

THE PEACOCK



The Magazine of
Cokethorpe School

1984

CONTENTS

Prologue by The Headmaster	3
Curriculum Developments	5
Anglican Chapel	6
Roman Catholic Chapel	7
Valete	8
Salvete	10
House Reports	11
Cups & Prizes	15
Rugby Football	18
Cross Country	22
Soccer	26
Skiing Trip	27
Visit to Thames Television	29
General Studies	31
Music	36
Creative Hobbies Exhibition	39
The School Play	45
Debating	49
Declamations	52
Rowing	54
Cricket	59
A.C.F.	64
Outward Bound	66
Expeditions	68
Shooting	74
Woodturning	74
Ceramics	76
Art	77
Photography	78
Computer Club	79
Nomads Tour	81
Cokethorpe Society	83
Photo Quiz	84

EDITORS

P. J. C.

P. J. R. R.



Cokethorpe: North Side.

M. Glanville.

1983 - 1984

The Headmaster writes:

I have been asked if I would contribute something by way of introduction to this issue of *The Peacock*. Since it is obviously the task of the magazine to record the events of the last year in detail, all I can do here is to pick out some of the more memorable ones.

It has been an excellent year sportswise. The Rugger XV had a highly successful season and the Soccer XI won six out of eight matches. The Cricket XI, with eight wins in School matches, had the best season that Mr. Green can remember; several records were broken, and I would remark particularly on the superb leadership of Bamikole Akande, and the great bowling of Joseph Wankling who took no less than forty-five wickets during the season. During the last two terms a large number of Fours have represented the School at Regattas and the Senior Fours, made up mostly of 5th Formers, between them won five sporting events. Perhaps the best day was at Gloucester when the Senior Four won the Plate for the Ball Cup, and the Junior Four won the Ball Cup outright. We are most grateful for all that Mr. Jowitt has done for the rowing, and he will be much missed. It is good to know that Mr. Daniels is being joined by Mr. Thompson, who is another experienced and enthusiastic rowing coach.

All other sports have had a good year, too. Mr. Stark's arrival has meant a resurgence in the Athletics and PE, and he has also helped Mr. Goddard with the Judo Class. The annual Cross Country run was won by a 15-year old, Alistair Picton-Warlow, and I congratulate him and the others who later took part in County Trials. We were blessed with a glorious morning on the last day of Summer Term for the sports, and it was a tremendous triumph for all coaches concerned to see no fewer than six records broken. Special congratulations go to Oladapo Akande for breaking the records in the Junior 100m and 200m — the former had stood for fourteen years.

The Army Cadet Force has had a very active year. Mr. Thomson, who has run the ACF single-handed for three years, would be the first to acknowledge how much the Unit has gained since Mr. Stark arrived in January. In addition to the normal weekly parades there have been visits to Beating the Retreat in London and a day at the Aldershot Tattoo; also to Cadet Force Sunday in Oxford, at which our cadets won favourable comment for their smartness.

As far as Drama is concerned it has been a busy and successful year with three highly entertaining House Plays in December, and the junior School Play *An Italian Straw Hat* in April.

Mr. Cranham is to be congratulated on his varied and interesting General Studies programme and in particular his 'scoop' in persuading the ex-British Ambassador to Libya, Mr. Oliver Miles, to visit us within a

week of his return to this country. We enjoyed a talk by our most famous Old Boy, Martin Edwards, Chairman of Manchester United Football Club. During the last week of the Summer Term we were treated to a wonderful evening's improvisation by the internationally-celebrated Louis van Dijk. I have never heard such enthusiastic and spontaneous applause from a Cokethorpe audience as on that occasion.

The building programme has continued with the addition of two new terrapin laboratories — one for Physics and the other for Maths/Computers. After the end of the Summer Term much time was spent making plans for the new floor coverings in the Common Rooms, and these were laid down during the holidays.

This term sees the introduction of a new system of Academic Options in the 4th Form. I am sure that these will be of much benefit to the boys concerned and in future years it will continue to operate in the 4th and 5th Forms. I have appointed Mr. Carter as Director of Studies. He is visiting several schools of our size and starting to pick up new ideas. We feel that it is most important that we move with the times and are not afraid to make changes and experiments.

One worthwhile innovation this last year was a typewriting course of twelve evening lessons attended by one master and six boys: five of these gained a Diploma of Proficiency. It is hoped to repeat the course this year if there are enough takers.

I hope it will be seen from the above that Cokethorpe has not sat still during the last twelve months. It is my aim to improve the quality of every aspect of school life. We do hope to provide a variety of constructive activities to involve boys during the evenings and at weekends. It is most disappointing still to hear some boys moaning about the 'lack of things to do here'. I cannot help feeling that these boys would be bored in any environment.

November 1984

D. F. G.



Snowdrops: A. J. Donald

THE CURRICULUM: THE TIMES OF CHANGE

The characteristic of a living organism is that it is for ever changing. Cells are growing, dividing or dying all the time. Life stops when there is no further change.

A school is like a living organism. I have just walked around the buildings during the holiday break and there is no life. School lives because of the people who make up the community which the buildings serve. People change. The society in which we live is changing at a phenomenal rate and the year 2000 will bring in an era which even the science-fiction writers of 1900 could not aspire to.

The school curriculum has often been seen as sacrosanct; exempt from the times of change. It must not be, however, if the life and vitality of the school as a learning centre for the modern generation is to be maintained.

It seems to me that few would mourn the passing of Euclidean Geometry, Greek or even Latin from the modern curriculum. Such disciplines have been replaced by Logic, Political Studies and Computer Programming Subjects more relevant to today. At Cokethorpe we are keen to meet the needs of our students especially as they must move from school into a fast changing and increasingly technical society. Of course, change for the sake of change is not necessarily good and we are aware of the need for realistic development of the curriculum.

THE 1984-85 YEAR

Developments for the academic year 1984-85 have included the introduction into the timetable as examination subjects of Technical Drawing, Art and Pottery. Continuing for its second year is Classical Studies and 1985 will see Cokethorpe involved in its first 16+ examination as the Classical Studies syllabus has been constructed with the new examination in mind.

Pupils in the fourth form have been able to choose some of their subjects for the first time. The choice has been a wide one from English, Mathematics, Physical Education, Religious Knowledge (these 4 being compulsory), Geography, History, British Constitution, Classical Studies, French, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, General Science, Art, Pottery and Technical Drawing.

Perhaps the biggest change for this year is at the post-'O' level/CSE level. Formerly pupils who had not passed subjects or gained high enough grades spent one and sometimes three terms repeating work and re-taking the examinations. Experience has shown this to be an unsatisfactory way of continuing the education process at that age. This year we are offering a new course, not of repeats, but of new challenges leading to qualifications at the end of the academic year. Some subjects are being offered for the Certificate of Extended Education and others for GCE Ordinary Level. The course also includes an element of Work Experience on one day per week,

an exciting innovation for us.

More help for pupils with learning difficulties is available this year. We are now able to identify those for whom some extra specialist teaching will mean more rapid academic progress. A few boys have had the opportunity during the 1983-84 year with marked success. A department is being set up and boys will be seen in very small groups and individually. Specific help with reading and English and Mathematical skills will be given.

FUTURE YEARS

Change is inevitable but how quickly and in what areas is difficult to assess. We are looking forward to the introduction of the single examination 16+ replacing the separate CSE and 'O' level systems. We believe the new examination format will benefit our pupils and remove the pressure of the large number of examinations usually taken. The unified syllabuses will mean that we can teach more effectively the mixed ability groups a small school such as ours has.

Curriculum development not only looks for new ideas and methods but must analyse the status quo and ask some apparently awkward questions. Is the present balance of subjects providing a good general education? Does the curriculum prepare our pupils for 'life-after-school'? Is the History relevant? Is the Science up-to-date? What has happened to English Grammar? Can our pupils manage Mental Arithmetic? I would be very interested to hear readers' comments on these and any other concerns about the curriculum.

In the not too distant future Computer Studies and/or Programming must appear on the timetable at some stage for every pupil. Every future school leaver should be conversant with the computer keyboard and have at least some understanding of the computer's capabilities and influence on society. This development will have to wait for the appropriate increase in 'hardware' resources. Much experience is of course already being gained by pupils in their spare time and at the Computer Club. Opportunity is now available to gain specific keyboard skills by taking the typing course which ran very successfully last year and is offered again this year.

The environment in which we work at Cokethorpe encourages thoughts of countryside, wildlife, cultivation and animal husbandry. A possible extension to our curriculum would be in the area of Rural Studies/Horticulture/Farming skills.

In any change that is made the overriding factor has to be the good of the pupil. Some changes bring headaches for the teaching staff, others are grudgingly accepted by those being taught. They can be likened to 'growing pains', the end result being maturity. I hope that the changes in the Cokethorpe curriculum will lead to an 'educational maturity'.

M. C.

SCHOOL RECORD

Head of School
R. J. Porter

Deputy Head of School
T. M. Anderson

School Prefects
B. B. Akande
J. W. Abbott
S. I. Bayarri
B. G. Humphrey
A. Medina
C. N. Walker

Heads of Houses
Swift B. B. Akande
Harcourt D. D. Patel
Queen Anne A. Medina

School Officers
Captain of Boats D. J. Fenton
Vice-Captains M. G. Samkin &
T. S. Goslin
Captain of Cricket B. B. Akande
Vice-Captain J. W. Abbott
Captain of Rugby R. J. Porter
Vice-Captain J. B. Wankling
Captain of Soccer R. J. Porter
Vice-Captain B. B. Akande

House Prefects
Swift S. J. Boggon
D. J. J. Fenton
R. M. Badawi
D. E. J. Farley
Harcourt J. S. McAteer
E. Bassey
Queen Anne S. I. Bayarri
N. E. H. Smith
G. B. Dunn
B. G. H. Fletcher
B. W. Marchant

THE ANGLICAN CHAPEL

We continue to be very grateful to the Rev. David Lane who, in fair weather and foul, comes here nearly every Sunday for our Sung Communion Service. Because of his many commitments in his various parishes the time of the Service has to vary from week to week — sometimes Mr. Lane has to rush off during the last hymn to reach his next Service fifteen miles away thirty minutes later, and his devotion to us is much appreciated.

On two Sunday evenings we have been happy to welcome the new vicar of Ducklington, the Rev. Christopher Drummond, who has nobly stepped in to celebrate Communion when Mr. Lane has been unable to come. On the second occasion Mr. Drummond, instead of his sermon, showed us a most interesting film strip of the Meeting of the World Council of Churches in Canada.

The annual Confirmation was held on Sunday afternoon, May 20th, and was conducted by the Lord Bishop of Oxford, the Rt. Revd. Patrick Rodger. Nine boys were confirmed and the bulk of the preparation was given by Canon Hodgson who also conducted a Retreat for the candidates at Springfield S. Mary, Oxford. We are very grateful to Canon Hodgson for all the trouble he has taken and we look forward to even closer association with him in the future.

We are grateful too to the devoted band of ladies, Mrs. Goldsmith, Mrs. Webb and Mrs. Russell, who do the Church flowers so beautifully each week. The old stacking chairs in the Church have now been replaced by much more graceful wooden chairs with green leather seats — this has certainly made the Church look more attractive altogether.

Finally I would like to thank Oladapo Akande, Michael Spicer and their loyal band of helpers for their hard work Sunday by Sunday in getting the Church ready for our Services — and clearing up so efficiently afterwards!

D. F. G.



Right, and far right: *The altar and font in the Anglican Chapel.*



Above left and right: *The reading desk and pulpit carving, made in 1842 by Mr. Farley, then Rector of Duckington, from wood removed from Magdalen College Tower.*



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL

Once again we are most grateful to Fr. P. J. Taylor, Parish Priest at Our Lady and St. Hugh, Witney for his regular visits on Mondays to give instruction to Catholics. On many times it has been necessary to go to Mass in Witney as no priest has been available for our own chapel, Fr. Taylor has always made us more than welcome.

It has been a great sadness that there have been so few masses in our chapel and it is to be hoped that this problem will be solved. Those few masses it has been possible to arrange have been memorable, none more so than the last in the School Year on 1st April (Lent IV). The new rose vestments were matched by a pink flower arrangement by Mrs. Goldsmith and the Headmaster played the organ with considerable panache.

P. J.

VALETE

MR. AND MRS. R. E. JENNER

Mr. R. E. Jenner retired as Bursar at the end of the Michaelmas Term, 1983. Although we must respect his wish that his retirement be marked by no celebration or presentation — or even the customary 'obituary' in the school magazine — it is surely only right to put on record here the fact of his six years as Bursar. Tim Jenner's business acumen helped the school to bring to fruition a number of schemes — particularly those connected with the Appeal — in recent years. The Governors clearly thought very highly of him, and after their meeting at the school in June they made him a handsome presentation in recognition of his services to Cokethorpe.

Nor should we forget Mrs. Jenner's efforts in the interests of the school. She worked part-time in the Bursar's office with her husband for six years, and then briefly for his successor, before leaving at the end of the Summer Term. We have good reason to be grateful for her painstaking and thorough management of the accounts.

We wish Tim and Joan a long and happy retirement. Their friends in Common Room are delighted that they are continuing to live close to the school and look forward to seeing them frequently.

MR. P. J. R. JOWITT

After two action-packed years, Peter Jowitt — otherwise always simply known as 'P. J.' — left us at the end of the Summer Term.

Brought up in Southwell, near Nottingham, he was educated at Bryanston where he excelled in modern languages. Although he often said that German was (and is) his first preference, he became fluent in at least three languages — and probably passably fluent in another three. After Bryanston he soon moved to the City, and at a very early age held a senior position at Lloyds, from where he worked all over the world, eventually to take a hide-away villa in Portugal.

It was only after this distinguished career in the City that he moved over the fence into academic life. Having graduated from Nottingham University, he taught French and German for three years at Cheltenham College, where he was also able to devote much time to his other passion, rowing.

He arrived as resident Second Master at Cokethorpe in 1982. Although, as he occasionally reminded some of us, he considered himself first and foremost a businessman, he nevertheless leaves a lasting impression both as a teacher and rowing coach. His enthusiasm, expertise, and total dedication to rowing, together with marvellous new equipment, turned the Boat Club into a keen and willing crew. Through his discipline and dry sense of humour, many of the boys surpassed themselves — catching the 'wet-bob bug' that none will forget, and some will never recover from!

While perhaps less of an expert on the rugby front, P. J.'s moral support and the video films which he made of our home matches were a great help to the rugby coaches (even if the sound-track was sometimes a little *too* clear on the harder tackles!)

Cokethorpe will certainly miss such a positive and generous man. We wish him all the best in his future academic and business careers. Many of us will surely see him again on the rowing circuits — and, of course, at Henley.

W. H. C. D.

MR. J. I. H. JOHNSTON

Mr. J. I. H. Johnston left at the end of August, having been Bursar for two terms. Since he only came to us in January, and was therefore not mentioned in the magazine last year, our welcome to him here also coincides with our farewell! Virtually the whole of Justin's career was spent with Guinness, especially in Liberia where he was Managing Director of Guinness (West Africa) Ltd. He was an out-going personality who made many friends in Common Room during his all too short time here and we wish him, and his wife Christine, all the best for the future.

BOYS

T. M. ANDERSON (1979, Swift): Upper 6th; Deputy Head of School, 1983-84; 2nd XV, one year; U.15 rowing and U.15 XV, one year; L/Cpl. in ACF, one star; 3B Form Prize, 5th Form Art and Biology Prizes, 6th Form History Prize; wrote, directed and acted in House Play, 1983; Bar Committee.

R. M. BADAWI (1980, Swift): Lower 6th; House Prefect; U.14 XV, 1st XV and 1st XI soccer, one year each; House Colours for rugby, soccer, running, six-aside and chess; School Tennis Team; 5th Form British Constitution and Chemistry Prizes.

E. BASSEY (1982, Harcourt): 5B; House Prefect; 1st XV and 1st XI soccer, one year each; House Colours for soccer; First Aid Certificate; 5th Form English and Art Prizes.

S. I. BAYARRI (1982, Queen Anne): Upper 6th; School Prefect; Open Art Prize; Captain of the winning Top of the Form team, 1983.

O. M. BRUNDIN (1981, Harcourt): Upper 6th; 2 i/c Library; Pottery Prize, 5th Form; 4th and 6th Form Declamations Prizes; Senior Cullen Debating Prize; Top of the Form team; edited two issues of magazine, 'Comrade'.

N. J. F. DAY (1983, Swift): 3B; U.14 XV; J.14 rowing; School Play.

A. C. DENNIS-JONES (1981, Harcourt): 5A; 1st IV, one year; Rowing Colours; House Colours for cross country; Woodturning Prize; First Aid Certificate.

A. J. DONALD (1980, Swift): Remove; House Colours for road relay, cross country, athletics standards; Oxfordshire Running Trials, two years.

G. B. DUNN (1980, Queen Anne): Lower 6th; House Prefect; U.14 rowing; 2nd XI soccer; House Colours for soccer; Orange Belt for judo; House Play, one year.

J. L. ERLSTEDT (1982, Swift): 4A; U.15 XV; House Colours for rugby and inter-House sevens; 1st XI cricket; School Colours for cricket; shared Fielding Cup; 4th Form Declamations Prize; School Play, 1984.

N. J. FISHER (1981, Harcourt): 5A; 1st XV, one year; 1st XI cricket, two years; School Colours for rugby and cricket; 3B Form Prize; Top of the Form team; stage manager in House Play, 1983.

B. G. H. FLETCHER (1981, Queen Anne): 5A; House Prefect; 1st XV, one year; House Colours for road relay and cross country.

R. T. FREEMAN (1981, Queen Anne): 1st XV, one year; School Half-Colours for rugby.

M. GARSIDE (1979, Queen Anne): Upper 6th; Curator of Crafts; Pottery Prize.

J. N. P. GLYNN (1979, Swift): Remove; U.14 rowing, one year; 2nd XI soccer, one year; House Colours for soccer; Orange Belt, judo; 5th Form Declamations Prize; Inter-House debating team; two House Plays; prompter in School Play, 1982.

A. GOBIR (1982, Harcourt): 5B; House Colours for cross country; First Aid Certificate.

G. C. HARRIS (1980, Swift): Remove; 1st XV and 1st XI soccer; School Half-Colours for rugby; House Colours for rugby, soccer and running; Yellow Belt, judo; inter-House debating team; merit and honours twice in Effective Speaking; three House Plays.

B. J. JOSEPH (1982, Harcourt): 5B; 1st XV, one year; School Half-Colours for rugby; Rowing Colours; Green Belt, judo; ACF, one star.

J. F. JOSEPH (1982, Harcourt): 5B; U.15 rugby; 2nd IV, two years; Rowing Colours; Green Belt, judo; First Aid Certificate.

A. KEENE (1981, Harcourt): 5B; House Colours for road relay and rowing; cox for the J.16 IV.

R. E. LILLEY (1980, Harcourt): Upper 6th; 1st XV, one year; Full School Colours for rugby; road relay team; Chairman of Debating Society, 1983; i/c Library; Honours and Merits on Effective Speaking grades 4-11.

K. LIMTANAKOOL (1981, Swift): 5B; U.15 XV; Guitar Prize.

B. W. MARCHANT (1981, Queen Anne): 5A; House Prefect; 1st XV; 3rd IV; U.14 XI, cricket; School Half-Colours for rugby; Honours in Effective Speaking; House Play, 1983.

J. S. McATEER (1981, Harcourt): 5A; House Prefect; 1st XV, two years; 1st IV, three years; School Colours for rugby and rowing; House Colours for road relay, cross country and seven-aside; 3rd and 4th Form Prizes.

A. MEDINA (1980, Queen Anne): Upper 6th; School Prefect; Head of House; 1st XI, soccer; House Colours for soccer; Tennis Team; 5th Form Mathematics and Physics Prizes; 4th Form Prize; entrance to Queen Mary College, University of London, to read Engineering.

R. C. MILWARD (1980, Harcourt): Lower 6th; House Prefect; Captain of U.15 cricket XI; L/Cpl. in ACF, two stars; 4th Form Declamations Prize; House Play.

R. E. MORTON (1980, Harcourt): Lower 6th; a loyal and dependable 1st XI scorer.

C. V. S. PARAVICINI (1982, Harcourt): 5B; 3rd and 5th Form Declamations Prizes; House Plays, two years.

D. D. PATEL (1980, Harcourt): Upper 6th; Head of House; 1st XI cricket, four years; 5th Form Chemistry and Biology Prizes; House Play, one year; entrance to University of Bath to read Chemical Engineering.

R. J. PORTER (1979, Swift): Upper 6th; Head of School, 1983-84; Captain of Boats, 1983; 1st XV, three years; Captain of 1st XV, two years; Captain of 1st XI soccer, one year; School Colours for rugby and football; Orange Belt, judo; L/Cpl. in ACF; Headmaster's Prize and 6th Form Geography Prize; 5th Form Geography Prize; Captain of the winning Top of the Form team, 1982; three House Plays.

M. J. PRIOR (1981, Swift): 5A; 1st XI soccer, one year; U.14 XV; House Colours for cross country, road relay, soccer; White Belt, judo; Tennis Team.

M. A. J. REED (1981, Swift): 5A; 2nd XV, one year; Green Belt, judo; Merit in Effective Speaking.

N. E. H. SMITH (1980, Queen Anne): Remove; House Prefect; 1st XI cricket; 1st XI soccer; School Colours for soccer and cricket; House Colours for House Play.

K. TIGHE (1983, Harcourt): 3A; J.14 rowing; Orange Belt, judo; one star in ACF; School Play, 1983.

C. N. WALKER (1980, Queen Anne): Remove; School Prefect; 1st XV, one year; U.15 XV, one year; School Colours for Rowing; Oxfordshire County Trials, running; House Shooting — winner of Wyvern Shield; House Play; Bar Committee.

J. B. WANKLING (1980, Harcourt): Remove; 1st XV; 1st XI soccer and 1st XI cricket; School Colours for rugby, cricket, soccer, road relay and cross country; Tennis Team; Brown Belt, judo; First Aid Certificate; House Play.

D. WHITE (1983, Queen Anne): House Colours for music; winner in the junior singing and junior instrumental sections in Inter-House music competition.

S. WITHNALL (1983, Queen Anne):

P. F. J. WOLFF (1981, Queen Anne): 5B; House Colours for athletics; two School Plays, 1982 and 1984; special prize in 1984 for stepping into part at last moment.

A. J. YENDLE (1980, Queen Anne): Remove; 1st XI soccer; House Colours for soccer, cross country and tennis; 4th Form Declamations Prize; Top of the Form team, twice; School Play and House Plays.

J. YOUDAN (1980, Swift): Remove; 1st XI soccer, 1st XI cricket; Rifle Shooting team, two years; Tennis Team; School Half-Colours for shooting and soccer; House Colours for cricket; First Aid Certificate; Top of the Form team; Inter-House debating team; House Play.

S. YUI (1979, Harcourt): Upper 6th; House Prefect; 1st XV, two years; 2nd XI soccer; School Colours for rugby; House Colours for soccer; Tennis Team; Orange Belt, judo; Life Saving Certificate.

SALVETE

Mr. J. W. Stark M.B.E., who joined the staff in January 1984, was educated at Galashiels Academy. During his service with the Royal Marines he served in both training and commando units. He was also Assistant Inspector of Physical Training for two years and his last appointment in the Corps was Officer Commanding Driver Training. He is a qualified Olympic Gymnastic Coach, a martial arts instructor and a Fellow of the British Association of Physical Training.

Mr. N. J. Mills joined the school as Bursar in September 1984. He worked as an accountant in industry before becoming, in 1976, Deputy Bursar, Kingswood School, Bristol. He comes to us from Meldreth Manor School, near Cambridge, where he has been Bursar for four years.

Mr. R. G. Thompson joined the staff in September 1984 to teach General Subjects and to coach Rowing. He was educated at Lancaster Royal Grammar School before graduating in Psychology at Durham University, where he stayed on to complete his PGCE.

Mr. Martin Geelan took over as Catering Manager from Mrs. Helen Sammons at the beginning of the summer term. Mr. Geelan, who is married, with two young children, came from Donegal to England nearly ten years ago. He has worked for Grand Met Catering for six years.

BOYS

The following New Boys entered the School in September 1984:

Y. Badawi, Swift (*Christ Church CS*); J. D. Barnes, Harcourt (*Malmesbury Comprehensive*); J. Beeharie, Swift (*Milestone Prep.*); V. Beeharie, Swift (*Milestone Prep.*); C. D. Birch, Swift (*St. Edmund's, Abingdon*); J. Bryan, Q. Anne (*Josca's*); F. A. Cole, Harcourt (*Newlands Manor*); A. Collier, Q. Anne (*Oratory Prep.*); M. Doherty, Harcourt (*Prince of Wales School, Sierra Leone*); J. Endeley, Harcourt (*Newlands Manor*); C. Hadeed, Swift (*St. Bernadette's Prep. School, Trinidad*); M. J. Holmes, Swift (*Christ Church CS*); N. W. Horn, Harcourt (*Christ Church CS*); M. J. Horton, Q. Anne (*Ridgeway School*); M. R. Hues, Swift (*Kingsbury Hill*); M. F. Ismail, Swift (*Sri Inai, Kuala Lumpur*); W. E. Jackson, Harcourt (*Church Langton School*); H. B. Jones, Q. Anne (*North Leamington Manor*); T. C. Lavender, Q. Anne (*Farmors Comprehensive*); A. Y. N. Lee, Harcourt (*Chiu Lut Sau Memorial Secondary School*); W. Lloyd, Harcourt (*Brocksford Hall*); M. Lydon, Q. Anne (*Oratory Prep.*); S. K. MacDonald, Swift (*Box Hill*); P. M. Mateunas, Harcourt (*Marlborough School, Woodstock*); S. Narendra, Harcourt (*British School, Oporto*); J. C. W. Ng., Harcourt (*Broomham*); R. Okeke, Harcourt (*Newlands Manor*); H. Patel, Harcourt (*North Oxford Prep. School*); J. S. Peacock, Harcourt (*Raunds Manor Comprehensive*); N.-L. J. Perry, Harcourt (*American School*); T. R. Peterson, Q. Anne (*Montgomery of Alamein School, Winchester*); S. S. Pillai, Swift (*Indian School, Kuwait*); R. M. Price, Swift (*Aylesford Comprehensive School*); J. B. Price, Harcourt (*Newburgh Middle School*); M. R. Pye, Swift (*North Oxford Prep. School*); R. J. Reah, Harcourt (*St. Aidan's School, Harrogate*); E. J. Reynolds, Q. Anne (*Windrush School, Burford*); N. Sitinas, Q. Anne (*Greek School, Sudan*); D. G. Smith, Swift (*North Oxford Prep. School*); A. E. D. Spencer, Q. Anne (*Oxford School*); M. C. Vernon, Q. Anne (*Josca's*); A. K. Wariebi, Q. Anne (*Broomham*).

HARCOURT HOUSE REPORT

This has been a year of mixed fortunes for Harcourt. Unlike last year when we did so well, we suffered some defeats in inter-house competitions, but there have still been a number of group and individual successes. In any House competition we always made a united effort, so much of the old Harcourt spirit is still there ready to be rekindled in the coming school year and the younger members are now a year older!

Harcourt started the year well with a convincing victory in the House rugby. Only 11 points were scored against our 63. Credit must go to the entire team which played extremely well. Colours were awarded to Humphrey, Lilley, McAteer and Wankling. Our team in 'Top of the Form' did not do so well, in spite of every effort being made under the captaincy of Lilley, who took over this role very willingly and at short notice. In the Arts and Crafts exhibition, a new event towards the end of term, many high quality contributions were included, most notably delicate paintings by Milward, some excellent woodwork by Dennis-Jones and delightful pottery by Collett. The House play at the end of term was once again an improvement over former years. Abbott and Milward must be complimented for their extremely good performances and our thanks go to Mr. Daniels for his help.

The most successful term for the House was probably the Spring term. Despite the fact that we had 10 members of the House in the first 20 of the Cross Country, we did not win this event, but came an honourable second. This clearly demonstrates how important the rank and file of the House are in such an event. However, our congratulations go to Picton-Warlow, who won the individual Cross Country cup. Our first success of the term was in the Road Relay where we came in 18 seconds ahead of Swift. Colours were awarded to the entire team, which consisted of Bassey, Edwards, Garrard, Lilley, McAteer, Picton-Warlow and Wankling. In the House football we once again suffered defeat and came second. Wankling captained the team, which played with considerable determination. Our second victory, albeit a narrow one, was in the six-a-side, where both the junior and senior teams played a high standard of football in a closely contested event.

Our music making was of high quality, because many of those taking part in the Music competition came top of their particular category, but we had fewer members participating than other Houses (a lesson to be learned for another year), so we did not repeat the success we enjoyed in this competition last year. Having lost this, we did win the Inter-House debating decisively. Our team consisted of Abbott, Brundin and Smith II, ably led by Lilley. Brunden went on to win the VIth Form Declamations prize and the Senior Cullen Debating prize.

The Summer term was probably the most frustrating term for us. Our Cricket XI got Swift all out for 89 in 40 overs and it looked as though victory was within

our grasp, but it was not to be. Once again Wankling was the mainstay of the team, but we did miss Fisher whose injury prevented him from batting on that day. In the Cricket sixes held on Open Day, we defeated Queen Anne, but lost to Swift again. On the same day the House Regatta turned out to be another nail-biting contest in which we finally lost to Swift by a narrow margin. The Senior IV's cup was won by the Harcourt IV, though. McAteer, Dennis-Jones, Jones I and Joseph II, coxed by Garrard, rowed in a very close and exciting race. Bayarri II won the J.16 sculls and Bomford rowed well to win the J.13 and J.14 sculls in tricky conditions.

In the Standards competition and the Inter-House sports we came second, but there were some notable individual successes in this area. Howland won a gold medal in the 400 metres, which he ran in 57.3 seconds, at the SE District Regional Finals at Pirbright — congratulations. Now he will compete in the National Finals. Wankling broke the longstanding triple jump record with a jump of 12.62 metres on Sports Day. Colours were awarded to Bassey, Howland, Smith III and Wankling for the strong contribution they made to the House points in the Standards competition and thanks go to all the others who worked hard to accumulate points towards the total during the term. Howland captained our rifle team to victory with a personal score of 95/100, followed closely by Baxter, whose score was 92/100. They also had good shooting scores in the ACF external competition, the Hamtune Cup. Our tennis teams consisting of Humphrey and Wankling (Seniors) and Collett and Smith III (Juniors) won a closely contested series of matches, which kept us guessing until the last day of term.

We all wish our leavers good luck and goodbye. Many of them have been among our best sportsmen. In this respect, a special mention must be made of Wankling, our sports megastar, who competed with such skill and vigour in every aspect of House and School sport from rugby to running and judo to tennis. What a pity he found no time to row! They are all going to be missed for the contributions they made to the life of the House in one way or another. Fortunately, as always, there are many excellent juniors — some of them now seniors — who will make their contributions in the year to come. We extend a warm welcome to Mr. James as our additional House tutor and I should like to thank the House Prefects who have helped me to run the House effectively.

During the past year we had a lot of fun and put a great deal of energy into winning some cups and losing others. I hope that next year will be an even better one, in which all of you, with the unity and determination characteristic of the House, will work to put Harcourt back where it belongs — at the top.

D. D. Patel



The House Tutors and '2 i/c's'
W. C. H. Daniels Esq. and J. W. Abbott (Harcourt),
P. J. R. Randall Esq. and B. B. Akande (Swift),
and J. P. Watts Esq. and P. T. Norman (Queen Anne).

QUEEN ANNE HOUSE REPORT

The House started off well in the Michaelmas Term by capturing two out of the four available cups convincingly.

"Because of the lack of good players in depth, we did not do too well on the rugby pitch. Several inexperienced 3rd and 4th formers had to play, but under the leadership of Captain C. Walker, we put up a good spirited display. Colours were awarded to C. Walker, N. Smith, A. Medina, R. Freeman, B. Fletcher and B. Marchant.

Then came the annual "Top of the Form" competition. The whole team gave a magnificent performance under the captainship of S. Bayarri. Other members of the team included A. Yendle, B. Fletcher, J. Russ and D. Jones. We beat the other finalist, Swift, convincingly.

At the end of the Michaelmas Term, there was the new "Arts & Crafts" competition. Lots of boys put in various amounts of contributions. My special thanks went to M. Garside for his pottery display, S. Bayarri and G. Dunn for their arts display. A fine all round effort produced a victory for the House.

Another highlight of the Michaelmas Term was the House Plays, in which Queen Anne produced the best and most enjoyable play of the evening,

Cinderella. The script was written by A. Medina and A. Yendle, and the play was produced by A. Medina and C. Walker. N. Smith, the hairy Cinderella, and G. Dunn won the best acting prizes for their professional performance. I must thank all those who helped towards the success of this play.

Academically, we were leading in the Recommendations throughout the term until the final week and we were narrowly beaten into 2nd place.

After a successful term, we came back in the Lent Term with confidence and determination. Once again, due to the lack of good individuals, we did not enjoy much success on the sports field, but the House's spirit was always there. All who took part in the Cross Country ran really well. There were virtually no Queen Anne boys who came outside the first hundred, but we were let down by those who did not run and finished a disappointing 3rd. We also came 3rd in the Road Relay despite the team running well.

In soccer we had a reasonably good team, and were unfortunate not to do better because of injuries. The same applied to the 6-a-side soccer. There are, however, a few juniors who show a very bright future, notably Tang, Knight and Wada who produced courageous performances.

In the House Debate, we gave Harcourt a close run. D. Woodley debated extremely well and his partner, N. Smith, also tried his best and they were only just defeated by the Harcourt team. Then it was A. Medina teamed up with S. Bayarri who beat Swift comfortably in the second debate. Again we came a close second in the Recommendations.

Then came the more successful note of the Lent Term — The Music Competition. Queen Anne is well known for its good musicians and there was no surprise when we thrashed the other two Houses to claim the cup. Notable individual performances came from T. Walker, A. Venman, S. Dore, D. Withnall, D. White and H. Mellowship. There were also some very good solos and group singing, especially the 6th form group's rendition of the Policeman's song from the Pirates of Penzance. Summer Term started off with the Clay Pigeon Shooting Competition. C. Walker, N. Smith, B. Fletcher and H. Mellowship all shot well and easily beat the other two Houses.

We were a bit weak at Rowing, but again a good, spirited all round performance was given by the team and there were one or two successes in individual events. In the new Cricket 6-a-side Tournament, Queen Anne frightened the hot favourites, Swift, and in a very tight finish, the game ended in a tie

when everyone expected us to win. The team was a bit disappointed after this incident and was beaten narrowly by Harcourt in the next game. In the XI Cricket, we were unlucky not to have beaten Swift after getting them all out with 93 runs in only 27 overs after some very good captaincy from N. Smith.

We have some very good athletes, mainly juniors, getting lots of points for the House in the House Standards Competition and, indeed, winning the cup with 437 points! Tang, Imonioro and Messenger obtained a superb maximum total of 21. This year Queen Anne has a group of excellent juniors: D. Jones won the School 3rd Form Declamation Prize and shared the 3A Form Prize; D. Tang won the 3B Form Prize; J. Reeve and J. Russ shared the 4A Form Prize; Mellowship won the 1st/2nd Form Prize. The School Play "The Italian Straw Hat" at the end of the Lent Term consisted of many Queen Anne boys helping both on and off the stage.

Queen Anne enjoyed a fair share of successes this year and with those talents we have in the juniors, I know and believe that there will be plenty more successes to come in the near future!

May I end this report by thanking Mr. Gentry and Mr. Watts for their valuable help and advice throughout this happy and enjoyable year for Queen Anne.

A. Medina

SWIFT HOUSE REPORT

This year Swift turned 1982/3's potential into solid achievement. The winter term was a time of consolidation and preparation. The House came second in the Top of the Form, Arts and Crafts and Rugby XV's, but once again ran away with the Recommendations Cup. The Swift Rugby XV contained fewer School 1st XV players than the Harcourt "semi-professionals", but still put up a brave display. After comfortably beating Queen Anne 32-0 Swift almost sprang a surprise on Harcourt, putting on great pressure in the second half before finally losing. Colours were awarded to the whole team for their sterling efforts especially in the latter game. In the final week of term the "Swift Amateur Dramatic Society" put on one of its epic productions. It was hard to follow such a smash hit as "Dingy Dell meets the Soho Boppers" but Swift's titanic adaptation of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" involved half the House in one context or another and went down well! Outstanding performances were given by Jonathan Glynn, playing the wicked witch, and Bamikole Akande, cast "imaginatively" as Snow White. Tim Anderson must be congratulated for writing, producing, and acting in the play. Brooker, Turner, Maktabi, Pineo

and Farley produced most of the goods for the hobbies competition while N. Boggon won a prize for his photographs, but as Swift tends to rely more on muscle than artistic skills we did well to finish as runners up.

After the Christmas holidays the House returned for the busiest part of the competitive year and got off to a good start by winning the Cross Country competition (in the absence of the Head of House). However, I have it on good authority that convincing displays were put in by Samkin, Farley, Goslin, Mercer, Prior and Pineo, while Erlstedt improved 75 places on 1983. The Road Relay team started as under-dogs but showed great spirit to finish second by only 150 yards. In particular, Samkin's final leg was quite outstanding. In the music competition Swift fared less well due to a lack of outstanding instrumental talent, but those who played and sang surprised everybody with their dedication and enthusiasm. The House Prefects gave a moving rendition of "Tit Willow", while the Swift Young Farmers (managed by Hues) brought a genuine whiff of country air into the Corinthian Room!

In the Football competition Swift won convincingly beating Queen Anne 5-0 and the favourites, Harcourt, 6-1. The whole team received House colours for two fine displays, especially B. Akande who scored six goals. The House came second in the six-a-side competition (without losing a game) but inability to score goals in a confined space cost us the cup. However, Swift moved superbly to win the Chess competition towards the end of the term with R. Badawi leading the team by example.

As usual, Swift seemed to move into top gear during the summer term. This was exemplified by a win over Harcourt in the cricket competition, in which Jackson and Spicer (vice captain) saved Swift with a fine stand of sixty-six after a poor start. Eventually we won by 25 runs, but the match was a close call. In the next match, after another early collapse, Spicer again came to the rescue with a fine undefeated 39, assisted by O. Akande (15) and R. Porter (11). Queen Anne also collapsed after a fine start and were eventually dismissed for 70, thanks to fine spells of bowling by Spicer, 3-21, O. Akande

3-13, and B. Akande, 2-15, leaving Swift the winners by 23 runs.

On Open Day Swift won both the six-a-side cricket competition in the morning and the Rowing in the afternoon, while Barns was in the gym winning the Badminton Cup. The Cricket team consisting of B. Akande (Captain), O. Akande, Jackson, I. Badawi, Erlstedt and Spicer, performed very well, especially as five of them are in the Fourth Form. Our Oarsmen, captained by D. Fenton, who won the Open Sculls, won the rowing competition by a safe margin. Particular praise should go to Goslin who won the J.14 and J.15 sculls before rowing in both the Junior and Senior House fours, so his colours were richly deserved.

Finally I would like to thank everyone for their efforts throughout the year, wish the leavers every good fortune in their respective careers, and the House continued success and happiness in 1984/5.

R. J. Porter

IMPRESSIONS OF COKETHORPE

La première fois que je rentrais dans un internat Anglais était une expérience étrange pour moi. J'ai quitté mon école en Belgique où je rentrais tous les soirs chez moi pour aller dans un collège en Angleterre pour apprendre à parler Anglais et pour y pratiquer du sport aussi. J'ai découvert que l'on pourrait y pratiquer un grand nombre d'activités, le tennis, le cricket, le judo, l'aviron, le golf et d'autres sports qui se pratiquent à la ville juste à côté de l'école comme le squash et la natation. Cokethorpe est située à la campagne et entourée d'un grand parc avec une piste d'athlétisme. J'ai assisté au cours en Anglais pour essayer de comprendre la langue. Je suis resté cinq semaines à Cokethorpe. J'ai eu la chance d'avoir toujours de beau temps. Les plus âgés sont responsables (prefects) de surveiller l'étude et les repas. Nous avions congé tous les samedi après-midi et le dimanche, que l'on pouvait relâcher entièrement ou jouer au sport. Le dimanche matin on va à l'église. Il y a des excursions qui sont organisées pour aller voir les activités sportives, par exemple Henley. La journée termine à six heures. Après le dîner nous avons une heure et demie d'étude jusqu'à huit heures et demie, puis nous allons dormir vers neuf heures et demie après une journée bien chargée d'étude et de sport. Nous ne sommes pas beaucoup d'étudiants à l'école, comparé à l'école où j'étais auparavant où il y avait plus de 750 élèves, et où on ne me connaît pas. Maintenant je connais tout le monde, et tout le monde me connaît.

M. Bollette

The first day I entered an English boarding school was a strange experience for me. I left my school in Belgium where I used to go home every evening to go to a college in England to learn to speak English and to take part in sport. I discovered that one was able to participate in a large number of activities such as tennis, cricket, judo, rowing, golf, and other sports which took place in the town near to the school such as squash and swimming.

Cokethorpe is situated in the countryside and surrounded by a big park with an athletics track. I had some extra English lessons to try to understand the language. I stayed at Cokethorpe for 5 weeks. I had the good luck to have fine weather all the time. The oldest boys, the prefects, were responsible for supervising preps and meals. We had half holidays every Saturday afternoon and all of Sundays when one was able to relax completely or play games. On Sunday mornings one went to Church. There were some excursions to go and see some sporting activities such as Henley. The day finished at 6.00 p.m. After dinner we had 1½ hours of prep until 8.30 p.m., then we went to bed at 9.40 p.m. — a full day's study and sports. There were not many pupils at the school compared to the school where I was before, where there were more than 750 students and where they didn't know me very well. Now I know everybody and everybody knows me.

Translated by M. G. Samkin

CUPS

(Presented by the Headmaster)

Michaelmas Term 1983

Rugby Football: Harcourt

Top of the Form: Queen Anne

Creative Hobbies: Queen Anne

Recommendations: Swift

Lent Term 1984

Rugby Sevens: Not played

Soccer: Swift

Soccer Sixes: Harcourt

Cross Country: Swift

Individual Cross Country: A. R. Picton-Warlow

Road Relay: Harcourt

Inter-House Music: Queen Anne

Inter-House Debating: Harcourt

Chess: Swift

Recommendations: Swift

Summer Term 1984

Cricket: Swift

Cricket six-a-sides: Swift

Batting: N. E. H. Smith & N. J. Fisher

All Rounders: J. B. Wankling

Bowling: J. B. Wankling & B. B. Akande

Fielding: B. B. Akande & J. L. Erlstedt

Rowing: Swift

Senior IV: Harcourt

Junior IV: Swift

Open Sculls: Swift

Junior 16 Sculls: Harcourt

Junior 15 Sculls: Swift

Junior 14 Sculls: Swift

Junior 12/13 Sculls: Harcourt

Tennis: Harcourt

Individual Tennis: J. B. Wankling

Junior Tennis: T. L. Sydenham

Rifle Shooting: Harcourt

Clay Pigeon Shooting: Queen Anne

Wyvern Shield: D. J. J. Fenton

Badminton: E. J. F. Barns

Athletics Standards: Queen Anne

Athletics Sports: Swift

Recommendations: Queen Anne



Still Life Gouache: Bottles. P. Wood

PRIZES

(Presented by the Bishop of Dorchester)

Headmaster's Prize: R. J. Porter

Open Art Prize: S. I. Bayarri

Senior Cullen Debating Prize: O. M. Brundin

Junior Debating Prize: M. G. W. Howe

Music Prize: T. L. Sydenham

Photography Prize: S. J. Boggon

Declamations

6th Form: O. M. Brundin

5th Form: C. V. S. Paravicini

4th Form: J. L. Erlstedt

3rd Form: D. O. Jones

2nd Form: C. B. C. H. Jones

6th Form

English Prize: T. M. Anderson

History Prize: T. M. Anderson

Geography Prize: R. J. Porter

Mathematics Prize: A. Medina

Physics Prize: D. D. Patel

Chemistry Prize: D. D. Patel

5th Form

Art Prize: E. Bassey

English Prize: E. Bassey

History Prize: P. F. J. Wolff

British Constitution Prize: D. J. J. Fenton

Geography Prize: J. S. McAteer

Mathematics Prize: B. J. Joseph & J. F. Joseph

Physics Prize: J. S. McAteer

Biology Prize: J. S. McAteer & J. W. Jones

Form Prizes

4A: J. M. Reeve & J. D. Russ

4B: P. S. Brooker

3A: D. O. Jones & N. M. Pineo

3B: D. Tang

1/2: H. Mellowship



Still Life Gouache: Devil Mask. G. B. Dunn

Leaving Cokethorpe

Driving back to Cokethorpe after the Summer Exeat, it suddenly struck me that it was for the last time. I said as much to my father, who remarked that it was 'a pity'. At the time I didn't agree in the slightest. After five years in a boys' boarding school I was beginning to feel rather stagnated and stifled; with each year that had passed, the sense of confinement became less bearable.

However, on the eve of my departure I don't feel quite the elation I had expected. I realise that the restrictions of the school are all but removed, yet life will retain its own limitations and restrictions, some of them not so dissimilar. I now feel a more guarded relief at the prospect of the change that leaving will bring. From the security and simple life-style of Cokethorpe I see myself plunged into the wilderness of adult life, where the immediate future is no longer certain and is largely dependent upon one's own actions.

Boarding school offers an existence that is rather insular and austere. Much of this I shall not miss — as also the pettiness and mundanity which can arise in such confined conditions. But as a prefect there is much I shall miss: a more comfortable life-style where all domestic chores were non-existent and one's only concerns were work or sport. The comradeship I shall miss, too. Nowhere else have I felt so relaxed with friends — people I have known for at least four years, seeing each other every day.

In my five years at Cokethorpe I have experienced many changes, both in the school and in myself. When I first came into the 3rd Form life was undeniably far more spartan than it is for juniors today. There were no common rooms, very limited hobby activities, the changing rooms were just two small rooms for more than a hundred boys, and there was never enough hot water for showers for everyone. To add to this we were ruled by what seemed a fierce oligarchy of seniors — I don't mean the prefects, but simply those who were above one in the 'pecking order' — who thought nothing of filching food off your plate, or barging you off your seat in front of the television in the Corinthian Room. But things changed dramatically from my

first year. Improvements have been rapid in the way of facilities. Life seems very much better now for junior boys than it did for us — but I suppose it always does!

The quality of life improved considerably as I moved up the school and became a prefect. I could do the ordering as opposed to being ordered, and most of the masters treated me in a much more considerate fashion. However, problems did not disappear as expected: they merely changed into the form of responsibilities and duties, while wrestling with life's biggest hurdle to that time — A levels. In myself I have learned something about the problems involved in managing people. I've also learned to relax rigid views and ideas, allowing them to be tempered by the general opinions of the community. But I do not think I have learned to be particularly independent, as, to me, boarding school is not at all like the outside world — merely an extension of home with a different set of familiar faces.

The thing about Cokethorpe that I have become most aware of as I grew older is the effect it has socially. I would say it has afforded me an advantage over people attending state schools. I believe, rightly or wrongly, that it makes one more attractive to prospective employers. The inevitable consequence is that it sets you aside and puts you in a minority. Yet because of this I feel it has left me with a duty to people less fortunate than myself.

There is certainly much I have gained from Cokethorpe. It is a small school which allows for great attention to be focussed upon each individual, and it can give boys a much better chance to express themselves more effectively in a community which is far less daunting than a large public school. Where I feel I have lost out is in the case of social preparation for the outside world. Although I'm sure Cokethorpe is not unique in this respect, the cloistered nature of such a small place tends to shield one from the true, garish nature of the outside world — or so I have been told. I'm sure I am in for many shocks and some confusion when I leave, although in the long run I do feel I shall perhaps be better equipped to come through.

T. M. Anderson, VIth



Archway to Ruin: D. E. J. Farley.

Rugby



Bamikole Akande (right of centre) leads yet another break-out by the Cokethorpe backs against Larkmead.

Oxford Mail

1st XV RUGBY FOOTBALL REPORT

This year's 1st XV was a very young team with only a few experienced players remaining from the previous season, but it still proved to be an extremely successful year, yet again, with the vast majority of games being won. The side was excellently led by R. Porter who received great support from J. Wankling as his Vice-Captain.

The opening game was played in very warm summery conditions against John Mason. The hard ground suited the team's faster players and they scored some very attractive tries through Akande I, who scored two, Nzeribe and Wankling, to run out easy winners by 27 points to 7 points.

The 'Old Boys' Match, always looked forward to by the School, was unfortunately reduced to a farce by quite the worst conditions of the winter; a screaming, biting gale with icy rain and hailstones as well, it really was miserable. The 'Old Boys', through their strength and maturity as much as

anything else, somehow managed to score a try, but I am afraid it was a game best forgotten and we hope for better conditions next time.

The matches with the local schools are always keenly anticipated, especially by Mr. James! The team, full of Welsh fire and urged on by quite a bit of support on the touchline, always most appreciated, played very well indeed against Henry Box with Joseph Wankling, although failing to score, leading by example with several superb breaks and runs. The running ability of the entire team proved far too much for the Witney school and they scored 6 tries with Akande and Nzeribe perhaps having their best games of the season. Boggon and Humphrey also showed great endeavour throughout the match.

We have a record of very enjoyable fixtures against Larkmead, an Abingdon School, and last season's game was no exception. The match was made a little more special by the presence of not only

a video camera — Mr. Jowitt kindly recorded the whole match and this is an extremely useful aid for training, but also a photographer from the 'Oxford Mail'. The match, played in a very sporting spirit, unlike some, was won quite easily by the School 19-3. A lot of responsibility will fall on the shoulders of J. Abbott next season and in this match he showed a great deal of 'guts' and determination which augurs well for the future. Special mention must also be given to Simon Smith who put everything into every match he played and progressed rapidly with each game.

The aggression, speed and genuine ball-handling skill of hooker J. McAteer gave us the edge in a very close match with Oratory and he figured in many of the attacks supporting Wankling and Akande I in particular. It was not until the second half that the opposition was worn down and a 12-4 win was clinched. Chris Walker who did not play many matches but was an enthusiastic, long-suffering member of the squad, performed very well in this match.

Shiplake, perhaps because of various examination commitments, proved to be the only disappointment of the season and the team played well below their potential. In a match when little went right, B. Joseph, R. Lilley and I. Badawi did emerge with credit for their tireless efforts against a well-disciplined team.

More wins followed against Rendcomb and Woodgreen, but the best result of the season by far



was achieved against our great rivals, Radley. The team never needs any 'psyching up' for this match and as this was to be the last chance for some members of the Cokethorpe side to beat Radley they ran onto the field in a very determined frame of mind. It was Radley, however, in the first half, who played the better rugby and just about deserved to lead 10-0 at half-time, although we had had some chances. Mr. James did not allow any heads to drop and the second half was dominated by Cokethorpe in most departments and the pressure exerted on the Radley line created three good tries from Wankling, Fisher and Lilley. A penalty goal by Akande sealed a great win by 15 pts. to 10 pts. in a match thoroughly enjoyed by a large crowd. It was another match video-taped by Mr. Jowitt and it has been re-run several times! This match was a triumph for young scrum-half Neil Fisher who stepped into the breach in place of Genders and played very bravely and skilfully at all times.

Although many of the squad's more experienced members will be leaving, I am sure that players such as Erlstedt, Brooker, Badawi II, Akande II, Bayarri, Picton-Warlow and Smith III, amongst others, who all had good seasons for the junior sides will be up to the task of maintaining the school's growing reputation for open, attractive and successful rugby next season.

I would like to thank Mr. Jowitt for recording all our home games when possible. I would also like to congratulate every member of the first team squad for their commitment last season, especially R. Porter and, of course, I must thank Mr. James for arranging the games and coaching us and Mr. Randall for his help with the forwards.



Typical aggressive running by Joseph Wankling.

1st XV PLAYING RECORD

<i>The matches</i>	For	Against	<i>The point scorers</i>	
John Mason	27	7	Akande I	61
Old Boys	-	4	Wankling	22
Henry Box	30	6	Nzeribe	12
Larkmead	19	3	Fisher	4
Oratory	12	4	Porter	4
Shiplake	6	14	Lilley	4
Rendcomb	12	6	McAteer	4
Radley	15	10	Pardoe	4
Woodgreen	Won		Genders	4
			Abbott	2

Points for 121 Points against 54

Colours: White P9 W7 D - L2



The 1st XV

Captain: R. J. Porter Vice-Captain: J. B. Wankling

UNDER 15 RUGBY REPORT

Captain: I. Badawi *Vice-Captain:* O. O. Akande

The strength of any rugger side depends largely on the ability of its forwards to win and use the ball effectively. For this reason in particular it was very pleasing that last year we had a number of forwards who were not only well built but also reasonably mobile. Before he was promoted to the 1st XV, I. Badawi, the Captain, was the player who distinguished himself in this respect and really led by example. He was supported by the other prop, P. S. Brooker, who had improved immeasurably since he was in the Under 14 side, J. A. Mercer, S. A. Cope, J. F. Joseph, I. Bayarri, A. R. Picton-Warlow, and S. J. Smith, a newcomer who looks very promising.

The halves, M. J. Spicer and E. J. F. Barns, played hard and although at times they could have moved the ball more quickly to the backs, they made a positive contribution.

Amongst the three-quarters O. O. Akande distinguished himself by his penetrating runs. The three-quarter line as a whole often lacked cohesion but as individuals M. G. Samkin, E. Bassey, J. M. Reeve all made a noticeable contribution.

At full back J. L. Erlstedt could be erratic but played with determination and showed some promise.

In terms of results it was a mixed season but it was pleasing that we were able to start with two good wins against Wood Green and Chipping Norton. After this came three defeats but we finished with a resounding victory over the Radley Junior Colts.

The team was J. L. Erlstedt, M. G. Samkin, E. Bassey, O. O. Akande, J. M. Reeve, M. J. Spicer, E. J. F. Barns, I. Badawi, J. A. Mercer, P. S. Brooker, S. A. Cope, J. F. Joseph, A. R. Picton-Warlow, S. J. Smith and I. Bayarri.

The following also played: O. Akindele, D. L. Demner, T. P. Walker, T. S. Goslin and C. B. Lewis.

The Results were: Wood Green (won 10-0); Chipping Norton (won 36-0); The Oratory (lost 10-12); Shiplake (lost 4-26); Rendcomb (lost 4-18); Magdalen College School (won 8-7); Radley (won 30-6)

J. P. W.

UNDER 14 RUGBY REPORT

The Under 14 rugby season was very successful with the team winning three games out of four and averaging 28 points per game.

The best player in the team was Akande II who showed a great deal of skill and a superb turn of speed playing at inside centre. Smith III, our Captain, also played consistently well using his experience to set up many tries.

The weather was very bitter for our first match against Kingham Hill which was unfortunately lost, but the tries we conceded were very doubtful indeed. Our best performance of the season came against Stowe when we scored 40 points and some excellent tries. A feature of the game was the very accurate goal-kicking by J. Kibble.

Some of the Under 14 squad are so good that they could well make a challenge for a place in the 1st XV next season in some of the easier games! The Under 14 team would not have been so successful without Mr. Daniels, our coach, who kept us fit and strong, so we thank him and wish him good luck with the U.14s next season. I hope they are as good as we were.

D. Tang



COKETHORPE BEATS RADLEY

There was an average crowd attendance at Cokethorpe Park for their game against the mighty Radley. The weather was cloudy but dry.

It was a day for running the ball around the park, as Radley started off doing. They started off showing that their ball control was up to scratch. They ran at every opportunity at the Cokethorpe backs. Radley showed their superiority by scoring an early try and the conversion was successful. This made the score 6-0 to Radley. Radley ran the ball throughout the first half. They eventually scored again near the corner but missed the conversion, which made the score at half time 10-0 to Radley.

At the start of the second half Radley won the ball and started off as they had finished the first half. Cokethorpe absorbed the early pressure and drove back. Eventually they scored with a try from Lilley. It all started with a break by Akande and then the forwards took over and went over with the ball. This was near the touchline and unfortunately Akande missed the conversion. This made it 10-4 to Radley. Radley came back with force and determination. Cokethorpe simply absorbed the pressure again and pushed them back. There was a scrum near the Radley line which Cokethorpe won and the ball came out and went along the backs and a maul formed. The ball came out and it was taken by Badawi who passed the ball to McAteer who then passed the ball to Wankling who scored under the posts. Akande missed the conversion and that try made the score 10-8 to Radley. From the kick off the ball went straight out so there was a scrum in the middle which Radley won. They ran the ball only as far as the inside centre and a maul formed. Cokethorpe won the maul and the scrum-half, Fisher, made a break and passed to Akande. He ran with the ball until he was tackled around the neck by Radley's full back, which gave Cokethorpe a penalty. Akande took the kick and successfully converted it. This made the score 11-10 to Cokethorpe.

Cokethorpe took the pressure and made Radley make mistakes. This led to a penalty on the touch line which Akande took but missed, but one of the Radley players knocked the ball forwards and the referee gave a scrum. Radley won this, but the full back under pressure from Humphrey, Porter and Fisher fumbled the ball and there was yet another scrum. This time Cokethorpe won it and Fisher took the ball, gave a dummy pass to Wankling and scored. Akande took the conversion but it went just wide, so this made the score 15-10 to Cokethorpe.

This was the first time in a long while that Cokethorpe have beaten Radley.

N. J. Fisher

CROSS COUNTRY REPORT

This January the weather was really rather clement and far less mud was churned up in school practice runs than has sometimes been the case. This does not mean that our best runners were putting in any less effort for good times were returned in early training and if there was no longer a John Davie to lead the way a group of very useful Fourth Formers emerged from the pack to become the "hares" of the future. We entered full teams in the Under 20, Under 17 and Under 15 age groups in The North Oxon. Area Championships were run in snowy conditions at Sibford School on January 25th (although one of our U.15's, Pineo, was actually an U.14), while Form 1/2 produced four individual runners for the Under 13 category. These teams were far from disgraced finishing 4th, 3rd = and 4th, (eleven schools sent teams), while four individual runners (Farley 6th, Wankling 12th in the U.20's, Picton-Warlow 4th, Samkin 7th in the U.17's) were selected to run for the North in the County Championships at South Parks, Oxford in February. Here our two "veterans" found the going very hard, but Picton-Warlow and Samkin ran excellently to finish 12th and 13th. This may not sound impressive but as most of the boys who beat them were a year older than our two heroes (and will be ineligible to run in this age group in 1985), they must stand a good chance of being selected for the county next year.

Picton-Warlow finished first in the School Cross Country, held on February 1st, in 31 min. 47.24 seconds, chased home closely by Samkin with Farley, Bassey, Walker I, Wankling, Edwards, Barns, Joseph I and McAteer taking the top ten places. In all there were 119 starters, (15 non-runners of whom five were absent on the day), but this is chiefly an Inter-House Competition and the Cup was regained by Swift with 1,937 points from Harcourt (2,027) with Queen Anne (2,263) third. A new feature of this year's race was "splash of the day" recorded by the Video set up at the Ford. As one would imagine this was viewed by the majority of the school in classroom 6 later in the evening with varying degrees of pleasure, pain and embarrassment. It certainly gave Housemasters ammunition for use in their troops' end of term reports!

P. J. G.

Opposite and overleaf: *The School Cross Country. (A dull wet day and a slow film).*





THE SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

M. J. Prior gives his version:

It has been a long tradition at Cokethorpe to hold the Cross Country in preparation for the football and cricket season. This year it was held on Wednesday 1st February. Everybody assembled in the gymnasium at 2.30 p.m. approximately. The build-up was tense and sounded encouraging, with people chanting and moving about, preparing for the start. The presence of Mr. Stark helped the spirit and competitiveness of each House and also the determination of even the poorer runners was much higher than previous years.

There was a talk in the gymnasium about the course route and then everyone assembled for the start at the back gate in long House lines to achieve a fairer start. The clouds looked grey, some were black and the rain was drizzling. Everyone was dressed in his individual kit. Some wore scarves and some wore gloves and scarves, no two people looked the same.

The gun sounded and everyone shoved and pushed to gain a good start and lead. I looked at my watch; it was 2.53. The quarter of a mile lap around the cricket pitch was a commotion, but later people became spread out. I did not like the start because it was too overcrowded and I prefer a long space to adjust my pace. The course was marshalled at strategic points all round the route in order to prevent cheating. The part of the course I liked the best was Yelford Lane. It was long and straight with firm ground. I soon picked up a comfortable stride. The long ascent of the Piggeries came next. I was not bothered about the puddles, in fact it cooled my feet. The ground was muddy and slippery. I ran on my own for the whole race. The countryside was very open and bleak-looking. The trees had lost their leaves and there was little colour. I remember passing the front gate of the School and being told I was eleventh.

Continuing down the track to the church the route went right through a small wooded copse with a drainage ditch full of water alongside. A slab was placed over the water and I carried on. By this stage my legs began to feel the pace. I was marshalled over the road and carried on to do what for me was the worst part of the course.

The terrain was very bad once one was past the bridge and over the stream. The fields were heavy and boggy. My legs became weighed down and I was getting more and more tired. The field became never-ending and once I reached the ford I was relieved. I could take a breather. The water was cold and was a comfortable feeling on my boiling legs. The current was stronger than I had expected and I felt the gravel stones move under my feet.

I knew now that there was not much more left to do. The A40 road was marshalled, and once the School was in sight it encouraged me to go faster. I hopped over the barbed wire fence to see Boggon taking photographs for the School magazine. I could hear Mercer speeding up so I did also. A race began but I had a yard or two on him. I ran in to the finish and slipped and landed on my knees to receive my ticket from Mr. Green. The finish was well organised into a funnel shape. I gave my ticket to Mr. White in the Cricket pavilion. I was greatly relieved and that night slept like a log.

INTER HOUSE ROAD RELAY

Although Harcourt, with six out of the first ten finishers in the Cross Country, once again started hot favourites to win this event, (and eventually triumphed as all good favourites should), this proved to be the best race with the closest finish for several years.

Picton-Warlow (Harcourt) began by running the fastest outward leg of the day in 17 mins. 00 sec., but only managed to take a 47 seconds lead over Barns (Swift). The two Swift Juniors reduced Harcourt's lead to 30 seconds in the next three miles and after two complete laps, (twelve miles), the difference between the two Houses was only 32 seconds with Queen Anne five minutes adrift. Bassey extended this lead by a further 41 seconds and with Wankling running the final inward leg Harcourt seemed to have the race safely won. However Samkin can never be written off in any circumstances and his inward leg of 16 min. 58 sec. was the fastest of the day. In the end Swift finished only 18 seconds, (about 150 yards), behind Harcourt after 18 miles racing, with Queen Anne a further 7 minutes away in third place.

Congratulations to all runners on their resolute efforts.

Lap	Harcourt
One	34 mins. 42
Two	36 mins. 12
Three	36 mins. 13
Totals	107 mins. 07
	Swift
One	35 mins. 12
Two	36 mins. 14
Three	35 mins. 59
Totals	107 mins. 25
	Queen Anne
One	38 mins. 34
Two	37 mins. 55
Three	37 mins. 58
Totals	114 mins. 27

P. J. G.

SOCCER REPORT

The season started expectantly with a strong squad of players, some experienced at 1st XI and some newcomers. There were some reservations about our ability in defence and we were particularly concerned about who would fill the centre half spot after Farhad Irvani, an outstanding player, now an Old Boy. However, our worries were soon over as Richard Porter took over the position and in our first game at home against Kingham Hill, which took place in difficult windy conditions, he and the defence played very well to blunt the opposition's speedy attack. Nicholas Smith, in goal, saved twice from point-blank range early on before we went ahead against the run of play, through two breakaway goals by Bamikole Akande. From this point our confidence soared and the team played good skilful soccer. We went on to win 6-1, with Akande scoring 4 and Joseph Wankling and Jon Youdan adding 1 each.

The second match was rather disappointing; without our centre-half the defence were decidedly jittery against a good Wood Green side. Two mistakes early on cost us two goals and though Wankling scored from the penalty spot, we eventually went down 5-1. This turned out to be our only poor game of the season.

Our next two games against John Mason School and Witney TC, both at home, were both 5-2 victories in which the mid-field of Wankling, Humphrey and Youdan developed very well. Akande, too, recovered his goal-scoring form, getting 2 in each game. Two notable newcomers in these games were 4th formers, Idris Badawi and Edward Imonioro, both making good impressions and showing promise for the future.

Then came a new fixture against Bearwood College. We were expecting a tough match and we

got what we expected as Bearwood played smooth attacking football based on some very skilful mid-field play. We matched them much of the game and Wankling, in particular, was outstanding in mid-field. In the end we went down 3-0, but no shame can be attached to that defeat.

Larkmead School came next to Cokethorpe and we had another tough game on our hands. We went one goal behind in the second half after a closely fought first half without any goals. It looked as if we would never equalise despite all our pressing until, with seven minutes to go, Youdan hit a 25 yard shot superbly just inside the post and then repeated it 3 minutes later for us to win 2-1. A most exciting finish.

It was a nice feeling to get our revenge on Oratory this year, as we won 3-2 (Wankling 1, Akande 2) but we were all disappointed when another new fixture away at Douai School was cancelled due to waterlogged pitches, despite all our efforts to re-arrange the game at home.

This left us with our last away match at Henry Box. We were very determined to do our best and played good team football in an easy 5-1 win to end the season on a high note.

Results	P	W	L	D	For	:Against
	8	6	2	0	27	17

Scorers	Akande 13, Wankling 6, Youdan 3, Prior 2, Humphrey 1, Abbott 1.
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1st XI Colours were awarded to Akande, Wankling, Smith, Porter and half-colours to Youdan and Gary Harris.

A. E. G.



A. E. Gentry Esq., and the 1st XI.

SKIING TRIP

This year's skiing trip was an unqualified success from start to finish, with no broken bones and only a few broken wallets.

After a good flight from Luton we took our coach to 'Les Arcs 1800 m', a huge purpose-built resort in the French Alps which will rank number four in the world when completed.

As our team of fourteen drove from the valley floor up twisting roads that were far more hair-raising than any flight could be, our one fear, that there would be no snow, was soon dispelled from our minds as the coach passed eight foot snow drifts on both sides of the road.

Our arrival was greeted with an introductory drink and three large self-catering apartments with breath-taking views over the valley and of Mont Blanc to the east. After a quick sortie, we turned in to bed.

The next morning was the first of the best week of the season. A thick fall of snow the night before gave marvellous skiing for the six hot sunny days to follow. We were all at different levels of ability, but after two hours of instruction each morning, and four or five hours free skiing out on the slopes in the afternoon, we all noticed a great improvement in our techniques; and, for the more rotund amongst us, in our figures!

The skiing was marvellous; an early start took us way up into the mountains, and one could choose between the huge 'mogul fields' or the scenic wooded runs back down to the first chair lifts, which came as a welcome and enchanting rest until yet another run.

While lunch for many of us involved a stylish return at about 12.30 p.m. for a few sandwiches and a beer in the sun, the more adventurous planned their route to include a snow-clad restaurant offering hot food and drinks at very 'apres ski' prices. In fact, adventurous was the Cokethorpe motto and on one occasion a few of us had to be ushered from the slopes late in the evening just in case we missed our evening meal. As this was always accompanied with a good wine, it was something not to be missed.

Most of the skiing instruction was with other schools, who were left far behind by most of our boys who spent much of their time working up to more advanced groups. Jon McAteer took the best-beginners prize by a considerable margin from at least fifty others.

Some of the boys were novices but even those with little experience were happily skiing the 'Black Runs' by the end of our stay — perhaps with a little less elegance than some of the older hands, but with far more enthusiasm, and often more speed. A misty descent from the 'Aigville Rouge', the highest peak in the range, on one of our last afternoons certainly sorted out the men from the boys.

As prices were high it was perhaps lucky that we were often too tired to socialise much in the evening. That said, however, there were some amusing scenes in 'Zagrim's' Night Club, where the Cokethorpe team spent a few quiet moments.

Durham Girls School would like to thank the team for assistance with their 'make-up' and for the hang-gliding demonstration with Stephen Boggon's jeans.

All in all it was a pleasure to be with such a keen and mature bunch of young men, who so obviously used their time so well.

W. H. C. D.

On behalf of all those who went I would like to express our thanks to Mr. Daniels for taking over the task of supervising the skiing trip to Les Arcs at such short notice, and for doing such a good job. He certainly didn't complain about his dancing partner in Zagrim's Night Club!

A. A. Purdue



Jason Jones, Paul Barry and Adrian Purdue on the ski slopes at Les Arcs.



A VISIT TO THAMES TELEVISION STUDIOS

When Mr. Cranham told us that we had been chosen to go to the Thames Television studios to appear on a children's programme called CB-TV, there was great excitement among the twelve 3rd Formers who had been picked to go. Along with some pupils from other schools we were going to interview some famous personalities in a CB-TV slot called 'Hot Seats'.

The day — Tuesday, 24th January — soon arrived, and after an early breakfast at 7.15 a.m. we set off. There had been some snow in the night and it was a raw, icy morning as we left Cokethorpe at 7.45. It was snowing lightly as we approached the outskirts of London and made our way through Richmond and Chiswick. The journey was a long one, as the Thames TV studios are at Teddington Lock. The noise on the coach got louder as the journey progressed; we were all very excited, but by the time we arrived at the studio most people felt rather nervous, too.

We were met by two very nice girls, Adele and Eleanor, who at once split us into two groups. The first group, which I was in, were going to interview Magnus Pyke. The second group were taken off to watch a film about stunt-man techniques. Our group was put with a group of girls from a theatrical school. We were given a sheet of background facts and information about Magnus Pyke and told to write down any questions we thought it suitable to ask. Adele said to us: 'As most of you probably know by now, you're here as our CB-TV reporters. Your job is to fire as many questions as you can at our guests so that the viewers can learn as much as possible about them. Don't worry if *you* already know the answer to the question — just go ahead and ask it anyway. The audience may not be as informed as you are ...' While we were doing this Magnus Pyke actually walked into the foyer and was taken into the studio next door.

Eventually, after deciding on the order of the questions and rehearsing them several times, we were taken into the studio where we met the Presenter, Paul Shirer. We were told to sit on the bean bags. Magnus Pyke was already seated in the big black leather armchair. It reminded me of the one used in 'Mastermind'. There were six huge cameras and a long sound boom trained on us. The Assistant Floor Manager was in charge and conducted a final, quick rehearsal. Suddenly a man gave a three-second warning: the red light came on and on the screen of the television monitor in front of the Presenter it said: CB 28935A/HOT SEAT/MAGNUS PYKE/TAKE 20 SECONDS.

'O.K.,' said the Floor Manager, 'This is a 20-second clock ... 15 ... 10 ... 5 ... *you're on!*' The questions started — and what a surprise we had. We had lots of things ready to ask, but the girls' school totally overpowered us and we couldn't get a word in edgeways. They seemed to know the ropes completely. They had been at the studio for longer than us, and at that stage we were not as much at ease as they were. In the end I was the only one of us who succeeded in asking him a question. I asked: 'What would you most like to invent?' His reply was: 'I would like to invent something that would stop people from doing things that they afterwards regret doing.' Then the girls cut across and asked him another question. A few minutes later the Floor Manager suddenly said: 'Fifteen seconds to cut-back ...' He put up two fingers ... one finger ... 'O.K., you're off.' The interview was over.

After everyone had got Mr. Pyke's autograph, we were taken to watch the stunt-man film while the other group conducted an interview with Leslie Ash. She had just starred in a 'Pink Panther' film, so there were lots of questions about that. Then there was a break in the events and we were treated to a very nice three-course lunch in the studio restaurant. After lunch we were taken by Eleanor on a tour of the studios. On the walls in all the corridors there were large photographs of the famous entertainers who work for Thames TV, and posters for some of their big successes like 'The Flame Trees of Thika' and 'The Agatha Christie Hour'. We were taken into the huge Studio One, but Eleanor said: 'If you think this is big, you should see the one at Pinewood, where I live. That's where they make the James Bond films, and Studio One there is *really* big!'

The second group now had an interview with Michael Aspel, but some of our group had to go in as well to make the studio look fuller. The rest of us watched the interview on the TV monitors in the Gallery. Michael Aspel seemed an interesting person and the Cokethorpe boys succeeded in asking him eleven questions. In fact, most of the questions were asked by us in this interview and the next, because by now the girls had departed and been replaced by pupils from another school, and we really had the edge over them! Finally, our group had to interview an athlete called Henry Weston who had announced that he was going to run round the world, starting from Tower Bridge on 1st April. In many ways, I think this was the interview which went best, and we were rather disappointed afterwards when we were told that it might not actually be used.

After we had collected more autographs, pictures, stickers, badges — and had been supplied by the studio with food for the return journey — we left for Cokethorpe, having thoroughly enjoyed ourselves on a very unusual day out.

D. O. Jones

The visit to the Thames TV studios came about through an invitation from Dale le Vack, who was a boy at Cokethorpe (1958-63). He now works as a Producer for Thames, and he had often thought that one day it would be nice to invite some boys from his old school to take part in a programme. We are very grateful to him for remembering us in this way.

The boys who went were: Alexander Collett, Fady Dona, Timothy Goslin, Matthew Howe, Daniel Jones, Ian Kershaw, David Pinnell, Neil Pineo, Samuel Smith, Edward Smith, Simon Johnston and Nathan Day.

As things turned out the interview with Henry Weston was never used by Thames, but the others were transmitted as follows: Magnus Pyke (21st February); Michael Aspel (28th February); and Leslie Ash (6th March).

In the photograph on the extreme left on page 28, Dale le Vack is the man standing with Michael Aspel.

P. J. C.



Bird study from the school aviary: J. A. Mercer.

THE LONGEST TWENTY-FIVE MINUTES OF MY LIFE

Twice a year, the third form have to take an Effective Speaking Examination. It is an examination by the Trinity College of Music in London. It is not compulsory for every school, but the Headmaster feels it is important and very useful for Cokethorpe boys and this examination is extremely helpful for C.S.E. and 'O' Level English as well as other subjects and, of course, for later life.

You are always prepared by a master for the examination and in my case it was Mr. Nightingale who helped me.

Basically what you have to do in the examination is deliver a talk to the Examination which is worth 20 marks, and recite a piece of prose or a poem (11 marks), and for 25 marks you have to talk about a subject chosen by the examiner. You also have to read a passage from a book chosen by the examiner. To pass you have to get 65 marks. If you get 75 and upwards you receive a merit, and if you get 81 and over you receive an Honours pass.

When I took my examination in the Autumn term I scored 87 marks. I felt rather happy and proud about this and I looked forward to the next examination in the summer. I did not feel nervous, except just before the examination. I was to talk about the Spectrum Computer and my poem was 'Timothy Winters' by Charles Causley.

At a quarter to eleven I prepared all my visual aids and I waited outside the library for a few minutes until the examiner rung a small bell. My heart beat increased a little as I went into the room, but the examiner, Mrs. Heale, made me feel at ease and she was helpful and interested in my topic.

I started to talk and then suddenly dried up for a minute! Mrs. Heale looked quite surprised. I said, "Can I continue?" She smiled and nodded, and I continued. Everything went well until I was asked to talk about 'Animals in Captivity'. I became a little muddled but I got through it. I then had a conversation with Mrs. Heale about Software (computer games). At the end she thanked me and I was allowed out of the room, relieved after the mistakes I had made. I expected only to just pass, so I was surprised when I learned I had got 84!

Now I have the choice of either stopping or continuing with the examinations. But my aim is to continue and reach Grade 12, which is the last Grade. That grade is rather difficult, but I hope to pass it and receive the Diploma.

F. Dona

The General Studies Talks

1983-84

During the past year those who have attended the General Studies lectures have enjoyed some interesting talks on a very varied number of topics, and some of the speakers have been eminent and important people. The core of the General Studies group is made up of the Sixth Form and Remove, but we are regularly joined by members of the lower school who are interested in the subject-matter of a particular lecture, and who, in common with the senior boys, have at times contributed some challenging questions and comments. In all, there have been sixteen events this year — a few more than is usually the case, because several items (which in fact were among the best of the whole year) were arranged at unexpectedly short notice during the Summer Term.

The talks began in September with a visit by the author Robert Lacey. This had a certain topicality since his television series *Aristocrats* was due for transmission later that month. Mr. Lacey described how he became a writer, and the background to the writing of his early, conventional historical biographies of Raleigh and Essex, as well as the 'blockbusters' *Majesty* and *The Kingdom*. This he did in a most amusing and polished way, with just the right blend of anecdote and analysis. I particularly liked his account of the four years spent in Saudi Arabia researching *The Kingdom*, and especially his hilarious description of the public dinner with King Khalid where he committed the social *faux pas* of staying too long. He hadn't realised, he said, that in Arabian society it was polite to show one's pleasure by leaving the meal as soon as possible — so that in the end, at the banquet to which he was invited, he and the King were left alone staring at each other in total silence!

The second lecture of the Michaelmas Term, 'Twenty Years in Press Photography', was given by Mrs. Susan Chapman. Mrs. Chapman was a staff photographer on the *Oxford Mail* and *Times* for three years, but has spent most of her life freelancing. The story of how she fought her way to recognition — and for a woman in journalism in the 1960s it was quite a battle — was most interesting. She also tried to convey something of the daily strains and stresses of any aspect of journalism, and particularly emphasised the point about having to push one's luck at all times. She brought a great many of her own pictures to show us and the photographers in the audience spent quite a while afterwards looking at them more closely.

The next speaker was Mr. David Winter, Head of Religious Broadcasting at the BBC, with a talk entitled 'The Empty Tomb?' I suspect that when it

became known that this was a talk about the Resurrection, there was an inward groan of imagined boredom in some quarters. However, anyone who imagined that Mr. Winter had come simply to preach Christian doctrine at us was totally mistaken, for we were treated to a very lively, logical, and captivating lecture indeed. Mr. Winter did not start off with any preconceived explanations: instead, he put forward a series of explanations about the Resurrection, most of which remove the need to believe it was a miracle, and each of which he systematically questioned (and destroyed) until even the most doubting member of the audience was left believing in the traditional explanation. He reminded us that no contemporary Roman or Jewish historian challenged the prevailing belief in the Resurrection; nor would ten disciples have died violent deaths for something they had not known to be true. 'Faith builds on facts,' said Mr. Winter, 'and although the accounts of the Resurrection don't quite square, I don't think there is anything in the Christian myth that is absolutely counter to facts.'

In one of our General Studies periods during the Lent Term we had watched a *Horizon* programme presented by Dr. Julian Glover, a moral philosopher at New College, Oxford. The programme was concerned with the ethical issues raised by aspects of genetic engineering, and Mr. Cranham managed to persuade Dr. Glover to come and talk to us about the ethical issues raised by 'The Control of Mood and Behaviour' (i.e. the business of keeping people happy by artificial means — contentment drugs and the like — and the movement towards a more drug-controlled society.) Using *Brave New World* as the ultimate example of this, Dr. Glover visualised a society in which people are made happy by 'benevolent manipulation' as fairly inevitable. Dr. Glover was a fast speaker — in fact, I think the fastest I have ever heard — but he was never less than clear or totally coherent in his arguments. What he said certainly went over some peoples' heads, but those who followed him obviously found this a thought-provoking talk and many of them asked good questions afterwards. (Indeed, Dr. Glover specifically complimented the audience on their questions.)

Dr. Janet Morgan came to talk about 'Editing the Crossman Diaries'. There were those in the audience who, having studied British Constitution, had heard rather more about the Crossman diaries than the rest of us! But I'm sure very few of us had ever thought much about the phenomenal problems of editing such a document for publication. It took Dr. Morgan ten years to do so and she confessed that whenever

she looked at those four fat volumes now she felt very tired. All his life Richard Crossman had wanted to write a major work on British government, for he was fascinated by the question of where power really resides in our society. He had originally intended to write two 'straight' books on the constitution, but when, in the 1960s, the new multi-volume Matthews/Latham edition of Pepys' diary started to come out, this had such a fascination for him that he decided he could best say what he wanted to say about British government simply by publishing his own diaries. One of the main difficulties in editing his diary was that it had all been dictated by him on to tape, and the problems of transcription, selection, and even chronology, were formidable. To Dr. Morgan, therefore, we must extend a double vote of thanks — for completing her edition of the Crossman diaries, and for coming to Cokethorpe to tell us all about it. She had then just finished writing the official life of Agatha Christie, and if in due course she can be persuaded to come back and talk about that, I envy anyone who has the opportunity to hear her again. She is a very lively lady.

The final and perhaps most fun event of the Michaelmas Term was not a lecture, but a theatrical 'showcase' under the general title 'Shakespeareana'. This was presented by Geoffrey and Laura Kendal of *Shakespeare Wallah* fame. They have led a very romantic life touring India from the Himalayas to Sri Lanka in an ancient and ramshackle car, introducing the Bard to Indian audiences in all sorts of out of the way places. No wonder James Ivory thought they were such a marvellous subject for his film! The Corinthian Room was transformed into different scenes as they performed extracts from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Julius Caesar* and *Twelfth Night*. The most magical was certainly that between Titania and Oberon from the *Dream*. With a bare minimum of props and costume effects they managed to suggest far more than was actually there, and for a while we were all transported away from our familiar surroundings.

The Lent Term was again another very varied one. The first talk was given by Count Nikolai Tolstoy, who has been to Cokethorpe twice before to talk about the 'Victims of Yalta' and Stalin's foreign policy. His subject on this occasion was simply 'The Tolstoys'. Perhaps he made too light of the machinations of his ancestor Peter Tolstoy in the service of Peter the Great, not to mention the eccentricities of General Alexander Osterman-Tolstoy during the Napoleonic Wars. (Count Tolstoy confessed that when he showed his mother the fruits of his research into the family history — he thought she would find them amusing — she murmured: 'Oh dear, I'm afraid this explains a lot I have never understood!!') By far the most gripping part of his talk was the concluding twenty minutes, when he described in great detail the story of his father's escape from Russia after the revolution. His

father was a cousin of the great novelist, and he showed some slides of himself with Leo Tolstoy's daughter. Count Tolstoy said that he had been to Russia only once, but had not managed on that occasion to visit the family home in Kazan. He suggested that it was now probably a sanatorium or rest-home for decayed KGB Colonels!

The second lecture continued the historical feeling set up by the first. This was given by Mr. Philip Ziegler, the official biographer of Lord Mountbatten of Burma. Mr. Ziegler gave us a fascinating potted account of Lord Mountbatten's life, pausing to consider certain episodes in more detail here and there. He admitted that he could probably write a whole book just about the period in India, when Mountbatten was Viceroy there after the war. We were all able to gain an insight into Lord Mountbatten not only as a great man, but also as a real person. The talk was fairly anecdotal, and consequently very amusing in places.

The next event was a very unusual one and the reason for this is explained by the title — 'My Life with Mr. Punch'. This was a demonstration given by Mr. John Styles FRSA, a member of the Inner Magic Circle and an authority on the history of puppet shows. The whole school attended and everyone loved it. Mr. Styles began by showing us the kind of simple trick that he was performing at 14, and he then went on to demonstrate a number of tricks performed by some of the great magicians of the past (sometimes fatally to themselves!) The trick with the razor blades and the old music hall Origami-style trick were probably the most memorable sequences of the first part of the evening. The second half took the form of a Punch & Judy show. Mr. Styles explained how the 'swazzle' — the cause of Mr. Punch's voice — worked; and he also told us quite a bit about the history of such puppet shows, and quoted an extract from Pepys' diary about an Italian puppet play at Covent Garden in 1662.

We returned to the norm with a very interesting talk by Mr. Rodney Galpin about 'How the Bank of England Works'. He himself is one of the four Directors of the Bank, working under the Chairman. Mr. Galpin not only gave us a history of the Bank, but also described the duties and responsibilities of a central bank, the role of the Governor (to whom he was at one time secretary), the importance of confidence in enabling it to exercise influence, and its world role — for example, the fact that it was involved in the release of the American hostages in Iran in 1977. This was a most illuminating talk about a most important British institution, and I for one thoroughly enjoyed it.

The last event of the Lent Term was a General Studies 'double bill' which took place on two consecutive evenings. On the first night we had a lecture 'Why Study Music?', given by Mr. Norman Josephs of the Department of Music at Keele

University. A lecture of this kind is far from easy but Mr. Josephs succeeded admirably in demonstrating the value of music as an academic discipline and not just something to relax to when there is nothing else to do. He explained how they taught the students at Keele to appreciate (and compose) good music, as well as to improve their own playing, and I thought he conveyed very well his own conviction that music is an inescapable part of our lives. His talk was followed on the second night by a recital by a lecturer and five students who have formed themselves into a group called the 'Keele Baroque'. As they filled the Corinthian Room with the melodious sounds of Handel and others, one could not help feeling that this was the kind of music which belonged there, rather than the strained notes of the Kajagoogoo!

Claire Rayner, the Agony Aunt, was the first speaker of the Summer Term. She was very amusing and had everybody in the room laughing at one point or another. Some of what she had to say, though, was not funny at all — but most disturbing. Like quite a few other well-known Agony Aunts today, she admitted that this was something she had got into almost by accident. Having done it now for more than twenty years, she said that she was as absorbed and fascinated as ever, but not amazed any more. She receives about a thousand letters a week and they all get a reply dictated and signed by her. She said that it is a total myth that only a certain type of person writes to an Agony Aunt: anyone, at any time of their life, may be faced with a problem which is complicated and embarrassing and which they need to talk to someone else about. They write to her because she is a familiar face, but still nevertheless a stranger. She then listed the various categories of problems that people write to her about: relationships of all kinds, worries about sex, fashionable diseases, illnesses, pregnancy, legal problems ... She certainly covers a lot of ground! One of the boys asked her if there had ever been any Agony Uncles, and she replied that both Daniel Defoe and Samuel Richardson had both run a column of this sort before they turned to serious writing.

Mr. Peter Ibbotson, Editor of 'Panorama', came to talk about 'Panorama Behind the Scenes'. He described in some detail the awkward situations film crews can get into, the techniques used in the cutting rooms, the question of what happens when a film doesn't come up to expectation, and the discussion which they have about very sensitive films. Mr. Ibbotson was an absolutely first class speaker, and he illuminated the processes that go to produce not just 'Panorama' but any current affairs programme of this kind. It is, he said, very easy to go out and shoot films which make things appear what they are not, and his team goes to great lengths to try to represent what is happening accurately and impartially. (Interestingly enough, his definition of a flop would not be a programme that was disappointing, or even a film that failed to materialise — but the knowledge

that a programme was 'journalistically wrong'.) The paradox of 'Panorama' is that although it seems spontaneous, it is in fact the result of very careful planning about two months in advance. The business of anticipating the things that people will want to know about, and the time it takes to make a programme, can also create major problems. There may be a big current crisis, or there may not: so the 'Panorama' team always has to have something 'in the can' as a safeguard, and yet react quickly if anything else occurs.

Our most distinguished Old Boy, Mr. Martin Edwards, now Chairman of Manchester United, came to the school in mid-June to talk about the business of running a football club. Except for one brief visit for a cricket match, it was the first time Mr. Edwards had been back to Cokethorpe for 22 years. He was most likeable personality and we all took to him at once. He gave a very interesting talk which comprised a brief history of Manchester United, how football has changed over the years and become really big business for the successful teams, and the advantages and disadvantages of his role as Chairman. It was their phenomenal success during the Busby era which makes Manchester United the highest supported Club in the country today, with an average weekly attendance of over 57,000 a week.

The last speaker of the Summer Term was a definite scoop. Even now most of you will no doubt remember the terrible shooting of WPC Yvonne Fletcher outside the Libyan Embassy in London, and the subsequent breaking of diplomatic relations with Libya. Within seven days of returning to England, the former British Ambassador, Mr. Oliver Miles, came to talk to us about the events that had led up to this situation, and how we might deal with Libya (if indeed we should deal with it at all.) He began by telling us about the old Libyan monarchy under King Idris, and the background of the then Lt. Gadaffi, who seized power in 1969. The present crisis began in 1980, with people leaving Libya due to profits from their newly-discovered oil wealth. Naturally this was highly unsatisfactory to Gadaffi. Having sketched in Gadaffi's quarrels with the Italians and the Jews, and his threats to the 'enemies of the revolution', Mr. Miles then described the chain of events which led up to the shooting of a number of anti-Gadaffi Libyans, as well as the British policewoman, outside the London Embassy. Until recently, opposition to Gadaffi has been ineffective, but the evidence of the London siege is perhaps a sign of the first really serious opposition. Mr. Miles emphasised, however, that relations with Libya don't cease to exist simply because of the withdrawal of the Ambassador. There are some 8000 Britons in Libya, many of whom were encouraged to go there by the British government. And there are several thousand Libyans studying in this country — and it is clearly in our interests to let them get their expertise from us. As you can imagine, this talk produced a great response from

everyone present, and those who remained behind afterwards to talk to Mr. Miles informally, learned some other very interesting things.

All in all, therefore, this has been a most enlightening year; it must surely be remembered, even by the standards of recent years, as a vintage General Studies season. Some of the talks have

helped us to understand the world we live in — and we must all allow ourselves to be woken up to what is happening in the outside world, and not simply 'exist' in the isolated environment of school life. I extend a big thank-you to all the speakers, and to Mr. Cranham for persuading them to come.

O. M. Brundin, VIth

SCHOOL LECTURES

JOURNEY OF A LIFE-TIME

On November 8th, 1983, we enjoyed a welcome return visit from Mr. & Mrs. Stansfield who enthralled us with a lecture, illustrated with 467 slides, of their 20,000 mile overland journey by motor-caravan to Kathmandu and back. We found much of the scenery in Eastern Europe, Classical Greece, Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, through the famous Khyber Pass, to Pakistan and then India, quite breath-taking.

We are already looking forward to a third visit from this ambitious and entertaining couple who really do know how to put across a lecture with clarity and infectious enthusiasm.

D. F. G.

BILL WOODLEY

Because a severe illness had brought Bill Woodley to England from his native Kenya for medical treatment we had the privilege of meeting him and his wife Ruth before they returned to their home in Tsavo West National Park. As he spoke of his life as a Game Warden his intense interest in people and his love of the wilderness and the myriads of plants and trees and creatures that go to make it up shone through. One could write a book (indeed one has been written) about the many exciting adventures with wild poachers, wild animals, and wild country that he has managed to pack into his life so far. As he showed us slides of the vast rolling plains of Africa and its animals, who could not fail to be moved? He has spent his life working tirelessly for Wild Life Conservation and his has been one of the most remarkable contributions that anyone has made in the continent of Africa. The battle still goes on as the pressures from a rapidly expanding population mount. Unless wise and impartial counsels prevail now, irrevocable damage will be done to these diminishing outposts of wilderness. It is comforting to know that there are men like Bill Woodley wielding influence in this matter and we wish him every success in his daunting task.

D. L. T.

TOP OF THE FORM

The third 'Top of the Form' competition was held on 23rd November. Although it was not originally intended that this event should add yet another inter-House competition to the various other ones which take place throughout the year, it has inevitably become so. On this occasion we dispensed with the qualifying rounds; instead, each House simply played its two opponents twice, and the winning team was the one which accumulated the maximum number of points. Once again Mr. Cranham and Mr. White acted as the question masters, and the questions were compiled by Mr. Cranham with assistance from Mr. Goldsmith (maths), Mr. White (geography), Mr. Daniels (biology), Mr. Gentry (physics) and Mr. Thomson (chemistry). Mr. Barker also provided another excellent slide round, in this instance based upon identifying familiar everyday objects which had been photographed by members of the Photography Club from some very puzzling angles.

In the first game Swift and Harcourt actually drew with 48 points each. However, Harcourt went on to lose to Queen Anne in the second game (53-34). In the third game, between Queen Anne and Swift, the teams were matched until the penultimate round: it was only the final 'seconds away' which enabled Queen Anne to creep ahead by just three points (46-43).

Final scores: Queen Anne, 99; Swift, 91; Harcourt, 82. So Queen Anne became the second recipients of the Rowley Trophy which was awarded (as the gift of George Rowley's parents) for the first time last year.

Teams

Harcourt: O. M. Brundin (Capt.), J. W. Abbott, J. W. Jones, S. Edwards, S. Harbour.

Swift: R. J. Porter (Capt.), J. Youdan, D. J. J. Fenton, T. Wright, T. S. Goslin.

Queen Anne: S. I. Bayarri (Capt.), A. J. Yendle, B. G. H. Fletcher, J. Russ, D. O. Jones.

P. J. C.



The Headlamp: S. J. Boggon.

Music

THE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The concert organised by Mr. Gordon at the end of the Michaelmas Term was a most enjoyable occasion. A number of boys demonstrated their capacity on the piano, clarinet and trumpet; and the Form 1/2 boys concluded the evening with some singing. These events are planned to encourage musical participation from as many boys as possible, and to give pleasure to all those who care to come along and listen. As is to be expected on these occasions, there was naturally a wide range of ability and age — and it was not by any means the oldest who performed best. But whatever the standard it was evident that almost everyone tried hard, and the event itself is a most worthwhile one.

Fenton and Keene, on their clarinet, began the evening with two solos — the 'Humming Song' by Schumann, and 'Early Bird' by Baxter. Fenton had clearly put a lot of effort into practising his piece, and I must confess that I thought it a pity when I heard, sometime later, that he had given up the clarinet largely through pressure of other activities. Keene's piece was a cheerful little item, reminiscent of cuckoos; and he shortly appeared again to play with Howe, Howland, and Lincoln-Lewis, 'Kind and Gracious Lady' — a piece by Henry VIII (altered by C. G. to make it more accessible for them) which was designed to convey something of the Tudor period in music. Perhaps all the notes didn't hang together as Henry VIII intended, but it was a pleasing piece nonetheless.

Howland and Keene were then joined by Dore and Withnall, each playing separate parts, for 'Quaverin' — a jazzy little number by Colin Evans, with a great deal of syncopation and bounce. In fact this was one of the 'toe-tappers' of the evening! It was nice to hear Dore in this group; I think I'm right in saying that at that stage he had only been playing the clarinet for a year and a half.

Very good also from the point of view of playing in separate parts was an English Ballad and 'American Patrol', both of which had been set together as a trumpet suite for Walker, Venman and Pitt. This was undoubtedly one of the best items of the evening. Rather in the same mood as 'Quaverin' was 'Cucurumba' — a Mexican piece of great verve which we had heard before. This was perhaps not quite as sparkling a performance as on the previous occasion. Formerly, Venman and Walker had



worked hard at it (even as a means of rousing the Headmaster at 7.15 a.m.!); I suspect that on this occasion they just pulled it out of the bag and dusted it off. Nevertheless, it shows that they have both got a very good rhythmic sense. (Where were their maraccas and grass skirts??)

Pitt played 'Eye-level', again another familiar piece, though not one that we had heard from him. Venman managed the intervals well in one of the best-known Ragtime numbers by Scott Joplin, 'The Entertainer'. Matthew Lake played a modern little piece, 'Minuet', by Gordon Jacob — I thought with great feeling and musicality. And Tighe played another little piece by Colin Evans, 'Doowah'; in spite of the fact that he had had only six or seven lessons at this stage, it was easy to see that he is a natural trumpeter.

In the individual piano section Marshall played a Minuet by Mozart, and Herron a French folksong, 'Two Little Children were Singing'. Although these were very short pieces, they were both played very neatly; and it was salutary to remember that the Minuet was written by Mozart when he was younger than Paul Marshall!

The youngest boys in the school then sang 'Away in a Manager', a Spanish carol 'Little Bull', and a catchy Jamaican ditty 'De Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy'. Although initially they had to be coaxed a little by C. G. before they threw themselves into these songs, their voices melded together well and the final result had a great deal of sweetness and charm. Indeed, they performed far better on this occasion than they were to do a few days later in the Carol Service.

The evening ended with the communal singing of 'God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen' and 'Good King Wenceslas', the latter being led by the Headmaster, with the Form 1/2 boys acting as the Page.

P. J. C.

INTER-HOUSE MUSIC COMPETITION

This year's Competition, held on Sunday, 18th March, attracted more than 60 entries so that it was necessary to separate them into Junior and Senior sections — according to standard rather than age — with the Junior classes in the afternoon and the Senior in the evening. Points awarded for each individual entry were again added up house by house and this year it was Queen Anne who won the House Music Cup with a total of 459 points, with Swift amassing 378 and Harcourt close behind with 365 points. Robin Bowman was the adjudicator for a second year and commented on both the greatly increased number of entries and on the welcome overall improvement in musical standard.

With Pottery, Art, Woodwork and other creative subjects a finished article of high quality can be gradually produced over a period of weeks or months but with Music it is the final performance which is judged, when nervous mistakes, lapses of memory, audience distractions and other external factors can so easily result in a performance far below the performer's best. In general the individual performances in the competition were of a commendably good standard with very few false starts or collapses of confidence.

The clarinet is one instrument which can very easily expose a player's nervous state by emitting a wide repertory of embarrassing squeaks and unmusical noises but this year farmyard noises were few and far between. Simon Dore didn't dispense with his accompanist on this occasion and managed a spirited, neatly-tongued performance that was over all too soon. Lionel Lincoln-Lewis also showed good breath control in a sensitive performance of 'Chanson' by Dorothy Pilling, but it was Andrew Keene who produced one of the competition's best performances in 'A Carol' from Finzi's Five Bagatelles. This was expressive, musical playing that was a real pleasure to listen to.

The piano classes provided the usual selection of seventeenth — and eighteenth-century dances, as well as other engaging pieces with titles such as 'Little Piece', 'Cradle Song' and 'Rocking Chair'. The performances of all the pianists showed that they had devoted many hours to learning and practising but it was Russell Baxter's playing of Goedicke's 'Bagpipers' that had the style and real musicality of a competition winner.

Mr. Bowman was impressed by the improved standard of brass playing, and by the appearance of a French Horn and Trombone in the competition. David Pinnell (trombone) negotiated successfully most of the awkward intervals in a stately performance of a French folk song, and Ian Ogborn,

entwined round the convolutions of the most difficult brass instrument to play, the French horn, showed that he has the necessary technique to produce melodious tone from the instrument. It was interesting to note that the majority of brass pupils belong to Queen Anne house, among them being boys learning the instruments necessary for a true brass quartet — two trumpets, French horn and trombone. I look forward to hearing this Queen Anne Quartet in 1985.

In the solo singing class exemplary diction was demonstrated by Matthew Howe in his unaccompanied singing of 'There is a green hill', Dominic White proved himself to be an angelic-looking Shepherd Boy — no doubt to the surprise of some members of staff — and Fady Dona, in his usual extrovert manner, gave us a boisterous rendering of yet another French folk song — but this time sung in French! There was also great variety in the group singing classes. To mention only a few, the Swift Youth Singers unanimously declared — following the example of Albert Dolittle (or was it Derek Thompson?) — that they were getting married in the morning, a group from Harcourt shed some sunshine on the proceedings with the Morecambe and Wise signature tune, the Queen Anne Seniors were suitably prefectorial in Gilbert and Sullivan's 'Policeman's Song', and, assisted at the keyboard by the Headmaster, Swift Young Farmers expressed their extreme dislike of a certain blackbird in forthright rustic terms and in suitable rustic garb.

An important aspect of music-making is the ability to perform with others in duets and ensembles. This is where practice, experience and musicianship really tell for it is far more difficult to play music that is different from that of your fellow performers than it is to play solo. It is also where the real fun in music-making begins. Of the several duets in the competition perhaps the most accurate performers were Stuart Withnall and Simon Dore (clarinets) in a steady, but neatly rhythmic performance of 'Au clair de la lune'. Garry Harris and Simon Smith (guitars) gave a convincing account of their own composition, 'Sand and the Sea', but the best example of ensemble playing was shown by Oliver Garrard, Kevin Tighe and Keith Pitt in a bouncy, syncopated little trumpet trio with the descriptive title, 'Doo-wah'!

The whole competition lasted for over 5 hours and showed that boys at Cokethorpe do have musical ability and are able to give pleasure to others and also to have fun themselves in performing music. With competitors of such differing ages and abilities there was necessarily a wide difference in performing standard, but Mr. Bowman was able to commend all those taking part for the amount of time and effort they had expended and on the enthusiasm they had showed for music-making.

C. G.

KEELE BAROQUE RECITAL

The students of the Keele Baroque who visited Cokethorpe on 8th March were Clare Thompson, Ros Effer, Francesca Naughton and Graham Clarke; and they were accompanied by Mr. George Pratt, a lecturer in the Department of Music at Keele University.

They began by playing a Handel Quartet for two violins, 'cello and harpsichord. This they in fact played twice, in order to illustrate the difference between playing 18th century music both before and after they had studied it properly — and, in particular, to demonstrate to us the greater authenticity of sound obtained by using the original Baroque bows. This was followed by the final two movements, a Largo and an Allegro, of a Trio Sonata by Loellier in which the oboe part was superbly ornamented by Miss Thompson. A finalist in modern languages, there was really no doubt that she was the most gifted player among the four students.

The 'cello, played by Miss Naughton, then stepped out of its bass role to take the lead, with very gentle harpsichord accompaniment, in the first two movements of a Vivaldi 'cello sonata. The evening concluded with some French dance music — a Gavotte and a Chaconne by Jean-Marie Leclair — and a lively and spirited Concerto for harpsichord, oboe and strings by Johann Friedrich Fasch.

P. J. C.

LOUIS VAN DIJK

The final event in this year's General Studies season was a piano recital on 3rd July by the Dutch musician and composer, Louis van Dijk. Mr. van Dijk is a regular performer on Dutch television and has sold almost a million records in Holland. He studied at the Amsterdam Conservatory from which he graduated Cum Laude in 1964, his final acclaimed piece being the Ravel G Major Piano Concerto. More recently he has been the soloist in a number of Piano Concertos, ranging from those of Mozart and Mendelssohn to Gershwin's 'Rhapsody in Blue'. During his classical studies, however, he became very interested in jazz, and after University he formed the Louis van Dijk Trio which won the Modern Jazz Award at a major jazz festival. He is equally at home in jazz and classical music; in his concerts he frequently mixes the two sorts of music, and he has made improvisation his particular speciality.

He began the evening's entertainment with an improvisation on a Dutch song called 'My young life has to end'. This was followed by a jazz improvisation in G Minor: the switch from classical to 'blues' — with the attendant switch to mood — was marvellous. He then performed a long and elaborate improvisation on Paul McCartney songs; 'Lucy', 'Fool on the Hill', 'Eleanor Rigby' and 'Penny Lane' were among those that were spotted

fairly easily — 'Michelle' and 'Yesterday' rather less so. The way in which he wrapped up the themes, yet never lost sight of them, was intriguing.

After a short interval Mr. van Dijk improvised on themes suggested by the audience. These ranged from 'Claire de Lune' to 'The Entertainer' and the signature tune from 'Hill Street Blues'. Other suggestions were worked into an amusing little piece where a few classical composers meet each other via a little Dutch girl called 'Catootje'. The Headmaster was also asked to come to the piano and make up an improvisation of *his* own. Mr. van Dijk listened to this for a few minutes, and then, when he decided that the moment was right, he placed his hands above the Headmaster's, and continued to improvise upon this improvisation in his own inimitable way!

The applause, which was quite obviously deeply and genuinely felt, was prolonged enough to bring Mr. van Dijk back to the piano for an encore. We all found him a most vivacious personality, and his own evident enjoyment of what he was doing was totally infectious. He really made the old Broadwood piano sing, and at times the sheer speed of his fingers on the keyboard was quite astonishing. His ability to take a theme and, by way of improvisation, to make a complete work out of it in its own right, is an amazing and rare talent which we were indeed privileged to have heard.

P. J. C.

ALBERT HALL GALA CONCERT

On the last Wednesday of term on a beautiful evening eleven boys and two ladies set off in a minibus to the Albert Hall to hear the Trinity College Symphony Orchestra & Choir and the famous Soloist Yehudi Menuhin.

The Orchestra and Choir opened with Elgar's Civic Fanfare followed by his arrangement of the National Anthem which was very moving. The next item was Holst's Ballet Music: The Perfect Fool. There were several good solo items for flute, woodwind, harp and celesta together with some good brass fanfares. The Song of the High Hills by Delius was played and sung beautifully and the soloists Tracy Bounden and Andrew Busher were very good.

Then came the moment when the famous Yehudi Menuhin appeared to play Elgar's Violin Concerto. I thought the third was the best of the whole evening when Yehudi brilliantly played the rapid opening movements which were a prelude to the main vivacious theme and as he ended his fantastic performance the audience clapped continuously as he appeared again and again to take his bows with the Conductor, Meredith Davies, who equally deserved the ovation he received. It was certainly an evening to be remembered in the lovely setting of the Albert Hall.

K. Pitt

CREATIVE HOBBIES EXHIBITION

On the last day of the Michaelmas Term the whole of the Library was taken over for the setting up (under the expert eye of Mr. Barker) of this Exhibition. Each House had its own area and a high proportion of the boys throughout the school contributed exhibits made in the Art school or Workshops. It was exciting to see how rapidly the interest and overall standard in creative hobbies have grown during the last two years and great credit must go to Mrs. Worthington, Mrs. Stone and John White for all the enthusiasm they have engendered. They must have been as delighted as were the many parents and their visitors who came to inspect the Exhibition on the last morning of term. It is intended to make it an annual event.

The exhibits were judged by Mr. & Mrs. Haslam, both of whom teach in the Art and Crafts Department at Radley College. They were impressed by much of what they saw though they did comment that the standard of finishing needs to be improved.

Four main prizes were awarded to S. Bayarri (Art), M. Garside (Pottery), N. Boggon (Photography) and J. Joseph (Woodturning), and several other smaller prizes were awarded for Highly Commended work. The judges awarded the Cup for the best House Display to Queen Anne.

D. F. G.



Above right: Part of the Queen Anne display in the Creative Hobbies exhibition. Above: Exhibits from Harcourt.

ONE SAILOR'S NIGHTMARE

Our first day through the Magellan strait was torture. We were rocking like a baby's cradle as the wheel was rolling about. There was panic on board the ship, the wind kept howling and we could not see land at all. Twice in one hour I was sick overboard and so were many other men. I worried myself silly. I thought we wouldn't make it. The sky was dark, the sea was black like a gigantic hole swallowing us up. Magellan seemed to keep his place at the wheel and shouted his orders. I was starving most of the time and by the thirtieth day we had run out of supplies as the merchant at the port had only given us half of the food we had paid for. At night men screamed out in fear and thought the whole trip was driving people insane. Men jumped overboard as they could not bear the unknown any longer and preferred even suicide. Soon I was forced to catch rats, skin them and eat them; it was revolting but they kept me alive. I was hoping that it was just a bad dream but no, it was real!

Sails were ripped and men would climb the rigging and replace them; men were thrown off the rigging like someone blowing ants off a piece of paper. After thirty-eight days of hell we pulled through into the calm sea of the Pacific ocean. We had made it. The sun was shining and the sea was blue again. I was happy but we still had no food. For the first time in twenty years I wept, feeling sad, feeling unhappy and most of all feeling lonely.

J. Shorrock

Pictures at an Exhibition

(After Moussorgsky)

Larghetto

On School Open Day I wished to display prints from some old glass negatives, mainly Edwardian. They included some young ladies *en disshabillé*. Would I corrupt the boys who would undertake the printing?

I consulted Mr. Cranham.

'Are the prints not historical?'

'Well, yes — I suppose they are.'

'Then go ahead, for history cannot corrupt.'

The prints were duly prepared. I invited the opinion of Mr. Nightingale. Might they offend? Mr. Nightingale quoted a few lines from Milton's *Areopagitica* — at least I think it was. I can say for certain that whatever it was it fully sanctioned the publication of the prints.

I went to the Headmaster.

'Sir, may I display these prints?'

'Barker, I now teach the classics — indeed the postures portrayed are classical. Display them, for the classics license all exposure.'

I wish now that I had solicited views from Mr. Hudson on figures, Mr. Daniels on anatomy, Mr. White on topography and Mr. Thomsom on the reduction of silver halides.

For my own part I went by the Windmill criterion — if they don't move, it's Art.

Con moto ma non troppo

A week or so back I attended the CSE photography moderation. Hundreds of prints to be graded. We the panel adjudicators (all artists save one) sat much as Royal Academicians — thumbs up; thumbs down.

During the lunch-time recess I had a ploughman's and a pint with a young but apparently well thought of Academician. I asked for a little guidance. He swallowed a pickled onion, drank deeply of his Best Bitter and after the necessary pregnant pause assured me of the truth and sincerity of his reply.

'When I sat my College Art Finals I was required to submit a painting in oils, something at which I do not excel. I bought a 'Painting by Numbers' canvas from the local shop and brushed the paints into the designated areas. On that expertise is based my authority. By the way, your candidate X is a little weak — hide that print of the —, the panel never counts; and submit the two prints — upside down. It will give them impact.'

I recently called on an old teaching colleague. I enquired of him how the photography was going.

'I've packed it in. All the boys did was to take snaps of each other raising two fingers and like gestures. Only Cartier-Bresson and Desmond Morris could make much of that!'

Allegretto

Overheard at the Photography Exhibition on Open Day (with some editing and unspoken thoughts).

Elderly gentleman on espying the earlier mentioned prints: 'I say —.'

From seventeen different ladies pointing to old cameras: 'I had one like that.' (Mesdames, take care — they were pre-1930.)

'I like the girl chopping firewood.' (Hurdle-making at Cogges Farm Museum.)

Military-looking gentleman, apparently a member of the Cavalry Club, on observing an incorrectly titled print of the alabaster effigy of a knight in armour: 'Damme, sir — that's not Harcourt, it's Lovell.' (Obviously at Sandhurst together — 6th Royal Horse.)

Mother to son: 'Did you take that?' (It was a Calotype of c.1850!)

'He's quite good, this Bill Brandt — what form is he in?'

'Did you take that one of the ducks in our garden?' (No madam, on the River Windrush.)

Finale (not true) Prestissimo

Multiple Choice question.

The Unipart Calendar depicts photographs of scantily-clad ladies because

- (a) models are poorly paid and cannot afford clothes
- (b) it saves Lord Lichfield the expense of pretty dresses
- (c) it helps one to remember part numbers of components
- (d) it proves that rocker assemblies are as good as Pirelli tyres
- (e) it was a hot day and the models got sweaty in fur coats
- (f) it makes a change from Arlington Row, Bibury.

After which — ageing schoolmaster, failed Grad. Inst. P., seeks part-time post, January.

H. H. B.



Anemone pulsatilla.



Ashmolean Museum at Night.



Sepia studies
by
Stephen Boggon
and
Jonathan Glynn

Monastic Lattice.

Lord Lovell in effigy.





Corn Threshing.



Elysium.

*Pictures by
Sergio Bayarri*



Water-colour: Jungle.

Ink-wash and pen: Studies from Leonardo da Vinci sketches.



Water-colour study: Bottles.

THE SCHOOL PLAY

The Italian Straw Hat

The Lent term ended with the production of the junior play *The Italian Straw Hat*, with a cast drawn almost exclusively from members of the Third and Fourth forms. This had been adapted from what was originally a farce called 'Un Chapeau de Paille d'Italie', written by Eugene Labiche and Marc Michel and first performed in Paris in 1851. Ever since, in one adapted form or another, it has been seen regularly on the French stage. Its first English performance did not take place until the 1940s. What we saw on 3 and 4 April in the Gymnasium was Frederick Davies' rather shorter and more prim version which for school dramatic societies is ideal with its large cast which includes a variety of 'character' parts.

The plot, of course, as befits farce, is improbable, flimsy and heavily dependent upon our unquestioning acceptance of preposterous conventions. The hero, passing by the park on his wedding morning, inadvertently allows his horse to start munching a lady's straw hat which is hanging by its ribbons from a tree. This hat belongs to a beautiful girl who is there in the park discreetly to meet a dashing major in the Horseguards. He, fiery as well as dashing, regards the damage done to the hat as a deadly insult. The girl's father who gave her the hat must not be allowed to learn that his daughter has had a secret assignation with the major, still less that she has allowed her hat to be mutilated. It is clearly vital that she must not be discovered later on with the major in the bridegroom's apartment for his prospective father-in-law is equally inflammable and must not find a strange woman and her admirer in his future son-in-law's room, especially on his wedding morning. The ruined hat, it is decided, must be quickly replaced by an identical one.

After many ludicrous and wholly unbelievable twists and turns of event an exactly matching hat is conveniently, oh so conveniently, found to be one of the bride's wedding presents. All therefore duly ends happily. The resourceful bridegroom, blushing bride, furious major, frenetic sentry, stone-deaf grandfather and two domineering fathers are at peace with one another. It is all great nonsense but all great fun.

Howe, outstanding as Ferdinand the bridegroom, had the longest and most demanding part. He carried it off with some ease and poise and not a stumble. His bride, played by Russ, was spirited yet winsome and delivered her important final speech to end the play clearly and most effectively.

Erlstedt made of Tardiveau, the milliner's book-keeper and part-time member of the National Guard, something entirely his own. He created out of someone who is in the text a rather colourless old dawdler a zany being at once grotesque, acrobatic and genuinely comic. With his convulsive movements and Michael Crawford beret he held the eye whenever he appeared on stage, his success depending much on inspired improvisation.

Pinnell as the deaf and aged Vezinet gallantly sustained a difficult part, and Longbotham's Jeeves-like Felix was always audible and quietly convincing. Because of an illness, Wolff had to be summoned at the last moment as a replacement to play Emile, the enraged Major. He rose deafeningly and destructively to the occasion.

The costumes of all, ladies, gentlemen and soldiers, made their colourful contribution, skilfully designed to suggest that we were in Paris in the middle of the last century. The Bride and bridegroom might almost have stepped out of a Suchard advertisement. The settings, too, were ingenious. Small but effective changes to the basic scene moved us smoothly from apartment to milliner's shop and from a different apartment outside to a Paris square.

The producer faced with a play of this kind faces daunting problems if his stage is small and his cast large, young and inexperienced, but in this case these difficulties were, in large measure, gallantly overcome. The players went for what was essential — the fun. They clearly enjoyed this merry romp as much as did the audience. Subtlety of interpretation was not called for but skilful movement and timing was needed if the nineteen actors, with their many entrances and exits, were not to find themselves in a muddle. The rapidly shifting situations and changes of fortune were underlined by clear, forthright delivery. Only occasionally were there unmodulated exceptions when sheer volume drowned the words. Much of the humour was broad and visual (for example and bride's wriggling to dislodge a pin down the back of her dress, the leaping to retrieve the hat from the top of the sentry box, people belabouring each other with umbrellas, the constant processing to and fro of the bewildered wedding guests in search of the elusive groom) but the pace was never allowed to flag. The cast took everything, even the unexpected and unrehearsed, in its stride to provide us with an evening of hilarious entertainment which suited admirably the prevailing end-of-term spirit.

P. T. Ellis

Behind the scenes and on stage during the School Play.





"I've got an identity crisis, Dad"



*With acknowledgements to Ken Pyne,
Patrick Gallagher and Richard Drew Publishing Ltd.*

It all began on one bleak and very dismal morning with the rain dripping down in that irritating way. I had just finished my breakfast and decided that breakfast and bright orange hair did not go together very well. My sister, who was eighteen, had been a punk since she was fifteen. The orange hair had been the latest fashion, so of course what's in fashion my sister had to have. I then left the table and received a friendly punch in the stomach from my brother who was a skin head. After saying good morning and ruffling his hair I left for school.

I arrived at school soaked to the skin, I went to the cloakroom and hung my coat up. It was just an ordinary jacket and it dawned on me that mine was the only sensible one. The rest were either donkey jackets or leather jackets. I then went straight into a nice, warm, loving history lesson. As I walked through the door shouts and laughter arose. As usual I was teased about how my tie was done up or how big my trousers were, or how my shoes had gone out of fashion seven hundred years ago. I sat down and began to think about my identity. By break I was still thinking about it, and after lunch and as I walked home from school in the rain.

When I got to the house I looked up the drive and there were two massive custom-built motor bikes belonging to my two uncles, Ted and Ed, who were both 'Hell's Angels'. Also there was a van with flowers painted on the side and "Peace be with you, brother" and "Hey man, this is the peace chariot" written on the sides and doors. It also smelt strongly of herbal tea and herbal cigarettes. I walked over and peered inside the van. It had beads hanging from the roof separating the back from the driving area. In the

back it had cushions instead of seats, with guitars lying around. I knew instinctively that they belonged to my cousins Sharon and Lisa, the Hippies.

I walked through the door to be greeted by the sound of punk. I walked into the living room to see my mum talking to Ted and Ed, and Lisa and Sharon who were both playing guitars, and my sister listening to her punk in the corner. I then glanced outside and saw my brother with some of his mates playing 'smash-the-milk-bottle' with their steel toe-caps. My brother seemed to be doing quite well. My mum shouted at my sister to 'Turn it off!' which got the reply of a groan. The music then stopped. Lisa and Sharon stopped stringing their guitars. I said hello to mum and kissed her. I then poured myself a cup of tea and went to see how my sister's hair was getting on. She replied that it was alright and would I please push off. I accepted her reply and went to listen to a vicious argument between Ted and Ed who were arguing for the removal of the Greenham Common Peace campers, and Lisa and Sharon and mum who were against Ted and Ed. I left totally confused over the whole thing.

After attempting to do some homework, I sat back and began to think of what cult I should be. I thought of being a Mod, I then thought again, because there was always a fight between them and the skinheads, and the friendly punch from my brother in the morning would no longer be of a friendly nature. I then wondered about becoming like any relations, but that soon vanished because then my cult would not be original. I would just be following on. Anyway, I didn't want orange hair or a skin head. I was still stumped when I was called down to supper, Ted, Ed, Lisa and Sharon had both left, so I settled down to have my supper with a punk, skinhead, an ex-Teddy Boy and a Mozart freak.

After helping to clear up, I said goodbye to my sister and brother who were going to the same concert to stir up trouble. Mum was content to listen to Mozart and wash up. I put my problem to my Dad by saying: "Dad, I've got an identity crisis. You were a Teddy Boy. My uncles are Hell's Angels. My cousins are Hippies. My brother is a skin-head, my sister a punk, and Mum a Mozart freak. There's just nothing original left for me to be anymore, so what am I to do?" My Dad pondered on this for ten minutes, and called my Mum in and discussed it with her. After half an hour they came to the conclusion that I was lovely the way I was, and I was original being ordinary. So nowadays it doesn't bother me when I walk into the history lesson with my tie done up out of fashion, or that my trousers are too big, or that my shoes went out of fashion seven hundred years ago. I am proud to be an original ordinary person.

B. A. Goad

DEBATING RETROSPECT

All school societies naturally depend on the degree to which their members are prepared to be actively involved, and a debating society necessarily depends on an even wider participation by the majority of boys than this. During the 1983-84 season there was, on the whole, a marked decline both in the quantity and quality of contribution from the floor of the House; and a decided disinclination on the part of many boys to come forward as principal speakers. For the most part, the society has continued to function because of the willingness of a number of 'veterans', but I'm glad to say that towards the end of the year there were encouraging new faces from the then 3rd Form.

There were only two debates during the Michaelmas Term. The first was a mixed 4th and 5th Form debate on the motion that 'This House believes stubble-burning should be banned'. The motion was proposed by Mr. Dennis-Jones, seconded by Mr. Woodley. This was the first occasion that Dennis-Jones had participated as a major speaker, and, though he made some very good points, he was no match for his opponent, Mr. Fenton, who had assembled some excellent material which was projected with his usual confidence. Mr. Woodley seconded in a practised way, and dealt with comments and questions for the Floor in an adroit and amusing manner. Mr. Jackson also seconded very competently for the opposition. There were some informed comments from Smith III, Brooker, Akindele and Maktabi, and the contributions of Edwards and Howe, as new boys, were especially commendable. When put to the vote the motion was defeated 43-34.

Our annual inter-school debate with the girls of the Lechlade Convent took place on 17th November. It was Lechlade's turn to be the hosts and the debate took place in the sixth form common room at the Convent, with Miss Clare McCallum in the chair. On this occasion the teams were mixed ones. The motion, proposed by Mr. Lilley and Miss Rachel Bird, was that 'people should live together before marriage'. It was opposed by Mr. Harris and Miss Frances Midwood. In general this was a debate of a much higher calibre than the one on the institution of marriage itself which took place at Cokethorpe during the 1982 season, and it was a pity that the majority of the House obviously voted on their personal convictions, rather than on the merit of the speeches themselves — thus unjustifiably carrying the motion 32-16. Lilley was in fact unaccountably nervous, and Miss Bird's arguments were not always as coherent as they sounded. The arguments and approach of those who opposed seemed much fresher than the hackneyed points which were rehearsed by the proposers. Floor contribution was disappointing, and on our side came only from Porter, Abbott and Jackson.

The Inter-House competition took place, as usual, during the Lent Term, and here things began to get into their stride. The first debate, between Harcourt and Queen Anne, was held on 16th February, and the motion — which would, I think, have been a difficult one even for members of the Oxford Union! — was that 'This House considers that man has created God'. It was proposed by the Harcourt team of Messers. Lilley and Abbott, and opposed by Mr. Nicholas Smith and Mr. Woodley. The latter clearly had the harder task: it was easier to pour scorn on the existence of God than to get up and defend the belief in Him, and those who threw out this challenge only just had the better of the argument. Indeed, although the judges awarded more points collectively to Lilley and Abbott (179:164), the motion was actually defeated when put a vote in the House (59-39; 10 Abs). Among the contributors from the floor, the most moving was undoubtedly Maktabi; Anderson, Glynn, Medina, Brooker, Paravicini and Garrard also spoke.

As the winners of the first round Harcourt now found themselves challenged by the Swift team of Messers. Harris and Youdan, who proposed the motion that 'This House could in no circumstances support CND'. On this occasion, which took place on 1st March, the Harcourt team was composed of Messers. Brundin and Simon Smith. In many ways this was the most satisfactory debate of the three in the competition, for it was notable for good factual content by all the speakers, carefully supported by statistics or quotations of one kind or another. The judges complimented everyone on their preparation, although the chairman did remark that no-one was exempt from reading his speech at some point. This debate also produced a high standard of contribution from the floor. Mr. Glynn spared no quarter in putting the members of his own house on the spot, and Mr. Longbotham asked a question which led to a series of spirited exchanges with Harris. Messers. Anderson, Lilley, Maktabi, Goad, Smith III, Patel, Abbott and Woodley also spoke. The judges awarded 179 points to Harcourt, and 168 to Swift. Strangely enough, the vote in the House was again at variance with this, with the motion being carried by 38 votes (84-46).

In the final debate on 22nd March, Queen Anne threw out the challenge to Swift — 'This House believes that men should not rely on machines as much as they do'. This was proposed by Messers. Medina and Sergio Bayarri, and opposed by Messers. Glynn and Fenton. Although the speakers did not produce quite the variety of points that one would have liked, this was a far stronger debate than had been anticipated. Glynn and Fenton made a good team, and both fixed the house in a fairly arresting way — in contrast to Mr. Bayarri's rather intellectual approach. However, the motion rather

favoured the proposers, and the judges were also unanimous in their opinion for they awarded 181 points to the Queen Anne team, and 164 to Swift. The opinion of the House was almost equally divided, for the motion was defeated by a mere 3 votes (56-53).

Harcourt were thus the winners of this year's competition, with a total of 374 points: Queen Anne came second, with 345; Swift third with 332. Once again, Mr. Watts made a splendid chairman of judges, and in this task he was ably (and impartially) assisted by the other two house tutors, Mr. Randall and Mr. Daniels.

The two major prize debates took place during the first half of the summer term. The Senior Cullen Debate, which was held on 14th May, took the form of a 'Hat Debate', and the four who pushed themselves forward were Messrs. Abbott, Brundin, Lilley and Porter. Of the motions which they had to speak to — either for or again — by far the most original and amusing was 'That rock 'n roll is the greatest Satanic force in the last twenty-five years'. The others were 'That money is the root of all evil'; 'That there is more sympathy today for the criminal than the victim'; and that 'This House deplores unisexism'. On the whole, the two lighter motions worked better than the serious ones; and the greater verdict on the evening, which, even with the time restrictions, proved to be a far longer one than had been expected, was that it didn't quite come off. Perhaps it was just too tough a test. Nevertheless, the four contestants deserve to be commended on their efforts, and as an idea this type of debate was well worth trying, since it at least got them to crystallise and express their thoughts quickly and spontaneously. What was disappointing was the lack of response from the floor, with only Anderson and Glynn trying among the senior members of the House, and Messrs. Jones II and Barry among the juniors. Our guest Chairman of Judges on this occasion was Mr. Gordon Dennis. He was assisted by Mr. Watts and Mr. Daniels; and it was to Brundin that Mr. Dennis (after keeping everyone in suspense for a very long time) awarded the Prize.

The Junior Debating Prize was contested for on 1st June. This occasion took the form of two short debates, and they both had much in the way of spirited view and attack that the Senior Cullen had lacked. Indeed, these were two of the best debates, at any level, in the last five years. There were eight contestants, all drawn from the 3rd Form. The first motion, 'This House would prefer a holiday abroad to one in this country', was proposed by Messrs. Howe and Pinnell, and opposed by Jones II and Kershaw. The second motion was that 'This House would rather be deaf than blind'; this was proposed by Messrs. Law and Stead, and opposed by Messrs. Knight and Samuel Smith. Our guest adjudicator on that occasion was the actor, Mr. Freddie Jones, who was assisted by Mr. Nightingale.

An essential difficulty for the judges was the disparity between the motions, the second one being much graver than the first; but after speedy deliberation they mutually reached the conclusion that Howe was the best speaker of the evening — with Kershaw and Law highly commended as the obvious runners-up.

P. J. C.

THE JUDGES VERDICT ON THE SENIOR CULLEN DEBATE

Bowling short to Viv Richards, or tackling a Springbok, are sane activities compared with agreeing to speak in a Hat Debate. Out of a hat, in random order, come unanticipated motions; at the drop of a hat (not literally), you propose or oppose. At Cokethorpe on 14 May there were four topics. The House was invited to believe money the root of all evil; rock 'n roll the great satanic force in the last 25 years; the criminal more sympathised with than the victim; and sexism to be deplored. It was nearly 10 p.m. when this fourth debate ended — too late to deplore anything, except perhaps the hour.

From the floor there were occasional one-liners and bouts of pertinent personal abuse of earlier speakers, though Anderson and Harris both did better than that. But no-one rivalled the four paper speakers. Richard Lilley's chief debating strategy was to accept — and to assume that, with his heavy petting, the House would accept — the sootiness of human nature; he deployed this line with (usually) startlingly direct emotion or (once) a tickling ridicule. Richard Porter was plagued in the first debate by nerves and in the second by an audience which turned deaf towards his vilifying of rock 'n roll; but he always stuck to his task with sherpa-like perseverance. Jeremy Abbott characterised himself as the man of reason, advocating what any sensible person would agree with; at times he found himself unduly hoist with the phrase "of course" (a sort of confidence tic), and once he hectored the audience lest it hadn't noticed his evident, vote-catching sanity. All evening, Oliver Brundin took the eye and ear: when he stood up, people looked at him with the sort of eager regard older folk reserve for the wine waiter. He served cheeky arguments with assurance, and coddled the audience as winningly as (I gather) Mr. Nightingale tickles trout. And in the really serious third debate, he skilfully and passionately weighed the sympathy and justice appropriate for criminal or victim.

It was the speech of the evening, and it was easy and pleasurable for the three judges (Warwick Daniels, John Watts and Gordon Dennis) to declare Oliver Brundin the speaker of the evening. They were quickly and cordially unanimous. The shades of night were getting quite thick, and by now even 'News at Ten' presenters had gone off screen.

G. W. Dennis

THE JUDGES VERDICT ON THE JUNIOR CULLEN DEBATE

It was felt that the first motion, being relatively light-hearted, was the easier to debate. The second, on a graver subject, placed greater demands on speakers and chamber alike.

Nevertheless, allowance having been made, the three most lively, best articulated and most confident speeches were clearly delivered in the first part of the evening, by Messrs. Howe, Kershaw and Jones. Howe and Kershaw in particular were pleasingly independent of their notes, and summarized with intelligence and authority. Pinnell, though his speech was rather brief, also spoke feelingly and boldly, and showed that he had the makings of a good debater.

The second debate produced a most encouraging performance from Law (who proposed). Quietly earnest rather than declamatory, he still commanded respect for both the range of his arguments and the conviction with which they were uttered. Indeed the content of all four speeches on this debate is to be commended, though none of the other three debaters quite managed to hold their audience, and Knight in particular, understandably nervous, took refuge in his text and made his good points to no-one in particular.

Apart from a disappointingly thin contribution from the floor, the standard of debating was high throughout, and all eight speakers are to be commended. The most complete skills were displayed by the evening's first speaker (a hard task in itself) Matthew Howe, and the judges had no hesitation in placing him first.

Freddie Jones
C. J. Nightingale

SHE WAS ... (ENDLESS)

*She was ...
The calm waters and their sunlight reflection
The bright concrete almost blinding,
The distant city road forever winding,
My mode of thinking,
Expressed as object and as presence
Every sunset moulded into shape
Her eyes, I could not escape
Or ever will
I see them still,
Still ...*

*She was ...
Joyful like a child
Smiling always
Capturing elation in one look,
As if nothing could matter more;
She opened every door — into every passage of time
Her feelings echoed mine.*

*She was ...
The morning view
And the starlight,
The hazy moon's faint shadows at night
The afternoon's mixed pastels, shades of colour
Meeting one another
She was ... (Endless)*

Adrian Spencer



Freddie Jones Esq., and participants in the Junior Cullen Debate.

DECLAMATIONS

This year's Declamation were held on March 12th. Once again the Corinthian Room provided the setting, and on this occasion Mr. Barry Webb, a member of the English Department at Radley College, came to adjudicate. The contestants are required to read two passages — one of them a set passage, the other a free choice of their own — and strictly speaking one of them should be prose, the other verse. Mr. Webb, in prefacing his adjudication decisions, told us that what he was looking for was clarity of diction, variation of voice and pace, tone (especially how appropriate it was to the passage read), and the way in which the total performance came across. We might not agree with all his decisions, but the latter were his privilege!

The set choices for Form 1/2 were either Robert Frost's *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening* or an extract from Chris Freddi's *Pork*. Chris Freddi is an Old Boy who has recently published a book of short stories *Pork and Others*. This was the first time the youngest boys in the school had taken part in Declamations and the four finalists were Timothy Bomford, Caspar Jones, Michael Kentish, and Haydn Mellowship. Bomford and Kentish both have nice voices, and Kentish was particularly precise in his enunciation. Bomford also showed very good poise and presence. Mellowship was clearly a little nervous, but he managed to utilise this well and he looked up a good deal while he was reading. It was, however, Casper Jones who carried off the prize in this section, for he read with such unselfconscious enthusiasm and expression throughout. He didn't quite get the comedy right in his own chosen extract from Roald Dahl, but he evoked perfectly the atmosphere suggested by the Frost poem. This was an extremely good effort by all these boys, though, and all should be encouraged to enter again next year.

The 4th Form finalists were Daniel Jones, Samuel Smith and Michael Stead. The set passages were either Kipling's poem *My Boy Jack*, or an extract from Oscar Wilde's *The Nightingale and the Rose*. All three boys read very well; they all have a pleasing timbre of voice, and Mr. Webb admitted that he had a hard decision to make here. Smith 'pointed' the Kipling with great effect, especially on its repetitions; and he was splendidly dramatic in his own extract from *Animal Farm*. Stead caught the whimsicality of the Wilde and was pleasingly lyrical in Yeats' *The Wild Swans at Coole*. It was, however, Daniel Jones who was declared the winner in this section — principally for his reading of Wilfred Owen's *Dulce et Decorum Est*. This was an ambitious choice, and Jones' reading was not only both clear and expressive, but gave full value to every word.

The set passages for the 4th and 5th Forms were perhaps among the most difficult tests of the evening. *The Zebras* by Roy Campbell is a poem that reads very well on the printed page, but is not as easy to bring off in a public reading. The passage from Steinbeck's *The Pearl* turned on the expectancy of whether Kino would be defrauded by the Dealer of his 'pearl of great price'. The finalists here were Jan Erlstedt, George Howarth and Daniel Woodley. Although Howarth's reading of *The Zebras* was rather too fast, he nevertheless conveyed something of the poem. He made fairly effective use of dialect in his own choice from *Three Men in a Boat*, although this extract could with benefit have been made a bit funnier. Woodley, in common with Erlstedt, characterised the Dealer well in *The Pearl*, and it was a pity therefore that he failed to inject sufficient expression into his poem by Roger McGough. It was Erlstedt who carried off the prize here. Although his reading of Wilfred Owen's *The Last Laugh* was just a shade overdone, he caught the ironies which were Owen's intention. He also maintained most effectively the suspense in the passage from Steinbeck.

The choice between Wordsworth's *Lines written in Early Spring* and the extract from Malcolm Bradbury's *Eating People is Wrong* was a stiff test for the 5th Formers. It was difficult to avoid the trap of being too mechanical in the Wordsworth, and equally difficult to convey the humour — a sort of cross between Thurber and Monty Python — in the Bradbury. Of the three finalists in this section, it was Charles Paravicini who easily carried away the prize. He was confident, clear and expressive throughout, and made very effective use of pauses in his passage from *Brideshead Revisited*; he was in fact probably the best reader of the entire evening. Hassan Maktabi managed to convey some of the humour in the Bradbury and made a fair attempt at Shelley's *Ozymandias*. Some feeling for the beauty of nature was evident in Benjamin Fletcher's passage from David Thompson's *Woodbrook*, but as Mr. Webb remarked it was for the most part all terribly dark and surprisingly melancholy! This was a passage of great delicacy and it required much more sensitive treatment.

The 6th Form finalists produced a strong conclusion to the evening. The set choices here were either the wonderfully sensuous poem *At Grass* by Philip Larkin, or a rather macabre extract from Graham Greene's autobiography. Oliver Brundin caught the contrived casualness of the Greene, and his two poems, one of them Anonymous, were most arresting. He really looked up as he spoke and he knew all his pieces by heart. Jonathan Glynn made

an ambitious choice from Scott Fitzgerald's *The Beautiful and the Damned*, and, even though he didn't carry off a prize, this was a passage well worth trying, and he deserved to be commended for the way in which he succeeded in conveying the accent and intonation of the drunk man. Nicholas Smith, clearly rather nervous, was in many ways the one

who spoke the Larkin poem most correctly. The rhythm and the atmosphere tended to get a bit lost, but every word came across. He slightly disadvantaged himself, alas, by choosing an extract from *Tarka the Otter* which had no dialogue. The winner in this section was Oliver Brundin.

P. J. C.

A TWIST OF FATE!

As I approached the old house, I thought I saw a light in one of the top windows. The night was cold and grey and the fog was enveloping everything. I walked on and suddenly stopped. A twig cracked beneath me. Was I being followed? I went on and stopped at the door. It was a solid looking door made out of oak and the brass plates were now a dullish yellow colour. I twisted the handle and I had to push against the door. Finally the door swung inwards as a result of my energetic efforts, what I now saw utterly amazed me.

The temperature of the spacious room was warm due to a log fire which was alight, crackling, hissing and spitting in front of my face. There was enough visibility to see that there were light switches by the side of me. I pushed the dust-covered switch and lights situated near the ceiling flicked on. To the side of me was a hat and coat stand. On the top hook was a black top hat, a white scarf and a maple walking stick. I shouted "Hallo! Is anyone home?" There was no reply, only the deathly silence. I decided to explore the house and to find the room at the top with the light on. Each room was lavishly furnished. There was a room with no television, but a leather suite, drinks cabinet and other ornaments. The drinks were very old. There were bottles of champagne dating back to the early twentieth century and wine from the Saint Pierre region of France. I also came across a dining room, drawing room and kitchen.

After I had explored the various downstairs rooms I came across the stairs. They were steep and winding and very tiring to climb. At this stage I felt certain something was wrong. There was a long landing. I went to the left and there were lots of identical wooden doors. I pushed open the nearest one and I switched on the light. Inside there was a bed with clean sheets. It was the same scene in all the rooms on the left and to the right as I checked each one of them. I came upon the last room. However, before I twisted the handle I noticed a pool of yellow light coming from the bottom of the door. How can it be? Why is it on? I turned the handle and to my amazement the dimensions of the inside were much bigger than the outside. Inside was a hall with many men clad in rich medieval clothes sitting around a table eating and feasting. "Ah my friend," exclaimed a portly man with a wizened face. "I have

been expecting you," he continued. "As you can see, around you are seven doors. You must choose one door and if it is the incorrect choice then you will be stuck in the complicated relative dimensions of time for infinity."

"I don't believe you!", I exclaimed.

"Then you are a fool," my tormentor said with no apparent expression.

I just couldn't believe it. It sounded like something out of one of H. G. Wells' novels. In desperation I groped for the second nearest door to me. The room was blackened. The door slammed behind me and a voice echoed out, "You have chosen well," said the voice. It was deep, mellow, and it had a haunting effect. "What you are required to do is to correctly act out my instructions. You are John F. Kennedy, President of the United States of America. You will go back to the morning of the 22nd of November 1963, Dallas. On this morning Kennedy was assassinated. You are required to avoid the bullets and therefore survive the assassination attempt."

"I am a scientist and I know that if I were to survive in the form of Kennedy then the world's history and politics would change."

"You have no choice," said the voice. Suddenly I felt extremely light. A world of green and yellows, and there were hundreds of cheering and waving people flashing past me in a blur. I found myself sitting in an open-topped Cadillac. Behind me were two men anxiously looking around themselves. At the side was a woman wearing a pink dress. I looked around at the buildings but could see nothing. I heard a crack. My back was shattered from a single bullet. Behind me one of my guards threw himself over my person to protect me. Another shot rang out and he was hit. In uncontrollable agony he rolled off. The woman was screaming hysterically. The sirens were wailing and the people stunned. One more shot rang out and I felt a bullet pump into the side of my head. Everything seemed to be swimming around me. I felt I was slipping. The next moment I came round. I was on hard gravel. What a fantastic experience! I sprinted off. I know that I had saved the world's future and past history. I decided not to approach houses with lights on on the top floor in the future ...

P. T. Longbotham

Rowing



BOAT CLUB REPORT

LENT TERM

Serious rowing schools usually row for the whole of the Lent and Summer terms — or even in rare cases for all three terms. The Cokethorpe idea of starting the Lent Term with some gentle exercise round various cross-country courses and then getting down to the serious matter of rowing some weeks into the term is unique. That is not to say that it does not work very well and the Boat Club is suitably grateful to P. J. G. for encouraging a modicum of fitness after the excesses of the Christmas holidays.

The Thames at the “Rose Revived” can be unfriendly early in the year but we were lucky in 1984. There was never too much stream to row safely and crews at all levels covered some very useful mileage. There is never enough time in the Summer Term for technical coaching and this was particularly true this year with such a short summer term.

If the water conditions were generally good, the same cannot be said of the temperature which was decidedly unfriendly. This must have been the coldest Lent Term for a very long time! Very low temperatures are bad enough on home water where one can at least have fairly brisk outings with a minimum of sitting in the boat waiting. The trouble with the two rowing events attended this term is that they were of the “Head of the River” variety. That is to say all those competing had to row up to the start, wait for a long time getting even colder while crews were marshalled and then row over the course.

The first Head was at Worcester over a 4 mile downstream course which passes the racecourse. Three fours entered, the First VI, the J16 IV and the J15 IV. They finished in that order, about halfway down the field, with times of 22 minutes 32 seconds, 22 minutes 55 seconds and 23 minutes 51 seconds. Very creditable for the first event of the year.

The other Head was the Schools Head of the River Race at Putney. This is raced from just above Hammersmith Bridge to the Westminster School Boathouse at Putney, going in the reverse direction over the first part of the University Boat Race course. It is about half the distance of the event at Worcester and the First IV did well to produce a result of 26th overall (out of a field of 103) and a time of 9 minutes 10 seconds, with the J16 IV at 9 minutes 34 seconds and the J15 IV with 10 minutes 5 seconds.

Although there were no wins in the Lent Term, the mileage covered and the technical progress made produced a very sound basis for the regattas of the Summer Term.

Seen winning their finals of the Ball Cup Regatta at Gloucester in May 1984 are (left to right): Jon McAteer, David Fenton, Jason Jones, Chris Walker, Anthony Hues. The boat in use is the new Salters shells four, TIM JENNER.

SUMMER TERM

Faced with a very short ten week term, it was important to make as early a start as possible to the main regatta season. In fact, the First IV finished their holiday one day early. They returned to School for a quick training outing, loaded the trailer and competed next day at Evesham Spring Regatta. They lost to a lively Exeter University four but did not have long to worry about it — as they were returning from the finish after their race, a boat strayed badly off course and caused considerable damage to the new four TIM JENNER. Fortunately Salters of Oxford, who made the boat, effected a very rapid and almost invisible repair to the damaged saxboard, shoulder and rigger and the boat was in use again the following weekend.

Carmel Regatta is held at Carmel College, Wallingford, on a Sunday and is always well supported. A fairly informal event, it is run partly to give Carmel's Boat Club some much-needed competition, (they are not allowed to row on Saturdays). Our entry was an impressive seven fours — in addition to the three fours which competed in the Lent Term, there was a second J15 IV, two J14 IVs and a Novice IV. It was good to see so many Cokethorpe crews in action and there were several good wins in heats even though no event was won outright.

Shrewsbury Regatta was held on the River Severn on the first exeat weekend — fortunately the two senior fours were prepared to overlook this. The J16 IV of Ben Goad, Ivan Bayarri, Brian Joseph and Jonathan Joseph and (cox) Oliver Garrard were clearly likely to win Novice Fours early in the season and they did so in fine style here, beating several university crews and also a Shrewsbury School crew in the process. The First IV also raced exceptionally well, but after decisive victories in the early rounds they finally went out narrowly to a Welsh university crew in the final.

In the middle of the following week, we travelled to Gloucester for the Ball Cup Regatta. This is an event which changes location every year designed for smaller rowing schools. A strong entry had arrived from as far away as Leicester and Hereford and included a number of very well known names. We got off to a disappointing start by the First IV losing their first race narrowly to Wycliffe College but were cheered shortly afterwards by a very good win by the J16 IV against Carmel College. The next two races for both fours resulted in good wins and at the end of the day the J16 IV won the Junior Ball Cup, beating Belmont Abbey in the final, and the First IV beat The King's School, Gloucester to win the Senior Ball Cup Plate. A very enjoyable afternoon of racing and one on which we were happy to have the support of the Headmaster, as at several other regattas.

After a fairly hectic start to the term, neither senior IV went to Hereford Schools Regatta, leaving it to the J15 and J14 IVs to represent the School. This

they did well and they must not be discouraged if there were no outright wins — it must be remembered that of the two senior IVs that have done so well this year one went through the whole of the 1983 season without winning an event and the other only did so right at the end of the season (in fact, during the Summer holiday).

A few days after Half Term, we went to Coate Water Park Regatta but there had been a noticeable loss of fitness over the holiday and the best we could do here was win some heats.

Then came the journey to Nottingham for the two days of the National Schools Regatta and Loughborough Regatta on the national rowing course at Holme Pierrepont. Only the J16 IV raced on the Saturday and did so with great spirit in the unfamiliar and rather daunting conditions of six-lane racing. The two senior IVs were joined by the J15 IV for Loughborough Regatta the following day. Entries in the event were disappointingly low and the Junior Fours race featured just two crews — our First IV and our J16 IV. There had been much speculation about the outcome of this race, which resulted in a victory by clear water for the First IV. While they were no doubt helped by equipment — ERIC, despite a thorough refit, is no match for the much newer Salters four TIM JENNER — it was a good win. Unfortunately, the J16 IV had put so much into their race again a fast local crew that they had nothing left when it came to racing the First IV. The J15 IV were going well until they had problems with a seat and all credit to one of their number, Matthew Samkin, who had represented the School at an important athletics event in Oxford the previous day and then travelled to Nottingham by train.

Thursday on the following week saw Shearwater Regatta — held on a most attractive lake on the Longleat Estate. This started as an event for the more junior eights of a few large rowing schools and has only recently been expanded to include fours. The aim is to give some experience of racing to crews who would otherwise not get very much and one of the rules precludes first crews (other than in J14). This was a particularly good event for our J14 crews (mainly Third Form) and they all went, won several races each and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Our last major regatta of the term was at Stratford-upon-Avon on an interesting shaped course finishing at the local rowing club (close to the theatre). We set off for Stratford somewhat dismayed as our original entry of four crews had been reduced to two, members of the other crews were off games either recovering from a minor operation or from an encounter with an errant cyclist. It was left to the two senior IVs to represent the School and this they did magnificently. The J16 IV had the difficult task of a straight final against a Cheltenham College IV. It is always easier to approach a hard race with earlier heats and although they raced hard and were leading Cheltenham at some stages of the race they just lost.



Schools Head of the River Race. In action on the tidal Thames are (right to left): Tim Goslin, Duncan Fergusson, Tristan Walker, Matthew Samkin, and Lionel Lincoln-Lewis.



Schools Head of the River Race. From right to left: Ben Goad, Ivan Bayarri, Brian Joseph, Jonathan Joseph, and Oliver Garrard.

The First IV were in the Senior C event, not being allowed by their age and previous wins to compete in a lower category. Inevitably most of the other entries were adult members of Club or University crews and, when we saw half the Pangbourne College eight were also in our event, we were not optimistic. The first heat against a Hereford RC crew resulted in an easy three-length victory and the semi-final against a combined Ironbridge/Bridgenorth four was scarcely more demanding. Everything depended on the final against Pangbourne, who had been seen to race well in the earlier heats but at a noticeably lower rating than we were used to. The race plan was discussed in some detail and we decided on a consistently high rate of striking over the short (750 metre) course with a particular effort coming out of the corner shortly after the start. It says much for the fitness and experience of the crew that they were able to race absolutely to plan and produce a memorable victory of almost a length. The course is a most demanding one to steer and Anthony Hues rose to the challenge superbly and contributed greatly to the win. Chris Walker at stroke controlled the high rating (42 off the start settling to 38/39) calmly and skilfully and was most ably assisted by Jason Jones (3), David Fenton (2) and Jon McAteer (Bow).

The Saturday after Stratford was Open Day and we were again immensely grateful to Mr. D. J. Smith for the use of his superb lake at Stanton Harcourt for the House Regatta. After an uncertain start with a missing crew member racing starting slightly late but actually managed to finish early. For the second year running we enjoyed excellent weather (even if there was a fairly strong wind) and we were also able to enjoy parts of the flying display from RAF Brize Norton.

The heat of the Junior Fours early in the afternoon produced a win for Queen Anne over Harcourt and Swift were awarded the heat of Senior Fours. Final winners were (Senior Fours) Harcourt and (Junior Fours) Swift.

The sculling events also produced some good racing and eventual winners were (Open) D. Fenton, (J16) I. Bayarri, (J15 & J14) T. Goslin and (J13 & J12) T. Bomford.

The event was won overall by Swift House with an overall total of 22 points, followed by Harcourt with 19 and Queen Anne with 5. The scores were produced by awarding 6 points for a fours win, 4 points for a scull win, 2 points for coming second in



The best part of any regatta — collecting the prizes! Chris Walker, Jason Jones and Jon McAteer are seen on the left of the presenter and David Fenton and Anthony Hues to his right. Although the pewter pint tankards are kept by the oarsmen, this is the only time the trophy itself is seen. Most of these date from the late Victorian period and are kept by regattas in bank vaults for the rest of the year — they are usually solid silver.

fours and 1 point for coming second in sculls.

The House Regatta was the last serious rowing event, although the finals day of Henley Royal Regatta saw a large party from the Boat Club as spectators. A most enjoyable term's rowing had drawn rapidly to a close. What of the future? A few faces may change for the rowing world now realises what Cokethorpe crews can no longer be dismissed lightly and I am sure that there are enough able and determined oarsmen to produce wins in the future.

Particular thanks are due to W. H. C. D. for the amazing amount of time he was generously prepared to give to the Boat Club in the face of many claims on his time. N. H. W. and J. P. W. both contributed much in their inimitable way and the very considerable number of oarsmen who have taken to the water this year have good reason to be grateful to them all. I owe a particular debt to David Fenton, an

exceptional Captain of Boats, who never once allowed his own rowing to prevent him from being a most capable and effective organiser. None of the considerable expansion of the last two years would have been possible had the Governors not voted a sizeable amount of money to rowing and very sincere thanks are due both to them and to R. E. J., Bursar when all the changes were planned and approved.

Nothing stays the same for ever and some of the oarsmen mentioned in this report have already left. What is very cheering is that they may have left School but they have not left rowing — Jon McAteer is intending to row at Stratford and Chris Walker at Evesham. But there are plenty of able oarsmen left at School — as well as a number of promising beginners — and I shall observe the future with both interest and optimism.

P. J.



This unusual scene, with some members of the Common Room Boat Club, was seen on the river towards the end of the summer term!

Cricket



Action from Oladapo Akande in a Colts game during the summer.

1st XI CRICKET REPORT

Captain: B. B. Akande *Vice-Captain:* J. W. Abbott
Committee Member: J. B. Wankling.

After a brief Easter holiday, the hottest and driest for ages, and with the shortest summer term ever in which to pack the usual number of fixtures, a new XI had to be moulded into shape with some urgency if the impressive results achieved under the two-year captaincy of Richard Andrews were to be reproduced, (Played 23, Won 9, Drawn 12, Lost 2.)

Initially this seemed to be a somewhat daunting task, for several key positions had to be filled by virtual raw recruits. Two new opening batsmen were needed to replace Healey and Andrews, (whose career total of 958 runs for the XI ranks second only to that of Tomlinson), while the limpet-like qualities of Shelley as a number three, (684 runs in nearly 37 hours!) had to be duplicated if the batting was to hold together and prosper. However it was not simply a question of finding replacements for the first three in the batting order, for Shelley had also been a highly successful opening bowler while Healey had flighted some useful off-breaks. Other missing regulars from 1983 included the pugnacious Genders, the increasing stylish Irvani and that solid lower order batsman Jowett. Furthermore this year's smallish Fifth Form contained several water-babies but only two cricketers of any quality, so it seemed likely that reinforcements would have to be drafted into the XI from the Fourth Form — a fairly worrying prospect.

Fortunately this situation proved to be less hazardous than was feared. Several talented young cricketers emerged from the ranks of the Under 15's to plug important gaps in the senior team, but most of the credit for what was to be undoubtedly the XI's

most successful season EVER belongs to the more experienced players, ably led by "Big Brother" Bamikole Akande. Akande and Wankling shared the new ball, (often with devastating effect), Spicer with his quickish left arm over was a reliable first change while N. Smith "struck" with the greatest regularity with his flighted spinners, taking a wicket every thirteen balls on average. The new opening batsmen N. Smith and Fisher in their contrasting styles were models of consistency, scoring over two hundred runs each, and they usually provided a solid base upon which the later batsmen could build. Spicer proved to be increasingly stylish and effective at number three as his confidence grew, while Wankling had an outstanding season at number five, a latter day Thor hammering opposition bowling with great good humour and a mighty right arm. Akande always came to the crease looking like a young Sir Garfield Sobers and at times he guided the ball elegantly to the boundary although too often the responsibilities of captaincy seemed to restrict his range of stroke play. He is a complex soul and he was certainly more at ease, and scored more runs, when playing against better bowling for the Nomands. Abbott scored his runs faster than anyone else at an average of over eighteen and kept wicket chirpily, while Norman, the seventh batsman to merit the sobriquet, played some useful innings and will be a key figure next year when he will carry a greater share of the responsibility for run scoring. All the youngsters who came into the side made useful contributions: Erlstedt fielded quite brilliantly on occasion, while Jackson, O. Akande and Barns made

runs when they were needed and showed considerable potential for the future.

In the first three matches of term the make up of the XI was somewhat experimental as players fought for places. During this period the XI suffered its only defeat of the season in what was intended to be a warm-up game against a Radley Colts side, recorded substantial victories over Abingdon and Dean Close and drew with the powerful Shiplake XI. The Radley match was particularly dramatic. After a poor start, 31-4, Akande and Abbott batted sensibly to give the XI a target to bowl at, but once these two were out the later batsmen put up little resistance and the side was dismissed for 86. The Radley openers were made to hop about by Akande and Wankling but runs came steadily and after 18 overs, with the score at 67-3, Spicer was brought on to try his luck. In fact he almost performed a miracle as his figures indicate (5-4 - 3 - 5-7); four of his five victims were clean bowled, the fifth being brilliantly caught by the captain at extra cover. However, all the fielding was not of this high standard and odd bits of attempted, (and inept), soccer probably cost the school the game. The XI put up a much better showing against Abingdon with Smith dropping anchor at one end for an hour and forty minutes for 36, while Abbot raced to a jaunty 39 not out in slightly over even time. After the declaration Akande and Wankling gave us a taste of what we might expect for the rest of the season taking 8-18 between them in an all out total of 33. Next day Dean Close won the toss and batted first — but soon regretted it. Akande (4-27), and Wankling (3-16), broke the early batting on a lively wicket, leaving Smith and Spicer to mop up the tail. After rain had made the ball slippery for the bowlers, Fisher and Smith knocked off the 61 runs required in 52 minutes without loss. Against Shiplake although Spicer scored a brave 19 it was Fisher, with 40 in 2 hours 15 mins. and Wankling, who got off the mark for the season with 70, who dominated the batting enabling Akande to declare at 150-6. After tea the XI attacked, taking the first four wickets for 62, but then catches were dropped and some slack fielding allowed Shiplake to come closer to the XI's total than they should have done.

Convincing wins over Stowe and Oratory followed, but perhaps the ease of these victories led to a touch of complacency in the Rendcomb match. Stowe were beaten conclusively by 9 wickets thanks to fine bowling by Wankling (8-1 - 4 - 6 - 8) and a steady 28 not out from Fisher; other members of the XI shone in the ensuing "beer match". Against Oratory Norman batted well after early wickets had fallen cheaply, but only two others, Wankling and Jackson reached double figures, a performance poor enough to provoke harsh words from the usually mild Master-in-Charge during the tea interval! Apparently the XI were stung into action; Oratory were shot out on a perfect batting wicket in 7.5 overs for 18 runs (Akande 5-8, Wankling 5-9) — the frown lifted. The XI escaped with a "skin of the teeth"

draw against Rendcomb. Smith scored 27 in his most strokeless mood, but occupied an end for an hour and three-quarters, Wankling made 16. O. Akande a promising 11, while Richard Porter, last year's Captain of Boats scored what turned out to be an all-important 5 not out. Wankling and Akande bowled steadily to reduce Rendcomb to 21-3, but after these initial successes runs flowed too quickly for comfort and it came as a great relief when the match finished with the scores level.

In the examination period the XI played some excellent cricket recording four more victories over useful sides. At Bloxham, Smith (inspired by a nearby girl's rounders game?) really began to pick his bat up, Akande played some glorious shots in his 37 while Wankling and Abbott hurried the score along vigorously before the declaration at 158-4. Akande and Wankling bowled fast but the pitch was docile so it was left to Smith and Spicer to capture 3 wickets each and bundle Bloxham out for 55. The highest score of the season was recorded in the next match against Magdalen. Fisher was rather listless between the wickets but Smith and Spicer scored lively forties before Wankling weighed in with a characteristically robust 34, allowing Akande to declare at 163-7. Magdalen found the pace of Wankling and Akande too hot, although their opening batsman played solidly for some time before losing his middle stump in Wankling's second spell, and were dismissed for 78. At Kingham it was the turn of Smith to shine with the ball taking a hat-trick in his first over and finishing with figures of 6-2-6-13 on a damp pitch. In reply Smith and Fisher added 34 for the first wicket in even time. Spicer played a series of good shots through the covers off the back foot remaining undefeated as the XI cruised to a comfortable six wicket victory. The Pangbourne match produced the sort of nail-biting finish that would fill cricket grounds from one end of the country to the other if it could be repeated regularly. The XI were put in on a fast dry wicket but after Fisher had been dismissed for 0, Smith and Spicer added 48 for the second wicket so a solid base had once again been provided by the early order batsmen. However the introduction of a 1st XI spinner into the attack caused problems and several batsmen got themselves out to rash shots. Norman batted soundly to shield the lower order and the final total of 100 was higher than had looked likely at 65-6 or 79-9. Barns also batted well on his debut, exhibiting fighting qualities. Pangbourne began badly. After a quickish maiden from Akande, Wankling struck twice in his first over and in Akande's next the other opener was felled by a blow on the head and forced to retire hurt. Runs then came steadily, (if occasionally involuntarily), even "strike-bowler" Smith being hit for six, and the situation looked grim. However Wankling was brought back into the attack and wickets began to tumble — quite literally at both ends for Akande also knocked a stump out of the ground. With nine Pangbourne wickets down the "invalid" returned,

still rather pale, but Akande bowled his partner amid whoops of joy from the whole team — victory by two runs.

The XI ended the season with draws against the Malvern Senior Colts and P. J. G.'s XI. At Malvern, "playing at altitude," had its effect on the XI's bowling and fielding for although Wankling removed the first three batsmen for 25 the change bowlers could not make further inroads and the total reached 89 before the openers were brought back on. Five wickets then fell for the addition of a further thirty runs before the declaration at 119-8. Wankling was once again the most successful bowler with 6-38 and although some chances were put down Erlstedt and Porter held good catches to dismiss the sons of P. J. G.'s former Malvern 1st XI colleagues. The XI were left with 29 minutes plus 20 overs to make the runs, but although Fisher, Spicer and Wankling each scored over twenty, the XI could only manage 93-3 before stumps. Some keen Malvern fielding was a pleasing feature from the coach's point of view, but Norman's cut eye-brow in the nets was an unfortunate blow requiring three stitches from the school doctor. P. J. G.'s XI, containing some recent

Cokethorpe stars, (and some rather faded ones!), was bowled out for 128. N. Smith struck once again with 5-34 — Akande and Wankling looked on in amazement wondering what on earth they had to do to "fix" his bowling average! Erlstedt, Akande and Porter all took excellent catches while for P. J. G.'s XI H. Scott scored 37 not out and R. Andrews a lusty 25. In reply the XI reached 107-6 with Akande, (38), really coming into his own with the bat. He was particularly well supported by Spicer, who coped with some testing overs from Shelley with great skill and by Wankling, whose innings of 19 took him past two hundred runs for the season and left him on top of the batting averages. His 45 wickets in the season was a 1st XI record while his partner with the new ball, Bamikole Akande, took his career total of wickets to a staggering 98.

In conclusion sincere thanks must go to Martin Walker for his work on the grounds, to Sister and the Matrons for keeping the XI healthy and smart, to the catering staff for feeding us so well at the oddest of times and to Robert Morton for his individual approach to the scorebook.

P. J. G.

SUMMARY OF MATCHES PLAYED

XI: Won 8, Drawn 4, Lost 1

- Sat. 5th May v. Radley U16B (Away). XI 86 (Abbott 30, B. Akande 25), Radley 87-9 (Spicer 5-7).
Wed. 9th May v. Abingdon 3rd XI (Away). XI 122-7 dec. (Abbott 39*, N. Smith 36), Abingdon 33 (B. Akande 5-5, Wankling 3-13).
Thurs. 10th May v. Dean Close 2nd XI (Home). Dean Close 60 (B. Akande 4-27, Wankling 3-16), XI 61-0 (Fisher 39*).
Wed. 16th May v. Shiplake 1st XI (Away). XI 150-6 dec. (Wankling 70, Fisher 40), Shiplake 145-5.
Sat. 19th May v. Stowe 3rd XI (Home). Stowe 49 (Wankling 6-8), XI 50-1 (Fisher 28*).
Wed. 23rd May v. Oratory 2nd XI (Away). XI 83 (Norman 22), Oratory 18 (B. Akande 5-8, Wankling 5-9).
Thurs. 31st May v. Rendcomb 1st XI (Home). XI 111-9 dec. (N. Smith 27), Rendcomb 111-4.
Sat. 9th June v. Bloxham 2nd XI (Away). XI 158-4 dec. (B. Akande 37, N. Smith 34, Wankling 26*, Abbott 24*), Bloxham 55 (Spicer 3-7, N. Smith 3-17).
Sat. 16th June v. Magdalen C. S. 2nd XI (Home). XI 163-7 dec. (N. Smith 43, Spicer 40, Wankling 34), Magdalen 78 (Wankling 5-35, B. Akande 3-17).
Wed. 20th June v. Kingham Hill 1st XI (Away). Kingham 92 (N. Smith 6-13) XI 94-4 (Spicer 29*, N. Smith 22).
Wed. 27th June v. Pangbourne 2nd XI (Away). XI 100 (N. Smith 26, Norman 23), Pangbourne 98 (Wankling 7-33).
Thurs. 28th June v. Malvern Senior Colts (Away). Malvern 119-8 dec. (Wankling 6-38), XI 93-3 (Wankling 24*, Fisher 24, Spicer 23).
Sat. 30th June v. P. J. G.'s XI (Home). P. J. G.'s XI 128 (N. Smith 5-34), XI 107-6 (B. Akande 38).

NOMADS TERM MATCHES

- Sun. 3rd June v. Ducklington CC (Home). Nomads 141-9 dec. (B. Akande 37, Spicer 32, Andrews 20), Ducklington 27 (B. Akande 5-5).
Sun. 10th June v. Oxford Downs Strollers CC (Home). Nomads 215-2 dec. (Luxmoore 89*, Wankling 77*, Fisher 39), Strollers 42 (H. Scott 4-3, Randall 3-11).
Sun. 17th June v. Blenheim Park CC (Home). Blenheim 188-9. INNS CLOSED. (Wankling 3-17), Nomads 126 (Luxmoore 43, N. Smith 32).
Sun 24th June v. Steeple Aston & Rousham CC (Away). Nomads 137-6 dec. (N. Smith 32, B. Akande 27*, Luxmoore 20), Steeple Aston 49 (N. Smith 4-9, Wankling 3-11).

XI AVERAGES

BATTING (Qualification 7 innings)

	<i>Inns.</i>	<i>N.O.</i>	<i>H.S.</i>	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Ave.</i>
Wankling	11	2	70	208	23.11
Fisher	13	2	40	215	19.55
N. Smith	13	1	43	227	18.92
Abbott	10	3	39*	128	18.29
Spicer	11	2	40	157	17.44
B. Akande	11	1	38	152	15.20

BOWLING (Qualification 7 wickets)

	<i>Overs</i>	<i>Mdns.</i>	<i>Wkts</i>	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Ave.</i>
N. Smith	39. ³	8	18	121	6.72
Wankling	130. ¹	26	45	346	7.69
B. Akande	113. ¹	30	30	293	9.77
Spicer	58. ⁴	13	15	163	10.87

COLOURS

XI: B. Akande, J. Abbott, J. Wankling, N. Smith, N. Fisher, M. Spicer

XXII: P. Norman, J. Erlstedt.

HOUSE MATCHES

- 1st Match: Swift 89 (Spicer 44, Jackson 22, Wankling 6-12), Harcourt 64 (Wankling 34, Spicer 4-21).
 2nd Match: Swift 93 (Spicer 39*, Reeve 3-18), Queen Anne 70 (Norman 26, N. Smith 22, O. Akande 3-13, Spicer 3-21).
 3rd Match not required.

INTER-HOUSE VI-A-SIDE COMPETITION (OPEN DAY)

- 1st Match: Queen Anne 52-3 tied with Swift 52-4 (Reeve 3-1).
 2nd Match: Swift 67-2 (Spicer 22, B. Akande 20) beat Harcourt 45-4 (Abbott 27*) by 22 runs.
 3rd Match: Harcourt 63-3 (Wankling 47) beat Queen Anne 52-3 by 11 runs.

Invitation Match: North Oxford CC 48-4 beat the Cokethorpe "Elite" VI 44-2 (Wankling 33*) by 4 runs.

SUMMARY OF U15 MATCHES PLAYED

Won 1, Drawn 3, Lost 2

- Wed. 9th May v. Abingdon U14 (Away). U15 116-9 dec. (Badawi 49, Barns 21), Abingdon 92-7 (Reeve 3-23).
 Wed. 16th May v. Shiplake U15 (Away). U15 113 (Jackson 27), Shiplake 114-3.
 Sat. 19th May v. Stowe U15B (Home). U15 157-6 dec. (O. Akande 50*, Jackson 34, Johnson 34), Stowe 72 (O. Akande 3-8, Jackson 3-12, Barns 3-35).
 Wed. 6th June v. Bloxham U15 (Home). U15 131-7 dec. (Badawi 33, Jackson 20*), Bloxham 69-7 (Reeve 3-14).
 Wed. 13th June v. Kingham Hill U15 (Away). U15 165-4 dec. (Spicer 59*, Badawi 29, Johnson 27, Howe 24), Kingham Hill 87-7 (Jackson 3-12).
 Sat. 16th June v. Magdalen CS U15 (Home). U15 40 Magdalen 44-4 (Reeve 4-15).

SUMMARY OF U14 MATCHES PLAYED

Won 2, Drawn 2, Lost 5

- Sat. 5th May v. Kingham Hill (Home). Kingham 58 (Reeve 4-3, Glanville 3-7), U14 60-1 (Howe 23*).
 Wed. 23rd May v. Oratory (Home). U14 5. Oratory 6-0.
 Wed. 30th May v. Millbrook House 1st XI (Home). Millbrook 61 (Reeve 3-12), U14 65-5 (S. Smith 28*7).
 Thurs. 31st May v. Rendcomb (Home). Rendcomb 129-5 dec. (Reeve 3-41), U14 90.
 Fri. 1st June v. Magdalen (Home). Cup Match. Magdalen 164-7. INNS CLOSED. U14 87-9 INNS CLOSED (Howe 40*).
 Sat. 9th June v. Bloxham (Away). Bloxham 177 (S. Smith 7-59), U14 45.
 Sat. 16th June v. Oakley Hall 1st XI (Away). Oakley hall 165-8 dec. (Howe 3-34), U14 59 (Johnson 20).
 Wed. 20th June v. Magdalen (Away). Magdalen 179-3 dec. U14 73-9 (Howe 26).
 Wed. 27th June v. Pangbourne (Away). Pangbourne 129 (Reeve 8-44), U14 61-8.

U15 CRICKET

The Under 15 XI had a reasonable season last year, playing 6 games, winning one, losing two and drawing three. The XI was slightly weakened by the likes of Spicer and Erlstedt being called up for 1st XI duty at regular intervals, but this problem was to some extent solved by Smith III, Howe and Reeve being drafted into the squad from the U14s and performing well.

The first match against Abingdon was drawn, with the highlights being an excellent 49 by Badawi II and 3 wickets for 23 by Reeve. Despite a clearly hit 27 by Jackson, who recovered after being hit in the face by a bouncer, we were comfortably beaten by 7 wickets at Shiplake.

One of the youngsters, Johnson, who scored 34, led the way to a commanding score against Stowe of 157-6. This total included an excellent innings by Akande II who made an unbeaten 50, he and Barnes and Jackson later in the day chipped in with 3 wickets apiece as Stowe were easily bowled out for 72, leaving the School resounding winners by 85 runs.

Despite being able to field the strongest possible Under 15 side against Bloxham, the side could only draw, although Reeve's pace and swing almost won the day; he took 3-14.

A splendid 59 not-out by Spicer and several other sound scores by the leading batsmen contributed to a very healthy score of 165-4 against Kingham Hill, but again we didn't quite manage to dismiss them before time ran out.

Erlstedt fielded quite spectacularly in this match.

A very poor performance was not really excused by the fielding of a weak team against Magdalen. Reeve took 4 for 16 but could not prevent Magdalen scoring the necessary 40 runs for an easy victory.

All in all this was a fairly enjoyable season's cricket and the team and I would like to thank Mr. Gentry, our coach, for his patient advice and also Brooker, who in his first season, scored well.

A. Jackson

U14 CRICKET

Played 8 Won 2 Lost 4 Drew 2

The opposition was very strong this season, but the squad performed bravely throughout. The Captain was able to call on many bowlers when the going became rough, but the star strike bowler of the season was John Reeve who was always very difficult to play against and indeed ended up with 21 wickets. Our batting, however, was very limited, with the leading Batsmen, namely Howe, Johnson and Smith III being relied upon far too heavily.

Our first match was at home against Kingham Hill and it proved to be our best performance of the season. We bowled them out for 55 (Reeve 4 wickets, Howe 3 superb catches) and we soon got the runs for the loss of only one wicket with Howe scoring 23 not out. We were far too confident against Oratory in our next fixture and were bowled out for 5!! This was undoubtedly one to forget and the whole team was extremely embarrassed for days afterwards. Although we lost a few wickets chasing Millbrook House's total of 61, steady batting by Smith III and Reeve sealed a morale boosting win.

We next had to play against Magdalen in a 40 overs a-side Lord Taverner's Cup match which had to be moved to our School because their Oxford pitch was totally flooded. They were a very strong batting side and totalled 164-7 against an attack weakened by the absence of players who were too old to play according to cup rules. Magdalen could not bowl us out and despite losing we scored a creditable 87-9 with the sheet anchor, Howe, batting throughout the innings to record a very disciplined 41 not out.

The rest of the season was a hard but enjoyable struggle, but the team refused to give up and the season ended pleasingly with the 'Dunkirk spirit' really being shown in the last two games against Magdalen again and Pangbourne, when we recorded two highly exciting draws. I would like to mention the superb fielding of Tang who, throughout the season, must have saved hundreds of runs by his acrobatics and quick reactions in the covers.

I would like to thank Mr. Randall for the help and advice he gave us throughout the season and I hope to see several members of the team progressing well next season and perhaps even reaching the dizzy heights of the 1st XI!

S. J. Smith



THE ARMY CADET FORCE

A total of nineteen new third formers joined the ACF in their first few weeks at Cokethorpe in September 1983. After one or two sessions of drill two or three of these decided that perhaps they would try something else instead. After about a month, therefore, when they had settled in, the task of fitting them up with uniforms began. Height, chest, waist, neck, head and leg sizes all had to be measured and recorded in the usual triplicate. This information is sent off to Major Whawell, the Cadet Quartermaster at the Oxfordshire Royal Green Jackets Battalion which is at the Slade TA Centre in Oxford. A short time later the uniforms are ready for collection, each one worth about a hundred pounds. Now the new cadet is faced with the bewildering task of putting the uniform on and wearing it in a soldier-like fashion. It soon becomes obvious to him that he can either look smart and manly, or unbelievably grotesque. However, by and by, things slowly get sorted out. Little tricks are learnt about how to shape one's beret and how to put on putties easily. It all takes time and patience, and that most valued commodity — enthusiasm. One is not always popular for being enthusiastic about anything; however some catch the bug and soon little groups can be seen engaged in unusual activities. Some may be dipping their berets into hot water to make them supple for shaping to their heads, or into cold water to shrink them. Another cadet is carefully ironing a shirt. The lines of the creases are so important. That crease in the sleeves must be from the exact centre of the shoulder down the arm. Then there are those creases on the front and back of the shirt. The older, wiser cadet patiently passes on this received tradition to the little wide-eyed recruit. Other cadets are lovingly polishing their boots. This is even more mysterious. There are candles and hot spoons and tin-lids of water, and as the hours pass so the toe-caps of the boots become more and more mirror-like. Boots are carefully compared and it may be well into the hours of darkness before the serious cadet is happy that perfection has been attained.

Our Parade takes place each Monday afternoon. One should be at the appointed place five minutes early. Suddenly a corporal barks out an order, "Right-Marker". Silence descends. On the word 'RIGHT' everyone braces up. On the word 'MARKER', the appointed cadet marches out to a certain spot and halts. Another command pierces the air. "THE REST GET ON — PARADE." Everyone then marches out and forms up level with the right marker. "AS IN THE OPEN ORDER — RIGHT-DRESS." Pause. "EYES-FRONT. COKETHORPE — DETACHMENT." The parade comes to attention for the inspection by the detachment commander. Each cadet is scrutinized from his beret down to his boots. His uniform should be immaculate in every detail. During this ordeal the cadet must look the officer in the eye. Meanwhile the rest of the detachment must be absolutely motionless. The slightest movement would ruin the



*Lieut. J. W. Stark M.B.E., and O.C. Det.,
Lieut. D. L. Thomson.*

parade. Following the inspection the officer usually makes some general comments about their 'turn out', presents badges and certificates, mentions any significant happenings of the previous week and explains the programme for the afternoon. He then hands the parade back to the corporal who gives them detailed instructions as to what to do next. All ranks "dismiss" to show respect to the senior rank on parade. The corporal gives the command "OFFICER ON PARADE TO THE RIGHT, FALL-OUT". The detachment comes to attention, pauses, turns in the direction indicated, pauses, salutes, pauses and marches off.

This year the junior cadets have been working their way through the 1 Star syllabus and the seniors who gained their 1 Star badges in March have progressed on to 2 Star work. L/Cpl. Venman has been very helpful giving extra coaching in his own time to those keen enough to desire it. Two juniors in particular showed great keenness, completing their 1 Star early. They were Matthew Howe and David

Pinnell. Following this, Cdt. Howe was promoted to L/Cpl. along with two 4th formers, Cdts. Hues and Barnes. 1 Star Skill-at-Arms involves mastering the famous .303 Rifle. First of all, the safety rules which were learnt as a recruit are revised thoroughly. Then the cadet learns how to strip, clean and assemble the rifle and how to fill the chargers. This is interesting because there is plenty of activity and you do not have to be super-intelligent. You watch a brief demonstration, you are talked through it several times and then there is a little competition to see who can do it the fastest. The next stage is learning how to load, unload and make-safe. Again the cadet has the rifle in his hand the whole time and there is a great deal of activity to maintain his interest, as well as the challenge of being more proficient than his fellow cadets. Further lessons teach the cadet how to hold the rifle in the lying position and how to aim and fire a shot correctly. After some brief lessons on the .22 rifle and the air rifle, the cadet is ready for the 1 Star Skill-at-Arms test. If he shows reasonable competence he will pass but if he breaks a safety rule he fails.

Sport features quite a lot in the ACF year. There are competitions in soccer, rugby, running, swimming and athletics on a battalion level, and the finalists go on to compete against cadets in the SE region and after that the finalists from this go on to the national finals. Cadets Pitt, Pinnell, Edwards, Messenger and Venman took part in the Cross-Country race at Shotover in January. The conditions were extremely wet under foot and one cadet lost his trainers in the mud. 68 cadets competed from 12 detachments. Somme Company junior team was second with 98 points. Our best two runners were Pitt who was 18th and Edwards who was 19th. The battalion athletics was held at RAF Abingdon on 20th May. We fielded a large contingent and L/Cpl. Howland and Cadet Imonioro came first in their events and were chosen to attend the regional finals. Unfortunately only L/Cpl. Howland attended, but to our great satisfaction won the gold medal for the 400m in a time of 57.3 secs.

Visits and camps have continued as previously, though perhaps not as frequently as in the past. In October we had a 1 Star revision and testing weekend based at the Burford School Detachment hut. This was enjoyable and a great success and the cadets did very well. In November the whole detachment turned out for the Remembrance Day Parade. We marched to the church for the service and then marched back to the front of the school for the Act of Remembrance. The buglers (Cdts. Pitt, Walker and Venman) were impressive in their performance of the Last Post, Reveille and the National Anthem. The visit to the Tank Depot, Ludgershall in November was highly exciting although this time we did not get to drive any APC's ourselves. However, we were given a long drive in one and the vehicle was most definitely put through its paces. We climbed very steep banks, roared at speed along roads and drove a tortuous route

through a wood. It was as good as anything Blackpool could offer. Then there was a tour of the Tank Depot. They have such a vast number and variety of vehicles that it is a bit overpowering. Finally, we went into the guarded building containing the army's latest Challenger tanks. January saw us at the Army School of Ammunition at Kineton, where we saw several excellent films and had a guided tour of two exhibitions, one on the history of ammunition and the other on guided missiles. These were both fascinating and it was good to have an expert to answer any questions. In February eight cadets joined the Burford and Carterton Detachments for an exercise. In March Venman, Woodley and Howe went to Littlemore Detachment for a 2 Star Classification weekend. They passed their Map and Compass tests, although at one point they were not exactly sure where they were! The final weekend of the Spring Term was spent under canvas at Bletchington. Two platoons faced each other across a formidable no-man's land. The Shifta commanded by L/Cpl. Howland were dug in, hidden in a wooded area, but in a poorly defensible terrain. The Royal Green Jackets defending the country of Swynne commanded high ground some distance away. Shifta intelligence was very good but they left their attack too late and it was dark when they formed up behind the RGJ's. The plan was excellent but unfortunately in the darkness they attacked each other and also made the discovery of an electric fence. However, they re-grouped well and made an orderly retreat to their camp. Equally the RGJ attack the following morning on the Shifta Camp was a disaster. After a cold night it was very difficult to get up and thus the element of surprise was gone. Eventually the enemy camp was reached but the attack lacked spirit and determination and fizzled out. In the Summer Term there was an outing to London to Horse Guards Parade to watch the Royal Marines 'Beating Retreat', and an enjoyable day was spent at the Aldershot Army Display.

Naturally shooting is important in the ACF and there are regular opportunities for .303 and 7.62 shooting at Otmoor. At the February rifle meeting LCpl. Howland was the third best shot of the afternoon. L/Cpls. Venman and Woodley also did well. .22 shooting takes place once a week on the 20-yard school rifle range. Walker, Howland, Baxter, Tighe, Pedoe, Purdue, Venman, and Brian Joseph formed our team for the 'News of the World' Challenge Cup, a national competition. They shot well for the 1st Round and went forward into the 2nd round, coming 30th out of 69 teams. In June L/Cpl. Howland, Cdts. Baxter, Tighe and Walker shot for the Hamptone Cup, a battalion competition.

It has been a busy but enjoyable year. One recurring problem is the difficulty of getting instructors for an afternoon parade. However, this was considerably mitigated in January when Lt. J. W. Stark, recently retired from the Royal Marines, joined the school. He immediately threw himself into

cadet life making available his considerable gifts and talents, coupled with patience and humour. This has been a tremendous boost to the Detachment. Slowly we are making our presence felt in Battalion events. Sadly, only three cadets were able to go to the summer camp; so much is learnt on those two short weeks.

D. L. T.

ACF ANNUAL SUMMER CAMP

This year the camp was at Napier Training Barracks near Folkestone. Three cadets from Cokethorpe went: Lance Corporal Venman, and Cadets Pitt and Edwards. We left Cokethorpe on 11th August at 12.30 hrs and arrived at the barracks at 16.00 hrs. As soon as we got there we were briefed on what would be happening in the next two weeks. The first week would be spent training, and the second would involve a three day exercise and a day trip. In the middle of the fortnight there would be a church parade and an open day for parents.

Our training included camouflage and concealment, ambush drill, radio operations, and skill at arms — the latter using both new and old rifles and machine-guns, and both live and blank ammunition. We went on a night exercise and got used to sleeping in bivouacs and eating compo. Every evening we were at the barracks we were allowed to go into the town, or to the beach.

Then came the three day exercise. This was long, hard work but very enjoyable. After this we went on a day trip to Margate.

We returned to Cokethorpe at 14.30 hrs on 24th August. The camp was a huge success. More than 200 cadets attended and they all enjoyed it thoroughly, especially the three of us from Cokethorpe.

S. J. Edwards

THE MASK OF WAR

*War is death, disguised as glory.
It creeps through the world
Striking down men —
Brave men, dying for no reason
But that others tell them to.*

*Aircraft, tanks, battleships —
Instruments of death
Doing Death's work,
Tearing and destroying,
Ripping and burning.*

*Corpses lie in heaps,
Charred torn remains
That war has devoured
In its greed for supremacy.*

*War is never ending, always starting —
It looms as a great wrath,
Hovering, waiting for its time,
Then pouncing and destroying.*

J. Reeve

OUTWARD BOUND

The Outward Bound group has expanded slightly in numbers and in the range of its activities.

Most of the Christmas term was taken up with a course for beginners in first aid run by the St. John's Ambulance Brigade. Boys were taught a number of useful skills such as resuscitation, making of slings, the treatment of burns, etc. The lectures and demonstrations were backed by a very clear and colourful handbook which some boys chose to keep at the end of the course. At the end there was an exam and it was very pleasing that nearly everybody passed and received a certificate from the St. John's Ambulance Headquarters.

Another new venture was our camp in the Peak District. Fortunately on this occasion we were able to leave on a Friday night and so, having camped in the National Park, got an early start for a day's walking on the Saturday. The boys left camp at intervals and in groups of three or four. They walked over some quite rugged terrain, followed by a stretch which took them through the grounds of Chatsworth House, and then on to camp near Rowseley in a field owned by a farmer and his wife who were both extraordinarily helpful and hospitable. All those who took part in the walk coped very well with not only the constant wind and rain but also the considerable distance that had to be covered.

In March we went again, but this time to the more northerly part of the Peak District, where the terrain was more daunting and demanding. The going was heavy, particularly where there was still snow on the ground, and it was very pleasing that nearly everyone put up with the conditions manfully and pulled his weight when it came to striking camp at 5.30 a.m. next morning. In fact one's abiding memory of the two camps was the spirited way in which the boys rose to the challenge.

Because of the demands of cricket and rowing it was not practical to have a camp in the summer, but there will be at least one in the Christmas term. The scrambling net has proved to be a very useful addition to the obstacle course. As well as the usual race for teams, we had a new event, a competition for individuals, which was one by Pinnell in a very fast time.

The Witney tug-of-war club kindly lent us a rope with which we had a very enjoyable and successful competition with the ACF. In the near future we are hoping to buy a rope of our own which it is thought would be useful for a number of purposes such as training the rugger teams.

J. P. W.

Opposite: Outward Bound assault course exercise.



EXPEDITIONS

LORD MONTAGUE'S VINTAGE CAR MUSEUM AT BEAULIEU

On a bright sunny Sunday in early December the Headmaster took a coach load of boys to Beaulieu for the day. A splendid time was had by all. What a fascinating place it is and there really is something for everyone to enjoy — the Motor Museum itself, the old Palace House and Abbey and the extensive grounds and gardens. Perhaps many of the boys enjoyed most of all the Mono-Rail and the train was frequently embarrassingly full of members of Cokethorpe, both adult and young!

D. F. G.

GREENWICH MARITIME MUSEUM

A very lively party of Form 1/2 set off for London early on a bright May morning. The object of the excursion was to participate in the centenary year celebrations by visiting the Royal Maritime Museum and Greenwich Park to learn more about time, longitude and latitude. A demonstration and talk on the night sky and solar system at the planetarium was followed by a visit to the neighbouring Royal Observatory where the Prime Meridian was crossed and recrossed, the transit telescopes were examined and a vast array of fascinating clocks were on display. Those who had not mislaid their worksheets were then able to get on with their project work. Later in the afternoon, we moved down the steep hill of the park to the museum to visit the Navigation and Barge Rooms and three of the party managed to get lost. All participants in the expedition put a tremendous amount of energy into making the most of the day and some undoubtedly gained much from the experience, producing pleasing projects.

N. H. W.

THE COTSWOLD COUNTRYSIDE COLLECTION AT NORTHLEACH

It was May 11th and the weather, first thing, was very fine. We set off at 9.30 a.m. on our 25 mile journey. First of all we were dropping into Bourton-on-the-Water and our plan was to visit the famous model village, built during the war, and then to see Birdland before we arrived at the Cotswold museum and finally Northleach parish church.

Our trip was only one of several taking place on 'Expeditions Day', everyone, with the exception of the 5th Form who were working for their exams, was involved and other destinations included Bristol Zoo and Berkeley Castle.

We travelled to Bourton on a 16 seater mini-bus and it took approximately half an hour to arrive at our port of call. Everyone in the class went except Bomford who was ill at the time and we were looked after by Mr. Randall and Mr. Jowitt.

My clothes seemed to be quite appropriate for the weather conditions, not too hot or too cold. The Model Village was very interesting full of clever details such as the Sound of Choirs and the chiming of bells, there was, even a smaller model village built within the model itself! Birdland' was also splendid: there was an snowy owl and an eagle pacing up and down in its cage and a talking mynah bird! There were also red and blue macaws at the zoo.

After we had left 'Birdland' we walked to the mini-bus past the stream which gives the village it's name eating cheese sandwiches, crisps and other goodies.

On arriving at Northleach, before we clambered off the bus, we were issued with a worksheet. Walking through the foyer was like walking into the past. There were many old-fashioned buildings, wagons and farm implements. There was a half-moon shaped exhibition area displaying various aspects of farming in the Cotswolds through the ages and honouring the memory of the museum's creator Olive Lloyd Baker.

All in all, throughout the collection, there were thirteen wagons of differing types and ages and uses. The museum showed us how a blacksmith and a wainwright went about their daily tasks there were also three tractors inside the main building. Other smaller exhibitions included the arduous life of the farm house-wife and the care of horses on farms in the area.



Form 1/2 boys at the Cotswold Model Village.

The collection is housed in a building which used to be 'a House of Correction,' a form of prison, and part of the museum was devoted to showing what life was like for these petty offenders, it must have been very hard indeed for them!

After we had finished our worksheets we climbed wearily back into the bus and travelled the short distance to Northleach parish church which was a pleasant and interesting way to round off a full day. It was a very big church built by money given by wool merchants many centuries ago; there were many seats and a beautiful, large stained glass window with the late afternoon sunlight streaming through it. On the way back to our transport we purchased some more drinks and ice-creams. We arrived back at the school in good time and after taking some group photographs for our scrap books some of us played cricket as we waited for our parents, eager to tell them about our exhausting trip.

H. Mellowship

A VISIT TO THE WEST COUNTRY

Expeditions Day saw Mr. Gentry, Mr. Thomson, Mr. Barker and Mr. Daniels taking 3B and many of the fourth form to Avon and Somerset. It was to be a most interesting and enjoyable day. Our first port of call was the SS Great Britain in Bristol, a fascinating ship with a long and varied career, built by the engineering genius Isambard K. Brunel. Then we visited Bristol Zoo, which has a marvellous collection of animals, set in the most beautiful of gardens. We then drove south into Somerset to the Wookey Hole caves, where we saw breath-taking limestone caves, watched hand-made paper being made and looked at a collection of fairground relics and at Madame Tussaud's store rooms of moulds of the famous. After such a busy and happy day we were only slightly late back for supper! The drive across the Mendips was memorable.

D. L. T.

BERKELEY CASTLE

The 3A outing on Expeditions Day was a trip to Berkeley Castle. We left Cokethorpe at 9.30 and got there, via Stroud, just after 11 O'clock when the Castle opens. You come to it very suddenly after the turning on the A38 for the Slimbridge Wildfowl Trust. It is a handsome stronghold composed of red sandstone, cotswold stone, and *tuffa* — thin slabs of grey, porous stone rather like pumice. They had been cutting down masses of wild garlic on the moat banks, and the air was full of its pungent smell as we walked up to the Outer Gatehouse.

We were met by our guide at the original Norman doorway. She explained that Berkeley was just one of a number of fortifications built by the Normans on either side of the Severn to keep the Welsh at bay. In all our tour lasted almost an hour and a half. We saw the cell in the Keep where Edward II was murdered (or, at any rate, the cell which is *allegedly* the one where he was put to death). Drake's room is also there. Everybody enjoyed the Great Hall and the Grand Stairs with its collection of portraits — in particular the copy of the Van Dyck self-portrait with sunflower. After lunch we explored the garden and the stable and kennels of the Berkeley Hunt. The garden is not a garden in the ordinary sense of the word, but a series of descending terraces of long grass walks with narrow borders of low plants, and some shrubs and good climbers on the walls. As it is on the south side it is a perfect sun-trap, and there were peonies, irises and many other flowers that one would only have expected to see blooming in June.

We took the road via Tetbury to Cirencester on the way back. That part of the Cotswolds is really much more impressive and dramatic in its escarpment than anything round Burford or Stow.

Looking behind us as we climbed up on to the Tetbury road, one could clearly see across the Severn the shadowy outline of the distant Malvern Hills.

P. J. C.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM

On 11th May the 4th Form Classical Studies set went on a tour of the British Museum in London.

On arrival we were shown to the theatre lecture room where we were scheduled to watch an illustrative film on Greek Athletic Games. For half an hour we were treated to interesting and picturesque slides on the site of the Olympia and on different aspects of the Games.

With the conclusion of the film we were led up the main staircase, lined with exquisite statues and monuments, to the Greek and Roman life room. They are displayed in the open air and in glass cabinets where many important relics of Greek life are shown. Also in this room, up a small flight of stairs and on to a balcony, is an encased selection of Greek coins and jewellery.

At 12 noon we took a short break to have lunch on the Museum balustrade. After this respite we resumed our journey, going on a tour of the Egyptian Room and the ground floor which boasted such relics as well-preserved mummies and the treasures of the Elgin Marbles.

The Parthenon sculptures collected by Lord Elgin nearly 200 years ago rank among the highest achievements of mankind. Since they went on display in the British Museum in 1817, artists, scholars, poets and millions of visitors have stood before them in wonder and delight. The Elgin Marbles were made at the beginning of the 5th Century BC when the Parthenon was built. They were brought to London before their gradual destruction by the Venetians and religious zealots set in.

Two terms earlier the Classical Studies set went on a half day visit to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford. We were shown by Professor Vickers round the Pottery Room and adjoining sculpture room. We were also given a lecture on Greek Art and Mr. Vickers' theory which states that pottery is a copy of bronze ware and that the colours on it are cheap imitations of ivory, gold and silver.

A. P. Venman

A VISIT TO PARLIAMENT

On Thursday 17th May the 5th Form British Constitution set visited the House of Commons as the guests of the Rt. Hon. Douglas Hurd, MP. This visit has been arranged in early January, but even as we left Cokethorpe on that bright summer morning we knew that there was no guarantee we would all get into the Commons, for our main object was to hear Prime Minister's Question Time — always an occasion for which seats in the public galleries are much in demand, and often heavily over-subscribed. Mr. Hurd's wife had warned us that a few of our party might have to make do with the gallery in the House of Lords!

Arrived in London, we spent the latter part of the morning in the War Cabinet Rooms, which had just been opened to the public under the auspices of the Imperial War Museum the previous month. After a quick visit to the National Gallery, where we also had lunch in the cafeteria, we walked down Whitehall and arrived at the Commons at 2 o'clock. There were tremendous queues on the pavement in Parliament Square outside the main entrance to the House, and very tight security inside the building. Our letter from Mrs. Hurd enabled us to gain admittance at once, and we met her in the Central Lobby at 2.15. To our great joy she produced tickets for the Commons' galleries for all of us, and I would imagine that she had worked very hard to obtain some of them at the last moment.

Having watched the Speaker's procession at 2.30, we waited in the lobby for five minutes while prayers took place in the chamber. The ushers then gave us each an Order Paper for the day, and took us up to the galleries. Two of us were in fact in the Speaker's gallery; the others in the east and west galleries. The chamber below was still only about half full, but MP's were coming in rapidly all the time. Here and there were some well-known faces — Mr. Michael Foot (now on the backbenches again), Mr. Willie Hamilton, Mr. Enoch Powell and Mr. Jack Ashley were some whom we spotted. At that stage only Mr. Gerald Kaufmann occupied the Opposition front bench.

The first half-hour of Question Time was fairly stormy, with some heated exchanges between Mr. Dennis Skinner and the Home Secretary about policing in the miners' dispute. Mr. Brittan was repeatedly called back to the Despatch box and was hard put to it at times to make himself heard above Labour interruptions, Conservative cheers, and cries of 'Order! Order!' from the Speaker. Mr. Shore had by now joined Mr. Kaufmann on the Opposition front bench and at 3.05 Mr. Kinnock slipped into his place between them. Mr. David Owen appeared at the Bar of the House, bowed slightly to the Speaker, and took a seat below the gangway on the Opposition side. Any moment now, and the Prime Minister would arrive. One could feel the sense of expectation rising in the gallery, as everyone strained forward to see who would appear next. Suddenly, the double doors behind the Speaker's chair swung open and Mrs. Thatcher entered at a brisk pace. I cannot say that a hush fell over the chamber. None of the MP's seemed to take any particular notice of her arrival; nor did the Members of her own front bench show here any special deference as she squeezed past them to get to her place. It was by now 3.15, and almost at once she rose to answer questions. She was wearing a light blue summer dress; her hand, as it lay across the Despatch Box, looked surprisingly slim and bony — almost frail. She toyed with a gold ballpoint-pen as she spoke. I had been told only that morning that she is apparently a nervous speaker: if so, it is far from obvious! A barrage of Opposition questions on the Order Paper all took the form of — 'To ask the Prime Minister if she will list her official engagement for the day ...' What the Members really wished to ask her was thus concealed in their subsidiaries, and for the most part these were either about the National Coal Board or cruise missiles. Mrs. Thatcher answered a long series of enquiries on these subjects. While she did so, Mr. Powell, on the other side of the chamber, reclined a little more deeply in his seat — one foot on the back of the bench in front of him; as he listened to the various exchanges, he smiled to himself from time to time, and at one point leaned aside and whispered something in the ear of his neighbour.

Then came the issue of the EEC rebate. Mr. Kinnock sprang to his feet. Seven weeks had now passed, he said, since the date on which the £457 million rebate was supposed to have been paid. Could the Prime Minister tell the House when it would be paid? Mrs. Thatcher replied that the date was not legally enforceable — she hoped it would be by the end of the year. Mr. Kinnock rose again. “Does she think that the money is due to us — yes or no? In view of her entirely dilatory attitude, does she think we are going to get it — yes or no? (He thumped the Despatch Box.) If the money is not paid, is she going to withhold that sum to spend on objectives in Britain — *yes or no?*” Mrs. Thatcher referred to the terms of the Stuttgart Communiqué. 850 million ecu had been reserved from this year’s budget to be re-paid to Britain. “It is still in the reserve European budget,” she said. “The reason it has not been paid is due to her abrasiveness and incompetence!” said Mr. Kinnock. Mrs. Thatcher emphatically denied this. “Without a strong voice we should not have got the promise of a repayment,” she said. “I believe it will be honoured. — The Opposition were not very good at getting rebates of this kind!” At this, there were cries of ‘Hear! Hear!’ from the government backbenches.

When Question Time was over the Prime Minister gathered up her handbag and papers and left the chamber at once. We had just time to hear Mr. Kinnock ask the Leader of the House if he would announce the business for the following week, and the opening of the debate on the second reading of the Tees and Hartlepool Port Authority Bill, before we left to catch the train back to Oxford.

P. J. C.

THE ROYAL SHOW

On Wednesday 4th July Mr. Thompson organised a trip to Royal Show, mainly for farmers’ sons. 29 boys went, and they were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, Mr. Webb, and Mr. Bright.

The Dutchess of Kent was there in the President’s Box. She was also seen in a beautiful carriage with outriders going round the Grand Ring. Throughout the day there were many displays in the Grand Ring of farm machinery, livestock, Royal Marines, the Hunt and horse jumping.

I went to lunch at Esso with three friends. We then walked round the showground looking at the farm machinery and the sheep, cow, pig and poultry units. There was a tractor-pulling contest which was very exciting and large crowds of people were attracted to it. There were also small trade stands to be visited, each of them specialising either in wine, food or flowers.

We all had a very pleasant day indeed.

A. Dennis-Jones

VISITS TO THE ROYAL INSTITUTION



Over the past few terms, some 4th and 6th Form boys have travelled to London to attend Physics Lectures given by the Royal Institution for schools. Many people will be already familiar with the very entertaining series of Christmas lectures on the television from the RI.

The RI of GB (to give its full title) was founded in 1799 by Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford. There have been many scientific discoveries made there, Rumford made his theory of conservation of energy; Thomas Young gave his wave theory of light; Humphrey Davy isolated the first alkali and alkali earth metals and invented the miner’s lamp; Tyndall’s experiments on radiation Heat; Dewar liquefied hydrogen and gave the world the vacuum flask; Bragg’s work on X-ray crystallography. Above all, Michael Faraday discovered electromagnetic induction and his collection of apparatus is still on view.

The lectures, given by eminent scientists of today, have been a very stimulating mixture of old and new. Many demonstrations have been shown using actual apparatus of 150 years ago, but also modern experiments of today technological society have been given. We have seen how computers work, many uses of optical fibres, how oil rigs and underpasses are designed and built, the use of soap films in designing motorway routes as well as the older but equally exciting experiments on sound.

It is hoped that these lectures will provide interest and stimulation for today’s young scientists and reinforce the ideas learned in school lessons.

A. E. G.

He knew the survivors of the Light Brigade

At Balaclava in October 1854 the British cavalry distinguished themselves by two charges against overwhelming odds. The second of these was the celebrated Charge of the Light Brigade, in which 673 horsemen, led by Lord Cardigan, rode up the valley under heavy fire, imperturbably, as if taking part in a review, to attack the Russian batteries. They captured the Russian guns, but only a third of the Brigade answers the first muster after the charge . . .

Winston Churchill.

* * *

The Charge of the Light Brigade was certainly the most celebrated episode of the Crimean War. Astonishingly, the last surviving participant in that charge only died in 1927, and there is still one man alive today who knew both him and some of the other survivors. His name is Canon William Lummis, and on 7th May the 6th Form historians, accompanied by Mr. Cranham and Mr. Watts, went to see him at the nursing home in Surrey where he now lives. It was a memorable occasion. Canon Lummis had made a remarkable recovery after a serious fall which had necessitated a major hip operation the previous November, and for a man of 97 he was in amazing physical shape. As he greeted us he noticed Jeremy Abbott's red corduroys, and remarked jovially: 'Ah, I see you're wearing my regimental trousers!'

The Matron of the nursing home had made the library available for our talk with Canon Lummis, and once we had seated ourselves around him, he began by telling us something about his early life.

'I always wanted to be a missionary or a soldier,' he said. 'Many people think that I must have been an Army Chaplain — I never was.'

He enlisted as a Trooper in the 11th Hussars in 1904, which makes him the oldest Old Comrade of the Hussars now. He was commissioned into the Suffolk Regiment in 1916 and commanded the 2nd Battalion in 1918. He won the MC for two actions in that last year of the war — one at Courcelles-le-Compte in August, the other at Selle in October. Two nights after the action at Courcelles his battalion captured 300 Germans at Gommecourt. After the Armistice in November, he marched into Germany as far as Cologne.

It was only after he left the army in 1930 that he became ordained. Thereafter he undertook a long ministry as a missionary at Bungay in India, until he finally retired to Suffolk and Norfolk, and became Canon of St. Edmundsbury.



Canon William Lummis today, aged 97. He holds a copy of his book Honour the Light Brigade — the title is just visible on the spine. (Photo by courtesy of The Soldier.)

Canon Lummis' knowledge of the Light Brigade — of which he has made a lifetime's study — is absolutely encyclopaedic. But we soon realised that he is a military historian of some standing in a more general sense. He showed us some photographs of the folios he had compiled on each recipient of the Victoria Cross, and which can now be seen at the Military Historical Society, Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea. He also showed us copies of his two books, *Honour the Light Brigade* and *Padre George Smith of Rorke's Drift*. A third book, about Corporal Christian Schiess, the only Swiss ever to win a V.C., was three-quarters completed but never finished, and he presented the manuscript to the Imperial War Museum.

He first got interested in the history of the Light Brigade just before the first world war.

'In 1912-13 I was Editor of the 11th Hussars *Journal*...'

He produced a current copy of the *Journal* and handed it round for us all to look at.

'That's the kind of thing I edited for several years. Well, at that time quite a lot of paper crossed my desk about the survivors of Balaclava, and I thought it would be nice to list the names of the 11th Hussars' officers and men who were involved in the charge.'

During the compilation of this material he managed to speak to fourteen of the survivors.

'My list was about 90% correct, and I was helped by Sergeant John Parkinson, who lent me his list of the members of the Balaclava Commemorative Society of 1879.'

His book *Honour the Light Brigade* has a table which shows that 7 officers and 135 soldiers of the 11th Hussars took part in the charge. 25 men were killed, and 27 soldiers and 3 officers wounded. 8 were taken prisoner and 72 horses killed.

Sergeant Parkinson, and another man, Pennington, became close friends of Canon Lummis.

'John Parkinson was a man who liked to dress up in the uniform of the Crimea and recite Tennyson's *Charge of the Light Brigade*. Several of them did!'

He told us about the personal history of some other participants in the Battle of Balaclava — particularly about a Lieutenant Dunn who had fought with a very long sword which had once belonged to General Wolfe. (The weapon had been found on the battlefield at Quebec by Dunn's father.).

During the battle Lt. Dunn had rescued a Sergeant-Major Bentley, and he also went to the assistance to a Private Levett, who was, however, killed. After Balaclava he eloped with the Colonel's wife and spent his time hunting until he was eventually killed in the Indian Mutiny.

We asked if any of the survivors had had particular memories of Florence Nightingale.

'Oh yes — Pennington and Parkinson had. In fact, Pennington was a cook at Scutari. They spoke very highly of her.'

Later, we realised that we should have tried to draw Canon Lummis out a little more on what the survivors felt immediately after the charge — so very different to what we imagine now that they might have felt, or even what they themselves felt much later. But when we asked him if any of the men he had encountered were bitter at their failure, he replied:

'Bitter? — No! They said, 'We would do it again!'

He paused for a moment and shook his head reflectively.

'It was a mad thing, you know, to charge a battery of guns like that... But they weren't bitter. No. 'We would do it again,' they said. 'We would do it again!'

* * *

After the charge Lord Cardigan calmly returned to the yacht on which he lived, had a bath, dined, drank a bottle of champagne, and went to bed. His brigade had performed an inspiring feat of gallantry. But it was due, like much else in this war, to the blunders of the commanders. Lord Raglan's orders had been badly expressed and were misunderstood by his subordinates. The Light Brigade had charged the wrong guns.

P. J. C.



Corporal Lummis in 1912, in his office at the 11th Hussars regimental barracks. (Photo by courtesy of Col. Peter Upton.)

ACTIVITIES

CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING

A dozen boys have shot frequently during the year and another dozen boys have shot occasionally. It is good to see so much enthusiasm. Several have run up enormous bills for their parents. Unfortunately it is a fairly expensive sport as each cartridge costs ten pence and a clay three pence. However, it is a very exciting and challenging sport. It demands good concentration and co-ordination and fast thinking and moving. It can take quite a long time before a particular shot is mastered. This can be trying for a young boy, who will need much encouragement if he is not to give up. However, perserverance wins the day and you eventually find that you are hitting a fair percentage of the "birds". We have a good pedal trap and are able to put up a variety of "birds": teal, crossers, overheard, down-the-line. Most boys possess 20 bores which seem to be the most suitable gun, a few of the older ones have 12 bores. We also have a couple of 16 bore and one 410. Naturally safety is uppermost in our minds and we like to have the guns inspected once a year. Boys are encouraged to look down the barrel before they shoot to check that there is no obstruction. The importance of keeping apart different sizes cartridges is also stressed.

The House Cup was won fairly comfortably by Queen Anne. Unfortunately D. Fenton, one of Swift's best shots was unavailable.

Queen Anne	Walker C.	9
	Fletcher B.	14
	Smith N.	16
	Stead M.	10
	49 out of 100	1st
Swift	Farley D.	12
	Howe M.	2
	Hues A.	2
	Mercer J.	13
	29 out of 100	2nd
Harcourt	Paravicini C.	2
	Dennis-Jones A.	8
	Howland M.	5
	Joseph B.	10
	25 out of 100	3rd

The Wyvern Shield Individual Competition was a closely fought contest between D. Fenton and N. Smith. Nicholas' nerves just got the better of him giving the victory to David with 17 clays out of 25 to Nicholas' 15.

D. L. T.



Still Life: M. Glanville

RIFLE CLUB

Almost half the school have shot at one time or another during the year. Five boys have been awarded their half school-colours for taking part in external competitions. They were M. Howland, T. Walker, A. Purdue, R. Baxter and K. Tighe. They shot well for two ACF cups.

The House Cup was won by Harcourt under the determined captaincy of M. Howland.

Harcourt	Howland M. (Capt.)	95
	Baxter R.	92
	Edwards S.	65
	Tighe K.	82
	Total 334	1st
Queen Anne	Walker T. (Capt.)	86
	Pinnell D.	69
	Stead M.	82
	Pedoe S.	84
	Total 321	2nd
Swift	Youdan J. (Capt.)	81
	Farley D.	62
	Mercer J.	88
	Purdue A.	88
	Total 319	3rd

During the summer term the sand was sieved very carefully, a necessary but tedious task. We are thinking of doubling the capacity of the range so that four boys can shoot at a time. This would cut down on the amount of waiting that boys have to do before they can shoot. Several experts from the MOD have inspected the range and it would seem a feasible proposition.

D. L. T.

JUDO REPORT

We have just drawn to the end of a pleasant term when the majority of judo lessons were outside on warm summer evenings. Twenty-two boys attended this term, which is a very healthy number. We did a judo display on Open Day which was well acknowledged by the spectators. The boys did very well and the event was rounded off by Mr. Stark who did a very good Akido display.

Paul Brooker entered the area championships in May and although he didn't win a medal he fought well. He also attained the highest junior (under 16) grade in the BJC, that of Green Belt with three black stripes. Some of the other boys were also graded at the end of term and have now progressed to a higher grade.

I shall be very sorry to lose some of my best pupils like Wankling and the Joseph brothers. I hope they will continue with their judo practice and manage to attain their Black Belts.

S. Goddard, 2nd Dan

WOODTURNING AND CARPENTRY

The woodwork and woodturning department has grown considerably during the last term. We now have three stables with the partitions removed as the workshop and one other stable as the timber store.

With this extra space it is now possible for six or eight people to work comfortably at one time.

A few things have been produced on the carpentry side, Picton-Warlow's hay rake and Brooker's kitchel towel-holder being two of the best examples of these.

On the woodturning side, again a fair number of clocks; it is difficult to choose between them as there are several very good ones, but because of the fine finish achieved by Dennis-Jones on his articles I must say that his are the best. Wada has done a lot of work — all rather hurriedly. He has yet to learn that the tedious job of sanding makes all the difference to the finish.

Obtaining a supply of hard wood suitable for turning is very difficult. I have all the "off cuts" that I can get from the local timber merchants so during the holiday I must search further afield. We have used a lot of parts from broken tables and chairs and some timber from the school grounds. The elm from the trees that have been killed by the Dutch Elm disease is quite good for table lamps.

Soft wood for ordinary carpentry is always available but unfortunately not many pupils are interested in this — the results of this do not appear as quickly as they do in turning. Other articles produced are barometers, thermometers, cheese boards and table lamps.

J. W.



CERAMICS

The introduction of a red earthenware clay body has made a noticeable change in the type of pottery that has been produced during the year. This was the direct result of the difficulties we have had in raising the kiln temperature to produce a satisfactory stoneware, which had been our aim. The lower fired earthenware invited a different approach not only to shapes and forms but particularly in decoration where much of the slip decoration has evolved with marbling, slip-trailing, sgraffito and inlay being used with varied and interesting results. Mould-made dishes have lent themselves particularly well to these methods of decoration and David Pinell's butterfly design carried out in sgraffito, Alexander Collett's marbled plate and Daniel Jone's slip trailed design were among the best of these.

With inspiration from the past two very fine jugs have been made. Michael Stead based his on a medieval puzzle jug and found he needed to work with great care and accuracy to keep the hidden channels open. Alexander Collet also overcame problems on his Staffordshire style creamer in combining the modelling of a cow with the practical aspects of lip and handle to make a working jug. Edwards has shown an aptitude for slab building and made a fine candle lamp and Badawi II has made some carefully modelled figures as part of a major work to be completed next term.

During the summer term we acquired a fine electric wheel which stimulated an interest not only among boys regularly using the pottery, but also in many others — some just to look and some to have a go. To make a pot on the wheel is not easy until some skill has been learned, but Derek Demner found it easier than most and quite soon had a good sized bowl to remove carefully from the wheel and put to dry to the leather hard stage. The following week he found turning the base of the pot more difficult, but now has a very creditable bowl to fire, glaze and eventually we hope, put to some useful or decorative purpose. Several other boys have also used the wheel with varying degrees of success, again Alexander has done well.

Toward the last weeks of the year we eventually received from Pottery crafts a replacement kiln and with just time for one firing space was at a premium. Some work was selected for its high quality, some because it was the right shape for a particular space, and some because its owner was leaving. Which leads to mention of Mark Garside who has worked so well in this department, not only creating and developing his own work but setting a high standard for others to strive for, and also sharing responsibility for the safety and success of each kiln firing.

As the pottery department expands there is increasing opportunity for more ambitious work and with Mr. Thompson's help — particularly valuable at weekends — we can look forward to great things in the coming year.

B. W.



Seated figure in stoneware, glaze decorated.
M. G. Samkin



Slab-moulded dish with sgraffito butterfly decoration.
D. C. J. Pinnell

ART DEPARTMENT

This year's crop of art students produced an interesting range of work. Students are beginning to take an increasing interest in the effects of colour and the different ways one may achieve those effects. Inks, pastels and collage work have been used alongside the traditional water-colour and poster/powder paints and it will be interesting to see whether the third year students will develop these mixed media ideas further in the following years.

The Art and Craft exhibition organised by the Headmaster this year proved to be a popular event. Work being displayed and judged on the House system added extra zest to the affair and it was most gratifying to see so very many Cokethorpe boys capable of producing such a range of creative and interpretative work. Interpretation of ideas was one of the skills I hoped the boys would consider on viewing the work and drawings of Reg Butler (1913-1981) when we visited the Tate prior to the December vacation. This was to see the first retrospective exhibition ever held in Britain of his iron, bronze and synthetic figures. He was the winner on the Unknown Political Prisoner sculpture competition in 1953. This exhibition showed both abstracted and realistic interpretations carried out by the same artist at various points of his development. His work and the rest of the Tate Gallery sparked off much interest and discussion. Salvador Dali, Turner and Stubbs were artists who seemed to provoke particular interest. A visit to the National Gallery and the National Portrait Gallery is planned for 1984-85.

The standard of draughtsmanship is promising in a number of the new students. Several fourth year boys have the ability to be candidates for 'O' Level in '84, '85. This year we had four entrants for Oxford Board 'O' Level and an Advanced Level student, S. Bayarri, with the Associated Examining Board. His work has been consistently good throughout the school year. The time and energy he and T. Anderson spent working on the scenery of the school play last term was self-imposed and self-regulated, due to staff illness. Their work was much appreciated.

The Art Open Prize has been awarded to Sergio Bayarri for obvious excellence of work and we hope his artistic skills will continue to be used now that he has returned home to Spain. Pineo has developed his drawing and painting ability well throughout this past year and shows great promise for the future, as does Tang, another member of the third year. Woodley is a student whose development of both colour and form has been well above average over the past two terms. Bassey has been awarded the fifth form art prize for showing consistent effort in a subject which interested him but did not come easily to him and for producing sensitive work for his examination.

A. S.



Mrs. Stone and some members of the Arts Class — Giles Dunn, Alastair Picton-Warlow and Neil Pineo.

Photo: C. Jones



Pen and ink drawing: Falling People. G. B. Dunn.



Market Trader: S. J. Boggon

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

I suppose every criticism made by a master to some extent reflects back on the master himself, so when I say it has been at best a middling year I have to accept that this is probably due to a failure on my part to inspire. We had the hoped-for new members, but their initial enthusiasm soon waned; one term and too many of them drifted off to more exciting things. I swear that boys are worse than women in unpredictability!

For the model session we had a dozen photographers who between them shot off about ten rolls of film, but I have yet to see a good portrait. (Incidentally, considering that she had never before volunteered for such an ordeal, I think Isobel was wonderfully relaxed and co-operative.) The still-life session yielded only mediocre results from a car-load of props, the co-operation of Mrs. Stone and again many rolls of film. Members went overboard with

toning — it yielded immediate results but attempts at solarisation, bas-relief, and tone-separation were never pursued beyond a cursory try-out. On the other hand, our visits to Minster Lovell and Cogges Farm Museum were both enjoyable and productive.

We have had more disasters than I care to recount. (Come back, Casper — all is forgiven!) I cannot think that the dozen or so soggy 10 × 8s discovered under the carpet were the subjects of a revolutionary new print screen technique. Be not discouraged, I have yet to meet a photographer who hasn't at some time poured in the fixer before the developer.

I will not single out any particular masterpieces. Instead, I thank the stalwarts, Stephen and Nicholas Boggon, David Ashe, Andrew Donald, Dominic Farley and Jonathan Glynn for the pleasure of their company.

H. H. B.

COMPUTER CLUB

When the maths room was moved to its new premises the computer club was given a small anti-room to house its computer. This room is now used for members of the computer club who wish to use the Commodore Pit and for storing discs and computer items.

The Club has recently acquired to BBC Model B computers, which are kept in the maths room itself. The BBC Computer is a highly advanced computer with a total of 64k memory of which 25k (approximately enough to contain 4,000 words) is used for programming. The rest of the memory is used for the computer's own built in functions. The BBC has 16 colours, a four channel music synthesiser and high resolution graphics. Each BBC computer has its own Disc drive and video output; one a black and white television which is mainly used for programming and the other is a large colour monitor which is used for showing programmes in colour to classes.

Members of the computer club have a wide choice of games and programmes to use, they are also encouraged to write their own programmes. Each member is given one specific time to use as he so wishes and also may use the computers in his free time. Members are charged £10 a term, which is being spent on expanding the facilities and the "D & D" Club has got going in earnest this term!

R. E. Morton

'DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS'

'Dungeons and Dragons' is a role-playing game. You have to go on adventures and fight monsters and seek treasure. You don't use a board but you sometimes make maps. It is all run by a Dungeon Master.

You make up characters such as a fighter, magic users, illusionist, thieves, clerics, rangers, paladins, monks, assassins, druids and bards. Each character has a certain minimum strength, intelligence, wisdom, dexterity, constitution and charisma, and he or she also possesses hit-points, alignment, levels, languages, weapons and much more. The Dungeon Master is usually the most experienced player and he completely runs the game. Our Dungeon Master is Mr. Hudson. He gives us monsters to fight and treasure to find, and traps to find or fall into.

'Dungeons and Dragons' is a very imaginative fantasy game, especially if you find the Gold Dragon or the Platinum Dragon, the King of all Dragons. So far we have only managed to play an adventure a term, but next term, because of the longer activity time, we will perhaps manage to play two games.

H. Mellowship

THE RADIO CONTROL CLUB

The Radio Control Club has been founded this last year to give pupils the opportunity to use model cars, boats and scale aircraft. Although it an absorbing and interesting pastime, it is also quite expensive. Cars and aircraft range from £100-£250, and boats from £80-£120. Cars and boats are 2 channels and this means that they are run from a 2 Servo Receiver. Aircraft are run by 3 channels; a Servo controls the movement of the rudder, elevator and throttle.

In the woods there is an official car racing track which has been run so far by Edward Imonioro. There are also about twenty acres in the grounds for aircraft use, and there is a ford nearby for boats.

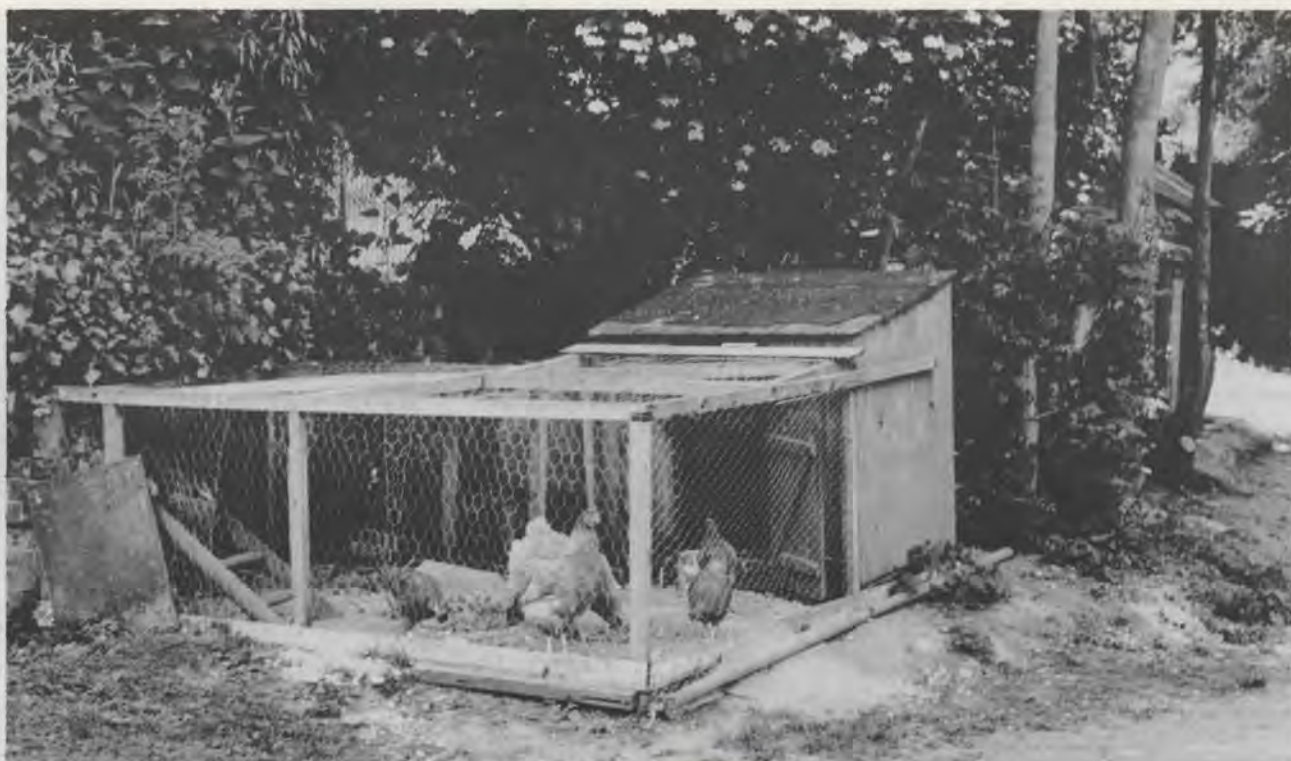
The RCC members are G. T. Roberts (Supervisor), P. T. Longbotham (Vice-Supervisor), C. B. Lewis, A. P. Venman, C. Turner, S. Wada, C. Knight, M. Stead and I. Ogborn. The Club has been very successful so far and we intend to try and keep it running for many more terms. It makes a good weekend activity.

G. T. Roberts

CAR CLUB

The Car Club has now been going for nearly a year and we have got two cars, a Ford Consul and a Hillman Avenger. The members are S. Wada, G. T. Roberts and M. Howland (Hillman), and L. J. Lincoln-Lewis, S. J. Harbour and Anderson (Consul). We are allowed to drive our cars in the school grounds provided we have a master with us. I have certainly picked up plenty of tips from my car and I am sure that the other members have too. Harbour and I have stripped down the carburettor on the Consul because one of the automatic chokes stopped working. We are very grateful to Mr. Daniels, who occasionally takes us down to the scrap yard so that we can pick up plenty of spare parts.

L. J. Lincoln-Lewis



POND CLUB

With the arrival of the Summer Term, the pond area yet again changes its face, and many of the boys spend much of their free time busying themselves with their numerous pets.

Not only do we have many new enthusiastic boys in the club, but we also have many new feathered and furred inmates. This may be a poor choice of words, as most of the livestock spends the weekends wandering the grounds.

There are about forty chickens now occupying about five runs that have been built by the boys, often with a little help from fathers or the ground staff. Many of the chickens are still at the cheeping stage, but some of the others, while perhaps less engaging provide the boys with some useful pocket money from the sale of eggs.

Young Miles seems to be producing the greatest number of eggs at the moment, but Lincoln-Lewis, Harbour, Anderson, Garrard and the new 1/2 group should soon be able to visit the Tuck Shop a little more often when their hens come in to lay.

The ferrets are still very popular and although probably less aggressive than most of the chickens, still manage to provide the Biology lab with plenty of rabbits for dissection. Picton-Warlow's ferret has just produced a large litter; I believe new owners have already been found.

The recent stock of pigeons so obviously content under Brooker and Mercer's guidance are sitting on eggs and should produce young quite soon. We have just started a little pigeon racing which should be in full flight next term.

The pond itself is looking lovely at the moment.



Lincoln-Lewis with his tame Jackdaw, Henry, who has, alas, since flown away!

Bull rushes, reeds and plants are in full bloom and the goldfish sunbathe around the water lilies.

With the aid of Lincoln-Lewis and Harbour the surrounding area is well mown and trimmed, and more like a lawn than ever before. However it may be that their interest lies less in landscape gardening and more in the fun of operating our flymo and new strimmer.

W. H. C. D.

NOMADS TOUR

Due to an alteration in the dates of the Summer term it was over a week into the holidays before the thirteenth Nomads converged on Birmingham for the annual assault on what was once the heartland of Offa's Kingdom of Mercia. The full tour party consisted of Messrs. Green, H. Scott (Vice-Captain), Randall, Stark, Macleod, Ashby and Shelley with six current 1st XI players, B. Akande, Wankling, N. Smith, Spicer, Fisher and Porter, while old boys R. Andrews and McKenzie came alone later to play in one match each. On the way up to Birmingham a much smaller main party than usual lunched at The White Swan, Henley-in-Arden where the fruit machine began to tinkle generously within minutes of the arrival of Scott and Macleod, Stark "window-shopped" through the pebble glass of the lounge while Smith was not alone in showing a healthy interest in the attractive brunette behind the bar. After lunch the little convoy sought out Tanworth-in-Arden's cricket ground, found the right road but was thwarted by road menders, so drove to The Norfolk Hotel and registered. Within minutes our "baggage manager" switched on the charm to get a change of room and by the time the Leicester squad arrived, courtesy of Mr. Spicer, he was installed in a luxury suite overlooking the gardens. A few moments later Shelley drove in having picked up Fisher and Akande at New Street Station, (not from a crate marked "diplomatic baggage" as some humorist suggested), while Randall arrived from a celebration in the Principality in time for tea. Ashby limped bravely into The Duck in the evening to complete the party and after the mandatory, (brief), team talk, and when Stuart and Harry had finished with the telephone, the party moved on to eat — the extremes of youth and age visiting The Lychee Gardens for a chinese meal, while some established performers took in a quick curry before dashing for Liberty's — only to find it was an over 25's night. Reports came back that Randall and Stark were chatting happily, but Akande and Porter were turned away by the management — clearly too respectable! Macleod returned to the hotel to a doctored bed, more appropriate on a rugby tour, but Randall, in spite of his energetic day, claimed his room-mate's snores kept him from getting a wink of sleep.

On Tuesday everyone appeared at breakfast on time, Akande's green hair was noted, even by the little blonde head waitress, Ashby's purple and yellow calf looked worrying but at least Spicer received support in the post. After a leisurely morning the party assembled for a Duck lunch, tested the electronic 18 Hole Pro Golf game then drove in stately convoy to play Tanworth-in-Arden. We began well by winning the toss. Smith and Ashby put on a solid 48 for the first wicket in an hour, Akande and Shelley added 52 for the third wicket, Wankling hit a rapid 27 and Porter played some pleasant drives through extra cover before the declaration at 171-9. After an excellent tea Scott sent back one opener in his third over then twisted an ankle in his fourth and had to go off. Wankling and Akande bowled quickly without any luck, but Shelley took two wickets with swing, Smith tempted yet another batsman into a suicidal stroke and with five wickets down for 109, Tanworth settled for the draw. Stark's arrival on the field, as twelfth man cheered everyone up for he was dressed in a spare pair of Akande's trousers and trainers two sizes too small for him. However his bizarre outfit did not deflect Porter's wit — "you aren't throwing a grenade!" as "twelfth"

prepared to throw in from the square-leg boundary. We enjoyed various diversions in the club house in the evening. Smith played spoons — painfully, Wankling arm-wrestled vigorously and lured one of Tanworth's batsmen into the three-man lift; Alison of the tight jeans was snared into the one shoe trick and deposited under the sprinkler with Spicer, while other Cokethorpe "dry-bobs" showed all-round ability by beating Tanworth in assorted boat races. Chinese food and fish and chips rounded off the evening, although some tireless Nomads even visited Liberty's while others cased the Taboo Club — a full day.

Voices were muted on Wednesday morning but spirits rose as we drove to Harborne to be greeted by the gargantuan figure of Paul Knowles, characteristically propped against the bar. Once again we won the toss, but as the atmosphere was humid and there seemed little likelihood of the wicket deteriorating we elected to field first. Knowles was caught at the wicket off the last ball of the fourth over for a vigorous 22, but then the quicker bowlers began to get on top and in spite of the occasional defiant shot, (Akande cut for 6 through third man), the first five batsmen were dismissed for 72. Smith was brought on to break the sixth wicket partnership which he did in his first over, Wankling took a splendid catch at mid-wicket to get rid of the next batsman but number 9, a certain N. J. Fisher, (lent to Harborne for the day when one of their players let them down), helped add 22 priceless runs for the eighth wicket before becoming Smith's third victim, stumped by Ashby. Wankling then demolished the tail in the grand manner and Harborne had been bowled out for 134 on a perfect pitch in almost exactly even time. After tea Andrews found the extreme pace of Brown too hot but Ashby added 61 with Akande for the second wicket before being caught behind for a well-played 42. Gradually the game began to slip away from us as Willcox, the Harborne captain, dismissed Akande and Shelley with the score at 69 and then brought back his quickest bowler and most experienced leg spinner. Wankling struck a fine six but was bowled through straddled legs by Brown (83-5), Scott was caught at the wicket off the spinner (87-6), while Spicer's bails were trimmed at 88. Macleod hit a sweet six but was trapped leg before for 12 making the total 104-8. Randall followed in the same manner at 115 and after getting away with one profitable chinese cut, not to be found in any of the coaching manuals, Green heaved again, missed and the Nomads were beaten by 13 runs. As usual Harborne were excellent hosts. We gratefully sank the jug of beer kindly sent into our dressing room by the President, Mr. E. S. Baker, (grandfather of old boy Mark Yates), and were glad to see that Stark was still with us having spent the entire afternoon with one of the local ladies — "but my lips are sealed." Much later, after several phone calls from Scott, a well-fortified group, (briefly startled by a police siren), set out for a curry while four of "the lads" penetrated the innermost reaches of The Taboo — complete with mysterious passport.

On Thursday, once we had convinced Porter that he had not eaten Chinese the night before and Smith had proved that he too was a wizard on the fruit machines in The Duck, we set off in convoy for Lapworth. After losing the toss our bowlers took the game firmly by the scruff of the neck under the surprisingly benign eye of Mr. Jowitt. Shelley returned excellent figures of 15.2-2-6-42 while

Scott and Akande took two wickets each, bundling out our opponents for 111 in a little over two and three quarter hours. Ashby and Macleod replied with a bright 45 in 32 minutes for the First wicket, (about as long as Ashby dared stay at the crease), but with Spicer replacing Ashby the scoring rate did not slacken and it was disappointing to see Macleod bowled at 84 for a graceful 39, (70 minutes), and Spicer stumped for 16 three runs later. However Wankling and Fisher continued vigorously, (Wankling hitting the wicket-keeper and Fisher hitting silly mid-on), knocking off the 25 runs required in fine style in another 18 minutes. A pleasant evening in the bar followed after which we returned by various routes to the city centre to eat and enjoy the sights. Harry and Jo found the talent wandering about exciting, while Simon had to be positively held back from jumping into a taxi with five lovelies. Ten of the squad visited Liberty's, where we had a record played for us, while the three little ones went blithely to bed in spite of earthquakes in G.B. — could it have been Randall on the dance floor?

On Friday several "jocular" early morning phone calls ensured that everyone breakfasted on time, cases were packed, bills paid, farewells said and a charming young lady receptionist was persuaded to take a team photograph outside the hotel. After a final visit to The Duck, where "smoking Jo" stared deeply into space once again tackling The Galactic Heroes and Porter mournfully reported that his razor battery had given out and that he was going bald, we set out to play Rowington C.C. whose picturesque ground appeared this year on the M. & B. calendar. The wicket looked better prepared than we had been warned it might be, but as we lost the toss we found ourselves in the field. Unfortunately this meant that we had to move the sightscreens — P. C. Macleod managed to run one over his foot and had to

field at slip and this so unsettled Ashby that he dropped the opening bat off Scott's first ball — Hugh was not best pleased! McKenzie, who had taken a day's holiday from Capital Radio to join the tour, quickly made his presence felt by shying four overthrows from short leg and so it was an hour before we had our first success — a neatly taken slip catch by Macleod. With the score at 80 J. Swift Esq. was appropriately enough bowled by Akande for 3, Wankling came on and began to take wickets with pleasing regularity but still not everything went right for us. Randall made a superb effort to take a one handed catch at mid wicket flying through the air with left arm fully extended parallel to the ground at an altitude of three feet causing more earth tremors when he landed, while the poor old captain, having spent an hour and a half in the covers, found his damaged tendons would not propel him far enough to the right to take a catch off Spicer. Nevertheless Spicer himself took a marvellous catch off Scott at mid on and put in a fine throw to Ashby to run out another batsman — true County U16 class! After Rowington's declaration and a "ploughman's tea", Shelley and Akande opened the batting for us, (Ashby wanted a bit of a rest and Macleod was not up to it after his injury), but played with such great circumspection that it became impossible for us either to win or lose. Akande was caught for a stylish 22, Ashby was run out by some smart fielding when backing up enthusiastically, Wankling hammered 15 in 13 minutes before he was caught, while Scott and Macleod both hit huge sixes and perished in the chase for runs, so it was left to Shelley and Smith to negotiate the last two overs carefully. After a few drinks in the Club next to the ground the party broke up and headed wearily for homes in various parts of the country, another successful and most enjoyable tour completed.

P. J. G.

SUMMARY OF TOUR MATCHES

Won 1, Drawn 2, Lost 1

- v. Tanworth-in-Arden CC: Nomads 171-9 dec. (Shelley 49*, Akande 27, Ashby 27, Wankling 27, Smith 20), Tanworth 136-5.
- v. Harborne CC: Harborne 134 (Smith 3-11, Shelley 3-50), Nomads 121 (Ashby 42, Akande 22).
- v. Lapworth CC: Lapworth 111 (Shelley 6-42), Nomads 112-3 (Macleod 39, Ashby 21).
- v. Rowington CC: Rowington 151-7 dec. (Wankling 3-33), Nomads 122-6 (Shelley 38*, Akande 22).

The Cokethorpe Society

The annual rugby match in October ended with a very narrow victory to the Old Boys, captained by J. Dudderidge. In the worst weather conditions of the year both sides found playing good rugby very difficult but in the end a single try scored by W. Manley separated the two sides.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at the school in June. It was a most enjoyable evening. Among the decisions reached was that P. T. Ellis Esq., D. F. C. Cook Esq., (both founder members of the Society) and R. V. Lyle Esq. should be invited to become Vice Presidents of the Society in recognition of the tremendous support they have always given. It was also decided to release some of the Society's funds to the school, although its allocation has yet to be decided.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Christopher Webb for all he has done for the Society as secretary over the past seven years. The annual old boys rugby match takes place this year on the 20th October and I look forward to seeing you at the game — kick off at 2.30 p.m.

G. Manley

NEWS LETTER

Ex-Staff

Sister Mary Jo Walsh: We are sad to report the death of Sister Walsh on 16 February 1984.

Michael de Weymarn: Address: Bagley House, Sutherland Road, Wellington, Telford, Shropshire.

Old Boys

Tony Baker: Now a member of the Governing Body of the School.

Jonathan Betts: Has now gone into the family garage business at Chadlington.

Henry & Richard Camilleri: Recently visited the School. Address: 13 Nottingham Road, Isleworth, Middlesex.

Major John Campbell: Now commanding the 14th Topographic Squadron, Royal Engineers, in Dusseldorf.

Philip Clarabutt: Presently in Australia.

Colin Craig: Working in Wimbledon where he has a record shop specialising in Classical and Jazz records. Address: Broadway Classics, 122 The Broadway, Wimbledon, London SW19 1RH.

Alexander Curtis: Has been accepted by the Diplomatic Service and is working in the Foreign Office. Address: 43 Aldesney Street, Pimlico, London SW1V 4HH.

Phillip Davenport: Address: Flat 2, 101 Tollington Park, Finsbury Park, London N4.

John Davie: Training for professional photography and hopes to join a Sports Centre in Woking in this capacity.

Rowe Denton: Address: 55 Crowhurst Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3TN.

Alexander Dodd: Address: Southways, White Lane, Guildford, Surrey.

Jason Evers: At NE Wales Institute of Higher Education to study for HND in Business Studies and Horticultural Marketing on a 3 year course. Address: Golftyn Hall of Residence, NE Wales Institute, Kelsterton College, Connahs Quay, Deeside, Clwyd.

Andrew Harris: With Barclays Bank in Abingdon.

Jeremy Hitchcock: Has recently started his own solicitor's practice in Cowley, Oxford. His first child, Ross, was born in February. Address: 161 Windmill Road, Headington, Oxford.

James Hyndman: Now a finalist in Botany at Pembroke College, Oxford. He planned and organised an Oxford University Venezuela expedition this summer to study orchids and bees.

Guy Jenkinson: At present on a tour of Australia, New Zealand and America and will return to do a final course at Cirencester Agricultural College.

Simon Lane: Visited the School recently; he is a fabric merchant, married with a family. Address: Freshfields, Main Street, Kinoulton, Notts.

Chanok Losuvalna: Assistant Manager at The Tiara Supper Club, the Dusit Thani, Rana IV Road, Bangkok 10500, Thailand.

Russell Massey: Address: 199 Affoltern Street, 8050 Zurich, Switzerland.

David Moore: Applying for City & Guilds Catering Course at South Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education, Cardiff.

Robert Newton: Serving with the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment. He is now married, and a father. Address: 10 Dukes Crescent, Exmouth, Devon.

Mark O'Sullivan: Doing a further year of study for 'A' Level retakes.

Edward Porter: Working on a farm prior to commencing at Agricultural College this year.

Richard Ramsbotham: Visited Australia last year, now at Horticultural College.

Andrew Sanderson: Working temporarily at the Home Office Ordnance Office at Steventon.

Patrick Spencer: Recently changed jobs to join an American stockbroking firm. Address: 27 King Edward Mansions, 629 Fulham Road, London SW6.

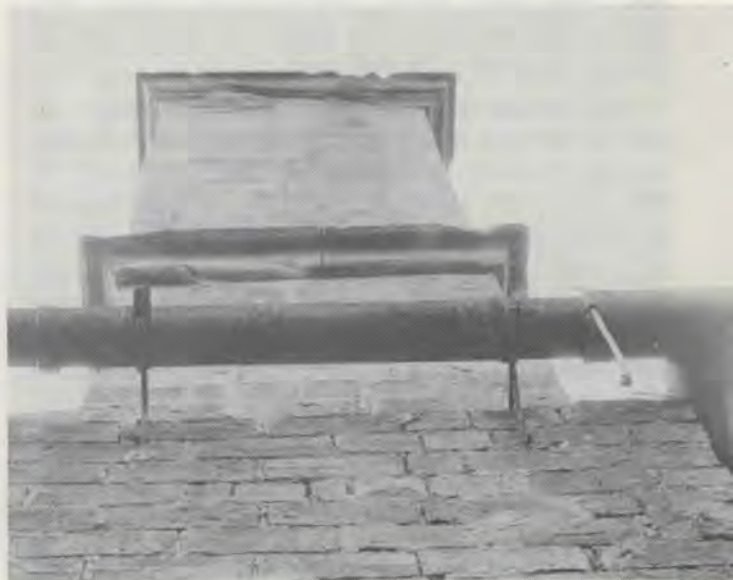
Tristan Sutton: At present farming in Somerset before going to Shuttleworth Agricultural College in September.

Nasir Wada: Recently visited the School. Now married. Studying at Richmond College for a BA in Business Studies.

D. Wada: Now back in Nigeria.

Duncan Williams: Has been accepted as a trainee diamond sorter/valuer. Address: Admiral's House, 21 Admiral's Walk, London NW3.

*How well do you
know Cokethorpe?*



*Photographs by H. H. B.
& the Photography Club*