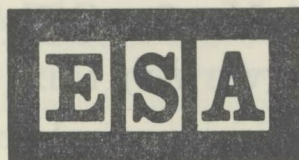


THE PEACOCK



1962



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FOREWORD BY THE CHAIRMAN

THE HEADMASTER has asked me to say a word or two about the School Magazine, and this I am emboldened to do because as a young housemaster I ran such a publication, and all through my teaching career I have seen the value of such a link between the school, the parents and other friends and the old boys.

The present magazine has made a promising start and I wish it a long and successful career so that its usefulness may spread far outside our walls and it may be a source of pleasure and pride to all connected with Cokethorpe School. I cannot refrain from expressing a very sincere appreciation of the work put in by the various contributors and, above all, by Mr. Paul Ellis, the Editor.

C. K. FRANCIS BROWN

CUPS

GRATEFULLY WE THANK the following for cups given to the School during the past year.

N. Brown, Esq. W. H. Goehring, Esq.
J. F. Trotman, Esq.

ADVANCE DATES

1962	
June 30	Confirmation, Ducklington Parish Church, 3 p.m.
July 7	Speech Day 3.30 p.m.
July 9-12	Form 3A to Edale, Derbyshire.
July 12-16	Form 3B to Edale.
July 24	Summer Term ends.
August 4-11	River Wye Canoeing Trip.
Sept. 18	Michaelmas Term begins.
Dec. 17	Carol Service, Witney Parish Church.
Dec. 18	Michaelmas Terms ends.
1963	
Jan. 2-16	Winter Sports Holiday in Austria.

THE ARMS OF THE SCHOOL

THE ARMS OF THE SCHOOL are the personal Arms of its Founder: Gules and Semee of Escallops Or. For the Crest: on a wreath of the colours an Owl proper perched upon two books bound gules edged or. The motto: *Turpe Nescire*

Shields of the Arms can be obtained from: Messrs. Shepherd & Woodward, High Street, Oxford.

MAY 1962

School Officers:

<i>Head of the School</i>	R. A. Marrett
<i>Captain of Rugby Football</i>	R. A. Marrett
<i>Secretary of Rugby Football</i>	M. W. J. Hunter
<i>Captain of Boats</i>	N. P. Gardner
<i>Secretary of Boats</i>	D. Ealand
<i>Captain of Cricket</i>	R. W. Grey
<i>Captain of Cross-country</i>	A. Hope
<i>Secretary of Cross-country</i>	N. Ridley
<i>Captain of Shooting</i>	M. Reid
<i>Secretary of Shooting</i>	R. Hall-Jones
<i>Captain of Basketball</i>	C. M. Edwards
<i>Secretary of Basketball</i>	D. Watson

School Prefects:

R. A. Marrett, D. R. Gardner, W. Cuff, N. J. E. Samuelson

Heads of Houses:

<i>Harcourt House</i>	W. Cuff
<i>Queen Anne House</i>	N. J. E. Samuelson
<i>Swift House</i>	R. A. Marrett

House Prefects:

<i>Harcourt House</i>	N. P. Gardner, D. Watson
<i>Queen Anne House</i>	W. P. C. E. Cotter, A. F. Trotman
<i>Swift House</i>	P. Barratt-Terry, C. J. Gower, R. W. Grey

Cover design by C. A. Stanley, 4B

EDITORIAL

THIS IS THE FIRST NUMBER of *The Peacock* and we bring it out with mixed feelings. All of us who have been preparing its material have been cheered by the enthusiastic support which it has been given throughout the school. There has been no shortage of contributions.

On the other hand, we are not yet satisfied with their quality. We are laying a foundation upon which something of value can be built. A standard, albeit a low one, is being set.

Parents will get what we hope is a true impression of life at Cokethorpe. Old boys will be made aware of how swiftly we are moving. The pace will quicken and as it does *The Peacock* will appear again and again. His plumage may be a little sober now, but he is a vain fellow and will not be content until he can spread, for all to see, colourful plumes of greater merit and diversity.



WIND AT LAST

LOOKING OUT ACROSS THE RIPPLING WATER from the Emsworth Sailing Club, I could see Thorney Island on my left, and Hayling Island on my right. I was ready to go out in my fast, fourteen-foot dinghy—a National Merlin-Rocket. The wind was light, and the tide was fairly low. My crew, Dudley, a boy of sixteen years, with a plump handsome face, was clad in a life-jacket and shorts, as I was. He decided he wanted to go down to East Head, a sandy beach facing Hayling Island, round the tip of Thorney Island.

We set off up the channel on a broad reach towards Hayling. We made slow progress at first, through lack of wind, but it soon sprang up with the tide. When it had reached about Force 5, I ordered the kicking-strap to be tightened, to flatten the sails. Both my crew and I were sitting well out, and almost on the transome. The bow was perched high out of the water, and the boat was travelling at at least twelve knots. Moving like this, we soon reached our destination, soaked by spray, and with the taste of sea-water in our mouths.

Having spent enough time on the sand to eat some sandwiches and rest, we decided to make our return journey.

It was a hard beat across the water, past the tip of Thorney Island, to the Hayling shore, where we made our first tack down the Emsworth Channel. This time we were both sitting well forward, to keep the bow of the boat in the water, although we were badly punished for this by the spray hitting our faces and running down our necks, saturating whatever dry clothing we had on.

It took a good hour to zig-zag down the channel, spilling a lot of wind on the way, but eventually we neared the slipway, after a wet, thrilling sail. We went 'head to wind', and lowered the mainsail, to finish the last hundred yards on the jib alone, in order to avoid any accidents because of coming in too fast. Dudley went to get our launching trolley, while I lowered the jib and took the rudder out. Soon he came back and ran the trolley under the boat, and we pulled it up the slipway to the freshwater hoses.

The wind had died down considerably by the time we had hosed and sponged down the fine varnish finish over the boat.

At last we had got the cover on and everything put away, so we grabbed our bicycles and went home to a lunch, which had been kept warm for us. I always like a hot meal when I have been out for a cold sail, especially when I have had such an exhilarating time as I had on that day. It is one day I shall never forget.

J. LOCKE, 5A

SOME AMUSING MEMORIES OF A CATHEDRAL CHORISTER

I HAVE SPENT THE PAST FOUR YEARS (1957-61) in a Cathedral Choir in Oxford. Most people associate this with red cassocks, white surplices and ruffs. This is correct except that my choir wore Eton collars instead. People also associate it with perfect behaviour (you should go to the vestry sometimes), beautiful singing (I refer you to the choir master), and all things nice. Well, here are two of the more amusing things which happened to me.

The most memorable was the time when we were just entering the Cathedral to reach the vestry, after having some official photographs taken of us in full 'togs'. I was just entering the Cathedral when an American lady rushed up to me and flung her arm round my shoulder, while exclaiming to her companion, 'My, he looks jurst like my nephew back out in California, don't he, Mary?'

'Why, he sure does,' replied Mary. 'What's your name, fella?' she asked me.

I was just recovering, and confusedly replied, 'Er— it's David.'

'Why, Mary,' she said, 'that's his name.'

'So it is,' replied Mary again.

Just then our choirmaster, a certain Dr. Watson, entered. The lady was just asking me if I should like to go back to America with her, and, on seeing Dr. Watson, she dragged me with her, and asked him outright, 'Can I take this lil' fella back to the States with me?'

Dr. Watson, taken aback also, replied uncertainly, 'No, I'm afraid not,' (laughter all round).

'Oh, what a pity!' she said. 'I'm sure you'd just love it.'

'I'm sure I would, too,' I replied, not really meaning it. With that, after saying goodbye she was gone, as quickly as she had come, and I walked, still slightly dazed, back to the vestry.

Another incident occurred at Christmas one year. The parents of one of the boys who lived nearby, decided to give us a party. We all thought this jolly decent of them.

The meal was superb. So was the liquid refreshment with it, and after it. Our hosts thought that 'just a little something' would not hurt us (they were only trying to be kind), and, generally speaking it didn't. But, unfortunately there were those among us who were slightly more thirsty than most. As a result, although they did not have to be carried home, they were slightly more elated than usual, and on waking up next day found that they had a headache, and had to spend the day in bed.

Please, I beseech you, don't think that this happened every day. It was the only time it happened while I was there.

And thus our quiet life went on!!

D. S. BEZER, 4A



A VIEW OF THE COURTYARD FROM THE ROOF

TENSION

'Will Cokethorpe crew collect their boat and make their way up to the start, please?' The Marshal's voice was crisp and fine, cutting through the smog of dull, itchy panic, only to be expected after such concentrated and time-adjusted training. We were cramped into the little ferry, to take us across the river, with last-minute instructions knocking vainly for admission to our bemused, anguished minds. The craggy old boatman croaked time-worn encouragements in corroded, rumbling Welsh, and the hot sun warmed Monmouth bridge.

We landed; found and launched our allotted boat; took our places in silent routine. A tense unnatural calm was broken by the need to adjust ourselves to the strange craft.

Overlooked by majestically forested slopes, we made our way to the start, avoiding both projecting rocks and oncoming races in their turn. Here we were at Monmouth Regatta, drawn against Monmouth School, who had beaten us at Oxford. Our sweaters were off, and it was now the turn of the starter. Monmouth, winners the last three years, were told to take a light stroke—we seemed down. 'Are you ready?' 'No!' I shrieked, 'Touch her, Bow Pair!'—Level again. Once more the starter ordered a stroke from them. A rising indignation and, perhaps, sheer nervousness made me repeat my previous action, and, after an evil glance from the starter, now a rather distracting indigo, we were away.

Suddenly, our 'start' was past and we were striding out. A feeling of intense fury and despair; we were a length down. With desperate sluggishness we crept level. The roar of the crowd was quite in vain—every ounce of energy was concentrated on the boat; we clawed ahead. With astonishing suddenness they were a length down; our boat, suddenly buoyant, skimmed to the finishing line. The feeling was one of exultation, relief, and more than a little of sympathy as we, relaxed, saw our exhausted opponents finish more than two lengths behind.

D. EALAND, 5B

★ ★ ★

Sayings of the Term

The animal life of a country is called its animalfestation.

MY MEMORIES OF THE FIJI ISLANDS

‘ATTENTION PLEASE. In a few minutes we shall be landing at Nandi Airport. Kindly fasten your seat belts and extinguish all cigarettes.’ Reluctantly I tore my eyes from the bewitching scene beneath me and prepared for the landing.

I was met at the airport, as it was flatteringly called, by my father who had travelled out to Suva, the capital of the Fiji Islands, some six months earlier. We started our long drive in hot, but not uncomfortable, sunshine to Suva. As we travelled the scenery changed. At first the road led us through almost mountainous countryside, twisting and snaking through passes cut deeply out of the rocks, which were of that bright red so common in the South Sea Islands, and notices warning us of ‘Bends for 5 miles. Please sound horn’ were not uncommon. Slowly the scenery changed and wooded areas took the place of rocky countryside. As we passed through picturesque little native villages surrounded by swaying palm trees, small groups of children stopped their playing to stare and to wave at us. The native huts, built with a framework of wood covered with lattice and thatch, were built in the cool shade which these trees provided. The sound of the brightly coloured parakeets in the trees filled the air.

We passed fields in which Fijians were working, side by side with Indians, who form a large proportion of the population, picking pineapples and cutting sugar-cane. We saw the quaint little sugar-cane trains, which would be considered obsolete elsewhere, making their way towards Suva.

Eventually we reached the outskirts of Suva itself, the capital of all the Fiji Islands. Suva is a neat little town and here the natives trade their fruit, handwork, and pottery in arcaded hives of commerce. In the market-place one can buy fruit, all grown in the islands, such as mango, banana, coconut, pineapple, guava, paw-paw, pomegranate, avocado, and lime—in fact any fruit one could wish for. In the town dozens of different shrubs vie with each other in brilliance beside well-tended lawns. Purple-bloomed bougainvillea, pale gold jasmine, and red, white and violet hibiscus give the town a very colourful and neat appearance. All over the town there is the heavy smell of copra, which is

really dried coconut, one of Fiji's main exports. This smell, which is very strong and carries for a long distance, and the booming of surf along the reef, always accompany life in the islands. They are so all-pervading that one soon ceases to notice them. It is the eye that is least quickly surfeited in Fiji.

The Fijians, who are very gentle, generous, and friendly, have a great love for poetry, music, story-telling, and feasting. They while away a great deal of their time singing to the accompaniment of their ukeleles. In fact they spend so much of their time singing and dancing that it is difficult to imagine that they were once feared as the fiercest cannibals in all the south-western Pacific.

As I walked towards the sea I could see miles of sloping white beaches fringed by graceful palm trees which swayed in the cool refreshing breezes. Sitting in the shade of these trees I saw Fijian women, wearing rustling necklaces of flowers, mainly hibiscus, berries and many-hued coral, singing happily and beautifully while their husbands either repaired their boats and nets or were fishing in the clear green waters.

Yet life in Fiji is not always as easy or as peaceful as it might appear. Sometimes hurricanes and flooding occur. Crops are ruined, native 'bures' are destroyed and much money and work is lost.

It is with great sorrow that the traveller leaves the islands, for they seem to be able to cast a spell because of their beauty and happiness. The melodious sound of Fijian women singing under the palm trees, through which the sunlight filters, drifts after him across the clear sparkling waters, and the smell of copra lingers in the air until the islands are almost lost to the sight but not to the memory.

D. WATSON, 6L.A.

★ ★ ★

Sayings of the Term

A molecule is the smallest particle which cannot be seen by a periscope.

Owing to the area being hilly, its inhabitants are extremely low.
[N.B. low density population.]

INITIATIVE TEST

THE GREEN VAN slowly disappeared into a brown opaque body of young saplings and we were left alone, alone, except for two heavily-laden rucksacks and various other smaller necessities. We were taking part in an initiative test—dropped several miles from school with a tent, sleeping bags and enough provisions for one night, with instructions to find our way back on the following morning. The sun, a fiery ball in a cloudless sky, was just beginning to settle its lower rim onto the distant woods that formed the horizon, and the wind was softly caressing our faces. The smell of wood fires drifted to us from the other bank of the river, whose playful lappings were borne to us on the wind. A few ducks, attracted towards us by that arch-fiend, curiosity, were our only admirers, critics, or general observers. Slowly and regretfully we hoisted our burdens onto our backs and wandered thoughtfully towards the nearest building, an urban-styled public-house in a rural setting.

We cautiously entered the public bar and were greeted by the sound of sociable chatter. We were directed to the local farmer who grinned cheerfully as we approached. At our request as to whether we could camp on his land he looked sceptically at us with an air of mild amusement waiting for us to see the joke. As we remained perfectly serious his expression melted into a shocked and horrified stare of amazement. We repeated our request—'But ye'll freeze a' death, luds' he cried in amazement. However, seeing that we were resigned to this fate, he gave us permission to pitch our meagre shelter on his land and wished us good luck. As we were about to leave he warned us that it would freeze that night and also to camp on high ground as the river would probably rise six feet. So with these and other words of encouragement ringing in our ears we made our way into the spring night air to find a camping spot.

After walking for half an hour we decided to pitch our tent under the lee of a tall row of poplars stretching about a quarter of a mile along the river bank. On closer examination by the light of a torch we found the spot to be right in the middle of a small farm track. We finally selected a place between two guardian poplars and pitched our tent as quickly as was possible by the thin and ghostly beam of the torch. Having deposited our kit in

the clumsily-erected tent we made our way back through the cold night air to the public-house to fetch some water. At our request for a bucket the barman asked cynically if we always went camping without a bucket. We were now being closely observed by the happy band of locals who had obviously heard that we were sleeping under canvas. About half of them regarded us in awe as if we had just conquered Everest or performed some other heroic deed; the remainder seemed to consider us as mentally retarded and replied to our enquiring glances with sympathetic stifles and understanding nods of the head. We realised that it would not be a warm night, but surely not as cold as these signs appeared to portend.

We returned to the tent and struggled to light our obstinate primus which suddenly burst into a fountain of flame. Over this merry blaze we were able to cook ourselves cups of soup and later sausages, until the whole device appeared to explode and extinguish itself. Our dinner having been finished we did not bother to relight the primus but packed our food away and 'hit the hay'.

We woke shivering, our dreams throughout the cold night having been haunted by thoughts of a rising river and of our tent's being borne towards a precipitous weir. We went outside into the biting cold morning air to assure ourselves that we were not yet afloat and that our dreams had been purely fictitious. We broke through one inch of ice to our water and prepared our breakfast, having first run about to improve or possibly re-start our circulations. Breakfast was a lavish affair consisting of corn flakes and egg and chips, and followed by bread and jam and coffee.

We then packed our kit away and returned the bucket to our host. He greeted us warmly, being obviously very much surprised that we had come through our grapple with the elements so well, and willingly signed our cards concerning our camping behaviour. We bought some chocolate and started off in the direction of Cokethorpe. We had been issued with a map and a compass, but neither of us found them of much use as the map was of another county altogether. We trudged in the homeward direction, finding our way by signposts and at last marched wearily into the school gate at twelve noon—half an hour within the set time for our return—having spent a cold but pleasantly unforgettable week-end on an initiative test.

A. F. TROTMAN, 6L.A.

‘CAKETHARPE IN AUSTRIA’

IT WAS CLEAR FROM THE NOTICE on the side of the carriage that the Austrian Railways had not heard of us, ‘Reserviert für Caketharpe’. But now there is no doubt that some Austrians have heard of us, for fourteen boys and four adults spent a fortnight in Seefeld, and few who encountered us can be wholly ignorant of the fact.

Boys are only quiet when they are asleep. From Victoria, across the Channel and well into France and the early hours they talked. From dawn, through Basel, across Switzerland and into Austria, they talked. After a brief respite in Innsbruck (we got rid of them for an hour while we waited for the connection), they talked the last lap to Seefeld.

By ‘talk’ I do not mean conversation—but questions that require an answer. I was judge, oracle and encyclopedia for an entire fortnight.

With relief I handed over to the ski instructors for two hours a day. Bill and Walter were marvellous. Boys who fell over from a standing position on the first day were rushing about on skis by the third. Ski hoists could not be resisted, and it was found that, however steep the slope, it could be descended at terrific speed if one went straight. Curiously, falling did not hurt. By the end of the first week we were turning right and left, using the ‘snow-plough’: ‘Legs bent! You are stiff like a broom! Move, Speedy!’ The instructions floated across the snows.

We practised slalom, ski-ing without sticks between gates. We were timed—21 seconds, 18 seconds, $16\frac{1}{2}$!

In the afternoon and evenings we went shopping, skating, tobogganing, and ski-ing again. A few made sorties into Germany (next station up the line) to get a passport stamp; some made an excursion up two chair lifts and a cable car to the top of the Seefeldsjoch.

The ski-ing had two climaxes. The first when both classes left the Nursery slopes and took the chair lifts to the top of the Gschwandkopf in a blinding snow storm, had coffee and rum at the top, and skied all the way down to the town again.

The second was the Guest Race on our last full day. It was a slalom race, and we lined up at the start with our numbers

fixed fore and aft. Great was the excitement. Some fell at the first gate, but struggled upright and finished the course. Some, as they disappeared behind a rise, were a very long time reappearing. One fell on his face thirty yards from the finish, lost a ski and scooted the rest of the way, his glasses so clogged by snow he only knew where to go by the frenzied shouts of the spectators.

That evening at the hotel the instructors distributed the prizes; Brittan had won with two very fast times.

Hans Ebner, the hotel proprietor, and his sister invited us to share a bowl of 'fiery wine'—a sign of friendship. A large bowl of blazing punch was stirred in the darkened room, while we sang English and Austrian songs and Herr Ebner told us 'yokes'.

It was a splendid holiday; plenty of snow and sun, no broken legs, just a sprain and a few colds. Was it worth it? I am waiting for next year's brochure.

D. F. COOK



HARCOURT HOUSE REPORT

FOR THE MOST PART 1961 has been a highly successful year for Harcourt House. This we proved by winning eight of the twelve inter-house trophies, and it was a great honour to have them presented to us by our patron, Lord Harcourt, on Speech Day.

At the end of the summer term we carried on to win the Rowing Cup. This we did after a dramatic re-row against our opponents Queen Anne. Our entire crew was presented with colours by Mr. Leeds-Harrison, our House Master. This is the greatest honour the House could receive. With the ending of the term we lost our House Tutor Mr. G. Tytler to Felsted School. We shall always remember him for the sterling efforts he put into Harcourt's athletic training and it is largely due to him and his hard work that we shall collect the Inter-House Standards Cup this summer. This Cup we value above all others as every boy is able to take an active part in supporting his House, and house spirit is all-important.

In the autumn term our house changed greatly. Many of our most senior boys left us after taking G.C.E. in the previous term. Nevertheless a new spearhead was formed and sharpened by Mr. Leeds-Harrison. Thus we welcomed to the house Mr. B. Horn from Loughborough College, and Mr. T. Stead, the former being responsible for our games training and the latter to organise the general affairs of the house. A completely new prefectorial body was selected with W. Cuff as the head of house assisted by N. Gardner and D. Watson. A large number of new boys took the places of those who had left in the summer.

With fresh blood in our veins we were not intoxicated, nor were we perturbed, and under the coaching of Mr. Horn and with the keenness of a few seniors to whom no credit is too great, that is to say our Captain of Rugger, C. L. F. Wilson who has now left, and his Vice-Captain, we won the XV-a-side Rugger Cup against hard opposition from both the other houses. New colours were deservedly awarded to S. A. Chalmers who played very spiritedly in the games.

The spring term has so far not been one of which we are proud. In the road relay we were placed second to Queen Anne and they also beat us in the 7-a-side Rugger, though only a small margin of two points stood between us and the cup. For gallant play R. Rose, the senior hooker, was presented with his colours. We must mention also one junior who although too young to be given colours nevertheless deserved them. He is the Captain of Junior Rugger, R. M. Brocklebank, who put much effort into training and playing for his team.

At this juncture we wish warmly to thank Mrs. Leeds-Harrison who sportingly came to cheer us on at many of our matches, and we do not hesitate to say what a great help this has been to us.

Many members of the House have not been mentioned in this report yet they greatly deserve praise. These boys are not necessarily the best at sport or other activities but they nevertheless put as much into their efforts as they are able. It is on these boys that the house must depend for a solid foundation.

W. CUFF

★ ★ ★

Sayings of the Term

H.E.=Hydrant Extinguisher.

QUEEN ANNE HOUSE REPORT

IN THE LAST YEAR Queen Anne House has experienced a great upsurge which has been most encouraging. In September we were pleased to welcome C. G. Powell, Esq., as Assistant House Tutor in place of P. Wendell, Esq., who left us in the summer. Since September we have had an influx of fifteen boys bringing our total up to fifty-seven, and it would seem that these new boys have great potentiality.

Our achievements on the games field, though not outstanding, show a marked improvement on those of the previous year. In the summer we won the Cricket Cup, with a striking ten-wicket win over Swift House, the favourites. This victory was mainly due to the unbeaten partnership of 56 by Cotter and Carter, who together with Buchner and Hunter received the House Cricket Colours. In the rowing we won the junior section and came runners-up in the senior section of the 'Fours'. House Colours for Rowing were awarded to Trotman, A. Webb, Osborne, T. W. Key and Maxwell. Although we won neither of the Athletic Competitions, there was a high standard of keenness and effort put in by all in the House Athletic Standards Competition. In the Michaelmas Rugger Competition, we were runners-up in the senior section and convincingly won the junior section. We succeeded in winning the House Seven-a-Side Competition in the Easter Term. House Rugger Colours were re-awarded to Hunter, Cotter and Hague, and were awarded for the first time to D. R. Gardner, Baxter, Blair, Buchner, Hope, T. Key, Simon and Willsdon. We also won the first Road Relay Competition though this was only owing to the unfortunate disqualification of Swift. As the Cross Country Competition is still to come no colours have been awarded. Another cup, if a minor one, which we have succeeded in winning is the Archery Cup. Although our success this year has only been moderate, nevertheless all those who have represented the house have shown great determination. But in Queen Anne we believe that effort and determination is as important as the actual result.

However, our house activities have by no means been restricted to sport alone. At the end of last term we were the first house to have a Christmas Party. This was because of the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Cook, and Mr. Powell. After

watching the film 'The Colditz Story' everyone enjoyed some delicious refreshments provided by our hosts. During last holidays Mr. and Mrs. Cook, and Mr. and Mrs. Harper took fourteen boys to Austria on a Queen Anne House Holiday which, as is evident from another article in the magazine, was a great success. This term we successfully repeated our cycle rally of last year; this time we went to Bourton-on-the-Water, the contest being won by T. W. Key. These activities, we think, justly uphold our claim to being the most progressive house, and we hope in the coming year to pioneer more original house schemes.

It is unwise to forecast our prospects for the future, but we have some useful boys in the middle of the school who will soon be coming to the top, and if they fulfil our expectations, and our house morale continues to rise we should have a good chance of a successful and satisfactory year.

N. J. E. SAMUELSON

★ ★ ★

Denton-Rowe,
A literary crow,
Loves writing books
On crooks.

Mr. Burr
Is betrothed to her.
Don't ask me who Burr is
Or her is.

There's Mr. Peck!
Oh, heck!
I've not learnt my notes.
Take to the boats!

Mr. Horn
Gets up at dawn.
How uncanny!
How can he?

James
Must have other names,
But that's what he's known by.
Why?

Henderson I
Does not like to run.
So he uses a tractor—
an interesting factor!

SWIFT HOUSE REPORT

ALTHOUGH DURING THE LAST YEAR we lost the Cricket Cup, we gained the Athletics Trophy, and would have won the Road Relay Cup, too, but for disqualification.

On the subject of cups, we are happy to report that it was decided at the end of the summer term at a meeting called by the Rev. D. Peck, that a tankard should be presented to the boy, leaving that term, who had done most, in every way, for the House. The House Committee, consisting of three House Prefects, nominated Golsorkhi—then Head of House—as candidate. The proposal was unanimously supported, and Golsorkhi left proud, we hope, and duly rewarded.

But of course every encouragement, every proposal, everything that flows into the House has its source in our House Master, the Rev. D. Peck. Despite the relatively few concrete honours we have achieved during the year, Mr. Peck has encouraged, coaxed, and generally bolstered us up. Without him, there would be no morale. And at the Lodge Buckland, the home he shares with a number of Swift boys he has with Mrs. Peck created a relaxed, homely, and informal atmosphere.

Great credit, too, must go to our House Tutor, Mr. Wood, who revolutionized our swimming last summer, and has proved himself an invaluable administrator in all House affairs. Through his skill and patient instruction, some fifty boys—perhaps a third of them from Swift House—were awarded Bronze Medallions in Lifesaving. He also organised and shepherded a week-end canoeing party up the Thames last summer.

In conclusion, it would seem that this has been a year of innovation and surprise. Perhaps our luck is changing, and we are destined to become the dominant House in every field of sport. Although several of our best athletes are leaving us soon, I am sure that the Juniors of the House—some of whom are already showing promise—will later take their places. They have already shown something of their spirit in providing in the Junior 'A' side the only 'seven' that won all its games in the Inter-House Rugger 'Sevens'. It is to the Junior members of the House that we look for the sportsmanship and stoicism that will, we hope, sustain the House in the future.

R. A. MARRETT

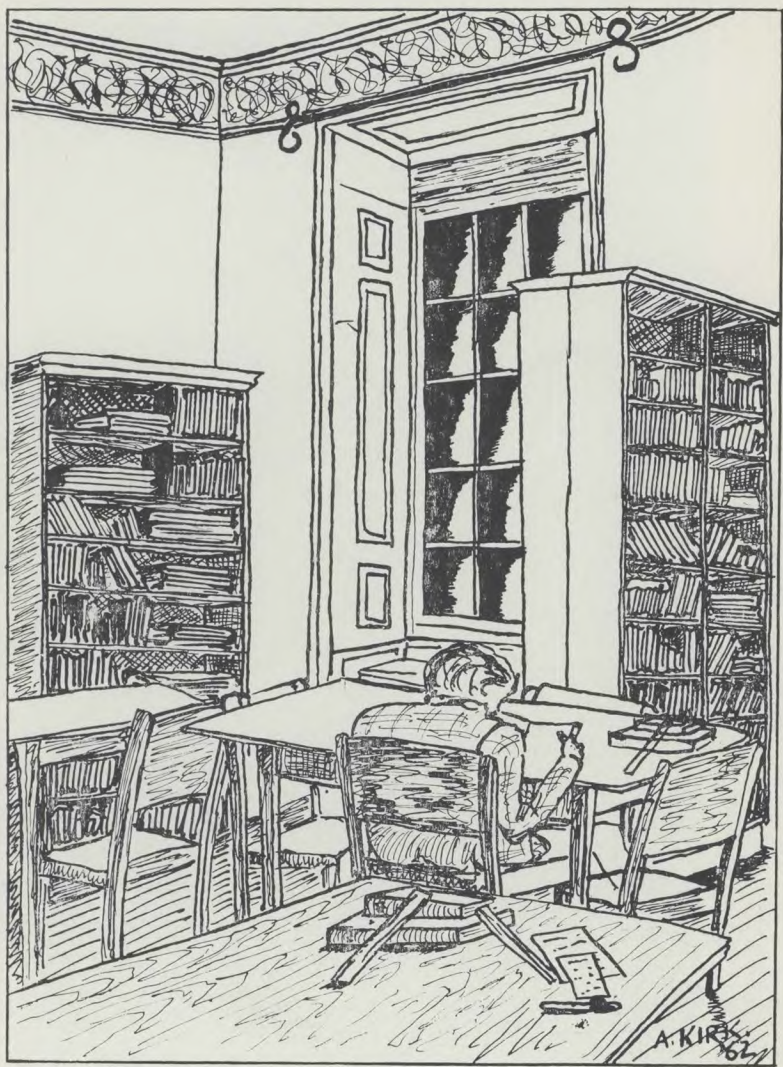
G.C.E. RESULTS

THE FOLLOWING BOYS satisfied the examiners in the Ordinary Level examinations of the Oxford Local Board last June.

Alexander	Eng. Lang., History
Barratt-Terry	Eng. Lang., Eng. Lit., History, Chemistry
Bowden	Eng. Lang., Eng. Lit., French
Campbell	Art
Carter	Eng. Lit.
Deans	History, Physics, Art
Franks	Eng. Lang., Eng. Lit., History, Physics, Chemistry
Gardner, D. R.	Eng. Lang., History, Maths., Physics, Chemistry
Golzorkhi	History
Gower	Eng. Lang., Maths., Physics, Chemistry
Green	Art
Grey	Eng. Lang., Eng. Lit., French, History, Maths.
Hargreaves	Eng. Lang., History, Chemistry
Jefferiss	Art
Kirk	Art
Lang	Eng. Lang., French, Maths., Physics, Chemistry
Locke	Art
Lynn	Eng. Lang., Eng. Lit., History
Millar	History
Moor-Radford	Eng. Lang., History
Rose	Art
Taylor	Art
Trotman	Eng. Lang., Eng. Lit.
Watson	Eng. Lang., Eng. Lit., History
Welch	Art

In November last, the following passes were obtained at Ordinary Level.

Barratt-Terry	Maths., Physics
Marrett	Eng. Lit.
Watson	French



THE LIBRARY



AFTER THE SLALOM GUEST RACE. (Left to right)—Sparksmen, Vernon-Smith, Henderson, Clark, Price, Mr. Harper, Mr. Cook, Baylis II, Simon, Brittan, Dawson, 'Walter' and 'Bill'.



RUGBY FOOTBALL 1st XV. *Left to right (standing)*—Edwards, Allardyce, Cuff, Gardner I, Hague, Barratt-Terry, Grey, Baxter, J. E. Fretwell, Esq. *(Middle)*—Kirk, Hunter, Marrett (*Capt.*), Wilson, Danvers. *(Front)*—Newns I, Locke, Cotter.



SPEECH DAY, JULY 1st, 1961.

THE CAROL SERVICE

ON THE LAST AFTERNOON of the Michaelmas Term, the school went off in coaches to Witney Parish Church, where we were joined by a good number of parents, to sing together old and well-known hymns and carols, and to hear as well the familiar Bible lessons of the traditional carol service and some less familiar though very lovely carols, sung by the choir.

Witney Parish Church is a fine building, but its nave is high, and it has two quite cavernous transepts, capable of swallowing a good deal of sound; so that we were a little anxious about being heard, or at least about being heard in places where hearing was most desirable. The nave, in fact, took the sound well, and there the voices of both singers and readers carried clearly; but in the north transept there was difficulty, and some boys did not hear at all well.

We were not able to have a reader from each form, as we should have liked to do, but we did manage to have the first lesson read by a boy from 3B, and the eighth by the head of the school. We were very happy, too, to have an old boy, David Gollins, to accompany the singing on the organ. Some carols the choir sang unaccompanied, and they were a real delight.

There was a collection, amounting to exactly £21. After the payment of necessary expenses, the remainder, a matter of seventeen guineas, was sent to the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief.

CONFIRMATION

THE BISHOP OF DORCHESTER will hold a Confirmation in Ducklington Church on Saturday, June 30.

These boys are under instruction for confirmation:

Baker, Baker-Beall, Baylis 2, Beckinsale, Bomford, Brittan, Brocklebank, Brown 2, Browne 4, Bulmer, Burr, Clarke 1, Clark 2, Coy, Cranford, Dawson, Dufton, Elworthy, Gillman, Goodall, Gordon, Gourley, Gunn, Hancock, Harrison, Henderson 1, Jarrett, Jeffes, Lewis, Lovegrove, Mackenzie 1, Mackenzie 2, MacGeagh, Mackinnon, Mobsby, Newns 2, Noon, Plimmer, Poë, Ransom, Rashbrooke, Richards, Rowe, Sainsbury, Selmes, Slack, Smyth, Sparksman, Stanley, Stevenson, Sykes, Tabor, Trimble, Trotman, Tull, Watts, Webb 2, White, Wood.

RUGBY FOOTBALL 1961-62

THE CLUB has a steadily expanding fixture list, the object being to provide matches at all age levels, and to 'blood' as many players as possible. For these, and for general administrative reasons, the school was divided into four games: game 1, consisting of the more promising material over fifteen; game 2, those who were considered, on previous years' showing, not so talented; game 3 was the 14-15 age group and game 4 was made up of under-14's.

Game 1 had a difficult time of it. From them we have had to draw a 1st XV, an under-16 Colts XV and an 'A' XV. As there were only 35 boys in the game, considerable duplication was necessary. This, inevitably, made consistent team practice very difficult, yet this has been balanced by the considerable experience acquired by those under-16's who have played in all three XV's. In this way we have been attempting some modest building for the future.

We have come to expect that some of our potential 'stars' will be crippled, often for the most ludicrous of reasons, but in so small a number of players it is a serious drawback. Our intended 1st XV never played complete. Doubtless Burns had a phrase for it but we 'hearties' cannot recollect it without some of that magical fluid which was, no doubt, the poet's mainspring of inspiration.

It is often said that a side only plays as well as the opposition allows. We still seem to play, with considerable adaptability, the role which they cast for us. Perhaps, with growing confidence, we may next season call the tune. Perhaps it is better to have played and lost than never to have played at all. Against good opposition we played well—better than the scores indicate.

The 1st XV, now playing in white shirts and shorts with scarlet socks, consisted of backs who have potential, but a very light, young pack. You cannot score unless you have the ball, and there our great weakness lay. Our pack, although fairly well drilled, lacked speed as a unit and the experience to adapt their skills quickly enough to counter their opponents' tactics. Yet all the pack have improved and we have good Colts material coming up. They have all worked hard but experience is a hard school and, when one is giving away weight and strength, the second half of a match is very long.

Our backs, denied the ball in the first few minutes, lacked that aloof confidence to realise their best potential in those fleeting moments when we had possession. If they could only have had a couple of matches behind a winning pack, who can tell what might have been? One poor wing threequarter had only three passes all the season. He dropped two. The centres never really settled. Although they improved individually, they did not unite. The half-backs worked well together, but behind a retreating pack little was possible.

This reads like a tale of woe. Like the curate's egg, however, much was good. We won three 1st XV matches and lost three. We won the 'A' XV match. We lost three Colts matches and won two. So we won as often as we lost. There is much that one remembers with an anxious wringing of the heart but many moments one remembers with pride, and it is to be hoped that, when next season arrives, the goal of having a really strong Rugger tradition in the school will be that much nearer realisation.

The Colts XV, well captained by Trotman, played two of their five matches when considerably under strength, and lost them both. When playing with a full complement they only lost once and won twice. Here, we had almost the reverse of the situation in the 1st XV. We had a competent pack, moderate half-backs but weak threequarters.

The Junior Colts XV has played well and had a good season. The lack of co-ordination between forwards and backs was balanced by the development of Newns II into a good fly-half, and the power of the rest of the threequarters. Osborne captained the team well, but the forwards should have listened to him more often than they did.

The Under-14 XV, composed entirely of new boys, suffered some heavy defeats, especially when playing schools that can start training and playing together from the age of eleven. Those two extra years between eleven and thirteen make a deal of difference when learning the game and, although one or two had played occasionally at their preparatory schools, very few had actually played for their 1st XV's. Towards the end of the season, however, the team, enthusiastically led by Bulmer, appeared to have a better grasp of the game, but there is as yet a great lack of

dash and determination to score and a tendency to leave all the hard work to a few 'willing horses'.

In conclusion, the Rugger Committee would like to thank George Balmer for his work on the grounds, Miss Sadler and her staff for arranging match teas and all who have helped in any way to 'keep the ball rolling'.

1ST XV CHARACTERS

Locke. *Full back.* Generally safe, sometimes erringly human, sometimes courageous. His kick is short but reliable.

Baxter. *Wing threequarter.* A fast runner who was starved of the ball. His taking of a pass is poor and he does not always run with enough determination. His defence is excellent.

Grey. *Threequarter.* A fast but inexperienced player. His basic skills need more practice but he runs forcefully on occasion.

Wilson. *Centre threequarter.* A thoroughly sound, incisive centre with a formidable record as a kicker of goals.

Edwards. *Centre threequarter.* He started the season very diffidently, but he has improved immensely. His defence is still uncertain but he has excellent attacking potential.

Danvers. *Wing threequarter.* A sound player, but could run with greater determination.

Hunter. *Fly-half.* A stalwart in defence and good in attack. He takes passes beautifully but overdoes the inside break. A good secretary.

Cotter. *Scrum-half.* He has improved very well, but is often caught off balance when attempting to get the ball away.

Cuff. A newly converted front-row forward, who is too light for this position. Scrummages hard and is a prodigious worker in the loose, but must make greater efforts to feed the backs.

Allardyce. *Hooker.* A very good general player, competent in all departments but he never attained the swift strike required.

Barratt-Terry. *Prop.* A burly forward, kept out for too long because of injury. Defensive covering is weak and he often forgets to heel the ball when stopped.

D. R. Gardner. *2nd Row.* A keen trier, handicapped by poor eyesight but he has come on and is developing well.

Hague. *2nd Row.* A young, raw player who has made great strides.

C. Newns. *Wing forward.* Very quick about the field, but often a shade weak in the basic techniques.

Kirk. *No. 8.* A young, vigorous player, but much given to an 'off' day.

Marrett. *Wing forward.* An excellent captain, full of vigour and exhortation. His own example in determined forward play and sheer 'guts' was invaluable, and the healthy state of the game in the School owes much to his efforts.

RUGBY FOOTBALL SUMMARY

1961-62

FIRST XV

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Ground</i>	<i>Result</i>
OCTOBER			
Wed. 18	Lord Williams's School	Away	Lost 33- 3
NOVEMBER			
Wed. 1	Bicester G.S.	Home	Won 35- 3
Sat. 11	Magdalen College School 3rd XV	Home	Lost 11- 9
Sat. 18	Radley College 4th XV ('A' XV)	Home	Won 8- 3
Wed. 29	Abingdon School 3rd XV ..	Away	Won 14-12
DECEMBER			
Sat. 9	St. Bartholomew's School 3rd XV	Away	Lost 11- 3
FEBRUARY			
Sat. 17	Lord Williams's School	Home	Cancelled
Sat. 24	Bicester G.S.	Home	Won 15- 3

1st XV. Played 7. 1 cancelled. Won 4. Lost 3. Drawn 0. Points for 87. Points against 73.

COLTS (UNDER 16) XV

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Ground</i>	<i>Result</i>
OCTOBER			
Wed. 11	Abingdon School	Away	Lost 63- 3
Sat. 21	Bicester G.S.	Home	Won 8- 3
Sat. 28	Radley College (2nd)	Home	Won 13- 3
FEBRUARY			
Sat. 3	Kingham Hill School	Away	Lost 14- 0

COLTS XV. Played 4. Won 2. Lost 2. Drawn 0. Points for 24. Points against 83.

JUNIOR COLTS (UNDER 15) XV

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Ground</i>	<i>Result</i>
OCTOBER			
Wed. 11	Abingdon School	Home	Won 8- 6
Wed. 18	Lord Williams's School ..	Away	Lost 21-10

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Ground</i>	<i>Result</i>
NOVEMBER			
Wed. 8	Burford G.S.	Away	Won 29-21
Sat. 11	Magdalen College School 'A' . .	Away	Won 30- 0
Sat. 18	Radley College	Away	Won 55- 0
DECEMBER			
Sat. 9	St. Bartholomew's G.S.	Away	Lost 6- 3
FEBRUARY			
Sat. 17	Lord Williams's School	Home	Cancelled

JUNIOR COLTS. Played 6. 1 cancelled. Won 4. Lost 2. Points for 135. Points against 54.

JUNIORS (UNDER 14) XV

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Ground</i>	<i>Result</i>
NOVEMBER			
Sat. 18	Radley College (2nd)	Away	Won 5- 0
Wed. 29	Abingdon School	Away	Lost 20- 3
DECEMBER			
Sat. 2	Burford G.S.	Home	Lost 27- 0
FEBRUARY			
Sat. 3	Kingham Hill School	Away	Lost 31- 0
Sat. 10	Abingdon School	Home	Lost 45- 0

JUNIORS. Played 5. Won 1. Lost 4. Drawn 0. Points for 8. Points against 123.

SCHOOL. Played 22. 2 cancelled. Won. 11. Lost 11. Points for 254. Points against 333.

Winners of the Inter-House Competition, Michaelmas Term 1961: Harcourt.

Winners of the Inter-House Seven-a-Side Competition, Lent Term 1962: Queen Anne.

Winners of the Inter-House Kicking Competition: Harcourt.

COLOURS 1961-62

R. A. Marrett, M. W. J. Hunter, C. L. F. Wilson, A. Kirk, N. A. Danvers, R. A. Allardyce, W. Cuff, W. P. C. E. Cotter, J. Locke, D. St. J. V. Baxter, D. R. Gardner, S. Hague, C. Newns, C. M. Edwards.

HALF COLOURS

R. Grey, N. Gardner, P. Barratt-Terry.

CRICKET 1961

THE 1961 SEASON was initially handicapped by the weather which, among other things, prevented the promised new cricket pitch from being ready in time or, indeed, from being useable throughout the term; and then in June it was seriously interrupted by the measles epidemic, which had a peculiar attraction for the cricketers of ability. Five members of the First Eleven were umpired out in this way within a week. Not only did matches have to be cancelled, but schools that were willing to risk infection conveniently found themselves up against greatly reduced opposition.

But despite these setbacks, in general the First Eleven had a better season than the previous year. Out of five school matches played, two were won and three lost. We defeated Bicester Grammar School heavily and Magdalen College School Third Eleven—perhaps the most exciting match of the season since Cokethorpe, who batted second, were faced with a race against the clock—and lost to Lord Williams's Grammar School, Thame, Burford Grammar School and Abingdon School Colts. This last was a heavy defeat, but we were consoled by the information that we were the only school who had up to then succeeded in dismissing their whole side—coached as it is by a former English Test cricketer.

Though we had a strong batting side on paper, two of our defeats were caused by disastrous collapses. Batsmen endlessly seemed to be crossing one another on their way to or from the crease.

Nevertheless, Buchner, Cotter and Grey all batted well. Cotter would have done even better had he not fancied himself as the fastest sprinter in the neighbourhood; taking runs to first slip not only does not pay—it just isn't cricket! Carter deserves mention in that he showed much improvement as an attractive opening bat. Buchner, Cotter and Golsorkhi all bowled well, and Buchner and Cotter should prove useful members of the 1962 side. Buchner is particularly to be congratulated on heading both batting and bowling averages. Golsorkhi was an efficient captain, if somewhat limited in ideas, and Grey a most valuable assistant caretaker of equipment—we wish him every success in his capacity as captain this coming season.

The Under Fifteens were unfortunate in losing both their fixtures to the measles. The Under Fourteen's lost one in this way, and the other three to better sides. But their performances were by no means as bad as their record suggests. There is some promising talent among the newcomers, Burr and Ransom in particular.

One should also not forget the matches played in more light-hearted vein. Mostly arranged as alternatives to those that had to be cancelled, there were seven of them, in which a depleted eleven acquitted themselves well; four were won, one lost, and the remaining two drawn. Perhaps those most enjoyed were the two against Hardwick and Sutton, and the final game of the season against Ducklington.

Finally, no record of the season would be complete without mention being made of the house matches. After the first match had been suspended for three weeks—Measles! No Play Today!—the contest was eventually won by Queen Anne, after a decisive victory over last year's holders, Swift. It was well-deserved—and just goes to shows that, though Queen Anne may be turning in her grave, her spirit lives on. So, for that matter, does King Willow and Cokethorpe cricket. May they long continue to flourish!



BOAT CLUB

WITH NEARLY EIGHTY MEMBERS last season, the B.C. took a prominent place in the life of the school. About thirty of these were novices and were ably coached by Mr. Foxell, and C. F. Bowden (Captain of Boats). The main body of second and third year oarsmen were coached by Mr. Lyle and Mr. Cook, while Mr. Fretwell concentrated on licking a couple of fours into shape for regattas.

His efforts were not unrewarded. The first IV (C. F. Bowden, J. J. Jefferies, N. P. Gardner, P. Lynn and D. Ealand) and second IV (B. M. Alexander, D. Gardner, P. Barratt-Terry, W. Kirby and E. Petty) entered Oxford Regatta, won their first rounds and

met each other in the second. The first IV went through to the finals but lost by one length. At Wallingford both were out-classed, but at Monmouth the first IV reached the finals only to be beaten by Belmont Abbey by one and a half lengths. At Saltford, a strange borrowed boat upset the first crew and they lost their first race. However the overall picture is very encouraging and it was valuable experience.

This year we hope to enter for many more regattas, but we are handicapped by lack of funds. We have one 'best boat' 'Isabella', bought eighteen months ago as a result of Lord Baden-Powell's appeal, and urgently need a twin, especially as we hope to have three or even four regatta crews. Our only other boats are two clinker fours built about 1900, and given to us by Tonbridge School. I doubt if they will last another season! At present we hire 'tub' boats for novices to learn in, but this is an unsatisfactory arrangement and we could do with our own fleet of second-hand 'tubs'.

Our own Inter-House Regatta provided many exciting races with a senior entry of seven crews, and a junior division of five. Harcourt first crew beat Queen Anne second crew by one length to win the senior event, and Queen Anne's first crew beat Swift's first crew by three-quarters of a length to win the juniors.

Harcourt first crew: Cuff, Elgie, Jarrett, Le Vack and Ealand.

Queen Anne first crew: Blair, Emmerson, MacGeagh, Hope and Brown iii.

We have our own splendid boathouse and landing stage at Newbridge, by the 'Rose Revived', and since we shall again have about eighty boys rowing this summer we look forward to seeing some parents there from time to time. And if any old rowing men can spare an afternoon for coaching they will find a warm welcome!

* * *

Sayings of the Term

[Crompton's Mule] enabled us to make the finest muslims in the world. These muslims were known as 'the woven wind'.

SWIMMING—LIFE SAVING

THE SCHOOL is still using one of Mr. Pickford's gravel-pits at Standlake for a swimming pool. We are very grateful for these pits which are in many ways much pleasanter than concrete, chlorinated pools. Unfortunately the steeply shelving sides make it very difficult to instruct beginners and only a few non-swimmers got through the swimming test last year. However, there are only a handful of non-swimmers in the school.

A greater degree of success was attained in the Royal Life Saving Society's examinations. Out of 55 entrants for the Bronze Medallion, 44 were wholly successful, 7 got the Intermediate Certificate and only one failed. The other three did not complete the examination because of the cold. The school received a letter of congratulation from the Royal Life Saving Society on the standard attained under difficult conditions. The successful candidates were as follows.

Bronze Medallion: A. W. Baker, P. Barratt-Terry, D. St. J. V. Baxter, T. J. Baylis, R. E. Bomford, R. M. Brocklebank, H. A. Brown, S. A. Chalmers, J. J. Clarke, A. G. Dawson, D. G. Dunaway, D. H. Elgie, D. J. Evans, M. J. Franks, C. J. Gower, S. Hague, R. A. Hodgkinson, A. B. Hope, M. W. J. Hunter, M. A. Jarrett, T. W. Key, A. M. R. Kirk, A. Lang, D. E. A. Le Vack, J. S. W. Locke, D. Mackie, C. L. Mackinnon, D. S. Maxwell, C. M. Newns, R. J. Newns, P. F. Osborne, R. D. Peters, A. P. J. Pile, R. Rose, C. H. Slade, E. F. Smethurst, G. F. Sparksman, C. W. B. Stavey, D. P. O. Trimble, A. F. Trotman, A. H. Vernon-Smith, A. Webb, W. R. S. Webb, T. J. Zair.

Intermediate Certificate: R. Allardyce, C. F. Bowden, W. H. Goehring, D. E. A. Hopkinson, C. R. Rashbrook, C. D. Searle, N. A. Selmes.

BASKETBALL

THE SCHOOL SPORTING ACTIVITIES now include Basketball, and of the two teams the first has played extremely well. So far they have won all their games, and this is creditable considering their lack of experience. Edwards (Captain), Van Enst, Cotter, Newns i, Key i, Chalmers. Woods is the able Captain of the second team.

General Note: Thanks are due to Stevenson and Hirsch for taking on the irksome task of daily gym cleaning.

CROSS COUNTRY

THE CLUB produced a good number of runners and had an encouraging season considering it was their first. Early defeats were mainly due to lack of hard training, for which they can only blame themselves. Once fit they acquitted themselves well, with the captain Hope, and Grey showing themselves particularly able. Ridley as secretary has put in some hard work.

THE LAKE DISTRICT EXPEDITION

TWELVE BOYS and two or three masters are due to go to the Lake District immediately after the end of this term (April 1962). They have hired a Dormobile and will travel up on the 3rd April. The intention is to camp in Borrowdale; from there they will attempt to climb most of the peaks in the neighbourhood. One party may well go off on a light-camping course for two or three days whilst the others practise map-reading and compass work. The group will do its own cooking and should return on 10th April.

DURING THE SUMMER VACATION we are planning a school trip to canoe down the River Wye in conjunction with P.G.L. Voyages. The hundred miles downstream, starting at Whitney-on-Wye, should take about a week.

THIRD FORMS IN THE ROUGH

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES in the rough are to be encouraged in the Summer Term, when the third forms go to a Field Centre in Edale, Derbyshire. Each group will spend four days on a concentrated programme including simple astronomy, geology, local history, animal and plant life. The accent will be on hill-walking and map-reading, with one day's climbing at Stanage Edge.

MUSIC

THEY COME AT THIRTEEN and their voices break soon after. The choir struggles on with a weak top line and ever-increasing tenor section. Do other schools have this trouble? However, we managed a Carol Service at Christmas and a Passion Service at Easter.

The instrumental classes flourish; clarinets, trumpets and trombones wail, blast and roar, and now 3B have taken up the recorder! A violinist and a 'cellist provide the string section, but we have eighteen pianists.

String classes are to be started in September and more recruits are needed for the brass and woodwind classes.

Into this world of insane sound drops a steadying fact. The first boys to do Music at 'O' level have started their syllabus.

ART

ART LESSONS at Cokethorpe began in 1958, being taught to all forms as a part of the curriculum. The classes were held in what is now the physics laboratory.

As the school grew in size, it was impossible for each class to have an art lesson of adequate length, within the timetable. The subject was continued as an optional extra on two evenings a week, taking place in the woodwork centre.

Once a nucleus of enthusiasts had attained some degree of proficiency, samples of their work were submitted to the Royal Drawing Society for assessment. Since 1959, some eighty certificates have been awarded by this organisation to successful pupils.

In 1960 six candidates were entered for the 'O' Level Art Examination in G.C.E. All were successful. The following year the number of candidates was increased to nine. Again all passed. This year twenty boys will sit the examination.

Art includes Painting, Design, Life Drawing, Lettering, Object Drawing, Plant Drawing and experimental work in all media, from cut paper work to sculpture.

On Tuesday and Wednesday evenings the G.C.E. candidates study for the coming examination. On Thursday evenings there is 'open house'. Beginners, advanced pupils and anyone else interested follow a variety of interests, according to their skill and abilities.

LIBRARY NOTES

THE SCHOOL LIBRARY found a new home early last year in the old visual aids room. The entrance hall where it had been before was too much of a thoroughfare for the peace and quietness, essential to any library, to be found. We like to think that now the Library is a place for serious study, especially by the Sixth, and for absorbed reading.

The Library has continued to increase. Some 900 books were added during the last year, bringing our total up to nearly 3,000. The History and English shelves received impressive reinforcements; the Science section is now beginning to expand pleasingly. Many of our recent accessions have been presented to us, and among our many benefactors special mention should be made of Dr. C. K. Francis Brown, J. E. Fretwell, Esq., D. A. Fothergill, Esq., and E. Sykes, Esq. Several boys, too, have given books to the Library. It is only fair to add that several of our less willing readers, by their payment of fines, have added to our Library Fund most satisfactorily!

Books—fiction and non-fiction—may now be borrowed and so far we have been pleased by the absence of losses and by the care that has been shown in the handling of books.

The Oxfordshire County Library has assisted us by lending us, each term, some two hundred books.

The Library operates efficiently only because of the painstaking service of all its librarians. Our thanks, therefore, must be given to: Brittan, Bruce, Chadwick, Furnival-Jones, Goehring, Goodall, Gunn, May, Rowe and Stevenson. The handsome notices and labels which now embellish our shelves are the work of Taylor, Stanley and Vernon-Smith.



THE GEOGRAPHY SOCIETY

FROM THE BEGINNING the Society has flourished. Applications for membership have always been greater than the places available. At one time there were over 100 members, which made the organisation too unwieldy for comfort. Since then the membership has been limited to about 70 which is a more manageable

number. No particular credit is claimed for the success of the Society, for it is one which ought to provide topics and expeditions of general interest to boys.

The Society meets regularly for films which are chosen for their educational as well as their entertainment value. The topics are too varied to be discussed individually, but many of them have aroused great interest and even controversy among certain members. Industrial organisations and film bureaux are very ready to supply films in almost unlimited quantities. The newer industries, such as the oil industry, seem very much alive to the value of educational films which are often of real artistic and technical merit.

During the past year there have been outings to such diverse places as the Port of London, the Wolvercote Paper Mill, Cooper's Jam Factory, the Pressed Steel Company, Reading Power Station and Swindon Gas Works. For some, the highlight of the year was a first-class lunch at Pressed Steel, for others the murky interior of the Retort House at Swindon. At least, it can be said that there has been some item of interest for all tastes and that some boys may be inspired to consider the Apprenticeship Schemes offered by many of the Companies visited.

The Society is always ready to receive suggestions from any source for yet more varied activities in the future.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

THIS TERM has seen the founding of this learned Society. Already two meetings have been held. The first, our inaugural gathering, was confined to that practice so notorious in another technical society, adjusting elections, and manipulating a constitution. By some evil chance, however, the constitution was adopted, *nem. con.* (or was it *unan.?*), and so this experiment in oligarchy is now doomed to failure. Democracy now dominates the Round-house. For those interested in records and statistics, the officers for the year are: President, D. R. Gardner; Hon. Sec. (Meetings), P. Barratt-Terry, Hon. Sec. (Projects) C. J. Gower. Such was the lust for power, that the post of treasurer could not be filled honourably, and so was declared redundant.

Our second meeting took the form of a conversazione, and topics covered ranged from crash-barriers to computers, via short-wave radio. Unfortunately, some speakers took the instruction to read a paper too literally, but a wide diversity of interest and opinion was revealed, which augurs well for our future, if not that of the nation. It was also agreed to support the President's project, the construction of a radio-telescope. It is hoped to have this functioning by Speech Day, although this time estimate may be optimistic. Finally, may the committee take this opportunity to deny the malignant rumour that we have plans for the first boy in space, and that the first boy-cosmonauts are under secret training?

COKETHORPE RIFLE CLUB

THE CLUB, inaugurated in 1960 with 30 members, has proved a great success. Much keenness has been shown, and it is only limitations of space which necessitate keeping the numbers of members at thirty-five. Match rifles are used which enables the school to enter for most of the N.S.R.A. competitions.

A number of individual competitions, both Junior and Senior, have been held against Eastbourne College, Ardingly College, Reading Juniors, and the City of Oxford 'B' team. Of these we are proud to record only one lost (*v.* Ardingly 779-770).

In addition we have entered Senior and Junior teams in the Colonel Mitchell Challenge Cup and the Harvey Hadden Challenge Trophy open to all clubs in the Commonwealth. In the winter competition of these the Senior team were placed 17th and the Junior team 8th. Some 130 teams were competing.

We are naturally pleased with our success, and praise is due to those who found time to put in the practice which is so important in shooting. Of the early members we should like to mention Bowden, Lynn and Mackie, and at the moment of writing Reid, Ealand, Hall-Jones and Woods have their shooting colours. They are well supported by others.

We must congratulate the boys who, encouraged and led by Mackie, have decorated the range and made a potting shed into a shooting gallery.

THE MODEL CLUB

BEING A LATECOMER to the model club I found it in a blossoming state. The models in past years have been mainly aircraft, but now as the summer approaches the boys have begun to cast about for other things to construct and boat shells are beginning to appear.

The aircraft however still hold pride of place, being relatively easy to make, and good fun. The flying facilities offered by the Park are excellent, for it is possible to fly in the school grounds without disturbing the people in the school buildings.

However, there are many large trees which, though beautiful, are formidable enemies of free flight aircraft like gliders and power duration aircraft. They seem to hold some kind of magnetic attraction for models, usually causing damage to the aircraft. Thus the control-line model has been adopted by most of the boys in the club and some very fine models have been produced.

They are constructed, for better or worse, in 'The Model Room'. This is a small room the walls of which are covered with odd parts of old models and completed ones are suspended from the ceiling in various attitudes of flight. Workbenches are placed around the walls of the room. These benches have an air of devastation. Odd bits of balsa and plans lie strewn over them; knives, glue, dust and pins add to the chaotic effect. Yet to us modellers this room is the hub of Club activity which grows and expands from week to week. The more proficient modellers turn their eyes to bigger and better models; the more lowly, daubed though they be with glue, dream of even larger craft and of triumphs yet to come.

M. A. VAN ENST, 5B

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Sayings of the Term

A professional critic is a man who can sit through a musical without distraction.

THE ARCHERY CLUB REPORT

THE ARCHERY CLUB is comparatively new; it was founded in Lent 1961.

The Club is select, having never more than fifteen members at one time. This enables us to pick and choose our new members, getting only those who are keen and willing to give up spare time for practice.

We hope that by the summer our members will have reached a standard in marksmanship to enable us to challenge other clubs in the neighbourhood.

We had the first of the annual Inter-House Competitions last Michaelmas Term. Queen Anne won easily by 48 points.

We are going to widen the scope of the club in the near future, entering into various competitions and matches, and also going for outings to the famous competitions, at Nottingham and elsewhere.

D. GARDNER, 6L.Sc.

CHESS CLUB

THIS TERM the chess club was revived to satisfy the demands of some of the keener chess players. After a discussion, it was decided to hold a league, rather than a knockout competition so as to give all the members a chance of more games. We had an entry of twenty and although, at the time of going to press, the result is not yet known, much enthusiasm has been shown by all competitors.

We have agreed to play a match against Bicester G.S. although this has unfortunately had to be postponed until next term. If we acquit ourselves well enough in this match, we may enter the Oxfordshire Schools Chess League.

N. J. E. SAMUELSON, 6U.A.

THE COKETHORPE SOCIETY

AN OLD BOYS' SOCIETY has been formed with Dr. C. K. Francis Brown as President. It is to be known as 'The Cokethorpe Society', and old boys of the school have been informed of the details. So far the response has been quite good, but we would

welcome more news of all old boys' activities, and also the present address of the Bowett twins (who are 'not known' any longer at King's Lynn). We apologise if any of the following information is incorrect, but we have had to glean it from brief letters, conversations and rumours.

Henry Holland must be the first Old Boy to get married, and we offer our congratulations. He is going into the fruit and vegetable business at Covent Garden.

Freddy Bowden (58-61) has returned to the Argentine and is thinking about work. Tony Michell (58-61) is now living in Portugal.

Michael Franks (57-61) is learning the catering business in and around London, and Timothy Sedgwick (59-60) is training as under-chef at Monmouth with Trust Houses Ltd.

Robert Corp (57-58) and John Sealey (57-60) (you just cannot separate them!) are farming in Somerset, and so is Robert Mowbray (57-60) in Lincolnshire. Michael Williams (56-59) has been doing an agricultural course near Newbury, and Graham Golby (58-60) buys and sells agricultural machinery in Warwickshire.

In the world of trade and commerce, Michael Green (59-61) is in his father's textile firm in Leicester, and David Clark (57-60) is investigating the furniture trade in Newark. John Kirby (58-61) is working his way through the departments of the family business in Oxford. David Lumb (57-61) is a trainee with the John Lewis organisation in London. J. Millar is now a trainee representative for a firm of toy-makers.

Charles Slade (60-61) is hoping to board the training ship 'Conway' and enter the Merchant Navy. Sandy Lang (58-61) is studying to be a doctor and Richard Peirce (57-61) hopes to be ordained, and is at present at the Mirfield Hostel in Leeds, studying for 'A' levels.

P. Lynn hopes to embark on a forestry course shortly.

It is hoped to have an Annual Dinner and perhaps an Old Boys' Rugger and Cricket fixture. It goes without saying that all Old Boys are welcome at Speech Day (this year, July 7th), but we would appreciate advance warning to assist catering and seating arrangements.

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