

THE COURT



*—being the chronicles of
Shiplake College during 1964*

SCHOOL OFFICIALS

JANUARY TO JULY

Head of School .. R. M. SHINGLER

School Prefects .. P. M. DEVAS
N. H. KING
J. A. OSBORNE
D. S. COWLEY
N. J. HILL
G. T. COULTON
J. P. TURNER
H. P. SEAFORD

<i>House Prefects</i>	..	C. P. BINGHAM	V. G. S. DURMAN	N. A. CAMERON
		C. M. FERGUSON	J. R. STEPHENS	S. M. D. GRIFFITHS
		N. C. FAWKES	R. G. LYON	R. A. PEACOCK
				R. SLEIGHT

Captain of Cricket... N. C. FAWKES

Captain of Boats .. R. M. SHINGLER

SEPTEMBER ONWARDS

Head of School .. J. P. TURNER

School Prefects .. H. P. SEAFORD
G. T. COULTON
N. J. HILL
J. R. STEPHENS

House Prefects

W. A. COY	M. CROWDER	J. S. BANYARD	L. J. HUTCHINGS
W. C. F. EATON	R. G. LYON	G. PIDSLEY	G. CROWDER
N. W. WILLCOCK	J. M. SUTCLIFFE		R. P. R. KIRWAN
	A. H. PATMORE		J. M. PEWTRESS

Captain of Rugby G. T. COULTON

Shooting .. R. P. R. KIRWAN

Cross Country .. R. J. FORSYTH

Squash Rackets... J. M. SUTCLIFFE

Golf P. TAMWORTH

Magazine Committee .. A. L. PHILPOT; C. R. A. SALLON; P. TAMWORTH,
A. WAUGH

EDITORIAL

The problems of Smethwick seem far removed from Shiplake-on-Thames. We, like many boarding schools, would claim racial intolerance is not a problem we experience. We would point to the continual presence of boys from all parts of the world in our boarding schools as evidence of ability of all races to live together. However, we tend to overlook the fact that Africans or Eastern Students among us come from the most important classes in their own communities. They are not typical.

As members of an officially Church of England School, which we hope is a truly Christian School as well, we have to face the racial problem as honestly as we can. It is no use pretending it does not exist.

If men are equal in the sight of God how can we condemn inter-marriage between white and coloured people? If we cheerfully and generously give to Oxfam and to African Missions, if we are depressed by violence in Little Rock or in the Congo, how should we react when Commonwealth Citizenship and a shortage of labour in the United Kingdom brings the problems of lower living standards and of violence to our own cities? How do we react if that large house near ours is acquired by Pakistanis and its fifteen rooms become the homes of fifteen families?

It is easy to give further examples of the problem; it is even easier to state the obvious—that there is no simple answer.

All our readers would probably agree in deploring segregation into either Jewish or coloured ghettos. Likewise we pay lip-service to the idea of raising living standards in the homelands of the immigrants—thus making it less necessary to migrate to Britain—but few of us have seriously thought of the problem we must face as tomorrow's citizens in this country.

We offer our fifth issue of *The Court* in the knowledge that the editorials of previous years have dwelt on the problems of a new school. We feel it is time to challenge our readers to think beyond our own difficulties to those faced by both the inhabitants of Smethwick and of the newcomers to that much discussed town. Writing within a few days of Christmas itself compels us to think hard about the millions less fortunate than ourselves.

THE APPEAL

Last March a very big step forward was made in the development of the School when we achieved Charitable Trust status. This, in effect, means that the School is owned by no private individual and any profit made is used for the further benefit of the School and does not go into anyone's pocket. Neither is any Income Tax paid on any profit made.

Immediately following that, an Appeal Committee was formed and a new Appeal was launched. The Appeal, which was started in June 1963, in fact raised £2,000 in loans and £3,655 in Gifts and Deeds of Covenant. Including the donations and covenants, but not the Loans, we have now received from the two Appeals a total sum, given or promised, of £17,933. This has come from the generosity of all the Governors, many members of the staff and parents and friends. Our target is £30,000.

The main task of the Appeal are four. First, to help pay for the Vicarage and its alterations and improvements; secondly to provide a house for the Headmaster in the grounds, for, at the moment, he is in a furnished house the lease of which expires in August; thirdly, to build a new Gymnasium big enough for all activities with a stage able to be put up at one end; and fourthly, the provision of two extra classrooms in the Stables. The last item has been completed at a cost of just over £2,000, and a start has been made on the Headmaster's house.

The possession of the Vicarage is dependent on the completion of a new house for the Vicar, but we hope that we shall be able to use the Old Vicarage for the Summer Term.

The quick provision of a Gymnasium depends on how near we reach our target. In my view the response has been magnificent. Every little helps, and I am hoping that, in the next year, boys in the School will be prepared to work a little in their holidays in order to try and provide a sum of money with which to get definite equipment for their benefit.

J.D.E.

THE SCHOOL SHOP

The School Shop began to be developed on a large scale in September, 1962. Since then it has grown considerably, and obviously, in the near future, new buildings will have to be found.

From September, 1963, a proportion of the profits from the Shop have been handed over to me to use for the benefit of the School, and it may be of interest to all to know that the School Shop has managed to provide the School with the following:—

Three Cadet sailing boats	A tape recorder
Two all-weather cricket nets	New lighting for the gymn, and
Fencing equipment to start a new club	extra equipment for gymn lessons.

Our plans for the future include the provision of a pavilion on the main ground, extra help to the Boat Club and provision of two new tennis courts.

J.D.E.

COLONEL H. W. NEWELL

Died May 19th, 1964

Colonel "James" Newell joined the School as Bursar in September, 1960. Educated at Shrewsbury and R.M.A. Sandhurst, he commissioned into the Queen's Surreys, and during his Army service he was A.D.C. to the Governor of Kenya and a Staff Officer in Iraq. He was wounded while commanding his battalion in Burma during 1944, and after this his sporting activities, which he so much enjoyed were considerably hampered.

From 1948 onwards he was Bursar to the new Moslem College in Mombasa and during the next ten years he saw the establishment change from coconut-studded site to a flourishing technical college, probably one of the best equipped east of Suez. A severe illness of Mrs. Newell necessitated their leaving tropical East Africa and settling in the United Kingdom.

All of us who knew him at Shiplake will acknowledge our debt of gratitude for all he did in the next four years. When he took over there were difficulties in every department. His cheerful and light-hearted self remained in spite of many problems: he had a knack of making difficult moments easier by being ready with an apt word or a modest joke.

He saw Shiplake Court change from its early beginnings to the established Shiplake College we now know. He is amongst those to whom we owe most during these years. Unexpectedly in May we found ourselves facing the loss of a man who had been a personal friend to all of us. By placing on record all we owe to him, late though the appreciation now may be, we recognise all that he did for Shiplake.

MR. P. T. ROBINSON

Died October 20th, 1964

"Robbie," as he was known to us, really belonged to the Nautical College at Pangbourne. He spent the main part of his teaching career there, where he was Chief Maths. Master and a Housemaster. He came from retirement to Shiplake to help with the Mathematics teaching for one term, and he remained for nearly three years. During this time he was a tower of strength in a new and expanding school. His wisdom and experience were esteemed by Common Room and Public Examination Candidates alike.

Educated at Bromsgrove and Peterhouse, Cambridge, Robbie was a staunch Worcestershire man and the cricket success of his county this summer gladdened his heart. He served throughout the First World War and never, subsequently, enjoyed good health. He bore his sufferings with great fortitude and few realised how much pain he suffered.

Before going to Pangbourne he taught for a number of years at Milton College,

Bulawayo. From these years he derived many of his characteristic tales. At Shiplake he was the first President of the Common Room: a keen critic of Cricket and Hockey elevens, his influence was felt far and wide. He had a rare sense of humour and an uncompromising contempt for all things unworthy.

The finest tribute of all to his qualities was the name generations of Pangbourne Cadets gave him: "The Man."

CHAPEL NOTES

The following were confirmed at the Parish Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Shiplake, on February 21st, 1964, by the Lord Bishop of Oxford.

C. E. Barlow	M. A. Law	C. B. Porter
A. J. S. Batten	C. C. A. Leigh-Pemberton	K. J. Rendle-Mervill
S. K. Brown	D. J. McNeill	N. A. Smallbones
T. M. Callingham	M. J. Matthews	N. R. Smith
R. H. C. Duncan	N. D. Morpew	M. C. Stevens
R. M. Elliott	C. P. M. Pelloe	P. Tamworth
P. S. Hinton	S. B. Phillips	C. P. C. Warcup

Our next Confirmation will be on February 19th, 1965, by the Lord Bishop of Dorchester.

To avail ourselves of the opportunity of welcoming more outside preachers to the School, we have been having regular Evensong throughout the last two terms; our visitors have included the Vicar of Shiplake; the Archdeacon of Middlesex; the Rural Dean and the Rev. O. J. Fulljames.

It is encouraging to see how many parents we have been able to welcome on these occasions.

Compline has been introduced on Saturday evenings and has very often been well attended. I hope it will be possible for this service to become a permanent feature.

We have also experimented with three partly "Voluntary Sundays" when boys have been able to choose between the Holy Communion and Evensong.

It is heartening to note that the weekly Celebrations of the Holy Communion, the basis of our Christian life, continue to be well attended.

I have been impressed with the steady improvement in the standard of lesson reading. It is not easy to read well in public and I am aware of the considerable hard work which has gone into this. A special word of thanks is due to M. M. Gilliat, Esq., who has helped so much in voice training.

I would also like to thank the choir whose hard work very often goes unnoticed, the servers and all those, both staff and boys, including the new Chapel Committee, who through their support of the Chapel bear witness to the Christian life of the School.

CHAPLAIN.

SCHOOL NOTES

We have now come to the end of the fourth term under Mr. Eggar's Head-mastership, and both he and Mrs. Eggar are now well known to us all. Obviously Repton's loss is our gain.

There have been a few changes in staff during the year, and we extend a hearty welcome to six newcomers. We wish them a long and happy stay at Shiplake. Mr. D. Inwood has been in charge of Art since January; the Rev. B. W. Wilks has been Chaplain since April; since September Commander R. F. Jenks, R.N.(Rtd.) has been Bursar. Mr. J. F. Brown and Mr. R. Nolan also joined the staff in September, and Miss Grayson has recently taken over the Sick-wing.

Miss A. Black, who was Sister for five years, has recently decided to take up lighter work; we wish her well in her new home. Mr. R. Stenner is now Music Master at Heaton G.S., Newcastle.

We have news of a number of former members of staff: Mr. Skipwith is planning a lecture tour of South Africa; Mr. C. T. Gordon is now Sixth Form English Master at The City of London School; the Rev. P. E. Tidmarsh (chaplain 1962-64) is in charge of All Saints Choir School, Margaret Street, W.1.

We must confess that in listing the winners of the Inter-House Shields we have failed in the past to thank everyone who has presented a trophy. To make amends we list the trophies, their donors, and the winners since January last: we ask those whom we have not properly thanked before now to excuse our previous omission.

<i>Athletics Sports</i> ..	A. de M. Everett, Esq.	..	..	Everett
<i>Athletics Standards</i> ..	J. D. Eggar, Esq.	..	..	Everett
<i>Boxing</i> ..	D. J. Skipwith, Esq.	..	..	Everett
<i>Cadet Force</i> ..	..	..	..	Everett
<i>Cricket</i> ..	Dr. Maurice Blackwell	..	..	Everett
<i>Junior Cricket</i> ..	Mr. & Mrs. H. E. Wells-Furby	..	..	Skipwith
<i>Cross Country</i> ..	Mrs. M. J. Bird	..	..	Everett
<i>Junior Cross Country</i> ..	P. A. Booth (O.V.)	..	..	Everett
<i>Hockey</i> ..	J. Milli (O.V.)	..	..	Skipwith
<i>Shooting</i> ..	J. Hodges, Esq.	..	..	Skipwith
<i>Rowing</i> ..	P. F. Carter-Ruck, Esq. and Mrs.	..	..	Burr
<i>Junior Rowing</i> ..	K. J. Phillips (O.V.)	..	..	Everett
<i>Rugby</i> ..	H. B. Patmore, Esq.	..	..	Everett
<i>Junior Rugby</i> ..	C. C. Pepper (O.V.)	..	..	Everett
<i>Swimming</i> ..	R. Crowder, Esq.	..	..	Everett
<i>Tennis</i> ..	A Parent	..	..	Everett
<i>Golf Cup</i> ..	D. J. Edwards, Esq.	..	..	Skipwith

We acknowledge with thanks the following gifts:—

Encyclopaedia Britannica from G. H. King, Esq.
A teak garden seat from R. M. Shingler (O.V.).

A teak garden seat from B. Fawkes, Esq.
A teak garden seat from A. H. Peacock, Esq.
A Uganda Atlas from B. E. R. Kirwan, Esq.
Surplices for the Choir, given by an anonymous donor.
A small motorboat from J. Milli, Esq.

The identity of the Senior Editor of the Chronicles has been in theory undisclosed, although he has not enjoyed as strict an anonymity as that of the Editor of *Crockford's*. If the observant reader now detects a difference in style, it is due to the efforts of the Committee whose names are mentioned inside the front cover. They have this year taken over in large measure.

This is in fact our fifth issue, and in the New Year we propose to bind these first five numbers into a volume for easier preservation. Hitherto we have not numbered our issues, but the next edition will be volume two, number one.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a number of our contemporaries, which may be seen in the library.

FOUNDERS' DAY 1964

This, our fifth Founders' Day, was our largest, probably our most ambitious and certainly our wettest to date.

During the morning there were a number of displays including Gymnastics and Fencing on the lawn, and canoes and a bumping-race on the river. As the whole morning was showery the Art-Exhibition, the History of Shiplake Court Exhibition, and the shows put on by a number of Societies, were well supported and could not complain for once that fine weather kept potential viewers outside.

At lunch time a decision was taken to take tea indoors: the heavy rain that fell during the Prize Giving made this decision seem prescient indeed.

The prizes were presented this year by Sir George Mallaby, K.C.M.G., who was introduced to parents and boys by the Chairman of the Governors, Mr. P. C. Carter-Ruck. The Chairman spoke for us all when he said how honoured we were by the presence of Sir George Mallaby, who, before the War had been a successful Schoolmaster, and then a Headmaster; and since had been a distinguished Civil Servant and a Civil Service Commissioner.

The Headmaster, in his first report, thanked Governors, Parents, Staff and boys for the welcome and support which he and Mrs. Eggar had experienced since their arrival. The Headmaster spoke encouragingly of the sporting success of the School and especially of the Boat Club's several successes in recent Regattas. He went on to analyse the present academic weaknesses of the School and spoke of his policies for the immediate future.

Colonel F. N. Richardson, Chairman of the Appeals Committee, also spoke about the recently launched appeal. (Up-to-date results of this appear elsewhere).

PRIZE WINNERS 1964

<i>English</i>	-	-	-	-	-	D. S. Cowley; R. M. Elliott; R. W. Harvey.
<i>History</i>	-	-	-	-	-	C. M. Ferguson; P. S. Hinton; J. McBurnie.
<i>Geography</i>	-	-	-	-	-	H. Strachey; A. R. Miller; S. E. Ayers.
<i>Latin</i>	-	-	-	-	-	K. J. Rendle-Mervill; D. King.
<i>Classical History</i>	-	-	-	-	-	G. T. Coulton.
<i>French</i>	-	-	-	-	-	N. J. Hill; M. Griffiths; S. B. Phillips; R. C. Little.
<i>German</i>	-	-	-	-	-	R. G. Lyon; K. J. Rendle-Mervill.
<i>Mathematics</i>	-	-	-	-	-	A. H. Patmore; A. M. Waugh; R. Hutchings; I. C. Fairbairn.
<i>Chemistry</i>	-	-	-	-	-	R. Hutchings; R. D. Owen.
<i>Physics</i>	-	-	-	-	-	J. P. Turner; A. L. Philpot; R. Hutchings; N. A. Smallbones.
<i>Biology</i>	-	-	-	-	-	H. Strachey; N. D. Morpew; R. C. Little.
<i>Music</i>	-	-	-	-	-	J. Osborne.
<i>Art</i>	-	-	-	-	-	A. L. Philpot; S. de P. Pearson.

SPECIAL PRIZES:—

<i>Barron Essay Prize</i>	-	-	-	-	Not awarded.
<i>Senior Poetry</i>	-	-	-	-	D. S. Cowley.
<i>Junior Poetry</i>	-	-	-	-	M. A. Law
<i>History Essay</i>	-	-	-	-	J. Sainsbury.
<i>Junior History Essay</i>	-	-	-	-	C. Sallon.
<i>Geography Essay</i>	-	-	-	-	P. Tamworth.
<i>Junior Geography Essay</i>	-	-	-	-	D. Burton.
<i>Biology Essay</i>	-	-	-	-	J. P. Turner.
<i>Junior Biology Essay</i>	-	-	-	-	D. King.
<i>Latin Grammar Prize</i>	-	-	-	-	N. Hellawell and R. Devas.
<i>Hartley General Knowledge Prize</i>	-	-	-	-	Senior - R. V. Johnson Junior - J. C. Clayton.
<i>Prize for Service to the School</i>	-	-	-	-	J. H. Barham.
<i>Headmaster's Prize for Head of School</i>	-	-	-	-	R. M. Shingler.

EVERETT HOUSE

Naturally we are proud of our record-shattering year in which we gained the vast majority of the shields available for inter-house competition. A list appears in the School Notes. In addition we have provided the captain of the most successful Rugby XV the School has yet had.

We owe a great deal of our fine house spirit to Mr. J. F. Foster. Until July we also had the support of Mr. M. D. Duncan, who has now transferred to the new House. In his place we welcome Mr. J. F. Brown.

Last year's Head of House was N. H. King. P. M. Devas was also a School Prefect. Their places this term have been taken by G. T. Coulton, Head of House, and J. R. Stephens. Amongst our leavers last summer was also V. G. S. Durman, a House Prefect and most useful games player. The present House Prefects are M. S. Crowder, R. G. Lyon, A. H. Patmore and J. M. Sutcliffe.

At the moment we are also threatening to become dominant in Academic matters; we have more boys in the Sixth Form than any other House.

The House would like to take this opportunity of thanking many parents who have contributed to the equipping of both day rooms with extra furniture, bed-side lockers, and additional funds.

We hope in the coming year to maintain our contribution to the life of the School. Since the office of "Sacristan" was instituted we have filled the office from amongst our members. We have also held the A.C.F. Shield since its inception. These divergent contributions, we hope, show the range of our interests.

BURR HOUSE

We have now provided the School with two consecutive Heads of School. R. M. Shingler, one of the original thirty who joined the School in May, 1959, till July, and J. P. Turner replaced him in September. The Rowing Notes make mention of Shingler's outstanding record as a stroke.

Amongst other senior members of the House to leave in July were J. Osborne, C. Ferguson, C. Bingham, who were all House Prefects. N. J. Hill has transferred to first Head of a new house. J. H. Barham, W. Eaton, N. H. Willcock, W. A. Coy are the present House Prefects.

We have also had changes in our Staff. Mr. Hartley, to our regret, decided to resign his housemastership, and we welcomed Mr. M. M. Gilliat in his place from January onwards. Mr. Welsh was asked to become Housemaster of the long planned fourth House and so Mr. R. M. Lee has become our House-Tutor.

In almost every sport we have been pursued by bad luck. We did retain the Senior Rowing Trophy in the Summer and in the Autumn we reached the final of Junior Rugby and were narrowly beaten in inter-house Boxing. Congratulations here to J. G. Mackay, captain of House Boxing.

We offer our congratulations to J. Osborne on entry to London University—the first university entrant in the School's short history. Osborne was also one of the original thirty in 1959. We also congratulate J. P. Turner—the first boy to gain three "A" level passes and C. Ferguson, who gained entry to the Central School of Drama.

W. C. F. Eaton and W. A. Coy, at present House Prefects, are leaving in December. We wish them well in their future careers.

SKIPWITH HOUSE

We have had a modest year. Some of our senior members have enjoyed academic success and the House was well represented among the prize winners on Founders' Day. We have gained two shields, in inter-House competitions, retained three and lost one. Nonetheless we have made little inroad on Everett's dominant position.

D. S. Cowley took over as Head of House when Batiste left in December, 1963, and H. P. Seaford succeeded Cowley in September. With most of the House Prefects also leaving last July we have had to settle down this term under new management. It is much to the credit of Seaford, backed up by G. Pidsley and J. Banyard (House Prefects) that things have gone smoothly this term. The sporting prowess of Messrs. Barrett and Hampson has been much missed this term. Some unkind people suggested they were our professionals—was someone suggesting they were not Scholars? Apart from leavers we have also transferred a number of boys to Welsh House. We hope they are happy in their new establishment, and in fact, their agreement to move has been a great help to the School, if not to us.

We gained the Junior Cricket Shield and successfully defended the Hockey and Shooting Shields, as well as the Golf Cup. We lost the Tennis Competition and owing to a change in times have both won and lost the Boxing Trophy in the last nine months. Mention should be made of our coming second in the Athletics Standards: doing so was due to stout efforts by many boys who would not regard themselves as front rank sportsmen; it just shows what can be done.

Looking to the future we shall be of much the same strength next term. Only Wigfall, always noticeable in Swimming and Rugby teams, and Hodges, our inimitable A.C.F. platoon Sergeant, are leaving at Christmas.

Last but not least we acknowledge with thanks the gift of a fine wardrobe-cum-desk for the study of the Head of House, from N. A. Cameron (1959-64) and we thank Mrs. Wells-Furby for making up material bought by us for Day-Room curtains. At the end of term we received a large radiogram from Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Rumsey.

WELSH HOUSE

The Christmas Term of 1964 saw the foundation of a new House. Under the Housemastership of Mr. D. F. K. Welsh, Mr. M. D. Duncan as House-tutor, and N. J. Hill as Head-boy, we have had a very successful first term.

It was expected that Welsh would have little to say on the Sportsfield; however, although we had no victories this term, House spirit showed through and gained us the respect from rival Houses that we so much needed.

A closely united House is no easy goal to achieve at the best of times. We have our House accommodation scattered throughout the school. The Vicarage, which is now undergoing conversion, will be our headquarters by the summer. But despite the difficulties there has been a tremendous feeling of unity in the first term of our existence. This was doubtless helped by the comfortably furnished House Dayroom. Here we must thank J. H. White, P. M. Lockyer and B. Harrison for their welcome contributions.

THE A.C.F.

In the summer of this year we lost our Officer Commanding, Lieut-Colonel H. W. Newell. He was devoted to the Corps, for which he did so much since its original founding, and all of us can only regret the passing of a good officer and a great friend of every cadet.

The year has seen the introduction of the new system, decreed by War Office for the C.C.F., that cadets should serve for three years, between the ages of 14 and 17 and then leave the Corps. The apologia for this decision was based on the remarkable argument that, as the Services were short of men, their flourishing junior, the Cadet Corps, must be relentlessly cut in numbers by something over 25 per cent. The result has been the loss to the Corps of most senior boys at a time when their training and responsibility would make them of greatest use to others, and the loss to the boys themselves of the chance of becoming senior N.C.O.s with the advantage of a year in control and command. It is to the credit of the individuals concerned that we have had a fair number who have volunteered to stay on; their experience and assistance have been invaluable.

It has meant that ever younger boys will have to be brought up as N.C.O.s from almost before they have been able to find their feet as cadets. The Services have long known how unsatisfactory such a position is for all concerned in the upbringing and welfare of the men under command—but one can only presume that the truth of it has not yet penetrated to the higher levels of the Ministry of Defence.

So the main efforts of the Corps are now directed towards the passing of Certificate A, Parts I and II, and the training of N.C.O.s so far as the latter can be fitted in with the former. To this end it is most important that every boy should be given adequate opportunities and, in this respect, our scope at Shiplake is of necessity limited. In fact there is only one real answer and that is to be found at annual camp. We hope this year again to join St. Edward's School, Oxford, at their camp in Brecon at the beginning of the Easter holidays—a separate notice on the subject is being sent out—and I would emphasize here how important this camp is for all cadets to get the training and experience that some such continuous period affords. Last year was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended and prospects for next year are even better.

Looking back over the past year, we have held our own successfully in shooting and athletics. We have provided County representatives for A.C.F. teams on almost every occasion that has arisen, compatible with our school programme, and we have upheld Oxfordshire in the various competitions. There are of course many things that we want to improve our facilities, from an indoor range to an obstacle course, and various amenities. However we have during the year been provided by the Army with a very fine Corps Hut which, taken over temporarily in part as an ancillary classroom, will shortly come into use for its intended purpose, providing an office, adequate storage for full uniforms and equipment, and a lecture room which will gradually grow into our A.C.F. centre.

The Corps spent twenty-four hours last summer down in Portsmouth where the Royal Navy entertained us most magnificently and showed us everything except H.M.S. *Victory*. The N.C.O.s, joined by a party from the staff, also went to the Royal Tournament at Earl's Court and, particularly to the many members who had not been before, found it as impressive as it invariably is good entertainment.

In competitive events we have to place on record that Sgt. Seaford and Cadet Batten both gained standards certificates in the National Athletic Championships of 1964 and, just before going to press, we are able to report that Shiplake College, representing Oxfordshire, have won the Aldershot District cadet cross-country team race. The interhouse competition for the A.C.F. shield was held at the end of the summer term and won by Everett House whose higher standard of turnout was decisive.

H.C.T.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME

Since the last report on the activities of the Scheme appeared in *The Court*, it has been made compulsory for all boys to join the Army Cadet Force at the beginning of their second term with us, and also compulsory for them to train for the Bronze Series of the Award in their first term in the Army Cadet Force.

The summer term saw the first presentation of Gold Awards to P. M. Devas and J. R. Stephens. They both went to Buckingham Palace to receive their Gold Certificates. Michael Devas was one of the thirty throughout the country to be presented to His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh. There were also eleven Silver Award winners during this term. At present there are 59 boys training for the Bronze Series, 6 for the Silver and 13 for the Gold.

New syllabi for the Gold Award come into effect as from next year. There will be a minimum entrance age to the Gold of 16 years and a minimum age before a Gold Award can be received of 17 years. In addition to this there will be a residential qualification, and the boys will now have to pass the St. John Ambulance Advanced Adult Certificate in First Aid, in place of the present Adult Certificate.

Now that so many boys are members of the Scheme we are anxious to know of people who are willing to help train and test boys for the Pursuits and Projects Section of the Award. The more help we can get the better, as we shall then be able to offer a more comprehensive list of Pursuits from which boys can select their activity.

We are very grateful to Dr. Wells-Furby for giving up her very valuable time to the preparation of the boys for the Adult First Aid Examination. The first examination will be held in December. We are also grateful to the Henley Branch of the S.J.A.B. for their help in instructing the boys in the practical sections of the syllabus.

ROWING

The summer of 1964 was a glorious one for the Boat Club, the weather was fine for most of the term, and the 1st Crew had a memorable run of deserved success.

Our first competitive meeting of the season was with Henley Grammar School, over a course of approximately 6 furlongs at Henley. All three of our crews (1st, 2nd and Junior) were successful, by very comfortable margins.

Our regatta record was as follows:—

WALLINGFORD, MAY 23rd: In the Maiden Fours, the 1st Crew won their three heats and the final. (They therefore had to move up to Junior Fours class for future regattas). In the same event, our 2nd Crew won their first heat but lost in the second heat by three feet. In the Junior School Fours, our Junior Crew won two heats and lost to the final winners in the third heat.

READING CLINKER BOAT REGATTA, MAY 30th: In the Junior Fours event our 1st Crew drew the holders, Strode's School, in the first heat. We were one length down three-quarters of the way over the course, but Shingler, our stroke, put in a storming burst which took our crew right past Strode's, to win by 1 length in the time of 3mins. 58seconds, the fastest time of any of the 73 coxed fours competing in this regatta. We went on to win the next heat and the final in similar fashion, gaining the Reading Challenge Bowl, which dates back to 1887. In the Novice Fours, our 2nd Crew won their first heat but lost by 1 length in the second heat to the eventual winners, Furnival R.C. In the Junior School Fours, our Junior Crew lost in the first heat, though they beat one of the three crews taking part in the heat.

MARLOW REGATTA, JUNE 20th: After our good performance at Reading, we thought it would not be presumptuous to enter for the Public Schools' Fours, the premier event for coxed school fours in this country. Unfortunately, the only really bad weather of the term happened at about this time, and the practice row and the first heat took place in drenching thunderstorms. Although suffering from a heavy cold, Shingler stroked with his usual determination, and our crew won the first round comfortably. In the final, we met Tonbridge and our old rivals, Strode's, who took an early lead which they increased to $\frac{3}{4}$ -length. We then gradually pulled them back, but they just managed to hold on and to win by two feet, with Tonbridge well back in third place. The time, 4 min. 46 secs., was the fastest for this event in 17 years. After this we resolved to have another go at Strode's at Pangbourne and Whitchurch Regatta in the Junior Fours which Strode's had won the previous year.

NATIONAL SCHOOLS' REGATTA, PANGBOURNE, JUNE 24th: As our First Crew had entered for the Schools' Fours at Marlow, we were obliged by the rules to enter our Second Crew for this regatta. There were only three other entries, two crews from Pangbourne Nautical College, and one from Winchester. On their observed form we should have beaten them, but disaster struck us on the fifth stroke: our No. 3's slide, in our new boat, jammed, its wheels holding him fast by his shorts, so that the crew had to drop out of the race. The whole sad incident is best forgotten.

PANGBOURNE AND WHITCHURCH REGATTA, JUNE 27th: In the Junior Fours our First Crew was drawn against Weybridge R.C. in the first heat, whilst Strode's had a bye into the second round. We disposed of Weybridge convincingly and then met Strode's who went off fast and led for most of the course, until our crew produced their by now characteristic finishing burst which took them ahead to win by $1\frac{1}{4}$ lengths. It was a similar story against Berkhamstead School in the final: so we won the Dolphin Challenge Bowl and put up the fastest time of any of the 53 coxed fours entered for the regatta. In the Novice Fours, our Second Crew beat Wycliffe College, but lost to Windsor Grammar School, who won the event. In the Junior School Fours we beat Sir William Borlase's School but lost to Windsor Grammar School, who won the event.

READING WORKING MEN'S REGATTA, JULY 11th: Conditions were rough, in the "Dreadnought Reach" near Reading, with a strong head-wind, but our crews did well. In the School Fours, our First Crew beat St. Clement Dane's, Magdalene College, Staveley and—in the final—Wellington. In the Maiden Fours our Second Crew beat Reading R.C., Pangbourne R.C., and City Orient R.C., but lost in the final to Maidenhead R.C. In the Junior School Fours our Junior Crew beat Windsor Grammar, Christopher Wren's, Wandsworth, Sutton, and Staveley, but lost in the final to Royal Wanstead by $\frac{1}{2}$ -length. This indicates the steady improvement made by the Junior Crew throughout the term.

UPPER THAMES SCHOOLS' REGATTA, JULY 22nd: We acted as hosts and organisers for this regatta which was held on our water at Shiplake. Nine schools sent crews, and some sent more than one crew. There were two divisions, Colts' Fours and School Fours, and 24 races. In the School Fours our First Crew beat Wallingford Grammar, Carmel "A" and Carmel "B" but lost by $\frac{1}{2}$ -length in the final to Berkhamstead, whom they had beaten in the longer course at Pangbourne. In the Colts' Fours, our Junior Crew did very well, beating Blue Coat, Windsor Grammar (who had beaten them at Pangbourne and Whitchurch Regatta) and, in the final, Royal Wanstead (who had beaten them at Reading W.M. Regatta).

MAIDENHEAD REGATTA, AUGUST 1st: The oarsmen in the First and Second Crews, with Matthews as cox, united to form an eight for this regatta, after the end of term, and we borrowed a light eight from Marlow Rowing Club. Although we were able to have only a few outings in this boat the crew settled down well, but then—two days before the regatta—Turner went down with measles. He was replaced by Lester, stroke of the Junior Crew, who did very well at such short notice. In the Junior Eights we drew Quintin, a strong club from the Tideway, and they drew what was by common consent the more favourable station. They beat us by $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths but our crew never gave up fighting. After this, the crews went back into fours for the next regatta, with Lyon replacing Lester, who was no longer available, in the Second Crew.

HENLEY TOWN & VISITORS' REGATTA, AUGUST 3rd: In the Junior Fours our First Crew beat Tonbridge School, Shrewsbury School, Abingdon R.C., Maidenhead R.C. and Quintin R.C. but lost in the final, by 1 length, to the same crew of

Eastbourne College which had done well in the Visitors' Cup at Henley Royal Regatta, a month previously, winning one heat and then losing by only $\frac{3}{4}$ -length to Lady Margaret B.C., Cambridge. Incidentally, the Quintin crew which lost to us consisted of the stern four of the eight which beat us at Maidenhead: they went on to win the Junior Fours event at the National Sprints Regatta on the Serpentine. In the Novice Fours our Second Crew lost in the first heat which was won by Monkton Combe School, who won the final.

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HOUSE ROWING, JULY 13th and 14th

Results

<i>Senior:</i> 1—Burr (who won all their races) 2—Everett 3—Skipwith	<i>Junior:</i> 1—Everett 2—Skipwith 3—Burr
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Best times: *Senior:* Burr, 2min. 51secs.

Junior: Everett, 2min. 39secs. (shorter course).

Winning Crews

Senior: Burr:—Warcup (cox), Shingler (str.), Culme, Eaton, Turner.

Junior: Everett:—Hindmarsh (cox), Rellie (str.), Marchant, Maclean, Hinton.

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SUMMARY OF SCHOOL ROWING RESULTS
(excluding the holiday VIII)

	Races Won	Races Lost	Crews Beaten
First Crew	20 ..	3 ..	29
Second Crew	4 ..	6 ..	7
Junior Crew	8 ..	4 ..	12
	—	—	—
	32	13	48

Crews:

First: Matthews, M. (cox), Shingler (str.), Coulton, Eaton, Durman.

Second: Johnson (cox), Crowder, G. (str.), Culme, Turner, Crowder, M.

Junior: Warcup (cox), Lester (str.), Eveleigh, C., Griffiths, M., Marchant.

Coaches: First and Second Crews: Mr. E. M. Hall.

Junior Crew: Mr. M. D. Duncan.

In conclusion special mention must be made of the remarkable record of the First Crew. They rowed in seven regattas, reaching the final every time and winning the final four times. They rowed in 23 races and won 20 of them and on several occasions they put up the fastest time of any coxed four in the whole regatta. They were a crew in the real sense of that word, all pulling more than their weight and stroked with great judgment, fire and determination by R. M. Shingler, who, in his last season at the school, stroked in 27 races (counting the House Rowing) and was defeated only three times: a very fine record indeed.

E.M.H.

CRICKET 1964

For two reasons we can claim this our best season: the First Eleven won more games than ever before and the Under-Fifteen team showed more individual and collective ability than any of their predecessors.

Compared with previous years the First achieved little in the way of high scoring; indeed there was not one individual fifty scored all season. Fawkes, the Captain, together with his Vice-Captain Devas, always batted sensibly and during the season they received useful support from every member of the side, sooner or later everyone made runs of value.

Matches were won almost entirely by what happened in the field. Patmore and McAusland were a workmanlike opening attack and they were followed by Sutcliffe (off spin) and Fawkes (slow-medium); these two took over fifty wickets between them. The main bowlers were backed up by fielding that was much better than in 1963. Over thirty catches were held and there were some smart run-outs. In the matter of run saving, either by anticipation or by clean ground fielding, our out cricket was less effective and this will have to be improved next season.

Only once was the First outplayed in every department: that was at Bloxham. After a disastrous start at Stoneham, later batsmen restored the position and an earlier change from pace bowling might have led to victory. This point was noted when next we were cheaply dismissed. This was against Crookham—our slow bowlers were on at once and our opponents dismissed for an infinitesimal score. At Radley over-cautions batting led to a cheap dismissal when faced with a not impossible target. Still a lesson was learned for later matches when we had to bat second.

The two most interesting matches were with Abingdon and Shiplake Memorial Hall C.C. Accurate bowling led to Abingdon being 58—8. A sensible ninth wicket stand carried the score to 126 before the declaration came. The School were left to make the runs in seventy-five minutes. With 25 minutes to go the School were apparently safe with eight wickets in hand. 56 runs were then hit at more than two a minute, wickets also fell and both sides had their share of excitement before time was up. The Shiplake Village game saw an unfinished last wicket stand of 42 by the School and the village getting four runs to win off the last ball of the day.

FIRST XI RESULTS

- 9th May .. (H) College 97 (Barrett 34), Bishop Otter College 72; won by 25 runs.
16th May .. (A) College 59, Stoneham School 61—5; lost by 5 wickets.
20th May .. (H) College 100—9 decd., Henley Police 43 (Fawkes 5—10); won by 57 runs.
23rd May .. (A) Radley College 3rd XI 122 (Sutcliffe 7—30), College 51; lost by 71 runs,
31st May .. (H) College 53—3 v. Old Vikings; rain.
9th June .. (A) College 55, Bloxham 2nd XI 56—2; lost by 8 wickets.

- 17th June .. (H) Nautical College, Pangbourne 3rd XI 73, College 74—6; won by 4 wickets.
- 20th June .. (H) College 50, Crookham 27 (Fawkes 6—3).
- 4th July .. (H) Abingdon 2nd 126—8 decd., College 80—9; drawn.
- 11th July .. (A) Oratory School 3rd 66, College 70—3; won by 7 wickets.
- 18th July .. (A) Wellington College Occasionals 45, College 46—3; won by 7 wickets.
- 19th July .. (H) College 120—9 decd. (Barrett 47), Shiplake Memorial Hall C.C. 121—6; lost by 4 wickets.
Won 6; Lost 4; Drawn 2.

Awards:—Full Colours: N. C. Fawkes, P. M. Devas, R. S. Barrett.

XXII Colours: M. I. Hampson, A. Barbour, P. Forsyth, P. Hinton,
J. M. Sutcliffe, N. J. Hill, A. H. Patmore.

Hadden Todd Trophy (for best individual performance): J. M. Sutcliffe.

JUNIOR CRICKET

The Junior Eleven contained some boys who had played for the School in 1963. They were joined by several new boys and the combination made a useful side once all concerned had realised that progress and increased skill comes from regular and concentrated practice. At the outset several reliable bowlers revealed themselves but there was nobody capable of playing a long innings nor anyone capable of fielding accurately all afternoon. Hard work did much to improve these departments, and, as several members of the side will still be Under-Fifteens next summer, the benefits of this application will bear more fruit in the coming season.

The Stoneham fixture has always been a stiff first hurdle for us; we did get seven opponents out for 54 before we lost control of the situation. Against Reading Batten and Taylor batted well and then proceeded to take all the wickets. As team work had begun to develop we sent an essentially under-fifteen side to Bloxham as our Under-Sixteen XI. In the circumstances to lose by one wicket was commendable.

An easy victory at Crookham and an even draw with Pangbourne were both better results than in 1963. An unusual feature was the draw in the away match with Reading, the scores were level when time ran out. We had four wickets in hand but as we had dawdled we did not deserve to win.

JUNIOR RESULTS

- 16th May .. (A) Stoneham 100, Juniors 30; lost by 70 runs.
- 26th May .. (H) Juniors 91 (Batten 50), Reading 42 (Taylor 5—4); won by 49 runs.
- 9th June .. (A) Juniors 60, Bloxham U/16 "B" XI 61—9; lost by one wicket.
- 11th June .. (A) Crookham 25, (Taylor 6—14), Juniors 26—1; won by 9 wickets.
- 17th June .. (A) Pangbourne 100—6 decd., Juniors 72—7; drawn.
- 30th June .. (A) Reading 85—9 decd., Juniors 85—6; drawn.
Won 2; Lost 2; Drawn 2.

Colts' Colours awarded to:—R. McAusland, A. J. Batten, C. Barlow, J. M. Heale, T. M. Callingham, R. Taylor.

S.C.R.F.C.

With a fixture list increased by the matches with Marlborough, Stowe and Beaumont and with very few left from last year's side, there were many doubts as to what kind of a season this would be. As a compensation there was, however, more rivalry to get into the 1st XV this year than there has been before, and, in fact, changes in the side were made throughout the season.

The main emphasis of the game the 1st XV has played this year has been open play. The new Laws have helped us in this, but the greatest contributing factor has been the fitness of the side. A programme of circuit training, maintained voluntarily (but with increasing difficulty for members to persuade Coulton why they hadn't volunteered), produced a quick covering pack and a powerful back line.

At the beginning of the season the fields were so dry that touch rugby in gym shoes had to be played throughout the school. We have had two new pitches this term, one more on Mrs. Green's land (known as Green's 2) and one from Mr. Doble at Shiplake Lock (known as Doble's). Doble's was of particular value to us during the dry spell as it was kept reasonably soft by its nearness to the river.

It was on Doble's that the first match was played, against Henley R.F.C. Colts. This has become rather a local "derby" as last year we were the only side to beat them (and this we did twice). After a quick score from Henley we settled down and won what was, as always with our Henley matches, an exciting and enjoyable game.

The Marlborough match was the first one in which our backs began to show. Hinton was conspicuous, as he was to be throughout the season as a powerful and sensible attacking centre. We won after a hard fought game.

At Abingdon our play in the first half was pathetic. At half-time we were 16 points down. During the second half we started to play really hard and during this period Abingdon only scored once to our twice—one of our tries coming as the result of intelligent dummying on a penalty by Barbour, whose fast thinking at scrum half and clever ball sense have been a noteworthy feature of the play this year.

The play was consolidated in the next match, at home with Oratory, when we won comfortably with several classic tries run with the indefatigable Eaton storming down the wing. Up until this match Coulton had been captaining his side out of position, as a centre, and was obviously not really happy in that position. In this match he went back to being a wing forward with P. Forsyth being brought out in his place. Forsyth settled in and was soon playing well in his new position.

At Radley the side showed the spirit it had in the second half of the Abingdon match and beat the older, heavier side. Away to Reading 3rds we again won after a tough game in which we had to fight hard for our points and the 1st was fairly glad to have reasonably easy home matches for their next two fixtures (against Henley Grammar School 2nd XV and a mixture of the Nautical College's 2nds and 3rds). In both these we had regular players off games from injuries in the Reading match and in school games. Coulton, whose spirit and personal example have contributed so very much to his team's success, had to be content to watch the Pangbourne match as he had a leg injury and Hill, his Vice-captain, led the side to a comfortable victory.

The next two matches (away to St. Edwards and Stowe) were probably the ones which made the team play hardest. Both were scrum games, and especially at St. Edwards where the ball kept on being kicked into a drainage ditch, the ball was not easy to hold. The scrum have shown themselves strong this year and have not been so outweighed in the set scrummages and have foraged well in the loose. Coulton's experience and leadership have been very valuable here and the work of Hill, Patmore, Seaford and Stephens, all extremely fit, has helped to give the backs success. However in both these matches the score ended at 8—9 against us with the game being in the balance right up to the last whistle.

Just before the St. Edwards match Philby, who had alternated with Rellie as hooker and was proving an extremely fit and effective forward in the loose, damaged a shoulder which put him off games for the rest of the term. Coy, the full-back, was also put off with a shoulder injury but he was back in the side for the Beaumont match. Eaton, who has proved such a tower of strength on the left wing in the last two seasons, injured an ankle and could not play at Stowe.

The last match before the Old Viking fixture was at Beaumont where on a foul afternoon we proceeded to play open rugby with a ball which could hardly have been more slippery and won comfortably.

With 181 points scored by us and only 78 against us this has obviously been our best season to date in spite of early misgivings.

The following have been awarded 1st XV Colours:—G. C. Coulton, A. L. Barbour, W. C. F. Eaton, P. Forsyth, N. J. Hill, P. S. Hinton, A. H. Patmore, H. S. Seaford, J. R. Stephens, P. Tamworth.

The following have been awarded XXX Colours:—W. A. Coy, P. M. Philby, J. A. Rellie, N. Willcock.

The following have also appeared for the 1st XV:—G. Pidsley, C. M. Pease, A. J. Batten.

Of all these players Willcock deserves special mention as one who has succeeded through blind determination in his second season of rugger to get himself into the side.

RESULTS

3rd Oct.	v. Henley R.F.C. Colts	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Won 11— 6
10th	„ v. Marlborough 4th XV	..	..	..	..	(A)	..	Won 11— 8
14th	„ v. Abingdon 3rd XV	..	..	..	..	(A)	..	Lost 6—21
17th	„ v. Oratory 3rd XV	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Won 22— 0
22nd	„ v. Radley 3rd XV	..	..	..	..	(A)	..	Won 8— 5
24th	„ v. Reading School 3rd XV	..	..	..	..	(A)	..	Won 12— 8
7th Sept.	v. Henley G.S. 2nd XV	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Won 24— 8
11th	„ v. Pangbourne 2nd/3rd	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Won 31— 0
21st	„ v. St. Edward's 4th XV	..	..	..	..	(A)	..	Lost 8— 9
28th	„ v. Stowe 3rd XV	..	..	..	..	(A)	..	Lost 8— 9
5th Dec.	v. Beaumont 4th XV	..	..	..	..	(A)	..	Won 14— 0
13th	„ v. O.V.S.	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Won 26— 5

The Senior and Junior House match competitions were again won by Everett House.

COLTS RUGBY

The Colts XV did not have a happy season. They were generally out-thought and out-run behind the scrum. In particular the tackling was weak, though this improved during the term.

However, the forwards were quite a force even against heavier opposition and on one occasion, against Beaumont, played very well together.

Batten, as captain, set a good example and others of note were Pease, an outstanding tackler, Barlow, Clayton, Sherriff and Lester. All these were awarded Colts Colours.

RESULTS

v. Radley	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	(A)	..	Lost	3—46
v. Reading	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	(A)	..	Lost	35—3
v. Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	(A)	..	Lost	6—11
v. Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Lost	13—14
v. Beaumont	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Lost	0—6
v. R.M.N.S., Wokingham	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	(A)	..	Lost	0—16

JUNIOR COLTS

We were lucky to have so much talent available this term. So much was there in fact that during the term we were able to include not only in the game but in the team also, boys who were originally in Games 5 and 6.

Probably the long-term improvement was shown by the forwards as they came to realize, albeit rather slowly, the importance of pack work and supremacy in the loose as well as the tight.

Rarely could the backs have felt that they were getting less than their fair share of the ball, but it was anybody's guess what they might do with it on any given day. On occasions nothing could stop them—their penetrating powers appearing quite natural. At other times these powers were in no way apparent.

Even in a strong defensive side, which this was not, McKinney would have been very obvious for the consistency of his tackling. This added largely to the moral support and encouragement that he was to give to his team on many occasions.

Although the results show only moderate success, the hallmark of the team was the obvious enjoyment with which they played, and the equally obvious progress that was made.

RESULTS

17th Oct.	v. Cokethorpe	..	..	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Won	8—0
24th	„ v. Reading School	..	..	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Lost	0—36
27th	„ v. Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	(A)	..	Lost	6—13
7th Nov.	v. Henley Grammar School	..	..	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Won	31—0
11th	„ v. Nautical College, Pangbourne	..	..	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Lost	3—26
21st	„ v. Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Lost	0—8
5th Dec.	v. Beaumont	..	..	..	..	..	..	(A)	..	Won	28—0
12th	„ v. Royal Merchant Navy School, Wokingham	..	..	..	..	..	..	(A)	..	Lost	11—19

HOCKEY 1964

The development of hockey in the School was hampered by the lack of grounds, a situation which fortunately we now know to be improving in the future but which made training and practice difficult in the early months of this year. The usual wet weather did not help hockey players to give of their best on grounds which their predecessors, revelling in the mud of rugby, had found so much more acceptable.

However, we managed to increase the number of boys in the school who were able to play and kept three games going steadily until the demands of the athletes for the same mis-used grass, gradually drove us off amid a confusion of white lines and circles on which nostalgic cricketers were to be found, searching in vain for future cricket pitches.

The Eleven played five matches, starting well by defeating Abingdon, for whom we provided two substitutes, but after that with no success until we did something to retrieve our losses and drew the final game with Crookham Court. A longer fixture list has been arranged for the coming year and it is hoped that this will result in our being able to build up the team work which is so much more necessary to win games than the individual, hard-working efforts of the past.

In the House Matches, Everett and Skipwith upset the programme with an initial draw, a problem which was not solved by their both defeating Burr subsequently. We were lucky to find one spare afternoon at the end of the term to stage a decider when Skipwith seized their opportunity to retain the shield against somewhat ragged opposition that settled the result before half-time. Once again the necessity for team work was clearly emphasised and it is hoped that the lesson was learnt.

The 1st Eleven for 1964 was made up as follows:—

1st Colours: N. H. King (Capt.), P. M. Devas, N. J. Hill, M. I. Hampson, A. H. Patmore.

2nd Colours: R. S. Barrett, G. T. Coulton, G. Pidsley, A. L. Barbour, H. P. Seaford, W. C. F. Eaton.

RESULTS OF MATCHES

15th Feb.	v. Abingdon	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Won 5—2
19th „	v. Henley Hockey Club	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Lost 1—5
3rd Mar.	v. Crookham Court	..	..	..	..	(A)	..	Lost 2—7
7th „	v. Henley Grammar School	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Lost 0—4
12th „	v. Crookham Court	..	..	..	..	(H)	..	Drew 1—1

CROSS COUNTRY

Both Senior and Junior Eights had a very successful 1964 season. There were many more fixtures arranged than in previous seasons and they were of a much higher standard. We took part in the Oxford University Tortoises Road Relay and

the Oxford A.A.A. Inter-Schools Cross Country in addition to a number of Inter-Schools fixtures. The first eight won 5 out of their 8 competitions, and the Juniors 3 out of their 4.

This term there have been two fixtures and both teams won both their matches. We are taking part in the Aldershot District Competition, and the Reading Athletic Club's Inter-Schools Road Relay later this term. Next Season we have already arranged a very full programme of Inter-School and A.A.A. fixtures.

COLOURS

1st String ..	R. J. Forsyth (School Captain and Skipwith House Captain).
2nd String ..	P. W. Forsyth (Everett House Captain).
	J. Pewtrees (Welsh House Captain).
	H. Strachey (Burr House Captain).
Colts . . .	Menikides, Batten, Rendle-Mervill and Hinton.

ATHLETICS 1964

In the second half of the Spring Term Athletics became the major school sport. This was only our second year of Athletics, 1963 having been abandoned because of the weather. There were therefore a few structural changes; allowing for the increase in numbers an intermediate stage was introduced for those between the ages of 14½ and 16½. The conditions of entry for the Inter-House finals were also changed. In 1962 we had an Olympic type of entry qualification, *i.e.* a person would be eligible for a position in the Final if he reached a certain qualifying standard, provided he managed to get through the semi-finals. This year, each House entered two boys for every event and four for the relays.

The Standards Shield was fought for hard and long. Everett went immediately into a short lead, with Burr second; Skipwith then put in a strong effort as did Everett and the final result was:—

- 1st .. Everett House, 364 points; average 7.55 per boy;
- 2nd .. Skipwith House, 299 points; average 6.23 per boy;
- 3rd .. Burr House, 284 points; average 5.62 per boy.

The zeal of the boys was matched by the courage of the Masters who were brave enough to face the cold gloomy weather of seven o'clock in the morning in order to help boys through standards.

All thought now turned to the Inter-House Finals, but the heavens opened on the appointed day, and we had to wait until the Summer Term. Although many boys were unfit after four weeks at home, some very good performances were put up at Palmer's Park which the school hired for the afternoon. In track events only one record was broken, and that was the 440 yds. which was won by R. S. Barrett in 57.2secs., 0.6 seconds less than the record set up by J. Gates in 1962. Two records

were missed by 0.1 seconds; they were in the 220 yds. where N. King ran very well, and in the 880 yds., where R. S. Barrett again won an extremely good race.

In the field events the Javelin was an additional event, and was won by A. H. Patmore in both Intermediate and Senior Grades, throwing 121ft. 6in. in the intermediates, and 119ft. 3in. in the seniors. A new record was set in the Senior Long Jump in a very close finish between A. H. Patmore and W. C. F. Eaton, Patmore finally won with a height of 5ft. 1in. The only other record to be broken was in the Senior Shot Putt, where J. R. Stephens beat the existing record of 34ft. 10½in. to putt the shot 35ft. 3in.

The relays were the last events of the day, and in all cases they produced very exciting finishes. The results were as follows:—

Junior . . . 1st, Burr; 2nd, Everett; 3rd, Skipwith.

Intermediate . . . 1st, Everett; 2nd, Skipwith; 3rd, Burr.

Senior . . . 1st, Everett; 2nd, Skipwith; 3rd, Burr.

The final results in the Inter-House Finals were that Everett won with 207 points, Burr was second with 187 points and Skipwith third with 174 points.

During the Summer Term the school was almost the sole representative of Oxfordshire in the Southern Command meeting at Aldershot. R. J. Forsyth won the Mile in 5 min. 15 secs., which was 1.4 secs. faster than his winning time in the Inter-House finals. A. Barbour was the winner in the Long Jump with a distance of 17ft. 3in., and H. P. Seaford coming second in the 440 yds. achieved a time 56.2 secs., which is 1sec. inside the school record. These and many other fine performances gave Oxfordshire the second place in both Senior and Junior Sections.

Several boys went to the A.C.F. National Meeting at Chelsea, and although some of the heats were won by our representatives they seemed rather too tired in the finals, having put up some very fast times in the heats.

Many thanks must go to P. M. Devas, the School Captain of Athletics, and to Mr. M. W. Mash, the Master-in-Charge, for the time they gave up to the organization of the sport. We are also greatly indebted to the Headmaster for presenting the school with the new Athletics Standards Shield.

H.P.S.

SHOOTING

We entered for the *News of the World* competition again this year and, having won the County stage with a score of 731 ex 800, the VIII fired the National stage in February of this year. On this occasion they scored 754 ex 800 and were placed 10th in the country. The following cadets made up the VIII: W. C. F. Eaton (97), J. F. M. Hodges (95), R. P. R. Kirwan (95), H. P. Seaford (95), D. S. Cowley (94), R. M. Shingler (capt.) (93), J. M. Sutcliffe (93), J. R. Stephens (92). All members of the VIII were awarded their colours.

The Oxford League Monthly Postal Shoot ended in March, and of the five teams entered three won their division and one was placed second.

The House Competition, fired under *News of the World* conditions during the Summer Term, produced a fairly close result, with Skipwith emerging the winners with 380 ex 400, Burr (376), and Everett (374).

This term we are again entered for the *News of the World* competition but at the time of going to press we have not yet fired the County stage.

We have had one postal shoot this term against Henley Grammar School under *News of the World* conditions. Result: Henley G.S. 751, College 721, but it must be noted that our team, a young one, fired on the outdoor range, while Henley used an indoor one. Team: W. A. M. Prichard (93), R. P. Taylor (93), C. F. E. Barlow (92), I. N. Maclean (91), S. K. Brown (90), T. J. H. Elliott (90), J. A. Rellie (87), P. Saehan (85).

The Captain of Shooting this term is Kirwan, and I should like to take this opportunity of thanking him for his great interest shown in all matters to do with shooting, even though by age he has been barred from taking part in any competitive shooting

SAILING

The arrival of three Cadets at the end of the Spring Term was much welcomed. It gave all those without boats of their own something to look forward to during the Easter Holiday. In fact about forty boys were able to have instruction in them during the summer months.

Captain E. F. R. Byng, assisted by the Committee, gave instruction to three classes: helmsmen, mates and crews. A good number of crews and mates were promoted during the term. Use of School and private boats was restricted somewhat during July by lack of wind.

Good winds early this term have enabled the more experienced to carry on sailing until the short afternoons made sailing impossible.

Future plans include the acquisition of Fireflies and our first sailing fixtures next summer.

The present Committee consists of P. J. Bell (Captain of Sailing), P. M. Philby, B. Papadimitirou, G. Pidsley and R. V. Johnson.

LAWN TENNIS

The weather encouraged plenty of tennis and with a great deal of practice we were able to come near to replacing the several strong players who left in 1963. In the Boys' Schools' Tournament at Wimbledon our Senior Pair, Tamworth and Barbour, were beaten in the First Round but had a good run in the Plate. Our Junior Pair, R. Devas and Heale, were less successful.

Fixtures were played against Oratory School, which we won 2—1, and against Henley G.S., which we lost 1—2. The Staff also defeated the School, winning two matches and the third was left drawn one set all.

The Juniors had a fixture at Abingdon in which they were outplayed.

1st VI:—Barbour and Bromwich; Barrett and Devas, P. M.; Heale and Sutcliffe.

GOLF CLUB

The Edwards Trophy, for parent and son partnerships, was played for on Sunday, June 21st, and resulted in a win for Mr. Hampson and Michael Hampson, with a Stableford score of thirty points.

The Inter-House competition for the Hartley Cup was convincingly won, for the second year running, by Skipwith with the aggregate Stableford score—over twelve holes—of seventy-four points. Everett were second with fifty-eight points, and Burr third with forty-two. The prize for the best individual score was won by Tamworth with the good return of twenty-five points.

In addition, Sunday meetings, at which boys joined by parents and members of the Staff, were held during the Easter and Christmas terms. We are very sorry to lose Sister Black who has been one of the keenest and most regular participants in these contests.

The Henley Golf Club have kindly agreed that boys shall become junior members, the annual period to run from September. It is hoped that all players will take full advantage of these improved facilities, especially as it is hoped to arrange an inter-school match towards the end of next term.

At the moment we have about a score of regular players, among the most promising are the Captain Tamworth and Barbour, W. F. Taylor, Rellie, C. Clark, and M. Mackenzie-Charrington. We congratulate Tamworth on having been picked to represent the Devon Juniors at Westward Ho! in August.

FENCING

Youthful though it is, just two terms old, the Fencing Society has made a forceful and considerable entry into the School's minor sports. Our remarkably rapid progress, as revealed in the match against Pangbourne, is due to the guidance of Mr. Inwood. We lost this match with ten points scored by us against fifteen by Pangbourne. It was by no means a "walk-over," we were ahead in the earlier stages.

We now have a specific "fencing ground" in the gym and consequently we will be able to take in the prospective fencers who had to be turned away at the start of this term. They will find themselves coming into a Society with a vigorous spirit.

SQUASH RACKETS

In the Spring Term both Senior and Junior Teams looked promising, the Senior Team being very much on terms with their opponents. For once we defeated Nautical College, Pangbourne. The first three seniors, Barrett, Devas, P. M., and Sutcliffe, fought hard before winning in the fifth games.

However, in September J. M. Sutcliffe was the only member of the former team to return. Team building has proved difficult, so far we have won two matches and lost three. Among the younger players R. Devas, brother of last year's second string, shows real promise. At the moment lack of size and stamina deny him success in spite of ability to get almost any shot back.

Nonetheless, as almost half the School want to play Squash, we should be able to build new teams from the material available.

BOXING

A good deal of boxing was done in the Spring Term. The House Boxing resulted in the Shield being shared by Burr and Skipwith. It has been found necessary to move House Boxing to the Autumn Term so as a result of this term's bouts the Shield has now passed to Everett.

One Inter-School match was cancelled last Spring due to illness in both Schools concerned. We did however, have our home match with Pangbourne, which was lost three bouts to six. Parker, Saehan and Carter won their bouts and Barlow and M. J. Matthews boxed well in close bouts.

The standard of boxing has improved and this fact has been recognised by the award of First Colours to Parker, Barlow and Forsyth, R. Second Colours were awarded to Saehan; Matthews, M., and Carter.

Out thanks go especially to Mr. Morris for raising the boxers to real fitness and our good wishes go to V. J. Marnham and J. Osborne, both former Captains of the Club, who left during the year now ended.

“ THE BIRDS ”

A school performance of “ The Birds ” by D. F. K. Welsh, Esq., via Aristophanes, was given in the Great Hall on Sunday, March 22nd.

After an opening which was reminiscent of Musical Chairs played to the tune of “ God Save the Queen,” the play got away to a good start with the help of *Peis-thetaerus* (S. P. E. Myers) and *Euelpides* (H. P. Seaford), then it struck a rather arid patch of dramatic explanation, but once this was crossed the tempo increased and was maintained to the end.

They say that there is plenty of corn in Egypt; there was certainly no shortage

of it in Birdland either for our feathered friends to peck at. It was all very topical and fitted in well with the general scheme of things. The play as such really develops into a series of sketches concerned with the development and security of Birdland, and those that linger in the memory are the religious satire conducted by the *Priest* (W. C. F. Eaton), the mature performance of the *Nightingale* (C. R. A. Sallon) and the slapstick antics of the *Colonial Supervisor* (P. G. P. Lund), the *Poet* (H. L. B. Strachey) and the *Statute Seller* (G. T. Coulton). There were original songs too, which were chirrupped with plenty of gusto, the tunes varying from "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" to "Land of Hope and Glory," with "Knees Up, Mother Brown" thrown in for good measure. All in all it was a cheerful romp with the effect of a pantomime, and it provided a very pleasant evening of nonsense.

Finally, a tribute must be paid to all those who helped with the making of the very gay and colourful costumes, to those who helped to produce such a handsome set, and to the author-producer for providing entertainment of a nature different from that we are accustomed to seeing on a school stage.

"SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER"

It was for me a particular pleasure to be asked to come and see the Dramatic Society's latest production. It has always been a pleasant surprise to see how many talented actors the small number of boys at the School can produce. So there is not only the delight of the lovely summer evening in the open air, and the mellow setting which forms the background of the play, but the additional pleasure of seeing the Dramatic Society go from strength to strength through the years as its confidence and sense of tradition increase.

"She Stoops to Conquer" is an ambitious choice. The comedy of manners demands a high standard of acting and production, if it is not to degenerate into artificiality and woodenness. Well done (as it was here) it is as rewardingly successful as its failure can be dismal. For, though "She Stoops to Conquer," like most of its genre, lacks the depth and passion of a Shakespeare comedy, it contains great wit, elegant and polished language, elements of uproarious farce, and shrewd insight into character. Thus it asks much of the actors, for a great deal of varied action and emotion must be crowded into a brief space of time. The play's sub-title is "The Mistakes of a Night"—and it really is quite a night in its crowded eventfulness.

The pace and movement of the play never faltered. Scene followed scene with great rapidity. The set, and the backstage work which went on behind it, were both excellent, make-up and lighting most competent, and the costumes magnificent. The play was well cast, and the roles, clearly, well understood by the actors. Voices were well projected and creditably audible in the open air. General grouping and movement were pleasing to watch. Above all, the spirit was one of real enjoyment. And this enjoyment was infectious, so that the audience rapidly responded, and

became happily involved with the fortunes of the characters on the stage. The play, in short, was thoroughly convincing, and this, after all, is the essential mark of successful acting and good production.

Ernest Samuel, as *Mrs. Hardcastle*, did remarkably well. He gave his part just the right combination of vanity, fussiness, shrewdness, motherly indulgence, and earthy sense of fun that it required. His portrayal of a country lady, who (in spite of her aspirations towards city elegance) remains quite as much country as lady, was very convincing. And his eagle-eyed vigilance (*Mrs. Hardcastle*, after all, is very nearly *not* outwitted) maintained dramatic tension successfully. He must, though, guard against too rapid speech, and a certain heaviness of movement.

John Barham, as *Mr. Hardcastle*, formed a good contrast to his lady, in his seriousness and his righteous indignation at the intolerable behaviour of the young gallants. He has a good clear voice, knew his long and intricate part very well, and played the part of a country gentleman who loves "everything that's old; old friends, old times, old manners, old books, old wine," with a nice old-world dignity.

Christopher Ferguson, as *Tony Lumpkin*, was excellent. From his first exuberant appearance in his gorgeous wig and costume, he acted the idle, rollicking, boorish, uneducated, but quick-witted and spiritedly mischievous country bumpkin, with enormous vitality. The range of his voice could be improved; but accent, movement, and use of voice were all most convincing—particularly in the uproarious scene at "The Three Jolly Pigeons." In his teasing of his doting mother, his avoidance of *Constance Neville*, his ready hatching of plots and counterplots, and right up to his final triumph, he dominated the play. Even *Bett Bouncer*, whom we never see in the flesh, was made real to us by his ardent praises of her. Christopher can, I think, be very pleased with this, his last appearance on the Shiplake stage. We shall all follow his acting career with interest.

Richard Lyon as *Marlow*, "one of the most bashful and reserved young fellows in the world," except with barmaids and servant-girls, was an impressively elegant figure in his magnificent costume. The contrast between his violent wooing of *Kate* as the servant-girl and his stuttering nervousness towards her as *Miss Hardcastle*, was intelligently executed. Richard has the makings of a good actor, particularly if he learns to relax more, and to throw himself less self-consciously into his part.

Harry Seaford, as *Hastings*, wore his splendid costume with equal dash, and showed himself to be a surprisingly relaxed actor and a most convincingly affectionate lover. All this argues well for his success both on and off the stage. His gestures were easy and good, and his speaking of his lines clear and well-modulated.

Nicholas Hill, as *Sir Charles Marlow*, played the rôle of *deus ex machina* with aplomb. He was elegant, well-spoken, and amusingly authoritative.

John McBurnie made a pretty *Kate Hardcastle*, and although he lacked the necessary high spirits for the part, he moved well and spoke his lines clearly. He was set at ease, after a somewhat stiff start, by his suitor's embarrassment, and warmed up considerably as the play proceeded.

Simon Pearson struck just the right note as the sweet, sensible, ill-used *Constance*

Neville. His performance was sincere, alive and confident, and he used his eyes effectively.

The minor characters, whom there is not space to mention individually, contributed vitally to the play's success. John Hodges as the drunken *Jeremy*, Christopher Sallon and his three fellow-actors as *Hardcastle's* lamentably bucolic lackeys, Richard Little as the *maid*, and Guy Pidsley and his jolly customers at the inn, all threw themselves into their parts with admirable enthusiasm.

It would be a true summing-up indeed, to say that major and minor actors alike helped to make "She Stoops to Conquer" a fine production, and one that will be remembered with real enjoyment by players and audience alike.

C.T.G.

MOLIERE AND BEAUMARCHAIS

The presentation on December 10th and 11th of a scene from Act III of "Le Malade Imaginaire" and scenes from Acts II and III of "Le Barbier de Séville" did much to advance the cause of French as a spoken language. This was especially true for those of us whose main knowledge of the language is confined to the ramifications of the French irregular verb! Good diction was a feature of the performance. Admittedly we saw the School's more experienced comedy performers on stage once more, reinforced by Miss Alison Verity who has joined the "A" level French set this year: she added undoubted poise and charm to the proceedings. This was however the most clearly audible of Shiplake stage ventures to date, in part due to the fairly good experience of the cast, but also, one fears, because most of us tend to be more careful to be clear in a foreign language than we do in our own.

In the first scene *Argan* (John Barham) had some time to convey his hypochondria, but never quite seemed to establish it in action. *Béline* (C. Sallon) and *Cléante* (M. Griffiths) had few lines and few moments to establish their contrasting loves, the one for *Argan's* money, the other for his daughter. Ernest Samuel did not get quite enough contrast into his performance, first as *Toinette* disguised as a doctor, and then as the loyal, if unorthodox, servant. The dialogue during the medical examination could well have been reinforced by some "business"—a chance to bring back to life some of the sincere foolery of Robertson-Hare was missed here.

The scenes from "Le Barbier" saw three of the same players, Alison Verity, Sallon and Samuel, again in action and again clad in splendid costumes. The cast did well to survive a couple of technical hitches which led to a hiatus during which Lyon and Sallon "ad-libbed" most cheerfully—with the moral support of the audience. "La Verity" was perhaps less happy as *Rosine*, *Bartholo's* ward, than she had been as *Angèlique*. She was rather compelled to stand on one side while the men used their wits. However, she showed the right measure of alarm when Sallon's approaches as *Bartholo* became too close. Sallon indeed created the impression of an unpleasant elderly gentleman, but he will have to guard against poaching the attention of the audience when it should be focused elsewhere.

Ernest Samuel has a nice line in self-confident servants; during the evening he turned from *Toinette* to *Figaro* with considerable success. Seaford as *Don Bazile* made a splendid butt for both cast and audience. With "le Barbier" comic business was more in evidence but one cannot help feeling, much as the audience laughed at other things, an opportunity was missed when *Figaro* had *Bartholo* firmly imprisoned in the chair. Surely his face should have been liberally watered and lathered? Those whose French had given way would have enjoyed this.

The hearty applause at the end of both pieces was the undoubted proof of success and argued strongly that the audience would have welcomed more of this fare.

Our congratulations go to Mr. Hartley and Mrs. de la Praudière for their production of this initial venture into French theatre.

The third dramatic venture of the year is a reminder of the ever willing help with back stage preparations that time and again Miss Tomalin, Mr. Foster and more recently the Chaplain have given. Their help is always willingly given.

The following appeared on stage: Alison Verity, J. H. Barham, C. R. Sallon, N. J. Hill, E. S. Samuel, M. Griffiths, R. Lyon, H. P. Seaford.

Stage manager: J. H. Barham, assisted by C. Mould and A. Philpot.

MUSICAL ACTIVITIES

Mr. Ronald Nolan took over as Director of Music in the Christmas Term. In addition to undertaking some of the private piano tuition himself and starting three boys on Music "O" level courses, he increased the visiting Music Assistants to a total of six, to cover Piano, Violin, 'Cello, Woodwind and Brass instruments. A guitar teacher is also due to commence in the New Year.

The Chapel Choir was increased to thirty-three in September and has several times sung Anthems at Sunday services in addition to special hymn descants written by Mr. Nolan. The end of term Carol Services included a number of choral items plus solos and descants.

Each House was given the task of forming and rehearsing a Carol Party of about eight boys to go out to one of four chosen districts on December 15th to raise money for Oxfam.

The Director of Music acted in an advisory capacity only to these groups and much initiative and individuality was shown by the boys concerned—the results were also enjoyed by many others when the groups performed at the College on December 8th.

Instrumental groups were started in preparation for the Concert in the Spring Term. A String Ensemble and a Recorder Ensemble practised each week. Guitarists were catered for in a weekly "club" meeting and the Rhythm Group—the Moe-Henries—continued to improve with regular practise and fulfilled several public engagements.

THE MUSICAL SOCIETY

The new Director of Music re-established regular weekly meetings of the Society in the Christmas Term, at first on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. and later at the more suitable time of 8.30 p.m. Attendance has averaged over twenty-five, and on one occasion reached nearly seventy. The Society meetings have consisted, for the most part, of listening to records presented by guests, including Commander Jenks, Messrs. Warwick, Duncan, Inwood and Nolan, the latter also acting as chairman at all the meetings. Subjects have ranged from "Falstaff" to "Jazz Sebastian Bach." The last meeting of the term was "live" and consisted of listening to the four House Carol Parties performing parts of their repertoires. Extra Society activities in the form of parties to Concerts in Henley and Reading have taken place on six occasions this term.

R.N.

DRAMATIC SOCIETY

The highlight of the year's activities was undoubtedly the Summer Term production of Goldsmith's "She Stoops to Conquer." The cast certainly enjoyed this production and our audiences responded magnificently to our efforts. The one sad note about the production was the knowledge that this was Christopher Ferguson's last appearance. His ability and fervour have had a marked effect on our present members.

The Society is now following its usual winter programme of play-readings and the reputation of the Society has attracted many new members: it is mainly upon these that our future success and improvement depends.

DACTYL ARTS SOCIETY

We began last Christmas in a flurry of excitement. We initially chose the name "Dada" for the Society but as the original "Dada" movement was extremely negative and cynical we decided to change. The name Dada had originally been obtained in France by delving into a dictionary at random (The word Dada means hobby-horse). We did the same and the word Dactyl is particularly suitable as we are a society aiming to interest ourselves widely in the arts and certainly in poetry and pottery as well as in painting.

Our aims are to uncover the hidden world of art, to penetrate beneath materialism and to encourage any creative work in any artistic field. We want to be positive and active and we aim to influence the life of the School. So far we have been able to suggest to the Headmaster a scheme for the redecoration of the outside of the

classroom block and it has been since carried out. We have also made recommendations about the hanging of pictures about the School.

We have had a number of stimulating talks during the year. John Piper, who lives locally, talked about the stained glass he designed for Coventry Cathedral. Joan Morgan, the novelist, talked on writing as a craft and Francis Pollen, A.R.I.B.A., talked on the History of Architecture.

Our President, Mr. Derek Inwood, has given us talks on "Dada" and the French Impressionists. He has also organised trips for us and generously given us of his time and transport. Visits have included the "54-64" Exhibition at the Tate Gallery. As an experiment we held a "Jazz and Poetry" meeting, including poetry read to jazz accompaniment.

While we feel pleased with what we have done in a short time, we do admit our immense debt to Mr. Inwood: we would have done very little without him. His friendly advice has improved the work of all of us.

THE GREEK CLUB

The last year has been one of continued success: the club has increased its membership by ten, to a total of fifteen members, and has split into Senior and Junior Groups.

Over the year the Club has been to London to see the "Bacchae" of Euripides at the Mermaid Theatre, and the "Electra" of Euripides at the Theatre Royal, Stratford.

At the end of the Spring term the Club performed the "Birds" of Aristophanes to the school, with the help of a few "volunteers." This was specially translated by Mr. Welsh, who drew much material for jokes from life at Shiplake College.

The Club also saw "Classic Holiday," a film made for the advertising of the Ford Motor Company, which caused some mirth and discussion.

During the year the following works were read:--

Senior .. Herodotus Histories Books 1—3.

Aristophanes, The Birds, and The Wasps.

Euripides, Bacchae, Cyclops, Medea, Hecabe, Electra, Heracles.

Sophocles, Theban Plays.

Aeschylus, Prometheus.

Aesop, Fables (various).

Junior .. Homer, Iliad.

Apollonius, Argonautica.

Euripides, Iphigeneia in Tauris, Bacchae.

Two Satyr Plays.

Aesop's Fables.



LINOCUT

R. LESTER

THE ELECTRONICS CLUB

Since the loss of B. L. Pope, the club has been reduced in numbers but it will soon return to its original size. The club's main use in the summer term was as a source of electricians for the school play. This in fact became the most important thing of the term and the club tended to rest afterwards.

The Christmas term was devoted to the rebuilding of the club, the club-room was repainted and a number of useless objects were removed. Finance, of course is the main problem of any club. Ours is no exception. We were unlucky enough to lose a T.V. set in the earlier part of the term. We have decided to keep to the repair side of the school's electronic equipment. We are hoping to refill the club with adequate supplies of electrical equipment by the middle of the Easter term.

The club room is now below the practice room of the "Moe-Henries" and we are constantly mending fuses but the music is sometimes worth hearing.

YOUNG FARMERS' CLUB

We have now been affiliated to the National Federation for nearly a year; this has been of great value to the club.

The Annual General Meeting was held in January. The majority of the officers were re-elected. The Secretary outlined the programme for the term. This included lectures by Mr. R. Lee on "Forestation," "A World Trip on Forty Pounds," by Mr. C. Rees and "A North Devon Farm" by the Chairman. Five members attended the Henley Club's meeting to hear Sir John Hunt talk about his visit to Russia. Films during the Spring Term included "The Silent War" against insects and "All in a Day's Work"—a ploughing record by two Fordson tractors. The virtual founder of the club—Simon Stracey—Secretary since 1961, left in March. In saying good-bye to him we tried to convey how much we owed to his efforts.

Limited activities during the summer included visits to the Oxfordshire Show, Mr. Richard Todd's farm and the Associated British Maltsters at Wallingford.

So far this term meetings have included a debate on broiler houses and films about improved farming in India. Membership is remaining above the twenty mark and we should all like to thank Mr. J. B. Wood for all his help as Club Leader.

CHESS CLUB

Interest in Chess has revived considerably this term and membership has grown by twenty since September. Mr. Frank Barham is visiting the Club regularly and we are very grateful for his help in improving our game. He is organising the inter-House competition: this has already provided some interesting games. We hope to organise other competitions, including matches against other schools.

THE FILM SOCIETY

In the Summer Term of 1964 the society held an exhibition of forty film photographs from films ranging in date from 1903 to 1964. A few films were shown in the music room throughout the day, they included "The Stuntman," with Larry Sermon, and an extract from "Easy Street," with Charlie Chaplin. Another of the films was the 1957 expedition to the South Pole led by Sir Vivian Fuchs.

Since last year the society has progressed from showing silent films with music to showing sound films. These were: "Blackmail," (1929, G.B.), "I was a Fireman," (1942, G.B.), "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre," (1949, U.S.A.). The above films were shown in the Winter Term of 1964.

The membership has increased since last year, it is now 127. We will always welcome new members.

In the Spring Term of 1965 the films that will be shown will be a cross section of the entire sound era of films. They will include "Little Caesar" (U.S.A., 1930), with Edward G. Robinson and a film made in the sixties. It is hoped that this will sustain the interest of the old members and attract some new.

The society has lost a valuable member, J. Culme, who was a co-founder and gave information and useful advice to other members of the committee.

We are indebted to Mr. Foster for his benevolence towards us. He is the hon. treasurer, accountant and legal adviser to the society. We are also very grateful for the tolerance shown by the Headmaster of the petty irritations that the society causes.

COIN AND STAMP CLUB

This Club began in the Easter Term. Already many boys have become interested either in philately or numismatics.

A successful exhibition was held on Founders' Day and this led to several gifts of coins and stamps from interested parents.

The club meets on Sunday evenings in its own room. Our activities are most kindly supervised by Mr. Southall. Our plans for the future include a more extensive exhibition next summer and affiliation to the Reading Coin and Stamp Society.

CANOE CLUB

This Club started in the Summer Term as an organisation to help all boys who were able to use canoes on the Thames in term-time. By half-Term there were sixteen canoes in regular use by their owners.

The Club was able to put on a display of canoe handling and rescue of overturned craft. Plans for next summer include long-distance canoe trips at weekends. Intending members are advised to make early requests to bring back canoes for the summer term.



LINOCUT

R. D. OWEN

CARPENTRY CLUB

This is a much founded and re-founded institution. It has lived and died as the Model Club and as the Woodwork Club. Its various declines have been due to a fine summer followed by the departure of its senior members to the outside world.

From this fate the users of the workshops have once more been rescued. The present attraction of the Club is a limited and more skilled membership which has been allowed the use of school tools provided for official practical instruction.

FISHING

Members of the school have always been fortunate enough to be able to subscribe to the Binfield Heath and Shiplake Club. The continuance of this has allowed boys of the School to set up some good weight records for seven types of fish that can be taken locally. Lack of space forbids publishing these but they have been carefully recorded by our senior fishing expert, R. M. Elliott. One of the recent attractions have been pike. Nearly fifty have been persuaded to take bait from School anglers but only one five pounder has been brought ashore.

HISTORY OF SHIPLAKE COURT

In our last edition we were able to give an outline account of the story of the present buildings and of its former owners. Since then further work has met with mixed fortunes. We have learned a good deal from people who remember Shiplake Court as a private home, but our hopes of finding documentary evidence have met with disappointment.

Miss Philippa Harrison, granddaughter of Robert Harrison who erected the present building, told us that whatever papers and family photographs that existed were destroyed in the Blitz on London. Neither the Royal Academy nor the Royal Institute of British Architects were able to shed much light on Sir Ernest George, R.A., the architect. The fate of his drawings and notes is not known.

So much for the disappointments. On the credit side Miss Harrison, together with Mr. Roderick Enthoven and Mr. Ashton Roskill told us much about the use of Shiplake at the beginning of the Century. All three visited the Court and were delighted to see it lived in and enjoyed. In addition we were able to copy family photographs belonging to Mr. Enthoven. In the edition of *Country Life* for October 27th, 1906, we found magnificent illustrations of the gardens, together with an article. These give a good idea of the present Court in its prime.

We are certainly nearer to compiling a History of Shiplake Court; this is in the main due to the kindness and help of many people who have been very patient with our numerous inquiries.

SENIOR POETRY PRIZE

ON VISITING A CHURCH

A golden crucifix glints dully
In the candled half-light.
The stained-glass windows sieve
The rainbowed beams through segmented saints,
Casting themselves onto the stone-tiled floor.

Peace and solitude enfold you gently,
Drawing you into the pillared gloom
And turning your head to the east
To gaze at the gleam of the supreme symbol.

The vast vacuum of stillness draws whispers to calls
In the unstirring air, as though anxious
To dispel your hestiation with sound,
And pass your thoughts in echoes to the altar.

Time holds no sway in the dim eternity of worship,
And, standing wonderingly in the flagged aisle,
You feel the past, present and future as one,
And all life ceases, resting in soft oblivion.

While standing in the sun-spread dimness,
The calloused, thorny hide of civilisation melts,
And peace blends you into the still air
To become as nothing, yet so much
In front of the crucifix.

D.S.C.

LAST TRIP

Slowly, but majestically,
It rises towards the sun.
And like a fleeing phantom,
Its journey has begun.

Its speed increases like the wind,
And in an arc it turns,
Across the deep blue ocean,
And Hitler's might it spurns.

The night is quickly falling,
And the coast is now in sight,
It speeds across the ocean,
To defy the Nazi might.

The flak is quickly bursting,
In a burning fiery ball,
Bomber gives its fatal lurch,
And then begins to stall.

Only one 'chute does blossom out,
There's no-one else alive,
Its nose is heading downwards,
To commence its farewell dive.

Farewell you gallant airmen,
Who defied the Nazi might,
Farewell to you, brave Englishmen,
Who died that fateful night.

N. A. Row.

A NEW OLD VIKING IN CANADA

Lief Erickson reached the Atlantic Coast of Canada in 1002, D. S. Cowley, assistant editor of The Court in 1963, reports on his personal discoveries on the Pacific Coast of Canada.

Manchester to Panama, Panama to Kittingmat, Kittingmat to Chemainus, a six week voyage of over nine thousand miles abroad a timber ship in ballast, brought me as an explorer to an unknown Continent.

Chemainus is a small port on Vancouver Island. I walked down the gang plank a suitcase in each hand and the equivalent of one and three in my pocket. From customs and immigration to the roadside was a rapid process and equally rapidly—in ten minutes to be exact—the penniless traveller had obtained a lift to the mainland city of Vancouver. We crossed the sound by ultra modern ferry. I got another lift to Port Coquitlan, a small mill town, and a few hours after coming ashore I was home and dry at the house of an uncle.

I rested my travel-weary self for three days and then began work at a large cedarmill about two miles away. I was signed on to the night shift which worked from 5.0 p.m. till 2 a.m.

I arrived at 4.45 p.m. and stood gazing in awe at the grinding, whining jumble of machinery that faced me. The air was filled with the sweet pungent smell of cedarwood and I drew the scent deep into my lungs. I failed, however, to notice

in the gloom that the air was also full of fine sawdust. As a result I sucked in enough sawdust to stuff an armchair. I hacked and gasped till the tears ran down my face. Just then the forman appeared. He pushed a heavy leather apron at me and said, "You're tailer on the pony edger, get on with it." He must have noticed the tears in my eyes for he then gave me a friendly smile and said, "don't worry, its not that bad a job."

I stepped blindly into a futuristic tangle of clanking conveyors, rammers, and shrieking saws that threw out lacy veils of sawdust. Massive tree trunks creaked and groaned their ponderous way to various parts of the mill.

I stumbled dazedly over to where a burly gorilla was heaving faulty chunks of timber off a twenty-foot wide conveyor. "Was this the pony edger?" "No this is the Green Line." I was directed to the next conveyor down. Dodging lumber I crossed the "Green Line" and went over to where a man was waiting at the end of another huge conveyor. This conveyor was piled high with strips of cedar up to twenty-five feet in length and about three inches thick. My job was briefly explained. I was to lift down strips, about one every three seconds, and feed them along another belt for trimming. Within fifteen minutes I was pouring sweat and every muscle seemed pulled. At 2 a.m. I enjoyed the sense of relief probably felt by those admitted through the "Pearly Gates" by St. Peter. I felt better when I remembered I had earned the equivalent of £6 10s. 0d. in eight hours.

A week later I was transferred to the Shingle mills where I became a "block piler." The logs came straight from the water that had bourne them down from the lumber camps. Cut into 80—90lb. blocks they are shunted down a conveyor to the blockpilers who lift them as fast as they come. I was one of two pilers placing the blocks on saw benches where they are cut into shingles. In the first four days of this I lost half a stone!

A week later I moved north a hundred miles to the new wide-open logging town of Campbell River. I moved into a boarding house at about seven pounds a week. As a labourer I was earning eighteen shillings an hour until I lobbed a shovelful of concrete at a French Canadian trying to make life difficult for me. Being "fired" on the spot led to reduced circumstances and a move from the boarding house. My next job was a maintenance man in the town's new and luxurious hotel. The pay was a paltry eight shillings an hour. An eighteen-year-old with whom I worked lived in an old semi-ruined shack with his brother. I moved in with them. There was little glass in the windows but it was a roof over our heads.

Campbell River is essentially a "frontier town." Beyond it empty country, the haunt of hunters and trappers. The town is in a constant uproar, especially on pay-day. Unless you feel like fighting you stay indoors. I suffered a good many black eyes and grazed knuckles before I learned this lesson.

Shortly I am on the move—to Kansas. I shall have many regrets at leaving Canada's generous and very natural people.

Campbell River, British Columbia.
12th November, 1964.

OLD VIKINGS

After the disappointing weather which ruined the Cricket match against the College, we are glad to report the enjoyable day many Old Vikings had on the day of the Rugger fixture. The Vikings XV was mainly composed of former 1st VX members and there was no difficulty in getting a team together. We were surprised by the fitness of the College XV and two early tries against us revealed the way things were bound to go.

A good number of Old Boys turned out to support our XV and took tea at the College afterwards, some also remained to the Carol Service and partook of further hospitality extended by the Headmaster.

News of what Old Vikings are now doing is always welcome and if necessary can be sent to the Editor of *The Court*.

The following have posts with Firms:—

G. Avis: "Bluemetalls" Ltd.

I. MacKay: Critall Metal Windows.

M. Padbury: United Fresh Meat Co.

R. Sleight: British Motor Corporation Apprentice.

M. Shingler: Stewarts and Lloyds Apprentice.

The following are training for professions:—

S. Batiste and C. Ferguson are at the Central School of Drama.

A. Barron: National College of Agricultural Engineering.

V. Durman: Estate Management.

T. Hands: Building Surveying.

R. Peacock: Building Surveying.

J. Osborne: Guy's Hospital School of Dentistry.

We also have news of the following:—

M. Hampson is leaving for Australia to join a firm of Boat Builders.

T. North is in Insurance.

J. Mansfield and S. Stracey are farming preparatory to Agricultural College.

N. Sharp is with an Oil Drilling Company.

A. Smither is with Hillier, Parker and Royden.

C. Johnstone and C. Wigfall are going into the Wine Trade.

R. Stagnell is apprentice to a firm of Stock Jobbers.

The number of Old Vikings has now passed the hundred mark and we shall soon be reinforced by further leavers. With these larger numbers it is easier to hold successful social functions at the College. The Cricket match is on May 30th, 1965, and a Cocktail Party is planned afterwards. It is hoped that members will bring guests and that similar events will lead to the stage when there will be enough support to make possible an Annual Dinner.

SALVETE

JANUARY, 1964

I. H. CLARK
M. J. CRESWELL
A. J. G. DICKSON
N. J. A. FARR

J. M. HUDSON
P. SAEHAN
T. SCORER
C. A. SHEPHERD

J. TALBOT-BAKER
K. G. TAYLOR
P. L. WINGFIELD

MAY, 1964

R. ANNAN
T. C. CHEATLE
I. M. D. COCHRANE
I. G. COOPER
B. HARRISON

J. H. HINDMARSH
P. W. KINGSTONE
R. P. MCFARLAND
P. J. MATTHEWS
P. C. SALLON

J. H. V. SAMUEL
J. G. STEVENSON
I. D. H. TOWLE

SEPTEMBER, 1964

J. J. BAVERSTOCK
G. R. BELL
S. M. CHICK
J. P. DUNCANSON
A. J. EMCK
J. C. GINGELL
N. J. C. GOODWIN
D. GUILLAUME
R. P. HALL

A. D. HAYOCK
M. A. HELME
K. DE C. HEPBURN
R. L. L. MORELL
C. P. NEWTON
M. MACKENZIE-CHARRINGTON
P. G. MILNE
N. A. ROW

C. M. PEASE
M. D. SMITH
A. R. H. SPENCE
P. M. G. TAYLOR
J. W. TURNER LASHMAR
M. B. WILLIAMS
H. WYNDHAM-SMITH
J. H. WHITE

VALETE

APRIL, 1964

S. P. E. MYERS

S. J. K. STRACEY

JULY, 1964

R. S. BARRETT (1st XV, 1st XI, Hockey XI, 1st V).
C. P. BINGHAM (VIth Form House Prefect).
N. A. CAMERON (VIth Form House Prefect).
D. S. COWLEY (VIth Form, School Prefect).
J. D. CULME.
V. G. S. DURMAN (1st XV, 1st IV, House Prefect).
M. J. DEVAS (1st XI, School Prefect, VIth Form 1st V).
N. C. FAWKES (Captain of Cricket, Captain of Rugby, House Prefect).

C. M. FERGUSON (1st XV, VIth Form, House Prefect).
S. M. D. GRIFFITHS (House Prefect).
M. I. HAMPSON (1st XV, 1st XI, Hockey XI).
N. R. A. HELLAWELL.
N. H. KING (Acting Captain of Rugby, Hockey XI, School Prefect).
J. A. OSBORNE (School Prefect, VIth Form).
R. A. PEACOCK (VIth Form, House Prefect).
R. SLEIGHT (House Prefect).
R. M. SHINGLER (Head of School, 1st XV, 1st IV, VIth Form).
R. D. STAGNELL.

DECEMBER, 1964

A. M. F. BOVENIZER.
W. A. COY (1st XV).
G. T. COULTON (1st IV, Captain of Rugby, VIth Form).
G. CROWDER (2nd IV).
W. C. F. EATON (1st XV, 1st IV).
R. ELLIOTT.

P. S. HINTON (1st XI, 1st XV).
J. F. M. HODGES.
R. P. R. KIRWAN.
C. R. H. MOULD.
H. STRACHEY.
C. WIGFALL.