

THE CLAVIAN

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THE CLAVIAN

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EDITORIAL

Editors: SANDHAM AND KELLNER

AND so another year passes. A year filled once more with achievement and disappointment, happiness and sorrow. A year which we hope will be truthfully mirrored in the pages of the "The Clavian" as we try to capture the vibrant spirit of the school for both parents and pupils, past and present.

SCHOOL NOTES

TWO members of staff left school to take new appointments: Mr. M. A. Smale (1965-73); Mr. M. J. L. Turpin (1968-74) and A. Ince returned for one year to help with Modern Languages.

We welcome to the teaching staff: Mr. S. Brady (Physics); Mr. J. Darling (History); Mrs. M. McPhee (French); Mrs. E. V. Simpson (Mathematics).

We record with gratitude generous gifts to the School by Barclays Bank Ltd. Mrs. A. Eckersley, Mrs. A. Patoff, the Parents' Association and the many hours of work by Mrs. M. B. Brown in making curtains for the refurnished Dining Hall and Sports Hall.

The new Sports Hall is now in use and work has been started on the new Craft Centre.

OPEN DAY

Prize-giving this year was again a small informal element in an Open Day. This is the second Open Day we have organised. The weather was not as favourable as it had been for our first, but, considering the year it could be said to have been a relatively fine day. The brass ensemble was able to perform in the quadrangle, even if the audience were better pleased to listen in the corridors round about.

Our guest of honour was Major General Sir James Wilson, K.B.E., M.C., Deputy Colonel, Lancashire, The Royal Fusiliers. He officially opened the new Sports Hall and presented the prizes.

Among many events, several new school activities were displayed. One was canoeing. These canoes were shown in the School Baths and exercises were demonstrated in these rather limited waters. Another was rock-climbing. The new climbing-wall, a feature of the Sports Hall, offers a wide variety of hazards and challenges met in mountaineering, and a demonstration of some of the skills involved was given.

A selection of scenes from 'Twelfth Night' were performed by some of the third year. This was notable, apart from the talent displayed, because actors and audience alike were behind the stage curtain. The audience were seated on chairs arranged on boxes so that the auditorium was raked. The experiment was successful, and we are hoping before too long for a permanent theatre with such a type of structure.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme is another recent undertaking of the school. A hockey match was played, again a sport that has been introduced into the school very recently. Perhaps we shall be able to win the Prefect's match against the Girls' school by skill and not violence the next time.

Various academic displays were given by the different departments and long-standing societies and functions such as the C.C.F. gave excellent demonstrations.

We talk glibly of new activities. Many of them have been undertaken by boys under the School's guidance in the past and we don't forget the contribution of the masters concerned. "New born gauds . . . are made and moulded of things past", and by and large this combination of tradition and experiment that characterises the life of the school was abundantly evident. It is a pity that this report has had to ignore so much. We can only regret that so many admirable items have had to be relegated to a mere mention in the programme that follows.

SCHOOL AWARDS

Oliver Entwistle Memorial Prize for the Captain of the School		{ A. J. H. Burt M. A. Forster
The Mary Forrester Prize		{ C. A. Boardman R. W. Hodgkiss
The Cecil Heap Memorial Prize		M. Warburton
The W. R. Douglas Prize for Classics		P. M. Oates
The Bishop Hill Prize for Greek		A. W. Smith
The Walton Prize for Ancient History		N. J. Shaw
The Richard Byrom Prize for Mathematics		J. J. Topper
The Henry Webb Memorial Prize for Physics		C. J. Garnett
The Cecil John Turrell Cronshaw Prizes for Chemistry		
7th Form : C. J. Latham	5th Form :	A. D. Pickard
	4th Form :	S. C. Sutton
The H. T. Farrar Prize for Biology		S. K. Lomax
The Headmaster's Prize for English		S. Taylor
The J. L. Norton Prize for French		{ P. Ward S. N. Ware
The Headmaster's Prize for German		S. J. Billington
The Sir John Wrigley Prize for History		P. Ward
The Dr. Young Memorial Prizes for Geography		
7th Form : J. Hoyle	5th Form :	S. N. Reynolds
The Rector's Prize for Religious Knowledge		P. Ward
The Peacock Memorial Essay Prize		Not Awarded
The Taylor Poetry Prize		N. G. Taylor
The Old Clavians' Reading Prize		C. A. Boardman
The Headmaster's General Studies Prizes		
7th Form : Not Awarded	6th Form :	P. Rostron
The Headmaster's Prize for Economics		R. E. Jupe
The H. H. Openshaw Memorial Verse-Speaking Prizes		
Senior J. J. Topper	3rd Year	J. P. C. Hunter
5th Year N. L. Walker	2nd Year	D. J. Francos
4th Year P. W. Jones	1st Year.....	W. M. Perviz
The Percy Haworth Music Prizes		
Vocal (Broken Voices).....		P. W. Jones
(Unbroken Voices)		C. Bayley
Instrumental (Senior)		M. A. Round
(Junior) String Instrument		C. A. Spencer
(Junior) Wind Instrument		{ J. S. Spencer M. Hardy
Piano (Senior)		S. G. E. Ashworth
(Junior)		P. R. Salter
The Helsington Prize		J. S. Spencer
Art Prizes (Senior)		J. A. Wordsworth
(Junior)		G. E. Hodgkinson
The Maxwell Barlow C.C.F. Prize		C. J. Bray
The Haworth Scholarships	C. J. Garnett	P. Ward
The Openshaw Scholarships	K. I. Forster	A. R. Wells
The Kay Leaving Exhibitions	C. A. Boardman	J. N. Hirst;
	L. J. Lord	W. H. Sandiford
The Mellor Scholarship		A. J. H. Burt.

SIXTH FORM SUBJECT PRIZES

Classics	A. G. Hannah	Economics	D. Jackson
English	G. Whittle	Mathematics	S. D. Blaymire
History	D. Jackson	Physics	P. J. Smith
Geography	G. Cliffe	Chemistry	P. Rostron/P. J. Smith
French	C. E. H. Dawson/M. Finta	Biology	K. G. Stalker
German	J. P. Meier	Geology	G. Cliffe

FORM PRIZES

5W	S. R. Rawson	A. M. Chadwick
5Q	D. J. Rawsthorn	S. G. E. Ashworth
50	J. R. Smethurst	S. M. Kelner
4Sc	M. B. Hobson	K. C. Chesterton
4R	S. C. Sutton	D. A. Lawson
4H	S. M. Uttley	I. A. Pollitt
3T	A. D. Cole	J. M. Raynor
3S	M. C. Jurkowski	P. A. Lancaster
3N	S. P. Harrison	R. G. Morris
2B	S. D. Brown	D. J. Francos
2J	M. H. Kingsley	R. J. Moots
2K	M. J. Rawsthorn	A. C. Williams
1A	I. G. Crombleholme	A. O. Evans
1G	M. A. Frost	A. D. Gilbert
1Y	P. J. Seymour	A. D. Stanworth
Trans	J. M. Hopkinson	M. R. M. Ferley
L3	A. R. Campbell	D. J. Tomlinson

SCHOOL TROPHIES

The Work Cup	Kay
Old Boys' Cup for Spoken English	Hulme
Hamer Cup for French Declamation	Kay
Wyke Football Cup.....	Hulme/Derby
Six-a-Side Football Cup	Howlett
Canon Blackburne Cricket Cup	Howlett
Hutchinson Swimming Cup	Hulme
Henry Whitehead Athletics Cup	Hulme
Calrow Junior Athletics Cup	Howlett
Taylor Relay Cup	Howlett
Douglas Cross-Country Cup	Howlett
Cullens Junior Cross: Country Cup	Howlett
Alexander Tennis Cup	Derby
Parkinson Rugby Cup	Derby
Bostock Basketball Trophy	Not competed for
Graves Chess Trophy	Not competed for
Mellor Cup for Rifle Shooting.....	Derby

G.C.E. RESULTS

ADVANCED LEVEL

(A) indicates the highest possible grade in a subject.

History 7th: H. E. Ballantyne (Geog., Econ., Maths.); D. A. Crossley (Hist., Econ. (A), Gen. Studies); A. Cunningham (Geog., Econ.); M. A. Forster (Hist., Econ., Maths.) D. G. Garnett (Geog., Maths.); C. J. Graham (Eng.); F. F. Graham (Eng., Geog. (A), Fr.); D. A. Hoar (Eng., Geog.); T. J. Howarth (Econ.); D. C. Ives (Geog., Art); R. E. Jupe (Hist. (A), Econ. (A), Maths.); D. E. Peirce (Fr); P.J. Smith (Eng., Hist., Maths.); J. L. Swarbrick (Geog., Econ., Maths.); D. J. Waters (Geog., Geol.).

Modern Language 7th: S. J. Billington (Germ., Econ., Maths); M. Hoy (Fr., Geog.); K. R. Law (Fr.(A), Geog.(A), Phys.); I. G. Smith (Fr./Eng.); M. R. Stirzaker (Fr.(A), Germ., Econ.); P. Ward (Fr.(A), Eng.(A), Hist.(A)); S. N. Ware (Fr., Germ., Mus.); P. J. Waugh (Maths); S. C. Wolfenden (Fr., Econ.).

Classical 7th: G. A. Hoyle (Lat., Fr.); J. W. Nicholls (Lat., Fr., Hist.); N. J. Shaw (Lat.(A), Gk.(A), Anc. Hist.(A)); S. Taylor (Lat.(A), Eng.(A), Hist.(A)).

Maths and Science 71: J. A. Alldred (Maths(A), Phys., Chem.); R. I. Crowther (Geog.); G. J. Fitton (Geog.); J. C. Fraser (Geog.); D. P. Gorton (Geog., Geol.); M. G. Hampson (Chem.); R. W. Hodgkiss (Maths, Phys., Chem.); J. Hoyle (Geog.(A), Chem., Geol.); R. H. Nield (Geog.), K. A. Oldham (Geog.); S. J. Smith (Geog., Phys.); R. C. Sweeney (Maths, Phys.(A), Chem.(A)); M. J. Stalker (Phys.); A. R. Wilkinson (Maths); D. B. Wright (Maths, Phys., Chem.).

Maths and Science 72: C. J. Bray (Maths, Phys.); E. Cheetham (Pure Maths, App. Maths., Phys.); M. J. Forbes (Pure Maths, App. Maths, Phys.); C. J. Garnett (Maths(A), Phys.(A), Chem.(A)); G. Hilton (Pure Maths); E. Hindle (Pure Maths, Phys.); P. J. Hughes (Art); C. J. Latham (Maths(A), Phys.(A), Chem.(A)); P. M. Leake (Pure Maths, App. Maths); J. J. Topper (Maths(A), Phys., Chem.(A)); A. S. Travis (Maths, Phys.); P. R. Vipond (Art); J. A. Wordsworth (Maths, Phys., Art).

Biology 7th: A. C. Brown (Biol., Phys., Chem.); R. H. Brown (Biol., Phys., Chem.); S. K. Dixon (Biol.(A), Phys., Chem.); J. C. Hill (Biol., Phys., Chem.); S. K. Lomax (Biol.(A), Phys., Chem.); J. T. Owen (Biol., Geog., Geol.); A. A. Shaik (Biol., Phys., Chem.).

ORDINARY LEVEL

◆ Indicates a pass in every subject taken

5Q: S. G. E. Ashworth (10)*; C. Babbs (7); T. A. Barlow (9)*; A. J. Cook (8); R. T. Crompton (5); T. E. Darlington (8)*; D. I. Dyson (4); J. G. Evans (7); A. P. Hacking (7); T. P. Harrison (6); P. A. Hazlehurst (5); G. M. Helliwell (9)*; W. P. Maguire (9)*; P. J. Mapplebeck (9)*; D. McNamee (8)*; S. Nuttall (9)*; G. O'Neill (8); I. Pedley (9)*; A. D. Pickard (9)*; D. J. Rawsthorn (8)*; M. Reed (8)*; M. A. Round (9)*; J. Shuman (8)*; I. M. Smith (8)*; M. P. Smith (8); J. H. Sutton (8)*; N. G. Taylor (9)*; N. L. Walker (9)*; P. C. White (9)*; M. J. Young (8)*.

50: S. M. Abrams (6); A. M. Alex (4); C. P. Armstead (4); M. J. Crowley (4); G. V. Glenny (8)*; I. S. Guttridge (6); P. J. Hamer (5); I. Henderson (7); I. D. Heron (3); J. P. Hodgkiss (7)*; J. P. Howarth (3); S. J. Hoyle (3); N. D. Jallands (5); S. M. Kelner (8)*; S. W. Langford (2); G. Lord (2); I. C. Mendelsohn (5); P. R. Miller (5); C. B. Oldfield (2); L. A. Plimmer (3); A. T. Rothwell (7); R. Rubinstein (4); J. R. Smethurst (9)*; C. D. Taylor (8); M. J. Taylor (7); T. D. Treuherz (6); N. J. Walker (2); A. S. Wells (6); D. C. Whitehead (5); N. Womack (6); J. W. Young (6).

5W: R. S. Barker (4); D. J. Barnes (3); N. Bird (5); A. M. Chadwick (7); T. A. Colam (8); M. D. Collins (3); M. I. Colman (7); J. B. Fenton (4); I. M. Fleming (1); J. Garside (6); N. J. E. Heap (2); I. K. G. Hyde (3); R. T. Ives (4); B. K. Kitchen (4); P. Knox-Roberts (4); T. S. Lees (3); E. A. Long (2); I. T. Mackay (3); A. C. Mann (6); B. P. Millar (6); C. M. Moores (1); S. J. Pilling (6); S. R. Rawson (7); S. N. Reynolds (7); P. S. Roan (1); R. E. Schofield (4); D. J. Sharpies (7); K. Vernon (7); M. Weinberg (4).

HONOURS

K. I. Forster—Open Scholarship in Mathematics at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.
A. R. Wells—Open Scholarship in Classics at King's College, Cambridge.
C. A. Boardman—Open Exhibition in History at Brasenose College, Oxford.
L. J. Lord—Open Exhibition in Natural Sciences at Emmanuel College, Cambridge.
J. C. Mosley—Exhibition in Maths and Politics at Keble College, Oxford.
W. H. Sandiford—Open Exhibition in Modern Studies (History and Politics) at St. John's College, Oxford.
M. J. Storey—Harkness Scholarship at the University of St. Andrews.
S. J. Billington—Courtaulds University Scholarship.

NON-ACADEMIC DISTINCTIONS

Association Football. I. G. Smith played for the English Public Schools XI and the Northern Public Schools XI and was an outstanding player at the Soccer Festival at Skegness. J. Carroll also played for the English Public Schools XI and the Northern Public Schools XI.

Basketball. R. W. Hodgkiss captained the N. E. Lanes. Basketball team for which A. W. Smith and E. Cheetham also played in representative games.

Cricket. R. W. Hodgkiss captained the Lancashire Under 19 XI and E. Cheetham was selected for the same team. I. Bell was selected for the Lancashire Under 15 XI.

Tennis. C. Babbs represented North-West England in the National Regional Tennis Final and represented Lancashire in the Inter-County competition. I. G. Smith and C. Babbs reached the Northern Counties Under 19 Schools Championship Final and also reached the Final of the National Schools Championship in which they represented B.G.S. C. Babbs and S. Lees reached the semi-final of the Northern Schools Under 16 Championship.

Gymnastics. R. S. Barker was placed first in the Bury Schools Senior Gymnastics Competition and M. Fletcher was placed first in the Junior Competition.

Mr. SMALE

Mr. Smale described himself as an initiator, who left others the job of carrying on. This judgement of his contribution is—like most self-judgements—rather unjust. He initiated the School's Caving Club, the Book Shop and the Resource Centre, from the first two of which, it is true, that he withdrew before he left. Quite a significant event took place to speed his withdrawal from these activities and that was marriage. While he was building the book-shop, and teaching boys to scramble through pot-holes, he was acting as stage manager of the school play as well. Giving so much spare time to the school was hardly generous, it was bordering on the fanatical.

Many of his colleagues were pleased to see him taking a more moderate line, and pruning his efforts. The national economic situation has closed the book-shop, because booksellers found themselves unable to deal on the terms Mr. Smale negotiated with them, but the Caving Club has flourished and the Resource Centre is, of course, very active.

Mr. Smale was always open to new ideas and these expressed themselves in his most lasting contribution, the work he did in General Studies. General Studies grew very quickly from virtually nothing to a department involving a large number of boys and masters. It was Mr. Smale's enthusiasm that carried it through the early difficult stages.

We wish him and his family well in Yorkshire.

Mr. TURPIN

MR. TURPIN was another energetic and enthusiastic master who served the school well.

Apart from the time he spent in the physics laboratory, he was active in the C.C.F. Signals, took a large part in the careers room, and organized the lighting for the school plays.

What he took on he made very much his own, and earned a reputation for reliability and thoroughness. Whatever was unfamiliar to him was a challenge, and he was careful to become a master of the various trades that a school master finds himself suddenly faced with. Colleagues who introduced him to matters he had not dealt with before found themselves asking his advice on these very matters in a short while. We wish him and his family well in his new venture.

SPORT and HOUSE ACTIVITIES

FOOTBALL

1st XI

Captain: I. G. SMITH

AFTER the successes of previous seasons this year promised to be less rewarding. Few players had had 1st XI experience but the side soon settled down and played some very attractive football throughout the season. The season could perhaps have been better had we not lost the services of J. Carroll, who signed as a junior professional for Oldham Athletic at Christmas — we wish him every success in his career. I. G. Smith also, was at times something of a disappointment — perhaps the responsibilities of captaincy weighing too heavily on his shoulders ■— but only in representative games did he produce his best form. C. Babbs and D. McNamee however soon settled down in defence and played as if they had years of experience to call upon.

They were well supported by Pendlebury, Molyneaux, Fitton, Marsh and Waugh; Fitton finished the season as top scorer with 27 goals to his credit.

Unfortunately the team were knocked out of the Mackereth cup in the 1st round and only managed to reach the quarter finals of the Public Schools six-a-side, but with nine players who have had 1st XI experience returning next year the future does not appear to be too bleak.

Finally may we thank Mr. Ince for his help and encouragement; Mr. Asquith for his support and superlative reports in the Bury Times and the ground staff for their excellent work behind the scenes.

2nd XI

Captain: I. CAMPBELL

UNFORTUNATELY this was not a very good season for the 2nd XI, but in saying that, it must also be noted that it has been the worst season for a long time for the absence of players. Only on one occasion was the team at full strength and on another occasion there were nine regulars missing.

The team record looks worse than their performances deserved, as eleven games were lost by the narrow margin of only one goal, and rarely were they completely outplayed.

The same team seldom played consecutive matches and therefore it was difficult for the players to form an understanding with each other, but the morale of the team remained high and only on a couple of occasions did the team lose due to lack of effort and enthusiasm.

Waters played well in goal, and strange though it may seem, gave one of his best performances during a 12-0 defeat by St. Bede's. Half way through the season Mann took over in goal and played well. Hazlehurst excelled in defence and ventured into the opposing penalty area, whenever possible, to score twice. Southern, though not a first choice defender, played well when called upon, and scored a good goal at Chadderton.

Whittaker and Miller, with six goals and two goals respectively, backed up the attack well.

Hoyle was top scorer with eleven goals and Marsh gave a good display with seven goals in six games. Campbell scored ten goals and Watkins six.

Fitton, Smith and Whiteman each made only one appearance but managed to score one goal each.

Lastly, on behalf of the team, I would like to thank Mr. Bennett for his support, encouragement and advice.

3rd XI

Captain: B. KITCHEN

AFTER conceding thirteen goals in the first two matches the team settled down to play some consistent football throughout the season. However there were two teams who presented us with a little trouble, Chadderton and St. Theodore's to whom we lost all four matches, fairly heavily to the latter, although we were not disgraced, because of the spirit which was shown by all team members.

The most even matches were those against Oldham Hulme (both draws) and Rivington (one win, one loss). There were six games where the attack scored five times or more and the highest scoring match was at Blackburn where we were the victors, scoring seven goals out of eleven. The main scorers during the season were Hoyle, Colman and Garside who formed the attack for most of the season. Their effort is illustrated by the fact that they scored over fifty goals between them out of a low total of 74.

The defence unfortunately conceded a number of goals. This was probably because of the changes made in midfield and defence during the season, either because of injury or because of 2nd XI selection.

The team's thanks to Mr. Skinner for running the team and for his useful half-time talks.

U15 XI

Captain: C. PRINCE

PERHAPS the fact that everyone expected a disastrous season from the U15 XI could go a long way to explaining why they had one. They often went out onto the field expecting to lose and of course with this attitude, did.

There are players however who have considerable ability. Perhaps the one thing one can hope is that players such as Bell, McGivern, Jackson, Alderson, Macdonald and Prince will not have become so used to losing by the beginning of next season, and their entry into the senior teams, that they forget what a pleasure it is to win.

U14 XI

Captain: P. PORTLOCK

THIS team enjoyed another successful season winning seventeen of the twenty-four games played, one draw being recorded.

The goalkeeping duties were shared by C. M. Bailey and G. J. Sharp and the back four of P. Atkinson, M. Latchford, M. Farrar and A. Eldred proved to be as reliable as in previous seasons. Opposing forwards were given little scope.

The midfield trio of L. S. Goldich, P. Portlock and C. J. Bennett blended well, the former's delicate skills setting up chances for the strength and speed of his colleagues. Indeed Portlock and Bennett scored fifty-eight goals between them.

The striking force of P. J. Cooke, A. H. Lees and M. S. Preston was again effective. In all they shared fifty-five goals and in the course of the season A. H. Lees recorded his hundredth goal for the school.

M. R. Bethel and A. J. Henderson proved to be reliable reserves in defence and C. Williamson and D. J. Fletcher were occasionally called upon to deputise in the front line.

During the season the team played some entertaining football and every member is to be complimented on the part he played in the team's success. It is interesting to note that the team scored in every game played.

U/13XI

Captain: R. WARBURTON

THE season began with the side defending an unbeaten record. Any hopes of this record being maintained were rudely shattered in the cruel month of January, when the side seemed more prepared to contemplate hibernation and suffered several defeats.

It must be said, however, that by any standards it was a very successful season with Unsworth again showing some masterly touches and Warburton and Fletcher splendidly resolute in defence. It was good to note the emergence of M. H. Kingsley as a full back of strength and determination and the continued improvement of Jenkins in goal.

By and large, every man had his day.

U12 XI

Captain: S. DEARDEN

THE 1973-74 season was one of mixed fortunes for the U12 team, resulting in the number of matches lost slightly outweighing the victories.

The picture might have been worse but for some sterling defensive performances by Dearden, Heywood and Oddy in particular. A lack of cohesion, at times, however meant that Oddy was frequently required to produce some very good work in goal.

The majority of goals were scored by Heaton and Strickland who both played consistently well throughout the season.

The main problem was to find a settled mid-field combination and this never really resolved itself although useful contributions were made by Ferguson and Vaughan. A lack of power here, however, undoubtedly was the cause of a relatively poor goal-scoring record.

Despite the problems the team had its moments of glory, the more notable results being the 7-0 victory over Rivington and the 6-1, 5-0 results against Oldham Hulme.

We hope that the difficulties will be resolved next season and look forward to some improvement in results.

SOCCER 1973-74

	P.	W.	D	L.	F.	A.	%
1st XI ....	.... 41	20	4	17	115	94	54
2nd XI ....	.... 34	7	5	22	63	115	28
3rd XI ....	.... 25	11	4	10	73	69	52
U15 XI ....	.... 23	2	2	19	25	96	14
U14 XI ....	.... 22	15	1	6	119	57	69
U13 XI ....	.... 27	19	1	7	136	56	73
U12 XI ....	.... 22	10	0	12	54	55	48

B.G.S. TRIP TO COLOGNE, 1974

THIS year's 1st XI party set-off for Cologne on a typical October afternoon. The party were in confident mood after winning the previous three matches and were naturally expecting to win.

The journey from Manchester Piccadilly to Cologne took twenty hours and I think we were all relieved on reaching our destination. During the train journey to London, Mr. Ince and Mr. Ferley and two other members of the party sat down to a game of Bridge, which continued on the boat journey until the early hours of the following morning. The boat journey itself was quite smooth compared to the return journey although some nameless members of the party became ill; this was not due to sea sickness. After a four-hour train journey through Holland and Germany, we reached Cologne at eleven o'clock, in the morning. We were greeted by Herr Steinhardt and Herr Anderson, the English teacher. They both expressed their greetings and then we left to become acquainted with our hosts.

During the week, several excursions were arranged to various places of interest in and around Cologne. We were greeted at the Rathaus, the town hall by the Mayor of Cologne, who expressed warm greetings to the party and hoped that the relationship between the schools would last. This visit however was marred by the fact that Marsh had got lost and was unable to be with us, as he explained later because of the inadequate directions given him by his German host. (Later found out not to be a member of the I.R.A., as first thought).

Later in the week, the party visited the German capital, Bonn. After a journey of about 26 kilometres to Bonn, we left the coach and took a walk round this fine city. Then we boarded the coach and passing the famous Bonn University, we rode down the road equivalent to Whitehall in Britain, where all the government offices were. Time was now approaching nearly 1.30 p.m. and we were wondering if we were going to have dinner. Then, we came to a place on the outskirts of Bonn, here we were told we were having dinner. It was a case of if you wanted dinner then you would have to climb for it, as the restaurant was on top of a hill, named Olberg. The view from the top of the hill looking down was quite fantastic and as Mr. Ince will safely vouch for, the view looking up inside the restaurant was also fantastic. After eating a very large meal we again boarded the coach and set-off back to Cologne, while on the return journey we visited an hotel and Gymnasium sometimes the stopping place of top West German football teams.

The day before this visit to Bonn, the party visited the Roman-German museum and although most of the party confessed to having enjoyed the visit, this was one of the least interesting visits of the trip, although Mr. Ferley enjoyed translating Latin inscriptions. Most of the early German city of Cologne was seen from the ruins beneath the Town Hall, which proved very interesting.

Finally, on the Friday night a visit was made to the famous Cologne Opera House. This opera was in German but the 'Jack of all trades' C. Babbs gave a few members of the party a run-down on the story. This was the night before the game and the non-playing members of the German party seemed intent on keeping the playing members of our party out until the early hours. Saturday was a very miserable day in many ways because the weather was not too good and the game was lost. After the match, a celebration was held in which presents were exchanged. In the afternoon, about eight English boys went to the pictures with their host and saw 'Donald Duck' in German and 'Herbie Rides again', also in German. Saturday night was enjoyed tremendously by all and Sunday was a 'Day of Rest', on which most boys had a lie in.

So ended our most enjoyable visit, and the return journey home passed without incident. We arrived home in Manchester, just after 1.00 p.m. and we made our own way to our separate homes.

KOLN GYMNASIUM 1 BURY G.S. 0

After a hectic week of coach excursions and guided tours, the annual football match against Koln-Deutz took place on a cold and windy Saturday morning on the banks of the Rhine.

There was some doubt about the match being played owing to some heavy overnight rain but after about one hour's delay, the game started. Both teams started scrappily, the wind being the real winner. After fifteen minutes, play was even, with most of the play contained in the middle of the field. Neither goalkeeper was troubled very much, although Marsh had one of his thunderbolts well saved by the German keeper at the second attempt. Towards the end of the first half, the Germans began to take control of the mid-field. The half-time whistle went with the Bury team looking a little surprised at the skill of the German mid-field players and at the sturdiness of the central defenders.

At half-time, Bury made five changes, three of these being positional changes. Finlay and Miller were replaced by Southern and Campbell, Whittaker was taken off and replaced by Jackson D. the goalkeeper on the right wing, with Oldfield taking over in goal.

The second half started in the same way as the first with play being concentrated in mid-field. Pendlebury and Babbs worked hard in the middle of the field and the introduction of Campbell on to the left-wing caused the Germans many problems as he continually beat his full-back. A piece of soccer genius by one of the German forwards, earned a ripple of applause from the sparse crowd, when from a right-wing cross, with his back to the goal he did a brilliant scissors-kick and the ball flashed over the cross-bar. This was the start of a period of about ten minutes of relentless pressure by the Germans, which finally resulted in a goal. It could not have come in a more unfortunate way for Bury, when from a right-wing cross McNamee, the Bury centre-half, headed the ball brilliantly into his own net, in an attempt to clear.

Only ten minutes remained and the Germans were now anticipating victory. This seemed to have gone when Marsh brilliantly beat three men on a run but with only the goalkeeper to beat, he mis-hit the shot from about eight yards, and the German keeper saved easily. That was the end for Bury, for the final whistle went seconds later. The real winner was the wind but full credit must go to the Germans for keeping at their task. They were then presented with the Baumsteiger Trophy for the first time since 1971.

M. D. Collins.

CROSS-COUNTRY CLUB

Captain: A. CRAWSHAW

Secretary: G. EDWARDS

COMPARED with previous seasons, this season was not as successful as could have been hoped for. Even though everyone put a great deal of effort into their running, the results did not seem to come mainly for two reasons: a lot of runners were not willing to turn up to practice and in quite a few cases the teams were let down by having only a few runners.

In the past few seasons, support for the cross country club has not been at its best. There is always room for extra runners who would be welcomed gladly. We feel that perhaps with a little more encouragement from their parents more boys would turn up and the situation would improve.

Even though it wasn't a good season, the senior team did well in winning the Rivington Pike Race in its first year with G. Edwards coming first individually.

SENIOR TEAM

The Seniors didn't carry on last season's good form but they still ended up as the most successful team. Forster, Burt and Crawshaw stayed on an extra year at school and were always well up in the races with Greenwood and Edwards up with them. The team had four newcomers, Barker, Heron, Mapplebeck and Walker, who all came up from the fourth year team and even though on occasions they found the running a little difficult they always put in 100% effort.

U15 TEAM

This season was not one of the best for the U15's. Rimmer and Crowther were the only runners with any real capability. However Stanford, Pollitt, Philips and Malcolm all deserve mention.

U13 TEAM

The U13's was the second best team in the club this season. Brown was always high up in his races, followed closely by Atkinson, Wade, Spence, Aldous and Fleming who all deserve mention for their good performances.

U12 TEAM

The U12 team was not quite as good as could have been expected. Two good runners, Lord and Frost always ran well, supported, inconsistently though, by Gould, Goldwater, the two Chadwicks, Critchley and Whitworth. Hopkinson, Stanford and Tisdale, all from Transitus ran well on occasions even though they were a year younger than the rest of the team.

Better things are hoped for for the U12's next season and they should easily improve on their record of only winning one match.

Finally, this season saw the introduction of a new master to the club, Mr. M. J. Curtis as Mr. Clarke stepped down. He coped very well and was ably helped by the senior runners. The cross country runners take this opportunity to thank him for the time and dedication he spent running the club.

HOUSE CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP

As usual the footballers groaned about missing football to do cross-country but, for a change, they did quite well in the senior house cross-country with the first dozen places split evenly between runners and footballers. However, cross-country had the final say with Greenwood (Derby) and Edwards (Hulme) coming in joint first.

In the junior section of the competition Kay house did well with three individual winners: Hopkinson (LIII and Trans) Lord (1st Year), and Miller (3rd Year). Brown (Hulme) won the second year race and Crowther (Howlett) did likewise in the fourth year. All the individual winners this season were members of the cross country club.

RESULTS

	Derby	Howlett	Hulme	Kay
Juniors	1547½	1837½	1772	1709
Seniors	2254	2522½	1853½	2167
	3801½	4360	3625½	3876

Congratulations to Howlett for winning both the Junior and Overall trophies.

GYMNASTICS CLUB

THE first Bury Schools gymnastic competition was held this year and consisted of two age groups, junior (1st, 2nd and 3rd years) and seniors (4th and 5th years). A team of three boys and three girls competed with voluntary exercises on floorwork, vaulting and trampoline. In the junior boys competition M. A. Fletcher was the individual winner and is particularly deserving of praise for his performance on the trampoline where he was by far the most accomplished performer. Gould gained 3rd place and Blakely 6th place with good performances. The school won the junior boys section.

A strong team of Barker, Bird and Bramwell took first three places in each section of the senior competition and Barker was the individual winner. When the points gained by the boys and girls team were totalled Bury G. S. had 1393½ points and were the winners of the George Southern Memorial Trophy followed by Seedfield 1303J and the Derby School 1261.

The club has held practices each Monday and Friday lunch-time and has been well supported particularly by the junior boys.

BASKETBALL

Captain: R. W. HODGKISS

THE senior team enjoyed another successful season finishing in our customary position of third in the N.E. Lanes. League. The opening game of the season against Barnoldswick H. S. was won by the comfortable margin of 85 points to 18 points and the team looked eagerly towards the start of the league programme. However we were to be disappointed. We lost our first three games to Accrington G. S., Balderstone S.H.S and Thornleigh College by narrow margins. This initial set back did not weaken the spirits of a determined and skilful team and the next five games were won. Only Accrington G. S. were able to defeat us twice in the season and are to be congratulated on winning the league. Probably the best display of the season was the return match with Balderstone S. H. S. We had lost the first game by 59-49 and were confident that we had improved sufficiently to reverse the result. A splendid opening spell saw us in the lead by 30-8 after fifteen minutes and Balderstone were unable to recover. The final score was 84-50.

Under the excellent captaincy of R. W. Hodgkiss the team practised hard and maintained an excellent spirit accepting defeat gracefully and victory in a good sportsmanlike manner. His selection as captain of the N. E. Lanes, team was well deserved. E. Cheetham and A. W. Smith also played for the representative team. A. W. Smith had an excellent season scoring 266 points despite the fact that he was very closely marked in almost every game. Stalker's unexpected return to school boosted the confidence of the team and he has made a considerable contribution to the school basketball team over the last four seasons. The fifth year boys who played showed little respect for their older opponents and Mann and Lees were outstanding. Basketball is basically an attacking game and little mention is made of defenders. However the team were grateful on many occasions for the defensive qualities shown by Finlay.

Played 15 Won 10 Lost 5 For 951 Against 702

JUNIOR TEAM

Captain: T. S. LEES

THE fifth year team once again enjoyed an excellent season, and had the honour of remaining undefeated throughout the whole term. Even though some of the opposition was of a somewhat weaker standard, the Bury team occasionally scored over 100 points. All the players have now reached first team standard and those most outstanding last season were S. Lees, Nuttall, Heron, Fleming, Babbs and A. Lees.

Played 12 Won 12 Lost 0 For 945 Against 393

SWIMMING SPORTS

UNDER new management Howlett swimmers made their presence felt very early in the competition and started the swimming sports evening with a lead of 16 points over their nearest rivals Hulme. It was soon obvious that the main interest in the competition would be the fight for second place between Hulme and Derby. The final race of the evening decided second place and it was Hulme house who managed to edge out Derby. The honours however must go to Howlett who were the victors by 41 points. Three records were broken:— D. Nield (D) under 14 Breast stroke, P. Nield, under 16 Breast stroke and under 16 Butterfly.

We were delighted to welcome Mr. G. Preston (Chairman of the Bury Metropolitan Sports Council) and his wife as our chief guests. Mr. Preston said he was impressed by the high standard of the swimming, but suggested that the new Bury baths might make a more suitable venue to hold our gala in comfort.

SWIMMING

Captain: R. NIELD

THE standard of swimming in the school is enjoying a revival and judging by the interest shown by the younger members of the team we can look forward with confidence to the years ahead. The three teams had a good season. Once again we found ourselves finishing second best to Bolton School, but we look forward to meeting them again next year. The school were, with support from the girls school, convincing winners of the Bury Schools Championships.

The Senior team did well particularly considering the injury to the school swimming captain Roger Nield which prevented him from swimming for several months. Roan and Gregson were the spearhead of our team and rarely suffered defeat. Hyde, Ives, Pilling, Heap and West competed with determination and were awarded half-colours at the end of the season.

P. Nield is worthy of mention not only for his performances in the water but also for his efforts at training sessions and his boundless energy in organising people in the teams. U15 colours were awarded to Heaton, Hodgkinson, Ashworth, Nield, Dennison, Spencer and Lees.

The junior team show great promise and have trained hard at the school baths and at the various swimming clubs for which they compete. It is probably true to report that the standard of the boys who have been awarded junior colours this year is higher than it has been for several seasons. Lawson, Nield, Horn, Fletcher, Hall, McCann, Hayes and Haywood were awarded junior colours.

Played 15 Won 11 Lost 4.

SCHOOL ATHLETIC SPORTS

DESPITE the lack of practice the senior boys manfully entered the school sports. Hulme proved to be the house with the most talent and were as usual well organised. The final positions in the senior competition were Hulme 117, Kay 99, Derby 96 Howlett 88.

The Junior Sports were held on June 12th and the prizes were presented by Mr. R. P. Calrow to whom we are most grateful. Howlett won the Calrow Cup for the junior competition and Hulme and Derby tied for second place. C. Bennett of Kay had a most successful sports winning the long jump, shot and the 200m. Other outstanding performances were recorded by P. Bennett, M. A. Fletcher, A. Lees, G. E. Hodgkinson and R. L. Miller. Howlett with consistently good placing in the relays were the winners of the Relay Cup. However the Whitehead trophy for the overall champions was deservedly won by Hulme house who finished just 5 points in front of Howlett.

1st XI CRICKET

Captain: R. W. HODGKISS

Unlike the previous season 1974 was an undoubtedly successful year, for the team completed all its matches undefeated. The record hides the fact that on several occasions time ran out when defeat was not far away, although it must be said the reverse situation did occur. The difficulty of forcing a result on a Saturday afternoon is reflected in the number of drawn games.

R. W. Hodgkiss and Hazlehurst both batted well and scored over 300 runs, and they were well supported by the swashbuckling style of wicket-keeper batsman Freeman, whose performance behind the stumps was at times brilliant. Despite these performances the batting was at times brittle since one or two players had disappointing seasons.

Any shortcomings with the bat were usually remedied by the quick bowling of Cheetham who had best figures of 7 for 23 and finished the season with over forty wickets. He was well supported in the task of dismissing the opposition by his captain.

The two best victories of the season were probably against Chadderton when Shaw and Hazlehurst put on 93 for the first wicket and Cheetham took 6 for 22 and at Clitheroe where thanks to Freeman the side scored the 76 needed for victory with minutes to spare having been left an hour to get the runs, with the loss of only one wicket.

At the end of the term, after a cricket tour which was disappointing due to the rain, for the first time in a long while, the boys beat, nay crushed the Masters XI by 66 runs, with only two members of the defeated side reaching double figures.

Next season R. W. Hodgkiss, Cheetham, Freeman and Shaw will all have left, but the outlook is far from black if O'Neill, J. Hodgkiss, Deodhar and Bell can fulfil their promise and support their new captain, Hazlehurst.

TENNIS

Captain: I. G. SMITH

THIS season was the most successful so far and was highlighted by our reaching the final of the Commercial Union Boys Schools L. T. A. championships at Wimbledon. The team, I. G. Smith and C. Babbs, narrowly defeated Manchester G. S. in the semi-final only to lose to Millfield School in the final. There were two other disappointments as I. G. Smith and C. Babbs lost in the final of the Northern Boys Schools Championships (U19's) to Wakefield Q. E. G. S. and S. Lees and C. Babbs lost in the corresponding U16 championships to Sir William Turners, Redcar.

In normal school matches the 1st VI performed consistently well losing two out of six matches. Fixtures were difficult to find for the junior team although when they did play T. Southern, M. Mandel and A. Lees proved to be formidable opponents. Our thanks go to Mr. Hardy for his support and for his organisation of teams and transport.

BADMINTON

The 1973-4 season proved to be successful for the Badminton team. We won the majority of our matches and had surprise victories over Stand G. S., our old rivals, both at home and away.

There is a great deal of potential in the lower years, and, with the courts now laid out in the new Sports Hall, they have the opportunity to make something of their potential.

There were successes for the third year running in the Bury Schools Badminton tournament with P. Ward and D. Barker-West winning the doubles and T. Kay the singles championships. We hope that under the guidance of Mr. Wilkes, future teams will fare just as well.

CHESS CLUB

Secreatry: A. PICKARD

Captain: J. R. SALLARES

THE Senior team had a good start to the season with R. H. Brown maintaining good performances on the top board and Holt, Freeman, Sandiford and D. Phillips lending the team much depth and experience. The loss of the latter three after half the season proved decisive and although the younger players drafted in to fill the vacant places played well and maintained encouraging results, the success of the earlier half of the season could not be maintained.

The Intermediate team without an outstanding season maintained an average position in the league. The strength of Sallares and determined persistence of Lawson and Gutteridge deserve a mention as do encouraging but occasionally erratic performances from Stamford.

The Junior team had a poor season despite the form of Pither and I. Phillips who must be congratulated on representing all three teams and for their maintainance of form and good results throughout a long season. This team I am sure vith a little more experience can be a force in the future.

All members would like to thank Dr. Sephton for the time he gives up in transporting the teams to away fixtures.

DERBY HOUSE

Captain: R. W. HODGKISS

THIS year has indeed been one of ups and downs for Derby House. On the playing fields we have made sound progress, maintaining out hold on the Rugby and Tennis cups and gaining the glory of success in the Rifle-Shooting and Football competitions. Not even these proud trophies match the effort which was given in all events. Had Fortune smiled a little more kindly on us, our tally might have been greater.

Unfortunately the team spirit displayed in more energetic pursuits was not reflected academically. None of our members gained entrance to Oxford and Cambridge, nor did the efforts of the Junior School find any fruition in their attempts to regain the Work Cup.

Nevertheless we did come very close to winning the Hutchinson Cup for Swimming. Thanks to an excellent all round performance we were beaten by the narrowest of margins possible, 223 points to 222|, into second place by Howlett. After one of the keenest competitions for many years, we were naturally disappointed. Instead of dwelling upon our defeat, let us rather look forward to next year in the hope of greater success.

Our position in the Athletics Competition was disappointing. Overall, Derby's position was third but the gratifying and encouraging aspect of it was the way in which effort was given in all the heats. A similar enthusiasm was shown in Cross-Country and the success of J. R. Greenwood in coming home joint first in the senior section was most creditable.

It is with some embarrassment that we once again celebrate a Derby victory on the Rugby Field. It is to the credit of the other Houses that they made a gallant attempt to prise this trophy from our grasp. A black day it will be indeed when we are forced to relinquish it.

Perhaps a more impressive achievement was coming joint first in the Association Football Competition. The task of the senior team in this contest was especially difficult, but regardless, they defeated a strong Kay team — 4-0 — in the last match, to share the Cup with Hulme.

To complete the year we bagged the Mellor Cup for Rifle-Shooting and in the summer a very strong team, inspired by Babbs, who has made appearances at Wimbledon, took the Alexander Cup for Tennis for the second year in succession.

Regrettably, we have lost the services of one of our most respected and popular mentors. We hope Mr. Thompson will meet with 'limited' success in his present position with Howlett. Our loss is their gain.

Altogether it has been a good year. Spectacular individual achievements have emerged amidst the general team effort. Next year let us hope for an improvement, especially in our academic pursuits.

HOWLETT HOUSE

CAPTAINS: P. C. FITTON, I. G. SMITH

IT will be a remarkable year when any house achieves all the successes it looks for. Howlett cannot claim to have won all they hoped for, but a very fair share of battle honours have come their way. In the Athletics sports, if we were fourth in the senior events, we won the junior and were overall, second. Our swimming team proved a great success, and in the cross country we had the distinction of winning both junior and senior sections.

A good spirit has prevailed generally, and the house has been able to look after itself thoroughly well.

We congratulate Mr. Hyde on his appointment as one of the school's senior masters. It is unfortunate however that this appointment has taken him away from us. We are grateful for the whole-hearted enthusiasm he has given to the House during his period as House master. Mr. Thompson is the new House master and we accord him a hearty welcome.

HULME HOUSE

House Captains: G. F. HUGHES (September to March)

J. A. WORDSWORTH (March to July)

TO begin on a scholastic note, congratulations are due to C. A. Boardman, G. F. Hughes, A. R. Crawshaw and A. F. Thornely for their success in gaining entrance to Oxford University: although sport figures prominently in the School's life, academic achievement is after all our 'raison d'etre'. Rarely does a year pass by without a member of Hulme House attaining high office, and this year C. A. Boardman continued the fine tradition as Vice-Captain of the School, his 'speech' at Prizegiving being particularly impressive. Thus it was especially fitting that the House should have proved successful in the Openshaw Verse Speaking Competition.

Undoubtedly the sporting highlight of the year for Hulme was our 'photo-finish' victory in the Swimming Cup. Thanks to a faultless turnout in the form relays, and to the individual efforts of Roan and Garnett, the House snatched the trophy by a mere f point winning the final relay of all to decide the result. In athletics the value of loyal support and honest endeavour compensated for any lack of individual brilliance and the Cup came to Hulme. The prospect of retaining it next year appears to be a good one since all the Hulme winners at senior level were sixth formers.

On the footballing front Hulme enjoyed considerable success. The House lost only the final of the 6-a-side competition 3-2, while the 'B' team also won two of its three matches. Hulme had to share the House Football Cup with Derby, failing to capitalize on the unbeaten records of the first and fourth years when only drawing 3-3 with Kay at senior level: the lost point in that match separated the House from outright victory.

Owing to a lack of depth at most levels the Cross-Country Cup escaped our grasp this year, despite the excellent successes of Edwards and Brown at their respective levels. The skills of T. Howarth and G. Hughes worked a significant revival in Hulme's Rugby fortunes: having achieved a notable 12-0 victory over Howlett, the House was not disgraced in losing 18-6 to a strong Derby side.

The Music and Chess competitions were not held in 1974 and the House was robbed of almost certain victory in both activities.

Thus the year has been notable for all-round respectability rather than for outstanding achievement but we can look back on it with satisfaction. A recurring feature of Hulme's sporting activities is the very high turnout which is attained in many varied competitions: such an achievement highlights the sterling work of our games captains. All those who belonged and took part in any of the events and competitions once again deserve our thanks for their enthusiasm and effort.

For the staff our best wishes go to Mrs. Metcalfe for her future maternal role, we congratulate the Rev. D. R. Tilston on his ordination, and we welcome Mr. Taylor and Mr. Brady to the fold. Finally a word of thanks must go to Mr. Bennett, whose tireless efforts on behalf of the House act as its perennial and inspiring lifeblood.

KAY HOUSE

House Captain: J. J. TOPPER

Vice-Captain: J. K. MANNING

Owing to the fact that 1973-1974 did not prove to be a very successful year for Kay as far as sporting activities are concerned it seems appropriate to begin by mentioning those aspects of school life in which we did gain distinctions.

First we must congratulate A. J. H. Burt who was appointed Captain of the School in September and M. A. Forster who became Captain in March. Both these boys did a great deal of work for Kay House and we are naturally very grateful to them.

Our congratulations also go to the following boys for their achievements in the Oxford and Cambridge Examinations: K.I. Forster, an Open Scholarship at Cambridge, L. J. Lord, an Open Exhibition at Cambridge, A. J. H. Burt a place at Oxford and J. N. Hirst, a place at Cambridge.

Although we did not shine in sports events to the same extent, Kay won the Cross-Country for Lower Third and Transitus and came first in the Third Year. Overall Kay came second. This was a pity after all the effort put in, but perhaps this will be justly rewarded next year. We did not manage to secure any sports trophies but we did come second in some events; with a bit more luck and a little less apathy on the part of some boys, we feel the prospects are good for the future.

On a happier note, we finished the year by winning the Work Cup for the second year in succession and after coming second last time in the French Declamation Competition we managed to win the Cup this year. Congratulations are also due to R. S. Barker who was placed first in the Bury Schools Gymnastics Competition.

Last but not least, our thanks go to Mr. Price without whose help and encouragement the above successes would not have been possible.

C.C.F. NOTES

THIS year saw the number of officers reduced to four, with Col. Hyde and Lt. M. J. L. Turpin leaving. Lt. Turpin had been i/c of signals dept. for some 5 years, during which time the standard of the schools signallers undoubtedly rose and we are indebted to him.

A great deal has been said already about the great service that Col. Hyde has done the C.C.F. during his 20 years as a member of the contingent, and in particular over the past eight years as O.C. It will suffice to say that he will be remembered for a long, long time amongst members of the C.C.F.

General Inspection this year was again combined with a field day and took place on 16th May. The Inspecting Officer was Col. Perret. The corps of drums gave a display in the morning and in the afternoon he was taken up to Holcombe range and Rooley Moor to see the contingent in training.

Once again the shooting team performed very creditably in 'Country Life', finishing 8th overall in class B, while rising to third in the rapid section.

Finally, we wish Major Bennett good luck in his new role as O.C. of the contingent.

ANNUAL CAMP 1974

ANNUAL Camp 1974 was held at Proteus T. C., Ollerton, Notts, between the 11th and 19th July. The main party of about 30 cadets set off early on Thursday 11th July and reached Proteus by 2-00 p.m. being just in time to sample the first 'delight' provided by students from Blackpool Catering College. The journey itself was uneventful or at least 'without incident' though with the additional burden of a .303 rifle there were a few colourful phrases in the air as 30 cadets, baggage and all, struggled off a train.

For the training programme the contingent was divided into Seniors and Juniors. This entailed a surprise for members of 4 pi., as they found themselves suddenly in charge of a section of cadets. However all coped well. The seniors' training began with the March and Shoot competition in which we had our first introduction to the River Witham, waist deep.

Saturday (the 13th) was perhaps the highlight of the camp, when the contingent was visited by a Puma helicopter, piloted by Flight Lieutenant Paul Wright, an old boy of the school. Each cadet had at least two trips in the aircraft. These flights were doubly impressive as Ollerton is situated in one of the few low-flying areas of Britain and the pilot put his aircraft through its paces, unsparingly.

During the camp we shot a good deal and as the week progressed, the standard rose and culminated in our team's taking the lead in a falling-plates competition. Finally at the end of Summer, after all contingents visiting Proteus had taken part, the contingent team finished second, defeated by a margin of two seconds. Everyone also fired an L.M.G., most cadets for the first time.

High points in the training were the two night exercises done by the seniors. The first was perhaps the most arduous. It consisted of going into the field to set up a platoon base. This requires a good deal of spade-work, for two cadets had to construct a well camouflaged shelter in which to spend the night. Naturally enough it rained for part of the night. After the spade work came recce patrols to locate another contingent's base. The name of the exercise was 'Dawn Encounter' and the 'encounter' came around 4-30 a.m., when we were attacked by another contingent, unsuccessfully I might add. B.G.S. contingent was praised for its toughness, spirit and keenness despite the weather and long hours.

The second exercise did not last all night, in fact we were safely in bed by 3-00 a.m. It included crossing a lake in an assault boat; wading across the River Witham twice, cutting and crossing three lots of barbed wire; taking a prisoner and being ambushed. All on a very dark night.

The inter-section competition was held throughout our stay and as always was keenly fought by all. Points were awarded for sports, including an Assault Course, and drill and turnout. The result of the competition was very close with Dettingen coming out on top. Summer camp 1974 closed with the normal camp conference when the winning section was announced and presented with its cup and stable belts, promotions were announced and 'farewells' were said.

However it must be said that the number attending annual camp was a long way short of past years. Those who do not attend summer camp can have no idea of the 'great experience' — something every camp turns out to be without fail—that they are missing. Nowhere else in the school is there to be found a stronger spirit of fellowship and belonging, than in the B.G.S. contingent at annual camp, when a small part of B.G.S. is in the midst of hundreds of other cadets. B.G.S. C.C.F. has never yet failed to leave its mark amongst the people it has encountered on its wide travels.

This year's camp holds memories which will last a long time amongst the thirty cadets who attended. For instance there was Wayne and his pals, the Welsh guards, who always liked some 'drama' — not the acting sort — and they were not bad at football either; One or two of our 'members' almost did not return intact after nearly having an argument with a Welsh Machette to say nothing of the 'architrave'. Then there was that one game of 'Murder ball', only one because stories soon circulated round the camp, young Bobby's argument with a fire-engine, and Ace's with a lamp, to name but a few.

Of course there's one memory which will outlast even these, that of Lt. Col. Hyde who has encouraged and looked after the contingent, its cadets and its officers for more than a decade. This memory will be even clearer to those who attend Annual Camp regularly, for then he was at his most conspicuous. Almost a year in advance he would begin his preparations for the next camp. He would travel many miles to inspect the camp personally; then, very important to him, he would consult the cadets and ask their opinion. On its arrival at each camp, the main party would be greeted by him. Everything would be prepared and the camp would run smoothly, mainly due to his diligence.

However one whose departure has been a little over-shadowed, must not be forgotten. At camp the C.C.F. said its good-bye to Lt. M. J. L. Turpin who will be remembered for his work with signals for a long time. As always we cadets are indebted to all the officers along with Mr. Pinder for all their efforts in making this year's camp a smooth and very enjoyable experience.

A.W.S.

SCHOOL SOCIETIES

THE SCHOOL PLAY

DIDO AND AENEAS

IT may perhaps be considered that an opera is not a play. Definition is not the task of Clavian reporters, so that we are happy to accept the official statement that Purcell's 'Dido and Aeneas' was the school play. The music is concerned dramatically, in that it embodies the conflicting passions of the characters as faithfully as the dialogue of a play does. The actors and orchestra alike responded to the shifting moods of the play very sensitively. We were very much indebted to Mrs. Margaret Lindsay for taking the part of Dido. It is a demanding part and her performance was most compelling and beautiful.

The setting was attractive and the movements of the chorus gave enough sense of life without being distracting. There is a great deal of choral work, and the success of these choruses was a feature of the performance. They were lively and full-blooded. The assurances to Dido were confident, the haste of the storm scene was beautifully

flustered, the sailor's chorus rollicking, and the host of other moods were captured with quite a masterly skill. It is always difficult to single individuals, because to mention some is by implication to slight others. A cast list is appended. A high standard was maintained by all and the hall-mark of the production was its team-work. Mr. Edwards and Mr. McNulty are to be congratulated on their able handling of the music and spectacle.

CAST

Dido, Queen of Carthage	Margaret Lindsay
Belinda, a Lady in Waiting	C. Bayley
Attendant Women	B. S. Angel, P. Watson
Sorceress	P. W. Jones
Witches	G. M. Helliwell, R. T. Crompton, S. N. Ware
Spirit	A. H. Spencer
Aeneas, a Trojan Prince	G. O'Neill
A Sailor	P. R. Nield

Chorus Master: Mr. S. Baty
 Conductor: Mr. J. M. Edwards
 Produced by Mr. M. J. McNulty

JOAN OF ARC

BEFORE the Opera 'Dido and Aeneas', members of the second form performed a scene of 'Saint Joan' by Bernard Shaw. It was unfortunate that it had to be performed on low platforms in front of the curtain; as a result it was, perforce, ill-displayed. The performance was, however, thoroughly lively. The worldly wisdom of Shaw is generally considered an adult taste, but these twelve-year olds appreciated very well the policy that ruled in the Dauphin's Court, and showed a surprising maturity. There were excellent individual performances, but the main virtue was that most important feature in acting, that of acting together.

CAST

Herald	I. Thorpe
Duke de la Tremouille	S. M. Ryan
Archbishop	P. R. Salter
Bluebeard	P. J. Wade
La Hire	M. J. Sealy
Dauphin	A. H. Ware
Page	R. D. Savage
Joan of Arc	J. A. Tomlinson
Duchess	M. Shapiro
Courtiers & Soldiers	D. J. Pocock, S. C. Ruff, A. R. Sharman
Trumpeters	A. C. Williams, P. A. Wordsworth, M. S. A. Hardy, G. M. Holt

Produced by Mr. E. A. Morley

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME

The School has been participating in the Scheme for a year and five awards have been presented so far, with many more to come.

There are four sections to the Scheme as follows:—

Interests

Ranging from water polo, lapidary, campanology, philately, etc., which the boys must continue for at least six months.

Expedition - Hiking

After thorough training in camp crafts, first aid, cooking and compass reading, the boys completed a two day expedition over a distance of fifteen miles, camping out one night - a hard but rewarding experience.

During the Autumn Term, boys preparing for a canoeing expedition have received instruction in the swimming pool on Sunday mornings. The fibre glass canoes which will be used for the expedition are at present being built by the boys. Four canoes will be used and one has been completed and was on display during Open Day.

Physical Activity

This has ranged from physical efficiency, push ups, press ups, speed tests and stamina runs to swimming speed tests or athletics.

Service

The boys have attended a very interesting Police Service Course dealing with crime prevention, identikits, modus operandi and various other aspects of police work. In addition to this, the Fire Service held a very interesting course at Bury Fire Station dealing with fire prevention, safety precautions, action to take in case of fire, use of fire extinguishers, care and maintenance of fire tenders and fire stations.

Care of Animals

The boys greatly enjoyed a course on the care of small animals and domestic pets which was held in the School and this again was a useful course to have attended.

There has been a very enthusiastic response to the course and it looks as if it will have an active and useful future in the School. Let us hope that in the near future boys from B.G.S. will be 'going for Gold'.

THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

Librarian: D. A. CROSSLEY

THE library provides the members of the school with an invaluable service by giving them an easily accessible source of information and knowledge to help them on their way to academic brilliance. However, I must confess that I sometimes wonder how many of them realise what a job it is to keep this shrine of the written word in order. It takes a dedicated staff of twenty senior librarians supported by a hard-core of junior librarians to run the library under the careful supervision of Mr. Hodgkiss, the Chief Librarian. Both senior and junior librarians do a lot of work outside their normal duties. The senior librarian does not just stamp books, file cards, tackle the mundane problems that his duty throws at him and produce order out of the chaos that is called the 'dinner hour'. He processes new books for the library, helps with the subject indexing and is often at hand to help when off-duty. Similarly, the junior librarian does not just put back incoming books and unflinchingly obey the dreaded order of 'Tidy the shelves!' He tidies the library when the school has left it, repairs worn books and will often be instantly volunteered for some extraneous task that has arisen. Being a librarian carries a fair bit of responsibility.

Being a librarian does have its consolations, however. This year saw the innovation of what looks like becoming an annual event, the Senior Library Staff Dinner. This involved about thirty senior and retired senior librarians converging upon the Printer's Arms, Tottington, in mid-December to partake of an excellent dinner there and talk about the things that senior librarians talk about when they get together. Thanks must be given to Mr. Hodgkiss who was largely responsible for its organisation, Dave Crossley, the Chief Assistant Librarian, whose idea it was and to his mother who with admirable courage, entertained a large proportion of the said librarians in her home with coffee and biscuits afterwards before they dispersed to make their way home, one way or another.

Some of you more observant bibliophiles have probably noticed certain changes in the library, such as the merging of Middle School Fiction and Junior Fiction into Lower School Fiction, a manoeuvre which, far from being a matter of moving certain book to other shelves, involved a large amount of paper-work. Future librarians will probably write of plans to extend the library and improve the resources available, particularly for the upper school. This year also saw the introduction of a librarian's tie whilst the juniors now proudly display lapel badges to assert their status.

So now you know all about the library. You might not like being unceremoniously ejected through its portals for doing nothing, honestly, but think of the librarian who has to preserve peace and tranquility there for those who want to work. You might not enjoy receiving book reminders, but think of the hapless wretch who has to write the things out. Returning your library books punctually saves the librarian time and you money. I realise it might seem like a great distance between you and that shelf a couple of paces away from where you got the book in your hand, but think of the junior librarian who has to clear it up after you. Small things, perhaps, but you don't know how much it would be appreciated if you helped.

THE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP 1973-1974

WHAT is the purpose of the School Christian Fellowship? Is it there simply to extend the knowledge and faith of the committed or is it there to provide a platform for Christians and non-Christians alike to engage in mutual consideration of the central and eternal issues of life? It exists in order to foster both of these purposes, but essentially its aim is to promote the way of Christ within the context of the school. Thus it works hand in glove with the Bible Study Group and its witness is grounded in prayer.

The Fellowship has met fortnightly throughout the winter. The number who have attended at one time or another has been encouraging, but more encouraging still has been the presence of a devoted group which has made the meeting its regular priority. Never has the fellowship been as strong in the thirteen years of its existence as it is has been in the past three years. And for that we thank God.

We have been very well served by our dozen speakers. The Rev. John M. Webster opened the session by describing the Person, work and gifts of the Holy Spirit. His theme was illustrated by the Rev. John Haslam-Jones with his talk 'A still more living faith' and subsequently by Mr. Peter Cathcart with a 'A faith for 1974'.

Various aspects of the Christian faith were raised for scrutiny. Captain Mann of the Church Army and the Rev. Leslie Dawson tackled basic issues with the Truth of Christianity and the meaning of Christmas. In their wake came the Rev. David Harrison with a fascinating glance at the paradoxes in Jesus 'teaching and the Rev. John Yates with the prophetic preface 'Let us consider'. Later the Rev. Adrian Rhodes, organiser of Bury Council of Churches all night Youth event spoke trenchantly on the Church, while the Rev. Tony Rose presented a biblical and historical perspective on the theme that man's view of himself is over-optimistic.

Finally three assorted subjects. Mr. Dick Douglas, of the Scripture Union Bookshop, spoke of the thirst for Christian literature. The Rev. Alan Shackleton tackled the question of censorship. Finally Mr. Kenneth Butler, Consultant at Bury General Hospital, kept us all agog with his talk on health and healing.

Many of our number go to universities and colleges this year including our Secretary Alistair Burt. We rejoice in their fellowship, wish them well in their studies, and pray God's blessing on all their work and witness.

J.R.B.

PAGE

THE CHORAL SOCIETY

Secretary: S. N. WARE

THE Choral Society once again had a very busy year, of which the highlight was a stage-production of Purcell's opera, 'Dido and Aeneas'. A review of the opera is given elsewhere, but it is nonetheless worthwhile mentioning the thrill derived by the members of the society from participating in the performance of an opera. The experience of performing a work in this field was refreshing, since the approach to opera is so different from that to oratorio, which for most, has become rather routine.

The informal concert, which usually takes place in October, was replaced this year by Speech Day. This is not to say that Speech Day was the hotch-potch which the informal concert normally tends to be, but that, following the custom of previous years, of basing the speeches on a particular theme, the evening was centred around music. The guest speaker was Dr. Wray, Warden of the R.N.C.M. who later conducted the choir and orchestra in a venture which was intended to allow the governors, parents and the school to judge for themselves the importance of music within the school. We are most grateful to Dr. Wray for the time he spent with us in rehearsal and for the experience of singing under the rigorous baton of a visiting conductor. However the choice of 'Winter Music' by Michael Rose as the choir's offering, whose weird, sometimes jarring sounds took the choir itself several weeks to grow accustomed to and even then failed to arouse much enthusiasm in many, was perhaps misguided. The reason was that, while this work, very much in the modern style of writing, showed the technical proficiency of the choir, a work with a more direct appeal would have convinced the audience (not necessarily musical, let alone avant garde in taste) of the desirability of supporting Choral Society concerts.

At Christmas a concert was given on the usual lines, that is, with carols composed by members of the school, of carols sung by choir alone and of congregational carols accompanied by the orchestra. By far the most exciting moments of the evening are when the treble voices soar up above audience and choir, singing the David Willcock's descants to 'O come all ye faithful' and 'Hark the herald'.

In May, a group of musicians spent the weekend at Helsington in order to give a concert in Brigsteer Village Hall. Rehearsals were facilitated by the unexpected presence of a tape recorder, brought along by one of the group, which was only too willing to provide instant replay, thus permitting the guilty instrumentalist to suffer the embarrassment of hearing his mistake seconds after he had made it (and on many occasions thereafter). However, when excited by the musical sounds about it, it decided to contribute to them by adding a high pitched pedal-note, somewhat bewildering the conductor who sought high and low for the phantom piccolo-player. Exhausted by an evening's music-making and a day passed in the pursuit of non-musical activities, when it was discovered that the call of certain cuckoos is a major 3rd from A to C while the call of other cuckoos is a minor 3rd from B to D, this remarkable product of science afforded us the opportunity of listening to two hours of continuous Haydn symphonies, from midnight to the early hours of the morning.

Our thanks must go to Mr. Edwards and Mr. Baty, who by dint of unflinching perseverance draw music out of reluctant boys in their spare time and with the aid of Mr. McNulty, even succeed in persuading tiny junior boys to stand still looking sad, rather than to indulge in the infliction of surreptitious jabs in the backs of their neighbours during the deeply moving lament of Dido, who is about to stab herself.

RECORD LIBRARY

Secretary: D. A. CROSSLEY

THE Record Library's membership is about 60, much the same as last year. This is disappointing when there is a possible membership of about 360 boys. The membership fee is very low and a minimal weekly amount for actually borrowing records. Moreover,

is all the more regrettable since the money spent on new records is split 50/50 between classical and pop and, although the catalogue of modern records has on occasions in the past been blighted by a rather short-sighted attitude of selection, in the last year steps have been taken to remedy this. New modern records include Mike Oldfield's 'Tubular Bells', Steely Dan's 'Pretzel Logic', Stevie Wonder's 'Talking Book', IOCC's 'Sheet Music' 'The 4 sides of Melanie' and 'Now and Then' by the Carpenters. Records recently ordered include albums by the Stones, Santana, Pink Floyd, Robert Wyatt, King Crimson and the Byrds.

Griping and plugs apart, all the members should be complimented on the excellent care they take of the records.

Last year there were two experiments, one of which unaccountably failed. This was the attempt at opening the library on Thursday as well as Tuesday. This resulted in only half the previous total of records being taken out for no apparent reason. However a new simplified reservation system has proved satisfactory even if not infallible.

Thanks should go to John Nicholls and Higginson for their help during the early and late parts of the year and Chris Dawson for his help and suggestions all year. Last year's secretary David Crossley deserves a special mention for his enthusiasm, despite his duties as Chief Assistant Librarian, and his improvement of the Society's image. Everyone I'm sure will wish him good luck and a rest in the new pastures of York. However the greater thanks must go to Mr. Armsby for his unrewarding job of keeping the whole thing running and helping out at the desk when not involved in Choral practices or King John periods. It is hoped that when the Record Library merges into the new complex where the art room now stands, that it will have a larger membership and an even wider range of records.

ART SOCIETY

Secretary: D. HIGSON

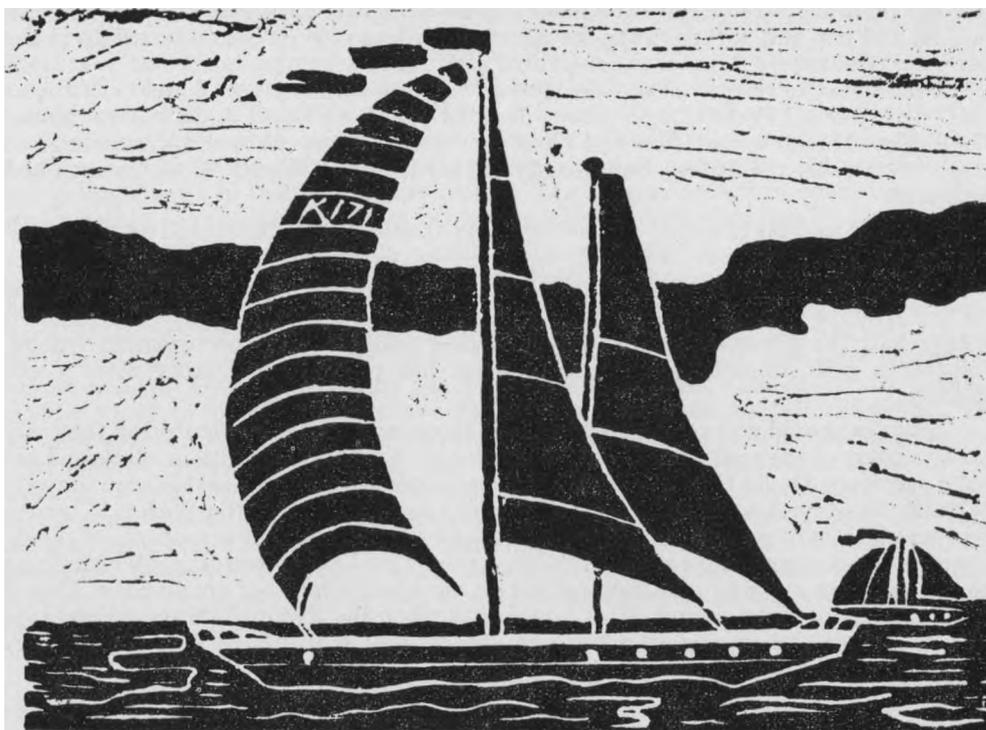
ART Societies, like many great Empires of the world have their good periods and their bad. This year the arts society's record was similar to that of the German Empire under Bismarck (on its last legs). Very few meetings took place this year and the ones that did were not really the successes that they should have been.

The first meeting of the year was a joint one with the girls' art society (always a good thing). It took the form of a visit to Bury art gallery, where at great expense to the nation, Mr. James, the curator gave us a blow by blow account of the pictures there. Apart from seeing Bury's own 'Turner', perhaps the tastiest treat of the meeting was a visit to the cellars of the art gallery where many of the paintings are kept in storage.

At two meetings this year (both joint ones) we were treated to lectures by the two visiting art students Mr. David Bowyer and Mr. Keith Walker. They were both interesting but we shall never forget Dave Bowyers talk on comics and his reason why he reads Black Widow comics. This meeting sparked off a trend in the art room unsurpassed, as yet of drawing cartoons of everything that moves (including the staff).

This year we continued our policy of having an exhibition/making an exhibition of ourselves in Bury art gallery (after all we looked at their paintings why shouldn't they look at ours?). Unfortunately, to judge by reaction of the public to the exhibition, the boys' paintings were not enjoyed as much as the ultra realism of the girls' art department. One of their artists had a drawing in the exhibition of a sitting girl. We all agreed this was by far the best work on show.

The highlight of the season was the visit to the Whitworth and Manchester art galleries. The date was fixed at the 26th of March and the Arts 6th, 7th and some of the more educated Philistines reported for arduous duty at Bolton Street Station.



After a long trek across the wilds of central Manchester we wearily entered the Whitworth. The exhibition of glass was beautiful and so were the paintings. To prevent the escape of the bored masses from the gallery the security service (K.G.B. for short) organised a power failure during which the security alarm was tripped and we were locked in. After some smart escape work, worthy of Captain P. R. Reid we set off for the second objective, the Manchester art gallery. Most of the paintings there were of an interesting nature but one painting in particular caught the eye of a few members of the group. 'The Hireling Shepherd' was the painting. The shepherd in question echoed the tendencies of most of the art set. So in search of rural happiness we journeyed along the rails of steel to the great place of recreation known as Heaton Hall. Here we were free to enjoy ourselves, so after a perfunctory visit to the hall we trundled off to see the wallaby and its little friends the rabbits, in the pens nearby. After a happy hour spent with Bobo and company we set off homewards.

These were the only meetings of the 1973-74 season. It is somewhat disappointing to consider that there are over 600 boys in the school. The art society is not restricted 6th and 7th formers. So come on lads, join the arts society and see the world (in microcosm). Art is not just for those in the know. Loosen your stays and enjoy yourselves by artistic liberation to be yourself.

POTTERY CLUB

Secretary: A. PICKARD

Treasurer: G. O'NEILL

THE pottery club despite almost dying a natural death towards the end of last year has revived with new members joining the club although due to circumstances it remains relatively small and select. Although the club attracts little attention it is now

flourishing and providing a small pocket of creativity and enabling some people to maintain a fixed interest in art, who otherwise might not have a chance.

The members of the club would like to take this opportunity to particularly thank Mrs. Tilston for the time she gives up in helping the members to iron out the difficulties they are always encountering in this field and the Rev. Tilston for his tolerance. The club looks forward enthusiastically to the new facilities which will enable greater efficiency and membership.

CAVING CLUB

Secretary: S. J. J. FERLEY

ENTHUSIASM is an important requirement in a successful caver. Who else would leave behind the comfort of his own home, the Sunday Joint, and Songs of Praise on TV., to crawl into the damp, dark bowels of the earth. Picture him squeezing through a passage one foot high, while icy water is flowing round him three inches deep, filling his wet suit. With brute strength and invective, he wins through to find perhaps a deep channel in his path. Does he falter? No! (Well, a bit at first!). He plunges in, and swims if need be. Not even a rock face daunts our intrepid hero. A ladder is unrolled, and fastened to a safe outcrop, and he descends to new marvels, and more discouraging hardships.

After this, you may ask why the caver *does* such things, even in the summer, when the sun is shining, and the birds are singing, and there is not a cloud in the sky. Well, firstly, the temperature underground remains pretty constant all year, so that when in the cave, the caver does not notice much difference. It is only when walking two miles under a hot sun, while encased in black rubber that the caver really notices the difference, and complains of the heat. While changing in winter blizzards, the caver complains of the cold. Such is the caver.

Then, the formations, formed by the passage of water over the thousands of years of the cave's history, stalagmites, stalactites, helictites, or eccentrics, calcite curtains and pools, etc., etc., are things which one may not see upon the face of the Earth. Thus cavers seek out these wonderful phenomena underground. No two are the same, even in Easter Grotto, where the roof of a large cavern is filled with calcite growths.

Lastly, caving provides a practical outdoor activity for boys who as explained by the Headmaster of the school at prizegiving this year, because of poor eyesight or lack of quick physical co-ordination, are rendered inadequate for competitive games.

Thus it is, then, that without the enthusiastic support of the 'freshmen' or 'novice cavers' from the fourth form, the caving club would not be economical to run. So enthusiastic and numerous were these lads this year that many caves had to be visited twice to give all the new members experience in easier caves before tackling the harder examples. The work of teaching fell largely upon the shoulders of Mr. Frost, helped a little by senior members, lured by the attraction of free trips to the easier caves. For this we all thank Mr. Frost most kindly, and after all, he has seen Calf Holes many times before!

During the summer holidays, an interesting week was spent at Helsington, from where trips were made to Easegill. This gave the club a chance to broaden their experience greatly in the large Easegill system, which we have not visited much before because of its distance from Bury. A visit was made, in the cave, to Easter Grotto, a perennial attraction because of its breathtaking splendour, and to Rock of Ages, another wonder of the cave, a vast rock, appearing as if suspended from the roof of the cavern. K. I. Forster while 'not wishing to hurry us up, or anything' was a great help at the start of the week, but was unable to stay for the whole time. This allowed two fortunate, and tired, cavers a rest from collapsible beds and jokes till 2 a.m. in one of the two separate bedrooms at Helsington.

It was while on a trip to the Easegill system that one of our members gave an illustrated lecture on his revolutionary system of one — and no — point contact climbing. The lecturer was unharmed but his course did not stick. Neither did he.

With more caves to look forward to, such as Swinsto and Marble Steps, the caving club is ever widening its experience. We hope that many boys now in the junior school will have the opportunity to go caving with the club in future. We also hope that old boys of the school who have been members of the caving club will continue to cave, and would like to wish the last holder of this post, K. I. Forster, good luck and good caving.

Finally we once again thank Mr. Frost for organising our caving trips. Without him, the club would expire.

THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

THE new boys soon accustomed themselves to the routine of life in a large school and after two weeks or so they were no longer to be seen staggering along corridors, in search of mysterious rooms, far away from the safety of Room U.

Work soon became the order of the day and its pattern gradually established the usual friendly relationships whilst television and radio programmes helped to stimulate further interest in History and General Science. In no time at all Christmas arrived and to celebrate it the school held a service in All Saints' Church. It was soon evident that there were a number of boys with musical talent and their singing and playing gave pleasure to the many parents and friends who came along to share in and take an active part in the service.

A number of boys did themselves credit in the various sporting activities of the school. Once again teams were entered in the Bury Schools' Cross-Country, Swimming and Athletics Championships which involved many boys meeting their contemporaries in the local schools. At the end of the year it was pleasing to note that of Lower Third, 17 boys gained their 100 yds swimming certificates and one boy swam a mile; Transitus on the other hand gained 16 mile swimming certificates, 11 bronze awards, 4 silver and 5 gold awards of the Amateur Swimming Association.

Two visits during the year proved a great success. Lower Third visited Harewood House and Gardens. The beautiful house with its splendid rooms, rich furnishings, fine furniture and wonderful library left its mark upon their impressionable minds whilst the bird garden with its macaws, toucans, flamingos, pheasants and other exotic creatures gave rise to some excellent art which went on display at the end of the year. Transitus visited the Manchester University Museum. There the party studied Japanese Art and Japanese Art Forms and looked at the Aquarium. The coins in the Japanese art section proved to be very interesting, some in gold, some in silver, many of which bore fascinating designs. Many lovely ornaments made from ivory and rosewood were also on display. The aquarium contained snakes, alligators, fish and lizards. It was even reported that Master Abbott nearly fainted when a fifteen-foot anaconda reared up and stared at him with baleful eyes!

The end of term activities brought the year to a successful conclusion and the display of work gave parents a good opportunity to see the wide ranging ability of the boys in school. The school was pleased to welcome as our guests Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Lock at the Junior Prize Giving. Mr. Lock very kindly addressed the assembled company and distributed the many prizes awarded during the year. The play on this occasion was presented by the First Years and was entitled 'The Referee' by W. H. Andrews and Geoffrey Dearmer. Here we witnessed a lively performance by all concerned and a sound production from every point of view. The music was especially memorable and possibly the best we have listened to by Junior boys in the last decade. The clarity and incisive playing of the string ensemble made one aware of the careful teaching that

enabled them to overcome the enormous difficulties involved. The musicianship of the recorder ensemble was also remarkable and the choir sang with a joie de vivre as only young boys can.

PREFECTS XI 2 v. MASTERS XI 2

(Reporter, an anonymous, unbiased prefect).

AFTER the our assembly of the Easter Term, hordes of keen supporters, well one or two anyway, flocked to the Buckley Wells Ground, scene of so many epic encounters, to watch the annual match. The sun was beating down strongly, the pitch was hard and there was a stiffish wind blowing down the field.

The excitement started even before the kick-off. The referee, Mr. Hyde, expressed dissatisfaction at the colour of the jersey that Oldham, who was the prefects' custodian, was wearing. Keith pleaded ignorance (well what can you expect from a mathematician and rugby player?) and a lack of an alternative. The matter was therefore left as it was.

Two volunteer linesmen were acquired from the seventh year, for one of whom even greater glory was to come, and the game kicked off.

The Prefects seemed to have the better of the opening exchanges, and after about quarter of an hour the diminutive Mick Hoy scored with a good shot. No effort was then made by the Prefects to close the game up, but instead play flowed from end to end. Messrs. Ince and Bisson were in good form for the Masters, whilst for the Prefects 'Iggy' Smith, the 1st XI soccer captain, showed some 'nice touches', 'Maf' Forster ran everywhere and Steve Wolfenden gave his impression of a ballet dancer. Half-time and customary oranges arrived without further scoring.

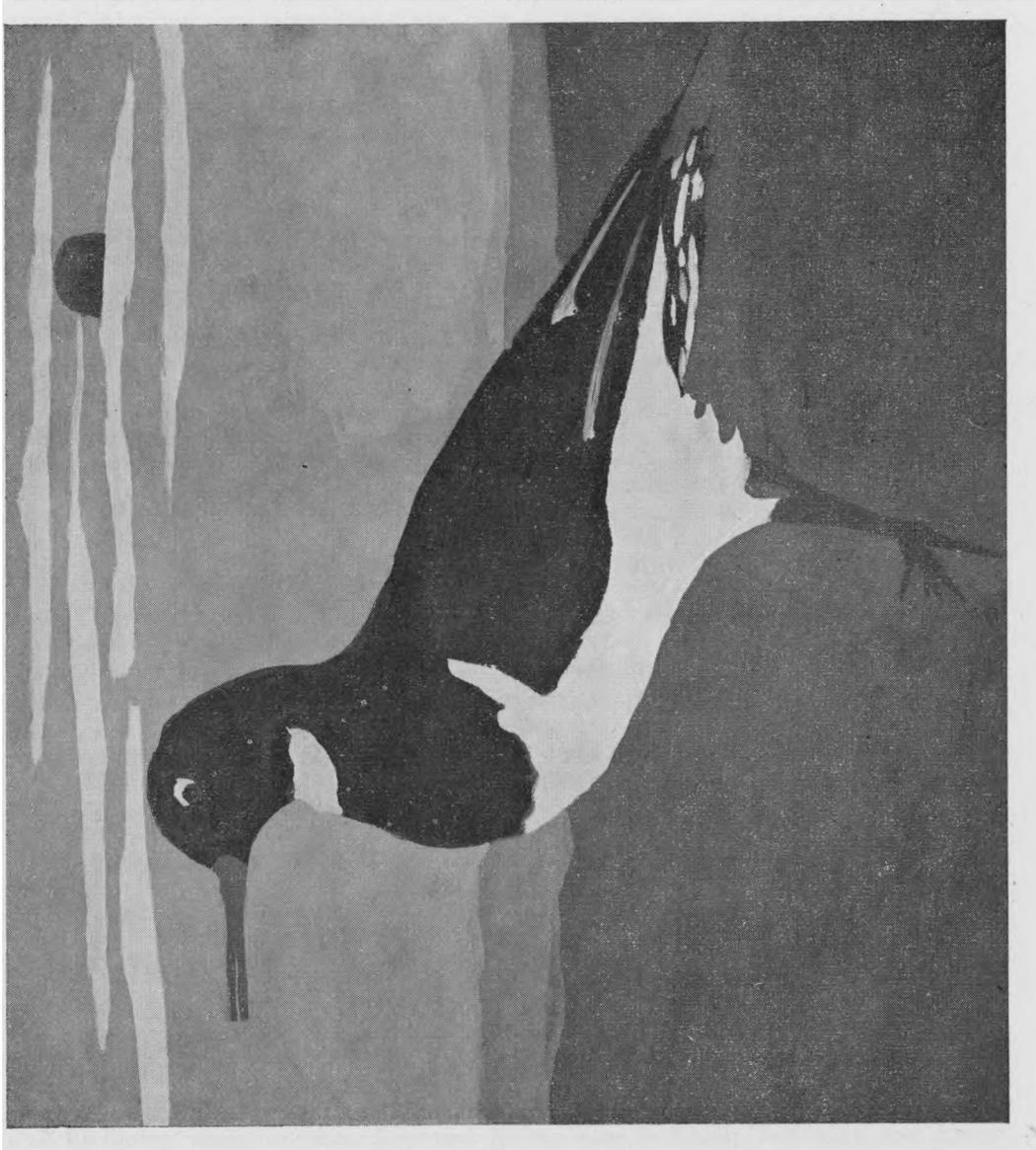
The second half had not been long in progress before the Masters scored a somewhat fortunate equalizer. Mr. Bissen got his foot to a loose ball in the penalty area, which having completed a steep parabola defeated a desperate attempt to stop it by Keith Oldham and dropped under the bar.

By no means disheartened by their bad luck the Prefects re-started the game, and after a further period of open and exciting play regained the lead. Sharp as ever, Mr. Hyde penalised Mr. Hardy for calling in his own penalty area. The indirect free-kick was tapped aside for 'Iggy' Smith to unleash one of his renowned thunderbolts. Although Mr. McNulty got his hands to the ball, he could only push it into the roof of the net.

Chances came thick and fast at both ends as the Masters pressed for an equalizer and the Prefects' formation became much more fluid than ever. Tragedy struck the Masters when their spearhead Mr. Ferley limped off injured. The substitution of Mr. Hyde led to a reshuffle in the masters' formation with Mr. McNulty relinquishing his custodianship. Senior linesman Dave Freeman (the length of time he had been in the school he had to be senior) took over the mantle of referee.

Only minutes remained when the new referee awarded the Masters a corner they should not have had. The ball was swung over and another corner resulted. Mr. Bennett sent over an inswinging ball which with the help of the wind beat Oldham to the near post. A member of the Prefects' defence passed a disparaging remark about his own goalkeeper but it was to no avail.

The Prefects had been foiled at the last, for the final whistle was not long in coming. No doubt the Masters will not be so fortunate next year.



THE STAFF PLAY

'HAMP' was chosen this year as the Staff play. It tells of a private soldier in the first World War whose nerve is broken by exposure to years of appalling battle conditions, and who suffers the inevitable fate of a deserter. It was imaginatively handled by Mr. Sinker who produced it. The set was one of the most effective that the school has seen. The almost skeletal barn suggested powerfully the ravages of war, yet preserved a domestic corner that suited the artless peasant nature of Hamp. Fine performances were given by all. Mr. Ince showed his unquestionable ability in a strong emotional role, as too did Mr. McNulty. It is not the habit of The Clavian to lionise individuals, so that the anonymity of the rest is no criticism. We were happy to welcome Mr. Wilson to the set, and to hear Mr. Thompson's voice on the stage for the first time.

The production of Act II as a fantasy dream sequence provoked objection in some quarters, but it certainly added a nightmare horror to the play, and called attention to the themes of suffering and bewilderment involved in the situation.

A cast list is appended.

CAST

Private Arthur Hamp	A. M. Ince
Corporal of Guard	M. A. Smale
Guard Private	D. A. Wilson
Lieutenant William Hargreaves	M. J. McNulty
Lieutenant Tom Webb	J. E. D. Ferley
President of the Court	A. L. Hyde
Members of the Court 1	R. W. Thompson
2	D. A. Wilson
Lieutenant Prescott	N. B. Wilkes
Prosecuting Officer	E. A. Morley
Padre	D. E. Armsbey
M.O. (O'Sullivan)	J. M. Skinner
Orderly Officer	M. C. Pittam
Sergeant	J. M. Skinner

Directed by John Sinker

EXCURSIONS AND ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS

HEADMASTER'S POETRY PRIZE 1974

SPEED

Trailing slick Chevy
Dust clogs the radiator.
Outside of Sleepersville,
Siesta Motel.

Ageless movie-queen
Kicks a lazy mechanic,
Flat-tyred on the forecourt
Of the last gas for miles.

The snout of the law
Pokes out of the peep-mobile,
Sunshaded, true-blue
Hot-dog connoisseur.

Howdidoodoody,
Southern homely
With bad indigestion
And a Robert Lee certificate
For Confederate Rung Fu.

Johnny Two Feathers
Spills from a bottle.
Sneers at the highway hog.
Supersonic tin can.

Pocket-handed lorrymen
Whistle at a mini-skirt,
Hawk with the sprinkler
Sharpens a claw.

Nauseous
High ideals.
Lean, like the ragman.
Sold secrets to Commies
And gum to the blacks.

Broken back farmhouse.
Rat scuttled porch.
Rocking chair telegraphist
Spits on the ground.

Neil Taylor

**GEOLOGY FIELD COURSE, HELSINGTON.
OCTOBER 10, 11 and 12, 1974**

BRIGHT and early on Thursday, October 10th about twenty intrepid geologists braved sun and cloudless skies to emerge from Lab three on one of their infrequent expeditions.

We departed at 8 a.m. with a packed lunch and a light heart. The journey to Coniston included the usual rousing choruses of 'The Geology Blues' and 'The Graptolite Rock'. On arriving at Coniston we studied the Silurian and Carboniferous succession and Glaciation in the Southern Lake District. Here a certain young paleontologist named Holt found a coiled ammanoid, though I don't think he knows. The ammanoid, which incidentally had been fossilized for many a million years, was extremely vicious and was quickly packed away to avoid escape. It is now housed in the maximum security wing in lab three, its staple diet is art students.

The evening brought the usual horseplay and this resulted in a severe outbreak of 'sleeping bag sickness'. Bedford's bag was found hiding in the rafters but Forster's was a different proposition. It was seen darting hither and dither and seemed to have a particular craving for the church porch roof.

Friday was another hectic day. We drove to and subsequently climbed Skiddaw. Here we saw the granite infusions and the surrounding metamorphic Aureole. We then proceeded to Brady Ghyll (Carrock Fell) where we found numerous chunks of Griesan, Gabbro and Gramophyre. En route for Helsington we were stopped by a policeman who told us he didn't like the look of our back axle. Incidentally we didn't like the look of his near side rear wheel trim but we didn't flag him down to tell him.

The evening produced an extremely rare occurrence. Our two budding Hermits 'Bonk' and 'Willy' decided to spend the night in the wash room and kitchen respectively. I think this was due to the large amounts of bitter shandy which had been consumed by 'Kenny'. I have heard tell that he consumed at least half a pint. A truly stupendous achievement.

On the third day we ventured into the depths of Fliscoe quarry where we saw limestone. We then moved on to Shap Pink and Blue quarries. Then we went on to shapivells to see the conglomerate and the unconformity.

We returned tired and hungry at 6 p.m. with numerous rocks to B. G. S. Incidentally there is no truth whatsoever in the rumour that Cliffe is going to build a life size replica of Helvellyn in his garden with the specimens he collected.

The trip was an unprecedented success and our thanks are extended to Mr. Skinner and Mr. Hampson who have now returned to the darkest corner of B.G.S., called Lab. 3. and nobody knows when they will emerge again;

THE DIGGER

Slowly moving like a cat after bird goes
the digger.
Its track like-wheels lead it grimly onward
towards its prey,
Breathing black smoke the mechanical monster
lowers its head and begins eating.
Gobbling, chewing, destroying
goes the beast,
Its path is as clear as a road
barren, bare is the path he leaves,
His hunger never ceases.
Always it moves forward.
Eager to destroy, ruin and devastate land.

P. R. 2A

HOUSE BOY

ONCE again he arrived to carry out his day's work as butler and house boy. When he had first started this particular job he had reacted to it like a child who had just received a special present. However, the initial excitement of starting a new job had worn off in a few days. In fact, if given the chance he would have played all day instead of carrying out many of the menial tasks that were asked of him. One could see that he was happy when a day's work had been completed by the smile on his face when he had come to say goodnight.

Finding play more enjoyable than work he made full use of it, his main activity being that of flying kites accompanied by his friends on his days off. Preferring to play than work, naturally his work suffered. Once when he was supposed to be preparing the lunch he decided to join me on the roof attempting to be of help in flying kites, he forgot completely about the lunch and when my parents returned home he was severely scolded. His reaction for the next hour or so was like that of a child, he sulked.

Away from work he was his own leader and tended to boss his friends around. Now, instead of carrying out orders it was him administering them to his friends. Being slightly proud he did not take to his friends when they refused to do what he wanted them to do. He usually retaliated, not by force, but by his tongue.

His attitude to enemies, or supposed enemies was like that of many people. If they are weaker treat them with scorn, if stronger pretend to be their friends. This weakness found in many humans was a basic weakness in his character.

He had many ambitions which he dreamt of day to day. Becoming a filmstar was his main ambition, sadly (to him) this did not seem possible. However he left his house boy job in the hope of doing better. All he ended up with was a painting job which he did not enjoy so he came back like a prodigal son to get his old job back again. He could not stand up to outside pressures, or may be it was because he did not like hard work. He was the odd one out in his family since all the rest were very hard workers

PAGE

By now he had no hope in life, no purpose or aim. His day today routine was boring; at least he was treated well. This routine was only broken when something special happened, adding a bit of spice to life.

As many people react to these situations he tended to become more militant, getting caught up in the mass hysteria of revolution yet not really knowing what his revolt was for. As the revolutionary side of his character died down he just quietly settled down back into his old way of life not really understanding why he revolted in the first place, may be because he had so little yet wanted so much, not satisfied with life as it is.

His character is full of contrast and contradiction, weakness and strength and like many humans he lets life carry on, not really knowing what it is all leading to, giving up before he has run the race of life.

D.C.

B.G.S. GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY FIELD COURSE IN WEYMOUTH

THIS year the Easter Geography and Geology trip took us to the South Dorset Coast, where we spent an enjoyable week in Weymouth. The party, composed of intrepid sixth form Geographers and Geologists, left school by coach on Monday 1st April under the supervision and leadership of Mr. Hampson, Mr. Skinner and Mr. Taylor.

It is a universally acknowledged truth that at least one fair-sized mishap will occur on every Geography field trip. This year was no exception. After 5 minutes in the hotel it was obvious that although the fire alarm was successfully ringing, there was no fire to be seen anywhere. After dousing the flames it was time for our evening meal and like most other meals during the week it was undoubtedly more varied than the ones we had been used to at home.

During the week we found the work very intensive; Mr. Hampson's organization allowed no wasted time. The weather was excellent during the whole week and this allowed his plans to be carried out to the full. The day after our arrival we left the hotel at 9.00 a.m., armed with packed lunches, and sketch pads, we were taken by coach to the eastern end of a place named Sutton Poyntz where we studied a denuded pericline and all its features. During the rest of the day we took a walk from the village at Moreto along the River Frume and a walk to Affpuddle Heath. In all these places we studied the soil profile of the areas. By the end of the day at least most of us were thoroughly exhausted. However this was the first day, there were another five days to go. By the end of the week it was plainly obvious that the boys from Bury Grammar School would be the fittest set. of Geography pupils in England.

The rest of the week passed quickly and most enjoyably. A day was spent studying the coastal landforms of a stretch of coastline between Chesil Beach and Lulworth Cove which provided some of the most interesting and spectacular cliff scenery not only on the South coast but in all England and Wales. Another two days of the week were taken up by village and agricultural surveys of the area. The success of these ventures depended largely on whether people were prepared to answer our questionnaires. In the towns people often professed to be too busy. We are sure many thought we were campaigning for a General Election. In the country, however, the situation was quite different. It was an undisputed fact that most farmers were only too pleased to help with the questions. The trouble was that it took time to decipher their answers because of a certain difference in accent.

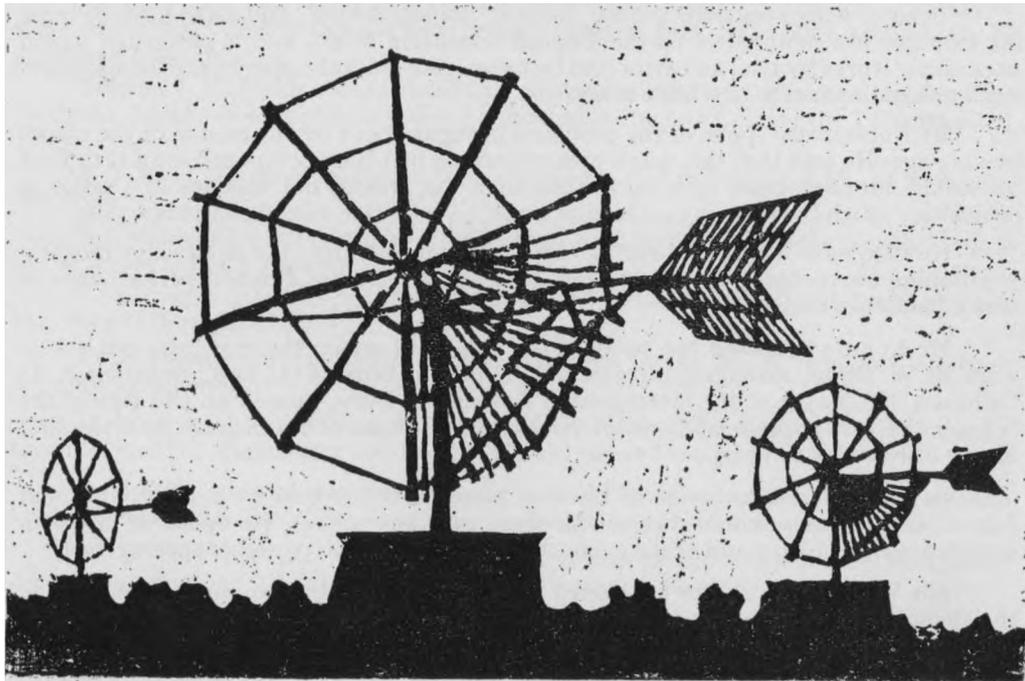
A further day was spent where boys were split up into three groups. Mr. Hampson took a small party to study a mud glacier. Here he showed his experience of wallowing in the mud as he quickly climbed to the top of the glacier. The rest of the boys were still only half way up trying gallantly to prevent themselves from sliding downwards again and fighting off the grass snakes which seemed to have a fascination for wrapping themselves around people's legs. Mr. Taylor, meanwhile, had taken a party to observe a certain part of the River Frume. Those who accompanied him seemed most happy on their return, they had obviously enjoyed Mr. Taylor's act—in their own words—of walking on the water. Mr. Skinner had taken a third group, the Geologists, on to the Isle of Purbeck purely and simply to study the Purbeck and Portland successions of the Upper Juraissic rocks.

Tired and weary after the day's work we hardly had the energy to venture out at night—but we did. Recreation was left to people's own preferences, thus it was not surprising that the discotheque in the town had its first full house of the Season during the week we were there.

On the Saturday morning, the 6th April, after an early breakfast we left the hotel to head home. It was the last time there would be anymore rousing choruses of the 'Geology Blues' and 'Bluebirds over the white cliffs of Weymouth' on the coach.

After a safe journey to Bury, the trip was successfully completed for yet another year thanks to the organizing skills of Mr. Hampson and to the bravery of both Mr. Skinner and Mr. Taylor who equally risked their sanity in taking us all on such a trip. Next year the trip will take us to the shores of Aberystwyth, Wales, where we hope the expedition will be just as successful.

M.A.W. H.7.



OLD BOYS' SECTION

OLD BOYS' DINNER 1974

THE Annual Reunion Dinner of the Bury Grammar School Old Boys' Association was held on Founder's Day in the Derby Hall, Bury and was attended by 117 Old Boys and Guests — the highest number at this function for very many years.

The evening's proceedings were opened by the Association's President Mr. R. P. Calrow who proposed toasts to the Queen and to the Founder and other Benefactors.

The Chairman Mr T. L. Spencer proposed the health of the President who replied and proposed the toast to the School.

Mr Calrow referred to the School's character and tradition and expressed his regret that politicians supported comprehensive education and hoped that Bury Grammar School would retain its independence.

The Headmaster, Mr J. Robson replied to the Toast to the School and said that reorganisation to the comprehensive system is not the sole contributing factor to the present state of uncertainty and increasing malaise being felt in the education service at the present time.

'No one cause would be sufficient by itself to produce so widespread a sense of doubt and frustration; it is rather the combination of many causes operating at the same time which is responsible for the present troubles.'

Mr Robson emphasised that it would be a great mistake to attribute everything to comprehensive education. He said that it was certainly true that reorganisation had brought into being schools which are overlarge and which depart in fundamental ways from established practice.

'Schools with over 2000 pupils,' he said, 'middle school', and sixth form colleges for example are newcomers to the English education scene, and a profession which necessarily works by trial and error and by experience will take many years to accustom itself to handle them to best advantage.'

Mr Robson also spoke of the problems brought about by the raising of the school leaving age. He said that this was a measure which had been postponed for a long time but could not have come at a worse time than the present but was one of a series of difficulties which the teaching profession would have to face over the next few years.

He then gave a report of the School's achievements over the last twelve months, mentioning particularly the new Sports Hall and the School's record performance in Oxford and Cambridge entry.

Mr Robson proposed the toast of the Guests of whom the two principal guests were Mr W. Binns, managing director of Walmsleys (Bury) Ltd., and Councillor A. L. Collinson, the Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury, himself an Old Boy of the School, the first captain of Howlett House and Captain of the School, and the first Mayor of Bury for 50 years.

In reply Mr Binns spoke of his own personal connection with Bury Grammar School and the close connection of his firm with the school. He spoke of his own experiences in industry and of the connections between industry and education today.

His Worship the Mayor concluded the formal part of the evening by referring to the changes in local government and said that it was up to everyone to ensure that the changes involved would ultimately bring about improvement for everybody concerned.

Among the guests at the Dinner were the School Captain, Martin Forster and the Deputy Head Boy, Richard Hodgkiss.

GENERAL NOTES

Councillor A. L. Collinson became the first Old Boy to be Mayor of Bury for 50 years and had the distinction of being the first Mayor of the new Bury Metropolitan District.

A. W. Brierley represented Oxford in the Annual Oxford v. Cambridge Golf match and became the first B.G.S. Old Boy to win a Blue in golf.

Professor J. Charnley, the eminent surgeon, director of hip surgery at Wrightington Hospital near Wigan received the Freedom of Bury, a distinction which has not been conferred for 20 years in recognition 'of his world renown as an orthopaedic surgeon and the relief from suffering he has brought to so many people.'

R. A. Clarke has been awarded a PhD in physics by London University where he undertook a post graduate research in ferroelectrics. Dr. Clarke is a member of the Crystallography Group at the Cavendish Laboratory University of Cambridge.

Dr. C. Clowes is the business adviser to the Welsh village of Llanaelhaiarn which has formed itself into a Limited Company to promote the community by providing employment and housing in the district, a venture which developed from the battle to save the village school.

J. Deane has been appointed manager of the electronics division of Holzer Controls Ltd., in Fence Houses, County Durham.

S. Dines gained 1st Class Honours in Electrical Engineering at Leeds University.

H. Driver who is the managing director of Holgate, Fishwick and Leather Ltd., has been appointed to the Board of Weston-Evans (Holdings) Ltd., Clifton.

M. C. G. Edge gained 1st Class Honours in Polymer Sciences and Technology at U.M.I.S.T.

D. Entwistle who is a Queen's Scout went to the United States for 10 weeks to teach at a Scout Camp in Ockanicken, Pennsylvania as part of the 50th Anniversary of American Scouting.

Colonel J. H. Fielden was elected as President of the Bury branch of the Dunkirk Veterans' Association, a post in which he succeeded the late Colonel the Lord Ilford of Bury.

I. J. Ford has been appointed sales director of Scapa Textiles Ltd., of Bamford, Rochdale.

S. Greenhalgh was commissioned into the Royal Signals after a six months' course at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

G. Guiver has been appointed manager of the Old Trafford and Trafford Park branches of Barclays Bank.

P. J. Hopkinson has had a picture exhibited in the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition in London.

R. W. Howley and B. Sharpies were members of the Bury Chess Team which were champions of the Manchester and District Chess League Division B.

B. Howarth retired this year from the post of Treasurer to the Bury branch of the United Commercial Travellers Association, a post he has held for 44 years.

A. M. Ince has become a selector and coach to the English Public Schools' Association Football XI at the Annual Soccer Festival in Skegness.

S. Jackson, former Chairman of the School Governing Body and Past President of the Old Boys' Association celebrated his Golden Wedding Anniversary.

P. M. Jelley has been successful in the final examination for the Higher National Diploma in hotel and catering administration. He is now spending twelve months gaining experience in Zurich and will follow this with twelve months in Bermuda.

A. C. Murray has won the Blackstone Pupillage Award of the Middle Temple, and after seven months study at the Inns of Court School of Law in London, passed his bar finals and has been called to the bar of the Middle Temple, and has started his pupillage in chambers in Liverpool.

R. Smethurst has entered the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst after two years at the Army's Welbeck College at Worksop.

B. Sykes M.B.E. retired as Commandant of the Lancashire County Special Constabulary after nearly 50 years' service. Until his retirement he was the longest serving 'special' in the County.

R. H. Wilkinson gained his PhD in Engineering at Bristol University.

WEDDINGS

M. N. Bennett and Miss Kathleen Heys of Owlbarrow Farm, Bury.

M. S. Booth and Miss Susan Coleman of Clacton-on-Sea, Essex.

J. N. Bostock and Miss Felicity Grenyer of Beckenham, Kent.

M. W. Bottomley and Miss Carole Aldred of Prestwich, Manchester.

S. Greenhalgh and Miss Julie Dawson of Gorse Bank, Bury.

G. R. Lee and Miss Nancy Potter of Wichita, Kansas.

C. Snape and Doctor Maire Leddy of Housley Park, Chapelton, Sheffield.

G. Whitworth and Miss Linda Wright of Manchester Road, Bury.

DEATHS

J. B. Whitworth of Trent Drive, Bury.

LONDON OLD BOYS

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Geoffrey Duckworth writes:—

The London Old Boys met as usual on the 6th May with David Meier in the chair and this occasion marked the passing of some sixty years since the first celebration of a similar nature was held in London.

We were indebted to Tom Eatough for a description of that first event which was held in a Soho restaurant thought to be under French management and called 'The Boulogne'. Apparently five Old Boys were present, namely, Tom himself, John Wrigley now Sir John Wrigley, Kenneth McFarlane, Kenneth Simpkin and Albert Marks. The courses were numerous and the cost, here there is a slight difference of opinion between Tom and Sir John, was either 1 /6d. or 2/6d. depending upon whose recollections you accept after sixty years. The larger of these two amounts might now buy a coffee in the same location!

The replies to the Toast were ably taken care of by 'Mike' Fawcett and Eric Taylor whilst a letter from the Headmaster set out quite forcibly some of his views on present day education problems and the dilemma in which Masters find themselves on various matters. In spite of such problems it was clear that the School was extremely successful both academically and in activities outside the 'form room'. All in all a letter which brought us up to date on School affairs and which as always was much appreciated by those of us who are something in the nature of emigrants.

Altogether it was again a very happy reunion and we were indebted to those first five pioneers who felt moved to join together to celebrate the foundation of the school and set a precedent which we are very privileged to continue.

We could however do with increasing our numbers in attendance at our annual dinners and to this end I am listing below the names of those who have attended during recent years so that the old boys in the London area may recognise some of their contemporaries and feel that the 6th of May is an opportunity of renewing old friendships.

Peter Ashworth.
Brian Boswood.
'Doug' Crellin.
Tom Crompton.
'Mike' Fawcett.
David Meier.
Geoff Nuttall.
David Potter.
Colin Snape.
R. J. Eric Taylor.

Martin Wilson.
Cyril Bourne.
David Donahue.
D. S. Jackson.
D. Kay.
Charles Law.
Don Mathieson.
Rev. 'Jim' Whitehead.
D. Riggs.
C. G. Simpson.

THE GODFATHER FACTOR

by RONALD SINGLETON

PERHAPS it was a fitful night only half-redeemed by the golden quality of the seven o'clock sunshine which made me with cowardly abandonment of my own car engage a taxicab to the City State and kept my mind obsessively concerned with the word Trend. I had to formulate essay on Trend.

There musings maintained a contrapuntal course in the cool of St. Peter's font. The summer baptismal gathering was bright and cheerful, the three-weeks old mite was virtuously silent and so my mind wandered on its own way. 'What is a 'Trendie?' a schoolchild of the city had asked.

Trend in my trade included an annoying habit of certain colleagues who never seemed able to pen thriller or spy-tale without a 'label' title.

Perhaps the vogue started with The Andromeda Strain. Another title-monger had constructed The Ipress File. This was followed by The Sotweed Factor.

Thereafter came several Factors, as numerous as American television's Capers. But not yet. The Highest Common Factor. I do not see Multiple.

There come The Prague Sanction. The Athens Connection. The Trevithick Commitment. The Parallax View.

I drew up a list of likely nouns to be added to book titles for a sinister, portentous flourish, with the ring of an iron stamp. Sure enough they turned up.

Culture. Paper. Dossier. Folder. Solution. Even the lowly Affair. Impramatur, I notice, has not yet been used, unless my Bolton colleague, Anthony Mann, Daily Telegraph Mediterranean Correspondent, astutely grafts it on to the title of his new who-dunnit with a Holy See setting.

'... and the Godfather shall protect in spirit and in body. . .' came the minster's words loudly, jolting me from secular lexicon reveries. Later, the new child's father handing me his seventh offspring, said gravely: 'Godfather! Yes, and I *do* hope you take it seriously.. .'

The first time a Godfather, I reflected. Yes, a great responsibility. But on rambled my irreverent Muse. Godfather! That's another awful title trend. First The Godfather book then The Godfather film and all the banal offshoots: Son of the Godfather. Bride of the Godfather. Return of the Godfather. I added to my list: The Godfather Strain, The Godfather File, and the Godfather Sanction.

What about my own Godfather, then? Ah! That was it! This strange character was indeed Strain, Connection, File and Factor all welded into one.

Immediately on my return home I tried to telephone Nicosia but was told all contacts with Cyprus were indefinitely broken.

His name was Savvas. More than a decade ago he was the chief porter of the city's Ledra Palace hotel, now a shell-pocked ruin, a short, bandy-legged, gold-toothed, Egyptian-born Greek with a large brood of children. Twenty years of foreign correspondents based in or temporarily assigned to Cyprus were catalysed by him. He was confessor, banker, moneylender, pawnbroker, father-figure, friend and fixer.

He would send boys on bikes to the telegraph office with newscopy. Sometimes the despatches went through all right; sometimes they were delayed for his unsolicited additions, amendments or deletions. Some writers were outraged by this impertinent sub-editing; others were delighted. It was said some articles were his own compositions tapped out when slothful chroniclers tipped him and went to the beach or to the breezy Troodos mountains for the day.

He seemed to be unable to distinguish between idle daydream and urgent necessity. How wonderful it would be to rent the Bellapais house Lawrence Durrell describes in 'Bitter Lemons', I must have murmured perhaps to someone buying stamps at the porter's desk. Next day I had a lease.

Savvas was not simply knowall and busybody. He had more connections, so to speak, than had Archbishop Makarios. Indignant at being kept waiting for days by the reverend, I sulked in my room. 'I'll fix it', said Savvas. The phone tinkled ten minutes later. His Beatitude would see me. Rightaway.

There was more concentrated and hopeless evil, hate and cruelty in Cyprus than in any other country in which I had been based. Savvas, with his glowing aura of mysterious eminence, seemed to rise above the fumes.

As no-one else could be found at short notice, Savvas became my Godfather when I had to undergo a provisional baptism. The priest, Father Kevin, later suffered agonies; there were doubts after all, as to what religion Savvas embraced, if any. But it was all right. I was not invalidated. 'Don't worry. All religions are the same,' Savvas said.

There was the shadow side of his Levantine nature as well as the light. Bathing on a north-coast beach I lost a gold cross and chain. Only my wife knew, I had thought. Yet next day, a new gold cross and chain were on my breakfast table. 'All right. I fixed it,' said Savvas.

Yet there was the strange case of the car. My car and driver were suddenly missing on a vital occasion and Savvas gave up an entire morning for a tearful hunt with me, running up and down numerous carparks and circling most of Nicosia. When at night I saw motor and chauffeur waiting faithfully in the drive I shouted 'But where on earth were you?' 'Well, I was ordered to take this American tourist round the island,' the man began. 'By whom?' I choked. 'By Savvas'.

A bizarre kind of Godfather. Yet, I supposed, the majority of Godfathers rarely did much for Godchildren.

Suddenly, walking away from this great church fourteen years thereafter and into golden sunshine, a Godfather myself, the blind spot moved and I saw.

Most of us during the 'Troubles' understood that we owed much to this eccentric hotel porter. He had kept us from danger by knowledge we chose not to probe.

I recalled like a lightning flash that evening when, seeing me make for the swingdoors for the short walk to the telex office, Savvas caught my arm and said softly. 'I wouldn't just now. Wait a little while. Have a drink. I'll tell you when . . .'

I wondered. Then, sipping bitter lemon, I heard the machineguns and thuds and blasts. Then silence. Then the Greek fiddlers launched into the season's favourite, 'Enfants De Tous Pays'.

Savvas trotted over to me. 'It's all right. You can go now'. I was mystified and amused. Then I was able later to calculate just where the crossfire would have caught me.

In the 1974 Troubles, I now learned, Savvas was in the curious position of managing a restaurant in Kyrenia. A war raged round him but he carried on in his enclave among ruins, as though, being in another dimension, he did not know much about it.

That's my Nicosia Connection, but of course, I would not dream of asking any questions.

Kathleen Downham

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