disrupted throughout the season by the weather. There was however a number of fixtures played. The team lacked the ability to impress their own standard of play on the game. This resulted in narrow defeats which we could have won as we were usually the first to score. It was a strong side in defence, but the forwards lacked the aggression required to subdue the opposing defence. Our performance would have been greatly improved if we could have built up our confidence and swung the ball around in the opposing half—thus splitting the defence. The game against Windsor G.S. was, I felt, a turning point, because we played quite well and the confidence which we were lacking started to build up. The results therefore improved and we finished with a 2 goal win against Abingdon.

Players: Ellis (Capt.), Baddeley, Welsh, Thomas, Willey, Al Saheal, Marr, Fraser, Smith, Wood and Downes.

Games against Leighton Park School, Radley College, Lord Wandsworth's College, Reed's School and St. Edward's School were cancelled. The remaining results were:

v. Pangbourne College	0 - 1
v. Reading School	0 - 2
v. St. Bartholomew's G.S.	2 - 1
v. Windsor G.S.	1 - 2
v. R.G.S. High Wycombe	2 - 0
v. Abingdon School	3 - 1

P.F.J.W.

SQUASH REPORT

Owing to the new squash courts in the School's ground the standard of play has noticeably improved. Our senior team last season was very strong for a School of this size. Chris Standring at No. 1 fought hard on the court against other schools' No. 1's. James Sheed played No. 2 and will be at School for another year for the team. Philip Cotton who normally plays No. 3 provided tough but sometimes erratic opposition for any opposing team. Uner Nabi and Miles Hickey battled between each other for No. 4 and 5. This year's team was one of the strongest Shiplake has had.

Won 11

Lost 3

Drawn 1

The U/16's show promising talent for this year to come. They were led by Miles Hickey who played with extreme confidence. Jeremy Hicks at No. 2 was close to Hickey's standard. Mark Sabin, David Lethbridge and Giles Hacking all competed for the 3, 4 and 5 strings. Their match results were very pleasing.

Won 6

Lost 2

The U/14's and U/15's show great potential for future teams and won 6 of their matches, losing only 1. Yorke-Davies showed particular promise, and he was ably supported by Welsh, Rennie and Whishaw.

Welsh House retained the House Shield for the sixth year running.

James Sheed

BASKETBALL 1978

Since my last notes very few games have been played—the weather cancelled out the out-door games during Winter and Spring, and our Gymnasium is too small to be used for Basketball.

Team Captains also found it difficult to field their best teams, because Major Sports are now held on different days. For the future I have therefore decided that Basketball games will be played as an 'interest'; but Inter-House Competitions will be re-introduced once our new Games Hall is in action, and Competitions can then be played in the evenings.

Results to date:	1975/76	1976/77	1977/78
Seniors	Everett	Burr	No competition
Juniors	Orchard	Burr	
			T.S.M.

CROSS-COUNTRY 1978

The Competition was again run on the same basis as in previous years—16 runners per House, 12 to count. We cannot show the Records, because the Course was changed this year to keep all our runners on the College side of the main road for reasons of safety.

Individual and Team Results:

	Senior		Junior	
1st	Skipwith	153 points	Everett	262 points
2nd	Welsh	278 points	Welsh	330 points
3rd	Everett	436 points	Skipwith	372 points
4th	Burr	438 points	Burr	464 points
5th	Orchard	741 points	Orchard	494 points

Best individual:

Moy (W)—16 mins. 30 secs.

France (E)—22 mins.

T. S. Morris

Tennis

The standard of Tennis has improved through the years, last year being probably one of the strongest.

The 1st VI, P. Cotton, Captain, and U. Nabi, offered a lot to their opposition. J. Sheed and B. Bowden formed the second pair of the team, the third pair always changing between J. Neale, R. Davies, M. Gray and A. Nonoo.

The Juniors consisted of A. Swaine and C. Hacking the 1st pair; they are a strong pair for the future. Dickens and Godman-Dorington formed the promising second pair.

As Tennis is becoming increasingly popular the court at Welsh House will make it possible for the Tennis Club to expand.

James Sheed

Comment: Although the Seniors only won one match, another four matches they lost by the score 4-5. So really the standard of Tennis was such that no school was far superior to us. A little more luck on the day would have given us the best tennis record ever.

Things look good for the coming years.

A.P.H.

CRICKET — 1st XI

Considering the bad weather, the loss of I. Munday half way through the Summer, and the influx of younger and inexperienced players, the 1st XI had a satisfactory Summer. The batting on occasions lacked application but there were a number of pleasing performances mainly from Munday, Woodward and Schwerdt. The bowling was spearheaded by Guy and Havergal, the latter bowled extremely well at times but lacked a little penetration. The main criticism would be the over-rate which slipped to fourteen an hour in some matches. Linsey improved as the season went on and with determination became an asset to the side. Hodge, Hicks and Hickey put in some useful contributions although Hodge has yet to realise his full potential. Tolputt, our wicketkeeper, did not have the best of seasons but his eagerness and keenness to play will bring him on in the coming years. Woodward took over the responsibility of Captaincy half way due to Munday's illness and with this experience he is prepared for the coming season which I am confident will be most successful.

Played 13 Won 5 Lost 4 Drawn 4

Match Details compiled by Richard Woodward

- 1st v. Reading School—Morris 12; Guy 25; Guy batted most of innings; Total 62 all out. Reading 64 for 3.
- 2nd v. Lord Wandsworth—L.W. batted first scoring 105 all out. Guy bowled well—3 for 21; Hicks 4 for 36. We began shakily; Linsey and Hodge blocked well. Total 45 for 8; draw.
- 3rd v. Cokethorpe—We batted first; opponents a weak team. Munday 65 not out, Woodward 63, total 143 declared. Steady bowling by Hodge with 7 for 10. Cokethorpe all out for 69.
- 4th v. Wellington 2/3 XI—We batted first. After a bad start we woke up with Munday scoring a good 80 and Woodward 35. Total 164 for 5. Wellington all out for 79. Hodge 5 for 14, Hickey 4 for 27. Guy bowled well with 5 maidens in 9 overs for no reward.
- 5th v. Oratory—We batted first. A poor start but we soon picked up with Woodward making 53; some useful scores lower down led to a total of 145 all out. Oratory began well but seemed contented to go for a draw. Guy bowled very well for 17 overs taking 5 for 44.
- 6th v. Abingdon 2nd XI—Again a shaky start but some useful scores lower down, with Linsey scoring a valuable 34. All out for 110. Again Guy bowled well with 4 for 23; Linsey took 2 for 21. A draw.
- 7th v. J. D. Eggar's XI—Opponents batted first, scoring 162 declared. Linsey 3 for 43; Guy 2 for 26. Our batting made a poor start but a good innings from Munday of 46 and Woodward of 36 set the ball rolling again. Guy scored a good 26. Close ending with our making 163 on the last wicket. Good exciting game.
- 8th v. Pangbourne 1st XI—Good beginning. Due to unfortunate loss of Ian Munday captain now Woodward. Good 24 for Hodge and Woodward; Guy and Havergal scored useful runs of 18 and 16 respectively; tail end collapsed; total 120 all out. Good, tight fielding saved the match with Guy taking 3 for 13 and Havergal 3 for 40. Result—a draw.
- 9th v. St. Bartholomew's 1st XI—Slow start, picked up later. Woodward 24, Downes 31; declared at 113 for 7. Opponents scored 115 for 8. Guy bowled very well—5 for 40, Hicks 3 for 23.
- 10th v. Sir William Borlase 1st XI—Batting first we scored 177 for 3; Hodge 80, Schwerdt 53. Their batsmen applied themselves well; Guy 4 for 44. Close finish, they needed 1 run on last ball. We lost.
- 11th v. Old Vikings—O.V. scored 178 for 6. On our side good innings by Morris of 34; Downes 24; Linsey 43 not out. On last wicket stand we needed 2 runs. Linsey batted extremely well but missed a run resulting in Freeland being bowled. We lost by 2 runs.
- 12th v. Berkshire Gentlemen—Opponents' runs kept down to 98 by some very good bowling by Guy with 5 for 34 in 18 overs 8 of which were maidens. He deserved to take all the wickets. We began our innings well; Schwerdt a good 43. Final score 100 for 6.
- 13th v. Radley College 3rd XI—Radley in first. Good bowling by Havergal with 8 for 44. We made a poor start but soon picked up; Schwerdt a good 44, Woodward 21. By 6.55 p.m. we had made 99 for 6. A good ending to an enjoyable season.

UNDER 15 CRICKET

The U15 Side had a mixed season. Matches against Bearwood, Reading and Stoneham were cancelled; Oratory, Cokethorpe, Pangbourne, Radley U15 3rd XI and Wellington Junior Colts 2nd XI were defeated; Lord Wandsworth, St. Bartholomew's and Radley College 'B' beat us. Macleod and Robinson were a reliable opening pair, Smith and Lethbridge played some good innings, but the remainder of the batting was very unsure of itself. The bowling was more than adequate on occasions, but too often lacked length and direction. Marsh, Smith, Macleod and Lethbridge were above average in the field, and were generally well supported. Robinson showed promise as a wicket-keeper and Lethbridge was a keen and sensible Captain. All in all, most of the side showed improvement over the Season, and generally enjoyed their Cricket.

M.J.H.C.

2nd XI CRICKET

The 2nd XI had a very varied season. The high point came with our only win out of six matches played. This was against the Oratory when we won by the narrow margin of 3 runs. This was largely due to a fine innings of 50 by S. Schwerdt, whose contribution to our total of 96 was invaluable. In the same game D. Saker took 6 for 32 in a very accurate spell of 14 overs. The next game proved to be just as exciting when we lost to Reading School, the margin again being 3 runs. Our opponents batted first and scored steadily to reach a total of 154 for 5 at tea. We then went in to bat and after an unsteady start batted well to reach 151 for 5 in the last over, S. Schwerdt scoring 33 and N. Smith 64. The game against Abingdon was rained off when we were in a strong position. These were our better moments, but one must admit that the rest of the season contained some disappointing results.

A.F.B.

U14 XI CRICKET

Played 10 Won 6 Lost 4

This side shows a good deal of promise for the future. By half-term the boys were playing confidently and believed in themselves. The team performed well in 'The Cricketer Colts Trophy', reaching the semi-finals, where they were defeated by the eventual winners of the competition. The side was well captained by M. A. R. Pallett who led the bowling effectively and by the closing stages of the season had developed with the bat. S. C. Checketts, had a good season and bowled with considerable accuracy. It was a pleasure to watch the side develop as a team and begin to win as a result of team spirit. Notable performances were provided by Whishaw, Stovold and Gordon-Taylor, but the real strength of the side lay in its will to win. Team: Pallett (Captain), Checketts (Vice-Captain), Stovold (wicket-keeper), Whishaw, Donne, Castle, Gordon-Taylor, Yorke-Davies, Briggs, Woodhouse, Partridge. Also played: Robinson, Leavett-Shenley, Gatensbury, Whidborne.

P.J.C.

FOOTBALL

Once again there was a very enthusiastic approach to this sport by the boys. Owing to the appalling weather in the '78 Spring term the football matches were affected quite badly. However, we had our annual very enjoyable match against Pangbourne Staff and Boys, and a very creditable draw against Douai School 2nd XI. We had the football house matches at the end of the Summer term once again, and this was very successful. Burr House with a highly organised team won the Senior Shield very handsomely, and Orchard House won the Junior Shield. I must compliment all the houses on playing the game with great spirit, and at the same time creating very little "aggro"! Well done, everyone!

A.P.H.

VALETE

Burr House

B. H. C. Morris; U6; G.C.E. 'O' 6; 'A' 1; Head of House; 1st XV; 1st XI Cricket; D. of E. Silver; C.S.M. in C.C.F.; to Short Service Commission in 1979.
A. D. Nonoo; U6; G.C.E. 'O' 5; 'A' 1; School Prefect; to Kingston Polytechnical College.
C. Mordaunt; U6; G.C.E. 'O' 7; School Prefect; Cpl. in C.C.F.; to Further Education.
M. A. Eaton; U6; G.C.E. 'O' 8; House Prefect; D. of E. Silver; Cpl. in C.C.F.; to Sotheby's.
H. A. R. Havergal; U6; G.C.E. 'O' 4; House Prefect; 1st XV; 1st XI Hockey, Cricket; Cpl. in C.C.F.; to the Coldstream Guards.
R. C. Ward; U6; G.C.E. 'O' 8; House Prefect; 1st VIII Shooting; D. of E. Silver; Sgt. in C.C.F.; to Agricultural College in 1979.
C. R. Gordon Brown; U6; G.C.E. 'O' 4; House Prefect; Cpl. in C.C.F.; to Printing Course in Watford.
M. J. H. Avery; G6; G.C.E. 'O' 5; House Prefect; L/Cpl. in C.C.F.; to Insurance.
S. C. Druce; G6; G.C.E. 'O' 4; House Prefect; L/Cpl. in C.C.F.; to British Home Stores.
T. R. Downes; UV; G.C.E. 'O' 2; 1st XI Cricket; Cdt. in C.C.F.; to Haberdasher's Aske's.
H. Toutounchian; UV; G.C.E. 'O' 5; to Brighton College.
C. M. C. M. Barnes; LV; Cdt. in C.C.F.
P. M. A. Barnett; LV; D. of E. Silver; Cdt. in C.C.F.; to Further Education.
B. A. Bowden; LV; G.C.E. 'O' 4; 1st XI Hockey; 1st VI; Cdt. in C.C.F.; to Further Education.

Everett House

J. M. B. Allen Came September 1975; 1st XV Rugby.
A. L. Barnes Came January 1974; Head of House; School Prefect; Captain 2nd XV; 1st Hockey; Captain 2nd Cricket XI; G.C.E. 'O' 8; 'A' 2; to Distributive Trade.
C. Draycott; Came September 1974; House Librarian; G.C.E. 'O' 5; to Further Education.
N. J. R. Frewer; Came September 1973; G.C.E. 'O' 5; House Prefect; C.C.F. Sgt. to Further Education.
C. Lovegrove; Came September 1975; i/c College Estate Work; to Printing.
U. N. Nabi; Came September 1973; School Prefect; G.C.E. 'O' 9; 'A' 4; Tennis VI; to University of Kent.
S. C. Povey; Came September 1974; to Farming.
D. Saker; Came September 1975; 1st XV; 1st Hockey XI; G.C.E. 'O' 4; to King James's College.
J. Shipp; Came September 1974; G.C.E. 'O' 2; to Photography.
C. Standing; Came September 1974; Captain of College Squash; G.C.E. 'O' 6; to Further Education.
P. A. Willies; Came September 1974; 1st XV; 1st XI; 1st Hockey XI; to Royal Marines.

Orchard House

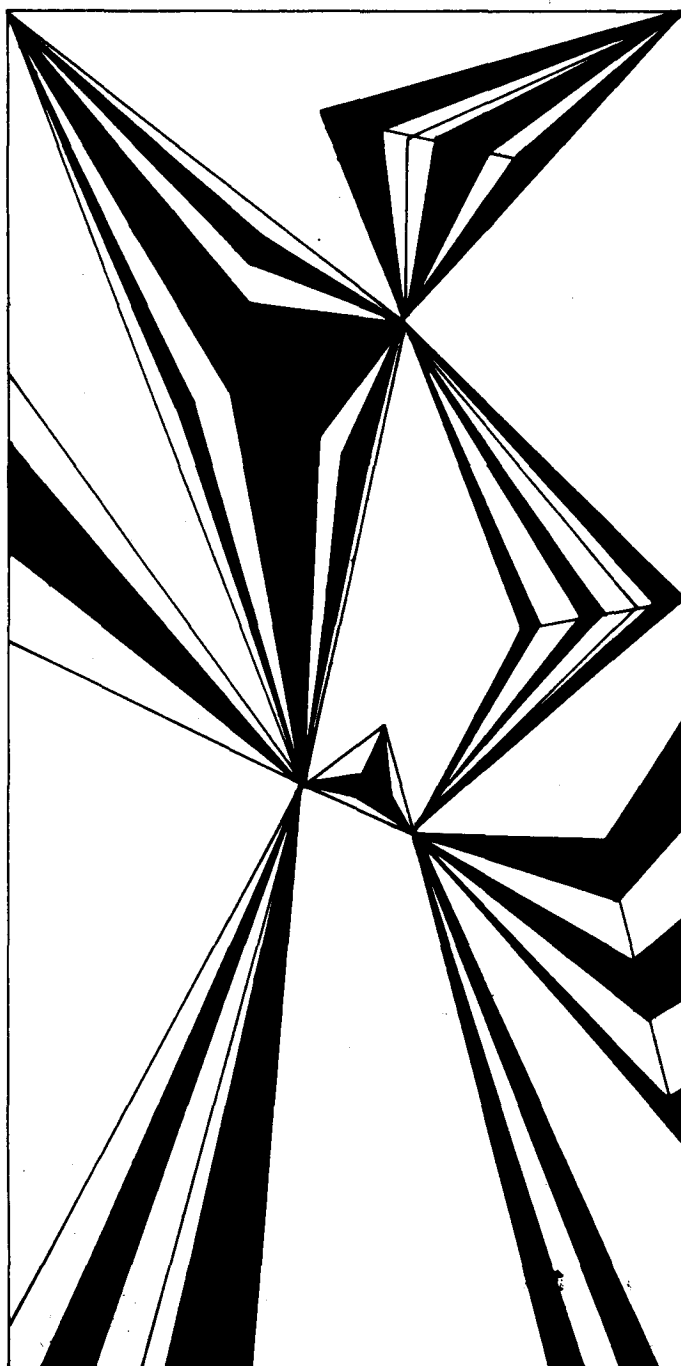
M. Broad; U6; G.C.E. 'O' 8; 'A' 2; School Prefect; Head of House; Captain of Rugby; 1st XI Hockey; 2nd XI Cricket.
G. N. A. Clissold; U6; G.C.E. 'O' 6; House Prefect; 1st VIII Shooting; to OND Agricultural Engineering Course.
C. L. Douglass; U6; G.C.E. 'O' 6; House Prefect; 1st VIII Shooting; to Surveying.
A. J. S. Morrish; U6; G.C.E. 'A' 2; House Prefect; 2nd XV Rugby; to Further Education.
P. D. Mullin; U6; G.C.E. 'O' 6; 'A' 2; House Prefect; to HND Business Studies Course.
N. J. Bateman; 3rd; emigrating to Australia.
D. C. Brough; 5th; G.C.E. 'O' 5; House Captain of Music; to Further Education.
H. J. M. Cooper; 5th; to Further Education.
A. M. L. Pawson; 6G; to Estate Agents.
R. Sami; to school in London.
R. J. Thomas; 3rd; G.C.E. 'O' 7; 3rd XV Rugby; to Further Education.

Skipwith House

R. J. M. Atkinson; G.C.E. 'O' 10; 'A' 5; House Prefect; Cdt. C.C.F.; 2nd Rowing VIII; Shooting 1st VIII.
A. G. Brigden; G.C.E. 'O' 2; 'A' 1; School Prefect; Head of House; Tennis 1st VI; Hockey 3rd XI.
R. S. Clarke; G.C.E. 'O' 6; 'A' 1; House Prefect; L/Cpl. C.C.F.; Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award; 2nd VIII.
N. G. Dale; G.C.E. 'O' 5; Cdt. C.C.F.; Rugby 3rd XV; Hockey 3rd XI.
R. P. Davies-Cooke; G.C.E. 'O' 3; House Prefect; Sgt. C.C.F.; 1st VIII; 1st XV; Captain of Shooting.
T. C. D. Frewer; G.C.E. 'O' 9; 'A' 2; House Prefect; Sgt. C.C.F.; 2nd VIII Shooting.
T. J. D. Fromant; G.C.E. 'O' 8; House Prefect; Cpl. C.C.F.; Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award; 2nd VIII.
A. S. B. Guy; G.C.E. 'O' 1; A/B C.C.F.; Cricket 1st XI.
A. C. J. Lear; G.C.E. 'O' 11; 'A' 3; School Prefect; 2nd Head of House; L/Cpl. C.C.F.; Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award; 1st XV; 1st Hockey XI; 1st Tennis VI.
T. R. O'Neill; G.C.E. 'O' 8; Cpl. C.C.F.; 2nd VIII.
J. N. Roper-Caldbeck; G.C.E. 'O' 2; House Prefect; L/Cpl. C.C.F.; Rugby XV; Hockey XI; Sailing; Football XI.
P. M. Steckmest; G.C.E. 'O' 5; Golf.
J. J. C. Wilson; G.C.E. 'O' 1; Cdt. C.C.F.; Captain of Fencing.

Welsh House

I. C. Munday; G.C.E. 'O' 5; Head of School; 1st XV Rugby and Oxon County Badge; 1st XI Hockey; 1st XI Cricket; to Family Textiles.
C. S. Rayburn; G.C.E. 'O' 7; 'A' 2; Head of House; School Prefect; L/Cpl. C.C.F.; going to University of East Anglia.
P. E. Cotton; G.C.E. 'O' 4; School Prefect; 1st Tennis; 1st Squash.
W. Nettelfield; G.C.E. 'O' 7; 'A' 1; House Prefect; going to Guildford Technical College—Business Studies.
G. Lotto; G.C.E. 'O' 3; 'A' 2; House Prefect; to London Tutorial.
C. Cowburn; G.C.E. 'O' 5; House Prefect; Cadet Petty Officer, R.N. Section.
D. Atkins; G.C.E. 'O' 5; apprentice mechanic.
G. B. Barron; G.C.E. 'O' 1; Tree Surgery.
D. Cross; to Further Education.
J. Nicholl; G.C.E. 'O' 4; 2nd XI Cricket; Technical College Catering Course.
P. Van Gorkum; G.C.E. 'O' 3; Able Seaman, R.N. Section; Captain of Sailing; to Catering.
M. Colley; to Horticulture.
M. Brazier; G.C.E. 'O' 3; to Further Education.
N. S. Kennedy; G.C.E. 'O' 3; Leading Seaman, R.N. Section; to Further Education.
R. Longmuir; G.C.E. 'O' 4; to Further Education.
R. McGuigan; G.C.E. 'O' 4; to Further Education.
N. C. Walker; Leading Seaman, R.N. Section; to apprenticeship, Art Gallery.
P. Ruffell; G.C.E. 'O' 3; to Further Education.



Paul Newmark

