

A detailed red ink illustration of peacock feathers and flowers. The feathers are the central focus, with their characteristic 'eyes' and long, flowing barbs. The flowers are scattered around the feathers, some in full bloom and others as buds. The drawing uses fine lines and cross-hatching for shading and texture. The overall style is elegant and artistic.

THE PEACOCK

1977

THE PEACOCK

No. 16

Summer 1977

Head of School

R. J. D. McKenzie

School Prefects

C. D. Cooper
A. O. East
S. M. C. MacLeod
J. H. M. Pool
M. I. Scott
H. C. Scott
D. F. Smit

Heads of Houses

<i>Harcourt</i>	R. J. D. McKenzie
<i>Queen Anne</i>	D. F. Smit
<i>Dean Swift</i>	J. H. M. Pool

School Officers

<i>Captain of Rugby Football</i>	M. I. Scott
<i>Vice-Captain and Secretary</i>	J. H. M. Pool
<i>Captain of Boats</i>	M. B. Andrews
<i>Vice-Captain and Secretary of Boats</i>	P. A. Baker
<i>Captain of Cricket</i>	M. Gleeson
<i>Vice-Captain</i>	J. H. M. Pool
<i>Secretary</i>	R. J. D. McKenzie
<i>Captain of Football</i>	S. M. C. MacLeod
<i>Vice-Captain</i>	R. J. D. McKenzie
<i>Master of Canoes</i>	P. M. W. Murphy
<i>Captain of Judo</i>	D. B. Randoll
<i>Head Librarian</i>	R. H. C. Bourke
<i>Captain of Athletics</i>	J. B. Vaughan-Fowler

Cover design by Losuvalna

WE BEGIN THE YEAR in a drought; as I write, we wonder if we shall see the sun again! On this cold day, however, my first words must be to thank all the members of the Cokethorpe family for the warmth of their welcome and their kindness to me; it has certainly been a busy year—and for me an enjoyable one.

We are losing some valuable members of our family at the end of this term. Jack Hipkin, who has performed that most difficult task of Bursar with such humour, retires after many years of valuable service. Fortunately he will still be in Witney and we have a firm promise from him that he will keep in touch and so our best wishes to him and Doreen are mingled with the confident expectation that we shall see them regularly. Sister Haines, too, leaves us. She has served us whole-heartedly, always taking trouble over boys and this year taking on the Tuck Shop; luckily she too will not be far away at Chipping Norton. Hugh Williams leaves us take on greater responsibilities elsewhere and we shall miss his expertise and patience both in the Physics Laboratory and in the many activities in which he has involved himself. Earlier in the year Mrs. Sheila Butler left us and although we were selfishly sorry to see her go, these thoughts were tempered by our happiness that she should find new happiness—and, of course, the very strong family link in the Matron's Room continues since Sheila's replacement was Mrs. Mary Knipe! To all of you—grateful thanks, and good luck for the future.

J.E.T.

J.W.M.H.

THERE CAN BE few people who have entered more wholeheartedly into the life of Cokethorpe than the Bursar, Lt.-Col. J. W. M. Hipkin, who joined us in 1965, and it is with a real sense of loss that we shall say 'au revoir' to him (but not 'goodbye') at the end of this Summer Term. It is hard to think of a single school activity, from mowing the games fields to running the Stamp Club, from teaching woodwork to making scenery for the school play, in which Jack, as he is affectionally known, was not involved.

No doubt his experiences as a P.o.W. in Japanese hands and six years administering St. Andrew's Hospital, Northampton, stood him in good stead when it came to coping with the hundred-and-one problems that arise in a boarding school, but the fact remains that, whether it was in managing a successful 'bottle' stall at a School fête or advising some harassed Master on his Income Tax, Jack was always 'there', ready to help with that characteristic cheerfulness and kindness that has endeared him to generations of boys and staff. Perhaps more important than anything else, he possesses that great virtue, so essential in any Bursar—especially at Cokethorpe—a strong sense of humour, and his mock horror, followed by a resigned 'However . . .', on hearing of yet another broken chair or the latest exploit of some boy (or Master!) will long be remembered.

Nor can we fail to mention Jack's wife, Doreen, who, like her husband, identified herself to the full with the life of the School and added a kindly and infectious vivacity to it.

We shall miss them both enormously, to say nothing of Jim ('you *terrible* dog!). We thank them most sincerely for all they have done for Cokethorpe, and we wish them many happy years of retirement and a long-continued association with the School.

R.V.L.

AGAINST BLOOD SPORTS

We set off on a walk, my friend Benjy and I,
My view on the landscape but his on the sky.
'Look at that butterfly over there!' I exclaimed:
My friend simply muttered, 'It ought to be framed.'
It was plain after this that we didn't agree.
The difference between us was easy to see—
The difference, that is, between my friend and me.

A fox darted furtively by, its face to the wind.
'Look at that pest! It ought to be skinned!
It eats crops, you know, and annoys Farmer Small.
Its brush would look good on our drawing-room wall.'
It was clear that we couldn't see quite eye to eye:
I liked things to live, he preferred them to die.
And all for the sake of the old hunting cry.

RORY BOURKE (Lower 6)

CANDLE LIGHT

Be still my friend,
The embers still;
Beware the insect,
Watch his bill—
For as you gaze
He creeps along
He treads the maze
And he is gone.

Shake not
My friend,
For wind that blows;
The man that walks
He also knows.
You cannot shield,
For you must yield
The blow of man,
A flowing fan.

JASON EVERS (3A)

PRIZES

The Headmaster's Prize	G. Manley
6th Form English	R. Bartholomew
6th Form Biology	R. Bartholomew
6th Form History	P. G. Vaughan-Fowler
6th Form Geography	P. G. Vaughan-Fowler
6th Form Chemistry	A. Hanby
6th Form Physics	A. Hanby
6th Form Maths	J. Robinow
5th Form English Language	P. Moores
5th Form English Literature	R. Bourke
5th Form French	R. Bourke
5th Form History	J. Vaughan-Fowler
5th Form Geography	P. Tolley
5th Form Physics	P. Tolley
5th Form British Constitution	D. Webster
5th Form Biology	P. Dawe
5th Form Chemistry	S. Ching
5th Form Maths	M. Drew
4A Form Prize	P. Murphy
4B Form Prize	J. Barrett
3A Form Prize	J. Keenlyside
3B Form Prize	Walker II
Art Prize	P. Tolley
Cullen Debating Prize	R. McKenzie
Martin Browne Memorial Prize	D. Short

DEAN SWIFT HOUSE REPORT

THIS YEAR Swift successfully managed to retain three important cups, and shared one other with Harcourt.

We commenced by winning the Rowing Cup by the conclusive margin of $18\frac{1}{2}$ seconds, unlike the previous year when we were disputed winners by only one second. Rowing colours were awarded to Baker, Baxter, Crewe, Clarabut, Clarke, Flint, Lesley, Murphy, Russell and Wilson.

As usual the Inter-House XV's Cup went to Harcourt, but Swift were able to defeat Queen Anne convincingly by a score of 16-6. Colours were awarded to Pool and Saunders.

The House Kicking Cup produced a most unexpected result, in that Queen Anne, the favourites, failed to produce their known form, allowing Swift to share the title with Harcourt. Colours went to Pool (22 pts.), Scott II (21 pts.), Clarabut (16 pts.), and Murphy (12 pts.).

In recent years Swift have dominated the running cups and were to do so again, winning the School Cross-Country for the third year running. It was a good house effort in which everyone gave their best.

We rounded off the running season by retaining the much-coveted Road Relay Cup in a time of 1 hr. 47 min. 48 sec., two minutes outside our own school record. House running colours were awarded to Aires, Baxter, Bird, Clifton, Cook I, McQueen, Murphy, Pool, Scott II, Trotter, Walker I, White I, and Willis.

In the Cricket Cup Swift ran Harcourt close, scoring 139-7, but failed to win by five wickets. Colours were given to Ashby, Barrett, Davenport, Nathan, Pool, Scott II and White I.

On Mr. Ellis's departure (see *The Peacock*, 1976) he was presented with a comfortable study chair and a radio cassette, and I should like to thank all those who generously donated. I should also like to take this opportunity to thank H. C. Scott for all his help over the year, and to wish P. Saunders the best of luck as head of house for the coming year.

J. H. M. POOL

HARCOURT HOUSE REPORT

ONCE MORE THIS YEAR Harcourt has dominated the Inter-House Competitions, winning eight out of a possible eleven cups.

Last summer ended with victories in the Inter-House Cricket Cup against Queen Anne and Swift, Harcourt thereby retaining the cup. M. Gleeson, the Harcourt Captain, had a field-day against Queen Anne, scoring 71 and taking 5 for 6 in three overs to demolish the Queen Anne tail.

The Autumn Term opened with Harcourt and Swift sharing the Inter-House Kicking Competition with 100 points each. All the Harcourt kickers won their colours and a special mention must go to J. Vaughan-Fowler (18 pts.) and M. Pearce (17 pts.). Harcourt then went on to win the Bridge Cup (proving that we are not just a house of brawn) through the efforts of Pearce, Crisp, Jenkins and Jenkinson who also won their colours. The Harcourt Canoeists King, Keenlyside and Caines won the Canoeing Cup and were rewarded with their House colours.

The next major competition was the Rugby Cup. Queen Anne fought bravely but were beaten 22-11, and the Harcourt XV ran out easy 30-9 winners against Swift. In a team in which everyone did well it is difficult to single out individuals but the speed of Vaughan-Fowler and the strength of Cottrell and Girling were undoubtedly telling factors.

The Spring Term started badly when we lost both the Road Relay and Cross Country competitions. Pearce, once more, came first in the School Cross Country, but I must congratulate all those who ran for the House for their efforts.

Harcourt's knack of winning was regained during the Inter-House Rugby VII's Competition. Harcourt Seniors had no difficulty with the opposition but our much-underrated Juniors, captained by Simpson, came up trumps in the third match against the Junior favourites Queen Anne, beating them 18-6. Both the Senior and Junior teams were awarded their colours and special mention must go to the Senior Radi, and Juniors Simpson, Dodd and Everett.

The Football Competition was probably the most exciting of all the House

Competitions, Harcourt winning it on goal difference after a thrilling 2-2 draw with Queen Anne. This situation was caused by Swift being beaten 1-0 by Queen Anne and Harcourt beating Swift 3-0 and therefore taking the Cup by virtue of a 'positive two-goal' difference. Pearce, Vaughan-Fowler, and the Junior Ibrahim performed outstandingly. Colours were awarded to the whole team.

In place of Sports Day this year was held a Soccer VI-a-Side tournament which was a great success. Harcourt won the Cup before the last game and it was the Juniors under the leadership of Ibrahim who gave most cause for satisfaction.

During the past year we lost our Head of House, Manley, and his two able deputies, Gleeson and Vaughan-Fowler I (who, with three 'A's, has now gone to university). The other leavers include Carraher ('Doggy' to his friends, and enemies!), Melville, Betts, Groves and Grey.

It only remains for me to thank Mark Scott, the House deputy, and all the present members of Harcourt House for their wonderful spirit and enthusiasm. 'Esprit de corps' has never been stronger within Harcourt House.

R. J. D. MCKENZIE

QUEEN ANNE HOUSE REPORT

ALTHOUGH WE HAVE FAILED to win any cups this year it has been very pleasing to see a great deal more effort from the majority of the House. In the House Kicking Cup, after a very closely fought competition, we scored a total of 95 points, while Swift and Harcourt drew for first place on 100 points. The Rugby XV's were also disappointing, our teams being beaten by Swift 16-3 and by Harcourt 22-11. In the House Soccer Cup we had more success, but after beating Swift 1-0 we managed only a draw with Harcourt (2-2), and so lost the Cup on goal difference. However, for their creditable performance the whole team were awarded their House colours.

In the Rugby VII's Cup we had another disappointing day, our Senior team being beaten in both games and the Juniors only winning one game. In the Cross-Country we managed only second place but had several good individual performances. MacLeod came third, W. Marks fourth and R. Grundy eighth. All three also ran well in the Road Relay Cup and received their House colours. We still have the Cricket Competition to play for and also a very strong crew in the Rowing Competition, which we hope to win this year.

At the end of last year we had nine leavers including D. L. de Souza, our last Head of House, S. Phillipson, a house prefect and also F. Bodenham, C. Burchett, R. Bartholomew, D. Webster, A. Short and N. Wyatt. A. Hanby also left us, achieving three 'A' levels of excellent grades, and eleven 'O' levels. We shall miss them all and wish them the best of luck for the future.

Lastly, I must thank all the people who have put a special effort into the House this year. S. MacLeod has been an invaluable House deputy and C.

Cooper and A. East very willing House prefects. Thanks must also go to S. Joyce, G. Cartwright, W. Marks and P. Dance who have been the backbone of many of the House teams, and to all of the House for their efforts this year.

D. SMIT

POETS AND PLAYS

WE HAVE BEEN exceptionally lucky this year in having the chance to meet two poets; namely, Glynn Hughes and Charles Causley. Glynn Hughes interested everybody during his visit in November with his poems, mainly on the subject of Greece, reminding all strongly of the Mediterranean weather they were missing. Charles Causley who visited us in May was well received. The presentation and delivery of his verse (which was superb) held an audience, mainly of 3rd, 4th and 5th formers, spellbound and gaping for over three-quarters of an hour! Among his poems, two of the finest were undoubtedly *Timothy Winters* and *The Jolly Hunter*.

There have been several trips to the theatre since September and this season Stratford have produced some notable plays. Principal among them ranks *Romeo and Juliet* (a set play for those fated to take English Literature 'O' level). The acting was very good indeed, but apparently some people objected to the chorus's unsuitable attire: Anorak and jeans!

At Oxford, a party of us were fortunate enough to see Roman Polanski's *Macbeth* at the cinema. Medieval life was portrayed in this film more accurately (and more viciously) than in any other production of the play.

In May some members of the Upper and Lower Sixth went to the Oxford Playhouse to see a performance of *Serjeant Musgrave's Dance*, by John Arden (a set play for English 'A' level). It was slightly disappointing in that the actors did not appear to believe in what they were saying. Otherwise it was universally enjoyed.

However, the highlight of the season has been the latest version of *Hamlet* with Derek Jacobi, who also played the leading role in the television series of *I Claudius*. A small group of us went to see the play at the New Theatre in Oxford and the performance was outstanding. Those who have been following the television dramatisation of *Edward VII* may be interested also to know that Timothy West was cast as the wicked King Claudius of Denmark.

ROWING

DESPITE THE lack of equipment for the Boat Club, we enjoyed a busy and not entirely unsuccessful regatta season. We entered three crews in the Avon County Schools Regatta at Saltford, near Bristol, and two of them won through to the semi-finals, before falling to Marlow Rowing Club and Shiplake College. Five crews rowed in the Gloucester Junior Regatta and the Under-16s reached the semi-finals once again. Carmel Regatta saw seven of our crews competing, with first-heat successes for the Under-16s and the Under-14s, and the first of two visits to Hereford produced a first-round win for the Under-16s in the Ball Cup Races. The last major regatta of our

season, the Hereford Schools Regatta, at the beginning of June, was rather disappointing but the Under-14 crew gave us some good and promising racing at the Reading Town Regatta, towards the end of the month.

The crews were :

<i>Senior</i>	<i>Under 16a</i>	<i>Under 16b</i>	<i>Under 15a</i>
Crewe	Wyatt	Russell	Murphy
East	Short	Andrews	Lesley
Manley	Dawe	Wilson	Flint
Vaughan-Fowler	Drew	Baker	Trotter
Smith I	Tamlyn	King	Newton
<i>Under 15b</i>	<i>Under 14a</i>	<i>Under 14b</i>	
Jenkins	Clarabut	Taylor	
Smith II	Vlitos	Cook IV	
Clarke	Keenlyside	Robins	
Jenkinson	Dodd	Berg	
Tamlyn	Bowles	Northcott	

The House Regatta was won by Swift.

Vaughan-Fowler and Crewe, the Captain and Secretary respectively, left at the end of the year and the Club thanks them for their hard work. The Club welcomed Mr. White to the panel of coaches.

School half-colours were awarded to Crewe, Wyatt, East, Smith I, Russell, Andrews, Wilson, Baker and King.

CANOEING

WE WERE ALL very sorry when Derrick de Souza, the founder of the Cokethorpe Canoe Club, left last year, although he has by no means faded into the distance, being the backbone of this year's successful expeditions. We are all very thankful to him for the time and work he has put into the club.

As usual, in spite of the freezing and often very off-putting conditions of last winter, there has been a very good turnout in the Canoe Club, with several new members willing to sacrifice an afternoon playing chess or cards by a blazing fire for an exhausting and wet paddle often in rain and occasionally in heavy snow. We are most grateful to Sister and to the many masters who gave up some of their afternoons to ferry saturated canoeists to and from the boathouse. In the February floods members were able to canoe out of the boathouse (having changed on rafters in the roof) and on a straight course across the fields to Northmoor Wier, where, for the first time in Cokethorpe history, they were able to canoe up it as well as down! (There is usually a five-foot drop!)

There have been enjoyable local canoe-camping weekends, up and down stream, including one to Eynsham. In December we were invited to accompany Marlow, Windsor, and Pangbourne canoe clubs down the rivers Exe and Dart. It was the first time that most of our members had experienced canoeing on rapids (hence many capsizes!) and it add to our knowledge enormously. It was a successful and hair-raising trip, in spite of the frost and early trouble with vandals in the night.

We had a second attempt at canoeing on rapids on the River Wye at Glasbury. This time twelve boys including two photographers-cum-cooks crammed into a

Land-Rover generously lent by parents and driven by Mr. Clayton. This broke down half way. The remainder of the evening was spent returning to school in the cab of a breakdown lorry! Determined not to be defeatists, a reduced party set off the following morning in private cars. Although the water was not as rough as we had expected—and wanted—we all enjoyed the expedition. We had not thought, however, to find ourselves lost, carrying canoes over the Welsh countryside in the middle of the night—but that is another story!

The Inter-House Canoe Slalom held on the River Windrush was a great success, with a good turnout of Masters and boys to watch and judge. There has also been a beginners' rolling course at Witney Swimming Pool.

We hope to round off another successful and memorable year by having a second canoe-surfing expedition to Bude in North Devon after 'O' levels.

RUGBY

MUCH HARD WORK and dedication reaped a just reward as Cokethorpe powered to their best-ever rugby season. All records were swept aside before this victorious XV. The previous record number of wins was exceeded by two games; the highest points score of 364 points for and 212 points against was smashed with a total of 474 points for and 104 points against. Teamwork and fitness were the cornerstones of our success, many games being won in the last quarter due to superior fitness. All members of the first team squad played their part in this most successful season.

Fullback position was shared between Barrett and MacKenzie who were both dependable members of the team, giving confidence to the remainder of the side.

On the wings Carraher and Cartwright proved themselves very adept in both attack and defence.

The speed and agility of the backs made a great contribution to our success. The pairing of S. MacLeod at scrum-half and J. Vaughan-Fowler at fly-half proved to be a devastating force, with J.V.F. getting good ball from S. MacLeod, often splitting the opposing defence and J. Pool and H. Scott in the centres always on hand to take advantage—J. Pool capitalising to good effect by scoring 23 tries, on which he must be congratulated.

The foundations of all wins were laid by the pack who showed tremendous courage and determination throughout the season and never stopped fighting even though at times the opposition were much heavier and stronger. In the back row W. Manley and M. Pearce were tremendous tacklers and foragers for the ball, lending support to the backs.

In the boiler-room M. Girling and I. Cottrell bound the scrum together, pushing their weight at all times and showing up to good effect in the line-outs.

The front row of D. Smit, P. Saunders and P. Murphy stuck manfully to their task and gave everything for the side. Not least memorable were their efforts against the Invitation County Side when they were out-weighted by at least 15 stones.

There were some memorable victories but the game against Radley caused great disappointment. This was probably our top fixture and we sorely missed S. MacLeod at scrum-half. After being 6-3 up at half-time the game was eventually lost by the odd point 17-16. On a happier note there were many times for celebrations; most notable amongst these was the game against Bloxham 'A' XV, when the backs

excelled themselves even to the point of performing a double dummy scissors to perfection from which the opposition never recovered.

The traditional annual game against the Old Boys' Side, captained by G. Manley, produced some fine rugby, and here the superior fitness of the School Side told in the last ten minutes, with tries by J. Pool and J. Vaughan-Fowler in the dying seconds.

The highlight of the season was the fixture against Mr. Ede's County XV, which included Joe McPartlin, ex-Captain of Scotland, plus eleven Oxford County players and one Northampton player. This proved to be a very interesting game from which the school learnt a tremendous amount, not only through playing against such fine rugby players, but also in the discussions which took place after the game. Our grateful thanks are due to Mr. Ede for arranging this fixture.

It only remains for me to thank most sincerely Mr. Lewis for all the hard work and encouragement he gave us throughout the season, both during the games and in training sessions, J. Bird for running the line for the season; and Sister, not only for administering to our injuries, but also for her moral support throughout the season.

FIRST XV PLAYING RECORD 1976

v. Burford	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won 36-6
v. Henry Box	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won 48-3
v. Peers, Littlemore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won 38-4
'A' XV v. Oxford Thursday Side	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost 18-44
v. John Mason	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won 92-0
v. Radley 2nd XV	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost 16-17
v. Bloxham 'A' XV	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won 36-10
v. Old Boys	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won 19-16
v. Abingdon 3rd XV	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won 34-10
v. Oratory 2nd XV	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won 31-6
v. Magdalen College 'A' XV	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won 15-11
v. Rendcomb	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won 15-9
v. Woodgreen	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won 65-0
v. Redrice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Cancelled
v. Whitefriars 'A' XV	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won 29-12
v. Lord Williams, Thame	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Cancelled

Oxfordshire Cup

v. Lord Williams, Thame: Lost 0-37.

School Matches

Played 13, Won 12, Drawn 0, Lost 1. Points for 474. Points against 104.

Tries 89, Conv. 50. Total points 492.

Full colours: S. M. C. MacLeod, J. H. M. Pool, M. I. Scott, J. B. Vaughan-Fowler
H. C. Scott, E. M. Pearce. Half colours: M. G. Cartwright, R. M. Carraher, I. C.
Cottrell, M. C. Girling, M. J. Manley, R. J. D. McKenzie, D. Smit.

COLTS RUGBY 1976-77

AFTER LAST season's successes, the 1976-77 season was rather disappointing, resulting in only two wins out of six games. Some matches had to be cancelled due to very hard frost.

The team contained some of the original Colts from last year, though many new faces appeared to replace those who had graduated into the 1st XV. Newcomers contributed a great deal to the side, including Ibrahim, Kirkby II, Radi, and those who had moved up from the Under-Fourteens like Robins, Vlitos, Simpson, Jenkinson, Caines, Barrett, McQueen and A. White. Old hands like Murphy, M. White, Nathan, Clarke, Joyce and Ashby continued to contribute their skill and enthusiasm.

COKETHORPE CRICKET CLUB REPORT 1976

Captain: M. Gleeson; Vice-Captain: J. Pool; Secretary: R. McKenzie

WHEN THE MINISTER OF SPORT is created Minister of Drought, and other witch-doctors, those magicians of savage tribes, are hired throughout the length and breadth of the land in an unavailing attempt to conjure rain from cloudless skies, it is safe to assume that something had gone seriously wrong with that famous institution, the British summer. 1976 was indeed a scorcher. A very dry spring, classified by weather experts as a drought, meant that pitches were hard and fast at the beginning of term. However, the wind was biting and it was not until Southampton had won the F.A. Cup and the sky had dribbled Mancunian tears that the temperature really began to climb; after that there was nothing for it but to don sun hats, lie back—and enjoy it.

At the beginning of the season there were several obvious weaknesses in the XI. Few players wanted to bat higher in the order than Number Seven, and the stability created by Messrs. Urquhart, Tomlinson and Shutt was a thing of the past. Gleeson had a lot to learn as Captain and the attack was quite literally thrown out of its stride due to yet another injury to the battered Hugh Scott. As yet only Pool could be relied upon to take the battle to the enemy, although there were signs that McKenzie and MacLeod possessed latent talent while Mark Scott, Smit and Carraher always sold their wickets dearly.

The opening four matches were little short of disastrous. At Stowe the XI struggled to 92 with McKenzie (21), Pool (18) and M. Scott (17) the main scorers, but three people played on and there was a stupid run out. No wonder George II looks the other way. The Stowe openers scored 48 in 6 overs and although Pool and Pearce checked the flow of runs the damage had been done and Stowe won by six wickets. It could have been worse—there was an earthquake in Italy. St. Edwards beat the XI by ten wickets, only Pool with 15 out of miserable 33 made much of a show. However, this defeat was so comprehensive that there was time for a morale-boosting victory in a 'beer match' in which all the batsmen played shots and gained some confidence. At Dean Close the XI was caught on a heavily watered wicket which played odd tricks as the game developed and from 24-3 slumped to 28 all out. At Bloxham MacLeod and Smit (17) began brightly putting on 32 for the first wicket. Bloxham then introduced two spinners into the attack and the XI collapsed to 55 all out. In the field five chances were dropped and Bloxham won by six wickets. However, it was encouraging to see H. Scott bowling with fire and Pool turning his leg breaks.

In the matches leading up to 'O' and 'A' levels there was a distinct improvement in the performance of the XI. Against Oratory, Pool with 47 not out and McKenzie with

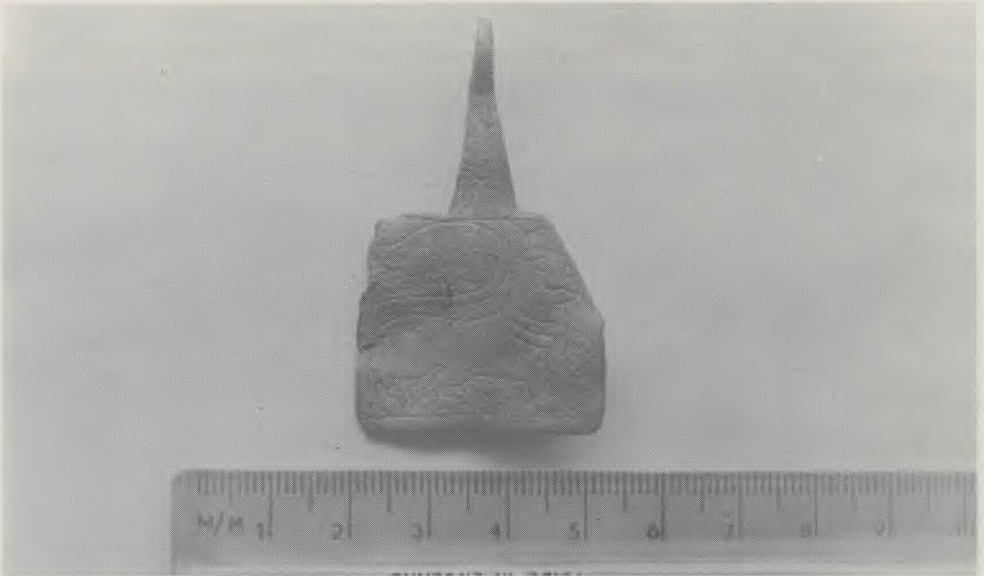


Romano-British imitation of a coin of Decentius (A.D. 350). Probably struck in Britain in the early 5th century B.C. Found by Treasure Hunting Club.





Copper Coin of Constantine I, A.D. 330. Found by Treasure Hunting Club.



14th Century medallion, showing Royal Lion. Found on the banks of the Windrush by G. Jenkinson.



Sailing at Farmoor, Summer 1977.

[photo: P. J. C.]



MacLeod to the rescue, in the School's 4-3 victory over Wood Green.



The Great Fire of '77.

36 helped the XI to a score of 116-4 declared, then Pearce (5-16) and Hugh Scott (3-29) reduced the opposition to 54-8 before time ran out. The diarist Pepys might have described the next outing: 'To Shiplake. Lost the Toss and prepared to field. Much upset by hailstones which beat upon the ground. Returned henceforth and so to bed.' In the match against Magdalen Gleeson was absent doing Biology 'A' level and Pool captained. The XI was upset by an in-swing bowler but poor technique accounted for the downfall of several players although M. Scott was unlucky hooking a ball into the side of his head and hitting his wicket when batting well. Magdalen were reduced to 43-5 before hitting their way to victory. The dazed M. Scott did not field and Bird, who had developed into a thoroughly competent first XI scorer, substituted creditably.

After the examinations the XI struck a truly purple patch with five wins in six matches. Against Abingdon a splendid innings of 77 in an hour and a half by H. Scott and superb fielding by the whole team (three run-outs and three fine catches) helped bring about a 79-run victory. Redrice were shot out for 47 by P. Vaughan-Fowler, ashore for the day, and H. Scott, whose 6-21 included four wickets in four balls. Not even P.M.S.A., backward of cover and chatting to our fielders ('Worse than the boys.') could check this 'lowly slaughter', and the match was won by seven wickets. At Malvern a splendid game ended in the penultimate over, the home side winning by two wickets. H. Scott again distinguished himself by scoring 45 in 55 minutes and bowling throughout the Malvern innings to return figures of 17.4-1-4-39, a fine effort on a blazing afternoon when the temperature on the Centre Court at Wimbledon reached 106°. MacLeod gave great support, twisting his spinners and little swingers from the other end teasingly. The match against P.J.G.'s XI was a triumph for the school on another blistering day. MacLeod and H. Scott prospered with the bat and Pool reaped a fortune. Gleeson (whose captaincy had improved almost out of recognition since the beginning of term) declared on the fall on the ninth wicket, setting a challenging target and the XI fielded so well, especially in 'camouflaged' positions, that a famous victory was achieved by 31 runs. Festival food and drink flowed freely in the library in the evening. Pangbourne found themselves up against 'Zaheer' Pearce as well as the established run-getters and a gay afternoon was had by all. H. Scott (5-18) and MacLeod (5-22) shared the wickets and the XI won by 105 runs. Thame were beaten by eight wickets after MacLeod (5-29) had hustled them out and H. Scott and McKenzie put on 98 runs together in 36 minutes—very enervating cricket.

In conclusion, sincere thanks must yet again go to the Bursar and to Paul for preparing pitches for school teams to play on, to Sister and the Matrons for keeping members of those teams fully fit and well-turned out against all odds, and to the myriad cheerful ladies of the kitchen for all those extra meals at unusual times.

SUMMARY OF MATCHES PLAYED

XI: Won 5, Drawn 2, Lost 6

Thur. 6th May v. Stowe 3rd XI (Away). XI 92 (McKenzie 21), Stowe 93-4.

Sat. 8th May v. St. Edward's 3rd XI (Away). XI 33, St. Edward's 35-0.

Thur. 13th May v. Dean Close 2nd XI (Away). Dean Close 135 (H. Scott 4-32, MacLeod 3-27, Pool 3-49) XI 28.

Sat. 15th May v. Bloxham 2nd XI (Away). XI 55, Bloxham 56-4.

Wed. 19th May v. Oratory Senior Colts (Home). XI 116-4 dec. (Pool 47*, McKenzie 36), Oratory 54-8 (Pearce 5-16, H. Scott 3-29).

Thur. 20th May v. Shiplake (Away). Match abandoned after Shiplake had won the toss.

Wed. 26th May v. Magdalen 2nd XI (Home). XI 70, Magdalen 71-5.

Sat. 12th June v. Abingdon 3rd XI (Home). XI 157-5 dec. (H. Scott 77, McKenzie 24, MacLeod 21), Abingdon 78.

Wed. 23rd June v. Redrice (Home). Redrice 47 (H. Scott 6-21, P. Vaughan-Fowler 3-22), XI 49-3 (MacLeod 23).

Thur. 24th June v. Malvern 'A' XI (Away). XI 113 (H. Scott 45), Malvern 114-8. (H. Scott 4-39, MacLeod 3-58).

Sat. 26th June v. P.J.G.'s XI (Home). XI 150-9 dec. (Pool 60, Gleeson 22, MacLeod 20). P.J.G.'s XI 119 (H. Scott 4-38, Pearce 3-17).

Wed. 30th June v. Pangbourne 2nd XI (Away). XI 157-6 dec. (Pool 54*, MacLeod 42). Pangbourne 52 (H. Scott 5-18 MacLeod 5-22).

Sat. 3rd July v. Lord Williams, Thame (Home). Thame 121 (MacLeod 5-29). XI 125-2 (H. Scott 49,* McKenzie 42*).

Nomads' 'Term' Match. Sun. 23rd May. v. F. Division, West Midlands Police (Birmingham City) (Home). Nomads 166-6 dec. (Green 60,* Lewis 36, Luxmoore 25). 'F' Division 78-8 (Luxmoore 4-13).

XI AVERAGES

BATTING (Qualification 6 innings)

	<i>I.</i>	<i>N.O.</i>	<i>H.S.</i>	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Ave.</i>
Pool	11	3	60	231	28.87
H. Scott	12	3	77	209	23.22
McKenzie	12	1	42*	162	14.73
MacLeod	12	0	42	147	12.25
Gleeson	8	1	22	61	8.71
M. Scott	8	0	17	64	8.00

* Not out

BOWLING (Qualification 6 wickets)

	<i>O</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Av.</i>
MacLeod	52	6	21	190	9.05
H. Scott	107.2	26	31	285	9.19
Pearce	44.5	13	14	141	10.07
Pool	47.4	4	9	175	19.44

COLOURS

XI	XXII
M. Gleeson	M. Scott
J. Pool	M. Pearce
H. Scott	R. Carraher
R. McKenzie	D. Smit
S. MacLeod	

CRICKET CUPS

All-rounders Cup	H. Scott
Fielding Cup	M. Gleeson
Batting Cup	J. Pool
House Cricket Cup	Harcourt

HOUSE MATCHES

1st Match: Swift 139-7 innings closed (Pool 36, Davenport 29*, Barrett 25, P. Vaughan-Fowler 4-27), Harcourt 140-5 (Scott M. 26,* McKenzie 25).

2nd Match: Harcourt 244-5 innings closed (Gleeson 82,* McKenzie 42, P. Vaughan-Fowler 38*, Macleod 3-20), Queen Anne 132 (Smit 43, Palmer 21, Gleeson 5-6).

NOMADS TOUR 1976

THE MIDLAND ODYSSEY began this year with a series of unparalleled disasters. A balanced touring party of twelve was unfortunately reduced to ten in the few hours before we were due to set out and, with Mr. Williams testing his teeth against the bottom of his bat, we were lucky not to be reduced to nine. The tour-party finally consisted of Messrs. Green, Lewis and Williams, with R. Adeniyi-Jones, Bridge, B. Jones, Shutt, Tomlinson, Pearce and A. White, and after lunching at the White Swan, Henley-in-Arden, on the day after the end of term, we arrived at the Norfolk Hotel, Birmingham, in time to watch the end of the Test Match on television. In the evening some of the party crossed the road to the Duck while the Captain toured old haunts to recruit an eleventh man for the next day's game.

On Tuesday we drove to Row Heath Park, Bournville, to play the Police. They informed us that police horse 'Dobbin' had run riot over their home pitch, Tally Ho!, and had rolled on the square. The wicket that we played on was little better, however, and the boundaries were enormous. Nearly all the Nomads who batted scored a few runs, and we were able to declare before putting the Police in the dock. Adeniyi-Jones bowled some really fast 'Jaffas' and several bruises were raised before rain intervened to spare the Police from further punishment. In the evening Shutt continued to play a fine series of shots, this time on the snooker table, while other members of the party, less energetic after an afternoon in which legs and lungs had almost given out, drank beer and chatted in the hospitable atmosphere of the Police headquarters. Later on our hosts directed the younger bloods to Polyanna's.

On Wednesday morning half the party went to Edgbaston to watch the Gillette Cup match before meeting for lunch at the Duck. In the afternoon we found ourselves up against the strongest side that Harborne had put out against the Nomads in five years and, with Adeniyi-Jones able to bowl only one over due to a knee injury, we did well to keep the home side's score down to 214-7 declared. Tomlinson bowled steadily, Shutt fielded energetically and the battered Williams cheered us all up by getting himself stuck on some sharpish spikes while climbing over boundary railings. The good old men in the crowd loved all our antics. When our turn came to bat we started too slowly, in spite of a cameo innings from Shutt, and with just over half our batting time gone had reached only 60-3. Bridge and Green then put on 80 in thirty-three minutes but this was heady wine and when both batsmen were dismissed at 142 a gigantic collapse followed and our last five wickets fell in twenty-five minutes for 17 runs. The day's fun and games continued when Tomlinson was caught and sus-

pended at the wicket by a couple of practical jokers in the Clubhouse before the party broke up to try its luck at the Opposite Lock.

On Thursday the touring party appeared at breakfast in varying degrees of distress and a gentle morning's putting was about all that some could manage—although Pearce was in splendid form. Our journey to Blossomfield was circuitous but we finally arrived, won the toss and batted. Tomlinson was out early, Shutt failed to get into double figures after two 24s and Adeniyi-Jones was back in the hutch at 32-3. Lewis batted soundly for almost an hour and a half before falling to a smart stumping (69-4) but the score had reached 97 when the fifth wicket fell. A respectable score was still a possibility but we collapsed to 102 all out, and although we bowled and fielded tightly, Bridge, wearing his Sarawak hat to unnerve batsmen and the frail Shutt demolishing the tall ebony figure of Adeniyi-Jones while taking a catch, Blossomfield won comfortably enough by eight wickets. The only person to prosper much from the afternoon was White, who won an £8 jackpot on the Club's one-armed bandit.

We left the hotel on Friday morning with less chaos over the payment of bills than usual and set out for Norton Barracks where we were due to play the 14th Signal Regiment. When we arrived we found ourselves without a fixture due to the Regiment's impending move. We retired from our friend Major Brock's office quickly with the distinct impression that his blue touch paper was well alight and that the sergeant who had been detailed to cancel the match two weeks' earlier was in for a considerable rocket—what else could he expect having a C.O. with a name like that? We lunched rather well and played pool at the nearby, aptly named pub 'The Retreat', before going our separate ways. Perhaps it was just as well we had not bothered to recruit an eleventh man for our final fixture.

SUMMARY OF TOUR MATCHES

v. 'F' Division, West Midlands Police: Nomads 130-6 dec. (Lewis 35, Shutt 24, Weller 22, Green 21). 'F' Division 95-6 (Adeniyi-Jones 3-15).

v. Harborne C.C.: Harborne 214-7 dec. (Tomlinson 4-80). Nomads 159 (Bridge 37, Green 37, Tomlinson 28, Shutt 24).

v. Blossomfield C.C.: Nomads 102 (Lewis 26, Green 25). Blossomfield 103-2.

COLTS CRICKET 1976

Played 8, Drawn 2, Lost 6

AS IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR a lack of experience and ability accounted for the absence of any victories. At this level the endeavours and determination of the team were overcome by the ability of the many talented youngsters whom the players met throughout the term. This was apparent in the first two encounters but to their credit the team improved with every outing. They were well beaten by Stowe and Bloxham but almost held Oratory when rain intervened and White and the tail almost held out against Magdalen. A courageous 35 n.o. enabled a strengthened Colts side (in bowling but not batting) to draw against a strong touring side from Shrewsbury. Redrice and Pangbourne proved too strong but victory was almost achieved against Thame after good performances by Ashby and Nathan with the bat and MacLeod with the ball. Thanks also to Baars whose bookwork made the results a little less disappointing than they were.

COLTS RESULTS

- v. Stowe (Away). Stowe 182-3 dec. Colts 19.
- v. Bloxham (Away). Colts 42. Bloxham 43-0.
- v. Oratory (Home). Colts 55. Oratory 56-7.
- v. Shiplake (Away). Match abandoned.
- v. Magdalen (Home). Magdalen 112-6 dec. (Davenport 3-11). Colts 72 (A. White 21*).
- v. Shrewsbury Priory & Wakeman schools (Home). Shrewsbury 143-7 dec. (Smit 3-27, MacLeod 3-44). Colts 82-8 (Carruthers 35*).
- v. Redrice (Home). Redrice 153-6 dec. Colts 66 (M. White 20).
- v. Pangbourne (Away). Pangbourne 144-7 dec. Colts 46.
- v. Lord Williams, Thame (Home). Colts 85 (Ashby 26, Natham 22*). Thame 80-9 (MacLeod 5-48).

JUNIOR COLTS RESULTS

- v. Magdalen (Away). Magdalen 140-3 dec. Junior Colts 67 (A. White 30).
- v. Josca's (Home). Junior Colts 'B' 64. Josca's 65-5 (Ali 4-16).
- v. Cothill House (Away). Junior Colts 55. Cothill 58-6 (Holland 3-17).
- v. Lord Williams, Thame (Away). Thame 113-5 dec. Junior Colts 117-9 (Barrett 57, A. White 24).

CROSS-COUNTRY REPORT 1977

FOR THREE WEEKS at the start of the Spring Term the Divisions trotted around the House and grounds preparing for the annual Cross-Country race. When the day finally dawned, Swift with 1681 points lived up to their name for the third year running, beating Queen Anne, 1935 points and Harcourt 2285 points quite comfortably. The Individual winner was Pearce whose time of 27 minutes 32 seconds was quite a creditable effort, for the conditions were frightful and a closer watch than usual was kept at the ford in case any of the 'minnows' were swept away.

The Road-Relay was also won by Swift, who established a lead on the second lap which not even Pearce could overhaul, although his inward leg of 15 minutes 52 seconds was a record for the competition. All the runners should be congratulated on their determined efforts.

<i>Lap</i>	<i>Swift</i>	<i>Queen Anne</i>	<i>Harcourt</i>
One	36 min. 50 sec.	36 min. 22 sec.	37 min. 25 sec.
Two	35 min. 25 sec.	37 min. 09 sec.	37 min. 20 sec.
Three	35 min. 33 sec.	35 min. 31 sec.	34 min. 45 sec.
Totals	107 min. 48 sec.	109 min. 02 sec.	109 min. 30 sec.

Once again we entered teams in the North Oxfordshire Championships and four runners, Pearce, S. Cook, Marks and H. Scott were invited to run for North Oxfordshire at the County Championships at Cutteslowe Park, Oxford. Unfortunately none of our runners was able to qualify for the full County team—better luck next year.

FOOTBALL REPORT 1976/7

1977 HAS SEEN THE EMERGENCE of soccer as a school sport in its own right. Of the seven matches played by the XI, we won all seven, scoring 48 goals and conceding only eleven: it was a marvellous season.

Before the first match, however, a combination of cross-countrys and early-season training had disposed of the services of the twin central defenders Scott II and McKenzie. Against Regent's Park College on the 12th February MacLeod took over the captaincy from McKenzie and the centre-back berth, while Shurbaji deputized for the prone Scott. By half time the eleven were 4-1 up and on a pitch which increasingly resembled the 1916 Somme trenches, the XI overcame the conditions as well as the opposition, wading out 11-2 winners. Both Manley and Pearce scored hat-tricks, and Wong had an excellent game in mid field.

Against Christ Church on a pitch rolled and cut the XI found soccer easier, winning 5-2. Pool opened the scoring in the twelfth minute with a long-range shot that stunned the home defence, and from then on it was very much a downhill canter. At Woodgreen, on a sloping pitch, the XI found themselves 3-1 down and one of the Woodgreen forwards eight minutes from the end was heard to utter 'Cor, this is a doddle'. However, he was to be proved wrong, for eight minutes later the XI were 4-3 up. Pool equalized and when Vaughan-Fowler hit the winner dead on time the XI were cock-a-hoop. Against Henry Box Scott made his long-awaited comeback, allowing MacLeod to play in his more usual mid-field role from where he could control the game. The Henry Box tackling was fierce and bruising, but the better team won 6-2, with Pearce scoring another hat-trick and MacLeod scoring two more.

Against University College, Buckland, McKenzie made his comeback to team and captaincy and for the first time the XI fielded a full side for three-quarters of the match. Wong sustained a severe knee injury and was forced to go off in the second half. Unfortunately the injury was worse than expected and he underwent an operation and so played no more football during the season. The XI won 5-2. MacLeod and Vaughan-Fowler scored two goals each.

The XI's match v. Radley was cancelled but two days later we took on our toughest opposition—Burford, 'The Auld Enemy'. Burford never looked like scoring and with spirited tackling and running the XI won 2-0 through goals by Scott and Marks.

The best victory of the season came against West Oxfordshire Tech, who could not contend with technical (!) football as the XI ran up a 15-0 winning scoreline. MacLeod, Manley and Pearce all scored hat-tricks, so ensuring that our winning record was kept up. Next year the team will have the dynamic MacLeod, the fiery Wong, Crisp the goalkeeper, and assorted 'lads' from Colts and junior teams. We wish MacLeod luck with his Q.P.R. trial in August.

Appearances—7: Crisp, Joyce, Smit, MacLeod, Pool, Pearce, Marks. 6: Manley, Vaughan-Fowler. 5: Wong, Willis. 4: Scott II. 3: McKenzie (Capt.). 2: Cartwright, Shurbaji. Coach: Mr. Williams.

Goals: Pearce 11; Marks, Manley, MacLeod 8; Vaughan-Fowler 5; Pool 4; Scott II, Cartwright 1; own goals 2.—48.

COLTS FOOTBALL REPORT

UNLIKE THE SENIOR FOOTBALL, the Colts' season was not very active and we lost the two matches we played. The first, played on 10th March, was against Henry Box. Here we scored three goals in the first half, but in the second our attack was scattered and the opposing team scored four goals, making the final score 3-4. Our captain was M. Shurbaji and the scorers were Grundy II (2 goals) and P. Murphy (1). The second match was on the 24th March against Woodgreen. The final score was a shocking 1-7 to them. Our captain was Girling and the scorer was White I. Although we had a bad season we are confident that we can perform better next year.

UNDER-14 FOOTBALL TEAM

IN A SHORT SEASON of mixed fortunes our star, M. Grundy, scored all the goals. A. Ali made up for lack of experience with some courageous and determined saves. He was supported by a formidable defence including B. Shahnazi, S. Bowles and D. Foreman.

The first match against Josca's saw the Under-14s win by a 5-2 margin. Then we went on to play Millbrook, but with too much confidence: we lost by 6 goals to 1. M. Grundy was helped by Ibrahim, Radi and M. Hills.

COKETHORPE PARK RIFLE CLUB

THE SCHOOL has a 20-yard range which is half indoors and half outdoors. The target is outside, but the shooters shoot, usually in a prone position, from under cover. Cold and rain tend to hamper our activities, so perhaps one day we shall have a new indoor range.

About half the school has shot at least once during the year. The keenest shooters are in the 3rd and 4th forms. Some average scores (out of 100) are as follows:

C. Whaley 96, R. Davis 94, M. Pearce 94, R. Gee 93, M. Fitzgerald 93, N. Holland 92, N. Berg 92, P. Smith 91, T. Drowley 89, J. Tobin 88, R. Newton 88, C. Losuvalna 87, R. Hamideddine 86, M. Kunzer 84.

Though there are some good averages no one during the year collected the £1 prize for the first boy to shoot a 100!

We entered an Under 15 team in the N.S.R.A. Junior Winter Competition and came twenty-first out of 29 schools. The team, consisting of M. Fitzgerald, R. Gee, C. Losuvalna and N. Holland, scored 711 out of 800.

A development during this year has been the growth of an air rifle section in the club and about a dozen boys now have their own air rifles at school and shoot either on the range or in the kitchen garden. Needless to say there is great enthusiasm and they usually manage to keep their guns pointed either at conventional targets or tin cans, the latter being great fun.

Another small group of boys has enjoyed some clay-pigeon shooting from time to time.

BRIDGE

THE THURSDAY afternoon Bridge sessions continued to thrive throughout the Autumn and Spring terms. Enthusiasm is such that a number play at the weekends also. Each member shows considerable interest in improving the way in which he plays each hand and the bidding is much more decisive and accurate than it used to be last year.

The House Bridge Competition took place late in the Autumn term with each House entering Junior and Senior teams. After a long struggle during which hand after hand was played to obtain two rubbers for the Seniors and one for the Juniors, Harcourt won by a margin of 550 points over Queen Anne.

THE POND

DURING THE YEAR there have been exciting developments as far as the school pond has been concerned, because a group of new third-formers (J. Smith, R. Adams, R. and M. Hills) has taken it under their wing as it were. Firstly they improved the fox-proofing and then attempts were made to plant more ground cover. And then, on possibly the worst day of the winter, with snow blizzards raging across the country, an intrepid master with five, or perhaps six, boys packed into his Mini, made the hazardous journey along the A40 to Cheltenham (the road was closed to heavy traffic) where a pair of Carolina ducks and a pair of golden pheasants were eagerly purchased. Since then another pair of Carolinas has been added to the collection. Unfortunately the golden pheasants escaped during the Easter holidays and are at large in the area at the moment. Also one of the Carolinas, after laying about 20 eggs, developed a virus and died.

During the spring several interesting nest boxes were constructed and cleverly concealed in the undergrowth. Nature soon took its course and in no time at all lots of eggs were being laid. Broody hens were obtained from a boy's benevolent mother and at the time of writing there are four ducklings.

An ambition of the boys is to buy a pair of mandarin ducks but pockets at the present won't stretch that far.

The pond is jealously guarded and a big lock on the gate ensures that troublesome boys and masters are kept on the outside of the wire fence where they can do no harm.

N.B. The thriving and rapidly multiplying stock of goldfish and golden orfes in the pond seems unperturbed by the presence of new mysterious objects moving about above them.

ART

THE PAST YEAR'S paintings and drawings were varied and the general standard higher than it has been for some time. Unfortunately there is not enough time in which to prepare adequately for the 'O' level exam. As things are, only the very talented or those pupils who are prepared to work in their spare time can gain worthwhile grades.

For the first time the 'A' level History of Art course is being studied and more advanced practical work such as portraiture and the use of oil paints which requires some persistence and concentration.

A.B.

WOODWORK

INTEREST AND NUMBERS have both been maintained. The present prohibitive price of wood persuaded some woodworkers to make smaller items, including a nesting box and a bird table. Trays have also been popular. One tray was made and presented to Sheila Butler as a wedding present.

Amongst those who were not so careful with their money (or who were cunning enough to use wood which was in store and charged for at the old price) some made coffee tables and bedside cupboards.

It appeared to surprise some that Kiwi or Cherry Blossom could be used to polish wood. It is hoped that they would not be equally surprised to find that they also polish shoes!

CAMERA CLUB

THIS YEAR has seen some pleasing departures from the normal type of snapshot of friends, holiday scenes and family pets. In the Autumn Term there were a number of successful experiments in still-life photography. Bold effects were achieved with the use of varying shapes and interesting textures, not to mention the careful use of lighting to enhance highlights and deepen shadows. There have also been some thoughtful attempts at portraits and some interesting shots of interiors have been developed and printed.

Coin collections have been photographed and some experiments involving pictures of magnetic fields have been carried out in the darkroom which has now been 'sealed' against light on the outside and painted black inside.

It seems that the Camera Club has begun to move away from the snapshot, often indifferently posed and poorly lit, towards the more thoughtfully composed photograph.

TREASURE HUNTING

THIS HAS PROVED to be a very successful year. The number of people interested in the activity is considerable and grows all the time. We must thank Mr. Walker of Asthall who let us hunt on his land which used to be a Romano-British town. Many finds have come from Asthall: the best were Roman coins of the emperors Crispus, Victorinus and Constantine the Great (two large coins). In all about 22 coins were found on various sites along with numerous nails, etc, and a brooch which P. King discovered without a metal detector. About 10 old pennies have been found around the school grounds mainly by M. Caines who borrowed a detector.

In November the club was asked by the police to help recover a lady's lost gold ring. After about twenty minutes of detecting it appeared half-buried under a tuft of grass.

The club had three detectors this year. Two C-Scope 1B-100s owned by Mr. H. P. G. Williams and McHugh and a Heathkit detector owned by G. Jenkinson. People did, however, find coins, and in one case a brooch, without detectors. These were notably P. King who has found three coins to date and A. Carruthers who found two coins in less than ten minutes.

J. Smith made himself a detector, but has hardly had time to use it so far.

The outstanding find of this year was a medieval pendant discovered by G. Jenkinson. It was unearthed at a ford in the River Windrush near the school. A description is to be published in *Oxoniensa*, the archaeological journal for Oxfordshire.

We are sorry to lose Mr. H. P. G. Williams who is leaving. He started the club and has always been organising outings for us. We wish him well at his new school.

THE COKETHORPE SOCIETY

THIS YEAR'S Dinner and A.G.M. was held at the School and turned out to be a great success with some sixteen members, the Headmaster and some members of staff sitting down to dinner. We are very grateful to Mr. Trevis for allowing us to use the school facilities and I am sure in future greater support will be given by old boys.

Arising from the meeting I have to report that two new members were elected to the Committee, David Raynes to represent 1967-69 and Gerard Manley to represent 1974-77.

Next year will be the school's 'twenty-first' and we hope to join in with any functions arranged to mark this occasion.

The Annual Rugger Match was strongly fought with a result of 19-16 against the Old Boys. Unfortunately the disco and ploughman's supper held afterwards was poorly supported.

A very successful collection was made for Mr. Allen's retirement presentation of silver candlesticks, and over one hundred old boys turned up at the Cheese & Wine party to wish him and Mrs. Allen well.

I am pleased to report the following news received from members:

Simon Thomson is with a major aircraft manufacturer and writes from the Isle of Wight. He is doing a lot of flying and has visited some 50 countries during the last 12 months. Still single!

Christopher Elworthy is still in the printing industry and has two children.

John Locke is a Chartered Surveyor and partner in Hall Pain & Foster, Estate Agents/Surveyors. He runs the Southampton office dealing in commercial premises. He still does a lot of yachting having been a member of the British 505 team for some years. He is now venturing into keelboats and next year's half-ton cup is the present goal.

R. Denton is a Tree Surgeon in Colchester.

Trevor Key has for the past six months been sailing an ocean racing yacht from the U.K. to Vancouver as part of a five-man crew. He arrived in Vancouver on 16th March.

Jeremy Robinow is at college and hoping to take up chartered accountancy in the near future.

Mark O'Reilly passed out of Sandhurst.

Peter Scully spent the winter working in Sauzi d'Oulx, a well-known skiing resort in northern Italy and was visited by several old boys.

Alan Greenhalgh has started his own car business.

Mark Sargeantson is doing his final exams at the Polytechnic of Central London with a view to becoming a Chartered Surveyor.

Gerald Manley is at the Wild Life Park, Burford.

Gerald Gold now lives in Sweden.

Nigel Alford is the youngest member of a 27-man team of skilled dairy-farm technicians who are running the largest private dairy farm in Saudi Arabia. He will spend 12 months working on the 700-cow dairy farm at Buraydah, 400 km north of Riyadh, deep in the desert.

Nick Hilder is working for Phillips, auctioneers, and specialising in Chinese porcelain.

John Duggan married in July 1976.

Charles Hollis visited the school recently during his honeymoon.

Nicholas Dobinson—with a firm of assessors.

Simon Morley-John lives in New Zealand and is a pig-farmer.

Michael and *Eamonn Whelan* now live in Galway, Ireland.

Hugh Foreman runs the Eastbourne Mutual Building Society at Haslemere and promises a cup of coffee to any old boy who wishes to call on him.

J. Hitchcock became a fully fledged solicitor in May this year. He is leaving Devon and going to the Far East for a long holiday until August when he will commence practising to deal mainly with matrimonial law. Old boys please note if service required!

David Raynes is working in the security field.

Richard Kaye still with an estate agent.

A. Wilson works for Bejam Ltd. Frozen Foods as assistant manager.

R. Massey is well on the way to completing his course in hotel management.

P. Spencer is with Hambros Insurance.

J. Tomlinson is working at Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

John Key expected home from Dubai May/June this year having been on the Port Rashid dry dock contract with Costains.

R. A. Marrett is an internal auditor at Harrods.

I have recently heard from *Michael de Weymarn* and we congratulate him and *Selbie* on the birth of their daughter.

Please do continue to send any news about yourselves or any old boy and also any change of address so that we can keep records up to date. I am still at Stoke Mandeville but as I move around quite a lot it is safer to write to my home address or c/o the School. We are holding a Committee Meeting in the near future to discuss forthcoming events and I hope to be able to circulate details to all old boys.

Mr. Thomas Stead sends best wishes to the Society, especially vintage 1959-67.

CHRISTOPHER J. WEBB

With 11th in the school...
John Duggan married in July 1958.

Charles Wallis visited the school recently during his honeymoon.
Richard Dobson - with a firm of accountants.
Simon Martin-John lives in New Zealand and his wife is in London.

Michael and Barbara Wallis now live in Oxford, Ireland.
The school is working in the security field.
David Brown is working in the security field.

A. Wilson works for the firm of accountants.
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